



Jax Air News

TOUCHING BASE

DANGER

Safety note

The Safety Office is asking for help. Anyone noticing a safety problem such as a pot hole, damaged road sign or street sign while driving on the streets on base is asked to call the Safety Office at 542-3082 or email safety@nasjax.navy.mil.

With only six people working in the Safety Office, your help is greatly needed in keeping the base a safer place for all.

San Juan Avenue railroad crossing closed March 25-29

The Florida Department of Transportation has released an advisory alerting motorists that the railroad crossing at State Road 128/ San Juan Ave. off Roosevelt Blvd. in the Ortega area will be closed for repairs March 25-29. Motorists who routinely use this thoroughfare should plan alternate routes during this period.



NAS Jax getting new ID cards

By JO3 Jacey Bratt
Staff Writer

NAS Jacksonville will begin a mass issuance of a new military identification card — called the Common Access Card (CAC) — beginning Monday.

The CAC contains a microchip, two bar codes and a magnetic strip that will hold personal information about the ID card.

The new ID cards will be issued to active duty and active reserves.

Department of the Navy civilian employees and eligible contractor personnel will be able to get the new card at the Naval Air Depot in April.

There is no requirement for Department of Defense personnel to have a visible signature on its ID card from GSA, the State Department, or the Geneva Convention; nor do any of the planned uses of the card within Department of the Navy require a signature. Consequently, the signature was not included on the card.

Sponsored by the Department of Defense (DoD), a six-station special trailer with computers and personnel to process the new CAC ID's will open its doors March 25 at the Personnel Support Activity Detachment (PSD) Jacksonville parking lot on board the air station.

The trailer will be open to all active duty/ active reserve military personnel.

In addition, eligible personnel will soon be able to obtain their CAC card on



Photos by JO3 Jacey Bratt

The Common Access Card mobile trailer will be up and running for active duty and active reserves on Monday. The CAC card will replace the green issued identification cards.

an appointment basis.

"It is imperative that Sailors and Marines make an appointment using the website scheduler," stated PNC Bryan Long, ID Card Dept. leading chief petty officer.

"The ability to schedule the 15 min. appointment works well because it puts the Sailor or Marine in charge of their appointment," said Long.

To make an appointment, visit the Personnel Support Activity (PSA) Jacksonville web site at www.psjax.navy.mil and click on CAC Mass Issuance. A second trailer will open up for civilian employees. Both trailers will operate on board NAS

Jacksonville until the end of May.

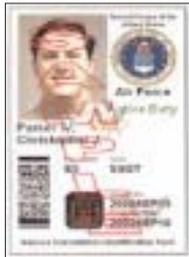
Active duty personnel must bring their personalized email address from their command, and think of a six-eight digit personalized identification number.

Different to the old officer's ID cards, where the expiration date was indefinite, the new CAC card has an expiration date three years from the date of issue for all personnel.

Retirees and family members will not receive the new CAC ID, but will continue to receive the type of ID they currently use.

To replace or obtain a new retiree or family member ID card, go to the ID

Card Section of your local PSD during normal working hours. To find out more about your PSD, including hours for ID card issuance,



The new CAC card.

visit the PSA Jacksonville web site.

Extensive information about CAC is available at www.cnrse.navy.mil, the new version of Navy Region Southeast's web site.

There is an "Inside the Gate" section for those who will receive the new CAC ID card, and the "Outside the Gate" area that will help educate and inform local media, businesses, and organizations, emphasizing that the new CAC is an official government ID which can be accepted for everything from check cashing to verifying age.

For more information, call PSD's ID Card Department at 542-4236 or 2835.

VP-16 'War Eagles' new CO arrives

Story courtesy VP-16

Cmdr. William Radomski assumed command of Patrol Squadron 16 following the Change of Command ceremony March 15 aboard NAS Jacksonville. Radomski relieved Cmdr. John Dzimnowicz in the ceremony. Cmdr. James Sperry reported as executive officer.

Radomski, a native of Niagara Falls, N.Y., was commissioned through the Naval Reserve Officer Corps. He is a 1983 graduate of Marquette University, holding a Bachelor of Science Degree in mathematics.

He also earned a Master of



Cmdr. Dzimnowicz



Cmdr. Radomski

Science Degree from Central Michigan University. Radomski qualified as a Naval Flight Officer (NFO) in 1984, followed by Fleet Replacement Squadron training (FRS).

In 1985, he reported to Patrol Squadron (VP) 45, homeported at NAS Jacksonville, where he earned the designation of Patrol Plane Tactical Coordinator (TACCO), mission commander and instructor during deployments to Sigonella, Italy and Bermuda.

His other assigned duties included NFO training officer and legal officer.

He reported VP-30 at NAS Jax in 1989 as FRS instructor. Radomski served on the Commander Patrol Wings Atlantic Fleet (COMPATWINGLANT) Tactical Training Team and as the Fleet P-3c UHII Transition Officer and Avionics/Armament Division Officer.

In 1991, he received orders to the Commander Seventh Fleet (COMSEVENTHFLT) staff in Yokosuka, Japan and was assigned duties as assistant logistics and flag mess division officer.

Following a brief tour at Commander Patrol Reconnaissance Wing Eleven (COMPATRECONWING Eleven) and FRS refresher training, Radomski returned to VP-45 in 1995 and deployed to Naval Station Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico and NAS Sigonella, Italy.

In 1997, Radomski reported to Commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Force, U.S. Sixth

See VP-16, Page 4
From Page 1

INSIDE

- Classified.....15
- Community Calendar.....9
- Jax Sports.....13
- Jax Tales.....9
- Meet a Civilian.....2
- Meet a Sailor.....2

MWR Notes.....12

WEEKEND WEATHER

FRIDAY 5/3/70
PARTY CLOUDY

SATURDAY 5/0/70
CLEAR

SUNDAY 5/4/76
PARTY CLOUDY

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



Photo by JO2 (SCW) Eric Clay

New NEX opens for business

Navy Exchange General Manager Marsha Brooks, NAS Jacksonville's Sailor of the Year EM1(SW) Andree Joubert, NAS Jacksonville Commanding Officer Capt. Mark Boensel, DeCA Zone Manager Larry Bentley, and Store Director Randy Eller cut the ribbon to officially reopen the Navy Exchange and Commissary last Friday after a major renovation project.

ON COURSE

Explaining the Sailors Advocacy Program

By NCCM(SW) Sha'Reff Rashad
Southeast Region's Navy Counselor

According to the NPC squawk box, Navy Personnel Command (NPC) has established a website to provide Sailors and their commands with the latest changes to the personnel distribution process, as well as provide another method for Sailors to communicate with their detailers and NPC. Sailors have expressed their desire for a detailing process that focuses on their professional and personal needs, and balances those needs versus fleet

readiness.

This is the first step in transforming the way NPC teams with each Sailor for informed career management. Developing partnerships between the Sailor, detailer, and command leadership will allow the Fleet-NPC team to better meet Sailors' needs and desires.

An electronic template section is provided to share information between commands and NPC concerning Sailors who are within 12 months of their RD/EAO/SEAOS.

NPC's goal is to work together early

to shape the Sailors' expectations and to provide them with options. The information provided on the spreadsheet form will be used when NPC discusses options with Sailors at the 10 month point and during further teaming sessions

In the coming months NPC will establish command team coordinators who will serve as a point of contact for personnel issues. For additional information log on to www.stay-navy.mil or contact your command career counselor.

HEY MONEY MAN!

Hey, MoneyMan!

I just found a great deal on Internet service at a place just outside the main gate at NAS. Rather than charging the usual rate of \$12 per hour, they charge only \$10 but get this; they will refund 50 percent of the cost if you sign a long-term contract. I got 120 hours for only \$600. Now I can surf the web anytime I want. Please spread the word!

MoneyMan Sez:

How did you find out that the "usual" rate for using the Internet was \$12 per hour? I bet it was from the place you bought the service. When are their computers available? How many computers do they have? How do they track the hours?

But the best question at

all is why are you paying such extremely high rates to use this service off-base when there are much better deals right here on base.

If you are a single Sailor, you can get on the Internet at the Liberty Cove for free. If you are a Navy-Marine Corps Relief volunteer, you can use their computers to go on the Internet for free.

The USO Internet service is not free. They charge \$2 per day for the use of their computers. Not \$12 or \$10 per hour, but two bucks per day. Now that is a great deal!

Hey, MoneyMan!

Is there a place where I can get someone to help me with my income taxes?

MoneyMan Sez:

Yep! Lots of them. But be careful, because the price they charge can be very high. For most of us, tax preparation is not complicated.

There are a number of places on base where you can get help, but the very best deal is the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program because there is no charge for their assistance.

These volunteers will do your taxes for free. They may not be able to help everyone, but they can help most of us.

Check it out, they are located in Bldg. 610 and you can call them at 542-8088.

Be sure to call or go early. They get very busy in April.

NMCRS looking for volunteers

Jill Mordhorst, left, and Barbara Johnson, both co-chairman of volunteers at the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society conduct an orientation class for new volunteers.

The next class will be held April 16 from 9 a.m. to noon. Child care reimbursement and breakfast is provided. Call the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society at 542-3515 to sign up.



Photo by Kaylee LaRocque

March is Women's History Month

From the office of the Chief of Naval Operations

March 2002 marks the 15th annual observance of Women's History Month.

Since 1987, the President has issued an annual proclamation of Women's History Month.

In last year's proclamation, President Bush stated, "Our nation boasts a rich history of women's whose heroic achievements speak to the sense of excellence, potential and patriotism shared by all Americans. Women's History Month is an opportunity to remember, honor, and celebrate the many contributions of women that helped to create this great nation."

The theme for Women's History Month 2002 is "Women sustaining the American spirit."

From the establishment of the Nurse Corps in 1908 to the War on Terrorism, women of courage and vision continue to con-

tribute to our great Navy.

When asked about the role of women in the Navy and their role in the war on terrorism during an interview on C-Span's Washington Journal Dec. 4, 2001, the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) stated, "I am so proud of the job that they are doing. Women in the Navy are a key part of our successful combat operation going on in the Indian Ocean today."

Throughout this century there have been numerous women who have embodied

the Navy's core values of honor, courage, and commitment.

Navy women serve in almost every facet at every echelon, from Yeoman to fighter pilots and across all ranks from Seaman to Vice Admiral.

Today there are nearly 70,000 women in the active Navy and Naval Reserve. Women comprise more than

14 percent of the active force and nearly 20 percent of all reserve force.

All Navy activities are encouraged to participate in appropriate observances of Women's History Month. For more information, contact the office of women's policy at (703)695-9232/DSN: 225 or the National Women's History Project at (707) 636-2888.



Sunday Services at the Base Chapel

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

- Saturday 5 p.m. - Catholic Mass
- Sunday 8:30 a.m. - Protestant Communion
- 9:30 a.m. - Catholic Mass
- 11 a.m. - Protestant Worship

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



Meet A Sailor ..

PNSN CASSANDRA THOMPSON

Job title/command:
Receipts Section, PSD

Hometown: San Fernando, Trinidad

Past Duty Stations: NTTC Meridian, Miss.

Family Life: Married

Career Plans: To attend OCS. Waiting on my citizenship application to process.

Most Interesting Experience: Getting married in Las Vegas, Nev., the most amazing city in the world.

Words of Wisdom: Always be the best.



Meet A Civilian..

AUDREY BRIGGS

Job title/command:
Military Pay Technician, PSD

Hometown: Jacksonville

Past Duty Stations: LaMaddalena, Italy

Family Life: Happily married with three sons.

Career Plans: Owning my own interior design business one day.

Most Interesting Experience: Living in Rota, Spain.

Words of Wisdom: Believe in yourself and follow your dreams.

Chapel to hold Easter services

Base Chapel's Easter schedule:

- | | |
|--|--|
| Catholic | Cross, Holy Communion. |
| March 23, 5 p.m. - Blessing of the new fire, Easter proclamation, liturgy of the word, blessing of water, renewal of Baptismal vows, celebration of Baptism reception in the church, confirmation, liturgy of the Eucharist. | March 30, 8 p.m. - Blessing of the new fire, Easter proclamation, liturgy of the word, blessing of water, renewal of Baptismal vows, celebration of Baptism reception in the church, confirmation, liturgy of the Eucharist. |
| March 24, 9:15 a.m. - Mass | March 31, 9:30 a.m. - Renewal of Baptismal vows, Mass of the Resurrection of our Lord. |
| March 27, 9 a.m. - Departure for St. Augustine Cathedral, St. Augustine | Protestant |
| 11 a.m. - Blessing of holy oils for the Catechumens, for the sick and Holy Chrism. | March 24, 8:30 and 11 a.m. - Palm Sunday Services |
| March 28, 7 p.m. - Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, washing of feet. | March 29, 7 p.m. - Last Seven Words |
| 8 p.m. to midnight - Transfer of the Holy Eucharist to the upper room chapel followed by a prayer vigil until midnight. | March 31, 6:05 a.m. - Easter Sunrise |
| March 29, 7 p.m. - Celebration of the Lord's Passion, Veneration of the | 7 a.m. - Breakfast |
| | 8:30 and 11 a.m. - Easter Worship Services |

Jax Air News

NAS Jacksonville Commanding OfficerCapt. Mark S. Boensel
Public Affairs OfficerCharles P. "Pat" Dooling
Deputy Public Affairs OfficerMiriam A. Lareau
U.S. Naval Air Station, Jacksonville Editorial Staff

EditorJO2 Mike Jones
Staff WriterJO2(SW) Eric Clay
Staff WriterJO2(SW) Sha Blasko
Staff WriterJO3 Jackey Bratt

Civilian Staff

ManagerEllen S. Rykert
Staff WriterKaylee LaRocque

Design/LayoutGeorge Atchley

The Jax Air News is an authorized publication for members of the Military Services. Contents of the Jax Air News do not necessarily reflect the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Navy. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, or the Florida Times-Union, of the products and services advertised. Everything advertised in the publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. If a violation or refraction of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the publisher shall refuse to print advertising from that source until the violation is corrected.

Deadline for all routine copy is close of business the Friday before publication. Deadline for Classified Submission is noon Monday. Questions or comments can be directed to the editor. The Jax Air News can be reached at (904) 542-1533 or (904) 542-3531 or by fax at (904) 542-1534 or write the Jax Air News, Box 2, NAS Jacksonville, Fla., 32212-5000. All news releases should be sent to this address.

The Jax Air News is published by the Florida Times-Union, a private firm in no way connected with the U. S. Navy under exclusive written agreement with the U. S. Naval Air Station, Jacksonville, Florida. It is published every Thursday by The Florida Times-Union, whose offices are at 1 Riverside Ave., Jacksonville, FL 32202. Estimated readership over 32,000. Distribution by The Florida Times-Union.

Advertisements are solicited by the publisher and inquiries regarding advertisements should be directed to:

Jax Air News
Ellen S. Rykert, Military Publications Manager
1 Riverside Avenue • Jacksonville, FL 32202
904-359-4168
Linda Edenfield, Advertising Sales Manager • 904-359-4336

CREDO

It's free! Give yourself the gift of a Navy CREDO Retreat. The next Marriage Enrichment Retreat is April 5-7. The next Personal Growth Retreat is April 18-21. For more information, or to register, call CREDO at 270-6958.

CNO Guidance for 2002: Fight and win

Editor's Note: Calling our Navy "the greatest in the world," Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Vern Clark recently published his vision for the future. The following is the first installment of the CNO's Guidance for 2002.

We are the greatest Navy in the world and we are getting even better. The United States Navy will be a highly-skilled, operationally agile, and combat-ready force that enhances stability, deters conflict, and triumphs over all threats in all environments.

Introduction

On Sept. 11, 2001, USS Enterprise was returning from deployment when satellite television provided tragic images of deadly attacks at home half a world away.

Within moments, the "Big E's" ruler swept over and, exploiting the forward presence and mobility unique to naval forces, headed for the Arabian Sea.

By the next morning, Enterprise was within reach of Afghan-istan, ready to launch and sustain precision strikes against dispersed enemies hundreds of miles from the sea.

Enterprise was not alone in taking prompt action. USS Carl Vinson steamed at high speed to join her on station while surface combatants and submarines prepared Tomahawk missiles for long-range strikes.

USS Peleliu's Amphibious Ready Group cut short a port visit to Australia and sailed toward the Arabian Sea.

USS Kitty Hawk prepared to leave its homeport in Japan, to serve as an innovative Special Operations support platform.

At home, shipmates saved shipmates in the Pentagon and swiftly reestablished command and control. USS George Washington and USS John C. Stennis took station off the east and west coasts of the United States along with more than a dozen cruisers and destroyers, guarding the air and sea approaches to our shores.

Shortly thereafter, USNS Comfort and USNS Denebola arrived in New York City to support firefighters and recovery workers.

In the weeks following Sept. 11, naval forces led the way. Carrier strike packages in conjunction with U.S. Air Force bombers and tankers flew hundreds of miles beyond the sea, destroying the enemy's ability to

fight. Sustained from the sea, U.S. Marines, Navy SEALs, Seabees, and Special Operations Forces worked with local allies to free Afghanistan from the Taliban Regime and al Qaeda terrorist network.

Presence...Power...Precision. Our Navy's response to the events of 11 September is testimony to the dedicated service of our Sailors. It also underlines the mobility, lethality, and reach of naval forces. Most importantly, it shows our dedication to mission accomplishment. We stand ready to fight and win!

Where We Are Today

Before charting the way ahead for 2002, let us take a fix of our current position. The readiness of our Fleet rests on innovative leaders focused on improving five key areas: Manpower, Current Readiness, Future Readiness, Quality of Service, and Organizational Alignment. Impressive progress made in each of these areas serves as the foundation of our operational success.

Manpower: Our Navy needs talented young Americans who want to serve their nation and make a difference. The key words here are "serve" and "make a difference!" In return for their service, we offer them rich opportunities for leadership and growth. We have repeatedly challenged Navy leaders to recruit, retain, and motivate such professionals. The results have been encouraging:

- More and more young Americans want to join our Navy. Recruiting goals were met in 1999, 2000, and 2001, allowing Battle Groups to deploy with record levels of manning. The "Accelerate Your Life" recruiting campaign is outperforming the previous recruiting web site by 24%. Record numbers of A-School seats are filled, providing better trained Sailors to the Fleet.

- Our Sailors are staying Navy. Last year was a record year for retention. We are retaining 57% of all eligible Sailors at the end of their first enlistment, 68% of Sailors with 6-10 years of Service, and 84% of Sailors with 10-14 years of Service.

- More Sailors are being advanced. 1,512 more Sailors were advanced last year than the year before.

- Our leaders are making progress in combating attrition. There were 8.5% fewer first-term attrites in FY01

than the previous year.

- We are reaching out to our valued professionals. A BUPERS initiative, the Detailer Communications Program, has a goal of contacting 100% of Sailors entering a 10-month window for orders. Last year, we successfully contacted 92%. Additionally, 35 Career Decision Fairs were sponsored by the Center for Career Development, engaging over 20,000 Sailors and family members.

- We are steadily improving force protection. We will increase the number of force protection-related professionals in the Fleet (MAA, EOD, Mobile Security Force, etc.) from 9,800 today to nearly 13,000 by the end of FY02, working toward a goal of nearly 17,000 by 2007, thereby easing the burden on other Sailors.

Current Readiness

The success of our Fleet in the war against terrorism attests to progress made in current readiness. Our Sailors were ready on 11 September; they had the tools they needed. However, challenges remain. We are working hard to redress the shortfalls in training, spare parts, ordnance, and fuel that have burdened our Fleet for too long. The FY02 budget is the best readiness budget in a decade.

- More readiness money is flowing to the Fleet. FY02's budget adds over \$5 billion dollars to readiness accounts over FY01 levels, including:

- \$782 million for increased flying hours,
- \$487 million for procuring aviation spare parts,
- \$201 million for enhanced aviation maintenance,
- \$706 million for additional ship operations and maintenance, and
- \$680 million for installation maintenance and operations.

- We are investing in combat readiness. Fifty percent of all additional funding the Department of the Navy will receive in FY02 will be devoted to enhancing current readiness, while 25% will be directed toward Research and Development. We are investing in critical technologies for Navy transformation.

Future Readiness

I am excited about the capabilities our Navy is developing. We are taking important steps to improve our Navy's warfighting performance:

See GUIDANCE, page 11

HS-3 'Tridents' a success at AUTEC

By Lt. Jason Jones
HS-3 PAO

The "Tridents" of Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron (HS) 3 returned to NAS Jacksonville on Feb. 28, following another successful undersea warfare exercise at the Atlantic Undersea Test and Evaluation Center (AUTEC).

The exercise was conducted over a four-day period on the AUTEC acoustic range at Andros Island, Bahamas, and primarily focused on training, techniques, and weapons delivery using the Mk 46 torpedo.

"AUTEC is a supreme opportunity to train junior personnel during our turn-around training cycle," said Cmdr. Lee Schonenberg, commanding officer.

Evolutions on the AUTEC range are monitored and graded in real-time, providing valuable feedback to the squadron, increasing ASW mission readiness. Twenty officers and 50 enlisted aircrew and maintenance technicians participated in the exercise, in which two SH-60F helicopters armed with Mk 46 REXTORP torpedoes were used to successfully detect, track, and attack a Mk 30 underwater target sled over four days of flight operations.

For each flight, every aspect of antisubmarine warfare was evaluated and critiqued, from weapons loading to target attack. This fast-paced and challenging training enabled the Tridents to achieve the highest possible battle readiness in ASW for both flight and maintenance operations.

"The training was invaluable, in that you don't get to drop torpedoes often. To see the training that goes into load, launch, and recovery gives you a real sense of purpose," said AO1 David Butts. Nineteen pilots and 17 Aviation Warfare Specialists completed ASW qualification in the flights, and the maintenance department used the exercise as an opportunity to prepare for an upcoming weapons proficiency inspection.

AUTEC is the Navy's primary east coast in-water test facility, providing a full range of technical services and operational support. They assist flight crews in every aspect of ASW range training, from pre-flight planning to post-test briefing and evaluation.

HS-3 selects Sailor of the Year

By HS-3 PAO

Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron (HS) Three is proud to announce that AD1(AW) William Renfroe has been selected "Trident Sailor of the Year" for 2001.

As a multi-system quality assurance representative and flight deck coordinator, he has directly contributed to the resounding operational and maintenance successes achieved by this command.

His efforts have played a key role in the completion of more than 375 mishap-free sorties with a 99 percent mission completion rate and an 82.8 percent full mission capable rate in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Renfroe also managed launch and recovery operations during Southern Watch under extreme conditions including flight deck temperatures exceeding 130 degrees. His methodical inspection approach led to the discovery and correction of numerous downing discrepancies; including a main beam crack; failed engine mount bearings, and a cracked bifilar assembly.

Renfroe, a native of DeFuniak Springs, Fla., enlisted in the Navy on Sept. 23, 1983. His prior tours include HS-17, Master Training Specialist at Naval Air Maintenance Training Group (NAM-TRAUGRUDET) Quality Assurance Division at HS-9, HS-7, and instructor duty with the Joint Oil Analysis Program (JOAP) in Millington, Tenn.

In June of 1998, he reported to HS-3 and was assigned as Night Check Supervisor for the Power



AD1(AW) William Renfroe

Plants Division and later volunteered to serve as the Line Division Leading Petty Officer.

After completing the Aircraft Safe for Flight Qualification syllabus course and achieving cross-rating and maintenance control experience, Renfroe transferred to the Quality Assurance Division.

He became one of the only two first class petty officers entrusted to direct cannibalization, assign project priority codes and certify aircraft "Safe for Flight."

In June 1999, Renfroe was meritoriously advanced to first class petty officer. Additionally, he was selected as HS-3's Supervisor of the Quarter for Third Quarter 2001.

"Petty Officer Renfroe consistently performs at a level commensurate of more senior personnel. His community involvement is remarkable considering his deployments and the squadron's high OTEMPO. There was no doubt he was most deserving of award," stated Cmdr. Lee Schonenberg, commanding officer, when asked why he chose Renfroe as Sailor of the Year.

FISC Jax names Sailor of the Year

By Teresa White
FISCJAX Public Affairs

SK1 (SW/AW) Jelito Callanta was recently selected as Fleet and Industrial Supply Center Jacksonville's (FISCJAX) Sailor of the Year (SOY).

Callanta currently works at the FISCJAX Mayport Detachment as a Logistics Support representative. A native of Baguio City in the Republic of the Philippines, Callanta provides logistics support to 22 ships homeported at Mayport, 36 tenant commands and numerous visiting ships.

As leading petty officer of the Logistics Support Center, command career counselor and pass liaison officer, his reputation as the "Go To Person," speaks for itself.

Callanta is a key player who provides exceptional support to customers on the Mayport waterfront. For instance, he was instrumental in ordering, receiving and trans-shipping critical parts and equipment in a timely manner for the pre-deployment of the USS John F. Kennedy (CV-67) and her battle group.



SK1 (SW/AW) Jelito Callanta

A favorite among customers and peers, Callanta is also known as a subject-matter-expert in supply and provides regular training that has resulted in satisfied customers and skilled employees in the supply system.

In addition to his commitment at work, Callanta is a regular volunteer and donates time to several organizations, including Habitat for Humanity, Special Olympics, Florida Coastal Cleanup and the World of Nations.

He is also working towards a college degree by attending night school at Saint Leo University dur-

ing his off-duty hours.

According to FISC Jax Commanding Officer, Capt. Jack Prendergast, hard work and dedication describe Callanta's "can-do" attitude.

"Callanta is fully qualified and worthy of the honor as top Sailor of FISC Jax. He's motivated and strives to excel both on and off-duty. His customer service skills are excellent and make him a tremendous asset to the supply team," said Prendergast.

Callanta joined the Navy from Subic Bay Recruiting Station in Olongapo City, Philippines in 1989.

"I joined the Navy because I wanted to be successful in life, and travel and see the world," said Callanta.

His career started with a bang when he was accelerated to the rank of E-2 and awarded his choice of "A" School, after being recognized as a top recruit in boot camp.

After "A" school, Callanta reported to the USS Saratoga (CV-60).

Callanta then reported to the Shore Intermediate Maintenance Activity

(SIMA) Mayport, but quickly jumped at another opportunity by volunteering for TAD orders to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba in support of the Joint Task Force.

In 1996, he reported to USS John F. Kennedy (CV-67) until being assigned to FISC Jax Mayport Detachment in 2000.

Callanta attributes his success as a Sailor to the strong support he receives from his family.

"None of these milestones would be possible without the wonderful support from my beautiful and loving wife, Bles, and my two precious boys, J.B. and J.R.," Callanta added.

According to Callanta, he's very pleased with the Navy thus far and feels that the best is yet to come.

"I don't think my future goals are much different from other Sailors. I would like to retire as a chief petty officer. However, I know the way to achieve my goal is to continue believing in the saying, 'Perseverance and determination are keys to a person's great success.'"



Photo by Kaylee LaRocque

Rear Adm. Jan Gaudio, commander, Navy Region Southeast talks about the services the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society provides to military members and their families at the annual fund drive kickoff on Monday. The fund drive runs until April 30. Designated keypersons will contact command personnel in an effort to raise funds for the society which provides interest-free loans and grants to military members and their families in times of need.

Jax Det named best Reserve Communications Unit

By **Command Master Chief (AW) Donald Justus**
Navy and Marine Corps Reserve
Center Jacksonville

Naval Reserve Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station Europe Central Command, Detachment 308 (NR NCTAMS EURCENT DET 308), recently received the Spectrum Award. The award, which was presented to the command by Capt. R. Whitcoff, commander of the Naval Network Operations Command, is given each year to the best NCTAMS unit for outstanding support to the gaining command.

Detachment 308 provided more than 800 manpower days of peacetime contributory support to Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station (NAVCOMTELS-TA) Jacksonville; NCTAMS

EURCENT Naples, Italy; NAVCOMTELS TA Bahrain; Naval Base Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; NCTAMS Pacific

Detachment Ohau, Hawaii; and Navy and Marine Corps Reserve Center Jacksonville.

"These contributions are so important because they keep the fleet communicating," said Whitcoff.

Detachment 308 also volunteered assistance for more than 25 organizations, including the United Way, American Red Cross and Habitat for Humanity-Habijax.

Lt. Cmdr. Steven Harris, the outgoing commanding officer, and Lt. Cmdr. Ariel Nagales, the incoming commanding officer, were there to receive the award.



Lt. Cmdr. Ariel Nagales (middle) and Lt. Cmdr. Steven Harris (right) receive the Spectrum Award from Capt. R. Whitcoff, commander of the Naval Network Operations Command.

Yellow Water residents form neighborhood watch program

By **JO2(SW) Shae Blasko**
Staff Writer

In an effort to prevent crimes from occurring at the Yellow Water Navy Housing Area, residents have started a neighborhood watch program.

"Most residential crimes are crimes of opportunity," said NAS Jax Crime Prevention Officer Bill Curnutte. "Most of these opportunities are created by the victims themselves through their carelessness, lack of attention to security, and failure to cooperate with their neighbors or police. Those who steal count on that."

"Criminals know how careless or complacent most people are," Curnutte continued. "One thief gloated,

"People ask for trouble. We only oblige them."

Objectives of the neighborhood watch program include reporting suspicious activities or persons or crimes in progress accurately and immediately to the police, and assisting and encouraging residents to mark their personal property.

By disseminating educational materials pertaining to self-protection and criminal awareness, law enforcement officials hope to help all residents, especially children, elderly and handicapped, protect themselves against criminal victimization. The program also encourages residents to come forward as witnesses.

Yellow Water Housing conducts meetings every

month at the Yellow Water Youth Center to discuss various security, safety and community issues for having a better neighborhood watch program.

Future meetings will feature guest speakers covering subjects important to housing residents there.

Jacksonville Sheriff's Office Sheriff Nat Glover and his staff will patrol the neighborhood on March 23 at noon to allow residents to meet him and express their concerns about Jacksonville police services and neighborhood watch programs.

NAS Jacksonville Commanding Officer Capt. Mark Boensel and his staff will also be on hand to meet with the residents.

Neighborhood watch par-

ticipants are taught how to make their homes less inviting as targets for thieves.

They are also taught to mark their personal property making the property less desirable to burglars, to recognize suspicious activities and persons in their neighborhood and to respond and report suspicious activities and persons to the police.

For more information on this program, contact HM1 Warren Dunklin, neighborhood watch coordinator at 542-7248 Ext. 8136.

For crime prevention information, briefs and surveys, contact Bill Curnutte at 542-3223.

VP-16: Change of command

From page 1

Fleet (CTF-67) in Naples, Italy.

He reported from to VP-16 from Commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Force Atlantic where he served as the operations officer.

He is married to former Jacqueline Bagget of Jacksonville. They have three children, Robert, Cynthia and Kathleen.

Dziminowicz, a native of Springfield, Mass., graduat-

ed from the United States Naval Academy in 1982. He was designated as a Naval Aviator in 1983. His previous tours include VP-10, VP-30, COMSIXFLT, Naval War College, VP-24, VP-30 (second tour) and the Office of the Secretary of Defense as Deputy Director for Asian and Pacific Affairs.

He is married to the former Wendy Stokoe of Yorkshire, England and has one son, Nicholas.



Pick it up!
Throw it away!
Keep your base clean!

'Dragonslayers' say, 'I'm Staying!'

By Lt.j.g. Matt Polzin
HS-11 P&O

Despite the long hours and few days off, missing the World Series, Super Bowl, Daytona 500, Winter Olympics, The Soprano's season, numerous anniversaries and birthdays, Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Years, Valentines Day, Veterans Day and 158 consecutive days at sea, there still seems to be a common theme among the "Dragonslayer's" of Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron (HS) 11 — "Sign me up for more!"

There is a daily ritual of Sailors lining up at the Career Counselor's door to complete the paperwork necessary to stay in the Navy. This is quickly followed by re-enlistment ceremonies in the squadron ready room. Call it patriotism or sense of duty, but since the beginning of this deployment in September, the "Dragonslayers" of HS-11 have benefited from the retention of high quality Sailors.

The "Dragonslayers" were on station in a tax exclusion zone during their deployment on board USS Theodore Roosevelt. This, no doubt, was a major factor to entice young and talented Sailors to stay Navy. The Selective Re-enlistment Bonus totals for the cruise passed \$540,000, all tax-free. Nearly half of that was received in one department,



Photos courtesy HS-11

The CO and XO of the HS-11 with all the 'Dragonslayer's' re-enlistees who took the oath during Operation Enduring Freedom.

Operations. All nine of the aircrew who were eligible for re-enlistment during deployment, stayed Navy.

A mass re-enlistment ceremony was conducted in the fore of the USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) as the ship transited the Straits of Hormuz on Feb. 28.

HS-11's retention successes can be directly attributed to the tireless efforts of the command's Career Counselors. PN1(SW) David Krohmer and PN1(SW) James Reed are both directly credited with the squadron making the Commander-In-Chief, Atlantic Fleet Retention Honor Roll, October through December 2001. Krohmer was also recently selected as "Dragonslayer" of the Year for 2001.

"Dragonslayer re-enlistments since October include: AE1(AW) Brian Borgal, AO2(AW) Carl General, AT2(AW) Jose Indio, AZ2(AW) Gregory Gibbs, AE1(AW) Paul Miller, AT2 Andrew Wright, AT2 Jeremy Gunter, AD3 Rodney Foxe, AD3 Nicholas Schroeder, AMC (AW/SW) Russell Merchlewitz, AW2(AW) Shad Hernandez, AW2(AW) Todd Simpson, AW2(AW) William Beasley, AM2 Antonio Gomez, AM3 Christopher Duck, AW2(AW) Jake Johnstone, AW2(AW) David Brown, AW2 Joel Sizemore, AW2(AW) Timothy Lemmerman, AW2(AW) Cesar Urgiles, AW2(AW) Tony Frisch, AD2 Anthony Gambardella, AE2 Christopher Whitsett, AM3 Lester Pitt, AMC(AW) John



AW2(AW) Bill Beasley and AW2(AW) Tim Lemmerman (right) are hoisted back into the aircraft after the mass re-enlistment ceremony in the waters of the Arabian Gulf.

Moody and YN2 Kevin Glover.

"I can't say enough about all of these Sailors that decided to stay," said Cmdr. Brent Canady, commanding officer. "Their patri-

otism and commitment are beyond compare."

The "Dragonslayers" are scheduled to return to NAS Jacksonville this month.





Special Olympics

'A Time for heroes'

By JO2 (SCW) Eric Clay
Staff Writer

Saturday, NAS Jacksonville opened its gates to the community by hosting the 2002 Summer Special Olympics games. Of the eight counties that are involved in this area's Special Olympics, seven participated at this year's event. Athletes from Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, and St. Johns and Volusia counties enjoyed an afternoon of fun and sports.

Athletes in these events are taught that there are no losers, only winners, as long as everyone has fun.

NAS Jacksonville's Commanding Officer Capt. Mark Boensel opened the ceremony. "This is the third year NAS Jacksonville has been privileged to host this important event. We believe in and support the Special Olympics Program and thank all of the volunteers for helping us put on these games," he said. We want the athletes and their families to know that this program is a gift that we will forever treasure. Thank you for allowing us to bring this activity to you."

After opening the ceremony, Boensel presented Dr. Fran Farrell with a plaque to recognize her for her hard work and effort she has given to Special Olympics.

Keith Aleard of St. Johns County carried the Olympic Torch and ran a lap around the track before presenting the torch to kickoff the events.

The Navy Band Southeast helped start the games with a performance.

The sporting events for the day included track and field, soccer, volleyball, tennis and cycling.

The Chief Petty Officer's Association and Galleon were responsible for preparing the lunch cook-out for the day.

Every athlete had a volunteer as a mentor and buddy for the day. "These events are special for the athlete but are also special for the mentors. Being a mentor and showing my support allows me the satisfaction of helping others," said CE2 Kendall Thomas. "This helps us all to build a better community and to show people that we care about the underprivileged."

More Photos on Page 7



Keith Aleard from St. Johns County runs the Special Olympic Torch to start the games.

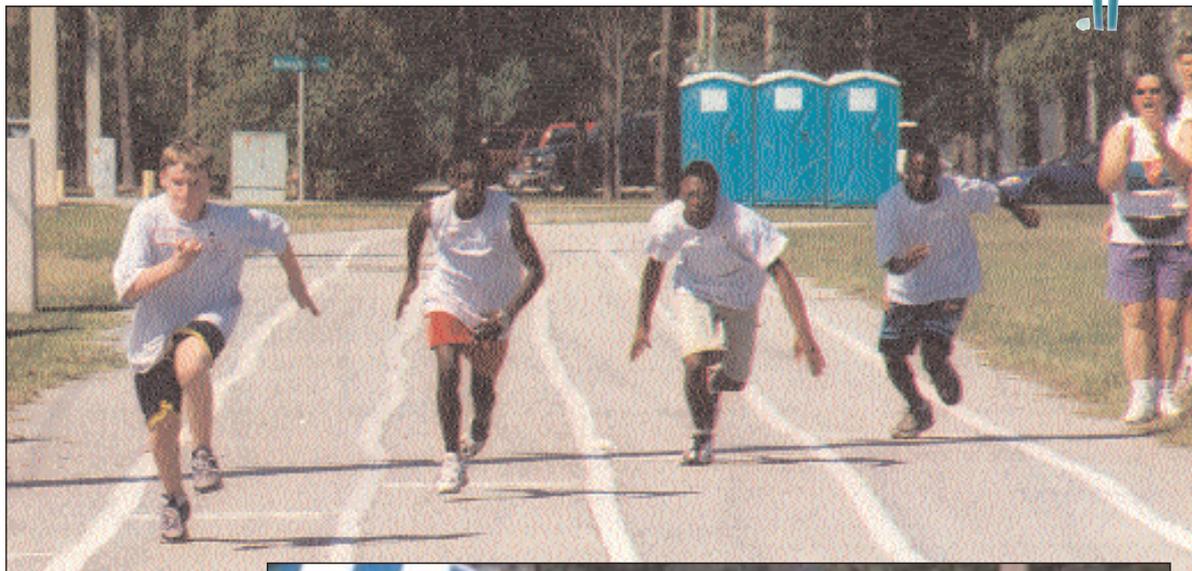


A Special Olympian gets some help from his buddy during the shotput competition.

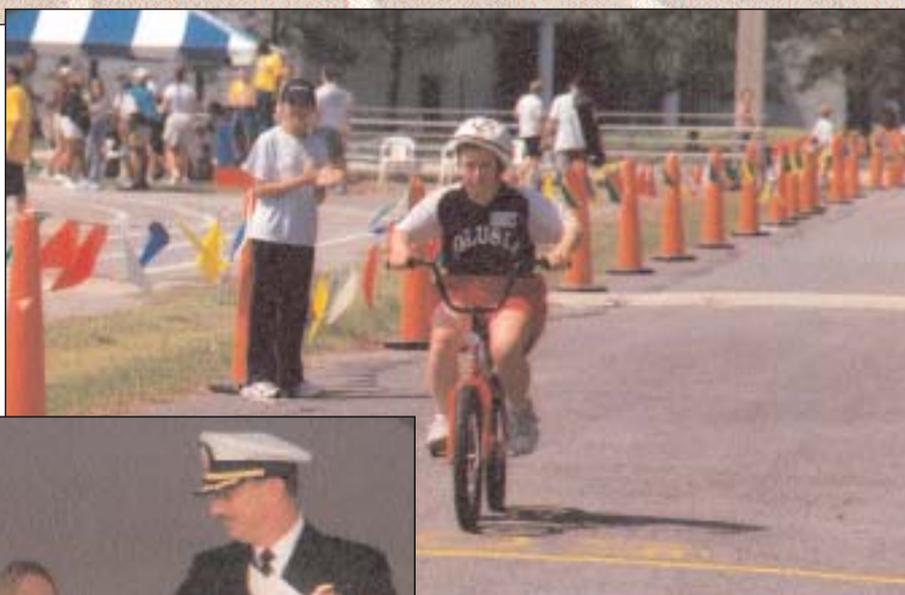


Clay County was among the eight counties to participate in the Special Olympics at NAS Jacksonville this year.

Special Olympics



Participants (above) from Jacksonville and surrounding counties strive to win as they run the 200-yard dash.

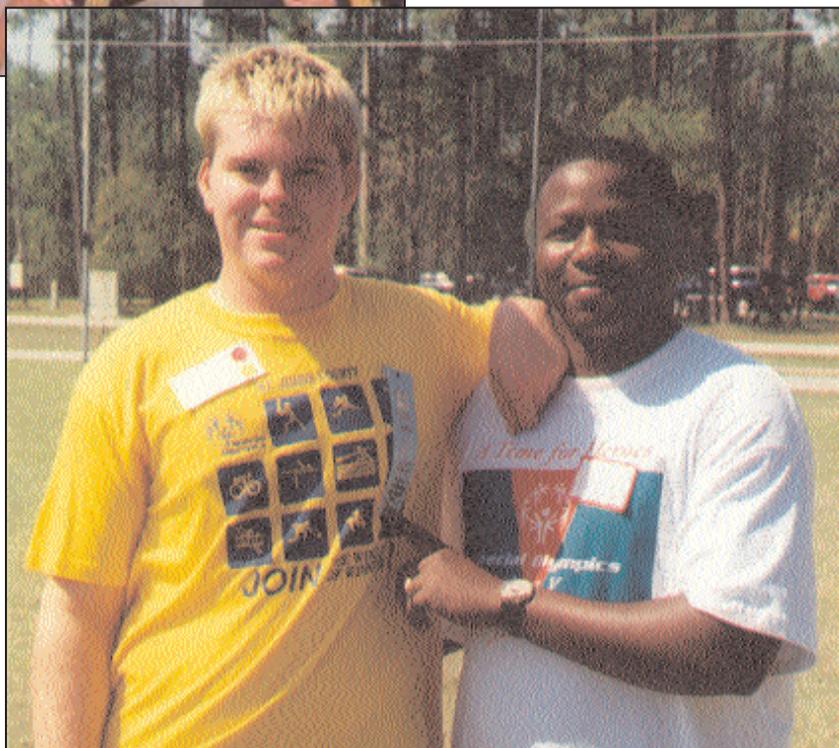


A Special Olympian (above) participates in the cycling event during Saturday's competition.

Photos by
JO2 (SCW)
Eric Clay



Capt. Mark Boensel (above), NAS Jacksonville commanding officer presents Dr. Fran Farrell a special certificate for her many years of dedication to Special Olympics.



CE1 Kendall Thomas (right) and his Special Olympian enjoy the day's events and show off a first place ribbon.



Marines on deck to help build for security

By PH3 Richard Williams
Special Contributor

A group of 93 Marines from Charlie Company, Eighth Engineer Support Battalion, Camp Lejeune, N.C. recently arrived at Naval Air Station Jacksonville to help with some new construction needed on base to boost security.

Charlie Company's projects include: constructing a new dog kennel, four observation towers, a water retention pond, drainage pipe.

"These Marines work very long hours, usually about 13 hours a day, six days a week. On Sundays I ask for volunteers and they're more than willing to help out. Everyone is hoping to get these projects finished by our projected date of completion," said Gunnery Sgt. John Wendling, who is overseeing the dog kennel project.

To date, the Marines have spent approximately 3,400 man-hours and 204 equipment hours working on the kennel. They've also placed 1,395 blocks, using 105 mortar bags.

In late January, the Marines began digging to install a drainage pipe system. Other Marines are working non-stop on a retention pond. The drainage pipe system is approximately 1,100 feet of reinforced concrete with three manholes and two curve inlets.

"This is the best crew that I have ever worked with. Everyone has worked extremely hard to get this project done," said Sgt. James Voydetich, who spent a month work-



A new dog kennel is one of the four projects being worked on around NAS Jacksonville by the Marine Corps construction group.

Photos by PH3 Richard Williams

ing on the system.

Another big project for the Marines is the construction of four observation towers. "We've had a couple weather delays and had some problems getting some material we needed, but we're still on track. The towers take some time to build because we have to do some ground work first," said Staff Sgt. Craig Fried, who is overseeing 30 Marines working on the observation towers.

Overall, more than 6,580 man-hours have been logged in the construction of the observation towers, retention pond, the drainage pipe system, and



Cpl. Steven Gray from Austell, Ga. works on the doorway of Security's new dog kennel.

the dog kennel. The Marines are still going strong to meet their dead lines.



Lance Cpl. Joshua Palmer uses the Excavator to dig a new retention pond.

E-mail Baby Program shares joy

By Loren Barnes
Naval Hospital Jacksonville Public Affairs

Naval Hospital Jacksonville's E-mail Baby Program has enabled thousands of Sailors and Navy family members to share the excitement of newborn baby pictures over the last year.

This unique program, initiated by HM2 Michael Morgan in April 2001, makes it possible for deployed service members and distant family mem-

bers to receive digital photographs of newborn infants via the Intranet, usually within an hour or two of the delivery.

Morgan says the program is very popular.

He recalled one new mother whose husband was deployed and who had no family on hand for the birth. "She cried as she filled out the documentation that accompanies the e-mail," Morgan said. "She explained that being able to share the moment with her

loved ones meant so much to her," he said.

Hundreds of people receiving the photos have responded positively to Morgan and his co-worker HM2 John Veres. Morgan said he knows where these people are coming from as he has personally experienced being away on deployment during the birth of a child.

"Being able to bring family members together for such a moment is a joy," he said.



Photo by HM2 John A. Veres
This photo of Noah Paul Joy went out announcing the March 17 birth of the newborn to Travis and Mia Joy.

Yellow Water Housing complex fire inspection planned

From the NAS Jax Chief Fire Inspector

The annual military family housing fire safety inspection and briefing for residents living in the Yellow Water Military Housing complex is now being conducted by the NAS Jax Fire Prevention Bureau

throughout March.

Inspections and briefings are conducted between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Fire inspectors will be in a NAS Jax Fire Department uniform and will conduct the inspection and briefing only in the presence of an adult. If the resident is not at

home when the inspectors call, a call-back form will be placed on the door requesting the resident contact the NAS Jax Fire Prevention Bureau at 542-2783 or 542-3928 to schedule a home fire safety inspection and briefing.

The intent of the home fire safety inspection and

briefing is to ensure maximum safety of all housing residents through normal good housekeeping practices and to inform residents of actions to be taken should a fire or other emergency occur in the home. Home smoke and carbon monoxide detectors will also be tested.

Career marketing seminar



Buzz Buse, director of the Officer Placement Service for the Retired Officers Association gives his "Marketing Yourself for a Second Career" seminar at the Base Theater on Monday. The lecture is presented to more than 100 U.S. military bases worldwide each year.

Photo by Kaylee LaRocque

JU Baseball to hold 'Military Day'

From JU Athletics Marketing

Jacksonville University Baseball takes on Mercer in a double-header conference match-up on April 6 at 1 p.m. at Alexander Brest Field on the JU Campus.

The day is designated as "Military Day," in which all military personnel can show their ID to receive free admission for the whole family. Prizes will be given away throughout the day.

Coach Terry Alexander has the team in high gear for a spectacular 2002 season. The Dolphins have made it to the NCAA Tournament twice in the past three years, and have been selected in the preseason to win the Atlantic Sun Conference this year.

The JU Campus is located at the intersection of Merrill Road and University Blvd. To get to the baseball field, follow the entrance road down the hill to the large parking lot.

Do your part -
Recycle this newspaper!

KUDO KORNER

The Fleet Area control and Surveillance Facility, Jacksonville held an award ceremony recently. The following awards were presented:

Meritorious Service Medal

Cmdr. Terrence Doyle

Flag Letter of Commendation

AC1 Veronica Gilchrist

Good Conduct Medal

OSCS Robert Kennedy

SK2 Yvette Harrison

ETC Frederick Lane

ACC Frederick Ricketts

ET1 William Davis

AC1 Robert Brown

AC2 Dwayne Carden

OS2 Dale Grey Jr.

NAR reads to school children

“Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It’s not.”

By SN Stephen Murphy
Special Contributor

These words of wisdom written by Dr. Seuss in his book “The Lorax” are an example of the volunteer effort that took place at a local Jacksonville elementary school.

Personnel from Naval Air Reserve Jacksonville participated in Read Across America at Ruth N. Upson Elementary School. This special day full of fun and words allowed service members from the Naval Air Reserve to read their favorite story to groups of elementary school children.

The festivities were kicked off with a breakfast gathering in the school library. Volunteers, who consisted of school faculty, parents, and even an officer from the Jacksonville Sheriffs Office, spent the morning reading their stories to different groups of children. In the afternoon, the students gathered in the cafeteria to sing Dr. Seuss songs and were surprised by a visit from the Jacksonville Jaguars mascot.

Read Across America, a nationwide event sponsored by the National Education Association (NEA), celebrates the joys of reading and also honors Dr. Seuss, whose birthday falls on March 2. This month marks the fifth anniversary for Read Across America.

For several years now, Ruth N. Upson Elementary has been the Naval Air Reserve’s partnership school. Volunteer Coordinator, JOC(AW) Deborah Carson, helped to organize the command’s participation in this event.

“It is our job to go and

provide volunteer support and mentorship for the school,” said Carson. “This lets them know that there is a support base for them, and it also gives them role models that they can look up to,” said Carson.

Because the students at Ruth N. Upson Elementary live in a lower economic area of town, some of the students aren’t fortunate enough to have good role models. Some students live in single-parent homes and don’t necessarily have the guidance or role models that a service member can provide for them.

“They look at us in our uniforms and you can see their eyes glowing. They get so excited when the Navy comes to the school to do something with them,” stated Carson.

This was the first time that the school has participated in Read Across America and it looks like it’s an event the school will celebrate for many years to come.

“This was absolutely successful! The children haven’t stopped talking about it,” exclaimed Teresa Burgess, the media clerk at Ruth N. Upson Elementary. “It feels good to go home at the end of the day knowing that I’ve done something special for the children.”

Photo by JO2 Candice McKnight
SN Stephen Murphy reads to a group of third grade students.

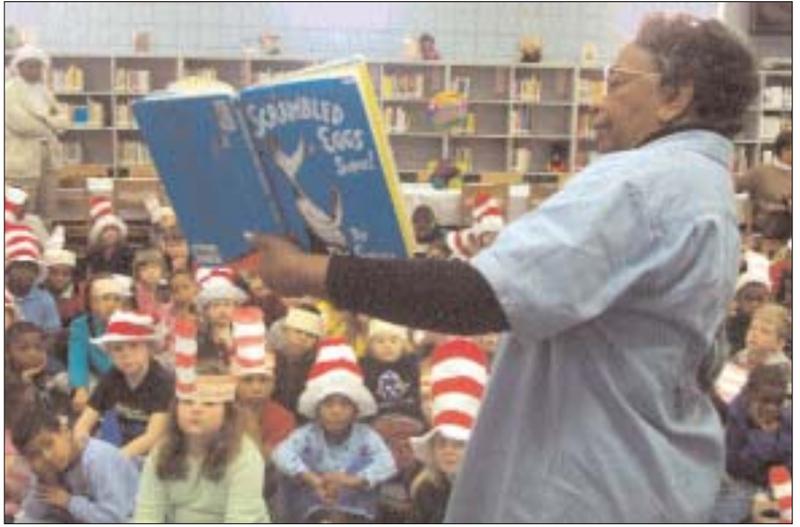


Photo by SN Stephen Murphy

Elaine Kitchings, a National Storytellers member, reads her favorite Dr. Seuss book, *Scrambled Eggs Super*.



Photo by JO2 Candice McKnight

AVCM(AW) Ski Venisky and YNC(AW) Kay Johnson read to a kindergarten class.



Photo by JO2 Candice McKnight
SN Stephen Murphy reads to a group of third grade students.

Keep Your Base Clean!

Jax Air News
The News You Need!



NMCB-14 DET 06 Seabee concentrates on steadying his shot at the Military Skills Training Weekend at Camp Blanding. PhotoS by SK2 Anthony Ortiz

Seabees time-honored training

Designed to increase readiness in basic combat skills

By JO2 Jennifer Valdivia
 RetCom Southeast Assistant PAO

According to starts EO1(SCW) Michael Falk, Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 14 Detachment 06, "the importance of this training dates back straight to the origin of the Seabees."

"When the civilian construction workers were massacred by the Japanese during World War II, it became imperative to have combat-ready construction troops," he finishes explaining.

NMCB-14 DET 06 recently attended a military skills training weekend at Camp Blanding National Guard base.

The training was designed to increase the unit's mobilization readiness in basic military combat skills, M-16 rifle qualifications, and chemical, biological and radiological weapons training, also called the "gas chamber".

"We work alongside Marine Expeditionary Units and other combat units, and we need to be just a proficient in defensive combat as we are at construction skills," explained Falk.

Not too many people enjoy getting "gassed" and crawling in the dirt. That's why Falk believes it is important to keep up the motivation.



NMCB-14 DET 06 Seabee tries to hit the mark at Camp Blanding.

"By showing them why each skill in the training program is imperative to their safety and survival, they comprehend on a different level and learn to accept the training as a hard, necessary fact," he added.

Sailors in the unit did realize the importance of the training.

CE3 Brian Trent said he enjoyed the opportunity to have some hands on training.

"I haven't been with the Seabees that long," said Trent. Before I came

in the Reserves, I was active duty with an air squadron, so this is all new to me. I think it's important for us to get the real experience with this type of weapon (M-16), and the other training too. Especially with the world climate as it is today. If I'm expected to mobilize, I don't want that to be the first time I've picked up this weapon."

More than 100 Sailors participated in the military skills training weekend.

NMPS processes 1,200 reservists

By JO2 Jennifer Valdivia
 Naval Reserve Readiness Command
 Southeast Public Affairs

They're the first to show up and the last to go home. They make it all possible. The Navy Mobilization Processing Site unit (NMPS), based at Naval Air Station, Jacksonville, processes recalled Reservists in support of Operation "Enduring Freedom."

The unit, from "Navy and Marine Corps Reserve Center, Jacksonville," had its' first four members recalled just two weeks after Sept. 11. And within three weeks, 19 of the 21-member unit were recalled to active duty.

There are 14 NMPS sites throughout the U.S. But the Jacksonville site has mobilized the largest amount of Reservists, 1,200 so far - in support of the current war effort.

NMPS team member, ITC Tara Kissling, credits her unit's success to a personal touch. "The secret is to do a little hand-holding. The Navy is a family and we don't want them to feel like just a number", she explained.

Another secret to the unit's successful mobilization of more than a thousand personnel, is the use of a shuttle bus. In a

process that takes an average of three to five days, NMPS team members need to work fast and efficiently to fully mobilize the Reservist. The shuttle bus is run by NMPS team members and transports in-processing personnel to Medical and Dental Centers, Personnel Support Detachment (PSD), the Fleet and Family Service Center, and base Legal offices.

While the job of mobilizing Reservists is steady, the unit's attitude belays their long days.

"We make ourselves available and approachable because we are the final step before active duty," said Kissling with a proud look on her face.

She added, "I believe in this process and what we are doing. I also know that without exception, everyone that comes through this door is ready, willing and able to fulfill their duty when they leave. They are a representation of us, the Site, and the Naval Reserve."

But the job doesn't end when everyone is mobilized. Reservists returning from active duty go through a similar process to be "demobilized."

"We're the last to go home," Kissling added, "but that's what it's all about."

HELPING HANDS

Sports assistants wanted

Volunteers are needed weekly beginning March 25 to help with Rallyball games for children from grades 3-6. Duties include: recording attendance, encouraging team members and assisting with team rotations. Minimum age is 14. For more information call Lindsay Bower at 359-5437.

Landscapers needed

The Jacksonville Baptist Home for Children needs volunteers to help plant flowers, rake lawns and help with minor clean-up of their horse barn. Shifts are available during the week from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 -11:30 a.m. Refreshments and tools are provided. Call Sherri Albertson at 542-5380 to sign up.

Very Special Arts Festival

This international organization provides experiences in the arts for people with disabilities. Join the Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens April 3,4,5 to help make this event a success. Help is needed to assist students with disabilities complete art projects during this event. Call Hope McMath at 355-0630, Ext. 246 for details.

It's Showtime at the Apollo

This kids talent search is being held at the Avenues Mall April 4 and 6. Volunteers are needed to assist with various behind the scenes activities. Call Cassandra Ramirez at 802-5704 for more information.

Help the Girls Scouts

Volunteers are needed to assist the Girl Scouts of Gateway Council with their 90th anniversary "The Beat Goes On Parade" on April 13. Call Mona Wootsen at 693-9308 or email bpaulson@girlscouts-gateway.org for details.

Earth Day events

Volunteers are wanted to assist with children's crafts at this year's Earth Day Ecology Fair at the Jacksonville Landing. One, two-hour shifts are available from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call Sherri Albertson at 542-5380 for info.

Help build a home

Another Habijax event is planned for April 22 through May 11. Volunteers are needed to do roofing, painting, framing and landscaping. Help is also needed at the framing plant and new, non-profit HomeStore. Minimum age is 16. For more information call Karen Pruitt at 798-4529, Ext. 240.

World of Nations Celebration

Join the City of Jacksonville April 26-28 from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. in Metro Park to celebrate the World of Nations. Various volunteer opportunities are available. Call Sue Bibesi at 630-1020 for information.

Good ideas can earn you money

By JO2(SW) Shae Blasko
 Staff Writer

Beneficial Suggestions (Bene Sugs) and Military Cash Awards Programs (MilCap) reward both the Navy and its military and civilian personnel for suggesting ways to save money.

The beneficial suggestion programs are designed to improve government operations and services. Their primary purpose is to encourage the sub-

mission of employee suggestions to improve day-to-day procedures and to conserve and more efficiently use manpower and budgetary resources.

"Adoption of these ideas may save money or time, improve habitability, safety or enhance the value of services provided. No facet of our work is so unique that it could not be a suitable source of suggestions for these programs," said Naval Air Station Jacksonville's Commanding Officer Capt. Mark Boensel.

"Navy personnel both civilian and military can submit suggestions to their command representative," said Ken White, NAS Jax's command MilCap and BeneSugs representative.

The director at the Command Support Office is designated as the coordinator for NAS Jax for beneficial suggestions submitted by civilian personnel and the MilCap administrator for suggestions by military personnel.

Rewarding employees who provide beneficial ideas has a long history.

JAX TALES

By Mike Jones - mikejones43@hotmail.com



GUIDANCE: CNO gives state of Navy

From page 3

- Ships and aircraft joining the Fleet are the best in the world. In 2001, Ronald Reagan was christened and USS Iwo Jima was commissioned. Production is gearing up on more Arleigh Burke-class destroyers, Virginia-class submarines, FA-18 E/F strike fighters, MH-60S helicopters, and other outstanding programs. This year also saw the signing of the Joint Strike Fighter contract. This aircraft will introduce important new capabilities into the Fleet due to its increased range and stealth.

- We are dedicated to innovation. We are proceeding with the DD(X) program, building on DD21 research and development. DD(X), along with CG(X), and the Littoral Combat Ship (LCS), will introduce complementary technologies for 21st century warfighting success.

- We are pressing ahead with ground-breaking capabilities. These include

Cooperative Engagement Capability (CEC), the E-2 Radar Modernization Program, Tactical Tomahawk, Active Electronically Scanned Array (AESA), Advanced Targeting Forward-Looking Infrared (ATFLIR), Advanced Rapid Commercial Off the Shelf Insertion (ARCI), and the Enhanced Range Guided Munition, to name just a few.

- We are making substantial investments in Research and Development. Over \$10 billion will be devoted to Navy R&D in FY02. Only Operations and Manpower accounts are allotted more money.

- We are realizing the potential of Network Centric Warfare:

- Cooperative Engagement Capability (CEC) successfully completed OPEVAL in May 2001.

- IT-21 is in 182 of our ships.

- Link 16 is in the Fleet, and

- Navy-Marine Corps

Intranet is integrating the information backbone of the Naval Service.

Quality of Service

Quality of service for our Sailors is a top priority. This includes an attractive quality of life for Navy families with better pay, health care, and housing. It also includes providing our Sailors with a work environment of which they can be proud. We have a great deal to do in this area, but are making progress.

- Pay is improving. This year, Congress passed the biggest overall pay raise since 1985. Pay was raised for all hands by at least 3.7% in FY01 and 5.0% in FY02.

- We are compensating our people for valuable experience and skills. Special pay, bonuses, and targeted pay raises have been approved to keep our profession competitive.

- Out-of-pocket housing costs have been reduced dramatically for every Sailor and family. BAH was raised by 21% in some

homeports last year and it will be increased by as much as 36% in some locations this year.

- Career Sea Pay has been enriched. All Sailors now receive sea pay from the moment they cross the brow. Together, the pay raise, enhanced housing allowance, and improved Career Sea Pay will put \$1 billion dollars into the pockets of Sailors over the next 12 months.

- Sailors can now better invest in their own future. The new Thrift Savings Plan provides a tax-deferred wealth-building vehicle to supplement the traditional military retirement plan.

- We are dedicated to a Revolution in Training. Task Force EXCEL is re-engineering the way we learn, to ensure all Navy Sailors benefit from a career-long continuum of learning.

- Quality housing is a priority. We invested over \$1 billion last year — and will invest another billion this year — to fund over a thousand homes and improve another two thousand units. We also pro-

grammed construction of nearly five thousand new barracks spaces.

Organizational Alignment

Mission accomplishment is what we are all about — that's the main thing. To improve mission accomplishment, we have undertaken some important alignment initiatives aimed at helping us communicate better, capture efficiencies, and enhance combat readiness.

- We have strengthened the warfighting focus of the Navy Staff. This includes assigning a Vice Admiral as Director, Navy Staff and establishing a Deputy CNO for Warfare Requirements and Programs (N7), to better integrate Fleet requirements and spearhead transformation. We dedicated a significant portion of the Navy Staff to Fleet Readiness and Logistics (N4), to better support the waterfront. We also stood up the Navy Operations Group (NOG) to provide innovative and transformational ideas for the support of combat operations.

- We are improving Fleet integration and standardization. Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command (CFFC) was created to integrate policies and requirements for manning, equipping, and training all Fleet units during the IDTC.

- We have returned community leadership to the waterfront. Fleet Type Commanders (Fleet TYCOMs) were created to advise CFFC of vital issues such as modernization needs, training initiatives, and operational concept development.

- We are improving support to Navy experimentation. Navy Warfare Development Command has been placed under CFFC to increase the Fleet's focus on innovation and experimentation.

- We are expanding support to the Fleet. New officer communities were established in 2001 that focus on Human Resources and Information Professional specialties.

The entire text can be viewed online at: <http://www.chinfo.navy.mil/navpailib/cno/ctark-guidance2002.html>

NAVY NEWS

Navy E-Business pilot project to be adopted throughout DoD

MECHANICSBURG, Pa. (NNS) -- A Navy-developed intranet tool that allows military health facility primary care providers and staff members to schedule specialty appointments for their patients while they are at the primary care office will be adopted and used by the Department of Defense (DoD) Composite Health Care System (CHCS) program office.

The deputy surgeons general of the Army, Navy and Air Force decided recently to fund implementation of the medical appointing pilot project, a system that enables patients to select appointments at convenient dates and times, increasing patient satisfaction and reducing no-shows for appointments.

When it is fully implemented, the medical appointing tool will be released to all medical treatment facilities in the Army, Navy and Air Force.

The medical appointing pilot project is one of eight original pilot projects fund-

ed by the Department of the Navy (DoN) eBusiness Operations Office, and the first to be adopted DoD-wide.

The project was proposed in November 2000 by Naval Medical Center San Diego. Once the project was funded it took approximately six months to develop.

"This successful project will benefit service members and help improve their quality of life," said Karen Gadbois, director of the DoN eBusiness Operations Office's Pilot Funding and Project Management Group.

"This project also demonstrates the opportunity we provide to Navy and Marine Corps commands and activities to help them execute pilot project ideas and to get DoD leadership to consider successful projects for application throughout DoD," Gadbois added.

For more Navy News, visit <http://www.news.navy.mil>.

20th Annual Bass Tournament
Presented By Mulberry Cove Marina

Saturday, April 13, 2002 at
Safe Light

348-Entry Fee Per Boat (prior to April 1)
375-Entry Fee Per Boat (after April 1)
Tournament: 2 Anglers Per Boat
300 Big Bass Per Entry (Optional)

CALL TODAY FOR MORE INFO
542-3260
Open to Authorized Boat Personnel

24th Annual Navy Run
10K Run/5K Walk

Saturday, April 6, 2002 at Barn

Active Duty FREE prior to April 6
315-Registration Fee (includes race bib and 2 plastic water bottles)
125-Day Off Registration Fee (ALL)

CALL TODAY FOR MORE INFO
542-3518
Please bring valid ID to the event. All proceeds go to the USMC Foundation. Please only buy at the event. Check us out at www.usmcfoundation.org

New bike? No skills?

Three-day safety class offered twice a month

By Kaylee LaRocque
Staff Writer

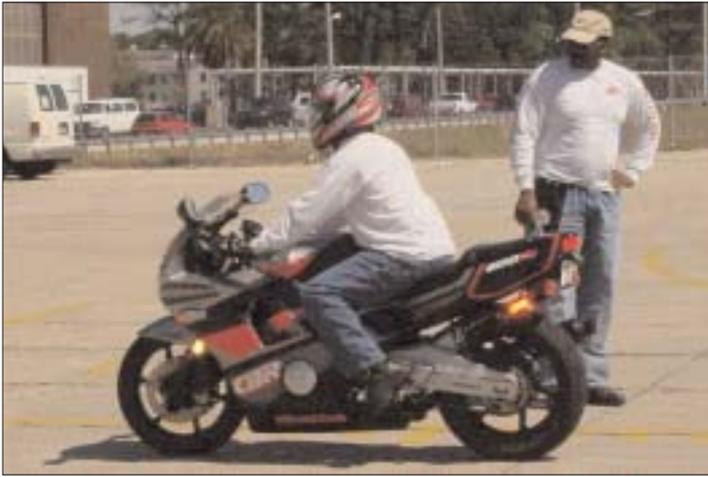
So, you've just gone out and bought that really cool, very fast, bright red race bike. But you have one slight problem - you've only ridden a motorcycle a couple times before and to be quite honest, you really aren't that good of a rider. This is where the Motorcycle Riding and Street Skills Class, also known as the Motorcycle Safety Class can help.

This free class is offered twice a month at NAS Jacksonville and is mandatory for all military personnel who ride a motorcycle either on or off base. All active duty, family members, retirees and DoD personnel are eligible to go through the three-day course.

"This class is truly designed to teach someone who has never touched a motorcycle to get on it and learn to ride. We teach them how to shift, turn and stop and all about defensive driving skills which we call street strategy," explained AMI Carl Bennett, who has been teaching the course here voluntarily for nearly four years.

The class consists of about both classroom time and range time. Students are required to provide their own motorcycle and are given numerous skills and scenarios to practice on the range. "This class is identical to what the State of Florida teaches except they provide loaner bikes. We require students to have their own which is good because they usually feel more comfortable. On the other hand, if they make a mistake or don't follow directions, they may scratch a few parts," said Bennett.

Even though he's taught well over 2,000 students both on the base and through the State of Florida, Bennett says he always learns something new in each class. "There are always things to learn to make you a better rider. Unfortunately, a lot of people think they don't need to take a course like this, but survival skills on the street are so important," Bennett stated. "The neat



Motorcycle Safety Instructor Dion McDaniel watches to ensure Tracy Pinson of VP-5 performs a skidding exercise correctly during the Motorcycle Safety Course held last week.



Instructor Carl Bennett gives the signal to the riders to begin the next training exercise.



Instructor Carl Bennett shows students some turning techniques.

part of this course is the way students develop. It's an immediate response. Once you correct an error they are making, they can

ner and haven't been riding very long. I'm so glad they offer this course here and I am going

feel the difference, gain more confidence and develop their skills quickly.

"I'm a beginner and I am going through it. It's taught me a lot of different riding skills and has given me a lot more confidence for when I get out on the road," said Joel Jimenez of Air Operations.

Once participants complete all required classroom and hands-on training, they must take a final

test and be evaluated. If they pass the course, students are given a card proving completion of the class. This card is required to obtain a base sticker and also waives the riding portion required by the State of Florida to get a motorcycle license.

The base also offers a one-day course for experienced riders. "We teach this class to help motorcyclists improve their basic riding skills. It's a great class for those people coming home from a deployment who haven't been on a bike in awhile. It gets them back on it and might even help them break a few old, bad habits. It's really a fun class," said Bennett.

"I think one of the best things about teaching this class is when a former student comes back later and says 'thanks - something you taught me saved me on the street and I didn't get hurt,'" said Bennett.

In the past, motorcyclists were required to wear a brightly colored, reflective vest on base. That policy has recently been changed provided riders wear a brightly colored outer upper garment during the day and a reflective garment at night. Military uniforms do not meet these requirements.

Other mandatory gear includes: a properly fastened Department of Transportation approved helmet; full face visor or goggles, sturdy footwear covering the ankles, full-fingered gloves, long-sleeved shirt or jacket and long-legged trousers.

Headlights must be turned on at all times and rearview mirrors must be mounted on each side of the handlebars on the left and right side of the fairing.

"People need to comply with these rules both on and off base. They are for their own protection, you never know when wearing a piece of gear could save your life or save some skin," Bennett added.

The Motorcycle Safety Course is offered twice monthly. To sign up call the Safety Office at 542-3082.



FROM THE GALLEY

Broccoli
Baked chicken
Mashed potatoes
Lima beans
Corn chowder
Dinner
Oven roast beef
Parsley potatoes
Green beans creole
Chicken rice soup
Scalloped ham/noodles
Steamed rice
Steamed corn

Friday

Breakfast
Oven fried bacon
Hash brown potatoes
Oatmeal
Assorted omelets
Corned beef hash
French toast
Lunch
Mexican pork chop
Spanish rice
Asparagus
Tomato noodle soup
Herbed baked fish
Scalloped potatoes
Mixed vegetables

Dinner

Salisbury steak
Home fried potatoes
Peas and carrots
Beef rice soup
Baked stuffed fish
Lyonnaisse rice
Summer squash
Brown gravy

Saturday

Breakfast
Grilled minute steaks
Cottage fried potatoes

Grilled pancakes
Grilled bacon slices
Omelets
Brunch
Grilled ham and cheese
Boston baked beans
Vegetable supreme soup
French fried potatoes
Mixed vegetables
Grilled bacon slices
Dinner
Herbed baked chicken
Okra and tomato gumbo
Jaegerschnitzel
Whipped potatoes
Steamed cauliflower
Egg noodles

Sunday

Breakfast
Corned beef hash
Hash brown potatoes
Waffles
Assorted omelets
Oven fried bacon
Grits
Brunch
Oven fried bacon
Cheesy bacon burger
Steamed corn
Glazed carrots
Cream of chicken soup
French fries
Assorted omelets
Dinner
Beef sauerbraten
Beef gravy
Green peas
Cream of chicken soup
Baking powder biscuits
Turkey pot pie

Rissolo potatoes
Stewed tomatoes
Steamed egg noodles
Monday
Breakfast
Minced beef w/toast
Hash brown potatoes
Grits
Grilled bacon
Assorted omelets
Lunch
Beef suriyaki
Filipino rice
Peas and carrots
Cranberry sauce
Brown gravy
Southern fried catfish
O'Brien potatoes
Cream style corn
Shrimp gumbo soup
Dinner
Grilled pork chops
Buttered noodles
Succotash
Vegetable soup
Braised beef cubes
Lyonnaisse potatoes
Brussel sprouts

Tuesday

Breakfast
Creamed chipped beef w/toast
Strawberry pancakes
Assorted omelets
Hash brown potatoes
Oatmeal
Lunch
Chicken tetrazzini
Steamed rice
Steamed broccoli
loaf yellow cake
Meatloaf

Oven browned potatoes
Steamed cauliflower
New England clam chowder
Dinner
Sweet and sour pork
Mashed potatoes
Cabbage wedges
Chicken noodle soup
Oven roast beef
Chow mein noodles
Seasoned corn
Steamed rice

Wednesday

Breakfast
Grilled sausage links
Cottage fried potatoes
Grits
Grilled bacon slices
French toast
Assorted omelets
Lunch

Hungarian goulash
Stir fry vegetables
Steamed egg noodles
Mulligatawny soup
Garlic fish
Steamed carrots
Oven-glo potatoes
Dinner
Chicken adobo
Steamed rice
Cauliflower combo
Pepper pot soup
Tempura fish filets
Parsley potatoes
Club spinach

Note: The food service officer is authorized to make changes to the general mess menu to provide substitutions for food items not in stock or to permit timely use of perishable stocks.

Meal hours
Monday through Friday
Breakfast: 6 to 7:30 a.m.
Lunch: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Dinner: 4:30 to 6 p.m.
Saturday, Sunday and holidays
Breakfast: 6:30 to 8:30 a.m.
Brunch: 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Dinner: 4 to 5:30 p.m.
Meal costs
Breakfast: \$1.60
Brunch/Lunch: \$3.25
Dinner: \$3.25
Thursday
Breakfast
Grilled ham slices
Hash brown potatoes
Waffles
Assorted omelets
Oven fried bacon
Grits
Lunch
Lemon baked fish
Rice pilaf
Chicken gravy

MWR NOTES

Easter egg hunt is tomorrow night

Hop on over to McCaffrey softball field tomorrow for the second annual Night Easter Egg Hunt. More than 10,000 eggs will be hidden and the age groups will be broken down; 3-5, 6-8, 9-12 and 13 and up (one parent may accompany). Twenty special eggs will provide a treasure for the lucky finder. For more information call Youth Activities at 778-9772.

Hunt for eggs at Yellow Water

The annual Easter egg hunt at Yellow Water is Saturday. Five age specific hunts will begin at 9 a.m. Don't be late as the bunny has lots of places to visit and prize eggs to award. This event is free to all military family members.

A baseball clinic will be held on the ball fields at Yellow Water Youth Center after the egg hunt 10:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Participants will learn batting, fielding, throwing, and catching skills. This event is free to all military family members from ages 4 through 12. Lunch will be provided. For more information on these or any activities at Yellow Water give us a shout at 777-8247. If you have ideas we would love to hear them.

Calling all preschool-age children

The NAS Jacksonville Child Development Center (CDC) has immediate openings for 3-5 year old children needing full time care. For more information call us at 542-5434.

The Eye Opener

Mulligan's 19th Hole has the best breakfast specials for only \$3. Enjoy two eggs with toast, hash browns and your choice of coffee or juice. Breakfast is available every day of the week from 6:30 - 10 a.m. We also feature a daily lunch special Monday-Friday and Happy Hour on Wednesdays and Fridays from 4-6 p.m. Beverage specials and free munchies are a great way to wind down for the day.

Sign up now for sailing classes

The cost for Basic Sailing Centerboard is only \$80/person at Mulberry Cove Marina. This class is designed for the beginner. Classes are held Saturdays and Sundays. Class #3 is June 1-23 and Class #5 will run Sept. 7-29. Tuesdays and Thursdays classes are from 4:30 - 7:30 p.m. Class #2 runs April 23-May 21 and Class #4 is May 28-June 25. Call the Marina for info at 542-3260.

Relax and get away

You deserve a vacation. Stop by I.T.T. and sign up for one of the many trips on the calendar. For more information stop in our office located across from the Post Office or give us a call at 542-3318.

Trips are open to all base personnel and their guests.

Southern Charm Charleston Style

Spend the weekend; April 5-7 exploring the charm of Charleston, S.C. Visit the Old City Market, take a boat ride to Fort Sumter, and saunter through Magnolia Plantation and more. The cost is \$133.75 per person based on double occupancy. The deadline to sign up is tomorrow.

Renaissance Festival

Step back in time on Saturday and see Knights jousting, listen to wandering minstrels, be mesmerized by a magician all while munching on a Turkey Leg! Transportation and entrance fee is \$22.25/adults and \$16.25/children.

Take me out to the ball game

March 27 catch the Braves and Astros pre-season game at the Disney Sports Complex. The cost is \$33.50/person including ticket and transportation.

Universal Fun

Take advantage of the Salute to Heroes at Universal Studios or Islands of Adventure on March 29. The cost is \$12.50 for transportation (active duty receive free park admission) and family members can enjoy 50 percent off park admission. Call us for more information.

Food that Comes to You

Can't get out of the office? Live on base? All great reasons to utilize The Delivery Zone to meet those hunger needs. The Delivery Zone delivers anywhere on base and has a wide variety menu that includes Bambino's pizza, subs and sandwiches, salads, wings, burgers and more! Delivery is available seven days a week from 11 a.m. - 8:30 p.m. Call 542-3900

Ladies tee it up

Calling all ladies out to the Golf Course on Fridays at 4:30 p.m. to socialize while learning or improving golf skills. The cost is only \$10 per session and includes wine and cheese after the lesson. Call 542-3249 for more information or just show up on Fridays.

Get Xtreme on Saturdays

NAS Freedom Lanes is running a Saturday Xtreme Bowling Package from 4 - 6 p.m. A glow in the dark sound and light show brightens up anyone's bowling experience. The cost is only \$6/person (includes shoes) or pay \$21.95 per lane (includes six pairs of shoes).

This is a great place to spend time with friends and family in a non-smoking environment.

Visit MWR online at 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.

SPORTS

NAS Jax hosting

basketball tournament
Varsity basketball teams from the South Atlantic Region will be competing at the NAS Jax Gymnasium March 22-24. Come check out the basketball action.

Women's basketball,

softball players needed

The athletic department is forming a basketball team to play in the South Atlantic Regional Sports Basketball Tournament at Mayport March 22-24. Eligible players include active duty, military family members over 18, retirees, and civilian employees assigned to NAS Jax.

Men's tennis tourney

slated for March 25

A men's competitive and recreational singles tennis tournament will be held March 25 for all NAS Jax active duty men. The tournament will be played at the Birmingham Tennis Courts at 5 p.m. Individuals playing in the tournament will earn Captain's Cup points for their respective command. Call

the NAS Jax gymnasium to sign up by March 22.

Women's tennis tourney

coming up

A women's open singles tennis tournament is scheduled for March 25. The event is open to active duty, dependents over 18, retirees, and DoD/NAF civilian women. The tournament will be played at the Birmingham Tennis Courts at 5 p.m. Active Duty women playing in the tournament will earn Captain's Cup points for their respective command. Call the NAS Jax gymnasium to sign up by March 22.

Sports teams organizing

Intramural Softball League

Season begins March 25. Open to all active duty commands and personnel.

Greybeard Softball League

Games will be played on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:30 a.m. Season begins March 25.

Women's Softball League

Open to all NAS Jax active duty, dependents over 18, retirees, and DoD civilians. Season begins March 25.

Open Softball League

Open to all NAS Jax active duty, dependents over 18, retirees, and DoD civilians. Season begins March 25.

Intramural Volleyball

Games will be played on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 11:15 a.m. and noon. Season begins April 1.

Men's varsity softball

coach wanted

The NAS Jax Athletic Department is looking for an experienced military or civilian individual who would like to coach the men's varsity softball team. The team represents NAS Jax in military and community tournaments in the Southeast region. Interested personnel should contact the NAS Jax Athletic Department.

Visit the MWR website at [dbonser@nasjax.navy.mil](http://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 <a href=) or dgorman@nasjax.navy.mil. Visit the MWR website at www.nasjax.navy.mil/mwr.

MWR travel fair a hit



Photo by JO3 Jackie Bratt

Sponsored by Morale Welfare and Readiness (MWR) Information Travel and Technology (ITT) Fair was a hit Saturday. Many Sailors and their families enjoyed the beautiful weather strolling around talking to different vendors.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Navy Wives Club of America, NWCA Jax No. 86, meets the first Wednesday of every 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. Call 772-0242 or President Barbara Howard at 471-1444.

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.

Submarine Sailors - If you have qualified on a United States Navy submarine in the past or present you are invited to join the newly inclusive established organization, called "First Coast Sub Vets". If you have qualified on a submarine from a foreign country, you are invited to join as an associate member. For more information call Ron Robertson at 241-6222 or email rjrjax@midiaone.net.

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 Lynne 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 at the Lil' Angels room 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. Contemporary music,

refreshments and bible study featuring a video study of Philip Yancey's "The Jesus I never knew" will be apart of the activities. For more information call 542-3051.

The third annual **Florida Renaissance Festival**, brings to life the sights, sounds, tastes and beauty of the 16th Century at the Spirit of Suwannee Music Park, Live Oak, Fla., beginning Saturday through April 7. The event features knights in full armor, jousting and fighting; artisans selling their wares, food fit for royalty, a merchant's marketplace and a "Kid's Kingdom." For information and admission prices contact the Florida Renaissance festival Office at 800-3-RENFEST or visit www.ren-fest.com.

The 18th annual **Blessing of the Fleet** is Sunday from noon until 5 p.m. along the Northbank downtown riverfront. The event will feature the blessing of the vessels on the St. Johns River, free entertainment and arts and crafts. For more information on how to participate with your boat call Gordy Millar at 268-3419.

The U.S. Air Force will host the 47th Annual **Joint Electronic Warfare Conference** at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas on May 6-9. An EW Intelligence session will be held on May 6. The conference is for U.S. Government personnel only. This conference is unique in that it is the only Electronic Warfare (EW) conference where the barriers to complete communication are removed by limiting attendance to active duty military and civilian representatives of U.S. Government agencies with a need-to-know. For more information visit <https://jewc.mugu.navy.mil> on the web.

Association of Aviation Ordnancemen Chapter 9 will hold their monthly meeting today at 7 p.m. at the Fleet Reserve Branch 91 Collins Rd. All Navy, Marine Corps active, retired and reserves are invited to attend our monthly meetings held on the third Thursday of every month.

The Wellness Camp

We all long for a lean, healthy body and lifestyle. Some of us think that the devotion to wellness takes a lot of time and pain.

The Wellness Camp is devoted to breaking some of those myths and replacing them with facts supported by research. This program offers practical guidance on nutrition, exercise, and injury prevention.

We do not stop there! This program also looks at the effects of stress on health and teaches you methods to minimize stress reactions through the use of relaxation techniques.

Snacks, handouts, lunches, a water bottle, and a tee shirt will be provided to each participant.

April 17 - 19
sponsored by
The Wellness Center
and
MWR Fitness Source
Building 867
Enterprise Avenue
NAS Jacksonville
(904) 542-5292, ext. 10

Army beats Navy in Greybeard Basketball

By Bill Bonser

The Greybeard Basketball League came to a close with NamTraU taking the league for the second consecutive season with a 9-1 record.

VS-30 finished second with a 5-3 record. There were six teams in the league with all six advancing to the playoffs.

NamTraU and VS-30 received first round byes. There were no upsets in the first round as Army's 2BN351 from Camp Blanding defeated CPRW-11 48-33 and SERCC defeated FACSFAC 55-31.

The second round was a different story as #1 seed NamTraU was knocked off by #4 seed 2BN351 51-44 and #2 seed VS-30 also fell to #3 seed SERCC 29-27.

This was the first time in the history of the league that the #1 and #2 seed was knocked out of the winner's bracket on the same day.

VS-30 was knocked out of the playoffs by the #5 seed CPRW-11 40-35.

In the winner's bracket final between SERCC and 2BN351, SERCC was no match for the Army team as they pounded SERCC 60-35.



Photo by Bill Bonser

Army's John Johnson (#20) grabs a rebound over the outstretched hand of SERCC's Joe Frazer as Sherman James (#14) looks on.

This was the second year in a row that the Army team reached the finals only finishing second last year to NamTraU. The Army team had to wait to see how the games in the loser's bracket played out

see whom they would face in the championship.

NamTraU advanced to the final in the loser's bracket by defeating FACSFAC 44-33 and CPRW-11 50-35.

NamTraU had to win one more to get a rematch with the Army and to defend their title as they faced a determined SERCC team.

The game was a constant battle as NamTraU took a 12-9 lead in the first quarter.

SERCC came back in the second quarter to take a 23-21 halftime lead. NamTraU regained the lead in the third quarter, but the game remained close with the score 25-24.

The fourth quarter was a nail biter and SERCC came out on top 34-33 to knock out the defending champions and to advance to the finals in a rematch with the Army.

This was the inaugural season for SERCC and they were very excited about the opportunity to play for the base championship in their first year.

The atmosphere for the base championship was electrified with the introduction of the team's line-ups via the public address system.

The first quarter was pretty even as SERCC took an early 10-9 lead.

The second quarter proved to be fatal for the Army team as SERCC out hustled and played aggressive defense to force numerous turnovers and increased their lead to 25-15 at the half.

The Army could not get their shots to fall and they were not getting second chances as SERCC controlled the offensive and defensive boards.

SERCC did not let their guard down in the third quarter as they kept up relentless pressure and triple teamed the Army's biggest threat to contain them and maintain a 33-24 lead.

The Army started the fourth quarter with a 7-0 run to close the gap to 33-31 with 4:26 left in the game.

SERCC finally scored their first basket at the 4:11 mark and the game remained tight with the score 35-33 with 2:48 remaining.

SERCC's Joe Frazer scored two key baskets down the stretch to give SERCC a 39-33 lead with 1:18 remaining. The Army could not answer SERCC's

late baskets and time ran out with SERCC winning the game 41-36 to force a second and final game.

The Army team came ready to play this time as they dominated the first quarter by shutting out SERCC 6-0.

The Army kept up the heat in the second quarter to take a commanding 17-4 halftime lead.

SERCC could not get anything going and the Army extended their lead to 28-11 by the end of the third quarter.

The difference in the second game was the Army's ability to hit the outside shot and having a balanced scoring attack with seven players scoring points.

The Army kept up the pace in the fourth quarter to blow out SERCC 48-29 to capture the 2002 Greybeard Basketball Championship.

SERCC's Sherman James led all scorers with 15 points and Ligmon Williams led the Army's balanced attack with 13 points.