



SPORTS & REC:

MHS TRACK AND FIELD PREPARES FOR STATE

PAGE A11

HAZEL MILLER BAND

MAY 24 | 6:30PM | MONTROSE PAVILION

DOORS OPEN 5:30PM

PURCHASE TICKETS ONLINE AT: [ASEOUTLOUD.COM/MS](http://ASEOUTLOUD.COM/MS)

OR VISIT THE PACE CENTERS IN MONTROSE AND ECKERT

CALL 870-477-5670 FOR QUESTIONS OR ASSISTANCE



75 CENTS

# MONTROSE DAILY PRESS

montrosepress.com | Thursday, May 17, 2018

## USS Colorado sailors speak of submarine life

- 4 sailors spoke Wednesday at MHS
- NJROTC cadet amazed by submariners' stories
- USS Colorado sailors meet with others in community

By ANDREW KISER  
ANDREW.K@MONTROSEPRESS.COM

Staying submerged for up to 60 days inside a cramped submarine seemed unreal to Montrose High School sophomore Katelin Whitcomb.

The NJROTC cadet was fascinated hearing first-hand stories from four submarine sailors about life on the USS Colorado during a presentation to the Navy Junior Reserve cadets and other MHS students May 16 at the MHS cafeteria.

"I thought it was really cool," Whitcomb said. "It was interesting to see that their everyday life is

different from ours, like being underwater for ... two months. And how they live with each other and how they deal and collaborate."

Machinist Mate (Nuclear) Chief Brian Love, Machinist Mate (Nuclear) 2nd Class Todd Ault, Sonar Technician (Submarine) 2nd Class Alexander Gilbert and Electrician's Mate (Nuclear) 3rd Class Robert Cooper spoke to the high schoolers.

Although the namesake of Colorado is on the side of the submarine, the four servicemen made their first visit to the Centennial State as the sub is stationed in Connecticut.

"The biggest thing, for me personally, is to connect with Colorado," Gilbert said. "We have all this cool stuff of Colorado on the boat. All our swag and stuff is

See SUBMARINE page A3

Looking up at a screen showing a polar bear causing havoc, Montrose High School students Daniella Ridgel, left, Jorja Wallace and Gene Kelley listen to the USS Colorado Sailors talk about their experiences and what it is like on a submarine on May 16 in the MHS Cafeteria. (Sydney Warner/Montrose Daily Press)

Speaking to the Montrose High School Navy JROTC cadets and other students, USS Sailors Machinist Mate (Nuclear) Chief Brian Love, front. Electrician's Mate (Nuclear) 3rd Class Robert Cooper, left, and Machinist Mate (Nuclear) 2nd Class Todd Ault answer questions on May 16. (Sydney Warner/Montrose Daily Press)

## Staffing crunch hits public safety

- Police department woefully understaffed
- City council to consider sales tax initiative
- Growing and complex crimes tax

behind in keeping up with the number of personnel that we need to handle calls, basically. We have a hard time fielding enough officers to handle the daily routine."

That's without factoring in

The 15th hire could be a city attorney dedicated to the police department for such civil issues as abatement of properties used in criminal activity.

The MPD sits near the state

Scanned by CamScanner



## SUBMARINE

FROM PAGE A1

on it. So the opportunity to come out here and meet the community and people we represent is awesome."

The four sailors said there are advantages to being on a submarine as they are well fed. The living conditions and being submerged for long periods of time also becomes bearable, Love added.

The chief recalled being in the MHS cadets' shoes when he was younger as he was part of NJROTC. Love said he hopes to fill them in on different aspects of sailor life that they haven't learned yet.

"I remember not knowing about submarines or nuclear power. I didn't know that was a thing growing up," he said. "We didn't have a lot of submariners around. So once I got the opportunity to

talk to people about that stuff, (well) now they know what we are out there doing. Hopefully some of them become submariners themselves."

NJROTC Capt. Lance Bach said he believes the four guests shared enlightening stories and experiences with the students.

"These are some of the most successful sailors in the Navy," Bach said. "They go through some of the most challenging and technical training. I think our cadets can really learn from their experiences individually. And we're very proud of the USS Colorado because it is the namesake of Colorado."

Gilbert said he hopes after speaking with the Montrose cadets, they at least receive a better understanding of a sailor's life.

"You can't tell them everything because you can't explain it all," Gilbert said. "But to give them a glimpse and a picture of what that's

like is really important. It's awesome to be able to provide that insight to people who are considering joining."

The four sailors had additional stops on Wednesday throughout Montrose. They met at the Warrior Resource Center, with the City of Montrose and gave a presentation to the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans and American Legion.

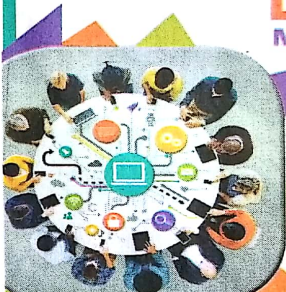
Whitcomb said she finds it beneficial NJROTC hosted such experienced sailors because it helps her decide what branch she wants to go into if she joins the armed services.

"I think this allows me to get a feel of if I want to go into the military, what kind of job I want to have," she said. "Do I want to be on the submarine or be on a carrier? It's just whatever."

Andrew Kiser is the Montrose Daily Press' sports/business writer. Follow him on Twitter @andrew\_kpress.

# FIND YOUR NEXT CAREER HERE!

## LOOK NO FURTHER!



The Montrose Daily Press can help you find exactly what you're looking for!

We have jobs ranging from shop mechanic to registered nurse and from the culinary arts to electrician!

You can also search our website at [www.montrosepress.com/classifieds/job](http://www.montrosepress.com/classifieds/job) to find your

**PERFECT CAREER** in our community.

**MONTROSE PRESS**