Coast Guard assists with helicopter crash near Martha’s Vineyard

The Coast Guard and a good Samaritan responded to a helicopter crash near north of Martha’s Vineyard, Mass., around 2:23 p.m., June 21.

At around 1:10 p.m., Coast Guard Sector Southeastern New England received nearly 15 calls from 911 reporting that a helicopter had crashed about 1,000 yards north of the mouth of Tashmoo Lake.

There were four people and two dogs aboard the helicopter, but no injuries were reported.

The Coast Guard immediately issued a marine broadcast over the radio to alert mariners of the crash and to assist if possible.

When the 25-foot and 41-foot boat crews from Coast Guard Station Woods Hole, Mass., arrived on scene a good Samaritan had already pulled all of the passengers and animals from the water.

The passengers and dogs were transported to Black Dog Marina where state police were standing by for further transport to an area hospital.

The passengers were taken to the hospital and have been released in good condition.

“The salvage of the helicopter is being coordinated with Tow Boat U.S. and the helicopter’s owner. The Coast Guard is maintaining a security zone around the over-turned aircraft. “The good Samaritan played a key role to ensure the safety of all the passengers of the helicopter,” said Ensign Colin McKee, a search-and-rescue controller at Sector Southeastern New England. “The Coast Guard is always grateful whenever a good Samaritan can help with search and rescue efforts.”

Coast Guard helps fishing crew after boat fire

The Coast Guard assisted the two-man crew of a New Bedford, Mass., fishing vessel about 20 miles east of Block Island, R.I., after a fire broke out aboard the vessel around 9 a.m., June 21.

About 9:15 a.m., Coast Guard Sector Southeastern New England received a radio distress call from the captain of the Whileaway, who reported they had a fire in the engine room.

The crew proceeded to remotely discharge the carbon dioxide extinguishing system in the engine room to put out the fire.

No injuries were reported, but the vessel was disabled and adrift.

A Jayhawk rescue helicopter crew was launched from Air Station Cape Cod along with a 47-foot boat crew from Coast Guard Station Menemsha. Coast Guard Cutter Sultiah, an 87-foot vessel from Sandy Hook, N.J., was diverted from a routine patrol.

Coast Guard crews arrived on scene around 10:10 a.m. to assist and will stand by until a sister ship to the 70-foot vessel arrives to take the disabled vessel in tow.

“The crew of the Whileaway had the necessary knowledge and emergency equipment aboard that allowed them to respond quickly when the fire was discovered,” said Ensign Colin McKee, a search-and-rescue controller at Sector Southeastern New England. “The Coast Guard encourages all mariners to ensure their vessel and crew is ready to handle an emergency at sea.”

Falmouth captures 6th Annual Skip Simpson Memorial Softball Tourney

by Mike Camire, BMCS, USCG Retired

On Sunday, June 22nd the Falmouth softball team wrapped up an impressive run through a field of ten teams as they captured the 6th Annual MK1 Malcom “Skip” Simpson Memorial Softball Tourney held on the softball diamonds at Otis. The tourney is in memory of Skip, a retired Coast Guard Petty Officer who played with the Pirates before passing away in 2002.

Registration for new students to the Bourne School System in grades kindergarten through grade 8 will be held on Tuesday, July 15, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Children who will be five years of age or before September 1, 2008, are eligible for kindergarten in September 2008.

All children in the town entering kindergarten in September will register at and attend Otis Memorial School (508-563-2206) on Curtis Boulevard, Air Station Cape Cod. Kindergarten registration packets, which are to be completed by the parent/guardian and brought to registration, are available at the school or at the School Administration Building, 36 Sandwich Road, in Bourne Village.

For the first time in six years, the tourney was held in June, with the hope that we would finally get some good weather, and it finally worked, despite some windy conditions that raised havoc with the pitchers on Sunday, the weather turned out to be just perfect for softball.

This year we had ten teams, with one coming all the way from Maine to play some ball. In the Coast Guard JT Bracket, was the Falmouth team (who were also the defending champs), a team the Buzzards Bay League, Warrantas Roofing, two teams from our Otis League; the Crush and the Misfits, and the squad from Maine, led by Nathan Holt, who were representing the USCG North East Sector.

In the Air Force Pave PAWS bracket, we had three league teams, the Pirates, ECC The Bang! and of course the Misfits, (who were also the defending champs), a team the Buzzards Bay League, Warrantas Roofing, two teams from our Otis League; the Crush and the Misfits, and the squad from Maine, led by Nathan Holt, who were representing the USCG North East Sector.

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Commander’s Column
Colonel Francis M. McGinn
Post Commander, Camp Edwards

He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Crimi- nal Justice from the University of Massachusetts at Boston and was commissioned through the Massachusetts Military Academy, Officer Candidate School Class 41 in 1977. He then attended the Officer Candidate School at Camp Edwards in 1984. He holds a Masters Degree in Criminal Justice from Anna Maria College in Paxton, MA.

Colonel McGinn deployed to Iraq in November 2004 with the 43rd Infantry Division and served as the Senior Command- ing General of the 79th Troop Command which included three Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Achievement Medal with one Oak Leaf Clas- ter. During October 2007, Colonel McGinn was promoted to the rank of Staff Sergeant before attending OCS at the Massa- chusetts Military Academy, Officer Candidate School Class 51 in August 1981.

He must constantly remain vigilant in our efforts to protect the en- vironment on and around Camp Edwards. Through our environmental programs, we will keep people informed of our efforts to protect the environment.

Taking care of soldiers is an implied imperative. The safety of our soldiers is paramount. We must work and train safely at all times and also ensure those utilizing Camp Ed- wards are training safely as well using common sense while off duty and traveling throughout the post.

Lastly, but equally as important is adherence to stan- dards and discipline. It is a well-known fact that units with high discipline and standards enjoy high morale and esprit de corps. We must set the example for other units to train at Camp Edwards or anywhere else.

This command has an enormous amount of talent and quality leaders. I look forward to leading this group and looking back on collective successes in a few years.

Colonel Francis M. McGinn

COL Francis McGinn enlisted in the ARNG in August 1981.

Kaehler Korner

Protect Yourself from the Sun – Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Preven- tion

Summer is a great time to have fun outdoors. It’s also a time to take precautions to avoid sunburns, which can increase your risk of skin cancer.

Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer in the United States. Exposure to the sun’s ultraviolet (UV) rays appears to be the most important environmental factor in- volved with developing skin cancer. During the summer months, UV radiation tends to be greater.

To help prevent skin cancer while still having fun outdoors, regularly use sun protective practices such as:

- Seek shade, especially during midday hours (10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.) when UV rays are strongest and do the most damage.
- Cover up with clothing to protect exposed skin.
- Get a hat with a wide brim to shade the face, head, ears, and neck.
- Grab shades that wrap around and block as close to 100% of both UVA and UVB rays as possible.
- Rub on sunscreen with sun protective factor (SPF) 15 or higher, and both UVA and UVB protection.

It’s always wise to choose more than one way to cover up when you’re in the sun. Use sunscreen, and put on a T-shirt... Seek shade, and grab your sunglasses. Wear a hat, put on your sunscreen, and always protect your skin with sunscreen. These protective actions help protect your skin from the sun’s damaging UV rays.

UV rays reach you on cloudy and hazy days, as well as bright and sunny days. UV rays will also reflect off any sur- face like water, cement, sand, and snow. Additionally, UV rays from artificial sources like light, tanning beds, cause skin cancer and should be avoided. Even a few short sunbathes can increase your child’s risk of skin cancer later in life. Kids don’t have to be at the pool, beach, or on vacation to get too much sun. Their skin needs protection from the sun’s harmful UV rays when they’re outdoors. Parents, help your children play it safe in the sun and protect your own skin as well. You’re an impor- tant role model.

Many forms of skin cancer can be cured. However, the best way to avoid skin cancer is to protect your skin from the sun. For more information, please visit the Centers for Dis- ease Control and Prevention Skin Cancer web site at http://www.cdc.gov/cancer/skin/basic_info/howto.htm

Kaehler Medical Clinic given Health Care Facility of the Year Award

The Kaehler Medical Clinic is the proud recipient of the 2007 Coast Guard Health Care Facility of the Year Award. This award is presented annually to recognize out- standing performance and contributions by a Coast Guard health care facility. The recipient of the award at Kaehler Medical Clinic was specifically recognized for exem- plary provision of an astonishingly broad range of services to Coast Guard members, dependents, DOD personnel and other beneficiaries. The award was given to the Kaehler Medical Clinic on behalf of the Coast Guard. The clinic provided a comprehensive range of services, including but not limited to primary care, mental health, laboratory services, radiology, emergency services, and public health services. The clinic also provided specialty services such as internal medicine, surgery, and pediatrics. The clinic was chosen based on a comprehensive assessment of its performance, including patient satisfaction, quality of care, and cost-effectiveness. The Kaehler Medical Clinic is located on the campus of the Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut. The clinic serves members of the Coast Guard, their families, and the local community. The clinic is staffed by a team of dedicated and experienced healthcare professionals, including physicians, nurses, and technicians. The clinic is fully accredited by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC), which is a national organization that sets standards for ambulatory healthcare facilities. The Kaehler Medical Clinic is committed to providing high-quality, cost-effective health care services to its patients. The clinic is open to the public and accepts patients from all walks of life, including active-duty Coast Guard members, retirees, and their dependents. The clinic is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and is closed on weekends and holidays. The clinic is located at 211 Academy Drive, New London, CT 06320. For more information, please call 860-443-4700 or visit the website at www.uscg.gov. The award was presented during a ceremony at the Coast Guard Academy on May 5, 2007.
DoD Customers (Service Members and Department of Defense Civilians) are eligible for Full Replacement Value (FRV) protection on most DoD funded personal property shipments. FRV coverage applies to personal property shipments with a pickup date on or after:

- October 1, 2007 for International shipments (to / from OCONUS)
- November 1, 2007 for Domestic shipments (within CONUS)
- March 1, 2008 for Non-Temporary Storage (NTS) shipments
- March 1, 2008 for Local Move / Direct Procurement Method (DPM) shipments

Under the FRV program, the Transportation Service Provider (TSP) / Carrier is liable for $5,000 per shipment or $4.00 times the net weight of the shipment (in pounds), whichever is greater, up to $500. The TSP is NOT required to replace items which can be repaired for less than the full replacement value of the item.

Providing prompt notice of loss and damage is an essential part of the process. The Customer must submit the DD Form 1840 (listing all damage discovered AT the time of delivery) or the DD Form 1840R (listing all damage discovered AFTER delivery) to the Carrier within 75 days of receipt of your goods. If mailed, send it by certified mail. If faxed, include a copy of the delivery message. Alternatively, the DD Form 1840R does not constitute the filing of a claim. You MUST submit a written request for a specific amount to the TSP within 90 days after the date of delivery. The claim MUST list each item that was lost or damaged and give a general description of the damage. Do not delay filing your claim past the nine month deadline in order to get additional information you think the TSP may need. If your claim has been timely filed, additional information may be presented at a later time.

The Carrier has the right to inspect the damaged items and make an estimate that allows you, the customer, to review the carrier's estimate. If you accept the carrier's estimate, you may not be reimbursed for any fees on estimates you obtain without the TSP's express request for you to do so. The TSP shall pay, deny, or make an offer within 60 days of receipt of a complete, substantiated claim. The TSP will complete payment to the owner within 30 days of receipt of notice that the owner has accepted a full or partial settlement. The TSP has the right to take possession of and sell for salvage any damaged item on which it has paid either depreciated or undepreciated replacement cost, or replaced the damaged item with a new item.

If you cannot reach a mutually acceptable settlement directly with the TSP on your claim, you can accept payment from the TSP on those items on which you and the TSP have reached agreement. You may transfer any unsettled portions of the claim to a Military Claims Office (MCO). If the TSP does not respond to the claim within 30 days, or makes an offer that the Customer does not accept, the Customer may transfer the claim to the MCO within nine months of delivery. If the Customer transfers the claim as part of the claim, the MCO will only be responsible for depreciated replacement cost on the claims. The MCO will then attempt to recover FRV from the TSP. If the MCO recovers FRV, the MCO will then pay the member the difference between the depreciated cost already paid and the FRV cost...
Coast Guard Chiefs host 20th Annual Special Olympics

by Mike Cantere

On Friday June 6th, the mission (and by that I mean everybody) came together at the Conway Army gym at Otis to partake in a very special event, the Haitian Assistance Corporation 20th Annual Special Olympics. After a poopy parade around the gym by athletes from Plymouth, Buzzards, Upper Cape and Hyannis, Master of Ceremonies Ms. Cynthia D’Mello turned the microphone over to USCG Air Station Cape Cod’s Commanding Officer, Captain Dan Abil. Captain Abil welcomed the athletes, volunteers and the Haitians alike to the Opening Ceremony.

A gold medal celebration!

The Opening Ceremonies were received by Carol Cahill from Braintree, Luan Jolivette from Hyannis, Lisa Sarayr from Plymouth and Frank Santoro from Upper Cape. They were followed up by Torchi Bears from Springfield, Ma and two people from Braintree, Phillip Thalheim from Hyannis, Chris Devon from Plymouth and Chris Petrolia from Upper Cape. Special Olympics representative Katie Squires presented USCIC Chief Petty Officer Travis Cholewa with an appreciation plaque for being the event chairman for 2004. (Presented who went out to CPO John Hughes and SCPO Michael Allen, retired, who assisted Cholewa at New Travi is just a man of few words, and my guess is you’ll never see him with his chest pulled out and mosque, so I’ll do it for him, he really did an awesome job helping to coordinate an event of this size in which over 200 Special Olympic Athletes competed in numerous events while close to staff and volunteers saw to making this one of the biggest and best events we have ever had. And it wasn’t just the Coast Guard who made a great showing there were plenty of Air Force, National Guard personnel and lots of other volunteers in hand to lend their help.

Want to know the key to being a Special Olympics volunteer? Show up, have fun, get your t-shirt and Free Checks and Re-Orders

After the track and field events took place, everyone had a nice relaxing lunch, but it was everyone except the judges who were “on vacation” to help judge and score the events. Each group makes a banner and they ended up on several different categories, with the winners getting an ice cream social hot fudge Sunday at the Otis. It is a big honor to avoid and the pressure is on the judges to pick the best hot fudge ever, for some reason this year it was a very difficult task. This year’s judges were CPO Bruce Coutley, CPO Michelle Valdes, CPO James Kline and Ms. Abby Trivett. Upper Cape banner featured a quilt that they had sewed together which stated “Going forward into the future”.

Photos by Mike Cantere

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Softball

Wood's Hole Coast Guard team and thanks to the efforts of Mike "Jorgy" Jorgenson, a team of fill ins who jumped into the fray when one of the teams dropped out. I named them the SANIBEL "Scrubs" since they whipped a team together and managed to play all four of their games on Saturday, and won two of them. (Jorgy is on the Cutter SANIBEL out of Woods Hole, and he had a couple of his crew, friends and other assorted castaways that helped him pull a team together so we could avoid forfeits and delays to the schedule, THANKS AGAIN JORGY!)

The tourney kicked off on Friday night as the Crush beat the Maine team and the Bang did the same to the Woods Hole team, who were headed up by Brooke Dunn. On Saturday nine games were played on each field, in the JT bracket the Falmouth team beat the Misfits, Warnicas beat the Crush, the Misfits beat Maine, the Crush then beat the Misfits, the Falmouth team beat the Crush, Warnicas knocked off the Misfits and the Falmouth team defeated Maine.

The key game of the bracket for the top seed going into Sunday came down to the Falmouth team and the Bang. The game lived up to the hype as Warnicas rallied for the victory winning by one run in the bottom of the seventh inning. Warnicas finished the day at 4-0, the Falmouth team went 3-1, the Crush went 2-2, the Misfits went 1-3, and Pave PAWS was 1-3 and Woods Hole went 0-4. Showing true team spirit, during Woods Hole games against the Pirates, several of their teammates were called back to duty at the station due to a Search and Rescue case.

Without any fanfare or controversy, players from the Pirates and other teams stepped in to help finish the game. Woods Hole may not have won any games, but they came back for the last game of the night and finished up against the Scrubs, I'm pretty sure they had a good time, as evidenced by their "celebration" after their last game ended. Who am I kidding, their whole weekend was a celebration to blow off some steam and have some fun as the station gets ready for a busy summer, nothing wrong with that!

The tourney format went as follows, each team plays four games in their bracket, with the top two teams from each bracket advancing to a double elimination tourney on Sunday. So on Sunday the AF Bracket winners took on the JT Bracket runners-up, the powerful team from Falmouth who lost to Warnicas by one run. In the other game the 4-0 (Warnicas) Bracket winners team took on the AF Bracket runners-up, The Bang! Unfortunately for the Pirates and Bang! The Falmouth team and Warnicas flexed their muscles as both won big, Falmouth defeated the Pirates 24-5 and Warnicas defeated The Bang 20-0. This set up the Falmouth team to take on Warnicas and give them a second shot at the title.

They beat the Pirates on the AF Bracket, the Falmouth team rallied again, and the game got very exciting. As the game wound down, the Falmouth team defeated the Pirates 1-0 and with a 17-3 win and a 20-0 win, Falmouth advanced to the finals on Sunday.

The key game of the top seed headed into Sunday came down to the Falmouth and Warnicas. The game lived up to the hype as Warnicas rallied for the victory winning by one run in the bottom of the seventh inning. Warnicas finished the day at 4-0, the Falmouth team went 3-1, the Crush went 2-2, the Misfits went 1-3 and Maine didn't win a game, finishing at 0-4, but the players said they had a good time and would try to come back next year with a more competitive team. In the AF bracket, the Scrubs (who had some decent ball players, don't let that name fool you!) knocked of Pave PAWS, Pave PAWS then beat Woods Hole, the Pirates defeated the Scrubs, The Bang! defeated Pave PAWS, the Pirates beat Woods Hole. The Bang! beat the Scrubs, the Pirates knocked off Pave PAWS and the Scrubs beat Woods Hole. The key game in the AF bracket came down to one of the early games of the day, as the Pirates held the Bang! bats in check and came away with a low scoring defensive struggle as they beat The Bang! 6-3 and won the bracket with a 4-0 record. The Bang! bats came alive in their other three games, as they put up 20 or better runs in each game to finish 3-1 and advance to the finals on Sunday. The Scrubs finished up at 2-2, while Pave PAWS was 1-3 and Woods Hole went 0-4. Showing true team spirit, during Woods Hole games against the Pirates, several of their teammates were called back to duty at the station due to a Search and Rescue case.

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A public service message from the U.S. General Services Administration.
For Rent
Pond Front East Falmouth, two bedrooms, 1 bath, open floor plan, 3 season room, mostly deck, full basement. Enjoy swimming, fishing and small boating. Nice neighborhood. No smoking. $1300 per month. 1st, last, security. Available June 1. Possibly sooner if needed. 508-540-3144.

Softball
continue from page 6
Field bracket on Saturday as all the teams helped keep the games moving along was commendable, then on Sunday, the Air Station Open at the Falcon Golf Course.

MMR Energy Committee formed to conserve resources
By Elizabeth Kirkpatrick
There is a new organization in town: The MMR Energy Committee. In response to the Energy Policy Act of 2005 agencies on Base have joined forces to reduce our demand on the electrical grid, conserve resources, and save taxpayers dollars. The Coast Guard, Air and Army National Guard, Air Force Center for Engineering and the Environment, Impact Area Ground Water Study Office, Department of Agriculture, the VA, and the Cape & Islands Senior Environmental Corps are working together to attain these goals. However, the real solution is dependent on everyone who lives and works on the Massachusetts Military Reservation. This means your actions count!

POWER DOWN:
• Unplug chargers. One charger without anything attached draws 5 watts per hour, that’s 40 kilowatt hours per year, which contribute 100 pounds of carbon dioxide (CO2), a greenhouse gas, to the environment. Cell phones, iPods, cameras, power tools… Unplug.
• Plug home electronics, such as TVs and DVD players, into power strips; turn the power strips off when the equipment is not in use. TVs and DVDs in standby mode still use several watts of power.
• If you can’t power down your computer at least turn off the monitor and accessories.
• Set your thermostat as low as is comfortable in the winter and as high as is comfortable in the summer.
• Install programmable thermostats.
• Replace traditional bulbs with Compact Fluorescent Light bulbs (CFLs). Always turn off lights when you leave the room or install motion sensors.
• Keep your refrigerator stocked with cold beverages will require less energy of this high demand appliance.
• Wash your laundry on cold. It will keep your clothes from fading and reduce 90% of the energy required as most of the energy use is for heating the water. For bonus points air dry.
• Try to use Energy Star appliances if possible.
• Cape Light Compact and arrange for an energy audit (1-800-797-6699).

WASTE:
1. LESS WATER:
It takes energy to run, heat, cool and treat what flows out of your tap. The average faucet runs 3 gallons/ minute. That is 4,380 gallons a year just to brush your teeth.
• Run the faucet for as short time as possible.
• Don’t let water run while brushing teeth or shaving.
• Take (even slightly) shorter showers.
• Run only full loads of dishes and laundry.
• Water yard early or end of day.
• Install a low flow shower head.
• Fill a plastic bottle with sand and water and place it in your toilet tank to reduce gallons per flush.
These are just a few tips to get you going. Don’t feel overwhelmed by making changes, choose a few that are easy for you and stick with them until they become natural habits. A world worth protecting is worth preserving. Watch for future articles featuring changes around the base and tips for modern living. Please direct all ideas, comments, and questions to Elizabeth Kirkpatrick, Outreach Campaign Coordinator at (508) 968 – 4327.

Ice Cream Social, Info Expo July 20
The Ice Cream Social and MMR Info Expo will be held on Air Station Cape Cod at the Base Chapel on Sunday, July 20 from 1-4pm. Ben and Jerry’s ice cream will be available for a $1.00/pint dish.
There will be multiple informational tables featuring Tricare, the Red Cross, Cape Cod Sponsors Organization, Base MMR, just to name a few. There will also be a Bounces House, a fire truck, the base ambulance, and a raffle. It will be a great opportunity to find out about the resources available to the Air Station and for you to meet your neighbors too!!

Jump into July – Just 2 Hours a Week!!
With warm weather upon us, Horizons for Homeless Children is looking for energetic and enthusiastic volunteers to be part of our family homeless shelters in Barnstable, Bristol, and Plymouth Counties. If you have an extra 2 hours a week and a desire to make a difference in the lives of some wonderful children, then we have the volunteer opportunity for you! Attendance at one of our training sessions is required. Sign up today! Contact Lindsay Fulton at (508) 999-9454 or at lfulton@horizonsforhomelesschildren.org for more information and an application, or fill one out online at www.horizonsforhomelesschildren.org

For Rent
Rentals available at Hiltz’s Harborfront Apartments and Motel. We honor the per diem rate room round and most all of our places are located on Falmouth harbor and have fully equipped kitchens and we offer High Speed Internet. Check out our web page at www.hiltzmotel.com or call us at 508-540-2499.

Notes of Interest
Great TRICARE choice!

US Family Health Plan provides the full TRICARE Prime benefit plus some nice extras like discounts on eyewear, hearing aids, and fitness centers. There's no paperwork, no surprise bills. And, for active-duty family members, there are no co-payments except for prescriptions. Enrollment is open now to military beneficiaries of all ages.

“This is the TRICARE plan I trust to care for my family.”
– Jacqueline Gates, Active Duty Dependent
US Family Health Plan member, Oxford, MA

“US Family Health Plan gives me the most flexibility of any TRICARE plan – I love it.”
– CAPT Steve Heinrich, USNR (Ret.)
US Family Health Plan member
Lexington, MA

“My wife and I are saving $350 to $400 a month just on prescriptions.”
US Family Health Plan member
Boxboro, MA

“Everybody’s health plan should be this good.”
– Cherie Saunders, Active Duty Dependent
US Family Health Plan member
Newport, RI

Cape Cod Hospital, Falmouth Hospital, and Jordan Hospital are part of our provider network

US Family Health Plan
Network

1-888-815-5510 (toll-free)
www.usfamilyhealthplan.org