In this issue:

- Carrier Strike Group Two changes command
- Sailor phones are installed on CVN 77
- 2,000 Sailors spend day helping community
- Women’s equality day
Command Corner

From the Commanding Officer, Capt. Chip Miller

Avengers,

I want to begin by congratulating all of our Chief Selectees for their achievement. You have reached a career milestone, and in a short time you will be a valuable member of the USS GEORGE H.W. BUSH (CVN 77) Chiefs’ Mess, a time-honored fellowship of outstanding leaders and friends, steeped in naval tradition. I know each of you will greatly contribute to the already impeccable leadership on board this vessel.

Congratulations also go out to the recently announced Lieutenant Commander Selectees: Tom Arnold from Supply Department and John Balentine from Health Services Department, as well as the promoted Chief Warrant Officers: Kenneth Wilson of Operations Department, Warren Shaw of Deck Department and Yolando Loveless of Combat Systems Department.

On the subject of advancement, the September advancement exams are just around the corner and I cannot overemphasize how vital it is that we emphasize the importance of studying and maximizing study opportunities. One of our guiding principles is that we set our Sailors up for success, and we will do just that, by providing each individual with ample time and resources to become fully prepared for their exams. USS GEORGE H.W. BUSH has always enjoyed top-tier performances among the fleet when it comes to advancement, and I am certain that we will continue to excel in that area, as we do in all others.

We have almost completed another successful underway and I am extremely pleased with the invaluable experience we gained through our daily operations and training exercises. It is of the utmost importance that we utilize our at-sea periods as opportunities to certify equipment, qualify our personnel and conduct training, so that this warship and its crew are fully prepared for our first-ever combat deployment. Keeping this in mind, please continue to be diligent in all of the training scenarios we conduct, from General Quarters and mass casualty drills, to man overboard and security alert drills. Remember, we train like we fight and we fight like we train, and we have already witnessed how essential that is earlier this summer.

Summer is nearing its end and Labor Day is next week, so I encourage each of you to take advantage of the weather and the time off and spend it with your families and friends. Be sure to take advantage of the numerous activities made available by the Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Division, many of which are free. Please use this time to unwind and take a needed break from the constant effort it takes to make an aircraft carrier operate without a hitch. Although it is a day away from the ship and work, it is still an opportunity to practice Operational Risk Management. We owe it to ourselves and loved ones to make wise decisions that will ensure our own safety and the safety of those around us.

Thank you for your continued hard work and effort, both at sea and in port. It’s the people on board this ship that make it operate smoothly and serve as beacon of freedom to the world. We are…FREEDOM AT WORK.

Sincerely,

Capt. Chip Miller
Commanding Officer

Aviation Boatswain’s Mates (Equipment) Airman (AW/SW) Beatriz A. Alvarez, left, and 3rd Class (AW) Mark D. Jolly, both of Air Department’s V-2 Division, cut an arresting gear cable to length, Aug. 24.
Rear Adm. Nora W. Tyson assumed command of Carrier Strike Group Two (CSG 2) during a change of command ceremony held aboard the strike group’s flagship, USS GEORGE H.W. BUSH (CVN 77), July 29.

Commander, U.S. 2nd Fleet, Vice Adm. Melvin G. “Mel” Williams Jr., presided over the ceremony, which included Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Gary Roughead as the guest speaker.

“I am honored and humbled to have been selected to this position, and I promise you I will give everything I have to the mission and the Sailors and families of Carrier Strike Group Two,” Tyson said.

Tyson, a native of Memphis, Tenn., joined the Navy in 1979 after graduating from Vanderbilt University and completing Officer Candidate School in Newport, R.I., that same year.

As a naval flight officer, Tyson’s Navy career included three tours in Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron (VQ) 4 at Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Md., and Tinker Air Force Base, Okla. She also served as the commanding officer of the amphibious assault ship USS BATAAN (LHD 5). Under her command, BATAAN deployed twice in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and led the Navy’s relief efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

The CNO spoke about Tyson’s unique qualifications for her new role as the head of CSG 2, referring specifically to her previous assignment as Commander, Task Force 73 and Commander, Logistics Group, Western Pacific in Singapore.

“Singapore is a place I know well and have much affection for,” said Roughead. “But that job comes with all the challenges of providing logistics and operational coordination in an area of key strategic interest that happens to encompass 51 million square miles of sea space. It should come as no surprise that I do not assign officers there by chance.”

Tyson spoke of how proud she is to take on the latest and most challenging role of her career, leading a strike group consisting of the Navy’s newest aircraft carrier, the ships of Destroyer Squadron 22, and the squadrons of Carrier Air Wing Eight. As CSG 2’s 69th commander, Tyson talked about the critical role of the Carrier Strike Group in the nation’s warfighting arsenal.

“As we all know, these are challenging times to wear our uniform and serve our nation,” Tyson said. “Demand for our naval forces will only grow, putting increasing pressure on the finite resources available to us.”

She went on to say that the Strike Group would “leverage our collective experience and creativity to do whatever is necessary to defend our nation. We will be ready to respond effectively and efficiently to any tasking we might receive. Our leadership, and our fellow countrymen, expect nothing less from us,” Tyson added.

CSG 2 is scheduled to deploy in 2011.
Nearly 2,000 USS GEORGE H.W. BUSH Sailors spend day helping Hampton Roads

By USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77) Public Affairs

Nearly 2,000 USS GEORGE H.W. BUSH Sailors participate in a seven-city community service project entitled “1,000 Points of Light” Aug. 17. Nearly 2,000 Sailors from the Navy’s newest aircraft carrier took part in almost 95 projects across the Hampton Roads area.

The day began at 6 a.m. with an event kick-off at Naval Station Norfolk’s Pier 14. Lt. Sunny Mitchell, one of the event coordinators and a chaplain aboard the ship, spoke to the Sailors about serving as a global force for good in the local community and exemplifying former President George H.W. Bush’s dedication to service.

“All across the world our Navy is engaged in helping people,” said Mitchell, mentioning Sailors who responded to the earthquake in Haiti and those preparing to deploy to Pakistan to assist flood victims. “It’s part of who we are as a service, and it’s just as important that we carry that message to our neighbors right here in the Hampton Roads area.”

From there, the crew spread out across the Tidewater region. The individual projects were coordinated by the ship’s Command Religious Ministries Department. The ship’s crew, coordinating with local government and non-governmental volunteer agencies, volunteered their time helping out Virginia Beach Parks and Recreation, Newport News Recreation and Tourism, Portsmouth Parks, the Norfolk Zoo, and other organizations such as Habitat for Humanity and the Hampton Clean City Commission. Members of the crew also volunteered with the Hampton Public School system to read to children.

Crews of volunteers ranging from 10 to more than 100 spread out to a wide variety of projects. While 20 Sailors cleaned up a cemetery in Virginia Beach, another 50 Sailors cleaned the goat shed and bison yard at the Norfolk Zoo. Nearly 150 Sailors installed surfacing at five different elementary schools in Newport News, and 60 Sailors assisted with various projects for Habitat for Humanity.

More than 100 Sailors stripped and waxed the floors of nine schools in Portsmouth.
As the crew of USS GEORGE H.W. BUSH, we are also members of the Tidewater community," said Mitchell. "We live in Norfolk, Suffolk, Portsmouth, Hampton, Newport News, Chesapeake and Virginia Beach. Our children go to school here. We take our families to the beaches and parks here. It’s important to show our neighbors that we’re not just stationed here, we live here too.”

Twenty Sailors went to Red Wing Park in Virginia Beach, where park supervisor Jim Kucenski, said the GEORGE H.W. BUSH Sailors completed more than 100 hours of work that would have taken weeks to complete otherwise, ranging from digging ditches and trimming shrubs to painting and pressure washing picnic areas.

“This is one of the best groups I’ve seen," said Kucenski. “Great enthusiasm and great attitudes, and they’re getting a lot of work done.”

“We live around here, and we all use this park. It’s great to be able to give back," said Senior Chief Cryptologic Technician (Technical) (SW/AW) Craig Bar.

“It feels good to be outside in the fresh air working hard and making a difference," said Logistics Specialist 1st Class (SW/AW) Jilienne Commerford.

This is the second “1,000 Points of Light” community relations project conducted by GEORGE H.W. BUSH. More than 1,000 Sailors participated in the inaugural project in June 2009, assisting the community in over 20 volunteer projects.4

1. Chief Personnel Specialist (SW/AW) Charles Hamilton, of Administration Department, distributes gravel around the goat pen at the Norfolk Zoo. 2. Aviation Boatswain’s Mate (Handling) Airman Adam G. Willis, left, and Aviation Ordnanceman Airman Brittany N. Taylor build shelves at St. Vincent De Paul Catholic Church in Newport News. 3. Damage Controlman Fireman (SW) Iren Vangang, top, and Damage Controlman 1st Class (SW/AW) Kenneth N. Alexander, of Engineering Department, add a handrail to the front steps of the Samaritan House in Virginia Beach.
1,000 Points of Light across Hampton Roads

1. Yeoman Seaman Clifton Powell, of Administration Department, pulls weeds from a flower bed at the Virginia Zoological Park in Norfolk. 2. Aviation Ordnanceman 3rd Class Maria T. Hutchins, of Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Department, cuts potatoes at St. Vincent De Paul Catholic Church’s soup kitchen in Newport News. 3. Quartermaster Seaman Courtney Hursey, of Navigation Department, spreads mulch at Red Wing Park in Virginia Beach. 4. Ship’s Serviceman Seaman Tyshanna E. Smith, of Supply Department, reads a book to elementary school children in Hampton. 5. Aviation Maintenance Administrationman 2nd Class Sherron T. Cardwell distributes gravel around the goat pen at the Norfolk Zoo. 6. Sailors lend a hand at the local Habitat for Humanity in Norfolk.

Photo by MC2 (SW) Eric S. Garst

Photo by MCSN Sandi Grimnes

Photo by MCSN Kevin J. Steinberg

Photo by MC3 Kasey Krall

Photo by MC3 Brent Broker

Photo by MC3 Rusty Kral

Photo by AWS3 Joshua K. Horton
What are you doing this Labor Day Weekend?

**The music scene**

**Friday, Sept. 3 - Sunday, Sept. 5**
- Virginia Beach Verizon Wireless American Music Festival featuring REO Speedwagon, Pat Benatar, Gloria Gaynor, Delbert, McClinton, Chicago and many more. Bands in the parks of 13th Street, 17th Street, 24th Street and 31st Street are free. Bands on the beach between 5th & 7th Streets require tickets. Call 491-7866 for more info and to get tickets.

**Friday, Sept. 3**
- Thirty Seconds to Mars at The Norva, 8 p.m.
- Lady Antebellum in Concert at nTelos Wireless Pavilion, 8 p.m.

**Saturday, Sept. 4**
- Tears for Fears at The Norva, 8 p.m.

**Sunday, Sept. 5**
- Big Bands on the Bay Finale with the Terry Chessom Orchestra at Ocean View Park, 7-10 p.m.
- 16th Annual Symphony Under the Stars Finale and Wine for the Arts at Chesapeake City Park, 4 p.m. Free and open to the public.
- Tears for Fears at The National, 8 p.m.

**Sporting/Outdoor activities**

**Friday, Sept. 3**
- Tides vs Charlotte at Harbor Park, 7:15 p.m.
- Kayaking at First Landing State Park 9-11 a.m. or 12-2:20 p.m. at 64th Street entrance; no experience necessary. $50 per person or 10% discount for groups of seven or more.

**Sunday, Sept. 5**
CONTINUATION BOARD KEEPS BEST SENIOR SAILORS IN THE FLEET

By MC1 (AW) LaTunya Howard, Navy Personnel Command Public Affairs

The Navy announced the fiscal year 2011 (FY-11) performance-based board for continuation, which will convene Sept. 20 to review senior enlisted (Active/Reserve) personnel with more than 19 years of service.

The focus is performance within the last five years or since advancement to current grade (E-7 through E-9), whichever is later. According to NAVADMIN 276/10, an amplified update to NAVADMIN 180/10, documented misconduct, sub-standard or marginal performance will be the primary reason board-eligible Sailors will not be continued in the Navy past the 20-year mark. Among the specific performance indicators the board will consider are:

- Documented misconduct involving either Uniform Code of Military Justice (non-judicial punishment) or civilian offenses.
- Moral or professional dereliction such as relief because of cause or detachment for cause.
- Continuity gaps in evaluation/fitness report of greater than 90 days.
- The Sailor’s evaluation/fitness report during the period reviewed includes marks showing sub-standard or marginal performance.

The board will consider these factors and others within the entire record and use its judgment to select Sailors for continuation whose service is in the best interest of the Navy.

The continuation board has expanded from last year, West said. “More people are being looked at across the Navy’s Total Force including reserves and some communities that were exempt last year.”

For more news from Navy Personnel Command, visit www.navy.mil/local/npc/.
### Fleet and Family Support Center
#### September 2010 Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Operation Prepare Newport News 9-11 a.m.</td>
<td>2 Career Planning Norfolk 1-4 p.m.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Interview Techniques Norfolk 8:30-11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>7 Retirement Planning Norfolk 1-2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>8 Dads and Discipline Oceana 2-4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Art of Money Management Oceana 8 a.m.-4 p.m.</td>
<td>14 Building Healthy Relationships Norfolk 6-8:30 p.m.</td>
<td>15 Welcome to the Military Oceana 5:30-8:30 p.m.</td>
<td>16 Consumer Awareness Oceana 2:30-4 p.m.</td>
<td>17 New Parent Resource Awareness Workshop Norfolk 8-noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 Credit Management Oceana 2:30-4 p.m.</td>
<td>21 Effective Resume Writing Oceana 9-noon</td>
<td>22 Parenting in the Military Oceana 2-4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>23 Parenting in the Military Oceana 2-4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>24 Home Ownership Little Creek 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 Federal Employment System Norfolk 1-4 p.m.</td>
<td>28 How to Survive the Holidays Financially Norfolk 1-2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>29 Children and Divorce Northwest 1-5 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>