



# Naval Air Station Kingsville FLYING K

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Vol. 72, No. 10

Naval Air Station Kingsville, Texas

www.cnic.navy.mil/kingsville

May 16, 2014



Coby Coles, ELMR analyst, stands by as Cmdr. Rey Molina, executive officer, NAS Kingsville, tests the satellite phone in preparation for hurricane season.

## Annual hurricane exercise tests station's preparation, response

By Jon Gagné  
NAS Kingsville Public Affairs

Commands and activities aboard NAS Kingsville joined together to test emergency plans and preparations for hurricane season May 5-15 as part of Hurrex-Citidel Gale 2014. The annual exercise is conducted by Commander U.S. Fleet Forces Command (USFF) and Commander Navy Installations Command (CNIC) to provide afloat and shore-based commands an opportunity to exercise hurricane preparedness and installation restoration plans prior to the onset of the hurricane season, which starts June 1.

This year's exercise consisted of two simulated tropical cyclones that developed and intensified to hurricane strength at the same time, threatening the Eastern Coast of the U.S., the Gulf of Mexico, and the Caribbean coastal regions. All Navy commands in the continental U.S., ashore and afloat, in port and underway, participated to include reviewing and exercising heavy weather instructions and procedures and accounting for Sailors and Navy families in the affected regions through the Navy Family Accountability and Assessment System (NFAAS).

The purpose of this annual exercise is

to prepare Navy commands to respond to weather threats to U.S. coastal regions, and to maintain the ability to deploy forces even under the most adverse weather conditions. Navy commands focused on training under five "conditions of readiness" that start four days before a storm hits and progresses all the way up to 12 hours prior.

"Exercises such as Hurrex-2014 provide command leadership with a great opportunity to assess where we are prior to the start of the actual hurricane season," said NAS Kingsville Commanding Officer Capt. Christopher Misner. "We have identified a few shortfalls in our own planning and we will work towards ensuring those gaps are filled before June. The most important thing is to ensure our installation and our families are prepared to meet any challenges by any destructive weather that may come to South Texas."

NFAAS is a key part of this accountability. The Navy uses the NFAAS site to account for Sailors and Navy families, as well as to identify disaster-related needs of Navy families. Sailors and their families are required to ensure their information is up-to-date in NFAAS prior to the start of

see *Hurrex-14* on page 4

## VT-22 changes command

By Lt. Christopher A. McGrath, VT-22

Cmdr. Natesh A. Rao, USN, will relieve Lt. Col. Scott D. Schoeman, USMC, as commanding officer of Training Squadron 22 (VT-22) on May 15, at 10 a.m., during a traditional change of command ceremony held aboard USS Lexington Museum. Col. David Krebs, USMC, commanding officer, Marine Aviation Training Support Group 22 (MATSG-22), will serve as the guest speaker.

During Schoeman's 16-month tour at the helm of VT-22, the "Golden Eagles" flew more than 15,000 sorties, amassed nearly 17,000 flight hours and winged 74 new Navy and Marine Corps Aviators. Schoeman also oversaw the implementation of a strategic outreach initiative working with national Navy Recruiting Districts, to tap into underrepresented demographic markets, to increase exposure to Naval Aviation opportunities, and he spearheaded the overhaul of the Air-to-Ground syllabus.

Rao reported to NAS Kingsville as executive officer of VT-22 in January 2013.

Rao is a native of Ann Arbor, Mich., and graduated from the Georgia Institute of Technology in 1995, with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering and a Master of Arts in International Relations from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University. Rao was commissioned through the Naval ROTC program and designated a Naval Aviator in January 1998. After completing undergraduate pilot training, he was transferred to the Sea Control Squadron 41 (VS-41) "Shamrocks" at Naval Air Station North Island, Calif., for replacement pilot training in the S-3B Viking.

Rao's initial fleet assignment was in Atsugi, Japan, with the "Red Tails" of VS-21 on board USS Kitty

see *VT-22* on page 2



Rao



Schoeman

## Be Ready, Navy!

### Hurricanes, typhoons can happen

Ready Navy, a Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) program, wants all Sailors and their families to prepare for the 2014 season.

"It's important for Sailors and their families, and civilian personnel receive information from within their command about the likelihood of hurricanes or typhoons in the area, as well as preparation procedures and expectations," said Vice Adm. William French, Commander, Navy Installations Command. "You can visit the Ready Navy website and take steps to ensure that your families are ready to face a hurricane at home, particularly if they must face them alone should you be deployed."

Hurricane season in the Atlantic begins June 1 and ends Nov. 30. Prepare now.

Be and stay informed of the likelihood

of hurricane activity in your area and what to do before, during, and after a hurricane

Make a plan that includes multiple evacuation routes and an out of town point of contact.

Build a portable emergency supply kit for the home and office that includes enough supplies for at least three days

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Ready Navy recommend that individuals have at least \$100 of cash on hand.

You can find more information on hurricane/typhoon terminology and preparation strategies at [www.ReadyNavy.mil](http://www.ReadyNavy.mil), or follow Ready Navy on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/ReadyNavy](http://www.facebook.com/ReadyNavy)) and Twitter (@ReadyNavy).

## From the Bridge



Capt. Chris Misner  
Commanding Officer



Greetings,

We recognize all of our military on Armed Forces Day.

Since our Nation's founding, more than 45 million Americans have sworn an oath to put country before self; I thank them for their service, their sacrifice, and their selfless devotion to duty. America's military men and women are volunteers willing to freely give their lives, if need be, in the defense of the values that are uniquely American in character.

A Marine General I once worked for would say, "If we were in China, we would swear our allegiance to the communist party. If we were in France, we would swear an oath to the people of France. If we were in the United Kingdom, we would swear an oath to a Sovereign – the Queen. In America, our military swears an oath to a piece of paper – the United States Constitution." For those members of the armed forces who have stood guard in peacetime and to those who have seen the horror of combat and especially those who paid the ultimate sacrifice, let it be forever remembered that our military have been there for America – for the Constitution is worth defending!

We must be constantly reminded that liberty and freedom do not come cheaply. The price is great and the down payment has been high. America continues to be engaged in an armed conflict defending Amer-

### VT-22 from page 1

Hawk (CV 63) from June 1999 to October 2002. Rao then reported to Naval Air Station Kingsville to the "Golden Eagles" of Training Squadron 22 (VT-22), where he served as an instructor pilot in the T-45A Goshawk.

Rao was selected for transition training in the EA-6B Prowler and reported to the "Wizards" of Electronic Attack Squadron 133 (VAQ-133) in the spring of 2005. In 2007, he reported to the "Scorpions" of VAQ-132, where he served as safety, quality assurance and maintenance officer. In May 2009, Rao was assigned to the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) where he served as a special assistant and aide to the Supreme Allied Commander, Europe.

Rao has accumulated more than 3,000 flight hours and 600 arrested carrier landings. His awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, 10 Air Medals, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, and various unit, campaign and service awards.

Schoeman will stay in South Texas. His next assignment is with MATSG-22 aboard NAS Corpus Christi.

ican values from those who would challenge them. From Bunker Hill to Basra, Kason to Kandahar, America has given its toil and treasure to defend the rights of free men wherever freedom and liberty is threatened. Today, more than 1.5 million Americans are on active duty, serving the causes of freedom, peace and liberty. In the 12 years since that fateful day when America's enemies brought war to our door-steps with a cowardly attack that killed thousands of Americans, our armed forces have liberated two nations - Afghanistan and Iraq - delivering more than 50 million people from the hands of ruthless dictators who place no value on human life and dignity, and will not stop until they destroy our way of life.

Nearly 6,000 men and women in uniform have given what President Lincoln called the full measure of devotion and tens of thousands more will carry with them the scars of battle that will never heal. As we begin to wind down from operations in Afghanistan, there will certainly be much discussion about our two wars in the desert. I leave that to historians and the American

people. There is a line from one of my favorite movies, "They Died with their Boots on" I would like to share. There is a scene where an Army Colonel is speaking to a Senator, discussing wartime political issues. The Colonel interrupts and says, "I am not concerned with the making of war, only the fighting of them." At NAS Kingsville, I am proud to command many men and women who spent much of their careers fighting for freedom in a far-away land. One thing is clear, when America's military goes to war, we are fighting someone who does not cherish the freedoms we hold sacred.

Today, less than one percent of America has a stake in our national defense and is touched by this war, and even a smaller number of families have given its all. Less than one percent of us are shouldering the burdens for the rest of the country and we owe them nothing less than our prayers and our thanks.

My wife Shannon and I thank the men and women who serve our nation.

"One Team, One Fight, One Focus!"  
Skipper



**Kindergarten students visit** -- NAS Kingsville Firefighter Joseph Cordero shows kindergartens how thick a firefighter's jacket is. Recently, more than 120 kindergarten students from Santa Gertrudis Independent School District visited the Fire Department. The children learned about fire safety and how firefighters keep people safe.

## Flying K

The *Flying K* is published every other week by DJ Young Publishing, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Navy, under exclusive written contract with Naval Air Station Kingsville, Texas.

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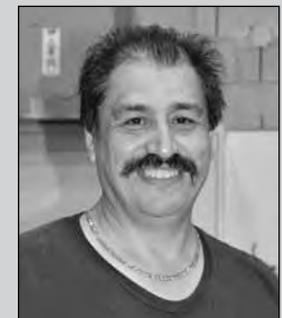
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This paper is published for people like Victor Rodriguez a computer engineer at Ground Training. Rodriguez is a native of Kingsville and has 13 years Federal service.



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## VT-22 welcomes Lt. Col. George as XO

Lt. Col. Robert George, USMC, recently reported to Training Squadron 22 (VT-22) as executive officer, from Marine Aviation Training Support Group 22 (MATSG-22) Corpus Christi.

George graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in May 1995, through the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps. He reported to The Basic School and then to NAS Pensacola in December 1995. George earned his Wings of Gold at NAS Meridian in April 1999, and was assigned to F/A-18 training with Strike Fighter Squadron 125 (VFA-125) in NAS Lemoore, Calif.

In August 2000, George was assigned to Marine All Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 121 (VMFA(AW)-121), where he served as schedules, airframes division and S-6 officer and completed three deployments as part of the Unit Deployment Program, Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) I, and Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) I. In February 2004, George completed Tactical Air Control Party School and deployed with the 1st Force Service Support Group (1FSSG) to Al Taqqadum Air Base, Iraq for OIF II. Upon return, he reported to VMFA(AW)-242 at MCAS Miramar, Calif., and completed the Weapons and Tactics Instructor Course prior to deployment in September 2006, to Al Asad AB, Iraq for OIF 5-7.2 where he served as logistics and operations officer.

In February 2008, George helped facilitate VMFA(AW)-242's permanent relocation to Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, where he served as the maintenance officer and executive officer and ultimately the Marine Aircraft Group 12 (MAG-12) operations officer. In May 2011, he reported to MCAS Miramar to serve as the MAG-11 operations officer.

In July 2012, George reported to 3D Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward) in Camp Leath-erneck, Afghanistan, as the current operations officer and deputy G-3 during OEF 12.2. In December 2012, he was appointed as the MAG-11 executive officer. In January 2014, George reported to MATSG-22 Corpus Christi.

George has amassed 3,200 flight hours with more than 2,900 hours in the F/A-18. His personal decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, Single Mission Air Medal with Combat "V," Air Medal Strike/Flight Award with numeral "14," and the Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medal with Gold Star.



George

### Hurrex-14 from page 1

hurricane season. (NFAAS Website <https://navyfamily.navy.mil>)

With proper preparation and training, the dangers of destructive weather can be mitigated, and this year is no different. It is everyone's responsibility to ensure the safety of equipment, and more importantly, Sailors and their families.

"Our 2014 exercise allowed us to fully test our emergency plans and response," said NAS Kingsville Emergency Manager Monette Walker. "As part of this Navywide exercise, South Texas was set in the direct path of one of two storms that formed simultaneously. The track of the storm in the Gulf of Mexico began targeting the Coastal Bend in a matter of days, and NAS Kingsville took the necessary steps to prepare the base and evacuate our people."

Walker added that all base commands played an active role in the exercise, including the Branch Health Clinic, Navy Exchange and Commissary.

"Because a number of base facilities provide services to retired military personnel throughout South Texas, it's important that we communicate what these facilities will do during an actual hurricane, including hours of operations," Walker added. "People are going to want to know if the commissary, exchange, health clinic or MWR services are going to be open, and we will need to communicate that information through our base Public Affairs Office and our command

web sites. Having that information ahead of time makes things a lot easier for everyone involved."

Walker said she was pleased with the way the air station responded to the storm scenarios, and believes that NAS Kingsville is well-prepared as hurricane season approaches.

"We learned a few things during this exercise as we always do," Walker stated. "But we'll use those lessons learned to make us even more prepared as we move ahead."

Navy Region Southeast (NRSE) coordinated the efforts for the 15 commands for 15 installations within the Southeastern United States, including Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas, and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

For exercise preparation, NRSE reviewed disaster preparedness plans and conducted individual and team training. NRSE also conducted pre-exercise and pre-tropical cyclone season discussions with disaster preparedness officers of subordinate commands to address exercise scenarios, emergency plans, and recovery efforts.

The destruction and devastation caused by storms reinforces the need for proper training and preparedness prior to the threat of a real world natural disaster. NRSE has endured severe storms in the recent past to include hurricanes Sandy and Katrina. Being prepared for the potential issues associated with a storm can only be successful with  
*see Hurrex-14 on next page*



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## Navy celebrates Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

The Navy joins our nation in celebrating the contributions of generations of patriots during Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month throughout May.

Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month recognizes the challenges faced by Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders, and Native Hawaiians and their vital contributions to the American story.

This year's national theme is "I Am Beyond," capturing the aspirations of the American spirit and how Americans of Asian and Pacific Islander descent have sought to excel beyond the challenges they have faced over the years.

Asians and Pacific Islanders of various nationalities and ancestry have been serving in our Navy since the early 19th century. Asians

and Pacific Islanders have continued to be at the forefront as leaders in every aspect of American life, including Adm. Harry B. Harris, Jr., the commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet. Born in Japan and raised in Tennessee and Florida, Adm. Harris graduated the U.S. Naval Academy in 1978 and became a P-3 Orion navigator. In addition to U.S. Pacific Fleet, he commanded Patrol Squadron 46, Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing 1, Joint Task Force-Guantanamo, U.S. 6th Fleet and Striking and Support Forces NATO.

Another Sailor of Asian American descent is Capt. and astronaut Sunita L. Williams, of Asian Indian parentage. She served as the flight engineer for the Expedition-14 crew and science officer at the International Space Station in 2007. Her four space walks and

*Hurrex-14 from previous page*

proper training, which is why this type of exercise is necessary on an annual basis.

"Hurrex Citadel/Gale 14 is the annual U.S. Fleet Forces Command hurricane preparedness exercise and Commander, Navy Installations Command natural disaster restoration and recovery exercise that provides evacuation, disaster preparedness and consequence management training to afloat and shore based commands," said John Hunczak, NRSE Regional Operation Assessment and Assistance Program (ROAAP) exercise planner. This exercise is a great training opportunity and focusing event for the Navy Region Southeast team in preparation for the 2014 hurricane season."

Navy personnel are reminded that the ReadyNavy web site should be their primary source for hurricane preparedness tips and information.

six months in orbit set records for women at the time.

In 2014, Sailors of Asian and Pacific Islander heritage comprise 6.43 percent of our active duty Naval force. More than 20,500 active duty Sailors, 4,000 Reservists, and 18,900 Navy civilian employees identify as Asian American or Pacific Islander,

including 10 flag officers, 9 members of the Senior Executive Service (SES), and 176 master chief petty officers. Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders encompass over 50 ethnic and language groups, representing a vast array of cultures, nationalities, and historical roots.

Directed by Congress in 1978 and established by Presidential Proclamation in 1979, Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week was first

observed the week of May 4, 1979. In 1990, President George H. W. Bush expanded the observance to encompass the entire month, and in 1992, Congress passed a law permanently designating May as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month.

The Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute provides printable posters, presentations, guidance for organizing observance, and educational facts on their website, <http://www.deomi.org/> under the section "Special Observances."

For more information about the history of Asian and Pacific Islanders and their numerous contributions to the Navy, visit <http://www.history.navy.mil/special%20highlights/asian/asian-index.htm>. (From *Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs*)

"It's important for Sailors and their families, and civilian personnel receive information from within their command about the likeliness of hurricanes or typhoons in the area, as well as preparation procedures and expectations," said Vice Adm. William French, Commander, Navy Installations Command. "You can visit the Ready Navy website and take steps to ensure that your families are ready to face a hurricane at home, particularly if they must face them alone should you be deployed."

For more information on hurricane preparations, visit: <http://www.ready.navy.mil>.

*Editor's Note: Contributors for this story include Twila Smith, Navy Region Southeast Public Affairs and Shannon Maxwell, Commander Navy Installations Command Ready Navy Program.*

***NAS Kingsville will celebrate Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month with a luncheon on May 21, at the Captain's Club. Check the Plan of the Week for more information.***

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## Volunteer at The Cattery

Do you love cats, and you're allergic? Volunteer to our gift shop! - Do you want to volunteer, but don't have time to come to the shelter? - Help us add pictures of new cats to our website! - The possibilities are endless!

Hours available for volunteering at the shelter are as follows: Monday and Tuesday, 9-11pm; Wednesday and Thursday, 9-11pm and 3-5pm; and Friday - Sunday 9am-5pm. Adult volunteers can work any amount of time during these hours. Youth volunteers are limited to 2 hours per day. We are also at Palmer 11am-5pm, Saturday and Sunday and need volunteers there as well.

Our shelter has limited staff and the amount of work that needs to be done to keep the shelter running exceeds the amount of employees that we have! Especially since we do not have a lot of volunteers. We rely heavily on our volunteers and ask for only simple responsibilities. Besides we ask for a minimum of 8 hours of your time each month. It might be hard work, but your reward is helping homeless kitties find new homes! During your volunteer work at the shelter 1/2 your time will be spent working (cleaning or other shelter things that need to be done) and the other 1/2 will be spent playing with kitties!

**Available Volunteer Opportunities**

**Food and Water:** We will need volunteers to clean trays, cat trays, litter boxes and other general cleaning. Volunteers will distribute food and water to the cats.

**Medical:** Specially trained volunteers will administer daily medications as needed.

**Administrative:** Help with publications and maintaining the web site.

**Adoption:** Work with the public to place cats in forever homes.

**Housekeeping:** Help with various structural and repairs throughout the year. Or write up with your email.

All hours are appreciated! Volunteers can also help with grant writing and corporate sponsorships.

**Gift Shop:** Volunteers can help shoppers select the perfect gift, tag and put out new merchandise, and other store related activities.

**Public Care:** Please inform staff we either see you in the shelter (public bulletin or answer our hotline) or that you've reached out.

**Time:** We plan to help the city with their Trap, Neuter, Release program soon and will need volunteers to help with this project.



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## In the Break



Capt. Donald Nisbett Jr.  
Commander  
Training Air Wing TWO



Greetings NAS Kingsville and Training Air Wing TWO,

Congratulations to 16 of our newest Naval Aviators winged last Friday on May 9, at the Captain's Club:

VT-21: Ensign Mark Dodson; 1st Lt. Jonathon Marsh; Lt.j.g. Anderson Oliveira, Brazilian Navy; Lt.j.g. Christopher Pagenkopf; Lt.j.g. Carlos Pena; and 1st Lt. Philip Wheat.

VT-22: Lt. Renato Depaolis; 1st Lt. Brandon Dorsett; 1st Lt. Jason Garden; Lt.j.g. John McDonald; Ensign Grant Parks; Lt.j.g. Brandon Roberts; Capt. Diego Saba, Brazilian Navy; 1st Lt. Jonathan Walker; Lt. Brian Welch; and 1st Lt. Jason Wright.

Our Brazilian and Saudi Arabian military students train here in the U. S. under the terms of the Security Cooperation Education and Training Program to assist in developing expertise and promote U.S. military rapport with the armed forces of other countries to operate in peacekeeping missions and in coalition environments.

I would like to also acknowledge the special accomplishments of Ensign Mark Dodson and Lt.j.g. Anderson Oliveira, Brazilian Navy, for being selected to the Commodore's List, and Lt.j.g. Brandon Roberts for earning Top Hook.

For a good part of a year, these young men have toiled and prevailed through flight training, on their way to earning their coveted "Wings of Gold." BRAVO ZULU on a job well done! From here they will move closer to the "Tip of the Spear" in preparation to one day answering our nation's call when it comes to meeting the continual evolving security threats. Please join me in wishing them all the best in the future and the fleet!

As schools begin to let out for summer and our focus shifts to summer leave plans. TW-2 took an operational pause to focus on safety in advance of the Memorial Day weekend, the traditional start of our 100 days of summer.

Do you know where your family will go in the event of a mandatory hurricane evacuation?

Last week NAS Kingsville participated in a regional hurricane readiness exercise. As a reminder, hurricane season starts June 1, and runs through the end of November.

If you haven't already done so, it's critical that you make a family readiness plan for emergency preparation and evacuation.

Formalize your plan so that everyone in the family understands what to do and where to go in the event of an emergency. Take the time now to review the base and

command established procedures, and log in to the Navy Family Accountability and Assessment System

(NFAAS) (<https://navyfamily.navy.mil>). More information on preparedness can also be found at the American Red Cross (<http://www.redcross.org/prepare/disaster/hurricane>).

Remember operational readiness first starts with personal readiness. Are you ready?

On Monday, May 26, we will celebrate Memorial Day. This federal holiday is traditionally celebrated every year on the final Monday of May to honor all Americans who have died while in the military service.

Originally known as Decoration Day after the Civil War, this holiday commemorated the Union and Confederate soldiers who died during that war. By the 20th century, Memorial Day, not to be confused with Veterans Day, evolved as a day of remembering all the men and women who died while serving in the military.

On Memorial Day, the flag of the United States is raised briskly to the top of the staff and then solemnly lowered to the half-staff position, where it remains only until noon. It is then raised to full-staff for the remainder of the day. (US Code, 2006, Supplement 1, Jan. 4, 2007, to Jan. 8, 2008)

The half-staff position remembers the more than one million men and women who gave their lives in service of their country. At noon, their memory is raised by the living, who resolve not to let their sacrifice be in vain, but to rise up in their stead and continue the fight for liberty and justice for all. ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Memorial\\_Day](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Memorial_Day))

Don't let the three-day weekend be a distraction from the spirit and meaning of this national day of observance.

Finally, on Thursday, May 15, Cmdr. Natesh Rao relieved Lt. Col Scott Schoeman as the commanding officer (CO) of Training Squadron Twenty-Two (VT-22) "Golden Eagles" aboard USS Lexington Museum.

Lt. Col Schoeman and his wife Nicki have devoted countless hours and have done a tremendous job over the past three years, first as executive officer (XO) and now as CO. Fair winds and following seas to the Schoeman family as they relocate to NAS Corpus Christi and he assumes his new job at the Chief of Naval Air Training (CNA-TRA).

Congratulations to Cmdr. Rao and his wife Lisa on their assumption of command of VT-22. Also, welcome to the new XO, Lt. Col Robert George, his wife Jocelyn and his family, as they continue to support Cmdr. Rao and the "Golden Eagles" mission of conducting undergraduate jet pilot training in the T-45 Goshawk to provide the fleet with newly winged Navy and Marine Corps carrier aviators.

"Pride, Professionalism and Purpose"  
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## Wheeler for the Wounded

Story & photos  
by FC1(SW) John Sessions  
NAS Kingsville Public Affairs

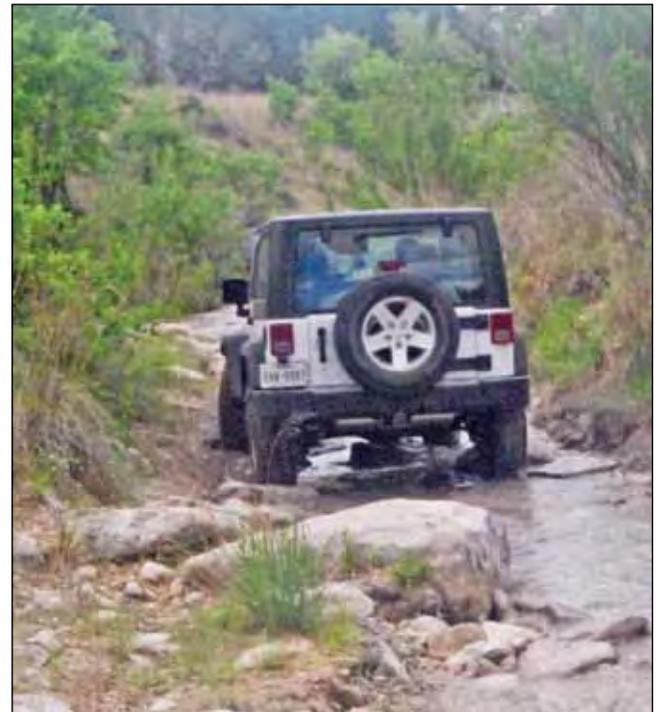
Marble Falls, Texas – Navy personnel from NAS Kingsville and the United States Coast Guard in Corpus Christi volunteered recently at Wheelers for the Wounded 2014 held at Hidden Falls Adventure Park, just north of Austin, Texas. Volunteers were responsible for event set up, trail guides, group coordinators and clean up.

Wheeler for the Wounded (WFTW) is an event held expressly for wounded service members, from conflicts past and present, and their families. Supported by the off-road community in Texas, the backbone of WFTW, our heroes are afforded the opportunity to get out of their barracks and hospital rooms for a day of fun and adventure in the beautiful setting in the hill country of Texas.

Honored guests are treated to great food, activities and entertainment as well as the opportunity to ride in some of the biggest and “baddest” off-road vehicles in the world, on trails ranging from mild to wild, guaranteed to provide enjoyment for children of all ages or thrill even the most battle hardened warrior.

The WFTW main event hosted over 200 jeeps and off-road vehicles to approximately 300 wounded warriors and their families. Entertainment this year was provided by country music star Tracy Byrd, who played 14 of his hit songs and several by request.

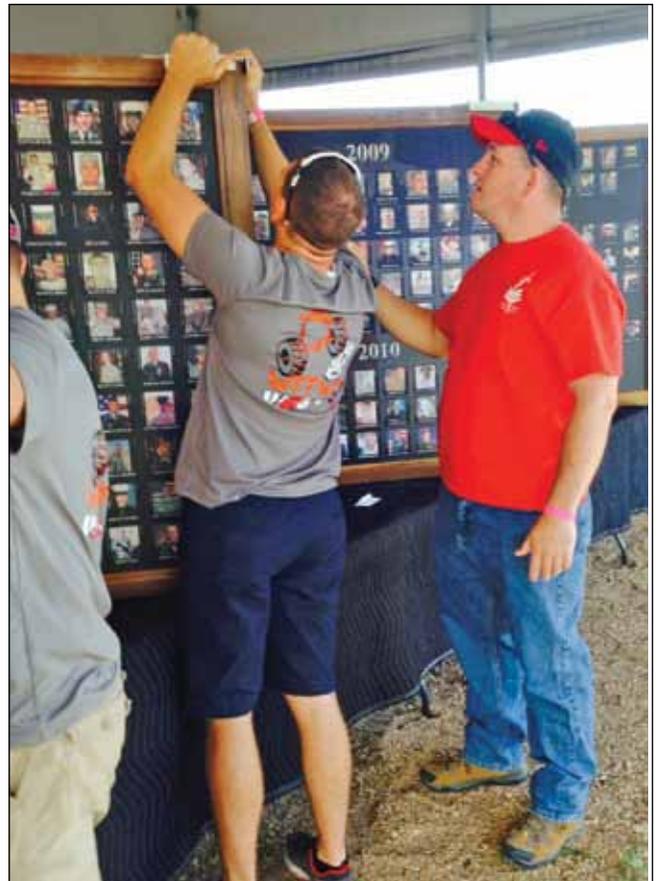
Wheeler for the Wounded is not only a great time spent with good people, it is an opportunity to give something back to the men and women who have served “down range” in support of freedom.



Pictured above, AC2 (AW) Rob Szczepanski, of NALF Orange Grove, spots a wheeler down a steep grade drop.



Pictured right, ABE1 (AW) Robert Spears, of Field Support, helps set up the “Fallen Texas Warriors” memorial.





**NMCRS 2014 Active-Duty Fund Drive Closure Note**

A big appreciation goes out to everyone's efforts and donations to making this year's fund drive a great success! On Thursday, May 1, NAS Kingsville hosted a car wash in support of the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society Active-Duty Fund Drive. Sixteen volunteers were able to wash 38 cars and raise a total of \$500.27.

The grand total for NAS Kingsville 2014 Active Duty Fund Drive came to \$13,219.27 that is an increase of \$2,428.27 from last year's drive. Bravo Zulu! All proceeds will be contributed to the local NMCRS Active Duty Fund Drive, which provides the society with the finances it needs to aid Sailors, Marines and their families. (Photos by FCI (SW) John Sessions)



**Wings of Gold** – A winging ceremony was held May 9, at the NAS Kingsville Captain's Club. Congratulations to the Student Naval Aviators who earned their coveted Wings of Gold. Pictured above are leadership and students who were winged. From left are (front row) Lt. Col. Scott Schoeman, CO, VT-22; Cmdr. Matthew Perun, CSO, TW-2; Capt. Christopher Misner, CO, NAS Kingsville; Capt. Diego Saba, Brazilian Navy; Lt. Brian Welch; Lt.j.g. Brandon Roberts; Lt. Anderson Oliveira, Brazilian Navy; Capt. Donald Nisbett, Commander, TW-2; Col. David Krebs, CO, MATSG-2;

Cmdr. Charles Stahl, CO, VT-21; (middle row) Lt.j.g. John McDonald; Lt. j.g. Carlos Pena; Lt.j.g. Christopher Pagenkopf; 1st Lt. Jonathan Walker; Cmdr. Corey Plocher, XO, VT-21; (back row) Cmdr. Rey Molina, XO, NAS Kingsville; Cmdr. Natesh Rao, XO, VT-22; 1st Lt. Jason Garden; Ensign Grant Parks; 1st Lt. Philip Wheat; Lt. Renato Depaolis; 1st Lt. Brandon Dorsett; Ensign Mark Dodson; 1st Lt. Jason Wright; 1st Lt. Jonathon Marsh; and Maj. Joshua Zager, senior Marine, TW-2. (Photo by Richard Stewart, CNATRA Public Affairs)

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## Drumbeats

*Current issues on the forefront of the minds and hearts of our people ...*

**Domestic Violence:** More than one in three women (35.6 percent) and more than one in four men (28.5 percent) in the United States have experienced rape, physical violence and/or stalking by an intimate partner in their lifetime. National Domestic Violence Hotline advocates are available 24/7 at 1-800-799-SAFE (7233) in over 170 languages. All calls are confidential and anonymous. <http://www.thehotline.org/help/>

**SAPR:** The Safe Helpline Mobile App (for iOS or Android) allows sexual assault survivors in the military to create a customized self-care plan and connect to resources from anywhere in the world.

You can use the self-care exercises and information in the app whenever you'd like. Your personalized plan will be stored only on your mobile device so it will remain completely confidential. Once you download the app, you don't need an internet connection to use it.

**Suicide Prevention:** Even under extreme stress, the presence of protective factors helps us effectively navigate through life's challenges. A sense of community and genuine support from leadership, shipmates, family and friends can help counter risk factors for stress injuries, such as extreme feelings of hopelessness and/or difficult transitions.

It is our duty to be engaged with our friends, family, coworkers and leadership to help each other weather life's storms.

**Alcohol: Did You Know?**

\* Drunk driving is often a symptom of a larger problem: alcohol misuse and abuse.

\* Alcohol-impaired motor vehicle crashes cost more than an estimated \$37 billion annually.

\* In 2012, more than 10,000 people died in alcohol-impaired driving crashes - one

every 51 minutes.

If you think you may be struggling with an addiction to alcohol, or if drinking interferes with your work and/or relationships, please seek help -- don't wait until it's too late!

**Drug Use:** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has classified prescription drug abuse as an epidemic. While there has been a marked decrease in the use of some illegal drugs such as cocaine, data from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) show that nearly one-third of people ages 12 and over who used drugs for the first time in 2009 began by using a prescription drug non-medically.

Because prescription drugs are legal, they are easily accessible. Here are some things you can do to reduce the abuse of prescription drugs:

\* Follow disposal guidelines: No matter who you are, you can help address this issue in your home.

\* Talk to your kids: It's important that our children learn about the use and abuse of prescription drugs.

\* Take advantage of community take-back programs: Call your city or county government's household trash and recycling service or your local police or sheriff's department to see if a take-back program is available in your community.

\* Seek treatment and support individuals in recovery: Thousands of individuals who have struggled with addiction have now living healthy and happy lives with the help of treatment and recovery services.

\*\*The bottom line shipmates: In all of the above, YOU are the key to our success in the Navy! Intervene, speak up and look out for one another ... don't be the one who stands by and watches a shipmate fall.\*\*

## Navy Public Works professionals recognized

Approximately 10,000 Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) public works professionals will celebrate National Public Works Week, which runs May 18-24.

National Public Works Week seeks to raise the public's awareness about public works issues and employees who are dedicated to improving the quality of life for present and future generations. This year's theme is "Building for Today, Planning for Tomorrow."

"We are fortunate to have a great team of Civil Engineer Corps (CEC) officers and NAVFAC civilians, along with our contractor partners, providing full-service public works and energy support to Navy and Marine Corps commanders around the world," said NAVFAC Commander Rear Adm. Kate Gregory.

NAVFAC has provided management and leadership of Navy public works for more than 170 years. As the Navy's public works officers, CEC officers lead Navy and Marine Corps public works departments (PWD) around the globe in providing comprehensive shore installation facility engineering, acquisition, environmental, and

transportation services.

A lot of this essential work goes unnoticed, but the behind-the-scenes effort performed in providing vital public works services such as electricity, water, and wastewater management is a central enabler for a lot of what happens on Navy and Marine Corps bases worldwide.

"NAS Kingsville is fortunate to have a talented team of professionals handling our Public Works programs," said NAS Kingsville Commanding Officer Capt. Chris Misner. "Under the leadership of Lt. Cmdr. Eric Hass, our PW and NAVFAC Southeast staff keeps the command up and running and able to meet our mission. From managing construction projects to coordinating trouble calls response, managing our energy and water conservation programs and environmental protection, we have always been able to count on our professional PWD team to keep us mission ready."

NAVFAC's public works professionals are at the forefront of executing cutting-edge *see NAVFAC on the next page*

## Sports Shorts

### Captain's Cup Softball Schedule

#### May 19

6 p.m.: Security vs. VT-22  
7 p.m.: VT-21 vs. Air Operations

#### May 21

6 p.m.: Branch Clinic vs. VT-22  
7 p.m.: Army vs. Air Operations

#### May 28

6 p.m.: Security vs. Army Reserve HB  
7 p.m.: Air Operations vs. Branch Clinic

#### June 2

6 p.m.: Army vs. Army Reserve HB  
7 p.m.: VT-22 vs. VT-21

#### June 4

6 p.m.: Security vs. Air Operations  
7 p.m.: VT-22 vs. Army

#### June 9

6 p.m.: Security vs. Army  
7 p.m.: Army Reserve HB vs. Branch Clinic

### Post Season Tournament (Single Elimination)

#### June 11

6 p.m.: (1) 4th Place vs. 5th Place  
7 p.m.: (2) 3rd Place vs. 6th Place

#### June 16

6 p.m.: (3) 2nd Place vs. 7th Place  
7 p.m.: (4) 1st Place vs. Winner Game 1

#### June 17

6 p.m.: (5) Winner Game 2 vs. Winner Game 3  
7 p.m.: (6) Winner Game 4 vs. Winner Game 5

### Championship Game

#### June 18

6 p.m.: (7) Winner of Game 4 vs. Winner of Game 5

### Bowling Center

#### In the Doghouse League Standings as of April 22

Place	Team	Won	Lost
1	Los Leones	76	52
2	SA 2	74.5	53.5
3	DNA	73.5	54.5
4	Three J's	66	62
5	Alley Cats	62	66
6	Flat Tires	54	74
7	Team 7	0	116
8	Ghost	0	0

#### Season Leaders:

**High Game Scratch:** JD Monroe, 299; Joey Soliz, 279; Rich Kolk Jr., 279.

**High Series Scratch:** Rich Kolk Jr., 735; Joey Soliz, 685; Eric Joles, 674.

**High Handicap Series:** Rich Kolk Jr., 758; JD Monroe, 757; Joey Soliz, 733.

**High Game Handicap:** JD Monroe, 327; Joey Soliz, 298; two tied at 286.

#### Wednesday Nite Mixed Standings as of April 30

Place	Team	Won	Lost
1	DUH's	80	48
2	I Can't Believe	65	63
3	I Bowlers	65	63
4	Kings & Queens	64	64
5	Rattlers	62	66
6	Big K Rollers	60	68
7	Laugh Out Loud	58	70
8	Chemcel Strikers	58	70

#### Season Leaders:

**High Game-Men:** Nathan Johnson, 297; JD Monroe, 279; Joey Soliz, 277.

**High Series-Men:** Eric Joles, 697; Rich Kolk Jr., 689; Josh Nunez, 668.

**High Game Handicap-Men:** Nathan Johnson 315; Joey Soliz, 307; JD Monroe, 304.

**High Series Handicap-Men:** Ralph Duffy, 747; Buddy Wilson, 742; Josh Nunez, 737.

**High Game-Women:** Shirlie Duffy, 229; Carmen Arevalo, 220; Kathy Court, 215.

**High Series-Women:** Carmen Arevalo, 598; Shirlie Duffy, 588; Delia Monroe, 562.

**High Game Handicap:** Shirlie Duffy, 274; JoAnn Herrera, 268; Carmen Arevalo, 265.

**High Handicap Series:** Carmen Arevalo, 727; Shirlie Duffy, 723; Gabby Ganther, 687.

### NAVFAC from page 10

energy projects for Commander, Navy Installations Command to help meet the Secretary of the Navy's energy goals. Advanced metering, renewable energy, and residential energy conservation projects are helping to reduce the demand for energy on and off base.

PWD personnel are always some of the first at the pier when a ship returns to base, providing utilities and hotel services that include electrical hookups to shore. They also enable Navy warfighters to conduct their missions by ensuring runways are in good working order and are clear of any foreign

object debris, which can cause damage to planes and injury to personnel.

Last year NAVFAC PWDs helped keep naval facilities and infrastructure around the world well maintained and managed, as more than 480,000 service calls and 51,000 emergency calls were recorded and completed in 2013.

"The men and women who work at our PWDs often don't get the recognition they deserve," Gregory said. "But they are essential for those they serve and for any base to run smoothly."



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Luis Nava, of Fleet Logistics Center detachment Jacksonville, moves palettes of items out of the Ground Training facility -- they are pieces of an old simulator that are being "DRMO'd" as a result of a recent zone inspection.

**Zones from page 3**

safety and housekeeping items that serves as a risk management and energy conservation tool," Sparks said.

"The Fire and Emergency Services Fire Prevention Department is the foundation to an effective fire protection and life safety program," said Fire Chief Ruben Perez, of NAS Kingsville. "The goal for the Navy's fire and emergency services prevention program is to reduce fire in the Navy by 50 percent every three years.

"This is achieved by executing effective inspections, applying practical prevention controls, and delivering fire safety education," Perez added. "These efforts directly support the Admiral's intent on zone inspections."

But, Fire and Emergency Services isn't the only department on base that supports zone inspections.

"The most important part of zone inspection is motivating Sailors by the level of involvement by the chain of command," said Misner, "and we're all involved in ensuring we maintain a safe working environment. We also have, as a top priority, energy-usage reduction."

The first step in correcting deficiencies is noting them. So, completed checklists are returned to the Safety Office. From there, the information gathered is analyzed and correction action can be put into place based on priorities such as safety, performance or even aesthetic deficiencies.

Williamson visited NAS Kingsville in March as part of a familiarization tour. But, while he was here, he provided the impetus for the air station to solidify a zone inspection program.

While at Air Operations he conducted a Preventive Maintenance spot-check on a Tower Control Workstation (TWC) part of the Standard Terminal Automation Replacement System (STARS) in the Air Traffic Control radar room, according to ETC (SW) Ricardo Quintana, ground electronics leading chief petty officer.

"During the spot-check, the admiral verified that ET3 Scott Dunn was qualified

to perform the maintenance, that the work center maintained the right Maintenance Requirement Card (MRC) used to conduct the maintenance," Quintana said. "He also observed ET3 Dunn performing the maintenance and was impressed with his knowledge of the 3M program and the knowledge of the equipment he is responsible for maintaining."

Williamson also visited the Child Development Center and saw the structural shifting of the facility and the need for an industrial kitchen to support the facility.

"The admiral did not have any findings when he came to the CDC," stated Eric Nikkel, Morale Welfare and Recreation director. "The admiral was also briefed on the recent Commander, Navy Installations Command, inspection results and our plan for facility improvements."

"The health, safety and housekeeping zone inspection program will help ensure a safe and healthful workplace for our Sailors and civilian employees, as well as for the children in our care and the visitors to the air station," Misner said. "It will also increase the life of facilities and equipment on board the air station by identifying deficiencies and hazards and having them abated before they become more serious."

Vice Adm. William French, CNIC, recently asked everyone's help and engagement for a culture change which is needed to made reducing energy a top priority.

"We've made progress in the shore enterprise," according to French. "We used a lot less energy in 2013 than we did in 2003. We're also making progress in where we get our energy; in 2013, we were able to make or buy a lot of the energy we used in facilities from renewable sources.

"That's encouraging, but we still have more work to do to meet the Secretary of the Navy's and Chief of Naval Operations' goals for reducing energy consumption by 2020."

The importance of the work zone inspection program will help NAS Kingsville achieve energy-consumption reduction goals, as well as ensuring we have a healthy and safe "home away from home."

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OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Habitat for Humanity ReStore is a retail outlet where stores (like Home Depot, Sutherlands, Lowe's), contractors, and individuals donate building materials, supplies and gently-used household items for resale to the general public at bargain prices. The proceeds help build more affordable houses. Location: 1901 Lipan St, Corpus Christi, TX 78408 (intersection of Coke & Lipan, one block off Crosstown. Hours: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday 361-885-7944 www.corpuschristihfh.com/hfestore.php

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Volunteer at The Cattery - Do you love cats, but you're allergic? Volunteer in our gift shop! Do you want to volunteer, but don't have time to come to the shelter? Help us add pictures of new cats to our website from home! The possibilities are endless! Hours available for volunteering at the shelter are as follows: Monday and Tuesday, 9-12pm Wednesday and Thursday, 9-12pm and 3-6pm and Friday - Sunday 9am-6pm Adult volunteers can work any amount of time during these hours. Youth Volunteers are limited to 3 hours per day.

We are also at Petsmart 11am-6pm, Saturday and Sunday and need volunteers there as well. Our shelter has limited staff and the amount of work that needs to be done to keep the shelter running exceeds the amount of employees that we have! Especially since we do adoptions at two locations! We rely heavily on our volunteers and ask for only serious commitments, therefore we ask for a minimum of 6 hours of your time each month. It might be hard work, but your reward is helping homeless kitties find new homes! During your volunteer shift at the shelter 1/2 your time will be spent working (cleaning or other shelter things that need to be done) and the other 1/2 will be spent playing with kitties! For list of Volunteer Needs please visit: [www.thecatteryco.org/volunteer/volunteer-information](http://www.thecatteryco.org/volunteer/volunteer-information)



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The Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History Announces Family Fun on Saturday May 17, 2014, from 10am to 5pm, the museum will host the second annual Engineering Egg Drop. Create a safe casing for an egg with materials supplied by the museum, and then test the success of the creation by dropping the egg off our 2nd story balcony! Will it splat or not? Prizes will be awarded for successful egg launches! Cost: General Admission plus \$1.00 for each egg. General admission: \$9 adults, \$7 for ages 3-12 and seniors, \$4.50 for active military with ID, children 2 and under are free. Members are free. For more information on this and other events at the Corpus Christi Museum of Science & History, visit [www.comuseum.com](http://www.comuseum.com) or [facebook.com/comuseum](https://www.facebook.com/comuseum).

The next Island Moon Market® is Memorial Weekend, Saturday May 24th! 9am to 5pm in Cole Park - Corpus Christi! We once again have a sister event taking place in Cole Park: The Annual Rubber Duck Round Up Benefiting South Texas Lighthouse For The Blind! This is a family friendly event with lots to do for the kids! The event runs from 10am - 1pm and will surely pump up the visitors to the Island Moon Market!

Join a Park Ranger for a BEACH WALK every Sunday weekly and every Saturday weekly through 05/31/14. Location: Malaguete Beach from 11 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. Park Entrance FEE only. This leisurely, 45 minute stroll on the beach is suitable for all ages. The program explores our coastal ecology!

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## BACKYARD BBQ

for 50 of your Closest Friends  
from Blake Fulenwider and Big House Burgers



### TEST DRIVE

a new Jeep from  
Blake Fulenwider Dodge  
Chrysler Jeep between  
May 14 & June 21 to be  
entered to win a Backyard  
BBQ on base during the  
July 3rd Fireworks show.  
One lucky guest during the  
BBQ will win a brand new  
**BBQ GRILL.**

### HERO'S DISCOUNT

available to Active or Retired  
Military, Border Patrol, Fire,  
EMS, and Law Enforcement  
on all new vehicles sold.  
Must show proof of eligibility at time of purchase.

### 2014 Jeep Patriot Sport

Skt #	.....L25687	Additional rebates you	
MSRP	.....\$19,790	may qualify for:	
Rebate	.....\$1,000	Conquest lease	.....\$1,000
Blake Disc.	.....\$1,095	Military discount	.....\$500
Chrysler Finan. Bonus	.....\$750		
Sale	.....\$16,995		

**\$15,495**

### 2014 Jeep Cherokee Sport FWD

Skt #	.....L22198	Additional rebates you may qualify for:	
MSRP & A.C.C.	.....\$25,525	Conquest lease	.....\$1,000
Consumer Rebate	.....\$500	Active Military	.....\$500
Blake Disc.	.....\$1,590	Dealer Member	.....\$500
Bonus Cash	.....\$500	Chrysler Finance	.....\$750
Sale	.....\$22,995	College Grad	.....\$500

**\$19,745**

9-speed Automatic - ParkView™ Rear Back-Up Camera  
17-in. Aluminum Wheels - SIRIUS Satellite Radio



**0.9% FINANCING AVAILABLE**



**Every NEW Vehicle Comes With 7 YEAR / 100,000 MI. LIMITED POWERTRAIN WARRANTY**

**SALES**  
M-F 8-6  
SAT 9-6

**2151 N. Hwy 77 Kingsville**  
**blakekingsvilledodge.com**

**SERVICE**  
M-F 7:30-6  
SAT 8-3

ALL PRICES PLUS TAX, TITLE AND LICENSE FEES. PICTURES ARE FOR ILLUSTRATION PURPOSES ONLY AND MAY NOT BE A CULP PHOTO OF ADVERTISED VEHICLE. MILITARY INCENTIVE IS EXTENDED TO PERSONS WHO ARE ACTIVE OR 20 YEARS SERVICE RETIRED. 0%, 0.9% & 2.9% APR ARE INCL. OF REBATE AND WITH APPROVED CREDIT. ALL PAYMENTS BASED ON YOUR PRICE WITH APPROVED CREDIT. PAYMENTS ARE CALCULATED USING 3.85% APR FOR 75 MONTHS WITH 20% DOWN. TAX, TITLE, AND LICENSE NOT INCLUDED. CUSTOMER MUST FINANCE THROUGH CHRYSLER CAPITAL TO QUALIFY. CONQUEST LEASE MUST BE IN CURRENT LEASE TO QUALIFY. LEASE TRADE IN NOT REQUIRED. REALTOR MEMBERS MUST BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL REALTORS ASSOCIATION TO QUALIFY. COLLEGE GRAD: GRADUATING IN THE NEXT 6 MONTHS WITH ANY DEGREE OR GRADUATED IN THE PAST 2 YEARS WITH ANY DEGREE. SEE DEALER FOR DETAILS. MUST TAKE DELIVERY FROM DEALER STOCK. OFFER ENDS 5/31/2014.

Argonne

Normandy

Midway

The Chosin Reservoir

Khe Sanh

Dak To

Medina Ridge

Tora Bora

Fallujah



These are the places we remember,  
to honor the lives of those we'll never forget.

