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THURSDAY, April 25, 2002

www.nasjax.navy.mil



TOUCHING BASE

DEFY

VP-30 to host DEFY Summer Camp

From VP-30

A five-day residential DEFY Summer Camp is being hosted by VP-30 at Camp Blanding July 14-19.

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

This camp is only for military and DoD children. Volunteers are also needed to help run the camp. All volunteers must be able to get no cost TAD orders for one week and attend mandatory staff training.

Applications for camp guests and staff members can be picked up and returned to the VP-30 Duty Office or via Internet at <http://www.hq.navy.mil/defy>. Email applications back to macdonaldtr@vp30.navy.mil or navyccc@aol.com. All staff and youths will be notified if selected. The deadline for registration is May 10.

A mandatory meeting for parents will be held June 19th at 6 p.m. in the VP 30 auditorium.

The camp begins July 14 at 3 p.m. Youths should be dropped off at VP-30. Parents can pick up their children after the graduation ceremony and picnic on July 19 at Sea King Park.

For more information call AMC(AW) MacDonald at 542-3077, NCC(SW/AW) Long at 542-3769, or YN3 Green at 542-3022.

Jax Navy Credit Union



The first Jax Navy Credit Union aboard NAS Jacksonville opened in 1952 at the corner of Saratoga and Langley Streets. This photo was taken in 1973.



The Jax Navy Credit Union at NAS Jacksonville as it looks today. The original credit union opened at this location in a previous building in 1952.

50 years and going strong!

Name to change to VyStar

By Kaylee LaRocque
Asst. Editor

A historic event takes place Monday as Jax Navy Credit Union celebrates their 50th Anniversary.

On this date, the new credit union name, VyStar Credit Union, will also become effective and will be unveiled simultaneously at all Jax Navy branch and ATM sites throughout Northeast Florida.

"The decision to change our name was made because we needed a name that better represents who we are and who we strive to be without changing our commitment to the naval and civil service communities and the Greater Jacksonville Area. As our credit union has grown, our field of membership has expanded well beyond our original core group," explained Terry West, president and CEO of Jax Navy Credit Union.

"There has also been a lot of confusion over our name



because other credit unions in our market have similar names. There has also been the presumption that we only serve military members. The decision to remove "Navy" from our name was not taken lightly. In fact, the compass and the Navy blue color from our Jax Navy logo will still be used in our new VyStar logo because of our strong ties to the Navy. However, now that about 70 to 80 percent of our members have no direct affiliation with the military, we felt a new name was necessary. The change will help us clearly communicate the message to the general public that we are able to offer membership benefits to more people," said West.

Another reason for the

name change is that Jax Navy Credit Union was recently changed from a state-chartered credit union. This change means anyone living in Duval, Clay, St. Johns, Nassau and Baker Counties are now eligible to qualify for a membership.

"We've had a lot of changes lately so a new name is necessary to clearly communicate the message to the general public that we are able to offer membership benefits to more people. Also, since we've become a state-chartered credit union, we needed to remove 'federal' from our name and it's more cost effective to do it now," said West.

Although their name is

changing, the credit union will continue to offer the same services and prices to its members. The federal insurance of all deposits by the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund, an agency of the United States government, remains the same as well. All phone numbers, account numbers, and hours of operation will remain the same. Members will continue using their existing Jax Navy Credit Union ATM and check cards. All checks will be honored with the old name. When checks are reentered, they will feature the new name and logo.

Beginning Monday, the credit union's Web site address will be changed to www.vystarcu.org.

Jax Navy Credit Union was founded on April 29, 1952. It was originally chartered to serve military members, civil service employees and the families at Naval Air Station Jacksonville. After the first year of operation, the credit union had 1,100 members and assets worth \$28,000. Since then, Jax Navy has become the 15th largest credit union in the nation

and the largest state-chartered credit union in Florida. It is also the biggest financial institution in Northeast Florida with more than 275,000 members and more than \$2.28 billion in assets.

Despite its growth over the years, the credit union remains a not-for-profit financial institution that is member-owned. It is guided by a group of volunteers who steer the course of the institution, set policies and manage the financial assets of the members.

Today, Jax Navy Credit Union boasts 12 branches and 79 ATMs throughout Northeast Florida.

"We are currently in negotiations to lease the land located near the Post Office and the Personnel Support Detachment on base and plan to build a new building at that location. We hope to have the project completed by the end of 2004. At that time, our current building will be turned back over to the Navy," said Chalker Brown, vice-president of the NAS Jax Branch.

On Monday, the NAS Jacksonville Jax Navy Branch will celebrate its anniversary by saying a special "thank you" to all members. They will have free refreshments and free gifts while they last.

"We have great respect for our original core groups and want our military and civil service families to know they will always be recognized as the foundation on which this credit union was built. Our dedication to these groups is stronger than ever," said Terry West.

New MCPON assumes duties

From the Chief of Naval Operations

MCPON(SS/SW/AW) James Herdt passed the duties of the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) to MCPON(SS/AW) Terry Scott at a Change of Office Ceremony at Washington Navy Yard, Leutze Park on Monday. Chief of Naval Operations, Adm. Vern Clark was the guest speaker.

Herdt assumed duties as MCPON on March 27, 1998 after his selection by then CNO, Adm. Jay Johnson. The ceremony marked the end of more than 35 years of service for Herdt



MCPON(SS/AW) Terry Scott

who also retired during the event.

Scott most recently served as the CNO-directed command master chief for Naval Forces Central Command and Fifth Fleet. As the Navy's senior enlisted leader, the MCPON is the primary advisor to the CNO and other flag officers on a wide variety of issues. The MCPON also serves as the focal point of a Navy-wide network of senior enlisted leaders who serve as a chain of communications which supports and strengthens the chain of command. The MCPON also serves as the Sailor's voice to Congress, testifying before Senate and House subcommittees on readiness, compensation, housing, family and a myriad of quality of life and equity issues.

Celebrating our planet

Children from the NAS Jax Youth Activities Center plant a holly tree in celebration of Earth Day on Monday. For more about the Earth Day festivities at The Jacksonville Landing last Saturday, see Pages 8-9.

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Photo by JO3 Jackey Bratt

LEGAL BRIEFS

What to do if you have a boating accident

By Capt. Kevin Flood, JAGC
Retired Military

Recreational boating is extremely popular in the Southeast. Unfortunately, the high concentration of recreational vessels and personal watercrafts (also known as jet skis) results in a multitude of recreational boating or other marine accidents.

Such accidents include collisions, allisions, groundings and other incidents resulting in personal injury or property damage. This article provides basic legal information regarding what you should do if you are involved in a marine accident to comply with mandatory reporting requirements and to preserve your



legal rights.

As a practical and legal matter, if you are involved in a marine accident, the first thing you should do is attempt to render reasonable assistance to those in need. Once the danger or marine peril is over, you should

begin to think of protecting your legal rights.

Marine accidents involving a death, the disappearance of a person from the vessel, personal injury requiring medical treatment beyond first aid or property damage totaling more than \$500 requires that the vessel operator or owner report the accident to the United States Coast Guard or the state agency responsible for investigating marine accidents. Normally, the report must be submitted within 48 hours of the accident.

If you are a vessel owner or operator involved in a marine accident resulting in personal injury or property

See BOATING, Page 4

HEY MONEYMAN!

Hey, MoneyMan!

In my last command we had a financial counselor who would help us with money problems. I have not heard about this program in my new command. Can you tell me about this and how does someone get the training to be a financial counselor?

MoneyMan Sez:

You are talking about the Command Financial Specialist (CFS) program. The CFS program has been around since the early 1990's and a new instruction, OpNavInst 1740.5A, was recently released which explains the program.

Essentially every command with 25 active duty personnel or more shall have a trained CFS to coordinate the program and assist the commanding officer or officer-in-charge in providing financial training, information and counseling to command members.

Commands are also directed to maintain a ration of one CFS for every 75 active duty members. Commands with less than 25 personnel are "encouraged" (by the CNO - read "shall") to have a program.

To become a CFS, you must be high-



ly motivated and financially stable E6 or above and complete the CFS training course provided by the Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) financial educator. This is a great program if supported from the top. Most military leaders I know believe that personal financial stability enhances command operational readiness. For more information you may contact your command admin office or Sandy Ross at 542-2766 Ext. 149.

Hey, MoneyMan!

I keep getting these credit card offers in the mail and they seem to be great deals. Some of them offer really low rates, phone cards, vacations, you name it. What's the deal?

MoneyMan Sez:

Read the fine print. Or said another way, read closely the fine print. It is unlikely they are going to give away anything for "free" since these companies are in the business of making money. Usually, credit cards issued by your credit union will offer competitive deals with no hidden fees or agenda.

Do not have too many cards because they lower your credit rating even if you do not use them. Try to never carry a balance on your card, but if you must, always go for the lowest possible rate. If you are happy with your current card company, call them and ask for a lower rate.

According to Consumer Report, a card issuer pays an average of \$140 to acquire a new customer so they want to keep the ones they have. If lowering their rate keeps you as a customer, the most likely will do it. If not, shop around for a better deal. There are plenty of card companies out there.

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



Meet A Sailor ...

AT2 ARTHUR SHILLING

Job title/command:
Southeast Region Calibration Center

Hometown: Anchorage, Alaska

Family Life: Married, with two children.

Career Plans: To finish my enlistment and become an engineer.

Most Interesting Experience: The birth of my children.

Words of Wisdom: Take one day at a time.



Meet A Civilian...

MARILOU ROGERS

Job title/command:
CAC Card Administrator/PSD

Hometown: Havelock, N.C.

Past Duty Stations: Cherry Point, N.C.

Family Life: Married with two children.

Career Plans: To finish my nursing degree.

Most Interesting Experience: Riding an ATV in the Koolau Mountains in Hawaii where they filmed Jurassic Park.

Words of Wisdom: Keep your friends close, your enemies closer.

Keeping watch for charity

NAS Jacksonville Chief of Police Aaron Newman (left) and Lt. Chuck Clanahan,

director of Security, check for proper identification at the main gate April 19.

Bids were collected to place Newman and Clanahan at the front gate for a four-hour shift as part of a special fundraiser for the Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society Fund Drive.

Approximately \$501 was raised for the fund drive.

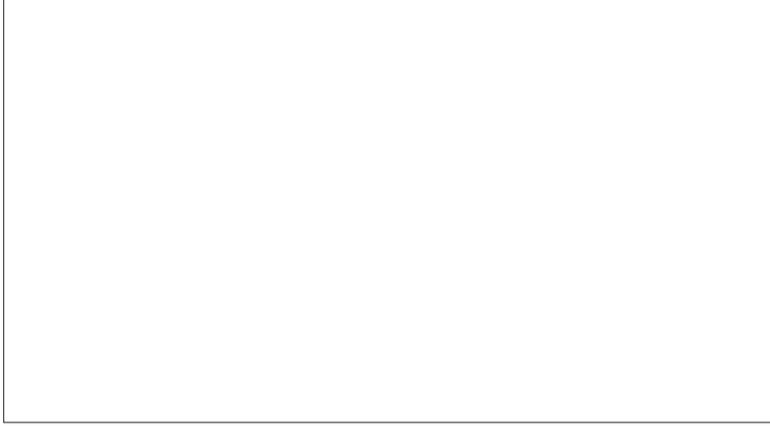


Photo by JO2 Mike Jones

Hospital fund drive event

A 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament is being sponsored by Naval Hospital Jacksonville on April 26 from noon to 5 p.m. and on April 27 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the NAS Jax gym.

Four players are allowed per team and the cost is \$25. Trophies will be presented for first, second and third place. All proceeds go to the 2002 Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society Fund Drive.

For more information call Lt. Judge at 542-7841, HM1 Banks at 542-7456 or HM1 Tarver at 542-9231.

Naval Hospital Jacksonville announces Town Hall Meeting

Naval Hospital Jacksonville will host a Medical Town Hall Meeting, May 7 at 2 p.m.

The meeting will be held in the hospital's 2nd Deck Conference Room.

The Town Hall Meeting is intended to be an open forum of exchange between all patients eligible for care

and the hospital staff. Command master chiefs, ombudsmen, active duty family members and retirees are encouraged to attend.

For more information, please contact the hospital's Customer Satisfaction Office by calling 542-9175.



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.

CREDO

It's free! Give yourself the gift of a Navy CREDO Retreat. The next Marriage Enrichment Retreat is May 31 - June 2. The next Personal Growth Retreat is May 16-19. For more information, or to register, call CREDO at 270-6958.

Jax Air News

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Local students gain work experience

By JO2 Mike Jones, Editor and India Lane

Fourteen students from William M. Raines High School visited NAS Jacksonville April 18 as part of the Junior Achievement Job Shadow Day.

The 11th graders enjoyed the opportunity to observe different career fields within the Navy ranging from legal services to musician and even newspaper production.

"The students were able to experience some of the many different career fields offered by the Navy," said Sheri Albertson, Navy Community Service Program regional manager. "This experience helps them to have a better understanding of the Navy and to prepare them for different careers."

The Raines High School Juniors picked to visit NAS Jacksonville were selected based on several areas, explained Yolanda Sanders, Raines High School diversified cooperative training coordinator.

"The students were selected based on attendance records, grades and leadership responsibilities,"



Photo by PH2 Susan Cornell

Students from William M. Raines High School meet with base personnel outside Bldg. 1 during the Junior Achievement Job Shadow Day NAS Jacksonville April 18.

she said. "I hope they take back knowledge of other positions that could be available to them that they couldn't have otherwise known about."

Introducing the students to different career options and skills will help to place them higher than the competition in the job market, Sanders explained. "Companies, in this day and age, are looking for students who are more well-rounded," she noted. "People want students who have diversity."

Each student enjoyed the

chance to spend the morning in a department on base observing jobs that resembled their career interests.

"This is pretty cool," said 11th grader Corey McCoy who spent the morning learning about Navy legal services. "I hope to one day have a career with the F.B.I. It's neat learning the different careers in legal practice."

The students weren't the only ones to learn more about the Navy in Jacksonville, Sanders explained.



Photo by India Lane

Raines High School student Corey McCoy learns different aspects of Navy legal services from Linda Fleming, paralegal specialist, during a visit to NAS Jacksonville April 18. McCoy was one of several students to visit the base as part of a job shadow program.

Jaguars owner to host town meeting

From CNRSE

The Jaguars will hold a "town meeting" on May 16 at 2 p.m. at the Station Theater aboard NAS Jax.

Owner Wayne Weaver and members of his coaching staff will be on hand to discuss the up-

coming season.

They will discuss what to expect from this season's team, military ticket pricing and renovations to Alltel Stadium. Afterward, they will entertain questions.

Everyone is invited to attend.

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Photo courtesy of VP-30
Capt. Brian Prindle, commanding officer of VP-30 congratulates AM1(NAC/AW) Homero Carillo and AM1(NAC) William Crispino after reenlisting the two on April 2.

VP-30 flight engineers receive re-up bonuses

By Lt. David Long
VP-30 Public Affairs Officer

VP-30 Fleet Replacement Flight Engineers Homero Carillo and AM1(NAC) William Crispino recently received Selective Reenlistment Bonuses (SRB) of \$45,000 and \$40,000, respectively, after signing new enlistment contracts. Each Sailor has served 10 years and has been designated a P-3 F-flight engineer. Capt. Brian Prindle, VP-30 commanding officer, performed the reenlistment ceremony during the Flight Engineer Graduation on April 2.

After meeting at Aircrew School in Pensacola a year ago, the two

future flight engineers decided to be roommates while assigned to training at VP-30. Prior to attending school, the two Sailors were aircraft ground maintainers.

Carillo, from Burbank, Calif., will join the "Golden Swordsmen" of VP-47 in Kaneohe, Hawaii, and plans to use his bonus to pay off bills and to have a church wedding with his wife, Jiselh. Crispino from Queens, N.Y., will join the "Tridents" of VP-26 in Brunswick, Maine.

Bonus amounts are calculated using a special rate depending on length of reenlistment. Rates differ for each service member's Naval Enlistment Classification (NEC) and time in the service. Fifty percent of the bonus is paid at the time

of reenlistment and the remaining half is divided equally to be paid at each anniversary of the reenlistment for the remainder of the contract.

The Navy's P-3 flight engineers are presently manned at about 85 percent and are actively seeking qualified candidates. Flight engineer incentives include: career schools program (automatic advancement upon graduation), proficiency pay (undermanned rate), and monthly flight pay.

All Sailors interested in transferring to the P-3 Flight Engineer program or desiring information on Selective Reenlistment Bonuses should contact their career counselor.

VP-5 'Mad Foxes' awarded Battle 'E'

By Lt. j.g. Kristen Richards
VP-5 PAO

Patrol Squadron (VP) Five was recently selected as a Commander Naval Air Force Atlantic (ComNavAirLant) 2001 Battle Efficiency award winner.

In December 2001, the "Mad Foxes" of VP-5 were nominated to represent Commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing (ComPatReconWing) Eleven in the ComNavAirLant selection process. One maritime patrol and reconnaissance squadron in the Atlantic Fleet is selected each year to receive the award. VP-5's plentitude of accomplishments made them the number one contender on the East Coast. The competition was incredibly keen for this prestigious award, but the Mad Foxes clearly distinguished themselves in every area of battle efficiency, combat readiness and tactical development.

VP-5 successfully completed numerous inspections during their Inter-Deployment Training Cycle (IDTC), including Naval Air Training and Operating Procedures Standardization (NATOPS) Program evaluation, Conventional Weapons Technical Proficiency Inspection (CWTPPI), Aviation Maintenance Management Team Inspection (AMMT), and Aircraft In Process Maintenance Performance Assessment (IMPA). Inspectors were very impressed with the pride and professionalism displayed by the men and women of VP-5 during the IDTC and labeled the squadron as "first rate".

In addition to the inspections, the squadron's operations and training departments were evaluated on their ability to efficiently conduct deployed operations in addition to CONUS training events. In 2001, VP-5 safely flew a total of 7,952 hours and had an aircraft sortie completion rate in excess of 90 percent. While deployed to NAS Sigonella, Italy from August 2001 to February 2002, VP-5 executed an unprecedented 6,600 flight hours and 1,100 missions in support of Operations Joint Guardian, Deliberate Forge and Enduring Freedom.

The key to VP-5's success in the air is an outstanding maintenance department, Mad Fox maintenance was lauded by ComNavAirLant and ComPatReconWing



Photo courtesy of VP-5
Rear Adm. Richard Brooks, commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Force, Atlantic presents the Battle "E" award to Cmdr. Paul Frost, commanding officer of VP-5.

Eleven inspectors as "the best on the East Coast" during several rigorous inspections throughout the calendar year. Safety is the first thought during every maintenance evolution as evidenced by zero ground mishaps throughout the dynamic IDTC and high-tempo deployment. The department's success can be directly attributed to the pride, professionalism and attention to detail each and every sailor dedicates to their work, day in and day out.

Additionally, Patrol Squadron Five's impeccable safety record led to their selection as CPRW-11's nominee for the Safety "S" which further supported their selection as the Battle "E" winner. With the squadron's 7,952 mishap-free flight hours in 2001, VP-5 has now surpassed 132,000 mishap-free flight hours over 23 years.

The Mad Foxes have demonstrated once again that they continue to be leaders in the patrol and reconnaissance community with a unique spirit of teamwork, integrity, and dedication. The Mad Foxes are already off to a fast start in their current IDTC and look forward to the challenges the future holds.

FACSFAC master chief tops on selection board

By Ensign J.A. Castillo
FACSFAC PAO

If you've been to Fleet Air Control and Surveillance Facility (FACSFAC) Jacksonville lately, you might have run into ACCM(AW/SW) Bobbi Johnson and you were probably wondering why she was so happy. After 19 years of service she has been selected as the top air traffic control master chief during this year's Master Chief Petty Officer Selection Board, a most remarkable achievement.

When asked what she thought put her above the others, Johnson said, "hard work and dedication are a must, but the troops are the ones that put me here." That is evident on how she conducts business as the leading chief petty officer for ATC Division as well as the command controller at FACSFAC. But what she won't mention is that she has committed her naval career to the improvement of her community, her command, and her Navy. She has done this by exhibiting the highest degree of moral character, professional excellence, and sustained superior performance while serving on arduous sea duty, isolated duty, and everything in between.

The Navy has given Johnson the technical, managerial, and leadership tools to carry her duties into the next century. If given the opportunity to be the next AC enlisted detailer, she says she will continue to devote herself and utilize these tools to



Photo courtesy of FACSFAC
ACCM(AW/SW) Bobbi Johnson gets her collar devices pinned on by her husband, BMCS D.J. Johnson. The new master chief was the top candidate chosen by the selection board.

make decisions and act in the best interest of the AC community and the Navy.

Johnson would like to thank her daughters, Britanni and Savannah, and husband, BMCS D.J. Johnson for their continuous support and the troops for their hard work and dedication.

BOATING: What to do in case of an accident

From Page 2

ty damage, you should notify your insurance company of the accident as soon as possible.

Usually, your insurance company will take a statement from you and may undertake further investigation depending upon the severity of the accident. If contacted by lawyers, insurance adjusters or investigators for any other individual involved in the accident, you should consult with your own insurance company or lawyer before making any statements regarding the accident.

Likewise, if you are injured in a marine accident, you should consult with an attorney before giving any statement to the lawyers, insurance adjusters or investigators of any other individual involved in the accident or before entering into any settlement agreement. Your statement can later be used against you. Also, if you enter into a settlement agreement without first consulting a lawyer, you may be deprived of valuable legal rights and fair and just compensation for your injuries.

When choosing a lawyer to handle a lawsuit arising out of a marine accident, it is recommended that you choose a lawyer that practices maritime or admiralty law or will confer with a maritime lawyer. This is because maritime and admiralty law is a very specialized area of law with many unique rules that are unfamiliar to the general personal injury lawyer. To determine whether a lawyer has experience in the field of maritime or admiralty law, ask the lawyer whether he is certified as a specialist in admiralty law by the state bar or whether the lawyer belongs to any maritime law organizations such as the Maritime Law Association of the

United States or the Southeast Admiralty Law Institute. Although a lawyer's membership in any particular organization does not assure that the lawyer is an expert or even competent in a particular field of law, such membership is an indication of the lawyer's interest in such field of law.

One of the first questions an experienced maritime lawyer should ask you is "where did the accident occur." The location of the accident is one of the factors that will determine which laws are applicable: state law or general maritime law.

If general maritime law is applicable, the time in which to commence a lawsuit may be different than the time allowed by state law. Also, the standard of care of the persons involved in the accident, the forum in which suit must be filed and the allowable claims, defenses and damages may differ depending upon whether state law or general maritime law applies. For instance, the personal injury claim of a passenger on a cruise ship may be governed by the provisions of the passenger ticket. Most large cruise lines incorporate provisions in their passenger tickets that require a passenger to provide the cruise line with written notice of the claim within 6 months of the accident and to commence any personal injury lawsuit within 1 year of the accident. Moreover, most passenger tickets require the passenger to file suit in a particular state or county. All of these passenger ticket provisions have been enforced by federal and state courts.

Marine accidents occur all too frequently. Hopefully, you and others will be responsible recreational boaters. Nevertheless, if you are unfortunate enough to become involved in a marine accident, please timely seek the advice of a lawyer before taking action that may prejudice your legal rights.

Mating season has alligators on the move

From the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Alligator mating season is upon us, and this is a time of year when alligators become more visible as they travel between lakes and rivers in search of mates.

Each spring, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) regularly receives reports of alligators in back yards and swimming pools or crossing highways. Occasionally, alligators also turn up in some unusual spots.

Residents of one north Florida town, leaving church after a Sunday morning service, were surprised to find an alligator just outside the main doors. The alligator climbed approximately 20 steps to reach the spot. Church members exited through the side doors and awaited a licensed (FWC) alligator trapper to remove the animal.

"In Florida, living with alligators is a part of our tropical lifestyle, and generally, we Floridians have adapted well," FWC alligator biologist Harry Dutton said.

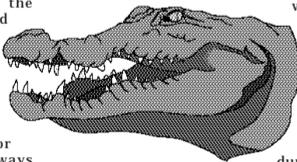
"Most of us know feeding alligators is illegal; we know not to swim at night and not to allow pets to swim in waters inhabited by gators."

Alligators are part of Florida's natural heritage and play an important role in the state's wetlands ecology. As predators, alligators remove the sick and weak from their prey animal populations, ensuring that only the strongest and fastest live to reproduce. Also, the "gator holes," walled out by alligators in wetlands during draught, provide the only available drinking water for many other species.

"An understanding of these facts and broader knowledge of alligator behavior will ensure that humans and alligators continue their long-term coexistence," Dutton said.

To learn more about alligators, interested persons can contact the FWC's Alligator Web site at <http://wld.fwc.state.fl.us/gators/Default.htm>.

To report a nuisance alligator in this area, call the Northeast Regional Office of FWC at (352) 732-1225.



Get It Here!
Your News
Every
Thursday!

FACSFAC master chief tops on selection board

By FACSFAC PAO

If you've been to Fleet Air Control and Surveillance Facility (FACSFAC) Jacksonville lately, you might have run into ACCM(AW/SW) Bobbi Johnson and you were probably wondering why she was so happy. After 19 years of service she has been selected as the top air traffic control master chief during this year's Master Chief Petty Officer Selection Board, a most remarkable achievement.

When asked what she thought put her above the others, Johnson said, "hard work and dedication are a must, but the troops are the ones that put me here." That is evident on how she conducts business as the leading chief petty officer for ATC Division as well as the command controller at FACSFAC. But what she won't mention is that she has committed her naval career to the improvement of her community, her command, and her Navy.

By Ensign J.A. Castillo
FACSFAC PAO

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The key to VP-5's success in the air is an outstanding maintenance department, Mad Fox maintenance was lauded by ComNavAirLant and ComPatReconWing

The Mad Foxes have demonstrated once again that they continue to be leaders in the patrol and reconnaissance community with a unique spirit of teamwork, integrity, and dedication. The Mad Foxes are already off to a fast start in their current IDTC and look forward to the challenges the future holds.

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Mating season has alligators on the move

From the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Alligator mating season is upon us, and this is a time of year when alligators become more visible as they travel between lakes and rivers in search of mates.

Each spring, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) regularly receives reports of alligators in back yards and swimming pools or crossing highways. Occasionally, alligators also turn up in some unusual spots.

Residents of one north Florida town, leaving church after a Sunday morning service, were surprised to find an alligator just outside the main doors. The alligator climbed approximately 20 steps to reach the spot. Church members exited through the side doors and awaited a licensed (FWC) alligator trapper to remove the animal.

"In Florida, living with alligators is a part of our tropical lifestyle, and generally, we Floridians have adapted well," FWC alligator biologist Harry Dutton said.

Get It Here!
Your News
Every
Thursday!

To report a nuisance alligator in this area, call the Northeast Regional Office of FWC at (352) 732-1225.

FACSFAC announces Sailor of the Year

By FACSFAC PAO

F1(SW) Bryan Corbat is the Fleet Area Control and Surveillance Facility (FACSFAC) Jacksonville Sailor of the Year for 2001.

Corbat, who reported to the command in May 1999, is the OE-10 work center supervisor and is responsible for 21 technicians and eight civilians in the maintenance of all FACSFAC systems.

Corbat is a well-rounded individual dedicated to excellence. He was selected based on his unwavering leadership and professionalism.

His collateral duties include leading petty officer for the command's First Lieutenant Division, command MWR coordinator, departmental career counselor, and First Class Petty Officer Association treasurer.



FC1(SW) Bryan Corbat

In his off-duty time last year, Corbat earned his associate's degree. He is currently working on a bachelor's degree in computer information systems from Columbia College.

Corbat also enjoys a variety of sports including basketball and NASCAR.

He is married to the former Rebecca Elizabeth Petitpren and they have two daughters, Desiree and Hannah.

Top Naval Reserve officials answer questions from the field

By JO2 Jennifer Valdivia
REDCOM Southeast Assistant PAO

Naval Reserve leaders answered questions from Southeast Region officers and chief petty officers recently at a Naval Reserve Association-sponsored conference at the Omni Hotel in Jacksonville, Fla.

Vice Adm. John B. Totushek, Commander, Naval Reserve Force, RADM John P. McLaughlin, Commander, Naval Air Reserve Force, RADM John P. Debbout, Commander, Naval Surface Reserve Force, FORMC(AW/NAC) Thomas Mobley, Naval Reserve Force Master Chief, and other panelists answered questions.

Each panelist expressed gratitude towards the leadership attending, and also to those Reservists who were recalled and mobilized.

"September 11th changed a lot of lives," VADM Totushek reminded. "Especially for those Reservists who've been mobilized."

FORMC(AW/NAC) Mobley added, "it's been a wonderful experience to see the integration of our ranks into the active duty community. It's heart-wrenching, it's moving, to see we've got such great people for whom this isn't just a job."

Questions from the attending officers and chiefs ranged from mobilization issues to the upcoming Naval Reserve-wide realignment in July.

Fourteen percent of the 7,000 sailors in the Southeast Region have been mobilized to date.

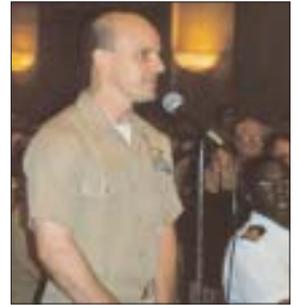


Photo by JO2 Jennifer Valdivia

LCDR Mark Stannis, Naval Reserve Center Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico asks Vice Adm. John Totushek about the future of demobilization.

Sea Control Weapons School honors Crosson

By Sea Control Weapons School PAO

The Sea Control Weapons School has proudly named IS1(AW) Jonathan Crosson as "Sailor of the Year" for 2001. Although the competition was intense for honors, Crosson's performance stood "head and shoulders" above the rest. He is an exceptional role model both in the Navy and the community.

Crosson was born and raised in Dallas, Texas. He graduated from Pittsburg High School in June 1992 and enlisted in the Navy that same year. After graduating boot camp in San Diego, Calif., he reported to USS Saratoga as an undesignated fireman recruit where he performed the duties of a boiler technician in the main machinery room.

After the Saratoga's final cruise, Crosson was then selected to attend Intelligence Specialist "A" School in Dam Neck, Va. He was promoted to Intelligence Specialist Third Class upon completion of "A" School in January 1995.

In March 1995, Crosson reported to Sea Control Squadron (VS) 32 at NAS Cecil Field, where he was assistant security manager, responsible for training aircrew on current intelligence and threat recognition as well as mission planning/joint strike analysis cell night supervisor. Just prior to transfer, Crosson was designated as an Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist, Junior Mauler of the Year 1996 and Junior Intelligence Specialist of the Year 1996.

Crosson checked into Ocean Representative Panama, in March 1997,



IS1(AW) Jonathan Crosson

where he immediately became instrumental to operations. After only two months onboard, he was designated motorboat petty officer in charge. Crosson was promoted to second class petty officer on Oct. 16, 1997. As the bases in Panama closed, Crosson was instrumental in moving the command twice and setting up the final office located in the Defense Attaché Office, Panama.

In June 2000, Crosson reported to the Sea Control Weapons School, NAS Jacksonville, for instructor duty. He was promoted to first class petty officer on Dec. 13, 2000. His responsibilities include intelligence and research and analysis.

Crosson performs command duties as PRT coordi-

nator, safety/training, supply and first lieutenant leading petty officer. He studied out of his rate in order to become a radar and electronic warfare evaluator in support of Sea Control Advanced Readiness Program simulator flights.

Crosson's steadfast department combined with sustained superior performance and a stellar personal appearance has established him as a superstar in the "VS" as well as the intelligence community. Crosson is, beyond a shadow of a doubt, the "best of the best". His characteristics of honor, courage and commitment made him a natural selection for the Sea Control Weapons School Sailor of the Year.

FFSC offers educational and support programs

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

All FFSC workshops and classes are free of charge and available to service members, family members and civilian personnel aboard the base. Pre-registration is required. If special accommodations or handicapped access is required, please notify us upon registration. Contact 542-2766, x127 to register.

The following workshops are available during the months of April and May 2002:

- April 30, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. - Stress Management Workshop
- May 2, 8 a.m. - noon - Smooth Move Workshop
- May 6-9, 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. - Transition Assistance Workshop (separation)
- May 13-17, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. - Command Financial Specialist Training
- May 13 and 20, 1-5 p.m. - Assertive Communication Training (two-part workshop)
- May 14, 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. - Budget for Baby Workshop
- May 14 - 9 - 11 a.m. - What about the Kids?
- May 20, 9 a.m. - noon - Florida Family Law Information Seminar
- May 20-23, 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Transition Assistance Workshop (retirement)
- May 21, 6-8 p.m. - Budget for Baby Workshop
- May 21, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. - Stress Management Workshop
- May 22, 9 - 10 a.m. - Sponsor Training Workshop
- May 23, 8-11 a.m. - Anger Control Workshop
- May 23, 6:30 - 9 p.m. - Ombudsman Assembly
- May 28, 9:30 a.m. - noon - Time Management
- May 29, 8 a.m. - noon - Divorce Adjustment Workshop
- May 30, 1:30 - 3 p.m. - Volunteer Service Council

Keep Your Base Clean!



Navy College Office Director Jeannie Fleming discusses programs offered by the NAS Jacksonville Navy College Office to members of Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing ELEVEN during an education brief at the base theater April 16.

Higher education step-ladder to success

John Richard explains some of the available programs at Southern Illinois University to an interested Sailor during an education brief at the base theater April 16.



Photo courtesy of NADEP Public Affairs
(From left) AM1 John Jensvold, AOC Brian Flinn, AMCS Jeffrey Abbey, AMC Randy Coates, ADC Duane Graham and AFCEM John Bandor take a break during a recent "Paint the Town" project.

NADEP JAX paints the town

By Susan Brink
NADEP Public Affairs

On April 17, Naval Air Depot Jacksonville (NADEP JAX) military members spent the day painting the town. Every year the City of Jacksonville selects approximately 40 houses in the local community for the "Paint The Town" program.

The group worked together sweeping debris off of the roof, scrapping loose paint, priming bare wood, and caulking windows and trim in preparation for new paint. Together they prepared two houses that will be painted later this month. The program was designed as part of the Mayor's Intensive Care Neighborhood by helping families in need of assistance with maintaining the exterior of their home.

The project coordinator is

always glad to see the military come out to the job sites. Every year the military provides enough volunteers to accomplish about 80 percent of the work needed. "Some of the homeowners are a little older and can't really do a lot of this work themselves. So, we are glad to come out here and help them out. We try to do it a couple of times a year. Whenever they call for us. We are always here to help," said AM1 John Jensvold, NADEP P-3 Program Petty Officer.

Today, more than ever, we need to make our community a better place in which to live. We applaud those who take the time to share their skills and abilities. Those who believe they can make a difference in the lives of others contribute their special talents and efforts to others in need.

Annual savings bond campaign begins May 1

From the Chief of Naval Operations

The Department of the Navy strongly supports the United States Savings Bond Program. The theme for this year's program is "Save for the Future."

In support of this effort, members will be informed of the advantages of purchasing Savings Bonds and be provided the opportunity to purchase bonds through the Payroll Savings Plan. This year's program is scheduled for the month of May.

The focus of this year's program will center on providing factual information emphasizing the advantages of Savings Bonds as a means of achieving systematic savings. There are about 55 million owners of U.S. Savings Bonds, with more than one million people purchasing bonds through the Payroll Savings Plan. Savings Bonds are a great way to balance any financial portfolio because of their high confidence factor and ready access. The longer you let your bonds grow, the greater the benefit.

The U.S. Treasury

Department has representatives throughout the nation to help you plan your local program, educate and motivate program coordinators, explain the advantages and benefits of Savings Bonds, and recognize program workers. Information for command representatives and a copy of the Program Coordinator's Guide are available on the U.S. Treasury Department's web site at www.savingsbonds.gov.

For more information on the program call your local coordinator or Exkellia Thomas at (901) 874-4379 or DSN 882-4379 or email P662C21@persnet.navy.mil.



College classes available

NAS Jacksonville Undergraduate Classes

Course	Code	Title	Cr.	Day	Time/P.M.	Building
AS 254	C	Aviation Legislation	3	THU	5 - 9:45	JAX BLDG 537
AS 401	A,P,U	Airport Development & Operations	3	THU	5 - 9:45	JAX BLDG 110 COMP LAB
BA 333	P,U	Personal Financial Planning	3	TUE	5 - 9:45	FL REAL ESTATE
BA 410	B,P,U	Management OF Air Cargo	3	MON	5 - 9:45	NAMTRA RM 119
COM 221	C	Technical Report Writing	3	WED	5:30-10:15	JAX BLDG 110 COMP
LAB MA 106	L	Basic Algebra & Trigonometry	3	THU	5 - 9:45	NAMTRA RM 119
PS 102	C	Explorations in Physics	3	TUE	5 - 9:45	JAX BLDG 537
SF 350	A,S,U,P	Aircraft Crash & Emergency Management	3	WED	5 - 9:45	JAX BLDG 537
WX 201	C, L	Meteorology	3	MON	5 - 9:45	JAX BLDG 110 COMP LAB

NS Mayport Undergraduate Classes

Course	Code	Title	Cr.	Day	Time/P.M.	Building
AMT 260	1,A,L	AIRCRAFT ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS THEORY	3	WED	5 - 9:45	RAINEY HALL BLDG 1333
SF 320	A,S,P	HUMAN FACTORS IN AVIATION SAFETY	3	TUE	5:15-10	RAINEY HALL BLDG 1333

Undergraduate Course Requirement Codes:

A= Aviation Area of Concentration B=Business Minor C= Core Course P=Professional Development Elective S= Safety Minor/ Certificate 1=AMT Certificate 2= Core BSMT0 3=HU/SS Upper Level Elective U= Upper Level Open Elective L=Lower Level Open Elective

Graduate Classes

Course	Code	Title	Cr.	Day	Time/PM	Building
MAS 604	C	HUMAN FACTORS IN AVIATION/ AEROSPACE INDUSTRY	3	TUES	5 - 9:45	JAX BLDG 110 COMP LAB
MAS 000		TBA	3		5 - 9:45	
MAS 690		GRADUATE RESEARCH PROJECT	3			

Registration begins Monday
Add/Drop Registration and TA Deadline: June 3
Withdrawal: June 24

'Paint the

Volunteers participate in 'Paint the Town' project on the North 20th Streets. Raindates will be posted in the 542-3020 number and...

Help bu

Another H through May 15 on your own. off of Cassa Street and P call Karen Pr

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Join the C a.m. to 9 p.m. World of Nat are available information.

Jackson

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If you have are interested Baptist Home (near the Alt Grove Elem ed to plant a bagging lea horse barn. vided. Shifts a.m. - 2 p.m. from 9 - 11:30 a.m. Sherri Albertson 270-6600, Ex

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There will be May 3 held for kids. Vol aspects of the include: setti hang signs directional si the event received, dist ties. Minimu teens and 14 hour shifts a Terry Quarle

Arthritis

'Team fo

Join the Arthritis F



Photo by J03 Leah Smith

Going to 'Battle' with a 'Heart of Gold'

MMCS(SW/AW) Arden Battle, main engines officer, works in One Main Machinery Room. Battle recently received the "Heart of Gold" award from Volunteer Jacksonville for his volunteer efforts in 2001.

City of Jacksonville sponsoring Children's Day Walk/Fair

The Seventh Annual Stand for Children's Day Walk and Community Fair is May 18.

What you can expect: Navy personnel, family members and friends will gather as a group at Jessie Ball Dupont Park, 1123 Prudential Drive at 8 a.m. They will be led in a leisure walk by Navy leaders across the Main Street Bridge to the Jacksonville Landing for a rally on behalf of children and other scheduled activities. Other agencies, organizations and community groups will also participate in this event. Wear your command cap and t-shirt.

Events: Carnival games and prize giveaways, mini-train rides, summer camp and childcare information booths, child seat belt workshop, live entertainment, educational interaction booths, face painting, balloon art and more. All activities are open to the public.

All commands and departments, spouse clubs and other Navy organizations that participate as a group in the walk will receive a certificate of recognition. Navy commands have been invited to set up static displays or provide demonstrations at The Landing for children on this day. Interested commands should call 542-2766, Ext. 130 for information.

How to get involved: To sign up for the walk, e-mail oparker@nasjax.navy.mil. For additional information, call your base Navy Community Service Program Coordinator at 542-2766, Ext. 130.

History of Stand For Children: Stand For Children was formed by the Children's Defense Fund to organize a mass demonstration for children on June 1, 1996, at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. Organized in just over five months and endorsed by more than 4,000 local, state, and national organizations, the first Stand

For Children Day drew more than 300,000 people, making it the biggest gathering for children in American history.

That historic day was Stand For Children's founding. Moved by the flood of calls expressing interest in local action following Stand For Children Day, rally organizers Jonah Edelman and Eliza Leighton began on June 2, 1996 to transform Stand For Children into an ongoing nationwide grassroots voice for children's health, education, and safety.

Stand For Children is America's only nationwide grassroots voice for children. It is a nonpartisan organization committed to building a voice strong enough to give all children an opportunity to grow up healthy, educated and safe.

Mission: Stand For Children's mission is to build a voice strong enough to give all children the opportunity to grow up healthy, educated, and safe. Stand For Children is a national, nonpartisan membership organization.

Our members take action nationally on a range of children's issues. Our teams put on local Stand For Children Day activities to raise awareness about children's needs and take action on state and national issues.

Our chapters organize locally to improve the quality of child care, increase after-school programs and teen activities, make schools better, increase children's access to health services and education, and address other community concerns.

Our community supporters, both non-profit organizations and businesses, support Stand For Children with their contributions and their commitment to children and families in their workplace and in their community.

HELPING HANDS

'Paint the Town'

Volunteers are needed now through May 11 to participate in this year's USO Shipmates with Heart 'Paint the Town' event. The location will be on the Northside of Jacksonville near Myrtle and 20th Streets. Exact directions will be provided and raindates will be announced if needed. If you are interested in helping out contact JoAnn Dilling at the 542-3028, or leave a message and phone number and she'll get back to you.

Help build a home

Another Habijax event is planned for April 30 through May 2. Volunteers are needed to do framing on four homes from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Lunch is on your own. The location is Cedar Hurst Estates, off of Cassat Avenue near Plymouth St. (Mull Street and Pangola Drive). 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.

Jacksonville Baptist Home for Children

If you have a group of at least five people who are interested in helping out at the Jacksonville Baptist Home for Children on University Blvd. (near the Atlantic Blvd. intersection, behind Love Grove Elementary School) - volunteers are needed to plant flowers; assist with raking lawns and bagging leaves, and for minor clean-up in the horse barn. Refreshments and tools will be provided. Shifts are available during the week from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. (including free lunch) and Saturdays from 9 - 11:30 a.m. To sign up please contact Sherri Albertson at 542-5380 or Cindie Badger at 270-6600, Ext. 137.

MaliVai Washington Kids Foundation Tennis Marathon

There will be separate Tennis Marathons on May 3 held on this day - one for adults and one for kids. Volunteers are needed to assist with all aspects of this event. Some volunteer duties include: setting up for the event the day before; hang signs on court; registration area and post directional signs throughout Ponte Vedra; during the event- register participants, count pledges received, distribute prizes, assist with court activities. Minimum age required is 18 for set-up volunteers and 14 for day of event volunteers. Four hour shifts are available. Contact Terri Florio or Terry Quarles at 359-5437.

Arthritis Foundation 'Team for a Cure' Walk

Join the Team for a Cure on May 3 - The Arthritis Foundation is looking for you.

Opportunities to assist with the walk include the following categories: event committee, set-up/clean up committee, medical support, recruit food vendors and sponsors. Contact Julie Johnson or Diana Chase at 353-5770.

Jacksonville Humane Society Pet Adopt-a-Thon

Join the Jacksonville Humane Society on May 3 in this huge effort to find good homes for their shelter animals. Volunteer opportunities involve assisting the adoption staff by holding and interacting with the animals up for adoption. Volunteers will also help prospective adopters in providing information regarding the animals. Opportunities are located at the shelter and the mobile units. Minimum age required is 16. Contact the Humane Society's Volunteer Coordinator at 725-8766 Ext. 206.

WJCT's Starry Night at the Met

WJCT would like volunteers to help out with security and ticket taking duties for their concerts on May 4 and 18 at Metro Park (across from AllTel Stadium in downtown Jacksonville). All volunteers are asked to arrive between 5 - 5:30 p.m. Security volunteers will work until 11 p.m. All volunteers are welcome to stay and enjoy the concert free of charge. If you are interested in signing up, call Bonnie Golden at 358-6383.

Ridgeview High School needs judges

Volunteers are needed to help judge the Ridgeview High School senior class projects May 7-9 from 2 - 4 p.m. Judges are needed for a variety of topics ranging from sports fitness, photography, science or aviation projects to literature and art projects. Volunteers are asked to arrive no later than 1 p.m. for a brief orientation. For more information or to sign up call Ms. Tucker at 272-3003, ext. 3089.

Seventh Annual 'Stand for Children' Walk

The Seventh Annual Stand for Children Walk is May 18th. Volunteers are needed to help with set-up, operation, and participation as walkers in this annual event, co-sponsored by the Child Watch Partnership of Jacksonville and Monique Burr Foundation for Children, held to increase awareness for child advocacy. Festivities begin at 8 a.m. at Treaty Oak (Jesse Ball Dupont Park) and end at the Jacksonville Landing. Activities at the Landing will include face painting, train rides, courtyard dancing, health clinics, educational interaction booths, giveaways, finger painting, balloon art, temporary tattoos, food, and more. Minimum age requirement is 13 years. To sign up contact Barbara Florio at 642-0210 or Dianne Parker at 542-2766, Ext. 130.



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Earth Day 2002

Thousands turn out to celebrate

By Kaylee LaRocque
Asst. Editor

The Jacksonville Landing was quite the happening place last Saturday as approximately 10,000 people visited the numerous booths and exhibits set up to help celebrate Earth Day 2002. Young and old alike went from display to display, talking to educators, gathering information and free goodies, and creating unique artwork with recyclable items.

The entertainment stage was busy throughout the day with a dance performance, children's theatrical performance, an awards ceremony and music by Navy Band Southeast's Top 40 band "Pride" and several other local groups.

Several commands and departments from NAS Jacksonville participated in the event. Volunteers from Commander Navy Region Southeast (CNRSE) and NAS Jax's Environmental Department spent the day handing out brochures, posters and an assortment of other giveaways as they explained some of the programs the base has created to help the environment.

"CNRSE Environmental is continuing to strive in keeping the general public informed of what our Region and the entire Navy is doing to be good stewards of the environment. We continue to look for ways to maintain the Navy's mission while protecting and conserving the surrounding environments along the East and Gulf Coast as well as, the waters in the Caribbean," said Ken Conley, natural resources specialist from CNRSE Environmental Office.

CNRSE members passed out numerous posters on marine mammals and sea turtles that inhabit this region along with pamphlets and booklets on the Department of Defense's effort for implement-



Photo by Sherri Albertson
Navy Band Southeast's Top 40 band "Pride" (above) performed at The Jacksonville Landing as part of the Earth Day festivities.

ing coral reef protection.

Also representing the base were several VP-5 pilots and aircrew who brought along pilot gear for visitors to try on. Many of the children who stopped by the booth were thrilled to be able to try on a "real" Navy pilot's helmet, gloves and survival vest. The squadron members also handed out information on the squadron and gave out free wooden airplanes and Navy pens and pencils.

"We're here to help people realize that the Navy is environmentally conscious. The Navy does extensive research on the ocean's environment to ensure the exercises we perform are done correctly," explained AW2(AW) Jesse Shotts, an aircrewman with VP-5. "Our job as part of the Patrol Squadron community is Anti-Submarine Warfare. When we conduct our exercises and missions, we drop sonobuoys into the water, which not only detect the sounds of submarines, but also make us aware of the presence of marine life in the area. We do all we can to minimize the amount of damage we do to the environment. This is all part of our mission to defend our country."

Several members from Naval Aviation Depot were also on hand to talk about the Depot's mission and what resources it uses to keep within environmental guidelines. They also passed out lots of literature regarding their role within the Department of Defense.

Naval Station Mayport's Navy Environmental Leadership Program (NELP) also had representatives at The Landing to talk to the public about its mission of addressing Fleet environmental issues and promoting environmental awareness.

NELP representatives handed out coloring

See EARTH DAY, Page 9



Photo by Sherri Albertson
The Save the Manatee Club displayed lots of information to help educate the public about the West Indian Manatee that lives in this area.



Photo by Kaylee LaRocque
Lauren Jacobson of the NAS Jacksonville Public Works Center helps out the Navy Environmental Leadership Program booth by explaining to visitors what the program is all about.



Laila Capers from the Commander Navy Region Southeast Environmental Department paints a tattoo on Briani McFadden at the Earth Day Celebration.



Photo by Sherri Albertson
Lt. J.g. Billy Walker of VP-5 helps Earth Day spectator try on some flight gear at the VP-5 booth at The Jacksonville Landing.

Earth Day 2002



EARTH DAY: Celebration at Landing draws thousands

From Page 8

books and manatee posters. Visitors to the booth also had the opportunity to learn more about NELP initiatives such as the Mobile Aircraft Firefighter Training Device and the implementation of innovative painting and de-painting technologies at NS Mayport.

The first Earth Day celebration began in the spring of 1970 as part of a nationwide grassroots demonstration. The next year, United Nations Gen. U. Thant rang the United Nations Peace Bell on March 21, 1971. This started the annual celebration of Earth Day at the United Nations. Each year, the bell is rung at the moment spring begins, signifying a worldwide commitment to the protection and care of our planet.

Earth Day in the United States is officially marked as April 22, however most events are throughout the week. No longer a grassroots campaign, Earth Day has become a much more professionally-organized event.

Each year, the Navy sponsors a Navy Earth Day kickoff event in downtown Washington, D.C. Hundreds of commands and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) set up display booths in an effort to inform the public about how the Navy protects the environment.

"The Navy appreciates and encourages the participation of responsible, science-oriented NGOs in our Earth Day festivities," said Rear Adm. David Stone, director of the Chief of Naval Operations Environmental Protection, Safety and Occupational Health Division. "We work hand-in-hand with civilians, government agencies, private industry and volunteer organizations on a regular basis to develop strategies for completing our missions while keeping the environment clean."

Next year's event at The Jacksonville Landing is already being planned for April 19, 2003. For more information contact Christi Veleta, City of Jacksonville's Environmental Department, at 630-3692.



Photo by Sherri Albertson

Karen Maraschino of the Naval Aviation Depot's Environmental Management Office passes out packets of environmental information to visitors at the Earth Day Celebration.

Photo by Sherri Albertson
Approximately 10,000 people showed up to enjoy the festivities at the annual Earth Day Celebration at The Jacksonville Landing last Saturday.



Photo by Kaylee LaRocque

Lt.j.g. William Moye and AW2(NAC) Matthew Taylor of VP-5 explain their squadron's mission and the procedures they use to help protect the environment as they hand out materials.



Photo by Capt. Scott Albertson

Sherri Albertson from Commander Navy Region Southeast passes out some environmental information to some visitors at the Earth Day Celebration.



Anna Mattox of the NAS Jacksonville Environmental Office gives Ashley Thompson a poster at the NAS Jax Environmental booth.

Photo by Kaylee LaRocque

VP-30 pilot rich in heritage and history

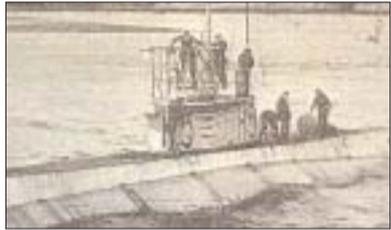
By JO2 (SW) Cliff Williams
CNRSR Public Affairs

It was March 2 1918. The "Great War" in Europe was near its end, and people were weary from battle, but Germany, Great Britain and France remained determined to win.

It was on this date that the war claimed its first American submariner.

Lt. Earl Weeks Child and his 26 shipmates were lost at sea near Caernarfon Bay, Wales when a British cargo ship, the SS Rutherglen, mistakenly believed the H5 submarine was a German U-boat.

The crew of the Rutherglen rammed the H5 repeatedly until she sank, even receiving a bounty for destroying



An early photo of the H5 submarine before its tragic sinking March 2, 1918.

what they believed to be an enemy submarine.

The truth about the sinking emerged years later, and the crew was finally honored. On March 2, 2002, 84 years after the accident, Patrol and Reconnaissance Squadron (VP) 30 pilot Lt. Kyle Mathews, Child's great grandson, along with other relatives, attended a ceremony marking the anniversary of the sinking at sea near the wreckage site and at a local Parish in Holyhead, Wales.

Despite the incident so long ago, Mathews and his entire family have kept the Navy-Marine Corps tradition in their blood. "My father was enlisted in the Marines before college and then became a Naval Reserve Officer, retiring as a Captain," explained Mathews, a Columbia, Md. Native and 1992 U.S. Naval Academy graduate. "My grandfather was an A-4 pilot, my father's stepfather flew F4U-4 Corsairs, my mother's father was a Naval Academy graduate of 1940 and my mother's grandfather was an academy graduate in 1917."

With all the pilots in Mathews' family, it is all come in full circle, interlinking the entire heritage his family is so rich in. "The aircraft that I fly is the P-3 Orion, which is primarily an anti-submarine platform," said Mathews. When asked about his great grandfather serving as a submariner, Mathews said, "My great grandfather's time period was in its infancy; a new frontier. He passionately wanted to be a part of the new generation of Naval Warfare."

Even with a rich military heritage running through the family, Mathews felt no pressure to join the armed forces or to push his children in the military direction either. "I had access to a great knowledge base of military life, but I was free to choose what I wanted to do in my life," said Mathews. "My five-year-old son and two-year-old daughter



VP-30 Pilot Lt. Kyle Mathews (second from right) with other relatives and guests at the recent memorial ceremony for the H5 submarine which was sunk off the coast of Wales March 2, 1918. Mathews is the great grandson of Lt. Earl Weeks Child, the first American submariner killed in World War I.

will come to know that I have no expectations of them to join the military service. Whatever decision they choose, I will support them."

World War I was the great-armed conflict of 1914-1918. It was often called the Great War because until that time, it was the most destructive and widespread war the world had ever seen.

More on the U.S. Navy's involvement in World War I is available online at <http://www.history.navy.mil/wars/index.html>.

NavHOSP JAX NEWS

Family Practice residents help with junior high anatomy classes

By Loren Barnes
Naval Hospital Jacksonville Public Affairs

Naval Hospital Jacksonville Family Practice residents shared their medical knowledge and expertise with seventh and eighth grade students at Assumption Catholic School in Jacksonville April 9-12.

Ten residents were at the school during the week, assisting Pat Gallivan, the school's science instructor, with dissection lessons for about 70 students.

Lt. Dana Newswanger, Family Practice Co-chief Resident, said the young doctors had been looking for a community service project when Gallivan, whose wife is a clinic patient, asked for volunteer assistance.

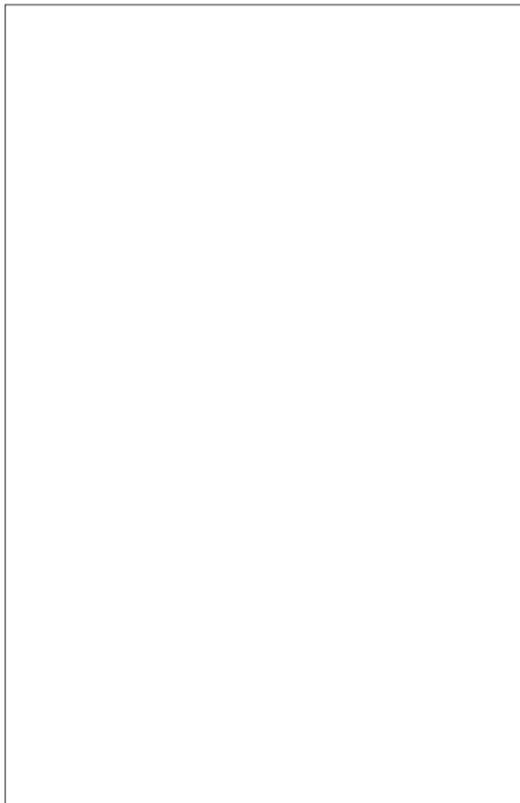
"This not only provided a great community service opportunity but was also a chance to introduce the students to the health field," said Newswanger.

Gallivan said the resident's help was awesome. "The Navy doctors' help made this the smoothest dissection lab I've conducted in six years of teaching," he commented. And he said the students really enjoyed working with the residents.

The residents, 42 of whom are completing a three-year training program at Naval Hospital Jacksonville to become attending physicians, were also enthusiastic.

Resident Lt. Martha Collie, who accompanied Ensign Frank Gould and Lt. Larry Kuhn to the class on April 12, said when her session was over she wanted to stay for another class. "It was a lot of fun," she said.

According to Newswanger, the Residency Program is looking for more opportunities to help in schools, preferably focusing on health education. She said some areas in which they might be able to contribute expertise include such things as smoking cessation, teen pregnancy prevention, and reducing childhood obesity.



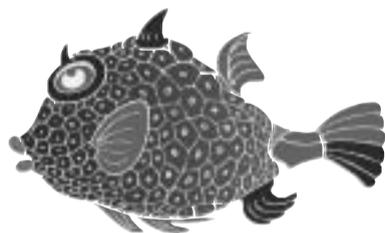
Lt. Martha Collie helps students at Assumption Catholic School in a science class lab dissection.

Florida puffer fish can kill diners

Titusville. (ENS) - Puffer fish harvested in the Titusville area may contain a natural toxin that can cause illness or death, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) warned last week in a consumer advisory.

Three New Jersey residents have become ill from eating puffer fish, also known as blowfish or sea squab, harvested near Titusville, according to the New Jersey Department of Health. In two situations, patients ate puffer fish caught by a recreational fisher, but the third patient reported buying the puffer fish from a local New Jersey retail fish market.

Further investigations by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have uncovered reports of similar illnesses



in Florida and Virginia.

"It is imperative that consumers not eat puffer fish from the Titusville, region," said Dr. Lester Crawford, FDA deputy commissioner. "The FDA continues to work closely with the CDC and the state authorities to protect the public health, but in the meantime anyone who may have eaten

puffer fish should be alert to these possible neurological symptoms and seek medical help if it is needed."

The marine toxin responsible for the problem is a byproduct of algae found in seawater.

The symptoms of the toxin include tingling and burning of the mouth and

tongue, numbness, drowsiness and incoherent speech. Symptoms can develop within 30 minutes to two hours after eating the fish, depending on the amount of toxin consumed.

In severe cases, respiratory paralysis and death may occur. The toxin is not destroyed by cooking or freezing the fish.

Consumers who have symptoms like those described above and suspect that they have consumed puffer fish harvested from the Titusville area should contact their physician or local poison control center. Consumers with questions may call the FDA Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition Center's Outreach and Information Center at 1-888-SAFE-FOOD.

PINK RIBBON QUILT

Don't let your mother be just a memory

In honor of Mother's Day, please join us at the Wellness Center on May 9, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. to honor and memorialize those affected by breast cancer. There will be a demonstration/instruction on how to make a square for the "Pink Ribbon Quilt" to be displayed at Naval Hospital Jacksonville.

A fat quarter each of white and pink 100 percent cotton material is necessary. Bring a brown bag lunch if you like. The event is sponsored by the Naval Hospital Jacksonville Wellness Center and Surgery Clinic and is limited to 30 seats. To sign up or for more information call Nikki Levinson-Lustgarten at 542-7857.

Who is eligible for Medicare wraparound coverage?

From the TRICARE Management Activity

Since the implementation last year of expanded pharmacy and medical benefits under TRICARE Senior Pharmacy and TRICARE For Life, many Medicare-eligible uniformed services beneficiaries, age 65 and over, are now enjoying the peace of mind that comes with having a robust health care benefit.

They no longer have to pay expensive supplemental insurance premiums, higher co-payments, or entire prescription charges because the TRICARE For Life program acts as second payer to Medicare and the pharmacy program provides coverage they don't have from Medicare.

Beneficiaries have reported savings of \$3,000-\$4,000 on their prescriptions, alone. With most prescriptions available to them for a \$3 or \$9 co-pay, some can now purchase prescriptions they didn't feel they could afford before. "Not only are they saving money, but many are enjoying a better quality of daily living," said Thomas Carrato, executive director of TRICARE Management Activity (TMA).

While most of the 1.5 million TRICARE For Life-eligible beneficiaries have been located through extensive outreach communications efforts by TMA, regional lead agents, managed care support contractors, and various beneficiary associations, may still not know they have this coverage. Their files in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) have not been updated, and they have not renewed their military ID cards. Continued eligibility for military benefits must be established periodically, because cer-

tain events (like divorce from a military retiree, or remarriage of a widow) may cause eligibility to end.

As a result, when Medicare automatically sent its first 5 million claims to TRICARE for its newly eligible over-65 beneficiaries, it became evident that some of these claims belonged to beneficiaries whose information had not been updated, and whose ID cards were expired. These claims initially were denied by TRICARE, but agency officials have announced that they will pay these claims temporarily, without requiring beneficiaries or providers to resubmit them.

"We will use this opportunity to advise people on their Explanations of Benefits that they must update their information and ID cards. Those who fail to do so will have future TRICARE claims denied," explained Carrato.

After Aug. 1, 2002, all claims for beneficiaries with expired eligibility will be denied until their eligibility information is updated.

DEERS also sends an 'age-in' letter to newly eligible beneficiaries 90 days before their 65th birthdays, explaining how they can remain eligible for TRICARE benefits.

The best way to verify TRICARE eligibility in DEERS and to obtain a current ID card is to go to an ID card issuing facility. If that is not possible, they should call the DoD Reverification Line at 1-800-361-2620. For more information about TRICARE call 1-888-363-5433.

Adm. Jan G Health Fitr ness, nutrit

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By JO3 Jac Staff Writer

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Thrift Savings Plan open season to begin May 15

WASHINGTON (NNS) — One month after the end of the tax season, Sailors will get another chance to sign up for the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP), which offers significant tax incentives and can enhance their retirement savings.

Beginning May 15 and lasting through July 31, active-duty members and Reservists can choose to invest from one to seven percent of their basic pay and up to 100 percent of bonus, special or incentive pay in their own TSP account within Internal Revenue Service limits.

Working much like the civilian 401(K) savings plan, pre-tax dollars are invested to provide retirement monies for Sailors. Taxes are deferred on TSP contributions, meaning no federal (and in most cases, state) income taxes are paid on contributions or earnings until the money is withdrawn, usually at retirement when many are in a lower tax bracket.

TSP is not designed to replace the military's retirement plans. It is meant to be a convenient way for Sailors to invest in a variety of investment vehicles to provide additional money for retirement.

Sailors can transfer any amount of money into the TSP from certain qualified retirement savings plans in which they are already invested.

Generally, an eligible retirement plan is an IRA (other than a "Roth" IRA) or an individual retirement annuity (other than an endowment contract); a qualified pension, profit-sharing, or stock bonus plan; or an annuity plan described in Internal Revenue Code.

TSP account balances can be transferred to an eligible retirement plan if a Sailor leaves the service. This option makes TSP an attractive investment whether someone serves four or 30 years.

To give an idea of the advantage of saving through before-tax contributions to the TSP: suppose a Sailor earns \$30,000 a year, is in the 15 percent tax bracket and contributes 5 percent each month (or \$1,500 per year) to a TSP account. That Sailor would save \$225 in federal taxes (15 percent of \$1,500 is \$225). If that \$1,500 were deposited in a regular savings account, \$225 would be owed in federal taxes. Tax savings will be even greater if the state taxes are excluded on TSP contributions, as most states do.

The decision to start building a retire-



ment fund early in a career is not always easy. Many fear they will miss the money used to build an investment account. But starting early allows compounding interest to grow the account.

Since the plan was opened to the military during the special enrollment period that ended Jan. 31, 2002, nearly 65,000 active-duty Sailors have invested in the plan, leading all the services in enrollment.

There are five investment funds where Sailors can invest all or part of their money; each fund has its own risk and return. Before investing, Sailors should look at their current financial situation, time until retirement and investment risk tolerance. Armed with complete, accurate information, Sailors and their families can decide how much to invest in which fund. Investment decisions should be made with long-term goals in mind since the money is invested for retirement.

Contributions can range from as little as one percent to seven percent of basic pay in 2002; also bonus, special or incentive pay may be contributed — up to the \$11,000 IRS tax limit allowed in 2002. For those serving in a combat zone, the current ceiling for contributions is \$40,000. Contribution limits increase through 2007 when there will be no limit on the percentage of basic pay contributed and the total dollar limit is inflation adjusted.

This is the first enrollment opportunity since the special enrollment period ended. For more information on TSP, go to <http://www.tsp.gov>

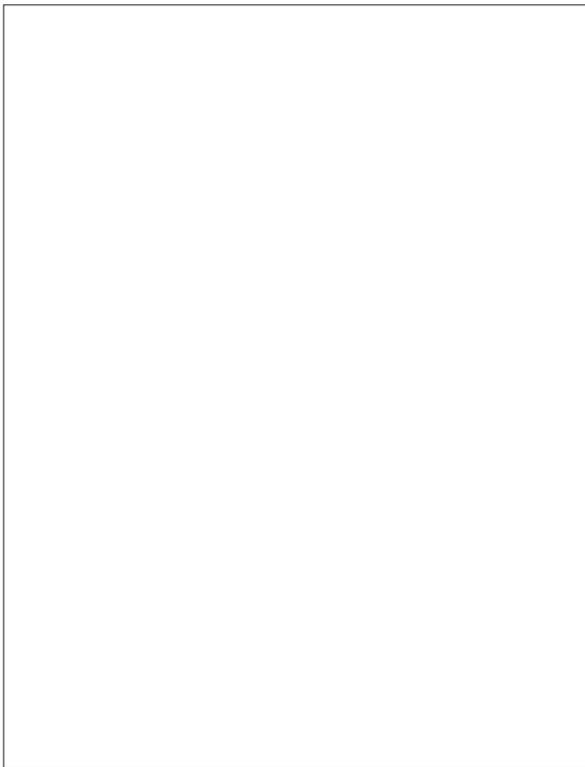


Photo by JO3 Jackey Bratt

Adm. Jan Gaudio, commander, Navy Region Southeast, participated in the Wellness Center's Health Fitness Assessment. The program offers a personal wellness profile for improving fitness, nutrition, and overall wellness.

'Crews into Shape' is a 359-pound loss

By JO3 Jackey Bratt
Staff Writer

Forget about Generation X. We're well on our way to becoming Generation XL. According to the American Heart Association, 65 percent of American men and 55 percent of women over the age of 25 are overweight.

A four-week, fleet-wide Navy/Marine Corps contest was held at the beginning of March to encourage healthier lifestyles and remind Sailors about the importance of maintaining a healthy weight.

"It is not just about spending more time at the gym; it's about being more active in your daily life," said Cmdr. Katherine Natoli, department head of NAS Jax Wellness Center.

The 'Crews into Shape' contest was open to Sailors, Marines, family members, retirees, and Department of Defense (DoD) workers. Every member of the contest set a weight loss, maintenance, or weight gain goal to achieve by the last week of March.

Forty-two teams, made up of 286 individuals were in the race for a healthier lifestyle.

Each member had to weigh in at the beginning and end of the contest. Every participant exercised

30 minutes per day and ate five or more fruits/vegetables five days a week. Each week, participants submitted their exercise, fruit/vegetable, and water log to their team leader, and the team leader kept track of the team's standings.

Points were earned in a variety of ways. The team with the most points at the end of the contest won.

Two hundred eighty six individuals fleet-wide lost 531 pounds, ate 18,005 servings of fruits and vegetables, exercised for 1,629 hours, and consumed 1,828 gallons of water. NAS Jax placed second overall.

"The base-wide results were outstanding, having a total weight loss of 359 pounds," said Cmdr. Natoli.

Team "Charlie's Angels" placed first in the contest. The team consisting of members, Sheryl Dickey, Romie Martin, Peggy, and Jim Hykes lost 26 pounds collectively. Coming in second was the "Hard Charger" team and third went to the "Los Jueyes" team.

"The Crews into Shape contest allowed for us to stick to a healthy diet and get plenty of exercise while having fun," commented Sheryl Dickey.

The impressive first place winners are all over 50 years of age as well.

"Maintaining a healthy

lifestyle is important for all ages, but as you get older, it is vital and beneficial to make sure you are eating properly, getting enough rest, and exercising regularly," said Dickey, who has been a frequent patron of NAS Jax's Fitness Source since October 2001.

Commander Navy Region Southeast, Adm. Jan Gaudio has been participating in a health fitness assessment supported by the Wellness Center. The Health Fitness Assessment is a personal profile for improving your fitness, nutrition, and overall wellness goals.

"I feel good," said Gaudio, who lost over 20 pounds in a year's time. Gaudio honed in on the importance of all Sailors maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

"A healthy lifestyle is very important because it keeps our troops in the best shape possible as well as improves their overall physical readiness," said Adm. Gaudio.

As a leader, Adm. Gaudio set a great example. "Set a routine, make time out of your schedule because the benefits to a healthier you make it worth all the sweat," concluded Adm. Gaudio.



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NAVY NEWS

Task force EXCEL gears up to reach goal

NORFOLK, Va. (NNS) — The Task Force EXCEL (Excellence through Education and Learning) initiative is marching towards its goal of developing Sailors professionally and personally.

The initiative was started to help Sailors benefit and have more opportunities in the civilian sector. Task Force EXCEL is working to provide Sailors with the best training they can find, as well as helping them attain college credits and civilian certifications for their Navy training. And by improving military training programs, Sailors will be more well-rounded both professionally and personally.

Rear Admiral Harry Ulrich, the commander of Task Force EXCEL said, "by encouraging our Sailors to be well rounded, we benefit by having better educated and trained Sailors and that leads to better mission accomplishment."

Ulrich also added that this initiative goes hand-in-hand with the Chief of Naval Operations Covenant Leadership initiative.

"We owe it to the Sailors who endure long working hours and deployments to provide them with the best personal and professional development we can."

Ulrich also said that younger Sailors will not be the only ones to benefit from this initiative.

"Whenever we develop new tools and opportunities for younger or newer Sailors, we will also go back and look for ways to help Sailors who are deeper into their careers."

One example of this is a beta test that is coming up for the Mess Management Specialist (MS) community. Two groups of 25 students will take a 12-week course at the American Culinary Institute. Some of the students will be straight from "A" school, while some senior petty officers will be sent to finish courses

at the school.

Technology is also helping Task Force EXCEL find new avenues for training. Simulators are being developed for many areas of Navy training from security to anti-submarine warfare to non-nuclear engineering. All of these programs are designed to train Sailors in life-like situations they may face in their day-to-day jobs.

Ulrich said many of the programs are in development or being evaluated now, but Task Force EXCEL is on the road to success.

"Our programs have not reached the deck-plates in the way our vision has hoped for, but we're beginning to get the policies, processes and structures all aligned and organized."

Project SAIL: Sailor Advocacy through Interactive Leadership

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Project SAIL, a program unfurled at last month's All-Flag Officer conference, is transforming the way detailing works for mission readiness, while making Sailors the focus of the detailing process.

Project SAIL (Sailor Advocacy through Interactive Leadership) has been developed in response to fleet and individual Sailor input. It combines changing the philosophy of how Sailors are detailed with capturing Web-based technology to improve communications between the fleet, detailers and Sailors.

"Our Sailors have dedicated themselves to a lifestyle of service," said Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Vern Clark. "Project SAIL will, in return, ensure they and their families have more resources, information and options to help shape their careers."

Rear Adm. Jake Shuford, head of Navy Personnel Command's 400 detailers, said, "By working with each Sailor and teaming with command leadership, we focus on the individual in a career context. The objective is improved readiness through a better understanding of each Sailor's needs and abilities."

A key feature of Project SAIL is Team Detailing, the integration of detailers with each command's retention team. Team Detailing relies on a spreadsheet of all Sailors transferring within one year. The teaming spreadsheet includes Sailors' preferences, special competencies, family and career considerations and additional comments from the command's career development board.

The goal is to exchange information early in the detailing process. This is accomplished by importing this spreadsheet information into the Job Assignment and Selection System (JASS). This is the first in a series of planned upgrades to turn JASS into "Super JASS," and make it more useful with a wider range of Sailor options.

SAIL includes several major initiatives that will move the Navy to a Web-based, incentive-driven, technology-enabled distribution system over the next several years. An example of future initiatives within Project SAIL is Distribution Incentive Pay.

What happens when orders show up on requisitions for which no one wants to reenlist? Distribution incentives, like the recently enacted Location Selective Reenlistment Bonus (LSRB) pilot program, offer monetary bonuses to Sailors who are willing to transfer to less popular, yet career-enhancing assignments.

For more information on Sailor Advocacy go to "Squawk Box" at <http://www.staynavy.navy.mil>.



Photo courtesy of Mark Faircloth

Diane Lancaster, NELP manager discusses an environmental questionnaire with one of the attendees at the 28th Environmental & Energy Symposium & Exhibition, in Charleston, S.C.

NELP attends 28th Annual Environmental and Energy Symposium & Exhibition

Courtesy of NELP

The 28th Environmental and Energy Symposium & Exhibition provided the Navy Environmental Leadership Program (NELP) with an opportunity to educate the public and military conference attendees about some of the Navy's environmental initiatives.

The event took place March 25-28 at the Charleston Area Convention Center, Charleston, S.C.

An estimated 1,200 people visited 120 booths at the four-day

National Defense Industrial Association conference and two-day trade show.

Diane Lancaster, NELP Manager provided support at the NELP Booth, handing out information on programs and initiatives. Visitors to the NELP booth had the opportunity to learn more about specific NELP initiatives and success stories, such as the Mobile Aircraft Firefighter Training Device (MAFTD) at Naval Station Mayport. Lancaster also provided a "Questionnaire" to solicit suggestions that would address ideas for improvements in management or technology. Suggestions are reviewed for time, money, or labor savings; and improvements enhancing environmental compliance, clean up, pollution prevention, and natural resources conservation.

"Conferences such as this

one provides us the opportunity to talk with the public and other military organizations. Not only do we inform them about the active role the Navy takes in environmental issues, we also receive new ideas," said Lancaster.

Lancaster recently joined NELP, after leaving her recent position as an Environmental Protection Specialist with the U.S. Department of Energy - Western Area Power Administration, Phoenix, Ariz.

Chief of Naval Operations chartered NELP at NS Mayport in 1993. The mission of NELP is to support Navy warfighter operational readiness through the identification, demonstration and communication of innovative ways to perform daily operations that minimize the impacts on our environment and promote environmental stewardship. The program serves as a test bed for new and innovative technology and focused management that addresses the full spectrum of environmental issues. NELP exports its successes and lessons learned throughout the Navy and Marine Corps family.

To learn more about NELP, contact Diane Lancaster at 270-6730, Ext. 208 or Lt. Cmdr. Joseph Campisano at 270-6730, Ext. 203 or visit the NELP Website at www.nelp.navy.mil.

Career Decision Survey has direct impact on Reservists

NEW ORLEANS (NNS) — The Career Decision Survey is not "just another survey."

It is a thorough questionnaire designed to gather important feedback from Naval Reservists on topics of pay, leadership and retention.

"It is crucial for all Reservists to participate as it can directly impact the pay and benefits decisions being made," said Navy Counselor (NC) Master Chief (SW/AW) Flake of Commander Naval Reserve Force (COMNAVRESFOR) Force Retention.

The survey gives Reservists access to management and policy makers. It is also a valuable retention and recruitment tool, providing Sailors with information on current issues and available services and benefits.

Complementing the survey this year is a link for demobilizing Reservists. Members will answer questions about initial notification procedures, berthing, pay and impact on the Sailor's family and civilian job.

"Gathering data from demobilizing Reservists will help us prepare for future evolutions," Flake said.

"The results from the survey conducted last year reflected issues with pay and Physical Readiness Test (PRT) standards," Flake added. "Reserve leadership addressed the issue, reviewed policies and tried to resolve discrepancies."

For more news about reservists in action, go to the Naval Reserve Force NewsStand page at <http://www.news.navy.mil>.

CNO announces new overseas incentive option

From the Chief of Naval Operations

The Chief of Naval Personnel has authorized implementation of a new Overseas Tour Extension Incentive Program (OTEIP) incentive option of a \$2,000 lump sum bonus for those eligible Sailors who agree to extend their current overseas assignments for 12 months or more. This new option is retroactive to July 17, 2001.

This new incentive option, to be known as Option D, is now available in addition to the three existing incentive options listed in the Enlisted Transfer Manual, Article 4.11, OTEIP.

Option D represents a significant increase over the only monetary award previously available (incentive Option A - \$80 per month). Eligibility requirements and administration of the OTEIP Program remain the same.

OTEIP monetary payments are taxable. Tax liability is based upon the Sailor's location at the time he requested OTEIP. If the Sailor was eligible for combat zone tax exclusion (or tax exclusion based on a qualified hazardous duty area) for any day during the month the Sailor requested OTEIP, the entire lump sum or monthly payments are non-taxable. If

not in a tax exclusion zone or a qualified hazardous duty zone for any day during the month the Sailor requested OTEIP, the entire lump sum or monthly payments are subject to tax.

Regardless of whether or not the member subsequently enters a tax exclusion zone during the 12-month OTEIP extension, the lump sum payment or monthly payments would be subject to standard tax withholding by DFAS. Sailors become eligible for lump sum bonus payment on the first day of the 12-month tour extension.

Sailors serving OTEIP extensions that originally requested OTEIP on or after July 17, 2001 may change their benefit selection per guidance in the Enlisted Transfer Manual. A Sailor previously approved for Option A benefits may request a change to Option D, even if that Sailor has received one or more monthly payments. If approved, the payments will be recouped and the member will receive the lump sum.

Members may change from Options B or C only if the member has not received any portion of the benefit option.

If a Sailor has executed any travel benefits at government expense or taken any special rest and recuperation absence granted under these

options, they may not change their selection.

Any Sailors who have extended their PRD for any other incentive, including to gain sponsorship for acquired dependents will not qualify for OTEIP on that extension.

Beginning May 1, new OTEIP option requests for one of the two available monetary awards may not be changed after approval by BuPers.

Those Sailors who receive the new lump sum and do not compete the 12-month extension must refund to the government a pro rata recoupment of the unearned portion of the bonus.

This is the amount by which the bonus paid to the member exceeds the amount determined by dividing 12 into the number of full months the Sailor completed of the extension. The Secretary of the Navy may waive this reimbursement if circumstances warrant the waiver.

All first-term Sailors assigned to overseas for a minimum of 36 months are eligible for OTEIP after the first 24 months of their tour if they do not have family members accompanying them.

For more information call the OTEIP Program Management Office at (901) 874-3550 or DSN 882-3550 or email pers40CC@bupers.navy.mil.



Catch the latest news
around the fleet.

<http://www.news.navy.mil>

SmartStart to begin at selected installations

Online program to give job opportunities before leaving Navy

From the Command Career Counselor's Office

SmartStart for New Vets is a new, U.S. Department of Labor funded, pilot jobs program being implemented at selected military installations in the Southeast United States this year. Expansion to other installations will be considered for 2003. Junior enlisted service members at NAS Jacksonville may participate if they meet eligibility requirements.

SmartStart for New Vets provides eligible junior enlisted service members (grades E2 thru E5) with entry-level job opportunities at top corporations before they leave active duty. SmartStart for New Vets completes the cycle and fulfills the promise made to enlistees during recruiting - "Join the military and learn skills for a civilian career."

Only those who have already decided to leave the military and have received a DD 2648 pre-separation checklist from their installation transition office are eligible to participate. To be eligible, a participant must also have six months or less remaining on active duty.

Potential applicants are encouraged to give serious consideration



to continuing their military career before entering the SmartStart program. However, once a person decides to leave active duty, there are numerous opportunities to continue serving in a Reserve or National Guard unit while working in a civilian job.

SmartStart is an online program. Enrollment applications are submitted online from the SmartStart web site at smart-

startvets.org. Service members must have access to the Internet and an email address to participate. Once enrolled, participants are matched with available entry-level job opportunities with corporate partners participating in the program. Next, they are asked to complete a short online job package that accomplishes several ends. First, the online job package informs the participant about the potential employer, its industry, available job opportunities, and career advancement. Second, it prepares the participant for pre-hire assessments required by the employer. And finally, the online job package provides basic knowledge and skills that will help prospective employees be better prepared for his or her new job.

The good news is that the program is provided at no cost to service members. The bad news is that not all junior enlisted service members will be able to participate at least initially. This is a

pilot program and it will not be widely available in the first year of implementation. Further, the number of persons allowed to participate will depend on the number of job opportunities available.

SmartStart does not guarantee jobs to participants. Legally, that would be difficult to do. But, those who successfully complete the SmartStart program and meet employer qualifications will be guaranteed an interview with a top corporation. The available entry-level job opportunities pay at least as much as service members make in the service and in most cases the jobs pay more and offer a wide range of benefits such as medical, dental, and life insurance.

SmartStart will track participant progress from enrollment through completion of online job packages, employer pre-hire assessments, interviews, job placement, and the first ninety days on the job. If possible, and to make it easier for applicants, participating employers will travel to military installations to give pre-hire tests and employment interviews. That of course will depend on the number of applicants to be tested and interviewed at each base.

All service members are

encouraged to use the career counseling services available at their installations transition office. Information on preparing resumes and interview techniques are two subjects that could benefit almost every job applicant.

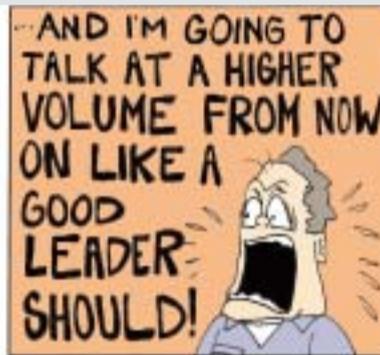
The Office of Secretary Defense's transition assistance web site at <http://www.dodtransportal.org> and the Department of Labor's Veterans Employment Training Service (VETS) web site at <http://umet-vets.dol.gov> are both excellent resources.

SmartStart for New Vets was developed and is administered by Clayton College & State University located in Atlanta, Ga. Clayton State has a national reputation for its information technology and corporate training and placement programs. Most of the staff of the SmartStart program have former military service and understand the difficulties of transitioning from the military to civilian employment. They are available to provide assistance to those interested or enrolled in SmartStart. Additional information on SmartStart is available on the World Wide Web at smartstartvets.org.

JAX TALES

By Mike Jones - mikejones43@hotmail.com

www.rickystour.com



National day of prayer set for May 2

From Commander Submarine Group 10

The President has proclaimed Thurs. May 2 to be the National Day of Prayer for 2002.

Because of the faith of our founding fathers, public prayer and national days of prayer have a long-standing and significant history in American tradition. Since the first call to prayer in 1775, the call to prayer has continued through our history. The National Day of Prayer has great significance for us as a nation. It enables us to recall and to teach the way in which our founding fathers sought the wisdom of God when faced with critical decisions. It stands as a call to us as Americans to humbly come before God, seeking his guidance for our leaders and his grace upon us as

a people. The National Day of Prayer belongs to all Americans. It is a day that transcends differences, bringing together citizens from all backgrounds to pray for the vast multitude of individuals who yield significant influence on our lives and our country each day.

Never before has the need to stop and petition God on behalf of our leaders been so important. A National Day of Prayer task force has been established to concentrate on the need to pray for those in leadership on all levels of national, military, church and educational areas of influence.

Commands at sea are encouraged to participate by collecting prayer requests and providing time for meditation and prayer over the requests.

Looking for suggested topics to

pray for? Consider the following:

Pray for federal leaders, including elected officials, all branches of the armed forces, and the Supreme Court.

Pray for state leaders, including U.S. and state senators, representatives, as well as the Governor, and state Supreme Court Justices.

Pray for local leaders, including county and city officials, judges, mayors, police and fire department, and school authorities.

Pray for our families, our youth, and our churches.

Pray for spiritual renewal and moral awakening.

Take the time this year to make prayer an active and important part of your life and in the life of our nation. Participation by your spouse is encouraged.



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Roadside emergencies and how you can prevent them

From the Base Safety Office

Each year, close to 3,000 people die in car accidents on the shoulder or median of the road. Sometimes, these fatal scenarios begin with a simple breakdown that forces the vehicle off the roadway. Learning how to prevent breakdowns and how to protect yourself and your passengers if a breakdown occurs can save your life.

The following are some questions and answers on what to do if you have a breakdown:

Q: How do I know something is wrong with my vehicle?

A: Watch the instrument panel. Your instrument panel gauges indicate engine temperature, fuel and oil levels and other important information. Read your owner's manual to familiarize yourself with all the gauges. Your manual will also indicate what gauge readings are considered "normal" and which signal an emergency situation.

However, your instrument panel can't tell you everything. For example, if your car suddenly pulls to one side, or if you feel a rumbling or vibration, safely pull off the roadway. You may have a flat or low tire. Keep alert. Your sense of smell, touch, sight or hearing may be the first hint that there's a problem. Pay attention to your car while driving. An odd odor, an unusual vibration, the sight of smoke or an unexpected sound can signal trouble.

Q: If there's something wrong with my vehicle, should I stop where I am or continue?

A: It really depends on the nature of your problem. As a safe rule of thumb, any change in your vehicle's steering, braking or acceleration should receive immediate attention.

Pull safely to the side of the road onto a smooth, flat shoulder as far off the roadway as possible. On the other hand, with less urgent problems, such as an underinflated tire, a slight shift in a gauge's reading or a blown fuse, it's usually okay to continue cautiously to the closest service station.

Q: If I have to pull over, how do I do it safely?

A: Reduce distractions inside your vehicle by turning off the stereo and asking passengers, especially children, to remain still and quiet. Gradually reduce speed and visually check off-road conditions before choosing where to pull over. Use your turn signal and not your emergency flashers so other drivers will know you need to get over. When your emergency flashers are on, your blinkers don't work. Check for traffic and, when it's clear, move smoothly one lane at a time from the roadway to the shoulder. Avoid soft shoulders, curbs, uneven areas and curves that will prevent other drivers from seeing you. Don't jerk the wheel or swerve. That could cause your



tires to "catch" on the side of the road. Even though you are off the roadway, remain extra cautious.

Vehicles on the shoulder or median are still at risk for collisions. After you've stopped, turn on your emergency flashers.

Q: What if I get a flat tire?

A: Don't panic. Firmly grip the wheel and slowly pull off the road as far as possible. If you're in an unsafe area or on a busy roadway, don't try to change the tire. Drive slowly to a safer place. This may cause damage to your rim, but isn't it better to risk your rim than risk your life? Before you jack up the car, put it in reverse if it's a manual or park if it's an automatic. Apply the emergency brake and be sure the jack and car are on solid, level ground. Then follow the owner's manual instructions for changing a tire. Here's a helpful hint: loosen the lug nuts slightly before jacking up your car; the weight of the car will make it easier.

Q: How do I signal for help?

A: Once you're safely off the road, turn on your emergency flashers. If you don't have a cellular phone or CB radio, place a sign in the window that says "Call Police." If you don't have a "Call Police" sign, carry a marker and piece of paper so you can make your own. Many store-bought sunshades have a "Call Police" sign on one side. In addition, use a handkerchief or bright piece of clothing to signal. A cloth or handkerchief attached to a visible area outside the car shows other drivers this motorist needs help. Attach it to the outside of your car where it can be easily seen, like on an antenna or door handle. If this requires you to exit your vehicle, use the door furthest from the road.

Q: Should I stay in my car while waiting for help?

A: Yes. Unless there is smoke, the threat of an engine or electrical fire or the possibility of ventilation problems, it's best to stay in your car with the windows up and doors locked. Be patient. Help will arrive. And keep your seat belt fastened while waiting, in case you're struck by another vehicle. If you experience a breakdown in extreme heat, keep your windows cracked and drink plenty of water. Always carry emergency drinking water in hot weather. Some repairs may require passengers to exit the vehicle. For example, no one should be in a vehicle when a tire is being changed.

Q: What if a stranger approaches?

A: Be on guard. Don't open the doors or windows to communicate. If the person behaves suspiciously, tell them the police are on their way. If you're offered the use of a portable phone or CB radio, don't accept. Instead, write down the number you need to call and show it to the person through the window (Always keep a message pad and pen in your glove compartment). If it's absolutely necessary or you feel confident, lower your window just enough to speak through it. Ask them to call or send for help.

Q: What should be in my glove compartment in case of a breakdown?

- A:** • "Call Police" sign (often found on the back of store-bought sunshades)
- Bright handkerchief or cloth
- Telephone numbers of people to call in an emergency
- Pen or marker and message pad
- Flashlight and extra batteries (check batteries often to be sure they work)
- Automobile registration
- Insurance documents
- Copy of health insurance card

Q: What items do I need when traveling in cold weather?

A: Be prepared for a cold weather emergency; stock your vehicle with extra gloves, hats, blankets, a windshield scraper and thermal packs. Also carry sand, salt or calcium chloride and, if you don't have snow tires, tire chains. Practice putting on the tire chains so you know how to use them.

Q: Are there any repairs I can make to get myself moving again?

A: There's so much technology in today's vehicles, many repairs can only be made by certified technicians with the proper diagnostic equipment and tools. But there are some minor repairs you may be able to make if you have the right tools and materials. For example, you may be able to change a tire, add oil or coolant, replace a fuse or pour water into the radiator. (Remember to let your engine cool before removing the radiator cap. The hot water in your radiator is

Q: What should I carry in my trunk?

- A:** • Fire extinguisher — unexpired and securely stored with the correct charge (make sure it's the right type)
- Flares or reflective devices (flares burn very hot; use only if you know how to safely light and place them)
- Jack and lug wrench (practice using at home following your owner's manual)
- Spare tire properly inflated (check often)
- Non-perishable, easy-open food items
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Bottled drinking water
- Jumper cables
- Blankets
- Empty, approved gas container
- Umbrella, poncho or raincoat

Q: What can I do to prevent a break-

down?

A: Every time you drive your vehicle, check the following:

- Tires for proper inflation.
- Windshield, headlights and taillights should be clean.
- Survey gauges and warning lights after you have started your car.
- As part of routine maintenance you should:
 - Check oil level once a week; change the oil every 3,000 miles.
 - Check for oil leaks.
 - Check tires for cuts, nails, stones and proper inflation.
- Help prevent uneven tire wear; rotate tires every 5,000 to 6,000 miles. Research shows 90 percent of tire problems occur in the last 10 percent of a tire's life.
- Make sure the battery and its terminals are clean and corrosion-free.
- Check the air filter; replace if it's dirty.
- Check fluid levels for brakes, steering, windshield washer, radiator coolant and automatic transmission.
- Make sure the exhaust system has no visible leaks or cracks and the tail pipe is not obstructed.

• Before trips check fluid levels, belts, hoses and clamps. Refill or replace if necessary.

All procedures should be done in accordance with your owner's manual.

Q: How can I jumpstart a battery safely?

A: To ensure a safe jump, follow these guidelines and review your owner's manual.

Position vehicles so jumper cables can reach. When holding jumper cables make sure the ends never touch. Connect one end of the red cable to the positive terminal of the dead battery. Connect the other end of the red cable to the positive terminal of the good battery. Connect one end of the black cable to the negative terminal of the good battery. Connect the other end of the black cable to an engine bolt head or other piece of non-moving metal. (Warning: attaching the black cable to the negative terminal of the dead battery instead of an engine bolt may result in an explosion.) Make sure the jumper cables are away from moving engine parts. Start the engine with the good battery. Run it at moderate speed. Start the engine of the vehicle with the dead battery according to your owner's manual. Once it starts, reduce engine speed to idle. Remove the jumper cables in reverse order. First remove the black cable from the engine bolt head or metal connection on the car you jumpstarted. The engine needs to run for at least 30 minutes to start recharging the battery. This can include driving time. Once the car has been jumpstarted, you should have a certified technician test the battery and charging system.

FROM THE GALLEY

<p>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</p> <p>Thursday Breakfast Grilled ham slices Hash brown potatoes Waffles Assorted omelets Oven fried bacon Grits</p> <p>Lunch Lemon baked fish Rice pilaf Chicken gravy Broccoli Baked chicken Mashed potatoes Lima beans Corn chowder</p> <p>Dinner Oven roast beef Parsley potatoes Green beans creole Chicken rice soup Scalloped ham/noodles</p>	<p>Steamed rice Steamed corn</p> <p>Friday Breakfast Oven fried bacon Hash brown potatoes Oatmeal Assorted omelets Corned beef hash French toast</p> <p>Lunch Mexican pork chop Spanish rice Asparagus Tomato noodle soup Herbed baked fish Scalloped potatoes Mixed vegetables</p> <p>Dinner Salisbury steak Home fried potatoes Peas and carrots Beef rice soup Baked stuffed fish Lyonnaise rice Summer squash Brown gravy</p> <p>Saturday Breakfast Grilled minute steaks Cottage fried potatoes Grilled pancakes Grilled bacon slices Omelets</p> <p>Brunch Grilled ham and cheese Boston baked beans Vegetable supreme soup French fried potatoes Mixed vegetables Grilled bacon slices</p>	<p>Dinner Herbed baked chicken Okra and tomato gumbo Minestrone soup Jaegerschnitzel Whipped potatoes Steamed cauliflower Egg noodles</p> <p>Sunday Breakfast Corned beef hash Hash brown potatoes Waffles Assorted omelets Oven fried bacon Grits</p> <p>Brunch Oven fried bacon Cheesy bacon burger Steamed corn Glazed carrots Cream of chicken soup French fries Assorted omelets</p> <p>Dinner Beef sauerbraten Beef gravy Green peas Cream of chicken soup</p>	<p>Baking powder biscuits Turkey pot pie Rissolo potatoes Stewed tomatoes Steamed egg noodles</p> <p>Monday Breakfast Minced beef w/toast Hash brown potatoes Grits Grilled bacon Assorted omelets</p> <p>Lunch Beef suriyaki Filipino rice Peas and carrots Cranberry sauce Brown gravy Southern fried catfish O'Brien potatoes Cream style corn Shrimp gumbo soup</p> <p>Dinner Grilled pork chops Buttered noodles Succotash Vegetable soup Braised beef cubes Lyonnaise potatoes Brussel sprouts</p> <p>Tuesday Breakfast Creamed chipped beef w/toast Strawberry pancakes Assorted omelets</p>	<p>Hash brown potatoes Oatmeal</p> <p>Lunch Chicken tetrazzini Steamed rice Loaded yellow cake Meatloaf Oven browned potatoes Steamed cauliflower New England clam chowder</p> <p>Dinner Sweet and sour pork Cabbage wedges Chicken noodle soup Oven roast beef Chow mein noodles Seasoned rice</p> <p>Wednesday Breakfast Grilled sausage links Cottage fried potatoes Grits Grilled bacon slices French toast Assorted omelets</p> <p>Lunch Hungarian goulash Stir fry vegetables Steamed egg noodles Mulligatawny soup Garlic fish Steamed carrots Oven-glo potatoes</p> <p>Dinner Chicken adobo Steamed rice Cauliflower combo Pepper pot soup Tempura fish fillets Parsley potatoes Club spinach</p>
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MWR NOTES

Summer Camp registration

Registration for Adventure Summer 2002 is now being held at Youth Activities. Swing by today and pick up your paperwork packet and have it completed when you show up for registration. Call 778-9772 for information.

Month of the Military Child celebration

Enjoy free rides, fun and much more on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the NEX parking lot. Call Youth Activities for more information at 778-9772.

Cinco de Mayo parties

A variety of fiestas will be held to celebrate Cinco de Mayo, get in the partying mood and come on out!

May 2 – Drop in to the T-Bar at 4 p.m. for the taco bar and specials.

May 3 – Head to Mulligan's 19th Hole to enjoy the fun that kicks off at 4 p.m.

May 3 – Stop by the Budweiser Brew House at 4 p.m. to enjoy a taco bar and beverage specials.

Fun in the sun

Stop by the Mulberry Cove Marina and rent some watercraft. It's only \$25 an hour for jet ski rentals for active duty. We provide all the training required for not additional cost. Gear up for springtime camping and get two items of camping gear free when you rent a 3 or 4-person tent.

Sign up now for sailing classes

Sailing classes are being offered at Mulberry Cove Marina. The cost for Basic Sailing Centerboard is only \$80/person. Designed for the beginner, classes are held Saturdays and Sundays: Class #3 June 1-23, Class #5 Sept. 7-29 or take them on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:30 -7:30 p.m. Class #2 April 23-May 21, Class #4 May 28-June 25. Call the Marina for info at 542-3260.

Relax and enjoy getting 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.

Saturday - Disney World Shuttle

May 4 - Savannah Smiles

May 12 - Mothers Day The Island Way

June 5-9 - Cruising The Coast. You won't want to miss out on this great trip to the Gulf Coast. Stops include: Biloxi, New Orleans, and Pensacola.

Oct. 10-14 - Fall Colors. Tour FDR's Little White House in Warm Springs, spend the afternoon in Callaway Gardens, party at Oktoberfest in Helen, Ga., explore Biltmore Estates and see the colors of fall.

The Fouled Anchor CPO Club now open

Calling all E-7s, E-8s and E-9s, if you have not been by to check out your club, you are missing out. The entire club has been renovated and is smoke free. Smoking is still authorized on the new deck which has its own serving window. Dance and kick back on Fridays with entertainment or just stop by and eat lunch with us. Call 542-3461 for more information.

Food that comes to you

Can't get out of the office? Live on base? All great reasons to utilize Call 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.

Take to the sky

Have you ever wanted to learn to fly? Are you a flight instructor and want to teach? The Flying Club is now located on Herlong Road and has something for everyone with an aviation flair. For more information call 786-4128.

Free movies offered

Movies are shown in the Base Theater on Jason Street every Friday and every other Saturday. Please bring your own snacks (no alcohol) and do not leave children under 18 unaccompanied.

Friday, 7 p.m. - Corky Romano (PG13)

Saturday, 5 p.m. - The Musketeer (PG13)

Saturday, 7 p.m. - K-Pax (PG13)

May 3, 7 p.m. - Harry Potter and The Sorcerer's Stone (PG13)

Bingo news

Super Saturday Bingo is coming June 1. For more information call the Bingo Hotline at 542-5007.

NAS Jacksonville RV Park

Located on the corner of Birmingham Avenue and Mustin Road. The park features 28 full hook up sites, nine partial and seven primitive. Reservations are taken 60 days in advance. For more information or to make a reservation, call 542-3227.

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. 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.

Mother's Day Bowling special

Mom's bowl free with a child's paid game on Mother's Day, May 12. For more information, call 542-3493.

2002 America's Kid's Fun Run

Calling all kids! Come out on May 18 at 9 a.m. to the NEX Parking lot for a one mile run/walk. Everyone is a winner. For more info, call 542-3518.

Learn to dive

It is never too late to learn to scuba dive. The April/May class starts on April 23 and finishes May 25. The cost is only \$118 and includes textbook, workbook, video and audio educational tapes, dive tables, decals, and certification card. To hold your spot in the class a \$50 deposit is due by April 22. Call JJ or Vera Thomas at 291-1575 or e-mail aquaspaceventure@aol.com.

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.

Golf tournament planned

A Commander, Navy Region Southeast and Friends Golf Tournament is scheduled for May 30 at 1 p.m. at the Eagle Harbor Golf Club. The event is a 4-person scramble. The cost is \$55 per person and includes green and cart fees, beverages, prizes and a BBQ buffet in the club after the tournament. The deadline to sign up is May 17. For more information call 542-2326.

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 rjjax@mediaone.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 World of Nations Celebration is this weekend at Metropolitan Park. Join us as we celebrate the rich cultural traditions and unique heritage of people from around the world of nations. Experience cuisine, artistry and customs from lands near and far. Saturday night features fireworks. Call 630-3690 for information.

The Gamble Rogers Folk Festival is May 3, 4 and 5 at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre. The festival features lots of music with special guest John Stewart, a former member of the Kingston Trio. There will also be a finger-style guitar contest, hayrides, a children's tent and storytelling. For more information call (904) 794-0222.

The VFW and Ladies Auxiliary District 6 will hold a Loyalty Day Celebration on May 4 at 11 a.m. at Spring Park in Green Cove Springs. The event will feature guest speakers, patriotic music and free food. For more information call 272-0293.

The American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (ACAAI) is conducting free screenings on May 4 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Gateway Mall. The screenings are being conducted to help adults and children with breathing problems find out if they have asthma. Symptoms of potential asthma include chronic coughing, wheezing and shortness of breath. For more information call Charlene Marsh at 743-5157.

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://fewc.mugu.navy.mil> on the web.

The Non-Commissioned Officers Association is hosting a Job Fair for military personnel on May 7 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Jacksonville Marriott on Salisbury Road. For details call (210) 653-6161.

The next **Jacksonville Semper Fidelis Society** luncheon is scheduled for May 15 at 11:30 at the Picadilly Cafeteria near Regency Mall. For more information, call Sharon Leahy at 545-0635 or visit www.jaxsemperfidelis.org.

Team competition added to Midway Race

From CNRSE

In addition to fresh air, exercise and the opportunity to meet a real-life World War II hero, a team challenge has been added to the Battle of Midway 5K Race.

A Battle of Midway Race Team trophy will be awarded to the winning team. Five-person teams are required for competition; the best four scores count. The winning team will keep the trophy for a year, when it will go up for challenge at next year's race.

The race will be held May 29, at 11:30 a.m. aboard NAS Jacksonville. Starting the race and assisting in the presentation of awards will be James Cunningham, Jr., a Battle of Midway veteran and retired Navy chief. Recipient of the Purple Heart and five Battle Stars, he was serving aboard the USS Hammann when it was sunk at Midway.

The race will begin south of the BOQ on Patrol Road, following a course down that road and back. After the race, Cunningham will present the team trophy along with awards for the top three male and female finishers.

Registration forms are available at the

Fitness Source (Building 867) or Base Gym (Building 614) located on NAS Jacksonville. There is no entry fee. The first 100 to register will receive a free Battle of Midway 5K Run commemorative T-shirt.

The race is open to all military and DoD civilians. Participants from the outside community may compete only if they have a valid ID card and Department of Defense vehicle decal.

Late registration will take place up until race time. For additional race information contact Barbara Millhollan at 542-3518 (dmillhol@nasjax.navy.mil).

The Battle of Midway which took place June 4 to 7, 1942, was the turning point of WW II in the Pacific. Veterans of this epic battle are being honored in annual remembrances. A Battle of Midway Memorial Dinner is being held May 31 at the Radisson Hotel on Jacksonville's Southbank.

The purpose of the Midway commemoration is to give all personnel time to pause and reflect upon this important event in Naval history. Cunningham will be available to talk to participants about his experiences.

SPORTS STANDINGS

NADEP Basketball Standings as of April 19				Greybeard Softball Standings (contd.)			
Team	Wins	Losses		Team	Wins	Losses	
Hornets	7	0		CPRW-11	4	3	
Prowlers	7	1		NMCRG	1	5	
X-Factor	5	3		FASO	0	6	
Rockets	4	4		Intramural Softball Standings			
Engine World	3	4		as of 19 Apr			
Barracudas	3	4		Team	Wins	Losses	
Tomcats	1	7		VP-5	7	0	
Jets	0	7		VP-16 Red	5	1	
Intramural Soccer Standings				Air Ops/NLMOF	5	3	
as of April 19				AIMD	4	1	
Team	Wins	Losses	Ties	Points	WFN	4	1
NavHosp	6	1	0	12	VP-30 Staff	4	2
VP-30 O'S	4	2	1	9	VR-58	4	2
VS-22	3	3	1	7	BMC	4	3
SRSS	3	4	0	6	NAMTra	3	2
VS-24	1	2	0	2	VP-30 Students	3	3
AIMD	0	6	0	0	VP-62	2	3
Intramural Volleyball Standings				HITRON 10	2	4	
as of April 19				VS-24	1	1	
Teams	Wins	Losses		HS-75	1	5	
VR-58	4	0		VP-16 White	1	5	
CNRSE	2	1		NavHosp	0	5	
AIMD	2	1		HS-3	0	6	
SERCC-A	1	3		Open Softball Standings			
VP-30	3	0		as of April 19			
SERCC-B	0	3		Team	Wins	Losses	
CPRW-11	2	2		New Look C.B.'S	6	0	
Greybeard Softball Standings				Bukkets	4	2	
as of April 19				VP-16	4	2	
Team	Wins	Losses		First Command	3	3	
NAMTra	6	1		Chiefs	3	3	
VP-30	5	1		VP-30 Students	3	3	
AIMD	5	3		Enforcers	1	5	
				Hangar Bangars	0	6	

JAX SPORTS

Men's tennis tournament set

A men's competitive and recreational singles tennis tournament will be held April 29 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.

Women's tennis tourney coming up

A women's open singles tennis tournament is scheduled for April 29. 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.

Men's varsity softball tryouts being held

Tryouts are open to all NAS Jax active duty personnel and will be held at the McCaffrey Softball Complex on April 26, 29 and May 1 from 5-7 p.m. The varsity team represents NAS Jax in the local community and in military tournaments in the Southeast Region. Call the NAS Jax Athletic Department to sign up.

Intramural sand volleyball meeting coming up

This is a 3-on-3 league and is open to all NAS Jax active duty personnel. The meeting will be held May 8 in the MWR Conference Room (Bldg 590) at 11:30 a.m. Games will be played on Tuesdays and Thursdays at lunchtime. The season is scheduled to begin June 16. All interested personnel should attend the meeting to discuss the rules and to get the required paperwork to join the league.

Intramural golf meeting scheduled for May

The league is open to all NAS Jax active duty personnel. The meeting will be held May 15 on the deck outside Mulligans at 11:30 a.m. Matches will be played on Wednesdays at 12:30 p.m. The season is scheduled to begin June 5. All interested personnel should attend the meeting to discuss the rules and to get the required

paperwork to join the league.

Sports officials and scorekeepers needed

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

Women's softball league forming

The women's league is open to all NAS Jax active duty, dependents over 18, retirees, and DOD civilians. All interested personnel should stop by the athletic department to get the required paperwork to join the league.

Navy Southeast Regional Running and Triathlon Team

Competitive runners are wanted to represent U.S. Navy in 5K, 10K, marathons, and/or triathlons? U.S. Navy will showcase elite active duty men and women in regional races. Uniforms will be provided as well as transportation, entry fees, and lodging costs.

Interested runners must compete in sanctioned (USA Track and Field, USA Triathlon Association, or Roadrunners Clubs of America) race and your time must be one of top ten regional qualifying times. If you have run in sanctioned race and your time meets regional qualifying time, contact your base athletic director.

Southeast Regional Qualifying Times			
5K	Men 19:00	W o m e n	
24:00			
10K	Men 34:00	W o m e n	
46:00			
Marathon	Men 3H30M	Women 4H	
Triathlon	Men 2H30M	Women 3H	
Triathlon time based on 1.5K swim, 10K run, 40K bike			

For more information about any of the sports articles, call Bill Bonser, Sports Coordinator or Mike Gorman, Athletic Director at 542-2930/3239 or e-mail us at dbonser@nasjax.navy.mil or dgorman@nasjax.navy.mil. Visit the MWR website at www.nasjax.navy.mil/mwr.mil

NAS Jax drivers, be prepared to STOP

Watch for base youth boarding & exiting school buses