

NAS Pensacola Recognizes FY25 Sailors of the Year









Top: Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola Sailors of the Year stand with NAS Pensacola Commanding Officer Capt. Chandra Newman and Command Master Chief James Wallace. Bottom (left to right): Yeoman 1st Class (SW) Abraham Perez Santiago: Senior Sailor of the Year, Fiscal Year 2025; Aviation Ordnanceman 2nd Class (AW) Nije Etheridge: Junior Sailor of the Year, Fiscal Year 2025; Air Traffic Controller 3rd Class Olivia Nolan: Bluejacket of the Year, Fiscal Year 2025.

NAS Pensacola Selects Sailors of the Quarter, 4th Quarter, FY25







From left to right: Senior Sailor of the Quarter, 4th Quarter: Master-at-Arms 1st Class Remington Kirchheiner; Junior Sailor of the Quarter, 4th Quarter: Air Traffic Controller 2nd Class (AW) Jacob Holland; Bluejacket of the Quarter, 4th Quarter: Master-at-Arms 3rd Class Devin Jose

NAS Pensacola Civilian Employees Years of Service Recognized







From left to right: Nola Templemire: 50 years of service ;John Lawson: 45 years of service; Ryan Reinhart: 25 years of service.







From left to right: Brenda Walter: 20 years of service; Erwin Manuel: 15 years of service; Noble Bradley: 10 years of service.



NAS Pensacola MWR Child and Youth Program, Petty Officers Host Local Children for Holiday Event



Santa Claus gives a bag of gifts to a Pensacola-area child at a Dec. 8 holiday event onboard Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola. The NAS Pensacola First Class Petty Officer Association (FCPOA) and the installation's Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) department's Child and Youth Program (CYP) hosted Pensacola-area students from Global, Navy Point, and West Pensacola elementary schools to participate with Sailors in holiday arts and crafts, lunch and a visit from Santa. (U.S. Navy photo by Garrett Dipuma)

PENSACOLA, Fla. — The Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola First Class Petty Officer Association (FCPOA) and the installation's Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) department's Child and Youth Programs (CYP) welcomed area schoolchildren for a Dec. 8 holiday event onboard the installation.

"As a Pensacola native, it means a lot to be able to help out in the local community," said NAS Pensacola Navy Security Forces Departmental Lead Petty Officer (LPO) Master-at-Arms 1st Class Drue Patrick, who also serves as the NAS Pensacola FCPOA president. "The Navy has such a huge impact and role in this community, and for us to be able to bring a little bit of joy during the holidays is something you just can't put a price on."



A Sailor stationed at Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola discusses a holiday arts and crafts project with a Pensacola-area student at a Dec. 8 holiday event onboard NAS Pensacola. The NAS Pensacola First Class Petty Officer Association (FCPOA) and the installation's Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) department's Child and Youth Program (CYP) hosted Pensacola-area students from Global, Navy Point, and West Pensacola elementary schools to participate with Sailors in holiday arts and crafts, lunch and a visit from Santa. (U.S. Navy photo by Garrett Dipuma)

Pensacola-area children from Global, Navy Point and West Pensacola elementary schools made holiday-themed arts and crafts, had lunch and received presents from Santa Claus while interacting with Sailors stationed at NAS Pensacola.



Pensacola-area schoolchildren line up to see Santa Claus at a Dec. 8 holiday event onboard Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola. The NAS Pensacola First Class Petty Officer Association (FCPOA) and the installation's Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) department's Child and Youth Program (CYP) hosted Pensacola-area students from Global, Navy Point, and West Pensacola elementary schools to participate with Sailors in holiday arts and crafts, lunch and a visit from Santa. (U.S. Navy photo by Garrett Dipuma)

"I think there is a symbiotic relationship between NAS Pensacola and the surrounding communities. Pensacola provides all kinds of opportunities for our families to be engaged, and the education is outstanding here," said NAS Pensacola MWR CYP School Liaison Hannah McCarthy. "This event, which has been happening for at least 15 years, is a great opportunity for us to come together show local kids who don't necessarily have family in the military what Navy life is like."

NAS Pensacola Commanding Officer Chandra Newman, Executive Officer Cmdr. Nick Alfano and Command Master Chief James Wallace also attended the event.

"This isn't just about handing out gifts or throwing a party," said Newman.

"It's about building real connections with our neighbors beyond the installation gates and staying engaged as part of the Pensacola community."

"For me, this is a meaningful chance to give back to our community," said Counter Unmanned Aircraft System Division LPO Operations Specialist 1st Class Diana Mason, a NAS Pensacola FCPOA member who helped plan the event. "It allows the children of Pensacola to come on base and meet Navy Sailors and simply enjoy a few hours of holiday fun."



A Fire & Emergency Services Gulf Coast fire truck assigned to Naval Air Station (NAS)
Pensacola drops off Santa Claus at a Dec. 8 holiday event for local schoolchildren onboard the installation. The NAS Pensacola First Class Petty Officer Association (FCPOA) and the installation's Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) department's Child and Youth Program (CYP) hosted Pensacola-area students from Global, Navy Point, and West Pensacola elementary schools to participate with Sailors in holiday arts and crafts, lunch and a visit from Santa. (U.S. Navy photo by Garrett Dipuma)

NAS Pensacola, referred to as the 'Cradle of Naval Aviation,' is designed to support operational and training missions of tenant commands, including the Naval Aviation Technical Training Center (NATTC); Naval Aviation Schools Command (NASC); Marine Aviation Training Support Groups (MATSG) 21 and 23 and serves as the headquarters for Naval Education and Training Command (NETC).

NAS Pensacola Commands Prepare for Holiday Season



Service members and families decorate holiday season trees Dec. 3 at the Mustin Beach Club onboard Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola. An annual tradition, commands onboard the air station decorate trees in the historic building's lobby in advance of the air station's Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) department's holiday tree lighting, this year scheduled Dec. 6.





The Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) hosted their annual Tree Lighting and Trees for Troops tree giveaway Dec. 6 at the Mustin Beach Club.







Pensacola-area service members and families participate in the Naval Air Station (NAS)
Pensacola Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Jingle Bell Fun Run Dec. 10 at the
Radford Fitness Center onboard the installation.



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A MESSAGE TO THE FLEET FROM THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

WORLD-CLASS FLEET

History proves that great nations are built on the strength of great navies. And today, our Fleet stands as the world's premier warfighting force - ready, capable, and unmatched. But we are more than ships, aircraft, and weapons. Our Sailors – battle ready, trained, resilient, and forged in the Foundry are the engine that empowers our Fleet. Through their strength, we command the seas, deter aggression, defend our homeland, and when called, deliver decisive combat power. This is what makes us a world-class Navy - second to none.

\\ Our Navy's Enduring Role

The Fleet is our most decisive instrument of national power and serves as the differentiated value our Navy brings to the Joint Force: expeditionary reach, unmatched mobility, and persistent presence that promotes our vital interests, protects the global commons, and wins our Nation's wars. Comprised of People, Platforms, and Payloads, the Fleet spans across all domains. To our Allies, it serves to reassure. To our Adversaries, it deters and shapes behavior. To all, it is a signal that freedom of the seas is non-negotiable and will never be surrendered.

As threats evolve and the world grows more complex, we will continue to build an integrated, all-domain Fleet – capable of conducting sea denial and, when needed, sea control within the battlespace and at decisive global chokepoints. This means fusing maritime, cyber, space, and undersea capabilities, and integrating Joint and Combined forces to dominate across the spectrum of conflict. In short, we will not only design our forces to fight and win, but to outpace emerging threats through smart and cost-effective "hedges" to lower the risks faced by our general purposes forces while increasing survivability and lethality.

\\ The Navy's Hedge Strategy

To that end, building a Fleet to cover every possible threat is too expensive, unrealistic, and suboptimized. Instead, I have directed the development of a new Navy Strategy. Built on the fundamentals from our Navy Warfighting and Deterrence Concepts, this new effort introduces an enduring "Hedge Strategy" – designed as an approach that reduces operational risk by investing in Tailored Offsets and Tailored Forces as a way to amplify and synergize our general purposes forces to more effectively address low probability-high consequence contingencies.

At its core, our Navy is already a collection of "hedge" forces and concepts: risk-informed decisions about where to invest and how to fight while weighing the probability of occurrence in terms of severity and loss. Naval Special Warfare is our hedge against low intensity and irregular warfare threats. SSBNs and E-6Bs are our hedge that deters strategic attack with less than eight percent of the Navy. And our Navy-Marine Corps team itself, has and will continue to serve as the Joint Force's global hedge – forward deployed, postured, and ready to respond to a variety of threats at a time and place of our choosing.

Tailored Forces are logical groupings of tailored offsets that strengthen our general-purpose forces. The Global Maritime Response Plan (GMRP) and associated Readiness Conditions (RESCON) provide tailored force packages that are Combat Surge Ready (CSR) in support of our Combatant Commanders through tailored certifications to execute specific missions. This is in run today as we continue to work to achieve our 80 percent CSR goals for all platforms.

\\ Modernizing the Fleet for Decisive Advantage

Further, we will also invest in platforms, sensors, and weapon systems built with modularity that are scalable and ready for rapid upgrade. We will accelerate the delivery of integrated, networked capabilities - including unmanned systems, AI, and resilient Command and Control (C2) architectures to ensure decision advantage and guarantee our overmatch in contested environments around the world.

Many of our Navy's toughest challenges cannot be solved in one year or even across one five-year Future Years Defense Program (FYDP) budgeting cycle. These types of longer-range problems (e.g., spare parts, critical munitions, foundry improvements, shipbuilding and depot repair enhancements) require time horizons and funding profiles with trajectories that balance fiscal realities to operational risk. Therefore, I have directed the development and use of multi-year/multi-FYDP "funding curves" to ensure sustained investment in the capabilities at the required capacity our warfighters need. With clear "commitment to the curve" – I will prioritize the required sustained investments necessary to solve many of the problems that have hampered our Navy for decades.

\\ Command, Control, and Accountability Reforms

The Administrative Chain of Command (ADCON) is comprised of subject matter experts who form the best force generators in the Navy. Over time we have drifted into commingling force generation and force employment with overlapping C2 structures that lack clear accountability. Therefore, we will review existing C2 structures from an operational task perspective and align C2 to the risk owner. Additionally, we will review and align force generation responsibilities to ensure we are following the "Standard Model" of excellence. This will ensure that we clearly delineate the role of the appropriate Type Commander (TYCOM) to the Fleet Commander with clean and accountable hand-offs between force generation and force employment of their forces.

Additionally, to most effectively counter the pacing threat that the PRC presents, CTF-54 will be separated from CTF-74 allowing each to hone their focus on specific undersea mission sets, particularly in our most challenging threat environments. CTF-54 will be dual-hatted as Commander, Submarine Squadron 21 in Bahrain. To support the new CTF-54, primary broadcast control authority and submarine operating authority duties (e.g., waterspace management) will be shifted to Commander, Submarine Group 8 and CTF-69 in Naples, Italy. To support CTF-74 more fully across the Western Pacific Area of Responsibility, we will be assessing the establishment of Task Groups to enable clear and unambiguous C2 lines of operational accountability.

\\ Continuous Improvement and Organizational Learning

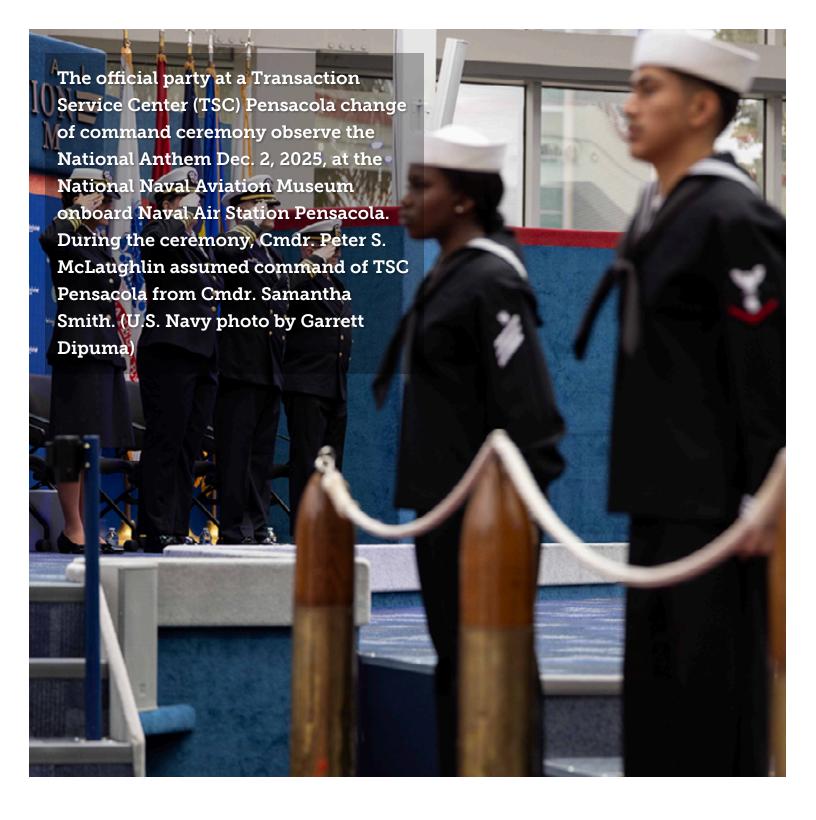
Fleet Improvement Offices (FIOs) are driving a culture of continuous improvement, intellectually honest assessments, disciplined execution, as well as improved operational risk management and accountability. We are codifying this through a new instruction, under the Office of Warfighting Advantage (OWA), to scale FIO practices across our Foundry, Fleet, and Fight priorities.

BUILT IN THE FOUNDRY - TEMPERED IN THE FLEET - FORGED TO FIGHT.

Daryl L. Caudle Admiral, United States Navy 34th Chief of Naval Operations



TSC Pensacola Holds Change of Command



PENSACOLA, Fla. – U.S. Navy Cmdr. Samantha M. Smith relinquished command of

Transaction Service Center (TSC) Pensacola to Cmdr. Peter S. McLaughlin during an official

ceremony Dec. 2 at the National Naval Aviation Museum onboard Naval Air Station (NAS)

Pensacola.

Originally from Chicago, Illinois, Smith assumed command of TSC Pensacola in 2024. She

enlisted in the Navy in 2004 as a nuclear power machinist's mate and advanced to the rank of

petty officer third class. She was selected for the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps

(NROTC) at Northwestern University, through which she earned her commission as a surface

warfare officer after attaining a Bachelor's Degree in Mathematics and Physics from Loyola

University. Smith holds a Master's Degree in Human Resources and Management from the

University of Maryland and a Professional Human Resources certification.

Smith has held several key positions throughout her career, including: assistant officer strength

planner; protocol officer for the chief of naval personnel; manpower, personnel, training and

education requirements officer; head enlisted accession planner; and head Navy strength planner.



U.S. Navy Cmdr. Samantha Smith renders a salute during the arrival of the official party for the Transaction Service Center (TSC) Pensacola change of command ceremony Dec. 2, 2025, at the National Naval Aviation Museum onboard Naval Air Station Pensacola. During the ceremony, Smith relinquished command to Cmdr. Peter S. McLaughlin. (U.S. Navy photo by Garrett Dipuma)

McLaughlin, a native of Summerville, South Carolina, arrived at TSC Pensacola as the executive officer last year. He enlisted in the Navy in 1998, completed the Naval Nuclear Power Training pipeline, and served aboard USS Buffalo (SSN 715) and USS Maryland (SSBN 738) before he was selected for the Seaman to Admiral-21 program. He graduated from the University of South Carolina in 2010 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice. McLaughlin also holds a Master of Science in Management degree in Manpower Systems Analysis from Naval Postgraduate School and a Master of Arts degree in Defense and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College.

Before he assumed command of TSC Pensacola, McLaughlin held positions including: deputy executive assistant to the deputy chief of naval personnel/commander, Navy Personnel Command (NPC); NPC executive officer of enlisted staff; executive assistant to Rear Adm. Stuart Satterwhite, where he was a plank owner of MyNavy Career Center (MNCC); and chief of staff and commanding officer of MNCC Headquarters staff.

TSCs execute personnel and pay transactions quickly and accurately. In addition to military pay and customer service transactions within their area of responsibility, each TSC leads service delivery and standardized procedures for several transaction types. TSC Pensacola handles East Coast gains and losses and continental U.S. (CONUS) military pay for the areas of operations east of the Mississippi River and Louisiana.



U.S. Navy Cmdr. Peter S. McLaughlin (right), incoming commanding officer (CO) of Transaction Service Center (TSC) Pensacola, renders a salute to Cmdr. Samantha Smith (center), outgoing CO of TSC Pensacola, during a change of command ceremony Dec. 2, 2025, at the National Naval Aviation Museum onboard Naval Air Station Pensacola. (U.S. Navy photo by Garrett Dipuma)

U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Barbara Mabrity Pulls in to NAS Pensacola



U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Barbara Mabrity (WLM-559), a Keeper-class coastal buoy tender, is docked alongside USCGC Walnut (WLB-205) at Allegheny Pier onboard Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola Dec. 2. Along with naval aviation and information warfare training, NAS Pensacola is home to the U.S. Navy's only deepwater port in the Gulf.

NAS Pensacola Honors Fallen Service Members in Pearl Harbor Remembrance Ceremony



Pensacola-area service members, veterans and civilians attend a Pearl Harbor remembrance ceremony, Dec. 5, 2025, at the Naval Aviation Memorial Chapel onboard Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola. The Pensacola-area Chief Petty Officer Association (PACPOA) hosted the event to pay tribute to the more than 2,400 lives lost in the Dec. 7, 1941 attack. (U.S. Navy photo by Garrett Dipuma)

PENSACOLA, Fla. – Pensacola-area service members, veterans and family members gathered at the Naval Aviation Memorial Chapel onboard Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola Dec. 5 to honor the lives lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor 84 years ago.

The ceremony served as a solemn reminder of the sacrifices made on Dec. 7, 1941, a day that forever altered the course of American history.

Hosted by the Pensacola-area Chief Petty Officer Association (PACPOA), the event brought together attendees from across the area to pay tribute to the more than 2,400 lives that were lost and over 1,000 wounded. Additionally, the U.S. Pacific Fleet suffered extensive damage, including the loss or destruction of 20 ships and more than 300 aircraft.

"It's important to continue hosting ceremonies to remember events of the past so that the younger Sailors don't forget historical events that shaped the Navy," Chief Yeoman James Wallace, PACPOA vice president. "Naval Air Station Pensacola is one of the Navy's largest training installations postbasic training. It's important to keep these traditions apparent and relevant to the younger Sailors that are just joining the Navy."



U.S. Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Stephen Daigle recounts the history of the 1941 attack at Pearl Harbor, Dec. 5, 2025, at a Pearl Harbor remembrance ceremony at the Naval Aviation Memorial Chapel onboard Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola. The Pensacola-area Chief Petty Officer Association (PACPOA) hosted the event to pay tribute to the more than 2,400 lives lost in the Dec. 7, 1941 attack. (U.S. Navy photo by Garrett Dipuma)

The attack on Pearl Harbor launched the U.S. into a global conflict, and the observance served as a reminder not only of the past but also of the enduring commitment of those who continue to serve.

The ceremony began with an invocation and a recitation of the Ode to the Flag, followed by a retelling of the History of the Day of Infamy and a traditional two-bell remembrance, an honored naval custom symbolizing the end of a watch that pays respect to those who have passed.

"Remembering Pearl Harbor is essential not only as a tribute to the lives lost but also as a reminder of the impact that day had on the course of history," said Wallace. "The attack marked a turning point that united our nation and ultimately reshaped the global pursuit of freedom. By honoring the courage and sacrifice of those who served and those who supported the war effort at home, we preserve the lessons of vigilance, service, and unity."

The Pearl Harbor remembrance ceremony has been taking place at NAS Pensacola for nearly a decade and it demonstrates the installation's commitment to never forget the sacrifices that have been made by all those that have faithfully and valiantly served our nation.

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The Morale, Welfare & Recreation mission is to contribute to the retention, readiness and mental, physical and emotional well-being of military personnel and to the welfare of their families by providing a variety of recreational activities. MWR supports the four geographic areas of NAS Pensacola Mainside, Corry Station, Saufley Field and the Blue Angel Recreation area with Fitness Centers and Pools, Marinas, Ballfields, Child Care, Golf Course, Bowling Center, Movie Theaters, Single Service Member Programs and multiple Club and Food and Beverage facilities.







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WINTER LOCK-IN!

CORRY STATION YOUTH CENTER TEEN ROOM Saturday, December 20-21 7:30pm-8am

For Teens Registered in the Teen program



\$5/PER PERSON

HOW TO SIGN-UP:

Fill out Teen Registration Packet at Corry Station Youth Center Must be signed up by Mon, Dec 15!

WHAT TO BRING:

Blanket | Sleeping Bag | Pillow Toothbrush | Toothpaste | Medications Change of Clothes

WHAT TO EXPECT:

Pizza, ice-cream, snacks, breakfast, movies, video games, group games & trivia

*Teens should be picked up no later than 8am on Sunday



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Portside Cinema Showtimes

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The Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) provides information and referral, education, and one-on-one assistance, all at no cost. Our programs include: New Parent Support, Exceptional Family Member, Family Advocacy, Personal Financial Management, Life Skills Education, Clinical Counseling, Transition Assistance, Relocation Assistance, Family Employment Readiness, Disaster Preparedness, and Sexual Assault Prevention and Response. The main FFSC is located in Building 625 onboard Naval Air Station Pensacola.

12 — 24 December 2025

Transition Assistance & Employment:

My Employment

December 15 & 16 from 0800-1530

This workshop presents a comprehensive overview covering best practices in career employment, including learning interview skills, building effective resumes, and using emerging technology to network and search for employment.

Vocational Track

December 17 & 18 from 0800-1530

The purpose of this training is to provide you with information and a range of tools and resources to help you evaluate your career options and gain the necessary training or credentials needed to pursue your vocational career goals.

Mental Health Tips for the Holidays:

The Top Mental Health Tips For The Holidays

- 1. Be kind to yourself.
- 2. More is not necessarily better.
- 3. Keep expectations realistic.
- 4. Old patterns will naturally start to appear around the holidays, especially when you are with relatives or under stress.
- 5. Remember that other people cannot read your mind or anticipate your needs.
- 6. Remember that "family" is another way of saying "people who love, support, and care about me."
- 7. Pause and think through any major announcements or decisions you want to make during the holidays.
- 8. Plan sanity time-outs.
- 9. Choose your battles.
- 10. Do something silly.

Fleet and Family Support Center will be closed on December 25th in observance of Christmas Day and close to clients/customers on December 26th. Also, closed on January 1st in observance of New Year's Day.

FLEET AND FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER NAS PENSACOLA





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Center

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151 ELLYSON AVENUE, BUILDING 625
PENSACOLA, FL 32508
Email: FFSC-Pensacola@us.navy.mil

OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY - FRIDAY 0730 - 1600







Since 1941, the USO has been the nation's leading organization to serve the men and women in the U.S. military, and their families, throughout their time in uniform. From the moment they join, through their assignments and deployments, and as they transition back to their communities, the USO is always by their side.



Founded in 2019, the United States Naval Community College (USNCC) offers online asynchronous (without live classes) off-duty college education programs to active duty junior enlisted Sailors and Marines. The USNCC also serves both active duty and reserve Coast Guard service members. The USNCC will develop warfighters across the force who are committed to lifelong learning, are steeped in Naval traditions and values, have sound leadership qualities and ethical decision-making ability, possess improved critical thinking and technical skills and have a deep understanding of the complex maritime environment in which they operate.



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For 98 years, *The Gosport* served as the official newspaper of Naval Air Station Pensacola and shared the stories of the installation until its final publication in 2019. This biweekly e-newsletter intends to continue that mission to keep readers informed on current events at NAS Pensacola. The publication began in 1921 as *Air Station News* and adopted *The Gosport* moniker, named after a voice tube used by flight instructors in the early days of naval aviation, around 1936.

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