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November 25, 2009



We have liftoff ... NASA astronaut candidate Army Lt. Col. Mark Vande Hei and Training Squadron Four instructor Lt. Cmdr. Patrick McCaslin preflight the engine of a T-6A Texan II before an instrument training hop onboard NAS Pensacola recently. Vande Hei is a member of the 20th class of NASA astronauts undergoing flight, wilderness survival, physiology and water survival training with the Navy. Photo by Ed Barker

For more on the astronauts' training with the Navy, see page 4

Toys for Tots underway

by 2nd Lt. Daniel Tadross and 2nd Lt. Kelsey Lourie
MATSG-21 PAO

As Christmastime draws near a dedicated group of Marines are working to brighten the lives of local needy children by way of the Toys for Tots program.



Reservist Master Gunnery Sgt. Roberto Rivera, senior Marine in charge of Toys for Tots, shops at Toys "R" Us. Photo by 2nd Lt. Daniel Tadross

The Reserve Marines of 4th Marine Aircraft Wing Training Support Group (MAWTSG) and the active duty Marines of Marine Aviation Training Support Group 21 (MATSG-21) have been working since September to ensure that this year's toy drive is a success. Since Toys for Tots was started more than 60 years ago, it has been responsible for distributing more than 400 million toys to 188 million children across the country. The Marines have also partnered with a number of local Pensacola foundations: The Friends of Pensacola, United Way

of Santa Rosa, National Aviation Museum Foundation, the National Naval Aviation Museum and many more. Each one has been instrumental to the success of the program, donating thousands of dollars and toys to this year's drive.

More than 100 collection boxes have been delivered to local businesses, who have been just as eager to help. Some businesses have even gone the extra mile to contribute their services. Uncle Bob's Self Storage provided. See **Toys for Tots** on page 2

Reminder: No cell phone use while driving onboard NAS Pensacola

In recent weeks there have been several instances of drivers onboard NASP disregarding the base policy on cell phone usage while driving.

As per NASP Commanding Officer Capt. Bill Reavey and Commander-in-Chief President Barack Obama, drivers on any military installation, and operators of government-owned, leased or rented vehicles on or off a Navy installation, may not

use cell phones while the vehicle is in operation.

President Obama signed an executive order Oct. 1, 2009, specifically prohibiting texting by federal employees while driving a government-owned vehicle, or when driving privately owned vehicles while on official government business, or when using electronic equipment supplied by the government while driving.

USO center opening at Northwest Florida Regional Airport

From USO

A new USO Center will be opening in early 2010 at the Northwest Florida Regional Airport. Partnering with the Northwest Florida Regional Airport and the area military affairs committees, the USO will be located in a 1,000-square-foot area by the ticketing counter. Nicknamed the "Freedom Lounge," the new USO will have a full range of core services including



computer connectivity, snacks and beverages.

"The USO is the premier military care and support agency for the military," airport director Greg Donovan said. "We are excited to have the USO at Northwest Florida Regional Airport."

"With so many of our military utilizing this airport we are looking forward to providing a safe and secure place for our nation's heroes to wait and greet," Heidi Blair, director USO Pensacola said. "This is a great

partnership and a wonderful way to lift the spirits of the military while they are travelling."

The new center is looking for financial support and volunteer assistance to staff the center. Financial support can be sent to P.O. Box 33135 Pensacola FL 32508.

If you are interested in volunteering call Kathy Karsten, program manager at 455-8280 ext. 4 or e-mail info@usopensacola.org.

See **USO** on page 2

NROTC numbers increasing

Story, photo by Anne Thrower
Gosport Staff Writer

Ens. John B. Cook always wanted to be a pilot like his father, Capt. James Cook.

At 23 he is on track to achieve that goal thanks, in part, to the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps (NROTC).

He came to Naval Air Station Pensacola in June fresh out of college with an aerospace engineering degree. He was debt free and had a job.

Cook's decision to choose NROTC is part of a growing trend in the Navy. The interest in NROTC has increased significantly in the past couple years, according to officials with the Naval Service Training Command, which oversees the units across the United States. NSTC, headquartered at Naval Station Great Lakes in Illinois, is part of the Naval Education and Training Command, located onboard



Ens. John B. Cook

NASP.

"We are very pleased that more young Americans know about the opportunities NROTC provides and are applying for the program," said Dr. Jill Stein, the Navy's program manager for NROTC. "NROTC is a great fit for those seeking careers of service."

Stein, who manages the program out of NASP, said the Navy believes the increased interest represents "this generation's commitment to service as well as the desire to pay for college."

According to NSTC, 2,825 scholarships were offered this year and more than 1,250 were accepted. Navy nurse degree scholarships were offered to 208 candidates with more than 120 accepted.

The entire enrollment in NROTC units nationwide this year is expected to increase by 17 percent. A total of 22,000 applications were started and of those

See **NROTC** on page 2



If you ride, get recertified: the Navy Motorcycle Recertification process

By Mary Anne Broderick Tubman
CNRSE Public Affairs

Since motorcycle recertification training became mandatory for all U.S. Navy and DoD personnel, fatalities for the Navy

have decreased more than 60 percent. To fine tune those lifesaving skills, all motorcycle riders are required to complete follow-on recertification training every three years. Connie Policastro, lead motorcycle

See **Motorcycle** on page 2



NASP CDC Thanksgiving lunch ... About 150 parents attended the annual Thanksgiving lunch at the Child Development Center (CDC) onboard NASP Nov. 18-19. The menu included turkey, homemade cornbread stuffing, gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, tropical fruit, rolls and apple pie, according to Paula S. Anderson, training and curriculum specialist with the CDC. Barbara Kemble, lead educational technician, cooked 16 turkeys and made homemade cornbread stuffing. (Above) Staff Sgt. Ed Lathan with son, Desmond, and friend Mya Murray. Photo by Anne Thrower

THIS WEEK IN NAVAL HISTORY

November 25

1775 — Continental Congress authorizes privateering.

1943 — In Battle of Cape St. George, five destroyers of Destroyer Squadron 23 (Capt. Arleigh Burke) intercept five Japanese destroyers and sink three and damage one without suffering any damage.

1961 — Commissioning of USS Enterprise (CVA(N) 65), the first nuclear powered aircraft carrier, at Newport News, Va.

November 26

1847 — Lt. William Lynch in Supply sails from New York to Haifa for an expedition to the River Jordan and the Dead Sea. His group charted the Jordan River from the Sea of Galilee to the Dead Sea and compiled reports of the flora and fauna of the area.

1940 — Sixth and last group of ships involved in Destroyers-for-Bases Agreement transferred to British at Nova Scotia.

November 27

1941 — Chief of Naval Operations sends "war warning" to commanders of Pacific and Asiatic fleets.

1961 — Navy reports first use of its cyclotron at Harvard University to treat a human brain tumor. After three treatments, the tumor of the 2-year old patient shrank by 80 percent.

November 28

1775 — Congress adopts first rules for regulation of the "Navy of the United Colonies."

1941 — USS Enterprise (CV 6) sails from Pearl Harbor for Wake Island to ferry Marine aircraft to island.

1942 — Reserve Ens. George W. Carlson and Mac A. Cason organize rescue parties to help rescue people from the fire at the Cocoanut Grove nightclub in Boston, Mass. They are credited as "the cause of saving more lives than any other single agency."

November 29

1890 — First Army-Navy football game (Navy won 24 to 0).

1929 — Cmdr. Richard Byrd makes first flight over South Pole.

1944 — USS Archerfish (SS 311) sinks Japanese carrier Shinano, world's largest warship sunk by any submarine during World War II.

November 30

1942 — In Battle of Tassafaronga, last major naval action in Solomons, U.S. force prevents Japanese attempt to reprovision the Japanese troops on Guadalcanal. Six U.S. ships are damaged in the action.

December 1

1921 — In first flight of airship filled with helium, Blimp C-7 piloted by Lt. Cmdr. Ralph F. Wood left Norfolk, Va., for Washington, D.C.

1959 — Bureau of Ordnance (BUORD) merges with Bureau of Aeronautics (BUAER) to form the Bureau of Naval Weapons (BUWEPS).

Naval historical data excerpted from U.S. Naval History & Heritage Command's Web site. For complete listings, visit www.history.navy.mil/wars/dates.htm.

Toys for Tots from page 1

ed their trucks to help with the delivery of donated toys, and their branches throughout the country are taking part in this year's toy drive as well. "As a prior Navy service member you commit to a just cause," said Jennifer Thomas, manager of the Pensacola Uncle Bob's Self Storage. Another local partner is Toys "R"

Us Inc., the largest retail partner in the history of the Toys for Tots program, partnering with the Marines for the past six years. Collection boxes will be available for unwrapped toy donations and money at local Toys "R" Us and Babies "R" Us stores, where 100 percent of the toys collected in the area will stay in the local community.

"It's a great opportunity to be

involved with a program that will bring joy to children in the community," said 2nd Lt. Brandon Allen, an active-duty Marine who has been working with the community collecting donations. Toys will be delivered Dec. 14 and 15 to local children at the Salvation Army on Q-Street.

For more information on Toys for Tots call 452-8762 ext 3121 or visit www.toysfortots.org.

USO from page 1

Volunteers will staff the USO Freedom Lounge providing a touch of home to the nation's military. Job functions include: checking in military guests, ensuring the environment is fun, friendly and safe, answering questions, keeping the facility neat, administrative work and keeping snacks available to the troops. Volunteers must 18 years old, have the ability to pass a background check, fill out an application, supply references, interview and

complete training before becoming eligible to volunteer. Training and orientation are provided to ensure you the best volunteer experience possible.

USO Pensacola serves the Panhandle of Florida. There are currently two physical locations in the Panhandle for the military to find a touch of home. They are located at the Pensacola Gulf Coast Regional Airport and on Naval Air Station Pensacola. The location at Northwest Florida Regional Airport will be the third location for USO Pensacola.

NROTC from page 1

5,450 met all requirements.

The Navy wants its next generation of officers to have more technical degrees. "The Navy is preparing our officer corps of the future to meet the dynamic challenges in the next generation of technology and leadership," Stein said.

Cook's aerospace engineering degree is among the technical degrees the students are pursuing. Other degrees include biomedical engineering, electrical engineering, chemical engineering, math and physics degrees.

But the Navy "weighs the whole person" in deciding to accept. "The whole person concept directs the

selection board to review all elements of an individual's profile to include their leadership, integrity, character, use of time, military bearing, academics and their ability to contribute to the Navy's officer corps," Stein said. "No single factor is used in evaluating candidates for the scholarship program."

Cook came to NASP having already learned to fly. Besides his father, his uncle is also a pilot. "I pretty much from the beginning wanted to do this," he said.

His parents didn't insist that he become a naval officer, he said. "I loved the military lifestyle growing up," he said.

He continued that lifestyle after leaving home, living among midshipmen at Virginia Tech's Corps

of Cadets in addition to NJROTC.

But his classes also included civilians. "What I would see was the reality of college," he said. "It was an interesting dynamic."

Cook is currently waiting to finish Aviation Preflight Indoctrination (API) course work at NASP. He knows his obligation to the Navy will be at least a decade. But that's OK with him. He would like to stay longer.

"NROTC was fabulous," Cook said. But he doesn't think it's better than going through the U.S. Naval Academy or through Officer Candidate School to become an officer.

"Once you're here we all assimilate and we all move forward together," he said.

Motorcycle from page 1

safety specialist for Navy Region Southeast, answered some of the most frequently asked questions about the recertification process.

Q. Why is recertification required?

A. The OPNAV states that the training is "to enhance the skills and competencies of every motorcycle rider." I would like to think that you are now being given an opportunity to refresh and fine tune your skills.

Q. Who must recertify?

A. Recertification is mandatory for all military riders, whether they ride on or off base, and for all DoD civilian personnel who ride on base or while on duty.

Q. What courses are required for recertification?

A. Any Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) course will qualify. Typically, the one-day Experienced Rider Course (ERC) is used by anyone who rides a cruiser, but it can also be taken by sport bike riders who are currently properly licensed. The Military Sport Bike Rider Course (MSRC) is mandatory for all sport bike riders, and should be taken within 60 days after completion of the Basic Rider Course. The MSRC also qualifies for recertification.

Tenant commands at Navy installations can also contact the NASP Safety Office at 452-3674 to request a special class to recertify their personnel. Scheduling depends upon the number of students and instructor availability. Command ERCs offer two distinct advantages. First, all riders can catch up immediately on their certifications. Second, they allow skilled cyclists in the command to identify newer, less experienced riders

and offer additional support.

Q. How does a motorcycle rider know when it's time to recertify?

A. Look at the issue date on the MSF completion card. Plan on taking the MSRC or ERC three years from that date.

Q. How do riders register for the ERC or MSRC?

A. Enroll at www.navymotorcyclerrider.com through the Enterprise Safety Application Management System (ESAMS). There is a link to ESAMS at the bottom of the home page.

Q. In addition to certification, what else is required for any active duty military rider to operate a motorcycle on or off base?

A: All riders need the following:

- Personal protective equipment, which includes a helmet, full-fingered gloves, long pants, sturdy, over-the-ankle footwear, and eye protection. A complete list appears in OPNAVINST 5100.12H Ch. 1, at www.safetycenter.navy.mil/instructions/index.asp
- An MSF course within the last three years
- A motorcycle endorsement on your driver's license
- Registration
- Insurance

Q. Where can I learn more about motorcycle training and safety?

A. The Naval Safety Center Web site (<http://www.safetycenter.navy.mil>) is an excellent resource for every aspect of owning and operating a motorcycle, and includes a directory of installation safety offices by region. The MSF (<http://www.msf-usa.org>) provides descriptions of each course and motorcycle safety-related material.



Active and retired military members listen to their trainer point out the course requirements for their motorcycle safety recertification class while on Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Oct. 15.



Vol. 73, No. 47

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Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Fla.: A Bicentennial Defense Community
Commanding Officer — **Capt. William Reavey Jr.**
Public Affairs Officer — **Harry C. White**

The *Gosport* nameplate features the T-6A Texan II aircraft, the newest joint services trainer. The T-6 has replaced the Navy's T-34C aircraft that for more than 40 years has served to provide primary flight training for student pilots, NFOs and navigators attached to the Naval Air Training Command. It will also replace the Air Force T-37.

Maintained by the United States Coast Guard since 1939, the Pensacola Lighthouse, aboard NAS Pensacola, originally began as the lightship *Aurora Borealis* in June 1823. Evolving through structural and location changes, the current facility was built

in 1856 and at night still shines for Sailors 27 miles out at sea.

Established in 1921 as the *Air Station News*, the name *Gosport* was adopted in 1936. A gosport was a voice tube used by flight instructors in the early days of naval aviation to give instructions and directions to their students. The name "Gosport" was derived from Gosport, England (originally God's Port), where the voice tube was invented.

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the writer can be reached during working hours. All submissions are subject to editing to comply with established policy and standards. Address editorials and commentaries to: *Gosport* Editor, NAS Pensacola, 190 Radford Blvd., Pensacola, FL 32508-5217. E-mail: scott.hallford@navy.mil.

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Gosport Editor

Scott Hallford
452-3100, ext. 1543
scott.hallford@navy.mil

Gosport Associate Editor

Mike O'Connor
452-3100, ext. 1244
michael.f.oconnor.ctr@navy.mil

Gosport Staff Writer

Anne Thrower
452-3100, ext. 1491
anne.thrower.ctr@navy.mil

Homefront in Focus: Lessons from Fort Hood

By **Beth Wilson**
Military Spouse Contributor

The military community was rocked recently as we watched events unfold at Fort Hood.

Perhaps, like me, you sat glued to the reports, stunned that this happened on a military installation by a member of the armed forces.

Our hearts are grieved as we share in the pain of our sister branch.

While the investigation continues "lessons learned" are already emerging.

Two lessons immediately jump out to me; emergency preparedness and connecting with your ombudsman.

Pvt. Joseph Foster, a gunshot victim of the attack, spoke of his experience on a recent news report.

"We're a community; we are like a giant family. When anything like this happens we come together tighter than ever. We are stronger because of it.

"The FRG and Care Team

have been great. The FRG leader called my wife and said, 'We're getting everyone rounded up. We're going to get you to a safe spot, now.' They called faster than I could get a call out to my wife. That was great."

Do you have an emergency plan for you and your family? Let me pose a few scenarios for you to consider.

If you were at the commissary when the base is locked down with your children at school or day care, who would pick them up, who would meet them at the bus?

Perhaps news breaks that there is an incident at your base or in your deployed service member's command. Do you know what to do? How will you verify your service member's safety?

What if an earthquake, fire, hurricane or other disaster strikes while you are away from your service member or children? Do you have a plan to communicate and reconnect?

Too farfetched to consider? Let me be more practical.



Beth Wilson

What if you have an emergency illness or are in a car accident while your service member is deployed? Who do you have in place to quickly care for your children?

Every American citizen needs an emergency plan, but it is imperative for military families to have that plan in place.

Visit https://www.cnic.navy.mil/CNIC_HQ_Site/OperationPrepare/index.htm for resources and information to develop your emergency plan.

Check your information for accuracy on NFAAS (Navy Family Accountability and Assessment System) at www.navyfamily.navy.mil. Take time to familiarize yourself with the purpose and support on this site.

The structure of the Navy is such that our ombudsman is the crisis management resource for families.

In the event of a natural disaster, national or command emergency your ombudsman is the one who will have official information, resource, instruction and support for you.

Your ombudsman is trained and prepared to serve the command and command families.

All commands, deploying or non-deploying, have an appointed ombudsman.

I recently met a Navy wife who is halfway through a deployment but has not heard from her ombudsman.

The main challenge of every ombudsman is connecting with spouses.

Your ombudsman does not, let me repeat that; your ombudsman does not receive your information.

While they are authorized to have certain information about your Sailor (name, rank etc.), due to privacy issues they are not provided information about your.

Do not assume they do not care about you or are not doing their job. Help them do their job by contacting them.

You can find your ombudsman's contact information (e-mail, cell phone, Web page) from your Sailor, the local Fleet and Family Support Center and your command Web site.

Let the tragic events at Fort Hood spur us to ensure we are ready to face what the future holds with an emergency plan that will see us through successfully.

To our extended military family at Fort Hood, know that you are in our prayers, in our thoughts, in our hearts.

We pray for your healing in body and spirit. God bless you.

Navy Legal: Make sure to review family care plan before deployment

By **Lt. Jeffrey Harper**
JAGC, USN

Petty Officer Jones, a single parent with custody of his two children, is preparing to deploy.

He intends for his parents to care for his children while he's gone and has completed a family care plan to that effect, as well as power of attorney allowing his parents to care for the children in his absence.

Shortly after being boots-on-ground in Afghanistan, the ex-Mrs. Jones arrives at his parents' house and takes the children.

Petty Officer Smith, a non-custodial

single parent of a precocious toddler, is preparing to deploy. She intends for her parents to visit her son in her absence, on the same schedule as the visitation she is allowed. She arrives in Djibouti.

Christmas rolls around and her parents show up at Mr. Smith's apartment to pick up the tot for the visitation Petty Officer Smith is due that year. Mr. Smith refuses to allow the children to go with the grandparents.

In both cases, the service members' desires were frustrated. So what went wrong? Petty Officers Jones and Smith did not ensure the court handling their child custody arrangements took into account their military status.

They were not aware of or did not heed NAVADMIN 204/07 of Aug. 13, 2007, paragraph 2.D and OPNAVINST 1740.4C of 7 May 2007, paragraph 4.c.

As a result, the court orders governing the custody and visitation rights of the children were at odds with the family care plan — and the court orders will always prevail.

How could Petty Officers Jones and Smith avoided this situation?

Per paragraph 4 of OPNAVINST 1740.4C, "single, domestically separated and divorced service members with minor children will contact a legal assistance office for advice and assistance in evaluating the effectiveness of their pro-

posed family care plan and complying with any legal formalities necessary to prevent unwanted challenges to custody and support arrangements."

Be proactive with your needs and ensure that there is a court order setting out what will happen when you are deployed and cannot visit your children or cannot have custody.

If the court order is already in place and these issues have not been addressed, you are taking a risk that you will find yourself in the situations described above. Proactively seek to get the court order modified to address the unique issues that go with your military lifestyle.

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Center for Security Forces instructor Gerald Fine instructs members from the 2009 class of NASA astronaut candidates on the uses of a parachute canopy for shelter during a week of survival training at the Navy's Rangeley mountain wilderness training facility in western Maine. Land survival skills training is the first team evolution for the candidates, who also learned navigation and field medicine. Photo by Bill Stafford

Astronaut candidates train aboard NASP

(Right) 2009 NASA astronaut candidates (ASCANS) Lt. Col. Michael Hopkins and Lt. Cmdr. G. Reid Wiseman construct a trap to catch dinner as part of their survival training at the Navy's Center for Security Forces Rangeley mountain wilderness training facility. Photo by Bill Stafford

(Far right) Astronaut candidate Dr. Kjell Lindgren exits the helicopter dunker as part of water survival training, a prerequisite for introductory flight training with Training Air Wing Six at NAS Pensacola. Photo by Ray Smith

(Middle) Astronaut candidates are monitored by HM2 Daniel Young as they train in the altitude chamber. The candidates realized how difficult repetitive coordination exercises can be while experiencing the effects of hypoxia.

(Below) Training Air Wing Six instructor Cliff Campbell explains how to preflight landing gear on the T-6A Texan II aircraft to members of the 2009 class of NASA astronaut candidates. The ASCANS were in Pensacola training with the Navy for water survival, physiology and introductory flight training as part of their preparation for space flight. Photo by Ed Barker



By Gerry J. Gilmore
American Forces Press Service

Seven members of the 2009 class of NASA astronaut candidates (ASCANS) recently completed water survival, aviation physiology and aviation indoctrination flight training at Naval Air Station Pensacola.

The initial cadre of NASA astronauts in 1959 were all military pilots, so each had already gotten flight and survival training. Today's astronauts are a mix of military and civilians and have diverse backgrounds.

"As we began to select civilians, it made sense to give them similar training to what the military candidates brought to the program," said Duane Ross, NASA's manager for astronaut selection and training at the Johnson Space Center in Houston. "The Navy survival and flight training is exactly what we needed, they're easy to deal with, and they were able to work with the ASCANS' schedule."

The entire ASCANS class consists of 14 aspiring astronauts who started their training by honing their survival skills with the Center for Security Forces (CENSECFOR) detachment in Brunswick, Maine. The group traveled to the Navy's 12,500-acre Rangeley mountain wilderness training facility, where they learned land survival, navigation and field

medicine.

"We usually get to train new aviators at the beginning of their careers, but these NASA candidates are already experts in their chosen fields as all of the civilians hold advanced degrees," said HT1 Michael Pavlovick, Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape instructor at CENSECFOR. "These guys learned very quickly and have an amazing work ethic. Their two-day field survival exercise went extremely well; I can see why they were chosen for the astronaut program."

Following their land survival training in Maine, the seven non-aviators in the class traveled to NAS Pensacola for water survival, aviation physiology and flight training, including flight training in simulators, familiarization flights and instrument training flights in the T-6A Texan II turboprop aircraft.

Lt. Col. Kenneth Devero, the training officer for Training Airwing Six, was the project manager for the ASCANS during their month-and-a-half stay at NAS Pensacola. "The candidates training with us in Pensacola are mission specialists, not pilots — so they need to receive flight training very similar to what we give our naval flight officers," said Devero. "Although they don't get the full NFO syllabus, the training provides a great aviation orientation for the ASCANS."

"I expected the flight training to be tough," said Dr. Janette Epps, an aerospace engineer who worked for the CIA before applying with NASA. "But with our abbreviated syllabus they really throw a lot at you and expect you to learn quickly. Since we will be flying in the T-38 Talon jet trainer on a regular basis with NASA, this is exactly what we need."

The NASA class of 2009 is focused on the International Space Station, as current plans call for the space shuttle to be phased out by the time they complete their training. The term "international" also applies to this class of ASCANS; in addition to the nine United States candidates, five international members, including three Japanese and two Canadian candidates, have joined the class for a total of 14.

With their aviation indoctrination complete in mid-November, the ASCANS returned to the Johnson Space Center in Houston to continue their astronaut training, which includes scientific and technical briefings, intensive instruction in International Space Station systems, extravehicular activity (space walks) and robotics. The entire ASCAN syllabus takes about 18 months to complete.

For more information on the astronaut program, visit the NASA Web site at www.nasa.gov.

Enlisted naval aviation pilots bid farewell

By Lt. Brenda Way
Special to Gosport

As one retired enlisted pilot described it, the weekend of the Blue Angels Homecoming Air Show represented the end of an era. An era not understood by many.

Excitement filled the air as the group, mostly over 80, mingled. But they talk like they flew together yesterday.

Their minds still sharp as tacks. They are an elite few.

The enlisted naval aviation pilots have an impressive 65-year history of accomplishments and contributions to naval aviation — having served in every conflict from World War I to the Vietnam War. In any capacity imaginable they are legend.

Walking through the National Naval Aviation Museum at NAS Pensacola, those of us honored to attend their final reunion Nov. 12-15 with fathers, grandfathers, uncles and friends received a world-class tour.

Hearing time and time again “I flew that.”

Unlike naval aviation today, the era that raised these men came with varied assignments.

Most flew more than 15 different types of aircraft in their career; whatever the U.S. Navy asked them to fly.

Master Chief John Culbert joked: “Whatever they gave me the keys to that day, that’s what I flew.”

It all began 1916 in Pensacola where all 5,000 enlisted men would receive their wings of gold. The final class graduated in

1947.

Three went on to the rank of admiral; all went on to achieve great significance and shaped aviation history.

Laughing they spoke of flight pay received coming out of flight school in the 1940s.

Just \$105 per month; some even received 50 cents per landing. It wasn’t much, even back then. But enlisted pilots didn’t sign up to fly for the money.

The Silver Eagles are a rare breed of Sailor. With less than 200 members left, they are nearing extinction.

Culbert and Palmer enlisted pilots to the end

Culbert grew up in Dodge City, Kan., during the Great Depression. He joined the Navy in Wichita on Dec. 6, 1940.

The Navy was an opportunity to gain valuable skills while serving his country. Little did he know as a high school graduate he would soon be one of the small percentage of enlisted men accepted into flight school.

He received his orders signed by Adm. Chester W. Nimitz, Pacific commander, in 1945. He began flight school as an aviation mechanic second class and graduated aviator pilot first class in 1947.

Culbert’s career spanned 30 years. His service included patrol squadron, drone control, air sea rescue via sea planes and helicopters, admiral’s pilot and station administration pilot.

He was involved in several evaluation projects, most notably the evaluation of light water for use in fire fighting by the naval laboratory. He flew the UH2B to dispense the light water, which is now used for firefighting worldwide.

Culbert speaks of a man overboard alarm while attached to air sea rescue. He received the call while in the chief’s mess onboard the USS Wasp. Within minutes he was airborne in his HUP helicopter with a rescue crewman.

The young ordnance man was found and brought back to safety. Later that evening the young Sailor brought a box of cigars as a gift for saving his life.

When asked about the extraordinary rescue Culbert said: “I was just doing what I was trained to do.”

With qualification in 22 aircraft, both fixed wing and helicopter, and 6,720 flight hours, Culbert retired after 30 years of service in July 1970. He achieved the rank of master chief.

Harry Palmer grew up in Connecticut, New York and France. Attending school in France and the United States set him back and left him wanting more.

Tired of school, he joined the Navy in New York in 1937 after completing his sophomore year.

Six years later he was accepted into flight school at the rank of air traffic controlman second class.

He graduated in September



Bud Baudouin



John Culbert

1944 and received his wings of gold. He was promoted to aviator pilot first class. He went on to get his GED and complete two years of college.

Palmer qualified in 15 airplanes and two helicopters logging an impressive 12,000 hours.

His most memorable tour was a trip to the Marshall Islands after World War II. The mission was to check for radioactivity. Gamma rays had to be below a certain level to get the people back in their homes. It was important to Palmer.

Palmer retired after 20 years of service as a chief. He went on to work with the Boy Scouts of America for several years.

The last to get wings

Bud Baudouin, from Silsbee, Texas, joined the Navy in August 1940. Baudouin said about his decision to join the navy: “Things were not looking good in England. I wanted to get in on the ground floor before the draft.”

Baudouin received orders to flight school in June 1945 as an aviation metalsmith first class. He graduated in December 1947, the final group of enlisted pilots to attend flight school and the

last to be pinned.

He attained the rate of aviator pilot first class. The commanding officer said to him: “You are the last of an era.”

Baudouin started in utility and transport as a pilot for the Blue Angels Flight Demonstration Team.

After receiving a commission he was transferred to a ferry squadron where he flew many types of aircraft.

Baudouin believes enlisted pilots had just as much skill as any of his counterparts. Skill demonstrated time and time again by these brave men.

He tells of a day in San Antonio, Texas, when he was assigned to fly an air evac mission.

He made many split-second decisions regarding the flight plan, at times against the recommendation of the air control tower, ultimately saving a young Marine’s life.

“I knew that kid needed to get to the hospital as fast as possible,” Baudouin said. “My determination paid off.”

Baudouin qualified in 24 planes and clocked 7,000 hours. He retired in March 1961 at the rank of lieutenant.

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Doctor discusses Navy's role in detecting H1N1

By Gerry J. Gilmore

WASHINGTON (AFPS) —The Navy played a key role last spring in the discovery of the H1N1 influenza's presence in the United States, according to a senior Navy medical officer.

In April, technicians at the San Diego-based Naval Health Research Center (NHRC) encountered a puzzling influenza specimen provided by a 10-year-old military family member, said Navy Capt. (Dr.) Tanis Batsel Stewart, director of emergency preparedness and contingency support at the Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery.

The specimen contained the "A" type of influenza virus that can cause pandemics, Batsel Stewart said, but it couldn't be sub-typed.

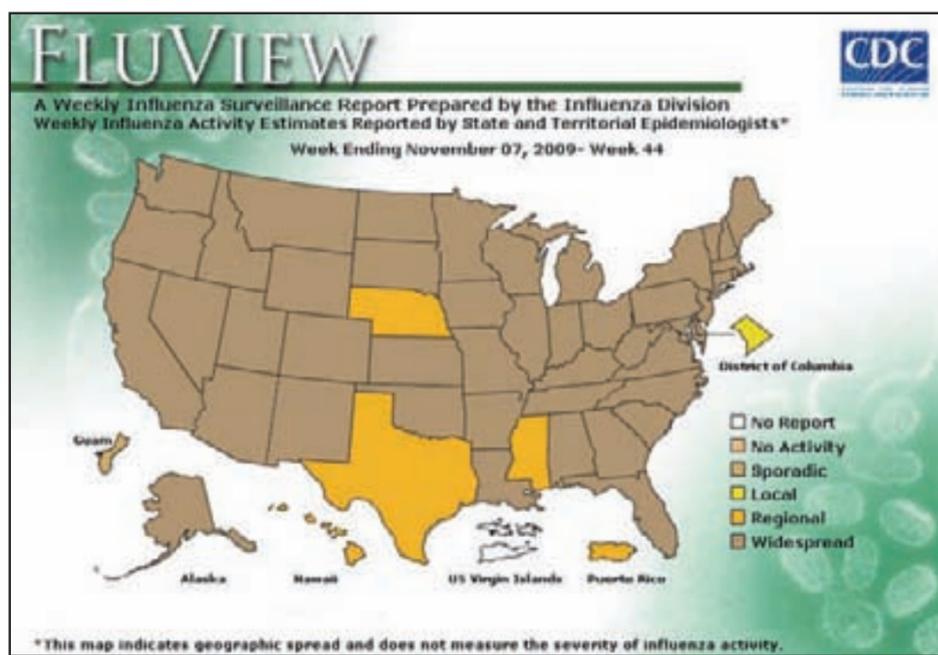
"It's very unusual not to be able to sub-type an influenza virus," she said in a recent phone interview with American Forces Press Service.

The specimen, she said, was then sent to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta for more testing, where technicians determined it was a new strain of influenza virus.

A second specimen from a 9-year-old girl that arrived at the NHRC soon afterward was found to be identical to the one submitted by the military family member, Batsel Stewart said. That specimen, too, was sent to the CDC, where it was determined to be the novel influenza A H1N1 virus, commonly known at the time as "swine flu."

"That was a definite red flag — that we have a new influenza strain circulating that might very well cause a pandemic, and obviously, it has," she said.

The CDC activated its emergency operations center to better coordinate the public-health response to H1N1 April 22. The U.S. government declared a public health emergency April 26, and began aggressively implementing the nation's pandemic response



plan.

The World Health Organization announced June 11 that the spread of the H1N1 virus had reached pandemic proportions, with cases reported in 70 countries at the time. President Barack Obama issued a national emergency declaration on H1N1 last month.

"By rapidly identifying the virus, implementing public health measures, providing guidance for health professionals and the general public and developing an effective vaccine, we have taken proactive steps to reduce the impact of the pandemic and protect the health of our citizens," the president said in his declaration.

The Washington-based Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery is the headquarters and center for Navy medicine, while the NHRC is a leading research and development laboratory for the Defense Department. The NHRC manages and executes medical research, development and test and evaluation programs for the Naval Medical

Research Command in Silver Spring, Md.; the Navy Medicine Support Command in Jacksonville, Fla.; and the Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery.

The Naval Health Research Center's respiratory diseases research department conducts active, laboratory-based surveillance of infectious diseases that affect military personnel and family members, with an emphasis on respiratory illnesses. The department also addresses the safety and efficacy of drugs and vaccines.

The Navy has for years conducted influenza and other infectious-disease surveillance programs in conjunction with the other U.S. military services in partnership with foreign nations and public health organizations, Batsel Stewart said.

The U.S. military's infectious disease research capability "is the largest in the world," she said, noting the U.S. maintains labs in Egypt, Indonesia, Kenya, Peru and Thailand that fall under the auspices of the Department of Defense

Global Emerging Infections Surveillance and Response System.

More than 100 countries, "from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe," participate in the surveillance program, Batsel Stewart said.

A presidential directive established the response system, which falls under the Armed Forces Health Surveillance Center, in June 1996. The directive expanded the Defense Department's mission to include support of global surveillance, training, research, and response to emerging infectious disease threats.

It also charged the department to strengthen its global disease-reduction efforts through centralized coordination, improved preventive health programs and epidemiological capabilities, and enhanced involvement with military treatment facilities.

The Naval Health Research Center's respiratory diseases research department serves as the Navy hub for the surveillance and response system.

"We don't anticipate, at this

point, H1N1 becoming a severe pandemic, causing a lot of deaths and very severe illness," Batsel Stewart said. "But, we've been preparing for years within [the Defense Department] and the Navy and Navy medicine for something along the lines of the pandemic of the influenza of 1918, which was horrendously severe."

To help in preventing the spread of influenza viruses, Batsel Stewart recommended that people:

- Cough or sneeze into the crook of their elbow, rather than into their hand;
- Wash their hands frequently;
- Stay home if they feel ill;
- Keep sick children at home; and
- Distance themselves if they or others are ill.

Public health officials have urged citizens to obtain both H1N1 and regular seasonal flu vaccines. Defense Department officials say the department will have enough H1N1 vaccine available for service-members and their families.

Meanwhile, the Pentagon's global infectious disease surveillance network watches for potential pandemics as it also assists foreign partners.

Batsel Stewart recalled a previous duty assignment in Lima, Peru, where she and her colleagues assisted Peruvian health authorities in identifying new strains of dengue fever virus.

"Peru always thought that they had one, maybe two strains of the dengue fever virus circulating," said Batsel Stewart, noting that the fever has four strains. The U.S. medical team discovered that Peru actually has all four strains of dengue fever virus. One of those strains, she added, is dengue hemorrhagic fever, causing victims to bleed internally and sometimes externally.

"So, the Peruvian government and the Peruvian public health system was better able to respond to some of the cases they were saying they would not have recognized previously," Batsel Stewart said.

Physicians discuss lessons learned from dealing with H1N1 virus

WASHINGTON — Senior medical officials who successfully slowed the spread of H1N1 flu virus at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., published what they learned in an October article featured in the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*.

Air Force Lt. Col. (Dr.) Catherine Witkop, a preventive medicine physician from the 10th Medical Group, told participants in a "DoDLive" bloggers roundtable yesterday that medical officials at the academy acted quickly to set up a team to look at some of the virus's characteristics.

"I was really pleased that we were able to capitalize on the opportunity to actually learn more about the virus and provide that information to the Centers for Disease Control, to the military, [and] to the United States at large," she said.

Witkop and Air Force Col. (Dr.) Kenneth K. Knight, 10th Medical Group commander, discussed what other institutions may be able to do to manage H1N1's spread. Witkop noted that some of the lessons learned from the summer outbreak can apply at other training facilities, such as Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

With a large population of trainees living in very close quarters, Witkop said, controlling the virus's spread at Lackland and limiting absenteeism from the six-week training period "is really crucial to completing that mission."

"So we've done our best to share as much information as possible, as quickly as possible," she said, "since this is such a

timely issue."

During a four-week period in July, 11 percent of the Air Force Academy's basic cadet population became ill. "There are 134 confirmed cases of H1N1 and 33 suspect cases, meaning they had all the same symptoms, but were not tested," Witkop said.

Many challenges had to be considered quickly, Knight said, such as how to treat patients, how to limit interactions with others, when to hospitalize, and how to isolate the cadets.

"It was a medical issue that had a huge implication to what their job was about," he said. "We did lots of different approaches as we were scrambling with the line leadership as how to isolate, talking with CDC, (and) figuring out what the appropriate treatment is," Knight said.

"And it appears, then," he added, "with any epidemiologic conclusion, (that) what we did was effective."

Knight said the academy's medical group was careful to share lessons learned through the outbreak's many phases.

"When we were in the thick of things, we were daily sharing what our experience was with the public health department downtown, with all the other local military medical facilities, with the other academies, comparing notes as to what their experiences were with Lackland (and) with the line leadership," Knight said. "Our line leadership here was pushing information up to the chief of staff of the Air Force. So near-term, we were essentially getting out real-time information as

to what was going on, to share that experience."

Witkop spearheaded the article submission to the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine* while sharing the lessons with the CDC.

"We've shared this information with the CDC well before it got published, so that they would have the information to adjust the guidelines that they were publishing," Knight explained.

Isolation has proven to be a key factor in controlling the outbreak at the academy, Witkop said.

"Our current approach is ... to isolate the cadets; however, they are self-isolating per the CDC's guidelines," she said. "So they would go back to their dorm rooms, continuing until they are seven days from onset of symptoms and 24 hours after being symptom-free."

Both said public health education reminders are the key ways academy officials are preventing another outbreak among cadets, and that messages to wash hands, use sanitizers and cover coughs are shared continuously.

Meanwhile, Witkop said, academy medical officials continue to monitor the situation closely and continue their public health efforts.

"We're continuing to follow very closely ... the numbers of cadets who are ill, to make sure that we're not approaching another outbreak situation," she said. "We have daily reports from all of our various clinics about the numbers of both cadets and those in the community."

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GOSPORT PARTYLINE

Partyline e-mail submissions

Submissions for Partyline should be e-mailed to: anne.thrower.ctr@navy.mil.

Submissions should include the organization's name, the event, what the event is for, who benefits from the event, time, date, location and point of contact.

Free Christmas trees Dec. 4-6

Free Christmas trees for active-duty military will be given away at NASP Dec. 4-6.

Trees from the Trees For Troops program will be available for pick up Dec. 4 from 2-6 p.m. and Dec. 5-6 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Barrancas Ball Field.

Retirees and Department of Defense employees will be eligible for any trees that are left from noon-4 p.m. on Dec. 6. For information, call 452-3806.

VFW Post 706 dance Nov. 28

VFW Post 706, 5000 Lillian Highway, Pensacola, is hosting a dance Nov. 28 from 7-11 p.m. All proceeds will go toward veteran programs and outreach projects. The event is open to the public. For information, call 455-0026.

Blended families workshop planned

Just in time for the holidays the Fleet and Family Support Center is holding a blended family workshop.

Participants will learn techniques for dealing with problems and suggestions for creating harmony.

All military parents/families are welcome. The workshop will take place Dec. 1 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at FFSC. Call 452-5990 for information.

Tree to be planted at NASP Dec. 1

The 15th annual Tree Awareness Week will be observed Dec. 1-4 at

NASP.

To highlight the observance, a live oak will be planted on the south side of Bldg. 679 on Turner Street between Fred Bauer Street and Fisher Avenue.

The ceremony will be held Dec. 1 at 1 p.m. All hands are encouraged to attend. For information call 452-3131, ext. 3016.

Relief society 5K fundraiser

The 5K Combat Run to raise money for the Navy Marine Corps Relief Society will take place Dec. 5 at NASP.

People can register in the food court inside Bldg. 630 from 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. every military payday until the run.

There will be prizes for the fastest males and the fastest females.

When the runners sign up and give a \$10 donation, they will receive goodie bags with more than \$40 worth of items as well as a T-shirt.

People are encouraged to start registering at 7:30 a.m. on the day of the run, which starts at 9 a.m.

People with questions should contact or e-mail Amy TerHorst at 458-8884, ext. 3326.

Mega team century ride spin Dec. 5

Spin into the holidays with a Mega team century ride on Dec. 5, starting at 8:30 a.m. at the Radford Fitness Center at NASP.

As part of the ride two-member teams complete 100 miles per team.

The contest will have 40 bikes for the 20 teams. There will be prizes for first, second and third place.

To participate call 452-6802.

CFS continuing education Dec. 8

The command financial specialist quarterly continuing education training — required to uphold CFS designation — will take place Dec. 8 at 2

p.m. at the base theater in the Schools Command building.

A mortgage loan specialist from Pen Air Federal Credit Union will discuss current home and mortgage issues in the local NASP area.

For information contact Amy Lee Ming at amy.ming.ctr@navy.mil or 452-5990, ext. 3133.

ROWWA luncheon Dec. 10

The Retired Officers' Wives and Widows Association's December luncheon and meeting will be held at the Scenic Hills Country Club Dec. 10 in Pensacola.

Social time will begin at 11 a.m., with lunch served at 11:30 a.m. The program will feature Lillian Lewis and Diana Wade of Harmony Plus, a comic music presentation reminiscent of Andrew and McGuire Sisters.

Reservations are required. The cost is \$15. Checks should be sent to ROWWA, P.O. Box 15124, Pensacola, FL 32514 by Dec. 5.

For reservations call Evelyn Busch at 476-8949.

New members from all branches of the uniformed services and guests are welcome.

ROWWA meets every second Thursday of the month.

Boatswain Christmas party Dec. 10

The Aviation Boatswain's Mates Association Gulf Coast Chapter will be having its annual Christmas party Dec. 10 at 7 p.m. at the American Legion Post 340, 8890 Ashland Ave., Pensacola.

All active duty and retired and their families are invited. For information, call Gene Roy at 723-3625 or ABCM John Mendoza at 452-7600.

Talent gospel show Dec. 5

B.J. Entertainment, TK and Kirkland Ent. presents "So You've Got Talent Gospel Show" at

Pensacola High School on Dec. 5.

There will be more than \$2,500 in prizes. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the show starts at 7 p.m.

Tickets are available at Gold Market, The Cellphone Place, The Drizzle BBQ and Zevo's.

For information or to sign up for auditions, call 232-0545.

Blanket ride for the homeless Nov. 28

The benefit motorcycle ride to gather blankets for the homeless will take place Nov. 28 starting at 1 p.m.

The cost to participate is \$5 or a blanket per person.

Riders will meet at the Panhandle Motorcycle Society (PMS), 1487 South Fairfield Drive, in Pensacola.

The ride will leave at 2 p.m. and go to the Heavenly Blessings Ministry in Pensacola where Pastor Renee Star will be accepting blankets. Riders will then return to PMS for live music and celebration.

For information, contact Cat Warfield at 492-6224 or 375-0428.

Military soccer team forming

An area military soccer team is forming to provide service members on NAS Pensacola, NAS Whiting Field, Corry Station and Naval Hospital Pensacola the opportunity to play competitive and recreational soccer.

All active-duty members from any service or international military program, as well as dependents, contractors and government employees 18 and over are welcome to participate. Competitive, recreational and coed teams are planned.

Tryouts and training will be Thursdays, 5-7 p.m. at Barrancas Filed on NAS Pensacola.

For information or to sign up, contact Lt. Cmdr. David Toellner at 382-5494 or kiwi_soccer@yahoo.com.

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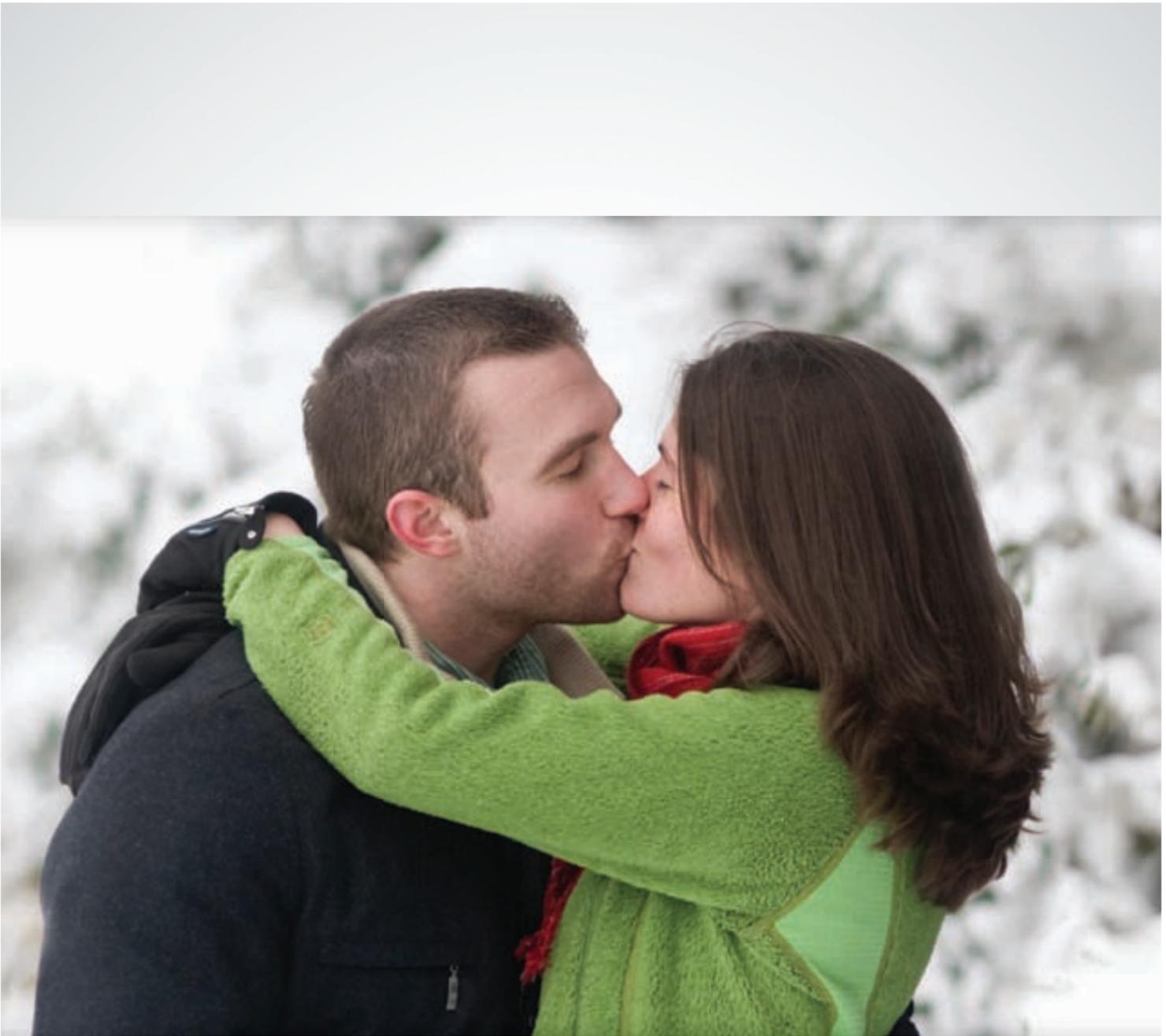
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Thanksgiving: from local harvest to national holiday

Most Americans are familiar with the Pilgrim's Thanksgiving feast of 1621, but few realize that it was not the first festival of its kind in North America.

Long before Europeans set foot in the Americas, native peoples sought to ensure a good harvest with dances and rituals such as the "Green Corn Dance" of the Cherokees.

The first Thanksgiving service known to be held by Europeans in North America occurred on May 27, 1578, in Newfoundland, although earlier church-type services were probably held by Spaniards in La Florida. However, for British New England, some historians believe that the Popham Colony in Maine conducted a Thanksgiving service in 1607. In the same year, Jamestown Colonists gave thanks for their safe arrival, and another service was held in 1610 when a supply ship arrived after a harsh winter. Berkeley Hundred settlers held a Thanksgiving service in accordance with their charter which stated that the day of their arrival in Virginia should be observed yearly as a day of Thanksgiving, but within a few years an Indian uprising ended further services (Dabney). Thus British Colonists held several Thanksgiving services in America before the

Pilgrim's celebration in 1621.

The Pilgrims, with a puritanical rejection of public religious display, held a non-religious Thanksgiving feast, aside from saying grace. In fact, they seem to have used the three days for feasting, playing games and even drinking liquor.

In 1623, the Pilgrims at Plymouth Plantation, Mass., held another day of Thanksgiving. As a drought was destroying their crops, Colonists prayed and fasted for relief; the rains came a few days later. And not long after, Capt. Miles Standish arrived with staples and news that a Dutch supply ship was on its way. Because of all this good fortune, Colonists held a day of Thanksgiving and prayer on June 30. This 1623 festival appears to have been the origin of our Thanksgiving Day because it combined a religious and social celebration.

Festivals of Thanksgiving were observed sporadically on a local level for more than 150 years. They tended to be autumn harvest celebrations. But in 1789, Elias Boudinot of Massachusetts,



The first step in roasting a picture-perfect turkey, say the experts, is to start with a quality roaster. Here are some tips to help you choose one • Roast your turkey at a constant 325-350 degrees (a 16- to 24-pound turkey takes approximately 12 to 15 minutes per pound) • Add water or broth to the pan to baste with and to keep the meat moist • Baste every 30 minutes • Use a meat thermometer to ensure thorough cooking (the deepest portion of the breast should read 170 F; the thigh, 180 F) • Once finished, let the bird rest for about half an hour so the juices settle before carving • Enjoy your Thanksgiving feast.

member of the House of Representatives, moved that a day of Thanksgiving be held to thank God for giving the American people the opportunity to create a Constitution to preserve their hard won freedoms. A congressional joint committee approved the motion, and informed President George Washington. On Oct. 3, 1789, the president proclaimed that the people of the United States observe "a day of public thanksgiving and prayer" on Thursday, Nov. 26.

The next three presidents proclaimed, at most, two days of thanksgiving sometime during their terms of office, either on their own initiative or at the request of a joint reso-

lution of Congress. One exception was Thomas Jefferson, who believed it was a conflict of church and state to require the American people hold a day of prayer and thanksgiving. President James Madison proclaimed a day of Thanksgiving to be held on April 13, 1815, the last such proclamation issued by a president until Abraham Lincoln did so in 1862.

Most of the credit for the establishment of an annual Thanksgiving holiday may be given to Sarah Josepha Hale. Editor of *Ladies Magazine* and *Godey's Lady's Book*, she began to agitate for such a day in 1827 by printing articles in the magazines.

She also published stories and recipes, and wrote scores of letters to governors, senators and presidents. After 36 years of crusading, she won her battle. On Oct. 3, 1863, buoyed by the Union victory at Gettysburg, President Lincoln proclaimed that Nov. 26, would be a national Thanksgiving Day, to be observed every year on the fourth Thursday of November.

Only twice has a president changed the day of observation. President Franklin D. Roosevelt, in order to give Depression-era merchants more selling days before Christmas, assigned the third Thursday to be

Thanksgiving Day in 1939 and 1940. But he was met with popular resistance, largely because the change required rescheduling Thanksgiving Day events such as football games and parades. In 1941, a congressional joint resolution officially set the fourth Thursday of November as a national holiday for Thanksgiving.

Today, Thanksgiving is a time when many families come together, and many churches are open for special services. We have both Native Americans and immigrants to thank for the opportunity to observe a day of thanksgiving.

Source: Smithsonian Institution

Tasty turkey recipe that won't break the bank

(NAPS) — More consumers are looking for ways to improve their diets, but people generally associate healthful meal options with higher prices. With the daunting economy, preparing nutritious meals may seem more challenging than ever. But there is a delicious solution: turkey.

Turkey is an inexpensive, nutritious alternative to higher-priced items such as steak, fish and seafood and it is a more healthful option than chicken. And while many consumers may think of it only around Thanksgiving time — or as a hamburger substitute — turkey is an ingredient that works well in many tasty and nutritious recipes.

"Turkey, in its various forms and preparations, should be a staple on everyone's grocery list," suggested Christine Palumbo, a member of the

American Dietetic Association. As a registered dietitian and nutrition expert, Palumbo focuses on weight management, functional foods, heart disease, diabetes and cancer prevention, and overall wellness. "It is one of the leanest proteins and can be used as a substitute for meat in almost any recipe."

Spicy Turkey Tostadas

Servings: 4

Prep time: 15 minutes

Total time: 25 minutes

Total estimated cost: \$12.45

1 package (about 1 pound) lean ground turkey

1 (8-ounce) can tomato sauce

1 tablespoon chili powder

8 (5-inch) tostada shells
4 cups shredded cabbage or precut cole slaw
2 tablespoons lime juice
1 teaspoon peanut or olive oil
2 tablespoons roughly chopped cilantro
4 plum tomatoes, chopped (about 1 cup)

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. In a medium skillet, combine turkey, tomato sauce and chili powder. Simmer over medium heat, breaking up meat with a spoon, until meat is fully cooked, about six minutes. Meanwhile, bake tostada shells in oven until crisp, about six minutes. In a bowl, toss cabbage with lime juice, oil and cilantro. Place a layer of turkey mixture on each tostada. Top with cabbage mixture and sprinkle with tomatoes.

Word Search 'Thanksgiving'

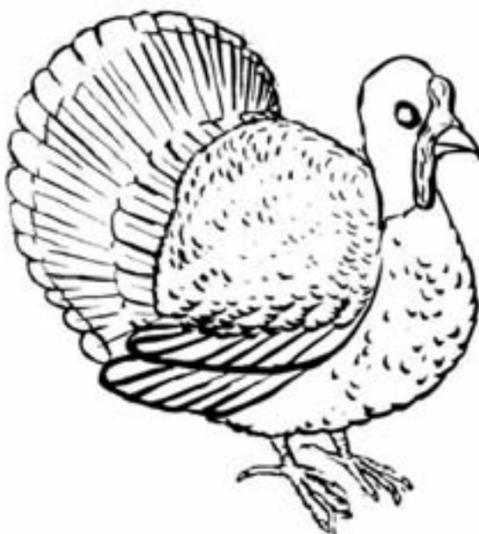
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CRANBERRIES
DINNER
FAMILY
GRAVY
LEFTOVERS

PARADE
PIE
PILGRIM
PUMPKIN
TURKEY

Gosling Games

Color Me 'Gobble, gobble'



Jokes & Groaners

Hard-to-digest Thanksgiving jokes

Q: If April showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring?
A: Pilgrims.

How did the Mayflower show that it liked America?
It hugged the shore.

Q: Why did they let the turkey join the band?
A: Because he had the drumsticks.

Q: What kind of music did the Pilgrims like?
A: Plymouth Rock.

Q: Which side of the turkey has the most feathers?
A: The outside.

Why did the police arrest the turkey? They suspected it of fowl play.

Asked to write a composition titled, "What I'm thankful for on Thanksgiving," little Rita wrote, "For one, I am thankful that I'm not a turkey."

First IMELDA International Chief Petty Officer Leadership Course graduates

From Steven Vanderwerff, NETC PAO and Wayne Verry

Eight chief petty officers and warrant officers from six nations and three U.S. Navy chief petty officers graduated from the first International Chief Petty Officer Leadership (ICPOL) course during a ceremony aboard NAS Pensacola Nov. 19.

The International Maritime Enlisted Leadership and Development Assistance (IMELDA) Program is designed to provide international friends and allies with the necessary support to transform, strengthen, and enhance the professional development and leadership of petty officers and chief petty officers. The five-week course emphasized the principals of military leadership, personality and human behavior, communications, teamwork, the legal aspects of military operations, and decision-making in an operational environment.

The Naval Education and Training Security Assistance Field Activity (NETSAFA) is the program manager for IMELDA and the courses are conducted at the NETSAFA International Training Center (NITC), located at Bldg. 633.

A retired U.S. Navy command master chief and a retired Marine master gunnery sergeant are the principal IMELDA

instructors. The course also included a well-qualified cadre of guest speakers, including U.S. active-duty senior enlisted leaders.

The ICPOL course also included a Field Studies Program (FSP), which provided the students with the opportunity to learn about the United States and the American way of life. FSP activities included a visit to the Escambia County Courthouse, a Blue Angels rehearsal flight, a visit to the Naval Recruiting Orientation Unit, and a tour of the USS Alabama.

This ICPOL graduation was preceded by the initial IMELDA Petty Officer Leadership (IPOL) Course last May, when 10 petty officers (E-4 – E-6) graduated. The IMELDA resident courses are complemented by an exportable mobile education team (MET) component. Current plans are in progress to conduct the first IMELDA MET in the African



Republic of Sierra Leone. Master Warrant Officer Ibrahim Attah Usman from Nigeria leads his classmates in the International Maritime Enlisted Leadership and Development Assistance (IMELDA) program oath during the graduation ceremony of the first class to graduate from the International Chief Petty Officer Leadership Course (ICPOL). The IMELDA program, part of Naval Education and Training Security Assistance Field Activity (NETSAFA), graduated eight chief petty officers and warrant officers from India, Namibia, Nigeria, Papua-New Guinea, Philippines and Samoa, and three U.S. Navy chief petty officers from the inaugural ICPOL Course. Photo by Steve Vanderwerff

Republic of Sierra Leone.

The IMELDA Program holds significant potential for growth and continues to receive increasing attention from both U.S. military command echelons and the governments and armed forces of our nation's international friends, allies and partners. This new enlisted education initiative will enable other nations to strengthen their interoperability with U.S. forces, expand

their role in maritime domain awareness, and enhance their overall ability as a maritime force.

Graduates included two students from India's coast guard; one from the Namibian navy; one from the army of Nigeria; one from the Papuan-New Guinean navy; two from the navy of the Philippines and one from the Samoan police force.

Naval Operational Medicine Institute (NOMI) hosts two-day Lean Six Sigma champion training course

Lt. J.g. Sherrill Hockenberry
NOMI

NOMI hosted a two-day Lean Six Sigma (LSS) Champion Training Course onboard Naval Air Station Pensacola Nov. 2-3. The course was comprised of a diverse group of 26 officers, enlisted, and civilian leaders from NOMI, Naval Hospital Pensacola, several branch clinics and Training Air Wing Five.

Novaces contractor, retired Navy Capt. Charles Mount, facilitated the two-day event. After receiving an overview of

LSS, attendees learned: the roles and responsibilities of a LSS Champion, how to identify, select and prioritize projects, and the importance of leading cultural change. The course was highly participatory and practical exercises were conducted to provide experiential learning.

Course participants will return to work with a renewed commitment to process improvement and the knowledge to lead successful LSS projects that will increase customer satisfaction by providing products and services better, faster and cheaper.

In May of 2006, the secretary of the Navy directed the deployment of Continuous Process Improvement/Lean Six Sigma (CPI/LSS) throughout the Department of the Navy. Navy medicine commenced its own CPI/LSS initiative shortly thereafter. In April of 2009, after achieving success through LSS, the surgeon general of the Navy proclaimed that "LSS is recognized as the primary approach for improving organizational performance to achieve our strategic and operational priorities at all levels of the enterprise and will be fully

implemented throughout Navy medicine."

LSS is a blending of two individual process improvement methodologies known as Lean and Six Sigma. Lean increases efficiency by decreasing cycle time, removing waste and eliminating non-value-added activities. Six Sigma increases quality by decreasing variation. When the two are combined, organizations can produce high quality products and services in the minimum amount of time at the lowest cost.

The Navy is no stranger to

process improvement. Over the years Total Quality Management, FOCUS-PDCA, Change Management, Failure Mode Effects Analysis, and various other improvement tools have been used. LSS distinguishes itself from these other methodologies by emphasizing a top down approach with extensive leadership involvement, a systematic methodology with defined goals and measures, strong customer focus, analysis of core business processes, trained practitioners and documented fiscal benefit.



Training Air Wing Six Commodore Michael Proserpi takes F-15E Strike Eagle fam flight ... In conjunction with the 2009 Blue Angels Homecoming Air Show, two F-15E Strike Eagle fighter aircraft were dispatched to NAS Pensacola from Seymour Johnson AFB in North Carolina. Training Air Wing Six's Commodore Capt. Michael Proserpi was able to take a familiarization flight in the Strike Eagle Nov. 13 courtesy of 4th Fighter Wing pilot Capt. John Decker. The aircraft departed to the warning area where Capt. Decker demonstrated both the flight characteristics of the F-15E and the air-to-air and air-to-ground capabilities of the AN/APG-70 employed by the Strike Eagle. NASP base CO Capt. Bill Reavey also took a fam flight with Capt. Decker Nov. 14, immediately following the Blue Angels air show. Photos by Maj. Bill Evans

NMCRS volunteers honored at ceremony

From Gilbert P. Chase
NMCRS Publicity Chair

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) Pensacola volunteers were honored at the second awards ceremony of the year recently. In explaining why NMCRS Pensacola honors volunteers twice each year, Director Mark Harden said, "I love the awards luncheon because we get a chance to tell the volunteers, individually, how important they are to the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society. Each volunteer adds to the organization and each one makes a big difference. I am very proud of the work our volunteers do for Sailors and Marines in this area."

To date this year, the NMCRS volunteers have:

- Assisted more than 3,400 clients
- Distributed more than \$1,300,000.
- Donated more than 22,000 volunteer hours.
- Served 7088 customers at the thrift shop.

Guest speaker, Col. Joseph P. Richards, commanding officer of MATSG-21, described how important NMCRS volunteers are to the welfare of his Marines. Col. Richards also praised NMCRS for providing several newly commissioned Marine officers with the opportunity to volunteer and learn numerous valuable lessons about compassion and caring for the needs and concerns of fellow Marines.

Two of the volunteers received the President's Call to Service Award for having volunteered more than 4,000 hours each; six received Volunteer of the Month awards; and 41 additional volunteers received awards for the hours they have donated to date. Awards for hours of service ranged from 100 hours to a whopping 10,000 hours, which was earned by Mary Elizabeth Derr, a key volunteer at the NMCRS thrift shop at Corry Station.

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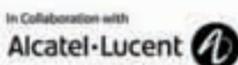
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WORSHIP

NAS Pensacola Protestant

- Sunday
- 8 a.m., Communion Service**
 - 10:15 a.m. Worship Service*
 - 6 p.m. Contemporary Service**
- Tuesday
- 9 a.m., Women's Bible Study***
- Wednesday
- 5:30 p.m. Fellowship Dinner
 - 6 p.m. Bible Study***

Roman Catholic

- Saturday
- 3:45 p.m. Sacrament of Penance****
 - 4:30 p.m. Mass*
- Sunday
- 8:30 a.m. Mass*
- Monday and Thursday
- Noon Mass****
- Friday
- 11 a.m. Mass****

Corry Station Protestant

- Sunday
- 9 a.m. Adult Bible Study (chapel conference room)
 - 9 a.m. Chapel Choir (sanctuary)
 - 10 a.m. Worship Service
 - 11:30 a.m. Fellowship
 - 7:30 p.m. Praise and Worship
- Thursday
- 5:30 p.m., Bible Study and dinner (fellowship hall)
- ### Roman Catholic
- Sunday
- Noon Mass
- Tuesday
- 11 a.m. Mass (small chapel)

Latter Day Saints

- Sunday
- 10:30 a.m.**
- Wednesday
- 7-8:30 p.m., Bible Study (Corry)

- *Naval Aviation Memorial Chapel
- **All Faiths Chapel
- ***J.B. McKamey Center
- ****Lady of Loreto Chapel

Galleys, Liberty centers open Thanksgiving

By Anne Thrower
Gosport Staff Writer

The galleys and Liberty centers at Naval Air Station Pensacola and Corry Station will remain open through the Thanksgiving holiday weekend, with numerous activities planned.

Officials at the Naval Air Technical Training Center galley are expecting a crowd for a traditional Thanksgiving meal from 3-5 p.m. for service members and their visiting families. The galley will also be open for breakfast from 7-9 a.m. and lunch from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. The galley in Bldg. 601 will be closed.

The rest of the holiday weekend at the NATTC galley will have holiday hours of 7-9 a.m. for breakfast, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. for lunch and 4-6 p.m. for dinner.

The galley at Corry Station will have lunch on Thanksgiving Day from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and dinner from 4-6 p.m. The rest of the weekend will serve breakfast from 7-9 a.m., lunch from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and dinner from 4-5:30 p.m.

Traditional Thanksgiving food will also be served at the USO on base from noon-6 p.m. for all active-

duty military. Shuttles will leave Corry's gym at 12:30 p.m., 2 p.m., 3:30 p.m. and 5 p.m. The last shuttle will return to Corry at 7 p.m.

After Thanksgiving Day, the USO will be serving barbecue and snacks and remain open from noon to 8 p.m. on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

The Liberty centers at NASP and Corry will have regular hours throughout the holiday weekend, opening at 10:30 a.m.

Also, the Portside Club will be open.

Football on the big screen is planned at Portside Club, which will open at noon on Thanksgiving Day.

Also, about 50 Marines and Sailors will head for Disney World today (Nov. 25) and return Nov. 29, according to Tonja Johnson-Brown with MWR's Liberty program.

The MWR fitness centers at NASP and Corry Station will have limited hours on Thanksgiving Day.

Radford Fitness Center will be open 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; Portside Fitness Center will be open from noon-6 p.m.; and Wenzel Fitness Center will be open noon-6 p.m. The Wellness Center will be closed.

Lots of facilities closed Thanksgiving Day

The commissary and the naval exchanges at Corry Station and Aviation Plaza will be closed on Thanksgiving Day.

For the first time, the commissary will have reduced hours on Nov. 27, the day after Thanksgiving, said Rowena Peterson. On Nov. 27 the commissary will open at 9 a.m. and close at 4 p.m.

The commissary will resume its normal hours on Nov. 28 and 29, opening at 8 a.m. and closing at 7 p.m. Handicap patrons are allowed entrance to the commissary 30 minutes prior to opening on all days.

The NEX Pensacola complex will be closed Thanksgiving Day, including the mall at Corry Station, the mall mini mart, Aviation Plaza, NASP mini mart and Corry mini mart.

The NEX mall at Corry Station will be open Nov. 27 from 5 a.m.-10 p.m., Nov. 28 from 6 a.m.-10 p.m. and Nov. 29 from 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

The Corry mall mini mart will be open Nov. 27-28 from



The commissary will be closed on Thanksgiving Day and for the first time have reduced hours on Nov. 27, opening at 9 a.m. and closing at 4 p.m. Photo by Anne Thrower

8 a.m.-8 p.m. and Nov. 29 from 8 a.m.-7 p.m.

Aviation Plaza will be open Nov. 27 from 8 a.m.-8 p.m., Nov. 28 from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. and Nov. 29 from 9 a.m.-7 p.m.

The NASP mini mart will be open Nov. 27 from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. and Nov. 28-29 from 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

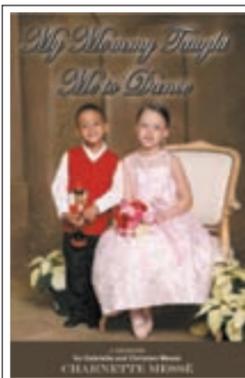
The Corry mini mart will be open Nov. 27-29 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Some of the MWR facilities that will be closed on Thanksgiving Day (Nov. 26) include NASP/Corry Child

Development Centers, Auto Skills Center, Crosswinds, Portside Cinema, Oak Grove Park, Bayou Grande Marina, Sherman Cove Marina and Oaks Restaurant, golf shop and gazebo at A.C. Read Golf Course.

The two child development centers and Crosswinds will also be closed Nov. 27. And the Auto Skills Center will be closed Nov. 25.

The Mustin Beach Officers' Club will be closed Nov. 26-Nov. 30. The Ready Room at the O'Club will be open from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. on Nov. 25.



Cancer survivor ... Local author Charnette Messé has choreographed a poignant memoir to her children Gabrielle and Christian. The book is titled: "My Mommy Taught Me to Dance, A Memoir for Gabrielle and Christian Messé." The book sends a powerful message that no one is too young or too old for breast cancer and that life is beautiful and brilliant in every size. Charnette Messé is the founder of Beautiful in Pink designed to embrace women with breast cancer and bring awareness to those not diagnosed. Messé has been on the "Oprah Winfrey Show" and had her story told in numerous publications, including "The Los Angeles Times." Messe can be reached at cmesse@aol.com or www.charnette-messe.com.

November/December Liberty Activities

The Liberty Program events target young, unaccompanied active-duty military. For a monthly calendar of activities at the main Liberty Center in the Portside Entertainment Complex or onboard Corry Station, call 452-2372 or visit their Web site at www.naspensacola.navy.mil/mwr/singsail/liberty.ht.

25-29 Liberty — Trip to Disney World departs Nov. 25 and returns Nov. 29. The \$175 cost includes lodging, transportation and Disney Armed Forces Salute.

25 Liberty — NASP — Latin Night at Portside, 7 p.m.

26 Liberty — NASP — Football on big screens, Green Bay at Detroit, Oakland at Dallas and N.Y. Giants at Denver.

30 Liberty — Football on the big screen, free, chips and salsa.

"NAS Live" — Topic: Pensacola Navy League. Guests will be Bob Anderson and Gary Skaar. The show airs at 6:30 p.m. on Cox Cable's Channel 6 or Mediacom's Channel 38.

December

1 Liberty — Free mall shuttle, leaves 5:30 p.m.

2 Liberty — Daytime mall trip departs 10 a.m.

3 Liberty — Movie premier "District 9" at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

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GOSPORT MOVIES

Movies and show times for Portside Cinema

FRIDAY Where the Wild Things Are (PG) 5; Astro Boy (PG) 5:15; Ameila (PG) 7; The Vampire's Assistant (PG13) 7:15; Law Abiding Citizen (R) 9:30; Zombieland (R) 9:45

SATURDAY Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs (PG) noon; Where the Wild Things Are (PG) 12:15; Ameila (PG) 2; Astro Boy (PG) 2:30; Couples Retreat (PG13) 4:30; The Stepfather (PG13) 4:45; Law Abiding Citizen (R) 7; The Vampire's Assistant (PG13) 7:15; The Invention of Lying (PG13) 9:30; Surrogates (PG13) 9:45

SUNDAY Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs (PG) noon; Where the Wild Things Are (PG) 12:15; Ameila (PG) 2:15; Astro Boy (PG) 2:30; Couples Retreat (PG13) 4:30; The Vampire's Assistant (PG13) 4:45; Law Abiding Citizen (R) 7; Zombieland (R) 7:15

MONDAY Closed

TUESDAY The Stepfather (PG13) 5; Astro Boy (PG) 5:15; Law Abiding Citizen (R) 7:15; The Vampire's Assistant (PG13) 7:30

WEDNESDAY Where the Wild Things Are (PG) 5; Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs (PG) 5:15; Ameila (PG) 7; Couples Retreat (PG13) 7:15

THURSDAY Whip It (PG13) 5; Astro Boy (PG) 5:15; The Vampire's Assistant (PG13) 7:15; Law Abiding Citizen (R) 7:30

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