

## SECNAV visits Navy Region Southeast



*Photos by MC2 (SW/IW) Nick A. Grim*

**Secretary of the Navy Kenneth J. Braithwaite, right, discusses galley operations with CS2 Jazmen Wilkerson, left, as Food Service Officer CWO4 Karen Thompson listens, prior to a luncheon at the NAS Jacksonville Flight Line Cafe, Aug. 11.**

**From Commander, Navy Region Southeast Public Affairs**

Secretary of the Navy Kenneth J. Braithwaite visited Sailors, Marines and Department of the Navy civilians throughout Navy Region Southeast Aug. 10-11.

During his trip to Naval Submarine Base (NSB) Kings Bay, Naval Air Station (NAS) Jacksonville, and Naval Station (NS) Mayport the secretary toured a number of surface, subsurface and aviation assets vital to naval operations at home and abroad.

“The strategic importance of this geographic region and its naval capabilities are of vital importance to not only the Navy, but to our country’s national security,” said Braithwaite. “The entire Navy and Marine Corps team here is extremely impressive in their dedication to service above self. Everyone who I had the opportunity to interact with personifies that in a most outstanding way.”

Home to nearly 9,000 personnel, the secretary began his visit to NSB Kings Bay with tours of the Ohio-class ballistic-missile submarine USS Rhode Island (SSBN 740), the Ohio-class guided-missile submarine USS Florida (SSGN 728), and the Trident Refit Facility, where Trident submarines are maintained, repaired and upgraded. Secretary Braithwaite also met with Marines and Sailors assigned to the Marine Corps Security Force Battalion during a tour of the Waterfront Security Force Facility.

“It was great to have the chance to meet and have lunch with the secretary,” said Culinary Specialist (Submarines) 1st Class Adelico Duran. “It was clear from our conversations that he cares about spending time with and listening to Sailors.”

The secretary then visited NAS Jacksonville which is the largest installation in the Navy Region Southeast enterprise and home to more than 100tenant



**Secretary of the Navy Kenneth J. Braithwaite, right, speaks with Sailors during a luncheon at the Naval Air Station Jacksonville Flight Line Cafe Aug. 11. During his two-day trip to the Southeast, Braithwaite visited naval bases in Georgia and Florida where he met with Sailors, Marines and civilians and viewed surface, subsurface and aviation assets.**

commands and approximately 21,000 military, civilian and contract employees. As a master air and industrial base, NAS Jacksonville supports U.S. and allied forces specializing in anti-submarine warfare and training of the best aviators in the world.

At NAS Jacksonville, Secretary Braithwaite met with leadership from the first Triton Unmanned Air System (UAS) squadron, Unmanned Patrol Squadron (VUP) 19, which is currently operating two MQ-4C Triton UAS in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations.

Capt. Matt Pottenburgh, commander, Patrol & Reconnaissance Wing (CPRW) 11, Cmdr. Michael Minervini, commanding officer of VUP-19 and squadron operators briefed the secretary on the capabilities of the MQ-4C Triton UAS and its ability to complement the P-8A Poseidon Multi-mission Maritime Aircraft in the maritime and littoral battlespace.

“The MQ-4C Triton is the first high-altitude, long endurance aircraft that can conduct persistent intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance missions to complement the P-8A in the maritime domain,” said Pottenburgh. “It is actively conducting missions that are complementing the P-8A Poseidon.”

“Triton presents a new, complex problem set for our adversaries. This platform’s endurance combined with a complex sensor suite provides our Fleet and Combatant Commanders with unparalleled intelligence and battlespace awareness,” Minervini added. “Our officers, chief petty officers, and Sailors are experienced fleet operators and maintainers. They are experts and pioneers of unmanned Naval Aviation.”

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# Fleet Readiness Center Southeast plays critical part in providing Blue Angels with new Super Hornet aircraft

By Ashley Lombardo,  
Fleet Readiness Center Southeast

Fleet Readiness Center Southeast (FRCSE) recently applied the final coat of paint on the inaugural Super Hornet for the U.S. Navy's Flight Demonstration Squadron, the Blue Angels. But the aircraft's distinctive paint, cobalt blue with yellow trim, is just the work completed by the depot that the eye can see.

The team's transition from the F/A-18 Hornet to the F/A-18 Super Hornet, a more powerful jet that's approximately 25 percent larger, would not be possible without FRCSE. The Legacy Hornet served as the primary aircraft for the Blue Angels since 1986 and will retire its run in 2021.

"Knowing we are playing a critical role in making the Super Hornets ready for the team is an incredibly proud moment for the command as a whole," said Col. Fred Schenk, FRCSE's Commanding Officer. "The work is ongoing, and we're tremendously honored to be a part of the transition. We aren't just providing the well-known Blue Angels paint scheme, but we are performing the necessary maintenance and modifications to sustain the aircraft throughout their service life with the team."

To make these aircraft the recognizable, sky-ripping planes you see, paint is just the beginning.

Modifications ranging from the removal of weapons systems to the outfitting of each aircraft with a control stick spring system for more precise aircraft control, require support from dozens of maintenance artisans working hundreds of hours. The final product – a first of its kind Super Hornet that is safe, ready for flight and looking better than ever.

According to Rick Heffner, FRCSE's paint shop supervisor, the depot has been doing the Blue Angel's signature paint for years, but when the demonstration squadron decided to transition to the Super Hornet aircraft, Heffner and his team faced a new set of challenges.

"It was decided last year that FRCSE would continue to provide this service for the new airframe. The Super Hornet is larger than the Legacy Hornet, so getting the proper size markings for the aircraft was a challenge initially," said Heffner.



Photo by Toiete Jackson

**The first freshly painted F/A-18 Super Hornet with the Blue Angels signature paint sits near the sea wall at Naval Air Station Jacksonville awaiting transport to Boeing Global Services Cecil Field for final assembly, May 4.**

In fact, just the painting process for these aircraft takes approximately ten days. It's a job that requires a significant amount of prep work, which includes sanding, washing, masking, priming, seam sealing and more. Those are just a few of the necessary steps required before getting to the blue, yellow, white and clear paint coats and accents. Each process requires a keen eye for detail and meticulous time management.

Matt Lindberg, FRCSE's Deputy Director of the F/A-18 E/F MRO Production Line, said the first Super Hornet slated for conversion arrived at Cecil Commerce Center in December 2017 and work is expected to continue throughout 2021.

"FRCSE is performing the Planned Maintenance Interval (PMI), modifications (MODs) and other over and above work to get these jets ready for years of uninterrupted service by the Blue Angels. A couple of the jets were in storage for 5 to 6 years, so we had to bring them back up to code, per se," he said. "The work we do can take anywhere from 90 days to a year, depending on the condition of the jet and work package requirements."

Once the aircraft arrives at Cecil, each goes through the same basic life cycle: PMI, MODs and then it's towed to our main facility at Naval Air Station Jacksonville (NAS JAX) for paint strip and prime. Boeing then completes Blue Angel-specific modifications and it's then returned to NAS JAX for final paint. Lastly, Boeing finalizes

the assembly and performs flight tests.

While FRCSE is doing a lot of the necessary work to get these aircraft sky-ready, Boeing will accomplish the Blue Angel-specific modifications like the addition of an oil tank for the smoke generation system.

To date, FRCSE has performed PMI or MODs on nine of the first 11 Super Hornet aircraft slated for the Blue Angels. Lindberg confirmed that in order to meet transition and training requirements to begin the 2021 airshow season, these 11 aircraft need to be delivered by December 2020.

"As a team, we take a tremendous amount of pride in the work we've completed and continue to do in support of the new platform for the Blue Angels. Every day our employees strive to maximize their performance to produce quality products at an ever-increasing speed," said Lindberg. "I can confidently speak for the rest of our team when I say we cannot wait to see the jets we have worked diligently on take to the skies in cities around the United States."

While we are just a few months away from watching these incredible pieces of military muscle flying high, it's clear that a new day has dawned for the demonstration team and air show enthusiasts alike. Thanks to the efforts of a diverse team of experts committed to perfecting even the smallest detail, fans will continue to be awed by the Blue Angels aerial acrobatics for years to come.

## JAX AIR NEWS

### Commanding Officer

Capt. Brian Weiss

### Executive Officer

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### Command

Master Chief

CMDCM(AW/SW)

Dylan Inger

### Public Affairs Officer

Kaylee LaRocque

### Public Affairs Specialist

Julie M. Lucas

### Editor

MC2(SW/IW)

Nick A. Grim

### Staff Writer

MM2 Symonne Patrick

The JAX AIR NEWS is a bi-weekly digital publication for members of the military services. Contents of the JAX AIR NEWS do not necessarily reflect the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense or Department of the Navy.

The deadline for all story and photo submissions is close of business the Friday before publication.

Questions or comments can be directed to the editor at (904) 542-3531 or email [JaxAirNews@gmail.com](mailto:JaxAirNews@gmail.com).





# Fleet and Family Support Center director to retire

By **Kaylee LaRocque**,  
NAS Jax Public Affairs Officer

After 21 years of helping Sailors and their families, Naval Air Station Jacksonville (NAS Jax) Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) Director Carolyn McCorvey will retire from civil service in September.

McCorvey, a native of Moss Point, Mississippi, earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Social and Rehabilitation Services from the University of Southern Mississippi and a Master's degree in social work from Tulane University.

She began her career as a family advocacy specialist at Naval Station Pascagoula, Mississippi in July 1999. Over the years, she has helped hundreds of military families by offering support and counseling.

As the FFSC director, McCorvey oversees a staff of professionals who provide such services as family and individual counseling, conflict management, communication skills, suicide prevention, new parent support, sexual assault prevention and response, transition assistance, life skills support, ombudsman support, stress management, and basic budgeting.

She also ensures that family programs are in place to support the overall well-being of the Navy families.

"Readiness truly begins at home," said McCorvey. "All of our programs focus on enriching, empowering and educating

the military family to ensure mission readiness."

She has also completed tours at Commander, Fleet Activities, Yokosuka, Japan as the Commander, Navy Region Japan (CNRJ) program director and Naval Support Activity Bahrain as the FFSC director.

Her favorite tour was the three years she spent in Bahrain. "Bahrain is the 'tip of the spear.' The tempo of the base is very high but working with Sailors, military families and civilians as the only American family support entity, was rewarding," said McCorvey. "I really love the country, its culture and the sense of safety with little to no crime. It was truly an amazing place."

McCorvey says there are several people who have helped her throughout her career.

"Retired Rear. Adm. Jack Scorby was the first commanding officer that I worked for who was the total package - an awesome leader and an amazing human being," she said. "Thomas Moriarty was only civilian boss I had after becoming the Regional Program Director for CNRJ. He allowed me to flourish in my new position as the regional program director for Japan, and taught me a lot about the NAF side of the house and all the missions of the N9 codes."

She also acknowledges her mentors, Dr. Terri Rau at Commander, Navy Installations Command, and former NAS Jax Command Master Chief Jeffrey Waters.

"These two individuals helped round out my career as I moved into the final stage by offering sage guidance," said McCorvey. "And,



*Courtesy photo*

## Carolyn McCorvey

I want to thank all of my staff members who I have worked with throughout my entire career. I have been so blessed to have had the privilege to work alongside some of the most talented and dedicated professionals within the N91 community and the Navy as a whole."

In the future, McCorvey plans to continue traveling, spend time with her new great grandson and write a book.

"I will definitely miss all the wonderful people I've worked with at commands in the U.S. and overseas," she said. "It's been a great ride but time for me to start a new chapter."



*Photos by MCI Ashley Berumen*

**Secretary of the Navy Kenneth J. Braithwaite talks with Missile Technician 1st Class Tremayne Johnson, aboard the Ohio-class ballistic-missile submarine USS Rhode Island (SSBN 740) (Blue) in the ship's missile control center during his visit to Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, Ga. During his two-day trip to the Southeast, Braithwaite visited Naval bases in Georgia and Florida where he met with Sailors, Marines and civilians and viewed surface, subsurface and aviation assets.**

## SECNAV

*(continued from front page)*

Secretary Braithwaite wrapped up his visit to Region Southeast with a tour of the Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) training facility on board NS Mayport. He then met with Sailors and leadership aboard the Freedom-class littoral combat ship USS Sioux City (LCS 11) and the Arleigh Burke-class guided missile destroyer USS Carney (DDG 64).

"Having the secretary take time out of his busy schedule to talk with deckplate Sailors was exceptional and speaks volumes about his leadership," said Religious Program Specialist 1st Class Melinda Greene. "It gives us an opportunity to raise questions about issues we may be having and even provide solutions. Our Navy has some of the most innovative thinkers, and to be able to share those ideas with great leaders such as the Secretary of the Navy makes a world of difference. Raising awareness to the bigger picture issues such as diversity, education, and opportunity to excel in our careers spoke volumes of his agenda and left a lasting impact on the Sailors here."

Rear Adm. Gary Mayes, 41st commander, Navy Region Southeast emphasized the installation's support for their tenant commands.

"We are excited to have Secretary Braithwaite visit the Southeast and the opportunity to display the capabilities and dedication of our installation teams. We take great pride in our ability to provide the infrastructure, first-class facilities, personnel support and materials to our operational partners - on-time, within budget and without fail," Mayes stated.





**Kristin Riddle**  
Community Recreation Director

# Senior Civilian of the Quarter announced

**By Kaylee LaRocque,**  
NAS Jax Public Affairs Officer

Kristin Riddle, Community Recreation director for Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR), has been selected as the Naval Air Station (NAS) Jacksonville Senior Civilian of the Quarter (2nd Quarter).

A native of Minneapolis, Riddle earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Recreation Management from Indiana University. She completed her college internship with MWR at Naval Submarine Base, Kings Bay, Georgia.

“My first real job was working as the sports and aquatics coordinator at NAS Kingsville, Texas,” said Riddle. “I then moved to Naval Station Mayport as the Community Center special events and training manager.”

In September 2017, Riddle transferred to NAS Jacksonville where she oversees multiple MWR programs including Community Recreation rentals, Liberty, Tickets and Travel, Freedom Lanes Bowling, River Cove Conference and Catering Center, and Special Events.

“Each day is different here,” said Riddle. “Most of my days involve managing staff and making sure

they have the tools and knowledge to do their jobs effectively. I love that we truly get to have an impact on our service members and their families. The smiles on faces at our events (even during COVID) are the absolute best! I also am lucky to work with an amazing group of professionals on a daily basis.”

Riddle was selected Senior Civilian of the Quarter for coordinating a “virtual storytime” for military children and the annual Summer Reading program. She also created a Cookies and Crafts drive-thru event and a virtual field trip to the Jacksonville Museum of Science and History.

“I am honored to be selected as Senior Civilian of the Quarter,” said Riddle. “I definitely would not be here without the efforts of my team. I am so grateful for each and every one of them. I am thankful for the entire MWR team for support, guidance, and for the things each person does on a daily basis to support our programs.”

When she’s not at work organizing events, Riddle loves being outside and participating in sporting events. She also enjoys spending time with her husband and 8-month-old son.

In the future, she plans to continue working for MWR and climb the ladder into a regional position.

# NAS Jax recognizes Junior Sailor and Blue Jacket of the Quarter

## Junior Sailor of the Quarter MA3 Karam Elzein



MA3 Karam Elzein of the Naval Air Station Jacksonville (NAS Jax) Security Department has been selected as the NAS Jax Junior Sailor of the Quarter (JSOQ) (3rd Quarter).

Elzein was born in Beirut, Lebanon and grew up in San Bernardino, California. He joined the Navy after graduating from high school because he wanted a better life for his family and to have a stable career.

As a master-at-arms, Elzein’s job is to protect personnel aboard the station and screen those entering the base at entry control points. “Maintaining alertness is crucial in my job field,” he said. “You always have to be prepared for the worse.”

Elzein is grateful for being recognized as JSOQ. “This is a great stepping stone for my 20-year career in the Navy. I would like to be in a position of leadership one day and being acknowledged will help in the process,” he said. “I would really like to thank my chain of command for giving me this opportunity.”

His future goals include becoming an officer, retiring with 20 years of naval service and eventually become a criminal justice professor.

## Blue Jacket of the Quarter MASN Anthony Johnson

MASN Anthony Johnson of the Naval Air Station Jacksonville (NAS Jax) Security Department has been selected as the NAS Jax Blue Jacket of the Quarter (3rd Quarter).

Johnson, a native of Oscoda, Michigan joined the Navy because he was working a “dead-end” job in a factory, had just gotten married and wanted better opportunities.

As a master-at-arms, Johnson patrols the station responding to emergency calls as needed, and stands gate sentry watches. “My job is to ensure the safety and protection of the installation, its assets, and personnel,” he said.

Johnson is appreciative on his recognition as Blue Jacket of the Quarter. “It’s nice to be recognized. I put 100 percent into everything I do every day. So it’s great that my efforts are noticed,” he said. “I would like to thank my wife for supporting my career, MAC Lang and MA1 Delacruz for their encouragement and guidance.”

In the future, Johnson plans to earn a Bachelor’s Degree in Business/Entrepreneurship. “I also hope to coach a soccer league and hopefully win a championship and own a sporting goods business,” said Johnson.





# NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center Jacksonville completes warehouse renovation

By Jessica McClanahan

Naval Supply Systems Command

NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center (FLC) Jacksonville Commanding Officer, Capt. William H. Clarke, cut a ribbon on newly renovated warehouse spaces at Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Aug. 6.

The small ceremony marked a big milestone for the 80 year old warehouse located on the flight line in building 110.

Much of building 110 has served as a warehouse facility for various tenant commands, with a small portion of office space dedicated to NAVSUP FLC Jacksonville's headquarters. The \$3.5M renovation began after the completion of the Material Exploratory Pilot Program (MEPP) in which NAVSUP FLC Jacksonville personnel worked to



Photo by Jessica McClanahan

**NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center Jacksonville Commanding Officer Capt. William Clarke, center, cuts a ceremonial ribbon to mark the completion of a \$3.5M warehouse renovation at NAS Jacksonville, Aug. 6.**

clear the warehouse and successfully recapitalized more than \$280M in repairable material.

The spaces will soon be home to another NAVSUP FLC Jacksonville pilot program; one that will warehouse Not Ready for Issue (NRFI) parts that are historically managed by Defense Logistics Agency (DLA).

Addressing the team that oversaw renovations and will carry the new project forward, Clarke stated, "This new program aims to demonstrate how technology can improve audit readiness, lower management costs, and increase fleet lethality

using RFID tagging and robotics; it will mark the beginning of a new era in naval logistics."

NAVSUP FLC Jacksonville is one of eight FLCs under Commander, NAVSUP. Headquartered in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, and employing a diverse, worldwide workforce of more than 22,500 military and civilian personnel, NAVSUP's mission is to provide supplies, services, and quality-of-life support to the Navy and joint warfighter.

Learn more at [www.navsup.navy.mil](http://www.navsup.navy.mil), [www.facebook.com/navsup](https://www.facebook.com/navsup) and <https://twitter.com/navsupsyscom>.

# USS Nitze interdicts millions in drugs

from U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command / U.S. 4th Fleet

The Arleigh Burke-Class Destroyer USS Nitze (DDG 94) with embarked U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Law Enforcement Detachment (LEDET) seized 82 kilograms of suspected cocaine and 2,961 pounds of suspected marijuana, July 29.

While on routine patrol, the go fast vessel was spotted and Nitze was vectored in for a long-range intercept. Upon interception, Nitze deployed one of her helicopters, assigned to the "Jaguars" of Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron 60 (HSM 60), who observed the vessel jettisoning packages over the side. They continued to provide over watch and ensure compliance while the embarked LEDET on Nitze and small boats arrived to achieve positive control of the GFV. The vessel was searched and four suspected drug traffickers were detained.

Nitze and the embarked LEDET recovered a total of 82 kilograms of suspected cocaine worth over an estimated wholesale value of \$3.1M and 2,961 pounds of suspected marijuana



Photo by Ens. William Fong

**The Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Nitze (DDG 94) with embarked U.S. Coast Guard Law Enforcement Detachment team conducts enhanced counter narcotics operations, July 29.**

worth an estimated wholesale value of \$5.2M.

"This was a team effort," said Cmdr. Don Curran, USS Nitze Commanding Officer. "The support we received from our partners was imperative to this operation."

USS Nitze is deployed to the U.S. Southern Command area of responsibility to support enhanced counter drug operations, in the Caribbean and Eastern Pacific.

U.S. Southern Command began enhanced counter-narcotics operations in the Western Hemisphere to disrupt the flow of drugs in support of Presidential National Security Objectives. The operations began April 1.

Numerous U.S. agencies from the Departments of Defense, Justice and Homeland Security cooperated in the effort to combat transnational organized crime. The Coast Guard, U.S. Navy, Customs and Border Protection, FBI, Drug Enforcement Administration, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement, along with allied and international partner agencies, play a role in counter-drug operations.

U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command/U.S. 4th Fleet

supports U.S. Southern Command's joint and combined military operations by employing maritime forces in cooperative maritime security operations to maintain access, enhance interoperability, and build enduring partnerships in order to enhance regional security and promote peace, stability and prosperity in the Caribbean, Central and South American region.



# HSM-74 returns home from deployment

By Kaylee LaRocque

NAS Jax Public Affairs Officer

The Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron (HSM) 74 “Swamp Foxes” returned home to Naval Air Station (NAS) Jacksonville Aug. 7 after a seven-month deployment to 5th Fleet. The squadron departed NAS Jacksonville on Jan. 8 for pre-deployment exercises with Carrier Strike Group Ten aboard USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69), USS San Jacinto (CG 56), USS James E. Williams (DDG 95), and USS Truxtun (DDG 103).

The battle group spent a record-breaking 206 days at sea without a port visit due to the coronavirus (COVID) pandemic.

Throughout the deployment, HSM-74 aircrew performed surveillance, strike coordination, intelligence, and reconnaissance capabilities providing situational awareness for strike group warfare commanders.

“I couldn’t be more proud of the Swamp Fox team and our families. Each member executed their critical functions in a zero-fail environment, and all without a port call due to the global pandemic,” said Cmdr. Daniel Murphy, HSM-74 commanding officer. “Our pilots and aircrew deterred aggression around the globe while our maintainers and other support personnel completed crucial but monotonous tasks with daily excellence. During this time of national turmoil, our nation and our community should take pride in these exceptional men and women who have proven their resiliency. I am proud to be part of this squadron and humbled to lead them.”

Family and friends, who were social distanced in the hangar, welcomed the Swamp Foxes home as the helicopters flew in formation over NAS Jacksonville before landing on the flight line.

For Aviation Electrician’s Mate 2nd Class Bryan McLeod coming home to his family was wonderful but he knew it was going to be quite a bit different with all the COVID restrictions.

“I’m excited to be home but am going to have to get used to a whole new way of life,” he said. “It was a very long deployment but we were kept quite busy. It was definitely a lot harder than my last deployment but we got the job done.”



Photo by MC2(SW/IW) Nick A. Grim

**AO3 Cory Golden embraces his daughter, Carter, while his significant other, Cecily Fontenot looks on, following Golden’s return from a seven-month deployment with HSM-74 at NAS Jacksonville, Aug. 9.**



Photo by Kaylee LaRocque

**AM2 Victor Torres of HSM-74, is welcomed home by his wife Lashai, and daughters Kimvella, 2, and 4-month old Kali after returning to NAS Jacksonville from a seven-month deployment to 5th Fleet, Aug. 9.**



Courtesy photo

**SN Olga Kozak displays her naturalization certificate upon becoming a United States citizen following her United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Naturalization Ceremony, Aug. 20.**

## NAS Jax Sailor achieves dream to become U.S. citizen

From Staff

A Ukrainian-born U.S. Navy Sailor fulfilled a lifetime dream Aug. 20 when she became U.S. citizen. SN Olga Kozak of Naval Air Station Jacksonville, raised her right hand to take the Oath of Allegiance at a U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Naturalization Ceremony.

“To serve in the Navy was one of my childhood dreams. I always wanted to serve and protect, and travel the world,” Kozak said.

While in her third year of college studies in her home country, Kozak filled out a Green Card application. With only a few months left to finish her degree the following year, she left her country.

“It was one of the happiest days of my life. It’s sort of like a lottery - you fill out an application and a computer picks a few names out of thousands of applicants and somehow I won,” she said.

Despite the huge differences between the U.S. and her home country, Kozak has had an easy time settling in her new home.

“It’s going to sound weird, but I feel like I belong here. Becoming a citizen means the world

to me,” she said.

When Kozak first joined the Navy she wanted to become an aviation machinist’s mate, but due to delays to attend recruit training, she became an undesignated seaman. Now that she is a U.S. citizen, Kozak said she is looking forward to joining other Americans during the election in November. Some of her favorite things about the U.S. include how it is a huge melting pot with many different cultural backgrounds, and all the different food choices.

“I’m a huge foodie, so I love that the U.S. has so many different cuisines here. What I miss the most about my home country is my family and my mom’s cooking,” Kozak said.

One thing Kozak said she wished people knew about those who immigrate to the U.S. is to remember everyone who comes here is just trying to make a better life for themselves and their families. Her advice to anyone who is interested in becoming a U.S. citizen is to have patience and remember your goals.

“The process of becoming a citizen can take awhile, but it’s worth it,” she said. “So don’t ever give up.”



# New tobacco regulations and resources

By Hugh Cox

Navy and Marine Corps Public Health Center

With the recent changes in legislation making it illegal for retailers to sell tobacco products to those under age 21, the Navy and Marine Corps Public Health Center (NMCPHC) is leveraging its tobacco cessation resources to help Sailors and Marines become tobacco free.

Service members must now be 21 to purchase any type of tobacco product including e-cigarettes or vapes, at all installations and facilities in the U.S., its territories and possessions and on Navy ships in U.S. ports.

The legislation, known as "Tobacco 21" (or T21), was enacted Dec. 20, 2019 and went into effect on military installations in the U.S. on Aug. 1, 2020. T21 makes it illegal for a retailer to sell any tobacco product—including cigarettes, cigars, and e-cigarettes—to anyone under 21. The new federal minimum age of sale applies to all retail establishments and persons with no exceptions, including military personnel.

The goal of this law is to decrease tobacco use by targeting age groups when most people start using tobacco. For Sailors and Marines who are impacted by the law and ready to quit, NMCPHC is ramping up its efforts to promote tobacco cessation resources and tools available to service members. This includes counseling and medication available through your MTF, BAS and ships, as well as a 24/7 live chat service and resources available through the DOD's YouCanQuit2 campaign. This information and

more can be found on the NMCPHC Tobacco Free Living page.

"If you use tobacco, consider quitting," said Dr. Mark Long, NMCPHC Public Health Educator and Tobacco Cessation Program Manager. "No matter your age, it is never too early or too late to quit smoking, spitting or vaping. The health effects are immediate and a result of quitting, you'll save money and reduce your risk of some negative health outcomes later in life."

According to Long, resources are also available for health promoters, health care providers, supervisors and others that provide support to tobacco users looking to quit the addiction.

"There are many reasons to quit tobacco. Find your reason, and check out the many resources, programs and tools available to help you become tobacco free. You don't have to go this alone," said Long.

"Tobacco use is one of the hardest habits to kick, I know from past personal experience" said NMCPHC Command Master Chief Joseph Dennis. "Preventing Sailors and Marines from establishing this addiction and assisting those who are ready to quit makes us a more ready force and reduces death and illnesses due to cancer and other tobacco associated diseases. Quitting isn't easy, but it's always a good time to quit tobacco."

For more information on tobacco cessation, visit NMCPHC's Tobacco Free Living Pages at: <https://www.med.navy.mil/sites/nmcpHC/health-promotion/tobacco-free-living/Pages/Tobacco-ForYouSelfHelp.aspx>.

Additional resources are also available through YouCanQuit2: <https://www.ycq2.org/>.

## Commissaries continue roll-out of new curbside pickup program

By Rick Brink

DeCA Public Affairs Specialist

CLICK2GO, the Defense Commissary Agency's online ordering/curbside pickup grocery service, returned Aug. 4 to the Fort Lee Commissary in Virginia following a yearlong absence.

"We're pleased to be back to provide this service that's become especially popular as we all cope with the COVID-19 pandemic," said Willie Watkins, DeCA's eBusiness chief. "More and more people like being able to shop online and pick up their groceries without having to go inside a store."

In September 2013, the Fort Lee Commissary became the first store to offer curbside pickup under a pilot program that included two other commissaries. DeCA discontinued that program in June 2019 to make way for a new CLICK2GO, as the agency rolled out its new Enterprise Business System to stores. Fort Lee is now the sixth store to offer the new service, and five more commissaries are slated to get it later this year.

Using curbside pickup is a straight-forward process. Authorized commissary shoppers access the system via the agency's customer portal, MyCommissary (<https://commissaries.com/rewards-and-savings/mycommissary>). An initial sign-up is required the first time patrons access MyCommissary. Patrons can also learn more about CLICK2GO (<https://www.commissaries.com/shopping/click-2-go>) on Commissaries.com.

Once in CLICK2GO, patrons select from commissary products offered online based on the store's stock assortment. After products are selected, the patron selects a pickup time and completes the checkout process. The only thing left to do is arrive at curbside at the appointed time, and pay. Commissary workers will load the groceries in the shopper's car and they will be on their way.

Fort Lee's CLICK2GO customers won't be charged a service fee through August and into the first week of September as part of an introductory offer. Beginning Sept. 8, a \$4.95 service fee will be applied for each order, as it is at all curbside pickup locations.

"Our customers are keenly interested in CLICK2GO since it all started here," said store director Margaret Camacho. "Now we're ready to once



Photo by Keith DuBois

**Commissary associate Michelle Buczynski processes a CLICK2GO order for NAS Oceana Command Master Chief Lee Salas in the parking lot of the NAS Oceana Commissary.**

again let them enjoy shopping online and picking up their orders without having to go inside the store, which is something that really appeals to families with young children."

The curbside program is also offered in Virginia at Fort Eustis, Naval Air Station (NAS) Oceana, Marine Corps Base Quantico and Fort Belvoir. It's also available at the McGuire Air Force Base (AFB) Commissary New Jersey, part of the Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst community.

In the other five stores where it's offered, CLICK2GO has seen a huge increase in customers during the COVID-19 pandemic, and the startup at the Fort Lee Commissary is just the latest part of an ongoing expansion of the service, Watkins said.

Barring any unforeseen issues, the agency plans to roll out the service to five more commissaries this year, and there are plans to expand it to considerably more stores over the next two years, said Watkins.

The five stores scheduled to receive the service later this year are: Fort Polk, Louisiana; NAS Jacksonville, Florida; Offutt AFB, Nebraska; Minot AFB, North Dakota; and Charleston AFB, South Carolina. The number of stores and locations to get the service in 2021 haven't been announced.

DeCA operates 236 commissaries worldwide. Not all stores will receive the service. A variety of factors, including sales and transactions, existing infrastructure and demographics are considered to determine if a commissary is suitable for CLICK2GO.



# Navy Reserve Announces Detailing Marketplace for Enlisted Reserve Force Billets and Assignments

**By Lt. Adam Demeter**  
CNRFC Deputy Public Affairs Officer

Commander, Navy Reserve Forces Command (CNRFC) announces MyNavy Assignment, a “detailing marketplace” for all enlisted Sailors, is now available to the Navy Reserve Force.

MyNavy Assignment replaces the Career Management System – Interactive Detailing (CMS-ID) and delivers a modern interface and user-friendly experience for Reserve Sailors to manage their career.

“We’ve listened to what Sailors are asking for an integrated those capabilities into MyNavy Assignment,” said Capt. Claudia Macon, team lead for the MyNavy HR Reserve Transformation initiative at CNRFC. “Sailors can now expect more options, greater career flexibility, and increased transparency when navigating through the detailing process.”

The capabilities featured in MyNavy Assignment strengthens the relationship between the Sailor and their Command Career Counselor. Sailors can view eligible jobs, bookmark, apply, communicate with their Command Career Counselor and track the entire process in one location.

MyNavy Assignment features a ‘MyResume’ tab and by keeping it updated with previous assignments, skills, qualifications, and education, Sailors can better position themselves for a billet they are interested in filling.

The Sailor Application Lifecycle Tracker (SALT) notifies Sailors who need to apply for billets, provides confirmation after a Sailor applies for a billet, displays the release phases of pending orders, and notifies a Sailor when they are selected for orders. If Sailors are not in the window to apply for orders, the SALT tracker will not be available.

“The entire process is at your fingertips,” said Master Chief Michelle Lang, Senior Enlisted Leader for Enlisted Assignments at CNRFC. “Sailors are able to market themselves for any billet they’re eligible to fill, and if they aren’t selected, the decision-making process is now accessible for all to see.”

During the Command Ranking Phase, Operational Support Officers and unit command leadership make comments and rank the Sailor’s applications for their billets. Sailors are now able to see these comments and if not selected, can use the tools in the ‘MyResume’ tab to fill any gaps in their record for the next application

cycle. Additionally, Projected Rotation Date (PRD) modifications are now routed through Unit Command Leadership for their review prior to CNRFC action.

MyNavy Assignment also expands the detailing window and provides greater visibility by generating jobs that are closed during an application cycle. This allows Sailors to chart their career path, determine what skill sets are required for desired jobs, and become competitive for those jobs in the future.

“This new tool has everything a Sailors needs to ensure they’re hitting their career milestone requirements, but also opens the aperture for new and exciting possibilities,” said Master Chief Eric Dusenbery, Senior Enlisted Leader for the MyNavy HR Reserve Transformation initiative at CNRFC. “I encourage every Sailor to take advantage of this application, build their resume and apply for jobs that will take them to the next level.”

MyNavy Assignment is accessible via the ‘Assignment’ link on MyNavy Portal (<https://my.navy.mil>). Find the link on either the ‘Quick Links’ tab or the Assignment, Leave & Travel (ALT) Career & Life Event (CLE) section. A “What’s New For You” is also available through your Command Career Counselor to help familiarize yourself with the new features and capabilities.

**Wolfson Children's Hospital** | **THE PLAYERS**  
Center for Child Health

## Back to School

Do	Don't
Wear a face mask.	Sneeze into your hands. Instead, use a tissue or sleeve, if necessary.
Wash hands frequently.	Share pens, pencils, books, musical instruments, utensils, food or drinks.
Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer when handwashing is not possible.	Hug, high-five or touch other students. Keep as much distance as possible.
Immediately throw out tissues after use.	Touch unnecessary surfaces.
Bring a water bottle that no one else may use.	Forget about transportation. Make sure your child is wearing a mask on the bus or in the carpool, along with all other occupants of the vehicle (if appropriate).
Stay home from school while sick.	
Take daily asthma medication (if asthmatic).	

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# MISSION CRITICAL

Make it Your Mission to Save Lives

## DONATE BLOOD

Sept. 16 and 17 - 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
at Dewey's

*\*If you tested positive and have fully recovered from COVID-19 for at least 2 weeks, your blood can help fight the virus in those who are hospitalized!*

Appointments are encouraged. You can schedule online at [www.militarydonor.com](http://www.militarydonor.com), search code NASJAX

#SUPPORTTHEWARFIGHTER

**ASBP**  
Armed Services Blood Program

Eligible donors will receive a \$25 e-gift card. For more info, call 706-787-1014 or 3234.



## NAS Jax MWR hosts back-to-school drive-thru event



Courtesy photos

A stilt-walker and a juggler were on-hand to provide entertainment during a back-to-school drive-thru event at NAS Jacksonville, Aug. 7. The event was hosted by the NAS Jax Morale, Welfare and Recreation department.



A member of Morale, Welfare and Recreation speaks with a drive-thru patron during a back-to-school drive-thru event at NAS Jacksonville, Aug. 7.



Volunteers with Morale, Welfare and Recreation give drive-thru patrons a bag with crafts, reading supplies and more during a back-to-school drive-thru event at NAS Jacksonville, Aug. 7.

### Dine on the Go

Order to go meals from Mulligan's between 6:30 a.m. - 5:15 p.m. every day. Download the Dine on the Go Jacksonville app or visit <https://www.dineonthegojacksonville.com/> to place your order.

### Navy MWR ESPORTS

Be part of the upcoming Navy MWR ESPORTS Tournaments! Top winners receive gift cards. Cheer on Sailors & friends from around the world as they compete in Navy MWR ESPORTS events! Visit <https://www.navymwr.org/programs/esports> to learn more.

### Navy MWR Digital Library

Offers thousands of free resources, including printable activity sheets, feature films, music, hobbies & crafts, concerts, e-books, audio

books, documentaries, ancestry records, repair manuals & so much more! Open 24/7/365. Visit <https://www.navymwr.digitallibrary.org> to register.

### Navy MWR at Home

Stay active. Stay informed. Stay connected. Navy MWR compiled a list of resources to help keep you busy & entertained while you are home. Explore fitness activities & resources, daily surprise videos from musicians, comedians, magicians & other entertainers, recipes in the cooking section, or travel the world virtually through online content from museums, theme parks, & historic sites. Visit <https://www.navymwr.org/navy-mwr-at-home/> to discover more.

## NAS Jax begins reopening on-base facilities



Photo by Julie M. Lucas

Sailors receive haircuts at the reopened NAS Jax Barber Shop, Aug. 26.

### Fitness Center and Outdoor Pavillion

Active-duty and Reservists only. Mon-Thurs: 5-8 a.m., 9 a.m.-1 p.m., 2-7 p.m. Friday: 5-8 a.m., 9 a.m.-1 p.m., 2-6 p.m. Sat-Sun: 7 a.m.-1 p.m. Max of 50 people in Fitness Center, max of 15 people in the outdoor pavillion area, max of 10 people in locker rooms. Face masks required and mandatory temperature checks upon entry; masks may be removed during exercise.

### Mulberry Cove Marina

Monday: 8 a.m.-3 p.m.; Thurs-Sun.: 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Max of 8 people in retail area. Rentals permitted for kayaks, canoes, stand up paddleboards, surfboards, charcoal cookers and ice chests only. Face masks required and mandatory temperature checks upon entry.

### Navy Exchange Services

Face masks required at all locations

#### Barber Shop

Active-duty and Reservists only. Mon-Sat: 7:15 a.m.-6:30 p.m., Sunday: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. No appointment necessary. Call 904-777-7228

#### Dry Cleaning

Mon-Fri: 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Sat: 10 a.m.-2 p.m., closed Sunday.

#### Tailoring

No appointment necessary. Mon-Fri: 8 a.m.-7 p.m., closed on weekends.

#### Optical

Mon-Fri: 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., closed Sunday.



Photo by MC2 (SW/IW) Nick A. Grim

ETSN Thomas West, of Mobile Tactical Operations Center 1, lifts weights at the reopened NAS Jax Fitness Center, Aug. 27.