

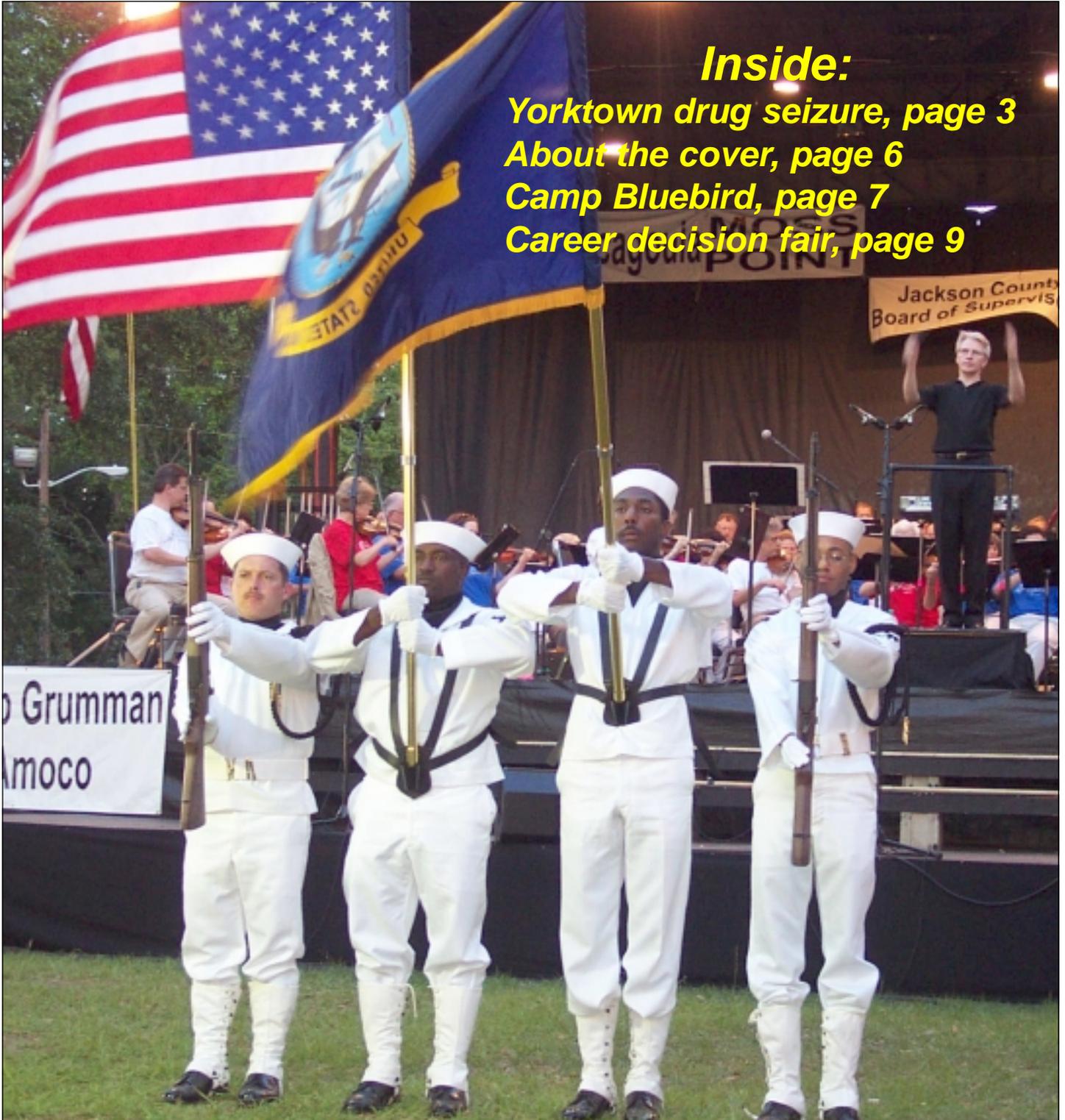


Naval Station Pascagoula's hometown on-line newspaper

Homeport

Vol. II, No. 05

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A word from our Commanders

Command philosophy applies to all hands

As I join the team at Naval Station Pascagoula, I want you to understand some basic tenets of how I conduct business, and how I expect you to conduct business. As a team, we can accomplish great feats, but only if all team members know, and practice the rules of the game. Therefore, these are the rules of the game:

**** Be ready.** Mission accomplishment is paramount and is a direct result of safety, training, resource attainment, and a dedication to getting the job done. Current readiness is our immediate focus, but we also constantly work for future readiness. We challenge ourselves to become better, to stretch our goals, and to strengthen our capabilities.

**** Do the right thing.** We are committed to the Navy Core Values - honor, courage, and commitment. If something isn't right, we take the proper steps to fix it. The "right thing" is sometimes difficult; we recognize that, and respect our ability to make these tough choices. We are honest with each other - and with ourselves. We recognize that we may make mistakes - we admit those mistakes, quickly learn from them and move on.

**** Respect each other.** We are a team of military members and civilians; we are juniors and seniors; we are locals and transients, we are active duty and reservists. Each of us plays a vital position on this team, and each of us brings talents and abilities to this team. We speak and act respectfully to each other. We show sincere appreciation for the sacrifices each



By Cmdr. Terry Rea
Commanding Officer
NAVSTA Pascagoula

of us makes to the team.

**** Communicate.** We talk to each other often - up, down and across the chain of command. We recognize that we can't fix that which we don't know is broken, so we honestly assess situations and inform each other without hesitation. We also recognize that information is a powerful tool, and information hoarding is a powerful detriment.

**** Create a balanced life.** We understand that we have tremendous responsibilities to our families, to our communities, and to ourselves that expand beyond the Naval Station. We are committed to developing good health and happiness for ourselves beyond our workspaces.

**** Be sharp.** We set and maintain high standards in our work products, our conduct and our personal appearance. We are proud to be members of this team, and it shows.

**** Be positive.** We are optimistic even in difficult times. We recognize that a positive attitude, enthusiasm and good humor go a long way in helping us through tough days.

CNO's guidance for leaders

Editor's Note: Calling our Navy "the greatest in the world," Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Vern Clark recently published his vision for the future. The following is the second installment of the CNO's Guidance for 2002.



Adm. Vern Clark
Chief of Naval Operations

ity of service by ensuring work is tied directly to combat readiness and professional development. Now more than ever, we must recruit and retain the best and the brightest, despite the reality and strains of increased OPTEMPO. This is the first

time in history that our Navy has faced a prolonged conflict with an all-volunteer force, and we must protect the integrity of our Fleet.

Leadership Guidance for 2002

We are at war against terrorism — a war we will win! In that fight, I am counting on each of you to lead. I expect initiative, innovation, and careful investment in our plans and our people. We all have a role to play. But even the best leaders need guidance to help shape their efforts. Therefore, the following guidance is provided to enhance our dedication to mission accomplishment and the growth and development of our Sailors.

Manpower. We are winning the battle for people but important challenges remain. Officer retention in all line communities is below required levels and recruiting shortfalls exist in officer specialty areas and critical enlisted ratings.

Attrition is our number one manpower challenge. No one joins the Navy to fail, yet too many Sailors do not complete their first enlistment. Concerned, involved leadership is the key to minimizing attrition without sacrificing standards. Leaders must take every measure to help their people prosper and succeed.

We must create an environment that offers opportunities, encourages participation, and is conducive to personal and professional growth. We must expand our efforts to improve Sailor and civilian qual-

Guidance for Leaders:

- * We must mentor our Sailors.
- * Officers/Chief Petty Officers/Leading Petty Officers will create a professional development plan for every Sailor. (All)
- * Provide meaningful performance appraisals for every Sailor. In concert with the individual professional development plans, provide a plan to correct deficiencies. (All)
- * Maximize utilization of Center for Career Development expertise in every command. (N1)
- * We must recruit and retain the right people.
- * Sustain the record-setting pace in retention. The following goals apply for 2002: 57 percent (Zone A), 70 percent (Zone B), and 90 percent (Zone C). (All)

Continued on page 16



Naval Station Pascagoula's hometown on-line newspaper

Homeport

Commanding Officer.Cmdr. Terry Rea
Executive OfficerLt.Cmdr. Shri Stroud
Public Affairs OfficerStacey Byington
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Homeport is an authorized publication for members of the military services and their families stationed at or around Naval Station Pascagoula, Miss. The contents do not necessarily reflect the official views of the U.S. government, the Department of Defense, the U.S. Navy, and do not imply endorsement thereof. The editorial content and any supplement is prepared, edited and provided by the Public Affairs Office of Naval Station Pascagoula.

Deadline for all routine copy is on or about the 15th of every month. Questions or comments can be directed to the Naval Station Pascagoula Public Affairs Officer. The Homeport staff can be reached at (228) 761-2164 or (228) 761-2019.

From our Fleet

Yorktown makes major drug seizure

By LT Corey Barker
USNAVSO Public Affairs

The USS Yorktown (CG 48), homeported at Naval Station Pascagoula, has made a noticeable dent in the amount of drugs smuggled into the United States.

The ship recently seized 269 bales of cocaine, each weighing approximately 20 kilos, for a total of almost 6 metric tons. The drugs have an estimated street value of more than \$300

million dollars.

The cocaine was seized from a suspicious vessel that the ship had detected operating covertly in the Eastern Pacific Ocean. Yorktown's law enforcement team searched the vessel and discovered the drugs shortly after boarding.

The Yorktown, commanded by Cmdr R. S. Kerno, is an Aegis guided-missile cruiser, assigned to Destroyer Squadron Six, homeported at Pascagoula. It is a multi-mission

surface combatant capable of supporting carrier battle groups, amphibious forces, operating as a flagship of a surface-action group, or operating independently for operations in which the ship is currently engaged.

The Yorktown, while attached to Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command, in conjunction with the U.S. Coast Guard, various federal agencies and neighboring military forces in South Ame-

rica, is firmly committed to monitoring, detecting and seizing illicit narcotics in accordance with international agreements.

Illegal narcotics continue to plague societies causing billions of dollars in damage. Efforts made by Yorktown forward deployed to the region is vital to stemming the tide of drugs being smuggled into the United States.

The ship departed Pascagoula on Feb. 1.



Photo by Stacey Byington

Deployment preparation -- A U.S. Navy SH-60B Seahawk helicopter from HSL-42, homeported in Mayport, Fla., lands on the USS Thomas S. Gates (CG 51) in preparation for the ship's deployment. A helo detachment of approximately 17 personnel deploys with the ship. The Seahawk is a twin-engine helicopter used for search and rescue, anti-submarine warfare, drug interdiction, anti-ship warfare, cargo lift and special operations.



Photo by Stacey Byington

Command change -- Cmdr. Kurt Van Horn, USCG, assumes command of USCGC Decisive (WMEC 629) on Friday, May 3, from Capt. Larry Mizell, USCG, Chief of Operations, U.S. Coast Guard Atlantic Area, headquartered in Norfolk, Va. The Coast Guard Atlantic Area is the operational command over USCGC Decisive. Cmdr. Van Horn relieved Cmdr. R.A. 'Mac' McCullough, who was promoted to the rank of Captain, USCG, immediately following the change of command ceremony. Capt. McCullough will be the commanding officer of the Coast Guard Project Resident Office in Marinette, Wisc.

From our Fleet



Photo by Stacey Byington

Family members underway -- Family members, special guests, friends and crewmembers line the rails of the USS Thomas S. Gates (CG 51) as the guided-missile cruiser gets underway May 17 for a special family cruise. The ship departed Pascagoula in the morning and returned late the same afternoon.



Sailors of the Year -- Individual Sailors of the Year, individually the best of the best from among the commands at Naval Station Pascagoula, stand with Captain William Marlowe, Commander Destroyer Squadron SIX, following their recognition at the Surface Naval Association (SNA) luncheon on April 24.

Photo by Stacey Byington

Around the Homeport

NAVSTA Pascagoula change of command



Sailors in formation -- Led by adjutant Lt.j.g. Jason Franklin, men and women assigned to Naval Station Pascagoula stand in formation as part of the change of command ceremony, April 24, when Cmdr. Terry Rea relieved Cmdr. Tara LaCavera as the station's commanding officer.

Photos by Stacey Byington



Guests -- Several hundred people, including many leading citizens from the local community attended the change of command and introduced themselves to Cmdr. Rea following the ceremony (above).

Assuming command -- Cmdr. Terry Rea (left) accepts responsibility for command from Rear Adm. Jan Gaudio, Commander, Navy Region Southeast.

Around the Homeport

Volunteering: Sailors show they care



Photo by JO2 Renee Johnson

BMI Derek Henry, of Naval Station Pascagoula's Port Operations department, receives a plaque as the United Way for Jackson and George counties "Male Volunteer of the Year." Presenting the plaque is Amy Brandenstein, with the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce. His many volunteer projects include assisting with state-wide testing at Gautier Middle School, 'Read Across America' day at College Park Elementary School in Pascagoula, Miss., Camp Bluebird, and the Gulf Island National Seashore Earth Day. During 2001, Henry volunteered more than 250 off-duty hours. Others recognized at the ceremony included PC2 Angela Morgan, Supply, for 176 hours of service, and EM2 Michael Baugh, Port Ops, with 220 hours of service.



Photo by JO2 Renee Johnson

EM2(SW) John Fitzgerald, Shore Intermediate Maintenance Activity (SIMA), Pascagoula, gives the go-ahead to the next student in line. Sailors from many commands on the station recently assisted teachers at College Park Elementary School, Gautier, Miss., with the school's annual field day. In the event pictured above, the students were to race to a chair in the distance, carefully place the balloon on the chair, then burst the balloon by sitting on it, and return to the end of the line so the next student could begin.

About the cover: Photo by JO2 Renee Johnson
 Sailors from Naval Station Pascagoula post colors at the annual Memorial Day celebration in Pascagoula, Miss. The 'Sounds by the Sea' musical observance was held at Beach Park, performed by the Gulf Coast Symphony Orchestra. This year's performance was dedicated to all those who have lost their lives fighting for the freedom of all Americans. Volunteering as members of the color guard are from left: MS2 Kevin Kubiak, BM2 Joe Wilson, SN James Harrell, and SK3 James Ebbs.

Around the Homeport

Camp Bluebird another great success

By JO2 Renee Johnson
Public Affairs Office

Naval Station Pascagoula and SIMA Sailor volunteers joined together recently to assist with Camp Bluebird 2002 at the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory Institute in Ocean Springs, Miss.

The three-day camp, sponsored by the Singing River Hospital in Ocean Springs, provided a creative, educational and recreational atmosphere of support for 53 adult campers who have been diagnosed with cancer.

"We have patients here that have traveled from all along the Mississippi Gulf Coast," said Betty Hunter, a Singing River Hospital volunteer. "Many of the volunteers here are cancer survivors themselves," she added. "My daughter is a cancer survivor and she is also helping."

The Navy volunteers assisted in a number of ways.

"We did whatever they asked us to do," said SK1 Rosita Wade of Shore Intermediate Maintenance Activity.

It was not uncommon for Navy volunteers to provide occasional emotional support to the campers.

"If one of the Navy volunteers were picking up trash and one of the cancer patients just wanted to sit down and talk, without hesitation, the Sailors stopped what they were doing and talked with the camper," said Hunter. "So, moving garbage is not nearly as important as ministering to a camper's hurt."

Camp Bluebird proved to be rewarding, not only to the campers but to the volunteers as well.

"I don't think there has been one Navy volunteer here at the camp who has ever been the same after working with the campers. This is an experience which will never be forgotten.



Photo by IT1(SW) Pete Quinoes

Camp Bluebird volunteer MR1 Pal Vanslooten of SIMA escorts Bluebird campers in a station golf cart. Naval Station and SIMA volunteers have been helping at Camp Bluebird for the past five years.

Everybody that comes and serves with the right heart never forgets it," added Hunter.

"This year there were many more volunteers than there has ever been in the past," said Wade.

"We know we're always going to have the support of the Navy," said Hunter.

"This is my third time coming to the camp. I think the Navy volunteers are terrific, honest and sincere," said Linda Keenum, a camper from Ocean Springs. "They make you feel good and not different," she added.

"I do this all the time and have done so for many years," said Carolyn Freeman, this year's camp organizer. "I am very fortunate that I have many volunteers from various backgrounds - retired teachers, Sailors, and nurses from the Ocean Springs Hospital. I have a lot of volunteers who are excited about this and who

are really good at what they do."

There were many planned activities for the campers from arts and crafts to performing on stage in the facility's auditorium.

"The campers are not charged anything and have a choice of staying overnight or returning the following morning," said Freeman.

MR1 Paul Vanslooten from

SIMA was among the few volunteers who opted to stay on site throughout the three-day weekend event.

"The Navy has been involved with Camp Bluebird for the last five years. We could not have done it without their help. The tables, chairs and golf carts are all from the Navy base," said Freeman. "Most importantly, we get the Navy's enthusiasm," she added.



Culture -- More than 100 people took advantage of the Asian cuisine to be sampled in celebration of Asian-American Pacific Month.

Around the Homeport

Seabees enclose barracks gazebo

By JO2 Renee Johnson
Public Affairs Office

Thanks to the Seabees from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion One, Gulfport, Miss., Sailors living in the combined bachelor quarters on the station no longer have to dread sitting outdoors. They can now enjoy a picnic or even a barbecue inside a newly enclosed gazebo.

"Having the outdoor enclosure will allow the residents to enjoy the outdoors without being bitten by mosquitoes," said CEC(SCW) Charles Harvey, First Division Coordinator.

"This was a quality of life project," said BU3 Jon Plemons, one of eight Seabees who volunteered for the project.

"Working out here, we know the mosquitoes are horrible," Plemons said. "It is kind of neat to know Sailors will be able to sit out there and have a cook out without getting mutilated by the mosquitoes."

The enclosure took about three weeks to complete.

"We placed construction masonry decorative blocks around the gazebo, installed a prefabricated screen door and added a little front porch area in front," said Plemons.

"When we are finished here, we will be going to Okinawa, Japan, for another project. We



Photo by Stacey Byington

In one of her last official acts as CO before the change of command, Cmdr. Tara LaCavera, assisted by Lt. Cmdr. Michael Weaver, executive officer of NMCB 1, cut the ribbon officially opening the barracks gazebo for general use.

do a range of projects that can be anywhere from Diego Garcia to Alaska," he added. "Our normal rotation is 10 months in Gulfport, our homeport, and six months on deployment."

"The Seabees naturally adapt to doing projects like this," said Harvey. "In a typical can-do fashion, they went

up and above what was required to complete the enclosure by basically wrapping around the facility which was more difficult than the design originally called for."

Although this was not a major project, it adds to the quality of life for everyone here on the island, especially those

who reside in the CBQ.

"What they did is really nice because before, it was very bothersome when you were trying to cook and you had to keep slapping away bugs and mosquitoes," said Adam Poindexter, with Commander, Destroyer Squadron SIX, and a resident at the CBQ on base.

Recognition -- Area Child Development Home providers pose recently at a luncheon held at the Gulf Island National Seashore Park in Ocean Springs, Miss., in recognition of their services not only to military families, but to children in the local area.

Photo by JO2 Renee Johnson



The providers are:
Nereida Burgeson, Long Beach;
Paula Verhovshek, Long Beach;
Jackie Faulkenberry, Long Beach;
Michelle Hill, Long Beach; Rosa Mitchell, Long Beach; Jennifer Cox, Gulfport; Michelle Oswald, Gulfport; Melissa Knorr, Gulfport;
Roslyn Taylor, Gulfport; Cheryl Collins, Gulfport; Lisa Williams, Gulfport; Amanda Eisman, Gulfport; Jessica Marquez, Gulfport; Shannon Valles, Gulfport; Isabeth Quarles, Gulfport; Carmen Bena-vides, Gulfport; Yvonne Villegas, Gulfport; Kim Murphy, Gulfport; Tameka Chapman, Gautier; Mary Crawford, Pascagoula; Maria Franklin, Moss Point; Shawn Plaisance, Escatawpa; Ruth Sterba, Gautier.

Around the Homeport

Career decision fair benefits Sailors

By JO2 Renee Johnson
Public Affairs Office

Naval Station Pascagoula recently hosted a career decision fair, giving area Sailors face-to-face interviews with their detailers. The career decision fair is part of a Navy-wide program being conducted by the Bureau of Navy Personnel.

"This is one of 40 decision fairs Navy-wide that is part of the Chief of Naval Operations, Adm. Vern Clark's battle for talent," said Cdr. Bill Foster, with the Center for Career Development in Millington, Tenn. "His goal is to keep good people in the Navy, and give them information that will help them make informed career decisions."

Foster added that the main objective of the visit was to provide information for Sailors as well as to maximize detailer's contact with the Sailors in the Pascagoula community.

"In the 90's, we drew down and asked a lot of good people to go home," said CMDCM



Photo by JO2 Renee Johnson

OSCS(SW) Dave Pruitt, one of the detailers taking part in the career decision fair, assists a Sailor with his next set of orders.

(SW/AW) Les Andreasen, command master chief for the Center for Career Development.

"The Center for Career De-

velopment was created a year and a half ago in August 2000 as a result of Navy leadership emphasizing retention. Now we need to retain as many of

the best qualified people as we can to maintain the Navy in this 21st century."

Among the many topics discussed
Continued on page 16

Help make a difference, some recycling tips

By Tom Sarros
Public Works Department

Here are just a few things you can do to make a difference in your environment. They will help save our planet, save you money and maybe make life a little better. Using them will definitely reduce the amount of resources used by us all.

- Use things more than once. Write on both sides of a sheet of paper.

- Re-use your plastic grocery bags by bringing them back with you each time you shop. Better yet, use canvas bags.

- Put leftovers in re-usable

containers instead of wrapping them in foil or plastic wrap.

- Bring your lunch in re-usable containers instead of zip bags, foil wrappings or plastic wrap.

- Attach a low-flow aerator on your kitchen and bathroom faucets. They cost little and cut water use by more than 3,000 gallons per year for a typical family of four.

- Turn off the tap while brushing your teeth. A running faucet puts three to five gallons down the drain every minute.

- By filling a basin when hand-washing dishes, you use about five gallons of water. The "running tap" method uses about 25 gallons.

- Displace the water in your toilet tank by dropping in (clear of the flushing mechanism) a plastic bottle filled with rocks, and save about two gallons per flush. It was once popular to use a brick, but don't as pieces of it may break off and damage your plumbing.

- Use low-phosphate or phosphate-free detergent. Phosphates promote uncontrolled algae growth, using up oxygen and blocking the sun needed by other plants and marine life. The water becomes uninhabitable for fish, and the habitat upon which other wildlife depends on for survival becomes useless.

- Keep your tires properly inflated. Underinflated tires adds "rolling resistance," wasting about two billion gallons of gas in America each year.

- Carpool to work. If every commuter car in America carried just one more passenger, we'd save 600,000 gallons of gasoline every day.

- Don't let your car idle unnecessarily. It takes less gas to restart a car than it takes to let it idle.

- Avoid Styrofoam. That cup you drank your morning coffee from could be polluting the earth 500 years from now. The same goes for any type of styrofoam package.

Around the Homeport

NJROTC students benefit from tour

By JO2 Renee Johnson
Public Affairs Office

A recent tour of Naval Station Pascagoula and the USS Stephen W. Groves (FFG 29) proved to be more rewarding than 24 NJROTC students from Paducah Tilghman High School in Paducah, Ky., expected.

"The tour on the Groves was absolutely amazing. Everyone was absolutely wonderful on board the USS Groves," said Lt. Cdr. Donald Taylor, the school's NJROTC instructor, who retired from the Navy in 1997.

"They were also impressed by the tour of the Shore Intermediate Maintenance Activity. The chief, who gave us the tour, described their role here as a pit crew for ships. That is something they could relate to because they understand that like with car racing, a crew just comes out and fixes it," said Taylor.

Taylor said he was glad that HTC(SW) Bryan Smith, from SIMA, mentioned the importance of math and computer programming skills.

"I like the fact that he re-enforced that to the students," he said.

"I think they needed to see a little bit about how the military operates because there is no real working Navy military in Kentucky. This was a great opportunity for the students to see close up what they have been learning about all year," added NJROTC Instructor, OSC(SW) Steven Spraggs, who retired from the USS Ticonderoga (CG 47) in 2001.

Taylor admits that the military may not be for everyone, but hopes through their learning experience in NJROTC, and by him sharing what he believes to have been a wonderful career in the Navy, it will add to their options of ca-



Photo by JO2 Renee Johnson

HTC(SW) Bryan Smith, production officer for the hull repair division of SIMA, explains the process of metal fabrication for shipboard repairs to NJROTC students from Paducah, Ky.

reer choices.

"I have one senior who has already joined the Navy and is currently in the Delayed Entry Program and another student who is very interested in attending Virginia Military Institute," said Taylor.

"Joining the Navy will be good for me," said Joe Griffin, a senior in NJROTC. Griffin will graduate June 20.

"I appreciate everything everyone has done for us. This has been the trip of a lifetime," said Taylor. "We are sort of an inner-city school and for a lot of the students, this was the first time they have ever flown on an airplane or been out of the state of Kentucky."

"They will never forget what they experienced here, for the rest of their lives," said Spraggs.

For Taylor, coming to Naval Station Pascagoula did a little more than educate his students; it brought back memories of the time he spent on active duty.

"What I miss the most is the

comaraderie with the people. Seeing the guys on the USS Groves, the smells and the sounds, I really do miss that," said Taylor.

While on the coast, the students also visited the Battleship Alabama Memorial Park,

National Naval Aviation Museum in Pensacola Fla., and participated in a bonfire in Ocean Springs, Miss.

"It was a wonderful time for me and I enjoyed the entire visit here," said Taylor.



Photo by JO2 Renee Johnson

NJROTC students from Paducah, Ky., learn a little history during their visit to Naval Station Pascagoula. One of the stops on their tour was the Medal of Honor Park. There are individual plaques for every person from Mississippi who has ever been awarded the Medal of Honor, a total of 18.

Around the Homeport

Drive safe -- BMC(SW) Richard Shepard, the Naval Station Pascagoula drug and alcohol awareness program administrator, passes out flyers and key chains to motorists at the station's main entrance just prior to the start of the Memorial Day weekend. His purpose was to remind drivers to 'buckle up,' not drink and drive, and think safety over the long holiday weekend.

Photo by YN1 Michelle Hubbard



Photo by JO2 Renee Johnson

NEX award -- Proud recipients of the 'Small Store Customer Service Award' are Naval Station Pascagoula Navy Exchange employees Patty Stark (left), store manager Sue Crenshaw, Jennifer Levy and Lynette Franklin. Pascagoula's NEX was chosen for this recognition from among all small exchanges, Navy-wide, by the Navy Exchange command. Sales associate Jennifer Levy said she got a great deal of satisfaction by the recognition. "It feels good to get this award, because we work hard to make sure all our customers are satisfied," she said.

NAVSTA Pascagoula 'Bravo Zulus'

30 years of Service:

Jack W. Blundell
Andrew H. Moore Jr.

25 years of Service:

Michael E. Bobinger

20 years of Service:

Gregory D. Branam
Joseph R. Fletcher
Phyllis A. James

**Navy/Marine Corps
Achievement Medal:**
GM3 Robert Hamilton

**NAVSTA
Letter of Appreciation:**
Jeanette Boyd

**On-the-Spot
Cash Awards:**
Perry Barnes
Mary C. Crumpton
Phyllis A. James

Gwendolyn Y. Leeman
George W. Adkins
Leslie J. Bosarge
Sharon S. Christman
Mary C. Crumpton
Elmer L. Driver
Joseph R. Fletcher
Aimee D. Holcomb
Danny L. Hubbard
Paul E. Miller
Alton P. Richard Jr.
Tommie L. Robbins
Thomas R. Sarros
Brian R. Silas
Sara L. Stockfleth
Genevieve A. Thompson
Roy M. Tisdale
Claude R. Williams

**On-the-Spot
Time-Off Awards:**
Leslie J. Bosarge
Scott R. Mesick
Claude R. Williams

Homeport's People



Photo by JO2 Renee Johnson

Command face-off -- NAVSTA Pascagoula commanding officer, Cmdr. Terry Rea, left, and command master chief, CMDCM(SW) Terry McIntyre, face-off in a paintball duel celebrating the opening of the station's paintball battlefield. Reservations to use the paintball complex can be made at the MWR Outdoor Recreation office, or by calling ext. 2038.



Photo by JO2 Renee Johnson

Prayer -- People from all departments and other commands gathered around the flagpole in front of the NAVSTA administration building for a moment of prayer, recognizing the National Day of Prayer, May 2.



Photo by Stacey Byington

Re-enlistment -- STG3 Edward Riley joins the unprecedented number of Sailors reaffirming their commitment to the Navy, re-enlisting for six more years. MSCS(SW) Calvin Dukes administers the oath. Riley, on limited duty, works at the Lakeside barracks complex. He has been certified fit for duty and is heading to the USS Crommelin (FFG 37), homeported in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

Senior prom -- Superintendent of Ships and Naval Station Pascagoula provided military escorts and other volunteers for the Jackson County Senior Prom, held May 11. The prom was held at the Jackson County Fairgrounds, in the B.E. McGinty Civic Center. In addition to escort duties, the volunteers posed with the seniors for photographs, stood in as dancing partners, and in general provided a stabilizing arm.

Photo by Stacey Byington



SIMA Happenings

Volunteers refurbish school playground

By Renee Johnson
Public Affairs Office

Reaching out and lending a hand where help is needed is nothing new to personnel at the Shore Intermediate Maintenance Activity (SIMA) Pascagoula, who always rise to the occasion when the local community requests their assistance.

Recently 12 SIMA Sailors volunteered to reconstruct and build new additions to an already existing playground at Singing River Elementary School in Gautier, Miss.

"We replaced old rotten wood, replaced rusted brackets on tire swings, put up four new swing sets and a horse swing," said SIMA's leading petty officer, EM1(SW) Tommy Williams.

"We also fixed a partially usable basketball court by replacing the backboard, rim and net," said Information Systems division officer, IT1(SW) Pete Quinones.

"Approximately 80 to 85 kindergartners use the playground each day in groups of 20 to 30 students per activity period," said Lois Reeves, a kindergarten teacher at the school.

SK1 Angela Irving from SIMA's supply department said she has children of her own and enjoys investing her time when she knows children will reap the benefit.

"The students are very excited about the new swings. They are also enjoying the tire swings, more now than they ever have," said Reeves.

"Having additional equipment allows for more play choices for each child," she added.

"The team spirit was great and we got the job done. We started at 7 a.m. and everything was complete around lunch-time," said Irving.



Photo by MM1 Fred Lake

Members of SIMA's First Class Association, MM1(SW) Andrew Chastain, IT1(SW) Pete Quinones and MRI(SW) Paul Vanslooten, assemble one of four new swing sets at Singing River Elementary School in Gautier, Miss.

"All of the volunteers were very gracious. I was amazed at how quickly they worked and completed the project," said Reeves. "Having volunteers such as Navy personnel is so wonderful and we do appreciate all they do."

"We were all excited to see the children's eyes light up when they were brought out to test the equipment we had built. We all knew deep down inside that this would benefit them way into the future," said Quinones.

"Children are our future. The mission of the Navy does not end at protecting our country, but by giving back to our local communities, said Irving. "This shows children the Navy does care."



Top Sailor -- Seaman Lizbeth Pizzaro, junior sailor of the quarter off the USS Thomas S. Gates (CG 51), was one of many area sailors recently honored by the Jackson Co. Chamber of Commerce and the Gautier Rotary Club at the quarterly sailor of the quarter luncheon. The quarterly luncheons are hosted by the chamber and various other community organizations around the county.

Photo by Stacey Byington

Navy News

Cheney: 'U.S. will not live in terror'

Graduates will receive clear direction from the President

By Jim Garramone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, May 24, 2002 – Vice President Dick Cheney said the United States “will not allow” terrorists to threaten the civilized world.

“Deliverable weapons of mass destruction in the hands of terrorists would expose this nation and the civilized world to the worst of wars, and we will not allow it,” he said during Commissioning Day ceremonies at the U.S. Naval Academy May 24. “We will not live at the mercy of terrorists or terror regimes.”

Cheney told the class of 2002 in Annapolis, Md., that the United States would depend on them to help lead the nation in the first war of the 21st Century.

He told the 965 new Navy and Marine Corps officers that the war against global terror will take years. “The terrorists who struck America are ruthless, they are resourceful and they hide in many countries,” Cheney said. “They came into our country to murder thousands of innocent, unsuspecting men, women and children – including 14 graduates of this academy.

“There is no doubt they wish to strike again and are working to acquire the deadliest of all weapons.”

Cheney said this new type of war has accelerated military changes already being contemplated. He mentioned President Bush’s wish to redefine war on American terms. “That means that our armed services must have every tool to answer any threat that forms against



AP Photo by Gail Burton

Graduates cheer as a formation of the Blue Angels fly overhead at the start of the Class of 2002 Naval Academy graduation ceremony, Friday, May 24, in Annapolis, Md. Vice President Dick Cheney was the commencement speaker.

us,” he said. “It means that any enemy conspiring to harm America or our friends must face swift, certain and devastating response.”

He said the Taliban regime and the al Qaeda terrorists in Afghanistan got the first look at the new methods and capabilities of the American military. Cheney, who served as defense secretary during the Persian Gulf War, spoke of the progress the military has made since that war.

He said Operation Desert Storm in 1991 showed the tremendous effect of precision-guided munitions. “Yet that technology was the exception,” he said. Just a small percentage of the tonnage of bombs dropped in Desert Storm was precision-guided. “In Afghanistan the majority of our munitions were precision-guided, making our strikes far deadlier and far less (deadly) for innocent civilians,” he said.

He told the graduates that during the Gulf War all air tasking orders with targeting assignments were written at headquarters in Saudi Arabia, then flown out to carriers and given to the pilots. “This time targeting assignments were

transmitted directly to pilots by special (operations) forces near the targets themselves within a matter of minutes,” he said.

“In the Gulf War, naval expeditionary forces were part of a feint and the supporting attack,” he said. “In Afghanistan, naval expeditionary forces opened the conventional ground war by establishing a forward operating base 450 miles inland – more than twice the distance that previous doctrine considered supportable.”

He said the combination of U.S. asymmetric advantages already seen in Afghanistan – precision air power, real-time intelligence, special operations forces, the long reach of naval task forces and close coordination with local forces – “will only become more vital in future campaigns.”

Cheney spoke of how the U.S. military put new technology and new strategies to work in Afghanistan. He said many people warned U.S. military planners that the campaign in Afghanistan would be tough and that service members would face extreme obstacles. “Here, after all, was a landlocked country with a forbidding mountains and winter set-

ting in,” he said. “The enemy force was widely scattered, well-armed, protected by deep caves and skilled in guerilla tactics. Added to that was the sheer mileage between our forces and their objective.”

He said the United States responded to these obstacles with a combination of tactics and technology that marked a turning point in modern warfare. “The success of our coalition forces has shined very brightly,” he said.

He said Operation Enduring Freedom began with precision-guided munitions falling on the enemy “all day, all night, in all weather, around the clock.”

The unmanned Predator aircraft gave commanders a clear and immediate picture of conditions on the ground, allowing swift and timely strikes, he said.

“Overwhelming airpower, much of it off our carriers, removed the need for large stationary forces on land,” Cheney said. “Within three weeks after our campaign began, our special ops forces were on the ground in the far corners of Afghanistan, meeting with tribal leaders, forming them into military units and leading them into combat.”

Other special operations forces scoured the Afghan countryside “engaging enemy holdouts, designating targets by laser and calling in precision air strikes from hundreds of miles away. All of this represents a dramatic advance in our ability to engage and defeat any adversary,” he said.

Cheney wished the graduates Godspeed and told them that as they begin their naval service that “you can be certain that wherever you are sent, you will have from your commander in chief consistent orders, clear direction and every possible ounce of support required for the missions ahead.”

Navy News

Veterans at Gulfport Naval Home tell history

Their stories, if untold, will be forever lost to future generations

By Doug LeMere
AFRH Gulfport Public Affairs

GULFPORT, Miss. (NNS) — Looking out the windows of the Naval Home in Gulfport, the view is one of Live Oaks and the Gulf of Mexico. It is a peaceful sight, one of the very best on the Gulf coast.

The grounds around the home are active, with people coming and going. Occasionally an ambulance drives in and then out, slowly gliding around the curves as it rolls toward the main gate. One might wonder if there is a friend inside. Others may wonder if they will make it back to the home.

Another thought that may cross one's mind could be, "there goes a part of history." One can wonder, if the story of the passenger was ever captured — his oral history.

More than 400,000 World War II veterans will not be heard from again after this year. Their stories, if not captured, will go untold, and future generations will lose the richness of this heritage.

More than one-half of the residents of the Naval Home are veterans of our largest war. How many veterans have sat down and documented their story? How many have sat down and passed on the memories used to maintain our factual history?

The Naval Home, now officially named the Armed Forces Retirement Home-Gulfport, is taking the steps to maintain that history. In conjunction with the Center for Oral History at the



Photo by Master Sgt. Brian Nickey, USAF

Myron White, a resident of the U.S. Naval Home in Gulfport, Miss., sits outside the front gate enjoying the sunshine and the view. Veterans like White have hundreds of stories to share, and are still living history.

University of Southern Mississippi (USM), the oral history program at the Naval Home is alive and running.

"Already a handful of interviews are providing useful facts and anecdotes," said Pic Firmin, interviewer for USM. "We have had some excellent interviews, with a good turnout from the residents," he said.

Firmin has been interviewing residents for several months and is a major asset to the program. With the help of Mary Allen, a resident of the home, the program is running smoothly.

"The oral history of the home is absolutely imperative," said Macon W. Patteson, resident and curator of the Naval Home museum. "Oral his-

tory gets down to the nitty-gritty of the person, down into the heart of history and into the details of everyday life."

The program sat idle for several years. The opportunity to dust it off and open the doors to the residents came this year, kicking off the oral history program by posting bulletins on the internal cable network.

The first person to respond was Amos S. Nissley. He said he wanted to tell the story of the attack on Okinawa, the way he saw it through his binoculars.

"We had intelligence reports of an eight-mile beach," he said. "The only thing we saw were cliffs, and I wondered how the guys were going to get over them."

At that moment, the bombs

from the nearby ships started to disintegrate a targeted section of the cliffs, he said. Soon after, landing craft vessels brought in bulldozers and the access was created.

Maintaining that history, for Nissley and for our country, truly is imperative. Stories from the eyes of these veterans cannot be created from any other source. The day-to-day experiences recorded, will help to preserve the history of our great country.

The Armed Forces Retirement Home-Gulfport is working each day, to ensure those stories are documented for future generations.

For more information about the Armed Forces Retirement Home in Gulfport, go to www.afrh.com.

Career decision fair brings detailers to Pascagoula ...

Continued from page 9

cussed at the fair were the value of military compensation compared to private sector, current Navy pay, considerations for transition to private sector, retention and attrition, Project SAIL, incentives for reenlistment or permanent change of station orders, JASS (job advertisement and selection system), and the mechanics of promotion boards.

"What we are doing is offering a complete package over a three-day period, which will give some Sailors the tools they need to make their next career decision," added Andreasen. "It does not matter if the decision is about whether to stay in the Navy, get out of the Navy, prepare for a selection board or to negotiate their next set of orders."

Several Sailors took advantage of the assistance the detailers had to offer, including OS1 Ralph Jones, complex manager of the combined bachelor's quarters here.

"It was very beneficial be-

cause I had a chance to talk to my detailer one-on-one vice calling him on the phone," said Jones. "He understood my need to get back to working in my rate and he was willing to help me."

Jones was very pleased with the outcome of his visit with the detailer. "My detailer helped me get two new schools," he said.

In addition to one-on-one detailing conferences, the career fair also included briefings relating to a number of career development issues.

"A lot of people got the chance to sit in the different briefings," said Jones. "I had the chance to go to the briefing about promotion boards, which was very informative," said Jones.

"I found out what is necessary when going up for chief, like the do's and don'ts, and what to send in with my package. If they were ever to come here again, I would be there," he added.



Photo by JO2 Renee Johnson

More than 60 spouses attended the various briefings which were part of the career decision fair. Above, Ruth Rotton, with MWR, explains offerings available through ITT and MWR.

Approximately 650 people, including 60 spouses, attended at least one of the 12 briefings.

"I want Sailors to realize that Navy leadership is listening to the fleet, and that we are delivering to the fleet based on what we hear," said Foster.

"This is an element of Ad-

miral Clark's covenant leadership concept. Those of us in leadership positions have a covenant with the Sailors who we work for in order to give them the guidance and mentorship required to make good career decisions and to do well in life in general."

CNO details 'guidance for our leaders, part 2 ...

Continued from page 2

- * Reduce attrition by 25 percent from the FY00 level. (All)

- * Increase High School graduate accessions to 92 percent. (CNRC)

- * Recruit 2500 new accessions from junior colleges. (CNRC)

- * We must man the Fleet for battle.

- * Validate all manpower requirements by the end of CY02. (N1/Claimants)

- * Reduce at-sea gaps below FY01 levels and achieve C-2 manning status for all deploying units at least six months prior to deployment. (N1)

- * Develop a plan to optimally employ Naval Reserve forces in the war against terrorism, striving to achieve steady-state support for active

units. (N095)

- * We will invest in our Sailors.

- * Proceed with the Sailor Career Management Initiative to provide enhanced career flexibility, incentivization, and interaction between the Sailor, gaining command, and Bureau of Naval Personnel. (N1)

- * Increase the number of E-4 to E-9 Sailors in the Navy from 70.3 percent to 71.5 percent, working toward 75.5 percent by FY07. (N1/N8)

- * Expand the Detailer Outreach Program to contact 100 percent of Sailors within 10 months of their PRD/Eaos. (N1)

- * Maximize the availability of web-based tools to enhance the flexibility and responsiveness of the detailing

process. This includes, to the greatest extent possible, providing updates on pending billet availability to give Sailors greater opportunity to bid on jobs. (N1)

- * Provide qualified General Detailing (GENDET) Sailors with A-school assignments after 18-24 months satisfactory performance in the Fleet, with service members returning to their units after A-school whenever possible. (CNET/N1)

Current Readiness. Our Navy starts with the Fleet. Everything we do must keep the Fleet ready and make it even better. We must accurately define and continuously validate our requirements, then move aggressively to fully fund those

requirements. In so doing, we will ensure the Fleet remains ready to fight and win.

The Secretary of the Navy has made improving combat capability his number one priority. This is important because current readiness needs are escalating. Greater usage rates of ships, aircraft, and weapons, and the increasing average age of our aircraft, are driving up readiness costs. This situation makes it more challenging to stay ready and undermines our ability to procure new ships and aircraft.

The entire text can be viewed online at: <http://www.chinfo.navy.mil/navpalib/cno/clark-guidance2002.html>.

MWR Activities

Take advantage of activities, events at ITT

By Ruth Rotton
MWR ITT Assistant

Summer is here and it's time to get out and explore what's going on around the Gulf Coast. The Tickets and Tours Office has tickets to your favorite get-away. We have tickets to Disney, Universal Studios, Busch Gardens, and Seaworld, as well as to the New Orleans Zoo and Aquarium, all at discount prices. In addition we provide trips to local attractions as listed in the monthly calendar of events.

We have several Single Sailor Liberty trips scheduled for June. They include canoeing on the beautiful Okatoma River and shopping in New Orleans. Float time downstream on the Okatoma River trip is approx. 4 hours which will leave plenty of time for picnicking and swimming. The upper run with its three main waterfalls makes this a truly unique trip. The shopping trip to New Orleans is a great opportunity to explore some of the fabled Crescent City.

Beat the heat with a trip to Waterville, USA. This park includes such attractions as a wave pool, numerous water slides, arcades and 36 holes of miniature golf. For the more adventurous there are roller coasters, Nascarts and laser tag facilities. Participants for the Liberty trips must sign up on the Wednesday prior to the scheduled event.

Family activities for the month of June include a Family Day at the Explorium in Mobile. This will be the last chance to see "China, 7000 years of Innovation." This is a fantastic exhibit. The IMAX films include a docudrama entitled the "First Emperor" and another entitled "The Panda Adventure." Cost includes all exhibits as well as IMAX.

The Lynn Meadows Discovery Center is great fun for the



Photo by JO2 Renee Johnson

ITT assistant, Ruth Rotton, helps MSC Rodney Shelton purchase tickets to the New Orleans, La., zoo and aquarium. In addition to discount tickets for major area amusement parks, ITT also coordinates liberty trips and family excursions.

kids. It's Mississippi's 'hands-on' children's museum. Children can operate a crane, make videos, drag the gulf for shrimp. There is a two-story climbing sculpture, Bear Camp Bayou and the Tree House Village, all to stimulate a child's imagination.

The Audubon Zoo is rated as one of the nation's top five zoos. See the famous white Bengal tigers as well as many other exhibits. Check out the zoo's most dangerous resident, the nine-foot Komodo Dragon.

Take a trip to the Estuarium located on scenic Dauphin Island in Alabama. The Estuarium is an exciting educational facility highlighting the four key habitats of Alabama. The exhibits include the Mobile Tensay River Delta, Mobile Bay, The Barrier Islands and the Northern Gulf of Mexico. It includes the 10,000 sq.-foot Living Marsh Boardwalk. This facility is a showcase of

the plants, animals, and natural resources found in the estuary and its surrounding marine habitats.

A full schedule of all MWR activities for the month of June is on page 17, including all as-

sociated costs.

For more information and sign-up cut off dates, please contact Scott at extension 2102, or Ruth at extension 2432 at the ITT Office.



Photo by JO2 Renee Johnson

The station pool is now open for the summer. Open swimming is available Monday through Thursday, 1-7 p.m., on Friday from 1-4 p.m., and weekends and holidays, noon - 5 p.m.

MWR Activities

Liberty trips to Waterville USA, New Orleans Zoo

Naval Station Pascagoula's Morale, Welfare and Recreation department has a wide range of activities and events planned for June. They include:

June 7 -- Pool tournament at Cracker Jacks, 7 p.m. \$5 entry fee, prizes for winners.

June 8 -- Liberty Okatoma canoe trip. Cost is \$15, includes transportation and lunch. RSVP not later than June 5. For more information, call 761-2432 or 761-2102.

June 9 -- NASCAR Sunday at Cracker Jacks for the Pocomo 400, Pocono, Pa., begins 11:30 a.m. Pick a winner and win.

June 11 -- Home run derby at the station softball field, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

June 12 -- Family day trip to New Orleans Zoo. Tickets are \$13 for adults, and children 2-11 is \$9. Cost includes admission and transportation. RSVP not later than June 10. For more information, call 761-2432 or 761-2102.

June 12 -- Movie night at Cracker Jacks, featuring 'The Time Machine,' 7 p.m. Free pizza.

June 12 -- 9-ball pool tournament at Liberty/Cyber Cafe, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.

June 12 -- Free-throw competition at the gymnasium, 11 a.m.

June 15 -- Liberty shopping trip to New Orleans. Free transportation. RSVP not later than June 12. For more information call 761-2102 or 761-2293.

June 16 -- NASCAR Sunday at Cracker Jacks for the Michigan 400, Brooklyn, Mich. Begins 11:30 a.m. Pick a winner and win.

June 19 -- Family day trip to Lynn Meadow Discovery Center. Transportation cost is \$7.50 per person. RSVP not later than June 17. For more information, call 761-2432 or 761-2102.

June 19 -- Movie night at Cracker Jacks, featuring 'Brotherhood of the Wolf,' 7 p.m. Free nachos.

June 20 -- Annual liberty barbecue, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. at the Cyber Cafe.

June 21 -- Dart tournament at Cracker Jacks, 7 p.m. \$5 entry fee, prizes for winners.

June 22 -- Liberty trip to Waterville, USA. Cost of \$16 includes admission and transportation. RSVP not later than June 19. For more information call 761-2102 or 761-2293.

June 23 -- NASCAR Sunday at Cracker Jacks for the Dodge/SaveMart 35, Sears Point, Calif. Begins 2:30 p.m. Pick a winner and win.

June 24 -- Spades card tournament, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. at the Cyber Cafe.

June 26 -- Family day trip to the Estuarium. Adult cost is \$7.50, children (5-18 is \$4.50. Fee includes admission and

transportation. RSVP not later than June 24. For more information, call 761-2432 or 761-2102.

June 26 -- Movie night at Cracker Jacks, featuring 'Queen of the Damned,' 7 p.m. Free pizza.

June 29 -- Liberty trip to New Orleans Zoo. Admission fee is \$7.50, brown-bag lunch included. RSVP not later than June 26. For more information call 761-2102 or 761-2293.

Tickets for most activities and events are available through the Information, Tickets and Tours office, 761-2432. ITT also has tickets to Disney World, Universal Studios, Jazzland, Six Flags, Busch Gardens, Sea World, the Audubon Zoo and the Aquarium.

The Sports and Fitness Center at the gymnasium is open seven days a week and holidays. The telephone number is 761-2107. The Sports and Fit-

ness Center also has group cycling on Tuesday and Thursday at 8:30 a.m.; ABS classes on Mondays and Wednesdays from 11 a.m.; Aerobics on Thursdays at 11:30 a.m.

The swimming pool is open for lap swimming Monday through Friday from 6 - 8 a.m. and from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Open swimming Monday through Thursday 1 - 7 p.m., and on Friday from 1 - 4 p.m., weekends and holidays, noon - 5 p.m.

The Cyber Cafe is open Monday through Friday, 4:30 - 10 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, noon to 10 p.m.

MWR's Outdoor Rental is open Mondays through Fridays, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturdays 7 a.m.-3 p.m., phone 761-2038.

Cracker Jack's is open Monday through Friday, 5- 10 p.m., and on Sundays, 11 a.m.-8 p.m.



MWR photo

Bench press king -- Clyde Harden, who weighed in the heavyweight category, 226 pounds or more, was able to bench press almost double his own weight at 435 pounds. Other winners were Chris Thompson,, 150 pounds or less, bench pressed 300 pounds; Chris Addington, 151-175 pounds, bench pressed 265 pounds; Cecil Watt, 176-200 pounds, bench pressed 385 pounds; and Eugene Fair, 201-225 pounds, bench pressed 315 pounds.