



# THE WASHINGTON SURVEYOR

FEB. 28, 2017



*By MC3 Devin Bowser*

## SHIPBOARD BAPTISM

ETCHED INTO HISTORY

*By MC3 Joshua DuFrane*

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

WASHINGTON SAILORS CELEBRATE

*By MC3 Jacob Goff*

## SAFETY STANDARD

NEW GEAR FOR ALL

**PHOTO**  
of the **DAY**



MMFN Toddriquez Jones, packs lunches while volunteering at the Ohef Sholom Temple Soup Kitchen. (Photo by MC3 Anna Van Nuys)

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By MC3 Devin Bowser

SHIPBOARD  
**BAPTISM**  
ETCHED INTO HISTORY

It's a room displaying a sharp contrast to the rest of the ship's dull greys and hard metals. The ship's chapel aboard the aircraft carrier USS George Washington (CVN 73) holds many meaningful ceremonies, and at times, those events are literally etched into the ship's history. On Feb. 24, a small group of people stood around the ship's glistening gold bell in front of a colorfully decorated stain-glass window connected through their faith and service.

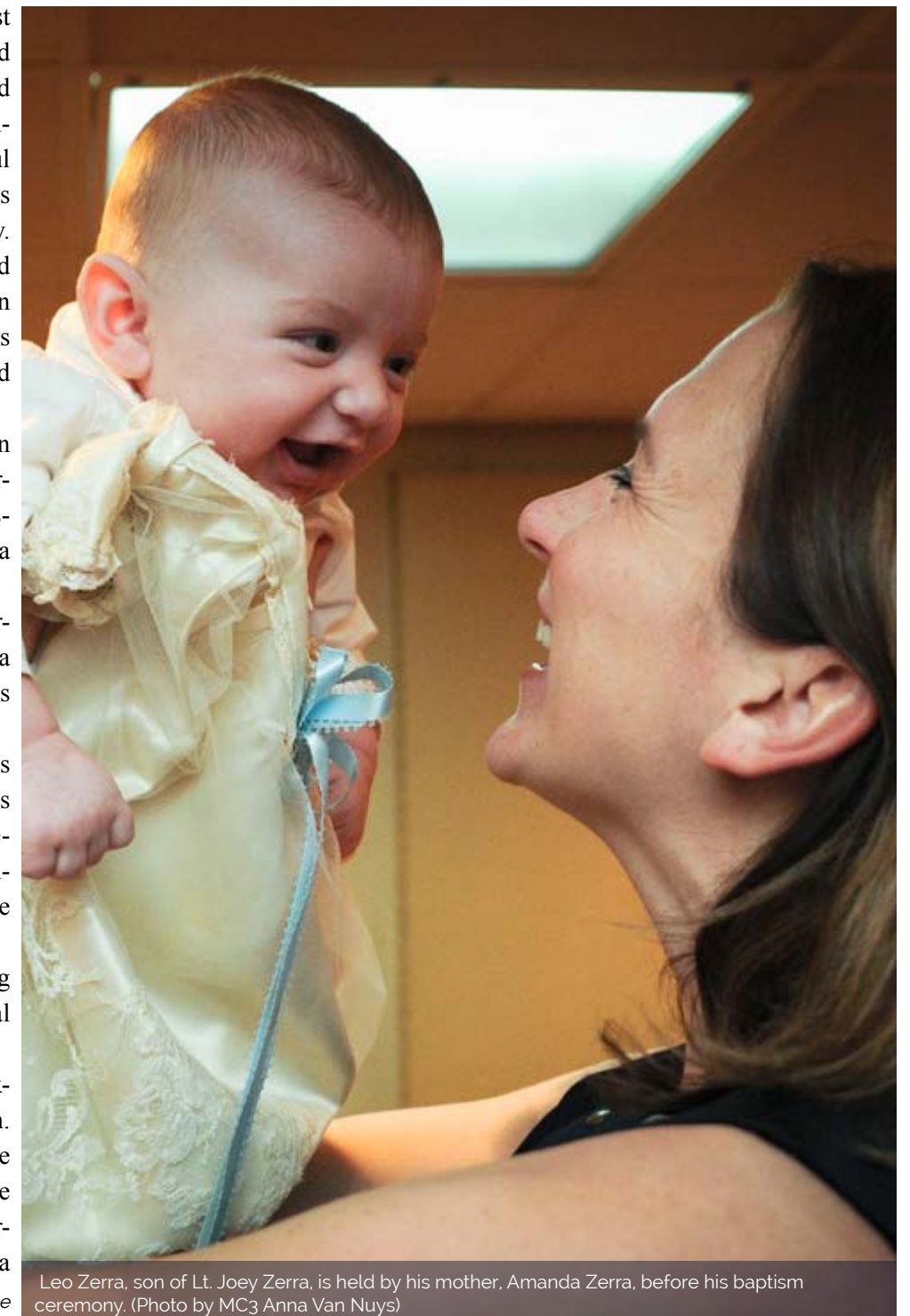
Capt. Brian Stamm, a Navy chaplain assigned to Commander, U.S. Naval Surface Forces Atlantic, conducted a baptismal christening in the ship's chapel for a crew member's infant son.

Parents Amanda and Lt. Joey Zerra baptized three-month-old Leo Zerra in the ship's ceremonial bell during his christening ceremony.

"I heard about being able to have this ceremony done on the ship and getting his name etched in the bell," said Zerra, referring to his son. "It's a unique opportunity to become a part of the history of the George Washington."

The custom of being baptized using the ship's bell started in the British Royal Navy hundreds of years ago.

"Being baptized on a ship holds extraordinary significance," said Stamm. "The inside of the church is called a nave because it looks like a ship turned upside down, and the church is the ship that carries us from a life outside of God into a life with God."



Leo Zerra, son of Lt. Joey Zerra, is held by his mother, Amanda Zerra, before his baptism ceremony. (Photo by MC3 Anna Van Nuys)

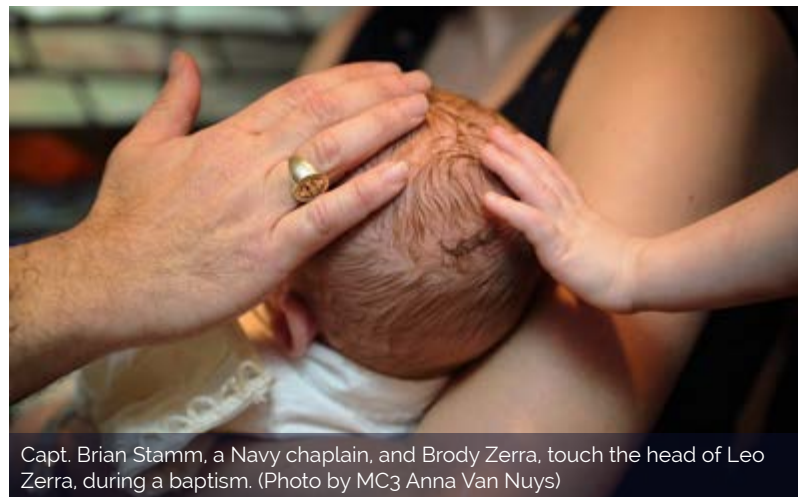
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**"When the ship gets decommissioned after another 25 years, that bell will still be somewhere with his name."**

- Lt. Joey Zerra



Brody Zerra, son of Lt. Joey Zerra, touches the ship's bell prior to his brother Leo Zerra's baptism. (Photo by MC3 Anna Van Nuys)



Capt. Brian Stamm, a Navy chaplain, and Brody Zerra, touch the head of Leo Zerra, during a baptism. (Photo by MC3 Anna Van Nuys)



Leo Zerra, son of Lt. Joey Zerra, and Amanda Zerra, is baptized in the ship's bell. (Photo by MC3 Anna Van Nuys)

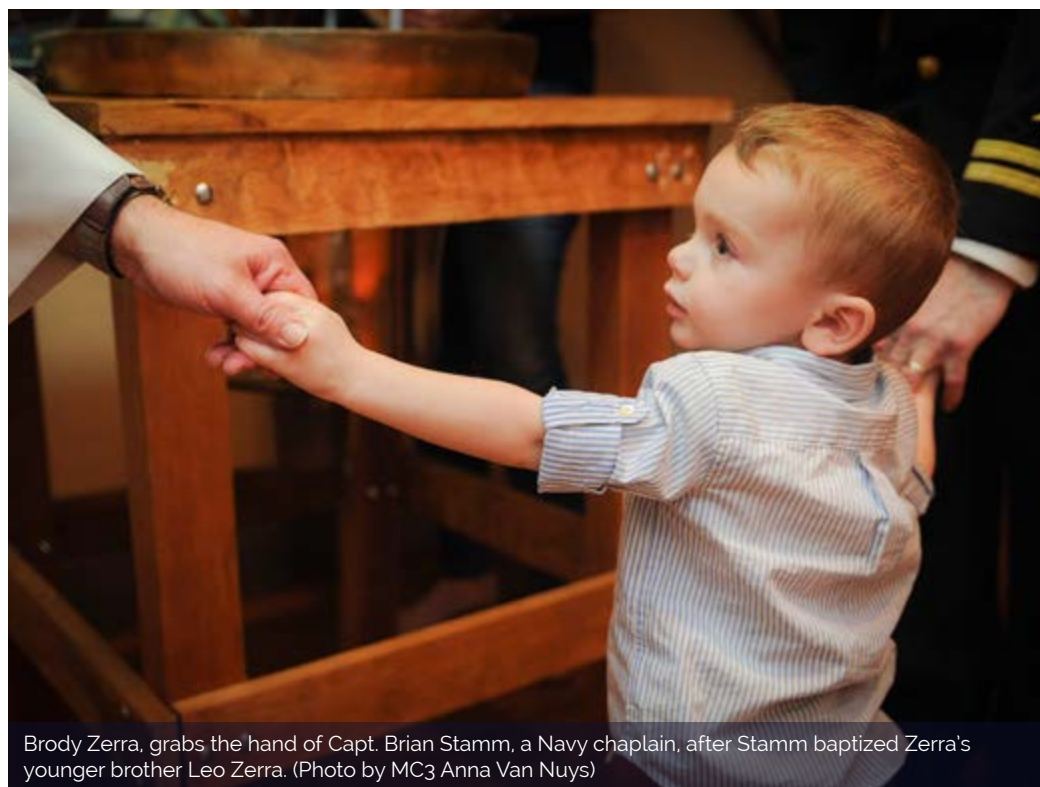
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It has been nearly 25 years since the first baptism was performed aboard George Washington, July 5, 1992, one day after the ship's commissioning.

"When the ship gets decommissioned after another 25 years, that bell will still be somewhere with his name," said Zerra.

Ships' bells are permanent property of the Department of the Navy and are maintained by the Naval History and Heritage Command after a ship has been decommissioned.

Young Leo Zerra is likely the final person to have his name etched into the bell until the ship comes out of refueling complex overhaul maintenance.



Brody Zerra, grabs the hand of Capt. Brian Stamm, a Navy chaplain, after Stamm baptized Zerra's younger brother Leo Zerra. (Photo by MC3 Anna Van Nuys)

*By MC3 Joshua DuFrane*

# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

## WASHINGTON SAILORS CELEBRATE



Capt. Timothy Kuehhas joins Sailors in cutting the cake during GW's black history month celebration. (Photo by MC2 Jessica Gomez)

Sailors aboard the aircraft carrier USS George Washington (CVN 73) attended a Black History Month ceremony, hosted by the command's Heritage Committee Feb. 23.

The ceremony, held on the Floating Accommodation Facility (FAF) mess decks, featured a slideshow presentation of three notable African-Americans from over a century ago who changed the way Americans live today.

"I was nervous at first about being the emcee for this event," said Aviation Ordnanceman 1st Class Shawn Thorpe, a Heritage Committee member. "After thinking about it, I knew that this was my chance to give back, especially after everything that's happened in the past regarding black history; this is a small thing I could do to do my part."

During the ceremony, Thorpe narrated the stories of Mary McLeod

Bethune, Booker T. Washington and Henry O. Flipper. Heritage committee members held up pictures of each historic figure as their stories were told, giving the audience a chance to see and learn about these heroes from the past.

"The biggest take-away from this event is to find that person in your career that impacted you," said Senior Chief Leonard Starr, a Heritage Committee Leader. "Everybody, including myself, got to the position they are in because of someone else's help. If you follow the footsteps of those you see doing the right thing, you will see it reflected in your work and in your life."

Booker T. Washington's philosophy toward work can be applied towards the way Sailors approach their day-to-day lives in the military. One of Washington's many famous lines tells people that success is measured not by where

a person ends up in life, but the struggles that person endured and overcame throughout their life.

"You can't change what happened in the past, but we can learn from it," said Thorpe. "We can continuously grow from the past though. We're all Americans, one people."

Thorpe ended his speech with another famous quote, from Martin Luther King Jr., and said, "...And when this happens, when we allow freedom to ring, when we let it ring from every village and hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual, 'Free at last! Free at last! Thank God almighty, we're free at last!'"

# INFLUENCERS

## Chapter 3- Have Fun, Go Far: Cmdr. Yarbrough Encourages Sailors

By MCSN Jamin Gordon

*This series shows how African-American women use their positions of influence to motivate, encourage and empower other Sailors to always push towards their goals. The women featured in these stories overcame various challenges despite the fact that they are a part of a double-minority demographic. Their stories strive to inspire all Sailors that there are no barriers that cannot be broken on the path to success.*

“Work is either drudgery or fun. It depends on your attitude. I like fun.” –Colleen C. Barrett, president emeritus of Southwest Airlines

Cmdr. Kerri Yarbrough, the supply officer (SUPPO) aboard the aircraft carrier USS George Washington (CVN 73) joined the Navy in 1997 with one goal in mind, have fun. Coming from a military family, she knew serving her country was something she wanted to do.

Throughout her years of service, Yarbrough has continually created a fun work environment while uplifting and mentoring Sailors.

“SUPPO always finds a way to make work fun,” said Lt. j.g. LaTonya Felton, the supply maintenance officer aboard George Washington. “A lot of times she’ll turn our meetings into mealtime bonding sessions. It really creates a familial environment.”

While Yarbrough creates a fun atmosphere, she depends on her team to help her be the best leader possible.

“I would not be here today if it weren’t for the amazing group of professionals I’ve had the opportunity to work with,” said Yarbrough. “That’s those above me, and those who have worked for me.

Day-to-day in my current role, from my PAs (principle assistants) to my master chiefs, all the way down to the most junior Sailors, they’re always finding a way to get to ‘yes.’ By doing this, they support our customers and support me, which makes me want to continue to challenge them a little bit more, and continue to give back to them.”

As a leader, Yarbrough likes to maintain an open line of communication to discuss future goals and ambitions.

“Fostering an environment where it’s an open-door policy is one way I support my Sailors,” said Yarbrough. “I become very engaged in what their goals are, and help them obtain those goals in any way I can, whether that means picking up the phone to call the detailer, writing a letter of recommendation or helping them put together their officer package to pursue a commissioning program. If they are working toward obtaining various qualifications, I support them by giving them the time they need to prepare.”

Yeoman 3rd Class Joshua Hill, SUPPO’s administrative assistant, was shown first-hand just how much Yarbrough cares about her Sailors’ goals.

“The first time I stood my Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist (ESWS)



board, I failed,” said Hill. “I saw SUPPO when I entered the office. She proceeded to ask me how my board went, and I told her the disheartening news. She stopped in her tracks, closed the door and began to have a heart-to-heart conversation with me. She could see how disappointed and close to giving up I was. During our talk, she told me about times in her journey to success that she didn’t succeed on the first try. It was so inspiring to have someone of her stature encouraging me to get my ESWS pin. I’m glad she pushed me because now I have it.”

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Through a hands-on style of mentorship, Yarbrough is able to connect with her Sailors on a more personal level.

“Whether you want her as a mentor or not, you have her,” said Felton about Yarbrough. “Once a month she sends out a calendar invite to the monthly mentorship meeting. During the meeting, she takes time to discuss things like orders, supply corps and moving up to the next level. She’s always willing to stay after hours to discuss various topics whether it pertains to your professional or personal life. Some officers from other departments said they wish they had the same mentorship in their chain of command.”

In addition to providing guidance on career goals, Yarbrough also shares words of encouragement because she understands that Sailors will encounter challenges during their career.

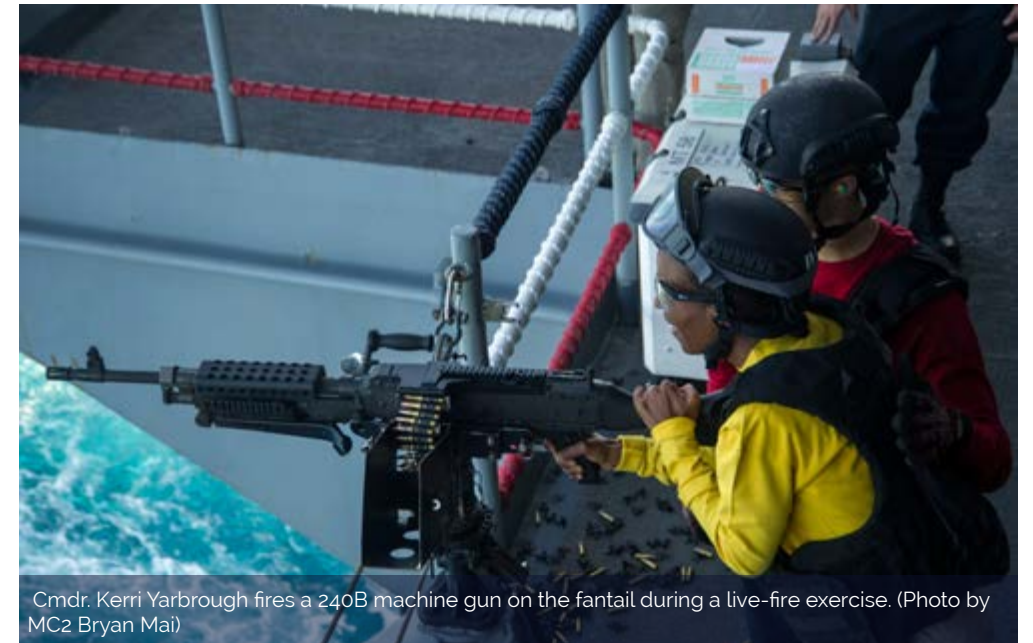
“As a former runner, I always told myself to run through the tape,” said Yarbrough. “In order for Sailors to overcome the challenges they may be faced with, I encourage them that in whatever they’re doing, make it all the way to the finish line and never give up. Try hard to look beyond what’s in front of you and focus on the end state.”

There are three things Yarbrough wants Sailors to takeaway during their career. She refers to these three things as her mantra.

They are:

- Have fun
- Be a life-long learner
- Get to yes in a legal, ethical and accountable way

Yarbrough continues to have fun each day. After approximately 20 years of service, she continues to take each year day-by-day and tour-by-tour. As long as she’s having fun, she will continue to serve, inspire and mentor others.



Cmdr. Kerri Yarbrough fires a 240B machine gun on the fantail during a live-fire exercise. (Photo by MC2 Bryan Mai)



Cmdr. Kerri Yarbrough presents an award to SH2 Shadra McGuire in the Foc'sle. (Photo by MC3 Shayla Hamilton)



Cmdr. Kerri Yarbrough leads a tour around USS George Washington. (Photo by MC3 Jacob Goff)

# SAFETY STANDARD

NEW GEAR FOR ALL

Throughout the past two years, the mission of the aircraft carrier USS George Washington (CVN 73) has undergone many changes, but one thing has remained a constant: safety.

Now that George Washington has begun offloading unnecessary equipment in a process called SCOOP (ship's consolidated offload and outfitting plan), the need for more safety precautions is necessary to avoid workplace mishaps.

To help prevent injuries in the maintenance-heavy environment, the ship's safety department began providing more personal protective equipment (PPE) to the crew, Feb. 22-24.

and eye protection."

Having the new safety gear alone won't protect Sailors in every case.

"The gear works, but the thing we have to do as Sailors is wear it properly all the time," said Chinbritton. "That's how we're going to keep safe and protected until we get back from the shipyards."

While things like earplugs and safe-

now, wearing the gear is mandatory.

"Hardhats will be worn in the hangar bay and they'll replace our ball caps, so you'll be wearing it throughout the hangar bay, flight deck and passage ways," said Chinbritton. "The only time you won't wear the hardhats is transiting to and from the ship; then you'll be authorized to wear your ball cap once again."

The same rules apply when wearing eye protection. Sailors who wear prescription lenses can obtain a prescription for safety glasses from their optometrist, or trade their issued goggles to safety for a pair that will fit over glasses. Areas where hearing protection is

ty glasses are straightforward, hardhats can be a different story.

"It can get hot or cold, so some Sailors will wear things underneath their hardhats so it's not properly secured to their heads, or they'll wear it loose, or have it tipped to the side or tilted up," said Chinbritton. "When we do that, we forget sometimes that it's not properly worn, so we'll go out not realizing that eventually it could cause some sort of mishap."

Sailors started wearing their newly acquired safety gear right away, and

necessary will be marked with signs.

"Safety is everybody's responsibility, not just the guys with the green hats," said Chinbritton. "Let's help each other out by doing the right thing, wearing it right and staying safe."

With every Sailor properly wearing their safety gear, a new standard of safety is in place.

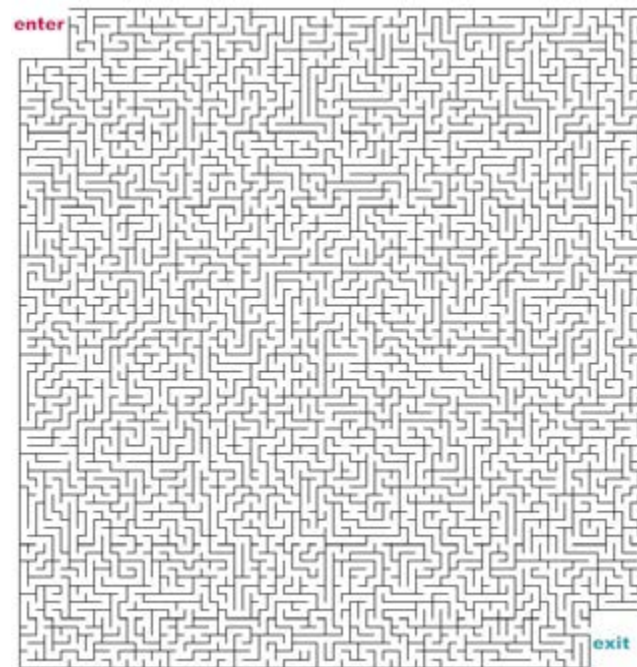
"It's not so bad," said Machinist Mate 1st Class Kalen McDonald about wearing the new gear. "Whatever lets me go home safe to my family at the end of the day, I'll do it."



GW Sailors are issue personal protective gear in the hangar bay. (Photo by MC3 Jacob Goff)



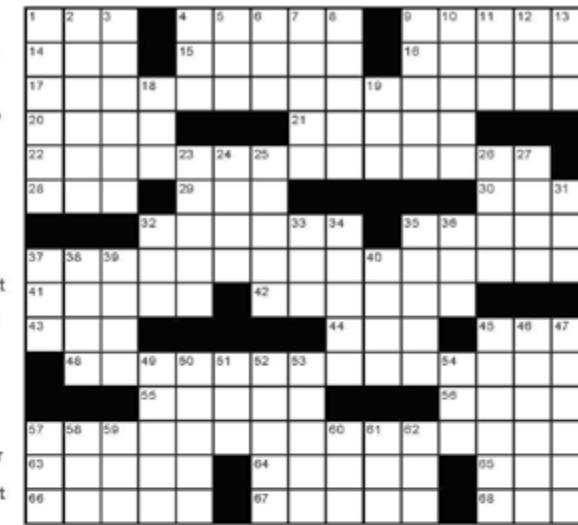
## MAZE



## CROSSWORD

### ACROSS

1. Babe in "Babe"
4. Sign over "head"
9. Dial-up device
14. Expert
15. Large jazz group
16. Rust, for one
17. Start of an observation, realized October 26, 2005
20. Russian fighter jets
21. Kvetchy phrase
22. Observation, part 2
28. Neither's partner
29. An asset for music
30. What dry ice produces in a theater
32. Welcome
35. Fashion designer Geoffrey
37. Observation, part 3
41. Squander
42. Charge separation between two bonded atoms, in chemistry
43. Legendary Johns Hopkins chemist Remsen
44. State of 17-across: Abbr.
45. Dr.'s order
48. Observation, part 4
55. Carnival show
56. It's a crock
57. End of the observation
63. Before surgery, informally
64. Bouquet
65. UFO crew
66. Collect
67. The road less traveled
68. Olds mobile

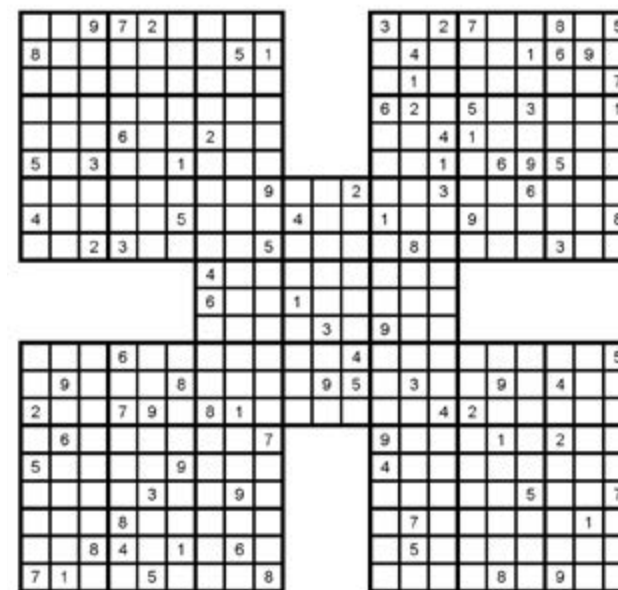


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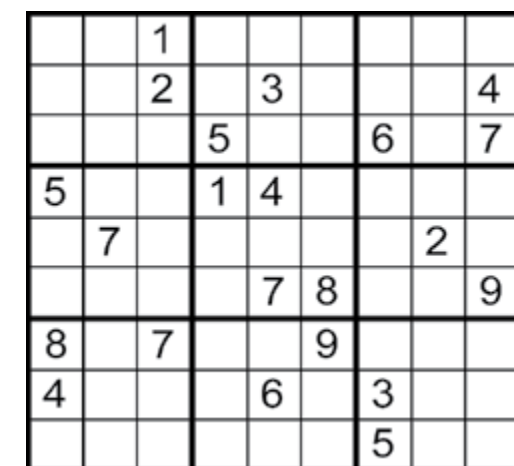
### DOWN

1. Arcade classic
2. He set the all-time single season hits record, in 2004
3. Physics lab counter
4. Like Mendelssohn's "Italian" Symphony
5. Yuletide treat
6. First numero
7. Attach, as a patch
8. C2H5-
9. Sacred song
10. Kind of daisy
11. Put down, in slang
12. Maestro de Waart
13. OAS member
18. Winter hours in 44-across
19. Growth that may make you itch
23. Ford's co-star in "Six Days Seven Nights"
24. Apece
25. Mountain nymph
26. Not many
27. Lo-fi?
31. \_\_\_\_\_-X
32. Make a scene?
33. Tire pressure meas.
34. Not so hot?
35. Beauty who loved the Beast
36. "I kiss'd thee \_\_\_\_\_, I kill'd thee": Othello
37. Conflict that ended at 11:00 on 11/11
38. Male deer
39. "Vidi," translated
40. Tennessee eleven
45. Request at a Sri Lankan restaurant, possibly
46. Tell
47. Part of a parental explanation
49. Twistable snacks
50. Insects that don't wear yarmulkes?
51. Table scrap
52. Therapy prog.
53. Suspicious
54. Fish market delicacy
57. Sr.'s worry, maybe
58. It may be twisted
59. "Cry \_\_\_\_\_ river"
60. Female 1-across
61. Doctors' org.
62. "Merry" month

## HARD SUDOKU



## SUDOKU



# March Madness

## sports

### NORFOLK ADMIRALS:

3/4 BUFFALO SABRES (1915)  
3/18 PHILADELPHIA FLYERS (1915)  
3/29 ATLANTA GLADIATORS (1915)

### ODU:

3/4,5 ODU Women Sailing (ALL Day)  
3/7,8 James Madison Baseball (1500)  
3/17 VCU Men's Tennis (1300)  
3/24 Jacksonville Women's Lacrosse (1500)

3/25 George Mason and Drexel Women's Rowing (ALL Day)

### HARBOR PARK:

3/31 - BALTIMORE ORIOLES vs. NORFOLK TIDES (1505)

## mwr

3/4 SPINATHON at JEBLCFS ROCKWELL HALL GYM (1030)

3/6 YOUTH SPRING SOCCER at Oceana OUTDOOR SPORTS COMPLEX (1700)

3/10 NOTHING BUT NET BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT at NAVSTA NORFOLK WATERFRONT FITNESS (1800)

3/17 ST. PATTY'S 5K at NAVSTA NORFOLK N-24 GYMNASIUM (1130)

3/22 SUPER HERO 5K at Dam Neck Annex Gym (1130)

3/22 MARCH INTO FITNESS HEALTH FAIR at WPNSTA YORKTOWN GYM (1100)

3/24 DODGEBALL TOURNAMENT at JEBLCFS ROCKWELL HALL GYM (1100)



## entertainment



3/1 SHEN YUN at CHRYSLER HALL (1930)

3/4 PROFESSIONAL BULL RIDERS at THE HAMPTON COLISEUM (1900)

3/3,5 HAMPTON ROADS TATTOO FESTIVAL at HAMPTON ROADS CONVENTION CENTER (1200)

3/12 GREEN DAY w/ SPECIAL GUEST AGAINST ME! at Ted Constant Center (1930)

3/16 ELI YOUNG BAND at THE NORVA (1930)

3/24,26 THE HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS at THE Ted Constant Center (1900, 1600)

3/26 CELTIC WOMAN: VOICES OF ANGELS at FERGUSON CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS (1500)



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON EVENTS IN THE AREA, SEE CMC'S EMAIL

# NAVY NEWS

## Navy Seeks Sailors for RDC Duty

By Naval Service Training Command Public Affairs

GREAT LAKES (NNS) -- The Navy is recruiting Sailors to become recruit division commanders (RDCs) at Recruit Training Command, the Navy's only boot camp, and Officer Training Command, as announced in the NAVADMIN 042/17 message, released Feb. 23.

Chief of Naval Personnel, Vice Adm. R. P. Burke, in the message calls on Navy leadership to canvass their top-quality enlisted personnel and encourage them

to consider RDC as their next shore duty choice. The job of an RDC is not easy shore duty. The hours are long, the work is physically challenging, and strong character and personal integrity are required throughout

the RDCs' work day. However, the personal reward of training and preparing Sailors for the fleet is unmatched.

Burke added in the NAVADMIN message, "a strong and resilient Navy is built on the leadership put in place to develop our force. The Navy's accessions training at Officer Training Command Newport (OTC) and Recruit

Training Command (RTC) are our starting points for turning civilians into Sailors by instilling the Navy's Core Values. The leaders that provide this initial training are the Recruit Division Commanders (RDC)."

Training to be an RDC begins at RDC "C" school. Candidates must have passed the most recent physical fitness assessment, including the run. No optional cardiorespiratory event may be substituted. RDCs at OTC are

\* Additional annual clothing allowance of \$220.

\* Opportunity to earn a Master Training Specialist Qualification.

\* In line with the American Council on Education evaluation, RDCs may earn up to 15 college credits (both upper and lower credits) towards a bachelor's degree, and choice of follow-on coast assignment.

The RDC duty at OTC and RTC each has its own unique challenges.

However, with the significant numbers of RDCs needed at RTC, PERS-4 has instituted an additional sea duty credit incentive for RDCs reporting to RTC on/after Oct. 1, 2016, and who complete a 36-month RDC tour.

According to NAVADMIN 042/17, interested Sailors

E-7 and above, and RDCs at RTC are E-5 and above.

Serving as an RDC results not only in growth as a leader, increased career advancement opportunities, and a feeling of self-fulfillment, but it also includes the following

benefits:

\* \$450 per month Special Duty Assignment Pay.

must submit an Enlisted Personnel Action Request (NAVPERS 1306/7) requesting duty as an RDC to the appropriate rating detailer. Reference (a) contains all screening requirements and instructions for waiver submissions. All commanding officers with interested Sailors must ensure packages for prospective RDC candidates are screened thoroughly.



Chief Boatswain's Mate Ludwik Dyrkacz, a recruit division commander, ensures the proper fit of Seaman Recruit Madeleine Bohnert's white enlisted hat, or "Dixie cup," during uniform issue at Recruit Training Command. (U.S. Navy photo by Sue Krawczyk)

# **GET READY.**

**Navy Physical Fitness  
Assessment is just around  
the corner.**



**PARFQ - No Later Than  
March 7th**

**Waivers - Due to XO  
Admin by  
March 17th**

**BCA - March 20th-24th**

**Machine - March 27-31st**

**Field - April 3rd-7th**

**Swim - March 30th-April 6th**

