

NAVY **Future of the Fleet** RECRUITER

Recruiter Comes To Rescue After Fatal Car Accident

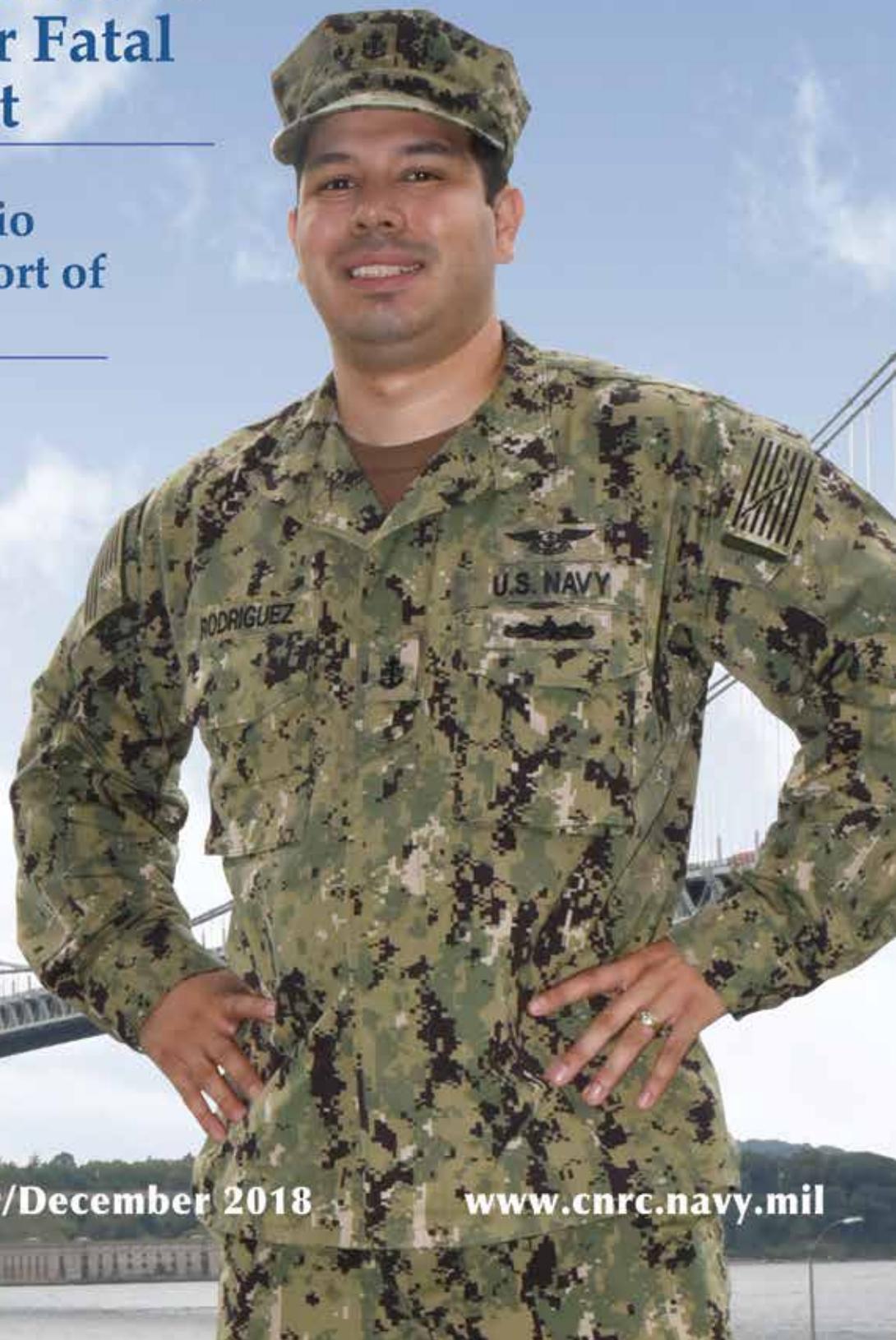
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October/November/December 2018
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From the Admiral

Rear Admiral Brendan R. McLane
Commander, Navy Recruiting Command



Recruiting Nation!

As we go into the holiday season, I want to thank you all again for a superb Fiscal Year 2018.

You've done a tremendous job overcoming many adversities while accomplishing a very challenging mission. Fiscal Year 2019 brings its own hurdles with the highest accession goals in a decade and during a time when the economy is strong and unemployment is down. However, we're approaching this year with better planning, and new ideas aimed at increasing our visibility and making things easier for you in the field.

For example, starting in December, we are introducing "swarming" at nationwide recruiting events. This will involve extra recruiters and additional resources for high-profile events. This concept will give us the ability to support bigger events with heightened visibility while bolstering prospecting, increasing Navy awareness and closing leads. You can count on swarming events occurring every month throughout the nation.

We are also taking community outreach to the next level. Expect more Fleet engagements, as well as opportunities in your local communities interacting with local media, Reservists, veterans, Navy Leagues, civic clubs, and Sea Cadets to name a few.

We have many exciting events ahead of us, but we don't want to forget to look out for each other, especially now in the holiday season. This is a tough job, and we can't afford not to take care of our shipmates.

I also encourage everyone to take some leave time during the holidays. Remember that quality time with loved ones goes a long way in recharging your batteries, and helping all of us to remember why we volunteered for this mission. Celebrate responsibly; you are too important. I look forward to seeing you next year!

God Bless you all and God Bless America!

Rear Admiral Brendan R. McLane
Commander, Navy Recruiting Command

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FRONT COVER:

Chief Aviation Support Equipment Technician Michael Rodriguez, from Dover, New Jersey, and 2001 graduate of Dover High School, is a recruiter at Navy Recruiting Station Morristown in New Jersey. (Photo by Chief Mass Communication Travis Simmons)



BACK COVER:

USS Constitution is moored pierside at Charlestown Navy Yard in Boston, Massachusetts, Oct. 15. Constitution, America's Ship of State is the oldest commissioned warship in the U.S. Navy. (Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Casey Scoular)

Rear Adm. Brendan R. McLane
Commander
Navy Recruiting Command

Command Master Chief Petty Officer
Donald A. Charbonneau
Command Master Chief

Lt. Cmdr. Jessica L. McNulty
Communications Director/Public Affairs Officer

Chief Mass Communication Specialist
Elijah G. Leinaar
Production Chief

David W. Crenshaw
Editor

Kim Hyback
Art Director

Mass Communication Specialist
2nd Class Kyle Hafer
Photojournalist

Mass Communication Specialist
2nd Class Zachary Eshleman
Photojournalist

Franklin Ashe IV
Media Contributor



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South Texas Twins Seek Opportunity in America's Navy

Story and photo by Burrell Parmer, Navy Recruiting Command San Antonio



▲ Electronics Technician (Submarines) 1st Class Vincent Barnes (left) of Chicago assigned to Navy Recruiting Station (NRS) New Braunfels, Navy Recruiting District (NRD) San Antonio and Navy Counselor 1st Class Harold Dayse (left) of Beaumont, Texas, the leading petty officer assigned to NRS New Braunfels pose with future Sailors and twin brothers James and Jack Lanier of Universal City, Texas, along with their parents, Jim and Nicole Lanier at the conclusion of their 72-hour indoctrination at the NRS.

Two Marion High School seniors have made the decision to join the world's most powerful naval force, America's Navy.

Twin brothers Jack and James Lanier of Universal City, Texas, are making final preparations to attend recruit training after graduation and becoming Sailors in the Navy's Nuclear Propulsion career field.

"Serving my country is one of the most important things I can do," said Jack. "The Nuclear Propulsion career field option was presented to me and it seemed pretty cool. Originally, I wanted to be a Navy SEAL because my dad's godfather was an original frogman."

According to Jack, it's amazing to have joined the Navy with his brother.

"It all started off with that I wanted to see the world," said James. "To be part of something greater than myself and the Navy seems to be the right type of organization for me."

During the twins' 72-hour indoctrination held at Navy Recruiting Station (NRS) New Braunfels, Oct. 30, both the Lanier's parents were present.

"I think it's awesome! I think they did a tremendous job on deciding on what they wanted to do with their futures," said Jim Lanier. "Their thought processes were well thought out and I believe it was the right decision for them."

"Additionally, the recruiting process was amazing which allowed them to know what opportunities awaited them," said Lanier. "Petty Officer Barnes did a tremendous job of recruiting both my sons."

For Electronics Technician (Submarines) 1st Class Vincent Barnes of Chicago assigned to NRS New Braunfels, Navy Recruiting District (NRD) San Antonio, he has recruited family members into the Navy but never twins.

"I think they are very blessed to be afforded the opportunity to qualify for service not only in the Navy, but in one of our top programs," said Barnes. "I am very happy to have been a part of what I'm sure will be a very rewarding career that has only just begun for them."

According to Barnes, the twins' next steps are to graduate high school, participate in the Navy Delayed Entry Program, keep themselves healthy, and stay out of harm's way.

Currently, the Navy's Nuclear Propulsion Program is awarding bonuses of up to \$40,000.

After graduating from Recruit Training Command, they will report to Navy Nuclear Power Training Command in Charleston, SC., where they will complete 18 to 24 months of training. Afterwards they will receive orders to a submarine or aircraft carrier.

Deputy Commander, Navy Recruiting Command Attends Massing of the Colors Opportunity in America's Navy

Story and photo by Mass Communication Specialist Kyle Hafer, Navy Recruiting Command Public Affairs

Deputy Commander, Navy Recruiting Command Rear Adm. Andrew J. Mueller attended the 35th annual Massing of the Colors Ceremony as a key speaker, Nov. 4.

According to the Military Order of World Wars (MOWW), the Massing of the Colors is a ceremony held to display faith in the United States and to present support to the national colors, which consist of the U.S. flag and the ceremonial flags of a military branches. It combines the colors and color guards of Active, Reserve and National Guard military components, and veteran, civic and patriotic organizations. The ceremony is customarily held on the Sunday prior to Veterans Day.

"This week is especially significant, because next Sunday, America will observe the centennial of the armistice that ended the Great War, what we today remember was World War I," said Mueller. "That

armistice took effect at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month in the year 1918. In the United States, it's evolved into Veterans Day, an opportunity to recognize all who have served in the uniform of our great nation. 100 years later, it's organizations like this that keep us focused while we are still involved in conflict across the world."

Retired Capt. James Googe, a member of the MOWW and lead coordinator of the Massing of the Colors, addressed the importance of this event.

"This patriotic celebration is of great importance to myself and the community," said Googe. "Not only does it help train future members of the armed forces, it helps educate the community on the importance and sacrifice of all service members."

The Massing of the Colors held its first ceremony on Armistice Day in 1922. The MOWW inherited the responsibility for conducting this event across the country in 1927 when the original sponsoring society faded away.

Mueller expresses that along with mentoring the nation's youth, NRC's partnership with organizations such as MOWW are important in supporting our long term strategy to increasing the propensity of America's youth to military service.

"The Military Order of World War's motto is, it is nobler to serve than to be served; the Navy calls this servant leadership," said Mueller. "I can think of no greater calling."



Participants in the Massing of the Colors ceremony salute during the national anthem.



A Family Commitment

▲ Melissa Ensey and her son, Curtis Abbott, swear into the Navy together at the Kansas City, Mo., Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS).

Story and photos by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Zachary S. Eshleman, Navy Recruiting Command Public Affairs

Melissa Ensey, of Lebanon, Missouri, had no idea how significant the trip would become when she got in the car with her son, Curtis Abbott, to go explore his career options at several military recruiting stations. After talking to the Army and Air force recruiters, they sat down at the desk of Navy Career Counselor 1st Class Shawn Dery. Something began to stir deep inside of her as she listened to what was possible for her son. Jokingly she said to him, “Too bad I can’t join too,” and Dery quickly responded, “you can.”

The Navy changed its age requirements in January 2018 to help meet rising recruiting goals, allowing eligible people to join up to age 39. Being 37, Ensey hadn’t thought about enlisting as a possibility, but when she found this out, her dreams of traveling the world, supporting her daughter through college, and continuing her own education seemed to be within her grasp.

For Abbott, joining the military had always been on his mind. The more he thought about the Navy and the lifestyle being a Sailor can offer, the more it just felt right. Living in a small town all his life made him restless, and for the 18-year-old, the prospect of traveling the world while learning valuable skills

seemed like the perfect way forward.

When his mom began to express interest in joining too, he wasn’t sure what to think about it. However, after the initial surprise, it all actually made a lot of sense to him.

“At first I was just a little perplexed,” said Abbott, “but it seems like it’ll be a really good thing for her. She can finish getting all the education she’s always wanted. Plus, my sister will be able to go to college.”

Joining together creates different emotions for them than typical family members would have as their loved one leaves to join the Navy. Ensey is especially nervous about basic training, but she’s happy that it can be a shared experience.

“It’s almost more comforting knowing that he’s going to be there too,” she said, “and I am excited for it.”

For Dery, the whole situation was unlike anything he had done before in his nine years as a recruiter. Although after they hear the benefits of enlisting, he says it’s typical for a parent to say they wish they had joined when they were younger; he has never seen them act on it.

“I just showed them the proof of it,” Dery said, speaking about what he did to make them both want to join, “I just show them



◀ Information Systems Technician 1st Class Chance Carnes describes the different Navy ratings available to Melissa Ensey and Curtis Abbott as they prepare to finalize their enlistment contracts. Ensey is Abbott’s mother and they have both decided to enlist in the Navy together.

what’s out there for them and let them make their own decisions.”

Working in Springfield, Missouri, Dery introduces a lot people from very small towns and rural areas to the possibilities the Navy can open up in their lives. He feels like he’s truly able to make a difference through recruiting.

“It does make me feel good when I see people

“At first I was just a little perplexed,” said Abbott, “but it seems like it’ll be a really good thing for her. She can finish getting all the education she’s always wanted. Plus, my sister will be able to go to college.”

come from smaller towns and join the Navy and go off to see the world and do things they might not have ever been able to do,” said Dery.

Having worked with them extensively, Dery feels great about them completing the process and swearing in together. He says he’s confident they’ll be successful out in the Fleet.

On Aug., in the Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS) in Kansas City, Missouri, Ensey stood next to her son as they both raised their right hands and took the oath of enlistment into the U.S. Navy.



“It was an emotional moment,” said Ensey. “Making this commitment alongside my son is something I will never forget. I’m proud of him and I hope he is proud of me.”

Ensey signed a contract to become a Master-at-Arms and part of the Navy’s security force, While Abbott will be entering as a Logistics Specialist to work in the Navy’s supply field. Both said they are equally excited to be a part of the Navy, securing a career, college opportunities and the pride that comes with serving a grateful nation. 🇺🇸

▲ Melissa Ensey and Curtis Abbott sign their enlistment contracts at the Kansas City, Mo., Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS).



Eye on the Field

▲ **TERRE HAUTE, Indiana** - The U.S. Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron, the Blue Angels, Diamond pilots perform the Double Farvel maneuver at the 2018 Terre Haute Air Show. (Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Stephen D. Doyle II)

▼ **MEMPHIS, Tenn** - Attendees of the Southern Heritage Classic had the opportunity to experience the Navy's Virtual Reality asset, the "Nimitz." (Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Zachary S. Eshleman)



▲ **GARDEN CITY, New York** - Chief Gas Turbine Systems Technician (Technical) Delando Beckford, a native of Brooklyn, New York and graduate from FDNY High School for Fire and Life Safety, sharing a moment with his family after having his new chief anchors and combo cover placed on him during a chief petty officer pinning ceremony for Navy Recruiting District New York at the Cradle of Aviation Museum. (Photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Travis Simmons)



NRD San Antonio Continues Support of HESTEC

Story and photo by Burrell Parmer, Navy Recruiting District San Antonio Public Affairs

"Changing the world through STEM" is the theme of the 2018 Hispanic Engineering, Science, and Technology (HESTEC) Week held on the campus of the University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV), Oct. 1 - 6.

Sailors and support personnel of Navy Recruiting District (NRD) San Antonio participated in daily events with the purpose of encouraging students to pursue a STEM education and possibly a STEM career in America's Navy.

During the STEM + ME Expo held Oct. 1 - 4, Sailors had the opportunity to engage with more than 4,500 middle and high school students.

According to Navy Counselor 1st Class Ivan Aguilar of Pharr, Texas, the leading petty officer assigned to Navy Recruiting Station McAllen, the Navy benefits from having a presence at HESTEC.

"HESTEC supports Navy recruiting in many aspects," said Aguilar, whose attending his fifth HESTEC. "We benefit especially in the areas of officer and reserve recruiting; approximately six to ten officer contracts annually can be attributed to our participation at HESTEC."

Chief Navy Counsel Isabel Guerrero of San Antonio, a division leading chief petty officer assigned to NRD San Antonio, had the opportunity to address more than 500 female students during Latina Day, Oct. 3.

"I have been to five HESTEC's and witnessed high ranking Latinas in the Navy speak with these young girls," said Guerrero. "This is so humbling for me, and my mother, to be selected to represent the Latino community at HESTEC."

Prior to Guerrero remarks, the Latinas watched a Navy video of Guerrero and her mother talk about their Naval family experience.

Throughout the week, Sailors conducted presentations to physics and engineering students regarding STEM careers in the Navy.

On Oct. 4, NRD Commanding Officer Cmdr. Jeffrey Reynolds, the commanding officer of NRD Raleigh, N.C., spoke to hundreds of students during Student Leadership Day.

"This is my third HESTEC and it amazing on how much the community invests in the students to make sure they are successful,"



said Reynolds. "I wish I could have had that growing up as a kid."

Reynolds encouraged the students to thank their parents, teachers, and mentors for the care they provide to ensure they have access to a better and higher education.

HESTEC Week is an educational conference that features events geared toward promoting science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education to people of all ages and backgrounds.

Through the support of sponsors and partners, to include the Navy, HESTEC strives to empower teachers and administrators with the resources to inspire their students to pursue STEM careers through Educators Day, Student Leadership Day, Latina Day, Robotics Day, STEM + ME Expo, Fall Career Expo, and the Navy's SeaPerch Challenge Competition.

Now in its 17th year, the program has been recognized as a "Bright Spot in Hispanic Education" by the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics. 🇺🇸

▲ **Navy Counselor 1st Class Ivan Aguilar (center) of Pharr, Texas, assigned to Navy Recruiting Station (NRS) McAllen, joined by Navy Recruiting District San Antonio Commanding Officer Cmdr. Jeffrey Reynolds of Raleigh, N.C., and Navy Counselor 1st Class Joel Pallero of New York City assigned to NRS Brownsville, speaks with students attending Latina Day held during the 2018 Hispanic Engineering, Science and Technology Week (HESTEC) on the campus of the University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley.**

Department of Defense Transitions Assets in The Carolinas

Story from United States Northern Command Public Affairs

In close coordination with Federal Emergency Management Agency and state officials, the Department of Defense (DOD) is tailoring its forward force structure to meet the current needs of the Hurricane Florence response effort. DoD will be returning some personnel and capabilities to their home stations, allowing them to resume other DoD missions. However, these and other DoD units will be available to support, if needed.

DoD played an important role in the response to Hurricane Florence. This included a robust response from the National Guard, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Defense Logistics Agency and by local military installations. U.S. Northern Command served as the DoD synchronizer and brought additional DoD capabilities and capacity to the hurricane response efforts.

The overall response has exemplified how the National Response Framework is designed to work.

“There has been a strong local response from first responders all the way through to the state and their emergency operations centers.”

“There has been a strong local response from first responders all the way through to the state and their emergency operations centers. This is coupled with the strong National Guard support and the broader response from FEMA and DoD,” said Gen. Terrence O’Shaughnessy, Commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Northern Command.

Active duty Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines, as well as those military assets not actively being employed in rescue operations, such as the Navy’s Amphibious Readiness Group, with Marines embarked from the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit, are positioning back to their home stations where they will continue preparation for their upcoming deployments and other military operations. Many of the service members who are returning from being positioned to support hurricane operations live in communities affected by the storm and will now be able to return to their communities and continue assisting with recovery and clean-up locally.

While USNORTHCOM’s number one priority is homeland defense, helping Americans in their greatest time of need will always be a sacred responsibility. We are members of the affected communities and are proud to be part of the response efforts. 🇺🇸

Marines with Combat Logistics Group (CLB) 8 assist the local first responders in evacuating civilians in Jacksonville, N.C., Sept. 15. CLB-8 provided direct logistical support in providing disaster relief to civilians affected by Hurricane Florence. (Photo by Pfc. Nello Miele)



Air Force Gen. Terrence J. O’Shaughnessy, commander of U.S. Northern Command (NORTHCOM), speaks to Sailors and Marines utilizing the amphibious assault ship USS Kearsarge’s (LHD 3) announcement system. (Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Michael R. Sanchez)



Recruiter Comes To Rescue After Fatal Car Accident

Story by Chief Petty Officer Travis Simmons, Navy Recruiting District New York Public Affairs

The daily life of a recruiter is generally hectic with frequent schedule changes based on phone calls from applicants, their parents and other recruiters. A Morristown, New Jersey recruiter received a phone call about a walk-on spot for an applicant set up for early the following morning. He rolled with the news and decided to shuffle his gym time to that Monday afternoon.

While stopped at an intersection on State Route 10 in Randolph, New Jersey a block

from the gym, he received a call from a Future Sailor's mother who was telling him her son was doing great at the Navy's boot camp and wanted to share the good news.

"I heard this large crash," said Chief Aviation Support Equipment Technician Michael Rodriguez, from Dover, New Jersey and 2001 graduate of Dover High School. "I looked up and saw a black SUV flipping in the air and another SUV out of control that darted out of my peripheral."



▲ The mostly submerged vehicle of Jim Shearer in the retention pond after the driver made it to the bank with the assistance of Chief Aviation Support Equipment Technician Michael Rodriguez, from Dover, New Jersey and 2001 graduate of Dover High School. (Courtesy Photo)

"I told the person on the phone 'I just saw the craziest accident; I have to let you go,'" said Rodriguez as he pulled over and ran to the scene.

The driver of the rear SUV suffered a medical episode and his wife steered until the vehicle impacted another moving SUV at an extremely high rate of speed. The severe collision, Aug. 27, left one person dead and two people injured.

"He hit me and the vehicle flipped over right away on the passenger side and slid on the

street," said Jim Shearer, the 70-year-old driver of the front SUV from Byram, New Jersey. "I guess it maybe caught the curb or grass that was there and caused it to actually flip over. I was lucky enough that when it landed in the pond, it landed wheels down."

Rodriguez saw the vehicle was in a small retention pond and realized the water was about four-and-a-half feet deep. He told another bystander to call 911 while he thought about how to get out of there.

"I couldn't see the door handle through the



water so I tried to grab the door frame and pry it open, but instead I cut my hand," said Rodriguez. "I went to the front of the vehicle and I yelled out if anyone could hear me."

Rodriguez said he heard Shearer and could hear him mention his seatbelt, which was in a different position since his seat was shoved to the rear of the SUV during the accident.

"I finally found the release and after going under water a couple times, I was able to use my toes to get up where the air was," said Shearer. "There was maybe three or four inches of air up there."

"I looked up and saw a black SUV flipping in the air and another SUV out of control that darted out of my peripheral."

The windshield was cracked from the flips and seemed like the best exit for the two. Shearer kicked it loose while Rodriguez helped pull it to the side enough for an exit.

Shearer said he got cuts on his arms and legs from climbing out over all the glass on the hood of the car. He cut his hand as well when getting off the hood and into the pond with Rodriguez. They would both need stitches after getting out of the pond.

"I jumped down and it's a good thing he was there, because as soon as I jumped down I went under," said Shearer. "I don't know how he got to the vehicle because the pond was lined with plastic and had all kinds of algae on the bottom. You could barely walk."

"As he was helping me back, I went under at

least twice and he picked me up," said Shearer.

Bystanders on the grass helped them get out of the retention pond and Shearer was taken care of by paramedics.

"I can't say enough for him being there; I really can't," said Shearer. "Just for him helping me across the pond, and then he disappeared. I mean I didn't get a chance to thank him or anything; he was gone."

"Nothing too heroic, I just saw an opportunity to help," said Rodriguez. "Once they got some time, I asked one of the paramedics to give me something to wrap my finger up. I wrapped my finger up, drove myself to the local emergency room and got stitched up. I went home and did the walk on the next morning!"

After getting the police report, which listed the names and numbers of those involved, Shearer called Rodriguez to thank him and talk about the accident. Rodriguez mentioned his nine stitches and Shearer said he got five in his hand. Both mentioned how thankful they were that the SUV didn't flip upside down in the water.

Rodriguez joined the Navy out of Paterson, New Jersey 15 years ago and has been stationed with Navy Recruiting District New York for two years. He's scheduled to go back to sea duty in a year when he reports to the aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75).

▼ Chief Aviation Support Equipment Technician Michael Rodriguez, from Dover, N.J. and 2001 graduate of Dover High School, showing his right index finger after receiving nine stitches due to cuts received while trying to help a driver get out of his mostly submerged SUV. (Courtesy Photo)

▼ Chief Aviation Support Equipment Technician Michael Rodriguez, from Dover, N.J. and 2001 graduate of Dover High School, posing for a photo during an all-hands ceremony with Navy Recruiting District New York. (Photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Travis Simmons)



A New Way to JOIN the Navy!

Story by David W. Crenshaw, Navy Recruiting Command Public Affairs



Chief Navy Counselor Justin Noble shows a potential Future Sailor the new Navy recruiting resource Job Opportunities In the Navy. (Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Kyle Hafer)

Success is measured by more than just raw numbers. Every year, Navy recruiters enlist upwards of 30,000 new recruits, and as part of that process, help them select from more than 100 enlisted career specialties the Navy currently offers.

A recruiter is most successful when a new Sailor finds more than just a paycheck, and instead, gets a career they love so much they want to continue serving until retirement. But that becomes a tough task, since about 80 percent of students in the United States change their major at least once, according to the National Center for Education Statistics. On average, college students change their major at least three times over the course of their college career. The fact is, most recent high school graduates simply don't know what they want to do with their lives, and often recruiters are having to make educated guesses when trying to help them sort it out.

Navy recruiters are getting a powerful new tool to assist them in that process – the Job Opportunities in the Navy (JOIN) instrument. "JOIN is an interest assessment tool that will be placed in front of the recruit classification process," said Gary C. Peterson, executive director of the Navy Recruiting Command.

Previously one of the biggest tools the recruiter currently had at their disposal is the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB). The ASVAB is a multiple choice exam that grades the applicant in nine different areas of career aptitude, as well as in determining an overall fitness to serve. Based on the strength of their scores in each aptitude, the recruiter could then assist them in not only determining if they'd be a good overall match for military service, but also which of 11 different career areas they might have the greatest chance of success in. But the ASVAB is limited in that it provides a broad view of the career aptitude – 11 career areas vs. more than 100 enlisted ratings and specialties.

"The ASVAB is excellent at predicting training success and job knowledge, but the Navy needs additional tools to also predict job satisfaction and other performance criteria, such as attrition, advancement, and retention," says

Dr. Stephen E. Watson, Director, Navy Testing Science (NETC N55).

That's where JOIN comes in. "JOIN measures and records the applicant's vocational preference in three general areas," Peterson said, noting that each step of the decision process is done one at a time, to make it less daunting for the prospective Sailor. "Community preference means whether they might be most interested in submarine, surface, aviation, or special operations. Environment or work style preference helps them decide between factors such as indoor or outdoor, office or industrial, mental or physical. And the process-content preference looks at aspects of the job, for instance, is it operate-electronic, maintain-mechanical, or make-facilities?"

Survey respondents specify their level of interest in each of the areas, and a mathematical algorithm calculates a matching score between the respondent's interest indicators and each potential job's descriptors.

"The initial taxonomy is based on a formal analysis of official job

descriptions for each rating, and validated with Navy subject matter experts," Watson said.

Peterson explained that JOIN presents both representative digital images and text for each item. It randomizes presentation for vocational interest items within each general area. And it defines a 'genetic description' or DNA for each Navy rating in terms of the identified characteristics.

The vision for JOIN goes beyond recruiting, however – it's developers see is as a tool for detailers as well, helping them to better match a sailor's aptitude and interests within rate to their potential next duty station.

Watson said that the survey has already been in use since 2006 on a non-compulsory basis, and about 1,500 sailors a year have participated. In that time, data has reflected that sailors whose JOIN scores best matched their current jobs, also had stronger performance evaluation scores, were more likely to re-enlist, and more likely to be promoted to E-6 and beyond.

Watson also believes there are implications for JOIN outside the Navy, as well. "We're also hoping to make the JOIN technology available to the other armed services," he said. In fact, the United States Air Force has constructed an interest test based on JOIN features, including model structure and scoring algorithm. 🐦

The Charbonneau Legacy Continues

Story and photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Kyle Hafer, Navy Recruiting Command Public Affairs

Command Master Chief of Navy Recruiting Command Donald Charbonneau had the honor of swearing his son, Jordan Charbonneau, into the Navy under the Oath of Enlistment, Oct. 2.

The Oath of Enlistment is a military oath made by members of the U.S. armed forces when they initially join the U.S. military or reenlist.

"I feel like I'm ready for it," said Jordan. "I'm not really nervous or excited. You could say I'm somewhere in the middle. I am really looking forward to starting though."

Jordan is enlisting into the Navy as a full time support (FTS) hospital corpsman, and he says he's excited for this opportunity. Enlisted FTS personnel serve in demanding billets, both at sea and ashore, providing the support necessary to prepare Navy reservists to conduct prompt and sustained operations.

Coming from a military family and lifestyle, Jordan said he knows what he's getting into. "That's why I am excited to go Navy, for the experience. It's a great place to learn discipline



◀ Jordan Charbonneau, son of Command Master Chief of Navy Recruiting Command Donald Charbonneau, raises his right hand while reciting the Oath of Enlistment.

▼ Command Master Chief of Navy Recruiting Command Donald Charbonneau discusses Navy rank and recognition with his son Jordan Charbonneau at the Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS) in Memphis.

and start a career like my dad," said Jordan.

Jordan's father shares his son's excitement. He said he's proud as a father and as a Sailor.

"I am very proud that my son has followed my footsteps into the Navy," said Charbonneau. "He has a great career path in front of him. I think I've done my job as a father to set him on that path."

Jordan had the chance to attend college but sought a greater purpose. With the guidance from his father, he expressed that the Navy was a better opportunity for what he wanted to do with his life.

"I didn't really like college," said Jordan. "I did a year and a half but I didn't really know what I wanted to do. With the Navy it's a great place where you can do pretty much anything. You have to opportunity to do anything."

Jordan's recruiter, Navy Counselor 1st Class Marcus Arocha, has high expectations for Jordan.

"Jordan is very excited to be in the Navy and I expect huge things from him," said Arocha. "The Navy is gaining a highly motivated individual. It is awesome to see the Navy growing through continued service of Navy families."

Jordan is not Charbonneau's first child to join the Navy. His oldest son, Cryptologic Technician (Networks) 2nd Class Corey Charbonneau, joined the Navy in 2015 and is currently stationed at the Navy Information Operations Command in Norfolk.

"I'm just a proud father right now," said Charbonneau. "Both of my sons are in the Navy. This is my 30th year in the Navy, so to see my son's transition into Sailors, I joke around and say now I can retire."

Before Jordan departed for boot camp Charbonneau bestowed a piece of advice to take with him throughout his Navy career.

"Always finish first," said Charbonneau. "When you get to boot camp volunteer and get those extra jobs. Don't pass your physical readiness test with the bare minimum. Because when you're the best, that's how you get ahead in life." 🐦



Eye on the Fleet

► **BOSTON (Sept. 21)** - USS Constitution is tugged through the Boston Harbor to the Charlestown Navy Yard during 'Old Ironsides' underway honoring Gold Star Families and State Educators. The crew of USS Constitution hosted Gold Star Families and State Educators as a thank you for their tremendous support of the U.S. Armed Services, Veterans, and the Nation. (Photo by Seaman Tiana Coots)



◀ **MEDITERRANEAN SEA (Sept. 18)** - Sailors maneuver a rigid-hull inflatable boat alongside the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Carney (DDG64), Sept. 18. Carney, forward-deployed to Rota, Spain, is on its fifth patrol in the U.S. 6th Fleet area of operations in support of regional allies and partners as well as U.S. national security interests in Europe and Africa. (Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Ryan U. Kledzik)



◀ **VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (Sept. 22)** - Brad Cole, a skydiver with Skydive Suffolk, greets fans during the 2018 Naval Air Station Oceana Air Show in Virginia Beach, Va. This year's air show is the 59th Annual Naval Air Station Oceana Air Show and celebrated the 75th anniversary of Naval Air Station Oceana. (Photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Mark Thomas Mahmod)



► **SOUTH CHINA SEA (Sept. 26, 2018)** - Airman Bradley Morgan flanks out a hose during a damage control drill as part of a mobility-engineering (MOB-E) certification aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Wasp (LHD 1). (Photo by Mass Communications Specialist 1st Class Alexandra Seeley)

It All Started with a Tooth Ache

Story and photos by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Adeola Tinubu, USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75)

It was at a high school football game. A hard plastic helmet harshly connected with the bottom of the teenager's chin, fracturing a molar and sending crippling waves of excruciating pain. Every dental clinic in the area was closed, and the emergency room was the only option. Without experience or training in handling trauma in the mouth, nurses and staff in the hospital were stumped with how to treat the injury. The only choice was to call an oral surgeon. Thirty minutes later, the tooth was removed along with all of the discomfort, and this teenager was inspired to pursue a career in oral surgery.

USS Harry S. Truman's (CVN 75) dental department works long hours to serve a crew of over 5,500 Sailors. As part of this team, oral surgeon Lt. Cmdr. Fred Palau treats the more serious cases, evaluating Sailors or performing a surgery every day.

"One of the aspects of my job I enjoy the most is that I can do what was done for me to other Sailors," said Palau. "Sailors with dental issues may come in here with pain, and I am usually able to relieve them. It's extremely satisfying."

The satisfaction Palau receives from his job aboard Harry S. Truman was hard earned. After high school, Palau attended Penn State University and Virginia Tech. In his third year at Virginia Tech, he was accepted into the Navy's Health Profession Scholarship Program and began dental school.

The Navy's Health Profession Scholarship Program can provide tuition assistance for candidates who have been accepted into accredited medical schools for up to four years. During this time, candidates attend Officer Development School and upon graduation enter into the Navy as commissioned officers.

By 2007, he had a bachelor's degree in microbiology and chemistry, and a doctorate in dental surgery.

"The training was demanding," said Palau. "From day one of the residency, you work closely with physicians. The expectation is that your knowledge base reaches their level."

The training prepped him to be able to service what can seem like a never-ending line of patients. Palau diligently sees approximately six cases, seven days a week, which include evaluations and surgical procedures. Palau added that evaluations before a surgery are critical so patients can understand what will happen and feel more relaxed.

"I've always felt that oral surgery was a team sport. None of this would be possible without my surgical technicians."

"It's never good to treat a stranger if you can help it," said Palau. "People are a lot more comfortable if they understand why they are coming in, what they're having done and more importantly, why the procedure is important."

In rare cases of an active infection or a substantial amount of pain, surgery is immediately performed. It's during these moments that Palau is glad to have a dependable surgery team.

"I've always felt that oral surgery was a team sport. None of this would be possible without my surgical technicians," said Palau.

Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class James Gresl, one of Harry S. Truman's

surgical technicians, has been working with Dr. Palau for four months and said he is a wonderful leader.

"The first day I met him, I was about thirty minutes late to work," said Gresl. "I expected the scolding of a lifetime, but instead received a free breakfast," he said with a look of lingering disbelief. "He was very forgiving, understanding and sympathetic - I've never had a doctor buy me breakfast after I screwed up."

In addition to record keeping, scheduling and checking patient's vitals, Gresl acts as an extra set of hands for Palau by retrieving tools during surgery and catering to patient's needs.

Under the tutelage of Palau, Gresl said he saw a willingness to teach and work with others, as well as impeccable professionalism with patients and coworkers alike. If Gresl needed surgery, there would be no one else to whom he would turn.

"Unfortunately, that ship has already sailed," said Gresl with a grin. "But, if I were going to have oral surgery, I would have it done by Palau."

Currently operating in the U.S. 6th Fleet area of operations, Harry S. Truman will continue to foster cooperation with regional allies and partners, strengthen regional stability, and remain vigilant, agile and dynamic. 🇺🇸

Lt. Cmdr. Wilfredo Palau, performs dental surgery on a patient in the dental lab aboard the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75).

Ombudsmen Support Families

Story by Kristen Wong, Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

Danielle Trout once received a phone call about a Sailor's grandfather who was diagnosed with cancer. The Sailor in question was out at sea. It took several calls to leadership and fellow ombudsmen as well as three to four hours of waiting, but the Sailor was able to speak to their grandfather before he passed away. This is just one example of what an ombudsman can do.

The Navy Family Ombudsman Program began in 1970 through an initiative by Adm. E.R. Zumwalt Jr., then-chief of naval operations.

The ombudsman is responsible for disseminating information to the military families of their respective commands. The ombudsman is also available for families in need in certain situations.

Trout, the ombudsman for the USS Port Royal, describes herself as a "voice between the command and the families" and an ear for the families. She supports roughly 60 families with the USS Port Royal, answering general questions, reaching out to other points of contact to support a family, and, on some occasions, just being there for family members who want to vent frustrations.

"Knowledge is key," she said. "The knowledge I can give (family members) makes it a little easier for them to understand the Navy life. Navy life can definitely be rough at times, especially if your Sailor is gone six to eight months at a time, and prior to that maybe they have three months of work-ups, so you may not have seen your Sailor for an entire year."

Trout said she also supports family members beyond spouses and children. She responds to inquiries by parents and other relatives about their Sailor.

When asked what was most rewarding about being an ombudsman, Trout said it is seeing the success of events and smiles on the families' faces.

Marielle Dilks is the ombudsman assembly chair of Navy Region Hawaii. She has been the USS Preble's ombudsman for four years, and was the ombudsman for the USS Shrike/Crew Bold (MHC 62) for three.

Dilks said she chose to be an ombudsman in order to provide support for her fellow spouses with information, and became an ombudsman chair to support her fellow ombudsmen.

Dilks said she spends six to seven hours a month in her position as assembly chair, and two to three as an ombudsman.

As the assembly chair, she assists the ombudsman coordinator at Military and Family Services Center, with scheduling ombudsman training and managing ombudsman meetings among other duties. She helps families with various issues from making contact with their Sailors

to learning about upcoming events.

"Networking with other Navy/military spouses and learning from them (has been most rewarding)," Dilks said.

"Even after 20 years of being a Navy spouse I am always learning something new or a new way to approach/do something."

Commanding officers appoint the ombudsman. An individual does not have to be a military spouse to volunteer as an ombudsman. They must apply to the command, and have an interview with the commanding officer.

"Dress to impress in business wear and bring your resume and/or references," Dilks said.

For those thinking of becoming an ombudsman, Trout recommends giving it a try.

"If you don't like it, just let your command know ... that's fine ... (being) an ombudsman isn't for everybody," Trout said.

"But I would definitely try it out, get involved with your command and get involved with your families."

Dilks added that although the position is rewarding, it can also be overwhelming, especially considering the pace of military life.

"When families call, you might be going through a crazy hectic time of your own," she said. "You have to learn to shut off your needs and focus on helping someone else through a disaster."

Dilks added that ombudsmen help families by giving them tools and resources so they can help themselves.

"Once families are empowered then they feel accomplished, self-reliant, and able to share what they learned with others," she said.



Rear Adm. Brian Fort, Commander, Navy Region Hawaii and Navy Surface Group Middle Pacific, addresses Ombudsmen and their spouses during the 2018 Ombudsman Appreciation Dinner at the Honolulu Country Club. (Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Charles Oki)

San Diego Fleet Week Hosts STEM Day

Story By Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Lasheba James, Navy Region Southwest Public Affairs



San Diego Fleet Week hosted more than 2,500 elementary school students from the San Diego Unified School District at the "Innovation Zone" at Broadway Pier for science, technology, engineering, math (STEM) day, Oct. 25.

The day began with a tour on board the amphibious dock landing ship USS Harpers Ferry (LSD 49) where students toured the ship's hangar bay, well deck and flight deck.

The tour of the ship was a giant hit with the students that were in awe of the ship's size and impressed by her personnel.

Afterward, the students were brought down to the pier to visit with Sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen manning static displays on the pier and inside the Broadway Pier building.

"The Innovation is a great opportunity for us to interact with the local community," said Lt. Kelsey Rowe, assigned to Fleet Weather Center San Diego. "It also lets students understand how important science is to the Navy and how much we actually use different sciences such as oceanography and meteorology that helps the Navy carry out its mission."

The Innovation Zone features a combination of STEM and high-tech military displays geared specifically to students such as drones, virtual reality technology, hands on interactive displays, a dive tank, heavy duty Marine equipment.

This was a great experience that will hopefully open careers for them," said Jerry Savin, a teacher at Dewey Elementary School. "All of the kids really enjoyed this event and learned a lot."

The Innovation Zone is open to the public throughout the week and is free of charge to the public.

James Carrels, a Naval Medical Center San Diego (NMCS) simulation operation specialist, shows a student from STEM Academy at La Presa NMCS's Virtual Reality Trainer at the Innovation Zone during San Diego Fleet Week. (Photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Harley K. Sarmiento)

An 8 Year-Old's Return to Comfort

Story and photos by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Kris R. Lindstrom



▲ Canadian Forces Maj. Davin Schmidt (left), an oral surgeon from Pembroke, Ontario, and Capt. Michael Carson, an oral surgeon from Portsmouth, Va., perform surgery on Pedro Anton, 8, in an operating room aboard the hospital ship USNS Comfort (T-AH 20).

Distant footsteps lightly echo through the empty passageway. Two figures of different height walk briskly through the hall toward a heavy steel door labeled "General Surgery: Authorized Personnel Only." Attached at the hand, the smaller of the two, stops abruptly pulling his mother to a halt. She sharply whispers something in Spanish to her frightened son. The boy inches toward the now-opened door, as the bright lights expose the sweat on his sun-kissed forehead. What the anxious boy doesn't realize is that this room has a familiarity to him. He was a patient in it once before—when he was only 8 months old. And now, same as then, he is in good hands.

Pedro Daniel Anton, 8, returned to the hospital ship USNS Comfort (T-AH 20) to receive further care for his cleft lip and palate. His mother, Petronia Eche, reflects on her first experience with the Comfort caring for her son during Continuing Promise 2011, in Peru.

"In 2010, he was born with a cleft palate and when he was 8 months old and the ship came to provide care, we came for his surgery," said Eche, translated from Spanish. "They were very helpful, we received so much support when we had his first surgery. It was a great

surgery, we were very well attended and my son came out well."

After his initial surgery, Eche knew he needed more surgery to improve his quality of life, but had little to no success in getting the follow-up, in Peru.

"I have tried in the past to get his follow-up surgery done but we have been denied continuously," said Eche. "But I never gave up. As a mother I knew I needed to be there with him, I never gave up on this because I only want the best for my son."

After more than seven years from his initial surgery, Comfort returned to Paita, Peru. Eche's prayers were answered and she knew he needed to get aboard to get the care he needed.

"What a coincidence, it must be fate that we are here again," said Eche, on the verge of tears. "We were in such a long line, sleeping outside in the lines. I was losing my spirits in the wait, but I decided to keep waiting. And out of so many people, we are here."

Eche and his mother arrived to the ship under the impression that he was going to have surgery on an umbilical hernia in his abdomen. When the doctors looked at his cleft lip, they realized that they had an opportunity

and the resources to give him further care.

"Initially, I came because he has an umbilical hernia, but the doctors told me that he needed both surgeries," said Eche. "Knowing that made me nervous, but I have trust in the doctors and in God. Many of the doctors here in Paita tell me they can't help my son but here they said they can do it."

When the call came in to the medical ward that Anton and his mother were in, they were overcome with emotion. They both found the courage and strength to stand, take each other's hand, walk up to surgery to complete the journey, and fulfill the reason why they were on the Comfort.

"I've told the doctors, that my son's life is in their hands," said Eche, overcome with emotion and tears flowing down her cheeks. "I'm so appreciative of this because, here in Peru, we don't have the money to pay for these surgeries, I have tried but we just don't have enough. But, as a mother, I kept trying to find a way for him to get the surgery. I had faith in God and I would tell my husband that one day—someone would come to help us."

Canadian Forces Maj. Davin Schmidt, an oral surgeon aboard Comfort, was the attending surgeon with Pedro for his cleft lip and palate patient to return for further surgeries as they grow and start cutting teeth and forming a stronger jaw. He was also glad to see a repeat patient because it is a rarity that the Comfort's doctors are ever able to follow up with the patients they treat.

"It was very rewarding to see him here again," said Schmidt. "I wasn't personally involved with his care the first time, but cleft lip and palate are complicated cases that need follow-up and repeated procedures over time in a staged manner. Without this, he would not have been able to return to full function. He wouldn't be able to eat normally, he wouldn't be able to have normal speech and he would be at higher risk for health issues such as infections in his sinus."

When Anton was brought to the operating room, the surgeons and staff operated on his umbilical hernia first, completing the operation in about 20 minutes. Then, Schmidt and his staff took over for the next part of his surgery, which was very complex and took much longer.

"The patient had an alveolar cleft, so basically what has happened in that case, is that the upper jaw of the maxilla didn't have bone connecting it all the way through and there was a hole where that should have been extending from the mouth to the nose," said Schmidt. "So what we did, is we opened up that area, reconstructed the gums in that area to create a new floor of the nose."

"We made sure there was a good seal on the palate side," continued Schmidt. "And then we used some bone from his hip so that we can reconstruct it. We brought that bone and then we placed it into the defect that was

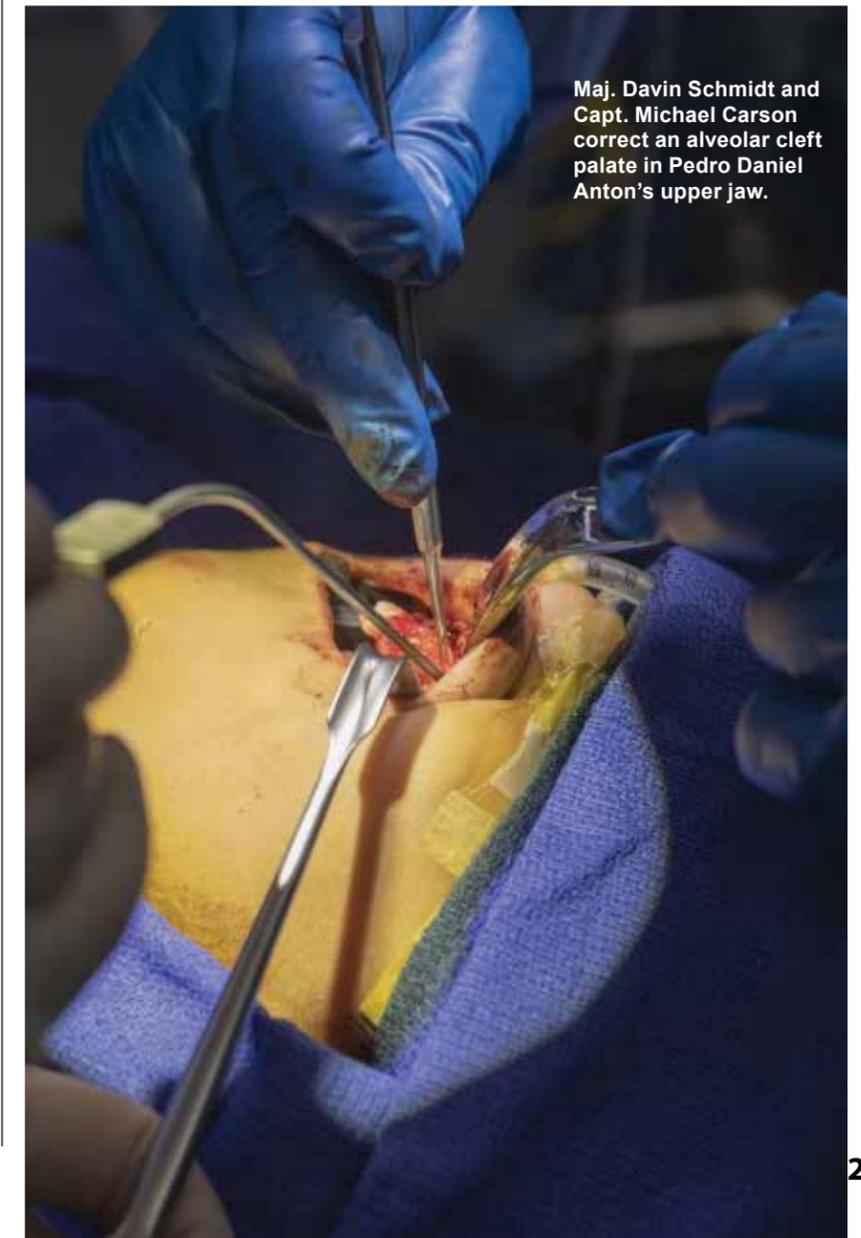
there so that we could grow new bone and create a new full shaped maxilla that will be able to support teeth and have teeth erupt through there." Pedro's surgery was a success and the hole connecting his mouth and nose, including the gap in the bone, was repaired.

"We are very excited about the procedure and I feel we got a really good result," said Schmidt. "Checking up with Anton right before he left the ship, he seemed to be in good spirits, and we are expecting a very good recovery for him."

Feeling jubilant and blessed, Anton and his mother made their way to disembark Comfort. With their journey one step closer to its completion, Petronia embraced many doctors, nurses and staff before heading back to Paita. With her heart full of graciousness and exuberance, her and her son boarded a small boat to go back ashore.

"I have to be strong for my children," said Eche. "I encourage them to be strong, we have suffered together throughout his journey and I am thankful to God that he is going to be okay now."

Comfort is on an 11-week medical support mission to Central and South America as part of U.S. Southern Command's Enduring Promise initiative. Working with health and government partners in Ecuador, Peru, Colombia and Honduras, the embarked medical team will provide care on board and at land-based medical sites, helping to relieve pressure on national medical systems caused partly by an increase in cross-border migrants. The deployment reflects the United States' enduring promise of friendship, partnership and solidarity with the Americas.



Maj. Davin Schmidt and Capt. Michael Carson correct an alveolar cleft palate in Pedro Daniel Anton's upper jaw.

U.S. Navy Seabees Complete Well Drilling Operations in Colombia

Story from Southern Partnership Station 2018 Public Affairs

► **U.S. Navy Utilitiesman 2nd Class Patrick Cannon (left) and Builder 3rd Class Zachary Paiva (right), assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 133, dry fit plumbing fixtures in Riohacha, Colombia, Sept. 25, during water-well drilling exploration operations as part of Southern Partnership Station 2018. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Kalie Frantz)**



Sailors assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 133 completed water-well drilling exploration operations Oct. 3 in the rural community of Riohacha, Colombia as part of Southern Partnership Station (SPS) 2018.

The operations resulted in a supply of readily available water in the region and was celebrated with an official hand over ceremony held at the well site.

NMCB-133 completed the project in close coordination with members of the Wayuu population who are indigenous to Riohacha, located in the country's La Guajira Department, in an effort to bring a greater supply of water to the community.

Capt. Brian Diebold, commodore of Destroyer Squadron 40, highlighted the importance of cooperation and collaboration SPS had with various local entities, noting that the well could not have been completed without a multitude of organizations contributing.

"Without the Colombian army providing security to the site daily, the United States Navy would not have been successful in constructing a well," said Diebold. "Without the Riohacha Metropolitan Police force providing security escorts, we could not have constructed the well."

We would not have been successful without collaboration between the Colombian Government and the United States Embassy, added Diebold.

According to Brunilda Morales, a linguist and instructor of languages for Wayuu, from La Guajira's Office of Indigenous Affairs, a readily available source of water is a much needed commodity in this drought-stricken part of the country.

"This community has been in a state of drought for the last eight to ten

years, but in the last two or three years, it has been much worse," said Morales. She added, "This prolonged dry season is affecting our well-being. Water is everything to us. Plants, animals and people continue to live through water."

The project took nearly a month to complete, and was the result of months of planning, coordination, and logistics movements. The SPS mission is normally supported by the expeditionary fast transport ship USNS Spearhead (T-EPF 1), but this engagement saw NMCB-133 Sailors arrive to Colombia aboard the Whidbey Island-class amphibious dock landing ship USS Gunston Hall (LSD 44). After arrival in country, the team completed a six-hour [trip] over the road transit.

For Sailors assigned to NMCB-133, participating in the project served as an opportunity to help those in need get access to vital resources.

"It was awesome to participate in this project," said Utilitiesman 2nd Class Patrick Cannon. "I joined the Navy to do humanitarian missions, and I wanted to be a Seabee. This is the first time I have been able to really go out there and assist a community in need."

"The water aspect of it is cool because I don't think a lot of people realize that how much of an impact it has. Water gives everyone life, and life can't go on without water", added Cannon.

Held on an annual basis by U.S. Southern Command and executed by U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command/U.S. 4th Fleet, Southern Partnership Station is a U.S. Navy deployment focused on SMEEs with partner nation militaries and security forces in the Caribbean, Central and South America. SPS-18 operates under the leadership of Diebold.

Focused on enhancing cooperative partnerships with regional maritime services, SPS aims to improve operational readiness for all participants. Additionally, the mission will provide an opportunity for U.S. and partner nations to operate in a multinational environment, refine coordination, improve interoperability, and demonstrate flexibility. SPS is a demonstration of the strong U.S. commitment to partners in the Caribbean, Central and South America, fostering goodwill and enhancing our collective ability to respond to natural disasters and humanitarian crises. SPS 18 will conclude in October 2018. 🦋

► **NEW YORK (Sept. 8)** More than 60 chief petty officers and chief selectees from Navy Recruiting District New York, Navy Recruiting District Philadelphia, Navy Operational Support Center New York and Reservists in the NYPD running in formation through the streets of Manhattan with a police escort during the New York City Chief Petty Officer 9/11 Heritage Run. (Photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Travis Simmons)



Eye on the Field

◀ **SAN FRANCISCO (Oct. 5)** Chief Aircrew Survival Equipmentman Andrew Young, from Pittsburgh, a member of the U.S. Navy parachute team, the Leap Frogs, performs an aerial demonstration during San Francisco Fleet Week (SFFW) 2018. (Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Nicholas Burgains)

► **DALLAS (Sept. 24)** Chief Navy Counselor Romulo Urraca, a Navy Recruiting District Dallas recruiter from Navy Recruiting Station Lewisville, and future Sailors from NRD Dallas celebrate a touchdown by the Naval Academy Midshipmen football team. (Photo by Mass Communications 3rd Class Nolan Pennington)



Sailors Take Part in Military, Veterans Day Ceremony During Albuquerque Navy Week

Story by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Scott Wood, Navy Public Affairs Support Element West, Det. Whidbey Island

Rear Adm. Mark Bipes, director, Medical Service Corps Reserve, spoke at the Military and Veterans Day Ceremony held at the New Mexico State Fair in Albuquerque, Sept. 11 as part of Albuquerque Navy Week.

In his remarks, Bipes, thanked veterans who had served in past wars such as World War II, Korea and Vietnam.

“Thank you from the Navy, thank you from the military and thank you from a grateful country for what you did to ensure our peace and security that we still enjoy today,” said Bipes. “And thank you for setting the example of what it takes to be of selfless service to your country.”

Bipes went on to recall his first experience with veterans as a young child, watching young men older than him going off to war and returning afterwards to pick up regular jobs as humble heroes to their country.

As the official ceremony began, Navy Band Northwest performed the national anthem for the audience as the USS Constitution color guard paraded the colors.

The Gold Star Mothers also spoke during the ceremony, asking the crowd for a time of silence as they read off the list of local veterans who had fallen in battle during recent years.



Sailors assigned to USS Constitution present the colors at the University of New Mexico during the rededication of the bell that sat on the battleship USS New Mexico. (Photo by Seaman Donovan Keller)



◀ Naval Aircrewman 2nd Class Charles Hardmon, from Atlantic City, N.J., assigned to USS Constitution, gives a presentation about the history of “Old Ironsides” to children at the Boys and Girls Club of Central New Mexico during Albuquerque Navy Week. (Photo by Seaman Donovan Keller)

State Senator William Payne, also in attendance, paid his respects after the ceremony was concluded explaining Albuquerque’s considerable support of the military.

“We have great support of the Navy League, of the veterans services people” said Payne, “and we have an active community. Any veteran out there looking for a good place to retire, it’s hard to beat the climate in Albuquerque.”

Beyond the ceremony, numerous Sailors were out and about, walking around the state fair, providing presentations for fairgoers.

“Thank you from the Navy, thank you from the military and thank you from a grateful country for what you did to ensure our peace and security that we still enjoy today.”

“It’s quite an honor to be welcomed as someone from here,” said Aerographer’s Mate 1st Class William Young, a Sailor assigned to Fleet Weather Center San Diego. “It very much makes me feel part of the community, part of this area which I’ve really fallen in love with, and being able to represent the Navy here in a place that doesn’t get a whole lot of visibility, it’s really special.”

Young is a recent transplant to Albuquerque, with his family moving there in the last couple years. As a hometown Sailor, Young has had

the opportunity to tour numerous public schools and conduct interviews with news media regarding his role in the Navy.

John Gallegos, one of the official state fair photographers and retired military veteran, commented on the importance of the ceremonies and specifically Albuquerque Navy Week.

“It gets more exposure for the Navy, and all of the services,” said Gallegos. “It’s the type of exposure you can’t get anywhere and it’s very positive. Military people are kids’ heroes and I like that.”

Directly following the Military and Veteran’s Day ceremony, a 9/11 First Responder ceremony was also held within the fairgrounds, recognizing firefighters, police men and women and emergency personnel who had given their lives in the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

Cmdr. James Morrow, commanding officer of Virginia-class attack submarine USS New Mexico (SSN-779), spoke during the ceremony commemorating the heroic efforts of those who responded to 9/11.

“On Sept. 11, 2001 first responders in New York, Pennsylvania and our nation’s capital, Washington D.C., epitomized selflessness in character and for that they should have our lasting respect,” said Morrow.

He went on to describe the Navy’s recognition of these sacrifices, sharing stories of ships taking the namesake of the three different crash sites from 9/11, including amphibious transport dock USS New York which had the metal from the World Trade Center wreckage melted down and cast into its bow.

The ceremony had a considerable turnout with a large crowd forming around the periphery, paying their respects to the first responders and military in attendance.

August



Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Michael Martin

Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Michael Martin greets every Future Sailor who comes in with a warm smile and friendly handshake. Martin is an extravert, and in this job he has to be. He is charismatic and uses his positive attitude to build a rapport with anyone interested in joining the Navy. Martin starts his introduction and welcomes his applicants as if they were guests in his home. Should anyone ask how Petty Officer Martin is doing, the answer is always the same. "I'm blessed," Martin says with a grin.



Construction Electrician 1st Class Caroline Ballard

From a young age, Construction Electrician 1st Class Caroline Ballard was drawn to the idea of the military. Its look, organization, and camaraderie captivated her. Now serving as a Navy recruiter, the military has given her a chance to be a part of something bigger and to positively influence people around her. Ballard is a reservist that is currently on active duty as a recruiter, but her journey to get where she is today goes a long way back.



Operations Specialist 1st Class Justin Chung

Operations Specialist 1st Class Justin Chung was born and raised in the Republic of Korea, and he later moved to Rockville, Maryland with his family. He started talking to a Navy recruiter himself during his junior year of college because of his desire to travel. In his 10 years, Chung has served aboard three ships and traveled to more than 16 countries.



Electronics Technician 1st Class Branden Boatwright

Electronics Technician 1st Class Branden Boatwright was born in Granite City, Illinois, and attended Southwestern Illinois College immediately after high school. Soon after his freshman year of college, he saw an opportunity when he noticed how well the Navy was treating his best friend. That is when he sought out a local recruiter and his journey began.



Fire Controlman 1st Class Jose Sotocora

A Puerto Rico native, Fire Controlman 1st Class Jose Sotocora joined the Navy in 2008 with aspirations to provide a better life for his family. So far this fiscal year, Sotocora has recruited a total of 52 Future Sailors for the Navy, contracting 11 applicants in one month; a feat so outstanding, Navy Recruiting Command awarded him the Navy Commendation Medal for recruiting excellence.

Recruiter Spotlight

Every week a selected Navy Talent Acquisition Group or Navy Recruiting District chooses one Sailor with a special story to tell. We are highlighting them here so people across the country can see who our recruiters truly are. To learn more about these extraordinary Sailors visit our website at www.cnrc.navy.mil.

September



Navy Counselor 1st Class Matthew Ethridge

Navy Counselor 1st Class Matthew Ethridge, an officer recruiter assigned to Navy Recruiting District San Diego, is passionate about the Navy and recruiting. With a disarming smile and calm demeanor, he instantly puts applicants at ease and leaves a lasting impression. "We get to know people and build relationships," said Ethridge. "You get to know someone really well over a year. The first officer I ever put in the Navy ten years ago still sends me a Christmas card every year."



Electronics Technician 2nd Class Shaketha Brown

Electronics Technician 2nd Class Shaketha Brown knew she was destined to help people and make a difference in the world. Serving her country seemed like an obvious decision to help her achieve everything she wanted in life. However, her positive affect her life has on society doesn't end there.



Chief Navy Counselor Tiffany Colburn

Throughout her life, Chief Navy Navy Counselor Tiffany Colburn, a recruiter from Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Michigan, has found her way and made decisions by answering a simple question: How can she make a difference in others' lives? She initially answered this question when she was in high school, in Eugene, Oregon, by deciding to enlist in the U.S. Navy. Growing up, she never doubted she would end up a Sailor. Despite not having anyone close to her who was military, she felt a sense of responsibility to her country, and she pushed herself academically and graduated a semester early so she could head out to the world.



Machinist's Mate 2nd Class Michael Washington

Part of a recruiter's mission is to maintain a positive bond with their community. Machinist's Mate 2nd Class Michael Washington, a recruiter assigned to Navy Recruiting District (NRD) San Francisco, found a special way to make this happen. Washington was born and raised in Jacksonville, North Carolina, by his mother, Victoria Washington. She instilled strong values in his life and was a driving force behind her son's decision to join the Navy.

Admiral's Five-Star Recruiters For August 2018

NRD Atlanta - EO2 Ronald Gibson
 NRD Chicago - ETN2 David Anderson
 NRD Dallas - ABE1(AW/SW) McCord Brickle
 NRD Houston - LS1 Gregory Shedlock
 NRD Jacksonville - AO2 Rotchil Noel
 NRD Los Angeles - NC1(AW/SW) Danangelo Tulabot
 NRD Miami - HM1 Rasheed Collins
 NRD Michigan - FC1(SW) Christopher M. Thomas
 NRD New England - OS1 Ralph Cacchiotti
 NTAG New Orleans - Sales - NC1 Jason Ellis
 Sourcing - OM1 Ryland Gardner
 Assessing - HM2 Shane Monaghan
 Onboarding - MA2 Christopher Pierce
 NRD New York - EM2(SW) Andres F. Valencia
 NTAG Northern Plains - Sales - AO1(AW) Michelle L. Boatman
 Sourcing: YN1(AW) Chad B. Williams
 Assessing - MMN1(SW) Brian M. Wagner
 Onboarding - AO2(AW) Benjamin P. Klein
 NRD Ohio - ABE2(AW) Manuel Garcia
 NRD Philadelphia - MM1(SW/AW) Eric V. Edwards
 NRD Phoenix - STS2 Craiz Prazak
 NTAG Pittsburgh - Sales - AO1(AW) Arthur A. Stanley
 Sourcing - AO1(AW) Arthur A. Stanley
 Assessing - MMN1(SW) Kyle Riese
 Onboarding - GSM1(SW) Aeriell Quinlan
 NTAG Portland - Sales - AM1(AW/SW) Peter J. Villanueva
 Sourcing - AO1(AW) Arthur A. Stanley
 Assessing - EM1(SW) Jacob W. Eastman
 Onboarding - MM1(SW/AW) Jimbo P. Evangelista
 NRD Raleigh - FC1(SW) Tanner McCaskell
 NRD Richmond - STS1 Van M. Hanshaw
 NTAG Rocky Mountain - Sourcing - LS1(SW/AW) Hayden Reed
 Assessing - NC1(AW) Michael McCarthy
 Onboarding - NC1(SW) Nicholas Juliano
 NRD San Antonio - ABE2(AW) Whitney L. Cloud
 NRD San Diego - IM1 Edward Smith
 NRD San Francisco - EM1(SW) Andrei Krykun
 NRD Seattle - ETR2 Jacob M. Karlik
 NRD St. Louis - AM2(AW) Joshua L. Glee

The District's Top Stations For August 2018

NRD Atlanta - NRS Jonesboro
 NRD Chicago - NRS Joliet
 NRD Dallas - NRS Lewisville
 NRD Houston - NRS Greenspoint
 NRD Jacksonville - NRS Kissimmee
 NRD Los Angeles - NRS Guam
 NRD Miami - NRS Kendall
 NRD Michigan - NRS Flint
 NRD New England - NRS Providence
 NTAG New Orleans - TAOC - Baton Rouge
 NRD New York - NRS Elmhurst
 NTAG Northern Plains - TAOC - Minneapolis
 NRD Ohio - NRS Louisville
 NRD Philadelphia - NRS Levittown
 NRD Phoenix - NRS Tempe
 NTAG Pittsburgh - TAOC - Great Lakes
 NTAG Portland - TAOC - Outlaws of Reno
 NRD Raleigh - NRS Asheboro
 NRD Richmond - NRS Lynhaven
 NTAG Rocky Mountain - TAOC - Det Arvada
 NRD San Antonio - NRS Mercado
 NRD San Diego - NRS Las Vegas Southwest
 NRD San Francisco - NRS Placerville
 NRD Seattle - NRS Puyallup
 NRD St. Louis - NRS St. Peters

Admiral's Five-Star Recruiters For September 2018

NRD Atlanta - BM2 James Marsell
 NRD Chicago - CS1 Marco Camungay
 NRD Dallas - MM1(SW) Jonas Garcia
 NRD Houston - AD2 Miguel Lara
 NRD Jacksonville - AO1 Ron Bobo
 NRD Los Angeles - ABH1(AW/SW) Danangelo Tulabot
 NRD Miami - HM1 Rasheed Collins
 NRD Michigan - AO1(AW) Dirk G. Richards
 NRD New England - OS1 Ralph Cacchiotti
 NTAG New Orleans - Sales - MM1 Taylor Hatcher
 Sourcing - QM1 Ryland Gardner
 Assessing - MM1 Todd Savoy
 Onboarding - MA2 Christopher Pierce
 NRD New York - MMN1(SW) Patrick J. Johnston
 NTAG Northern Plains - Sales - FT1(SS) Joshua J. Hall
 Sourcing - YN1(AW) Chad B. Williams
 Assessing - ET1(SW) Matthew R. Smith
 Onboarding - AO2(AW) Benjamin P. Klein
 NRD Ohio - AWW2 Whitney Price
 NRD Philadelphia - GM1(SW) Anthony R. Kurasz
 NRD Phoenix - FM2 Cassandra Loveless
 NTAG Pittsburgh - Sales - ABF1(AW/SW) Kurt Reagan
 Sourcing - ABF1(AW/SW) Kurt Reagan
 Assessing - PR1(SW/AW) John Martinez Cruz
 Onboarding - HT2(SW/AW) Jazamine Hannon
 NTAG Portland - Sales - SW1(SCW) Siamac P. Moghaddam
 Sourcing - NC1(SW) Michael W. Anderson
 Assessing - NCC(SW) Tyler P. Gorsuch
 Onboarding - MM1(SW/AW) Jimbo P. Evangelista
 NRD Raleigh - FC1(SW) Tanner McCaskell
 NRD Richmond - HT1 Michael T. Wilson Jr.
 NTAG Rocky Mountain - Sourcing - MMN2(SW) Michael Eggspuehler
 Assessing - GSE1(SW) Scott Coppick
 Onboarding - OS1(SW/AW) Joshua Tremblay
 NRD San Antonio - AD1(AW) Joe E. Delarosa
 NRD San Diego - DC1 Joshua J. Schmidt
 NRD San Francisco - MM2(SW) Michael L. Washington
 NRD Seattle - ETR2 Jacob M. Karlik
 NRD St. Louis - AT2(AW) Dustin M. Clover

From the Archives

The Navy Recruiter July 1988



The "King" Holds Court Over Navy Reenlistment

Story by JO1 Raul Beaney, NRD Richmond

As the "King" knelt beside the car, Robert Tanner was sworn in for another four years by the commanding officer of NRD Richmond, CDR M. R. Weavil.

The reenlistment ceremony, which served as a highlight of the Navy's involvement at Martinsville, Va., was witnessed by 42,000 race fans just prior to the race itself.

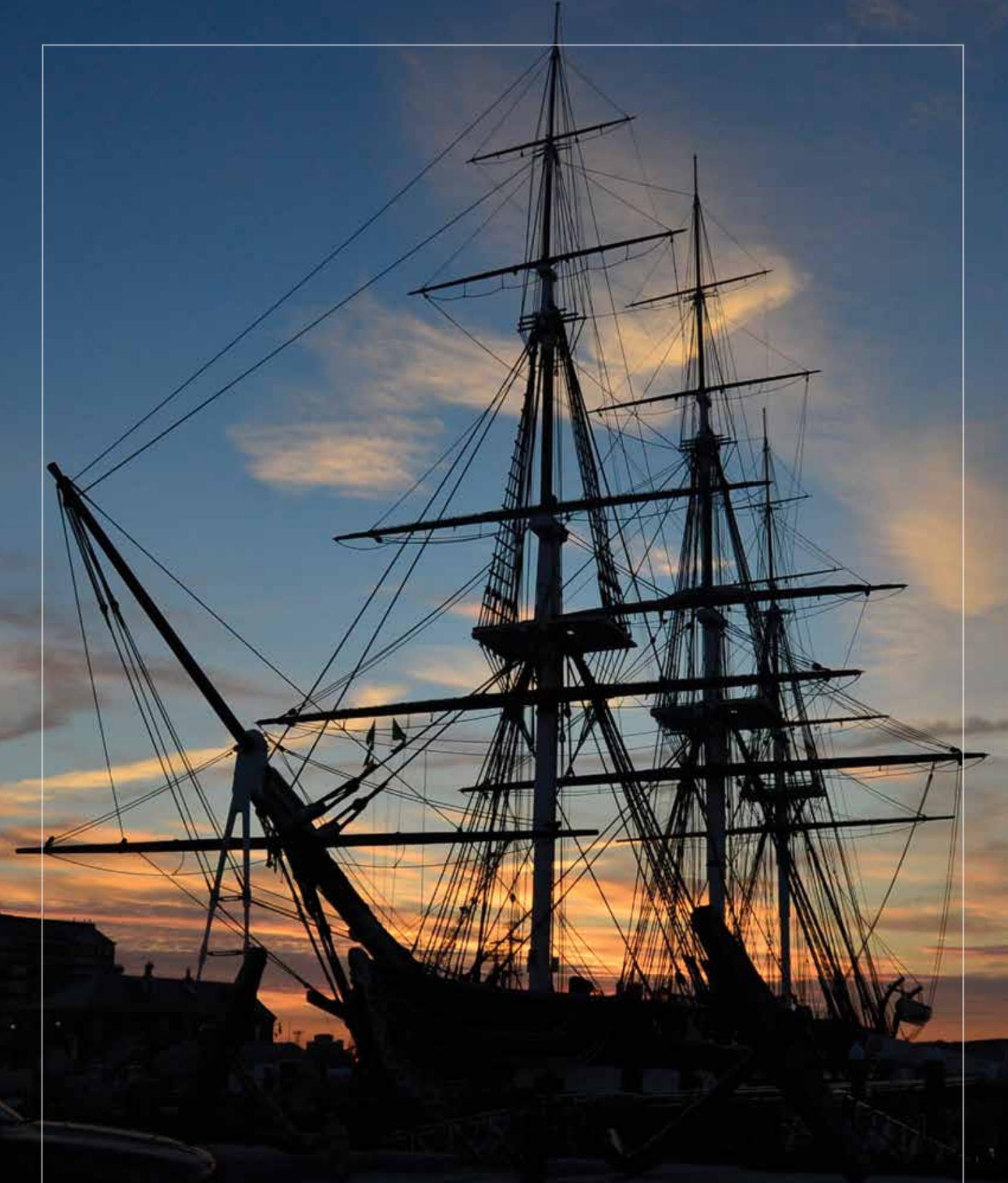
For Tanner, a recruiter at NRS Roanoke, Va., who's leaving soon for Rota, Spain, the ceremony was a thrill.

"I was so glad everything went so smooth. Getting int Richard Petty's car is one thing, but to actually meet Petty in person and having him by my side during the ceremony, is definitely something else," said Tanner. "I have Petty's public relations manager, Mr. Jimmie Martin, to thank. He helped arrange the whole thing. It was great!"

For CTM1 Robert G. Tanner, reenlisting in the Navy meant more his third time around than any other in his career. Recently, during the Martinsville 500, Robert Tanner got a chance to meet a racing legend, stock car driver "King" Richard Petty, as well as sit in Petty's famous Pontiac racing machine.

The District's Top Stations For September 2018

NRD Atlanta - NRS Jonesboro
 NRD Chicago - NRS Oshkosh
 NRD Dallas - NRS Lubbock
 NRD Houston - NRS Conroe
 NRD Jacksonville - NRS Orange Park
 NRD Los Angeles - NRS Downey
 NRD Miami - NRS Fort Lauderdale
 NRD Michigan - NRS Jackson
 NRD New England - NRS Providence
 NTAG New Orleans - TAOC - New Orleans
 NRD New York - NRS Kings Plaza
 NTAG Northern Plains - TAOC - Minneapolis
 NRD Ohio - NRS Lexington
 NRD Philadelphia - NRS Atlantic City
 NRD Phoenix - NRS El Paso East
 NTAG Pittsburgh - TAOC - Steel City
 NTAG Portland - TAOC - Outlaws
 NRD Raleigh - NRS Anderson
 NRD Richmond - NRS Princess Anne
 NTAG Rocky Mountain - TAOC - Det Pueblo
 NRD San Antonio - NRS South Corpus Christi
 NRD San Diego - NRS National City
 NRD San Francisco - NRS Modesto
 NRD Seattle - NRS Puyallup
 NRD St. Louis - NRS Manhattan



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