



WASP RETURNS TO NORFOLK; COMPLETES HOMEPORT SHIFT



MC2 Eric Shorter

Information Systems Technician 2nd Class Quiana Manuel, from Pamlico, N.C., mans the rails as the amphibious assault ship USS Wasp (LHD 1) arrives at Naval Station Norfolk, Nov. 18. Wasp returned to Norfolk, completing a homeport shift after spending nearly two years forward deployed to Fleet Activities Sasebo, Japan and operating in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations.



MCSN Isaac Champlain

Families and friends of Sailors assigned to the Wasp-class amphibious assault ship USS Wasp (LHD 1) welcome the ship home as it arrives at Naval Station Norfolk, Nov. 18. Wasp returned to Norfolk, completing a homeport shift after spending nearly two years forward deployed to Fleet Activities Sasebo, Japan and operating in the U.S. 7th Fleet Area of operations.

From Expeditionary Strike Group 2 Public Affairs

NORFOLK

The Wasp-class amphibious assault ship USS Wasp (LHD 1) arrived at Naval Station Norfolk Nov. 18 completing a homeport shift after spending nearly two years forward deployed to Commander Fleet Activities Sasebo, Japan, and operating in the U.S. 7th Fleet (C7F) area of operations.

The ship departed Sasebo Aug. 26, and began its transit to Norfolk. Wasp will be replaced by the America-class amphibious assault ship USS America (LHA 6) later this year.

"I'm honored to be on the pier for USS Wasp's return to Naval Station Norfolk, and to fold this awesome warship and its crew back into ESG-2, our Navy's forward-leaning blue/green warfighting team," said Rear Adm. John Mustin, commander, Expeditionary Strike Group 2. "This ship and her amazing crew spent nearly two years performing groundbreaking work in U.S. 7th Fleet, honing their skills as professional mariners, reinforcing naval integration and building maritime capabilities with our Indo-Pacific partners. I look forward to meeting with the crew and learning from their time abroad, particularly their lessons learned

» See **WASP** | **A7**

USS Carter Hall returns from Veteran's Day celebrations in NYC

From USS Carter Hall Public Affairs

JOINT EXPEDITIONARY BASE LITTLE CREEK-FORT STORY

The Harpers Ferry-class amphibious dock landing ship USS Carter Hall (LSD 50) returned to Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek-Fort Story Nov. 15 after completing an underway which included a visit to Staten Island, New York to participate in

Veteran's Day events.

During the time at sea, Carter Hall Sailors conducted various qualifications as part of their basic phase of training. The basic phase focuses on team training, unit level exercises, unit inspections, assessments and qualifications. Successful completion ensures the ship is proficient in all capabilities

» See **NYC** | **A7**



MC3 Kody Phillips

Sailors assigned to USS Carter Hall (LSD 50) march in the Veterans Day Parade in New York City, Nov. 11. New York City is hosting a Veterans Week celebration, commemorating the 100th anniversary of the holiday and showing support for the nation's veterans.

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NAVSTA holds luncheon for Warrior Care Month
 Over 45 Sailors, civilians, Coast Guard members and wounded warriors came out in show of support for the Navy Wounded Warrior (NWW) Warrior Care Month

»See **A4**



Abraham Lincoln Carrier Strike Group transits the Strait of Hormuz

The Strait of Hormuz is one of the busiest shipping lanes in the world, with one-fifth of the world's energy supply transiting through the strait annually.

»See **B1**

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NNSY welcomes new journeymen at apprentice graduation

NORFOLK

Friends and family gathered Nov. 12 at Chrysler Hall to celebrate the achievements of the graduates of the Norfolk Naval Shipyard (NNSY) Apprentice Program.

The 241 graduates, representing 24 trades across the shipyard, have completed a four-year training program, which includes academics, trade theory, and on-the-job experience. During the ceremony, the apprentices received a Technician Career Studies Certificate and were promoted to the journeymen level of their trade.

“I frequently speak of how people are the heart of what we do to accomplish the mission of Norfolk Naval Shipyard,” said Shipyard Commander, Capt. Kai Torkelson. “Our apprentice program is a vital artery of that heart. Tonight as graduates, the challenge is on each of you to renew your oath to the Navy as being entrusted to maintain the U.S. Navy’s ships and submarines, so they are well-equipped, highly capable and ready to operate at sea thousands of miles from home. You are on the front lines of executing the NAVSEA mission to design, build, deliver and maintain ships and systems on-time and on-cost for the United States Navy.”

The keynote speaker for the ceremony was Rear Admiral William C. Greene, Fleet Maintenance Officer, U.S. Fleet Forces Command. In his speech, he spoke about the fleet’s current readiness and future, and what it would take to maintain it. “That is why Norfolk Naval Shipyard, America’s Shipyard, is so vitally important to our fleet,” he said. “Norfolk is the crown jewel in our defense industrial base, able to conduct all levels of maintenance on our Navy’s aircraft carriers, submarines and surface ships. No other institution contributes so directly or so significantly to the nation’s defense, and has done so for so long.”

The NNSY Apprentice Program Class of 2019 valedictorian was Matthew N. Waters, a Shop 38 marine machinery mechanic. The 29-year-old Western Branch High School graduate completed



The keynote speaker for the NNSY Apprentice Graduation was Rear Admiral William C. Greene, Fleet Maintenance Officer, U.S. Fleet Forces Command.

the program with a 3.914 GPA. “These graduates possess unrelenting perseverance and commitment to quality and excellence to serve America’s Shipyard,” said Waters. “It’s often a marathon that teaches you a lot about the finish line. Without the hurdles I’ve encountered, I wouldn’t be here today. Use your obstacles to make you stronger and smarter. Embrace the chaos, conquer your fears, and become the best version of yourself. Take pride is what you do, don’t take it for granted, don’t ever compromise your integrity, strive for your goals, and selflessly serve Ameri-

ca’s Fleet.” This year marks the 106th anniversary of NNSY’s Apprentice Program, one of the most historic and honored apprentice programs in the nation. The program has been recognized by the U.S. Department of Labor, in partnership with the Secretary’s Advisory Committee on Apprenticeship (ACA), as a 21st Century Registered Apprenticeship Trailblazer and Innovator. Salutorian Jacob Burrell said, “I’ve enjoyed the atmosphere, the people, and the work here at NNSY. It’s been an once-in-a-lifetime experience and I’m

excited to continue my career as part of America’s Shipyard.” For the second year in a row, one of NNSY’s apprentices was honored with the Department of Labor’s Outstanding Apprentice Award for the Commonwealth of Virginia. This year’s honoree was Insulating Mechanic Aisha Clark, a native of Portsmouth. “It’s a tremendous honor and I’m proud to be part of NNSY,” said Clark. “For our fellow apprentices, both current and future, stay humble, stay true to yourself. Your character is most important, so never let anyone jeopardize it.”

NAVSUP FLC Norfolk contracting department obligates \$2.2 billion

By Tom Kreidel
NAVSUP FLC Norfolk Office of Corporate Communications Public Affairs

NORFOLK

Naval Supply Systems Command Fleet Logistics Center (NAVSUP FLC) Norfolk’s contracting department obligated \$2,227,029,283 in fiscal year 2019, continuing a three-year trend in increased contract value for the command.

According to Contracting Department Deputy Director Jordan Dorsey, the department completed more than 9,400 contract actions during the fiscal year.

“This trend shows what incredible

work our team has done on thinking strategically, applying the principles of category management, and managing our customers’ spending in a proactive manner,” said Dorsey. He added that coordinating this many contract actions is a year round effort. “Our largest contracts have lead times of almost two years. Over 80 percent of our obligations are on recurring service contracts, so we are constantly tracking the existing contracts and working with customers to get follow on packages submitted,” he added. The contracting department supported 569 different customers last year, with a wide variety of services

contracted. They included psychological health operations for the Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, the Civilian Employee Assistance Program, educational service agreements and hundreds of others according to Dorsey. Dorsey concluded saying that he was incredibly proud of the contracting department and their efforts in fiscal year 2019 point to a team of tremendous professionals who are dedicated to the Navy’s mission. Naval Supply Systems Command Fleet Logistics Center (NAVSUP FLC) Norfolk’s contracting department obligated \$2,227,029,283 in fiscal year 2019, continuing a three-year trend in increased contract value for the command. According to Contracting Department Deputy Director Jordan Dorsey, the department completed more than 9,400 contract actions during the fiscal year. “This trend shows what incredible work our team has done on thinking strategically, applying the principles of

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NEWS FROM NAS OCEANA



MC3 Mark Mahmod

Capt. John Hewitt, Naval Air Station Oceana commanding officer, speaks to the staff of Navy Gateway Inn & Suites (NGIS) Dam Neck during a Navy Lodging Program Appreciation Day ceremony. The purpose of the ceremony was to recognize the exceptional performance of the NGIS employees on board Naval Air Station Oceana Dam Neck Annex.

NGIS Dam Neck recognizes exceptional employee performance

By MC3 Mark Mahmod

VIRGINIA BEACH

Navy Gateway Inn & Suites (NGIS) Dam Neck recognized its staff at a Navy Lodging Program Appreciation Day ceremony Nov. 13 on board Naval Air Station Oceana’s (NASO) Dam Neck Annex (DNA).

NGIS is a professionally managed, business-based lodging program in support of readiness and mission accomplishment. With more than 21,000 rooms at military installations worldwide, NGIS provides lodging for the temporary duty service

members.

Several NGIS Dam Neck employees received recognition for outstanding performance and were nominated for awards at the regional and national levels.

Renee Evert, general manager, said the goal of NGIS employees is to treat guests as if they were staying at their home away from home.

“A guest approached me in the lobby today and told me how wonderful the staff is, how clean the building is and how happy he was to have stayed here for the past six weeks,” said Evert.

According to Evert, comments like this demonstrate the dedication NGIS staff has to the mission and to the customers.

Rosario Dizon received the 2019 Housekeeper of the Year Runner-Up Award. Josef Sarate received the 2019 Department Lead of the Year Runner-Up Award. Marsella Rogers was nominated for Department Manager of the Year. Robert Haugh was nominated for Associate of the Year. Ruth Fusco was nominated for Department Lead of the Year and Corrina Crane was nominated for Supervisor of the Year.

Capt. John Hewitt, NASO commanding officer, was present at the ceremony and expressed his appreciation for the staff at NGIS Dam Neck.

“It’s worth mentioning the connection this staff has to what we do at NAS Oceana and Dam Neck Annex,” said Hewitt. “This job is different. This staff comes to work every day, and it’s different from going to a big-name hotel out in town. I hope there’s a

realization when you come through the gate every day that you’re in some way supporting our mission.”

NGIS Dam Neck plays a special part in the mission of DNA, which some people compare to a Navy college campus, as it is an educational location for students of Training Support Center Hampton Roads (TSC-HR).

“We house as many students from TSC as we can,” said Evert. “Our goal for housing the TSC students is to make them comfortable so they can study, learn and go on to perform their important jobs.”

Overall, Evert said it’s important to recognize the exceptional work of the NGIS Dam Neck staff because of their love for the military and dedication to the services they provide.

“They deserve it,” said Evert. “They’re the best in the business. They love the military and they do everything in their power to keep the guests happy and make them comfortable.”



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Shelby Wiifong
Ergonomics Program Manager James Musgrove fits a Code 900F employee with the Levitate Airframe exoskeleton suit.

Eye on innovation: Exoskeleton technology fits NNSY with suits straight out of the Avengers

By Kristi Britt
Norfolk Naval Shipyard Public Affairs

PORTSMOUTH, VA.

Have you ever imagined yourself as the titular character Iron Man – having a metal suit to aid you in saving the world? Well, Norfolk Naval Shipyard (NNSY) has become a champion in utilizing innovative exoskeleton suit technology. Similar to Iron Man, employees are able to use these flexible pieces of equipment to perform better at their jobs ergonomically.

The Robotics Subcommittee (RSC), a section of the NNSY Technology and Innovation Community of Practice (T&I COP), has been researching this new innovative technology for years, determining what would best be able to improve the health, safety, and efficiency of the shipyard worker. Together with safety representatives, the team has purchased and introduced the shipyard to the Levitate Airframe exoskeleton suit. This flexible power suit or limb accessory technology is able to reduce force on important joints in the body and make it easier for the user to be versatile and safe while lifting, lowering, or performing extensive labor. It’s lightweight and once an employee is trained to utilize the suit, they can fit themselves and get to work in less than a minute.

“Our team with the RSC is determined to find the most promising technology that could make a huge impact on our workers who put in the time and energy on a daily basis,” said RSC Lead Edwin Guerra. “Our main focus in the T&I COP is to improve the health and safety of our waterfront workers and increase their quality of life. They are doing the day-to-day operations and straining their bodies to get the job done. But with technologies like the exoskeleton suit, we are able to certify and fit our workforce with something that can reduce the risk of injury and also be comfortable to use.”

During a recent Temporary Facilities and Tool Control (Code 900F) Safety Committee meeting, Guerra and Ergonomics Program Manager James Musgrove provided a demonstration on the ease of use of the

exoskeleton and provided examples of how the suits could be used in daily operations.

“Our team has put in the legwork to test out these suits and get them certified for shipyard use,” said Musgrove. “We do these demonstrations and briefs to bring it directly to the codes and shops who we think would best benefit from them. Each interested user would need to be briefed and complete the training provided by the Production Training Division (Code 900T). We work with them to know how to put on the suit, how it works, and in time we want these suits to be used widespread across the waterfront. It’s a tool that we want to ensure everyone knows is out there and available to them.”

“We also listen to the feedback from the workforce who tests the suits during these demonstrations,” said Guerra. “Are there versions that are non-conductive for electricians to use? Are they flame resistant for welders? We take the feedback given and we look towards what options we have with the technology so we can get them into their hands to see if it works for them. We want to do everything with the worker in mind.”

Code 900F Tool Control Manager James Panikowsky said, “Right now we only have four suits and we’re going to be checking them out for a 30-day period. We want our people to get briefed and trained to use this technology. It’s a tool that could truly make the difference in their day-to-day operations.”

Guerra added, “It comes down to participation in utilizing what technologies we have available. We are leading the charge at NNSY in exoskeleton suit technology for the command and being able to show Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) that this technology is able to improve our shipyard as a whole and the demand is there, we can see more and more technologies similar to it coming through the gates for us to utilize. This is a huge win for the shipyard and we want to keep that momentum going. We saw a need to help our workers on the job and we were able to take the steps to make changes happen. That’s what innovation is all about: bringing change for the better.”



DC3 Ashley Vahos
Naval Station (NAVSTA) Norfolk's held a luncheon for Warrior Care Month at NAVSTA Norfolk Crew Galley, Nov. 15. Following the luncheon, a cake cutting was performed by Rear Admiral Charles Rock, Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic, Captain Vince Baker, Executive Officer, Naval Station Norfolk and Information Systems Technician Petty Officer First Class Ruth Freeman.

NAVSTA holds luncheon for Warrior Care Month

By DC3 Ashley Vahos
Naval Station Norfolk Public Affairs Office

NORFOLK

On Friday, November 15th, Naval Station (NAVSTA) Norfolk held a luncheon and cake cutting at the NAVSTA Norfolk Crew Galley in honor of Warrior Care Month.

Over 45 Sailors, civilians, Coast Guard members and wounded warriors came out in show of support for the Navy Wounded Warrior (NWW) Warrior Care Month.

Warrior Care Month was established in November of 2008 by former Secretary of Defense, Robert F. Gates. He declared it would be a “Department of Defense (DoD) effort aimed at increasing awareness of programs and resources available to wounded, ill and injured service members, their families, and those who care for them.”

“Every Month is Warrior Care Month,” stated Executive Officer Naval Station Norfolk, Captain Vince Baker, “November is simply an opportunity to join all the other branches of service to publicly recognize

wounded warrior heroes. Day in and day out the Navy Wounded Warrior program provides world-class assistance to wounded warriors and their families throughout the country.”

The theme for this year’s Warrior Care Month is “Show of Strength” to recognize the strength and resiliency that seriously wounded, ill and injured service members’ exhibit throughout their journey to recovery.

“Each day, wounded warriors demonstrate strength in ways large and small,” said Baker, “From pushing themselves during a grueling physical therapy session, to attending a class to acquire new skills, to asking for help when they need emotional support. Strength is represented in their relentless efforts to improve their physical, mental, and spiritual well-being.”

The event was brought to a close with a cake cutting done by Rear Admiral Charles Rock, Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic, Captain Baker and Information Systems Technician Petty Officer First Class Ruth Freeman.



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MC3 Brittany Tobin

Cyber security awareness and best practices for government devices

By MC3 Brittany Tobin
Navy Region Mid-Atlantic Public Affairs

NORFOLK

Cyber security and integrity is essential for mission success. The Navy is strongly reinforcing its policy of banning Universal Serial Bus (USB) and other external devices for use on government equipment. With the threat of network compromise being just a click away, security best practices are the first line of defense to national security.

USB devices, such as media cards, thumb drives, cell phones, streaming devices, wireless keyboards and mice are banned from being plugged into Navy computers due to the security vulnerabilities that they can introduce into a network. Users also need to be aware of visiting unauthorized Web sites, opening suspicious e-mails and sending secret information over the Non-Secure Internet Protocol Router Network (NIPRNET).

“USB devices, especially those with memory, can have embedded malware,” said Jay McDaniel, regional information systems security manager. “Your computer can be compromised, then your office network, base network and ultimately Navy Marine Corps Intranet (NMCI) as a whole.”

Once a virus has been introduced into a

network, it can spread rapidly to every computer on board.

To ensure that this type of incident does not happen, Sailors must not only refrain from using USB devices themselves, but watch over their shipmates as well.

“The same best practices apply when teleworking,” said McDaniel. “Currently, there are no wireless keyboards or mice that meet encryption requirements for government computers. If it didn’t come with your computer, don’t use it.”

In order to protect your account, it is critical to sign-off and remove your common access card (CAC). If your profile is still active on the computer, any adverse action, whether made by you or someone else, will affect your account as well.

There are very high penalties for disobeying the rules regarding USB devices, including losing account access for up to 30 days. Strictly obeying the Navy’s policy on USB and other external device use is in the best interest of every employee and of national defense.

“You are required to complete cyber awareness training to receive an account and then annually thereafter,” said McDaniel. “For fiscal year 2020, cyber awareness training should be completed by 30 June as per CNIC guidelines. Training is available through Total Workforce Management Systems (TWMS), Navy E-Learning and the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) Cyber Exchange.”

It is the responsibility of every government employee to maintain their knowledge and training to keep aligned with the best practices for security and cyber safety. For more information, or to register for training, please visit <https://public.cyber.mil/training/cyber-awareness-challenge/>



ABH2 Megan Kintner/

The Hart family were the winners of the head to head with Charles in Mario Kart sweep stakes. They were dressed the part as they played against the Voice of Mario, Charles Martinet, in a hard fought race.

The voice of Mario, Charles Martinet, holds meet and greet at Norfolk Navy Exchange

By ABH2 Megan Kintner
Naval Station Norfolk Public Affairs

NORFOLK

The Norfolk Navy Exchange (NEX) hosted a meet and greet with the iconic voice actor of Mario, Charles Martinet, Nov. 15.

From 1400 to 1600, people were able to mingle with Charles Martinet as he signed autographs and took pictures with patrons. The line was continuous as many people met the man behind the voice they have heard their whole life.

Gunner’s Mate Petty Officer 1st Class (GM1) Joshua Street, was one of the many patrons who waited in line to meet the famous Martinet. When asked what it was like to be able to meet the voice of Mario, GM1 stated, “It was crazy, he sounds just like he did in the game. My wife and I still play every night. My son plays and loves it. It was a pretty neat experience. I wasn’t expecting it.”

The NEX also had a sweep stakes where the winners got to go head to head with Martinet in Mario Kart. Chief Warrant Officer 2 (CWO2) Charles Hart Sr. and his family were the lucky winners of the Mario Kart

sweep stakes. They even took the liberty to come appropriately dressed as the Mario and Luigi characters.

Before the meet and greet, Martinet toured the USS Kearsarge (LHD 3). He had a quick meet and greet there as well as lunch and a tour of the ship. When asked what was it like to be aboard the USS Kearsarge and meet with the sailors, Martinet stated, “It was absolutely terrific and a beautiful experience. These people are so great, young, vivacious and courageous. It’s amazing the things they do the ability to take care of the Marines and the ability to take care of Country which is quite an amazing thing.”

Before becoming the voice of Mario in 1990, Martinet was told by a friend to crash an audition. When he got to the audition the directors told him, “You’re an Italian plumber from Brooklyn named Mario, and you work for a company named Nintendo.” He had planned on talking like a stereotypical Italian American with a deep, raspy voice, but he thought that it would be too harsh of a voice. So the voice of Mario came to be and 28 years later, Martinet continues to play the iconic voice we know today.



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Robert Fluegel
From left, Commander Timothy F. Knapp, Rear Adm. Jeffrey Scheidt, Commander of Naval Information Warfighting Development Center (NIWDC), presents Master Chief Cryptologic Technician (Technical) James Womack, Lieutenant Commander James Fox, Senior Chief Aerographer's Mate Charles Jackson, Lieutenant Commander Thomas Newman, Chief Warrant Officer Three Karl Barnes, Lieutenant Cameron Woods, and Lieutenant Commander Todd Moulton with their NIWDC Level 5 WTI patch during a ceremony to recognize their qualification.

Career-long commitment serving the fleet – earning WTI Level 5 patch

By Jacquelyn Fisher
Naval Information Forces Public Affairs

NORFOLK

Rear Adm. Jeff Scheidt, Commander, Naval Information Warfighting Development Center (NIWDC), presided over the first ever Level 5 Warfare Tactic Instructor (WTI) patching ceremony Nov. 8, since the command's inception in March 2017. Four of the five commissioned officers and two senior enlisted Information Warfare (IW) Sailors who completed the demanding requirements to earn the title 'Level 5 WTI' were on hand to receive their patches and designee letters.

The Navy's first Level 5 WTIs are Lt. Cmdr. James A. Fox, Lt. Cmdr. Todd P. Moulton, Lt. Cmdr. Thomas P. Newman, Lt. Cameron J. Woods, Chief Warrant Officer Karl D. Barnes, Cryptologic Technician (Technical) Master Chief James T. Womack, and Aerographer's Mate Senior Chief Charles B. Jackson.

In March 2017 then Commander, Naval Information Forces (NAVIFOR), Rear Adm. Matthew Kohler (now Vice Adm., Deputy

Chief of Naval Operations for Information Warfare/Director of Naval Intelligence), announced the initial operational capability of the NIWDC in Norfolk, Va. saying, "NIWDC will deliver advanced Information Warfare training; tactics, techniques and procedures; as well as Information Warfare tactics instructors."

In his opening remarks, Scheidt said, "This ceremony is an historic event. It represents teamwork between the group of professionals on the stage and NIWDC, and it is a significant step in the program in our operational capacity and maturity in the WTI program."

The need to increase information capabilities to respond to today's conflicts fought in the information environment is a large portion of NIWDC's mission. "Information-related capabilities are modernizing the maritime fight and maritime deterrence. NIWDC and our IW WTIs are building the capability and capacity the Navy needs to maintain maritime superiority," said Scheidt. "Today represents a critical milestone in our Warfare Tactics Instructor Program. These Level 5

'IW patch wearers' are the Navy's first, and represent the best the community has to offer."

In attendance were Vice Adm. Brian B. Brown, Commander, NAVIFOR and Type Commander for Cyber, and Rear Adm. Daniel L. Cheever, Commander, Carrier Strike Group FOUR. Cheever was on hand to witness Womack, an IW Sailor attached to CSG FOUR, receive his Level 5 WTI designation, signifying the far reach this breadth of expertise will have fleet wide.

The designation letter, signed by Scheidt, outlines the expectation of WTI's. "With your designation comes an additional expectation that you will lead, mentor, train, and mature our evolving WTI cadre while maintaining currency and relevance throughout your career." Womack is ready for that career-long commitment.

"As a Master Chief, one of my primary roles is to train my relief and the next generation of Sailors. I am humbled to wear this Level 5 WTI patch," said Womack. "I am ready to take Fleet IW to the next level from

my position at Carrier Strike Group FOUR."

NIWDC WTIs are IW Community Officers, senior enlisted and civilians who completed advanced training and developed tactical expertise across all IW mission areas – Command and Control/Cyberspace Operations, Electronic Warfare, Intelligence Operations, Information Operations, Space, and Meteorology and Oceanography. The Information Warfare WTI program (IWWP) is open to commissioned officers O2 (but must be promoted to O3 before the completion of Level 4) through O4, and Chief Warrant Officers 2 through 4 who have already earned an IW Officer designation pin; senior enlisted paygrades E7 through E9 who have earned an Enlisted IW Specialist designator pin; and GS/GG 11 through 14 civilians assigned to IW commands.

NIWDC leverages the advantages of a multi-domain environment, shifting from traditional platform-centric warfare tactics toward an integrated holistic approach that capitalizes on warfighting power in multiple domains at sea and on shore.

"The investment in our WTIs is a direct investment in the Navy's warfighting readiness. The Navy's operational forces, both mobile and non-mobile platforms, are the beneficiaries," said Brown. "I am extremely proud of their accomplishments and their efforts will serve our nation well!"

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In 2020, Inside Business will be honoring local Health Care individuals, companies and organizations for their contributions to improving health care in Hampton Roads. Here's your chance to help us recognize exceptional achievements in this area – please nominate a deserving person, company or group. Entries will be judged by an independent panel and honorees will be presented with their awards at a celebratory breakfast.

**Health Care
HEROES**

PLEASE VISIT:
Insidebiz.com/hch2019
for details about requirements and categories
and to submit a nomination!
Deadline for entries is January 3, 2020

CATEGORIES FOR NOMINATION ARE:

- Corporate Achievements in Health Care
- Corporate Achievements in Wellness
- Advancements in Health Care
- Community Service
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- Military Care
- Health Care Staff
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Inside Business
The Hampton Roads Business Journal

ProductiveAV



MC2 Eric Shorter
Sailors man the rails as the amphibious assault ship USS Wasp (LHD 1) arrives at Naval Station Norfolk, Nov. 18. Wasp returned to Norfolk, completing a homeport shift after spending nearly two years forward deployed to Fleet Activities Sasebo, Japan and operating in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations.

WASP | Ship spent a nearly two-year forward deployment in Sasebo, Japan

Continued from A1

from deploying with the F-35B Lightning II – a critical high-end capability that I’m eager to incorporate into our east coast amphibious task forces. On behalf of Navy-Marine Corps warfighters at all echelons, I’m thrilled to welcome them back to the Virginia waterfront.”

Wasp arrived in C7F in January 2018 to replace the USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6), and had been operating with U.S. Marines from the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU). While working together, the Blue-Green team worked to expand upon the robust relationships that U.S. forces maintain with regional allies and partners.

“I could not be more proud to call myself a ‘Stinger’ as we make our return to Norfolk after two years forward deployed to Japan,” said Wasp Commanding Officer Capt. Greg Baker. “This crew has shown their mettle consistently through humanitarian assistance operations, large-scale multinational exercises and real-world operations with strategic implications in the 7th Fleet. The crew has taken Wasp through four different fleets, and their resiliency has been demonstrated as many have not been with their families for more than two years while doing some of the hardest operations the Navy does. We are all happy to be home for some well-earned rest and to enable the ship to get into a maintenance period.”

While based in Japan, Wasp participated



MC2 Eric Shorter
Sailors prepare to man the rails as the amphibious assault ship USS Wasp (LHD 1) arrives at Naval Station Norfolk, Virginia Nov. 18. Wasp returned to Norfolk, completing a homeport shift after spending nearly two years forward deployed to Fleet Activities Sasebo, Japan and operating in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations.

in exercises Balikatan with the Philippine military and exercise Talisman Sabre with the Australian Defence Force as well as additional forces from Canada, Japan, New Zealand and United Kingdom. The ship also assisted the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and local civilian authorities with relief operations in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana

Islands (CNMI) following typhoon Manghut in 2018.

Wasp arrived in the U.S. 4th Fleet area of operations on Oct. 1. The ship enjoyed the sights during a visited Valparaiso, Chile and embarked 20 multinational naval officers assigned to a maritime Combined Task Force (CTF) which was based on board the Wasp. The Naval War college hosted a

classroom education course for the CTF which focused on humanitarian and disaster relief (HADR) planning.

The ship then conducted a 26 hour transit of the Strait of Magellan, bringing the ship from the Pacific Ocean to the Atlantic, and visited Rio De Janeiro, Brazil where the crew explored the city and participated in community relations events.

NYC | Sailors used time at sea for qualifications as part of their basic training

Continued from A1

and certification criteria required to begin more complex integrated training events.

“Conducting exercises and performing boat operations maintains our proficiency,” said Chief Warrant Officer Rickey Brown II, Carter Hall’s Bos’n. “Deck department provides assistance and support for operations in order to meet the necessary qualifications for basic phase.”

Carter Hall spent several days in Staten Island participating in Veterans Day events in New York City including the 100th anniversary Veterans Day parade.

Carter Hall, homeported at Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek-Fort Story in Virginia Beach, Virginia recently participated in exercise UNITAS LX (60) in the vicinity of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil and operating in the U.S. 4th Fleet (C4F) area of operations.

Carter Hall is the second amphibious ship to bear this name. Carter Hall was launched Oct. 2, 1993, commissioned Sep. 30, 1995, and made her maiden deployment to the Mediterranean in April 1997.



MC1 Bryan Ilyankoff
Sailors from the USS Carter Hall (LSD 50) pose with Today Show hosts Peter Alexander and Sheinelle Jones at Rockefeller Square on Nov. 9, 2019 following the live broadcast of the Today Show honoring Veterans Day. USS Carter Hall (LSD 50) is in port to celebrate Veterans Day through Monday. While in port, Sailors and Marines assigned to Carter Hall will host ship tours for the public, pay tribute to veterans of all generations, attend sporting events and march in New York City’s Veterans Day Parade. This year, the Veterans Day celebration will commemorate the centennial of the holiday, established in 1919 as Armistice Day. It commemorated the anniversary of the end of World War I and was officially renamed to Veterans Day in 1954.



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Submarine Force welcomes new commander
Vice Adm. Daryl Caudle relieved Vice Adm. Charles A. Richard as Commander, Submarine Forces/Submarine Force Atlantic/Allied Submarine Command during a change of command ceremony on Naval Station Norfolk, Nov. 12.

See B4

SECTION B | FLAGSHIPNEWS.COM | 11.21.2019

ABRAHAM LINCOLN CARRIER STRIKE GROUP TRANSITS THE STRAIT OF HORMUZ



MCSN Allayah Carr

Pictured is the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) during its transit of the Strait of Gibraltar, April 13, entering the Mediterranean Sea as it continues operations in the 6th Fleet area of responsibility. Abraham Lincoln is underway as part of the Abraham Lincoln Carrier Strike Group deployment in support of maritime security cooperation efforts in the U.S. 5th, 6th and 7th Fleet areas of responsibility. With Abraham Lincoln as the flagship, deployed strike group assets include staffs, ships and aircraft of Carrier Strike Group 12 (CSG 12), Destroyer Squadron 2 (DESRON 2), USS Leyte Gulf (CG 55) and Carrier Air Wing 7 (CVW 7); as well as the Spanish navy Alvaro de Bazan-class frigate ESPS Méndez Núñez (F 104).

By MC3 Amber Smalley
USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) Public Affairs

ARABIANGULF

The Abraham Lincoln Carrier Strike Group (ABESCG) completed a scheduled transit through the Strait of Hormuz into the Arabian Gulf, Nov. 19.

The Strait of Hormuz is one of the busiest shipping lanes in the world, with one-fifth of the world's energy supply transiting through the strait annually. This waterway is critical to ensuring and safeguarding the stability of global commerce.

"I'm incredibly proud of the Abraham Lincoln Strike Group Sailors and the professionalism they have demonstrated throughout this deployment," said Rear Adm. Michael Boyle, commander, Carrier Strike Group (CSG) 12. "Especially in evolutions like a strait transit, where detailed planning, precision navigation and the proficiency of

"I'm incredibly proud of the Abraham Lincoln Strike Group Sailors and the professionalism they have demonstrated throughout this deployment. Especially in evolutions like a strait transit, where detailed planning, precision navigation and the proficiency of our warfighting teams are on full display."

our warfighting teams are on full display."

ABESCG presence in the U.S. 5th Fleet area of operations (AOO), where it has operated since May, demonstrates the U.S. and its regional partners' commitment to the free flow of commerce, regional maritime security and freedom of navigation.

"A carrier brings immense capabilities wherever it goes," said Capt. Walter Slaughter, commanding officer of USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72), the flagship of ABESG. "We place ourselves where we need to be, when we need to be there, in order to meet the full range of maritime security require-

Rear Adm. Michael Boyle

ments of the mission at hand."

The U.S. 5th Fleet AOO encompasses about 2.5 million square miles of water and includes the Arabian Gulf, Gulf of Oman, Red Sea and parts of the Indian Ocean. The expanse is comprised of 20 countries and includes three critical choke points at the Strait of Hormuz, the Suez Canal and the Strait of Bab al Mandeb at the southern tip of Yemen.

Abraham Lincoln Carrier Strike Group is deployed to the U.S. 5th Fleet AOO in support of naval operations to ensure maritime stability and security in the Central Region, connecting the Mediterranean and the Pacific through the western Indian Ocean and three strategic choke points. With Abraham Lincoln as the flagship, deployed strike group assets include staffs, ships and aircraft of CSG 12, Destroyer Squadron (DESRON) 2, USS Leyte Gulf (CG 55) and Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 7.

Naval Academy Midshipmen visit downtown Norfolk

By Max Lonzanida
Hampton Roads Naval Museum Public Information Office

NORFOLK

On any given day, the gallery of the Hampton Roads Naval Museum appears as a beehive of activity. On most weekdays, school age children cycle through with their teachers. Veterans from near and far flock to their new exhibit about the U.S. Navy's role during the Vietnam War, often with family members in tow. And on most days, active duty Sailors often visit during military ceremonies hosted by the museum aboard the Battleship Wisconsin next door or cycle through during heritage tours.

But this past weekend, the museum's gallery and Nauticus campus hosted future Naval Officers from the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md., who spent the weekend in Norfolk. Many cycled through the Naval Museum's gallery and on the ageless teak decks of the Wisconsin during a weekend of history that makes Sailors smarter and gained an appreciation for heritage that makes them proud.



Max Lonzanida

YP-707 (far) and YP-703 (near) docked behind the Hampton Roads Naval Museum and the Nauticus Campus during their first visit to the downtown Norfolk waterfront.

A MILITARY SPOUSE'S
THANKSGIVING DAY PRAYER

By Lisa Smith Molinari

Now I lay me down to pray,
that I'll survive Thanksgiving Day.

That the special dinner I agreed to host,
won't make me a laughing stock on post.

That I will keep hold of my sanity,
and have no outbursts of profanity.

That our turkey will completely thaw,
so that stuffing her won't require a hacksaw.

That the kids will happily play a game,
and won't bellyache that the Macy's Parade is "lame."

That hubby will assist when the moment is opportune,
and not disappear with shipmates to drink beer before noon.

That if guys must play football so they feel athletic,
no one will get tackled and require a paramedic.

That the turkey will fry to a nice golden brown,
without a conflagration that burns the base down.

That the beans will steam, the potatoes will boil,
and the gravy won't resemble a batch of crude oil.

That our friends won't mind if the cranberries are canned,
and when the smoke detector goes off, they'll all understand.

That everyone will gather at our table without haste,
before the mashed potatoes become wallpaper paste.

That the children will remember to put napkins on laps,
chew with mouths closed, and not feed the dog scraps.

That no one will giggle when we all say the blessing,
and my husband won't grimace at the neighbor's vegan dressing.

That while carving the turkey, a wishbone we'll find,
not the sack of giblets that got left behind.

That dinner conversation will be without drama,
and no one will bring up Trump or Obama.

That around our table, stories will be told,
about experiences we've had, both young and old.

About patriotism, honor, joy and strife;
about the laughter, wisdom and strength in military life.

That sharing our stories will help us to see,
that our sacrifices make America the home of the free.

And before we get too sentimental with tears in our eyes,
someone will remind us that we haven't yet had pie.

That dessert won't send me on a guilt trip,
because even store bought pie tastes good with enough Cool Whip.

That after dinner everyone will help clear the grub,
so I'm not left with a sinkful of dishes to scrub.

That while watching football, my husband will squelch
his manly urges to itch, scratch and belch.

And if the quarterback fumbles, he'll turn a blind eye,
rather than throw the remote and let expletives fly.

That our friends won't linger because they've had too much booze,
or lay on our couch and take a long snooze.

Gathering with military friends was surely long overdue,
but they'll politely take the clue and bid us adieu.

That they'll leave our house with just coats and umbrellas,
and not any symptoms of acute salmonella.

That we'll have a quiet moment to let tryptophan digest,
and agree that the day was one of the best.

And if we happen to go in for round two of the pie,
that we'll have Pepto Bismol in our supply.

Now, as I lay my head down to rest,
I pray that Thanksgiving Day will be blessed without stress!



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Command Support
Crisis Support
Suicide Prevention
SAPR Support



Sailors sort mail aboard the hospital ship USNS Comfort (TAH 20) after a replenishment at sea. Comfort is working with health and government partners in Central America, South America, and the Caribbean to provide care on the ship and at land-based medical sites, helping to relieve pressure on national medical systems strained by an increase in Venezuelan migrants.

Have holiday mail? Know your mailing deadlines!

From Naval Supply Systems Command Public Affairs
MECHANICSBURG, PA.
As holidays are fast approaching, so are the deadlines — first is Nov. 27. Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) Postal Operations has recommendations to follow to make sure packages arrive in time.
"Most ashore Navy Post Offices will extend package pick up and customer service hours to support the holiday rush, so mail or order early to ensure packages arrive in time for the holidays," said Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) Postal Operations Manager Dale Pinchart.

To be sure packages and letters arrive by Dec. 25, Pinchart recommends sending items no later than these mailing dates:
Nov. 27 — For military Space Available Mail addressed to and from:
APO/FPO/DPO AE ZIPs 090-092
APO/FPO/DPO AE ZIP 093
APO/FPO/DPO AE ZIPs 094-099
APO/FPO/DPO AA ZIP 340
APO/FPO/DPO AP ZIPs 962-966
Dec. 4 — For military Parcel Airlift Mail addressed to and from:
APO/FPO/DPO AE ZIPs 090-092
APO/FPO/DPO AE ZIP 093
APO/FPO/DPO AE ZIPs 094-099

APO/FPO/DPO AA ZIP 340
APO/FPO/DPO AP ZIPs 962-966

Dec. 9 — For Priority and First-Class Mail, Letters, and Cards addressed to and from APO/FPO/DPO AE ZIP 093
Dec. 11 — For Priority and First-Class Mail, Letters, and Cards addressed to and from APO/FPO/DPO AE ZIPs 090-092
APO/FPO/DPO AE ZIPs 094-099
APO/FPO/DPO AA ZIP 340
APO/FPO/DPO AP ZIPs 962-966

Dec 18 — For Priority Mail Express Service addressed to and from APO/FPO/DPO AE ZIPs 090-092
APO/FPO/DPO AE ZIPs 094-099
APO/FPO/DPO AA ZIP 340
APO/FPO/DPO AP ZIPs 962-966
* Note that this deadline is NOT applicable to APO/FPO/DPO AE ZIP 093

Pay your way: MILITARY STAR introduces reduced-interest payment plans

By Kristine Sturkie
Navy Exchange Service Command Public Affairs
VIRGINIA BEACH

The Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM) announces its participation in the Exchange Credit Program's new "Pay Your Way" flexible payment plans. The new program introduces flexible payment plans designed to meet the varying needs of service

members and their families through every stage of their careers.
Pay Your Way, a special financing program from MILITARY STAR®, allows customers to choose a fixed monthly payment at a reduced, fixed APR of 9.99%, using their existing MILITARY STAR line of credit. Three plans are offered:
Purchases \$300-\$499.99 are eligible for the 36-month plan.
Purchases \$500-\$999.99 are eligible for the 48-month plan or the 36-month plan.
Purchases greater than \$1,000 are eligible for the 60-month, 48-month or 36-month plans.
"The MILITARY STAR Pay Your Way program will assist Sailors and their families plan and pay for some of those higher cost purchases like the initial uniform purchase at OCS, new living room furniture or even preparing for a new baby," said NEXCOM's Command Master Chief Shannon Howe. "These three new

plans offer NEX customers the flexibility to shop and pay for their purchases in a way that best fits their needs."
NEX shoppers can estimate the monthly payment on qualifying purchases using the payment estimator located at MyECP.com/Calculator. The calculator can also be accessed via the QR code located on MILITARY STAR Pay Your Way signage at Navy Exchange (NEX) locations. Pay Your Way plans are available NEX main stores as well as online at myNavyExchange.com. Purchases made at NEX mini mart and gas station locations are excluded.
As with all MILITARY STAR purchases, shoppers using the Pay Your Way plans will receive two rewards points per dollar. Cardholders earn a \$20 rewards card every 2,000 points.
For more information on the MILITARY STAR, visit MyECP.com.

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MC2 Scott Swofford
The Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75), front, and the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Lassen (DDG 82) transit the Atlantic Ocean. Harry S. Truman is underway conducting composite training unit exercise with the Harry S. Truman Carrier Strike Group.

TRUMAN REPAIRED, RETURNS TO SEA TO CONDUCT OPERATIONS

From U.S. Fleet Forces Command Public Affairs

WASHINGTON

Repairs to USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) are complete, and all efforts are being made to return the carrier and air wing to sea to conduct operations.

In August, the Navy announced an emergent maintenance requirement for an electrical issue aboard Truman. The Navy replaced damaged components and completed tests to ensure no further issues will arise. An engineering analysis, coupled with inspections aboard several aircraft carriers, show that this was a localized issue and not a class-wide concern.

The success of this repair was due to the outstanding efforts of multiple Navy organizations and industry partners who quickly brought their expertise and skills to bear to resolve this issue.

“Returning HST to full functionality was a team effort with a tremendous amount of work and collaboration by NAVSEA, our industry partners, shipyard workers and the crew of HST to overcome a very challenging technical issue,” said Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command, Vice Admiral Thomas Moore.

Every effort is being made to make the carrier, air wing and Sailors operationally ready to deploy.

“Returning HST to full functionality was a team effort with a tremendous amount of work and collaboration by NAVSEA, our industry partners, shipyard workers and the crew of HST to overcome a very challenging technical issue

Vice Admiral Thomas Moore

SURFLANT speaks at Basic Division Officer Course

By MC2 Jacob Milham
Commander, Naval Surface Force Atlantic Public Affairs

NORFOLK

Rear Adm. Roy I. Kitchener, commander of Naval Surface Force Atlantic (SURFLANT), spoke with personnel attending the Basic Division Officer Course (BDOC), Nov. 15.

Kitchener expressed the importance of BDOC and how the course sets junior officers up for success.

“It starts here at BDOC, in the classroom and in the trainers, honing foundational skills and building your career to a graduate level education in tactics and combat leadership,” said Kitchener. “We expect you to continue to build that readiness as a surface warfare officer through enforcement of rigorous standards, a thorough understanding of the equipment under your cognizance and an unrelenting passion to lead the Sailors who look to you for a winning culture.”

The current BDOC class has 120 students, each assigned to different platforms and represent the diversity of the surface warfare community. Lt. Cmdr. Walter Brinkley, the officer-in-charge of BDOC, expressed how Kitchener’s remarks support the BDOC mission.

“Rear Adm. Kitchener speaking directly to these junior surface warfare officers personally reinforces the importance of what they are learning,” said Brinkley. “His remarks instills in them to continually develop their expertise and to contribute to their ship’s mission.”

BDOC, a nine week course, is the first stop for newly commissioned ensigns before they report to their respective ships where they learn basic division officer (DIVO) fundamentals including basic seamanship, navigation, engineering, maritime warfare, and damage control.

SURFLANT mans, trains and equips assigned surface forces and shore activities, ensuring a capable force for conducting prompt and sustained operations in support of United States national interests. More than 75 ships and 30 shore commands make up the SURFLANT Force.

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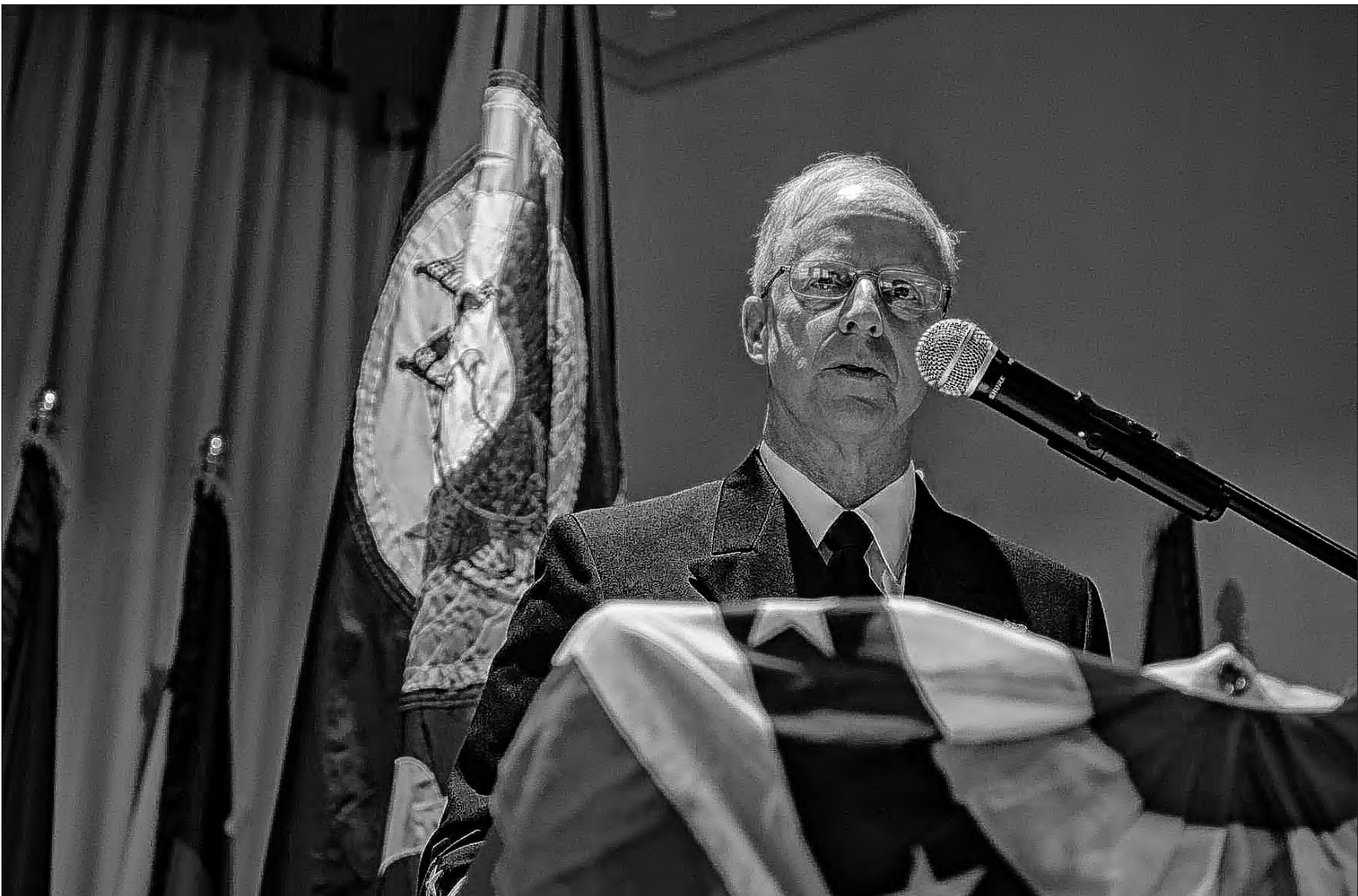
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MC2 Alfred Coffield

Vice Adm. Daryl Caudle delivers a speech during a change of command ceremony in Norfolk, Nov. 12. During the ceremony, Caudle relieved Vice Adm. Charles A. Richard as Commander, Submarine Forces/Submarine Force Atlantic/Allied Submarine Command.

SUBMARINE FORCE WELCOMES NEW COMMANDER

From Commander, Submarine Forces Public Affairs

NORFOLK

Vice Adm. Daryl Caudle relieved Vice Adm. Charles A. Richard as Commander, Submarine Forces/Submarine Force Atlantic/Allied Submarine Command during a change of command ceremony on Naval Station Norfolk, Nov. 12.

Since taking command of the Submarine Force in August 2018, Richard played a pivotal role in the future of the force. As Commander, Submarine Forces, he focused his efforts on ensuring the U.S. Navy maintains undersea superiority today and into the future. As Commander, Submarine Force Atlantic, he had operational command of all U.S. submarines home ported on the Atlantic coast, as well as supporting shore activities. As Commander, Allied Submarine Command, he acted as the principal advisor to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization on submarine plans, operations, and doctrine.

Richard stated in his remarks, “From our plan for preserving undersea superiority, the thing I’m most impressed by is the overall cultural shift towards warfighting readiness by the Submarine Force. Our teams recognize that if we are prepared for warfighting, we will also be prepared for the peacetime missions we are tasked with. But it can’t just be the Fleet – we need a shift across the Navy, including supporting commands who must be held to the same standards as the Fleet, and driven to meet the needs of supported commanders.”

Adm. Christopher Grady, Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command was the guest speaker during the ceremony. In welcoming and recognizing the many distinguished guests at the ceremony, Grady also lauded Richard’s leadership, his continued support of excellence, and the elite culture that he established within the submarine commu-

nity. “You have recognized how in this new environment we may find ourselves in conflict with little or no notice. Understanding that our Submarine Force will be the first into the fight, you attacked this challenge with urgency, imploring your team to prepare for battle from the very beginning,” Grady said. “Because of your leadership, the Submarine Force is now more prepared than it ever has been for the high end fight.”

Richard will be promoted to four-star admiral when he takes command of U.S. Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM), one of the 11 unified combatant commands in the Department of Defense. USSTRATCOM is responsible for strategic deterrence, global strike and operating the Defense Department’s Global Information Grid. Richard will be responsible for the three-legged U.S. nuclear enterprise, which can deliver nuclear arms from land, sea or aircraft.

“So as I depart, the last thing I want to say as SUBFOR will be the first thing you hear me say next week at USSTRATCOM – “Prepare to be tested” – on this tour, maybe on this watch – it’s not a future problem, or an academic exercise, or your relief’s problem,” said Richard. “And knowing that we will be tested, I intend to attack the problem – and I ask the same of you.”

Upon assuming command, Caudle thanked Richard for a seamless transition, and reassured that he understands the important role submarines play in the nation’s defense.

“I can’t think of a more important or relevant place to work on the goal of achieving our national security objectives,” said Caudle. “What our undersea forces accomplish each and every day is so vitally important to our nation’s defense.”

Before taking command, Caudle served as vice director for Strategy, Plans and



MC3 Kristen C Yarber

Vice Adm. Charles A. Richard delivers a speech during a change of command ceremony in Norfolk, Nov. 12. During the ceremony, Vice Adm. Daryl Caudle relieved Richard as Commander, Submarine Forces/Submarine Force Atlantic/Allied Submarine Command.

Policy on the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Washington, D.C. Prior to that assignment, he was Commander, Submarine Force Pacific Fleet.

Caudle will command the U.S. Submarine Forces with three lines of effort:

“My vision for the Submarine Force is simple, aligned with, and evolved from my strategy that I started as the Pacific Submarine Force Commander,” said Caudle. “My goal is to prepare, employ, develop, and design undersea warriors and forces that are agile, persistent, flexible, interoperable, and resilient in order to provide competitive options and expand decision space for our senior leaders, impose costs on our adversaries, deter conventional and strategic attacks, and respond to threats at the speed of relevance. To accomplish this, I want to focus on three lines of effort.”

Caudle continued his speech by explaining how he aims to implement his strategy.

“First, I want to generate and deploy combat ready and relentlessly lethal undersea forces that leverage our asymmetric overmatch during competition and conflict,” said Caudle. “Second, I want to

develop bold warfighters and innovative concepts that enhance and seamlessly integrate into the broader Department of Defense’s objectives of Assured Joint Power Projection while enabling All-Domain Maneuver Warfare for the Joint Force. Last, I want to design the next evolution of our undersea forces that supports, enables, and multiplies our Future Fleet with capacity and capabilities created to maintain an enduring warfighting advantage.”

In his remarks, Grady expressed confidence in Caudle’s leadership of a Submarine Force that offers combatant commanders unmatched military capabilities, calling Caudle the right person “to lead our Submarine Force to even greater heights.”

Grady noted that Caudle previously worked hand in hand with Richard to shape and implement important changes throughout the Submarine Force, and offered advice for assuming command.

“Take charge, lead, keep your cutlass sharp, fight and win; and if you need help, just ask,” Grady said. “I look forward to following the Submarine Forces’ continued success under your leadership.”

HSC-9 sailor saves Elizabeth City police officer’s life

By Cmdr. Jennifer Cragg
Commander, Naval Air Force Atlantic Public Affairs

NORFOLK

During the month of November, many pause and reflect on being thankful, and for one Elizabeth City police officer he is thankful that a U.S. Navy Sailor from Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 9 was at the right place, at just the right time.

Naval Helicopter Aircrewman 1st Class George Parsons III of Forney, Texas, serves as a flight crewmember and a rescue swimmer for the Norfolk-based squadron.

While Parsons was at his Elizabeth City, North Carolina residence on Oct. 24 a police officer was in pursuit of an assailant. Not wanting to interfere with official police business, Parsons chose to initially watch from a distance.

“The assailant had stolen a car and the police officer was pursuing him into our neighborhood,” said Parsons. “I had no idea that this event was going on until the police officer and assailant ran past me.”

As the police officer caught up to the assailant they were in a scuffle. The assailant was attempting to grab the police officer’s weapon. At that time, Parsons knew he had to take action.

“I saw that the cop was outsized and that the assailant was trying to disarm him, and he was making threats against the officer’s life,” said Parsons. “I just knew that if I did not intervene something bad was going to happen.”

Running from his residence and through an irrigation ditch he successfully apprehended the assailant.

The mayor of Elizabeth City took notice of the Sailor’s actions and awarded him for his bravery during a city council meeting on Nov. 12.

“After apprehending the assailant a representative from Elizabeth City called me right away, I knew they were trying to coordinate a way to recognize me, but I was just trying to help out,” said Parsons.

Parsons received a Mayoral Certificate of Appreciation during the city council meeting

“ I am not surprised that he did what he did. AWS1 Parsons truly represents what we look for in every Sailor. The willingness to take the initiative, the toughness to take on difficult, unpleasant, or dangerous tasks.

Cmdr. Steve Yargosz

from Mayor Bettie J. Parker. The citation, presented to Parsons read, “In recognition of your selflessness and unwavering bravery in

aiding the Elizabeth City Police Department.”

When asked how the police office responded for lending a hand, he said, “thank you for saving my life.”

“I am not surprised that he did what he did,” said Cmdr. Steve Yargosz, commanding officer of HSC-9. “AWS1 Parsons truly represents what we look for in every Sailor. The willingness to take the initiative, the toughness to take on difficult, unpleasant, or dangerous tasks. As a rescue swimmer he is accountable for not only the lives of those he flies with but the lives of many of his fellow Sailors and on a daily basis he embodies the rescue swimmer ethos of ‘So Others May Live’.”

HSC-9 employs the MH-60S in a variety of missions to include: Anti-Surface Warfare, Strike Coordination and Reconnaissance, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance, Maritime Interdiction Operations, Helicopter Visit Board Search and Seizure, Anti-Terrorism Force Protection, Personnel Recovery, Combat Search and Rescue, Search and Rescue, Plane Guard, Special Operations, Medical Evacuation, Non-Combatant Evacuation, Vertical Replenishment, and Disaster Relief.

Navy gets closer to paperless with biometric technology

From Navy Recruiting Command Public Affairs

MILLINGTON, TENN.

The use of biometrics is becoming commonplace, granting people immediate access to their phones, computers, buildings and cars. This technology makes accessing personal information easier and secure, using an identifier unique to each individual. As of Oct. 1, the Navy began using this technology to make the enlistment process more efficient and less wasteful.

Navy recruiters are no longer required to print out the majority of forms necessary to process a future Sailor. The traditional way to create a member’s official military personnel file (OMPF) required applicants to “wet sign” all of their forms – i.e., using a pen to sign in ink on hard copy. Through the use of biometric signing, which takes an applicant’s fingerprint as a replacement for a signature, recruiters are able to work straight off the electronic version of forms, removing the extra step of creating a physical copy.

“The key thing is, if you wet sign something, it’s got to be scanned and uploaded. Before you scan it, you have to print it,” said Gary Morse, assistant project coordinator for the Personalized Recruiting for Immediate and Delayed Enlistments (PRIDE) application where the biometrics project has been managed under the project leadership of Jeff Keating. “If our goal is to add 40-45,000 Sailors to our system and it takes us processing nearly 60,000 people to do that, it’s a lot of paper, a lot of ink and a lot of wear and tear on printers. So we can cut that down to where we’re no longer doing all of that printing and scanning, and we save the time that it takes.”

Prior to using biometric signing, the Navy enlistment kit consisted of approximately 150 sheets of paper per person. This kit was then made in to four copies which resulted in about 600 pieces of paper per prospective Sailor. If you multiply that figure by the approximately 60,000 people that

are processed annually, it results in 36 million sheets of paper per year. At the average cost of 7 cents per sheet of paper used, the cost per year, in paper alone, of processing personnel into the Navy was around \$2.5 million. As the cost of enacting the program was about \$180,000, this project has created significant cost avoidance for the Navy while having a positive impact environmentally.

“I honestly do not believe that is the most powerful piece,” said Dr. Kevin Sullivan, the deputy commander and executive director of Commander, Navy Recruiting Command. “What is more powerful is the efficiency we got overall. For the first time we have parallel processing.”

With parallel processing, all of the documents that are created during the acquisition process are stored digitally in an encrypted database. This database allows Navy Recruiting Command (NRC), Navy Personnel Command, and Recruit Training Command access to the original records while also enabling them to perform further processing of individuals. This process also creates a reduction in the possibility of personally identifiable information (PII) falling into the wrong hands as recruits are no longer required to carry a copy of their enlistment kit to boot camp. Now recruits report to boot camp with three pieces of paper: their orders, their meal pass, and their medical form.

As of Nov. 1, NRC successfully processed more than 700,000 forms using the new biometric method. Biometric signing is different from the biometrics used for identity verification. Devices that use biometrics store a copy of the finger print in the device and actively compare it when a user is trying to access the device. However, the Navy’s technology is simply allowing users to use their biometrics in place of a signature. In the case of fraudulent activity, the Navy is able to compare the fingerprint of the signer against what was put on the document.

“A member signs these forms using two separate fingers on the documents,” said



Navy Recruiting Command
Paul Mallory, an applicant for the U.S. Navy Officer Candidate School, uses his finger to biometrically sign documents at the Memphis Military Entrance Processing Station.

Matt Gomez, director of N6 Requirements and Project management office, Commander, Navy Recruiting Command. “We have one that we show on the actual document ... so you see an actual fingerprint and we save the other one in the background, inside of the form.”

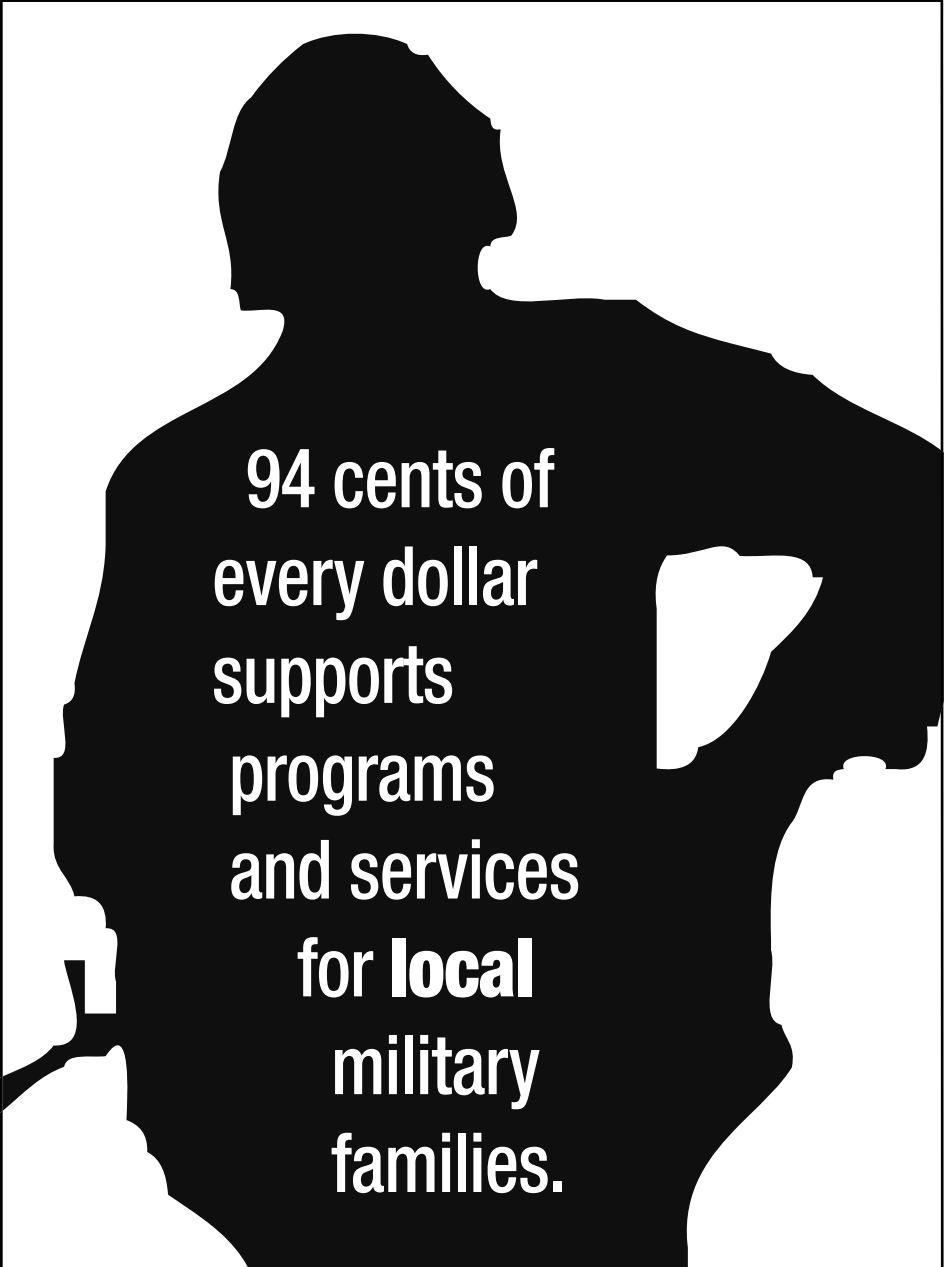
Through biometrics, the document now has something that is an actual, legal signature that is then embedded into the document. The October rollout of the project was the culmination of years of work trying to implement the technology.

“It’s one thing to capture a fingerprint. It’s another to do something with it,” said Morse. “First, we had to get approval at the DOD (Department of Defense) and DON (Department of the Navy) level to actually

be able to substitute a biometric fingerprint for a [wet] signature.”

Jeff Keating and his team’s work was critical in obtaining this approval. After establishing the legality of a biometric signature, the technology to sign documents biometrically had to be developed. To solve this problem, the project team worked with Adobe software engineers and designed a custom plug-in that allowed documents to be signed biometrically. This required some forms to be redesigned to accommodate the new features.

The use of biometrics is one more step forward toward becoming a paperless Navy, and although the Navy piloted this technology, it is now available for use by all DOD assets.



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Navy Recruiting Command sees future for third region

By MC3 Austin Breum
Navy Recruiting Command Public Affairs

MILLINGTON, TENN.

Change can be a challenging and frustrating process at times. It can also be a breath of fresh air and bring about positive outcomes. Navy Recruiting Command (NRC) is facing these aspects of change as they undergo a transformation process. While streamlining the recruiting command structure, this transformation is expected to move NRC from having two geographically responsible regions, Region East and Region West, to three regions.

The third region will eventually be established as Region Central with its own designated area of responsibility. Currently, NRC is referring to the new region as Region Three. Established in April 2016 between regions East and West, Region Three is intended to help change how Navy Recruiting Districts (NRD) operate, introducing them to a new, more streamlined model of recruiting.

This transformed model restructured the NRD recruiting process. The new process splits recruiters' tasks into three separate recruiting disciplines; talent scouts, assessing, and onboarding. Under the old NRD construct, recruiters had to focus on and be experts in all of the aspects of the three disciplines. However, under the new concept recruiters refine their focus to the specified discipline they work under. Once an NRD has transformed into the new model, it is rebranded from an NRD to a Navy Talent Acquisition Group (NTAG).

"Region Three transforms NRDs to lessen the workload and enhance work-life balance for recruiters," said Chief Navy Counselor Scott McBride, region recruiting tactics instructor. "In this day and age, it's not feasible



MC3 Austin Breum
Navy Counselor 1st Class Jason Medeiros, Region Three's leading petty officer, helps plan travel arrangements and file administrative correspondence for members of Region Three. Navy Recruiting Command's Region Three is in charge of transforming Navy Recruiting Districts from the East and West regions into Navy Talent Acquisition Groups.

for one person to handle all the tasks anymore."

Currently the goal of Region Three is to lead NRDs through the transformation process, streamline their recruiting workflows, and enable recruiters to focus on their strengths under the new NTAG model. An NRD will fall under Region Three when it begins the transformation process. The command will receive training and restructuring for approximately one year until they are established as an NTAG and then will return to their original region.

"We slowly but surely grew over the years," said Navy Counselor 1st Class Jason Medeiros, Region Three leading petty officer. "During that time, we continued to transform one NRD to the next, just going down the line."

Transforming isn't a black and white process. There are many different factors to

an NRD that effect how they do business. How a command is spread out geographically can make a difference. How many recruiting stations they have across a region and how many recruiters they have manning those stations are additional factors. Moreover, McBride said there are personality and cultural elements that come into play during the transformation as well.

"The hardest part of transforming an NRD to an NTAG is the culture shift," said McBride. "We're taking a crew from a mentality of 'this is how we've been doing things for the last 40 years' and we say 'this is how we're going to do it.' Creating that culture and getting that buy-in from these transforming commands can be difficult."

So far 10 NRDs have transformed to NTAGs, and 16 more are slated to transform with a completion date of 2021. Once all the NRDs have become NTAGs, Region Three's

primary transformation mission will be complete and the region will rebrand itself as Region Central. Like regions East and West, Region Central will have its own NTAGs that are geographically located in its new area of responsibility.

"We are still working the precise details for Region Central, and while we have a solid idea of the future, we have to stay flexible," said McBride. "Watching the transformation from its inception to present state, has been both a challenging and exciting experience."

Navy Recruiting Command consists of a command headquarters, three Navy Recruiting Regions, 16 Navy Recruiting Districts and 10 Navy Talent Acquisition Groups that serve more than 1,330 recruiting stations across the world. Their combined goal is to attract the highest quality candidates to assure the ongoing success of America's Navy.

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SECNAV names future destroyers

From Secretary of the Navy Public Affairs

WASHINGTON

Secretary of the Navy Richard V. Spencer announced two future Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyers will be named in honor of the late Sen. Richard G. Lugar and late Sen. Thad Cochran, both Navy veterans.

Lugar served in the Navy 1957-1960 and represented Indiana in the Senate for 36 years. He died April 28.

“Senator Lugar dedicated his life to his country, first through service in the U.S. Navy then through service in Congress,” Spencer said. “I am honored to name a future Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer after him. It is fitting this class of ship should bear Senator Lugar’s name, just as he served under Admiral Burke in life. This ship and her crew will continue his legacy of service, safeguarding the safety and security of America and her allies all over the world.”

Lugar attended Officer Candidate School in Rhode Island, with follow-on training in Florida, before serving as an intelligence briefer for Adm. Arleigh Burke, the chief of naval operations at the time.

As chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Lugar was a co-creator of the Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction Program, which provided funding and expertise to secure and dismantle nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and delivery systems around the world. In recent years, funding provided through the program has focused on export and border control programs and on the detection of radiological weapons.

In 2013, Lugar was awarded the presidential medal of freedom.

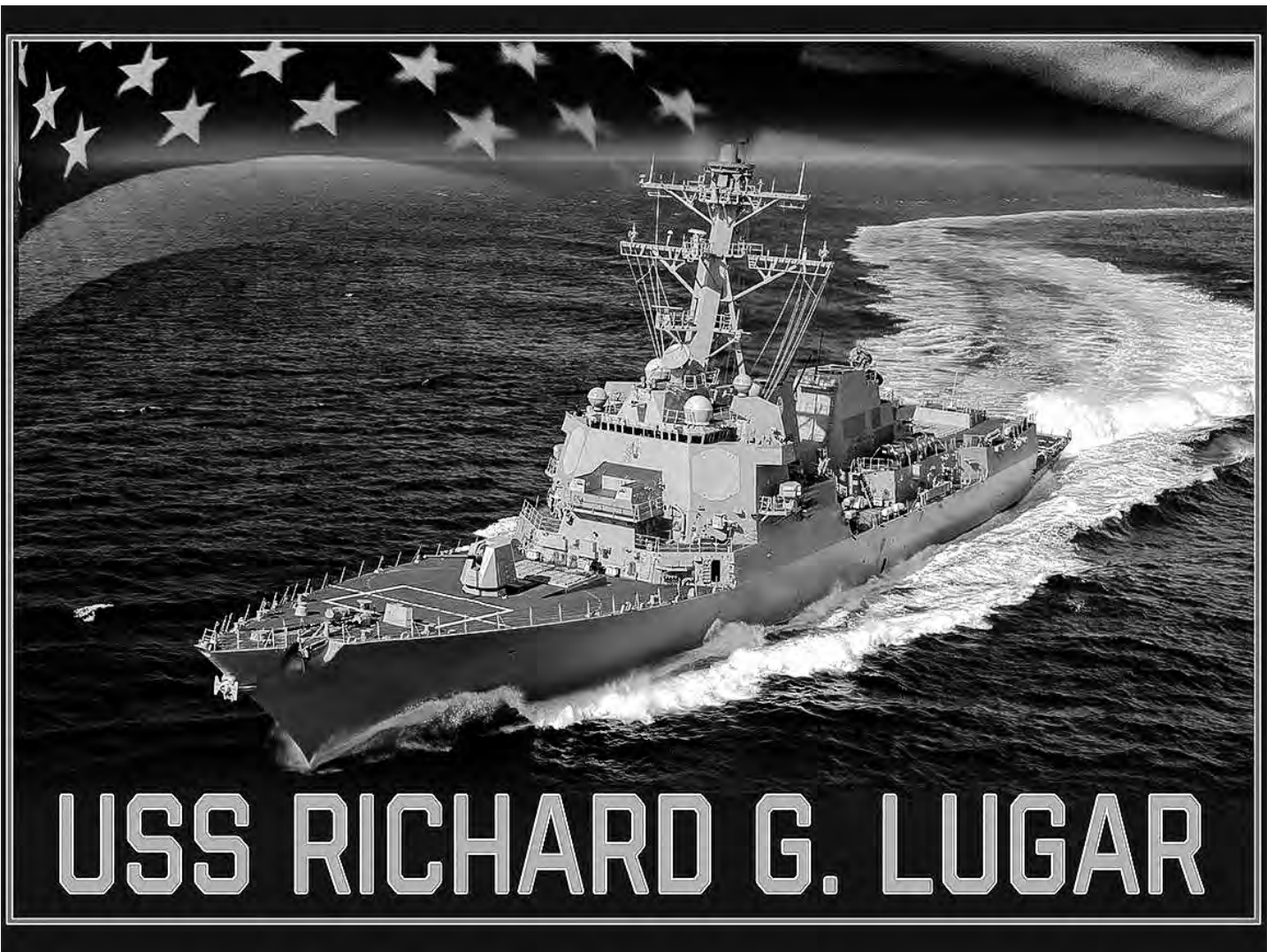
Cochran was commissioned an ensign in the U.S. Naval Reserve in 1959 after graduating from the University of Mississippi with a bachelor’s degree in psychology and completed his service in the U.S. Navy in 1961.

He served on the staff of the Commandant of the Eighth Naval District in New Orleans, Louisiana; taught military law and naval orientation at the Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island; and was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in the U.S. Naval Reserve.

Cochran went on to serve in the House of Representatives from 1973 to 1978 and represented Mississippi in the U.S. Senate from 1978 to 2018. He was recognized as the 10th longest-serving senator in the history of the United States.

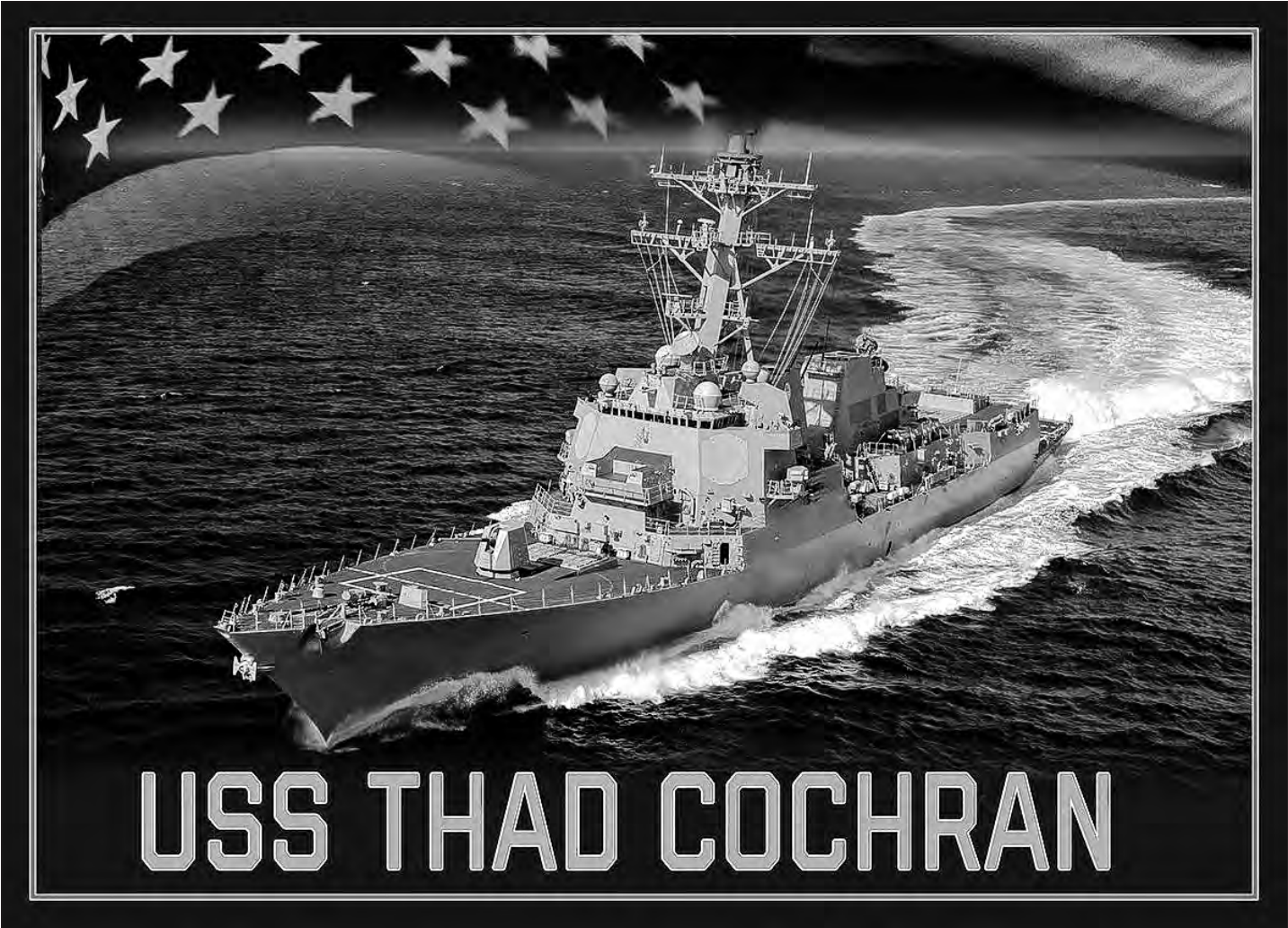
“From his service as a legal officer aboard the heavy cruiser USS Macon, to his dedicated work on behalf of our Sailors and Marines on the Senate Appropriations Committee, Senator Thad Cochran was always a strong advocate for our nation’s defense and a courtly voice for cooperation and civility in American politics,” said Spencer. “We mourned his passing this May, but his legacy will live on wherever this Arleigh Burke-class destroyer may serve.”

While serving as Chairman of the Com-



U.S. Navy photo

A graphic illustration of the future Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Richard G. Lugar. Lugar, a Navy veteran, represented Indiana in the U.S. Senate for 36 years.



U.S. Navy photo

A graphic illustration of the future Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Thad Cochran. Cochran, a Navy veteran, served in the House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate and worked to strengthen the Armed Forces by supporting shipbuilding programs and military bases and installations.

mittee on Appropriations of the Senate from 2005 to 2007 and from 2015 to 2018, Cochran worked to strengthen the Armed Forces by supporting shipbuilding programs for the Navy, the Marine Corps, the Coast Guard, other critical Federal organizations, and the military bases and installations in the State of Mississippi and across the United States.

The Secretary of the Navy has sole authority to name Navy vessels. Guided-mis-

sile destroyers are currently named to honor members of the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard; former secretaries and assistant secretaries of the Navy; and members of Congress closely identified with naval affairs.

Arleigh Burke-class destroyers conduct a variety of operations, from peacetime presence and crisis response to sea control and power projection.

The future USS Thad Cochran will be capable of fighting air, surface, and subsurface battles simultaneously and will contain a combination of offensive and defensive weapon systems to support maritime warfare, including integrated air and missile defense and vertical launch capabilities.

The ship will be 509 feet long, have a beam of 59 feet, and be capable of operating in excess of 30 knots.

ACADEMY | Future Naval Officers were visiting Norfolk from Annapolis, Maryland

Continued from B1

The weekend kicked off bright and early on Nov. 15 when two of the Naval Academy’s newer YP-703 class Yard Patrol Craft docked behind Nauticus. According to the Academy, this was the first time that YPs from the Academy’s YP Squadron visited the Downtown Norfolk waterfront.

After a brief pier side muster, the cadre of Midshipmen were released for an eventful weekend. Small groups of midshipmen trickled into the Naval Museum on the second deck of the Nauticus campus. A few cycled through the museum’s Vietnam exhibit; where they had the opportunity to see exhibits relating to the Navy’s role during the conflict. By studying our history, Sailors achieve high velocity learning, ensuring that today’s fleet does not relearn old lessons; which was quite poignant when the museum’s volunteers fielded questions throughout the new exhibit.

The connection with the Navy’s history and heritage was also echoed via a self-guided tour aboard the Battleship Wisconsin, where volunteer docents and staff members fielded a variety of questions.

Additionally, visitors to the Nauticus campus were able to tour the YPs during the day. Museum staff members met Alicia Sanchez and Jackson Hathaway, both Midshipmen, for a guided tour of YP-707. The



Max Lonzanida/Max Lonzanida

Midshipmen Jackson Hathaway, a native of Illinois, leads a tour aboard YP-707, part of the US Naval Academy’s YP Squadron during its first visit to the downtown Norfolk waterfront.

newer YP-703 class vessel includes an updated bridge with integrated navigation, ship handling features, and updated electronics which provides the YP Squadron

and future Naval Officers with unprecedented access to training that mimics real warship-handling.

During the visit, both Midshipmen

shared their experiences, reflected on their visit to the Naval Museum and other attractions in Norfolk, and shared their plans as future Naval Officers.





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New event raises nearly \$50,000 for Battleship Wisconsin
In celebration of the Battleship Wisconsin's 75th anniversary and our local military community, Nauticus hosted the first annual Steel Beach Barbecue Classic aboard the battleship. More than 600 guests spent the evening sampling the region's best barbecue and exploring newly-opened spaces aboard the ship. **See A2**

SECTION C | FLAGSHIPNEWS.COM | 11.21.2019



Courtesy of Nauticus

ORIGINAL NEW STAGE PRODUCTION DEBUTS AT DICKENS' CHRISTMAS TOWNE

ONE-OF-A-KIND HOLIDAY SHOW FEATURES AN AERIALIST, MAGIC, PUPPETRY AND MORE

From Nauticus

NORFOLK

This season, the region's most unique holiday stage concept premieres at Dickens' Christmas Towne. Nauticus partnered with a team of professional entertainers to produce and deliver a first-of-its-kind variety performance that incorporates marching gingerbread men, a nutcracker army, a life-sized jack-in-the-box and a rag doll aerialist suspended high atop the town. Nauticus' magical holiday experience has become a seasonal favorite and a "must attend" event in Hampton Roads. It opens at 10:00 a.m. on Nov. 23.

"We wanted to create something totally new this season," said Nauticus Executive Director, Stephen E. Kirkland. "It all started with a simple, exciting concept back in the spring: Have you ever wondered what your toys do when no one is looking?"

A new stage has been built for the production with a set designed to look like a Victorian paper puppet theater. Other new additions to Dickens' Christmas Towne this season include a talking reindeer (Randy, the Plain-Nosed Reindeer), animated pelicans, ducks, and even a talking London rat that resides in the floorboards of Scrooge's house!

Nauticus has also partnered with a local

inventor and Steampunk enthusiast to present the "Wondrously Extraordinary Inventions of Professor Martin Picklepants." The newly-created space will feature amazing vehicles, fantastical cars, a flying bike and even an airship.

Dickens' Christmas Towne, located in the lower level of the Decker Half Moone Center at Nauticus, will be open November 23 through December 31. Visitors encounter non-stop music and entertainment, a huge indoor train display, a children's craft room, shops, sweet and savory fare, and a variety of family-friendly activities.

Another new twist this season is the Dickens After Dark series—catering to an adult

audience and taking place on three select Friday evenings (December 6, 13 & 20). The evenings will feature specialty cocktails, craft beer favorites, delicious food, and adult holiday fun. Themed nights include a Fireside Roast & Toast, Love Actually Movie Night, and a Push Comedy Club Night.

After Christmas, families will enjoy a new lineup of themed days, including Princess & Pirate Day, a Pajama Dance Party, Dog Day at Dickens, S.T.E.A.M. Punk Day, and finally, the ever-popular family New Year's Eve Party and Great Balloon Drop on December 31.

Opening Weekend will feature the giveaway of a free copy of A Christmas Carol book with each paid child (ages 3-12) admission, while supplies last.

Admission to Dickens' Christmas Towne is \$7.50 for adults, \$6 for military adults with I.D., \$5 for children (ages 3-12), and free for children ages 2 and under. A group rate is available for parties of 15 or more. Tax is added to all admission rates.

For more information, visit www.dickenschristmastowne.com.

Crowned prince of jazz Jon Batiste coming to Sandler Center

From Sandler Center for the Performing Arts

VIRGINIA BEACH

Strike up the band! GRAMMY nominee, Jon Batiste is coming to Virginia Beach. As Bandleader and Music Director with the Late Show with Stephen Colbert, Batiste is a celebrated musician, educator, bandleader and television personality whose musical skill, artistic vision and exuberant charisma have made him a triple threat and the newly "crowned prince of jazz." His show marks the sixth and final announcement of the Great Performance Series. Jon Batiste will perform



Courtesy photo/

See BATISTE | C4

CalendarCommunity

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



Courtesy of Downtown Norfolk

Grand Illumination Parade

- Nov. 23, 5:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m.
- Downtown Norfolk
- <https://www.downtownnorfolk.org/explore/holidays-in-the-city>

Get ready for the most wonderful time of the year in Downtown Norfolk! It all begins with the brilliant illumination of the Downtown Norfolk skyline and the beloved Grand Illumination Parade stepping off at 7pm on November 23, 2019. The 35th Annual Grand Illumination Parade, "Toy Land," brings thousands of spectators out to take in the beauty, magic, and electric holiday spirit.



Courtesy of Norfolk Botanical Gardens

Million Bulb Walk

- Now through Dec. 22
- Norfolk Botanical Gardens
- <https://norfolkbotanicalgarden.org>

Walk through more than a million holiday lights with family and friends. The event route is approximately a mile long and is accessible for strollers, wheelchairs and mobility assistance devices. At the end of the route, there is a tram that will take guests back to the parking lot. Tickets are nonrefundable.



Courtesy photo

5th Annual Great Hot Cocoa War

- Nov. 23
- Downtown Norfolk, map available
- www.hotcocoawar.com

The beloved Great Hot Cocoa War returns during Norfolk's Grand Illumination Parade. Downtown Norfolk restaurants compete for the most delicious hot cocoa in all the land. Pop between multiple restaurants to taste their cocoa and vote online. Will the reigning champs The CROP Foundation hold on to the trophy or will it find a new home in Downtown? This year we're starting early to give you plenty of time to hit all your cocoa stops before the parade begins. A belly full of warm cocoa to keep you toasty while you watch.



Virginia Stage Company

A Christmas Carol

- Nov. 29-Dec. 22
- Wells Theatre
- <https://www.vastage.org/achristmascarol>

Virginia Stage's most popular production continues its tradition at the Wells Theatre. Follow Ebenezer Scrooge's journey through time with the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present, and Future as he learns about redemption, kindness, and compassion. Filled with music and mirth, this timeless play is recommended for all ages and is fun for the whole family to enjoy.

Olde Towne Holiday Open House & Crafters Market

- Nov. 22
- Olde Towne Portsmouth
- <https://www.facebook.com/events/528672404360222/>

Enjoy a hometown holiday tree lighting complete with decorations, music, a Sugar Plum fairy, Father Christmas, and even a little snow!

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/



Distorted Image VA

Bing's BBQ, "Pork-Strami"

First-time event raises nearly \$50,000 for Battleship Wisconsin

From Nauticus

NORFOLK

In celebration of the Battleship Wisconsin's 75th anniversary and our local military community, Nauticus hosted the first annual Steel Beach Barbecue Classic aboard the battleship on Saturday, November 9. More than 600 guests spent the evening sampling the region's best barbecue and exploring newly-opened spaces aboard the ship. The first-time event generated \$46,000 for the preservation and interpretation of the iconic vessel. Through a vote-casting system, visitors also crowned a "Fan Favorite" barbecue restaurant. Q Daddy's Pitmaster BBQ

from Smithfield, which served pork BBQ and beef brisket tacos with a bonus item of Banana Snap Pudding and Jumbo Molasses cookie, took home the trophy.

"When we learned that the purpose of the event was to raise money for the preservation and educational programming of the Battleship Wisconsin, it was a hard "yes" from Q Daddy's to put our shoulders to the wheel with some of the other outstanding Pitmasters from the area to raise funds," said Joy Andrus Owner of Q Daddy's Pitmaster BBQ. "There was an impressive selection of BBQ inspired fare at the event and it's really exciting to witness the growing BBQ culture of

this region."

The competition was stiff – other participating vendors included the BB-64 Café; Redwood Smoke Shack; Rodman's Bar-B-Que; 757 Crave; Todd Jurich's Bistro; Bing's Barbecue; Guy Fieri's Smokehouse; Terry's NC BBQ & Ribs; and dessert sponsor – Jack Eats.

Based on the event's success and overall visitation, the 2nd Annual Steel Beach Barbecue Classic has already been set for Saturday, November 7, 2020. Steel beach barbecues (or steel beach picnics) are long-held traditions in the United States Navy, typically held while a ship is at sea onboard the deck (hence the name "steel beach").

The event was sponsored by Seaward Marine Services, LLC (Title Sponsor); Hampton Roads Shipping Association; Virginia Maritime Association; Rover Cruises; GEICO, Navy League of Hampton Roads; Sinclair Communications; 13News Now; Nomarama; Belle Isle Moonshine; and Veil Brewing Co.



Courtesy photo

Seeking young female child actress for hit Broadway show Waitress

From Sevenvenues

NORFOLK

Waitress, the Tony nominated musical will be premiering at Chrysler Hall on Tuesday, January 28, 2020 for a limited engagement and is looking for two young girls to perform the role of "Lulu" for the duration of the engagement.

Waitress tells the story of "Jenna", an expert pie baker working at a local diner and stuck in a loveless marriage. Her salvation comes in the form of her daughter, "Lulu."

The character of "Lulu" is a sweet and carefree 4 to 5-year-old who appears in the production's finale scene. Qualified young girls should be shorter than 4'2 and be no older than 5 years and 3 months. Individual applicants are welcome, as are sets of twins or siblings. Space is limited to the first 60 applicants to sign up.

The "Search for Lulu" will take place in Norfolk at Chrysler Hall on Wednesday, December 4 from noon to 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. and will last approximately 2 hours. The audition will consist of the child repeating two lines from the show. To reserve an audition slot, participants must sign up

here. If possible, parents should bring a current headshot and resume for each child. Headshot, resume and prior acting experience is not required.

The character of "Lulu" will be cast locally in the week long tour markets and two girls are chosen to share the role. Each girl chosen will perform in 4 performances each during the one week engagement.

Meet Jenna, a waitress and expert pie-maker who dreams of a way out of her small town and rocky marriage. Pouring her heart into her pies, she crafts desserts that mirror her topsyturvy life such as "The Key (Lime) to Happiness Pie" and "Betrayed By My Eggs Pie." When a baking contest in a nearby county — and a satisfying encounter with someone new — show Jenna a chance at a fresh start, she must find the courage to seize it. Change is on the menu, as long as Jenna can write her own perfectly personal recipe for happiness.

Tickets to Waitress at Chrysler Hall are on sale now and can be purchased at the Scope Arena Box Office and Ticketmaster.com. For more information, visit www.Broadwaynorfolk.com or www.SevenVenues.com.

MoMA photography curator presents “Frances Benjamin Johnston: The Hampton Album”

From Hampton History Museum

HAMPTON

Sarah Hermanson Meister, photography curator at the Museum of Modern Art, New York, presents her illustrated talk “Frances Benjamin Johnston: The Hampton Album,” as part of the Hampton History Museum’s Port Hampton Lecture Series on Dec. 2, 7:00-8:00 p.m. This program is presented in partnership with the Hampton University Museum.

In the winter of 1899, Frances Benjamin Johnston (1864–1952) was commissioned to photograph the Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute (now Hampton University) in Hampton, Virginia, a school for young African American and Native American men and women founded shortly after the end of the Civil War. Johnston’s mesmerizing depictions of Hampton’s students learning ancient history, composing music, or measuring the combined draft of horses embody a sense of promise and possibility far from the cruelties and injustices of the post-Reconstruction South. Acclaimed upon its debut at the American Negro Exhibit at the 1900 Paris Exposition, Johnston’s work fell into obscurity until the impresario and philanthropist Lincoln Kirstein stumbled across the album in a Washington, D.C. bookstore when he was stationed nearby during World War II, and later donated it to The Museum of Modern Art (MoMA).

A selection from “The Hampton Album” was first shown at MoMA in 1966, marking the beginning of its recognition as a landmark in the history of photography as well as a touchstone for the divergent visions of African American progress espoused by W. E. B. Du Bois and Booker T. Washington (himself a Hampton alumnus).

MoMA recently published “The Hampton Album” in its entirety for the first time in two editions: a deluxe edition that adheres to the generous scale and format of the original album for \$175.00, and a smaller hardcover edition for \$50.00. Along with a contextualizing essay by



Class in American History

John Wronn

curator Sarah Hermanson Meister, both editions include a reflection on the contemporary resonances of Johnston’s work from artist LaToya Ruby Frazier.

Both editions of “Frances Benjamin Johnston: The Hampton Album” are published by The Museum of Modern Art, New York, and will be available at MoMA stores and online at store.moma.org. They are distributed to the trade through ART-BOOK/D.A.P. in the United States and Canada and through Thames & Hudson outside the United States and Canada.

Special guests from the Hampton University museum, director Vanessa D. Thaxton-Ward, former curator and director Mary Lou Hultgren and archives manager Donzella D. Maupin will be there

to answer questions in reference to the historical narrative of the images.

ABOUT THE ARTIST/AUTHORS

Frances Benjamin Johnston (American, 1864–1952) achieved acclaim as a photojournalist and studio photographer based in Washington, D.C., and is recognized as a pioneer for women in photography. Johnston’s career spanned nearly seven decades, and her projects varied from documenting educational institutions to a survey of Southern American vernacular architecture.

Sarah Hermanson Meister is a Curator in the Department of Photography at The Museum of Modern Art, New York.

LaToya Ruby Frazier is an artist and

Associate Professor of Photography at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

ABOUT HAMPTON HISTORY MUSEUM

Admission to the talk is free for museum members, \$5 for non-members.

The Hampton History Museum is located at 120 Old Hampton Lane in Downtown Hampton. There is free parking in the garage across the street from the museum. For more information call 757/727-1102, or visit www.hamptonhistory-museum.org.

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Hampton Roads Philharmonic

Bob Harper/

Four can't-miss shows to celebrate the season

From Hampton Arts

HAMPTON

There's no better venue in Coastal Virginia than the historic American Theatre to celebrate the holiday season. This December, four unique concerts will offer audiences a diverse taste of familiar Christmas songs, pop favorites, classical compositions and soulful renditions of our most beloved melodies.

"I want to ensure this holiday season that no matter what kind of music inspires you, The American Theatre has something to offer," remarked Hampton Arts Artistic Director Richard M. Parison, Jr. "The collective impact of our holiday programming makes the season particularly special. Our artistic home is your home, and everyone is welcome."

A Debby Boone Christmas
Dec. 7 | 8:00 p.m.
Preferred Seating \$50; Standard Seating \$35

Three-time Grammy winner Debby Boone celebrates the 30th anniversary of her album "Home For Christmas," which includes "Silver Bells," "Christmas Time is Here," "White Christmas" and other yuletide favorites. Boone skyrocketed to the top of the charts in 1977 when "You Light Up My Life" became one of the biggest songs in history. Catapulting the singer into the spotlight, Boone has continued to sing



Courtesy of The American Theatre/
Debby Boone

and perform around the country throughout her 40-year career. She'll light up The American Theatre with a jubilant celebration through story and song, including that timeless classic!

Hampton Roads Philharmonic: Winter Classics & Holiday Favorites
Dec. 8 | 2:30 p.m.
All Tickets: \$20

Christmas bells are ringing and so much more when HRP brings to life beloved holiday, film and classical compositions — not to mention a special guest appearance by the Golden Baton raffle winner! This fan-favorite program is a holiday tradition perfect for the entire family.

BATISTE I Known as Band leader for Stephen Colbert

Continued from C1

at the Sandler Center on Jan. 17 at 8:00 p.m.

Born into a long lineage of Louisiana musicians, Jon has received both his undergraduate and master's degrees in piano from the Juilliard School. In 2018, Batiste released his first solo album, Hollywood Africans, which was nominated for a GRAMMY award for "St. James Infirmary" and an NAACP Image award for Best Jazz Album. Strongly committed to philanthropy, education and mentoring of young musicians, Jon has led his own Social Music Residency and Mentoring Program sponsored by Chase, as well as hundreds of master classes throughout the world. Batiste is currently the Artistic Director At Large of the National Jazz Museum in Harlem and Musical Director for The Atlantic. His accolades also can't go unnoticed - he's been awarded the American Jazz Museum Lifetime Achievement Award, the Harry Chapin ASCAP Humanitarian Award and made the coveted Forbes "30 under 30" list. The cultural icon's personal style has even been profiled in numerous fashion publications including GQ, Vanity Fair, CR Fashion Book, Esquire, and Vogue.

MORE INFORMATION

Tickets can be purchased at YnotTix.com, by calling 757-385-2787, or visiting the Sandler Center Box Office. Tickets for this show are priced at \$55, \$45, and \$35. VIP seating on stage is priced at \$100. To receive the exclusive pre-sale code to purchase tickets before the general public, join the Sandler Center Cyber Club at San-

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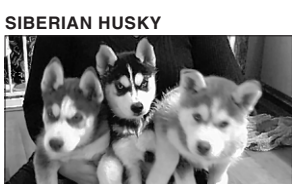
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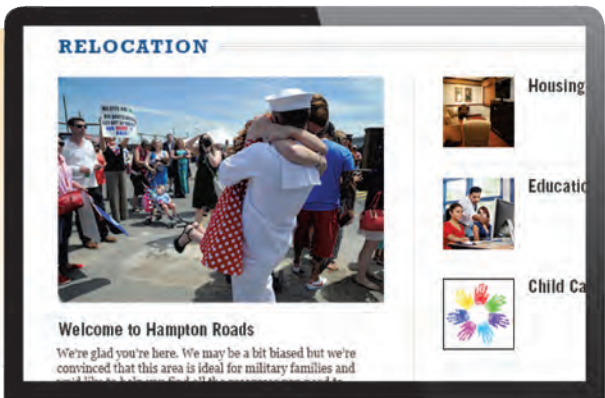


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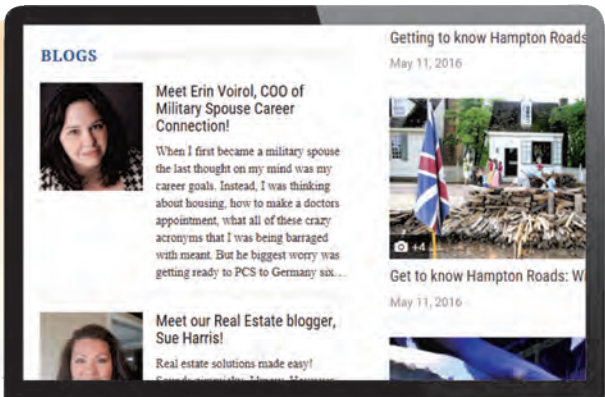
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