



Remember to set your clock forward Sunday, March 30

AFN Sigonella keeping the community informed

By JO2 Denise Alford
Contributing Writer



Current world events, changes in force protection conditions, demonstrations at the base — in any situation American Forces Network

Sigonella is prepared to keep information flowing to the local community. With the current status of world events staff members stepped up the tempo and changed the focus of their daily operations.

Working closely with NASSIGS Commanding Officer, Capt. Tim Davison and NASSIGS PAO, Lt. Steve Curry, JOCS (SW/AW) Tom Updike, AFN officer in charge, is responsible for two different missions. Supporting the local community with news and supplying the AFN Europe headquarters with “our stories” and supporting the “larger” mission, AFN, page 8

Stop loss, PRD, and Orders rumors.

By JOSN Steve Weaver
Signature Staff

Rumors are flying around Sigonella about order cancellations, stop loss, and involuntary extensions — but are any of these rumors true?

It all started when Sailors stopped receiving orders. “When we’re used to seeing 15 to 20 sets of orders coming in and out of here every single day, and all of a sudden when your not getting any, scutebutt happens,” said NC1 (SW) Fawn M. Brickman, a command career counselor for NASSIG.

Sailors are receiving orders right now on a case-by-case basis. “They’re wondering if it’s going to become the same as two years ago,” said Brickman. “After September 11, we had stop loss, and had PRD adjustments for numerous rates because we couldn’t fund them to send them when we needed them on site.” She said the main people at the time who were affected were the master at arms rate and the EOD community. “We had people pending separation that could not separate at that time until they lifted the stop loss for them.”

As of right now, there is no talk of stop loss for any rate. There is no talk of involuntary PRD changes. “We probably get at least a dozen phone calls or walk-ins a day under the impression, due to rumors, that they are automatically going to have their PRD’s readjusted until after Oct. 1 so fiscal year 2004 funding can transfer them,” said Brickman. “As of right now that is not true, that is not happening. We might have one or two, and that’s just because of NEC they might need.”

Everyone will transfer when scheduled. “We’ve talked to numerous people, both detailers and our command representative at Navy Personnel Command,” said Brickman. “NPC has internal memorandums going through right now that everyone who is supposed to transfer in FY2003 will transfer in FY2003.”

Navy Personnel Command is not canceling orders. In the last quarter of FY2002, NPC ran out of money and started using FY2003 funding to transfer personnel. “Because of the fact they did that, we ended up losing funding after the first quarter for transfers,” Brickman said. She added that this typically happens every year.

Because of the lack of funding, the first avenue was to cancel all “C” schools. “Schools en route have been pretty much cancelled or ordmoded,” said Brickman. “They are just verifying that the commands will take them without that school, because that is a very large cost when it comes to PCS.” NPC is ordmoding all personnel that were slated to go to a follow-on school, but is leaving their report dates the same.

Stop Loss, page 8

Junior Sailor of the Year: first female MCPON

By JOSN Steve Weaver
Signature Staff

Sailors entering the Navy have different goals in mind for their career. Some want to serve their country. Some wish to be better people. Still, other’s goals include being trained by the best to become the best.

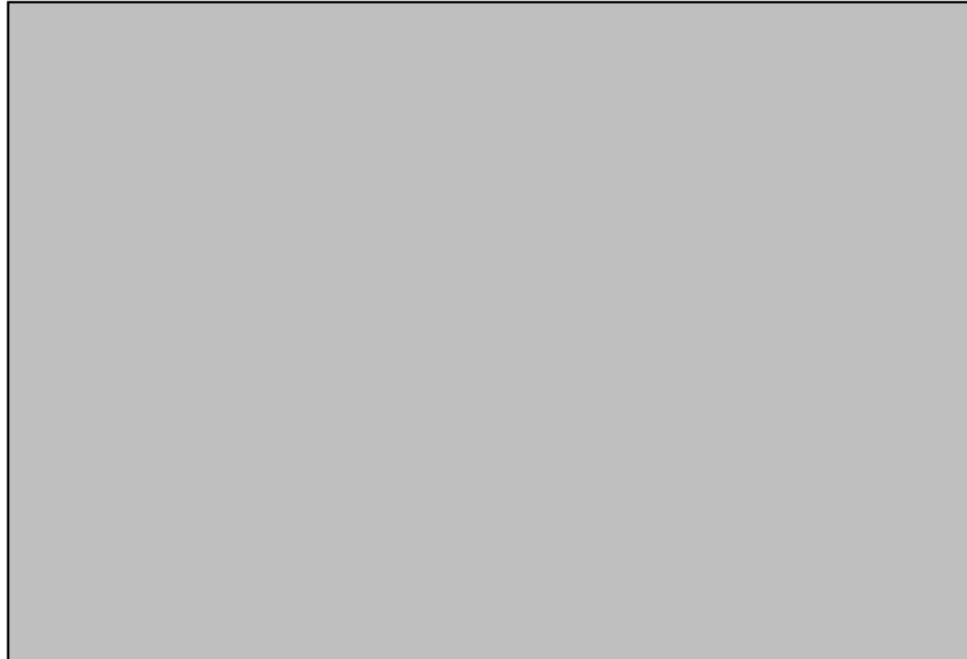
A small cubicle in the Naval Air Station Sigonella Training Department holds someone with a big goal. AZ2 (AW) Lynn M. McKellar wishes to be the first female Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy.

The Saginaw, Mich. native recently made a stride on her way to the highest enlisted position in the Navy. She was named the Naval Air Station Sigonella Junior Sailor of the Year.

McKellar is the Training Department, Administration Branch, leading petty officer. Among her tasks as the LPO, McKellar keeps track of the budget, schedules classroom space for training, and works with the training website. Her other duties include working as a Navy Rights and Responsibilities facilitator, an instructor and program administrator for the NASSIG CPR course, and a Command Training Team facilitator.

“I was here when it was still a division of four people, and we didn’t have many responsibilities,” said McKellar. “And now, as we’ve gotten larger, I’ve had my hands in all of it.”

“She’s the base of knowledge for a lot of issues,” said AMC (AW) Christopher Sears. He said this knowledge includes the military INDOC, ADAMS, and AWARE programs. “She’s pretty much the go-to petty officer of base training for any answers.”



The Sailors working with McKellar recognize her work ethic and knowledge. “She’s very advanced for her paygrade, and very instrumental at getting things done,” said Sears. “She buries herself in work while she is there.”

McKellar likes her job and hopes to build on it. “I just enjoy getting up there and teaching,” she said. One of her goals is to be an instructor in the Navy. “I’d like to be an instructor for an “A” school.”

McKellar didn’t start with such lofty goals. “I joined the military to get away from home,” she said. “I wasn’t ready for college, and I didn’t want to sit at home. So I figured I might as well do something with myself.”

When McKellar did enter the military, her eyes were opened when she arrived at her first duty station with Fleet

JSOY, page 8

Protestors gather — operations continue



Anti-war activists gather outside the main gates to Naval Air Station Sigonella. According to Italian police there were between 7,500 to 8,000 participants in the peaceful demonstration. Some members of the Italian Parliament also participated in this political demonstration. The Italian air force, Italian army, Polizia di Stato and Carabinieri were on hand to provide security forces for the base and the demonstrators. Inset— A small group of protestors put a “pace” (peace) flag on the gate of NASSIG during the protest.

Photos by PH2 Damon J. Moritz

CPO selection boards - how do you rate?

By JO1 Craig Coleman
Signature Staff

Maybe you’ve been selected as a Chief Petty Officer board candidate. You may be E-5 who isn’t eligible. In either case, or anywhere in between, you should be considering what it takes to impress a selection board. At a recent seminar in the NAS I Theater CMDCM(AW/SW/FMF) Anthony Evangelista, NAS Sigonella Command Master Chief and CMDCM(SW/AW) Rodney Parks, HC-4 Command Mas-

ter Chief shared their considerable selection board knowledge. Parks, who served as a selection board member, and Evangelista, who served as a recorder, looked at the selection board process from every angle to give prospective chiefs the guidance necessary to impress a board.



CMDCM(AW/SW/FMF) Anthony Evangelista

A major factor in advancement to E-7 is the competitive nature of advancement to khaki. Evangelista had several practical suggestions that boil down to one important piece of advice: know your competition. Sail-

ors should pay attention to what others in their peer groups are doing and keep pace with the frontrunners in their rating. “This is not rocket science,” said Evangelista. “It does not take long to see who is hitting all his/her marks and paying their dues and who is laying low — avoiding detection.” The harsh reality of the competitive nature of a selection board is that the board members know that most of the people they

Selection boards, page 8

Hometown Weather

HM2 Jason S. Castro,
USNH Sigonella
Gaithersburg, MD



High 61° F - Low 40° F
Partly Cloudy



Direct Line

Capt. Tim Davison
NASSIG
Commanding Officer

"God Grant Me The Serenity To Accept The Things I Cannot Change, The Courage To Change the Things I Can And The Wisdom To Know The Difference"

—Serenity Prayer

I hope everyone got a chance to see one of the seven "Wizard of Oz" productions at the school a week ago. The Cowardly Lion for some reason stood out in my mind. He was in search of a little courage. Sometimes, appearances can be deceiving. When Dorothy, Tinman and Scarecrow met the Lion for the first time, they were fearful of what the Lion would do. Dorothy showed courage by standing up to the Lion. The Lion in essence was scared of them. However, by the end of the show, the Lion showed courage by helping his new friends defeat the Wicked Witch of the West.

Former Oklahoma Congressman J.C. Watts, Jr., once said that character is doing the right thing when nobody's looking. Do you show your true colors everyday? If so, you are on right track. If not, you need re-evaluate what you are doing. Your character will define your reputation. Do you actually take a stand for what you believe in? I hope so.

Courage and character play an integral part in our military life. If you show character and stand up for your convictions, you display courage. Courage and character are not tangible assets. You can't touch courage but courage can touch you and the people you are with. Character is what you live with everyday. It is yours alone. You own your character ... but it is what you do with it that matters.

Courage is one of the Navy's Core Values. We must meet the demands of both our professional and personal lives. Having courage means making the right decisions no matter what others around you are doing.

I encourage you to think about what you are doing here at NASSIG. What is your purpose? Yes, we are the "Hub of the Med" but we can only be that when we have everyone participating in our mission. We must continue to do our part in providing the best service and support to our forces in the Med.

Let's all remember that we took the following oath... "I will support and defend"...

Be a Lion...show your courage today!

The Pulse

Bioethics Review Committee there to help you

ENS Caffrey and the Bioethics Review Committee

What is the Bioethics Review Committee? Just a group of individuals sitting around talking? USNH Sigonella operates according to a written Code of Ethics. This includes but is not limited to a Bioethics Review Committee whose members represent the Nurse Corps, Medical Corps, Medical Service Corps, Chaplain Corps, Judge Advocate General's Corps, and the Hospital Corps. One of the members should be a psychiatrist or clinical psychologist, and this individual should be appointed as chair of the committee. The current chair of this committee is the staff psychiatrist at the hospital.

What do we do? The Bioethics Review Committee addresses any potential conflicts between patients and health care providers in a fair and objective manner. The Bioethics Review Committee also has

input into situations that involve staff members who wish not to participate in any aspect of patient care due to ethical, cultural, or religious reasons.

The Bioethics Review Committee is one which functions as a review authority and makes recommendations to the commanding officer when a decision is required. This committee is not the ultimate decision maker; its members provide consultation from which a final decision is made.

When should providers and other health care personnel seek an ethics consult?

The Bioethics Review Committee should be consulted early on in any ethical dilemma. Examples include the following:

- Treatment decisions, which may have ethical implications such as refusal of treatment;
- Conflicts between health care providers, patients, and/or their families;
- Instances in which physicians, patients, members of a patient's family, or hospital staff members request any assistance regarding bioethical issues;
- Any situations in which a patient or a patient's family member seeks to impose an advanced directive to withhold life support.

Individuals wishing to consult the Bioethics Review Committee should contact the Mental Health Clinic (095-56-4840; DSN 624-4840) during normal working hours and the Hospital Quarterdeck (095-56-3842; DSN 624-3842) after duty hours.

Ethical decisions do not only involve end-of life issues. These kinds of decisions are made every day in health care settings throughout the world. Ethical decision-making is an active, ongoing process and incorporates all health care disciplines with family involvement at its core.

New books for library



The Sigonella All Officers' Spouses' Club (AOSC) recently donated 55 new books to the NAS 1 Library. Over the past few months, AOSC members organized two fundraisers for the library raising \$750, which was used to purchase new books. The book titles were selected by the Library and are representative of all ages. The AOSC would like to thank the Sigonella community for supporting their efforts to help make such a positive impact.

The AFCEA advantage

The Armed Forces Communications And Electronics Association is an international non-profit association. AFCEA represents the professional communications, electronics, intelligence, and information systems community. The Association is widely recognized for excellence, high ethical standards and quality, and is considered by top decision-makers to be the preeminent forum in the field.

NCTS Sicily would like to start an AFCEA Sigonella Chapter. Member Benefits Include:

- SIGNAL Magazine, the premier professional journal of communications, intelligence and information systems.
- Access to other communications, intelligence and information systems professionals in a variety of settings and forums.
- The most extensive communications, intelligence and information systems network in the world.
- World-renowned conventions, conferences and symposia featuring an interchange of the latest communications, intelligence and information systems capabilities and requirements.
- Stimulating chapter activities tailored to meet professional and individual needs.
- Career strategy assistance, including transition seminars and resume preparation guide.
- Awards and scholarship programs for recognition of professional accomplishments.

Attend our first meeting to find out more. Our first meeting will be held in the Base Training Classroom in Building 407 on Wednesday, April 3 at 11:30 a.m.. Bring a bagged lunch if you like, light refreshments will be provided. Come prepared to learn more about AFCEA and how we can participate and benefit in Sicily. For more information please call Cmdr. King-Williams or Lt. Cmdr. Mackovick at 624-5525 or CWO2 Pena at 624-5995.

So you want to fight

By Chaplain
Thom Dansak
Command
Chaplain

In a recent discussion with several Sailors, the topic of "conflict" came up.

We were all in agreement—although none of us like conflicts, it seems to be a part of life. And, we agreed that we would all have to deal with conflicts from time to time. Some conflicts are strictly personal, some are clashes between groups, and some conflicts might involve nations and cultures. Though different in size and intensity, there seems to be a similar beginning to most conflicts.

Conflicts seem to begin when the needs, wants, values and ideals of one person or group clash with the needs and values of others. "I want what I want when I want it and don't care what you want or think!" Often, the conflict is summed up in "I am right and you are wrong!" While I am not able to understand or deal with conflicts on the level of nations or cultures, I do find myself often dealing with conflicts that affect individuals and smaller groups—between husbands and wives, parents and children, or between a Sailor and the Navy. In fact, much of the counseling I do is rooted in assisting others to deal with conflicts and, hopefully, assisting them in settling the disagreement. I don't always succeed. I have seen bickering and resentment break apart friendships, families and marriages. It is sad.

In my 26 years as a chaplain, I have

learned that when it comes to conflicts, compromise, flexibility, and sensitivity are not signs of weakness, but rather strong human qualities. In most conflict situations, these qualities can do a great deal to bring people closer and may even save their relationships.

Compromise enables me to accept the fact that I as an individual do not have all the answers and even if I believe I am right, the thoughts and ideas of another person are just as important to them as mine are to me. Flexibility means that I might have to bend a bit and adapt myself to others and their opinions. Sensitivity means that I must understand that no conflict is solved by putting others down, yelling, practicing one-upmanship or making the other feel foolish, hurt or "stupid" because of the differences that may exist between us.

Another thing I learned is we could all do a little better in dealing with conflicts if we could place more importance on people rather than on our opinions and ideas. It is important to remember that on the other side of a disagreement is a real person with real feelings, concerns, needs and views. We may never see "eye to eye" on certain issues, but mutual respect is always possible.

In the Christian tradition, the emphasis of Jesus was not on knowing everything, being right all the time, nor coming out a winner. His emphasis was on love—a love that should make us more sensitive to the other person. Sometimes being kind or understanding to someone may be better than being right or winning the argument. Differences don't have to sever friendships, break up marriages, or divide families. Conflicts may be part of life but they don't always have to kill a relationship.

DOT announces new POV importers

By Robert Szostek
USEUCOM Customs PAO

Mannheim, Germany - The Department of Transportation has released its latest list of registered importers who convert nonconforming motor vehicles to U.S. specifications. The list names 13 companies from all areas of the United States and is available on the Internet at www.nhtsa.dot.gov/cars/rules/import/gray0012.html.

Nonconforming vehicles are those made after U.S. standards came into effect but that have no DOT and Environmental Protection Agency certification labels. Before importing one of these vehicles, shippers must sign a contract with a registered importer who must certify in advance that the vehicle model is convertible. The vehicles must also be entered under a bond for one and a half times their dutiable value.

Vehicles made before U.S. standards came into effect or ones with U.S. certification labels do not need conversion and do not have to be imported by a registered importer. "Federal authorities waive U.S. safety, bumper and theft prevention standards when motorcycles and other vehicles are over 25 years old," said Michael L. Burkert, director of the European Command's Customs Executive Agency. He added that emission conversions are not necessary for vehicles that are 21 years old or older.

Get the "Importing a Car" pamphlet from a military customs office for more information on shipping vehicles to the United States or consult the Military Customs Web site at www.hqusaar.army.mil/opm/cars.htm.

NAS Sigonella Worship Opportunities

Catholic Mass

- Saturday 5 p.m. Chapel (NAS II)
- Sunday 9 a.m. Chapel (NAS I)
- Sunday 9 a.m. in Italian 41st Stormo Chapel (NAS II)
- Sunday 11 a.m. Community Center (Mineo)

Protestant Liturgical Worship

Sunday 9 a.m. Chapel (NAS II)

Protestant Worship

- Sunday 9 a.m. community Center (Mineo)
- Sunday 11 a.m. Chapel (NAS I)

Latter Day Saints

Sunday 1 p.m. Chapel (NAS I)

Church of Christ

Sunday 3:30 p.m. Chapel (NAS I)

Jewish Shabbat Service

Last Friday of the month 5 p.m. Chapel (NAS I)

Weekdays

- Daily Catholic Mass 11:30 a.m. (NAS I & II Chapels)
- Wednesday Protestant Bible Study 4:45 p.m. (NAS II Chapel)

For more details, call 624-4295 or 624-2947.

SECURITY BLOTTER



CRIME STOPPER'S HOTLINE

624-6389

March 10 - March 16

The following incidents were reported and categorized as follows:

- Traffic accidents without injuries - 12
- Traffic accident with injuries - 5
- Car break-ins - 2
- DUI - 1
- DUI's 2003 - 16
- DUI's 2002 - 35

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NAVY NEWS

Navy Quality of Life Services Now Placed Under one Umbrella

By Cheryl Freeley, Navy Exchange Service Command Public Affairs

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (NNS) — As part of the Navywide and Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) transformation process to increase efficiencies and reduce costs, Navy quality of life services previously part of NAVSUP's Code SUP 05 are being consolidated under single leadership.

These services will now be overseen by Rear Adm. William J. Maguire, Commander, Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM), in his new role as assistant chief of staff (ACOS) Navy Family Support.

ACOS Navy Family Support's mission is to provide customers quality goods and services at a savings and to support quality of life programs. Previously, NAVSUP and NEXCOM were both responsible for quality of life services, and they maintained separate responsibilities for afloat and ashore services. Now, all quality of life services, policies and procedures are realigned under ACOS Navy Family Support.

As part of the transformation process, NEXCOM Fleet Assistance Teams are being transferred to the Fleet Industrial Supply Center (FISCs). This will allow the FISCs to better serve their customers by providing a single "face to the fleet."

The ACOS Navy Family Support will now direct postal operations (afloat and ashore), food service (afloat

and ashore), disbursing/ATMs-at-sea, household goods shipments, 104 Navy Exchanges, 42 Navy Lodges, uniforms, telecommunications and 184 ship's stores.

ACOS Navy Family Support will also set policy and monitor performance for 363 galleys, 243 postal centers and 53 personal property offices worldwide. Countless numbers of troops are fed every day, 400 tons of mail are moved every year, and 150,000 moves occur each year. These responsibilities encompass almost \$3 billion in appropriated and non-appropriated funds each year.

In addition to those responsibilities, ACOS Navy Family Support also becomes the NAVSUP advocate for four supply enlisted ratings - mess management specialist, postal clerk, disbursing clerk and ship's serviceman.

"The new alignment will actually enable us to serve our customers more effectively," said Capt. Henry Conde, NEXCOM's deputy commander of military services. "Now, all quality of life programs and services are consolidated, allowing us to take care of the Navy family both afloat and ashore."

To ensure a smooth transition, points of contact, phone numbers, and addresses for all Navy Family Support working level functions will not change, and customers should continue to work ongoing issues with existing points of contact.

For related news, visit the Navy Exchange Service Command Navy NewsStand page at www.news.navy.mil/local/nexcom.

V-22 resumes flight tests at Pax River

By Ward Carroll, NAVAIR Public Affairs, V-22 Program Office

PATUXENT RIVER, Md. (NNS) — The V-22 Integrated Test Team (ITT) resumed flight testing March 17 following a 10-day stoppage enacted so that potentially faulty hydraulic tubes in the engine nacelles could be replaced. Osprey No. 21 launched with test pilots Bill Leonard and U.S. Marine Maj. Shawn Healy at the controls. During the 20-minute flight the ITT tested the JASS 2.6.1.1-version mission software.

"The hop went without a hitch," said Don Byrne, the ITT's deputy contractor flight test director. "This last week has been another example of how this team is capable of stepping up to the plate when it needs to. It's great to be flying again."

The rest of the test force will take to the skies in the coming days once precautionary maintenance is complete on each aircraft.

Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) provides advanced warfare technology through the efforts of a seam-



A V-22 Osprey during a recent test flight over Pax River Maryland.

less, integrated, worldwide network of aviation technology experts. From professional training to carrier launch and recovery; from sensor data to precision targeting and real-time communications; from

aircraft and weapons development to successful deployment and sustainment; NAVAIR provides dominant combat effects and matchless capabilities to the American warfighter.

Recap CORNER

Hoping for a Better Route to the School?

Beginning Wednesday, March 26, the school busses will use the loop road around the NAS 1 Park to pickup and deliver students from 7:15 to 8:00 a.m. and from 2 to 3 p.m. each school day. The attached sketch shows how the busses will completely fill the road and protect the students from traffic as they enter and leave school. If cars park in the road, they will prevent the busses from picking up or delivering the children and cause a significant disruption to the school bus schedule. We ask for your cooperation to keep the road clear. PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN THE LOOP ROAD.

Security has been asked to ticket and TOW any vehicles left in the road and a PW tow truck will be standing by to remove any parked cars. The busses will be using the road until the end of the school year (June 12). For information, when school starts again in August and construction of the new school is complete, the barriers will be raised to exclude private vehicles from the loop road.

How SIG 2.3 Affects You: We are preparing permanent signs that will give the Latin, English and Italian names of the plants and trees in the NAS 1 Park to replace the temporary paper signs and should have those in place in late April. Utilities work will continue on Halsey Road in front of the Stephen Decatur School through the end of June. Please be careful in this area, stay on the sidewalk, and do not try to pick up or drop off your children during the bus periods.

If you have any questions about SIG 2.3 construction, contact LT Darren Hale at haled@nassig.sicily.navy.mil.

News Briefs

Commissary Opening

Looking for a job? Then have a look at DeCA, a military and DoD family member-friendly employer. Permanent, temporary and a variety of work schedules are available. Applications are currently being accepted at your local commissary for:

- Sales Store Checker, GS-03, \$8.94 per hour

- Store Worker, WG-04, \$12.41 per hour

Working for DeCA can be more than just a job, it can be a career. Contact your local commissary admin office for further details on joining our team.

Dental Assistant Position

Branch Dental Clinic Sigonella has a position available for Contract full-time Dental Assistant.

Applicants must be U.S. Citizens and Qualified Dental Assistants. Call DTC Pinkas at 624-4205.

Month of the Military Child

April is Month of the Military Child. FFSC and BLAST will host a variety of events to celebrate the month.

•BLAST and Pre-teens can enjoy an afternoon of carnival games, activities and a barbeque at 205 Youth Center, on April 11 from noon to 4 p.m. Parents are encouraged to spend the day with their children.

•There will be an ice cream social at the commissary, April 15 from noon to 4 p.m. There will also be a special appearance by McGruff the Crime Dog, who will talk about safety.

•Celebrate the month with FFSC at the commissary, April 16 and 22 from noon to 4 p.m.

Story Hour for Tots

EDIS will be hosting a story hour for tots. The story hour will be at 10 a.m. in the Library, April 18. Call FFSC to find out more.

The Walk of Heroes

The event will be taking place at the 205 Youth Complex and will finish at the track behind Stephen Decatur School. Parents can help their children create posters and signs that depict their child's hero. There will be a base wide community walk commemorating our children's hero. For questions or comments call MWR Youth Sports Office.

Car Wash

Navy-Marine Corps is hosting a fund drive throughout the month of April. They will be hosting two car washes. The first will be held at AIMD from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on April 7. The second will be April 29 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the CDC overflow parking lot on NAS 1. Come out and get your car washed or just to support your Navy Marine Corp Relief Society.

Task Force Uniform (TFU) to Make Changes to The Navy "Seabag"

From JO2 (SW) Hendrick L. Dickson
Navy News Service

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Task Force Uniform (TFU) met in Washington March 18 to begin laying the groundwork for an assessment of Navy uniforms and to discuss options for implementing a more professional, sensible, cost-effective set of uniforms for the fleet.

The TFU initiative began after Sailors in the fleet expressed concerns about the current status of Navy uniforms. Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Vern Clark determined there should be an evaluation of the uniform requirements. He tasked Master Chief of the Navy (SW/AW) Terry Scott to review the Navy's "seabag" to help meet the needs of tomorrow's Sailors.

"The rapidly changing Navy of the 21st century dictates our Sailors have uniforms that are going to provide the versatility, the durability and even the interchangeability they need," said Scott. "We need to make sure we are addressing those concerns. Our Sailors are going to be prepared for whatever lies ahead for the future."

For the next five months, representatives from various communities in the Navy, surface forces, naval air forces, submarines, Seabees and others, will be addressing those concerns, and other issues regarding the current status the seabag and uniform regulations. The assessment is expected to end Sept. 30 with a report to be presented to the CNO in October.

The TFU's goal is to evaluate the usefulness of each item against specific factors with an eye towards minimizing the number of uniform items required, and "keep what makes sense."

Some of the issues that will be addressed: developing a working uniform that can be used at sea or ashore and across all communities; establishing a service uniform for E-1 through E-6 that can be worn year-round; streamlining the Navy Uniform Regulations to make it more user-friendly and easy to read; and designing or redesigning uniforms to accommodate various body shapes and sizes.

Although several changes may be made upon the completion of the assessment, the more than 200 year history of the U.S. Navy will not be affected. Tradition, historical acceptance and longevity are factors TFU will consider before making a final decisions about any uniform.

"We are going to have a strong sense of tradition," said Scott. "We want to make sure our Sailors still feel like Sailors. I feel that is really important."

Sailors should not expect a drastic make-over in Navy fashion anytime soon, but what they can expect is a change that to be more convenient to them whether they are ashore or at sea.

"We are going to be taking a look and ensuring we have a set of uniform regulations that are easily understandable, enforceable and realistic to our Sailors," said Scott. "We don't want a complete make-over of uniform regulations. We want to make sense. If it doesn't make sense anymore, let's stop doing it. If it does make sense and should be in the regulations, let's address it and make sure it's there."

Exams: Just Part of the Advancement Process

By JOC (SW/AW) Steve Hendrickson
NPC Strategic Communications Office

MILLINGTON, Tenn. (NNS) — Advancement exams are over ... now what do I do? This is a question posed by many Sailors throughout the fleet.

"If you're in a rating where advancement isn't as high, what about looking into joining our Master-at-Arms force, for example," says Chief of Naval Personnel Vice Adm. Gerry Hoewing. "If your passion is law enforcement, this could be an opportunity matching your skills and abilities."

If you are in a tight rating, that's one avenue to take, but there are many more. Take the First Class Association at Naval Air Station (NAS) Keflavik, Iceland, for example. The association's Sailors have put their time and efforts into training Sailors from all ratings, concentrating on basic military requirements to help them improve. Their first step was to make the training user friendly.

"We take our training topics straight from the bibliogra-

phies," says Air Traffic Controlman 1st Class (AW) Frances Medina, the vice president of the NAS Keflavik 1st Class Association and creator of the program. "Then we use what we remember from when we took the exams to ensure we cover everything that may be on them. We've even sorted the topics out by which pay grades should attend which sessions."

Aboard USS Kitty Hawk (CV 63), Sailors are made aware of their potential through something called a professional development board (PDB). This is a tool that the command makes great use of through the command career counselor (CCC) to guide young undesignated Sailors through their careers.

"These boards give a Sailor's chain of command a chance to review that individual's personal circumstances and provide them with input that's designed to help them reach their full potential as Sailors," said Navy Counselor 1st Class (SW) Alex Opiniano aboard Kitty Hawk.

"I didn't have a clue as to what I was eligible for, but after being aboard a couple of months and discussing my aspirations with my chain of command in a PDB, I had a better outlook on my future, and I have set goals to help me reach my full potential," said Dental Technician 3rd Class (SW/AW) John Robinson of Kitty Hawk.

If a Sailor needs more information, there's plenty. All kinds of study implements, career guides and career tools are all around. If he or she just takes a look in their own spaces, they will more than likely see a computer, a chief, a telephone, and maybe a recent bibliography of your rate or a copy of LINK/Perspective or All Hands magazine ... all excellent sources of information.

"The whole idea to succeeding is to never give up or become discouraged," said Information Systems Technician 1st Class (SW/AW) Jeremy Loveland aboard USS Wasp (LHD 1). "Advancing to petty officer 1st class has made me realize I'm doing things right. There are still things I need to learn."

THE ENERGY BLOCK

Welcome to The Energy Block. Each week we will present an energy conservation note of interest. We will present facts, figures, and helpful energy and water conservation hints to conserve our precious resources.

This week's **FACT**: Each year the DOD spends well over \$3 billion for facility energy. Sigonella's share of that is over \$4 million. Presidential Executive orders have directed that all DOD facilities reduce their energy consumption to 30 percent below their 1985 per square foot levels by 2005, and to below 35 percent of their 1985 levels by 2010.

*DID YOU KNOW: if the energy used to power office equipment were cut in half using available technologies, the result reduction in carbon dioxide emissions would be equivalent to removing 6,750,000 automobiles from U.S. streets.

LETS USE, NOT ABUSE



By Alberto Lunetta
Signature Staff

Italian News

Sicilian culture and lifestyle

S. Marco d'Alunzio celebrates religious feast

Today, the community of San Marco d'Alunzio, a small town located in the Messina province about nine km from the Tyrrhenian coast of Sicily spanning from Capo D'Orlando to Cefalù and opposite the enchanting Aeolian Islands, celebrates a solemn religious festival named the *Festa del Crocifisso* (Feast of Crucifix). A very old *fiesta* (festival), San Marco d'Alunzio has held it the last Friday in March since 1612. The festival anticipates Good Friday, the anniversary of Jesus Christ's death and includes Holy Masses and processions. The most impressive religious ceremony is the *processione* or procession during which the 17th century wooden sculpture depicting crucified Christ and a painting, featuring the *Vergine dei Sette Dolori* (Virgin Mary pierced by seven swords), that is placed at the foot of the cross, are carried on the shoulders of 33 hooded penitents (including men and women) belonging to a local religious confraternity. These devotees, who are named *Babbaluti*, wear long blue tunics and thick wool socks to distinguish themselves from the other worshippers. These *devoti* (devotees) want to remain anonymous in their public penance as they express their devotion to God or in thanks for the fulfillment of a vow. During the procession, they accompany and sustain the statue of the cross. Meanwhile they utter gloomy moans, prayers and hymns in Sicilian that go like this: "Signuri, Misiricordia, Pietà." (Have Mercy, Lord). According to tradition, *Babbaluti* symbolize the Jews.

The festival begins at 11 a.m. with a High Mass in the 17th century Church of Ara Coeli that is attended by hundreds of persons. At the end of the mass, the crucifix is carried throughout the city center.

In the afternoon, the crucifix is placed inside the *Sapurco*, a mausoleum-like structure decorated with yellow and red cloths, and illuminated by hundreds of glowing candles. Later at 3 p.m., the religious procession known as the *Via Crucis*, Latin for "way or road of the cross," is performed throughout the town's historic center. In the evening, another solemn mass is celebrated at 8 p.m.

The day after, a moving mass for the sick and the disabled begins at 10 a.m. Devotees walk the Stations of the Cross within the Ara Coeli church. Eventually, the *crocifisso* (crucifix) is placed back in the chapel where it is usually preserved.



Picture courtesy of S. Marco d'Alunzio Tourist Office

S. Marco d'Alunzio, a small town in the Messina province on Tyrrhenian coast, will celebrate a moving religious feast named the *Festa del Crocifisso* (Feast of Crucifix) on March 28. A very old *fiesta* (festival), it has been held last Friday of March since 1612. The highlight of the festival is the *processione* or procession during which the 17th century wooden sculpture depicting crucified Christ and a painting featuring the *Vergine dei Sette Dolori* (Virgin Mary pierced by seven swords), are carried on the shoulders of 33 hooded penitents named *Babbaluti*.

History of the town

In ancient times, San Marco d'Alunzio was named *Alontion* (Greek era) and *Aluntium* (Roman era). The city was founded in the 5th century B.C. Over the centuries, it witnessed several civilizations: Greek, Roman, Byzantine, Arabic, Norman and Spanish. According to legend, Patron, a comrade of the epic Trojan hero Aeneas, founded the city after escaping from Troy. Patron's image is featured on ancient bronze coins, dating to the 3rd century B.C., that were found in the archeological area of the town. The prosperity of ancient *Aluntio* is also proved by the *Tempio d'Ercole* or Hercules' Temple that is located at the entrance of the town. Dated to the 4th century BC, it is the only temple in the province of Messina from the Greek period. In the early Middle Age, the temple was turned into a church dedicated to Saint Mark the Evangelist. Today, only the temple's walls remain. One can still admire the beautiful Baroque portal. On both sides of the portal, there are two richly decorated windows. Outside there still are a few Greek ruins.

Entering the city through the *Porta di San Antonio* or Saint Anthony Gate, you reach the Church of San Antonio. A beautiful 16th century church, it originally belonged to a Franciscan convent. The *chiesa* (church) features a mesmerizing gate made of a local red marble. The production of this wonderful red marble named *Rosso San Marco*, which is extracted from local quarries, is the distinguishing mark of the city as many important public and religious buildings have been built throughout the centuries with this precious stone.

The town artistic panorama also includes the medieval *Chiesa del SS. Salvatore* (Church of the Savior).

The church has a beautiful pillared portico. Inside it features 17th century statues and Byzantine frescoes.

The Byzantine church of San Teodoro is also worth a visit. It is shaped as a cross and features a magnificently decorated wooden ceiling. Next to the church there is a museum of Byzantine and Norman art (located on via Ferraloro n. 78) including paintings, frescoes and archeological findings (Open daily from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and from 3 to 7:30 p.m. Ticket cost 1,5 Euro).

For more info on the other city monuments and museums, call the City Tourist Office at 0941-797847.

How to get there

Exit Rocca di Caprileone on the Messina-Palermo highway and drive for about 4 km until you get to the intersection that says San Marco d'Alunzio.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
COMMUNITY CALENDAR						28 March	29 Agrigento Valley of the Temples ITT Call 624-4396
30 Randazzo Market and Valle Galfina Wine Tasting ITT Call 624-4396	31 Free Tennis Clinic until April 5 5 to 6:30 p.m. NAS II tennis courts Call 624-2710	1 April Veteran Affairs GMT 8 to 10 a.m. NAS I theatre	2 Rainbow Playgroup 10 to 11 a.m. 205 Housing	3 Consumer Awareness Meeting 1:30 p.m. Retention Center Call 624-2363	4 Catania Shopping ITT Call 624-4396	5 Mirabella Imbaccari Lace Village ITT Call 624-4396	
6 Ficuzza and Corleone Winery ITT Call 624-4396	7 Navy-Marine Corp Fund Drive Car Wash AIMD 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.	8 Movie Day at Blast Call 624-3712	9 Piazza Armerina Roman Village and Enna ITT Call 624-4396	10 Chinese Dineout depart 7:30 p.m. Liberty Call 624-5187	11 Month of the Military Child Barbeque noon to 4 p.m. BLAST	12 Fishing Trip Aci Trezza Bay Area AU Call 634-4271	
13 Gangi Palm Sunday Pcession & Lunch ITT Call 624-4396	14 Cappuccino Classic Tennis Tournament Time TBA NAS II Courts Call 624-4483/5243	15 Travel Club 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Take 5	16 Benvenuti Teens 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. ICR Classroom	17 Anger Management 5 to 6 p.m. NAVHOSP2A-111	18 Story Hour for Tots 10 a.m. Library	19 Sailing Trip The Brucoli Canal AU Call 624-4271	
20 Happy Easter	21	22 National Jelly Bean Day free jelly beans all day Take 5	23 Science Club 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. 205 Teen Center	24	25 Pen Pal Letter Day 4 to 5 p.m. BLAST	26 PJ's & Pancakes 10 a.m. to noon for kids under five BLAST	

Word Find

Leading Ladies

G H X K C B M B D Q S Y P P K V B K N R U B P E H
 D C A P I A Y R Q U C A L S K P E N H O W Z A R U
 J N R Y G H A L R A L R A L E S R N F B S S E E N
 B K A N W W J Y A T O R A E E O G I L E N H G T T
 O S A M D A N D R E W S R W G K M L E R E T N U H
 K N R O R V R O W J N T G E F V A T T T E O A X O
 I E O Y M O W D T U S G R R L O N A C S W O L U V
 U W A T O L D D R O O S B P K N R M H S X B V N E
 S L C T O U D C Y E G K T R P V L D E W J T J Y W
 G C L T O S N V M A T G N E R O L O R T B X X I W
 B U U L E N R G C Q W S F E X R O R N O B E P V W
 T T A M H O L L I D A Y N F J O I E G A P H I K D
 A B F G A J S G Q V U C D U S N K E W Y B K G Q T
 J L I O S C T M W C S J A K D Y K D L T B G F Z E
 Z E R M R S L K E A Y F C R X T J X X D P L F L R
 L V I L L C E A M P O A D K N S I S L E E V K D O
 X T N K C S N I I S J L L K M R K S Y E R X J N N
 H F Z X V S N A F N K B Z P T U X N B M X E O A G
 W Y M A N N H F B Z E M F G P B P Z A O X D T S I
 S P A C E K T A N D Y C Q J L X X U U W N L A I S
 C F T L V H R M N W J L W E O U C J L A S V Y E W
 R B L K C K Z U B Q J Q T C R H Y G R I U L L R P
 G I L D P A E I T S I R H C E A I A N T I K O T F
 T H O M P S O N B T A W A R F U S B Y I K U R S I

ANDREWS	CRAWFORD	HUNT	MAGNANI	SARANDON	THOMPSON
BANCROFT	DUNAWAY	HUNTER	MATLIN	SIGNORET	WOODWARD
BATES	FIELD	JACKSON	MCDORMAND	SMITH	WYMAN
BERGMAN	FLETCHER	KEATON	MINNELLI	SPACEK	YOUNG
BERRY	FONDA	KELLY	NEAL	STREEP	
BOOTH	FOSTER	LANGE	PAGE	STREISAND	
BURSTYN	HAYWARD	LEIGH	PALTROW	SWANK	
CHER	HEPBURN	LOREN	ROBERTS	TANDY	
CHRISTIE	HOLLIDAY	MACLAINE	ROGERS	TAYLOR	

TRIVIA

What percentage of a 15 lb. turkey is typically dark meat?
 What illness did George Washington pick up when he visited Barbados?
 How many races did Eddie Arcaro lose before winning the first of his 4,779 career wins?
 What did Julius Caesar, Alexander the Great, and Dostoyevsky have in common?
 Aristophanes wrote "The Clouds" in 423 B.C. to mock what tragedy writer?
 (Answers on page 9)

Movie Connection

MWR's Theater Schedule

Friday, March 28

- 5:30 p.m. **National Security (PG-13)**
- 8:30 p.m. **Bringing Down the House (PG-13)**
- 10 p.m. **Darkness Falls (PG-13)****

Saturday, March 29

2 p.m.
Signonella Star event presented by MWR Teen Center Boys and Girls Club of America Teen Supreme Program.



Navy Morale, Welfare and Recreation

- 9:30 p.m. **Final Destination 2 (R)**

Sunday, March 30

- 1 p.m. **Kangaroo Jack (PG)**
- 3:30 p.m. **Just Married (PG-13)**
- 6 p.m. **About Schmidt (R)****

Monday, March 31

- 5:30 p.m. **Just Married (PG-13)***
- 8 p.m. **Narc (R)**

Tuesday, April 1

- 5:30 p.m. **Final Destination 2 (R)**
- 8 p.m. **Cradle 2 the Grave (R)**

Wednesday, April 2

- 5:30 p.m. **Pinocchio (G)***
- 8 p.m. **Bringing Down the House (PG-13)**

Thursday, April 3

- 5:30 p.m. **A Guy Thing (PG-13)***
- 8 p.m. **National Security (PG-13)**

Friday, April 4

- 5:30 p.m. **About Schmidt (R)**
- 8:30 p.m. **Biker Boyz (PG-13)****
- 10 p.m. **Final Destination 2 (R)**

*** Future Re-release **Sneak Preview *Last Showing
 (All times and movies are subject to change. For more information on the schedule, call the movie hotline at

Shout

DoDDs students talk about what's happening in the community

Supporting the Child Whose Military Parent is Deploying

Talk as a family before deployment: Before a deployment, military members are usually preoccupied. As a result, military members come home tired, perhaps late, and reluctant to address painful issues of impending separation. It is important to overcome this resistance and make plans with the family as far ahead as possible.

Bestow, rather than "dump", responsibilities on family members. Concerns expressed by children after a parent has deployed are that everything has changed at home and they now have to do "everything" that the deployed parent used to do. Discussions before deployment, in which trust in a child's ability to carry out a responsibility are expressed, are valuable to help a child to feel they are important to the family, are important to the deployed parent, and that they can help share a potential burden.

Make plans for the family to progress together, and include the deployed parent projects. It is important that the family not put "life on hold" in anticipation of the return of the deployed parent. This will result in stagnation, loss of direction, and burn-out. Plan for specific goals to be reached by each of the children and the remaining parent, as well as family projects to work on. Design ways to communicate with the deployed parent, and relate progress, so the deployed parent can be part of the progress. Make sure the remaining parent and deployed parent have specific plans on how to communicate. Keep regular but not too frequent communication.

Continue family traditions and develop new ones. A stabilizing factor in a family is routine and tradition. Don't stop Friday pizza night, or Saturday outings because the parent has deployed. If anything, be more predictable in continuing traditions. Family bowling night, attendance at and fellowship at places of worship, and involvement in events with other families are ways to maintain a sense of stability and continuity. If the family has not previously had regular family traditions, now is a good time to start them. Encourage children to talk about these events and activities to the deployed parent.

Help children understand the nature of a deployment by devising time-lines. Although the parents may not always know the exact time that the deployment will take, it is still helpful to make an estimate, and then help a child craft a calendar of some type. Examples to include are holidays, birthdays, family events, vacations, and other "markers" which help to divide up the time of deployment into short episodes.

To children, no news is worse than bad news. Studies with children of deployed parents show that the children's main preoccupation is over the remaining parent. If that parent becomes short, cross, self-absorbed, or tearful, with no explanation, the child's fantasies about that parent's ability to function are worse than what the reality is. The remaining parent should be open about sharing concerns and news about the deployed parent. If the child has an explanation it is much easier to accept. Parents should not use their children as surrogate adults, but should share enough to ease the child's worries.

Listen to a child's worries and answer questions. Follow up a child's questions with further questions as to what prompted them to bring up an issue. Listen carefully before trying to dispel what you consider to be false notions. Explore a child's question and concern to show that you are trying to understand what they are worried about. Don't keep pursuing the issue after a child appears to be satisfied. Be reassuring about protective measures and training designed to protect the deployed parent, but do not make false assurances about not getting hurt or dying.

Maintain firm routine and discipline in the home. Under the best of circumstances, maintaining order and routine for children is difficult. It is even more difficult when a parent is absent. The child will manifest anxiety about this new separation, and the concerns over the ability of the remaining parent to function, by testing the resolve of the remaining parent. With an increase in responsibilities, numbers of tasks and new stresses, it will be tempting not to pursue and enforce limits. Be proactive and discuss with the child your intent to have very firm routines. Then follow through with a clear and predictable set of consequences and rewards.

Initiate and maintain a close relationship with the school and the child's teacher. Have a conference with the significant figures in the child's schooling. This may only involve the child's classroom teacher for the young child, or others, such as several teachers, counselor, or principal for the older child or special needs child. Make clear to them that the child's parent has been deployed and that there may be an increase in stress at home. Anticipate the first signs of stress in the child. Signs of vulnerability and stress are deteriorating academic performance, behavioral problems in the classroom, problems in peer relationships, unexplained mood changes, tearfulness or irritability, or worsening of previously existing behavioral problems. Have a plan devised with the school authorities for constructive and helpful interventions to support the child and redirect them.

Make sure you take care of yourself. If one is interested in the welfare of a child, then "Take care of the caretaker." Unfortunately, because of demands on the remaining parent, it is difficult to make this happen. Taking care of yourself must be seen as a necessity. Frequently, the remaining parent is a working single parent. Plan a schedule,

This Week on...

Sat. Mar 29- 8 Simple Rules (Season Premiere)
 AFN Atlantic 2:30 PM

Sat. Mar 29- NCAA Men's Bball Elite Eight
 AFN Atlantic 10:30 PM

Sun. Mar 30- CNN Headline News
 AFN Atlantic 6:00 PM

Sun. Mar 30- NCAA Men's Bball Elite Eight
 AFN Atlantic 9:00 PM

Mon. Mar 31- MLB Opening Day
 (NYY vs. TOR) AFN Atlantic 9:00 PM

**TUNE IN TO THE NAVY MARINE
 CORPS RELIEF SOCIETY
 "RADIOTHON" ON AFN 106.0
 APRIL 4TH FROM 6AM-6PM!**

afneurope.net/signonella

and include the child in the planning. Let your child know that you will be able to take care of them better, more fun to be with, and have more energy if you can take time to get out. Time periods can be short, but should be planned, so you don't feel guilty. Express appreciation to your child and let them know how much better you feel.

ENTERTAINMENT CENTER

Fri. March 28

Eat some yummy BBQ and play sand volleyball at the Bankrupt BBQ at Take 5.

Discover the baroque sites of Palermo and go shopping with ITT. See the Palazzo Mirto, the church of San Salvatore, and the church of Gesu. There will also be time for shopping and lunch. Call x4396/x4777 for more information.

Sat. March 29

Photo Safari is hosting a trip to the Natural Reserve of Vendicari. Take wonderful photos of one of the most natural places left in Sicily with its lakes, coastal quagmires, and migrating seasonal birds. Also visit an ancient "tuna farm."

Sun. March 30

Visit the Randazzo Market and go wine tasting at the Valle Galfina winery. Go with ITT to the beautiful town on Mt. Etna with a great market. Then have lunch and taste wines at the winery located in the Etna Valley. Call x4396/x4777 for more information.

Mon. March 31

Play BINGO at Live Wire on NAS I at 5:30 p.m.

Tues. April 1

Bellini Opera tickets on sale at ITT.

See the opera Götterdämmerung by Richard Wagner. Call ITT at x4396/x4777 for more information.

Weds. April 2

Sing your heart out at JOX Sports Bar's Karaoke and All Request Night at 6:30 p.m.

Thurs. April 3

Relax and reduce stress with Swedish, Acupressure, Facial, and Deep Tissue massages with Tanya on Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the NAS I Activity Zone. Call x4483 or stop by the NAS I Fitness Center front desk for more information.

Photo Safari meeting from 4:30p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Golden Anchor. Learn photography and prepare for upcoming photo excursions.

AFN from page 1



Photo by JO2 Denise Alford

Most of the work at AFN is done under deadlines, JO2 Steve Smith works at editing a story for the evening news.

sion of the AFN Europe headquarters.

"Only AFN Sigonella can broadcast local information; the kind of information that is most important to our community in uncertain times. Our radio and television services are the place to turn for everything from facility closures and program interruptions to base access and personal security," said Updike.

The focus of AFN Sigonella is not limited solely to local events. Currently AFNer JO2 (SW) Pat Reilly is deployed to the Red Sea bringing information directly from the Navy front lines. One of his photos was recently used by the Fox News Network.

"A simple message I hope everyone can remember - turn to AFN to get the most up to date local Sigonella command information," said Updike.

Local information is also available on the AFN Europe website: AFNEUROPE.NET/Sigonella

Selection board from page 1

have to choose from are excellent, so that some quality people will not be advanced. "By the time you get to the board we're looking for a chink in your armor," Evangelista said. "Don't give me a reason not to pick you."

The Enlisted Service Record (ESR) is the place the board members search for evidence of your qualifications to wear khaki. "Review your ESR and PSR/microfiche often," said Evangelista. He recommended Sailors send copies of items that aren't in the ESR or microfiche. "Don't make the board go looking for data. At the same time, don't overwhelm the board with duplicate data."

The board will take a very close look at what is in your ESR. "Usually the panel will look for adverse Page 13 entries right away," said Parks. "They have limited time so, as Master Chief (Evangelista) said, they're looking for negatives to rule out some candidates." According to Evangelista, assuming that their record is up-to-date is one of the most common mistakes board candidates make. If a candidate finds items are missing from the ESR they should send a correction package to BUPERS. Key items are missing evaluations and qualifying documents.

Particular attention will be paid to your Sea/Shore rotation. The board expects to see a healthy proportion of arduous duty in your record. "Ensure that your choice of sea/shore rotation is done smartly," said Evangelista. "Don't take off the pack - or leave the perception that you have." Sigonella's designation as Type 3 duty can have an effect on board members, according to Parks. "Sig is awkward because only 10 to 15 percent of master chiefs have ever been overseas," he said. "These individuals don't know what duty in Sigonella is like."

Evangelista also advised Sailors to start thinking about CPO selection boards long before they are board-eligible. "Look hard at your evals at E-5 - for the simple fact that it is very possible some of those evaluations will be included in your "last five year look" when the board is in its deliberations," he said. Evangelista continued, saying that those evaluations should mention your suitability for CPO and always mention your CPO potential. "If there's a lapse board members may question why there is a 'silence on the net' for a period or two. If it's not obvious, it's probably going to be seen negatively."

For more information on advancement opportunities log on to <http://www.navyadvancement.com/navy-advancement.htm>.

JSOY from page 1

Air Reconnaissance Squadron four (VQ-4) "Shadows" at Tinker Air Force Base in Oklahoma City. "I learned a lot of responsibility. I came in as an 18 year-old airman, with no responsibilities," she said. "And within the first six months at my first command, I was in charge of eight planes. That's a lot of responsibility."

Five years have passed since she first stepped foot on that air base. The Navy has taught her many things. One such thing is taking care of people. "You can't do everything by yourself. You always need all your people there to help you out," said McKellar.

Those who work with her are aware of her philosophy. "As a military person and as a friend, she's been there for everything with me," said AO2 Theodore Poutree, who has worked with McKellar for seven months.

"She's really people oriented," said Sears. "She's real concerned about helping people, making sure they get the right information," he said. "She's able to talk to people very senior, as well as the junior folks to get her point across. And to solve a problem with very minimal effort."

McKellar's personality helps with the morale in the office. "She's always upbeat, and always happy. Even when things are getting hectic or down," said AD2 Aubrey A. Stalling. "She's always putting her best foot forward, trying to go, and trying to keep everybody else going also."

She also likes to show people what she's got. It's what drives her to succeed. "My biggest fear is ever disappointing anybody," said McKellar. "I don't like hearing that I disappointed somebody." She said being a perfectionist is one of her attributes. "I hold myself to a very high standard," she said. "And I try very hard to live up to it."

She also expects high standards from those around her. "If I attempt to put out perfect work, I expect that from my people," she said.

McKellar maintains a positive attitude in her dealings. "She doesn't like to tell people no," said Stalling. "She'll try anything and everything to tell them yes before she has to tell them no."

"It makes me feel really good," said McKellar. She said when asked why she should be Sailor of the Year, she said that she just goes out and does her job. "I come in everyday, and I do the things that I like to do, and I do my job. I do what makes me happy," she said.

Sears said he is proud McKellar won the award. "I knew she had a very strong possibility of winning when we put the package together," said Sears. "There was nothing in her package that was exaggerated or flowered up. We really didn't have enough room in her package to put everything she does," he said. "So we limited it to the main points."

The future just may hold a MCPON position for McKellar. But for now, she's happy to be NASSIG's Junior Sailor of the Year.

Stop Loss from page 1

The second step is to look at every set of orders to do a preliminary funding. NPC is being allocated additional funding monthly for PCS transfers through Sept. 30. "When they get their money every month, it is a PRD first come, first served type of thing," said Brickman. "Their unwritten rule is that they are getting everyone their orders within 90 days of PCS."

Sailors have to be patient when it comes to receiving the orders for which they negotiated. "They're still under those orders, they're not being cancelled, except for extreme circumstances," said Brickman. She said these circumstances have to do with required manning

issues such as realignment of billets. "Otherwise everyone will still have orders, they're just not going to get those paper orders in hand until roughly 90 days out from their PRD, which just means a little bit more proper management for their transfer," she said. This proper management includes getting everything in line to speed things up for the transfer until the paper copy is in the hands of the Sailor. "We're just on a priority issuance of orders. As soon as we have the money, they will be leaving," said Brickman.

"A Sailor gets extremely excited in the negotiation timeframe," said Brickman. She said there's a little misconception with some Sailors thinking they actually have to have orders in their hands to be written for them.

"That's the hard part, and that's what we're having to sell to all the Sailors right now," she said. The orders can be found and do exist but NPC can't release them because they don't have funding right now. "Until the money has been allocated, the paper copy will not be issued."

In the case of receiving orders, Brickman's advice is "Calm down take a deep breath, and they will be here, we promise you."

To see if orders have posted or changed, it is suggested that personnel check www.bupers.navy.mil. For more information contact your detailer or NPC Customer Service Center at 312-882-5672.

