Volume 16, Issue 29

September 5, 2014

THE WIRE

The Official Publication of Joint Task Force Guantanamo

OFF-ROAD island style

Around the Bay

MOTIVATOR OF THE WEEK

SPC Jonathan Cardinale
Crazyhorse Troop 1/3 CR

SGT Zachary Strong
339th Military Police Company

Cover photo: Marine Corps Sgt. Derrick Wyatt, with the Marine Corps Security Forces Company, flexes his 2000 Jeep Wrangler TJ, nicknamed "Dana," on a limited-access trail during the first Off-Road GTMO on Sunday. Twelve, four-wheel drive capable vehicles participated in the safe and fun island adventure hosted by Naval Station Guantanamo Bay's MWR.

Photo by Spc. Nadine White

Monday night on the big screen

Experience the NFL in high-definition at the Tiki Bar. Watch your favorite pro football teams go head to head beginning this Sunday for the double header. The Tiki Bar opens at 5 p.m. and kick-offs are at 7:30 and 10:20 p.m. Appetizers are available for purchase and residents of all ages are welcome.

Get LinkedIn

Is there such a thing as a beneficial social media platform that can enhance your career? Find out how most up and coming professionals are using LinkedIn to network and how to operate this system during a free seminar Sept. 29 at the Fleet and Family Support Center. Call 4141 to register.

Photo by Sgt. Spencer Rhodes

Members of the Joint Medical Group command element prepare to initiate their transfer of authority tradition with their incoming counterparts. Each officer-in-charge and senior enlisted leader for the prospective areas of expertise remove their title nametapes and hand it over to their replacements to be worn during their tour.

FEATURES

7 • Northeast Gate run

Residents brave the Caribbean heat and rolling hills, running an intense 12 miles towards the historic gate dividing American and Cuban soil during the MWR-sponsored Northeast Gate Run Saturday.

8 • Rhythm & Ribs

Rockabilly tunes and the smell of savory BBQ filled the air during the Rhythm & Rib Festival this past Labor Day weekend, where three live bands performed for a full and lively crowd.

12 • CNO visits GTMO

Navy Adm. Jonathan W. Greenert, Chief of Naval Operations, visited Naval Station Guantanamo Bay and Joint Task Force Guantanamo during a tour of the Southern Command's area of operation.

CORRECTIONS *Please report all corrections to thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil.*

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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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Photo Editor
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Staff Writers
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Army Staff Sgt. Robert Ponder
Spc. Nadine White
Spc. Nancy Mizzell

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Religious Services

NAVSTA Chapel

Catholic Mass
Mon.-Thur. 1730
Saturday 1700
Sunday 0900

Protestant Services
General Protestant
Sunday 1100
Gospel Worship
Sunday 1300

Chapel Annexes

Pentecostal Gospel
Sunday 0800 & 1700
Room D

LDS Service
Sunday 1300 Fellowship Hall

Islamic Service
Friday 1315 Room 2

Seventh Day Adventist
Friday 1900 Room 1
Sabbath School: Saturday 0930
Room 1
Sabbath Service: Saturday 1100
Room 1

Iglesia ni Cristo
Thursday: 0500, 1900 Room 1
Sunday: 0530, 1900 Room 1
Tuesday (Bible Study): 2000

New Troopers' Chapel

Protestant Worship
Sunday 0640
Sunday 0900
Sunday 1900

Bible Studies
Monday 2000
Cuzco block J
Wednesday and
Friday 1900
New Troopers' Chapel

Chapel Annexes
Cont.

Liturgical Protestant
Sunday: 0930, Room 1

Transportation Schedules

BUS Schedule

Camp America - :00/:20/:40
Gazebo - :01/:18/:21/:38/:41/:58
Camp America NEX -
:02/:17/:22/:37/:42/:57
Camp Delta - :04/:13/:24/:33/:44/:53
Camp 6 - :07/10/:27/:30/:47/:50
HQ Building - :55/:15/:35
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
JAS - :14/:34/: 54
Windjammer/Gym -
:02/:17/:22/:37/:42/:57
Gold Hill Galley -
:04/:15/:24/:35/:44/:55
NEX - :06/:13/:26/:33/:46/:53
NEX Laundry - :07/:27:47
C Pool - :10/:30/:50
Downtown Lyceum - :11/:31/:51

NEX Express Bus
09:55 - 19:55 hourly

Camp America - :48/:55
TK 1 - :05/:36
Windjammer/Gym - :11/:31
Gold Hill Galley - :14/:29
NEX - :16/:27
Downtown Lyceum - :17/:25

BEACH BUS
Saturday & Sunday ONLY

Windward Loop/East Caravella
0900/0930/1200/1230/1500/1530/1800/1830
SBOQ/Marina
0905/0935/1205/1235/1505/1535/1805/1835
NEX
0908/0925/1208/1225/1508/1525/1808/1825
Phillips Park
0914/ 1214/1514/1814
Cable Beach / Turn Around
0917/1217/1517/1817
Return to Office
0940/1240/1540/1840

FERRY Schedule
Monday thru Saturday
FERRY
Windward 0630/0730/0930/1030/1130/1330/1530/1630
Leeward 0700/0800/1000/1100/1200/1300/1400/1600/1700
UTILITY BOAT
Windward 1730/1830/1930/2030/2130/2230
Leeward 1800/1900/2000/2100/2200/2300
Sunday & Holidays
FERRY
Windward 0730/0930/1130/1330
Leeward 0800/1000/1200/1400
UTILITY BOAT
Windward 1530/1730/1830/2000/2230
Leeward 1600/1800/1900/2030/2300

JOINT TASK FORCE GUANTANAMO
SAFE HUMANE LEGAL TRANSPARENT

Opportunities and choices

By Air Force Lt. Col. Patrick Miller
Commander, 474th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron

I am a firm believer that life is about opportunities and choices. Each day you are presented with numerous opportunities. The choices you make lead you to your next opportunity, kind of like the old adventure books that present you with a choice i.e., turn left or turn right. Once you make your choice, you flip forward or backward in the book to the page associated with your choice and continue reading until the next opportunity presents itself. You continue making choices until you reach a conclusion. If you do not like the ending, you simply go back to a previous decision point and make a different choice. Unfortunately, life is not that simple, which brings me to a quote from Dan Brown's best-selling novel "Inferno," which has come to summarize my leadership philosophy.

Lt. Col. Patrick Miller

In "Inferno," Mr. Brown writes, "decisions of our past are the architects of our present." In other words, where you are today is a function of where you have been (opportunities) and the decisions you made (choices). We have all taken different paths to get where we are today. My brother and I are prime examples of how different choices yield very different results.

My brother and I are from a small coal mining and farming community. We grew up in the same home town with the same parents and went to the same schools. Our dad sacrificed time with us to put food on the table. Our mom was a high school dropout who later earned her GED and a college degree. Our story was the norm for many in our community.

We had the exact same opportunities growing up; however, we made very different choices. I immersed myself in school, volunteer activities and Boy Scouts. My brother hung out downtown. As we continued to spiral down separate paths I found myself in college and then the Air Force. My brother found himself in prison for the better part of fifteen years. What was the difference? We had the same upbringing, the same opportunities. We were raised on the same values by the same parents. The difference was our choices.

My brother made bad choices. Rather than course correct early in life, he continued to make bad choices. Doors closed, and he was held accountable for his actions. As Dan Brown stated, the decisions of my brother's past were scripting his present. He no longer had great opportunities, or even good opportunities, in front of him. My path was very different. I am not saying I made the right choice every time, but when I did make a bad choice I corrected the issue immediately, learned and moved on to the next opportunity.

When presented with your next opportunity, what are you going to do? The choice you make is a function of your character and is grounded in your experience. Opportunities come and go; only you can decide what choice you will make.

College Top 75

(1)Florida State 37	Oklahoma State 31
(2) ALA 33	West Virginia 23
(3)Oregon 62	South Dakota 13
(4)Oklahoma 48	Louisiana Tech 16
(5)Auburn 45	Arkansas 21
(6)Univ Georgia 45	(23) Clemson 21
(7)Michigan State 45	Jacksonville State 7
(8)Ohio State 34	Navy 17
(9)Texas A&M 52	(21)South Carolina 28
(10)Baylor 45	SMU 0
(11)UCLA 28	Virginia 20
(12)LSU 28	(18) Wisconsin 24
(13)Stanford 45	UCD 0
(14)USC 52	Fresno State 13
(15)Ole Miss 35	BSU 13

NCAA Weekly®

By Staff Sgt. Patrick Ponder
Media Relations, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

Ladies and gentlemen, it is here! The 2014 college football season has begun. If you're anything like me, you've been waiting the last few months to see if all the talk was just hype or if it was the real thing.

Thursday, we started off with Texas A&M versus the South Carolina Gamecocks. I hope you didn't think A&M's first-year starter, Kenny Hill, was going to be incapable of putting up numbers like "Johnny Football," because not only did he meet the expectations of a first-year starter, he broke a couple of Johnny's school records.

Saturday, things picked back up with more than enough football games to watch here on GTMO. Navy, your boys looked promising but couldn't quite hang on during the second half against Ohio State.

If you're an Alabama or Florida State fan, you probably weren't overly impressed by their performances. Not to take anything away from their opponents, but when you're ranked no. 1 and no. 2, you should be a little more dominating than that, shouldn't be playing a nail bitter with an unranked opponent. Go back to the drawing board fellas; we'll see what you do this weekend.

Next up was Louisiana State University and Wisconsin. A very back and forth, hard fought game; but in the end, LSU pulled it out for a win.

Now, the game I picked to be the best for the first week of college football was Clemson versus University of Georgia, and boy was I right for the first half. The second half of the game, UGA absolutely ran away with the game, literally! UGA's Heisman hopeful, running back Todd Gurley, is an absolute beast! Gurley ran for 198 yards with 3 touchdowns, one of which was a 100-yard kickoff return.

I know it seems like I highlighted teams from the south, but lets face it, they're the best! Go 'Noles!

VOTE

It's your right

Story by Sgt. Christopher Vann
Copy Editor, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

Someone once asked, "Why should I vote, my one vote won't change anything?" The saying, every vote counts is very true. Even while deployed, away from the political campaigns and local news, your voice can still be heard.

The Federal Voting Assistance Program makes sure that each and every Service member, their family members and overseas citizens are aware of their voting rights and can do so, from anywhere in the world.

The FVAP educates and assists those who are eligible to vote, but are unable to physically make it to their respective voting booth, either because they are deployed or underway. There are a few facts to keep in mind however, before participating in a political event.

For example, Service members may not actively petition for any office or political party, while in uniform.

Also, the legal voting residence is determined by the county, city or state a Trooper has resided in, is currently residing in or plans to reside in upon their return. Therefore, military personnel and their family members may not pick and choose which state to declare as their legal voting residence without meeting that state's residency requirements.

Federal voting registration dictates that you may only have one legal residence at a time, but may change your residency every time you are transferred to a new location. You must actively seek to change residency by either, registering to vote, registering a car, qualifying for in-state tuition, etc.

Once your residence has been changed, you may not go back to the previous residence without re-establishing new physical presence and intent to remain or return.

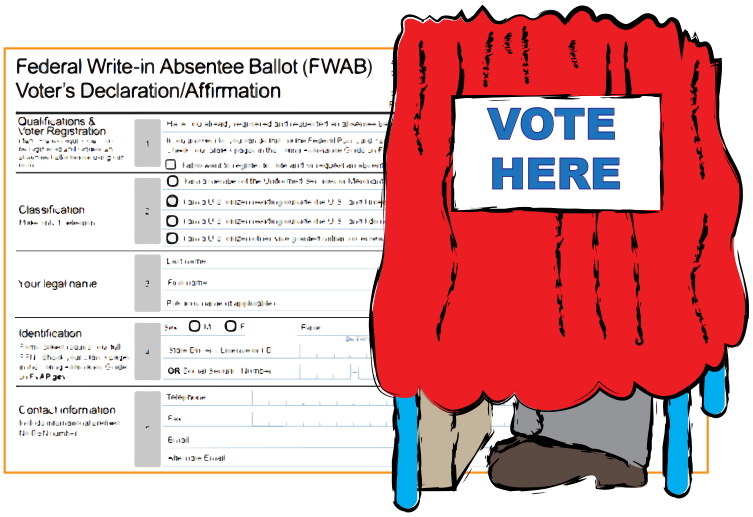
Minors typically assume the legal residence of either parent, and when they become 18, they can also opt to have their own legal residence which may differ from either parent, only if they have met the same guidelines as their parents.

You cannot vote in an election for federal offices for the sole basis of imposing or escaping state and local taxes.

For more info, contact your legal counsel, Lt. Cmdr. Aaron McGowan at 4888 for specific questions or situations, or visit fvap.gov.

http://www.fvap.gov/info/about/purpose

http://www.fvap.gov/info/laws/voting-residency-guidelines



Need to **KNOW**

NFL WEEKLY

Story by Sgt. Christopher Vann
Copy Editor, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

Although there were no games this past week, there were a few newsworthy headlines. Particularly, the case involving the San Francisco 49ers defensive end, Ray McDonald, who was arrested on a domestic violence charge. The incident occurred a mere four days after the NFL commissioner implemented new league wide rules concerning the penalties for such an act.

In other news, the St. Louis Rams released defensive tackle Michael Sam. As an unrestricted free agent, Sam now has the option to sign with any team of his choosing.

Throughout Guantanamo, many Troopers drafted their Fantasy Football teams. Good luck to all participants!

Upcoming games:

Thursday, September 4th
Packers vs Seahawks

Sunday, September 7th
Saints vs Falcons
Vikings vs Rams
Browns vs Steelers
Jaguars vs Eagles
Raiders vs Jets
Bengals vs Ravens
Bills vs Bears
Redskins vs Texans
Titans vs Chiefs
Patriots vs Dolphins
Panthers vs Buccaneers
Colts vs Broncos

Monday, September 8th
Giants vs Lions
Chargers vs Cardinals

BEHIND The magic the movie

Story by Sgt. Kenneth Tucceri
Webmaster, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

For film fanatics and casual moviegoers alike, Naval Station Guantanamo Bay's outdoor lyceums create a wonderful cinematic experience for those looking to view some of Hollywood's latest releases.

Elizabeth Leonard, GTMO's arts and crafts and lyceum manager, is the person behind the planning that makes the screens light up every night for residents here to enjoy a night at the movies.

"Navy Motion Picture Services decides what I receive," said Leonard. "Ultimately, its up to the company who makes the movies whether or not to send us a movie."

She also states that we are fortunate to receive the movies when we do, as not all Navy bases get initial showings.

"We are actually lucky because we are an OCONUS [outside the continental United States] base," said Leonard. "Not all OCONUS bases, but a few of them, have first run movies. At a Navy base in the states you may not find 'Guardians of the Galaxy' first run. We got it the same weekend as the states did, which is awesome, but not all Navy bases do that. They do it for OCONUS bases because we are out here not able to leave to go to a commercial theater."

The movies initially come from Millington, Tennessee, headquarters of MWR and Navy Motion Picture Services, said Leonard. They are flown to NAS Jacksonville and then here.

Leonard finds out about the movies one or two weeks out, and if everything goes right, GTMO residents can enjoy the show. Though things can and have gone wrong, which sends Leonard, as if in her own little Hollywood plot, on a mission to get new movies here.

The movies come to GTMO in what looks like a giant flash drive, which come on the rotator on Fridays, said Leonard. "If the drive is damaged, or there is just a glitch, I don't have another option. Sometimes I'll work to try and get another new drive but then I have to ask Navy Motion Picture Services to get the drive to Jacksonville and then they have to rush to get it to the plane."

Sometimes this is done with all the last minute suspense seen in an action movie, as there have been instances of people rushing to NAS with the drives.

"It also depends on the rotator," said Leonard. "If for some reason the movie is delayed or my movies somehow don't make it on to the plane, which has happened before, we don't have new movies."

Another priority for Leonard is the maintenance and functionality of the lyceums' equipment. If anything goes array, she has to push a work order through like anything else, sometimes order parts and also deal with the unexpected mishap, like recently when a breaker at the Downtown Lyceum got struck by lighting.

"The fuse blew so I couldn't play the movie," said Leonard. "I went down there and sat with Bremcor for about two hours while they changed the fuses and it worked. So that's constantly on my mind with storms and facilities possibly leaking. I'm always concerned about maintenance."

Thanks to Leonard's diligence, the show does go on. With attendance marked every viewing, quite often all 499 of the Downtown Lyceum's seats are filled up. There were over 1,000 in attendance for "Guardians of the Galaxy," said Leonard.

"I send the schedules and attendance to Navy Motion Pictures Services, and from there they use it to send to the movie companies so they know that we have good attendance for new movies," said Leonard.

A few new movies are expected in the coming weeks, "but that all depends if they get on the plane, so I don't want to promise people anything specific," said Leonard.

Courtesy Getty Images, Columbia Pictures, Creative Commons, King Fleischer Studios, Inc., Walt Disney, MGM Studios

NOW SHOWING

MOVIES

	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
DOWNTOWN	The Hundred-Foot Journey *(New) PG, 8 p.m.* Lucy *R, 10:15 p.m.*	Guardians of the Galaxy *PG13, 8 p.m.* Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles *PG13, 10:15 p.m.*	Get On Up *PG13, 8 p.m.*	Sex Tape *(LS) R, 8 p.m.*	The Fluffy Movie *(LS) PG13, 8 p.m.*	The Expendables 3 *PG13, 8 p.m.*	Hercules *PG13, 8 p.m.*
CAMP BULKELEY	Guardians of the Galaxy *PG13, 8 p.m.* Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles *PG13, 10:15 p.m.*	The Hundred-Foot Journey *(New) PG, 8 p.m.* Lucy *R, 10:15 p.m.*	Sex Tape *(LS) R, 8 p.m.*	LYCEUM CLOSED *	Get On Up *PG13, 8 p.m.*	LYCEUM CLOSED *	Into the Storm *PG13, 8 p.m.*

MOVIES

*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!***

Northeast Gate 12 Mile Run

Photo by Pvt. Kourtney Grimes/The Wire

Story by Pvt. Kourtney Grimes
Staff Writer, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

Naval Station Guantanamo Bay's Northeast Gate is the longstanding portal that separates Cuba from the residents of GTMO. Contrary to the belief of anyone who hears the name Guantanamo Bay, the travel between the military base and Cuba is not as frequent and leisurely as most assume, but this was not always the case. For some time trips from GTMO to Cuba were open to GTMO residents on weekends, but this was thwarted when Cuban authorities kept a group of Sailors and Marines in Cuba under false pretenses. This instance injured the relations between Cuban authorities, furthermore, closing the gate only to be opened for Cuban workers and official business.

To commemorate GTMO's iconic gate, MWR held a 12-mile run of which the halfway point was the Northeast Gate. Despite its possibly discouraging length, the participants of the run were present in number and effort.

"We had 51 runners so the turnout was great," said Jim Holbert, MWR sports coordinator. "It was a unique opportunity to go up to the Northeast Gate. That's why we had such a high number for a 12-mile run. It was close to a half-marathon."

Among the runners were many faces familiar to those of Joint Task Force Guantanamo including Army Brig. Gen. Marion Garcia, JTF's deputy commander, and Army Lt. Col. Roger Glenn, commander of the 391st Military Police Battalion.

"I was pleased with my performance," said Glenn. "I haven't done a lot of distance lately."

But the story that follows his recent lack of lengthy runs is one that speaks highly of the dedication of the leadership here.

"I had back surgery in November for a ruptured disk, L5S1," Glenn explained. "The doc at that time told me I wouldn't run again, that I would have to walk and do stuff like that. So I did a good bit of research on trying to recover, and I stated running again in March. I was real slow. I wanted to go faster but I couldn't. It was ugly, it was real ugly. I just had to work my way back into it. I haven't run this far since November, and I had only done about six miles down here … That's why I was pleased with just being able to finish 12 miles."

Despite what could have ended his running career, Glenn was able to recover and continues to make progress. After the race he spoke of why he put in so much effort to recuperate.

"The reason that I run is to stay fit and try to live longer, so in my opinion anybody who is out running is winning."

In the spirit of competition, the race had winners in age groups. The top three males' times went to Army Staff Sgt. Casey Gore, Army Maj. Jason Small and Army Sgt. David Pelsnik. The females that made the top three were Navy Petty Officer 1st. Class Cherry Quick, Air Force Capt. Devon Messecar and Army Brig. Gen. Marion Garcia.

Photo by Sgt. Kenneth Tucceri/The Wire

Army Staff Sgt. Casey Gore, stationed here with Public Health Command, Region South, Fort Gordon, runs to complete the last quarter of the Northeast Gate Run Saturday.

Rhythm

Story by Spc. Nancy Mizzell
Media Relations, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

Choosing the island's most delicious ribs came as easy as taking a breath for many Guantanamo Bay residents. However, for members of rockabilly bands, Beau and The Burners, The Mikey Clams Band, and Hot Rod Walt and the Psycho-DeVilles, getting their taste buds to agree on the top ribs proved to be a challenge. Nevertheless, they always see eye to eye on one thing: music. On Saturday these rockabilly bands came together at GTMO's Tiki Bar to celebrate Labor Day weekend by sharing their gift of music.

Rod Walt, guitarist and vocalist for Hot Rod Walt and the Psycho-DeVilles, plays his Gretsch guitar on the Tiki Bar's stage Saturday night at the Rhythm and Ribs Festival.

Rockabilly formed and hit main stream audiences in the 1950s with a unique fusion of country, rock 'n' roll, and rhythm and blues. It is not the rock that everyone knows today, but that doesn't stop western-rockabilly musician Mikey Clams from living like the rock star that he has always been.

"It's a mentality really," said Clams. "I knew at an early age that this style of music was my thing, I really liked it. It's cars, clothes, it's a specific type of music."

For Rod Walt of the Psycho-DeVilles, the aspect of cars is the highlight of rockabilly.

"I have a huge collection of Hot Rod cars. I've always liked old cars, pre '60s. It meant a lot for me to have a car that I built myself at 17," said Walt.

Walt has a great love for cars, but music is his passion.

"I always did both," said Walt, "but I'd rather play music than do anything."

When an unfamiliar artist is described by being placed in a genre of music such as alternative, metal, hip-hop and even classical, they are immediately understood. In contrast to today's dominant music scene, rockabilly is a style that is foreign to many and mistaken for something it is.

"I've never heard anything from these types of bands, but my son is really excited about it. It goes to show that good music reaches everyone and breaks any culture barriers," said Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Jeramie Johnson.

Rockabilly musicians are aware of music lovers' shallow knowledge when it comes to rockabilly, but see it as a reason to continue sharing their music. The lead singer and guitarist of Beau and the Burners feels that rockabilly is a type of music that will last forever.

"It's not the most popular music in the world, but it's still hanging in there, and it will always be around," said Beau Knott. "A lot of people think of it as oldies music, but I kind of see it as universal music."

The rockabilly concert attracted an audience diverse in culture and closed generation gaps, confirming Knott's thoughts. This weekend was Knott's first trip to GTMO, but Clams is no stranger to the island. Clams loves the energy of GTMO and hopes to enjoy it for years to come.

"This is my fourth time here," said Clams. "I just keep coming back because it's fun!"

Steve Barnett, Hot Rod Walt and the Psycho-DeVilles drum
for The Mikey Clams Band and Beau and The Burners, sits
session Saturday night during the Rhythm and Ribs Festiva

& Ribs

Story by Sgt. Christopher Vann
Copy Editor, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

Navy Capt. John R. Nettleton, commander of Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, poses with the head cooks from their respective restaurants at the Rhythm and Ribs Festival. The Windjammer Cafe won the rib cook-off event with their Hawaiian sauce recipe.

mmer, bangs on cymbals while Jim Weber, drummer s on the kit during a collaborative cross-band jam al.

Buford T. Ogletree, of Hot Rod Walt and the Psycho-DeVilles, hoists his upright bass on his shoulder during the Rhythm and Ribs Festival Saturday night.

Lip-smacking, finger-licking and bellies full of ribs. These were some of the sights and sounds at the Rhythm and Ribs Festival held at Guantanamo Bay's Tiki Bar Saturday.

Residents and Service members all had the chance to sample and cast their votes for the recipe they thought pleased their pallet the most.

Stephen Prestesater, MWR community activities director, stated that the idea for the festival came from a recent visit to St. Augustine, Florida.

"I went to the St. Augustine Rhythm and Ribs Festival," said Prestesater. "I saw it and loved the idea. I wanted to bring it to GTMO, so here they are."

With the good turn-out of the inaugural event, Prestesater plans to have this event be yearly, so that as units and personnel transition in and out, the joy can be shared by all.

"We plan from here on out to grow and increase in size," said Prestesater. "It's just an opportunity for us to give back to the community."

The Windjammer Cafe beat out the Jerk House and Bayview restaurants to take the title of best ribs on the island, with their Hawaiian blend of spices and sauce.

Joint Task Force Guantanamo's Sgts. 1st Class Dorothy McPeek and Charlotte Fowler-White, both Soldiers with the Joint Detention Group, had differing views as to which blend was best.

"I enjoyed the Hawaiian," said McPeek, JDG S1 NCOIC.

"The St. Louis was by far the best," said Fowler-White, JDG mailroom NCOIC.

There were many discarded, sauce-covered napkins, evident of the GTMO community's eager participation in the cook-off. Although the Windjammer won the cook-off, the residents were the real winners.

OFF THE GRID

MWR hosts first trail adventure for off-road enthusiasts

Story and photos by Spc. Nadine White
Staff Writer, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

In the late 1930s, the U.S. Army was desperate for an all-terrain capable vehicle to replace the motorcycle/ sidecar combination vehicle used during World War I. In 1940, they received a prototype of a light weight, four-wheel drive, reconnaissance and scout vehicle that was capable of withstanding the rough and tough environment of a battlefield. This vehicle ultimately evolved into the Jeep. War correspondent Ernie Pyle characterized the jeep vehicle as, "faithful as a dog, as strong as a mule and agile as a goat."

There are very few activities that epitomize the adventurous, boundless desire most Americans have for challenging limits and exploring, quite like going off the familiar, paved roads and taking advantage of a Jeep's four-wheel drive abilities on the most rugged terrain.

Given Jeep's predominant military history, it was an exciting and pleasant surprise to Jeep owners and fanatics at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay when the MWR's outdoor recreation department hosted its first ever Off-Road GTMO event on Sunday.

The rumbling engines of twelve pre-inspected, four-wheel drive capable

Naval Station Guantanamo Bay held its first off-road adventure Sunday for those with four-wheel drive vehicles. Here the convoy of SUV's, led by the MWR outdoor recreation vehicles, explore the first of many hills.

Participants of the inaugural Off-Road GTMO pose with their vehicles at a look-out point near Cuzco Beach Sunday. This stop was one of many exclusive views drivers and passengers were able to enjoy along the routes chosen by Naval Station Guantanamo Bay's MWR Outdoor Recreation.

Marine Corps Sgt. Derrick Wyatt skillfully navigates his four-wheel drive Jeep Wrangler TJ on a steep, gravel backroad through the hills of Naval Station Guantanamo Bay Sunday.

vehicles – all of which were various models of Jeep, except for a lone Toyota FJ Cruiser– rallied at the Downtown Lyceum Sunday morning to receive a safety brief and route maps for the day.

MWR's outdoor recreation director, Tim Baugh, organized the inaugural off-road event after the idea was suggested in a customer feed-back survey.

"We just ran with it," said Baugh. "We had to get approval from base safety, the Emergency Management Group and the Weapons Department. With the permission from the base commander, Capt. Nettleton, and help from the MA's [master-at-arms], we were able to have access to the trails we used."

The two off-road trails gave drivers and passengers unique and typically off-limit views. The first trail began on a restricted, paved road off Sherman Ave. A couple gorged, jagged miles later, it ended at the top of Stephen Crane Hill, where participants were invited to enjoy the high sights of the base's entirety.

Following lunch, provided by the MWR at Phillips Dive Park, the second trail led the Jeep fleet past the Cuzco Well Cemetery, down a rocky, uneven, washed-out road. It then hurdled up and down a moderately steep hill to an ocean-side cliff overlooking the exclusive Cuzco Beach.

One of the more experienced drivers braving the rocky slopes was Jeep enthusiast Navy Capt. Daryl Daniels, the U.S. Naval Hospital Guantanamo Bay commanding officer and Joint Task Force Guantanamo Joint Medical Group commander. Although a veteran in off-road adventures, he was ecstatic to be apart of the first of its kind here.

"This was one of the best days I've had here in Guantanamo Bay," said Daniels. "Just getting out, seeing places we haven't been able to see before and take the Jeeps out and show each other what capabilities they have, it was awesome."

The MWR's goals for this event were for participants to be safe, as well as have fun, in hopes that a successful ride would lead to more expeditions in the future.

"We were trying to prove to everyone that we can do things like this safely and keep doing them," said Baugh. "Look for more events in the future; we're going to try to expand the program. I know I look forward to doing some more advanced trails."

Chief of Naval Operations

Adm. Greenert talks about Navy's future

Story and photos by Sgt. Spencer Rhodes
Photo Editor, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

Navy Adm. Jonathan W. Greenert, Chief of Naval Operations, visited Naval Station Guantanamo Bay and Joint Task Force Guantanamo during a tour of the Southern Command's area of operation August 28.

Greenert said his tour has been a positive one, as he's seen a variety of operations and training, including the 24/7 effort of JTF GTMO's Troopers.

"I was really impressed with the professionalism from the folks with the Army, the Air Force, the Marine Corps and the Navy, of course; the medical, to the people at master-at-arms to MPs," said Greenert. "They're all doing the very best job. They have a very, very tough job. There is no room for mistakes and they're not making any. It's an institution that the president has said he would like to end, he would like to close, but until then it has to be done with great professional approach and that's exactly what our folks are doing."

Greenert, who has been the CNO since 2011, took the time during his tour of GTMO to speak to Service members at the Windjammer. Much like Army Brig. Gen. Mark Spindler's visit with the MPs here at JTF GTMO where he took the time to speak about the future of the Army MP force, the admiral used the speaking opportunity to talk about the future of Naval operations and where Sailors could expect to see future missions, and have a general idea of what the Navy's plans were in the next decade and more specifically, why?

Greenert explained that for nearly a century we have kept the same percentage of ships forward deployed. As the Navy gets smaller, this won't be realistically sustainable with the current operations model. The idea is by having a non-rotational operation method, having ships and personnel placed permanently in areas where the Navy can respond to missions as they occur, the Navy will be able to sustain its presence without constantly deploying Sailors downrange and for extended periods of time. With the introduction of new high-tech ships like Spearhead-class Catamaran's, that can be used as a mobile base among a myriad of other dynamic roles, the Navy will be able to maintain its presence where it's needed with less strain.

"The point of all this is that we have to be where it matters, when it matters. We have to be in areas where we can respond to keep areas of the world open, such as the Suez Canal, so the economy can keep going. We have to be there, and we have to be able to respond," said Greenert.

Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Jason Dietrich, from Joint Task Force Guantanamo, is promoted August 28 by Navy Adm. Jonathan Greenert.

Chief of Naval Operations, Navy Adm. Jonathan Greenert, performs a re-enlistment for Sailors of Naval Station Guantanamo Bay August 28. Greenert visited GTMO during his tour of the Southern Command area of operations.

Diving: Love of scuba diving reels Trooper into becoming an underwater videographer

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

Gravity has no affect on you. It's as if you're hovering mid-air and the pressures of life are completely lifted. It feels like being in outerspace. In one word it feels like peace. Welcome to the underwater world of Guantanamo Bay. Scuba divers have said it's the most unique experience they've had in their lives.

"It's a completely different world down there," said Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Wesley Pope, with Joint Medical Group. He was so impressed with his scuba diving experience that he started bringing his underwater video camera by the fourth dive. Pope relates to the Jacques Cousteau quote, "But man has only to sink beneath the surface and he is free."

Pope didn't scuba dive until he came to GTMO. He found out the prices were less than in the states and even though he was trying to save money he thought, "If I don't do this now, I probably will never go diving."

Many kinds of shells, turtles, lobsters and even a shark are just a few of the things Pope's been able to videotape underwater. He shot the shark footage from afar.

"I've never been scared diving," said Pope. "We always hear the horror stories of what sharks do, and they're not generally that aggressive in most situations. But when I saw the shark I thought, we need to go."

"It's definitely a humbling experience when you start to realize how powerful the environment is," said Pope. "Nature itself and the water. You really have to have a great respect for it because it can be dangerous, but it also is an amazing experience."

On his fourth dive, which is the last of the basic open water course, Pope brought his underwater video camera and shot video for the first time. He went home excited to see the footage and was so motivated he edited the work, put in video transitions, titles and music then showed it to his class.

"There was a good reception, and I didn't think much of it at the time," said Pope, "but I got an email from the instructor the next day asking if I'd be interested in doing more video for the classes."

Pope started his video hobby by taking photos. His Navy career took him to Italy, Germany, France and Greece where he was able to hone his photography skills. From that point he started a small side business doing portraits of children and families to keep himself busy.

Having children is what gave Pope his start in video.

"When I had kids," said Pope, "I started doing more videos because they were growing all the time. Now I try to have a camera with me wherever I go."

He's been able to squeeze a few internet clips home to his young children.

"My wife took my kids to the aquarium. There was a diver in one of the tanks cleaning. My son said, 'my daddy does that,' pointing to the diver. He associates me now with diving, and I just thought that was really cool."

As far as doing this full time, it would be almost like a dream come true for Pope.

"It would be so much fun going to work every day and getting to dive. That'd be an awesome job. For my current career path it's probably not something I'll do primarily as a job but maybe someday as a side job," said Pope.

Pope recommends to enjoy diving GTMO while you can. If you don't own gear you can rent it. It's more affordable here than in the states and a great way to pass the time. When you dive here you get your Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI) certification. It never expires and you can use it internationally.

Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Wesley Pope, with Joint Medical Group, prepares for a dive at the MWR Marina.

Mind Body Soul

You're more than working class

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

The smell of barbecue permeated the air as I drove out of the Cuzco Barracks. I was headed for the beach, where soon I'd feel the wind ricochet off cliff-like rock and coral formations. I'd be sitting with friends talking while the ocean gives solace from the hot sun of Guantanamo Bay. It was going to be an excellent Labor Day weekend spent away from work.

On the way I stopped for gas and next to me an Army staff sergeant in uniform was doing the same.

"You're working today?" I asked him.

"It's OK. It's what I'm here to do," he said with a smile.

Even though he had to work through the holiday weekend, he wasn't upset. Neither were the two contractors I saw in line at the NEX while going to buy my chips and drinks for the beach. They too had to work all weekend.

Labor Day honors American workers. For three days of the first weekend in September, many Americans enjoy relaxing, church, cooking outdoors and playing sports. An article in Huffington Post says that Labor Day was originally born out of labor disputes and a push by workers to demand their rights, however, in the military we don't demand our rights – at least not from working.

I propose Service members are not only a working class, but have also given their lives in sacrifice. No matter what hour it is or what may come, how many of us have hopped out of bed to be in uniform within five minutes and been in formation? Through holidays like Thanksgiving, Christmas and birthdays, we not only are separated from our families, but many times we're working.

You are men and women who embody the freedom Americans have fought for. You know what it takes to keep that freedom and serve your country. There's not one person I know in the military who wouldn't go in on a holiday or the middle of the night when asked. Begrudgingly, sometimes yes, but when the call of duty comes, you are there.

Ralph Ransom, a well-known painter, said, "Before the reward there must be labor. You plant before you harvest. You sow in tears before you reap joy."

To those of you that did not get to have Labor Day weekend off this year, you did more than work. You have dedicated your life and service to America so we can enjoy the freedom we celebrate on every holiday, this Labor Day being one. You understand there have been tears sown and you work so that others may reap that joy.

Honor Bound.

GTMO Gourmet

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

Microwave Jalapeño Popper Spread

This microwave recipe is an easy crowd pleaser and party favorite. It only takes five minutes to make.

The jalapeño dates back to the Aztecs who were known to smoke their chilies. It's one of the most commonly grown chilies in Mexico. It's name comes from the term Jalapa, which is the capital of Veracruz, Mexico.

The chemical capsaicin, that makes the jalapeño and other peppers hot, has many health benefits: It can aid in weight loss, acts as an anti-inflammatory and is known to fight migraines and sinus headaches because the peppers block the neuropeptide known as Substance P, which is the main pain transmitter to the brain. A new study even reports that capsaicin found in peppers kills some cancer cells, specifically prostate cancer cells. These are only a few of the benefits of the mighty jalapeño pepper.

Recipe

Jalapeño Popper Spread brought to you by allrecipes.com
Yield: 4 cups

Ingredients: 2, 8 oz. packages cream cheese, softened, 1 c. mayonnaise, 1, 4 oz. can chopped green chilies (drained), 2 oz. canned diced jalapeno peppers (drained), 1 c. grated Parmesan cheese

Directions:
Stir together cream cheese and mayonnaise in a large bowl until smooth. Stir in green chilies and Jalapeño peppers. Pour mixture into a microwave safe serving dish, and sprinkle with Parmesan cheese. Microwave on High until hot, about 3 minutes.

CHAPLAIN'S COLUMN

Why are you here?

By Army Capt. Brady Frederick
525th Military Police Battalion chaplain

How on earth did you end up in GTMO? Do you ever stop and just look around and wonder? I grew up in the mountains of Montana which is about as far from an iguana's habitat as it gets. As a kid, I watched bald eagles soar. My kids watch vultures circle over dead banana rats.

So how did you end up here? How you respond to the question speaks volumes about your world view. For example, the overcomer thinks they were born naked and helpless and having overcome obstacles, they arrived at this point in life. You could also filter your answer through the lens of geopolitics. Perhaps starting with 9/11 and the war of terror you now find yourself as a military asset being moved around. Both of these viewpoints are true. I have overcome obstacles, and I also hold a specific skill identifier that is needed at this time and place by the military.

I also frame this question through the lens of the kingdom of God. This means I'm here because God has called me to be salt and light to GTMO. I believe there is much more going on in this world than my mere mortal eyes can see and my brain can comprehend. I'm on this planet for a short period of time and in GTMO for an even shorter amount of time, but I'm here for a reason. I may not always understand the specifics, but I know that as long as I make space for him, God will change and use me. So think about it, why ARE you here?

The JSMART Spot

By Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Keith Reau
JSMART Advertising Coordinator

"Great Scott! We have to go back!," home that is. In time, everyone will start preparing to return to their home duty station, which is stressful enough. However, what about when you get home?

Jumping in head first can actually be more of a detriment to yourself and the loved ones you left behind. Consider that you and whomever you may live with have both been living very different lives. Now you are forced to compromise with one another and adjust to the new situation. It is important to take your time to get accustomed to the way the home has been run while you were away; relax, disconnect from social media and reintegrate your lives together slowly. There will be a period of readjustment for the entire family and that phase could take roughly 4 - 6 weeks.

For more information on returning home, stop by JSMART or the Fleet and Family Service Center which specializes in post-deployment reintegration.

THIS WEEK IN GTMO History

Courtesy Stacey Byington

One of the most interesting experiments in Naval medical history was set up at Guantanamo Bay. Plans for a mobile hospital were set up, and Guantanamo Bay was selected as the site to test its practicality. The camp was located some distance from the Naval Station on a peninsula of chaparral and cactus. When the hospital unit arrived their sad but enlightened experiences began right at the dock.

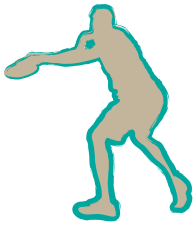
The first materials that were unloaded were ward furniture and caskets. The first-needed equipment such as tents, tools and stoves were not unloaded until four days later. In spite of the difficulties, the first hospital ward was ready for use in one week, and the hospital was in full operation in two weeks.

From this pilot experiment, it was demonstrated that hospitals of great mobility could be constructed and that they could adequately care for the number of patients for which they were designed. Invaluable lessons, often times born of sorry experiences learned on the corals of Guantanamo Bay, later paid dividends in human lives saved on the atolls of the Pacific, and later during the Korean War.

GTMO sports standings

Beach Volleyball

1. BEEF	7-1
2. Banana Rat	7-1
3. The Guy Plus 1	7-1
4. Z Team	6-2
5. Hellhounds	6-2
6. JMG	5-3
7. The Team	5-3
8. SOGO	4-4
9. MisFits	4-5
10. B. Uglies	3-5
11. Danger Zone	3-5
12. Woosah	3-6
13. Regulators	2-6
14. PWD	2-7
15. The Chowderheads	2-7
16. CCR	0-8



Ultimate Frisbee

1. I-guana GTMO	7-0
2. Ridisculousness	7-2
3. PWD	5-3
4. BEEF	4-3
5. Huckaholics	3-4
6. Footballs R2 Heavy	2-5
7. Boston	1-6
8. Dirty Mike & the Boys	0-6

7 & 7s

7 rounds for time
7 handstand push ups
7 thruster
7 burpees
7 pull ups
7 wall balls
7 knees to elbows
7 pistols (each leg)

Courtesy Spc. Crystal Pittman

What do you want to see in this space?

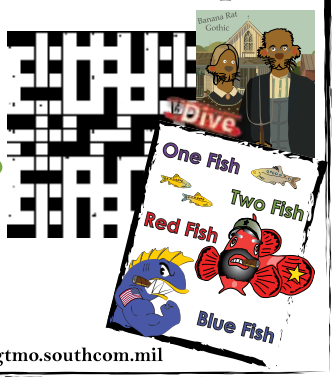
Comics?

Memes?

Ratistic Creations?

Word searches?

Crosswords?



Email your suggestions to TheWire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

5k Run with the Chiefs

Come out for a 5k fun with the NAVSTA CPOs and CPO nominations

Friday, Sept. 12

Starting at 6 a.m. at Cooper Field

Banana Rat Lisa

By Sgt. Kenneth Tucceri

PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Two deer were spotted munching on the foliage alongside Kittery Beach Road in this photograph by Air Force Master Sgt. James Powers.

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