

Navy Lodging Program

Fort Story Navy Getaways Holds Grand Opening Ceremony & Wine Tasting and Recognizes Employee for Earning Award for Excellence

On October 1, 2012, the doors closed at the Armed Forces Recreation Center at Cape Henry Inn (CHI) at Fort Story in Virginia Beach, Virginia providing MWR with the opportunity to merge the property management of two campgrounds, 17 log cabins and nine cottages. On Friday, April 20, 2013, Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek-Fort Story (JEBLCFS) introduced these properties as an official Navy Getaways destination at a grand opening ceremony and wine tasting.

The grand opening event of JEBLCFS Navy Getaways highlighted a desire to show off the new facilities. Through a joint effort with the Navy Exchange (NEX) and the Brashear Catering and Conference Center, Navy Getaways hosted the grand opening and wine tasting at the log cabins which provided an attractive and relaxing setting for the local community to see the facilities, taste a host of different wines and wander through the newly upgraded cabins.

The ceremony also provided an outstanding opportunity to recognize the staff, which had grown from five to 17 team members ranging from Desk and Housekeeping to Grounds and Maintenance, as well as their assistant manager, Ms. Flip Garnham. Ms. Garnham was recently nominated for one of three Commander Navy Installations Command (CNIC) Traveler's Awards. The Traveler's Award is given to the civilian employee who exemplifies the highest standards of professionalism, positive attitude, customer service and job knowledge as determined by the Navy Lodging program. Nominees are submitted and selected by the lodging program panel, and Ms. Garnham was chosen as the 2013 Navy Getaways winner.

The hard-working Garnham was stunned when she found out she was chosen for the award. "This was a total surprise, and it's certainly an honor and accomplishment to be recognized," said Garnham.

Ric Dodd, JEBLCFS Navy Getaways manager, credits Garnham as a driving force behind the success of Navy Getaways at JEBLCFS. "Her attitude and desire to present a high quality product are beyond compare," said Dodd.

Garnham has been an MWR employee for more than 30 years and oversees the reservation process for the two properties located seven miles apart. Becoming an official Navy Getaways destination took the work of a professional such as Garnham, who said "It's nice to be appreciated for the job."

Navy Getaways provides recreational lodging for active duty, retirees, NAF or DoD civilians and sponsored guests and are the ideal places to play, rest, relax, and recharge. From hiking, swimming, or simply unwinding, Navy Getaways caters to you and your family.

