



Flying K

New Year's resolutions start new year on 'right foot?' ... on page 9

Vol. 70. 1

Naval Air Station Kingsville, Texas

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January 13, 2012

New Fitness Center to honor fallen Kingsville Sailor

By Jon Gagné
NAS Kingsville Public Affairs

Construction of NAS Kingsville's new Fitness Center is nearing completion. Plans are already underway for its grand opening and dedication. The Fitness Center will be named after Kingsville native Petty Officer Ronchester M. Santiago.

Santiago, a mess management specialist third class, was one of 17 Sailors killed in the terrorist attack on the USS Cole (DDG 67) in Aden Harbor, Yemen, on Oct. 12, 2000.

"Chief Bill Worthen actually came up with the idea to name the new Fitness Center in Petty Officer Santiago's honor more than a year ago," said NAS Kingsville Command Master Chief Charlie Ratliff. "The proposal was presented to our commanding officer, Capt. Mark McLaughlin, and he immediately jumped on board. From there, we began the process of getting Navy approval do this, which doesn't happen overnight."

Ratliff added that prior to submitting the request to the Chief of Naval Operations the plan needed to also have the approval of Santiago's family.

"Getting the family on board was the easy part," Ratliff stated. "Of course they were honored and touched by the thought of having a building on board the air station named in their son's honor. After talking with them, we knew this was the right thing to do."

Santiago graduated from H.M. King High School in Kingsville in 1996, and en-



NAS Kingsville's new Fitness Center is nearing completion. The facility will be named after Kingsville native Petty Officer Ronchester M. Santiago, right, who was one of 17 Sailors killed in the Cole bombing.

listed in the Navy shortly thereafter. His first assignment was aboard USS Constitution, the Navy's historic, post-Revolutionary War ship anchored in Boston. After completing his tour of duty aboard the Constitution he transferred to USS Cole, homeported in Norfolk, Va.

The Cole was part of USS George Washington Battle Group, and was in transit from the Red Sea to a port visit in Bahrain when the ship stopped in Aden for routine refueling. The destroyer departed Norfolk

for its deployment Aug. 8, 2000, and was scheduled to return home Dec. 21.

The Santiago family has kept their son's memory alive locally by holding memorial services at their son's grave site at Santa Gertrudis Cemetery in Kingsville. Each year, friends, family members, civic leaders and Navy personnel gather to pay tribute. Santiago father's, Rogelio, a retired Navy petty officer 1st class, said his son was "attracted to the adventure in the Navy," and "wanted to see the world. He just wanted



the experience."

Plans for the Fitness Center's dedication ceremony are still in the planning stages.

A memorial to the victims of the attack on USS Cole was dedicated at Norfolk Naval Station on Oct. 12, 2001. It was erected along the shore of the Elizabeth River near the USS Iowa memorial and overlooks the berth where USS Cole docked. Seventeen low-level markers represent the youthfulness of the Sailors, whose lives were cut short. Three tall granite monoliths, each bearing brass plaques, stand for the three colors of the American flag. A set of brown markers encircling the memorial symbolize the darkness and despair that overcame the ship. In addition, 28 black pine trees were planted to represent the 17 Sailors and the 11 children they left behind.

The memorial was funded by contributions from thousands of private individuals and businesses to the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society, which gifted the memorial to the Navy. Its design originated as a vision of USS Cole crew members, who then teamed with Navy architects and the Society to finalize the project.

NAS Kingsville mourns loss of one of their own

By Jon Gagné
NAS Kingsville Public Affairs

Training Air Wing TWO and NAS Kingsville personnel have been trying to come to grips with the loss of one of their own this week. Navy Lt. David Reis of Bakersfield, Calif., was one of two Navy pilots and two others who were found dead on New Year's Day in San Diego in what police have called a murder-suicide. Reis' sister Karen was also killed. The other pilot, Lt. j.g. John R. Reeves, the alleged shooter, and Matthew Saturley of Chula Vista, Calif., an acquaintance of the Reis' were also found dead.

Lt. j.g. Reis earned his Wings of Gold at NAS Kingsville with Training Air Wing TWO last August. After his winging, Reis was selected to fly F/A 18 Hornets, and he reported to Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 101 as part of Marine Air Group 11, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing at NAS Miramar, Calif. Reeves, of Prince Frederick, Md., was also assigned to VFA-101, where both pilots would learn their



see *Pilot* on page 4 Karen and Lt.j.g. David Reis

From the Bridge



Capt. Mark McLaughlin
Commanding Officer



Greetings Team Kingsville!

Welcome back and Happy New Year to everyone who calls NAS Kingsville their home.

The New Year offers us many challenges ranging from manpower to military construction. I am confident that each and every one of you will continue to do your part to support the overall mission of the base.

With the upcoming Martin Luther King Jr. holiday, I reflect back on how far our nation has come in civil rights and equal freedoms for all. If you've never read or listened to Dr. King's famous "I Have a Dream" speech, take a moment to locate it on the internet and I believe you will find it a powerful speech, especially given the time and setting of when he gave it in 1963.

Kingsville will be holding a parade honoring the holiday observing Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s life. The parade will begin at 1 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 16, and our own NAS Kingsville color guard will be leading the way. Enjoy your holiday and be safe in your travels.

Until next time, ~Skipper Mac

Deckplate Leadership



CMDCM (SW/AW/FMF)
Charlie Ratliff
Command Master Chief



Team Kingsville,

Well, the holiday season is finally over. I hope each and every one of you enjoyed them. I know I enjoyed my time off and enjoyed being able to spend time with my family.

Now it's back to business as usual as we head into the new year. We have several big events that are coming up in the near future that we can all look forward to.

First, it looks like our new Fitness Center will be ready earlier than expected. Cmdr. Troy Hamilton, our Public Works Officer, says it may be ready as early as February or March. This is going to be an outstanding new facility and with state-of-the-art equipment.

By the way, the facility will be dedicated to Mess Management Specialist Third Class Ronchester Santiago who lost his life when USS Cole (DDG 67) was bombed in Aden, Yemen. We will be holding a dedication ceremony in his honor and I hope all of you will be able to attend.

Second, the 2012 Wings Over South Texas Air Show will be held on board NAS Kingsville April 14 and 15. Planning is already underway and this year's show promises to be outstanding. Please make sure you mark the air show on your calendar.

Again, Happy New Year everyone. I hope you have a great 2012!



Staying Navy -- ET1(SW) Monseise Madrigal, of Ground Electronics, reenlisted Monday for four more years of U.S. Navy service. The San Antonio native has 16 years of service. ETCS(SW/AW/EXW) Kirk Hurst, left, administered the oath. (Photo by Fifi Kieschnick)

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s life celebrated Monday, Jan. 16

On Monday, Jan. 16, we will be celebrating Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

King was born Jan. 15, 1929, and became an American clergyman, activist and prominent leader in the African-American civil rights movement. He is best known for being an iconic figure in the advancement of civil rights using nonviolent methods.

King became a civil rights activist early in his career. He led the 1955 Montgomery Bus Boycott and helped found the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in 1957. His efforts led to the 1963 March on Washington, where King delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech. There, he expanded American values to include the vision of a color-blind society.

In 1964, King became the youngest person to receive the Nobel Peace Prize for his work to end racial segregation and racial discrimination through civil disobedience and other nonviolent means. He was assassinated on April 4, 1968, in Memphis, Tenn.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day was established as a federal holiday in 1986. And, in 1994, Congress designated the federal holiday as a national day of service – "a day on, not a day off." This day of service calls for Americans to work together to strengthen communities and bridge barriers.



Martin Luther King, Jr.
January 15, 1929 – April 4, 1968

Locally, there are various several celebrations of Martin Luther King Jr. On Saturday, Jan. 14, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., there will be "Taste of Soul," a food and fellowship gathering at Dick Kleberg Park Recreation Building on East Escondido Road.

Sunday, Jan. 15, from 3 to 5 p.m., there will be a musical evening, "Celebrating our Youth," at H.M. King High School.

And, on Monday, Jan. 16, there will be a Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Parade beginning at 1 p.m. Line up for the parade is at 12 p.m. at the Courthouse area. After the parade, there will be a community reception and awards presentation at the First Baptist Church. All these events are open to the public.

Flying K

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This paper is published for people like ABF1(AW/SW) Romeo Palmares, of Fleet Logistics Center detachment Jacksonville. The Manilla, Philippines, native has 11 years U.S. Navy service and has been stationed aboard NAS Kingsville for a year.

Have you met?...

Lindsay Avila



Avila

Lindsay Avila is one of the counselors at Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC). She is a clinical and advocacy counselor, which means she assists families, individuals and groups with counseling.

Avila says she enjoys her quiet time by reading, watching movies, beading, and playing wii. "I also love spending time with family and animals," Avila said, "and if I could, I would have a pack of dogs."

Avila is originally from San Antonio, where she recently transferred as an outpatient counselor at Laurel Ridge. Avila said, "The real challenge is working in a smaller town than I am used to, and continuing to increase my learning experiences to help more people."

When asked if she has made any goals, Avila said, "I'd like to increase the awareness of FFSC's capabilities and assistance, enhancing the well-being of people stationed here (NAS Kingsville). We (staff at FFSC) would like to reach out to the military members and families stationed here, and educate those who don't know about our services."

"I love working with people of all ages, races, religions, and I love learning from people I meet," she added.

If you only knew one thing about her, it is her knack of creating a safe environment where people feel open to sharing, without fear of judgment or consequence.

Transition benefits

Navy contract will provide outplacement services for ERB Sailors

The Navy will provide personalized career coaching and job search assistance to support Sailors selected for separation by the Enlisted Retention Board (ERB) beginning Jan. 3, 2012 as previously announced in NAVADMIN 332/11.

The ERB outplacement services provided by Challenger, Gray & Christmas, Inc. (CGC) will start on Jan. 3, 2012. ERB separating Sailors will be contacted via an introductory email starting Dec. 23, 2011, regarding the many services available to them.

"In order to ensure these talented Sailors succeed in the civilian job market, we are providing transition services to help build on their skills, success, and training acquired during their Navy careers," said Chief of Naval Operations Jonathan Greenert.

ERB separating Sailors will be eligible for outplacement services which will provide coaching, resume writing and job interview preparation as an enhancement and building upon existing transition assistance programs offered by Department of Defense, Department of Labor, Veterans' Affairs and Commander, Navy Installations Command.

Transition coaching will include an initial interview with member, skills inventory analysis, development of a personal business/marketing plan, a dedicated career coach tailored to desired work city, peer net-

working support, and support in starting a business.

Job search assistance is also available including daily refreshed job leads, tailored market research tools, access to industry unique job boards, connections to temporary staffing, technical and professional services companies, and access to career information, webinars, and e-learning courses. Job placement assistance includes online profile management, resume and cover letter preparation, interview preparation, salary negotiation counseling, role-playing with a coach, and "on-call" consulting with one-on-one live counseling.

The Navy is providing additional transition services no cost for Sailors identified for separation by the ERB to continue to build on their job skills, experience and training acquired during their Navy careers and succeed in the civilian job market.

Sailors separated by the ERB can contact CGC starting Jan. 3, 2012 via toll free number (800-971-4288) or email (CGCUS-Navy@challengergray.com).

For more information about the ERB transition support, check out the NPC ERB transition support page at www.npc.navy.mil/boards/ERB/, contact the NPC customer service center at 1-866-U-ASK-NPC (1-866-827-5672), or email cscmailbox@navy.mil. (From Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs Office)

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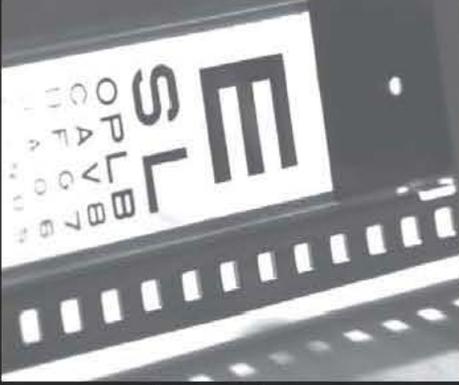


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In the Break



**Capt. Joe Evans
Commander
Training Air Wing TWO**



Happy New Year NAS Kingsville and Training Air Wing TWO,

The New Year is off and running. Our aircrew came back after holiday leave and hit the ground running.

Last week we sent an air-to-ground "Weapons" detachment to El Centro, Calif. The detachment took 17 jets and will encompass some 80 or so students and instructors who will rotate in and out over a three-week period.

Back here on the home front, we are busy preparing the next "wave" of students that will depart for the Weapons detachment. Many of the students on the first wave will be coming back mid-month to start field-carrier landing practice in preparation for carrier qualifications off the coast of Northern Florida in early February. It's a fast and

furios pace, but that's the way we like it.

Many of you have undoubtedly heard the sad and tragic news of Lt.j.g. David Reis' death two weeks ago over New Year's Eve. While the circumstances are inexplicable hard to comprehend, what we can say for certain is that David left a lasting positive impact on those that knew him. I had the pleasure of speaking to his family during David's winging ceremony, and they were very proud of him and excited about the world of military service that he was entering. While I only knew him in passing, I will always remember David as a young man who loved both his family and his country, and lived life with enthusiasm and gusto. Our thoughts and prayers go with David, his sister and their family.

The Wing has a busy winter ahead of us. Whether on det or at home field, we will be full throttle whenever the South Texas skies are clear.

I wish you all the best this new year of 2012. Be safe!

Happy New Year to all. Keep those resolutions alive!

Regards,
"Joe Bags" Evans

Pilot from page 1

selected fleet aircraft. Reis completed his first and only flight in the F/A Hornet in late December.

"Naval Aviation is a profession where our shared love of both our country and aviation makes it like a family," said Chief of Naval Air Training Rear Adm. William Sizemore this week. "Losing members of our family to this tragedy and violence saddens all of us. Our Navy family sends our deepest sympathies to the families of these victims."

David Reis, 25, grew up in the San Joaquin Valley of Southern California. He graduated high school in 2004 and attended the University of New Mexico, where he participated in the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) program. He earned a degree in mechanical engineering and earned his commission in the Navy upon graduation.

Reis reported to NAS Pensacola, Fla., for aviation pre-flight training in December 2009, and completed his primary flight training at NAS Corpus Christi with the Rangers of VT-28. He reported to NAS Kingsville for advanced training in the jet/strike pipeline flying the T-45 Goshawk in June 2010. Assigned to the Fighting Redhawks of VT-21, Reis completed his training last July and received his coveted



Karen and Lt.j.g. David Reis

Wings of Gold in August at a ceremony in the Captain's Club attended by his parents, grandparents and sister.

Karen Reis, 24, was a graduate of the University of California at San Diego. An avid volleyball player, she coached youth volleyball in the San Diego area.

NAS Kingsville Religious Services Offered

Sunday at McFall Memorial Chapel
10:30 a.m. - Family Bible Services
12:30 p.m. - Catholic Mass

Tuesday
11:30 a.m. - Bible Study, in Bldg. 2741

Wednesday
7 p.m. - Officer Christian Fellowship

Thursday
4:30 p.m. - Catholic Choir Practice
5:30 p.m. - Prayer Meeting

Have you met?...



CWO4 Ramiro Castillo

Chief Warrant Officer Ramiro Castillo is the Chief of Naval Air Training (CNATRA) Detachment Officer-in-Charge and the Training Air Wing TWO (TW-2) Maintenance Officer.

He is responsible for overseeing contract logistics support between the contractor L-3 Vertex Communications and the Navy, as well as tracking the Ready-for-Training (RFT) aircraft.

He recently reported from duty with Helicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron Fifteen (HM-15) stationed out of Norfolk, Va. He has spent his 26 years of active-duty service conducting business primarily with military members, and now is working directly with civil service employees and contractors, which is a change of pace.

"I am very familiar with doing business with Sailors, so this is a great learning experience for me," Castillo said.

Castillo says his goal here is to focus on keeping up-to-date with the RFT aircraft ensuring there is no back log in work, as well as maintaining good communication.

"Since, Chief Warrant Officer Chan-

dlar built a good solid relationship with the maintenance workers at L-3, I would like to continue strengthening that relationship and opening more lanes of communication where possible while I am here."

While at NAS Kingsville he hopes to complete his masters degree in business administration. "I think this (job) was a god-send, because I get to be near my family, with the best opportunity to focus on completing my education," Castillo said.

Off duty, Castillo can be found in the gym.

"I am one of those guys you can say 'lives for the gym,'" he said. "I love to run, especially outdoors breathing in fresh air. Outdoors, in general, calls to me. I also hope to get back into hunting while stationed here."

The San Antonio native says he believes in an open-door policy. "I am always willing to talk to people and I think with the right motivation, anything is possible," Castillo concludes.

Castillo and his wife Dena currently live in Portland with their two daughters.

Sailors encouraged to conserve energy, share energy-saving tips online

By **Andrea Lamartin**
CNO Energy & Environmental Readiness

The director of the Chief of Naval Operations Energy & Environmental Readiness Division released a video podcast Nov. 23 for the 2011 holiday season.

In the podcast, Rear Adm. Phil Cullom reminds viewers that while decorative lighting is an enjoyable part of celebrating the holidays, it presents two avoidable factors

that can degrade Navy readiness: the energy intensity of outdated lighting and safety issues that can result from these systems.

Cullom presents challenges in the categories of lighting, recycling, and safety. He recommends upgrading to energy efficient holiday lights by using solar lighting to decorate outdoors, employing lighting timers to reduce holiday lighting energy consumption, and using recycled materials to

see *Energy* on page 8

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Civilians of the Quarter recognized for command, community involvement

By Jon Gagné
NAS Kingsville Public Affairs

NAS Kingsville's top civilian employees for the fourth quarter of 2011 have played a key role in mission sustainment and mission accomplishment.

The Senior Civilian of the Quarter, Glenn Jones, serves as the command's Community Plans and Liaison Officer (CPLO). In this role, Jones acts as direct link between the command and community for matters that pertain to encroachment, growth, and mission sustainment. Jones has been extremely busy over the last few months dealing with issues like wind farm development, rolling out an Encroachment Action Plan with Kleberg County and the City of Kingsville, and conducting compatible land use zones for the command's target range in McMullen County.

"I enjoy working with and speaking to the local community as well as state and local officials about the concerns of NAS Kingsville," Jones said. "South Texas is a strong supporter of the Navy and they understand the importance of this base as well as the importance of NALF Orange Grove and the McMullen Target Range. With that kind of community support it makes my job much easier to address any non-compatible land use or mission sustainment concerns."

Jones, a retired senior chief air traffic controller with 23 years of active duty service, accepted the CPLO position at NAS Kingsville in June 2010. His knowledge and skills of directing aircraft – especially in a training environment – has been beneficial to his success during a time of high visibility for the command.



Glenn Jones

In addition to dealing with the issue of wind farm development, Jones has established an Installation Encroachment Working Group to provide a forum for the development of installation policy decisions and land use, and frequency and airspace encroachment issues. He also rolled out the command's Encroachment Action Plan which serves as a blueprint to identify potential encroachment challenges and provide preventative or corrective recommendations to meet those challenges.

Jones said he was honored to be recognized by the command for his efforts, but stated his success was a result of a total team effort sharing a common goal. "My selection is a direct result of all the support



Todd Hackleman

I receive from the command, the air wing, and the local communities of three different counties that are home to our property."

The Junior Civilian Employee of the Quarter is also a former enlisted Sailor who has taken the tools he learned on active duty to excel at his new position.

Todd Hackleman, a native of Nashville, Tenn., enlisted in the Navy at 4 a.m. on Sept. 11, 2001, a few hours before terrorists struck the World Trade Center in New York City. He came into the Navy as an undesignated aviation boatswain's mate, meaning he wouldn't be guaranteed a specialty until he proved himself.

"I was really hoping to become an ABE (aviation boatswain's mate, equipment),"

Hackleman admitted. ABE's operate and perform maintenance on steam catapults, barricades, arresting gear, and associated equipment ashore and afloat, and operate catapult hydraulic systems, retraction engines, water brakes, jet blast deflectors, arresting gear engines and perform aircraft handling duties related to the operation of aircraft launching and recovery equipment.

"But as it turns out, when I reported to my first command, USS Saipan (LHA 2), I was assigned to V-3 Division as a Handler (ABH)." Handlers play a major part in launching and recovering aircraft quickly and safely from land or ships. This includes aircraft handling, fire fighting and salvage and rescue operations.

Hackleman spent five years aboard USS Saipan, advancing from E-1 to E-5. He transferred to NAS Kingsville in 2006 and was assigned to the command's outlying landing field in Orange Grove, as the arresting gear mechanic. He advanced to petty officer 1st class in 2009, and then decided to get out of the Navy and take a civilian job at the airfield.

"It was great the civilian position opened up at Orange Grove," Hackleman said, "because I had already decided that I didn't want to move."

Hackleman owns 128 acres of land that adjoins the facility, and he admits he'd grown quite comfortable watching the jets fly in and out of the airfield from his back porch.

"Yeah," Hackleman said with a chuckle, "you can't beat that."

Hackleman's skills have been recognized through Navy Region Southeast. He's *see Civilians on page 8*



Eric Escalante

Fair Winds — On the eve of their retirement, Eric Escalante and James "J.J." Harper pose for a group photo with members of their shift. Below, from left are Robert Ohms, Omar Soliz, Thomas Foster, Armando Buentello, Randal Ross, George Alton, Eric Escalante, Armando Caceres, Audrey Alvarez, James Harper, David Cavazos, Jackson Stillwagon, Donald Norton, Donald Gregory. (Photo by IC1(SW/AW) Jesse Booth)



James "J.J." Harper

NAS Kingsville recognizes top civilian employees for 2011

By Jon Gagné
NAS Kingsville Public Affairs

NAS Kingsville Commanding Officer Capt. Mark McLaughlin recently announced the 2011 civilian employees of the year for 2011.

The Sr. Civilian of the Year, NAS Kingsville Emergency Management Director Monette Walker, and Jr. Civilian of the Year, Firefighter Joseph Cordero, were selected for their superior performance, leadership and command contributions during the past year.

Walker, a native of Medina, Ohio, serves as the command Emergency Management director for the air station. Walker resides in Corpus Christi and is a retired senior chief damage controlman with 22 years of active duty service. She accepted the job as NAS Kingsville's emergency management director in June 2009.

In the two years she has been at the job, Walker has transformed the command's emergency management program.

"What I like about my job is that every day is different," Walker said this week. "I like the fact that I get to plan responses to all sorts of emergency situations, and conduct training events for base personnel. But

the best thing is seeing the planning pay off when we have to respond to real events – and we respond the right way."

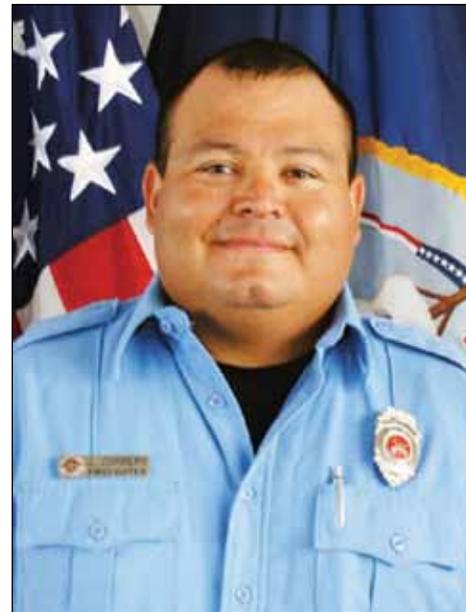
Walker serves as the command's liaison to local, county and state agencies in regards to emergency management, and also serves as the command's emergency operations center director. She supervises nine civilian personnel in the 9-1-1 dispatch center, where emergency communication is vital.

"My dispatchers are very good at what they do and I'm proud of all of them. I view my selection as Civilian of the Year as a team award because I certainly could not do what I do without them."

The Jr. Civilian of the Year is Firefighter Joseph Cordero. The 15-year veteran lives in Kingsville with his wife and two children. Prior to accepting his job with the NAS Kingsville Fire Department in 2010, he was employed by the City of Kingsville Fire Department as a firefighter and paramedic for 14 years.

"I really enjoy the camaraderie of the Fire Department and the entirety of the job," Cordero said. "I find this to be a very rewarding career and I enjoy being able to help people in their time of need."

Cordero said he never expected any special accolades for doing what he loves to do,



Joseph Cordero



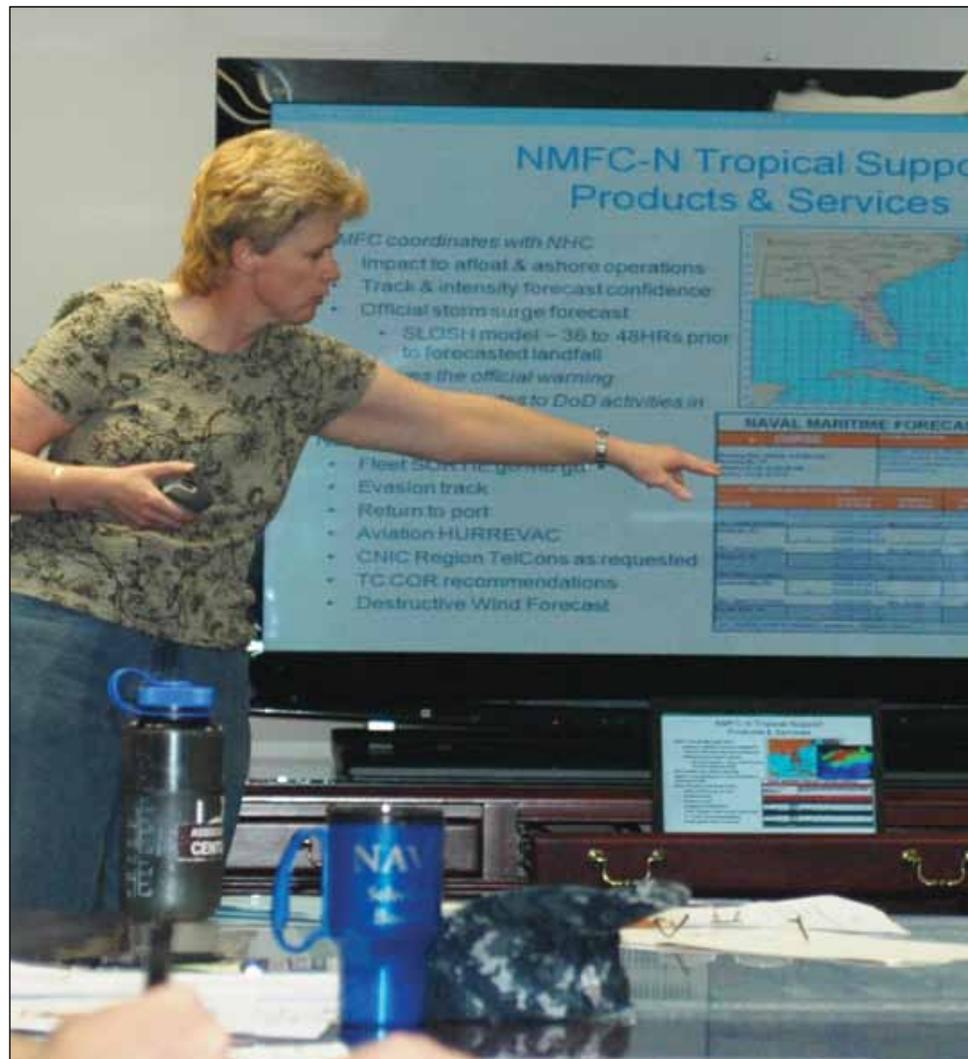
Monette Walker

but he is proud of the accomplishment. He was selected as the command's civilian of the quarter for the third quarter FY 2011.

"When I heard I was selected as Civilian of the Year I was truly surprised and very happy," he said, "especially only being on station for 16 months. It felt good being selected from among all the civilian employees on the base, and I would just like to say 'Thank You' for being selected!"

"Firefighter Cordero was tasked with the additional duty of training and recertify-

ing Fire & Emergency Services personnel as Emergency Medical Technicians, in addition to his normal firefighter duties," said NAS Kingsville Fire Chief Ruben Perez. "This task was accomplished during a critical time period of budget constraints, staffing shortages and scheduling difficulties. His ability to adapt to the ever-changing work environment for the Fire Department and was instrumental in our mission accomplishment."



NAS Kingsville's Emergency Management Director Monette Walker was selected as Sr. Civilian of the Year for 2011.



Firefighter Joseph Cordero was recently named Jr. Civilian of the Year for 2011.

DeCA offers scholarships for military children

By **Tammy L. Read**
DeCA Marketing

2011 Scholarships for Military Children recipient Jordan Cherry said receiving extra money for college lightened her financial load.

“This scholarship definitely decreases the financial burden of school, which we all know is a big benefit,” she said.

Applications for the 2012 Scholarships for Military Children Program are now available at commissaries worldwide as well as online through a link on <http://www.commissaries.com> and directly at <http://www.militaryscholar.org>.

Awards will be based on funds available, but the program awards at least one \$1,500 scholarship to a student at each commissary. Scholarships are funded by donations from commissary vendors, manufacturers, brokers, suppliers and the general public. Every dollar donated goes directly to funding scholarships. No taxpayer dollars are expended on the scholarship program.

If there are no eligible applicants from a particular commissary, the funds designated for that commissary are used to award an additional scholarship at another store.

The scholarship program was created to recognize military families' contributions to the readiness of U.S. armed forces and the commissary's role in the military community. Since the program began in 2000, it has awarded more than \$9.3 million in scholarships to 6,069 military children from 62,000-plus applicants.

“While these numbers are impressive, what's even more impressive is what past

scholarship recipients are doing with their education,” said Defense Commissary Agency director and CEO Joseph H. Jeu. “Many recipients have entered a wide range of career fields such as teaching, business, law and military service. Many others have earned advanced degrees.”

To be eligible for a scholarship, the student must be a dependent, unmarried child, no older than 21 -- or 23, if enrolled as a full-time student at a college or university -- of a service member on active duty, Reservist, guardsman, retiree or survivor of a military member who died while on active duty or survivor of a retiree. Eligibility is determined using the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System database.

Applicants should ensure that they are enrolled in the DEERS database and have a current military ID card. The applicant must also be planning to attend or already attending an accredited college or university, full time, in the fall of 2012 or be enrolled in a program of studies designed to transfer directly into a four-year program.

Applicants must submit an essay from a list of topics available online at <http://www.militaryscholar.org>. Applications must be turned in to your local commissary by close of business Feb. 24.

The scholarship program is administered by Fisher House Foundation, a nonprofit organization that provides assistance to service members and their families. Scholarship Managers evaluate applications and awards these scholarships. If students have questions about the scholarship program application, call Scholarship Managers at 856-616-9311 or e-mail.

Escondido Ranch hunt draw will be held Jan. 19

The Morale, Welfare & Recreation Department will hold a ticket drawing for the fourth deer hunting period (Jan. 31 to Feb. 24) on Thursday, Jan. 19. The deadline to purchase your tickets is close of business Wednesday, Jan. 18.

Tickets can be purchased at the NAS Kingsville ITT office or over the phone by calling ITT at (361) 516-6449. Tickets can also be purchased by calling the Escondido

Ranch at (830) 373-4557 or 4419, or the

Escondido Ranch Manager, Chief Petty Officer Eric Smith, directly at (870) 476-1290.

This is a great opportunity for active duty military, retired military, and DoD civilians to enjoy some outstanding South Texas brush country deer hunting at a very reasonable price. Don't delay- get your tickets before Wednesday, Jan. 18.

Civilians from page 6

considered to be the Region's arresting gear technical expert, and was hand-picked by the Regional Program Director to perform two technical assist visits to Naval Air Facility New Orleans to restore neglected arresting gear systems after a failed NATOPS inspection during the last three months. He spent a total of 10 days at NAF New Orleans working 12-hour days overhauling of all systems and training assigned personnel. He also overhauled more than \$200,000 in equipment.

His expertise has also brought cost savings to the local command, through his personal replacement of 24 sets of arresting gear engines, eliminating long term main-

tenance costs on obsolete equipment. It's this type of dedication and professionalism on-the-job that earned him the selection as Civilian of the Quarter.

“Todd Hackleman has quickly become the Subject Matter Expert throughout all of Navy Region South East for his technical expertise on arresting gear,” said Air Operation Officer Lt. Cmdr. Dave Anderson. “As such, he was hand-picked by Navy Region Southeast to be a part of an exclusive committee that is putting together the guidance and policy for E-28 Arresting Gear Maintenance that will be utilized throughout the Navy. That's a testament to just how good he is at what he does for NAS Kingsville.”

Financial responsibility: proactive or reactive

By **MC1(AW) LaTunya Howard**
NPC Public Affairs

The beginning of a new year is an excellent time for Sailors to review their financial plan, said a Navy financial specialist, Jan. 6.

“Far too many Sailors react to their spending rather than being proactive by planning ahead,” said Chief Yeoman Shahana Ledee, Navy Personnel Command (NPC) command financial specialist. “A financial review should be at the top of the new year's resolutions.”



Ledee said financial planning is key to good fiscal health. Sailors should consider using a budget worksheet to account for all income and expenses for their household. Investments, retirement savings, entertainment, travel and unexpected incidents are items often excluded from family planning.

“Debt elimination can be accomplished faster with written short and long-term goals,” said Ledee. “Hold yourself accountable by tracking your spending. You'll minimize impulse buying and possibly have more to save or invest.”

When considering a major purchase, Ledee reminds Sailors to consider all expenses associated.

“Purchasing a vehicle involves more than making its payment,” said Ledee. Sailors must factor in maintenance, repairs, insurance and any additional cost associated with driving the vehicle. If you're interested in buying a home, be realistic about what you can afford, as it also involves more than making a payment. Consider the cost of utilities, property taxes, homeowner fees, insurance and any additional costs that will be required each month.

“Sailors should also keep in mind that poor fiscal health can cost more than money, it can cost their career,” said Ledee. “Many individuals who lose their security clearance do so due to poor fiscal health. There are numerous free resources available to help us reduce that statistic.”

Military OneSource at www.militaryonesource.mil provides free financial assistance for service members and their families. The “Money Management” section of the website features financial information and resources that can help service members with estate planning, credit and collections, budgeting, saving and investing and taxes.

Military OneSource web site also offers free federal and state tax preparation and filing assistance.

For more information on financial planning, budgeting or investing contact the command financial specialist, or call NPC customer service center at 1-866-U-ASK-NPC or email CSCMailbox@navy.mil.

Energy from page 5

wrap gifts. Year round, he suggests turning off computers at the end of the work day to conserve energy. From a safety standpoint, he encourages personnel to exercise caution with space heaters and avoid overloading electrical circuits.

Cullom invites Sailors and civilians to post holiday energy-saving and safety tips from their ships and bases on the Navy's Task Force Energy Facebook page, <http://www.facebook.com/NavalEnergy>. This presents a great opportunity for Navy personnel to share their knowledge and hands-on experience to improve readiness, conserve energy, and safely celebrate in the holiday spirit.

The complete video message can be viewed at <http://youtu.be/9rtIXx7p7Js>, and a written transcript is available on the Navy's Energy, Environment, and Climate Change website at <http://greenfleet.dodlive.mil/files/2011/11/NavyEnergyHoliday-Transcript1.pdf>.

This and other podcasts, articles, and stories are available on the Navy's Task Force Energy Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/NavalEnergy>.

For additional information about the Navy's energy, environment, and climate change initiatives, please visit <http://www.greenfleet.dodlive.mil/home>.

New Year resolutions made to start new year with new start on 'right foot?'

By Fifi Kieschnick
NAS Kingsville Public Affairs

Happy New Year!
New year. New start.

Many of us welcome the new year with a gathering of family and friends. And, we make resolutions to start off the new year with a new start on "the right foot."

People have been "pledging to change their ways in the new year" for about 4,000 years now, according to www.history.com. The tradition is thought to have started with the ancient Babylonians who made promises so that they would earn the favor of the gods and start the new year off on the right foot. They would supposedly vow to pay off debts and return borrowed farm equipment.

According to the website proactivechange.com, less than half of American adults make one or more resolutions each year. The top ones being resolutions about weight loss, exercise, better money management, debt reduction and stopping to smoke.

Sarah Martinez and Arturo Gomez who work the front desk at the NAS Kingsville fitness center say that that they notice there's more patronage at the gym at the beginning of January, especially in the evenings.

"We see more women at the gym this time of year," Martinez said. "They want to be healthier and get fit."

Alex Costello, who uses the gym agrees. "It's a new year's tradition," she said. "Start fresh with a healthier lifestyle."

Juan Perez, an ordnance mechanic for L-3, says he always sets the same resolutions. "I set my goal to stay healthy and eat right." And, he's been working out at the gym four times a week since the start of the new year.

Subway employee Cynthia Ledesma agrees. "We see a lot more customers after



Juan Perez set his goal to stay healthy and eat right.

the holidays. They are trying to watch their weight."

However, the by the end of the month, traditionally nearly 35 percent of people who make New Year's resolutions have abandoned them, and six months later, not even 50 percent are still keeping them.

Martinez says she doesn't make New Year's resolutions because, "I don't want it to (negatively) affect me if I don't end up keeping my resolutions."

Most people I talked to aboard NAS Kingsville don't make new year's resolutions. They say they make goals and strive to achieve them throughout the year, regardless of what day or month it is.

"Of course, I set goals, but not because it's the new year," said Army Reservist Johnny Garcia. "I don't feel it (the new year) is a time to start over."

Lt. Cmdr. Sam Betancourt, officer in charge of NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center (NAVSUP FLC) Jacksonville Detachment NAS Kingsville, says that he appreciates this tradition but does not usually use the new year as a starting point; he prefers to set goals and make resolutions throughout the year as needed.

Paul Evdosuk, who works at the Fuel Farm, agrees. "Making New Year's resolutions is not a tradition that I follow. But, if I were to, it would be to enjoy life more and not worry about the small things. But, I try to do that throughout the year anyway."

According to Wikipedia.org, men achieve their goal more often when they engage in goal setting, with small measurable goals are set, and women are more likely to succeed when they make their goals public and get support from their friends.

LSCS(AW/SW) Neil Rocha, leading chief petty officer for NAVSUP FLC, says this is the first year he's made a New Year's resolution. "I want to do a mile and a half in 9 minutes," he says. "My time now is 10.24. I want to get down a minute and a half by May."

And, LS2 Ermal Guri, of NAVSUP FLC, says among other goals, he wants to complete his masters degree.

So, they both should be successful.

Lynn Early, NAS Kingsville's housing director, says she normally doesn't make resolutions with the new year. But, this year she did.

"I made a resolution to declutter," Early said. She says she wants to declutter at home and at work. "I've already begun getting rid of stuff. I made realistic goals to do a little at a time, but I'm already making progress."

Early told a few of her co-workers about her goals, and they too have begun paring



Johnny Figuero doesn't make new year's resolutions saying he tries to live life to the fullest.

down. So, we can say Early, too, will be successful.

I guess, according to Wikipedia, if I told you my New Year's resolutions, I'd be successful at achieving them, but I'd rather not.

However, I will tell you, that it does not have anything to do with farm equipment!

Of all the people I interviewed on base, I liked Tommy Figueroa's response best. The aircraft equipment mechanic says that he doesn't make resolutions because "I try to live life to the fullest. You never know what tomorrow might bring."

Happy New Year!



Making New Year's resolutions is not a tradition Paul Evdosuk follows.



LSCS(AW/SW) Neil Rocha, left, and LS2 Ermal Guri both have set achievable goals.



Lynn Early has already been successful in keeping her New Year's resolution.



Johnny Garcia doesn't feel the new year is a time to start over.

Military, civilian acts 'line up' for Wings Over South Texas Air Show

With the Navy's Blue Angels and "Fat Albert Airlines" headlining NAS Kingsville's 2012 air show, military and civilian acts are now falling in line to help fill the card for the two-day event April 14-15. The most recent military additions include an F/A-18E demonstration.

Several civilian acts have also confirmed that they will be part of the show. World Aerobatic Champion Rob Holland in his MX-2 has committed to performing and will be participating in a number of pre-show publicity events. Holland has been flying professionally since 2002 and is one of the youngest professional air show pilots on the circuit today.

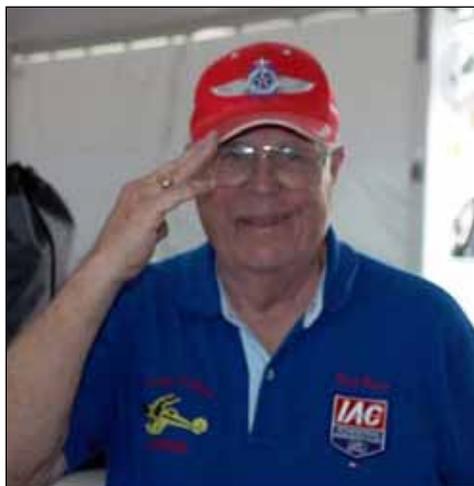
Joining Holland in the line-up of civilian performers is well-known air show veteran Jan Collmer of Dallas flying the FINA EXTRA 300L.

Corpus Christi-native Paul Fiala is another civilian performer that will be featured. He began flying at the age of 15, while attending high school. Fiala received his commercial pilot's license and began his professional career, while still in school. He also served as a charter pilot and flight instructor, prior to turning to corporate flying in 1962.

"Putting together a show of this magnitude is a large team effort and we have been meeting weekly to plan our biggest and best show yet," said Air Show Committee Chair and Air Operations Officer Lt. Cmdr. Dave Anderson.

"The air show is going to be incredible—there will be more entertainment for the entire family than we have ever had including children's activities, military and civilian aerobatic acts, and static displays. We expect many more statics, new and exciting acts that haven't been showcased before, and some famous personalities to help kick-off this year's event."

Wrapping up everything in a nice package is Rob Reider, who has committed to serving as the air show announcer. Reider is an entertainer, pilot, television personality,



Corpus Christi-native Paul Fiala is another civilian performer that will be featured during the Wings Over South Texas Air Show.



Well-known air show veteran Jan Collmer of Dallas will be flying the FINA EXTRA 300L during the air show.

singer, performer, writer and winner of five Emmy awards who puts all his experience into bringing the excitement of air shows "up close and personal" to audiences all over the country.

The air show planning committee is still working on additional acts and static displays for the show, and those efforts will continue right up until the final deadline.

"The focus is to make the 2012 air show as entertaining as possible for children and adults," Anderson added.

To stay up-to-date on the acts that will be performing, visit the air show web site at www.wingsoversouthtexas.org/wost.



The U.S. Navy's Blue Angels will headline the Wings Over South Texas Air Show April 14 and 15.



Six more years -- ABE1(AW/SW) Ron Armstrong reenlisted on Jan. 4, for six years of U.S. Navy service. Armstrong, assigned to Navy Auxiliary Landing Field Orange Grove, has 14 years service. Pictured above, Armstrong was reenlisted by Lt. Cmdr. Dave Anderson, air operations officer. (Photo by ABH1 Simon Olvera)

Morale, Welfare & Recreation

MWR Event Calendar

- Jan. 14**
Family Movie, Dolphin Tale
1-3 p.m. @ Club Ballroom
- Jan. 20**
Kids Night Out, 7 p.m. to midnight
\$10 per family
- Jan. 20**
7 p.m. - Texas Hold'em @ K-Bar
Call 516-4386 for details.
- Jan. 21**
Power Lifting Competition @ 11 a.m.
- Jan. 23**
5-on-5 Basketball League begins
Captain's meeting, Jan. 18
- Jan. 25**
Karaoke Night @ the K-Bar
7 to 11 p.m., free food, door prizes
- Jan. 27**
Last Buck Pizza at the Barracks
2 p.m. @ the Barracks
- Jan. 31**
Stay Fitter 10K @ 4:30 p.m.
- Tuesdays**
8-Ball Pool Tournaments
Liberty Center @ 6 p.m.
- Wednesdays**
Movie & Popcorn
Liberty Center @ 6 p.m.
- Thursdays**
6 p.m. - Xbox 360 Tournaments
@ Liberty Center
7 p.m. - Trivia on Tap @ K-Bar

Bowling Leagues

In the Doghouse League Standings as of Jan. 3

Place	Team	Won	Lost
1	Alley Cats	42	22
2	Three J's	38.5	25.5
3	Lane Breakers	35	29
4	3 Minds/Gutter	31.5	32.5
5	The Dusters	30	34
6	The Guys	30	34
7	DNA	25	39
8	Spare Tires	23	41

High Score Game-Men: John Zapalac, 255; Joey Soliz, 246.

High Score Series-Men: John Zapalac, 704; Lindy Conner, 663.

Wednesday Nite Mixed Standings as of Jan. 4

Place	Team	Won	Lost
1	IBowlers	37	23
2	Pete's Angels	35	25
3	Big K Rollers	32.5	27.5
4	Bad Azz	30.5	29.5
5	DUH's	27	33
6	Rat'Lers	26	34
7	Laugh Out Loud	26	34
8	I Can't Believe	26	34

High Score Game-Men: Clinton Howell, 276; JD Monroe, 275; Rodney Malin, 269.

High Score Series-Men: John Zapalac, 724; Clinton Howell, 704; Rodney Malin, 679.

High Score Game-Women: Tilde Hyndyman, 201; Mary Gonzales, 201; Lee Peters, 192.

High Score Series-Women: Lucy Clarkson, 522; Delia Monroe, 518; Shirlye Duffy, 518.

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3. Foster a pet from your local Shelter or Rescue
4. Spay/Neuter all your pets & ask friends & family to do the same
5. NEVER buy a pet from a breeder or pet store always Adopt from a local Shelter or Rescue instead
6. Donate to a Local Shelter or Rescue
7. NEVER buy fur clothing (much of it is dog or cat fur)
8. NEVER buy products tested on animals (Beagles are among the most used dogs for animal testing)
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10. Vote for Politicians that support animal welfare

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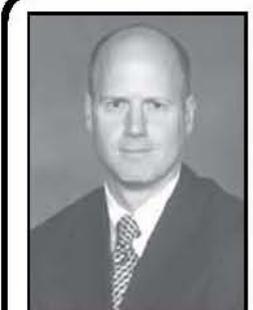
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