



NORFOLK SAILOR RECOGNIZED FOR HEROIC ACTIONS

Air Traffic Controller (AC) First Class Sean Rausch was presented with the Citizens Service Award for rescuing a woman on Nov. 8, 2018.

»See **A4**



Culinary Specialist 2nd Class Ebony Hudson decorates a cake for the supply department's Ney inspection aboard the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72). MC3 Shane Bryan

By MC2 Jessica Paulauskas
USS Abraham Lincoln Public Affairs

NORFOLK

The Supply Department aboard the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) was awarded the 2018 Capt. Edward F. Ney award, Feb. 26.

The Ney Award for food service excellence was established in 1958 and is awarded to Navy galleys that earn a five-star rating for food production, sanitation and

management. Abraham Lincoln's food service team of more than 200 Sailors started ramping up to meet the Ney standard for over a year.

After competing against all other aircraft carriers, Abraham Lincoln was selected to represent the East Coast in Oct. of last year and won against the west coast nominee, USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76).

"Supply has come so far, it's good see them being recognized," said Commanding Officer Capt. Putnam H. Browne. "Everyone talks about how good the food on our

ship is, but it comes at a huge cost for those Sailors—they work really hard. So it's awesome to see they're able to strike a balance between the hard work and sustaining excellence to make Abraham Lincoln a trendsetter for the fleet."

Abraham Lincoln is just beginning the second half of her life, having completed her mid-life Refueling and Complex Overhaul (RCOH) in May 2017, so the recognition of the Ney award is a validation of the efforts that have been made by Sailors across every department to set a high stand-

ard for operational excellence since her redelivery to the Fleet.

"Seeing hard work get rewarded is the best thing that could happen," said Supply Officer Cmdr. Shannon Walker. "The food service team saw the challenges, made the plans and executed the mission. Their hard work is noticed on this ship and that's what matters."

Walker said the biggest challenge for the food service team was the timing. Once the

» See **AWARD** | **A7**

Spouse employment support in Hampton Roads

By Kaitlyn Crandall

NORFOLK

Reducing Military Spouse unemployment and underemployment is a priority for the Navy and our Hampton Roads. Recent surveys show the unemployment rate for Military Spouses in the range of 12-25%, which is several times the national average. Furthermore, financial security and spouse employment continue to be serious concerns for many active duty families, according to the 2018 Blue Star Survey. Military spouses looking for a new job or career assistance in Hampton Roads have a wide range of resources available to help them find their next job or career.

The Navy Fleet and Family Support Centers (FFSCs) in Hampton Roads offer classes at several installations covering Career Planning, Job Search Strategies, Effective Resume Writing, Interview Techniques, and the Federal Employment System. Spouses can also attend scheduled job fairs, hiring events and other networking opportunities hosted by the FFSCs across the Hampton Roads area. Military spouses are also welcome to participate in the week-long Transition GPS training with their Service member spouse where space is available, to ensure both the Service member and spouse are prepared for the transi-

tion to civilian life. If spouses prefer one-on-one help, they can make individual appointments with FFSC family employment or transition staff for anything from tailoring their resume to practicing for an interview. To learn more military spouses can visit <https://www.navymwrmidlant.com/support-services/fleet-family-support-centers> to find an FFSC close to them and view class schedules.

FFSC Staff collaborate closely with the Department of Defense Spouse Education & Career Opportunities (SECO) Program. SECO assists military spouses with exploring career paths, planning education and training, networking and job hunting, locating scholarship opportunities, and entrepreneurship. The SECO Program provides a range of free services for spouses including coaching from SECO career coaches, a resume builder, career planning tools, virtual networking opportunities with employers, and the eMentor program to learn from other military spouses. Furthermore, SECO supports the Military Spouse Employment Partnership (MSEP). Over 390 companies and organizations have become MSEP Partners committed to recruiting, hiring, and training military spouses. Collectively they have hired over 125,000 military spouses.

» See **SPOUSE** | **A7**



Courtesy health.mil

The Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center is leveraging new technologies and cutting-edge research to develop concussion care tools and protocols that prioritize early identification and individualized treatment to maximize warfighter brain health.

DoD recognizes Brain Injury Awareness month, promotes warfighter brain health

By Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center

Every year, the Defense Department recognizes March as Brain Injury Awareness month to increase awareness of traumatic brain injury. Throughout the month, the Military Health System will provide tools and resources to educate the military community, and those who support them, about TBI.

To underscore the department-wide effort to understand, prevent, diagnose, and treat TBI, Deputy Secretary of Defense Pat-

rick Shanahan released a memo dated Oct. 1, 2018, that outlines a strategy and action plan to support warfighter brain health.

"Our pursuit of superior lethality must be matched by a commitment to understanding, preventing, diagnosing, and treating TBI in all its forms," Shanahan stated in his memo.

Through the Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center, a division of the Defense Health Agency Research and Development

» See **BRAIN** | **A7**



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Phillip Brashear visits USS San Antonio

Son of Master Chief Boatswain's Mate Carl Brashear, the Navy's first African-American master diver, spoke to the Sailors about his father's determination in a time when there was no racial equality.

»See **A6**



F-35C achieves initial operational capability

The Department of the Navy's first F-35C squadron, Strike Fighter Squadron 147, completed aircraft carrier qualifications aboard USS Carl Vinson and received Safe-For-Flight Operations Certification.

»See **B1**

Steve Martin & Martin Short come to Chrysler Hall

See two comedic legends together, on stage this weekend at Chrysler Hall in Norfolk!

»See **C1**

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Navy commissions first African American woman officers

By Dr. Regina T. Akers
Naval History and Heritage Command Historian

Thoughts about World War II conjure specific reference points for most, Dec. 7, 1941, D-Day, or “Loose lips sink ships.” Key battles like Midway, North Africa, and Iwo Jima are almost synonymous with the war. There is another significant date that is not mentioned—Oct. 19, 1944, the day the Navy announced blacks would be admitted into the female reserves. Their struggle to serve without discrimination is part of the war’s civil rights movement and part of the Pittsburgh Courier’s “Double V” Campaign for victory over fascism abroad and racism at home. World War II required “all

hands on deck.” Americans enlisted, built military platforms in factories, and conserved nylon, rubber and other critical materials for the war effort. They planted Victory Gardens, purchased liberty bonds and sponsored ships. Once again, men were drafted and women volunteered for military service in congressionally established reserve programs designed to free more men from non-combat billets. Over 300,000 women contributed to Allies’ success as members of the Women’s Army Corps (WASP), the Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service (WAVES), Semper Paratus Al-

ways Ready (SPARS), Women Marines, Women Air Service Pilots (WASP), and the Army and Navy Nurse Corps. They served around the globe in and out of harm’s way as air traffic controllers, couriers, cryptologists, hospital corpsmen, mechanics, linguists, pharmacists, translators, weather specialists, and translators. Flight nurses picked up the wounded on the battlefield, transferred them to a plane, and treated them in route to the hospital. The Japanese interned Army and Navy nurses in the Philippines. There were points during the war when the recruiters could not meet the demand. The women joining were motivated by patriotism, the desire to end the war sooner, and supporting deployed relatives fighting in the air, on land and at sea. The first classes of women officer candidates were well educated or seasoned members of their profession. A few left lucrative jobs to serve their nation. Women from every corner of the nation including members of Congress’ daughters joined the fight to defeat Japan and Germany.

Despite the military’s tremendous need for personnel, the casualty rates and the length of the war, the military did not make maximum use of all qualified personnel. Blacks comprised less than one percent of the total force. The WAC and the Army Nurse Corps admitted blacks in 1942 but segregated them. The Navy’s WAVES did not enlist African Americans until 1944 and the Coast Guard SPARS followed suit. The Navy Nurse Corps did not integrate until March 5, 1945. The Women Marines remained all-white and the WASP had 2 Asian pilots but rejected Janet Bragg, an African American licensed pilot. Familiarity with the War Department’s racial discriminatory policies and practices for their race did



U.S. Navy photo
Director of the Women's Reserve (WAVES) Capt. Mildred H. McAfee, photographed circa 1945.



Official U.S. Navy Photograph, now in the collections of the National Archives
Lieutenant (Junior Grade) Harriet Ida Pickens (left) and Close a suitcase after graduating from the Naval Reserve Midshipmen's School (WR) at Northampton, Massachusetts, circa December 1944. They were the Navy's first African-American WAVES officers and graduated with the Northampton school's final class.



Official U.S. Navy Photograph, now in the collections of the National Archives.
Naval Operating Base San Diego's African-American WAVES meeting with a group of visiting civilians, 21 June 1945.

not deter these patriotic black women from volunteering to do their part.

Mildred H. McAfee, Director of the WAVES welcomed all qualified candidates but Secretary of the Navy William Franklin Knox opposed her plan believing that blacks could not meet the high standards set forth the WAVES. In fact she later recalled in a letter to historian Morris J. MacGregor that she overheard him Knox say that Negroes would be in the WAVES over his dead body. Ironically that is how it happened. James Forrestal succeeded Knox after his fatal heart attack in April 1944. Forrestal concluded that having a segregated Navy was not cost effective and his experiences with Lester Granger, a fel-

low student at Dartmouth University and other blacks persuaded him to work towards integration. The Navy announced its decision to welcome blacks into the WAVES on Oct. 19, 1944. African Americans had varied responses to the opportunity. Some had reservations about joining a historically discriminatory organization. Others chose not to leave their wartime jobs.

But Harriet Ida Pickens and Frances Elizabeth Wills accepted the Navy’s invitation. Pickens, born in Talladega, Ala., and a public health specialist graduated cum laude from Smith College in 1930 and from Columbia University with a Master’s degree in Political Science. Her father William Pickens, a founder of the National Association for Colored People urged her to join. Frances Elizabeth Wills a Philadelphia, Penn., native held a Master of Social Work degree from the University of Pittsburgh where she worked with Langston Hughes. When she read the newspaper advertisement, she decided to volunteer because she had no brothers to serve. Lt. Des-sell swore them into the Navy on Nov. 13th. Despite entering the last class for naval reserve midshipman at Smith College in Northampton, Mass., three weeks late, Pickens graduated with honors. Originally, the Navy intended to have a separate unit like the WAC but decided otherwise when too few blacks enlisted. When fellow reservists complained about the blacks, they were given a choice – accept them or leave. The Navy did not tolerate discrimination. The Navy assigned Pickens and Wills, New York residents to Hunter College, the main training station for enlisted WAVES.

By the war’s end on Sept. 2, 1945, 70 enlisted black WAVES joined Pickens and Wills. One of them, Chief Yeoman Edna Young became one of the first enlisted women sworn into the regular Navy on June 6, 1948.

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NEWS FROM NAS OCEANA

EOC-IMT training prepares NAS Oceana for potential emergencies

By MC3 Mark Thomas Mahmood

VIRGINIA BEACH, VA.

Security threats, hurricanes, and severe flooding— some of the major concerns of the modern military installation, especially one operating in the Hampton Roads region of Virginia.

Being able to effectively manage emergencies is a critical part of keeping the service members, civilians and surrounding community safe in the event of a crisis.

The Emergency Operations Center Incident Management Team (EOC-IMT) on board Naval Air Station Oceana participated in an EOC-IMT training course Feb. 20 to 22, held by Commander, Navy Installations Command Shore Operations Training Group (SOTG).

The course, which is typically conducted once every two to three years at NAS Oceana, consisted of 24 hours of training that focused on policy, standards, components and procedures required to effectively work in an EOC on a naval installation.

An EOC is a central facility

responsible for carrying out the principles of emergency or disaster preparedness and management functions at a strategic level during an emergency, which can include providing finance/administrative, logistical, operations, and planning support.

After several hours of classroom instruction, the students manned the EOC and conducted a simulated emergency, demonstrating the skills critical to successfully managing an incident.

Ray Davis, SOTG assistant chief, said the purpose of the training was to teach NAS Oceana’s IMT basic procedures on how to properly manage any man-made and natural disaster incidents.

“The team learned how to practice command and control, communicate effectively, and gather and process information so the decision-makers like the commanding officer and the executive officer could properly restore or maintain base operations,” said Davis. “We want the team to be knowledgeable in the national incident management system and how the military could incorporate the



Lt. Cmdr. Brian Crystal, standing, left, public works officer at Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southeast, Key West, briefs the Naval Air Station Key West team in the emergency operations center. The Department of Defense is supporting the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the lead federal agency, in helping those affected by Hurricane Irma to minimize suffering and is one component of the overall whole-of-government response effort.

Trice Denny

system that all first responders use, making the base capable of working in conjunction with multiple aid partners.”

Conducting a minimum of four training exercises a year, NAS Oceana’s EOC is constantly improving. This training course was conducted to hone the skills of those with more experience and build a foundation for those who may have never worked on an IMT.

“This training allows us to build a more substantial base of skilled individuals,” said John Heistand, NAS Oceana’s installation training officer. “It trains the people who may be called upon to man the EOC in

the event of a long-term incident.”

Having a larger pool of knowledgeable individuals capable of filling a position in an EOC allows for teamwork and proper relief during an incident that may span several days.

“There’s always a lot of new people in these courses, so by the end of the week, the new players understood their roles and how to be part of that team process,” said Davis.

By the end of the course, Davis said he was pleased with the amount of knowledge gained and how well Oceana’s IMT was able to work during the simulated emergency.

Heistand said the biggest improvement he’s seen from the students was the communication between the team members. He said during a real world emergency, communication is important to preventing loss of life and restoring base operations.

“We’ve been doing this course every two to three years because of the turnover of Sailors and the civilian staff,” said Heistand. “It’s a lot of good refresher training, and for a lot of people, this is their first time. I highly recommend this course to anyone who will be part of the team running an EOC.”



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U.S. Navy photo

Chesapeake Fire Department recognizes Norfolk Sailor for heroic actions

By MN3 Briana Manuel
Naval Station Norfolk Public Affairs Office

NORFOLK

On the evening of Feb. 22, the Chesapeake Fire Department (CFD) recognized a local sailor serving on NS Norfolk for his quick thinking and heroic actions. Air Traffic Controller (AC) First Class Sean Rausch was presented with the Citi-

zens Service Award for rescuing a woman on Nov. 8, 2018. Chesapeake Fire Department’s 2019 Awards and Recognition Ceremony honors those receiving Citizens Awards alongside members of the CFD being recognized for their hard work, dedication and valor. On a Thursday in November, Rausch was making his way to work for the day. While driving, he noticed a vehicle had crashed into a pond by the road. As he pulled over,

he realized a woman was still in the car. He immediately called 911 and grabbed a winch from his truck while his fellow honoree, Danny Rangerfield, swam out to the car. Together they managed to pull the car from the embankment and bring the elderly woman to safety. Rausch remained deeply humbled in his interactions with others throughout the time of his recognition. Edmund E. Elliot Jr., the CFD Fire Chief echoed this sentiment in his

opening remarks. “Tonight, you will meet some folks that are not necessarily extraordinary people, but rather ordinary people, like you and I, who have done some incredible things, and for that we honor them.” He continued, “In some cases, as you will see tonight, our citizens are sometimes the real first responders, before the first responders arrive on the scene.” Earlier in the week, on Feb. 22, Naval Station Norfolk also took part in recognizing AC1 Rausch in their Awards Quarters Ceremony. “Every able bodied American has an obligation to help someone in need. For those in uniform, doubly so. I’m glad I was in the right place at the right time,” stated Rausch.

Sully H.W. Bush has a new job at Walter Reed Medical Center

From the Office of the Navy Chief of Information
WASHINGTON

Sully, late President George H.W. Bush’s service dog, embarked on a new job as a hospital corpsman in the U.S. Navy as the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (WRNMMC) welcomed him. At the welcome aboard ceremony Feb. 27 at the United Service Organization (USO) Warrior and Family Center at Naval Support Activity Bethesda, Sully had a personalized oath of enlistment. “Sully H.W. Bush, do you affirm, or pant, as a hospital corpsman in the United States Navy that you will support, comfort and cheer our warriors and their families, active duty and retired?” He was asked to provide “un-

conditional love and solace, especially on busy days,” and acknowledge that the responsibility came “without any promise of treats or tummy rubs.” U.S. Navy Capt. Dr. Mark Kobelja, director of WRNMMC shook Sully’s paw following the oath. The yellow Labrador retriever, a service dog from America’s Vet-Dogs, joined the Walter Reed Bethesda (WRB) Facility Dog Program, which provides interactive care for patients and staff using innovative Animal Assisted Interventions. Its mission is to help reduce stress and increase overall feelings of well-being among patients and staff. WRB facility dogs average 2,500 contacts and over 200 working hours per month, collectively, according to the medical center. Sully, will be one of seven dogs

working at the facility in Bethesda, Maryland. “Through program tracking and monitoring, we determined that for every hour that a facility dog and their trained handler works, they have the opportunity to create positive patient experience for an average of 12 patients and their families,” the center’s news release said. Sully had made headlines with a photo of him resting near the late president’s casket inside the U.S. Capitol Rotunda on Capitol Hill in December last year. He was named after Chesley “Sully” Sullenberger, a retired airline captain, who landed a U.S. Airways passenger jet in the Hudson River after both engines lost thrust when the aircraft hit a flock of geese shortly after taking off from LaGuardia Airport in New York City.



MC3 Julio Martinez Martinez

Evan Sisley, personal aid and senior medic to President George H. W. Bush, thanks supporters during a welcome aboard celebration for service dog Sully H.W. Bush at the USO Warrior and Family Center in Bethesda, Maryland, Feb. 27, 2019.



MC3 Julio Martinez Martinez

Capt. Mark Kobelja, left, director of the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, appoints Sully H.W. Bush to the honorary rank of Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class during his welcome aboard ceremony at the USO Warrior and Family Center, Feb. 27, 2019.



MC3 Julio Martinez Martinez

Capt. Mary Seymour, center, commanding officer of Naval Support Activity Bethesda, poses for a photo with Elaine Rogers, president and chief executive officer of USO-Metro, left, Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Samantha Murdock and new Walter Reed Bethesda facility dog Sully H.W. Bush.

Sustainment Data Challenge kicks off with solutions for readiness

From From Research, Development and Acquisition Public Affairs

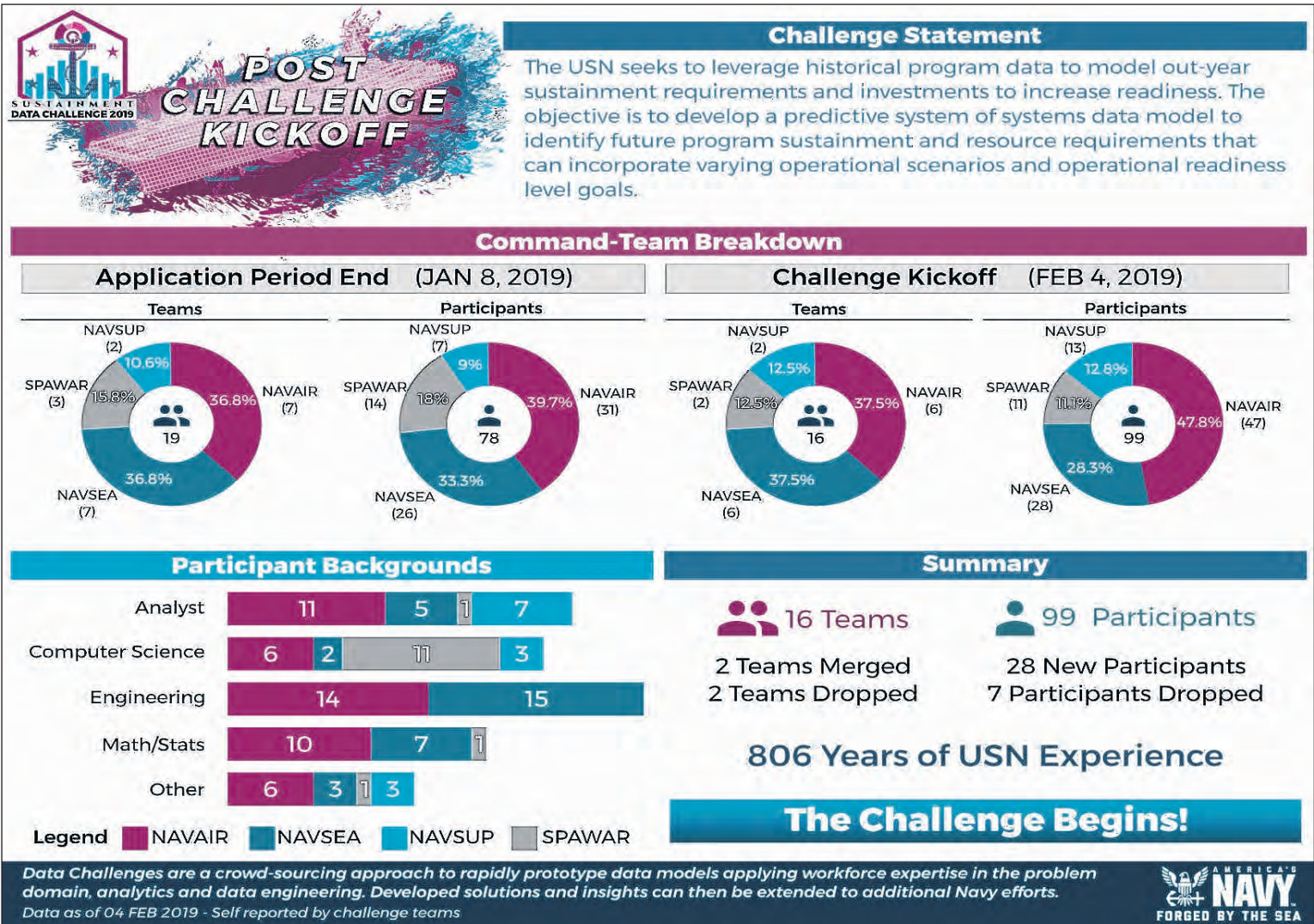
WASHINGTON

Navy workforce teams who volunteered to compete in the Sustainment Data Challenge have begun to apply their expertise toward developing innovative solutions that could significantly impact the Navy’s future readiness.

During the challenge kickoff held Feb. 4, Mr. Niel W. T. Hogg, N8B stated, “This Sustainment Data Challenge is seeking insights from a wide range of actual platform data located across the sustainment system by utilizing talent from within the Navy to deliver a tool that can be used to make data driven decisions to enhance the readiness of our E-2 fleet, in less than a year and with potentially broader application.”

“This initiative is remarkable because it addresses all four themes outlined in the CNO’s updated Design 2.0, Strengthen Naval Power, Achieve High-Velocity Outcomes, Strengthen our Navy Team, and Expand and Strengthen our Network of Partners; and it partners across the Aviation community and perhaps across sustainment efforts Department wide.” Mr. W. T. Hogg shared with the teams.

Sixteen teams from four major Navy Systems commands are participating in the challenge — six teams from Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR), six from Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA), two from Space and



Sixteen teams from four major Navy systems commands are participating in a data challenge Navy leaders hope will produce a readiness-enhancing tool in less than a year.

Naval Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR), and two from Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP). Senior Leaders opened the kickoff event with the teams to discuss the importance of the challenge. Teams also gained access to subject matter experts and learned more about the details of this highly competitive opportunity.

The four-month long challenge has each team working independently with the same starting data set to identify the relationship between sustainment factors affecting a platform’s readiness. Teams were encouraged to supplement the starting data set with additional data sources to increase the breadth, depth and fidelity of data models as they proceed through the challenge. The objective of the Challenge is to prototype a sys-

tem-of-systems model for the sustainment of a weapon system. Team are competing for an opportunity to mature and expand the model using additional platforms after the Challenge.

Mr. George E. Kovatch, Director, DON OCMO stated “The Sustainment Data Challenge aligns with the DON’s long-term data goals that are outlined in our Business Operations Plan. This Challenge aims to improve data quality, standards, visibility, access and security, enhancing information integration through expanded interoperability and reuse.” Additionally, he stated that the Challenge, “establishes and continuously improves capabilities to perform analysis to enable effective of decision making. It also helps to build a skilled data work-

force.” said Elliott Branch, deputy secretary of the Navy, Acquisition and Procurement.

The Sustainment Data Challenge is sponsored by Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Research, Development and Acquisition (ASN RDA), Chief of Naval Operations (OPNAV) and the Office of the Chief Management Officer (DON OCMO). The challenge will develop prototype predictive system-of-systems analytical model(s) to identify sustainment requirements and resources that consider dynamic operational scenarios to achieve Navy readiness goals. The ability to apply, scale and extend these solutions to additional Navy programs is anticipated for the future of the Navy’s readiness.

The challenge teams will present potential solutions at the finals in June. “No one knows Navy data better than we do. I look forward to seeing the models developed by the challenge teams. These models will increase our ability to understand, predict and assess trade-offs significantly increasing platform sustainment ac-

activities,” said Elliott Branch, deputy secretary of the Navy, Acquisition and Procurement.

The Sustainment Data Challenge is sponsored by Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Research, Development and Acquisition (ASN RDA), Chief of Naval Operations (OPNAV) and the Office of the Chief Management Officer (DON OCMO). The challenge will develop prototype predictive system-of-systems analytical model(s) to identify sustainment requirements and resources that consider dynamic operational scenarios to achieve Navy readiness goals. The ability to apply, scale and extend these solutions to additional Navy programs is anticipated for the future of the Navy’s readiness.





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Son of first African-American master diver speaks to Sailors aboard USS San Antonio

By MCI Sean P. Weir
USS San Antonio Public Affairs

NORFOLK

U.S. Army Chief Warrant Officer 4 (retired) Phillip Brashear visited USS San Antonio (LPD 17) and spoke with the ship’s crew along with visiting sailors from other ships during LPD 17’s Black History Month celebration Feb. 28.

Brashear, son of Master Chief Boatswain’s Mate Carl Brashear, the Navy’s first African-American master diver, spoke to the Sailors about his father’s determination in a time when there was no such thing as racial equality; a time where his father not only persevered, but excelled.

"It is true that my father had to make himself physically capable to wear a 300-pound dive suit,

even though he had a prosthetic leg. I want you all to take note: here’s a man fighting for his life trying to save his military career and get his body back into shape,” said Brashear. “The Navy actually had a veteran climbing stairs with weights on his back, lifting weights on unstable mats, all while wearing dress shoes. He had to prove to the Navy that he could pass his PT test; they weren’t going to give him a break.”

Brashear spoke about his own journey as an African-American aviator and the lessons he took away from his own career.

“Halfway through my Iraq tour, I was flying helicopters. I was getting shot at every day, the food wasn’t that good, it was hot as hell, I was miserable. Every night that I flew, I could see the tracer rounds flying beside my



U.S. Army Chief Warrant Officer 4 (retired) Phillip Brashear, son of Iconic Master Diver Carl Brashear, cuts the cake onboard USS San Antonio (LPD 17) during the ships black history month celebration.

helicopter. There wasn’t a night I went out there that I didn’t think this was my last night.”

Brashear spoke about losing his father and how impactful this time was for him. His father spoke to a philosophy that had helped him persevere in his own career and bestowed that wisdom upon his son.

“After receiving a Red Cross message regarding my critically ill father, they flew me back to Portsmouth, VA from Iraq. My father said, ‘Son I’m not leaving this hospital room.’ At the time, I didn’t think much of it,” said Brashear. “I started to complain about how bad Iraq was. I had walked into my dad’s hospital room complaining to a man who was literally on his death bed. My father looked up at me and said, ‘Son, what are you complaining about? Don’t ever complain, because there’s always someone out there who’s worse off than you.’”

Brashear mentioned the virtue of a service member simply doing their job. From his own father to an injured Marine he rescued in Iraq, Brashear values the most junior of service members doing their duty.

“My father didn’t want an ex-



U.S. Army Chief Warrant Officer 4 (retired) Phillip Brashear, son of Iconic Master Diver Carl Brashear, talks to sailors onboard USS San Antonio (LPD 17) during the ships black history month celebration.

travagant burial. He wanted junior enlisted sailors to be his pall bearers. My father didn’t think of himself as a hero – he thought of himself as a regular guy who was just doing his job,” said Brashear. “I’ve met a lot of VIPs and celebrities in my career, but that Marine corporal who lost his left hand and his left foot in an IED explosion - That is the most important person I’ve ever met in my life. Corporal Dave Letty – that’s the American hero right there – that’s who we serve.”

Brashear’s father overcame much adversity throughout his life: from poverty and racism to handicap and alcoholism. But he showed that with determination these obstacles can be overcome. Brashear believes the best way to overcome them is to expect more than the minimum in life.

The San Antonio is the first amphibious transport dock of the San Antonio ship class. San Antonio is in a maintenance availability to conduct necessary upkeep and upgrades of the ship.



U.S. Army Chief Warrant Officer 4 (retired) Phillip Brashear, son of Iconic Master Diver Carl Brashear, talks to sailors onboard USS San Antonio (LPD 17) during the ships black history month celebration.

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AWARD | Lincoln supply wins NEY

Continued from A1

RCOH maintenance period was complete, Abraham Lincoln moved straight into her deployment-readiness cycle, while still serving four meals a day to more than 5,000 Sailors, making it a leadership challenge to find time to continue to train and improve standards.

“I am extremely proud of the food service Sailors,” said Master Chief Culinary Specialist Carlos Billingslea, Abraham Lincoln’s galley division leading chief petty officer. “They are professional and humble and continue to display initiative and great customer service day in and day out.”

Type Commander (TYCOM) representatives visited the ship to assess the Supply Department’s ability to provide Sailors with quality meals, customer service and operational procedural compliance. Abraham Lincoln was able to showcase their best by putting in full 15-hour days of hard work.

“There is a saying we learn in culinary specialist school from day one, ‘Ney ready every day,’” said Culinary Specialist Seaman Chastity Edmonds, a main galley cook. “That’s how we’ve been

working to lead up to this aboard Abraham Lincoln. It’s surreal that all of that hard work paid off.”

The food service attendants temporarily assigned to Abraham Lincoln’s Supply Department also played a role in the evaluation. The sanitation of the galley and mess decks were scored in TYCOM’s final assessment.

“Our job is to make sure all the galley spaces and appliances and cookware are clean so Sailors don’t get sick while eating,” said Intelligence Specialist 3rd Class Christian Kyler, a food service attendant aboard Abraham Lincoln. “I think it showed everyone that when our Sailors come together, we can be an amazing group. I’m proud of everyone that worked together to meet this accomplishment.”

Billingslea said once his Sailors reached a goal that he’d set for them, he would make an even higher goal for them to aim toward. The food service Sailors were able to meet these goals each time building a team that couldn’t be broken down.

“Collectively culinary specialists and food service attendants solidify the ship when it comes to teamwork and morale. Sailors wake up in the morning and have a



MC3 Shane Bryan

Capt. Putnam Browne, top right, commanding officer of the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72), Capt. Amy Baurenschmidt, bottom right, executive officer, and other command leaders meet with inspectors for the supply department’s Ney inspection aboard the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72).

hot breakfast then go to sleep with a full stomach. Morale begins and ends the day with Supply. I’ve served in the Navy for 28 years and this is the best group of Sailors I’ve worked with.”

Abraham Lincoln is the flagship for Carrier Strike Group Twelve, which also includes Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 7, the Ticonderoga-class guided-missile cruiser USS Leyte Gulf (CG 55) and ships assigned to Destroyer Squadron 2:

the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyers USS Bainbridge (DDG 96), USS Gonzalez (DDG 66), USS Mason (DDG 87) and USS Nitze (DDG 94).

The components of the Abraham Lincoln Strike Group embody a “team-of-teams” concept, combining advanced surface, air and systems assets to create and sustain operational capability. This enables them to prepare for and conduct global operations,

have effective and lasting command and control, and demonstrate dedication and commitment to become the strongest warfighting force for the Navy and the nation.

For more news from USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72), visit www.navy.mil/local/cvn72/.

Navy Installations Command celebrates 104th year of the Navy Reserve

By Lt. Cmdr. Jennifer Womble
Commander, Navy Installations Command Public Affairs

WASHINGTON

March 3rd marks the 104th birthday of the Navy Reserve and celebrates the flexibility, responsiveness, and unique skills that members of the reserve force bring to the Navy.

Within Navy Installations Command, there are approximately 3,500 reservists augmenting units around the world. From safety and security to family readiness, reservists are playing a vital role throughout the shore enterprise.

The timely, cost-effective operational capabilities that the reserve force provides are evident in how seamlessly they assimilate into any simulated or real-life mission. The flexibility of the reserve force is never better showcased than when there is an emergency, whether it be a natural disaster or a hostile act against our country.

In the force protection exercise, Citadel Shield-Solid Curtain, reservists from across the CNIC enterprise augmented the Navy Security Forces, Fire and Emergency Services and manned the watch in operation centers across the country.

Under the Chief of Naval Operations, Navy Installations Command is responsible for providing support services for the fleet, fighter and family with more than 52,000 military and civilian personnel under 10 regions and 71 installations worldwide.

For more news from Commander, Navy Installations Command, visit www.navy.mil/local/cni/.

Lt. Cmdr. Jennifer Womble is a Reserve Public Affairs Officer attached to Commander, Navy Installations Command.

For more news from Commander, Navy Installations Command, visit www.navy.mil/local/cni/.

IWTC Virginia Beach prepares Midshipmen for Information Warfare Community

From Information Warfare Training Command Virginia Beach Public Affairs

VIRGINIA BEACH, VA.

A Naval Intelligence Officer Basic Course (NIOBC) instructor with Information Warfare Training Command (IWTC) Virginia Beach visited 35 Midshipmen from class NS4731 at the U.S. Naval Academy, Feb. 28.

“Meeting with the Midshipmen was a great opportunity to showcase the information warfare community and answer questions to help prepare them for the future in the fleet,” said Lt. Lee Hayes, the visiting IWTC Virginia Beach instructor.

The visit provided valuable community insight into the expectations of Midshipmen during their upcoming time at IWTC Virginia Beach. Following graduation from the Naval Academy in May, the 35 new commissioned officers will report to IWTC Virginia Beach, where they will attend the three-week Information Warfare Basic Course that will introduce them to the four communities within the information warfare community (IWC): cryptologic warfare; intelligence; information professionals, and meteorology and oceanography.

“This briefing provided Midshipmen the unique chance to discuss what their basic IWC course would entail with subject matter expert from the schoolhouse,” said Lt. Cmdr. Douglas Marks, a senior U.S. Naval Academy instructor. “While our core instructors for



Lt. Cmdr. Douglas Marks

Lt. Lee Hayes, a Naval Intelligence Officer Basic Course (NIOBC) instructor with Information Warfare Training Command (IWTC) Virginia Beach, visits 35 Midshipmen from class NS4731 at the U.S. Naval Academy.

the course have vast experience in their respective IWC fields, many have not been in the schoolhouse environment for several years. Lt. Hayes’ unique career path and schoolhouse knowledge helped ease the apprehension that many midshipmen feel about reporting to their first command after graduation.”

Hayes also discussed a number of topics ranging from professional development, intelligence officer career paths, and what the Midshipmen can expect during the 20-week NIOBC course.

“The feedback from the Midshipmen has been extremely positive, and they have remarked on the knowledge and experience they took away from the visit,” said IWTC Virginia Beach’s Commanding Officer Cmdr. Richard Bosworth. “Visits like these continue to not only answer questions and concerns the Midshipmen may have, but also strengthen that network within the training community.”

IWTC Virginia Beach currently offers 65 courses of instruction in information technology, cryptology, and intelligence with an in-

structor and support staff of 280 military, civilian, and contract members who train over 6,500 students every year at 5 training sites in the Hampton Roads area. It is one of four school houses for Center for Information Warfare Training and also oversees learning sites at Jacksonville and Mayport, Florida; Kings Bay, Georgia; and Groton, Connecticut to continue aligning IW community training.

With four schoolhouse commands, two detachments, and training sites throughout the United States and Japan, CIWT is recognized as Naval Education and Training Command’s top learning center for the past three years. Training over 21,000 students every year, CIWT delivers trained information warfare professionals to the Navy and joint services. CIWT also offers more than 200 courses for cryptologic technicians, intelligence specialists, information systems technicians, electronics technicians, and officers in the information warfare community.

For more news from Center for Information Warfare Training, visit www.navy.mil/local/cid/.

BRAIN | DoD promotes brain health

Continued from A1

Directorate and the TBI center of excellence for the Defense Department, the department is leveraging new technologies and cutting-edge research to develop concussion care tools and protocols that prioritize early identification and individualized treatment to maximize warfighter brain health.

2019 Theme: Advancing Warfighter Brain Health

The 2019 Brain Injury Awareness Month theme supports the enduring responsibility of DoD to promote and protect the health and well-being of our nation’s warfighters and their families.

“Only by amplifying our communications about, and promoting awareness of warfighter brain health and surveillance initiatives,

can the department eliminate, once and for all, the stigma that remains attached to help-seeking behaviors,” Shanahan stated.

About Traumatic Brain Injury

TBI is a signature injury of current conflicts and, according to DVBIC, 383,947 service members received a TBI diagnosis from 2000 until the first quarter of 2018. Additional helpful facts include:

DVBIC defines a TBI as the result of a blow or jolt to the head that disrupts the normal function of the brain; not all blows or jolts to the head result in a TBI.

Injuries can be closed or penetrating head wounds and will range in severity from mild to moderate to severe.

The most common form of TBI

in the military is mild TBI, also referred to as concussion.

Common symptoms following a concussion include headaches, dizziness, sleep disturbances, vision changes, balance problems, fatigue, attention and memory problems, irritability, and mood changes.

Early detection of traumatic brain injury leads to early treatment; early treatment leads to better outcomes.

“Educating our service members and families to recognize the signs and symptoms indicative of TBI and making it easy for families, loved ones, and friends to seek and receive the information and support they need to respond compassionately and constructively to a member who may have sustained a TBI, are essential first steps,” wrote Shanahan.

TBI Research, Tools for

Providers

The MHS will leverage the month-long focus on TBI to highlight ongoing research and breakthroughs that help improve and maintain the quality of life for those living with a brain injury.

DVBIC will also promote the recent release of new cutting-edge provider tools, such as the updated Military Acute Concussion Evaluation, or MACE 2. The MACE 2 is a screening tool that allows frontline providers to quickly screen for concussion.

Social Media Engagement

DVBIC and the MHS community will engage the public online via social media channels such as Facebook and YouTube. Use the hashtags #BIAMonth and #TBIDidYouKnow to join the conversation and learn about available resources.

Mark your calendars for noon

(ET) March 12 to join a Facebook town hall featuring Navy Capt. Scott Pyne, DVBIC division chief and former head team physician for U.S. Naval Academy athletics. Learn more by following DVBIC on Facebook.

In addition, A Head for the Future, a DVBIC TBI awareness initiative, will feature a video social media campaign to share real stories of service members, veterans, family members, providers, and advocates in the military TBI community. The stories – captured through user-generated videos or Skype interviews – share how people cope with TBI, as well as the people who support them – including DVBIC and DHA staff who work to improve their lives. Learn more about A Head for the Future on their website.

SPOUSE | Reducing military spouse unemployment

Continued from A1

To learn more, visit <https://myseco.militaryonesource.mil/portal/>.

Military spouses in south-eastern Virginia have another unique local resource. The Hampton Roads Veterans Employment Center is a one-stop location to provide access to services and resources for Transi-

tioning Service Members, Veterans, and Military Spouses to achieve their employment goals. In the past year since the grand opening in early 2018, 120 military spouses have visited the center, with 10 spouses confirmed hired as a direct result. Furthermore, the HRVEC has partnered with the Hampton Roads Chamber and the Hampton Roads Workforce Council to launch the

Hampton Roads Military Spouse Economic Empowerment Zone (MSEEZ). The MSEEZ is part of the Hiring Our Heroes, a nationwide initiative of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation to assist with veteran, transitioning Service member, and spouse employment. To learn more about the center and view a calendar of events visit <http://www.vcwhamptonroads.org/veterans-services/>

Military spouses know first-hand, build-

ing a successful career through PCS moves and deployments can be a challenge. For spouses in Hampton Roads there are a variety of organizations with specialized staff and resources designed to help ease the struggle of finding a new job and crafting a fulfilling career. Contact your local Fleet and Family Support Center to be connected to these local resources.



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Military spouse employment seminar

CORE of Hampton Roads along with the Navy League of Hampton Roads will discuss military spouse employment and ways to overcome the roadblocks military spouses face as they explore the employment path at their Military Spouse Employment Conference on March 14 at the Virginia Beach Convention Center.

» See B2

F-35C ACHIEVES INITIAL OPERATIONAL CAPABILITY



MC2 Manuel Tiscareno

Aviation Technician 3rd Class Tyler Dean, assigned to the ‘Argonauts’ of Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 147, signals to the pilot, Cmdr. Daniel Kitts, after a successful flyover during the change of command ceremony. VFA-147 is the first Navy F-35C carrier variant (CV) operational squadron that has advanced weapon systems, fusion sensor integration, and stealth capabilities, making it a long-range multirole mission ready aircraft.

From CNAF Public Affairs

SAN DIEGO

The Commander, Naval Air Forces and the U.S. Marine Corps Deputy Commandant for Aviation jointly announced that the aircraft carrier variant of the Joint Strike Fighter, the F-35C Lightning II, met all requirements and achieved Initial Operational Capability (IOC).

The Feb. 28 announcement comes shortly after the Department of the Navy’s

first F-35C squadron, Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 147, completed aircraft carrier qualifications aboard USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70) and received Safe-For-Flight Operations Certification.

In order to declare IOC, the first operational squadron must be properly manned, trained and equipped to conduct assigned missions in support of fleet operations. This includes having 10 Block 3F, F-35C aircraft, requisite spare parts, support equipment, tools, technical publications, training

programs and a functional Autonomic Logistic Information System (ALIS).

Additionally, the ship that supports the first squadron must possess the proper infrastructure, qualifications and certifications. Lastly, the Joint Program Office, industry, and Naval Aviation must demonstrate that all procedures, processes and policies are in place to sustain operations.

“The F-35C is ready for operations, ready for combat and ready to win,” said Commander Naval Air Forces, Vice Admi-

ral DeWolfe Miller. “We are adding an incredible weapon system into the arsenal of our Carrier Strike Groups that significantly enhances the capability of the joint force.”

Naval Air Station (NAS) Lemoore is the home-base for the Navy’s Joint Strike Fighter Wing, Navy F-35C fleet squadrons and the Fleet Replacement Squadron (FRS), VFA-125 that trains Navy and Mar-

» See F35C | B7



U.S. Navy photo courtesy of Austal USA

The future littoral combat ship USS Charleston (LCS 18) is underway for acceptance trials, which are the last significant milestone before delivery of the ship to the Navy. The Independence-variant littoral combat ship will be commissioned March 2 in Charleston, South Carolina.

Commissioning ceremony breathes life into USS Charleston

By MC2 Natalia Murillo
LCS Squadron 1 Public Affairs

CHARLESTON, S.C.

As clouds passed overhead, shipboard alarms echoed across the Cooper River and the crew of USS Charleston (LCS 18) ran aboard their ship and brought it to life, March 2. More than 5,000 guests gathered at the Columbus Street Terminal in the ship’s namesake city, officially welcoming the U.S. Navy’s newest littoral combat ship into the fleet.

LCS-18 is the 16th littoral combat ship to enter the fleet and the ninth of the Independence variant. The ship is the sixth to be named after Charleston, South Carolina, to honor a long history, from the decades of work at the Charleston Naval Shipyard to Charleston Marine Container, Inc., building mission modules for the littoral combat ship program today.

Charleston Mayor John T. Tecklenburg

welcomed the audience to the commissioning of what he identified as a symbol of the city of Charleston. Tecklenburg added that since the founding of Charleston almost 350 years ago, the sea has been part of the Holy’s City’s economy and culture.

“The sea is history,” said Tecklenburg. “Nowhere will you find a people who understand those words more fully than the people of Charleston.”

In honoring the state of its namesake city, LCS-18 adopted South Carolina’s motto – As I Breathe, I Hope – and made it its own adding a combative twist – As We Breathe, We Fight!

Rear Adm. John Neagley, program executive officer for unmanned and small ships, spoke of the fighting power of LCS-18, the final ship commissioning

» See CHARLESTON | B7



MC2 Kirsten King

Naval Air Crewman (Helicopter) 2nd Class Ty Nichols, assigned to the ‘Island Knights’ of Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 25, is lowered to the deck of the MV Arcadia to provide emergency assistance to a cruise passenger in distress during a medical evacuation.

HSC-25 aids cruise ship passenger

From Commander, Amphibious Force 7th Fleet Public Affairs

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, GUAM

Sailors from the Guam-based “Island Knights” of Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 25 provided emergency assistance to a cruise passenger in distress early Monday, March 4.

At approximately 9:45 p.m. Sunday March 3, HSC-25 was notified by U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam that a passenger aboard MV Arcadia was experiencing a medical emergency. After Arcadia transited within helicopter range of Guam, a rescue mission was launched at 5:45 a.m. Monday, by HSC-25 Alert Search and Rescue led by Aircraft Commander Lt. Richard Schuster. The passenger in distress was recovered via helicopter hoist and returned to U.S. Naval Hospital Guam in stable condition.

“Flying to a cruise ship was a unique and challenging MEDEVAC experience,” said Schuster. “We continually practice to prevail when needed most. The Arcadia was very

helpful in positioning the ship, allowing Rescue 11’s crew to stabilize the patient on the rescue hoist and get him safely in the aircraft. We were able to expeditiously transport the patient thanks to our Flight Surgeon Lt. Kumetz and SAR Medical Technician HM2 Bowen.”

The incident was the fifth emergency call to HSC-25 by U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam and marks two recoveries during search-and-rescue and medical evacuations in 2019 to date.

“I could not be more proud of our maintenance and flight crews this morning,” said HSC-25 Commanding Officer Cmdr. Frank Loforti. “Yet again, the Island Knights executed a flawless MEDEVAC, I’m honored to be part of the winning team.”

HSC-25 provides a multi-mission rotary wing capability for units in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations and maintains a Guam-based 24-hour search-and-rescue and medical evacuation capability, directly supporting U.S. Coast Guard and Joint Region Marianas. HSC-25 is the Navy’s only forward-deployed MH-60S expeditionary squadron.

Quit stepping on my turf

By Lisa Smith Molinari

The beauty of being a columnist is that I can write whatever I damned well please.

That is, as long as every column is interesting, timely, unique, well-written, accurate, properly attributed, thoroughly researched, thought provoking, honest, inoffensive, witty, intelligent, and no more than 700 words.

Piece of cake, right?

Frankly, writing columns isn't easy. In fact, there are moments when I'd rather chew my own arm off than pen my weekly submission. But what makes column writing special is that, like editorial and commentary writers, columnists are called upon to give their opinions, while the rest of the media is unbiased.

Wait, did I just say "the media is unbiased?" That statement must be my attempt at wit, because it is impossible to take seriously.

In today's 24/7 media cycle, opinion has crept into every aspect of the news. Years ago, reporters and anchors didn't reveal their personal biases. We huddled around our console televisions, transistor radios, and coffee-stained newspapers, unaware of the personal opinions of David Brinkley, Helen Thompson, Peter Jennings, Connie Chung, Seymour Hersh, Walter Cronkite, and Ted Koppel who reported raw facts. Allowing bias to creep into news reporting was once considered unethical. Opinion was reserved only for editorials, columns, and commentary.

But nowadays, we accept that news anchors double as commentators, reporters are activists, and everyone in the media Tweets. All day, every day, one can turn on MSNBC for the left wing spin, and Fox News for the right wing perspective. Websites such as AdFontes-Media.com and MediaBiasFactCheck.com publish charts rating and categorizing media outlets by their ideological leanings. Arguably, no news organization offers neutral fact reporting anymore, and most lean left.

Award-winning journalist Lara Logan, who recently announced that she split with CBS where she had been a top "60 Minutes" correspondent since 2002, said in a February 15 interview, "The media everywhere is mostly liberal. But in this country, 85 percent of journalists are registered Democrats." Logan acknowledged that her comments would amount to "career suicide," but published a piece last week stating that one-sided reporting has damaged the press' credibility. Others agree with Logan's claims, like New York Times columnist David Leonhardt who said, "Most mainstream journalists do lean left," and Washington Post columnist Margaret Sullivan who said, "Impartiality is still a value worth defending in mainstream news coverage."

According to a recent poll in Columbia Journalism Review, less than half (42 percent) of democrats and only 10 percent of republicans believe that the media is unbiased. The majority of all respondents reported having "hardly any confidence at all" in the press.

Why won't the news media stick to the facts? Do they no longer trust the public to



Courtesy Photo
James Bennet, editorial editor of the New York Times, Feb. 26 at Harvard University. Seated beside him is Harvard professor Nancy Gibbs, former managing editor of Time magazine.

think for themselves? Have ethical standards in journalism changed? Will opinion-saturated news make editorials, columns, and commentary obsolete?

One-sided commentary in the news and social media "is making opinion journalism and opinion writers less interesting," said James Bennet, editorial page editor of the New York Times, in a lecture at Harvard University that I attended on February 26 titled "What's the Point of Publishing Opinion, Anyway?" Since Bennet took over the Times' editorial page in 2016, he has been criticized by his own newsroom for launching a "Diversification Project" and hiring conservative columnists Bret Stephens and Bari Weiss.

"Back in the day, there were rewards for being contrarian, but we have unfortunately moved toward radical conformity today," Bennet said about the news industry. "We need a sense of humility. To recommit to the fundamental tools of our trade."

The fact that the print news media industry has changed from an advertising-based business model to a subscription-based model "means the journalism needs to be good," Bennet said. He believes that readers want unbiased reporting of straight news and diversity of opinion because it encourages "the kind of debate we need in our society."

"Let people think for themselves," he said, and I agree. Readers, subscribe to publications that commit to objectivity. News media, stop stepping on opinion writers' turf. That way, columnists like me can get back to writing whatever we damned well please.

Oops, not quite 700 words. Need two more.

There. Done.

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“ Years ago, reporters and anchors didn't reveal their personal biases. We huddled around our console televisions, transistor radios, and coffee-stained newspapers, unaware of the personal opinions of David Brinkley, Connie Chung, Seymour Hersh, Walter Cronkite, and Ted Koppel who reported raw facts. Allowing bias to creep into news reporting was once considered unethical.”

Military spouse employment seminar

By Christine Grady

NORFOLK

The findings of a 2017 report on military families sponsored by the Department of Defense were recently released. The report found a vast majority of military spouses face a variety of challenges. One major challenge such challenge is military spouse employment.

CORE of Hampton Roads along with the Navy League of Hampton Roads will discuss this issue and ways to overcome the roadblocks military spouses face as they explore the employment path at their Military Spouse Employment Conference on March 14 at the Virginia Beach Convention Center.

Our Keynote speaker for the conference will be Ms. Lakesha Brown-Renfro from the Simply Panache Groupe. Ms. Brown-Renfro, the spouses of a recently retired U.S.N. sailor and her business partners, Tanecia Willis and Nzinga Teule-Hekima have built an entrepreneurial empire. They launched a gourmet mango preserve into the food space named 'Mango Mango' Mango Preserves. Mango Mango started off modestly. However, modest was not to be the descriptor after having a record-

producing airing on the acclaimed television series 'Shark Tank'.

We are also extremely fortunate to have Ms. Amanda Crowe from Hiring Our Heroes Military Spouse Professional Network and Ms. Jacey Eckhart, a military sociologist, from The Next Door Project as our presenters for the conference. They will present a workshop segment on how to avoid career pitfalls on the military spouse employment path, as well as a coaching session on the Now To Next pitch.

Mr. Shawn Avery and his team from the Hampton Roads Workforce Council will present a segment on their Top Ten Resources for Hampton Roads Spouses. This conference was specifically developed to ensure all local military spouses have the necessary tools and information needed for a successful job search."

Please join us for this ground breaking conference. Registration information can be found here: <https://milspouseemploymentconference.eventbrite.com>

Conference details and updates can be found on our CORE of Hampton Roads Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/coreofhamptonroads/>



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Navy Vietnam POW visits Sailors at CSFE Port Hueneme learning sites

By Amber Vaglica
Center for Seabees and Facilities Engineering
Public Affairs

PORT HUENEME, CALIF.
Retired Navy Capt. Charlie Plumb, a Vietnam War veteran and former prisoner of war (POW), visited with Sailors from two of the five learning sites in the Center for Seabees and Facilities Engineering (CSFE) domain, Feb. 26.
During his visit, Plumb toured the Seabee Museum and Naval Construction Training Center (NCTC) Port Hueneme “A” School. He also spoke to the students from NCTC and Civil Engineer Corps Basic Class 266.
During his speech, he recounted his life as a naval officer and fighter pilot and described the challenges he faced and overcame during the six years he spent as a

POW in Vietnam. He also explained how honored he was to be able to learn more about the Seabees -- from the Father of the Seabees, Adm. Ben Moreell, to the first and only Seabee to be awarded the Medal of Honor, Construction Mechanic 3rd Class Marvin Shields.
“I’ve known Seabees for a long time but I never really understood the depth of who you guys are and what you do,” said Plumb. “[You] come here and twist wrenches on machines and learn to be mechanics and learn the competencies of your job. But more important, in your life in the military – and certainly my life as a prisoner of war – is the character that is developed right here in these schools.”
Plumb joined the Navy and graduated from the Naval Acade-

my in 1964. Upon his graduation and commissioning, he completed Navy flight training and was soon after called upon to help establish the Navy Fighter Weapons School – also known as “Top Gun.”
Shortly after, Plumb was assigned to fly the F-4 Phantom jet. With call sign “PLUMBER,” he flew 74 successful combat missions over North Vietnam.
On his 75th mission, with only five days remaining until he was to return home, Plumb was shot down over Hanoi in North Vietnam. He spent the next 2,103 days – nearly six years – as a POW in an 8-by-8-foot prison cell.
Plumb mixed humor with earnestness and touched the hearts of a full theater of Seabees, Air Force engineers, and civilians with his story.



Cmdr. James Stockman
Capt. (Ret.) Charlie Plumb, a Vietnam prisoner of war, speaks to Sailors, Airmen, and staff from Naval Construction Training Center Port Hueneme and Civil Engineer Corps Officers School Basic Class 266. Plumb visited with Sailors from two of the five learning sites in the Center for Seabees and Facilities Engineering domain.

“I personally heard him speak during my time at the Naval Academy and his message still resonates with me today,” said NCTC Port Hueneme Commanding Officer, Capt. Rafi Miranda. “In fact, I would say it helped build my foundation and shape me into the officer that I am today.”
Established in 2003 by Naval Education and Training Command, CSFE manages the following learning sites: Civil Engineer Corps Officer School, Port Hueneme; NCTC Gulfport, Miss.;

NCTC Port Hueneme; CSFE Det. Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.; and CSFE Det. Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas.
For more information about CSFE, visit <https://www.netc.navy.mil/centers/csfe/> or follow CSFE on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/CenterForSeabeesPortHueneme/>
For more news from Naval Education and Training Command, visit www.navy.mil/local/cnet/.



Capt. (Ret.) Charlie Plumb, a Vietnam prisoner of war, center, tours the school grounds of Naval Construction Training Center Port Hueneme with Master Chief Constructionman Kevin Nolan, left, and Construction Mechanic 1st Class Michael Hall.



Capt. (Ret.) Charlie Plumb, a Vietnam prisoner of war, right, learns about the legacy of the Father of the Seabees, Adm. Ben Moreell, at the Seabee Museum in Port Hueneme with tour guide and director, Lara Godbille.

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Navy military, civilian applicants for Navy Legislative Fellowship sought

From Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

WASHINGTON

Navy announced a call for Navy civilian, officer and senior enlisted applicants for the calendar year 2020 Navy Legislative Fellows Program in NAVADMIN 056/19, Mar. 4.

The program is a year-long full-time assignment to the office of a member of the House of Representatives or the Senate to broaden understanding of the legislative process and the operation of the U.S. Congress. The program also enhances the Navy’s ability to fulfill its role in the national policy development process.

This highly competitive program is open to O-3 through O-5 active-duty and Full-

Time Support officers, enlisted E-7 through E-9 active-duty Sailors and senior Navy employees GM/GS-13 and above or equivalent.

Military applicants must be available for permanent change of station assignment to Washington, D.C. from November 2019 through December 2020. During the fellowship, officers and senior enlisted Sailors will be assigned to the Office of Legislative Affairs for administrative purposes and must agree to serve for three years following completion or termination of the fellowship.

Military applications must be submitted no later than Apr. 15, 2019.

Program information and submission guidance for military applicants is avail-



File photo

able at <https://www.mnp.navy.mil/group/training-education-qualifications>, click “Navy Legislative Fellowship” in the “Looking For?” section.

Applicants selected for the Legislative Fellowship Program will be contacted via email and a list of selectees will be posted at

<https://www.mnp.navy.mil/group/training-education-qualifications>.

For more information, read NAVADMIN 056/19 at www.npc.navy.mil.

For more news from Chief of Naval Personnel, visit www.navy.mil/local/cnp/.

Harrison talks about 'not quite dead' ships

By Brooke Marquardt
Naval Surface Warfare Center, Carderock Division
Public Affairs

WEST BETHESDA, MD.

James Harrison, the director of the Expeditionary Warfare Ship Division at Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA), was at Naval Surface Warfare Center, Carderock Division on Feb. 13 presenting a brown-bag lecture on damaged ships that just were not ready to sink. Titled “I’m Not Quite Dead Yet,” the lecture focused on ships that sustained large amounts of damage and kept operating. In addition to the presentation being interesting and humorous, Harrison hoped that it would also highlight why survivability is an important factor to consider in naval ship design.

One of the first ships Harrison discussed was USS Squalus (SS 192). A submarine commissioned in the late 1930s, she was running test dives off the coast of New Hampshire in 1939. Before submerging, they did not close the main induction valve, which ultimately flooded half of the submarine, including compartments like the torpedo room, the engine room and the battery shop. One of the Sailors who was closing the door recalled that they saw a close friend of his coming towards the door, but they had to close the door before he got there to prevent further flooding. Out of the crew of 59, 26 Sailors were lost.

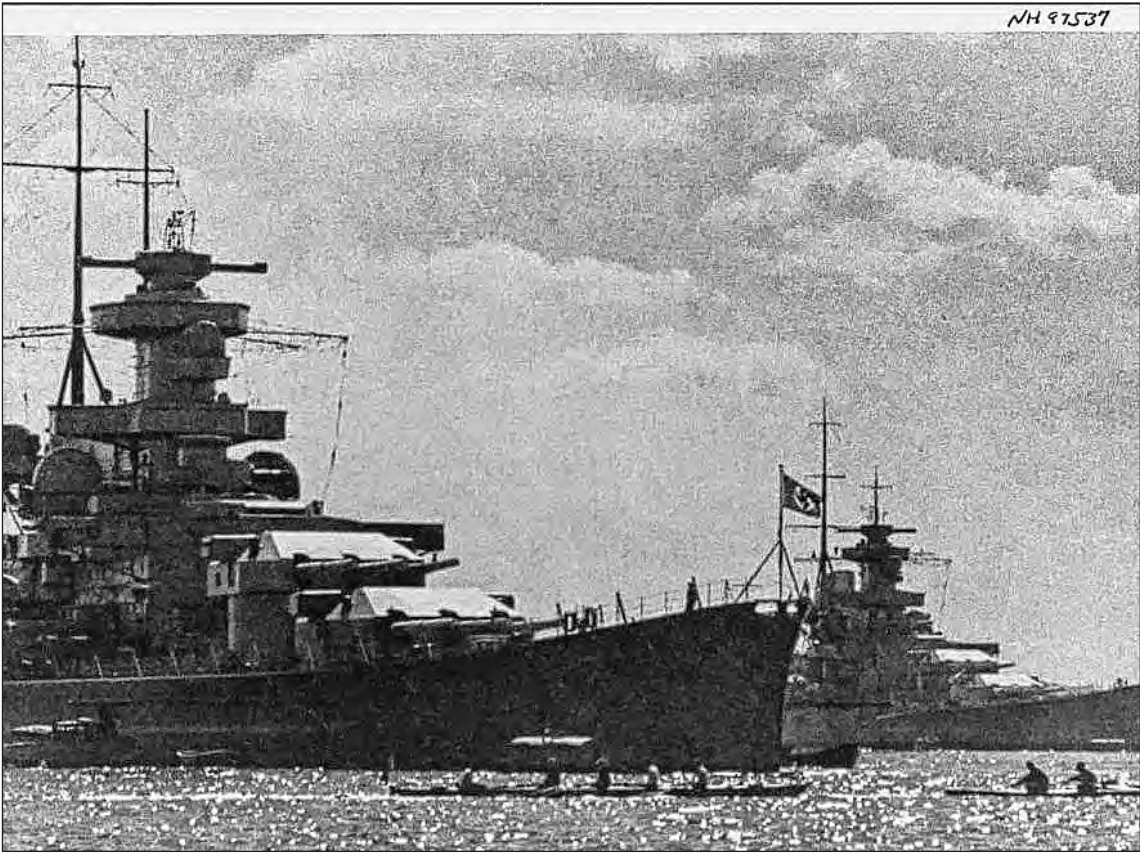
The sub bottomed out in 243 feet of water, where her sister ship saw the emergency buoy and had enough information to know that there were survivors. USS Falcon (AM-28) was rushed from Groton, Connecticut, and set up a rescue effort with a McCann Submarine Res-

cue Chamber, a bell-shaped chamber that was lowered to the submarine and attached. The first ride brought up seven Sailors, the second and third brought up nine, but on the fourth run, the line partially parted and the chamber sank back down. The crew of the Falcon then hand-over-hand pulled this chamber back to the surface and rescued the final eight survivors, including the commanding officer (CO).

The concern then became that one of the U.S. Navy’s newest submarines was sunk just off the coast of New Hampshire, and the Navy launched a salvage effort. The first effort involved attaching pontoons to the submarine and bringing her to the surface, but once on the surface, the pontoons detached and she sank again. It took 628 dives to get her back to dry dock. She was recommissioned in 1940 as USS Saifish (SS 192), and the CO later made it a punishable offense to use the name Squalus, although the nickname for the ship among the fleet was “Squailfish.”

“Arguably, it is one of the most successful rescues of submariners from a sunk submarine, and one of the reasons we keep the submarine-rescue research efforts going. It is one of the international standards that we have, not only with our Allies, but also our enemies; everyone agreed on how you would get submariners out of a submarine that sank,” Harrison said.

In addition to U.S. Navy ships, Harrison also discussed German navy ships like the Schamhorst and Gneisenhau. For these two battlecruisers, the primary mission was for them to act as commerce raiders, not to



U.S. Naval History and Heritage Command Photograph

In a German port, circa spring or early summer 1939, after Gneisenau (right) had been refitted with a clipper bow, but before Scharnhorst had been similarly fitted. Two rowing shells (one with four oarsmen and a coxwain, the other with two oarsmen only) are in the foreground. Fine screen halftone reproduction, published in the contemporary German booklet Deutsche Seemacht.

fight other battleships. Harrison compared the lives of these ships to video games: once you get past the introductory level, the levels get harder and harder. The British ship HMS Rawalpindi was a converted ocean-liner, had eight six-inch guns, completely unarmored and was in the Iceland gap between the Norwegian Sea and the Atlantic Ocean on blockade duty in November 1939 when she came across these ships. The Rawalpindi CO’s final message was, “We’ll fight them both, they’ll sink us and that’ll be that. Good-bye.”

The ships later suffered structural damage due to rough seas and were repaired. They went on to take torpedo damage and need repairs. When they were sent on missions in seas near France, they took on bomb after bomb from air raids, continually needing repairs. In February 1942, they were called back to Germany, where they could be better protected. This was Operation Cerberus, also known as the “Channel Dash,” and despite numerous attacks from aircrafts

and ships, the British and their Allies caused no further damage to these passing ships. “Not their best day,” Harrison said of the Allied forces.

Once the Schamhorst and Gneisenhau made it out of British danger, they promptly ran into mines. Both damaged, they needed to be repaired yet again. A cautionary tale emerged from the attempted repair of the Gneisenhau: do not go into dry dock with the magazines loaded. A bomb went off in one of the magazines and finally ended Gneisenhau’s career. Both of these ships spent more time damaged than not during the course of their careers. The Schamhorst was then sent to Norway alone and was again damaged by the rough seas and repaired. Here she entered her final action, the Battle of North Cape. She fought a battleship, a heavy cruiser, three light cruisers and nine destroyers in a blizzard over three engagements. The first engagement knocked out her radar; she survived the second engagement, but did not

survive the third. Out of a crew of 1,968 Sailors, only 36 were picked up by the enemy.

Also during World War II, the U.S. Navy’s USS Enterprise (CV 6) was attacked in six separate events over the course of three-and-a-half years, and the Japanese reported her sunk four or five of these times. Enterprise sustained bomb damage from multiple battles, to include the Battle of Santa Cruz in October 1942, where the Japanese were introduced to new technology the U.S. Navy had—radar-fused anti-aircraft shells. These were designed to sense when they were approaching something and when it was at the right distance, it exploded.

“This is one of the greatest secrets that the U.S. Navy had during World War II. This set the stage for U.S. anti-aircraft efforts from then on, as surface ships became able to largely defend themselves in a way that they were incapable of before,” Harrison said.

The Enterprise was damaged a few more times before March 1945, when she was damaged again by friendly fire. In May 1945, off the coast of Okinawa, Japan, she was hit with two kamikazes and was taken out of service two months before the end of the war. She earned 20 battle stars, more than any other battleship. The success of this ship left a lasting legacy, even today. First, her namesake lives on in Starship Enterprise from the Star Trek movie franchise. When NASA created their first space shuttle, Star Trek fans created a campaign that it be named after the Enterprise and so it was. Jack C. Taylor, founder of the Enterprise car rental company, was a World War II veteran who had served on the Enterprise.

The name Enterprise will live on as the third aircraft carrier of the Ford Class, CVN 80, which is scheduled to be operational by 2027. It will be the ninth U.S. Navy ship to bear the name Enterprise.

For more news from Naval Surface Warfare Center Carderock, visit www.navy.mil/local/nswcc/.



U.S. Naval History and Heritage Command Photograph

USS Enterprise (CV 6) landing an aircraft while supporting the Gilberts Operation in November 1943.



MC3 Alana Langdon

The crew of the Navy's newest littoral combat ship USS Wichita (LCS 13) bring the ship to life during its commissioning ceremony at Naval Station Mayport, Jan. 12, 2019. Wichita is the fourteenth littoral combat ship to enter the fleet and the seventh of the Freedom variant. It is the third Navy combat ship named after Wichita, the largest city in Kansas.

NAVFAC Southeast awards \$24.7 million for new LCS Operational Trainer Facility at NS Mayport

From NAVFAC Southeast Public Affairs

JACKSONVILLE, FLA.

Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Southeast awarded a \$240 million indefinite-delivery indefinite-quantity design-build multiple award construction contract (IDIQ-MACC) to five large businesses February 22 for construction projects located at Naval Station (NS) Mayport and the NAVAC Southeast area of responsibility (AOR).

Archer Western Federal JV is

being awarded the initial task order at \$24.7 million for the P427 Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) Operational Trainer Facility (LTF) located at NS Mayport, Florida. Work for this task order is expected to be completed by January 2021. The remaining four contractors will be awarded \$1,000 each to satisfy the guaranteed minimum.

"The LTF provides innovative, immersive, virtual reality training for LCS crews which allow them to be better prepared for the operational scenarios they will en-

counter at sea," said Commander Littoral Combat Ship Squadron Two Capt. Shawn Johnston. "It is not surprising that many other ship classes will begin to utilize similar high fidelity simulators. This increased LCS training capacity will allow the 14 LCS expected to call Mayport home."

LCS crew training is based on a virtual ship-centric concept, accomplished through a combination of classroom instruction, vendor training, shore-based trainers and sophisticated virtual reality training systems. The LTF will

provide LCS crews with the necessary training and certifications they require prior to deployment.

The work to be performed provides for, but is not limited to, general building type projects (new construction, renovation, alteration, demolition, and repair work) including industrial, airfield, aircraft hangar, aircraft traffic control, infrastructure, administrative, training, dormitory, and community support facilities.

MACC contracts are used to pre-qualify a group of contractors (usually four to seven) with respect to performance, experience, capability and safety and then issue task orders to them for projects that meet the parameters of the MACC. MACCs save the command and the government time and resources.

The five large businesses awarded under this contract in-

clude: Archer Western Federal JV, Chicago, Illinois, B.L. Harbert International, Birmingham, Alabama, The Haskell Company, Jacksonville, Florida, The Korte Company, St. Louis, Missouri and Mortenson Construction, Minneapolis, Minnesota. These five contractors may compete for task orders under the terms and conditions of the awarded contract.

All work on this contract will be within the NAVFAC Southeast AOR which includes Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas.

The term of the contract is not to exceed 60 months, with an expected completion date of February 2024.

For more news from Naval Facilities Engineering Command, visit www.navy.mil/local/navfachq/.

14th Pacific Partnership mission prepares to enhance disaster response cooperation, strengthen ties in Indo-Pacific

From Commander,Logistics Group Western Pacific Public Affairs

SINGAPORE

The U.S. Navy will join allied and partner nation forces for the 14th Pacific Partnership mission, scheduled to begin March 4. This annual maritime operation will help improve disaster response preparedness, resiliency and capacity while enhancing partnerships with participating nations and civilian humanitarian organizations throughout the Indo-Pacific.

Pacific Partnership is the largest annual, multilateral disaster re-

sponse preparedness mission conducted in the Indo-Pacific. This year's mission will be led by Commander, Destroyer Squadron 1, embarked in the expeditionary fast transport ships USNS Brunswick (T-EPF 6) and USNS Fall River (T-EPF 4). It will include more than 500 military and civilian personnel from Australia, Canada, Japan, Malaysia, Peru, the Philippines, South Korea, Thailand, the United Kingdom and the United States.

"Pacific Partnership is about building trust and sharing knowledge," said Rear Adm. Joey Tynch, commander, Task Force

73, the executive agent for Pacific Partnership 2019. "This mission shows that the U.S., our partners and hosts are working together to making this region better prepared for disaster response."

Experts in the fields of engineering, medicine and disaster response will partner with each host country to conduct civic-action projects, community health exchanges, medical symposiums and disaster response training activities.

Engagements between Pacific Partnership participants and host nations are intended to improve capacity, enhance regional part-



MC1 Nathan Carpenter

The Military Sealift Command (MSC) expeditionary fast transport ship USNS Brunswick (T-EPF 6) departs Naval Base Guam, passing USNS Fall River (T-EPF 4) and marking the start of Pacific Partnership 2019. Pacific Partnership, now in its 14th iteration, is the largest annual multinational humanitarian assistance and disaster relief preparedness mission conducted in the Indo-Pacific. Each year the mission team works collectively with host and partner nations to enhance regional interoperability and disaster response capabilities, increase security and stability in the region, and foster new and enduring friendships in the Indo-Pacific.

nerships and increase multilateral cooperation for disaster preparedness.

"Pacific Partnership brings nations together to prepare in calm to respond in crisis," said Capt. Randy Van Rossum, commodore, Destroyer Squadron 1, the mission commander for Pacific Partnership 2019. "Our mission team, made up of servicemembers and volunteers from around the world, reflects this enduring commitment to the region."

Pacific Partnership began in response to one of the world's most catastrophic natural disasters, the December 2004 tsunami that devastated parts of South and Southeast Asia. The mission has evolved over the years from emphasis on direct care to an operation focused on enhancing partnerships through host nation subject matter expert and civil-military exchanges.

Pacific Partnership 2019 will have several distinctions from previous iterations:

This year's mission will be conducted from aboard two expeditionary fast transport ships, which provide rapid intra-theater trans-

port and have the capability to conduct relief operations in small or damaged ports.

This year's planning and activities reflect the region's interest in building Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Relief capability and strengthening resilience.

This is the second year a multinational command-and-control structure will be used, consisting of a director of mission from the United Kingdom and mission chief staff officer from Australia.

Pacific Partnership will continue to leverage the U.S. National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security (WPS), a plan backed by Executive Order 13595 and UN Security Council Resolution 1325. Integration of WPS into Pacific Partnership yields opportunities to engage with partner nations on the topics of gender integration and gender perspectives, as well as preparedness in dealing with vulnerable populations (women, children, elderly and disabled) during and in the aftermath of crises.

For more news from Commander, Task Force 73, visit www.navy.mil/local/ctf73/.



MC2 Nicholas Burgains

Capt. Randy Van Rossum, mission commander of Pacific Partnership 2019, observes the Military Sealift Command expeditionary fast transport ship USNS Brunswick (T-EPF 6) as it departs Naval Base Guam for Pacific Partnership 2019.

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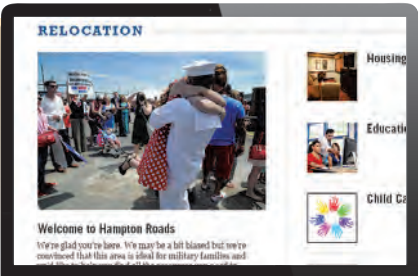
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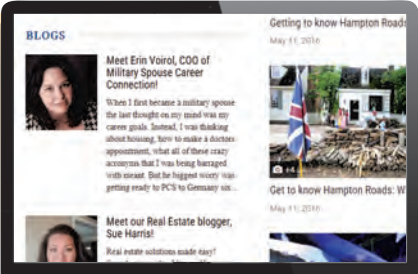
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F35C | Aircraft earns IOC

Continued from B1

ine Corps CVN-based Joint Strike Fighter pilots. To accommodate the F-35C program at NAS Lemoore, several facilities were built or remodeled to facilitate specific F-35C requirements with regard to maintenance and training, including a Pilot Fit Facility, Centralized Engine Repair Facility, Pilot Training Center and a newly-remodeled hangar. Future projects are planned as additional Navy squadrons transition into the F-35C. The Marine Corps plans to transition four F-35C squadrons that will be assigned to Carrier Air Wings for deployments.

“We’re very proud of what our Sailors have accomplished in the Joint Strike Fighter community,” said CAPT Max McCoy, commodore of the U.S. Navy’s Joint Strike Fighter Wing. “Their commitment to mission delivered fifth generation capability to the carrier air wing, making us more combat effective than ever before. We will continue to learn and improve ways to maintain and

sustain F-35C as we prepare for first deployment. The addition of F-35C to existing Carrier Air Wing capability ensures that we can fight and win in contested battlespace now and well into the future.”

Meanwhile, Rear Admiral Dale Horan, director, USN F-35C Fleet Integration Office said, “The F-35C will revolutionize capability and operating concepts of aircraft carrier-based naval aviation using advanced technologies to find, fix and assess threats and, if necessary, track, target and engage them in all contested environments,” adding “This accomplishment represents years of hard work on the part of the F-35 Joint Program Office and Naval Aviation Enterprise. Our focus has now shifted to applying lessons learned from this process to future squadron transitions, and preparing VFA-147 for their first over-seas deployment.”

The mission-ready F-35C is the latest addition to U.S. Navy’s Carrier Air Wing. With its stealth technology, state-of-the-art avion-



MCC Shannon E. Renfroee
Three F-35C Lightning II aircraft attached to the ‘Argonauts’ of Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 147, the “Rough Raiders” of Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 125 and the “Grim Reapers” of Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 101, all attached to Commander, Joint Strike Fighter Wing, complete a flight over Eglin Air Force Base in Fort Walton Beach, Fla., Feb. 1, 2019.

ics, advanced sensors, weapons capacity and range, the aircraft carrier-based F-35C provides unprecedented air superiority, interdiction, suppression of enemy air defenses and close-air-support as well as advanced command and

control functions through fused sensors. These state-of-the-art capabilities provide pilots and combatant commanders unrivaled battlespace awareness and lethality. The F-35C is the final U.S. Joint Strike Fighter variant to declare

IOC and follows the USAF’s F-35A and USMC’s F-35B. IOC declaration is a significant milestone.

For more news from Commander, Naval Air Forces, visit www.navy.mil/local/airpac/.

CHARLESTON | Ceremony held

Continued from B1

Neagley will oversee as a Navy officer.

“If called upon, she’ll be ready to fight and win,” said Neagley. “She is a lethal ship.”

Adm. James Foggo III, commander, U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Africa, and commander, Allied Joint Force Command Naples, Italy, shared his admiration for littoral combat ships like LCS-18 saying that “we need more like her.”

But he saved his greatest charge for Charleston’s crew.

“This ship was made to defend America,” said Foggo. “Take care of her, so you in turn can take care of all of us.”

Secretary of the Navy Richard V. Spencer reflected on the importance of the ship to the Navy mission and the changes ahead. He said USS Charleston contributes to giving the American people “the Navy the nation needs.”

Spencer added that cooperation with industry and production were two key elements to deliver the changes needed in the Navy, such as more powerful ships like LCS-18.

He recognized South Carolina Sen. Tim Scott for his contributions as a fellow leader in the ship’s commissioning and as an impactful representative for the state.

Scott delivered the commissioning ceremony’s principal address for the ship named after the state’s oldest and largest city.

“There is a reason more than 40 ships have been named for South Carolina, whether it’s our places or our people,” said Scott. “It’s because so many South Carolinians have been dedicated to making sure that America remains the safest nation on Earth.”

Scott spoke about the magnitude of LCS-18.

“USS Charleston has the ability to tackle asymmetrical threats like mines, quiet diesel submarines, and at the same time, fast surface ships,” said Scott. “We have been blessed to have our Charleston defending this nation.”

Soon after these words from South Carolina’s Senator and the setting of the ship’s commissioning by Spencer, Cmdr. Christopher K. Busca, USS Charleston’s commanding officer, gave Cmdr. James H. Hoey, the ship’s executive officer, orders to hoist the ship’s colors and commissioning pennant. His orders to command the ship followed.

Next, the traditional setting of the first watch was ordered by former Charleston Mayor Joseph P. Riley Jr. After 10 consecutive terms leading the Holy City, Riley is one of the longest serving mayors in the United States. He and his wife Charlotte, who serves as the ship’s sponsor, maintain strong ties in the Low-country.

Mrs. Riley christened then, fu-

ture USS Charleston on Aug. 26, 2017, during a ceremony at the Austal shipbuilding facility in Mobile, Alabama. She was also in her hometown of Charleston for this ceremony to give the order to “man our ship and bring her to life!”

Since her christening, Charleston demonstrated a culture of excellence when she completed her New Construction Light Off Assessment (LOA) in three-and-a-half days, half the time allotted for the visit. LOA is an assessment which ensures the ship is able to safely light-off and operate its engineering plant both in port and at sea. The ship accomplished more than 70 percent of her material checks in the two weeks leading up to the LOA, which greatly facilitated that early completion.

Recent revisions to the Surface Force Training and Readiness Manual now permit ships’ crews to certify early when they demonstrate full proficiency during certification events. Charleston is one of three surface ships to satisfy certification requirements under these changes, which increases commanding officer’s discretionary crew training time.

Busca, recognized his success as a leader is predicated on the foundation of support, vision and teamwork built with his crew as they worked toward this milestone. He said the crew seemed to never lose their positive attitude. They strived for excellence in all assessments and chose to prove that excellence in all areas, even when it meant staying late to do so.

“It didn’t take long to know that there was something special. They had an infectious attitude that seemed to never end,” said Busca. “I am a proud captain.”

Falling in line with his pride as their leader, Busca added a surprise element to the commissioning ceremony calling one of his crew to the stage. Electronics Technician 1st Class Jeremiah Hughey, from Biloxi, Mississippi, was meritoriously promoted to the rank of first-class petty officer during the ceremony.

Busca did not hold back on calling out the contributions his multifaceted crew makes to the success of the ship.

The 74 Sailors aboard come from places like Jamaica, Costa Rica, Mexico, China, Haiti and the Philippines, just to name a few. The education on deck included the ship’s chief engineer with a PhD. and a chief quartermaster with a Master’s degree from Harvard. Busca pointed out that this diversity makes them special and the solidarity as one team under the same flag is what makes the crew of LCS-18 so powerful against any threat.

In closing, he had these words for any threat contemplating hostile action.

“I will bring up all four en-

gines online, come to full power and steam right at you with that gun blazing and my eventual missiles launching. Charleston will not turn and run. We will not run because while we breathe, we fight!”

After the ceremony, the ship will transit to join Littoral Combat Ship Squadron 1 and 10 other littoral combat ships currently homeported at Naval Base San Diego.

The littoral combat ship is a fast, agile, mission-focused platform designed to operate in near-shore environments, while capable of open-ocean tasking and winning against 21st-century coastal threats such as submarines, mines and swarming small craft. They are capable of supporting forward presence, maritime security, sea control and deterrence.

As clouds passed overhead, shipboard alarms echoed across the Cooper River and the crew of USS Charleston (LCS 18) ran aboard their ship and brought her to life. More than 5,000 guests gathered at the Columbus Street Terminal in the ship’s namesake city, officially welcoming the U.S. Navy’s newest littoral combat ship into the fleet.

LCS-18 is the 16th littoral combat ship to enter the fleet and the ninth of the Independence variant. The ship is the sixth to be named after Charleston, South Carolina, to honor a long history, from the decades of work at the Charleston Naval Shipyard to Charleston Marine Container, Inc., building mission modules for the littoral combat ship program today.

Charleston Mayor John T. Tecklenburg welcomed the audience to the commissioning of what he identified as a symbol of the city of Charleston. Tecklenburg added that since the founding of Charleston almost 350 years ago, the sea has been part of the Holy’s City’s economy and culture.

“The sea is history,” said Tecklenburg. “Nowhere will you find a people who understand those words more fully than the people of Charleston.”

In honoring the state of its namesake city, LCS-18 adopted South Carolina’s motto – As I Breathe, I Hope – and made it its own adding a combative twist – As We Breathe, We Fight!

Rear Adm. John Neagley, program executive officer for unmanned and small ships, spoke of the fighting power of LCS-18, the final ship commissioning Neagley will oversee as a Navy officer.

“If called upon, she’ll be ready to fight and win,” said Neagley. “She is a lethal ship.”

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He recognized South Carolina Sen. Tim Scott for his contributions as a fellow leader in the ship’s commissioning and as an impactful representative for the state.

Scott delivered the commissioning ceremony’s principal address for the ship named after the state’s oldest and largest city.

“There is a reason more than 40 ships have been named for South Carolina, whether it’s our places or our people,” said Scott. “It’s because so many South Carolinians have been dedicated to making sure that America remains the safest nation on Earth.”

Scott spoke about the magnitude of LCS-18.

“USS Charleston has the ability to tackle asymmetrical threats like mines, quiet diesel submarines, and at the same time, fast surface ships,” said Scott. “We have been blessed to have our Charleston defending this nation.”

Soon after these words from Scott and the setting of the ship’s commissioning by Spencer, Cmdr. Christopher K. Busca, USS Charleston’s commanding officer, gave Cmdr. James H. Hoey, the ship’s executive officer, orders to hoist the ship’s colors and commissioning pennant. His orders to command the ship followed.

Next, the traditional setting of the first watch was ordered by former Charleston Mayor Joseph P. Riley Jr. After 10 consecutive terms leading the Holy City, Riley is one of the longest serving mayors in the United States. He and his wife Charlotte, who serves as the ship’s sponsor, maintain strong ties in the Low-country.

Mrs. Riley christened then, future USS Charleston on Aug. 26, 2017, during a ceremony at the Austal shipbuilding facility in Mobile, Alabama. She was also in her hometown of Charleston for this ceremony to give the order to “man our ship and bring her to life!”

Since her christening, Charleston demonstrated a culture of excellence when she completed her New Construction Light Off Assessment (LOA) in three-and-a-half days, half the time allotted for the visit. LOA is an assessment which ensures the ship is able to safely light-off and operate its engineering plant both in port and at sea. The ship accomplished more than 70 percent

of her material checks in the two weeks leading up to the LOA, which greatly facilitated that early completion.

Recent revisions to the Surface Force Training and Readiness Manual now permit ships’ crews to certify early when they demonstrate full proficiency during certification events. Charleston is one of three surface ships to satisfy certification requirements under these changes, which increases commanding officer’s discretionary crew training time.

Busca, recognized his success as a leader is predicated on the foundation of support, vision and teamwork built with his crew as they worked toward this milestone. He said the crew seemed to never lose their positive attitude. They strived for excellence in all assessments and chose to prove that excellence in all areas, even when it meant staying late to do so.

“It didn’t take long to know that there was something special. They had an infectious attitude that seemed to never end,” said Busca. “I am a proud captain.”

Falling in line with his pride as their leader, Busca added a surprise element to the commissioning ceremony calling one of his crew to the stage. Electronics Technician 1st Class Jeremiah Hughey, from Biloxi, Mississippi, was meritoriously advanced to the rank of first-class petty officer during the ceremony.

Busca did not hold back on calling out the contributions his multifaceted crew makes to the success of the ship.

The 74 Sailors aboard come from places like Jamaica, Costa Rica, Mexico, China, Haiti and the Philippines, just to name a few. The education on deck included the ship’s chief engineer with a PhD. and a chief quartermaster with a Master’s degree from Harvard. Busca pointed out that this diversity makes them special and the solidarity as one team under the same flag is what makes the crew of LCS-18 so powerful against any threat.

In closing, he had these words for any threat contemplating hostile action.

“I will bring up all four engines online, come to full power and steam right at you with that gun blazing and my eventual missiles launching. Charleston will not turn and run. We will not run because while we breathe, we fight!”

After the ceremony, the ship will transit to join Littoral Combat Ship Squadron 1 and 10 other littoral combat ships currently homeported at Naval Base San Diego.

The littoral combat ship is a fast, agile, mission-focused platform designed to operate in near-shore environments, while capable of open-ocean tasking and winning against 21st-century coastal threats such as submarines, mines and swarming small craft. They are capable of supporting forward presence, maritime security, sea control and deterrence.



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Chesapeake native serves aboard future USS Charleston

Mineman 3rd Class Chris H. Parker, from Chesapeake, Virginia, proudly serves aboard the future USS Charleston.

» See C2

SECTION C | FLAGSHIPNEWS.COM | 3.7.2019

THE 2 AMIGOS: Steve Martin and Martin Short: Now You See Them, Soon You Won't

By Yiorgo

Seven Venues is proud to present two legendary stars of the screen: Steve Martin and Martin Short, as they reunite to bring merriment and laughter when they perform this Sunday March 10, 2019 at 7 p.m. at Chrysler Hall in their national touring show "Now You See Them, Soon You Won't". This particular show at the Chrysler also features the nationally known, all female bluegrass band Della Mae and renowned pianist/keyboardist and Jimmy Kimmel Live band member Jeff Babko.

For Steve Martin and Martin Short, their natural chemistry goes back to when they first met while filming the now classic movie The Three Amigos. Through the years their friendship has persevered and blossomed into that of mutual respect and enjoying each other's company not just while working together but privately as well to the point of taking family vacations together.

This genuine love for each other is evident in their newest venture together "Now You See Them, Soon You Won't," and those lucky enough to see them perform are in for a treat of a lifetime. In this show, Steve Martin and Martin Short present new material, that includes a variety of musical sketches sprinkled with conversations about their legendary careers, incredible encounters, and of course, their extraordinary lives in show business. If the audience

allows themselves to suspend disbelief, they can almost see the three amigos back together again only this time the audience is the third amigo.

What can one say about Steve Martin that has not already been said? Steve Martin is one of the most well known talents in the entertainment industry that has rewarded him with five Grammy® awards, an Academy Award®, an Emmy®, the Mark Twain Award, and the Kennedy Center Honors.

An accomplished Grammy®-winning bluegrass banjoist and composer, Steve Martin began his career as an Emmy®-winning comedy television writer, stand-up comedian and movie actor. With more than 47 movies under his belt, some of his more iconic films include: The Jerk, All of Me, Roxanne, Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, Planes, Trains & Automobiles, Parenthood, and Father of the Bride, among many others. Steve is also an established author, with some of his work being novels, comic pieces, and a play good enough that it premiered on Broadway in 2017.

Equally talented, Martin Short is a celebrated comedian and actor in his own right with over 38 movies to his credit. He is known the world over for his incredible desire to entertain at the highest level of performance while making it look as effortlessly as possible.

Martin Short's first recognition of respect for his work started on national TV with the extremely popular night time mega-hit,



Courtesy Seven Venues

NBC's "Saturday Night Live (SNL). This notoriety quickly led to feature films, such as Three Amigos, Tim Burton's Mars Attacks, Frankenweenie, Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted and Father of the Bride just to list a few. Martin Short is a two-time primetime Emmy® award-winner and a Tony®-winning stage actor. In 1994, he was awarded the Order of Canada and was inducted into the Canadian Walk of Fame in

June 2000. In 2017, he received a Lifetime Artistic Achievement Award from the Governor-general of Canada.

So for the time of your life, hold on to your hat and allow yourself to be lost as the third amigo and get ready to laugh, sing and applaud the amazing duo of Steve Martin and Martin Short as well as the bluegrass band Della Mae and Martin Short's musical director, accompanist and performer since

2002 Jeff Babko.

For tickets and more info go to <https://www.sevenvenues.com/events/detail/steve-martin-and-martin-short>

Yiorgo is a Hampton Roads arts, entertainment and sports writer. A stage, TV and movie actor, he is also an educator, motivational speaker, writer, storyteller and columnist.

"Military Through The Ages" features centuries of military history in one weekend

From The Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation

WILLIAMSBURG, VA

In just one weekend, visitors can experience centuries of military history during Jamestown Settlement's time-honored "Military Through the Ages" event on Saturday and Sunday, March 16-17. This year's event will feature a special salute to women's roles in the military and their contributions during times of war.

"Military Through the Ages," held at Jamestown Settlement each year since 1984, will feature more than 500 re-enactors depicting armed forces from the first century all the way to modern-day soldiers with the Virginia Army National Guard. This unique chronological display of military history allows visitors to explore military encampments and interact with re-enactors to learn how uniforms, weapons and military tactics evolved through the centuries, as well as aspects of field communication and medical treatment.

A Salute to Women's Wartime Roles

During a dedicated program at noon Saturday and in military encampments throughout the weekend, discover how women have played a vital role in military conflicts across the ages, from traditional roles of nurses, cooks and

tailors to advancement as soldiers, pilots and mechanics. Among the re-enactment camps, visitors can take in the spinning, weaving and leatherworking of women in Scara Karoli in A.D. 778, as well as the field telephone operations and message delivery of a German Army signals company, Afrikakorps, in 1942, and the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps in 1944, which recruited women as typists, telephone operators, supply clerks, cartographers and engineers. Representatives with the U.S. Army Women's Museum also will highlight the history of women in the armed forces.

Timeline from the First Century to the Virginia Army National Guard

More than 500 re-enactors will portray soldiers and military encounters from Roman times, the medieval period, Hundred Years' War, War of the Roses, American Revolution, War of 1812, Napoleonic Wars and American Civil War. Re-enactors depicting World Wars I and II, and the Vietnam War will take visitors through the 20th century. The National Museum of the Marine Corps, U.S. Army Transportation Museum and Quartermaster Museum and the Virginia Army National Guard 11th Field Artillery will represent the present day.

Artillery & Pass-in-Review

Comparative artillery-firing demonstrations will be presented at noon Sunday, with weapons ranging from a 17th-century swivel gun to a modern-day howitzer. A military pass-in-review will take place at 3 p.m. Sunday and will feature recognition of re-enactor units judged on campsites and field demonstrations, as well as awards for visitor and re-enactors' choice for the top re-enactment unit.

Military Aspects at Jamestown Settlement

Arms, armor and military accouterments of 17th-century Virginia can be seen year-round inside Jamestown Settlement's extensive galleries, featuring films and interactive exhibits that tell the story of America's first permanent English colony and of the Powhatan Indian, European and African cultures in 1600s Virginia. Families can experience hands-on activities, such as trying on reproductions of English helmets and breastplates, in outdoor re-creations of a 1610-14 English fort, a Powhatan Indian village and on board one of three re-created ships that brought English colonists to Virginia in 1607 – Susan Constant, Godspeed and Discovery.

Jamestown Settlement is a stage for the 2019 Commemoration, American Evolution, with new gallery exhibits debuting this sum-



Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation

Women's Auxillary Army Corps Separation Battalion, Able Company.

mer and a series of events and programs commemorating key historical events that occurred in 1619. "TENACITY: Women in Jamestown and Early Virginia," a yearlong special exhibition and 2019 legacy project, connects women's issues in the 17th century and their relevance today.

"Military Through the Ages" is made possible in part by a grant from James City County, with additional support from the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc. Annual Fund.

Admission to Jamestown Settlement, open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily year-round, is \$17.50 for

adults and \$8.25 for ages 6-12. Children under 6 are free. A value-priced combination ticket with the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown is \$26.00 for adults and \$12.50 for ages 6-12. Parking is free.

Jamestown Settlement is located on State Route 31 near the Colonial Parkway in James City County, just southwest of Williamsburg and adjacent to Historic Jamestowne. For information, call (888) 593-4682 toll-free or (757) 253-4838, or visit <http://www.historyisfun.org/jamestown-settlement/military-through-the-ages/>.

Calendar

For a complete list of events in Hampton Roads or to submit your own, visit www.flagshipnews.com/calendar

Out Of The Box: Anthony Rosano & The Conqueroos

- March 7. 7 p.m. Free
- Sandler Center: Miller Studio Theatre, 201 Market St., Virginia Beach
- www.sandlercenter.org

Make your New Year's Resolution to support local artists! The Sandler Center's "Out of the Box" Emerging Artist Series take place Thursdays January through March in the Miller Studio. In collaboration with Paul Shugrue on 89.5 WHRV, this great after work event is free and open to the public. Enjoy a night of music, food, and drinks starting at 7 PM, with doors opening at 6 PM. Standing room only. Out of the Box benefits the Sandler Center Foundation's Local Heroes program, which provides tickets for Hampton Road's "Local Heroes" (first responders, teachers, and military) and their families to attend a performance at the Sandler Center. Out of the Box is presented by the Sandler Center Foundation and California Pizza Kitchen. Anthony Rosano and the Conqueroos blend old school blues with a modern rock sound. Formed in 2012, the band has been recording and performing all over the southeast and beyond. Formed by guitarist and vocalist Anthony Rosano, the current line up features the rhythm section of Paul Warren on bass, and Scott Smith on drums. The trio is often augmented by Jeremy "J.B." Bustillos on harmonica and sax. Anthony Rosano and the Conqueroos have received numerous accolades including "Best Blues" for 4 years (2015/2016/2017/2018), along with "Best Live Performer" (2017/2018) and an "Album of the Year" (2018) in the VEER Music Awards.

Headquarters - Magic & More Show

- March 8. 6-8 p.m. Free. All ages
- Pub One Community Recreation Center (Marianas Hall, Bldg. SC-400)
- 757-444-0347

NSAHR Headquarters MWR Community Recreation presents a Magic & More Show. Join us on Friday, March 8 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Pub One Community Recreation Center (Marianas Hall, Bldg. SC-400). There will be a magician, face painting, balloon artist, refreshments and more.

Virginia RV Show

- March 8-10. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. \$10
- Hampton Roads Convention Center, 1610 Coliseum Dr., Hampton
- www.thehrcc.com

An RV show featuring the very latest makes and models of recreational vehicles from all the nation's top manufacturers. Special factory rebates, financing, and on the spot loan approval makes this show a can't-miss for the serious RV enthusiasts! The show will feature all kinds of industry vendors, along with campgrounds, tow vehicles, and everything you may need for your next RV vacation. There is something for every budget, from \$4500 up to \$600,000, Seminars, features, and entertainment will set this show apart from all others in the state.

Grand National Championship by the Sea Cheerleading

- March 9-10. \$15-\$45.
- Virginia Beach Convention Center, 1000 19th St., Virginia Beach
- www.cheeranddanceextreme.com/nationals

Cheer and Dance Extreme is excited to host The Grand - National Championship By The Sea in the beautiful Virginia Beach Convention Center. 2019 will mark CDE's 12th year at the beautiful VBCC! Virginia Beach is perfect in March - beautiful weather and great hotel rates! Our Nationals, also known as, THE GRAND ~ National Championship By The Sea was the first National Championship hosted at the Virginia Beach Convention Center. We have teams from up and down the east coast attend to see who will be crowned, Cheer and Dance Extreme's National Champion. We feel that hosting just ONE National Event makes it have more meaning. We go the extra mile to make sure your team has a TRUE National Championship Weekend. CDE is proud to offer one of the best productions ~ nominated for SITA's Best Use of Lighting, Sound & Set Design! Our fantastic National Themed Weekend with extra activities and our Saturday Night Dance Party along with the town of Virginia Beach itself will make this the a wonderful National competition your team. One cannot forget all of the prizes – CASH, Coaches Gifts, National Participant Gifts, Jackets, Banners, Hoodies and More! So come and experience “THE GRAND” – The one and only at the Virginia Beach Convention Center!



Gary Sinise and the Lt. Dan Band will visit JEB Little Creek

Gary Sinise & The Lt. Dan Band in concert

- March 25. 5 p.m. Free - limited to 1500 people
- JEB Little Creek - Ft. Story
- www.hrcv.uso.org/events

Concessions will be available for purchase. The concert is FREE and open to all DOD ID cardholders and their guests. No large bags, backpacks, outside food or beverages are allowed. No baby strollers or carrying seats are allowed. A stroller parking area will be available outside.

Community

■ **Submit YOUR events, news and photos**
The Flagship welcomes submissions from our readers online. Please submit **events** here: www.militarynews.com/users/admin/calendar/event/
Please submit **news** and **photos** here: www.militarynews.com/norfolk-navy-flagship/submit_news/

Chesapeake native serves aboard future USS Charleston



Petty Officer 2nd Class Natalia Murillo/Navy Outreach

Mineman 3rd Class Chris H. Parker, from Chesapeake, Virginia, performs maintenance on a fire hose nozzle aboard the future USS Charleston (LCS 18). When Charleston is commissioned in its namesake city later this week, it will be the 16th littoral combat ship to enter the fleet and the ninth of the Independence variant. It is the sixth ship named for Charleston, the oldest and largest city in the U.S. state of South Carolina.

Celebrate Women’s History Month with these lectures presented by TCC

From Laura Sanford

Celebrate Women’s History Month with these lectures presented by Tidewater Community College.

March 21
Returning Women’s Luncheon – Chesapeake Campus
12:30 – 2:30 p.m. - Chesapeake Campus Student Center, Chesapeake Bay Room

Speaker Benita Adams is a television and radio host, author and motivational speaker. She has worked in the media and communications field for more than 30 years, including Channel 13 News Now, an ABC affiliate, in Hampton Roads. She is currently the host and producer of the radio show “Hampton Roads Voices” on Norfolk State University’s WNSB 91.1.

Space is limited. To reserve a seat, contact the Intercultural Learning Center at intercultural@tcc.edu or 757-822-7296

March 26
Returning Women’s Luncheon – Norfolk Campus
12:30 - 2:30 p.m., Norfolk Campus, Student Center, 5th Floor

Chesapeake native Valerie Myers, the media and communications coordinator with the City of Virginia Beach, is the

speaker. She received her associate degree from TCC in 2005. She went on to earn a bachelor’s in English and creative writing, with a minor in African American Studies, from Old Dominion University.

Space is limited. To reserve your seat, contact the Intercultural Learning Center at intercultural@tcc.edu or 757-822-7296.

March 28
Returning Women’s Luncheon – Virginia Beach Campus
12:30 - 2:30 p.m., Virginia Beach Campus Student Center, Room K-320

Camilla Walck, a high school science teacher, STEM ambassador and adjunct professor at TCC and Virginia Wesleyan University, is the speaker. Walck received national recognition from the Chamber of Commerce as the 2012 National Life Science Teacher of the Year and was selected as a Claes Nobel Top Ten Teacher of the Year for 2013 by the National Society of High School Scholars. In 2016, she was a Presidential Awardee for Excellence in teaching math and science.

Space is limited. To reserve your seat, please contact the Intercultural Learning Center at intercultural@tcc.edu or 757-822-7296.

NAVIFOR Announces 2018 Sailors of the Year

By MCC Rafael Martie
NAVIFOR Public Affairs

SUFFOLK, VA.

Naval Information Forces (NAVIFOR) announced the Sea, Shore and Reserve Senior Sailors of the Year (SOY) during an awards ceremony at their annual Information Warfare (IW) Commanders Summit in Suffolk, Virginia, Jan. 30.

During the ceremony, Cryptologic Technician (Interpretive) Petty Officer 1st Class (NAC/IW) Shastyn Nelson, assigned to Navy Information Operations Command, Georgia, (NIOC Georgia) was named NAVIFOR Sea Sailor of the Year, and Aerographer’s Mate Petty Officer 1st Class (IW/AW/SW) Leigh Windham, assigned to Naval Information Warfare Training Group (NIWTG) Gulfport, Mississippi; was named NAVIFOR Shore Sailor of the Year. Cryptologic Technician (Networks) Petty Officer 1st Class (IW) Kara Budreau, assigned to NIOC Texas-Minneapolis, was announced as NAVIFOR Reserve Sailor of the Year.

“All the candidates are top notch Sailors who represent the best that our Navy has to offer,” said Vice Adm. Brian Brown, NAVIFOR commander, while announcing the winners. “To me they are all winners. Getting to know them has been inspirational, and I know that our IW community and the Navy are going to have great leaders in the future.”

Nelson, a native of Grant, Michigan, entered the Navy in January 2004. She graduated from Basic Training Great Lakes, Illinois, in 2005, attended the Defense Language Institute and graduated from the Hebrew Basic Course. Her commands include NIOC Georgia.



Chief Mass Communication Specialist Rafael Martie Cryptologic Technician (Interpretive) 1st Class (NAC/IW) Shastyn Nelson, assigned to Navy Information Operations Command, Georgia, (NIOC GA) was named NAVIFOR Sea Sailor of the Year.



Aerographer's Mate 1st Class (IW/AW/SW) Leigh Windham, assigned to Naval Information Warfare Training Group (NIWTG) Gulfport, MS; was named NAVIFOR Shore Sailor of the Year.



Chief Mass Communication Specialist Rafael Martie Cryptologic Technician (Networks) 1st Class (IW) Kara Budreau, assigned to NIOC Texas-Minneapolis, was announced as NAVIFOR Reserve Sailor of the Year.

Titles up for grabs; “Franchise” Shane Douglas in action; Battle of Hampton natives

By Jonathan McLarty

Vanguard Championship Wrestling (VCW) returns to Hampton High School on Saturday, March 9, and every title in the company will be defended. Proceeds from the event will benefit Hampton High School. VCW Commissioner and Hampton High teacher George Pantas will appear at the event to maintain order. Headlining the evening is new VCW Heavyweight Champion Gangrel defending in a triple threat match against “The Latin Heartthrob” Gino and “Mr. Xcellence” Brandon Scott. This will be Gino’s first chance to compete for the Heavyweight Championship, while Scott is looking to become a three-time champion.

Fresh off of his victory in February, aided by guest enforcer “Double J” Jeff Jarrett, new VCW Commonwealth Heritage Champion Colby Corino will defend his title against Extreme Championship Wrestling (ECW) legend “The Franchise” Shane Douglas. Former champion Ken Dixon was the victim of a blow to the head from one of Jarrett’s signature guitars, only it was Corino inflicting the damage on that night. In tag team action, VCW Tag Team Champions The Hellcats will defend against Benjamin Banks and “Diamond” Victor Griff, collectively known as The Golden Pinky Society.

Hampton High School graduate and VCW United States Liberty Champion “Platinum Icon” Phil Brown will defend his title against Kecoughtan High School graduate “Mr. Mid-Atlantic” Damien Wayne. These two men have faced off many times in past years, but now these two men represent rival high schools in this contest. The last time Brown was in action was against the winless Irvin Legend in February. With Brown having been counted outside of the ring and favoring an injured knee, Legend would go on to log his first victory in VCW. Brown’s title did not change hands with the count-out victory, but the boost in

Legend’s confidence has been apparent based on Legend’s gloating all over social media. Formerly one-half of the team Noise Pollution with “Relentless” Roc Richards, Madd Maxx Morrison will be trying his hand at singles competition on March 9 against Legend. Comedian Tim Loulies, the host of Loulie’s Lounge at past VCW events,

will be performing alongside World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE) Superstar Dolph Ziggler and Sarah Tiana at the Virginia Beach Funny Bone on March 28. To witness Ziggler’s first local comedy set and to take part in a Q&A session with the Superstar, advanced tickets can be purchased at VB.Funnybone.com.

Hampton High School is located at

1491 West Queen Street in Hampton, Virginia. Additional information and advanced tickets can be obtained at VCW-Wrestling.com. You can also subscribe to the VCW Network, an on-line streaming service that costs \$4.99 a month, via VCW’s official website. Through this service, you can watch many of VCW’s past events via your television or mobile device, along with events hosted by other promotions across the world.

Jonathan McLarty is a contributing writer for The Flagship, as well as a local sports and event photographer.

Connect with him on Twitter (@JonathanMcLarty) and view his photography at McLartyPhoto.Zenfolio.com



Jonathan McLarty
Hall of Famer "Double J" Jeff Jarrett (L) raising Colby Corino's (R) hand in victory after Corino captured the VCW Commonwealth Heritage Championship in February of 2019.

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Undergraduate classes start on March 18.

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Hampton Roads Area 126th Chief Petty Officer Birthday Celebration

PRESS RELEASE

Naval Support Activity Hampton Roads is proud to host the Hampton Roads Area 126th Chief Petty Officer Birthday celebration. This year’s events will bring together sea and shore Chiefs messes by conducting community relations projects, athletic events, and social gatherings. The planned events showcase unity and pride within the Chief Petty Officer community. The week of April 1-5 2019 is an opportunity for all Chief Petty Officers (active, reserve, and retired) to celebrate camaraderie and heritage. This year’s theme is “leading the future by embracing our past”. Any questions regarding the birthday week contact ABHCS Jorge Ramirez, 757-240-6255, Jorge.ramirez@cvn78.navy.mil, dabears15@gmail.com, YNCS Chere Watson, 757-752-1231, chere.watson@ncia.nato.it, cherewatson82@gmail.com.

When you’re paying for an event or an item you have several options. When using the PayPal method to pay, make sure you add in the note’s what you’re paying for, and be sure to use the “friends and family option”. If you have Navy Federal, use the member to member transfer option. Use the 2019cpobirthdaycommittee@gmail.com to look up the account, then send us an email stating you transferred money and for what event or item.

This is a non-federal entity. It is not a part of the Department of Defense or any of its components and it has no governmental status.

Anchor Leadership 5K

Monday, April 1, 2019, 7 a.m.–2 p.m.
Virginia Beach Boardwalk, 24th St.
Uniform: Chief petty officers: CPO pride t-shirt and official Navy PTU bottoms. First class petty officers and junior officers are encouraged to participate, but open to everyone. Runners will assemble at 9 a.m. for a group photo. Petty officers and junior officers: Pride shirt and official Navy PTU

bottoms. Retirees and all others: appropriate PT attire. Formation and individual run will begin at 9:30 a.m. It is highly encouraged to have representation for all area commands present. Commands wishing to set up a booth for sales, contact the coordinators listed. Click on the link below to register for the race.
<https://runsignup.com/Race/VA/VirginiaBeach/2019HamptonRoadsCPOLeaderShipAnchorRun5k>
Registration fee: \$5 per person
Race day registration: 7 a.m.–9 a.m.
Point of contacts: NCCS Nickole Palmore-seay, Phone: 757-203-3738, Email: nickole.s.palmore-se@navy.mil, LSCS Sunshine Ridgeway, Phone: 757-341-3314, Email: sunshine.j.ridgeway@navy.mil

Birthday Week Comrels
Tuesday, April 2, 2019
Event description: Battleship Wisconsin
Location: One Waterside Drive, Norfolk, VA 23510
Time: 7:45 a.m.–noon (30 personnel max)
Attire: Jeans/slacks and CPO pride shirt. Wear work clothes due to working outside. No sandals or open shoes are allowed and no jewelry is highly suggested. Description: Chief petty officers will assist staff with persevering, maintenance, and general upkeep of ship. Volunteers who arrive more than 15 minutes past scheduled time will not be allowed to participate. No food, gum, or beverages except water is allowed.
Point of contact: NCCS Justin Mcnicol, 757-836-6654, Email: Justin.r.mcnicol@navy.mil
Event Description: Serving our Sailors
Location: Installation galleys
Event Description: Provide galley lunch services to the Sailors we lead.
Registration point of contacts:
NAVSTA Norfolk, CSC Richie Aquisap, 757-444-1387, richie.aquisap@navy.mil
JEBLCFS, CSCS Nina Ye, 757-462-8361, nina.yel@navy.mil

Dam Neck Annex, CSCS Wenonah Paja, 757-492-6601, wenonah.paja@navy.mil
NW Annex, CSC Jorge Hernandez, 757-421-8328, jorge.a.hernandez3@navy.mil
NAS Oceana, CSCS Josemiljoy Alingig, 757-433-2381, josemiljoy.alingig@navy.mil
Camp Elmore, Staff Sergeant John Attard, 757-445-4282, john.attard@usmc.mil
Registration deadline: Friday, Mar. 22, 2019
Event coordinator: NCCS Justin Mcnicol, 757-836-6654, Email: Justin.r.mcnicol@navy.mil

Goat Locker Challenge
Wednesday, April 3, 2019 from 8 a.m.–noon.
Uniform: CPO pride shirt and Navy PT shorts.
Location: Turf softball fields next to Vista Point, Naval Station Norfolk, 1754 Massey Hughes Drive, Building Q-88, Norfolk, VA 23511.

We are excited to announce the return of the Goat Locker Challenge join us as we celebrate our 126th CPO birthday, with fun filled events that will challenge your teamwork, test your endurance, communication and goat locker pride and enthusiasm. The golden anchor will be awarded to the overall winner. Trophies will also be awarded to the second and third place teams. All awards will be presented at the CPO Birthday Luncheon on April 5, 2019.
While registration is only open to active duty chief petty officers, all teams are highly encouraged to invite their first class petty officers and junior officers to provide support as their teams navigate the events. Additionally, event coordinators will be using first classes and junior officers to manage stations and judge individual events. The following items will be provided, water and fruit. All teams are encouraged to provide any extra nutrition their team may need.
Entry cost: \$50 per team, maximum of ten individuals per team, eight will participate

per event allowing two to substitute.
Registration deadline: Friday, March 22, 2019.
Registration POC: RPCS Gary Denette, Phone: 757-322-5667, Email: gary.g.denette@navy.mil, HMCS Louis Raiford, Phone: 757-341-3428 Email: louis.raiford@navy.mil.

Golf Tournament
Thursday, April 4
Registration: 6:45 a.m.– 8 a.m.
Shotgun start: 8 a.m.
Location: Sewells Point Golf Course, 660 Ruthven Rd, Norfolk, VA 23505
Golf tournament is open to all active duty, reserve, and retired Chief Petty Officers. Space is limited so registration will be on a first come first serve basis.
Entry cost: \$60 per person. Price includes continental breakfast, lunch, cart, greens fee and range balls. Prizes will be awarded.
Uniform: CPO pride shirt
Registration POC: MACS Duncan Macleod, Phone: 757-836-4656, Email: duncan.macleod@navy.mil, ABHC Travis Wilkinson, Phone 757-477-3349, Email: travis.wilkison@cvn78.navy.mil

126th CPO Luncheon
Friday, April 5 from noon–3 p.m.
Location: Vista Point, 1754 Massey Hughes Drive, Building Q-88, Norfolk, VA 23511.
Uniform: Service khakis with combination covers. Retired chief petty officers and guests: Casual attire.

Come out and celebrate our 126th CPO birthday with active, reserve, and retired chiefs. Guest speakers will be MCPON Russell Smith, MCPON Duane Bushey, and FLTCM Richard O’Rawe.
Ticket cost: \$32 per person
Tickets can be purchased online or by contacting one of the following coordinators: CSCS Jewel Dyson, Email: jewellydyson@gmail.com, Phone: 757-642-7560, ADCS Jonina Grant, Email: jonina.grant@navy.mil, Phone: 757-449-8586.
All active duty chief petty officers are highly encouraged to invite at least one retired chief petty officer to celebrate this momentous occasion.

Yorktown natives plan to ruck 830-miles with teammates to honor fallen Norfolk native

From 24th Special Operations Wing Public Affairs

HURLBURT FIELD, FLA

Two Yorktown, Virginia natives will ruck 830-miles across five states with 18 other Air Force Special Tactics teammates in honor of the 20 Air Force Special Tactics Airmen who have been killed in action since 9/11 and their Gold Star Families.
U.S. Air Force Technical Sgts. Thomas Keefe and Daniel Cutrell, both natives of Yorktown, volunteered to ruck with their teammates in honor of U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Dylan J. Elchin, a Special Tactics combat controller who was killed in Afghanistan on Nov. 27, 2018.
Elchin’s vehicle hit an improvised explosive device in Ghazni Province, Afghanistan, while he was deployed in support of OPERATION Freedom’s Sentinel, also killing U.S. Army Capt. Andrew Ross and U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Eric Emond. U.S. Army Sgt. Jason McClary died later as a result of injuries sustained from the IED.
The Special Tactics Airmen departed Medina Annex on Feb. 22 at 2:00 a.m. and they are scheduled to arrive at Hurlburt Field, Mar. 4 at 1:00 p.m.
Special Tactics Airmen begin their training at Medina Annex, together, and

become combat ready upon graduation of the Special Tactics Training Squadron at Hurlburt Field, thus the march route mimics the training passage our Airmen endure. The journey takes the Airmen across five states and 830 miles.
Historically, Air Force Special Tactics plans a memorial march when a member is killed in action. This is the 5th Special Tactics Memorial March since 2009 and since it originated as the “Tim Davis Memorial March.” The march was renamed to honor all fallen Special Tactics Airmen in 2011 to the “Special Tactics Memorial March.”
The ruck marchers are composed of 10 teams of two Special Tactics Airmen. These Airmen will begin the march by rucking the first 4.7 miles together.
From there, each team will ruck an average of 12 miles per leg and alternate teams. Each day, the teams will ruck a combined 70 miles to complete the 830-mile journey over 11 days.
A memorial baton inscribed with each of the fallen Special Tactics Airman’s names will be carried throughout the way to honor the fallen:
■ Master Sgt. William McDaniel of Greenville, Ohio, Special Tactics Pararescueman, Feb. 22, 2002
■ Staff Sgt. Juan Ridout of Oak Harbor, Wa., Special Tactics Pararescueman, Feb.



Senior Airman Ridge Shan Pa., Special Tactics Pararescueman, Aug. 6, 2011
■ Staff Sgt. Andrew Harvell of Long Beach, Calif., Special Tactics Combat Controller, Aug. 6, 2011
■ Capt. Matthew Roland of Lexington, Ky., Special Tactics Officer, Aug. 26, 2015
■ Staff Sgt. Forrest Sibley of Pensacola, Special Tactics Combat Controller, Aug. 26, 2015
■ Staff Sgt. Dylan Elchin of Hookstown, Pa., Special Tactics Combat Controller, Nov. 27, 2018
Today, there are about 1,000 Special Tactics operators who combine the core skills of special operations forces with the tactical integration of the world’s greatest airpower, working to find unique solutions to ground problems. They are the most decorated community in the Air Force since the end of the Vietnam War, with one Medal of Honor, ten Air Force Crosses, and 44 Silver Stars.
Special Tactics is U.S. Special Operation Command’s tactical air and ground integration force, and the Air Force’s special operations ground force, leading Global Access, Precision Strike, Personnel Recovery and Battlefield Surgery operations on the battlefield.
A disciplined special operations force of hand-selected Airmen leading joint operations, Special Tactics Airmen are deliberate in their thoughts and actions to deliver solutions to the nation’s most complex military challenges. They conduct global air, space, and cyber-enabled special operations across the spectrum of conflict to prepare for, fight, and win our nation’s wars.



Senior Airman Ridge Shan Pa., Special Tactics Pararescueman, Aug. 6, 2011
■ Staff Sgt. Daniel Zerbe of York,



Tony Amendola as Father Perez and Linda Cardinelli as Anna in New Line Cinema's horror film "The Curse Of La Llorona," a Warner Bros. Pictures release.

coming soon

THE CURSE OF LA LLORONA

Ignoring the eerie warning of a troubled mother suspected of child endangerment, a social worker and her own small kids are soon drawn into a frightening supernatural realm. Their only hope to survive La Llorona's deadly wrath may be a disillusioned priest and the mysticism he practices to keep evil at bay, on the fringes where fear and faith collide.

SHAFT

JJ, aka John Shaft Jr. (Usher), may be a cyber security expert with a degree from MIT, but to uncover the truth behind his best friend's untimely death, he needs an education only his dad can provide. Absent throughout JJ's youth, the legendary locked-and-loaded John Shaft (Jackson) agrees to help his progeny navigate Harlem's heroin-infested underbelly. And while JJ's own FBI analyst's badge may clash with his dad's trademark leather coat, there's no denying family. Besides, Shaft's got an agenda of his own, and a score to settle that's professional and personal.

SHAZAM!

We all have a superhero inside us, it just takes a bit of magic to bring it out. In Billy Batson's case, by shouting out one word - SHAZAM! - this streetwise 14-year-old foster kid can turn into the adult superhero Shazam.

TRIPLE FRONTIER (NETFLIX)

"Five former Special Forces operatives reunite to plan a

heist in a sparsely populated multi-border zone of South America. For the first time in their prestigious careers these unsung heroes undertake this dangerous mission for self instead of country. But when events take an unexpected turn and threaten to spiral out of control, their skills, their loyalties and their morals are pushed to a breaking point in an epic battle for survival.

5 FEET APART

Stella Grant (Haley Lu Richardson) is every bit a seventeen-year-old...she's attached to her laptop and loves her best friends. But unlike most teenagers, she spends much of her time living in a hospital as a cystic fibrosis patient. Her life is full of routines, boundaries and self-control - all of which is put to the test when she meets an impossibly charming fellow CF patient named Will Newman (Cole Sprouse).

PET SEMATARY

Dr. Louis Creed and his wife, Rachel, relocate from Boston to rural Maine with their two young children. The couple soon discover a mysterious burial ground hidden deep in the woods near their new home. When tragedy strikes, Louis turns to his neighbor Jud Crandall, setting off a perilous chain reaction that unleashes an unspeakable evil with horrific consequences.

GODZILLA: KING OF THE MONSTERS

The new story follows the heroic efforts of the crypto-zoological agency Monarch as its members face off against a battery of god-sized monsters, including the mighty Godzilla, who collides with Mothra, Rodan, and his ultimate nemesis, the three-headed King Ghidorah. When these ancient super-species—thought to be mere myths—rise again, they all vie for supremacy, leaving humanity's very

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\$3 Movies

JEB Little Creek, Gator Theater – 462-7534

Friday, March 8
7 p.m. What Men Want (PG-13)

Saturday, March 9
1 p.m. The LEGO Movie 2: The Second Part (PG)
4 p.m. Miss Bala (PG-13)
7 p.m. What Men Want (PG-13)

Sunday, March 10
1 p.m. The Kid Who Would Be King (PG)
4 p.m. Miss Bala (PG-13)
7 p.m. The Prodigy (R)

NAS Oceana, Aero Theater – 433-2495

Friday, March 8
6 p.m. What Men Want (PG-13)
9 p.m. The Prodigy (R)

Saturday, March 9
12 p.m. Miss Bala (PG-13)
3 p.m. The LEGO Movie 2: The Second Part (PG)
6 p.m. The Prodigy (R)

Sunday, March 10
12 p.m. The LEGO Movie 2: The Second Part (PG)
3 p.m. The Kid Who Would Be King (PG)
6 p.m. What Men Want (PG-13)

Schedule is subject to change. For your weekly movie showtimes and more, check out the navy Mid-Atlantic Region MWR website at discovermwr.com.

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Annual Leadership Breakfast

Wednesday, March 20, 2019 at 7:00 AM

Emcee: Scott Cash, WVEC-TV 13 News Now Sports Director

Chesapeake Conference Center

FEATURING GUEST SPEAKER



NANCY LIEBERMAN

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announcements

Announcements

AUCTION & YARD SALE
03/02/19 9am-3pm 4028 Bunch Wal-nuts Road, Chesapeake. We had two Estates donated to us this year, so you don't out lunch & 50/50 drawing.

CAREER FAIRS
March 6, 2019 - 4-6pm
April 3, 2019 - 4-6pm
Hiring for Rental Managers, Association Managers, & Maintenance, EEO
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Virginia Beach, VA 23452

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Please take notice that ABF Freight System, Inc. will be sending the following goods to auction: House Hold Goods. The sale will be conducted in bulk or in packages to enforce ABF Freight System, Inc.'s warehouse lien against BRYAN WRIGHT, on whose account the goods are being stored. If you have any questions regarding the sale, please contact ABF Cargo Claims at 479-785-8741.

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stuff

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seeks Marine Operations (Ops) Logisticians to direct allocation of materials/supplies/products by analyzing/coordinating logistical functions of coastal vessel schedules. REQ: Bachelor in Commerce, Int'l Biz, or clsly related & 2 yrs exp as Marine Ops Specialist or clsly related at global shipping container co. w/ 2 yrs' concurrent exp (i) over-seeing vessel ops on-site at marine port; & working w/ (ii) export/import cargo teams; (iii) container stowage, cargo tracking, & vessel tracking programs; global container mgmt software apps; & (iv) Canada Border Services Agency in port setting. Company HQ in Norfolk, VA, but position may be assigned to various unanticipated locations throughout the U.S. Position may require up to 20% travel within assigned area. Send cover ltr, CV, salary req & refs to: R. Goldbach, 5701 Lake Wright Dr, Norfolk, VA 23502.

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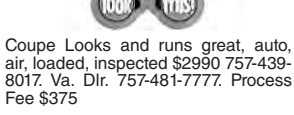
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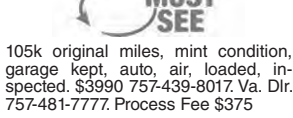
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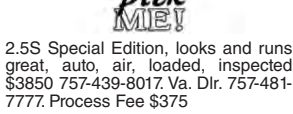
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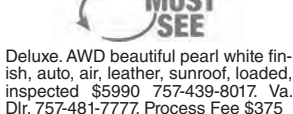
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Fun and Games

Super Crossword

NAME IN THE CENTER

ACROSS

- 1 Symphony, e.g.
5 Sing like Bing
10 Pampers product
16 Mensa stats
19 Scheme
20 Big artery
21 Flowery
22 Almond, e.g.
23 31-day period honoring TV's Joy? [actor]
25 Greek letters
26 With 47-Down, Christmas evergreen
27 Fall back into illness
28 Place with a lot of refuse-disposal chambers? [swimmer]
30 Old space station
31 Slash
32 Ovine noise
34 And others, in a list
35 Brutes of fantasy
36 Smears gunk on rugged mountain ranges? [hockey player]

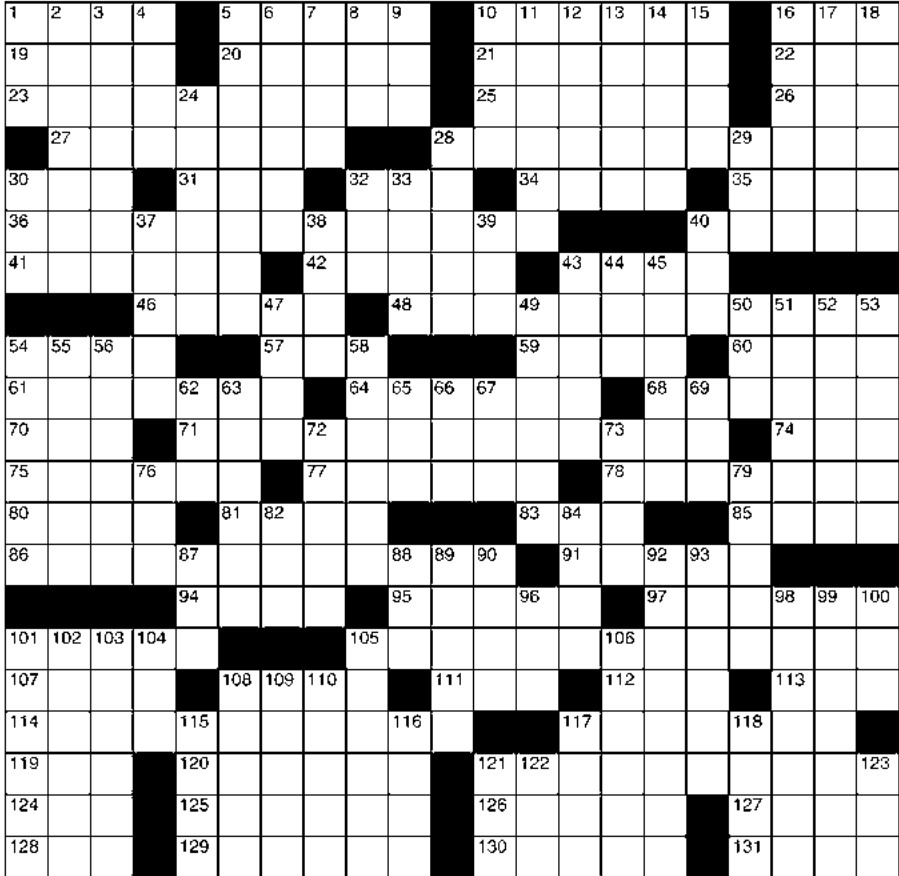
- 40 Shows up
41 Sequence in heredity
42 Robber, e.g.
43 Bal hangout
46 Finals, e.g.
48 Seven-figure income earned in a Nebraska city? [actor]
54 Scheme
57 DVD-
59 Little barks
60 "The King"
61 Guilty feeling
64 One doing penance
68 Olympic speed skater
70 Ethyl ender
71 Prohibition of quick insights? [investor]
74 Suffix with journal
75 Item in a file cabinet
77 Ideal conditions
78 Imply
80 Field of study
81 Sikorsky of aviation
83 Dir. from N.D. to La.
85 "Not" goes by ...

- 86 Promise to marry a cute marsupial? [painter]
91 Novelist Hermann
94 Waikiki
95 Rene of "Get Shorty"
97 Poland's Lech
101 Sounded like a kitten
105 Pale-colored wall paneling for a room? [writer]
107 Final, e.g.
108 2004 Chevy debut
111 Storm center
112 Demolition stuff
113 "cone (icy treat)
114 Products applied to back-of-the-neck sunburns? [actor]
117 City in north-central California
119 Adding result
120 "Finally!"
121 "C" grade ... or what eight answers in this puzzle have?

- 124 Draw upon
125 Fix, as Fido
126 Less-played half of a 45
127 Morales of movies
128 As stated in "Bonanza"
130 A bit off
131 Old-time comic Ed
DOWN
1 Sphere
2 Childishly silly
3 Herald, as a new era
4 Shut tightly
5 College locales
6 Perches
7 Sarah — Jewett
8 Hitler Mel
9 "I'll pass"
10 One capful, perhaps
11 Often-purple flowers
12 Major worry
13 Argentine plain
14 Web biz
15 Relax
16 Apprise
17 Apple or pear relative
18 Emphasis
24 Flower cluster

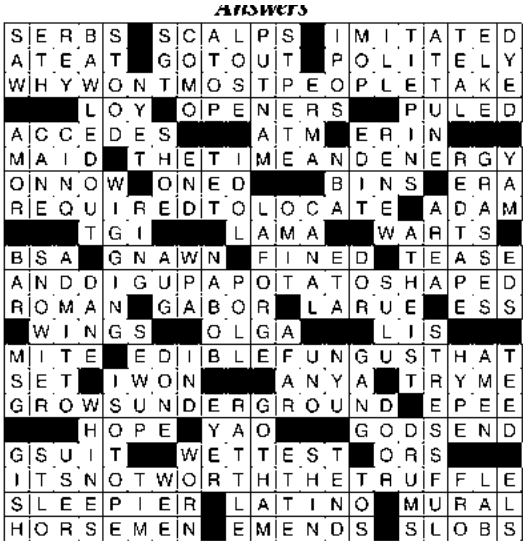
- 28 Ricochet
29 Animal park
30 Soup enhancer
32 Apiary insect
33 Guthrie with a guitar
37 Saying
38 In that case
39 "Mr. St. Nick" actress Ortiz
40 Animator's frame
43 — ferrier
44 Roadie's tote
45 Hindu trinity member
47 See 26-Across
49 Wolflike carnivores
50 China's Chou En-
51 "And how!"
52 Ukrainian port city
53 Fifteen times six
54 Quick-to-build home
55 Poe maiden
56 Brunch fare
58 Line of Apple computers
62 Actress — Dawn Chong
63 Elfish sort
65 "Tsk tsk!"
66 Kabuki sash
67 "Platoon" site, in brief
69 Ovum

- 72 Black crows
73 "Point taken"
76 Patriotic women's gp.
79 Some Scots
82 F followers
84 Program
87 Unoriginal
88 Actress Meyers
89 Swift steeds
90 Pale-faced
92 Hoodwinks
93 South Carolina river
96 Holy Mile.
98 Euphoria
99 Desert of the southwest U.S.
100 —-Z (total)
101 Botch the job
102 Pretext
103 Not as cold
104 Big bird
105 Relax
106 Disagreeing
108 Following
109 Think a lot of
110 Tickle pink
115 Snake tooth
116 To be, to Voltaire
117 1,502, in old Rome
118 Duck variety
121 Exec's deg.
122 Suffix with journal
123 Cousin



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last week's answers



4	3	8	5	1	9	6	2	7
7	9	1	6	8	2	5	4	3
6	5	2	7	4	3	1	8	9
1	4	9	3	6	8	2	7	5
8	2	6	1	5	7	9	3	4
3	7	5	2	9	4	8	6	1
9	6	4	8	3	1	7	5	2
5	1	7	4	2	6	3	9	8
2	8	3	9	7	5	4	1	6

Sudoku

		9		1		3		2
7					6			8
	3		7				1	
		8		2		5		
	2	1	3				4	
5					9			1
		6	8			7		
	5			2				4
4				5	7		6	

CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: J equals O

DLWVSA BJ CAOQCA NRW BJ

CJ NQBR BRA BTAA BTDLF RA

RWC ZDPB MTJOAPPAC, BRA

SDEVATZWOF NWP PBDEMAC.

Last week's CryptoQuip answer

When some hens are initially getting their hotel rooms,
would you call it a chicken check-in?

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base_information/
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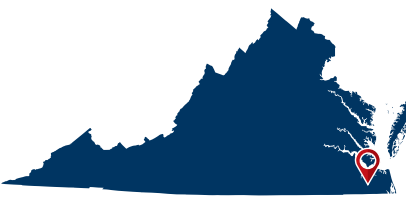
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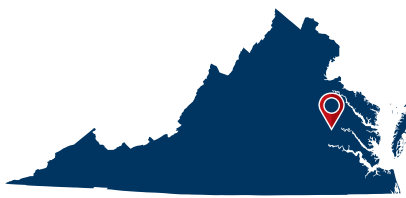
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