



# MIRROR



2008 CHINFO Award Winner



-Photos courtesy of city of Jacksonville

Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten classes from Child Development Centers from Naval Station Mayport and Naval Air Station Jacksonville listen to Jacksonville Mayor John Peyton read from the newly released children's book, "We Salute Our Military!" Mayport VPK Caregivers Rochelle Martin and Selinda Bradley, Lisa Joiner took their class to help celebrate the newest book in Peyton's Book Club series. Below, NAS Jacksonville VPK teacher Angie Brown stands with her students at the book release.

## We Salute Our Military!

# Jacksonville Releases New Children's Book

From city of Jacksonville

Jacksonville Mayor John Peyton, the Jacksonville Children's Commission; the City of Jacksonville Military Affairs, Veterans and Disabled Services Division and members of the early literacy and military communities May 17 held a news conference to present the newest book in Mayor John Peyton's Book Club series, "We Salute our Military!"

Announced after the nation celebrated Armed Forces Day this past weekend, the 13th book in the popular series recognizes the contributions of Jacksonville's military community while better preparing 4-year-olds to enter kindergarten by increasing the number of books and learning materials in their homes. In turn, this helps provide a solid foundation for increased literacy and scholastic success.

"With approximately 250,000 residents currently serving our military and about 150,000 resident veterans, the military is an integral part of Jacksonville's past, present and future," said Mayor Peyton. "Our military families are a cherished part of the community and the newest installment in the Book Club series is a testament to our respect and support for those families, while at the same time providing another opportunity to build a foundation of educational success for our pre-kindergartners."

As part of the announcement, Mayor Peyton read the book aloud to children who attend the child development centers at NS Mayport and NAS Jax.

Registration for the seventh year of Mayor Peyton's Book



Club begins August 2010. "We Salute our Military!" will be included in the bag for the 2010-2011 club members.

Like the other books in the series, the characters are real local children. But new to this

book are other adult characters based on real individuals serving in the military. Featured in the book are: Lt.j.g. Jason D. Elfe, a U.S. Navy pilot; Lt. Adam Schantz, a U.S. Navy pilot and Chief Petty Officer

Tara Marie Novakowski, AEC (AW), a U.S. Navy aviation electrician.

The book is co-authored by Donna Peacock Hanczaryk

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# NS Mayport Remembers USS Stark



-Photo by MC2 Gary Granger Jr.

Former USS Stark (FFG 31) commanding officer from 1992-94, retired Capt. Pete Wynkoop reads the names of Sailors who died during the attack on the Stark as the tolling of the bell is conducted by John Kiser, son of fallen Senior Chief Electrician's Mate Stephen Kiser, during the 23rd anniversary memorial ceremony at Naval Station Mayport on May 17.

By Paige Gnann

Editor

Dozens of people crowded into the rainy-day venue at Ocean Breeze Conference Center on May 17 to remember 37 Mayport Sailors killed exactly 23 years ago.

The annual ceremony marks the death of the crewmembers of USS Stark, homeported at Naval Station Mayport, after the ship was struck without warning by two Iraqi missiles while on patrol in the Persian Gulf. One missile exploded, causing immediate fires and tremendous damage in the forward part of the ship.

Fuel from the second missile intensified the fires, and the crew fought the inferno through the night and the next day. Aided by equipment and fire fighting teams from other

Navy ships, the crew succeeded in saving the ship.

Restored and returned to service in 1988, USS Stark (FFG 31) since won two Battle 'E' awards as best ship in the squadron. After the ship was decommissioned in 1999, the Naval Order of the United States and Naval Station Mayport partnered to preserve the observance of this tragic incident that wrought so much misery for the crewmembers and their families.

Guest speaker for the memorial was Capt. John B. Mitchell, commanding officer or Naval Station Mayport during the 1987 attack. Mitchell thanked the attendees for keeping the memories of the fallen Sailors alive at Mayport and in the Navy.

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# HSL-60 Holds Change Of Command

From Staff

Cmdr. Michael Steffen relieved Cmdr. Donald Allerton as commanding officer of Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light 60 during a change of command ceremony on May 8. Guest speaker for the event was Cmdr. William Pevey.

Steffen, a native of Bedford, Virginia, graduated from Virginia Tech in 1992 where he was a member of the Virginia Tech Corps Cadets and earned a B.A. in History. Commissioned an Ensign in May 1992 through the NROTC Program, Steffen was designated a Naval Aviator in 1994.

Following Fleet Replacement Pilot training in the SH-60F at HS-10, he reported to his first operational assignment with HS-4 "Black Knights" at NAS North Island, San Diego, California. During his tour he was assigned as the Line Division Officer, Public Affairs Officer, Personnel Officer and Assistant Operations



-Photo courtesy of HSL-60

Outgoing HSL-60 Commanding Officer, Cmdr. Donald Allerton, reads his orders as incoming CO, Cmdr. Michael Steffen, stands during the change of command ceremony on May 8.

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# You Can Find Strength For Journey



**Chaplain Jon Blac**  
DESRON 14 Chaplain

I used to have an old Guinness poster hanging on my wall. It was of a man walking down the road. He is holding the draft-shafts of a horse-drawn cart, and the horse that should be drawing the cart is actually sitting in it enjoying

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

the ride. Meanwhile, the man is pulling both cart and horse merrily along. It's an advertisement from the 1930s. It's an image that evokes the joy of the journey, the peace of a perfect day and overwhelming personal satisfaction. The effectiveness lies in the irony.

The 1930's were anything but joyful, peaceful or satisfying. The Great Depression was felt around the world. Adolf Hitler rose to power. Japan invaded China. Stalin purged the newly formed Soviet Union. And the 40-hour work week was introduced in America. Dark days indeed.

And then there is this image. Man and beast smiling all along their journey. In the midst of some of the greatest difficulties our world has ever faced here's this man pulling his horse along and you just know that your life would be better if you just had what he had.

Well, it's not the 1930's but we continue to face great difficulties today. And I don't just mean on a world-wide scale. I mean on a personal level. I wonder what burdens you are bearing? Is the cart you bear loaded with the mistakes you have made? Personal tragedy? Increasing debt? A difficult

family? Or perhaps a troubled past? Maybe you are doing all you can just to be moving forward, weighed down with worry and with doubt. Or, it might be that you are simply walking that road alone. Your spouse has been deployed, again, and you are feeling isolated, overwhelmed, and lonely. You wonder if you will have the strength to endure. Or perhaps your loved-one just came back from deployment and you're facing the difficulties that are inherent with the return and reunion. And so I wonder, what burdens are you bearing? More importantly, where do you find your strength to bear that burden?

No advertisement or catchy phrase can diminish what you are going through. But may I offer you a few words of hope

to help you along your journey? I hope they are words that bring you some peace. Perhaps even some joy. The ancient prophet Isaiah wrote these words when he faced difficulties in his own life, when the journey he was on required the strength to endure. This is what he wrote: "Those who wait and hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

May your journey be filled with hope. May your strength be renewed. May you endure with peace and with joy. And may you find one day that it is God himself who pulled your cart over this long and winding road we call "life."



## Base Chapel Holds VBS

The Naval Station Mayport Chapel will hold a Vacation Bible School for children, ages 4yrs old thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade, from June 21-25.

This summer kids' event will be High Sea Expedition: Exploring the Mighty Love of God.

Kids go on a vast voyage through God's Word as they participate in memorable Bible-learning activities, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, dig into yummy treats, experience electrifying bible adventures, and create Bible Point crafts they'll take home and play with all summer long. Plus, kids will learn to look for evidence of God all around them through something called God Sightings.

There will be a Floating Finale where the kids demonstrate what they have learned during the week at V.B.S. on Friday at 11 a.m. Each day will start at 8:30 a.m. and run until 11:30 a.m.

You may register at the Chapel Monday thru Friday from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. or on Sunday from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. For further information, call 270-5212.

# Latino? Hispanic Scholarship Fund Aims To Make You College-Bound



**Judy Cromartie**  
School Liaison Officer

The path to a good job and a comfortable lifestyle is through college, according to 9 out of 10 Latino parents.

More than three-quarters (77 percent) of Latinos ages 16 to 25 say their parents think going to college is the most important thing to do after high school.

Moreover, six-in-ten (60 percent) Latinos who have gone to college rank their parents as being the most influential people in their decision to continue their schooling.

However, studies have shown

## KNOW THE ROPES

that more than 65 percent Latino parents do not have the knowledge to guide their children as they seek to apply and enroll in college. And probably the saddest statistic of all is that 30 percent of all high school drop outs are Latino students.

Currently, 27 percent of U.S. adults have a college degree. Only 13 percent of Latinos (ages 26-65) have a BA degree, compared to 17 percent African American and 30 percent for the white population. Prominent decision makers, including the federal administration along with major national foundations and organizations, have established a goal to increase the 27 percent to 60 percent by 2025. Given the growth of the Latino population, that goal must undoubtedly take them into account. For currently Latinos represent 15 percent of the U.S.

population, or 50 million people, and they are projected to represent 28 percent by 2050, or 128 million people.

Research conducted over the years by the Hispanic Scholarship Fund (HSF) and other institutions such as the College Board, ACT, and The Education Trust confirmed that parents do play a critical role in their children's education. However, while many Latino parents recognize the importance of college for their children, they don't have the knowledge and tools to help. In fact, many Latino parents believe that college is out of reach for their children because it is too expensive.

Latino parents will need to take a more active role in their children's education. Most importantly, they need to show their child that they are com-

mitted by learning about the process, including the types of colleges and available financial aid. And by using encouraging words, parents will help their children aspire to a college education. While it may seem out of reach because of the cost, the reality is that billions of dollars in financial aid are available to qualifying students.

The Hispanic Scholarship Fund's (HSF) mission is to strengthen America by advancing the college education of Hispanic Americans. To achieve this mission, the organization has created a campaign to overcome those barriers and get more Latino children into college. The campaign slogan is "De tus palabras de hoy depende su mañana," or "Their tomorrow depends on your words today."

That's the focus of their campaign, to give parents the information and tools to help guide their child through the often complicated steps of preparing and applying to college. HSF's

DVD and website (www.HSF.net) give parents a good step-by-step overview of the process and provide other resources which have more in-depth information.

The DVD is free and is a bilingual, parental toolkit which includes inspirational novels about parents and students who have made their college dreams a reality; introductions by Target and Univision anchor Maria Elena Salinas; and a tutorial for parents: About College, Preparing for College, and Paying for College. Order by phone at 1-877-HSF-8711 or online at www.yourwordtoday.org.

Judy Cromartie is the School Liaison Officer for NS Mayport. If you have questions about this article or concerns about an educational issue impacting your child, she can be reached via email at judith.cromartie@navy.mil or by phone at (904) 270-6289 X1305 [office] or (904) 219-3894 [cell].

# Memorial Day At Arlington National Cemetery

By Beth Wilson

Military Spouse Contributor

If you are a regular reader you may recall that I lived many years in the Washington, DC area. While the beltway may be the center of power for the nation it is also a major seat of our history. From the monuments to the museums, Washington, DC is a journey through our nation's rich history. There are two holidays celebrated in DC that cannot be rivaled anywhere else; Memorial and Independence Day.

While I visited Arlington National Cemetery as a senior in high school, I lived in DC six years before making a second journey to 'Arlington.' That trip took place on Memorial Day. My father, a WWII and Korean War Navy Veteran was in town and wanted to visit this sacred ground. As we rounded the Jefferson-Davis Highway the sight of the American Flags on each white grave marker took my breath away. Out of the corner of my eye I saw my father wipe away a tear that escaped down his cheek.

## Jaxparks To Open For Summer Camps

From city of Jacksonville

The City of Jacksonville Recreation and Community Programming Division (JaxParks) Summer Camp program registration period is now open. Registration for all camps will take place online only unless indicated otherwise.

To register online, visit [www.JaxParks.com](http://www.JaxParks.com) and click on the "Online Registration" link at the bottom of the page. Enrollment is first-come, first-served until full.

## HOMEFRONT IN FOCUS

Each year, just prior to Memorial Day weekend, a tradition called "Flags In" is conducted. Soldiers of the 3<sup>rd</sup> U.S. Infantry, also known as The Old Guard, honors fallen heroes by placing American flags before the gravestones and niches of service members buried at Arlington National Cemetery and the U.S. Soldier's and Airmen's National Cemetery.

Taking approximately three hours, every available soldier serves to place the American flag one foot in front and centered before each grave marker. More than 260,000 gravestones, 7,300 niches (at the cemetery's columbarium) and another 13, 500 flags are placed at the Soldier's and Airmen's Cemetery (located nearby). As part of the Memorial Day weekend activity Old Guard soldiers (the Army's official ceremonial unit) remain in the cemetery

ensuring that a flag remains at each gravestone.

The trip to Arlington with my father transcends words. I watched my father read gravestones of fellow WWII and Korean War veterans, lingering longer at a few. We stood at the Tomb of the Unknowns together during the Changing of the Guard ceremony.

My father, a man of Puritan

heritage and British descent, was a man of few words. Though he is a Purple Heart recipient he shared little about his time in the Navy till nearer his death. As we left Arlington that day I asked my father about WWII and the Korean War. He quietly said, "They were good men, Beth, they were good men."

If you have never visited a national cemetery on Memorial Day let me suggest that you take the opportunity this year. Many locations offer special ceremonies to commemorate the day so call ahead or check the website.

May I invite you to tune into my show on May 27<sup>th</sup> when Mr. Thomas Sherlock, historian of the Arlington National Cemetery is my guest. He will take us on a 'verbal tour' of the history and traditions of Arlington National Cemetery. You're sure to enjoy this broadcast ([www.blogtalkradio.com/nht](http://www.blogtalkradio.com/nht)).

*Beth and Homefront in Focus are celebrating the Year of the Enlisted Spouse. Logon to [www.enlistedspousecommunity.com](http://www.enlistedspousecommunity.com) to learn more and nominate the amazing enlisted spouse in your life. Contact Beth at [beth@homefrontinfocus.com](mailto:beth@homefrontinfocus.com).*



**Roman Catholic Mass**  
Sunday 9 a.m.  
Monday-Friday 11:30 a.m.  
Confessions: before & after mass or upon request  
CCD: Sunday 10:30 a.m.  
Baptisms: class 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of month

**Protestant Worship**  
Sunday 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday school 9:15 a.m.  
Baptism: For information contact your chaplain

**Women's Bible Study**  
Wednesday 9:30 a.m.  
**Protestant choir**  
Wednesday 7 p.m.

**Interdenominational MOPS (Mothers of Pre-Schoolers)**  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays each month 9:15 a.m.  
For more information, contact MOPS coordinator at [mayportmops@yahoo.com](mailto:mayportmops@yahoo.com)

**Marriage**  
Contact Chaplain 6 months prior. PREP is required

For more information, call 270-5212.



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# DoN Civilian HR Launches New Website

**By George Markfelder**  
*Communications Director, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Civilian Human Resources)*

The deputy assistant secretary of the Navy (Civilian Human Resources) (DASN(CHR)) launched a new Web site May 17, <http://www.donhr.navy.mil>,

providing Department of the Navy (DoN) civilian employees a comprehensive information and education tool.

"The Department of the Navy is a very complex organization employing in excess of 193,000 civilians who are located worldwide with foreign

national employees in Europe and Asia," said Patricia Adams, DASN(CHR).

"DoN civilians accomplish very diverse missions with careers ranging from weapons research to overseeing acquisitions and supporting the warfighter," Adams added.

"This Web site will not only help DoN civilians stay better informed of employee benefits and career development opportunities, but it will also assist potential employees understand the careers DoN employment offers."

Civilian job opportunities are

highlighted on the new site. The Department of the Navy Human Resource (HR) community filled in excess of 66,500 jobs last year, with 4,500 of those employees, being new to federal service.

The new Web site also provides one central location for

DoN NSPS transition information, civilian employee benefits and monthly updates on civilian HR initiatives.

For more news from Department of the Navy (Civilian Human Resources), visit [www.navy.mil/local/donchr/](http://www.navy.mil/local/donchr/).

# Navy Announces New SRB Program Levels

*From Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs*

Navy has adjusted Selective Reenlistment Program (SRB) levels to match reenlistment needs for critical skills and ratings, including the hardest to fill areas such as nuclear operators, Aegis fire controlmen, and air intercept controllers.

NAVADMIN 175/10 approves 24 increases in SRB award levels and 10 decreases.

Award levels in 124 categories remain unchanged, one was added and 12 award levels were removed.

"The Selective Reenlistment Bonus program allows Navy to properly incentivize high-demand Sailors with critical skills in order to maintain a prepared force, which is ready and able to execute global operations in today's complex secu-

urity environment," said Rear Adm. Dan Holloway, director of Navy's Personnel, Plans and Policy division. "Having a flexible and responsive SRB program helps minimize over or under execution of critical skill retention goals and allows Navy to maximize use of our allotted resources."

SRB is a dynamic market-based incentive designed to

retain Sailors in the Navy's most critical ratings and NECs. The science of behavioral economics informs our decisions when we adjust SRB.

"People are our most valuable resource and we are a world class Navy because of their skills and professional dedication," said Holloway. "The intent of the SRB is to reward those who attain train-

ing in skills most critical to Navy's current needs and mission requirements. We know our Sailors have a strong direct effect on all readiness resource areas; we must never forget this."

For more news from the Chief of Naval Personnel, visit [www.navy.mil/local/cnp](http://www.navy.mil/local/cnp).

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## NAS Jacksonville Holds Change Of Command

Rear Adm. Tim Alexander, left, commander of Navy Region Southeast, Capt. Jack Scorby Jr., commanding officer of Naval Air Station Jacksonville, and Capt. Jeffrey Maclay, executive officer of Naval Air Station Jacksonville salute during the playing of the national anthem during the Naval Air Station Jacksonville change of command ceremony. During the ceremony Maclay relieved Scorby as commanding officer.



(U.S. Navy photo by Kaylee LaRocque)

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# USO Thanks Sailors, Families

From Staff

Hundreds of service members and their families headed to Sea Otter Pavilion on Armed Forces Day, May 15, to enjoy a day in the base pool, free food, entertainment and activities thanks to the Mayport USO and MWR.

The day included a dozen inflatables scattered around the Pavilion lawn with everything from bounce houses to slides and boxing rinks. There was even an inflatable that gave participants a chance to surf the waves without getting wet.

Volunteers from the USO and American Red Cross were also at the event to hand out free information and goodies, like DVDs. The band,

Southern Rukus, entertained the crowd while they chowed down on free hamburgers and hot dogs, ices and popcorn provided by USO.

Kids, and parents, could also enjoy magic tricks while getting their face painted or 'tattooed.'

To round off the day, MWR officially opened the base pool with a free day of swim. The pool will be open on Saturdays from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sundays/holidays from 1-6 p.m. Full summer hours begin on June 14 when local schools dismiss for summer break. Admission fees apply. Season passes go on sale now at ITT for \$120. Call 270-5154 for more information.



-Photos by Paige Gnann

Festival-goers register at the USO tent for door prizes as "Happy Henry" from Gator Clown wanders around giving out clown kisses.



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Colton Dutton, 11, tries to keep his balance on the Surfing inflatable. USO, in conjunction with MWR, hosted a Military Appreciation Day on May 15 at the Naval Station Mayport Sea Otter Pavilion. There was free food, door prizes and live music by Southern Rukus. MWR opened the pool for a day of free swim as well.

## USO Rents Out Adventure Landing

USO has rented the Adventure Landing Park at 1944 Beach Blvd. for June 16 for exciting night of fun.

The park will be closing early and will be reopened from 6-11 p.m. exclusively for the military. Wristbands will go on sale May 23 at the Mayport and NAS Jax USO centers for \$2.50. This is for active duty and immediate family members only, including National Guard. Retirees, friends and relatives are not eligible to attend.

Space is limited. Wristbands will be sold on a first come, first serve basis. Adventure Landing Season Passes are not valid for this day.



Gator Clown 'Hoops' performs a magic trick for Keisha Williams, the ombudsman for HSL-46, and children, Rashad Williams, 9, Annora Williams, 5, Teliah Dennis, 10, Tamiera Dennis, 9, and Amir Williams, 2.



Above, inflatables litter the lawn at Sea Otter Pavilion as crowds gather to enjoy them. Below, band Southern Rukus keeps the crowd entertained with upbeat tunes.



# Sesame Street Comes To NS Mayport Via USO

From American Forces Press Service

The Sesame Street/United Service Organizations (USO) Experience for Military Families, a free traveling USO show based on Sesame Workshop's award winning "Talk, Listen, Connect" initiative and produced in partnership with Vee, will be at Naval Station Mayport on June 10.

The show, which is exclusively for military families, includes a 25-minute character performance and receive promotional items and outreach materials. The performances will be held at 5 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at the Gym. Free. No ticket required. First come, first serve.

The Sesame Street Workshop/USO partnership put on its

first show at Twentynine Palms, Calif., in July 2008. Since then, The Sesame Street/USO Experience for Military Families has traveled more than 45,000 miles to 76 bases in nine countries. More than 120,000 service members and families have been entertained during 176 shows.

"The momentum that this

show has gathered since it first performed for military kids and families is unbelievable," said Gary E. Knell, Sesame Workshop president and CEO. "To see how families come together and then use the messages from the show to talk to their kids is the greatest reward that we could ask for. We at Sesame Workshop are thrilled

to continue this work with our partners and friends at the USO and reinforce our commitment to military families." Sloan Gibson, USO president, noted the positive impact the tour is having on the military community. "The fact that more than 100,000 troops and family members have attended these shows so far speaks volumes

about the tour's relevance to today's military," said Gibson said. "We listen to our troops and understand the challenges they face at home, and are proud to call Sesame Workshop our partner in helping to ease the daily stresses on military families." For more news, visit [www.navy.mil](http://www.navy.mil).



Heidi Waler, 9, gets knocked down by swinging obstacles at a pendulum inflatable.



Lissette Morley of Team Coyote takes pictures of Paige Laird, 10, Jordan Laird, 3, and Christian Laird, 8 on a green screen. The free picture will be transferred to the background of their choice.



Personnel Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Angel Vegacolon of USS McInerney helps set up a ball as his wife, Vanessa, helps 4-year-old son Angel, hit it into a hole at the sports inflatable.



Evangeline Morris, 2, enjoys some shade sitting on a bean bag at the Red Bull tent.



The Appreciation Day included free popcorn as well as ices, hamburgers and hot dogs.



Sandra Thompson and her husband, Aviation Maintenance Administrationman 2nd Class Russon Thompson of HSL-48, help their children, Lillian, 5, Destine, 14 and friend, Kiara Foots, 9, pick out free DVDs brought to the event by USO.

Mayport USO Center will host another No Dough Dinner on Monday May 24 from 5-7 p.m. The menu is Chicken Alfredo, broccoli, salad, garlic bread and desserts. This is for Active Duty service members and their immediate family members.

The Jacksonville Axemen Season begins May 29 and your Greater Jacksonville USO has season tickets available for only \$20 for five matches and children 12 and under is admitted free. Tickets are now on sale at Mayport and NAS JAX USO Centers. All home games are played at Hodges Stadium - UNF, parking is free, the Axe Maiden Cheerleaders perform at every game. Please visit [www.jax-axe.com](http://www.jax-axe.com) for more details.

The USO and RocketLife, have partnered to deliver a heart-warming opportunity for the men and women of the armed forces and their families. The Personal Photo Book program enables troops serving abroad and their families to create 20-page personal

## USO NEWS

photo books and ship them to any APO/FPO address for free. These full-color, customized photo books are small enough to fit in a soldier's cargo pockets yet can hold more than 60 photos of loved ones. RocketLife prints the books for free, and the USO pays for the shipping. To get started, visit <http://uso.myphoto-products.com>.

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs has announced the launch of its new and improved online form, "Application for Health Benefits," which will make it easier and faster for veterans to apply for their health care benefits. This revised online application form (10-10EZ) provides enhanced navigation features that make it easier and faster for veterans to use. The new version also allows veterans to save a copy of the

completed form for their personal records. The most significant enhancement allows veterans to save their application to their local desktop and return to the application at any time without having to start over. Previously, veterans had to complete the form in a single session. This updated online form, along with the revised VA Form 10-10EZ, reduces the collection of information from veterans by eliminating some questions. In addition, there are minor changes to simplify the wording of questions and provide clarity in the instructions. Further enhancements to the online application are expected to be delivered in increments throughout 2010. Veterans may complete or download the 10-10EZ form at the VA health eligibility website at <https://www.1010ez.med.va.gov/sec/vha/1010ez/>. Veterans may also contact the VA at 1 (877) 222-VETS (8387) or visit the VA health eligibility website at [www.va.gov/healtheligibility](http://www.va.gov/healtheligibility).

Build-A-Bear Workshop Salutes U.S. Troops in Celebration of Military Appreciation Month. Build-A-Bear Workshop, the interactive entertainment retailer of customized stuffed animals, announced that it is celebrating Military Appreciation Month by supporting local USO and offering troops and their families a 20 percent military discount on their purchase. Coupons are available at all three Greater Jacksonville USO Centers. The Build-A-Bear Workshop Foundation will invite Guests to donate \$1 at checkout registers through June 7 in any Build-A-Bear Workshop retail location in the United States to support Local USO Centers. For more information please visit [www.buildabear.com](http://www.buildabear.com). There is a store in Jacksonville at The Avenues Mall (10300

Southside Blvd). Moe's Southwest Grill is teaming up with The Greater Jacksonville Area USO during the month of May (Military Appreciation Month) to raise funds to send "Goodie Boxes" to local Florida troops currently overseas defending our freedoms. The promotion concludes on May 31. Each "Goodie Box" that is sent from the Jacksonville Market will be mailed directly to a troops from the Jacksonville area. Moe's Southwest Grill goal is to donate as many boxes as number of troops currently deployed from the Jacksonville market. Each package costs \$12.50 in postage. There are three easy ways to collect donations for these "Goodie Boxes."

United Through Reading program makes it possible to share in the enjoyment of reading to the children in your life, even while thousands of miles apart. The Mayport Center and NAS Center can record you reading a book to

your children and send it to them after you have gone on deployment. It is a great way to make them smile on their special day even when you can not be there with them. Please contact your local USO center for more information. There is a computer resource center available to all service members with email, Internet and word processing. Fax, copy and free notary service is also available. Watch TV or a movie from the video library. Service members can also enjoy video games or use the sports equipment. There is a full kitchen, showers, a quiet reading room and a meeting room available at the USO. The USO is available for meetings, support groups, receptions, parties and pre-deployment briefs. A TV, VCR and overhead projector are available for use.

For more information about activities or meeting availabilities, call 246-3481 or stop by the center at 2560 Mayport Road.



-Photo by Paige Gnann

Logistics Officers from the Ukrainian Navy visit with Naval Station Mayport Commanding Officer, Capt. Aaron Bowman, during a trip to the base to learn more about logistics policies and procedures to support Oliver Hazard Perry class frigates.

# Ukrainian Naval Officers Visit Mayport

From DESRON 14 Public Affairs

Naval Station Mayport and FFG CLASSRON hosted the Deputy Chief Staff Officer and three Logistics Officers from the Ukrainian Navy May 17-20.

The goal of their familiarization visit was to understand the logistics policies and procedures necessary to support ships of the Oliver Hazard Perry class frigate.

During their visit, they met with representatives from the

Fleet Industrial Supply Center and the FFGON to learn how the U.S. Navy supports ships with food, fuel, and parts, as well as manning the funding to support our afloat forces.

This included visits to USS De Wert and USS Halyburton, where tours provided insights into food service, maintenance, underway replenishment, resource consumption rates, and financial accounting practices.

From Page 1

## HSL-60

Officer while deploying twice to the Persian Gulf aboard the nuclear powered aircraft carriers USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70) and USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72).

In 1999, after completing the Seahawk Weapons and Tactics Instructor Course at NSAAC in Fallon, Nevada, Steffen received orders to CHSWL Weapons Training Unit in Jacksonville, Florida as an instructor pilot and the FLIR/Hellfire weapons system subject matter expert.

In 2000, Steffen was selected for the Training and Administration of Reserves (TAR) Program and reported to the HCS-4 "Redwolves" in Norfolk, Virginia on Sept. 11, 2001 where he served as the Schedules Officer, Training Officer, Operations Officer and Maintenance Officer.

During his tour, the "Redwolves" were mobilized and executed two combat deployments, as part of the Joint Special Operations Air Detachment-Arabian Peninsula, in support of Operation Iraqi

Freedom.

After completing his department head tour at HCS-4, Steffen reported to COMHELWINGRES in San Diego, California, where he served as the HCS Program Manager and Operations Officer. During this tour he was temporarily assigned to HCS-5 as the Weapons and Tactics Instructor and subsequently deployed to Iraq for the fourth time in support of OIF.

Upon his return, he reported to the HCS-5 "Firehawks" as the Squadron Officer-in-Charge, where he oversaw the squadron's final combat deployment to Iraq, and the ultimate disestablishment on 1 January, 2007.

In 2007, Steffen reported for staff duty at U. S. Fleet Forces Command, where he served as an action officer in the N3 Joint Operations Directorate, taking a lead role in Maritime Homeland Defense and Operational Level of War transformation initiatives. During his time at USFF, CDR Steffen was selected to command the "Jaguars" of

HSL-60, where he currently serves as the Executive Officer.

Steffen has flown more than 2,400 total hours, including 950 hours on Night Vision Goggles and more than 350 combat flight hours. Some of his personal awards include the Air Medal Single Action with Combat "V" (two awards), Air Medal Strike/Flight (eight awards), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (two awards), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Combat Action Ribbon, and numerous campaign and unit awards.

Allerton, a native of Radford, Virginia, is a graduate of the University of Virginia with a Bachelors Degree in Economics. He was commissioned through the Aviation Officer Candidate School at Naval Air Station Pensacola, Fla., on June 21, 1986 and was designated a Naval Aviator on June 20, 1987.

Allerton's first operational tour was flying the SH-2F Sea Sprite with the Invaders of HSL-32 at Naval Air Station

Norfolk, VA. As Operations Officer of HSL-32 Detachment Five embarked onboard USS Jesse L. Brown (FF-1089) out of Naval Station Charleston, S.C.

Allerton transferred to the Neptune's Horsemen of HSL-30 as a Fleet Replacement Squadron Flight Instructor, Program Manager and AIRLANT/AIRPAC NATOPS Evaluator for the SH-2F. In October 1993, Allerton was ordered to USS Guam (LPH-9) as Safety Officer and Mini Boss.

Allerton reported to the Airwolves of HSL-40 at Naval Station Mayport, FL as Safety Department Head and Flight Instructor.

Allerton left active duty in May 1998 and affiliated with the Navy Reserve by joining the Emerald Knights of HS-75 based at Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Fla. He served as Aviation Safety Officer and as Department Head for the Administrative, Operations and Maintenance Departments and was the Executive Officer

of HS-75, when the unit was disestablished in March 2007. Allerton then transferred to the Jaguars of HSL-60 as the prospective Executive Officer.

He is currently employed by Cougar/VIH Helicopters flying the civilian version of the H-3 Sea King Helicopter and the Sikorsky S-92 Helicopter.

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# Farragut Rescues Disabled Dhow In Gulf

By MC1 Cassandra Thompson

USS Farragut

The Arleigh Burke-class guided missile destroyer USS Farragut (DDG 99), currently embarked on counter-piracy operations in the Gulf of Aden, had a welcome change of pace May 7, when they assisted a group of mariners stranded on a disabled dhow in the Gulf of Aden.

Cmdr. Bill Daly, Farragut's commanding officer, noted that it was easy to decide to help the dhow.

"We are obligated as mariners to help a vessel in distress," Daly said. "The state of the vessel and the behavior of the crew made it obvious something was wrong. Even if they were suspected pirates I intended to help them and deal with suspected piracy concerns as the situation developed."

Ensign Mark Beale, boat officer for the ship's Visit, Board, Search and Seizure (VBSS) team said an SH-60B helicopter attached to USS Farragut originally spotted the distressed dhow at approximately 6 p.m. during a routine patrol.

At the time, the ship was 33 miles away, Beale said. However they were able to



—Photos by MC1 Cassandra Thompson

Electrician's Mate 3rd Class Benjamin Perkins, Electrician's Mate 2nd Class Brian Chance and Sonar Technician 1st Class Anthony Benz, members of the Arleigh Burke-class guided missile destroyer USS Farragut (DDG 99) Visit, Board, Search and Seizure team, assist a Somali mariner restore power to his dhow. USS Farragut is part of Combined Task Force 151, a multinational task force established to conduct anti-piracy operations in the Gulf of Aden.

quickly close on the dhow, and launch the VBSS team, in addition to the embarked U.S. Coast Guard Law Enforcement Detachment (LEDET), to render assistance.

"The crew comprised of

seven people, including five Somalis and two Tanzanians," said Beale. "They claimed to be transporting fuel from Yemen to Somalia and fish from Somalia to Yemen. They had been underway eight days, and drift-

Culinary Specialist Seaman Anthony Chance, left, Ship's Serviceman 1st Class Johnny Williams, center, and Gas Turbine Systems Technician (Mechanical) 3rd Class Antoine Porter, assigned to the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Farragut (DDG 99), struggle to detangle a fire-fighting hose and complete a fire drill during the ship's Damage Control Olympics.



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# Klaking Delivers Project Handclasp To Shelter

By MC1(SW) Michael J. Scott  
CTG 40.0 Public Affairs

The Center for the Promotion of Human Dignity (CEPRODIH), a shelter for battered women received a special gift May 8 from USS Klaking (FFG 42) and Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light (HSL) 42 Det. 10 Sailors on behalf of Project Handclasp.

U.S. Navy Sailors unloaded pallets of hygiene items and stuffed animals from the ship right into embassy vehicles waiting on the pier. No ceremony or fanfare was made, but

the women will benefit from the generosity and kindness of others.

"Project Handclasp donations such as those delivered by USS Klaking provide an opportunity for us to put smiles on the faces of mothers and children," said Cmdr. George Boudreau, Uruguay's U.S. Embassy Navy representative, "in this case a battered women's shelter located in one of Montevideo's poorest neighborhoods."

Project Handclasp accepts and transports educational, humanitarian and goodwill material overseas on a space-

available basis in U.S. Navy ships. Materials are distributed directly to needy recipients by U.S. service personnel stationed in overseas areas or embarked in U.S. Navy ships that visit these areas.

Klaking was in Montevideo as part of the six-month Southern Seas 2010 deployment to the Caribbean and Latin America in support of U.S. Southern Command's (USSOUTHCOM) Partnership of the Americas Maritime Strategy. Through the cooperation of numerous donors, Project Handclasp has been able

to ship approximately 1.5 million pounds of charitable materials overseas annually for the past several years.

CEPRODIH is a nonprofit, non-governmental organization. Their main mission is to promote initiatives to assist the poorest sectors of society and defend their rights and interests. They provide help for families and victims of domestic violence, as well as caring for abandoned and forsaken elderly.

Since 2000, CEPRODIH has been carrying out an integral program which works with families to: improve all aspects of family life (lodging, nutrition, health, documentation, etc.); provide training in areas like

hygiene, gastronomy, information technology, sewing; and assist personnel in obtaining employment through partnerships with various firms and/or the formation of cooperative enterprises/associations.

"The donations were delivered today by the U.S. Embassy. The women and children were very happy, and wanted me to send my thanks to the Klaking crew, and to the American people," said Boudreau.

Klaking, as part of Task Group 40.0, is on a six-month deployment to South America and the Caribbean as part of Southern Seas 2010 (SS10).

Southern Seas is an annual

USSOUTHCOM-directed operation implemented by U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command (COMUSNAVSO) and executed by Commander, Destroyer Squadron (DESRON) 40 as Commander, Task Group 40.0.

Southern Seas focuses on conducting a variety of exercises and multinational exchanges to enhance interoperability, increase regional stability, and build and maintain regional relationships with partner nations.

SS10 includes the guided-missile frigate, USS Klaking (FFG 42), HSL-42 Det. 10, and DESRON 40 serving as the command element.



-Photo by MC1 Michael J. Scott  
Sailors assigned to the guided-missile frigate USS Klaking (FFG 42) prepare Project Handclasp materials for distribution by the U.S. Embassy in Montevideo, Uruguay during a port visit. The items will be donated to the CEPRODIH Women's Battered Shelter. Klaking is participating in Southern Seas 2010, a U.S. Southern Command-directed operation that provides U.S. and international forces the opportunity to operate in a multi-national environment.

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June 25:	Where the Wild Things Are (PG)

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# Hué City Sailors Help Children In Bahrain

By Lt. Peter Dietz  
USS Hué City Chaplain

Sailors assigned to USS Hué City (CG 66) visited the RIA Center in Bahrain to spend time with local children as part of a community relations project (COMREL) project, May 6.

USS Hué City has participated in six COMRELS during their first three port visits on their deployment. This was the second time Hué City Sailors have volunteered their time at the R.I.A. Center.

R.I.A. is a unique educational facility in Bahrain that provides opportunities for children with Autism and other special needs. The school has a diverse, multinational student body and relies on financial contributions and volunteers for their successful programs.

The Sailors from Hué City provided encouragement and support to students during their physical exercises in the morning, which warm up the students for their day at school.

They also helped teaching classes, supervising arts and crafts and working with students on puzzles and other activities.

They concluded their time at the center playing with the children on the playground during recess.



Engineman 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Antony Cusson holds a young student at the RIA Center. The center provides opportunities for children with autism and other special needs.



Fire Controlman 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Juan Estrella plays games with children attending the RIA Center in Bahrain during a community relations project at the center on May 6.

USS Hué City is on a deployment as a part of the on-going rotation of forward-deployed forces to support maritime security operations and operating in international waters around the globe, working with other coalition maritime forces.

They concluded their time at the center playing with the children on the playground during recess.



Sailors of Hué City gather outside of the RIA Center during a community relations project.

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## Balfour Beatty Holds Resident Appreciation Day



Gianna Cruz, 3, enjoys a misting station set up at the resident's appreciation day event. Balfour Beatty Communities hosted its third annual Resident Appreciation and Beautification Day on May 15.



Jenifer Williams picks out fresh plants to decorate her base housing while her children, 4-year-old JJ and 2-year-old Jordan enjoy snow cones. In preparation for the Yard of the Month Program, Balfour Beatty offered free plants, shrubs, flowers and other items to help you with making your yards beautiful.

-Photos by Paige Gnann



Children enjoy water play outside of Ribault Bay Community Center.



Children keep cool and have fun with a large water slide set up at the event.

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## COMUSNAVSO Runs For Charity



-Photos by MC1 Holly Boynton  
Lt. j.g. Stephen Friese and Operations Specialist 1<sup>st</sup> Class (Surface Warfare) Harry Casby, Jr., assigned to U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command and U.S. Fourth Fleet (NAVSO/CAF), begin their race for the San Pablo Elementary 5K for Play, a fundraiser run supporting a local school. NAVSO is the naval component command for U.S. Southern Command and is responsible for all U.S. Navy assets in the Caribbean, Central and South America.

Operations Specialist 1<sup>st</sup> Class (Surface Warfare) Harry Casby, Jr., assigned to U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command and U.S. Fourth Fleet (NAVSO/CAF), signs in for the San Pablo Elementary 5K for Play, a fundraiser run supporting a local school.

# MWR Launches Summer Programs For Youth

From MWR

MWR Mayport is offering a variety of summer programs for youth of all ages.

The summer season for Youth Bowling begins May 22. Youth bowling leagues are available starting as young as three years old, all the way through high school ages. Mayport's youth bowling leagues meet on Saturday mornings at Mayport Bowling Center. For more information, call 270-5377.

The Youth Activities Center is currently accepting registration for Sand Dollar Summer

Day Camp for age six to 14 (age five, if completed Kindergarten). Camp is offered in weekly sessions and camp fees are based on total family income. Children enrolled in summer camp will experience a variety of daily activities including field trips on and off base. Registration will continue at the Youth Activities Center until all spaces are filled. In addition to Day Camp, the Youth Activities Center and Teen Center offer a variety of recreation programs, special events, instructional classes and

sports leagues every month. For more information, call 270-5680.

The temperatures are heating up and so are the programs at the Base Pool. Novice Swim Team for ages 6-16 will begin practice on May 24. To qualify for Novice Swim Team, children must have completed level 6 swimming lessons or be of equivalent ability. Practice and instruction is free. A \$25 fee includes six swim meets and the River City Championship Meet. Children's swim lessons begin on June 14. A total of five

sessions will be offered during 2010 with each session running Monday through Thursday for two weeks. Registration for swim lessons is held on the Friday and Saturday before the start of the session at the Base Pool from 8-10 a.m. Cost is \$40 per child, per session. A \$5 discount is available for those children attending Sand Dollar Summer Day Camp at the Youth Activities Center. For complete details on summer

programs at the Pool, download the 2010 Aquatics brochure at [www.cnic.navy.mil/Mayport/Recreation](http://www.cnic.navy.mil/Mayport/Recreation) or call 270-5425.

Explore the world of golf at Windy Harbor Golf Club with Junior Golf Clinics for ages 8-17. Three clinics are being offered during the summer, each meeting on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9-11 a.m. for two weeks. The first session begins on June 15. Cost is \$100 per child and includes profes-

sional instruction for four days with six students per instructor. Snacks will be provided daily. Space is limited. To register, visit Windy Harbor Golf Club or call 270-5380.

Don't miss out on these exciting MWR programs for summer 2010. For additional information on activities and events offered by MWR at Naval Station Mayport, visit us online at [www.cnic.navy.mil/Mayport/Recreation](http://www.cnic.navy.mil/Mayport/Recreation) or call 270-5228.

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**May 20: Thursday CPO Social Hour.** 3-7 p.m. at Foc'sle CPO Club with thirty-five cent wings, drink specials and all-you-can-drink soft drinks for only \$1. Thursday night is reserved for active and retired Chief Petty Officers and their guests. 270-5431

**May 20: Kings and Queens Adult Bowling League.** League meets every Thursday at 7:15 p.m. at Mayport Bowling Center. An organizational meeting will be held at 6:45 p.m. Cost is \$15 per week. 270-5377

**May 21: Summer Outdoor Movies Begin – Alvin and the Chipmunks, The Squeakquel (PG).** Start time is at sunset (approximately 8:30 p.m.) at Sea Otter Pavilion. Bring your lawn chairs and/or blankets and bug spray, just in case. Snacks and beverages available for purchase. 270-7205

**May 22-23: Swimming Pool Open Weekends Only.** The base pool is now open Saturdays (11 a.m.-6 p.m.) and Sundays/Holidays (1-6 p.m.). Full summer hours begin on June 14 when local schools dismiss for summer break. Admission fees apply. Season passes go on sale now at ITT. 270-5154

**May 22-23: Beach**

The following activities target single or unaccompanied Sailors. For more information, call 270-7788/89 or stop by Planet Mayport Single Sailor Center and pick up the monthly activity calendar with a complete listing of all upcoming Liberty events.

**May 20: Comedian Jeff Dunham Trip.** Van departs Planet Mayport at 6 p.m. Cost is \$25.

**May 21: Madden Tournament.** 6 p.m. at Planet Mayport. (Free)

**May 22: Jacksonville Sharks Arena Football Trip.** Van departs Planet Mayport at 5:30 p.m. Cost is \$5.

**May 23: Big Screen Trivia.** 6:30 p.m. at Planet Mayport. Come test your trivia knowl-

# MWR HAPPENINGS

**Lifeguards On Duty.** MWR Mayport's Beach Lifeguards are currently on duty 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturdays, Sundays and Federal Holidays. Fridays will be added beginning June 18. 270-5425

**May 23: Bowling Family Fun Night.** 4-7 p.m. every Sunday at Mayport Bowling Center. Cost is \$9 per person and includes All-You-Can Bowl with shoes, spaghetti dinner, music videos, light show and colored headpin bowling for prizes. 270-5377

**May 25: All Khaki Wings and Trivia Night.** 3-7 p.m. at Foc'sle CPO Club with 35-cent wings, drink specials and all-you-can-drink soft drinks for \$1. Trivia begins at 5:30 p.m. All Khakis welcome (Chief Petty Officers, Officers and their guests). 270-5431.

**May 27: Thursday CPO Social Hour-Boss's Night.** 3-7 p.m. at Foc'sle CPO Club with thirty-five cent wings, drink specials and all-you-can-drink soft drinks for only \$1. Thursday night is reserved for active and retired Chief Petty Officers and their guests. 270-

5431  
**May 28: Summer Outdoor Movies – Tooth Fairy (PG).** Start time is at sunset (approximately 8:30 p.m.) at Sea Otter Pavilion. Bring your lawn chairs and/or blankets and bug spray, just in case. Snacks and beverages available for purchase. 270-7205

**May 28 & 29: Live Band – Bread and Butter.** 9 p.m.-1 a.m. both nights at Castaway's Lounge. All hands welcome; no cover charge. www.myspace.com/bnbjbx 270-7205

**May 29: UFC 114 PPV.** 10 p.m. at Castaway's Lounge. (Free) www.ufc.com 270-7205

**May 31: Memorial Day Bowling Special.** 11 a.m.-7 p.m. at Mayport Bowling Center. All day bowling pass is \$8 per person (\$5 for ages 4-5; free for ages 3 and under). Come and go as you like. Shoes are included. 270-5377

**June 1: Water Aerobics Classes Begin.** Free water aerobics classes are held at the base pool on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:30-10:30 a.m. and Friday (Aqua Therapy) 8:30-9:30 a.m. 270-7718

# LIBERTY CALL

edge against Faith, our "Trivia Queen". (Free)

**May 24: Spades Tournament.** 6:30 p.m. start at Planet Mayport with prizes for the winning team. (Free)

**May 25: Golf Outing and Free Clinic.** Van departs Planet Mayport at 3:45 p.m. or meet us there at 4 p.m. Free clinic with nine holes of golf including cart. Deadline to sign-up is May 24. (Free)

**May 26: Call of Duty.** 6 p.m. start at Planet Mayport. (Free)

**May 27: Jacksonville Suns Baseball Trip.** Van departs

Planet Mayport at 5:30 p.m. (Free)

**May 28: Dave and Busters Trip.** Van departs Planet Mayport at 7 p.m. Game card included. Deadline to sign-up is May 26. (Free)

**May 29: UFC 114 – Rampage vs. Evans.** 10 p.m. at Castaway's Lounge. www.ufc.com (Free)

**May 30: Ichetucknee Springs Tubing Trip.** Van departs Planet Mayport at 7:30 a.m. Cost is \$5.

# Scion Launches Car Customization Competition For Service Members

From MWR  
Scion announced May 17 it has launched a unique car customization challenge strictly for active duty military personnel. The contest will tap into the creativity, teamwork and can do attitude of today's U.S. Military and challenge them to design a customized Scion xB.

Teams of dedicated service members will describe their vision of how they would customize a Scion xB based on a \$15,000 budget. All design entries must be submitted online by June 11. Three finalists will be announced on July 5 and receive a Scion xB and \$15,000 to make their vision a reality. Teams will have approximately 12 weeks to complete their build project.

One car will be selected as the Grand Prize winner, and the team will be invited to the 2010 Specialty Equipment Market

Association (SEMA) Show in Las Vegas to showcase their modified xB in the Scion booth.

To support U.S. troops, Scion is working closely with Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps commercial sponsorship units and base Auto Skills Centers. Full contest details can be found at www.BattleoftheBuilds.com.

Car enthusiasts, team sup-

porters, and other interested parties can register on the Battle of the Builds website (www.BattleOfTheBuilds.com) to cast a vote for their three favorite designs between June 16 and June 30. During the voting and build phases, the program can be followed on Scion's Facebook properties (www.facebook.com/scion, /scionreleaseseries, /scionracing) and at www.battleofthebuilds.com.

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## Hitting The Trails



–Photos by MC1 Heather Ewton

**Bike enthusiasts head out for a 4-and-a-half mile bike ride starting at Naval Station Mayport's Sea Otter Pavilion and winding through Hanna Park as part of MWR's Mountain Bike Race co-sponsored by Champion Cycle. Each participant also received a gift certificate from Champion. Look for more events like this in the upcoming year.**

## KID ZONE

**May 21: Summer Outdoor Movies Begin – Alvin and the Chipmunks, The Squeakquel (PG).** Start time is at sunset (approximately 8:30 p.m.) at Sea Otter Pavilion. Bring your lawn chairs and/or blankets and bug spray, just in case. Snacks and beverages available for purchase. 270-7205

**May 22: Youth Summer Bowling Leagues Begin.** 10 a.m. at Mayport Bowling Center. Cost is \$9 per week for ages 8-21 and \$4 for ages 3-7. 270-5377

**May 22-23: Swimming Pool Open Weekends Only.** The base pool is now open Saturdays (11 a.m.-6 p.m.) and Sundays/Holidays (1-6 p.m.). Full summer hours begin on June 14 when local schools dismiss for summer break. Admission fees apply. Season passes go on sale now at ITT. 270-5425 or 5451

**May 22-23: Beach Lifeguards On Duty.** MWR participants will receive a t-shirt. (Free) 270-5680 or 5451

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**May 22-23: Beach Lifeguards On Duty.** MWR

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# Mayport Village Holds Heritage Festival May 22

From Staff

The Mayport Village, just outside of the gates of Naval Station Mayport on SRA1A, will hold a Historic & Cultural Fest on May 22 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

The free festival will include a re-enactment of Capt. Jean Ribault meeting the Timucuan Indians in 1562, as well as a Blessing of the Fleet at Safe Harbor Seafood/Montys

Marina.

There will be a surprise speaker to talk about Capt. Jean Ribault at the Mayport Marine Science Education Center at noon, as well as an awards presentation by D.A.R.

UNF Dr. Keith Ashley will talk about the Timucuan Indians and archeology at 1 p.m., as well as two movies about Mayport, exhibits, representa-

tives from the St. Augustine Lighthouse Archeology Maritime Program, Mayport Waterfrong Partnership, and tours of the historic Mayport Presbyterian Church. There will be a Lady Quilters and bake sale and story telling.

Local authors and artists will also have their items on sale as musical guests keep the crowds entertained.



-Photo by MC2 Gary Granger Jr.

Former USS Stark (FFG 31) crewmember David Brangaccio, now a captain in the Navy Reserves, talks about his fallen shipmates who died during the attack on the Stark during the 23rd anniversary memorial ceremony held at Naval Station Mayport, May 17.

## Stark

"Twenty-three years is a long time," he said. "When you think in terms of what has occurred, it puts that time in focus. Every child of the 37 fallen heroes ... have now reached adulthood. Changes can be measured in many ways, but evolution of children into adulthood is one of the most pleasant yardsticks."

Mitchell reminded the crowd of then-Pres. Ronald Reagan's visit to Mayport immediately following the attacks. During his speech to the grief-stricken base, Reagan "spoke of honor. They were ordinary men who did extraordinary things. Yes, they were heroes."

He also talked about how the Sailors embodied the Navy's Core Values of Honor, Courage and Commitment even before they were adopted in 1992.

"For the men of Stark, those core values were in place and demonstrated in full," he said.

Also to speak at the event was Navy Reserve Capt. David Brangaccio, who was just a lieutenant junior grade officer serving aboard Stark during the attack.

Brangaccio also talked about remembering the fallen during the memorial, talking about two of his shipmates in particular.

"At first, I did not quite know what I was going to say," he began. "I didn't know if my words would honor and pay tribute to these people. We are here to remember, reflect and

rejoice."

"As I reviewed the names of the fallen, two names stood out to me. Each one of the 37 men had, no doubt, influenced a shipmate during their time aboard USS Stark. These men, did me."

Brangaccio recounted a story about 23-year-old Petty Officer Chris DeAngelis, who stood the midwatch with him for several weeks. As a young officer, Brangaccio said he "probably immaturely voiced my disgruntlement" at having to stand the uneventful watch hour.

"Finally, DeAngelis had enough of me," Brangaccio told the attendees. "He told me to stop whining. That one day I would get qualified, but he'd still be standing there. And that was fine because as long as he was there, he was going to do his best."

Later, when Brangaccio did move off of the watch, he said knowing that was DeAngelis was there - and could rely on him to do a good job - built a confidence to rely on his staff later in life.

"The trust and respect I have for my staff [now] grew directly out of my knowing him," he said.

The other Sailor to hold great influence in his life was Senior Chief Vernon Foster.

Brangaccio credited Foster with his success in the Naval Reserves, in which he serves as a captain.

From Page 1

"None of that could be possible without Vernon Foster," he said.

The ceremony concluded with the tolling of the bell by John Kiser, son of the late Senior Chief Stephen Kiser and the reading of the 37 names, followed by a wreath laying and 21-gun salute.

Restored and returned to service in 1988, USS Stark (FFG 31) since won two Battle 'E' awards as best ship in the squadron. After the ship was decommissioned in 1999, the Naval Order of the United States and Naval Station Mayport partnered to preserve the observance of this tragic incident that wrought so much misery for the crewmembers and their families.

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**The Comedy Zone** Presents  
*Upcoming Celebrity Performances*

**Sherrod Small**  
May 26th - May 29th

With his witty commentary on politics, culture and city life, Small consistently receives rave reviews for keeping audiences entertained with his remarkable comedic talent and improvisation. He recently performed on "Jimmy Kimmel Live" and previously appeared on Comedy Central's "Premium Blend" and NBC's "Showtime at the Apollo", and has written for and performed on Comedy Central's "Tough Crowd with Colin Quinn".

**Lavell Crawford**  
June 10th - June 12th

Though Lavell is relatively new to the comedy scene, he's already made a splash in the industry by headlining Latafapooza. Lavell has also made the jump to television with comedic appearances on "Motown Live," "Showtime at the Apollo," "BET's ComicView" and "Russell Simmons' Def Comedy Jam." Crawford has appeared on "The Jamie Foxx Show," and has appeared in the films Baby's Mama Drama, Beverlyhood and Ghetto South Problems.

**For a complete listing of performance times & tickets visit:**  
**www.comedyzone.com**  
or call **292-HAHA**  
**1-295 & San Jose Blvd**  
(located inside the Ramada)

THE MIRROR NS MAYPORT, FLORIDA

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GATE	2350 SR 16	STAU	LIL CHAMP	13967 McCORMICK RD(MT PLEASANT RD)	
GATE	463779 SR 200/A1A	YUL	JAX		
GATE	3230 EMERSON ST	JAX	LIL CHAMP	5001 HECKSCHER DR. - BLOUNT	JAX
GATE	3938 HENDRICKS AVE	JAX	LIL CHAMP	1310 S. 3rd ST.	JAX BCH
GATE	8070 ATLANTIC BLVD	JAX	MALLARD COVE OFFICE	A1A HWY / WONDERWOOD	JAX
GATE	1721 UNIVERSITY BLVD N	JAX	NAVY HOUSING APARTMENTS	ATLANTIC BLVD / CRAIG FIELD	JAX
GATE	5617 BOWDEN RD	JAX	NEX (OUTSIDE RACKS NEAR ATM)	MAYPORT RD.	JAX
GATE	570 BUSCH DR	JAX	OTTER RUN OFFICE	ASSISSI LANE	JAX
GATE	12548 SAN JOSE BLVD	JAX	RAINBOW CENTER CHILD CARE	NAVY HOUSING OFF ASSISSI LANE	JAX
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Updated: FEBRUARY 1, 2007

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412306

# Navy's EFMP 'God-send' For Jax Military Family

By Loren Barnes

NH Jax Public Affairs

Managing military family life is a daunting task for anyone. The effects of these challenges are multiplied if one of your children has a serious, long-term medical condition.

Life can become an endless struggle with paperwork, appointment schedules, worry and frustration for these parents. This is played out in an environment where the family's entire world changes periodically because of rotating duty stations and deployments. The mental, spiritual and physical fatigue experienced by these families can not only impact the service member's focus on duty but also the integrity of the family.

That's why the DoD's Exceptional Family Member (EFM) Program was developed. The Program's primary role is to support these active duty families by ensuring they are always assigned to areas where "special needs services" are available.

Navy spouse Shannon Binek said the Navy's EFM program has made all the difference for her family. She and her husband ETC Reinhard Binek, who has 22 years of active duty service, have three children. Her son Logan (7) is currently enrolled in the EFM Program as a Category 5 EFM. Her oldest son, Kristoffer, once qualified as a Category 3 EFM for a speech delay problem. Kristopher, now 18, and his brother, Hunter (14) are a tremendous help to their parents and Logan is courageous as well in dealing with his health challenges. All of them receive their primary care at NH Jax.

Rating as an EFM Category 5, Logan's needs were determined to be "highly specialized and complex, requiring continuity of care." And despite the courageous efforts of all the Binek family they really



-Photo courtesy of Shannon Bynek  
Logan Bynek and his brothers, Hunter and Kristoffer, participate in a Jacksonville "Mended Little Hearts of Jacksonville" event. The Byneks have benefited greatly from the Navy's Exceptional Family Member Program in dealing with a congenital heart problem.

needed the support of the EFM Program.

Shannon explained Logan was born with a congenital defect called Heterotaxy Syndrome. This affects major organs primarily on one side of the body. In Logan's case most of the structures on the left side of his heart, including the left ventricle that pumps blood out of the body, are small and underdeveloped. He also was born without a spleen. The impact of this condition came home quickly. He had his first open heart surgery at just six weeks, his second at six months and his third when he was just 2 years old. A first year survival rate for children with this condition, is usually 32 percent and the 15-year survival rate is 49 percent. It is found in fewer

than 40,000 children worldwide Shannon said.

Logan is now 7, and Shannon says, he's pretty much like any other kid, but continues to require close follow-up and there have been numerous medical crisis over the years. Logan has been hospitalized twice since they've been in Jacksonville, at Naval Hospital Jacksonville and at Wolfson's Medical Center. Besides his open-heart surgeries, he's been on a lung bypass machine twice, and he's had several heart catheterizations. As Logan ages the stress on his heart will become more and more serious requiring more medical procedures. Most likely, he will eventually require a heart transplant. The Bineks are determined to give him

## EFMP Qualifies In Six Categories

Families who feel their child would qualify for the Exceptional Family Member (EFM) Program should contact the Exceptional Family Member Program Coordinator at their local military hospital. Ms. Galya Taborn is the EFMP coordinator at Naval Hospital Jacksonville. She can be reached at (904) 542-7348. She can explain all the benefits and requirements of the program which offers personalized assistance from referral management to pharmacy assistance to free in-home, respite care which allows the caregivers to take sorely needed breaks from the pressure of their 24/7 responsibilities.

Individual cases are reviewed by a screening

committee of doctors at Naval Medical Centers in Portsmouth, Va., San Diego and Yokosuka, Japan. The committee evaluates and qualifies family members for the EFM program. Different aspects of what they find determine which category the EFM is placed in. These categories are:

Category I - for monitoring purposes only

Category II - pinpoint to specific geographic locations

Category III - no overseas assignments

Category IV - major medical areas in CONUS

Category V - homesteading

Category VI - temporary enrollment - update required in 6-12 months

every chance to beat the odds and to have as full and rewarding a life as possible.

The EFM Program is a great support for them in realizing that goal. They later chose NTC Great Lakes, Ill. as a duty station due to its proximity to Children's Hospital of Milwaukee, Wis., a leader in treating these conditions. That was where Logan underwent his first open-heart surgeries.

When Logan needed surgery for the second time while they were stationed in Biloxi, Miss., the Byneks opted to fly him back to the Milwaukee hospital.

She said, "I just wanted the same doctor who was familiar with his case, the same doctor who had actually had his hands on Logan's heart to do the surgery."

The EFM Program made that happen with little hassle to the Byneks. Everything was arranged and paid for through the program including lodging, rental cars and food for the family. Shannon says that is typical of what the EFM program does for enrolled families.

She said, "I have never seen a bill for his care, isn't that amazing?"

Shannon said the EFM Program has made it much easier for her and her husband to handle the demands of military life, medical decisions, and continuity of care. Chief Binek is now assigned to the USS Vicksburg (CG 69), homeported at Naval Station (NS) Mayport, Fla. Previously he was at Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing ELEVEN at Naval Air Station

Jacksonville. While the Chief still deploys and has even done year-long war-zone tours in the Middle East, they are now able to maintain a single residence, keep their children in one school system, to develop a support network in the community and to maintain continuity of care at Naval Hospital Jacksonville.

Logan is followed by Dr. Michael Maher in the Family Practice Department at NH Jax. He also receives more specialized care at TRICARE network facilities such as UF& Shands Medical Center, Wolfson Children's Hospital, and Nemours Children's Hospital in Jacksonville.

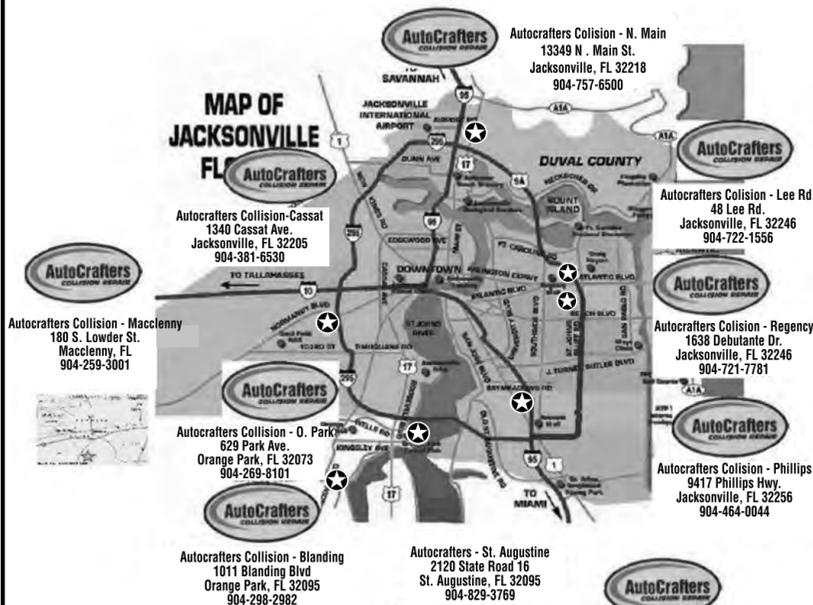
Shannon is very grateful for the care he's received.

"We could have chosen to taken our children to civilian sector facilities for primary care but we prefer military healthcare. When I meet other families in the civilian hospitals dealing alone with the complexity of the medical system I feel so fortunate to have such a great program such as EFM," she said.

She says Dr. Maher has been great. "He's just amazing. Logan takes several medications a day, and we need lots of referrals. He just takes care of it and I don't have to make a trip up here every time for it. Because of that continuity of care I don't have to explain it, I don't have to go through six people to get things done. They understand it because they are all aware of it and they know we are EFM. It just makes it go. The doctor knows us, he knows our family. We've been here five years now, so it's a very simple situation. I've never had a situation where I ran out of referrals. I haven't had a situation where I couldn't get his medication. None of those things, when you think about the severity of what he has, that's just been a God-send!"

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# FFSC Schedule Set

From FFSC

The following classes and activities are offered by the Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) and are free of charge. Pre-registration is required and childcare is not available. For more information about the classes or to register call 270-6600, ext. 1701. FFSC is located in Building One on Massey Avenue.

May 20, 9-11 a.m., **Resume Walk-in Review Assistance**, FFSC

May 24, 6-8 p.m., **Ombudsman Assembly**, Building 1 Room 104

May 24-27, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., **TAP Separatee Workshop**, Building One, Room 1616

Designed for Military personnel within 180 days of leaving the military. The seminar focuses on benefits for service members and their family members. Participants receive help in translating their military acquired skills into civilian language and are exposed to the civilian job market and how to successfully compete in the civilian employment arena; learning about resumes, employment interviews and marketing themselves. If you are within a minimum of 180 days of leaving the military see your career counselor for a quota for this highly successful program.

May 24-25, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., **Three Is A Crowd**, Building 1 Room 702

As you seek to recover from a marital affair, this workshop will guide you and your spouse toward five outcomes: Stabilize the marriage in the initial crisis. Provide structure for this emotionally volatile environment. Bring closure to the "old" marriage - the marriage prior to the affair.

Set established skills necessary for the "new" marriage pattern. Answer the questions: "How could you do this to me?" Why did you do it?"

May 25, 9-11 a.m., **Resume Walk-in Review Assistance**, FFSC

May 25, 9-noon, **Couples Communication**, FFSC

Whether you've been dating for 6 months or married for 20 years, effective communication is critical to keeping your relationship happy, healthy and strong. Come learn new techniques which will help you build on the strengths of your relationship and learn to identify barriers to effective communication. Class is a one-time 3 hour class. Couples are encouraged but not required to attend class together.

May 25, 9-11 a.m., **Parenting Class**, FFSC

May 26, 9 a.m.-noon, **Tottletyme Playgroup**, USO

Parents and children together meet to share parenting concerns, ideas, and fun! The group invites professionals to address specific areas of concern such as nutrition, toilet training, etc. We even take field trips several times a year to local parks, museums and playgrounds. This group is designed for moms new to the area or moms who want their child to interact with other children their child's age. All children age four and below are invited to attend.

May 27, 9-11 a.m., **Resume Walk-in Review Assistance**, FFSC

June 1, 9-11 a.m., **Parenting Class**, FFSC

June 8, 9-11 a.m., **Parenting Class**, FFSC

## Book

and Ginger Peacock Preston, sisters of the original books' author, the late Fran Peacock Coker. Illustrations are by Ethan Long. The book was developed through a collaborative effort between the City of Jacksonville Military Affairs Division chief Bob Buehn and manager Harrison Conyers and the Jacksonville Children's Commission, which manages the RALLY Jacksonville! early literacy program.

Through Mayor Peyton's Book Club, a part of RALLY Jacksonville!, all 4-year-old Duval County pre-kindergartners are eligible to receive a book bag filled with fun reading tools and a series of Jacksonville-themed books.

Duval County children who are 4-years-old by Sept. 1, 2010, and entering kindergarten in 2011 will be eligible to join Mayor Peyton's Book Club in August 2010 and will receive the newest book.

All 4-year-olds who are enrolled in a VPK (Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten) child-care center are automatically registered for the book club and will receive their bags through their center. This is made possible through a secure partnership with the Early Learning Coalition (the agency that manages VPK). Parents whose children are enrolled in VPK do NOT need to register them. If a 4-year-old is NOT enrolled VPK or does not attend child-

care, the parent/caregiver can enroll their child online at [www.jaxkids.net](http://www.jaxkids.net).

RALLY Jacksonville!, otherwise known as the Mayor's Literacy Initiative, is Mayor John Peyton's plan to get every child ready to read. This plan makes early literacy a core value in Jacksonville, improves the quality of its child care sites, and increases the number of children who are ready for school at the beginning of kindergarten.

To learn more about RALLY Jacksonville!, visit the Jacksonville Children's Commission online at [www.jaxkids.net](http://www.jaxkids.net) or call (904) 630-6405.

From Page 1



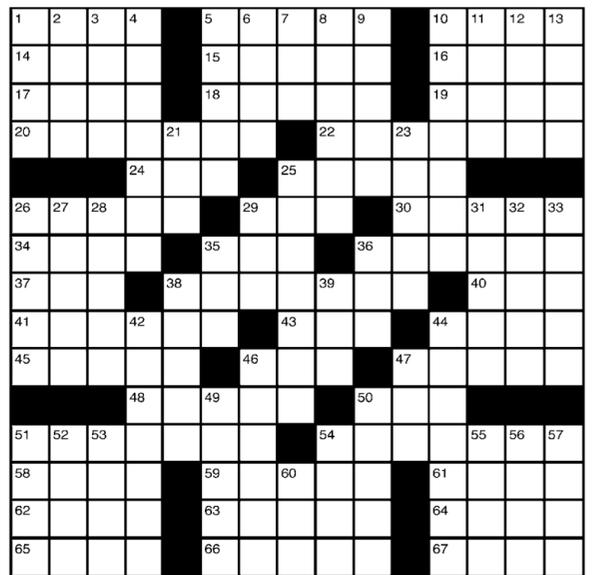
## THE Daily Commuter Puzzle by Jacqueline E. Mathews

### ACROSS

- 1 Doe or buck
- 5 "Same for me!"
- 10 Goes on stage
- 14 Lounging
- 15 Hunter in the sky
- 16 Bangkok native
- 17 Thick drink
- 18 Subtraction sign
- 19 Spirited tune
- 20 Comes into view
- 22 Last Supper room
- 24 Assistance
- 25 Fills completely
- 26 Respond
- 29 Relatives
- 30 Swerves
- 34 Meanie
- 35 Lower limb
- 36 Save
- 37 "\_\_\_ you serious?"
- 38 Warrior
- 40 Recline
- 41 In \_\_\_; refusing to face reality
- 43 Mr. Koppel
- 44 Magician's stick
- 45 Get up
- 46 TV room, often
- 47 Pushover
- 48 Stitched
- 50 Woeful
- 51 Unhurried reading at one's convenience
- 54 Way of thinking
- 58 Fragrance
- 59 Meat shunner
- 61 Etna's emission
- 62 Make eyes at
- 63 Practice piece
- 64 At any time
- 65 Bread varieties
- 66 Refresh
- 67 Impression, as in a fender

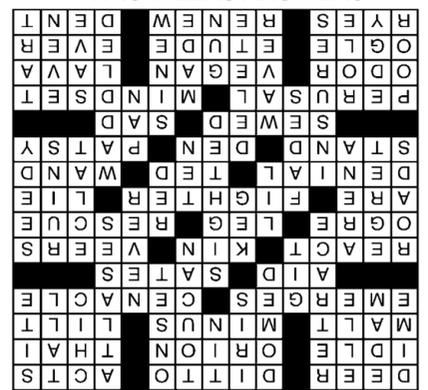
### DOWN

- 1 Thin coin
- 2 Dutch cheese
- 3 She, in France



5/20/10

### THIS WEEK'S ANSWERS



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5/20/10

- 4 Go over, as one's steps
- 5 Like a capitol building, often
- 6 Fleur-de-lis
- 7 Cheap metal
- 8 Colorful bird
- 9 Beginning
- 10 Books of maps
- 11 Stylish
- 12 Of great height
- 13 Location
- 21 "Scram!"
- 23 Adamant refusal
- 25 Sharp \_\_\_; having keen vision
- 26 Highways
- 27 Plumed bird
- 28 Sports building
- 29 Barrel
- 31 Brilliant success
- 32 Destroys
- 33 Run-down
- 35 "\_\_\_ Abner"
- 36 \_\_\_ as a beet
- 38 Loses color
- 39 Hang \_\_\_; surf
- 42 Issues an Allstate policy to
- 44 Walked like a duck
- 46 Take out
- 47 Piece of cookware
- 49 Go back & forth
- 50 Tendon
- 51 Penniless
- 52 Nervous
- 53 Acting part
- 54 Manufactured
- 55 Keep
- 56 Like 2, 4 and 6
- 57 Fruit turnover
- 60 Pistol

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'00 Chevrolet Camaro	\$8,995	'07 Hyundai Azera SE	\$14,995
'01 Lincoln LS	\$8,995	'07 Saturn Aura XE	\$14,995
'03 Ford Taurus SES	\$8,995	'09 Hyundai Sonata GLS	\$14,995
'05 Hyundai XG350 L	\$9,995	'09 Hyundai Sonata GLS	\$14,995
'01 Nissan Pathfinder XE	\$9,995	'09 Hyundai Sonata GLS	\$15,995
'04 Buick Regal LS	\$10,995	'07 Hyundai Santa Fe Limited	\$16,995
'05 Hyundai XG350 L	\$10,995	'07 Hyundai Santa Fe GLS	\$16,995
'05 Mazda Mazda3 I	\$10,995	'08 Kia Sportage LX	\$16,995
'05 Hyundai Sonata LX	\$10,995	'03 Mercedes Benz E-Class E320	\$17,995
'07 Hyundai Accent GS	\$10,995	'07 Hyundai Santa Fe GLS	\$17,995
'07 Toyota Yaris	\$10,995	'10 Hyundai Sonata GLS	\$16,995
'05 Buick Lacrosse CXL	\$11,995	'08 Hyundai Tiburon GS	\$18,995
'08 Kia Spectra Spectra5 SX	\$11,995	'06 Mini Cooper S	\$18,995
'09 Hyundai Accent GLS	\$11,995	'07 Toyota Avalon Touring	\$19,995
'05 Buick Lesabre Limited	\$12,995	'08 Honda Ridgeline RT	\$24,995
'05 Hyundai Tucson LX	\$12,995	'08 Hyundai Veracruz SE	\$26,995
'07 Honda Civic LX	\$12,995	'08 Volkswagen EOS Lux	\$28,995
'08 Hyundai Sonata GLS	\$12,995	'08 Cadillac SRX V6	\$28,995
'05 Chrysler 300 C	\$13,995	'10 Hyundai Azera Limited	\$28,995
'07 Jeep Liberty Sport	\$13,995		

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## Out in Town

**Friday, May 21**

Come join the Fleet Reserve Association for a night of Karaoke at the Branch Home, 390 Mayport Rd. Featured will be host Doug Bracey, from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. The bar will be open for drinks and snacks.

**Saturday, May 22**

The City of Atlantic Beach continues the Wild Wonders adventure with Prehistoric Pals, including the endangered Alligator Snapping Turtle, along with reptiles and other creatures from around the world. The programs will be offered at 11 a.m. at the Dutton Island Preserve Pavilion. Learn about reptile behavior, survival, feeding habits, and adaptations. Adults and children will enjoy this one-hour program of information and up-close encounters with our planet's wild wonders. This event is free and open to the public. Dutton Island Preserve is located at the west end of Dutton Island Dr. W. off Mayport Rd. in Atlantic Beach. Visit the AB website at [www.coab.us/events](http://www.coab.us/events) for upcoming programs and events. The City of Atlantic Beach Recreation and Special Event office is located at 716 Ocean Blvd., Atlantic Beach.

Join a park ranger at 10 a.m. for a walk on the beach as they explain the importance of undeveloped beach habitat, including many interesting facts about sea creatures and common shells found in the area. The program will take place at pavilion one on Little Talbot Island. No reservations are necessary and the program is free with regular park admission.

Join a park ranger at 1 p.m. for a leisurely paced hike to discover the island's natural communities. Participants are encouraged to bring bug spray and bottled water. This program will take place at the Ribault Club on Fort George Island Cultural State Park. No reservations are necessary and the program is free.

**Sunday, May 23**

Join a Park Ranger at 10 a.m. for a leisurely paced hike to discover the island's natural communities. Participants are encouraged to bring bug spray and bottled water. This program will take place at the Ribault Club on Fort George Island Cultural State Park. No reservations are necessary and the program is free.

Join a park ranger at 1 p.m. for a walk on the beach as they explain the importance of undeveloped beach habitat, including many interesting facts about sea creatures and common shells found in the area. The program will take place at pavilion one on Little Talbot Island. No reservations are necessary and the program is free with regular park admission.

**Monday, May 24**

Fleet Reserve Association, Branch 290, invites you to play Bingo at the Branch Home, 390 Mayport Rd. Games start at 6

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

p.m. and are usually finished by 8 p.m. Snacks will be available for a small

The City of Jacksonville Canning Center in cooperation with the Duval County Extension Service will offer a workshop from 9 a.m.-noon or from 1-4 p.m. Learn how to make cranberry apple walnut relish and take some home for the family to enjoy. The cost is \$20 per person which includes all materials. Space is limited. You must pre-pay to register. Send your \$20 check made payable to DCOHAC and mail to Canning, 1010 N. McDuff Ave., Jacksonville, FL 32254. Deadline is March 27. Call Jeannie at 387-8850 to register.

**Wednesday, May 26**

Fleet Reserve Association, Branch 290, invites you to participate in its "Wings-N-Things" from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Branch Home, 390 Mayport Road, Atlantic Beach. Snacks will be available for a donation of \$1.50 to \$5. Then stay and enjoy the music of Doug Bracey from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

**Friday, May 28**

Fleet Reserve Association Branch 290 is hosting "Pizza/Calzone" dinners, from 5 to 8 p.m., at the Branch Home at 390 Mayport Road, Atlantic Beach. We'll do the cooking for you. A donation of \$5 to \$8 is requested for each dinner, and depends on what is ordered. Carry out orders are accepted. The public is always invited to dinner. Happy hour precedes the dinner from 4 to 6 p.m., all drinks are 50¢ off. After dinner, enjoy the music of Southbound from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

**Saturday, May 29**

Join a park ranger at 1 p.m. for a program about jellyfish, Portuguese Man of War, and stingrays that are frequently seen along Talbot's Beaches and some basic first aid if you should unfortunately meet one of these Talbot residents. The program will take place at pavilion one on Little Talbot Island. No reservations are necessary and the program is free with regular park admission.

Fleet Reserve Association Branch 290 is hosting a Steak Dinner from 5 - 8 p.m., at the Branch Home at 390 Mayport Rd. A donation of \$10 is requested for each dinner. Carry out orders are accepted. The public is always invited to dinner. Starting at 9 p.m. the music of Doug Bracey will entertain until 1 a.m. Happy hour precedes the dinner from 4 - 6 p.m., all drinks are 50¢ off.

**Tuesday, June 1**

The City of Jacksonville Canning Center in cooperation with the Duval County Extension Service will offer a workshop on from 9 a.m.-noon. Learn how to make and can home-made vegetable soup and

take some home for the family to enjoy. The cost is \$20 per person, which includes all materials. Space is limited. You must pre-pay to register. Send your \$20 check made payable to DCOHAC and mail to Canning, 1010 N. McDuff Ave., Jacksonville, FL 32254. Deadline is May 28. Call Jeannie at 387-8850 to register.

**Saturday, June 5**

The City of Atlantic Beach continues the Wild Wonders adventure with Prehistoric Pals, including the endangered Alligator Snapping Turtle, along with reptiles and other creatures from around the world. The programs will be offered at 11 a.m. at the Dutton Island Preserve Pavilion. Learn about reptile behavior, survival, feeding habits, and adaptations. Adults and children will enjoy this one-hour program of information and up-close encounters with our planet's wild wonders. This event is free and open to the public. Dutton Island Preserve is located at the west end of Dutton Island Dr. W. off Mayport Rd. in Atlantic Beach. Visit the AB website at [www.coab.us/events](http://www.coab.us/events) for upcoming programs and events. The City of Atlantic Beach Recreation and Special Event office is located at 716 Ocean Blvd., Atlantic Beach.

Join a park ranger at 3 p.m. and discover the importance of estuarine systems that surround the inshore sides of barrier islands like those of the Talbot Islands State Parks complex. This ranger-guided hike along the salt marsh will help point out why these areas are one of the most productive ecosystems on Earth. Participants will also learn about the many roles the salt marsh plays, the plant and animal life found in this natural community, and the impacts humans have on this system. This program will take place at the Ribault Club in Fort George Island Cultural State Park. No reservations are necessary and the program is free with regular park admission.

**Saturday, June 12**

Join a park ranger at 3 p.m. and learn about the life-cycle of the sea turtle and the importance of these creatures. The program will take place at pavilion one on Little Talbot Island. No reservations are necessary and the program is free with regular park admission.

**Saturday, June 19**

The City of Atlantic Beach continues the Wild Wonders adventure with Prehistoric Pals, including the endangered Alligator Snapping Turtle, along with reptiles and other creatures from around the world. The programs will be offered at 11 a.m. at the Dutton Island Preserve Pavilion. Learn about reptile behavior, survival, feeding habits, and adaptations.

Adults and children will enjoy this one-hour program of information and up-close encounters with our planet's wild wonders. This event is free and open to the public. Dutton Island Preserve is located at the west end of Dutton Island Dr. W. off Mayport Rd. in Atlantic Beach.

Visit the AB website at [www.coab.us/events](http://www.coab.us/events) for upcoming programs and events. The City of Atlantic Beach Recreation and Special Event office is located at 716 Ocean Blvd., Atlantic Beach.

**Saturday, June 26**

Join a park ranger at 3 p.m. to

learn about the many common species that inhabit the natural communities of the undeveloped barrier islands of northeast Florida. The program will take place at pavilion one on Little Talbot Island. No reservations are necessary and the program is free with regular admission.

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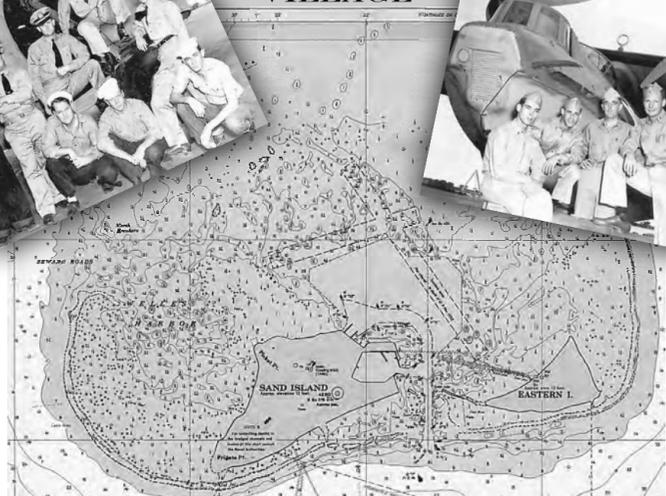
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FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT BILL MCLOUGHLIN AT 904-285-8731 OR EMAIL: HUGGY1074@AOL.COM OR ANUDAY002@AOL.COM

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## Deployment Survey To Explore Impact On Families

By Elaine Wilson

American Forces Press Service

Defense officials have launched a large-scale survey in hopes of getting a better sense of how military families are weathering nearly a decade of war.

The Military Family Life Project, a longitudinal, department-wide survey, is designed to capture the long-term impact of deployment on families and to improve the support provided to them, officials said.

Beginning this month, 100,000 military spouses and 40,000 married active-duty servicemembers, selected at random from all services, will be invited by mail to participate in this confidential online survey.

"We are now in the eighth year of overseas contingency operations and recognize that there are still gaps in our ability to understand the emerging and changing needs of military families, as well as the cumulative effect of multiple deploy-

ments," said Virginia S. Penrod, acting deputy undersecretary of defense for military community and family policy.

"This survey will provide a better understanding of the impact of deployment and help us assess the effectiveness of current policies, programs and services," she added.

Penrod encouraged those selected to participate. "This is your chance to be heard on issues that directly affect you and your family," she said. "Your answers will help shape policy, programs and services for military spouses and families."

All participants will be surveyed again a year from now, she noted, and the survey's results will be released soon after.

Understanding the impact of deployment is an ongoing, high-priority family readiness issue, Penrod said.

"Military families are strong, resilient and deserving of our

support, yet separations resulting from deployment can strain even the strongest of families," she said. "When a servicemember deploys, the whole family deploys."

First Lady Michelle Obama commended the Defense Department for launching this "landmark" study when speaking to the National Military Family Association's summit yesterday.

"I want to encourage all the spouses who were selected to fully participate in this project, because the more that this nation knows about your priorities, the more we can do to meet them," the first lady said.



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**Deadlines**  
**Run date** Call by Fax by  
Thursday Tue, Noon Tue, 11 a.m.

Please note: **Fax deadlines are one hour earlier.** Holiday and Legal deadlines vary and will be supplied upon request. Cancellation and correction deadlines are the same as placement deadlines.

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The anchor indicates the ad is a FREE Fleet Market Ad placed by military personnel.

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### P-3 Subject Matter Expert

Naval Flight Officer

### Full-time position. Responsible for the NFO

curriculum revision and maintenance (R&M) effort for the Training Media and Materials System for the P-3 Aircraft Fleet Replacement Squadron (FRS). Specifically, the NFO SME will be responsible for changes to the P-3 FRS NFO curricula resulting from changes to aircraft, weapon systems, and tactics that impact training and the expansion to include FRS, Reserve, and FMS training support. Changes include areas such as aircraft engineering change proposals, changes in tactics, local course rules, Flight Information Publications (FLIP), NATOPS manuals, software, maintenance manuals, and other documentation.

### Education & Experience:

Must have recent P-3 NFO (Naval Flight Officer) experience. Must have been designated as a P-3 Tactical Coordinator. (TACCO). Prior FRS experience is desired. Work location will be VP-30 at NAS Jacksonville, FL.

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