

# Guantanamo Bay Gazette

## Naval Station Guantanamo Bay Weathers Tropical Storm Isaac



*Tropical Storm Isaac makes landfall at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Aug. 25. Condition of Readiness (COR) level 3 was set base wide in preparation for Isaac, Aug. 23.*

**MC2(SW/AW) Justin Ailes**

*Gazette Editor*

Tropical storm Isaac made landfall at Naval Station (NS) Guantanamo Bay, Cuba as base officials took proper preparatory actions, Aug. 25.

Base officials and Emergency Operations Center (EOC) personnel set Condition of Readiness (COR) level 3 in preparation for Isaac, Aug. 23.

COR (5-1) conditions notify base residents and EOC personnel on proper preparatory actions required to properly secure the installation. COR 3 was set as destructive winds sustained greater than 50 knots and were anticipated to reach the installation within 48 hours.

As the storm pushed rain and heavy winds toward the installation, preparations on the island included closing all base facilities, securing buildings, hauling all boats out of the water, closing all roads, and securing the beaches and bay.

Prior to the storm's landfall, community members were encouraged to organize essential supplies and ensure their personal vehicles were fueled. All recreational activities were suspended as well.

Weather models and EOC storm tracking in coordination with Commander, Navy Region Southeast (CNRSE) officials and the Norfolk Weather Center, showed that the brunt of Isaac's force was expected to affect NS Guantanamo Bay at approximately 2 p.m.

EOC storm tracking showed that the majority of Isaac had passed the installation, and the "All Clear" was sounded base-wide at approximately 4:30 p.m. Heavy rain showers and winds followed, but no injuries or emergencies were reported. A majority of normal facility operations were restored Aug. 26.

Following the "All Clear" message, NS Guantanamo Bay Commanding Officer Capt. J.R. Nettleton made an on-air address at Defense Media Activity (Radio GTMO) thanking the community for their efforts during the duration of Isaac.

"I know that many of you have been here for much longer than I have, and although you have been through this before, it is extremely important that no one becomes complacent," said Nettleton. "From what we saw in the Emergency Operations Center, none of you did. This is my first tropical storm since arriving on the island and I couldn't be prouder of how each and every one of you responded."



# GTMO Base Housing To Undergo Assessment

**Kelly Wirfel**

*NS Guantanamo Bay Public Affairs Officer*

The Commander, Navy Installations Command Housing Assessment Team is scheduled to conduct an inventory and assessment of unaccompanied and accompanied housing on board Naval Station (NS) Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, Aug. 27 – Sept. 14. Parsons Corporation was contracted by CNIC to perform the assessment.

“The purpose of this team is so we have one set of eyes across Navy housing,” said Commander, Navy Installations Command Housing Installation Manager Penny Mascaro. “The team provides a formalized assessment across all Navy activities.”

This is the first time the team will assess unaccompanied housing and the third time assessing family housing at NS Guantanamo Bay.

The primary focus of unaccompanied housing will be the common areas, the units, building

systems and quality of life.

The team will be assessing all aspects of family housing to include the roof, structure strength, mechanical and electrical systems and the interior.

The assessments have been developed and refined based on assessments conducted in the previous years. The information gathered will support improvements and evaluate and measure how effectively Navy housing needs are being met.

“We will use these results to establish criteria, metrics and characteristics that will help us develop a budget plan,” said Mascaro. “It is important that we are thorough and accurate because this will eventually tie into getting the base funding.”

If the assessment team will be entering your unit you will be notified ahead of time. If you have any questions contact NS Guantanamo Bay Housing at x4174.



**MASTER AT ARMS  
THIRD CLASS**

**BEN  
HOFFMAN**

■ **Job/Department:** CMAA/ADMIN

■ **Age:** 21

■ **Home Town:** Burtrum, MN

■ **Quote:** “I don’t really think, I just walk.” - Paris Hilton

■ **Favorite TV Show:** Family Guy

■ **Favorite Hobby:** Video Games

■ **Favorite GTMO Restaurant:** Cuban Club

■ **Favorite Movie:** The Notebook

■ **Favorite Musician:** Presidents of the United States of America

■ **Currently Working On:** Starting College

■ **Hero:** My Father

■ **How The Navy Has Improved His Life:** The Navy has given me a great opportunity to explore a world beyond my hometown.

■ **Sailor Of The Week Because:** For an outstanding performance during the coordination of office movement as construction concluded on the second wing of Bulkeley Hall



Members of Housing Assessment Team gather to discuss plans prior to conducting an inventory of accompanied and unaccompanied housing at the installation.

## GUANTANAMO BAY GAZETTE

**COMMANDING OFFICER  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
COMMAND MASTER CHIEF**

CAPT. JOHN NETTLETON  
CMDR. WILLIAM RABCHENIA  
CMDM (SW/AW/EXW) J.D. MCKINNEY, III



**PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER  
GAZETTE EDITOR  
PHOTOJOURNALIST**

KELLY WIRFEL  
MC2(SW/AW) JUSTIN AILES  
MC2(SW/AW) JUSTIN AILES

# GTMO Resident Reflects On Nearly Sixty Years At Naval Station

**Kelly Wirfel**

*NS Guantanamo Bay Public Affairs Officer*

His nearly 60 year adventure at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba started when he was just ten years old. “My grandparents had a farming business and they would bring fruits and vegetables to the island on a banana boat each week, and I used to just tag along when they did their deliveries,” he said with a twinkle in his eye.

When he walked into the Cuban Community Center proudly wearing a Guantanamo Bay Chief Petty Officer Association shirt, Special Category Resident, Ramon Romero could easily have been mistaken for a retired chief.

Beginning at age ten Romero came to the base with his grandparents each week to make deliveries. When political problems started occurring in the late 1950’s in his native country of Cuba his family decided it was best for him to stay at the base.

“They said they wanted to protect me from getting thrown into jail or potentially ending up dead,” said Romero. “So after a delivery one day they left me here with the boat.”

For the next several years his grandparents continued to deliver the fruits and vegetables to the Northeast gate, but he said that

just one week the deliveries stopped.

“That was the last time I saw my family,” he said. “I have four brothers and two sisters. I have tried countless times to get in touch with but have had no luck.”

Romero remained on base and began working various jobs to support himself on the island. “I did janitorial and electrical work, but my true passion was fixing movie projectors for the ships that pulled into the base,” said Romero.

He said that over the last 60 years he has witnessed a great deal of change at the base. “I can remember when there were up to 30 ships here at one time,” he said. “I was here when the USS Kennedy anchored in the bay and it was brand new.”

Romero’s true passion is fishing. “I am willing to take anybody out fishing,” he said. “I have all the gear, all they have to do is show up. It’s what I love to do and I am more than happy to share that with people.”

When asked about living on base for the last 60 years he responded by saying, “This is my home. I love this place. No matter how hard things might get sometimes, people need to realize that there is no better country than the United States.”

Ramon celebrated his 69th birthday, Aug. 30.



Nearly sixty-year NS Guantanamo Bay community member, Special Category Resident Ramon Romero shows off his boat as he prepares to celebrate his 69th birthday. Romero has been at the installation since the late 1950’s, and has remained a staple in the Guantanamo Bay community.

## Chaplain's Corner

### Watch Your Appetite

**Chaplain Larry Jones**

*NS Guantanamo Bay Chaplain Services*



Iguanas are by nature herbivores; however, here in GTMO we experience different eating habits from them. It is reported that at times they become aggressive by harassing someone with food in their hands. Their saving grace is the instruction in place to safeguard the residents from feeding them. Over the past years

society at large has become very health conscious and there has been a major push to ensure that people take control of their eating habits also. We are learning that everything that smells, sounds, or looks good may not benefit us in the long run. Point to remember: It is just as important to safeguard what we put into or allow in our minds. If we have a diet of negativity then the consequence will be negative. However, if we begin to feed ourselves the ingredients of positive thinking which can come from what we read, hear or even watch we reap the consequences of a healthier mind which influences the way we treat others and ourselves.



# BO

## GTMO's Weapons Department Detonates Expired Ordnance

MC2(SW/AW) Justin Alles

Gazette Editor

Weapons department personnel at Naval Station (NS) Guantanamo Bay, Cuba conducted explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) operations at the installation's EOD range, Aug. 29-30.

Ordnance with an expired "shelf-life" was detonated at the installation's EOD range in an effort to safely, and cost-effectively, dispose of unusable ammunition.

"Approximately 60 satchels of Composition C-4, totaling 1,160 pounds of net explosive weight, are being detonated," said NS Guantanamo Bay Weapons department Leading Petty Officer Gunner's Mate 1st Class Homer Small. "Some of the ordnance has been designated as unsafe unexploded ordnance (UXO), and was housed in the naval station's magazine areas."

Representative from the installation's U.S. Naval Hospital and Fire department were on-scene during the two-day field operation, ensuring proper safety and emergency requirements were observed.

"Last year, Weapons department directly saved the U.S. Navy more than \$1.8 million by detonating ordnance at GTMO, just as we are doing now," said Small. "It's a valued savings to detonate here when compared to shipping ordnance back to the states for disposal."

Two Sailors assigned to EOD Mobile Unit 6 Detachment Mayport, Fla. (EOD MOBU 6 DET) were also on-island to oversee the disposal operation.

"Weapons department has stored this ordnance for years," said Small. "The shelf-life finally expired, and our team got a chance to 'do work.'"

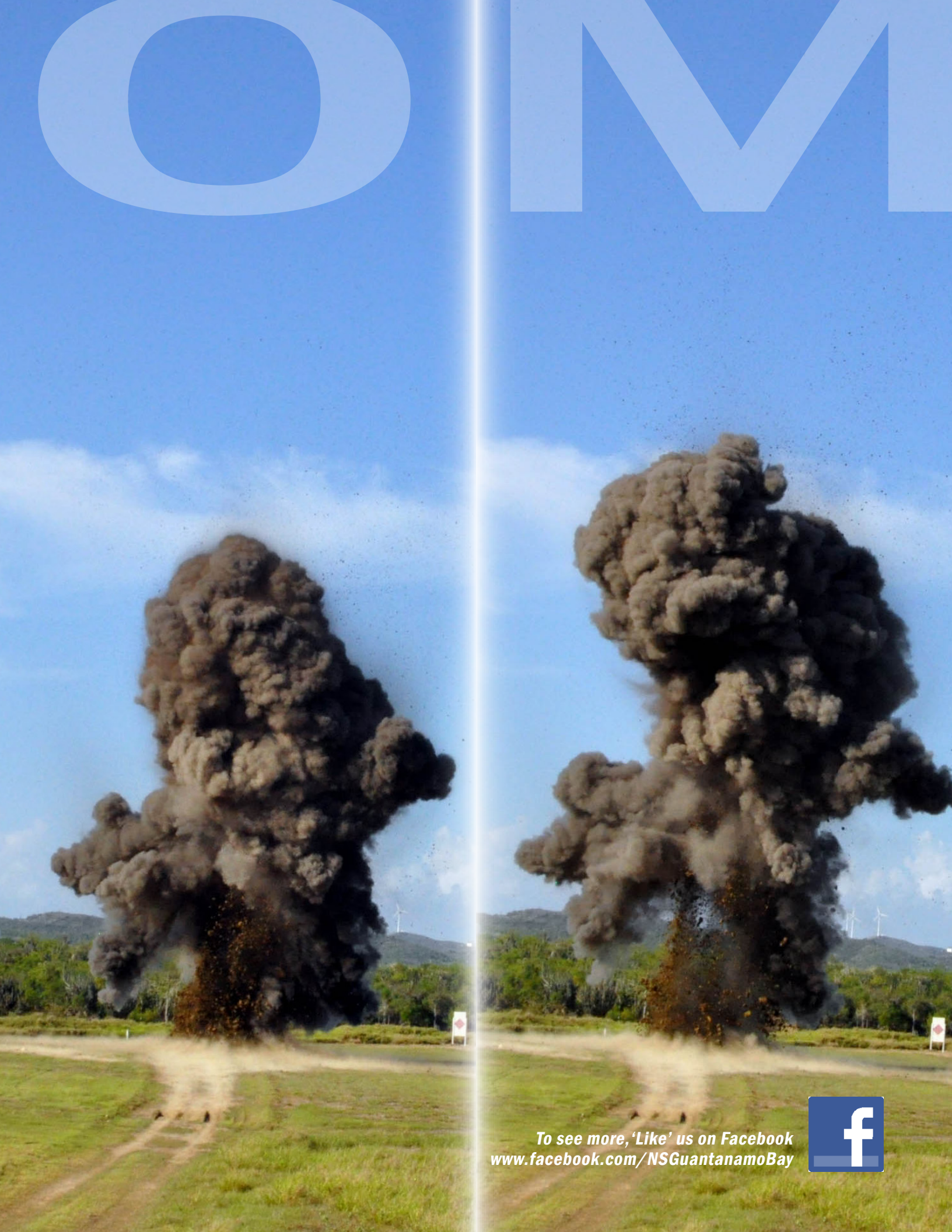


Composition C-4 is detonated at NS Guantanamo Bay's explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) range as the installation's Weapons department detonates ammunition with an expired 'shelf-life,' Aug. 29. Approximately 60 satchels of unusable C-4 totalling 1,160 pounds of net explosive weight was detonated during the two-day evolution.



# O

# M



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# Filing A Personnel Claims Act Claim With The Navy For Personal Property Damage Caused by Tropical Storm Isaac At Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba

1. If you suffered loss or damage to your personal property you can file a claim if you are an active duty member, a reservist on active duty, or a civilian employee of the Department of Navy and the property was located in your assigned or authorized quarters when it was damaged.

2. Claims packets for filing your claim with the Navy can be found on-line at <http://www.jag.navy.mil>. Click on "claims" under "For Sailors and families" then select "packets and forms" on the right side of the screen. You may also obtain packages from the Personnel Claims Unit Norfolk (PCUN). PCUN information:

- The phone number for the PCUN is toll free (888) 897-8217, commercial (757) 440-6315 or DSN 564-3310.
- The fax numbers for the PCUN is toll free (866) 782-7297, commercial (757) 444-3337 or DSN 564-3337.
- The email address is [norfolkclaims@navy.mil](mailto:norfolkclaims@navy.mil).

3. If you have private insurance covering your loss, you must make a demand against your private insurance carrier and include a copy of the insurance settlement with your claim package. If the damages total an amount less than your deductible, you simply need to attach a current copy of your declaration page showing the deductible.

4. You can request an emergency advance payment by simply completing the attached form and forwarding it to the PCUN. If you are requesting an advance and you have private insurance covering the loss, you can request an emergency advance in the amount of your insurance policy deductible. You must provide a copy of the claim you filed with your private insurance carrier.

**Questions? Claims Help Line: (888) 897-8217**

**The help line is manned from 0700 – 1900, Eastern Time.**



Navy Dental Corps (DC) officers and Hospital Corpsmen Dental Technicians stationed at U.S. Naval Hospital Guantanamo Bay (USNH GTMO) and Joint Medical Group (JMG), Joint Task Force Guantanamo, celebrate the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Navy Dental Corps with a cake-cutting on the quarterdeck of USNH GTMO. JMG has two dental officers, CAPT Carol Barone-Smith and LCDR Jerome Ragado, and USNH GTMO dental officers are LCDR Det Smith, LT Katiana Cruet and LT William Walker. - U.S. Navy Photo by Stacey Byington



# 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

26' Foot Pontoon boat. Turn key ready (as is) and all items on the boat remain on the boat. Asking \$4,500 firm. Lots of work done and ready for anyone who dives, fishes or just wants a day on the bay. For more info, contact Rich at 84742

'00 Isuzu Rodeo LS 4DR, 3.2L V6, 110,000 miles, AT, ABS, PW, PL, A/C, CC, CD, \$4,000 OBO. Call 55335. Available Sept. 18

'94 Plymouth Acclaim, 86k miles. New tires, computer, pickup coil and fuel pump. Has AC and runs well. \$2,500 OBO. Call 79583 or email GTMOAcclaim@hotmail.com.

'95 Isuzu Rodeo, 5 speed, new clutch, new tires, Runs great, nice A/C. \$3200 OBO. Call 77325

'96 Dodge Dakota, white, 3.9 liter V6, under 61,000 miles. Tires, headliner, stereo and speakers all under a year old and tune-up done recently. \$3500 OBO. Call Marvin 77290 or email: marvinthompson2001@yahoo.com

'06 Toyota Sequoia SR5: \$15,000. Silver, 4-door, 4x4. V8 engine, leather interior, side and curtain airbags front and back. Three row seating, towing package. 6 disc CD changer, satellite radio ready. Roof rack with rails, rear seat audio controls and dual-headrest DVD system. Power moon roof, 83,000 miles. Call Eric at 9875 or 77863

'95 Mercury Sable, automatic, 160,000 Miles, A/C works, needs to connect wire. Runs great. Must sell, \$1500 OBO. Call Robert at 77601 OR 6354

## HOUSEHOLD GOODS

Coffee table, like new, Ashley millennium, \$100. Italian tulip vase -SIA ceramic, new in box, \$50 firm. Italian oil painting, framed, on wood - "Natura Morta" signed, \$75. Italian oil painting, framed, on canvas - "Fiori nel Buio"- \$75. Must sell by Aug. 6. FMI, call 79491 or email melfacebook1@yahoo.com

"L" Shaped Cream w/Tan design Couch with Throw Pillows \$100. Dining Room Table w/4 Chairs and Extension \$50. Bowflex Machine \$100. Call 77388

## ELECTRONICS

(2) Satellite Dishes, 6' (\$600) and 4' (\$300) with LNB's. JVC 27" Tube TV for \$35 and. SCSI Modem w/ Ethernet Cable, Power Charge, and phone Cord \$50. Call 77388

Linksys router G 2.4 GHZ \$60, SCSI modem \$60, 2 hookahs \$40 each, Universal LNBF for a free to air arabic dish unopened in box \$40. Call 77314

6 ft. satellite dish. Includes LBN receiver, pole, splitter, spool of cable. Free delivery available. \$550 takes all. Call 79561

(1) 4' internet dish with works and post, new modem \$900, 1 6' DirecTV dish with LNB, \$600. Call 77528, 84946, or 4179

## YARD SALE

Sept. 1, Villamar 9D, 0800-1000

Sept. 1, Paola Point 15, 0700

Sept 1, Villamar 20C, 0800-1000

Sept. 8, Caribbean Circle 1B, 0700-1000

Sept 8, Caribbean Circle, 1B, 0700-1000

## MISC

1 XXL Henderson 3mil wetsuit brand new, \$75. Call 79536

Smoker, only used a handful of times, like new. \$175 OBO. Call 77041

Army back pack, in excellent condition, digital camo pattern, \$70. Call 58545

75' roll of green astra turf (new), great for boat deck flooring or patio. \$50. Call 55347

High Performance surf board, \$290 OBO. Great condition. email ffaycal@me.com

## OUTDOOR REC

Rapala 60# capacity lip grip scale \$45. Long Wooden Handle Gaff \$10. Short handle gaff \$5. Penn 940 level wind casting reel w/ Shakespeare 1pc Stripper Special Rod \$75. Penn 8500 spinning reel & 9' Shakespeare Spinning rod \$100. Penn 345 GTI level wind trolling reel & Penn Special Senator roller guide trolling rod \$150. All reels are loaded with line and well maintained. For more information email mawgwa59@yahoo.com

## WANTED

Scooter or Vespa wanted. If you've got one for sale or need to get rid of, please email ffaycal@me.com

## The Scoop

### JTF's SAFE RIDE HOME

To prevent drinking and driving, those out drinking can take a safe ride home. Those not drinking can walk. Call 84913 or 84781.

### FREE CONCERT

Navy Entertainment in association with MWR presents rock band Filter Labor Day weekend. 2200-Midnight, Sept. 2, Tiki Bar. Open to all hands 21 yrs and older.

### LADIES NIGHT

Live, Laugh, Love Ladies Night. Windjammer Ballroom, Sept. 1, 1730-1940. Every girl needs a night out, right? Hey, what better way to do it than hanging out with your girlfriends, having a few cocktails, and watching a movie about male dancers? Join in for GTMO's first ever Ladies Night. Watch the premiere of 'Magic Mike' at 2000 at the Downtown Lyceum. Transportation from the Windjammer will be provided.

### BACK TO SCHOOL SPLASH

Sept. 1, Windjammer Pool, 1200-1600. Starting with a free lunch and an afternoon of free pool fun and floaties for all ages. FMI, call 84968.

### RUNNER'S CHOICE EVENT

Sept. 1, Christmas Tree Hill, 15k starts at 0630 and the 5k starts at 0700. This is a free race. Same day registration will be available by registering 30 minutes prior to the start of the race. FMI, call 2113.

### FIREFIGHTER BALL 2012

It's back on! The Firefighter Ball has been rescheduled to Sept. 8, 1730, Windjammer Ballroom. Live performances from The Positive Vibration band, Ravan Rhonden Steel Band, and K. Alee and Company. There's an after-party with music from D.J. Rakeem and D.J. Gangster too! Contact the Fire department for more info.

# GTMO JOB HUNT

Recreation Aid - Full Time  
NGIS Groundskeeper - 2 Flex Positions  
NGIS Laborer - 3 Flex Positions  
MWR Custodial Worker - Full Time  
Administrative Assistant - Full Time  
CYP Assistant Lead - Full Time  
NGIS Admin. Assistant - Full Time  
Movie Manager - Full Time  
Bartender - Flex  
Bartender Lead - Flex  
Cashier - Flex  
Electrician - Full Time  
ID Checker - Flex  
Waiter/Waitress - Flex  
Recreation Asst. Lifeguard - Flex  
Recreation Asst. Lifeguard - Full Time  
CYP Program Asst. - Full Time

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

IOM is currently looking for a Carpentry Instructor. Spanish language skills preferred, not required. Must be comfortable working with a diverse population. Part time positions available. Flexible schedules. For more information, Call 74788

Community Bank operated by Bank of America has an opening for a Banking Center Service Specialist. Apply online at <http://careers.dodcommunitybank.com> FMI, 75116

# MOVIES DOWNTOWN LYCEUM

FRIDAY	Aug. 31
8 p.m.:	Abe Lincoln: Vampire Hunter (new) R 105 min.
10 p.m.:	The Campaign R 85 min.
SATURDAY	Sept. 01
8 p.m.:	Magic Mike (new) R 110 min.
10 p.m.:	People Like Us (new) PG13 115 min.
SUNDAY	Sept. 02
8 p.m.:	Bourne Legacy PG13 125 min.
MONDAY	Sept. 03
8 p.m.:	Amazing Spider Man PG13 91 min.
TUESDAY	Sept. 04
8 p.m.:	Expendables 2 R 102 min.
10 p.m.:	Brave PG 93 min.
WEDNESDAY	Sept. 05
8 p.m.:	Total Recall PG13 121 min.
THURSDAY	Sept. 06
8 p.m.:	Ted R 106 min.

CALL THE MOVIE HOTLINE @ 4880



# Naval Station Guantanamo Bay Students Head Back To School

**Kelly Wirfel**

*NS Guantanamo Bay Public Affairs Officer*

Faculty and students of Naval Station (NS) Guantanamo Bay, Cuba W.T. Sampson schools returned to the classroom, Aug. 27.

NS Guantanamo Bay Commanding Officer, Captain J.R. Nettleton helped to kick-off the school year during a welcome assembly at the high school Monday morning.

“There are two things I want you to focus on this year,” said Nettleton. “First is respect for each other, yourself and your teachers and second is your attitude.”

Nettleton then talked about various programs that he would like to implement which include an ambassador program and also spotlighting a senior each week on the radio show “Open Line.” Both programs would highlight students who have gone above and beyond during the school year.

“I understand that it is hard to be a kid here on this island,”

said Nettleton. “It is so important that you stay positive and get your education. An education is something that can never be taken away from you.”

Throughout the first week of school, Principal Sonja Rodriguez spent some extra time in the classroom with the students and teachers. Some of the highlights of her week included; learning how to take apart and clean a trombone, playing part of a soccer game with PE class, singing a counting song in Spanish and learning the “definition” of “undefined terms” in geometry.

“I appreciate the responsibility my staff and I have in educating students in our school,” said Rodriguez. “Being in the classroom with teachers and students this week reminds me that our kids are willing to, and want to, learn. Our goal is to keep that fire of willingness burning, so that our students embrace responsibility for their own learning beyond the school day.”



*Students receive class schedules kicking off the school year at NS Guantanamo Bay's W.T. Sampson Middle/High school, Aug. 27. Commanding Officer Capt. J.R. Nettleton spoke to the students, faculty and staff during a welcome assembly encouraging students to stay positive throughout the school year.*

