



June 2011

# THE COURIER

Naval Medical Center Portsmouth, Portsmouth, Va.



Memorial Day Parade in Portsmouth — Page 8

## New Strategic Plan Unveiled in Form of Six Pillars

STORY AND PHOTO BY MC2 NIKKI SMITH  
NMCP Public Affairs

The Command Executive Board unveiled Naval Medical Center Portsmouth's new strategic plan to the staff during an all-hands call in the auditorium May 24. The new strategy is based on six pillars that represent each area of the plan — customer service, professional development, readiness, medical education, quality health care and research.

Through the pillars, each staff member is challenged to “make a difference.”

“Everything we do should focus on these six pillars,” said Rear Adm. Alton L. Stocks, NMCP commander. “This is the right way forward to develop the best care in Navy Medicine.”



**Capt. Darin Via, NMCP deputer commander, introduces the six pillars during the unveiling May 24, before the champion of each pillar spoke its purpose and goal.**

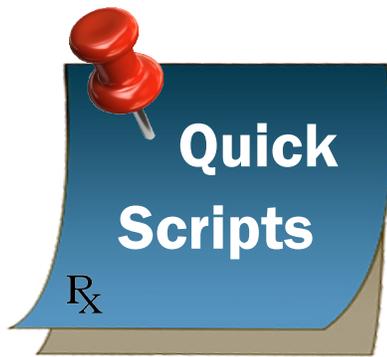
For the better part of a year, the CEB has been working to formulate the new strategic priorities, keeping measurable

— See **PILLARS**, Page 7



Photo by FC3 Jovantè L. Washington

**Forty-six Sailors who achieved the ranks of first, second and third class petty officer received their certificates at the frocking ceremony in the NMCP auditorium on June 2. Twenty-five were selected for E-4, 15 for E-5 and six for E-6 from the March 2011 advancement cycle.**



## Kings Dominion Free Admission to Military

Kings Dominion is offering free admission July 3 to 4 to active, retired and former military personnel as a part of Kings Dominion's "Tribute to the Armed Forces" program. A valid military ID or discharge papers must be presented at Kings Dominion on one of the dates of the program. Discounted tickets are available for family members.

## NMCP Blood Drive

0A blood drive will be held on Tuesday, July 5 at the main entrance of Bldg. 2 from 8 a.m. to noon hours. We are in need of all volunteers, particularly those with O negative or AB blood types. Eligibility questions can be e-mailed to [Ralph.peters@med.navy.mil](mailto:Ralph.peters@med.navy.mil) or visit [www.militaryblood.dod.mil](http://www.militaryblood.dod.mil). Thank you for your support.

## NMCP Ombudsman Team Pre-Deployment Brief

The NMCP Ombudsman Team is here to help those attached to NMCP or its branch health clinics when you or a family member are preparing to deploy!

The monthly pre-deployment brief is held the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 9:30 a.m. in the chapel.

Email us to join our Ombudsman email tree and learn the latest news.

[NMCPombudsman@med.navy.mil](mailto:NMCPombudsman@med.navy.mil)  
or  
(757) 953-1973

## MWR Committee Needs You

The Morale, Welfare and Recreation Committee is looking for motivated, dedicated Sailors to help support the committee. They are responsible for events such as the command picnic in the summer and the annual holiday party in December.

Meetings are held every Monday at 2 p.m. in Bldg 3, 2nd Floor, Classroom 3. For more information, contact HMC Rinschler at 953-4882.

## Transition Forum for Retiring Military and Their Spouses

Those who are retiring soon can get the edge in retirement preparation. Attend the upcoming Transition Forum designed to outfit retiring personnel with effective skills for managing the many changes from military to civilian life. The forum is scheduled for July 29 from 8 to 11 a.m. at Naval Station Norfolk in Bldg. U-93.

NAVAL MEDICAL CENTER  
PORTSMOUTH IS ON  
FACEBOOK AND TWITTER

facebook



[www.facebook.com/  
NMCPortsmouth](http://www.facebook.com/NMCPortsmouth)

<http://twitter.com/NMCP1>

Topics will include anxiety reduction and communication strategies. There will be two break-out sessions — one for transitioning members and another for spouses - where retired service members who have been through the transition will speak.

The seminar is open to all retiring military members and their spouses. For more information or to register, call 444-6089 or 444-2102.

## Hot Dog/Hamburger Sale

Support the MWR Committee by buying grilled hot dogs and hamburgers every Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sales are near the NEX in Bldg. 3, 2nd floor. Meal deals vary from \$5 to \$7.

## Oakleaf Club Open to New Members

The Oakleaf Club of Tidewater is open to medical, dental, nurse, and medical service corps — active and retired — officers and their spouses in the Hampton Roads area. The club is a social and benevolent organization.

We are always happy to welcome new members. For membership information, contact Angela Nezat at [anezat@yahoo.com](mailto:anezat@yahoo.com).

## THE COURIER

COMMANDER

**Rear Adm. Alton L. Stocks**

DEPUTY COMMANDER

**Capt. Darin K. Via**

COMMAND MASTER CHIEF

**CMDCM(SW/SS) Carl E. Morgan**

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

**Deborah R. Kallgren**

DEPUTY PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

**Rebecca A. Perron**

STAFF JOURNALISTS

**MC1 Elizabeth St. John**

**MC2 Riza B. Caparros**

**MC2 Nikki Smith**

**FC3 Jovanté L. Washington**

The Courier is an authorized publication of Naval Medical Center Portsmouth, 620 John Paul Jones Circle, Portsmouth, VA 23708, and is published monthly by the Public Affairs Office.

The Courier provides an avenue to circulate all newsworthy information the NMC Portsmouth staff has to offer.

Those who wish to submit an article or news information for publishing should contact the Public Affairs Office by calling 953-7986, by fax at 953-5118, or by emailing the PAO, Deborah Kallgren, at [deborah.kallgren@med.navy.mil](mailto:deborah.kallgren@med.navy.mil).

Submissions should be in Word format, with photos submitted separately from the document and in jpeg, bitmap or tiff format.

The Public Affairs Office is located in Bldg. 1, 3rd Deck, Rm. C308.

## COMMANDER'S CORNER

### NMCP Promotes Excellence and Innovation in Medical Research

As the discussion on our command's strategic vision continues, I will focus this month's dialogue on our strategic pillar of research. While research may not seem as obviously relevant to most members of the command as some of the other pillars, it is important to remember we are an academic institution. Research, along with education, is truly a pillar supporting our mission.

Research, in all its forms, benefits not only our academic mission, but also supports our mission as caregivers. Among centers of academic excellence, the ability to offer patients the option to participate in research studies is highly valued.

Did you know that NMCP currently offers more than 200 research studies

providing more than 15,000 available opportunities for patient enrollment?

Because of our substantial involvement in local research, NMCP patients may participate in medical studies that explore innovative treatments for childhood and adult cancers, cystic fibrosis and hyperbaric oxygen therapy for traumatic brain injury.

Among other cutting-edge research projects, NMCP investigators are evaluating the effectiveness of medications used to control bleeding on the battlefield and exploring new methods of controlling pain in laboring women.

We have established three effects to help track our progress toward the goal of promoting excellence and innovation in medical research. They include:

- Increase military-relevant research
- Enhance our educational programs



-Increase patient options and improve outcomes

Please join me in our pursuit of research excellence at the Navy's "First and Finest" hospital.

*A. L. Stocks*

A. L. Stocks

## Anderson Medals Three Times at Warrior Games

BY REBECCA A. PERRON  
NMCP Public Affairs

Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class(FMF) Angelo Anderson, a staff member in Naval Medical Center Portsmouth's Infectious Disease Clinic, won three medals during the Wounded Warrior Games — two track and field events: a silver in the 200-meter wheelchair race and a bronze in the 100-meter wheelchair race, and a bronze for the team seated basketball competition.

The games were held in Colorado Springs, Colo., from May 16 to 21, and offered more than 200 wounded, injured and ill service members from all branches to compete in seven sports.

Anderson had been wounded in July when his patrol came under attack in the Helmand Province of Afghanistan while he was serving with the 3rd Battalion/6th Marines. He was shot in the right arm and thigh and medevaced to NMCP.

Anderson worked hard to speed up his recovery, and about six months later, he went to Colorado Springs during the February tryouts and qualified for six events on the Navy/Coast Guard team.

He was one of 34 wounded warriors to qualify for the joint service team. His other events were two

swimming events: the 100- and 50-meter butterfly; and also the track and field 800-meter in the speed chair.

"It's phenomenal to represent Team Navy/Coast Guard," Anderson said during the games, describing what propelled him to the victories. "I realize this is so much bigger than me. I had a lot more motivation outside of myself to win this for our team."



Photo by Riza Caparros

**HM3(FMF) Angelo Anderson shows off the three medals he won while participating in the 2011 Wounded Warrior Games in Colorado Springs, Colo., in May.**

## Going the Distance

# FCPOA, DMS Warriors Relay to Save Lives

BY MC1 ELIZABETH ST JOHN  
NMCP Public Affairs

Teams from Naval Medical Center Portsmouth participated in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, an annual event to raise money for cancer research and treatment, during two of the regions 15 events. The First Class Petty Officer Association walked during the Relay for Life of Elizabeth River at Tidewater Community College Portsmouth Campus May 13. The "DMS Warriors" took part in the June 4 Norfolk/Virginia Beach relay at Harbor Park.

Relay for Life is the ACS's premier fundraising event and is an opportunity for survivors to celebrate life and for loved ones to honor those who lost their battle with cancer. Survivors, caregivers, loved ones, friends and family form teams and take turns walking around tracks located at schools, parks or fairgrounds.

Relay kicks off with a survivor's lap and always includes a candlelight cer-

emony to honor and remember those lost. Relays last throughout the night, sometimes up to 24 hours, and a representative from each team must be on the track at all times.

"I started participating (in the relay) before my father-in-law passed away," said Chief Hospital Corpsman(SW/AW) Venita Johnson, team captain for DMS Warriors and leading chief petty officer, Internal Medicine Subspecialties Clinics. "I thought it was something that needed to be done — trying to find a cure for cancer.

"My father-in-law passed away after the first year that I did it; he was young, only 50 years old," Johnson said. "That brought it close to home, so I relay because I personally believe in it, and I want to find a cure."

Although Johnson had participated in several relays on her own, this is the first year the DMS Warriors came together to participate in the event as a directorate. Their 52 team members raised \$3,185, exceeding their goal by more than \$600.

Johnson and two of her sons stayed for the entire event, which began at 2 p.m. and ended the next day at 6:30 a.m. "The younger two didn't get to meet their grandfather, and so this is one way we can remember him," she said.

Three main themes make up the core of every relay: celebrate, remember and fight back. Celebrate the survivors; remember family and friends who lost their battle with the disease and fight back by making a personal commitment to help end cancer.

"I participated for the experience, the opportunity to engulf myself in a program that means so much" said Hospital Corpsman 2<sup>nd</sup> Class(SW/AW/FMF) Bernard Morales, leading petty officer of the Pediatrics Clinic.

Morales, who lost his grandfather to cancer three years ago, was motivated by Johnson to participate in the event.

"This is the first time I participated in Relay for Life and this, by far, was the most rewarding experience," he said.

That sentiment was echoed by others who joined the relay as well.

"I participated to show my support for the people we treat as well as my friends and their family members who battle cancer daily," said Hospital Corpsman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Valarie Boyd, leading petty officer for Internal Medicine Subspecialties Clinics. "The Ambulatory Infusion Center here in NMCP has

— See RELAY, next page



Photo by MC1 Elizabeth St John

**DMS Warriors team members HM1(SW) Valarie Boyd, left, Internal Medicine Sub-Specialty leading petty officer, and HM1(SW) Talesha D. Bennett, Internal Medicine Department leading petty officer, take their laps during Relay for Life at Harbor Park June 4. The team raised \$3,185 for this year's relay.**



Photo by MC2 Nikki Smith

## Officers of 1st Quarter Awarded

Seven of the recipients of the Officers of the Quarter for the First Quarter 2011 after the OQ award ceremony June 6 in the Bldg. 1 foyer.

First row, from left: Lt. Cmdr. Kerri Browne, Senior Medical Service Corps; Lt. Cmdr. Jill Maldarelli-Drey, Senior Nurse Corps; and Lt. j.g. Elspeth Phillips, Junior Nurse Corps. Second row, from left: Lt. Joseph Kotora, Officer of the Quarter In-Training; Lt. Cmdr. Alexander Holston, Junior Medical Corps; Cmdr. Samuel Critides, Senior Medical Corps; and Lt. Cmdr. Christopher Harris, Junior Dental Corps. Not pictured are: Cmdr. Milan Jugan, Senior Dental Corps; and Lt. j.g. Christina Bologna, Junior Medical Service Corps.

**RELAY** — *Continued from previous page*  
some outstanding corpsmen and nurses who treat cancer patients. The hope they give their patients daily inspired me to be a part of the Relay for Life this year.”

The FCPOA's 20 team members raised \$1,282 during their relay in May. They also exceeded their goal by \$600.

FCPOA team captain and co-chair Hospital Corpsman 1<sup>st</sup> Class (FMF) Keystie Garvey, who lost her mother to cancer, said life is about being selfless, doing the best you can and supporting others.

“I participated to give back to someone else,” she said. “Cancer not only affects the person who has it, but also their family and friends as well. Participating in the relay gives the survivors courage and hope to move on if they see people out there supporting them.”

More than 3.5 million people participate in Relay for Life each year to support cancer survivors and those who care for them. The first Relay for Life in 1985 had only one participant — founder Dr. Gordy Klatt. A colorectal surgeon from Tacoma, Wash., Klatt ran



Photo by FC3 Jovanté L. Washington

**NMCP's first and second class petty officers participate in the Relay for Life of Elizabeth River at Tidewater Community College Portsmouth Campus May 13 as part of the First Class Petty Officer Association team. The FCPOA's 20 team members raised \$1,282 during their relay in May. They also exceeded their goal by \$600.**

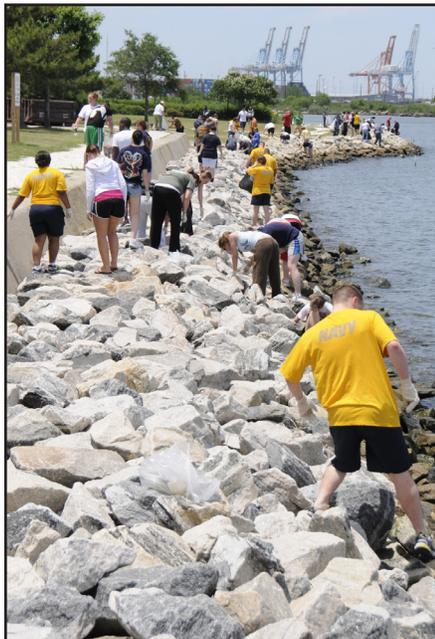
83 miles in a 24 hours to raise money for the ACS. Twenty six years later, it has become the world's largest movement to end the disease.

For information or to plan a relay team for next year, visit [www.relayfor-life.org](http://www.relayfor-life.org).

# 'Clean the Base' Day Draws Record Number of Volunteers

STORY AND PHOTOS  
BY REBECCA A. PERRON  
NMCP Public Affairs

A relief from the heat earlier in the week helped bring out the crowd for Naval Medical Center Portsmouth annual "Clean the Base" Day June 3. A record 250 volunteers helped clean up the shoreline during the event, which is



HM3 Rebecca Murphy of Manpower, right, hands a limb to PSSR Konstance Gardner of MILPERS.

an adjunct to "Clean the Bay" Day and is always held the day prior to the Hampton Roads' event.

The clean up was kicked off behind the pool by acting commander, Capt. Darin Via, who thanked the participants for pitching in. The volunteers then grabbed gloves and garbage bags, and combed a half mile of the base's shoreline. They collected about 4,000 pounds of debris that had washed up on the base's beach and rocks, according to Bob Wall, NMCP Environmental and Natural Resources manager. The most unique items collected were a large truck tire and several heavy pier sections and piles.

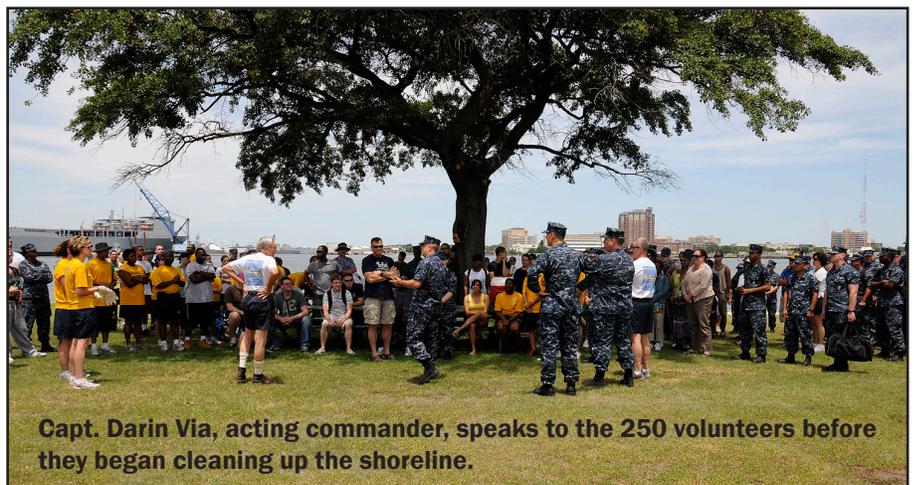
Participation came from all over the base, including tenant commands, Navy Medicine East staff and children of staff. The number of volunteers exceeded expectations with 50 more participants than last year and 100 more than 2009. Due to the high turnout, clean up was completed quickly. Afterward, volunteers were treated to refreshments.



Several volunteers gather around FC3 Philip Torsell (center front in PT uniform) of the Physical Therapy Clinic, who went into the water to recover the tire.



HM2(SW/FMF) Michael Adkins of the Radiology Clinic with the bag of trash he's collected so far.



Capt. Darin Via, acting commander, speaks to the 250 volunteers before they began cleaning up the shoreline.

# Four Senior Chiefs Frocked before 150 Family, Friends



Photo by FC3 Jovanté L. Washington

Naval Medical Center Portsmouth's four new senior chief petty officers are frocked in a ceremony in front of Bldg. 1 on June 9. From left: HMCS(SW/AW) Reginald Barnes, SHCS(SW) Angela Crawford, HMCS(SW/FMF) Heather Hastings and MACS(SW/EXW) Isaac Monk. More than 150 attended including staff, friends and family.

## BZ to This Month's Award Recipients



Photo by MC2 Riza Caparros

Cmdr. Cynthia Wilkerson, director of Clinical Support Services, presents the award recipients to Rear Adm. Alton L. Stocks, NMCP commander, during the command award ceremony on May 19.

Stocks presented two Meritorious Service Medals, eight Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals, four Navy Achievement Medals, one Flag Letter of Commendation, one Certificate of Commendation, one Letter of Appreciation and 17 Good Conduct Medals.

**PILLARS** — *Continued from page 1*  
implementation of the pillars to improve the medical center in each area and push NMCP to be the best ranked hospital in Navy Medicine.

The presentation was also broadcast via a live feed into classrooms and clinics so everyone was able to hear the information first hand. The brief was filmed and will be shown to new staff members during the command's indoctrination course.

"Find yourself in each one of these pillars and work to get to the next level," said CMDCM(SW/SS) Carl E. Morgan, NMCP's command master chief. "If you follow these pillars, you will have job satisfaction and clarity of focus."

Department heads and senior enlisted leaders will update the CEB each quarter on the success of their departments in carrying out the mission of the pillars. Leadership is urging staff members to begin utilizing the messages of each pillar immediately.

"Each one of you here at the hospital is the frontline for someone else," said Cmdr. Cindy Judy, leader for the customer service pillar. "Each one of you can make a difference."

The presentation was less a how-to guide to the strategic plan, and more of a how-will-you make a difference in improving the medical center. Leadership encourages staff feedback and examples of how each is making a difference.

Visit NMCP's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/NMCPortsmouth](http://www.facebook.com/NMCPortsmouth) and click on the "Discussions" link to give thoughts, ideas and feedback on the pillars and strategic plan.

# Stocks Grand Marshal of Memorial Day Parade

NMCP commander Rear Adm. Alton L. Stocks served as the grand marshal for Portsmouth's 127th Memorial Day Parade, which started at I.C. Norcom High School and traveled along High Street into Olde Towne Portsmouth. Stocks and his family joined Portsmouth mayor Kenneth Wright on the reviewing stand. The parade featured floats, marching bands and armed forces units. The annual parade is the oldest in the nation.

Photos by Rebecca A. Perron



Rear Adm. Alton L. Stocks, the grand marshal for the 127th Memorial Day parade in Portsmouth, waves to the crowd along with his wife, Joyce, and their children, before watching the parade from the reviewing stand.



A group of naval sea cadets passes by the reviewing stand.



A high wheel bike leads the way.



Thousands gather along the parade route despite the hot weather.



Rear Adm. Alton L. Stocks and Portsmouth mayor Kenneth Wright salute as a troop of Boy Scouts passes by.



**Left: HMC(SW/AW) Anthony D. King, leading chief petty officer, Operative Specialty, gets a pie sandwich from Lt. Michael G. Foust, clinic manager for Urology, during the day's festivities.**



**Staff from the Fleet Liaison Office take turns smashing pies onto HMC(FMF) Kathryn Nuzum, leading chief petty officer for the Indoctrination Division.**



# In Your Face!

## Chiefs Get Pied in the Face for HM Ball Fundraiser

The Pie in the Face fundraiser for the 2011 Hospital Corps Ball brought in about \$1,175 June 3 at Hospital Point. Votes were cast and donations made to see which chief petty officers would take a pie in the face.

HMC (FMF) Kathryn Nuzum, leading chief petty officer of the Indoctrination Division, was the top fundraiser with \$800 in donations. The six with the most votes took turns receiving their pies. Winning bids ranged from \$1 to \$100.



**HM1(SW/AW) Donald P. Highley, leading petty officer, Family Medicine, gets a direct hit as HM3 Heather King splashes him with a water balloon.**



**Left: HM3 Angela M. Wintrode, assistant command fitness leader, splatters a pie in the face of HM1(FMF) Michael Devito, leading petty officer for the Ambulatory Procedures Unit.**



**Right: HM1(SW/AW) Donald P. Highley, leading petty officer of Family Medicine, waits for a second pie to hit.**



Photos by MC2 Annariza Caparros



# Staff Supports 'Team USMC' at Wounded Warrior Games



By MC2 NIKKI SMITH  
NMCP Public Affairs

Photos Courtesy of Lt. Amy Zaycek



**HM1(FMF/SW) Euriviades Beltre, Command Urinalysis, renders medical aid to one of the Marine competitors at the 2011 Wounded Warrior Games held in Colorado Springs, Colo. Beltre was among the six NMCP personnel who provided medical assistance for the all-Marine Team at the games.**



**Cmdr. Tom Craig, Operational Forces medical liaison, helps Marine team member Joshua Wege build a cleat onto his prosthetic leg at the 2011 Wounded Warrior Games. Wege went on to earn four gold medals in track-and-field events.**

Six Naval Medical Center Portsmouth personnel served as the Team U.S. Marine Corps medical staff at the Wounded Warrior Games in Colorado Springs, Colo., from May 16 to 21 at the U.S. Olympic Training Center.

Lt. Amy Zaycek, a registered nurse who was invited to provide medical support by the Wounded Warrior Regiment, said she enjoyed the experience immensely. She was asked to recruit four corpsmen for the team. After asking for the department's input, she selected Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class(FMF) Josue Garcia, Optometry Department; Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class(FMF) Jesse Coddington, Gastroenterology Clinic; Hospital Corpsman 1st Class(FMF/SW) Euriviades Beltre and Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class(FMF) Cesar Borrero. They attended the trials and the games. When Zaycek heard of a need for a temporary replacement for a regimental surgeon, she knew exactly who to call.

"The first person I thought of was Cmdr. Craig," Zaycek said. "We had served together in Afghanistan, and I know the kind of doctor he is and the special bond he has with Marines. While at the games, I got to work with the most amazing people here; Doc Craig and the corpsmen were all outstanding."

Each corpsman was set up with a Marine team, divided by event. They served as their team's "Doc," treating conditions from muscle aches and blisters to amputee stump care. Zaycek and Cmdr. Tom Craig, Operational Forces medical liaison, were the overseeing staff, ensuring medication refills and medical advice were on hand for the corpsmen and Marines at all times.

The 50 Marine athletes competed in swimming, track and field, seated volleyball, wheelchair basketball, shooting, archery and cycling.

"Participating in these games is my 100 percent job satisfaction," Craig said. "After deploying with and treating many Marines, to go and see these Wounded Warriors as top athletic performers was awesome."



**From left: HM2(FMF) Cesar Borrero, Radiology Department; HM2(FMF) Jesse Coddington, Gastroenterology Clinic; HM1(FMF/SW) Euriviades Beltre, Command Urinalysis; and HM2(FMF) Josue Garcia, Optometry Department.**



**HM2 (basketball team) were so hope to go."**



**HM2(FMF) for the Colorado "I was so and hel**



HM2(FMF) Jesse Coddington plays wheelchair basketball with some members from the all-Marine team at the 2011 Wounded Warrior Games. "They're such a great team," Coddington said. "I really appreciate what they ask for me back next year. I'd love



HM2(FMF) Jesse Coddington and HM1(FMF/SW) Euriviades Beltre train with one of the Marine athletes. Coddington and Beltre served as medical support for the all-Marine team.

"The whole experience was amazing," Coddington said. "I would really love to go back next year. Watching these guys and seeing how they overcame their obstacles was inspiring and motivating. They didn't see their injuries as obstacles, they're making the best of their situation and it makes you appreciate what you have."

Right: Lt. Amy Zacek, registered nurse, left, and HM2(FMF) Jesse Coddington, right, watch other medical staff help Joshua Wege, a Marine competitor, put on his prosthetic leg.



HM2(FMF) Josue Garcia, Optometry Department, serves as medical support for the all-Marine swimming team at the 2011 Wounded Warrior Games in Colorado Springs, Colo.

"I'm so impressed by my team," Garcia said. "I had a great time being there and helping them. They show what it means to overcome obstacles."



HM2(FMF) Cesar Borrero, Radiology Department, provides wound care for one of the all-Marine team athletes at the 2011 Wounded Warrior Games.



Photo by Air Force Senior Airman Kasey Close

**Lt. Cmdr. Kristie Robson, an emergency medicine doctor from NMCP, writes a prescription for a patient at the Escuela Don Bosco medical site in Rocafuerte, Ecuador on May 16.**



Air Force photo by Senior Airman Kasey Close

## Comfort's Goodwill Arrives in Ecuador for 10-Day Stop

The third stop of Continuing Promise 2011, Manta, Ecuador, was home to the crew of USNS Comfort for 10 days after arriving May 14. Medical assistance was given at temporary clinics established in three towns in the province of Manabi — Montecristi, Bosco and Jaramijo. The Comfort medical team performed 145 surgeries, saw 9,283 patients and provided thousands of reading glasses and doses of medications to the Ecuadorian people. The veterinarians on board treated 2,178 animals.

Personnel embarked aboard Comfort held a Project Handclasp donation ceremony at Manta Port, May 18. Project Handclasp, the Navy's worldwide outreach program, is a public-private partnership where donations are packaged and delivered to countries around the world.

A ceremony on May 25 showcased the engineering crew's project at Gregory Maranon Elementary School in La Travesia, Manta, who built a new classroom, replaced the roof, repaired the bathrooms, installed a new water pump and piping, and trained maintenance people how to chlorinate the water in an effort to safeguard the health of the students.



Photo by MC1 Brian A. Goyak

**HM1 Kimberly Edwards from Sewells Point Dental Clinic, cleans a local patient's teeth at a temporary dental clinic in Manta, Ecuador on May 16.**

## Comfort Arrives in Colombia

USNS Comfort arrived in Tumaco, Colombia, June 2 for the fourth leg of Continuing Promise 2011, departing June 12 after providing humanitarian assistance for 10 days.

Comfort's crew performed 126 surgeries and treated 4,825 patients at the Escuela Max Seidel medical site during its mission in Colombia.

— See **COLOMBIA**, next page

**Capt. Michael Mazzilli, an NMCP anesthesiologist, listens to a patient's lungs during an exam June 2 at a temporary medical clinic inside of Escuela Max Seidel in Tumaco, Colombia.**



Air Force photo by Senior Airman Kasey Close

**HM2 Robert Hooffstetter positions a mobile X-ray unit over a patient's hands while HM2 Ewaldson Francois, an NMCP X-ray technician, pulls out markers to identify the right from the left hand in the X-ray at a temporary medical clinic inside of Escuela Max Seidel in Tumaco, Colombia, June 4.**



Photo by MC1 Brian A. Goyak

**HM2 Karla Vargasochs, a member of the Naval Ophthalmic Support & Training Activity at Naval Weapons Station Yorktown, paints the walls of Institucion Ciudadela Educativa Tumaco Narino, a school in Tumaco, Colombia, June 4.**

**COLOMBIA** — *Continued from previous page*

On June 7, medical personnel treated four Colombians injured by an improvised explosive device south of Tumaco. The four arrived aboard Comfort via helicopter from 35 miles away and were taken to the casualty receiving area to begin treatment.

One of the patients went directly to surgery for a double amputation and hand reconstruction, while the other three were treated for shrapnel wounds. This case is one example of how crucial the Comfort's mission is to the region.

"It has been a lot of work, but interacting with all of our patients makes it worthwhile," said Lt. Laura Modafferi, an NMCP pharmacist embarked aboard Comfort. "They are extremely grateful for the help we are giving them. Each country brings new challenges and rewards. I'm excited to see what the upcoming countries will be like.

"The deployment has been going well, different than I expected, but overall a positive experience," Modafferi continued. "The pharmacy keeps the staff and me extremely busy. We set up multiple medical sites on shore in each country where we are expected to bring enough medications to support our 'beach formulary' which includes 90 medications."

**Lt. Laura Modafferi, an NMCP pharmacist embarked aboard USNS Comfort, poses for a picture with students at Institucion Ciudadela Educativa Tumaco Narino, a school in Tumaco, Colombia, June 5.**



Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Alesia Goosic

# NMCP, Staff Rack Up Logistics, Accounting Awards

## Wente Named 2010 Comptroller of the Year

By MC2 RIZA CAPARROS  
NMCP Public Affairs

Gavin Wente was named Navy Medicine's 2010 Comptroller of the Year on May 11 during the Resources-Logistics-Analytics Training Symposium in Landsdowne, Va. As Naval Medical Center Portsmouth's deputy comptroller, he oversees a budget of almost half a billion dollars, managing resources to support the command's mission and strategic direction.

Through his leadership, the command was able to increase insurance revenues by 15.2 percent and close fiscal year 2010 with a greater than 99.99 percent obligation rate. As a result of his efforts, time card completion increased to 100 percent. Travel card delinquency rates declined

from almost 10 percent to under the Department of the Navy goal of two percent or less.

Wente retired from the Coast Guard after almost 30 years, during which he spent many years as a command comptroller. He believes his experiences while in the service prepared him to successfully navigate the many challenges that come with his job today.

"The acronyms and buckets of money may be different, but managing resources, whether a large Coast Guard operation or a major military medical facility, requires organization, ability to work under pressure, attention to detail and an aptitude for multi-tasking," he said.

According to NMCP comptroller and director for Resources Management, Cmdr. Carlos Martinez, Wente's leadership and fiscal stewardship has helped



Photo courtesy of Gavin Wente

**Gavin Wente, NMCP deputy comptroller, is named 2010 Navy Medicine's Comptroller of the Year. He is presented his award by Vice Adm. Adam M. Robinson Jr., Surgeon General of the Navy and Chief of the Navy's Bureau of Medicine and Surgery.**

build effective working relationships across the command to improve financial performance.

"He is highly deserving of this award," Martinez said.

## Accountants of the Year

By MC2 RIZA CAPARROS  
NMCP Public Affairs

Charlette Worley of Navy Medicine East was awarded the title Accountant of the Year — Echelon 3, and Carsietta



Photo by MC2 Riza Caparros

**Carsietta Burke, left, Navy Medicine's 2010 Accountant of the Year-Echelon 4, and Charlotte Worley, Navy Medicine's 2010 Accountant of the Year-echelon 3, with their awards.**

Burke of Naval Medical Center Portsmouth awarded Accountant of the Year — Echelon 4, by the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery on May 11 during the 2011 Resources-Logistics-Analytics Training Symposium in Landsdowne, Va. The awards were for fiscal year 2010.

Worley provided guidance and assistance to BUMED with the implementation of the new accounts receivable module, streamlining the financial transparency of Navy Medicine activities. Her oversight and mentoring of all Navy Medicine East commands has been instrumental in military treatment facility's passing the FY 2010 Procurement Performance Measurement and Assessment Program

requirements in the entire region.

"It was a great honor to be named Accountant of the Year (Echelon 3)," said Worley, NME systems accountant, "and it is a reflection of the people I work with, because they are an important part of my success as command accountant."

As Financial Management department head, Burke led Uniform Business Office operations, increasing third party collections by 612,000, a 15.2 percent increase over the prior year. She also updated the civilian timekeeping and training guide, providing an improved, more user friendly reference to account for and track time. As a result, she improved compliance with federal regulations and Navy policy, established effective internal controls and improved customer service.

"As accountants, we are responsible for overseeing all transactions being accounted for," Burke said. "It's tedious work, so to get the recognition for the job I do is very nice."

# Carpenter, Moreland Get Purchase Card, Achievement Awards

Cynthia Carpenter and Melanie Moreland were recognized by the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery during the 2011 Resource, Logistics and Analytical Symposium in May. They were recognized during a separate ceremony at NMCP on May 24 by Rear Adm. Alton L. Stocks.

Carpenter received the Federal Government Civilian Individual Achievement Award.

As the Government Purchase Card Program coordinator,

Moreland was instrumental in NMCP receiving the Government Purchase Card Program award for large commands.

During fiscal year 2010, Carpenter excelled while her team experienced a 29 percent increase in workload during a 33 percent staffing shortage. She was responsible for oversight of 310 contracts valued at more than \$125 million.

Carpenter was involved in high visibility projects that accounted for 1,563 contractors at NMCP. She oversaw the modification of contracts that recouped \$2.3 million, allowing for the funds to be reallocated to other command requirements.

As program coordinator, Moreland has oversight of 143 cardholders and 66 approving officials. She was responsible for 33,000 line items valued at \$19.2 million. During the last Procurement Performance Management Assessment Program audit, no deficiencies or adverse findings were noted.



Cynthia Carpenter gets congratulated by Rear Adm. Alton L. Stocks on May 24.



Melanie Moreland with Rear Adm. Alton L. Stocks on May 24.

Photos by MC2 Riza Caparros



Marion Goodrich holds the award presented to NMCP Resources for collective work earning them third place in Third Party Collections-Largest Increase in Total Value during the 2011 Resource, Logistics and Analytical Symposium in May.



From left: Carsietta Burke, Ann Howington and Sharon Dunn received achievement awards during the 2010 Hampton Roads Chapter of the American Society of Military Comptroller luncheon on June 7. Burke was awarded for her work in accounting; Howington and Dunn earned theirs for Resources Management. Not pictured: Lt. Nigel Carr received an HRC ASMC achievement award for Budgets.

# Chief Helps Keeps Local Filipino Heritage Strong

By MC2 RIZA CAPARROS  
NMCP Public Affairs

Chief. Jo-Jo. Dad. Uncle. He has many names and many responsibilities. Chief Hospital Corpsman(SW/FMF) Joseph Alviar takes them all seriously and proudly.

As stated in the Chief Petty Officer Creed, "Be a fountain of wisdom, the ambassador of good will, the authority in personnel relations as well as technical application."

Alviar lives by these principles as a uniformed service member, a father and leader in his local Filipino community.

Alviar joined the Navy in 1991, and is now the leading chief petty officer of NMCP's Laboratory Department, overseeing 68 Sailors. He routinely works 10-hour days, and afterwards, Alviar devotes more time to the community. He is a member of the United Ilocano Association of Tidewater and the Free Masonry, which is a voluntary organization composed of men

of good will, good character and good reputation. He is also on the council of the United Filipinas of Tidewater.

"One of my greatest prides is being a Filipino American," Alviar said. "It is very important to me that my children have the same pride in their heritage as I do."

Alviar's actions speak loudly about their culture to his children. He teaches the Philippine harp bandurria and the angklung to members of the Virginia Beach Philippine Cultural Center youth program. He has been teaching the bandurria, an instrument similar to the mandolin that is primarily used in Philippine folkloric songs, to Filipino youths for seven years. Alviar began teaching the angklung, a bamboo-framed musical instrument, last summer.

"I've always honored the traditions of the Filipino culture, whether it is the food, the clothing, the artistry or the music," he said.

Alviar's efforts as a mentor to the youth group are appreciated in the Filipino community.

"As parents and guardians of children, we are responsible for keeping our culture alive," said Cholly Marcelo, Subcommittee on Asian and Pacific Island Affairs musical director. "Jo-Jo helps the PCC accomplish this very important goal. He is helping them learn to love our culture."

One of Alviar's students, Marc, 18, has been Alviar's Angklung student for two years.

"He is a great teacher," Marc said. "His strength is making us concentrate, while keeping learning fun. Because of 'Uncle,' I know how to play a traditional Filipino instrument. It's special to me because it's not common.

"I feel like it makes my ties to the Filipino history stronger," he added.

"To have that influence on today's Filipino youth is one of my strongest goals in life," said Alviar with a smile. "They are my proudest legacy."



**HMC(SW/FMF) Joseph Alviar teaches the angklung, a bamboo-framed musical instrument, to members of the Virginia Beach Philippine Cultural Center youth program.**

## WE WANT YOU — TO DONATE BLOOD!

Due to current world events, there is a higher demand for all blood products. NMCP is looking for as many donors as possible to help meet this increased need for our shipmates.



You can call the Blood Bank at **953-1717 or 1730** to schedule an appointment to donate.



Your donation will count as volunteer time and platelet donations will be awarded with snacks, a free meal pass at the galley, and a chit for ½ day off work, to be used at chain of command's discretion.



A table displays information about Thailand, including maps, pictures, ethnic food and artifacts.

# Asian-Pacific America Heritage Celebrated

STORY AND PHOTOS BY MC2 NIKKI SMITH  
NMCP Public Affairs

The command Diversity Committee held an Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month celebration May 31 during a ceremony in the command auditorium.

The festivities featured guest speaker Doña Storey, chief executive officer and president of Quality Technical Services; a Philippine dance called Tinikling performed by Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Cheryl Kivlehan and Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Marven Ayson; a cake cutting; and lunch buffet of traditional Asian-Pacific food.

Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month has been celebrated since 1977, starting out as Asian Pacific Heritage Week. In 1978 President Jimmy Carter announced that the week would become an annual event and President George H.W. Bush established the week as a monthlong celebration during May.



Featured guest speaker Doña Storey, chief executive officer and president of Quality Technical Services, spoke about the need for the community to carry on the legacy of the ability to prosper and work hard.



Rear Adm. Alton L. Stocks, NMCP commander, and guest speaker Doña Storey joined NMCP staff members for a cake cutting at the end of the celebration in the auditorium on May 31.



HM2 Cheryl Kivlehan and HM1 Marven Ayson perform a Philippine dance called Tinikling.

Right:  
 Following the Asian-Pacific American Heritage celebration in the auditorium, guests were treated to a lunch buffet of traditional Asian-Pacific food.





Photos by MC2 Nikki Smith

## Civilian in the Spotlight

**Gay Rochelle Cornelius**

**Hometown:** Philadelphia

**Years of Service:** 23 years (17 years at NMCP)

**Work Center:** Staff Education and Training Department/Administrative Assistant

**What do you like most about your job?** The interaction I have with customers and co-workers.

**What do you do in your off duty time/hobbies?** Outreach to less fortunate members in my community, evangelize, spending time with my children, and bike riding. I have a passion for teaching the Bible. I love the moment when a person gets in the spirit because of my teachings.

**Favorite movie:** Glory

**Favorite food:** Chicken Parmesan

**Why were you nominated as Civilian in the Spotlight?** William Ragulsky of SEAT submitted Cornelius and said, "Ms. Cornelius is a strong representation of the type of civilians that work in DPE. Ms. Cornelius' work ethic, attention to detail, and customer service makes her the ideal candidate for Civilian in the Spotlight."

## Sailor in the Spotlight

**HN Russell Bryan Burkhart**

**Hometown:** Chesapeake

**Years of Naval Service:** 2 years 8 months (1yr 10 months at NMCP)

**Work Center:** Staff Education and Training Department/Computer Based Training Specialist

**What do you like most about your job?** The opportunity to assist personnel with training issues and making sure all training evolutions are completed smoothly.

**What do you do in your off duty time/hobbies?** Spending time with family and working on vehicles.

**Favorite movie:** Stephen King's "IT"

**Favorite food?** Mac and cheese

**Anything else interesting about yourself that you would like to tell us?** I strive to be the most stellar Sailor I can every day, on and off duty. I live my life according to the core values of Honor, Courage and Commitment.

**Why were you nominated as Sailor in the Spotlight?** William Ragulsky of SEAT submitted Burkhart and said, "HN Burkhart is a trustworthy, motivated and knowledgeable Sailor who consistently performs tasks at a level above his current pay grade. He has the potential to accomplish anything he desires in his military career."



## JUNE AWARDS

### MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

Capt. Kristen Atterbury  
 Capt. Jimmy Bradley  
 Capt. Nathaniel Bryant  
 Capt. Anne Lear  
 Capt. Paul Lucha  
 Capt. Katherine Natoli  
 Cmdr. Karen Ecarus  
 Lt. Cmdr. John Devlin

### JOINT SERVICE COMMENDATION MEDAL

Capt. Frank Greco  
 Capt. Patricia Hagan  
 Capt. Christine Lenoir  
 Capt. Lloyd Marland  
 Cmdr. Lynne Blankenkemper  
 Cmdr. Eric Davis  
 Cmdr. Lisa Rose  
 Cmdr. Margaret Sime  
 Lt. Cmdr. Norman Briones  
 Lt. Melissa Buryk  
 Lt. Domenica Carrier  
 Lt. Jamie Daut

Lt. Daniel Houlihan  
 Lt. Christina Lumba  
 Lt. Cmdr. Daniell Wenzel  
 Lt. Cmdr. Samuel Werschky  
 Lt. Amy Zaycek  
 HMCS(SW/AW) Sonia Bethea  
 STS1(SS/SW) Scott Engel

### NAVY & MARINE CORPS ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

CS3(AW) Dondra Frazier  
 HM3 Rebecca Murphy  
 HM2 Albert Sarbeng  
 HM3 Bradley Shea

### MILITARY OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD

Capt. Paul Lucha

### NAVY MERITORIOUS CIVILIAN SERVICE AWARD

JoAnn Kaminski



Photos by MC2 Riza Caparros

**Retired Marine Corps Lt. Col. Milton Raphael with members of the Wounded Warrior Battalion-East Detachment.**

**Right: During his visit, Retired Marine Corps Lt. Col. Milton Raphael sat down with with members of the Wounded Warrior Battalion-East Detachment to share stories about his time in the service and to thank them for their devotion to their country.**

## Marine Vet Visits Wounded Warriors

Retired Marine Corps Lt. Col. Milton Raphael, a veteran of World War II and the Vietnam and Korean wars, visited the Wounded Warrior Battalion-East Detachment on June 1.

Raphael said to them, "WWII vets are called 'the Greatest Generation,' but I believe you and your fellow service members today are 'the Greatest Generation' because you are fighting four wars willingly, eagerly and with pride. God bless you all."



# SHIPMATE OF THE MONTH



Photo by MC2 Riza Caparros

HM3(FMF) TYLER W. HARRIS, DPE  
HN JAMES N. BRIDGFORD, DPC  
HA GERALD W. HOCKENSMITH, DCSS  
HN AARON F. HAMBLIN, COMMAND SUITE  
HN ALEXANDER M. VERNON, DNS

HN LEWIS G. LING, DMH  
HM3 ERIKA G. PALMER, DPHS  
HN CHRISTOPHER M. FORD, DDS  
HN PETE T. OTCHERE, DMS  
MM3 JUSTIN L. RAAB, DFA

# MENTOR OF THE MONTH



Photo by MC2 Nikki Smith

With more than 18 years of nursing experience, there is no question that Lt. Cmdr. Louise B. Nellums has much to

offer as a mentor. She has experienced the different facets of nursing, including the civilian sector, Navy reserves, active duty Navy, and being deployed to Kuwait and Haiti. She is the division officer for Staff Education and Training and has been accepted into the Duty under Instruction program at Old Dominion University to complete her master's degree in Education.

Nellums takes an active role in command mentorship. As team leader for the Mentorship Team, she ensures all Sailors have access to a mentor. She believes this program is especially important because the mentors throughout her own career have molded her into becoming a better leader. Over the years she has had many mentors across all ranks. She looks to her husband, a retired first class petty

officer, for advice and guidance daily.

A strong advocate for paying it forward, Nellum says, "Eventually, we will all move on, and the legacy we leave behind should be one of continuing the high quality and professional work required to maintain the Navy's high standards." Living by the words, "Tell me and I'll forget; show me and I'll remember; involve me and I'll understand", it is no wonder why Nellums was chosen as June's Mentor of the Month.

---

*Would you like to become a mentor or find a mentor? Check out the Mentor Program at <https://webapps.mar.med.navy.mil/mentor/index.asp> for more information about mentoring at NMCP. Everyone is welcome. And don't forget to vote for next month's Mentor of the Month!*