





Trooper to Trooper

featuring
Command Sgt. Maj.
Mark Porrett

Command Sgt. Maj., Joint Task Force

As I speak with many of the newly assigned Joint Task Force leaders, I often ask them what they most want from their Troopers. The answer usually has the same three main points: fit for duty, disciplined and able to qualify within their service and skill set. The one point that drives the other two is discipline. As servicemembers, we are trusted more by the population of the United States than most police departments, elected officials and our own government agencies. We earn this trust by having the iron discipline to carry out orders and meet their expectations.

Iron discipline is usually found in the workplace when lives, safety and mission are at risk. Strict adherence to procedures and orders is what defines the military as a profession and not a job. Most of our values and character are exercised daily with iron discipline by you.

There are several informal tests of our discipline. One example is the local laws we know and see everyday. Obeying basic traffic regulations is one of the hardest tests of discipline. It's too easy to say "everyone is doing it." Going over the speed limit is almost the expectation rather than the exception. Each year we get safety briefs on how speed, fatigue and alcohol are contributing factors in fatal crashes. Yet Troopers continue to break this law several times a day. Do you have the discipline to do what is right?

Another test is when given liberty, pass or time-off duty. It's not just an on-duty or off-duty discipline – it's the on-and-off the installation discipline. The greatest threat to our military is off-duty activities that take our Troopers from formations. We've all heard about high-risk activities that take lives. We also have an enemy out there in the form of alcohol abuse that ruins as many lives and careers as wars. It's not just the Trooper that suffers from deadly recreation or adverse alcohol related incidents – everyone from immediate family members to elected officials sees this as a senseless waste.



We also display discipline by putting on our military uniforms. Wearing the uniform properly and professionally represents your service. Acting in a way veterans relate to is a small piece of how we are evaluated. I've heard the uniform makes the Trooper. I know the Trooper makes the uniform. The fact is, whether in a uniform or civilian clothes, we still represent our unit, fellow Troopers and the nation.

Everyone must help police up the members of TEAM-GTMO. Our war is not with each other, but the forces that break up our team. Just when you think no one is watching, usually there is. The only way to safeguard our nation is with iron discipline from the Troops.

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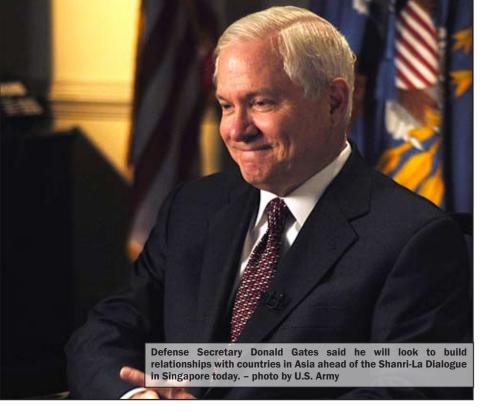
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The WIRE is the official news magazine of Joint Task Force Guantanamo. It is produced by the JTF Public Affairs Office to inform and educate the Troopers of JTF Guantanamo through news, features, command guidance, sports and entertainment. The WIRE seeks to provide maximum disclosure with minimum delay with regard to security, accuracy, propriety and policy. This DoD news magazine is an authorized publication for the members of the Department of Defense. Contents of The WIRE are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or Joint Task Force Guantanamo. It is printed by the Defense Logistics Agency Document Services with a circulation of 1,200.

COVER: The Memorial Day Holiday was jammed pack full of music, thanks to the efforts of Naval
Station Guantanamo Bay's Morale, Welfare and Recreation Department and Navy Entertainment.

Keeping residents entertained were Natalie Stovall, Yung Joc and The Frontmen.



Gates: U.S. seeks to enhance partnerships in Asia

Voice of America News

U.S. Defense Secretary Robert Gates says he is looking to build relationships with countries in Asia to address a wide variety of future challenges in the region. Ahead of Friday's opening at Asia's most prominent security conference, Gates said that Washington plans to remain a reliable partner for its allies.

Gates says he is going into the Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore with the message that Washington will continue to build relationships with its Asian allies despite potential budget restrictions.

"I would say, if anything, these pressures put a premium on multilateral responses to problems. Whether it's humanitarian assistance or disaster relief, where we see opportunities with a number of countries out here, including China" said Gates.

This year China is sending to Singapore Defense Minister Liang Guanglie, who is the most senior Chinese official to attend the annual security conference. Gates and Liang are expected to hold a bilateral meeting Friday.

Speaking to reporters en route to the conference Thursday, Gates said he is very satisfied with the progress of Washington's relationship with Beijing, but he sees room for improvement between their two militaries.

He says continued dialogue is important to that relationship, especially because Beijing and Washington remain at odds about American arms sales to Taiwan. "Under those circumstances, there is value in a continuing dialogue by the two sides of just exactly what our concerns are, what our issues are and how we might alleviate the concerns on both sides." he said.

Gates says Washington remains concerned about China's military research projects, such as anti-ship missiles and stealth fighter aircraft.

But he says he does not think China aims to use those projects to deny the United States access in the region.

"I think the Chinese have learned a powerful lesson from the Soviet experience and they do not intend to try and compete with us across the full range of military capabilities. But, I think they are intending to build capabilities that give them considerable freedom of action in Asia and the opportunity to extend their influence," Gates stated.

That influence at times has concerned China's neighbors and could be a topic of discussion here in Singapore.

Since last week, reports of Chinese vessels violating territorial claims in the South China Sea have provoked formal protests from the Philippines and Vietnam. Both countries complained that China allegedly violated their territorial waters by either erecting marker posts on small reefs and islands or chasing away their ships.

The Philippine and Vietnamese governments have sent representatives to the Shangri-La Dialogue.

House Rejects Vote to Raise US Debt Ceiling Without Spending Cuts

Cindy Saine Voice of America News Service

The House of Representatives voted Wednesday to reject a bill to raise the United States' statutory debt limit by some \$2 trillion. The vote would have raised the debt ceiling without any government spending cuts, which are now supported by both major political parties, in a move Democrats described as "political theater"

Democrats and Republicans have battled for months in Congress over the U.S. federal budget and over how to get the spiraling national debt under control. U.S. Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner says the government reached its current \$14 trillion debt limit in May, but that he is using bookkeeping procedures to give Congress until August to pass legislation to prevent the United States from defaulting on its debt obligations.

With two months to go until the August deadline, Republican House leaders held a vote Tuesday on a measure that they introduced but also wanted to be defeated - a "clean" bill that would raise the debt ceiling without any spending cuts. The vote was 318 against, 97 in favor, and seven lawmakers voted present.

Republican Ways and Means Committee Chairman Dave Camp urged members of his party to vote "no" on the bill.

"Today we are making clear that Republicans will not accept an increase in our nation's debt limit without substantial spending cuts and real budgetary reforms,"

Democratic lawmakers accused Republicans of holding the vote as a political stunt to make Democrats go on the record of voting to raise the debt ceiling without cuts in government spending. Democratic Congressman Sander Levin of Michigan said Republicans had had to warn financial leaders on Wall Street that this vote is not serious, but just fodder for the 2012 elections.

"Bringing up this bill in this fashion is a ploy so egregious, the Republicans have had to spend the last week pleading with Wall Street not to take it seriously, and risk our economic recovery," he said.

White House Press Secretary Jay Carney said that the president and many lawmakers from both parties realize that raising the debt ceiling is a very urgent matter.

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News from the Bay

Summer heats up new softball league season

Dig out that old glove and dust off those bats! It's time for the summer softball league "Softball is the most involved sport here

in GTMO," said Alana Morrison, Morale, Welfare and Recreation sports coordinator.

The league will stretch out over the entire summer until September.

"This is a great opportunity for all the Troopers to get active and stay involved in MWR sports this summer," said Morrison. "Softball is not only competitive, but is just also a great way to meet other people who share an interest and a love of the game."

There is still time to get a team together. Registration is open to ages 16 and up. Be sure to sign up by June 7 at the Denich Gym. The season starts June 13. For more information call Morrison at x2113.

Golf contest: winner recieves 100 dollars

Put your drive to the test! The Yatera Seca Golf Association invites you to compete in a longest drive contest June 12 from 9 a.m to 1:30 p.m at the Lateral Hazard Golf Course.

Sign up will be held Saturday at the NEX atrium from 10 a.m to 2 p.m. Event cost is three balls for \$10.

The participant with the farthest, most accurate drive from hole number one will win \$100. All event proceeds will go to the Yatera Seca Golf Association, which holds golfing events each month on base.

Yatera Seca members meet on the first Wednesday of every month at the Lateral Hazard Golf Course.

"Don't worry about your skill level," said Yatera Seca Association Vice President Tim Psingsten. "We are willing to help you with your swing."

For more information about the longest drive contest or about becoming a member, contact Psingsten at x3772 or x90672.

Ceramic shop hosts community craft fair

Explore a world of creativity at the Ceramic Shop Craft Fair Saturday from 12 p.m to 3 p.m at the Windjammer Cafe.

Crafters can sign up at the ceramic shop for \$15 per table to sell their homemade crafts. Artists and crafters will keep 100 percent of their profits.

Crafts such as ceramics, letter art and

Stories and reporting by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Maddelin Angebrand

pottery will be on sale.

Andre Gordon, arts and crafts manager for the ceramic shop, invites Troopers to

"They can come out and not only buy stuff but also learn how to make things," said Gordon, "It takes their mind off of everyday duties. It's a morale thing!"

For more information call x74795 or

Run invites commands to let their flags fly

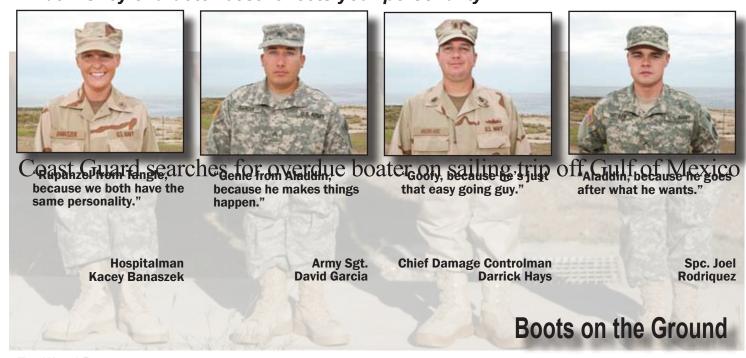
Hoist your command flag with Troopers from your shop at the Flag Day Run, June 14 at the Denich Gym. Sign up at any gym by June 13.

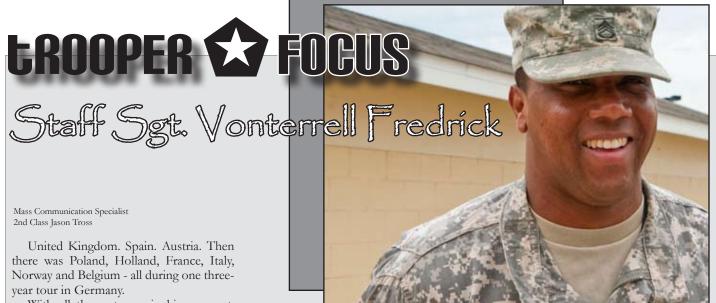
The run is hosted by Morale, Welfare and Recreation to honor the American Flag.

"To better localize the symbol of the day," said Alana Morrison, MWR sports coordinator. "We want commands to run with their flags to honor those that have served, are serving and will serve for their command."

The run is scheduled to begin at 6:30 a.m, so all commands have the opportunity to participate during PT hours. For more information contact Morrison at x2113.

What Disney character best reflects your personality?





With all these stamps in his passport, it is evident Army Staff Sgt. Vonterrell Fredrick doesn't sit around and wait for things to come his way. Fredrick's chain of command in Joint Task Force Guatanamo's 525th Military Police Battalion certainly feels that way. The Army Soldier, who reported to the 525th last October, is recognized in his work center as the go-to person for making things happen.

"It's all about networking," said Operations Noncommissioned Officer Sgt. Maj. Steven Townsend. "Staff Sergeant Fredrick, with no prior experience and not knowing anyone here, built the relationships we need to get our Soldiers the training they need."

He made those relationships away from his desk, traveling to meet people faceto-face. Fredrick is directly responsible for ensuring the more than 400 Troopers assigned to the 525th are either enrolled or attending the schools they need to be qualified and operational. The schools range from Army-wide courses like Equal Opportunity Leader to specialized training in the FBI Crisis Negotiator Course and interservice Non-Lethal Individual Weapons Instructor Course.

"There is a lot of mandatory training you need to have here at JTF," said Fredrick. "This is just a one-year tour, so a lot of times we get someone trained up just as a new person comes in and needs the same thing. So we start all over again. You have to stay on top of that so you don't lose track

Townsend sees Fredrick as more than just a proactive worker and sharp Soldier. He is a leader as well.

"He's not going to let anything slide," said Townsend. "When you just walk by a deficiency, that becomes the new standard. If he sees a deficiency, he's going to fix it. Whether it's a uniform or something that comes up in our work here, he keeps the standard high."

Fredrick's work ethic and ability to stay on top of things in uniform carries over to his free time. This Trooper loves traveling. Now he has Cuba to add to his list of countries

"Being in the military gives you the opportunity to go a lot of places you couldn't go otherwise," said Fredrick. "I've met a lot of people who like to stay in a little bubble. I know people who've been stationed at Ft. can. Bragg for 13 or 14 years and never left. They go down range, come back and then do it again. That's not me."

While his time in Cuba is limited to the base, Fredrick is still taking in as much as he anywhere else.'

Bullet Bío

Hobbies: golf, football, oasketball

Pet peeves: lazy people

Inspirations: family – people come and go but family is always there.

Advice to junior Troopers: 'Listen."

"I'm glad I came down here," said Fredrick. "It helps me see the big picture - what our military is doing and how this fits into that big picture. You can't get this



What is an indicator?

When it comes to OPSEC, our only concern is the protection of unclassified information that has been identified as sensitive or critical information. Have you ever wondered why? Critical information provides the adversary with indicators. Indicators are nothing more than small pieces to a big puzzle that potentially put together classified information. Indicators can range from leaving your light on at night, which indicates you're home, to massive troop movements to a certain location to indicate that an operation or training is being conducted. So be a hard target. Find out how indicators are giving you away.

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Prevention bureau preps Troopers in fire safety, awareness

Story by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Maddelin Angebrand

The Navy Region Southeast Fire & Emergency Services Fire Prevention Bureau is teaming up with Joint Task Force Guantanamo to ensure work and living conditions here are as fire safe as possible.

The bureau implemented the Navy's fire prevention initiative, designating a member from each department as a fire warden. The program requires the member take an hour-long course on basic fire prevention and awareness and become responsible for monthly inspections of their building.

"It helps us out because they become our eyes and ears," said Clifford Foley, fire prevention inspector. "We can only get to a building once a year to do their annual inspection so the fire warden helps with the basics."

The prevention bureau also does fire extinguisher training, given to commands and other groups upon request. They also recently participated in the Child Safety Day held at the Downtown Lyceum.

"If they [Troopers] come

across a small fire in the workplace or at home, they will have this basic skill to put it out," said Foley. "We teach them to aim low and use a sweeping

It is important to be proactive in fire safety and keep these tips in mind:

Install smoke detectors in every room on every floor and test batteries every six months.

In kitchens, never leave cooking unattended. Keep the area grease-free. Turn pot handles away from the front of the stove. Never wear loose, long sleeves while cooking, especially clothes made of synthetic

smokers, cigarettes in proper receptacles and smoke only at designated

Finally, have an evacuation plan -- know escape routes along with primary and secondary exits and always have a safe muster area for accountability.

Barbeques and outdoor activities are a popular way for Troopers to relax on base and

see FIRE, page 19







The Wire introduces first "Island Best" Trooper contest

Regardless of how long the deployment, Guantanamo Bay is now home to hundreds of Troopers. Most servicemembers, just as soon as they arrive to a new duty station, immediately begin the nesting process. Pictures, posters, mementos from home – they all find their rightful place in each Tierra Kay room, Camp America trailer or **C**uzco tin can. And while some stick to the basics and utilize the usual means to make their mark, others go to extraordinary lengths to transform their dwelling into something personal and unique.

The Wire decided it was time to recognize those Troopers who do an outstanding job of bringing home to Guantanamo Bay. The places we inhabit - and the people we share a room, trailer, block or house with – are all part of what makes time on Guantanamo Bay a oncein-a-lifetime experience. Therefor, we are introducing the very first "Island Best" contest, giving Troopers a chance to show off their creativity and ingenuity.

Categories will include "Best Interior." "Best Garden." "Best Cooking" and "Tackiest Room." Next week, The Wire will contain a ballot in which Troopers can write-in nominees for each category at either the TK's, Cuzcos or Camp America. We will accept nominations for two weeks, then tally the votes. Winners, with their permission, will be featured in a future issue of *The* Wire.

We here at *The Wire* strive to not only inform the Troopers of JTF Guantanamo but also to show our appreciation for all you do by providing some well-crafted hilarity. Consider this upcoming opportunity our thank you card, Guantanamo.

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Tournaments

2nd Class Joe Ebalo

Ioint Task Force and U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo servicemembers and civilians engaged in rigorous combat against each other, but their fights weren't on the battle field - they were on they playing field. About 400 Sailors, Soldiers, Marines, Airmen, Coastguardsmen, civilians and family members participated in the Morale Welfare and Recreation Annual Memorial Day Sports Tournament at Denich Gym and Cooper Field, May 27-30.

Thirty-three teams went head to head in basketball, softball and beach volleyball, competing for trophies and bragging rights around the island.

"Our goal was to give the troops a good way to unwind and enjoy their holiday weekend," said Alana Morrison, MWR GTMO Sports Coordinator. "Judging by the turnout and the positive comments we received from all the participants I'd, say it was a

Michael Hoag, small forward for the Average Joes, watches as Mike Brown, power forward, leaps into the air for a slamdunk, Sunday at Denich Gym. - photo by Spc. Meredith Vincent

success. In three days we had about the same number of athletes we usually have playing in sports leagues that last eight weeks long."

Both the sand volleyball and softball finals ended in double overtime wins with the Fin Awesome team defeating the GTMO Assassins Team One and the GTMO All-Star Infidels beating PWD twice to win their respective sports and earn the top trophies.

In basketball, MWR spring league champion the Vigilant Warriors dominated the rest of the competition and won the double-elimination tournament without losing a game.

Some of the athletes competed in more than one sport and spent their weekend running back and forth between the basketball courts, softball fields and sand volleyball pit.

"It was definitely tiring, but such a good time," said Jahleel Brown a multi-sport participant in the tournament. "At first, I wasn't sure if I was going to make all my games – thankfully it worked out. I'm happy to get out there and compete against my friends and peers. It's all about having fun."

Memorial Day Special MWR Concerts

2nd Class Jason Tross

Hundreds of Joint Task Force Guantanamo Troopers and other Guantanamo Bay music fans filled the patio area outside Naval Station Guantanamo Bay's Windjammer Café Saturday for the first of three very different but equally entertaining acts as part of Morale, Welfare and Recreation's Memorial Day festivities.

Independent and rising country music star Natalie Stovall led off the weekend-long event with a powerful performance for what she calls her favorite audience.

"Playing for the military is truly playing for the best audience in the world," said Stovall. "There's this great cycle of gratitude and it raises the level of energy in the crowd. For us, we're so amazed to be playing for you guys and it's so incredible what you do for us."

Stovall said she feels a special connection with the military. Her father, a retired Army colonel, served more than 20 years while she was growing up, helping her understand and feel very comfortable with servicemember audiences - on and off the



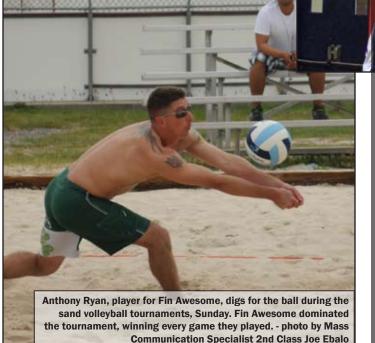
Violinist and rising country star Natalie Stovall autographs a poster for a fan after her performance at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay's Windjammer Café Saturday. photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jason Tross

"I had the opportunity to dance with her [Stovall]," said Tech Sgt. Chris Dallas, a JTF Guantanamo engineer assigned to the Base Engineering Emergency Force. "I know we both enjoyed it and I think the crowd got a kick out of it, too."

Dallas caught all three artists at various venues this weekend. Like previous performers and guests to visit Guantanamo Bay, he found the shows made life a little better for the people serving here – just what Stovall hoped to do.

"As an artist you want what you do to mean something," said Stovall. "When we play for military, we can see it in their faces that it means something special to them. It's not someone just coming up to you after a show and saying, 'Oh wow, that was cool.' They really mean it."

Hip-hop star Yung Joc, joined by his Swag Team ntourage, raps for hundreds of cheering fans during his performance at the Windjammer Café, Saturday - photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jason Tross



Mark Jones (right) forward for the Vigilant Warriors basketball team goes up for a layup against the **Team Greatness defenders during** the MWR GTMO Memorial Day

Weekend Basketball Tournament

at Denich Gym, Sunday. - photo by **Mass Communication Specialist**

2nd Class Joe Ebalo

Boat Regatta

2nd Class Maddelin Angebrand

Day two of Morale, Welfare and Recreation's Memorial Day festivities began with the annual Cardboard Boat Regatta at Ferry Landing Beach, Saturday.

Participants staged their boats on the starting line, paddled fifty yards to a turn around buoy and finished at the same

MWR's Outdoor Recreation Coordinator Cory Geiger said the course runs parallel to the beach for a few key reasons.

"The water is shallow for safety," he explained. "It also allows spectators to see the boats from the side and up close, so they are closer to the action."

The event took MWR representatives a few days to set-up and most of the work was done by the competitors.

"We set up the course and bring out tents for shade and drinks to stay cool," said Geiger.

Participants constructed boats strictly using cardboard

Troopers from the Base Engineer Emergency Force won best in show for their 200 pound mock up of an airplane.

> materials and basic tape. All participants received a rule sheet along with tips. Nails, wood and metal items were prohibited as building materials.

- photo by Army Sgt. Mathieu Perry

The Air Force Base Engineer Emergency Force, also known as Prime BEEF, built a large airplane with a wingspan of about forty feet and an estimated weight of 200 pounds.

"We actually used this project as a learning tool for our junior engineer staff," said Tech Sgt. David O'Dell, the BEEF's project leader. "We first designed a prototype on paper and a small model using basic engineering design concepts."

see BOATS, page 19

Memorial Day Special

Remembrance

Benjamin Cossel

Even the typically hot sun appeared to hold a reverent halfmast, hidden behind a formation of gray clouds as residents of Guantanamo Bay gathered at Cuzco Wells Cemetery, Monday, to pay their respects to those who gave their all in defense of the United States.

Following a prayer by the base chaplain, Naval Station Guantanamo Bay Commander, Capt. Kirk Hibbert stood before the crowd and delivered a powerful Memorial Day address.

"Every generation must pay the price of freedom," the captain said. "We stand here today to acknowledge a bill paid and to say

During his speech, Hibbert paid special homage to the Battle of Cuzco Wells heroes, Marines Pvt. John Fitzgerald and Sgt.



Hibbert and Naval Station Hospital Commander Capt. Richard Stoltz lav a wreath near the Cuzco Wells Cemetery flag pole, Monday during the Memorial Day service.

John Quick of the First Marine Battalion - both were awarded the Medal of Honor for their heroic efforts signaling the Naval gunship Dolphin during the battle -- and noted the special relationship between the cemetery and that battle.

"Their actions and deeds are more eloquent than I could ever put into words," Hibbert said.

Following additional remarks by Naval Station Hospital Commander Capt. Richard Stoltz and Naval Station Command Master Chief J.D. McKinney, Marines of the Marine Corps Security Force Company rendered a 21-gun salute.

Marking the only time the cemetery is made available to the public, the Memorial Day service is even more meaningful as guests touch headstones and leave small offerings to those departed.

Closing out the ceremony, Navy Chaplain Lt. Douglas Holmes asked we never forget the brave men and women who paid the ultimate sacrifice and to keep in our hearts those currently in harm's way around the world.





the American flag.



Taking to the high seas, a pirate ship was one of the many colorful designs on display during MWR's annual Cardboard Boat Regatta. photo by Army Sgt. Mathieu Perry

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VA expands TSGLI payment eligibility

Army News Service

WASHINGTON – Soldiers previously ineligible to receive insurance payments for injuries they received outside of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom will soon have the opportunity to submit claims for Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance Traumatic Injury Protection Program.

Effective Oct. 1, 2011, servicemembers outside a combat zone who suffered a qualifying injury – such as loss of a limb or an eye for example – may be entitled to \$25,000 up to a \$100,000 maximum total for all qualifying injuries received between Oct. 7, 2001, and Nov. 30, 2005, regardless of where the injury occurred.

"The Veterans Administration is charged by law with managing the insurance program," said Stephen Wurtz, VA deputy assistant director for insurance. "In 1965 the VA bought a group policy from a commercial insurance company and that company does the day-to-day functions of the programs, whether it's paying claims or collecting premiums."

Wurtz added that the VA and service branches are notifying individuals who had been turned down due to the previous requirement that the injury must have taken place in theater. He noted that current servicemembers and veterans who suffered qualifying injuries between Oct. 7, 2001, and Nov. 30, 2005, should be proactive in filing claims beginning Oct. 1, 2011.

"We'll work hard to get the word out and to locate as many individuals as possible and to work with the branches of service in collecting the information they'll need, such as the medical evidence to document their claims," Wurtz said, adding that the TSGLI benefit in no way affects VA benefits.

If the individual service determines the injury meets the criteria, it then determines the amount of payment. The service next sends the decision to the insurance company, which will generate payment.

If the service determines the injury doesn't meet the criteria, the service will notify the insurance company, which will in turn send a letter to the claimant informing them they are not eligible to receive payment and the reason for that decision.



Odierno nominated as next CSA as Dempsey moves up

Army News Service

WASHINGTON – President Barack Obama announced Monday he will nominate Gen. Raymond T. Odierno as the next chief of staff of the Army.

Obama also announced he will nominate Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, the Army's current chief of staff, to be chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

"I'm announcing my choice for their successors today because it's essential that this transition be seamless and that we stay focused on the urgent national security challenges before us," Obama said.

If the Senate approves the nominations, Odierno — known for overseeing the transition from surge to stability operations in Iraq from September 2008 to September 2010 — will replace Dempsey as the chief of the staff.

Odierno currently serves as commander of the U.S. Joint Forces Command, which is being deactivated no later than Aug. 31, 2011. He entered the Army in 1976 and served as a platoon leader with the 56th Field Artillery Brigade.

Gen. David Petraeus, now commander of the International Security Assistance Force and U.S. Forces Afghanistan, served together with Odierno in the earliest days of the conflict in Iraq, in 2003.

During the recent surge in Iraq, Petraeus served as Multi-National Forces-Iraq commander while Odierno served as the Multi-National Corps-Iraq commander.

"His leadership of MNC-I was absolutely magnificent, his operational vision was

exceptional, his determination was extraordinary, and his drive was legendary," Petraeus said. "It was an enormous privilege to have him as a key member of the team during that pivotal period in Iraq."

Odierno assumed Petraeus' position at MNF-I in September 2008 and was there through its transition to USF-I. Odierno "continued to make a tremendous impact in the land of the two rivers as the overall commander there for another two years," Petraeus said.

In October 2010, Odierno took command of U.S. Joint Forces Command, "shouldering with great skill and vision, the delicate task of transitioning vital capabilities of JFCOM to other organizations to enable the disestablishment of that command," Petraeus said.

The president himself commented on Odierno's successes in Iraq when making the announcement regarding his nomination to the chief of staff position.

"In three pivotal deployments to Iraq, he commanded the troops that captured Saddam Hussein, partnered with General Petraeus to help bring down the violence, and then transferred responsibility to Iraqi forces, allowing us to remove some 100,000 American troops and end our combat mission," Obama said.

"After years on the front lines, Ray understands what the Army must do -- to prevail in today's wars, to prepare for the future, and to preserve the readiness of the Soldiers and families who are the strength of America's families." Obama said.

Missouri Sailors Assist Tornado Victims

Lt. Jennifer Cragg, Submarine Group 2 Public Affiars Officer

Groton, Conn. – Eight USS Missouri (SSN 780) Sailors departed their homeport in Groton, Conn., for Joplin, Mo., Wednesday to assist with recovery efforts following a tornado that tour through city last month.

The eight Sailors elected to take voluntary leave for one week to assist victims and with cleanup efforts in Joplin.

"The real story here is simply Americans helping Americans," said Cmdr. Timothy Rexrode, USS Missouri commanding officer. "I am so proud of our Sailors, and I continue to find inspiration every day in the commitment of these young men to serve their nation; making a difference in the lives of others. The efforts of these Sailors are consistent with what we see in these type of events. Our Sailors are everyday people taking time away from work and spending their summer vacation budgets to help out where they can."

Sailors participating in this relief effort include Lt. j.g. Joe Innerst; Lt. j.g. Ryan Sullivan; Chief Yeoman (SS) Mike Shea; Chief Machinist's Mate (SS) C.J. Kohlhofer; Chief Culinary Specialist (SS) Andy Scott; Electronics Technician 1st Class (SS) Jason Fenley; Machinist's Mate 2nd Class (SS/DV) Travis Fitzgerald, and Machinist's Mate 2nd Class (SS) Pat Patterson.

The Missouri Sailors will be volunteering with Americarps, the American Red Cross, and the Missouri State Emergency Management Agency, who are providing the Sailors with opportunities to assist with ongoing volunteer efforts.

"Our crew's affiliation with the state of Missouri and its people is quite strong, and we prize that affinity in the tradition of our ship's motto, 'United We Stand,'" said Rexrode.

In a sign of solidarity, Rexrode and his crew sent their prayers and condolences to the people of Missouri, May 22

The Missouri crew consists of about 134 officers and enlisted personnel. Missouri is the fifth Navy ship to be named in honor of the people of the "Show Me State."



Servicemembers reenlist at World Trade Center site during Fleet Week

Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class W. B. Swoboda, Fleet Week New York Public Affairs

NEW YORK (NNS) -- Marking a significant milestone in their careers at the most symbolic of places, 12 Sailors and five Coast Guardsmen reenlisted at the site of the World Trade Center on May 26.

The group met inside Gate 7 on the southwest side of Ground Zero, where together they raised their hands and swore to support and defend the Constitution of the United States.

Coast Guard Vice Adm. Robert Parker, commander, Atlantic Area led a group of five Coast Guardsmen and Rear Adm. Herman Shelanski, commander, Carrier Strike Group 10 led a group of 12 Sailors in reciting their oaths, calling it an opportunity for enlisted service men and women to remind themselves why they serve their country.

"I have done a couple hundred of these, but it's kind of an emotional event here," Parker said. "I can't think of a better place to have yet another restart to what are the fine careers of these folks that are coming up through our services."

The ground zero reenlistment was especially meaningful for Marine Science Technician 2nd Class Heather Clark, who serves aboard U.S. Coast Guard Sector New York from Fayetteville, N.C.

"It is a real honor to reenlist here at

ground zero," Clark said. "I originally enlisted in the Coast Guard after 9/11, wanted to join something that is larger than myself and I really wanted to help people."

ON THE DECK

Service members in town for Fleet Week had the opportunity to reenlist at some of the city's most popular attractions. By far, the World Trade Center site got the biggest response, explained Michael Hurley of the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey, who manages the World Trade Center site and said he receives a number of requests to host military promotion and reenlistment ceremonies.

"We had an extremely high level of interest in this location," Hurley said. "So many want to recommit to their service here, at a place significant to all Americans."

After repeating the oath, Engineman 2nd Class Edward Cooper, stationed on board USS John L. Hall (FFG 32), from Anderson, S.C. Had a chance to take in the sights of the construction going on all around and congratulate the other Sailors who had reenlisted alongside him.

"It is an amazing experience, everything that happened here on 9/11 – it's just an amazing feeling it just gives you chills," Cooper said. "Reenlisting here at ground zero is an outstanding feeling, there's nothing like it."

Services are participating in the 24th Fleet Week New York, which takes place May 25 - June 1.

THE WING

Space shuttle Endeavor lands for the last time

Air Force News Service

SAN ANTONIO – The space shuttle Endeavor touched down at the Kennedy Space Center June 1 at 2:35 a.m. EDT, ending the shuttle's 19-year flying career.

The Endeavour crew completed four spacewalks and several maintenance upgrades on the International Space Station as part of the shuttle's final mission.

Endeavour's crew also delivered and installed the \$2 billion Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer particle detector, which is designed to study dark matter, antimatter and other high-energy phenomena that cannot be detected from Earth. The AMS was successfully installed and is being calibrated for upcoming experiments.

Among the crew were two Air Force astronauts, mission pilot Col. Gregory Johnson and mission specialist Col. Mike Fincke, who were thrilled to be part of the true." shuttle's final mission.

"My first shuttle mission was



on it [Endevour]," Johnson said. "But now getting to be on its last mission is just a dream come

"Being able to fly in the shuttle

is amazing," he said. "But I could never imagine being able to fly on such a historic mission."

Fincke made history of his Fincke's sentiments are similar. own on the mission, becoming the new record-holder for longest

time in space with 381 days.

Endeavor's landing coincides with the rollout of the shuttle launch the final space shuttle mission July 8.

First C-17 lands on refurbished runway at Shindand

Air Force News Service

KABUL, Afghanistan -- A C-17 Globemaster III landed at Shindand Air Base recently marking the first time the large military transport

aircraft was needed to land at the base since the refurbished runway opened in December 2010.

The landing marked a significant milestone as strategic airlift provides a critical and important capability to mass lethal and nonlethal forces on a global scale. "Shindand's ability to operate and maintain a C-17 capable war-fighting platform directly supports the U.S. Central Command commander's operational support vision for Western Afghanistan," said Col. Larry Bowers, the 838th Air Expeditionary Advisory Group commander "C-17 aircraft, in particular, are often the first called and sometimes the only military force capable of providing an initial response and volume to a crisis within hours of the need."

Located in Herat province, Shindand's originally Soviet-built runway, constructed in 1961, was rebuilt at the base after it suffered massive

damage by coalition forces during the initiation of Operation Enduring Freedom in 2002. The runway was rebuilt in 2009 and since then has supported coalition aircraft as large as a C-130 Hercules.

Officials said the role of the C-17 will be to transport cargo and

passengers and within 60 days, the flightline will also have the capability to support two C-17s 24-hours a day in direct support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

"Aircraft improves battlefield distribution for users and increases the system's ability to respond quickly to change which will serve to shorten Shindand's logistical timelines and supply lines for personnel, pieces and parts in direct support of OEF," Bowers explained. 'Airlift is viewed as a foundation of U.S. national security at the strategic level and as a crucial capability for operational commanders within a

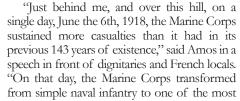
The landing was truly a joint team effort, officials said.

"This landing could not have taken place without the teamwork of many base agencies coming together in a total team effort," said Capt. Billy Wilson, of 838th AEAG operations.



Atlantis, which is scheduled to





Master Sgt. Grady Fontana

Marine Forces Europe

Marines and Sailors from commands throughout

Europe and the United States, along with about

2,000 French locals, gathered at the Aisne-Marne

American Cemetery, here, for a Memorial Day

ceremony to honor the dead and missing of the

The 35th Commandant of the Marine Corps

General James F. Amos, backed by Marines

from Marine Corps Forces Europe, members

of 5th and 6th Marine Regiments, and Fleet

Anti-terrorism Security Team Company Europe

gathered to remember and honor the 2,289 war-

dead who are buried at the 42.5-acre cemetery.

World War I battle of Belleau Wood.

BELLEAU, France — More than 300

The ceremony featured remarks by Monique Benier, the Mayor of Belleau, along with memorial addresses from both Amos and French Commander of Land Forces Lt. Gen. Herve Charpentier. The laying of wreathes, poetry readings, and performances by the French Army Band, the 'Commandant's Own' Drum and Bugle Corps, and the U.S. Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon were also featured.

"Belleau Wood is one of those touchstone battles for the Marine Corps," said Lt. Gen. John M. Paxton Jr., commanding general, II Marine Expeditionary Force and commander, Marine Corps Forces Africa. "Ever since 1918, when we were over here, it was a watershed battle that put the United States Marine Corps onto the world map and has solidified our relationship with both the Army and the nation of France. For Marines today, it's part of that legacy of courage and commitment."

Belleau Wood is a 200-acre forest that adjoins the cemetery behind the memorial chapel. At

250 unknown whose remains are buried but not identified. In the chapel, there are 1,060 names inscribed on the walls to remember the missing.

"It's an honor for me to stand here today with my fellow Marines and our French allies," said Amos. "Belleau Wood is a spiritual place for those of us who are called United States Marines. It reaches deep inside of us to our soul and reminds us of who we truly are."

For most Marines, the experience was universal.

"This is my second time here at Belleau Wood," said Paxton. "To come back here, you get a sense of the monumental challenge in front of those Marines in 1918...it's a fitting tribute to their valor and their sacrifice."

"This was a good experience for me," said Staff Sgt. Matthew M. Pfarr, disbursing travel chief, MarForEur. "The bands and the Silent Drill Platoon performed very well—the addition of their performances cemented this experience in my mind. I thought it was a great tribute to those who died here and I'm glad I was a part of this trip."





Memorial Day ceremony honors Belleau Wood fallen

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Coast Guard/Navy team nets 27 medals

Navy/Coast Guard celebrated the end of the 2011 Warrior Games May 21, after winning a total of 27 medals during the games.

such as archery, cycling, swimming, track and field, and wheelchair basketball.

Held annually, Warrior Games is a paralympic-style competition among wounded, ill, and injured service members.

"When a team manages to double its medal count in one year's time, it's evidence of two things: training and dedication," said retired Navy Master Chief Aviation Ordnanceman James "Will" Wilson, Team Navy/Coast Guard co-captain and manager of Navy Safe Harbor's adaptive athletics program. "Our team had the biggest heart, and that carried us through the competition. We are one big extended family, and I couldn't be more proud of what we have accomplished."

After finishing last during the 2010 Warrior Games, Team Navy/Coast Guard moved up the ranks this year, seizing second place with one thing: Team USA."

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. - Team 59.8 points. Though the Marine Corps team took home the Chairman's Cup trophy, Team Navy/Coast Guard bested the Army, Air Force, and Special Operations teams. Using The medals were won in a variety of events a weighted formula to compensate for team sizes, the Chairman's Cup is awarded to the top-performing service branch.

> The final competitions of the Warrior Games were wheelchair basketball and sitting volleyball. Team Navy/Coast Guard defeated Air Force, 13-12 in wheelchair basketball, earning a bronze medal Friday evening. On Saturday, the Navy/Coast Guard's sitting volleyball team lost to the Special Operations team after three tight sets.

> "The Warrior Games are about Navy and Coast Guard versus the Marines; they're about Army versus the Air Force: they're about Special Operations versus the Marines," said Charlie Huebner, chief of U.S. Paralympics, during the closing ceremonies. "But most importantly, the Warrior Games and the Olympic and Paralympic movement is about

Cutter Valiant returns

MIAMI - The crew of the 210foot, Miami-based Coast Guard Cutter Valiant returned home Saturday at 9 a.m. concluding a 50-day deployment in the northern Caribbean.

The crew of the cutter Valiant conducted a deployment in the Caribbean and a 21day shipboard training period focusing on shipboard damage response and cutter navigation out of Naval Station Mayport, Fla.

On April 16, the cutter Valiant vessel to the Mexican Navy.

On April 18, the Valiant's watchstanders detected a northbound go-fast vessel off the coast of Honduras. Embedded aboard the cutter Valiant, crewmembers of the Coast Guard Helicopter Interdiction Tactical Squadron Jacksonville and two small boatcrews from the cutter launched stopping the vessel after a 20-minute pursuit.

The Valiant's crew primarily conducts counter drug and undocumented migrant interdiction patrols.

to homeport after patrol

counter-narcotics

received a report of a vessel in distress west of Cuba. The cutter conducted a search and located the disabled fishing vessel, Capt Nephi. The vessel experienced an engine casualty, and due to a split seam in her hull, was taking on water. The cutter Valiant took the vessel in tow and deployed a rescue and assistance team to dewater the vessel. Dewatering the vessel throughout the night, the cutter towed the vessel 80 miles to Cancun, Mexico. The following morning, Valiant's rescue and assistance team made temporary repairs to Capt Nephi's split seam and transferred the

Mass Communication Specialist

1st Class Erica Gardner

I tend to feel pretty good after an intense exercise session. I do not know the medical terminology for my good mood, but the more I work out, the better I feel.

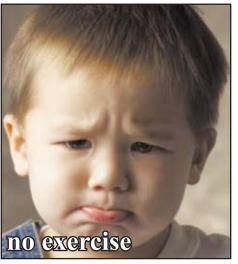
Daily stressors such as work, school or family issues can cause feelings of emotional pressure or even depression. It is important to handle our pressure levels to keep our bodies and minds sharp but also to relax so we may enjoy the positives life has to offer.

In as few as 30 minutes per day, an intense exercise session can help reduce depression in a person. Physical activity stimulates various brain chemicals that leave a person feeling happier and more tranquil than before the workout. This stimulation enables clear and rational thought processes.

Exercising on a regular basis creates a glowing and healthier internal and external appearance. Depression is typically warded off and self worth begins to penetrate the attitude.

Each morning, our officer-in-charge challenges us as a group to give 100 percent during morning PT. This is not an option for us. Some mornings I feel as if I am not going to make it; other mornings I feel I could continue for hours.

Endorphins, adrenaline, serotonin and dopamine are chemicals released by the





brain, working together to make the body feel good. After an exercise session, a feeling of accomplishment helps the muscles relax, easing tension and strain.

Let exercise help!

Turn your frown upside down:

I enjoy varying the physical fitness routines we have each morning. Some days are harder than others but when I accomplish the mission, I feel as if I have conquered a mighty beast! Fun fitness allows me to enjoy what I am doing and trick my body into continuing the madness. Strenuous workouts engage my "no fail" trigger encouraging me to give more to accomplish more.

Swimming, spinning, running and weight lifting are cardiovascular activities I engage in on a regular basis. These exercises create the intensity level I need to produce a mood enhancing 'high,' which then feeds my positive mood.

Yoga and pilates are great exercises known to reduce tension and stress. I have taken a few yoga classes and have been so relaxed, I fell asleep during the session. I don't think this was the purpose of the class but I relaxed and felt great after the session.

Finding the right exercises for you may take time; when you find the right mix of exercises enhancing your mood, you will know it. Your mind, body and sanity will be in alignment.

Coast Guard searches for overdue boater on sailing trip off Gulf of Mexico

NEW ORLEANS — The Coast Guard is searching for a man who reportedly did not arrive aboard the Fairwind, a gray 40at his final destination following a sailing trip in the Gulf of Mexico, Tuesday.

Missing is Allan Marriotte, 63. Watchstanders at Coast Guard Sector New Orleans received an overdue vessel report from Chuck Rumsey at approximately Marriotte was on a sailing trip foot sailing vessel, that departed from Pensacola, Fla., Thursday. Marriotte was expected to have already arrived in either Tarpon Springs, Fla., or St. Petersburg,

The crew of a Coast Guard HC-144 aircraft from Coast

7 a.m., Tuesday, reporting that Guard Aviation Training Center Mobile, Ala., is currently searching for Marriotte.

An Urgent Marine Information Broadcast (UMIB) was also issued to mariners to maintain caution in

Anyone with information about Marriotte should call the Coast Guard command center at (504) 589-6225.

Coast recommends filing a float plan every time you plan to go out on any body of water," said Lt. i.g. Marcel Rousseau, a command duty officer for the Eight Coast Guard District. "Something as simple as telling a family member or a friend where you are going and when you plan to return can help in a search and rescue case."

GTMO Religious Services

Daily Catholic Mass Mon. - Fri. 5:30 p.m. Vigil Mass Saturday 5 p.m. Main Chape Mass Sunday 9 a.m. **Catholic Mass** Saturday 7:30 p.m. Troopers' Chapel Sunday 7:30 a.m.

Protestant Worship Sunday 9 a.m. Troopers' Chapel **Islamic Service** Friday 1:15 p.m. **Jewish Service** Friday 7 p.m. **LORIMI Gospel**

Sunday 8 a.m. Room D **LDS Service** Sunday 10 a.m. **Church of Christ** Sunday 10 a.m. Chapel Annex Room 17

Seventh Day Adventist Saturday 11 a.m. Iglesia Ni Christo Sunday 5:30 a.m. Room A Pentecostal Gospel Sunday 8 a.m. Room D

Sunday 10 a.m. **General Protestant** Sunday 11 a.m. Main Chapel United Jamaican Fellowship Sunday 11 a.m. Building 1036 **Gospel Service** Sunday 1 p.m. Main Chanel

Liturgical Service

GTMO Bay Christian Fellowship Sunday 6 p.m. **Bible Study** Wednesday 7 p.m. Troopers' Chapel **The Truth Project** Bible study Sunday 6 p.m. Troopers' Chapel

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PG-13 136 min.

PIRATES & CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES

Spc. Meredith Vincent

It's hard to believe it's been eight years since Capt. Jack Sparrow waltzed into theaters and stole the hearts of millions of movie-goers. I remember watching the first "Pirates of the Caribbean" and being dazzled. It was a cosmic combination of the right movie with the right star at the right moment. Who knew a film based on the idea of a Disneyland adventure ride could be such a good time?

And then there was Johnny Depp. After countless years chipping away at more respectable, but very often under-theradar, material, "Pirates" was the movie that sent him catapulting into megawatt fame. Suddenly, everyone wanted a piece of Johnny. It's worth mentioning that when Depp first unveiled his Mick Jagger-infused Sparrow to director Gore Verbinski, the filmmaker was originally appalled. To his credit, Verbinski let Depp work his genius and because of it we now have one of the most indelible pop cultures figures of our time.

That was then. What was once new and exciting has been rehashed – again – into a third sequel. And while Depp is a movie star for the ages, even he can't keep this sinking pirate ship afloat.

Director Rob Marshall steps in for Verbinski for "On Stranger Tides," as Jack and Barbossa (a deliciously hammy Geoffrey Rush) set out to find the Fountain of Youth.



Marshall's background is in musicals (he directed "Chicago" and "Nine), which is a gift and a curse. The action scenes are almost delicately choreographed, especially a pirate vs. mermaid shakedown that will certainly give you chills. He also is skilled at cutting the fat, not only in story and plot, but also in characters. No longer must we watch Orlando Bloom and Keira Knightley's Will Turner and Elizabeth Swann swoon over each other. Instead, Jack's got his own love interest in the comely Angelica (a preggers Penelope Cruz). Angelica's daddy happens to be the notorious pirate Blackbeard, also on the hunt for the Fountain of Youth.

Thank God I was sitting with a bunch of Sailors 'cause I had no idea who Blackbeard was and knew nothing about his ship, The Queen Anne's Revenge. I'm guessing it's a Navy thing.

Unfortunately, Marshall came to this party a little too late, and the instinctive spark that Depp used to infuse into Jack Sparrow is long gone. What made Jack interesting in the first movie was his unpredictability - you were constantly surprised by what he said and how he said it. His penchant for being unstable,

| | 3 FRI. | 4 SAT. | 5 sun. | 6 MON. | 7 TUES. | 8 WED. | 9 THURS. |
|-----------------|--|--|---|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| wntown yceum | Hop (PG) 8 p.m. The Hangover 2 (R) 10 p.m. | Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides (PG-13) 8 p.m. | Your Highness (R) 8 p.m. | Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Ru (PG) 8 p.m. | Paul (R) 8 p.m. *last showing* | Source Code (PG-13) 8 p.m. | Hanna (PG-13) 8 p.m. |
| amp kele | Limitless (PG-13) 8 p.m. *last showing* Arthur (PG-13) 10 p.m. | Arthur (PG-13) 10 p.m. Your Highness (R) 8 p.m. The Hangover 2 (R) 10 p.m. | Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides (PG-13) 8 p.m. | Paul (R) 10 p.m *last showing* | Limitless (PG-13) 8 p.m. | Thor (PG-13) 8 p.m. | Source Code (PG-13) 8 p.m. |
| | | | | | | | |

Call MWR at ext. 2010 for more information.

Movie Hotline - call 4880.

FIRE cont.

that is when they need to be aware gasses." of a potential fire. Foley said.

"Keep your grill twenty feet away from any building, and never grill in a garage," he warned. "Have a fire extinguisher or water hose nearby and even a pair of hot mittens. I know it's simple, but people do get careless."

In the case of a real fire, Foley offered advice on how to avoid inhaling the toxins emitted by the flames.

"Smoke is the number one killer in fires," he said. "So if you find yourself in this situation, stay low to the ground, which will help you avoid breathing in hot, toxic

Two inspectors are responsible for all the buildings on each side of the base and their primary mission is base-wide code enforcement.

"We want to make sure you guys are safe," said Foley. "We are here to be proactive before a fire and I always believe the initial attack to a fire is education to the public. If people are listening to what we say, ultimately, we will be a safer society."

For more information on fire prevention training or the fire warden program, contact the Guantanamo Bay Fire Prevention Bureau at x4611.

MOVIE cont.

and how he said it. His penchant for being unstable, untrustworthy and his overall haphazard approach to life was fascinating and fresh. He took the part and made it undeniably his own.

As a testament to how watered down and recycled this story has become, I listened to the audience and Co. may have overstayed guessing Jack's comebacks and one-liners, and most of the time they were right. Sadly, that's how stationary Depp's

surprised by what he said performance has become.

This latest addition does not capture the magic that happened so many years ago. However, it does introduce some fun, new characters to the "Pirates" franchise, particularly the mermaids -I'll never look at Ariel from "The Little Mermaid" the same way again. So while Jack their welcome by a few years and a couple movies, at least there's still some fun to be

BOATS cont.

They held brainstorming sessions to go over each process and used what they felt was the best idea before they started building.

"One example was the tail fin," said O'Dell. "It was supposed to be a single part, but due to issues bending the bottom layer of cardboard we decided to split the tail and fold it out which gave the boat a more dramatic look."

Winners included 1st place team "Black Iguana," coached by William Neimi; 2nd place "Sea Cadets" and 3rd place went to team "Black and Yellow," coached by Kevin Lynch. The "Best in Show" award went to the BEEF. The "Best Titanic" award went to the three W.T. Sampson School teams and the "Most GTMO" award went to team "United States Naval Ship No Mercy."

The event concluded with award presentations and special thanks from Geiger to the participants for their creative

"The boats looked great and the spectators cheered on the winners and clapped for the ones that sunk," Geiger shared. "It is one of the most fun events we do every year because of the large crowd out watching people succeed as well as crash and burn!"



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בשט ל ושנינע גוג ד



BOW MOWNER

Air force Capt. Zach Waterman (far right) and SFC Robert Kicker (back left) wave farewell with W.T. Sampson students after pushing off from the Guantanamo Marina during a fishing trip, May 27. - photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Joe Sbalo



DIVE IN MOVIE

Troopers and NAVSTA members swim while watching "A Beddime Story" at the Windjammer pool Dive in movie event, April, 23. The event was hosted by Morale, Welfare and Recreation. - photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Maddelin Angebrand



W.W TO GOI

Wild to the Sand wolleyball champions team Fin Awesome (left) and runner up team SIA Legal pose for a post-tournament photo after the two-day Memorial Day weekend sand volleyball tournament outside Denich Gym. - photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Carlos Cepeda



CHANGE OF COMMAND

Character Comments

Rear Adm. Jeffrey Harbeson, Commander, Joint Task Force Quantanamo, salutes
the skieboys during a change of command ceremony for the Joint Task Force-Joint
Medical Group at the Naval Station Hospital, May 27. - photo by Mass Communication
Specialist 2nd Class Joe Ebalo