

GTMO Celebrates Cuban American Friendship Day



W.T. Sampson Photography Club

**This week's featured artist:
Marcus Fulk, 4th Grade**



Our W.T. Sampson Photography Club has been designed to promote student's creativity through the eyes of a young artist. 4th – 6th grade students learn about different strategies to be able to take the best pictures in different environments.

Selected pictures will be published in the Gazette to recognize their best effort in a positive way. Picture categories will include school activities, objects in motion, & nature.

The following picture is a great example of how our children learn to capture a moment. It was taken by Marcus Fulk (fourth grade student). He really enjoyed taking pictures of the Trevor Romain during his visit to W.T. Sampson.

*Enjoy!
Maria Figueroa
Photography Club Sponsor
W.T. Sampson Elementary School*

In Memoriam

Mr. Rafael Arias, a Cuban Special Category Resident, passed away on Thursday, January 29 at the Naval Station Hospital Guantanamo Bay. Born February 27, 1933, in Caimanera, Cuba, he lived a full life, passing away at the age of 74.

Mr. Arias first came to work on the Naval Station in 1951 at the age of 18. He started as a bartender for the Morale, Welfare and Recreation office known as the Special Service Department in Guantanamo Bay. His cheerful personality gave service members throughout the years a sense of "home away from home" while serving here.

Machicho, as his friends called him, will be remembered by his friends as one of the kindest, funniest, and most charitable persons. People also remember him for his love towards children, with whom he used to play at the Navy exchange on his free time. He also supported many community causes here on base – that was his way of improving quality of life that we enjoy today.

The community in general will remember him as a kind, helpful, gentle, humble and smiling person. But above all, he will be remembered as a guy who helped those in need here on base. On one occasion, a lady who is part of the Cuban Community woke up early one morning and found Mr. Arias mowing her lawn for her. Surprised she asked him, "Machicho why are you mowing my lawn?" and smiling he said "Why wouldn't I help if I can?" That is the type of person he was.

Mr. Arias is survived by his siblings Nilsa, Luis, Adolfo, and Clara Luz, and his nieces and nephews who live in Caimanera, Cuba.

Que en paz descanse.

GUANTANAMO BAY

Gazette

Vol. 66 No. 01



**Naval Station
Guantanamo Bay, Cuba**

**Commanding Officer
Capt. Steven H. Blaisdell**

**Executive Officer
Cmdr. Paul Mitchell**

**Command Master Chief
CMDCM(SW/AW) Keith Carlson**

**Acting PAO/LCPO
MCC Lewis Mesta**

**Gazette Editor
MC2 Kimberly Williams**

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MC3(SW) Tracey Whitley**

**Gazette Contributor
MC3 Benjamin Dennis**

**Gazette Contributor
MC3 Brian May**

The Guantanamo Bay Gazette is an authorized publication for members of the military services and their families stationed at U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay.

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The Gazette staff can be reached by phone at ext. 4502; fax 4819; by email at pao@usnbgmto.navy.mil.

Get the Gazette online at www.cnmc.navy.mil/guantanamo

For classified ad submissions: please limit word count to 20 words or less. Ads must be submitted via email ONLY, no later than noon every Tuesday to pao@usnbgmto.navy.mil.

Safety Bucks Program Kicks Off

By **Bill Minnie,**
NAVSTA Safety Manager

NAVSTA military and civilian employees can get a spot award for going out of their way to be safe. Safety and MWR recently kicked off their MWR Safety Bucks Program.

The purpose of the program is to increase

safety awareness throughout Navy Region Southeast installations by rewarding safe acts that go beyond normal day-to-day operations. It uses an immediate reward as the incentive to good safety deeds.

It helps both MWR and Safety and it is a positive program rewarding the good instead of punishing the negative. It will be a good motivator for personnel on base. The motivation should increase awareness of their surroundings. It will hopefully help them to see things they normally overlook because safety is now part of their thought process."

All base employees should apply safe work practices in their daily operations. Recognition should be given to individuals and departments for attaining an excellent safety record and providing and supporting the installation safety Program.

Behaviors that are acceptable for an award of an MWR Safety Buck include: identification of unknown hazards in the workplace, providing



additional safety guards that enhance a job, taking initiatives to correct a known hazard such as a broken guard or any other good deed is determined by the Safety Buck distributors.

All Safety Bucks are serialized to determine their authenticity along with a signature of an authorized party. The commanding officer, executive officer and command master chief can also sign Safety Bucks.

Each Safety Buck is worth ten dollars and is redeemable at any MWR facility. It can be used to buy foods and non-alcoholic beverages and other recreational goods and services. Each buck must be signed and no change is given on items under the ten-dollar limit.

This program helps publicize our facilities to personnel that normally wouldn't use them and anything that gets people in our facilities is a bonus. It is a winning situation for both the MWR and Safety Departments and will hopefully make the base a safer place.

For more information on the Safety Bucks Program, contact the Safety Department at 4526.

Religious Services/ Base Chapel

Catholic

Daily Catholic Mass Mon. - Fri. 5:30 p.m. (Main Chapel) Vigil Mass, Sat. 5 p.m. (Main Chapel) Sun. Mass, 7:30 a.m. (JTF-Troopers Chapel) Sun. 9 a.m. Mass (Main Chapel)

Protestant (GTMO Chapel)

Sat. 11 a.m. Seventh Day Adventist Service (Room B) Sun. 5:30 a.m. Iglesia Ni Christo (Room A) 8 a.m. Pentecostal Gospel Temple (Room D) 9 a.m. LDS Service (Room A) 10 a.m. Liturgical Service (Room B) 11 a.m. General Prot. Service 11 a.m. United Jamaican Fellowship (Bldg 1036) 1 p.m. Gospel Service 1 p.m. LORIMI Gospel Service (Room D) 6 p.m. GTMO Bay Christian Fellowship (Fellowship Hall)

Friday Religious Services

1:15 p.m. Islamic Service (Room C) 7 p.m. Jewish Service (FMI call 2628)

Religious Services/

JTF Troopers Chapel

Catholic Services

Wed. 11 a.m. Spanish Mass (New) Sat. 6:30 p.m. Vigil Mass (PPI Chapel) Sun. 7:30 a.m. Sunday Mass (New)

Ombudsman Corner

**NAVSTA Ombudsman
Connie Schiltz
84792/78519**

**Joint Task Force
Ombudsman
Marjorie True
(757) 705-3538**

NEGBombudsman@yahoo.com

**US Naval Hospital
Ombudsman
Michael Amenson
Pager 72090 #073**

Cuban American Friendship Day Celebration, Food and Fun For Everyone

By MC3 Brian May

NAVSTA PAO

Hundreds gathered at the Windjammer Ballroom January 30, to celebrate annual Cuban American Friendship Day, here.

The festivities included: traditional Cuban food, music, dancing and a presentation of the Cuban American Friendship award.

"This was one of the best ever," said Madhya Husta, Cuban Community Assistance Manger. "We have been hearing nothing but complements from the entire association on how great this celebration was."

Another aspect to the celebration was a cigar rolling expo.

Petty Officer 2nd class Ramon Nunez was the guest speaker for the ceremony. Nunez a naturally born Cuban spoke of his journey to America and the struggles that he faced in the process. Nunez left Cuba in August of 1994 on a four day journey in the ocean that led him to Guantanamo Bay and the year and half that he spent here attempting to gain U.S. citizenship. He also discussed his enlistment in the Navy following 9/11.

"I made the decision to do something [by enlisting in the Navy] for the country that has given so much to me and my family," he said.

He also said that he and his family were grateful for everything that he has received while being a citizen of the U.S. and how his journey to America has come full circle with his return to GTMO.

"His story was so touching in the way that he had so many people identifying with all of the hardship he had gone through to find such great happiness," said Husta.

Prior to the food and dancing at the Windjammer the annual Cuban American Friendship day run was held. The 10 kilometer run started at the Northeast Gate down Sherman Ave and concluding at the Windjammer. Through out the run different Marines and Navy personnel carried the flags of both countries including, Naval Station Commanding Officer Blaisdell and Command Master Chief Keith Carlson.

"This is a unique experience that most people don't get a chance to do," said Command Master Chief Carlson. "The run was a great way for us to show our appreciation to the Cuban members of our community have put forth."

The Cuban American Friendship Day was started 1969 by Rear Admiral J.B. Hilderth who had the idea to hold a yearly celebration to recognize the contributions of the Cuban workers and the mutual friendship they bring to the base.



Commander, Navy Installations Command Holds Change of Command

By CNIC Public Affairs

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Vice Adm. Michael C. Vitale relieved Vice Adm. Bob Conway, Jr., as Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) Jan. 30 during a ceremony at the Washington Navy Yard, Washington, D.C.

The guest speaker for the change of command was Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Gary Roughead. Roughead spoke of what Conway and CNIC meant to the Navy. He said “They were the integrator for all things related to our fleet. While the fleet is in port and our sailors are ashore. Bob knew what to do, how to do it, how to explain it, and how to get the most out of every dollar.”

Conway said of his time at CNIC “I do consider

myself blessed, to be afforded both the opportunity and the challenge to once again command; the opportunity to work alongside many talented professionals both military and civilian throughout the world; the challenge to change the shore establishment into an adaptive enterprise supporting the maritime strategy, the fleet, our Sailors, and their families; and I enjoyed every minute of it. Conway was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal during the ceremony.

Vitale said he looked forward to the challenges of taking over CNIC. “Today as I proudly take the helm of CNIC, I can tell you several things about the way we will do business. We will always do our best and we will do it with class and style. We will always do the

right thing no matter how hard it is, no matter how long it takes or no matter how much it costs. We will treat everyone with dignity and respect. We will always look for a better way, always trying to improve. Lastly we will remember to enjoy ourselves while we are meeting those challenges because we belong to the worlds greatest Navy.”

CNIC is an Echelon II command responsible for the providing base and operating services to the Navy’s 13 Regions and 73 Installations. CNIC oversees a nine Billion budget, more than 52,000 facilities and more than 53,000 personnel, managed from a single enterprise.

Conway will retire after more than 35 years of distinguished service.

NEX Rewards Students With Its A-OK Student Reward Program

The Navy Exchange wants to help its customers pay for their children’s college education through its A-OK Student Reward Program. Four times per school year, four students will be the recipients of a \$5,000, \$3,000 \$2,000 or \$1,000 U.S. savings bond, denominations at maturity. The next drawing will be held at the end of February 2009.

Any eligible full-time student that has a B-grade point average equivalent or better, as determined by their school system, may enter the drawing. Eligible students include dependent children of active duty military members, reservists and military retirees enrolled in first through 12th grade. Dependent children without an individual Dependent Identification Card must be accompanied by their sponsor to submit their entry. Each student may enter only once each grading period and must re-enter with each qualifying report card.

To enter the drawing, stop by any NEX with a current report card and have a NEX associate verify the minimum grade average. Then fill out an entry card and obtain an A-OK ID, which entitles the student to discount coupons for NEX products and services.

The Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM) has been offering students a chance to win a savings bond through its A-OK Student Reward Program since 1998. Since the program began, NEXCOM has awarded \$460,000 in savings bonds to 152 students with the help of its generous vendor partners.

Reef Raider's Make Donation

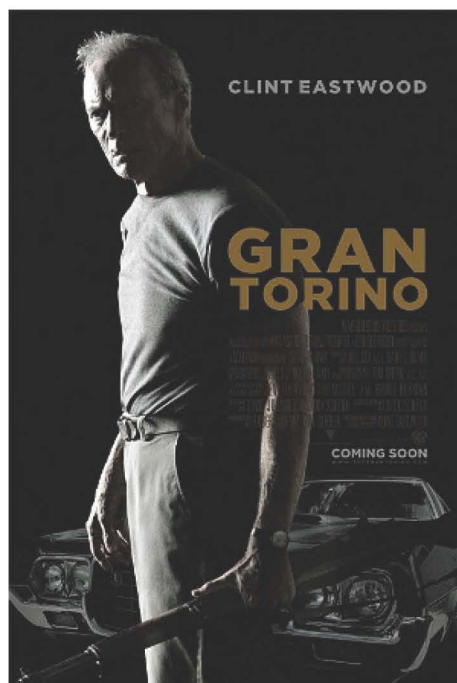


Members of the Reef Raiders dive organization make an appropriate sub-aquatic donation to the W.T. Sampson ES yearbook fund. The club’s generosity will defray printing costs making the yearbook more affordable to all families at the elementary school. Making the presentation are Shane Lauritzen (left) and club president Sarah Cleveland while members James Swope and the yearbook sponsor give the OK.

Downtown Lyceum

Gran Torino:

Walt Kowalski has just lost his wife and his children want him to move out of the old neighborhood and move into a senior citizens' home. Walt doesn't want to move even though more Asian people live in his Detroit neighborhood than Americans. Walt has a problem with Asians ever since he fought them in the Korean War. This prejudice explodes when Thao, the teenage son of the Hmong family next door, tries to steal his mint condition 1972 Grand Torino car. Thao was pressured by an Asian gang to steal the car as an initiation rite. To regain the family's honor, Thao is forced to work for Walt. Walt begins to protect Thao from the gangs and soon he becomes a target.



Friday, Jan. 9

Tale of Despereaux

7 p.m., G, 94 min.

The Day The Earth Stood Still

9 p.m., PG-13, 104 min.

MIDNIGHT MOVIE

Seven Pounds

PG-13, 124 min.

Saturday, Jan. 10

The Boy In The Striped Pajamas

7 p.m., PG-13, 95 min.

Punisher: War Zone

9 p.m., R, 107 min.

Sunday, Jan. 11

Cadillac Records

7 p.m., R, 108 min.

Monday, Jan. 12

Australia

7 p.m., PG-13, 165 min.

Tuesday, Jan. 13

Grand Torino

7 p.m., R, 117 min.

Wednesday, Jan. 14

Nothing Like The Holidays

7 p.m., PG-13, 134 min.

Thursday, Jan. 15

Four Christmases

7 p.m., PG-13, 90 min.

MWR Happenings

BELLY DANCING

Experience the art of belly dancing and let the ancient rhythmic beats transport you to Arabia.

Bring your scarf and your hips!

FMI call 77262 or 78469.

Class will be held at Marine Hill Fitness Center Sundays at 3 p.m.

ANTI-VALENTINE'S DAY

CRUISE

Feb. 13, 7 p.m.

Officers Landing

FMI call 2010

KAYAK TO THE CAVES

Feb. 14, 8 a.m.

Deer Point

FMI call 2010

NIGHT FISHING

Feb. 19, 7 p.m.

Marina

FMI call 2010

FEAR FACTOR NIGHT

Feb. 24, 7 p.m.

Deer Point

FMI call 2010

GTMO Classifieds

For Sale

(2)ISP for \$69.99 p/mo. Requires 1.8m SATELLITE Dish, 3 Watt BUC, LNB, modem, and VOIP

adapter. Purchase all for \$2,000—commercial grade equipment, 1.2m SATELLITE Dish - \$500, BIRDOG Satellite Finder - \$500, Kenmore DRYER & WASHER — top loading. \$800 for both. FMI call 84049.

(2)21 speed mountain bike. New seat, a helmet and an air pump Asking \$130. 13 inch Sony TV, like new condition \$100 OBO FMI call 78288.

(2) Kitchen Table seats 4, \$50 ; Charcoal grill approx. 1ft. by 1ft. stands 6in. in height. \$15, FMI 77264.

(2)2 dryers for sale: \$10 and \$50. FMI call 74860

(2) LYNX CREDIT: \$413 of transferrable Lynx credit. Must be used by OCT 2009. Transferring and will take best offer. Satellite Dish: 4 ft. dish with 75 ft. of cable. Gets all channels. \$400. FMI 84703

(1)MUSTSELL!!! Elegant round glass top dining table with dining chairs. FMI 84149

(1) For Sale: 16" Television \$30. FMI 77113

(1) Diving gear: Oceanic Delta 3 BC's, Oceanic Chute 2 Regulator, XS scuba page, Mare's fins, Scuba pro twin jet Wight and knife and a lot more. \$700 FMI 78466

(1) Changing table for sale, light brown, 2 shelves and a diaper drawer FMI 75694

(1) For sale one seater Kayak \$2,000. FMI 75694

(1) FOUR(4) 15" TIRES WITH RIMS \$180, FMI 4059/79576

(1) Nintendo Wii w/ 4 remotes and nun chucks, 11 games (Metroid Prime, Zelda, COD3, Super Smash Bros and more), 2 remote charging stations, HD Cables, and aluminum carry case ONLY \$500-77129 (1) 27" Samsung CRT Television w/ remote, 2 RCA input, 2 HD Component input, S-Video, Cable \$200/OBO. FMI 77129

(1) 1 XL Black Joe Rocket Mesh Riding Jacket 1 year old, great condition, \$225.00. Black Icon Field Armor Boots, size 12 brand new, \$130.00. 1 used Silver and Black XL HJC Helmet like new, \$60.00. Black Sidi Vertigo race style boots like new \$200.00. FMI 84261/ 79556 or

74844

(1) SATELLITE DISH: Dish with 75 feet of cable. \$400. FMI 84703

(1) Good Size Corner Desk \$55, Gateway Laptop 17" screen, Pentium Dual Core processor, 1.5 GB RAM, 100 GB Hard drive, DVD burner, Windows Vista \$700. 512MB MP3/WMA/REC/ AM/FM radio/ USB Flash drive \$25. FMI 78470

(1) JVC VCR, \$25; Sharp VCR/ DVD, \$40; Small Entertainment Center, \$50; Two Italian in-laid wood end tables, \$35/ea; Lamp, \$10; Small table/chair, \$40; Large DR Table/6 chairs, \$500; Sharp Microwave, \$25, Washer/Dryer, \$125/ea

(1) 21 speed mountain bike, comes with a comfy seat, a helmet and an air pump. Asking \$135. FMI 78288. (1) Body Glove wetsuit. Men's Large-Full body. Brand new, never been wet. FMI 2646

(1) For Sale- ParaFoil 272 rigged for para-sailing, ready to go \$550/OBO. FMI 77349.

(1) For Sale: Nintendo DS, \$65; Gameboy, \$20; Cannondale Prophet, Large Frame, well maintained w/ extras, \$950; Youth Fencing gear \$40 each set or \$75 both; Xbox games \$5 each; Cuisinart coffee pot, \$40; Sportblock adjustable dumbbells (2) 3-24 lbs, \$35; Husky 1.5 gallon air compressor, \$60; Grizzly, 10 table saw, model G1023SL, w/ many extras, \$950; Grizzly, 24 Knife Grinder, model G9960, \$175; Fluidity exercise bar w/ 3DVDs \$100. FMI call 2640.

(1) 27 inch Sanyo TV \$ 50, and also 1993 Blue Chevrolet Corsica, AC, CD player, runs great \$2000/OBO. FMI 77845.

(2) 2 Performance shocks absorber pro Comp ES 9000. \$80/OBO. FMI 77464

(1) HP Desktop Computer, Pentium 4, Dual DVD burners, 128 MB Video "card", TV tuner, 250 GB HDD, 1GB of ram, flat panel monitor. \$400. FMI 77828.

(1) Mares pneumatic speargun \$150, Zeagle Escape BC Like New \$250, Dive Mask used once \$25. FMI 79492/4527

VEHICLES & BOATS

(2) 2001 Silver Nissan Xterra, very reliable, 115K miles, Great A/C, newer off-road tires, ceiling-mounted DVD/ TV, \$6,500 OBO. FMI 77325.

(2) Roketa 150cc MOTORSCOOTER - \$1,600. FMI 84049.

(2) 1994 Nissan Presea 4dr. Sedan;

cold a/c; stereo, great shape. \$2500; 1996 GMC pick-up truck; a/c; stereo; standard; great shape. \$2500. FMI 77586.

(2) 1990 Nissan Pathfinder SE 4-dr, 214k miles, auto, needs some minor work, \$1500 OBO. FMI 77264.

(2) 2000 Land Rover Discovery II, 4.0L V8, 4x4, leather, dual pwr front heated seats, dual sunroofs, many other options, \$11,000, Available end Feb. FMI 2640.

(1) 1996 OLDSMOBILE @ \$3000/ OBO Good AC, New tires, Excellent running condition Please call 79109

(1) 2005 NISSAN TITAN LE KING CAB, 29,000 MILES, LEATHER, BED LINER, MULTI DISC PLAYER, TOW PACKAGE, PARKING SENSOR, \$18,000. FMI 75781

(1) "1994 Explorer Sport. Very sturdy truck. Cold A/C, runs good. \$2500 FMI 84908

(1) 1992 Ford Ranger Good Running Condition \$1,800 OBO. FMI 75229

(1) 2004 Chevy Suburban tow package, fold down seats, \$18,000 FMI 75694

(1) 2004 Toyota Camry Leather interior new rims and tires and battery A/C 6 disc cd player selling for \$10,000/OBO. FMI 78630

(1) 16 ft. Boston Whaler for sale w/ Trailer! 2004 Mercury Engine — Perfect for fishing!

Fish finder. New wiring and lights. Just tuned up/oil changed.

Life vests and all accessories included. Brand new Radio and Charger. Soft top (removable).

Pole holders. Power outlets and extra lights. \$2,800/OBO FMI 8235/77151

(1) 2005 Jeep Wrangler SE 4x4 Delivered to Gtmo when new, 12,500+ miles, Wht/Blk Top, 6 Cylinder Engine, Automatic Transmission, Trail Rated, 4x4, A/C, Pwr Steering, Tilt Wheel, AM/FM, Single CD, Dual Front Air Bags, Rear Seat. \$14,600, FMI 77375/4857

(1) 1977 JEEP CJ-7 Bodyoff Restoration, Original Engine and Trans Runs Great, Looks Even Better. \$9000 OBO. FMI 77153

(1) Electric Scooter — never buy gas on GTMO again, GO GREEN! 36 volt, chain driven scooter with a carrying capacity of 300 lbs. and max speed of 20 mph with 22 miles of distance per 4 hour charge. All safety

features. FMI 79561

Employment

(1) Science Applications International Corp (SAIC) is currently seeking an experienced Help Desk Technician for its contract in support of Naval Station GTMO. Anyone interested in the position should contact Mike Dell at 4862

Wanted/Misc. ads

(2) Did you know your MWR Library owns:

10 of the New York Times' current nonfiction bestsellers and 13 of the current fiction bestsellers?

70 of Amazon.com's "100 Best Books of 2008"?

and many more are on order!

Stop by for reading suggestions today.

(2) Guantanamo Bay Girl Scouts is up and running but we could use more volunteers to be troop leaders. Please contact Melissa at GTMO.girlscouts@gmail.com or 77200.

(2) The GTMO Fire Department asks all residents to be mind full of the extremely High Fire Danger during this very dry spell. We ask all residents to practice good Fire Safety techniques. Please report any potential Fire hazards immediately to the Fire Prevention Department at 4178 or 4179.

(2) Relocating to JAX or Mayport areas? If you prefer quiet country living, we have a home in Macclenny available March 1.

3 year old home includes 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths (garden tub in master suite), 2 car garage and screened in back porch. 2100 sq. ft. (including garage) located on a quiet cul-de-sac. Includes several appliances (W/D, refrig.)

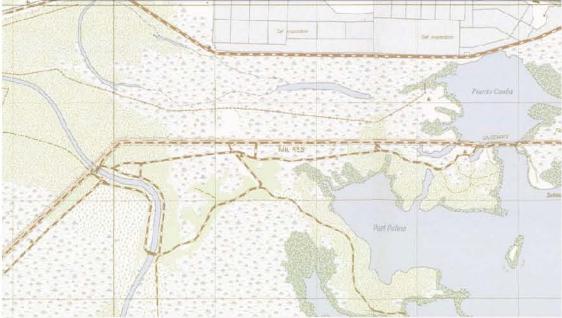
\$1300 a month (plus utilities). Ask about the special discounted rent for relocating GTMO residents!

If interested contact JoAnn King: philiseddi@hotmail.com

(1) Lost Camera: Daughter left Pink Sony Camera, model number DSC-W55, in Taxi on Saturday, 1/24/09. Camera is in a black case and has the charger with it. Reward for return. Please call 2593 or 84617 DWH and 75714 AWH.

(1) Relocating to Norfolk VA? Cape Cod for sale. 3 BR, 2 Barh, sun room, large corner lot, quiet neighborhood close to all bases. 179k. FMI call 77720

ANY DAY IN GTMO



PHOTOS BY MDC (SM) BILL NESSIA