



# Jax Air News

## TOUCHING BASE

### Head to the fair

The third annual Multi-Cultural Awareness Fair is planned for Aug. 28 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Sea King Park 1 and 2. This event features cultural heritage representations and art displays, diverse cultural entertainment – music, dancers, live bands and a classic car show. Numerous command-sponsored booths will showcase different cultural heritages.

Free samples of cultural food dishes prepared by the galley will be offered from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Watch the upcoming Jax Air News issues for a complete schedule of events.

Volunteers are needed to help with this event. For more information, call Sylvia Kitt at 542-0649 or SMC Franzaglio at 542-3304.



### 2002 Regional Shareholder's Report released

Commander, Navy Region Southeast recently released the 2002 Regional Shareholder's Report showing a \$7.83 billion economic impact of the Navy-Marine Corps team in Northeast Florida and Southeast Georgia. The \$330-million increase over last year's report is the result of slight growth in personnel numbers, the annual pay raise for military and civilian employees, as well as nearly \$100 million more spent for goods and services purchased on the local economy.

The report is available at www.cnse.navy.mil. Click on "Command Info," then "Regional Shareholders Report," and then "1996-Present." In the "Region" section click on "Fleet Concentration Area" and then on "2002." You can review the files that make up the Executive Summary and find further details regarding the economic impact of the Navy-Marine Corps team on the Jacksonville area.



Members of VP-5 disembark from an aircraft at NAS Jax after arriving home Monday from a six-month deployment. Photos by JO2(SCW) Eric Clay

## 'Mad Foxes' back home

By Lt. j.g. Nathan Rocklein  
PAO VP-5

The VP-5 "Mad Foxes" returned home this week after a highly successful six-month deployment that stretched from South America, through Northern Europe and into the Middle East.

Under the leadership of their skipper, Cmdr. Scott Dueker, the Mad Foxes completed another deployment, the scope of which has not been seen since the Mad Foxes fought the Japanese in World War II.

For the first time in the history of VP-5, the Mad Fox team performed missions from nine separate detachment sites including Keflavik, Iceland, Andoya, Norway, Rota, Spain, Sigonella, Sicily, Italy, Souda Bay, Crete, Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico, Manta, Ecuador, Comalapa, El Salvador, and finally Curacao in the Dutch Lesser Antilles. Additionally, exercises were flown from air bases in France, Germany, Scotland, Panama, and England. At any given time, the Mad Foxes provided P-3 support for the fleet, covering over half the globe.



AM3 Daniel Jennings of VP-5 hugs his son, Trevor, upon his arrival home from a six-month deployment to South America, Northern Europe and the Middle East.

Throughout their deployment, VP-5 performed a variety of missions. While flying the Northern Atlantic Ocean, VP-5 aircrews operating out of Keflavik and Andoya conducted suc-

cessful anti-submarine warfare missions at a pace not seen since the end of the Cold War era. When the Mad Foxes first arrived in Keflavik, they were confronted with little daylight and extremely cold temperatures. Routinely operating above the Arctic Circle, crews were successful at their missions despite the challenging environment. Keflavik served as the Northern hub for VP-5's maintenance teams as they performed the lion's share of scheduled maintenance and required inspections for the squadron's nine aircraft.

While Rota, Spain, the Mad Foxes teamed up with NATO partners to provide maritime surveillance and an armed escort of coalition vessels bound for Operation Iraqi Freedom. The mission was vital for ensuring the safety of the supply and logistics vessels, as well as battle groups transiting through the Strait of Gibraltar.

Aircrews working out of Souda Bay, Crete, and Sigonella, Sicily, Italy, conducted maritime surveillance and

See VP-5, Page 11



Photo by Kaylee LaRocque  
Lt. Billy Brown inventories the gear in Ladder Truck 1 as part of his daily duties. Brown was recently selected Civilian Firefighter of the Year first runner-up of the 2002 Navy Fire and Emergency Service Awards.

### Local firefighter, department recognized

By Kaylee LaRocque  
Staff Writer

The NAS Jacksonville Fire Department has been recognized for being an outstanding unit within the Department of the Navy, taking first runner-up in the 2002 Navy Fire and Emergency Service Awards.

Also placing in the competition, was the NAS Jax Fire Department's nomination for Civilian Firefighter of the Year, Lt. Billy Brown, who took first runner-up in that category.

"Winning this award, is really a group effort. I think we have some of the very best and most professional firefighters within the Department

See FIREFIGHTER, Page 12

### Remembering Bob Hope May 29, 1903 - July 27, 2003

## Farewell, old friend!

From Staff

Flags were flown at half-staff on July 30 in honor of legendary entertainer and American patriot, Bob Hope.

Hope, who died July 27 at age 100, is the first and only American ever to be made an honorary Veteran of America's Armed Forces. He delighted Sailors aboard NAS Jacksonville on several occasions. His most memorable visit was during World War II.

NAS Commanding Officer Capt. Mark S. Boensel upon learning of Hope's death said, "I certainly never met Mr. Hope, but he was an inspiration and a comfort to millions of service men and women over the many, many years that he served our country. And he really did serve our country. He had a tremendous influence in our military and we'll miss him greatly."

During his 60-plus-year career, Hope entertained millions of service members at military hospitals, Army camps, airfields and Navy and Marine Corps bases. Acting Secretary of the Navy Hansford Johnson said, "Generations of Sailors and Marines and their families join me and every man and woman serving in uniform in mourning the loss of Bob Hope.



U.S. Navy Photos  
Comedian Bob Hope (above, on stage) entertains the troops of Naval Air Station and Naval Air Technical Training Center, Jacksonville, during a visit here in 1944. (Below) Comedian Bob Hope (left) chats with Adm. Andrew McFall, chief of Naval Air Operational Training during a USO visit to NAS Jacksonville in March 1944. Hope appeared in several shows here for the thousands of enlisted, officers and civilians of NAS Jax during his trip.

Bob Hope was more than an entertainer; he is and will always be an American icon. Over more than half a century, he brought smiles to young and old, from fresh-faced recruits to grizzled combat veterans around the world. His service and life are legendary, and we will miss him.

Today, USNS Bob Hope (T-AKR 300) proudly serves our nation in the defense of freedom. Our prayers and sympathies go out to his family, and to Bob we say, Thanks for the memories. May God bless Bob and his family."



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## Weekend Weather

	<b>FRIDAY 74/87</b> ISOLATED
	<b>SATURDAY 75/88</b> ISOLATED
	<b>SUNDAY 75/90</b> ISOLATED

Seven-day forecast available at Naval Atlantic Meteorology and Oceanography Facility Jacksonville's Web site: <https://www.nlmof.navy.mil>

## AMERICAN RED CROSS UPDATE

### Watch out for nature's fireworks - lightning

From the American Red Cross

If you'd like to experience a lightning strike, go golfing one Sunday in summer around 4 p.m. If you're really determined, be sure you golf in Florida. According to NASA News, Florida has twice as many lightning casualties as any other state.

Most lightning casualties occur in the afternoon - two-thirds between noon and 4 p.m. Sunday has 24 percent more deaths than other days, followed by Wednesday.

Lightning reports reach their peak in July. And, according to a study by the National Severe Storms Laboratory and the National Weather Service, males account for 84 percent of lightning fatalities and 82 percent of injuries.

According to the National Weather Service, only flash floods and river floods cause more weather related deaths. Lightning victims might be walking in an open field, swimming or holding metal objects such as golf clubs, fishing rods or umbrellas.

The top ten states in number of lightning casualties (deaths and injuries combined) are Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, North Carolina, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Colorado and Texas.

Here are some interesting facts about "nature's fireworks"...

The average flash of lightning could light a 100-watt light bulb for more than three months.

The air near a lightning strike is heated to 50,000 F - hotter than the surface of the sun! The rapid heating

and cooling of air near the lightning channel causes a shock wave that results in thunder.

To estimate the distance in miles between you and the lightning flash, count the seconds between the lightning and thunder and divide by five.

#### Myths and Facts about lightning

**Myth:** If it is not raining, then there is no danger from lightning.

**Fact:** Lightning often strikes outside of heavy rain and may occur as far as 10 miles away from any rainfall.

**Myth:** The rubber soles of shoes or rubber tires on a car will protect you from being struck by lightning.

**Fact:** Rubber-soled shoes and rubber tires provide NO protection from lightning. However, the steel frame of a hard-topped vehicle provides increased protection if you are not touching metal. Although you may be injured if lightning strikes your car, you are much safer inside a vehicle than outside.

**Myth:** People struck by lightning carry an electrical charge and should not be touched.

**Fact:** Lightning-strike victims carry no electrical charge and should be attended to immediately. Contact your American Red Cross chapter at 358-8091 Ext. 1818 for information on CPR and First Aid classes.

**Myth:** "Heat lightning" occurs after very hot summer days and poses no threat.

**Fact:** What is referred to as "heat lightning" is actually lightning from a thunderstorm too far away to be heard. However, the storm may be

moving in your direction!

**What you can do to stay safe**  
Before the storm...

- Check weather forecasts before leaving for extended periods outdoors
- Watch for signs of approaching storms.

• Postpone outdoor activities if thunderstorms are imminent.

#### When a thunderstorm approaches

- If you can hear thunder, you are close enough to the storm to be struck by lightning. Go to safe shelter immediately.
- Move to a sturdy building or car. Do not take shelter in small sheds, under isolated trees.
- Get out of boats and stay away from water.
- Avoid using the telephone or other electrical appliances. Use the phone only in an emergency
- Do not take a shower or bath
- Turn off air conditioners

#### If caught outdoors and no shelter is nearby

- Find a low spot away from trees, fences and poles. Make sure the place is not subject to flooding.
- If you are in the woods, take shelter under the shorter trees.
- If you feel your skin tingle or your hair stand on end, squat low to the ground on the balls of your feet. Place your hands on your knees with your head between them. Make yourself the smallest target possible and minimize your contact with the ground.



### Meet A Sailor...

SN SARA MELLOR-CHANCEY

**Job title/command:**  
NAS Jax Supply

**Hometown:** Modesto, Calif.

**Family Life:** Married with a baby on the way.

**Past Duty Stations:** VP-16

**Career Plans:** To pursue a college education.

**Most Interesting Experience:** Being pregnant.

**Words of Wisdom:** Live one day at a time.



### Meet A Civilian...

ROBERT COOK

**Job title/command:**  
Patrolman,  
NAS Jax Base Police

**Hometown:** Warren Center, Penn.

**Family Life:** Married with five children.

**Past Duty Stations:** Retired air-traffic control chief, VP-30.

**Career Plans:** To have an interesting, successful second career in police work.

**Most Interesting Experience:** Attending SERE School.

**Words of Wisdom:** Better to keep quiet and have people think you're a fool than to open your mouth and prove it.

## ON THE HOMEFRONT

### Plaster of Paris: a Navy benefit?

By Sarah Smiley  
Special Contributor

A few years ago I broke my leg, snapping a bone in my right ankle nearly in half. I was rushed to a Navy hospital in Virginia, and after waiting a few painful hours, it was discovered that the facility was temporarily out of the lightweight fiberglass material doctors usually use to bind broken limbs.

In its place, the corpsman wrapped my ankle in Plaster of Paris, which is, quite literally, the substance used to build structures. I left the hospital with what looked like (and felt like) a seven-pound chunk of wall on my leg.

To one of my civilian friends I said, "But hey, I can't complain because it was free."

My friend turned bitter and angry. "Your cast wasn't free," he said, "it is a military benefit, and my

tax dollars paid for that broken leg."

I was stunned. Sure my free medical care is a benefit of being a military dependent, and my cast was provided by the federal government, which is funded by the tax-payers' dollars, but I had to wonder: Is my friend's tax money really a burden he must pay for my benefits? Or rather, is it a debt of gratitude he pays for his freedom and those who protect it?

The year I turned 22, my father, a Navy pilot, had a Leave and Earnings Statement that reported he had 11 years of active duty sea-time. He had been away half my life.

My civilian friend will never know the pain of a part-time father. I grew up to marry a Navy lieutenant, and after three years of marriage, he was only present for approximately one and a half

have two small sons, both of whom barely know their father.

These are the debts I pay - that all military families pay - to earn the benefits of free medical care and tax-free groceries. Put that way, it hardly seems balanced or fair, does it?

The sacrifices of the military are plentiful and heart wrenching. They go well beyond long hours and "working weekends."

Many of these sacrifices are tangible; some are not. Most cannot be compensated or labeled with a price. In what other profession do families live separated for six months at a stretch?

How many times do military spouses kiss their loved one goodbye, never knowing if they will return? How many men and women have paid the ultimate sacrifice of their life? How many more are willing to do the same if their country asks it of

them? Considering this, a free Plaster of Paris cast seems more like an entitlement than a "benefit."

My friend will probably never truly understand his freedom or the sacrifices people have made to protect it. Most people (myself included) take our liberty for granted.

This is because we live in a country where it has never been taken from us or restricted. And after all, doesn't that mean our men and women in uniform are doing their job well?

So I could not be angry with my friend. Instead I was proud. I was proud of our military and that the sacrifices we all make have not been in vain.

We still live in a country where our life, liberty and happiness have been so well protected, one can actually be so naive as to believe a plaster cast is actually a military "benefit."

## HEY, MONEYMAN!

Hey, MoneyMan!

Every place I look there are folks trying to lend me money. They all make it sound so good. How do I know the good deals from the bad?

#### MoneyMan Sez:

Well, if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Check around. Do your shopping. Ask someone who has nothing to gain or lose if you "buy the product." Think!

In his book Merchants of Misery, Michael Hudson covers a lot of ways people try to take advantage of others. The following is my list of Wonderful Ways To Get Ripped-off:

- Predatory Mortgage Lending
- Foreclosure Bankers
- Tax Lean Purchases
- Rent-to-Own
- Pawn Shops
- Car Title Loans
- Check-Cashing Outlets
- Payday Loans
- Instant Tax Refunds



- Telephone Scams
- Credit Insurance
- Finance Companies
- "Second-chance" Auto Financing
- Collection Agencies
- Trade Schools
- Car Buying
- Investment Contracts
- Life Insurance
- Pension Loans

**More questions? Call Hey, MoneyMan! at 778-0353.**

### Catholic Mass being offered

Catholic Mass will be held Aug. 15 at 11:30 a.m. in the St. Edward Catholic Chapel to celebrate the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin, a Holy Day of Obligation. For more information, call 542-3440.



## Sunday Services

You are invited to the following Base Chapel Worship Services this Saturday and Sunday:

**Saturday - 5 p.m. - Catholic Mass**

**Sunday - 8:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist Episcopal**  
9:30 a.m. - Catholic Mass  
11 a.m. - Protestant Worship  
6:30 p.m. - Contemporary Service  
"The Leading Edge," Hangar 749 at the Base Chapel Center.

**Children's Sunday Class - Protestant Sunday School program is at 9:45-10:45 a.m., and Catholic CCD is 10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.**

## Jax Air News

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# New AIP trainer up and running at NAMTRAU Jax

From NAMTRAU Jax

In a brief ceremony at Naval Air Maintenance Training Unit Jacksonville (NAMTRAU Jax), Rear Adm. Walter Massenbourg, commander, Naval Aviation Depot Operations Center, Patuxent River, Md., and Rear Adm. Richard Brooks, commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Force Atlantic, along with NAMTRAU Jax's Commanding Officer Cmdr. B.T. Taylor, officially opened the Navy's new Aircraft Improvement Program (AIP) avionics trainer for business.

Eagle Systems, of Patuxent River, Md., constructed and installed the integrated trainer in an existing space within NAMTRAU Jax. The Eagle Systems team and staff who were involved with the trainer procurement and installation were on hand for the ceremony also.

Lt. Arthur Harvey, NAMTRAU Jax's executive officer, was the master of ceremonies at which NAMTRAU Jax presented a plaque and letters of appreciation to the Eagle Systems engineers for their exceptional dedication and hard work in making this trainer possible. The

plaque is affixed to the trainer for all who enter to see the names of the professionals who were there to make it happen.

Cmdr. Eric Hendrickson also received a Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal from Massenbourg for his efforts in managing the funding and logistics matters of the project.

The bulk of the avionics were procured from P-3 Buno 159891. The airframe had reached the end of its service life and no longer needed an avionics mission package. A decision was reached to use this equipment to create the integrated trainer that now exists at NAMTRAU Jax.

The training facility is already training new technicians and the first group of students, the "Plank Owner" class, is close to graduation. The training device is designed to closely resemble and function the same as the avionics suite on an actual AIP aircraft.

This realism in the training environment will ensure that well trained and competent technicians are provided to the fleet for many years to come. The AIP program has put new life into the Navy's P-3 pro-

gram and helped our Navy to continue its evolution into a more flexible and rapid response type of force. It has also provided another challenge to those who train personnel to repair and maintain the aircraft.

While most P-3 aircraft may look the same to a casual observer, it is very rare to have more than two or three planes in a squadron that have identical mission related equipment.

The task facing training commands today is to produce a "super tech" that can work on any configuration of P-3 and make it mission ready. This new trainer will give NAMTRAU Jax technicians the ability to train in a controlled environment without impacting a flying asset in the fleet.

The AIP course is designed to build upon training already received by avionics technicians in the P-3 avionics initial course, and in the future will become a "stand alone" course without prerequisite training in the P-3 avionics.

The AIP version of the P-3 has been around for a few years now and is in very high demand by theater commanders around the globe. The program came



Photo by PH3 Jennifer Rivera

From left, Rear Adm. Walter Massenbourg, commander, Naval Aviation Depot Operations Center, Patuxent River, Md., Rear Adm. Richard Brooks, commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Force Atlantic and Cmdr. B.T. Taylor, commanding officer, NAMTRAU Jax cut the ribbon to officially open the new AIP Trainer at NAMTRAU Jax for business.

about in response to a need for an even more flexible maritime patrol aircraft and the changing face of joint operations.

The P-3 can be found in nearly every aspect of military joint operations with every branch of our military. The P-3 has become a workhorse of intelligence, special operations, maritime patrol, drug interdiction, search and rescue, and many other tasks.

Information is as impor-

tant a commodity as fuel and weapons in modern day conflicts. The Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) provide invaluable info without risk to human life, but sometimes there is no replacement for "real time" human analysis of a developing situation or target of interest.

AIP provides the human flexibility supported with modern technology. As the technology improves, technicians must become more

diverse and better trained in all versions of the platform. This requires an ongoing training track throughout a maintainer's career that can continue to grow as the needs grow in the fleet.

The AIP Integrated Trainer at NAMTRAU Jacksonville is in place and will provide the needed adaptability in training that will be required for our future missions.

Cmdr. T.D. Smyers (left) relieves Cmdr. Bryan Quigley as commanding officer of VP-62 while Commodore Mike Szostak, commander, Reserve Patrol Wing observes during the VP-62 Change of Command Ceremony July 26.



Photo by PH2(NAC) Rich Kerner

## S-3A Viking crashes; pilots walk away

By Staff

Two crewman from VS-24 were slightly injured when their S-3A Viking crashed last Thursday morning as they were conducting routine flight training in a remote area just south of Athens, Ga. Lt. Steve Allum, pilot of the aircraft and Lt. Jackthomas Hurley ejected safely from the aircraft and only sustained minor cuts and bruises.

The cause of the crash is unknown at this time and is under investigation.

The VS-24 "Scouts" returned home to NAS Jax in May after a five-month deployment on board USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

# New commanding officer assumes helm of VP-62

By Lt. Cmdr. Mike Varias  
VP-62

Cmdr. T. D. Smyers relieved Cmdr. Bryan Quigley as commanding officer of VP-62 July 26 during a change of command ceremony in Hangar 1000. With the charge "I relieve you, sir," Smyers became the 23rd commanding officer of the "Broadarrows."

Rear Adm. (Se1.) Jon Bayless, Jr. was the guest speaker.

VP-62 is under the operational and administrative control of Commander, Reserve Patrol Wing. The squadron consists of 245 drilling Reservists and 110 full time support personnel.

Smyers, a native of Boyd, Texas, received his commission from the United States Naval Academy in 1984. After basic aviation training at NAS Pensacola, Fla. and advanced navigator training at Mather AFB, Calif., he earned his naval flight officer (NFO) wings in September 1985; and was awarded the Alden C. Markey Memorial Trophy as the outstanding graduate.

He reported to NAS Jacksonville for Fleet Replacement P3C NFO training at VP-30; followed by his first fleet tour with VP-5. Serving almost four years with the Mad Foxes, he deployed throughout the North Atlantic, Mediterranean Sea and South America.

He returned to VP-30 as a Fleet replacement instructor in June 1990. While at "The Pro's Nest," he instructed in the P3C Update 2, Update 2.5 and Update 3.

In June 1991, Smyers applied for re-designation as a Training and Administration of the Reserve (TAR) officer. Upon acceptance, he was transferred to the Reserve ASW Training Center (RATCEN) at NAS JRB Willow Grove, Penn., where he led the Naval Air Reserve Force's P-3B to P-3C Transition Team.

He also served as an NFO "Blue Card" NATOPS evaluator, headed the Simulations Department, and performed as a contracting officer's technical representative during acquisition of several advanced tactical simulators.

In June 1994, Smyers joined the "Condors" of VP-64, also in Willow Grove, as the training officer during a two year transition from the P-3B to the P-3C Update 2 aircraft; and as maintenance officer.

While serving his next assignment as the administration officer at VP-62, he was selected to return to VP-64, in July of 1999, as officer-in-charge. Following this tour, Smyers joined the staff of Commander, Naval Air Reserve Force and served as VP program manager during the Reserve Force realignment.

He left the newly established Commander, Naval Air Force Reserve staff to join the Broadarrows as executive officer in September 2002.

Smyers and his wife, Debra have three daughters, Jen, Lindsay and Sara Rose.

Quigley led the Broadarrows to become the first Naval Reserve Force patrol squadron to master the P-

3C Aircraft Improvement Program (AIP) aircraft with an aggressive training and qualification program.

VP-62 aircrews successfully employed AIP aircraft in the Western Pacific, Mediterranean and Caribbean theaters. Under his leadership, the Broadarrows provided critical support to Fleet missions around the globe including Operations Enduring Freedom, Noble Eagle/Vigilant Shield, Joint Guardian, Deliberate Forge, Carib Shield and Caper Focus.

Additionally, the Broadarrows participated in exercises JTFEX 02-2, USWEX 02-2, Aegis Leap Intercept Flight Mission- 3, and RIMPAC 2002 while simultaneously maintaining the highest attainable combat readiness rating.

They were honored with Commander, Naval Air Force Reserve's nomination for the DoD Phoenix Award for maintenance excellence.

While managing a heavy operational tempo, Quigley led VP-62 to surpass 23 years and more than 88,000 hours of mishap free flight, achieve superb retention and reenlistment rates, and advance more than 100 Sailors to the next pay grade.

Quigley has accepted follow-on orders to the staff of Naval Reserve, Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic. Quigley and his wife, Susan, have two children, Patrick and Christina.

Cmdr. Mark Fava, a drilling Reservist and legal counsel for Delta Air Lines, has assumed duty as the squadron's executive officer.

ARMED FORCES COMMUNICATIONS; 3c; 10"; Black Only;

# Former VS-32 skipper, NAVAIR officer gets Distinguished Flying Cross

By Renee Hatcher  
Project Executive Office Public Affairs

Landing an aircraft on narrow strip on a rocking carrier deck at sea is what sets Navy pilots apart from all others. Now add fire, smoke and fumes to an already complicated situation and you have an idea of what S-3 Pilot Cmdr. Ron Carlson was facing during a night flight that could have ended in disaster but instead earned him one of the most coveted awards in the military.

Capt. Steve Eastburg, manager of the Maritime Patrol Aircraft Program (PMA-290), presented Cmdr. Ron Carlson, NAVAIR's S-3 program manager, the Distinguished Flying Cross at PMA-290's family day celebration on June 25 in recognition of his extraordinary achievement during aerial flight.

"I am honored and very appreciative of this award but I was just doing my job," said Carlson, the self-described average American. "I was doing what they pay me to do - I was aviating, navigating and communicating."

The incident Carlson was honored for happened Jan. 9, 2002 over the North Arabian Sea. At the time, he was the commanding officer of VS-32 and was deployed on board USS Theodore Roosevelt in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. His flight that moonless night began as hundreds of routine refueling missions had before but ended unlike any other.

Carlson and Naval Flight Officer (NFO) Lt. j.g. Tim Gantz catapulted from the deck of the Roosevelt at 7 p.m. and returned 20 minutes later - about an hour sooner than planned. As they approached 14,000 feet,

Carlson was alerted by the number 1 bleed leak light followed by the number 2 bleed leak light, indicating an environmental control system compartment fire.

"At first, I wasn't that concerned," Carlson said. "At this point in my career with no serious incidents before, things had become routine and I had almost lost track of the dangers of this business. When the smoke started rolling in, it got my attention real fast."

The fire caused the loss of the main hydraulic system and nearly all flight-related electrical systems. Smoke and fumes filled the cockpit preventing Carlson from seeing Gantz sitting just two feet to his right.

Carlson was able to get out one radio transmission to the ship before all communication was lost. The landing gear would not go down, the flaps were not responding and Carlson saw no light on the horizon. The thought of ejecting crossed his mind.

"I didn't really want to get out," said Carlson, who knew there was no guarantee that they would be found under those circumstances.

Under the pitch-dark skies off the coast of Afghanistan, Carlson somehow managed to visually locate the Roosevelt but did a wave-off on his first approach because he wasn't comfortable with the landing gear indications. Without being able to slow the S-3 down for the landing, Carlson approached the deck again at 185 mph - about 60 mph more than usual - and performed a no-flap, visual landing with no radio communication while on fire. As he caught the third wire, the right main and nose landing gear collapsed on impact. The right fuel tank caught fire once it made contact with the carrier deck and the aircraft skidded to rest on its side in flames. As Carlson and Gantz exited the S-3 through its emergency hatch, the aircraft was doused with water and foam by the ship's firefighters.

"He did an incredible job landing that aircraft that night," Gantz said. "What he did was above and beyond the call of duty and I have nothing but respect and admiration for him as a person and as a pilot."

It was a bone-jarring landing but Carlson and Gantz walked away with little



Photo by Joan Holland

Cmdr. Ron Carlson, NAVAIR's S-3 program manager, is awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross in recognition of his extraordinary achievement during flight in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

more than a few cuts and bruises. Some members of Carlson's squadron said divine intervention played a part in keeping those two alive that night.

Looking back, there were signs that Carlson was there for a reason. Months after the mishap, another officer relayed to Carlson his observations: Carlson was supposed to have been relieved of his command two months earlier but was extended because of operational necessity. He was originally scheduled for a day flight on Jan. 9 but personally requested a night flight. And, there were two other airplanes launching at that time that he could have easily been assigned to, and his NFO that night was a former minister.

"When I took command of VS-32, my only wish was that everyone in the squadron came home," Carlson said. "I guess unknowingly I was making that come true."

Carlson said he could not explain why things happened as they did. But, he did say that his 20 years of naval training and experience got him through the most dangerous and life-threatening situation in his career.

Carlson has logged more than 4,200 flight hours in the S-3 and has made 800 arrested landings at sea.

"I have a lot of pride in my work," said Carlson, who from a small town in Michigan came to the Navy by earning an ROTC scholarship. "I strive to be the best that I can be in everything I do. I worked hard for 20 years and learned my stuff."

Carlson is the only S-3 pilot to be awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and with that aircraft entering the sundown of its service life, he may be the only S-3 pilot in history to receive this distinction.

"This is what we all train and prepare for but the way I got this award is not something I want someone else to go through," he said.

Carlson was back in the air after taking just one day off from flying. He flew two times a day for four days before requesting the same flight at the same time with the same NFO.

"I had some reservations," Carlson said, "but I knew I had to get over that."

After returning from that deployment, Carlson's shore duty assignment brought him, his wife and three kids to St. Mary's County where he now works for NAVAIR. Surprisingly, little has changed in his life since that 20-minute flight over the Arabian Sea.

"I know a lot of people who have gone through life-threatening situations and they have made significant changes in their lives," Carlson said. "I haven't done anything extreme but I do enjoy the little things in life more."

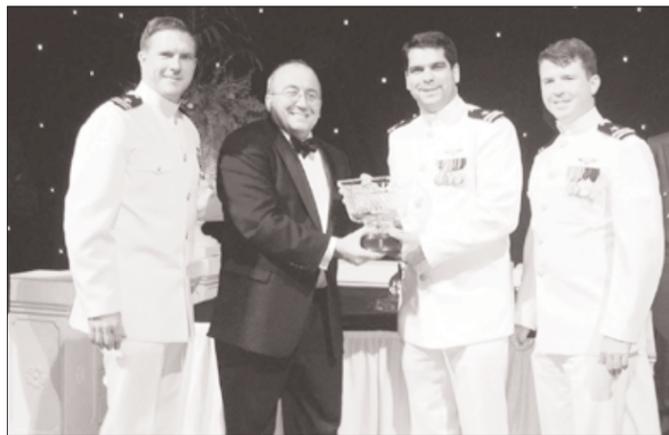


Photo courtesy of VP-30

From left, Lts. Craig Mattingly, Marc Christino and Chris Rush accept the Goodrich Trophy from Goodrich Representative Joseph Andolino, vice president for business development.

## VP-30 brings home the Goodrich Trophy

By Lts. Kanan Ott and Craig Mattingly  
VP-30

NAS Jacksonville's own VP-30 recently sent an aircrew and P-3C Orion aircraft to the "Royal International Air Tattoo" air show held July 18-20 at RAF Fairford in the United Kingdom. Air Tattoo is the largest air show of its kind in Europe.

The themes for the show this year were "100 Years of Flight" and "Ocean Watch." More than 40 commands from more than 30 countries participated in the air show. Exercise "Ocean Watch" is the UK's most important event for maritime squadrons from around the world. Ocean Watch featured presentations on maritime activities as well as a crew ground skills competition.

The ground skills competition, held on July 18, began with the teams competing in numerous events. Some of the featured events were aircraft recognition, first aid, an assault course, survival and rescue, and a maritime relay race in kayaks, Canadian canoes and rowing boats.

VP-30's team included Lts. Chris Rush, Marc Christino, Tim Monk and Craig

Mattingly. The team was one of 16 competing in the competition. After the ground skills competition, the Pro's Nest joined forces with teams from VP-5, Randolph Air Force Base and Mildenhall to form a Dragon Boat crew. This combined U.S. team held off the competition to win all of its Dragon Boat races.

At the end of the day, winners of each event were announced with the Pro's Nest collecting a bottle of champagne as winners of the "survival and rescue" exercise, which included swimming to rescue "casualties" from the center of a lake and deploying pencil flares at a fixed target.

The overall winner of the crew competition was announced at a gala dinner in front of Britain's Secretary of State for Defense and other dignitaries. When the announcement was made, "Team Pro's Nest" received the top prize, a crystal trophy, from Goodrich Representative Joseph Andolino, vice president for business development. Additionally, the VP-30's P-3C, featured as part of more than 300 static display aircraft, won honors as one of the top ten best looking maritime aircraft.

## Free Jaguars tickets to Sailors and their families

By CMDM Mike VanMiddlesworth  
HS Wing Command Master Chief

The "Sailors Aweigh" program is getting prepared for the upcoming Jaguars season. The program gives free tickets, transportation, and a free T-shirt to the families of deployed Sailors and deployable Sailors with priority given to deployed Sailors' families first.

Your children can go with or without you, as chaperones will be provided, or you can go with them and be a chaperone if you like. Each chaperone will keep an eye on three to five children, so there will be plenty of supervision.

"Sailor Aweigh" participants will be picked up by a Navy bus at the NAS Jax Commissary parking lot. The bus will depart the parking lot two hours before game time. Once at Alltel Stadium, participants will be expedited to their seating area.

The "Sailors Aweigh" T-shirts are provided and must be worn throughout the game by all. After the game, the bus will take them back to the base for pickup.

Prior to departure to the game, each "Sailor Aweigh" participant recites a pledge to "abstain from using drugs, alcohol, or tobacco". The seats are part of the

honor rows and are in a great environment for the "Sailors Aweigh" participants.

Deployed Sailors' families will have priority, but if your Sailor is on sea duty, you may be put on a waiting list that will be eligible to fill the balance of the seats that are not filled by the "on deployment" Sailors' families by Wednesday of the week before the game day. Your status will be confirmed prior to being placed on the actual "going to game" list.

The ages are from 6-17, if you want all of your squadron families to go on a particular day, we may be able to arrange it depending on availability and lead-time. But hurry, because it's first come first served, and we only have 40 tickets available per game.

The schedule of "Sailors Aweigh" games:  
Sept. 14 - Buffalo  
Oct. 5 - San Diego  
Oct. 12 - Miami  
Oct. 26 - Tennessee  
Nov. 9 - Indianapolis  
Dec. 7 - Houston  
Dec. 21 - New Orleans

You can apply for any of the games listed, by email to me at vanmiddlesworthmh@chswl.navy.mil, or by phone at 542-5273.

# Stewart takes command at REDCOM Southeast

From Naval Reserve Readiness Command

Last Saturday, at a ceremony held aboard NAS Jax, Rear Adm. John Stewart, Jr. relieved Jacksonville resident Rear Adm. Kenneth Belisle as commander, Naval Reserve Readiness Command (REDCOM) Southeast.

Participants in the ceremony included Commander of the Naval Reserve Force Vice Adm. John Totushek, featured speaker; and commander of Naval Reserve Forces Command, Rear Adm. John Debout, presiding official.

REDCOM Southeast provides oversight for 17 Naval Reserve Centers and more than 7,000 Reservists in Florida, North Carolina, Puerto Rico and South Carolina. As of Oct. 1, 2003, its scope of responsibility will increase to include about 4,900 Reservists at 14 Reserve Centers



Rear Adm. Kenneth Belisle



Rear Adm. John Stewart, Jr.

in five states: Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi and Tennessee as Naval Reserve Readiness Command, Mid-South, is disestablished. The consolidation will allow Naval Reserve Readiness Command Southeast to be aligned with the active duty command, Navy Region Southeast, also based at NAS Jacksonville, and cover approximately the same area. The action is in line with one of the

Chief of Naval Operations' top five priorities, alignment, to ensure more efficient operations and communication.

During Belisle's 23-month tenure, REDCOM Southeast has been awarded the Rear Adm. F. Neale Smith Award for best readiness command, and the Golden Helm Retention Award for the best command retention program performance.

# 'Maulers' honor their best

By Lt. Tim Watkins  
VS-32 PAO

The "Maulers" of VS-32 recently took time to recognize a few outstanding performers.

For his professional achievement and superior performance of his duties while assigned as ground safety petty officer, AT1(AW) Ernest Edwards was awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal. As ground safety petty officer, he effectively tracked and directed the command's Operational Risk Management program. His tireless administration of the squadron's Medical and Dental readiness programs led to readiness levels in excess of 96 percent. His leadership as the chair of the Enlisted Safety Council enhanced work center safety awareness and communication throughout the command. He served as both a leader and a mentor while directing the development of more than 30 junior Sailors as watchstanders.

AE1(AW) Frank Ragin was also awarded a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal. Ragin served as the Mauler Line Division leading petty officer and Quality Assurance petty officer from July 1999 to July 2003. His technical expertise, knowledge of the S-3B, and outstanding initiative resulted in his designation as a Multi-Systems Quality Assurance representative and Low Power Engine Turn operator. He is truly a model leader, and his ability to motivate his subordinates directly resulted in the squadron's 99.4 percent sortie completion rate and the delivery of more than 4,000,000 pounds of fuel during Operation Enduring Freedom. He also managed the training and qualification of 28 plane captains and 128 ramp stamp personnel.

The command also named AE2 (AW) Scott Huey "Mauler of the Quarter." Huey consistently maintains superior performance, and is a leader in the Aviation Electrician Shop.

AO3 Wesley Miller was named the squadron's "Junior Mauler of the Quarter." As an ordnance team leader, his outstand-

ing leadership during the squadron's recent CWTP and Sea Control Advance Readiness Program inspections resulted in zero discrepancies. His leadership and dedication played a key role in the squadron receiving the 2002 CSCWL Conventional Weapons Excellence Award.

The Maulers have always taken great pride in giving back to the Jacksonville community. Lt. Natalia Henriquez is a perfect example of the Maulers' giving spirit. For more than year she served as the Maulers' volunteer service coordinator, and focused most of her efforts on contributing to Habitat, Jacksonville's local affiliate for Habitat for Humanity International. Most recently, she was recognized for her contributions to the Clay County School District's Career Shadowing Program. Henriquez spent a full day with a Clay County high school student giving him the chance to live the life of a Mauler, taking part in all squadron activities and learning what it means and what it takes to be a naval aviator.

AME2 Desmond Keme, SK3 Michelle Jackson, and AEAN James Hyatt were presented Good Conduct awards.

Finally, the hard work and dedication of two particular Maulers was recognized with the designation of AD1 Phillip Allen and AZ2 David Skinner as enlisted aviation warfare specialists. Allen and Skinner have attained significant military experience in naval aircraft, successfully completed the established personnel qualification standards, and demonstrated the requisite professional skills and knowledge while working on the S-3B while serving in VS-32.

With continuing work-ups and an upcoming deployment, challenges and expectations continue to increase. But with success like that of recent days, the Maulers have good reason to expect a cruise like no other. By continuing to set high standards, the Maulers will bring top-notch leadership, preparation, and motivation to the tip of the spear.

# Massey is piped ashore

From NAMTRAU Jax

Many of the "older" Sailors can be heard at times referring to the "Old Navy" and the way things used to be.

Their point of reference is often from the time when they were in their first enlistment and the Soviet Bear was a worldwide threat and still deployed surface attack groups alongside our carrier groups. That was in the 1980's when we had a nearly-600 ship Navy. Those were the days when the F-14, A-6, and the A-7s dominated the carrier's flight deck and submarines deployed by our adversaries always had a P-3 overhead. That is also the time when AFCM(AW/SW) Thomas Massey was enlisting in the Navy for the second time after a brief look at civilian life.

Massey retired July 11 from NAMTRAU after 33 years of naval service.

Massey, a native of Murphysboro, Ill., enlisted in the Navy in December 1969. After graduating from the Recruit Training Center in San Diego, Calif., he completed Aviation Structural Mechanic "A" School in April 1970. His first tour was with VT-6 at NAS Pensacola, Fla., where he earned his qualification as a plane captain. Following the disestablishment of VT-6, Massey was temporarily assigned to VT-1 at Saufley Field at NAS Pensacola, before receiving orders to NAS Ellyson Field, also in Pensacola, where he worked in the AIMD Airframes shop.

Sea duty orders took Massey to VAW-121, Detachment 11 stationed at NAS Norfolk, Va. where he deployed to the North Atlantic on board USS Intrepid. His next duty station took him to VA-35 at NAS Oceana, Va. After a Mediterranean deployment on board USS America, he transferred to VP-67 at NAS Memphis, Tenn. From there he headed to the Chief of Naval Reserve Flight Support Division at NAS New Orleans, La.

After this tour, Massey became a private investigator as a civilian. He soon married his wife, Tina and returned to naval service in July 1982. His next tour was with VA-83 at NAS Cecil Field. During this tour, he was selected VA-83



Photos courtesy of NAMTRAU Jax  
AFCM(AW/SW) Thomas Massey accepts a certificate from Cmdr. B.T. Taylor, NAMTRAU Jax commanding officer.

Sailor of the Year for 1984 and completed a deployment on board USS Saratoga.

After completing recruiting school in Orlando, Massey was assigned as recruiter-in-charge of Naval Recruiting Station, Mt. Vernon, Ill. where he was promoted to chief petty officer in September 1985. In 1989, he returned to NAS Cecil Field with VFA-132 where he worked as line chief and maintenance control chief. After completing a deployment on board USS Forrestal, his next tour of duty took him to NAS Jacksonville AIMD as the airframes leading chief petty officer. Following his advancement to senior chief in 1995, he transferred to VFA-86 at NAS Cecil Field, where he was selected as VFA-86 Chief of the Year for 1996.

Promotion to master chief in 1998 landed him the responsibilities as maintenance master chief. Following the closure of NAS Cecil Field in 1999, he moved with the squadron to MCAS Beaufort, S.C. He completed deployments aboard USS America, USS George Washington and USS John F. Kennedy while assigned to VFA-86.

In February 2001, Massey checked into Naval Air Maintenance Training Unit (NAMTRAU) Jacksonville as the Student Support Unit leading chief petty officer, followed by his final assignment as the command master chief of NAMTRAU Jax.

Massey, his wife Tina, and their children, Thomas and Lauren plan to reside in Middleburg, Fla.

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...and the world is beating a path to our door! We're not surprised. People have discovered that the new U.S. government, free portal [www.FirstGov.gov](http://www.FirstGov.gov) is online, and they can catch all the answers they're looking for from the U.S., state and local governments. Just point and click your way to [www.FirstGov.gov](http://www.FirstGov.gov) and instantly search more than 27 million U.S. government web pages. Whether you want to find a job, track your Social Security benefits, buy a home, or reserve a campsite at a national park—you can find the answers fast if you make your first click [www.FirstGov.gov](http://www.FirstGov.gov).

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**GSA Expo coming Sept. 3**

NAS Jax will host a Mini-GSA Expo on Sept. 3 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the River Cove Officers Club. More than 70 vendors will be on hand, offering presentations, information and free giveaways. A free lunch will be provided at noon.

A special training session on GSA advantages, E-buy and the E-library will be offered at no cost from 1-3 p.m. This training provides Continuing Education Unit credits that can count towards your warrant refresher training. All participants will receive a training certificate. For more information, call (404) 331-3026 or email [cindy.kirvin@gsa.gov](mailto:cindy.kirvin@gsa.gov).



Andrew, a 7-year-old intermediate swimming student, enjoys playing in the water.

## Children learn swimming at outdoor pool

By Miriam S. Gallet  
Editor

The thermostat reads 92-degrees Fahrenheit, and the pavement is steaming from the heat. However, for the children attending swimming lessons at the NAS Jax MWR outdoor pool it doesn't matter. They are having fun in the sun!

For the hundreds of youngsters who participate in the program from Memorial Day to Labor Day, a trip to the outdoor pool is not only fun, it's also an opportunity to learn life-saving skills.

This comprehensive outdoor swimming instructional program is for children of all ages and skill levels. The classes are taught early in the morning and run in two-week sessions, from Memorial Day to Labor Day. The program is divided into seven levels, ranging from the Water Adjustment Level 1, which teaches youngsters basic skills, to the Level 7 class, where the more advanced swimmers do laps using advanced strokes and are taught advance techniques. There is a class for every level and children are assigned to a particular level based on their swimming skills.

"In Level 1, I teach kids who are afraid of the water how to feel comfortable, thus preparing them with the necessary foundation in order for them to learn how to swim. They learn skills that they can build on at the next level. This class encourages the child to relax and have fun," explained NAS Jax MWR Aquatic Director Julie Caudill. "When teaching children how to swim, it is not necessary to subjugate or force them. Every child learns at a different pace. Our goal here is to make it safe for a child to go in the pool. Once in the pool, we'll make it safe and fun."

According to medical studies, swimming is a good exercise for children to stay healthy and fit and could even



NAS Jax MWR Aquatics Director Julie Caudill introduces Maalik (left) and Donovan to the principles of swimming during a Level 1 class.

prevent child obesity; however, as with any exercise, safety guidelines and precautions must be taken.

The program on base offers outstanding, safe instructions by an energetic director and a motivated staff whose sole mission is to take every step possible to make a child's experience in the pool a safe and memorable one. Every swimming instructor at

the outdoor pool is a certified American Red Cross Water Safety Instructor.

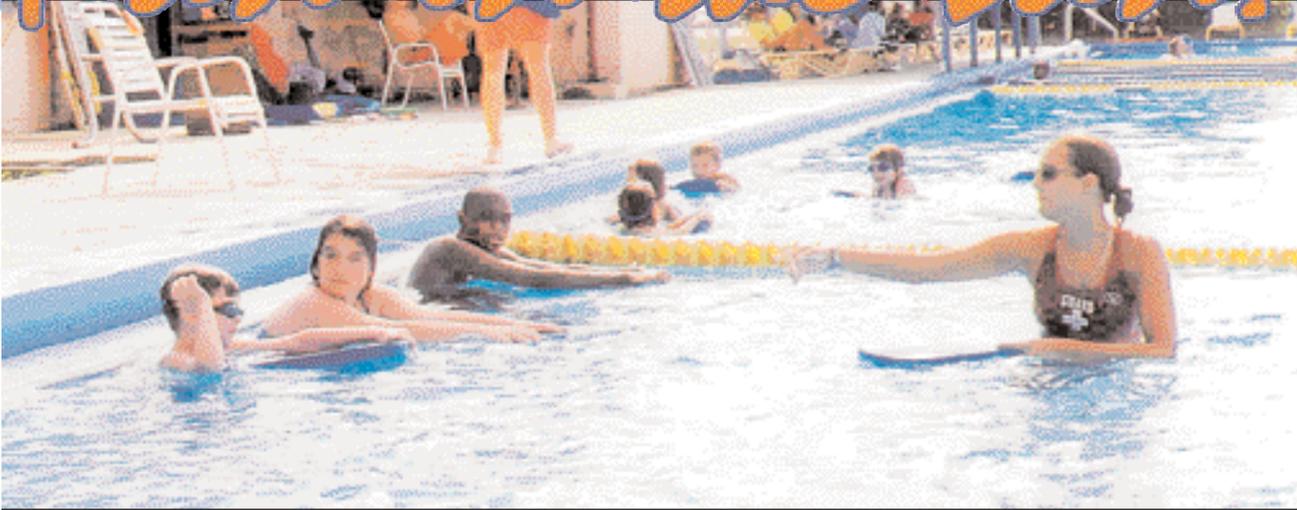
Catherine Jo Lawson, a certified advanced swimming instructor at the outdoor pool explained that teaching children how to swim is a priority. "Every where we go in Florida we are surrounded by water. It is vital that parents enroll their children in swim-

ming lessons at an early age. Additionally, swimming provides children with fitness options, especially now that many counties have taken P.E. out of the school curriculum," she said.

Nine-year-old Sierra said, "I like coming here because I see my friends

See SWIMMING, Page 7

# Fun in the sun!



Children enrolled in the Advanced Swimming Class listen to Catherine Jo Lawson, swimmer instructor, explain new techniques.

Photos by Miriam S. Gallet

## SWIMMING: Kids learn at outdoor pool

From Page 6

and have lots of fun. My teacher is very nice to all of us. I can now swim underwater."

The outdoor pool swimming program recognizes that, living in Florida offers children many opportunities to enjoy water activities. It is imperative that children learn how to behave and survive in and around the water. "Learning life-saving techniques early on can mean the difference between staying alive or drowning," remarked Caudill.

Maalik, a 5-year-old, whose mom is on deployment in Iraq and was being escorted by his uncle, Sgt. Chris Grubbs, a Marine aboard NAS Jax, was learning the basic water skills taught by Caudill. "His mom is deployed and it puts my mind at ease to know he is getting the best swimming instruction possible. These lessons may someday mean the difference between life and death," said Grubbs.

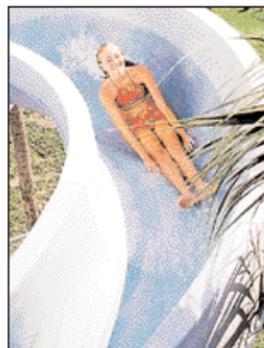
The U.S. Lifesaving Association reports drowning is the third leading cause of unintentional death in the United States. It is also the second leading cause of death for people age five through 44. Drowning is the leading cause of injury death reported in children under the age of three.

Another concern when living in an area where swimming pools abound is the risk of exposing a child to Recreational Water Illnesses (RWI). According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC) parents and children need to be aware of RWI, as they may come in contact or spread it throughout the pool, and possibly be harmful to all persons in the water. Healthy swimming etiquette should be adhered to while in the pool. It will reduce the risk of becoming sick or spreading germs to others.

Parents, caregivers and older children are reminded that a child with diarrhea should not be allowed to go in a pool. The American Academy of Pediatrics does not endorse swimming lessons for children below the age of four, allowing ample time for a child to be toilet-trained prior to using a swimming pool.

The CDC recommends following these simple rules to keep swimming a safe, healthy and fun activity for all:

- Do not allow your children to swim if they have diarrhea.



Eleven-year-old Elizabeth enjoys a ride down the water slide at the NAS Jax MWR Outdoor Swimming Pool.

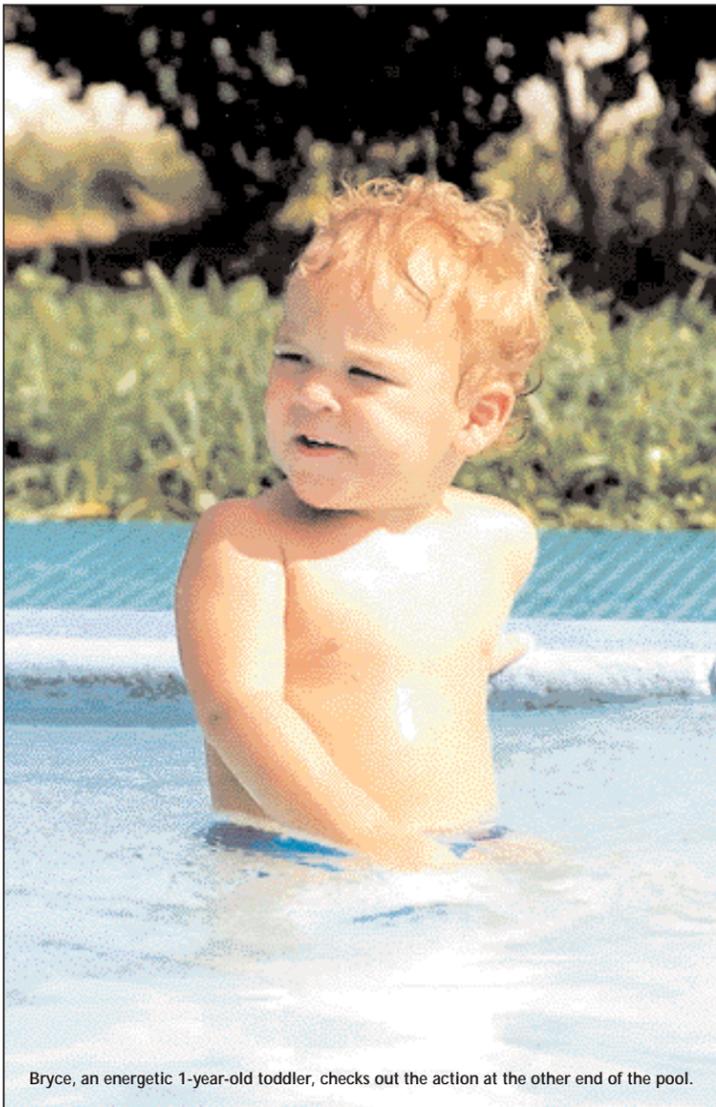


Candon, one of the youngsters attending this year's swimming program aboard NAS Jax, enjoys a little fun at the end of the swimming class.

- Teach your children never to swallow the pool water.
- Wash your children thoroughly with soap and water before swimming.
- Teach your children to wash their hands with soap and water after using the toilet or changing diapers.
- Change diapers in the bathroom, not at poolside.
- Take your children on bathroom breaks often.

Also, children swimming outside need protection from the sun's rays. It is recommended that you apply a sunscreen or sunblock with a high Sun Protection Factor on their body prior to exposure. If you are concerned with a possible allergic reaction to PABA or other ingredients in the sunscreen, consult your child's pediatrician for guidance.

For more information about the outdoor pool swimming program, call 542-3720.



Bryce, an energetic 1-year-old toddler, checks out the action at the other end of the pool.



American Red Cross Water Safety Certified Swimming Instructor Andrew Rowe explains kicking techniques to 6-year-old Madison.



Military spouses Debbie Buzby, left, and Vivian Perez with her 2-year-old son, Luke, and 1-year-old daughter, Sophia by her side watch the children play in the pool. Buzby and Perez's older children are in the big pool participating in Levels 2 and 4 swimming lessons.

# Motorcycle instruction volunteers needed

By JO2 (SW) Cliff Williams  
CNRSE Public Affairs

Living in the sunshine state, many individuals drive motorcycles, it's an inexpensive mode of travel and it's a good way to get out to enjoy the fresh air.

However, many motorcyclists aboard NAS Jacksonville are not being able to drive their motorcycle or scooters to base due to the scarceness of the motorcycle safety instructors.

"The worst thing about motorcycle accidents and fatalities, is that it's almost always preventable," said AC1 Dion McDaniel, NAS Jax motorcycle training course instructor. "Ninety percent of all motorcycle accidents are cause because the rider does not know how to turn properly."

For McDaniel, the only NAS Jax instructor, getting volunteers to help with the cause of helping motorcycle drivers better their driving abilities has been a hard scenario. "Right now there have been no classes that have been cancelled," said McDaniel. "On the other hand, we have not been able to add any new classes and there are Sailors out there who are literally begging to get into the course."

The majority of the Sailors who drive a motorcycle to work, it is their only mode of transportation and this course is mandated in order to drive a motorized two-wheel vehicle on the base. The course is free to Sailors, when out in the civilian world, the course can cost anywhere from \$150 to excess of \$450. "The idea of this course is not to teach how to drive a bike," stressed McDaniel. "The idea of this course is to promote safe driving, break bad habits and improve driving skills."

To be considered as an instructor, you need to have completed



NAS Jax Motorcycle Training Course Instructor AC1 Dion McDaniel gets a cue from Instructor PHC Daniel Durant (far right) during an exercise as students watch.

the Basic Drivers Course (BRC), a clean driving record for two years (with a state print out verifying it) and have been a motorcyclist for two years, which can be waived.

The instructor's course is a 10-day course, and upon completion of the course, you will be state certified, which means you can teach out in town. "Right now I am state certified and make \$25 an hour teaching people how to ride," said McDaniel. "On top of doing something I love to do, teaching, I have the ability to save someone's life in the future. There has not been one class that I have taught that someone did not come up to me and thank me, and to me that is the most gratifying thing and worth the time I put into this program."

In 2002, 3,276 motorcycle riders lost their lives on American roads. Though this is a smaller increase from recent years, it also

meant that motorcycling fatalities have become 7.6 percent of the total American highway fatality picture, and the only category of vehicle user showing consistent increases in deaths.

The number of motorcycling injuries reported (which includes those riders who suffered long-term and permanent disabilities) has risen at a slower rate, from about 53,000 in 1997 to about 65,000 last year (a 23 percent increase). This also means that the number of fatalities has increased from 3.8 percent of the total of injury accidents to 4.8 percent. In other words a larger number of those motorcyclists who crash hard enough to hurt themselves and become statistics are apparently dying.

To volunteer as a motorcycle instructor, contact McDaniel at 542-2516 or e-mail, McDanielDI@NASJAX.navy.mil.



PHC Daniel Durant, a NAS Jax motorcycle training course instructor at NAS Jax, gives students instructions on their next exercise.



A student in the motorcycle course, learns how to walk his bike, an exercise used to teach motorcyclists to maneuver a bike, without power.

## Transportation brings revenue in through auction

By Sue Brink  
Public Affairs Officer, Facilities Team Southeast

The Public Works Center Jacksonville (PWC Jax) Transportation Department utilizes their ability to auction off civil engineering support equipment. Since 1998, the Transportation Department has obtained more than \$2 million in revenue from transportation auctions.

All proceeds from these auctions are used to replace similar vehicles or

equipment that were sold. Auctions have proven to help control rates charged to its clients and minimize the cost of maintaining a fleet of more than 1,000 vehicles.

Each year the Transportation Department purchases anywhere from 70 to 100 vehicles. Items purchased include pick-ups, vans, sedans and heavy equipment such as cranes and construction and railway equipment. The use of transportation auctions has been very successful and generates revenue that otherwise

would not exist.

The Transportation Department monitors its fleet and follows Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) regulations to determine when vehicles or equipment can be identified for auction. Eligible vehicles for auction must be over age or over mileage. In the case of specialized/construction equipment, they must be either over age or over mileage and the one time repair cost will be more than 20 percent of the replacement value.

## Navy's LIFELines Services Network launches new version

From LIFELines Public Affairs

The LIFELines Services Network, the Department of the Navy's official Quality of Life (QOL) services delivery system, unveiled Version 4.0 last month with a contemporary new look, new addresses [www.lifelines.navy.mil](http://www.lifelines.navy.mil) and [www.lifelines.usmc.mil](http://www.lifelines.usmc.mil), and many additional capabilities powered by a dynamic database system.

At the heart of the new version is a cutting-edge content management system for storing, retrieving and managing massive amounts of online information.

The Ingenix Content Management System provides an application interface for classifying content based on LIFELines' 60,000-category Department of Defense/Department of the Navy taxonomy system.

Content is cross-indexed for publication to the multiple areas of the LIFELines platform, as well as to a network of partner Web sites. As a

result, LIFELines expects to increase the frequency, quality and quantity of information published on the site.

Given the large amount of content within LIFELines, it was imperative to use the most efficient technology to manage the material, said Dr. Randy Eltringham, LIFELines' director.

"We wanted LIFELines to pull up material faster, despite security firewalls, and make it easier for the user to navigate the site to find information," she said. "Our goal is to make LIFELines as user-friendly and service-friendly as possible. We've achieved that with the Oracle technology, because it works like a giant table of contents giving the user quicker and easier access to valuable data."

In practical terms, the new content management system helps the user find what they are looking for quickly with an advanced search engine feature, if topics of interest are not apparent on the front page.

"The new layout features a number

of easy-to-spot resources, ranging from hundreds of self-help articles of over a million words, to messages from senior leaders, to hometown connections for deployers to local newspapers and online radio stations," Eltringham added. "But if you can't find what you want, the new search engine will take you right to what you're looking for."

Eltringham also encouraged visitors to the site to use the "Feedback" feature to ask questions and make suggestions, so the LIFELines Services Network can continually be improved.

The LIFELines Services Network is a real-time, online multimedia Quality of Life (QOL) services delivery system that provides Sailors, Marines and their families with "equal access to high quality QOL services regardless of duty location." Currently, it powers more than 50 QOL Web sites and knowledge management systems within the Department of Defense.

## Input needed to recognize outstanding people

From the USO

Clay County Chamber of Commerce, Inc. is again seeking to recognize their military person, spouse and reservist of the year and needs your help. If you know of a resident of Clay County who is active duty, a spouse of an active duty person, or a reservist who is active in our community and deserves a pat on the back, let us know! We would like to honor them as part of the Chamber's 26th Annual Military Appreciation

Luncheon on Oct. 1.

Please contact the Clay County Chamber at 1734 Kingsley Avenue, 264-2651, Ext.1 for a list of the criteria and a nomination form. Nomination forms are also available at Greater Jacksonville USO, on the Commander, Navy Region Southeast website [www.cnrse.navy.mil](http://www.cnrse.navy.mil) under Command Info, and on the Clay County Chamber's website at [www.claychamber.org](http://www.claychamber.org). The deadline for nomination applications is Sept. 10.

## USO offers Jacksonville Jaguars tickets to military members

The USO will again have tickets this year for each of the Jacksonville Jaguar's home games including the two pre-season games for active duty military members and one guest.

Ticket distribution will be handled by the USO. Each ticket will be \$6 with a maximum of two tickets per single active duty member and four for married active duty (spouse/child).

Tickets will go on sale two Monday's prior to each scheduled home game.

Uniforms are not required at the game, however all active duty members and their families will be required to show appropriate I.D. at the USO Gate at Alltel Stadium. The wearing of command ball caps are authorized and encouraged.

For more information, call the USO at 542-3048.



Officer Kel Brown uses a state-of-art laser gun to determine oncoming vehicle speeds on Mustin Road. Photos by JO2(SCW) Eric Clay

Signs are posted throughout the base housing area informing drivers to watch for children.



## School starts this week, slow down for children

By JO2(SCW) Eric Clay  
Staff Writer

Since NAS Jacksonville was established, there have been many concerns by base housing residents about drivers speeding in the residential areas.

"The speed limit in most residential areas in Florida is 30 miles per hour, but NAS Jacksonville's base housing has a maximum speed limit of 25 miles per hour, with a few areas

marked slower than that," said Ron Williamson of NAS Jacksonville Safety Department.

With so many small children living in base housing and personnel using Mustin Road, south of Naval Hospital Jacksonville as a jogging and cycling route, the potential of vehicle/pedestrian conflict increases. "Although we have been very fortunate not to have any children or joggers/bicyclist hit in the housing area in

many years, we must take steps to prevent injuries in the future," Williamson added.

Members of security base traffic division have been positioned at various locations throughout base housing. At different times during the day, base security uses state-of-the-art laser speed detection guns to catch violators with accurate readings.

Each morning from 7-8 a. m., especially when school begins this week

base patrolmen will check for speed violators. At this time of day during the school week, children walk to school bus stops waiting to be picked up.

There has been a sign on Mustin Road for many years that restricts personnel from going into housing unless they are residents, invited guests or on official business.

Other signs are posted in strategic places marking the boundaries of the housing area. Base police check

vehicles entering housing area periodically, to ensure those entering this area meet the criteria. All violators will be turned away.

This also impacts personnel who use Perimeter Road to participate in physical fitness. To reach this area, physical fitness participants must access the area by following Patrol Road located by the warehouses area along U.S. 17.

Speed limits are strictly enforced in the base hous-

ing areas. Drivers who receive speeding violations and accumulate 12 traffic violation points on their driving record will have their driving privileges suspended for one year.

"We must all do our part and avoid driving through housing unless we have a reason to be there. And we must abide by the posted speed limits when driving on base. The life you save may be someone else's, but the ticket you save will be yours," said Williamson.



Patrolman Jerry Syrek conducts speeding checks using a laser gun in front of the NAS Jax Child Development Center (CDC). The speed limit in front of the CDC is 15-mph during school hours. The speed limit is 25-mph at all other times.

## Got a consumer problem?

The following are phone numbers of agencies who can help with consumer problems:

NAS Jax Family Service Center - 542-2766  
Better Business Bureau -

721-2288  
State Attorney's Office  
Consumer Mediation - 630-2075  
City of Jacksonville/  
Consumer Affairs Division - 630-3467  
Florida Department of

Business & Professional  
Regulation - 1-850-487-1395  
Construction Industry  
investigative services - 727-5590

## Naval Hospital Jacksonville supports breastfeeding

By Melisa Ram  
Naval Hospital Jacksonville Public Affairs

"Naval Hospital Jacksonville is committed to breastfeeding, we are actively promoting it, to not only to our patients, but to our staff as well," said Prenatal Nurse Educator Alisa Davis.

Naval Hospital Jacksonville is now offering a breastfeeding support group for women who are currently breastfeeding or who previously breastfed. This is an ideal support group for mothers who have just been discharged from the hospital and may have some questions, said Davis. An International Board Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC), Davis encourages and advises women who are having concerns, problems or questions about breastfeeding.

"Based on research, women who are well supported in their breastfeeding endeavors tend to do better and one of the best ways to support them is called peer support," said Davis. The group provides a base where new mothers who might have questions can receive answers from experienced mothers. Moreover, the breastfeeding support group is designed to encourage women who are breastfeeding to continue.

Some topics the women discuss include introduction of solid foods to the infant, teething and how to manage breastfeeding

while working full-time. They also discuss common problems from breastfeeding like yeast infection in the mother's nipples and thrush in the baby's mouth. However, this is a very unstructured hour where mothers can come and vent their frustrations as well as share wonderful experiences about breastfeeding. An infant scale is available at all meetings so moms can see how well their babies are thriving on breast milk.

Davis stresses that breastfeeding is best because babies who are breastfed have fewer upper respiratory infections, ear infections, asthma and cases of juvenile diabetes. "We know for the moms that when they breastfeed they have a reduced risk of breast cancer and ovarian cancer," said Davis. "Naval Hospital Jacksonville is actively involved in the education of our parents regarding feeding choices. We want to make sure that parents understand that breast milk is the ideal food for newborns."

The breastfeeding support group is held on Wednesdays, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. it's typically held in the internal medicine clinic conference room.

For additional information contact Davis at 542-7428, A\_S\_Davis@sar.med.navy.mil or Nurse Rachael Nieves at 542-9798, R\_Nieves@sar.med.navy.mil.

## Naval Hospital Jacksonville chaplains provide grief support

Naval Hospital Jacksonville will offer a Grief Reconciliation Group for persons who have recently lost a loved one.

A seven-session course will begin in August. The day and time will be determined by the group partici-

pants. This group is designed to assist with emotional and spiritual healing.

If you have lost a loved one and would like to participate or need more information, please call Chaplain Beede at 542-7531.

# New tax brackets give relief to service members, DoD civilians

From Armed Forces News

The third-largest tax cut in U.S. history, the Jobs & Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003, has just been signed. By understanding and knowing what's in the Jobs & Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003 and acting on that knowledge, you can cut your taxes significantly—leaving more of your hard earned money in your bank account this year.

Many Americans are also facing higher state and local taxes, increased income, property, and sales taxes. Those taxes are bound to bite, especially in a time of slow economic growth. That's why it's particularly important to take advantage of the new tax law. Reducing the amount you send to the IRS can ease the pain of higher state and local taxes.

Here are a few of the key provisions:

- Tax rate reductions: Dropping from 28%-39.6% now to 25%-35%. Know what your tax bracket is going to be and what you can do now to start saving now and in the future.

- Dividends: Historically paying up to 35% in tax—now dividends are taxed no higher than 15%.

- Capital gains: Long-term capital gains previously qualified for a bargain 20% rate now the rate has been dropped to 15%.

- Marriage penalty: In many cases, a married couple pays more tax than two singles now the new law provides "much needed" relief with expanded standard deductions.

- Child tax credit: Most taxpayers with dependent children will greatly benefit from the expansion of this tax credit — How will they affect your family?

- Alternative minimum tax. The AMT, which was designed to thwart rich tax evaders, is now impacting middle-income folks — the new law provides breathing room.

- Business equipment. The new law contains provisions that will help you deduct the cost of business equipment more rapidly.

# Deployed troops won't lose leave

From Armed Services News

Charles Abell, principal Defense Deputy for personnel and readiness, has issued a message stating that troops in support of operations in Iraq will not have unused leave of up to 90 days reduced to 60 days on Sept. 30.

The message specifies that "active duty members that have been recalled from or

not authorized annual leave as a consequence of duty assignments in support of contingency operations" may keep up to 90 days through the end of fiscal 2004, and it leaves the door open to an extension to fiscal '05. The law limits the maximum carry-over of leave on the books to 90 days, although the House and Senate have drafted legislation to raise this to 120 days.

# 'CROSSROADS,' your story on NAVY.COM

By JO2 Chris Conklin  
Navy Recruiting Command  
Public Affairs

Commander, Navy Recruiting Command is seeking Sailors and officers to participate in "CROSSROADS," a feature of NAVY.COM designed to help young men and women identify with Sailors and officers who were at the same decision-point in their lives before joining the Navy.

CROSSROADS, created by the Navy's advertising agency, Campbell-Ewald, is intended to inspire young people to consider career opportunities in the Navy. The plan is to obtain a cross-section of Sailors and officers, and to pinpoint the myriad factors that influenced their decision to join the Navy, such as a lack of funds for college, the desire to get out of a small town, travel opportunity, or the desire to do something "bigger."

"We understand that young men and women are in a constant state of identifying who they are and what ideals they represent, from seniors in high school to others well into their 20s," said Harvey Zupke, Campbell-Ewald Senior Vice President creative director. "Decisions are made about whether to work, go to college, join the military, take up a trade or move away from home.

Basically, it's at this stage in their life that they are at a crossroad."

Navy Recruiting Command believes CROSSROADS is the tool to help with those decisions. "We want to provide a database that will present the stories of real Sailors and officers who were at one point in their own lives at the same crossroad," said Lt. Lisa Flores, Interactive Marketing Division director, Navy Recruiting Command. "These Sailors and officers can show young men and women that they are not alone; that someone else has experienced the same things and are now a success. CROSSROADS is designed to illustrate Navy

paths to a positive and successful future."

Active-duty Sailors and officers interested in participating in CROSSROADS should log onto [www.navy.com/crossroads](http://www.navy.com/crossroads) and answer a short series of questions. Navy Recruiting will screen and accept candidates through August 15.

Sailors and officers selected for this feature will have their stories and photos placed on the NAVY.COM Web site. Their stories can help other young men and women facing crossroads by providing examples of success, by detailing current Navy opportunities and by inspiring them to make sound decisions.



**WELLNESS CENTER**  
**TOBACCO CESSATION EVENING PROGRAM**  
**STARTS MONDAY SEPTEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>**

**6:00 - 7:30 PM**  
**CALL 543-5303, EXT. 18**




## HELPING HANDS

### Help with pet portraits

Volunteers are needed to assist during this fundraiser Aug. 8-11 as owners have their pictures taken with their pets. Volunteers are wanted to greet customers, set up appointments and collect money. For more information, call Chris Whitney at the Jacksonville Humane Society at 725-8766, Ext. 206.

Volunteers are needed as camp leaders, assistants, greeters, and to assist with registration. Training will be held this Saturday from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The minimum age is 21. To sign up, call Mary DaCorta at 268-5200, Ext. 6304.

### HabiJax opportunities

HabiJax is always looking for volunteers for various construction projects. For more information, call Bonnie Golden at 798-4529, Ext. 253. The HabiJax Home Store also needs help coordinating donated materials and furniture. Call 722-0737.

### Camp Healing Powers

This camp is a bereavement camp for children ages 10-16 and will be held Aug. 15-17.

NAS Jax drivers, be prepared to 



Watch for base youth boarding & exiting school buses

Lose Weight through **HYPNOSIS** with **CAPT Glenn Goldberg**

**August 25, 2003**  
**At 12:00 pm**  
**The Wellness Center (Bldg 867)**  
**Open to ALL HANDS!!!**  
**Registration is Required!**



Call the Wellness Center at 542-5293



Members from VP-5 disembark from a P-3 with flowers to give to loved ones as they return home from a six-month deployment.

Photos by PH2 Kim Smith



Cmdr. Sean Cannon, executive officer of VP-5 greets his wife Margaret and sons after his fly-in.

## VP-5: 'Mad Foxes make it back home to warm welcome from families, friends

From Page 1

reconnaissance in the Eastern Mediterranean and provided carrier battle group protection. Aircrews flew over Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Their mission was to be the "eyes in the sky" for coalition forces on the ground, providing them with real time intelligence.

In the Caribbean, VP-5 continued the nation's fight against illegal drug trafficking. Patrolling the waters of the Caribbean and Eastern Pacific, crews were credited with the interdiction or disruption of more than \$235 million worth of illegal narcotics headed to North America and Europe. Additionally, one crew was credited with the rescue of 75 ailing people from a vessel that was dead in the water.

On July 21, the Mad Foxes ended an era and permanently left Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico. As part of the restructuring of U.S. naval operations in the Caribbean following the closure of the Atlantic Fleet Weapons Training Facility,

the Mad Foxes ceased scheduled flight operation and shifted maritime patrol aircraft operations to forward operating locations in Curacao and Comalapa.

VP-5 has been deploying to Roosevelt Roads since July 1947 when they still flew the P-2V Neptune.

The Mad Foxes flew more than 5,000 hours and enjoyed by far the most challenging deployment in many years. They did it safely and effectively as maintenance teams performed brilliantly



Lt. j.g. Tom Pickering greets his wife and son upon his arrival home.

at keeping the aging P-3 Orion flying overhead providing essential maritime patrol coverage around the world.

## FFSC offers educational and support programs

The NAS Jacksonville Fleet and Family Support Center Life Skills Education and Support Program is the foremost preventive measure for the avoidance of personal and family problems.

All FFSC workshops and classes are free and available to service members and their families, and civilian personnel aboard the base.

Pre-registration is required. If special accommodations or handicapped access is required, please notify us upon registration. Contact 542-2766, Ext. 127

to register.

The following workshops are available in August:

Aug. 11-14, 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. - Transition Assistance Workshop (separation)

Aug. 11-15, 6-10 p.m. - Basic Ombudsman Training

Aug. 12, 8 a.m. - noon - Smooth Move Workshop

Aug. 13, 9 a.m. - noon - How to have a healthy relationship

Aug. 14, 9-11 a.m. - Money Management

Aug. 15, 9-11 a.m. - Written Marketing Tools (for spouses)

Aug. 19, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. -

Stress Management Workshop

Aug. 19, 9-10 a.m. - Sponsor Training Workshop

Aug. 20, 8-11 a.m. - Anger Control Workshop

Aug. 20, 9-11:30 a.m. - What a Difference a Dad Makes

Aug. 20, 6-8 p.m. - Budget for Baby Workshop

Aug. 21, 9 a.m. - noon - Florida Family Law Information Seminar

Aug. 25-28, 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. - Transition Assistance Workshop (retirement)

Aug. 26, 9-11 a.m. - Debt Management

Aug. 26 & Sept. 2, 1-5

p.m. - Assertive Communication Training

Aug. 27, 9-11 a.m. - Checkbook Management

Aug. 28, 9:30 a.m. - noon - Child Support Information Workshop

Aug. 28, 1:30-3 p.m. Volunteer Service Council

Aug. 28, 6:30-8 p.m. - Military Spouse 101 Resource Fair

Aug. 28, 6:30-9 p.m. - Ombudsman Assembly

Aug. 29, 9-11 a.m. - Career Exploration (for spouses)

## Energy saving device keeps soda cool in the dark

By Sue Brink  
Public Affairs Officer, Facilities Team Southeast

Facilities Team Southeast (FTSE) Energy Manager Bonnie Thevenin is showing that energy savings can be made everywhere. Next time you go to purchase your soda or candy bar take a closer look at the vending machine. Many vending machines at NAS Jacksonville and NS Mayport have been adapted to save energy.

A device has been added to several vending machines. This device has an electronic eye that senses a person's presence at the vending machine. If no one passes the vending machine for 15 minutes the power shuts off. So don't be alarmed if the lights at the vending machine are off. As soon as someone approaches the machine the power will turn on. Thus, the lights will turn on and the compressor will begin its cycle.

This new technology monitors the beverage temperature and will maintain the correct temperature ensuring a cold beverage will be served at any time. The electronic eye will not allow the power to shut down if the compressor is running; there-



Photo by Sue Brink

An energy saving device affixed to the top of the vending machine ensures cold beverages while providing cost savings.

fore, the total power shutdown occurs between cycles. By using this device, it is estimated that each machine could save up to \$120 per year (an average savings of 46 percent). The cost of maintaining the machine will also decrease as the amount and length of time that the compressor runs could be cut in half.

For more information on energy saving ideas, contact the FTSE Energy Manager at 542-3991, Ext. 4624.



Photo courtesy of the NAS Jax Fire Department

Members of the NAS Jax Fire Department investigate an accident that occurred on base recently.

## FIREFIGHTER: Base Fire Department and individual recognized for excellence

From Page 1

of Defense. We really care about our customers here and are always looking for new and better ways of doing business," stated Assistant Fire Chief Randy Hall, proudly. "We continue to try new innovations and new technologies to improve our response times and to do our jobs better. Our people also spend many hours volunteering for different activities, both on the base and in the community," he added.

The NAS Jax Fire Department is comprised of seven different divisions, with each member certified in different specialties. The crash division handles all aircraft emergencies on the base, flightline and airfield.

The structural team is responsible for all calls regarding the buildings on the base including Emergency Medical Service First Response, HazMat and Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD).

They also handle all calls on Roosevelt Boulevard as part of an automatic aid agreement with the City of Jacksonville.

Admin personnel handle the continuous flow of paperwork generated whenever a call comes in and numerous other administrative projects. Fire Prevention educates people on fire safety and conducts inspections on the base and in the housing areas.

Disaster Preparedness personnel are trained to handle different disaster scenarios including hazardous materials and weapons of mass destruction.

The arresting gear personnel are responsible for all landing gear and lighting at NAS Jax and Outlying Field Whitehouse. And the 9-1-1 Dispatch Center handles all non-emergency and emergency

calls. They also dispatch all medical units and transmit calls to the police dispatcher.

According to Hall, the department handles approximately 2,000 emergency calls each year. This includes medical, fire and accident calls.

The Fire Prevention Division handles about 5,000 calls each year for trouble calls, hot permits, etc. They also conduct nearly 6,500 inspections a year of the buildings and housing areas including the Yellow Water Housing Area.

When the firefighters are not handling emergencies, they spend their time training.

"We work in two shifts, 24 hours a day on and 24 hours off with a three-day break every two weeks. If we aren't covering calls, we are busy training to learn ways to be more efficient, working with new equipment and keeping our many certifications current. Training is continuous to keep us proficient in so many areas," added Hall, who has been with the department for the past nine years.

"We pride ourselves on our customer service. We try to be at the scene of every call within three minutes and actually do this 95 percent of the time. Our standards are extremely high, we respond quickly, send the people out who have the correct technical knowledge for each call, man our equipment properly and keep our people in position as needed," Hall stated, enthusiastically.

Many of the firefighters here are also voluntary Emergency Medical Technicians and strive to maintain other certifications that may be needed both on or off the job. They also offer their expertise to other agencies and personnel.

As the NAS Jax Fire

Department Civilian Firefighter of the Year nominee and first runner-up in the Navy competition, Brown is no exception. He continually volunteers for numerous projects in an effort to train other firefighters, work on self-help improvements and enhance his own skills.

As a voluntary instructor for the Mobile Aircraft Fire Training Device (MAFTD), Brown spent countless hours training firefighters at NS Mayport and NAS Key West on this new unit.

He is also an instructor for a special pilot program created by the NAS Jax Fire Department to train Sailors for their Firefighter 1 and 2 certifications.

Currently, a group from the USS John F. Kennedy has been going through the program in an effort to better serve their command with better damage control and firefighter skills and to allow the Sailors the opportunity to obtain certifications should they decide to leave the Navy and seek employment in the firefighting field.

He also volunteers his talents with many self-help projects within the department and is known for his professional electrical skills.

In his day-to-day duties, Brown is a driver/operator of Ladder Truck 1. This entails not only driving to calls, but ensuring all the equipment on the truck is inventoried each shift and is working properly.

"I love my job and love being able to help people. If I can teach one person, especially a child something about fire safety each day, then it makes it all worthwhile. I really enjoy doing the Sesame Street puppet shows that we put on for the children at different events around the base and giving them tours of the trucks and station," explained Brown, who has been a member of the fire

department here for the past 12 years after working as a volunteer firefighter for 15 years.

"I credit my wife, Cathy for getting me into this field. We both volunteered at a fire station and she knew how much I liked it. So, she prodded me to get into it full time and after lots of schooling and training, here I am. I plan to stay here and retire in another 10 years, hopefully as a fire captain," he said.

As for being recognized for his accomplishments, Brown said modestly, "I knew they put me in for this award, but I never dreamed I'd get this far. It's a huge surprise and a great honor. I'm just happy my department thinks so highly of me and nominated



Photo by Ryan Adrick

Several firefighters from the NAS Jax Fire Department respond to one of their many calls on the flight line.



Photo by JO2(SCM) Eric Clay

Firefighters with the NAS Jax Fire Department participate in Hazardous Waste Disaster Training. Numerous training sessions are held within the department to keep firefighters current in new technology and methodology.

me."

Working here for so many years, Brown has seen many changes. "The management has really changed a lot for the better. Everything is much more proficient. We are much better trained, have state-of-the-art equipment and have really changed the way we do business," he added.

In the future, the members of the NAS Jax Fire

Department plan to be even more progressive. "I see new methodologies coming into place, new technologies and new leadership. We continue to look for quality firefighters to hire and are working to develop our future leaders here. We practice leadership every day. I know that within 10 years, NAS Jax will still have the finest fire department in the entire Navy," concluded Hall.

## 41 for Freedom Poker Run at Subbase Kings Bay

By JO2 Jennifer Spinner  
Kings Bay Periscope

The Armed Forces Motorcycle Club of Kingsland, Ga. is gearing up for its fifth annual "Forty-one for Freedom" poker run and is counting on the community's support to help make it a success.

"Last year we raised more than \$1,500 for the Kings Bay Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS)," said MT1(SS) Jeffrey Lake, club member and one of the event organizers. "We want to beat that number this year and we need a lot of support from the community to make that happen."

Last year's poker run drew more than 80 riders and additional support from people who drove along the route in cars. The event, which is scheduled for Aug. 16, is a fun way to play a favorite card game – poker – while raising money for the NMCRS.

Riders purchase their hand or hands at the starting line and then pick up cards at

stops along the route. As in past years, the run begins at the Bancroft Memorial exhibit at the Franklin Gate.

"Registration begins at 10 a.m. the day of the race and continues until we leave the gate at noon," Lake said. "Riders just need to show up, ready to go"

Each poker hand costs \$5 and there is no limit to the number of hands each rider can play. The route runs to Brunswick, with riders making several stops along the way to get cards for their poker hand.

Riders will finish at the Armed Forces Motorcycle Club located on Highway 17 in Kingsland for door prizes, a 50/50 drawing and a cookout, as well as a live band.

This year, as in years past, all money raised through the poker run goes to the NMCRS.

"Everyone who participates is going to have a lot of fun," Lake added. "Best of all, the money we raise goes to a great cause; helping our fellow Sailors and Marines."

For more information, call the Armed Forces Motorcycle Club at (912) 510-8494.

# MWR NOTES

## Escape the ordinary on an I.T.T. trip

Have some fun with I.T.T. - take a trip or treat yourself to a show! Stop by our office located adjacent to the NEX, and sign up for a great trip. Our trips are open to all hands, so bring a friend! For more information call the office at 542-3318.

Jaguars tickets for all games are now on sale at I.T.T. Tickets are \$47.90 for lower level seats. You can also sign up to ride the I.T.T. shuttle to all the home games. If you sign up for all the games the price is \$6 per game. A ride to a single game is \$8.

### The following are upcoming I.T.T. trips:

**Saturday** - St. Simons Island. Enjoy a guided trolley tour, see the lighthouse and museum, and go shopping. The cost is \$33.50 for adults and \$23 for children under 11.

**Aug. 24** - Sterling Casino Cruise. Set sail for five hours of gambling on the largest casino ship in Florida. A full day of fun for only \$12.50. We leave at 7 a.m. and return by 7:30 p.m. No one under 21 is allowed. You must sign up by Aug. 18.

**Aug. 30** - Cedar Key. Discover the natural beauty of Cedar Key on a guided boat tour of the islands. Visit the Cedar Key State Museum, and learn all about the local history. Transportation, boat tour, and museum are all included for only \$26.75 for adults or \$19 for children 11 and under.

**Oct. 15-19** - A fall colors extended getaway to the mountains. This trip includes Warm Springs, Ga. to see the former President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Little White House and Callaway Gardens. We're also going to the Bavarian village of Helen, Ga. for Oktoberfest, Asheville, N.C. to the Biltmore Estates and Chimney Rock Park. The cost is \$405 per person based on double occupancy for four nights, breakfasts and two dinners. The deadline to sign up is Sept. 12, and space is limited.

Tickets for "Night of Joy" at Disney on sale at I.T.T. for \$35.45 / one-night admission and \$56.60 / two-night admission. Call I.T.T. at 542-3318 for more information.

## NAS Jax Golf Club happenings

A golf and lunch special is being offered for \$19 weekdays after noon and weekends and holidays after 3 p.m. This special ends Aug. 31.

Players are entitled to 18-holes, cart, green fees and one lunch menu item. For more details stop in the Pro Shop or call 542-3249.

## Bingo Palace

The Bingo renovation project is underway. The Bingo Hall, located in The Zone, will be closed for

business now through late August for major renovations. All other activities housed in The Zone are unaffected and open for business. This includes the Budweiser Brew House, CPO Club, Yesterday's Café, and The Zone Delivery Service.

## Aquatics Department taking reservations

The outdoor pool is now open for the summer season. The hours are 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. daily.

The Aquatics Department staff members are now taking reservations for private parties at the outdoor pool.

The Aquatics staff is eager to help you get you fit. Join them for an aqua aerobics class, Monday - Thursday from 11 a.m. to noon, or Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 4:30-5:30 p.m. and again from 5:30-6 p.m. There is still time to enroll in May swimming classes. Registration is open for all levels. Please contact the Aquatics Department at 542-2930.

An adult fitness swim program is offered for novice to advanced swimmers wishing to improve their PRT time, swimming skills, and technique. The emphasis is on stroke mechanics. Interval training is introduced. Workouts are designed to improve technique and to develop both speed and endurance. Workouts are scheduled on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 4:30-5:30 p.m. until Sept. 1. A new workout schedule will begin in September.

## The Heritage Cottages

MWR's new Heritage Cottages are now open for only \$60 a night. These cottages make for a great vacation home away from home. They are fully furnished with plenty of space. Make your reservation now by calling 542-3138/3139.

## Veterinary Treatment Facility

Due to vendor price increases, the Veterinary Treatment Facility (VTF) has been forced to increase prices. We still have the lowest prices around.

The NAS Jax VTF is located in Building 8 at the corner of Ranger Street and Enterprise Avenue. The clinic is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. It is closed on legal holidays. Pets are seen by appointment only.

New clinic services have been added to accommodate our patrons. The VTF will have an evening clinic on the first Tuesday of every month from 5-7 p.m. There is also a walk-in clinic on the second Saturday of each month from 8 a.m. to noon. This clinic will be for vaccinations only. For more information and to make appointments, call 542-3786.

## Mulberry Cove Marina news

Are fuel prices emptying your wallet? Take advantage of free gas this summer when you rent a 40-hp pontoon boat, whaler, bass boat, 10-hp stump knocker, or Yamaha jet skis.

The NAS Jax Yacht Club offers sailing classes. Now that the weather is warm, and the breezes are strong would be a great time to learn this renowned boating activity. After you've completed your class, the marina has sailboats for rent.

The marina offers free kayak and canoe rentals for active duty Sailors on Thursdays. It's a great way to get acquainted with some of the equipment on hand and have some fun too. For more information on marina events, call 542-3260.

## Auto Skills Center

Visit the Auto Skills Center for your professional or hobby car care needs. The center offers an array of services for the novice or professional auto enthusiast. There is an ASE qualified mechanic on hand to assist with questions and tips on servicing your vehicle. The center is open Monday, Thursday and Friday from noon to 8 p.m., Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and all holidays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.

The Auto Skills Center offers a shop orientation class on the third Thursday and Friday of each month. Reservations are required for the orientation. Call 542-3227 for information.

## O'Club happenings

The Ready Room Officers' Club bar is open for social hours every Friday from 4-7 p.m. The Ready Room is available for command functions and special events all other days.

The T-bar, located behind Building 844 is now open to all hands every Thursday from 4-7 p.m. and every second and third Saturday from 4-7 p.m. The T-Bar is available for command functions and special events all other days.

## Liberty happenings

The Liberty Cove Recreation Center is the place to go, if you want to know ... where all the fun and excitement is found. Join us for our Wednesday Karaoke and Dance Party. The fun starts at 7 p.m. at the Budweiser Brew house with DJ Marc "E" Marc.

Tonight - 9-Ball Tournament for active duty members. The winner receives a \$25 gift certificate to the Navy Exchange.

Aug. 11 - Learn to golf at the NAS Jax Golf Club. Cost is \$7.50 and includes club rental.

Aug. 13 - Newcomers BBQ.

## NAS Freedom Lanes offers great deals

This summer enjoy some bowling fun. Each weekday this month through August, patrons can enjoy three games of bowling (including shoes) or two games, shoes and a hotdog and small drink for only \$6 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Active duty Sailors take advantage of free bowling on Wednesdays from open to close. Call the center for event schedules at 542-3493.

## Youth Activities Center happenings

Kids get ready for school at the Youth Activities "Back to School Family Fun Night" tomorrow at 6 p.m. Come out and share your great summer fun experiences, vacation travels.

Take advantage of the fun events at the Youth Activities Center. Monday evenings we have indoor soccer from 6:15-8:15 p.m.

Dance classes and Tae Kwon Do classes are available at NAS Jax Youth Gym and Yellow Water Youth Activities.

If you are interested in registering your child stop by either center or give us a call at 778-9772 (NAS Jax) or 777-8247 (Yellow Water)

## School Age Care

The before & after school program begins Aug. 7. Sign-ups are now being accepted for the upcoming school year for the Youth Activities School Age Care Program. Before school care begins 6:15 a.m. and after school care ends at 6 p.m. School starts on Aug.7 for Duval County Schools. Limited space is available. For more information, call 778-9772.

## Free movies offered

Enjoy free movies at the base theater each Friday evening starting at 7 p.m. and every other Saturday at 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Bring your own popcorn, soda and snacks. Sit back and enjoy some of Hollywood's premier blockbuster hits. There are no alcoholic beverages allowed in the theater and persons under 17 are not permitted without adult supervision.

Tomorrow, 7 p.m. - Malibu's Most Wanted (PG-13)

Aug. 15, 7 p.m. - A Man Apart (R)

Aug. 16, 5 p.m. - Lizzie McGuire Movie (PG)

Aug. 16, 7 p.m. - Down With Love (PG-13)

Visit MWR online at [www.nasjax.navy.mil](http://www.nasjax.navy.mil) and look for the tab marked MWR this is your tab to unlimited fun. For questions or comments e-mail us at [mwrmtkg@nasjax.navy.mil](mailto:mwrmtkg@nasjax.navy.mil).

# Navy MWR bringing books to the fleet

## From Armed Forces News

The Navy's Morale, Welfare and Recreation Division recently signed a commercial sponsorship agreement with Baen Books that will help bring expanded recreational opportunities to sailors serving aboard ships and submarines worldwide. Under the agreement, all Navy

ships will be provided with hardcover books and CDs. The Navy General Library Program Manager in Pensacola, will forward the books to the fleet as part of the Afloat Library Program.

"Ten hardcover books and select CDs will be mailed quarterly to each surface ship and submarine in the U.S. Navy," explained Bill Winters,

head of the MWR's Special Projects and Programs Section.

"Each CD contains maps, charts, artwork, interactive games and most importantly, several complete novels that can be read on a computer or downloaded to a Palm Pilot. This will be especially beneficial on board submarines, where storage space is very limited," he added.

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The **Navy Wives Clubs of America, NWCA Jax No. 86** meets the first Wednesday of each month. Meetings are held in Building 612 on Jason Street at NAS Jacksonville at 7:30 p.m. The Thrift Shop is open Tuesdays and Thursdays and every other Saturday from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. For more information, call the Thrift Shop at 772-0242 or Pearl Aran at 777-8032.

The **Navy Wives Club's DID No. 300** meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Oak Crest United Methodist Church Education Building at 5900 Ricker Road. For more information, call 387-4332 or 272-9489.

**Clay County Chapter 1414, National Association of Retired Federal Employees, (NARFE)** invites all retired and currently employed federal employees to their regular monthly meeting the second Tuesday of each month at 1 p.m. at the Orange Park Library. For more information, call 276-9415.

**MOMS Club of Northeast Florida** meets the second and fourth Thursday of every month from 10 a.m. to noon. The meeting is free and open to all at-home mothers and children who live in the zip code areas of 32206, 32218 and 32226. MOMS Club is a support group for moms wanting a variety of activities for you and your children. The chapter offers monthly meetings, newsletters, activity calendars, playgroups, field trips and service projects. For meeting location or more information, contact Debbie at 751-0671 ([debiejkg@yahoo.com](mailto:debiejkg@yahoo.com)) or Kathi at 751-3400 ([katdj28@aol.com](mailto:katdj28@aol.com)).

The **Marine Corps League, Jacksonville Detachment** holds their monthly meeting the first Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the Marine Corps Recruiting Station at 3728 Phillips Highway, Suite 229. For more information call John Leisman at 779-7375.

**Christian Fellowship Night** will be held behind the Chapel in Bldg. 749 from 6:30 - 9 p.m. every Tuesday night. For more information call 542-3051.

**Association of Aviation Ordnancemen's** meeting is held the third Thursday of each month at the Fleet Reserve Center on Collins Road. For more information, call AOC Chris Johnson at 542-2168 or AOCs Erick Parnley at 542-8589.

The **National Naval Officers Association (NNOA)** holds its monthly meeting on the third Thursday each month at 5:30 p.m. at the Jacksonville Urban League, 903 West Union Street. Interested personnel are encouraged to

attend or contact Lt. Herlena Washington at 696-5005 or email [WashingtonHO@matcombic.usmc.mil](mailto:WashingtonHO@matcombic.usmc.mil).

The **Westside Jacksonville Chapter 1984, National Association of Retired Federal Employees** extends an open invitation to all currently employed and retired federal employees to our regular meeting held at 1 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Murray Hill United Methodist Church, ( Fellowship Hall Building) at 4101 College Street. For more information, call R. Carroll at 786-7083.

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Fleet Reserve Association monthly meeting will be held Aug. 14 at the Fleet Reserve Hall at 7673 Blanding Boulevard. For more information, call 771-2936.

The **Jacksonville Genealogical Society** will hold their monthly meeting Aug. 16 at the Webb-Wesconnett Library, 6887 103rd Street at 1:30 p.m. For additional information please contact Mary Chauncey at 781-9300.

The **Retired Activities Office (RAO)** is offering a retiree seminar Sept. 13 from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the NAS Jax River Cove Officer's Club. Presentations will cover pay matters, Survivor Benefit Plan, Tricare for Life, Long Term Care, Tricare pharmacy benefits, PSD benefits, hospital benefits and a spouse workshop. For more information, call 542-2766, Ext. 126.

The **"Memphis Muster" for VP-1** years 1969 thru 1974 will be held Sept. 12-14 in Memphis, Tenn. For more information, contact Don Grove at [dongrove@direcway.com](mailto:dongrove@direcway.com).

Mike Taylor at [ldeploy@worldnet.att.com](mailto:ldeploy@worldnet.att.com) or Jack Bachhofer at 264-5890 or email [bachhoferj@aol.com](mailto:bachhoferj@aol.com).

The **VP/VPB-23 Veterans Association** will hold its ninth reunion in Jacksonville Oct. 15-19. For more information, email [dklotz23@aol.com](mailto:dklotz23@aol.com).

**VF-22 Korean War** veterans will return to Jacksonville/Orange Park for a 50th anniversary reunion at the Holiday Inn Orange Park on Oct 21-22. For more information, contact is Jack Bailey at 757-340-5922 or email [charlieson@msn.com](mailto:charlieson@msn.com).

The annual **VP-24 Reunion** is scheduled for Oct. 24-26 at NAS Jacksonville. For more information, write Don Hall, 2003 Jax Reunion Host, 4421 Commons Dr. East, #413, Destin, Fla. 32541 or email [djhdestin@cox.net](mailto:djhdestin@cox.net).

**VP-8** is holding a reunion Nov. 5-9 in Pensacola, Fla. For more information, call 733-5489 or email [bbperry2@att.net](mailto:bbperry2@att.net).

**Looking for back issues of Jax Air News?**

Check out our archives online:

[www.nasjax.navy.mil/JAX\\_AIR\\_NEWS/home.htm](http://www.nasjax.navy.mil/JAX_AIR_NEWS/home.htm)

or

[www.jaxairnews.com](http://www.jaxairnews.com)



NORMANS VACUUM SUPPLY; 3c; 10.75"; Black Only;

## Youth Activities Center holds end of summer picnic

A youngster from the Youth Activities Center enjoys the water slide at an end of the summer picnic held at Sea King Park last Friday.



Photos by  
Kaylee  
LaRocque

Kelsi Yeakel, a teen employee helps a youngster climb a velcro wall at the picnic.



Teen employees Jeff Zatkos and Lauren Ervin have a little fun at the picnic.



Kristina Ketterer, a teen employee at the Youth Activities Center paints a youngster's face at the picnic. The teen employees who were hired to help out as summer camp counselors, were responsible for planning and organizing the events and food for the picnic as part of their final project.

FARAH & FARAH, P.A.; 3c; 10.75"; Other Color; P/U 7/24 R014624

## JAX SPORTS NEWS

### Fall softball meetings

There will be a softball meeting for Greybeard Softball on Aug. 13 at 11:30 a.m. in Building 590 in the MWR Conference Room. This meeting is open to all active duty age 32 and older.

There will be a meeting for Intramural Softball on Aug. 13 at noon in Building 590 in the MWR Conference Room. This meeting is open to all active duty only.

There will be a meeting for Women's Softball on Aug. 13 at 12:30 p.m. in Building 590 in the MWR Conference Room. This meeting is open to all women who are active duty, dependents over 18, retirees, and base civilian employees.

There will be a meeting for Open League Softball on Aug. 14 at 4 p.m. at Mulligans. This meeting is only open to active duty, dependents over 18, retirees, and base civilian employees.

Uniforms are provided as well as transportation, entry fees, and lodging costs. Interested runners must compete in sanctioned (USA Track and Field, USA Triathlon Association, or Roadrunners Clubs of America) races and your time must be one of top 10 regional qualifying times. If you have run in sanctioned race and your time meets regional qualifying time, contact your base athletic director.

Southeast Regional qualifying times:  
5K - Men 19:00  
Women 24:00  
10K - Men 34:00  
Women 46:00  
Marathon - Men 3 Hrs. 30 Min.  
Women 4 Hrs.  
Triathlon - Men 2 Hrs. 30 Min.  
Women 3 Hrs.  
Triathlon time based on 1.5k swim, 10k run, 40k bike

For more information about any of the sports articles, call 542-2930/3239. Visit the MWR website at [www.nasjax.navy.mil](http://www.nasjax.navy.mil)

### Navy Southeast Regional Running and Triathlon Team

Represent the United States Navy in 5K, 10K, marathons, and/or triathlons. The Navy will showcase elite active duty men and women in regional

## Household goods moving advisory

Telemarketing companies have been targeting owners of for sale or recently sold homes. They are offering free surveys to estimate the cost of moving household goods by local moving companies.

Some military members are led to believe that services rendered

by these companies will count as a military move. Though it may seem like a good deal, these companies may not be authorized government movers.

Be advised that the only way to set up a military move is through the Personal Property Office.

You may direct questions concerning household goods moves to a Personal Property Office at:

NAS Jacksonville - 542-1000, Ext 105  
NS Mayport - 270-5699, Ext 124  
NSB Kings Bay, Ga. - (912) 573-8815

## JAX TALES

By MIKE JONES

[WWW.RICKEYSTOUR.COM](http://WWW.RICKEYSTOUR.COM)



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# In Gear

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A weekly look at the automotive market

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