

# Joint Base Journal

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News and information for and about  
Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling

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JOINT BASE ANACOSTIA-BOLLING

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***Summer goes out with a splash!***

U.S. Navy photo by Michelle L. Gordon



# Air Force Band prepares for 69th birthday tattoo

By Tech. Sgt. Kevin Cerovich  
USAF Band

The United States Air Force Band is currently preparing for their part in the upcoming tattoo celebrating the Air Force's 69th birthday later this September.

The Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling Air Force birthday week tattoo will be on Sept. 22 with representation by various squadrons within the 11th Wing; including the USAF Band and the USAF Honor Guard.

The tradition of the military tattoo dates back to the 17th century and the 30 Years' War. It was originally a musical means to rally troops and signal their return to the barracks for the night. It has continued on through the years as a means to bolster morale and display the excellence of militaries around the world.

"These events are usually driven by the Chief of Staff to display ceremonial excellence for distinguished visitors and this is no exception," says Air Force Band Commander, Col. Larry Lang. "For this tattoo, we have the honor of hosting the NATO air chiefs."

In addition to the tattoo, the NATO air chiefs will attend many special Air Force birthday week events, including the Air Force Association Convention. This week is sure to be a memorable experience for leaders from many of the world's great air powers.

"We're especially excited about this event as it will be the first under our new Chief of Staff, Gen. David L. Goldfein," says Lang. "General Goldfein is very intent on telling the 'American Airman' story; with emphasis on our joint warfighting capabilities."

The capabilities of the United States Air Force are, of course, without equal in the world today. Some of these air power assets will be on display at the event as well. This will be a welcome sight to everyone who attends.

The band will be joined by their 11th Operations Group counterpart, the USAF Honor Guard. "We work together every day with the Honor Guard on our joint mission at Arlington National Cemetery," Lang expounds. "In this momentously important mission, both of our units display the excellence that all Airmen display on a daily basis when it is needed most."

The USAF Honor Guard is no stranger to the tattoo ceremony. In June 2016, the USAF Honor Guard Drill Team performed at the 2016 Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo at the Scotiabank Centre in Halifax, Nova Scotia. This was the first time in 20 years that a U.S. Military team performed for this event.

"The tattoo traditionally ends with the playing of 'Taps,'"



U.S. AIR FORCE FILE PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS KATHERINE WINDISH

The United States Air Force Honor Guard and Band perform a Twilight Tattoo at the Ceremonial Lawn on Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling. The event celebrated "50 Years of Friendship and Cooperation" between nations belonging to the System of Cooperation among American Air Forces.

says Lang. "It's a real pleasure to be a part of this rich tradition. I believe in our mission from top to bottom. This ceremony will be a fine example of our Air Force's unparalleled excellence."

"In a continuation of our joint mission at Arlington, the USAF Band and Honor Guard will close out this year's Air Force birthday week tattoo with 'Taps' to honor all those who have given their lives in defense of our country," explains Lang.

Tickets are limited to DOD CAC holders, personnel with authorized installation access, and those personally escorted onto the installation.



U.S. NAVY FILE PHOTO BY LT. CMDR. JIM REMINGTON

## Joint Base Journal

JOINT BASE ANACOSTIA-BOLLING  
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PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE: PHONE: 202-767-4781  
EMAIL: MICHELLE.GORDON@NAVY.MIL

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JOINT BASE JOURNAL

Christopher Hurd  
Photojournalist



# Air Force Band wrap ups Summer Concert Series

By Eric Ritter  
Joint Base Anacostia- Bolling  
Public Affairs

The United States Air Force band wrapped up its Summer Concert Series, Sept. 2, at the Air Force Memorial in Arlington.

The band put on a total of 64 concerts between Memorial Day and Labor Day at five primary locations throughout the National Capital Region which were: The Air Force Memorial, The U.S. Capital steps, National Harbor, and the Smithsonian's Air and Space and History Museums. The events featured The Concert Band, The Singing Sergeants, The Airmen of Note, The Symphony Orchestra, and the Strolling Strings. Max Impact, the band's rock ensemble, which normally is included in the Summer Concert Series, was unable to participate, because they were deployed overseas. However, they did put on 53 performances for about 17,100 coalition troops and international audiences in that 90-day deployment.

According to the Commander of the Air Force Band, Col. Larry Lang, the band was able to entertain and be good military ambassadors to tens of thousands of people throughout the summer series.

"We reached about 49,000 people over the summer," Lang said. "Each of our local summer venues all had enthusiastic audiences that loved seeing the band perform."

Lang said due to the popularity of the series at the Air Force Memorial, next year will offer some exciting new additions to the venue.

"One change we are excited about for the Air Force Memorial concerts is the Under Secretary of the Air Force will be hosting



U.S. NAVY PHOTO BY ERIC RITTER

The Air Force band puts on its final concert of this year's Summer Concert Series to the public at the Air Force Memorial, Sept 2. The band put on 64 concerts and reached almost 50,000 people throughout the capital region.

an Air Force Heritage Series once a month that will include a fly-over, performances from several groups [instead of just one], also a special guest speaker, and the United States Air Force Honor Guard Drill Team," Lang said. "Those will begin in May and take place once a month through September."

The Air Force Band will continue to play for the public throughout the year at events such as potential "flash mobs" and other holiday performances. The Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling Facebook page as well as the band's page will have updated information as it becomes available.

## Calling all dogs: JBAB pool hosts Pet Palooza Sept. 10



U.S. NAVY FILE PHOTO

By Scott Pauley  
Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling  
Public Affairs

Let the dogs off the leash and stay out of the splash zone this weekend, as the base pool goes-to-the-dogs during Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling's annual Pet Palooza event Sept. 10 at 10 a.m.

Dogs of all sizes will be able to test out the water before the base pool is shut down for the winter, and owners can enjoy

watching their furry friends show off their doggy paddle.

Mike Perry, JBAB's assistant fitness center director, said the event is a great chance for the base to show some love to its four-legged residents.

"We love to be able to invite the puppies to come and enjoy the pool before we shut it down for the winter," he said. "This is always a fun event, with not just the dogs but their families too. It's always full of laughter and excited faces ... with fur and without."

For more information on vaccination requirements and breed restrictions for the event, call 202-767-8829.

## Below the Zone



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE 579 MEDICAL GROUP

Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling Vice Commander, Col. Wayne Blanchette, recently notified Airman 1st Class Erika Bojorquez that she was promoted to Senior Airman below the zone. Bojorquez works as an optometry technician at the 579 Medical Clinic on JBAB.



# JBAB Family, Unaccompanied Housing goes Crystal

By Christopher Hurd  
Joint Base Journal  
Iris Jones  
JBAB Housing

Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling's Family and Unaccompanied Housing staff received six CEL(Christopher E. Lee & Associates) awards during a ceremony Aug. 31 at Enterprise Hall.

The awards were for providing a superior level of service to military members and their families residing in Bellevue Housing, and unaccompanied members in Enterprise Hall, Blanchard Hall, Furnari Hall and Honor Guard for 2015.

"It was exciting [receiving these awards] because then we feel that we've taken care of the service members and their families," said Iris Jones, JBAB housing coordinator. "It shows their getting the best possible customer service."

Each year the CEL sends out Resident Satisfaction Surveys for feedback on the level of service residents and families are receiving.

JBAB was awarded three A list and one Platinum Award for unaccompanied housing, one A list Award for family housing (Bellevue), and the Crystal Award for overall achievement.

The Crystal Award is presented to installations that achieve an overall consolidated score of 85 or greater with a response rate of 20 percent or higher in customer surveys.



U.S. NAVY PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER HURD

JBAB Housing continues to strive for excellence to ensure service members, their families and single unaccompanied members are given the best quality of life possible.

For more information about Navy housing visit [www.cnic.navy.mil/ffr/housing.html](http://www.cnic.navy.mil/ffr/housing.html).

COMMANDERS PICK- 6						
	CAPT Mays JBAB CDR	Col Blanchette JBAB Vice CDR	CMSgt Kloeppel JBAB SEL	Col Raduege WHCA CDR	LT Miller Coast Guard CDR	CDR Reyes Navy CG CDR
Week 1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0
Va Tech @ Tenn.	Tenn.	Tenn.	Va Tech	Va Tech	Tenn.	Tenn.
Ark. @ TCU	TCU	TCU	Arkansas	TCU	TCU	TCU
Lou. @ Syr.	Louisville	Louisville	Syracuse	Louisville	Louisville	Louisville
N.E. @ Ari.	Cardinals	Patriots	Cardinals	Cardinals	Cadinals	Cadinals
Pitt. @ Wash.	Steelers	Steelers	Steelers	Steelers	Redskins	Steelers
N.Y. G @ Dal.	Cowboys	Cowboys	Giants	Giants	Cowboys	Cowboys



# 13th MCPON retires, 14th takes charge



Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Mike Stevens right, passes the MCPON cutlass to Steven Giordano during his Change of Office & Retirement Ceremony. Stevens served as the 13th MCPON for four years, and was relieved by FLTCM Steven Giordano.

Story and photos by Mass  
Communication Specialist  
1st Class Martin L. Carey  
Office of the MCPON

Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Michael D. Stevens was relieved by Fleet Master Chief Steven S. Giordano during his retirement and change of office ceremony held on Washington Navy Yard Sept. 2. Stevens served as the 13th MCPON for the past four years and served over 33 years on active duty.

"I will forever be humbled by the opportunity I was given to serve in the United States Navy and be trusted to lead and advocate for America's greatest treasure — those that wear the cloth of our nation and have sworn an oath to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies foreign and domestic," Stevens said during his speech.

He continued, speaking about his service as the 13th MCPON.

"I've often been asked 'What was your number one goal as the MCPON?' My answer has never changed — 'As a leader, it has always been my primary goal to establish and maintain the conditions that provide all of our people with the opportunity to be successful. And to do this while treating one another with dignity and respect,'" said Stevens.

He concluded, "Tonight I will remove my uniform for the last time and will not wear it again until my eternal rest—but I do this with a smile on my face, knowing that I will always be a Sail-



Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Mike Stevens, and wife Theresa, are piped ashore during his Change of Office & Retirement Ceremony. Stevens served as the 13th MCPON for four years, and was relieved by FLTCM Steven Giordano.

or that served in the greatest Navy in the world."

After Stevens spoke, he and Giordano conducted the ceremonial 'Passing of the Cutlass,' symbolizing the change of office, and Giordano assuming the title of the 14th MCPON.

Giordano then delivered remarks saying, "Admiral, I am honored to have been afforded this opportunity and it is one I do not take lightly."

He continued, "Now with one foot anchored smartly on the history and heritage of our service, and one foot stepping forward into the future, I look forward to serving this great Navy of ours as the 14th master chief petty officer of the Navy with all the reverence, respect and action incumbent on the office."

Following the ceremony a small reception was held where friends, loved ones and shipmates bid MCPON Mike and Theresa Stevens farewell and welcomed MCPON Steven and Elka Giordano.



Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Steven Giordano delivers remarks during MCPON Stevens' Change of Office & Retirement Ceremony held at Adm. Leutze Park on Washington Navy Yard. Stevens served as the 13th MCPON for four years, and turned over responsibility to Giordano as the 14th MCPON.



Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. John Richardson presents Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Mike Stevens with a Navy Distinguished Service Medal during Stevens' Change of Office & Retirement Ceremony. Stevens served as the 13th MCPON for four years, and turned over responsibility to Steven Giordano as the 14th MCPON.



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**CFC# 81534**



# JBAB sends summer off with a splash during annual pool party



Story and photos by Michelle L. Gordon  
Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling Public Affairs

Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling held its annual End of Summer Pool Party Sept. 5 and the chilly water did not stop the fun. After a week-end of lower-than-average temps, the pool was cooler than usual, but it seemed to bother the parents much more than the kids. Attendees enjoyed hamburgers and hotdogs provided by JBAB Warfighter & Family Readiness, and summertime tunes provided by D.J. Chris. The party signifies that the pool is now closed to humans until next summer, but their 4-legged friends are invited to cool off Sept. 10 when WFR hosts Pet Palooza at 10 a.m.





# Soldier finds peace on the roads

By Shannon Collins  
DoD News, Defense Media Activity

Christian music plays on a portable speaker as the Army veteran coasts downhill in his recumbent cycle. He waves thanks to the teammates who helped him up the hill and continues his ride at a steady pace, enjoying every minute of the two-day, 110-mile Face of America ride from Arlington, Virginia, to Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

Army veteran Sgt. Albert Gonzalez, who served 19 years in field artillery, was medically discharged for issues with his lower back and shoulder and post-traumatic stress from a deployment to Iraq from 2004 to 2005.

When Gonzalez first left the military and started recovering from his injuries, he says he went to a dark place. Cycling and listening to Christian music helped him in his recovery, he said, and he now rides for Rescue 22, a nonprofit organization, to raise awareness about the importance of suicide prevention.

“Rescue 22 means a lot more to me than anything else, because for the past two years, I’ve gone through some really tough times,” he said.

In the last year, Gonzalez said, he came close to becoming a statistic several times, but talking, prayers and support from his friends, family and teammates helped him get through. “When you talk to people who have been through it and know what to tell you and what you need to hear and things like that, it means a lot,” he said.

Gonzalez said he’s had veterans and their family members approach him because of the jerseys he wears about suicide prevention.

“It’s a different meaning for different people,” he said, “but we’re all here for the same reason and that’s to try to save a life.”

Gonzalez said he is at peace when he rides and enjoys the camaraderie, the brotherhood and support he gets by being amongst his fellow veterans at charity rides like Face of America.

“It’s great to ride with everybody and hear different stories from World War II to Korea to Vietnam [veterans], to us telling our stories about Iraq to them,” he said. “They learn about us, and we learn about them, the differences in how they were treated and how we’re treated. It’s a great experience, and it’s something we all share together.

“I love being out here with all my brothers



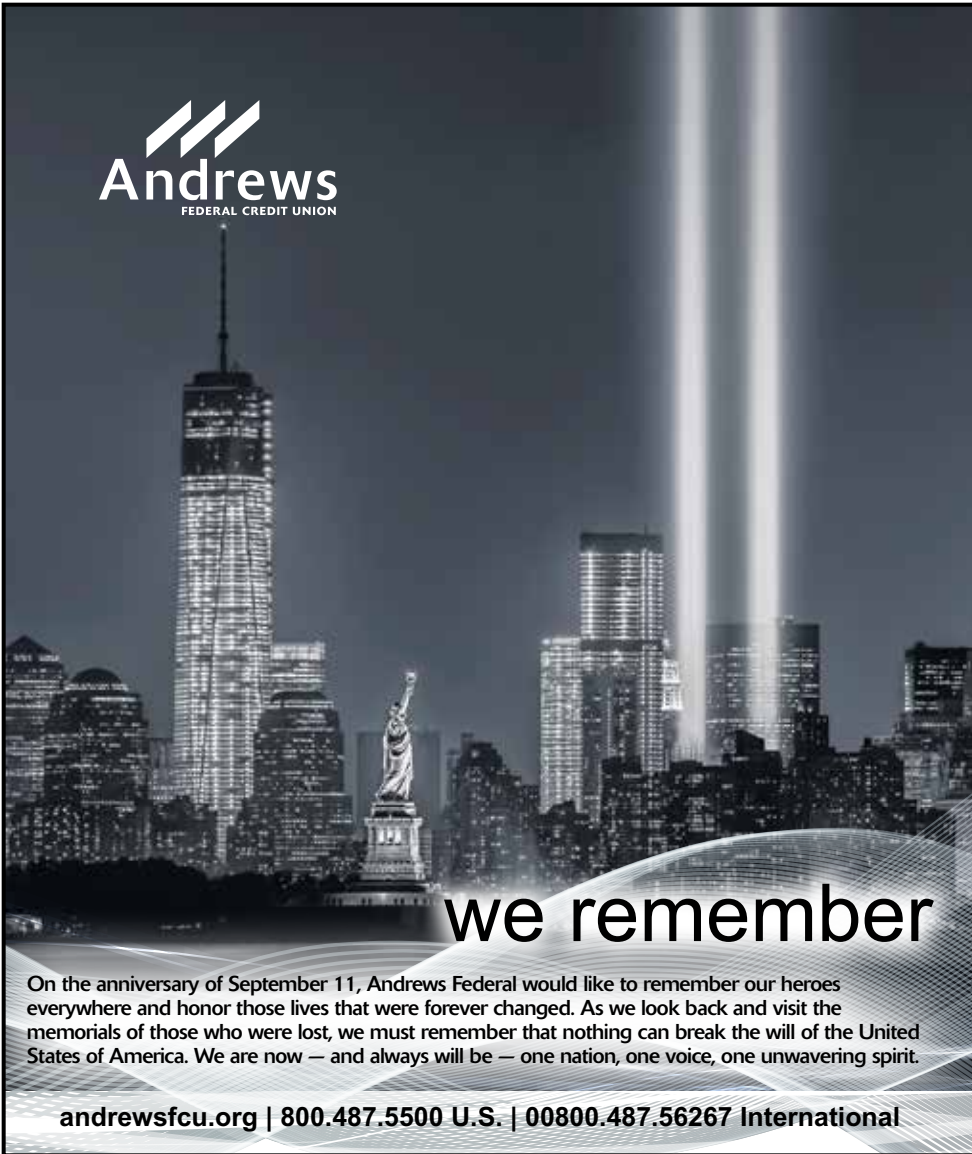

DOD NEWS PHOTO BY EJ HERSOM

Army veteran Sgt. Albert Gonzalez pedals a recumbent cycle along the Face of America bike route in Gettysburg, Pa. April 24. More than 150 disabled veteran cyclists were paired amongst 600 able-bodied cyclists to ride 110 miles from Arlington, Va. to Gettysburg, Pa. over two days in honor of veterans and military members.

and my friend and the new friends we meet out here. It really means a lot. It’s something I plan my vacation time for this ride every year,”

Gonzalez said. “None of us look at disability. Everybody just gets on the bikes and they ride. Everybody helps everybody.”

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## we remember

On the anniversary of September 11, Andrews Federal would like to remember our heroes everywhere and honor those lives that were forever changed. As we look back and visit the memorials of those who were lost, we must remember that nothing can break the will of the United States of America. We are now — and always will be — one nation, one voice, one unwavering spirit.

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### Chaplain’s Religious Enrichment Development Operations

The Chaplain’s Religious Enrichment Development Operations (CREDO) offers a variety of programs aimed at improving communication, adding resiliency, and training service members in valuable life skills.

**Marriage Enrichment Retreat (MER)** — Couples enjoy a free weekend at the Hilton Hotel in Crystal City, Virginia, where they learn and apply marriage skills such as communication and problem solving in a fun, small group atmosphere. Using personality inventories, participants learn that differences in marriages can be ways to enhance and complete one another in the marriage journey. The next MER will not be until the new fiscal year.

**Personal Resiliency Retreat (PRR)** — The PRR highlights the essential components of hindsight, insight, and foresight in order to equip military personnel to accomplish the mission. Overall, the goal of a PRR is to give participants an opportunity to grow and mature as individuals by reflecting on their lives. The next PRR will not be until the new fiscal year.

All retreats are free including room and meals. They are open to all active duty and reserve military members and their dependents. For pre-registration call 202-404-8830/8831. For more information contact the CREDO office, 202-767-5901/5900, send an email to: [credo.ndw.fcm@navy.mil](mailto:credo.ndw.fcm@navy.mil), or stop by the Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling (JBAB) Chapel and inquire within.

## Chapel Schedule

<b>Catholic Services</b> <b>Reconciliation</b> Sundays @ 0900 Chapel Center  <b>Rosary</b> Sundays @ 0910 Chapel Center  <b>Mass (Chapel Center)</b> Tuesdays @ 1130 Wednesdays @ 1130 Thursdays @ 1130 Fridays @ 0700 Saturdays @ 1700 Sundays @ 0930	<b>Protestant Services</b> <b>Contemporary</b> Sundays @ 0900 Historic Chapel  <b>Traditional</b> Sundays @ 1100 Historic Chapel  <b>Gospel</b> Sundays @ 1130 Chapel Center  <b>Sunday School</b> Sep-May 0930-1030 Chapel Center
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# WARFIGHTER AND FAMILY READINESS EVENT CALENDAR

FRIDAY/ SEPTEMBER 9

## HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH 5K

7 a.m. | Aerobic Center  
Free t-shirts for participants (while supplies last)

## ROCK NIGHT

5:30 p.m. | Slip Inn  
Featuring live music from Dr. Fu!

SATURDAY/ SEPTEMBER 10

## YOUTH BIKE RODEO & SAFETY CLINIC

9 a.m. | Base Track  
CYP hosts the Fall Bike Rodeo and Safety Clinic. Learn Safety Tips, Helmet Fittings, Bike Maintenance, & more from the Blue Suit Pacers Cycling Team!

## PET PALOOZA

10 a.m. | Base Pool  
Take one last dip in the JBAB pool with your pet!

## UFC FIGHT NIGHT

8 p.m. | Slip Inn  
Enjoy Food & Beverage specials as you take in all the action of UFC at the Slip Inn! Prelims begin at 8 p.m.; Main card begins at 10 p.m. All fight cards are subject to change.

FRIDAY/SEPTEMBER 16

## AIR FORCE BIRTHDAY 5K

7 a.m. | Aerobic Center  
Free shirts for participants while supplies last.

SATURDAY/ SEPTEMBER 17

## WASHINGTON NATIONALS TAILGATE & WATCH PARTY

11 a.m. | Slip Inn  
We're bringing the party to you! Enjoy FREE Food and Non-Alcoholic Drinks\*, along with Tailgate Games, Bounce Houses, a special appearance by the Racing Presidents, and a game watch as the Washington Nationals take on the Atlanta Braves.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT WFR EVENTS AND PROGRAMS, PICK UP OUR MONTHLY MY WFR MAGAZINE AT ANY JBAB WFR FACILITY.

STAY CONNECTED



## THE SESAME STREET/USO EXPERIENCE FOR MILITARY FAMILIES (TWO SHOWS)

Thursday, September 22 | Moving: 2pm | Transitions: 4:30pm

Friday, September 23 | Moving: 10am | Transitions: 6pm

Location: Youth Center | Doors open 30 minutes prior to showtime.

MOVING: Featuring Katie, a military kid on Sesame Street who is moving to a new base.

TRANSITIONS: Featuring Katie, a military kid transitioning back to civilian life at Sesame Street after living on military bases the past few years.

FREE tickets available at the Youth Center starting September 1! Tickets guarantee entrance to performances. Walk-ins will be seated as permitted by space available.



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AMU ALUM AND VETERAN WES O'DONNELL (MBA 2011)

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