

NAVY **RECRUITER** magazine

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**Global Force for Good
Sailor Completes West Africa IA**

**NRD Portland
Fleet Week Shines On**

**Centurion
Recruiter Meets the Mark**

**PRIDE MOD
Updates in the Future**

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In this issue...

- 5 Sailor Completes IA Assignment in West Africa
- 7 The Woodlands Sailors Donate to a Local Food Bank
- 8 Sailors Assist Shipmate with Home Repairs
- 10 Sailors Go Full Circle
- 11 Spirit of Fleet Week Shines on in Portland
- 12 "Salty Sandbaggers" Complete Tough Mudder
- 14 Milestone Achievement: 700 DUI-Free Days
- 15 Future Service Members Honored
- 16 Major Kent Road Renamed in Honor of Vets
- 18 Sailors Recruit at SkillsUSA Championship
- 20 Pre-Game Patriotic Tribute Recognizes Future Sailors
- 21 Recruiter Reaches Centurion Status
- 22 Naval Aviator Mentors Houston Youth
- 23 PRIDE MOD Updates to Lighten Recruiter Load
- 24 CANREC is Atlanta's Top Recruiter
- 26 Officer and Wife Adopt Fourth Child
- 28 Future Sailor's Success Story: Class of 2013 Law and Public Safety Honors
- 29 Navy is Big Contributor at Summer X Games
- 30 Future Sailor Recognized for Lifesaving Actions



Regular features..

- 4 From the Admiral
- 31 Admiral's Five-Star Recruiters
- 31 The District's Top Stations



Front cover: A Sailor maintains and cleans ordnance aboard the aircraft carrier USS Nimitz (CVN 68). The Nimitz Carrier Strike Group is deployed to the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility conducting maritime security operations, theater security cooperation efforts and support missions for Operation Enduring Freedom. (U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Raul Moreno, Jr.)



Back cover: This month's back cover sports each of the 26 Navy Recruiting Districts, Region East, Region West, and Navy Orientation Recruiting Unit logos centered around the NRC logo. (Illustration by Frank Ashe, NRC Public Affairs)



AMERICA'S NAVY A GLOBAL FORCE FOR GOOD.

FROM THE ADMIRAL

Shipmates:

It's hard to believe my tour as your commander is coming to an end. The time has gone quickly because of the tremendous talent and dedication each one of you have offered in telling our Navy story to meet our mission of recruiting qualified young men and women to join our ranks. I am extremely proud of the hard work each of you – active duty and reserve, civilian and contractor – has performed every single day.

Although I will miss many things about my Navy career and this tour, I am ready for the next adventure, and am pleased to shift colors so that your new commander, Rear Admiral Annie Andrews, may take the helm.

Although FY14 looks to be a year full of additional challenges and expectations with active and reserve mission for officer and enlisted programs, and continued constrained budgets, I am confident you will

prevail and maintain the enlisted Delayed Entry Program level holding strong. Navy Recruiting Command is positioned to meet its challenges head on because of the commitment and pride of this team. I know your impressive run of 76 consecutive months of success will continue long after Ardella and I depart.

So, in closing, thank you NRC team for all that you do every day; for your "can do" spirit, your integrity and support for one another. Continue your outstanding service to make our Navy the employer of choice.

One Team, One Fight!



RADM Earl L. Gay
Commander, Navy Recruiting Command



Navy Recruiting District Denver

Sailor Completes IA Assignment in WEST AFRICA

Story by LT Jonathan Ryan, NRD Denver
Photo by Andy Bobby Kimen

LIBERIA, West Africa – In early February 2012, I was enjoying my position as the diversity assistant operations officer at Navy Recruiting Command in Millington, Tenn.

Life was good. The prospect of spring was in the air as the climate was changing for the better. Then out of the blue, an individual augmentation (IA) assignment was offered and I embarked on one of the most interesting and amazing experiences of my life.

Only two months after accepting the IA assignment, I began intense training with United States Military Observers Group-Washington at Quantico Marine Corps Base in Quantico, Va. Throughout the training I learned new skills that included back country driving techniques, basic and advanced first aid, tactical pistol employment and reconnaissance/surveillance detection. As a Surface Warfare officer assigned to naval warships for 10 years, 4x4 off-road driving had not been a part of my previous duties or hobbies but proved to be beneficial in the mission.

I was sent to Liberia, a small country on the northwest coast of Africa that experienced brutal civil war from 1989 to 2003. As the country progressively recovers, the United Nations (UN) continues to support the citizens and national government.



LT Jonathan Ryan, right, and Capt. Vjekoslav Nijemcevic from Serbia conduct a mobile patrol in Gbusie Village located in a remote area of Nimba County, Liberia. Ryan, formerly stationed at NRC and currently at NRD Denver, recently spent one year on an IA assignment in Liberia, West Africa.

As my aircraft flew from Atlanta and began descending over Africa, the prospect of my assignment suddenly became intensely real. The view from the window was like a scene out of a National Geographic magazine. Impoverished villages, dirt roads, thick jungle and muddy rivers were no longer just pictures in a magazine. The transition from facilitating recruitment of America's best and brightest to working in the worst environment imaginable was immediate.

My position: UN military observer, considered the eyes and ears of the UN force in Liberia. There are 133 military observers in Liberia that contribute to the success of the mission by focusing military planning, assisting with development of civil-military programs, and demonstrating the benefits of stability and rule of law.



Future Sailors from four NRD Houston Recruiting Stations ferociously battle during a tug-of-war at Brazos Park in Rosenberg, Texas, during a Delayed Entry Program Olympics. NRD Houston Sailors used this time to mentor, motivate and train the next generation of Sailors. (Photo by MC1 Jacob L. Dillon, NRD Houston Public Affairs)



Military observers gather and report raw information from the field by interacting daily with the local population and various government agencies such as the Ministry of Lands, Mines and Energy, Ministry of Public Works and Ministry of Health.

Observer team sites are strategically located throughout the country, each comprised of approximately 10 international military officers. Our presence is a deterrent against civil unrest and government instability.

Duties included meeting with town chiefs on a daily basis to gather information such as major challenges, i.e., lack of schools, teachers, restrooms, drinking water and agricultural hand tools; understanding the current security situation; and recognizing signs of disturbance or disease outbreaks such as malaria or cholera.

The town chief is the primary spokesperson in the village and typically an elder male elected by eligible village citizens. Approximately 300 small towns were in my area of responsibility. We lived out in our sector amongst or in close proximity to the local population. Like a beat cop, we were out and about every day talking to people.

The living conditions were austere and things like flushing a toilet with a bucket of water or scooping water from a barrel for bathing became normal parts of everyday life that all military observers become accustomed to.

Observers also recommend UN sponsorship of civilian-military coordination (CIMIC) projects

using up to \$10,000 of quick impact project funds. Some examples of CIMIC projects are providing agricultural hand tools that may be distributed among many towns, construction of essential government administration buildings and installation, or repair of hand pumps used for drinking water.

In addition to meeting with town chiefs, we also met with county administrators and local law enforcement officials to remain vigilant of suspicious activity and illegal movements across the border into Côte D'Ivoire.

Although daily preservation of peace and national security is the primary focus, this mission also enabled me to enjoy close relationships with military officers from countries such as Bangladesh, Pakistan, Serbia, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Moldova and Nepal, to name a few. My team was very close knit, on and off duty.

Mission life was anything but boring. A traditional herbalist amazed me with witchcraft, a county senator once feared as a warlord apologized for keeping me waiting and a former rebel leader shared a soft drink with me in his backyard.

I used every bit of my 11 years of military experience and common sense throughout my time in Liberia. I highly recommend a UN deployment as a personally and professionally rewarding opportunity. The experience was amazing, surreal and one I will never forget.



Members from NRD New York interact with the community during the 2013 Bethpage Air Show at Jones Beach State Park. For the first time ever, one of the performance days was rained out, but the second day drew an audience in excess of 81,000. (Photo by Bruce Howard, NRD New York)



The Woodlands

Sailors Donate to a Local Food Bank

Story and photo by MC1 Jacob L. Dillon, NRD Houston Public Affairs

THE WOODLANDS, Texas – Sailors from Navy Recruiting Station (NRS) The Woodlands, as well as the station's future Sailors, donated jars of peanut butter to a Kiwanis Club July 10.

Zach Yeaglin, a representative of the local Kiwanis, said the club will donate all of the peanut butter they collect to the Montgomery County Food Bank.

"When speaking with the food bank, they said they were in desperate need of peanut butter," Yeaglin said. "Peanut butter is expensive compared to other non-perishable food items, which makes it difficult for them to keep it in stock."

"Peanut butter is such a multi-functional food," he said. "You can eat it for breakfast, lunch and

dinner. It is high in protein, fats, calories; it is an essential staple of a diet if you are hungry and down on your luck."

The food donation was also an opportunity for Navy recruiters to show their future Sailors how important community service is in the Navy, according to Aviation Electrician's Mate 1st Class Timothy Finnen, a recruiter at NRS The Woodlands.

Finnen addressed his station's future Sailors saying, "Community service is a vital part of your time in the Navy. Wherever you go, you will be volunteering in the communities you live in. It is very important for us all to get involved, volunteer, and represent the Navy's core values of honor, courage and commitment in all our lives outside of the Navy as well."



NRS The Woodlands Sailors and future Sailors presented jars of peanut butter to a Kiwanis Club July 10 in The Woodlands, Texas. The Kiwanis Club then donated the peanut butter to the Montgomery County Food Bank. Due to its expense, this versatile food product is always in demand at the food bank.



Sailors

Assist Shipmate with Home Repairs

Story and photos by Burrell Parmer, NRD San Antonio Public Affairs

SAN ANTONIO – Once a shipmate, always a shipmate.

In November 2012, Chief Quartermaster Adam Vela, the delayed entry program coordinator with Navy Recruiting District (NRD) San Antonio, saw on the nightly news where a retired Navy disbursing clerk, 80-year-old Lawrence Ferrell, was asking for help in the maintenance of his home. Ferrell has lived in the house since May 1944 and it was in need of major repairs.

Informing fellow Sailors of the situation, the Chief Petty Officers and First Class Petty Officers Associations accepted the responsibility of taking care of one of their own.

More than 20 recruiters and support personnel from NRD San Antonio gathered at Ferrell's residence to make repairs and beautify his home.

According to Vela, electricians had rewired two rooms but the rest of the house needed to be done.

"We had planned on going out to his home in December to paint but due to the ongoing electrical work, we postponed the painting project till the spring in the hope of better weather," said Vela. "Our



BMC Craig Boone, left, with NRD San Antonio headquarters and AT1 John Jensen of NRS New Braunfels prepare to install a new front door at the residence of a Navy veteran during a house rehabilitation earlier this year.



More than 20 recruiters and support personnel from NRD San Antonio gathered at the home of retired DK1 Lawrence Ferrell to conduct repairs and improvements.

main focus was to get his home safe to live in and then focus on the outside."

With a monetary donation from Navy veteran Mauricio Celis of Corpus Christi, Texas, the Sailors purchased and installed new siding, conducted landscaping, refurbished the kitchen sink and counter tops, installed bedroom carpet, and replaced the front door and lock.

"I would like to thank everyone for coming out in support of DK1 Ferrell," said Vela. "He was overwhelmed with joy and made the comment that he had not been surrounded by so many Sailors since 1971. We could not have done this without the help of the Sailors of NRD San Antonio and the support of our Navy veteran from Corpus Christi."

Originally from San Antonio, Ferrell joined the Navy on March 24, 1951. He served three combat tours

in Vietnam and one tour during the Korean conflict. After retiring from the Navy in January 1971, he sold insurance. During this time, he took advantage of his veteran benefits and attended San Antonio College and the University of Texas at San Antonio.

He stopped working in June 1973 and although he says his health is fair, he is the survivor of three strokes, a heart attack and a broken hip.

Ferrell could do nothing but smile throughout the day. "This is fantastic," he stated as he watched his fellow shipmates diligently work around him. "They knew exactly what to do, so I stayed out of their way. It's amazing the amount of help I received from the Sailors; I wasn't expecting it. They corrected a lot of major and minor problems and made my home look more presentable."



Shawn Meertens, left, an assistant at Bioskills Training Center at Naval Medical Center San Diego supervises Jerry Orsak, assistant principal at Cy-Fair High School in Cypress, Texas, as he drills into a replica femur. NRD Houston sponsored educators from the Houston area on a visit to Southern California to learn about career options available in the Navy. (Photo by MCSN Justin W. Galvin, Navy Medical Center San Diego)



Sailors Go FULL CIRCLE

Story and photo by Jim Lumsden, NRD Chicago Public Affairs

CHICAGO – The Navy is really just a tight-knit family of about 350,000 Sailors, so it should come as no surprise to find that the end of a career can bring one back to the beginning.

In 1996, then-civilian Steve Lukasiewicz didn't know very much about the Navy except that he was interested in it.

He stopped in the Navy Recruiting Station (NRS) in Tinley Park, Ill., and met a young recruiter, Boiler Technician 2nd Class William Rivera.

"I hit it off with Petty Officer Rivera right away," Lukasiewicz said. "That's probably one of the main reasons that I joined the Navy. He told me what he did in the Navy and that seemed interesting."

"But what was more important was that he asked me what I wanted to do, and he pointed out all of the different paths the Navy had to offer me to help me accomplish what I set out to do. The fact that he took a genuine interest in me as a person made all the difference in the world. My bond with Petty Officer Rivera and his family continued through my entire journey in the Navy, and as a recruiter I have had a chance to apply that same practice of taking a genuine interest in my candidates."

One of those candidates has taken Lukasiewicz full circle. Now a chief aviation ordnanceman, Lukasiewicz is a recruiter at NRS Waukegan, Ill. – his last duty assignment before retiring in June 2016. Rivera is now a chief warrant officer 3 at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes.



CWO3 William Rivera, left, administers the oath of enlistment to his son, Tyler, a future Sailor in the Delayed Entry Program, as AOC Steve Lukasiewicz observes. Rivera recruited Lukasiewicz and Lukasiewicz recruited Tyler.

One of the last candidates that Lukasiewicz will put into the Navy is future Sailor Tyler Rivera, son of his recruiter and Navy mentor.

Neither Lukasiewicz nor Rivera spent an entire career as a recruiter, but both have devoted a few years to helping others find a path to success in the Navy.

"It is exciting to see my son take an interest in a Navy career," said Rivera. "It is even more reassuring knowing that my protégé, AOC Lukasiewicz, is mentoring him along the way. I know that he is getting the guidance that he needs from a person we can trust."

For both Lukasiewicz and Rivera this is a fitting way to close out a career and still know that the Navy is in good hands. Rivera was the person called upon to swear in Lukasiewicz and delivered his last oath of enlistment in February 2011. He also recently swore in his son.

What better way to end than at the beginning.



Spirit of Fleet Week Shines on in Portland

Story and photo by Robin Sanz, NRD Portland Public Affairs

PORTLAND, Ore. – The sole Navy ship to take part in Fleet Week this year during the Portland Rose Festival was pulled behind a truck for the city's brightest tradition.

Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Portland's scale model of USS *Enterprise* (CVN 65) was one of 100 illuminated entries in the Portland General Electric/SOLVE Starlight Parade.

The model ship-float was adorned with red, white and blue rope lights that sat atop a sea of twinkling blue lights. Traditional friendship lights, along with a string of international flags, were strung from the bow, over the island and to the stern. Six model F/A-18s were perched on the flight deck.

An estimated 250,000 spectators lined the streets to watch the beloved parade. Several Sailors from NRD Portland marched alongside the float accompanied by 13 future Sailors.

It was Commander Matt Campbell's first large event since stepping into the role of NRD Portland's executive officer.

"I thought the crowd was amazing," Campbell said. "The sheer size of the crowd was overwhelming, and the reception was as good as any I have ever seen. I have done parades like this in New Orleans, New York, Michigan, Chicago, and Texas, and this one was

easily the largest and most supportive crowd I have seen. Our future Sailors continually commented on how amazing it was to march in the parade. It was their first opportunity to experience something like this and Portland rolled out the red carpet for them. I have no doubt that it is something they will remember for a long time."



Future Sailors and NRD Portland personnel display their float, a replica of USS *Enterprise* (CVN 65), before the start of the Starlight Parade during the Portland Rose Festival. Staff members participating were Cmdr. Matt Campbell, third row left, NCC Kristopher Poliquin, OS2 Ryan Brown, IC2 Erica Tapia, STG2 Nicholas Zielinski, Cmdr. (Sel) Keith Willison, and Lt. Timothy Trimble. The parade began in the early 1900s when illuminated floats were carefully built on electric trolley cars that made their way through the city on trolley tracks.

This was the 10th year NRD Portland's USS *Enterprise* float has been part of the Starlight Parade and definitely won't be the last.

"The Portland Rose Festival is known throughout the Navy as one of the best port calls there is, and this proves why," said Campbell. "We're already looking forward to next year."





"Salty Sandbaggers" Complete Tough Mudder

Story and photo by MC1 Phillip D. James, Jr., NRD Ohio Public Affairs

MANSFIELD, Ohio – The "Salty Sandbaggers" team, comprised of Sailors from Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Ohio, participated in the Tough Mudder held at Mansfield Lahm Regional Airport.

Tough Mudder is a 10-12 mile obstacle course designed by British Special Forces. The Mansfield Tough Mudder was 11 miles long and consisted of 22 obstacles.

According to Ashley Pinakiewicz, director of marketing communications with Tough Mudder, Will Dean, a former counter-terrorism agent for the British government, founded Tough Mudder with the first event being held

in 2010. There are 53 scheduled events throughout 2013 in the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, Australia, and Germany. To date there have been over 1,000,000 participants worldwide and approximately 12,000 at the Ohio event.

Pinakiewicz said, "While getting his MBA at Harvard, Dean was inspired to start Tough Mudder out of frustration with unimaginative and repetitive marathons, triathlons, and other adventure runs."

According to Pinakiewicz, the events were designed



Engineering Aide 1st Class Edward Brock, a member of the Navy Recruiting District Ohio Tough Mudder team, the "Salty Sandbaggers," attempts to complete the "Island Hopping" obstacle of Tough Mudder. Tough Mudder is a 10-12 mile obstacle course designed by British Special Forces to test your strength, stamina, mental grit and camaraderie, while also supporting Wounded Warriors.

to be hard core obstacle courses that test a person's all-around strength, stamina, mental grit and camaraderie.

"By running a Tough Mudder challenge, participants will unlock a true sense of accomplishment, have a great time and discover camaraderie with fellow participants that is experienced all too rarely these days," said Pinakiewicz. "We see military personnel running at almost every event — some with the Wounded Warrior Project [WWP] team, some

independently. The Tough Mudder challenge seems to appeal to members of all divisions of the military."

Tough Mudder supports the WWP, having raised over \$5,000,000 for the project so far. The WWP is a non-profit organization that provides programs and services to severely injured military members.

According to NRD Ohio's Command Fitness Leader, Navy Counselor 1st Class Justin Smith, the command got involved when the Chief Petty Officers Association and the First Class Petty Officers Association (FCPOA) heard about the event and recruited as many personnel that they could to participate.

Smith said, "In my opinion participating in the Tough Mudder does go above and beyond our Navy fitness requirements. This is no ordinary race. [It] tests your body, mind, and the spirit of teamwork.

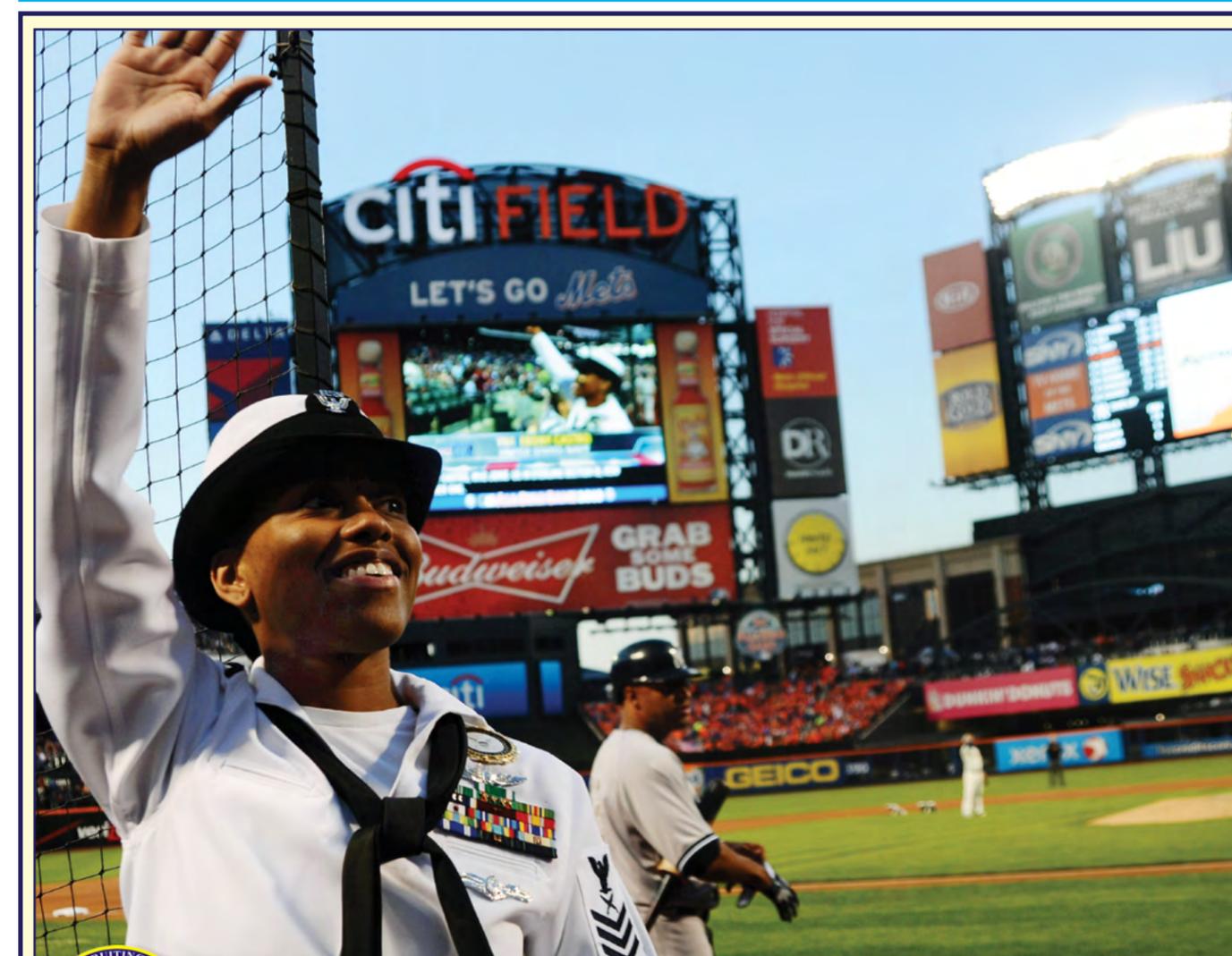
"I think it is great for NRD Ohio to have people participating in the Tough Mudder. It will show all the

other participants what the Navy can do and in turn motivate those in the command to push themselves a bit harder next time they PT," said Smith.

Engineering Aid 1st Class Edward Brock, a member of the "Salty Sandbaggers," said, "I decided to participate in the Tough Mudder with my FCPOA for camaraderie, and 10-12 miles of running through the mud with my fellow first class petty officers sounded like a good idea."

Brock prepared for Tough Mudder by keeping with his usual routine of P90X/TRX, running and took some tips from the Mudder boot camp website.

"The Tough Mudder was amazing; definitely more than what I expected," said Brock. "I feel that I did better than I thought I was going to. I completed all 22 obstacles. I was very proud of myself and our team for completing the event with no major injuries."



YN1(AW/IDW) Ebony Castro, assigned to NRD New York, was among the military honored at the Memorial Day Major League Baseball game when two hometown teams, the Mets and the Yankees, faced one another at Citi Field in Queens, New York City. More than 300 local Sailors and Marines participated in New York metro area Memorial Day events honoring the men and women who have given their lives in service to our country. (Photo by MC2(SW/AW) Julio Rivera, NRD New York Public Affairs)



Milestone Achievement: 700 DUI-FREE DAYS

Story and photo by MCC Anastasia Puscian, NRD San Diego Public Affairs

SAN DIEGO – Navy Recruiting District (NRD) San Diego reached a notable milestone on June 14 by achieving more than 700 days without a driving-under-the-influence (DUI) incident.

In addition to the required training, the command continuously emphasizes the importance of

for those service members who have driven their vehicles and are faced with the decision to drive while impaired.

With more than 270 enlisted and officer personnel, NRD San Diego's last DUI was July 1, 2011.

"This is a testament to our command looking out for each other and doing what is right when no one is looking. I am very proud," said NRD San Diego's Drug and Alcohol Program Advisor, Chief Navy Career Counselor Casey T. Spaulding.

To celebrate this milestone, Executive Officer, Cmdr. Todd Hofstedt, granted a 72-hour special liberty in appreciation of the crew's professional and personal performance.

"We take personal conduct very seriously and devote considerable time and effort to ensuring our personnel maintain professionalism in all aspects of their behavior," said Hofstedt. "The exemplary personal conduct demonstrated allows us to reward them periodically with

such things as a three-day weekend to maintain esprit de corps and positive peer pressure to perpetuate continued success."



NC1 Archie Anz, assigned to NRD San Diego, shows his Arrive Alive card. On June 14, NRD San Diego achieved more than 700 days without a driving-under-the-influence incident. Along with required training, NRD San Diego utilizes the Arrive Alive Program, which provides a safe means of transport so service members will not drive while impaired.

responsible drinking, having a plan, and looking out for shipmates. The command also utilizes the Arrive Alive Program. Arrive Alive is intended to be used as the last resort and provides a safe means of transport



FUTURE SERVICE MEMBERS HONORED

Story and photo by Burrell Parmer, NRD San Antonio Public Affairs

SAN ANTONIO – More than 250 future service members, their families, educators, business leaders and military gathered at the McCombs Center at the University of the Incarnate Word to participate in the second annual "A Night in Your Honor" sponsored by Our Community Salutes (OCS) San Antonio.

Retired U.S. Army Lt. Gen. Ricardo Sanchez, who served as commanding general, Multi-National Force Iraq, was the keynote speaker. Sanchez said, "What a tremendous initiative from OCS. This is absolutely what we should be doing for our young men and women who have made this commitment."

Sanchez thanked all members currently serving and encouraged them to share their experiences with the future service members present. Additionally, he thanked the parents for their hard work in preparing their children for military service.

"I and my wife know what it means to have children serving this great country in a contingency environment," said Sanchez, who has two daughters that served in Iraq in 2008 and 2009. "Let me tell you, that if and when this great country of ours decides to commit your son or daughter into a contingency environment or war, I guarantee you that they will be well trained, they will be well led, and they will be representing this great nation of ours in the greatest military the world has ever known.



Dr. Cyndi Porter, left, president of OCS San Antonio, presents a gift to JoAnne Cruz, a student counselor with Judson High School and recipient of the 2013 Colin Powell Award. Sarah Conway, the 2012 Colin Powell Award recipient, observes the presentation. NRD San Antonio nominated Cruz for this prestigious award.

OCS San Antonio is a non-profit organization created in 2009 to recognize and honor local graduating high school seniors who plan to enlist in the military. OCS also provides future service members and their families with access to educational resources and connects them with military support groups.

Initially beginning as one ceremony in southern New Jersey in 2009, OCS ceremonies have spread across the nation. The ceremonies are planned and executed by volunteers, including military veterans, high school and college educators, local businesses, community leaders and active duty military personnel.

The program began with a welcome by Dr. Cyndi Porter, president of OCS San Antonio, and Darryl Byrd, chief executive officer of SA2020 (San Antonio vision movement), who delivered a proclamation from the mayor of San Antonio declaring it "Our Community Salutes Day."

The presentation of colors was conducted by a Joint Forces Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps of Cadets Honor Guard, the first of its kind formed in the city.

That is what they are becoming a part of."

The 2013 Colin Powell Award was presented to JoAnne Cruz, a student counselor with Judson High School, the city's largest school.

Navy Recruiting District San Antonio nominated Cruz for the prestigious award. "She was our top choice," said Senior Chief Machinist's Mate Philip Wygans, the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps and nuclear programs leading chief. "I must tell you that Mrs. Cruz is a part of a TEAM that really gets it done. When we consider how our relationship with Judson High School has developed over the past year, we recognize that Mrs. Cruz is chiefly responsible for reaching out to us and opening the doors. Her extraordinary patriotism, mentorship of students and team-building success makes her worthy of the 2013 Colin Powell Award."

After Cruz's presentation, a representative from each service presented OCS certificates to each of their respective honorees. Additionally, Porter presented each future service member with an OCS challenge coin.



Major Kent Road Renamed in Honor of Vets

Story and photos by MC1 Kyle Steckler, NRD Seattle Public Affairs

KENT, Wash. – A crowd of more than 300 people gathered May 31 at the intersection of South 231st Way and Russell Road in Kent to honor the country’s military veterans by renaming 231st Way ‘Veterans Drive.’

The ceremony was the culmination of an effort that started when local resident Marcus Shelton called Kent Mayor Susanne Cooke with the idea of renaming the busy road in honor of former United States military service members, including Shelton’s father, the late Thomas E. Shelton who retired after 26 years in the U.S. Air Force.

“I thought it was a great idea and a fitting tribute to have a street in Kent that honors all branches of service,” Cooke said through a city media release. “We should always remember those veterans who sacrifice in order to protect and defend the freedoms we enjoy and cherish.”

Highlights of the day’s festivities included songs sung by Kent Elementary first graders and a rifle performance by Kentwood High School’s Marine Junior Recruit Officer Training Corps.

During the ceremony, Cooke emphasized the historical relevance of the decision to rename the road, specifically mentioning local landmark Military Road.

“Military Road opened up supply lines between military forts when it was first completed in 1860, making it one of the oldest roads in Washington,” said Cooke. “Now [Veterans Drive] will be connected to it via a bridge dedicated to local World War II, Korean War and Vietnam War veteran and Medal of Honor recipient Col. Joe M. Jackson.”

Jackson, who was at the ceremony with his wife, was honored in 2006 when Kent named the newly-finished bridge after the three-war veteran.

In addition to several other active duty and veteran guest speakers, as well as Washington’s 9th District Representative Adam Smith, Navy Recruiting District Seattle Executive Officer Cmdr. Chris Sutherland spoke on the subject of honoring current and former military service members.

“Today we gather together to remember and honor those who have served our country by renaming a road that thousands traverse every day,” said Sutherland. “Your presence here today is a tribute to those troops and to their families.”

Sutherland stressed that without the sacrifices of veterans and their families this country would not be what it is today.

“My hope is that when you drive by the road sign that proudly proclaims this road Veterans Way you take just a moment to remember their sacrifice,” said Sutherland.



Sailors from NRD Seattle pose with Kent, Wash., Mayor Suzette Cooke, center, with the sign for the newly renamed Veterans Drive. A ceremony May 31 attended by more than 300 people officially renamed a street in honor of all United States veterans. NRD Seattle Executive Officer Cmdr. Chris Sutherland, right, was one of the speakers during the event.



Local Kent, Wash., residents participate in the first drive along Veterans Drive on May 31 after a ceremony that officially renamed the road formerly known as 231st Way in honor of all United States Veterans.



NC1 William McKenna of Navy Recruiting Station Fayetteville, N.C., trains for the CPO 365, a yearlong development and training program for first class petty officers. McKenna just exceeded the physical readiness test (PRT) goals for his age group. He is the only recruiter at NRD Raleigh to score a 100 in the PRT the last two years. He ran 1-1/2 miles in eight minutes and 13 seconds, completed 97 pushups (more than the required 80), and 110 sit-ups (more than the required 98). (Photo courtesy of ET1 Gregory Stephens, NRD Raleigh)



SAILORS RECRUIT AT SkillsUSA CHAMPIONSHIP

Story and photo by MC1 Joseph Seavey, NRD St. Louis Public Affairs

KANSAS CITY, Mo.

– Sailors attached to Navy Recruiting District (NRD) St. Louis attended the five-day annual SkillsUSA Championship, recruiting highly-motivated individuals in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and other vocational fields.

SkillsUSA is a national, nonprofit organization serving teachers, and high school and college students who are preparing for careers in trade, technical, and skilled service occupations, including health care. The competition is rigorous; students that have advanced to this level have demonstrated the motivation and hands-on aptitude the Navy is seeking to maintain its technological base.

“This is an excellent program. The students I met are all ‘high end’ students – motivated and eager to succeed; exactly the kind of recruits the Navy wants,” said Commander Alan Schiaffino, NRD St. Louis executive officer.

SkillsUSA includes local, state and national competitions in which students display occupational and leadership skills. More than 5,000 outstanding career and technical education students — all state contest winners — compete hands on in a wide variety of different trades, ranging from masonry



Cmdr. Alan Schiaffino, NRD St. Louis executive officer, talks to a competitor during the SkillsUSA Championship.

to diesel engine troubleshooting, to computer networking. SkillsUSA also works to establish industry standards for job skills training in the lab and classroom, and helps to promote community service.

“Students sometimes come in with a difficult situation – a difficult background, or maybe they aren’t very interested in high school or after that, college, or going in and entering the workforce. This helps gather their interest at a very early age,” said Maria Soto, a SkillsUSA alumni and volunteer. “I think it’s very important to find out what you don’t want to do as far as a career is concerned, as well as what you do want to do.”

Sailors manned the Navy STEM tour booth, answering questions the competitors and their families had about STEM-related technology used by the

Navy, such as unmanned aerial vehicles, explosive ordinance disposal robots, and the Navy SeaPerch Program that is integrated into the STEM tour display.

“The students and graduates who compete at SkillsUSA are truly among the best and brightest our country has to offer. And it is at STEM-related events such as this that we have not only the opportunity to reach out to the kids directly but also to their teachers as well. This access allows us to introduce more effectively the Navy’s emphasis on STEM to educators, parents, and students alike,” said Jon Dickson, NRD St. Louis education specialist. “It’s satisfying to change people’s perception of what the Navy does and the type of people we seek to recruit.”

While attending the competition students also obtained information on the area’s top colleges, vocational institutions, and skills-related employers as well as scholarships offered through the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC).

“As we develop the attendees’ curiosity about the various technical programs we offer, such as

nuclear power and advanced electronics, many of those individuals expressed interest in the NROTC scholarship program,” said Dickson. “More students and parents are looking for scholarship opportunities because of rising college tuition costs.”

SkillsUSA covers a wide variety of job fields from auto repair, cosmetology and photography, to computer repair and 3-D modeling. It provides quality education experiences for students in leadership, teamwork, citizenship and character development. The competition builds and strengthens self-confidence, work attitudes and communications skills while emphasizing overall quality of work, high ethical standards, and superior work skills, lifelong education, and pride in the dignity of work.

“The important thing is it shows students a variety of options that they can choose to pursue and maybe it gets them a little more interested in things like math and science but also what to choose as a career option later on,” said Soto.



NRD Raleigh’s MM1 Timothy Thomasson with NRS Wilmington, N.C., gets a shave at North Brunswick High School in Wilmington. The health services teacher, Mary Maroudis, asked Thomasson to help students Julia Ganey, left, and Darean Polk, get closer to earning their certified nursing assistant licenses. The class had been practicing on balloons all week and at the end of the lesson they were required to shave a real face. (Courtesy photo by Mary Maroudis, North Brunswick High School)



Pre-Game Patriotic Tribute Recognizes Future Sailors

Story and photo by Robin Sanz, NRD Portland Public Affairs

KEIZER, Ore. – Nearly two dozen Navy Recruiting Station Salem future Sailors took the oath of enlistment conducted by Lieutenant Jordan Stutzman during a pre-game patriotic ceremony at Volcanoes Stadium in Keizer, Ore. July 3.

Benghazi, Libya. Several Oregon lawmakers and two rear admirals escorted Woods' family to home plate, where they were presented a Fallen Warrior Memorial statue and a Fallen Hero Memorial Highway sign that will be placed in dedication to Woods.



NRS Salem future Sailors stand behind a Fallen Warrior Memorial at Volcanoes Stadium in Keizer, Ore., as they take the oath of enlistment during a patriotic ceremony July 3. A special tribute was given for former Navy SEAL Tyrone Woods who was killed in September 2012 in Benghazi, Libya.

After the mass enlistment, there were several military tributes, including placement of a Fallen Warrior Memorial and a toast to fallen and missing warriors.

A special ceremony was held honoring the sacrifice of former Navy SEAL and Oregon native Tyrone Woods, who was among four people killed in September 2012 in an attack on the U.S. Consulate in

Over 4,600 fans attended the sixth annual patriotic tribute hosted by the Salem-Keizer Volcanoes baseball team, a minor league affiliate of the San Francisco Giants.

Over the three-day tribute, the team thanked, honored and saluted 91 war veterans who each got to throw out a ceremonial first pitch.



Recruiter Reaches Centurion Status

Story and photo by Kelly Wright, NRD Raleigh Public Affairs

RALEIGH, N.C. – Fire Controlman 1st Class Jillian Favors of Navy Recruiting Station (NRS) Jacksonville, N.C., recently reached a milestone that very few recruiters can even hope for in their careers.

She is now part of an elite cadre of recruiters who call themselves "Centurions," signing her 100th applicant into America's Navy during her three-year tour, an honor which is a prestigious and rare accomplishment.

Favors came to NRS Jacksonville in July 2010 after having served nine years on various ships and commands. "I knew what I wanted. I worked for it. I didn't have to sell applicant [Courtney] Copeland on the Navy, she wanted it," Favors says. Copeland is the future Sailor who put Favors at the 100 mark.

Copeland is a 24-year-old from nearby Pollockville, N.C., and a graduate of New Bern High School in New Bern, N.C. She held various part-time jobs before deciding to join America's Navy. The things that appeal most to her about the Navy are traveling and being around water. Her family is very supportive and one family member told her the military was a good place to start and would set her up for the rest of her life. She set out to join the Navy, but a recruiter advised her to get into better shape and come back. She did exactly that, started working with Favors and became a future Sailor.



FC1 Jillian Favors looks on as future Sailor Courtney Copeland signs her contract at the Raleigh Military Entrance Processing Station on June 13, 2013. Copeland was Favors' 100th applicant, making the recruiter a Centurion.

Copeland was sworn in at the Raleigh Military Entrance Processing Station on June 13, 2013. Her Navy job will be aviation ordnance. She leaves for boot camp in February 2014.

Favors has since surpassed her 100 mark by more than a few applicants.

"I am extremely proud of Petty Officer Favors' accomplishment," said Commander Ron Ross, Navy Recruiting District Raleigh commanding officer. "She was a hard charger from the moment she checked on board and even though she's reached 100 contracts, she continues to excel. I'm excited to see what her final number will be when she checks out of the command."





Naval Aviator Mentors Houston Youth

Story and photo by MC1 Jacob L. Dillon, NRD Houston Public Affairs

HOUSTON – A naval aviator took time to mentor youth interested in becoming aviators at two separate events recently in Houston.

Lt. Cmdr. Mike Jackson, attached to Navy Recruiting District Houston, spoke with high school students July 12 at the Aviation Sciences and Technology Center at Texas Southern University. The students, who were attending an aviation summer camp, listened to Jackson as he offered advice, shared personal stories and talked about aviation opportunities in the Navy.

The aviation camp allowed the speakers – military and commercial pilots – the chance to interact with the students.

Fred Lewis, an instructor at the camp said, “It is wonderful to have experienced pilots come in and talk to these students and explain the opportunities available to them.”

Jackson explained Navy scholarships and aviation programs, noting that many students are unaware of the opportunities available to them.

“Most students are unaware or have a lack of knowledge about the wonderful programs and scholarships the Navy have in place,” said Jackson.

Jackson then shared his personal story about how he utilized a Navy scholarship to attain a mechanical engineering degree from Prairie View A&M University and eventually pursue a career in aviation.

“I had absolutely zero aviation experience when I started my journey,” he said. “I was afraid of heights,



Lt. Cmdr. Mike Jackson, attached to NRD Houston, fastens the chinstrap on a boy's aviation helmet at a youth fly at Ellington Field in Houston. The event allowed children from the Houston area the opportunity to ask questions about aviation in general and aviation careers in the Navy, as well as ride in an airplane over Houston.

but I thought to myself ‘you only live once and I need to take advantage of opportunities when they are presented.’”

Jackson closed by challenging the students. “Most people won't be able to fathom the things you will be able to do. Do you have what it takes to take that first step?”

Then on July 13, Jackson attended a youth fly in at Ellington Field, Ellington Air Force Base in Houston. At this event he quizzed attendees on naval history, shared his experiences and answered aviation questions from interested kids while they waited their turn to fly above Houston.

Jackson said that he relishes any opportunity to speak with students.

“This is my way of giving back,” he said. “This is my chance to encourage youth to do what I do. Being an aviator is the most fun thing I have ever done. Nothing beats flying, landing on an aircraft carrier, in the dark, with night-vision goggles on.”



Updates to Lighten Recruiter Load

By MC2 Amanda Sullivan, NRC Public Affairs

ARM
MOD
WE
ARM
PRIDE
PRIDE

MILLINGTON, Tenn. – For recruiters on the bag, the bag is about to get a little lighter.

With the roll out of PRIDE MOD II in the works, recruiters across the country will begin to see a reduction in paper copies of documents necessary to process applicants.

Changes to PRIDE MOD are coming as part of the Recruiting Force 2020 strategy to bring the recruiting process from the pre-Information Age systems to a more modern, streamlined system to enable recruiting anytime and anywhere.

In the second quarter of fiscal year 2015, a software update will be pushed down to all Mobile Recruiting Initiative (MRI) and Navy Marine Corps Intranet (NMCI) machines that currently use PRIDE MOD.

In conjunction with MRI, which allows recruiters to begin processing applicant paperwork wherever they are, PRIDE MOD II will allow recruiters to process and digitally sign most of the documents that used to require paper copies and signatures. Using biometric fingerprint signatures for applicants and Command Access Card (CAC) signing for recruiters, documents will be completed, signed and shared with other systems – all without a single sheet of paper.

“Applicants will experience a smoother process because everything is internal. They won't have as many hiccups because of lost paper documents,” said Jeff Keating, PRIDE MOD II program manager.

PRIDE MOD II will also bring a great deal of change for the way officer applications are processed as PRIDE MOD II will now be used for all officer processing.

“PRIDE MOD II will provide a one-stop shop for all active and reserve component officer and enlisted application,” said Keating.

PRIDE MOD II will be one of three integrated systems under the new Navy Recruiting Information Systems, which will also include Applicants Relationships management System (ARM) and a Business Intelligence System. All of which will work together to provide a seamless process.

“We are moving toward a multi-mission recruiting station,” said Kevin Sullivan, director of the IT and Communications Department at Navy Recruiting Command (NRC). “It's about aligning our IT systems to our business processing.”

PRIDE MOD II will also provide one system for active and reserve components, and interfacing with Military Entrance Processing Stations' (MEPS') Virtual Integrated Processing System, Recruit Training Command, and Navy Personnel Command.

Sharing information between several legacy systems has always proved challenging. With PRIDE modernization, instead of inputting applicant data into multiple stove-pipe systems, the upgrades will help to populate several systems at once reducing the time recruiters spend on administrative tasks.

In addition to populating several systems at once, the upgrades will also reduce the number of paper copies necessary to complete for each applicant and reduce the number of documents that need to be faxed back and forth. In addition to saving time and money, these features help to further protect personally identifiable information.

But the changes will also provide a more stress-free experience for applicants by reducing the number of trips to MEPS necessary.

“It's very applicant centric,” said Sullivan. “We are absolutely focused on the applicant in every step of the process.”

Training will be conducted for all recruiters on the new features of the program and changes to processes before the roll out.

Since 2007, NRC has driven down from 14 separate stove-pipe systems which did not interface with each other. With the introduction of ARM, much of the data redundancy and inconsistencies that occurs with so many independent systems should be eliminated.





CANREC is Atlanta's Top Recruiter

Story and photo by MC1(SW) Michael J. Scott I, NRD Atlanta Public Affairs

ATLANTA – Long days. Busy nights. Countless miles driven. Steady streams of people. People in. People out. Paperwork. Never ceasing paperwork. Always correcting paperwork. Reproducing paperwork. Tracking down paperwork.

A Navy recruiter's life is a revolving door of people, paperwork and fulfilling promises for our country's best and brightest. Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Atlanta's Canvasser Recruiter (CANREC), Logistic Specialist 2nd Class Latonya Hicks, is one who's up to the challenge.

"I encounter people every day who are struggling with some kind of issue or problem," said Hicks. "I've been able to guide some past disappointments and obstacles. I have seen the Navy give hope to many who didn't have it. It's nice to be a part of that."

Hicks has been in the Navy for nine years: Seven as a reservist and the last two as a CANREC at Navy Recruiting Station Jonesboro, Ga. She admits to being a bit apprehensive about serving as a recruiter.

"I have friends who are recruiters. I used to send a lot of people to them and they would end up joining. My recruiter friends said to me, 'Why don't you do this?' At first I was hesitant because it's not something



NRD Atlanta's Canvasser Recruiter, LS2 Latonya Hicks, speaks to a group of students at Forest Park High School. Hicks encourages students to consider the U.S. Navy as a career choice.

"I thought I would enjoy. Finally, I decided to at least try and see how things worked out," said Hicks.

The CANREC Program is designed primarily as a temporary recall program for production recruiters to execute the Navy Reserve recruiting mission. The Atlanta-native said that's one of the reasons why she was attracted to the job.

"As a canvasser recruiter, it meant I didn't have to do recruiting permanently. I could try it on and see how it fits. It ended up fitting very well," said Hicks.

Last year, NRD Atlanta awarded Hicks the Recruiter of the Year and Diversity Recruiter of the Year awards. Commanding Officer, Cmdr. David D. Neal, said a good recruiter needs a mix of administrative and

personal skills along with a desire to succeed in an independent duty environment.

"Petty Officer Hicks very quickly established herself as an aggressive recruiter who had the ability to connect with the people in her specific area," said Neal. "She has the talent, personal drive and motivation to go above and beyond normal expectations. She has what it takes to be the very best."

The mother of three girls, Hicks considered joining the military after high school but her mother was against it. As she got older and worked as a debt collector, her interests never left. At 33, Hicks chose the reserves because she didn't want to leave her daughters behind.

"Joining the Navy gave me the opportunity to join something bigger than what I was experiencing. Thinking outside the box helped me make one of the best decisions I ever made," said Hicks.

As a reservist, Hicks has never been on deployment. But her lack of Navy experience has never been an obstacle during her recruiting career. She simply looks for attributes that say to her 'this person would make a great Sailor.'

"I'm looking for quality. I'm looking for someone who I'd want serving next to me. I ask myself, 'Is this the kind of person I'd want looking out for me?'" said Hicks.

She adds, "Just because someone qualifies on paper doesn't mean they're a good fit for the Navy. Through conversations and interaction, people will reveal who they really are. You just have to pay attention," said Hicks.

NRD Atlanta's Chief Recruiter, Navy Counselor Master Chief Dwayne Rosser, said Hicks' determination, drive and hard work sets her apart from all the rest.

"I know she went through a lot during her interview, but she always stayed on top of things and didn't allow stressful circumstances to get the best of her," said Rosser. "She always strives to be the very best she can be. She's proactive and that's a great characteristic to have as a recruiter."

Hicks spends her weekends and holidays with her girls and family because she works so much during the week. She says it's important to keep that balance in her life.

She admits another joy is when her recruits reach back and share their experiences and successes. She said it's wonderful to get that feedback.

"What I like most is helping people. I have the ability to help change lives and really make a difference with people," said Hicks. "I get emails, texts and phone calls all the time from my recruits thanking me for helping them get into the Navy. You can't help but feel great about that."



Navy recruiter EO2 Brian Lunt, right, speaks with a Boy Scout about different job fields within the Navy during a Boy Scout summer camp event. NRD San Diego recruiters spoke with Boy Scouts about the opportunities and benefits of naval service. (Photo by MCC Anastasia Puscian, NRD San Diego Public Affairs)



Officer and Wife Adopt Fourth Child

Story and photo by MCSN Tyler Fraser, NRC Public Affairs

MILLINGTON, Tenn. – There are an estimated 153 million orphans worldwide. Without assistance, these orphans can continue in the cycle of poverty, HIV/AIDS, trafficking, prostitution and slavery.

Lt. Cmdr. Claude McRoberts, director of Enlisted Programs for Navy Recruiting Command (NRC), has decided to do something about this problem and recently adopted his fourth child.

“He’s my sixth child, my fourth adopted one,” said McRoberts. “I currently have two biological boys that are 12 and eight. I have two girls adopted from Vietnam that are both six. I have a boy adopted from South Korea that is three.” The latest adoptee is a 15-year-old boy from Latvia.

McRoberts explains that adopting is something he and his wife have always wanted to do.

“We always thought about adoption but after my wife’s second pregnancy that was very complicated, we decided to pursue it,” he stated. “We still wanted to grow our family and we’ve always had a desire to help orphans get adopted.

“As a Christian, the Bible says we are to take care of the orphans and the fatherless,” said McRoberts. “If I don’t go ahead and take care of these kids and give them a family then who will?”

Having already adopted three younger children, McRoberts says that it was a video that persuaded him and his wife to adopt a teenager as their fourth child.

“We were originally in foster care to adopt an infant and then while we were taking the classes for parenting we watched videos of people that talked about the whole time they were in foster care they wanted someone to adopt them just so they could change their last name and have a family forever,” said McRoberts. “Watching that video started us looking into some of these teenagers in foster care that would never have a family.”

McRoberts says that with this latest adoption the child’s age was a major factor in their decision to adopt.

“When the children get to 16 years old they are



The latest addition to the McRoberts family, Edgars, center back, stands between his parents Jewel and Claude. His siblings are Malachi, middle row left, and Noah; and Eden, front left, Isaac, and Jordan.

taken out of the foster care system or orphanage,” said McRoberts.

This young man was in a hosting program called Harmony in upstate New York. Harmony raises funds and helps children in these orphanages come to the

United States for four weeks to stay in a house with a host family. Hopefully that host family will then be willing to adopt them.

A family in upstate New York hosted this 15-year-old boy and wanted to adopt him but they couldn’t because they were only 17 years and two months older than him. In Latvia you have to be 18 years older than the child to adopt. McRoberts knew he and his wife had to adopt the 15-year-old boy before he turned 16 and taken out of the Harmony program.

The adoption from Latvia has been very expensive and fundraising was needed to make it possible.

“It is going to cost \$36,000 to adopt this 15-year-old boy,” said McRoberts. “I told my wife if we can fundraise \$24,000 we can do it; we’ll pay for the rest.”

McRoberts and his wife used Facebook and blogs to get their information out. They used websites for direct donations. They also had a church-wide yard sale where people donated items and they sold it. They also had some other items donated to them that they auctioned off.

“We’re almost at that \$24,000 mark on fundraising; we’re at around \$21,000,” said McRoberts. “The rest we’ll be paying for out of pocket.”

According to McRoberts, the Navy has played a huge role in making this adoption process possible. “There are a lot of ways where the Navy has been very beneficial in helping our family and the adoption needs,” he said. “I would say that the Navy has been a very supportive organization. I don’t think I could be more satisfied with what the Navy is doing to support adoption.”

McRoberts says the Navy has policies that are very supportive of adoption and the leadership has always been very supportive as well. “The Navy has adoption leave, which is 21 days of non-chargeable leave for every adoption,” stated McRoberts.

“The Navy’s medical care starts with placement so once we have someone placed with us, even if the adoption isn’t final, they’re covered by Tricare,” he said. The military also pays a \$5,000 reimbursement after an adoption.

Although adopting another child is not in his future plans, McRoberts also says that

plans are always subject to change.

“I would say that right now my plan is to not adopt for a while, but I may go back when my kids get old enough,” said McRoberts. “My plan could always change and God could put somebody in my path. My intent way back in the day was to have three children and now I have six.”



PS2 Henry Johnson, far left, and OS2 Angel Montoya, far right, both attached to NRD Houston, present a donation to Wes Powell and Chrystal Rivers with Star of Hope. Johnson and Montoya raised money with their motorcycle club for different charities in the Houston area. Star of Hope is dedicated to meeting the needs of homeless men, women and children through programs focusing on growth, education, employment, life management and recovery from substance abuse. (Photo by MC1 Jacob L. Dillon, NRD Houston Public Affairs)





Future Sailor's Success Story: Class of 2013 Law and Public Safety Honors

Story by Pat Huston, Ohio Dept. of Education, Office of Career-Technical Education
Photo by Kendra Ward, EHOVE Career Center
Used with permission

NOTE: The Ohio Department of Education's Office of Career-Technical Education selected 15 awardees – one for each career field – from among 140 nominations for class of 2013 success stories. Honorees received a certificate, the opportunity for further recognition during the 2013 Ohio State Fair and the distinction of being featured in various state-level messaging/presentations over the next year. NRD Ohio's future Sailor Andra Johns was one of those recipients.

MILAN, Ohio – The skills that Andra Johns acquired at Erie, Huron, Ottawa Vocational Education (EHOVE) Career Center helped save the life of a gunshot victim during her senior year.

"We received a call about a shooting during my clinical hours with the EMS [Emergency Medical Service] professionals assigned to mentor me," recalled the Edison High School graduate. "We arrived on scene to find our patient as well as bystanders in chaos. I checked the man's vital signs. As we loaded him into the ambulance, he was constantly in and out of consciousness. At one point, I performed CPR to keep him alive."

She credits her knowledge and calm demeanor on that day to the EHOVE Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)/Firefighter program, which also laid the groundwork for her future career as a fire marshal or arson investigator.

Johns' list of 30 high school activities and achievements further seals her future plans. Those most related to her career choice are licenses in firefighting and EMT and certifications in First Aid/CPR, First Responder, Telecommunications/Dispatch, HAZMAT (hazardous material), Occupational, Safety and Health Administration, and three levels in the Incident Command System.



NRD Ohio's future Sailor Andra Johns helped save the life of a gunshot victim during her senior year at Edison High School using skills that she acquired at the EHOVE Career Center.

Those less-related but contributing to her well-roundedness include cross country, track, Spanish club, mock trial team, National Technical Honor Society and selection for the Buckeye Girls State citizenship program.

A member of SkillsUSA (a national, nonprofit organization for teachers, and high school and college students who are preparing for careers in trade, technical, and skilled service occupations, including health care), she also volunteered with Big Sisters student achievement program and the American Legion, and worked in a local pizza shop.

"Right now, I'm working on more certifications and more schooling," she said. "In five to 10 years I will be a valuable addition within the ranks of other professionals dedicated to the preservation of life, property and the environment through advanced firefighting, lifesaving and rescue techniques."



NAVY is Big Contributor at Summer GAMES

Story and photo by MCC Joseph Reynoso, NRD Los Angeles Public Affairs

LOS ANGELES – Summer X Games just recently concluded its four-day stint in Los Angeles Aug. 1-4.

The event's extreme sports that drew 200 athletes and throngs of fans were motocross, rally car racing, and America's Navy Skateboard Big Air competition.

Recruiters from Navy Recruiting District Los Angeles took part in the newest recruiting tool, the Navy STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Tour. The tour included a model of the Electromagnetic Aircraft Launch System, laparoscopic surgery demo and interactive experiences which allowed a virtual experience with remotely operated vehicles. Designed for students and young adults, this venue enabled them to learn and turn their dreams into reality through hands-on experience.

Throughout the event the STEM Tour proved to be a big hit among the younger crowd. Navy recruiters

explained the three different stations to incoming prospects, detailed how each one worked and how they could be part of an even bigger concept by enlisting in the Navy.

Also taking stage at the NAVY tents was the Warrior Challenge, bringing in a pull-up bar challenge, allowing male and female competitors a chance to be the champ for the day. Winners were also awarded specially designed X Games skateboard decks. The Warrior Challenge also brought in pro BMX racer Kevin Robinson for two separate autograph sessions with the fans.

Wrapping up its 11-year run in Los Angeles, the summer X Games will be held in Austin, Texas, next year.





Future Sailor Recognized for Lifesaving Actions

Story and photo by Dan Puleio, NRD Denver Public Affairs

WINDSOR, Colo. – In a ceremony conducted Aug. 6, 2013, at Windsor Fire Station #1, Seaman Recruit Jacob Stone, age 17, was awarded the Good Samaritan Lifesaving Award by Battalion Fire Chiefs Darren Jaques and Todd Vess.

Stone was traveling on State Highway 257 in the vicinity of Windsor the evening of July 14 and was the first on the scene after witnessing a motorcycle collide with an automobile. Both rider and passenger were ejected onto the pavement, suffering critical injuries.

Utilizing CPR skills learned as an American Red Cross-certified lifeguard, Stone employed chest compressions on a rotational basis between the victims while directing a passerby to call emergency services. He then instructed the caller what information to provide the 911 operator. EMTs, firefighters and police soon arrived. Vess assumed the

on-scene commander role, and subsequently praised Stone for his application of high-quality CPR.

Jaques stated, "The mark of true character is to see a need and act upon it when no one is watching."

Stone said, "All I could hear in my mind was my Red Cross instructor's voice, encouraging me to act on my training."

"When I arrived on scene there were at least 15 persons watching, but Jacob Stone was the only one taking action," said Vess.

Stone's recruiter, Boatswain's Mate 1st Class Alan Higgins, holds his subordinates to a high standard. He stated, "They are my future shipmates and I teach them that if you aren't learning something new every day, you're not trying hard enough. This was certainly true with Seaman Recruit Stone's use of high-quality CPR in this first-responder situation."



Seaman Recruit Jacob Stone, with plaque, receives the Good Samaritan Lifesaving Award in a ceremony in Windsor, Colo. On hand to witness the presentation were American Red Cross lifeguarding instructor Laurie Balerud, left, Battalion Fire Chief Todd Vess, father Dan Stone, stepmother Michelle Churchill and Navy recruiter BM1 Alan Higgins.

ADMIRAL'S FIVE-STAR RECRUITERS

June 2013

- NRD Atlanta - AM1 Donovan Hardee
- NRD Chicago - AM2(EXW) Gary Coit
- NRD Dallas - BM2 Ivan Mitchell
- NRD Denver - EM1 Brandon Mourer
- NRD Houston - AE1(AW) Timothy Finnen
- NRD Jacksonville - MR1 Larry Shipman
- NRD Los Angeles - LS2 Thomas Molina
- NRD Miami
- NRD Michigan - AOC(AW) David Scaramazzo
- NRD Minneapolis - STS2(SS) Ian Gilmour
- NRD Nashville - AT2(AW) Jeremy Goodman
- NRD New England - STS2 Steven Stahl
- NRD New Orleans - EM1 Mionne Gooch
- NRD New York - EM2 Adewale Awosika
- NRD Ohio - FC2 Robert Tucker
- NRD Philadelphia - MC2 Chantell Wilson
- NRD Phoenix - ABH2 Steven McQueen
- NRD Pittsburgh - MC1 Theodore Green
- NRD Portland - AM1(AW/SW) Jeff Jarvis
- NRD Raleigh - FC1(SW/AW) Jillian Favors
- NRD Richmond
- NRD San Antonio - LS2 Neil Phillips
- NRD San Diego - ABH1 Mark Poblete
- NRD San Francisco - MM1(SS) Christopher Pietrzykowski
- NRD Seattle - ET1 Ty Coyne
- NRD St. Louis - STG2 Jerrica Johnson

July 2013

- NRD Atlanta - ABF2 Kendell Mabry
- NRD Chicago
- NRD Dallas - BM1 James Dotson
- NRD Denver - ET2 Steven Frickell
- NRD Houston - AE1(AW) Timothy Finnen
- NRD Jacksonville - AE1 Roberto Rivera
- NRD Los Angeles - CE2 Geovanni Vela
- NRD Miami
- NRD Michigan - EM1(SW) Rod Cannizzaro
- NRD Minneapolis - MM1 Daniel Solon
- NRD Nashville - UT1(SCW) William Dean
- NRD New England - ITS2 Kynan Rivers
- NRD New Orleans - FC1 Shane Burch
- NRD New York
- NRD Ohio - YN2 James Webster
- NRD Philadelphia - AT2 Robert Majestic
- NRD Phoenix - FC1 Alexander Hernandez
- NRD Pittsburgh - GSE1 Jorge Lopez
- NRD Portland - EO1(SCW) Garrett Jeppe
- NRD Raleigh - BM2(SW) Kelvin Harvey
- NRD Richmond
- NRD San Antonio - OS2 Ryan Dowd
- NRD San Diego - LS2 Jomel Orpilla
- NRD San Francisco - BM1(SW/AW) Glenboy Guilas
- NRD Seattle - STS1 Christopher Sauerwein
- NRD St. Louis - MC1(AW/SW) Jason Winn

THE DISTRICT'S TOP STATIONS

June 2013

- NRD Atlanta - NRS Carrollton
- NRD Chicago - NRS Kenosha
- NRD Dallas - NRS Cedar Hill
- NRD Denver - NRS Canon City
- NRD Houston - NRS Tyler
- NRD Jacksonville - NRS Orange Park
- NRD Los Angeles - NRS Santa Maria
- NRD Miami
- NRD Michigan - NRS Indy North
- NRD Minneapolis - NRS Crystal
- NRD Nashville - NRS Knoxville
- NRD New England - NRS Providence
- NRD New Orleans - NRS Crestview
- NRD New York - NRS Crown Heights
- NRD Ohio - NRS Columbus East
- NRD Philadelphia - NRS Towson
- NRD Phoenix - NRS Flagstaff
- NRD Pittsburgh - NRS Monroeville
- NRD Portland - NRS Klamath Falls
- NRD Raleigh - NRS New Bern
- NRD Richmond
- NRD San Antonio - NRS Temple
- NRD San Diego - NRS Temecula
- NRD San Francisco - NRS Fresno
- NRD Seattle - NRS Port Orchard
- NRD St. Louis - NRS Springfield

July 2013

- NRD Atlanta - NRS South Dekalb
- NRD Chicago
- NRD Dallas - NRS Lawton
- NRD Denver - NRS Lakewood
- NRD Houston - NRS The Woodlands
- NRD Jacksonville - NRS West Jacksonville
- NRD Los Angeles - NRS Crenshaw
- NRD Miami
- NRD Michigan - NRS Mt. Pleasant
- NRD Minneapolis - NRS Lacrosse
- NRD Nashville - NRS Huntsville
- NRD New England - NRS Oneonta
- NRD New Orleans - NRS Lafayette
- NRD New York
- NRD Ohio - NRS Mansfield
- NRD Philadelphia - NRS Columbia
- NRD Phoenix - NRS Metro Center
- NRD Pittsburgh - NRS Meadville
- NRD Portland - NRS Redding
- NRD Raleigh - NRS Beaufort
- NRD Richmond
- NRD San Antonio - NRS South Corpus Christi
- NRD San Diego - NRS National City
- NRD San Francisco - NRS Daly City
- NRD Seattle - NRS Butte
- NRD St. Louis - NRS Independence

