



THE WIRE

The Official Publication of Joint Task Force Guantanamo



Step Afrika!

Brings rhythm and dance

Manatee Rescue

GTMO Volunteers aid sea creatures



United against sexual assault

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AND IN OUR PAGES



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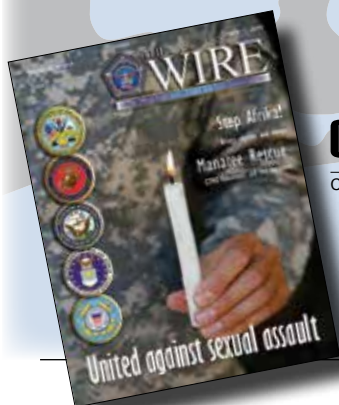
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Cover photo by Pvt. Kourtney Grimes

Candlelight vigil held to raise awareness for Sexual Assault Prevention Month



BAY WIRE REPORT

Army Ball 2014 Auction

During Mongolian BBQ Night April 17 at the Bayview, there will be an auction to support the 2014 Army Ball from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Auction items include guided dives, a fishing trip, Cuban dinner for 12, Alaskan smoked salmon, scuba gear, sea glass jewelry, many assorted baskets, flags, coins, signs, advanced open water dive classes, handcrafted wood and much more.

Cardboard Boat Regatta coming soon!

Build a boat and race your friends at the course! The regatta will be held April 26 during the Day at the Beach at Ferry Landing. Race starts at 2:30 p.m. Register your boat by Thursday, April 24 and pick up rules and tips at the marina. Call 2345 for more information.

Steak under the stars

It's that time once again to enjoy a savory t-bone, NY strip or top sirloin in the Caribbean moonlight. Dine at the Bayview Friday, April 18 from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.



MOTIVATOR
OF THE WEEK

TSgt Joshua Temple
Base Emergency Engineering Force

SGT Kenneth Henriquez
613th Military Police Company

TWO MAN SCRAMBLE

April 13th Lateral Hazard Golf Course 0800-1100
All participants need to be at the Golf Course by 07:30

This is a free tournament, open to all hands and golfers of all ages

Players are responsible to pay for their rental cart. 0800 shotgun start.

Prizes awarded to 1st and 2nd place teams.

Register by Thursday April 10th at the Golf Course.

FMI, call 77288

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 1 p.m., Fellowship Hall

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

Troopers' Chapel

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

Bible Studies

Monday 7:00 p.m.,
Cuzco block E
Wednesday and
Friday 7:00 p.m.,
Troopers' 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



Christian Holy Week at JTF GTMO

By Navy Cmdr. Stephen A. Gammon
JTF Command Chaplain

In all the largest branches of historic Christianity the week between Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday is a Holy Week as it commemorates the culmination of Jesus' life and mission. This year, around the world, Orthodox, Catholic and Protestant Christians will be observing Holy Week from April 13-20.

The week begins with Palm Sunday, remembering the day Jesus entered Jerusalem riding on a donkey with palms waved in triumphal procession by the crowds who hailed him as King. Various traditions remember and observe other events of that week including Holy Thursday or Maundy Thursday which commemorates the night Jesus was betrayed. On that night he celebrated the Passover feast with his disciples and instituted The Lord's Supper, or The Eucharist, as a lasting remembrance. Good Friday focuses on the suffering and sacrificial death of Jesus on a cross,

as he died for the sins of the world, and then was buried in a nearby tomb. Easter Sunday culminates the week, celebrating Jesus' resurrection and victory over sin and death.

At GTMO we have people of various religious traditions and some who adhere to no religion. How wonderful that we serve and represent a nation that has always treasured religious liberty. Our government does not establish religion, but we all respect and protect the free exercise of it. From our earliest days as a nation, people have come to America looking for a place where they will be free to practice their faith without fear of persecution or prejudice. Thank you for defending that freedom.

For people of religious faith, it is so important that we are allowed freedom

and opportunity to practice it. We are blessed with many such opportunities at GTMO including, for Christians of Orthodox faith, Navy Lt. William Butts, an Orthodox Chaplain will be among us to conduct Orthodox Holy Week services.



Cmdr. Stephen A. Gammon

A list of Catholic, Protestant and Orthodox special observances for Holy Week is provided in this issue of The Wire. Included is information about an interdenominational Easter Sunrise Service to be held at Windmill Beach at 6:30 a.m. on April 20 then followed by breakfast at the beach. Transportation will be available from Cuzco and Tierra Kay housing and on Camp America from the camps and a stop at the Old Troopers' Chapel. For more information about these services or any other religious ministries needs contact any chaplain.

TROOPER TO TROOPER

By Army Sgt. 1st Class Melissa N. Black
JTF Joint Visitor Bureau NCOIC

When I arrived here at Guantanamo, I thought to myself: wow, this is going to be a long deployment. My motivation was the dedicated support from my loved ones and my unit, but I thought what am I going to do with myself for nine months? All I could think about is a saying I heard in basic training, "Stay motivated, recruit." I repeated this to myself on more than one occasion throughout this mission to keep me motivated. This brought me to research the textbook definition of motivation: "the driving force that causes the flux from desire to will in life." I must and will drive through this deployment and make the very best of this situation.

I soon learned there were so many things that we can do here at GTMO to break away from the daily grind and stress. The island has an outstanding

Staying 'MOTO'

MWR, which has a vast amount of events to keep us active. There is softball, kickball, football and many other sports that you can get involved with. You have access to three gyms to keep yourself fit and in shape. There are also two pools, exercise classes and many more physical fitness activities to get involved with. This gives many of us a way to release stress and stay physically active to meet the high demands of today's military. There are endless activities on the island. Many of us adopt the hobby of diving, boating, fishing, bowling, hiking, running, pottery, woodworking, painting, etc.

Some of you may choose to challenge yourself academically. Whether it is through military or civilian education, I challenge you to do it. No better time to catch up with your military education online or come closer to a long-awaited degree you have been working on. Your

civilian education will excel you above your peers in future promotional opportunities. Take advantage of this time. Do not wait until life catches up with you back in the states. There is something here for everyone. I challenge all to "DO WORK AND STAY MOTIVATED!"

The main thing that everyone needs to remember is to look after yourself and your fellow Soldier, Airman, Marine, Coast Guardsman and Sailor. This is not a combat environment but remember people adapt to situations differently. Some may not be as mentally or morally tough as others. Extend yourself to show others you care. Everyone should understand mission first, but Trooper welfare is often forgotten. Trooper welfare is key in an isolated environment and to mission success. It takes everyone in the JTF to keep all engaged and motivated. We are all here for a short period to accomplish a very important mission. Let's do it and prepare to engage ourselves actively with our family and friends back home who have supported us throughout this deployment. They are usually our true motivation to continue.



Sgt. 1st Class Melissa N. Black

Preventing sexual assault

Story by Staff Sgt. Carmen Steinbach

Editor, thewire@jftgtmo.southcom.mil

According to the DoD Safe Helpline, sexual assault is a personal and destructive crime. Its effects can be psychological, emotional, and/or physical, and they may be brief in duration or last a very long time. Senior leaders have made it perfectly clear that this violent act has no place in the military. It breaks down teams, destroys members and prevents mission accomplishment.

The Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office (SAPRO) was formed in 2005 to improve prevention of sexual assault, significantly enhance support to victims and increase reporting and accountability. Sexual Assault Response Coordinators and Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Victim Advocates offer expertise to prepare victims for the road ahead and will advocate on behalf of a victim along the way. They will provide professional assistance with obtaining medical care, counseling services, legal and spiritual support and obtaining off-base resources when available.

Since SAPRO's creation, several resources have been made available to victims of sexual assault. In addition, units in all branches of the military attend annual training to recognize that this is a real problem that will not be tolerated and to be better equipped to stop or report a sexual assault. Fiscal year 2013 saw a 46 percent increase from the previous year in the reporting of sexual assault. It is believed that awareness and training efforts have led to an increase in reporting.

"A climate where sexist behaviors and sexual harassment exist may be indicative that sexual assault is also tolerated," said Susan Perez, the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator for Naval Station Guantanamo Bay. "Also, alcohol tends to be a factor in many sexual assaults, so occasions where large amounts of alcohol are being consumed might be problematic."

The military offers two reporting options. Unrestricted Reports allow a victim of sexual assault to participate in the military criminal justice process. Restricted Reports are kept confidential, and law enforcement is not notified by SAPR

personnel. The victim's commander is only given non-identifying information. To begin either process you must first contact a SARC or SAPR VA. The first thing they will do is establish the victim's safety. Then, in order to assess the victim's needs and give information appropriately, a face-to-face meeting needs to be conducted in the very near future.

Before a sexual assault takes place however, there is something we all can do in order to prevent it from occurring.

"Active by-standard intervention is being actively taught in the services right now," continued Perez and according to <https://www.safehelpline.org>, there are some things everyone can do to help ensure the decline of sexual assault in our military.

How can I prevent a sexual assault?

Recognizing when to intervene

Some people might be concerned that they are being encouraged to place themselves in jeopardy to stop crimes in progress. This is not the case. There are many situations and events that occur prior to a sexual assault, that are appropriate for intervention. Active bystander intervention encourages people to watch for those behaviors and situations that appear to be inappropriate, coercive and harassing.

Tips to prevent a sexual assault

If you consume alcohol, do so in moderation. Do not leave your beverage unattended or accept a drink from an open container. When you are with someone, communicate clearly to ensure he or she knows your limits from the beginning. Both verbal and nonverbal (body language) communication can be used to ensure the message is understood. If you go on a date with someone you do not know very well, tell a close friend what your plans are. You have the right to say "No" even if you: First say "Yes," and then change your mind; Have had sex with this partner before; Have been kissing or "making out"; and are wearing what is perceived to be "provocative" clothing. Always have extra money to get home. Have a plan for someone you can call if you need help. If you feel uncomfortable, scared or pressured, act quickly to end the situation. Say "Stop it" and leave or call for help. When you go to a party, go with a group of friends. Arrive together, watch out for each other and leave together. Be aware of your surroundings at all times. Do not allow yourself to be isolated with a person you do not know or trust. Travel with a friend or in a group. Walk only in lighted areas after dark. Keep the doors to homes, barracks, and cars locked. Know where the phone is located.

"Anyone can play a role in reducing sexual assault," said Perez. "If you see a shipmate, battle buddy, wing man, fellow Marine or Coast Guardsmen, friend or neighbor in a potentially dangerous situation, remember your core values and step up to stop sexual assault."

Ms. Perez can be contacted at 4227, and for emergency response at 84577. A victim advocate can be reached 24-hours a day, seven days a week at 84578. Victims can also confidentially call the DoD Safe Helpline anytime at (877)995-5247 or chat with a DoD Safe Helpline representative online. Please visit <https://www.safehelpline.org> for more information.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE 84577

GTMO

Safe Helpline



Sexual Assault Support for the GTMO Community

24-hours a day, seven days a week at 84578

'Winter Soldier' sizzles

Review by **Sgt. Spencer Rhodes**

Copy Editor, thewire@jftgtmo.southcom.mil

Having seen the first "Captain America" film a few years ago, the memory of a campy, poorly executed film that simply wasn't up to par with others put out by Marvel Studios came to mind when previews for "Captain America: The Winter Soldier" were first released. The new sequel puts to ease the mixed feelings of skepticism and wary anticipation.

Steve Rogers (Chris Evans), the real life name of Captain America, continues to work as an integral agent of S.H.I.E.L.D (Strategic Homeland Intervention, Enforcement, and Logistics Division) alongside Black Widow (Scarlett Johansson) and S.H.I.E.L.D. director, Nick Fury (Samuel L. Jackson). Rogers, however, struggles with adapting to modern



life (seeing how he was frozen in a block of ice for over 50 years), and the invasive techniques the agency uses to reach its goals. As his personal issues grow on the matter, he and Black Widow work together to fight Hydra, an old and highly secretive terrorist group who has corrupted S.H.I.E.L.D and endeavors to kill millions of people on a global scale.

While no movie is perfect, and comic book fans will always have something to complain about when it comes to Marvel movies, this recent addition to the superhero genre is one worth seeing. The fight sequences were often highly entertaining to watch, and in many cases (but not all) the acting was well invested behind A-list actors like Robert Redford, who plays the film's villain. Like all the Marvel Studio productions, a clip hinting at future plots is played post-credits, speculating at who the next character focus will be. The movie receives four banana rats.



Killing time

Review by **Staff Sgt. Kenneth Edel**

Media Relations, thewire@jftgtmo.southcom.mil

There are worse ways to kill time than watching Kevin Costner's most recent action movie where he plays an undercover CIA assassin with family problems. While "3 Days to Kill" almost feels like it takes three days to watch with its typical dialog and predictable plot, Kevin Costner proves that he can still compete for the top spots with his performance. You really want to like the movie based on his acting alone.

Still, the film is entertaining as Costner's character, Ethan, tries to reconnect with his estranged daughter and ex-wife after learning that he is dying. The scenes of him learning to be a father in between tracking down a terrorist are somewhat heartwarming. There is a lighthearted tone to the movie that shows when he elicits fatherly advice from a couple of bad



Courtesy Photo

guys. Even though the movie portrays him as being quasi-superhuman in fistfights and shootouts; it keeps him human by showing him almost passing out a couple of times.

The biggest issue I had with the film is his CIA handler Vivi (Amber Heard). I'm a firm believer that she was apparently appearing in another movie completely as her clothes and hair change almost every time you see her. Her attitude doesn't seem to match the tone of the movie either, with her making short comments that apparently pass for dialog in whatever movie she thinks she's starring in. Her surreal, espionage world doesn't appear to have any connection with the movie's family tie in.

"3 Days to Kill" is successful in being a lighthearted action film though. The performances by Ethan's daughter (Haliee Steinfeld), and his ex-wife (Connie Nielsen) are wonderful, even if predictable. Costner pulls this movie out of the fire but it may not be enough to make this a blockbuster. If you have time to kill, then by all means go for it. I give the movie three banana rats on Costner's performance alone.

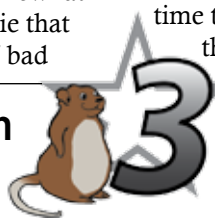
Can't keep a good woman down

Review by **Staff Sgt. Carmen Steinbach**

Editor, thewire@jftgtmo.southcom.mil

"Single Mom's Club" begins as five women of varying culture and background are hauled into the principal's office and forced to plan a fundraiser together in order to bail out their troublemakers.

There are a few notable ladies: Jan (Wendi-McLendon-Covey) is a workaholic type trying to balance mommyhood and a career. Tyler Perry couldn't help but throw in one too many awkward racial moments with this character, somewhat portraying all white women as tight-lipped snobs and buying into black women stereotypes, which ironically he exploits in the character of Lytia (Cocoa Brown). She's large and boisterous, working as a waitress at Waffle House and tries to keep her youngest out of trouble, as her oldest two are serving time in jail. May (Nia Long) is an author and journalist, trying to provide for her son and protect him from his absent, drug-abuser



of a father. In one touching moment, she watches painfully, as he doesn't show up for his scheduled visit. Her role is a stand out in the film.

But the moment of raw emotion is short lived as the parade of eligible, kid-friendly bachelors seems to commence out of nowhere, completely halting any believability. They do add some hilarity, as is the case with Terry Crews (who can liven up any party), as he tries every wild and outlandish trick to woo Lytia.

Despite the fact that the point was hammered home early on that single moms are strong and independent, the conflicting and half-hearted attempt at turning a strong comedy into a weak romantic one serves as the downfall. Since I genuinely became involved in the characters, and completely forgot that I was watching a Tyler Perry movie, I give this film three banana rats.



Photo Courtesy Ignition

Vigilant Warriors return

after competing in Bataan Memorial Death March

Story by Sgt. Debra Cook

Staff Writer, thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil

About 30 Soldiers from the 525th Military Police Battalion, along with spouses and friends, were gathered at Ferry Landing with balloons and signs waiting to greet the five Soldiers returning home who represented Naval Station Guantanamo Bay in the 25th Annual Bataan Memorial Death March held at White Sands Missile Range, N.M.

The five Soldiers that represented the GTMO team, Vigilant Warriors, were: Sgt. Jay Linderman, 189th Military Police Company, Sgt. Ryan Padgett, Headquarters Company, 525th Military Police Battalion, Staff Sgt. Michael Ovalles, 491st Military Police Company, 2nd Lt. Cody Simula, 189th MP Company and Spc. Robert Silva, 491st Military Police Company.

The Bataan Memorial Death March is held once a year to honor Service members who defended the Philippine Islands during World War II. There are two different courses to compete in: the light course is 14.2 miles and the heavy is 26.2 miles. There are 22 different divisions from ROTC, civilian, male, female or co-ed just to name a few. A previous team



Photo by Sgt. Kenneth Tucceri/The Wire
Army Capt. Keith Douglas, commander, 525th Military Police Battalion's Headquarters and Headquarters Company (left) poses with competitor 525's Army Sgt. Ryan Padgett (right).

from the 525th placed first in the military co-ed heavy-weight (ruck) division. This year, GTMO's team, The Vigilant Warriors placed second in the military co-ed heavy category and third overall.

"I think the aspect of being able to compete as a team makes it a whole experience and makes it a lot better," said Simula. "It makes the time go by faster just working with each other and trying to keep each other up and keep each other motivated moving through the challenges of the event."

The Soldiers arrived at Ferry Landing, greeted by well-wishers. Clapping and congratulations filled the air as each Service member was greeted. The five-Soldier team stepped off the boat as one, and it was apparent that teamwork was the pinnacle of their success.

"Pretty much everybody came along to help each other out," said Army Sgt Jay Lenderman. "Whether it was words of encouragement or Sgt. Padgett's music, we were able to push each other through it and talk the entire time."

Each year survivors of the Bataan Death March attend the event, which is a part of the motivation too. "It was a pretty awesome experience," said Simula. "Just to see them and have them be there, just knowing what they went through and we did in honor of them."



Courtesy Photo

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
DOWNTOWN CAMP BULKELEY	Rio 2 (New) G, 8 p.m. 3 Days to Kill PG13, 10 p.m.	Draft Day (New) PG13, 8 p.m. Captain America: The Winter Soldier PG13, 10:15 p.m.	Tyler Perry's Single Mom's Club PG13, 8 p.m.	Non-Stop (LS) PG13, 8 p.m.	Pompeii (LS) PG13, 8 p.m.	Son of God PG13, 8 p.m.	Need for Speed PG13, 8 p.m.
	Draft Day (New) PG13, 8 p.m. Captain America: The Winter Soldier PG13, 10:15 p.m.	3 Days to Kill PG13, 8 p.m. Need for Speed PG, 10:15 p.m.	Son of God PG13, 8 p.m.	Lyceum closed Note: Concessions at Camp Bulkeley are also closed every night until further notice.	Non-Stop (LS) PG13, 8 p.m.	Lyceum closed Note: Concessions at Camp Bulkeley are also closed every night until further notice.	Tyler Perry's Single Mom's Club PG13, 8 p.m.



Above: JTF Troopers bow their heads in silence as the evening's invocation is given before the Sexual Assault Candlelight Vigil, April 1. Below left: Fellow Troopers walk alongside one another, giving each other support. Below right: Army Staff Sgt. Michael Cornett prepares for the one-mile walk to observe Sexual Assault Awareness Month.



Candlelight Vigil

Troopers gather in recognition of Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Story and photos by Pvt. Kourtney Grimes

Staff Writer, thewire@jftgtmo.southcom.mil

“This April, we pause to observe the 10th annual Sexual Assault Awareness Month with the theme ‘Live our Values: Step Up to Stop Sexual Assault,’” said Army Staff Sgt. Rigoberto Gomez with the 3rd Squadron, 89th Cavalry Regiment.

Candles in hand, members of the 3-89th and other Joint Task Force Troopers walked solemnly down Windmill Beach Road for the sexual assault candlelight vigil that took place on Tuesday, April 1 as the first event of National Sexual Assault Awareness Month. The one-mile walk to raise awareness trailed from Pirate’s Cove to the JTF Headquarters and back.

One of the many events scheduled for this month, the candlelight vigil brought the very pertinent issue of sexual assault into light. By bringing up the problem, Gomez was able to address the steps needed to take to keep this inexcusable crime out of our profession.

“Each of us need to make a personal commitment to reduce risk, stop inappropriate behavior; do not ignore, tolerate or condone Sexual Assault,” said Gomez. “We must live our values every day, all year long and step up by intervening when appropriate, reporting crimes and supporting victims.”

In an environment where Troopers must rely on one another for their safety and mission completion, anything that causes a lack of trust must be taken out of the equation. That is why, in the family of the military services, such acts are intolerable.

“We all are a family, and as a family we all have an important role on eliminating this heinous crime from our house,” said Gomez. “We recognize that this effects all of us, that one is one too many, but that all of us together are the solution to ultimately eliminating sexual assault in our family.”

Aside from striving to prevent further acts of this crime, the sexual assault candlelight vigil was a time to keep in mind those who have been affected while showing our commitment to support them.

“We want to take time to remember and honor our victims and survivors and all affected by sexual assault. We want to remind you that you are not alone, and that we are with you,” said Gomez.

“I would do anything for her,” Army Pfc. Dylan Janson confessed when speaking about a friend who committed suicide following an act of sexual assault.

As an advocate for the awareness and prevention of sexual assault at home and in our military services, Janson does his best to show his support at these events for those who have been affected by these acts.

“I don’t appreciate anyone who would do it, and I will do anything I can to help stop it,” said Janson.



Troopers walk down Windmill Beach Road to raise awareness of the prevalence of reducing sexual assault in our military.



Staff Sgt. Rigoberto Gomez, the Sexual Harassment and Assault Response and Prevention (SHARP) representative for the 3rd Squadron 89th Cavalry Regiment, speaks to Troopers about the many repercussions of sexual assault in our military and our country, Tuesday.

The hunt for GTMO sea cow

Story and photos by Sgt. Spencer Rhodes

Copy Editor, thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil

Seven researchers with the United States Geological Survey returned to Naval Station Guantanamo Bay this week as part of Project Sirenia, to continue tagging local manatees found in Guantanamo Bay. As with previous visits, GTMO volunteers were trained on assisting with the capture process to safely bring manatees to shore to be tagged for tracking and given a health assessment.

“We’re really trying to get a handle on what the manatees are doing here, how

they use their resource, how many there may be and the health conditions of the manatees here,” said Susan Butler, a researcher for USGS at the University of Florida, “It is a tedious game of I spy, and it can be a long process. So spotting them is definitely one of the hardest parts of the capture process.”

Since general knowledge of manatees is not wide spread for those who don’t live in an area where the species make their home, introducing Service members to the research USGS will be

doing in Cuba started with two nights of informative lecture and instructions at Bulkeley Hall. This is where residents signed up to receive a better understanding about the creatures and their life in the bay, prior to beginning their week-long activities.

A crucial learning point for those attending was “Boot Camp,” an entire Saturday morning dedicated to teaching the proper handling of nets and what people should look out for while participating. Volunteer numbers were



A volunteer for the manatee capture endeavors that took place throughout the first week in April looks on as the lead capture boat heads back to land after a long afternoon of searching for untagged manatees. The USGS has been tracking manatee populations and their health in areas across the globe, including Puerto Rico, Florida and even Brazil. The researchers hope to continue learning about the manatees in Guantanamo Bay, who seem to have a well controlled safe haven here.

highest during the weekends, allowing for a greater spotting coverage in different locations across GTMO in the hopes of seeing a manatee that had not been tagged. Numbers began dwindling once the work week started, leaving the USGS team with smaller groups for all the different tasks.

2nd Lt. Kelsey Brewer, attached to the 189th Military Police Company, has only been a part of the Joint Task Force Guantanamo mission since the beginning of spring. Volunteer events like this have allowed her to jump in to her new permanent change of station. Brewer says the few chances she's had to come close to manatees haven't worked out in the past.

"It's a good way to relax, get out on the water, and also see a manatee up close," said Brewer.

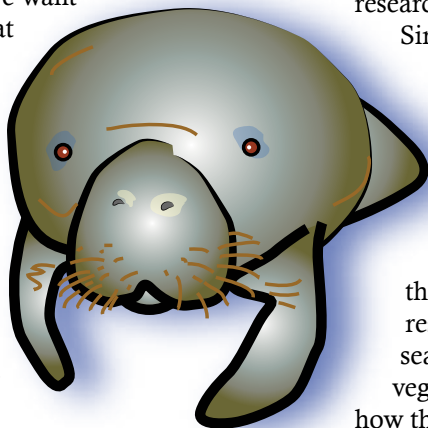
Dr. Bob Bonde, who is in charge of the health and genetics for all manatee research in the USGS, says that every time they bring in a manatee they do an all encompassing checkup, much like you would have done when going to a family physician at home. They draw blood and do blood-work, urinalysis, fat measurements and do their best to get a accurate overall picture of the animals current health.

"This place really is a safe haven for these manatees, and it's a testament to GTMO how well they've done, but we're still trying to find out more about the differences between the manatees here and in other areas. We know what they look like in Puerto Rico, we know what they look like in Florida, but what we want

to know is what constitutes a healthy manatee here in GTMO," said Bonde.

It's not just the USGS that has an interest though. The U.S. Navy also wants to know how exactly the manatees use the bay and how strong its population is, explained Butler.

The team who is working at GTMO is made up of an eclectic group of people, each with a specific skill set or even



Jim Reid, Susan Butler, Dr. Judd Kenworthy and other volunteers on the main United States Geological Survey boat scan the waters Monday for a manatee in one of the many canals of Naval Station Guantanamo Bay. Manatees, a highly instinctive and intelligent animal, have a long memory and often elude researchers just beyond their reach. The USGS crew finally managed to bring in a manatee on Tuesday for tagging and an encompassing health assessment before being released back into the bay.

from an entirely different organization. While most are USGS researchers, others like Dr. Judd Kenworthy, bring a different expertise. Kenworthy, who is a retired scientist from the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, is a subject matter expert in sea grass studies and a volunteer assisting the USGS manatee researchers with Project Sirenia.

Once the manatee capture portion is complete, the following week will focus on the habitat and resources, such as sea grass and other vegetation, to see how the manatees use their resources and where as well. For more information on manatee wildlife go to USGS.gov.



Volunteers for Project Sirenia, a research initiative into the population and health studies of manatees by the United States Geological Survey, listen and stand by for a practice run in the handling of the large nets they would be using for the manatee captures throughout the week, Saturday at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay. The USGS researchers came to GTMO to continue tagging manatees for tracking purposes and to study the habitat resources available for them in the bay.

Steppers bring rhythm to GTMO

Story and photos by Sgt. Christopher Vann

Staff Writer, thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil

Residents of Naval Station Guantanamo Bay were treated to a performance from the dance troupe Step Afrika! at the Downtown Lyceum, April 2. Founded 20 years ago, Step Afrika! was the world's first professional dance company solely dedicated to the art of stepping. They promote the appreciation for stepping and use it as an educational tool for young people to help motivate and teach a healthy lifestyle.

Jakari Sherman is a performer, percussionist and has also

served as the artistic director since 2007. He subscribes to the message of furthering ones education.

"Everyone in Step Afrika! has gone to college and graduated," said Sherman. "We believe it is vital to a person's success."

Step Afrika! started out as an exchange program with the Soweto Dance Theatre of Johannesburg, South Africa, and has since expanded to become a national and international touring company offering residencies and giving performances and workshops worldwide.

The group came to GTMO to help build esprit de corps and provide entertainment to those stationed on base.

"I used to step in college, so to see them here was a nice treat," said Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Leah Perdue, a J4 housing noncommissioned officer. "I really enjoyed the show."

Stepping comes from a long and rich tradition in African-based communities that use movement, words and sounds to communicate allegiance to a group. It draws movements from African foot dances, such as Gumboot, originally conceived by miners in South Africa as an alternative to drumming, which was banned by authorities.

The stepping tradition in the United States grew out of song and dance rituals predominately practiced by African-American fraternities and sororities, beginning in the early 1900s.

In addition to their performance, the team also held a workshop at W.T. Sampson School where students were able to learn the beginning moves of stepping. The students were taught a simple cadence and given an opportunity to practice and perform a whole routine.

Step Afrika! incorporates dance with a military influence through angular movements and the idea of discipline to help ensure timing and structure.

"Like in the military, we focus on the mission," said Jacqueline Washington, a performer from Houston, Texas. "We're here to entertain, uplift people's spirits and teach the youth. Ultimately, that is our goal."



Danielle Dubois Glover dances during the Step Afrika! performance at the Downtown Lyceum, April 2. Step Afrika! promotes the appreciation for stepping and uses it as an educational tool for young people to help motivate and teach a healthy lifestyle.

Building a dream house



Story and photos by Sgt. Debra Cook

Staff Writer, thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil

Close up pictures render a version of what you might think is a new tiki bar here at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay or a new playground for the kids, but it's a mini version of the house Army Sgt. Johnny Sabino, from the 613th Military Police Company, promised to buy his mother one day.

What started out as a beverage carton slowly became a dream house. Troopers around the block came to watch Sabino gluing sticks together while he formed the dog house, swing set and other intricate parts of the model house. They doubted him at first but by the time he was finished he made believers out of everyone around him.

"My neighbor was like, yeah right when I told her I was gonna make a house," said Sabino. "Then she got more interested as I went on."

Sabino and his brother have always wanted to buy a house for their mom, but shortly after Sabino's arrival to GTMO his brother passed away from cancer, and he flew home for emergency leave. He returned to build a mini-version of the dream house they promised they'd buy his mother together one day. "My mom's been a little bit down lately, and I want to send this to her for Mother's Day," said Sabino.

It took him two weeks to make it. He used shish kebob sticks, called pinchos sticks in Puerto Rico, and cut up con-

struction paper for the green grass. He spent an hour walking cable beach picking up sea glass to use for the walkways. He purchased wood chips for the foundation of the house and fashioned the porch, walkways and roof edges with bamboo he got from the tiki bar. The swings and other parts of the house are made from tongue depressors. The house is even complete with a Puerto Rican flag on top.

"I spent time asking for four or five people in the Joint Medical Group every day until I had about 20 to put towards building the house," said Sabino.

He had to be creative to finish his project. He used fingernail files for the window, tape for the window panes and put it all together with wood glue purchased from the NEX.

"I had to eat four ice creams to do this window," said Sabino. He used 550 cord to make the hose on the side of the house, black spray paint for the roof and regular dirt from outside for the front yard.

"A lot of people say they've wasted their time here, and I tell them to be creative and do something with their life," said Sabino. "That's what I do when I'm bored. I'm not a gym freak, and I don't like playing video games. So what do I have left? You have to be creative. The more I keep my mind busy the faster time goes by. I've always said to make the best out of what you've got."

At home he started making a boat from wood but never finished. "Here at GTMO I've finally had time to finish

something," said Sabino smiling proudly as he held the house up for a picture to send his mom.



Army Sgt. Johnny Sabino of the 613th Military Police Company spent two weeks creating a miniature version of the dream house he promised to buy his mother one day from materials he found around Guantanamo.

Conquer fear

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

“Mmm, mmm, mmm.” Said Drill Sergeant Scarpulla as he approached our formation in the dark, early morning hour of our 0400 physical training session. We’d been standing at parade rest for 10 minutes when he arrived late holding a popular coffee shop cup in his hand.

“Come, gather around me,” he said as he motioned us out to a more casual formation surrounding him and his coffee.

“Smell that?” he asked as he walked up to certain individuals holding the coffee cup under our noses. He let the aroma of coffee we couldn’t have rise and took a sip in front of us. “Mmm, it’s caramel mocha, and it’s so good at four in the morning.”

We were confused. What’s he doing? One Soldier said, “I wish I could have some of that.” Another chimed in, “Must be nice.”

“Oh, you want some Pvt. Michaels? You know you want it. Go ahead, ask me. It’s OK.”

But his taunting fell on a silent crowd.

Not one of the new recruits wanted the repercussions of drinking the drill sergeant’s coffee. We waited and licked our lips in silence until one person did speak up. It was McFarland, a late entry, at least 34 years old. She said, “I’ll have some.”

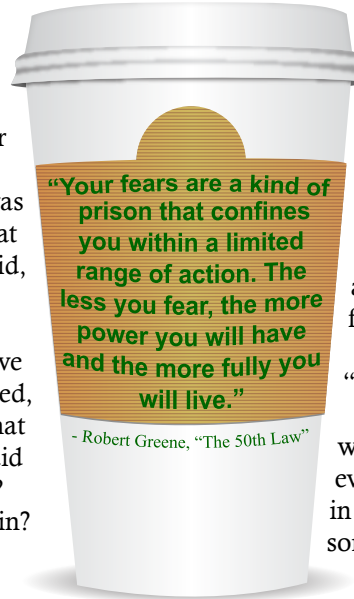
We waited to see what would happen to this brave woman. We also wondered, what was in this coffee that would damage us if we did drink it? Did he spit in it? Did he pour hot sauce in it?

He spun around and stared her down, “What did you say?”

“I’ll have some,” she shrugged. “Why not?”

He smiled, nodded like a proud father and handed her the coffee. She took a sip and together they shared a conversation about how delightful it tasted.

Then others spoke up saying they wanted some too.



“Nope, it’s too late,” he said. “You had your chance, and you passed it up.”

He turned back to her and they continued talking about the smooth caramel mocha flavor and how wonderful it was.

“The question I have for you Warriors is this: why didn’t you take me up on my offer like McFarland did? You know you wanted some. What were you afraid of?”

None of us could offer an answer. He turned and asked her what made her go for it.

She shrugged and said, “because I wanted it.”

“Hear that? Because she wanted it Warriors. No one’s ever gonna give you anything in this life. If you really want something, you gotta take it.”

Robert Greene and 50 Cent collaborated on a book together called “The 50th Law.”

It’s about living a fearless life. It says, “Your fears are a kind of prison that confines you within a limited range of action. The less you fear, the more power you will have and the more fully you will live.”

Your caramel mocha coffee awaits. Now go get it.



Grilled Lobster

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



Recipe

Ingredients:

4 lobster tails – shell on, 2 tablespoons butter, 1 cup milk, 1 tsp cayenne pepper, old bay to taste, 1/2 lemon juiced, 2 tablespoons butter for dipping.

Directions:

Cut tails down the center to expose meat. Marinade lobster tails in milk, butter and cayenne pepper for 1 hour in the refrigerator. Remove, sprinkle with more cayenne pepper, old bay. Wrap individually in foil. Barbecue for 10–15 minutes – tails turn red when done. Sprinkle with lemon and melt butter for dipping.

Fishing is Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Paul Cooper’s passion. If you can’t find him on a boat you’ll find him at a barbecue somewhere cooking his catches. You don’t always catch what you want though and to that Cooper said, “If you can’t catch it, you can usually buy it.”

Check out his simple grilled lobster recipe made from the scrumptious tails he purchased at the NEX.



Unfair

By Army Capt. Brady Frederick
525th MP Battalion Chaplain

My five-year-old daughter wrote a note to the Tooth Fairy. "Dear Tooth Fairy, why are you unfair? Some kids get coins, others get \$2.00 and my friend R got \$5.00?"

Even at a young age she perceives that life should be fair. Most people inherently believe that people should get what they deserve and deserve what they get. I totally get it. I've been passed over for awards I thought I deserved, and I've

received awards I know I didn't earn.

You know what though? I am glad I haven't always gotten what I deserved. I have made some terrible mistakes in my life, and I have received a second chance. We call that mercy. Mercy is not getting what you deserve. Its counterpart is grace. Grace is getting something you don't deserve, like forgiveness. Grace, and in particular mercy, are powerful weapons against injustice and inequity and IT'S TOTALLY UNFAIR. Know someone that could use a second chance?

As for the Tooth Fairy, it turns out she doesn't respond to kid pressure. She just gave her usual \$.50 and left a nice note. Don't worry; I'm sure my daughter will give her a second chance.

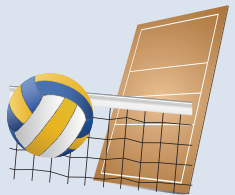



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GTMO sports standings



Indoor Volleyball

Smokin' Aces	12-1
The Ricans	12-2
Playmakers	12-2
Kill Seekers	10-3
Gold Diggers	10-3
W.T. Sampson	9-4
Boston Strong	7-6
War Eagle	7-7
BEEF	6-7
Side Out	5-9
Sierra 2	4-10
Cuba Libre	2-12

JTF and NAVSTA Interdenominational **Easter Sunrise Service** April 20, 6:30 a.m. Easter morning at Windmil Beach. Breakfast following.

April 12, 5:30 p.m. - Blessing of Palms
 April 13, 9:00 a.m. - Palm Sunday Procession
 April 17, 5:30 p.m. - Holy Thursday Mass
 April 18, 5:30 p.m. - Good Friday Service
 April 19, 5:30 p.m. - Holy Saturday Vigil Mass
 April 20, 9:00 a.m. - Easter Sunday Mass

LT William Butts, an Orthodox Christian Chaplain will be here 11-25 April to officiate the following Worship Services:
 April 13, 10:00 a.m. - Palm Sunday Service
 April 16, 7:00 p.m. - Holy Unction
 April 17, 7:00 p.m. - 12 Gospels Service
 April 18, 7:00 p.m. - Lamentation Matins
 April 19, 10:00 p.m. - Pascha Service/Easter Service
 April 23, 7:00 p.m. - Bright Wednesday Service

NAVSTA Chapel
 April 13, 11:00 a.m. - Palm Sunday/1:00 p.m. - Gospel Service
 April 14, 5:30 p.m. - Messianic Passover Seder Meal at Community Center (Reservations Required)
 April 18, 7:30 p.m. - Good Friday Service
 April 20, 11:00 a.m. - Easter Sunday/1:00 p.m. - Gospel Service

JTF Troopers' Chapel
 April 13, 9:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m. - Palm Sunday Service
 April 18, 7:00 p.m. - Good Friday Service
 April 20 9:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m. - Easter Sunday Service

Holy Week

Catholic Services
NAVSTA Chapel

Orthodox Services
NAVSTA Chapel ANNEX Room 14

Protestant Services

For more information about these and other religious ministries contact NAVSTA Chaplains' office at x2323/ JTF at x2218



**Guantanamo Bay
Lighthouse Museum**

Open Saturday, April 19

9:00 a.m. - noon

2:00 - 5:00 p.m.

gtmolighthouse@gmail.com phone: 4977



National Anthem and Army Ball Singer Audition

April 28

2:00 - 5:00 p.m.

at the Windjammer

The winner will sing at GTMO's Army Ball Saturday, June 7

To audition, contact 1st Lt. John Mahood at John.A.Mahood@jifgtmo.southcom.mil
no later than April 21. Singers are restricted to JDG Army members only.

The Dive

By Sgt. Kenneth Tucceri



Banana Rat with a Pearl Earring

A turtle explores the bottom of the bay from the shore of Windmill Beach approximately 15-20 feet below the surface. In the background, a diver gives the composition a nice touch of depth in this photograph taken by Staff Sgt. Steven Adams.



PHOTO OF THE WEEK