

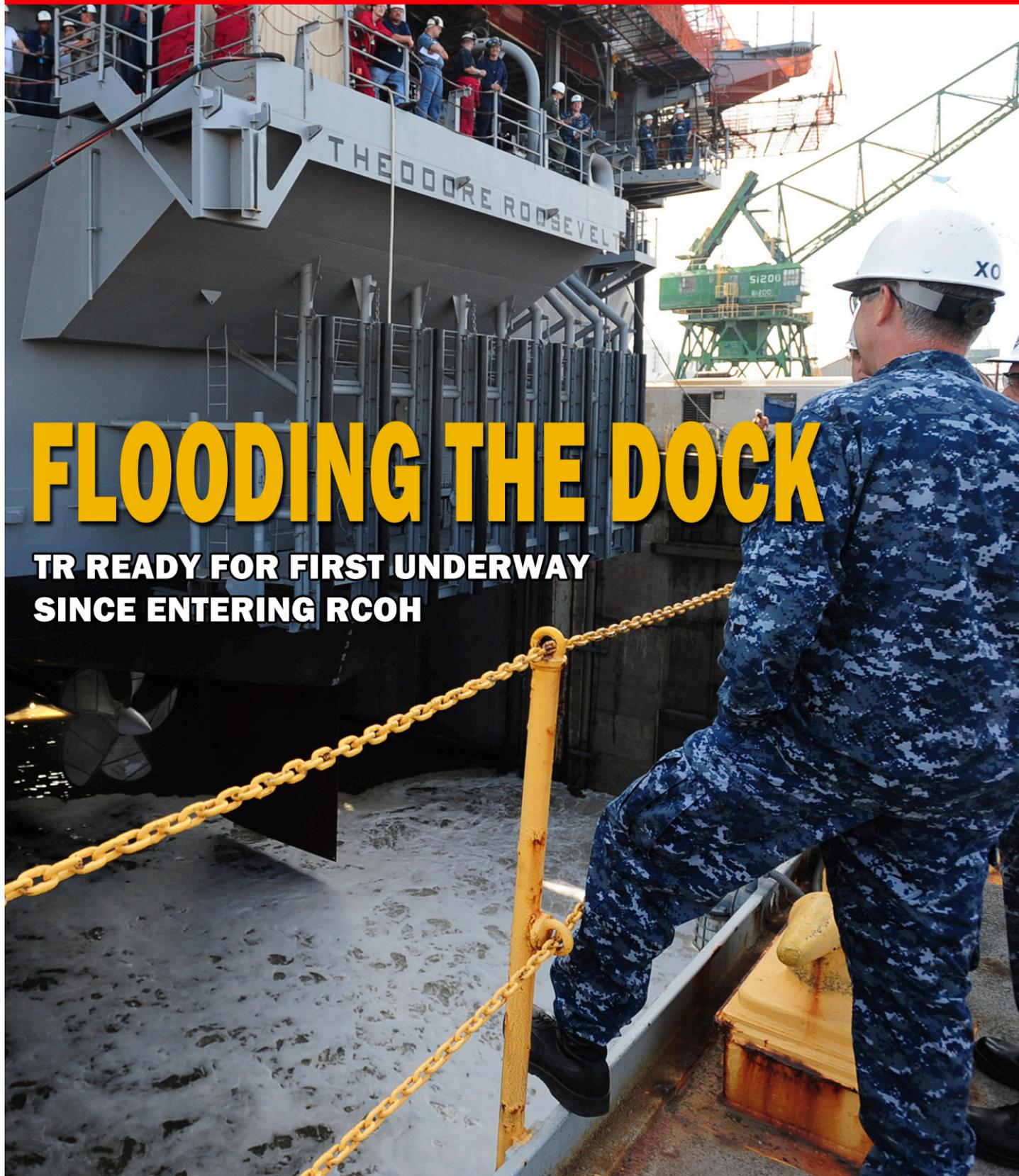
FUN AND FITNESS WITH TR

TR Sailors support school's annual athletic field day

TR'S FLYING SQUAD STANDS READY

TR's at-sea damage control team ready for underway

USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT
ROUGH RIDER



FLOODING THE DOCK

**TR READY FOR FIRST UNDERWAY
SINCE ENTERING RCOH**

Rough Rider of the Week: PSSN Elisa Ortiz

By MCSA John Kotara

This week's USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) Rough Rider of the week is Personnel Specialist Seaman Elisa F. Ortiz from Training Department's Educational Service Office (ESO).

The San Antonio, Texas native enlisted in the Navy in 2005.

"I was working at an office job, and just wanted something different in my life," said Ortiz.

When Ortiz met with her detailer she was told she could either be a personnelman or a disbursing clerk.

"I wanted to be a disbursing clerk because I was

told it dealt more with numbers, where as personnelman dealt with papers," said Ortiz.

Luckily for Ortiz, the rates merged and created the current personnel specialist status.

After leaving her first command in Charleston, N.C., Ortiz arrived aboard TR and, according to her supervisors, has been an integral part of the Training Department.

"Seaman Ortiz is performing exceptionally in a demanding billet," said Senior Chief Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Equipment) Fredrick L. Hardy (AW/SW), departmental leading chief petty officer of Training Department. "She leads the daily efforts of three

Seaman and is the subject matter expert in all ESO related tasks."

While at work Ortiz is tasked with a heavy work load that makes the careers of TR's crew move smoothly. Ortiz is responsible for updating personnel Navy Standard Integrated Personnel (NSIP) files, keeping Relational Administrative Database (RADM) updated, following through with Sailors reenlistment paperwork, and getting everything in order for all Sailors advancement testing.

"I love my job, I couldn't ask for anything else," said Ortiz, "I love helping people, and because of my help I get to watch people succeed in their career."

Ortiz explains that while she does not know everything about her job, she will do her best to find out the answer and lead Sailors in the right direction.

Ortiz is a very busy Sailor, but when it comes to free time she likes to spend time with her family.

"I don't have a lot of free time, but I make the most of it."



TR Sailors foster fun & fitness at school field day

By MC1 (SW) Kayla Thompson

Twenty-one Sailors from USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) gathered at Willis A. Jenkins Elementary School in Newport News, Va., May 13 to help support the school's annual athletic field day and engage with students.

The Sailors administered 25 different athletic events, including Nerf hockey, tug-of-war and various obstacle courses, and made sure the 230 participating students had fun while being safe.

Denise Neveux, a 28-year physical education teacher and organizer of the field day, said her father was a World War II Navy veteran, and she enjoys having the Sailors come out to support the school because they provide good examples for the children.

"It's cool for our kindergarteners, first and second graders to see role models and see how

USS Theodore Roosevelt Sailors treat everyone," said Neveux. "The school is big on careers so the kids will see the Navy as an option. The military also instills discipline and having the Sailors here is a good way to show the kids how important that is."

Master Chief Machinist's Mate (SW/AW) Preston Whitlock, from Theodore Roosevelt's Engineering Department, said that it's important for Sailors to participate in community relations projects such as this.

"Health and fitness is where we're focusing today, so it's important for them to get out and be active," said Whitlock.

"Being involved builds camaraderie between the local community and lets them know we care," said Whitlock. "On a scale of one to 10, today was above a 10. It was energetic and inspirational to interact with the kids. They're the future, and we have to let them know that we care.



Aviation Ordnanceman 3rd Class Thomas Hartsfield from USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) judges the "big shoe" race at Jenkins Elementary School in Newport News, Va., May 13.

Photo by MCSN Tyrell Morris



Quartermaster Seaman Katie Sulder from USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71), encourages students during a relay race at Jenkins Elementary School in Newport News, Va., May 13. TR Sailors volunteered to assist with the school's field day for kindergarten through second grade students.

Photo by MCSN Tyrell Morris

I have a 4 year old, and playing with him is something you can't replace, so getting out with these kids is something I really enjoy."

Raevon Davis, a first grader at Jenkins, said his favorite event for the day was the broad jump.

"I really liked that one because you get to jump really far. I also liked the animal toss and a lot of other games," said Davis. "I'm happy that the Navy is here."

Jenkins Elementary School is one of the many community relations projects Theodore Roosevelt Sailors have been involved with in 2011 in the Hampton Roads area.



THEODORE ROOSEVELT

MOVING ON UP

TR prepares to undock and move to Pier 3

Story By MCSN Tyrell Morris
Photos By MCSA John Kotara

USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) will be undocking and transiting to Pier 3 of Newport News Shipbuilding, May 21.

TR Sailors have been conducting drills and training in preparation for this evolution. Last week, TR Sailors held a fast cruise to simulate their roles and situations they may encounter during ship's movement.

"We have been working diligently with the shipyard workers and civilian contractors to make sure this is a smooth evolution for everyone involved," said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Cary Carrigan, TR's Bos'n.

Newport News Shipbuilding workers and TR coordinated earlier this week to flood the drydock. This is the first time water has touched the hull of the ship since 2009. This is a monumental moment in Refueling Complex Overhaul (RCOH).

"This will be an all hands evolution for [several departments]," said Senior Chief Boatswain's Mate (SW/SCW) Nathan Dalton.

During the transit, Sailors from Deck Department will be manning the ship's foc'sle and the stern. They may also assist at line stations if needed.

"Once the ship moves to Pier 3, we will continue to rehab our spaces on the ship," said Dalton.

All hands from TR's Navigation Department will be readily available as well.

"The Navigation Department will be on hand to ensure the safe navigation of the ship from point A to point B using all available means," said Chief Quartermaster (SW/AW) Harold Stubbs.

TR's Navigator, Cmdr. Roger Curry, will be the senior watch officer during the ship's movement. He will be in charge of the organization of all watches for the evolution.

"Our primary concern once the ship is moved to Pier 3 is to put the bridge back together so the ship will be ready to navigate," said Stubbs. "We have several navigation systems that need to be set up and tested."

To ensure the safety of all hands, TR's crew has undergone extensive emergency training during the yard period.

"The In-port Emergency Team (IET) will be manned and ready standing by to assist in any capacity needed," said Machinist's Mate 1st Class (SW) Guess, duty section five fire marshal.

Until the transition is complete, TR's Flying Squad, a select group of qualified Sailors charged with responding to any casualties, will be in charge of ensuring the ship remains safe. Once the ship is moored to pier 3, IET will take over.

"IET will assume responsibility of the entire ship once we move to Pier 3," said DC1 (SW/AW) Roger Brink.

"Ship's crew, especially duty IET, will have to be more vigilant in everything we do when we're floating again."



1. USS Theodore Roosevelt's Executive Officer, Captain Douglas C. Verissimo stands by to watch the initial stage of flooding the dry dock. This crucial part of the evolution saw the dock flooded with 12 feet of water and was held to check the structural integrity throughout the ship.
2 and 3. USS Theodore Roosevelt's Sailors stand by to watch the historic initial stage of flooding the dry dock. TR is slated to undock and conduct its first underway since 2009 to move to pier 3.

TR judges second annual public speaking contest

By MC1 (SW) Kayla Thompson

The assistant combat direction center officer aboard USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) served as a judge for the second annual public speaking contest at Theodore Roosevelt High School in Washington, D.C., May 12.

Lt. Cmdr. Charles Rogers judged the contest that was sponsored by the D.C. chapter of the Theodore Roosevelt Association and aimed at improving self expression.

Rogers served on a five-judge panel, which included prominent people in the community, including Anne Roosevelt Mason, a great granddaughter of Theodore Roosevelt; the U. S. Senate Sergeant at Arms, Terrance Gainer; an executive for a local television channel; a lawyer; and an educator. The school is predominantly

African American and Rogers, an African American himself, volunteered his time because of his desire to help at-risk youth. Rogers regularly donates his time to efforts like these in the community.

The judges were introduced to the contestants, who drew names to decide the order in which they would speak. They were given five minutes to speak on any aspect of Theodore Roosevelt's life.

"All nine students were well studied and prepared for the stiff competition, but there was one young man who really stood out," said Rogers. "The winner, Jonathan Rucker, was very articulate and eloquent and tied his research of Theodore Roosevelt to his personal decision to join the Navy. He had me with that declaration. He just really stood out among

the competitors."

Once all the students were done and the judges finished their deliberation on who the winner should be, they provided feedback on things that impressed them and areas they could improve upon. The judges also had the opportunity to speak to the students on a personal level after the contest was done.

"I was able to speak to the winner about things to expect when he hits the deck plates as a Sailor," said Rogers. "The event overall was as rewarding for me as it was for the kids because it was an opportunity for me to mentor them. Some children didn't have parents there to cheer them on, and it was an opportunity to be a good role model for them."



Photo Find by MCSN Sean Hurt

PHOTO FIND

Can you find the 8 out of place items in this photo?

1. A clock
2. A planet
3. A lamp
4. A school bus
5. Leprechaun
6. A baseball bat
7. A hammer
8. TR the Man

Rock band Thrid Eye Blind performed a concert at Naval Station Norfolk, May 13. The free concert was sponsored by Fleet and Family Services and was open to all Sailors and their families in the Hampton Roads area. More than 2,000 people were in attendance including TR Sailors.

Photo by MCSN Jennifer Castillo

TR's 'Flying Squad' stands ready for Ship's movement

By MCSN Jennifer Castillo

With the movement of the ship right around the corner, USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) Sailors have been keeping busy. Everyone must be alert and ready to respond to any situation that may take place. TR's "Flying Squad" stands at the ready for anything and everything.

The Flying Squad is the name given to the selected group of Sailors that respond to any casualties, ruptures, fires, or other possible emergencies on board they are the primary response team when bells start ringing over the IMC.

"The Flying Squad is essentially the at-sea Inport Emergency Team (IET)," said Electrician's Mate 1st Class (SW/AW) Chavonia Brown. "When we move the ship, The Flying Squad will be manning spaces to alert the right people in case of any casualties."

The Flying Squad consists of Sailors from Damage Control and Repair Divisions from Engineering Department. Chief Damage Controlman (SW/AW) John Scott said the general rates that make up the team are damage controlman,

hull maintenance technician and machinery repairman.

"Everyone is responsible for fighting fires and saving the ship, but this is the primary response team for all casualties," said

casualties and prevent ship damage. The squad works in 12-hour shifts divided up between day and night.

"We have long days but we're always at the ready," said Damage Controlman 3rd Class (SW) Brock Wisniewski. "We have checks and walk-troughs daily."

In addition to responding to emergencies, the Flying Squad is responsible for checking the ship's water levels every six hours. There's approximately 120 check points according to Wisniewski.

"It's another important job we do to make sure the ship is balanced when we leave the dry dock and move to the pier," said Wisniewski.

When the ship is at sea, the Flying Squad is identified by the cover they wear. Being part of the squad means they get to eat first at chow and do not stand deck watches. After all, they are the primary response team for every situation.

The Flying Squad has a motto, "There's nobody but us when [stuff] hits the fan." If stuff does hit the fan, the Flying Squad will be at the ready to swoop in and take control.



Damage Controlman 3rd Class (SW) Crystal Latham, from USS Theodore Roosevelt's Engineering department's DC division, inspects SCBA equipment in preparation for the ship's slated undocking and move to pier 3.

Photo by MCSN Jonathan Donnelly

Scott. "They hold themselves to a higher standard, they are elite. They have been trained well and know what they are doing."

Their purpose is to minimize

Photo of the Week



USS Theodore Roosevelt's Commanding Officer, Captain William J. Hart; Executive Officer, Captain Douglas C. Verissimo, Command Master Chief (SW/AW) Jack Callison and Sailors from various departments stand in front of TR's bow for the last group picture taken before the historic event of flooding the dry dock.

Photo by MCSN John Kotara

ANNOUNCEMENTS —TR's new website—

Just as USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) is undergoing a major overhaul, so is its command website. In addition to a new look, the site also has a new URL: www.roosevelt.navy.mil. On the site you can see TR-produced videos such as the Refueling Complex Overhaul commercial, the weekly editions of the Rough Rider newspaper, and stories on TR's involvement in the community as well as special events. The site also features a direct link to TR's Facebook page. Also featured is impor-

tant information for current crew members, such as command events and TR scholarship application information and welcome aboard briefings for prospective Sailors.



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