

Navy Looks To Improve Uniform Fit For Females

From Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

NAVADMIN 154/12, released May 7, announced the Chief of Naval Operations' (CNO) approval to improve female uniforms, along with continuing surveys to examine female uniform interests in the fleet.

In an effort to obtain a snapshot of fleet satisfaction with female uniform design and fit among female Sailors, the Navy collected data through interviews, surveys and female focus groups at various shore installations beginning in June 2010. As a result of feedback collected during this initial evaluation, the Navy determined a larger, fleet-wide uniform survey was needed. Additionally, the Navy identified several uniform improvements for immediate implementation, including:

- * The female service dress coat will be changed to add backing buttons to align with the male officer and chief petty officer (CPO) service dress coat design.

- * A binding will be added over the edge of the inner stitching of waistbands in female slacks to improve

professional appearance and reduce skin chaffing.

- * Additional stitching will be added to the bottom hem, side seams and front-facing seams of female service shirts to prevent unraveling of the hems and to improve professional appearance.

"Uniforms represent the pride and professionalism of our Sailors," said Chief of Naval Personnel Vice Adm. Scott Van Buskirk. "We strive to take care of our people - and this means providing uniforms that fit properly and comfortably, are durable and of good quality, and maintain the professional appearance of our Sailors."

The Navy will conduct a fleet-wide survey to gather broader feedback on additional uniform concerns expressed during the initial evaluation. For both officers and enlisted females, survey questions will address their level of satisfaction with service dress, service and working uniforms and components. The survey will also ask about female slacks fit and hip-to-waist ratio; the comfort of shirt collars; and preference for shirt lining,

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-Photo by MC2 Salton Cebe
Naval Station Mayport Command Master Chief Bob White and Stark memorial coordinator Lt. Cmdr. Brian Boone talk with key personnel about last minute logistics of the USS Stark memorial ceremony scheduled for today (May 17) at the Memorial Park. This is the 25th anniversary of the attack on Stark in which 37 crewmembers lost their lives.

Mayport Remembers Fallen Stark Crew

From Staff

A ceremony of remembrance will mark the 25th anniversary of the attack on USS Stark (FFG 31) that cost 37 Sailors their lives.

Each year, NS Mayport hosts a memorial ceremony on May 17 at Mayport's Memorial Park. The ceremony will be at 10 a.m. and guest speaker for this year's event is Rear Adm. David M. Thomas Jr., Commander, Naval Surface Force Atlantic.

On May 17, 1987, while on patrol in the Arabian Gulf, 37

Traffic on Moale Avenue and Main Street will be temporarily re-routed from 9:50-11:30 a.m., along with the enforcement of quiet hours during that time in respect of the ceremony.

Sailors died when two Iraqi missiles struck USS Stark. Despite the severe damage inflicted, the heroic efforts of Stark's crew saved the ship. Stark was decommissioned at Mayport in 1999. In order to preserve the tradition once the ship was retired, the Naval Order of the United States,

North Florida Commandery, assumed sponsorship for the memorial service.

Several members of the 1987 crew of Stark will attend the service. The service will feature accounts of some of the events that occurred following

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Change Of Commands

Dunn CO At HSL-46



-FC2(SW) Robert Leonard

Cmdr. James P. Dunn III shakes hands with Cmdr. Michael L. Burd after taking command of HSL-46 during a change of command ceremony at the squadron hangar on May 10.

From HSL-46

Cmdr. Michael L. Burd was relieved by Cmdr. James P. Dunn III as Commanding Officer of Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron Four Six on May 10, 2012.

Burd reported to HSL-46 as executive officer in October 2009 and assumed command of the Grandmasters in February 2011. His 15-month tenure as commanding officer was highly successful, highlighted by the execution of more than 7,500 mishap-free flight hours, the operational deployment of five combat-ready LAMPS detach-

ments, and leading the Navy's first expeditionary-to-expeditionary transition from the SH-60B to the MH-60R.

Burd hails from Munfordville, Kentucky and is a 1993 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy where he earned his Bachelor's Degree in Political Science. He also holds a Master's Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the U.S. Naval War College. Designated a Naval Aviator in November 1995, his first operational tour was with HSL-42 where he completed two success-

See HSL-46, Page 15

Ehlers New CO Of RGB



-Photo by Paige Gnann

Cmdr. Peter Ehlers addresses guest and crew during after taking command of USS Robert G. Bradley during a change of command ceremony on May 11 on board the ship. Also pictured is Capt. Bill Campbell, Deputy Commodore DESRON 14, and outgoing Commanding Officer, Cmdr. Darryl Brown.

By Ensign Sean McMahon

USS Robert G. Bradley PAO

Cmdr. Peter Ehlers relieved Cmdr. Darryl Brown as Commanding Officer of USS Robert G. Bradley (FFG 49) on May 11 on the flight deck of the ship. It was a beautiful Friday morning at Naval Station Mayport and was shared by many family, friends and members of the crew. Captain Campbell, Deputy Commodore of DESRON 14, was the guest speaker for the event.

A native of South Carolina, Brown enlisted in the U.S. Navy for four years;

following his enlistment, he attended the University of South Carolina, where he received a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering in 1995. In 2006, Brown earned a Masters of Arts degree in National Security & Strategic Studies from the Naval War College.

Brown assumed command of USS Robert G. Bradley November 5, 2010. Prior to reporting to USS Robert G. Bradley, Brown served on the staff of United States Joint Forces Command (USJFCOM) Joint Center

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Want To See More?

Go online to www.mayportmirror.com photo gallery to see all the pictures that didn't make this week's *The Mirror*.

Mayport Cranks Up Volume

At MWR Music Fest

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mayportmirror.com



Capt. Doug Cochrane

CAPTAIN'S CORNER

sacrifice of our Stark shipmates. A fantastic scene was witnessed by Team Mayport last week as we hosted the Colombian Tall Sailing Ship ARC GLORIA. ARC Gloria is the flagship for the Columbian Navy and they entered our basin with "Old School" style by manning all three masts and yardarms, singing traditional songs and rendering an 11 gun salute to their host ship USS ROOSEVELT. It was a true pleasure to have them here, and thanks to everyone who had a hand in orchestrating the visit. Of course a huge Navy Bravo Zulu to the Captain and crew of the ARC GLORIA who hosted numerous tours, lunch and a VIP reception for local dignitaries. On the tip of the spear, USS Underwood (FFG 36) rescued six Peruvian fishermen drifting in a disabled vessel off the coast of Peru, May 10. The fishermen were isolated at sea for ten days after developing mechanical problems with their vessel. They were unable to radio for help after their 12-volt batteries died. They signaled Underwood as the ship passed by, and Underwood

Shipmates, Today in a solemn and dignified ceremony, we honored our 37 fallen Shipmates, who were killed 25 years ago onboard the guided-missile frigate USS Stark (FFG 31). On May 17, 1987, while on patrol in the Arabian Gulf, two Exocet missiles were fired from an Iraqi fighter and subsequently struck USS Stark. Despite the severe impact and fire damage inflicted, the heroic efforts of Stark's crew saved the ship. Stark subsequently returned to service and was later decommissioned at Mayport in 1999. Several members of the 1987 crew, and families of the fallen STARK crewmembers attended today's service. A well deserved special thanks to Lt. Cmdr. Brian Boone, Lt. Karen Thomas and their team for coordinating this observance. We will never forget the

Sailors subsequently provided the fisherman with food and water and stood by until the Peruvian Coast Guard arrived. What an outstanding way to begin a deployment, helping fellow mariners. A true Global Force For Good - Well Done CAPT Mirasola and the entire crew! Last week we recognized our military spouses during "Military Spouse Appreciation Day" and certainly we need to thank them each day for all they do to keep the home fires burning. They pay the bills, fix cars, help the kids with science projects, the list goes on and on. They sacrifice while supporting our men and women in uniform across the globe. It isn't easy duty, and I want to thank all of our spouses for making a difference at home and to the careers of their loved ones in uniform. Without them, no mission or assignment would be complete without the steady support at home - Navy Spouses are truly THE Force Multiplier. Our MWR team has done it again, just when you think they can't outdo themselves...they do! A huge Mayport Bravo Zulu to Lonnie Kenney, Lisa Wolfe and the entire MWR team for producing and executing Mayport Music fest 2012, an awesome concert featuring Fuel, Switchfoot, and XO Pat Picard's friend Natalie Stovall. I know there was a lot

of planning and logistics involved, and once again you all made it look seamless. K2 Can Poison, Even Kill You A new report from the American College of Emergency Physicians confirms what the Pentagon, Drug Enforcement Administration and medical officials have been telling us since 2009: Spice, K2 and other synthetic cannabinoids are bad for your health and could in fact, kill you. Medical research published May 8, showed that during a nine-month period in 2010, the National Poison Data System received 1,898 reports of poisonings following synthetic cannabis inhalation. The most commonly reported effect was irregular heartbeat, with at least one user dying of cardiac arrest. Other patients experienced seizures, including two cases of status epilepticus - a prolonged seizure state that can cause brain damage and death. Other effects reported to poison control centers include agitation, vomiting, confusion and hallucinations. This stuff is bad new all around. Zero tolerance means just that... Thanks to each of you for bringing your hard work and professionalism each day through our gates. Be safe, and keep sending those suggestions to the CO's suggestion box or email them at douglas.cochrane@navy.mil.

SLO Hosts Duval Area School Principals



Judy Cromartie School Liaison Officer

Knowing THE ROPES

asking for help. They would share with me what had been provided via the school system to assist a military child, but would ask what more was available on the base. So I decided the best way to address this problem was to host a showcase of resources available not only for the children, but also for the entire family. Organizations were given three minutes to share with the entire group how they interact and help the families. The principals then asked questions about the entire range of services these organizations can provide. The showcase was a hit! I heard over and over again, "I didn't know that

service was available. I will certainly use this in the future." "With the economic crunch the schools are in, I am definitely going to tell my counselors about the counseling available at Fleet and Family." However the most encouraging comment came from Nan Worsowicz, Supervisor of School Counselors. She said, "I learned so much today, and now I want you to put together 50 packets of materials for this year's new counselors." I, of course, agreed. Organizations which participated included the following: •Fleet and Family Service Center (FFSC): EFMP, Deployment

Support, Information and Referral (I & R) Life Skills Education, Child Advocacy, Counseling, Ombudsman Support; •Military Family Life Consultant (MFLC); •Navy Marine Corps Relief;and •MWR Child and Youth Programs: School Liaison Officer (SLO) program, Youth Activity Center, Youth Sponsorship, Curriculum and Integration Specialist, CDC, CDH, and Youth Sports. After my brief on the SLO program, I provided information on the collaboration between NS Mayport and our housing office with Duval's School Choice Office in creating a workaround for families who want to participate in Duval's Magnet Lottery. Prior to this effort, families who had not been officially assigned a hous-

ing address were not able to put in a magnet application as part of the lottery process. The lottery process requires a street address for participation. Working with CO Douglas Cochrane and Gail Washburn Housing Director, Duval Schools agreed to use a specific base address for those individuals who are assured housing on the base. Mayport families are no longer automatically eliminated from the magnet lottery. Following the housing update, I shared two excellent tutoring sites for students. The Student Online Achievement Resources (SOAR) is a free source for military and civilian children, which assists with upgrading reading and math skills for each state. Students create a logon to include their grade level and indi-

cate the nearest Navy base which connects them to the specific curriculum frameworks for that state. After taking a benchmark test, the students receive help on those skills in which they are deficient. Tutor.com is a true tutoring website which is also free but is only for active duty and dependents. This site operates 24/7 to help with problems in any course - grades K through college. If your base organization would like to host a showcase with these organizations to better inform your families about available resources, please contact me. Judy Cromartie can be reached at judith.cromartie@navy.mil or at 270-6289 X1305 [office] or 219-3894 [cell].

The Wonders Of The Brain And Spirituality



Cmdr. Steve Souders Surface Force Ministry Center

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

goes on in our brain when we are engaged in aspects of spirituality?" Over the last few years scientists have speculated whether or not the human brain has a "God Spot" or one distinct area of the brain responsible for spirituality. In an article posted online, April 21, 2012, by Daily Mail Reporter, it was reported that scientific researchers from the University of Missouri completed research that indicates spirituality is a complex phenomenon and that multiple areas of the brain are responsible for the many aspects of spiritual experiences. Dr. Johnstone, Professor of Health Psychology in the School of Health Professions, comments that "certain parts of the brain play more predominant roles, but they all

work together to facilitate individuals' 'spiritual experiences.'" Johnstone studied 20 people who had sustained traumatic brain injuries affecting the right parietal lobe, the area of the brain situated a few inches above the right ear and found that participants with more significant injury showed an increased feeling of closeness to a higher power. What is the significance

of this finding? This finding further confirmed the earlier work of neuropsychology researchers who have consistently shown that impairment on the right side of the brain decreases one's focus on self. Johnstone draws the conclusion, "Since our research shows that people with this impairment are more spiritual, this suggests spiritual experiences are associated with a decreased focus on self. This is consistent with many religious texts..." This does remind Christians of the words

of John the Baptist in the Gospel of John 3:30 where he says, "I must decrease and He (Jesus) must increase." The Bible is also full of references where the faithful are called to put others ahead of self. Johnstone also studied Buddhist meditators and Franciscan nuns with normal brain function and discovered that people can learn to minimize the functioning of the right brain in order to increase their spirituality during meditation and prayer. Johnstone says it is

"like playing the piano, the more you train your brain, the more the brain becomes predisposed to piano playing. Practice makes perfect." All very interesting. One closing thought. Neuroscientist Richard Davison, University of Wisconsin, says that his research also shows that our brain can be sculpted, just as you can sculpt your muscles at the gym. Prayer and meditation can reshape our brain and our reality when it comes to spirituality. Something to think about.

Breakfast, Fish Fry At Chapel

There will be a Men's Prayer breakfast sponsored by the Protestant Men of the Chapel on Saturday, May 19 at 9 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall of the Mayport Chapel. Mayport families are invited to attend for a delicious breakfast from Panera Bread followed by video and discussion based on the book, *When the Game is Over, It All Goes Back in the Box*, by John Ortberg. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. For further information, please contact Fred Whitbread at 247-6468.

Mayport Chapel will hold a free fish fry Sunday, May 20 at noon. Mayport service members and families are invited to join. For those who prefer, chicken will also be offered. Please call Alline at 270-5212 or e-mail alline.zwarycz@navy.mil if you have any further questions.



Command Chaplain
Lt. Cmdr.
Jerome Cayangyang

Roman Catholic Mass
Sunday 9 a.m.
Monday-Thursday
11:30 a.m.
Confessions:
before & after mass or upon request
CCD, RCIA & Adult Ed:
Sunday 10:30 a.m.
Baptisms
3rd Sunday of month 10:30 a.m.
Catholic Youth Group
2nd & 4th Sunday 11:30 a.m-1 p.m.

Protestant Worship
Sunday 10:30 a.m.
Sunday school 9:15 a.m.
Choir: Wednesday 7 p.m.
Baptism: For information contact your chaplain
Women's Bible Study
Wednesday 10 a.m.
Protestant Youth Group
1st Friday Youth Quak Trip 6:30 p.m.
3rd Friday at Chapel 7-10:30 p.m.
PWOC
2nd Saturday 9:30 a.m.
PMOC
3rd Saturday Prayer Breakfast 9 a.m.
MOPS
1st & 3rd Thursday, 9:30 a.m.

For more information or other worship opportunities and religious organizations in Jacksonville, call 270-5212.



Naval Station Mayport

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Cmdr. Patrick Pickard Executive Officer
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Sailors of the Quarter



-Photo by Paige Gnann

Naval Station Mayport Command Master Chief, CMDCM Bob White and Executive Officer, Cmdr. Pat Pickard, stand with the Sailor of the Quarter, 2nd Quarter winners Blue Jacket of the Quarter Master-at-Arms Seaman Stephanie Ferrara, Sailor of the Quarter Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Zachary Mullin and Senior Sailor of the Quarter Master-at-Arms 1st Class Michael Barthelemy. Not pictured is Junior Sailor of the Quarter Electronics Technician 3rd Class Stacy Hofve.

Employee of the Quarter



-Photo by Bill Austin

Naval Station Mayport Executive Officer, Cmdr. Pat Pickard, middle, is joined by nominees for NS Mayport Employee of the Quarter 1st Quarter during a luncheon at Ocean Breeze Conference Center on May 1. The winner was Scott McPherson from Public Works, who was absent during the luncheon. Public Works Director Cmdr. Miguel Dieguez, far right, accepted the award on his behalf. Also pictured is Deputy Security Officer Ron Novak and Ron Kemmerer of Security, Ronald Renta of Air Ops, Tom Krygowski of MWR and MWR Director Lonnie Kenney.

CSCS Names Sawyer As Domain Small Activity Civilian Of The Quarter

By
Kimberly M. Lansdale
Center for Surface Combat Systems



Karen Sawyer

The Center for Surface Combat Systems (CSCS) recently announced its Domain Small Activity Civilian of the Quarter (COQ) for the first quarter of 2012.

Karen Sawyer, a Training Technician for CSCS Detachment Mayport, was honored to be selected.

"This is a wonderful surprise," Sawyer said. "This is my first CSCS award and I am honored to receive it."

Sawyer has been part of the CSCS community since she came onboard in 2006.

Sawyer for the COQ award for several reasons, which included her motivation and always going above and beyond her job requirements.

"I can trust Karen to handle any project down to the last detail," explained Silverstein. "Whether it is with one of her primary work responsibilities as our Scheduler or as Visitor Security Coordinator monitoring all student clearances, Karen is always spot on. Karen is also raising four boys and somehow found time to finish her coursework for a Bachelor of Science degree in Work force education and development. Her work

ethic and dedication are qualities that we should all emulate and I am truly grateful for her efforts in making this detachment the best that we can be."

As a training technician, Sawyer has several duties. She is the command Training Scheduler and Corporate enterprise Training Activity Resources System (CeTARS) and Enterprise Naval Training Reservation System (ENTRS) Officer. Sawyer also serves as the Assistant Military Personnel, Administrative, Budget, and Personnel Security Officer, Command Pass Coordinator (CPC),

Assistant Agency Program Coordinator (APC) for the Government Travel Charge Card (GTCC) Program, Approving Official (AO) for the Defense Travel System (DTS), and Command Leave Administrator (CLA).

"I take great pride in my work and enjoy being part of the CSCS team," Sawyer said. "George Shinn, owner of the Charlotte Hornets basketball team, once said 'There is no such thing as a self-made man. You will reach your goals only with the help of others' and I truly believe in his words."

In addition, Karen is the first civilian to receive

this award from CSCS. "Winning the inaugural award of the new Civilian Recognition program, Karen has set the hallmark standard for future awardees to accomplish," said Silverstein.

Officially established in September 2004, CSCS Headquarters' staff oversees 14 learning sites (units and detachments) and provides maintenance and operations training for surface combat systems. CSCS executes 1,000 courses a year to more than 50,000 Sailors.

**Mine was earned
in the Persian Gulf.
By my dad.**

Joseph O., future USAA member

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Music Fest Rocks NS Mayport

By Bill Austin

NS Mayport PAO

Big stage, huge crowd, and the sweet sounds of music filled the evening air as Naval Station Mayport was treated to the likes of country music fiddle star Natalie Stovall, Fuel and Switchfoot.

"We tried to pull in three bands that would bring people to this event, and these bands were a perfect fit," said Sandra Barrett, Administrative Assistant for MWR.

Barrett added that more than 5,000 attended the show.

"The coordination was incredible, and we couldn't have done it without the help from several of our base departments such as fore and security," said Barrett.

Several military volunteers were on hand that augmented the security force.

The show kicked off as Natalie Stovall hit the stage with her signature white shiny fiddle, and from the first pull of the bow, set the tone for the acts that followed.

Sailors, families and friends danced in front of the stage and cheered as she wrapped up her performance with her rendition of the Charlie Daniels hit "The Devil Went Down To Georgia."



More than 5,000 Sailors, friends and families attended the MWR Mayport Music Fest held at the Sea Otter Pavilion with bands, Natalie Stovall, Fuel and Switchfoot performing.

-Photos by Sarah Barthelemy

formance with her rendition of the Charlie Daniels hit "The Devil Went Down To Georgia."

"The energy was amazing," said Mass Communications Specialist 2nd Class Jake

Sippel, who attended the show with several friends. "I have been listening to Fuel all my life and it

was awesome getting to see them in person," he added. "They kicked butt, and the whole con-

cert was really well done. From the sounds to the lights, it was an amazing show."



Switchfoot lead singer Jon Foreman stands on the base drum as he sings during the MWR Mayport Music Fest held at Sea Otter Pavilion on board Naval Station Mayport on Saturday. Insert, Foreman and brother Tim enjoy a moment with the crowd.



Fans cheer on Fuel as the band takes the stage.



Natalie Stovall rocks it out with her fiddle during her rendition of the Charlie Daniels hit, "The Devil Went Down To Georgia."



Fans pose with Switchfoot during a meet and greet held prior to the concert.



Fuel connects with its fans during the MWR meet and greet held earlier in the day.



Natalie Stovall and her band sign autographs during the session.

...

...



Fans rock it out during Switchfoot's performance. The band had the audience on its feet with a lightshow and hit tunes.



Young rockers show off their air guitar techniques during the concert.



Stovall continues to sign autographs after her set during the music festival.



Festival-goers get ready to rock as the concert line ups begin.



Fuel keeps the crowd rocking with their new and classic hits.



Fuel lead singer Brett Scallions sings to the crowd.



Families and friends enjoy the sounds of Mayport Music Festival on May 12.



A young boy tries to land the ball in a cup for a prize at one of the sponsor booths.



Thousands of service members, retirees, friends and families set up chairs and blankets in the grassy area at the Sea Otter Pavilion as they wait for the Music Fest to begin.



Some concert-goers were lucky enough to get preferred seating thanks to a raffle held by MWR.

Phoenix Express 2012 Begins In Souda Bay

By MC3 Caitlin Conroy
 Commander, U.S. Naval Forces
 Europe-Africa/U.S. 6th Fleet
 Public Affairs

Phoenix Express 2012 (PE12), a multi-national exercise between Southern European, North African and U.S. naval forces, officially kicked off at the NATO Maritime Interdiction Operation Training Center (NMIOTC) in Souda Bay, May 7. Phoenix Express is an at-sea maritime exercise designed to improve cooperation among participating nations to help increase maritime safety and security in the Mediterranean Sea.

"This is the seventh year for Phoenix Express, and it is one of four African regional 'Express' series exercises that are designed to test skills obtained from participating in bilateral and Africa Partnership Station (APS) training in a regional maritime exercise," said Lt. Chase Ackerman, PE12 exercise planner. "One of the goals of PE12 is to build communication between North African and European partners so that there is a stronger united force in the Mediterranean Sea. At the same time, the training provided will help enhance maritime security."

Exercise events during PE12 will be held in-port at the NMITOC and



-Photo by MC3 Caitlin Conroy
 The guided-missile frigate USS Simpson (FFG 56) pulls into Souda Bay, Greece, to participate in exercise Phoenix Express 2012 (PE12).

aboard the Hellenic navy training ship Aris, while the at-sea training will be conducted aboard various ships. During the in-port portion of training the focus will be on medical and maritime interdiction operations (MIO) training at NMIOTC, while combined maritime forces located pier-side will conduct workshops in helicopter operations and safety, damage control and firefighting, deck seamanship, navigation, search and rescue (SAR), small boat operations and a leadership course. After in-port training is complete, the at-sea portion of PE12 will commence in the Mediterranean Sea.

At sea, ships and their Sailors will focus on maritime domain awareness (MDA) using the Automatic Identification System (AIS), and include interaction between forces afloat and the com-

bined maritime operations center (CMOC) ashore. Combined maritime forces will also execute a series of scenarios exercising force protection measures, MIO - to include visit, board, search and seizure (VBSS) and helicopter VBSS (HVBSS) - SAR, replenishment at sea and helicopter operations.

"Our purpose in the NMIOTC, besides hosting the exercise, is to provide all the necessary training, and with U.S. assistance, we can help make the command boarding teams better for their maritime interdiction operations," said Hellenic air force Lt. Col. Lampinos Lamprinakos, deputy education training director for the NMIOTC. "I believe we have had a smooth start to everything and I see that everyone is ready and willing to work together."



-Photo by MC1 Brian A. Goyak
 Chief Fire Controlman Timothy Wheeler, a member of the boarding team from the guided-missile frigate USS Simpson (FFG 56), secures a stairway during an exercise aboard the training ship Aris at the NATO Maritime Interdiction Operational Training Center during Phoenix Express 2012 (PE12). PE12, a multi-national maritime exercise between Southern European, North African and U.S. Naval forces, is designed to improve cooperation among participating nations and help increase safety and security in the Mediterranean Sea.

Roosevelt Awarded Battle 'E'

By Ensign Zachary Holliday
 USS Roosevelt Public Affairs

For the second consecutive year, the Quartermasters (QM) on board USS Roosevelt took great pride in painting their bridge-wings. However, this particular assignment required more than just the usual Navy Haze Gray as the QMs had to pull out an assortment of colors to reflect Roosevelt's 2011 Commander Destroyer Squadron Fourteen (CDS 14) Battle Effectiveness award, or "Battle E," that includes several command excellence awards.

In order to be consid-

ered for the "Battle E," Roosevelt had to demonstrate sustained superior performance, operational effectiveness, continuous readiness, and earn a minimum of four out of five Command Excellence awards. In obtaining the "Battle E," Roosevelt earned the Engineering/Survivability Excellence Award for the 11th consecutive time, Command, Control Communications and Information Warfare Excellence Award, TYCOM Ship Safety Excellence Award, and Logistics Management Excellence Award for the 6th straight year.

The ship had to be

nominated by their Immediate Superior In Command (ISIC) and the competition in CDS 14 was par to none. Roosevelt's outstanding performance during COMTUEX and successful support of national tasking during a 2011 C5F/C6F deployment that included 113 days straight at sea, directly contributed to Roosevelt's being named the Battle E award recipient for calendar year 2011 for CDS 14.

The ship's bridging is not the only the only place that requires updating, the Battle E is awarded to any and all Sailors who served aboard

Roosevelt during 2011 and assisted in the ship's certification, training events and deployment.

Some Sailors are now recipients two years running but many Sailors on board are first time recipients of such an award and will add another ribbon to their chest. Unlike personal awards that recognize individual achievement or unit awards that recognize participation in named operations, the Battle Effectiveness award recognizes the combined efforts of the entire crew throughout the year.

Roosevelt is assigned to CDS 14 and is homeported in Mayport, Florida.



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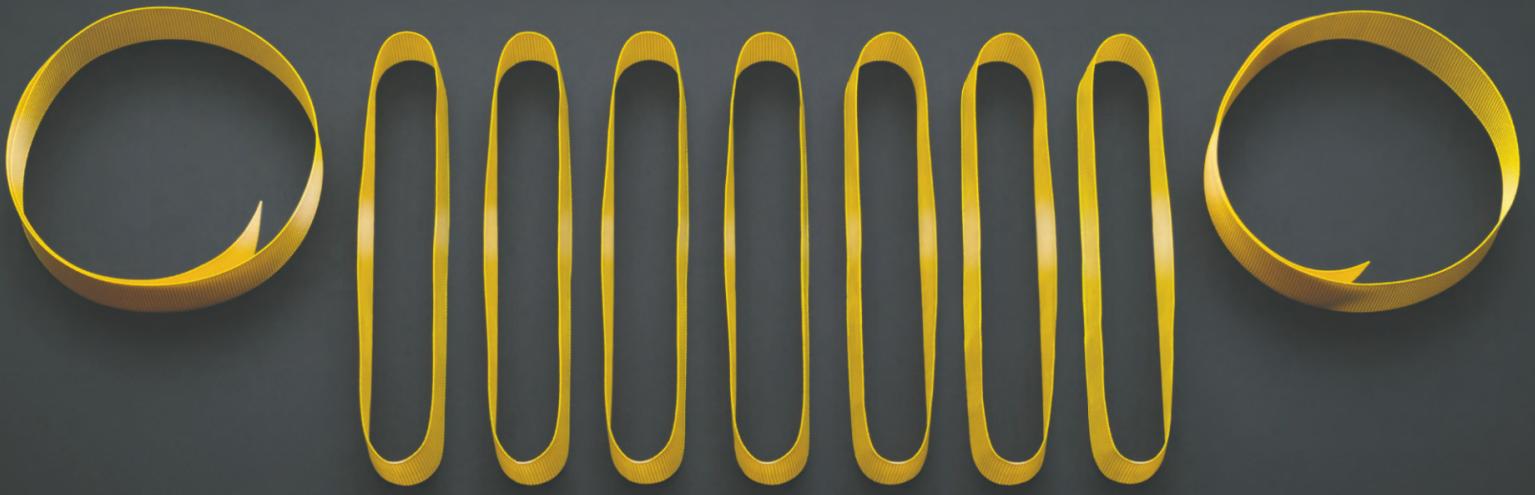
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Underwood Rescues Peruvian Fishermen

By Lt. Stephanie Homick
Southern Seas 2012 Public Affairs

Sailors assigned to the Oliver Hazard Perry-class frigate USS Underwood (FFG 36) rescued six Peruvian fishermen drifting in a disabled vessel off the coast of Peru, May 10. The fishermen were isolated at sea for ten days after developing mechanical problems with their vessel. They were unable to radio for help after their 12-volt batteries died.

The fishermen signaled Underwood as the ship passed by. Underwood Sailors then boarded a rigid-hulled inflatable boat (RHIB) and approached the vessel.

"When we got there, [we saw] it was this small, broken down fishing boat," said Gas System Turbine (Mechanical) 3rd Class (SW) Brian Stankowitz. "There was a kid who was about 11 years old and he was using a manual bilge pump because they were



-Photo by MC2 Stuart Phillips

Sailors assigned to the Oliver Hazard Perry-class guided-missile frigate USS Underwood (FFG 36) assist a disabled Peruvian fishing vessel in the Pacific Ocean. The fishermen were stranded at sea for ten days after their transmission failed. Underwood is deployed to Central and South America and the Caribbean in support of Southern Seas 2012.

taking on a lot of water. They were basically sinking."

After providing food and water to the fishermen, the Sailors returned to Underwood to recharge the fishermen's 12-volt batteries so they would not have to rely on the

manual bilge pump to keep afloat.

"There was a language barrier for me because I don't speak Spanish, but when we gave them food and water, I could see the thanks in their eyes," said Stankowitz. "They ate all the food and drank all the

water immediately and they were laughing."

After resupplying the fishermen, the RHIB was kept in the water on standby to assist as necessary until the Peruvian coast guard arrived.

"We were out there for about five hours and

then we came back and did a crew swap so the RHIB could go back out and take care of any needs that might come up," said Engineman 2nd Class (EXW) Zachary White, who was sent to evaluate the condition of the boat's outboard motor and assist with repairs if possible. "We swapped in a fresh crew so we could stay by their side until they got help."

White and Stankowitz expressed how good it felt to be in the RHIB, assisting fellow mariners in a significant way.

"We sometimes forget the big picture of what we do when we deploy," said White. "We get worn out and we get tired, but when we actually go out and help people that need help and it's a matter of life or death, it opens your eyes to what we're doing while we're out here. It's a very, very good feeling."

"I think the biggest thing for me is that it was a great way to start

a deployment," said Stankowitz. "We're just giving and helping people."

Underwood is deployed to Central and South America and the Caribbean in support of Southern Seas 2012.

U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command and U.S. 4th Fleet (COMUSNAVSOP/C4F) supports U.S. Southern Command joint and combined full-spectrum military operations by providing principally sea-based, forward presence to ensure freedom of maneuver in the maritime domain, to foster and sustain cooperative relationships with international partners and to fully exploit the sea as maneuver space in order to enhance regional security and promote peace, stability, and prosperity in the Caribbean, Central and South American regions.

USS Underwood Arrives In Peru For UNITAS

By MC2 Stuart Phillips
Southern Seas 2012 Public Affairs

The Oliver Hazard Perry-class frigate USS Underwood (FFG 36) arrived in Callao, Peru, in preparation for UNITAS Pacific 53-12, May 12. Sailors lined the rails in their dress whites while Underwood announced her arrival with a 40mm saluting battery as it entered the channel to the port city.

While in port, Underwood Sailors will engage in an opening and closing ceremony, a wreath-laying ceremony

and a community relations event.

"We're setting up for a few receptions and prevent exercises to get us prepped for the big muscle movements that are going to be happening out to sea here in a couple of days," said Lt. Dustin Schultz, Underwood's navigation officer.

A wreath-laying ceremony will be held in honor of Peruvian national hero, Adm. Miguel Grau at the Peruvian Naval Academy. Underwood Sailors will also participate in a friendly

sports competition with Peruvian, Chilean, Ecuadorian and Mexican sailors.

"It's always nice to get off the boat and play against these other countries," said Electrician's Mate 3rd Class (SW) Stephen McGiverin, who has had the opportunity

to play against South American navies in the past. "Afterwards we normally have some time to talk to them. I like being able to do things with other navies."

Underwood will remain in port several days before sailing with partner nation navies to par-

ticipate in joint-naval exercises at sea. U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command and U.S. 4th Fleet supports U.S. Southern Command joint and combined full-spectrum military operations by providing principally sea-based, forward presence to ensure freedom

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Mayport Sailor Home Reno Gets Boost From Home Depot, NMCRS



Gunner's Mate 1st Class Amy Hamilton of ATG Mayport edges around a window as Kim Snyder of The Home Depot rolls on a coat of paint.



Volunteers from Naval Station Mayport and The Home Depot spent two days at the home of Mayport Air Ops Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Equipment) 1st Class Shaun Johnson (left standing) after The Home Depot awarded the Sailor \$6,000 for home renovations through Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society.

From Staff

Dozens of volunteers from Naval Station Mayport teamed up with The Home Depot and Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society Thursday and Friday to help one of their own.

Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Equipment) 1st Class Shaun Johnson was awarded \$6,000 for home renovations through the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society as part of a The Home Depot community project program.

With the help of the volunteers, Johnson was able to tear out old carpeting and replace it with laminate flooring, paint walls, replace sinks and doors install a fence and add closet systems.

"I called Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society to find someone who needed some help with their home," said Debra Egelston, assistant manager at Regency Square The Home Depot. "We wanted to do something for a service member. This has been a great opportunity working with NMCRS."

Johnson was thankful for the opportunity.

I think it's awesome," he said. "It feels good knowing that people really want to give back to the military. This shows that there are people out there that really do care."

-Photos by Paige Gnann



Master-at-Arms 3rd Class Heather Cowell of Security helps Johnson sweep up during the renovation.



Volunteers install a fence around Johnson's property.



Volunteers install new laminate flooring to replace old carpeting in Johnson's home.

Go to Homedepot.com or to The Home Depot's Facebook page to vote on this project for the chance to add an additional \$25,000 towards the renovation.

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The Players Championship Honors Military

By MCSA Damian Berg

Navy Public Affairs Support Element East, Detachment Southeast

Continuing a PGA Tour tradition of honoring men and women in uniform, servicemembers were honored during Military Appreciation Day at The Players Club (TPC) Sawgrass May 9. This year's theme is "A Tribute To America's Volunteers" in honor of the 375th anniversary of the United States National Guard.

Servicemembers lined the balconies of the clubhouse at TPC Sawgrass as the ceremony began with the national anthem performed by the 13th Army Band followed by a jet flyover from the 125th Fighter Wing of Florida Air National Guard.

"This is a great reminder of everything you, as servicemembers, do for our wonderful country," said Alvin Brown, Mayor of Jacksonville. "Our military deserves a thank you everyday because of the hard work they do for our country."

It was followed by remarks from PGA Tour Commissioner Tim Finchem, General Craig McKinley, Chief of the National



Sailors march through a sea of cheering PGA Tour spectators as part of THE PLAYERS 2012 Military Appreciation Day ceremony. This year's theme, "A Tribute to America's Volunteers" in honor of the 375th anniversary of the National Guard of the United States, saluted military members and their families.

-Photos by MC1(SW/AW) Toiete Jackson

Guard Bureau and PGA Tour player and two-time Players champion Davis Love III.

"Thank you for the support and it means a lot for me to be here," said Gen. McKinley, Chief of the National Guard Bureau.

"It's a magnificent experience and Jacksonville truly supports its veterans. God bless the USA!"

Davis Love III followed McKinley and expressed his admiration for the day's events.

"It's a great honor to be here and participate in military appreciation day. To be around so many great people and for them to be doing such great things, it's truly humbling."

Country music star Luke

Bryan helped the tournament honor local military by performing a special concert with his most popular singles.

"If it was not for you guys in uniform, we couldn't have the fun we are having today," said Bryan. "I love you guys and thank you so much."

The music performance was the final gesture of the night by the Players Championship and local community to show support.

"It's a honor to have the privilege to be here and it feels great to get noticed and appreciated," said Air-Traffic Controller Airman Adam Admill, Naval Station Mayport. "I loved the opening concert and the fly-over was awesome. I'm thankful for everyone letting us come out and enjoy the festivities."

The tournament coordinators are providing all active duty, retired, and reserve military personnel, along with their dependents, with complimentary admission to the tournament.



Military Volunteers line the terrace of The Players Club Sawgrass Clubhouse while being honored during THE PLAYERS 2012 Military Appreciation Day ceremony. This year's theme, "A Tribute to America's Volunteers" in honor of the 375th anniversary of the National Guard of the United States, saluted military members and their families.



Country music star Luke Bryan honors area military with a special concert as part of THE PLAYERS 2012 Military Appreciation Day ceremony. This year's theme, "A Tribute to America's Volunteers" in honor of the 375th anniversary of the National Guard of the United States, saluted military members and their families.

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-Photo by AW3 Darren Rice

Cadets of the Colombian Navy's training ship ARC Gloria man the masts as they arrive at Naval Station Mayport for a scheduled port visit. ARC Gloria is the Colombian navy's official good-will.

Sailors Reminded To Get Self Service Logon

From Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

All Sailors serving on active duty must obtain a Department of Defense (DoD) Self-service (DS) Logon by Nov. 8, 2013, according to NAVADMIN 148/12, released May 1.

DS Logon is a secure, self-service logon ID that allows beneficiaries affiliated with DoD or the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) access to several websites using a single username and

password, without the requirement for additional hardware or software such as a Common Access Card reader.

The number of self-service applications accessible with a DS Logon is growing.

Currently Sailors can access a variety of benefits and services with a DS Logon, including Tricare Online, the VA eBenefits portal, Beneficiary Web Enrollment, myDoDBenefits, and Transferability

of Education Benefits.

DS Logon is also a life-long credential that never expires, and is valid for as long as there is a relationship between the individual user and either DoD or the VA.

More information about the benefits of DS Logon and procedures for obtaining a DS Logon can be found by visiting <https://myaccess.dmdc.osd.mil/dsaccess>.



-Photo by MC2(SW) Robert A. Wood Sr.

The Colombian Navy tall ship ARC Gloria hosts a reception for local guests while pier-side at Naval Station Mayport, May 11. Mayport is the first stop on a 6-month training mission before heading to Europe and Africa. As the official flagship of the Colombian Navy, the 76-meter long, three-masted sailing ship is used to train cadets from the Colombian Naval Academy.

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CNIC To 'PASS' Pay/Personnel Support

From Navy Personnel Command and Navy Installations Command Public Affairs

NAVY NEWS

Commander, Navy Installation Command (CNIC) will transfer responsibility of Pay/Personnel Administrative Support System (PASS) to Navy Personnel Command (NPC) said Navy officials April 26. CNIC currently executes PASS via Regional Commanders, the Navy Pay and Personnel Support Center (NPPSC), PSDs and CSDs. Navy-wide timeliness of pay-impacting transactions has improved more than 40 percent under CNIC's stewardship and customer satisfaction is at an all time high according to CNIC officials.

"We share a common vision for the future, qual-

ity personnel service delivery that fully supports the 21st Century Sailor and their families. CNIC staff who provide pay and personnel support to our Sailors have done a remarkable job over the years in improving customer service and creating efficiencies in the program," said Commander, Navy Installations Command, Vice Adm. William D. French. "Aligning the PASS program under an end-to-end business process owner, creates the opportunity for the Navy to optimize technological solutions and take that

service delivery to the next level."

The transfer accomplishes VCNO direction supporting the "end to end business process owner" for Navy's pay and personnel matters.

According to a memorandum of agreement signed March 15 between the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Manpower, Personnel, Training and Education (DCNO/MPTE) and CNIC, aligning PASS within MPTE will streamline policy, process and execution under the DCNO/MPTE. While final details of the transfer are still being

determined, officials said the projected transfer completion date is no later than Oct. 1, 2013.

"Bringing PASS back under the Manpower, Personnel, Training and Education umbrella is a large step forward in allowing the Navy's pay and personnel policy experts to manage the process down to the end user," said Chief of Naval Personnel Vice Adm. Scott R. Van Buskirk. "We're looking closely at how our Sailors receive their personnel service transactions, and with this transfer, we plan to simplify the process. This will include making it easier and more efficient for Sailors to conduct their necessary personnel business."

Once the PASS program

is transferred, DCNO/MPTE BUPERS will assume responsibility for PASS operations, which includes the Navy Pay and Personnel Support Center (NPPSC), Personnel Support Detachments (PSDs) including PSD Afloat, Customer Service Desks (CSDs) and the system used to process pay and other administrative actions.

"We do not expect any interruption of personnel service delivery to any of our Sailors currently serviced by the PASS network," said Capt. Hank Vitali, director, Personnel Service Delivery Transformation Office at the Bureau of Naval Personnel in Millington, Tennessee.

The services PASS provides to service members

and their families include military pay, educational services, reenlistments, extensions and separations, fleet reserve, retirement services, and military and dependent ID cards.

PASS supports most shore commands, deployable ships and squadrons. PASS currently covers pay and personnel actions for approximately 85 percent of the Navy at more than 60 PSDs worldwide. Aircraft carriers, a select number of ships, and a few commands are not PASS-supported and maintain their own Pay and Personnel Servicing capability.

Families List Retirement, Pay As Top Issues

By Lisa Daniel

American Forces Press Service

Military families regard the possible change of military retirement benefits as their top concern, according to the results of a major survey released May 9.

The 2012 Military Family Lifestyle Survey also shows that pay and benefits, the impact of deployments on children, operational tempo, spouse employment and education and combat stress and brain injuries are most on the minds of military family members.

Blue Star Families, a nonprofit military family support organization, released the findings of its third annual survey before a Capitol Hill audience of Congress members, military family members and support organizations, and media.

"That data in this survey is the story of our lives," said Kathy Roth-

Douquet, the chief executive officer of Blue Star Families. The survey, she said, is conducted by professional researchers who also are military family members.

More than 4,000 family members responded to the survey, representing each of the services - active, National Guard and reserve, and Coast Guard - and all areas of the country. Nearly half of the survey respondents have a service member in the senior enlisted ranks, and 64 percent of respondents are between the ages of 25 and 44.

Among the findings:

- Thirty-one percent of respondents listed possible changes to retirement benefits as their biggest concern, followed by 20 percent who cited pay and benefits as their top concern;

- Veterans said their biggest concerns related to separating from the

military were employment opportunities, followed by access to health care;

- Seven percent of respondents listed operational tempo as their top concern, and support for staying in the military dropped from 52 percent for families who were separated 13 to 24 months, to 15 percent for those who spent more than 37 months apart;

- Sixty percent of spouse respondents are not currently employed, and of those, 53 percent wanted to be; 57 percent said being a military spouse has a negative impact on their ability to work; 27 percent had problems getting professional licenses to transfer to different states;

- Six percent of respondents listed post-traumatic stress, combat stress and traumatic brain injuries as their top issue; 26 percent said their ser-

vice member had signs of post-traumatic stress and 3 percent said they had a diagnosis.

Robert L. Gordon III, deputy assistant secretary of defense for military community and family policy, said the department and the nation are challenged by economic problems today, but that both must take care of military families.

Things changed after the Vietnam War, Gordon said.

"We got out of Vietnam and into the all-volunteer force," he said. "Because of that, our force became a married force."

Also, Gordon said, the military now is structured so that "the entire military goes to war." Indeed, the survey found that National Guard and Reserve members have spent as much time away from home in the past decade as active duty members.

Other findings of the survey show:

- Ninety-two percent of respondents said they could help their children make positive school decisions during a spouse's deployment, but 64 percent said deployment hampered their children's abilities to participate in extracurricular activities;
- Ten percent of family members responded that they had considered suicide, compared to 9 percent for service members.
- Fifty-seven percent said prevention should be aimed at training front-

line supervisors and commanders;

- Eighty-one percent volunteered in the past year;

- Eighty-nine percent are registered to vote;

- Eighty-two percent believe the all-volunteer force works well;

- Seventy percent were satisfied with the military lifestyle, and 60 percent would recommend the military for young people; and

- Seventy-two percent said changing the law to allow gays to serve openly has had no impact on their service members.

Uniform

shoulder stitching and yoke on service uniform shirts. The survey will also measure women's desire for more maternity outer-wear options.

As announced in the NAVADMIN, the Navy will also conduct an anthropometric study to update 20-year old data on body composition relative to clothing, equipment and human interface systems such as body armor and flight equipment. Approximately 2,500 male and 2,500 female Sailors and officers will participate in this study.

Additionally, over the next several months, the Navy will conduct a fit and wear evaluation of the current male officer and enlisted dress cover by female midshipmen and female enlisted Sailors. This Navy Standard Cover initiative aims to promote uniformity and professional appearance among our Sailors and officers, contributing toward a climate of inclusion for all per-

sonnel.

Approximately 1,050 female officers and Sailors will take part in the Navy Standard Cover fit and wear evaluation and feedback. Enlisted women assigned to U.S. Navy Ceremonial Guard and U.S. Fleet Forces (USFF) Command Band in Norfolk and U.S. Pacific Fleet (PACFLT) Band in San Diego will wear the male enlisted white hat (Dixie Cup) or male CPO combination cover while conducting ceremonies and performances during the summer uniform wear period. Female midshipmen at the U.S. Naval Academy and enlisted women in the USNA band will wear the male midshipman and male CPO combination cover, respectively, starting this summer until January 2013.

Enlisted women assigned to the U.S. Navy Ceremonial Guard, USFF Band and PACFLT Band will wear the Dixie Cup male CPO combination

cover and the service dress blue jumpers (E1-E6) while conducting ceremonies and performances during the winter uniform wear period until January 2013.

During and after these evaluation periods, the Navy will collect wear feedback from participants and will brief Navy leadership about the findings. Progress on the initiative will be presented to the Navy Uniform Board.

"Sailors who have participated in past wear programs and evaluations have provided valuable feedback that has made an impact on our decision-making, and in the end, provided the rest of the fleet a better uniform product," said

From Page 1

Van Buskirk. "We hope to continue this two-way dialogue through the planned fleet-wide survey of women's uniform items and the Navy Standard Cover initiative."

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Resident Energy Conservation Program To Launch Navy-wide

From Commander, Navy Installations Command Public Affairs

Commander, Navy Installations Command will expand the scope of the Resident Energy Conservation Program (RECP) for Public Private Venture (PPV) housing in the U.S. in phases beginning in October 2012.

RECP transfers the responsibility for payment of utilities from the PPV project to the residents, consistent with OSD policy. Research indicates that residents use less when their rent does not include utilities. In 1998, OSD established policy requiring the transfer of responsibility for the payment of utilities from our PPV project owner to the residents. RECP was

created to promote the responsible use of energy in Navy/Marine Corps PPV housing. RECP focuses on utility conservation efforts to reduce electricity and gas usage in PPV housing.

In January 2011 the RECP pilot program transferred responsibility for payment of utilities to residents living in PPV housing in Hawaii and in Marine Corps Housing at Parris Island and Beaufort, S.C. The pilot program reduced electricity usage by almost 10 percent and generated savings in excess of \$1M to reinvest into the PPV housing project to fund reserve accounts used to sustain the financial

health of the projects.

"RECP was a great success in Hawaii and Beaufort because our service members and their families increased their awareness of their electricity use resulting in conservation of energy without sacrificing comfort," said Corky Vazquez, CNIC Housing Program manager. "When we reduce our energy consumption, we save money. The money we save will be reinvested into the housing communities in which our Sailors and their families live. These funds will be used to improve the homes and neighborhoods."

The RECP methodology works like this: like

type groups of homes are metered and their utility usage is measured monthly (water excluded) to develop an average usage. A buffer of 10% is applied above and below the average to create an average usage band - residents with usage above the band for their like type group pay and those under will receive a rebate.

The program starts with a communication phase followed by a mock "trial" billing period that prepares residents for "live billing." The schedule for the RECP Navy-wide rollout will be in phases depending upon whether meters are in place and the project is ready to

implement. During 2013 all PPV projects will start live billing. The tentative roll out schedule for live billing is shown by Region of the country as follows (check with the local housing office for more details):

* New Orleans: January 2013

* Northwest, Midwest, Southeast: April 2013

* Southwest: July 2013

* Mid-Atlantic and Northeast: October 2013

For more specific information about when the RECP will roll out for a specific installation contact your local Navy housing office; a master list of all Navy installation housing offices is available at www.cnic.navy.mil/housing.

ing.

Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus laid out five aggressive energy goals in October 2009 to improve our energy security and efficiency, increase our energy independence, and help lead the nation toward a clean energy economy. This initiative assists in achieving the energy goal of increasing alternative energy afloat and ashore where by 2020, the Department of the Navy (DON) will produce at least 50 percent of shore-based energy requirements from alternative sources and 50 percent of DON installations will be net-zero.

Got Pirate Problem? There's An App For That

From Office of Naval Research

The Department of Defense will begin funding an Office of Naval Research (ONR)-sponsored project aimed at developing Web applications to help multinational navies police the world's oceans, officials announced May 14.

The International Collaborative Development for Enhanced Maritime Domain Awareness (ICODE MDA) was one of 14 projects selected by the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics to receive \$1 million awards begin-

ning this fall through the Coalition Warfare Program, which funds international collaborative research efforts.

The ICODE MDA project is a research alliance between ONR and Space and Naval Warfare (SPAWAR) Systems Center Pacific (SSC Pacific). ONR is partnering with scientists in Chile to build widgets, or Web-based applications, for use by sailors and maritime operators to analyze data and other information to combat pirates, drug smugglers, arms traffickers, illegal fishermen and other nefarious groups.

"A lot of maritime

threats occur in developing parts of the world," said Dr. Augustus Vogel, associate director for Latin America and sub-Saharan Africa in ONR-Global's Chile office. "Our goal is to develop partnerships with countries that have maritime threats to help solve those problems."

ONR will tap researchers at the Technical University of Federico Santa Maria, one of Chile's top engineering schools, to create Web-based tools in an open source environment. The work will focus on producing software to improve automation,

small-target detection and intent detection.

Ultimately, the software will be compatible with multiple maritime network systems so that navies around the world can use the tools and share information for global operations.

"We'll take those tools and integrate them into a widget framework that

can be part of a coalition-accessible Web portal," said John Stastny, an engineer in the advanced analysis systems branch at SSC Pacific, who is helping to lead the ICODE MDA project.

The effort in Chile is part of a larger collaborative project that encompasses nations in Africa, where ICODE

MDA has been underway with researchers at the University of Ghana, University of Pretoria, University of Mauritius and the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research in South Africa.

For more information about ICODE MDA, go to <http://code.google.com/p/icode-md/>.



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May 18: White T-Shirt Graffiti Party. 9 p.m. at Castaways Lounge. Grab a sharpie and get to writing! Make new friends, network or maybe meet that special someone. T-shirts will be provided. Featuring live band Cupid's Alley plus free food, prizes, and more! 270-7205

May 23: 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 MWR A-Team. For tickets, call (904) 270-5228.

May 24: "Party like a Pin-Up" 40s Night. 9 p.m. at Castaways Lounge. Karaoke, costume contest, free food, prizes, and more! 270-7205

May 25-31: Spin Your Yarn. All day at Castaways lounge. Anyone from the armed forces, young or

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.

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.

May 18: Jacksonville Suns Baseball. Van departs Liberty Center at 5:30 p.m. FREE.

May 18: White T-Shirt Graffiti Party. 9 p.m. at Castaways Lounge. Grab a sharpie and get to writing! Make new friends, network or maybe meet that special someone. T-shirts will be provided. Featuring live band Cupid's Alley plus free food, prizes, and more! 270-7205

May 19-20: Daytona Beach Weekend. Come enjoy fun in the sun at the beach. Van departs 9 a.m. Sign-up deadline May 15. Cost \$60; cost includes transportation & hotel.

May 21: Command Break-In. Look for us at Barracks 1586 and 1587 dropping off goodies.

May 22: Ice Skating. Van departs 6:30 p.m. Cost \$5

May 23: Black Jack Tournament. 6 p.m. at Liberty Center.

May 23: All-Hands Steak Night. 4-7 p.m. at Foc'sle CPO Club. Cost is \$10 per person. Purchase tickets in advance; limited

MWR HAPPENINGS

seasoned, can stop by Castaways and share their story. Sign out poster with your name, branch, command and service dates. After signing, "pick your booty" from Castaways Treasure Chest. 270-7205

May 27: Memorial Day Bingo Specials. 12:30 p.m. at Beachside Bingo. Double payouts on all hand cards, computer and paper specials, extra drawings, free hot snack food, and more! Wear red, white & blue and receive a \$5 discount.

May 27: Showtime Video Rock & Bowl Special. 7-11 p.m. at Mayport Bowling Center. \$12 include 4 hours of black light bowling, shoe rental, prizes and daz-

KID ZONE

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-

zling laser light show. Free T-Shirts, beverage specials, colored headpin bowling, and half-price wings for bowlers. 270-5377

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. 270-5377

May 29: Captain's Cup Kickball Begins. Season ends July 26. 270-5451.

May 29: Co-Ed Softball Organizational Meeting. 11 a.m. at the Gym. 270-5451.

LIBERTY CALL

ed tickets available at the door. Sponsored by MWR A-Team. For tickets, call (904) 270-5228.

May 24: "Party like a Pin-Up" 40s Night. 9 p.m. at Castaways Lounge. Karaoke, costume contest, free food, prizes, and more! 270-7205

May 24: Beach and Picnic Trip. Van departs Liberty Center at 4 p.m. FREE.

May 25-31: Spin Your Yarn. All day at Castaways lounge. Anyone from the armed forces, young or seasoned, can stop by Castaways and share their story. Sign out poster with your name, branch, command and service dates. After signing, "pick your booty" from Castaways Treasure Chest. 270-7205

May 27: Memorial Day Bingo Specials. 12:30 p.m. at Beachside Bingo. Double payouts on all hand cards, computer and paper specials, extra drawings, free hot snack food, and more! Wear red, white & blue and receive a \$5 discount.

May 27: Showtime Video Rock & Bowl Special. 7-11 p.m. at Mayport Bowling Center. \$12 include 4 hours of black light bowling, shoe

rental, prizes and daz-zling laser light show. Free T-Shirts, beverage specials, colored headpin bowling, and half-price wings for bowlers. 270-5377

May 27: Ichnetucknee Springs Trip. Come tubing down the river. Van Departs Liberty Center 9 a.m. Cost \$10

May 28: Jacksonville Suns Baseball. Military Appreciation Game. Van departs Liberty Center at 5:30 p.m. FREE.

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. 270-5377

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May 29: Co-Ed Softball Organizational Meeting. 11 a.m. at the Gym. 270-5451.

May 29: Cumber Art Museum. Van Departs Liberty Center 5 p.m. FREE

May 30: 5 Points Shopping. Van Departs Liberty Center 11 a.m. FREE

2012 Summer Outdoor Movies

May & June

Every Friday
Start Time: Sunset (approx. 9:00pm)**
At Mayport's Sea Otter Pavilion

Bring your lawn chairs and/or blankets, and bug spray, just in case! Popcorn and beverages will be available for purchase.

May 18:	Alvin & the Chipmunks 3: Chipwrecked (G)
May 25:	The Muppets (PG)
June 1:	The Adventures of Tin Tin (PG)
June 8:	Hugo (PG)
June 15:	We Bought a Zoo (PG)
June 22:	Big Miracle (PG)
June 29:	Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (PG)

To find out if movies have been cancelled due to weather, call (904) 270-7205

**As summer progresses, sunset times will get later and movie start times will be adjusted accordingly. Movies will start when it is dark enough for viewing. Schedule is subject to change, if necessary.

2012 SWIM LESSONS

MWR MAYPORT

Session 1: June 11-21
 Register June 8 & 9 (8 a.m.-10 a.m.)
 8 a.m. PS1, PS2, LTS1, LTS3
 9 a.m. PS1, PS3, LTS1, LTS2
 10 a.m. PS1, PS3, LTS4, Parent & Child (IPAP)
 6:30 p.m. Adult

Session 2: June 25- July 5
 Register June 23 & 24 (8 a.m.-10 a.m.)
 8 a.m. PS2, PS3, LTS2, LTS4
 9 a.m. PS1, PS2, LTS3, IPAP
 10 a.m. PS2, LTS1, LTS5&6, IPAP
 6:30 p.m. Adult
No classes on Monday, July 4

Session 3: July 9-19
 Register July 6 & 7 (8 a.m.-10 a.m.)
 8 a.m. PS1, PS3, LTS3, LTS5&6
 9 a.m. PS1, PS2, LTS3, LTS4
 10 a.m. PS3, LTS1, LTS5&6, IPAP
 6:30 p.m. Adult

Session 4: July 29- Aug. 2
 Register July 20 & 21 (8 a.m.-10 a.m.)
 8 a.m. PS2, LTS1, LTS4, LTS5&6
 9 a.m. PS1, PS3, LTS3, LTS4
 10 a.m. PS3, LTS2, LTS5&6, IPAP
 6:30 p.m. Adult

Session 5: August 6-18
 Register August 3 & 4 (8 a.m.-10 a.m.)
 8 a.m. PS1, PS3, LTS2, LTS5&6
 9 a.m. PS3, LTS1, LTS4, PS2
 10 a.m. PS1, LTS3, LTS5&6, IPAP
 6:30 p.m. Adult

↳ Lessons meet Mon-Thu for 2 weeks
 Except for Session 2. No Class Wed.
 July 4. Class will meet Tues-Fri.
 ↳ Register Fri/Sat prior to the session at the base pool from 8-10 a.m. Register 2 weeks prior due to the July 4th holiday weekend
 ↳ \$40 per child (\$35 - YAC Summer Campers)
 ↳ Pay by CASH or CHECK ONLY
 ↳ Additional sessions may be added based on demand

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Friday, May 18
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USO NEWS

Military Mom Movie Night

The Greater Jacksonville Area USO, in partnership with Chevrolet and General Motors, invites all expecting military mothers to enter for a chance to participate in our first ever Military Mom Movie Night. This mommy's night out event on Friday, May 18 is an opportunity for expecting military mothers to watch the highly anticipated "What to Expect When You're Expecting," movie together featuring an ensemble cast of Jennifer Lopez, Cameron Diaz, Elizabeth Banks, Anna Kendrick, Brooklyn Decker, Rodrigo Santoro, Dennis Quaid, Chris Rock and others. Randomly selected winners will meet at George Moore Chevrolet on Atlantic Boulevard and caravan in brand new GM vehicles to the theater. After the movie, we'll go to a local pizzeria to eat, socialize and talk about the movie! To enter for a chance at participating in this Military Mom Movie Night event, you must be an expecting mother and must respond to drawing@usojax.com by Friday, May 11 3 p.m. Please include your full name and phone number. E-mail subject line should

be titled "Military Mom Movie Night." Participants must be able to meet at 3 p.m. on Friday, May 18, 2012. The event is scheduled to end between 8-8:30 p.m. This is a free event (GM will provide theater tickets and dinner afterwards. Participants are welcome to purchase movie concessions on their own). Seats available: 22 (no husbands, boyfriends, sisters, kids, etc.). Participants must be at least 21 years of age. Winners will be randomly selected, notified by phone and announced in our weekly USO newsletter.

USO Military Appreciation Day At Mayport

Your Greater Jacksonville Area USO will host our 10th Annual Military Appreciation Day at NS Mayport Sea Otter Pavilion on Saturday, May 19. 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.

Play Group At The Mayport USO

Fleet and Family Service Center sponsors a playgroup at the Mayport USO every Thursday from 9 a.m.-noon. May 24 will include a craft hour from 10-11 a.m. as well. For more information please contact Lauren Walton, New Parent Support Program at Naval Station Mayport Fleet and Family Support Center 904-270-6600.

Free Banners For Returning Service Members

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

1. This a free banner provided to a spouse or parent or child of an individual service member returning from combat duty.
2. One free banner per household, please.
3. Orders are placed by the family, by calling (904) 272-8333, or emailing me at herb@jaxsignarama.com with the subject line "banner for my loved one"
4. We would like about a 7 to 10 day notice, if possible, so that we can fit it into our production schedule.

5. 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 therapy. 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 con-

test, and get our products on their shelves. PLEASE text "4970" to 383838 to VOTE! For more information please visit www.getontheshelf.com

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.

K9S For Warriors

K9sforwarriors is located in Ponte Vedra Beach and they specifically offer service dogs for warriors medically diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress. If you or someone you know would greatly benefit from having a canine companion, please visit www.k9sforwarriors.org for more information.

Smiles Over Miles

Smiles Over Miles gives all active duty military service members the opportunity to send video messages back home for free, easily from any computer with an internet connection and webcam. The technology also

comes with built in security, so messages are kept private and delivered via secure transmission. Sign-up now via the following link: <http://smilesovermiles.com>

Recycling

Recycling has come to the Greater Jacksonville Area USO. If you have any office paper, shredded paper, old magazines, and newspapers that you would like to donate, please bring it to either the Mayport or NAS JAX USO Center. This will be a great fundraiser for the USO so please help us fill the bins. Help support the troops with your unwanted paper!

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.

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

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.

May 17, 1:30- 3p.m., **Conflict Resolution For Woman**, FFSC room 702
 May 17, 9:00a.m. - 12:00p.m., **Tottle Tyme Playgroup**, USO

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. 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 21, 1-4p.m., **Relationship communication**, FFSC room 702

Whether you've been dating for six 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 two-hour class. Couples are encouraged but not required to attend class together.

May 21-24, 8a.m.-4p.m., **TAP Separatee Workshop**, Building One Room 1616

May 22, 9-11a.m., **Active Parenting**, FFSC room 702

May 23, 3- 4:30p.m., **Managing Anger Group**, FFSC room 702

May 24, 1-2p.m., **Resume Writing For Military Spouses**, FFSC room 719

May 24, 1:30- 3p.m., **Conflict Resolution For Woman**, FFSC room 702

May 24, 9:00a.m. - 12:00p.m., **Tottle Tyme Playgroup**, USO

May 24, 10-11a.m., **Craft Hour (during playgroup)**, USO

May 29, 9-11a.m., **Active Parenting**, FFSC room 702

May 29, 6-8p.m., **Ombudsman Assembly**, Building One Room 104

May 30, 3- 4:30p.m., **Managing Anger Group**, FFSC room 702

May 31, 1:30- 3p.m., **Conflict Resolution For Woman**, FFSC room 702

May 31, 9:00a.m. - 12:00p.m., **Tottle Tyme Playgroup**, USO

BY APPOINTMENT: 8a.m.-4p.m., **Resume Writing**, FFSC TBD

RGB

From Page 1

for Operational Analysis (JCOA) as a Military Analyst. During this assignment, Brown was deployed to Baghdad, Iraq as a Military Analyst to the staff of Multi-National Force-Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Under Brown's leadership, USS Robert G. Bradley completed a successful 2011 African Partnership Station (APS) deployment. APS is a multinational security cooperation initiative, currently comprised of 34 nations and led by U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Africa and aimed at improving maritime safety and security in Africa while building lasting relationships. RGB took part in Theatre Security and Cooperation visits in Nouakchott, Mauritania; Casablanca, Morocco; Algiers, Algeria; Sao Tome and Principe; Libreville, Gabon; and Luanda, Angola and hosted three hubs in Lome, Togo; Freetown, Sierra Leone; and Lagos, Nigeria. Throughout deployment, Brown participated in nine luncheons with ambassadors, captains,

government officials, hosted eight receptions on board, took a part in ten COMREL projects, delivered four pallets for project handclasp, hosted twenty APS ship riders, participated in three multi-national exercises with twenty different countries, and was visited by General Ward (AFRICOM), General Ham (AFRICOM), and the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy, Master Chief West.

The highlight of deployment for Brown were the three multinational exercises, USS Robert G. Bradley participated in. During Phoenix Express, Brown served as SAG Alpha Commander. Phoenix Express is a multi-nation exercise with partners from fifteen North African and European countries involving nine surface units, two MPA aircraft, two helos and 14 MIO boarding team. Prior to the exercise his crew restored communication systems in the Algerian Frigate and his operational team provided outstanding support to the NAVAF staff in planning

the exercise. During the exercise RGB also served as flag ship for CTF 68. Under his direction as SAG Commander, units achieved targeted boardings far ahead of schedule, additionally CDR Brown's input to the TF Commander facilitated operations for the other SAG. During the Exercise the excise goal was achieved with less units than the previous year by 20 plus additional boardings.

Ehlers is a native of Portsmouth, Va. He is a 1996 graduate of the Virginia Military Institute where he received a Bachelor of Science in Biology and a Commission in the U.S. Navy. Ehlers joined Robert G. Bradley in October of 2010 as the ship's Executive Officer. Prior to reporting to USS Robert G. Bradley (FFG 49) as Executive Officer, Ehlers served on the staff of United States Special Operations Command (SOCOM) in Tampa, Fla.

Robert G. Bradley is homeported in Mayport, FL and is preparing for an upcoming deployment later this year.

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