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The Royal Canadian Navy's longest serving commissioned ship, HMCS Oriole, was re-launched at Point Hope Shipyard last week. The sail training ship underwent a major refit before going back in the water in time to celebrate the ship's Diamond Jubilee this summer. Originally launched as a private yacht for George Horace Gooderham on June 4, 1921, the 91-year-old sailing ketch was commissioned into the Royal Canadian Navy 60 years ago in Halifax on June 19, 1952, and was transferred to the Pacific Fleet in 1954.

Photo by MCpl Angela Abbey, MARPAC Imaging Services



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The old totem rests outside Government House, ready to serve as a model for a new pole.



Photo by Corporal Charles A. Stephen, MARPAC Imaging Services

Tony Hunt Jr., son of master carver Chief Tony Hunt, performs a traditional dance during a blessing ceremony held April 30 at Government House. The traditional blessing marked the beginning of a new 30-foot totem pole being carved on Government House grounds.

The rise of Hosaqami II

Shelley Lipke
Staff Writer

A historical totem pole that had returned to its natural state behind the Chief and Petty Officer's Mess many years ago has been resurrected to serve as inspiration for a new pole.

The well-travelled Hosaqami totem pole,

carved in 1959 by Chief Mungo Martin and gifted by the Canadian navy to the British navy, was gently removed from the foliage by base personnel and transported to Government House.

In celebration of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee, Lieutenant Governor Steven Point and the Government House Foundation commissioned renowned KwaGulth artist Chief Tony Hunt to carve

a replica of the totem pole.

On April 30, the new 30-foot pole was blessed in traditional First Nations fashion to prepare it for carving. Maritime Forces Pacific/Joint Task Force Commander, RAdm Nigel Greenwood placed a piece of cedar bark around his hat and joined in the ceremony.

Throughout the summer on Government House grounds, Chief Hunt will chisel the

dynamic images into the new log. LGov Point will roll up his sleeves and help when time allows. In September, the pole will be raised in front of Government House.

After serving as a model in the creation of a new Hosaqami, the decaying totem will return to the earth; this time at Government House.

Visitors can view the carving process over the next four months.



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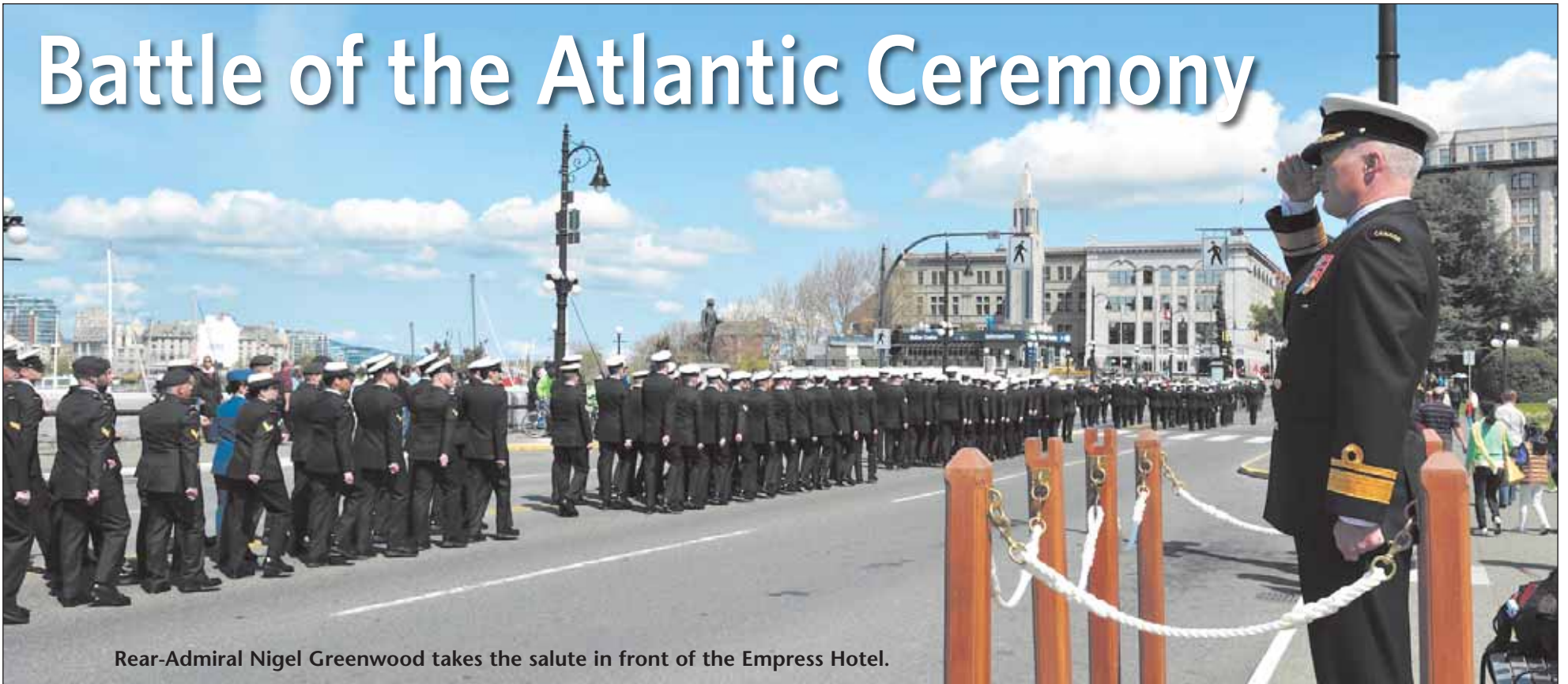
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Battle of the Atlantic Ceremony



Rear-Admiral Nigel Greenwood takes the salute in front of the Empress Hotel.



Four sailor vigils are at the Cenotaph
Photos by Cpl Michael Bastien, MARPAC Imaging Services

Maritime Forces Pacific personnel participated in a Battle of the Atlantic commemorative ceremony on Sunday, May 6. The Battle of the Atlantic secured the supply lines from North America to Great Britain during the Second World War, and ultimately made the allied D-Day invasion possible. For 69 months, the Royal Canadian Navy escorted more than 25,000 ships to Europe from 1939 to 1945. It was the longest, largest and most complex battle of the Second World War. German submarines attacked 22 ships in the St. Lawrence River, some within a short distance of Quebec City. Of the 24 Canadian warships lost, eight went down in coastal waters, including HMCS Esquimalt, on April 16, 1945. The Navy lost 2,300 sailors. Seventy-one Canadian or Newfoundland merchant ships were sunk, and more than 2,200 men and women died. The RCAF lost 700 aircrew.

Faces of The Legion



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Boomer's Legacy looking for endurance readers

The 2012 Boomer's BC Bike Ride is just one month away and more cyclists are needed to fill up the 100 spots for the ride from Comox to Victoria June 15 - 16.

This ride is the cornerstone of the fundraising events in support of Boomer's Legacy, a foundation created in 2006 to bring awareness to the Canadian Force's efforts to help others while on deployed operations around the globe.

Boomer's Ride aims to raise funds that soldiers, sailors and airmen and airwomen can access to further help the people in communities where they serve.

The two-day, 240 kilometer event begins on the Friday outside the gates Canadian Forces Base Comox, and finishes on Saturday in downtown Victoria. Cyclists will ride the entire route individually within a group with provisions, accommodations and the necessary medical and mechanical support provided by the Foundation. Hourly rest stops will be incorporated along the route at approximately every 25 - 35 km.

"Registration is still open for cyclists of all skills and ages to join in," said Maureen Eykelenboom, founder. "We are seeing many repeat riders including our oldest rider, Doug

Yeo, 88; but it is very encouraging to see many new faces joining in this year."

Boomer's Bike Ride unofficially began in 2007 by one military member who rode from Victoria to Comox with the aim of building greater awareness of the Foundation. Since then, the event has grown steadily in the number of participants, pledges and donations. To date, Boomer's Bike Rides have raised more than \$125,000.

The Boomer's Bike Ride also serves to honour military members who have given their lives while serving in Afghanistan. Each cyclist will ride in memory of two fallen soldiers, displaying a picture and bio on their bike. At the finish line on the Victoria Legislative Grounds, cyclists will place their respective soldiers' card upon a memorial wall that will be erected temporarily for the BC Bike Ride ceremony.

Cyclists can register online at www.boomerslegacy.ca. Those who are not keen to cycle, but still wish to be a part of this inspirational event can support the event by volunteering or making pledges and donations. Contact the Foundation to learn more about how to help.

We are also on Facebook at www.facebook.com/boomerslegacy

and Twitter @BoomersLegacy.

For more general information about Boomer's Legacy or, to request an interview contact Mary Lee at marylee@mgginc.info, or via cell at (250) 792-3428.

The MARPAC Nijmegen marching team BOOT DRIVE

There will be a boot drive at the main gate Thursday, May 17 from 6:30-8:30 a.m. to raise money for the Soldier On Program.

The Soldier On contributes to optimizing the functional independence of ill or injured CF personnel or former personnel by delivering programs and services, and facilitating and integrating opportunities that support their full and active participation in physical fitness, health promotion and sport. The Soldier On program, and the complementary Soldier On Fund encourages ill and injured CF personnel to attain and maintain a healthy and active lifestyle, which in turn aids these personnel in increasing their independence, in developing new skills and in achieving goals.

A clean slate for a good cause



Photos by Shelley Lipke, Lookout

LCdr Kathryn Hodgson had her head shaved for Sailors for a Cure - a fundraiser created by PO2 Bruce Bevil (right) in honour of his sister-in-law who is still battling cancer after nine years. All funds raised are donated to Wellspring and Canadian Cancer Foundation charities. LCdr Hodgson raised \$2,250. At the hands of skilled barbers Alex Withers and Floyd's Barber shop owner Scott Attrill, LCdr Hodgson's blonde locks were buzzed. Scott Attrill jokes with a huge saw to the amusement of Cdr Tim Allan.

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Navy transformation changes announced

VAdm Maddison
Comd RCN

Many of you may have heard that important changes were coming for the RCN. Today these changes are being officially announced. These changes include the creation of a new Director Canadian Submarine Force, a national Maritime Component Commander, a new Commander Naval Training System and a Director New Capability Introduction. This is only the first step in our effort to transform the RCN in a more effective and efficient organization.

Today, I announced a number of changes to the RCN that are being implemented as part of CF transformation. Over two years of careful analysis went into the development of these changes, all of which were assessed to be the most important next steps to improve the RCN's ability to deliver on its core mission: to generate mission-ready, combat-capable maritime forces.

These changes are an integral component of CF transformation and were informed fully by DND's broader program and spending reviews. They will serve to keep the RCN fully aligned with the broader DND / CF team and objectives through a period of significant strategic change. They will permit us to continue to operate both at home and abroad as one of the world's best navies, even as we implement the most comprehensive renewal and modernization of our fighting fleet in our peacetime history.

These changes will make us leaner and more efficient in our core business, so we can shift our resources where they are most needed: to deliver the fleet as set out in the Government's Canada First Defence Strategy, which will introduce into service an exciting range of new maritime capabilities that will be as significant to the fleet as was the transition from the venerable quote steamers unquote to today's frigates.

The focus of Navy transformation Bound II is a move towards a quote one-navy unquote model, where the

Navy's core mission processes, including training, readiness and new capability introduction, are realigned around new pan-naval authorities, as follows:

- Resident in MARPAC, a new Director Canadian Submarine Force (DCSF) will oversee all aspects of submarine force generation, sustainment, and operations;
- The role of a national Maritime Component Commander (MCC), resident in MARLANT, is being formalized to provide advice and support to the CF's operational commands (force employers) on all aspects of the command and control of deployed naval assets on international taskings. The national MCC will also establish and maintain key relationships with the Strategic Joint Staff (SJS), First Canadian Air Division and other operational commands. Regional MCCs in both MARPAC and MARLANT will continue to command naval assets on national taskings within their respective areas of responsibility;
- A new Commander Naval Training System (CNTS) is being established as we consolidate our five naval schools into a single Naval Training System. That authority will be assigned to DGNP;
- Personnel Coordination Centres (PCCs), already established in MARLANT and MARPAC, will also be brought under the authority of DGNP on a pan-naval basis. Among their more crucial roles, the PCCs will manage the efficient employment of personnel in the fleet through the intensive period of transition that includes the modernization, introduction and / or replacement of 4 separate classes of warship, getting the right sailor, with the right qualification and the right experience, to the right platform at the right time;
- Scheduling and readiness management functions currently duplicated in MARPAC and MARLANT will be consolidated through the creation of a single Fleet Scheduling and Readiness Management Authority. Resident in MARLANT, this officer will be responsible, on a pan-naval basis, for naval readiness standards and processes, as

well as the coordination of fleet schedules;

- Responsible to DGMFD but resident in MARPAC, a Director New Capability Introduction (DNCI) will be created to serve as a focal point for pan-naval coordination of activities associated with the introduction of new platforms and capabilities into fleet service, including the modernized frigates, Arctic and Offshore Patrol Ships, and the Joint Support Ships;

Transformation is not a destination. It's a journey, a process and culture of continuous renewal and improvement, informed by a clear vision of what we need to do today, as well as what we must eventually become. In relation to the challenges of the former, staffs in Ottawa and in the Formations have begun to examine other aspects of RCN business that will emerge as new thrusts for follow-on bounds of CF transformation. In relation to the challenges of the latter, we are looking not only at what type of future fleet Canada needs but also what type of leaders and sailors we need to produce, as well as what type of institution we must become as part of a joint and integrated Canadian Forces and defence team.

Over the past two years, much of the focus of our work was centred on senior staffs in Ottawa and in the Formations. The results have now arrived at the waterfront, to make us better at our core business, the goal towards which you labour with such dedication and commitment: getting our ships to sea and keeping them there, quote ready, aye ready unquote for the work our nation calls upon us to do. Many of you may see change right away. Many more will begin to see change only as new capabilities begin to arrive into the fleet, but today we are one step closer to that quote one navy unquote that I described in my Comd's Guidance at ref A, one step closer to the new fleet and the modern sailor, as together we build tomorrow's RCN.

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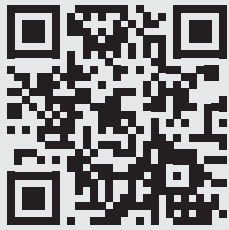
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Photo by Shelley Lipke, Lookout
Indy Bran, Business Manager at Victoria Hyundai, stands beside a 2012 Elantra Touring car that will be given away in a draw for one lucky DND member.

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Raffle target DND Community

Shelley Lipke
Staff Writer

Two former military members, turned car salesmen, are hoping to get some goodwill mileage from a car raffle offered only to the defence team.

Victoria Hyundai has set aside one 2012 Elantra Touring Hyundai for a draw to take place two days before Christmas.

The silver car is being gifted exclusively to one member of the defence team,

pulled randomly from the entries on Dec. 23. The raffle is open to military, DND civilian employees and veterans.

Victoria Hyundai General Sales Manager Macon Doublet, a retired Corporal who served in Afghanistan, says the loyal customer base and the sacrifices of all who put Canada above self, are what prompted them to give back.

"We appreciate what they do and this is our opportunity to show our thanks," he said. "And for me, a big

part of becoming general manager was due, in part, to military support."

The car, which will be specially wrapped with military-themed art, will be on base during the Navy 10K, Formation Fun day, and the Industrial Trade Show.

People can fill out a ballot at these event, or drop by Victoria Hyundai's showroom at 525 Gorge Road.

"We encourage everyone to enter our draw," said Doublet.

There is no purchase necessary to enter the draw.

New base motorcycle club

Are you a motorcycle enthusiast with a zest for riding?

The focus of the new base motorcycle club is three-fold: to promote the social aspect of group riding through avenues such as group-ride activities; to assist in self-help repair by providing limited repair shop facilities and equipment (bike hoist, and fully kitted tool kit); and to provide rider mentorship for new riders from experienced riders to hone skills in preparation for the motorcycle skills or

Class 6 road tests, or even just to enhance your everyday skill sets through road riding activities.

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New monument a tribute to RCN's proud history

Darlene Blakeley

Navy Public Affairs, Ottawa

Under grey skies with Parliament Hill providing the backdrop, Prime Minister Stephen Harper unveiled the Royal Canadian Navy Monument on Richmond Landing in Ottawa May 3. The monument pays homage to the hundreds of thousands of Canadian sailors who served Canada during the navy's first century of existence.

The Prime Minister was accompanied by Peter MacKay, Minister of National Defence, General Walter Natynczyk, Chief of the Defence Staff, and Vice-Admiral Paul Maddison, Commander of the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN).

"For more than 100 years, members of the Royal Canadian Navy have served our country with pride, bravely defending national waters and promoting freedom, democracy, human rights and the rule of law around the world," said Prime Minister Harper. "The Royal Canadian Navy Monument is a tribute to our navy's proud history and a reminder that members continue to put themselves in harm's way every day for the good of our great country."

In true navy tradition, the monument was officially named by a member of the service during the dedication ceremony. Elsa Lessard, 89, who served in the Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service during the Second World War, christened the monument by breaking a bottle of nylon-wrapped champagne over its prow.

"While there are other memorials across the nation dedicated to those who lost their lives during various periods of conflict," the Prime Minister said, "this monument demands that the navy's full story be told and understood, and serves as a reminder to all Canadians that the navy is always there – over the horizon – today as in the past at the first sign of trouble to say 'Ready Aye Ready' in the service of our great country, as it says there on the west face of this striking design."

VAdm Maddison likened the monument to a warship at sea: "This monument brings to mind the strength and flair of one of our warships under way with a bone in her teeth, at speed, crewed by ordinary Canadians doing extraordinary things in enabling and defending Canada's national interests at sea."

He added that the monument "tells the story of a ceaseless vigil that successive generations of Canadians have maintained these 100 plus years at sea and ashore, and from which we who serve today draw our inspiration to excel."

Jointly sponsored by the National Capital Commission and the RCN to mark the navy's centennial, the Royal Canadian Navy Monument was designed by artist Al McWilliams, and architects Joost Bakker and Bruce Haden, all from Vancouver. The monument, which is located in the heart of Canada's Capital Region, will act as a lasting tribute to Canada's navy – both past and present.



Above: Peter MacKay, Minister of National Defence; Prime Minister Stephen Harper; General Walter Natynczyk, Chief of the Defence Staff; and Vice-Admiral Paul Maddison, Commander of the Royal Canadian Navy, stand in front of new Royal Canadian Navy Monument.




Elsa Lessard, left, takes great pleasure in christening the new Royal Canadian Navy Monument as Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Master Seaman Stephanie Comeau-Savoie look on.

Photos by Jacek Szymanski

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Legion supports cancer patient

Shelley Lipke
Staff Writer

Veterans at the Esquimalt Legion have arranged to use money raised through their poppy fund to help former CFB Esquimalt clerk Jaylene Gammon.

Gammon is undergoing treatment for two types of cancer: a blood disorder

and breast cancer. She isn't healthy enough to have a double mastectomy, so her doctor prescribed supplements to make her strong enough for surgery.

The government has agreed to pay for \$205 of the \$250 per month cost of the supplement and the Legion will cover the remaining expense for

Gammon.

"Our Esquimalt poppy fund and the Victoria poppy fund decided to co-pay for the supplements to prepare her for this operation, and continue to pay after her operation to make her well again," says Doug Grant Royal Canadian Legion Esquimalt Dockyard Branch 172 Secretary Manager.

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Get ready to have a ball

Shelley Lipke
Staff Writer

It's been two years since the last prestigious event that required the military and civilian community to haul out their shoe polish, Mess Dress or best "bib and tux" and glitzy gowns.

But another opportunity to socialize in a prominent manner has come about – the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Naval Ball, hosted by LGov Steven Point at Government House.

There are only 400 tickets available for the June 2 event.

"This Ball is a fitting way for the Royal Canadian Navy and the Lieutenant Governor to celebrate Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee and Canada's enduring connection to the Crown," said Col (Ret'd) James Hammond, Executive Director of Government House and Private Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor.


From 7 p.m. to midnight, in the company of LGov Point, this event will commemorate the 1897 Ball and celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

A ball was hosted at Government House in 1897 by former Lieutenant Governor Edgar Dewdney to celebrate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee.

"Hosting a ball to celebrate Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee carries on this tradition," said Col (Ret'd) Hammond.

The event includes a stand up dinner followed by an evening of dancing to the music of the full Naden Band of Maritime Forces Pacific, and features a silent auction to benefit the Military Family Resource Centre (MFRC.)


Dress for this event is Mess Dress or N2 with civilians in black tie with miniature decorations. Tickets sell for \$100 each with net proceeds benefitting the MFRC. To order tickets phone 250-363-3050.



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MFRCNEWS



Relocation goes virtual

Shelley Lipke
Staff Writer

The Esquimalt Military Family Resource Centre (MFRC) has created a national website that unites military families with local resources in order to ease the relocation process.

The Family Navigator website provides surfers with information on housing, employment, education, health care, child care and relocation services in various communities across Canada.

"The nice thing is the site is always being changed and upgraded to meet the needs of the community," says Colleen Cahoon, MFRC family navigator coordinator. "Each local MFRC has a connection to the program, so the site can be tailored to their needs."

The site features an e-tool for navigating moves; it walks people through the planning stages of the move, and deals with imposed restriction moves.

"We have just added a feedback section and are encouraging people to fill out an online survey on assessing the family navigator program," said Cahoon.

See www.familynavigator.ca for more details.

Winner takes all

CFB Kingston's Bruno Mathieu was the lucky national contest winner of the 2011 Win Them All and Play Contest, presented by CANEX and The Personal Insurance Company.

Mathieu was awarded his \$50,000 cheque on March 7. Mathieu served with the Canadian Forces for 23 years before accepting a position as Fire Chief at CFB Kingston, where he lives with his wife, Kelly and his two children Vanessa and Sophia.

The \$50,000 prize package was created to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of a partnership between CANEX and The Personal to "support those who serve."

The Ultimate Sports Fan Contest 2012

The Personal has just launched their latest contest - The Ultimate Sports Fan Contest valued at \$20,000. Any authorized CANEX patron including serving and retired CF members, employees and retirees of DND and Non-Public Funds who are already insured with The Personal are automatically entered to win, and those who aren't can request a home or auto insurance quote on or before Dec 31, 2012, for a chance to win. Entrants are also eligible to win one of 20 \$200 CANEX gift cards, which are awarded through-

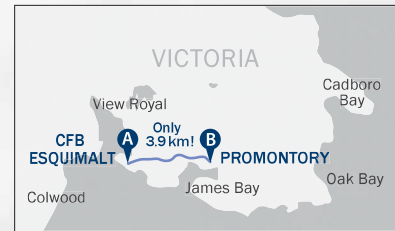
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U.S. Navy photo by Chief Photographer's Mate Edward G. Martens

USNS *Mercy* started out as an oil tanker before undergoing a massive conversion into a hospital ship. Providing rapid, flexible and mobile acute medical and surgical support, the ship has become the centerpiece of the largest humanitarian civic action mission in the Asia-Pacific region. Pacific Partnership 2012 (PP12), is a four-month deployment that will see it visit Indonesia, the Philippines, Vietnam, and Cambodia.

USNS *Mercy* shows the softer side of naval power

Dan Baart
Office of the Asia Pacific Advisor

The hospital ship USNS *Mercy* was due to depart San Diego on May 1 for

Pacific Partnership 2012 (PP12), a four-month deployment that will see her visit four countries in Southeast Asia. Now in its seventh year, the Pacific Partnership program is a highly-successful exercise that has increased the profile of the United States, its navy, and its foreign policy goals, while lending life-altering assistance to thousands of people in need.

Known as the largest humanitarian civic action mission in the Asia-Pacific region, PP12 is scheduled to visit Indonesia, the Philippines, Vietnam, and Cambodia. *Mercy* boasts a fully-equipped medical facility, which will be used to treat some patients, while others will be assisted on shore by the extended mission teams of medical and dental professionals. Veterinary and engineering teams will also work to improve local infrastructure and community health projects. While some residents will benefit from specialist medical care, others will be assisted through capacity building activities designed to improve common services like medical clinics and drinking water systems.

Though Pacific Partnership missions have provided life-improving support to thousands of disadvantaged communities throughout its seven year history, it should be recognized that these activities also play an important strategic and diplomatic role. Navies remain the principal means for most countries to display their military and political power on

an international scale. This is because warships are relatively easy to move from one side of the world to the other, and naval vessels are a means of showing the diplomatic intentions of a government, whether they are firing on other vessels, blockading ports, or supporting humanitarian relief operations in disaster zones.

The Pacific Partnership mission is an example of a 'soft power' exercise; it is an attempt to gain international support through positive acts of cooperation and development, rather than the 'hard power' application of threats or force used in times of war. Navies are extremely well suited to either task. Though the most immediate objective of the Pacific Partnership mission is to render assistance to local communities and foster better cooperative responses to natural disasters, the underlying motivation is to portray the United States and its military as a constructive influence in regional affairs.

A major part of this positive image is the cooperative nature of American diplomacy. Like past missions, PP12 is an international effort involving participants from eleven other countries. Two teams of 15 Canadian Forces Health Services personnel will be participating during staggered deployments, lending support in the form of specialized medical and dental care. Australia, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Peru, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Singapore, South Korea, and Thailand will also be contributing, and the gov-

ernments of the countries visited will be heavily invested in deciding which projects to target with the resources provided.

Altogether, this is designed to show that the United States and its allies are a positive force in maintaining security against natural disasters and military threats alike. It shows a dedication to assisting regional partners, and lending assurances that help will be available in times of crisis. While not explicitly targeted to counter the influence of any one state - China is the one most often mentioned, much like the Soviet Union was earlier - such activities are also structured to demonstrate the appeal of the American and western view of the international environment, which strives to promote democracy and transparency in government, and cooperation and development in international affairs.

Despite these underlying strategic motivations, the dedicated personnel embarked on such missions are more likely to focus on the good work they are doing to help people in need. This assistance will better the lives of ordinary people, while at the same time helping to advance the cause of democracy, security, and international cooperation.

The Office of the Asia Pacific Advisor provides unclassified daily news summaries on security events around the world. Email Ashley.Milburn@forces.gc.ca to sign up.

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HMCS Charlottetown looms in the background as a boarding party team comes alongside a dhow boat after a ScanEagle Unmanned Aerial Vehicle spotted a suspicious cargo exchange between the boat and another skiff.



Photo by LT(N) Darren Puttock, DND-MDN

HMCS Charlottetown intercepts narcotics shipment

Lt(N) Jessica MacDonald
HMCS Charlottetown
 "UAV flying stations."

The pipe echoed throughout *HMCS Charlottetown*.

A small boat in the vicinity of the Canadian warship was suspected of illegal activity, and the ScanEagle Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) was being sent to investigate.

On May 5, during its first couple of days operating with Combined Task Force 150 (CTF150), *Charlottetown* successfully intercepted a narcotics shipment in the Gulf of Aden, and the UAV played a key role in the operation.

"The patrol area is difficult to search because it is so vast – 2.5 million square miles of international waters," said Lt(N) Ian Bilodeau, Above Water Warfare Officer on *Charlottetown*. "The vessels that we are searching for are so small they can be difficult to pick up on our radars – it's like searching for a needle in a haystack. However, the UAV – with its incredible stealth and operating endurance – was able to covertly look at a large piece of the haystack, zoom in with incredible detail and determine that a vessel was suspicious."

The UAV located the skiff (smaller boat typically with an outboard motor) and gave command eyes on the contact to make an assessment of suspicious activity. *Charlottetown's* CH-124 Sea King was sent to search and locate the dhow (larger fishing-type vessel commonly used for transporting goods in the region) to continue to investigate the developing situation.

"When the ship gave us permission to go overt and proceed to the vessels they were already exchanging packages," said Maj David Holmes, Air Officer on the ship and one of the pilots who was flying during the

operation. "We gathered intelligence and then the vessels left in opposite directions."

The skiff continued on a course towards *Charlottetown* when it realized it was heading toward a warship, the crew began rapidly dumping the cargo. The helicopter was able to retrieve two packages from the water and *Charlottetown's* rigid-hulled-inflatable boat retrieved the remaining eight packages. All packages contained a total of 270 kilograms of hashish.

Later, *Charlottetown* conducted a board-

ing on the suspicious dhow. The boarding team established the vessel to be stateless and carried on with an extensive search of the vessel under Canadian Law.

"By being here we are making a difference," emphasizes Cdr Wade Carter. "Ninety per cent of global trade is conducted by sea. The world depends on maritime shipping to transport vital supplies such as food and fuel. Operations such as these help ensure that maritime security is maintained by ensuring that profit isn't made by harmful

substances and that these activities do not become a conduit for facilitating terrorism."

This year alone, CTF 150 has seized nearly 700 kilograms of illegal narcotics with an estimated value of nearly \$50 million. "Although our mission here is much the same as it was in the Med – to participate in maritime security and counter-terrorism – we're now in a tougher neighbourhood," said Cdr Carter. "I'm proud of how my crew reacted to this drug interdiction operation. They put their training to the test and executed our plan seamlessly."

U.S. Navy Captain John Carter, Chief of Staff, Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) commented, "As a CTF-150 asset, *HMCS Charlottetown* unquestionably demonstrated the awesome and cohesive reach that a 26-nation maritime partnership can achieve in support of preserving the inviolate security of the globe's critical sea lines of communication, and deterring and disrupting the illegal narcotics trade."

Charlottetown deployed from Halifax, on Jan 8. From Jan 24 until April 20, she operated with NATO allies participating in Operation Active Endeavour in the Mediterranean Sea. Recently, *Charlottetown* was re-tasked to new area of operation and began working with CTF 150, one of three Task Forces within CMF.

CMF is a multi-national naval partnership, which exists to promote security, stability and prosperity across approximately 2.5 million square miles of international waters in the Middle East, which encompass some of the world's most important shipping lanes. The presence of *Charlottetown* in the Arabian Sea region operating with CTF 150 also gives Canada the flexibility and capability to respond quickly to emerging crises in the region.



Photo by Cpl Ronnie Kinnie, FIS Halifax

Top Left: The boarding party conducts a search of the suspect dhow boat while a Sea King helicopter provides cover.

Top Right: A skiff departs from alongside a dhow boat after an illicit cargo exchange before both vessels were intercepted.

Above: A photo of the sacs of drugs that were pulled from the ocean after being thrown from the skiff once those on board realised they were headed straight towards a warship.

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Infantry soldiers from The Canadian Scottish Regiment (Princess Mary's), from Victoria British-Columbia, line-up during a platoon attack in the Orchard Combat Training Center in Boise Idaho during Exercise Cougar Salvo.

Excitement builds in Idaho

Capt Howard Hisdal
Contributor

Approximately 600 Army Reservists from 39 Canadian Brigade Group, including members of Vancouver Island units, participated in tactical manoeuvre and live fire scenarios during 39 Canadian Brigade Group's Exercise *Cougar Salvo*.

This week-long exercise took place from April 28 to May 5, at Gowen Field and the Orchard Combat Training Center, near Boise, Idaho.

The event was designed to develop soldiers' and leaders' skills at all levels in a realistic and challenging environment in order to retain their skills, and strengthen readiness for future operations. The Army Reservists from Vancouver Island represented the 5th (British Columbia) Field Regiment,

Royal Canadian Artillery; The Canadian Scottish Regiment (Princess Mary's), who are celebrating their 100th anniversary this year; 39 Signal Regiment; and 39 Service Battalion.

While integral to the Canadian Forces Health Services, members of Victoria's 11 Field Ambulance frequently support and train with the Army.

For example, MCpl Adam Goulet, a veteran of 13 Cougar Salvos and two overseas tours, was very happy to train medics in the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Simulator (MRAPS) vehicle roll-over simulator. There is no equivalent training device in Canada, to his knowledge.

"I think the troopers really enjoyed it," said MCpl Goulet. "This has been one of the most elaborate cougar salvos I have done, and

on the whole it's been a really good experience working with the National Guard."

In addition to the Reserve soldiers who comprised the primary training audience, approximately 90 Arizona Army National Guardsmen and 100 additional Canadian Forces personnel (including several from CFB Esquimalt) supported the exercise logistically. Members of the Vancouver and Calgary police forces provided an opposing force (OPFOR) complement to strengthen realism.

"We chose Gowen Field and its nearby Orchard Combat Training Center due to their modern ranges and training areas, logistical accessibility, and other important advantages. These enabled us to make the most effective and efficient use of our soldiers' limited time here in order

Continued on page 14



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Left: Medics from 11 Field Ambulance received a briefing before they entered the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) roll-over simulator. These combat medics use the simulator to practice emergency response in the event of a vehicle roll-over.

Right: American soldiers from the Arizona Army National Guard train with Canadian soldiers from the 39 Canadian Brigade Group of the Army Reserve in B.C. at the Orchard Combat Training Area during a joint-exercise

Excited in Idaho Continued from page 12

to conduct relevant and exciting training," explained Colonel Bryan Gagne, Brigade Commander. "By all accounts, this exercise has been a tremendous success, and an important step in strengthening our field firing and tactical skills while building our professional relations among regional Canadian and American Reserve and Regular Force military organizations." Since 2006, Army Reservists from 39 Canadian Brigade Group, which incorporates a strong complement from Vancouver Island, have fulfilled approximately 500 voluntary individual rotations to Task Force Afghanistan. Others have supported

Domestic Operations, including Operation Podium - the military support to the RCMP for the security of the 2010 Vancouver Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, which came under the command of Joint Task Force Games, based at CFB Esquimalt. The skills gained during Exercise Cougar Salvo, International and Domestic Operations, and other Reserve commitments extend well beyond the military environment. Approximately 30 civilian organizational leaders, primarily employers of Reservists, visited the exercise to witness the culminating tactical scenario and observe the troops in action,

and to gain an appreciation of their leadership and other skills that can be invested in their civilian workplaces and communities. The next major Army Reserve exercise in western Canada, Exercise Western Defender, will take place in Wainwright in August 2013. Army Reservists from 39 Canadian Brigade Group will be able to further strengthen their skills developed during Exercise Cougar Salvo 12. Captain Howard Hisdal is a Primary Reserve officer in The British Columbia Dragoons in Kelowna, and a history professor at Okanagan College in his civilian career.

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Above: Sailors from HMCS Vancouver received the Lockheed Martin Electronic Warfare award for the highest quality of intercepts during Op Unified Protector/Mobile. Lt(N) Dean Lang from the Naval Electronic Warfare Centre presented the award on April 25.

Right: HMCS Vancouver's Commanding Officer, Cdr Dave Mazur accepted the Flight Safety for Professionalism award on April 30 from Col Yvan Choiniere, Director of Flight Safety. This was the third time a Canadian navy ship received this award. During Op Unified Protector/Mobile the ship and crew took actions to safely recover the Sea King Helicopter after an in-flight emergency was reported while on patrol over Libya.



Vancouver's actions garner awards

Shelley Lipke
Staff Writer

Two months after *HMCS Vancouver* returned from its seven-month deployment on NATO's counter terrorism mission in the Mediterranean Sea, the crew received two awards for their actions while abroad.

For the third time in history, the Flight Safety for Professionalism award was presented to a Royal Canadian Navy ship.

On Sept. 30, 2011, the captain and crew of *Vancouver* brought the ship to emergency flying stations in record time when they learned the ship's embarked Sea King helicopter was experiencing an intermediate gearbox emergency while on a patrol flight over the Gulf of Sirte, off the coast of Libya. Cdr Bradley Peats changed course and increased *Vancouver's* speed in order to minimize the aircraft recovery time.

"Our response had to be quick to get the helicopter back to the ship before the gearbox failed," explained Executive Officer, LCdr Ryan Tettamanti. "We came to maximum speed to close the helicopter, while the helicopter continued to close the ship."

The ship closed up in four minutes and 30 seconds compared to the fleet standard of six minutes.

"Everybody knew it was the real thing because the ship didn't conduct drills while we were on patrol. There was a very real risk of the helicopter conducting an emergency landing on the ocean - a risky manoeuvre - and the mood on the ship was tense, but at the same time professional. We had trained very hard before entering theatre, so our response was automatic," said LCdr Tettamanti.

Within minutes the helicopter safely landed on the flight deck.

"The speed, precision and enthusiasm of the entire crew enabled them to accomplish this emergency landing safely," said Col Yvan Choiniere, Director of Flight Safety who presented the award on board *Vancouver* April 30.

The other award came from Lockheed Martin.

Each year the Lockheed Martin Electronic Warfare award is presented to the Royal Canadian Navy ship with the highest quality of electronic intercepts.

Vancouver nearly doubled what ships normally intercept, and on April 25 Lt(N) Dean Lang from the Naval Electronic Warfare Centre (NEWC) presented this award to the Naval Electronic Sensor Operator (NESOP) section of *Vancouver's* combat department.

When Canadian warships are on patrol, their duties include reporting electronic information collected on other vessels radars that are in the area. This information is

analyzed and added to the NATO databank at the Naval Electronic Warfare Centre (NEWC) in National Defence Headquarters.

"We collected and submitted over 160 electronic intercepts. I think what set us apart was the quality of the intercepts. Normally the success rate on a collection is 50 per cent, but in our case it was more like 80 per cent. The reason for the great success is really attributed to a close liaison our NESOPs had with NEWC and their ability to correct any problems with the submitted intercepts on short notice," said LCdr Tettamanti. "It is a very prestigious award that I think is not only attributed to the NESOP's on board, but also to the professionalism of the entire ship in the way that we conducted business off the coast of Libya."

While on their deployment, the crew also earned a Triple Crown Spirit Award for fundraising more than \$66,000 for the Government of Canada Workplace Charitable Campaign (GCWCC). In less than seven days they raised this amount with 60 sailors donating more than \$500 and three donating more than \$2,400 each.

Vancouver's crew is ramping up for a busy season that includes Task Force Group Exercise (TGEX), a Canada Day namesake visit to Vancouver's port, and more than 100 sea days scheduled between now and late November.




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Bravo ZULU



Pictured here is the graduating class of Nav Comm CISN OP, session 0039, which ran from Nov. 11, 2011 - April 26, 2012, (instructor PO2 Peter Boechler graduating course).

The top student was AB Bryce Mcauley. Students names: LS John Christian J.A., LS Tamas Harmati T., LS Mike Oliver M.W.G, LS Cory Dean C.D., AB Humphrey R.J., AB Jason Rupke J.D., AB Brandon Morton B.C, AB Robinson G.W., AB Bruce Ackland B.J.R, AB Bryce Mcauley B.M., and AB Aaron Hartleib A.J.



Pictured here is the graduating class of Nav Comm JR CISN OP, session 0108, which ran Jan. 10 - April 20, (instructor MS Maxime Brassard graduating course). The top student was OS Carey Ho. Students names: OS Carey Ho CS, OS Michael Muraca MB, OS Michael Cain MJ, OS Whitmell KJ, OS Graham JD, OS Tressider SG, OS Gould NR, OS Boucher AP, OS Beresnyev SO, OS Joseph Robillard JRV, and OS Moses CRJ.



PO1 Brendon Warwaruk received his promotion to PO1 from Cdr Martin Drews and CPO1 Paul Boynton, May 7 at CFFSE. PO1 Warwaruk, Nav Comm, is currently a PLQ instructor at CFFSE SEA Division. He will be posted to HMCS Algonquin on May 21 where he will assume the duties as the Senior Naval Communicator.



CPO1 Stephane Lesperance received his promotion to CPO1 from Cdr Martin Drews and LCdr Kathleen Thaler May 1 at CFFSE. CPO1 Lesperance, Advisor for Naval Communicators, is currently the Communication Training Chief at CFFSE. He was posted May 14 to the Primary Leadership Academy as the new PLQ CPO.



PO2 Richard Dubois received his commission to SLt from Cdr Martin Drews and LCdr Sebastien Richard May 2 at CFFSE. SLt Dubois is currently awaiting Phase VI NCS Eng Trg.



RAdm Nigel Greenwood presents Capt(N) Don Smith with his CD2.



Cadet Chief Warrant Officer Kelden Edwards (centre) is presented with the Major Sam Meckbach Award of Excellence recognizing him as the top army cadet from British Columbia on the Cadet Parachute Course last summer at Canadian Forces Base Trenton, Ontario. Making the presentation are, left, Commander Stan Bates, Commanding Officer of Regional Cadet Support Unit (Pacific) and Colonel (Ret'd) Phil Sherwin, President Army Cadet League of Canada, B.C. Branch



Rear-Admiral Nigel Greenwood presents the CPO1/CWO scroll to CPO1 Thomas Gregory from CFB Esquimalt BOR. CPO1 Gregory will deploy to Afghanistan for one year in July.



MS Randy Sulyma and Maj James Pierotti show the epaulettes of newly promoted MS Josee Sulyma.



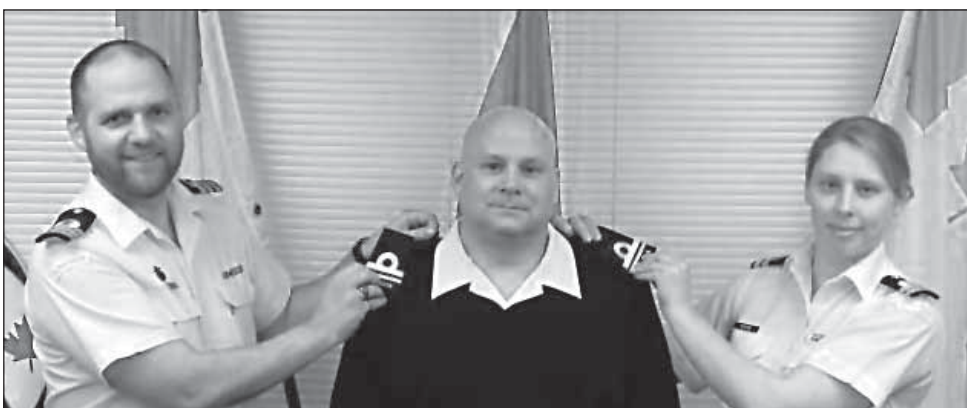
Lt Ivona Dukic was promoted to Captain by Cdr Tim Allan, BADMO, and Lt(N) Katy Rainville.



Lt(N) France Lachapelle is promoted by LCdr Carolyn Ensing, CO MARPACHQ, and CPO1 Dennis McMillan, MARPACHQ UCPO.



PO2 Todd Wright is promoted to Petty Officer First Class by Capt(N) Donald Smith and CPO2 Graham McLeod from FMF Cape Breton.



PO2 Douglas Totten is Commissioned from the ranks to Sub-Lieutenant effective April 18. Promoting him are Cdr Daniel Riis and Lt(N) Sarah Roberge. His new trade is Naval Combat Systems Engineer.

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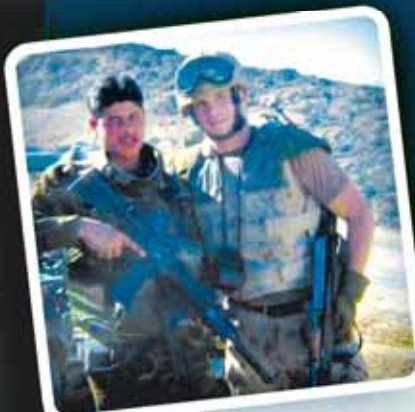


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