# NAS Jacksonville holds Change of Command



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

Capt. Jeff Hill makes opening remarks upon taking command of Naval Air Station (NAS) Jacksonville to his family, Commander Navy Region Southeast Rear Adm. Gary Mayes, and the rest of the NAS Jacksonville team watching online during the Change of Command ceremony, April 9.

### By Kaylee LaRocque

NAS Jax Public Affairs Officer

Capt. Brian Weiss relinquished command of Naval Air Station Jacksonville (NAS Jax) to Executive Officer Capt. Jeffrey Hill during a change of command ceremony, April 9. Rear Adm. Gary Mayes, commander, Navy Region Southeast (CNRSE) was the guest speaker.

"I think the fact that we are conducting this change of command with little more than the key players, goes to show the adaptability and flexibility of the NAS Jax team," said Rear Adm. Gary Mayes, CNRSE. "Captain Weiss, your tenure at NAS Jacksonville has been marked by success after success. You have made an impact here and you will be missed."

"Captain Hill, I know you are the most excited person here today and I congratulate you on this significant career milestone!" said Mayes. "You bring an impressive record of accomplishments, and I have every confidence that you will provide the leadership and expertise required in the months ahead.

The station's 110 tenant commands including 16 squadrons, thousands of civilians and Sailors, along with their families, benefitted from Weiss' steadfast leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic. His continuous coordination with Navy Region Southeast, Naval Hospital Jacksonville, and community leadership ensured the health and safety, force preservation, and operational readiness of base personnel.

Under his charge, the Navy's Master Antisubmarine Warfare base flourished, conducting over 170,000 flight operations in support of six strike group pre-deployment exercises and fleet operations.

Weiss masterfully ensured the largest installation in the Navy Region Southeast, and third-largest in the Navy, delivered the most effective and efficient readiness from the shore by setting the highest standards of excellence — in all areas of business enhancements, innovation, quality of life, quality of service, and support. This is evident with the station



Photo by AN Nick Davis

Naval Air Station (NAS) Jacksonville's new Commanding Officer Capt. Jeff Hill salutes Capt. Brian Weiss NAS Jacksonville departing Commanding Officer during a Change of Command ceremony, April 9.

being recognized as the top naval air station for the third consecutive year by Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) during the 2020 Installation Excellence Award competition.

"It's been the highlight of my career to command NAS Jax. I leave the command with a deep sense of pride, satisfaction, and gratitude in the work we've accomplished these last few years," said Weiss. "My goals when I took command were simple – to challenge our perspectives and methods while at the same time giving NAS Jax your level best. The desired effect was to continue growing as an organization with a sense of urgency, providing the highest levels of customer service for the fleet, warfighter and family. And let me say this, as I have many times in the past, the men and women of NAS Jax delivered at every turn."

Weiss will transfer to Navy Region Southeast until a later retirement date. Hill spent his formative years at military installations in Germany, Colorado, and North Carolina. He received his commission through Officer Candidate School at NAS Pensacola, Florida. Hill holds a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from the University of Northern Colorado and a Master of Science degree in International Relations from Troy University.

He was designated an unrestricted naval aviator in March 1999 and has flown MH-60R and SH-60B Seahawk helicopters throughout his career.

Hill's operational assignments include division officer and detachment officer-in-charge/department head tours with the Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light (HSL) 44 "Swamp Foxes" aboard USS Simpson (FFG-56), USS Underwood (FFG-36), USS Doyle (FFG-39), and USS Oscar Austin (DDG-79) flying in support of operations with USS George Washington (CVN-73), USS John F. Kennedy (CV-67), USS Harry S. Truman (CVN-75) strike groups.

(Continued on Page 2)

# NAS Jax TPU/PFC Sailor named "Corrections Professional of Year"



By Julie M. Lucas **Deputy Public Affairs Officer** 

A Naval Air Station Jacksonville (NAS Jax) Sailor was recently selected by Navy Personnel Command (NPC) for a Navywide award. NAS Jax Transient Personnel Unit/Pre-Trial Confinement Facility (TPU/PFC)'s ABF1 (AW/SW/IW) De'Asmen I. Cobb was named 2021 American Correctional **Association Military Corrections Committee** 

Corrections Professional of the Year. "I had no idea I was even being put in for this award," Cobb said. "I performed my duties in my normal fashion and did not do anything differently to win or to make myself more competitive. Everyone in the corrections department has a great work ethic and we always motivate each other to be successful."

Some of the highlights from Cobb's package include duties such as leading petty officer, funds and valuables custodian, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response victim advocate and Prison Rape Elimination Act program manager. Additionally Cobb is the senior training officer and developed her own training plan to ensure 100 percent mission readiness. Cobb implemented a quarterly Brig Duty Officer town hall meeting to communicate directly with leadership and foster an environment encouraging problem and solution conversations.

While serving as departmental career counselor, she facilitated more than 30 required Career Developmental Boards, which resulted in seven reenlistments, five advancements and two commissioning packages.

In a message from Corrections and Programs Office of NPC Director Timothy Purcell said, "ABF1 Cobb edged out the competition with exceptional professionalism, leadership and significant contributions to the Navy Corrections program. Her performance of duty, leadership, mentorship of fellow service members, contributions to community service, and investment in self-improvement, reflect well on both herself and the military corrections profession." For Cobb, learning the news was very exciting for

many reasons. "I was honestly shocked when my commanding officer told me I was selected for the award," she said. "I was also notified I was board eligible for chief petty officer on the same day, so it was very emotional and I cried tears of joy.'

Cobb is staying motivated to keep going in her career. She plans to join the training and mentor teams, using her experience to ensure TPU/PCF has "the most technically adept Sailors in the fleet." She also plans to become fully qualified in her rating and advance to senior chief or limited duty officer by the end of her tour.

"This award was a great individual accomplishment; however, my highest gratification has come from watching my Sailors succeed," she said. "It was a great honor to mentor, train and lead Sailors who prioritize excellence." According to Cobb, the award confirmed she is "moving the right direction" and even though NAS Jax TPU/ PCF is a small facility, you can stand out among your peers. "The significance behind her selection was that we are a small facility that normally holds 30-day post-trial prisoners prior to them being transferred to a larger long term facility," said Shannon Bloodworth. "She competed against her peers throughout the Corrections program for the entire Navy."

Cobb credits great mentors in the past and keeps a piece of advice given to her. "CMC Wilson mentioned something during an All Hands Call that resonated with me, 'Leave the command better than we found it.' I kept that with me and worked every day to find ways to improve the command," she said.

# Lommand

(Continued from Page 1)

He served as squadron Seahawk weapons and tactics instructor for the HSL-46 "Grandmasters" flying post-Hurricane Katrina rescue missions in New Orleans. Hill served the men and women of Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron (HSM) 48, first as their executive officer and then as the 21st commanding officer of Viper Nation - a tour which culminated in the squadron winning the 2016 Battle Efficiency Award.

His shore assignments include: plank owner of Helicopter Maritime Strike Weapons School, Atlantic, serving as the Anti-Submarine Warfare and Beartrap (CNO Project K-416) officer and Armed Helicopter and Night Vision Programs officer; assistant Washington placement officer (PERS-441A), Navy Personnel Command; assistant deputy director for Operations and Global Strike advisor, Joint Chiefs of Staff (J3); and deputy division chief, Warfighter Naval Air Station Jacksonville (NAS Jax) Commanding Officer Capt. Integration and Navy Senior Service advisor, Joint Chiefs of Staff (J2). In October 2019, Hill assumed the duties of executive officer for NAS Jax. Taking over as the NAS Jax executive officer is Capt. Marcos Cantu.



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

Brian Weiss, right, listens to remarks from Commander, Navy Region Southeast, Rear Adm. Gary Mayes during the NAS Jax Change of Command Ceremony, April 9.

**Commanding Officer** Capt. Jeff Hill

**Executive Officer** Capt. Marcos Cantu

**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

**Contributing Writer** AN Nick Davis

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



# FIRST COAST FIR

Firefighter Matthew Hansen of First Coast Navy Fire and Emergency Services, right, explains some of the controls on the fire department's ladder truck to Commander, Navy Installations Command Vice Adm. Yancy Lindsey during his visit to Naval Air Station Jacksonville, April 29.

# CNIC visits NAS Jax

# Photos by Kaylee LaRocque

Commander, Navy Installations Command Vice Adm. Yancy Lindsey and Force Master Chief (SW) Gregory Vidaurri spent the afternoon of April 29 touring Naval Air Station Jacksonville to gain perspective on how base personnel support the fleet and military families.



Military Working Dog (MWD) Handler Master-at-Arms 1st Class James Jones discusses some of the training and taskings the MWD handlers and K9s participate in with Force Master Chief (SW) Gregory Vidaurri during his visit to Naval Air Station Jacksonville, April 29.



Commander, Navy Installations Command Vice Adm. Yancy Lindsey learns about the care of military working dogs (MWD) from Army Veterinarian Maj. Sean Curry and MWD handlers at the Naval Air Station Jacksonville Security Department, April 29.



Commander, Navy Installations Command Vice Adm. Yancy Lindsey, left, talks with CS2 Nadya Fenner and AC1 Kody Dannelley about their future goals in the Navy during lunch at the Naval Air Station Jacksonville Flight Line Cafe, April 29.



Fleet Master Chief (SW) Gregory Vidaurri, right, discusses galley operations with CS2 Shaquille Bellgarner, left, as Lt. Julian Stuart, Commander, Navy Installations Command protocol officer, listens in at the Naval Air Station Jacksonville Flight Line Cafe, April 29.



### Capt. Marcus Cantu

# Getting to know NAS Jax's new XO

### From NAS Jax Public Affairs

Twenty-four years ago, Naval Air Station Jacksonville (NAS Jax) Executive Officer (XO) Capt. Marc Cantu naturally gravitated towards a career in service of some kind being the child of a career firefighter and school teacher. His dream was always to fly, so serving in the military was great way to do both.

Cantu said one of his most fulfilling moments in his career thus far was being involved in the Navy's response to Hurricane Katrina in 2005. "Our disaster response was the most rewarding way for me to use the tools, and training this nation has provided in the service of our citizens," said Cantu.

As XO his intentions are to support our tenant commands, to ensure they are ready to complete the mission.

Cantu said, "I could not be more excited, and proud to have joined this exceptional NAS Jax team. I know our reputation as the best naval air station is well earned and I am excited to see what we can accomplish next!"

His hobbies when he finds time for them, include teaching Photo by AN Nick Davis himself how to play bass guitar, and he also enjoys playing video games.

# HSM-60 Sailors take part in Exercise Southern Strike 2021



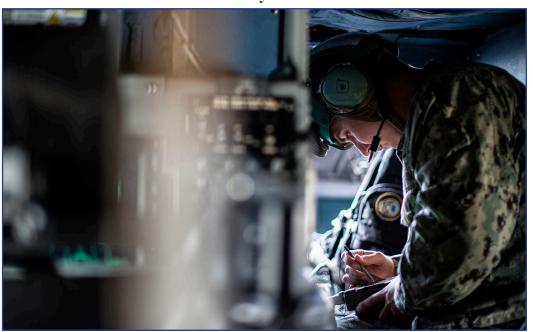
Photos by Tech. Sgt. Jon Alderman

Sailors from Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron 60 based at NAS Jacksonville, prepare a MH-60R Seahawk for launch as part of Exercise Southern Strike 2021 in Gulfport, Miss., April 18. Southern Strike is a large-scale, conventional and special operations exercise hosted by the Mississippi National Guard at the Gulfport Combat Readiness Training Center and is designed to maintain combat readiness, build relationships, strengthen interoperability and prepare for possible future contingency missions.

> A Sailor attached to the Naval Air Reserve Station in Jacksonville, Florida, prepare a MH-60R Seahawk helicopter for launch as part of Exercise Southern Strike at the Mississippi National Guard's Combat Readiness Training Center Gulfport, Miss., April 18.



AWS1 Jason Thompson, from the Naval Air Reserve Station in Jacksonville, Florida, engages targets with a .50 caliber machine gun aboard a MH-60R Seahawk helicopter over Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center as part of Exercise Southern Strike, April 18. Southern Strike is an annual training exercise hosted by the Mississippi National Guard to increase combat readiness across all branches of the U.S. Military.



# HSM-60 Sailors render aid to accident victim



Photo by A. Danielle Thomas

Southern Strike Exercise Director Col. Cindy Smith meets with, from left, AWR2 Jacob Dawson, AWR2 Steven Heyliger, and AWR2 Richard Maier of Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron 60, after the Sailors stopped to render aid to a motorcycle accident victim April 19 in Gulfport, Mississippi. Smith presented the Sailors with a commander's coin to thank them for their heroic efforts.

### **By Danielle Thomas**

Mississippi National Guard Public Affairs

Three U.S. Navy Sailors attached to Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron (HSM) 60, participating in military training at the Gulfport Combat Readiness Training Center, used their in-depth first aid training to become heroes in the local community. In mid-April, HSM-60 participated in the Mississippi National Guard's large-scale, joint and international military exercise called Southern Strike. AWR2 Richard Maier, AWR2 Steven Heyliger, and AWR2 Jacob Dawson are three Sailors of the squadron who assisted a citizen in need in Gulfport.

On April 19, at approximately 8:30 p.m., Maier, Heyliger, and Dawson went to dinner. On the drive back to their hotel, they noticed the headlights of a downed motorcycle behind a store building. When they turned the car around to take a closer look, they saw an unconscious man pinned under the motorcycle. Maier dialed 911 as they all rushed to help the victim.

"We all jumped out and rendered assistance immediately. We flipped that bike off of him," said Heyliger.

"We all joined primarily as Navy search and rescue swimmers which gives us basic first aid and emergency medical response training," said Meir. "Those are the kinds of skills that we've learned throughout the years that kind of kicked in when we got on the scene. That's what we used to help the guy."

Relying on an injury assessment process called MARCH; which inspects a patient for massive hemorrhage, airway control, respiratory support, circulation, hypothermia and head injury, Dawson, who worked as a first responder prior to joining the Navy five years ago, kept the victim's cervical spine aligned. When the victim regained consciousness, Dawson tried to keep the man talking and alert to prevent shock.

"Mostly just reassure him that help was on the way. I asked him his name, his date of birth, if he was on any medications, where does it hurt," said

Dawson. "So we could further gain more knowledge about what happened when he did crash. He said he got side swiped and ended up on the ground." Not long after a few passersby pulled over to help, the motorcycle, now sitting only feet away, caught fire. Without thought to his own personal

"I just rushed to the bike and immediately tried to pick it up and push it away," said Heyliger. "One of the bystanders knew how to turn off the fuel and we both pushed it away far enough to where it was a safe distance." Local first responders arrived on scene and transported the victim to the hospital.

safety, Heyliger sprang into action.

A few days later, Col. Cindy Smith, Southern Strike 2021 exercise director, presented the Sailors with coins from Mississippi National Guard Assistant Adjutant General Air Maj. Gen. Mike Nabors.

"I thought it was awesome that they would recognize us for that," said Heyliger. "Obviously, we went out there and we would have saved this guy's life without recognition anyway. Being recognized for it feels good."

The pride in the Sailors' heroic actions extends all of the way back to their home station in Jacksonville, Florida.

"We're incredibly proud of these three Sailors, not only for their quick reaction out on the scene, but as soon as they saw something wrong, they took care of it and immediately rendered aid," said Cmdr. Dan Jones, HSM-60 commanding officer. "Whether on duty or off duty, it's a clear example of not only the high level of training they have as first responders, but also their commitment to taking care of people. That's really what aircrew are all about. At the core of what an aircrewman is, it's about saving lives."

Dawson, Heyliger, and Maier encourage everyone to take the time to learn what to do in an emergency.

"Those basic skills, like getting some basic first aid and basic CPR knowledge, are good for anybody to get throughout their life because you never know when it will come into play."

# VP-30 to host Change of Command



VP-30 Outgoing Commanding Officer

# Capt. T.J. Grady

### From VP-30 Public Affairs

Patrol Squadron (VP) 30 will host a combined change of command and retirement ceremony at VP-30, May 27. The ceremony will honor Capt. T.J. Grady and welcome VP-30's new Commanding Officer Capt. Jonathan Spore.

Capt. William Pennington, director, Navy and Marine Corps Congressional Appropriations Matters Office and Capt. Erik Estenson, deputy director, Special Programs, Office of the Chief of the Naval Operations will be in attendance as the guest speakers for the change of command and to honor Grady's 26 years of naval service.

During Grady's 25-month tenure at the "Pro's Nest," he ensured all production goals were



VP-30 Incoming Commanding Officer

# Capt. Jonathan Spore

achieved while guiding three squadrons though transition to the P-8A Poseidon aircraft and the acceptance of the fleet model manager duties of the MQ-4C Triton Unmanned Aerial System. His efforts were critical to the fleet introduction of the advanced airborne sensor to three squadrons and training of the first 25 air-to-air refueling pilots, ensuring operational capability to forward deployed combined task force commanders.

Additionally, he led and provided oversight of the training for the first Royal New Zealand Air Force, Royal Air Force, and Royal Norwegian Air Force P-8A aircrews, establishing a standard of excellence that has drawn additional P-8A training requests from the Republic of Korea and Saudi Arabia.

As VP-30's role evolved to meet the dynamic needs of the community, it maintained its reputation for excellence in training and safety.

At the beginning of April 2021, under the Grady's command, VP-30 surpassed 554,034 class "A" mishap-free flight hours, receiving the 2019 and 2020 CNO Aviation Safety "S" Award. Additionally, VP-30 received the fiscal year 2020 Cmdr. Theodore G. Ellyson Production Excellence Award. The Ellyson Award is presented by the Chief of Naval Air Training to the Fleet Replacement Squadron with the top efficiency, ability to meet fleet requirements for production, time to train, and mitigation strategies to combat external resource or execution barriers if present.

Spore is a graduate of the United States Naval Academy class of 1997 where his journey began as a naval flight officer. He completed three operational tours with P-3 squadrons beginning with VP-5 in Jacksonville, Florida; VP-16 in Jacksonville, and most recently in command of VP-4 in Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii. He also served as the Operations administrative assistant aboard USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71).

In his shore assignments, Spore served as the assistant operations and weapons and tactics instructor on the staff of Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing 11; flag aide to Commander, Naval Air Force, Atlantic; Fleet Replacement Squadron training director and instructor at VP-30; deputy executive assistant to the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations, Integration of Capabilities and Resources (N8); staff officer assigned to the Deputy Director for Resources and Acquisition in the J-8 directorate of the Joint Staff; and as the assistant aviation captain detailer at Navy Personnel Command. Prior to returning for assumption of command at VP-30, Spore was assigned to the Operations and Plans directorate (N31) in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations.

With the ever-growing demand for maritime supremacy, VP-30 looks forward to sustaining their superb record of safety and production of the world's finest maritime aviators.





# NAS Jacksonville recognizes Sailors of the Quarter



# Senior Sailor of the Quarter Master-at-Arms 1st Class (EXW) James Jones

MA1 James Jones has been selected as the Naval Air Station Jacksonville (NAS Jax) Senior Sailor of the Quarter for the second quarter. A native of Brevard, North Carolina, Jones joined the Navy after he was bored with college and wanted to travel.

He has been in the Navy for eight years and has served at Bahrain, Dubai, Qatar, Yokosuka, Japan and here. He currently works at the Military Working Dog (MWD) kennel.

Jones said he is thankful that his department is so inspiring. "I'd like to thank my hard working Sailors at the MWD kennel, the security department and my senior leadership," he said.

His advice to be successful is to, "find a job in the Navy you are passionate about and try to be better at it everyday."

In his free time, Jones enjoys working out, mountain biking, golfing and training personal dogs.

# Sailor of the Quarter Culinary Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Nadya Fenner

CS2 Nadya Mary Fenner has been selected as the Naval Air Station Jacksonville (NAS Jax) Sailor of the Quarter for the second quarter. A native of Naguabo, Puerto Rico, Fenner spent half her life in the Bronx, New York. Her motivation to join the Navy was to give her children a better life. "I knew I was destined for great things and the Navy seemed like the perfect job for me."

She has been in the Navy for seven years and has served at Naval Station Mayport, HSM-41, USS Essex, Naval Station San Diego and here. She currently works at the Command Career Counselor office.

According to Fenner without her leadership she wouldn't have been chosen. "I would like to first thank NCC Bruzon and NC1 McCormick for seeing the potential in me and giving me this opportunity."

Her advice to fellow Sailors is to follow the three rules of life. "If you do not go for what you want, you'll never have it. If you don't ask the answer will always be no. If you do not step forward you'll always be in the same place."

In her free time, Fenner enjoys watching Spanish shows and cheering for the Atlanta Falcons and UGA football. In the future she is excited to return to visiting Disney World or pools with her children.



# Junior Sailor of the Quarter Boatswain's Mate 3rd Class (SW/AW) Daniel Makowski

BM3 Daniel Makowski has been selected as the Naval Air Station Jacksonville (NAS Jax) Junior Sailor of the Quarter for the second quarter. A native of Detroit, Michigan, Makowski joined the Navy to see the world.

He has been in the Navy for seven years and has served here and Naval Station San Diego. He currently works at the Boathouse Division.

Makowski credits his success to his co-workers. "I'd like to thank EN1 Rey, EM1 Manuel, BM2 Davenport, IC2 Byrd and EN1 Voroukoumanh."

His advice to fellow Sailors is remember the basics. "Show up on time in the right uniform, work your hardest and always have a positive attitude."

In his free time, Makowski enjoys working out and spending time with family.

# Blue Jacket of the Quarter Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Handling) 3rd Class (AW/SW) Makynna Hoskin

ABHAN Makynna Hoskin has been selected as the Naval Air Station Jacksonville (NAS Jax) Blue Jacket of the Quarter for the second quarter. A native of Kalamazoo, Michigan, Hoskin joined the Navy due to her deep patriotism and her life goal since the age of 11.

She has been in the Navy for four years and has served on the USS Iwo Jima and had temporary additional duty to the USS Wasp. She currently works in the NAS Jax Security Manager's Office.

Hoskin credits her success to her co-workers. "IT1 Andrew Caplinger is my biggest supporter and has pushed me to become a better Sailor," she said. "I'd also like to thank IT1 Ermine Bulls and IT1 Charlton Smith and Mr. Jerry Yost."

Her advice to fellow Sailors is to never give up. "No matter how many times you fall, stand back up and dust it off. Always move forward in every aspect of life in and out of the Navy."

In her free time, Hoskin enjoys being outside with her dog and son, trying new places and going on trips.



Members of the Blue Angels Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron congratulate one another on good flight from Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola to NAS Jacksonville, Apr, 7.



Photo by Kaylee LaRocque

Blue Angels Pilot #7 Lt. Julius Bratton gives the thumbs-up to Crew Chief Staff Sgt. Nathan Lyons before taking off with Naval Air Station Jacksonville Senior Sailor of the Year NC1 Sean McCormick, April 6.



Photo by AN Nick Davis

The U.S. Navy's Flight Demonstration Team, The Blue Angels fly over in The U.S. Navy's Flight Demonstration Team, The Blue Angels perform Diamond formation at Naval Air Station Jacksonville, April 7.

# Blue Angels Celebrate 75th Anniversary at NAS Jax

While the U.S. Navy's Flight Demonstration Team, The Blue Angels, were forced to cancel their 75th anniversary shows on military stations due to COVID-19, they visited Naval Air Station Jacksonville (NAS Jax), April 7-9. The Blue Angels came to NAS JAX to train and maintain their required flight proficiencies at previously scheduled show sites.

Despite the event not being open to the public, NAS Jax personnel and residents of Jacksonville were still able to get a view of the Blues and their impressive flight manuevers.



Photo by AN Nick Davis

The U.S. Navy's Flight Demonstration Team, The Blue Angels fly their new F/A-18 Super Hornets over Naval Air Station Jacksonville, April 7 during a practice session.



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

Blue Angels Crew Chief, Staff Sgt. Nathan Lyons, right, assists Naval Air Station Jacksonville (NAS Jax) Commanding Officer, Capt. Brian Weiss, with his helmet prior to Weiss riding with the Blue Angels during training at NAS Jax, April 7.



Photo by MC1 (SW/IW) Cory Rose

a Double Farvel over Naval Air Station Jacksonville, April 7.

## HSM-46 lands at new home aboard NAS Jax

By Julie M. Lucas,

NAS Jax Public Affairs Office

Helicopter Maritime Strike (HSM) Squadron 46 recently made the transition from its previous home base Naval Station (NS) Mayport and landed at Naval Air Station Jacksonville (NAS Jax). With the Navy expanding its operations, the "Grandmasters" have numerous reasons behind the move.

"Our reasons for moving to NAS Jax are two-fold - to facilitate HSM-50's stand-up in (Naval Station) Mayport. There was a need for space at Mayport for them and there was an open module for us to join our carrier-based (Carrier Air Wing CVW-7) sister squadrons at NAS Jax," said HSM-46 Commanding Officer Cmdr. Brandon Jenkins.

HSM-46 was established at NS Mayport April 7, 1988 as HSL-46. The squadron transitioned from the SH-60B "Bravo" to the MH-60R "Romeo" and was redesignated HSM-46 March 1, 2012. They are currently attached to CVW-7 and Carrier Strike Group (CSG) 10.

"Our motto is, 'Set the Standard,' and our command philosophy is, 'We are here for each other. Respect each other and help the team win," Jenkins said.

The squadron's nickname Grandmaster is a title bestowed on those who have achieved international standing in chess through tactical expertise and demonstrated competence. The professionals of HSM-46 claim to be dedicated to those same ideals and possess the same commitment to excellence, hence the squadron's insignia and nickname. According to the squadron history, the versatile knight chess piece, with its ability to execute moves in multiple dimensions, is symbolic of the tactical versatility of the MH-60R helicopter and aircrew to execute multiple missions. The eight-point star on the knight's shield represents the eight points of the compass and embodies HSM-46's ability to successfully execute missions anywhere in the world.

According to Jenkins, the more than 300 squadron members began settling nicely in their new spaces at the beginning of April.

"We find that NAS Jax is a very favorable location to be stationed. It's been nice to be working out of a base that is exclusively dedicated to aviation; to the air assets and squadrons here," Jenkins said.

The Grandmasters plan to continue their integration into CVW-7 and progress through their work-up cycles during FY21 and head into their first carrier deployment, attached to CSG-10 in 2022. To continue following their day-to-day accomplishments, they invite everyone to follow them on their social media pages on Facebook and on Instagram @46grandmasters.



Courtesy photos

The new sign outside HSM-46 work spaces at Hangar 1122 welcome the Sailors to their new work spaces at Naval Air Station Jacksonville.



HSM-46 Sailors unpack their items during a move to Naval Air Station Jacksonville earlier this month. Their move from Naval Station Mayport helped to created needed space, while joining together other squadrons working towards the same mission.

Photos by AN Nick Davis

Command Fitness Leader (CFL) trainees perform push-ups and a 1.5 mile run during CFL training at Naval Air Station Jacksonville, April 26.



# NAS Jax certifies newest command fitness leaders



Congratulations to NAS Jax' Newest Command Fitness Leaders

EM1 Sacy Bynoeburke ENCS Sylbert Daniel ITC Kivia Hammock ADC Michael Hardy ADC Matthew Ira OSC Byron Jones

YN1 Charles King
LT Vincent Maura
HMC Kenneth Ott
AOC Monique Bernard
AWS1 Megan Johnson-Lee
AWR2 Brittany Harrison

# FSU-5 holds Change of Charge

From FSU-5 Public Affairs

Cmdr. Michael Cassidy relieved Cmdr. John Cocca as the 15th officer in charge of Fleet Support Unit (FSU) 5, during a change of charge ceremony, April 8. Capt. Matthew Pottenburgh, Commodore of Patrol Reconnaissance Wing (CPRW) 11 presided over the ceremony.

Cassidy is a native of Randolph, Massachusetts. He graduated from Bridgewater State University in 1996, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Political Science. In 2010, he earned a Master of Science in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College.

He was commissioned in 1999 from Officer Candidate School in Pensacola, Florida and began his training to become a Naval Flight Officer (NFO). He obtained his Wings in 2001, earning the Alden C. Markey award as the top Navy student.

Cassidy reported to his initial operational assignment with the "Red Lancers" of Patrol Squadron (VP) 10 in Brunswick, Maine.

Designated an instructor NFO and mission commander he deployed twice to Sixth and Fourth Fleet in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom, and Caper Focus.

Other aviation assignments include a tour at FSU-5 where he served as a tactical officer



Cmdr. John Cocca

supporting Chief of Naval Operations special project missions overseas. His department head tour was with the "Mad Foxes" of VP-5, where he made deployments to Seventh and Fourth Fleet.

Cassidy served aboard USS George Washington as a tactical action officer and made the voyage from Norfolk, Virginia to Yokosuka, Japan, when the Washington became the first nuclear powered vessel assigned to the Forward Deployed Naval Force. He served as the N5 on



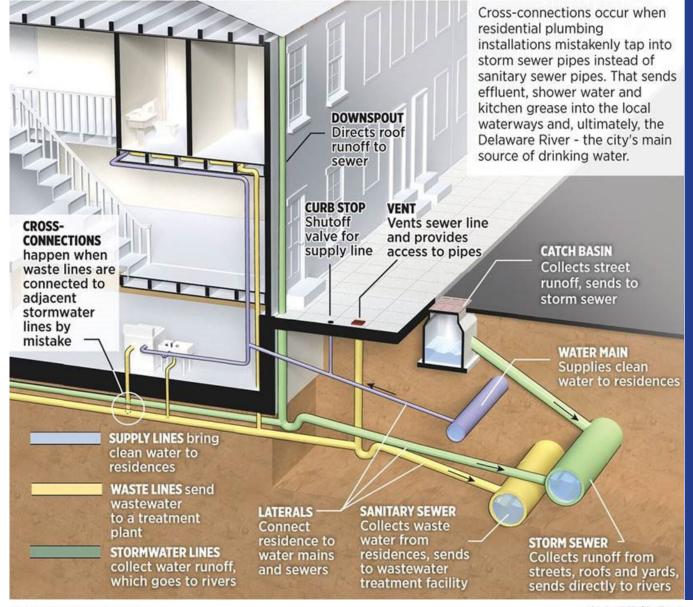
**Cmdr. Michael Cassidy** 

the staff of Commander, Naval Forces Korea and was instrumental in shaping the U.S. response to multiple North Korean missile and nuclear tests. He served twice as a member of the MOC Training Team where he provided planning support and operational certification to naval staffs around the world.

In his career, Cassidy has accumulated over 2,500 flight hours in both the P-3C and P-8A.

Cocca is transferring to VP-30 as the operations officer.

# **Cross-connections Send Wastewater to our Rivers**



In accordance with the NAS
Jacksonville Stormwater Municipal
Sector Storm Sewer Permit, the
installation must implement and
enforce an Illicit Discharge Detection
and Elimination Program.

In taking steps to satisfy this requirement, personnel will be conducting an Illicit Discharge Survey utilizing a tracer dye at 72 industrial facilities on the installation from April 19– May 21 to ensure wastewater drains within these buildings are not connected to the stormwater system.

Rest assured that the tracer dye being used during this study is environmentally safe.

If you happen to notice any fluorescent green or fluorescent orange dye released to the environment during this time period please contact the PWD Environmental Water Program Manager at 542-8129 or by email at: jonathon.colmer@navy.mil.

# Navy Region Southeast HR Director receives the Navy's Lifetime Achievement Award

**By Navy Region Southeast Public Affairs** 

The Navy Region Southeast Human Resources Director received an incredible honor when she was named the Department of the Navy's Human Resources – Equal Employment Opportunity Lifetime Achievement award recipient.

The Navy HR and EEO community awards program was established to recognize Navy employees for their accomplishments and contributions that resulted in exceptional improvement to services or practices in the HR and EEO community. There are 10 award categories with more than 100 nominations submitted.

Sarah Roberts earned recognition for her dynamic and effective 38-year career in federal service. Although she was aware of the nomination, winning the award was still unexpected.

"I was surprised...and very honored," she said. "There are so many great people and great leaders in the HR community, so I knew the competition would be tough."

Roberts began her federal career as a summer hire at Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay at the age of 16. From a GS-00 clerk, she worked her way across five federal agencies, 23 states, and 8 countries.

"Serving on the four overseas assignments in Korea and Japan are some of my favorite memories. Experiencing so many cultures



**Sarah Roberts** 

around the world has been an exciting aspect of my career."

She is currently a GS-15 HR Director as well as carrying the secondary title of Deputy Total Force Management Director at Navy Region Southeast. Previous leadership positions included: Director, Civilian Personnel Programs at Commander Navy Installations Command overseeing 122,000 customers with a \$47 million budget, Department Head and Head of Personnel Management Evaluations Division servicing 30,000 customers at Human Resources Service Center Southeast, Deputy EEO Officer to three U.S. Marine Corps Commanding Generals, and HR Director for two Navy regions.

Three Meritorious Civilian Service Awards, a Superior Civilian Service Award and numerous "Outstanding" performance awards attest to her skill and commitment to excellence. Roberts attributes her success to a great work ethic instilled in her by her mother, and great mentors and leaders throughout her career.

Although the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement award, her career is by no means over. She finds providing services to the Region, CNIC, and Navy missions "appealing" and has no plans to stop.

"I want to continue to provide the best possible service to our Navy team, and to mentor, coach and develop our workforce of the future," she emphasized.

Although only her most recent command, Roberts has established a high benchmark of success at Navy Region Southeast. She instituted some of the Region's first strategic workforce/succession planning initiatives for better advanced planning for the replacement of the workforce. The team's efforts significantly contributed to reducing the hiring timeline by 27% over a three-year period. Roberts also directed improvements in the EEO program and processes, which resulted in more expeditious processing of EEO cases reducing command liability by millions of dollars in potential sanctions. Additionally, she oversaw the HRO level development of over 30 HR interns providing talented and skilled professionals for the future of DON HR.

"Sarah's experience and innovation are impressive. She uses her extensive knowledge and background to bring unique solutions to workplace issues," Rear Adm. Gary Mayes, Commander, Navy Region Southeast said. "As a result, she's developed a well-trained, efficient team that significantly improved our processes and services throughout the region, a win both for the Region and, most importantly, our workforce. I know without a doubt that Sarah is most deserving of this recognition."



# **GO JUICE: TEAMWORK**

At a Midwestern fair, spectators gathered for an old-fashioned horse pull. This was an event where various weights are put on a horse-drawn sled and pulled along the ground.

The first-place horse pulled a sled with 4,000 pounds on it! The runner-up was close, pulling 3,900 pounds.

Following the event, some of the workers were curious as to how much weight the horses could pull if they were hitched together.

Separately, they totaled nearly 8,000 pounds, but when hitched and working as a team, they pulled over

11,000 pounds!

Teamwork requires courage, patience, forgiveness, listening, and trust

Working together as a team can provide greater results than if we chose to achieve goals as individuals.

Reverend Dr. Zachary C. Parker Chaplain, United States Navy

# FLC Jacksonville Executive Director awarded Navy's highest civilian honor

By Jessica McClanahan

Fleet Logistics Center Jacksonville

Kevin Mooney was presented with the Navy's Distinguished Civilian Service Award (DCSA) for his service as executive director, Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) Fleet Logistics Center Jacksonville, and executive director, Commander Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia from September 2011 to February 2020 on April 13.

The Navy Distinguished Service Award is the highest honor the Secretary of the Navy can confer upon civilian members of the Department of the Navy, and is typically reserved for those whose contributions to the Department of the Navy are exceptional in their scope and merit.

Having been previously endorsed by the Secretary of the Navy as a nominee for the Department of Defense's 65th DCSA, Mooney was unaware of his nomination by NAVSUP to the Department of the Navy for its equivalent award. NAVSUP FLC Jacksonville Commanding Officer Capt. William Clarke was pleased to surprise Mooney with the award presentation during a virtual command meeting.

According to Clarke, "Mr. Kevin Mooney has been a leader in advancing supply chain accountability, effectiveness and auditability across the Navy, which has had far-reaching implications to the Department of Defense. His expertise and leadership have proven invaluable in standing up inventory accuracy initiatives throughout the Southeast Region and beyond."

Clarke went on to say, "His ability to champion projects and see them through to fruition has pushed our Fleet Logistics Center to the leading

edge within the NAVSUP Enterprise. Where others see a daunting task, Mr. Mooney sees an opportunity to do what is right."

Mooney's award citation from the Secretary of the Navy stated, "Through [his] efforts, the supply chain management and inventory accuracy capabilities of the Department of Defense were transformed to be more effective, efficient and responsive. He was the catalyst for the ongoing Navy Material Accountability Campaign concept that impacts both Navy and Department [of Defense] supply chains, resulting in improved readiness."

The citation went on to recognize Mooney for his contributions to the first operational employment of NAVSUP's Enterprise Logistics Response Team during the 2017 hurricane season, which provided logistics support for military installation recovery and defense support to civil authorities. The 2017 hurricane season is reported to have been the costliest on record and included hurricanes Harvey and Maria.

Additionally, Mooney was honored for his management acumen, strategic foresight, and shore installation expertise while serving as the executive director for Commander, Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia from 2011 to 2015. During that time he was instrumental in strategic deployments to Bahrain, the Forward Naval Forces establishment in Spain and the creation of a new facility in Romania.

Mooney's previous civilian positions include, director of corporate operations for the Southeast Regional Maintenance Center in Mayport, Florida; NSA Naples business manager; Navy Region Europe transition officer (base closure officer) and deputy



Courtesy photo

Kevin Mooney was presented with the Navy's Distinguished Civilian Service Award (DCSA) for his service as the executive director, Naval **Supply Systems Command Fleet Logistics Cen**ter Jacksonville, and executive director, Commander Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia from September 2011 to February 2020 on April 13.

operations officer for Fleet Industrial Supply Center Yokosuka, Japan Mooney retired from the US Navy in 2006 after 20 years as an active duty Supply Corps officer and is a graduate of St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas and holds a B.A. in Economics. He also earned his M.S. in Management from the Naval Post-Graduate School in Monterey, California, with a concentration in logistics engineering. He is a qualified acquisition professional and a certified professional logistician.

# NAS Jax Post Office unveils new mural

By AN Nick Davis,

NAS Jax Public Affairs

The Naval Air Station (NAS) Jacksonville post office has a fresh new look with a mural welcoming customers in the lobby. The mural was completed April 16 by Walker Signs.

Michael Heard, installation official mail manager, came up the idea for the mural and designed it.

"I'm hoping the mural brings a sense of pride and excitement to Sailors and personnel at NAS Jax," said Heard. "I want to make the retirees feel welcome and appreciated on the installation."

Heard's inspiration for the mural was the overall mission of NAS Jax, and Naval Supply Systems Command. The mural design features many of the fixed and rotary-wing aircraft that conduct the operations at NAS Jax and tenant commands.

Heard refers to the mural as the "Postal Experience" and says he is enthusiastically awaiting post office patrons to see the new mural.



The new mural inside NAS Jacksonville's post office entrance upon completion, April 16.



Photo by Michael Heard

Photo by AN Nick Davis Workers from Walker Signs begin work on the mural at the NAS Jacksonville Post Office, April 15.

# Young eaglet released at NAS Jax Golf Course

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

A young eaglet found near a busy roadway in Jacksonville has a new home at Naval Air Station Jacksonville (NAS Jax).

The raptor had fallen from his nest on top of a cell tower and made its way to a fitness center where Tom Morris works out. "I knew there was a nest on top of the tower so I knew it was a baby eagle. It kept trying to go in the road. The gym owner got a box and we kind of corralled it in against the glass window. I called everyone I could think of until I finally reached the Audubon Society and they came and got it," said Morris.

After several weeks of care at the Audubon Center for Birds of Prey in Maitland, Florida, it was ready for release back to the wild. "The bird had a luxated (dislocated) shoulder which is common for birds that fall from their nest and was a little dehydrated and emaciated," said Kristen Kosik, program associate with Audubon Center for Birds of Prey. "We waited for it to heal and made sure it could fly and hunt in our flight barn. We also did a DNA test and determined that it was a male."

Due to the nature of where its nest was located, the center's employees decided it wasn't in

the best interest to release the bird there. After several phone calls to the NAS Jax Environmental Department, plans were made to release it at the golf course where another nest was located.

"This is an active nest with a male and female eagle who have one baby eaglet. When we choose to find a foster family, the birds usually accept it. We often joke that the moms and dads can't count," said Kosik.

On Wednesday, Kosik and Daniel DiPierto, another employee at the center, drove two hours to NAS Jax with the eaglet. The eaglet's head and talons were covered to help relieve stress during the evolution. After removing the coverings, DiPierto released the bird in the direction of the nest on the golf course. As it soared away, onlookers from the Audubon EagleWatch program, local media, and command leadership watched as the eaglet landed on a tree and then took to the sky.

"This was very impressive seeing it released here. They are the symbol for our nation and it was so nice to see," said Morris.

According to Kosik, the eaglet was the 91st bird the center has rescued this year and they rescue about 700 each year. "We get all kinds of raptors including hawks, eagles, osprey, owls, etc. It's quite common for us to receive baby birds at the center from February through May or June. Many are injured or orphaned," she said.

Kosik was also quick to thank volunteers of the Audubon EagleWatch program who will monitor the nest. "We always need volunteers to help these birds of prey and appreciate our volunteers."

If you are interested in volunteering, please go to: https://cbop.audubon.org/get-involved/be-eaglewatcher.



Photo by Kaylee LaRocque

Daniel DiPierto of the Audubon Center for Birds of Prey in Maitland, Florida, prepares to release a 14-week-old eaglet at the Naval Air Station Jacksonville Golf Course, March 31. Center personnel decided it was in the best interest of the bird to release it here.

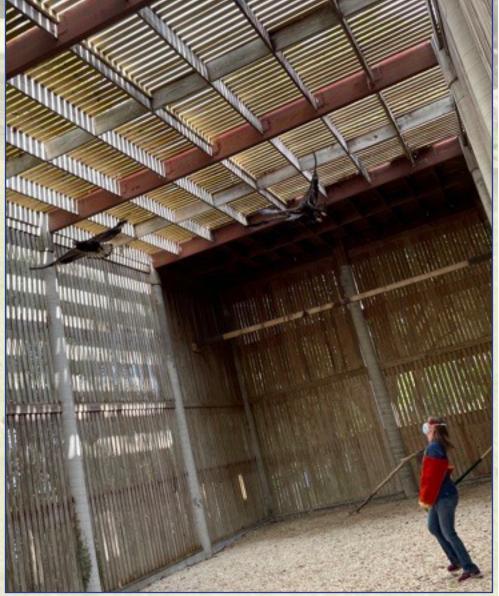


Photo by Kaylee LaRocque

Daniel DiPierto and Kristen Kosik of the Audubon Center for Birds of Prey in Maitland, Florida, decide what is the best direction to release a fledgling eaglet at the Naval Air Station Golf Course, March 31. The bird was rescued after falling from its nest and couldn't be released back to that location.

Courtesy Photo

An employee at the Audubon Center for Birds of Prey in Maitland, Florida watches as two eaglets practice their flying skills in the center's flight barn.



# Naval Safety Center Launches Annual 101 Critical Days Of Summer Safety Campaign

By Sarah Langdon,

Naval Safety Center Safety Promotions

Summer is almost upon us and it is, once again, time for the Naval Safety Center's (NAVSAFECEN) annual 101 Critical Days of Summer safety campaign. Summer is the longest vacation period of the year. As the restrictions of COVID-19 begin to relax across the globe in compliance with country, state and military base guidelines, there will be an increase in people who are out enjoying the sunshine and warm weather, swimming, boating, playing and traveling.

"There is no doubt the past year has been hard as COVID-19 forced us to adapt to a new way of life as we continued to meet our operational commitments across the Navy and Marine Corps during a global pandemic," said Rear Adm. F. R. Luchtman, commander, Naval Safety Center.

While there is a light at the end of the tunnel, it's crucial that we maintain our resiliency and Warrior Toughness. Warrior Toughness refers to the ability to: 1) Fight after sustaining a hit; 2) Perform under pressure; and 3) Endure the long slow grind.

"As we get closer to summer, it's critical that we acknowledge the ways we have been affected by the pandemic. We want everyone to get out and enjoy their summer, but we also want you to stay safe, and make good decisions while engaging in summer activities," said Luchtman.

The 101 Critical Days of Summer campaign provides critical information to raise awareness and assist in mitigating the risks associated with the most common off-duty mishaps. The campaign launches at the start of Memorial Weekend and runs through the end of Labor Day weekend. During this time, the Navy and Marine Corps mishap and fatality rates have historically spiked. Each year from fiscal years (FY) 2016 - 2020, the Department of the Navy (DON) lost an average of five Sailors and nine Marines in off-duty mishaps.

Between May 22 and Sept. 15 of last year, the Navy and Marine Corps experienced nine fatalities – two from private motor vehicles, two motorcycle fatalities, one drowning mishap and one light civil aircraft crash. Three service members also lost their lives in pedestrian-related mishaps.

The campaign's goal is to ensure Sailors and Marines are aware of the risks associated with summertime activities and take appropriate precautions to minimize those risks while on and off duty.

"Mishaps are typically more common as the weather gets warmer," said NAVSAFECEN Command Master Chief, CMDCM(SW/AW/IW) Jimmy Hailey. "Therefore, it is especially important to emphasize safety as we enter into the summer months. Providing this safety information will enable our Sailors to make better-educated choices and decisions when engaging in summer-related activities this year."

Throughout the summer campaign, NAVSAFECEN will promote and disseminate a variety of media and training products to inform the Naval Enterprise on common risks associated with summertime activities to include a comprehensive 101 Critical Days of Summer presentation, downloadable posters and tip sheets and articles via its social media channels and official website.

For additional resources on safety awareness, visit the Naval Safety Center's website, https://navalsafetycenter.navy.mil.





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To read position descriptions, qualifications and application details, visit NavyMWRJacksonville.com/jobs

-- Jobs open as of 27 April 2021 --



# Military Exchanges Open to DoD Civilian Employees, Retirees

**By Staff** 

Military exchange stores including the Naval Air Station Jacksonville (NAS Jax) Navy Exchange will soon have a whole lot more customers after a new Defense Department directive expanded access.

Nearly 600,000 civilian employees who work for the Department of Defense (DoD) and the Coast Guard will now be able to shop in the stores, which are sales tax-free and offer some discounts compared to major outlets.

The NAS Jax Navy Exchange will start welcoming civilian employees, May 1.

It's not just working civilians who are gaining new exchange benefits. Civilians who retired from a military department or from the Coast Guard will get access to the exchanges' online stores, but not to the physical locations. All honorably discharged veterans will now be able to shop online as well.

Verifications for the new benefits are being conducted through the Defense Manpower Data Center. DoD is also loosening some of its restrictions on family members, shoppers with the benefits can make purchases for dependents.

The department created the Veterans Online Shopping Benefit, which opened the online exchanges to 18 million veterans.

These privileges do not allow the purchase of tobacco, alcohol or military uniforms.

# Tickets Available for Families at Tickets and Travel Office

**Community Recreation Tickets & Travel Office** Call 542-3318 or email nasjaxtickets@navy.mil Baby Shark Live!—Times Union Center, June 25, 2021: \$50.

Dude Perfect—Vystar Veteran's Memorial Arena, July 31, 2021: \$47.

Hella Mega Tour ft. Green Day, Fallout Boy, and Weezer—TIAA Bank Field, July 31, 2021: \$113. Jeff Dunham—Vystar Veteran's Memorial Arena, June 5, 2021: \$64.50.

Motley Crue, Def Leppard, and Poison w/Joan Jett & the Blackhearts—TIAA Bank Field, Aug. 7, 2021: \$121.25 & \$186.

Michael Buble—Vystar Veteran's Memorial Arena, Aug. 13, 2021: \$166.50.

Lit AF Tour ft. Martin Lawrence, Rickey Smiley & more! Vystar Veteran's Memorial Arena, Oct. 1, 2021: \$70.75.

Gabriel Iglesias a.k.a. Fluffy—Vystar Veteran's Memorial Arena, Dec. 3, 2021: \$85.

Jimmy Buffett—Vystar Veteran's Memorial Arena, Dec. 7, 2021: \$100.

Elton John—Vystar Veteran's Memorial Arena, Apr. 23, 2022: \$78.50, \$138, \$246.

### **Current Ticket Promotions Include the Following:**

Atlanta City Pass: \$76.75 adult, \$63 child (3-12); admission to Georgia Aquarium, World of Coca Cola, Inside CNN Studio Tour, High Museum of Art OR Fern Bank Museum of Natural History, and Zoo Atlanta OR Atlanta History Center. Autobahn Indoor Speedway: \$25 Gift Card - \$20. \$50 Gift Card - \$40.

Catty Shack Ranch Wildlife Sanctuary: \$10.50-Day Pass Only.

Crayola Experience, Orlando, ages 3 and older: \$20. Disney World Orlando Armed Forces 2021 Salute 4-Day ticket with hopper option - \$290.00; 4-Day ticket with hopper and PLUS option - \$319.25; 5-Day ticket with hopper option -\$308.50; 5-Day ticket with hopper and PLUS option - \$337.50. Tickets must be purchased by 12/11/21 and are valid for use NOW through 12/17/21. Only Active and Retired U.S. Military Personnel (including Active or Retired members of the National Guard, Reservists, the U.S. Coast Guard, the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service (PHS), and the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) "or" their spouses are authorized to purchase Military Promotional tickets. - (6) Promotional Maximum purchase per service member, including member- If service member has an annual pass or multi-day ticket they can purchase (5) Promotional Maximum and Must enter with party.

IFLY Jacksonville: \$60.50 for two flights. Jacksonville Icemen: \$12 - \$33. Jacksonville Symphony: \$31.

Jacksonville Zoo, Total Experience: \$13 - \$17.50. Kennedy Space Center Annual Pass: \$64.50 -\$79.25.

Legoland FL: \$67.25 one day w/2nd day free; Legoland \$84.25 one day plus waterpark w/2nd day free; Active Duty free at the gate with ID. Orlando Magic Basketball: \$29.75-\$249; prices vary depending on date and seating. Call or visit the ticket office for more details.

Spanish Military Hospital Museum: \$5 - \$8.75. St. Augustine Alligator Farm Zipline: \$37, Park admission \$10.50 - \$16.

Courtesy photos

St. Augustine Aquarium: \$5 - \$8. Snorkel Adventure (Includes Admission) \$32. St. Augustine Old Town Trolley: \$12.25 - \$23 BOGO.

St. Augustine Oldest Store Museum: \$5.75 - \$9.50. St. Augustine Pirates Museum: \$4.50 - \$8.25. St. Augustine Potters Wax Museum: \$5.75 - \$9.50. Universal Military Freedom Pass (Not available at the gate! Maximum of 6 tickets per valid military ID): 2-Park, Park to Park UNLIMITED USAGE (Valid for unlimited admission to Universal Studios Florida and Universal's Islands of Adventure from now until Dec. 31, 2021), Adult \$200, Child (age 3-9) \$195;

3-Park, Park to Park UNLIMITED USAGE (Valid for unlimited admission to Universal Studios Florida, Universal's Islands of Adventure, and \*Volcano Bay Waterpark\*opens Mar. 1\* from now until Dec. 31, 2021), Adult \$235, Child (age 3-9) \$230; "Eligible Service Members"-Active or Retired U.S. Military, the National Guard or Reservists and the U.S. Coast Guard. Spouses of eligible service members also qualify with valid and active U.S. Military ID. Department of Defense (DoD) employees with valid U.S. Military/DoD IDs also qualify. Visit the Ticket Office for further details.

Whitewater Express (Columbus, Ga): Rafting \$30 - \$40; Zip-line \$35 - \$50. Reservation required at the time of purchase.

Wild Adventures (Valdosta, Ga.): One day \$35.75; 2 day \$42.25; Gold Pass – \$81 Special

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### 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/.

Check the MWR website NavyMWRJacksonville.com for more resources, events, and newly-reopened facilities on base.

### MWR hosts drive-thru Comic Con event



MWR staff and volunteers gather while dressed as comic characters at the **Comic Con drive-thru** event hosted by MWR at Naval Air Station Jacksonville, April 24. The event was held in recognition of Month of the Military Child.



