

COASTLINE

April 27, 2023 / Volume 33, Issue 8

U.S. Naval Activities Spain

ADVOCATE



STEP

FORWARD

PREVENT

REPORT

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Leadership Corner



Kim Semancik
FFSC Rota Director

April Observances are focused on Supporting our Community

Team Rota, Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) highlights five themes every April - Child Abuse Prevention Month, Month of the Military Child, Military Spouse Appreciation, Military Saves, and Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month.

Child Abuse Prevention Month:

We reaffirm our commitment to children – to see them, to hear them, and to protect them. If you have concerns about a child’s safety, make sure you know what to do. If a child is in immediate danger, call Naval Station (NAVSTA) Rota’s Security Department at 9-1-1. To report concerns of child abuse, call the Family Advocacy Program (FAP) office at +34-956-823-232 (DSN 727-3232) or duty phone at +34-630-912-214. Reporting suspected child abuse and neglect is required by law for the military chain of command and covered professionals.

FFSC Rota’s Family Advocacy Program’s goal is to educate families towards healthy, happy relationships always. We know that the military lifestyle is full of challenges, and we can help you gain the knowledge and understanding of secure attachments and positive parenting to decrease stressors that may be related to parent/child dynamics. We encourage NAVSTA Rota to be proactive and act BEFORE problems arise, through appointments with our new parent support home visitor, adolescent counselor, or clinical counselors. In

April and always.... we celebrate the phenomenal job most parents do to raise resilient children, often under extremely difficult circumstances.

Month of the Military Child

There are 1.6 million military children worldwide who serve alongside their parents. This year’s theme "Taking Care of Our Military Children" give us the opportunity to acknowledge and recognize the unique challenges of military-connected children. On average, military children move every two to three years and change schools six to nine times. FFSC has resources available to provide support to children including new parent support services, adolescent counseling, deployment support, and parenting education. Throughout the month of April, we encourage you to wear purple and share pictures on social media with the tag "Purple Up" to show your support for military children.

Military Spouse Appreciation

This year’s Military Spouse Appreciation Day is Friday, May 12. It is no coincidence that this day traditionally falls on the Friday before Mother’s Day, as it builds on the fact that 92% of military spouses are women. In 1984, President Ronald Reagan issued Proclamation 5184, recognizing military spouses’ countless sacrifices and contributions. Today, we continue to honor our military spouses by recognizing their steadfast sacrifices on the home front.

In celebration of Military Spouse Appreciation, FFSC will host the annual Rota Ignites Spouse Enrichment (R.I.S.E.) event at the base chapel on May 3 from 9:00 a.m. - noon. R.I.S.E. is an appreciation and enrichment event for all spouses at NAVSTA Rota. This event is a wonderful opportunity for spouses to network and learn about growth opportunities at NAVSTA Rota.

Military Saves

Military Saves is a campaign coordinated by the nonprofit Consumer Federation of America (CFA) and is dedicated

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On The Front Cover



U.S. Naval Hospital Rota, Spain held a command poster contest to bring awareness to Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month (SAAPM). This poster was created by the Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Department. All posters are currently on display throughout the hospital's courtyard throughout the month of April. Read more about SAAPM events on page 4. (Courtesy photo)

Do You Like to Write or Take Photos?

The Coastline is looking for guest writers and story ideas. Are you traveling some place fun, attending a sporting event, participating in a workshop or cooking class or leading special training in your office or community? Is there something you heard about or do you have a story idea? If so, we want to hear from you! Please send story and photo submissions or story ideas to The Coastline at rotacoastline@gmail.com. You don't have to be a professional writer. Let's get the word out about the community we live in.

Publication is subject to approval.

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CORNER*Continued from page 2*

to helping service members and their families save money, reduce debt, and build wealth. Over the past few years, Military Saves has been exploring what it means to be financially confident.

Financial confidence is the intersection of building a savings habit, knowing what resources you have available to support your financial stability, and taking advantage of those resources as needed. Financial confidence is inclusive in that it recognizes that savers have unique circumstances, which are compounded when you live a military lifestyle.

Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month

Every year the Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention (SAPR) Program recognizes April as SAPR Month. This year's call to action is "Step Forward. Prevent. Report. Advocate." The SAPR Program is a confidential

and voluntary program that assists survivors with the care they need following a sexual assault. This includes providing accompaniment services, referrals to programs such as Victims' Legal Counsel, information regarding medical services (including sexual assault medical forensic exams), and education regarding the military justice system and the many additional resources available. We have a highly trained team of victim advocates who are dedicated to supporting survivors in our community. Our program provides education to prevent sexual assault, not just during the month of April, but all year 'round. Knowing and exemplifying the 10 Signature Behaviors of the 21st Century Sailor is one way of modeling healthy behaviors as a form of prevention. If you or someone you know would like additional information about the SAPR Program, please contact the 24/7 duty victim advocate at +34-646-407-871 or the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator at +34-679-480-545.

Tips for Becoming Financially Confident

Military Saves Week, April 24-28

By Camille Meli
FFSC Rota

Are you financially confident? What does it even mean to be financially confident? Financial confidence is the intersection of knowing what resources you have available to support your financial stability and taking advantage of those resources depending on your situation.

On this special week, we would like to spread awareness and have conversations that encourage military families to take control of their financial future.

Each day of Military Saves Week will have its theme that touches on five essential areas of financial readiness.



three-to-six months to cover expenses, but with frequent moves and challenges faced by military families, it would be good to consider saving more in your emergency funds. Consider potential unexpected expenses such as paying for pet travel back stateside or emergency leave.

Day 3: Saving for Major Milestones

Remember to consider your SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, timely) goals! Heading back stateside to buy your first home? Now is the best time to start saving for that down payment!

Day 4: Paying Down Debt is Saving

Avoid paying interest by paying off debt sooner than later! You'll save a lot on interest fees and thank yourself for doing so.

Day 5: Saving at Any Age

It is always possible to start saving money you will use for any life goal. People often think it's too late to take advantage of compound interest, but you'd be surprised how far your \$1 will go if you keep it invested.

Day 1: Saving Automatically

Sometimes the push you need to begin savings is creating that automatic savings allotment on your paycheck to ensure that you pay "future" you first. Saving is the best way to ensure that it happens before that money enters you're checking out.

Day 2: Saving for the Unexpected

Financial professionals recommend keeping your emergency fund between

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Naval Station Rota Steps Forward to Prevent, Report and Advocate

By Lt. Cmdr. Jenny Paul and Lt. Ryan Twaddle
U.S. Naval Hospital Rota

Each year April is recognized as Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month (SAAPM) and serves as an opportunity for service members across the globe to reaffirm their commitment to protecting our force from sexual assaults. Though sexual assault continues to be pervasive, the Department of Defense (DoD) is dedicated to ensuring policies and standards of sexual assault prevention and response translate into action, improved outcomes, and decrease the rates of assault across the DoD.

Naval Station (NAVSTA) Rota and its tenant commands have supported a myriad of events and awareness campaigns this month to spread the word

about these efforts and ensure the community is aware of the resources available to minimize risk and how to support victims and survivors. Naval Hospital Rota hosted many of these activities, including SAAPM trivia and banner exhibition in the hospital courtyard. Commands across the installation were provided two weeks of trivia questions and earned points for their command by answering these questions. Kudos to the many commands who participated and used these questions as talking points during their annual training sessions! Nearly two dozen banners were created by many talented artists who highlighted this year's theme, Step Forward. Prevent. Report. Advocate. These banners beautifully represent our installation and ported ships united commitment to honoring this theme and supporting a robust Sexual Assault and Prevention Response (SAPR) program within our community.

Many of our SAPR leaders facilitated a volleyball and dodgeball tournament, which provided eleven commands the chance to share in some healthy competition, while others were highlighted on our local AFN station, sharing tips and resource information to a wide variety of community members. Closing out the month was Denim Day, an internationally recognized event, which encourages the wearing of denim to show support for sexual assault survivors and address misconceptions surrounding sexual violence.

Thank you to the many participants,



sponsors, and leaders who stepped forward this year to make these events a success. Your commitment is appreciated!

Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Resources:

Rota Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) and Sexual Assault Prevention Response (SAPR) Victim Advocate (VA) contact: 956-83-3232 or 646-40-7871. Remember that your command has Victim Advocates available to support. See local command signage for more information about POC's at your command.

DoD Safe Helpline: 877-995-5247 or

online at Online.SafeHelpline.org and SafeHelpRoom.org. This is a secure, confidential and anonymous crisis support service especially designed for members of the Department of Defense community (including dependents and others) who are affected by sexual assault.

Catch a Serial Offender (CATCH):

This program gives victims of sexual assault, making a restricted report, an opportunity to anonymously disclose suspect information to help the DoD identify repeat offenders. More information about this program can be found at <https://www.sapr.mil/catch>.





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REGCOM tours NAVSTA Rota Fuel Facilities as Part of First-Ever DFSP Zone Inspection

By Jenny Feleciano
NAVSUP FLCSI Public Affairs

Capt. Douglas S. MacKenzie, commanding officer, Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) Fleet Logistics Center Sigonella (FLCSI) and Capt. Teague J. Suarez, commanding officer, Naval Station (NAVSTA) Rota, Spain, hosted Rear Adm. Brad Collins, commander, Navy Region Europe, Africa, Central and Capt. Joseph Harder III, commanding officer, Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command (NAVFAC) Europe, Africa, Central (EURAFCENT), as part of a fuel facilities tour and inspection at NAVSTA Rota, April 4, 2023.

During the visit, leadership and key stakeholders from EURAFCENT, NAVSUP, NAVFAC and NAVSTA Rota completed a zone inspection of the Defense Fuel Support Point (DFSP) at NAVSUP FLCSI's operational site located on NAVSTA Rota, and engaged in deep dive discussions about its facilities and operations. DFSP Rota is the U.S. Navy's largest fuels management facility in U.S. European Command. Along with its mission partners at NAVFAC and the Defense Logistics Agency, DFSP Rota supplies fuel to NAVSTA Rota's aviation division and conducts deep water terminal fueling operations in order to maintain fleet readiness. The DFSP team at NAVSUP FLCSI Site Rota is comprised of a combination of U.S. Navy uniformed

members, U.S. civilian employees and Spanish host nation partners.

"Our shore installation and logistics infrastructure, to include our fuel facilities, directly supports the Fleet," Collins said. "The fuel facilities here enable this installation to support critical air and surface warfare operations throughout the European and African maritime environment. The team here does an incredible job to facilitate the dynamic operations required to support NATO and maintain freedom of navigation."

NAVSUP FLCSI personnel complete regularly scheduled inspections of the fuels facility within their scope of responsibility; however, this is the first Regional Commander directed zone inspection conducted at a DFSP. This allowed the inspection to have a broader reach and provide high-level oversight involving multiple entities, to include EURAFCENT, NAVSUP FLCSI, NAVSTA Rota and NAVFAC leadership, fuels personnel, and all stakeholders involved with fuels facilities and operations at the site.

"It was a great choice to pick DFSP Rota for the inaugural zone inspection, and to have Rear Adm. Collins on deck seeing first-hand the scope of work accomplished and oversight provided by the collective team here in Rota," said Cmdr. Bert Phillips, NAVSUP FLCSI Site Rota Director.

Zone inspections are routinely performed aboard U.S. Navy ships in

order to oversee the condition of the vessels, assess materiel discrepancies, and identify the need for maintenance and repairs. Conducting this type of inspection at a DFSP ensures proper measures are taken to keep fuel facilities and equipment operational, clean, safe, and in a satisfactory state of preservation in support of U.S. naval operations in the area of responsibility (AOR).

"Not only is fuels upkeep critical to supporting the Navy's mission in the AOR, it is also absolutely critical for leadership engagement at all DFSPs to ensure the operation is being run safely and effectively," said NAVSUP FLCSI Site Rota Fuels Officer Lt. Will Coffey.

The DFSP zone inspection entailed in-depth assessments of all fuels facilities and operations at the site, in order to proactively identify problems, hazards and maintenance issues that could potentially create catastrophic events. After the inspection, a deep dive



Photo by MCC Nathan Carpenter
Rear Adm. Brad Collins, commander, Navy Region Europe, Africa, Central, tours fuel facilities at Naval Station (NAVSTA) Rota with leaders from NAVSTA Rota and Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) Rota, Apr 4, 2023.

discussion was held with key stakeholder leadership, fuels personnel and other subject matter experts, which included broad reviews to convey information on discrepancies and corrective actions, project plans and progress in executing those plans.

"The deep dive discussions included discrepancies and shortfalls, ongoing short and long-term fuel projects, and installation oil-spill capabilities," said NAVSUP FLCSI Regional Fuels Director Rey Santos. "In addition, the deep dive focused on the command and control construct, as multiple stakeholders are required to come together to ensure mission accomplishment in the fuels arena."

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HOTEL PLAYA LUZ AND HOTEL DUQUE DE NÁJERA

Set between pine forests and natural sand dunes, the Hotel Playa de la Luz offers direct access to Rota Beach from luxurious comfortable installations. Built on the old Almadraba the hotel has bright patios with typical Andalusian gardens. The possibilities that their complex offers its guests are endless: you can explore 16 km of urban and semi-virgin blue flag beaches, rest in an exceptional way with the sound of the sea in the background, and savor the peculiar gastronomy that a province between two seas will offer you. Let yourself be pampered by the cordial and professional treatment of their staff and enjoy the wide variety of activities that the area offers. They have free Wi-Fi and a welcome drink.

The Hotel Duque de Najera is located in an ancient fortress which witnessed the arrival of many ancient peoples, such as the Phoenicians, Tartessians, Romans and Arabs, through its port. Thanks to its magnificent views of the Bay of Cádiz and its seafront location, it has often been chosen by its guests to celebrate holidays or events. Enjoy the excellent gastronomic offer served on stylish terraces, perfumed with the aroma of the sea, in an elegant and relaxed atmosphere.

Both the Playa de la Luz hotel and the Duque de Nájera hotel have provided magnificent services and facilities for many years to the Naval base. Many of us have enjoyed the opportunity of exceptional rest with the sound of the sea in the background and it is always a pleasure to savor the exceptional gastronomy they have on offer at their restaurantes La Gaviota y El Embarcadero. Please see their ad in the paper for more details.



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PCS Season: Three Tips for Upcoming Household Goods Moves

From Naval Supply Systems Command

Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) Navy Household Goods Program (HHG) experts say there are three things service members can do this upcoming peak moving season to make the process easier: get educated; start early; and be flexible.

"Get educated," advises NAVSUP Director of Navy HHG Program Jay Yerkey. "It's never too early to get educated. Attend HHG Webinars, familiarize yourself with Military One Source and Navy Customer websites to help identify your responsibilities and the Transportation Service Provider (TSP)/Agent responsibilities for your HHG move." Go to www.navsup.navy.mil/household and www.militaryonesource.mil/moving-pcs/plan-to-move/pcs-and-military-moves to start learning.

"Start early. Submit your HHG application as soon as you get your orders," Yerkey said. "The average lead time for processing move applications during peak season months can be up to six weeks in some markets."

Members can start the move process by going to www.navsup.navy.mil/household and reviewing the various Defense Personal Property System (DPS) guides along with basic entitlement information.

Create an application by logging into DPS at <https://www.militaryonesource.mil/moving-pcs/moving-personal-property/>. There, members can reactivate a previous DPS account or create a new one. When the application is completed, members should print, sign and upload all required signed documents, such as Power-of-Attorney, for example. Including all required documentation is vital as it will expedite the approval process; applicants cannot be processed without all required signed documents and orders.

After submitting an application to the Personal Property Processing Office (PPPO), service members can check the status of their application. When processed, members will receive an automated email indicating their HHG shipment has been assigned to a moving company and that pack-out and pick-up dates are assigned.

"If, after 10 days from submitting shipment application to the PPPO, a member has not received a response of notification that their application is being processed, it is important they contact the PPPO," Yerkey said.

Be flexible. Members should be flexible as adjustments to requested pick-up dates may occur.

"Customers have to provide a seven-day spread for pick-up dates, but also need to leave flexibility for any emergencies that may arise during

their PCS or permanent change of station," Yerkey said. "If a government moving company is unavailable to meet requirements by a certain date, members may need to conduct an approved personally procured move (PPM)."

Members should be aware that if the moving company fails to pick up their household goods on the confirmed date, they could be entitled to an inconvenience claim (IC) to offset out-of-pocket expenses incurred. While members should start by communicating with their moving company, the PPPO is available should assistance be needed or further questions come up.

Due to the risk of delays and other unforeseen circumstances, members should avoid submitting notice to vacate or selling their residence prior to their shipment being accepted by a moving company. Additionally, members should avoid terminating rental/lease agreements until firm pack-out and pick-up dates have been confirmed by their assigned moving company.

If a request date cannot be met and a service member is unavailable, members may also designate a releasing agent (such as a spouse, mother, father, sister, e.g.). The releasing agent can act on behalf of the member, be available for the pack-out and pick-up dates and sign all required documents.

The legal office is not needed to designate a releasing agent. A signed note stating the intended designation will suffice. For example: "I appoint (name of individual), (phone number) (email) my attorney-in-fact to sign all documents required for the pack-out and pick up of my Personal Property Shipment." Stating the name and contact information (phone and email) of the releasing agent is sufficient for documentation.

Additional questions may be submitted via email to householdgoods@us.navy.mil or by calling 1-855-HHG-MOVE (1-855-444-6683). For your convenience, Navy Household Goods can also be found on Facebook at www.facebook.com/navyhhg; on YouTube at www.youtube.com/navyhhg; and Pinterest at: www.pinterest.com/navyhhg.

NAVSUP is headquartered in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, and employs a diverse, worldwide workforce of more than 22,500 military and civilian personnel. NAVSUP and the Navy Supply Corps conduct and enable supply chain, acquisition, operational logistics and Sailor & family care activities with our mission partners to generate readiness and sustain naval forces worldwide to prevent and decisively win wars. Learn more at www.navsup.navy.mil, www.facebook.com/navsup and <https://twitter.com/navsupsyscom>.

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Feria is All We Need: Feria Season has Arrived in Andalucía!

By Alejandra Tirapu Lucero
NAVSTA Rota Public Affairs

Spring brings beautiful things to our lives, and one of them is, of course, Feria. Feria is history, culture, fashion and art. Feria has been part of Andalucía for almost two centuries and it has become one of the most important aspects of our culture known by the rest of the world.

If you came to the flamenco show that Naval Station (NAVSTA) Rota and the city of Rota organized together, you learned all the important information about feria. If you did not attend the event, I will share with you some facts and tips; however, just remember that feria is all about having fun, dancing, eating and spending time with the people we love.



Sevillanas. The fact that the word "sevillanas" to call this type of dance was officially added to the Spanish dictionary in 1884 gives us an idea of how old this dance is. A sevillana is a song that consists of four parts, and one dance for each part. It does not matter what song you are listening to, the dance is always the same. Once you learn how to dance sevillanas, you will never want to stop dancing. If you still do not know how to dance sevillanas and you go to a caseta full of Spaniards, they will make sure you know all the steps before you go home. Find a dance partner, let yourself go and have fun!

Flamenco Dress. People from other countries always picture a woman wearing

a flamenco dress when they think about something typical from Spain, and, like many other typical Spanish things, this one is also from Andalucía. The flamenco dress is the only regional costume in Spain that follows fashion trends, so many people try to buy a new one every year. However, please keep in mind that you do not need to buy a new dress every year, that you do not need to wear a different dress each day and, in fact, you do not need to wear a flamenco dress at all. Sometimes a polka dots dress or a flower on your hair will give you the feria look you are looking for. When it comes to what to wear for feria, there is only one thing you cannot forget: wear comfortable shoes!

Casetas. The way casetas function varies depending on the city. If you go to Sevilla for Feria, you will only be allowed to go to the few public casetas or the private casetas that you are invited to. However, this will not be a problem if you go to feria in Rota or other cities in the area – they are open to everybody!

Food. The feria menu is very similar in every caseta: fried peppers, fried fish, jamón, montaditos (sandwiches)... and, of course, the food is accompanied by wine, in this case manzanilla (a dry white wine) or rebujito (manzanilla with soda). You will also find several fast food or churro stands around the feria grounds that are opened almost all night – that way you can get some energy back after all that dancing when you go home at six in the morning!

Times. Time does not exist during feria. You will find yourself sleeping at weird times and eating at even weirder times. You just do what you want to do when you want to do it. The only important thing to keep in mind is that there will not be a single soul at Feria before 1300.

Transportation. Parking might be difficult to find during feria so it is better to avoid driving. Luckily, bus and taxi services increase during feria and buses run all night long. You do not have an excuse to drive, especially after drinking all that rebujito!

More important information:

-It is recommended to always bring cash because the bus, the amusement rides and some casetas do not take credit cards.

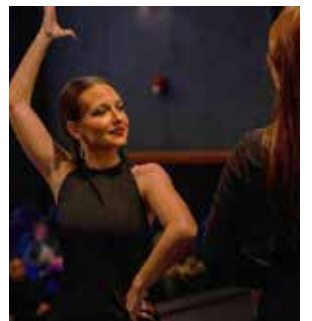
-Feria is a safe place with police presence and medical services in case of need.

-Feria is also a place for children with plenty of fun rides and activities for them. There is one special day for children in Rota (Thursday) and they can get two tickets for the price of one for all the rides.

-Thursday is also women's day. If you are a married woman with children, go have fun in feria with your female friends and tell your husband to take the children to the 2x1 rides.

POSTER

Every year, the city of Rota offers the opportunity to local artists to design the poster for Feria; and every year, people are expectant to see who the lucky winner is. Posters have changed considerably throughout the years and the design has become more and more modern. Posters are a legacy that this festivity leaves for future generation; therefore, some artists want their posters to send a message that will be remembered forever. This year, Rota's poster celebrates diversity and inclusion, as a way to show that feria is a place for everybody.



Photos by MCC Nathan Carpenter and MC1 Julio Martinez

Naval Station (NAVSTA) Rota partnered with Ayuntamiento de Rota to host a feria master class for members of the community to learn about feria traditions, prepare for the upcoming feria events, and experience Flamenco and Sevillanas demonstrations Mar 17, 2023. Flamenco dancers including Laura Pirri, Yvonne Trigo Earle, Ofelia Marquez and thier students all danced for the attendees, giving them a brief glimpse of the feria season to come.

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Celebrating our Tiniest Heroes: MWR Lisbon holds Month of the Military Child Event

By Hilary Hoffman
MWR Lisbon

April brings the celebration of the military child with its warm sun and gorgeous blue skies in Lisbon, Portugal. As a former military child and as a spouse, this month is significant to me. Now, working with Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR), I get to provide our smallest, but mightiest, community a special event.

Each year MWR Lisbon improves upon the previous year's events, and Month of the Military Child is no exception. With Covid-19 restrictions behind us, we set forth to create a dynamic and exciting

carnival event for our military kids!

Entering a room that was utterly purple with balloons and lights, the children were welcomed with an event bag. All of our amazing kiddos received custom shirts before the event and came dressed for fun! After the singing of the National Anthem and a heartfelt address by Adm. Michael Wosje to the kids, Lisbon's own military kids showed off their creative and touching sides by participating in a guest speaker panel.

These brave kids volunteered to feature a piece of art, a poem, or speech about what it means to be resilient as a military child and, boy, did they deliver!

Three art pieces, a poem, and two speeches wowed the community with their sincere answers. It was amazing to see how moved our community was by these awesome kids. Lisbon's military community was then treated to a few hours of carnival fun! This included, but was not limited to popcorn, cotton candy and snow cone machines; face painting and balloon artistry; a photo booth with instant printouts on a custom backdrop; and, finally, a room dedicated to karaoke! Our community of spouses rallied together to provide a buffet of snacks for everyone to nibble on while enjoying the fun. Truly, it was incredible to see how our community of parents supported their children.

The resiliency of military kids always astounds me. MWR Lisbon will continue to support our kids by celebrating their military kid-ness in small ways each

month to continue to show our support and pride in their indelible strength.



For more information on Month of Military Child celebrations, turn to page 18 of this Coastline.





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Bridging Cultures: Rota Elementary School Brings Local Culture and Language to its Students

By Courtney Pollock
NAVSTA Rota Public Affairs

There are more than 1.6 million military children living around the world. Moving every two to three years, their childhoods are spent in numerous homes – both stateside and abroad. They experience frequent goodbyes and new schools and support systems, but also have the unique opportunity to immerse themselves in cultures unlike their own.

Most military families aboard Naval Station (NAVSTA) Rota, Spain, send their children to the Department of Education Activity (DoDEA) schools for continuity of education. The two schools, David Glasgow Farragut (DGF) Middle/High School and Rota Elementary School, support the educational and special needs of children from preschool through 12th grade.

While the schools provide consistency in American-based curriculum and teach in the English language, DoDEA recognizes the incredible learning opportunities located just outside the gates. To bridge this gap, Rota Elementary School offers their students the opportunity to learn and embrace their temporary home of Spain.

"The opportunity for military children to immerse themselves in new cultures is a unique and valuable experience, one that will stay with them for a lifetime," explained Kenneth Kirk, principal at Rota Elementary School. "By offering classes, language, and clubs related to the host nation, schools like Rota Elementary School provide these children with not only an excellent education but also a chance to develop into empathetic and culturally aware individuals."

Maria Jose Camacho Perez and Laura Alcedo Escudero, host nation and Spanish language teachers at Rota Elementary School, provide elementary-aged students with the language, history, and cultural events of Spain. Through the use of songs, games and conversational questions, they teach the children about their country.

"I think it is super important for them to learn about the Spanish culture since many of them live in Spanish neighborhoods and are surrounded by Spanish people," said Camacho Perez, who has taught on base for 23 years.

Pulling on the seasonal cultural events of Spain, Camacho Perez is able to teach the students about the culture while making the classes fun and engaging. She said that her students particularly enjoy learning about carnival and feria because of the festivities' bright colors,

music, and dancing.

Alcedo Escudero, who has taught on base for five years, discovered her love for teaching when she worked for a few years at a Spanish school. When the opportunity arose for her to teach NAVSTA Rota children about her culture, she did not hesitate to apply.

Working in conjunction with each other, Camacho Perez teaches the older students focusing more on culture while Alcedo Escudero teaches the younger grades with an emphasis on language.

"My students are very open to learning about the Spanish culture and language," said Alcedo Escudero. "We use a lot of games and dynamic activities so that makes the students come to my class eager to learn."

By making the learning fun, she says the children come to class excited to learn.

For the younger students at Rota Elementary School, the cultural classes are broken into two separate classes each week, Spanish language and host nation. This allows Alcedo Escudero to focus on teaching the children vocabulary related to specific themes such as colors, months, weather, food, family members or the children's favorite, animals!

For the students in grades third through fifth, Camacho Perez teaches a combined cultural and Spanish language class.

"I use Spanish [language] in class daily as an active tool," she explained. "For example, we greet each other in Spanish, check the calendar, talk about the weather, take attendance, ask each other how we are feeling, sing songs, play educational games, and role play."

Both teachers hope that their classes not only help the children better understand their current home and feel confident in interacting with locals off base, but also provide them with memories to last a lifetime.

"I always tell them that they are very lucky to be able to live this experience and have the possibility to learn a new culture and language," said Alcedo Escudero.

The opportunities for students to experience Spain expands beyond the school curriculum too. Rota Elementary School second grade teacher Yadira Cuba Bizardi offers a sevillanas club each spring – a name taken from the traditional dance performed during feria in Andalucia.

"Students learn about the Spanish culture in host nation and Spanish language at school with Ms. Camacho and Ms. Alcedo while they are stationed here in Spain," said Bizardi. "I take it



Photos by MCC Nathan Carpenter

Maria Jose Camacho Perez, a teacher at Rota Elementary School, sings and dances with students to help them learn Spanish language and culture, April 4, 2023. Camacho Perez and her coworker, Laura Alcedo Escudero, provide students at Rota Elementary School with Spanish language and culture during their time in Rota, Spain.



Laura Alcedo Escudero, a teacher at Rota Elementary School, practices Spanish vocabulary for parts of the body using a Mr. Potato Head, April 4, 2023. Alcedo Escudero and her coworker, Maria Jose Camacho Perez, provide students at Rota Elementary School with Spanish language and culture during their time in Rota, Spain.

one step further giving the students the opportunity to learn the dance."

The popular sevillanas club is open to students in first through fifth grades. They meet weekly throughout the spring to learn the traditional dance.

Cuba Bizardi learned flamenco while living in New York City and continued with professional dancers while studying at a

Spanish university in Madrid. When she arrived to Rota in 1993 as a teacher, she wanted to bring sevillanas to the students at the school.

Over the years, she has taught the club each year with approximately 40-50 students divided into two groups. The culmination of the sevillanas club is a recital performed for family and friends.

"Their favorite part is showing off what they have learned during the recital," said Bizardi. "They also love to get dressed up in their beautiful feria outfits."

By helping the children understand the culture that surrounds them during their time in Spain, the teachers hope the students depart Rota with plenty of memories. This knowledge and understanding will hopefully give them confidence and empathy towards others who are different to them and ultimately "help them become better citizens in the 21st Century."



Photos by Courtney Pollock

Yadira Cuba Bizardi, second grade teacher at Rota Elementary School, teaches students how to dance the traditional dance of feria called sevillanas, April 4, 2023. Cuba Bizardi has offered the club since 1993 to encourage them to learn the dance and give them confidence to join in during ferias.



Rota Elementary School is “Developing Great Futures” for their Students and Families

Story and photos by Courtney Pollock
NAVSTA Rota Public Affairs

At the end of the morning announcements that echo through the classrooms of Rota Elementary School each day, the students end with the phrase, “Developing Great Futures.” This phrase swaps the acronym DGF, which stands for school’s namesake David Glasgow Farragut, to something that the students, teachers and administrators can aspire to each day.

In keeping with this intent, the school hosted a family night for social emotional wellness, April 19, 2023.

The event included dinner, breakout informational sessions for parents, a kids’ zone, and community resources. The event drew over 50 families totaling 150 participants!

“It exceeded my expectations,” said Marla Echols, third grade teacher and event coordinator. “I was filled with so much joy to see the community coming out to be a part of the event. The community, base and school support were phenomenal from the planning to the execution. I say and stand by working together works. Our village came together!”

The village Echols is referring to is Naval Station (NAVSTA) Rota leadership, Child & Youth Programs (CYP), Educational and Developmental

Intervention Services (EDIS), Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC), Military Family Life Counselors (MFLCs), School Liaison Office and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) in addition to school leadership, guidance counselors and teachers.

Families were greeted by Echols, NAVSTA Rota Commanding Officer Capt. Teague Suarez and Rota Elementary School Principal Kenneth Kirk who thanked them for their support before releasing the families to drop their children at the kids’ zone and head to the breakout sessions.

There were two 30-minute breakout sessions by community experts on mindfulness, quality vs. quantity, screen time, age appropriate sports, communication, and more. In the hallway before sessions started, many parents were seen trying to decide which session to attend.

“There are so many great options,” said one parent. “I want to go to them all!”

The sessions went quickly with parents and presenters enjoying the engagement and topics.

“I really enjoyed talking with the parents and learning ways that they ‘speak’ their children’s love language,” said Laura Davis, a counselor at Fleet & Family Support Center (FFSC) Rota.

By having the event focused on



parents, Echols hopes it will create a ripple effect within the family dynamics and relationships.

“For instance, the mindfulness in action session gave parents techniques that support them to develop strategies when stressed, need to calm down, etc.,” said Echols. “In turn the children will benefit from learning the strategies and also ability to see how parents respond.”

The feedback from parents on the event was overwhelming positive, with many asking when it would happen again. Many parents were excited

to incorporate the actionable items provided by the presenters.

“It was great that it wasn’t only geared towards kids, but also as adults that we can use in our daily life,” said one parent.

When reflecting on the event, Echols kept echoing one word, “excitement.” It was felt on all levels – teachers, parents, kids, presenters, and community members – everyone was there and excited to learn, grow, and be part of this community. Most importantly, the Rota village was working together to develop a great future for its students and families.



NAVSTA Rota holds Holocaust Remembrance Ceremony

Photos by MCC Nathan Carpenter

Members of the Naval Station (NAVSTA) Rota community gathered at the base chapel for a commemoration for Days of Remembrance, April 19, 2023. The event was put on by NAVSTA Rota Multicultural and Diversity Heritage Committee, in coordination with Rota Jewish Community, to memorialize the millions of victims of persecution and mass murder of the Holocaust as well as honor the bravery of Irena Sendler, a Polish social worker who, during World War II, helped rescue 2,500 Jewish children from the Warsaw Ghetto.

The event started with Amanda Gipson, lay leader for the local Jewish community, calling up leaders from throughout NAVSTA Rota to light a candle to symbolize the over six million lives lost during the Holocaust. The attendees then listened to a translated interview with Marcelo Langer whose mother was a Holocaust survivor. Gibson then closed the event with a traditional prayer of mourning called the Kaddish prayer and encouraged community members to join in. This was all to memorialize the loss but also serves as a reminder to never forget what happened.





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From the Library: Adult Book Review

The Librarian of Burned Books

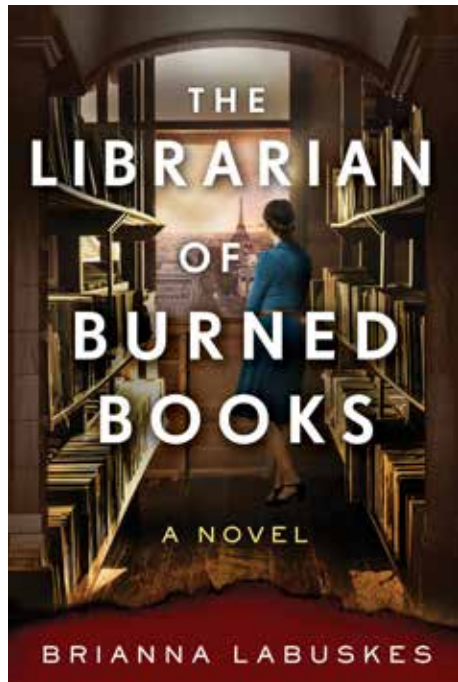
By Brianna Labuskes

Review by Courtney Pollock

The Librarian of Burned Books is a historical fiction set pre- and during World War II in Berlin, Paris, and New York City. Using the Council of Books in Wartime, a real-life non-profit organization, as the overarching foundation for the storyline, the author demonstrates how the censorship of books can be used to try to erase people, ideas and cultures as well as for personal political gains.

The book utilizes three main characters whose stories are woven throughout the book before converging at the end. Althea James is a young, naïve American author whose debut book receives a lot of international attention including an invitation to participate in a program in Berlin, Germany. Hannah Brecht, a Jewish woman in Berlin, watches first hand as her country's democracy and ideas are dismantled during the initial days of Hitler's chancellorship. Vivian Childs, an American socialite and war widow, works as a publicity chair for Council of Books in Wartime that sends novels to service members fighting in WWII.

The author brilliantly weaves between the three characters, locations, and years giving the readers tidbits into their character development over the years. Each woman's outlook slowly hardens



during stress of war, relationships, and loss; however, each holds firm to the idea that censorship of books is trying to control the thoughts and ideas for political gain.

The story culminates when all three women meet at an event to bring awareness of Senator Robert Taft's attempt to censor novels as part of the service member voting act. As Childs' idea, she invites James and Brecht to participate in the event. Unbeknownst to Childs, James and Brecht have a shared history as well as both having witnessed the Nazi students' event on

May 10, 1933 when thousands of books with authors or concepts deemed "un-German" were burned in Berlin.

Prior to this novel, I had never heard of the Council of Books in Wartime and the proposed censorship by Senator Taft. It was fascinating to fall down those rabbit holes to learn about this organization, its potential censorship,

and add another layer to the stories of WWII. It also serves as a stark reminder in modern times about the danger of controlling ideas and books. Perhaps it's best expressed with the quote by Henrich Heine at the Book Burning Memorial in Berlin, "That was but a prelude; where they burn books, they will ultimately burn people as well."

Rota Celebrates National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week

Photos by MCC Nathan Carpenter



Members of Naval Station (NAVSTA) Rota Dispatch celebrated National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week, April 9-15, along with a proclamation by NAVSTA Rota Commanding Officer, Capt. Teague Suarez, recognizing the outstanding work of this group of men and women who form a vital link between emergency responders and people in emergencies.





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Team Rota

Carmen Harana Gutierrez

Carmen Harana Gutierrez is the administrative assistant for Rota Elementary School, a position she's held since 1988.

She describes her daily duties as, "Registration, personnel, payroll, helping students, parents and teachers, and any other thing that might happen."

Harana Gutierrez, from Rota, began working on the installation in 1984. She worked four years with the supply department before moving to the elementary school. Over the years she has seen lots of changes – in personnel, facilities, and students – but still enjoys getting up each day to go to work.

"I have worked with a lot of principals, teachers, and staff, and I always learned something from every one of them," she said. "Looking back, I was so lucky to find this job. I come to work with a happy face every morning and I feel loved here."

When asked her favorite thing about working at the school, she said the working relationships with her coworkers and getting to know all the people who walk through the elementary school doors.

In her free time, Harana Gutierrez enjoys the laid back lifestyle of Rota.

"I love to spend time with friends and family, and to work on my patio growing plants," she said. "I like to walk in the pine trees or on the beach in Rota, read, enjoy a coffee or tapas with friends, and take siesta."



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Base Library Hosts Special Events in Support of Rota Youth

Story and photos by Courtney Pollock
NAVSTA Rota Public Affairs

Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Library is continually looking for ways to support the Naval Station (NAVSTA) Rota community through regularly-scheduled programs and special events. After the recent success of their Escape Room, the staff received several requests from community members to host it as a special event.

One request was for the youth of families attached to the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyers USS Paul Ignatius (DDG 117) and USS Bulkeley (DDG 84). This event was the first youth-focused event coordinated by Paul Ignatius' Family Support Group (FSG).

One Friday evening in late February, the teens gathered to solve clues to "escape" the library. The clues for the event were created by library employee,

Janell Selvera, who has continued to update and tweak the event.

"The hardest part is getting everything to flow," said Selvera. "After seeing everyone complete the escape room, I can see where it didn't flow and make adjustments."

With this youth event being the fourth iteration of the event, Selvera has had the opportunity to modify the clues to increase flow and reduce potential spoilers. She also received some tips from her brother-in-law who has created several escape rooms in Japan.

Selvera's husband, Mike Selvera, read the introduction and rules at the library door before turning the six teens, aged 12-18, loose in the library.

Vanessa Stein, a member of Paul Ignatius FSG, was the coordinator of this event. She saw it advertised at the library and thought it would be a fun activity for the youth. She approached the library



Youth from families assigned to Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyers, USS Paul Ignatius and USS Bulkeley, pose for a photo at the end of a special escape room event held at the base library, Feb. 24, 2023. This was the first youth-based event coordinated by Paul Ignatius' Family Support Group.

staff to see if they would host a special escape room.

"I wanted to create a youth event for our FSG Paul Ignatius Youth Club to give them an opportunity to make connections to other teenagers from our ship in their age group," said Stein. "Military life can be hard on them since they have to move from one place to another a lot and have to leave friends behind every time."

The library staff was more than happy to accommodate in supporting the FSG and their youth. The staff also held a special one for Rota Girl Scouts. Both events were well-received by the groups and the library plans to continue it as a regular program offering.

Selvera finds satisfaction in seeing the community come out and work together

to solve the problems.

"My favorite part is watching people work through the escape room," said Selvera. "I like seeing how their mind thinks and every group has solved it a little differently."

MWR Library provides scheduled youth programs such as weekly story time, special events, summer reading program, and more. The Library is hosting additional Escape Room events throughout the month of May (5/12/19; 6-7 p.m.) as well as developing a new one geared towards younger youth for the fall.

For more information on upcoming library events, pick up a copy of the Vamos magazine or call the library at DSN 727-2418 or commercial, +34 956-82-2418.



Mike Selvera and Janell Selvera provide participants with the introduction to the escape room as well as rules before the participants enter the base library.



Youth work together to find clues to solve problems and hopefully escape from the base library. This was a special event put on by the MWR Library to support Rota youth.

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NAVSTA Rota Celebrates Month of the Military Child

By Courtney Pollock
NAVSTA Rota Public Affairs

Naval Station (NAVSTA) Rota celebrated its youngest community members throughout the month of April as part of Month of the Military Child. The annual observance month was packed full of activities and events from Child & Youth Programs, Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) schools, Fleet & Family Support Center (FFSC), Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR), U.S. Naval Hospital, USO Rota, and more.

Capt. Teague Suarez, commanding officer of Naval Station (NAVSTA) Rota, spoke at several events and on the radio throughout the month to bring attention to the unique challenges and opportunities of military children.

“I love that we are celebrating military kids and recognizing the challenges that come with being a kid in a military family,” he said during his monthly “Morning Joe with the CO” radio show. “I hope they all understand how proud we are of who they are and how well they are able to adapt to this life.”

The festivities kicked off with an explosion of colors at the MWR Color Run, April 1. Families gathered at the

fitness center before heading out on a short course where volunteers blasted them with different colored chalk. While a messy experience (for parents), the smiles on the kids’ faces showed they had a great time.

Mid-month, Rota Elementary School and David Glasgow Farragut (DGF) Middle/High School held a Purple Up celebration in honor of the military children. Students, teachers, and administrators – all decked in purple – gathered in the courtyard to celebrate.

Suarez attended to show his support and speak to the children during the ceremony. Being a military child himself, he is acutely aware of how hard it can be to say goodbye to friends, be the new kid at school, and move homes numerous times.

“Part of the strength of DoDEA schools is that everyone knows what each other is going through,” said Suarez. “Everyone has had to move here, everyone has had friends come and go, and everyone has had to be the new kid.”

Marla Echols, a third grade teacher at Rota Elementary School, was Suarez’s special guest on his radio show and elaborated on the beauty of this special community.



Photo by MC1 Robyn Melvin
Children throw colorful chalk during Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Color Run aboard Naval Station (NAVSTA) Rota, Spain, April 1, 2023. This event kicked off April’s Month of the Military Child festivities with an explosion of colors!

“They are some of the most welcoming kids because they know what it’s like to be the new kid,” she explained. “They are so accepting!”

While being a military child can have its challenges, they are also rewarded with unique experiences. Many that were created by the NAVSTA Rota community with them at the heart to recognize, honor and celebrate throughout the month.

Rota MWR Color Run

Photos by MC1 Robyn Melvin



Disney Imagination Movers

Photos by MC1 Christina Brewer



Purple Up @ Rota Schools

Photos by Dr. Steve Bond





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Our Members Are the Mission

Spain Port Operation kicks off DEFENDER 23

By **Sgt. 1st Class Terysa King**
21st Theater Sustainment Command

The first port operation of DEFENDER 23 (DE23) kicked off at Rota, Spain on April 6, in a joint effort to build and maintain expeditionary forces in Europe. Aviation equipment from 5th Battalion, 159th Regiment General Support Aviation Battalion, an Army Reserve unit out of Fort Eustis, Virginia, was transported into Naval Station (NAVSTA) Rota in Southwest Spain, Fleet & Industrial Supply Center Sigonella- Rota.

DE23 is a U.S. Army Europe and Africa-led exercise focused on the strategic deployment of continental United States-based forces, employment of Army Prepositioned Stocks, and interoperability with allies and partners. DE23 is comprised of three separate, but related, exercises to achieve common strategic objectives: Swift Response 23, Immediate Response 23 and Saber Guardian 23.

U.S. Navy Lt.j.g. Will Clark, logistics support officer with Naval Supply Systems Command Fleet Logistics Center-Rota, said the Rota Navy team has been in close coordination with the 5-159th GSAB to help load and transport the equipment to support SR23, which is set in a multi-domain operational environment to enhance joint interoperability.

The equipment included CH-47 helicopters, Blackhawk helicopters and supporting equipment including fuel and ground maintenance needed to maintain the aircraft for this portion of DE23. The port was filled with trucks and forklifts unloading more than 50 pieces of equipment off the vessel and transporting

them to a warehouse to be stored.

Normally Clark's team works with other Navy vessels to provide food, maintenance, and other logistical needs to enable combat capabilities for fleet, ashore and expeditionary forces. This was the first joint port operation for Clark and his team of Sailors charged with moving Army equipment.

"This gives us a chance to understand the Army standpoint, how they operate," said Clark. "It's completely different because we're dealing with aviation equipment, we're dealing with the Army. This just shows how we can come together and support one another. It gets everyone to be a part of the mission."

U.S. Army Chief Warrant Officer 4 Jordan Frizzell, aviation maintenance officer for the 5-159th GSAB, said this is the first port operation the unit has conducted since 2008.

"It's not something we normally partake in," said Frizzell. "This is the first year a lot of our mechanics and sustainment individuals have actually been self-sufficient overseas without having a robust parts and maintenance package to fall in on. We're bringing everything we need in an austere environment for a period of time, and relocating all of that equipment, parts and personnel back stateside once the mission is complete. This is a first for most of the people here."

This movement of equipment from the continental U.S. involved extensive support from host nation Spain, demonstrating the importance of ally and partner investment in European military readiness and defense.

"The Navy here in Spain has been



Photo by Natalie Weaver

U.S. Army 5th Battalion, 159th Aviation Regiment, 244th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade, offload the first aircraft, CH-47 Chinook, for Defender 23 from American Roll On Roll Off Carrier, Liberty Power, at Naval Station Rota, Spain on April 6, 2023. DEFENDER 23 is a U.S. Army Europe and Africa led exercise focused on the strategic deployment of continental United States-based forces, employment of Army Prepositioned Stocks, and interoperability with Allies and partners. Taking place from 22 April to 23 June, DEFENDER 23 demonstrates USAREUR-AF's ability to aggregate U.S.-based combat power quickly in Eastern Europe, increase lethality of the NATO Alliance through long-distance fires, build unit readiness in a complex joint, multi-national environment, and leverage host nation capabilities to increase USAREUR-AF's operational reach.

absolutely great to work with. They provided the personnel to help us move the aircraft, maintain the aircraft and provide security," said Frizzell. "Everything we need on the airfield, everything needed to execute safely, the Navy has given us. We're very thankful for their help."

After the equipment goes through maintenance test flights, it will be moved by the 16th Sustainment Brigade, 21st TSC to the Spain exercise location during reception, staging and onward movement in conjunction with U.S. Air

Force, Navy, and Spanish military assets for SR23. This operation is one of many during DE23 designed to build readiness within the alliance and deter potential adversaries.

When all is said and done, Clark was very proud of his team for assisting in the operation, as it gave them new tools for their toolbox.

"They are the ones putting in the time and the work. They deserve all the credit," said Clark. "They give me a sense of accomplishment for what they've done for me, and the fleet as well."



U.S. Army Sgt. Nick Suits, hazmat non-commissioned officer, 5th Battalion, 159th Aviation Regiment, 244th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade, operates a forklift to offload equipment container for Defender 23 at Naval Station Rota, Spain, April 6, 2023.



U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Matthew Zink, aviation quality control, 5th Battalion, 159th Aviation Regiment, 244th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade, and Navy Logistics Specialist Seaman Lloyd Cuesto, Naval Supply Systems Command Fleet Logistics Center Sigonella, Site-Rota, secure aviation equipment on transport vehicles for Defender 23 in Rota, Spain, April 6, 2023.



Two CH-47 Chinooks from 5th Battalion, 159th Aviation Regiment, 244th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade, are staged before transport to a maintenance area and flown for Defender 23, at Naval Station Rota, Spain, April 6, 2023.

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NAVAL STATION ROTA COMMUNITY RESOURCES

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) meetings occur Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7-8 p.m. in the Chapel Fellowship Hall. Meetings are hybrid, offered in-person and Zoom and are for people with a desire to stop drinking or who have a problem with alcohol. Meetings are open; additionally, we are willing to visit tenant command DAPAs and/or triad leadership to explain the program, answer questions and offer our experience, strength and hope. For fellowship, meeting information or Zoom details, please contact Dean S. at +34 674-38-77-55 via phone, text, WhatsApp or Signal.

AA off base: "Rota Drydocked." Every Saturday, 4 p.m. by Zoom only. For information on how to join the Zoom session, contact Joe G. via WhatsApp at: +34 603-84-15-59.

AL-ANON MEETINGS

Have you been affected by another person's drinking? If so, please join us every Wednesday at 4 p.m. at the base Chapel nursery for an Al-Anon meeting. The only requirement for Al-Anon membership is that there be a problem of alcoholism in a relative or friend. For info on meetings, please contact Amy at +34 624-28-5125.

AMERICAN RED CROSS

Mon - Fri, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Volunteers are welcome and encouraged to stop by the office and CPR courses are now being offered. Days and times of the courses will be posted on our FB page. For more information, call us during business hours at +34 956-82-2333, or visit our Facebook page, @RedCrossRota.

AMERICAN RED CROSS EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE

Red Cross Emergency Messages services operate 24/7. If you have a family emergency during business hours, call us immediately at DSN (314) 727-2333 or +34 956-82-2333. After hours or on weekends, our national call center can be reached at +1 (877) 272-7337. Messages can also be initiated online, at <https://www.redcross.org/military-emergency-communication.html>

ROTA EDUCATION CENTER

Central Texas College, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, University of Maryland Global Campus, and University of Oklahoma offices are open and able to assist you in reaching your education goals. The Rota Education Center is located on the second floor of the Community Services Building (Bldg. 3293).

NAVY-MARINE CORPS RELIEF SOCIETY (NMCRS)

When you are having trouble meeting urgent financial needs, NMCRS may be able to provide an interest-free loan or grant. Through financial counseling, we will also help you plan for better financial stability. Our services are completely confidential. If you are approved for a loan or grant, you will receive funds immediately. There is no application fee and the appointment is completely free. If you need \$1,000 or less, you may be eligible for our Quick Assist Loan.

NMCRS Business Office

Monday-Friday; 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

First floor, Community Support Building (Bldg. 3293)

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After Hours Emergency Assistance: +1 (877) 272-7337

Email: rota@nmcrs.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/nmcrsrota

NMCRS Lactation Room

The NMCRS Lactation Room is **OPEN** in the Community Support Building from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and is a first-come, first-serve room. If you are in need of a private space to nurse your child, pump, or just relax with your little ones, visit our office for access to the room.

NMCRS Thrift Shop

Hours of Operation

Monday: 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Thursday: 3-6 p.m. (third Thursday - active duty only)

Third Saturday of Month 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

NMCRS Casework and Classes

Casework Appointment: For active duty Navy, Marines, retirees, and dependents, the NMCRS can help you with financial relief. This can be used for emergency travel, basic living expenses (BLE), pet OCONUS, auto, household set up, and more.

Budget for Baby Class: Are you a new or prospective parent? Join us in-person to learn important budgeting skills for your new addition! Parents will learn about military pay fluctuations, baby expenses, consumer pressures targeting new parents, and entitlements available through government and private sources. This class is now open to both active duty and government civilian families. All participants will receive a layette and a handmade baby blanket. Families will also receive a \$50 Amazon gift card. To register, visit <http://linktr.ee/nmcrsrota> and select the desired class and date.

Command Classes: We offer financial classes for groups and commands. Our caseworkers can come to

you, or we can hold the classes in our classroom. Call or email our office to schedule one of these classes.

UPCOMING NMCRS AND HOSPITAL MATERNAL PROGRAMS AND CLASSES:

The Visiting Nurse program includes home and virtual visits, classes, and community support groups for active duty, retirees, and their families. The Visiting Nurse provides health education, resource referral, and support for prenatal and postpartum, newborn care, breastfeeding, pediatric, adult, and geriatric health concerns. *Schedules for the Support Groups is currently be constructed. Please look to the future for additional add-ons and schedule changes.*

NMCRS: VOLUNTEER WITH US!

Are you interested in volunteering in the NMCRS office or Thrift Shop? We have several opportunities to grow your resume while contributing to our community! We also reimburse for childcare and mileage. Apply to volunteer online at <http://linktr.ee/nmcrsrota> and join us for a monthly volunteer orientation. NMCRS Rota is looking for blanket makers and Thrift Shop volunteers.

PRESCHOOL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Child Find for children three to five years of age is an ongoing outreach program that locates and identifies children who may have developmental delays or educational disabilities and need special services. If you have concerns regarding your child's development, please contact DSN 727-4185/4435 or commercial, +34 956-82-4185/4435.

USO ROTA

For all USO Rota events and more, follow "USO Rota" on Facebook at www.facebook.com/USORota

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