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The Navy’s Medical Corps

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Simultaneous Day of Service

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The Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) 41st annual memorial service was recently held at the Kauffman EOD Training Complex, Elgin Air Force Base, Fla., to honor the men and women of all services who lost their lives on active duty as a result of an EOD mission since the declaration of World War II. This year, 16 names of those killed in action in Iraq and Afghanistan were added to the memorial, bringing the total to 254 names.

(U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Jennifer A. Villalovos)
Shipmates:

May 1st, 2010, is a date that will long be remembered by those of us serving in Millington, Tenn. More than 14 inches of rain fell in less than 24 hours, flooding the base and surrounding areas. Our shipmates at NRD Nashville also witnessed flooding in their area and responded with much-needed relief support in the local communities. The impact of the flooding was devastating to many and continues to take a toll on those families who lost their homes and valued possessions.

Because no one can predict when catastrophic events will occur, we must learn from them and prepare for the next one. Ensure your contact information is updated, including alternate means of contact such as cell phone and personal e-mail addresses. Ensure you have an emergency preparedness kit and discuss with your family what actions they need to take in the event of an emergency.

Just as we need to be prepared as a family, we also need to be prepared as a recruiting force. This means getting out into the schools (including middle schools), engaging with our centers of influence (especially through the RDAC), and exploring opportunities with science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) programs. This means providing world-class customer service by promptly replying to e-mails and phone calls. This means keeping sharp on professional sales skills. This preparedness will help ensure we continue to meet our mission in the future as effectively as we are today.

As we continue to meet production goals, we have expanded our focus to develop a NRC culture of quality. Mission accomplishment is our expectation at all times, but our mantra also includes how ‘WELL’ we are making goal. Our renewed focus on process quality adds efficiencies, saves time and resources, improves our recruiters’ quality of life, and ultimately improves the recruiting experience for our future Sailors.

The traditional summer push is on. With general officer recruiting ahead of all FY10 benchmarks, our focus is on AC/RC medical, chaplains, and JAG (which is traditionally a strong summer finisher). Reserve medical officer recruiting continues to be our biggest challenge. Our marketing and advertising team is working hard to ensure Americans know we’re hiring and we’re recognized across the nation not only as a global force for good, but also as an employer of choice.

We have great people doing great things, as evidenced by your actions during and after the storm in addition to your efforts to meet mission every day. We are the greatest recruiting force in the world’s best Navy. Thanks for your contribution to our Navy’s most important mission – recruiting – and for making America’s Navy a global force for good.
Navy Medicine Offers Something More

Story and photos by MC2 Joseph R. Wax, NRD Michigan Public Affairs

LANSING, Mich. – For health care professionals, there are a lot of choices when it comes to employment. There are private practices and clinics, hospitals large and small, specialized clinics, nursing homes, and too many more to name. One career path often overlooked, however, is the Navy Medical Corps.

Navy doctors, dentists and nurses can be found working around the world. They are on the frontlines in Iraq and Afghanistan. They are working on ships and in military treatment facilities all over the globe. They are even working in hospitals and clinics near you.

Navy Capt. Craig Spencer, a Lansing-area dentist and member of Marine Detachment 4 of the 14th Dental Company, 4th Dental Battalion and Cmdr. Joe Kochan, an anesthesiologist at Sparrow Hospital in Lansing and the officer in charge of Operational Health Support Unit Great Lakes, Detachment S, work fulltime in the Lansing area but also serve their country as members of the Navy Reserve Medical Corps.

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Navy Capt. Craig Spencer has his own private dental practice but is also a member of the Navy Reserve Medical Corps. Spencer realizes as a reservist that there is always a possibility he can be mobilized, but would consider it a privilege to serve this great country if called.

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Both Kochan and Spencer believe that their time in the Navy, both active duty and reserves, has made them a better doctor and dentist in their civilian practices as well as given them experiences they might not have gotten otherwise.

“If not for the Navy, I would never have worked in places like the Republic of Georgia, Estonia, the USNS Comfort [(T-AH 20)], an Eskimo village in Alaska, and the Dominican Republic --- not to mention California, Florida, North and South Carolina, and Chicago,” said Spencer. “I would not have been catapulted from the deck of the USS Kitty Hawk [(CV 63)]. I would not have training in shooting weapons, rappelling cliffs, and medical triaging. I would never have gained the vast clinical experience from working in a variety of environments under the tutelage of experts in all the disciplines of dentistry. I would never have established relationships and friendships with people from all over the world. Lastly, I never would have met my wife Gina, who was a Navy nurse at Balboa Hospital in San Diego.”

“I am thankful for the opportunities and experiences provided during my time in the Navy,” said Kochan. “I have had the ability now to mentor medical students at Michigan State University. I love to share my excitement for the Navy with them and all those I work with in my civilian employment.”

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"Medical school does not teach leadership, management skills, or how to run your own practice," adds Kochan. "The Navy offers both experiences in leadership and management skills. Early in my career, I was thrust into uncharted territory when I became the medical department head on my ship. The ship's leadership took me under their wing. This mentorship is unique to the military as we try to shape our junior personnel to become leaders and advance through the ranks. The experience obtained while serving in the Navy vastly improves your ability to work in private practice as a physician."

According to Kochan, there are also financial benefits to joining the Navy Medical Corps.

"Navy medicine can give you direction, great training, leadership experience, and financial stability," said Kochan. "Starting as a medical or dental student, you can avoid large debt for school by applying for a Navy scholarship. If you are a resident, there are programs to assist as well. There are bonuses and loan repayment programs available to those who have already completed residency and are practicing."

One serious consideration for many medical practitioners before joining the Navy or Navy Reserve is how it might impact their civilian practice or career.

"I have had several frank discussions with my partners about leaving the practice for long periods of time," said Kochan. "All my partners have been very supportive of my service and would support deployment as well."

"It is important to realize there is always a possibility one can be mobilized and have to leave a practice and a family," said Spencer. "A reservist must accept this and consider it a privilege to serve this great country if called. It is something everyone considering the Navy Reserves must come to grips with."

However, not all Navy Medical Corps members get deployed. So far, neither Kochan nor Spencer has been asked to do a long deployment.

"The Navy leadership has had the belief that its reserve dentists can be utilized much more efficiently if they perform their two weeks of annual duty at facilities within the United States where Marines and Sailors mobilize from, versus taking them away from their civilian practices," said Spencer. "I personally do not know of any Navy Reserve dentists who have deployed against their wishes. Some have volunteered."

But deployments aren’t the only way that members of Navy medicine serve their country.

"As an officer in the Navy, you will have the ability to be involved with mission trips, travel to other parts of the country on orders for annual training, and travel overseas to Navy medical facilities needing assistance," said Kochan. "I would also reinforce that as a member of the Navy you may be required to assist on a ship, a Marine unit, or a medical facility in an area of conflict. But this is what we do out of a sense of duty to our country and our fellow servicemen."

Navy doctors, dentists and nurses can be found working all over the world. Some are fulltime, active-duty members in uniform and others work fulltime in a clinic or hospital nearby. All of them have unique and diverse experiences that are hard to come by anywhere else.
SAN ANTONIO – NRD San Antonio celebrated Navy Week during the annual Fiesta San Antonio celebration.

Fiesta San Antonio dates back to the late 1800’s and began as a single event to honor the memory of the battles of the Alamo and San Jacinto. Currently Fiesta San Antonio has more than 100 events over 11 days that take place all over the city and beyond.

San Antonio’s population is greater than 58 percent Hispanic. The Fiesta has deep ties to the Hispanic culture, and traditions are showcased during the celebration. The event has an economic impact of $284 million for the Alamo City with more than three million people participating.

NRD San Antonio worked hard to create a Navy presence during Fiesta, participating in approximately 50 events including three parades, and 10 high school and four college events.

Navy Day at the Alamo was the event of the week that showcased our Navy, sharing the time-honored traditions that have shaped America’s Navy.

Support from eight naval commands, in addition to the NRD, was key to the success of such a large event. The U.S. Naval Academy Band, “Electric Brigade,” conducted 17 performances including six shows in area high schools. Additionally, visits from crew members of USS San Antonio (LPD 17) helped promote Navy Week in San Antonio.

Three flag officers were busy from early morning to late evening, participating in NRD San Antonio’s Navy Week. Some of the highlights were: Rear Adm. Albert Garcia III, Civil Engineer Corps deputy commander, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, deputy chief of Civil Engineers, right, and his wife Cindy ride the Navy “battleship” float with Cmdr. Vincent Oritz, NRD San Antonio executive officer, left, and Cmdr. Mark Hofman, commander, Navy Operational Support Center San Antonio, in the Battle of Flowers Parade during Navy Week. The icon of San Antonio, the Alamo, is shown in the background. (Photo by MCC L.A. Shively, NAVCO)
the mega Delayed Entry Program event attended by more than 300 future Sailors, families and friends; and Rear Adm. William Kiser, commander, Naval Medical Center Portsmouth, briefed the San Antonio Military Affairs Committee on the projected growth of the Medical Education Training Campus and how it will impact the San Antonio area and local Navy growth.

NRD San Antonio covers more than 125,000 square miles, covering 97 counties within Texas.

Retired Navy Cmdr. Paul Becker takes the lead in the UL-14 “Go Navy” Hydroplane during the 2010 Lucas Oil Firebird Spring Nationals drag boat races at Firebird Raceway in Chandler, Ariz. Becker, a former Navy pilot, donated space on his boat for the Navy logos and had local Sailors as part of his pit crew during the three-day racing event. (Photo by MC1 Adrian Melendez, NRD Phoenix Public Affairs)
Rear Adm. Craig S. Faller, commander, Navy Recruiting Command, congratulates SOCM Matthew J. May, left, and EODCM William Nesbitt at an awards ceremony at NRC headquarters, Millington, Tenn.

May was awarded the Bronze Star Medal (third award) by the Secretary of the Navy for combat actions against the enemy while serving as troop chief during deployment to Iraq from September through April 2008 in direct support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. On April 27, May led multiple team members on a daytime direct-action mission where he directed his team to engage the enemy who was using innocent civilians as screens and maintained his battlefield awareness that was vital to preventing the loss of their lives. In the sustained firefight, elements under his guidance quickly neutralized the enemy personnel positions, resulting in a successful strategic mission to detain a declared hostile individual.

Nesbitt was awarded the Bronze Star Medal by the Secretary of the Navy for combat actions while serving as leading chief petty officer and team leader of Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 3 during the deployment of his unit in Iraq from April through September 2008. Nesbitt led his team on 195 combat missions where they ensured safe passage of coalition forces, rendered 24 improvised explosive devices safe, eliminated 40 enemy weapons caches, destroyed over 35,000 enemy remnants of war and conducted 23 post-blast analyses.

Both May and Nesbitt are currently assigned to the NRC Operations Department.

(Photo by Chris Desmond, NRC)
NEW YORK – The heroism and selfless devotion to duty of World War II veterans has earned them the well-deserved nickname “The Greatest Generation.” Volumes have been written about the sacrifices made by these military members in the hopes that their actions would never be forgotten.

When the war ended, these brave soldiers, Sailors, airmen and Marines fully expected that the country they fought so valiantly for would remember their service. They expected that their sacrifice would be repaid when their military careers eventually ended. They expected that when they were in need, there would be someone there to answer the call as they did during WWII.

And in most cases, there was.

Yet, for Morton Springer, a 93-year-old WWII veteran from Wayne, N.J., the call for help went unanswered for several months.

Nine months ago, Springer, a retired United States Army chief warrant officer, stopped receiving his retirement checks. Why? The Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) thought he was dead.

Springer’s family, unfamiliar with the workings of government bureaucracy, had no clue how to rectify the problem, so they turned to local military representatives for help.

“The family reached out to the other services,” said NC1 James Gale, a Navy recruiter stationed in Paterson, N.J. “Unfortunately, they couldn’t get any help.”

Five months after Springer’s struggle began, Gale learned of the situation and decided to step in. “They needed help,” he said simply. “The family told me that they were having problems with [Springer’s] pay. They called other branches of service. They even called their congressman but DFAS still said that he was dead when clearly he wasn’t.”

Gale felt strongly that a man who had served his country for more than 20 years, including WWII, should be able to get the benefits he had earned.

Visiting Springer and his family in the Wayne nursing home where Springer now resides only steel Gale’s resolve to get the error corrected. “Meeting with him and the family, I knew this [helping] was the right thing to do,” Gale said.

When he thought about Springer’s situation, Gale would immediately start to think about his future. “I would think about my retirement,” he said. “I would think about how I wouldn’t like something like this to happen to me.”

With his respect for Springer’s service and his hope that someone would do the same for him, Gale started developing a plan to help this forgotten member of “The Greatest Generation.” After meeting with the family, Gale began gathering paperwork…a lot of paperwork.

“The first thing I did,” said Gale, “was make copies of all of his military documents to verify that he was in the Army and that he was still alive.” Next, he faxed all of the paperwork to DFAS hoping that the problem would be solved. Unfortunately, he was informed that further documentation was needed.
“They told me they needed some extra information and that his signature was needed on all of the documents,” Gale said. “So I went back to the nursing home.”

These visits may, at first glance, seem easy enough, but the life of a military recruiter is a busy one with little time for pursuits outside of the recruiting mission. This is particularly true when one is in charge of an entire recruiting station. Yet Gale, recruiter in charge of NRS Paterson, was more than willing to spend as much time as it took to help Springer straighten out his pay issues.

“It was unfortunate that he was in this situation,” said Gale. “I just had to make time. I was just trying to do the right thing. It wasn’t an inconvenience at all,” he said.

With that thought in mind, Gale made his second visit to Springer’s nursing home, this time to try and get the veteran’s signature. Unfortunately, the task was easier said than done.

“He was really out of it,” said Gale. “He’s pretty weak but I think the visit woke him up. It’s hard for him to hear and really talk but I spoke to him and he asked me how things were going.”

The conversation ended with Springer signing the pertinent documents and taking some pictures with Gale, pictures the recruiter would save in case he needed to send them to DFAS as further proof that 93-year-old Springer was indeed alive. “I’ve still got the pictures on my phone,” Gale said with a smile. “Just in case DFAS needs more evidence.”

Almost unbelievably, DFAS still required more documentation. So, for the third time in as many weeks, Gale returned to Wayne to visit Springer. This time, however, the final piece of the puzzle was put in place.

Many would have quickly grown frustrated with the red tape Gale was consistently cutting through, yet he continued to fight for what he felt Springer deserved. The end result was a welcome one. “I’m just really happy for him,” Gale said. “This wasn’t for me.”

Springer’s family was grateful for the efforts of the Paterson recruiter. “They sent me a thank you card,” said Gale, “but more importantly, I got everything straightened out.”

Even though the situation has been rectified and Springer is once again receiving his retirement pay, Gale still plans on returning to the nursing home he has spent so much time in as of late. This time, however, there will be no paperwork involved. “I’ll definitely go visit him again,” said Gale. “I’d like to check up on him and make sure everything is okay.”

Gale earns a living recruiting young men and women for the United States Navy; young men and women that could one day be called to do what Morton Springer did more than 60 years ago. If these future military members are any reflection of their recruiter, the U.S. military is indeed in good hands.

For Springer, Gale represents a hero’s hero; a current military member who hasn’t forgotten the past, one who was ready and willing to answer a veteran’s call for help as Springer answered a nation’s call for help during World War II.
Simultaneous Day of Service Conducted Across NRD Seattle States

From NRD Seattle Public Affairs

SEATTLE – In the Navy’s current TV spot “The Calling,” the narrator speaks of “The call to serve” and how “I will commit to carrying it close to my heart until my country is safe and anguish of those less fortunate has been soothed.”

This call to serve was recently on full display throughout the largest recruiting district in the nation. Every member of NRD Seattle, both Sailors and civilians, from Alaska to Washington, and Northern Idaho to Montana were out in their communities participating in community service events.

On that day the entire district did not think about recruiting or interviews, or end of month goals. Instead, they thought about giving back and making their communities a little better than when the day started.

“The great thing is many of the Sailors, recruiting stations and zones are already involved in community service on a regular basis,” commented Cmdr. Scott Murdock, commanding officer, NRD Seattle. “We felt it was important to emphasize how important service at the local level is by stopping the normal grind for a day and giving back together, as a command, as a team, as a family.”

Because it was important to emphasize the community aspects of service, each zone selected their events and coordinated them through local officials.

For quite a few of the projects, the Navy’s call to serve took recipients by surprise. Some organizations laid out a schedule that they thought the Sailors would never be able to complete in a day. But using Navy can-do spirit and ingenuity, participants would finish in an hour or two and then ask, “What’s next?”

In the wilds of Alaska, Denali Zone members volunteered to demolish and remove two derelict bridges from Chugach State Park. The project was part of an effort by Alaska State Parks to improve safety and overall aesthetics of the largest park of its kind in the United States.

MMc Jesse Callender from NRS Kalispell, Mont., chats with two Navy veterans at the Montana Veterans Home in Kalispell. Callender spent his day of service at the home, visiting veterans and calling out bingo numbers for them.
BM1 Matt Gursky, a recruiter from North Anchorage said, “Those weren’t bridges. They were big logs with boards nailed to them. Only in Alaska can you hike a mile in deep snow, bust ice off some rotten old bridge, cut it into 200-pound pieces, haul them out of a semi-frozen river, and then call it a service day.”

Narrows Zone leaders volunteered at the Bremerton Foodline Community building in Bremerton, Wash. Twenty-five Sailors and civilians participated, assisting the volunteer staff of 11 in catching up on four months of projects that were behind schedule. The team filled over 100 boxes of donated food, unloaded over 300 boxes of frozen food, cleaned out a freezer, and neatly placed the food back in the freezer in less than two hours.

One group completed a beautification project outdoors around the building, raking, mowing grass, planting flowers and assisting with badly needed maintenance. Within four hours, they managed to put the volunteer staff back on schedule, getting them two months ahead of the normal schedule of serving food to local needy families.

In the North Sound Zone, comprised of communities north and east of Seattle, members constructed a dugout roof for the Redmond Junior High baseball team. This school was chosen because of the support that the Lake Washington School District has traditionally given the Navy. The school provided the materials and tools to build the roof which they had been trying to finish for over a year.

Other tasks completed that day included leading physical training evolutions with local physical education classes, moving heavy wrestling mats and gym equipment, and hanging a banner in front of the school. School staff members admitted they severely needed the assistance.

Recruiters in Montana took part in constructing the 51st home in the Mid-Yellowstone Valley Habitat for Humanity in Billings Heights.

Staff from Central Zone, which covers the central portion of Washington from Moses Lake to Walla Walla, also participated in a Habitat for Humanity project in Tri-Cities.

In Washington State in the South Sound Zone, 18 volunteers participated at a local Salvation Army. They rotated 30,000 pounds of food, sorted 8,000 pounds of donated goods into 15 different categories, and issued food to over 30 low income families. In three hours these 18 Sailors accomplished a four-week task.

Some of the more remote stations participated in smaller but just as significant projects.

In Kalispell, Mont., MMC Jesse Callendar volunteered at the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls. Callendar said, “I spoke [with] resident veterans. I spoke...about their service to our country and relayed our gratitude for their service to our country and our appreciation for making our great nation what it is today. They were very grateful for the conversation and time I spent with each one of them.”

Callendar even called out the numbers in a scheduled bingo game. He found it to be a rewarding experience, stating, “I would recommend to all that they spend time with those that have served our country.”

It was clear that the call to serve was strong and resilient in all Sailors and civilians of NRD Seattle as the first district-wide day of service drew to a highly successful close.
BRANDON, Fla. – NRD Miami recruiters ran a continuous 18-hour relay May 7-8 at Brandon High School’s track, collecting over $27,900 along the way for cancer research.

The Sailors, led by team captain CT2 Kristianne Chardon whose grandmother is a breast cancer survivor, camped out at the school and took turns running around a track. Each team was asked to have a representative on the track at all times during the event.

“We had some motivated Sailors like Chief Electronics Technician Brian Glass and Operations Specialist 1st Class Jamal Atkins running out there and actually seeing who could outlast each other,” said Chardon. As the night wore on, a lot of teams thinned out but not the Navy. “We kept going to the end. This was truly a successful and fun event.”

“Because cancer never sleeps, relays are overnight events up to 24 hours in length,” said NC1 Christy Miller, recruiter in charge, Bradenton, who was elected to Brandon’s Community Committee for Relay for Life this year and sponsored her shipmates from NRD Miami’s Zone 6.

NRD Miami’s Zone 6 recruiters recently participated in a Relay for Life fundraiser in Brandon, Fla. Recruiters ran a continuous 18-hour relay, raising over $27,900 for cancer research. OS1 Jamal Atkins, left, and ETC Brian Glass made many laps around the track during the event.

The Navy runners were one of over 40 teams and 485 participants who took part in this event which also fostered greater Navy awareness in the Brandon community.

At the relay’s opening ceremony each team displayed a sign showing off their team colors and signifying which cancer they were raising funds for. The NRD Miami recruiters funded bladder cancer research.

Throughout the night as the Navy team maintained a runner on the track at all times, announcers kept everyone’s spirits alive by coming up with different themes and names for each lap such as quitter’s lap, bed-head lap and twins lap.

“I have family members that passed with cancer including both grandfathers with lung cancer and my...
grandmother with stomach cancer,” said NCC Dewayne Benjamin, supervisor, Zone 6. “That is why we wanted to help in any way we could. After discussing it with the zone and finding out several other recruiters had family members who suffered with various types of cancers, we all chipped in to participate and help with the cause.”

Each year, more than 3.5 million people in 5,000 communities in the United States, along with additional communities in 19 other countries, gather to take part in this global phenomenon and raise much-needed funds and awareness to save lives from cancer.

The American Cancer Society Relay for Life is a life-changing event that gives everyone in communities across the globe a chance to celebrate the lives of people who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and fight back against the disease. Relay participants are creating a world with more birthdays, where cancer can’t claim another year of anyone’s life.

FARGO, N.D. – The Red River, sometimes called the Red River of the North, separates North Dakota and Minnesota. Heavy snows and rain on saturated or frozen ground have caused a number of catastrophic floods. These are often made worse by snowmelts which start in warmer areas. Additionally, waters flowing northward into Canada are often dammed or slowed by ice.

In 2009, Fargo set a new flood record with the river cresting at 40.84 feet which resulted in an estimated $100 million in damage. Hard lessons learned from 2009 gave a lot of hindsight to flood prevention and preparations this year.

The Red River was rising and more snow was threatening Fargo earlier this year. Residents had been preparing for the river to crest for over a month.

“There was a much better projection from the forecasters this year,” said NCC Robert Leonard, a NRD Minneapolis zone supervisor. “The towns seemed better able to deal with issues that arose and had better planning. More dirt dikes were used this year. It seemed like we did more manual labor last year due to multiple crests of the river.”

Not all homeowners bordering the Red River in the Fargo, N.D., area were able to defend against the flood. The river crested at just under 37 feet, 19 feet above flood stage.
An aerial photo shows the extensive flooding at Naval Support Activity Mid-South in Millington, Tenn., on May 1. Two days of rain dumped more than 14 inches in the area, causing a levee to overflow, flooding the base and surrounding community. The base was closed to all but mission-essential employees for several days, and many buildings and services have yet to be fully restored. NRC headquarters building did not flood but some of the command’s auxiliary buildings sustained extensive damage. (U.S. Navy photo by Mark Wilson)

Fire rescue personnel evacuated family members from base housing May 1 at Naval Support Activity Mid-South in Millington. Major flooding resulted after two days of rain dumped more than 14 inches in the area, causing a levee on the east side of the base to spill over and flood the majority of the base. (U.S. Navy photo)

Streets in the family housing section of NSA Mid-South were under water during major flooding May 1 after heavy rains breached a nearby protective levee. As of mid-day the next day, the waters had receded from most of the base and efforts were underway to survey the damage and identify any safety concerns before allowing personnel to return to their homes. (U.S. Navy photo)

Right: Roy Barton, 70, a retired Army sgt. 1st class, buys food, health and comfort items to be given to flood victims in Millington. Barton, a Vietnam-era veteran, said that the military was a part of his life for 20 years and that means even more when he sees military people who need assistance. “This is my military family. If my military family is in trouble, then I am in trouble,” said Barton. Residents aboard NSA Mid-South as well as the Millington community sought refuge at the base gym and other American Red Cross shelters in the city until they could find other housing. (Photo by Chris Desmond, NRC)
Left: IT1 Latarsha Young with NRC’s IT Department displays one of many laptops and computers that were covered in flood waters at NRC’s storage annex.

NRC’s headquarters staff and other units aboard NSA Mid-South began cleaning up buildings after damage caused when a levee overran, flooding the base and surrounding community. Although most of the buildings have been reclaimed, full restoration of buildings and services could still take several months. (Photo by Chris Desmond, NRC)

Left: Many areas in Middle Tennessee were affected by the May floods. Furniture, appliances, clothing, drywall, and insulation covered entire lawns of hundreds of homes as residents and volunteers worked to restore property. NRD Nashville Sailors, including some from as far away as Decatur, Ala., assisted in the recovery process. Over 40 counties in Tennessee were declared major disaster areas by the federal government, with two of the hardest hit cities being Millington and Nashville. Across the state, at least 11 people died as a result of the floods, half of that in the Nashville area. NRD Nashville Commanding Officer Cmdr. Mike Neuser surveys some of the damage caused by the worst flooding in Tennessee’s recorded history. (Photo by ETO Tim Lavachek, NRD Nashville)

Right: Six weeks after the May 1 floods, a cookout was hosted on the lawn of Rear Adm. and Mrs. Craig Faller’s residence at NSA Mid-South for NRC personnel that were displaced. Fun games and activities were held for the children, including this water slide that was cooling relief on a hot afternoon. (Photo by MC2 Dennis Irwin, NRC)
Leonard and his recruiters from NRS Fargo wore warm, old work clothes, rubber boots and insulated gloves when they assisted almost daily with sandbagging efforts in Fargo and surrounding areas.

“We just pitched in where needed, preventing flooding of homes and neighborhoods that we worked in. It’s very important to show that we are members of the community and here to help in any way. Not just to recruit people for the Navy,” said Leonard.

The recruiters kept track of where assistance was most needed. Efforts were divided between monitoring several situational Web sites, and calling city contacts and volunteer help lines. The need for volunteers peaked and waned and was not limited to a day or time.

“We have filled sandbags as well as laid them,” commented Leonard. “Each of us worked approximately 36 hours. We did this during working hours and after work hours as well.”

The sandbags were filled either in a pre-staged area or at a potential flood site. Each bag’s average weight was 30 to 40 pounds, and they were stacked 50 to a pallet.

Volunteers formed lines and essentially tossed the sandbags from one person to the next. Bags were laid to a pre-determined height needed to keep the flood waters out. Some jobs took as little as two hours to complete while others stretched into the night. Typically volunteers worked in four-hour shifts or as available.

This year the river crested at just under 37 feet, which is 19 feet above flood stage. Although some residences were flooded, none of the local Sailors were affected.

When asked what kept his men going despite the physical and sometimes mental fatigue of volunteering in the community and still keeping up with their recruiting responsibilities, Leonard brought it all into perspective.

“The motivation comes from having our families here and living in the local communities. All our children go to these schools. We are members of the community as well as the Navy recruiters for the area.”
NRD San Francisco
Female Future Sailors Attend Rally

SAN FRANCISCO – Navy Operational Support Center Sacramento served as the setting for an unprecedented show of future Sailors as more than 200 young women currently enrolled in the Delayed Entry Program (DEP) attended an afternoon rally on what lies ahead of them in the United States Navy.

Event coordinator and NRD San Francisco Zone Supervisor NCC Elizabeth Haley said she was very impressed with the huge turnout who took advantage of their time together to bond and look at what lies ahead of them in their respective Navy careers.

Haley reflected on a special person who had helped her earlier in her naval career. “A personal mentor and true friend of mine, NCCS Julie Porter, passed away just before this event. All I can think of is how proud she would have been for all the women here today who have made such a strong conviction. All the women here are taking their futures very seriously and striving to be the best people they can be for their families and for themselves. That kind of Navy pride is a quality Senior Chief Porter always tried to instill in everyone she met,” said Haley.

DEP member Courtney Sidoti said the event gave the participants a high-quality sense of calm and confirmation that they are all on the right path and know what to expect as they enter Recruit Training Command (RTC), their respective “A” schools and eventually their first command.

“The whole day was really a good time for everyone to remain calm together about the unknown that is coming soon. From the catered food and cake, which everyone loved, to the training videos which gave people inspiration to know they are involved with a great organization like the Navy. I know people are nervous about going to RTC but seeing the special production about what to expect there was big for everyone there. Especially for the parents who had brought their daughters,” said Sidoti.

NCC Haley said there will be new groups of female DEP participants taking advantage of these kinds of events on a more frequent basis.

“Going by how successful this whole day went made it obviously clear we’ll be doing it again,” said Haley. “Instead of blindly going off to RTC and not really knowing how things will go for them, other than word-of-mouth by their recruiters, these women have something to go on and that is very important.”
BOSTON – Thirty thousand people lined up waiting for the sound of the starting gun at the 114th Boston Marathon. For NRD New England officer recruiter, Lt. Mark Bell, it was his 11th time to hear that familiar sound.

Bell, who finished the 26.2-mile trek at 2:56:01, credits the Navy and his wife for getting him to the point he is at now – on and off the marathon course.

Bell said he was always into sports as a child but never really got into running until he enlisted in the Navy. “I played every sport you could think of growing up,” Bell said. “But it was a senior enlisted guy who challenged me to a race. At 19 years old and with no training to speak of, I entered the naval base 5k and walked away with a first-place trophy.” He modestly said it was just his age that got him through that first race, but it was enough to “plant a seed.”

“That [finish] can easily be attributed to youth and a small turnout at the race,” he said jokingly. He conceded, however, it was the beginning of his passion for running. “It’s what got it all started.”

He said it was his wife, Barbara, who really got him into competitive running.

He recalled a date they had before their marriage. “It was at a flat five-mile summer race in South Boston,” he said. “We started the race together but finished separately. When we found each other after the race, she was holding a medal and I wasn’t. That’s when the competition started.”

So what does a marathon runner think of the Navy’s fitness program?

Bell thinks the Navy’s Physical Readiness Program is an adequate metric to measure a Sailor’s physical condition. However, he said, only on the day of the assessment. He said after three weeks a person may start to lose their conditioning which means fitness is left up to each individual service member.

“People have to stay on top of their fitness and not be part of the ‘three-mile-a-year club,’” he said. He has found a high level of interest for the Boston Marathon among his shipmates and encourages each of them to also pursue their dream one step at a time.

Bell, who originally joined the service from a small town in Wisconsin as an enlisted Sailor in ‘84, also credits the Navy for a very diverse and rewarding career. He has not only been enlisted and an officer, but he has also been a reservist.
PITTSBURGH – In the hectic world of recruiting, some Sailors at NRD Pittsburgh recently took time out of their busy schedules to focus on personal goals and the physical challenge presented by the 2010 Pittsburgh Marathon.

Six NRD Pittsburgh Sailors volunteered their time and four actually ran in the various events in downtown Pittsburgh.

Assembling as early as 4:45 in the morning, the Navy’s race day volunteers gathered with over 100 members of all branches of the armed services at the starting line of the world-famous marathon, which this year boasted runners from 47 different states.

Assigned to security and to add an overall presence of military personnel, the multi-service color guard was tasked with presenting the colors at the start of the race for the 16,000-plus participants.

Even though the course was slowed by rain that steadily poured down on the course, NRD Pittsburgh recruiters made their stand in both the marathon relay and the half-marathon.

HMC Richard Weinman finished the half-marathon course in a blazing 2:16:45. “It was an awesome experience,” said Weinman. “The city is so supportive of this marathon. Every time we thought about slowing down, people along the course would be cheering and urging us on. It was extremely motivating and uplifting.”

Throughout the course’s multiple hills and turns people could be seen holding posters and yelling loudly for all the runners as they passed by. It was not uncommon for onlookers to run out onto the course and provide words of encouragement to runners they knew. Older runners on the verge of stopping began running again every time someone gave them encouragement, an effect that spurred the spectators on as much as the runners.

BU1 Dustin Bozzo ran the rain-covered streets of the half-marathon course with his wife and clocked an outstanding 2:13:38.

“Running this race with my wife was great and we were even able to cross the finish line at the same time. It’s something we both worked for and accomplished together. Even though I’m pretty sure she could have beaten me, she was gracious enough to let me finish with her,” Bozzo said. “Hopefully in the future as we continue to keep this kind of healthy lifestyle we can participate in more races together. We even bought our daughter some running shoes!”

NRD Pittsburgh’s relay team consisted of operations officer, Lt. Cmdr. Louis Lazzara, Jr., his father Louis Lazzara, Sr., his sister-in-law Kristin Lazzara and well-known long distance runner, HM1 Patrick Covert. The team in effect ran four separate 10k races through the hills of Pittsburgh to complete the full marathon course in a combined time of 3:58:56

“Having an event like this in our own backyard, and having the turnout we did, is amazing. This type of athletic event takes months of conditioning and requires you to be both physically and mentally tough. It’s a testament to the recruiters and the type of people who enlist in the Navy seeing them out there doing this,” said Lazzara, Jr.
AKRON, Ohio – Eighteen Sailors from NRD Ohio’s Zone Seven teamed up with the Junior Achievement (JA) Program to help mentor and teach kids in the local area at Glover Elementary School.

JA Worldwide is a partnership between the business community, educators, and volunteers — all working together to inspire young people to dream big and reach their potential. JA’s hands-on, experiential programs teach key concepts of work readiness, entrepreneurship and financial literacy to young people all over the world.

Before these Sailors could go into a classroom and teach, they were required to go through training of their own, learning how to build lesson plans based on the curriculum established for each grade.

“It is very important for us to get out into the community and give back,” said NCCS Erik Goding. “I feel like it is really important for our young Sailors to help the younger kids at the school, since they will turn out to be our future Sailors and leaders one day.”

The day kicked off with donuts and a “meet-and-greet” with principal Rebecca Cacioppo and JA representative Denice Shaffer. The Sailors were then escorted to classrooms to meet the kids for the first time. Throughout the day they were divided up among first through fifth grade classes, where they covered the economy as it relates to families, community, city, region, and nation.

AM2 Thomas Jancik and CTR1 Courtney Smrdel had the opportunity to teach in Anna Weyrick’s fifth grade class, where they were greeted with open arms. Weyrick said the kids were so excited to do a “JA in a Day” with members of the Navy. “[Their] enthusiasm and participation made the experience rewarding and fun,” said Jancik.

Each lesson included talking points, charts, and activities to make otherwise difficult subjects easy to teach and learn.

NC1 Craig Martin, who also taught a fifth grade class, said, “This was the most worthwhile zone project we have ever done. I really felt like we made a difference at the school and with the kids.”

At the end of the day, these Sailors were asked by teachers that did not take advantage of the ‘JA in a Day’ to return so that their students may experience it as well.

Every Sailor involved was happy to team up with the JA Program, and looks forward to working with middle school kids in the future.
MIAMI – MUSN Brooke Knight returned to her alma mater, the Alexander W. Dreyfoos School of the Arts (AWDSOA), in West Palm Beach, Fla., and brought the house down during the recent performance of Navy Band Southeast’s contemporary ensemble “Pride.”

Knight, the band’s lead vocalist, graduated from the school in 1995 and this performance was her first time back at the school since.

While attending AWDSOA from 1991-1995, Knight studied ballet, performed numerous musical theatre plays and played the flute. At age 18, she began performing in rock and blues bands at clubs while attending college.

“It was like being in a time warp. I was able to come back to my school and give back what I learned,” said Knight.

Knight and the Navy Band performed an incredible blend of classic rock, modern rock, rhythm and blues, dance, Motown, pop, soul, hip-hop, swing, disco and country. Some of the students were so impacted by the wide range of music they went on stage and danced as the band played.

Knight’s audience, including her former teachers, was overjoyed to see a hometown girl up on stage performing for the entire school.

After the performance, Knight and her band-mates conducted a music clinic and spoke with students about the Navy’s musician program and the necessary steps to audition. “Many of these kids were unaware of the [musician] program and our discussion opened doors for them while giving them options,” said Knight.

The response from the students was 100 percent participation and intelligent questions were asked during the clinic.

“It’s exciting to stand on stage looking into the faces of our future. There’s nothing like it,” said Knight.

The Navy Band’s performance at AWDSOA was part of the 20th Fleet Week Port Everglades festivities conducted in Dade, Broward and Monroe Counties. More than 2,500 American and German Sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen participated in a number of community outreach activities and enjoyed the hospitality and tourism of South Florida.
NRD Seattle Hosts Deputy Commander for Two-Day Visit

*Story and photo by YN1 Tara Miller, NRD Seattle Public Affairs*

SEATTLE – When Deputy Commander, Navy Recruiting Command, Rear Adm. Robin Graf made a visit to NRD Seattle recently, it soon became apparent that it was going to be a visit of many “firsts.”

When she touched down in Seattle, it was her first visit to the state of Washington.

Accompanying Graf was Sharon Lovejoy, NRC comptroller, who was able to get a good feel for the budgetary challenges faced by recruiters and support staff of a large district.

To ensure Graf was able to get a good overview of the command, she was taken on a road trip the first day. Accompanied by Cmdr. Scott Murdock, commanding officer; Lt. Dan Washington, officer programs officer; and Lt. j.g. Joanna Callahan, medical officer recruiter, the group travelled to Yakima, Wash., to visit Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences (PNWU).

The route to Yakima took the group over Snoqualmie Pass, affording Graf the opportunity to experience every form of weather Washington has to offer. From the rain of Seattle to snow, sleet and hail in the mountains, she saw a little bit of everything. Finally, right on cue, the sun appeared through the clouds as they arrived in Yakima.

Graf met with PNWU Acting President, Dr. Lloyd Butler, and Dr. Robyn Phillips-Madson, dean of the College of Osteopathic Medicine, to discuss continuing the partnership that NRD Seattle has with the university.

A new school that originated from a grassroots effort within the local community, PNWU boasts six Navy Health Professional Scholarship Program participants and one collegiate. These seven individuals make up almost 10 percent of the entire class, a strong testament to the solid relationship between the school and the Navy.

Graf had a working lunch with about 30 PNWU students, describing her experiences in the Navy and what her service has meant to her.

The next stop was at NRS Yakima to speak with Central Zone Sailors. This was another first as Graf is the first flag officer to visit this NRS in recent history. The visit was made even more special with the participation of the zone ombudsman, Lisa Roux. Three future Sailors also had the honor of meeting and speaking with the first flag officer of their careers.

On the second day, Graf experienced her first mission day ceremony at a recruiting district where she commissioned Lt. j.g. Dru Nelson as a chaplain and Ensign David Colman as a nuclear engineer.

Graf then presented over 30 awards. In addition, Team Seattle was awarded the Silver “R” recruiting award from CNRC for all of the outstanding recruiting efforts and goal attainments that were made throughout fiscal year 2009.

Mission day continued with a trip to NRS Southcenter in the afternoon, where Southwest and Southsound Zone recruiters had gathered, and Graf participated in a question and answer session.

Graf said, “NRD Seattle is truly one of the finest districts in the nation and I thoroughly enjoyed my trip to your beautiful state.”
NEWPORT, R.I. – Brother and sister, and fellow chief petty officers, AMC Dave Anderson and HMC Dawn Calhoun recently reenlisted in a ceremony on board Naval Station Newport, R.I.

Anderson, the older of the two chiefs, enlisted in the Navy in 1989 and said his sister followed in his footsteps a few years later. Calhoun, in true little sister fashion, admitted to following him into the Navy but was quick to point out that she was the senior of the two chiefs.

“I guess I followed his footsteps as far as joining,” Anderson said – with a grin. “But I made first class and chief before him.”

Their mother, Marsha Anderson, lives with Calhoun and works at the Naval Station Newport uniform shop. She attended the ceremony and stated how extremely proud she is of both of them. “It is wonderful being the mother of two chiefs,” she said. “They have been apart for so long it is great having them both so close together again.”

Unfortunately for mom, however, the family reunion is almost over. Anderson will be continuing his recruiting efforts in New England while Calhoun will be leaving soon to do some recruiting of her own with NRD Ohio.

Perhaps little sister is following in her brother’s footsteps again.
BROWNSVILLE, Texas – NRS Brownsville and the Los Fresno Fire Department teamed up together to educate young future Sailors on basic firefighting.

The training was led by a prior Navy service member who is currently a firefighting volunteer, Derek Sheldon. With the assistance of other volunteer firefighters, Navy recruits got hands-on training after a safety brief.

“I feel that training is a very important aspect of any job or career,” said Sheldon. “It not only gives you the skills to get the job done with confidence, but it’s also an effective way to promote teamwork and gain vital knowledge that can ultimately save lives.”

The team was broken up into two sections, one team handling the fire hoses and the other learning the proper techniques of donning and proper wear of firefighting equipment including self-contained breathing apparatus. The entire training was about an hour-and-a-half long and the fire team really took the time to ensure that the training was well organized and effective.

Members of the Navy’s Delayed Entry Program were able to get a feel for the equipment and all said they benefited from the experience and showed their gratitude through a loud roar of applause.

NRS Brownsville is always looking for the most effective ways to motivate and prepare these young individuals for Recruit Training Command. This NRS also prides itself in giving back to the community through many organized community services.

Recruits have helped organize canned food drives during the holiday season to aid hungry families. They have also helped in a highway cleanup to keep Brownsville’s main highway clean of debris. Most recently they took part in the Annual Longest Causeway Walk and Run in Port Isabel, Texas.

Giving back to the community gives future Sailors a sense of unity and teaches them selflessness and pride, and NRS Brownsville takes the time to go the extra mile to ensure that every young man and woman are as prepared as possible for their transition to Navy life.
PENSACOLA, Fla. – Nearly all Sailors report to Navy Recruiting Orientation Unit (NORU) with a sense of anticipation with what to expect and a nervousness about the unknown.

On the first day of class, new students receive several briefs on what obstacles and curriculum they need to negotiate in order to successfully complete the syllabus and gain admittance into NRC. One of the very first briefs these Sailors receive involves the requirements for earning the Senior Chief Billy C. Taylor Hall of Fame Award, the highest accolade any graduating class from NORU can accomplish. Only 11 classes have achieved this distinction since its inception in the summer of 2007. NORU averages well over 50 classes per year which are eligible for this award making these 11 classes very elite by achieving this impressive accolade.

NCCS Taylor was an inspirational leader who believed deeply in the mission of NRC. Taylor was an individual who could always be counted on for supporting any shipmate in both good and bad times.

Many individuals who had the pleasure of knowing Taylor remember him as a “bag toter,” a reference he affectionately used often to describe field recruiters during the delivery of many passionate opening prayers at recruiting awards banquets and retirement ceremonies. Taylor was very devoted to his church, always encouraged higher learning and emphasized involvement in community service with an emphasis on inner-city youth programs. He could be found traveling the country for retirements, awards banquets, and promotion pinning ceremonies in support of his friends and shipmates. No event was too far away and every
The event was important to him. Even with his busy schedule and dedication to NRC, Taylor was able to keep balance by making time for his wife and son. Any person who ever came in contact with Taylor can honestly say that he touched their life. He continues to be an inspiration and sets the standard of excellence that all Navy recruiters should aspire to.

After his death in 2007, the Senior Chief Billy C. Taylor Hall of Fame was created in his memory. To achieve this special distinction, an Enlisted Navy Recruiting Orientation (ENRO) class or a Career Recruiter Force Academy (CRFA) class must obtain the following:

- Attain an academic class average of 90 percent or greater on all written exams with zero failures;
- Have zero failures in all sales labs to include phone and speech;
- Be within height and weight and or body fat percentage by the beginning of Module 4;
- Have no more than two hits as a class during the personnel inspection conducted during their first week at NORU;
- Complete a 1.5 mile formation run as a class in 14 minutes or less;
- Achieve a 75 percent class participation rate on any NORU-sponsored community involvement project.

ENRO Class 10-310 earned this distinguished award by meeting or exceeding all these requirements.

The award winners, with less than 12 months of recruiting experience, are recognized at NORU to reinforce the relevance of the curriculum and provide recommendations to NORU staff on course content. Also, award winners are given the opportunity to speak to individual classes about the reasons for their success and provide new recruiters with invaluable insight from their own peers.

The Master Chief Bakarian Memorial Award is awarded to enlisted recruiters and is based on attainment of net new contract objective (NCO) and the whole-person concept. For officer recruiters to obtain distinguished graduate status, consideration is given to the number of kits submitted, affiliations attained as well as individuals selected for commissioning.

All first-term enlisted and officer recruiters (AC and RC) who graduate from the ENRO or the Officer Recruiter Course are eligible for this award. Enlisted graduates must have a minimum of six months but no more than 12 months in the field and officer graduates must have a minimum of nine months but no more than 12 months in the field to be eligible for consideration. Enlisted distinguished graduates are recognized quarterly and officer recruiter distinguished graduates are recognized semi-annually.

For more information, visit the NORU facebook site at http://www.facebook.com/NavyRecruitingOrientation.
HUNTSVILLE, Ala. – The Navy Campus Liaison Office (CLO) in collaboration with NRD Nashville met with the University of Alabama in Huntsville’s (UAHuntsville’s) President, Dr. David B. Williams, and staff during a recent campus visit.

The purpose of the visit was to provide a luncheon presentation focused on increasing awareness of job opportunities, financial aid, scholarships, and various incentive benefits available to students interested in pursuing officer programs with the U.S. Navy.

Featured was a panel of speakers from NRD Nashville, including Cmdr. Michael D. Neuser (commanding officer), Lt. Leigh Wrather, Lt. John Briggs, Ensign Murphy Goodman, MCC Rodney Matthews, and AEC Vaughn Hill.

Neuser delivered a powerful message that emphasized the importance of recruitment, providing valuable insights on the numerous opportunities available for current and future UAHuntsville students in medical, nuclear, and Navy Reserve officer programs.

“Our desire is to educate UAHuntsville staff members on current Navy recruiting incentives so that they may be able to discuss such opportunities with interested students. Additionally, we discussed Navy Reserve officer opportunities for staff members and students,” said Neuser.

The NRD Nashville speakers provided a general update on various recruitment focus areas and gave an immediate source of accurate, up-to-date information about Navy opportunities that they can pass on to interested students.

According to Neuser, university personnel are a valuable resource for assisting students in selecting Navy careers. “They not only ensure that students understand the opportunities available to them, but they also make young people aware of the Navy as a good career path,” he said.

“The CLO program supports the Chief of Naval Operations diversity initiatives in the Navy. As such, I shall aggressively boost Navy awareness by seeking all qualified students and increase placement opportunities for UAHuntsville graduates. I will assist students in selecting Navy careers that best fit their skill sets, interests, aptitudes, intelligence, and creativity,” said Neuser.
BRADENTON, Fla. – Getting locked up in jail for a worthy cause was the way NC1 Christy Miller recently spent an afternoon away from her recruiting job in Bradenton.

Miller, the recruiter in charge of NRS Bradenton, participated in the Muscular Dystrophy Association’s (MDA’s) lock-up campaign, where local businesses and community leaders agree to be ‘arrested’ for having a big heart in this unique community-wide event that raises funds for Jerry’s kids.

Miller was picked up from her recruiting office and taken to a local area where she met and spent time locked-up with several corporate leaders from the area. She successfully raised $665 for her bail in two hours. These donations were very special to her because they came from fellow U.S. Navy personnel that she has worked with over the years.

“I believed that my coworkers were willing to support the cause because they knew how much I enjoy helping others and spreading Navy awareness in the local community,” said Miller.

The event to benefit the MDA raised over $55,000 which will be used to provide services for local children and adults living with neuromuscular diseases and fund research, treatments and cures in the Bradenton-Sarasota area.

“Since I’ve been assigned here, I’ve worked with organizations that find cures for diseases that help people live a healthier life,” said Miller. For the past three years, Miller has also participated in the Relay for Life campaign to raise money for research to find a cure for cancer.

Miller is just one of two million volunteers that are the driving force that enables MDA to accelerate its worldwide research program and provide diagnostic and follow-up care through 220 clinics nationwide. Volunteers are the backbone of the association’s programs, helping with summer camp, support groups, seminars, telethon, special events and many other programs.

By MC1 Alfredo Rosado, NRD Miami Public Affairs
NRD Atlanta
CS2 Lola Olajide

NRD Denver
GSM1 Aaron Cavin

NRD Houston
CS1 Tommy Chavira

NRD Jacksonville
AME1 Joseph Acampora

NRD Miami
AT2 Brant Pendleton

NRD Michigan
AE2 Christopher Bushart

NRD Minneapolis
AT2 Anthony Dahmes

NRD New England
HT2 David Leonard

May 2010
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NRS Roswell

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NRS Kaneohe

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NRS Northwest Tampa

NRD Michigan
NRS Traverse City

NRD Minnesota
NRS Sioux Falls

NRD Nashville
NRS Mountain Home

NRD New England
NRS Albany

NRD New York
NRS Brownsville

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NRS Spartanburg

NRD Richmond
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NRD San Antonio
NRS San Antonio College

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NRD Seattle
NRS Helena

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NRD Collinsville

NRD Michigan
NRS Traverse City

NRD Minnesota
NRS Sioux Falls

NRD Nashville
NRS Mountain Home

NRD New England
NRS Albany

NRD New York
NRS Brownsville

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- Chaplain Candidate Program for Officers
- Navy Retirees with at least 20 years of service
- Members of the Navy Selected Reserve and Individual Ready Reserve

Nominate family, friends, co-workers, fellow students or any other qualified individual not already committed to the Navy. You will be eligible to receive $2,000 for your role as a mentor in the successful commission of each NAVY-RAP Prospect. For a complete list of eligible participants and recruits, visit navyrap.com.

Visit navyrap.com or call 1-866-535-7631 for more information and to apply.