



# Jax Air News

## TOUCHING BASE

### Luncheon planned

A special luncheon in celebration of Asian/Pacific American Month will be held today from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the NAS Jax River Cove Officer's Club. The theme is "Salute to Liberty." The event will feature a guest speaker and musical entertainment. Tickets are \$10. For more information and to purchase tickets, contact Sylvia Kitt at 542-0842.

## DEFY

### VP-30 to host DEFY Camp

VP-30 is hosting a six-day Residential Summer Camp June 1-6 at the YMCA Camp McConnell as part of the Navy's Drug Education for Youth (DEFY) program.

DEFY is a two-phased prevention program for children ages 9-12. DEFY deters "at risk" behaviors by giving kids the tools they need to resist drugs, gangs and alcohol. It focuses on building self-image, interpersonal relations, goal setting, leadership, and team building skills. It is a challenging, fun-filled week in the summer (Phase I) followed by a year of mentoring (Phase II). The camp is for military or DoD children ages 9-12.

Active-duty members and/or DoD civilians are also needed as volunteers to be team leaders, camp corpsmen and mentors. Participants must have command approval and TAD orders.

Applications for children and volunteers can be picked up in the VP-30 Personnel Office and must be returned by May 16.

For more information, call Kristi Moon at 542-3144.

### Jax Air News deadlines change

Due to the upcoming Memorial Day holiday on May 26, all articles and classified ads must be submitted by 4 p.m. May 23 for the May 29 issue. For more information, call 542-5588.

### Office moving

Navy Legal Services Office (NLSO) will move from Building 8 to Building 4 May 19-20. The office will reopen in their new location May 21. There will be no walk-in clinic the week of the move. All phone numbers will remain the same. Call 542-2565 for more information.

## NAS Jax joins Buckle Up crackdown



Photo by Miriam S. Gallet

Cindy Alamilla safely secures her three-year-old son, Shawn, after a morning of shopping at the NAS Commissary.

From Base Security Dept.

Drivers who don't buckle up and don't buckle up kids - beware.

Law enforcement officers across the state of Florida are forming the largest non-emergency mobilization in history - to crackdown on drivers who violate Florida's safety belt and child passenger safety laws.

The Click It of Ticket enforcement wave involves officers from every single agency with enforcement responsibilities across Florida as well as Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee, will be cracking down on adults who don't buckle up and don't buckle up kids. From May 26 through June 3, these officers are stepping up enforcement in a high-visibility effort to save lives. Law enforcement officers in all eight states will ticket drivers who violate seat belt or child restraint laws. Some states will have checkpoints - more than 16,000 across the region - others will do stepped-up patrolling.

In conjunction with this nationwide effort to encourage seat belt usage to 100 percent, NAS Jacksonville will participate in the "Click it or Ticket" seat belt campaign May 19 - June 3.

"The goal of our Click It or Ticket Campaign is to increase safety belt



usage onboard NAS Jax to 100 percent compliance and to save lives. Since safety belts reduce the risk of death or serious injury in a motor vehicle crash by up to 50 percent, we can improve vehicle safety by getting more people to buckle up with the Click It or Ticket Campaign. We must work together to meet this goal. With our aggressive marketing strategy, we believe if we save one life, then the work was well worth the time," said Lt. Chuck Clanahan, director of NAS

See CLICK-IT, Page 11

## VP-30 MPR memorial honors fallen Pentagon heroes

By Lt. Keith Radonis  
VP-30

Sept. 11, 2001. It is amazing how something as simple as a date can capture your attention. Yet this date is anything but simple. It is a date that forever changed the world. It is a day when America, and everything it stands for, came under attack. Innocent life was slain. Sons, brothers, husbands and fathers, daughters, sisters, wives and mothers...all lost in a cowardly terrorist attack. It is a day on which the maritime patrol and reconnaissance (MPR) community had six sons of its own taken. For the sacrifice of all those who perished, it is a day never to be forgotten.

The entrance to VP-30 is forever enshrined with a memorial dedicated to those of the MPR community who

fell victim to the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. Made possible by the donations of every VP/VQ squadron and staff throughout the fleet, the memory of those fallen will live forever in the halls of VP-30 and in the hearts and minds of the staff, students and visitors who pass through its doors. Engraved on the memorial are the names of those who made the ultimate sacrifice: Capt. Lawrence Getzfred and Jack Panches, Cmdr. William Donovan, Lt. Michael Lamana and Jonas Panik and AW1 Joseph Pycior Jr.

This beautiful memorial, carved out of solid granite, was recently officially dedicated at VP-30. In attendance were the family and friends of our fallen heroes as well as numerous members of the MPR and NAS Jacksonville community. The ceremony began with the National Anthem

and Pledge of Allegiance. Following the Pledge, Cmdr. John Lyle, NAS Jacksonville command chaplain, gave the invocation and Capt. Brian Prindle, commanding officer of VP-30, introduced the guest speaker, Rear Adm. Richard Brooks, commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Force U.S. Atlantic Fleet.

Brooks spoke of the courage and sacrifice made by our fallen brethren at the Pentagon. Following the admiral's comments, there were speakers for each of the heroes. Cmdr. Brent Sperry, commanding officer of VP-16, spoke on behalf of Pycior, his former shipmate. Martin Panik spoke for his son, Jonas. Lt. Tim Esh spoke for Lamana, his friend for many years. Prindle remembered Donovan, an old friend. Jennifer Panches spoke on



Photo courtesy of VP-30

This memorial at VP-30 is dedicated to those maritime patrol and reconnaissance members who lost their lives on Sept. 11, 2001.

See MEMORIAL, Page 11

## Preparing for emergencies



Photo by JO2(SCW) Eric Clay

Battelle Memorial Institute Representative Brian Ponder (center) instructs emergency responders in the construction of decontamination units in preparation for the May 21 Weapons of Mass Destruction Drill at NAS Jax.

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## WEEKEND WEATHER

	<b>FRIDAY 66/88</b> PM THUNDERSTORMS
	<b>SATURDAY 69/87</b> PM THUNDERSTORMS
	<b>SUNDAY 69/87</b> PM THUNDERSTORMS

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

# FFSC News

## May is Spouse Employment Assistance Program Month

From FFSC

**M**ay is Spouse Employment Assistance Program Month. Spouse employment issues impact retention. According to Department of Navy (DoN) research, one of the top reasons why separating Sailors don't stay Navy is that the mobile military lifestyle is tough on their spouses' careers.

In response to this issue, the DoN has formed a partnership with Adecco, the world's largest employment services company, to help military spouses find jobs.

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their spouses' careers.

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It's called the Career Accelerator program. Through this program, Adecco recruiters offer military spouses career counseling services, training and job placement assistance at no cost.

Spouses who register with the program are eligible for Adecco benefits, such as vacation, holiday pay, retirement plans and tuition assistance. And you don't lose them when you relocate. All benefits are transferrable to any of the 1,400 Adecco offices in the United States.

Adecco North America places more

than 160,000 temporary associates each week in a variety of jobs, including clerical, data entry, administrative, technical, financial and light industrial.

Enrollment in the Career Accelerator program is free.

Program pilots began in January 2002 at Quantico, Va., and NAS Jacksonville. It is now available at 47 Fleet and Family Support Centers (FFSCs) nationwide.

A plan is developing to implement the program overseas at two locations in the United Kingdom. For more information, visit the NAS Jax FFSC or [www.adeccona.com/careeraccelerator/](http://www.adeccona.com/careeraccelerator/).

## A Navy wife's perspective

# Part of the Navy means saying goodbye

By Sarah Smiley  
Special Contributor

**F**or most military families, a moving van rumbling in the street is both a regularly occurring event and a dreaded sight to see.

It's daunting when the van is idling outside your own house and men are dismantling your home and carrying it to the truck, but it's downright depressing when the van is sitting outside the home of your best friend.

My best girl friend moved last week. Her husband was transferred across country, to a new branch of service, and I may never see her again. I find this hard to believe, and as of yet

I'm unable to accept that she is gone, but what's confusing and sad to me has been traumatic to my 2-1/2-year-old son. For the past two years, he grew up with my friend's children. Her youngest is just two weeks older than my son, and her eldest is four. I liked to refer to the three as "The Crew." They were always together and had grown to be "second families" for one another while our husbands were deployed.

My friend lived (literally) three houses away from me. Sometimes, while our husbands were gone, I had de ja vu back to my college days running down the street in sweatpants, comfy shoes, and a stack of DVDs under my arm, ready for a night of girl bonding and marathon movies.

How many times did I run back and forth between our houses...for a cup of milk for a recipe...or to cry on her couch...or to share good news and bad news or fun news?

I cannot be sure, but I know it measured in the hundreds. I wouldn't be surprised if I had worn a groove in the pavement between our two homes. She was my confidant, my buddy, the only programmed number on my telephone.

She was even the one who drove me to the hospital when I was in labor with my second son. Without her, suddenly this street seems entirely too lonely.

For my son, who in many ways knew my friend and was around her more than he has been with his own father, she and her children were his "world" and his only familiarity.

His daddy came and went on detachments and deployments, but the Jones' always lived a walk away. Now that they are gone, he is just old enough to understand we don't see them anymore, but still too young to know what "moving" really means.

Every morning he asks to go play with "The Crew," and when I'm taking him to the babysitters', he mistakenly believes he is going to my friends' house. After all, that is what he did for two straight years of his young life.

The day my friend moved, my son and I walked down to her house to say goodbye. The furniture was already packed and the rooms were empty.

My son cried out, "Where'd the couch go? Where's the table?" How many times had he eaten peanut butter and jellies on that kitchen table. I wondered? How many times had we all dyed Easter eggs together and celebrated birthdays and holidays

right there in her kitchen? As we walked back home (that oh so familiar path between our houses), my son wept and I realized then just how crazy this military life really is.

I can't think of any other profession that allows grown-up families (who aren't related) to become so close. The fact that military families endure so much together brings us closer and makes us "family."

Over the last two years, to celebrate Thanksgiving dinner or the Fourth of July without the Jones' was like ostracizing an aunt or an uncle or a brother. We had bonded in a way that is so unique to military families. We had bonded through hardship and tragedy and long, lonely months alone.

Yesterday my neighbor across the street moved. Her family is civilian and we were pretty close as far as friendship goes. Our children played together and she and I had several lunch dates and movies nights. But her departure hasn't affected me nearly as much as my fellow Navy friends.

I never suffered through six months alone with my civilian neighbor. I never ran to her door crying or called her at 2 a.m. because I heard a strange noise in the kitchen.

I never spent an entire Saturday with her; I never shared a holiday with her family. Monday through Friday, and especially Saturday and Sunday, my civilian friend had her husband and children at home.

With my military friend, at times, she and I only had each other. We'd sit alone on her back patio and listen to noisy neighbors celebrat-

ing the Fourth of July with a family picnic and fireworks.

We spent Easter just her and I and the kids, hunting for eggs in my backyard. And at 5 p.m. when husbands and wives were rushing home to be together, she and I could usually be found yakking it up at the park, watching our children play and laugh...totally sheltered from what a "normal" family life is like.

This morning my son asked, "Why did Darcy move, Momma?"

I paused, questioning myself about how to answer in a way he could understand.

"Honey," I explained, "Darcy and the boys moved away because their daddy got a new job. They won't live down the street and we won't go to their house anymore. Somebody new lives in their house now."

My son stared at me confused. "Do you understand?" I asked.

"No Momma," he said. I took his hand and answered, "I don't either."

I don't understand why the Navy brings such special people in and out of our lives. I don't understand why we have to leave a place just as soon as we get comfortable there.

However, the only thing I do understand (and eventually my son will too) is that I never would have been so close to my friend if it hadn't been for the military.

And now, for the rest of our lives, there will always be a guest bed waiting for us at the Jones', wherever it may be that the military moves them next. And if ever we go there, we will always be welcomed...like family.



## Meet A Sailor...

MA3 FRANKIE SERRANO

**Job title/command:**  
NAS Jax Security Department

**Hometown:** Bronx, N.Y.

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

**Past Duty Stations:** USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69).

**Career Plans:** To become a naval officer.

**Most Interesting Experience:** Getting married.

**Words of Wisdom:** You can't like it until you try it.



## Meet A Civilian...

SANTOS HARMON

**Job title/command:**  
Sales Associate, ServMart

**Hometown:** Grand Rapids, Mich.

**Family Life:** Single. I have a brother and sister.

**Past Duty Stations:** None

**Career Plans:** To continue my education in computer repair.

**Most Interesting Experience:** Visiting Las Vegas, Nev.

**Words of Wisdom:** Keep God number one in your life!



## HEY MONEYMAN

### Hey, MoneyMan!

It seems I am always keeping papers, bills, forms, receipts and all sorts of clutter and every time we move there are stacks and stacks of papers to transport. Can you help? What should I keep and what should I throw away?

### MoneyMan Sez:

We Americans love to collect stuff. We keep coins, baseball cards, old ticket stubs and all sorts of other "treasurers." Many of us find it easy to just stick those nuisance forms in the file rather than throw them away. In her latest book, Ilyce Glink offers the following list of important papers you should keep:

- \* Federal and state income tax returns - at least six years.
- \* Investment information when you buy and sell.
- \* Retirement account records.
- \* Insurance policies - as long as you hold the policy.
- \* Medical records - until any and all claims have been settled.
- \* Credit card receipts and statements - until the bills are paid and taxes filed.
- \* Bank statements - at least six years.

\* Mortgage and property-tax records - as long as you own the property.

\* Home purchase/sale and capital improvement records - forever.

This seems like a long list however, an organized two-drawer file cabinet should hold most of what you need.

### Hey, MoneyMan!

I don't get it! My neighbor and I are both E-5's in the Navy, married with one child each. He says he is saving money every month, but we never seem to have any left over after we pay our bills. What can I do to save money?

### MoneyMan Sez:

Spend less. The simple rule is to spend less than you make every month and save the difference. How can you save what you do not have? Perhaps you can "kick a bad habit."

Take the money you save and put it into a long-term investment plan. Smoking at four bucks a day cost you almost \$1,500 a year. Coffee and a bagel a day can cost you three dollars a day or more than \$1,000 per year. Say we knock out the coffee and bagel, save the thousand bucks and

invest it. One thousand dollars saved each year for 40 years with a return of 10 percent equals \$584,000. Not bad and your health

will probably improve to boot!

More questions? Call Hey MoneyMan at 778-0353.



## 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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# Military spouses learn self-defense techniques

By JO2(SCW) Eric Clay  
Staff Writer

At the NAS Jacksonville's Fleet and Family Support Center's (FFSC) Spouse Support Group meeting held May 6, participants spent nearly two hours learning self-defense training as Jacksonville Sheriff's Office Patrolman Terrance Hightower demonstrated some techniques to get away from an attacker. He also gave some tips on how to not appear an easy victim.

Hightower, who teaches this class with a very upfront and honest method said, "I can teach all the tools needed to fend off an attacker, but it is up to the individual to use the tools taught."

Hightower explained to

the class the need to be aware, as attackers are difficult to pick out. "There isn't a stereotype for attackers, they all look different and they all attack differently," he added.

Other techniques taught to the participants included, pinching specific different nerve areas such as the arms and the throat.

"When being attacked, the victim should become the aggressor by doing anything and everything possible to gain their freedom," explained Hightower.

"Have the mindset of a survivor; never give up, even if it seems to be the easiest thing to do. Think about your loved ones and how they would feel to lose you. "If you think this way, more than likely it will give you the inner strength to survive," commented

Hightower.

To avoid becoming a victim, people should walk with confidence and remain aware of their surroundings. "If you see someone looking at you or they look suspicious, say hi to them and more than likely they will leave you alone," Hightower continued. "Exuding confidence eliminates the image of a victim."

Hightower ended the class by reminding the audience that attackers don't respect victims, so you shouldn't respect them. "There is no such thing as a fair fight when a life is involved," he stated.

"I got a lot out of the self-defense class. On my way home I stopped by a store and for the first time I was aware of my surroundings. Before the class I wouldn't have known how to identify potential elements," said Priscilla McCrae, who participated in the class.

Hightower and the base FFSC plan on offering more classes in the future.

"FFSC asked for this specific training because many of the spouses of members in the support group are currently deployed. We also held the training to encourage other spouses and DoD employees on base to attend. The response to the training was so positive that a Self-Defense, Part 2 training with the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office is in the works," said Patti Tebow, NAS Jax FFSC counselor.

The counseling staff at NAS Jax FFSC started the military support group prior to the beginning of the Operation Iraqi Freedom to give spouses a safe place to discuss mutual concerns about their

spouse's deployment, and provide them with information about resources available to them on base and in the community.

Whenever new members attend the group, they receive a short survey to fill out to indicate topics of interest that they would like to address during support group meetings.

"Self-defense training was at the top of those topics of high interest to spouses as indicated by the group members," said Leslie Freeman, NAS Jax FFSC counselor.

The support group began in February and meets every Tuesday night from 7-9 p.m. at the FFSC. It is open to spouses of all service branches. Free childcare is provided by the Navy Wives Club # 86 while the group meets.

"I think one of the main benefits of the support group is that it keeps spouses from feeling so isolated during periods deployment," added Freeman.

For more information, call 542-2766, Ext.127.



Patrolman Terrance Hightower uses workshop participant Don Maconi as a victim to demonstrate the proper way to get away from an attacker.



Photos by JO2(SCW) Eric Clay

Jacksonville Sheriff's Office Patrolman Terrance Hightower demonstrates the proper technique for getting away from an attacker who is applying a choke hold during a Spouse Support Group meeting May 6.

## VS-30 sponsors ride for Navy Relief

By Lt. j. g. Justin Drach  
VS-30 PAO

More than 35 motorcycle enthusiasts from VS-30, VS-31, VP-30, and Naval Hospital Jacksonville enjoyed a beautiful, sunny Florida morning as they rode in the VS-30 sponsored "Ride for Navy Relief" motorcycle fundraiser May 2.

The "Diamondcutters" event raised more than \$400 dollars for Navy Relief and offered motorcycle enthusiasts an opportunity to make new friends and share in a common interest. "This event gave us all a chance to come together and combine our common love for riding with the much needed support of a worthwhile cause," said YNC(AW) James Pollard.

The riders assembled in Orange Park and with a roar, the long line of riders departed south to St. Augustine, then north to Jacksonville Beach and finally

returned to Orange Park.

Prior to arriving in downtown St. Augustine, the bikers stopped for lunch and socializing. Delicious food and cold drinks revitalized the group. Any time two or more motorcycle enthusiasts get together, the discussions are usually lively and this proved true for the lunch conversation.

Rested and ready, the group headed for St. Augustine. As the riders rolled into downtown St. Augustine, the group slowed to take in the beautiful scenery. "My favorite part of the trip was riding through St. Augustine's historic district," said Pollard. "The sparkling water, the fortress and old buildings were beautiful."

The Diamondcutters would like to extend a hearty thanks to all that participated and organized the fundraising motorcycle ride.

TIRE KINGDOM; 3c; 11"; Black Only;

## Health Fair set for tomorrow

Naval Hospital Jacksonville is offering a free Health Fair tomorrow from 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at the Navy Exchange Courtyard.

Information will be provided on:  
TRICARE Health Benefits  
Family Practice - (Blood pressure screenings, breast care information)  
Pediatrics - (Baby Friendly program, childhood asthma information)  
Emergency Medicine  
OB/GYN

The Wellness Center (Smoking cessation, nutrition information)  
Urology  
Pastoral Care  
Substance Abuse Rehabilitation Program (SARP)  
Diabetics Counseling  
Physical Therapy  
Occupational Therapy  
Chiropractic Clinic  
The Exceptional Family Member Program

## Promoting awareness for children



Photo by Dianne Parker

Hundreds of participants including several Sailors from NAS Jax turned out in support of the annual Stand for Children Walk last Saturday to increase awareness for child advocacy. The walk began at Treaty Oak and ended at The Jacksonville Landing where an array of activities were available for families throughout the day.

THE DENTIST PL/MARKET PL; 3c; 4.75"; Black Only;

# Columbia College holds commencement ceremony

From Columbia College

Columbia College held their 11th annual commencement ceremony May 2 at the All Saints Protestant Chapel. Mike Randerson, assistant vice president and dean for the Extended Studies Division of Columbia College presented the degrees and was the keynote speaker for the event.

More than 100 students received their associate or baccalaureate degrees. They are:

- Della Barney, AA**
- Melvin Jackson, AA/AS/BS/CISS**
- Robert Jackson, AA**
- Jennifer Littles, AA**
- Kevin Miller, AA**
- Michael Sutorus, AA**
- Vincent Ventrone, AA**
- Bryan Carney, AGS**
- David Kindig, AGS**
- Loubens Mardi, AGS**
- John Martel, AGS**
- Shain Todd, AGS**
- Kenneth Winschel, Jr., AGS**
- Rachel Wolf, AGS/BA/GS**
- Virginia Winkler, AS/CIS**
- Coshari Chatman, BA/BA**
- Roger Dugan, BA/BA**
- Elizabeth Dupuis, BA/BA**
- Jonathan Fuller, BA/BA**
- Bert Havird, BA/BA**
- Charles Kirtley, BA/BA**
- Sharon Pierce, BA/BA**
- Marcos Stephens, BA/BA**
- Theodore Vorce, BA/BA**
- Nathaniel Woods, BA/BA**
- Vada Almond, BA/CJAD**
- Ermon Bentley, BA/CJAD**
- Gloria Cardoza, BA/CJAD**
- Earl Clark, BA/CJAD**
- William Fitzgerald, BA/CJAD**
- Gerald Gonzalez, BA/CJAD**
- Richard Graham, BA/CJAD**
- Carl Harter, BA/CJAD**
- Ronnie Lester, BA/CJAD**
- Loran Lueders, BA/CJAD**
- Kimberly Martin, BA/CJAD**
- Cynthia Matta, BA/CJAD**
- Gary Meares, BA/CJAD**
- Alexis Melendez, BA/CJAD**
- David Messenger, BA/CJAD**
- Keneisha Miller, BA/CJAD**
- Carl Parker, BA/CJAD**
- Ivan Pena, BA/CJAD**
- Alexander Sharp IV, BA/CJAD**
- Charles Simpson Jr., BA/CJAD**
- Michael Stevens, BA/CJAD**
- Benjamin Tanner, BA/CJAD**
- Melvin Tennyson, BA/CJAD**
- Emily Valls, BA/CJAD**
- Rhonda Wilson, BA/CJAD**
- Dane Avis, BA/GS**
- Christopher Billings, BA/GS**



Photos by JO2(SCW) Eric Clay

The Columbia College graduating class of 2003.



AW1(AW) Terrell Brandes, student speaker, talks to his classmates about the opportunities available for college graduates. Brandes graduated with a 4.0 grade point average.



Keynote speaker Mike Randerson, assistant vice president and dean for the Extended Studies Division of Columbia College congratulates the graduating class of 2003.

- Scott Brandow, BA/GS**
- Leticia Clark, BA/GS**
- Roderick Cole, BA/GS**
- Crystal Earney, BA/GS**
- Dennis Hackett, BA/GS**
- Michaelle Henry, BA/GS**
- Jose' Luis Miranda, BA/GS**
- Matthew Montgomery, BA/GS**

- Lawrence Payne IV, BA/GS**
- Randolph Scott, BA/GS**
- Jamie Vaughan, BA/GS**
- William Whitney Jr., BA/GS**
- Rachel Wolf, AGS/BA/GS**
- Kenneth Wright III, BA/GS**
- Edward Hawkins, BA/PSYC**
- Dana McLean, BA/PSYC**

- Paul Southern, BA/PSYC**
- Lionel Staplefoote, BA/PSYC**
- Susan Woodford, BA/PSYC**
- Aleithia Young, BA/PSYC**
- Eugene Biala, BA/PSYC**
- David Blankenship, BS/BA**
- Guy Calhoun, BS/BA**
- Jennifer Camacho, BS/BA**

- Michael Hanson, BS/BA**
- Deborah Higginbotham, BS/BA**
- Wanda Hunter, BS/BA**
- Randell Jaerger, BS/BA**
- Joseph James, BS/BA**
- William Jones Jr., BS/BA**
- David Lewis, BS/BA**
- James Little, BS/BA**
- Jamie Price, BS/BA**
- Sherry Rose, BS/BA**
- Adam Schrader, BS/BA**
- Alvin Tanzymore Jr., BS/BA/BS/CISS**
- Monty Teasley, BS/BA**
- Diana Wunder, BS/BA**
- William Ahlgrim, BS/CISS**
- Joseph Bosko III, BS/CISS**
- Terrell Brandes, BS/CISS**
- Edward Flanagan Jr., BS/CISS**
- Edward Ginder, BS/CISS**
- Sharron Hampton, BS/CISS**
- Wallace Herbert, BS/CISS**
- Allan Keelen, BS/CISS**
- Cary King, BS/CISS**
- Jerry Luciani, BS/CISS**
- Thomas Manwiller, BS/CISS**
- Johnnie McCray, BS/CISS**
- Alvin McKellar, BS/CISS**
- Gregorio Palacios III, BS/CISS**
- Timothy Ring, BS/CISS**
- Leo Scofield III, BS/CISS**
- Bradford Singleterry, BS/CISS**
- Deogracias Solis Jr., BS/CISS**
- Robert Ballee, BS/CISS**

## VP-16 promotions



Photo by VP-16 PAO LtJg Brandon Griffiths

The War Eagles of VP-16 recently promoted three members to the rank of Senior Chief Petty Officer in a ceremony held Friday, May 2. (From left) AZCS Joel Glaser, AMCS Joey Moore, and AECS Ken Duncan.

## Seminar to provide educational options

Are you planning to separate or reenlist? Whatever decisions you make, education will play a major role in your career success.

The Navy College Office is offering a seminar May 29 from 1-2 p.m. for retired, retiring, or reenlisting military personnel to help you review your education options. The seminar is being held in classroom 1, on the second floor of Building 110. Everyone is welcomed. For more information, call 542-2477.



Photo by PH3 Richard Williams

## Chief pinned

Commander Navy Region Southeast Rear Adm. Annette E. Brown and Chief of Staff Capt. Hardy Kircher, pin collar devices on MSCS(SW/AW) Robert Cole who was recently selected as a senior chief petty officer.

## Tuition Assistance workshop coming up

From the Navy College Office

To update everyone's knowledge on the recent changes in the Navy's Tuition Assistance (TA) policy, the Navy College Office is holding a TA workshop May 22 from noon to 1 p.m. in the Navy College Office testing room

of Building 110.

The workshop will cover procedures for processing TA forms and answer questions on how to resolve TA problems. Other items being discussed include Veteran's Affairs alternatives and how to fill out and process early TA class requests.

If you have never

enrolled with TA, have recurring problems with TA or just want to be sure your TA request is filled out properly and processed in a

timely manner, you are encouraged to attend this workshop.

For more information, call 542-2477.



Photos by JO2(SCW) Eric Clay

Service members and their families enjoy watching the elephants at the Jacksonville Zoo last Saturday evening.



A group of service members and their families watch as the chimpanzees put on a show during the annual USO Zoo Night.

## A night out at the Jacksonville Zoo

By JO2(SCW) Eric Clay  
Staff Writer

Last Saturday, the Jacksonville Zoological Gardens locked their gates to the general public and invited military members and their families out for an inexpensive evening at the zoo.

Nearly 1,800 military and family members attended the annual event sponsored by the USO and Vystar Credit Union.

"The Jacksonville Zoo is proud to support our local military and troops in every way possible," said Jenny Johnson, Jacksonville Zoological Gardens marketing and communications supervisor.

All exhibits were open to the visitors including the petting zoo and the Australian Outback exhibit.

"I really enjoyed the Australian Outback exhibit, because I was able to roam freely with the animals and the exotic birds even ate nectar from my hand," said MU2 Julia Walton.

The zoo also allowed the visitors to ride the train at no extra charge.

"We will work to our fullest

extent to offer our military families a wonderful place of entertainment and recreation where they can share in fun and educational experiences," added Johnson.

The zoo offered this night as a way of thanking the military and their families. "The Jacksonville Zoo offered this opportunity as a way to say 'thank you' to all the men and women of the armed forces who sacrifice so much for our freedom and lives," continued Johnson.

Greater Jacksonville USO Program Coordinator Philip Carlucci said, "We would like to thank the zoo staff and extend special thanks to zoo staff members, Kristy Brackin and Tena Barnidge for their outstanding help. We would also like to thank VyStar Credit Union for their support because without VyStar the event would never have happened," added Greater Jacksonville USO Program Coordinator Philip Carlucci. "The USO is looking forward to next year's event."

For more information regarding the USO and their programs, contact 778-2821.



(Above) MU2 Julia Walton became part of the zoo's exotic bird exhibit by feeding them some nectar.

(Below) YNSN Johnny Gulliland and his daughter, Lindsey pose with the gorilla statue at the Jacksonville Zoo.



Photos by Sgt. Joshua S. Higgins

Reserve Seabees with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion-14 work diligently on a water pump to make their bathhouse operational. The Seabees were anxious to take showers after three days in the field during a 19-day exercise in Camp Lejeune, N.C.

## NAS Jax Reserve Seabees take advantage of rare opportunity

By Sgt. Joshua Higgins  
Special Contributor

Reservists with 1st Naval Construction Division took advantage of Marine support and several tactical landing zones here to hone their battle skills recently.

Members of Naval Mobile Construction Battalions (NMCB) 14, 23 and 3rd Naval Construction Regiment deployed here from their Southeastern home bases for a 19-day exercise.

"During the exercise more than 800 reserve personnel trained to operate during a contingency while carrying out typical tasks Seabees may be assigned while supporting a Marine expeditionary force," said Lt. Dave Diefenderfer, training officer, 1st Naval Construction Division, based at Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek, Va.

"Seabees operate in direct support of Marine expeditionary forces," added Lt. Cmdr. Donald Maconi, operations officer, NMCB-14 from NAS Jacksonville.

The Seabees also provide their own security.

"We set up a 360-degree defense, send out patrols and maintain checkpoints along roadways, just as any Marine infantry unit would do when setting up an encampment," said Diefenderfer.

The field exercise here occurs only every four years for the reservists. The Seabees began the exercise with two days of classes on patrolling; rules of engagement; nuclear, biological and chemical warfare; and several other topics before conveying to where they constructed a base camp.

"We spend two to three days just setting up," said CE1 Leo Ward of NMCB-14. "Before we set up we have to do a security sweep



CM2 Ray Marsh, with NMCB-14, searches for a sniper in a tree line 150 yards away during a recent exercise held at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

of the site and set up a perimeter."

During the training evolution each unit had missions to complete, according to Diefenderfer. The missions ranged from water well digging to creating refuge camps.

Trainer/instructors with 1st Naval Construction Division evaluated each unit's performance.

"We are here to make sure these guys are getting quality training and doing a good job," said HMC Rachel Watson, machine gun block leader, 20th Seabee Readiness Group.

Marines from 2nd Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment acted as aggressors during the exercise to make the experience more realistic. Trainer/instructors coordinated several different scenarios for the Seabees.

Sniper fire, bombing attacks and simulated fire fights were among the situations evaluated. Multiple Integrated Laser Engagement System gear, similar to laser tag equipment, gave an added effect of realism.

"The training this year has been the best in 10 years," stated Ward. "With Marines getting involved, things are coming as a surprise like they should, because actual war never goes as planned."



# HSO recognizes top talent

By JOC Bill Austin  
HSO PAO

Sailors and civilians stationed at the Naval Healthcare Support Office (HSO) recently gave a hearty congratulations to fellow shipmates HM2 Ornella Buccino-Jones, HN Marilyn Ongoco and Karen Suggs for their selection as the Senior, Junior (Sailor) and Civilian of the Quarter respectively. This recognition the recipients will tell you, is something that they are all quite proud of.

HM2 Ornella Buccino-Jones for example, said that being selected as the Senior Sailor of the Quarter was a personal honor for her. "It really did feel good, and it was great to set the example," said the Naples, Italy native with her rich Italian accent.

Buccino-Jones has been in the Navy for the past six years, and is the leading petty officer of the command's Dental Corps Division. One of her short-term goals is to begin working on her Masters Degree in Human Resource Management.

When asked what advice she would give to those who are just entering the Navy, she really didn't hesitate. "I would tell them all to believe in yourself, and work your best to make the Navy even better."

She went on to talk about the importance of mentorship. When prodded to tell at least one solid mentor that had touched her life, again she answered almost immediately. "My mom. She never gives up, no matter how grim the situation appears to be."

HN Marilyn Ongoco, like Buccino-Jones, displays drive and just plain determination in her job as a credentialing technician in the Medical Services Division.

Born and raised in the Philippines, Ongoco said that the best part of the job here is being able to help others. "When a provider calls me to let me know that they really appreciate



Photo by JOC Bill Austin

From left, HM2 Ornella Buccino-Jones, Senior Sailor of the Quarter, HN Marilyn Ongoco, Junior Sailor of the Quarter and Karen Suggs, Civilian of the Quarter for HSO.

the work I've done to get him or her credentialed and privileged, is very rewarding. That's the greatest feeling," said Ongoco with a catchy warm smile.

Getting the recognition, as the command's Junior Sailor of the Quarter is an honor according to Ongoco, she thanks shipmates, family and friends for. "They have influenced me in big and small ways, to bring the best out of me," she said.

For being in the Navy just under a year, Ongoco had exceptional advice to those serving their first hitch. "I would say to make a choice right from the start to step forward. I would encourage everyone to take advantage of all the opportunities the Navy has to offer to help you grow personally and professionally."

Civilians are major players her at HSO, vital to the success of the mission. One such key team member is Karen Suggs.

The Junction City, Kan. native is a long time member of the HSO team, and has been affiliated with civil service for the past 32 years.

Suggs develops and monitors health facility requirements, which include design input and collateral equipment planning and budgeting. She also provides local facility support

ability of facilities to perform their mission using state-of-the-art equipment and provide quality health-care to their beneficiaries."

When asked how she felt when she found out she was selected as the Civilian of the Quarter, Suggs responded with flair, sincerity and a question of her own.

"How can you not feel great when your efforts are rewarded?"

"Our Sailors and civilians are some of the best in the business," said HSO's Command Master Chief, HMCM Ron Rang. "It's extremely easy being the CMC when you have the high quality Sailors and civilians that we do. I'm proud of the accomplishments of all our junior Sailors, and especially those recognized by their nomination and selection as SOQ."

for HSO. The best part of her job according to Suggs is "knowing my efforts will have a direct impact on the

## KUDO KORNER

The following personnel received award during a recent ceremony at Fleet Area Control and Surveillance Facility Jacksonville:

**Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal**  
ET1(SW/AW) William Davis

**Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal**  
OS1(SW) Christopher Zeigler

**Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Award**  
ET1(SW/AW) William Davis

**Good Conduct Medal**  
IT1(SW) Kimberly Higgs

**Flag Letter of Commendation**  
AC2 Erwin Sinsay  
ACAN Horacio Body

## NCLC offers classes

The Navy College Learning Center (NCLC) offers free ASVAB/ACT/SAT prep classes to help increase test scores. The following are the upcoming classes:

May 27 - June 5  
Classes run from 9 a.m.

to 4 p.m. for two weeks. These classes are offered to help increase scores in math, English and reading. Seating is limited and reserved on a "first-come" basis. To sign up, call 542-3676 or email Aslcta@inet-mail.att.net.

## PSD celebrates Cinco de Mayo



Photo by JO2(SCW) Eric Clay

PN2(SW) Luz Davis swings and hits a pinata while PN1(SW) Freddy Deleon holds the suspension rope during PSD Jacksonville's Cinco de Mayo celebration luncheon May 5.

# D o c u m e n t A u t o m a t i o n & P r o d u c t i o n S e r v i c e

## DAPS Jacksonville: At the publishing forefront

By JO1 Mike Jones  
Assistant Editor

When Internet access became commonplace a few years back, many felt the Web's arrival signaled the death knell to the printing press.

only all DoD components, but all federal agencies located within our geographical area," Barrett mentioned.

Inside the old building, which interestingly served as the base galley during World War II, cumbersome presses and large machinery have given way to sleek desktop computers, where DAPS employees process thousands of documents, graphics and numerous other products each month. "All the traditional printing equipment, particularly the printing press, is gone. We're almost entirely engaged in information technology - electronic-based processes," Barrett explained.

DAPS produces everything from change of command and retirement ceremony programs to base vehicle decals. In addition, the organization is helping to make the shift to a paperless Navy a reality. "Our business is supporting all the business communication needs of our customers. From design and illustration to Web publishing and hosting, electronic printing, document conversion," said Barrett. "Everything really is centered around the desired move to a paperless environment. Our organization plays a key role in helping our customers facilitate that."

Stacks upon stacks of training manuals undergo digital conversion at the shop, enabling literally thousands of pages of text to fit onto CDs and eventually web servers. For many shipboard training environments, where space is always a premium, this digital conversion is enormously beneficial, Barrett added. This digital conversion process also ensures the preservation of older paper documents which deteriorate over time.

Additionally, DAPS hosts, and in many cases maintains, six to eight websites. "Printing" might be an outdated term with some of our processes, but 'publishing' will always encompass what we do," he noted. "We're finding ourselves more and more into the realm of business communication."

Although DAPS has proven more than capable at adjusting to the digital revolution, Barrett remarked there will always be a need for hard copy. "Some items don't lend themselves to the digital environment - ceremonial stuff, brochures and posters, for example," he said. The staff at DAPS flexes the skills to design and produce these items, often exceeding customer expectations.

And it's the DAPS Jacksonville staff, Barrett stressed, which makes the organization such a success. "The caliber of the people here is outstanding. We have the best of the best and the quality of the products delivered by them is truly amazing."

Barrett explained the office is open for visits and encourages anyone wishing to see DAPS in action to call 542-3446, or drop by Mondays through Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Dolores Lehr feeds documents into a scanner as part of the electronic conversion process.



Ty Grant helps SK2 Peter Gonsalves with specifications for a retirement ceremony program.



Joe Moment punches holes into training manuals as part of the binding process.



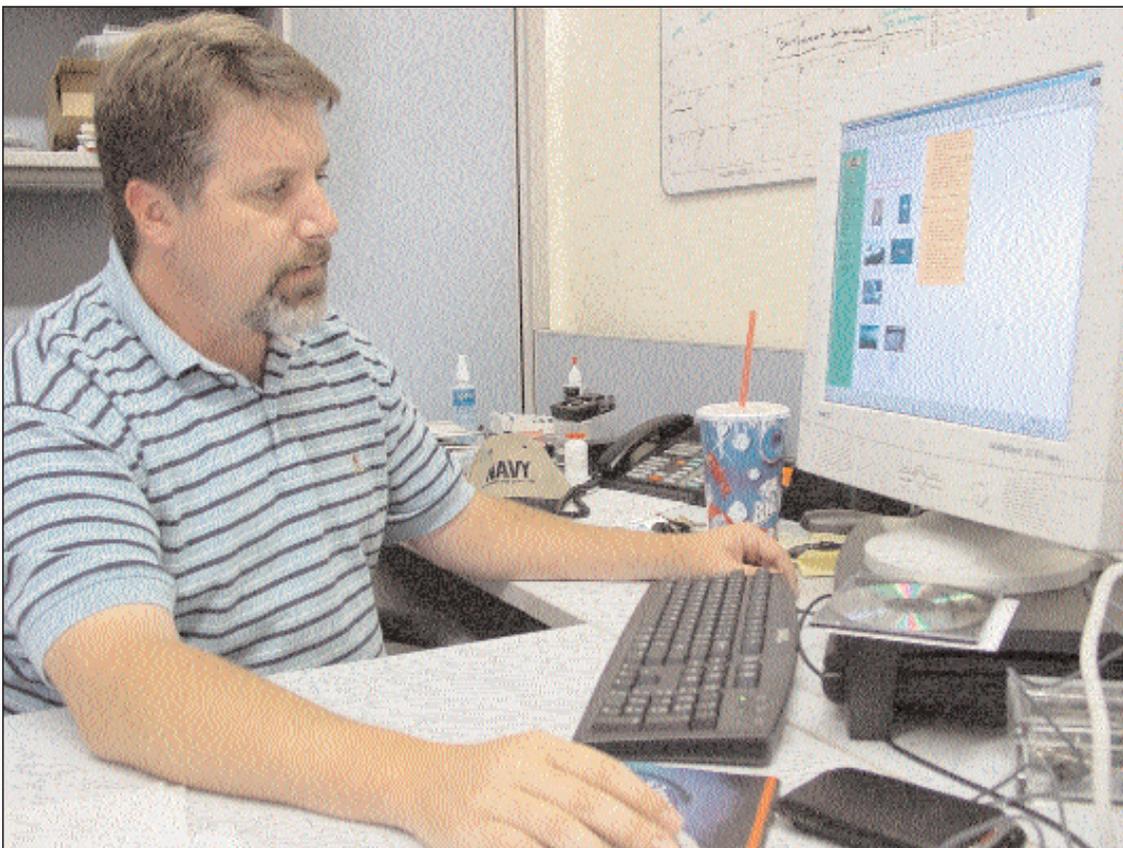
B.J. Walker inserts booklets into the binding and folding machine.

**Photos by  
JO1 Mike Jones**

ied as the organization's history.

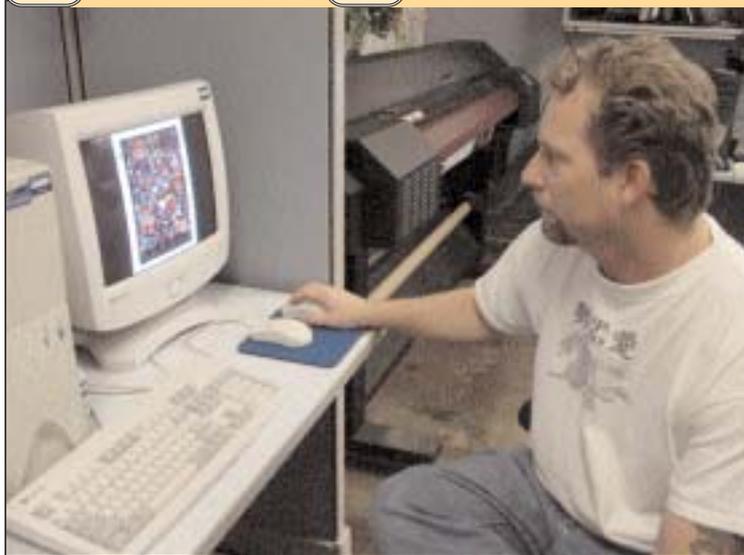
"The DAPS organization is 54 years old. It started as the Navy Printing and Publications Service, basically an offset printing environment," explained Joe Barrett, director DAPS Jacksonville. "Through the years, we've transitioned - the name's changed several times. We're now a component of the Defense Logistics Agency."

As one of 11 office groups, DAPS Jacksonville also serves as the regional headquarters with satellite branches within the Southeast Region serving customers from South Carolina to the Caribbean. "Our customer base includes not



Craig Hollis views one of the numerous Web sites hosted by DAPS.

# D Document A Automation & P Production S Service



Graphic Designer Tim Westmorland puts the finishing touches on a poster.



Carron Wedlund scans through an electronic version of a military training manual. Through the conversion process, DAPS is able to store training manuals onto CDs for shipment to the Fleet.



Craig Hollis checks Web server connections. In addition to providing publishing solutions, DAPS also hosts numerous Web sites.



Theresa Hollis checks for incoming orders placed over the Internet.



Tim Westmorland runs a poster through a lamination machine.

# HSO Sailors roll up sleeves to build homes

By JOC Bill Austin  
HSO PAO

Sailors from the Naval Healthcare Support Office (HSO) aboard NAS Jacksonville recently rallied together to lend helping hands for Clay Habitat for Humanity.

The Navy group conducted "finishing work" on several houses, guided by the expert eyes and hands of the Habitat staff.

Clay Habitat is an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International, a nonprofit worldwide Christian housing organization that invites people of all backgrounds, races and religions to build houses together in partnership with families in need.

The organization was founded in 1976, and has built more than 100,000 houses around the world, providing more than 500,000 people with affordable shelter.

Clay Habitat, according to the group's Executive Director, Ron Gentry, has built around 15 to 20 houses a year since it's beginning in 1987.

"The support we receive from our military volunteers is truly tremendous," said Gentry with a smile. "They come out here just about every Wednesday, and many of them have skills we really need like electricians for example. They all make a difference out here," added Gentry.

Habitat is not a "free ride" though. Certain criteria must be met before the first nail is driven. Habitat houses are not sold, not given to prospective homeowners. To qualify, they must live in substandard or overcrowded housing. They also have to be able to make the mortgage payment. "Sweat equity," or several hours of work



Clay Habitat Construction Site Supervisor Wayne Scott goes over the proper use of a circular saw for the HSO volunteers.

has to be given as well to either their perspective new home, or another sponsor organization to build another house.

The new Habitat houses stuck out brightly in a neighborhood dulled by neglect.

Many of the lots here are covered with tall grass and weeds, and more than a few houses are simply boarded up and abandoned altogether.

"That's exactly what Habitat is all about," said a burly Marvin Taylor, who serves as one of Clay Habitat's construction supervisors.

"We go into a neighborhood and give them a cleaner look with new houses," he added.

Taylor went on to say that 10 houses are currently being finished here, and the goal is to have the new occupants move in by

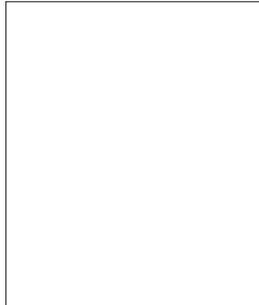
July.

At the work site, the Navy volunteers displayed great enthusiasm for the day ahead.

"I'm extremely happy to be here helping out in my community," said HM3 Misty Racquer, as she prepared to cut a piece of vinyl siding. "There is no way to explain the feeling I get knowing that I'm helping someone in need," she added with sincerity.

At one of the houses, the first person you couldn't help but notice was a barrel-chested Wayne Scott.

Scott, a construction site supervisor, wore a red bandanna around his silver hair, and has a white bushy beard that gives him a kind and worldly look. When you shake his hand, his grip is firm with calloused hands reflecting years of hard work.



A sign at the Clay County Habitat for Humanity site shows the need for volunteers.

He kept the HSO volunteer's every bit of attention as he explained to them how to operate a circular saw, and the safety procedures that go with it. As several of them took their turn at the saw, Scott's watchful eye was right there making sure every cut was done safely.

Scott has been involved in Clay Habitat from the start of it.

The skills he brings to the organization are many. The retired Marine Corps aircraft officer has more than 45 years of experience between his military and civil service time. Experience he is more than happy to share with the volunteers.

"Habitat is a special mission," Scott later said during a lunch break of fried chicken and potato salad. "So many people would never be able to own their own home if it wasn't for Clay Habitat," added Scott.

After lunch, the Sailors thanked the Habitat staff for the energizing meal they provided, and went back to work.



HM2 Kathy McBride installs a door lock while shipmates HN Lashee King (left) and HM2 Ornella Buccino-Jones look on.

Many of the HSO Sailors have been involved in Habitat projects before.

HM2 Tara Strickland is on her third construction site. "This has been another great opportunity to make a difference in my community," said Strickland. "Each time I volunteer I learn a new skill that I can use one day when I own my own home," she added.

At the end of the day, spirits remained high as the Sailors said their goodbyes and headed home.

Appropriate last words that summed up the days events came from Scott.

"Every Habitat house that is completed will have a stamp of Psalms 127 verse one placed in the cement walkway in front of it," said Scott with a gleam in his eye.

When asked to define the scripture, Scott quickly said, "Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor are in vain."

For information on how you can get involved, call the Clay Habitat For Humanity office at 269-4505.

## Battle of Midway Memorial Dinner coming up

From CNRSE Public Affairs

Tickets are now on sale for this year's Battle of Midway Commemoration Dinner, which will be held June 6 at the Radisson Riverwalk Hotel on Jacksonville's Southbank. The guest speaker will be James Cunningham, Jr., a Battle of Midway veteran and retired Navy chief. A recipient of the Purple Heart and five Battle Stars, he was serving aboard USS

Hammann when it was sunk at Midway. He was one of only 85 out of a crew of 250 to survive.

Cost of tickets for the dinner are:

E-6 and below, \$20; E-7 - O4, \$30; O5 and above, \$40; civilians and retirees, \$40. Checks should be made payable to Midway Memorial Account.

Tickets may be purchased from the following: NAS Jacksonville - Command Master Chief Office, IT1 Guy Stelzenmuller at (904)

542- 4545/2934; Naval Station Mayport, AECS(AW) Elizabeth Speer, 270-6101 and ITC(SW/AW) Victor Martin, 270-7354 ext 116; and Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, MSC Eric Johnson, at (912) 673-2064.

Uniform: O-4 and above - dinner dress white jacket; O-3 and below - dinner dress white/dinner dress white jacket optional. Civilian is black tie or business attire.

Cocktails begin at 6:30

p.m., dinner is at 7:30.

The evening promises to be fun and patriotic. Also in attendance will be other survivors of the Battle of Midway. This is an excellent opportunity for young Sailors to connect with a significant part of their naval history. Included will be a superb meal, music by Navy Band Southeast and an historical program high-

lighting the contributions of all military services in this magnificent victory.

This year's event marks the 61st anniversary of the Battle of Midway as well as the 100th anniversary of flight. All naval personnel: active-duty, retired, enlisted, officer and civilians are invited to attend the midway memorial dinner.

All personnel should take

time to reflect upon this important event in our naval history and on our proud heritage.

Additional information can be found at the Commander, Navy Region Southeast web site, <http://www.cnrse.navy.mil/>, by clicking on the blue "special events" button at the top of the home page.

## FCCJ hosting writers' festival

From FCCJ

The First Coast Writers' Festival sponsored by Florida Community College at Jacksonville will be held at the Sea Turtle Inn in Atlantic Beach today through Saturday. A wide variety of workshops, panels, one-on-one sessions, and book signings are offered to the public.

Pre-conference workshops begin today at 1:30 p.m. A free welcome reception highlighting Florida authors reading from their new works is tonight from 7-9 p.m.

Keynote speakers include poet/performer Ray Mc Niece, author of *The Road That Carried Me Here* and *The Bone Orchard* Conga, and Doug Marlette, novelist and Pulitzer Prize-winning editorial cartoonist, creator of the comic strip *Kudzu*.

Also among the presenters are: environmental writer and documentary filmmaker Bill Belleville; freelance commercial writers Peter Bowerman and Allison Glock; writer and former FBI special agent Steve

Brown; journalist, mystery writer and satirist S. V. Date; non-fiction writer and historian Elizabeth Furdell; award-winning humor writer Ad Hudler; novelists Laura Castoro, Lenore Hart, Ann Hyman, Cassandra King, David Poyer and Gerhardt Thamm; illustrator and author of children's books, Dan and Mary Hubley; novelist Scott Morris; Algon-quin Books editor Kathy Pories; novelist, non-fiction writer and screenwriter Les Standiford; screenwriter Paul Sinor; memoir writer Judy Stough; agents Jacky Sach and Cricket Pechstein; poet Eddie Bell; news reporter/writer Marisa Carbone and freelance writer and co-author of *Insider's Guide to Jacksonville* John Finotti.

Now in its 17th year, the festival is focused on helping aspiring and new authors improve their writing skills and gain a better understanding of publishing and marketing.

More information is available at [www.fccj.edu/wf](http://www.fccj.edu/wf) or by calling 997-2669.

## Kayak event shows fierce competition

From the Mulberry Cove Marina

On April 28, 12 Sailors from the Liberty Cove Recreation Center competed against one another for the honor to be crowned Grand Champion Kayaker of the Mulberry Cove Marina.

The event consisted of two heats of six racers and the competition was fierce. The racecourse was laid out from the Mulberry Cove Marina launch ramp, around a mooring buoy, and back to the finish line.

As the horn sounded to start Heat #1, the racers flailed their paddles wildly as a few members fell out of the kayaks.

As the Heat progressed, the managers of the marina and of Liberty thought they might have to initiate a mass rescue. Soon a clear leader emerged and AMAA Taylor Laramie swept across the finish line.

The tension was building by Heat #2 as Liberty Recreation Center Assistant Manager Hoku Bradley climbed into a kayak to compete.

With generations of Pacific Island paddlers in her blood, Bradley looked to be the leader in the

first leg of the race but then dropped out to rescue another kayaker.

ASAN James Thibodaux paddled hard across the finish line to claim Heat #2.

As the semi-finalists took a few minutes resting for the final race, a number of Liberty Sailors helped Manager Kari Krause into the water to test her buoyancy.

At the conclusion of the final race, Laramie was crowned the Grand Champion Kayaker of Mulberry Cove Marina. For his efforts, Laramie was presented a \$25 gift certificate to the Navy Exchange.

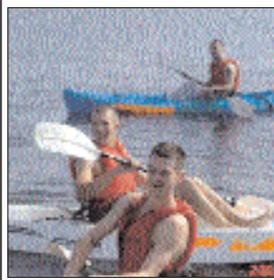
After the event everyone enjoyed ice cream as they talked about the event.

Anyone interested in the next Kayak Challenge should contact Liberty at 542.3491. If you'd like to get some practice in, Mulberry Cove Marina offers free kayak rentals to all active duty on Thursdays.

For more information, call the marina at 542-3260.

Photo courtesy Mulberry Cove Marina

AMAA Taylor Laramie (white kayak) and ASAN James Thibodaux (front) rest up for the final race of the Kayak Challenge sponsored by the Mulberry Cove Marina and Liberty Cove Recreation Center.



# CLICK-IT: Buckle Up Florida joins nationwide belt check

From Page 1

Jax Security Department.

"We are declaring zero tolerance for reckless adults who knowingly disregard safety belt laws," added Col. Charles Hall, director of the Florida Highway Patrol. "Every trooper to every state law enforcement agency with traffic safety enforcement responsibilities - officers representing all law enforcement agencies in Florida - are participating in Buckle Up Florida's Click It Or Ticket crackdown. It's a historic cooperative effort with a single goal in mind - to save lives."

Nationwide, traffic crashes are the leading cause of death for people ages 0-27. According to Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS), in 1999, 1,354 out of 2,918 vehicle occupants died unrestrained. Nearly half of these victims would be alive today if they had been buckled up. The most effective way to increase seat belt use and save lives is through strong laws that are well enforced.

Safety experts predict Click It Or Ticket in the Southeast region can prevent an estimated 10,427 injuries and save more than 600 lives each year as a result of increased seat belt use. The Click It Or Ticket wave coincides with Buckle Up Florida's enforcement wave and is part of a 50-state coordinated effort. During the Memorial Day holiday week, more than 10,000 law enforcement agencies nationwide will crackdown on drivers who break adult or child restraint laws.

Six out of 10 children who die in crashes are completely unrestrained. Nearly half of these kids

would be alive today, if only they had been buckled in. The Click It Or Ticket model also has been effective in increasing seat belt use and saving lives among minorities, particularly African-Americans. "Minority adults and children are being injured and are dying from preventable injuries due to motor vehicle crashes - at a higher rate than the general population," Hall said. "Success of this program will be measured not in the number of tickets issued - but in the number of lives potentially saved through increased safety belt use."

In Florida, overall safety belt use is 65 percent, below the national average of 71 percent.

The Click It Or Ticket enforcement wave including all eight states, have 100 percent participation from their state's local law enforcement agencies. It is part of an ongoing national initiative to increase safety belt use and save lives, and is a partnership between law enforcement, state highway safety offices, the National Safety Council, the Air Bag and Seat Belt Safety Campaign and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.



Photo by Miriam S. Gallet

Joyce Eloise Deschenes, spouse of retired AOCs Alfréd Deschenes, safely secures her seatbelt.

## MEMORIAL: Honors victims of Pentagon tragedy

From Page 1

behalf of her father, Jack, Patricia Gross-Getzfred talked about her husband, Lawrence. Rear Adm. Anthony Winns, commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Force U.S. Pacific Fleet also spoke about Getzfred's legacy to naval aviation. Also featured in the presentation ceremony were the Pro's Nest Singers who sang the National Anthem,

America the Beautiful, and God Bless America.

After the last of the remarks, the families joined Lt. Cmdr. Brett Bormann and Lt. j.g. Harold Cully in formally presenting the black granite memorial and accompanying portrait, which is now on permanent display on the VP-30 quarterdeck. This memorial will serve as a reminder to all those who

cross VP-30's threshold . . . a reminder of the sacrifice these heroes made that fateful September morning. Let us never forget those who paid the ultimate price that day. "Let us not only mourn the loss of our comrades," to paraphrase Gen. George Patton, "but let us be thankful that men like these lived" to allow us to live in freedom in the United States of America.

## Commissary Awareness Month celebrated

By Bonnie Powell DeCA

May is the second annual Commissary Awareness Month, but many of America's service members are deployed overseas. Is that like having a party that no one can attend?

Never fear. "Deployed service members may not need to worry about trips to the commissary, but educating military families and new arrivals about commissary shopping is more important now than ever," said Kaye Kennedy, chief of corporate communications for the Defense Commissary Agency.

"Guard and Reserve personnel are being activated in increasing numbers, sometimes losing a higher paying civilian paycheck. The changes can be traumatic, both emotionally and financially," she added.

Normally, Guard and Reserve personnel can shop in the commissary a maximum of 24 days per year. During active duty they receive full military benefits - including unlimited commissary privileges.

"The opportunity to save 30 percent or more at the commissary can help families living near a commissary," said Kennedy. "But first we need to get the savings message to them." Savings for a family of four shopping regularly in a commissary can amount to more than \$2,400 per year.

"Commissaries worldwide take the

opportunity to give special focus to outreach efforts during Commissary Awareness Month," said Kennedy.

"We not only make a special effort to reach Guard and Reserve, but new active duty, spouses and families, and single service members as well. Many stores hold commissary tours with single service members to let them know the commissary is not just for those who are married. Single service members often don't realize they can obtain substantial savings in frozen and convenience foods, snacks and beverages and health and beauty products," Kennedy stated.

Military family outreach is also an important element of Commissary Awareness Month. Tyson, Minute Maid, Heinz, Clorox, Kellogg's and Keebler have teamed up for a "Salute to the Military Family" promotion with the National Military Family Association (NMFA), a volunteer organization devoted to defending military families and their benefits.

The special promotion will provide additional savings to commissary customers on name brand products and participating manufacturers will donate operating funds to NMFA.

"Commissaries are an essential benefit and a focal point of the military community," said Kennedy.

# MWR NOTES

## Aquatics Dept. taking reservations

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.

The outdoor pool is now open for the summer season week-ends only from 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. There will be a Memorial Day Season Kickoff Party May 26 at 11 a.m.

## 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 has been forced to increase prices. We still have the lowest prices around.

The NAS Jax Veterinary Treatment Facility 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. Appointments may be made in person or by calling 542-3786.

The clinic is limited to services permitted by regulations. These include vaccinations, heartworm testing, fecal testing and minor treatment of the eyes, ears, and skin on an out-patient basis. Heartworm and flea prevention products are available for purchase at the clinic during regular business hours.

## Mulberry Cove Marina news

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.

## NAS Freedom Lanes offers great deals

The NAS Freedom Lanes is a state-of-the-art bowling facility, with 24 lanes, a game room with pool tables and arcade gaming machines. The Gutterball Grill snack bar provides delicious food and beverage service. The facility has a fully supplied Pro Shop staffed by members of the Professional Bowling Association.

The center is open seven days a week. The center offers Cosmic Xtreme bowling on Saturday afternoon from 4-6 p.m. and again from 8 p.m.-midnights. The NAS Freedom Lane is open to all active duty, authorized civilians, retirees and their family members.

Active duty free bowling: Wednesdays from open to close.

Rent a lane special Tuesdays starting at 5 p.m. The cost is \$12 per lane per hour or \$32 per lane for three-hour rental. Shoe rental is \$1.65 per pair.

Extreme Bowling - Saturday nights. The cost is \$15 per person. Check in begins at 7 p.m. and bowling starts at 8 p.m.

Call the center for event schedules at 542-3493.

## Liberty happenings

The Liberty Cove Recreation Center Staff is offering some great adventures and challenges for Sailors this month.

Some events and trips scheduled are a trip to the Comedy Zone tonight, an Auto Skills Class on May 22 and a week-end trip to Key West. To find out about other great happenings, call 542-1335.

## Youth classes

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)

## 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. - Old School  
May 23, 7 p.m. - Gangs of New York

May 24, 5 p.m. - Tuck Everlasting

May 24, 7 p.m. - Final Destination II

May 30, 7 p.m. - The Recruit

## 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.

Here are some of the upcoming events I.T.T. has tickets for:

Suns Baseball tickets - general admission is \$4.

Disney Florida resident four-day play pass - \$107.45. Good until Sept. 30.

The following are upcoming trips:

Sunday - Kennedy Space Center. Ticket and transportation for adults is \$38.50 and children (3-11) are \$29.50.

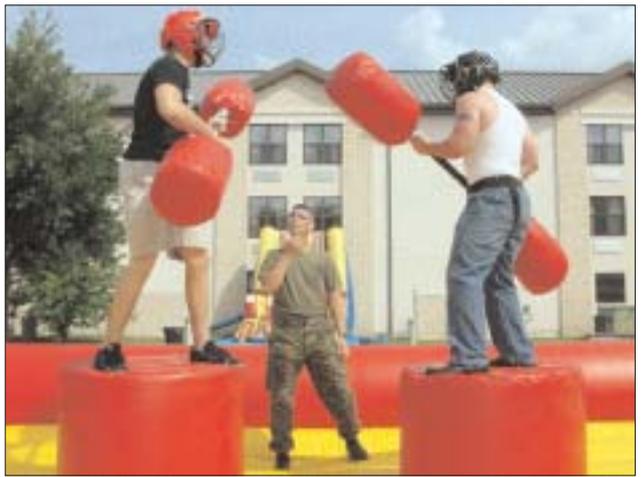
May 24 - Florida Folk Festival. Enjoy entertainment on six different stages featuring Florida's finest music, dance and storytelling. Sign up before May 9 and pay \$28.50 for adults and \$16.50 for children under 15.

June 7 - Savannah trip. Enjoy a beautiful day that includes transportation, a guided trolley tour of the city and plenty of free time for \$27.75.

June 8 - Sterling Casino Cruise. Sail out of Port Canaveral on the biggest gambling ship in Florida. A great day for \$12.50.

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 [mwrmtg@nasjax.navy.mil](mailto:mwrmtg@nasjax.navy.mil).

# Day of fun at Barracks Blast



Photos by JO2(SCW) Eric Clay

Lance Cpl. Brian Backus and Lance Cpl. Elijah Clark challenge each other's Marine Corps pugil stick skills as they joust at the bash.



(Above) AEAR Moses Clark ascends to the top of the mountain climbing simulator.

(Left) CMDCM(AW/SW) Chuck Lawson drops into the cold water of the dunk tank after a participant hits the target with a softball at the Barracks Blast.

# JAX TALES

By MIKE JONES

RICKYSTOUR@YAHOO.COM



# 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 (debbiejkg@yahoo.com) or Kathi at 751-3400 (katdj28@aol.com).

**Submarine Sailors** - If you have qualified on a United States Navy submarine in the past or present you are invited to join "First Coast Sub Vets." If you have qualified on a submarine from a foreign country, you are invited to join as an associate member. Meetings are held the second Saturday of each month at the American Legion Post 316 on Atlantic Blvd. For more information contact the

Base Commander at rjrjax@attbi.com or 241-6222.

**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.

**Girl Scout Troop 333** meets every Wednesday from 7-8:30 p.m. at NAS Jacksonville Chapel Annex. All girls grade 4-6 are invited, adults are also needed. If interested contact Lynn Sebring at 317-2363 or come to the meetings.

**St. Joseph's New Directions** is a year-round support group for the divorced and separated. Meetings are held the second and fourth Wednesday of every month. The meetings start at 6:45 p.m. and are held in the Convent at St. Joseph's main church on Loretto Road. Call 268-1591.

**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 Parmley 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. NNOA is a non-secretariat, not-for-profit organization sanctioned by the Secretaries of Defense and Transportation to assist sea services in recruiting and training minority officers, increasing awareness of sea services opportunities in minority communities, and projecting a positive Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard image. Interested personnel are encouraged to attend or contact Lt. Herlena Washington at 696-5005 or email WashingtonHO@

matcombc.usmc.mil.

**A Tall Ship Festival** is being hosted by the City of Jacksonville tomorrow through Sunday on the Northbank of the downtown Riverfront. Four tall ships will be featured at the event. Other activities include a parade of sailboats, entertainment, a maritime art show and sale and water demonstrations. For more information, call 630-3686 or email events@coj.net or visit our web page at www.coj.net.

**The Jacksonville Genealogical Society** will meet Saturday at 1:30 p.m. at the Webb-Wesconnett Library, 6887 103rd Street. For more information, call Mary Chauncey at 781-9300.

**The Military Officers Association** will hold their monthly meeting May 21 at 6 p.m. at the River Cove Officer's Club. For reservations and more information, call Steve Kerlin at 262-0209.

**The VFA-131 20th Anniversary Reunion** will be held July 11-12 in Virginia Beach, Va. For more information contact Lt. James Yeats, VFA-131, Unit 60145, FPO AE 09504-6229 or email yeatsja@vfa131.navy.mil.

**The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary (Flotilla 14-8)** is sponsoring three one-day Boating Safely programs July 26 from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Mandarin High School. The cost is \$20 per person. For more information, call Bob Strong at 721-1346.

**The VP-4 Association** is holding a reunion Oct. 6-9 at the Flamingo Hotel in Las Vegas, Nev. For more information and to register, email VP4assoc@adelphia.net.

**USS Iwo Jima (LPH2/LHD 7)** will hold their annual reunion Oct. 16-19 in Norfolk, Va. For more information, call Robert McAnnally at (866) 237-3137 or email yujack@mega-link.net.

**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.



Photos by Jennifer Eveses

Members of the 2003 NAS Jax Golf Team pose with their winning trophies after winning the Southeast Military Invitational Golf Championship.

## NAS Jax Golf Team wins tourney

From MWR

NAS Jacksonville played host to the 39th annual Southeast Military Invitational Golf Championship May 5-9.

The best active duty golfers from around the world participate in this event each year, representing their commands in a team competition and in the individual challenge.

Each installation qualifies their best golfers to form a team representing the base. This is a much-anticipated event by the players because it brings together the best of the best and is a proving ground in



Doug Conkey gets ready to tee off during the competition.

preparation for the All-Services Team. Johannesen, and Jeff Leedhal ensured the crystal trophy would return to Jax by getting off to a great start and never looking back.

After the first round Jax posted a six-shot lead and continued to build on it the next three rounds, resulting in a 22-stroke advantage at the close of the tournament. Scott Air Force Base finished second, and Fort Sam Houston placed third.

In 1988, NAS Jax placed first in this prestigious event. Since that victory, 15 years ago, the home team has not finished higher

than fifth place. This year, the NAS Jax 2003 Team comprised of Doug Conkey, Ray George, John Team. Johannesen, and Jeff Leedhal ensured the crystal trophy would return to Jax by getting off to a great start and never looking back.

# JAX SPORTS NEWS & STANDINGS

## Officials and scorekeepers needed

The North Florida Military Officials Association is looking for individuals to officiate soccer, softball, football, and volleyball at NAS Jax. Scorekeepers are also needed for basketball. Experience is not required. If interested, contact Al Vandercar at 282-0809.

## Intramural golf meeting planned

There will be a meeting for anyone interested in participating in intramural golf on May 21 at 11:30 a.m. at the MWR golf course. Intramural golf is open to all NAS Jax active duty personnel only. For more information, call 542-3239.

## 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 races. 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 Bill Bonser, sports coordinator or Mike Gorman, athletic director at 542-2930/3239 or e-mail us at [dbonser@nasjax.navy.mil](mailto:dbonser@nasjax.navy.mil) or [dgorman@nasjax.navy.mil](mailto:dgorman@nasjax.navy.mil). Visit the MWR website at [www.nasjax.navy.mil](http://www.nasjax.navy.mil)

## Greybeard Softball Standings as of May 9

Team	Wins	Losses
CPRW-11	9	2
AIMD	6	3
NAMTra	6	3
VP-30	2	9
VP-45 (Dropped)	0	6

## Intramural Softball Standings as of May 9

Team	Wins	Losses
Air Ops	9	1
AIMD Bombers	6	1
NAMTra	7	2
VR-58	7	2
VS-30 Red	6	4
VP-30	6	4
VS-31	5	4
VP-45	6	5
VP-62	4	5
VP-16 Red	4	5
HS-75	3	5
HS-5	3	5
VP-16 White	4	6
HITRON 10	4	6
AIMD 900	3	6
VS-30 Black	3	6
HS-15	1	7
SERCC	1	8

## 2003 Women's Softball Standings as of May 9

Team	Wins	Losses
VP-16	8	0
VP-45	7	2
Lady Cougars	4	5
MWR	2	8
NavHosp	1	7

## Intramural Soccer Standings as of May 9

Team	Wins	Losses	Ties	Points
VP-30	7	0	1	15
VS-31	6	2	0	12
NavHosp	5	2	1	11
ASTC/CNRSE	3	5	0	6
VP-45	2	6	0	4

## Open Softball Standings as of May 9

Team	Wins	Losses
CB'S	9	2
VP-16	7	2
Beanie Boys	6	5
Beef O'Brady's	5	4
NAMTra	4	6
Onsite Aviation	0	11

## Battle of Midway 5K race slated

From Staff

Fresh air, exercise and the opportunity to meet a real-life World War II hero are on tap for participants of the Battle of Midway 5K race to be held at 11:30 a.m. aboard NAS Jacksonville June 4.

Starting the race and assisting in the presentation of awards will be James H. Cunningham Jr., a Battle of Midway veteran and retired Navy chief. Recipient of the Purple Heart and five Battle Stars, he was serving aboard the USS Hammann when it was sunk at Midway.

Cunningham was one of only 85 out of a crew of 250 to survive. He will be available before and after the race to share his experiences with participants.

The race will begin south of the BOQ on Patrol Road, following a course down that road and back.

Registration forms are available at the base gym. The first 100 to register will receive a free Battle of Midway 5K Run commemorative T-shirt.

The race is open to all military and civilian personnel; there is no entry fee. Participants from the outside community may compete only if they have a valid ID card and Department of Defense vehicle decal, or are escorted at all times by a sponsor with a valid ID card and Department of Defense vehicle decal.

Late registration will take place up until race time. The race starts at 11:30 a.m. with an awards ceremony following.

Awards will be presented to top three male and female finishers. A Battle of Midway race team trophy will be awarded to the winning team. Five-person teams are required for competition; the best four scores count. The winning team will keep the trophy for a year. It will go up for challenge at next year's race.

For more information, contact Barbara Millhollan at 542-3518 ([dmillhol@nasjax.navy.mil](mailto:dmillhol@nasjax.navy.mil)), or Lisa Newsome ([dnewsome@nasjax.navy.mil](mailto:dnewsome@nasjax.navy.mil)) at 542-3518/2930.



DON'T MISS AN ISSUE!  
PICK US UP EVERY THURSDAY!