

Military Saves Week

-Photo by Paige Gnann
 Naval Station Mayport Commanding Officer, Capt. David Yoder, signs a proclamation declaring the week of Feb. 26-March 3 as Military Saves Week. Military Saves Week is an annual opportunity for installations and organizations to promote good savings behavior and a chance for servicemembers and their families to assess their own saving status. Fleet and Family Service Center financial specialists plan workshops and classes to help give service members and their families the tools to be fiscally sound. See Page 10



Ready, Set, Wear: Guidelines For IFRV Wear Announced



-Photo by MC2 Stacy M. Atkins Ricks
 Lt. Commander Heather Flores, assigned to U.S. Fleet Forces Command, poses in the Improved Fire Retardant Variant (IFRV) coverall onboard Naval Support Activity Hampton Roads. The IFRV, made of a light weight, tri-fabric blend, is flame resistant and will replace the current flame retardant variant coverall in use by the fleet.

From U.S. Fleet Forces Public Affairs

Effective immediately, commands can now order the Improved Flame Resistant Variant (IFRV) coverall. Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces (USFF) announced manner and occasion of wear guidance for the IFRV Feb. 5. The approval of the IFRV as a fleet organizational clothing item to replace the legacy Flame Resistant Variant (FRV) coverall was announced in early January 2017 after the completion of a series of afloat wear tests. The IFRV addresses comfort and durability issues found with the original FRV coverall.

“The original FRV was rapidly introduced to the fleet because Sailor safety is our top priority,” said CAPT Mark Runstrom, director, Fleet Supply Operations/ Services, USFF. “However, we recognized immediately that we needed a coverall that is more durable, functional, and comfortable as well as safe. That is what the IFRV is all about.” Sailors stationed aboard ships and submarines will be issued a minimum of two IFRV coveralls with units authorized to procure name tags using unit operating target funds. The manner of wear will be the same as the

FRV coveralls, prescribing wearers to don full sleeves and secured fastenings. The current 9-inch black, steel-toed boot and Navy or command ball caps are authorized for wear with the coverall. Approved belts include a black cotton web belt for E1-E6, a khaki cotton web belt for chief petty officers and officers and; rigger’s belts are authorized at command discretion. Rank tabs and insignia are authorized to be sewn or pinned on the coverall based on the wearer’s duties and unit preference. Rectangular, Velcro- See Uniform, Page 9



-Photo by AO3 Rebecca Ibarra
 Capt. Jake Douglas, left, relieves Capt. Dan Gillen, right, as commanding officer of USS Hue City during a change of command ceremony on Feb. 2. Guest speaker for the event was Rear. Adm. Stephen Evans, Commander, Carrier Strike Group Two.

Hue City Holds Change Of Command

By Ensign Nicholas Vandiver
 USS Hue City Public Affairs

Capt. Jacob B. Douglas relieved Capt. Daniel J. Gillen as commanding officer of the Ticonderoga-class guided-missile Cruiser USS Hue City (CG 66) during a change of command ceremony held on the flight deck on February 2nd. The event’s official party included guest speaker Rear Adm. Stephen C. Evans, Commander, Carrier Strike Group Two Under Gillen’s leadership, USS Hue City completed numerous underway certifications and deployed to the 5th and 6th fleets from Jan. 21, 2017, to Aug. 21, 2017. To culminate his command of Hue City, Gillen and her crew also took Hue City to Capt. Gillen’s

hometown of New York City, in November of 2017 for Veterans Day. “It was such an honor to serve as Hue City’s 14th Commanding Officer for almost 2 years,” said Gillen at his change of command ceremony. “She is a great ship, with and even better crew who I could not be more proud of. The “Golden Dragons” of Hue City are hard-working professionals who were an honor to lead.” Evans, Commander, Carrier Strike Group Two, presented Capt. Gillen with the Legion of Merit for his exceptional duties as USS Hue City’s Commanding Officer. Capt. Gillen will continue his career as the Maritime Operations Center- Director, at US Southern Command/ US Fourth Fleet, Naval

Station Mayport, in Mayport, Fl. Douglas, originally from Palestine, Texas, enlisted in the Navy in 1984 as a Fire Control Technician. In 1996, Douglas was commissioned an Ensign in the Limited Duty Officer (LDO) program and converted from LDO to Unrestricted Surface Line Officer. Douglas is a graduate of Southern Illinois University where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education and the Naval War College in Newport, R.I., where he earned a Master of Arts Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies. Douglas’ sea duty assignments include USS Belknap (CG 26) as a Terrier Missile Systems Technician, USS O’Brien

See Hue City, Page 9

Give Blood, Save Lives
 NS Mayport hosts Blood Drive on Feb. 22 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Building One.

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 For Deployment, COMPTUEX
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 Going Into the 80s
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Magnet Deadline Is Approaching



Sharon Kasica
School Liaison Officer

Duval County Public Schools offer a wide range of options for a public school system. Offerings include diverse programs in elementary, middle, and high schools throughout the district. Military families coming from much smaller school districts with many smaller offerings are often overwhelmed with all of the “choices.”

Part of my job, as School Liaison Officer, is to help you under-

KNOWING THE ROPES

stand these educational choices. This article explains your magnet option, other than your neighborhood school. Remember, I’m here to assist you through the process!

MAGNET PROGRAMS
A magnet program focuses on a single theme throughout the school. Students living in the school’s attendance boundary are eligible to attend this school and take part in the magnet program. However, a “dedicated magnet” requires that all students wishing to attend this school apply for acceptance through the magnet lottery. For more information visit this page: <https://dcps.duvalschools.org/Domain/4417>

Please take the time to visit the schools you are interested in. Getting the “feel” of the school’s climate and seeing learning in progress is an imperative indicator to determine that is the best fit for your child.

MAGNET APPLICATIONS
For information on how to apply go to this link for more information:

<https://dcps.duvalschools.org/Page/7284>

This year applications are submitted on line. Directions for creating a parent portal are in the link above. Magnet applications for the 2018-2019 school year must be submitted by Wednesday February 28th at 1630. Online access will close at mid-

night on 28 February. If your child meets the eligibility rules for a military dependent student listed below, you must submit an additional application and required proof in person. The person to contact with questions for the military transfer option and who accepts your hand delivered application and proof is:

Pauline Akauola
Andrews

Duval County Public Schools

School Choice Office – 2nd Floor

1701 Prudential Drive
Jacksonville, Florida 32207

A k a u o l a P @ duvalschools.org

If you submit a late application, it will be filed according to the date it is received. If there is space in the school requested or if space becomes available later in the summer, notification will be sent.

MAGNET-MILITARY TRANSFER OPTION ELIGIBILITY RULES
Students seeking a transfer as a military dependent student must meet the following criteria plus submit a Military Transfer Option Application with required documentation.

- Be a dependent of a full-time “active duty” member of the uniformed service of the United States, including National Guard and Reserve on active duty orders; and,

- Be a school-aged student in kindergarten through 12th grade who resides in the household of the active-duty member; and,

- Be transitioning from one duty station to another duty station. A student is eligible for a period of 12 months after a school assignment is impacted by the transfer. Or, a student is eligible for one month before a

deployment and up to six months after return to the home station after a deployment.

Visit this page for more information on the Military Transfer Option: <https://dcps.duvalschools.org/Page/7281>

The option to transfer as a transitioning military dependent student may be exercised only one time per change of duty station.

Need more information? Please contact me; I’m here to help!

Sharon Kasica is the School Liaison Officer for NS Mayport. If you have questions or feedback about this article, she can be reached via email at sharon.kasica@navy.mil or by phone at (904) 270-6289 X1305 [office] or (904) 219-3894 [cell]. Or you can use this contact information to schedule a meeting with her in Building One.

Spiritual Readiness Is A Key Element To Have When Dealing With Any Emergency Situation



Chaplain Pon Chanthaphon
CNSS 14 Chaplain Center

From Jan. 29 to Feb. 9, Naval Station Mayport conducts an annual Solid Curtain and Citadel Shield force protection exercise. The exercise

CHAPLAIN’S CORNER

aims to enhance the collaboration and promptness of first responders in responding to emergency event when and where it occurs. The drills in the exercise involve many scenarios. Some scenarios also include the injured and/or dead victims.

In any such emergency event that Solid Curtain and Citadel Shield force protection exercise is prepared for, we can be

sure that it will trigger our psychological and spiritual reactions. When that happens, we need to also be ready to respond spiritually to our reactions. So, how can we, first responders and possible affected people alike, be well prepared spiritually to cope with our reactions? I would like to offer some suggestions below.

Practice and maintain our spiritual fitness

and resilience at optimal levels. Make praying and devotional life as our daily habits and worship regularly. Know how to pray for self and be comfortable to pray for or with others.

Know the resources and how to obtain them in time of need. We have religious ministry team (RMT) usually comprises of one Navy Chaplain and one Religious Program Specialist (RP) embedded within the unit and stand ready to respond to your need, your family’s or your fellow Shipmate’s need. Chaplains and RPs are available at the Base Chapel, at the Operations Ministry

Center (CNSS 14’s Trailers #1 and #3), on board the ships, and at the air wing.

Also remember this: “The Chaplain Corps’ four core capabilities are to facilitate the religious requirements of authorized personnel, to provide faith-specific ministries, to care for all, and to advise commands.” (SECNAV INSTRUCTION 1730.10)

In addition to being available during normal working hours, Chaplains are also on call 24/7/365. That Duty Chaplain phone number is: (904) 219-8004. Go ahead, store it in your cell phone, post it on your fridge door, or keep

the number in your wallet. Use it whenever you need it. We are also very responsive during emergency events.

You can surely count on your Navy Chaplains to respond promptly to your spiritual need, your family’s need, or your Shipmate’s need during any life’s event or at emergency events like those that are included in the drills of the annual Solid Curtain and Citadel Shield force protection exercise.

Chaplains are here for you and for your spiritual fitness and readiness during both time of crisis and time of celebration.

Is Your Cup Half Full Or Half Empty?



Lisa Smith Molinari
Military Spouse Columnist

My mother, a retired first-grade teacher, has always put a positive spin on things that appeared to be sad, unjust, terrifying or disgusting. I’ve always admired her capacity to see the good in all things, but there are times when this ability seems out of reach.

On a mud-splattered, dreary Monday morning in February, my mother would hear birds singing. Along a litter-strewn highway dotted with decrepit strip malls, my mother would spy Queen Anne’s Lace growing in a nearby ditch. If I served my mother a revolting casserole made from two weeks of mediocre leftovers, she would delight at the colorful pimentos. My mother could encounter a great big pile of excrement, and chances are, she would point out the “skat’s” scientific benefits – fertiliza-

MEAT & POTATOS OF LIFE

tion, seed distribution, or composting. I know, because she’s actually done this. Many times.

Having been a military spouse for 24 years, I found it difficult to channel my mother’s relentless positivity. Military moves, separations and inadequate pay were like big piles of excrement plopped down into our path. As far as I could tell, there were no benefits. These inevitable hardships were the sacrifices of military service.

But just because I couldn’t see a bright side doesn’t mean there wasn’t one. Take PCS moves, for example. After I packed up my entire household, left my job and everything I had come to know, said good-bye to good friends and our favorite pizza joint, was I supposed to see rainbows and unicorns?

No, because there were no unicorns and rainbows, but there were certain hidden benefits of PCS moves. A fresh start, a clean slate, or a reset was sometimes just what our family needed. Our first move overseas gave my husband and I an opportunity to travel together, rather than spending

all our vacations with extended family. Our orders to move from England were a ticket out of my tedious obligations as Parliamentarian of the Spouse’s Club. When we moved away from Virginia, we were relieved to get our son

out of the school where he had been bullied. Our move from Germany enabled me to break up with the hairdresser who had turned my hair an unnatural shade of yellow-orange. During our move to Florida, the movers finally broke that microwave cart I always hated anyway.

With each move, we were given a unique opportunity to reinvent ourselves, our routines

and our living situations. And in that way, moving was actually a good thing.

Let’s face it, military pay grades are not the stuff that dreams are made of. My minivan with 215,000 miles on it and interior carpeting that smells like pickled eggs is proof that military families aren’t wealthy. However, receiving military pay that is a matter of public

record has it’s benefits, too. We never had to wonder how we stacked up to our military peers. Minivans, pot lucks, and bill-splitting were never frowned upon. There was no competition or pretentiousness. And in that way, military pay was actually a good thing.

Believe it or not, even military separations offer something positive. Aside from the

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Command Chaplain
Chap.
Steven Souders

Roman Catholic Mass
Sunday 9 a.m.
Monday-Thursday
11:30 a.m.

Holy Day of Obligation
(call chapel for schedule)
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.

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 9:30 a.m.

2nd & 4th Friday at Chapel
5-8:30 p.m.
PWOC

2nd Saturday 9:30 a.m.
PMOC

3rd Saturday Prayer Breakfast
9 a.m.

For more information,
call 270-5212.



Naval Station Mayport

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Mayport Sailor Of The Week



IT2 Taylor Czapp

Name (rate/rank, first and last name): IT2 Taylor Czapp

Job: Information Systems Technician

Age: 24

Hometown: Detroit, MI

Favorite Hobby: Rugby, Softball, Video Games

Hero: My mom

Best Piece of Advice Received: The more you know, the better equipped you'll be for the future.

Goal for the Navy: To

learn as much as I can from the people around me.

How has the Navy Improved Your Life? The Navy has taught me I can be ready for anything that life throws at me.

Why was this Sailor Chosen to be Highlighted?: IT2 Czapp was chosen for recognition due to her particular skill as a network operations technician for CNSS-14. IT2 Czapp leads network troubleshooting for CNSS-14

and coordinates video teleconferences for numerous organizations in Mayport. She also led the way in CNSS-14's recent computer network tech refresh, increasing the network capability of the command. IT2 Czapp also volunteers her time, spending numerous off duty and leave hours tutoring elementary school children in the Centerline Public School in the region of her hometown, Detroit, MI.

DoD Launches Initiative To Inform Americans of Mil Life

By Jim Garamone
DoD News, Defense Media Activity

It is a sign of America's disconnect with its military that there are those who believe that when a person joins the military, that person cannot have a spouse or children or pets, said Amber Smith, the deputy assistant to the secretary of defense for outreach.

This misperception may be extreme, but there are other and it's one reason why DoD is launching an outreach program on Feb. 1 called "This Is Your Military." The program is designed "to inform and educate the American public on who is serving in the military today," Smith said during a Pentagon news conference today.

Less than 1 percent of Americans serve in the military and the number of Americans with firsthand experience with service members or veterans has declined precipitously since the beginning of the all-volunteer military in 1973.

'A Force for Good'

"We want to show [Americans] how the military is relevant to their everyday lives; we want to show how innovative the military is and how we are a force for good," she said.

The initiative will highlight the lives of those serve and give a balanced view of military service and life, said Smith, noting the initiative will be primarily a digital program.

Smith said she wants to reach out to people who know little about the military. The department already

has a robust social media presence and she expects to use that to get the information, articles, videos, tweets and more to the 99 percent of Americans who haven't served in the armed forces.

"We are working very closely with the services and some of the programs that they have in place that reach all the way to the installation and community level programs that have been successful," she said.

Some of the community level programs she hopes to piggyback on include Fleet Week, Marine Week and Know Your Army.

"It has always been in the best interests of DoD to engage with the American public," Smith said.

Recent surveys demonstrate the divide between the military and the public it serves is growing. This disconnect "threatens the viability and sustainability of the all-volunteer force, which does pose some long-term national security risks," Smith said. In 1995, 40 percent of young adults had a direct connection to a service member or a veteran in their families. Today, it is around 15 percent.

Correcting some of the misperceptions will be one part of the Know Your Military initiative, she said. One of the most pernicious is the majority of American youth think if a person serves in the military a person will leave with a physical, psychological or emotional issue.

Cup

obvious "absence makes the heart grow fonder" phenomenon, there's also crumbs, clickers and communication to appreciate. Men are crumb-producing machines, and during

the times that my husband was deployed or on travel, I relished my crumb-free existence. I also savored full reign over the television clicker. But best of all, my husband and I commu-

nicated best when he was away. We emailed and called often, and never forgot to say, "I love you." And in that way, military separations were a very good thing.

Artists say that the

lump of plaster is a masterpiece because "beauty is in the eye of the beholder." Real estate agents will tell you that the old shack is "a charming Cape Cod." And my mother will tell

you that the dog doo you just stepped in is an essential element of the circle of life.

Families enduring the challenges of military life can put a positive spin on their world. No mat-

ter how dark it seems, as long as the sun shines, there will always be a bright side.

For more wit and witicism from Lisa, go to www.themeatandpotatoesoflife.com

From Page 2

Your guide for when
IT'S GO TIME.

FREE DOWNLOADABLE DEPLOYMENT GUIDE

Get the information you need before, during, and after deployment. With over 40 exclusive benefits designed specifically for the military, we do more for those who serve.

Visit **USAA.COM/DEPLOY** or call **800-531-8521**

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-Photo by MC2 Michael Lopez
 Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Marcus Perkins, right, gives evacuation instructions during an active shooter drill at Naval Station Mayport's base chapel as part of Exercise Solid Curtain-Citadel Shield (SC-CS) 2018. SC-CS is an annual anti-terrorism force protection exercise designed to train Navy security forces to respond to the changing and dynamic threats to installations and units.

Mayport Commands Train Real World Scenarios During SC/CS '18



-Photo by MC2 Michael Lopez
 Sailors and police officers respond to an active shooter drill at Naval Station Mayport's base chapel as part of Exercise Solid Curtain-Citadel Shield (SC-CS) 2018.

From Staff

An active shooter scenario at Naval Station Mayport Chapel kicked off the Exercise Solid Curtain-Citadel Shield 2018, an annual two-part anti-terrorism/force protection exercise conducted by Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces (USFF) and Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) on all CONUS Navy installations.

This annual exercise is designed to enhance the readiness of Navy security forces and ensure seamless interoperability among the commands, other services, and agency partners.



-Photo by Paige Gnam
 NS Mayport Executive Officer, Cmdr. Patricia Tyler, talks with Sailors about lessons learned from the drill.

Exercise SC-CS18 is not in response to any specific threat, but is a regularly scheduled exercise.

Solid Curtain-Citadel Shield continues through Feb. 9.

Measures have been taken to minimize disruptions to normal base operations, but there may be times when the exercise causes increased traffic around bases or delays in base access.



-Photo by MC2 Michael Lopez
 Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Marcus Perkins gives commands during an active shooter drill at Naval Station Mayport's base chapel as part of Exercise Solid Curtain-Citadel Shield (SC-CS) 2018.



-Photo by MC2 Michael Lopez
 Master-at-Arms 3rd Class Kevin Mosley takes a suspect's weapon during an active shooter drill at Naval Station Mayport's base chapel as part of Exercise Solid Curtain-Citadel Shield (SC-CS) 2018.



-Photo by MC2 Michael Lopez
 Senior Chief Master-at-Arms Javier Santiago, middle, proctors an active shooter drill at Naval Station Mayport's base chapel as part of Exercise Solid Curtain-Citadel Shield (SC-CS) 2018.



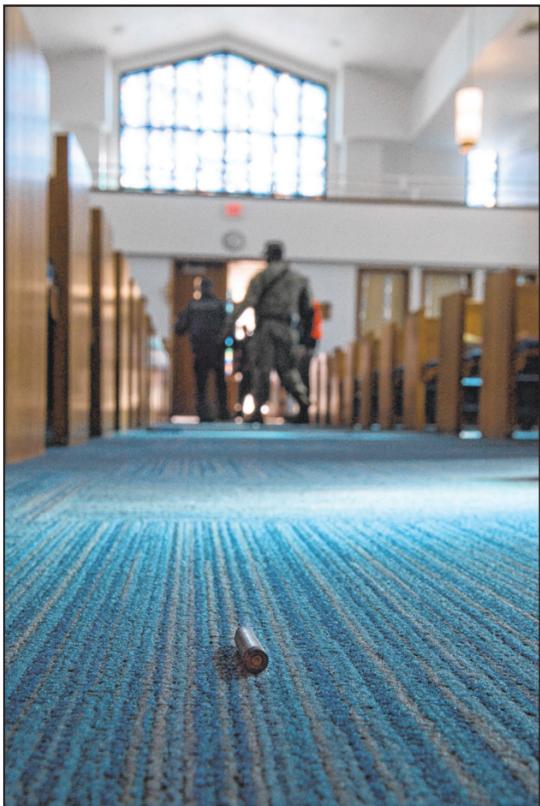
-Photo by MC2 Michael Lopez
Firemen assigned to Jacksonville Fire and Rescue escort a Sailor to safety during an active shooter drill at Naval Station Mayport's base chapel as part of Exercise Solid Curtain-Citadel Shield (SC-CS) 2018.



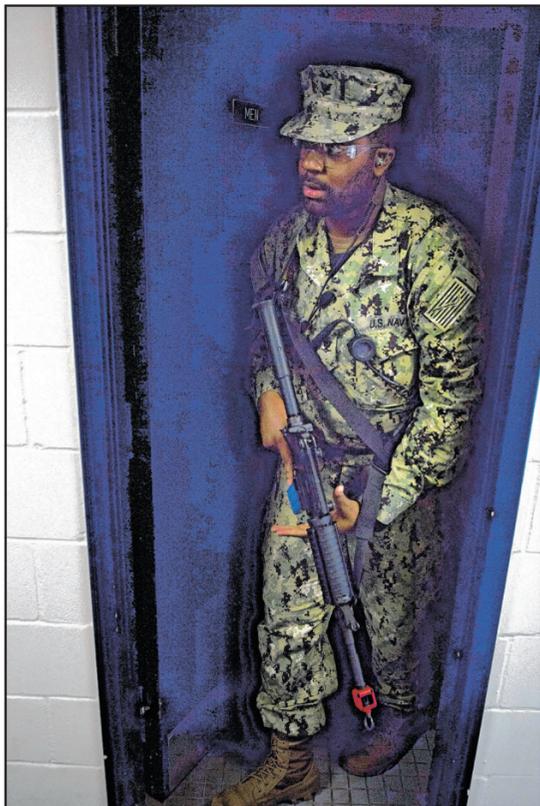
-Photo by MC2 Michael Lopez
Sailors and Firemen assigned to Jacksonville Fire and Rescue, and police officers assigned to Jacksonville Beach Police Department respond to an active shooter drill at Naval Station Mayport's base chapel as part of Exercise Solid Curtain-Citadel Shield (SC-CS) 2018.



-Photo by MC2 Michael Lopez
Master-at-Arms 3rd Class Kevin Mosley responds to an active shooter drill at Naval Station Mayport's base chapel as part of Exercise Solid Curtain-Citadel Shield (SC-CS) 2018.



-Photo by MC2 Michael Lopez
Sailors and police officers respond to an active shooter drill at Naval Station Mayport's base chapel as part of Exercise Solid Curtain-Citadel Shield (SC-CS) 2018.



-Photo by MC2 Michael Lopez
Master-at-Arms 3rd Class Kevin Mosley searches the area during an active shooter drill at Naval Station Mayport's base chapel as part of Exercise Solid Curtain-Citadel Shield (SC-CS) 2018.



-Photo by Paige Gnann
Security goes over strategies with emergency personnel at a command center set up during the active shooter drill.



-Photo by Paige Gnann
Active shooter "victims" hold cards that list their injuries as part of the active shooter drill.



-Photo by Paige Gnann
Base security debriefs "victims" of an active shooter drill held last week on board Naval Station Mayport as part of Exercise Solid Curtain-Citadel Shield.



Auto Skills Center
Saturdays: Auto Skills Center Safety Classes. 10:30 a.m. This class is required for all DIY Auto Skills Patrons. 270-5392

Tuesdays thru Fridays: Auto Skills Center Safety Classes. 3 p.m. This class is required for all DIY Auto Skills Patrons. 270-5392

March 17: Auto Skills Brake Class. 1:30 p.m. - 3 p.m. Join the Auto Skills Center for this informative brake class taught by an ASE certified mechanic. The class is open to 8 active duty and their spouses. Register by calling the Auto Skill Center at 270-5392.

Community Recreation

Feb. 8: Valentine Cross Stich. 9 - 11 a.m. at the Mayport Beacon. Cost is \$18. Register by Feb. 6 at the Tickets and Travel Office. Space is limited, sign up today! 270-7198.

Feb. 8: Kids' Valentine Cross Stich. 5 - 7 p.m. at the Mayport Beacon. Cost is \$15. Register by Feb. 6 at the Tickets and Travel Office. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult at all times. Receive profes-



Friday, February 16
6:30-8:30 pm • The Mayport Beacon

You are cordially invited to this unique event for the whole family. Enjoy hors d'oeuvres, a photo booth, dancing & more

Semi-formal dress required.

Tickets are \$7.50 per person or reserve a table of 8 for \$50 Purchase tickets at Tickets & Travel.



sional instruction to create a cross stich sampler. Space is limited, sign up today! 270-7198.

Feb 9: Mayport Movies: "Big Hero 6" (PG). 6 p.m. at the Mayport Beacon in the Tortuga Room.

Feb. 10: UFC 221: Whittaker vs Rockhold. 10 p.m. at the Mayport Beacon in Loggerheads. Undercard starts at 8 p.m.

Feb. 13: Kid's Storytime. Every second Tuesday of the

month at 10 a.m. at the Ribault Bay Community Center (located off base). FREE.

Outdoor Adventures

Bouncy House Rental: \$80 per day. 270-5221

Reactor Dive Watches: 50% off. 270-5221

Equipment Rental: Enjoy the great outdoors with party and adventure rentals from the Outdoor Adventures. You'll find everything you need to

host the perfect party - canopies, tables, chairs, inflatables, grills, coolers and more. Rent all of your outdoor needs including campers, boats, bikes, paddleboards, tents and more! We even have rentals for a day at the beach. Call us today! 270-5221

MWR Entertainment Beachside Bingo

Lunchtime Bingo. Wednesdays at 11:30 a.m. at Beachside Bingo. \$13.00 per pack. Buy two, get one free. Two \$500 payouts every week! 270-7204

Bingo Night. Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at 6:30 p.m. Doors open at 4 p.m. Test your luck at Beachside Bingo. We have 36 games with a \$10,000 progressive jackpot and two \$5,000 jackpots.

Mayport Bowling Center

Children's Bowling Birthdays: Looking for a fun and unique birthday party experience? Available for kids ages 13 and under. Food and Bowling Package: Includes 2 hours of bowling with shoe rental and kid's meal for \$11.75 per child. Bowling Package: Includes 2 hours of bowling with shoe rental for \$9.75 per child. 270-5377

Lunchtime Bowling Special: Mondays 10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 10:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. \$6 for 2 games (includes shoes).

Military Appreciate Day: Wednesdays. Open to Close. \$1 Games, \$1 Shoes, and \$1 Hot Dogs and \$1 Soft Drinks (till 5pm). 270-5377

A Valentine's Tradition

By Terra Downey

MWR Marketing Technician

Naval Station Mayport's Moral, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) will hold its annual Valentine's Bingo event on Feb. 13 starting at 6:30 p.m. at Beachside Bingo. Valentine's Bingo is a long-standing tradition for the program.

"It seemed that the sailors were always out to sea for Valentine's Day," Said June Till, MWR Program Coordinator. "The women were lonely so we started saying 'bring a partner' instead of a sweetheart."

Participants who bring partners will receive a free package to play bingo. Other specials include an extra game where the payout is \$1,000. Some games will offer double payouts where a \$100 game will award \$200. There will also be drawings for things like coffee makers, household goods, and bags by Michael Kors and Coach. Finally, the Valentine of the Year will receive 52 packages to play bingo for whole year.

Till's love for bingo started when she was a little girl. "My father was in the Royal Canadian Navy in Newfoundland, and he would bring all eight of us kids to bingo with him when he volunteered at the Royal Canadian Legion."

"He would tell us to behave or we couldn't come back, so we would sit as good as gold." Till added, "The bingo participants would give us candy or tips, 5 cents or so, to bring them a soda or snack."

Till has been the MWR Program Coordinator for bingo in Mayport since 2003. Till runs one of the few bingo programs in the Navy. Her program is successful because she cares for her customers and offers great programming like Valentine's Bingo.

Valentine's Day
Bingo Special
 Tuesday, Feb. 13
 6:30 pm at Beachside Bingo

- Snack foods provided by MWR
- Double payouts on all warm ups & hard cards
- Drawing for Valentine of the Year
- Ladies, bring your sweetheart & they will receive a free package
 - Coin Game
- Prizes for wearing red or pink
 - Extra Drawings

NAVYMWRMAYPORT.COM

MWR Sponsors Bridal Expo



-Photos courtesy of MWR

Brides get a chance to taste some of the food available through Ocean Breeze Conference Center catering services during the MWR TRi-Base Bridal Expo held Saturday at Ocean Breeze.



Military brides meet with vendors from various wedding and party industries during the MWR Tri-Base Bridal Expo held at Ocean Breeze Conference Center on Feb. 3. Attendees also got a chance to win one of eight wedding dresses donated by USO.

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Aquatics

Family Swim. Saturdays 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. FREE. Family Swim is a great way for children and their families to spend a morning in our indoor pool. 270-3275

Mayport Swim Club. Open hours at the Natatorium. FREE. Build up your cardio strength and endurance while earning great incentives. Swimmers can track their mileage in our binder on the pool deck. Awards will be given at 50 miles, 100 miles, 200 miles, 300 miles, 400 miles and 500 miles intervals. 270-3275

Masters Swim. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 5:30 – 7 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays 4 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. FREE. Masters Swimming is an Adult Swimming Fitness program that meets the needs of all swimmers from beginners to former Olympians. Our workouts are designed to help each swimmer meet their individual goals ranging from improving their swimming skills, learning new strokes, prepping for the Navy PFA, qualifying for special warfare programs, getting ready for swimming competitions and Triathlons or just to add variety to their workout regimen. 270-3275

Feb 27: Learn-to-Swim Level 1. Tuesdays 4 – 4:30 p.m. and Saturdays 10:15 – 10:45 a.m. \$45 per child per session. **Learn-to-Swim Level 2.** Tuesdays 4:45 – 5:15 p.m. and Saturdays 11 – 11:30 a.m. Register at the Natatorium on Friday, Feb. 23 from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. and Saturday, Feb. 24 from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Please bring cash or charge. Our Learn-to-Swim winter program is a 4-week program consisting of 8 half-hour lessons. Classes begin Feb. 27. 270-3275

Fitness

March 3: Mayport Color Run 5K. 9:00 a.m. at the Fitness Center. Pre-register at the Fitness Center for \$5 or register the day of the race for \$10 (cash only). Get splashed in waves of color and become your own work of art in this one-of-a-kind event. Registration includes sunglasses, and custom headband. 270-3274

Intramural Sports

Feb. 28: Women's Soccer Organizational Meeting. 5 p.m. in the Fitness Center Conference Room. Open to active duty, retirees, DOD dependents 18+. Season begins March 23. 270-7719

March 9 – 11: March Maddness Basketball Tournament. Registration deadline March 1. Entry fee \$250 per team. Open to active duty, dependents, retirees, and DOD 18 years and older. 270-7719

MWR Liberty Center Has Activities For You

Mayport Liberty Center

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

Mondays: Billiards Tournaments. 6 p.m. at the Liberty Center. Prize for 1st place. 270-7204

Feb. 9: Movie Trips. Van departs the Liberty Center at 6 p.m. Transportation only. 270-7204

Feb. 12: How to use the MWR Digital Library 24/7/365. 4 p.m. at the Mayport Beacon. FREE. All hands welcome. Sign up by Feb. 11. We will assist you with logging on to the Digital Library for the first time and will help you navigate the program. Digital customers enjoy e-books and audiobooks, foreign language learning, test prep, and research resources that support lifelong learning, and professional and recreational reading. 270-7204

Feb. 13: Adobe Photoshop 2. Liberty Van departs at 1:30 p.m. Class starts at 2 p.m. at the Beaches Branch Library. Sign up by Feb. 9. In this class, we will dig deeper into using Photoshop, as we learn about

layers, masking, and selection tools. Students for this course should have taken Photoshop 1 or have a basic understanding of Photoshop. 270-7204

Feb. 14: Anti-Valentines Movies. 6 p.m. Watch two great anti-Valentines movies with us in the Tortuga Room on our 20 ft screen. "War of the Roses" (R) and "How to be Single" (R). 270-7204

Feb. 15: Surf Fishing. Fishing will start at 2 p.m. behind the Liberty Center. Liberty Patrons only. Sign up by Feb. 14 at the Liberty Center. Have you ever wanted to learn to fish, or are you already a pro? Join Liberty & Outdoor Adventures for a day of fishing behind the Liberty Center. All equipment will be provided but you must have a valid FL Shore Fishing license, available at <http://myfwc.com/license>. 270-7204

Feb. 16: Town Center Trips. Van departs the Liberty Center at 5 p.m. Transportation only. 270-7204

Feb. 16: Volunteer Opportunity: Feeding Northeast Florida. Van departs from the Liberty Center at 11:30 a.m. Sign up by Feb. 13. 270-7204

Feb. 20: Selling Items Online workshop. Liberty

Van departs at 3 p.m. Class starts at 4 p.m. at the Mandarin Branch Library. Sign up by Feb. 16. This class is an introduction to selling goods and services online via eBay, Craigslist, Etsy and Amazon Marketplace. Learn what skills are needed to sell online, how to create and manage accounts on these sites, and how to stay safe and avoid scams. 270-7204

Feb. 21: Bowling Clinic. 5 p.m. at Mayport Bowling Center. 3 games and shoe rental FREE. Liberty patrons only. Sign up by Feb. 20. 270-7204

Feb. 23: Movie Trips. Van departs the Liberty Center at 6 p.m. Transportation only. 270-7204

Feb. 24: Seawalk Music Fest. Van departs from the Liberty Center at 11 a.m. FREE. Sign up by Feb. 22. Transportation only. 270-7204

Feb. 26: Liberty Committee Meeting. 4 p.m. – 5 p.m. at the Liberty Center. Tell us what you want to see on the calendar. 270-7204

Feb 28: Ice Skating. Van departs from the Liberty Center at 7:30 p.m. All hands welcome over 18+. Transportation only. Sign up by Feb. 26 at the Liberty Center inside the Mayport Beacon. 270-7204

Child and Youth Programs

Feb. 9: #We Own Family "Peanut Butter Jelly Time." 7 – 9 p.m. at the Teen Center. Open to Middle and High School students.

Feb. 10: Feeding the Homeless. 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. Keystone Club

Community Service. Permission slip required. Open to Middle and High School students.

Feb. 10: Cookies and Canvas. 1 – 5 p.m. in the Kids Club. "Valentines Day Theme." Wear something you won't mind getting paint on. Children in Elementary School

are eligible for the Recreation School-Age Program at the Youth Activities Center.

Feb. 16: Top Golf Trip. 7 – 11 p.m. Cost is \$20. Permission slip required. Open to Middle and High School students.

Feb. 23: Silent Library. 7 – 9 a.m. at

the Teen Center. Open to Middle and High School students.

Feb. 24: Teen Choice Movie Night. 5 – 9 p.m. Join us for popcorn to watch at the Teen Center. Open to Middle and High School students.

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The Final Chapter Comes To A Close

By Joe Pickett

Former Station Librarian

Editor's note: The following article is part of a continuing series on the history of Naval Station Mayport in honor of its 75th anniversary. It was first published on Aug. 9, 1991

From humble beginnings as a Frontier Section Base in World War II to what it is today, the Naval Station Mayport complex has had a 75-year history of growth. The station has seen many changes of command. But an old military adage says, "Commanders come and commanders go, but the organization remains the same."

This is not true of Mayport. The station has not remained the same. From her beginnings of a few hundred acres and a couple of hundred personnel, by 1991 the station had expanded to 3,289 acres with approximately 18,000 personnel serving aboard ships, at aviation facilities and in tenant activities. There were more than 36 tenant activities, and the station was homeport for 33 ships.

The British Royal Navy's aircraft carrier HMS Bulwark opened the decade of the 1980s in Mayport when the ship paid a visit in January 1980. And her month-long visit was followed by a succession of visits by warships of foreign nations for the next 10 years. Foreexample, 40 ships, of which several were foreign navy vessels, spent a weekend in February 1980 prior to participating in the NATO exercise "Safe Pass '80." One can safely imagine that Mayport's facilities were sorely taxed to accommodate so



U.S. Navy Photo

Frontier Section Base Mayport consisted of a few hundred acres and a couple of hundred personnel to a complex of 3,289 acres with approximately 18,000 personnel, homeport to 33 ships and more than 36 tenant commands.

many ships at one time, in addition to the station's own homeported vessels.

During the decade, new construction continued to provide services and facilities for personnel and ships. When ground was broken on a new \$10 million Shore Intermediate Maintenance Activity - now Southeast Regional Maintenance Activity (SERMC) on Massey Avenue - it set off a wave of new construction that included a 17,000-square-foot training facility for the Fleet Training Center, at the end of Baltimore near the Jetties.

In 1982, it was announced that \$3.5 million had been released by the Department of Defense to the Federal Highway Administration to improve Mayport Road, the principle access route to the naval station. In 1983, USS Jack Williams was the first ship to tie up to the

new SIMA pier (Echo Pier).

Another \$20 million was approved for new construction purposes - this time for a new helicopter hangar and an Intermediate Maintenance Facility to support the Light Airborne Multipurpose System (LAMPS) MK III helicopter.

There was plenty of other activity involving ships homeported at Mayport. Destroyer Squadron Eight was reactivated, and carriers and escort vessels were deployed to the Mediterranean and other parts of the world. Here at home, several ships were involved in humanitarian ventures.

In April 1980, two rescues occurred in which one of our ships and a Mayport-based LAMPS helicopter were involved. The first rescue was accomplished by the Impervious and her crew when they rescued two fishermen who had been

adrift in the Atlantic for two days. The second rescue took place when the helicopter and crew pulled three fishermen from a sinking boat off the coast of Mayport.

In 1981, personnel of the Naval Station's Port Services Department, Fire Department and the Branch Dispensary were commended for their actions in an extraordinary rescue of a downed pilot. The pilot was flying a jet aircraft on a night training mission from USS Forrestal off the coast of Mayport when the aircraft developed engine trouble. After attempting an emergency landing at the base airfield, the pilot was forced to crash land his aircraft in the ocean, just short of the beach. Luckily, the pilot was not injured.

That same year, USS Dale rescued a stranded fishing boat and crew. In another rescue at sea, while deployed to the Mediterranean, USS

Luce recovered a Sailor who had fallen overboard from Forrestal. And the fleet tug Paiute recovered an H-3 helicopter and its crew after there were forced to land in the ocean off Ponte Vedra Beach, a few miles south of Mayport.

Navy women got their wish to be assigned to ships in 1979. Although Navy WAVES were at Mayport in 1944 and 1945, none served aboard ships - neither here nor anywhere else in the Navy. The exception to this policy were nurses aboard hospital ships.

However, in September 1979, four female officers reported for duty aboard USS Yosemite. And in March 1982, the first contingent of female enlisted personnel reported for assignment aboard USS Yosemite. Since then, female personnel not only serve on the destroyer tender, but also on Mayport's harbor tugs.

In 1991 when this article was written, the Mayport naval complex is also included Naval Air Station Mayport. From 1943 to 1945, and again in the 1950s, Mayport was a Naval Auxiliary Air Station. In 1959, the station was designated a Naval Air Station. By 1991, the Naval Air Station consisted of several tenant activities, included five LAMPS MK III helicopter squadrons, one LAMPS MK I helicopter squadron, the Defense Property Disposal Office, Helicopter Sea Control Wing Three, the naval Electronics Engineering Center, a Naval Security Group Detachment, Naval Rework Facility and a

Naval Oceanography Command Detachment.

The second half of the decade opened with a tragedy that would leave a lasting impression on America. In January 1986, the shuttle Challenger lifted off for what was supposed to be a routine space mission. Seconds later, before the eyes of millions of television viewers, the rocket carrying the shuttle exploded, plunging Challenger and its occupants into the ocean 17 miles off the East Coast of Florida. Mayport's salvage ship, Preserver, and her crew had the sad duty of recovering the shuttle and its astronauts.

There have been many rescues made by the men, ships and helicopters homeported at Mayport - and there will be more.

The 1980s saw us in Grenada and other trouble spots throughout the world. Early on, yet another attempt was made to assassinate a president of the United States. We saw the destruction of the Berlin Wall, the reunification of East and West Germany, and finally, perhaps, the breakup of communism in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union.

In 1990, we saw Mayport's ships and helicopters deployed to the Middle East in an operation called "Desert Shield" that culminated in 1991 in a hundred-hour war called "Desert Storm."

During its first 50 years that Mayport has been on the Navy's map, the old girl has seen it all. You've come a long way, baby!

No Dough Dinner

Mayport USO will hold a No Dough Dinner from 5-7 p.m. on Feb. 12 for active duty service members and their immediate families. The NAS Jacksonville USO Center will host a No Dough Dinner on Feb. 28 from 5-7 p.m. at FRA #91 located at 5391 Collins Road. This is free for Active Duty, National Guard and Reservists on active orders, and their dependents.

Jacksonville Icemen 2017-18 Hockey Season

The Jacksonville IceMen are a minor league ice hockey team in the ECHL in Jacksonville, Florida. The Jacksonville Icemen has teamed up with your Greater Jacksonville Area USO for the 2017-18 season. With the support of the Jacksonville Icemen, Greater Jacksonville USO will have 25 tickets for each home game during this year's 36-game season. The intent of these free tickets is for use as a command social, evenly spread out throughout all ranks, with the hope of fostering unity and morale.

Vintage USO Stars And Stripes Dinner And Dance

Come in your best 1940's attire! "Friday Musicales" presents a Vintage USO Stars and Stripes Dinner and Dance on Saturday, Feb. 17 from 6 p.m. 10:30 p.m. Purchase tickets online at FridayMusicales.com or call 904-355-7584. The cost is \$75 per per-



son with a portion of the proceeds donated to the Greater Jacksonville Area USO.

New VA Veterans ID Card

Veterans with honorable service will be able to apply for the new VA ID card. This card will provide proof of military service and may be accepted by retailers in lieu of the standard DD-214 form to obtain promotional discounts and other services offered to Veterans. To request a VIC, Veterans must visit www.vets.gov, click on "Apply for Printed Veteran ID Card" on the bottom left of page and sign in or create an account. Cards should be received within 60 days and delivery status is available at www.vets.gov

Family Financial Fitness Dinner And Certificate Series

Real Sense Prosperity Place, in partnership with Junior Achievement, now offers FREE family-friendly financial education workshops. Parents, bring your children grades three through 12, and improve your money management skills as a family. Workshops are held on Thursdays from 6-8 p.m. Space is limited. Call 904-330-3957 to register or visit: [finance-series.](http://unitedwaynefl.org/fam-</p>
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SAT/ACT PREP

The eKnowledge Donation Project with the Greater Jacksonville Area USO is entering it's 13th years assisting students and families with SAT/ACT prep. See attached flyer for more information or visit www.eknowledge.com/USOJax.

Military Spouse COMPASS Program

COMPASS is a spouse-to-spouse mentoring program that introduces participants to all aspects of the military lifestyle. COMPASS offers military spouses the opportunity to establish a peer network, acquire knowledge and develop skills necessary to successfully meet future challenges of military life.

Please come join us! We'll be sure to make you smile, help you meet other spouses, provide you with YUMMY Dinners, and even reimburse you for babysitting fees (please inquire with a Compass Mentor for more info). Registration is required! Please visit www.gocompass.org to find a Session near you.

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!

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

you reading a book to your children and send it to them after you have gone on deployment. It is a great way to make them smile on their special day even when you can not be there with them.

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 mem-

bers can also enjoy video games or use the sports equipment.

There is a full kitchen, showers, a quiet reading room and a meeting room available at the USO. The USO is available for meetings, support groups, receptions, parties and pre-deployment briefs.

For more information, call 246-3481 or stop by the center at 2560 Mayport Road. Sign up for the USO newsletter by emailing lquinn@uso-jax.com



Work From Home • Run Your Own Business • Stay with Your Kids



Become a Child Development Home Provider

The Child Development Home (CDH) Program is an extension of the Child Development Center Program. CDHs are independent business enterprises operated by Navy certified military family members in their own homes.

The CDH program allows young children to receive the same early start in learning just as the CDC provides, but in a home like environment while providing continued support to parents and military readiness. Providers may live either on or off base and may care for up to six children. To become a CDH provider, you must submit to a medical screening, complete an application packet, provide three references, and undergo extensive background checks which will be provided to you by the CDH installation director.



For information on how to become a CDH Provider, Please call the Child Development Center at (904) 247-7740



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CHILD & YOUTH PROGRAMS



Take Command: Urgent Care Is Now Easier to Access!

As of Jan. 1, 2018, most TRICARE Prime enrollees no longer need a referral for urgent care visits and point of service charges no longer apply for urgent care claims. This change replaces the previous policy, which waived referrals for the first two urgent care visits per year. Active duty service members (ADSMs) should continue to visit military hospitals and clinics for care. ADSMs enrolled in TRICARE Prime Remote

who do not live near a military hospital or clinic do not need a referral when seeking an urgent care visit.

“We wanted our service members’ families and others to have easier access to urgent care,” explained Mr. Ken Canestrini, acting director, TRICARE Health Plan within the Defense Health Agency. “Beneficiaries can go visit an urgent care center right away anytime they have a need.”

If you use TRICARE Select or any other TRICARE plan, you may visit any TRICARE-authorized provider, network or non-network, for urgent care.

Urgent care is care you need for a non-emergency illness or injury requiring treatment within 24 hours. Examples of urgent care conditions include a sprain, rising temperature or sore throat. It is not an emergency and doesn’t threaten life,

limb or eyesight.

If you are unsure whether to seek urgent care, call the 24/7 Nurse Advice Line at 1-800-TRICARE (874-2273)—Option 1. You will speak with a registered nurse who can answer your questions and give advice. The nurse can also assist you with finding a provider and scheduling an appointment.

If you need care after hours, while traveling, or if your primary care

manager is unavailable, urgent care is a great option. Contact Humana Military, the East regional contractor, at 1-800-444-5445 to help you find an appropriate urgent care facility or provider. You can also use the TRICARE provider search tool online at www.tricare.mil/FindDoctor.

Any TRICARE Overseas Prime enrollees requiring urgent care while TDY or on leave status in the 50 United

States and the District of Columbia, may access urgent care without a referral or an authorization, but the ADSMs must follow-up with their PCM in accordance with applicable DoD and Service regulations concerning ADSM care outside MTFs.

This is your benefit. Visit www.tricare.mil/ changes to learn more about the changes and take command of your health!

Hue City

From Page 1

(DD 975) as a Close In Weapons System Technician, USS Ford (FFG 54) as Electronics Material Officer, PCU/ USS Howard (DDG 83) as Operations Officer, USS Yorktown (CG 48) as Operations Officer (DDG 92) as Executive Officer, Destroyer Squadron 50 as Chief Staff Officer, USS Dewey (DDG 105) as Commanding Officer and Patrol Coastal Squadron One as Commodore.

Douglas has served ashore at Navy Training Center Great Lakes as a Firecontrol “A” School instructor, Tactical Training Group Pacific

in San Diego, Calif., as an instructor for surface warfare tactics and planning, Naval Surface Forces Pacific as Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff for readiness and training and Afloat Training Group San Diego as Commanding Officer.

“It is great to return to sea as the Commanding Officer of USS Hue City. Capt. Gillen has a fine ship and crew that I could not be happier to lead.”

USS Hue City is a part of the George H. W. Bush Carrier Strike Group (GHWBCSG) and is homeported in Mayport, Florida.

Uniform

From Page 1

backed name tags will be worn centered, 1/4-inch above the left breast pocket-similar in size, shape and content to the V-neck sweater name tag. Embossed leather name tags or fabric embroidered unit specific name tags similar to those worn on the green Nomex flight jacket will be authorized for wear at the discretion of unit commanders.

Blue or brown undershirts are authorized for wear with the IFRV, although blue undershirts are being phased out with the introduction of the Navy Working Uniform Type III.

Members will not be authorized to stencil or serialize any portion of outer fabric of the IFRV nor attach unit or flag patches due to the risk of degrading the flame resistant fabric. However, Sailors are allowed to stencil the inner parts for identification purposes.

The IFRV will be prescribed as an underway uniform and the appropriate attire for events such as sea and anchor detail. Commands can authorize the IFRV for wear ashore or in-port and when working in conditions where excessive wear to the uniform could occur or when needing arc or flash protection.

The IFRV coverall is made from a flame resistant, tri-fiber blend designed to offer arc flash protection and provide improved moisture management by allowing the fiber to breathe more efficiently. The IFRV coverall is also designed for sustained durability lasting nearly twice as long as the FRV.

Additionally, feedback during fleet testing of the IFRV revealed a desire for a two-piece FRV. USFF has developed several versions with varying design features that will be tested in the spring of 2018.

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Mayport Commands Join Truman Strike Group For COMPTUEX

By MC3 Thomas Bonaparte Jr.

USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75)
Public Affairs

The Harry S. Truman Carrier Strike Group (HST CSG) took another step in its pre-deployment work-up cycle by commencing the composite training unit exercise (COMPTUEX) Feb 1.

COMPTUEX is an intensive, month-long exercise designed to fully integrate units of HST CSG, while testing the strike group's ability as a whole to carry out sustained combat operations from the sea. Ships, squadrons and staffs will be tested across every core warfare area within their mission sets through a variety of simulated and live events, including air warfare, strait transits, and responses to surface and subsurface contacts and electronic attacks.

Completing these assessments effectively certifies Truman as a deployment-ready fighting force capable of commencing missions overseas.

"COMPTUEX tests our ability to combine all units and capabilities within the strike group into a cohesive, multi-mission fighting force that can perform sustained combat operations at sea," said Rear Adm. Gene Black, HST CSG commander. "Performing this critical evolution now, before



-Photo by MC3 Thomas Bonaparte Jr.

The guided-missile destroyer USS Farragut (DDG 99) conducts a replenishment-at-sea with the aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75). Harry S. Truman is underway conducting Tailored Shipboard Test Availability and Final Evaluation Problem (TSTA/FEP) in preparation for future operations.

deployment, allows our strike group to find out its strengths, but more importantly to pin-point where we can better integrate as a team."

During the exercise, trainers, mentors and assessors from Carrier Strike Group 4, the U.S. Fleet Forces Command formation charged with training and mentoring Atlantic Fleet Carrier Strike Groups, Amphibious Ready Groups, and independently deploying surface ships for deployment, will embark with participating units to provide training through carefully planned, realistic scenarios.

"More than anything, COMPTUEX gets us into the right state of

mind," said Intelligence Specialist 2nd Class Andrew Horstead. "The things we do are essential. It prepares us for a variety of scenarios we may encounter on deployment. COMPTUEX is the symbolic battle between our adversaries and coalition forces."

HST CSG is scheduled to deploy later this year. Strike group elements participating in COMPTUEX include USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) and embarked Carrier Air Wing One; staffs from Carrier Strike Group 8 and Destroyer Squadron 28, guided missile cruiser USS Normandy (CG 60); guided-missile destroyers USS Arleigh Burke

(DDG 51), USS Bulkeley (DDG 84), USS The Sullivans (DDG 68), USS Winston S. Churchill (DDG 81), USS Farragut (DDG 99), USS Jason Dunham (DDG 109) and embarked NS Mayport-based HSM-48, USS Forrest Sherman (DDG 98), the Royal Norwegian Navy frigate HNoMS Roald Amundsen (F 311) and the Sachsen-class German frigate FGS Hessen (F 221).

COMPTUEX is the final stage of pre-deployment workups for the strike group. For USS Harry S. Truman, the evolution caps off more than seven months of training to ensure the ship and crew are ready to deploy.

DoD Studying Wearable Devices Giving Too Much Info

By Lisa Ferdinando

DoD News, Defense Media Activity

The safety and security of Defense Department members and their families is Defense Secretary James N. Mattis' top priority as he reviews the use of electronic devices at DoD locations worldwide, chief Pentagon spokesperson Dana W. White said today.

White said a "heat map" from the Strava fitness application provided an opportunity to see a "possible vulnerability." The heat map showed the routes of exercise enthusiasts who used the app to track their fitness activities, including at military installations worldwide.

"You have to also consider the fact that we have been attacked, bases have been attacked," White said at a Pentagon news conference. "Information is power and our adversaries have used information to plan attacks against us."

Mattis is taking into consideration the "totality of the DoD enterprise," not just at the Pentagon, White explained. She said the review extends beyond cellphones and includes a "wide array" of electronic devices. -†

"We always are thinking about how do we enhance and adapt our security procedures," she said, adding "and that's what's happening now."

Comprehensive Look at Electronic Devices

White had no timeframe on when a decision would come out of the review, which she described as a comprehensive look at the use of electronic devices. "Technology is very dynamic," she said. "It is important that we always adapt our security procedures."

Mattis' primary interest is to ensure that "we are all safe and that we are all secure," White said. "Operational security is his priority," she added.

"The secretary is looking across the DoD enterprise," she said. "He's taking a comprehensive look at our security measures, what we can do, mitigating factors, and of course he will also consider the concerns of the workforce."

She said the Strava incident and other incidents allowed Mattis to "take a bigger look at what are we doing and how are we doing it."

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USS Iwo Jima and USS New York Leave For 6-Month Deployment

From Staff
 On Wednesday, February 7, more than 4,500 Sailors and Marines from the Iwo Jima Amphibious Ready Group (ARG) and 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) departed Naval Station Mayport on a scheduled six-month deployment.

The deployment is part of a regular rotation of forces to conduct maritime security operations, crisis response and theater security cooperation, while also providing a forward naval presence in Europe and the Middle East.
 "Our Sailors and Marines have been conducting exercises and integrating with each

other since last summer in preparation for this moment," said Capt. Jack Killman, commodore, IWO ARG. "The training has made us a stronger, more effective team, and we look forward to providing military commanders a versatile, amphibious presence able to accomplish a variety of

missions at anytime and anywhere."
 The Iwo Jima ARG embarks the 26th MEU and consists of the amphibious assault ship USS Iwo Jima (LHD 7), the amphibious transport dock ship USS New York (LPD 21), the dock landing ship USS Oak Hill (LSD 51), Fleet

Surgical Team (FST) 4 and FST-8, Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 28, Tactical Air Control Squadron 22, components of Naval Beach Group 2 and the embarked staff of Amphibious Squadron 4.

NMCRS Celebrates Birthday



-Photo by Paige Gnann

Dana Richardson, wife of Chief of Naval Operations Adm. John Richardson helps Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society Mayport Director Bill Kennedy cut a birthday cake to celebrate 114 years of the non-profit organization. Mrs. Richardson was in town with her husband during a visit to Naval Station Mayport all hands call on USS Iwo Jima.

Sailors Urged To Take Navy Survey

From Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

The Navy's biennial Personal and Professional Choices Survey is available for selected Sailors until Feb. 23. This Secretary of the Navy-directed survey collects data and comments from Sailors across the Fleet to gauge the overall readiness of the Navy and the present-day impact of policies on Sailors. The survey touches on issues such as career development, work-life balance, adoption leave and family planning. Participation is anonymous and completely voluntary, but highly encouraged by Navy leadership.

The 2018 survey began Jan. 17 and will close on Feb. 23. The survey has been sent to 80,000 randomly selected active duty Sailors. Notification emails will be sent to participants from both the Chief of Naval Personnel and

the survey platform Max.gov, urging Sailors to use this opportunity to provide their feedback to the Navy. Participation is anonymous and completely voluntary, but Navy leadership strongly encourages selected Sailors to participate.

If you were selected to participate, please take advantage of this opportunity to provide the Navy feedback.

Survey results are expected to be released in August and will be posted on Navy's Inclusion and Diversity website. Questions on the survey may be addressed to the Office of Inclusion and Diversity (OPNAV N1D) at ALTN_USN_INCLUSION_AND_DIVERSITY@navy.mil.

Dental Cleanings Can Save Time, Money, Life

From TRICARE

Chances are you know someone that only gets their teeth cleaned every few years. You may even be that person. But, frequent and regular cleanings are more important than most people think. Beyond helping to maintain a bright and clean smile, regular cleanings help your overall health in many ways. If you're enrolled in the TRICARE Dental Program (TDP), TDP covers yearly diagnostic and preventive services, giving you even more reasons to visit the dentist.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, nearly 30 percent of all adults in America live with untreated tooth decay.

"When tooth decay isn't treated, it can lead to cavities and even tooth loss," said U.S. Army Col. James Honey, chief of the TRICARE Dental Care Section at the Defense Health

Agency.

During a 12-month period, the TDP covers two routine teeth cleanings. If noted on the claim form that you're pregnant or have a registered, covered chronic medical condition, then a third routine teeth cleaning is covered during a 12-month period.

Normal dental cleaning visits generally follow a similar format. First, a dentist or hygienist reviews your medical history with you. If you're due for X-rays, these images will help detect decay or changes in your mouth. Next, the dentist or hygienist will remove plaque, tartar and stains from your teeth. Polishing the teeth and applying fluoride are the final steps.

If you're age 18 or younger, the dentist may consider placing sealants onto the back teeth to help prevent cavities on the chewing surfaces. The TDP covers sealants for permanent molars

through age 18.

A healthy mouth may lower your risk for some serious medical issues, including stroke and heart disease. Early signs of certain medical conditions may be visible in the mouth, including oral cancers. For these reasons, the den-

tist inspects your mouth, lips, jaw and throat.

The dentist will also look for signs of gum disease, also called periodontal disease. Gum disease is an infection in the tissues that hold teeth in place. Nearly half of all adults age 30 or older show signs of

gum disease, which is the leading cause of tooth loss in adults. Finally, the dentist checks for proper tooth alignment and biting, chewing and swallowing patterns.

Don't let another year pass. Make an appointment for your next cleaning now. Do it for

your teeth, your wallet and your health.

For more information about the TDP, download the *TRICARE Dental Program Handbook*. For information about all dental plans, visit Dental Plans on the TRICARE website.

Naval Station Mayport, Fleet and Family Support Center 2018 Military Saves Month Events

01 - 28 Feb - Credit Card Cut Up

01 Feb - Thursday	14-15 Feb - Wednesday and Thursday	27 Feb - Tuesday	28 Feb - Wednesday	1 March - Thursday
Military Saves Proclamation Signing Bldg 1 Quarterdeck 1045	Million Dollar Sailor (MD\$) Class Bldg 1 RM 1616 0730 - 1600 (2-Day Class and sign-up required)	Financial Leadership Seminar ATG Auditorium 0900 - 1000 TSP/Blended Retirement System ATG Auditorium 1300 - 1500 Spouse Financial Brief STARK Memorial Classroom 1800-1900	Paying for College/ Paying off your Student Loans ATG Auditorium 0900-1100	Planning for Your Retirement ATG Auditorium 0900-1100

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