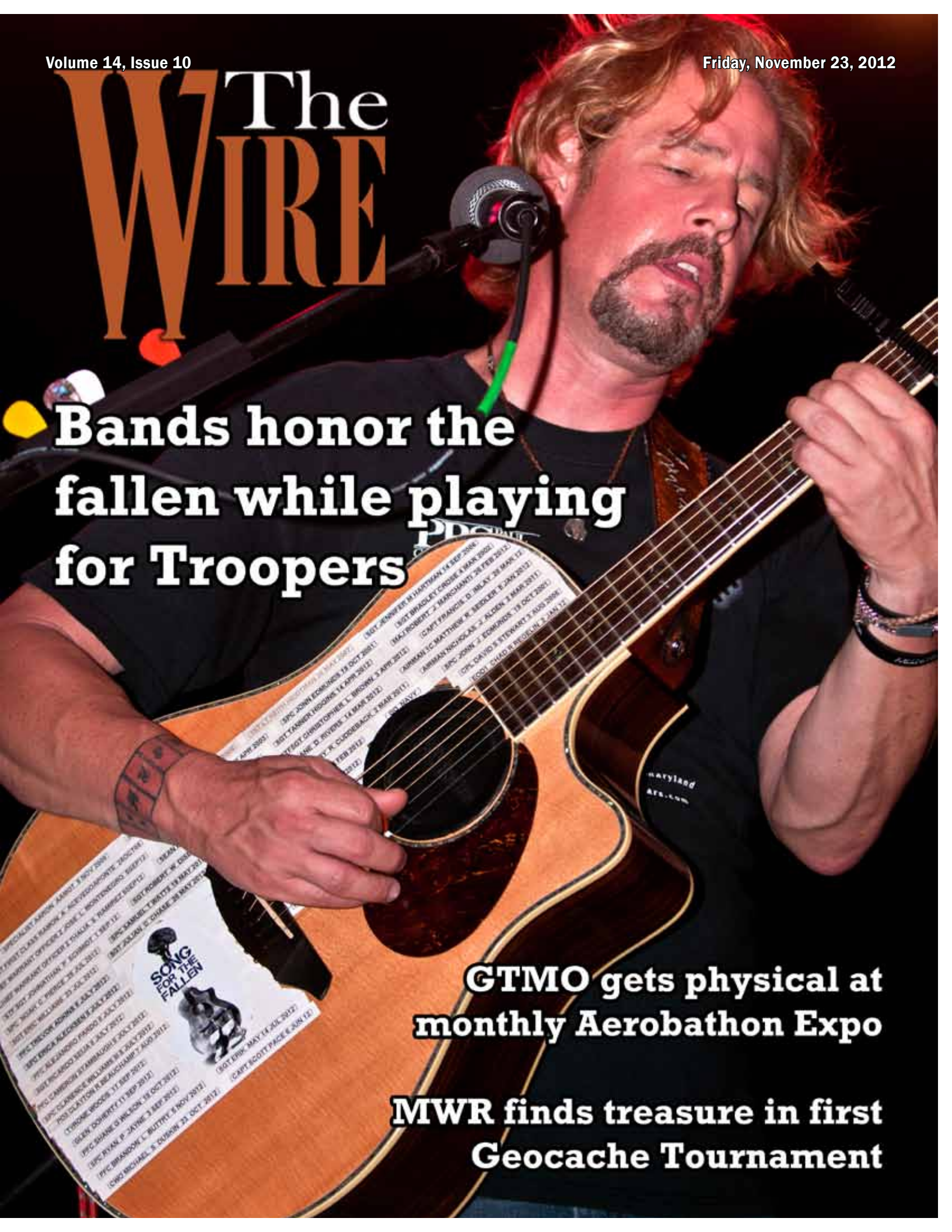


The WIRE

Bands honor the fallen while playing for Troopers

GTMO gets physical at monthly Aerobathon Expo

MWR finds treasure in first Geocache Tournament



COMMAND CORNER

BRIG. GEN. JAMES LETTKO

DEPUTY COMMANDER, JOINT TASK FORCE GUANTANAMO

Last week, we said thank you and a job well done to our Coast Guard Marine Security and Safety Team – New Orleans and we welcomed our Coast Guard Port Security Unit from Long Beach, Calif. Last week, the 602nd Military Police Company arrived from Bossier, La., replacing the 348th Military Police Company, who will be returning to Ames, Iowa. Thanks for a great job 348th. Welcome to the 191st Military Police Company from Arecibo, Puerto Rico.

As we all can attest to, Joint Task Force Guantanamo is always changing. A person or a unit is always arriving and one departing. Rotations of Troopers are the nature of a Joint Task Force. We use standard operation procedures (SOPs) and policy memorandums to help us maintain continuity and consistency to mitigate our rotational nature. If you are new to the JTF and have not learned the SOPs that are pertinent to your duty position, I urge you to do so immediately. Regardless of your duty position, all should become familiar with the JTF-GTMO policies that can be found on our SharePoint home page as well as the Naval Station GTMO instructions that guide our actions while on Naval Station GTMO.

As we look across our JTF, we see many new faces and young faces. For many of our fellow Troopers, the deployment to JTF-GTMO may be the first time they are away from friends and family over a holiday period. I expect our more experienced leaders to demonstrate positive leadership by ensuring we talk to our junior Troopers and ensure we get them through what may

be a potentially difficult time for them. We have many constructive activities planned throughout the holiday season and different ways our Troopers can connect back home.

The mission we perform within the JTF is very important and can be very stressful. Balancing the demands of a 12-hour-plus shift four days a week with constructive down time can be a challenge here at NAVSTA GTMO. Regardless of how long you have been here, professional and personal development should be a goal. Identifying that next professional or personal goal will make

Identifying that next professional or personal goal will make you a better Trooper and person and will provide you with an outlet – something else to think about as you progress through your tour.

you a better Trooper and person and will provide you with an outlet – something else to think about as you progress through your tour. Using your time in a constructive manner will be more effective for you than using your time in a non-constructive or potentially destructive way.

Watching out for your shipmate, battle buddy, or wingman is everyone's responsibility. Using a designated driver, using Safe Ride when appropriate, and ensuring your buddy does not do something that will jeopardize his life or job is a responsibility we all share. Responsible behavior is key to success at JTF-GTMO. If you are not over 21 years of age, do not drink alcohol – it's against the law. If you are over 21 years old, don't buy alcohol for those under 21 – it's against the law.

As we approach the holidays, I expect positive leadership to extend throughout the depth of the JTF to ensure we all celebrate in a safe and constructive manner, thus keeping our mission as our number one priority.



JTF Guantanamo

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JOINT TASK FORCE GUANTANAMO

SAFE • HUMANE • LEGAL • TRANSPARENT

NEWS FROM THE BAY

MWR wants you!

MWR needs the feedback of YOU – the residents of Naval Station Guantanamo Bay – to ensure they offer you the best possible experience.

Stop by one or all of the following locations to participate and fill out a survey: Windjammer and Marine Hill pools; Denich, Marine Hill and Camp America fitness centers; Bayview, Windjammer, O'Kellys, Jerk House, Triple C, KFC, A&W, and Taco Bell; Marblehead Lanes Bowling Center; Information, Tickets, & Tours; Marine Hill, Deer Point, Tierra Kay and Camp America liberty centers; Downtown and Camp Bulkeley lyceums; library; marina and sailing center; outdoor recreation center and bike shop; golf course, driving range and disc golf course; and auto skills center.

A new way to bowl

Come out and enjoy all-new Cosmic Bowling, now playing at Marblehead Lanes Bowling Center every Friday and Saturday night from 9 to 11:30 p.m. The scene features new cosmic lights and sound system, and attendees can request music on four new big screens. The \$13 cost includes two and a half hours of bowling and a shoe rental.

A new way to dance

Learn to salsa! Lessons are held every Saturday at the W.T. Sampson Elementary School gymnasium. There is a beginner class from 7 to 8 p.m. and an intermediate class from 8 to 9 p.m. For more information, contact gtmosalsa@yahoo.com or 84093.

Thanks for the weekend!

The Troopers of Naval Station Guantanamo Bay have plenty of chances to get out and have some fun this weekend.

First, embrace your inner redneck or pretend you have an inner redneck at MWR's Redneck Games. Show up behind the Windjammer today at 5:30 p.m. and you can participate in a variety of games or in the redneck costume contest at 7 p.m.

On Saturday, take part in the Turkey Shoot Paintball Tournament from 2 to 4 p.m. Paintball enthusiasts can test their skill and aim by shooting at 20 different targets, and prizes are awarded for the first, second and third most accurate male and female.

Also on Saturday is the Turkey Gobbler All-Night Softball Tournament starting at 7 p.m. Up to 12 teams will compete in a one-pitch, double-elimination format.



Toilet seat ring toss and more at the Redneck Games today at 5:30 p.m. at the Windjammer!

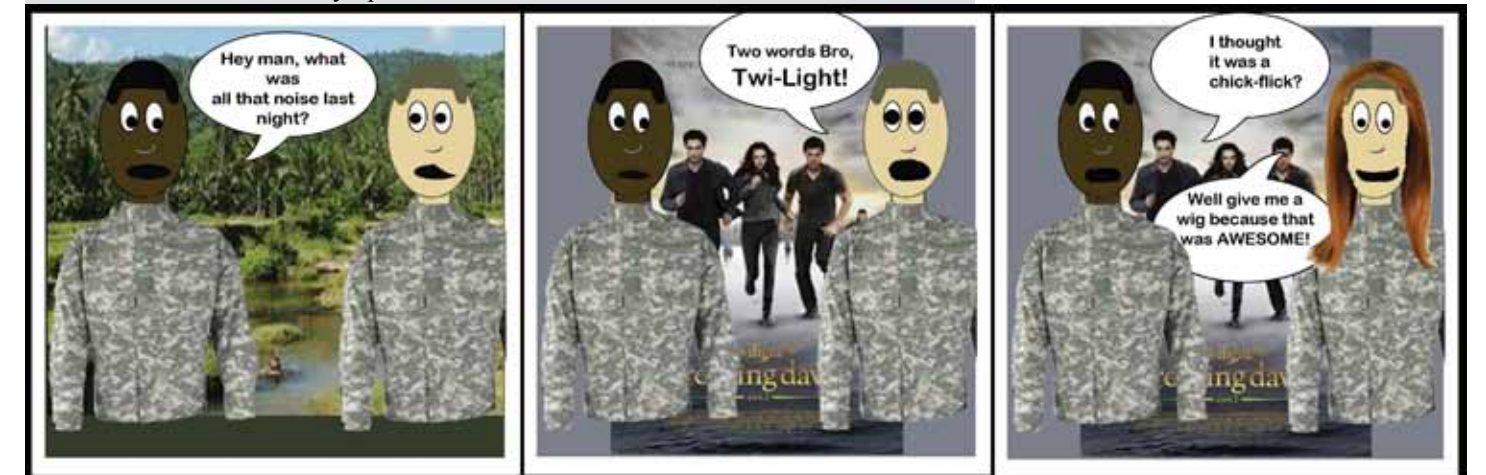
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The WIRE is the official news magazine of Joint Task Force Guantanamo. It is produced by the JTF Public Affairs Office to inform and educate the Troopers of JTF Guantanamo through news, features, command guidance, sports and entertainment. This DoD news magazine is an authorized publication for the members of the Department of Defense. Contents of The WIRE are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or Joint Task Force Guantanamo. It is printed by Defense Logistics Agency Document Services with a circulation of 1,200.

ONLY AT GTMO by Spc. Brian Godette



Cover: Alan "Hupp" Huppman, the lead singer of both Hupp N Ray and Face for Radio, sings and strums a guitar decorated with the names of deceased service members. The retired Navy senior chief petty officer's bands play a song called "Simple Prayer" at every show in dedication to those serving in the military. Photo by Army Sgt. Jonathan Monfiletto.

Movie Review

PG-13
92 min.



By Army Staff Sgt. Michael Davis Jr.

The Downtown Lyceum offered four new movies to choose from this week. There were films about vampires and werewolves fighting until the break of dawn, a cop who dreads judging people so he kills everyone in a building, and a documentary/narrative/cinema verite about two Los Angeles police officers who are marked for death. Forgive me if I have misinterpreted the plot for most of those movies, but the story line that caught my attention, and I know to be correct, is that of Taken 2.

Retired Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) operative Bryan Mills (Liam Neeson, "The Grey") gets captured along with his ex-wife, Lenore (Famke Janssen, "X-Men: The Last Stand"), by the father of a thug Mills killed while rescuing his daughter, Kim (Maggie Grace, "The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn -Part 2"), from a prostitution ring.

Some things have changed since Mills used his special skills to save his only daughter after being kidnapped by human traffickers in France. One, Lenore no longer has a bad attitude toward Mills and two, Lenore and her new husband are having relationship problems. However, what didn't change is Mills' overprotective demeanor toward Kim.

During the first 15 minutes of this 92-minute film, Mills spends time prying his way into Kim's personal life after finding out she has a boyfriend, showing his anxiety about her getting her driver's license and expressing his concern for his ex-wife's issues. While Mills is occupied with his family, an angry father, Marade Kraniqi, (Rade Serbedzija, "In the Land of Blood and Honey") in Tropoje,

Albania seeks revenge for his son's death for which Mills is responsible. Remember the guy in the first "Taken" who Mills electrocuted in a chair? That guy's father is really angry now and seeking payback.

Not only is he angry and bent on revenge, but he manages to persuade his gang of thugs to also seek revenge for Mills killing their friends during the rescue of Kim. Kraniqi does all of this persuasion during the

"Listen to me carefully, Kim. Your mother and I are going to be taken and people are going to come for you too."

gang of thug's funeral, so he has no problem getting the thugs that work for him to go after Mills too.

Mills and his family have no idea what's going on. As a matter of fact, after Lenore's deadbeat husband cancels their trip to China, Mills suggest his ex-wife and Kim spend some time with him in Istanbul after he finishes a work assignment. After being led to believe that they have not taken him up on his offer, they surprise him in the hotel where he is staying. By that time, the vengeful father has already gathered intelligence about Mills' whereabouts, and the fact that his ex-wife and daughter are there as well only makes his revenge plot much more satisfying.

When it's time for the family to hang out, Kim decides to go for a swim in the hotel pool and suggests her parents do something together in an attempt to rekindle their marriage.

While being driven around town, Lenore makes conversations about how her and

Mills used to be when they were married and how she feels he gets too focused on things. With all the talk about him being characterized as a dog that's solely concentrated on catching his bone, Mills is actually focused on a vehicle that is following them. I love that correlation of verbal and visual action the director imposed – or the screenwriter, it could have been either one.

Anyway, the suspense builds up gradually as he plans a way of escape. They manage to lose the perpetrators and Mills is calm and collective while Lenore on the other hand is completely the opposite. As she whimpers in fear, Mills tells her how and where to go for her escape. Using himself as a decoy with plans of soon meeting up with Lenore, Mills used his CIA operative style of fighting to subdue his enemies – holding true to his style in the first "Taken."

However, he stops twisting arms and breaking knee caps because they now have Lenore and they are threatening to shoot her. So like a loving ex-husband, he drops his gun and calls his daughter and tells her, "Listen to me carefully, Kim. Your mother and I are going to be taken and people are going to come for you too."

That was plot point one, and going further into the movie, be prepared to endure a lot of suspense, action and great original music by Nathaniel Mechaly (composer for "Columbiana"). I liked how the director, Olivier Megaton, (director of "Transporter 3") used the essence of 'time' to create suspenseful moments in the film. Whether you were literally looking at the time on a phone that may have been a key factor in an action scene or someone had a limited amount of time to get from one destination to the next, it kept the anticipation going.

The action took a slightly different turn from the first "Taken." Because Mills was captured, his daughter Kim had to step up to rectify a situation – some from her father's guidance and some with her own courage and intuition. She found herself jumping from roof to roof and driving in a high speed chase just to save her family.

I enjoyed the film very much because it was 'real' to me. I found it kind of strange, though, that Kim managed to drive a manual transmission vehicle in a chase when she could barely drive with an automatic transmission. I'm just saying. I also felt certain situations in the film could have been enhanced to engage the audience more, such as having Kim go through more hell to save her family while still in her bathing suit from the pool.

Overall, I really enjoyed it and I would recommend it to anyone, thus giving this movie three and a half banana rats.

MOVIE REVIEW

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2012 Flag Football Games

Thursday, December 6

1800-2200

Pre-ceremony events begin at 1800!!

Kick Off 1900 for Women's game *Kick Off*
2020 for Men's game

COOPER FIELD



Half Time Entertainment by CYP Dance & Cheer Squads
Drawings for VIP seating (Recliners on the 50 yard line),
and tons of giveaways and prizes!

Concessions serving burgers, hotdogs and beverages
FMI, call 2113



Save Turkey Day!

Commentary by Army Capt. Al Phillips

Good day, fellow Troopers! So here's a random thing I thought of while running down Sherman Avenue last week: Why are there a giant Christmas tree and light pole decorations up so soon and Thanksgiving has not arrived?

Is it just me, or does it seem like Thanksgiving has become the distant cousin of Christmas? Don't get me wrong, I am all about Christmas, but I do remember the glorious days of a holiday truly celebrated and shared called Thanksgiving. Food, what glorious food – turkey, stuffing with homemade cranberry sauce, mac and cheese, ham with the pineapple slices just right, sweet potato casserole, pumpkin pie, and, of course, Aunt Roz's famous bread pudding! Do you get my drift? My stomach is now aching in anticipation for this Thursday's meal at the Seaside Galley.

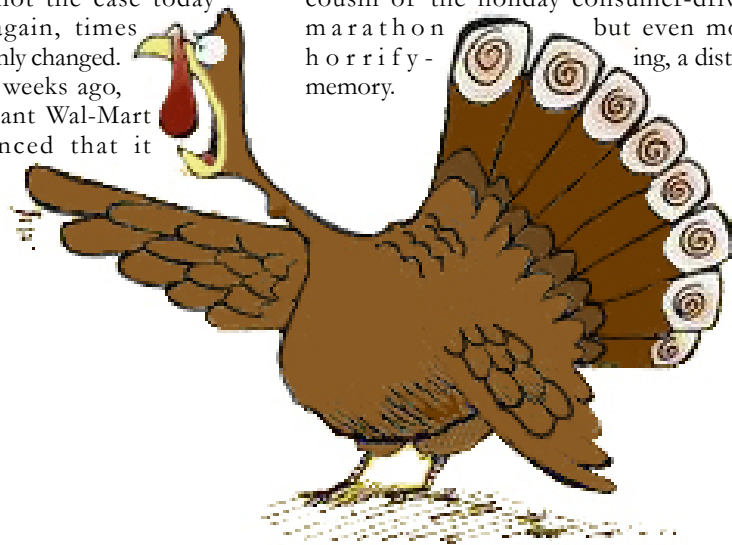
Yes, indeed, things have

changed a lot since I was a youngster – and a child of the '90s. When I was growing up, we all fended for ourselves when it came to school Thanksgiving meals and our family dinners because Thanksgiving was just that important. One seemed to always be content if he received one piece of turkey, a scoop of stuffing and a slice of pie after Cousin Bob or Cousin Lauren took the last piece of apple pie in a sudden-death power struggle. But that was OK because it was all a part of the meaning of Thanksgiving. We were all just thankful to sit and partake of an enjoyable meal with family and sometimes close friends discussing the latest news of the day or even playing a game of Pictionary before having a psychedelic food hangover and then watching the Detroit Lions and Dallas Cowboys lose against their respective opponents for their annual paid sports monopoly infomercial.

That is not the case today because, again, times have certainly changed. Just two weeks ago, retail giant Wal-Mart announced that it

would open stores at 8 p.m. on Thanksgiving to give blood-thirsty consumers an early advantage on Black Friday savings. As you would imagine, this triggered a copycat reaction from competitors K-Mart, Toys R Us, Sears, Target, etc., who abruptly realized they too can contribute to the savings of America's sons and daughters by deciding, "Let's create Black Thursday Evening!"

By all measures, this is yet another attempt at destroying, as I see it, the one last day of the year in which no matter what religion, race, ethnicity or gender you are or what region of the country you are from, when Americans would gather as one to reminisce, discuss, cheer, eat, drink, eat some more, and sleep some more, BUT most of all, give thanks. So my plea, my dear Troopers, is a simple one: We Troopers are a force, and I say let's start now proclaiming our true allegiance to Turkey Day before it is not just a distant cousin of the holiday consumer-driven marathon but even more horrifying, a distant memory.



Story and photos by Army Sgt. Trisha Pinczes

Like no other Richard Simmons or Billy Blake VHS workout, the Naval Station Guantanamo Bay monthly aerobathon brings out the Chuck Norris in everyone.

As part of the Morale Welfare and Recreation program here at GTMO, the second Wednesday of every month brings men, women, and children out for an intense two-hour workout.

Over 100 participants completed condensed sessions of cardio kickboxing, Zumba, step aerobics, and other classes regularly offered through MWR, at Denich Gym Nov. 14.

"It's a good way to showcase all of the classes we have here," said Dennis Anthony, the fitness coordinator for MWR. "There are samples of the 56 classes we teach every month."

On a small island, getting into a routine can become a rut and trying new things is an easy way to keep people interested in physical exercise.

"It's a great time for people to come out and do something different," said Lt. Cmdr. Al Applewhaite, a supply officer for the naval station and participant in the event. "You also get a chance to see something different and enjoy



Dennis Anthony, the fitness coordinator for MWR, works with participants of the Nov. 12, 2012 aerobathon during his power training class.

yourself while you do it."

Introducing the body to new exercises can help keep it from getting so used to one exercise that you don't get the same benefits from the workout as you once did.

"Your body needs all different types of exercise," Anthony said. "Cross-training is important because if you do the same thing over and over again you can actually cause injuries."

While some of the classes may not be everyone's "cup of tea," the aerobathon helps people at least try something new or different.

"I've seen people come to the Aerobathon, sit and watch the class, and halfway through decide to join," Anthony said. "All of a sudden, they are a regular customer at class."

Many people may also make the mistake of "judging a book by its cover," or in this case, judging a class by its name.

"If you see a class on our schedule like power training, a lot of people might look at it and go, 'Oh, that's lifting weights, I don't want to get big muscles,'" Anthony said. "They later come and realize that it actually has really good cardiovascular benefits because we don't stop. While one muscle group's resting, we are working the other one."

Finding new classes one may be interested in is a great result of the event and although the aerobathon is not a workout meant to be on a daily basis, to make it through the entire

program is quite a feat.

"They like the classes and people like to challenge themselves," Anthony said. "This is a two-hour workout with very little breaks in between and it tests every bit of your strength, endurance and cardiovascular health."

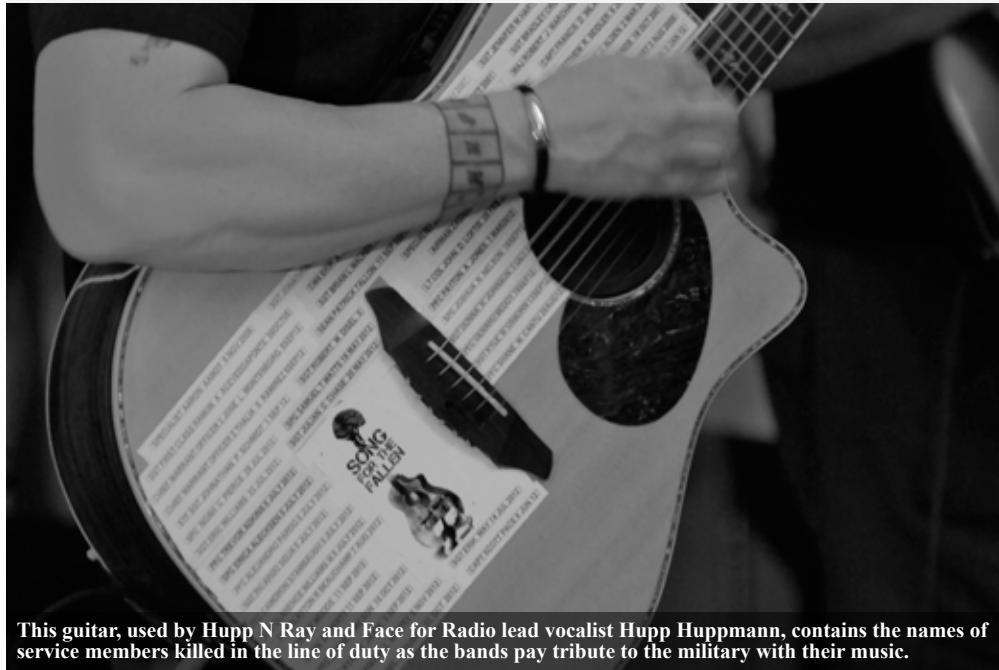


Cardio kickboxing instructor Carl Heron instructs his class during the aerobathon Nov. 14, 2012.



Roxy Bumpus, the fitness instructor for Zumba, dances with participants during the aerobathon.

TWICE THE ROCK, TWICE THE TREAT



This guitar, used by Hupp N Ray and Face for Radio lead vocalist Hupp Huppmann, contains the names of service members killed in the line of duty as the bands pay tribute to the military with their music.

Story by Spc. Brian Godette
Photos by Army Sgt. Jonathan Monfiletto

Rolling strong on the train of rock, Naval Station Guantanamo Bay played host to its third straight week of stellar rock performances. This time around GTMO residents got a double treat with the combined musical stylings of Hupp N Ray and Face for Radio. Providing a unique twist, both bands are actually intertwined by the lead vocalist of both bands, Alan “Hupp” Huppmann.

The stage was set, literally and figuratively, for both bands to put listeners into a musical euphoria during a four-day concert showcase. Hupp N Ray led the showcase at the Bayview Nov. 15 for Mongolian night. The two-man classic rock cover band starring Hupp Huppmann and Ray Hetchka, kicked the weekend off playing acoustic renditions of classics, with the help of Vic Deacon, guitarist from Face for Radio.

The rest of the Face for Radio band members sat up front and took in the music they love to

hear with the rest of the Troopers in attendance that night.

“There’s nothing like getting on stage and putting some energy out there through music and then having that energy come back from a crowd,” said Huppman. “There’s nothing in the world like it.”

It was a feeling that could be seen on the band members faces while they transitioned from one song to another, but not without first hearing the acceptance of the crowd, for the song just completed or the anticipation through the introduction of the song coming.

Hupp N Ray fed the audience’s musical appetite for two hours that night, while the Mongolian style food fed their bellies.

The crowd got more and more engaged into the performance after their meals were done and a few

beers were purchased, belting out songs for the band to play. Hupp N Ray did so enthusiastically and without hesitation.

At the end of their set, pleased fans walked up to the band to introduce themselves and give thanks for the wonderful performance.

“If you liked this, make sure you come out to the Face for Radio concert tomorrow at the Tiki Bar,” Hetchka said.

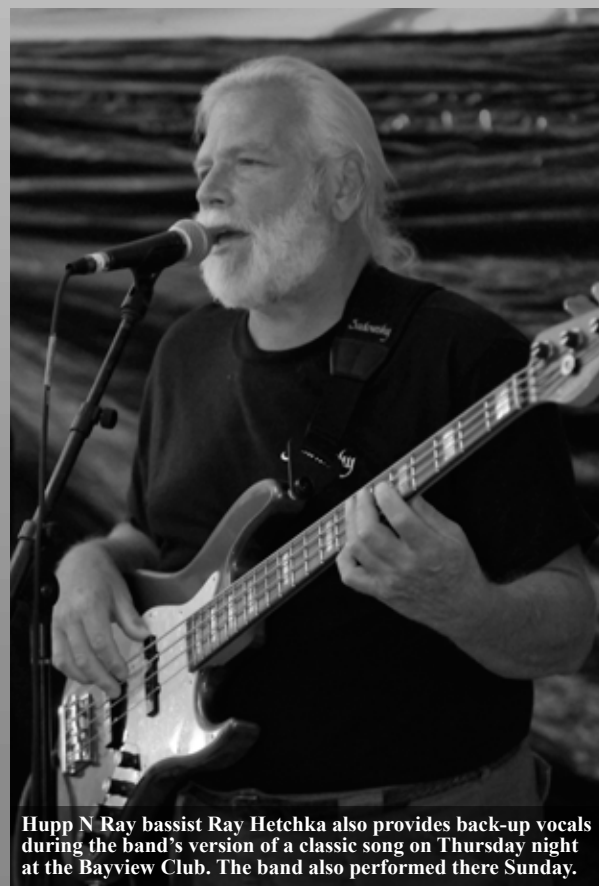
“It’ll be something like this, but bigger,” Deacon added.

Anticipation set, GTMO residents attended the Face for Radio concert Friday night at the Tiki Bar ready to be entertained. Even the first showing of the new Twilight movie couldn’t keep patrons of rock from taking in the sounds of Face for Radio.

The band completed its sound check, and at 9 p.m., the stage lights illuminated the four-man band. It was as if an iPod was plugged into huge speakers, with the best rock classics of then and now playlist put on shuffle.

The band’s guitarist, Deacon, who can pass for an Earth science teacher, regularly had guitar solos that were amazing to say the least - a mad scientist on the axe, he delighted the crowd.

Hit after hit, the band played gems from Creedence Clearwater Revival (CCR), Rolling



Hupp N Ray bassist Ray Hetchka also provides back-up vocals during the band’s version of a classic song on Thursday night at the Bayview Club. The band also performed there Sunday.

“We started putting the names on this guitar that has sort of turned into a memorial for us and we take to every show. It’s become a really special thing.”

- Hupp Huppmann, lead vocalist

Stones, The Beatles, Led Zeppelin, ZZ Top, and Stevie Ray Vaughan, with a mix of the ’80s and a dash of the ’90s and topping off with some hits on the radio now.

“Cover songs are songs that we love,” Huppmann said. “Our specific set lists are songs that have been great for 30 years, so we find no matter what the age group, from 20 to 60, everyone loves these songs. We get to put our spin on them and throw it out there and see what happens with the crowd.”

Every member of the band gave thanks to the troops for having the opportunity to play at GTMO, calling it an honor and special experience in their careers.

Lead vocalist Huppmann, a retired Navy senior chief, explained the bands connection and appreciation for service members.

“In the past year we’ve written a song specifically to try to raise money for the Wounded Warrior Project, so we play this song at every gig and 100 percent of our tip jar goes to the Wounded Warrior Project,” said Huppman.

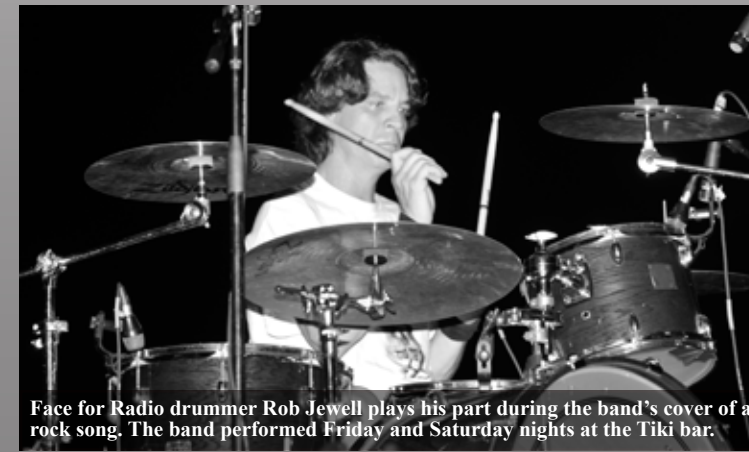
The song is called “Simple Prayer,” which the band ended the show with Friday night.

“A friend of ours, who is a lieutenant commander in the Navy, deployed to Afghanistan in February and he did the Run for the Fallen every weekend, and since he can’t do that we decided while he’s gone we would play and produce some money for the Wounded Warrior Project,” said Huppmann. “It will be a one-year project by the time he gets back next February and we are going to throw him a big party and hopefully cut a big check for the project.”

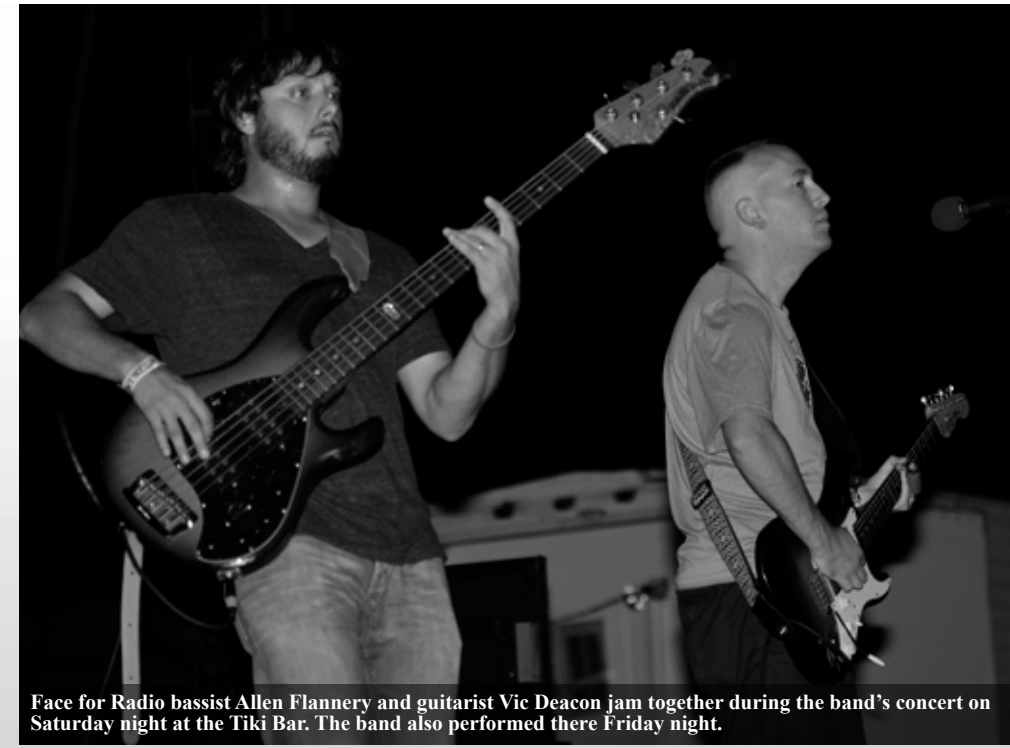
The deeply moving song, which praises service members and asks protection for their families, struck a chord with several audience members who stood and applauded at the end.

During the Hupp N Ray concert as well as the Face for Radio concert, an acoustic guitar covered with the names of fallen service members, graced the stage.

“We started putting the names on this guitar that has sort of turned into a memorial for us and we take to every show. It’s



Face for Radio drummer Rob Jewell plays his part during the band’s cover of a rock song. The band performed Friday and Saturday nights at the Tiki bar.



Face for Radio bassist Allen Flannery and guitarist Vic Deacon jam together during the band’s concert on Saturday night at the Tiki Bar. The band also performed there Friday night.

become a really special thing,” Huppman said.

Face for Radio said goodnight to the audience shortly after 11 p.m. and like the night before, got a chance to engage with their thankful audience, who during the course of the cheered their appreciation to the band members while they were playing as a sign of thanks and a signal to rock on.

The Morale, Welfare and Recreation-sponsored concert event proved to be another success. Hupp N Ray and Face for Radio are an example of true CLASS-ical rock ACTS and bands that many

GTMO residents would love to have grace the stage again in the near future.

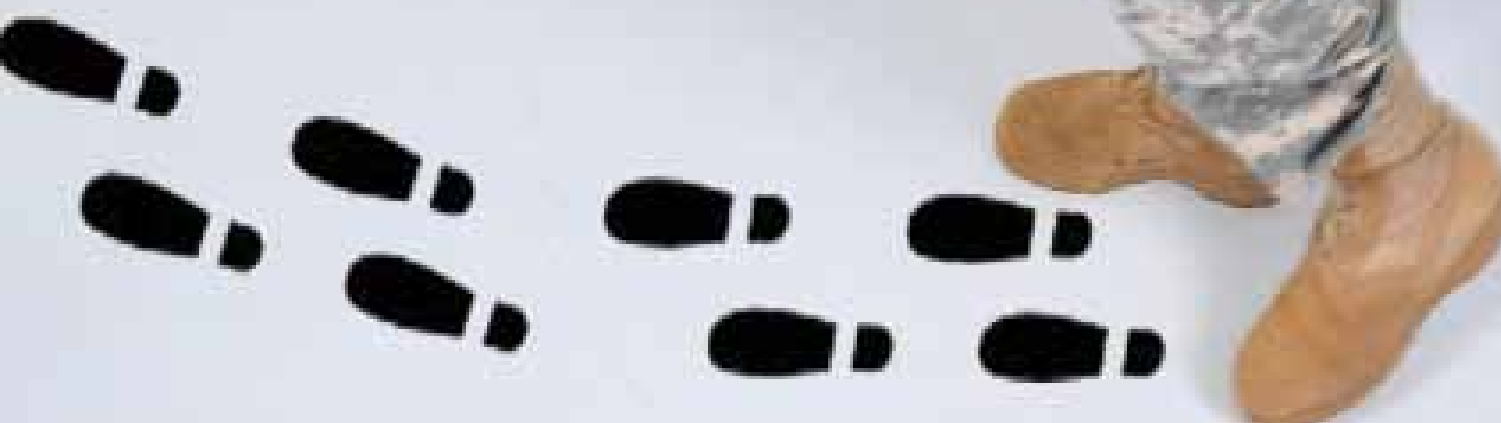
For more information on the Songs for the Fallen project, visit www.songsforthefallen.org.



Huppman strums his signature acoustic guitar during a performance of Hupp N Ray on Thursday night at the Bayview Club.

Pfc. Jacob Bezotte

Making All the



.....Right steps!

Trooper Focus



Story by Spc. Brian Godette

Being a young Soldier and new to the military can be a daunting task. New Soldiers are faced with demands that are both physical and mental, not to mention the responsibility and life experiences that one normally learns throughout adulthood.

Unfortunately, more and more young Soldiers are falling prey to obstacles that can hinder their military career, such as debt, lack of motivation, poor work ethic, or not creating future goals.

This is where the Army core values of Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity, and Personal Courage, taught in Basic Combat Training play a vital role. These values, combined with maintaining a positive attitude, are the steps to setting any Soldier up for success – steps that Army Pfc. Jacob Bezotte, of the 193rd Military Police Company, is wisely adhering to.

Bezotte is a Soldier stationed here at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay attached to the 525th Military Police Battalion, and he has quickly earned the respect of his fellow service members and leadership through his strong work ethic.

“I’m a worker. I like to work,” Bezotte said. “It’s the way I was raised. Growing up, my father always taught me to do your best at anything you do.”

Bezotte, who is from Mississippi and displays an air of Southern hospitality, left BCT in April 2011 and soon after completed the Advanced Individual Training course of an internment/resettlement specialist.

“My family supported my decision to join,” Bezotte said.

No stranger to examples of hard work, Bezotte got to absorb the full idea of it at home.

“My father is a truck driver and my

mother builds motor homes,” he said.

That kind of example instilled in him at an early age was just one stepping stone that placed Bezotte above the rest.

As with any senior-to-junior relationship, leadership played another integral role.



Not only is leadership present in Bezotte’s young career, but he is willing to take in the guidance from that leader.

“We have a lot of real good NCOs (non-commissioned officers) in the 193rd. I have great leadership to learn from,” he said.

This being Bezotte’s first duty station, he is taking all the benefits he can to expand on his career in his downtime.

“When I left the states, there was nothing holding me back,” he said. “Right now I’m enrolled in Columbia College, something my leadership recommended. There’s no good reason not to.”

Bezotte is majoring in criminal justice, an apt educational major for any military Police officer.

Creating goals like furthering one’s education is a way to maintain focus on the future, which is just one of the goals Bezotte has set for himself.

“I’m definitely staying in the military to further my career,” Bezotte said.

On the right track at that, Bezotte was recently promoted to private first class on Nov. 1, and has no intentions to stop there.

“I’m doing really good for myself. I’m here making the best of it, and I’m saving a lot of money,” he said.

A positive attitude seems to radiate off this young Soldier, and not even long, 12-hour work shifts could hold it back.

“Work is how you make it. You can sit around for 12 hours or you can get up and do something and be positive about it. I’m accomplishing a mission,” Bezotte said.

Long work hours can drain or make anyone unmotivated, but finding something to focus on and the people around you helps, Bezotte said.

“The people I work with, that I see every day, they help the time go past here in Cuba,” he said. There are a lot of good people in our company and we are here together, so we might as well make the best of it.”

Bezotte, who has a strong work ethic, career goals and positive attitude, reminds himself that being stationed here is not so bad.

“I like being stationed here. There are all types of things to do, you’ve just got to go out and find something,” Bezotte said.

Bezotte, who one day hopes to be in a leadership position to provide guidance, like that of his own leaders to him, had a message for other young Soldiers.

“Think of the mission and what you’re trying to accomplish,” he said. “You’re a part of something bigger.”

Native American Heritage Month

Cultural Observance Committee hosts Lunch and Learn at community center

Story and photos by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Brian Jeffries

If you were in school learning about U.S. history and blinked, you probably missed it. As a matter of fact, had you stared at your teacher or professor non-stop for an entire semester, you probably would have still missed it. The “it” is the history and origin of the black Native American.

On Nov. 15, Naval Station Guantanamo Bay chaplain Lt. Larry Jones and several members of the Cultural Observance Committee (COC) hosted the last Lunch and Learn ceremony. The ceremony was held at the community center and was open to everyone on base. Former and active service members, as well as students, brought their own lunch and listened in as the COC highlighted Native American heritage because November is National Native American History Month.

To go along with the posters made by the COC, members also provided ethnic dishes, such as corn and soup, for sampling purposes.



Petty Officer 1st Class Janol Wright speaks to the audience in her traditional Native American garb.

Perhaps one of the best parts about the event was the guest speaker.

Petty Officer 1st Class Janol Wright, a member of Joint Task Force Guantanamo and the COC, arrived in her authentic Native American dress and moccasins. Though her voice was quiet, her words filled the room. She spoke about her upbringing. She also spoke about her Blackfoot lineage and touched on how it is sometimes difficult to maintain your multiple heritages when you grow up without knowing with which to identify.

Wright said it was an honor to have the opportunity to tell her story.

“Everyone has a story, so I’m grateful to be able to share mine because I know a lot of people haven’t received this information,” Wright said.

After Wright finished her speech and everyone applauded, Jones put in a DVD for the audience to enjoy. The movie was titled *Black Indians (An American Story)*.

The movie went into vast detail about the history of Native and African Americans in this country and how they came to be so closely linked. The movie also spoke of how from these relationships not only were friendships and kinships built but so were families. A whole new race had been developed called black Indians. Native Americans then didn’t recognize race the way that it is seen today. Instead, they just saw intermingling with other humans as a chance to increase and improve their existing tribes. Therefore, early in slavery escaped slaves would find refuge among different tribes still settled along the East Coast. Essentially, the movie touched on



Members of the Cultural Observance Committee pose for a photo with guest speaker Petty Officer 1st Class Janol Wright.

reasons why African Americans and Native Americans came to be and stressed the ramifications of these details.

All in all, the ceremony was fun and informational. The COC did a wonderful job of hosting the Native American appreciation event and an even better job of using Wright and her life experiences to illustrate a culture that most people have been blind to.

“Everyone should talk to people around them,” Wright said as she spoke about what she would like to say to everyone who wasn’t able to make the event. “Everyone has a story to tell, and if you don’t stereotype and open your mind you will realize that everyone’s story is actually quite interesting.”

For everyone who wasn’t able to attend the function, looking into the stories of black Native Americans would be not only beneficial to your overall knowledge of another aspect of American history, but would surely be interesting to most as well. Again, this was the last Lunch and Learn event of 2012, but be sure to find out about the next one that Jones and the COC are putting on in the new year. It’s not a bad way to spend your lunch break.

Geocache tournament adds new

surprises to treasure hunting

Tournament winners Hospitalman Andrew Grooms, Petty Officer 2nd Class Sherod Williams, and Hospitalman Jesus Terrazas cool off after the geocache tournament. MWR held the Geocache Tournament at the Marine Hill Liberty Center on Saturday.

Story and photo by Spc. Raechel Haynes

Treasure hunting is an ancient activity and was the motivation behind much of archaeology’s discoveries. Men and women alike can spend their whole lives searching for great treasures and artifacts. Then there are those who are just seeking points in the journey, some for no other purpose than to say they’ve been there. This treasure hunt is called geocaching.

Naval Stations Guantanamo Bay held its first Geocache Tournament Saturday at the Marine Hill Liberty Center.

“Geocaching is treasure hunting with a GPS,” Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Liberty Program Manager Katie Stanley said.

Geocaching is a combination of sport and treasure hunting. Reaching some of the way points can be quite an activity. It can involve a great deal of hiking, walking, and occasionally retracing your steps. Great explorers of legend have all done the same. Explorers like Magellan or Ponce De Leon all sought great treasures in far flung places.

Geocachers follow coordinates from www.geocaching.com to way points where they can sign their name to the logbook, take an item left by a previous geocacher, or leave an item of their own. MWR provided prizes at each way point during Saturday’s geocaching tournament.

“We placed the prizes so even if you don’t win the grand prize, you still get to take something away from this,” Stanley said.

Participants took away more than prizes from this tournament. They also got a good

workout. What started out as a walking event quickly turned into a running event as participants fought to beat the other teams. Those driving around Marine Hill Saturday morning would have seen clusters of three to five people running around with yellow GPS units in hand. The furthest point in the tournament was about .7 miles. Way points were pre-programmed into the GPS units, but every



team had a different order to reach their way points. The only way point that was the same for everyone was the last one.

“It’s a fun way to get out and explore,” Stanley said. “We are not using vehicles for this event. Everyone has to walk it.”

Way points spread from Marine Hill to the paintball course to Christmas Tree Hill.

“There are millions of registered

geocaches,” Stanley said. “There are eight registered geocaches here on the base.”

Stanley used to participate in geocaching when she was an intern in Chicago, and she thought it would be a great activity to bring to GTMO. Geocaching is not a new thing and has been around since early 2000. Geocachers can be found all over the world, and some even go on geocache vacations. Geocaching isn’t really a competitive sport throughout the world. MWR opted to make its geocaching a little more competitive. The first-place team members each received a GPS unit at the close of the tournament. Saturday’s tournament winning team was comprised of Hospitalman Andrew Grooms, Petty Officer 2nd Class Sherod Williams, and Hospitalman Jesus Terrazas. For them, this tournament was too good an opportunity to pass up.

“We are on nights,” Grooms said. “We should be sleeping now, but this sounded like a lot of fun. We had a great time.”

Stanley hopes the geocaching tournament will be the first in a series of regular GTMO geocaching tournaments. Stanley plans to expand the competition to a base-wide tournament.

The GTMO geocaching tournament may not be what people usually expect of a treasure hunt. That may depend on what you value as treasure. The prizes here may not be silver and gold, but geocaching isn’t necessarily about treasure. Geocaching is about making a mark. It isn’t as prestigious as archaeology or as lucrative as treasure salvage, but geocaching can make you feel like an adventurer.

Trooper to Trooper

Doing what matters

COMMAND MASTER CHIEF WAYNE A. NORTH

COMMAND MASTER CHIEF, PORT SECURITY UNIT 311

A couple of weeks ago, just before leaving California for Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, I attended a dinner event where the guest speaker reminded me of an old story about a young boy walking along the beach at low tide.

As he came upon beached starfish, he would throw them back into the ocean. An older man on the beach witnessed this and asked the boy what he was doing. The boy said he was returning the starfish to the sea to prevent them from drying on the beach. The man said, "But there are miles of beach and probably hundreds of starfish. You're wasting your time. You can't save them all. What you're doing doesn't matter." The boy then bent down, threw another starfish into the ocean and replied, "Well, it mattered to that one."

The story was a reminder that as service members, our highest calling is to take care of one another. We learn this from the earliest days of basic training, and it is reinforced as we progress in our careers. Whether we refer to one another as "shipmates" or battle buddies," in the end, we're reminded to take care of one another. As the story above illustrates, usually the best way to take care of one another is to do it one person at a time. The dinner event at which this old story was told was held to welcome new chief petty officers to the fleet and was intended to remind them that as senior enlisted leaders, their main focus is to take care of our people, sometimes one person at a time.

However, taking care of fellow service members, as the starfish on our collective beach, is not just the job of a senior enlisted. In the starfish story, it was a young boy who

was saving starfish one at a time. Everyone has the ability to make an impact on another's life. Sometimes, it is just a matter of being on the lookout for an opportunity to do so. Use that situational awareness and attention to detail the military teaches (and that your first sergeant or senior chief keeps barking about). Is there someone you serve with that is beginning

to withdraw after receiving bad news from home? Is there another who may be starting to drink too much? Has one of your battle buddies been talking about suicide? Is one of your shipmates being victimized by sexual harassment or assault? Or do you just know someone who's struggling with a course needed for advancement? If you're observant, and you care, helping someone

can be as simple as offering support or providing a referral to a professional to get help.

Regardless of pay grade, we all have the ability to make an impact on each other. And when you do, like the young boy in our story, you will have the ultimate reward of being able to say, "What I did mattered to that one."



PROTECT YOUR INFO!

ALERT SHOPSEC

The days after Thanksgiving are a time when everyone is rushing to get their holiday shopping done. Be careful when entering credit card information online, and always make sure a website is legitimate. Avoid "phishing" scams by deleting emails that may look like they are from real websites but ask you for financial or personal information. Only use shopping sites that offer buyer protection. Take extra care when shopping "Cyber Monday," the online answer to in-store Black Friday sales. Identity theft and credit fraud always spike this time of year. Be safe and enjoy the holiday season. USE OPSEC!

	23 FRI	24 SAT	25 SUN	26 MON	27 TUE	28 WED	29 THU
Downtown Lyceum	Rise of the Guardians (NEW) (PG) 7 p.m. Pitch Perfect (NEW) (PG-13) 9 p.m.	Here Comes the Boom (NEW) (PG) 7 p.m. Taken 2 (PG-13) 9 p.m.	Dredd (R) 7 p.m.	Possession (Last showing) (PG-13) 7 p.m.	Lawless (Last showing) (R) 7 p.m.	Twilight: Breaking Dawn Part II (PG-13) 7 p.m.	End of Watch (R) 7 p.m.
Camp Bulkeley	No movies due to storm damage and needed repairs.						

Call the movie hotline at 4880 or visit the MWR Facebook page for more information.

GTMO RELIGIOUS SERVICES

For more information, contact the NAVSTA Chaplain's Office at 2323 or the JTF Chaplain's Office at 2309

NAVSTA MAIN CHAPEL

Daily Catholic Mass
Tues.-Fri. 5:30 p.m.

Vigil Mass

Saturday 5 p.m.

Mass

Sunday 9 a.m.

Spanish-language Mass

Sunday 4:35 p.m.

General Protestant

Sunday 11 a.m.

Gospel Service

Sunday 1 p.m.

Christian Fellowship

Sunday 6 p.m.

CHAPEL ANNEXES

Protestant Communion

Sunday 9:30 a.m. Room B

Pentecostal Gospel

Sunday 8 a.m. & 5 p.m. Room D

LDS Service

Sunday 10 a.m. Room A

Islamic Service

Friday 1 p.m. Room 2

JTF TROOPER CHAPEL

Protestant Worship

Sunday 9 a.m.

Bible Study

Wednesday 6 p.m.

GUANTANAMO BAY BUS SCHEDULE

All buses run on the hour, 7 days/week, from 5 a.m. to 1 a.m.

Camp America :00 :20 :40

Gazebo :02 :22 :42

NEX Trailer :03 :23 :43

Camp Delta 2 :06 :26 :46

KB 373 :10 :30 :50

TK 4 :12 :32 :52

JAS :13 :33 :53

TK 3 :14 :34 :54

TK 2 :15 :35 :55

TK 1 :16 :36 :56

West Iguana :18 :38 :58

Windjammer/Gym :21 :41 :01

Gold Hill Galley :24 :44 :04

NEX :26 :46 :16

96 Man Camp :31 :51 :11

NEX :33 :53 :13

Gold Hill Galley :37 :57 :17

Windjammer/Gym :36 :56 :16

West Iguana :39 :59 :19

TK 1 :40 :00 :20

TK 2 :43 :03 :23

TK 3 :45 :05 :25

TK 4 :47 :07 :27

KB 373 :50 :10 :30

Camp Delta 1 :52 :12 :32

IOF :54 :14 :34

NEX Trailer :57 :17 :37

Gazebo :58 :18 :38

Camp America :00 :20 :40

SAFE RIDE – 84781

National Guard Birthday Celebration Fundraiser Latino Food Tasting

When: November 30th

From: 1800 to 2200hrs

Location: Windward Loop 29D

POC's:

CSM Torres @ 84794

CPT Flores @ 55302

Menu

Arroz con longaniza (Rice with sausage), Arroz con jueyes (Land crab rice), Habichuelas rosadas (Pink beans), Bacalaitos (Cod fish fritters), Carne Frita (Deep fried pork), Chicharrones pollo (Deep fried chicken), Asopao pollo (Chicken soup "late night")

Desserts/drinks

Arroz con dulce, Cheesecake, Bizcocho borracho, Soft drinks and water, Grilled pineapple

Prices:

\$10.00 adults

\$5.00 for 10-16 yrs.

less than 10 FREE!

