

Mayport Grills Up Winning Goodness

By Clark Pierce

NAS Jacksonville

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

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

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

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

"This is an excellent opportunity for Navy culinary specialists to display their

talents and to add to their cheese repertoire, as well as incorporating ingredients like artisan breads, fruit and unique spreads," said NAS Jax Food Services Division Officer CWO4 Kathy Wiseman.

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

The teams were given one hour to create their good-and-goopy sandwich that was presented to the judges panel, consisting of: NAVSUP FLC Jax Commanding Officer Capt. Kevin Head; NAVSUP FLC Jax Executive Officer Cmdr. Tom Dailey; NAVSUP FLC Executive Director Mitch Palmquist; Lt. Cmdr. Chris Pressler and Navy spouse Dawn Lancaster.

First place went to Culinary Specialist 2nd Class Rasheen Maxwell and Culinary Specialist 2nd Class Cortez Brown of NS Mayport, second place went to Culinary Specialist 2nd Class Paula Prine and Culinary Specialist 2nd Class Marnika Ash of NAS Jax, and third was awarded to Culinary Specialist 3rd Class Wilmer Ringold and Culinary Specialist 3rd Class Michael Mainer of NS Mayport.



-Photo by Clark Pierce

Culinary Specialist 1st Class Terry Jackson and Culinary Specialist 3rd Class Regenal Appiakubi from USS Halyburton double-check ingredients before assembling their grilled cheese contender. The team went on to earn the "Judges' Choice" award.

FFSC Celebrates Moms-to-be



-Photo by Paige Gnann

Expectant mothers from Naval Station Mayport enjoy a bit of tea and sweets during Fleet and Family Support Center's annual English Tea held at the Mayport Chapel on April 19. The tea is held in recognition of April as Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month. Representatives from FFSC, NCIS and the Chapel acted as servers during the event.

Expedited Transfer Option Available To SA Victims

From Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

Navy service members who have been the victim of sexual assault and have filed an unrestricted report have the option to request an expedited transfer from their unit, according to NAVADMIN 132/12, released April 20. This NAVADMIN follows guidance released by the Department of Defense Dec. 16, 2011, which announced new

policies and procedures to expedite the transfer of a service member who files an unrestricted report of sexual assault.

"We realize there are times when it's in the best interest of both the victim and the Navy to expedite a transfer," said Chief of Naval Personnel Vice Adm. Scott R. Van Buskirk. "Sailors need to understand this option and based upon their particular circumstances,

request it."

Sailors who have been the victim of sexual assault and have filed an unrestricted report may request an expedited transfer from their unit and/or installation. Commanders must approve or recommend disapproval of the expedited transfer request within 72 hours of receiving the request. In making the decision on whether to recommend trans-

fer, commanding officers must determine the credibility of the report, and consider other factors, as outlined in the NAVADMIN, including the potential transfer of the alleged offender.

Any disapproval recommendation by commanders must immediately be forwarded, along with the reasons for the recommendation, in writing, to the first flag officer in the

See SAAM, Page 12

Navy Adds To Drug Testing

By MC3 Andrea Perez
Navy Personnel Command Public Affairs

Effective May 1, the Navy will add two more commonly abused prescription drugs to the standard testing panel during random urinalysis, according to NAVADMIN 130/12, released April 20. The prescription drug families tested will now include benzodiazepines and hydrocodones (i.e. Xanax and Vicodin).

"These drugs are highly addictive and their use outside of medical supervision places the Sailor, their family and shipmates at risk," said Dorice Favorite, director, Navy Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Office (NADAP).

Military members should ensure their prescriptions are properly documented in their health records prior to May 1. Navy medical treatment facilities are ready to assist any Sailor or family member who self-refers for prescription drug misuse or abuse.

"Adding the benzodiazepine and hydrocodone drug families to the standard test panel will provide a more comprehensive and meaningful understanding of overall prescription drug abuse

in the Navy," said Favorite.

While overall drug abuse among military is significantly lower than in the comparative civilian population, Navy leaders remain concerned.

"We are concerned about service members who are using prescription drugs without proper authority and potentially addicted," said Favorite. "Substance abuse puts lives and missions at risk, undercuts unit readiness and morale, and is inconsistent with our Navy ethos and core values of honor, courage, and commitment."

According to Favorite, the Navy's policy on substance abuse is zero tolerance. Per OPNAVINST 5350.4D, Sailors whose urinalysis samples are identified positive for controlled substances for which they do not have a valid prescription may be subject to punishment under the Uniform Code of Military Justice and processed for administrative separation from the Navy.

"We recommend members seeking substance use counseling talk with their doctor, chain-of-command or self-refer to a substance abuse rehabilitation program," said Favorite.

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Being a Military Child is. . .In Their Own Words



Judy Cromartie
School Liaison Officer

Since April is the month of the Military Child, I decided to give some of those children a voice. The 4th grade students of Mrs. Ehrenberg at Finegan Elementary School who have a military parent wrote an essay expressing what it is like to be a military child. Here are some of their responses:

Tahj Mareus: ...the good things about being a military child. Like when your family member in the military gets a day off that's when I get to play games with my stepdad. We play video games. When mom gets home from work we rides bikes together and ride around

Knowing THE ROPES

the base. Living on a military base is good because I know I'm safe from bad people.

Brendan Mims: Another reason I like being a military child is that you can meet new kids. I've had a total of seventy-two friends from all of the transfers I've done. My two best friends Jacob and Anthony know what it's like to transfer.

Eliza Genita: It's hard for kids because well if one day you got back from home and you got an A+ on a test you want to share it to your parents. I know your heart feels empty.

Lillian Weller: ...to be strong for my mom. I don't mean strong physically. I mean strong on the inside. For example, when your fish dies not crying being strong. Or being responsible and not forgetting your homework.

Dominic Neagle: If he goes on deployment

we can only see him on skype a couple of times; in the summer we cannot spend time with him at the beach; we cannot have fun with him; and we cannot come in the house and say, "I love you daddy."

Akire Rogers: I like being a military child because I sometimes get to move around to a new school. I know you may think it stinks to move but, for me, I get to make new friends all over the United States. I know I will miss my mom but it's for a good cause.

Cody Cregeen: . . . there are two things I like about being a military child, like seeing most of the world and you can make new friends.

Dyemore Watts: ... sometimes the one you love might have to miss your birthday like my dad did. But you will learn that your dad or mom who is in the military didn't leave you

because they wanted to but because they do it to save the USA. They do it to protect you.

Sylar Campisi: ... One sad thing we go through is the moving. Man how I hate all this moving away from friends and family. Another sad thing is the deployments the horrible, horrible deployments. It stings your chest to see your dad leave.

Khloe Bryant: I have to tell you my dad is on shore duty so I'm a lucky girl.

Brent Bennett: When I moved here I wished I could still play with my friends from Virginia, Maryland and Washington. But over all I love that my dad is in the military.

Adrian Dutkewych: On the other hand good things happen on the base. Easter hunts, Trick-or-Treating, and other fun things. We have nice weather, blue ocean, best you have a store close by.

Leianis Gunn: ... there are some rough consequences like the fact that you have to hop around from place to place...

I've lived there [Virginia Beach] for what is it... six years? It was if I were glued to Virginia and it'll never let me fall off. I loved Virginia Beach! But then the day had come and boy was I mad! That's when the glue got wet and started to let me fall off. I remember the words: "I'm sorry to say it but it looks like we're going to have to move to Jacksonville, Florida."

Arielle Johnson: It's hard to make new friends. It's also hard because you might not understand the new culture. I just moved here from Guam and it was hard to make new friends. But now I have a bunch.

Teresa Le: The bad part of being a military child is when you move...you have to leave your best friend and your favorite teacher. When you go to a different school you don't know if your teachers will be mean or your classmates will be mean too.

Courtney Hampton: I am proud of my dad because he is so kind and giving. My dad is brave and strong. My

dad is also full of pride and courage, (trust me he even has a shirt that says so). He is the reason I have a roof over my head, food to eat, and clean clothes to wear. My dad stands up for what he believes in.

A special thanks to Mrs. Ehrenberg and all of the parents for permitting these children to voice what it is like living the life of a military child. I only wish I could have included responses from all of the children and their entire response. Hopefully, I will be able to put their work together in a booklet that I can share with my readers.

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]. Or you can schedule a meeting with her in her office in Building One.

Great Things Can Come From Small Bits With Divinity



Lt. Jon Black
Surface Force Ministry Center

This week I thought I would share a few words from Vice Admiral Drake. Not familiar? Well perhaps a little context is in order. He has quite a colorful past, as question-

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

able as heroic. I suppose not unlike your past, or mine for that matter. He came from humble beginnings to become a person of legend. He was a commoner knighted by Queen Elizabeth I. He circumnavigated the world; when many still believed the world was flat. And of course, he led his much smaller fleet to victory over the warships of the invading Spanish Armada. The greatest naval fleet in the world never recovered, and the British still speak English

to this day. I was inspired recently when I came across a picture of his coat-of-arms. The motto is: "Sic Pavis Magna," or "Thus Great Things from Small Things Come." And above that is inscribed the words: "Auxilio Divino," or "With Divine Help." Context indeed.

I hope these words of his will inspire you as they have inspired me.

"With Divine help, great things come from small things." Whether you have dreamed too little, or loved too little, or worked

too little, or donated too little, or given of your time too little, or worshipped too little, or had faith that you feel is just too little... let these words encourage you.

"With Divine help, great things come from small things."

Great things come from a faith as small as a mustard seed. Great things come from an extra five minutes reading to your child. Great things come from just holding the hand of your wife. With Divine help. And our God loves to help.

I'll leave you with this parting prayer written by Sir Francis Drake. May his prayer be our prayer.

Peace be with you.

-Chaps
"Disturb us, Lord, when We are too well pleased with ourselves

When our dreams have come true

Because we dreamed too little,

When we arrived safely

Because we sailed too close to the shore.

Disturb us, Lord, when With the abundance of things we possess

We have lost our thirst For the Waters of Life;

Having fallen in love with life, We have ceased to dream of eternity

And in our efforts to build a new earth,

We have allowed our vision

Of the new Heaven to dim.

Disturb us, Lord, to dare more boldly,

To venture on wider seas

Where storms will show your mastery:

Where losing sight of land

We shall find the stars.

We ask you to push back

The horizons of our hopes;

And to push us into the future

In strength, courage, hope, and love."

Beaches Vets Memorial Park Turns 2

From BVMP

Led by its President Chaplain Billy Reno, the BVMP has accomplished major objectives during the past two years.

With land supplied by the City of Atlantic Beach, adjacent to the Atlantic Blvd and the Mayport Road overpass, this veterans group has taken this vacant property and transformed it into one of the area's featured public attractions.

With major contributions from the Oceanside Rotary Club, the Jacksonville Beach Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3270, and a Jacksonville Development Grant from Jacksonville, allowed BVMP to erect as a center piece a huge 30 x 40 foot American Flag on an 80-foot flag pole that was hoisted during the Park dedication on Veterans Day 2011.

Since then, continuing donations from the public; American Legion Post 316 and the sale of inscribed bricks, with names of honored veterans, have allowed for further park development.

A 1,500-square-foot, electrified stage, for major patriotic functions, was constructed, and a "great lawn" was installed, with

volunteer veteran help, to complete Phase One and to open the Park for community use.

A new Board of Officers will be selected on June 14th along with a slate of Directors' consisting of commanders of American Legion Posts 316; 233; 129; VFW Post 3270; Fleet Reserve Branch 290; and MOAA who will guide the organization through the next two years to continue Park development.

This will consist of completion of the Chaplains Memorial Garden with a monument to the 365 military Chaplains who have died in combat operations since the Revolutionary War.

There will be monuments, and benches, for each of the military services, in addition to the Merchant Marine and the United States Coast Guard, who also served in wartime operations.

This will all be accomplished through private and public donation. For further information, or donations, contact retired Capt. John Meserve 904-424-7251 or www.meserve.john@gmail.com.

Midway Dinner Tix On Sale

From Navy League Mayport

The Navy League of Mayport is hosting the 70th Anniversary of the Battle of Midway Commemoration Dinner and tickets are now on sale. The dinner will be held Saturday, June 9, at the Renaissance Resort, World Golf Village.

Veterans of the Battle of Midway, several widows of Midway Veterans, and Veterans of all branches of the military have been invited to attend this year's dinner.

Also invited are Medal of Honor recipients and former prisoners of war in our area who have heroically answered the call of duty. Come meet these "national trea-

surers" and hear their adventures first hand.

The evening promises to be emotional and patriotic, and provides an excellent opportunity to connect with survivors of what historians call one of the U. S. Navy's greatest sea victories and the turning point of World War II in the Pacific.

Ticket costs are: Active Duty E-6 and below, \$25; E-7 to O3, \$35; O4 to O5, \$45, O6 and above, civilians, and retirees, \$60.

The evening includes fine dining and entertainment. Uniform will be O4 and above - dinner dress white jacket; O3 and below - din-

ner dress white/dinner dress white jacket optional and civilian is black tie or business attire. Cocktails begin at 1800, dinner at 1900. Reserved seating.

Make checks payable to **NAVY LEAGUE MIDWAY DINNER**.

Tickets may be purchased from:

Navy League Mayport, Bob Price, Phone 904-718-2118. Email: bpricex4@comcast.net

Navy League St Augustine, Bill Dudley, Phone 904-806-4712 or 904-794-7814. Email: anuday00@aol.com



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Region Dispatch Center Expands Coverage

By MC2(SW) Greg Johnson
Region Southeast Public Affairs

Navy Region Southeast (NRSE) is consolidating installation emergency dispatch services, including police, fire and emergency medical, into a single 911 call center. By the end of 2013, dispatch services for 13 installations will be centralized to the Region Dispatch Center (RDC) on board Naval Air Station (NAS) Jacksonville.

These efforts will include every installation throughout the region except for Naval Station (NS) Guantanamo Bay and Naval Support Activity (NSA) Orlando. The consolidation is part of a larger, Navy-wide movement to consolidate each region's emergency dispatch services into a single dispatch center located at regional headquarters. According to Tom Fasanello, NRSE dispatch manager, the changes will help standardize the system.

"Previously, each installation had its own dispatch center to respond to 911 and emergency service requests," he said.

"Additionally, the emergency numbers were not necessarily 911, depending on the location. As part of the RDC consolidation, a completely new 911 telephone routing system is being deployed."

The RDC currently dispatches for five installations, including NAS Jacksonville, NS Mayport, NSA Panama City, Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport and NAS Meridian. Residents at these locations will continue to dial 911 for emergency services after the consolidation. For those installations yet to consolidate, instructions for emergency notification procedures will be distributed prior to any changes.

In addition to standardizing the emergency notification process throughout the region's installations, the consolidation will also provide some technological advantages, Fasanello said.

"The RDC also has an advanced computer-aided dispatch system that automates the exact response recommendation based on the nature

and location of the emergency. It also provides a mapped location of the caller. In addition, RDC dispatchers are certified to administer emergency medical instructions prior to the arrival of emergency medical technicians to the scene," Fasanello said.

While the time frame for the consolidation will vary depending on location, the RDC will make public awareness a priority, Fasanello said.

"At about two months out, we will begin to work very closely with the installation and coordinate an aggressive public awareness campaign," he said.



-Photo by MC2 Greg Johnson
Gregory Snyder dispatches an emergency call in the Navy Region Southeast Region Dispatch Center on board Naval Air Station Jacksonville.

Don't Landscape With Cig Butts

From NS Mayport Fire and Emergency Services

Naval Station Mayport Fire and Emergency Services responded to a fire at Barracks 1586 last week due to negligence by a smoker.

On arrival, the crews find a small fire in the flower bed mulch and quickly extinguish it. The resulting investigation reveals the cause of the fire to be someone improperly disposing of a cigarette by simply flicking it in the yard.

While this incident was minor in nature, it is indicative of a growing problem throughout our country, one that each of us needs to help curb. Discarded cigarette can cause a major fire with the possibility of injuries or deaths.

It is estimated that approximately 1,000 wildfires per year have their origins traced to an improperly discarded cigarette. Most of these wildfires are relatively small and controlled easily. However, a few quickly expand into multi-million dollar events, causing widespread destruction of property and sometimes loss of human lives. Combine the current drought indexes in North Florida with the breezy conditions and an improperly discarded cigarette; a simple mulch fire could easily evolve into a dangerous, fast moving major wildfire. Peer pressure on shipmates for improper disposal of cigarettes will greatly reduce the likelihood of a wildfire aboard the installation and surrounding communities. Please help us, help you stay safe!

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De Wert Visits New Orleans For War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration Navy Week



-Photo by MC1 Mark O'Donald
USS De Wert (FFG 45) is moored along the bank of the Mississippi River during New Orleans Navy Week. The Oliver Hazard Perry-class frigate is participating in The War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration.

By MCC William Lovelady
U.S. Navy

USS De Wert (FFG 45) visited New Orleans April 17-22 for the War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration and Navy Week 2012.

De Wert along with eight other ships from six nations moored along the east bank of the Mississippi River in downtown New Orleans where they were open for public visits.

Other ships included: amphibious assault ship USS Wasp (LHD 1); guided missile destroyer USS Mitscher (DDG 57); U.S. Coast Guard Tall Ship Eagle; FS Germinal from France, HMS Montrose of the United Kingdom and HMCS St. John's from Canada, along with the tall ships Dewaruci from Indonesia and BAE Guayas from Ecuador to round out the visiting flotilla.

"The visit was a success," said Lt. Michael Welgan one of the De Wert's engineering officers. "We had a chance

to showcase our ship to New Orleans and the outlying communities. I have been to New Orleans in the past, but it was nice to return and introduce my shipmates to the culture the area has to offer."

The commemoration in New Orleans was an opportunity for Sailors and Marines to engage the American public in order to increase awareness and knowledge of the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard, and the vital role these services play in defense of the nation and the projection of maritime power and security.

"The Navy's role in the War of 1812 reemphasizes the Navy Core Values we have today," said Cmdr. Vince W. Baker, De Wert's commanding officer. "It shows what the Navy has been doing well for 200 years on the world seas"

Two hundred years ago, the United States was a sparsely populated, newly

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-Photo by MC1 Mark O'Donald
The steamship Natchez passes by USS DeWert (FFG 45) on the Mississippi River during New Orleans Navy Week.

War of 1812 Led To Birth Of Modern Sea Services

By MC1 David P. Coleman
Patrol Squadron 62 Public Affairs
Historians from the Navy, Coast Guard and U.S. Park Service discussed the role the city of New Orleans and the U.S. sea services played in the War of 1812 at the Williams Research Center at the Historic New Orleans Collection, April 19.

"It was the first great test for our country and it gave us our flag and our national anthem," said National Park Service anthropologist Allison Pena.

The panel included Pena; Dennis M. Conrad, a historian at the Navy History and Heritage Command; and William H. Thiesen, Atlantic Area Historian with the U.S. Coast Guard. An audience of the public and service members attended as part of the Commemoration of the Bicentennial of the War of 1812, celebrated in New Orleans April 17-23. The Battle of New Orleans took place Jan. 8, 1815, and was the largest land engagement and the last major battle of the war. American forces defeated the invading British and stopped them from seizing the city of New Orleans.

The battle is regarded as the greatest American land victory of the war, as a force mainly made up of militia stopped British forces from blocking the mouth of the Mississippi River and taking control of America's inland waterways. The shallow waters of the river forced the British to the shores of Louisiana, and American forces commanded by Gen. Andrew Jackson defeated them at what is now known as the Chalmette Battlefield.

The War of 1812 was instrumental in the forg-

ing of today's maritime forces. The Navy fought the British as they tried to blockade the Atlantic coast and support land forces from Lake Erie and Lake Champlain. The Navy's successes included single-ship duels against British frigates and fleet actions on the lakes. By the end of the war, the Navy had proven itself as fighting maritime force and Congress authorized funding to build a much larger fleet.

"The Navy's role in the War of 1812 reemphasizes the Navy Core Values we have today," said Cmdr. Vince W. Baker, commanding officer of USS De Wert (FFG 45). "It shows what the Navy has been doing well for 200 years on the world's seas." Thiesen noted the U.S. Revenue Cutter Service also served as the armed, maritime law enforcement service during the war, working side by side with the U.S. Navy. The service's vessels were leading edge for the time and helped in the fight against the British Empire. In 1915, the Revenue Cutter Service became the U.S. Coast Guard.

The War of 1812 is little remembered in much of the country, but that's not true in the city of New Orleans, Conrad said. "It's not a forgotten war," he said. "It is one to be commemorated in the annals of history."

The U.S. Navy has bicentennial events planned for 15 other cities over the next three years, including New York, Chicago and Baltimore. Baltimore is home to Fort McHenry, where an 1814 battle inspired Francis Scott Key to pen the "The Star-Spangled Banner," later set to music and became the national anthem.



-Photo by Jacob Sippel
Sailors man the rails aboard the guided-missile frigate USS De Wert (FFG 45) as the ship enters New Orleans. De Wert is in New Orleans April 17-23 for the War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration Fleet Week.



-Photo by Jacob Sippel
Cmdr. Vince Baker, USS De Wert's (FFG 45) commanding officer, renders honors to the guided-missile destroyer USS Mitscher (DDG 57) as they pass the ship during a replenishment at sea.



-Photo by MC1 Kenneth W. Robinson
Mass Communications Specialist 1st Class David P. Coleman, center, is reenlisted by Lt. j.g. Haraz N. Ghanbari, left, as Mass Communications Specialist 1st Class Mark O'Donald looks on.



-Photo by MC2 Joshua T. Rodriguez
Musician 1st Class Dan Smith, assigned to the U.S. Navy Band New Orleans, sings the national anthem before the start of the New Orleans Hornets and Houston Rockets NBA Game.



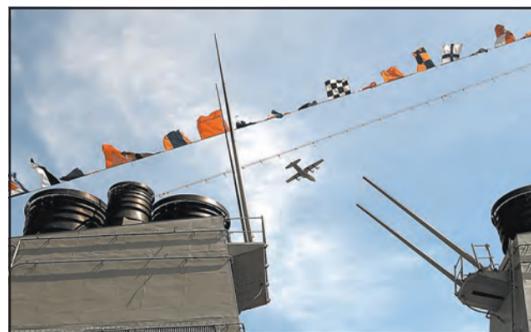
-Photo by MC1 Kenneth W. Robinson

U.S. Navy Cmdr. Vince Baker, commanding officer of the USS De Wert, center, plays the drums with Big Al Carson and the Blues Masters at the Funky Pirate Blues Club in New Orleans. Baker was taking part in events in conjunction with The War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration, a series of city visits by the Navy, Coast Guard, Marine Corps and Operation Sail beginning in April 2012 and concluding in 2015. New Orleans is the first and the last city visit in the series



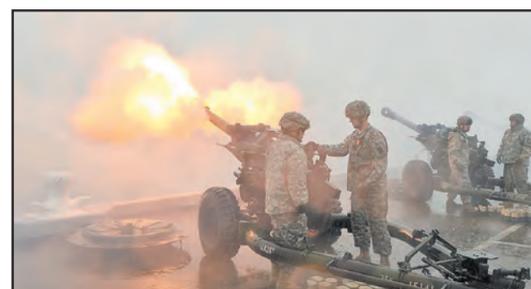
-Photo by MC1 Mark O'Donald

Visitors board USS De Wert during New Orleans Navy Week. The ship is participating in The War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration, a series of city visits by the Navy, Coast Guard, Marine Corps and Operation Sail beginning in April 2012 and concluding in 2015. New Orleans is the first and the last city visit in the series.



-Photo by MC1 Mark O'Donald

A C130 Hercules aircraft passes over USS De Wert during New Orleans Navy Week.



-Photo by MC1 Kenneth W. Robinson

Artillerymen from the 141 Alpha Battalion of the Louisiana Army National Guard, based in New Orleans, fire a 21-gun salute as ships arrive in New Orleans.



-Photo by MCC William Lovelady

Jean Lafitte's Baratarians re-enactors prepare to fire a cannon during The War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration in New Orleans. The events in New Orleans are part of a series of city visits by the Navy, Coast Guard, Marine Corps and Operation Sail beginning in April 2012 and concluding in 2015. New Orleans is the first and the last city visit in the series.



-Photo by MC1 Mark O'Donald

Visitors await tours of USS Mitscher (DDG 57), USS De Wert (FFG 45) and the French frigate Germinali during New Orleans Navy Week. The ships are participating in The War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration, a series of city visits by the Navy, Coast Guard, Marine Corps and Operation Sail beginning in April 2012 and concluding in 2015. New Orleans is the first and the last city visit in the series.

De Wert

independent country fighting a war with Great Britain - the world's largest empire - over land and maritime superiority. The War of 1812 brought forth many heroic acts on land and at sea in defense of our freedom and national sovereignty.

Events throughout the week included a seafood cook-off competition featuring local celebrity chefs teamed with military culinary specialists at Woldenberg Park, service bands playing throughout the French Quarter and a daily schedule of ship tours.

Even the skipper got some well-deserved liberty. Baker played the drums during a band set with Big Al Carson at the Funky Pirate on New Orleans' famous Bourbon

St.

While New Orleans is known for its nightlife and food, liberty wasn't the only mission during this port visit. Nearly a dozen community relations projects were identified for Sailors and Marines from the ships, as well as Navy Seabees from Gulfport, Miss. They rolled up their sleeves and planted trees along Lake Pontchartrain, built a house with Habitat for Humanity and visited children in local hospitals.

The six-day celebration of the sea services honored the military through public events and recognition, and also provided an opportunity to showcase the capabilities of surface platforms, equipment and the skills of the men and women serving aboard these vessels.

From Page 4

Commemorative events are scheduled to continue along the East Coast and Great Lakes over the next three years in 14 cities, culminating back in New Orleans in January 2015, the bicentennial of the Battle of New Orleans.

In 1815, a mostly volunteer army led by future president Andrew Jackson defeated a much larger British force at Chalmette, securing the Mississippi River and the entire Louisiana Purchase. U.S. Navy Sailors and U.S. Marines were among the defenders, and Navy cannon contributed to the firepower that devastated 10,000 crack British troops.

...

HSL-48 Joins In UK's Joint Warrior 12-1

By MCCA
Michael W. Martin
Destroyer Squadron 26 Public Affairs

USS Forrest Sherman (DDG 98) with embarked Mayport-based HSL-48 Detachment One, the fleet replenishment oiler USNS Leroy Grumman (T-AO 195) and Commander, Destroyer Squadron (DESRON) 26 are participating in a multinational exercise off the coast of Scotland.

Exercise Joint Warrior 12-1, which runs April 14 through April 27, is the largest concentration of coalition assets in one integrated training event addressing the full spectrum of maritime and joint warfare mission areas.

It is intended to improve interoperability between allied navies and prepare participants for a possible role in a joint maritime environment during deployments. Joint Warrior is the United Kingdom's advanced certification course and is on par with a U.S. Joint Task



-Photo by MCCA Michael W. Martin
 A Sailor aboard the guided-missile destroyer USS Forrest Sherman (DDG 98) chocks the landing gear of an SH-60B Sea Hawk helicopter assigned to Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light (HSL) 48 during Joint Warrior 2012. Joint Warrior serves as a certifying event for ships deploying with coalition forces in future operations.

Force Exercise, which certifies U.S. ships for deployment.

"Interoperability is not just the ability of networks and information systems to exchange data automatically. The cornerstone of interoperability is for our U.S. Sailors, with our international partners, to establish a common language with proven tactics, techniques and procedures during exercises like Joint Warrior that enables future coalition and joint missions from the sea ensuring the stability of the maritime commons that maintain freedom of the seas," said Capt. Nelson Castro, commander, DESRON 26.

Nations participating in the exercise include Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, United Kingdom and the United States.

Commanded by Cmdr. Luis Sanchez Jr., Forrest Sherman and crew completed the Royal Navy's flag officer sea training March 26 - April 5.

Underwood Sets Sail On Last Deployment

From NS Mayport Public Affairs

USS Underwood (FFG 36) departed on her final deployment in support of Southern Seas 2012, Apr. 23.

The deployment will begin by participating in Composite Training Unit Exercise (COMTUEX) with the Eisenhower Strike Group as part of their pre-deployment training. The ship and crew will then deploy to the U.S.

Southern Command (USSOUTHCOM) area of responsibility (AOR) May 2 to conduct Southern Seas 2012. Southern Seas will include the multina-

tional exercises UNITAS Pacific (UNITAS PAC), Silent Forces Exercise (SIFOREX) and UNITAS Atlantic (UNITAS LANT).

"Underwood completed our final basic phase training back in February and we've been working for well over a year in preparation for Southern Seas 2012. As we head out the door we'll finish our integrated phase training with Eisenhower Strike Group COMTUEX, which will be our certifying event allowing us to move out on deployment to Fourth Fleet," Cmdr. Peter T. Mirisola, commanding

officer, USS Underwood (FFG 36) said.

Underwood will also support Operation Martillo, a joint, inter-agency and multinational collaborative mission among Western Hemisphere and European nations to deny Transnational Criminal Organizations (TCOs) air and maritime access to the littoral regions of the Central American isthmus. Operation Martillo targets narcotics, precursor chemicals, bulk cash, weapons and humans being transported via maritime and air domains.

Southern Seas is an annual collaborative deployment to conduct a variety of exercises, missions and multinational subject matter expert exchanges. The focus is on enhancing interoperability, increase regional stability, and building and maintaining regional relationships with countries throughout the hemisphere through joint, multinational and inter-agency exchanges and cooperation.

"It is going to be quite a privilege and an honor to go down there. I know the crew's excited. We're going to have a lot of great

visits.

We're looking forward to the multi-national engagement with our Central and South American and Caribbean nation hosts," Mirisola said.

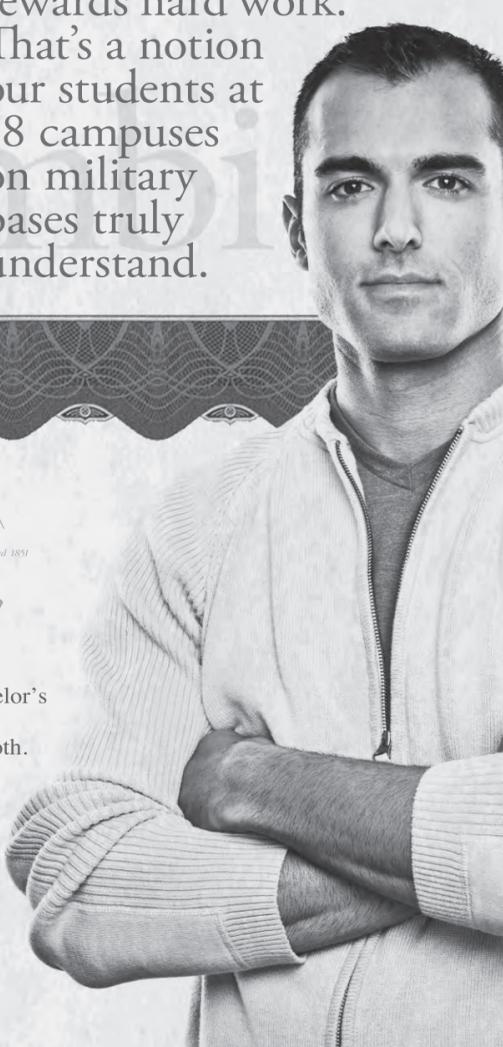
Formally known as the Partnership of the Americas, Southern Seas gives a distinct name to one of the United States' marquee deployments. This is the seventh such deployment and falls under U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command and U.S. 4th Fleet (COMUSNAVSO/C4F) Partnership of the Americas initiative.

"There's no better way for Underwood to deploy than to support Southern Seas and UNITAS. This is the United States' longest standing annual exercise and the crown jewel of naval exercises for the U.S. Navy.

There's no better way to end the ship's service life than to finish with UNITAS deployment," said Mirisola.

Underwood will return to Mayport in November 2012 and be decommissioned in March 2013.

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APRIL 27

imdb.com/TheRaven

USS Roosevelt Awarded Green 'E'

By Ensign Christine Cairoli

USS Roosevelt Public Affairs

USS Roosevelt was recently awarded its third consecutive Command, Control, and Communications (C3I) Warfare Excellence Award, displayed as the Green "E."

This award is acknowledgment of sustained, superior performance in shipboard operations relating to matters of command & control and communications, intelligence, electronic warfare, and cryptologic employment during the 2011 calendar year.

The teamed efforts of CE and CC division were critical in Roosevelt's 2011 deployment, as they demonstrated exemplary efforts in maintaining connectivity with no significant communications outages. The thorough maintenance and repair proficiency of Electronics Technician 2nd Class Ian Jordan, Electronics Technician 2nd Class Dwight Black, and the rest of CE division ensured that all communications equipment was available to CC division to set up and maintain a communications plan. This communications plan played a critical role in supporting the Scan Eagle Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Mission and its record setting 2,011 flight hours. Additionally, with the expertise of Information Systems Technician 1st Class Homer Greene and Information Systems Technician 1st Class Thomas Grapentine, Roosevelt completed the first deployment with the Navy Multiband Terminal, successfully maintaining extremely high frequency (EHF) connectivity for Tomahawk readiness.

The cryptologic portion of the award can be contributed to the continuous operation of SCI Networks by operators Chief Cryptologic Technician Collection Alexander Rojas, Cryptologic Technician Collection 1st Class Jimmy Frederickson, Cryptologic Technician Collection 1st Class Timothy Grapentine, Cryptologic Technician Collection 2nd Class Desiree Maddox, and Cryptologic Technician Collection 2nd Class Jayson Phillips who ensured timely and accurate reporting of mission-critical collection. Cryptologic Technician Maintenance 2nd Class



-Photo courtesy of USS Roosevelt
Ensign Kimmie Leshar takes pride in painting the Green E awarded to ROOSEVELT for excellence in Command, Control, and Communication and Information for the second consecutive year.

Joseph Simons and Cryptologic Technician Maintenance Seaman Apprentice Corbin Powell support operations efforts but are the principle maintainers of the cryptologic equipment. Efforts by technicians Chief Cryptologic Technician Technical Andrew Salzman and Cryptologic Technician Technical 2nd Class Mitchell Minten ensured that Roosevelt kept the SLQ-32 and all associated electronic warfare equipment fully operational. This ensured that their operators Chief Cryptologic Technician Technical Mack Treadwell, Cryptologic Technician Technical 2nd Class Sarah Jackson, Cryptologic Technician Technical 2nd Class Jared Brown, Cryptologic Technician Technical 2nd Class Carolyn Pizzi, and Cryptologic Technician Technical 2nd Class Aaron Dumire were able to defend Roosevelt against any electronic warfare attack.

Ensign Kimberly Leshar, the ship's Communications Officer, spent countless hours meticulously managing the Command's Communications Security (COMSEC) Material with no discrepancies.

When asked about her thoughts on Roosevelt's success, she responded, "I was extremely pleased to learn that Roosevelt earned the Green "E" and that the hard work and dedication that our Sailors put into their programs was recognized."

Time after time, Roosevelt Sailors demonstrate their superior performance in receiving and analyzing signals, maintaining mission critical communications, and developing the appropriate information products with maximum efficiency and minimum delay. Whether supporting missions near homeport or operating independently on deployment in support of national tasking, Roosevelt represents the Mayport basin well in C3I performance. For the award, Roosevelt earned the right to display the Green "E" on each bridge wing with 2 stripes, representing the three consecutive awards. Roosevelt is assigned to Destroyer Squadron Fourteen and is homeported in Mayport, Florida.

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Survey Available

From Staff

The University of North Florida is conducting a survey to study the socio-economic impact of the deployment of assets to NS Mayport. The study was commissioned by the City of Atlantic Beach, with cooperation from NS Mayport. A secondary purpose of the survey is to provide an estimate of the economic impact of the U.S. Navy in Jacksonville.

The study is approved by U.S. Navy Legal and the Institutional Review Board at the University of North Florida.

Jacksonville area Sailors are asked to participate in the survey online at <https://survey.unf.edu/survey/se.aspx?s=5A1E27D21CC11F7D>

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May 1: All Khaki Wings and Trivia Night. 3-7 p.m. every Tuesday at Foc'sle CPO Club with 40-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 5: Ole'! Run For the Border. 9 p.m. at Castaways lounge. Featuring Latin Fusion band Conklave, free food, giveaways and more! FREE. 270-7205

May 5: Xtreme Bowling. 8-11 p.m. every Saturday at Mayport Bowling Center. \$10 include 2 hours of black light bowling, shoe rental, prizes and dazzling laser light show. 270-5377

May 8: Armed Forces 10K Run/ 5K Walk. 8:10 a.m. in front of the gym.

May 8: Captain's Cup Kickball Organizational Meeting. 11 a.m. at the Gym. 270-5451.

May 9: Military Appreciation Day every Wednesday at Windy Harbor Golf Club. 18 Holes and a Cart Only

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

April 27: Laser Tag Extreme.

8 p.m. at the Liberty Center. FREE

Apr 28: Jacksonville Suns Baseball. Van departs Liberty Center at 6 p.m. FREE.

April 29: Free Drum Lesson.

Introductory/ beginner guitar lesson at George's Music. Stop by the Liberty Center front desk to reserve your place. Van Departs Liberty Center 5 p.m. FREE

April 30: Dart Tournament.

6 p.m. at Liberty Center.

May 1: Boom Shaka'laka's Hawaiian Cuisine Dinner Trip. Van departs 5 p.m. Transportation Only

May 2: Lunchtime Bingo. Every Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. at Beachside Bingo. Two \$500 payouts every week. Buy two, get one free. Still only \$13.00 per pack. 270-7204

May 3: Motherload of Comedy. Chris Killian & Richie Holliday. Van

MWR HAPPENINGS

\$15. Offer open to DOD, active duty, retired, and military dependents (Must provide proper ID)

May 9: Chicken Wednesdays. Every Wednesday, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., at Foc'sle Lounge. Enjoy a two-piece fried chicken plate with two sides for only \$7.00. 270-5431

May 9: Just For Fun Wednesdays. Every Wednesday at Mayport Bowling Center. It's not about how good you bowl, it's about how much fun you can have! \$1 Colormanina Bowling, drink specials, request your favorite music all day long and more. 270-5733

May 9: All-Hands Steak Night. 4-7 p.m. at Foc'sle CPO Club. Cost is \$10 per person. Purchase tickets in advance; limited tickets available at the door. Sponsored by Mayport CPOA. For tickets, call Jeff Lawrence at (904) 270-5126 x3115

May 11: Mountain Bike Trail Race (Time Trial). 11 a.m. at Sea Otter Pavilion. Sign up by May 8. 270-5451

May 11: Xtreme Bowling. 8 p.m. to Midnight every Friday at Mayport Bowling Center. \$10 include 2 hours of black light bowling, shoe rental, prizes and dazzling laser light show. 270-5377

May 12: 2012 Mayport Music Fest. 6:30 p.m. at Sea Otter Pavilion. Switchfoot, Fuel & Natalie Stovall. Admission opens at 5 p.m. FREE. 270-5228

May 12: Pool Open for Recreation Swim Open on Weekends. Full hours begin Monday, Jun. 9. Active Duty and children ages 2 or under free. Entrance fees are ages 13-15 \$1.50, and ages 16 or older \$2.00. Season passes available for sale at ITT. 270-5101/5425

May 13: Mother's Day Family Bowling Special. 270-5377

LIBERTY CALL

Departs Liberty Center 6 p.m. FREE.

May 4: Rock Climbing. Van departs Liberty Center at 6 p.m. Cost \$15.

May 5: Ole'! Run For the Border. 9 p.m. at Castaways lounge. Featuring Latin Fusion band Conklave, free food, giveaways and more! FREE. 270-7205

May 5: Xtreme Bowling. 8-11 p.m. every Saturday at Mayport

Bowling Center. \$10 include 2 hours of black light bowling, shoe rental, prizes and dazzling laser light show. 270-5377

May 5: World of Nations Celebration. Come see the world with us! Van Departs Liberty Center 11 a.m. Cost \$5.

May 6: Fernadina Beach. Van departs 10 a.m. Transportation only. FREE

May 8: Armed Forces

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10K Run/ 5K Walk. 8:10 a.m. in front of the gym.

May 8: Captain's Cup Kickball Organizational Meeting. 11 a.m. at the Gym. 270-5451.

May 9: Military Appreciation Day every Wednesday at Windy Harbor Golf Club. 18 Holes and a Cart Only \$15. Offer open to DOD, active duty, retired, and military dependents (Must provide proper ID)

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11 a.m. at Sea Otter Pavilion. Sign up by May 8. 270-5451

May 11: Xtreme Bowling. 8 p.m. to Midnight every Friday at Mayport Bowling Center. \$10 include 2 hours of black light bowling, shoe rental, prizes and dazzling laser light show. 270-5377

May 11: San Marco Theatre Dinner and "The Avengers". Van departs Liberty Center at 6 p.m. Transportation Only. Cost \$9.

May 12: 2012 Mayport Music Fest. 6:30 p.m. at Sea Otter Pavilion. Switchfoot, Fuel & Natalie Stovall. Admission opens at 5 p.m. FREE. 270-5228



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May 4: Food Roulette. 7-9 p.m. at the Teen Center. Do you have the guts? Test your limits and your stomach with our wacky & wild food wheel. 246-0347

May 11: Twilight Zone Party. 7-9 p.m. at the Teen Center. Your about to enter a dimension; a dimension full crazy challenges and wacky games. 246-0347

May 12: 2012 Mayport Music Fest. 6:30 p.m. at Sea Otter Pavilion.

Switchfoot, Fuel & Natalie Stovall. Admission opens at 5 p.m. FREE. 270-5228

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or older \$2.00. Season passes available for sale at ITT. 270-5101/5425

May 13: Mother's Day Family Bowling Special. Moms bowl for free all day, including family fun bowl. At least one child must accompany mom; bowling must be completed by 7 pm. 270-5377

May 18: Movie Night Punch & Munch. 7-11 p.m. at the Teen Center. We provide the food and drinks, you sit back and enjoy the film. 246-0347

May 18: Freedom Friday- Fiesta. 7-11 p.m. at the Youth Center. Cost is \$8 advanced sign-up and \$10 day of, space permitting. 270-5680

May 19: Teen Trip-Saturday Night Cosmic Skate. Jacksonville Indoor Sports & Ice Complex 8-10 pm. Meet

up at 6:30 p.m. at the Teen Center; return by 11 pm. Permission slip required. Ages 13-17; cost \$5. Bring your own money for the concession stand. 246-0347

May 24: School Age Care Talent Show. 4:15 p.m. at the Youth Activity Center. Advanced sign up required. 270-5680

May 25: Wet Wild Wacky Water Wars. 7-9 p.m. at the Teen Center.

Beat the heat with water balloon fights, slip n' slide challenges and more. 246-0347

May 28: Beat the Heat Memorial Day Special: Bowl all day long (11 am-7 pm) for only \$8! Kids 4-5 years old \$5; Kids 3 and under FREE. First come, first serve. Individuals may be asked to share lanes and make new friends. Lanes left vacant will be turned off.

KID ZONE

Special Tunes For Military Kids



-Photo by MC1 William Townsend

Members of Navy Band Southeast perform a special concert for the classes at Naval Station Mayport's Child Development Center last Tuesday in recognition of April as Month of the Military Child.



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USS Simpson, Coast Guard Participate In Cape Verde Lead AMLEP Operations

By MCSN Brian T. Glunt

Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Africa/Commander, U.S. 6th Fleet Public Affairs
Six members comprising a team of Cape Verde's Coast Guard, Maritime and Judicial Police, joined eight members of a U.S. Coast Guard Law Enforcement Detachment (LEDET) and Sailors from guided-missile frigate USS Simpson (FFG 56), March 27 through April 18, in

recent African Maritime Law Enforcement Partnership (AMLEP) operations. Six members comprising a team of Cape Verde's Coast Guard, Maritime and Judicial Police, joined eight members of a U.S. Coast Guard Law Enforcement Detachment (LEDET) AMLEP is the operational phase of Africa Partnership Station (APS), a program that aims to strengthen maritime partnerships to

improve safety and security in Africa. "AMLEP is a program [with] the United States, African and European countries in a reinforced measure to help enhance law enforcement presence in their territorial waters," said U.S. Coast Guard Chief Maritime Enforcement Specialist Lee Conroy, LEDET team leader attached to Simpson. "The purpose is to protect by suppressing and intercepting maritime-transnational illicit violations."

Units involved in AMLEP include maritime forces from Cape Verde, Spain and the U.S. In addition to USS Simpson, the Spanish Ocean Patrol Vessel (OPV) ESPS Vencedora (P-79) participated in AMLEP.

"It's been a demonstration of force," said Cape Verde Coast Guard Sgt. Adjunct Elisangelo Baretto. "The Sailors and U.S. Coast Guardsmen on the ship have been very useful. It's great

that, because of AMLEP, the bad guys are going to start thinking twice before they attempt to transit our coastal waters." Working from the coun-

ternarcotics and maritime security (COSMAR) Interagency Operations Center in support of AMLEP is one U.S. representative from the Joint

Interagency Task Force (South), based out of Key West, Fla., along with three U.S. Coast Guard liaisons.

See Simpson, Page 11



-Photo by MCSN Brian Glunt
Lt. j.g. Patrick Hynes assists Logistics Specialist 2nd Class Jonathan Echols with a water pump during a firefighting training evolution on the main deck aboard the guided-missile frigate USS Simpson (FFG 56). Simpson, homeported at Naval Station Mayport, Fla., is conducting theater security cooperation and maritime security operations in the U.S. Naval Forces Africa area of responsibility.

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-Photo by MCSN Brian Glunt
Cmdr. Leonard Milliken, commanding officer of the guided-missile frigate USS Simpson (FFG 56) receives a plaque for USS Simpson's participation during the African Maritime Law Enforcement Partnership (AMLEP) operations from Cape Verde's directors and commandants of the coast guard and national judicial and maritime police at the Maritime Security Center in Praia, Cape Verde.



-Photo by MCSN Brian Glunt
Cryptologic Technician (Interpretive) 1st Class Jose Manuel Cunha translates Portuguese to U.S. Coast Guard Chief Maritime Enforcement Specialist Lee Conroy during a brief with the Cape Verde visit, board, search and seizure team aboard the guided-missile frigate USS Simpson (FFG 56).



-Photo by MCSN Brian Glunt
Culinary Specialist Seaman Fredrick Jackson stands forward watch on the bridge wing of the guided-missile frigate USS Simpson (FFG 56) as the ship prepares to anchor off the coast of Praia.

Simpson

"The Coast Guard has had a large presence in Northwest Africa over the past few years," said Conroy. "To be a part of this, we are building partnerships and ties with African countries." Cape Verde is leading this combined AMLEP operation, providing all operational tasks from the COSMAR.

"This group that we have been working with is forward leaning and very

proactive," added Conroy. "Sgt. Baretto has a lot of drive and a lot of enthusiasm for this mission and for Cape Verde's Coast Guard. I've learned a lot of positive leadership just from his interaction with his people."

Two vessel boardings took place during the AMLEP operation, resulting in fines levied for a fisheries violation.

"Our goal was to do as much as we could," said

From Page 10

Baretto. "At the start of the mission we were thinking big. I think that is the right way to think, with high expectations. I hope in the future we can have more U.S. Navy ships involved in Cape Verde."

AMLEP operations directly support APS through building and reinforcing international partnerships that are focused on providing maritime safety and security in Africa.

Navy Investigates Fire Scout Mishaps

From Naval Air Systems Command

The Navy recently experienced two unrelated operational mishaps with the MQ-8B Fire Scout unmanned helicopter. There were no injuries to personnel and no damage to other aircraft.

An MQ-8B Fire Scout operating off USS Simpson (FFG-56) March 30 was ditched at sea upon return-

ing from a maritime surveillance mission in support of Africa Partnership Station. The air vehicle was unable to achieve UAS Common Automated Recovery System (UCARS) lock on, a requirement for landing aboard a ship at sea.

After multiple approaches and exhaustive troubleshooting by operators, the aircraft was positioned a safe

distance from Simpson and the flight was terminated. Subsequently, Simpson crew performed a nighttime recovery of the aircraft. The second incident occurred April 6 when an MQ-8B operating in northern Afghanistan crashed while conducting a routine surveillance mission in support of Regional Command North. The cause of the crash is

unknown at this time.

The Navy is conducting a thorough investigation of both incidents. Since 2006, the MQ-8B Fire Scout has accumulated more than 5,000 flight hours with more than 3,000 flight hours tallied during operational deployments.

Fire Scout has played a significant role in multiple operations including three counter-piracy

actions, a search-and-seizure operation, support of successful transits of the Strait of Hormuz; completion of a special operations proof of concept; and use as an intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance asset for Operation Odyssey Dawn in Libya.

In Afghanistan alone, Fire Scout has provided significant support to ground commanders

by enhanced situational awareness to joint forces closely engaged against enemy combatants.

In light of the recent mishaps, the Navy has temporarily suspended Fire Scout flight operations for 14 air vehicles in inventory while system performance and operational procedures are reviewed.

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Clifford The Big Red Dog Tickets

The Thrasher Horne Center for the Arts has donated a limited number of tickets for April 28 at 3 p.m. This is a free live family musical featuring everyone's loveable Big Red Dog Clifford. This is great for children 3-8 years of age.

USO Military Appreciation Day At MayportYour Greater Jacksonville Area USO will host our 10th Annual Military Appreciation Day at NS Mayport Sea Otter Pavilion on Saturday, May 19, 2012. This is a great FREE family event from noon-4 p.m. There will be free food, music, bounce houses, games and much more, including free admission to pool.

Military Veterans' Job Fair At The Players Championship

Veterans are invited to THE PLAYERS championship on Monday of tournament week for a Job Fair featuring local companies actively hiring. The Military Job Fair at THE PLAYERS will take place in the Birdies for the Brave Patriots' Outpost, located on the hill between No. 16 and No. 18 fairways, and will be open to veterans who are seeking employment. Admission: all veterans who attend the Job Fair will be admitted to the grounds free of charge on Monday, May 7th. Parking: free parking in tournament lot off of County Road 210. Attire is casual; bring many copies of your resume to pass out. Participating companies: ACOSTA Sales and Marketing, Bank of America, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Florida, BAE Systems, The Brumos Companies, Citi, City of Jacksonville, CSX, Deutsche Bank, EverBank, Incepture, Interline Brands, Lockheed Martin, PGA Tour, Prudential, Sea Star Line, Troops to Transportation and Logistics and VyStar. Also onsite will be the following educational institutions; FSCJ,

USO NEWS

Jacksonville University, UNF and Kaplan College Jacksonville.

THE 2012 PLAYERS Championship Honors The Military With Free Tickets And Events

THE PLAYERS will continue its policy of providing free or affordable access to the tournament for men and women of the Armed Services. There are two military ticket policies:

- All active duty, retired, and Reserve military personnel along with their dependents receive complimentary admission to the tournament all day, every day. Free tickets are available online via a link to TicketMaster from THE PLAYERS website www.PGATOUR.COM/THEPLAYERS; these are print-at-home tickets and military personnel and their dependents will be asked to present the paper ticket AND valid military ID at the gate for free admission.

- THE PLAYERS is proud to partner with Veterans Advantage to distribute discounted tickets to military veterans and their families. Available to those carrying the Veterans Advantage VetRewards Card, discounted tickets can be purchased online through a special link, and then redeemed at the admissions gate with proof of a valid Veterans Advantage VetRewards Card. Visit www.PGATOUR.COM/THEPLAYERS (click on 2012 Tickets) for more information.

On site parking is free (for all fans) Monday-Wednesday, but parking passes must be purchased in advance for Thursday through Sunday.

Once again May 7-13, THE PLAYERS will offer hospitality to active, Reserve and retired military and dependents at the Birdies for the Brave Patriots' Outpost, located

on the hill between No. 16 and No. 18 fairways. The Birdies for the Brave Patriots' Outpost, provides complimentary food, beverages and interactive activities and is open Wednesday-Sunday. Military ID is required for admittance. USO Centers do not have tickets or sell parking passes, which are available online.

Free Banners For Returning Service Members

Sign-a-Rama, a local, small business has a great offer to support returning troops! Offer details:

- This a free banner provided to a spouse or parent or child of an individual service member returning from combat duty.
- One free banner per household, please.
- Orders are placed by the family, by calling (904) 272-8333, or emailing me at herb@jaxsignarama.com with the subject line „Äbanner for my loved one.Ä.
- We would like about a 7 to 10 day notice, if possible, so that we can fit it into our production schedule.
- We are unable to ship these banners. We are a local owned franchise, with a store at 175-1 Blanding Boulevard, and one in Jacksonville at 3663 Southside Boulevard. This is a service for the Jacksonville/Orange Park area.

Banners are only for returning combat troops and unfortunately, are not available for troops assigned to NSB Kings Bay, GA. These banners are provided for FREE and please do not request a banner be prepared and no show up to pick it up.

Veterans Farm Needs Your Support

Veterans Farm is a farm in Jacksonville, that strives to help disabled combat veterans get back into society through the use of horticulture thera-

py. Veterans work on the farm and develop skills to help them overcome their physical, mental, and employment problems. We grow datil peppers and blueberries that carry our Veteran's Farm label. Wal-Mart is having a "Get on the Shelf" contest, similar to American Idol. If we win, Veteran's Farm products will be on Wal-Mart shelves all over the country. The more products we sell, the more veterans you will help. Our mission is to win this contest, and get our products on their shelves. PLEASE text "4970" to 383838 to VOTE! For more information please visit www.getontheshelf.com

No Dough Dinner

Looking for a great night with the family? Don't want to cook/clean up? Come to the Mayport USO Center April 30 from 5-7 p.m. They will serve Burgers, Dogs, baked beans, potato salad, chips, desserts and drinks. This dinner is free to active duty service members and their immediate families. Come on out and enjoy food and friends. THANK YOU to Miss America Darling Pageant!

You Could Win A 1948 Pontiac Torpedo!

Do you like old antique cars? The American Legion Riders Chapter 283 has proudly offered a 1948 Pontiac Torpedo car in a raffle drawing to be held on June 1 at 8 pm. NAS Jax USO and Mayport USO now have Donation Tickets available for purchase! The tickets are only \$10. Stop by your USO center today! All sales are cash only at the centers or at Post 283.

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.

There is a full kitchen, showers, a quiet reading room and a meeting room available at the USO.

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

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chain of command. A Sailor's request may only be disapproved by the first flag officer in the member's chain of command, or a member of the Senior Executive Service (SES).

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For more information on the expedited transfer policy read NAVADMIN 132/12 at www.npc.navy.mil. Sexual Assault Prevention and Response is an impor-

tant element of the readiness area of the 21st Century Sailor and Marine initiative which consolidates a set of objectives and policies, new and existing, to maximize Sailor and Marine personal readiness, build resiliency and hone the most combat-effective force in the history of the Navy and Marine Corps.

The Department of the Navy is working to aggressively to prevent sexual assaults, to support sexual assault victims, and to hold offenders accountable. Help raise awareness by joining the conversation on social media using #SAAM.

For more information about the prevention of sexual assault, visit <http://www.sapr.navy.mil>.

From Page 1

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Out in Town

Saturday, April 28
Churchwide Yard Sale at Isle of Faith UMC, 1821 San Pablo Road S, Jacksonville, 32224 from 8:30 a.m.- 2 p.m. Presented by Ruth Circle. Proceeds benefit Beaches Habitat for Humanity.

Tree Hill Nature Center, 7152 Lone Star Rd., will hold its 11th Annual Joseph A. Strasser Butterfly Festival from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. This year's event will feature a live butterfly exhibit, entertainment from folk singer Mrs. Kate and harpist Pat Cloud, hands-on educational programs in the Amphitheater, live animals, free crafts for kids, local vendors of hand-made and eco-friendly arts and crafts, a variety of food and drink options (a portion of food sales are donated to Tree Hill),

face painting, chalk drawing by Jax Chalk Fest and much more. The highlight of the event each year is a live butterfly release. This year's release will take place at 3:30 p.m. (weather permitting) and will feature a Dreamer from Dreams Come True helping release the butterflies.

The Armis Club of Jacksonville in conjunction with the Meet-up.com and

Jacksonville Public Library are hosting Family Game Day at various library branches around the city, everyone is invited to learn, play, and enjoy board games and make new friends. The Highlands Regional Branch Conference Room

B, 1826 Dunn Ave, will be held in the Community Room from 2-5:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 5

Come enjoy making Kiwi Pineapple Orange Jam and take home some of the product made at the Duval County Extension Canning Center from 9 a.m.-noon or 1-4 p.m. Class space is limited. Cost is \$20 per person.

son. Pre-registration and prepayment should be made by April 30. To register call Jeannie at 255-7450.

The University Of Florida Cooperative Extension Family and Consumer Sciences Program will present a program on Cinco de Mayo for Mother's Day at the Duval County Extension Office, 1010 North McDuff Avenue at 10 a.m. Show your mother how much you care by learning to make a memorable meal. Join

us for this family-friendly workshop where you will learn to prepare recipes using healthy ingredients, create table decorations and bake tasty breads and desserts. Children are welcome to attend with mom and dad. All ages are encouraged to participate in this workshop! There is a charge of \$10 per person or \$15 family of four (2 adults and 2 children). Reservations and pre-payment are necessary by May 2. Call 255-7450 or email sandram@coj.net to schedule your

reservation. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Fort Clinch State Park, 2601 Atlantic Ave., Fernandina Beach, will host a Union Spring Encampment event on May 5-6 from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. on Saturday and 9 a.m.-noon on Sunday. This program will allow visitors to interact with historians to experience life in the fort as it was in 1864. For information, call 277-7274 or visit www.FloridaStateParks.org.

Heritage Fest At Mayport Village

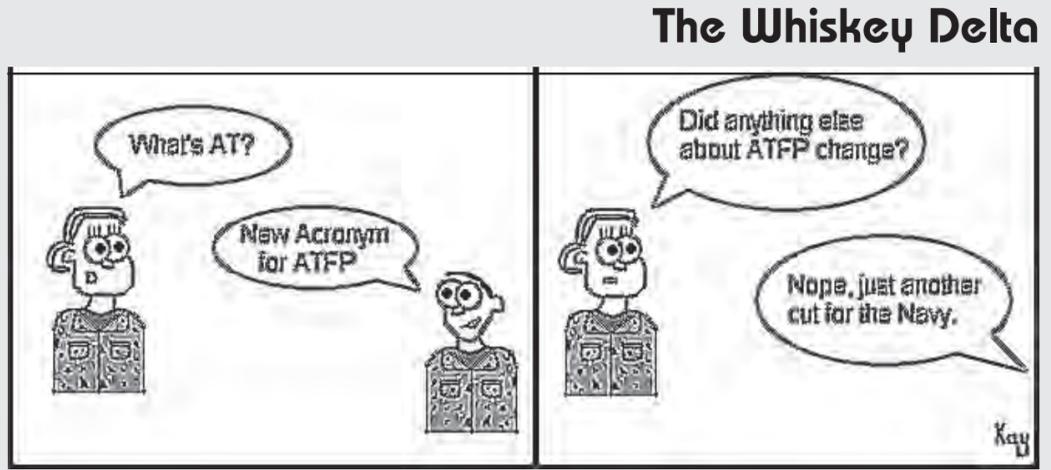
From Staff

The Village of Mayport will hold a Heritage Festival on April 28 to celebrate the 450th anniversary of French explorer Jean Ribault discovering the area for France.

The free event will be held from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and include a reenactment of Ribault's landing at 9:30 a.m. at the Michael Scanlan Boat Ramp, close to the ferry, along with art and crafts, kids' games, live music and talks with area historians.

Listen to Ribault expert Lyn Corley talk about the explorer's journey at 10 a.m., followed by a presentation by UNF professor Keith Ashley at 11 a.m.

There will also be a fish fry with gumbo, shrimp and corn dogs at 12:30 p.m. at the Marine Science Education Center, 1347 Palmer Street.



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