

# First Lady visits NAS Jax

## 'Joining Forces' celebrates first year

By Clark Pierce  
Editor

First lady Michelle Obama joined hundreds of military and civilian well wishers at NAS Jacksonville April 12 to celebrate the first anniversary of "Joining Forces" – the initiative that Obama and Dr. Jill Biden launched in 2011 to recognize, honor and serve military families.

For more photos, see Pages 4-5

The celebration included everything you'd never imagine in a Navy aircraft hangar – a rock 'n' roll band, Radio Disney Dancers, and a live feed to the Ellen DeGeneres Show.

NAS Jacksonville Commanding Officer Capt. Bob Sanders welcomed the enthusiastic audience of high school students and parents.

"Today is a time for celebration, but it's also a time to renew the call to action for Joining Forces. The outpouring of support this past year for



Photo by Kaylee LaRocque  
First lady Michelle Obama and 17-year-old Maddie Stevens, daughter of VP-30 Commanding Officer Capt. Mark Stevens and wife Shiela, display their dance moves on the stage in Hangar 117 at NAS Jacksonville.

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## ASN Garcia briefs NAS Jax Sailors

By Kaylee LaRocque  
NAS Jax Public Affairs Specialist

Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Manpower and Reserve Affairs), the Honorable Juan Garcia III, met with Sailors from Naval Air Station Jacksonville during a town hall meeting April 11.

Garcia briefed the group on several key issues including the Navy's Enlisted Retention Board (ERB), pay, retirement, tuition assistance, medical benefits, the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Sailor and Marine initiative and Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

"Retention in our military services is extremely high, maybe because of the economy or the compensation packages offered which now equal civilian employer benefits. This has caused many overmanned rates and we had to find a way to balance our force, so the ERB was created to ask one percent of our Sailors to transition to the next chapter of their lives while keeping as many as possible in the Reserve force," said Garcia.

"Our message to our Sailors is that we are not

going to ERB again this year or next year. Our intention is to never ERB again. We will continue to make small adjustments to ensure we achieve the right balance."

Garcia also stressed how the Navy is helping those Sailors who are being transitioned out of the service.

"We are trying to ensure that every Sailor who is being transitioned out of the Navy is aware of the benefits they can receive, including retirement compensation for those who reach 15 years by Sept. 1, involuntary separation pay, health care options for six months up to 18 months, Navy Exchange and commissary privileges for two years, and job placement services," he said.

Another goal the secretary discussed was the importance of keeping highly talented service members in the Naval Reserve.

"There is no way we could have gone through the last decade without our Reserve component. We mobilized 67,000 Individual Augmentees,

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Photo by Kaylee LaRocque  
NAS Jax Commanding Officer Capt. Bob Sanders (left) greets Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Manpower and Reserve Affairs), the Honorable Juan Garcia, to the station on April 11 as Commander, Navy Region Southeast Rear Adm. Jack Scorby Jr. looks on.

## VR-62 achieves safety milestone

By Lt. Paul Flusche  
VR-62 Public Affairs

The VR-62 "Nomads" passed a major milestone in March, when they logged more than 70,000 Class A mishap-free flight hours during the logistics squadron's 26 years of service.

The Nomads were praised by Commanding Officer Cmdr. Alexander Ellermann and Executive Officer Cmdr. Tony Scarpino.

Squadron members work to provide rapid response, global air logistics and support to U.S. maritime forces. The Navy Reserve squadron based at NAS Jax operates four of the Navy's 19 C-130T Hercules aircraft, making them a relevant, capable and robust part of the Fleet Logistics Support Wing.

VR-62 recently returned from deployment in Bahrain, where they provided support for



Photo courtesy of VR-62  
Flight line personnel from VR-62 prepare one of their four C-130T Hercules aircraft for a mission from NAS Jacksonville. The "Nomads" recently surpassed 70,000 mishap-free flight hours.

numerous missions. These logistics missions included passengers, parts and supplies, ammunition, ordnance and aircraft engines, as well as U.S. mail to boost morale and welfare. They were an integral part of keeping the essential supply lines established to

numerous Navy and Marine Corps outposts in the 6<sup>th</sup> Fleet area of responsibility.

The Nomads will detach to Atsugi, Japan in July, supporting Pacific Command with short-notice, high-priority air logistics throughout the Pacific theater.

## Main gate to close April 21

From Staff

The NAS Jax main gate at Yorktown Avenue and U.S. 17 will be closed Saturday from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. for maintenance.

Building 9 (Pass & ID Office) will be open for normal weekend operations.

Drivers may access the base through the Birmingham Gate.

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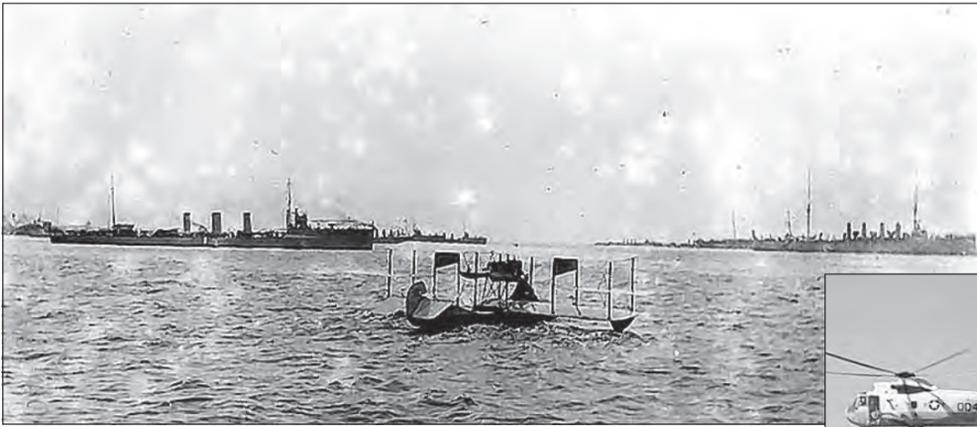
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U.S. Navy photo

(At right) Capt. John Young (left) and Lt. Cmdr. Ken Mattingly are in the Apollo 16 recovery raft as a Navy diver helps secure the capsule and prepare it for craning aboard aircraft carrier USS Ticonderoga (CVS-14). An SH-3 Sea King helicopter assigned to HC-1 recovered the three astronauts and flew them to Ticonderoga. HC-1 had the privilege of providing services in the recovery of Apollo missions 15, 16, 17 and Skylab missions II, III, IV. In 1972, Ticonderoga also took part in space flight recovery efforts for the Apollo 17 moon flight. Decommissioned in September 1973, Ticonderoga was sold for scrap a year later.



NASA photo

## This Week in Navy History

### From Staff

#### April 19

1783 - George Washington proclaims end of hostilities with Great Britain.

1861 - President Lincoln orders blockade of Southern ports from South Carolina to Texas.

1917 - Naval Armed Guard crew on board SS Mongolia engage and damage a German U-boat. This was the first engagement of U.S. naval personnel against the enemy in World War I.

1955 - Heavy cruiser USS Albany (CA 123) and destroyer USS William M. Wood (DD 715) provide disaster relief to citizens of Volos, Greece after catastrophic earthquake.

#### April 20

1796 - Congress authorizes completion of three frigates.

1861 - Norfolk Navy Yard abandoned and burned by Union forces.

1914 - In first call to action of naval aviators, a detachment on cruiser USS Birmingham (CL-2) sailed to Tampico, Mexico.

1915 - First Navy contract for lighter-than-air craft awarded.

1942 - USS Wasp (CV-7) launches 47 British aircraft to reinforce Malta.

1947 - Navy Capt. L.O. Fox, supported by 80 Marines, accepted the surrender of Lt. Yamaguchi and 26 Japanese soldiers and sailors, two and one half

years after the occupation of Peleliu and nearly 20 months after the surrender of Japan.

1953 - USS New Jersey shells Wonsan, Korea from inside the harbor.

1964 - USS Henry Clay (SSBN-625) launches a Polaris A-2 missile from the surface in first demonstration that Polaris submarines could launch missiles from the surface as well as from beneath the ocean. Just 30 minutes later, the submarine launched another Polaris missile while submerged.

#### April 21

1861 - USS Saratoga captures slaver Nightingale.

1898 - U.S. at war against Spain.

1906 - Cmdr. Robert Peary discovered that supposed 'Arctic Continent' did not exist.

1972 - Moonwalk in the Descartes Highlands by Navy Capt. John Young, commander of Apollo 16. He was the ninth man to walk on the moon. Lt. Cmdr. Thomas Mattingly II, was the Command Module Pilot. Charles Duke was the Lunar Module Pilot. During the 11-day, one-hour and 51-minute mission, 213 lbs. of lunar material was collected. Recovery accomplished by HC-1 helicopters from USS Ticonderoga (CVS-14).

#### April 22

1778 - Capt. John Paul Jones of the Continental Navy Sloop Ranger led

landing party raid on Whitehaven, England.

1898 - U.S. warships begin blockade of Cuba.

1987 - U.S. Navy ordered to provide assistance requested by neutral vessels under Iranian attack outside the exclusion zone.

#### April 23

1917 - Launching of USS New Mexico, first dreadnought with turboelectric drive.

1918 - USS Stewart destroys German submarine off France.

1945 - In only U.S. use of guided missiles in World War II, two BAT missiles release at Balikpapan, Borneo.

1956 - Project Vanguard, earth satellite launching program, assigned to DCNO (Air).

#### April 24

1778 - Continental Navy Sloop Ranger captures HMS Drake.

1862 - Battle of New Orleans. Union Navy under David Farragut runs past forts into Mississippi River.

1884 - Navy steamer USS Bear left New York Naval Shipyard as part of the Greely Arctic Relief Expedition.

Steamers USS Thetis and USS Alert would join the mission a week later. Greely and six other survivors were found at Cape Sabine on June 23.

1906 - Ceremonies at U.S. Naval Academy commemorate John Paul Jones, with President Theodore Roosevelt delivering keynote address.

1917 - U.S. destroyer squadron departs Boston for European service.

1959 - Organization of American States (OAS) asks U.S. to establish naval patrols off east coast of Panama to prevent invasion of Cuban forces.

1974 - Naval forces begin minesweeping operations in the Suez Canal Zone.

#### April 25

1862 - Union naval forces occupy New Orleans, La.

1914 - First combat observation mission by Navy aircraft (two Curtiss Model F flying boats) at Veracruz, Mexico.

1959 - USS Eversole (DD 789) rescues 14 Nationalist Chinese fishermen from their sinking fishing trawler in the Formosa Strait.

# Some thoughts on why newspapers won't die

By Sarah Smiley  
Special Contributor

## From The Homefront

When I teach journalism, I begin by asking students three questions: 1) How many of you want a career in journalism? 2) How many of your parents have tried to talk you out of a career in journalism? 3) How many of you have a subscription to the local newspaper?

The first two questions elicit knowing nods and anxious smiles. The third question often results in dead silence.

I can tell by the students' sideways glances that they expect a lecture: "You want a career in journalism, but you don't subscribe to a newspaper?"

They've heard it all before—how young people today don't care about the news, how traditional media is as dead as dinosaurs. It's why their parents try to talk them out of a career in journalism.

One time, a young-adult told me she doesn't follow the news because she doesn't have a television. That should make my broadcast journalism friends happy, but my newspaper heart died a thousand morbid deaths that day.

So the students are usually surprised when I tell them I didn't have a subscription to a newspaper when I was in college either. The college experience is life in a bubble. Leaving campus is like entering a for-

eign country. The passport: your roommate's car.

Eventually, however, the bubble bursts, and you end up like every other 30-something adult - married with kids. This is when I walk the students through my typical day:

- Wake up, and not because my alarm went off, but because my preschooler has wet his pull-up.
- Put frozen waffles in the toaster
- Eat yogurt - the same breakfast I've eaten for the past five years because it's easy and allows me more time to make frozen waffles.
- Fill backpacks and lunch boxes. Sign homework.
- Drive to school. Argue with them about their choice of clothes.
- Go to work. Pray the elementary school doesn't call to tell me someone has gotten sick and needs to come home.
- Pickup kids, drive home.
- Prepare dinner. Feed the dog. Wash dishes. Fold laundry. Argue with the kids about how long they should brush their teeth.
- Bedtime stories, more laundry.
- Drag myself upstairs to bed. Fall asleep with book on my face.

• Wake up and do it all over again.

Increasingly, the students look nervous. So I share my one bright spot with them - the local newspaper. My daily routine seldom changes, so I live vicariously through the newspaper, where people and events are completely unpredictable. One day the headline is two lost dogs; the next day, a triple homicide.

But when I have the newspaper in my hand, it's like an invisible force field. The kids won't touch it.

They don't understand the newspaper. There's nothing in the newspaper for them. My youngest can't even read. (Which is why I could tell you he wet his pull-up.) All I have to do is tell him, "It's work, Honey," and he will go away.

Indeed, the newspaper might be kid repellent. But that matters very little to college students. Or maybe it matters a great deal. Either way, the newspaper is the last domain of adults.

Sure, a brave student will sometimes say, "I can get the local newspaper on my iPhone."

Fair enough, but does the iPhone have a force field? The newspaper app should come

with a warning: Reading our paper online does not guarantee protection from pestering children.

So when parents ask over Spring Break, "Are you sure a career in print journalism is wise? Do newspapers even have a future with the next generation?"

The answer is "Someday, my peers and I will lead very boring lives, so although we don't care about the newspaper right now, it will be all that we have on a Monday morning when the kids are fighting and the waffles are burning in the

toaster."

No, wait, wrong answer.

"Mom and Dad, local newspapers cannot die because they are the only media reporting what's happening here in our city. The New York Times doesn't care about our high school football team. The Washington Post doesn't care about the jazz festival happening next weekend. People will always want to know what's happening around them, and therefore, local newspaper will not die. Also, you can't line the bottom of a bird cage with your iPhone."

## Hey, MoneyChic!

### Hey, MoneyChic!

I'm 25 and currently putting money into my TSP every month - but I can afford to save even more. What is the best option for me at my age? Should I consider starting a traditional IRA or a Roth IRA - or just putting addition funds into my TSP?

**MoneyChic says:** First, I am so glad to see that you are participating in the TSP program provided by your work. Some companies, such as the federal government, provide matching funds (usually up to 5 percent) of those who participate in their program. Unfortunately, that deal is not offered to those who are active duty military. It makes obvious sense to kick in enough to receive the matching program because if you don't you are missing out on free money. Walter Updegrave at Money magazine suggests you go with a Roth IRA. He says that if you fund a Roth IRA account by April 17 you can invest as much as \$5,000 and have it count as your contribution for the 2011 tax year.

Which will allow you to contribute up to \$5,000 for the 2012 tax year, too. However if you decide to go the 401(k) route instead, the extra contribution will count toward the 2012 tax year, as you can't retroactively contribute money to a 401(k). By contributing to the Roth IRA for 2011 rather than boosting the amount you put into your 401(k), you may put an extra year's contribution into your retirement plan. Hope this helps!



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Photo by MC2 Class Greg Johnson

Commander, Navy Region Southeast Rear Adm. Jack Scorby Jr. signs a Sexual Assault Awareness and Month of the Military Child and National Child Abuse Prevention Month proclamation in front of members of the Navy Region Southeast Family Readiness Program at NAS Jacksonville on April 9.

## Rear Adm. Scorby proclaims April as sexual assault awareness month

By MC2 (SW) Greg Johnson  
Region Southeast Public Affairs

Rear Adm. Jack Scorby Jr., commander, Navy Region Southeast (NRSE), signed a sexual assault awareness proclamation at NAS Jacksonville April 9.

The decree proclaims April as NRSE Sexual Assault Awareness Month and emphasizes the region's commitment to the Navy's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) program. The signing coincides with National Sexual Assault Awareness Month, which runs through the end of April.

"The Navy's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program provides an opportunity for our installations to raise awareness and to promote the prevention of sexual violence," Scorby said.

"Sexual assault is a crime that erodes our operational readiness and leaders at all levels of the chain of command need to communicate that we will not tolerate it! Prevention of sexual assault is everyone's duty."

According to Julie Mooney, NRSE credentialing and program specialist, the region recorded 103 reports of sexual assault in 2011 and 118 in 2010.

"Leadership input is of the utmost importance with sexual assault awareness and prevention efforts. The Secretary of the Navy

established the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office (SAPRO) in 2009 and it has significantly raised awareness. In 2011, SAPRO hosted a SAPR summit with the primary focus of raising leadership's awareness of sexual assaults that occur within the ranks and the need for increased prevention efforts. I am optimistic that support from leadership in regards to those prevention efforts will have a significant impact on the effectiveness of the Navy's overall efforts," Mooney said.

While raising awareness is one of the primary tools in preventing sexual assault, the Navy SAPR program also focuses on supporting victims. The Navy offers a variety of support services, including clinical counseling and legal services.

Each installation has a 24-hour SAPR victim advocate line. These numbers are advertised throughout the installations and may be dialed to ask questions, inquire about resources or report a sexual assault.

In addition, each installation has a Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) located at the Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) to ensure victims receive the support services they need, Mooney said.

People may also contact the DoD Safe Helpline at 1-877-995-5247 or via <http://www.safehelpline.org>.

## Southeast Region commander signs Month of the Military Child, child abuse prevention proclamation

By MC2(SW) Greg Johnson  
Region Southeast Public Affairs

Commander, Navy Region Southeast (NRSE)Rear Adm. Jack Scorby Jr. signed a Month of the Military Child and National Child Abuse Prevention Month proclamation at NAS Jacksonville April 9.

With the signing, Scorby proclaimed April as the Month of the Military Child and Child Abuse Prevention Month throughout the Southeast Region. National Child Abuse Prevention Month and the Month of the Military Child both run through the end of the month.

"This proclamation was intended to help recognize the role that children play in the armed forces community, as well as raise awareness of child maltreatment prevention," Scorby said.

"Military children deal with a unique set of challenges as they constantly adapt to their parents' military obligations, and it is the responsibility of many people throughout our communities, from schools to law enforcement agencies, to support parents and make sure our children are raised in an engaged and supportive environment."

According to Commander, Navy Installations Command, the Navy recorded more than

15,000 substantiated reports of child abuse during the last 10 years. While those numbers have been steadily decreasing, many incidents go unreported, said Jeannette Werby, NRSE counseling and advocacy coordinator.

"There are many reasons that abuse goes unreported," Werby said. "Many people who know about abuse don't report it because they think it's none of their business or are concerned about the stigma a report creates and the damage it may cause to one's career. In many other cases, injuries from abuse are not visible. Also, many children do not report abuse because they worry they will not be believed, have been told not to talk to anyone and have been threatened with physical harm, or simply feel responsible themselves for the abuse."

According to Werby, the best way to combat child abuse is to raise awareness about it through educational programs and events like the proclamation signing.

"Raising awareness about child abuse underscores that the problem is still here and so are the people who care about its resolution. Affirming at the highest levels that child abuse has serious, long-term outcomes for children and their families adds a compelling dimension to the message that child abuse is unacceptable. Those in leadership roles set the tone and course for awareness, response and intervention," she said.

In addition to child abuse prevention, the proclamation is also intended to raise awareness about the sacrifices made by military children. According to Military K-12 Partners, there are more than 1.2 million military children today, and since 2001, approximately two million children have experienced the deployment of a parent.

"I would like to personally express my appreciation for the sacrifices our military children make," Scorby said. "Despite the many challenges they face, they remain strong and resilient."

The Month of the Military Child was established in 1986 by former Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger to underscore the role military children play in the armed forces community.

To find out more about how you can help prevent child abuse or to report an incident of child abuse, contact your installation's Fleet and Family Support Center.

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Disney Channel choreographer Rosero McCoy leads the crowd, including first lady Michelle Obama (second from right), in a short dance routine.



NAS Jacksonville Sailor of the Year NC1 Rhonaka Williams greets first lady Michelle Obama during the Joining Forces anniversary event on April 12.

*Photos by Kaylee LaRocque, Clark Pierce and Miriam Gallet*



(From left) Attending the Joining Forces event were: Commander, Navy Region Southeast Rear Adm. Jack Scorby Jr; Jacksonville Mayor Alvin Brown; NAS Jacksonville Commanding Officer Capt. Bob Sanders and Victor Guillory, Jacksonville director of Military Affairs, Veterans and Disabled Services.



The girls received prom styling tips from Seventeen Magazine editor-in-chief Ann Shoket (right). Models Carley and Caitlin Liberty are twin sisters in their senior year of high school and whose mother is deployed in Afghanistan with the Florida Air National Guard.



AWR2 Matt Shields of HSL-42 provided American Sign Language translation of each speaker at the Joining Forces event, including first lady Michelle Obama.



Early arrivals to NAS Jacksonville Hangar 117 were entertained by the Navy Band Southeast rock ensemble "Pride."



High school senior Haley Pomponio and her mom, Tamara, agreed that the live segment with Ellen DeGeneres and Mrs. Obama was one of the highlights of the event.



Stanton College Prep senior Kentaneisha Moore and her mother, Freda, enjoyed the entertainment, the first lady's words of inspiration and, of course, the gift bag.



LSC James Green of Commander, Helicopter Strike Wing Atlantic, attended the Joining Forces anniversary event at NAS Jacksonville with his daughter, Olisa and wife, Yumiko.



A group of 11th and 12th grade girls play a game spelling out "MILITARY" during the pre-show activities.

## FIRST LADY: TV hookup with Ellen DeGeneres highlights event

From Page 1

Joining Forces proves that Americans want to help our military families and lay a solid foundation of support for years to come."

Commander, Navy Region Southeast Rear Adm. Jack Scorby Jr. said, "It was just one year ago that first lady Michelle Obama and Dr. Jill Biden created Joining Forces, with the important goal of bringing Americans together to recognize, honor and take action to support veterans and military families.

"The initiative focuses on three key priority areas – employment, education, and wellness – while raising awareness about the service, sacrifice and needs of America's veterans and military families.

"Today, the first lady of the United States is making a special trip to NAS Jacksonville so she can show her commitment to you and every other family member who's shared the sacrifices of their parents in service to our nation. Enjoy the show," said Scorby.

High school senior Maddie Stevens, daughter of VP-30 Commanding Officer Capt. Mark Stevens and his wife, Sheila, introduced the first lady.

"Like all of you here today, I'm so proud to be part of a military family. We've all stepped up and served on the homefront when our dads or moms have been away. Now, there's an initiative that recognizes our service as well. It's called 'Joining Forces' and is led by Michelle Obama and Dr. Jill Biden. As a result, people all over America are stepping up to provide opportunities for military kids like us. That's why it's now my pleasure to introduce the woman leading that charge, America's first lady, Michelle Obama."

Amid screams and applause, Obama took command of the stage. "I want to start by thanking Maddie for her poise – she's terrific. I also want to recognize all of the extraordinary men and women in uniform who are here today. Thank you for the service that you've given and the sacrifices that you've made.

"I also want to thank our guests of honor – these amazing, beautiful, well-dressed, well-put-together young women who we are celebrating today. We are inspired by you and grateful for everything that you do for our country. We're talking about our military kids and our military families, because we know that when your parents are called to serve, you all serve right alongside them.

"And I know it's even harder when your parents are deployed and you have to keep your spirits up through all those missed holidays, and missed birthdays, and times when you would give anything in the world to have them back home.

"And for some of you, when it comes time for the prom, your mom might not be there to help you pick out your dress. Dad might not be there to see you out on your date. But here's something else that I know. Through it all – through all the moves that you've had to make and through all those difficult moments, you all have stayed strong. I've seen it in so many kids like you across this country.

"You all have risen to the challenge. You've become leaders in your schools. You excel in your classes. You get involved in all kinds of activities. You've become leaders in your communities, finding all kinds of ways to volunteer. And many of you stepped up at home as well, juggling activities and homework with chores and housework.

"By working so hard at school and at home, and doing your part, you give your parents the peace of mind they need to focus on their mission. With your service, you make their service possible. And for that, we can't thank you enough.

"As military kids, you have learned lessons and had experiences that many people don't have in their entire lifetimes. You've immersed yourselves in all kinds of communities and cultures. You've made friends with people from all different backgrounds. And you've gained the wisdom and the perspective to appreciate what really matters in life."



Photo by MCI(SW/AW) Toiete Jackson

First lady Michelle Obama reveals her surprise guest – Emmy-winning talk-show host Ellen DeGeneres – to junior and senior high school girls and their parents during the first anniversary celebration of Joining Forces at NAS Jacksonville. DeGeneres broadcast the event on her show.



First lady Michelle Obama praises the young women in the audience who were invited to her Joining Forces anniversary celebration. The initiative was created to recognize military kids' service to the country.

Obama then switched gears and asked the audience if they were ready for some fun.

"We have a special surprise guest that I'm proud to call a friend and who is a supporter and admirer of veterans and military families."

She then introduced, via a live TV connection, stand-up comedian and syndicated talk show host Ellen DeGeneres. The two engaged in lively banter and showed their prom pictures to the delight of the audience.

DeGeneres interviewed three students about the Joining Forces initiative and then announced that JC Penney would provide all 300 students with a special prom-oriented gift bag, including a \$250 gift card.

To wrap up the event, Obama joined students on stage to learn the latest prom dance moves from Disney Channel Choreographer Rosero McCoy. She then expressed her gratitude to the audience once



Commander, Navy Region Southeast Rear Adm. Jack Scorby Jr. welcomes guests to the Joining Forces, Taking Action to Serve America's Military Families event at NAS Jax on April 12.



First lady Michelle Obama greets the military family members after the event.

again and descended from the stage to shake hands before departing.

For most of the young ladies it was an evening they will never forget. "I think it was overwhelming and very exciting and it was a great opportunity to be part of all this. I loved listening to Mrs. Obama and thrilled that she is bringing attention to the hardships military families face," said 16-year-old Jazarie Reddick, daughter of SHC(SW/AW) Jeffrey Reddick of Transient Personnel Unit/Pre-Trial Confinement Facility Jax, who accompanied her to the event.

# Regional planners visit NAS Jacksonville

## From NAS Jax Environmental Department

Twenty business representatives from the Northeast Florida Regional Planning Council (NEFRPC) Leadership Academy toured NAS Jacksonville environmental and energy projects April 11.

NAS Jax Executive Officer Capt. Roy Undersander welcomed the group at Heritage Park.

"Our base is pleased to be associated with the Northeast Florida Regional Planning Council. Today's tour will provide you a better understanding of our commands and operations, as well as our successes executing major construction projects that are environmentally sustainable and energy efficient," said Undersander.

The council is a network of local governments that fosters public awareness of diverse regional issues in Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Putnam, Nassau and St Johns Counties and their 27 municipalities.



NAS Jax Executive Officer Capt. Roy Undersander (left) welcomed visitors from the Northeast Florida Regional Planning Council Leadership Class April 11 at Heritage Park. The group was on a base tour hosted by NAS Jax Environmental Director Kevin Gartland, who pointed out examples of how the Navy is a strong regional partner on a variety of community issues.

Photo by Clark Pierce

After the tour, NEFRPC Moerhing said, "We in continue to recognize the strong Director of Policy Margo Northeast Florida need to con- regional partner we have in the

Navy, celebrate their ethic of stewardship, and use the wide variety of innovative ways that they are building efficient, cost effective facilities and implementing sustainable programs as models to learn from.

"We often bring Northeast Florida Regional Leadership Academy candidates to tour NAS Jacksonville because of the inspiration that the good environmental, financial and community stewardship of the base, and its people, provides. It reminds regional leaders of what is possible." NAS Jax Environmental Director Kevin Gartland hosted the tour.

"We greatly appreciated the opportunity to share with the council today the commitment and dedication of the men and women of NAS Jax to environmental conservation and energy efficiency in our construction efforts and daily operations. We strive every day to be responsible stewards of this historic naval installation including its outlying airfield and training ranges."

## Recent Verdicts at the Courthouse

### From Region Legal Service Office Southeast

Courts-martial in Navy Region Southeast are tried, with few exceptions, at NAS Jacksonville, NS Mayport and NAS Pensacola. Therefore, the location of where a court-martial was convened does not necessarily correlate to the command that convened the court-martial.

Courts-martial in Navy Region Southeast recently heard the following cases:

- At a Special Court-Martial convened at NS Mayport, a petty officer second class pled guilty to conspiracy to commit larceny of military property, two violations of a lawful general order, and larceny of military property of a value of \$500 or less. The military judge sentenced the accused to 100 days confinement, reduction in rank to E-1, and a bad conduct discharge.
- At a contested Special Court-Martial convened at NS Mayport, a petty officer second class was found guilty of

assault by threat with an unloaded firearm. The members of the court-martial sentenced the accused to 30 days hard labor without confinement and reduction in rank to E-4.

- At a contested General Court-Martial convened at NCBC Gulfport, a petty officer third class was found guilty of violating a lawful general order. The members of the court-martial sentenced the accused to no additional punishment beyond the conviction itself.

- At a Special Court-Martial convened at NS Mayport, a petty officer third class pled guilty to three specifications of assault. The military judge sentenced the accused to confinement for 10 months, reduction in rate to E-1 and a bad conduct Discharge.

- At a Special Court-Martial convened at NAS Jacksonville, an airman pled guilty to desertion, unauthorized absence, four specifications of failure to obey other lawful written orders, damaging non-military property of

\$500 or less, and drunk and disorderly conduct. The military judge sentenced the accused to 100 days confinement, reduction in rank to E-1 and a bad conduct discharge.

- At a contested General Court-Martial convened at NAS Jacksonville, a petty officer first class was acquitted of three specifications of assault.

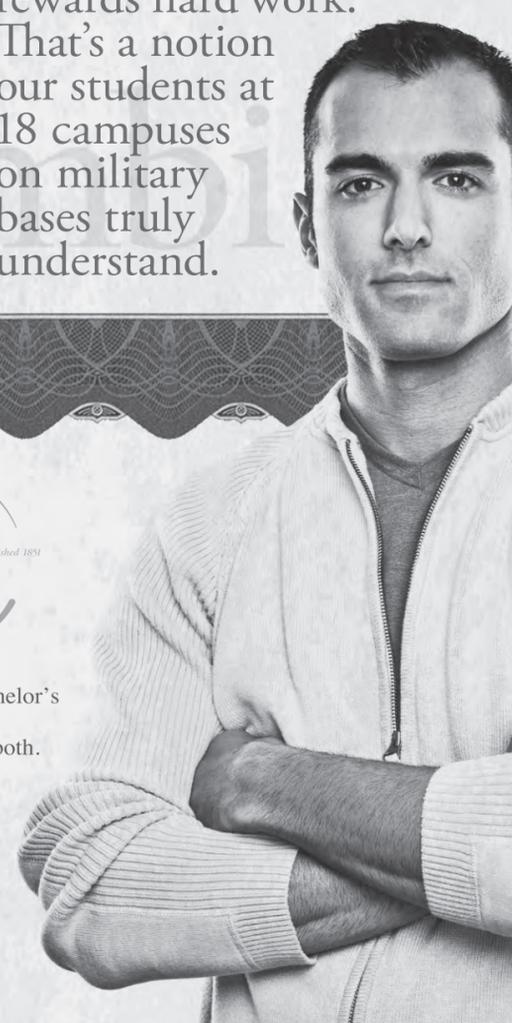
- At a General Court-Martial convened at NAS Jacksonville, a previously convicted Sailor currently serving confinement at a Navy brig was found guilty of attempt to communicate indecent language to a child, attempt to mail obscene matters, and two specifications of failing to obey a lawful order. The military judge sentenced the accused to an additional seven years confinement, with confinement in excess of two years suspended pursuant to a pre-

trial agreement with the convening authority. The confinement to be served is in addition to the sentence previously adjudged at an earlier court-martial.

- At a Special Court-Martial convened at NS Mayport, a petty officer second class was found guilty of damaging personal property and communicating a threat. The military judge sentenced the accused to 120 days confinement and reduction in rate to E-1.

- At a General Court-Martial convened at NAS Jacksonville, a lieutenant commander pled guilty to five specifications of conduct unbecoming an officer, one specification of adultery, and one specification of attempted conduct unbecoming an officer. The court-martial members sentenced the accused to be confined for six months and to be reprimanded.

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# Personal financial preparedness a critical component to military readiness

**From Navy Personnel Command Public Affairs**

Federal and Navy programs can help Sailors and their families navigate potential financial pitfalls, officials said April 4. "We're here to let [service members] know what we can do, so we can help them make wise consumer decisions and help them avoid scams," said Holly Petraeus, assistant director, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), Office of Service Member Affairs.

CFPB is a new federal agency focused on protecting consumers. Petraeus' division is dedicated to seeing that military personnel and their families get financial information to make informed consumer decisions. The agency also monitors their complaints against financial organizations and works with other federal and state agencies on consumer protection measures for military personnel and their families.

Petraeus met with Commander, Navy Personnel Command, Rear Adm. Cynthia Covell and other leaders in the Mid-South to raise awareness

of the CFPB and to discuss strategies to educate Sailors and their families.

Financial matters such as failure to pay bills, bad credit, bankruptcy and foreclosures can negatively impact a Sailor's career, affect mission readiness and the Navy's ability to transfer or retain Sailors.

"A readiness issue we face today are those Sailors who are home owners facing financial difficulty because of the housing market," said Covell. "In some cases Sailors transferring to new duty stations are choosing to leave their family behind and go unaccompanied because they feel leaving their home would result in severe financial impact."

One of Petraeus' jobs at CFPB is to raise awareness in Washington D.C. about that issue. "I was very pleased to see in the recent settlement that was worked out by 49 of 50 [state] attorneys general, DOJ (Department of Justice) and the five largest banks that give mortgages. There were some military provisions in that settlement."

Petraeus is also working to raise awareness about high-



Photo by MC2 LaTunya Howard

**An active duty Sailor takes a moment to decide which credit card to use to complete his purchase at the local commissary. Holly Petraeus, assistant director, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, Office of Service Member Affairs, urges military personnel and their families get financial information to make informed consumer decisions.**

interest loans and scams that take advantage of service members. The idea is to educate members against being taken advantage of - before they sign a contract.

"I recently saw a loan someone had given a service member that was an auto title loan at 400 percent interest," said Petraeus.

"The individual was borrowing \$1,600 with a repayment schedule of \$585 a month for 32 months. At the loan's end the member will have paid more than \$15,000 in interest and service charges on a \$1,600 loan. That is outrageous. That should not happen," said

Petraeus.

"We're going to do everything we can to educate people not to sign those contracts."

Petraeus, Covell and other Millington leaders discussed ways the Navy can help Sailors be proactive to protect their assets and their careers. Command financial specialists (CFS) provide financial education and training, counseling, and information referral at the command level at no cost to Sailors and their families. Fleet and Family Support Centers (FFSC) located worldwide provide financial education and counseling for Sailors and families as well.

Petraeus suggests starting with these organizations first when looking for financial guidance before taking on new debt and to determine if military service qualifies the member for lower interest rates on existing loans and credit. As a rule, any loan with an interest rate higher than 36 percent should raise the alarm and is worth review by the CFS or FFSC, according to Petraeus.

"In some cases Sailors may qualify for interest-free loans from military relief societies," said Petraeus.

Sailors experiencing financial challenges should notify their chain of command and work with their CFS to develop a budget and explore additional options such as military relief societies, eligibility for interest rate reductions and other relief. Additionally, being upfront and trying to address the issue openly can work to a Sailor's advantage if financial difficulties threaten a member's security clearance.

Personal financial preparedness is an important element of readiness, one of the areas of the 21st Century Sailor and Marine initiative which consolidates a set of objectives and policies, new and existing, to maximize Sailor and Marine personal readiness, build resiliency and hone the most combat-effective force in the history of the Navy and Marine Corps.

## Class reunion

Members of the United States Naval Academy Class of 1954 celebrate their 58th class reunion at the NAS Jax Golf Course on April 13.



Photo by Momo Harris

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# Farewell to Master Chief Prindle

From VR-58 Public Affairs



Photo courtesy of VR-58

(From left) Cmdr. Robert Moore presents CMDCM Fred Prindle of VR-58 with the Meritorious Service Medal at his April 14 retirement ceremony.

Fleet Logistics Support Squadron (VR) 58 celebrated the retirement of CMDCM(AW/SW) Frederick Prindle April 14 after 30 years of service. The ceremony took place at the VP-30 Auditorium.

Prindle began his Navy career as a Boiler Technician in 1982.

His subsequent assignments included Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Center Akron, Ohio and Shore Intermediate Maintenance Activity (SIMA) at Newport, R.I.

Upon completion of his tour at SIMA, Prindle reported to Machinery Repairman "A" School. During this tour, he completed his conversion to Machinery Repairman.

From July 1993 to February 1997, he served Shore Intermediate Maintenance Activity Ingleside, Texas, working in the Ship Superintendent Office.

In 1997, he reported to the aircraft carrier USS John F. Kennedy (CV-67) as the Machine Shop Chief Petty Officer.

During this tour, he also supervised the Hull Technician Weld, Lock Key and Trouble Call shops. From December 1999 to April 2003, he served the Naval Reserve Center Louisville, Ky., as the

senior enlisted advisor.

In April 2003, he served as assistant quality assurance officer with Shore Intermediate Maintenance Activity Ingleside, Texas.

Following the decommissioning of SIMA Ingleside in September 2004, he served as the repair two division officer and command training officer with South Central Regional Maintenance Center Ingleside, Texas.

During this tour, he entered into the Command Master Chief program in May 2006. In June 2006, Prindle reported to the "Jaguars" of Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron Light (HSL) 60 at Naval Station Mayport, where he served as command master chief until June 2009.

His final assignment was as VR-58 Command Master Chief at NAS Jacksonville.

Prindle and his beautiful wife, Mary, have been married to for 30 years. They have two daughters, Jessica and Megan.



Photo by Kaylee LaRocque

Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Manpower and Reserve Affairs), the Honorable Juan Garcia, discusses personnel policy changes, the new national defense strategy and budget issues with NAS Jax Sailors during a town hall meeting at VP-30 on April 11.

## ASN: Garcia brings message to NAS Jax

From Page 1

active and Reserve, for core and non-core missions," stated Garcia.

"As we wrap up in Iraq and draw-down in Afghanistan we don't want to lose those highly-skilled Sailors. We need the best talent available."

The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Sailor and Marine initiative was also promoted during the town hall meeting. This new initiative focuses on five pillar areas including physical fitness, inclusion, readiness, safety and continuum of service.

"The Navy wants a culture of fitness, where Sailors stay at the top of their game year-round," said Garcia. "We also need better options to retain women in uniform so we are creating new programs making military service conducive to raising a family. Two of these initiatives include a 12-month operational deferment for new mothers and the Career Intermission Pilot Program which allows men and women to transfer to the IRR for up to three years with a stipend of their salary and benefits. When they return to active duty there will be no penalties to their career path."

Garcia also talked about readiness

and how sexual assault cases impact the workplace. "The Navy continues to emphasize sexual assault awareness training for our troops, support sexual assault victims and hold offenders accountable. Prevention is the key. Nowhere is the correlation tighter than between sexual assault cases, suicide rates and alcohol use. We're hoping to change the culture and one way is by using breathalyzers in commands as a tool, not as a punitive means, but to help our Sailors and head off a tragedy before it happens," he added.

Several Sailors in the audience asked questions about increasing the fleet concentration in the Jacksonville area to allow them and their families more home-basing opportunities.

"The Navy remains committed to strategic disbursement. We know we can't have all our assets in one place where they are exposed to terrorist acts or natural disasters. The Navy will continue to increase the footprint here with a new fleet of P-8A aircraft, amphibious ready groups and the littoral combat ships at Naval Station Mayport. This area will remain a fleet concentration center and a key cornerstone for the Navy."

## Baptism at NavHosp Jax

Navy Chaplain Lt. Scott Shubert (right) baptizes James Washington with the help of HN Marcos Mauney (left) and HM2 Joseph Patty in the aquatic treadmill at Naval Hospital Jax on April 10. This unique hospital baptism resulted from a collaboration between the attending physician, the chaplain and Washington to meet his spiritual needs during his stay at the hospital.



Photo courtesy of the Washington family

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# HS-11 'Dragonslayers' deployed with USS Enterprise



Photo by MCSN Randy Savarese

From the flight deck of the aircraft carrier USS Enterprise (CVN 65), a Sailor looks up at the Friendship Bridge while transiting the Suez Canal April 4. Enterprise is deployed to the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility conducting maritime security operations, theater security cooperation efforts and support missions as part of Operation Enduring Freedom.



Photo by MC3 Britney Epps

An SH-60F Seahawk helicopter assigned to the "Dragonslayers" of HS-11 prepares to deliver supplies aboard the aircraft carrier USS Enterprise (CVN 65) during a vertical replenishment.



Photo by MC3 Britney Epps

AM2 Jessica Neff replaces a radar altimeter on an SH-60F Seahawk helicopter assigned to the "Dragonslayers" of HS-11 aboard the aircraft carrier USS Enterprise (CVN 65).



Photo by MCSN Randy Savarese

AO3 Joshua Viera and AO3 Adrian Garcia are aircraft armament equipment inventory managers assigned to HS-11. They're performing release control system checks on an SH-60F Seahawk helicopter April 1 aboard the aircraft carrier USS Enterprise (CVN 65).

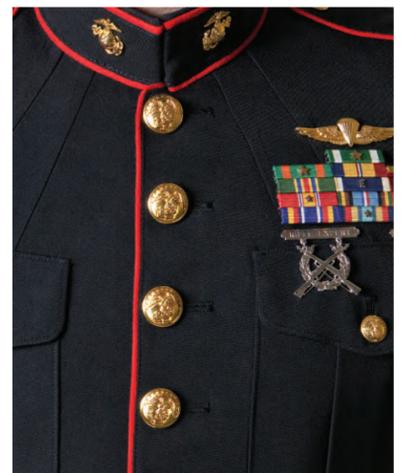


Photo by MCSN Heath Zeigler

Sailors assigned to the HS-11 "Dragonslayers" perform maintenance on an HH-60-H Seahawk helicopter aboard the aircraft carrier USS Enterprise (CVN 65) as it transits the Red Sea on April 9. Enterprise is deployed to the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility conducting maritime security operations, theater security cooperation efforts and support missions as part of Operation Enduring Freedom.

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# Anglers hit St. Johns River in search of biggest bass

By Shannon Leonard  
MWR Marketing Director

While many were home still sleeping Saturday morning, 76 anglers headed to the Mulberry Cove Marina to participate in the 30th annual NAS Jax Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Bass Tournament, "Relocating Confused Bass Since 1982."

The event held on the St. Johns River, was open to all active duty members, reservists, retirees and Department of Defense civilians. Teams consisted of two members per boat and they fished from first light until late into the afternoon.

"The St. John's River was smooth as silk this morning, then the wind picked up 20 knots and made this one of the roughest tournaments we have ever had," said MWR Marina Manager Phil Collins.

The St. Johns Bass Anglers Club returned for another year as event officials. In the afternoon, as each team's catch was weighed, a crowd began to gather around the scoreboard. The lead changed many times as everyone enjoyed free food and beverages provided by MWR.

"This was a hard day of fishing with all the wind. We hit a big wave really hard on the way back in and I nearly broke my neck. We had reached our fish limit early and culled four bass. All in all a very successful day," said angler Billy Roberts.

All participants received a free tournament shirt and sponsor bag with promotional items.

Thanks to the very generous support from area businesses, the anglers received more than \$3,000 in door prizes and gift certificates.

"We owe a big thanks to all of the hard working volunteers and sponsors that make this event possible for us to host. The sponsors contribute valuable door prizes and we get so many awesome prizes. We try to make this tournament fun for everyone," said Collins.

NAS Jacksonville MWR thanks the many volunteers and sponsors that made this event a success: North Florida Sales, Pure Fishing, Jacksonville Suns Baseball Team, Fort George Surf Shop, NAS Jax Commissary, Subway and VyStar Credit Union.

**Disclaimer: Neither NAS Jax, MWR, or the Jax Air News nor any part of the federal government officially endorses any company, sponsor or their products or services.**

- First Place - Billy Roberts/Eric Roberts, (total) 21.04 lbs.**
- Second Place - Brian Dotson/Paula Walling, 16.61 lbs.**
- Third Place - George Jaeger/Kurt Jaeger, 15.1 lbs.**
- Biggest Bass - Billy Roberts/Eric Roberts, 6.42 lbs.**



Al Davis proudly shows the bass he caught during the 30th annual NAS Jax Bass Tournament at Mulberry Cove Marina on April 14.

Eric and Billy Roberts display the winning fish that they caught during the 30th annual NAS Jax Bass Tournament at Mulberry Cove Marina April 14. Their largest bass weighed an impressive 6.42 pounds, earning them first place in the "Big Bass" and total weight categories.

Photos by Shannon Leonard



NAS Jax Command Master Chief (CMDM) (AW/SW) Brad Shepherd (right) presents Brian Dotson and Paula Walling with the second place plaque for catching 16.61 pounds of fish during the bass tournament.



Despite a rough ride in, Robert and Lisa Dewberry proudly display their catch after a long day of fishing.



Daniel Green (left) and Jake Draba put their bass into plastic bags for weighing after coming in from a day of fishing.

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Photo courtesy of MWR

**Easter paintball**

MWR Liberty Recreation Center patrons from Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay and Naval Air Station Jacksonville competed for prizes in the paintball Easter egg hunt games at Yulee GTF Paintball on April 7. For information on upcoming Liberty trips, call 542-1335.

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Jacksonville Sharks - \$25 per person

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\$20 per person

**The Vault Liberty Recreation Center**

Trips, activities and costs may be restricted to E1-E6 single or unaccompanied active duty members. Call 542-1335 for information.

Dave & Buster's Trip  
April 19 at 6 p.m.  
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Kayaking Trip  
Amelia Island  
April 21 at 9 a.m.

Outdoor Movie  
At the Vault recreation center  
April 25 at dusk

**NAS Jax Golf Club**

Golf course info: 542-3249  
Mulligan's info: 542-2936  
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Other Active Duty - Now through April 20  
DoD Civilians - April 23 - 27  
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# Firefighter training



Lead Firefighter Robert Pellerin instructs a group of NAS Jax firefighters on the uses of high angle rescue equipment during a training session at the fire house.



Photos by Tracey Tomes  
 NAS Jax Fire Chief Thomas Harrell (right) Lead Firefighter Robert Pellerin and Firefighter Antonio Deleon conduct confined space rescue training using a tripod and 4:1 (four to one) mechanical advantage. This type of rescue would be used to save someone from a man-hole or steam pit on base.

# NAS Jax Energy Team to participate in Earth Day events

By Cliff Plante  
 NAS Jax Resource Efficiency Manager

Earth Day will be celebrated on April 20. This is a day and time to reflect on our planet's health and stewardship.

The NAS Jax Energy Team will be participating in the event by setting up visual displays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Navy Exchange Food Court.

This event should be considered as an everyday requirement that we all need to be conscious of and what effect we're having on the earth's future.

The team will answer questions on what the base is doing to achieve reductions in energy intensity and present ideas that consumers can take to reduce consumption and save money.

They will also hand out pamphlets providing information on ways to not only save energy dollars but to also reduce our "carbon footprint."

Also on display will be the solar-powered Global Electric Motor-vehicle (GEM) that is powered solely from sunlight. This vehicle has not been plugged in to the electrical grid for over two years.

Due in part to the recently installed energy projects, NAS Jacksonville is realizing significant reductions in both energy and water consumption.

The NAS Jax Energy Team appreciates the effort taken by all of the on-base personnel (both military and civilian) as we work to achieve our goal of a 30 percent reduction in electrical intensity and a 20 percent reduction in water consumption by 2015.

The NAS Jacksonville Energy Team thanks everyone for their efforts in reducing utility consumption.

Be sure to thank your building energy monitor for their vigilance in making energy reduction one of their top priorities and if you see something that would further this reduction, by all means let them know and they will engage the energy team for review.



## NAS Jax Sports Standings

### As of April 13

#### Intramural Winter Golf

Teams	Wins	Losses	Ties
VP-10	10	0	
FRCSE	1	8	1
VP-30	7	1	1
CNATTU Blue	7	2	
PSD	7	2	1
NCTS	7	3	
NAVFAC National	5	3	1
FRCSE II	4	3	
VPU-1	6	4	
CPRW-11	4	4	
RCC/NOSC	4	4	1
CNATTU Gold	3	5	1
VR-62	3	6	
CBMU202	2	6	
SERCC A	3	7	
VP-62	3	7	
AIR OPS	2	7	
SERCC B	1	7	1

#### Intramural Soccer

Team	Wins	Losses
VP-30 O's	2	0
HSL-42	1	0
NAVFAC	1	0
USCG	1	0
VP-45	1	0
VR-58	1	0
FACSFAC	1	1
FRCSE	1	1

Team	Wins	Losses
NAVHOSP	1	1
NCTS	1	1
VP-30 E's	1	1
WTU	1	1
VP-5	0	1
BMC Jax	0	2
HSM-74	0	2
VR-62	0	2

#### Intramural Spring Softball

Teams	Wins	Losses
VP-5	2	0
CBMU202	3	1
VPU-1	3	1
VR-58	3	1
HSM-70	6	2
Air Ops	4	2
FRCSE 900 Misfits	4	2
DLA Scared Hitless	3	2
NMC Bombers	3	2
Dirty 30	3	3
MSRON10	3	3
FRCSE Rabid Possums	2	2
NavHosp Dirty Birdz	1	1
CNRSE	2	3
NCTS	1	2
FRCSE Screwballs	1	3
HSL-42	1	3
VP-45	1	4
Security	0	5
NBHC	0	6

#### Greybeard Spring Softball

Teams	Wins	Losses
VPU-1	2	0
NCTS	1	0
VP-30	0	1
CNATTU	0	2

### Men's and Women's Open Singles Tennis Tourney - April 30, 5 p.m.

Open to NAS Jax active duty, selective reservists, dependents over 18, retirees and DoD men and women. Separate men's and women's division. The matches play at the Guy Ballou Tennis Complex starting at 5 p.m. Call NAS Jax Athletics to sign up by April 27.

### Captain's Cup Summer Intramural Golf League meeting - May 15, 11:30 a.m.

Open to all NAS Jax active duty, command DoD, contractors and selective reservists. Meet at the NAS Jax Golf Course to discuss rules and obtain required paperwork. Commands whose athletic officer or designated representative attends the meeting receive five Captain's Cup points.

### Captain's Cup Indoor Volleyball League meeting - May 22

Open to all NAS Jax active duty, command DoD, contractors and selective reservists. Meet at 11:30 a.m. at the base gym. Commands whose athletic officer or designated representative attend the meeting receive five Captain's Cup points. The games will play at lunchtime.

For more information, call Bill Bonser at 542-2930/3239 or e-mail bill.bonser@navy.mil.

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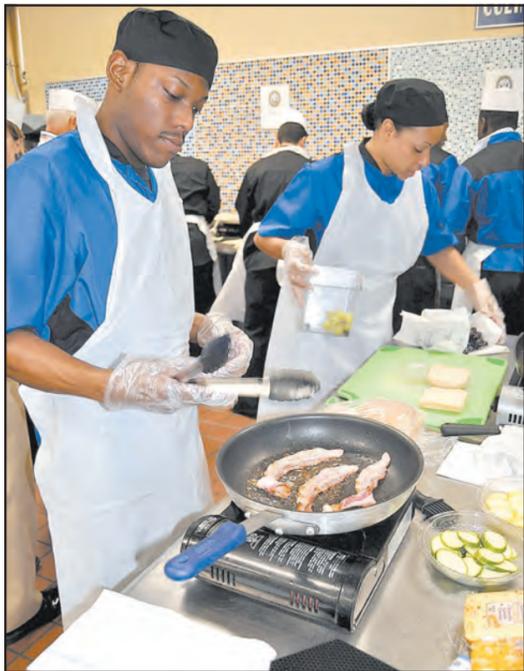
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# Saluting the iconic grilled cheese sandwich



By Clark Pierce  
Editor

Ten pairs of culinary specialists threw down their best bread-butter-cheese and other ingredients recipes April 12 at the NAS Jacksonville Flight Line Café culinary competition recognizing National Grilled Cheese Day.

"These are not your mother's grilled cheese sandwiches," said CSCM Michael Carter of Navy Food Management Team Mayport, who organized the event with CSCS Paulette Williams.

"This competition stresses creativity, so there is no limit on ingredients or the types of cheese or bread that chefs may include in their recipes," said Carter, a former White House chef.

"From what I've seen, competitors may be using ingredients such as black forest ham, cucumber, spinach, basil pesto, bacon, olives, avocado and roasted red peppers -items not typically seen in a traditional grilled cheese sandwich," explained Carter.

"This is an excellent opportunity for Navy culinary specialists to display their talents and to add to their cheese repertoire, as well as incorporating ingredients like artisan breads, fruit and unique spreads," said NAS Jax Food Services Division Officer CWO4 Kathy Wiseman.

Teams from NAS Jacksonville, NS Mayport and four Mayport-based ships took part in the competition.

The teams were given one hour to create their good-and-goey sandwich that was presented to the judges panel, consisting of:

NAVJAX Jax Commanding Officer Capt. Kevin Head; NAVJAX Jax Executive Officer Cmdr. Tom Dailey; NAVJAX Jax Executive Director Mitch Palmquist; Lt. Cmdr. Chris Pressler and Navy spouse Dawn Lancaster.



CS1 Terry Jackson and CS3 Reginald Appiakubi from USS Halyburton check ingredients before assembling their grilled cheese contender. The team earned the "Judges' Choice" award.

ing of: NAVSUP FLC Jax Commanding Officer Capt. Kevin Head; NAVSUP FLC Jax Executive Officer Cmdr. Tom Dailey; NAVSUP FLC Executive Director Mitch Palmquist; Lt. Cmdr. Chris Pressler and Navy spouse Dawn Lancaster.

First place went to CS2 Rasheen Maxwell and CS2 Cortez Brown of NS Mayport, second place went to CS2 Paula Prine and CS2 Marnika Ash of NAS Jax, and third was awarded to CS3 Wilmer Ringold and CS3 Michael Mainer of NS Mayport.



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Photos by Clark Pierce  
CS2 Rasheen Maxwell and CS2 Cortez Brown of NS Mayport took home the first place trophy for their creation that included bacon, zucchini and two types of cheeses.



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# Heritage Dinner puts spotlight on P-3, Hall of Honor inductees

By **September Wilkerson**  
Executive Director,  
Maritime Patrol Association, Inc.

The Maritime Patrol Association (MPA) celebrated 50 years of the P-3 Orion at the annual Heritage Dinner March 28 at NAS Jacksonville by honoring the strength and commitment of the many members, past and present, who have helped shape the Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance community.

"Last year we celebrated the Centennial of Naval Aviation in which we noted that maritime patrol has played a key role in the U.S. military aviation operations since the very beginning," said Rear Adm. Michael Hewitt, commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Group. "And tonight, we are here to toast a major accomplishment within our own community; the service of the P-3 Orion for the last 50 years."

The milestone anniversary of the celebrated aircraft attracted a crowd of nearly 450 guests in historic Hangar 117. One of the many distinguished attendees, guest speaker Vice Adm. Harry Harris, assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and a former Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Force (MPRF) member, spoke about the leaders who had helped mold the aviation community. He singled out dozens of active duty and retired members of the MPRF, many of them seated in the audience, who had played key roles in leadership and antisubmarine warfare (ASW), the critical mission of maritime patrol. It was clear that these people created the foundation upon which the community is currently run.

Included in that group were three individuals inducted into the MPRF Hall of Honor during the dinner.

Cmdr. Scott Carpenter, USN (Ret.), one of the original Mercury astronauts and a former VP pilot



Photo by MC2 Pedro Rodriguez

Assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Vice Adm. Harry Harris, Jr. (left) and Commander, Patrol Reconnaissance Group Rear Adm. Michael Hewitt (far right) inducted Cmdr. Scott Carpenter, Rear Adm. Daniel Wolkensdorfer and Capt. Arnold Isbell to the Maritime Patrol Association (MPA) Hall of Honor during the Heritage Dinner at NAS Jax March 28. Present to receive the awards were Capt. Chris Ramsden (second from left), Mrs. Carolyn Wolkensdorfer and Charles Isbell, Maj. USMC, (RET) (second from right). The MPA inducted their new members to the Hall of Honor as part of the annual MPA Heritage Symposium.

(VP-6), flew aboard the Mercury-Atlas 7 mission, becoming the fourth American in space and the second to orbit the earth. After the completion of his astronaut tour, Carpenter later joined the Navy SEALAB program, which made him the only person ever designated as an astronaut and an aquanaut.

Capt. Arnold Isbell (deceased) was the commanding officer of VP-11 during World War II, during which time he faced a hurricane while surveying military base sites in Newfoundland and skillfully maneuvered his aircraft to make an emergency night landing. Isbell later commanded the escort carrier Card (CVE-11), and coordinated action that destroyed eight U-boats in a two-month period in 1943. He then took his knowledge and experience to Washington, DC where he set-up an ASW tactical research and development department. In March 1945, while en route to take command of the Yorktown (CV-10), Isbell was killed when a Japanese plane scored two bomb hits on the carrier in which he was embarked as a passenger.

Rear Adm. Daniel Wolkensdorfer (deceased) served in several VP squadrons throughout his career, commanding both VP-47 and

VP-30. Hailed for his dedication to the maritime patrol community, he was noted most for his service to the development of ASW and tactics during the Cold War. Among other positions, Wolkensdorfer served as head of the Air Branch of the Antisubmarine Warfare Division of the Antisubmarine Warfare and Ocean Surveillance Program Office for the Chief of Naval Operations. Wolkensdorfer spent much of his 35-year career in ASW planning, acquisition, testing and operations, which helped shape much of current day ASW tactics.

Selected for shaping the heritage of the community and/or for bravery in combat, the awards for Carpenter, Isbell and Wolkensdorfer were accepted by family members and colleagues.

Also attending were nine retired officers who were members of the original P-3C delivery crew in 1969 and/or instructors from VP-30 at the time of the aircraft's arrival. The self-named "Det Burbank Crew," recalled their infamous trip home with the first P-3C.

"When we arrived at NATC Pax River there was a large crowd gathering around to see the 'new

# Junior Red Cross volunteers must apply by May 1

By **Jeanne Casey**  
Acting Deputy Public Affairs Officer NH Jacksonville

The American Red Cross at Naval Hospital (NH) Jacksonville is currently recruiting for this summer's Junior Red Cross volunteers. This offers an excellent opportunity for students interested in health careers to train with highly skilled Navy Medicine professionals — physicians, nurses, pharmacists, therapists and technicians — as well as contribute to creating a positive experience for NH Jacksonville patients.

The program is open to a limited number of high school students age 16 to 18 who have base access. Volunteers work four to 20 hours per week in locations throughout the hospital, and receive CPR training.

Applications can be picked up at NH Jacksonville's American Red Cross office (Room 1404, next to Physical Therapy & Occupational Therapy) and must be submitted by May 1.

Selectees are required to attend the June 9 kick-off event from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., that includes an interview, in the hospital's central tower second deck conference room.

For more about this opportunity, call Junior Red Cross Volunteer Chairman Terry Miles at 542-7525 or e-mail [terry.miles2@med.navy.mil](mailto:terry.miles2@med.navy.mil).

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## Community Calendar

**Aviation Boatswains Mate Association Spring Picnic**, April 14, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at NAS Jax Fishermen's Cove Picnic Area near Birmingham Ave. Meat and drinks provided, bring a covered dish. Call 542-3176 for more info.

**Florida Advisory Council for Military Education annual conference** April 25-27 at Casa Monica Hotel in St. Augustine. Education Service Officers may attend for personal development. Contact: [www.fla-acme.org](http://www.fla-acme.org).

**Tree Hill Nature Center Annual Joseph Strasser Butterfly Festival**, April 28 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., 7152 Lone Star Road, Jacksonville, 724-4646.

**March of Dimes Annual Babies Walk** May 5 at 9 a.m. in downtown Jacksonville. Call 239-5825 or go to [www.marchforbabies.org](http://www.marchforbabies.org).

**USS Iwo Jima Shipmates Reunion** June 6-10 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in McLean, Va. For more info, call (757) 723-0317.

**Military Officers Association of America** N.E. Florida Chapter meets the third Wednesday of each month, for lunch or dinner, usually at the NAS Officers' club. Open to active duty and retirees of all branches of service. Contact Cmdr. George Allen at 264-0903 or [georgewallen@bellsouth.net](mailto:georgewallen@bellsouth.net)

**National Naval Officers Association** meets the fourth Thursday of each month at 5 p.m. at the Urban League, 903 W. Union Street. Contact Lt. Cmdr. Paul Nix at 422-8480 or email [Paul24navy@aol.com](mailto:Paul24navy@aol.com).

**Disabled American Veterans** Chapter 38 meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at 470 Madeira Dr., Orange Park. Service officers available Monday thru Friday 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. to help with VA claims, call 269-2945 for an appointment. Bingo every Thursday from 6:30-9:30 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. The public is welcome.

**Navy Wives Clubs of America** Jax No. 86 meets the first Wednesday of each

month at 7 p.m. in Building 857 (at NAS Jax main gate behind Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society). Not So New Shop open Tuesday and Thursday (9 a.m. to 1 p.m.). Call 542-1582 for info.

**Navy Wives Clubs of America** DID No. 300 meets the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Oak Crest United Methodist Church Education Building at 5900 Ricker Road. Call 387-4332 or 272-9489.

**Fleet Reserve Association** Branch 290 monthly meeting is the first Thursday at 8 p.m., 390 Mayport Rd., Atlantic Beach. Call 246-6855.

**COMPASS Spouse-to-Spouse Military Mentoring Program** by Naval Services Family Line. Help others help themselves. Call Melanie at 904-200-7751 or email: [COMPASSMayport@NSFamilyLine.org](mailto:COMPASSMayport@NSFamilyLine.org)

**Association of Aviation Ordnancemen** meets the third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Fleet

Reserve Center on Collins Road. For information, call AOC John Newman at 683-5407 or visit [www.aa09.com](http://www.aa09.com).

**Retired Activities Office (RAO)** at NAS Jax Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) needs volunteers to assist military retirees and dependents. Work three hours a day, one day per week. Call 542-2766 ext. 126 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. weekdays to volunteer.

**Navy Jacksonville Yacht Club** meets the first Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the clubhouse (Building 1956) adjacent to Mulberry Cove Marina. Open to active duty, reserve and retired military, plus, active or retired DoD civilians. Call 778-0805 or email [commodore@njyc.org](mailto:commodore@njyc.org).

**Orange Park Lions Club** meets the second and fourth Monday at 7 p.m. at 423 McIntosh Avenue, Orange Park. For more information, call 298-1967.

**National Active and Retired Federal Employees** Westside Jacksonville Chapter 1984 meets at 1 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Murray Hill United Methodist Church, (Fellowship Hall Building) at 4101 College Street. Call 786-7083.

**National Active and Retired Federal Employees** Clay County Chapter 1414 meets at 12:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month at the Orange Park Library, 2054 Plainfield Avenue. Call 276-9415.

**Ladies Auxiliary of Fleet Reserve** Unit 126 meets the second Thursday of each month at 10 a.m. at the Fleet Reserve Building, 7673 Blanding Blvd. Call 771-6850.

**Retired Enlisted Association** meets the fourth Wednesday of each month at 1 p.m. at the Fleet Reserve Hall at 7673 Blanding Blvd. Call 772-8622 or 771-8696.

See **DINNER**, Page 16

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# Navy's newest squadron prepares for new F-35 fighters

By Ensign Elizabeth Allen  
Naval Education and Training Command Public Affairs

Navy personnel are busy preparing to teach the next generation of Sailors how to maintain and fly the newest military aircraft, the F-35C Lightning II Joint Strike Fighter – as Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 101 readies for its stand-up ceremony at Eglin Air Force Base May 1.

The F-35 is a single seat, multi-role fighter aircraft with the capability to perform ground attack, reconnaissance and air defense missions. The aircraft is in full production at the Lockheed Martin plant in Fort Worth, Texas. The F-35 is designed to eventually replace the F/A-18 Hornet and AV-8B Harrier tactical fighter aircraft. It was planned with a common design, but three unique service variants, to keep development, production and operating costs down.

"This is brand new aircraft platform from tooth to tail," said Cmdr. Scott Kartvedt, commanding officer of VFA-101. "We're not parlaying off any Navy stealth legacy programs or support systems. This will be the first new stealth and carrier-based tactical fighter aircraft since the introduction of the F/A-18 some 29 years ago."

The original VF-101, nicknamed the "Grim Reapers," was established May 1, 1952 and flew various models of fighter aircraft including the F-4 Phantom and F-14 Tomcat. With the retirement of the F-14, VF-101 was disestablished in 2005.

To support the new Navy version of the F-35, VFA-101 will be reestablished May 1 at a new hangar and training facility on Eglin AFB and will serve as the Fleet Replacement Squadron (FRS), training pilots and maintainers for the fleet.

The first Sailors to stand up VFA-101



Photo by Michael Jackson courtesy of Lockheed Martin

The F-35C test aircraft CF-3 is brought to launch position on a test catapult by Navy test pilot Cmdr. Eric Buus on July 19, 2011. The test demonstrated proper catapult hook-up in preparation for the first launches scheduled at Lakehurst, N.J. CF-3 is the designated carrier suitability test aircraft. The F-35C carrier variant of the Joint Strike Fighter is distinct from the F-35A and F-35B variants with its larger wing surfaces and reinforced landing gear. The F-35C is undergoing test and evaluation at NAS Patuxent River before eventual delivery to the fleet.

will receive 'VFA-101 Plank Owner' certificates for their assistance with the new aircraft, new training facilities and reestablished squadron. As per Navy tradition, plank owners are individuals who were members of the crew of a ship when that ship was placed in commission.

"I'm learning a lot and really enjoy working with other services," said Senior Chief Logistics Specialist (AW/SW) Mirtha Martinez, the material control department leading chief petty officer for the squadron. "I'd love to come back in five years and see the squadron fully functioning."

Marine Col. Arthur Tomassetti, vice commander of the 33rd Fighter Wing, said establishing a squadron to train and work with the F-35 aircraft has not

been easy, but the leadership has taken charge and is working towards building the best facilities possible to work with this new aircraft.

"The concept was simple; establish an initial training center for pilots and maintainers for the F-35 weapon system," said Tomassetti. "Bringing that concept to reality will continue to be complicated and challenging. So the first step is you start with the best people you can find, put them together, and say 'go.' Over the past two-and-one-half years, those carefully selected people have put together a strategy, developed

plans, adapted to the dynamic and ever changing environment and schedule, and continued to track towards the goal of establishing a training center for F-35 pilots and maintainers."

The maintainers of the Navy F-35C will initially be taught by Lockheed Martin personnel to Navy instructors, who will then begin teaching students after completing instructor certification. Students are expected to arrive for maintenance instruction in 2015, with the first F-35s scheduled for deployment 2017-2018. The Navy's version of the F-35, the 'C' model is distinct from the F-35A and F-35B versions with larger wing surfaces and reinforced landing gear for greater control in the demanding carrier take-off and landing environment.

Sailors in the majority of aviation rates are eligible to attend the F-35 course of instruction, including aviation ordnancemen, aviation structural mechanics, aviation machinist's mates, aviation electronics technicians, aviation electrician's mates, aviation structural mechanics and aircrew survival equipmentmen.

VFA-101 is a part of the 33rd Fighter Wing, a joint-service graduate flying and maintenance training wing responsible for F-35 A/B/C pilot and maintenance training for the Navy, Marine Corps and the Air Force. Initially, 59 aircraft and three squadrons, one for each service's aircraft variant will be based at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla. The F-35 Academic Training Center serves as the schoolhouse, where wing personnel expect to train more than 2,000 maintenance students and 100 pilots each year.

## Easter Egg Hunt



Photos by Shannon Leonard

From left, Michaela, Michael, Madyson, and KC Shively enjoy the annual Morale, Welfare and Recreation Department Easter Egg Hunt at the McCaffrey Softball Field on April 5.

Kenneth and Carrie Crosby check out the goodies in their daughter Layla's Easter basket during the egg hunt. Hundreds of families came out to gather 15,000 eggs courtesy of the NAS Jax Youth Activities Center.



## DINNER: Celebrates P-3's service

From Page 15

baby,'" recalled Capt. Ron Martin, USN (Ret.), VP-30's first P-3C project officer who delivered the first P-3C aircraft to the fleet from the assembly line in Burbank, Calif. "Would you believe the new fancy electronic ladder wouldn't work?"

The primary aircraft of the U.S. Navy MPRF, the P-3 Orion, has aided in anti-submarine warfare since the early 1960s when it was introduced to the aviation community by aeronautics corporation Lockheed Martin. The P-3 turboprop was an answer to a late 1950s request by the Chief of Naval Operations for an aircraft with more cabin space, a larger radius and a longer endurance than its predecessor, the P-2 Neptune. In August 1962, VP-8 took possession of the first P-3, and then in 1969, the final revamp of the Orion, the first "P-3C", came online.

"From a tactical standpoint, this new 'Charlie' was a quantum leap in improved sensors, data processing, tactical displays, weapons delivery, and decision making assistance over any P-3 system flying at that time," said Martin. "We all knew Maritime Patrol was about to become a force to be reckoned with."

A half century later, the celebration of the P-3C Orion comes at both a historic and pivotal point in the MPRF's future.

In June of this year, VP-16 will receive the first P-8A Poseidon, a multi-mission maritime aircraft developed by Boeing. It will be the first jet-powered maritime patrol aircraft commandeered by the US Navy.

Integration of the P-8A into the entire MPRF fleet, however, will take a minimum of six years. Until then, the P-3 Orion will continue to play an important role in the critical mission of the U.S. maritime patrol community.

"There are very few airplanes in the world that can tout the distinct honor of being in service for 50 years. This is testament to the ingenuity and innovation of the designers, manufacturers and assemblers who created the P-3 Orion," said Lockheed Martin Vice President of P-3 Programs and Greenville Operations Ray Burick.

"The P-3 is the world standard in maritime patrol and reconnaissance and will continue to serve operators around the globe for many more decades to come."

As a token of appreciation to the community, Burick presented the first of 755 copies of a limited edition P-3 lithograph to Hewitt. The lithograph is inlaid with 21 roundels representing all P-3 operators, past and present. The number of lithographs being produced, represents the number of P-3s built by Lockheed Martin worldwide over the last half-century.

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