



RDP-21 NEWSLETTER



CDCA AND UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT PRESENTATIONS AT NOVEMBER ADC FORUM

CRAIG HODSON



Association of Defense Communities (ADC) holds several conferences annually on topics of interest to local community support organizations such as RDP-21. Recently ADC conducted

the 2021 Installation Innovation Forum in San Antonio, Texas. Those attending learned about progress with, among many topics, community base support initiatives, intergovernmental support agreements, quality of life, childcare, environmental programs and base resilience.

One session titled Defense Community Infrastructure Program: Lessons Learned and Best Practices presented status of the Defense Community Infrastructure Program (DCIP), now in its third year. DCIP was funded with \$60M in FY2021 and \$50M in FY2020.

DCIP is a competitive grant program that addresses deficiencies in community infrastructure supporting military installations, in order to enhance military value, installation resilience, and military family quality of life. Eligible community infrastructure projects are any transportation project, school, hospital, police, fire, emergency response, or other community support facility; or water, wastewater, telecommunications, electric, gas, or other utility infrastructure project.

In FY2021, 90 proposals were received with 20 duplicate or ruled non-responsive and 70 complete proposals evaluated representing \$380M DCIP requests with \$800M matching funds. Of these, 13 proposals were selected for funding totally \$60M from DCIP and \$68M matching funding.

The well-attended DCIP conference session included a presentation by United Water Conservation District. A DCIP grant provided \$4,230,133 to United Water Conservation District to undertake a \$12,429,191 project to construct a treatment facility for three existing lower aquifer system wells in support of Naval Base Ventura County. The Iron and Manganese Treatment Project location is between Rose Avenue and Vineyard Avenue in El Rio. Maryam Bral, Chief Engineer, United Water Conservation District gave the presentation.

United Water Conservation District gave the presentation.

Many of the challenges facing installations are not confined to a single community. Climate change, training range encroachment, workforce and other key issues not unique to one base, community or region and require a regional or multi-community approach. One session's speakers explored how community organizations come together to create state-level organizations dedicated to finding regional solutions to meet their

community needs.

In the session titled The Rise of Regional and State Defense Alliances: How Communities are Organizing at Higher Levels to Support Their Defense Sectors, RDP-21's Gene Fisher gave a well-received presentation on the establishment of California Defense Communities Alliance. Community support at the local level is unified at the state level in many states by organizations similar to CDCA, ensuring a coordinated and state response to community's needs.



Gene Fisher, Co-Chair, RDP-21



CALIFORNIA DEFENSE COMMUNITITES ALLIANCE



MILITARY SPOUSE LICENSURE LEGISLATION

CRAIG HODSON

Military spouses are a key element in California's workforce as they can offer the full spectrum of professional experience to California's labor market. It is essential that we advocate/support the ability of military spouses to provide for their families. The delay in obtaining new licenses for each state a military spouse moves to significantly hampers opportunities for military spouses to work in their new state of residence. Notably, one of the leading factors service members cited for leaving military service was concern over transferring to a location where there is a lack of available career opportunities for spouses.

The National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) requires the Department of Defense to consider a state's military family readiness policies, including interstate licensure portability for military families in determining whether to process with any basing decisions or establishing major headquarters in the U.S. If California does not improve our policies around veteran and military spouse licensure, the state may be vulnerable to additional base closures and be ineligible for future base missions and platforms.

The Governor signed AB 107 (Salas), Expansion of the requirement to issue 12 month temporary licenses to all Department of Consumer Affairs boards:

- Accountancy, Board of
- Acupuncture Board
- Arbitration Certification Program
- Architects Board, California
- Athletic Commission of California
- Automotive Repair, Bureau of
- Barbering and Cosmetology, Board of
- Behavioral Sciences, Board of
- Cemetery and Funeral Bureau
- Chiropractic Examiners, Board of
- Contractors State License Board
- Court Reporters Board
- Dental Board of California
- Dental Hygiene Board of California
- Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists, Board for Professional
- Household Goods and Services, Bureau of

- Landscape Architects Technical Committee
- Medical Board of California
- Naturopathic Medicine Committee
- Occupational Therapy, California Board of
- Optometry, Board of
- Osteopathic Medical Board of California
- Pharmacy, Board of
- Physical Therapy Board of California
- Physician Assistant Board
- Podiatric Medical Board of California
- Private Postsecondary Education, Bureau for
- Private Postsecondary Education, Bureau for – Office of Student Assistance and Relief
- Professional Fiduciaries Bureau
- Psychology, Board of
- Real Estate Appraisers, Bureau of
- Registered Nursing, Board of
- Respiratory Care Board
- Security and Investigative Services, Bureau of
- Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensers Board
- Structural Pest Control Board
- Veterinary Medical Board
- Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians, Board of

Note that insurance adjusters, real estate sales/brokers, teachers and attorneys are not licensed by Department of Consumer Affairs.

Further, occupational certification may be issued by professional organizations and are not subject to this law. A certification verifies that a practitioner has met a certain set of criteria for a skill or job as measured by a third-party assessment. A certificate may be issued by a training institution or university. Certificate and certification transferability and recognition are not addressed.

The legislation requires the applicant to supply evidence satisfactory to the board that the applicant is married to, or in a domestic partnership or other legal union with, an active duty member of the Armed Forces of the United States who is assigned to a duty station in this state under official active duty military orders. The operative date is July 1, 2023.



CALIFORNIA DEFENSE COMMUNITITES ALLIANCE

CDCA AND GMC'S NEXT GENERATION OF PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS FORUMS HELD SEPTEMBER 27 & 29, 2021



CRAIG HODSON

The California Defense Communities Alliance and California Governor's Military Council hosted forums on the topic of Next

Generation of Public/Private Partnerships between the military and the private sector. The forums were held in Los Angeles and Sacramento in order to reach as large an audience as possible. Experts from the Army, Navy, Marines, Navy and Air Force presented on topics including Intergovernmental Support Agreements (IGSA) to Defense Community Investment Program. Examples were discussed as models for action.



Ideas for the bases of the future were presented. For example, can we remove fences? Do we need gyms? Communities have the same issues as bases with water and housing. Quality of education compared with other states is an issue. What is the future for IGSA's? There are about 58 active IGSA's (34 with the Marines) and about 50 in process for base operating services.

David Sasek of Ventura County made a presentation on Ventura County and Naval Base Ventura County IGSA's. Ventura County has a well-working agreement for fire truck repair. Road signs and traffic lights will follow.

David Sasek

CDCA appreciates the time and effort of those who made the substantial effort to participate as speakers and organizers of the events, which are a model for future events.



SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Small businesses are import elements of our communities, so this information may be useful to those developing strong economic activity as support to our military bases, personnel and regions. Feel free to share. This description provides links to information on how to become registered in the state as a Small Business or Disabled Veteran Business to receive more visibility and extra consideration for award of state contracts:

Department of General Services (DGS) Office of Small Business and DVBE Services (OSDS) DGS Office of Small Business and DVBE (Disabled Veterans Business Enterprise) Services is comprised of a team of professionals at DGS where businesses can become certified as Small Businesses and Disabled Veteran's Business Enterprises (DVBE).

<https://www.dgs.ca.gov/PD/About/Page-Content/PD-Branch-Intro-Accordion-List/Office-of-Small-Business-and-Disabled-Veteran-Business-Enterprise/Certification-Program>

How to do Business with the State of California. Visit the link below which has some other useful resources such as short videos: <https://www.dgs.ca.gov/PD/Resources/Page-Content/Procurement-Division-Resources-List-Folder/How-to-do-business-with-the-state-of-California>

Applying for Small Business (SB) or Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE) Certification:

<https://www.dgs.ca.gov/PD/Services/Page-Content/Procurement-Division-Services-List-Folder/Certify-or-Re-apply-as-Small-Business-Disabled-Veteran-Business-Enterprise>

California State Government Marketplace (Cal eProcure) This is where State departments and agencies post their public-facing solicitations for bid: <https://caleprocure.ca.gov/pages/index.aspx>

Finding Certified Small Businesses or Disabled Business Enterprises—Businesses that are registered with Cal eProcure can be found through the search portal in the link below: <https://caleprocure.ca.gov/pages/PublicSearch/supplier-search.aspx>



CALIFORNIA DEFENSE COMMUNITITES ALLIANCE

DEFENSE SPENDING BY STATE REPORT FOR FY2020

BY CRAIG HODSON



The Department of Defense’s Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation released the Fiscal Year 2020 Defense Spending by State report to help states and communities better understand the components of defense spending on procurement and personnel.

The report’s graphs, maps and tables present a range of findings, such as total spending figures, categories of contracted goods and services, major defense vendors and number and types of defense personnel.

For Californias compared with the other states:

- California is #3 at \$61B
- California is #29 at 1.9% of state GDP
- Receives 10.3% of total US defense spending
- Receives \$1550 per resident
- California is #3 at \$44.0B contract spending
- California is #1 at 285922 personnel

California is #2 at \$17.0B Personnel spending

The snapshot provides public and private leaders with a starting place to assess how defense investments across installations and the private sector can be optimized by supporting regional innovation industrial capability and capacity, supply chain resilience, and cultivating a skilled workforce.

Patrick O’ Brien, the Director of the Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation, states: “This report is presented as an opportunity for governors, local officials and other leaders to understand the businesses/industries and workers presently supporting our nation’s defense, so they may enable them to remain competitive, be responsive to our future national security needs and remain resilient to natural and man-made threats.”

The report can be downloaded here:
<https://oldcc.gov/dsbs-fy2020>



NAVAL BASE VENTURA COUNTY



NBVC HOLDS CHANGE OF COMMAND AND RETIREMENT CEREMONY

DREW VERBIS

VENTURA COUNTY, Calif. (NNS) – Naval Base Ventura County (NBVC) welcomed its newest leader Capt. Robert “Barr” Kimmach III, while celebrating the retirement of its departing leader Capt. Jeff Chism at Point Mugu, July 8, 2021.

Rear Adm. Bette Bolivar, commander, Navy Region Southwest, served as the guest speaker and officiated the change of command during a ceremony attended by military personnel, distinguished visitors, and civilian guests.

“Capt. Chism has taken community engagement to the highest level,” said Bolivar. “With Jeff at the helm, this installation excelled, made many accomplishments and exceeded all expectations. His achievements have truly reflected our mission and enabled warfighter readiness. Jeff’s vision of Ventura County has been unmatched.”

Capt. Chism set the stage for NBVC to become the future master-base for unmanned aircraft systems by standing up multiple area platforms to include the MQ-25 Stingray, MQ-4C Triton and MQ-8 Fire Scout. Chism oversaw the completion of 2 entry control points at Point Mugu and Port Hueneme. Under Chism, NBVC was selected to be an observation installation for the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services to provide quarantine support during the Coronavirus-19 pandemic. He managed disaster response teams for 10-major wildfires including the safe and successful evacuation of Point Mugu during the catastrophic Woolsey Fire.

“Jeff often thinks outside of the box,” said Bolivar. “He began the development of a public-private venture with the United Preservation Water District to build a brackish-water treatment plant at Point Mugu which will supply the Navy and Ventura County with a resilient and reliable water source.”

Chism was presented with the Legion of Merit for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service as NBVC commander from June 2018 to July 2021. The award

specifically recognized the fundamental command of major aviation shore facilities, inter-agency support, crisis management and innovative mission execution.

Chism took the stage to address the audience with his final remarks as commander, NBVC. He thanked people by name, his family, fellow service members and those he worked with in Ventura County.



CAPT. Jeff Chism welcoming CAPT. Robert “Barr” Kimmach III

“This retirement is an emotional day for me,” said Chism. “This job is much bigger than any single contribution. It’s about service, it’s about dedication to duty and the oath. Taking care of people around us is important, and it is what we do, and I am so grateful for that opportunity. I am so thankful to Naval aviation for making this an amazing journey. Flying jets while serving my country is something truly special.”

Following the reading of orders and assumption of command, Capt. Robert “Barr” Kimmach III, a native of New England took command of

NBVC following an assignment with U.S. 3rd Fleet. He earned his commission through the University of North Carolina Reserve Officer Training Corps Program in 1998 and was designated a Naval Aviator in 1999. He has accumulated over 2800 hours flying operationally in both SH-60B and MH-60R Seahawk helicopters.

“Jeff has setup the NBVC team for success and I hope to retain all the knowledge he has shared,” said Kimmach. “Today we honor him during his retirement, but we also celebrate his legacy which has helped carry NBVC into the future, make it easy to engage the Ventura County community and support our warfighters needs.”

“It’s not only about records and accomplishments,” Bolivar said. “For Capt. Chism, and his outstanding team of professionals it’s about how the base functions. It’s about the mission, it’s about the quality of customer service and the pride. Warfighters are able to accomplish their mission, because Jeff and team NBVC

Continued on next page

NAVAL BASE VENTURA COUNTY

Continued from previous page

took care of everything. Capt. Chism's dedication to civic duty has made an impact on this base and community that will be felt for a long time. Now, I am certain that Capt. Kimnach can retain this vision as he is the right person at the right time."

Congresswoman, the honorable Julia Brownley, Rear Adm. Scott Dillon, commander, Naval Air Warfare Center and Ventura County Sheriff, Bill Ayub were among the many distinguished guests.

The change of command ceremony is a time-honored naval tradition which draws its origins from ancient customs and laws of the sea begun by early seafaring men and women. By custom, this ceremony must be formal and impressive as to

strengthen the respect for authority and guarantee that "all hands" personally witness the official passing of command between officers who are duly authorized to assume control.

A retirement banner to honor Capt. Chism's service read, "26 years, 15 moves, 6 deployments, 4 kids, 3 houses, 1 fun adventure."

NBVC is a premier Naval installation composed of three operating facilities: Point Mugu, Port Hueneme and San Nicolas Island. Strategically located in a non-encroached coastal area of Southern California, NBVC uses its superior geographical location as a key element in the DoD mission infrastructure.



PENTAGON TESTS ANTI-SHIP MISSILE LAUNCHER ON AN UNMANNED VESSEL

PUBLISHED SEP 8, 2021 4:50 PM BY THE MARITIME EXECUTIVE

The U.S. Department of Defense has recently tested the launch of an SM-6 anti-air/anti-ship missile from a drone-ship platform, the Pentagon announced in a video release last week.

The video depicts one of the DoD Strategic Capabilities Office's "Ghost Fleet Overlord" autonomous vessel test platforms carrying a containerized launcher on its back deck. While under way, the launcher elevates and sends one missile skyward.

The Drive has identified the vessel as the Ranger, one of two commercial fast-supply boats that DoD obtained from an offshore operator in the Gulf of Mexico and converted into autonomous-system testbed platforms. To date, the program's publicly-announced trials have focused on successful autonomous navigation and on the sustainment of unmanned operations on long voyages - a key challenge for conventional propulsion and engineering systems, which rely on regular care from the crew.

Last year, a Ghost Fleet boat transited all the way from Mobile,

Alabama to Port Hueneme, California using autonomous navigation for 97 percent of the voyage. The vessel sustained "a couple of small casualties" during the 4,700 mile trip, Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Mike Gilday told USNI, but he said that the service is using that experience to improve its large-USV program.



One of the Pentagon's two Ghost Fleet Overlord vessels heads out with a containerized SM-6 (DoD)

The installation of an SM-6 launcher on a USV aligns well with the Navy's objective to develop distributed lethality - that is, to put its weaponry on a much larger number of platforms. Historically, the service has relied on high-spec, high-cost destroyers and cruisers to carry the bulk of its anti-surface warfare capability to the

fight. With the advent of hypersonic cruise missiles, anti-ship ballistic missiles, advanced mine warfare and satellite sensing, large manned vessels are getting harder to hide and defend. They are also costly to operate when compared with small, unmanned platforms. A fleet of inexpensive, unmanned, autonomous, missile-carrying boats could augment the fleet's capacity, resolving the long-term budget constraints that hamper its shipbuilding ambitions.



NAVAL BASE VENTURA COUNTY



NORTHROP GRUMMAN'S AARGM-ER REACHES MILESTONE C DECISION, LRIP TO START

Northrop Grumman's AGM-88G Advanced Anti-Radiation Guided Missile Extended Range has successfully achieved a Milestone C decision.

The decision authorizes Northrop Grumman, as the program's prime contractor, to enter into low rate initial production.

The company developed the AARGM-ER under a contract from the U.S. Navy.



The AARGM-ER is launched from a US Navy F/A-18 during a successful live fire test at Point Mugu Sea Test Range, Calif. (Navy photograph)

"The additional capabilities of AARGM-ER, coupled with its high-performance air vehicle, will provide our fleet with the most advanced weapon system to defeat evolving surface-to-air threats," said Capt. A.C. "Count" Dutko, Navy Program Manager for Direct and Time Sensitive Strike. "Our team has continued to prove the maturity of the system and we are confident AARGM-ER is ready to commence low rate production."

This decision enables the start of the production to support future deployment of the AARGM-ER to the fleet and achievement of initial operating capability.

"AARGM, and now AARGM-ER, is a time-critical capability that protects and enhances the capabilities of the U.S. Navy and the evolving threats they encounter," said Gordon Turner, vice president, advanced weapons, Northrop Grumman. "We are honored to continue providing advanced suppression and destruction of enemy air defense products to the warfighters with this significant expansion to our missile prime

business."

AARGM-ER is a major upgrade to the existing AARGM missile, currently in production and fielded with the Navy today.

AARGM-ER is being integrated on the Navy F/A-18E/F Super Hornet and EA-18G Growler aircraft as well as the Air Force F-35A, Marine Corps F-35B, and Navy F-35C aircraft.



NAVAL BASE VENTURA COUNTY

Help us welcome our new Public Affairs Officer, Drew Verbis.

Drew was raised in West Germany. He holds a Master of Arts in Communication and International Relations from the University of Oklahoma. He is a sixth-generation service member, veteran of the War in Afghanistan and currently serves as a Public Affairs Officer in the Navy Reserve. Prior to service he was a radio broadcaster for 15 years. #USNAVY #CHINFO #PAO



NAVAL BASE VENTURA COUNTY



U.S. AIR FORCE ARRW HYPERSONIC MISSILE PROTOTYPE FAILS SECOND TEST WHEN ITS ROCKET MOTOR FAILS TO IGNITE

27 AUG 2021

JOHN KELLER, CHIEF EDITOR
MILITARY & AEROSPACE
ELECTRONICS

VENTURA COUNTY NAVAL BASE, Calif. – The U.S. Air Force conducted its second AGM-183A Air-Launched Rapid Response Weapon (ARRW) booster flight test on July 28, 2021, but, for the second time, it did not go as planned. Business Insider reports.

The Military & Aerospace Electronics take:

27 Aug. 2021 -- The ARRW test missile, designated Booster Test Vehicle 1b (BTV-1b), was released by an Edwards AFB's B-52H Stratofortress over Point Mugu Sea Range but its rocket motor failed to ignite after the separation.

Several objectives were planned for this test, including demonstrating the safe release of BTV-1b and assessing booster performance. While it did not meet all flight objectives, the Air Force said that the test demonstrated several first-time events as the program continues to track

toward fielding a hypersonic capability in the early 2020s. According to the press release, the ARRW missile cleanly separated from the aircraft and successfully demonstrated the full release sequence including GPS acquisition, umbilical disconnection and power transfer from the aircraft to the missile.

Related: Air Force first test of ARRW hypersonic missile fails after failing to launch from A B-52 jet bomber

Related: Lockheed Martin moves forward with hypersonic weapon in Air Force contract worth nearly a billion dollars

Related: Eying adversaries, U.S. military is spending \$15 billion over 10 years on hypersonic weapons development



NAVAL BASE VENTURA COUNTY

COMMANDER, NAVY REGION SOUTHWEST VISITS NAVAL BASE VENTURA COUNTY

NAS POINT MUGU, CA, UNITED STATES
 01.09.2021
 STORY BY ENSIGN DREW VERBIS
 NAVAL BASE VENTURA COUNTY

Ventura County, Calif. (NNS) – Rear Adm. Stephen D. Barnett, commander, Navy Region Southwest toured Point Mugu and Port Hueneme during a visit onboard Naval Base Ventura County (NBVC) AUG. 30, 2021.

Barnett held a 101-brief with staff officers then toured several facilities onboard Point Mugu, including air operations currently supporting a large force exercise (LFE), the proposed MQ-4C Triton UAV facility, and the current Coast Guard Air Station Ventura being constructed, and scheduled to be the branch’s main hub of operations in Southern California, providing round-the-clock support to the region.

”Touring NBVC gives me the opportunity to review the capabilities we have to complete fleet missions and visualize the support I can provide in this effort,” said Barnett. “Being mission ready requires well-maintained assets, and properly trained and proficient Sailors. I observed both in Ventura County.”

Barnett joined chief petty officers and junior officers for lunch at the Mugu Galley before breaking to frock Aviation Boatswain’s Mate (Equipment) 2nd Class Cris Reyes to 1st Class Petty Officer under the Navy’s meritorious advancement program (MAP).

“It was honor to host the regional commander onboard NBVC,” said Capt. Robert “Barr” Kimmach III, commanding officer, NBVC. “His visit provided an opportunity to highlight our growth and introduce him to our military-civilian team accomplishing great work throughout Point Mugu, Port Hueneme, and San Nicolas Island.”



PHOTO BY DREW VERBIS

The tour concluded onboard Port Hueneme as Barnett observed force protection projects, Seabee operations and the future port site of the extra-large unmanned undersea vehicle (XLUUV) prototypes and associated support elements.

Barnett, a native of Columbia, Tennessee assumed

command in July 2021 and is the 53rd commander of Navy Region Southwest.

NBVC is a multi-dominant mission facility operating the world’s largest instrumented sea range. NBVC is home to Point Mugu, Port Hueneme, San Nicolas Island, Laguna Peak, the Pacific Coast Seabees, the Westcoast Hawkeyes, 3 warfare centers, and 80 tenants. It is the largest employer in Ventura County and actively protects California’s largest coastal wetlands through its award-winning environmental programs.



NAVAL BASE VENTURA COUNTY

VENTURA COUNTY NAVY RESERVE WELCOMES NEW COMMANDING OFFICER

PORT HUENEME, CA, UNITED STATES

08.12.21

STORY BY ENSIGN DREW VERBIS

NAVAL BASE VENTURA COUNTY

VENTURA COUNTY, CALIF. (NNS) – Capt. Ronald Martin relieved Capt. George Glaze as the commanding officer of Naval Operational Support Center (NOSC) Ventura County during a change of command ceremony held at Seabee Chapel onboard Port Hueneme, Aug. 12, 2021.

The mission of the Navy Reserve is to provide strategic depth and deliver operational capabilities to the Navy and Marine Corps team and Joint forces, in times of peace or war. As highly trained individuals with interdisciplinary skillsets and as units, Navy Reserve Sailors serve side-by-side with Active Duty counterparts in direct support of the Fleet. This resource was essential during support of the War in Afghanistan and the COVID-19 pandemic.

Capt. Michael Joyner, commander, Navy Region Southwest Reserve Component Command officiated the ceremony while Rear Adm. Robert C. Nowakowski, deputy commander, Navy Recruiting Command, deputy commander, Naval Education and Training Command Force Development, served as the honored guest speaker.

“The job of the NOSC is to ensure our Sailors are warfighting ready at all times,” said Nowakowski. “Are we ready to support the mission? That’s what a commanding officer should be asking; are we ready and how can we make you ready? Inevitably, I can say NOSC Ventura County is ready.”

Glaze was presented with the Legion of Merit for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service as NOSC Ventura County commanding officer from June 2018 to July 2021. The award specifically recognized the fundamental command to maintain warfighter readiness and support operations during the COVID-19 pandemic.

“America has the most powerful and professional fighting force the world has ever known,” said Glaze. “However, it’s not the military that makes us powerful; we serve to protect that what does make us strong; that is freedom. Among the free, only a precious few have chosen to serve in the military. These service members represent the best of what America has to offer and it has been an honor to serve with them.”



PHOTO BY DREW VERBIS

native of Thousand Oaks, Calif., Capt. Ronald Martin received his commission in 1999 after earning a Bachelor of Science in System Engineering from the U.S. Naval Academy. Designated a Naval Aviator in Apr. 2001, he

completed initial fleet training in the P-3C Orion at VP-30, in March 2002. He began his operational flying with Patrol Squadron 45 (VP-45) in Jacksonville, Florida. Completing deployments to Iceland, Puerto Rico, El Salvador, Sicily, Senegal, and other locations in Africa.

“My direction is simple,” said Martin. “We will prepare to mobilize the force, we will lead to win, we will win as a team and that winning starts at home. To the Sailors and civilians of NOSC Ventura County, I promise to lead you with the same strength, resolve and readiness that you have demonstrated in the past. You inspire me to be the best officer and CO I can be.”

The change of command ceremony is a time-honored naval tradition which draws its origins from ancient customs and laws of the sea begun by early seafaring men and women. By custom, this ceremony must be formal and impressive as to strengthen the respect for authority and guarantee that “all hands” personally witness the official passing of command between officers who are duly authorized to assume control.

NOSC Ventura County is onboard Naval Base Ventura County (NBVC). NBVC is a multi-dominant mission facility operating the world’s largest instrumented sea range. NBVC is home to Point Mugu, Port Hueneme, San Nicholas Island, Laguna Peak, the Pacific Coast Seabees, the Westcoast Hawkeyes, 3 warfare centers, and 80 tenants. It is the largest employer in Ventura County and actively protects California’s largest coastal wetlands through its award-winning environmental programs.



NAVAL BASE VENTURA COUNTY

AIR BOSS VISITS NAVAL BASE VENTURA COUNTY, POINT MUGU

POINT MUGU, CA, UNITED STATES
 08.19.2021 STORY BY ENSIGN DREW VERBIS
 NAVAL BASE VENTURA
 COUNTY

Ventura County, Calif. (NNS) – Vice Adm. Kenneth Whitesell, Commander, Naval Air Forces and Naval Air Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, observed several large force exercise (LFE) events at Naval Air Station Point Mugu onboard Naval Base Ventura County (NBVC), Aug. 17, 2021.

Aircraft are operating out of NBVC August 12-30 in support of LFE, a unit-level training effort for U.S. aviators and aircrews.

“The work being done here at NAS Point Mugu is absolutely essential to high-end war fighting,” said Whitesell. “The ability to integrate our aviation platforms and technology across multiple units, services, and geographic locations is the key to distributed military operations.”

During his visit, Whitesell participated in operational briefings, toured multiple testing facilities, and hosted an “all-hands call” for junior officers in the E-2C Hawkeye and E-2D Advanced Hawkeye community.

“NBVC provides a critical strategic location to conduct air and sea training,” said Capt. Kimnach, commanding officer, NBVC. “We strive to provide top-echelon service in support of our tenants who are conducting multiple test events in support of LFE which is critical to train the fleet. It was an

honor to host the Air Boss with the support of the Airborne Command, Control, and Logistics Wing (ACCLOGWING)

to highlight our new technologies and future growth plans at Point Mugu and our indelible partnership with our Navy air community.”

Whitesell took command of Naval Air Forces and Naval Air Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, Oct. 2, 2020 becoming the ninth “Air Boss,” a term used in Navy tradition to describe the fleet’s top aviation officer.

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largest coastal wetlands through its award-winning environmental programs.

“The work being done here at NAS Point Mugu is absolutely essential to high-end war fighting...”



PHOTO BY DREW VERBIS





NSWC PHD

NSWC PHD CELEBRATES 58 YEARS OF SUPPORTING THE WARFIGHTER AND THE FLEET

NSWC PHD celebrated 58 years of supporting the world's greatest Navy on the week of July 5 with several commemorative events during its first-ever so-called Spirit Week including Telework Attire Day, the 58th Anniversary 5K Run and a catered lunch with the workforce.

The warfare center has changed and grown over the years in how it supports the mission and the warfighter, Commanding Officer Capt. Andrew Hoffman told participants during the July 8 luncheon. The command continues to take on new challenges and respond to the Navy's technological needs to ensure Sailors and the fleet are prepared when faced with new and emerging threats.

In thinking back over their time at the command, NSWC PHD employees speak about their work with pride and reference serving a greater call to meet the mission. Many started their careers at NSWC PHD and have stayed until retirement.

Such as Deanna Ruedy, supportability manager, and her husband Gerald Ruedy, technical project manager. Both are celebrating 33 years with the command, and both are retiring this year. Now their daughter, Crystal Ruedy, also works at NSWC PHD as a contract specialist intern.

Ruedy said one of the things she's come to appreciate about working at NSWC PHD is how her co-workers became family, celebrating milestones and important events in her life. "We've grown up with these people," Ruedy said. "These are people we've partied with; we've went to weddings and baby showers, and we've attended picnics with them. We (my husband and I) met at a pig roast at NSWC PHD; his department invited my department."

Kristine Gillespie, management analyst, started working at

NSWC PHD in 1983 as a programmer for the total ship test program. She has grown with the command and spent 15 years with the program, holding different roles. She is now working in human resources and has fond memories, saying said that the mission stands out when she reflects on her career.

"The mission has always made me feel proud for what we do for the fleet and the Sailors," Gillespie said. "I remember going on my first ship, USS Iowa, or Battleship 61, a ship that doesn't deploy anymore (but is now a permanent museum in Los Angeles) and seeing it in dry dock. I was at the bottom of the dry dock of the ship looking up and thought, 'Wow, we make

sure these run safely and do their mission,' and I think that's what is great about this command."

When reflecting on notable changes at the command, Gillespie gave as an example leadership's increasing openness and flexibility when it comes to recruiting talent.

"We're doing many new programs, and I think with the command leadership, we have expanded a lot of

the processes, regulations and flexibilities that we had but never used," Gillespie

said. "And then when former Technical Director Mr. Paul Mann came, we opened up and started taking advantage of a lot of human resources processes that we never used before, things like incentive programs, and we've become much more flexible in how we hire people and how we recruit them."

The COVID-19 pandemic brought many changes to the command's work environment, requiring most of the workforce to quickly adapt from working onsite to teleworking. Human Resources Branch Manager Julissa Simental said the command's flexibility when it comes to the new work



Steven Letus, NSWC PHD electronics engineer, (left) receives the best-dressed award during the NSWC PHD 58th Anniversary 5K Run on July 7 from NSWC PHD White Sands Detachment Cmdr. Colin Monk. (U.S. Navy photo by Dana Rene White / Released).

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NSWC PHD

environment is something she enjoys most about working at NSWC PHD.

I would have to say during the COVID-19 pandemic, we showed the command's ability to quickly take care of its mission, and we also ensured it was taking care of its employees," Simental said. "Although leaders did put the mission first, I did see they leaned on management to ensure that we were allowing our employees maximum flexibility." David Garcia, mechanical engineer, said that while adjusting to the new work environment was difficult at first, his team pushed through successfully.

"The first couple of weeks were rough getting used to the new

telework rhythm, but after a while, I found our team was able to adjust to the new COVID-19 environment, learn and grow from this experience as a whole," Garcia said.

As NSWC PHD continues to ensure the U.S. Navy is underway, combat-ready and effective through its people as the driving force behind the many success stories, Garcia said he appreciates that his work contributes to a prominent cause.

"I like the fact that we get to work directly with the Sailors, and our work has an impact on the Navy fleet," Garcia said. "So I like to see that our work contributes to the warfighter and the mission as a whole."



MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS FROM BOYS & GIRLS OF GREATER OXNARD HUENEME GRADUATE FROM WARFARE CENTER'S SEAPERCH COMPETITION

AUGUST 16, 2021 BY LATASHA BALL, NSWC PHD PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Eleven middle school students from the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Oxnard and Port Hueneme learned hands-on mechanical engineering skills and had some fun while competing recently in this year's SeaPerch Competition at Hueneme High School.

Student teams participating in the program on Aug. 12 each built a small remotely operated vehicle called a SeaPerch submersible with guidance from NSWC PHD and Naval Facilities Engineering and Expeditionary Warfare Center (NAVFAC EXWC) mentors. The teams built their submersibles from remotely operated vehicle (ROV) kits and then raced them against one another through an underwater obstacle course in the high school's pool.

The competition was part of NSWC PHD's Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Educational Partnership Agreement with the local club. The two warfare centers jointly hosted the event.

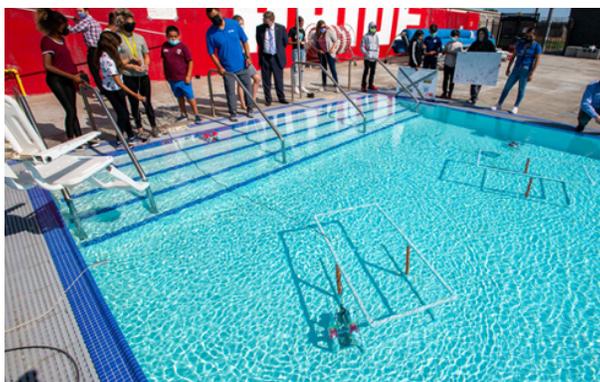
Engineers challenged the 11 students with building the

SeaPerch submersibles to educate them about STEM-focused careers. NSWC PHD equipped the students with mentors and the kits, including common household items such as polyvinyl chloride piping and power cabling, according to Ramon Flores, NSWC PHD STEM coordinator.

NAVFAC EXWC engineers took part in the competition as mentors who critiqued and offered feedback to the students on their projects. Megan Cantrell, NSWC PHD Office of Technology intern, also participated in the program as a mentor and said seeing the students come together to fix technical issues was a memorable experience.

"The SeaPerch Program was great to participate in," Cantrell said. "During the competition, we had a technical issue, and the way they collaborated to resolve the issue in time for the race was amazing to see."

Guided by the NSWC PHD and NAVFAC EXWC mentors, the Electric Eels team won the first race. All participating students received a certificate of completion to commemorate the six-week program.



Teams of students from the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Oxnard and Port Hueneme maneuver their SeaPerch robotic submersibles through an underwater obstacle course to test the skills and performance of their underwater robots. (U.S. Navy Photo by Eric Parsons/Released)

NSWC PHD

NSWC PHD REMEMBERS 9/11 DURING PATRIOT DAY COMMEMORATION



Sailors stand at parade rest during the NSWC PHD Patriot Day Commemoration, held the morning of Friday, Sept. 10 in front of Bldg. 445. The event, which aired live on the command's Facebook page, paid tribute to the nearly 3,000 first responders, members of the military and everyday citizens who lost their lives during the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks in New York City, Washington, D.C., and near Shanksville, Pennsylvania. The Navy built ships to recognize their sacrifices. Three San Antonio-class ships—USS New York, USS Arlington and USS Somerset—are named in honor of the victims of the attacks on the World Trade Center, Pentagon and United Airlines Flight 93, respectively. (U.S. Navy Photo by Eric Parsons/Released)



Kathryn Blanchard, VTC multi-point specialist, participates in the moment of silence in honor of all who perished on 9/11 during the Patriot Day Commemoration at the flagpole at NSWC PHD Friday, Sept. 10. (U.S. Navy Photo by Dana Rene White/Released).



Both uniformed military and civilian personnel gather in front of Building 445 on the morning of Friday, Sept. 10 to hear NSWC PHD Commanding Officer Capt. Andrew Hoffman, above, speak at the Patriot Day Commemoration to recognize the 20th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. Hoffman noted that the current threat environment requires the U.S. Navy to be more adept and ready to face the challenges of the nation's adversaries. "We do that every day at Port Hueneme," he said. (U.S. Navy Photo by Eric Parsons/Released)





FIVE-MONTH ANTX/COASTAL TRIDENT EVENT KICKS OFF WITH SECURITY EXERCISES, MORE TO COME

BY LATASHA BALL, NSWC PHD PUBLIC AFFAIRS

JUNE 28, 2021

BY TERI CARNICELLI, NSWC PHD PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A radiological weapon discovered on a deep-sea oil drilling platform. Local and federal dive teams joining to salvage a sunken ship.

These were two mock scenarios that NSWC PHD personnel assisted in earlier this month as part of the Advanced Naval Technology Exercise and Coastal Trident Port and Maritime Security Program 2021 (ANTX/CT21), which runs from April to September and features discussion-based and operations-based exercises, technical demonstrations and field experiments, all with an eye toward improving the capabilities of the U.S. Navy and its partners to conduct global operations and secure critical maritime infrastructure.

NSWC PHD facilitates the events and conducts them with interagency as well as non-Department of Defense (DOD) partners to accelerate the Navy's knowledge about developing technologies and their ability to fill operational gaps.

Members of the command's Office of Technology (00T) have organized and hosted ANTX/CT since 2017. The ANTX component leverages Coastal Trident, an operational research program the Navy and its partners in the public and private sectors introduced in 2007 to address threats to port and maritime security, such as industrial accidents, natural disasters, acts of terrorism and more.

ANTX creates an interface for sharing technical subject matter expertise with interagency partners at the non-DOD federal level as well as state and local levels, as the Navy may need to rely on these partners in a major incident response scenario.

The focus areas for this year's program are: port and maritime incident response; port security and critical

“NSWC PHD is the lead for planning, execution and evaluation for all ANTX-CT21 activities, so we are directly involved in each,” said Brendan Applegate, ANTX/CT21's lead coordinator and the 00T lead for fleet experimentation”

infrastructure protection; unmanned systems applications; unmanned systems countermeasures; domain awareness and information dominance; maintenance, supportability, and digital engineering; and maritime communications and data links.

“This year's themes are similar to last year, but with several projects added to support validation of a future ANTX program dedicated to maintenance and supportability,” Applegate said.

More than 50 projects and 35 topics will be a part of ANTX/CT21. Among those projects are more than a dozen live exercises.

The first exercise, involving a simulated discovery of a mock radiological weapon, took place June 7-8 at Platform Edith, an oil drilling rig off the coast of Huntington Beach, California. The event looped in personnel from the U.S. Marine Corps' 1st Marine Division, the U.S. Coast Guard's Maritime Security Response Team-West, and the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department. The agencies responded to the scenario aboard the platform with tactical, HAZMAT, bomb squad and dive teams from small boats and helicopters.

NSWC PHD team members supported several field experiments aligned with the exercise, including one that involved health metric/physiological monitoring of

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NSWC PHD

personnel using equipment that Sentinel Occupational Safety Inc. and Aptima Inc. developed. Command personnel also supported the 3D modeling of underwater environments using underwater remotely-operated vehicles Numurus LLC and VideoRay LLC developed.

“NSWC PHD had a central role in this exercise,” Applegate said. “We met with the organizations involved to understand their training and exercise objectives and identify a venue where they could be achieved. We served as the interface between these teams and DCOR, LLC, the owner/operator of Platform Edith, and assisted in development and approval of the necessary agreements for these teams to access the facility and conduct radiological incident response operations.”

NSWC PHD also assisted with evaluating the event and identified opportunities to improve response capabilities, critical infrastructure security capabilities, technology implementation and the overall exercise design for future programs.

More recently, NSWC PHD assisted with organizing and coordinating a field training exercise that Naval Facilities Engineering and Expeditionary Warfare Center (NAVFAC EXWC) led to test the capabilities of federal and local government dive teams when conducting search and salvage operations following a simulated vessel fire. The exercise used a sunken replica of a ship’s berthing area dropped into the water off of Naval Base Ventura County Wharf 5.

The exercise, which took place June 21-24, involved dive teams from NAVFAC EXWC, the Santa Barbara Sheriff’s Department, the Los Angeles City Fire Department and Ventura County Sheriff’s Office, as well as the Los Angeles Port Police Dive Team and the U.S. Coast Guard’s Regional Dive Locker-West. Participants used a diver-augmented vision display, remotely operated underwater vehicles and other unmanned systems to view interior spaces. Those involved also employed sensors for high-resolution underwater surveying and geolocation monitoring.

“Operations below the surface of the sea are inherently married with risk to human life and complications with sophisticated equipment,” said Mark Thompson, NAVFAC EXWC’s Office of Research and Technology manager. “These risks can be mitigated through the collaboration of

this very small and specialized community.”

NAVFAC EXWC was able to share and compare its equipment, safety protocols and inspection procedures with multiple agencies along with its own lessons learned. Senior Chief Jim McVicar of NAVFAC EXWC’s Dive Locker, who led the week’s events, specifically reinforced the necessity of observing diver briefings and systematic equipment checks of other organizations.

“Minor adjustments can prevent dead divers and increase mission accomplishment,” Thompson said.

He added that emerging technologies, like augmented reality devices for divers, could greatly increase the situational awareness of the man in the water, and are also force multipliers as they can send vital images, instructions, videos, navigational data and other useful information down the tether to the diver. These technologies help divers enter a scene quickly, safely and efficiently, Thompson said.

NAVFAC EXWC will participate in additional exercises during ANTX/CT21, including one next month involving an assessment of a partially submerged structure using a drone that can fly, land on water and submerge and be controlled while sub-surface and sending visual data back to the operator. NAVFAC EXWC representatives also will

“NAVFAC EXWC’s Dive Locker is one of the many potential assets available to first responders during major emergencies through the Defense Support to Civil Authorities Program, which broadens their mission beyond the Navy alone,” Thompson said. “Therefore, this cross-training and exposure to emerging technologies becomes vital to an increasingly variable mission set.”

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NSWC PHD

be on hand for the closing event of ANTX/CT21, which is an open house scheduled for Sept. 22-23, when they will present on environmental contaminant recovery technologies and demonstrate atmospheric water extraction technologies.

“The first day of the open house will be virtual to allow for increased participation by organizations not able to travel by September,” Applegate said. “The rest of the activities will be conducted in-person with local COVID-19 guidelines in place.”

Though COVID-19 restrictions impacted last year’s ANTX/CT, Applegate said this year has been smooth sailing so far.

“The way we design Coastal Trident has allowed us to continue the majority of our activities in the midst of COVID-19 restrictions,” he explained. “Only small groups of people are conducting activities in one place. There are some activities, such as tabletop exercises, that we were able to push toward the end of the year, where local and Department of the Navy COVID restrictions will be relaxed.”

The open house has always been a popular event, Applegate said, because participants meet people they don’t usually connect with and can begin building new relationships and possible future collaborations.

Applegate said as new technologies continue to come into play, annual engagements between the Navy and government labs, private industry and academic research organizations allow those entities to share and test emerging technologies so that they can identify and quickly transition to the fleet opportunities relevant to the needs of the Navy.

PORT OF HUENEME

PORT COMMUNITY DRIVES CARRY ON

Working with customers, partners, community and volunteers, the Port continues to hold food distribution events to communities in need. To date, 53 events have been held, 1,060,000 pounds of fresh produce provided, and 38,000 families assisted with food and essential items..



ON-PORT VACCINATIONS CONTINUE

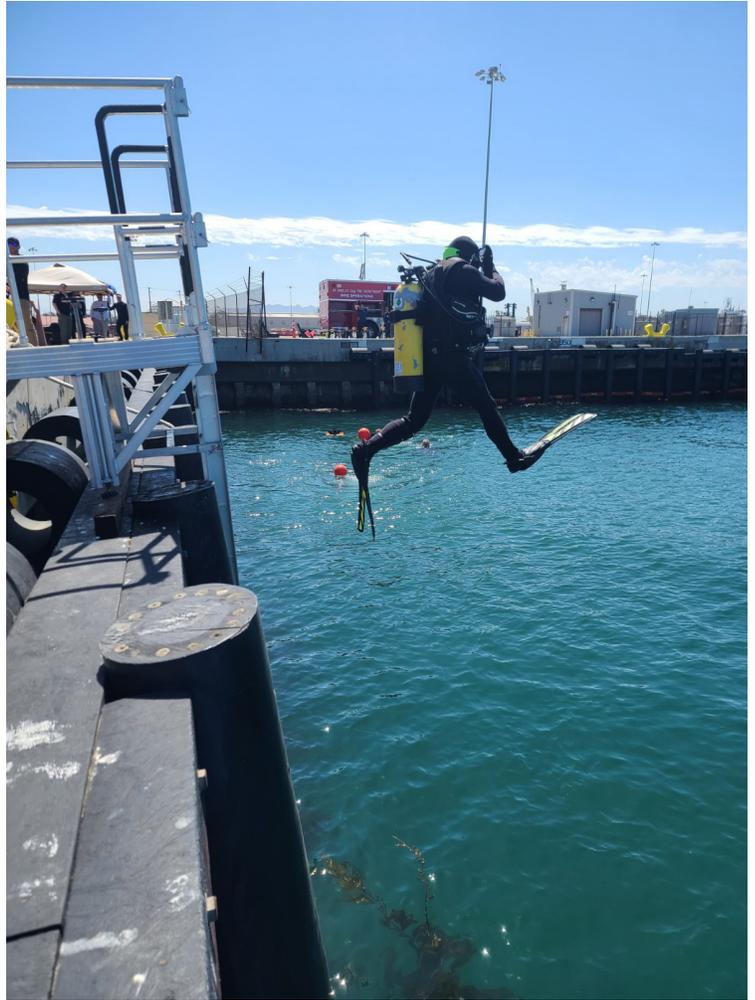
The International Mariner’s Center, Customs and Border Protection, Coast Guard, Port of Hueneme and Ventura County Health Care Agency have been working together to bring the Covid vaccine to crew members on ships docked at the Port.



PORT OF HUENEME

COASTAL TRIDENT 2021 DEMONSTRATES A COLLABORATIVE SUCCESS

Coastal Trident, a series of exercises intended to address the complex nature of threats to port and maritime security, had its largest event yet in its 15 years, involving the participation of more than 25 federal, state, local government, academic, and private sector organizations.



PORT OF HUENEME

PORT HARBOR DEEPENING COMPLETION CELEBRATED

The Port of Hueneme made history celebrating the completion of its deepening project, in the works for over almost two decades. The main harbor channel turning basin and first 1200 feet of the Port’s southern wharf is now at 40 feet. A project feasibility study began back in 1999 by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers who oversaw the process. Naval Base

Ventura County was also instrumental in helping the project move forward. Among the many partners involved in this project are KPFF, Anchor QEA, Anser Advisory, Manson Construction, and Curtin Maritime.



CEC FUNDS PORT’S BLUEPRINT TO BECOME A ZERO-EMISSION HUB

The project, known as SPARC (Sustainable Power Advancement & Resiliency for our Community) was created to chart a pathway to zero emission operations, which is the Port’s overall long-term goal for air quality improvement and climate change adaptation. This was funded in part by the California Energy Commission’s Clean Transportation Program, which invests up to \$100 million annually to support California

communities, increase access to zero-emission vehicle infrastructure, support innovation, and accelerate the deployment of advanced transportation and fuel technologies. The Port will collaborate with the Ventura County Air Pollution Control District (VCAPCD), BREATHE SoCal, the Coalition for Clean Air, and ZE Advisors



UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

COAST GUARD TO BREAK GROUND ON NEW AIR STATION IN VENTURA



SAN PEDRO, Calif. — The Coast Guard is scheduled to break ground for a new facility Tuesday, at naval base Point Mugu for helicopter crews that have been flying out of rented space.

The \$53 million Coast Guard Air Station Ventura is scheduled to include a 48,000-square-foot hangar and a 12,200-square-foot administration and berthing facility at Naval Base Ventura County in Point Mugu.

Four MH-65 Dolphin helicopters and 82 personnel are slated to be stationed at the air station when it opens for operations in August 2023. The hangar can also accommodate four MH-60 Jayhawk helicopters should additional capacity be needed in the future.

Previously, the Coast Guard operated Air Station Los

Angeles out of the Los Angeles International Airport for more than five decades until it lost its lease in May 2016. The Coast Guard officially closed the air station and shifted aviation operations to a Forward Operating Base (FOB) located at Naval Base Ventura County supported by Coast Guard Air Station San Francisco. The Point Mugu FOB operates out of a leased hangar facility and leased berthing space from the Navy. Currently, 13 permanent service members and approximately 11 rotating crewmembers from San Francisco fly two MH-65 Dolphin helicopters out of Point Mugu.

Coast Guard operations are scheduled to shift from the FOB to the new facilities of Air Station Ventura upon the facility's completion.

The air station's area of responsibility covers 350 nautical miles and stretches from Dana Point to Morro Bay, including the Channel Islands. Missions include 24/7 emergency response, search and rescue, drug and migrant interdiction, law enforcement and marine and waterways conservation and protection.

more photos...



Architectural Drawing of New Air Station in Ventura

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD



TOP: Eight officials breaking ground; (RIGHT) speaker Vice Admiral Michael McAllister; and chat time afterwards.

