A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR AND STAFF

Every month, we focus on the Navy’s mission-focused people and technologies. As we survey how our naval forces continue to train, fight and equip the world’s toughest Sailors, we look at our advantage at sea and the capabilities of Sailors deployed around the world.

It is our mission to reach Sailors, so please share this issue, scan the QR codes, and follow our social media channels for the latest information for Sailors by Sailors.

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A LEGACY OF HONOR
The Department of the Navy (DON) and the State of Hawaii are working together to advance water resilience and water safety at Red Hill, the surrounding region on Oahu, and across the state.

The DON and the State of Hawaii entered into a cooperative agreement for the DON to put $14.9 million in Department of Defense Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration Program (REPI) Challenge funding towards the Pearl Harbor Aquifer and the surrounding ecosystem. These funds will implement landscape scale watershed protection, restore native forests to replenish the Pearl Harbor Aquifer, and provide long-term protection in the Koolau Mountains.

"The Navy sees itself as part of the community, and with that role comes a responsibility to protect and preserve the land, water, and other natural resources which Hawaii's people have honored and depended upon," said Meredith Berger, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Energy, Installations and Environment. "Oahu's water sources provide potable water across the island, and we expect these water quality improvements will benefit every resident of Oahu."

The focus of this REPI initiative, which kicked off Aug 1, 2022, is to safeguard drinking water supplies at Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam (JBPHH) and protect the upland forests as a necessary action toward protection of the aquifer and the replenishment of water to support installation resilience and readiness. The project provides long-term protection of 7,155 acres of forested lands in the watershed directly above JBPHH. These native forests protect the source of drinking water for JBPHH and the surrounding local community, provide a buffer from major storm events that cause erosion and flooding, and subsequently minimize impacts to mission operations.

"Establishing mutually beneficial relationships with our communities ultimately ensures long-term success," said Rear Adm. Stephen Barnett, commander, Navy Region Hawaii. "This collaborative effort between the Navy and the State of Hawaii to restore the Waiawa Watershed will positively impact the environment and the community for years to come. Securing this grant is the result of years of cooperation by the Navy and the State of Hawaii. This grant advances and supports our commitment to maintain the health of the aquifer and water quality at Pearl Harbor, to protect the community, and ensure mission resilience at this strategic location."

In March 2022, the DON and the University of Hawaii (UH) established a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to collaborate on water and energy resilience in the State of Hawaii. The terms of the MOU supports the University of Hawaii in conducting and coordinating independent scientific and engineering research. The Office of Naval Research (ONR) provides funding and Naval Facilities Engineering and Expeditionary Warfare Center (NAVFAC EXWC) provide services.

"UH shares a mutual vision with the Navy for education, practice, and research to promote water resilience and safety, and health and environmental mitigation, as well as climate resilience and coastal adaptation," said Dr. Vassilis Syrmos, Research and Innovation Director at UH. "UH has assembled a team of hydrologists, engineers, chemists, ecologists, geographers, political scientists, economists, and social scientists. The interdisciplinary team in collaboration with ONR and NAVFAC EXWC spearheads efforts aimed at enhancing water security and resilience in the Pacific region by developing planning models and tools that will enable proactive decision-making. The end result: more effective water management, stronger water security, and enhanced protection of national security."

An ONR grant was awarded to UH for science and technology development, including hydrology research in August 2022, and UH efforts are underway to initiate research and support field work. Future efforts will expand on water and energy resilience.

The Department of the Navy is working with the Hawaii Department of Health (DOH) as DOH collaborates with the UH Red Hill Task Force on drinking water sampling to ensure water testing is based on Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-certified methods.

"We are glad to see academics at UH and the regulators at DOH come together to ensure that the UH screening tool matches up with DOH and EPA approved testing protocols to provide clear, reliable water quality information to the community," Berger said. "Clear information and safe drinking water are important for everyone."

For more information on these actions, go to the news section.

For more information on long-term monitoring of the Navy water system, click here.
NEW 988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE FOR EMERGENCY CARE

A new 988 telephone number became operational July 16, designated as the new three-digit dialing code that routes callers to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.

The Lifeline provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, across the United States.

When people call, text, or chat 988, they will be connected to trained counselors who are part of the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline network. Trained counselors will listen and work to understand how their problems affect them, provide support, and connect them to necessary resources.

The current Lifeline phone number (1-800-273-TALK) will always remain available to people in emotional distress or suicidal crisis.

The Lifeline’s network of more than 200 crisis centers has been in operation since 2005. Numerous studies have shown that callers feel less suicidal, less depressed, less overwhelmed and more hopeful after speaking with a Lifeline counselor.

The 988 expansion will also address the need for ease of access for military veterans, service members and their families in times of crisis.

Veterans can use this new option by dialing 988 and then pressing 1 to contact the Veterans Crisis Line. Veterans may still reach the Veterans Crisis Line with the current phone number — 1-800-273-8255 and Press 1 — through chat, and by text (838255).

Veterans Crisis Line responders have training in crisis intervention and military culture.

More information and suicide prevention resources can be found here.

From Navy.mil
My NAVY HR

IS HERE

From MyNavyHR

GET REAL, GET BETTER

The Navy’s "pay boss" is getting real.

Rear Adm. Stu Satterwhite, commander, MyNavy Career Center, spoke to command pay and personnel administrators attending the MyNavyHR Career Development Symposium, held at Naval Station Norfolk in July.

"We are committed to recognizing our shortcomings and actively working to improve outcomes for you and your families," he said. "Your feedback is critical to this process, too. I look forward to speaking to you all again in the fleet and at our next CDS. Thank you for what you do each and every day!"

FROM FLEET TO THE FLEET

From MyNavyHR

A couple of weeks ago, the Chief of Naval Personnel (CNP) and I had the opportunity to travel to Norfolk and engage in the MidAtlantic Career Development Symposium (CDS). What a great event to observe and witness first hand - Sailors taking care of Sailors. During the visit, we were able to participate in a few all-hands calls and even sneak away the first day to have lunch at the galley "unannounced" with two amazing Sailors. The second day we visited the NEX Food Court at Naval Air Station Oceana and received feedback straight from the Sailors... through open and honest conversation. These specific interactions led me to reflect on why I serve. For me, it was pretty simple, I needed a little – "just a little" – discipline and focus. It turned out the Navy had more to offer me than just.

Our surveys have shown these are the top 5 reasons enlisted Sailors stay in the Navy:

1. Medical/dental benefits (for member and family)
2. Other benefits (paid leave, education, experience, NEX, Commissary, support services)
3. Monetary compensation and retirement pension
4. Job satisfaction
5. Housing (availability, quality allowance, and berthing)

I agree with the reasons above. However, I also serve because of the service members who raised their hand before me to support and defend our constitution, nation, and to make our way of life better for our neighbors, families, and future families.

While we all have different reasons for what led us to enlist, we are united in our service. For me, I continue to wear this uniform to serve you, and so do your leaders.

CNP and I met with your leadership during our time in Norfolk. They are fully committed to your success, supporting your families, and mission accomplishment. However, as MyNavy HR leaders, we recognize that if we do not provide you with support on those first two – career success and family support – you will not be able to stay focused and accomplish the mission.

We are committed to recognizing our shortcomings and actively working to improve outcomes for you and your families. Your feedback is critical to this process, too. I look forward to speaking to you all again in the fleet and at our next CDS. Thank you for what you do each and every day!

NAVY RECRUITING COMMAND SEEKS FLEET SUPPORT IN RECRUITING

From MyNavyHR

Commander, Navy Recruiting Command (NRC) launched a recruiting campaign communicating that all U.S. Navy Sailors hold a responsibility to help in the recruiting mission as influencers within their local, online and hometown communities.

The campaign, Every Sailor is a Recruiter, drives home the mission that Sailors around the world have a responsibility to share their Navy experiences, and inform people of what careers, benefits and experiences the Navy offers. The goal is to spread Navy awareness and influence people to join the Navy as a career path. Each and every active and reserve Sailor has an obligation to help select, mentor and prepare the next generation of Sailors to man the fleet.

"I remember several times going to the USS Cod Submarine Memorial as a child and hearing sea stories from the WWII veterans who volunteered there," Master Chief Navy Counselor Gerald Allchin, NRC National Chief Recruiter said. "Their stories inspired me, and eventually I joined the Navy. I believe it was my experiences, career and my stories that influenced my sister and brother to follow in my footsteps and join the Navy too."

Because sea stories told to family and friends by Sailors can improve their understanding of the Navy, in April 2019 NRC launched its Sea Story podcast, which can be found on America’s Navy YouTube channel, along with other informative content.

"I believe every one of us joins the Navy for one of three reasons, with a singular goal in mind," Rear Adm. Alexis "Lex" Walker, commander, Navy Recruiting Command, said. "We joined to get away from something, to get to something, or to change something about ourselves. All of which leads to the goal of being the best version of ourselves in service to our country. Right now America has the lowest propensity to serve than it ever has. We have almost 350,000 people in the Navy and each of us has a unique, but common story about where we came from and the many opportunities the Navy has provided since joining. Those personal stories, when shared, are a recruiting force multiplier."

Sharing their experience of life at sea, naval operations, training missions and much more, not only inspires future Sailors to join, but it also increases the public's understanding of how the Navy internationally impacts trade, security and humanitarian aid.

"Every Sailor has a voice, and it's not just up to recruiters to represent the Navy back at home, but it is their duty to share their experiences and inspire people to serve their country," Allchin said. "Growing up in Cleveland, Ohio, I know firsthand how rare it can be in nonfleet concentration areas to hear anything about the Navy. So, I tell my shipmates to share your stories!"

Read the full story in Sailor to Sailor.
HISTORY OF THE BLUE JACKET'S MANUAL

The U.S. Navy has continuously protected U.S. interests around the world since the commissioning of the first three frigates in 1797. Widely considered the greatest navy in the world, generations of Sailors have constantly met and raised the bar for future Sailors to come.

As new iterations of Sailors joined the Navy, older Sailors passed their knowledge down to the newer generations by word of mouth, ‘on-the-job-training,’ or later written publications. Initially, information on Sailor life was published in multiple books and pamphlets until 1902 when the information was published together in the Blue Jacket's Manual.

According to historians at the Naval History and Heritage Command, the term “blue jacket” is slang for a Sailor. It derives literally from a blue jacket, a uniform item (originator of the pea coat) for enlisted Sailors used to differentiate them from Marines when sent ashore in landing parties.

The first publication of the Blue Jacket's Manual, written by Lt. Ridley McLean, combined all the information a Sailor needed into one book. Since its first issue, the manual has been referred to as the Sailor’s bible and has become a required item of every Sailor’s sea bag. Since World War I, every Sailor who has gone to boot camp has been issued a Blue Jacket’s Manual.

"The Bluejacket's Manual is a tradition," said retired Petty Officer 1st Class Keenan Skipper. "With everything that has changed for Sailors over the years, one thing that is still the same is the Bluejacket’s Manual. It is regarded as the Navy bible for a reason. It has all the information you can want and need right there at your fingertips to become a successful Sailor."

The first issue of the manual was seven chapters and 304 pages long. Since then, the book has doubled in size, expanding to 21 chapters and 754 pages in its 25th edition written by Thomas J. Cutler and released in 2017. Earlier versions of the manual prioritized life as a Sailor, focusing on shipboard life and operations. The manual covers everything from damage control and gun maintenance to storm signals and quarterdeck operations. The newer versions keep the same information but include topics like leadership, ranks and ratings, illustrations, and Navy pay and benefits.

Sailors consider the Navy "the world's greatest navy", and there is pride in that. As long as the new waves of Sailors follow the instructions and leadership of those before them, it’s a title that will remain. The Blue Jacket's Manual is the book of lessons learned.

"The best way to improve yourself is to learn from your mistakes," said Special Warfare Boat Operator Master Chief Petty Officer Charles Roys. "Throughout our existence we have made plenty of mistakes, but we don’t let those mistakes hold us back, we attack the issues head on and come up with solutions. Having a universal resource like the Bluejacket’s Manual, that is constantly updated with the best ways to operate as a Sailor, is why we continue to be the world’s best navy.”
First steam-eject launch of Polaris missile at sea occurs off Cape Canaveral, Fla., from USS Observation Island (EAG 154).

**September 3rd 1783**
The Treaty of Paris was signed, ending the American Revolution. The United States is acknowledged as a sovereign and independent nation.

**September 5th 1990**
During Operation Desert Shield, USS Acadia (AD 42) departs San Diego for the first war-time deployment of a male-female crew.

**September 11th 2001**
American Airlines Flight 77 is hijacked by terrorists and hits the Pentagon, causing 184 fatalities. Specific to DON, the fatalities are: 33 military personnel, six civilians, and three contractors. American Airlines Flight 11 and United Airlines Flight 175 hit the Twin Towers at the World Trade Center, New York City. United Airlines Flight 93 goes down in Shanksville, Pa., after passengers engage the hijackers.

**September 19th 1957**
Bathyscaphe Trieste, in a dive sponsored by the Office of Naval Research in the Mediterranean, reaches a record depth of two miles. Three years later, Trieste would set a new record of seven miles on Jan. 23, 1960.

**September 23rd 1990**
During Operation Desert Shield, the two hospital ships, USNS Mercy (T AH 19) and USNS Comfort (T AH 20), steam together for first time in the Persian Gulf.

**September 26th 1963**
First steam-eject launch of Polaris missile at sea occurs off Cape Canaveral, Fla., from USS Observation Island (EAG 154).

**To read more about what happened during the month of August in Naval History, click here.**
CELEBRATING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

From Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Jaron Wills/All Hands Magazine

The tradition of observing Hispanic heritage began in 1968, when President Lyndon B. Johnson designated a week in mid-September as National Hispanic Heritage Week. Twenty years later in 1988, President Ronald Reagan extended that week to a month-long observance.

Hispanic Americans’ contribution to the Navy dates back to the Revolutionary War and has only increased since then. Of the nearly 400,000 active and Reserve Sailors in the Navy today, roughly 67,000 are of Hispanic heritage.

The Navy, strengthened by the diversity of its fighting force, honors service members of Hispanic American heritage, who continue to build legacies of patriotism, by lending their names to our nation’s warships. There have been at least seven U.S. Navy vessels named after Hispanic American servicemen.

USNS 1st Lt. Baldomero Lopez proudly honors Marine Corps 1st Lt. Baldomero Lopez, who was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for his heroic actions during the Korean War.

Benavidez was born in Texas on Aug. 5, 1935, and enlisted in the Texas Army National Guard in 1952 during the Korean War. He was wounded again in his thigh while administering first aid to a wounded team member just before another extraction attempt.

Benavidez voluntarily boarded one of the aircraft to assist in an extraction, returned with wounded crew members. While assigned to Detachment B56, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces in Vietnam, Benavidez was at a forward operating base in Loc Ninh monitoring an operation by radio when three helicopters, attempting to permit another extraction attempt.

Benavidez's actions during the six hours are nearly indescribable, and the following is taken directly from his Medal of Honor citation.

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and captured the Confederate ships Tennessee and Selma of Forts Morgan and Gaines at the entrance of Mobile Bay at the Battle of Mobile Bay when he forced the passage before used in the Navy. In 1862, he and 13 to 1859, he served as commandant of the Mare Island Yard until after the Mexican-American War broke out in 1846. In April 1844, he was assigned as executive officer of receiving ship Pennsylvania and remained at Norfolk Navy Yard until as executive officer of USS Delaware, and later as commander of USS Boxer and USS Decatur.

In April 1844, he was assigned as executive officer of receiving ship Saratoga and saw service during the blockade of Texas. From 1854 to 1859, he served as commandant of the Mare Island Navy Yard in California. At the outbreak of the Civil War, he declared allegiance to the Union and was given command of the Western Gulf Blockading Squadron. In 1862, he and 13 other officers were promoted to rear admiral, a rank never before used in the Navy.

On Aug. 5, 1864, he scored his most brilliant victory at the Battle of Mobile Bay when he forced the passage of Forts Morgan and Gaines at the entrance of Mobile Bay and captured the Confederate ships Tennessee and Selma where he uttered the famous phrase, "Damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead!"

President Abraham Lincoln created the rank of vice admiral for him on Dec. 31, 1864, which made him the senior officer in the Navy, and on July 25, 1866, by congressional act, he became the first officer of the Navy promoted to full admiral.

Dry cargo ammunition ship USNS Cesar Chavez is named after Cesar Estrada Chavez, a Navy veteran who made his greatest contribution to our nation after his military service as a civil rights activist who co-founded the United Farm Workers. Chavez was born March 31, 1927, near Yuma, Arizona. In 1948, he married Helen Fabela and settled in Delano, where they started their family. In 1952 he became an organizer for the Community Service Organization, a Latino civil rights group. Six years later he was the national director of the CSO, and in 1962, Chavez left the organization and co-founded the United Farm Workers.

Gonzalez was born in Texas on May 23, 1946, and enlisted in the Marine Corps on July 6, 1965. On Feb. 4, 1968, during his second tour in Vietnam, Gonzalez was mortally wounded by an enemy rocket propelled grenade. During the deadly exchange, Gonzalez utilized several light anti-tank assault weapons, fearlessly moving from position to position, firing rounds at enemy emplacements. He successfully destroyed an enemy RPG position and suppressed much of the enemy fire before succumbing to his injuries. He gallantly gave his life for his fellow Marines and his country.

In addition to the Medal of Honor and other awards and decorations, Garcia was also awarded the Purple Heart, the Navy Unit Commendation, and the Korean Service Medal with two bronze stars. Arleigh Burke-class destroyer USS Rafael Peralta proudly bears the name of Marine Corps Sgt. Rafael Peralta, who received the Navy Cross posthumously for his heroic actions during Operation Iraqi Freedom in November 2004. Peralta was born April 7, 1979, in Mexico City, Mexico, and graduated from San Diego's Morse High School in 1997. Peralta enlisted in the Marine Corps on the same day he received his green card, and later received his U.S. citizenship while serving in the Marines.

In 2004, he deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom as a scout leader. On Nov. 15, 2004, Peralta was heavily engaged in the second Battle of Fallujah, successfully clearing six houses that morning with his squad. At the seventh house, their point man opened the door to a back room and the squad immediately came under close-range automatic weapons fire from multiple insurgents. While attempting to get out of the line of fire, Peralta was severely wounded. As the insurgents fled the building, they threw a grenade that came to rest near Peralta's head. Without hesitation, he pulled the grenade to his body absorbing the brunt of the blast saving the lives of fellow Marines that were only a few feet away. Peralta heroically gave his life for his fellow Marines and country.

In 1993, Chavez died peacefully in his sleep on April 23, 1993, near Yuma, a short distance from where he was born. On April 29, more than 50,000 mourners gathered at the site of his first and last public fast in 1968 and 1988, respectively. On Aug. 8, 1994, President Bill Clinton presented the Medal of Freedom posthumously to Chavez. His widow accepted the honor on his behalf.

Destroyer Escort Garcia is named after the first native Puerto Rican to be awarded the Medal of Honor, Marine Corps Pvt. Fernando Luis Garcia.

Born Oct. 14, 1929, at Utuado, P.R., Garcia was inducted into the Marine Corps on Sept. 19, 1941. A member of the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines, Garcia arrived in Korea in March 1952 and served along the heavily fortified main line of resistance near Kaesong, north of the Imjin River. During a series of outpost battles in August and September, in which Marines and elements of the Chinese People's Volunteer Army fought to control of Hill 122 (nicknamed 'Bunker Hill'), a major PVA assault took place in the early hours on Sept. 5. At Outpost 'Bruce', a company of PVA attacked immediately following an intense artillery barrage. In the ensuing close combat, now-Pfc. Garcia selflessly threw himself on an enemy grenade to save his comrades.

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PHOTOS FROM THE FLEET

The Naval Service—forward deployed and capable of both rapid response and sustained operations globally—remains America’s most persistent and versatile instrument of military influence.
A SAILOR’S BEST FRIEND REDUX: SULLY H.W. BUSH, ARRIVING!

From Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Apprentice Sasha Ambrose

The crew of the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77) rounded out a month of relationship building and companionship with their canine companions with a visit from another special dog here, July 27.

Sully H.W. Bush, the yellow Lab who was former President George H.W. Bush’s service dog, joined the Avenger crew as they prepare for an upcoming, scheduled deployment while wearing his new rank of Chief Petty Officer. After serving President Bush at the end of his life, Sully became one of seven dogs currently serving within the Facility Dog Program at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (WRNMMC). Each dog in the program completes training with an accredited outside organization before they complete additional training at WRNMMC to become “inducted” through an enlistment or commissioning ceremony into the program by which comes a rank, service, and uniform for each dog. The George H.W. Bush and its crew inspired the names of the puppies named Avenger, CAVU, Pearl, Crew, Sailor, Liberty, and Sully.

The naming of the pups in training and Sully’s visit to the ship were a fitting way to close out the weekly visits throughout July that developed bonds between Sailors and the dogs and the organizations raising them, reduced stress, and strengthened the connections between shipmates.

"It would be difficult to write a better script than having Sully here on the same day as the puppies named after our crew from Mutts With A Mission," said Lt. Sarah Faber, the ship’s assistant air operations officer who lead coordination for the event. "It’s great to see the relationships that Sailors have developed with the dogs, and with each other through these visits. It’s been a team effort from everyone involved and I know a lot of us are looking forward to seeing the puppies grow through the pictures and updates Mutts With A Mission will share with our crew."

As luck would have it, Sully H.W. Bush not only met the crew, but he also met with a young yellow Lab named after him who is in the process of becoming a service dog himself. The Sully-to-Sully connection took place after Mutts With A Mission founder Brooke Corson announced the younger Sully’s name along with six other golden Labs the organization and volunteer puppy raisers are training to become service dogs. The George H.W. Bush and its crew inspired the names of the puppies named Avenger, CAVU, Pearl, Crew, Sailor, Liberty, and Sully.

A LEGACY OF HONOR

From Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Alexa Trafton/All Hands Magazine

Forty years is a lifetime. In fact, it can feel like several. For Army Reserve Chief Warrant Officer 5 Phillip Brashear, son of legendary Master Chief Navy Diver Carl Brashear, four decades of service came full circle as he became an honorary inductee in a select group with a unique familial connection.

Brashear, whose father’s journey to becoming the Navy’s first Black American master diver was immortalized in the motion picture “Men of Honor,” was appointed as an honorary chief petty officer by Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy Russell L. Smith during his retirement ceremony at the Frank B. Lotts conference center onboard Defense Supply Center in Richmond, Va.

Brashear retired after 40 years of combined service in the Navy Reserve, the Army National Guard, and the Army Reserve. He first joined the Navy Reserve in 1989 and transferred to the Virginia Army National Guard. After completing the Initial Rotary Wing Training, Brashear became a warrant officer pilot in June 1991. In May 2007, he decided to retire from the Army National Guard.

However, in May of 2009, Brashear began to feel a deep sense of emptiness.

“I felt there was a void,” he said. After going through some of his late father’s belongings, he remembered his father’s famous words: “It’s not a sin to get knocked down. It’s a sin to stay down.” He decided to return to service.

After the presentation, Brashear was piped ashore for a final time, a Navy retirement tradition. As the peal of the bells gave way to the echo of the Boatswain’s pipe, another Brashear took his place alongside his brothers and sisters in the Mess, leaving behind a forty-year legacy of honor.

“Let me tell you,” said Brashear of his induction to the ranks of the global CPO Mess. “It is so wonderful, now I can represent two great uniforms.”

As Brashear was called up to be pinned, Smith pinned his anchors and Reserve Force Master Chief Petty Officer Tracy Hunt placed a CPO combination cover upon Brashear’s head.

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09.01.22