



# *the Almanac*

*"I have not yet begun to fight!"* USS BONHOMME RICHARD LHD 6

19 January 2012

## **BHR Medical Team; *Working Hard for Mission Readiness***



*"The Sailors are our force for mission readiness and if their health is not taken care of then we cannot meet our mission..."*

*Story and photos by MC3 Katherine Barkley*

**N**o bells or whistles sounded, but it's apparent the hour has arrived. Just as if some well rehearsed drill is about to begin the hospital corpsmen aboard USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6) take their positions for the wave of Sailors about to wash through their doors.

The Individual Physical Readiness program aboard Bonhomme Richard is designed to support mission readiness of the crew. Without the medical team's calculated effort, neither the ship nor her crew will be ready to meet the mission tasking in the upcoming months.

Unlike treating a sudden epidemic of the stomach flu, this evolution is planned down to the last cotton swab. Set up at each station is a corpsman with an agenda. Each one's task an intricately crucial part of the overall objective, wellness.

When the rush finally hits each patient is ushered through various stations until their file is stamped with a "fit for full duty" or issues needing attention are discovered and planning for treatment is executed.

"This assessment includes not only prevention for any

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future conditions, but taking care of any current existing conditions as well,” said Lt.jg. Gurjan Santiago. “For example, if we go to an area where the patient must have certain immunizations, they will receive those or perhaps they need an eye exam or audiogram performed. This is an opportunity to catch up on those check-ups as well.”

Santiago said the ship must report its medical readiness to Navy Medical frequently and should be 100 percent ready at all times. However, with the holiday leave period just ending recently, the ship is currently

sitting at 77 percent. By hosting this week’s assessment the command will have a better grasp on the potential necessity of replacing Sailors lost to being medically non-deployable and provide time to fill those billets to meet manning requirements of the ship.

“This program is not going to be a success without the support of the whole command sending their personnel here to get their assessment,” said Santiago. “The Sailors are our force for mission readiness and if their health is not taken care of then we cannot meet our mission, so we have to get them ready.”

## KBHR MOVIE SCHEDULE THURSDAY 1/19

TIMES	CH 3	CH 4	CH 8
0600-0800	Tangled	Mr. Poppers Penguins	A Few Good Men
0800-1000	Zookeeper	Piranah 3	The Big Year
1000-1200	Friends With Benefits	Ninja Assassin	Shark Night
1200-1400	The Santa Clause	Pirates: Strange Tides	The Ides of March
1400-1600	The Change Up	The Smurfs	Footloose
1600-1800	The Stepfather	Christmas with the Kranks	Harry Potter Half Blood Prince
1800-2000	Tangled	Mr. Poppers Penguins	A Few Good Men
2000-2200	Zookeeper	Piranah 3	The Big Year
2200-0000	Friends With Benefits	Ninja Assassin	Shark Night
0000-0200	The Santa Clause	Pirates: Strange Tides	The Ides of March
0200-0400	The Change Up	The Smurfs	Footloose

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