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Volume 62 Number 48 | December 4, 2017

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## HMCS Nanaimo helps in drug bust



Members of HMCS Nanaimo transfer cocaine bales seized from a suspected smuggling vessel, in collaboration with a United States Coast Guard Law Enforcement Detachment, during Operation Caribbe on Nov. 22.



A Boatswain onboard HMCS Nanaimo operates the helm during Operation Caribbe. For security reasons, sailors on Operation Caribbe cannot be identified.

### DND

HMCS Nanaimo and crew assisted in the interception of 1,511 kgs of cocaine on the eastern Pacific Ocean two weeks ago.

Nanaimo, a Maritime Coastal Defence Vessel operating as part of Operation Caribbe and carrying members of the U.S.

Coast Guard Law Enforcement Detachment, intercepted a vessel about 400 kilometres north of the Galapagos Islands on Nov. 21.

The 77 bales of cocaine was in an 11-metre panga.

The four people on board were apprehended and transferred to a USCG cutter operating in the area.

The estimated street value of the cocaine is \$50 million U.S.

Nanaimo has been operating in the Eastern Pacific as part of Operation Caribbe since Oct. 16 and will conclude in December.

The operation is Canada's component to a U.S.-led anti-drug trafficking operation known as Operation Martillo.

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### CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR MASS SCHEDULE 2017/2018

**24 December**

10:30hrs- Fourth Sunday of Advent Mass

**24 December**

19:00hrs- Children's Christmas Pageant

19:30 hrs- Vigil Mass of Christmas

**25 December**

10:30hrs- Christmas Day Mass

**31 December**

10:30hrs- Holy Family of Jesus,  
Mary & Joseph Mass

**1 January 18**

10:30hrs- New Year Mass

**7 January 18:**

10:30hrs- Mass of Epiphany

#### 2018 WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Wednesdays @ 09:00hrs

Thursday @ 13:00hrs

Venue: Our Lady Star of the Sea  
RC Chapel Belmont Park

Please Note: Weekday Masses  
begin in February.

#### PLEASE NOTE:

Advent Penitential Service  
on 17 December, 2017

@ 11:15hrs @ Belmont Park,  
followed by individual  
confessions.

## Message from Commander RCN

The Command Chief and I have been strong proponents of diversity and inclusiveness in the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN), and we will continue to promote these values as your command team.

I expect that all RCN members will take note of last week's apology from Prime Minister Trudeau and the subsequent message from General Vance to the lesbian, gay, transgender, bisexual, queer, and two-spirit (LGBTQ2) communities for the persecutions they have faced under Canadian law, including as members of the Canadian Armed Forces, the RCMP, and the Public Service.

Every sailor courageous enough to

have served in the RCN, facing the harshness of the sea while dealing with the persecutions brought upon by policies that forced them to hide their sexual orientation for fear of repercussion from not only their peers, but their chains of command as well, merits to be commended.

The Command Chief and I are extremely proud to be able to call these brave men and women shipmates, and it is with renewed vigour that the leadership of the RCN pledges to continue to uphold the standards where our sailors can serve proudly without fear and with honour.

The leadership of our proud institution remains committed

to preventing discrimination and harassment based on sexual orientation and gender identity, on and off duty, in and out of uniform, at sea and ashore, and at home or abroad. We stand together, adhering to the RCN Code of Conduct built upon our core values: Duty, Integrity, Loyalty, and Courage.

The RCN's diversity and inclusiveness is a source of strength. We stand together with our LGBTQ2 shipmates Ready to Help, Ready to Lead, and Ready to Fight.

M.F.R. Lloyd, CMM, CD  
Vice-Admiral  
Commander RCN



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Canada





An aerial view of HMS Belfast in London, England.

# Canada flag set to fly over Belfast

**Darlene Blakeley**  
RCN PAO

The Canadian flag will fly over Her Majesty's Ship (HMS) Belfast in London, England, this holiday season.

HMS Belfast, a museum ship originally built as a light cruiser for the Royal Navy (RN), is permanently moored on the River Thames next to Tower Bridge and operated by the Imperial War Museum.

Tim Lewin, whose late father, Admiral of the Fleet Lord Terence Thornton Lewin, was a junior officer in HMS Belfast. He proposed the Canadian flag fly at the mast of the museum ship over Christmas week to celebrate and commemorate the participation of the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) in the battle of North Cape for which Belfast was awarded a Battle Honour.

Lewin, vice-president of the Belfast Association, has a deep interest in the Russian convoys that were undertaken during the Second World War. He has introduced a number of initiatives to raise awareness of those operations, and the close ties that existed at the time between the United Kingdom, the United States,

Canada and Russia.

According to Michael Whitby, the RCN's senior naval historian, Canadian warships began escort duties on the Russian convoys in the autumn of 1943, but its sailors were involved before then.

"In fact, hundreds of Canadians sailors served in British ships operating in the north throughout the war," Whitby says. "Eighty Canadian sailors – about 10 per cent of each ship's company – fought in the cruisers Belfast and Sheffield at the Battle of North Cape. In the final 18 months of the war, Canadian warships participated in more than half of the Russian convoys."

In all, 18 Canadian warships were awarded an Arctic Battle Honour for service in northern European waters during the Second World War.

Lewin, recognizing this profound contribution, was inspired to make a gesture of appreciation and the HMS Belfast Association agreed to fly the Canadian flag over the ship.

"My late father served in a Tribal-class destroyer from 1943 through 1944," he explains. "His ship, HMS Ashanti, was in constant company with the

RCN Tribals [former Her Majesty's Canadian Ships Athabaskan, Haida, Huron and Iroquois] and many personal friendships developed. The ship to which Ashanti was particularly linked was Huron, with which they covered the Arctic convoys to Russia and later the dramatic battles between the 10th Destroyer Flotilla and Nazi forces trying to hinder D-Day. When Huron went home to Halifax for a refit, its wardroom presented their prized piano to Ashanti, whose wardroom compensated their Canadian friends with enough beer to see them back across the Atlantic!"

Lewin recently found out about the 80 Canadians who served in HMS Belfast during the Battle of North Cape through his friendship with Whitby.

"In recognition of these Canadians and of the 700 or so in the Tribals covering the nearby convoy, it occurred to me that somebody needed to make a gesture of appreciation for these specific actions and on a wider note, for the war-winning contribution of the RCN to the Atlantic and Arctic convoy campaigns and the landings on D-Day when HMS Belfast

had the honour of firing the symbolic opening salvo onto the beaches. We are very proud of our friendship with Canada and our bonds with the RCN, today and yesterday."

Captain (Navy) Maurice AuCoin, RCN naval advisor with the Canadian Defence Liaison Staff in London, says the gesture "speaks volumes about the close relationship and historical military bond that Canada and the United Kingdom continue to enjoy."

"In this year of Canada 150, this initiative serves as a strong reminder for both the RCN and the RN of the continued importance of the transatlantic link and the key role Canada played in the Battle of the Atlantic and the Arctic convoys during the Second World War, and of our ongoing naval commitment to the North Atlantic."

An event to launch the initiative will be held onboard HMS Belfast on Dec. 18. The Canadian Deputy High Commissioner to the United Kingdom, Sarah Fountain Smith, and Capt(N) AuCoin will be the guests of honour, with nearly 40 international invitees at the diplomatic and military attaché level expected to be in attendance.

HMS Belfast alongside in the River Thames with Tower Bridge in the background.



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Published each Monday, under the authority of  
Capt(N) Jason Boyd, Base Commander.

Le LOOKOUT est publié tous les lundis, sous  
l'égide du Capt(N) Jason Boyd, Commandant  
de la Base.

The editor reserves the right to edit, abridge  
or reject copy or advertising to adhere to  
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Six month subscription - \$33.<sup>47</sup>

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A Division of Personnel Support Programs  
CFB Esquimalt, PO Box 17000 Stn. Forces,  
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## WHAT SAY YOU

### People Talk

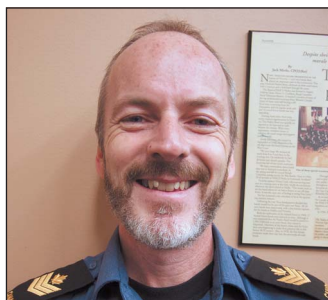
Ahead of their 39th annual Christmas Concert on Dec. 11, 12 and 13, members of the Naden Band were asked to:

*Name your favourite holiday song.*



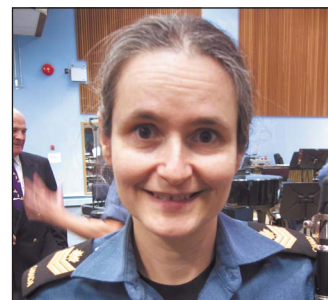
*Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas* because the melody is simple but beautiful, and it's easy to sing. I have always loved this song since I was a kid.

**Petty Officer Second Class  
Katrina Bligh, Obbo/Vocalist**



The *Christmas Song*, also known informally to many as *Chestnuts Roasting on An Open Fire*, because it's such a storied piece of music and was written by Jazz legend Mel Tormé who I really admire.

**Petty Officer Second Class  
Roy Styffe, Saxophone**



The French song *Noël c'est l'amour* because it is all about love, and especially the love of your mother, the giver of life, and a celebration of family. It's such a great and powerful song for me and can even move me to tears.

**Petty Officer Second Class  
Marielle Audet, Clarinet**



*I'll Be Home For Christmas* because before joining the Naden Band I spent the previous 14 years posted to the RCAF Band in Winnipeg. The song sticks with me, has a nice melody, and I would always listen to it before taking the flight back home to Victoria for Christmas.

**Petty Officer First Class  
Jeff Cooper**

## WHAT SAY WE

# SPORTS trivia POT POURRI

By Tom Thomson, Contributor

### Questions

- How many times has the World Series been won in a four-game sweep?
- Which team was the last winner in a four-game sweep of the World Series?
- Which franchise has had the most success sweeping the World Series in four games?
- How many times have the Yankees won consecutive World Series in a four-game sweep?
- How many times did the American League sweep the World Series?
- Which teams have won the World Series in a four-game sweep with a run differential of six runs over the four games?
- Who was the World Series MVP in 2017?
- How many times has the Stanley Cup been won in a four-game sweep since 1939?
- Which team has won the most Stanley Cups in a four-game sweep?
- Which team has won the second most Stanley Cups in a four-game sweep?
- Which team is the only victim of three consecutive four-game sweeps in the Stanley Cup final?
- Which team beat the Blues giving them its third loss in a four-game sweep?
- A date which will live forever in the hearts of Leaf fans, when did Toronto win its last Stanley Cup?
- Who won the Conn Smythe trophy in 2017?
- Who was the first player selected by the Las Vegas Golden Knights in the 2017 entry draft?
- Who was the first player selected by the Golden Knights in the expansion draft?
- Which team had the largest margin of victory in the Grey Cup?
- How many Grey Cup games have had to go to overtime to decide a winner?
- How many times has the United States won the World Cup of soccer?
- Who is the defending Rugby Union World Cup champion?

21. The San Francisco Giants in 2012 over the Detroit Tigers.
20. The New York Yankees have swept the Series eight times while being swept three times themselves.
19. Three - 1927 over the Pirates & 1928 over the Cardinals, 1938 over the Cubs & 1939 over the Reds, 1998 over the Padres & 1999 over the Braves.
18. The Chicago White Sox over the Houston Astros in 2005, The Yankees over Philadelphia in 1950 and New York over New York in 1922 - the Giants over the Yankees.
17. George Springer - Houston Astros - .379 batting average, five home runs, seven RBIs, 11 hits and eight runs scored. Springer's five home runs equals the record set in 1977 by Reggie Jackson of the Yankees and equaled in 2009 by Chase Utley of the Phillies.
16. 20.
15. Montreal Canadiens with six.
14. Detroit Red Wings with four.
13. St Louis Blues - 1968, 1969, 1970.
12. Boston Bruins in 1970.
11. May 2, 1967, a date which lives in infamy for Habs fans.
10. Sidney Crosby - Pittsburgh Penguins.
9. Cody Glass - Portland Winterhawks (WHL) - sixth overall pick.
8. Calvin Pickard - goaltender - from the Colorado Avalanche - subsequently traded to Toronto.
7. Queen's University over the Regina Roughriders 54-0 in 1922.
6. Three - Winnipeg over Hamilton 21-14 in 1961, Edmonton over Montreal 38-35 in 2005, Ottawa over Calgary 39-33 in 2016.
5. One. They beat England 1-0 in an upset in 1950. The USA would not qualify for the World Cup again until 1990.
4. New Zealand All Blacks defeated Australia 34-17 in 2015.

Answers

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# MFRC launches new deployment app

**Peter Mallett**  
Staff Writer

A new mobile software application designed to assist military members, and their spouses or parents with deployments has been launched.

Developed by the Esquimalt Military Family Resource Centre (MFRC), the "MFRC Deployment" app has been up and running since early October, is free to use, and downloadable from the App Store or Google Play. The software is specifically designed for use with mobile phones and tablets, and is Android

and iOS (Apple) compatible, but will not work with Blackberry phones.

MFRC Deployment coordinator Sandra Pinard says the new software is an effort to reach out to military members and their loved ones with a program that affords them instant information customized to their specific needs and the nature of the deployment.

"To our knowledge this App is unique, the first of its kind for sailors on the West Coast," says Pinard. "At their fingertips, people can get vital and highly-relevant information and resources."

They will officially intro-

duce the App to its unit liaisons during a Dec. 7 training session at the Colwood Pacific Activity Centre (CPAC).

The program was designed by Victoria-based software development firm Three Trees Technical Incorporated. Three Trees co-owner and co-founder Ben Leather says the App will have a positive impact during deployments because it was designed to be user-friendly and with simplicity in mind.

"We really aimed to get technology out of the way so people who don't consider themselves 'tech savvy' and aren't always dependent on their phones will find it simple and easy to use," says Leather.

Two key features of the App are a tips section that gives users advice customized to their profile, whether they are army, air force or navy, and the nature of the deployment, and also a planning section that encourages users to complete to-dos such as creating a deployment budget, emergency fund, bill payments

and other concerns such as vehicle maintenance or pet care.

Other notable features include a prominent deployment countdown clock at the top of the app that allows users to count the days, hours and minutes to the homecoming, and a resource section that allows users instant access to MFRC deployment support documents.

One important part of the app, says Pinard, is that all users are anonymous and no personal or military information is at risk. No personal settings on the app is made available to anyone else but the user themselves. You don't need an internet connection to use the app, which, for example, will allow deployed sailors who lack an internet connection while at sea instant access to information.

The idea for the App was born approximately three years ago when Pinard and other MFRC staffers noticed military family members attending deployment events were constantly tinkering with their

mobile devices. Often times they were busy searching for an array of information related to the deployment.

"The need was expressed by the military community that they wanted an electronic or digital time-saving solution, and an alternative to accessing information via handouts and workshops," Pinard says.

Customizing the app is fast and simple. Users are asked a series of basic questions, such as date of the deployment, whether at sea or land, if the family has any children, or if the military member is married or single. The information made available to users is also customized to four time frames of the deployment: preparing for deployment; deployment, anticipation of homecoming, and post homecoming.

The base appears to be merely a starting point for the app.

On Nov. 20, Pinard travelled to Cornwall, Ont. and did a demonstration of the App to delegates at the



MFRC's annual national convention. Prior to the demo, she had requests by MFRC offices in Petawawa and CFB Valcartier to put the App into use at their bases, and has received expressions of interest in the App from at least eight other MFRCs across the country.

*To our knowledge this App is unique, the first of its kind for sailors on the West Coast.*

*At their fingertips people can get vital and highly-relevant information and services.*

Sandra Pinard, MFRC Deployment Coordinator



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Emjay Bailey hopes to spin enough yarn to stretch from the Base Commander's building in Naden to the Admiral's Office in Dockyard. The yarn will then be given to a local knitting group that produces warm clothing for disadvantaged youth and the homeless.

## Yarn to spin for charity

**Will Chaster**  
Base PA Office

When participating in a Spin-A-Thon, it is commonplace for bikes to be involved.

However, one CFB Esquimalt member will be spinning a different sort of wheel in December.

Starting Dec. 1, Emjay Bailey, Base Executive Corporate Services Officer, will conduct a wool spinning Spin-A-Thon with the ultimate goal of making knitted hats, scarves and mittens for homeless and disadvantaged youth in Victoria, as well as raising funds for the National Defence Workplace Charitable Campaign (NDWCC).

An avid knitter and wool spinner, Bailey is eager to put her skills to good use.

"It's always nice when you are able to combine your art or passion into a community service," she says.

Bailey took inspiration

from the history the Royal Canadian Navy shares with knitting.

"During World War Two, members of the public and the Navy League would knit items such as socks or hats for sailors deployed to the Atlantic or Arctic. This helped give them a little extra warmth and comfort on their long voyages," she explains.

She would like to spin enough wool to stretch from the Base Commander's office all the way to Maritime Forces Pacific Headquarters by the time she finishes just before Christmas.

"I can spin about 50 to 100 yards of wool in an hour, so I'm optimistic I can make it," she says.

Bailey is looking for dona-

tions to help raise money in support of the NDWCC. Sponsors can pledge a flat amount or make donations by the yard or by total amount of wool spun.

Once she has enough yarn, Bailey and her co-members from the knitting group Discovery Knitters plan to knit at least 20 articles of clothing that will then be distributed to those who need them most around Victoria.

"This will be high quality wool, which will make very comfy and warm items. I'm hoping it will be a good feeling to be given something nice by someone who cares about you," says Bailey.

Anyone looking to donate to the Spin-A-Thon can reach Bailey by email at Marjolaine.Bailey@forces.gc.ca or by phone at 250-363-4003. Alternatively, donations can be made by contacting Gerry Binning, the Base Executive NDWCC representative, at Gerry.Binning@forces.gc.ca.

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# HMCS Nanaimo at work

Photos by MARPAC Imaging Services



A Boatswain onboard HMCS Nanaimo makes a daily pipe with the boatswain's call during Operation Caribe on Nov. 2. Due to security reasons, sailors on Operation Caribe cannot be identified.



A Boatswain cleans the .50 calibre on the bridge.



Marine Technicians change the oil on the main engine at sea.



Members of HMCS Nanaimo have a pie throwing auction to raise money for the National Defence Workplace Charitable Campaign.

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Photo by JPSU Pacific/file

Commanding Officer of Joint Personnel Support Unit Pacific, Lieutenant-Commander Judith Harlock (left) is joined by Petty Officer Second Class Fiona Borland after LCdr Harlock shaved her head last December as part of Operation Chrome Dome. The fundraiser for cancer research through the National Defence Workplace Charitable Campaign (NDWCC) is back again this year with LCdr Harlock agreeing to go bald if \$10,000 can be raised prior to Dec. 14

## Going Chrome Dome for the holidays

**Peter Mallett**  
Staff Writer

The Commanding Officer of Joint Personnel Support Unit (JPSU) Pacific Region is vowing to go 'cue-ball bald' again as the highly popular cancer fundraiser Operation Chrome Dome returns.

The initial head-shaving was a show of support and solidarity for her long-time co-worker and friend Petty Officer Second Class Fiona Borland who hatched the idea after being diagnosed with breast cancer in 2016.

"I volunteered to be shaved again as a celebration of where Fiona is in her journey," says LCdr Harlock.

Together they raised \$5,300 through pledges and other donations as part of the National Defence Workplace Charitable Campaign (NDWCC).

The two have been co-workers and friends since first working together at

the Reserve Unit HMCS Malahat more than 20 years ago. LCdr Harlock says Fiona's experience is a great opportunity to remind people about the life-or-death benefits of early diagnosis.

"There is nothing like a repeat [shaving] to reiterate the simple message to everyone 'just get checked' and Fiona's positive outcome speaks volumes to that," she says.

Following chemotherapy and surgery, in August PO2 Borland was informed by her doctor that she was cancer free. Despite her recent life-affirming diagnosis, the two women haven't given up on the Chrome Dome cause and have raised the fundraising bar even higher this year.

LCdr Harlock will once

again be subjected to having her hair removed by a set of barber clippers on Dec. 14, but only if \$10,000 can be raised.

"I admit last year I did get a little nervous on the morning of the shave-off; however, I also fully understood what this would do to promote the issue of awareness," says LCdr Harlock. "My friends and family were with me and 100 per cent supportive and happy that I was participating."

She hasn't let her hair grow out too much since last year's shaving. She has intentionally kept it short as a show of support for PO2 Borland while she underwent cancer treatment.

Proceeds from this year's fundraiser will again go to the BC Cancer Agency, and

the Gord Downie Fund for Brain Cancer Research.

The Canadian rocker was diagnosed with terminal Glioblastoma [brain cancer] in May 2016 and died Oct. 17, 2017, at the age of 53. PO2 Borland, 50, says watching the broadcast of the late Tragically Hip frontman's farewell concert on Aug. 20 really struck a chord with her because the moment came only days after PO2 Borland learned she was cancer free.

"To see him [Downie] up on stage, watching him do something that he loves doing, but knowing that it was his last time was such a surreal moment for me," says PO2 Borland. "I connected instantly to what he must be feeling and I wanted to pay tribute to that in the fundraiser."

She says she hopes Downie's experience will resonate with others and generate more funds for Chrome Dome cause and the NDWCC itself.

To find out more about  
Operation Chrome Dome and how you can  
help out visit their fundraising webpage:  
[Gofundme.com/OperationChromeDome2](http://Gofundme.com/OperationChromeDome2)

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# Get ready for a snow day

**Peter Mallett**  
Staff Writer

As temperatures drop and the first days of winter approach, senior leadership would like employees to stay alert about possible weather-related closure at the base.

"Be proactive, talk about inclement weather with your supervisor and co-workers before it arrives," said Capt(N) Jason Boyd, Base Commander. "A clear plan will keep everyone safer during the winter weather season."

In case of inclement weather, information about a base closure can be found by calling the Base Closure Line at 250-363-5000. The recording will provide updated information on whether the base is open or closed.

Official Government of Canada weather information and storm warning can be found at Environment Canada's website: [weather.gc.ca](http://weather.gc.ca).

Capt(N) Boyd says employees are expected to make every reasonable effort to report to work if the base is open during a storm, but should also use common sense and sound judgement when considering travel in deteriorating weather conditions.

"Be sure you understand your unit's requirements and expectations in the event of inclement weather," he says. "Remain in close contact with your immediate supervisor, and keep them updated and know what is expected of you if you are concerned it is not safe to travel."

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## Regional hockey playoff - come cheer

The Esquimalt Tritons renew their rivalry with 19 Wing Comox in a pair of regional hockey qualifying games this week in Esquimalt.

The Tritons Men's and Old Timers teams face the Flyers Men's and Old Timers teams in a 'Best of Three' series Dec. 4 - 6 at Wurtele Arena with puck drops at 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., games 1 and 2 for each series will be held on Dec. 4 and 5 with Dec. 6 being held for

game 3 if required.

The ceremonial puck drop for the opening game of the qualifiers will feature 2017 Invictus Games gold medalist Lt(N) Krista Seguin of Base Accommodations.

The series' winners will represent the Pacific Region and advance to the Canadian Armed Forces National Hockey Championships in 2018.

CFB Borden will host both

this year's Men's and Old Timers National championship tournaments, on March 3-8, 2018, and March 17 to 22, 2018, respectively. 4 Wing Cold Lake will host this year's Women's Hockey Regional Jan. 28 - Feb. 1, 2018, under the newly created Canada West Region. CFB Edmonton plays host to this year's CAF Women's National Hockey Championship, March 5 to 9, 2018.



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# Remembering Sergeant (Ret'd) Rob Sneath

**James Vassallo**  
CFB Esquimalt PA Officer

All Sergeant (Retired) Rob Sneath wanted was an early morning skate and a chance to be on the same ice as some of hockey's greatest names. A simple request those grizzled NHLers surely thought, a sly grin about their lips: 'Hey, kid, why not? Strap 'em on and get out here'.

"He was organizing things as part of PSP for the NHL oldtimers tour in Halifax," recounts Master Warrant Officer Paul MacQueen. "He was so good and they [NHLers] were so impressed with his skills, they asked him to play that night."

Sneath did four more dates with the NHL Oldtimers on the East Coast. The next year he did it again, becoming a fixture in a countless number of these kinds of celebrity charity games over the years.

It's a miraculous story perhaps, unless you knew Sneath and his athletic ability.

In 24 years with the Canadian Armed Forces, serving as a Boatswain, PERI and ACS Technician, he played in 21 consecutive Canadian Forces National Hockey Championships from

1987-2007. He won 22 CAF national medals and 35 CAF regional medals in five sports. He was named an All-Star 23 times and was honoured with countless MVP awards. Just a month ago he was inducted into Canadian Armed Forces Sports Hall of Fame.

To the shock and great sorrow of many, Sneath passed away suddenly Nov. 27 at the age of 52 after a long battle with cancer. Given his reputation, it was no surprise that organizers of Oldtimers celebrity hockey tournaments, his old team the Clarenville Ford Caribous where he played in 2008/09, Olympic gold medalist Hayley Wickenheiser, friends, teammates, his Personnel Support programs (PSP) co-workers and military family all acknowledged what kind of an athletic phenom he was.

Over the last week he's been repeatedly called the best player the CAF ever had. The public expressions of loss referred to him as a 'legend', even the 'Gretzky of the military', and his love of the game was undoubtedly absolute.

Anyone who gets a tryout with an NHL team can be considered an exceptional athlete. Sneath had that opportunity with the



Philadelphia Flyers at the age of 27, and also an invitation to tryouts for Canada's National Hockey Team three years later, which is another level of incredible in the young man's world of professional sport.

Despite this, amidst all of these varied outpourings of sorrow, his on-ice achievement, and athletic prowess generally, seems a secondary thought. It's been said the value of a life can be measured by the impact it has on others. What is clear is that Sneath was the

human being those around him wanted to be more like. He was 'great', and 'stand-up' and 'selfless' and 'gracious' – all the things we want from people, because it makes us better too.

"He had this aura of fame about him, but he never made you feel that," says Captain (Navy) Jason Boyd, CFB Esquimalt Base Commander, who played with Sneath for nine years. "No matter what your skill level he always made you feel like you were an equal, like you were part of the team. "He was just such a great guy."

MWO MacQueen, who had just been posted to CFB Esquimalt, played alongside Sneath in 1995 when the base won its first and only CF National Hockey Championship.

"I was blown away at Rob's skill and leadership, but he was just as good a friend as he was a hockey player," he says. "He did not have ego. He made everyone feel included in the success he achieved. I was the only air force guy on the team, the new guy, and I could tell so many stories on how he welcomed me, how he became my friend for life."

Trying to get a sense of a per-

son can be difficult, particularly through the praises of others. So, maybe that old adage of a picture telling a thousand words might be the way for people to understand how much Sneath meant to people. CFB Esquimalt followed up on their CAF championship with a regional crown a year later. The team photo contains a slightly odd edition that speaks most poignantly as to why people thought so much of him: right at the front, sitting on his knee is a little girl name Ally; Sneath, a single father, took her everywhere, holding her close.

Along with Ally, Sneath leaves behind daughter Carlee and son Robbie, as well as his partner Kerri and her children James and Marlee.

In keeping with his long history of coaching and community service, his love of sport and of all his children, donations in Sneath's honour may be sent to KidSport Nova Scotia [www.kidsportcanada.ca/nova-scotia/](http://www.kidsportcanada.ca/nova-scotia/), which helps kids overcome financial barriers to participating in sport.



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## Birthday bash for oldest base driver

**Peter Mallett**  
Staff Writer

Base Transport employee Jackson Filtness celebrated his 75th birthday doing what he likes best, hopping into a transport truck, gearing down, and going for a drive.

With a combined total of 51 years of public service work, 33 years of those with Transport and Electrical Mechanical Engineering (TEME), his co-workers threw him a birthday bash to remember on Oct. 23.

To celebrate the occasion and the former truck driver's remarkable legacy, he climbed into the cab of an 18-wheeler again and geared down once again.

"We had the pleasure of getting him back in a tractor trailer and a quick drive through the compound to open the celebration, which was then followed by a pizza party that was attended by about 30 employees," said Christopher Shipway, Supervisor of TEME Special Purpose Vehicles.

Filtness has worked

as a base taxi driver for his unit's Special Purpose Vehicles since 2008, but began his work for Base Transport by driving trucks, beginning in 1985. He said the birthday party was something he would never forget, and declared he was "flattered to be honoured in such a great way" by his co-workers.

Born in Vancouver but raised in Victoria, Filtness had a three-year career in the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) where he spent most of his time working as a Stoker aboard HMCS Beacon Hill. He then joined the Canadian Coast Guard in 1963 and also worked for the Empress Hotel power plant and the Sudbury II, a deep-sea salvage tug before landing a job with Canadian National Railways.

"I drove my first semi-trailer in 1964, it was a 1956 Kenworth," he said. "It had a 40-foot trailer for hauling lumber from Vancouver Island to Vancouver. The big rigs sure have changed over the years, mainly being so much more comfortable

in the way they ride and their power."

He also noted the huge changes to the size and scope of the RCN since his Cold-War era days as a sailor in a much larger and powerful Pacific Fleet.

Filtness says he's looking forward to seeing the next wave of modern Canadian warships currently in the works for the RCN, along with the completion of ongoing construction projects at the Fleet Maintenance Facility (FME) and the jetties in Dockyard before his work days draw to a close, which he estimates sometime in 2020.

He says he hopes younger employees who work at the base in future years can learn from his wisdom and work experience, and provides them with the following advice.

"Take pride in your work and act like a professional," he said. "That's what it's all about: Courtesy, patience, respect for others, staying alert and keeping your eyes open."



Photos by TEME  
Transport and Electrical Mechanical Engineering (TEME) employee Jackson Filtness celebrated his 75th birthday Oct. 23 by driving one of his unit's big rigs. A former truck driver for TEME and Canadian National Railways, Filtness has enjoyed 51 years of public service. He currently drives a base taxi cab.



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# Bravo Zulu

## Regional Cadet Support Unit (Pacific)



PO1 Doug Cartwright is presented with his second clasp for the Canadian Forces' Decoration, representing 32 years of service in the Canadian Armed Forces, by Cdr Brad Henderson, Commanding Officer of Regional Cadet Support Unit (Pacific).



Major Anthony Bone is presented with the Bar to the Order of St John by Cdr Brad Henderson, Commanding Officer of Regional Cadet Support Unit (Pacific).



PO1 Truchon receives his Operation Service Medal - Expedition from Cdr Sauve, Commanding Officer of Canadian Fleet Pacific Headquarters.

# Bravo Zulu

## MARPAC Headquarters awards and presentations

Photos by Corporal Blaine Sewell, MARPAC Imaging Services

Captain (Navy) Steve Jorgensen presented Maritime Forces Pacific Bravo Zulu certificates of achievement and medals during the MARPAC Headquarters Awards and Presentations ceremony Nov. 23.



Corporal Stuart MacNeil receives his Operational Service Medal.



Commander Lepinsy Chanthalsy receives his Canadian Forces' Decoration First Clasp for 22 years of dedicated service.



LCdr John Nethercott receives his Special Service Medal with NATO bar.



LCdr Jeremy Maillard of the Royal Navy receives his Naval Long Service and Good Conduct medal for 18 years of dedicated service.



Petty Officer Second Class Michael Borsellino receives his Maritime Forces Pacific Bravo Zulu certificate of achievement.



Pte Panther is promoted to Pte (T), with her son Jonathan at her side for promotion, by CPO2 P.S. Salter on the left, and Cdr M.S.J. Lessard on the right.



MS Michelle Melanconis is promoted to PO2 by her husband CPO2 Stefan Melancon and Cdr M.S.J. Lessard, Base Administration Officer.

## MARPAC Headquarters awards, promotions and medals



Commander Lepinsy Chanthalsy presents Petty Officer Second Class Brian Hill with a Commander of the Royal Canadian Navy Commendation on Nov. 16.



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ATTENTION GENERAL PANET High School Alumni Camp Petawawa Ontario. The General Panet High School Reunion Committee is proud to be organizing one of the Largest High School Reunions from Friday May 18, 2018 - Sunday May 20, 2018. To register for this event please contact Keith Croucher at [kcroucher57@eastlink.ca](mailto:kcroucher57@eastlink.ca) or go to on line registration site: <https://ticketbud.com/events/080449dc-801e-11e7-87bc-8b9a03e48f92>

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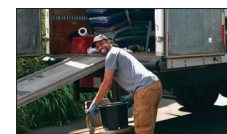
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- Pelvic pain/backache
- Bloating/gas/swollen stomach
- Vaginal bleeding/painful intercourse
- Urinary urgency
- Ongoing fatigue
- Indigestion
- Weight loss/gain
- Change in bowel habits

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# Winter Holiday Safety

Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together. But that also means a greater risk for fire. Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.



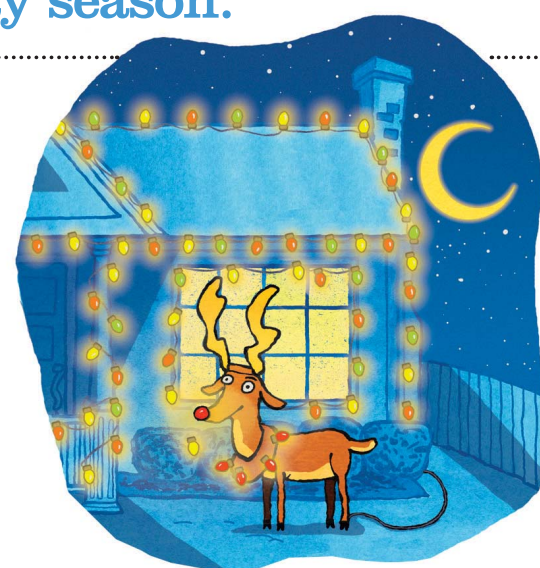
## HOLIDAY DECORATING

- Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- Keep decorations away from windows and doors.



## HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING

- Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.
- Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.
- Ask smokers to smoke outside. Remind smokers to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them.
- Provide large, deep ashtrays for smokers. Wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.



## Before Heading Out or to Bed

**Blow out** lit candles when you leave the room or go to bed. **Turn off** all light strings and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.

## FACTS

- ❗ **Two of every five** home decoration fires are started by candles.
- ❗ **Nearly half** of decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source.



Your Source for **SAFETY** Information

NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

CFB Esquimalt Fire Department

Fire Prevention info 250-363-1907