



THE WIRE

The Official Publication of Joint Task Force Guantanamo 

Aerobathon

Raise your heartrate

St. Patty's Softball

Meet the lucky team on top



Wee bit o' fun

AROUND THE BAY

AND IN OUR PAGES



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Cover Story

Cover photo by Sgt. Kenneth Tucceri

GTMO celebrate St. Patrick's Day

BAY WIRE REPORT

Pirate's Cove now open for business



Come out to Pirate's Cove for their grand re-opening this Friday night! There will be a ribbon cutting at 5:00 p.m., then free burgers, karaoke and more. Located across from Camp America.

Do it all at the Sprint Triathlon

Bike for 20k, run for 5k and swim for 750m as an individual or in a three-person team. The event starts at Ferry Landing and finishes at the Downtown Lyceum, this Saturday at 6:00 a.m. Come out and support the competitors!

Come celebrate Women's Equality

Enjoy a night of free food, live music and real talk with key leaders and influential women around Guantanamo. The evening kicks off at 6:00 p.m. this Saturday in the Windjammer Auditorium.



MOTIVATOR

OF THE WEEK

SSgt Joshua Slaughter
Base Emergency Engineering Force

Sgt Faisal Elkantar
Command Element/J2



SPONSORED BY USAA

SATURDAY MARCH 29TH, 2014

RUN BEGINS AT 1730 - COOPER FIELD

REGISTRATION BEGINS MONDAY MAR 3RD AT DENICH GYM - PER \$10

BUNNERS RECEIVE 1 CUSTOM T-SHIRT AND 1 PAIR OF WAYFAIR SUNGLASSES

MASS AND WOMENS T-SHIRTS AVAILABLE - QUANTITIES VARY

RUN BEGINS AT COOPER FIELD AND ENDS AT THE O'REILLY'S PATIO

6 COLOR AND WATER STATIONS WITH MUSIC

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY AND OPEN TO ALL BASE RESIDENTS!

MWR

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



THE WIRE

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Religious Services

NAVSTA Chapel

Catholic Mass
Mon.-Thur. 5:30 p.m.
Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 9:00 a.m.

Protestant Services

General Protestant
Sunday 11:00 a.m.
Gospel Worship
Sunday 1:00 p.m.

Chapel Annexes

Pentecostal Gospel
Sunday 8:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.,
Room D

LDS Service

Sunday 10 a.m., Room 19

Islamic Service

Friday, 1:15 p.m., Room 2

Seventh Day Adventist

Friday, 7:00 p.m., Room 1
Sabbath School: Saturday 9:30 a.m.,
Room 1
Sabbath Service: Saturday 11:00 a.m.,
Room 1

JTF Trooper Chapel

Protestant Worship

Sunday 6:40 a.m.
Sunday 9:00 a.m.
Sunday 7:00 p.m.

Bible Studies

Monday 8:30 p.m.,
Cuzco block E
Friday 7:00 p.m.,
Old Trooper Chapel

Transportation Schedules

Bus #1, 2, 3:

Camp America - :00, :20, :40
Gazebo - :01, :21, :41
Camp America NEX - :02, :22, :42
Camp Delta - :04, :24, :44
Camp 6 - :07, :27, :47
TK 4 - :13, :33, :53
JAS - :14, :34, :54
TK 3 - :15, :35, :55
TK 2 - :16, :36, :56
TK 1 - :17, :37, :57
CC - :19, :39, :59
Windjammer/Gym - :22, :42, :02
Gold Hill Galley - :24, :44, :04
NEX - :26, :46, :06
NEX Laundry - :27, :47, :07
C Pool - :30, :50, :10
Downtown Lyceum - :31, :51, :11
NEX - :33, :53, :13
Gold Hill Galley - :35, :55, :15
Windjammer/Gym - :37, :57, :17
CC - :40, :00, :20
TK 1 - :41, :01, :21
TK 2 - :42, :02, :22
TK 3 - :43, :03, :23
TK 4 - :44, :04, :24
Camp 6 - :50, :10, :30
Camp Delta - :53, :13, :33
HQ Building - :55, :15, :35
Camp America NEX - :57, :17, :37
Gazebo - :58, :18, :38
Camp America - :00, :20, :40

NEX Express Bus

9:55 a.m. - 7:55 p.m.
Every hour at the stated times

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

Beach Bus

Sat. and Sun. only - Location #1-4

Windward Loop
9 a.m., 12 p.m., 3 p.m., 6 p.m.
East Caravella
SBOQ/Marina
9:05 a.m., 12:05 p.m., 3:05 p.m.

NEX

9:08 a.m., 12:08 p.m.,
3:08 p.m., 6:08 p.m.

Phillips Park

9:14 a.m., 12:14 p.m.,
3:14 p.m.

Cable Beach

9:17 a.m., 12:17 p.m.,
3:17 p.m.

Windward Loop

9:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m.,
3:30 p.m.

NEX

9:25 a.m., 12:25 p.m.,
3:25 p.m., 6:25 p.m.

SBOQ/MARINA

9:35 a.m., 12:35 p.m., 3:35 p.m.

Return to Office

9:40 a.m., 12:40 p.m., 3:40 p.m.

JOINT TASK FORCE GUANTANAMO



SAFE



HUMANE



LEGAL



TRANSPARENT



Women's History Month

By **Rear Adm. Richard Butler**
Commander, Joint Task Force Guantanamo

Each year the United States designates March as Women's History Month and the theme for this year's observance is, "Celebrating Women of Character, Courage and Commitment." During the month of March, the nation is reminded of victories, struggles and stories of American women who have made our country what it is today.

From the battlefields of the Revolutionary War to the deserts of Iraq and mountains of Afghanistan, women have served with great honor and valor in defense of our nation. Through the true grit and sacrifice of generations, women have led movements for social and economic justice, pioneered scientific discoveries, enhanced our culture with stunning works of art and literature, and charted bold directions within our



Rear Adm. Richard Butler

government and military branches.

Here at Joint Task Force Guantanamo, nearly 15 percent of the military and civilian forces are women; extraordinary women who continue to influence, impact and make history within our ranks with their spirited leadership and courageous efforts. Across the JTF, female enlisted and officer leaders are performing their demanding jobs at remarkable levels.

As we honor the many women who have shaped our history, let us also celebrate the women who continue to pave the way. On Saturday, March 22nd at 6:00 p.m., we will recognize the many contributions of women in a special ceremony at the Windjammer Ballroom. I personally invite you to attend this great event. Special guest speakers will be in attendance, free food for all and live music.

I am proud to serve with each and every one of you and especially honored to work alongside the talented women of JTF GTMO. Your steadfast contributions reflect greatly upon our mission to provide high levels of safe, humane, legal and transparent care and custody of detainees. Let's maintain our focus to this degree as we continue to march through 2014.

Honor Bound!

This message is also available as an audio podcast on the JTF GTMO Sharepoint.

TROOPER TO TROOPER

Loyalty: my favorite Army Value

By **1st Sgt. Daniel Navedo**
Joint Task Force, J6 Superintendent

Aside from being the convenient first letter of our Army Values acronym, loyalty is the mustard seed from which a just and honorable career is planted. My father always told me that as long as you are doing the right thing, you will never have anything to worry about. You may piss people off along the way, and the going may get rough, but in the end you'll be the last one holding your head high.

Loyalty is my favorite Army Value. By saying that, I can honestly say to you that loyalty, as a value, started with my childhood in my household environment as I grew up. I am number ten of eleven children that my mother had, and I was very loyal to all of my brothers and sisters; especially to my father and mother. They both passed away, by the way, around seven years ago, and I am still loyal to their upbringing, teaching



1st Sgt. Daniel Navedo

and memories.

Throughout my upbringing stages, from elementary to high school and college, I always kept myself loyal to my teachers and peers, especially my math teacher since I love math. It had been my favorite subject in my schooling years.

Moving on to my thirty-plus working years in different places such as the private sector and a Department of Defense job as a military technician, I have been loyal to my bosses. When speaking

about my extensive military career, I can honestly say that I have combined my upbringing's loyalty trends that I learned in my household environment with my family and love ones, in school with my teachers and peers and in my jobs with my co-workers. I have incorporated all of those experiences into the United State Army as a Soldier. In the United State Army I have learned that LEADERSHIP is an acronym for the seven basic values of the United State Army.

Focusing on loyalty, bearing true faith and allegiance to the U.S. Constitution, the Army, my unit and other Soldiers has not been at all difficult, because loyalty for me has been a way of life. Honestly speaking, based on my personal and military years of experiences, loyalty comes from within and it has to be displayed in actions - not worn around the neck or on an identification tag. Bottom line up front is that we need to live the Army Values on a day-by-day basis. Loyalty is the faithful adherence to a person, unit or Army. It is the thread that binds our actions together and causes us to support each other, our superiors, our family and our country.

Military Uniform changes

the low down, or up for Marines?

NEED TO
KNOW

Story by Pvt. Kourtney Grimes

Staff Writer, thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil

As daylight saving time recently went into effect, the Marines did their annual change of uniforms from winter to desert but this year the uniform swap came with a bigger change.

Effective March 9, the previous regulation regarding the wear of the Marine Corps Combat Utility Uniform (MC-CUU) was revoked by Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. James F. Amos. According to MARADMIN 078/14, the desert MCCUU will be worn during the summer uniform period with the sleeves rolled up at local commander's direction while sleeves will continue to be rolled down in combat and field environments.

Here at Joint Task Force Guantanamo, Troopers continue to adhere to the standing JTF Policy #1.14, JTF-GTMO Uniform, Civilian Attire, and Grooming Standards dated Dec. 16, 2013. So, for Marines working at the JTF, that means no more "sun's out, guns out."

Wearing this uniform correctly is more than just following regulations; it is a valuable insight of the moral fiber of a Trooper.

"It sets the standard," said Sgt. Maj. Juan M. Hidalgo Jr., JTF Senior Enlisted Leader. The proper wear of military uniforms enforces good order and discipline while giving a sneak peak at the character of the Trooper wearing it.

"If he can't take care of his uniform, how can we trust him with a weapon?" is the question posed by Hidalgo.

"We take a lot of pride in this uniform," said Hidalgo. Many have died in this uniform and we must wear it proudly to carry on the tradition. It is our duty in order to serve our country and corps.



Leaders,

The Army Publishing Directorate will publish an updated AR 670-1 and a new accompanying DA Pam within the next few weeks. These long-awaited uniform policy publications will replace more than 50 ALARACT messages and include new policies on many topics such as tattoos, fingernail polish, and general uniform wear. Some of the contents will also be punitive.

The Army is a profession. Policies within these publications give Soldiers and leaders the responsibility for ensuring our appearance reflects the highest level of professionalism. All adjustments made within these regulations went through an extensive decision-making process with continuous input from various levels of Army leaders.

Leaders at all levels will play a vital role in educating subordinates and enforcing standards set forth in these publications. I ask every leader to take a common sense approach to the new policies and set aside time to ensure Soldiers understand the policies. A training package with other helpful information will be available for download upon release. Also, a forthcoming ALARACT message will release the effective dates of significant changes.

We are dedicated to ensuring Soldiers and leaders have easy access to policies to ensure our Army maintains a professional, neat, and Soldierly appearance, which is the foundation of our profession.

Army Strong!

LTG Howard Bromberg

The **JSMART** Spot

Puppy Love

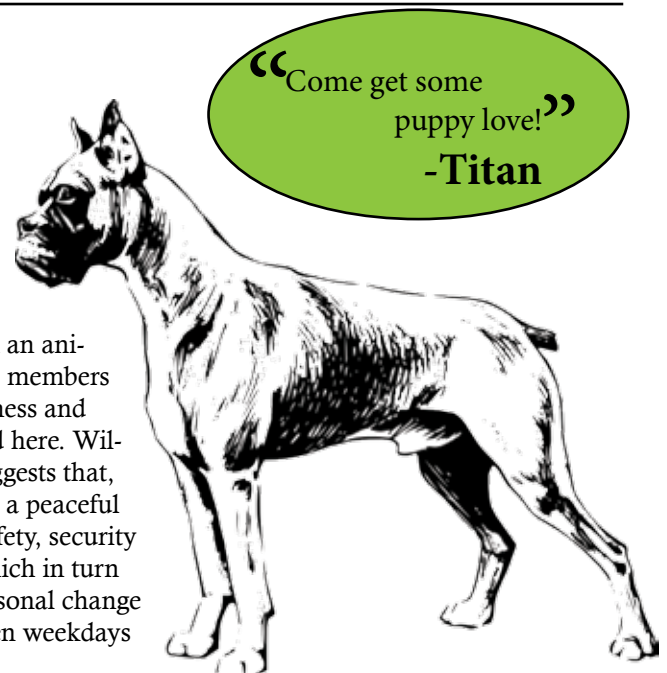
Story by Petty Officer 3rd Class Keith Reau

JSMART Advertising Coordinator

Greetings Troopers! The time many of you have been waiting for has finally come. I am pleased to announce the return of our therapy dog, Titan. You can come by and see him Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. in JSMART.

Animal Therapy has become an integral part of recovery. JSMART has taken it one step closer and is bringing Titan to you while you are deployed

here in GTMO. Contact with an animal has helped many Service members with feelings of stress, loneliness and homesickness while stationed here. Wilson's biophilia hypothesis suggests that, if we see animals at rest or in a peaceful state, this may signal to us safety, security and feelings of well-being which in turn may trigger a state where personal change and healing are possible. Open weekdays 6:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.





Revenge at high speed

Review by Maj. Reinaldo Montero

Commander, 107th MPAD, thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil

The most successful racing video game franchise ever crashes onto the big screen. "Need for Speed" captures the greatness of the game

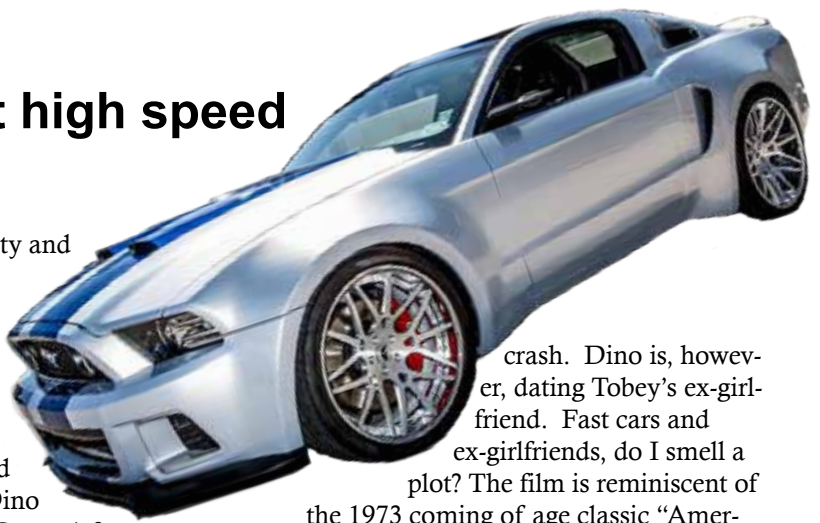


Courtesy Photo

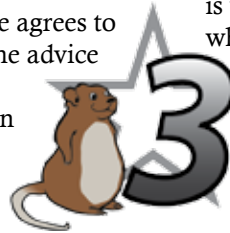
without forcing reality and fantasy to race each other.

Set in small-town USA, Tobey Marshal (Aaron Paul), garage owner and street racer, is framed by childhood rival Dino Brewster (Dominic Cooper) for killing Tobey's best friend and ex-girlfriend's brother Little Pete (Harrison Gilbertson) in a street race. After serving time, Tobey struggles to make ends meet and keep his garage afloat. He agrees to build a car for Dino against the advice of his friends.

Dino has left the small town behind him and all its clichés yet remains connected if only to add insult to the car



crash. Dino is, however, dating Tobey's ex-girlfriend. Fast cars and ex-girlfriends, do I smell a plot? The film is reminiscent of the 1973 coming of age classic "American Graffiti" only with lesser know actors and today's technology for visual stimulation. While the film couldn't burn a doughnut for the "O" in Oscar, it is very entertaining, and after all that's what movies are, entertainment. Three banana rats and some glass packs for "Need for Speed!"



'Winter's Tale' delivers chills

Review by Staff Sgt. Carmen Steinbach

Editor, thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil

In this day and age, a good romance is hard to find. To even be considered something of value the film must possess star-quality acting, mind-blowing cinematography and an iron-clad plot devoid of any holes or implausibility. For "Winter's Tale," two out of three ain't bad.

Based on the fantastical novel by Mark Helprin, the story begins in the 1800s with a burglar (Colin Farrell's Peter Lake) fleeing from his old boss, a despicable and seemingly unearthly man named Pearly Soames (Russell Crowe). Amidst the drama, Lake manages to stumble upon a young heiress (played by Downtown Abbey's Jessica Brown

Findlay) dying of consumption, aka Tuberculosis (thank you Google). The two begin a love affair that is heart-warming and genuine, however shortly lived as Lake is spirited away to the year 2014 on his flying horse.



Photo Courtesy Ignition Print

story. However, the scenes become so extraordinary that they become mildly laughable.

This is where things get weird. The film continues with the time jumping, revealing Soames to be a demon tasked by the devil to destroy Lake before he can fulfill his destiny of performing a miracle. In present day New York, he meets a mother (Jennifer Connelly) distraught over her daughter slowly dying of cancer. The genuine emotions of these characters remain just as powerful as the love

While measuring up to the romance requirements, "Winter's Tale" is a win in the acting category. Colin Farrell is in his most touching role ever as thief Peter Lake and Russell Crowe (doing what he does best) playing the perusing antagonist. There are also powerful supporting performances by William Hurt and Eva Marie Saint, and a surprisingly well-executed portrayal by Will Smith as Satan.

The slogan of the film reads "This is not a true story. It is a love story." When Will Smith plays the devil, you realize nothing in the film will be based on reality. The visual aspects of the mystical drama are stunning, somewhat allowing the viewer to forgive several aspects of the impossible developments. Perhaps living in a cynical society has decreased our ability to appreciate fantasy that isn't linked to sparkly vampires or teen witchcraft, but "A Winter's Tale" is definitely worth the chill of abandoning reason and worthy of four banana rats.



Aerobathon gets **BLOOD** pumping

Story and photos by Pvt. Kourtney Grimes

Staff Writer, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

“Step, two, three, four and kick, two, three, four,” echoed off the walls at Denich Gym alongside upbeat music, Tuesday at the MWR’s Aerobathon. This heart-pumping event, open to all MWR patrons, featured some of the exercise classes offered at the gyms on post every week but in a marathon style.



MWR patrons enjoy the fast-paced exercise of the step aerobics class during the Aerobathon at Denich Gym, Wednesday, March 12.

This intense workout session wasn’t the first of its kind here at GTMO. The evening’s agenda consisted of 20-minute sessions of Zumba, step aerobics and kickboxing, giving the participants a good idea of what the classes are really like.

“We host Aerobathons each quarter,” said Joseph Belt, MWR coordinator. “It provides the community a taste of what we offer on our group exercise schedule. It helps answer any questions about class descriptions.”

While some are opposed to exercise classes and stick to the gym, Belt explains that because the

classes are composed of traditional exercise they are sweat-inducing workouts that leave you sore for days. For example, movements like curls, bench presses and jumping jacks are often incorporated into power training classes.

Beyond being a great workout, the sessions are a good way for colleagues to hang out away from the workplace and

relieve some stress.

“Fitness classes build community,” said Belt. “Groups of friends or co-workers can link up to relieve the day’s stress by going to a group cycling session.”

By the reactions of the patrons who attended, it is evident that the Aerobathon was successful.

“It was really challenging,” said Lt. Cmdr. Temperance Huffstetler, Staff Judge Advocate, Naval Station Guantanamo. “It was a great way to see all of the classes they offer. I hope they continue to offer the variety and number of classes offered here.”

Belt is planning to continue this class again in the summer. It’s a great way to get units exercising together outside of the gym.

“It shows them [Troopers] that we are here to support the mission, and fitness is the mission,” said Belt. “An active unit is a great unit. Physical fitness is an important asset that keeps the forces in top shape to complete any mission.”

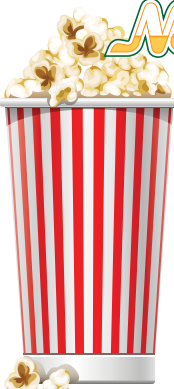


Major Christian Hodge (left), Deputy Director of Public Affairs, Joint Task Force Guantanamo, and Troopers work up a sweat during the kickboxing session of Wednesday’s Aerobathon. The MWR event is a chance for colleagues to work together and get out some work-induced frustration.

Now Showing!

at the Downtown and Camp Bulkeley Lyceums

Call the Movie Hotline at ext. 4880 or visit the MWR Facebook page for more information
Stay classy, GTMO! No ALCOHOL or TOBACCO at the Lyceums!



	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
CAMP BULKELEY DOWNTOWN	Pompeii (New) PG13, 8 p.m. About Last Night (New) R, 10:15 p.m.	Muppets Most Wanted (New) PG, 8 p.m. Non-Stop (New) PG-13, 10:15 p.m.	Need for Speed PG13, 8 p.m.	Labor Day (LS) PG13, 8 p.m.	That Awkward Moment (LS) R, 8 p.m.	Robocop PG13, 8 p.m.	The LEGO Movie PG, 8 p.m.
	Muppets Most Wanted (New) PG, 8 p.m. Non-Stop (New) PG13, 10:15 p.m.	Pompeii (New) PG13, 8 p.m. About Last Night (New) R, 10:15 p.m.	That Awkward Moment (LS) R, 8 p.m.	Lyceum closed <i>Note: Concessions at Camp Bulkeley are also closed every night until further notice.</i>	Need for Speed R, 8 p.m.	Lyceum closed <i>Note: Concessions at Camp Bulkeley are also closed every night until further notice.</i>	The Monument’s Men PG13, 8 p.m.

GTMO CELEBRATES St. Patrick's Day

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



The Wee Bag Band plays to a crowd of Troopers stationed at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay March 15. The band is on a tour that has them visiting four bases to play Irish/Celtic music to deployed Service members.

St. Patrick's Day is indeed a global event. Yes, it is a day to celebrate Ireland's patron saint, but all around God's green earth, no matter what nationality or location, festive participants eat corn beef and cabbage, decorate with shamrocks (it is said St. Patrick used the shamrock to illustrate the holy trinity), wear green shirts and hats, and listen to Irish music.

As a global day of celebration, it was very fitting that on Saturday, March 15 at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay's Windjammer, a band from Wales played Irish music to U.S. troops.

The band, a five-piece ensemble named The Wee Bag Band, played an assortment of music for those present to dance to, enjoy and encourage the old adage that everyone is Irish on St. Patrick's Day.

"The stuff we play is a mixture of the traditional tunes well-known with Irish music," said Rory McGough, who played the mandolin, whistle, harmonica and sang. "We throw in some contemporary stuff too. It's not strictly Irish."

Their two-set performance, that beckoned a full dance floor at times and had those who were sitting down tapping their feet and bopping their heads, included songs such as the traditional Irish-folk song "Whiskey in the Jar," Van Morrison's "Brown-Eyed Girl" and an instrumental version of The Beatle's "Hey Jude" that sped up at the end with the recognizable Irish musical tempo that can provoke even the least likely to dance to get up and shuffle their feet.

The Wee Bag Band is in the midst of a four-base tour to bring Irish music to Service members. Their stops, aside from GTMO, include Greenland, the Bahamas and Honduras. When they were first contacted to do the gigs on the four bases, McGough admitted that he thought it was a prank.

"The first email we saw come through from the Pentagon, we thought it was spam," said McGough. The band has a website tracker. Their skepticism led them to check and see if the Pentagon had

visited the site, and sure enough it had. So McGough thought, "Maybe there is some truth to it."

"We feel really privileged to be here, to be honest," said McGough, "because we are the only band that we are aware of that they've asked outside the United States to come and play." A thought that puts into focus how fortunate the Troopers of GTMO were to hear these fine foreign musicians play for almost two hours. In past St. Patty's Days, the band had brought their musical Irish brogue to areas across Europe.

"We go touring on the French ski resorts and they go bananas for St. Patrick's Day," said McGough. "The French, the Dutch, the Swiss. They all get sucked into it. It's what you make of it really."

McGough went on to add that places like New York and Boston were locations of prominent celebration around March 17 (the recorded date of St. Patrick's death) every year due to their large Irish communities.

McGough explains that their style of

music, the Irish/Celtic theme, is appealing to listeners of all ages. From a 10-year-old to an 80-year-old, all generations have a chance to enjoy it. "So as a result, feet are bopping, and lads are enjoying it," said McGough. "That's great. We just have a ball with it, and that's all we can ask."

A St. Patrick's Day in Cuba? Many Troopers probably never figured they'd see the day. Yet those who came and celebrated with The Wee Bag Band gained a truly Irish memory from a Caribbean island during one of history's most widespread of celebrations.



Alan, from The Wee Bag Band, a group from Wales, plays his percussion instrument during a concert at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay.



A group of Troopers stationed at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay converse with The Wee Bag Band, a group of musicians from Wales. The band played a two-set show to celebrate St. Patrick's Day.

Troopers hold luck o' the Irish in Softball Tourney



Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Carmen Steinbach
Editor, thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil

Anyone who is familiar with college football knows that 2013 was a year of upsets. At the beginning of the season, Alabama could not be stopped. Some sports analysts compared them to a pro team. And then out of nowhere came the Seminoles from the less-praised ACC and the Auburn Tigers that had one loss when they took down the Crimson Tide.

Here in Guantanamo, during the St. Patrick's Day softball tournament March 15th, the tide had quickly changed as well. In the last competition, the Outcasts came in dead last. Over the course of nine-hour battle, however,

they avenged their name and took down six other teams to clinch the second place spot.

"We went two-and-out last tournament," said a Soldier from the 342nd Military Police Company. "Today we just threw a team together to cut loose and have fun working together."

While the team was composed of members from both the 2228th and 342nd MP Companies, two of the players had been reunited on this deployment after



A Soldier with Joint Task Force Guantanamo's 339th Military Police Company takes a swing during the St. Patrick's Day Softball Tournament Saturday, March 15, in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.



Champions of the St. Patrick's Day softball tournament, the Mercenaries (left), pose with the runner-ups, the Outcasts (right), after a long day of battle Saturday, March 15 at Naval Station Guantanamo. The Mercenaries, comprised of Sailors, Marines, Coast Guardsmen, Department of Defense Civilians and contractors stationed in GTMO, have won the last several tournaments.



A Trooper with Joint Task Force Guantanamo leaps to nab a pop fly during the St. Patrick's Day Softball Tournament at Naval Station Guantanamo, Saturday, March 15.

completing Basic Combat Training and Advanced Individual Training together in 2005.

"The Army is small," said the Soldier from the 342nd MP Company. "The MP Corps is even smaller."

Another team of Joint Task Force members were the War Eagles. For its team members, it was just a nice day away from the daily stress of deployment.

"These tournaments help build unit morale and bring people together," said Spc. Timothy Reyes, a Soldier from the 66th MP Company. "Seniors and peers are out here cooperating and bonding together."

Every sporting event has to have a triumphant victor, and for the St. Patty's bout the victors were no stranger to the limelight. The infamous GTMO Mercenaries, comprised of a group of NAVSTA personnel including Sailors, Coast Guardsmen, Department of Defense



A Soldier with Joint Task Force Guantanamo's 339th Military Police Company attempts to tag out a runner sliding into first during the St. Patrick's Day Softball Tournament Saturday, March 15 at Naval Station Guantanamo.

civilians and contractors took the top spot once again.

"March 31 marks the beginning of the next Guantanamo Bay softball tournament and we're going to keep all the players we had," said Petty Officer 2nd Class Kyle Joseph, coach of the

Mercenaries. "We won the last three tournaments, and we're going to keep on going."

For those looking for an upset, be sure to sign up with MWR soon. Registration ends March 26.



A Soldier with Joint Task Force Guantanamo's 339th Military Police Company attempts to tag out a runner sliding into first during the St. Patrick's Day Softball Tournament Saturday, March 15 at Naval Station Guantanamo.

JTF Troops have something to smile about

Story and photos by Sgt. Kenneth Tucceri

Webmaster, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

Just because of the myth that George Washington had wooden teeth, doesn't mean you don't have to brush yours. I'm willing to bet Martha would have preferred to have a husband with pearly whites. Also, Washington didn't exactly have the dental advancements that are available today, so he sort of had an excuse. Sort of.

So why are there so many Service members with avoidable dental issues coming in to see Lt. Cmdr. Joshua Henson, Joint Task Force Guantanamo's dentist? Somewhere Martha is shaking her head in disapproval.

"I am the sole dentist here that treats basically all the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Coast Guard and Marines for JTF," said Henson. "I provide all their dental care, sick call emergency care and any kind of specialty needs they have."

The dental clinic's duty is significant because dental readiness is a crucial aspect to mission success.

"Patients that are not ready in terms of dental status, you



Pfc. Jordan Barrette, a combat medic with the 66 Military Police Company, removes dental instruments from a sanitizer solution. JTF GTMO's Joint Troop Clinic has an entire room dedicated to the sanitation of its equipment.



Lt. Cmdr. Joshua Henson, a dentist for Joint Task Force Guantanamo's Joint Medical Group, looks into the mouth of Pfc. Jordan Barrette, a combat medic with the 66 Military Police Company, for a photo shoot of the dental clinic at Naval Station Guantanamo. Behind them, Petty Officer 2nd Class Jamaica Springs, a hospital management Sailor with JMG, reviews dental charts.

have to worry about them potentially coming off the front lines and needing emergency treatment," said Henson.

This creates possible problems, said Henson. It creates the need to cover down on the absent Troopers responsibilities and puts avoidable stress on the unit. This could lead to a potentially life threatening scenario, all because a Service member didn't take the necessary steps to be dentally ready.

Henson mentioned that a large majority of what he treats is preventable, and it is the everyday upkeep that will keep you dentally ready and healthy.

"Brushing twice a day, flossing before you go to bed, coming to your exams every year, it's the simple things that people kind of neglect," said Henson. "You only brush the teeth you want to keep."

Henson has been treating JTF Troopers at GTMO for nine months and applauded the good attendance of his patients here.

"The reasons were here is to take care of you guys," said Henson.

The dental clinic is located in the Joint Troop Clinic on Kittery Beach Road.



Courtesy Photo

Army Spc. Derick Pikula, a supply specialist from the 44th Infantry Division, received a command coin from Sgt. Maj. of the Army Raymond Chandler III, during Chandler's visit to JTF GTMO.

Pikula's peculiar predicament

Story by Sgt. Christopher Vann

Staff writer, thewire@jftgto.southcom.mil

Army Spc. Derick Pikula, a supply specialist with the 40th Infantry Division, is the man with a plan when it comes to initial entry and one of the first steps for units turning in equipment prior to leaving Joint Task Force Guantanamo.

Pikula, a Los Angeles native working for the J4 Property Book Office at JTF GTMO, works closely with Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) Disposition Services (formerly known as the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service or DRMO). They handle the intake and delivery for the reuse, transfer, donation, sale or disposal of excess property. Through DLA, Pikula was able to turn in over \$1 million worth of materials to be requisitioned within the first month of working.

Aside from DLA, he handles over 120 sub-hand receipts, that range from the Joint Medical Group, Joint Detention Group and the Public Affairs Office. All supply personnel come through him and do their monthly validations at J4. There's over 42,000 separate pieces of equipment, valued at over \$35 million that are sub-hand receipted.

"I'm the main liaison when it comes to that property, making sure everybody's squared away," said Pikula. "I'm

just putting out small fires every day."

Property accountability is one of his major roles. He created a database using the program called Wasp. Wasp is an asset tracking system that makes it more simplistic to manage a business's valuable assets, varying from software and IT assets, to vehicles, tools and medical devices. In his civilian job as a technology educator for a private school, he uses Wasp to help the education staff track their equipment.

Pikula, who considers himself an extrovert, enjoys the opportunity of being able to interact with the sub-hand receipt holders. "I love the social aspect of this job and just getting to meet everyone."

Recently Pikula was coined by the Sgt. Maj. of the Army Raymond Chandler III, during a visit to GTMO, for his

hard work and dedication to his job.

Concerning turn-in, he experiences some bumps in the road when units don't manage their property books correctly.

"We had appointments almost every single day when DLA was on the island and leaving, we had units asking if they could turn their stuff in," said Pikula. "Even though they were late, as long as they worked in a timely manner, we were able to get them taken care of."

Pikula has only been at GTMO since November, but with the help of Army Staff Sgt. Erin Ennis and Warrant Officer Remar Yabes, they helped remove the deer in the headlights moment for him.

"I got here in November and found out about a big turn-in in December, and was freaked out, but because they have prior experience in this, they helped guide me through the process," said Pikula. "So now, I'll be ready and better prepared for the next time."

Time is of the essence. Pikula stated that DLA will not accept items unless they are completely cleaned out and free of any debris.

"There was a time when a unit turned in over 100 printers and all of them had the ink inside, so the staff and I had to grab a bunch of trash bags and remove the ink cartridges before DLA would accept the items. This is why we send out emails to units ahead of time to ensure a timely turn-in, on their part and ours."

"One of the hardest parts of this job is remembering the points of contacts, due to the big changeovers here. So remembering to keep adequate track of your property books is essential to a smooth turn in," says Pikula.



Courtesy Photo

Army Spc. Derick Pikula, a supply specialist, reported his progress to Army Maj. Clarke Rogers at the J4 supply shop.

Burning Time

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

After a 24-hour journey, I'd finally arrived at what would be home for the next nine months – the Cuzco in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. I threw my gear on the bed and stepped out my door onto the great wide open block ready to meet new people.

A group of Troopers were sitting at a bench and there I met a woman who was going home in a couple of weeks. Wanting to hear what other people had accomplished here, I asked her what she'd done.

She paused and looked down, her blue eyes scaled the cross-hatch wires of the picnic table. Looking back up at me she said, "I feel like my time here was a complete waste."

That woman was almost fifty years old.

"Time is free, but it's priceless," said Harvey MacKay, the best-selling author of "Swim with Sharks Without Being Eaten Alive." "You can't own it, but you can use it. You can't keep it, but you can spend it."

Many successful people believe time to be their greatest commodity, not money, because you can never get time back. Extraordinary people learn to master



their time. According to Inc. Magazine, average people allow time to impose its will on them; remarkable people impose their will on their time.

Time goes fast. In the course of the 60 seconds it's taken you to read this, an F-22 could've reached its supercruise speed of 1,140 miles per hour, a Formula One pit crew could've changed out four tires on a BMW Sauber. The competitive eater, Joey Chestnut, would've already downed six hotdogs and Just Born Candy Company could've made 2,916 peeps.

In fact, while you've read this, light has circled the earth 450 times. According to the 2010 world population data sheet from 2010, an average of 267 babies have been born and it may be morose to say but, considering the topic of losing time, it's necessary to add that an average of 108 people have died.

*How will you use your
priceless time here
that you can't get back?*



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

Sgt. 1st Class Lissette Salinas brought the extension cord outside her room at the Cuzco to plug in the electric skillet she'd gotten at the NEX.

When Salinas was stationed in Wattertown, New York, she'd get off work so late she was forced to find a way to make cheap, easy meals for her daughter that were still healthy.

Salinas laughed, "I had to find things that wouldn't make her say, ewww



Mommy I don't want that."

She remembered not being able to afford taking her daughter out to eat, so she made cooking with her daughter fun. "One day she really wanted fast food so I thought for a minute, pulled her up from the couch and said, come on, let's go look in the fridge and see what we can find to make together."

Salinas started with egg noodles, "which you can put anything with," she said. Then they sifted through the fridge together looking for things to add to their noodle surprise. "My daughter even picked out vegetables to put in and sprinkled the cheese on all by herself."

To this day when Salinas' daughter visits, even though she's 20 years old, she still likes to go through the fridge and find things to make with mom.

This recipe is flexible because you can use any kind of meat, creamy soup or brand chicken you like. When buying the ingredients she looks for what's on sale.


"That's the key to saving money," Salinas said.

While we were waiting for the casserole to warm Salinas exclaimed, "There's my little eater!"

I looked up and saw an Airman patting his belly. "What's on the menu for tonight?" asked Staff Sgt. Miguel Regalado, one of Salinas's neighbors in the Cuzco.

"We're having chicken parmesan casserole," said Salinas. Smiling she remembered the joy of cooking it with her daughter.

Regalado said Salinas's cooking is a welcome change for him from eating at the galley.



Recipe

Chicken parmesan casserole

Ingredients:
Recipe: 1, 10 oz can cream soup (mushroom, celery or chicken depending on the flavor you want), 2, 10 oz cans chicken breast, 2 cups cooked egg noodles, 1/2 cup milk, 1/2 tsp. pepper, 1/4 cup parmesan cheese (optional)

Directions:
Preheat skillet to 350.
Pour chicken, soup and milk directly in skillet.
Boil noodles in microwavable dish. Drain and add to mixture.
Stir together, add pepper and top with cheese.



Photo by Maj. Reinaldo Montero/The Wire

Traffic jam reflection

By Army Cpt. Brady Frederick
525th MP Battalion Chaplain

I was in a traffic jam the other day. You know the kind where Mr. Iguana decides now would be a good time to take a leisurely stroll out into the road and faceoff with a Hum-vee. I think we know who won. GT-

MO's Iguanas crawl around this island like they own the place. Can you blame them? GTMO is their home. Unless you are a special resident, GTMO is just a temporary duty station for us. Even my son, who was born here, will get booted off this island.

For me, I consider my whole life to be just a temporary duty station before eternity begins. It helps keep life in perspective. I believe we were not made exclusively for this world, which is why

our souls have trouble being completely satisfied by all the things it offers. Compared to eternity, GTMO is a grain of sand on a beach, if GTMO had beaches with sand.

The challenges here are real. The troubles we face can be difficult and devastating. But, I heard a quote once that said, "If life on Earth is temporary... What makes you think that your problems are permanent?"



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Volunteers Needed

Manatee Capture & Survey

For more information email:

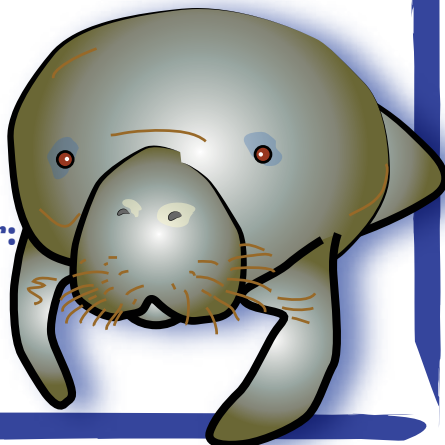
GTMOmanatee@gmail.com

Orientation:

April 3-4

Scheduled for:

April 5-10



2014 Spring
All Hands

SOFTBALL LEAGUE



Season Starts
March 31st

Register by March 26th
Coaches Meeting: March 27th at
Denich Gym Classroom, 1830

FREE REGISTRATION
at Denich Gym.
Trophies for 1st & 2nd Place Teams
Open to hands 16 & up.

FMI, call 2113.



Book Fair

Sunday, March 30 9:00 a.m. - noon

Located in the court yard
next to the Triple C
and Jerk House

Free books and DVDs
open to the GTMO community

DVDs include Zero Dark
Thirty, Inside Man, Pride and
Prejudice and The Notebook!

Hardbacks and paperbacks
from Nicholas Sparks, James
Patterson, Amy Tan, James
Balducci and more!

Hosted by the California Army National Guard - 40th ID



The Dive

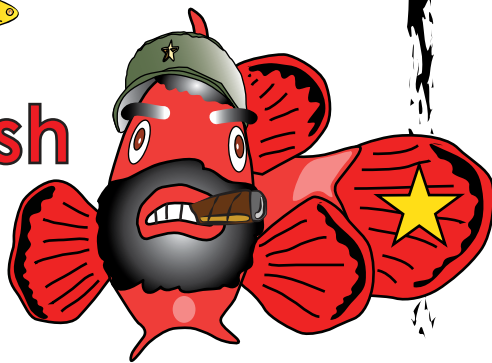
By Sgt. Kenneth Tucceri

One Fish



Two Fish

Red Fish



Blue Fish

The rocks at glass beach, taken Sunday, March 16 by Pvt. Kourtney Grimes.



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

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