



THE WIRE

The Official Publication of Joint Task Force Guantanamo



USS AMERICA Navy ship visits GTMO



MMA FIGHTERS USO hosts meet and greet



Run to Home Base

AROUND THE BAY

MOTIVATOR

OF THE WEEK

HM1 Carl Bowen

Joint Medical Group

SPC Adam Day

339th Military Police Company



Cover photo: Members of the Massachusetts National Guard's 747th Military Police Company surround an official home plate from Boston's Fenway Park after the Run to Home Base Shadow Run Saturday, July 19 at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay. The 9k run was done simultaneously to Boston's Run to Home Base which ends at Fenway Park's home plate. Full story on page 8.

Photo by Sgt. Kenneth Tucceri

New hours for NEXs

Effective Monday, the mini marts located at Camp America and Tierra Kay have new hours of operation. They will now be open Monday - Saturday from 7 a.m. - midnight and on Sunday from 7 a.m. - 10 p.m. This is a trial operation, if the NEXs are not utilized during the extended hours, normal operation will resume.

Register for fishing tourney

Registration will begin Monday in the NEX Atrium for the upcoming Snook & Snapper Fishing Tournament, that will be held Aug. 16. The cost is \$20 for a single snook or snapper entry and \$30 for both. Hours to register are noon - 1 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays prior to the event. You cannot register at the marina. For additional information contact Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Benitez at 84682. Note: contestants are responsible for boat rental fees.

FEATURES

7 • UFC fighters tour GTMO

Mixed Martial Arts fighters Jeremy Stephens, nicknamed, 'Lil Heathen and fellow fighter, Tim "The Psycho" Gorman, signed autographs for locals during a USO-sponsored tour.

10 • USS America docks

USS America made a scheduled 24-hour stop at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay en route to her home port in San Diego. The short visit offered hundreds of military personnel and civilians stationed here the opportunity to tour the pristine warship.

12 • Sisters in Arms

An organization dedicated to the empowerment of female Service members hosts a discussion panel with Joint Task Force GTMO senior leaders July 11.

CORRECTIONS

In the last issue, Army Lt. Col. Catherine Smith was misidentified as Army Lt. Col. Catherine White.



Army Capt. Andrew Oliver, commander of C Troop, 1st Squadron, 3rd Cavalry Regiment, and Sgt. 1st Class Jeremy Robertson, C Troop, 1/3rd's first sergeant, uncase their colors during the transfer of authority ceremony at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay's Windjammer Ballroom July 18. For the full story, see page 15.

Photo by Sgt. Kenneth Tucceri



HQ Building, Camp America
Guantanamo Bay, Cuba
Commercial: 011-5399-3651
DSN: 660-3651
E-mail: thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil
www.jtfgtmo.southcom.mil/wire/wire.html

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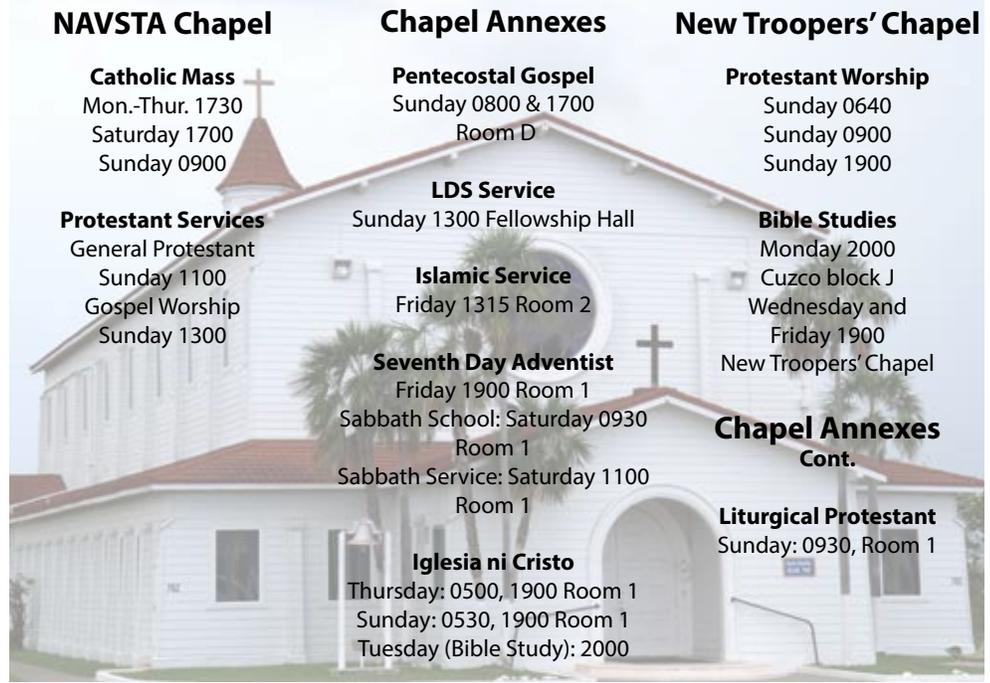
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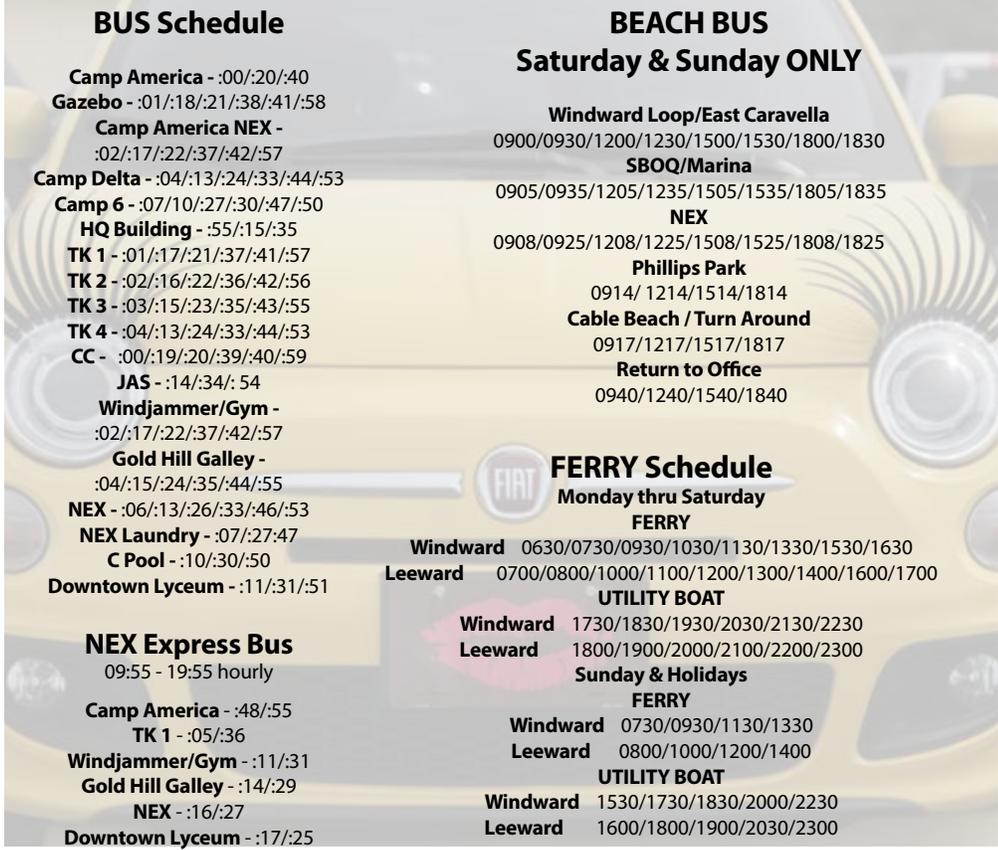
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Religious Services



<p>NAVSTA Chapel</p> <p>Catholic Mass Mon.-Thur. 1730 Saturday 1700 Sunday 0900</p> <p>Protestant Services General Protestant Sunday 1100 Gospel Worship Sunday 1300</p>	<p>Chapel Annexes</p> <p>Pentecostal Gospel Sunday 0800 & 1700 Room D</p> <p>LDS Service Sunday 1300 Fellowship Hall</p> <p>Islamic Service Friday 1315 Room 2</p> <p>Seventh Day Adventist Friday 1900 Room 1 Sabbath School: Saturday 0930 Room 1 Sabbath Service: Saturday 1100 Room 1</p> <p>Iglesia ni Cristo Thursday: 0500, 1900 Room 1 Sunday: 0530, 1900 Room 1 Tuesday (Bible Study): 2000</p>	<p>New Troopers' Chapel</p> <p>Protestant Worship Sunday 0640 Sunday 0900 Sunday 1900</p> <p>Bible Studies Monday 2000 Cuzco block J Wednesday and Friday 1900 New Troopers' Chapel</p> <p>Chapel Annexes Cont.</p> <p>Liturgical Protestant Sunday: 0930, Room 1</p>
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Transportation Schedules



<p>BUS Schedule</p> <p>Camp America - :00/:20/:40 Gazebo - :01/:18/:21/:38/:41/:58</p> <p>Camp America NEX - :02/:17/:22/:37/:42/:57</p> <p>Camp Delta - :04/:13/:24/:33/:44/:53</p> <p>Camp 6 - :07/:10/:27/:30/:47/:50</p> <p>HQ Building - :55/:15/:35</p> <p>TK 1 - :01/:17/:21/:37/:41/:57 TK 2 - :02/:16/:22/:36/:42/:56 TK 3 - :03/:15/:23/:35/:43/:55 TK 4 - :04/:13/:24/:33/:44/:53 CC - :00/:19/:20/:39/:40/:59</p> <p>JAS - :14/:34/:54</p> <p>Windjammer/Gym - :02/:17/:22/:37/:42/:57</p> <p>Gold Hill Galley - :04/:15/:24/:35/:44/:55</p> <p>NEX - :06/:13/:26/:33/:46/:53</p> <p>NEX Laundry - :07/:27/:47</p> <p>C Pool - :10/:30/:50</p> <p>Downtown Lyceum - :11/:31/:51</p> <p>NEX Express Bus 09:55 - 19:55 hourly</p> <p>Camp America - :48/:55 TK 1 - :05/:36</p> <p>Windjammer/Gym - :11/:31 Gold Hill Galley - :14/:29 NEX - :16/:27 Downtown Lyceum - :17/:25</p>	<p>BEACH BUS Saturday & Sunday ONLY</p> <p>Windward Loop/East Caravella 0900/0930/1200/1230/1500/1530/1800/1830</p> <p>SBOQ/Marina 0905/0935/1205/1235/1505/1535/1805/1835</p> <p>NEX 0908/0925/1208/1225/1508/1525/1808/1825</p> <p>Phillips Park 0914/ 1214/1514/1814</p> <p>Cable Beach / Turn Around 0917/1217/1517/1817</p> <p>Return to Office 0940/1240/1540/1840</p> <p>FERRY Schedule Monday thru Saturday FERRY</p> <p>Windward 0630/0730/0930/1030/1130/1330/1530/1630 Leeward 0700/0800/1000/1100/1200/1300/1400/1600/1700</p> <p>UTILITY BOAT</p> <p>Windward 1730/1830/1930/2030/2130/2230 Leeward 1800/1900/2000/2100/2200/2300</p> <p>Sunday & Holidays FERRY</p> <p>Windward 0730/0930/1130/1330 Leeward 0800/1000/1200/1400</p> <p>UTILITY BOAT</p> <p>Windward 1530/1730/1830/2000/2230 Leeward 1600/1800/1900/2030/2300</p>
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A more humane fighting force

By Coast Guard Chief Petty Officer Carl Sette
MARSECDET, Chief Machinery Technician

As the world's leader with a premier military, one must ask, "Are our actions showing compassion or benevolence?" In other words: are we humane? As a young Coastguardsman, I was taught the importance of being humane, not only to those the Coast Guard came into contact with while performing our daily missions, like people we were rescuing out of the water, but also being humane when dealing with our nation's enemies. It was part of our core values of honor, respect and devotion to duty.

It was not until later in my career that I started to understand the bigger picture of this concept and why now, more than ever, we in the armed forces need to reaffirm our commitment to being humane. The true meaning of the word confounded me early in my career. It was not until I broke the word humane down into its basic parts that I could understand how powerful the components of this term were and how to integrate them more directly into my daily routine.

The word humane is characterized by terms like compassion, mercy and sympathy. These concepts are not new, and I know they are present in almost everyone; they are the key concepts to every Solider, Marine, Sailor, Airman and Coastguardsman's character.



Chief Petty Officer Carl Sette

As enlisted leaders it is imperative we apply these concepts to not only people we may be assisting or our enemies, but also to our troops. Enlisted leaders have the responsibility to deliver world-class leadership to our workforce. The result will be improving the lives and careers of both subordinates and superiors as we create a mission-ready, educated and humane military.

Through this concept we will continue to shape a culture of dignity and respect throughout the ranks. Our mission in today's military is in a constant state of flux; we can find the Solider on the battle field today, and tomorrow that same Solider can be playing a humanitarian role.

This is the dynamic military in today's world, and ensuring every rank is trained and equipped with the tools necessary for mission success is essential. Our ability to always adapt to changing situations the world presents to us will ensure that America will continue to be the premier example of the world's greatest military, but also as a humane military.

As Army Gen. George S. Patton stated, "A pint of sweat saves a gallon of blood." This phrase not only applies to warfighting preparation, but to our military's humanitarian side. We need to continue to work hard, train vigorously and continue educating ourselves in order to prepare not only us but all personnel on the importance of being a humane war fighter.

NEWS FEED

MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT JOINS PENTAGON'S HALL OF HEROES

By Amaani Lyle, DoD News, Defense Media Activity

WASHINGTON -- A former paratrooper who received the Medal of Honor from President Barack Obama yesterday for acts of valor against the Taliban in 2008 was inducted into the Pentagon's Hall of Heroes during a ceremony here today.

Deputy Defense Secretary Bob Work, Army Secretary John M. McHugh and Army Chief of Staff Gen. Ray Odierno recognized Staff Sgt. Ryan M. Pitts for single-handedly thwarting enemy access to his fallen fellow soldiers' bodies during a grueling battle to defend Observation Post Topsiside near the village of Wanat in Afghanistan's Kunar province.

MULTINATIONAL EXERCISE TO TEST SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES

DoD News, Defense Media Activity

WASHINGTON -- Security forces from 21 countries will participate in Fuerzas Comando 2014 in Colombia tomorrow through Aug. 1, Defense Department officials announced today.

Fuerzas Comando is a U.S. Southern Command-sponsored exercise that has been conducted in Central and South America and the Caribbean since 2004, officials said.

GUARDSMEN HELP TO BATTLE NORTHWEST BLAZE

By Army Staff Sgt. Darron Salzer and Army Sgt. 1st Class Jon Soucy, National Guard Bureau

ARLINGTON, Va., -- Aircrews from the Wyoming Air National Guard's 153rd Airlift Wing, who fly C-130 Hercules aircraft equipped with the Modular Airborne Firefighting System, are among the latest National Guard members to join in the response to wildfires in Oregon and Washington state.

The aircrews from the 153rd AW join Guard members from four states in assisting state and local authorities with quelling wildfires raging since lightning strikes ignited the blazes July 14. This also marks the first activation of MAFFS aircraft in the 2014 wildfire season.

FACE OF DEFENSE: AIRMAN SEWS TO KEEP AIRCREWS SAFE

By Air Force Airman 1st Class John Linzmeier, 22nd Air Refueling Wing

MCCONNELL AIR FORCE BASE, Kan., -- The "chuka chuka chukka" sounds from a needle punching through fabric cease momentarily. The Air Force enlisted man working the sewing machine wipes the sweat off his brow and dives right back into his passion.

Air Force Senior Airman Devin Litton, 22nd Operations Support Squadron aircrew flight equipment journeyman, has spent hundreds of hours developing his sewing skills since he was introduced to the needle and thread. When he was waiting in the recruiter's office three years ago, he said, he did not expect running a sewing machine to be part of his job description.

For more on this story visit www.defense.gov/news.

MANDATORY ALL-HANDS CALL
with Rear Adm. Kyle Cozad

Downtown Lyceum Camp Bulkeley Lyceum

July 29 7:30 - 8:00 a.m. July 29 7:00 - 7:30 p.m.

July 30 7:30 - 8:00 a.m. July 30 7:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Bring your CAC as attendance will be taken

I would be a GREAT lawyer I always win an ARGUMENT...

By Army Capt. Thomas Neumann

Deputy, Administrative Law

We all know who he is, and we have all run into him at some point ... the vaulted barracks lawyer, or as the Navy knows him, the sea lawyer. He always has something to add relative to what the UCMJ says and usually cites a section or two in order to put his legal acumen on display for all to appreciate. Most people are impressed when he rattles off a regulation from memory, and the barracks lawyer uses this trick to its fullest extent, like a snake oil salesman in the American west. Step right up; he's got the legal cure for what ails you, bogus legal advice, free of charge. He typically appears as the Soldier or Sailor in the know, the guy who really knows his stuff, the one with all the regulations at his mental fingertips. Our second-string solicitor's encyclopedic knowledge of the law is most often coupled with bluster or arrogance, sufficient to impress, or at least silence, all those who dare disagree. He is the perpetual sophomore of the military, the wise fool. He has picked up a tiny bit of information and expanded it to fill his entire intellectual universe, with the hope that others will look on in awe, and defer to

his allegedly sage advice. Remember, JTF Warriors, all that glitters is not gold, and when it comes to the sea lawyer, his tarnished advice only shines brightly in the shadow of his bunk.

The truth of the matter is that barracks and sea lawyers don't know what they are talking about, no matter how much they insist they do. Judge advocates go to school for seven years, take

“ *Our second-string solicitor's encyclopedic knowledge of the law is most often coupled with bluster or arrogance, sufficient to impress, or at least silence, all those who dare disagree.* ”

a brain-twisting, two or three-day bar exam and attend military law school for a reason. Make no mistake, if you decide to trust your legal health to Bubba's home legal services, it is a 100% certainty that you are 90% more likely to get into 80% more trouble than you are already in. Statistics don't lie, my uniformed friends, but the sea lawyer

does. If you want your train to stay on the rails, stay away from the barracks lawyer attorney wannabe.

If you have a legal concern, speak to your chain of command or make an appointment to speak to a legal assistance attorney. Many people are under the mistaken impression that because you are in the military, you are entitled to free legal advice. The truth of the matter is, you have already paid for it in sweat, blood and tears, and you made those payments in the mud, the sand, the heat, the cold and the rain. You are not getting anything for free, it is not a handout. You have earned the right to consult with a judge advocate, and have already paid for it 10 times over, so take advantage of it. Judge advocates are here to help ... and we actually understand the whole law and how it relates to your specific situation, not just the misguided tidbit you'll get from that joker practicing law without a license in the barracks.

You can find us, as well as the other legal departments, on the JTF homepage by clicking on SJA in the JTF GTMO sites dropdown menu. You may also make a legal assistance appointment by calling 4692, or by sending an email to: jtfgtmo-sja-legalassistance@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil.



Illustration by Sgt. Kenneth Tucceri

Open on the JTF side on Wednesdays!
ICRC Bldg. next to Camp Delta

HOURS of OPERATION:
Walk-in Service 8:00 - 11:00 a.m. Appointments 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

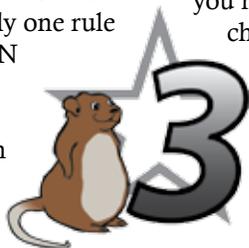
Review by Sgt. Christopher Vann

Staff writer, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

A new ingredient has been added to the Hollywood hit movie recipe: Kevin Hart! Most recently, Hart stars in "Think Like a Man Too." The sequel to 2012's sleeper hit, "Think Like a Man," a movie adaptation from the book, "Act Like a Lady, Think Like a Man," by Steve Harvey.

This time around the whole crew is in Las Vegas for the wedding of Michael (Terrance Jenkins) and Candace (Regina Hall) and have made the mistake of making Cedric (Hart) the best man. Cedric is determined to have more fun than the women and has only one rule for the bachelor party, TURN UP!

After a series of hilarious and unfortunate events, both groups find themselves at a 'dance club,' with Ced-



ric trying to recoup some of his monetary losses and enlisting the help of his reluctant friends, only to add fuel to the already burning fire. After a brief scuffle, both teams wind up in jail, which also happens to be on the day of the wedding. Desperate to get out in time for the nuptials, they each try their hand at making contact with someone who can bail them all out. During this time, Cedric's ignorance is put on full display, and he reminds you why he's one of America's funniest leading men.

All in all, this romantic comedy offers plenty of laughs and moments that might have you rethinking how you handle relationships and the choices you have to make, but has too many dry spells and it's during these times that writers just hand the reins to Hart to save the day. For that, I give this movie three 'turnt up' banana rats.



Courtesy Screen Gems



Kid's

Review by Tyler Murray

Age 10

Sunday night I went to see the new movie, "Planes: Fire and Rescue" with my dad, mom, brother and sister. We got there really early and got really cool seats in the second row. My dad said we should arrive early to get a good seat. He went and got us ice cream, and then after I got mine, I sat in the bleachers with my friends and the movie began.

The movie is the second in the "Planes" series, from Disney studios.

It stars Dusty Crophopper, voiced by comedian Dane

Cook, as a famous airplane racer who was almost forced to retire when he found out his gearbox was broken, and since



it was outdated and cannot be replaced, he was unable to "redline" his engine (go really, really fast). He decided to race anyway, and in doing so, caused a big accident that almost caused his friend, aging firefighter Mayday (Hal Holbrook from "Up") to lose his job. Realizing he might have better luck as a firefighter, he joined forces with the planes at Piston Peak. He had a hard time following directions and was very overconfident but in the end, (spoiler alert!) he learned his lesson, saved Mayday's job and also got to race again.



and his crew came to save the day. What was really cool is at the end of the movie some of the non-flying firefighters from Piston Peak were dropped out of a plane for a celebration with smoke coming from their ends, and they made some really cool stunts and art with the smoke, then they landed perfectly on some ramps and made more stunts! I give the movie four out of five banana rats! It was full of adventure, awesome animation and tons of fun for the whole family!

Some of the best things I liked about the movie were that there was never a boring part! First his gear box breaks, then he trains to save Mayday's job, then a huge fire happened and it raced towards a wooden log. They had to evacuate everyone from the log! Then a train came to help people escape from the fire, but during the escape a huge flaming tree falls! There are hundreds of cars behind the train also so Dusty



UFC Fighters visit Guantanamo

Sports FEED

Story by Staff Sgt. Carmen Steinbach
 Editor, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

Children, Joint Task Force Guantanamo Troopers and other residents of Naval Station Guantanamo Bay stood in line at the Navy Exchange Atrium and at Denich Gym Saturday for the opportunity to meet two talented athletes.

The Mixed Martial Arts fighters with the Ultimate Fighter Championship, Jeremy Stephens, nicknamed, 'Lil Heathen and fellow fighter, Tim "The Psycho" Gorman, arrived at GTMO for a USO-sponsored tour. The bantamweight class fighter was also on season 18 of "The Ultimate Fighter." Even though he left the show early due to an injury, he still became a fighter with UFC.

While Stephens, a featherweight, says he has done previous events for the Wounded Warrior Project, this is the first USO tour meet and greet for both of the fighters.

"It's a great experience," said Gorman. "We decided to come out here about two weeks ago, and I couldn't turn down the opportunity to come out here and support the troops. It feels good knowing that I'm part of a great cause."

Stephens added that the residents here were extremely welcoming and that it was a humbling experience being around all the Service members that are away from their families and the comfort of home.

One of the Sailors in line who brought his daughter out to receive an autographed photo is a huge UFC fan and was thankful for the opportunity to meet both Gorman and Stephens.

"I've been watching UFC since it started Nov. 12, 1992," said Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Andrew Murray with the Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station, who used to train with UFC fighters in Tampa, Florida. "I think they're great ... they're nice, they're calm, cool and collected, true professionals. Even in places like GTMO when you're away from your family, having guys coming down and take the time out of their careers to visit us, it really means a lot."

Another avid UFC fan, Spc. Tonette Zoutomou, with the 420th Military Police Company, turned out to meet the fighters and hopes to one day see them in a title fight. "I think Stephens could take somebody as the top contender in his weight," she said.

While Zoutomou noted that the pro fighters were very laid back and approachable, she said that their visit was one of the events deployed Soldiers like her look forward to. "It's really good that they [USO] brings out fighters and hosts concerts down here; it brings up morale."

JTF Soldier Spc. Gunner Thorton, with the 339th MP Company, came out to take advantage of an opportunity that wouldn't be offered to him back home.

"You don't get the chance that much to meet guys like that," said Thorton. "It's great, especially for people that like this kind of stuff. Back at home, if they're reserve units or National Guard, they [Service members] they don't get to have this opportunity."



JTF Soldier, Spc. Tonette Zoutomou gets an autograph from professional MMA fighters Jeremy Stephens (left) and fellow fighter Tim Gorman (right) at Denich Gym.



Army Sgt. 1st Class Melissa Black, NCOIC of Joint Task Force Guantanamo's Joint Visitor's Bureau poses with UFC Fighter Jeremy Stephens during a USO tour.



Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Andrew "Biff" Murray squares off with Jeremy "Lil Heathen" Stephens, a fighter with the UFC, during a visit to Denich Gym.

NOW SHOWING

	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
CAMP BULKELEY DOWNTOWN	Planes: Fire and Rescue PG, 8 p.m. Deliver Us from Evil (New) R, 10 p.m.	Lucy (New) R, 8 p.m. Hercules (New) R, 10:15 p.m.	The Fault in Our Stars PG13, 8 p.m.	22 Jump Street (LS) R, 8 p.m.	Edge of Tomorrow (LS) PG13, 8 p.m.	Dawn of Planet of the Apes PG13, 8 p.m.	Think Like a Man Too PG13, 8 p.m.
CAMP BULKELEY DOWNTOWN	Lucy (New) R, 8 p.m. Hercules (New) R, 10:15 p.m.	Deliver Us from Evil (New) R, 8:00 p.m. 22 Jump Street (LS) R, 8 p.m.	Think Like a Man Too PG13, 8 p.m.	LYCEUM CLOSED	Dawn of Planet of the Apes PG13, 8 p.m.	LYCEUM CLOSED	The Fault in Our Stars PG13, 8 p.m.

Call the Movie Hotline at ext. 4880 or visit the MWR Facebook page for more information

* Concessions closed until further notice *

Stay classy, GTMO! No ALCOHOL or TOBACCO at the Lyceums!



Run brings sense of home to Guantanamo



Army Lt. Col. Roger Glenn, commander of the 391st Military Police Battalion, takes a victory leap onto the official home plate of the Boston Red Sox during the Run to Home Base Shadow Run Saturday, July 19.



Spc. James Oliver and Spc. Michael Whelan, two of Massachusetts National Guard's 747th MP Company Soldiers, both finish the 9k run with a time of 56:37 and celebrate with a mid-air chest bump at Cooper Field Saturday, July 19.

Story and photos by Sgt. Kenneth Tucceri
Webmaster, thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil

Though deployed Service members of Naval Station Guantanamo Bay and Joint Task Force Guantanamo are away from home for months at a time, that doesn't prevent a part of home from coming down to GTMO.

For the Massachusetts National Guard's 747th Military Police Company, what could be more iconic than a home plate from Boston's legendary Fenway Park?

The plate was brought down as part of the Run to Home Base Shadow Run Saturday, July 19 that took the participants from GTMO's Cooper Field Sports Complex, around the hilly roads here and back to the softball field, where they rounded the bases and finished at Fenway's own home plate, similar to Boston's Run to Home Base that has taken place annually since 2009.

The 9k run, which was organized by Army Capt. Tyler Field, commander of the 747th based out of Ware, Massachusetts, was intended to give the runners a similar experience to those running in the Boston race. It was even held on the same day at the same time.

"We set up a shadow run of the Run to Home Base that is being held in Boston ... We tried to start the race off at the same time as the one in Boston," said Field.

In setting up the run here, Field was able to bring an event that had a tone of home for his company and create awareness for the charity aspect of Boston's Run to Home Base for the rest of the participants.

"My company is from Massachusetts," said Field, a native of Bridgewater, Massachusetts. "We are from the Massachusetts National Guard. So the fact that it has a Red Sox theme to it, I kind of wanted to do it for the company, but as well I wanted to generate awareness for the Home Base Program that helps veterans back home dealing with things like PTSD and TBI. Home Base Program works with Mass. General Hospital back in Massachusetts and the Red Sox Foundation, which is a charitable organization with the Boston Red Sox. They generate revenue to do treatment and research for TBI and PTSD for veterans."

Encouraged by her peers, Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Natasha Ortega, a JTF Sailor, said the run marked her first road race. With the Boston run's charity focus, it made for a fitting experience that coincided with her civilian life.

"I'm a trauma nurse at home, and I deal with a lot of patients with TBIs," said Ortega. "A lot of patients come in from a car accident but have PTSD from a long time ago. So their former PTSD comes into play whenever they

are in a traumatic situation, so I experience at home on a daily basis of what it entails.”

Though Red Sox shirts and hats were easy to spot, as many of Massachusetts’ 747th didn’t miss the opportunity to place their foot on a home plate sent from iconic Fenway Park, many others deployed here came out to celebrate the cause.

Of the almost 100 participants, there were seven Soldiers from 346th MP Company, an Army Reserve unit out of Fort Riley, Kansas.

“The fact that they actually got a home plate from Fenway Park in Boston, that’s cool,” said Army Sgt. Gerry Perzee, a Soldier with the 346th. “Especially with all the stuff that’s been happening in Boston like the bombing with the Boston Marathon, even after that, the following year, everyone was still there doing it. Even the ones that were injured with their prosthetics were still running. That puts a lot of emphasis on that now. And now you got this and that’s putting emphasis towards the Soldiers, the Sailors, the Airmen, the Marines and the Coastguardsmen.”



For Army Staff Sgt. Robert Kopytko, a Soldier from the 747th and a Leicester, Massachusetts native, running in this race was a once in a lifetime opportunity when considering the presence of the home plate and the race’s cause.

“The Red Sox are the champions, and the United States Army are champions, and I think we are all one team, one fight,” said Kopytko. “It’s just a good thing Capt. Field put this together, and the Red Sox, what they do for the community ... we all miss home, and hopefully the Red Sox win another World Series.”

With the Red Sox on a recent hot streak and only 8.5 games back in their division as of July 23, it’s tough to completely rule out that prospect for Boston’s die-hard fans for this year. They certainly have their supporters in GTMO.

The Red Sox Foundation and Massachusetts General Hospital Home Base Program helps Iraq and Afghanistan veterans and their families heal from PTSD and TBIs. To learn more about the program, visit their website: www.homebaseprogram.org.



Army Staff Sgt. David Camara, with the 747th MP Company, stands on the official home plate at Cooper Field Saturday, July 19. The plate was present for a 9k run that eclipsed Boston’s Run to Home Base.



Army Staff Sgt. Robert Kopytko, a Soldier from the Massachusetts National Guard’s 747th MP Company and a Leicester, Massachusetts native, holds an official home plate from Boston’s Fenway Park Saturday, July 19.

Bib	Name	Time
2	Brandon Crawford	49:22
3	Mose Dantzler	37:06
4	Nathan Jones	55:41
5	Gerry Perzee	1:12:39
6	Ryan Taylor	53:28
7	William Dufault	58:14
8	Joseph Sorenson	48:46
9	Long Le	43:29
10	Aaron Cole	1:09:55
11	Josue Gonzalez	1:04:15
12	Jody Miller	56:59
13	Norman Johnson	48:59
14	Robert Oaks	59:48
15	George Bennett	54:53
16	Mercio Zanotti	59:10
17	Andre Dortrait	48:43
18	Jonathan Madison	47:46
19	Pedro Ponce	1:03:38
20	Gina Bertelli	54:06
21	Kim Bailey	58:46
22	Rachel Proudfoot	1:08:30
23	Stephan Brayfield	43:35
24	Austin Yeales	59:44
25	Gennaro Roucco	57:49
27	Peter Bergum	40:34
28	Andrew Christman	1:05:00
29	Craig Rose	45:56
30	Catherine Catano	1:07:44
31	Robert Kopytko	57:07
32	James Oliver	56:37
33	Tim Vislisel	51:13
34	Leicia Grant	50:18
48	Roger Glenn	45:16
49	Luzdelis Roman	49:09
50	Andrew Palm	58:24
51	Kevin Kincaid	50:23
52	Ashlee Roberts	1:06:00
53	Daniel Guadette	56:26
54	James Aaron	53:09
55	David Camara	47:18
56	Jordan Barrette	1:04:12
57	Dennis Gregory	51:44
58	Dustin Spence	48:51
59	Jeremy Wagoner	1:08:05
60	Jeremy Lane	50:11
61	Darin Werth	1:03:44
63	Jeremiah Washington	50:36
64	Fragile Ealey	1:01:04
65	Carmen Steinbach	49:47
66	Eric Brugger	44:41
67	Jon Lopez	46:55
68	Dennis Capistrant	58:15
69	Jason Small	38:10
70	Natasha Ortega	1:13:35
71	Peter Doblal	42:47
72	Julia Marsh	57:42
73	Christine Hayek	57:42
74	Craig Chapman	1:09:55
95	Joseph Celetti	55:53
96	Amber Ehinger	1:12:39
97	Shawn Ludwig	1:06:04
98	Michael Whelan	56:37
99	Thomas Huff	1:09:55
100	Matthew Haslett	49:42
101	Pat Martinez	45:30
102	Maricez Sullivan	58:53
103	Joshua Tarrillion	48:38
104	Dan Boothe	48:00
105	Biliullo Flores	45:05
106	Andrew Sparrow	1:13:07
107	David Pelsnik	38:23
108	Charles McElrath	1:12:03
109	Andres Vallejo	45:25
110	Oscar Sainz	52:31
111	Russell Bezanson	56:26
112	Matthew Knowlton	56:26
113	Michael Clark	50:03
114	Miguel Ramos	1:00:30
115	Ricardo Cumba	57:07
116	Marion Garcia	59:22
117	Rigel Martinez	1:04:23
118	James Powers	1:03:13

USS AMERICA

Story and photos by Spc. Nadine White
Media Relations, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil



Like any other day, the familiar notes of the national anthem rang over Naval Station Guantanamo Bay promptly at 0800. It echoed over the base, blaring from strategically placed speakers, greeting troops with a patriotic start to their workday. At the same time, out beyond the Guantanamo Bay lighthouse, the gray, boxy silhouette of a large U.S. Navy vessel gracefully cut through the Caribbean Sea towards its next port.

The future USS America (LHA 6) made a scheduled 24-hour stop at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay on Monday, as part of her maiden voyage through the U.S. Southern Command and U.S. 4th Fleet area of operations, en route to her home port in San Diego. The short visit offered hundreds of military personnel and civilians stationed here the opportunity to tour the pristine warship and catch a glimpse of some of the Navy and Marine Corps' new capabilities.

The first in the America-class of amphibious assault ships and the fourth to be named after the United States of America, USS America will ultimately embark, deploy and land elements of a Marine Landing Force in operations by helicopter, landing craft, vehicle or any combination thereof. Its motto boldly states, "Prepared in war or in peace."

Visitors from the naval station and Joint Task Force Guantanamo were welcomed aboard the 844-foot-long vessel by a small gathering of uniformed Sailors into a museum-like cargo bay. Posted Sailors and Marines guided the tour through the bay, up a ramp to the hangar deck and up to the flight deck where guests were free to walk around and explore.

Although much smaller than other American aircraft carriers, USS America gave some Service members a chance to see an environment completely foreign to their particular military branches of service while its unique design awed even those most knowledgeable about Navy watercrafts.

"I have been on ships before," said Coast Guard Petty Officer 1st Class Michael Canning, a JTF GTMO Maritime Safety and Security guardsman from San Francisco. "I came to check it all out, see what all was going on with the new boats. I'm surprised, it's really nice."



A U.S. Navy Sailor salutes members of Joint Task Force Guantanamo aboard the future amphibious assault ship USS America (LHA 6) at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay July 21. America came to port and offered a grand tour to those stationed at GTMO.



Sailors and Marines man the stern rails as the future amphibious assault ship USS America (LHA 6) arrives at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay July 21.



Members of Joint Task Force Guantanamo Commissions and Liaisons Office tour the inside of a new, tilt-rotor MV-22 Osprey on the future amphibious assault ship USS America (LHA 6) at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay July 21. America came to port at GTMO while traveling through the U.S. Southern Command and U.S. 4th Fleet area of responsibility.



Designed for optimal aviation, the America is capable of supporting the Marines' new tilt-rotor MV-22 Osprey and F-35B Joint Strike Fighter jets. The MV-22s and U.S. Navy MH-60 Seahawks were two unanimously-favorite attractions to see on the flight deck.

"The Osprey looks cool and pretty much denies the laws of physics," said Spc. Jeremiah Washington, a JTF Joint Detention Group Soldier from the 66th

Military Police Company. "It's amazing."

Flight crews encouraged visitors to walk through the aircraft and sit in the pilot's seat, all while patiently and enthusiastically answering any questions about their jobs, helicopters, USS America living conditions and their future journey around the continent of South America.

While its limited stay at Naval Station

Guantanamo Bay was just one of many port calls on the USS America's inaugural voyage, it definitely left a lasting impression.

"Being able to freely walk around the hangar and flight deck, talk to the aviation crews and see a ship so new in all its glory, that was a once in a lifetime experience," said Washington.

SISTERS IN ARMS

Story by Staff Sgt. Carmen Steinbach
Editor, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

Several months ago, a few members of the 66th Military Police Company reached out to an officer in Qatar who was able to unite the females in her unit by creating an organization that fostered mentorship and empowerment. Seeing a need here at Joint Task Force Guantanamo, the local chapter of Sisters in Arms was created.

Their first event was a paintball excursion for the female Soldiers of the 66th, but membership has grown since then.

“We started this program to kind of bring women across different branches and different military assets together in a unique environment, being down here in GTMO,” said Army 1st Lt. Lindsey Trombley, executive officer for the 66th. “Across our unit, it brought us together a little bit closer than when we first got here. We wanted to expand it and make it open to all of the JTF.”

Aside from the group attending



Army Brig. Gen. Marion Garcia, deputy commander of Joint Task Force Guantanamo speaks with Army Capt. Lindsey Gerheim, one of the founding members of the Guantanamo chapter of Sisters in Arms before the leadership panel began at Troopers' Chapel, July 11.

MWR activities together, they have also hosted two panels in which members can pose questions to JTF leaders about struggles they have faced or lessons they have learned throughout their careers.

“At these panels we like to host a few officers and a noncommissioned officer as well so we can get senior enlisted and senior officer advice about anything that females want to ask,” said Army Pfc. Kaylee Schrader, one of the founders of the Guantanamo-based organization. “This program was meant to bring females closer together... in doing so we’ve met great females, been able to bond with people, and it’s a great time.”

On their most recent panel held July 11, was JTF GTMO Deputy Commander, Army Brig. Gen. Marion Garcia, Army Col. Angie DiCiro, Army Lt. Col. Margaret White and Army Sgt. Maj. Craig Chapman of the 211th Military Police Battalion. Before the audience, composed of men and women from different branches around the JTF, posed questions to the panel, they each shared their experiences and history. Some of the senior leaders shared their struggles of equality in the early days of their military careers. It then became apparent to the younger generation that while female Service members are respected much more now than they were in the past, there is still room to grow, especially at the lowest level.

“When you’re an NCO, you have to look after all your Troopers, so it’s generational ... it has to start with you,”

said Garcia. “You have to be different from the people you don’t like. You have to be something better so the ones coming up say ‘I had a great NCO who squared me away ... SHE was awesome.’ And he won’t even think that you’re a she; you were just that NCO that squared him away.”

One of the questions from the audience brought up one of the lesser publicly acknowledged challenges of serving in Guantanamo: the rumor mill. Several of the females in attendance voiced that they had at one point or another been the object of an unwarranted rumor and asked for guidance on how to combat preconceived stereotypes and judgments made about them.

DiCiro said that rumors will happen regardless of whether you’re at home or serving abroad, but that you cannot let what others say dictate your life.

“Don’t lose yourself,” said DiCiro. “When you put on the uniform, you don’t become someone else. You are the person that you are. The uniform is a choice you made to be a part of the military. You have to figure out how you look at yourself in the mirror, how you sleep at night, what you stand for and where that line is drawn for you.”

As the original founders from the 66th MP Company prepare to depart, others have stepped forward to keep the organization running. For more information on the Sisters in Arms program and how you can get involved, contact Pfc. Schrader at 3587.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Carmen Steinbach/The Wire



The purpose of the leadership discussion panel was to inspire discussion and mentorship between Joint Task Force Guantanamo senior leaders and their Troopers.

Reading program rebuilt due to generous donations

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Carmen Steinbach

Editor, thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil

The United through Reading program has been available to Service members deployed to Joint Task Force Guantanamo for quite some time. This service allows Troopers to record themselves reading a story, and then send that recording and the book to their child back home.

“It’s another way to connect, and all of us know the excitement of getting something in the mail,” said Navy Cmdr. Thomas Taylor, the JTF chaplain. “Even if we’re getting emails all the time it still means something when someone sends us that card in the mail, and this is a way for the parents here to send something home that their kids will enjoy and will keep them connected.”

With the many Soldiers, Marines, Sailors, Airmen and Coastguardsmen that cycle through the island however, supplies for this invaluable program had begun to dwindle.

“Someone approached me and said that she had come to read a book to her daughter and was kind of disappointed at the state of the books - they were worn, it was slim pickings - the last of the last books,” said Mrs. Ashley Clark, part of the 525th Military Police Battalion’s Family Readiness Group.

During a round table discussion with Mrs. Kelly, wife of U.S. Southern Command Commander, Marine Gen. John Kelly, Ashley suggested replacing the books as one of the ways to boost morale for the Soldiers here. At the change of command for the admiral, the general’s wife surprised the FRG with four large bank boxes full of books that she had collected. Additional contributions were also made by the Joint Detention Group Deputy Commander Army Lt. Col. Michael Shoen and his wife, from donations from their hometown, as well as personal donations made by other families on the island to help support the cause.

Ashley was happy to help organize the donation effort, as she remembers the joy she felt when her daughter



Mrs. Karen Kelly, wife of Marine Gen. John Kelly, commander of U.S. Southern Command, surprised Joint Task Force Guantanamo’s 525th Military Police Battalion’s Family Readiness Group with four large bank boxes full of books that she had collected.

received a book and message in the mail while her husband was deployed.

“There was an inscription from Daddy on it, and there was this book by dad read to her,” said Ashley. “It meant a lot to me that Toby (Army Capt. Tobias Clark, with JDG) took the time to do that for our children.”

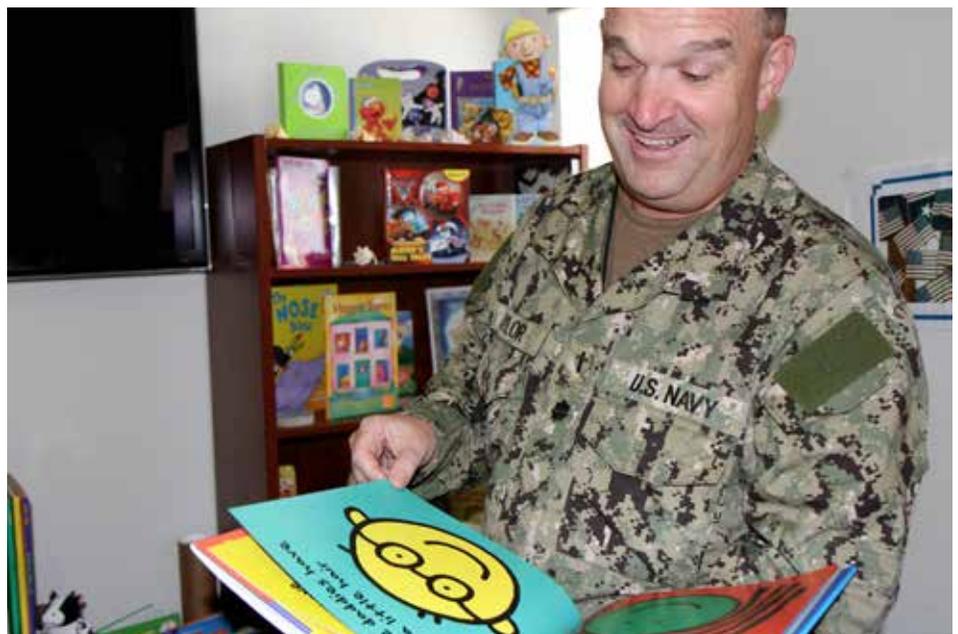
With the generous contributions from military spouses and other Naval Station Guantanamo Bay residents, children of deployed parents and family members can enjoy receiving books that they would recognize, in addition to the loving message they receive from the person they miss.

“It makes a tremendous difference,” said Taylor. “It wasn’t attractive. The books weren’t the best that ... they weren’t what our Troopers deserved,

and not what their kids deserved. Now we got some books that kids are really going to appreciate: the Disney titles and those books from Pixar movies and stuff like that, that kids will really identify with an enjoy.”

The reading area was also revamped and now offers a large leather reading chair and book shelves to create a cozy and quiet sitting area where parents, siblings, aunts, uncles and grandparents can read privately to their child back home one-on-one.

The Chaplain’s office is located in Camp America, behind the mail room, staffed between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The reading room can be reserved for a specific time by calling ahead to 2305.



Navy Cmdr. Thomas Taylor, the Joint Task Force Guantanamo chaplain, delights in one of the new books provided by generous donations from GTMO residents.



Story by Sgt. Debra Cook
Staff Writer, thewire@jftgtdmo.southcom.mil

Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Wesley Pope with the Joint Medical Group wore long sleeves, sunglasses and a hat to protect himself. He didn't want to get hit in the eye with a wood chip, or get a sunburn on the 92 degree day.

Pope threw a handful of branches into the big mouth of the wood chipper. Pope is volunteering his time on the weekend with the Florida Institute for Regional Conservation helping to cut down and haul non-native invasive plants to the dumpster.

"We only have one earth," said Pope,

Volunteer: it's good for the soul

"We do so much to pollute and destroy everything, to come out and give a little bit back is definitely worth my time."

There's a lot of Troopers around Joint Task Force Guantanamo that volunteer their time on weekends to serve the community.

Edgar Allen, the founder of Easter Seals, a non-profit charitable organization that helps children and adults with disabilities said, "Your life and mine should be valued not by what we take ... but by what we give."

By volunteering your time at GTMO you can get the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal (MOVSM).

"Volunteers are the only human beings on the face of the earth," said author Erma Bombeck, a bestselling au-

thor, "who reflect this nation's compassion, unselfish caring, patience and just plain loving one another."

The volunteer service performed at Joint Task Force Guantanamo must be of a sustained, direct and consequential nature. It has to benefit the civilian community and include the military family community. It has to be significant in nature, produce tangible results and reflect favorably to your military department and the DoD.

There are, however, more specific requirements that need to be met in order to attain the award. Details are on the JTF SharePoint drive on the Knowledge Wall under Policy 1.11, Awards and Recognition Policy and Procedures.

“Your life and mine should not be valued by what we Take but by what we Give.”

- Edgar Allen, founder of Easter Seals

Pumpkin Muffins

Time for a coffee break

Story by Sgt. Debra Cook
Staff Writer, thewire@jftgtdmo.southcom.mil

Army Brig. Gen. Marion Garcia, Deputy Commander of Joint Task Force Guantanamo, sometimes enjoys cooking on the weekends.

"It's a good way to relax, be creative and watch success happen," said Garcia.

Garcia continued that since most of our work consists of long term goals, cooking is a way to accomplish something in the short term.

These small, energy packed muffins are made with applesauce instead of butter and are a healthy way to start your day.

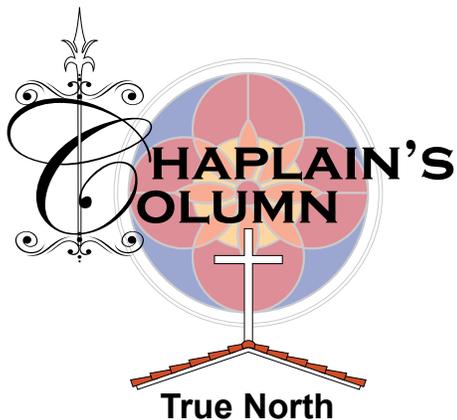




Recipe

Ingredients:
1 ½ c. raisins, 4 ¾ c. all-purpose flour, 4 c. white sugar, 1 ½ tsp baking powder, 1 ½ tsp baking soda, 1 ½ tsp salt, 1 ½ tsp nutmeg, 1 ½ tsp cinnamon, 1 ½ tsp ground cloves, 6 eggs, 1 (29 oz) can pumpkin, 1 c. unsweetened applesauce, 1 cup chopped walnuts

Directions:
Preheat oven to 350 degrees, spray mini-muffin pan with Pam, soak raisins in hot water for 10 min. to plump, then drain. In a large bowl, combine the flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda, salt, nutmeg, cinnamon and ground cloves. In a separate bowl, mix the eggs, pumpkin and applesauce until smooth. Add this mixture to the dry ingredients and stir thoroughly to make a smooth batter. Stir the raisins and walnuts into the batter. Spoon the batter into the prepared muffin pan. Bake 20 minutes or until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean.



By Army Capt. Brady Frederick
525th MP Battalion Chaplain

My father, grandfathers and so on proudly bore the title of U.S. Soldier. I don't care if the Navy has beat Army every year since 2002 in the annual Army vs. Navy football game, I still bleed green. However, had my recruiter told me of all the exotic locations of naval bases, like Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, I may have reconsidered. I've been to enough land-locked Army bases in the middle of nowhere that I can appreciate an ocean view, even if it is still the middle of nowhere. Living here I have come to understand the draw of the sea on a man's soul.

There is an old saying that he who is enslaved to the compass has the freedom of the sea. The truth is you can't really go far in life without a guide indicating true north. Otto Rank essentially stated that the degree to which we are unaware of the influences on us, we are controlled by them. Each day as life happens our environment, culture, drive, media, ambition, instincts and so on, impact and control our decisions. Freedom for freedom's sake without boundaries start to look like anarchy, and people end up enslaved to their own passions. Therein lies the rub with modern culture. Many of us are tempted to throw off rigid rules seeking freedom; but if you really want the most out of life, you'd do well picking up a guide. So what's your guide? How do you prevent yourself from enslavement all the while seeking freedom? For me, it is the Bible. Within those pages aren't rigid rules, but the pathway to independence. In the book is forgiveness and grace that allows me to live my life with nothing to hide and nothing to prove, giving me more freedom than I could ever imagine.

CRAZYHORSE TROOP, 1ST SQUADRON, 3RD CAVALRY REGIMENT



"OWN THE NIGHT"

Photo by Sgt. Kenneth Tucker/The Wire

During a transfer of authority ceremony held at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay's Windjammer Ballroom Friday, July 18, C Troop, 1/3 Cav. uncased their colors to signify their mission assumption from A Troop, 3/89 Cav.

The 3rd Cav.'s history dates back to May 19, 1846, when it was constituted as the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen

at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri.

They have been involved in 11 major conflicts, including the Spanish-American War, in which the regiment was sent to Cuba.

Crazyhorse Troop, 1/3 Cav. is led by Army Capt. Andrew Oliver, commander, and the Troop's first sergeant, Sgt. 1st Class Jeremy Robertson.



On July 26, 1964, the first fresh water was produced by the new desalinization plant, making the base forever independent of the water from the Yatares River located within Cuba.

The formal dedication of the desalinization plant took place on July 30, 1964. Mrs. J.D. Bulkeley (wife of the then naval base commander) opened the valve to begin the flow of fresh water. The plant produced 750,000 gallons of fresh water per day. Later on, three 'flash-type' evaporator plants producing water at a rate of 750,000 gallons per day replaced the water production duties of the original boiler systems. The

The Week-ender

- Run 1/2 mile
- Rest 5 mins
- 21-15-9 for time
- 95lb (M) 65lb (F)
- Back Squats
- 53lb (M) 35lb (F)
- Kettle Bell Swing
- 24-in Box Jumps
- Rest 5 mins
- Run 1/2 mile

Courtesy Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Andrew "Biff" Murray

plant was then capable of producing 2,250,000 gallons a day operating at full capacity. The plant also maintained two turbine generators that produced a combined 15,000 kilowatts of electricity.

Northeast Gate Tours

Every third Friday of the month 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Sign up at the Marine Hill Whitehouse



For more information call MCSFCO Operations at 2279



GTMO Astronomical Society
 ★ presents ★
 understanding the universe
 lecture series
 Windjammer classroom 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
 Every Monday, Wednesday & Friday through Oct. 8
 Drop-ins welcome
 star gazing on clear nights
 FMI call Kate at 84205

NEW TO GTMO ORIENTATION

- ★ learn about key base resources
- ★ meet other new arrivals
- ★ tour the base

The Fleet & Family Support Center, Bldg. 2135

July 30

8:15 - 11:15 a.m.

call 4141 to register - seating is limited

Army Sgt. 1st Class Stephanie Dembski, 525th Military Police Battalion, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, reenlists underwater at Cuzco Beach in this photo by Army Sgt. 1st Class Robert Aquino.



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Send your best photos to thewire@jffgtmo.southcom.mil