



Guantanamo Bay Gazette

End Of An Era For Naval Station Guantanamo Bay



Mr. Harry Henry and Mr. Luis La Rosa, the final two Cuban Commuters at the installation receive their walking sticks from NS Guantanamo Bay, Cuba Commanding Officer Capt. J.R. Nettleton during a retirement ceremony at the Windjammer ballroom, Dec. 14. The historic event celebrated Mr. Henry's and Mr. La Rosa's years of dedicated service to the base.

Kelly Wirfel

NS Guantanamo Bay Public Affairs Officer

Mr. Harry Henry and Mr. Luis La Rosa, the last two Cuban Commuter Naval Station (NS) Guantanamo Bay Employees were honored during a retirement ceremony, Dec. 14.

As dawn breaks each morning these two employees take a cab from Guantanamo City, Cuba and make the hour long commute to the Naval Station's Northeast Gate. At the gate, the workers are stopped and checked by the Cuban frontier brigade, after which they pass through a gate beneath a sign that says "Republica de Cuba." They then walk across a 50-yard open stretch, divided by a painted white line that demarcates Cuban and American territory. At the second gate, marked "U.S. Naval Base, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba," U.S. Marines exchange the workers' Cuban identification cards for naval station badges. La Rosa is then given the keys to a blue Ford truck and drives approximately eight miles to drop off his co-worker before ending his commute at the Cuban Community Center where he serves as a maintenance man. They repeat this same process at the conclusion of each day.

"This is all just routine for us, but sometimes you feel like you are living in two worlds," said Henry. "They are two systems any way you look at it. But we are used to it."

Their unique commute is quickly drawing to an end. The two will cross through the gate one last time Dec. 31.

Both men brought their wives and family members to the base for Friday's ceremony, the first time the families have been able to visit the installation.

NS Guantanamo Bay's Commanding Officer, Capt. J.R. Nettleton welcomed the retirees and their families at the event.

"I would like to take a moment to recognize some of our special guests. First and foremost, to our retirees and their families, you have given so much to this base and are truly part of the Naval Station Guantanamo Bay family," said Nettleton. "Your years of dedication and support will always be honored and remembered here."

Guest speaker, Cuban-born retired Navy Cmdr. Carlos Del Toro honored the two in his speech.

"It is often the case that the first to achieve success is often the one

Residents Test Endurance During MWR Sponsored Half Marathon

MC1(SW/AW) Justin Alles

Gazette Editor

Nearly 50 base residents at Naval Station (NS) Guantanamo Bay, Cuba participated in Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Fitness department's half marathon, Dec. 15.

The health and fitness event challenged participant's endurance and provided a unique conditioning experience for the installation's running enthusiasts.

"Physical fitness is a priority in GTMO because physical fitness is a priority to a Sailors career and well being," said NS Guantanamo Bay Command Master Chief

Ross Cramer. "NAVSTA is 'all-in' when it comes to a Sailors physical and mental well being. This half marathon is just one of many things NAVSTA MWR sponsors to help keep Team GTMO healthy"

The top finishers of the half marathon included Lt. Col. Elmer Norvell who finished in 1st place with a time of one hour, 39 minutes and 31 seconds, Wasim Mohamed who finished in 2nd place with a time of one hour, 42 minutes and 56 seconds, and Casey Gore who finished in 3rd place with a time of one hour, 46 minutes and 34 seconds.



CMDM Ross Cramer, MA2 Alexandro Alcalá, and FC1 Robert Levasseur showcase their dog tags they received for completing the MWR Fitness half marathon.



CORPORAL TYLER TRUESDALE

■ **Job/Department:** Analyst/N2 Dept.

■ **Age:** 21

■ **Home State:** Colorado

■ **Quote:** "Beatings will continue until morale improves."

■ **Favorite Team:** Manchester United F.C.

■ **Favorite Hobby:** Work

■ **Favorite GTMO Restaurant:** Department wives' food

■ **Favorite Movie:** Pulp Fiction

■ **Favorite Musician:** Above and Beyond

■ **Hero:** Rihanna

■ **Currently Working On:** College

■ **Ambition/Goal:** Sergeant in the Marine Corps

■ **Greatest Passion:** Serving my Corps

■ **How Has The Navy Improved His Life:** The Marine Corps. Semper Fi.

GTMO's PTO Host Penguin Patch Party

MC1(SW/AW) Justin Alles

Gazette Editor

The Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) at Naval Station (NS) Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, hosted a "Penguin



W.T. Sampson Elementary students present raffle tickets in order to claim a prize during the PTO's Penguin Patch Party.

Patch Party," Dec. 14.

Held at W.T. Sampson Elementary school, the free event presented an evening of family oriented entertainment.

"This event was our way of giving back to the community," said PTO co-Vice President Lisa Pecci. "The community was invited to come out and enjoy an evening of fun while also supporting W.T. Sampson and the PTO. A fun night was had by all and we were able to say 'thank you' to everyone who has supported us throughout the year."

The holiday occasion featured a free dinner and dessert, games and activities, and an opportunity for photos with Santa Claus.

Throughout the year, the PTO held numerous fundraisers in order to provide scholarships for W.T. Sampson Seniors and other means of support for the schools, and the Penguin Patch Party focused on showing appreciation for the community's support.

GUANTANAMO BAY GAZETTE

COMMANDING OFFICER
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
COMMAND MASTER CHIEF

CAPT. JOHN NETTLETON
CMDR. COLIN CASWELL
CMDM (SW/EXW/AW) ROSS CRAMER



PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER
GAZETTE EDITOR
PHOTOJOURNALIST

KELLY WIRFEL
MC1(SW/AW) JUSTIN AILES
MC1(SW/AW) JUSTIN AILES

GTMO's ITT Team Focus On Emergency Preparedness

MC1(SW/AW) Justin Alles

Gazette Editor

Installation Training Team officials at Naval Station (NS) Guantanamo Bay, Cuba will hold an annual emergency response drill on base, Jan. 9-10.

Scheduled to be held at W.T. Sampson Elementary and W.T. Sampson High schools, the training exercise will focus on the proper method for conducting shelter-in-place, lockdown, and evacuation procedures.

"This exercise is part of an ongoing Training and Readiness program driven by the base Commander and lead by the Executive Officer, aimed at making sure we are ready and able to care for our base residents," said NS Guantanamo Bay Installation Training Officer Kevin Robarge.

The training evolution will involve representatives from the installation's Fire, Security and Medical departments, as well as staff from both schools.

"We do this every year to ensure that our teachers and students are familiar with base policies and procedures associated with these events," said W.T. Sampson Administrative Officer Carl Davis. "It's become even more paramount to focus on these procedures since the recent school tragedies in Connecticut. Comparatively, we are very safe here in GTMO, but it is imperative to take all necessary precautions to protect our community."

According to Davis, normal transportation and school start and end

times will not be affected.

Installation Training Team officials continue to focus on community preparedness. Recently, team members facilitated and emergency response drill at the installation's Windjammer Pool.

"Our goal was to run an emergency response to an injury at the main pool with the Life Guards and Base Emergency Responders," said Robarge. "This provided a chance for all areas to evaluate, train and improve their skills. Base Emergency Responders and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Life Guards were able to practice their life saving skills in a realistic scenario."

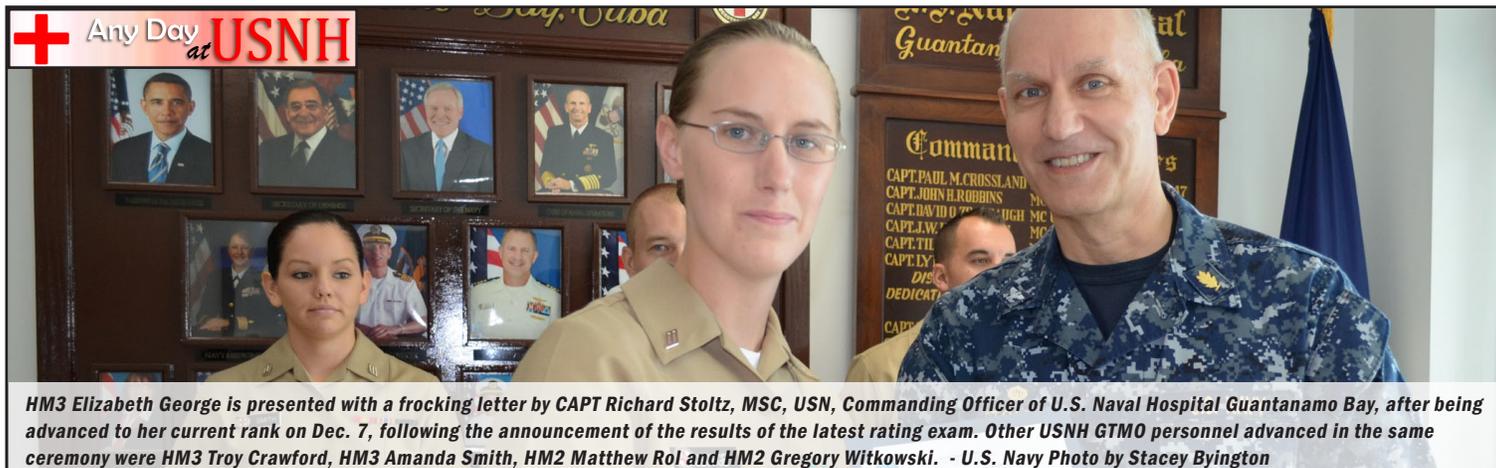
The scenario tested and evaluated the Life Guards, 911 Dispatching and Emergency

Responders (Medical, Fire, Security) ability to secure and injured swimmer.

"The drill featured a diving injury where a swimmer suffered a spinal injury," said Robarge. "The member had to be stabilized in the water, placed on a spine board to stabilize their neck and extracted from the pool by Life Guards."

According to Robarge, ensuring the installation's emergency responders are properly trained and capable of adapting to potentially hazardous situations is of the utmost importance.

"The key to success is being able to do the basics with precision, so the more training personnel have, the better they can get at what they do," said Robarge.



HM3 Elizabeth George is presented with a frocking letter by CAPT Richard Stoltz, MSC, USN, Commanding Officer of U.S. Naval Hospital Guantanamo Bay, after being advanced to her current rank on Dec. 7, following the announcement of the results of the latest rating exam. Other USNH GTMO personnel advanced in the same ceremony were HM3 Troy Crawford, HM3 Amanda Smith, HM2 Matthew Rol and HM2 Gregory Witkowski. - U.S. Navy Photo by Stacey Byington

Chaplain's Corner

Happy Holidays From The NAVSTA Command Religious Program

NS Guantanamo Bay Command Chaplain Services

The CRP staff would like to thank everyone for the sacrifices made each day here in GTMO. Many of us will be celebrating the holidays here in GTMO, but consider this an opportunity to create a new holiday tradition. Thank you all for all the support you've given us throughout the year. It is our hope that your days will be filled with joy and peace! Happy Holidays!

- Chaplain Jones

I wish everyone a Blessed and safe Christmas and a happy, healthy, prosperous new year. I wish the same for your relatives and friends wherever they are. You are all remembered in my prayers daily.

-Chaplain Tran

Thank you for your service, sacrifice, patience, dedication and hard work in keeping our country safe.

-RPC Credo

I love the Christmas-tide, and yet, I notice this, each year I live; I always like the gifts I get, but how I love the gifts I give! Merry Christmas NAVSTA!

- RP1 Hosier

Thank you everyone for your support to make GTMO a great place to be. Best wishes and a happy holiday!

-RP2 Stoerrle

— — 2012 525th MP BATTALION PIG BOWL CHAMPIONS

MC1(SW/AW) Justin Alles

Gazette Editor



Joint Task Force (JTF), Guantanamo Bay, Cuba's 525th Military Police Battalion in coordination with Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) at Naval Station (NS) Guantanamo Bay, Cuba hosted their quarterly "Pig Bowl," Dec. 15.

Held at Cooper Field, the single elimination, "Ultimate Frisbee" tournament provided both JTF and NS Guantanamo Bay's security and law enforcement personnel with a challenging and team-building experience.

"The Pig Bowl is a sporting event that is held with Emergency services personnel, normally law enforcement," said 525th Operations Sergeant Major Phillip Dietz. "It is intended to build and maintain the strong relationships between those elements

that work together day in day out handling some of the most dangerous situations."

According to Dietz, this year's Pig Bowl was unique in that the installation's Security department was extended an invitation to participate.

"We each have a different mission here, however, we are all brothers and sisters in the profession of arms for law enforcement," said Dietz. "When looking at the competitors for this quarter's event, we realized we would be doing a disservice to the history of the Pig Bowl if we did not invite all military security units on the installation. This was not an Army versus Navy event, this was an 'esprit de corps' competition between law enforcement elements."

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Along with the installation's Security department, JTF's 525th Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 189th Military Police Company, 193rd Military Police Company, 428th Military Police Company, 602nd Military Police Company and 755th Military Police Company competed for top honors in the event.

Security topped out Headquarters and Headquarters Company to win the tournament with a final score of eight to four.

"It meant a lot to get an invitation to this year's Pig Bowl," said NS Guantanamo Bay Security department team member Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Gerald Provost. "Ultimately it's about camaraderie and 'one team, one fight.' There are bragging rights involved in this, just as in every other competition including our two branches of service, but at the end of the day were all

on the same team. We were exhausted towards the end of the tournament but we came together, gave it our all and did our best to ensure that we walked away with the Army's trophy."

At the conclusion of the event, Lt. Col. Darcy Overbey and Sgt. Maj. Michael Baker, the 525th Military Police Battalion Command Team, presented Security's team with the Pig Bowl Championship trophy.

"I believe this event strengthens our relationship between one another because we included all law enforcement," said Dietz. "Our intent was to show that we are all one team and we all maintain the safety and security of the community regardless of our mission. Our battles with one another will be on the sports field, but never on the battle field."

who receives the recognition. Today we honor two different, but equally important individuals. The last of a breed – a duo of hard-working Cuban commuters venturing day-in and day-out, across no-man's land and through fenced borders to go to work every day," said Del Toro. "To Mr. Henry and Mr. La Rosa, your distinguished career is cherished by those of us who have come to know you as peers and friends. We wish you wonderful retirement. You've earned it. Congratulations. Muchas Felicidades."

Following Del Toro's speech, Nettleton and Captain Kevin Head, Commanding Officer, Naval Supply Systems Command Fleet Logistics Center Jacksonville, presented Henry and La Rosa with the Meritorious Civilian Service Medal and their retirement certificates. Nettleton then presented the "walking stick" to both men. The passing of the walking stick is a tradition that was started by the commuters in the 1960's and the walking stick has been passed along to the most senior commuter throughout the years.

These men have not only served as government employees, they have also served as an important conduit for the Special Category Residents, often referred to as "Cuban Exiles," who fled Cuba in the late 1950's and were permitted to settle on the base. Many of these "exiles" communicate with their family members who remained in Cuba by passing messages and pictures to Henry and La Rosa, who then deliver it their family members.

Mr. Henry began working on the base at the age of 17 and throughout his long and distinguished career held numerous positions to include Duplication Equipment Operator, Property Supply Clerk and Stock Control Clerk before being assigned to his final position as a Supply

Technician. When he officially retires on Dec. 31, 2012 Mr. Henry will have served a total of 61 years, 8 months and one day to the United States Government.

Mr. La Rosa began working on the base in 1957 and held numerous positions to include a bodyworker, plumber, sheet metal worker, maintenance man and most notably as a welder. When he officially retires on Dec. 31 he will have served 53 years, 10 months and 10 days to the United States Government.

"Retiring is bittersweet" said La Rosa. "I have a lot of pieces of my life here. My heart is sad about leaving, but I know it is time."



Mr. La Rosa and Mr. Henry pose with W.T. Sampson Elementary school students after they performed a traditional dance in honor of their retirement.

Naval Support Activity Panama City Named Best Naval Installation

Naval Support Activity Panama City

Public Affairs

Commander Navy Installation Command (CNIC) announced Dec. 12 that Naval Support Activity Panama City (NSA Panama City) was the winner of the 2013 CNIC Installation Excellence Award (small installation category).

NSA Panama City was also named the Navy's nominee for the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) Commander in Chief's Annual Award for Installation Excellence (Award Year 2013). NSA Panama City Commanding Officer, Cmdr. Tony Anglin immediately congratulated base personnel.

"I am elated to announce that you have been awarded the CNIC Installation Excellence Award and that you will be the Navy's nominee for the OSD Commander in Chief's Annual Award for Installation Excellence," Cmdr. Anglin said. Your hard work and innovative 'out of the box' solutions to complex problems have been recognized at the highest levels of our chain of command, and I have been blessed to lead such a focused and innovative group of professionals. Through your hard work and dedication, you have greatly enhanced the quality of life for our personnel and our tenant commands."

CNIC is comprised of 11 regions and 72 bases worldwide. The annual CNIC Installation Excellence Award recognizes installations in the large and small categories; Naval Air Station Jacksonville was the winner in the

large installation category, and NSA Panama City was the winner in the small installation category.

"This year's competition and all nomination packages reflected the great accomplishments that CNIC installations made worldwide," said Rear Adm. Jack Scorby, commander, Navy Region Southeast. "NSA Panama City has consistently been a leader in advancing the CNIC mission of enabling today's warfighter and supporting the force of tomorrow. In 2012, NSA Panama City excelled in the categories of energy conservation, environmental protection, community outreach and providing outstanding quality of life for Navy personnel. Anglin and his team are truly deserving of this recognition."

As a leader in workplace safety, NSA Panama City reduced workplace mishaps by 27 percent, and civilian injuries have declined by 36 percent in the past year. In June 2012, NSA Panama City earned two Chief of Naval Operations awards and a Secretary of the Navy award for environmental stewardship. In October 2012, NSA Panama City earned the Secretary of the Navy Platinum Award for Energy and Water Conservation, reducing energy use with automated energy management and equipment upgrades. Military and civilian personnel executed 324 community relations projects totaling more than 9,400 hours of service. NSA Panama City and Bay County, Fla. were recognized by the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for streamlining communications with local municipalities and the State of Florida, and made major strides toward full implementation of the highly successful Joint Land Use Study.

Cmdr. Anglin attributed the command's success to optimal use of available resources, while focusing on innovative management actions to increase overall productivity.

"Team NSA Panama City shares this award with our very supportive commands and our partners in the local communities of Panama City Beach and Bay County," Anglin stated.

GTMO SHOPPER

E-mail classified ad submissions to **PAO-CLASSIFIEDADS@USNBGTMO.NAVY.MIL** If sent to any other e-mail, it may not be published. Submit your ad NLT noon Wednesdays for that week's Gazette. Ads are removed after two weeks. Re-submit the ad to re-publish. The Gazette staff and NS Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, page. The Public Affairs Office has final editorial discretion on all content. Call MC2 Justin Ailes at 4520 with your questions or concerns.

VEHICLES

'95 Ford F-350, 4 Door, fairly new tires, \$2000. FMI call 77992

'02 Toyota RAV 4 with working A/C, CD player, \$5K. Sold as is. Call 84171

Club car golf cart, accessories included, trailer, extra battery, apprx. 200 golf balls, \$1,200. Call 72558, 77025, or 58438

'96 Honda Accord, runs great, ac works great, 2 new tires, \$4000 OBO. Call 77025 or 72558

'98, 21 foot Aquasport 215 Explorer Fishing Boat with a Johnson 200 V6 Outboard Engine, Cabin, Live Well, Authorized for the Tackle Box, Trailer included. Excellent condition. \$12,000 OBO. Call Jason 77025 or 58438

'07 Honda Pilot EX-L, 6 cyl, 4WD, 52K mi, loaded. Automatic, strong A/C, new tires, 6 disc chngr. Only 2 owners, pristine condition. Available Mar. 23. \$18,500 OBO. Call 74325

'00 Kawasaki 900 STX Jet Ski, new engine, new ECU. Comes with life jackets and tube with tow rope. \$3500 or trade for sportbike. Call Steve 77795

98' Toyota Camry, excellent condition, 12,6500 mi., new timing belt and water pump, new air condition compressor, new radiator, new shocks, new brakes, new CD/ cassette, \$5500. Call 75565

'01 Ford Focus, 4 door sedan, manual transmission, excellent condition. \$4600, negotiable. Call Matthew 58755

'94 full size Dodge Cargo Van with 94K mi., white, runs very well, 3.9L. \$1800. Call 78813 anytime after 1100

'94 Suzuki Sidekick, standard 5 speed with new top, in good condition, \$2000 OBO. Call 4301 or 77301

'06 Yamaha Virago 250cc. Great condition. Garaged Kept. Less than 800 miles. \$2000. Call 77662 or 55091

'95 BMW 740 IL. Power windows, sun roof, leather seats, CD/MP3 player and new tires. Excellent condition. \$3900 OBO. Call 78472

Buying electric car, \$1000. Call 77516

ELECTRONICS

Internet modem w/ all cables and wires, \$55. FMI call 77992

SCSI modem, \$35. Call 78482

Satellite dish, 6ft with dual LNB set up for DirecTV. with 100' of cable, \$600. 11"x18" paver stones (81), \$80. Call 77927

6 Feet Direct TV satellite dish including 2 receivers. \$350 OBO. Call 78472

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

Recumbent bike, \$50. Total Gym, includes all the extra parts and floor mat, \$100. Call 84171

Mahogany Entertainment Cabinet, \$100. Mahogany Book Case, \$50. Cherry Wood Dining Room Table set, \$200. Call 84171

4 book shelves, large computer desk and a computer chair (matching set), \$300. Laser Canon All-in-one printer with 2 extra ink toners (4000 pages), \$100. 6.1 channels audio/video HDMI Sony receiver, \$50. Wooden cabinet, \$30. 2 large End Tables, \$20. 2 table lamps \$20. Insanity workout DVDs, \$40. DVDs, \$3 each. Blu-rays, \$5 each. PS3 60gb backwards compatible, 3 controllers, Skyrim, COD 2+3, Assasins Creed Revelations, Uncharted 2+3, and 2 PS1 games, \$250. Call 75885

Sectional Sofa w/chaise, light brown, ultra suede material, Make offer. Call 75556

Suede Futon, red, almost new, very clean, \$60. Call 77516

OUTDOOR REC

22" Poulen Lawn Mower, 1 year old, works great. Make offer. Call 75556



The Scoop

BHO MEETING

GTMO's Black Heritage Organization is holding a meeting Saturday at 1300 at Nob Hill 5A. Call 78086 for more info.

MIDNIGHT MADNESS

If the Mayans were wrong and the world doesn't end today, there's a Midnight Madness Special going on at the NEX tonight at 2200.

CHRISTMAS DAY OPENINGS

The following MWR facilities will be open Christmas day: Windjammer Pool 0900-1800, Denich Gym and Marine Hill Gym 1000-1800, All Liberty Centers and Camp Bulkeley Gym will be open, Library 1200-1600, Marina 0600-1200, Golf Course 0700-1400, and both Lyceums will play regular movie times. Merry Christmas!

POST OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS

The Post Office will be open December 24th and 31st for all your postal needs. They will be closed Christmas day and January 1st.

HELP THOSE IN NEED

Show your support and help feed GTMO families in need by donating non-perishable food items. Items can be dropped off at Gold Hill galley during normal business hours. All donations will help provide a Christmas dinner to a GTMO area family in need. Cash donations will also be accepted. For more info, call 2234 or 84841.

THE DELI EXPRESS IS BACK

GTMO's greatest (and only) food truck is back in business and ready to serve you. The Downtown Deli Express Mobile Canteen is open for breakfast Monday-Saturday from 0700-1100 and open for lunch from 1100-1400. This mobile food wonder can be found parked at the NEX parking lot.

SEASONS GREETINGS

We here at the Gazette would like to say Happy Holidays to the entire GTMO community and wish you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. This will be the final Gazette for 2012, and we look forward to another year of news in 2013. Have a safe and happy holiday season!

GTMO JOB HUNT

- Recreation Asst. Lifeguard - Flex
- Recreation Asst. Lifeguard - Full Time
- Movie Manager - Full Time
- Bartender - Flex
- CYP Asst. - Flex
- CYP Ops Clerk - Flex
- Food Service Worker - Flex
- CYP Asst. - Full Time
- Asst. Hospitality Director - Full Time
- Accounting Tech. - Flex
- Computer Tech. - Flex
- Front Desk Clerk - Full Time
- Lead CYP Asst. - Full Time
- Auto Mechanic - Full Time
- Auto Mechanic Helper - Full Time
- Rec Aid Bingo Caller - Flex
- Club Operations Asst. - Full Time
- Club Operations Asst. Night - Full Time
- ID Checker - Flex

Job Descriptions can be found on MWR's Job Wall next to the NAF HR office, Bldg. 760. FMI, call 74121

MOVIES

DOWNTOWN LYCEUM

FRIDAY	Dec. 21
7 p.m.:	Jack Reacher (new) PG13 130 min.
9 p.m.:	Man With The Iron Fists (new) PG13 96 min.
SATURDAY	Dec. 22
7 p.m.:	Lincoln (new) PG 150 min.
9:30 p.m.:	Skyfall R 143 min.
SUNDAY	Dec. 23
7 p.m.:	The Hobbit R 170 min.
MONDAY	Dec. 24
7 p.m.:	Wreck It Ralph PG13 108 min.
9 p.m.:	Cloud Atlas PG13 172 min.
TUESDAY	Dec. 25
7 p.m.:	Rise of the Guardians PG13 97 min.
9 p.m.:	Flight PG13 139 min.
WEDNESDAY	Dec. 26
7 p.m.:	Alex Cross (last) PG 102 min.
THURSDAY	Dec. 27
7 p.m.:	Paranormal Activity 4 (last) R 88 min.

CALL THE MOVIE HOTLINE @ 4880

