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New Spirit Enters NWS Earle Chapel

By NWS Earle Public Affairs

Naval Weapon Station Earle's historic Chapel is getting a breath of new life.

Long relegated to simply a meeting house, the chapel has not served its traditional role as the religious and community center of the installation since the last full-time chaplain departed in 2009.

All of that changed last month when the installation welcomed Lt. Michael Sparrow, U.S. Navy Chaplain, to the command.

His first mission: revitalizing the long dormant chapel back to its original purpose.

"How do you take a place that has been essentially a theater, and turn it into a place that's warm and inviting and feels safe?" he said.

For Sparrow, the answer comes down to one word, presence.

"The chapel will transform in appearance, but the appearance transforms because of the interaction you have with the chaplain," he said. "The chapel and the chaplain are interconnected in that way. If I am open and inviting, then the chapel will be, too."

But Sparrow said that doesn't mean extended office hours and an open door policy, but rather getting out into the community and meeting the Sailors and civilians of Earle.

"I'm excited to get out there and meet the people in this community," he said. "I want people to see me as a resource, but also someone who is willing to come to their workspace and do their job along with them."

According to Sparrow, military chaplains provide four basic functions: Provide for religious needs of their faith, facilitate for the religious needs of those outside of their faith, care for all and advise the command.

For Sparrow, an ordained Methodist, he is uniquely qualified to provide Protestant and generally Christian religious services, but is available to ensure Sailors and civilians of all faiths have access to the religious materials and communities they need in order to continue or grow in their respective faiths.

"That could be bringing a Catholic Priest onto the base to provide services, or helping to organize a group of Jewish service mem-



Photo by Bill Addison/NWSE Public Affairs

Lieutenant Michael Sparrow, NWS Earle Chaplain, looks to breathe new life into the base chapel. Sparrow is the first full-time chaplain the installation has had in eight years.

bers to get together and celebrate holidays; anything that would help facilitate others in their religious needs," he said.

He also is focused on ensuring the Chapel remains a safe haven for the community, somewhere a Sailor or civilian employee can go to for advice, counseling, without fearing judgment.

"Unfortunately, and I wish it were otherwise, there seems to be a general sense that even if you went to see a counselor or a doctor, there's a certain stigma to it," said Sparrow. "But if you walk through the chapel door and take a few minutes to talk to the Chaplain, it just doesn't seem to have that same stigma. I wish it weren't so, because there are some wonderful services that Fleet and Family provide. I think the chaplain, particularly because I'm wearing this uniform, I can be a helpful influence for anyone, regardless of rank."

He reiterated the key element to achieving this, is presence.

"Yes I want to build services and provide avenues for people to practice and build on their faith, but what I'm focused on is to be present for them," he said. "So when I leave, when the new chaplain comes in, the Sailors aren't telling him, I never knew we had a chaplain."

Services and office hours will be posted for the chapel in the coming weeks.

Civilian Spotlight: Diana Lauterwasser

This month's spotlight is Diana Lauterwasser, lodging manager for NWS Earle MWR. The mother of four has been a lifetime Monmouth County resident.

How long have you been here at Naval Weapons Station Earle?

"It will be three years in December. I started out as the housekeeping supervisor over at Deer Run. Before that I had my own housekeeping business. I did that for about 20 years.

What made you want to seek out federal service?

There were several things. I was getting older, I needed to start thinking about retirement. I ran the business on my own, so I didn't have anything set up for that. I didn't have sick days or vacation days, or paid holidays. It was also just time for a change.

How has your experience on Earle been?

It's been great. I've made a lot of friends, met a lot of people and I've learned a lot of things since I began working here. I've learned a lot administratively as well as working with employees. I swung a mop and a vacuum cleaner for twenty years and now I'm managing people, so there's a lot I had to learn."

What's your favorite thing about working here?

The people. Like I said, I've made a lot of friends here. We have fun here at (Military Welfare and Recreation). We do so many fun things together here.

You're a lifetime Monmouth County resident, what do you tell Navy Getaway's customers about staying here on NWS Earle?

We're an hour outside of Manhattan and just a little more than that from Philadelphia. We're close to the beaches, Atlantic City, and there's so much right here in Monmouth County to do, from parks and recreation to arts. There's just so much to do here. But I would say the number one thing people are looking for when they come here is the proximity to Manhattan or our beaches.

What do you like to do when you're not here at NWS Earle?

I've got a good sized family, my husband and I have four children, two boys and two girls. We like to go to the beach or head down to the outer banks on vacation. We typically go to

the free beach in Monmouth Beach, but for a while we belonged to the Promenade Beach Club in Long Branch.

What else about you do you think people would find interesting?

I was a Girl Scout leader for 14 years. At one point I had two troops, both of my daughters were Girl Scouts and I ran both of their troops at the same time. I've also been a member of the Red Bank Volunteer Fire Fighters Axillary for close to 30 years. I try to stay involved in the community.



Photo by Bill Addison/ NWSE Public Affairs

Diana Lauterwasser started at NWS Earle three years ago as the housekeeping supervisor before accepting a position as the lodging manager. A lifetime New Jersey Resident, she ran her own housekeeping business for 20 years before joining federal service.

If you're interested in featuring a Sailor or civilian in the spotlight, please contact the Public Affairs Officer at colt.wpnstaeearlepao@navy.mil

Changes to CMS-ID Mean More Opportunities at Negotiation

By Navy Personnel
Command Public Affairs

MILLINGTON, Tenn. (NNS) -- The Navy announced, in NAVADMIN 231/17, that job announcement windows and the period of time Sailors have to negotiate orders are changing within the Career Management System Interactive Detailing (CMS-ID), Sept. 18.

Sailors' negotiation timeframes in CMS-ID are being extended by three months allowing earlier applications for advertised billets. This longer timeframe also means Sailors will have more billets available from which to choose.

"These changes further enhance NPC's (Navy Personnel Command) commitment to meeting fleet readiness requirements by aligning the most qualified Sailors to our most critical billets," said Rear Adm. John F. Meier, assistant commander for career management, Navy Personnel Command. "Additionally, the longer window provides greater opportunity for Sailor choice in the assignment process, while providing greater lead time for orders release and overseas/sea-duty screenings."

Previously, the orders negotiation window was seven to nine months before a Sailor's projected rotation date (PRD). With the new policy, Sailors will begin negotiating and applying for advertised billets seven to 12 months before their PRD.

In addition to an increased order negotiation timeframe, advertised billets will now have a two-month requisition window. The longer requisition window adds more available billets for Sailors negotiating orders.

In order to accommodate these changes, the Career Waypoints (C-Way) application timeline has been extended. Sailors may obtain reenlistment authority prior to negotiating in CMS-ID by starting the C-Way application window 16 months prior to their soft expiration of active obligated service (SEAOS) and PRD. This roll out is determined based on their SEAOS.

CMS-ID is a web-based system that allows Sailors to view available jobs and make their own applications or apply through their command career counselor. Sailors can view CMS-ID through a secure website located at <http://www.cmsid.navy.mil>.

YNC Sanders Retires after 20 years!



Chief Yeoman Carolyn Sanders (SW/AW) will retire later this year, after serving 20 years in the U.S. Navy.

Sanders, a native of Charlotte, N.C. enlisted in the Navy in December, 1997 and reported to Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, IL in February 1998.

Notable duty stations include USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72), NRD Dallas, TX, USS San Antonio (LPD 17)(plankowner), NTTC Meridian, MS (Yeoman A School instructor), Iraq, VAW-117 in Point Mugu, CA and Naval Weapons Station Earle.

Sanders was selected for Chief Petty Officer in September 2010.

Her decorations include the Joint Services Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (2 awards), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (7 awards), Navy Good Conduct Medal (6 awards), Iraqi Campaign Medal and various unit and campaign awards.

Chief Sanders is married to Jerrod Sanders of Dallas, Texas. They have five boys, Darius(22), Jayir(6), Jacari(3), Jerrod II(1) and Jerrett (1). The family will be settling in Dallas, TX.

Seen Around Earle



Farewell

MAC Nathan Finkbiner
MA3 Jacob Williams

Retirement

YNC Caroline Sanders

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