

# VP-5 assists in disaster relief efforts



*Photos by MC3 Sergio Montanez*

**AWO2 Laura Huser, assigned to Patrol Squadron (VP) 5, conducts flight operations aboard a P-8A Poseidon during a Humanitarian Aid and Disaster Relief (HADR) flight over Haiti in support of U.S. efforts to aid Haiti following the Aug. 14, 2021 earthquake. The “Mad Foxes” of VP-5 are based out of Jacksonville, Florida, and are currently taking part in the year-long Fleet Readiness Training Program (F RTP) in preparation for their next operational deployment.**

**By Lt j.g. Matthew Skowronski**  
VP-5 Public Affairs Officer

A P-8A Poseidon aircraft assigned to Patrol Squadron Five (VP-5) conducted a Humanitarian Aid and Disaster Relief (HADR) mission in support of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) efforts to provide aid to Haiti on Aug. 19.

The mission is part of an overall effort led by, USAID, in which U.S. Southern Command Joint Task Haiti, commanded by Navy Rear Adm. Keith Davids was stood up to coordinate all the military support following the 7.2 magnitude earthquake on Aug. 14.

While on patrol, VP-5 was tasked to provide aerial images of the earthquake devastated areas. The images collected by the VP-5 “Mad Foxes” will be used to evaluate the status of roads, bridges, airports, seaports, and hospitals throughout Haiti. Information gathered during

the mission helps U.S. SOUTHCOM planners determine which capabilities may be required to support and in what areas.

Capt. Matt Pottenburgh, led VP-5’s Combat Air Crew 11 on the 11-hour HADR mission. The crew rendezvoused with a USAF KC-135 aircraft en route to Haiti to conduct aerial refueling to ensure maximum time overhead the disaster-stricken areas. Several local Jacksonville television news crews joined the VP-5 crew to document the mission.

“Our main mission in supporting USAID is to save lives. The P-8s provide imagery of Haiti’s critical infrastructure - specifically, the crew assesses damage to their ports and airfields. This enables supplies to be brought in safely,” said Capt. Matt Pottenburgh, commander, Task Force FOUR SEVEN. “We provide full motion video and still frame imagery to our commanders who then provide it to Coast Guard and Army helicopters who require a safe landing zone to



**Lt. Cmdr. Darryl Abriam, a mission commander for Patrol Squadron (VP) 5, conducts flight operations aboard a P-8A Poseidon during a Humanitarian Aid and Disaster Relief (HADR) flight over Haiti in support of U.S. efforts to aid Haiti following the Aug. 14, 2021 earthquake. The “Mad Foxes” of VP-5 are based out of Jacksonville, Florida, and are currently taking part in the year-long Fleet Readiness Training Program (F RTP) in preparation for their next operational deployment.**

pick up injured passengers and transport them to the hospital in Port-au-Prince.”

Naval Aircrewman (Operator) 2nd Class Kevin Pahalek of VP-5, was the primary acoustic operator in charge of the camera on the aircraft, keeping an eye on the damage.

“The biggest challenge is clearing through the weather and mountains. We had pretty low clouds so getting eyes on and imagery was difficult. But our pilots circled around and we found what we were looking for,” Pahalek said. “It’s devastating. Nobody wants to be in that situation, and it’s really hard, especially somewhere close to home. Any type of help we can provide to them is outstanding.”

The “Mad Foxes” are based out of Jacksonville, Florida, and are currently taking part in the year-long Fleet Readiness Training Program in preparation for their next operational deployment.





# RNZAF Chief of Air Force Vice-Marshal visits VP-30



Courtesy photo

Members of the Royal New Zealand Air Force gather at Patrol Squadron (VP) 30, Aug. 23. From left, Sgt. Marlo Bowyer, Air Vice-Marshal Andrew Clark, Squadron Leader Bryon Wagstaff, VP-30 Commanding Officer Capt. Jon Spore, Squadron Leader Ben Smith, and Flight Sgt. Nick Rowe.

## From VP-30 Public Affairs

Patrol Squadron (VP) 30 hosted Air Vice-Marshal Andrew Clark, Chief of Air Force, Royal New Zealand Air Force (AVM RNZAF) during a visit, Aug. 23. Clark interacted with RNZAF personnel assigned to VP-30, while touring the P-8A, and the Integrated Training Center’s operational flight trainers, and weapons and tactics trainers. Clark is a prior P-3C Orion tactical coordinator, served as an instructor with the Royal Australian Air Force, and commanding officer of No. 5SQN. He has held a variety of operational and strategic level staff positions and was appointed Chief of Air Force on Sept. 7, 2018, keeping the Royal New Zealand Air Force at the forefront of aviation excellence.

During the past year, VP-30 has trained a full crew of RNZAF P-8A personnel, who have now become instructors at the Fleet Replacement Squadron (FRS). Led by SQLDR Ben Smith, RNZAF, these instructors have become integral

members of the instructor cadre at VP-30, imparting their vast expertise and knowledge on to U.S. Navy, allied, and partner nation students. The hours spent here will help the RNZAF instructors develop their proficiency, ahead of the additional RNZAF crews that will complete the VP-30 P-8A syllabus in the near future.

“The hours spent in the plane and the simulators here amongst the instructor cadre has honed our P-8A warfighting skills, and will pay dividends when we head back to New Zealand,” said Smith.

Four future crews will undertake VP-30’s P-8A syllabus at Naval Air Station Jacksonville, before building the foundation of P-8A excellence at the No. 5SQN RNZAF. New Zealand is purchasing four P-8As, along with multiple simulators to train their own aircrew in New Zealand. No. 5SQN will establish their own FRS to continue building and training new aircrews, while the RNZAF and U.S. Navy maintain their working relationship while coordinating maritime tactics, techniques and procedures.

Asked of the relationship, VP-30 Commanding Officer Capt. Jonathan Spore remarked, “Our relationship with the Royal New Zealand Air Force greatly benefits the United States Navy and everyone who trains here at VP-30, and we look forward to a lasting partnership for years to come.”

The U.S. Navy has long enjoyed great cooperation and integration with allies in the operation of the P-3C Orion, the precursor to the P-8A Poseidon. As the U.S. Navy has fully transitioned to the P-8A, many partner countries have transitioned to the P-8A as well, continuing the tradition of maritime patrol excellence. New Zealand is the latest country to purchase the P-8A, following in the footsteps of Australia, the United Kingdom and Norway. VP-30 will continue to train U.S. Navy students alongside those of our allies and partners, keeping international interoperability at the forefront of deployed operations while ensuring a free and open Indo Pacific.

## JAX AIR NEWS

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# NAS Jax Sailor reflects on his 9/11 experiences 20 years later

By Alvin Plexico

Navy Office of Community Outreach

An East Providence, Rhode Island, native recently recounted his experiences serving in the U.S. Navy off the coast of Manhattan the day after 9/11.

Senior Chief Petty Officer Nicholas Langevin joined the Navy 21 years ago. Today, Langevin serves as an air traffic controller at Naval Air Station (NAS) Jacksonville, but 20 years ago, he was serving aboard the aircraft carrier, USS George Washington.

“We were underway on September 11, and were scheduled to return to our homeport of Norfolk on September 12th,” said Langevin.” “Instead we headed north. I've never seen an aircraft carrier move so fast. We provided humanitarian assistance and air support. All civilian aircraft were shut down, so the Navy and Air Force provided air superiority. I was a 19-year-old kid at the time, and it made an impression on me that I still remember to this day. I always knew there was a possibility of war, but I joined for education and the opportunity to see the world. In a moment, everything changed.”

Growing up in East Providence, Langevin attended East Providence High School and graduated in 2000. Today, Langevin finds the values in East Providence similar to those needed to succeed in the military.

“Hard work is important, because nothing's going to be given to you,” said Langevin. "I also learned the importance of loyalty and sacrifice."

These lessons have helped Langevin during his career.

Serving in the Navy means Langevin is part of a world that is taking on new importance in America’s focus on rebuilding military readiness, strengthening alliances and reforming business practices in support of the National Defense Strategy.

“The Navy keeps the seas open for free commerce,” said Langevin. "This is essential to the economy and national security. The Navy keeps the fight away from our shores."

With more than 90 percent of all trade traveling by sea, and 95 percent



Photo by MC2 Patricia Rodriguez

**ACCS Nicholas Langevin poses for a portrait at the Naval Air Station Jacksonville airfield.**

of the world’s international phone and internet traffic carried through fiber optic cables lying on the ocean floor, Navy officials continue to emphasize that the prosperity and security of the United States is directly linked to a strong and ready Navy.

As Langevin and other sailors continue to train, they take pride in serving their country in the United States Navy.

“My grandfather served in the Navy as a boiler tech from 1948 to 1956,” said Langevin. "I originally joined to see the world."

“It's been a privilege to serve,” added Langevin. "If I had to sum up the past 21 years, I consider myself extremely fortunate to have great leaders and other shipmates in my life. It's an honor to lead the next generation of sailors."

## Commissary and Exchange joint buying alliance saves military community over \$75 million

From NAVSUP Public Affairs

Since its founding in late 2019, the military resale joint buying alliance has saved the military community more than \$75 million. The joint buying power of the military exchanges and commissary enables these organizations to offer lower prices and negotiate vendor markdowns on the products they sell.

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES), Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM), Marine Corps Community Services (MCX), Coast Guard Exchange (CGX) and Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA) formed the buying alliance to reduce the cost of goods to save their customers money. The alliance helps to lower prices on existing buys and increase access to new deals.

The military resale leaders credit the alliance

for strengthening commissary and exchange benefits, explaining, “Building on various cooperative initiatives, joint buying has proved to be a big win for the entire military community. Joint buying lowers prices for authorized shoppers.”

To accomplish the \$75 million in savings, the alliance leveraged its buying intelligence to lower prices by \$45 million on goods in several departments including health & beauty and electronics.

Another \$30 million cost of goods savings was achieved by identifying special buys with vendors.

The joint buying alliance was critical during the COVID-19 pandemic as shipments of essential items were prioritized. As a result, the military resale community had a higher in-stock rate on vital merchandise such as paper products

and cleaning supplies than other retailers.

Moving forward, the alliance is leveraging its private label brands to further enhance the exclusive savings found at commissaries and exchanges, including several military-exclusive laptops. The alliance will apply successful cooperative disciplines to other relevant merchandise categories to generate additional savings for the military community.

Military resale, which includes the Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES), Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM), Marine Corps Exchange (MCX), Coast Guard Exchange (CGX) and Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA), supports service members, military families, retirees and Veterans with good and services at military-exclusive pricing.



# NAS Jax Sailor cooks from the heart



*Photo by Julie M. Lucas*

**CS1 René Millington chops a green pepper for the evening meal salad bar. Millington was recently named best of the Commander, Navy Installation Command virtual cooking competition.**



*Courtesy photo*

**CS1 Xuan Ngueyen, left, and CS1 Rene Millington compete in a virtual cooking competition hosted by Commander, Navy Installations Command. Ngueyen and Millington placed first in the competition.**

**By Julie M. Lucas**  
*NAS Jax Public Affairs*

During a recent Facebook All-Hands Call, Commander, Navy Installation Command (CNIC) Vice Adm. Yancy Lindsey announced the winner of a virtual cooking competition. CS1 René Millington of the Naval Air Station Jacksonville Flight Line Cafe is half of the team that won the CNIC-wide award.

“I was so shocked when they said my name,” said Millington.

Millington was paired with a culinary specialist from Naval Station Mayport, CS1 Xuan Ngueyen, who he had never met. “I came with a game plan, but you never know if your cooking style will match with another person,” he said.

Millington’s partner wanted to use seafood as the protein and the final dish was decided – breaded prawns with a spinach salad and bacon polenta. After being paired together, the teams had two hours to prepare their dishes.

“I wasn’t very nervous because I’ve done cooking competitions before, but this was Ngueyen’s first,” said Millington.

A curve ball was thrown to the culinary specialists when they said the competition this year would be

virtual. “My first thought was how would the dishes be tasted?” Millington pondered.

The solution was instead of gathering all competitors, local judges were selected from base leadership to executive chefs.

“Our base commanding officer and executive officer took boxes to go, so I knew they liked the food,” he mused.

According to Millington, the way to handle these competitions is to be able to think on your feet and have a back-up plan.

“I was on a team once and our protein burned. This could cause panic, but you have to problem solve,” he said.

Millington, a certified sous-chef, has been at NAS Jax for two months. He started cooking at age 8 and joined the Navy with plan.

“I don’t even know what other jobs I qualified for because cooking is all I ever wanted to do,” he said.

A native of Houston, Millington owns a Caribbean restaurant with his mother and he wants to start a food truck in Jacksonville.

“CS1 Millington has been a great addition to the Flight Line Café and we expect him to keep up the good work here,” said CSCM Demetrius Fitts. “He has a passion for food that is contagious.”



*Photo by MC2 Anderson W. Branch*

## Armed Forces Women's Softball Champion

**Naval Hospital Jacksonville Commanding Officer Capt. Teresa Allen, right, congratulates HN Patsy Erwin for her contributions as a member of the Navy Women's Softball Team. The team won 2021 Armed Forces Women's Softball Championship, Aug. 25. It was the first time in 35 years the Navy Women's Softball Team has won the championship title.**



# Command responsibilities for member citizenship



*Photo by Arwen Fitzgerald*

**SN Gabriel Patricio Rodriquez Cardenas, left, of the USS Iwo Jima, and AN Julian Stevan Ruiz, of Patrol Squadron (VP) 16, are naturalized by U.S. Citizenship and Naturalization Services during the halftime of Jacksonville Jaguars game, Dec. 29, 2019. Cardenas is originally from Bolivia, while Ruiz is from Columbia.**

**By Mr. Thomas E. Wallace**

*RCPM for Region Legal Service Office Southeast*

The United States military can recruit members who are not yet U.S. citizens, but who are lawful permanent residents (LPR). Commands are directed to help those members become naturalized U.S. citizens as soon as possible. MILPERSMAN 5352-010 requires commanders, commanding officers and officers-in-charge to appoint in writing a command citizenship representative (CCR).

Once appointed, the command must report the appointment of their CCR to the region citizenship program manager (RCPM). The RCPM is an attorney with the Region Legal Service Office in each region responsible for oversight of the Naturalization program. I am the RCPM for Region Legal Service Office Southeast.

MILPERSMAN 5352-010 lists the various responsibilities for area commanders, commanding officers, officers-in-charge, and CCRs in the assistance of military members applying for naturalization on the basis of military service. Commanders, commanding officers, officers-in-charge and CCRs should review these responsibilities and comply. This includes reporting various metrics to the RCPM. Implicit in these responsibilities

is the requirement that each command and CCR actively determine if they have any members that are not yet citizens. Once those non-U.S. citizen members are identified, the CCR should contact their naturalization area coordinator (NAC) for help. The NAC is also employed with the Region Legal Service Office. In our Region, the NACs are currently Robert Howeth (RLSO SE Branch Office, Fort Worth, Texas) and Robin Griswold (RLSO SE Detachment, Mayport, Florida). The NACs train the unit CCR on their responsibilities and how to organize a naturalization package for members.

The package CCRs help a member compile is simple. It only contains two forms. The first is an N-400, the Application for Naturalization. The second form is the N-426, Request for Certification of Military or Naval Service. The N-426 verifies a member's military service and indicates that the member is serving honorably. The current requirement for creditable military service is back to only one (1) day of service after the Samma Federal District Court case in 2020.

I have noted several instances where the N-426 was either not done or done incorrectly. The first O6 in the member's chain of command **MUST** sign the form. This is not delegable and must be done by the command because this form is a verification of service. The N-426 challenges many commands because many unit structures often have the first O6 in the member's chain of command located elsewhere. Commands and CCRs should also note that the Department of Defense mandates that the N-426 be completed within 30 days.

In addition to issues with the naturalization package, many commands fail to update the member's record to reflect that a member is a naturalized U.S. citizen. Commands should refer to MILPERSMAN 1070-220 which gives step-by-step directions for updating a member's record regarding citizenship.

I would like to ask all area commands to review whether they have appointed a CCR in writing. If they have not, I would ask that commands do so and report their name to me. I request commands to determine if they have any members that need assistance with naturalization. For those members who are not naturalized citizens, please have your unit's CCRs contact our NACs for assistance and training in getting these member's naturalization packages completed. For those members who do not reflect in their records that they are already naturalized citizens, update the member's record in accordance with MILPERSMAN 1070-220. The Chief of Naval Personnel periodically sends a discrepancy list to the office of the Judge Advocate General for members who have not been naturalized.

Career advancement and career options are limited for members who do not become naturalized U.S. citizens. This is an important effort that helps the Navy by ensuring a fully staffed force that has members able to optimize their careers. If you have any questions, please contact me at (904) 542-4800 or email: [thomas.e.wallace1.civ@us.navy.mil](mailto:thomas.e.wallace1.civ@us.navy.mil).

## Citizenship for Service Members

If you are a service member and not a U.S. citizen did you know that you can apply for naturalization to become a U.S. citizen based on your military service? Well, you can. Please contact your command citizenship representative (CCR) at your command today for details on how to complete the naturalization process. If your command does not have a CCR as required under MILPERSMAN 5352-010, please contact the regional citizenship program manager (RCPM) at the Region Legal Service Office. The RCPM for Region Legal Service Office Southeast is Tom Wallace located at Region Legal Service Office Southeast in Building 4 on Ranger Street at Naval Air Station Jacksonville. His phone number is (904) 542-4800 and his email address is [thomas.e.wallace1.civ@us.navy.mil](mailto:thomas.e.wallace1.civ@us.navy.mil). You can also contact the naturalization area coordinator, Robin Griswold who is located at the Region Legal Service Office Southeast Detachment Mayport Legal Assistance Office, Building 1868, Naval Station Mayport. She can be reached at (904)270-5274 or [robin.griswold@navy.mil](mailto:robin.griswold@navy.mil).





*Photos by AN Nick Davis*

From left, CS1 Aaron Pinckney, AZ2 Nefertiti SoCastro, MM2 Madysleidiys Negrón, STG1 Margaret Christiecarlson, LS1 Ashley Allmond, NC2 Nadya Fenner, all members of the NAS Jacksonville MWR committee, volunteer during a school supplies giveaway at the NAS Jacksonville Base Chapel, Aug 11.



## NAS Jax MWR Committee, USO hold school supply giveaway



NC2 Nadya Fenner from Naval Air Station Jacksonville's MWR Committee assists ABE1 Traves Whaley and ABE2 Reginald Jeffcoat with getting school supplies for their children's new school year during a school supplies giveaway at the NAS Jacksonville Base Chapel, Aug 11.

Kim Brooks, left, and Robin Keller, far left, from the Naval Air Station Jacksonville USO give ABE1 Traves Whaley and ABE2 Reginald Jeffcoat backpacks to put school supplies in during a school supplies giveaway at the NAS Jacksonville Base Chapel, Aug 11.

## Fleet Readiness Center Southeast implements new Kudos App for recognition of personnel

**By Ashley Lombardo**

*Fleet Readiness Center Southeast Public Affairs*

Fleet Readiness Center Southeast (FRCSE) rolled out a new application meant to encourage employee recognition throughout the organization.

The new Kudos App took approximately six-months from inception to deployment and allows users to send direct messages to other FRCSE personnel who are deserving of a pat on the back.

"The Kudos App is a means for FRCSE personnel to say thank you to fellow employees for a job well done," said Sean Olin, FRCSE's Strategic Planning Lead. "It is a convenient way for people to show appreciation for the efforts of others, beyond emails and the standard in-person meetings that we already use."

FRCSE Production Analytics Branch Head, Karla Blaise, introduced the concept to executive leadership after discovering a similar recognition application during her time with Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP).

"Karla told us about NAVSUP's app and was instrumental in getting us in contact with their points of contact to migrate a similar app here at the depot," said Holly Martinez, FRCSE's Executive Director.

The FRCSE IT Department took over and fine-tuned it, focusing on functionality, design and layout. Once the look and function met leadership's vision, the depot's IT team executed testing and final deployment to the command's SharePoint network.

"Our IT department is the heart and soul of this app. They took the core application from NAVSUP and made it ours," said Martinez. They added a few new categories to recognize our workforce, and an example of that is 'Diamond Cutter.' This category highlights a term we commonly use to describe the consummate artisan who has years of experience and is highly skilled in their field of expertise."

To send a kudos, personnel must log onto the command's SharePoint homepage. Once on the homepage, there will be a thumbs up icon that's clicked to access the app. When logged in, the employee's dashboard displays four options: Send Kudos, Kudos I've Received, Kudos I've Sent and All Public Kudos, which allows users to view all kudos that have been made public. Kudos are always sent and received as private messages, unless the recipient decides to make their kudos public.

Further, when sending a kudos, users will find a list that describes the different types of kudos – 19 kinds in total. The categories range from "Diamond Cutter," mentioned above, to a simple "Made My Day."

"I think that this app is a great addition to the tools available on the FRCSE SharePoint and is a key element of our culture and engagement," Olin said. "I hope to see additional kudos given and received among our workforce, as the app is used more. We definitely understand that a simple thank you can go a long way to show appreciation and boost morale."



# NMCRS new pet policy provides assistance

By Julie M. Lucas  
NAS Jax Deputy PAO

The permanent change of station (PCS) process can be stressful, but when trying to fly your furry family member overseas, you might find out it can cost more than expected. The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) has recognized this detriment and recently changed policies to provide aid.

“After reviewing policies, the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society saw a big need for our service members and we knew we had the duty to help out,” said Naval Air Station Jacksonville NMCRS Director Monika Woods. “Pets are family members and I’m glad our organization can help out with these added expenses that occur because of them.”

During an overseas PCS, depending on the size of the pet, shipping costs can be in the thousands. NMCRS can now provide

interest-free loans, up to \$5,500 to support air shipping for family cats and dogs outside the Continental U.S. PCS moves, up to two pets. Assistance must be requested within 60 days past the no later than date on PCS orders. Verification of pet ownership is required with a pet passport or DoD pet travel paperwork.

“We have options to provide assistance if they are in quarantine with COVID and cannot leave their home,” Woods added. “Additionally, we can provide assistance for pet deposits for new housing.”

According to Woods, to date this year, NMCRS Jax has provided \$556,994 in assistance to 493 service members here. Assistance is confidential and zero percent interest, for emergencies and basic needs.

Additional shipping information for military members may be found at: [www.amc.af.mil/Home/AMC-Travel](http://www.amc.af.mil/Home/AMC-Travel). To reach the NAS Jax NMCRS, call (904) 542-3515/2216 or email [Jacksonville@nmcrs.org](mailto:Jacksonville@nmcrs.org).



# NAS Jax Officers Club repurposed as community center

From NAS Jax Public Affairs

Members of the Naval Air Station Jacksonville (NAS Jax) community will soon find all their activities centered into one hub on the station. River Cove Catering and Conference Center was blessed Aug. 1 with its new official name, River Cove Community Center.

“We want to make this a place where we can give back to the community and do conference, catering and hold special events and community based programming,” said Nina Delucchi, Community

Recreation Director at NAS Jax.

At the beginning of August, the doors will reopen with new places to community members to explore, such as the book nook where everyone can come read and check out books. While the center has the same footprint there are hopes it will be more multipurpose.

“This is going to be a huge evolution,” said Delucchi. “We want to hear from the community and make sure this facility works for everyone here at NAS Jax.”

Movies on the green will be held outside the

facility, with the St. Johns River as the backdrop. Rentals and inflatables will still be available to rent at the Auto Skills location in Building 622. Some of the upcoming events in the spaces include a DIY Craft tote bag on Aug. 10 and National Waffle Day celebration Aug. 24.

“As long as the community stays healthy, I’d really love to plan an Oktoberfest, comedy shows and so many other fun events for everyone to enjoy,” said Delucchi.

The center will be open Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-4 p.m. For questions please call 904-542-3041.



# GO JUICE: Process of Growth

“Personal growth is like investing. It’s not your timing. It’s your time in.” – John C. Maxwell

We are all aware of the competitive environment we live in. Climbing the corporate ladder, moving up the ranks, making the big leagues are phrases and dreams extremely common to most.

It is a deceitful to think that when making it to one of these milestones, we have arrived.

The point of the journey is not arriving. The point is what we learn and whom we become along the way.

Our process of growth reveals the core of

who we truly are as an individual.

It is great to have goals and reach milestones throughout life, but thinking that our journey is over once we achieve some of them is dangerous.

As leaders we must encourage growth, model growth, and reward it. Yes, hurdles will be in the way, obstacles will have to be overcome, but putting the time in will reap great success in all areas of life and the relationships in which we garner. Enjoy the process of growth!

Reverend Dr. Zachary C. Parker  
Chaplain, U.S., Navy



# September event gives families a chance to save more as they stock up for school lunches

By Christopher Long  
DeCA Public Affairs

School is back and so are commissary sidewalk sales. Throughout September, stateside commissary patrons can stock up on their favorite items at significant savings during these Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA) events.

Customers can check the commissary website for the date and times of their locally held sidewalk sale. These events offer a variety of options to choose from such as snacks, beverages, pet food, international foods, baking goods, canned goods, non-food items, and health and beauty products.

“Sidewalk sales provide military members and their families extra savings on case items similar to what they’d see in commercial club stores,” said Marine Sgt. Maj. Michael Saucedo, DeCA’s senior enlisted advisor to the agency director. “Whether returning to the classroom or learning remotely, our young military children deserve quality meals, and the commissary and our industry partners are bringing these items to them at greater savings.”

Look for additional savings and value as the commissary recognizes back-to-school, family meals, food safety, and Hispanic Heritage month.

Customers can download the latest sales flyer on Commissaries.com. The flyer is filled with great savings and includes nutritious eating tips and ways to prepare affordable meals using the commissary online recipe book. They may also visit the savings center to take advantage of more savings, like the Your Everyday Savings (YES!) program, the Commissary Rewards Card’s digital coupons and current promotions.

Even greater savings are available through Commissary Store Brands – Freedom’s Choice, Homebase, TopCare, Tippy Toes, Full Circle, Flock’s Finest, Wide Awake Coffee, Crav’n and Pure Harmony.

Members receive a welcome gift, high value coupons valid only at the Commissary, and sweepstakes offers throughout the year. Purina uses the My Military Savings and Military Wives Savings communities to further promote the club. To sign up go to [www.militaryclub.com](http://www.militaryclub.com).

## NAS Jacksonville Commissary Sidewalk Sales Days are Sept. 23-26



## Tickets Available for Families at Tickets and Travel Office

**Community Recreation Tickets & Travel Office**  
**Call 542-3318 or email [nasjaxtickets@navy.mil](mailto:nasjaxtickets@navy.mil)**

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

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

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

Justin Bieber—VyStar Veteran’s Memorial Arena, Apr. 7, 2022: \$177 & \$233.

Motley Crue, Def Leppard, and Poison w/Joan Jett & the Blackhearts—TIAA Bank Field, July 2, 2022: \$121.25.

Jacksonville Sharks Arena Football—VyStar Veteran’s Memorial Arena, July 17 & 27.

### Current Ticket Promotions Include the Following:

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

Autobahn Indoor Speedway: \$25 Gift Card - \$20. \$50 Gift Card - \$40.

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

Crayola Experience, Orlando, ages 3 and older: \$20.

Disney World Orlando Armed Forces 2021 Salute 4-Day ticket with hopper option - \$290; 4-Day ticket with hopper and PLUS option - \$319.25;

5-Day ticket with hopper option - \$308.50; 5-Day ticket with hopper and PLUS option - \$337.50.

Tickets must be purchased by 12/11/21 and are valid for use now through 12/17/21. Only active and retired U.S. military personnel (including active or retired members of the National Guard, Reservists, the U.S. Coast Guard, the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service, and the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration “or” their spouses are authorized to purchase Military Promotional tickets. - (6) Promotional Maximum purchase per service member, including member- If service member has an annual pass or multi-day ticket they can purchase (5) Promotional Maximum and must enter with party.

IFLY Jacksonville: \$60.50 for two flights.

Jacksonville Icemen: \$12 - \$33.

Jacksonville Symphony: \$31.

Jacksonville Zoo, Total Experience: \$13 - \$17.50.

Kennedy Space Center Annual Pass: \$64.50 - \$79.25.

Legoland FL: \$67.25 one day w/2nd day free; Legoland \$84.25 one day plus waterpark w/2nd day free; active duty free at the gate with ID.

Orlando Magic Basketball: \$29.75-\$249; prices vary depending on date and seating. Call or visit the ticket office for more details.

Spanish Military Hospital Museum: \$5 - \$8.75.

St. Augustine Alligator Farm Zipline: \$37, Park admission \$10.50 - \$16.

St. Augustine Aquarium: \$5 - \$8. Snorkel Adventure (Includes Admission) \$32.

St. Augustine Old Town Trolley: \$12.25 - \$23 BOGO.

St. Augustine Oldest Store Museum: \$5.75 - \$9.50.

St. Augustine Pirates Museum: \$4.50 - \$8.25.

St. Augustine Potters Wax Museum: \$5.75 - \$9.50.

Universal Military Freedom Pass (Not available at the gate! Maximum of 6 tickets per valid military ID): 2-Park, Park to Park unlimited usage (valid for unlimited admission to Universal Studios Florida and Universal’s Islands of Adventure from now until Dec. 31, 2021), Adult \$200, Child (age 3-9) \$195;

3-Park, Park to Park unlimited usage (valid for unlimited admission to Universal Studios Florida, Universal’s Islands of Adventure, and Volcano Bay Waterpark until Dec. 31, 2021, Adult \$235, Child (age 3-9) \$230; Eligible service members - active or retired U.S. military, National Guard or Reservists and U.S. Coast Guard. Spouses of eligible service members also qualify with valid and active U.S. military ID. Department of Defense (DoD) employees with valid U.S. DoD IDs also qualify. Visit the Ticket Office for further details.

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

Wild Adventures (Valdosta, Ga.): 1-day \$35.75; 2-day \$42.25; Gold Pass – \$86.50