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## **Happy K-9 Veterans Day!**

MARCH 13, 2022

## **Meet Erol & MA3 Miranda Webb!**

NSGL: How old is your dog?

WEBB: My boy's birthday is Sept. 6 2014

So he is about 7 ½

NSGL: How long have you two been working together? How long have you both been with NSGL?

WEBB: We've been working together since I got to Great Lakes, so since May of last year. We finally certified with each other in Oct of last year. I got stationed here in May, and Erol was transferred here in November of 2019 from Norfolk!

NSGL: Why do you enjoy being a dog handler?

WEBB: I love being a handler because every day is a new day, and you are always learning something new. You are always on your toes constantly. It's a rewarding job, because I have a purpose and there is endless knowledge to learn.

NSGL: What do you love about working with your dog?

WEBB: It's an amazing feeling having a partner to solve problems together and being able to understand a dog without words, it's like having a kid that you didn't know you wanted.

NSGL: What're some things your dog loves (favorite toy, favorite activity, treat, etc.)?

WEBB: Erol loves doing center line drills even though his legs are tired, he gets all drooly over this skull kong with a red rope, will even start chattering his teeth in excitement. I taught him how to give paw, and now he likes when I hold his paw in the unit.







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## Results of Navy Annual PPV Tenant Satisfaction Survey Released

Story by Lt. Clara Navarro, Commander, Navy Installations Command Public Affairs

This year's privatized housing survey was conducted between October and December of 2021. The survey provides each household with a voluntary and confidential opportunity to share open and honest feedback on their housing experience.

Results from the 2021 Navy Public-Private Venture (PPV) housing Tenant Satisfaction Survey (TSS) show an overall score of 76.2 for family housing, representing a slight 0.8 point decline from the previous survey. Detailed survey results by the installation are being used to guide where the Navy and our PPV partners can continue to make improvements and take corrective actions.

"Providing quality, affordable housing for Sailors and their families is a priority for the Navy," said Mr. Cannon, director of Fleet and Family Readiness at Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC). "Thank you to all the Sailors and tenants who took part in the survey. The survey responses will be invaluable in improving our housing services to best serve you as you serve the nation." About the Survey

The annual TSS is funded by the Department of the Navy (DON) and distributed to residents of privatized family and unaccompanied housing through a third-party survey company. The survey provides each household with a voluntary and confidential opportunity to share open and honest feedback on their housing experience.

This year's privatized housing survey was conducted between October and December of 2021 with residents at 46 installations consisting of 244 family housing neighborhoods, as well as the two installations that have PPV unaccompanied housing.

Survey Results

The TSS, conducted by CEL & Associates, focused on three satisfaction indexes – overall satisfaction, property satisfaction and service satisfaction. These indices provide CNIC with a snapshot of the PPV residents' opinions regarding the condition of the homes and neighborhoods, and the quality of the services provided. Of the 34,295 surveys distributed to PPV residents, 25.6 percent responded (2.9 percent decline from FY21) generating the following average scores, based on a 100-point scale:

- Overall Satisfaction Index: 76.2 (0.8 point decline from FY21)
- Property Index: 72.8 (1.2 point decline from FY21)
- Service Index: 78.2 (0.6 point decline from FY21)

Across the 45 Installations surveyed, 88.9% (40) rated in the Outstanding, Very Good, Good, or Average ranges (100.0 thru 70.0) in the Overall Score, 8.9% (4) rated Below Average (69.9 thru 65.0), and 2.2% (1) rated Poor or Very Poor (64.9 thru 55).

A detailed summary of the FY22/Report Year 2021 TSS results can be found here: https://www.cnic.navy.mil/ffr/housing/HQ\_Housing\_Programs/surveys.html While PPV partners worked diligently to provide continued service to residents

throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the challenges presented appear to have contributed to the decrease in overall satisfaction scores at 27 of the 45 installations surveyed.

While the majority of neighborhoods scored above average, PPV neighborhoods that received an overall score less than 75 are required to develop a targeted action

plan to address issues identified by residents. These action plans are submitted to CNIC and Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command (NAVFAC) to review and track progress.

In addition to the TSS, the Navy continues to focus on improving its oversight of PPV housing and enhancing the living experience for service members and their families. The Navy is implementing the Department of Defense-issued Military Housing Privatization Initiative (MHPI) Tenant Bill of Rights (TBOR,) which addresses 15 of the 18 rights in the FY 2020 NDAA. The three remaining rights are being actively negotiated and are expected to be implemented as part of the new universal lease that is being developed.

Recent Efforts, Ongoing Improvements

Housing Dashboard: CNIC continues to improve oversight of project company performance and the FY22 phase of the electronic dashboard updates will focus on improving oversight metrics for PPV occupancy, action plans for TSS results, and highlighting awareness of key metrics related to project sustainment.

Tenant Bill of Rights: CNIC has worked with PPV partners and Housing Service Centers (HSC) to ensure full implementation of the 15 signed provisions for the Tenant Bill of Rights. Following OSD guidance, the Navy is postured to implement the full Tenant Bill of Rights, including the universal lease, dispute resolution and rent segregation.

Increased leadership involvement and oversite: CNIC has developed installation-level briefings to better educate command leadership on the PPV program and to help increase engagement. Additionally, the Navy now conducts quarterly 'town hall' events for residents of PPV housing. These events are being held in person or virtually through social media and other online channels, and typically feature installation leadership, HSC staff and PPV representatives.

"I thank everyone who took time from their busy holiday and PSC schedule to participate in this year's PPV Family and Unaccompanied Housing survey," said Jon Skelton, CNIC Housing Operations and Policy branch manager. "The TSS is a vital part of how we assess the residential portion of our Housing program. We use this information as one way to hear the voice of the residents telling us their priorities for and opinions of their housing area. I can't thank the participants enough and encourage everyone to participate."

For more information about Navy Housing, go to www.cnic. navy.mil/ffr/housing.html or visit your Navy Housing Service Center.

## 5 Tips to Kick Off Healthy Habits during National Nutrition Month

Story by Joanne Villaflor, Performance Enhancement Dietitian

In recognition of National Nutrition Month®, Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC)'s Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Division reminds Sailors and the Navy community that they can take control of their nutritional needs by learning more about healthy eating. National Nutrition Month® is a nutrition education and information campaign sponsored each March by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

"Five simple habits are key components to fueling for performance while maintaining readiness and maximizing longevity," said Joanne Villaflor, Navy MWR's Performance Enhancement Dietitian. "Sailors and even their family members can follow these tips in order to make informed food choices and develop sound eating and physical activity habits."

The tips include:

- 1. Flavor food with herbs and spices.
- 2. Eat a rainbow of colors from all food groups.
- 3. Learn how to read Nutrition Facts labels.
- 4. Plan meals and snacks.
- 5. Visit your local fitness center.

"Flavoring foods with herbs and spices from around the world provides a diverse dining experience," Villaflor said. "Adding color to your plate is a way to ensure you get a variety of nutrients – especially from vegetables and fruits that are full of antioxidants, fiber and water. These are key in maintaining good health."

Villaflor also recommended learning how to read food labels, which can help you choose foods and beverages to meet your nutrient needs.

"A grocery list is your road map to shopping for nutritious foods," added Villaflor. "When shopping, make a point of selecting a fruit, vegetable or whole grain that is new to you. Expand your range of food choices by trying new foods from around the world."

Whether your goal is to lose weight, lower your health risks or fuel for performance, Sailors and family members should consult with an expert. Certified fitness and nutrition professionals at your Navy MWR Fitness Center can assist you with your personalized nutrition and fitness goals. Visit www.navyfitness. org for additional information on fitness and nutrition.

For more information on Navy MWR, visit www.navymwr. org or the Fleet and Family Readiness Facebook page at www. facebook.com/NavyFFR. The Department of the Navy does not officially endorse any private company, sponsor, or their products or services.

### 'It's like a Miracle' as Wheeling NJROTC Wins Area 3 West Regional Title

Story by Scott A. Thornbloom, Naval Service Training Command Public Affairs

"It's like a miracle," was overheard a few times when the Wheeling (Illinois) High School Navy Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (NJROTC) unit was named the champion of the 2022 NJROTC Area 3 West Regional Academic, Athletic and Drill Competition at Zion-Benton Township High School, Feb. 26.

"This is like a miracle," said retired Culinary Specialist Senior Chief Jermaine Cotillier, Wheeling NJROTC Navy Science Instructor (NSI). "It's awesome! It's like David versus Goliath, the USA Hockey Team (gold medal team from the 1980 Olympics) and any underdog scenario!"

The northwest Chicago suburban high school won the annual competition for the first time in 20 years and they had to overcome a couple "Goliaths" – Zion and East Aurora (Illinois) High Schools. This year the "Zee-Bees" from Zion were the runner-ups. The East Aurora "Tomcats" came in third. The "Sea Dragons" from Hyman G. Rickover Naval Academy (Chicago) High School and the "Trail Blazers" from Bloom Trail (Chicago Heights, Illinois) High School finished fourth and fifth respectively.

Previously Zion has dominated regionals winning nine championships in the 17 years they have hosted the event, including three years in a row from 2018-2020. Last year the Area 3 Regionals were held virtually at NJROTC units across the country due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic school lockdowns. Other past wins (eight) were captured by East Aurora or other Area 3 schools over the same 17-year period.

"I knew our kids were good, and with a good strategy I hoped we might place fifth or even fourth, but first place really was shocking," retired U. S. Marine Corps Lt. Col. Wayne Beyer, Jr., the Senior Navy Science Instructor (SNSI), said.

Beyer, who took over as Wheeling's SNSI last year, gave his unit all the credit for their dedication, study and training to get ready for the regionals.

According to retired U. S. Navy commander Steve Schulte, SNSI of the Zion NJROTC unit, hosting the Area 3 regionals this year had some challenges because of the pandemic.

"I thought the A3 West Meet went well considering all the challenges faced by the COVID restrictions placed on the competing schools this year," Schulte said "Every school has had a different set of guidelines, which made organizing a competition that accommodated everyone a little bit difficult. Many instructors stepped up to help make it happen."

More than 400 cadets from 13 Navy Junior ROTC units, 12 units from Illinois (mostly the Chicago area) and one unit from Nebraska (Papillion-La Vista High School), participated in the two-day event. A new unit from Crete, Illinois (Crete-Monee High School) made their first appearance at the Area 3 West regionals.

The units competed in eight events for points. The academic testing was worth a total of 1,000 points for each participating unit. Each drill event (Color Guard, Unarmed Individual Drill Routine [IDR],

Unarmed Exhibition, Armed IDR, and Armed Exhibition) was **4** worth 400 points. The personnel inspection was worth 1,500

points and the physical fitness competition (curl ups, pushups and the shuttle run relay) was worth 750 points.

Wheeling's upset victory was one of the closest Area 3 regional competitions in a number of years. The "Wildcat Battalion" finished first in three events and Zion finished first in five events. However, Wheeling won the three events with the biggest point totals – academic, personnel inspection and color guard to racking up 2,900 points. They also finished second in the athletic events, collecting another 708 points. Along with finishing second in Armed IDR and fifth in Unarmed IDR and Armed Exhibition, they managed to amass 4,953.42 total points. Zion tallied 4,901.60 points, East Aurora collected 4,698.27, Rickover totaled 4,654.70 while Bloom Trail finished with 4,125.66 total points (overall trophies were handed out to the top five units).

"It means the world to me being one of the co-captains of the unit that just won regionals," said Cadet Commanding Officer, Lt. Cmdr. Daniela Chihuahua, 18, a senior at Wheeling. "I think the lieutenant colonel (Beyer) really guided us well. He's the one that gave us this crazy idea we could compete with confidence in all the events, including the (armed and unarmed) exhibition competitions, which we weren't very good competing in this year. But we started practicing every morning before school for an hour-and-a-half and that's what got us to this place. It's mind-blowing knowing we now get to compete at nationals. It's such an honor and I'm just very happy."

Cadet Seaman Apprentice Stephanie Solano, 16, a Wheeling sophomore, could hardly believe the upset win by her unit.

"It feels awesome! We were looked at as underdogs, but we put in a lot of hard work and we surprised everyone! It's just amazing! This is my first year in NJROTC and this really feels great and makes me want to keep going"

The entire drill competition and athletic events were held in the Zion-Benton High School Field House or on the "Zee-Bee" basketball court. The academic test covering Navy and Marine Corps knowledge was held in one of the cafeterias at the school.

According to retired U. S. Navy Capt. Tim Daseler, Naval Service Training Command (NSTC) Deputy Commander for NJROTC Operations, the event was very impressive and the high school venue and Zion NJROTC staff were excellent hosting the regionals. "I couldn't be more impressed," Daseler said. "I'm really thrilled to see all of our instructors and cadets out and about that haven't had the opportunity because of the COVID Pandemic."

Daseler handed out trophies and medals to the cadets and units at an awards ceremony shortly following the last event.

"NJROTC is very important for NSTC, he said. "The admiral (Rear Adm. Jennifer Couture, NSTC commander) just mentioned in her update to NETC (Naval Education and Training Command) how thrilled she was to visit (units) and how much she values what (NJROTC) contributes to the country overall. I'm thrilled that senior leaders are recognizing the diversity and potential to impact future generations this program provides. Our kids are a cut above and



they do better in every area – academics, performance at school and discipline. They're just good kids because they are mentored by great (NSI) instructors." In addition, more than 25 RTC staff, recruit division commanders (RDCs), instructors and division officers volunteered their time to judge the event. For the RTC staff, especially the RDCs, being a judge provides additional opportunities to use their drill knowledge and to mentor and mold future citizens.

"These men and women are amazing," Schulte said. "Not only are they experts in evaluating drill events, but they also serve as inspiring role models for our NJROTC cadets. We cannot thank them enough for volunteering to spend most of their weekend to give our cadets a meaningful experience."

The other units involved in this year's regional included: Bloom Township (Chicago Heights, Illinois) High School; Freeport (Illinois) High School; Proviso East (Maywood, Illinois) High School; Proviso West (Hillside, Illinois) High School; Harold L. Richards (Oak Lawn, Illinois) High School and William Howard Taft (Chicago) High School.

"I can't say enough about our parents and staff volunteers that year-after-year step up to run concessions, hospitality, scoring, and other meet requirements. We really couldn't do this without them. We have one parent, Sue Melvin that has been organizing concessions for the Area Drill Meet and our annual Stinger Drill Meet every year for over fifteen years! Her son graduated from our program fourteen years ago, went to the Naval Academy, and is a lieutenant commander (today) in the Navy," Schulte added.

The Wheeling unit travels next to Florida to compete in the 2022 Navy JROTC Academic, Athletic and Drill Championship on board Naval Air Station Pensacola, April 1-2.

NJROTC and Navy National Defense Cadet Corps units operate at 643 high schools around the world with more than 78,000 cadets participating. In Area 3, there are more than 50 units across 13 Midwest state from New York to Nebraska.

In addition to regular classroom instruction, NJROTC and NNDCC cadets participate in extra-curricular activities throughout the school year and during the summer months designed to stimulate learning by hands-on experiences and to reinforce the program's curriculum. Cadet extra-curricular activities include community service projects, drill competitions, academic competitions, visits to naval installations, and Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) training.

The NSTC commander, Rear Adm. Couture, and her staff, headquartered on Naval Station Great Lakes, Illinois, oversee 98 percent of initial officer and enlisted accessions training for the Navy. Along with NJROTC/NNDCC, NSTC also oversees and supports the Naval ROTC program, Officer Training Command (OTC) on Naval Station Newport, Rhode Island and RTC, the Navy's only boot camp, also at Naval Station Great Lakes.



Gym 2A - The Loft Mon - Fri: 5 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Gym 440 - The Fieldhouse Mon - Fri: 6 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Gym 4 - Courts Plus Mon - Fri: 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Sat & Sun: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Check out the latest events and activities from our MWR at www.facebook.com/NavyLifeGL/and on their website at www.navylifegl.com

For tickets and travel, call 847-688-5417



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www.cnic.navy.mil/navylifema

# Navy Updates Policy for Sailors with Pseudofolliculitis Barbae (PFB)

Story by MC1 Jeanette Mullinax, Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

As a result of feedback from Sailors and waterfront leadership, the Navy has updated grooming policy and requirements for Sailors diagnosed with the shaving-related condition pseudofolliculitis barbae (PFB) in NAVADMIN 064/22, Mar. 9.

Navy dermatologists and the Navy Uniform Matters Office conducted the latest periodic review of the instruction regarding management of Sailors diagnosed with PFB, and took into account recommendations from Sailors directly affected by PFB. This latest update provides guidance for those Sailors, military medical care providers and commanding officers.

PFB, also referred to as razor bumps, is caused when tightly curled beard hairs, sharpened by shaving, curve back and re-enter the skin, resulting in facial inflammation, bumps and infections. The first on the list of updates announced that Sailors diagnosed with PFB will be authorized to outline or edge their beards.

"We listened to recommendations by Sailors personally affected by PFB and we worked with our medical professionals to refine the Navy's PFB management policy and procedures," said Robert B. Carroll, head of the Navy Uniform Matters Office. "These changes directly reflect the Navy's commitment to Sailor health, safety and mission readiness in the force."

With this update, the Navy will also eliminate the mandate of carrying a facial hair waiver or "no-shave chit" while in uniform. Sailors have the option to maintain a copy of their waiver

treatment form on a personal portable electronic device or a paper copy for convenience in situations such as embarking a ship or temporary duty assignments where medical records may not be immediately available.

Another major update to the instruction will ensure that PFB treatment failures are not considered as grounds for a Sailor's administrative separation. In the vein of prescribed treatments, Sailors diagnosed with PFB no longer have to consider laser hair reduction as a required treatment.

For Sailors whose conditions do not improve with PFB medical treatments, the duration between required evaluations will now occur every two years, unless prescribed more frequently by their military medical care provider.

Prior to this latest review, the last update to BUPERS Instruction 1000.22C was released Oct. 8, 2019. The NAVADMIN announcing current PFB program changes was released in advance of BUPERS Instruction update. The Navy continues to update grooming standards and uniform policy based on Fleet feedback and direction from Navy leadership.

The Navy Uniform Matters Office welcomes feedback and recommendations from Sailors regarding uniform and grooming policies via the MyNavy UNIFORMS App or MyNavy Portal. Once signed into MNP, select Professional Resources, then select U.S. Navy Uniforms and "Ask the Chiefs."

## Navy Exchange Service Command supplies uniforms to Navy's Maternity Pilot Program participants

Story by Navy Education and Training Command Public Affairs

Making sure female Sailors receive their maternity uniforms has taken on a new twist as the Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM) does its part to support the Navy's Maternity Pilot Program (MPP). For the duration of the MPP, NEXCOM will manage the inventory of maternity uniform items, coordinate the tailoring and mailing of the uniform items and track the uniforms for return and possible re-issue.

Making sure female Sailors receive their maternity uniforms has taken on a new twist as the Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM) does its part to support the Navy's Maternity Pilot Program (MPP). For the duration of the MPP, NEXCOM will manage the inventory of maternity uniform items, coordinate the tailoring and mailing of the uniform items and track the uniforms for return and

possible re-issue. The Navy's MPP was announced in NAVADMIN 284/21 and released Dec. 15, 2021. The MPP is a Congressionally-mandated program directed by the FY21 National Defense Authorization Act.

"We are proud to be a part of the Navy's Maternity Pilot Program in support of our Sailors," said retired Rear Adm. Robert J. Bianchi, Chief Executive Officer of NEXCOM. "NEXCOM is already in charge of Navy uniform procurement and sales through its NEX Uniform Shops and website, myNavyExchange.com. Our uniform team was excited to take on this additional challenge of providing PREMIER customer service to our female Sailors through this new program."

Once a Sailor is selected to participate in the MPP, she should bring the maternity uniform size measurement

sheet to the nearest NEX Uniform Shop to help determine the exact sizing needed for her maternity uniforms. If a participant is not located near a NEX, she can view a video from home on how to correctly measure for fit. The video is available at: https://vimeo.com/646945725. Assistance in measurements can also be provided via Army/Air Force and Marine Corps uniform centers or a personal tailor.

Once NEXCOM receives confirmation of approval of a Sailor's participation in the MPP and receives the completed measurement form from the Navy Uniform Matters Office, a full seabag of Navy maternity uniform items will be provided, including sewn-on embroidery for working uniforms and rank insignia for enlisted E1-E6 dress uniforms. Hemming and shipment will also be free of charge.

"The uniform items will be sent from NEXCOM's Southeast Distribution Center to the Sailor's home," said Cmdr. Terri Gabriel, NEXCOM's Deputy Commander, Military Uniforms. "The Sailor doesn't need to pick up or have their uniforms altered at the NEX. It will arrive at her door, ready

to wear."

Once the service member's pregnancy is complete, and the maternity uniforms issued are no longer needed, they are returned to NEXCOM's Southeast Distribution Center, at no cost to the Sailor. Once returned, NEXCOM associates will inspect, repair, launder, re-inspect and re-stock the maternity uniforms for potential re-issue to another MPP participant.

The MPP will continue through Sept. 30, 2026. Questions regarding the MPP application process should be sent to Navy\_MPP.fct@navy.mil.

**Quick Facts** 

Making sure female Sailors receive their maternity uniforms has taken on a new twist as the Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM) does its part to support the Navy's Maternity Pilot Program (MPP). For the duration of the MPP, NEXCOM will manage the inventory of maternity uniform items, coordinate the tailoring and mailing of the uniform items and track the uniforms for return and possible re-issue.

# Even Before Acting Career, the Army Was Mr. T's 'A-Team'

Story by David Vergun, DoD News

Famed actor and professional wrestler Mr. T once served in the Army for several years.

He enlisted in 1975 and did so well in basic training that he was named the top trainee out of about 6,000 recruits.

After basic, he was assigned the military occupational specialty of military police. In 1976, while on a training exercise in Fort McCoy, Wisconsin, he committed a minor infraction, and his platoon sergeant decided to teach him a lesson by ordering him to chop down trees. A couple of hours later, he had felled about 70 with his ax and was ordered to stop.

After his enlistment, Mr. T used his military policing skills and intimidating physique to secure a job as a nightclub bouncer in Chicago.

A couple of years later, he got hired as a bodyguard in Los Angeles. His celebrity clients included Steve McQueen, Michael Jackson, LeVar Burton, Diana Ross, Muhammad Ali, Joe Frazier and Leon Spinks.

When he appeared on NBC TV's "America's Toughest Bouncer" competition in 1980, he caught the eye of director and actor Sylvester Stallone, who decided to cast him as boxer Clubber Lang in the 1982 film "Rocky III." His acting career took off after that. Mr. T's experiences as a soldier paid off when he was cast as Sgt. B.A. Baracus, an Army Special Forces vet, in the TV series "The A-Team," which ran from 1983 to 1987.

Mr. T, born Laurence Tureaud in Chicago, May 21, 1952, legally changed his name to Mr. T in 1970. He said he wanted to be respected, having seen Black men called boy when he was growing up.

