

JaxAir News

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Hagel talks budget with Sailors, civilians

By Clark Pierce
Editor

During his first visit to NAS Jacksonville on July 16, Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel called on Congress to work with DOD to avoid sequestration in fiscal 2014.

Otherwise, DOD will be forced to cut \$52 billion from its budget that only could be accomplished by putting together an extremely severe package of military and civilian personnel actions.

With U.S. Reps Corrine Brown (D-FL5), Ander Crenshaw (R-FL4) and Ted Yoho (R-FL3) joining the audience at a town hall meeting with civilians and Sailors at Fleet Readiness Center Southeast (FRCSE) aboard base, Hagel called on Congress to work with DOD to avoid sequestration in fiscal 2014.

"If the cuts continue, the department will have to make sharp reductions with far-reaching consequences - including limited combat power and reduced readiness that will undermine our country's national security interests," Hagel told the audience.

He remarked that if sequestration remains in effect, the size, readiness and technological superiority of



DOD Photo By Glenn Fawcett

Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel, left, sits in the cockpit of a P-8A aircraft flight simulator along with VP-30 instructor pilot Lt. Brett Eckert. Hagel visited the P-8A Integrated Training Center at NAS Jacksonville on July 16. Hagel flew the simulator and landed on a synthetic version of the runway at Joint Base Andrews.

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Photo by MC1 Peter Lawlor

Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Jonathan Greenert conducts a press conference at the Pentagon to discuss subjects such as international partnerships, sexual assaults and budget issues, among other topics of interest.

CNO updates Navy status

By MCSN Jennifer Lebron
Defense Media Activity - Navy

Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Jonathan Greenert discussed the status of the fleet, readiness impact due to sequestration, and modifications to Navy policies at a press conference July 19 at the Pentagon.

"Presence remains our mandate," Greenert said. "This is what we are mostly about, and it's an essential element of our defense strategic guidance."

Greenert pointed out that the Navy has about 95 ships deployed and about 3,700 operational aircraft. The current ship count in the Mediterranean has been higher than it has been through the years.

USS Kearsarge and USS San Antonio are positioned in the Red Sea and stand ready with a range of missions and operations if required. USS Nimitz is deployed to the North Arabian Sea supporting ground operations in Afghanistan with close

air support, and piracy in the region is slowly increasing and is becoming more of a concern.

In the Pacific theater, Talisman Saber Exercise, started July 14, off the coast of Australia and in the Coral Sea. TS13 is an ongoing biennial training exercise with Australia and currently has George Washington Carrier Strike Group and Bonhomme Richard Amphibious Ready Group assets participating.

In the Southern Command, sequestration has caused the reduction to zero combat ships in the region.

"There are other naval forces in the region," Greenert said. "Non-combatant ships and other forces."

The Navy's first spearhead class joint high-speed vessel will deploy to the Southern Command area of operation in FY 14.

"Presence forward, assuring our allies and deterring poten-

See **CNO**, Page 8

Power outage to affect numerous facilities

By Staff

A power outage will take place at NAS Jacksonville on Sunday, July 28 from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. to replace a damaged concrete power pole.

This will affect numerous facilities aboard the station. The Navy Exchange (NEX) Main Store, Home and Garden Center, Car Care Center and NEX Gas Station will be closed. The following Morale, Welfare and Recreation facilities will also be closed: Fitness Center, Outdoor Pool, Car Wash, Dewey's, NAS Freedom Lanes, Liberty Center and Long Term RV Storage Lot.

The power outage will also affect the barracks.

The work is being conducted by Fluor Federal Solutions base contractors.

VP-45 celebrates 44-year safety milestone

By Lt. Josh Stokes
VP-45 Public Affairs Officer

Completing one year of mishap-free flying is an accomplishment of which any squadron would be proud. Completing 44 years of mishap-free flying is something to be especially proud of - and that is precisely what Patrol Squadron (VP) 45 has accomplished.

Over the past 44 years, the VP-45 "Pelicans" surpassed 265,100 mishap-free flight hours. In a congratulatory message, Rear Adm. Sean Buck, commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Group,



Photo courtesy of VP-45

The VP-45 "Pelicans" pose for a squadron photo on the flight line of Kadena Air Base in Japan, during their recent 7th Fleet deployment. The squadron recently surpassed 265,100 mishap-free flight hours.

pointed out that VP-45's "complete professionalism and genuine dedication to safety have been the cornerstones of this impressive aviation achievement."

While every Pelican has contributed to this achievement, VP-45's Quality

Assurance (QA) Division, the backbone of the maintenance department, has played a crucial role over the years by ensuring that every P-3C Orion aircraft is safe to fly.

Although aircrew play a major role by safely taking aircraft aloft and returning

without a mishap, it's maintenance professionals who ensure the aircraft is as safe as possible prior to leaving the ground.

Without their dedication to by-the-book maintenance,

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Marks Superior Performance
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U.S. Navy photos

Based on the Ling-Temco-Vought F-8 Crusader fighter, the LTV Corsair II was a carrier-based attack aircraft designed to replace the Douglas A-4 Skyhawk. Testing was accomplished with wartime urgency and the first fleet delivery (VA-174) was in October 1966. The A-7 production continued until September 1984 – when a total of 1,545 were built for our Navy, Air Force, Air National Guard and a number of other nations.



Flown extensively during the Vietnam War, the single-seat A-7E had a speed of 698 mph at sea level and a combat radius of 700 miles. Armament included a 20 mm Vulcan gatling cannon and combinations of rockets, missiles and bombs. The plane also featured AN/APQ-128 terrain-following radar.



The A-7 Corsair II depot-level maintenance line at NARF (Naval Air Rework Facility) on board NAS Jacksonville in the 1980s. Retirement of the last two Navy A-7 aircraft fleet operational squadrons (VA-46 and VA-72) was in May 1991 at NAS Cecil Field. crew members.

This Week in Navy History

From Staff

July 25

1779 - Amphibious expedition against British in Penobscot Bay, Maine.

1863 - U.S. Squadron bombards Fort Wagner, N.C.

1866 - Rank of Admiral created. David G. Farragut is appointed the first Admiral in the U.S. Navy.

1898 - Landing party from armed yacht Gloucester occupies Guanica, Puerto Rico.

1912 - First specifications for naval aircraft published.

1934 - First President to visit Hawaii, Franklin D. Roosevelt, reaches Hilo on board the cruiser USS Houston (CA-30).

1941 - Bureau of Ordnance issues first Navy "E" certificates (for excellence) for industry.

1943 - Launching of destroyer escort USS Harmon (DE-72), first ship named for an African-American.

1990 - Oiler USS Cimarron (AO 22) rescues 25 refugees adrift southeast of Subic Bay, Philippines.

July 26

1812 - Frigate Essex captures British brig Leander.

1912 - First airborne radio communications from naval aircraft to ship (Lt. John Rodgers to USS Stringham).

1946 - Capt Joy Bright Hancock appointed director, Women's Naval Reserve.

1948 - President Harry S. Truman orders desegregation of the Armed Services.

1954 - Three aircraft from USS Philippine Sea (CVA-47) shoot down Chinese fighters that fired on them while they were providing air cover for rescue opera-

tions for a U.K. airliner shot down by a Chinese aircraft.

July 27

1953 - Korean War armistice signed at Panmunjon, Korea, cease-fire went into effect at 10 p.m.

July 28

1915 - Sailors and Marines land in Haiti to restore order.

1916 - Navy establishes a Code and Signal Section which initially worked against German ciphers and tested the security of communications during U.S. naval training maneuvers.

1926 - Team of scientists from Naval Research Laboratory (NRL) and Carnegie Institution determine height of the ionosphere through use of radio pulse transmitter developed by NRL.

1945 - USS Callaghan (DD-792) is last U.S. Navy ship sunk by a Japanese kamikaze attack, off Okinawa.

1973 - Launch of Skylab III, the second manned mission to the first U.S. manned space station, was piloted by Maj. Jack Lousma, USMC with Capt. Alan Bean, USN as the commander of the mission and former Navy electronics officer, Owen Garriott as Science Pilot. The mission lasted 59 days, 11 hours and included 858 Earth orbits. Recovery by USS New Orleans (LPH-11).

July 29

1846 - Sailors and Marines from U.S. sloop Cyane capture San Diego, Calif.

1918 - Assistant Secretary of the Navy Franklin D. Roosevelt visits Queenstown, Ireland.

1945 - U.S. warships bombard Hamamatsu, Japan.

1967 - Fire on board USS Forrestal (CV-59) kills 134

July 30

1918 - Units of First Marine Aviation Force arrive at Brest, France.

1941 - Japanese aircraft bomb USS Tutuila (PR-4) at Chungking, China –the first Navy ship damaged by Axis forces during World War II.

1942 - FDR signs act establishing WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service). During World War II, over 80,000 officer and enlisted women served in the WAVES.

1944 - Naval Task Force lands Army troops near Cape Oparai, New Guinea.

1945 - Japanese submarine, I-58, sinks cruiser USS Indianapolis (CA-35) in Philippine Sea – only 316 of 1199 crew survived.

1967 - Fire on board aircraft carrier USS Forrestal (CV-59) off the coast of Vietnam results in death of 134 crew.

July 31

1815 - Commodore Stephen Decatur concludes agreement with Bey of Tunis to compensate U.S. for seizure of merchant ships during the War of 1812.

1874 - Commissioning of USS Intrepid, first U.S. warship equipped with torpedoes.

1912 - First attempt to launch an airplane by catapult made at Annapolis, Md.

1964 - All-nuclear task force of USS Long Beach (CGN 9), USS Enterprise (CVN 65) and USS Bainbridge I (CGN 25) eaves Norfolk, Va. to begin Operation Sea Orbit, to circle the globe without refueling. They returned on Oct. 3.

If you're looking for moose in Maine . . .

By Sarah Smiley
Special Contributor

When I tell people I live in Maine, they almost always ask about the moose. And it turns out there are many misconceptions about moose, such as the idea that they outnumber people in Maine, but the biggest of all is probably that they exist.

The only moose I've seen is on the state flag.

Oh, alright, I supposedly saw an adolescent moose running down I-95, but I'm not 100-percent sure that wasn't a small horse. I didn't see antlers. And until I see a big bull moose with 50-pound antlers, I won't be convinced the species wasn't invented by the Office of Tourism to attract tourists.

I've been on a mission to see a moose since I moved to Maine in 2008. Previously, I was one of those never-been-to-Maine types (but I got here as soon as I could) who thought people in Maine probably kept the animals as pets or something.

As I drove into the state for the first time, the big moose-warning signs made me excited. I was going to see one before I even had a house! Our Realtor told me to be careful on the drive, because that's how people die in Maine — they hit a moose. I thought I'd be dodging them for Heaven's sake.

I've never seen one. But taking all the best parts of what Mainers had told me about the animals, I developed quite the mental picture. I imagined them stepping over cars, completely unafraid of the highway, their legs like stilts casually moving in and out of traffic. People had told me moose eyes don't reflect light at night, so I wondered if maybe I had missed them altogether. Maybe they are that stealthy.

I knew friends who had seen moose. I saw their pictures on Facebook, and I studied them for indications that they'd been Photoshopped.

"You need to go further north," a

From The Homefront



Smiley

the rangers for the best spot to see moose.

"Definitely Sandy Stream," they said.

Down the path we went, rain jackets hanging from our arms just in case. When we got to the lookout at Sandy Stream, a couple was sitting there positively radiant from having just seen a moose, which, of course, was gone now.

"Also, last week I was here," the man said, "and, I'm not kidding, there were a dozen moose in the stream."

My boys and I sat at the lookout for as long as my youngest son, Lindell, could tolerate. We never saw anything.

Occasionally, throughout the year, my game warden friend would tell me about moose found wandering the city streets. I even put on the police scanner once and tried to follow the clues to a supposed moose bathing in the Kenduskeag Stream. By the time I got there, the moose was gone.

"Try going in the heat of the summer," my friend said.

"They are more likely to be at the stream to cool off."

So last month, Dustin and I took the kids back up to Sandy Stream at Mt. Katahdin. This time, we saw moose tracks along the trail. They were as big as Lindell's head, and I took about 20 photographs of them. I just knew I was

friend who is a game warden told me. "Moose are everywhere up there. You're guaranteed to see one."

So last September I took the kids to Mt. Katahdin, and I asked

about to see a moose this time. One of the boys stepped in moose poop — it went all the way up his shins and into his sock — and I could hardly stand the excitement. Who steps in moose droppings and doesn't actually see the animal?

Two professional photographers were on the lookout. They told us about all the moose they had seen "just yesterday."

"Everyone sees moose 'yesterday,'" my oldest son, Ford, said. But there were no moose — none — in the stream that day. The park rangers had radioed

their crews in the woods and instructed them to pull back the Office of Tourism-sponsored, mechanical, radio-controlled beasts because the Smileys were coming. (That's what they do, right?)

Or maybe I'm moose repellant.

A week later, I was on a bus in Washington, D.C., melting from the heat. The driver asked where I was from. When I told him Maine, I hoped he would ask me about lobster, Acadia National Park, loons, or the snow. But I could tell by his face in the rearview mirror what he wanted to ask.

He turned around in his chair and said, "Man, you must see a ton of moose up there! Do they, like, walk around in your backyard and stuff?"



Photo by MC2 Amanda Cabasos

Road Closure

NAS Jax Public Works reminds drivers that Birmingham Avenue between Mustin Road and Langley Street will be closed from July 22 through Aug. 26 for storm water piping and box culvert repairs. Detour signs will be displayed.

Unforeseen delays postpone gymnasium opening

From Staff

The base gym did not open as scheduled on July 22 due to unforeseen delays in the renovation project.

When a firm date is established for the opening, MWR will notify customers through social media (MWR

Facebook page, www.facebook.com/nasjaxmwr), POW and an MWR electronic "News Flash" e-mail.

We apologize for any inconvenience. Spin classes will resume when the gym is open.

For more information, call 542-3225.



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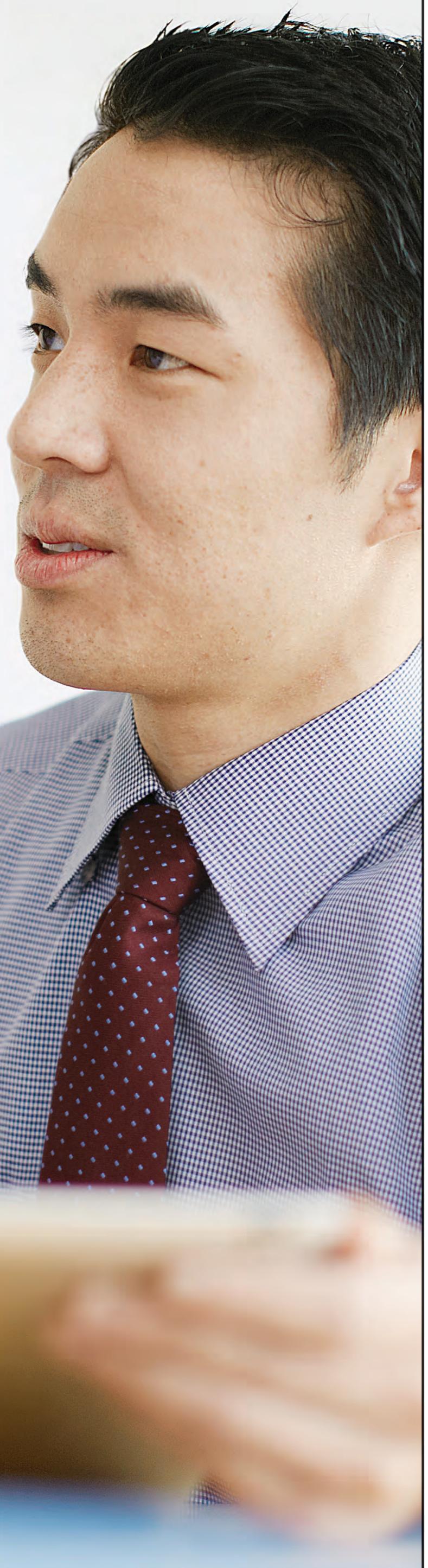
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NAS Jax Navy Exchange named Bingham Award winner

From Staff

The Navy Exchange at NAS Jacksonville showed superior performance over the past year in service to military personnel and their families – earning the runner-up 2012 Bingham Award for sales above \$85 million.

General Manager Marsha Brooks said, "It's a big honor for our associates to place second in the top sales category. We're also proud of the support that our active duty and retired patrons provide. We work diligently to provide quality products at competitive prices that consistently attract and reward shoppers."

She added that, "Our high overall presentation standards help NAS Jax to get good marks from both patrons and associates on NEX satisfaction surveys. The Bingham Award shows that our associates really know their mission and deliver the goods the way our patrons prefer."

"Winning the Bingham Award represents a tremendous achievement on the



Managers and associates of the Navy Exchange at NAS Jacksonville celebrate their superior performance by winning runner-up for the 2012 NEXCOM Bingham Award.

Photo by Clark Pierce

part of all our store associates and managers, as well as the base community," said retired Rear Adm. Robert Bianchi, chief executive officer of NEXCOM.

"This award is presented to the 'best of the best' Navy Exchanges in the nine sales categories for overall financial results and customer service."

The Bingham Award program was established in 1979 to recognize excellence in customer service, operations and management at NEX activities.

HSM-74 'Swamp Foxes' deploy with USS Harry S. Truman to U.S. 5th and 6th Fleets

From USS Harry S. Truman Public Affairs

Sailors aboard aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) said their goodbyes to friends and family prior to getting underway for an eight to nine-month deployment July 22.

Truman, along with the other components of the Harry S. Truman Carrier Strike Group (HST CSG), completed a composite training unit exercise in January prior to their originally scheduled February deployment, and also a sustainment exercise and fleet synthetic training exercise in June.

"The crew has operated and trained extensively at sea the past several months and the training scenarios were more complex and challeng-



Photo by MC3 Lorenzo Burleson

An MH-60R Sea Hawk assigned to the "Swamp Foxes" of HSM-74 lifts off from the aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75). Harry S. Truman is underway to the 5th and 6th Fleet areas of responsibility for a nine-month deployment.

ing," said Capt. Bob Roth, Truman's commanding officer. "The ship's and air wing's warfighting proficiency has increased substantially since our deployment was delayed in February. I couldn't be more proud of the crew; they are dedicated, skilled, and tremendously enthusiastic about

deploying."

The February deployment was delayed due to sequestration and the change of aircraft carrier presence requirements in the U.S. Central Command Area of Responsibility.

The current deployment is part of an ongoing rotation of forward-

deployed forces to support maritime security operations (MSO) in the U.S. 6th and 5th Fleet areas of operations.

MSO set the conditions for security and stability in the maritime environment and complement the counter-terrorism and security efforts of regional nations.

MSO deny international terrorists use of the maritime environment as a venue for attack or to transport personnel, weapons or other material.

Truman is the flagship for HST CSG. It can travel in excess of 30 knots, and has a ship's company of approximately 3,000. With the embarked air wing and staffs, the number rises to about 5,000.

HST CSG also consists of USS Bulkeley (DDG 84), USS Gettysburg (CG

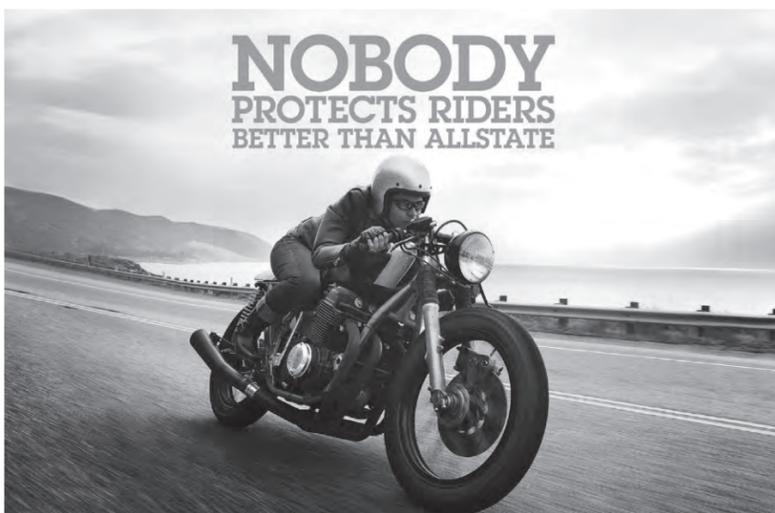
64), USS Mason (DDG 87), USS San Jacinto (CG 56), 1st Combined Destroyer Squadron staff.

Also on board is Carrier Air Wing 3 and its associated squadrons - Strike Fighter Squadrons (VFA) 32 "Swordsmen," VFA-37 "Ragin' Bulls," and VFA-105 "Gunslingers;" Marine

Fighter Attack Squadron 312 "Checkerboards;" Airborne Early Warning Squadron 126 "Seahawks;" Electronic Attack Squadron) 130 "Zappers;" Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 7 "Dusty Dogs;" and Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron 74 "Swamp Foxes."

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The Hilltop Staff would like to salute all Military personnel

Family Readiness Program conducts emergency response exercise

By MC1(SW) Greg Johnson
Navy Region Southeast Public Affairs

The Commander, Navy Region Southeast (CNRSE) Family Readiness Program hosted phase II of an Emergency Family Assistance Center (EFAC) exercise aboard NAS Jacksonville July 17.

The training was the second installment of a three-phase exercise designed to test the region's ability to establish and sustain EFAC operations in the days and weeks following the landfall of a hurricane.

Phase I, conducted on May 30, involved more than 30 Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) representatives from NAS Jacksonville, Naval Station (NS) Mayport and Naval Submarine Base (NSB) Kings Bay, as well as installation and training officers and emergency management personnel from all three bases.

Phase II incorporated a variety of additional base organizations, such as the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society, Navy Legal Service Office, Navy Gateway Inns and Suites, base housing and many others.

"This training is vital because it's not a matter of if one of our installations will be affected by a hurricane, it's a matter of when," said Rear Adm. John Scorby Jr., commander, Navy Region Southeast.

"Our ability to bring together multiple organizations and people to work as a cohesive unit is crucial to our recovery efforts in this kind of scenario, and I think training like this has a huge impact on our ability to respond when the real thing does happen."

The EFAC exercise is essentially a continuation of the region's HURREX 2013, that tested the region's hurricane preparedness through a scenario involving multiple, simulated storms that made landfall near installations throughout the Southeast Region. While



Rear Adm. John Scorby Jr., commander, Navy Region Southeast, makes opening remarks on July 17 at phase II of the region's Family Readiness Program Emergency Family Assistance Center Exercise 2013.

HURREX focused on pre-landfall preparations, the EFAC exercise focused on the recovery phase of disaster response.

In this scenario, NS Mayport and NSB Kings Bay residents were evacuated prior to landfall and each base suffered extensive flooding as the simulated storm passed.

Afterward, FFSC personnel from all three participating bases worked with emergency management, training personnel and other installation departments to establish an EFAC on board NAS Jacksonville.

"Phase II of this exercise had a lot more moving pieces due to the fact that we brought in a variety of additional agencies to participate," said Carol Lucius, CNRSE Family Readiness Program work and family life coordinator.

"To incorporate all these different people into this exercise is invaluable because we will be working together in the event of a real disaster and

establishing roles, responsibilities and relationships is crucial."

After a real disaster, the EFAC would function as a hub for FFSC case workers and emergency response personnel to provide a wide range of support services for affected family members.

According to Lucius, much of that support is managed through the Navy Family Accountability and Assessment System (NFAAS).

"After a disaster, people can go into the 'Needs Assessment' portion of NFAAS and specify what they need, then our case managers can go in and see what those needs are. We will then call them back and get them the appropriate resources," she said.

Although NFAAS is one of the primary methods for EFAC personnel to assess needs after a disaster, it is not the only one. People can also come directly to the EFAC for assistance, Lucius added.

"Circumstances can change very quickly in the days and weeks following a hurricane, so our recovery efforts need to be flexible and our services have to be adjusted accordingly," Lucius said.

"It's important for us to identify exactly who we need to have in the EFAC based on what peoples' needs are. The EFAC is not staffed with only FFSC personnel, but there are a lot of other organizations involved, such as chaplains, medical, legal, housing and a long list of others. Part of this exercise is to establish a clearer picture of what resources we are likely to need in the EFAC at different times in the recovery process."

After an actual hurricane, EFAC personnel would also coordinate with a number of civilian agencies and local offi-

cial in order to get people the help they need.

Lucius said most people who seek help are in need of food, shelter, clothes or some other physical need, which makes it important to conduct this kind of exercise in order to be better prepared for recovery efforts when a real-world scenario occurs.

"The nature of an emergency or crisis event is that of unpredictability," she said.

"However, even though things will inevitably happen that we don't necessarily expect, we still need to have a plan in place so that our people are confident in themselves, confident in their leadership and confident in the plan."

Lucius said training like this is essential for preparing emergency management and FFSC personnel for an actual event, but it is equally as important for family members and dependents to know what to do in the event of an emergency.

"They really need to know about NFAAS. They need to know that it is essential for them to have their personal contact information updated in NFAAS so that when a disaster strikes, they can be contacted and they know how to contact somebody for help," she said.

While phase II of the exercise included about 30 more participants than phase I, phase III of the exercise will expand even further and will include a number of civilian agencies and organizations, including the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Salvation Army and others.

Sailors, dependents and government civilians can log into NFAAS at <https://navyfamily.navy.mil> where they can update their contact information, report their status or submit a needs assessment.

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U.S. Sea Cadet Jake Dewerth practices using an aviation light gun during a week-long training at NAS Jax Air Traffic Control Tower July 9. "I really enjoy learning and experiencing what it is like to work in an Air Traffic Control Tower because I am really interested in aviation. Every day there is some thing new to learn," said Dewerth.



AC2(AW/SW) Damien Davis of the NAS Jax Air Operations Department, explains the purpose of a flight strip to Sea Cadet Jesse Moniz during a training session July 9. The small strip of paper is used to track flight in air traffic control.



AC1 (AW/SW/MTS) Eric English, attached to NAS Jax Air Operation Department, explains to Sea Cadet Jesse Moniz that binoculars are used for plane spotting during a training at the NAS Jax Air Traffic Control Tower. "It's a great opportunity to work with the air traffic controllers and learn about all their special equipment. They set a good example how to stay calm under pressure. I would like to be a pilot one day and this opportunity gives me a better understanding what's happening on the other side of the spectrum," said Moniz.



Lt. j.g. Kyle Atakturk of VP-16, explains the purpose of the various controls in a P-8A Poseidon cockpit to Sea Cadets David Welch (right) and Ethan Carrico (left) during Basic Airman Training July 15.



(From left) AN Nicholas Dominguez of VP-30, shows Sea Cadets Rajah Bannister, Tyler Lutz and Meghan Wellman how to operate the ground maintenance panel and weapons bay door of a P-8A Poseidon July 15. "This is the first time I have been through Basic Airman Training and I love it. It's informative and some day I would like to be a pilot. This training gives me a better understanding on what it is like to be around aircraft," said Wellman.

Sea Cadets gain experience from NAS Jax sailors

MC2 Amanda Cabasos
Staff writer

Fifty-one U.S. Naval Sea Cadets and adult volunteers from various divisions, squadrons and battalions in the Southeast, reported to NAS Jax for annual training July 1-14 to help youths gain knowledge and experience through hands-on training.

The cadets, ages 13-17, spent the week working at various locations at NAS Jax, including the Flight Line Café, NAS Jax Fire Department, Air Traffic Control Tower, Fleet Readiness Center Southeast Power Plants Division, and Basic Airman Training at VP-16.

All cadets were required to complete a two-week boot camp, located at various places across the country, before they could report to NAS Jax for their advanced training program.

"I have been working with the Sea Cadet program for more than 18 years, and having participated in other youth programs, I can honestly say that our program is the best around," said U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps (NSCC) Regional Director 6-2 Lt. Cmdr. June Tillet.

"What other program allows young folks the opportunity to experience the U.S. Navy and other services so close up and personal? I've seen cadets grow up from 11 years old to full adulthood and I am amazed at the transformation."

"Our cadets develop into responsible, stable adults due to the outstanding support of the Navy and our dedicated adult volunteers who spend countless hours mentoring and training," said Tillet.

"Our track record speaks for itself in that 65 percent of our cadets join the military and they arrive at recruit training and Officer Candidate School with a good understanding of what is expected of them and how they need to perform. NSCC not only benefits our cadets and leaders, it benefits our country as well."

Six cadets spent two weeks at the Flight Line Café and learned essential culinary skills that included proper food preparation, baking and cooking techniques. They also assisted Navy culinary specialists at the food service line.

"My favorite part about this job is preparing the meals," said Sea Cadet Theodore Owens. "I have learned a lot so far about how to handle and stow food."

"I am learning to work with other people," added Sea Cadet Alex Long. "I really enjoyed working in the bakery."

Sea Cadet Lt. j.g. Kathy D'Orlando said, "As adults, we can mentor the students and teach them military bearing, that also helps them in their daily life skills. These Sea Cadets make life-long friends. The program helps them learn new skills and preps them for their future careers."

Twenty cadets were selected to work at Jacksonville Navy Metro Fire and Emergency Services. Divided into two groups, they learned either basic fire-fighting knowledge that involved both hose and ladder training, or first responders training, that included scenarios of first and second injury assessments and backboard training.

Sea Cadet Jon-Michael Borzeka stated, "The firefighting training is important because it gives us an opportunity to experience what it is like to be a fire fighter and to see if it would be a career path we may pursue. The Sea Cadet program provides many other opportunities



Lt. j.g. Jason Cuellar, of VP-16, takes a trio of Southeast Region Sea Cadets on a walk-around inspection of a P-8A Poseidon aircraft July 17 on the flight line at NAS Jacksonville. The P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft is the Navy's replacement for the P-3C Orion.



U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps Leader Billy Dover (right) gives instruction to Sea Cadet Timothy Kohler (left) on how to perform a secondary survey on Sea Cadet Steven D'Orlando (table) during a First Responder class held at the NAS Jax Fire Station June 26.



(From top left) U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps Instructor Billy Dover guides Sea Cadets Amanda Lawson, Timothy Kohler, Nathan Renaud, Steven D'Orlando and Isaac Woods (floor) on a proper securing of a patient on a backboard. Cadets performed a first and second assessment on patients and were given a scenario where resources were not available, such as backboard straps, and they learned to improvise, such as using their belts.

for hands-on learning as well."

"The primary reason this program is beneficial for the cadets is because they're figuring out the careers they may want to pursue. They learn real skills, such as EMT, that they can apply to their lives. We provide basic knowledge they can use daily," said Sea Cadet Leader Lt. j.g. Mark Theroux.

"They learn the fundamentals of fire hazards and avoid them to prevent fires. The cadets are also trained in CPR," he added.

Four cadets chose to spend the week at the NAS Jax Air Operations Control Tower where they learned the ins and outs about communicating with aviators and vectoring aircraft in the radar room.

"This is my second year doing this," said Sea Cadet Jesse Moniz.

"It's a cool job. It has been great observing the air traffic controllers (AC) and learning about all their special equipment. The AC's set a good example of how to stay calm under pressure," he added.

The NSCC Program is open to youths ages 13-17 who have a desire to learn about the Navy, Marines and Merchant Marine. Members drill at their local units weekly or monthly during the year and are given the opportunity to participate in advanced training during school breaks at various locations around the country.



Lt. j.g. Jason Cuellar, a naval aviator attached to VP-16, leads Southeast Region Sea Cadets on a tour of a P-8A Poseidon aircraft July 15. *Photo by MC3 Eric Pastor*



(Left) NAS Jax Firefighter Shane McFadden guides Sea Cadet Daulton Lagman (from right) on the proper form of tying a clove hitch knot while Sea Cadets Nick Mazzone, Ryan Theroux (back), Alejandro Rodriguez and Andrew Paguaga wait their turn during firefighting training held at the NAS Jax Fire Department June 26.

Photos by MC2 Amanda Cabasos



AC1(AW/SW/MTS) Eric English explains the duties of vectoring aircraft in the radar room to Sea Cadet Tyson Young.



Executive Chef Michael Riggs, a culinary instructor for Bowling Green Technical College, shows Sea Cadet Jordon Kent how to properly position food and garnish a dish called Chicken Roulade.



(From left) Sea Cadets Tab Belvedere, Garren Gilreath, Theodore Owens, Alex Long, Jordon Kent, and Robert Stewart learn how to prepare and cook Chicken Roulade during a Culinary Arts Program at the Flight Line Café July 9.



Sea Cadet Theodore Owens (right) serves lunch to AWWAA Logan Gough of VP-30, as part of a Culinary Arts Program for the Sea Cadets.



Sea Cadets Tab Belvedere (left) and Theodore Owens (right) prepare nine lunch boxes for the culinary specialists at the NAS Jax Flight Line Cafe' as part of a hands-on experience July 8.

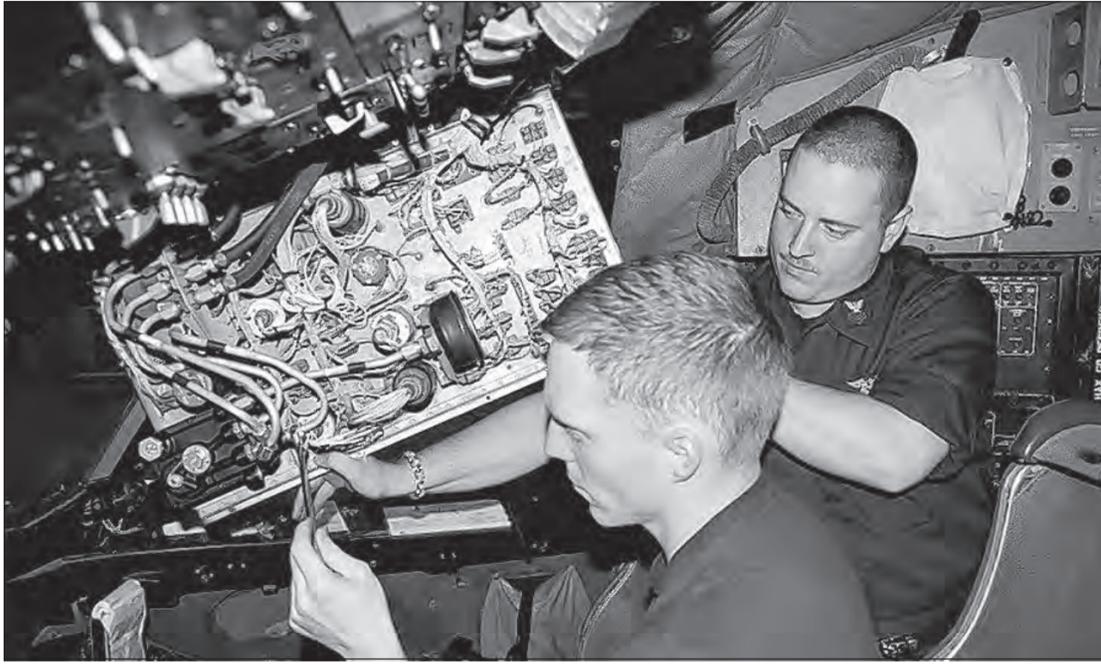


Photo courtesy of VP-45

VP-45 Quality Assurance Safety Representative AME1(AW) Scott Walker inspects a P-3C maintenance procedure while deployed in Okinawa, Japan. "Everyone has to have safety as their number one priority," said Walker.

VP-45

From Page 1

the Pelican's 44 years of mishap-free flying would likely not have been possible. The quality assurance division provides an extra set of experienced eyes to ensure the job is done right and done safely. This ensures the safety of not only the aircrew flying the plane, but also of those who are performing the maintenance. "Everyone here must have safety on their mind as their number one priority," said QA Safety Representative AME1(AW)

Scott Walker. "They do this by staying involved with the maintenance shops, providing frequent training and conducting audits of everything from the paperwork and workspace organization to maintenance practices."

"One of our main goals," Walker added, "is to promote an atmosphere of safety and to mold people's attitudes."

Hand picked for their technical expertise and strong character, personnel in VP-45's QA Division take their jobs seriously and work hard to promote a culture of safety

within the squadron.

"I think consistency is what has helped us achieve this milestone," said AZ2(AW) Terry Wright, QA's central technical publications librarian. Knowledge and consistency will be key during the squadron's next major milestone - the transition to the P-8A Poseidon. Luckily, the Pelicans know that their QA representatives are up to the task of leading them through the P-8 transition safely as they strive to add another 44 years to an already outstanding safety record.

CNO

From Page 1

tial adversaries is our primary function," Greenert said.

"I think we are out there at the, what I call, the maritime crossroads -where it matters, when it matters."

CNO addressed the readiness impact of sequestration for FY 13 and FY 14. There is one carrier strike group (CSG) and one amphibious ready group (ARG) deployed to each of the Arabian Gulf and Western Pacific theaters. However, the surge force is a concern, Greenert said. Currently, there is only CSG and one ARG ready to surge if needed. A year ago, the Navy had three CSGs and ARGs ready to surge. Despite reduced operations and maintenance spending in FY 13, Greenert said the Navy's focus is to keep sea commands ready for deployments scheduled for FY 14.

Sequestration for FY 14 could reduce each account by 10 percent. The Navy possibly faces deeper cuts for FY 14, because FY 13 used money available from previous years to help pad the effects of sequestration, Greenert explained.

CNO's goal is to preserve shipbuilding and aviation contracts through this process. Furlough impacts to the civilian force continue to be a challenge.

"Regrettably, we're enduring furloughs," Greenert said. "It's an impact, I felt it last week. I feel it this week. It hurts our readiness and it hurts our productivity as well."

CNO addressed sexual assault organizational changes and a revision to the Navy Exchange alcohol sales policy by further discussing the Navy's newest changes that are taking place fleet-wide. Greenert said with more than half of all sexual assaults involving alcohol, the Navy had to look more critically at the atmosphere and climate of its bases. He said after a review of Navy Exchange alcohol sales trends at base stores the data showed a high volume of sales occurring late into the night and early morning and were not in line with mainstream retailers.

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Flight Line Café celebrates arrival of Ney Award

By Clark Pierce
Editor

Sailors and other staff assigned to the NAS Jacksonville Flight Line Café (galley) celebrated the arrival of their 2013 runner-up trophy for the annual Capt. Edward F. Ney Memorial Award for the Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) Large General Mess Category.

Commander, Navy Region Southeast Rear Adm. Jack Scorby Jr. presented the stylized eagle trophy to NAS Jax Food Service Officer CWO4 Teresa Cullipher.

"My personal congratulations go out to each one of your staff for winning this exceptional award," said Scorby.

"Whether you cook, bake or man the service lines, I've no doubt about your commitment to providing a truly superior dining experience."

"Keep creating the great-tasting menus that you're known for - and stay focused on bringing home the first place trophy."

"Runner-up is a great accomplishment when you consider



Photos by Clark Pierce

NAS Jax Flight Line Café staff join Commander, Navy Region Southeast Rear Adm. Jack Scorby Jr. and Food Service Officer CWO4 Teresa Cullipher (top row center) to celebrate the arrival of the Edward F. Ney Award trophy for runner-up in the Large General Mess Category on July 17.

((From left) CSCS Wendell Heyward; Commander, Navy Region Southeast Rear Adm. Jack Scorby Jr.; CS3 Gregory Burke and CWO4 Teresa Cullipher proudly display the 2013 Capt. Edward F. Ney Award runner-up trophy for food service excellence.

the high quality of the 19 galleys we competed against. Our culinary specialists are the 'best of the best,'" stated NAS Jax Food Service Officer CWO4 Teresa Cullipher.

"They have won numerous culinary competitions in the southeast region and have earned chef certifications that



enhance their knowledge and culinary skills."

"This represents appreciation for the hard work that we

put into our program to exceed the expectations of our customers."

"Runner-up is good - but now we want to press on and take on the challenge of winning first place," said CSCS Wendell Heyward, LCPO of the NAS Jax Supply Department.

The NAS Jax galley was inspected on all aspects of food service including preparation, presentation and food quality, accountability of records and returns, sanitation, customer service and crew morale.

"Our goal is to provide outstanding food service every single meal and ensure our customers have the best nutritional meal possible," added Cullipher.

The annual award, co-sponsored by the International Food Service Executives Association, encourages Navy Food Service program excellence with the goal of improving the quality of life for Navy personnel.

It is named in honor of Capt. Edward Ney, head of the subsistence division of the Bureau of Supplies and Account from 1940-45.

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Stellar Sailors recognized for achievements

By Clark Pierce
Editor

NAS Jacksonville recognized 102 top Sailors from the base and tenant commands during the Sailor of the Quarter (SOQ) luncheon at the NAS Jax River Cove Catering and Conference Center July 18.

NAS Jax Command Master Chief CMDCM(AW/SW) Brad Shepherd was master of ceremonies. "It is my distinct honor to welcome you to Team Jax Sailor of the Quarter Luncheon for the third quarter. I don't have to tell you about the insanely hectic operational tempo that we're supporting right now. In fact, there are about 319,000 Sailors serving in various capacities throughout the world. We have 286 ships in service, including aircraft carriers and big-deck amphibious ships that are currently underway in every AOR around the world.

"It's truly a privilege to be an America as we continue to defend the freedoms that others envy. Despite furloughs and other budget constraints, I believe that our Navy will prevail against any future challenges.

"Today, we are here to recognize the elite - our very best of the best - for the valuable leadership they bring to their commands," said Shepherd.

Guest speaker CS1 Marnika Ash, assistant LPO of the NAS Jax Flight Line Café, opened her remarks with a quote by Thomas Jefferson, "I am a great believer in luck, and I find the harder I work, the more I have of it."

She asked the audience how a six-year first class petty officer like herself recently won Senior Sailor of the Second Quarter.

"It's how motivated, determined and focused you are - and how much will-power you bring to the game. You must constantly push yourself to be a better person, take advantage of educational opportunities, and instill character and values in those around you," said Ash.

"My leadership appointed me a galley watch captain, responsible for four cooks and 18 foodservice attendants. And, yes, I found that the harder I worked, the more responsibility was bestowed upon me," said Ash.

Soon thereafter, she was awarded Blue Jacket of the Quarter.

"What we have to do as Sailors of the Quarter is to identify the next wave of superior sailors and push them to realize their potential. Is it worth all the mentoring, judging and scrutiny? You bet it is. So remember to constantly talk the talk and walk the walk. You'll find today's recognition to be one of



Photos by Clark Pierce

HM2 Justin Cardente, Junior Sailor of the Quarter at Aviation Survival Training Center, receives his award from NAS Jax Commanding Officer Capt. Robert Sanders.

the greatest benchmarks in your naval career. Congratulations to you all," said Ash.

The event's keynote speaker was YNCS Yolanda Walls, the staff senior enlisted leader for Navy Region Southeast.

"I've been in the Navy for 23 years and have witnessed a lot of change - but there's one thing that has remained consistent - and that is the exceptional quality of our Sailors.

It's my honor to be part of today's recognition of Sailors I consider to be heroes and who have been singled out as the best of the best within their command. You should be justifiably proud of your accomplishment.

"You are part of an elite group who put service to our nation over self and family.

You also share one very important thing in common - you hold tight to the values that make this country and our Navy the best in the world.

"Both on and off the job you live our core values of honor, courage and commitment. You reflect honor by conducting yourselves according to the highest standards.

"Whenever I meet Sailors of the Quarter, I find them to be professionals who exude a standard of excellence in everything they do, representing their country and their Navy with pride. They often contribute to their community while also pursuing personal and professional development.

"Your command leadership recognizes that you didn't get to this point alone. To your family members, I also say thank you. Anyone who has served, knows we could not do what we do without the support of our families.

"To the leaders of these Sailors - the chiefs and officers who inspired them to this point - you can be proud of the



From left, NAS Jax CMDCM(AW/SW) Brad Shepherd congratulates keynote speaker YNCS Yolanda Walls and guest speaker CS1 Marnika Ash at the July 18 Sailor of the Quarter luncheon.

results of your investment.

"The quote for today's event comes from Rear Admiral Farragut, who said, "The world is sadly mistaken when it supposes that battles are won by this or that kind of vessel. The best gun and vessel should certainly be chosen, but victory, three times out of four, depends on those who fight them."

"Sailors of the Quarter, you are the kind of people I am proud to be in the fight with each and every day. But now is not the time to rest on this accomplishment. As the Navy continually transforms to become more efficient and effective, we will continue to depend on you to get the job done," concluded Walls.

Following lunch, NAS Jax Commanding Officer Capt. Bob Sanders told the audience,

"I know it took a lot of hard work to get to where you're sitting right now - and in many cases, a lot of support from your families. I want to thank all the spouses, significant others and children here who support your Navy career."

"Whether you're an E3 or a first class, you are now a leader in your command. Every Sailor will look up to you - just as every chief and officer will expect more from you. You are the future of the United States Navy," he concluded.

Sanders then presented each SOQ an award envelope with a \$25 gift card from VyStar Credit Union, a discount coupon from Navy Exchange, and a special coin from First Command Financial Services. The NAS Jax Morale,



Commander, Navy Region Southeast Junior Sailor of the Quarter IT2(SW) Shelli Davis is congratulated by NAS Jax Commanding Officer Capt. Robert Sanders.

Welfare and Recreation Department, USAA, University of Phoenix and Columbia College picked up the cost of the buffet luncheon for the SOQs and their family members. The luncheon was coordinated by NC1 Paul Otie.

MA1(EXW) Ronald Hughes, senior sailor of the quarter for NAS Jax Security Department, said, "This event is great because it brings together all the leading Sailors from the base as well as tenant commands. Being part of this tradition takes a 'give it all you can' attitude, plus, the support of your shipmates, as well as your chain of command," said Hughes. "It's a privilege to be honored to be here today."

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Sailors of the Quarter (Third Quarter)

NAS Jax Senior Sailor of the Quarter
MA1(EXW) Ronald Hughes
Sailor of the Quarter
MA2(EXW) Keith Danalewich
Junior Sailor of the Quarter
AC3 Alexis Ray

See **SOQ LIST**, Page 11

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Sailors of the Quarter (contd. from Page 10)

Blue Jacket of the Quarter
MASN Stephan Moore

Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training Unit Jax

Senior Sailor of the Quarter
AT1(AW/SW) Antonio Hart

Junior Sailor of the Quarter
AS2(AW) Mark Dial

Non-Commissioned Officer of the Quarter
Sgt. Kevin Rolfe

Aviation Survival Training Center

Senior Sailor of the Quarter
HM1 Travis Salazar

IOQ
AWF1 Ryan Kenyon

Junior Sailor of the Quarter
HM2 Justin Cardente

Blue Jacket of the Quarter
ND3 Benjamin Lee

Commander, Navy Region Southeast

Senior Sailor of the Quarter
RP1 Jerry Thompson

Junior Sailor of the Quarter
IT2(SW) Shelli Davis

Commander, Patrol Reconnaissance Wing-11 Sea

Senior Sailor of the Quarter
AWO1(AW/NAC) Michael Fling

Sailor of the Quarter
OS2(SW) Rafael Sarraraz

Junior Sailor of the Quarter
ET3(AW/IDW) Justin Goss

Blue Jacket of the Quarter
OSSA Marissa Gonzalez

Shore

Senior Sailor of the Quarter
AWO1(NAC/AW) Melinda Wood

Sailor of the Quarter
OS2(SW) Paul Travassos

Junior Sailor of the Quarter
IS3 Taylor Marsteller

Blue Jacket of the Quarter
LSSN Joseph Gudger

HSM-70

Senior Sailor of the Quarter
AD1 Christopher Eastman

Junior Sailor of the Quarter
AWR2 John Gaffney

Blue Jacket of the Quarter
HN Kelsey Doran

HSM-72

Sailor of the Quarter
AE1 Shaun Battle

Junior Sailor of the Quarter
AD2 Phillip Pussilano

Blue Jacket of the Quarter
ATAN Jesse Garcia

HSM-74

Sailor of the Quarter
AZ1(AW) Eliot Urena

Junior Sailor of the Quarter
AT2(AW) Lawrence Than

Blue Jacket of the Quarter
AN Brandon Lewis

Fleet Area Control and Surveillance Facility Jacksonville

Sailor of the Quarter
AC1 Carlozzi

Junior Sailor of the Quarter

OS2 Rogers

Blue Jacket of the Quarter
ITSN Ketchum

Fleet Readiness Centerr Southeast Sea

Senior Sailor of the Quarter
AT1 Brian Rosetta

Sailor of the Quarter
AM2 Reinaldo Araujo

Junior Sailor of the Quarter
AM3 Meaghan McDonell

Blue Jacket of the Quarter
AEAN Christina Jenkins

Shore

Senior Sailor of the Quarter
AM1 Billy Avance

Sailor of the Quarter
AT2 Kareem Charles

Junior Sailor of the Quarter
AE3 Tamie Vires

Blue Jacket of the Quarter
ASAN Jordan Sanborn

Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station

Sailor of the Quarter
ET1 Tyler Kirkland

Junior Sailor of the Quarter
YN2 Romero Henry

Blue Jacket of the Quarter
ET3 Rebekah Ray

Naval Hospital Jacksonville

Senior Sailor of the Quarter
HM1 Chad Sinclair

Junior Sailor of the Quarter
HM2 Kavina Benjamin

Blue Jacket of the Quarter
HN Kenneth Hattenmoreland

Navy Operational Support Center

Sailor of the Quarter
AO1 Melody Jones

Junior Sailor of the Quarter
BM2 Yuniur Lopez

Southeast Regional Calibration Center

Senior Sailor of the Quarter
IC1(SW/AW) Ronald Wright

Junior Sailor of the Quarter
AZ2(AW) Steven A. Guarieri

Blue Jacket of the Quarter
AT2 Steven Dickens

Tactical Support Center (TSC)

Sailor of the Quarter
AWO1 Frank Frangella

Junior Sailor of the Quarter
AWR2 David Hudson

TPU/PCF

Sailor of the Quarter
OS1 Lashanda Mack

Junior Sailor of the Quarter
GSM2 Dobson Smart

VP-5

Sailor of the Quarter
AO1(AW) Robert Massard

Junior Sailor of the Quarter
AD2(AW) Lewis Small

MFOQ
AO3(AW) Mallory Burton

VP-8

Senior Sailor of the Quarter
AWV1(NAC/AW) Travis Ackers

Sailor of the Quarter
LS2(AW/SW) Walter Murillo

Junior Sailor of the Quarter
AM3(AW) Ramon McDuffie

Blue Jacket of the Quarter
AEAA Terrence Pope

VP-10

Sailor of the Quarter
AE1(AW) Young We

Junior Sailor of the Quarter
AT2(AW) Lyasia Duncan

Blue Jacket of the Quarter
AM3(AW) Nicholas McCully

VP-16

Senior Sailor of the Quarter
NC1(AW) Daniela Pradon

Junior Sailor of the Quarter
AWO2(NAC/AW) Jason Garey

Blue Jacket of the Quarter
IS3 Michael Mandley

VP-26

Senior Sailor of the Quarter
AZ1(AW/SWS) Thomas Wilken

Sailor of the Quarter
AZ2(AW) James Capps

Junior Sailor of the Quarter
YN3(AW/SWS) Calvin Dawson

Blue Jacket of the Quarter
ADAN Trevan Crawford

VP-30

Senior Sailor of the Quarter
AWF1(NAC/AW) Steven Weiland

Sailor of the Quarter
AWF2(NAC/AW) Kale Durocher

Junior Sailor of the Quarter
AT3 Daniel Parra

Blue Jacket of the Quarter
AMEAN Brian Miller

VP-45

Sailor of the Quarter
NC1(AW) Natalie France

Junior Sailor of the Quarter
AD2(AW) Keilbenjamine Diaz

Blue Jacket of the Quarter
ATAN Elizabeth Rainey

VP-62

FTS

Sailor of the Quarter
AE1 Joseph Bone

Junior Sailor of the Quarter
AT2 Edward Red

Blue Jacket of the Quarter
ATAN Alice Franco

SELRES

Sailor of the Quarter
AWO1 Brittany Supplee

Junior Sailor of the Quarter
AME2 Jack Smith

Blue Jacket of the Quarter
AE3 Theodore Chancellor

VR-58

FTS

Sailor of the Quarter
AM1(AW) Jacqueline

Cain

Junior Sailor of the Quarter
PS1(AW) Wendy Tetreault

Blue Jacket of the Quarter
ADAN Kirbi Adriance

SELRES

Sailor of the Quarter
AM1(AW) Timothy Alexander

Junior Sailor of the Quarter
ABH2(AW) William Tinsley

Blue Jacket of the Quarter
AEAN William Thompson

VR-62

FTS

Sailor of the Quarter
PS1(SW) Marlon Williams

Junior Sailor of the Quarter
AME2(AW) Grace Schoch

Blue Jacket of the Quarter
AMEAN Ashley Stoner

SELRES

Sailor of the Quarter
PS1(SW) William Jones

Junior Sailor of the Quarter
AD2(AW) Marcelo Bruno

Blue Jacket of the Quarter
AM3 Ramon FloresRivera

Coastal Riverine Squadron Ten

FTS

Sailor of the Quarter
YN1 Stephen Ray

Junior Sailor of the Quarter
YN2 Andrew Jackson

SELRES

Junior Sailor of the Quarter
HM2 Kurt Warakowski

Blue Jacket of the Quarter
MA3 Roberto Rosado



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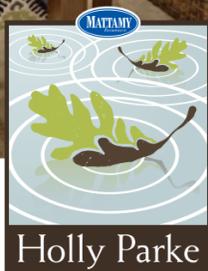
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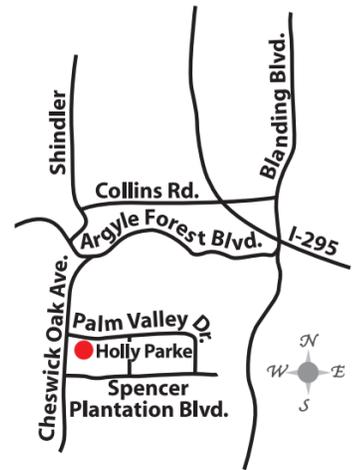
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MTOC-3 home from 5th Fleet deployment

By MC3 Jillian Lotti
VP-40 Public Affairs

Mobile Tactical Operations Center (MTOC) -3, assigned to CPRW-11 and home-ported at Naval Air Station Jacksonville, recently completed its successful deployment to the 5th Fleet Area of Responsibility in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and multiple maritime patrol squadrons.

MTOC-3 arrived October 23, 2012, and took over the MTOC duties officially on October 29. They played an integral role in missions of maintaining peace in the Persian Gulf and allowing for safe passage of all vessels through the Strait of Hormuz.

They entered into a highly dynamic deployment, supporting VP-46, VQ-1, VSX-1, and VP-40. They executed more than 560 flights that encompassed more than 5,000 flight hours, supported 17 transits through the Strait of Hormuz, 27 Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) exercises, and a two-week period of 24-hour flight operations.



Photos by MC3 Jillian Lotti

ET1(AW/IDW/SW) Justin Weakland and AWO1(AW/NAC/IDW) Jeremy Williams disassemble a Tactical Common Data Link antenna to be stowed in a container for shipment back to NAS Jacksonville.

"MTOC-3 averaged three flights per day for six months," said Capt. Mark Creasey, commander, Task Force (CTF) 57. "They never missed a beat."

MTOC-3 palletized and brought out all of the equipment they used to communicate with the P-3C Orions.

They employed a variety of electronic systems for their safety of flight and operations. From the ground, they pro-

vided critical communication links between task force commanders and P-3C aircrews.

During operations, MTOC personnel connected P-3C aircrews to the internet for pre-flight mission planning, which included commanders tasking, radio frequencies and environmental data.

While airborne, P-3C aircrews relied heavily on the critical communications paths,



MTOC-3 technicians ET1(AW/IDW/SW) Justin Weakland and AWO1(AW/NAC/IDW) Jeremy Williams disconnect TCDL antennas and cables. TCDL is a U.S. Military communications protocol that transmits radar, imagery, video and other sensor information.

provided by the MTOC, for bi-directional flow of tasking and operational information. When a flight ended, MTOC members utilized their specialized equipment to download data from the aircraft for analysis, and quickly disseminate it to operational commanders.

In addition to successful missions, four personnel qualified for Enlisted Aviation Warfare

Specialist (EAWS), eight personnel qualified for Enlisted Information Dominance Warfare Specialist (EIDWS), 14 personnel received their individual watch qualifications, and they completed 32 watch team qualifications.

"MTOC-3 has set the standard for all other MTOCs," said Creasey. "We couldn't do what we do out here without MTOC."



Photo by Lt. Brian Simonsen

Fleet Logistics – No Worries

A Navy C-40A Clipper assigned to VR-58 and a C-130T Hercules assigned to VR-62 – both deployed from NAS Jacksonville – undergo cargo loading operations at Royal Australia Air Force station Garbutt in Townsville, Australia. Both Navy Reserve squadrons are participating in Operation Talisman Sabre 2013, an exercise involving more than 28,000 U.S. and Australian Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors and Marines.

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From Security Department

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VP-5 transition spotlight

By Lt. j.g. Brian O'Bannon
VP-5 PAO

This week's "Mad Fox" spotlight shines on IS3 Nicole Souza, an intelligence specialist who hails from Dartmouth, Mass.

She is from a Portuguese family that was granted asylum in the U.S. and is the first in her family to be native born. She holds a bachelor's degree in political science and is currently working on her master's degree in professional studies.

After graduating college, Souza worked a civilian desk job before answering the call to service and joining the U.S. Navy in May 2011.

The VP-5 Intelligence Department has kept very busy during the P-8A transition by studying for upcoming inspections, preparing squadron intelligence briefs, and organizing volunteer events where the Mad Foxes seize the opportunity to give back to their



IS3 Nicole Souza

local communities.

"The transition has been challenging for the intelligence department because we have no specific school to attend," commented Souza.

"Thanks to the hard work of everyone in intelligence, we have stayed on track in preparing to bring the Poseidon to the 7th Fleet Area of Responsibility for our next deployment."

Intelligence specialists are responsible for briefing and debriefing aircrew, imagery analysis, and preparation of the battle space.

When Souza isn't working hard on new intelligence, she volunteers at an art camp run by the Museum of Contemporary Art Jacksonville.

VP-5 has been transitioning to the P-8A Poseidon since Jan. 4, 2013.

Home providers needed

From Staff

The NAS Jacksonville Child Development Center is looking for home providers to care for children both on and off the station. If you are an on-base resident, you will only need to be Navy-certified to become a home provider. If you are an off-base resident, you will have to be state-certified as well as Navy-certified.

Certifications include background checks, home inspections and a training program. Caregivers will be given use of the lending library and free monthly training sessions.

For more information, contact Lisa Williams at 542-5434/5381.

Sailors, families can visit museums free for summer

By Terri Moon Cronk
American Forces Press Service

More than 2,000 museums across the nation are opening their doors, free of charge, to service members and their families this summer.

From now through Labor Day, Sept. 2, all active duty service members, National Guardsmen and reservists and their families can take advantage of this cultural and educational opportunity in all 50 states.

"It's an exciting, inspiring, educational and economical activity for our families to enjoy this summer," said

Navy Cmdr. Leslie Hull-Ryde, a Pentagon spokeswoman.

The 2013 Blue Star Museums Program is a collaboration among the Defense Department, Blue Star Families, the National Endowment for the Arts and the museums to give service members and their families a way to spend time together in their local museums.

A record number of museums are participating this year. The program began in 2010 with free access to about 600 museums, while this year's 2,000 is a figure that's still growing, Blue Star Families and NEA officials said.



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VBS children head to SonWest Roundup

By MC2 Amanda Cabasos
Staff Writer

Nearly 80 5-12 year-old children headed to the SonWest Roundup (this year's theme), a week-long Vacation Bible School (VBS) held at NAS Jax Chapel July 15-19.

Children participated in various activities administered by 32 dedicated adults and teen volunteers. Activities included arts and crafts, classroom lessons, music sessions, games and food.

Each morning began where the children were escorted to a main room and seated for an energizing sing-along session, followed by the lesson of the day presented by NAS Jax Chaplain Lt. Hylanie Chan-Williams.

From there, they were split up according to age groups and sent to various locations to complete their daily activities.

"I am having great time and I am learning lots at VBS. My highlight so far is learning new arts and crafts and new songs," said 8-year-old Mikayla Roberts.

"I think it is important for young children to gain a sense of spirituality and to decide for themselves if they wish to embrace religion. VBS gives them options to explore faith and to ask questions and have fun," said NAS Jax Chaplain Lt. Hylanie Chan-Williams.

"The main purpose of VBS is to introduce the children or reinforce them in their Christian faith. We do this by using arts and crafts, music and classroom sessions. They spend approximately 45 minutes in each of these areas, plus we supply them with lunch. On Friday, we invite the parents, neighbors and siblings to come watch a program that goes on in the chapel and the children perform songs that they learned throughout the week," said Grace Heffner, who coordinates VBS here every year.

Children who started VBS as early as age five or six, after they have gone through the program, return as teen volunteers, Heffner said.

According to Heffner the children come from a wide spread of backgrounds.

"We have children every year that learn about Jesus

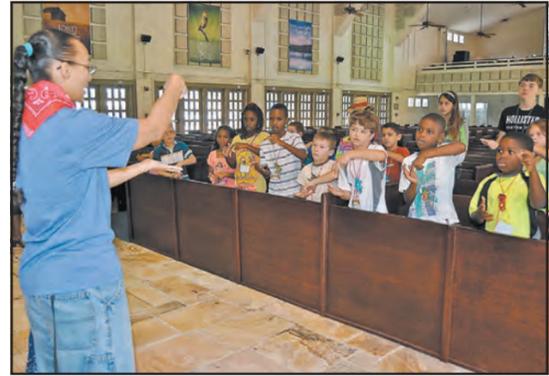


NAS Jax Chaplain Lt. Hylanie Chan-Williams leads the children in a Western dance during Vacation Bible School held at NAS Jax Chapel July 15.

Photos by MC2 Amanda Cabasos



Vacation Bible School Volunteer Karen Porter helps Rollin George, 8, with creating a bolo tie as part of an arts and crafts project.



VBS Volunteer Vanessa Pence Teaches the children new songs in American sign language at the NAS Chapel.

preparing for VBS, my reward for the program comes on Friday when I sit in the congregation and I hear these children singing," said Heffner.



Appropriately dressed as monsters, Group D shows off their dance skills to the song "Little Monsters" at the Youth Activities Summer Camp Talent Show at the NAS Jax Youth Activities Center July 19.

Photos by Morgan Kehner



Children from Group A perform a song from "The Lion King" while dressed as the animals in the movie.



The "Kung Fu Fighting" dance routine performed by Group H was filled with martial arts-inspired dance moves during the annual talent show.

Talent Show

A group of kids from the NAS Jax Youth Activities Center perform a dance moves to a song during the annual talent show.



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Photo by Morgan Kenhert

Members of the Baker County Little League Team celebrate their victory in the Florida District 11 Little League 9-10-year old tournament at NAS Jacksonville June 28. The team defeated Mill Creek Little League after two weeks of play-offs.

Baker County Little League wins tournament at NAS Jax

From Navy Ortega Lakeshore Little League

After 27 games over two weeks, Baker County Little League defeated Mill Creek Little League to win the Florida District 11 Little League 9-10-year-old tournament hosted by Navy Ortega Lakeshore (NOL) Little League at NAS Jax June 28.

In the third and conclusive game between the two teams, Baker County jumped out to an early 10 run lead thanks in part to a towering home run by Cason Milton. Mill Creek came back with a spirited rally, cutting the lead to one run.

In the end, Baker county received some outstanding relief pitching from Jordan Rhoden and went on to win by a margin of 14-9.

Baker County now goes to the Florida Section 3 tournament hosted by Mims Little League, located near Titusville, Fla. The winner of the sectional tournament advances to the Florida Little League State Championship.

This year, the District 11 tournament included 14 teams from a five-county area in Northeast Florida including two NOL teams.

NOL's A team made it to the final four teams before

being eliminated. The tournament rotates from year to year between the leagues located in District 11, which is the second largest Little League district in Florida.

According to NOL, it takes a tremendous amount of time and numerous volunteers to host the district tournament.

It all starts at the top with NAS Jax Commanding Officer Capt. Robert Sanders and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Director John Bushick who made it possible to hold the tournament on base.

NOL also sends out special thanks to Maribel Guzman (MWR), Tyesha Donaldson (MWR) and Penny Roberts (Base Pass and ID Office) for a great job of administering the base passes for the visiting teams and fans.

In addition, Tom Fagan and his grounds crew at the golf course were a tremendous help with the playing fields.

NOL was founded in 1960 and has been located at NAS JAX since it started. NOL is an officially chartered league of Little League International, home of the Little League World Series as seen on ABC and ESPN.

NAS Jax Sports

Captain's Cup Badminton Singles League forming

Open to active duty, command DOD, DOD contractors and selective reservists assigned to a command at NAS Jacksonville. The matches play at lunchtime on Friday. Contact the base gymnasium for rules and an entry form. Must signup by June 28.

Captain's Cup Racquetball Tournament Aug. 26-30

Open to active duty, selective reservists and DOD Civilian men and women assigned to a command at NAS Jacksonville. Participants earn participation points for their command toward the Captain's Cup and will earn additional points for finishing 1st, 2nd or 3rd place. There are separate men's and women's division. Contact NAS Jax Athletics to sign up by Aug. 20.

For more information about any of the sports articles, call Bill Bonser at 542-2930/3239 or e-mail bill.bonser@navy.mil. Visit the MWR website at www.cnic.navy.mil or www.facebook.com nasjaxmwr.

Standings

As of July 19

Intramural Summer Golf

Teams	Wins	Losses
NCTS	5	0
VP-10	5	0
PSD	4	1
CPRW-11 Tacmobile	3	2
CNATTU Gold	3	2
CV-TSC	2	2
SERCC	2	3
VP-30	2	3
CBMU202	1	4
FACSFAC	1	4
VR-62	1	4
CNATTU Blue	0	5

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You and your family are cordially invited to the Balfour Beatty Communities' Annual CEL Housing Survey Kickoff Event.

CEL SPLASH EVENT
July 25 from 6 - 8 p.m.
NAS Jacksonville Outdoor Swimming Pool

While sure to be a fun and entertaining event, it is also the perfect time to return the CEL Housing Survey. There will be a secured mailbox for you to place your Survey. Remember to bring your form for the Early Bird Drawing. The winners will be notified by phone within days of the drawing.

We, at Balfour Beatty Communities, are striving for "5" on the survey. We rank "very" satisfied and "strongly agree" as passing grades in the CEL Housing Survey. Any scores less than this is considered an unacceptable grade to us. While we would like you to grade us as a "5" being "very" satisfied or "strongly agree" - if there is any reason that you cannot give us this grade, we would like to know so that we can work to improve our services.

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NAS Jax Commanding Officer Capt. Bob Sanders greets Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel at the NAS Jax River Cove Catering and Conference Center on July 16.



Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel held a town hall meeting on July 16 at Fleet Readiness Center Southeast that was attended by more than 100 Sailors and civilian personnel concerned about the effect of continued sequestration and furloughs. Also attending were (at right, front) U.S. Reps. Corrine Brown and Ander Crenshaw. Also in attendance, but not pictured was Congressman Ted Yoho.



Capt. Steven Caldwell, Commanding Officer of NAS Jacksonville's Fleet Readiness Center Southeast (left), outlines the center's operational goals and mission capabilities to Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel.



Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel talks with F/A-18 Structural Engineering Lead Ella Kinberg at Fleet Readiness Center Southeast aboard NAS Jacksonville. She expressed her concern that furloughs may be extended into the 2014 fiscal year.



Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel (left) learns about Commissary operations from Naval Air Station Jacksonville Commissary Store Director Larry Bentley.

SECDEF VISIT

From Page 1

America's armed forces will begin a downward spiral that will be costly to reverse.

"If Congress can't find a way to avoid sequestration in 2014 - DOD will have to consider involuntary reductions in force to reduce civilian personnel costs," said Hagel. "Hiring freezes will continue and facilities maintenance funds will further erode."

He added that DOD could meet further reductions only through a severe package of military personnel actions, including halting all accessions, ending all permanent-change-of-station moves, stopping discretionary bonuses and freezing promotions.

FRCSE Commanding Officer Capt. Robert Caldwell said, "This was a great opportunity for SECDEF to learn about our aviation maintenance mission and to gain a better understanding of our numerous contributions to the warfighter."

"At the town hall meeting attended by our civilian federal employees, the secretary said, 'You can't buy back readiness,' - and that is so true. What we do here and in the field is very important to Sailors and Marines operating forward. Mr. Hagel's message was clear - we can expect another round of budget cuts. The FRCSE team has been cost-conscious for a very long time, but what the SECDEF said only reinforces our resolve to continue finding innovative and cost-effective solutions to better meet warfighter demands," added Caldwell.

Hagel recently called on Congress to work with DOD to approve the president's defense budget request.

The president's budget request slows

military pay raises and raises fees for some military retirees' health care. It also looks to retire older Air Force and Navy assets, as well as calling for a new base realignment and closure program.

He said, "Uncertainty is a tremendous enemy - when military families live in a state of uncertainty, it impacts their concentration and that impacts their job. Ultimately, it can create a loss of skill sets that are vital to our national security and our readiness."

Hagel, an Army combat veteran in Vietnam and a former member of the U.S. Senate, stressed that service members do more than just put on a uniform, and civilians do more than just show up for work.

"Everyone connected with DOD is part of something bigger than themselves. We're helping build a new world - a more free and fair world because tolerance, respect and dignity still anchor the human condition," said Hagel.

In addition to Fleet Readiness Center Southeast, Hagel's tour of NAS Jacksonville included: a luncheon with regional business and civic leaders; a media roundtable; a commissary tour; a P-8A Integrated Training Center (ITC) tour; and a flight line tour of a VP-30 P-8A Poseidon aircraft.

At the P-8A ITC, instructor pilot Lt. Brett Eckert welcomed Hagel to one of the flight simulators.

"He was interested in the differences between a commercial Boeing 737 and the P-8A Poseidon. He sat in the left pilot seat as we executed a simulated landing at Joint Base Andrews, manually flying the last 200 feet to the runway," said Eckert.



VP-30 Commanding Officer Capt. Mark Stevens describes the purpose of the Weapons Tactics and Training room to Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel.



Lt. Alan Tucker of VP-30, explains how to operate the Mission System Desk Top Trainer to Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel during a tour at the P-8A Integrated Training Center on July 16.

Photos by Clark Pierce, Lt. Kevin Wendt and MC2 Amanda Cabasos

"It was a privilege to meet Secretary Hagel and show him how we train on the Poseidon. After landing, he told me, 'that wasn't bad for an old Vietnam infantryman,'" he added.

At the NAS Jacksonville Commissary, Store Director Larry Bentley welcomed the secretary of defense to the ninth-largest (in sales volume) store in the

world.

"It was an honor to take Mr. Hagel on a tour - he was greeting patrons as we walked the aisles. Active duty and retired shoppers were pleasantly surprised to meet him," said Bentley. According to Bentley, the secretary was very impressed with the store and the warm welcome from the staff.

SECNAV announces new initiatives to help combat sexual assault

From Defense Media Activity - Navy

Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Ray Mabus furthered his commitment to improve the Department of the Navy's sexual assault response by announcing additional resources for investigators and a new initiative designed to enhance accountability and transparency across the department.

Mabus approved nearly \$10 million to hire more than 50 additional Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) Family and Sexual Violence Program personnel to shorten investigation times.

He also directed the Navy and Marine Corps to regularly publish online the results of each service's courts-martial.

"Our Navy and Marine Corps is the greatest maritime force the world has ever known. To uphold our core values of honor, courage, and commitment, we must do all we can to protect our people from those who would wish to do them harm, especially if they reside within our own ranks," said Mabus.

"This department is fully committed to using all available resources to prevent this crime, aggressively investigate allegations and prosecute as appropriate. We will not hide from this challenge-we will be active, open and transparent."

The additional Adult Sexual Assault Program (ASAP) special agents and crime scene personnel approved by Mabus will further help decrease the sexual assaults investigation timeline.

ASAP teams with specialized training in legal jurisdiction, investigative procedures, evidence collection, sexual assault victim sensitivities, and the handling of reports and official statements are currently being deployed to fleet concentration areas worldwide.

To increase transparency of the department's criminal proceedings, SECNAV directed the services to begin publishing the results of all Special and General Courts-Martial, including sexual assault cases, on the service primary Web sites of Navy.mil and Marines.mil, respectively, by July 25.

The first of these summaries will cover those cases concluded from January through July of this year, but future editions will be published regularly.

Additional information and resources to combat sexual assault is available at www.sapr.navy.mil.

Sexual assault affects Navy readiness, and the Navy is committed to preventing sexual assault.

Join the Navy's conversation about sexual assault on social media and help raise awareness by using #NavySAPR.

VP-26 trains with New Zealand forces

By Lt. Andrew Orchard
CMPRF 7th Fleet

A VP-26 "Tridents" aircrew, assigned to Commander, Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Force (CMPRF) 7th Fleet arrived in Auckland, New Zealand on July 6 to support a scheduled bilateral Maritime Patrol Reconnaissance Aircraft (MPRA) Exchange.

The exchange marked the first U.S. Navy P-3C Orion visit to New Zealand in nearly 30 years. The 9-day visit improved interoperability between the U.S. Navy and Royal New Zealand Air Force MPRA communities.

The visit is the culmination of the first exchange between CTF 72 and the RNZAF 5 Squadron. As part of the first half of the exchange, a New Zealand P-3K2 recently visited CTF 72 at Kadena Air Base, Japan from July 2-4.

The reciprocating U.S. P-3C visit conducted training in New Zealand at RNZAF Base Whenuapai in Auckland through July 15.

"Our visit will further develop the ability to operate with a key partner in the region," said Lt. Cmdr. Jason Zaharris, CTF 72 Theater Security Cooperation Officer.

This exchange consisted of symposium briefs such as Maritime Domain Awareness and Search and Rescue Operations. The crews also participated in several missions orientated to putting into practice the information garnered during the symposium briefs.

Based at NAS Jacksonville, the Tridents are currently on a six-month deployment to the U.S. 7th Fleet area of responsibility, as part of CMPRF 7th Fleet.



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4-10 p.m. - All you can bowl for \$5.95
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Thursday Color Pin Bowling 5-10 p.m.
\$2 games - shoes not included

Saturday Night Extreme Bowling
4-6 p.m. (family themed) \$8 per person
8 p.m. - midnight \$10 per person
Price includes two hours of bowling
Shoe rental included

Sunday Family Day
1-6 p.m., \$1.50 games
Shoe rental not included

80 Days of Summer
Going on now through Aug. 31

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Win prizes all summer long!

Fitness & Aquatics
Call 542-2930

Outdoor pool hours
Lap Swim (water park, water slide and concessions are not open) Monday - Friday 6 - 8 a.m. & 6 - 7 p.m.
Recreational Swim (water park, water slide and concessions are open) Monday - Sunday 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
2013 Learn to Swim Program
Session 3 July 22 - Aug. 1

Private pool parties can be reserved at the fitness center

Parties are not available during regular business hours of operation and occur in the evenings when the pool is closed. Parties must be reserved ten days prior to party date, payment due at time of reservation

For more information call (904) 542-3518

The temporary gym, The Zone, Bldg. 798 is closed.

Dive In Movie at the outdoor pool
August 10, 6 - 10 p.m.
Movie begins at 8:30 p.m.
Free admission, hot dog, chips and a drink!

I.T.I. Events
Call 542-3318.

Jacksonville Jaguar Tickets on sale now - \$70 section 147

Legoland Florida - Free ticket for active duty military through Oct. 27

Wet n' Wild Orlando - \$37 adult, \$45 adult w/ meal, \$40 child w/ meal

Jacksonville Suns Baseball
\$5.50 - \$11.50

MOSH - \$7 - \$12

Jacksonville Sharks - \$25 per person - section 100

Amelia Island Museum of History - \$10 family pass, Ghost tour \$8 adult, \$4 child

Florida Ecosafaris in St. Cloud - EcoPark \$119, Coach safari adult \$28, child \$25, Zipline safari \$75, Cypress canopy cycle \$40 for one hour

Gatorland - Free admission for active duty and retired military until the end

of the year. Family tickets can be purchased at ITT. \$19.95 adult, \$12.50 child, zip line \$54.25

Blue Man Group Orlando - \$49 adult, \$29 child

Monster Truck Jam coming soon!

2013 - 2014 Artist Series featuring Mama Mia, Memphis, Celtic Thunder, War Horse, Men are From Mars, Women are from Venus, Million Dollar Quartet and The D* Word is a Musical are on sale now!

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.

Kayak Trip
July 27 at 9 a.m.

NAS Jax Golf Club

Golf course info: 542-3249
Mulligan's info: 542-2936

Military Appreciation Days
\$18 per person, includes cart & green fees

August 6 & 20 for active duty
August 8 & 22 for retirees, DoD personnel and their guests

Monday & Tuesday
Play 18-holes for \$20
Cart and green fee included.
Open to military, DoD and guests. Not applicable on holidays.

Furlough Fridays
All civilian employees that have been furloughed can play 18-holes with cart

& green fee for \$20

Junior Golf Clinic
Session 3, July 29 - Aug. 2, ages 11-17
\$110 per child, per session

Mulberry Cove Marina
Call 542-3260.

Free Kayak & Canoe Rental
Every Thursday for active duty

Free Stand-up Paddle Board Lessons
Every Thursday 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Skipper "B" Classes
\$150 at the Mulberry Cove Marina
Aug. 17, 18, 24 & 25
Sept. 21, 22, 28 & 29
Oct. 19, 20, 26 & 27

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Call 542-3227

22 work bays, wheel balancing, tool checkout, paint booth and welding!
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Youth Activities Center
Call 778-9772

Drop-in care and open recreation are available!

Family Fitness Center hours are Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Bring your child to work out with you!
Call 778-9772 for more information.

Movie Under the Stars
August 23 at 8 p.m. featuring Monsters University
Patriot's Grove

Flying Club
Call 777-8549

Private Pilot Ground School
August 5 - September 16
\$500 per person



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Community Calendar

A **military vendor event** to benefit the Greater Area Jacksonville USO will be held July 13 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Fleet Reserve No. 91, 5391 Collins Road, Jacksonville. For more information, call 476-8356.

Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) and the National Defense Industrial Association present **2013 Warrior-Family Symposium Sept. 12**, from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, D.C. Contact pr@moaa.org for information.

Aviation Boatswain's Mates meet every third Thursday at 1 p.m. in the NAS Jax Air Facilities Management Building (666) conference room. For more info, call Doug Chaney at 542-3955.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Orange Park Post 5968 at 187 Arora Blvd meets monthly on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call 276-5968.

Military Officers Association of America N.E. Florida Chapter meets the third Wednesday of each month. Open to active duty and retirees of all military branches. Contact Johnnie.walsh@gmail.com or call 282-4650.

National Naval Officers Association meets the fourth Thursday of each month at 5 p.m. at Naval Hospital Jacksonville. Contact CWO3 Lionel Jeffcoat at 594-6908 or lionel.c.jeffcoat@uscg.mil or retired Lt. Cmdr. Paul Nix at 542-2518 or paul.nix@navy.mil.

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, visit www.aao9.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 is open to active duty, reserve and retired military, plus, active or retired DoD civilians. Call 778-0805 or email commodore@njyc.org.

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 through 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.

COMPASS Spouse-to-Spouse Military Mentoring Program. Helping others help themselves. Call Melanie at 200-7751 or email: www.gocompass.org

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 Lakeshore Methodist Church, 2246 Blanding Blvd. Call 272-9489.



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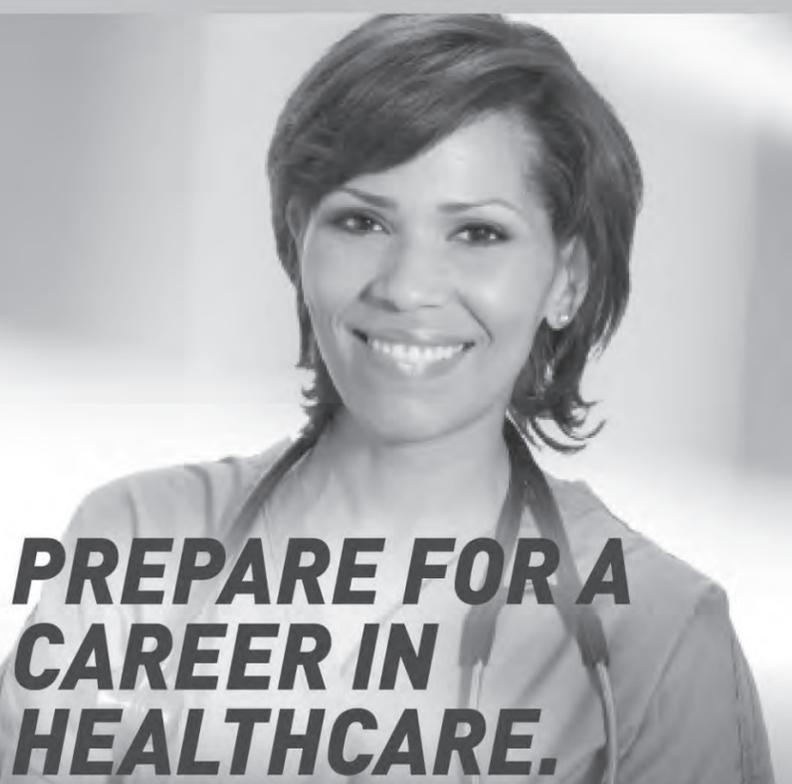
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Corpsman shines bright on public stage

By Yan Kennon
NHJ Public Affairs Senior Writer

HA William Jones, pharmacy technician at Naval Hospital (NH) Jacksonville, may look like your average sailor, but in reality he is a vibrant music and dance enthusiast with a passion for the bright lights.

Since the age of three, Jones has been singing and dancing with the confidence and flair of a natural star.

The 20-year-old hospital corpsman, a native of Indianapolis, Ind., recently rekindled his love for musical performance by auditioning and landing a roll in *9 to 5: The Musical* at Theater Jacksonville — Florida's longest running community theater.

"When I first reported for duty at NH Jacksonville, I didn't know what to do with myself after work," explained Jones.

"Then one day a friend of mine encouraged me to follow my passion and explore theater opportunities that may be



Photo by Jacob Sippel

Hospital Apprentice William Jones, a pharmacy technician at Naval Hospital (NH) Jacksonville, reviews medication label information prior to dispensing medical dosages. Jones recently landed a roll in *9 to 5: The Musical* at Theater Jacksonville — Florida's longest running community theater.

available in north Florida."

After searching newspapers and the internet, he saw an

advertisement for auditions at Theater Jacksonville.

Being no stranger to audi-

tions — Jones has performed in such musicals as *Aida*, *Sweeney Todd* and *The Wiz* while growing up in Indianapolis — he sang *A Joyful Noise*, and earned a role in the musical's 25-person cast on the last day of auditions.

Achieving this accomplishment was very exciting for Jones, who at a young age was heavily influenced by music, being raised by old-school music enthusiasts who were natives of southern blues music cities such as Memphis, Tenn. and Owensboro, Ky.

"The producer was somewhat skeptical of me in the beginning," said Jones.

"But once the producers and cast saw my passion and dedication, they were willing to give me that chance, which I greatly appreciate."

After two months of grueling practices, it was time for the show's Jacksonville debut.

"It was difficult at first, but when you enjoy doing something, you have to make sacri-

fices such as this," stated Jones.

Portraying a new employee, in the production's ensemble, Jones's character appeared in the very first scene of the musical, when the curtains were raised.

"As soon as the stage lights come on, it's just me," expressed Jones.

"I was pumped with adrenaline, but was able to perform well. I became more relaxed and confident after the first few shows, and everything went as planned.

"My biggest challenge of the musical was performing the associated choreography," said Jones.

"I was one of the worst dancers when practices began in April, and by the first show, I was one of the director's favorites."

Jones plans to continue his passion of music and dancing while assigned to NH Jacksonville, by auditioning for upcoming plays and musicals in the area.

Navy Voluntary Education support hours reduced during furlough

By Susan Henson
Center for Personal and Professional Development Public Affairs

The Virtual Education Center (VEC) and all Navy College Offices (NCOs) are closed each Friday during the Defense Department furlough of civilian employees this fiscal year, said officials at the Center for Personal and Professional Development July 18.

The VEC and NCOs worldwide are staffed by government civilians, who began furloughs of one day per week in early July for 11 weeks. During this period, the VEC is open to serve customers Monday through Thursday from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. Eastern Time. NCOs are generally open Monday through Thursday with hours varying by location.

"Closing NCOs on Friday has the least impact on Sailors and our support to

the fleet," said Jon Richardson, who works for CPPD as Voluntary Education Regional Director West. "Many local commands schedule in-house activities for Fridays. Also, the majority of our academic institutions that provide on-base, instructor-led programs do not schedule classes on Friday."

School representatives cannot be on base or offer instruction if an NCO representative isn't available unless specific permission is granted by the host command, he said. Visiting academic institutions and counselors/advisors have adjusted schedules and are available Monday through Thursday, matching NCO work schedules.

The workload of voluntary education staffs cannot be picked up by contractors, who are not allowed to advise Sailors on using tuition assistance, which allocates government resour-

es for their education. Additionally, a memo regarding civilian furloughs from the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Readiness and Force Management dated June 28 stipulates that government civilian workloads cannot be shifted to contractors to compensate for productivity loss as a result of the furlough.

While Richardson said it's too early to foresee all the impacts of these office closures on Sailors, one he anticipates is an increase in waiting time for customers. "Since we've only been closed one Friday, the real business impact is unknown. It appears the number of Sailors visiting NCOs has increased during our open hours. That could be hiccup, but we won't know until we have more data."

Wait times for VEC customers may also rise, according to Sharen

Richardson, VEC supervisor. "We encourage Sailors to do a few things to lessen the impact of the reduced hours," she said. "First, ensure you submit your Tuition Assistance (TA) request up to 30 days prior to your class start date. Then track it to ensure your command approves and forwards it to the VEC with enough time for staff to review and authorize it."

She said Sailors who wait too long to submit their TA request may not be able to begin a class on time. "Don't start a class without an approved TA voucher in hand," Richardson said. "We can't process a TA request after a school's advertised add/drop date, so it's the Sailor's responsibility to follow up with his or her command to track that TA request."

"We ask Sailors to please bear with us during this time."



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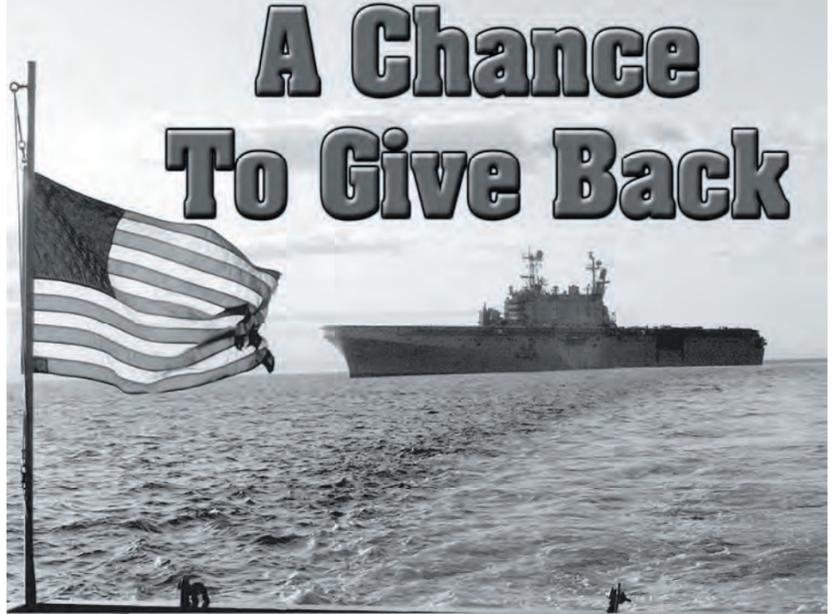
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