



# THE WASHINGTON SURVEYOR

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Executive Officer



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Command Master Chief



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A special thank you to all those who let us tell your stories to the crew and to the fleet.

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## SAILOR IN THE SPOTLIGHT



### PS2 Stacey Hadden

#### HOMETOWN:

Orlando, Florida

#### WHERE SHE WORKS:

Personnel

#### HOBBIES:

She enjoys staying at home watching movies, cooking food, and getting her nails done.

#### RCOH THOUGHTS:

She enjoys assisting with manning, getting Sailors checked in and gained to the command so they can start their journey on George Washington.

#### HOW GAINS TO THE COMMAND CHANGED:

When COVID-19 started, personnel had to adjust how they gained Sailors. Usually, all the paperwork would be done in person, but that wasn't the case anymore. Now, they have Sailors send in all the paperwork electronically.

#### WHY SHE WAS NOMINATED:

Personnel department would like to recognize PS2 for her hard work in managing command gains and losses in an accurate and timely manner, while working through the many additional challenges of the COVID environment. This has required a great deal of coordination between departments, attention to detail, communication skills, and motivation.





# PAINTING A NEW FUTURE

## SAILORS TAKE PART IN HUNTINGTON HALL BEAUTIFICATION

STORY AND PHOTOS BY MCSN BONNIE LINDSAY

“Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country.” This famous quote by former president John F. Kennedy may lead readers to various interpretations of its message. Conversely, it could simply encourage readers to be more involved in their communities and in community relations.

Sailors assigned to the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS George Washington (CVN 73) and the Gerald R. Ford-class aircraft carrier USS John F. Kennedy (CVN 79) took part in a community relations activity last week, beautifying planters around Huntington Hall.

“Community relations is where the community works as a whole for one common goal, and I think this project is a

perfect example of that,” said Leslie Holmes, facilities manager for Huntington Hall. “It gives everyone a sense of pride that we are trying to make our city and this area a better place.”

The community of Newport News asked nearby naval commands to gather volunteers to provide assistance with this new project involving painting the planters outside of Huntington Hall, and Sailors were ready to help.

“We have thousands of people that work in this area, and in Huntington Hall, we have Sailors that live here,” said Holmes. “This is their home and that’s why we have asked them to help with this. To help beautify their home, and their environment, as well as improving the beautification of

the city of Newport News.”

The planters are not only getting painted; Newport News has also provided funding for insignia to be added, and the Sailors assisting with this project are not the only individuals benefiting from it.

“Each one of these planters, once they

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to make our city  
and this area  
a better place.”

- Leslie Holmes -

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are completed, will be affixed with the insignia of a naval vessel,” said David S. Freeman, assistant to the city of Newport News manager. “People that drive through, the people that actually work on the ships, can look at [this project] and have a sense of pride knowing that they’ve worked on these ships to make our country strong, and that the sailors that live in this facility here have played a hand in doing this beautification project.”

Additionally, Holmes hopes this change will lead to further promising outcomes.

“Painting the planters will also make the city more attractive for people to open businesses,” said Holmes. “Right now, we mostly have an industrial environment and the city is trying to open it up to more of a

retail area, [with] restaurants, entertainment, and food. When we can improve the downtown environment, we can hopefully bring in retail and entertainment venues.”

Though this change benefits everyone with ties to Huntington Hall, as well as the city of Newport News, it is an even greater pleasure for those who are working diligently to bring it to life.

“There’s a sense of pride benefiting the Sailors that are out here right now,” said Freeman. “They know that this is important.”

Not only are events like this important for the community, they are also a great way for Sailors to spend time with shipmates in a new environment, and to build greater bonds with one another.

“Community relations give Sailors the ability to get rid of that built up energy that they have, and to have interactions and fellowships off of the boat,” said Holmes. “It’s important to have these social interactions with your shipmates.”

This event will not be the last community relation event offered to Sailors who wish to be a part of something greater, something fun, or who just want to try something new. There are many routes an individual can take to get involved in upcoming community relation events.

“Sailors can contact their superiors to take part in community relation events,” said Holmes. “They can also contact the Huntington Hall military housing site director or facilities manager, Mr. Freeman, or anyone down in Newport News City Hall.”

Sailors can take pride in knowing they are making an impact not only at their commands, but in our community outside of the military.

“Community relations are good for everybody,” said Holmes. “The ultimate goal is going to benefit everybody, both the civilian personnel as well as the military personnel. It lets the both sides know that we are one big family.”





# Conveying the future of George Washington



STORY AND PHOTOS BY MC3 CORY J. DAUT





Ring! Ring! Ring! Here come the necessary supplies you have been waiting for all of deployment. They're coming right down the conveyor, ready to be unloaded and disbursed to the crew. The items being disbursed could be the care package from your mom, your favorite food in the galley, or a pallet of Monster for restocking the vending machines are finally here.

The engineering department's auxiliary division aboard the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS George Washington (CVN 73) is working to bring the vertical package conveyors back into operation to serve the crew and move essential goods

like food stores up and down the decks of George Washington.

"We are doing system operation testing to make sure our safety, mechanical, and electrical operations run smoothly," said Chief Machinist Mate Chet Barnett, a chief petty officer assigned to auxiliary division aboard George Washington. "We are also weight testing, as well; that is where we load up our vertical package conveyors with 250 pounds per skid, then we move them up and down."

To achieve this operational milestone, Sailors, shipyard workers, and contractors

...the care package  
from your mom,  
your favorite food  
in the galley,  
or a pallet  
of Monster...



are all working together spending thousands of combined man hours to turn this into reality.

"Half of the auxiliary division is currently working on the vertical package conveyors," said Barnett. "We have Sailors working on this from the catapult shop, outside repair, boat shop, 02N2, and hydraulics shop. It is all hands evolution in terms of auxiliary division."

Once all of the testing, maintaining, and safety checks are completed, these conveyors can be used for the necessary day-to-day usage.

"We are updating and maintaining all 11 conveyors on the ship right now to ensure they are all safe and ready to be used to transport the needed materials throughout the decks," Machinist Mate 3rd Class

"It's the reason why  
I do this job.  
It is wonderful  
to see Sailors  
working together to get  
George Washington  
back out to sea."

-MMC Barnett-

Glenville Bell, assigned to the engineering department aboard George Washington.

These conveyors have a few main purposes, including moving materials from the hangar bay all the way down to the sixth

deck, or from the sixth deck back up.

"Our vertical package conveyors are for anytime we do an underway replenishment or replenishment-at-sea. We can successfully move objects from the hangar bay down to whatever deck they desire the goods to go to," said Barnett. "It could be food, supplies, parts, and paint being conveyed down the decks."

The vertical package conveyors, once running again, will be here to serve the crew for the next 25 years, ensuring supplies get to their designated locations.

"I feel great about everyone working together to complete this evolution," said Barnett. "It's the reason why I do this job. It is wonderful to see Sailors working together to get George Washington back out to sea."



# MINI CAPTAIN'S CUP

STORY BY MC3 TATYANA FREEMAN; PHOTOS BY MCSA FRANKLIN CARPENTER



Because of COVID-19, a lot of standards have changed. Masks are required everywhere, “social distance” is a common phrase, and a lot of major events, including the Olympics, were cancelled. However, the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS George Washington (CVN 73)’s Afloat Fitness Specialist (FITBOSS), is trying to make sure Captain’s Cup is not one of the events cancelled by COVID-19.

“It’s not going to be exactly the same as last year,” said Ryan Roberts, the FITBOSS for George Washington. “But it’s still going to be a good time.”

Captain’s Cup usually happens annually over the course of several months during the summer. Departments compete against each other in multiple events such as dodgeball, ultimate frisbee, and volleyball. The department that comes out on top gets their name etched into a gold trophy, and they earn a little bit of bragging rights for the next year.

Due to COVID-19, the usual Captain’s

Cup festivities were cancelled for the summer, but Roberts wants the crew to know he’s still hosting one, and the name on the trophy can still change.

“The flow of the Captain’s Cup will be the same,” said Roberts. “It will be a weekday, it’ll be the same blocks of time as last year for the in-person events, and it will also have the same point system as last year.” Roberts is doing his best to make sure the feel of the Captain’s Cup is the same, but is still adhering to the COVID-19 boundaries.

According to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) “To practice social or physical distancing, stay at least 6 feet (about 2 arms’ length) from other people who are not from your household in both indoor and outdoor spaces.”

Some of the old events are adhering to the new standards, and some new events for this year make staying socially distanced easy for every Sailor.

“For events like cornhole, it’s going to be at Huntington Hall, and we’re going

to be using the entire field so everyone is completely spread out,” said Roberts. “And some of the runs you can do at home. Just register on the MWR Mid-Atlantic Runs tab, and don’t forget to email me your individual times so your department gets credit!”

In addition to spreading Sailors out and doing some events at home, some events last an entire week in order to give every department ample time to complete it, and not worry about COVID-19.

“Both the powerlifting meet and the virtual obstacle race are a week long,” said Roberts, “Just to make sure things are hectic.”

A lot of gyms, including Huntington Hall and most other base gyms, have been closed most of the year due to COVID-19, so the ability to go out and exercise outside of home is not only good for Sailors physically, but mentally.

According to the CDC, “The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic may be stressful for people. Fear and anxiety about a new disease and what could happen can be



overwhelming and cause strong emotions in adults and children...tak[ing] care of your body through exercise [is a healthy way to cope with that stress].”

Captain’s Cup is a unique way to get out and exercise, and it takes you away from the stress of work, if only for a little bit.

“I hope Sailors participate,” said Roberts. “It’s going to be a good time. Be mindful that some of the events might change [due to availability] so just work with me on being fluid with what each event ends up being.

You get time off work, you get a release, and you do some stuff that gets you moving and grooving. This is all for you all to have fun and see if you can put your department’s name on the trophy. I hope everyone has fun and has a stress-free event.”

The Captain’s Cup events are a virtual obstacle course, cornhole, fastest virtual 10k, a mystery event, a powerlifting meet, and a football quarterback pro drill. In order to compete, each department will need a representative to contact FITBOSS for

instructions and details for their department. First, second, and third place winners will receive coins, and the overall winning department will be added to the trophy.


“Don’t worry about the standings, and enjoy the mini-Captain’s Cup during the holiday season,” said Roberts. “I know it’s not a massive Captain’s Cup, but we’re still going to have fun.”





# VETERANS DAY

Sailors assigned to the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS George Washington (CVN 73) celebrate veterans day by highlighting their friends and family who have served.



Air Ordnanceman 3rd Class Daniel Jensen's grandfather, Ernie Jensen, was a major influence on his decision to join the Navy. Daniel said he shared rebelliousness, stubbornness and a thirst for knowledge with his grandfather, and that the military provides the discipline to make the most of his abilities, like it did for Ernie. Ernie is remembered for his service, ambition, and his passion for motorcycles, which he enjoyed until his passing in 2014.



Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Aislynn Heywood joined the military to follow in the footsteps of her parents, Teresa and Tod Heywood. Teresa was a signal intelligence specialist in the U.S. Army, stationed at Camp Red Cloud, Korea from 1984-1988. Tod was a machinist's mate, stationed aboard the Kitty Hawk-Class aircraft carrier, USS Kitty Hawk (CV 63).



Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Handling) 3rd Class Kali Milliner's father is her biggest supporter and maybe also her biggest influence. She joined the Navy to follow in his footsteps.



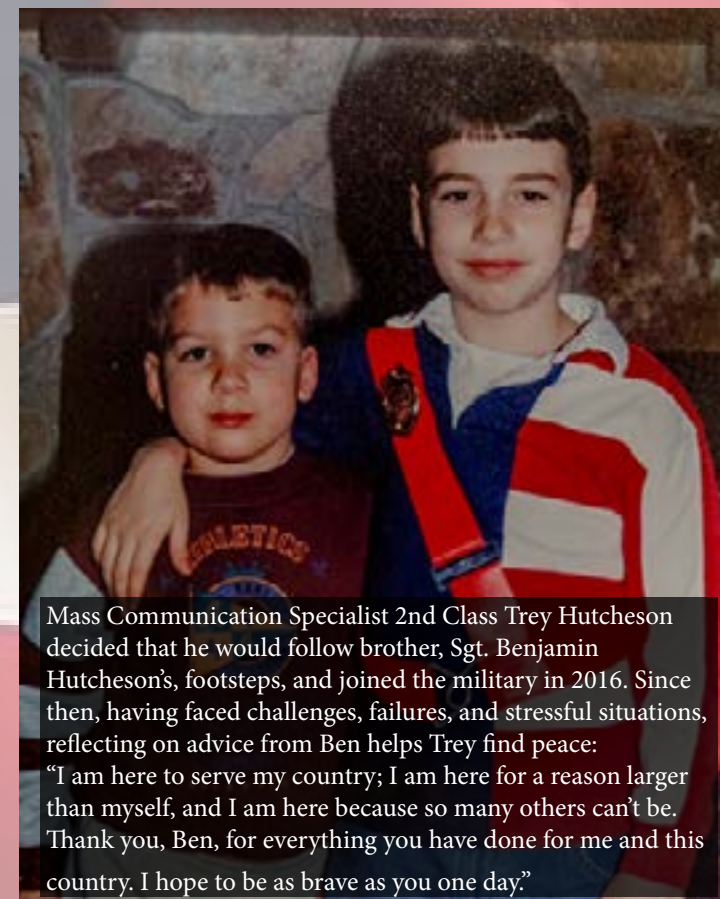
Machinist's Mate 3rd Class Brandon Bentley's grandfather, James Parlier is a retired command master chief. "He is an outstanding hero and a really caring grandpa. If I need something he will definitely be there to help as much as he can."



Aviation Support Equipment Technician 3rd Class Marcus Alkire-Bentler's grandfather was a U.S. Navy Boiler Technician. He instilled in Alkire-Bentler the spirit of patriotic service and ultimately inspired him to also join the Navy.



Interior Communications Electrician 2nd Class Donald Bretz was inspired to serve by his uncle, Felipe Antonio Madrid Jr., who was an Army medic from 1991-2011. Madrid received three Army commendation medals: a good conduct medal, a Bronze Star, and a Purple Heart. "Everything he was done is symbolic of what serving this country really looks like," Bretz said.



Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Trey Hutcheson decided that he would follow brother, Sgt. Benjamin Hutcheson's, footsteps, and joined the military in 2016. Since then, having faced challenges, failures, and stressful situations, reflecting on advice from Ben helps Trey find peace: "I am here to serve my country; I am here for a reason larger than myself, and I am here because so many others can't be. Thank you, Ben, for everything you have done for me and this country. I hope to be as brave as you one day."



Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class Laura Taylor is grateful for her father's service as a staff sergeant in the U.S. Army. His job took him all over the world while Taylor was a child, and she felt that his work abroad kept her safe while she stayed home. "I thank God for his service and dedication. His example drives me to continue serving my country. In honor of my dad: Hooah!"



# A CHANGE IN GEORGE WASHINGTON'S COMMAND MASTER CHIEF

STORY AND PHOTOS BY MCSN AISLYNN HEYWOOD

Becoming a command master chief (CMC) takes many years of hard work, dedication, and commitment to doing all that one can do in order to better the Sailors of the United States Navy.

The CMC is the senior enlisted leader at a Navy command, and reports directly to their commanding officer. They're responsible for formulating and implementing policies concerning morale,

welfare, job satisfaction, discipline, utilization, family support, and training of Navy enlisted personnel.

Command Master Chief Maurice Coffey, the previous CMC aboard the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS George Washington (CVN 73), took pride in the work he had accomplished while stationed here during George Washington's refueling complex overhaul (RCOH) process.

"Being in RCOH is a tiring thing sometimes; you may not think that you are thankful for it, but as you get out there day-in and day-out, you build the ship back up and it becomes greatness," Coffey said in his farewell to the crew. "[When] I got here three years ago, I saw holes cut throughout every space in the ship, and I will tell you that every day, I see something new and something improved throughout it."

Command Master Chief Christopher Zeigler relieved Coffey on Thursday, October 29, 2020 as George Washington's new CMC.

Zeigler is a native of West Monroe, Louisiana and started his Navy career three years after graduating from Carroll High School in 1991. He completed Operations Specialist "A" School at Dam Neck, Virginia, and reported to the Ticonderoga-class cruiser USS Vicksburg (CG 69) homeported in Mayport, Florida, as an Operations Specialist.

Zeigler has had a very diverse range of duty stations since joining the Navy. In 2000, he reported to Fleet Area Control and Surveillance Facility in Jacksonville, Florida. He then reported to the Blue Ridge-class amphibious command ship USS Mount Whitney (LCC 20) as a watch supervisor before volunteering for an urgent-fill billet on the Cyclone-class patrol ship USS Tornado (PC 14) in Little Creek, Virginia.

In 2003, Zeigler reported to Patrol Coastal Crew E, and served as the operations department leading chief petty officer; he stood watch as an officer of the deck underway. He completed three 5th Fleet deployments on Cyclone-class patrol ships USS Chinook (PC 9), USS Typhoon (PC 5) and USS Whirlwind (PC 11), and was promoted to chief petty officer in 2005.

As a chief, Zeigler served as a nuclear

officer recruiter for Navy Recruiting District New Orleans in 2007, and was selected as "nuclear recruiter of the year". He transferred to the Arleigh Burke-class destroyer USS Michael Murphy (DDG 112) in 2011, where he served as the operations department leading chief petty officer. While stationed aboard Michael Murphy, he was advanced to senior chief petty officer.

In 2013, Zeigler reported to Commander, Destroyer Squadron (DESRON) 31 in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. He served as the senior enlisted leader, lead operations tactical planner/scheduler, and tactical action officer in support of eight Aegis-class destroyers. While at DESRON 31, Zeigler participated in exercises Rim of the Pacific 2014, Koa Kai 2014, Trilateral 2014, Fortune Guard 2014, and Northern Edge.

In September 2015, Zeigler was selected for the command master chief program and reported aboard Strike Fighter Squadron

(VFA) 137 in Lemoore, California, where he completed a 2015 Southern Seas deployment embarked on USS George Washington, and a 2017-2018 Western Pacific deployment embarked on the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70).

Zeigler transferred to George Washington from the Blue Angels, where he had been stationed since February 2018. Even though George Washington is going through an extended shipyard period for its mid-life refueling complex overhaul, given all of his experiences, Zeigler will try his best to make sure we are prepared for whatever obstacles come our way.

"Everyone plays a part in getting this ship underway and ready to fight," said Zeigler. "Remember why you joined the Navy. We don't get to dictate where we go, but we do get to dictate what we do when we get there."

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"Everyone plays a part in getting this ship underway and ready to fight."

- CMDMC Zeigler -

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**Have a Happy and Safe  
Thanksgiving!**

**From USS George Washington**

