



The Gosport

Vol. 84, No. 19 | Dec. 22, 2025



**NAS Pensacola Commanding Officer Capt. Chandra
Newman Holiday Message**

VIDEO - Capt. Newman Holiday Message

As we come to the close the 250th anniversary of our Navy in 2025, I want to take a moment to share my gratitude and appreciation for our incredible team. I am so proud of every service member and civilian serving here onboard NAS Pensacola. I am humbled to serve our community and all those that so faithfully stand with us at the Navy's Foundry of the Fleet for all things Aviation and Information Warfare.

To our families, I especially want to thank you for your unwavering support. You are the backbone of our readiness, and we couldn't do what we do without you.

The holiday season is a time to reflect on what truly matters: family, faith, friendship, and the importance of community. Here at NAS Pensacola, we are blessed with a team that embodies those values every single day.

As I reflect on my first year as Commanding Officer, we have seen challenges and immense successes from a record-producing "Snowpocalypse" to the safe harbor for our Guantanamo families fleeing a category 5 hurricane. There are countless examples of resourcefulness and resilience. Through it all, our team and our community never wavered. We continue the excellence expected of the Cradle of Naval Aviation remains a place of learning and readiness. I could not be prouder.

During this holiday season, I encourage you to look out for your friends, family and your colleagues. I also encourage you to take care of yourselves. Utilize available resources and find moments to rest and recharge. Our mission never ends and we must stand ready for the Fleet and our nation. From my family to yours and from all of us at NAS Pensacola, I wish you a joyful holiday season, with a safe, successful, and Happy New Year.



Happy Holidays

Wreaths Across America Honors Veterans at Barrancas National Cemetery

PENSACOLA, Fla. - Volunteers laid wreaths on headstones at Barrancas National Cemetery onboard Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola Dec. 13 during the Kiwanis Club of Big Lagoon Pensacola-sponsored Wreaths Across America ceremony to remember the fallen, honor those who serve and teach the next generation the value of freedom.











VIDEO - Wreaths Across America

McGuire's Irish Pub Pipe Band Plays Holiday Carols at NATTC



The McGuire's Irish Pub Pipe Band performs a selection of holiday carols for Sailors and Marines training at the Naval Air Technical Training Center (NATTC) onboard Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola Dec. 16 at the NATTC barracks. The annual event, organized by the NAS Pensacola Religious Ministries department, is a decades-old tradition on the air station.

NAS PENSACOLA

Holiday Religious Service Schedule

Listed services at Our Lady of Loretto Chapel

Roman Catholic Services

- Dec. 8, 1130 & 1730 - Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mass
- Dec. 24, 1630 - Christmas Eve Mass
- Dec. 25, 1200 - Christmas Mass
- Jan. 1, 1200 - New Year's Mass

At Naval Aviation Memorial Chapel

Christian Non-Denominational Services

- Dec. 24, 1800 - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Jewish Hannukah

- Dec. 14, Sundown - Hannukah Begins

Christmas Day

- Dec. 25, 1300 to 1600 – Christmas Day Food and Movie
Bldg 634 Fellowship Hall

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT RELMIN
STAFF AT

cni_se_pnscchapel@us.navy.mil OR (850) 452 - 2342

Tree Planting Ceremony Marks NAS Pensacola's Ongoing Commitment to Environmental Stewardship



Leaders from Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola and Naval Air Technical Training Center (NATTC) and representatives from NAS Pensacola's Public Works Department (PWD) hold a Tree City USA flag in front of a newly planted live oak tree during a Dec. 11 tree planting ceremony on the installation. NAS Pensacola Commanding Officer Capt. Chandra Newman, PWD and NATTC representatives, planted the tree in recognition of NAS Pensacola's recertification in the Arbor Day Foundation's Tree City USA program.

PENSACOLA, Fla. — Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola reaffirmed its longstanding commitment to environmental sustainability and natural resource stewardship during a tree planting ceremony Dec. 11 as part of the installation's recertification as a Tree City USA community.

Service members from NAS Pensacola and the Naval Air Technical Training Center, civilian personnel and community partners gathered at the Naval Air Technical Training Center (NATT) onboard NAS Pensacola to take part in the event, which underscored the Navy's ongoing dedication to conservation and to creating a greener, healthier environment for future generations.



Leaders from Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola and Naval Air Technical Training Center (NATT) plant a live oak tree with Florida Forest Service Escambia County Forester Cathy Hardin during a Dec. 11 tree planting ceremony on the installation. NAS Pensacola Commanding Officer Capt. Chandra Newman, along with NAS Pensacola Public Works Department (PWD) and NATTC representatives, planted the tree in recognition of NAS Pensacola's recertification in the Arbor Day Foundation's Tree City USA program.

NAS Pensacola Commanding Officer Capt. Chandra 'Mamasan' Newman spoke about the significance of the Tree City USA program and the installation's pride in maintaining this designation.

"NAS Pensacola is committed to protecting the natural resources entrusted to us," Newman said. "Our Tree City USA recertification is more than a recognition. It reflects the dedication of our personnel and community partners who work daily to improve and preserve the environment. The trees planted today will stand as a symbol of that commitment for decades to come."



Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola Commanding Officer Capt. Chandra Newman plants a live oak tree during a Dec. 11 tree planting ceremony on the installation. Newman, along with NAS Pensacola Public Works Department (PWD) representatives and Naval Air Technical Training Center (NATT) leadership, planted the tree in recognition of NAS Pensacola's recertification in the Arbor Day Foundation's Tree City USA program.

Tree City USA, a program founded by the Arbor Day Foundation, recognizes communities that meet high standards of urban forestry management. To maintain certification, communities must demonstrate continued investment in tree care, celebrate Arbor Day, and implement an effective tree management program.

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 also serves as the Navy's only installation in the Gulf with both a deep-water port and active airfield and also serves as a safe harbor for numerous U.S. Coast Guard and USNS ships during extreme weather situations.

NAS Pensacola Sailor Reenlists, Advances to Petty Officer Ranks





Air Traffic Controller 3rd Class Aparecida Martinez was advanced to her current rank and reenlisted in the Navy Dec. 15 onboard Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola.

Pensacola Naval Facility Earns Prestigious Hyperbaric Accreditation; A First in the U.S. Navy



By Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class (SW/AW) Russel Lindsey,
Navy Medicine Operational Training Command

PENSACOLA, FL –The Hyperbaric Medicine Department of the Naval Aerospace Medical Institute (NAMI), a detachment of Navy Medicine Operational Training Command (NMOTC) based in Pensacola, Florida, achieved another first for Navy Medicine, but this time has “sharpened the spear” for the Navy fleet at large.



Captain Nichole Olson, Commanding Officer of the Navy Medicine Operational Training Command (NMOTC)(center right), presents the accreditation certificate to the Naval Aerospace Medical Institute (NAMI) Hyperbarics Team after they were awarded a Level-1 "With Distinction" accreditation from the Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society (UHMS), Nov. 21. With five detachments, 12 training centers, and facilities in over 60 locations across the United States, NMOTC provides high impact individual medical training for the Navy, other U.S. armed forces, and allied nations around the globe. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Russell Lindsey SW/AW)

In November of this year NAMI Hyperbarics department achieved the Level-1 “Accreditation with Distinction” from the Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society (UHMS). This is a landmark accomplishment that marks the first Navy facility to attain this recognition. The UHMS accreditation is the only hyperbaric specific accreditation to be recognized by the Joint Commission as a Complementary Accrediting organization and is a hallmark of excellence. It ensures that facilities upon which earn it meet stringent standards of quality and patient safety, and the accreditation solidifies that NAMI’s hyperbaric facility is a leader in undersea and hyperbaric medicine.

A famous Navy astronaut once said, “One small step for man, one giant leap for mankind”. While admittedly the scale is different, a person could be forgiven for drawing an inspirational comparison of the sentiment in achieving a first.

For those who don’t speak medical or may not be familiar with accrediting bodies it is easier to say, “It’s a big deal”. Accreditation and the body responsible for bestowing it mean everything in very demanding and highly certified fields, many require significant expenditures of man-hours and need fine technical proficiency to both attain and then maintain. The Navy, with its dive and undersea communities, continue to be the standard to which many aspire, and this “small step” achieved by the hyperbarics team carries that standard of excellence forward.

“Achieving this accreditation was a team effort, and I could not be prouder of what our department accomplished,” said Lt. Cmdr. Esther Ruedi, Nurse Corps Officer and department head of the NAMI Hyperbaric Medicine Department. “The entire team consistently puts forth their best effort in every aspect of the department’s operations, whether its patient safety and quality of care, fleet support, or everyday maintenance; I am absolutely thrilled that the team is being recognized all they bring to the table.”



The hyperbaric chamber located at the Naval Aerospace Medical Institute (NAMI) stands at the ready after being awarded a Level-1 "With Distinction" accreditation from the Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society (UHMS), Nov. 21. With five detachments, 12 training centers, and facilities in over 60 locations across the United States, NMOTC provides high impact individual medical training for the Navy, other U.S. armed forces, and allied nations around the globe. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Russell Lindsey SW/AW)

The department first achieved UHMS accreditation in 2017, a certification of competency and credibility that required a lengthy and rigorous accreditation process. Over the course of three years the department earned this initial certification, affirming that the facility met high standards of care and patient safety and came after a final evaluation of facilities, equipment, staff competency, and training program. All this scrutiny is put in place to ensure that the utmost quality of care and readiness is maintained so that when it's undersea medical officers, nurses, divers, and technicians are called upon they can execute, treat, and train whatever the need.

"The Navy's commitment to excellence in diving and hyperbaric medicine is well known throughout the world," said Cmdr. Francisco Kortman, incoming department head and Undersea Medical Officer assigned to NAMI Hyperbarics. "The United States Navy Dive Manual is the most referred to diving guide in the world and shows the Navy's proficiency and expertise and this accreditation shows that we meet and exceed the highest levels of civilian safety standards."

The UHMS, originally founded in 1967, is a highly respected, international non-profit organization dedicated to advancing the fields of diving and hyperbaric medicine. Serving a diverse membership spanning more than 67 countries, the UHMS acts as a central hub for physicians, scientists, associates, and nurses working in these specialized areas. Recognized globally as the primary source of scientific information on diving and hyperbaric medicine physiology, the UHMS plays a crucial role in establishing best practices, promoting research, and fostering collaboration within the global medical community. When the UHMS says a facility is accredited, you know they've checked every gauge, scrutinized every procedure, and ensured that everyone working there knows their stuff. However, the most recent award of "Accreditation with Distinction" marks a significant step forward for the chamber and is the first time a Navy facility has achieved this level of recognition.



A simulated patient is loaded into the hyperbaric chamber assigned to Naval Aerospace Medical Institute (NAMI) during a joint Army and Navy pressure injury exercise, Aug 28. The Navy Medicine Operational Training Command (NMOTC) is the Navy's leader in operational medicine and trains specialty providers for aviation, surface, submarine, expeditionary, and special operations communities. With five detachments, 12 training centers, and facilities in over 60 locations across the United States, NMOTC provides high impact individual medical training for the Navy, other U.S. armed forces, and allied nations around the globe. (U.S.

Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Russell Lindsey SW/AW)

The process of applying and receiving UHMS accreditation is already a notable and strenuous task but meeting the additional criteria to earn "Accreditation with Distinction" requires a continuous dedication in upholding those high standards. The logistics alone require great commitment of time, resources, and effort by staff who must continually maintain the very specialized equipment in order to run drills and simulations required to maintain proficiency needed treat acute pressure and altitude related illnesses. Coupled with keeping the skills of medical providers capable of giving world-class care for a range of conditions also requires continuous learning and practical skills upkeep. So intensive are the requirements that only two other Department of Defense/Department of Veterans Affairs facilities – Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas, and David Grant USAF Medical Center at Travis Air Force Base, California – hold this same recognition. Even within the state of Florida, the chamber is only the second facility currently holding this level of distinction.

"This accreditation is testament to the hard work and dedication found in our entire team," said Capt. Nichole Olson, commanding officer of Navy Medicine Operational Training Command (NMOTC). "We deliver the best at this command, for our servicemembers, our stakeholders, and Navy Medicine. I could not be more proud of our team and this showcases our commitment to providing the best possible care anytime, anywhere, and for any environment."

The hyperbaric facility at NAMI and its staff play a critical role in supporting a variety of missions including diving operations, special operations training, and aviation support. The facility and its team provide treatment for decompression sickness, carbon monoxide poisoning, wound healing problems, and other specialty medical conditions. With the accreditation, the facility is poised to expand its services to DOD-eligible beneficiaries, offering hyperbaric oxygen therapy for a broader range of conditions and situations.

The parent command of NAMI, NMOTC also trains and qualifies some of the specialty providers needed by the Navy to even operate facilities like the chamber and conduct dive operations such Undersea Medical Officers (UMOs), Dive Medical Technicians (DMTs), and Submarine Independent Duty Corpsman (SUB-IDCs). Each of these specialties require some of the most intensive training offered in the Navy and in Navy Medicine.

Medical Corps officers especially have some of the longest and toughest training requirements to hold the coveted UMO designation requiring both years of medical knowledge as well as lengthy specialized expertise of the undersea medical environment gained through rigorous training from the Naval Undersea Medical Institute (NUMI), another detachment of NMOTC, and the Naval Diving and Salvage Training Center. Each center equips them with the knowledge and experience to fill positions within operational units such as Naval Special Warfare and Navy Dive and Salvage and finally to return and bring back the operational knowledge gained from the fleet to train the next generation.

"We are committed to refining our education and training programs for all whether they be aviation medical officers, aerospace medicine residents, undersea medical officers, divers, and even local medical personnel," said Kortman. "We regularly support over 18 operational units, diving and aerospace personnel at risk for pressure-related injuries, and provide learning opportunities to other entities, collaborating with other parts of the base, FEDFIRE, EPA, NAVOCEANO, etc."

The accreditation, with its emphasis on education and clinical expertise, adds another layer in the assurance to the quality of care provided at NAMI. It solidifies the facility's standing as a vital resource for the Navy and the broader community, ensuring that those in need receive the best possible treatment for pressure-related injuries and other conditions amenable to hyperbaric oxygen therapy.

For more information about NMOTC, the Naval Aerospace Medical Institute,

or the hyperbaric medicine program visit <https://www.med.navy.mil/Navy-Medicine-Operational-Training-Command/> For news about NMOTC follow us on DVIDS <http://www.dvidshub.net/unit/NMOTC>



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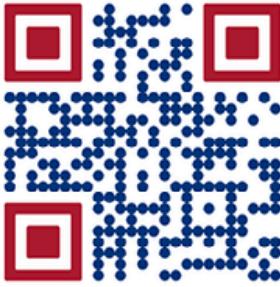


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Ring in the New Year!



COSMIC BOWLING

A bit early

Corry Bowling Center • Dec 31, 2025

6:30-9:30pm • \$15 per person • \$6-6yrs & under

RESERVE EARLY • MIN 4 PEOPLE/LANE



2026

•HAPPY NEW YEAR•

CALL (850) 452-6380

FREE BIWEEKLY GOLF CLINIC ACTIVE DUTY ONLY

TUESDAYS 3:45PM - 4:45PM
THROUGH MARCH 3RD, 2026



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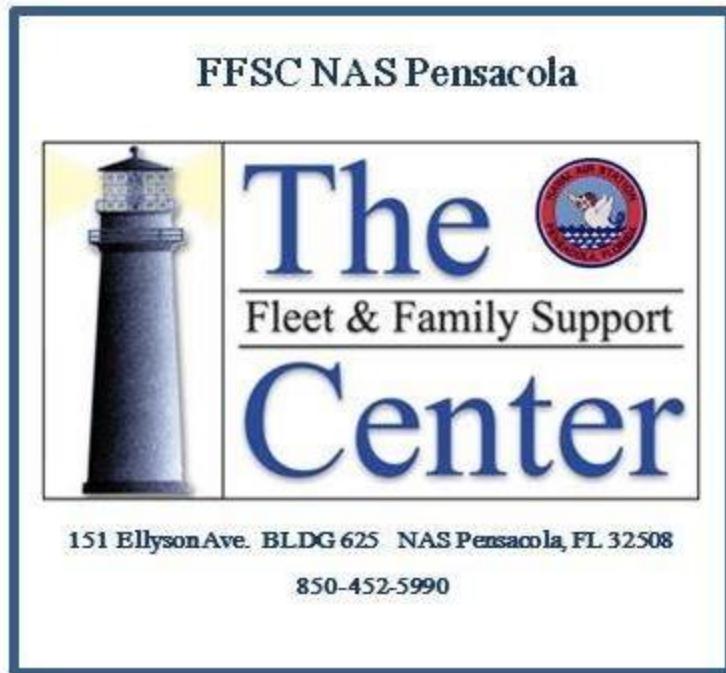


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The Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) provides information and referral, education, and one-on-one assistance, all at no cost. Our programs include: New Parent Support, Exceptional Family Member, Family Advocacy, Personal Financial Management, 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.

The Beacon

Call 850-452-5990 to Register for Workshops

26 December 2025 — 8 January 2026

Relocation Assistance Program:

Pre-Deployment

January 7 from 0900-1000

Preparing families before deployments.

First Move

January 8 at Corry Station Chapel from 1130-1330

Open to everyone who will be moving. Terminology explained and all questions answered.

Life Skills:

Mind-Body Mental Fitness (MBMF) - Flexibility, Module 4

January 5 from 0900-1100

Learn how your thoughts, emotions, and behaviors interact with each other, and how they can be changed.

Keeping Your Cool

January 6 & 13 (2 Sessions) from 0930-1130

Why is it important to know about anger? Learn how the body reacts to anger while learning coping tips to correct it.

FINANCIAL WELLNESS MONTH

5 Steps to Financial Wellness

1. Stick to Your Budget.
2. Keep Track of Expenses.
3. Plan For The Unexpected.
4. Visualize Your Financial Goals.
5. Increase Your Financial Knowledge.

Transition Assistance & Employment:

Capstone Workshop

January 8 from 1330-1530

This workshop will ensure transitioning service members have met the TAP Career Readiness Standards (CRS) and are prepared to transition back to civilian life.

Employment Readiness Month

The Family Employment Ready Program (FERP) provides comprehensive and a whole family approach to employment for military spouses and dependents. One of the most prominent barriers facing military spouses is searching for employment every two to three years. FERP provides a variety of services to mitigate these barriers by offering career planning and information on employment continuity programs. The FERP program offers information on local job and volunteer opportunities, career counseling and referral in addition to seminars and workshops.

Fleet and Family Support Center will be closed:

January 1st in observance of New Year's Day

&

January 19th in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day

FLEET AND FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER NAS PENSACOLA

 (850) 452-5990

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FLEET AND FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER
151 ELLYSON AVE, BLDG 625
NAS PENSACOLA, 32508
(850) 452-5990
MONDAY-FRIDAY 0730-1600



FLEET AND FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER NAS PENSACOLA
151 ELLYSON AVENUE, BUILDING 625
PENSACOLA, FL 32508

Email: FFSC-Pensacola@us.navy.mil

OFFICE HOURS:
MONDAY - FRIDAY
0730 - 1600



NAVY-MARINE CORPS
RELIEF SOCIETY®

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society Office onboard Naval Air Station Pensacola is scheduled to be closed Dec. 24, 25 and 31 and Jan. 1. Service members facing a financial emergency during the office closure should call American Red Cross for NMCRS help at (877) 272-7337.

The NMCRS Thrift Shop onboard Corry Station is scheduled to be closed Dec. 19 - Jan. 5. The Thrift shop will not accept donations during this time.



The NASP Housing Services Center is here for you!

Housing Services Available:

- On-Base (PPV) Housing Assistance and Support
- Community/Off-Base Home Finding Services (www.Homes.mil)
- Landlord/Tenant Issue Resolution Support
- Volunteer Realtors on Duty for Added Home Rental/Sales Support
- FPL (Florida Power and Light) Utility Waiver Assistance
- HEAT (Housing Early Assistance Tool) Program Assistance
- Departure Services

Contact Info

Phone: (850) 452-5168

Email: Pensacola_Housing@us.navy.mil

Hours: 0800-1700, Monday through Friday

Located in the first building on the right just inside the Main Gate (Bldg. 735). Call/email with any questions or come by any time!

**Navy
Housing**



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.



USO NASP HOLIDAY HOURS

Saturday, 12/20 - Sunday, 1/4:

Monday - Friday: 0900 - 1500

Saturday - Sunday: 1200 - 1500
(weekend hours volunteer dependent)

Closed Christmas, 12/25 and New Year, 1/1



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.

Traveling for the Holidays?

Ensure vehicle maintenance is up-to-date

Dress warmly for cold weather

All-season tires should have at least a 2/32" tread, or consider using snow tires depending on your location

Keep extra blankets, a flashlight and water in case of severe wintry weather

Sources: National Safety Council (nsc.org) and AAA.com

NAVAL SAFETY COMMAND
Naval Safety Information Exchange



Don't Let Holiday Spirits Turn
Into a Decision That Haunts You

NEVER DRINK
AND DRIVE.





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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