



Florida Defense Alliance Newsletter

January 9, 2019

FDA Vision: To maintain and enhance the position and reputation of Florida as the most military-friendly state in the nation.

NEWS

Bay County named a “2019 All American Defense Community” – The Association of Defense Communities (ADC) announced its selections for the 2019 Class of Great American Defense Communities on Wednesday, January 2nd, 2019. Bay County, Florida joins Clovis, New Mexico; the Greater Columbus Region, South Carolina; Middle Georgia; and the North Country-Fort Drum, New York as this year’s winners. The Great American Defense Communities program recognizes the overall support that communities and regions in the United States provide to service members and military families. Communities are chosen through a competitive selection process which considers community building and integration, support and collaboration, educational and employment opportunities, and family support. For more information, go to <https://www.defensecommunities.org/2019gadc/>.

New Reaper Squadron Activates at Hurlburt – The USAF’s newest Drone Squadron activated on December 18, 2018 at Hurlburt Field, FL. The “Lucky Dicers” formed at Hurlburt Field immediately after the Tuesday deactivation of the 27th Special Operations Group’s Detachment 1, which had been handling remote piloting duties for the MQ-9 Reaper. The new 65th Special Operations Squadron, part of the Hurlburt-based 1st Special Operations Group, will comprise more than 100 airmen and dozens of civilians who will remotely pilot drones in use around the world. None of the Reapers to be piloted by the new squadron will be based at Hurlburt.

Florida Congressman Francis Rooney Introduces Bill to Permanently Ban Drilling in Eastern Gulf -- Rooney introduced his bill amending the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 last week. The bill was sent to the U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources on Thursday. After introducing the bill, Rooney explained why he had brought it out. “Water quality impacts all of Florida’s residents and visitors,” Rooney said. “I want to ensure that all areas east of the Military Mission Line in the Gulf of Mexico are permanently protected from offshore oil drilling. In 2022, the moratorium on drilling and exploration will expire. Offshore drilling will negatively affect our environment, tourism, and military readiness. I am fighting to protect our Florida coast for future generations to enjoy - Florida’s economy is dependent on clean water and a healthy environment.”

Changes in DOD: Secretary of Defense Mattis Resigns –Secretary of Defense James Mattis submitted his resignation letter to President Trump. Deputy Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan has been appointed as the acting Secretary of Defense effective January 1, 2019. David Norquist, who has served as Pentagon comptroller since May 2017, will become the department’s acting deputy defense secretary.

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Senator-Elect Scott Named to SASC – Senator-elect Rick Scott has been named to the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Government Shutdown – The federal government shutdown of 2018–2019 began at midnight EST on Saturday, December 22, 2018, and continues. The partial shutdown of the United States federal government occurred because neither legislation appropriating funds for the upcoming fiscal year nor a temporary continuing resolution was enacted in time.

Inauguration of Governor DeSantis – Governor Ron DeSantis was inaugurated on Tuesday, January 8, 2019. One of his pre-inaugural events was a celebration of military veterans and first responders at the Tallahassee Car Museum on January 7th.

Meetings with Florida Legislative Staff – In the week before Christmas, Bruce Grant and Terry McCaffrey met with the House Speaker’s Chief of Staff and the new staff director for the House Local, Federal and Veterans Affairs Committee to brief them on Florida’s support for military and defense including the Florida Defense Alliance and the Florida Defense Support Task Force.

Draft OPPAGA Report on Military and Defense Grant Programs – The Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA) released a draft of the Year 6 Evaluation of Economic Development Programs for comment. OPPAGA conducted a fair and comprehensive review of the state’s programs supporting military and defense. This report provides a favorable evaluation of the worth of the defense grants program in Florida. The final report is expected by the end of January.

From ADC:

Florida Lawmakers Urge Congress to Support Request for \$2B to Begin Rebuilding Tyndall AFB

Dan Cohen, Posted on Dec 18, 2018 03:50 am

Florida’s two senators and the congressman representing the area neighboring Tyndall AFB last week asked House and Senate appropriators to support the Air Force’s request for \$2 billion to repair buildings that can be saved after Hurricane Michael swept through the installation in October and begin the planning necessary to rebuild other facilities. “We urge you to support the amount requested by the Air Force to fulfill immediate requirements to the sum of \$2 billion,” Sens. Marco Rubio (R) and Bill Nelson (D) and Rep. Neal Dunn (R) wrote the chairman and ranking members of both chambers’ Appropriations committees.

“Half of this urgent need would allow Tyndall to salvage what buildings can be saved, make repairs, and begin the planning and design necessary to follow the military construction requirements to ensure Congress can adequately justify the funding. The other half of this amount would cover costs relating to personnel reassignments as the recovery progress continues, and the cost of sending the F-22 Raptors to other locations to ensure the Air Force mission is not impacted. This funding is needed now,” the delegation stated.

The letter highlighted the Air Force’s long-term plan to replace Tyndall’s operational F-22 unit with three F-35 squadrons starting in 2023. “Basing F-35s at Tyndall in the wake of hurricane damage allows the Air Force to use recovery funds to rebuild the base in a tailored way to accommodate the unique needs of the F-35,” the lawmakers wrote.

Pentagon Update: Shanahan In, Mattis Out; Trump Not in Hurry to Nominate Permanent Replacement; Comptroller to Become New Deputy Secretary

Posted on Jan 03, 2019 03:10 am

On the first working day in his new role, Acting Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan said he was focused on implementing the National Defense Strategy developed under then-Secretary Jim Mattis which calls for a shift in emphasis toward great power competition, during a meeting with service secretaries and other senior leaders. Shanahan said the leaders should remember, “China, China, China,” according to one official, reported [Stars and Stripes](#). Shanahan later attended a Cabinet meeting at the White House. Mattis formally turned over the reins of the Pentagon to Shanahan at midnight on Dec. 31, after President Trump previously announced Mattis would not be staying until the end of February as his Dec. 20 resignation letter stated. ... Shanahan could remain acting secretary for “a long time,” a description Trump used during his surprise visit to Iraq last week, reported [Military Times](#). Shanahan may be the leading candidate to replace Mattis, but the president so far hasn’t signaled his intention. Among other leading contenders for the post is Air Force Secretary Heather Wilson. ... David Norquist, who has served as Pentagon comptroller since May 2017, will become the department’s acting deputy defense secretary and assume Shanahan’s former duties, an official said Wednesday. “David Norquist has had insight into virtually every tenet of this department. I have the greatest confidence in his abilities to lead a phenomenally talented team while performing the duties as deputy secretary of defense,” Shanahan said in a statement. As DOD’s chief financial officer, Norquist most recently led the department’s first comprehensive audit, reported the [Hill](#).

New Office to Support \$3B Rebuilding Effort at Tyndall AFB

Posted on Jan 03, 2019 02:50 am

The Air Force last month established a program management office to lead both the near-term effort to resume operations at Tyndall AFB and the long-term redevelopment of the installation devastated by Hurricane Michael in October. Reconstruction of Tyndall, located on the Florida Panhandle, is expected to take upwards of five years and cost an estimated \$3 billion, according to an Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center news release.

Short-term objectives of the new office include completing detailed assessments of damaged facilities, quickly repairing facilities and constructing temporary facilities needed to meet near-term mission requirements. The office intends to rely on cutting-edge construction standards and incorporate “smart city” functionality connecting base facilities with utility infrastructure as a way to enhance installation resiliency.

“We are really excited about being able to implement a 21st century installation,” said Amy Vandev eer, an installation planner for the Air Force Civil Engineer Center. “We have multiple opportunities that will make this installation good for the next 70 to 80 years. Tyndall will be leading the way,” she said.

Five Communities Awarded ADC Honor

Posted on Jan 03, 2019 02:30 am

ADC named five communities to the 2019 class of *Great American Defense Communities*, a recognition of the unique contributions communities that host military installations make to improve quality of life for service members and military families. The 2019 class, along with neighboring installations, includes:

- Bay County, Fla. (Tyndall Air Force Base);
- Clovis, N.M. (Cannon AFB);
- Greater Columbia region, S.C. (Fort Jackson);
- Middle Georgia (Robins AFB); and
- The North Country-Fort Drum. N.Y.

“The communities we recognize through the Great American Defense Communities program represent the best examples of what communities can do to create great places for our military families to live and work,” ADC President Bill Parry said in a press release.

Communities are selected following a competitive nomination process based on community building and integration, support and collaboration, educational and employment opportunities, and family support. The communities selected for the 2019 class will be honored throughout the year, including at the Defense Communities National Summit in June 2019. The initiative, which is in its fourth year, is sponsored by USAA.

House Disaster Relief Package includes \$1.5B to Rebuild Installations

Posted on Jan 07, 2019 02:30 am

Military installations affected by Hurricanes Michael and Florence, including Tyndall AFB and three Marine Corps bases, would receive \$857 million for construction funding and \$600 million for operation and maintenance, under an emergency spending bill House Democrats released Friday. The Democrats’ \$12 billion disaster aid package builds on the \$7.8 billion emergency measure the House passed in late December, reported CQ. That GOP-drafted bill separately included \$5.7 billion for border security and never reached the president’s desk.

Milcon funds in the Democrats’ measure would be allocated to three accounts:

- Air Force — \$700 million for planning and design, and construction needed to respond to Hurricane Michael; funds would be used for planning and design for the relocation of Tyndall’s F-22 mission, beddown of F-35 units and construction of other facilities needed to rebuild Tyndall, according to an [Appropriations Committee release](#); the Air Force would need to submit a basing plan and future mission requirements to Congress for installations affected by the storm prior to spending the funds;
- Navy and Marine Corps — \$115 million for planning and design for construction projects at Marine Corps Air Station New River, MCAS Cherry Point and Camp Lejeune in North Carolina; and
- Army National Guard — \$42 million to rebuild an Army readiness center and operations facility.

The measure also includes \$400 million in operation and maintenance funding for the Air Force and \$200 million in operation and maintenance funding for the Marine Corps to address the impact of the two storms. It is not yet clear when the emergency spending package would receive a vote in committee or on the House floor.



NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

It's 2019 and all new elected officials are sworn in, so it's time to get our engines running. Our agenda will be full as we educate the new officials on the importance of our military and defense sectors and their roles in the retention and recruitment of new missions, programs and companies to support our military installations here in the state.

In addition, we cannot forget the military families that support the active men and women in uniform. With new elected officials comes new policies. We need to make sure we are staying on top of all discussions, so we remain the most military friendly state in the nation.

Congratulations to Bay County and the Bay Defense Alliance for being a member of the 2019 class of Great American Defense Communities. It is a well-deserved recognition as those partnership have now kicked into high gear to rebuild Tyndall Air Force Base and the surrounding communities.

Keep your eyes open and ears to the ground to stay abreast of all discussions, editorials and presentations. We must be proactive to address all opportunities and challenges that may come our way.

I look forward to working with you this year. Until next time, thank you for your involvement and making a difference in your communities and the lives of so many.

Kellie Jo Kilberg

FDA CALENDAR:

Tuesday, January 29th Conference Call Meeting 9:00 AM EST
Call In Number : (800) 501-8979 Access Code: 1869945

FDA Website: www.enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense/

QUOTATION OF THE DAY

“Nothing in this world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not: nothing is more common than unsuccessful men with talent. Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb. Education will not: the world is full of educated derelicts. Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent.

--- Calvin Coolidge



News from the Bases & Regions

Military Mission Line —

Protect the Military Mission Line from offshore drilling

<https://www.news-press.com/story/opinion/contributors/2018/12/28/protect-military-mission-line-offshore-drilling/2415953002/>

News Press © December 28, 2018

By Francis Rooney

As the 116th Congress begins on Jan. 3, the Florida delegation should unite to stop offshore drilling off the Gulf coast of Florida and must push Congress to enact legislation to make the moratorium on offshore drilling in the eastern Gulf of Mexico (EGOM), eastward from the Military Mission Line (MML) at Long. 86 deg, 41 min., permanent.

The MML was established by the 2006 GOMESA law to delineate the military testing area as being off limits to oil exploration. This moratorium will expire in June 2022 unless extended and it is rumored that the Department of Interior would like to permit seismic testing in this area. There is no rationale for seismic unless they expect to lease for drilling after June 2022.

Tyndall AFB—

Air Force Creates New Program Management Office to Rebuild Tyndall AFB

<https://www.executivegov.com/2018/12/air-force-creates-new-program-management-office-to-rebuild-tyndall-afb/>

ExecutiveGov © December 27, 2018

By Darwin McDaniel

The U.S. Air Force established a new program management office to lead efforts in rebuilding infrastructures damaged by Hurricane Michael at Tyndall Air Force Base in Florida. The service said Wednesday the PMO will assess the damage to installation facilities and infrastructures, determine usability and preserve capabilities of the base.

“The work that lies in front of us is extensive, but the PMO office will ensure the Air Force has a 21st -century installation to carry out the missions of today and the future,” said Col. Scott Matthews, director of Tyndall AFB PMO.....

Bay County happy F-35s likely coming to Tyndall Air Force Base after Hurricane Michael

By COLLIN BREAUX,

<https://www.newsherald.com/news/20181216/bay-county-happy-f-35s-likely-coming-to-tyndall-air-force-base-after-hurricane-michael>

EAST BAY – The mayors of small towns in eastern Bay County bordering Tyndall Air Force Base say **they're happy about the F-35 squadrons** likely arriving.

Callaway, Springfield and Parker have lost residents and seen structural damage from Hurricane Michael. **The military is a significant part of the region's population and culture, so Tyndall bouncing back is welcome news for area leaders.**

"Being this close, it will affect our housing and redevelopment after our storm damage," said Springfield Mayor Ralph Hammond.

Estimates are 93 percent of homes in Springfield had "some sort of damage" and approximately 300 residents are "moving out and gone" based on water turnoffs, Hammond said earlier this month. The Air Force recommends Congress use supplemental funding to rebuild Tyndall and prepare to receive three F-35 fighter squadrons, which could bring in 72 total aircraft by 2023 and more than 2,000 airmen.

The incoming squadrons means higher-paying jobs, and **"anything new" will help the area,** said Hammond, who expects Springfield and eastern Bay to be recovered by the time the F-35s come in.....

Hurlburt Field —

Lucky Dicers' drone squadron activated at Hurlburt

By Jim Thompson

<https://www.nwfdailynews.com/news/20181218/lucky-dicers-drone-squadron-activated-at-hurlburt>

HURLBURT FIELD – The first active-duty MQ-9 Reaper drone squadron at the base was activated Tuesday morning.

The "Lucky Dicers" formed at Hurlburt Field immediately after the Tuesday deactivation of the 27th Special Operations Group's Detachment 1, which had been handling remote piloting duties for the MQ-9 Reaper. The new 65th Special Operations Squadron, part of the Hurlburt-based 1st Special Operations Group, will comprise more than 100 airmen and dozens of civilians who will remotely pilot drones in use around the world. None of the Reapers to be piloted by the new squadron will be based at Hurlburt.

Operation of remotely piloted aircraft is something new for the 1st Special Operations Group, commander Col. James V. Mott II said.

"We're witnessing history in the making," Mott said at the Tuesday ceremony to activate the 65th SOS.....

The Space Coast—

In 2019, high-profile SpaceX, Boeing and ULA missions will turn all eyes to the Space Coast

<https://www.floridatoday.com/story/tech/science/space/2019/01/01/2019-spacex-and-ula-nasa-missions-turn-eyes-toward-space-coast-iss/2432408002/>

Florida Today © January 1, 2019

By Emre Kelly

Though the Space Coast can expect to see fewer rocket launches this year, the potency of upcoming missions will turn all eyes toward the Eastern Range as teams inch closer to the first crewed missions to the International Space Station from American soil in nearly a decade.

2018 turned out to be a banner year for the region as 20 missions – the most since 1998 – took flight from either Kennedy Space Center or neighboring Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. None were "ordinary," but there were some standout moments: SpaceX's much-vaunted Falcon Heavy demonstration flight in February and NASA's Parker Solar Probe mission to "touch the sun" in August, to name a few.....

NAS Jacksonville—

NAS Jacksonville the highest rated Naval Air Station in the world!

SUBJ/ANNOUNCEMENT OF 2019 COMMANDER, NAVY INSTALLATIONS COMMAND (CNIC) EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNERS// RMKS/

1. A team of leaders from around the CNIC enterprise recently completed the 2019 Commander, Navy Installations Command Excellence Award review. This program recognizes the top three installations in both the large and small category and rewards outstanding performance consistent with our strategic goals and Office of the Secretary of Defense criteria.

2. I am proud to congratulate this year's CNIC winners.

2019 Large Category:

1st Place: NAVBASE San Diego (led by CAPT R. Love)

2nd Place: NAS Jacksonville (led by CAPT M. P. Connor) 3rd Place: JB Pearl Harbor/Hickam (led by CAPT J. Bernard)



Spotlight on U.S. Southern Command (SOUTHCOM)



U.S. Southern Command (SOUTHCOM), located in Doral, Fla., is one of nine unified Combatant Commands (COCOMs) in the Department of Defense. Established in 1963 and originally headquartered in Panama, SOUTHCOM moved to Florida in 1997.

Mission

U.S. Southern Command leverages rapid response capabilities, partner nation collaboration, and regional cooperation within our Area of Responsibility in order to support U.S. national security objectives, defend the Southern approaches to the United States, and promote regional security and stability.



SOUTHCOM is responsible for providing contingency planning, operations, and security cooperation in its assigned Area of Responsibility which includes:

- Central America
- South America
- The Caribbean (except U.S. commonwealths, territories, and possessions)

U.S. Southern Command is responsible for all Department of Defense security cooperation in the 45 nations and territories of Central and South America and the Caribbean Sea, an area of 16 million square miles.

The command is also responsible for the force protection of U.S. military resources at these locations. SOUTHCOM is also responsible for ensuring the defense of the Panama Canal. SOUTHCOM is a joint command comprised of more than 1,200 military and civilian personnel representing the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and several other federal agencies.

The services provide SOUTHCOM with component commands which, along with our Joint Special Operations component, two Joint Task Forces, one Joint Interagency Task Force, and Security Cooperation Organizations, perform SOUTHCOM missions and security cooperation activities.

SOUTHCOM exercises its Combatant Command authority through the commanders of its components, Joint Task Forces/Joint Interagency Task Force, and Security Cooperation Organizations.



SOUTHCOM COMPONENTS

US Army
South



**Commander:
Admiral Craig Faller**

Adm. Craig Faller is a 1983 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy with a Bachelor of Science in Systems Engineering and a 1990 graduate of the Naval Postgraduate School with a master's in National Security Affairs (Strategic Planning).

At sea, he served as reactor electrical division officer, electrical officer and reactor training assistant aboard USS South Carolina (CGN 37); operations officer aboard USS Peterson (DD 969); station officer aboard USS Enterprise (CVN 65), and executive officer of USS John Hancock (DD 981). As commanding officer of USS Stethem (DDG 63), he deployed to the Arabian Gulf and participated in maritime interception operations in support of United Nations sanctions against Iraq. During his tour as commanding officer of USS Shiloh (CG 67), he assisted victims of the devastating tsunami off Indonesia. Finally, as commander, John C. Stennis Strike Group/Carrier Strike Group 3, he deployed to the Middle East supporting Operations New Dawn (Iraq) and Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan).

Ashore, Faller served as an D1G prototype staff officer at the Nuclear Power Training Unit at Ballston Spa, NY; action officer in Navy Strategy and Concepts Branch (N513); legislative fellow on the staff of Senator Edward M. Kennedy; program manager, Surface Nuclear Officer Programs and Placement; executive assistant to Commander, U.S. Pacific Command; executive assistant to Commander, U.S. Central Command; executive assistant to the Chief of Naval Operations; commander, Navy Recruiting Command; director of operations (J3) U.S. Central Command; chief of Navy Legislative Affairs; and senior military assistant to the Secretary of Defense.

SOUTHCOM TASK FORCES



NOTES FROM THE STAFF

Welcome to 2019! We are looking forward to another great year supporting our military installations. We sincerely appreciate all of your efforts to improve the quality of life for all our service members and their families. Please continue the great work you are doing because it truly does make a difference.

Florida Defense Alliance Leadership

Chair – Kellie Jo Kilberg

Vice Chair – Tim Jones

Mission Sustainment Working Group Chair – Mike Jones

Family Support Working Group Chair – Lynn Brannon

Executive Board: Jonathan Borgert, Jennifer Codo-Salisbury and Paul Hirsch



Florida Defense Alliance Newsletter

January 23, 2019

FDA Vision: To maintain and enhance the position and reputation of Florida as the most military-friendly state in the nation.

NEWS

More Federal Support for Extension of the MML – Two Federal Bills have been filed that would extend the moratorium on Oil Exploration and Drilling east of the Military Mission Line (MML). According to the *Pensacola News Journal*, Senator “Rubio, a Republican and Florida's senior U.S. senator, filed the bill on the first day of the 2019 legislative session. Titled the "Florida Shores Protection and Fairness Act," the bill also requires Florida receive a share of oil and gas leasing revenues from other areas of the Gulf.” Sen Rubio’s bill would extend the ban on drilling for five years, until 2027. The bill is similar to the one he filed in 2017 that was not approved largely because it requires the ban on drilling to remain while making Florida a recipient of oil revenue funds. In the House, Congressman “Francis Rooney, R-Fla., unveiled a bill to ‘permanently ban oil and gas leasing, preleasing, and related activities in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico.’ Rooney introduced his bill amending the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 on Thursday. The bill was sent to the U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources on Thursday” according to the *Sunshine State News*. Both bills focus on environmental impact and tourism as key drivers even though protection of the Gulf Range is the primary rationale for the moratorium in the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (GOMESA) passed in 2006. The moratorium is set to expire in 2022.

Senator Scott Supports MML Extension – In an interview with our newest Senator, Rick Scott confirmed he is still in support of extending the moratorium on oil drilling in the Gulf of Mexico for “As long as we can get it.”

U.S. Rep. Charlie Crist Appointed to House Defense Appropriations Subcommittee – **This subcommittee has jurisdiction over the** Departments of Army, Navy (including Marine Corps), Air Force, Office of Secretary of Defense, and Defense Agencies including activities related to military personnel; operation and maintenance; procurement; research and development; and the Military Health System.

Governor DeSantis Visits Recovery Efforts in Bay County and Tyndall AFB – Task Force Chairman Jay Trumbull joined Governor Ron DeSantis on his second visit to Bay County in 7 days. The Governor is ensuring that recovery of the area hit hardest by Hurricane Michael, including Tyndall AFB, is on track to full recovery. Governor DeSantis has ordered that agencies speed up providing funds for debris removal that is critical to moving forward with recover.

Governor DeSantis Signs Executive Order on Water Quality – Governor Ron DeSantis signed an executive order that is aimed at solving many of Florida’s water issues. Key to the order is the fencing \$2.5B over the next four years to fund “major reforms to ensure the protection of Florida's environment and water quality”. According to the press release, "Our water and natural resources are the foundation of our economy and

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our way of life in Florida," said Governor Ron DeSantis. "The protection of water resources is one of the most pressing issues facing our state. That's why today I'm taking immediate action to combat the threats which have devastated our local economies and threatened the health of our communities." Of direct interest to the Defense Community is a provision in Section 3 that directs the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) to "Take necessary actions to adamantly oppose all off-shore oil and gas activities off every coast in Florida and hydraulic fracturing in Florida." We hope that this includes support of the federal moratorium on oil and gas exploration east of the Military Mission Line (MML).

[From ADC:](#)

Audit Reveals DOD Has Fewer Facilities than Records Showed

Posted on Jan 11, 2019 03:50 am

DOD's first-ever comprehensive audit revealed that the department's inventory of real property is not as large as previously believed, a discovery that appears to be playing into officials' thinking when it comes to asking Congress for a new round of base closures. "There are decisions that will come from [the audit] over time," David Norquist, DOD comptroller and chief financial officer, who is also the acting deputy defense secretary, said Wednesday at a Center for the National Interest event. "One of the reasons we haven't been pushing back is when you realize you don't have quite an accurate assessment of what your current inventory is, then you want to be cautious about pushing for it," Norquist said, reported [Defense One](#).

Even prior to the audit's completion in November, defense officials had concerns about the department's most recent estimate of its excess capacity, from October 2017, which showed that 19 percent of its infrastructure is excess to its needs. After DOD's decision not to request a BRAC round as part of its fiscal 2019 budget request last year, then-Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy, Installations and Environment Lucian Niemeyer said his office was working with the services to take a closer look at it how much excess infrastructure the military is carrying.

By February 2020, the department will be required to prepare a new analysis of its excess capacity that is more detailed than the two estimates it has made since 2016, as a result of language in the FY 2019 defense authorization bill.

At this point, it's not clear how much difference the recent audit will make in a new calculation of excess capacity. "We thought we had more square footage, more equipment, more facilities than we did in fact have available to us," Norquist said. The audit, for example, revealed that 6.5 percent of the facilities on the Navy's rolls no longer existed. "They were either demolished or replaced, but no one had gone back to the property books to take them off," he said.

The audit found that the Army had mischaracterized the condition of buildings. "Their auditors' concern was they had a number of buildings listed as being in usable condition and the auditors' answer was, 'No, these are not usable condition buildings. You should either knock them down or acknowledge that these building are not in working condition,'" Norquist said.





Teleconference Meeting DRAFT Agenda

Dial-in number: 800-501-8979

Access Code: 1869945

(As of: January 23, 2019)

Tuesday, January 29, 2019

0900 - 1000 EST

- 0900 – 0905 Roll Call.....Michelle Griggs
- 0905 – 0910 Opening Remarks.....Chair
- 0910 – 0925 Federal Update.....LTG David Huntoon/Greg Kiley
- 0925 – 0935 FDSTF Update.....Terry McCaffrey
- 0935 – 0945 Legislative UpdateBruce Grant
- 0945 – 1000 Closing Comments.....Chair
- 1000 Adjournment.....Chair

FDA CALENDAR:

Tuesday, January 29th

Conference Call Meeting

9:00 AM EST

Call In Number : (800) 501-8979

Access Code: 1869945

FDA Website: www.enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense/

QUOTATIONS OF THE DAY From Winston Churchill

“You have enemies? Good. That means you've stood up for something, sometime in your life.”

“Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts.”

“Kites rise highest against the wind - not with it.”

News from the Bases & Regions

Military Mission Line —

Rick Scott: On the shutdown, the wall, stock buybacks and offshore drilling

Tampa Bay Times © January 11, 2019

By Steve Contorno

<http://www.tampabay.com/florida-politics/buzz/2019/01/11/one-on-one-with-rick-scott-on-the-shutdown-the-wall-stock-buybacks-and-offshore-drilling/>

Governor Rick Scott became Senator Rick Scott this week when he was sworn into his new job in Washington, D.C. He walked into a partial government shutdown and a fierce debate over President Donald Trump's demands for \$5.7 billion for a wall on the southern border.

The *Tampa Bay Times* sat down with Scott on Thursday to discuss the shutdown as well as some of the issues he'll face in the Senate. Here's what Scott said.

The interview has been edited for brevity and clarity.....

..... **Do you support extending the current moratorium on offshore drilling in the gulf as it stands on offshore drilling for five years? 10 years?**

As long as we can get it.

The current moratorium, so no drilling 225 miles off of Tampa Bay? You wouldn't get any closer? Keep it the way it is?

Yes.

Offshore Oil Drilling in Florida Still Possible Despite Ban

US News.com © January 15, 2019

By Noreen Marcus

<https://www.usnews.com/news/best-states/articles/2019-01-15/offshore-oil-drilling-in-florida-still-possible-despite-constitutional-ban>

FLORIDIANS TOOK A STAND against offshore oil drilling Nov. 6 by voting their opposition into the state constitution, where it's almost certain to stay for at least a generation.

The issue resonates with Alan Johnson, mayor of St. Pete Beach (population "pushing 10,000"), a 6-mile-long, sandy tourist magnet on Florida's Gulf coast.

"The big problem that people relate to here is that they've been to Houston, where they can see the oil rigs offshore, and they complain about big balls of tar on the beaches. Everybody's deathly afraid of that happening here," Johnson says. "We're the designated sunset capital of Florida and the last thing we want to do is ruin that.".....

BP just discovered a billion barrels of oil in the Gulf of Mexico

Tom DiChristopher | @tdichristopher

Published 12:52 PM ET Tue, 8 Jan 2019 Updated 3:43 PM ET Tue, 8 Jan 2019

<https://www.cnbc.com/2019/01/08/bp-just-discovered-a-billion-barrels-of-oil-in-gulf-of-mexico.html?fbclid=IwAR3AUxIwivUQpTaCRLl8IEI7hih4OxWp9jGqonGB2vWK5VdrHk7taa33lwA>

BP's investment in next-generation technology just paid off to the tune of a billion barrels of oil.

The British energy company has discovered 1 billion barrels of crude at an existing oilfield in the Gulf of Mexico. BP also announced two new offshore oil discoveries and a major new investment in a nearby field.

BP is the Gulf of Mexico's biggest producer, and it's making strides to hold that title.

BP now expects its fossil fuel output from the region to reach 400,000 barrels of oil equivalent per day by the middle of the next decade. Today, it produces about 300,000 boepd, up from less than 200,000 boepd about five years ago.

On Tuesday, the company said it will spend \$1.3 billion to develop a third phase of its Atlantis field off the coast of New Orleans. Scheduled to start production in 2020, the eight new wells will add 38,000 bpd to BP's production at Atlantis. The decision comes after BP found another 400 million barrels of oil at the field.

BP made the massive 1 billion-barrel discovery at its Thunder Horse field off the tip of Louisiana.....



Tyndall AFB—

Hurricane debris remains ‘huge, huge undertaking’

<https://floridapolitics.com/archives/285630-hurricane-debris-remains-huge-huge-undertaking>

News Service of Florida © January 16, 2019

Gov. Ron DeSantis directed the state Division of Emergency Management to speed money to Panhandle communities that are being swamped financially by “massive” amounts of debris from Hurricane Michael.

Emerging from a closed-door meeting Wednesday with Federal Emergency Management Agency Administrator Brock Long and local officials, DeSantis said that, in addition to upfronting disaster relief money to local governments, he will push the White House to increase federal reimbursements for debris cleanup.

“I think that this warrants it,” DeSantis said after the meeting at A.D. Harris Learning Village in Panama City. “Obviously, there is a lot of stuff going on in Washington right now, it’s not the best of times. But I think that would be very good for the local community.”

DeSantis and Long later planned to tour Tyndall Air Force Base, Mexico Beach and a site where temporary housing was being put up in Panama City....

Tyndall Air Force Base hit by tornado

<https://www.tampabay.com/breaking-news/tyndall-air-force-base-hit-by-tornado-20190120/>

Tampa Bay Times © January 20, 2019

By Kirby Wilson

First a hurricane, now a tornado.

Tyndall Air Force Base, a key military base on Florida's panhandle, was hit by a tornado Saturday night — just three months after the base was devastated by Hurricane Michael.

According to a post on the base's Facebook page, the tornado touched down around 6:30 p.m. Saturday evening. It damaged buildings and vehicles, but no people were hurt, the post said.

Tyndall Industry Day - 31 Jan - Registration is open.

Join us at Tyndall Air Force Base's first Industry Day as we work to rebuild the base. Industry Day is meant to share the current state of the installation, preview future plans and discuss timelines for rebuilding Tyndall with industry. Representatives, register below!

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/industry-day-tyndall-air-force-base-tickets-54879077799?utm_medium=discovery&utm_campaign=social&utm_content=attendeeshare&aff=esfb&utm_source=fb&utm_term=listing&fbclid=IwAR3T800POMdN9NVt8N8WyA8nHE5DymgS9z_AWHIP5VscU95MRSc69n4vPHk

Tyndall Industry Day 1 - Save the Date - 31 Jan 2019 The Air Force will host its first Tyndall Industry Day on Thursday 31 January 2019 from 8:00 -12:00 at the Holley Center at Florida State Panama City (4750 Collegiate Drive, Panama City, FL 32405). The purpose of this event is to share the

current state of the installation, preview future plans, and discuss timelines for rebuilding Tyndall AFB with industry. Registration information and additional details will be forthcoming in the next 7-10 days through official media channels. It is important to note that registration will be limited to no more than two representatives per company. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we plan this event and recover the installation simultaneously. [#engineersleadtheway](#) [#TeamTyndall](#) [#TyndallIPMO](#)

Eglin AFB —

Resilient leader takes command during uncertain times

By Lt. Col. James R. Wilson, 919th Special Operations Wing Public Affairs / Published January 14, 2019

Leadership of the 44th Fighter Group changed hands in a ceremony here Jan. 12, 2019 with a landscape of F-22 Raptor aircraft and the Citizen Airmen who train daily to leverage its state of the art capabilities.

Col. Mitchell Hanson, 301st Fighter Wing Commander, Naval Air Station Ft. Worth, Texas, presided over the ceremony in which Col. Matthew Fritz assumed command of the group from Col. Randall Cason.

Hanson's remarks focused on the exemplary leadership qualities of both men and their penchant for building resiliency in others, a noteworthy trait given the challenges the unit and its members have faced in recent months.....



Col. Mitchell Hanson, 301st Fighter Wing commander, Col. Randall Cason, former 44th Fighter Group commander, and Col. Matthew Fritz, incoming 44th FG commander, render the appropriate customs and courtesies during a change of command ceremony at Eglin AFB, Fla., Jan. 12, 2019. Fritz, the first F-22 pilot ever to deploy in combat, takes over the group at a critical time in its history with the Air Force Reserve. (U.S. Air Force photo by Lt. Col. James R. Wilson)

Eglin support ongoing at Tyndall AFB

<https://www.eglin.af.mil/News/Article-Display/Article/1733120/eglin-support-ongoing-at-tyndall-afb/>

January 17, 2019

By Jake Joy, DLA Disposition Services

Just 13 million pounds to go. As of Jan. 11, DLA Disposition Services contractors had removed an estimated two million pounds of scrap metal from hurricane-ravaged Tyndall Air Force Base. They'd been on the job about two weeks and estimate that removing all of it may take up to six months total.

"It was a bomb zone. A disaster area. Incredible to see. I've never seen such devastation in my life," said Dave Morgan, the area manager for DLA Disposition Services at Eglin. Eglin AFB lies about 90 miles northwest of Tyndall, which is right on the Gulf of Mexico, between Panama City and Mexico Beach, where Hurricane Michael made landfall as a high-end Category IV storm Oct. 10, 2018.

Morgan arrived with the Defense Logistics Agency's Rapid Deployment Team four days after the storm and said he'd seen plenty of storm damage as a Floridian, but the devastation here was "much, much worse."

NS Mayport —

Navy to commission future USS Wichita on Saturday

<https://www.upi.com/Defense-News/2019/01/10/Navy-to-commission-future-USS-Wichita-on-Saturday/1521547134400/>

Defense News © January 10, 2019

By Sam Howard

The Navy will commission the future USS Wichita, the branch's 13th littoral combat ship, on Saturday morning at Naval Station Mayport in Florida.



The future USS Wichita, shown here, will be commissioned into service this weekend. File Photo courtesy Lockheed Martin

The ceremony to mark the latest Freedom-variant littoral combat ship's entry into active service will be held at 10 a.m., the Navy said in a news release Wednesday.

Kate Lehrer, an author and wife of news anchor Jim Lehrer, is the ship's sponsor, and U.S. Sen. Jerry Moran, R-Kansas, will deliver the principal address for the commissioning.....

Navy commissions USS Wichita

<https://www.public.navy.mil/surfor/Pages/Navy-commissions-USS-Wichita.aspx>

January 14, 2019

By Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Marianne Guemo, Navy Public Affairs Support Element East Detachment Southeast

USS Wichita (LCS 13), the Navy's seventh Freedom-variant littoral combat ship, was brought to

life during a commissioning ceremony at Naval Station Mayport on Jan. 12.

"The LCS, like your favorite mobile device, offers more portability and maneuverability, while being much less conspicuous," said Cmdr. Nathan Rowan, commanding officer of Wichita. "And, like a smartphone, the LCS packs quite a hefty punch for such a small package."



Wichita has a crew of approximately 70 Sailors, and is designed to work close to shore and in the open ocean. This provides cost-effective force flexibility and allows the Navy to strengthen allied partnerships.....

MAYPORT, Fla. (Jan. 12, 2019) The crew of the Navy's newest littoral combat ship USS Wichita (LCS 13), bring the ship to life during its commissioning ceremony, at Naval Station Mayport, Jan. 12. LCS 13 is the fourteenth littoral combat ship to enter the fleet and the seventh of the Freedom variant. It is the third Navy combat ship named after Wichita, the largest city in Kansas.

(U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Alana Langdon/Released)

MacDill AFB -

SOCOM and Tampa gearing up for Defense Department's Warrior Games, coming here in June

Tampa Bay Times © January 15, 2019

By Howard Altman

<https://www.tampabay.com/news/military/socom-and-tampa-gearing-up-for-defense-departments-warrior-games-coming-here-in-june-20190115/>

In a little more than six months, some 300 adaptive sports athletes from around the military and about 1,000 of their family members will converge on Tampa to take part in the Defense Department's Warrior Games.

That may not seem like a ton of time, but given that U.S. Special Operations Command is hosting the

event this year, those planning the adaptive sports competition are confident that the plan will come together.

“We are very thankful for the community support,” said Army Maj. Anthony Mayne, a command spokesman. “We have the ability to do almost every sporting event out in the public and that would not happen without the cooperation of everyone from the mayor’s office on down.”

Armed Forces Families Foundation

On December 15th, 2011 the Armed Forces Families Foundation contributed over \$59,000 to remodel and redesign two existing areas to create a family/ business center in the Brain Trauma wing of the James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital in Tampa, Florida. This facility is the busiest of four poly-trauma facilities in the country, with services available to over 116,000 veterans living in the area. To learn more about this project and others like it, please visit

www.armedforcesfamilies.org



Spotlight on Marine Corps Support Facility at Blount Island

As the hub of the Marine Corps’ prepositioning programs, Marine Corps Support Facility Blount Island serves as the home of Blount Island Command and its worldwide mission supporting Marine expeditionary forces. Blount Island Command's Marines, sailors, civilians, and defense contractor partners are proud of our relationship with Marine war fighters and are singularly dedicated to providing them with the best combat ready equipment and supplies in the world. It is located on the east side of Blount Island near the port of Jacksonville.

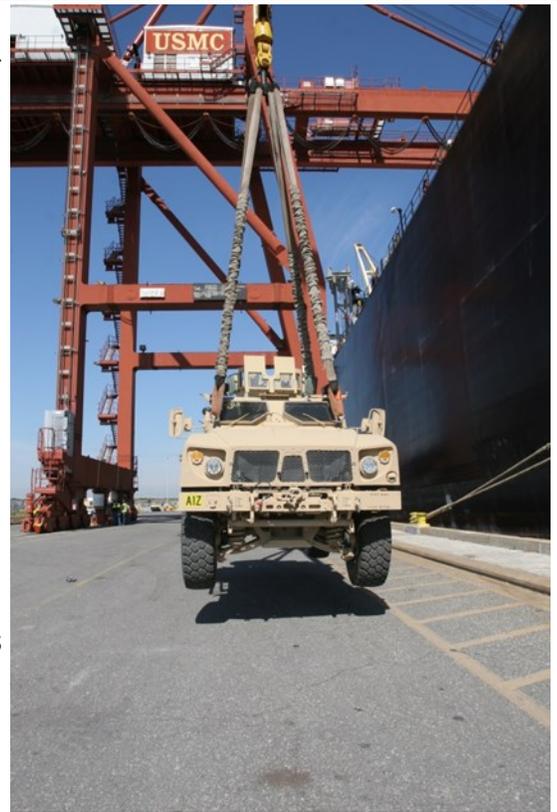


The Cutting Edge of Logistics

The importance of prepositioning programs to the defense of our nation has been demonstrated numerous times since their inception; highlighted during contingency operations DESERT STORM and IRAQI FREEDOM, but also most visibly, during nearly a dozen other smaller scale contingencies and humanitarian/disaster relief operations. As the hub of the Marine Corps' prepositioning programs the Marine Corps Support Facility Blount Island (MCSF -BI) serves as the home of Blount Island Command (BICmd) and its worldwide mission supporting Marine expeditionary forces. BICmd's Marines, Sailors, civilians, and defense contractor partners are proud of our relationship with Marine war fighters, and are singularly dedicated to providing them with the best combat ready equipment and supplies in the world.

BICmd is on the leading edge of logistics initiatives such as Contractor Logistics Support (CLS), use of LEAN/6-Sigma continuous process improvement tools, and is certified in ISO 9001 and 14001. Blount Island offers a variety of advantages to the Department of Defense not readily available at other sites to include:

- Private Slipway with 5 large vessel berths located only 7 nautical miles from the St. Johns river outlet.
- Close proximity to Marine Corps' logistics center in Albany, GA.
- Access to a large industrial base and Navy support structure in Jacksonville, FL.
- A fully operational facility ~ time tested in war and peace.
- Excellent road and rail network.
- 33+ acres of staging immediately adjacent to the 1000' pier and maintenance area.
- Overflow staging and maintenance capacity ~ an excellent site for MPS offload and throughput training.
- A highly skilled and efficient work force with unique core competencies relative to maintenance and prepositioning.
- Genuine public and private business community support.



Global Readiness

The key to successful employment of a Marine Air Ground Task Force (MAGTF) that falls in on the Maritime Prepositioning Ships (MPS) Program or Marine Corps Prepositioning Program – Norway (MCPN) equipment is the availability and readiness of the prepositioned equipment and supplies. BICmd works closely with the supported expeditionary force commander to exceed ISO 9001 goals of 98% attainment, 98% readiness, and 98% data accuracy of the prepositioned combat capability sets. BICmd's focus will always be on the combat readiness, visibility, and attainment of prepositioned equipment and supplies.



**Commanding Officer
Andrew J. Bergen**

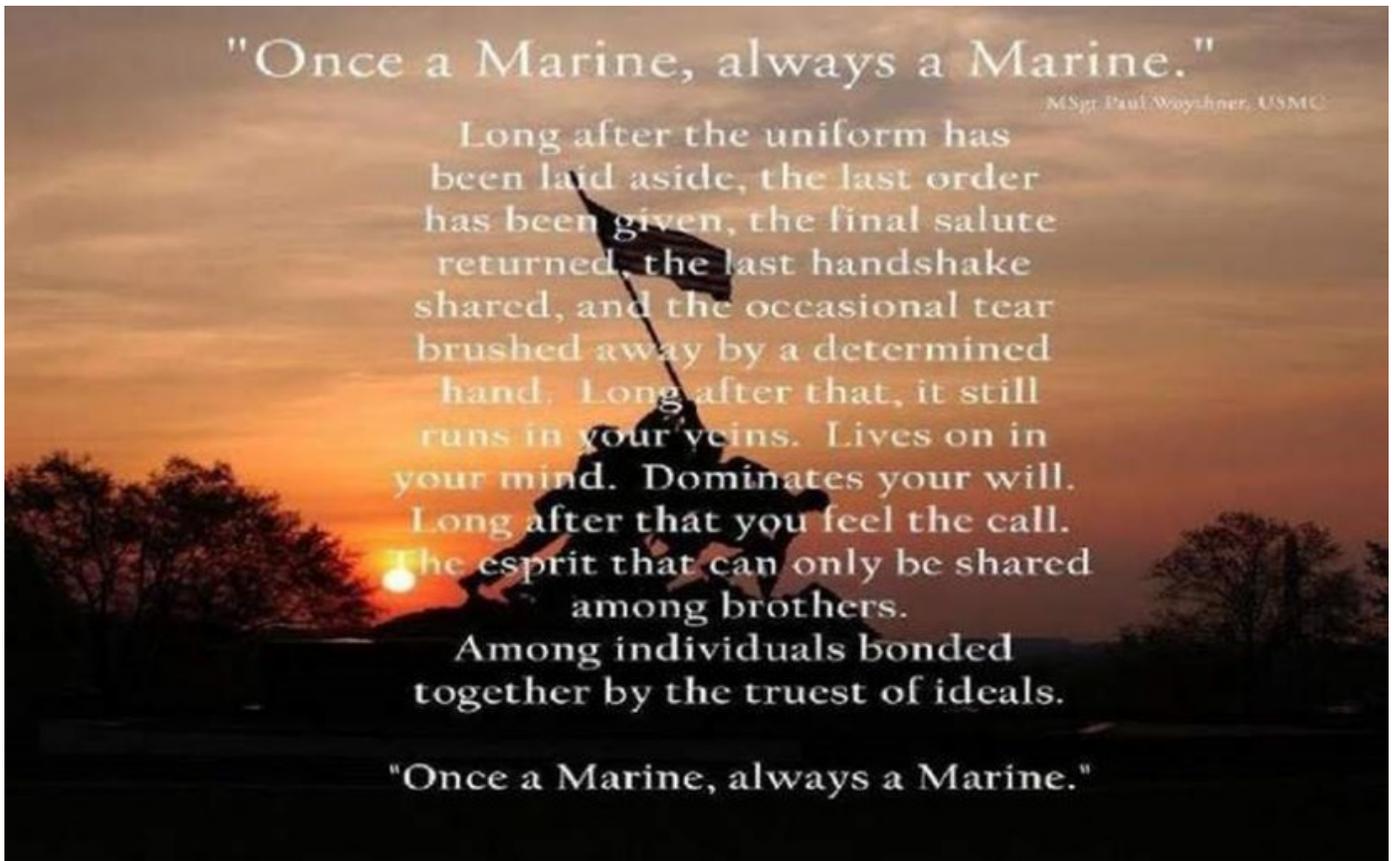
Colonel Bergen is a native of Elmwood Park, New Jersey. He is a graduate of Fordham University and a Logistics Officer. His command billets include Motor Transportation Platoon Commander, 1st Battalion, 2nd Marines, 2nd Marine Division; Series and Company Commander, "K" Co, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, MCRD San Diego; Commanding Officer of "B" Company, 1st Transportation Support Battalion; Commanding Officer of Combat Service Company 117, CSSG-11; and Commanding Officer of Combat Logistics Battalion 11. His staff billets include Operations Officer, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, MCRD, San Diego; Operations Officer, Brigade Service Support Group 1, 1st FSSG; Prepositioning Officer and Section Head POE-40, Expeditionary Plans and Policies, HQMC; Deputy G-4, 1st Marine Division; Joint Headquarters Exercises Branch Head and Executive Officer to the Deputy Commander for Military Operations, United States Africa Command; and Assistant Chief of Staff, G-4, 1st Marine Division.

His operational experience includes Operations Sea Signal, Guardian Retrieval, Noble Obelisk, Iraqi Freedom, and Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan).

He is a graduate of the Amphibious Warfare School, the Marine Corps Command and Staff College (Non-Resident), the Norwegian Defense Command and Staff College, and the United States Naval War College. He holds a Master's Degree in Security Studies.



POSTER OF THE DAY:



NOTES FROM THE STAFF

Sincere thanks to all the dedicated members of the Florida Defense Alliance. Keep up the great work you are doing across the Sunshine State. You are the reason that Florida is the most military friendly state in the nation!

Florida Defense Alliance Leadership

Chair – Kellie Jo Kilberg

Vice Chair – Tim Jones

Mission Sustainment Working Group Chair – Mike Jones

Family Support Working Group Chair – Lynn Brannon

Executive Board: Jonathan Borgert, Jennifer Codo-Salisbury and Paul Hirsch



Florida Defense Alliance Newsletter

February 6, 2019

FDA Vision: To maintain and enhance the position and reputation of Florida as the most military-friendly state in the nation.

NEWS

Military Friendly Legislation Filed – Senator Doug Broxson filed SB 620 with several provisions to strengthen the state’s defense infrastructure and assist service members and families. At this writing, Rep. Mel Ponder is filing a companion bill in the House.

ADC Installation Innovation Forum (IIF) – The ADC Installation Innovation Forum will be held from March 4-6, 2019 in Miami. Florida will host a panel presentation highlighting several successes on Tuesday, March 5th from 4-4:45 PM. This conference will feature several senior DOD officials and receive a keynote address from the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Sustainment, Robert McMahon. More information on this event can be found at: <https://installationinnovation.org/>

ADC Opens Annual Award Nomination Window – The Association of Defense Community (ADC) “Defense Community Award” program will be accepting applications for the 2019 award session. ADC is now accepting nominations for the 2019 Defense Community Awards. Categories include Community or State Leadership, Congressional Leadership, John Lynch Base Redevelopment Leadership, and Military Leadership. Nominations can be completed online and are due March 1. Awardees will be recognized in America’s Defense Communities magazine, in a special video and at the Defense Communities National Summit in Washington, D.C., in June.

Florida Defense Contractors Association (FDCA) Conference – FDCA will hold their Annual B2B/B2G Procurement Conference on February 11-12, 2019 at the Rosen Plaza Hotel Orlando, Florida. Speakers include Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart (FL-25), Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz (FL-23) and Secretary Anthony Principi, former Secretary of Veterans Administration under President George W. Bush. FDCA extends a cordial invitation to all FDA members. More information on this conference can be found at: <https://fdca.memberclicks.net/fdca-b2b-procurement-conference>

Florida Defense Exchange (FDX) – Florida has completed the selection of a vendor to begin work on establishing the Florida Defense Exchange. This will be an interactive business development platform designed to assist Florida businesses in finding new opportunities in Department of Defense (DOD) contracting. The intent is to create a web-based, one-stop data research and collaboration platform that will support and engage businesses across a wide variety of industry sectors with its rich data visualizations, interactive dashboards, real-time DOD data and business-to-business communication tools. This new Florida Defense Exchange will open new opportunities for both traditionally defense-related businesses and service-oriented companies with no experience in defense contracting. The exchange will assist companies already contracting with DoD as well as small businesses looking for DOD contracts.

**ENTERPRISE
FLORIDA**

From ADC:

House Armed Services Shifts Subcommittee Leaders

Posted on Jan 23, 2019 05:25 pm

The House Armed Services Committee holds an organizational meeting Thursday morning. Chairman Adam Smith (D-Wash.) and Ranking Member Mac Thornberry (R-Texas) formally announced subcommittee leadership assignments Wednesday.

Rep. John Garamendi (D-Calif.) will now chair the readiness subcommittee, with Rep. Doug Lamborn (R-Colo.) serving as the top Republican.

Rep. Jackie Speier (D-Calif.) will remain the top Democrat on the military personnel subcommittee, where Rep. Trent Kelly (R-Miss.) is now the top Republican.

Other leaders include Reps. Jim Langevin (D-R.I.) and Elise Stefanik (R-NY) on the intelligence, emerging threats & capabilities subcommittee; Reps. Joe Courtney (D-Conn.) and Rob Wittman (R-Va.) on the seapower and projection forces subcommittee; Reps. Jim Cooper (D-Tenn.) and Mike Turner (R-Ohio) on the strategic forces subcommittee; and Reps. Donald Norcross (N.J.) and Vicky Hartzler (R-Mo.) on the tactical air and land forces subcommittee.

Air Force Likely to Take Space Force Under Its Wing – For Now

Posted on Jan 30, 2019 10:39 pm

The White House still expects that the Space Force will eventually be its own branch of the military, despite signals from the Pentagon that the program will be housed under the Air Force.

“It’s going to be small, as small as possible footprint,” Acting Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan told reporters this week.

The Pentagon plan, to be submitted to the White House as part of the department’s 2020 budget request, would establish a Space Force that is similar to the Marine Corps, which is housed within the Department of the Navy. The Space Force would have its own four-star chief of staff and a civilian undersecretary, according to [Space News](#).

But a draft White House policy memo, which Space News said it has reviewed, states that the set-up is a “first step toward a future military department for national security space” to be created after “periodic” reviews from DOD.

Some in Congress have been reluctant to support the creation of a new department.

“I want to emphasize space,” House Armed Services Committee Chairman Adam Smith (D-Wash.) said, according to Space News. “I don’t want to create more bureaucracy for the sake of bureaucracy.”

Senate Committee to Look into Military Housing Reports

Posted on Jan 31, 2019 07:27 pm

The Senate Armed Services Committee is planning a Feb. 13 hearing into the conditions at military housing facilities across the country, [Reuters](#) reported.

As stories have emerged of safety lapses at some privatized housing, the committee's personnel and readiness subcommittees plan to question DOD officials and federal housing contractors.

If they aren't getting it, we need to look at what the Department of Defense is doing to hold these contractors accountable," Senate Armed Services Committee Chair James Inhofe (R-Okla.) said.

This is a long time coming," said Janna Driver, an Air Force spouse whose children got sick from mold at their home on a base in Oklahoma, according to Reuters.

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

Last week, a COOL front moved through North Florida. I grew up in Iowa, so I know cold. I've experienced a polar vortex and yes, I walked to school and shoveled snow in extremely cold weather. What did I learn from the cold weather? You must be prepared when going out in the cold. When driving in winter weather like the polar vortex, again, you must be prepared for what is ahead that you may not be able to see.

You may ask, what does this have to do with the FDA? It's simple. We must be prepared for whatever comes out of Washington, DC. We need to have many eyes and ears in Washington, DC and in the Pentagon to keep us informed of the ongoing discussions and decisions, as well as being proactive in engaging our elected officials, their staffs, the Pentagon leadership and their teams on the assets of our Florida Military Installations and the surrounding communities.

Florida is recognized for our structure and innovative, active teamwork across the nation. As team members, we need the most accurate information to make decisions for our communities and installations. That information comes from all levels of government. Most important is the information coming out of Washington, DC, where decisions are made under the radar and we, as local communities, must be prepared and proactive and not just reactive.

We have shifted from "**what if there is a BRAC**" to being prepared and proactive for the below the radar moves; to what opportunities are there in **Strategic Basing and the National Defense Strategy** that fit at Florida Installations; to telling our story about addressing encroachment challenges, spousal employment, education opportunities for K-12 and higher education as well as creating partnerships to leverage and maximize resources. Now is not the time to stick our heads in the sand. Other states are upping their programs, adding new moves and players to be prepared to take advantage of opportunities.

So, as we prepare for this legislative session, it is important for you and your community business leaders to reach out to our executive branch, elected officials and their staffs to tell the story of teamwork and more importantly the impact of \$85 billion from our military/defense industries. If we want to expand and not just maintain the status quo we must be actively engaged, innovative and proactive to be prepared to meet the needs and opportunities of our Florida installations and their families.

Until next time, mark your calendars for the Working Groups conference calls. Lynn Brannon, chair of the Family Support Working Group, has scheduled her conference call on Tuesday, March 19th at 10 am (EDT) and Michael Jones, chair of Mission Sustainment Working Group, has scheduled his conference call on Monday, March 25th at Noon (EDT). Be engaged with the Florida Defense Alliance and we will soar with positive outcomes.

Kellie Jo Kilberg

FDA CALENDAR:

Tuesday, March 19th **10:00 AM EDT**
Family Support Working Group Conference Call Meeting

Monday, March 25th **12 Noon EDT**
Mission Sustainment Working Group Conference Call Meeting

Call In Number : (800) 501-8979 **Access Code: 1869945**

FDA Website: www.enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense/



QUOTATION OF THE DAY

“Nobody cares how much you know, until they know how much you care.”
--- Theodore Roosevelt

Why Companies Should Hire Military Spouses, A 'Very Misunderstood Talent Pool'

Manon DeFelice, Contributor

Jul 3, 2018, 12:50pm

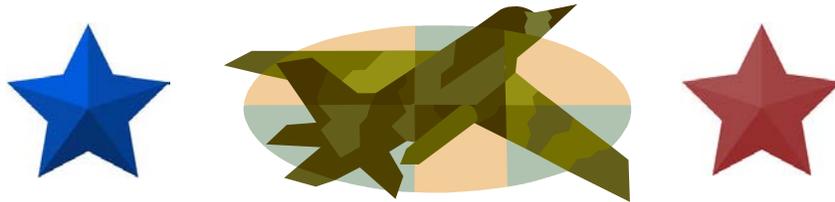
https://www.forbes.com/sites/manondefelice/2018/07/03/patriotism-at-work-why-companies-should-hire-military-spouses/?fbclid=IwAR2nbn6WAlD0yGHGzwd5bRXv69SB0wVfFrcd_qMg0PVzpu58-S3JDN8IhP0#3eccaac916c8

It's unusual, to say the least, to interview for a job when you are a new mother to eight-week-old twins and you're about to move across the country for your husband's military job. But that's just what Kara McSwiggin did in early 2017. An experienced certified public accountant, McSwiggin scored an interview through the recruiting firm ServingTalent and landed a job with Blumer CPAs, where she could keep her skills fresh and stay in the career game at a time when many other women jump ship.

“The job was 100 percent virtual, which was totally appealing to me,” says McSwiggin, who is currently based in West Point, New York, where her husband is an attorney for the U.S. Army. Blumer CPAs is based out of Greenville, South Carolina, and most of its staff works remotely. “Having a husband in the military and needing to relocate every few years, as well as being a new mom — those two things can be very detrimental [to finding a job]. At the time, I was exhausted and going through a lot. With two new babies, I could work from home and not have to put them in day care

yet still keep my career afloat. The opportunity was so rare that I just had to take it.”

ServingTalent – which places foreign-service and military spouses in both remote and brick-and-mortar jobs – is working to make opportunities like McSwiggin’s less of a rarity. With a global pool of experienced, professional candidates, ServingTalent has placed candidates with a wide range of backgrounds and skills, from lawyers and accountants to senior defense and human resource experts.



News from the Bases & Regions

Military Mission Line —

Gaetz: Gulf Test Range ‘my top legislative priority’

<https://www.nwfdailynews.com/news/20190131/gaetz-gulf-test-range-my-top-legislative-priority>

Northwest Florida Daily News © January 31, 2019

By Jim Thompson

Oil and gas interests are “licking their chops” as the end of a ban looms on oil and gas leasing in part of the Gulf of Mexico that includes a military test range, Rep. Matt Gaetz said Thursday at an Air Force contracting conference at the Sandestin Hilton.

Protecting the Gulf Test Range from encroachment by oil and gas exploration “is my top legislative priority,” Gaetz told hundreds of defense contractors and other defense professionals at the Air Force Contracting Summit, which continues through Friday afternoon.....

Tyndall AFB—

Air Force commits \$3 billion to rebuild Tyndall after Hurricane Michael

<https://www.newsherald.com/news/20190131/air-force-commits-3-billion-to-rebuild-tyndall-after-hurricane-michael>

News Herald © January 31, 2019

By Ed Offley

PANAMA CITY — The Air Force is committed to spending \$3 billion during the next five years to rebuild Tyndall Air Force Base, including an initial investment of at least \$40 million by the end of 2019, senior service officials announced at a community forum Thursday.

Bay County officials said the ambitious reconstruction effort likely will create between 4,000 and 5,000 jobs, a major economic boon to the hard-pressed civilian community.....

Rubio: Housing situation at Tyndall is ‘catastrophic’ - could threaten future operations

<https://www.newsherald.com/news/20190124/rubio-housing-situation-at-tyndall-is-catastrophic---could-threaten-future-operations>

News Herald © January 24, 2019

By Ed Offley

After a tour of this hurricane-ravaged base on Wednesday, Sen. Marco Rubio said he has found a “**catastrophic**” situation that could threaten long-term future operations, including the deployment of three F-35 joint strike fighter squadrons in 2023.

And it is not the ongoing federal shutdown that is holding up \$400 million in proposed disaster relief for Tyndall, Florida’s senior senator added.....

Tyndall to host first Industry Day in rebuild effort

<https://www.robins.af.mil/News/Article-Display/Article/1740881/tyndall-to-host-first-industry-day-in-rebuild-effort/>

By J. Brian Garmon and Brian Goddin / Published January 25, 2019

The Air Force will host the first industry day for the Tyndall Air Force Base rebuild at Florida State University, Panama City, Florida, on January 31, 2019, from 8:00 am-12:00 pm.

This “state of the installation” presentation will inform the Air Force’s potential partners in industry and elected officials of the condition of Tyndall and the goal to develop an installation for a 21st Century Air Force. It is also a forum for answering questions and exchanging ideas, said Col. Scott Matthews, Tyndall program management office director.

“It’s going to require partnership to rebuild Tyndall; it will take the government, industry, big business, small and medium-size business,” said Matthews, whose office will oversee the planning and rebuild of Tyndall. “The work that lies in front of us is extensive, but our office will ensure the Air Force has a 21st century installation to carry out the missions of today and the future.”

Patronis: Balfour Beatty has ‘catastrophically failed this community’ in leaving Tyndall housing untouched since Hurricane Michael

<https://www.nwfdailynews.com/news/20190125/patronis-balfour-beatty-has-catastrophically-failed-this-community-in-leaving-tyndall-housing-untouched-since-hurricane-michael>

Northwest Florida Daily News © January 25, 2019

Commenting on the deadlock that has left more than 600 damaged single family dwellings on Tyndall Air Force Base untouched since Hurricane Michael, state Chief Financial Officer Jimmy Patronis condemned developer Balfour Beatty Communities for their actions and for providing no clear answers to his staff.

“It is absolutely unacceptable that Balfour Beatty Communities has essentially forfeited their commitment to provide safe and quality housing at Tyndall Air Force Base in the wake of Hurricane Michael. As our brave military members piece together their lives while serving our nation, I expect

Balfour Beatty to begin repairs immediately on their properties or be held in breach of contract,” Patronis said in a release.....

Eglin AFB —

The First Defense Leadership Forum Summit Of The Year Will Feature Congressman Matt Gaetz

<https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/the-first-defense-leadership-forum-summit-of-the-year-will-feature-congressman-matt-gaetz-300785920.html>

PR Newswire © January 29, 2019

Hosted by the Defense Leadership Forum, Congressman Matt Gaetz will be delivering the keynote address on the Economic Impact of the 2019 Defense Budget on January 31, 2019 at the annual Air Force Contracting Summit. The Defense Leadership Forum is expecting more than 500 defense contractors and businesses to attend this year's sold out Summit.....

Whiting Field —

US Navy Asks For Final Training Helicopter Proposals

<https://www.rotorandwing.com/2019/01/28/us-navy-asks-for-final-training-helicopter-proposals/>

Rotor and Wing International(c) January 28, 2019

By Dan Parsons

The U.S. Navy on Jan. 28 published the final request for proposals to build a replacement for its fleet of TH-57 training helicopters.

Industry hopefuls have until April 2 to submit proposals for the Advanced Helicopter Training System (AHTS) TH-XX. The IFR-certified TH-XX aircraft will replace the legacy TH-57B/C Sea Rangers used by the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard for advanced helicopter training for undergraduate pilots.....



Numerous TH-57 Sea Ranger Helicopters sit on the flight line at Millington Municipal Airport. Pilots assigned to Training Air Wing Five (TAW-5), stationed at Naval Air Station Whiting Field, Fla., flew approximately 300 training aircraft to Millington to keep them safe from Hurricane Ivan. Ivan made landfall at Gulf Shores, Ala., at approximately 0315 EST with winds of 130 MPH. Twelve deaths are blamed on Ivan as it came ashore. U.S. Navy photo by Photographer's Mate 3rd Class Joseph M. Buliavac (RELEASED)

Escambia County, Navy Complete OLF 8 Land Swap

<http://www.northescambia.com/2019/01/escambia-county-navy-complete-olf-8-land-swap>

North Escambia.com © January 30, 2019

A land swap between Escambia County and the U.S. Navy is now complete.

Navy Outlying Field 8 (OLF on Nine Mile Road now officially belongs to Escambia County, which traded a property now known as OLF X

south of Jay for helicopter training. An ribbon cutting for OLF X will be held Wednesday.

The land exchange provides Escambia County with property that can accommodate a wide variety of residential and light industrial development options, that will benefit the citizens and improve the county tax base. In return, the Navy gains a new, fully functional helicopter OLF, that meets current helicopter flight training requirements and is closer to NAS Whiting Field.....



Space Coast -

Nearly 20 Air Force F-15s and F-16s are coming to the Space Coast

<https://www.floridatoday.com/story/tech/science/space/2019/01/25/nearly-a-dozen-air-force-f-15-s-and-f-16-s-are-coming-to-the-space-coast/2677924002/>

Florida Today © January 25, 2019

By Emre Kelly,

The Space Coast's calm winter skies will see a shift in atmosphere as nearly a dozen supersonic fighter jets make their way to Patrick Air Force Base for joint training exercises in the coming weeks.

Stationed on the tarmac at Patrick: Nearly a dozen F-16 Fighting Falcons and six F-15 Eagles. Expect a few of the larger, turboprop-driven C-130 Hercules transports, too.

"The Patrick Air Force Base tarmac is going to look like a very busy Air Force base with almost a dozen F-16s and six F-15s as we do some joint training here," Air Force Col. Thomas Ste. Marie said during a National Space Club Florida Committee luncheon in Cape Canaveral last week.....

Highlands County—

In 2018, the Governor and his Cabinet partnered with the U.S. Air Force through the Florida Forest Service's Rural and Family Lands Protection Program (RFLPP) to secure a 4,476-acre conservation easement at Goolsby Ranch in Highlands County. This ranch is located in the Avon Park Air Force Range Sentinel Landscape's MIPA 1 along the southern boundary of the Range. With a \$7.63M price tag, the partnership assisted with the financial burden of protecting such a large and important tract of agricultural land, which closed in November. In addition to being located in the Sentinel Landscape, the

ranch is also part of the Bombing Range Ridge Florida Forever Project and connects neighboring conservation easements. Three other RFLPP proposals in Manatee, Madison, and Putnam counties were also approved in 2018 for a total of 3,912 acres, bringing the total land protected by the state program to over 50,000 acres. Successful partnerships like this and those utilizing DOD's Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) funding continue to ensure efficient and effective use of tax payer dollars while meeting the goals of Agriculture, Defense, and Conservation alike.



Spotlight on Naval Air Station Key West

Naval Air Station Key West is a naval air station and military airport located on Boca Chica Key, four miles (east of the central business district of Key West, Florida, United States.

NAS Key West is a state-of-the-art training facility for air-to-air combat fighter aircraft of all military services, with favorable flying conditions year round and unparalleled aerial ranges that offer aircrew training within minutes after takeoff. On a broader scale, NAS Key West's national security mission supports operational and readiness requirements for the Department of Defense, Department of Homeland Security (e.g., U.S. Coast Guard), Air National Guard and Army National Guard units, other federal agencies, and allied military forces.



**Commanding Officer
Captain Bobby Baker**

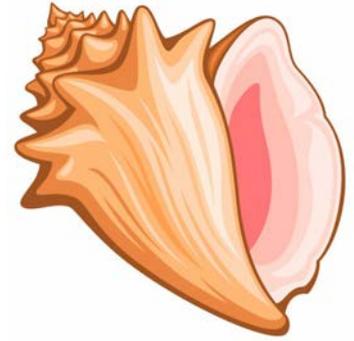
Captain Bobby Baker was commissioned in May 1993 at the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York and served as an Army Aviator until 1996. He transferred to the Navy in 1996, completed Navy flight school and was designated a Naval Aviator in 1999. He served with the Gunslingers of VFA-105 and completed two deployments embarked on USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) flying sorties in support of Operations Southern Watch and Iraqi Freedom. Later, Baker completed the TOPGUN Adversary course. He completed two deployments embarked in USS Enterprise (CVN 65) in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. In 2010, Baker reported to the World Famous Golden Dragons of VFA-192 as Executive Officer in November 2010, assumed command of the squadron in March of 2012, and completed two deployments in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and New Dawn embarked in USS John C. Stennis (CVN 74). He also has served as the Assistant Chief of Staff for Commander Naval Forces Europe/Africa/Sixth Fleet. Baker has logged over 3,400 flight hours, 104 combat sorties and 778 carrier landings. His individual awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal with combat V, five Strike/Flight Air Medals, three Navy Commendation Medals (one with combat V), Army Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, Commander Carrier Air Wing One Pilot of the Year, and the LCDR Michael Longardt Award for Leadership from Commander, Strike Fighter Wing Atlantic.

The air station is also host to several tenant commands, including Fighter Squadron Composite 111 (VFC-111), Strike Fighter Squadron 106 (VFA-106) Detachment Key West, the U.S. Army Special Forces Underwater Operations School and Headquarters, Joint Interagency Task Force South (JIATF South).



Did You Know?

Florida Keys Trivia



- The Florida Keys are composed of Key Largo limestone and coral.
- The Florida Keys consists of 1700 islands.
- Key Largo, Florida is nicknamed the “Scuba Diving Capital of the World”.
- The Spanish Explorer Juan Ponce de Leon first visited the area that would become the Florida Keys in the year 1513.
- The Florida Keys declared their independence by seceding from the United States in 1982.
- Key West was originally named “Cayo Hueso” which means Isle of Bones. It was named Cayo Hueso due to the many Indian remains scattered across the island.
- The Florida Keys have been home to Ernest Hemingway, Truman Capote, Tennessee Williams and other famous people.
- The first permanent settlers arrived in the Florida Keys in 1822. They salvaged shipwrecks and fished for their survival.
- The original “African Queen” steamboat can be viewed in Key Largo, Florida.
- The Florida Keys are approximately 223 miles long.
- Cuba is 90 miles from Key West which is closer than Miami.
- Addresses in the Florida Keys are designated as MM (mile markers). MM 0 begins in Key West and goes to MM 106 on the north end of Key Largo.
- There are 42 bridges that connect the Florida Keys.
- The 1935 Labor Day Hurricane remains the greatest Keys disaster, destroying property and killing hundreds of people. In all, over 400 people were killed, nearly all in the Keys.
- The Loggerhead turtle is the most common sea turtle found in the Keys.
- Key West is the southernmost city in the continental United States.
- Islamorada, Florida is nicknamed the “Fishing Capital of the World”.
- There are over 600 species of fish in the coral reefs of the Florida Keys.
- The longest bridge in the Florida Keys is 7 miles long. Appropriately named the “7 Mile Bridge”.
- John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park was the first undersea park in the United States.
 - The “Christ of the Abyss” statue is the most photographed underwater attraction in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary.



FDA Vision: To maintain and enhance the position and reputation of Florida as the most military-friendly state in the nation.

NEWS

Senator Broxson and Rep. Ponder File Military Friendly Bills – Senator Broxson has filed SB620 and Rep. Ponder has filed HB 891 that contain eight military friendly changes to existing Florida laws. The bills amend s. 83.49, F.S.; prohibiting a landlord from requiring a prospective tenant who is a service member to deposit or advance more than a certain amount of funds; amend s. 83.682, F.S.; providing an additional circumstance under which a service member may terminate a rental agreement; amend s. 163.3175, F.S.; revising applicability with respect to certain military installations; amend s. 197.572, F.S.; providing that the title to certain lands remains subject to an easement to prevent encroachment of military installations after a tax sale or the issuance of a tax certificate in foreclosure proceedings; amend s. 288.980, F.S.; revising the definition of the term “activities”; amending s. 570.71, F.S.; prohibit certain construction or activities that are incompatible with the mission of a military installation on certain land under a rural-lands-protection easement; amending s. 1003.05, F.S.; require public schools to accept a permanent change of station order as proof of residency for certain programs; amend s. 1009.21, F.S.; and revising when active duty members of the Armed Services of the United States are classified as residents for tuition purposes.

Speaker Oliva Appoints Representative Thad Altman to the Task Force – Speaker of the House Jose Oliva has appointed Representative Thad Altman to the Task Force beginning immediately and running through November 3, 2020. Representative Altman is from Brevard County and his district includes Patrick AFB. With rich experience of service to Florida, Rep Altman will be a valuable asset to the Task Force. Please do not hesitate to welcome Rep Altman in his new role.

Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) Publishes Defense Industry Report – According to Dan Cohen at ADC, “California, Virginia and Texas are again the top three states receiving federal defense spending, according to a new DOD Office of Economic Adjustment report on fiscal year 2017 spending. The report contains state-by-state analysis of the relationships among regions, installations, military personnel and civilian contractors.” Report is available at: <http://www.oea.gov/resource/defense-spending-state-fiscal-year-2017>

Florida Defense Contractors Association (FDCA) Conference – FDCA held their Annual B2B/B2G Procurement Conference on February 11-12, 2019 at the Rosen Plaza Hotel Orlando, Florida. Speakers included Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart (FL-25), Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz (FL-23) and Secretary Anthony Principi and Dr. Bruce Grant. Terry and Bruce made several contacts with business in Florida who support defense in and outside the state. Many are interested in the Florida Defense exchange and increasing contacts with DoD for new business.



Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) Announces New Oil Lease Sale – According to the *Oil and Gas Journal*, BOEM “plans to hold a Gulf of Mexico-wide oil and gas lease sale in March that will include all available unleased areas in federal waters covering about 78 million acres. Lease Sale 252 will include about 14,696 unleased blocks in a range of 3-231 miles offshore across the gulf’s western, central, and eastern planning areas in 9-11,115 ft of water. Excluded from the lease sale are blocks subject to the congressional moratorium established by the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006; blocks adjacent to or beyond the US Exclusive Economic Zone in the area known as the northern portion of the Eastern Gap; and whole blocks and partial blocks within the current boundaries of the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary. This will be the fourth offshore sale in the Department of Energy’s Outer Continental Shelf 2017-22 program, which plans a total of 10 sales.” Note there are 10 sales planned for the 2017-2022 timeframe that will honor the GOMESA rule that expires in 2022, but the next drilling plan that will extend beyond the 2022 time frame envisions leases east of the MML.

ADC Leadership Award Nomination Window Open – According to ADC, the window is open to nominate our “outstanding defense community leaders throughout the United States by participating in its Defense Community Awards Program. Then, join key decision-makers from Congress, the Department of Defense and other ADC members in saluting them and highlighting their accomplishments at a special event during ADC’s National Summit in June. This is your opportunity to honor those who have gone above and beyond to support America’s defense communities.” Award winners are selected from four categories: Community or State Leadership, Military Leadership, John Lynch Base Redevelopment, and Congressional Leadership. Nominations are due by March 1. Go to <https://www.defensecommunities.org/awards/>

ADC Installation Innovation Forum (IIF) – The ADC Installation Innovation Forum will be held from March 4-6, 2019 in Miami. Florida will host a panel presentation highlighting several successes on Tuesday, March 5th from 4-4:45 PM. This conference will feature several senior DOD officials and receive a keynote address from the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Sustainment, Robert McMahon. More information on this event can be found at: <https://installationinnovation.org/>

From ADC:

CBO: Pentagon Costs to Grow in Coming Years

Posted on Feb 14, 2019 05:48 pm

Plans outlined in the Pentagon’s Future Years Defense Program would cause the base defense budget to balloon to \$735 billion (in today’s dollars) by 2033, according to new analysis from the Congressional Budget Office.

The base amount requested for 2019 was \$617, plus overseas contingency costs. It is expected to be higher when the administration sends its budget request to Capitol Hill mid-March.

“About 25 percent of the total growth from 2024 through 2033 would be in military personnel costs, 55 percent in [operations and maintenance] costs, and 20 percent in costs to develop and purchase weapon systems,” the report said.

Privatized Housing Horrors in Capitol Hill Spotlight

Posted on Feb 13, 2019 11:36 pm

A military spouse told lawmakers Wednesday that military housing conditions are so bad “I wouldn’t recommend my own children join the service, and my husband has been a Marine for 12 years.”

Crystal Cornwall was among witnesses in a Senate hearing into reports of widespread problems in privatized military housing, the Washington Post reported, as families described conditions senators called “shocking,” “disgusting” and “toxic.”

More than half of military families have had a negative or very negative experience with privatized housing, according to a Military Family Advisory Network survey out Wednesday that details the experiences of almost 17,000 families across all states.

DOD leaders and contractors said in the hearing that they are dedicated to doing better.

“The Department recognizes we have a moral obligation to military families to provide safe and quality housing, and we take that obligation seriously,” Robert H. McMahon, assistant secretary of defense for sustainment, said according to prepared remarks.

Army leaders announced Wednesday afternoon that they will seek an inspector general’s investigation into the problems.

“We will hold our chain of command and private contractors accountable,” Army Secretary Mark Esper and Army Chief of Staff Mark Milley said in a statement.

Video of the hearing is online, along with statements from military families, DOD officials and executives from Balfour Beatty Communities, Corvias Group, Hunt Military Communities, Americas Lendlease Corp. and Lincoln Military Housing.

National Emergency Means Lots of Questions for Military Spending

Posted on Feb 18, 2019 08:35 pm

The Pentagon is now responsible for diverting defense budget funds to build a southern border wall, if President Trump’s national emergency declaration issued Friday stands.

Here’s what you may have missed over the holiday weekend:

- As of Saturday, Acting Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan had not yet determined if the wall is “militarily necessary” and from which projects he might pull funds. “We understand there are some priorities that won’t be considered,” Shanahan said, according to **Military Times**. “Military housing ... what’s been interesting ... I’ve received a number of letters, I’ve had lots of feedback. ‘Do not jeopardize the projects that are underway.’”
- The House Appropriations Committee identified almost 400 potentially impacted military construction projects – in almost every state, D.C., Puerto Rico and Guam, along with others overseas. **Military.com** outlined some of them.
- Tim Kaine (D-Va.) **tweeted**, “-Removing lead from military housing -Making overseas bases safer -Upgrading hospitals that treat wounded troops. These are the types of projects military construction funding is supposed to pay for when it isn’t stolen to build a wall that won’t make us safer.”
- Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.) said projects like one at Fort Campbell may have to wait. “I would say it’s better for the middle school kids in Kentucky to have a secure border,” he said Sunday on **Face the Nation**. “We’ll get them the school they need. But right now, we’ve got a national emergency on our hands.”
- Congress is out this week but could start a process when it returns to state its opposition to the emergency declaration. If it passed both chambers, it would be unlikely to do so with a veto-proof margin.
- Sixteen states are suing, according to NBC News. “We have vital military dollars going to strategic projects that are of vital national security,” New Mexico Attorney General Hector Balderas told CNN Monday night, explaining his decision to join the suit. Other organizations have said

they will sue, too, setting up a possible Supreme Court showdown.

- Asked at his Rose Garden **press conference** Friday about whether readiness could be threatened, the President said “some of the generals” think a border wall is a high priority. “If we had a wall, we wouldn’t need the military.”



FDA CALENDAR:

Tuesday, March 19th **10:00 AM EDT**
Family Support Working Group Conference Call Meeting

Monday, March 25th **12 Noon EDT**
Mission Sustainment Working Group Conference Call Meeting

Call In Number : (800) 501-8979 **Access Code: 1869945**

FDA Website: www.enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense/

QUOTATION OF THE DAY

“People sleep peaceably in their beds at night only because rough men stand ready to do violence on their behalf.”

— George Orwell

News from the Bases & Regions

Military Mission Line —

BOEM plans Gulf of Mexico lease sale

By OGJ editors, 02/13/2019

<https://www.ogj.com/articles/2019/02/boem-plans-gulf-of-mexico-lease-sale.html>

The US Bureau of Ocean Energy Management plans to hold a Gulf of Mexico-wide oil and gas lease sale in March that will include all available unleased areas in federal waters covering about

78 million acres.

Lease Sale 252 will include about 14,696 unleased blocks in a range of 3-231 miles offshore across the gulf's western, central, and eastern planning areas in 9-11,115 ft of water.

Excluded from the lease sale are blocks subject to the congressional moratorium established by the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006; blocks adjacent to or beyond the US Exclusive Economic Zone in the area known as the northern portion of the Eastern Gap; and whole blocks and partial blocks within the current boundaries of the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary.

This will be the fourth offshore sale in the Department of Energy's Outer Continental Shelf 2017-22 program, which plans a total of 10 sales.

BOEM estimates the upcoming sale contains 48 billion bbl of undiscovered technically recoverable oil and 141 tcf of undiscovered technically recoverable gas.

All terms and conditions for Lease Sale 252 are available on the BOEM web site.

Tyndall AFB—

Tyndall Air Force Base To Be Rebuilt As 'Air Base Of The Future'

<https://www.npr.org/2019/02/12/693549647/tyndall-air-force-base-to-be-rebuilt-as-air-base-of-the-future>

NPR © February 12, 2019

By Greg Allen

Unmanned F-16 jets are flying again at Tyndall Air Force base on Florida's Panhandle and, for many, it's a welcome sound. Four months ago the base took a direct hit from Hurricane Michael. The storm's 155-mile-per-hour winds toppled forests, shredded buildings and left the base a mess with its future in doubt.

Now the Air Force says it is rebuilding Tyndall to be the air base of the future. Officials say the rebuilt base will be resistant to storm surges and to wind speeds up to 180 miles per hour and is expected to cost some \$3 billion.....



Debris litters Tyndall Air Force Base following Hurricane Michael in October 2018. Now the Air Force is rebuilding the base to be more resistant to future storms.

Scott Olson/Getty Images

From the Tyndall Air Force Base Facebook Page:

It's an honor and a privilege to have such great neighbors that we call friends. This morning we were able to unveil a logo on the base water tower in honor of being awarded the 2019 Great American Defense Community Award. We are excited to continue building positive relationships with our communities around Tyndall AFB.

During the ceremony Mr. Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance President, Col. Brian Laidlaw, 325th Fighter Wing Commander and Commander Jay Sego, Naval Support Activity-Panama City commanding officer, spoke about the importance of community relationships and how they are vital to show a positive force. The GADC program leaders work to recognize military communities and regions that help improve the quality of life for veterans, service members and their families. Bay County, Fla., is one of five communities across the country to be named a Great American Defense Community in 2019.



NAS Pensacola —

Navy inspects water wells near NAS Pensacola for chemicals

By: Cody Long

<https://www.wkr.com/news/northwest-florida/navy-inspects-water-wells-near-nas-pensacola-for-chemicals/1774094592>

The Navy is testing private drinking water wells near Naval Air Station Pensacola, Corry Station and Saufley Field to determine if water is contaminated from per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).

PFAS are man-made chemicals that are not absorbed well in the soil and could migrate to groundwater. The

chemical can be found in firefighting foam that NAS Pensacola uses when they train.

The Navy hosted the second of four meetings Monday night to let residents know about the process and what this could mean if there is contamination. The Florida Department of Health had representatives there to address the possible health effects.....

Eglin AFB —

Eglin Noise Committee Hears Request to Reroute Jets

By Jim Thompson,

<https://www.nwfdailynews.com/news/20190214/eglin-noise-committee-hears-request-to-reroute-jets>

The two Valparaiso residents appointed to the recently reconstituted Noise Committee used the panel's first meeting to ask that the base look into changing flight paths to keep military aircraft away from populated areas.

The committee, comprising Eglin Air Force Base officials, residents and local government representatives, was re-formed in connection with an ongoing assessment of the environmental impacts of the F-22 Raptor fighter jets and T-38 jet trainers moved from Tyndall Air Force Base to Eglin after Hurricane Michael all but destroyed the Panama City base.....

Push for a third Raptor squadron at Langley AFB gets a congressional shove

Hugh Lessig, Contact Reporter, Staff writer, 2-14-2019

<https://www.dailypress.com/news/military/dp-nws-third-raptor-squadron-20190214-story.html>

The Virginia congressional delegation wants to land a training squadron of F-22 Raptors at Langley Air Force Base, a move that could add up to 800 jobs to the region.

In a letter to Air Force Secretary Heather Wilson, the lawmakers cite ample space at the Hampton installation for additional stealth fighters, combined with the region's longstanding support of the military.

Other advantages include nearby mid-Atlantic training ranges and a government audit that said the Air Force should consolidate its fleet into larger groups.

The Daily Press obtained a copy of the letter, dated Thursday and signed by all Republicans and Democrats that make up the state's 13-member delegation. Sen. Mark R. Warner reportedly led the organizing effort.

The Air Force needs a new home for its F-22 flight and maintenance training squadron — essentially the F-22 school house — that was based at Tyndall Air Force Base in Florida.....

NAS Jacksonville—



PATRIOTIC EMPLOYER

NAS/JAX Hiring Event!!!

You are invited to participate in our upcoming NAS/JAX Hiring Event! Our Navy Reservists, throughout the Southeastern United States will be drilling this weekend and we expect to have maximum attendance. Families and transitioning active duty & retirees will be attending, too! All military branches, veterans & transitioning service members are invited.

WHEN: May 4th , 2019

WHERE: Naval Air Station Jacksonville

6801 Roosevelt Avenue

Jacksonville, FL 32212

TIME: 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Set-up 8:30 to 9:45

Base Location: (TBD)

You must have current job listings to qualify for a free table at this event. Please confirm at your earliest convenience. Email Penny Justice at: pjustice@interactivegov.com to reserve your table(s).

Penny Justice, Military Employment Coach, Florida Employment Support Program at 904-553-0265; pjustice@interactivegov.com.



Spotlight on NAS Whiting Field

History

In July 2017, NAS Whiting Field celebrated its 74th year of continuous operation. What was once a field of weeds has become the backbone of the Navy's flight program. During its history, Whiting Field has served

as a prisoner-of-war camp for German soldiers, home of the famed Blue Angels Flight Demonstration Team and home of the Navy's first jet training unit. Before the field was officially commissioned, personnel were already beginning to train "the world's best aviators." Squadron 3-B of Naval Auxiliary Air Station (NAAS) Saufley Field, Pensacola, Florida, began operations on July 1, 1943. Squadron 3-B was later joined by Squadron 3-A of Chevalier Field to form Training Squadron THREE. In only 14 weeks, Whiting Field came into being to fulfill the need for pilot training commands in WWII. Commissioning ceremonies for Naval Auxiliary Air Station (NAAS) Whiting Field were held on July 16, 1943, in the South Field Hanger. At 11 a.m. that day, Rear Admiral George D. Murray, Commandant of the Naval Air Training Center, welcomed some 1,500 persons and introduced Mrs. Kenneth Whiting, the widow of Naval hero, Captain Kenneth Whiting, for whom the station was named. The commissioning of NAS Whiting Field took place at a crucial time in American history. Only six days before the commissioning, the invasion of Sicily had occurred. Throughout World War II, NAS Whiting Field's mission was to train aviators for the fleet.

Today

Naval Air Station Whiting Field is completed its transition from the T-34 to the new T-6B in April 2012. The installation currently hosts 6 Training Squadrons and 2 Instructor Squadrons, which is comprised of 141 T-6Bs and about 120 TH-57s. The installation is composed of two separate primary airfields and uses 13 Outlying Landing Fields to support both primary and intermediate flight training. Naval Air Station Whiting Field is the busiest air station in the world, accounting for nearly 1.5 million annual flight operations including primary flight training of over 1,200 students. Every Navy/Marine Corps/Coast Guard Helicopter Pilot earns their "Wings of Gold" at Naval Air Station Whiting Field. Development buffers are crucial around military installations to ensure mission flexibility and longevity. Our longstanding partnership in conservation and buffering initiatives are clearly echoed in our continued successes in promoting "win-win" strategies for the Navy and State of Florida.



**Commanding Officer
Captain Paul Bowdich**





MOTIVATIONAL POSTER OF THE DAY:



US NAVY

Deterrence is an activity, but destruction is a profession.

NOTES FROM THE STAFF

Sincere thanks to all the dedicated members of the Florida Defense Alliance. You are the reason that Florida is the most military friendly state in the nation!

Florida Defense Alliance Leadership

Chair – Kellie Jo Kilberg

Vice Chair – Tim Jones

Mission Sustainment Working Group Chair – Mike Jones

Family Support Working Group Chair – Lynn Brannon

Executive Board: Jonathan Borgert, Jennifer Codo-Salisbury and Paul Hirsch



Florida Defense Alliance Newsletter

March 6, 2019

FDA Vision: To maintain and enhance the position and reputation of Florida as the most military-friendly state in the nation.

NEWS

Governor DeSantis Requests Stationing New Space Command in Florida – Governor DeSantis sent a letter to President Trump requesting Space Command be stationed in Florida. He said, “Today, I submitted a request to President Trump formally asking him to headquarter United States Space Command in Florida,” **said Governor DeSantis.** “As the world’s premier gateway to space, Florida has been the departure point for more cargo and humans to space than any other place in the world, so I believe our state is the logical choice to base this new command. In addition to my request to the President, I have also directed Space Florida to make it a top priority to pursue and secure this new headquarters here in Florida.” The letter can be found at: <https://www.flgov.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Space-Letter.pdf>

New Commander at Navy Region Southeast –Navy Region Southeast headquartered at NAS Jacksonville Commander, “manages and oversees shore installation management support and execution for 18 installations within the Southeastern United States, including Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba”. Rear Adm. Babette “Bette” Bolivar was relieved of command Friday of Navy Region Southeast and was replaced by Rear Adm. Gary Mayes. Bolivar had been in command since February 2017. She now will be assigned to command Navy Region Southwest in San Diego. Prior to moving to the NAS Jacksonville, Mayes was assigned to the staff of the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Fleet Readiness and Logistics.”

Florida Defense Support Task Force Supports Tyndall Rebuild Funding / New Space Command – This week the Task Force Chair sent letters to Governor DeSantis requesting his continued support in ensuring that supplemental funding is secured to rebuild Tyndall into the base of the future. The spending bill passed by congress two weeks ago did not include funding for disaster relief or the Tyndall supplemental that was expected and we want to make sure that it does not get lost amongst the other pressing needs in the budget. In addition, the Task Force supports Governor DeSantis call to create the next Space Command under the US Air Force here in Florida and offers to move forward in developing a plan to coordinate partnerships that are required to make Florida the best place for Space.

ADC Report on Implementing The Defense Community Infrastructure Program – ADC has just published a report listing the most important infrastructure projects in each state. This report can be found at: <https://www.defensecommunities.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/ADC-Report-Implementing-the-Defense-Community-Infrastructure-Project.pdf>

2019 REPI Report – The US Department of Defense Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) program report summarizes and reviews the achievements of the Program through Fiscal Year 2018: in its 16-year lifespan, the REPI Program has protected 586,665 acres in 106 locations across 33

**ENTERPRISE
FLORIDA**

states. In conjunction with the release of this year's Report, DOD also updated the REPI fact sheets through Fiscal Year 2018. These include updated project and state fact sheets as well as updates to other REPI-related resources. REPI is using an authority Congress recently extended to enhance installation resilience, the office wrote in its newly released 2019 Report to Congress. "Protecting these lands using the REPI program is a more cost-effective approach to sustain military readiness for the Department and the taxpayer," the report says. This report can be downloaded at:

https://www.repi.mil/Portals/44/2019_REPI_Report_to_Congress_FINAL.pdf?ver=2019-02-21-121034-590

ADC Installation Innovation Forum (IIF) – The ADC Installation Innovation Forum is **this week, March 4 - 6, 2019 in Miami, Florida**. Florida will host a panel presentation highlighting several successes on Tuesday, March 5th from 4-4:45 PM. This conference will feature several senior DOD officials and receive a keynote address from the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Sustainment, Robert McMahon. In prep for the conference, see attached report on "Implementing the Defense Community Infrastructure Project". More information on this event can be found at: <https://installationinnovation.org/>

The Principi Group – The Florida Defense Alliance would like to thank the Principi Group for their outstanding work over the last 7 years in advocating on behalf of Florida's military installations and missions. Their ability to engage senior decision makers in Washington and their tireless efforts on behalf of Florida have resulted in significant gains for our military installations. The Principi team was extremely effective in communicating the military value of Florida's bases, ranges and air space to both DOD and Congressional members. It is clear that the team members have developed strong relationships with all our local defense community leaders as well as with Florida's base commanders. Every base in the state has a success story about gaining missions or resources that is directly attributable to the work of the Principi team. The Principi team diligently engaged Congressional representatives and staffs, DOD, and other federal agencies to pursue the objectives in the Task Force Strategic Plan to protect and enhance Florida's military infrastructure. The team spent a great deal of time in the communities and on the bases so that they truly understood all our issues and challenges and were then able to better assist us in protecting our bases and gaining missions. Along the way, the team was extremely gracious and generous in supporting every single Florida Defense Alliance event from our quarterly meetings to ADC events – always providing valuable insights from a national perspective. The Principi team is comprised of superbly talented, honorable professionals who have formed very close and strong relationships with everyone in the Florida defense community and have always gone the extra mile to support Florida – exclusively. Their record of accomplishments is truly amazing and their body of work has made Florida's military installations and missions much stronger. The current contract with the Principi Group expired on February 28, 2019. The contract was re-competed and in January the Task Force voted to begin a new contract with the Principi Group. However, a new contract is currently on hold until the end of the current legislative session.

[From ADC:](#)

Congress Would Be Asked to Re-Fund Emergency-Impacted Milcon Projects

Posted on Feb 28, 2019 12:46 am

The Trump administration's fiscal year 2020 budget request will ask Congress to re-fund any military construction projects delayed because of the President's emergency declaration to build a border wall, DOD leaders told lawmakers Wednesday.

Robert McMahon, assistant secretary of defense for sustainment, said in his testimony that DOD is still waiting for the Department of Homeland Security to specify how military construction funds would be used on the border before deciding whether to exercise the Section 2808 authority that would divert money previously appropriated for on-base projects.

"At this point, every unobligated dollar in the department is up for consideration," McMahon said.

Rep. Debbie Wasserman-Schultz (D-Fla.) was overseeing the hearing as chair of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies. She said taking the money then asking Congress to re-allocate it was a way to “circumvent” the legislative branch and asked specifically about recapitalization plans at Air Force Base Tyndall, which was devastated by Hurricane Michael.

McMahon said that no milcon projects would be called off permanently and that the ones most likely to be delayed if necessary are those that do not impact readiness.

The subcommittee also heard from each service’s assistant secretary overseeing installations. Their prepared testimony and video of the hearing are online.

The House passed a resolution this week that disapproves of the emergency declaration and would reverse the milcon cuts. Even if it passes the Senate, neither chamber seems to have enough votes to override a promised veto.



U.S. Reps. Debbie Wasserman-Schultz and Neal Dunn at Naval Support Activity Panama City. U.S. Navy Photo by Boatswain’s Mate 1st Class Taylor Baxley

Senators Propose Disaster Relief with Big Boost for Air Force

Posted on Feb 28, 2019 12:42 am

A bipartisan group of senators introduced a sweeping disaster relief package that would include \$1.1 billion for the Air Force to recover from natural disasters, including Hurricane Michael, which ripped apart much of Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla., and impacted other installations, too.



Airmen disassemble and transport a McDonnell Douglas F-15 Eagle damaged after Hurricane Michael at Tyndall Air Force Base. U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Alexandre Montes

The legislation would require the Air Force to present plans on how it would spend the money, according to [Air Force Magazine](#).



Administration to Boost Defense Spending by Padding Overseas Fund

Posted on Feb 25, 2019 06:23 pm

The Trump administration set up another showdown with Congress by confirming Monday that it will move some domestic defense spending to the overseas contingency operations (OCO) fund, which is exempt from spending caps.

“Fiscal conservatives may feel uncomfortable using OCO in this way,” Russ Vought, the acting director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) wrote in a [Real Clear Politics op-ed](#). “Yet, as long as Congressional Democrats insist on demanding more social spending in exchange for continuing to fund defense spending, expanding the use of OCO funds remains the administration’s only fiscally responsible option in meeting national security needs while avoiding yet another increase to the spending caps.”

House Armed Services Committee Chairman Adam Smith (D-Wash.) and House Budget Committee Chairman John Yarmuth (D-Ky.) called the plan a “gimmick,” according to [Military Times](#). OMB is scheduled to deliver its budget request to Capitol Hill mid-March

In Our Communities

Posted on Feb 24, 2019 06:25 pm

Virginia’s congressional delegation is making a play for F-22’s to be moved to Joint Base Langley-Eustis in Hampton Roads, according to [Stars and Stripes](#). The entire delegation wrote to the Air Force secretary asking for the move. The planes were moved from Tyndall Air Force Base and are at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., for up to three years while the Pentagon finds their next home....

The Fisher House Foundation is funding new facilities in Ann Arbor, Mich., Aurora, Colo., and Omaha, Nebraska, according to [Military.com](#), then turn them over to the Department of Veterans Affairs to operate as a free place for families to stay while a veteran is receiving medical treatment. VA currently has 41 Fisher Houses, and DOD has 42....

Hill Looking for Deal to Suspend Caps

Posted on Feb 28, 2019 07:07 pm

Talks are starting on Capitol Hill to address statutory spending caps in place for fiscal years 2020 and 2021, CQ reported. Without an agreement between Congress and the administration, defense spending would be cut by 10 percent over the current fiscal year, and nondefense would be cut 9 percent.

Lawmakers hope to strike a fourth deal to raise the caps set by the Budget Control Act in 2011.

“In a rational world it should happen,” House Appropriations Committee Chair John Yarmuth (D-Ky.) said, adding that he has discussed it with his fellow Kentuckian, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R). “Mitch wants to make one and he wants a two-year deal. We’d like to have a two-year deal.”

But the Trump administration’s budget request, to be released the week of March 11, will adhere to the spending caps, especially on nondefense discretionary spending, CQ reported. It will, however, pad the overseas war account as a way to fund domestic defense expenditures.

The defense budget is expected to be around \$750 billion, up from \$716 in the current fiscal year.

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

This week Florida had a strong presence at the ADC Installation Innovation Forum in Miami. It's always great to see our teammates from around the state to network, share best practices and learn about new programs and opportunities as well as discuss the challenges in front of us.

As the State Legislature went into session yesterday, it became clear we need to engage more frequently with our Governor and State Legislators regarding the number 2 sector in the state. When you are in Tallahassee make sure you are sharing the whole story about our \$85 billion military/defense sector in addition to your local military/defense stories.

It became clear at the Forum that we cannot rest on our successes. If we are to create sustainable, resilient installations and communities, we need to be forward-thinking and part of the solutions.

Assistant Secretary of Defense for Sustainment Robert H. McMahon said, "having an Installation in your community is a privilege not a right," and then asked, "What have you done lately for the active-duty military members, their families and the installation?" "How do you and your communities make a difference?"

Are we being innovative and thinking differently about the Art of Possibilities?

For those who attended the Forum, please share your top three takeaways and any thoughts about topics you would like us to discuss at our 2019 FDA meetings and conference calls. Tim Jones and I are creating the agendas now.

Each of our working groups have conference calls this month. I know each will be informative and engaging.

Thank you for all that you do for our military and your communities. As you go forward today, don't be a dinosaur. Build those relationships and partnerships to make a difference.

Kellie Jo Kilberg

FDA CALENDAR:

Tuesday, March 19th 10:00 AM EDT
Family Support Working Group Conference Call Meeting

Monday, March 25th 12 Noon EDT
Mission Sustainment Working Group Conference Call Meeting

Call In Number : (800) 501-8979 Access Code: 1869945

FDA Website: www.enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense/

QUOTATION OF THE DAY

Hanlon's razor --

“Don’t ascribe to malice what can be plainly explained by incompetence.”

In simpler words: some bad things happen not because of people having bad intentions, but because they did not think it through properly.



News from the Bases & Regions

MacDill AFB —

Air Force secretary visits MacDill amid concerns of mold, rats in housing

<https://www.wtsp.com/article/news/local/hillsboroughcounty/air-force-secretary-visits-macdill-amid-concerns-of-mold-rats-in-housing/67-1a84fa57-b49b-473a-b25c-fc86e0835c95>

By Eric Glasser

Following complaints of mold, rats and other problems with privately managed housing at MacDill Air Force Base the U.S. Secretary of the Air Force paid a personal visit.

Secretary Heather Wilson on Wednesday agreed to not only meet with base leaders but also to sit down face to face with families who say they’ve been subjected to sub-standard housing conditions.

“It’s awesome,” said Kevin Anderson, a career Air Force member.

Anderson, at MacDill on the day of the secretary’s visit, said he had every confidence that the housing issues at MacDill and other military bases now were being taken seriously.....

TBDA Hosts "Influencer Events"

During the past four months, the Tampa Bay Defense Alliance (TBDA) hosted two "Influencer Events," exposing local civilian and military leaders to distinguished guest speakers addressing national defense issues with potential impact on the Tampa Bay area.

On October 29, 2018, the TBDA was honored to host the Honorable Anthony Principi, former U.S. Secretary of Veterans Affairs, current Principal of The Principi Group and The Spectrum Group of Alexandria, Virginia at

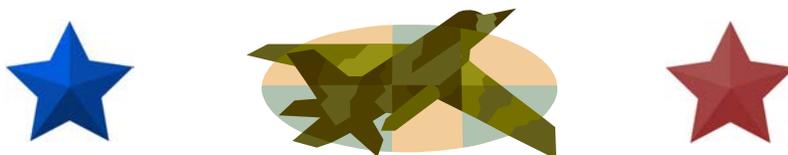
a private reception at Maggiano's Italian Restaurant in Tampa. Joining Secretary Principi was Lt Gen Glenn Spears, USAF (Ret) of The Spectrum Group and approximately 35 other guests. Secretary Principi and General Spears provided their perspectives on the long term viability of MacDill AFB.



CMSgt (USAF Ret) Mike Kerver, President A/TA, Tim Jones, President TBDA, Gen (USAF Ret) Duncan McNabb, Chairman A/TA

To proactively ensure developmental encroachment issues do not adversely impact the operational flying missions, both transient and home-based, at MacDill, they discussed the necessity for local civic leaders and groups such as the TBDA to continue to actively engage local elected and appointed government officials with the City of Tampa and Hillsborough County. Both speakers referred to the physical and financial challenges faced in rebuilding Tyndall AFB and Naval Coastal Systems Center Panama City, following Hurricane Michael and the criticality of maintaining the Military Mission Line (MML) in the eastern Gulf of Mexico. Secretary Principi commended the TBDA for expanding its outreach beyond USAF aspects of MacDill AFB, as evidenced by the presence of the commanding officers of the Navy Operational Support Center Tampa, Coast Guard Air Station Clearwater and the commander of the 53rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team of the Florida Army National Guard, at this event.

On February 16, 2019, the TBDA was honored to host the following officers of the Airlift/Tanker Association (A/TA): Gen Duncan McNabb, USAF (Ret), Chairman of the Board; CMSgt Mike Kerver, USAF (Ret), President; and Lt Gen V.M. "Rusty" Findley, USAF (Ret), Senior Vice President, at another private reception at Maggiano's. Gen McNabb retired as Commander, U.S. Transportation Command (USTRANSCOM). He is a former Commander of Air Mobility Command (AMC) and a former Vice Chief of Staff of the Air Force. Over 40 additional civilian and military guests attended this event, which included three past commanders of MacDill AFB's 6th Air Mobility Wing and 927th Air Refueling Wing, the commanding officer of Coast Guard Air Station Clearwater, the commander of Air Force ROTC Detachment 158 at the University of South Florida, and the Deputy Commander of the 6th Maintenance Group at MacDill AFB. Both Gen McNabb and Chief Kerver provided their unique insights regarding the challenges of air mobility, the recent introduction of the KC-46 into the USAF inventory, and the critical importance of aerial refueling to the Combat Air Force and Naval Aviation. This was augmented by anecdotal stories of our young airmen who continue to volunteer to do the "heavy lifting", so critical for USTRANSCOM's and AMC's mission success in support of both national defense and humanitarian support missions in the United States and overseas.



Tyndall AFB—

Debbie Wasserman Schultz Intends to Help Panhandle Through Military Construction Appropriations Subcommittee

<https://www.floridadaily.com/debbie-wasserman-schultz-intends-to-help-panhandle-through-military-construction-appropriations-subcommittee/>

By KEVIN DERBY, 02.22.19

With Democrats now in control of the U.S. House, U.S. Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz, D-Fla., is leading an important subcommittee and is trying to use that new perch to help the Sunshine State recover from Hurricane Michael.

Last month, Wasserman Schultz became the chairwoman the U.S. House Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Subcommittee.

“The MilCon/Va Appropriations Subcommittee is the only one in the Congress that makes policy and provides funding for the entire life cycle of an individual’s service, from their time in the military and after they leave the service and join the ranks of veterans,” the South Florida Democrat’s office noted when she announced her new assignment.....

Tyndall AFB officials make plans to recover and build "base of the future"

<https://www.wjhg.com/content/news/Tyndall-AFB-planning-to-repair-storm-damaged-buildings-and-make-base-of-the-future-506474651.html>

By Jarell Baker

Recovering after Hurricane Michael has been a slow process. One place hit hard was Tyndall Air Force Base. Air Force officials say they're rebuilding Tyndall and one day it'll be the base of the future.

The Tyndall Program Management Office Rebuild Senior Planner Amy Vandever said as of now they plan to replace 200 storm damaged buildings on the property. Vandever says they're going to rebuild Tyndall to last for multiple generations.

"There is a lot of opportunities to rebuild Tyndall. Not the base we had but the base we need that will be technologically innovative," said Director of the Tyndall PMO Rebuild Colonel Brent Hyden. **"It'll be cost effective and be weather resistant."**

Senators Float \$1.1 Billion for Air Force in Disaster-Relief Bill

<http://www.airforcemag.com/Features/Pages/2019/February%202019/Senators-Float-11-Billion-for-Air-Force-in-Disaster-Relief-Bill.aspx>

By Rachel Cohen

Air Force Magazine © February 17, 2019

A bipartisan group of eight senators on Tuesday introduced a sweeping \$13.6 billion disaster-relief funding package that includes \$1.1 billion for Air Force installations affected during the 2018 hurricane season.

The majority of the Air Force allocation—\$700 million for military construction—can be spent on planning, design, and construction projects related to Hurricane Michael through Sept. 30, 2023,

according to bill text released this week. But lawmakers want to hold that money until the service submits a plan for how it will spend the funds.....

A construction worker looks at the partially demolished Chapel 2 at Tyndall AFB, Fla., on Feb. 15, 2019. Restoring Tyndall is expected to cost a few billion dollars, but an official overseeing the effort cautions the exact number could change as the service charts its next steps. Air Force photo by SrA. Javier Alvarez



The Spirit of Resilience: How Tyndall and Bay County Are Moving On

Leaders at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla., and in Bay County say that rebuilding from Hurricane Michael, which devastated the area in October, gives them an opportunity to make Tyndall more resilient for the future.

That is the focus of a new ADC [video](#) that debuted Tuesday at Installation Innovation Forum.

“Everybody’s mind has had to shift into this new age of adapting and innovating and just doing what we can to make sure that the mission doesn’t stop,” said Staff Sergeant Stephanie Mahoney, an instructor at the Airman Leadership School.

Bay County is one of five members of the 2019 class of Great American Defense Communities.

[READ ONLINE »](#)

NSA Panama City —

Rep. Wasserman Schultz, Rep. Dunn tour Panama City Navy Base

NSWC PCD | Feb. 22, 2019

<https://www.navsea.navy.mil/Media/News/SavedNewsModule/Article/1764705/press-release-rep-wasserman-schultz-rep-dunn-tour-panama-city-navy-base/>

Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-FL), Chair of the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee, and Rep. Neal Dunn, (R-FL), met with base leadership and toured the Naval Support Activity Panama City facilities destroyed by Hurricane Michael, to include the Naval Surface Warfare Center Panama City Division (NSWC PCD) Feb. 19.

“It was very important for us to show Congresswomen Wasserman Shultz how the hurricane impacted this installation,” said Capt. Aaron Peters, NSWC PCD commanding officer. “Of the 88 buildings occupied by NSWC PCD, 82 sustained damage, ranging from minor to severe damage resulting in 40 percent of our workforce to be displaced. As NSWC PCD moves forward we look for opportunity and return on investment within the next 10 years to rebuild stronger to enable vital capability to outpace our adversaries and defeat current and emerging threats.”.....

Coast Guard station recovery from Hurricane Michael at least 5 years away

By Ed Offley,

<https://www.newsherald.com/news/20190227/coast-guard-station-recovery-from-hurricane-michael-at-least-5-years-away>

Although this compact, 86-year-old facility was able to resume essential operations within 24 hours of Hurricane Michael's landfall, the installation and its small staff of 100 Coast Guardsmen and women still face a long-term struggle to fully recover from the storm.

Tucked into the eastern end of Naval Support Activity Panama City on Thomas Drive, the station suffered catastrophic damage from the high winds and heavy rain that lashed eastern Bay County, said Boatswain's Mate Master Chief Anthony Kannan, officer-in-charge of the small base.

A native of Morehead City, North Carolina, Kannan said he is no stranger to Atlantic hurricanes, having lived close to the Outer Banks before launching his 26-year Coast Guard career.

"I've been doing hurricanes all my life," Kannan said, "but I have never seen one like this one.".....

Bay County—

From the Bay County Chamber of Commerce Facebook Page:

February 27, 2019

At this morning's board meeting, Northwest Florida Beaches International Airport approved a letter of intent to the Florida Army National Guard for a land lease. The Guard would build a complete facility similar to the one previously located at the old airport site but was destroyed by Hurricane Michael. The facility would be located on a 25 acre site located at West Bay Parkway and Johnny Reaver Rd.



Space Coast —

Florida lands first blow in battle to house new Space Force

By: Tom Roeder, Feb 24, 2019 Updated 18 hrs ago

https://gazette.com/military/florida-lands-first-blow-in-battle-to-house-new-space/article_6246ef86-3525-11e9-a2e7-d317a2a0463f.html

Colorado Springs is home to the bulk of the military's space troops with Air Force Space Command and Army Space and Missile Defense Command at Peterson Air Force Base and other units at Schriever Air Force Base, Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station and Fort Carson. But that didn't slow Florida Republican Gov. Ron DeSantis from making a pitch to put the Space Force in a new home.

“Today, I am formally sending a request to @realDonaldTrump to place the headquarters for the Space Force Combatant Command here in Florida @NASA Kennedy in Cape Canaveral,” DeSantis wrote on Twitter.....

Corry Station –

Center for Information Warfare Training wins NETC Training Excellence Award

By Glenn Sircy, Center for Information Warfare Training, Published 7:00 a.m. CT Feb. 24, 2019
<https://www.pnj.com/story/news/2019/02/24/center-information-warfare-training-wins-netc-training-excellence-award/2927006002/>

The Center for Information Warfare Training at Naval Air Station Pensacola Corry Station was recently recognized for winning the 2018 overall Naval Education and Training Command Training Excellence Award for best Navy learning center.

This is the third consecutive year the center has won the overall NETC Training Excellence Award (White T), and the second consecutive year the center swept all graded functional merit award areas. **The center was presented the award Feb. 14.....**

Jacksonville —

Navy Region Southeast gets new commander in ceremony at NAS Jacksonville

By John Biasotti,
<https://www.jacksonville.com/news/20190222/navy-region-southeast-gets-new-commander-in-ceremony-at-nas-jacksonville>

At Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Rear Adm. Babette “Bette” Bolivar was relieved of command Friday of Navy Region Southeast and was replaced by Rear Adm. Gary Mayes.

Bolivar had been in command since February 2017. She now will be assigned to command Navy Region Southwest in San Diego.

Prior to moving to the NAS Jacksonville, Mayes was assigned to the staff of the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Fleet Readiness and Logistics.

The commander of Navy Region Southeast means supervising Naval 18 installations in the area.

The commander is the regional planning agent for the Navy, the regional environmental and public affairs coordinator, and the U.S. Environmental Protection agency liaison.....

Fort Walton Beach—

Developer breaking ground on new project in Fort Walton Beach

<https://www.nwfdailynews.com/news/20181210/developer-breaking-ground-on-new-project-in-fort-walton-beach>

By TOM McLAUGHLIN

Posted Dec 10, 2018 at 5:38 PM Updated Dec 10, 2018 at 5:40 PM

FORT WALTON BEACH — The Jay Odom Group will break ground before year's end on a massive mixed-use development to be built on Air Force land off Lewis Turner Boulevard.

Invitations to a Dec. 21 groundbreaking began arriving Monday in email inboxes across Okaloosa County. Fort Walton Beach Mayor Dick Rynearson confirmed he was among the recipients, though he didn't know for sure whether he'd be among the dignitaries asked to swing a shovel to memorialize the event.

The Jay Odom Group, headed by developer Jay Odom, has leased 52 acres of Eglin Air Force Base land just west of the Okaloosa County Courthouse Annex Extension for the project, which will be known as Freedom Beacon.

When the development is completed, "luxury apartments" and a hotel will share the property with office space, restaurants and a recreational area, the groundbreaking invitation said.

Freedom Beacon Park could include about 300 multi-family units, a 102-room hotel, 55,000 square feet of retail/commercial space, 160,000 square feet of office space and a 4-acre central commons area, according previous reports.



Spotlight on Naval Ordnance Test Unit (NOTU)

The Naval Ordnance Test Unit (NOTU) was created in 1950. NOTU was directing almost all of its effort toward support of Fleet Ballistic Missile development, resulting in NOTU being assigned to the Director, Special Projects (now Strategic Systems Programs) with a mission to support the development of the Polaris Missile.

Mission: NOTU serves the country by supporting and testing sea-based weapons systems in a safe environment.

The command directly supports the mission capability and readiness of the United States Navy's Trident Submarines as well as the Fleet Ballistic Missile program of the United Kingdom. NOTU operates the Navy Port at Port Canaveral, supporting submarines and surface ships of the U.S. Atlantic Fleet and foreign navies and assets of the Military Sealift Command.





**Commanding Officer
Captain Jason D. Wartell**

Captain Jason D. Wartell, of Merritt Island, Florida, graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1993. He completed a Master of Science degree in Nuclear Engineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology in 1995.

A career submarine warfare officer, Captain Wartell served on USS Tunny (SSN 682), USS Hawkbill (SSN 666), USS Honolulu (SSN 718), and USS Alaska (SSBN 732) prior to assuming command of USS Nebraska's blue crew in April 2011. In addition to five fast-attack submarine deployments and a deployment with the embarked flag staff on USS Enterprise (CVN 65), he conducted three strategic deterrent patrols aboard USS Nebraska.

His ashore assignments included tours at U.S. Joint Forces Command in Norfolk, Virginia, Naval Nuclear Power Training Unit in Charleston, South Carolina, and most recently at the Naval Board of Inspection and Survey in Norfolk, Virginia where he served as Director, Submarine Inspections, and oversaw the material readiness inspections of 40 submarines and the acceptance trials of 4 new Virginia Class submarines. He assumed command of Naval Ordnance Test Unit September 29, 2017, at Cape Canaveral, Florida.



DASO 27 - photo of a 2016 Demonstration and Shakedown Operation, a test of the Trident II D5 missile system, conducted on the Eastern Range. During the DASO test an unarmed Trident II D5 missile is launched from an SSBN submerged off the coast of Eastern Florida. The launch operation is overseen and evaluated by the NOTU team and is designed to ensure the effectiveness and reliability of the Trident II D5 missile system. The Trident II D5 system comprises 70% of the Nation's strategic deterrent.



USSWVA - photo of the USS WEST VIRGINIA (SSBN 736) as it passes by the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse entering the channel at Port Canaveral. The Navy's port at Cape Canaveral is the second busiest Navy Port in the Navy's Southeast Region. The Southeast region includes all Navy ports from the northern border of North Carolina to the Texas coast in the Gulf of Mexico. NOTU personnel manage the Navy Port at Cape Canaveral, supporting vessels of the US military and its allies.

Army, Coast Guard and Navy vessels - including MSC ships and SSNs - along with a Dutch submarine visited Port Canaveral in FY17.



FDA Chair Kellie Jo Kilberg with the Bay County team at the ADC Installation Innovation Forum: John Skaggs, Naval Support Activity Panama City; Major Davis, Tyndall AFB; Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance; Colonel Brian Laidlaw, Commander Tyndall AFB; Kellie Jo Kilberg; Traycee Verdun-Chapman, Tyndall AFB Community Partnership; Mark McQueen, City Manager Panama City.



General Mike Jones, Tampa Bay Defense Alliance; Terry McCaffrey, Enterprise Florida; Liz Miller, DEO; Admiral Mark Fitzgerald, Florida Defense Support Task Force.



Bruce Grant, Enterprise Florida



Kellie Jo Kilberg, Chair, Florida Defense Alliance



Florida Panel: Terry McCaffrey, Admiral Mark Fitzgerald, Kellie Jo Kilberg, Jim Heald, Buck MacLaughlin, Steve Williamson





Florida Defense Alliance Newsletter

March 20, 2019

FDA Vision: To maintain and enhance the position and reputation of Florida as the most military-friendly state in the nation.

NEWS

Space Command – Governor DeSantis has written to President Trump requesting that the command be headquartered in Florida. At the same time, the Governor has tasked Space Florida to immediately start working to secure the headquarters in the Sunshine State.

Lieutenant Governor Visit SOUTHCOM – Last Friday, Lieutenant Governor Jeanette Nunez visited SOUTHCOM HQ in Doral to discuss housing and other issues with Admiral Faller, SOUTHCOM Commander. She spent over 3 hours with Admiral Faller and his staff and participated in a walking tour of the facility. Danny Burgess, Executive Director of the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs and Bruce Grant from EFI accompanied the Lieutenant Governor during this visit.

New Military Point of Contact in the Governor's Washington Office – Hearty welcome to Katherine Anne Russo who is our new point of contact in the Governor's Washington Office. Katherine attended the Northwest Florida Fly In and also met with local defense community leaders from the Space Coast during their visit to DC. Katherine has had some great experience working on military issues during her time in DC where she also worked for then Congressman Ron DeSantis. We look forward to working with her and hearing from her during meetings of the Florida Defense Support Task Force.

Two Senior Defense Officials Resign – Recently two top DoD officials resigned. Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson announced that she will be leaving in May to return to academia as the President of the University of Texas, El Paso. Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Energy and Installations Phyllis Bayer who many of us just saw speak at the ADC conference in Miami will resign from government to pursue other opportunities.

Northwest Florida Defense Community Fly-in – Bruce and Terry joined more than 35 community leaders from five northwest Florida counties for two days of meetings with congressional and military leaders in Washington DC. We met with members of the House and Senate and their staffs to discuss pressing issues such as Tyndall AFB rebuild funding support, extending the moratorium on oil drilling in the Gulf of Mexico Range Complex, Space Force bed down in Florida, special operations forces and new weapons testing for fifth generation aircraft and hypersonic weapons. On the second day we met with DoD officials as well as industry officials to discuss current and future DoD missions and operations in northwest Florida.

Space Coast Visit to DC – Last week, 12 local defense community leaders met with Congressman Posey and Senator Scott as well as Air Force Secretary Heather Wilson and LTG Arnold Bunch, Office of ASD for Acquisitions. The team had a great visit and even had the chance to meet with the previous 45th Space Wing Commander BG (Ret) Wayne Monteith.

**ENTERPRISE
FLORIDA**

New Bill in the US House of Representatives Supports Extension of MML – House Bill 1379 - Gulf of Mexico Range Complex introduced by Representative Rodrigues Supports extension of current moratorium on drilling in Gulf of Mexico east of Military Mission Line. This bill reaffirms the resolution made last year and resolves that the “That State of Florida must maintain a united front in supporting an extension of the current moratorium on drilling in the Gulf of Mexico east of the Military Mission Line” and that “the Florida House of Representatives supports an indefinite extension of the restriction, specified in the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006”.

Senator Scott Support Florida’s Military Families – Senator Rick Scott sent a letter through Florida’s base commanders supporting good housing for military families. According to the attached letter, Senator Scott said that he “was disappointed to hear recent reports of unsatisfactory base housing conditions in Florida. Last week, I expressed my concerns at a meeting with Florida Base Commanders, and I have met with and requested information from our military leaders on what we can do to improve the lives of our service members.”

Defense Reinvestment Grant (DRG) and Defense Infrastructure Grant (DIG) Applications Due – Applications for both this grant opportunities are due this week to DEO.

[From ADC:](#)

Service Leaders Apologize for Housing Problems

Posted on Mar 07, 2019 10:46 pm

Top military service leaders have zero tolerance for retaliation against service members who speak out about unsafe housing conditions, they told lawmakers Thursday, according to Military Times.

“I want all of the soldiers out there to know their chain of command is now fully engaged,” Army Chief of Staff Gen. Mark Milley said. “It’s our personal responsibility, and we will be held personally accountable for the condition of their living quarters or their houses.”

The Senate Armed Services Committee was looking into recent reports about unsafe conditions in private housing across all the military services.

The article said military families in attendance cheered when Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.) said he “would recommend these issues be referred to the Department of Justice.”

The services are working together to develop a “tenant’s bill of rights” over the next three months.

Marine Corps Commandant Gen. Robert Neller told lawmakers that leaders “took our eye off the ball” instead of realizing that housing impacts readiness.

“We need our families ready,” Neller said. “Our Marines can’t be ready if [they’re] not living in a safe, secure place.”

Video of the hearing and witnesses’ prepared testimony is available on the committee website.

Wilson to Leave Air Force

Posted on Mar 10, 2019 01:51 pm

Air Force Secretary Heather Wilson will leave her job at the end of May. Wilson confirmed the reports via Twitter.

“Today I informed the President I will resign as Secretary of the Air Force to be President of the

University of Texas at El Paso. It has been a privilege to serve with our #Airmen—I am proud of the progress we have made to restore the readiness & lethality of #USAF.”

Wilson was often mentioned as a potential secretary of defense nominee.



Milcon: Where the Budget Process Hits a Wall

Posted on Mar 10, 2019 01:49 pm

The defense budget request will include a \$9 billion emergency fund, Defense News reported, citing sources familiar with the budget. At least \$2 billion of that would be used for rebuilding and repairing infrastructure hit by storms, said its sources, who added that number may go up.

President Trump is demanding – via his national emergency declaration – that DOD divert military construction funding to build a border wall.

DOD has said it will ask Congress to re-fund any milcon projects delayed to prioritize the wall, but many on both sides of the aisle see that as a congressional work-around.

“We’re given the authority to appropriate, and the President is saying, essentially: ‘I don’t like what you’ve appropriated. I’ll just take the money and move it elsewhere,’” Sen. Jack Reed (D-R.I.), the top Democrat on the Senate Armed Services Committee, said, according to Defense News. “We’re setting up for a constitutional issue of significant importance.”

The Senate is expected this week to join the House in passing a resolution that would nullify the emergency declaration, but there is unlikely enough support to override a promised veto.

DOD Releases List of Milcon Projects at Risk for Wall Funding

Posted on Mar 18, 2019 05:41 pm

The Pentagon released a long-awaited list Monday showing which military construction projects are eligible for delay to fund a border wall.

Mick Mulvaney, the acting White House chief of staff and director of the Office of Management and Budget had said as recently as Sunday that there was no list of projects to be cut, as On Base reported.

The document said specific projects have not been selected but weeded out projects that have already been awarded or will be this year, as well as construction on housing, barracks and dorms.

“Now that members of Congress can see the potential impact this proposal could have on projects in their home states, I hope they will take that into consideration before the vote to override the

President's veto," Senate Armed Services Committee ranking member Jack Reed (D-R.I.) said in a statement.

Reed and other Democrats wanted such a list before voting on a resolution to reverse President Trump's national emergency declaration. The President vetoed the resolution, and Congress does not appear to have the votes to override it.

Spencer Wants to Privatize Navy, Marine Corps Lodging

Posted on Mar 18, 2019 05:39 pm

Navy Secretary Richard Spencer is pushing a plan to fully or partially privatize the lodging facilities used for official travel and by some service members during permanent change of station, Military Times reported, quoting from an internal memo.

One DOD source raised questions about timing – with the services scrambling to fix problems with privatized housing.

"Why would we use that model to privatize lodging?" the source said, according to the article.

Still, Spencer cites the "successes" of privatized housing for proposing the model.

"I am committed to realize similar successes by privatizing our lodging portfolio, both appropriated and non-appropriated, using competitive processes to create sustainable financial operations and improve the quality of these facilities," he wrote.

Private management could start by the end of next year under Spencer's approach.



FDA CALENDAR:

Wednesday, March 20th 10 AM EDT

Family Support Working Group Conference Call Meeting

Monday, March 25th 12 Noon EDT

Mission Sustainment Working Group Conference Call Meeting

Call In Number : (800) 501-8979 Access Code: 1869945

FDA Website: www.enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense/

QUOTATIONS OF THE DAY from Legendary Coach John Wooden

“Be more concerned with your character than your reputation, because your character is what you really are, while your reputation is merely what others think you are.”

“If you don’t have time to do it right, when will you have time to do it over?”

“Things turn out best for the people who make the best of the way things turn out.”

“Talent is God given. Be humble. Fame is man-given. Be grateful. Conceit is self-given. Be careful.”



News from the Bases & Regions

Military Mission Line —

Francis Rooney leads Florida congressional delegation in warding off oil rigs

By Jacob Ogles, on March 2, 2019

<https://floridapolitics.com/archives/289756-francis-rooney-oil-rigs>

U.S. Rep. **Francis Rooney** wrote a letter to Interior Secretary **David Bernhardt** demanding oil rigs stay away from Florida waters.

And all 27 House members in the Florida Congressional delegation signed onto the message.

“Our beaches drive Florida’s more than \$100 billion in tourism revenue,” Rooney wrote.

“Coastal communities and businesses — charter boat captains, hotels, restaurants, recreational outlets, tourist services of all types — all depend on a healthy and pristine marine environment. Even the most remote risk or perception thereof undermines our tourism-driven economy.”

That’s especially important for Rooney, a Naples Republican. He represents Florida’s 19th Congressional District, which runs along much of Florida’s Southwestern coast.

But it’s not just the risk of environmental damage. Rooney stressed that important military functions occur in Florida waters.....

Eglin AFB –

A look at the military's impact in Northwest Florida

<https://www.nwfdailynews.com/news/20190309/look-at-militarys-impact-in-northwest-florida>

Northwest Florida Daily News © March 9, 2019

By Savannah Vasquez

If you've lived in Okaloosa, Walton or Santa Rosa counties for any amount of time, you may have noticed that in addition to the appealing Gulf of Mexico, there is another steady denominator: the presence of the U.S. military.

It's apparent when driving across Okaloosa Island, as much of the island has remained in its natural form due to the military's ownership. It's noticeable at popular shopping centers and businesses that offer discounts to both active and former military. Flags honoring the five branches fly at Destin Commons and other businesses, and veteran-owned businesses pepper the area.....

MacDill AFB —

Air Force Secretary visits MacDill, hears families' housing complaints

By Howard Altman, Published March 1, Updated March 1

<https://www.tampabay.com/news/military/air-force-secretary-visits-macdill-hears-families-housing-complaints-20190301/>

TAMPA — Military families who have complained about mold and other issues with the privately-run housing at MacDill Air Force Base were visited Friday by the Air Force's top civilian official. Air Force Secretary Heather Wilson quickly asked the base command staff to leave so the families could speak freely.

Wilson visited MacDill in the wake of *Tampa Bay Times* reports that several families say they have suffered health problems from being exposed to mold in their on-base homes. When the 9 a.m. "listening session" started, a resident expressed concern about being able to speak freely without fear of being retaliated against.....

Tyndall AFB—

Balfour Beatty charts path forward with Tyndall housing destroyed in Hurricane Michael

<https://www.newsherald.com/news/20190317/balfour-beatty-charts-path-forward-with-tyndall-housing-destroyed-in-hurricane-michael>

By ERYN DION, News Herald Reporter

As the United States Air Force touts plans to turn Tyndall Air Force Base into an "air base of the future," real estate company Balfour Beatty has plans to do the same with the base's housing.

Like the base itself, the 867 homes on the 500-acre property fared poorly as the eye of Hurricane Michael passed over on Oct. 10, the 155-mph eyewall winds cutting a 50-mile-wide hole through Bay County. Where Mexico Beach just to the east was swallowed in record-setting storm surge, Tyndall bore the brunt of the historic eyewall winds so strong the equipment used to monitor them malfunctioned.....

Tyndall to share emergency funding in budget plan

<https://www.newsherald.com/news/20190315/tyndall-to-share-emergency-funding-in-budget-plan/1>

By Jim Thompson

News Herald © March 15, 2019

The rebuilding of Tyndall Air Force Base is in line for a share of \$9.2 billion in emergency funding included in the Department of Defense budget proposal for the upcoming fiscal year designated in part for “unspecified military construction to ... rebuild facilities damaged by Hurricanes Florence and Michael.”

Budget documents don't indicate exactly how much of that funding might go to Tyndall, which was all but destroyed when Hurricane Michael made landfall in the eastern Panhandle on Oct. 10 and scored a direct hit on the installation. But in a recent hearing in front of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, John Henderson — the assistant Air Force secretary for installations, environment and energy — put a nearly \$5 billion price tag on rebuilding the base.....

Space Coast —

Space Florida seeks federal grant to replace aging KSC bridge

James Dean, Florida Today Published 12:47 p.m. ET March 4, 2019 | Updated 4:25 p.m. ET March 4, 2019

<https://www.floridatoday.com/story/tech/science/space/2019/03/04/space-florida-seeking-federal-grant-replace-aging-ksc-bridge/3053845002/>

A federal grant could help replace a deteriorating bridge that serves as a critical link for employees, tourists and spacecraft bound for Kennedy Space Center and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station.

The project is urgent because engineering studies show the 55-year-old State Road 405 bridge over the Indian River Lagoon may not be safe for heavy freight and spacecraft to cross as soon as 2021.

Space Florida has applied for a U.S. Department of Transportation grant that would enable construction of a new span to begin in 2021.

The “Infrastructure for Rebuilding America” grant, or INFRA grant, also would support the widening of Space Commerce Way, a key corridor to the KSC Visitor Complex and Exploration Park, a growing space manufacturing hub.

Estimated total project cost: \$165 million.....

Jacksonville —

US Navy awards \$240m IDIQ construction contract at NS Mayport

NAVAL TECHNOLOGY, 4 MARCH 2019

[HTTPS://WWW.NAVAL-TECHNOLOGY.COM/NEWS/US-NAVY-AWARDS-240M-IDIQ-CONSTRUCTION-CONTRACT-AT-NS-MAYPORT/](https://www.naval-technology.com/news/us-navy-awards-240m-idiq-construction-contract-at-ns-mayport/)

The US Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Southeast has awarded contracts to five businesses to deliver construction works for certain projects.

The \$240m indefinite-delivery-indefinite-quantity (IDIQ) design-build multiple award construction contract (IDIQ-MACC) is related to projects at Naval Station (NS) Mayport, Florida, US, and the NAVAC Southeast area of responsibility (AOR).

One of the contracts was awarded to the Archer Western Federal JV to construct the P427 littoral combat ship (LCS) Operational Trainer Facility (LTF) at NS Mayport.

The company is expected to complete the work for the task order by January 2021.

Littoral Combat Ship Squadron Two commander captain Shawn Johnston said: “The LTF provides innovative, immersive, virtual reality training for LCS crews which allow them to be better prepared for the operational scenarios they will encounter at sea.

“It is not surprising that many other ship classes will begin to utilize similar high fidelity simulators. This increased LCS training capacity will allow the 14 LCS expected to call Mayport home.”

Whiting Field —

New flight simulators arrive at Whiting

<https://www.srpressgazette.com/news/20190307/new-flight-simulators-arrive-at-whiting>

Santa Rosa Press Gazette © March 7, 2019

In a ceremony onboard Naval Air Station Whiting Field yesterday, Training Air Wing Five (TW-5) accepted the Navy’s first new TH-57 flight simulator in nearly 40 years. The new simulator is now available for helicopter training operations.

According to Cmdr. Aaron Beattie, TW-5 Rotary Simulator Integration Lead officer, “this simulator represents a significant technology advancement and upgrade to naval aviator training tools. It improves our ability to train student aviators in night vision environments and the simulator displays are a vast improvement over the 1980s technology our current simulators afford.”.....

Tallahassee—

Hire our Heroes Event on FSU Campus

The FSU Career Center and FSU Student Veterans Office is proud to be assisting with a Hire Our Heroes event on March 29. Details for the event can be found at <https://events.hiringourheroes.org/events/north-florida-veterans-career-connection/event-summary-4416a0086fcf4f5b9002cd9ef45cb0c4.aspx>

The event agenda includes:

8:30 AM - 9:00 AM	Registration
9:00 AM - 9:35 AM	Event Kickoff
9:35 AM - 10:15 AM	Interactive Panel Discussion: Perspectives on Transition Bring your civilian employment questions and engage with a panel of local and national employers from a cross-section of industries during a town hall-style discussion.
10:15 AM - 11:00 AM	LinkedIn for Veterans and Military Spouses Unleash the power of LinkedIn with this detailed, veteran- and military spouse-focused workshop. Learn the techniques and tactics to maximize your LinkedIn profile and find out how to access the premium benefits extended to veterans and military spouses.
11:00 AM - 11:40 AM	Compensation & Negotiation Workshop
11:40 AM - 1:00 PM	Lunch and Transition to Hiring Fair
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Hiring Fair Connect with military-ready employers who are prepared to hire now, and make the professional connections you need to grow your network.

NAS Pensacola—

NAS Pensacola host a change of command and retirement ceremony

<https://weartv.com/news/local/big-changes-at-the-national-air-station>

WEAR-TV © March 14, 2019

by Norma Haas

Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola held a Change in Command and Retirement Ceremony Thursday. The event was held at the National Naval Aviation Museum onboard NAS Pensacola. Captain Christopher Mar-



tin turned over his command of the “Cradle of Naval Aviation” to Captain Timothy Kinsella. Martin then Retired from the U.S. Navy of which he had served for more than thirty-five years.....



Spotlight on Avon Park Air Force Range

The Avon Park Air Force Range (APAFR), is a 106,000-acre United States Air Force air-to-ground training complex located in Polk and Highlands Counties approximately 65 miles east of Tampa and east of the city of Avon Park. In addition to two tactical ranges and two conventional ranges, APAFR also has an 8,000 ft runway with aircraft arresting cables and is approved for VFR operations.

The host unit for APAFR is the 598th Range Squadron, which is a geographically separated unit of the 23d Fighter Group and 23d Wing, the latter being an Air Combat Command composite fighter and rescue wing located at Moody Air Force Base, Georgia. The Florida Army National Guard also maintains a permanent ground support facility at APAFR.

APAFR serves as the primary air-to-ground training range for the 482nd Fighter Wing at Homestead Air Reserve Base, Florida, and an alternate range for the 23rd Wing's 23rd Fighter Group at Moody Air Force Base, Georgia. APAFR is also an important range for military air-to-ground operations originating from nearby Patrick AFB and MacDill AFB, which routinely host numerous squadron/unit level deployments from Active and Reserve USAF, USN, USMC and U.S. Army units, to include Army National Guard and Air National Guard, from across the country to practice air-to-ground operations. Training and readiness requirements in low level flights, night vision training, and the firing/release of various of ordnance and weaponry across the full spectrum of Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps and Army assets, can all be readily employed on the APAFR.





**Commander
LTC Dale A. Stark**

Lt Col Stark is the Commander of the 598th Range Squadron, Avon Park Air Force Range (AFR), Florida.

Lt Col Stark received his commission from AFROTC in 2003. He graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in history from Charleston Southern University. In 2010, he completed a Masters of Business Administration degree from Marylhurst University, graduating Cum Laude.

Lt Col Stark is a senior pilot with more than 2,800 hours. He has flown more than 300 combat hours in the A-10 and more than 900 combat support hours with the MQ-9 in operation Enduring Freedom, and has been qualified as an instructor and evaluator pilot in both aircraft.



Did You Know?

US Air Force A-10 Thunderbolt (commonly referred to as the Warthog)

General characteristics

Primary function: close air support, airborne forward air control, combat search and rescue

Contractor: Fairchild Republic Co.

Power plant: two General Electric TF34-GE-100 turbofans

Thrust: 9,065 pounds each engine

Wingspan: 57 feet, 6 inches (17.42 meters)

Length: 53 feet, 4 inches (16.16 meters)

Height: 14 feet, 8 inches (4.42 meters)

Weight: 29,000 pounds (13,154 kilograms) Maximum Takeoff Weight: 51,000 pounds (22,950 kilograms) Fuel Capacity: 11,000 pounds (7,257 kilograms)

Payload: 16,000 pounds (7,257 kilograms)

Speed: 450 nautical miles per hour (Mach 0.75)

Range: 2580 miles (2240 nautical miles)

Ceiling: 45,000 feet (13,636 meters)

Armament: one 30 mm GAU-8/A seven-barrel Gatling gun; up to 16,000 pounds (7,200 kilograms) of mixed ordnance on eight under-wing and three under-fuselage pylon stations, including 500 pound (225 kilograms) Mk-82 and 2,000 pounds (900 kilograms) Mk-84 series low/high drag bombs, incendiary cluster bombs, combined effects munitions, mine dispensing munitions, AGM-65 Maverick missiles and laser-guided/electro-optically guided bombs; infrared countermeasure flares; electronic countermeasure chaff; jammer pods; 2.75-inch (6.99 centimeters) rockets; illumination flares and AIM-9 Sidewinder missiles.

Crew: one

Unit cost: \$18.8 million



1) The A-10 is the only US Air Force production aircraft solely designed for close air support of ground forces.

2) The A-10's cockpit is surrounded by a 1,200 pound titanium "bathtub" to protect the pilot.

3) The A-10 carries the heaviest automatic cannon ever mounted on an aircraft, the 30 mm GAU-8/A Avenger. The gun is approximately 16% of the aircraft's weight.

4) The wing and tail leading edges are made with a honeycomb panel design, making them more resistant to battle

damage.

5) Many A-10s have a false canopy painted on the belly of the aircraft to confuse enemy forces about the attitude of the aircraft.

6) The front landing gear is offset to allow room for the 30mm cannon.

7) The ailerons are significantly larger than most aircraft, making the A-10 highly maneuverable at slow speeds.

- 8) The main landing gear wheels stick out from the nacelles even when they are retracted, causing less damage to the aircraft if it has to land gear-up.
- 9) The aircraft is designed to fly with one engine, one tail, one elevator, and half of one wing missing.
- 10) The high-mounted engines are angled upward 9 degrees to prevent the aircraft from pitching down.
- 11) The 30 mm gun shoots depleted uranium shells at a rate of *3,900 rounds per minute*.
- 12) The A-10's first air-to-air victory was in 1991 – it shot down a helicopter with the GAU-8 cannon.
- 13) In total, over 700 A-10s have been produced. And with tens of thousands of missions flown over 37 years, it's the most successful close air support aircraft of all time.



POSTER OF THE DAY:



A-10 THUNDERBOLT

When you absolutely, positively must have something destroyed.

fakeposters.com

NOTES FROM THE STAFF

Thanks for such a great attendance at the ADC conference in Miami. The Florida panel was a great success. Special thanks to Kellie Jo Kilberg, Admiral Mark Fitzgerald, Terry McCaffrey Jim Heald, Steve Williamson and Buck MacLaughlin for their outstanding presentations. We are looking forward our FDA conference calls this week. Staff wants to thank all the dedicated members of the Florida Defense Alliance for all you do on a daily basis to support your military communities and keep Florida the most military friendly state in the nation!

Florida Defense Alliance Leadership

Chair – Kellie Jo Kilberg

Vice Chair – Tim Jones

Mission Sustainment Working Group Chair – Mike Jones

Family Support Working Group Chair – Lynn Brannon

Executive Board: Jonathan Borgert, Jennifer Codo-Salisbury and Paul Hirsch

Photos from the Northwest Florida and Space Coast DC Fly-Ins







Florida Defense Alliance Newsletter

April 3, 2019

FDA Vision: To maintain and enhance the position and reputation of Florida as the most military-friendly state in the nation.

NEWS

Governor Ron DeSantis Attends Task Force Meeting – Florida Governor Ron DeSantis attended the March Task Force meeting and provided his guidance for the Task Force. The Governor noted his top three priorities for military and defense are 1) to remain the most military and veteran friendly state in the country by concentrating on being the best on quality of services for our service members and veterans, 2) protect our active duty component and installations because it is good for Florida and more importantly, for national security, and 3) increase defense industry in the state including creating a workforce that is ready to fill jobs that support our installations and military missions / equipment our force need. The Governor also noted that he is very committed to rebuilding Tyndall, protecting the Gulf range from oil drilling and getting the US Space Force to Florida. Finally, the Governor thanked the Task Force and the Florida Defense Alliance for our work and asked that we continue our momentum.

Space Command – The Governor has tasked Space Florida with the mission of acquiring the new Space Command HQ to Florida. The Florida Defense Support Task Force is working with Space Florida on this issue. There will be a Space Command Summit on May 5, 2019 to bring together stakeholders to brainstorm and develop messages and strategies to make this happen.

Rep. Thad Altman Appointed to the Florida Defense Support Task Force -- The Speaker of the House appointed Representative Thad Altman from the Space Coast to the Florida Defense Support Task Force.

Veterans Event “Forward March” – Last Friday, the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs (FDVA) held a veterans summit at USF in Tampa focused on better assisting veterans in Florida. FDVA Executive Director Danny Burgess, a JAG officer in the Army Reserve, hosted the event that was attended by the Governor and First Lady. Both FDA and the Task Force were well-represented at this event.

General Raymond Tapped to Lead Space Command -- President Donald Trump has nominated Air Force Gen. Jay Raymond to lead the new U.S. Space Command. Raymond leads the Air Force’s Space Command, based at Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado, and is the Pentagon’s top official with a focus only on space. He will continue to lead Air Force Space Command while taking on this new role.

Rebuilding of Tyndall AFB – Hurricane Michael hit Tyndall AFB in October and caused immense destruction of the base. The Air Force has begun the rebuilding it into the “Base of the Future” – including basing 3 squadrons of F-35s -- and has already put over \$700 million into the effort – but cannot continue to fund this out of their current funds. The overall price tag for the rebuild is approximately \$5 Billion and that requires a supplemental DOD funding. Air Force has requested this supplemental, but the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has still not forwarded this to Congress. 2 disaster supplemental bills have passed the House

**ENTERPRISE
FLORIDA**

with 1 now being considered in the Senate. Tyndall funding could be provided as part of the disaster assistance funding – however, that funding has not yet been requested by the OMB.

House Moves Forward on Three Military Friendly Bills – The House has voted to move favorably in two committees on HB 1379 which is a resolution to support an indefinite extension on the moratorium on Oil Drilling and Exploration in the Gulf of Mexico. Last week, the Senator Hooper filed a companion resolution in the Senate; SB 1820 Moratorium on Drilling in the Gulf of Mexico. The House Local, Federal & Veterans Affairs Subcommittee heard and favorably approved Committee Substitute (CS) to HB 891 which was a truncated version of the bill filed by Representative Ponder which contains four important provisions that support military members and their families. Several military friendly provisions were stripped from the original bill including the provision requested by USSOUTHCOM to limit the rental contract deposit that hurt military members in south Florida. Finally, House Memorial (HM) 1281 by Representative Siros moved through its first committee favorably. The Memorial urges “Congress to support the creation of the United States Space Force and establishment of the Space Force and the United States Space Command in Florida”.

Florida Officially Losing F-22 Training to Virginia – After Hurricane Michael, Tyndall’s F-22 training program moved to Eglin temporarily due to close proximity to the undamaged simulator systems still at Tyndall. Due to a push from Virginia to gain the mission, the Air Force has announced the move to Virginia. The Air Force has identified Joint Base Langley-Eustis in Hampton, Virginia, as its preferred site for the formal pilot and maintenance training unit for the F-22 Raptor fighter jet, a mission relocated from Tyndall Air Force Base after Hurricane Michael. The move is a loss of “31 Raptors, 18 T-38 Talons (jet trainers used to train F-22 pilots in aerial combats) and hundreds of Air Force personnel” that had moved to Eglin which will now leave Florida. The loss is promised to be filled with F-35 and MQ-9 Reapers if funding is found to rebuild the base.

Navy Region Southeast is Addressing Compatible Wind Energy – Alternative energy programs like wind and solar farms are outstanding opportunities for clean energy production, but large wind energy facilities can also cause issues for military operations especially around airfields. Navy Region Southeast is working to help Florida and other southern states create state statutes that limit the impact to military installations and missions due to industrial wind energy facilities. According to Navy Region Southeast, “The singular message is - Navy Region Southeast has been tasked by OSD and Navy leadership to initiate service coordination and discussion regarding development of state legislation addressing compatible siting for industrial scale wind energy facilities in Florida.” Several documents on wind energy compatibility with military missions in Florida were sent to FDA members last week.

Florida Defense Exchange –Florida moving forward rapidly on creating the Florida Defense Exchange – focused on helping small businesses compete for defense contracts. This is an EFI initiative working with DEO. The Simple Vue out of Atlanta has already begun work putting together a plan for this exchange.. We have included partners from the Florida Defense Contractors Association and the SBDC and PTAC to ensure this portal is user friendly. This is the same company that set up the Georgia Defense Exchange over a year ago. Funding for this interactive portal was provided by DOD. This exchange is intended to assist small businesses compete for Federal defense contracts in Florida. We expect this exchange to be up and running by the end of August.

Military, Defense and Veterans Opportunities Summit – August 13-14 – The Florida Chamber has just announced the dates for their annual Military, Defense and Veterans Opportunities Summit to be held in Jacksonville on August 13-14, 2019. More details available at: https://www.flchamber.com/event_post/military-defense-veterans-opportunity-summit/

Governor’s Base Commander Meeting – Governor DeSantis will hold his first Base Commander Meeting on June 12, 2019 at Camp Blanding.

From ADC:

The Latest on the Space Force

Posted on Mar 31, 2019 02:58 pm

- Acting Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan will nominate leaders to run the proposed Space Force within “weeks, not months,” he said last week, according to [Defense News](#). Shanahan said he has potential nominees in mind.
- House Armed Services Chairman Adam Smith (D-Wash.) said the administration’s Space Force proposal is “highly problematic” and that his committee will explore “other options,” according to [Space News](#).
- The Senate Armed Services Committee will hold the first full-scale hearing about the proposal April 11, Sen. Deb Fischer (R-Neb.) announced, according to [Space Policy Online](#). The hearing has not yet been officially announced on the committee’s schedule.
- [Air Force Technology](#) provides an overview of what is known so far about the proposed Space Force.

DOD Addressing PFAS Contamination in Communities ‘If We Are the Known Source’

Posted on Mar 28, 2019 07:49 pm

- Leaders from the Pentagon and the Environmental Protection Agency reassured lawmakers Thursday that their agencies are doing everything they can to address PFAS-contaminated water.
- DOD is maintaining the appropriate levels of the chemicals in on-base drinking water and is now focused on groundwater on installations and in communities, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Environment Maureen Sullivan told the Senate Public Works and Environment Committee.
- “We have been very aggressive to go out and look, where we are the known source [of PFAS contaminants] off the base,” Sullivan said. “And if we are the known source off the base, we are installing treatment systems, hooking homeowners up to municipal treatment systems.”
- “We’re going to stay on top of this, and hopefully at the end of the day DOD and EPA will be doing their jobs clearly with the kind of conviction we’re anxious to see and hear,” Sen. Tom Carper (D-Del.) told CQ after the hearing.

Hill AFB, Naval Station Key West, Fort Hood Top DOD List of Installations at Risk from Climate Change

Posted on Mar 28, 2019 07:48 pm

The Pentagon has updated its list of top military installations at the most risk from extreme weather events over the next 20 years. DOD sent the list in a letter last week to Rep. Jim Langevin (D-R.I.), who chairs the House Armed Services subcommittee on intelligence, emerging threats and capabil-

ities.

The top bases on the list include Hill Air Force Base, Utah; Naval Station Key West, Fla.; and Fort Hood, Texas, according to [The Hill](#).

The list “includes scoring and weighting of the five climate-related hazards (recurrent flooding, wild-fire, drought, desertification and permafrost thaw) based on the immediacy of the threat,” Ellen Lord, undersecretary of defense for acquisition and sustainment, wrote in the letter, which Langevin released this week.

The updated at-risk list is in response to Democratic lawmakers’ questions for more detailed information after a broader Pentagon climate change report Jan. 17 that they said was not comprehensive enough, as reported by [On Base](#).

Senate Disaster Aid Bill Includes \$2 Billion for Tyndall Cleanup

Posted on Mar 27, 2019 07:55 pm

Senate Republican appropriators included \$2 billion in a proposed disaster aid package for the military to rebuild from severe hurricane damage last fall. The overall relief package for \$13.45 billion is in limbo after President Trump questioned the funding it includes for Puerto Rico, according to [Politico](#).

The aid package released Tuesday by Sen. Richard Shelby (R-Ala.) includes a total \$1.1 billion to the Air Force with \$400 million for Hurricane Michael damage at Tyndall Air Force, Fla., in October. Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point and Camp Lejeune, N.C., would see \$315 million for Hurricane Florence damage, according to a [Defense News](#) report.

The Pentagon has requested \$9 billion for recent storm damage, as reported by [On Base](#).

The Air Force said Wednesday that almost \$5 billion will be needed to rebuild Tyndall and recover from flooding damage to Offutt Air Force Base, Neb., according to [Defense News](#).

Shelby’s proposal does not appear to address Offutt damages.

The Air Force warned if it doesn’t receive \$1.2 billion by June, it will reduce projects and pilot training hours at Tyndall and Offutt.

“We desperately need the supplemental funding to recover from the natural disasters that hammered Tyndall and Offutt,” Air Force Secretary Heather Wilson said at a Heritage Foundation event. “There are other decisions we’ll have to make if we don’t [have supplemental funding] by May or June.”

AEI: Air Force Most at Risk of Losing Milcon Money for Border Wall

Posted on Mar 25, 2019 04:05 pm

A new interactive map from the American Enterprise Institute shows which military construction projects are most likely to have their funding impacted by the President’s order to build a border wall. AEI’s analysis said the Air Force would likely be hit the hardest.

It also said the bulk of the projects at risk of being delayed are in just 15 states and Puerto Rico, but 15 other states also have projects on the at-risk list.

FDA CALENDAR:

Wednesday, May 15, 2019

FDA In-Person Meeting

Four Points by Sheraton Tallahassee Downtown

FDA Website: www.enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense/

QUOTATIONS OF THE DAY on Passion

"Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world."

---Harriet Tubman

"You have to be burning with "an idea, or a problem, or a wrong that you want to right." If you're not passionate enough from the start, you'll never stick it out."

--- Steve Jobs



News from the Bases & Regions

Governor Ron DeSantis Meets with the Florida Defense Support Task Force

News Release by Staff, 3-28-2019

<https://www.flgov.com/2019/03/28/governor-ron-desantis-meets-with-the-florida-defense-support-task-force/>

Today, Governor Ron DeSantis joined the Florida Defense Support Task Force and spoke at their monthly meeting in Tallahassee.

“It was great to speak with the Florida Defense Support Task Force this morning to discuss ways we can continue to lead within the military industry,” **said Governor DeSantis.** “By keeping our bases strong, recruiting private businesses and remaining the most military-friendly state in the nation for our active service members and veterans, we can ensure Florida remains in front of this important industry.”

The Florida Defense Support Task Force was created in 2011 with the mission to make recommendations to preserve and protect military installations, support the state’s position in research and development related to military missions and contracting, and improve the state’s military-friendly environment for service members, military families, veterans and businesses that bring military and defense-related jobs to the state.....

Florida National Guard —

New Adjutant General of Florida

Maj. Gen. James O. Eifert has just been named by Governor DeSantis as the next Adjutant General of Florida. His previous assignment was as the Air National Guard Assistant to the Commander, Pacific Air Forces, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.

General Eifert received his commission from the United States Air Force Academy in June 1982. Following undergraduate pilot training, he flew operational fighter tours in the F-4 and F-15 before joining the Hawaii Air National Guard in 1991. After graduating from the prestigious United States Air Force Fighter Weapons School in December 1992, General Eifert led the first-ever Air National Guard F-15 combat mission policing the Northern Iraq no-fly zone during Operation Provide Comfort. In 1995 he joined the 125th Fighter Wing as the first F-15 Chief, Weapons and Tactics. As the Operations Officer, General Eifert executed the Wing's inaugural F-15 deployment to a combat zone during Operation Northern Watch in 1998 followed by the first Air Expeditionary Force rainbow deployment during Operation Southern Watch in 2000. As Wing Commander, 125th Fighter Wing, he guided the 1,100 member organization during the continuing Operation Noble Eagle and Overseas Contingency Operations missions while simultaneously serving as the Air Dominance Weapons Systems Council Chairman working F-15/F-22 issues and concerns nationwide. General Eifert served as the National Strategic Planning System Force Structure Committee Chairman responsible for advising the Deputy Director of the Air National Guard on roles and missions. He also routinely performed Deputy Combined Force Air Component Commander duty for the Commander Continental North American Aerospace Defense Command Region overseeing the conduct of full spectrum air and space operations over the continental U.S., Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. Prior to his assignment in Hawaii, General Eifert was the Assistant Adjutant General - Air and Commander, Florida Air National Guard.



MAJOR GENERAL
JAMES O. EIFERT

Hurlburt Field –

Matt Gaetz Cheers Trump Calling for \$125 Million for Air Force Military Construction in the Panhandle

<https://www.floridadaily.com/matt-gaetz-cheers-trump-calling-for-125-million-for-air-force-military-construction-in-the-panhandle/>

Florida Daily © March 19, 2019

U.S. Rep. Matt Gaetz, R-Fla., a key ally of the White House, is behind **President Donald Trump's** proposal to send \$124.8 million for Air Force Special Operations Command Military Construction in the Panhandle. Gaetz sits on the U.S. House Armed Services Committee.

“President Trump has once again proven his deep and abiding commitment to the United States Armed Forces, especially Northwest Florida’s military mission,” Gaetz said on Monday. “This proposed budget includes \$124.8 million for Air Force Special Operations in Northwest Florida. This is a tremendous victory for Florida’s First Congressional District, which remains America’s preeminent location for military training, testing, and development. I’m proud to have worked closely with President Trump in order to ensure our airmen will have the facilities they need to accomplish their missions.”.....

Space Coast —

House Memorial Urges Congress to Make Florida Home to U.S. Space Force

By SUNSHINE STATE NEWS, March 26, 2019 - 2:45pm

<http://www.sunshinestatenews.com/story/house-memorial-urges-congress-make-florida-home-us-space-force>

House Memorial 1281 by Rep. Tyler Sirois, R-Cocoa, passed the first of its two committees of reference with unanimous support today. The memorial requests Congress to approve the creation of the United States Space Force and the establishment of the Space Force and United States Space Command in Florida. It follows a recent White House proposal by President Donald Trump, and Gov. Ron DeSantis’ call for the Space Force to be headquartered in Florida.

“The United States and Florida are positioned as global leaders in commercial aerospace,” stated Sirois to members of the House Local, Federal and Veterans Affairs Subcommittee. “With Florida’s spaceport infrastructure, deep-water seaports, and partnerships with NASA, the 45th Space Wing and the other three combatant commands located in Florida, we are the best choice for the headquarters of U.S. Space Command.”

Last month the president signed Space Policy Directive-4, which sets the framework for the establishment of a sixth branch of the Armed Forces through the development of a legislative proposal to be considered by the United States Congress. The Space Force would be a part of the United States Air Force. Its Space Command headquarters would become Florida’s fourth military command, joining U.S. Central Command and U.S. Special Operations Command, both in Tampa, and U.S. Southern Command in Doral.....

Tyndall AFB—

Balfour Beatty charts path forward with Tyndall housing destroyed in Hurricane Michael

By ERYN DION,

<https://www.newsherald.com/news/20190317/balfour-beatty-charts-path-forward-with-tyndall-housing-destroyed-in-hurricane-michael>

News Herald © March 17, 2019

As the United States Air Force touts plans to turn Tyndall Air Force Base into an “air base of the future,” real estate company Balfour Beatty has plans to do the same with the base’s housing.

Like the base itself, the 867 homes on the 500-acre property fared poorly as the eye of Hurricane Michael passed over on Oct. 10, the 155-mph eyewall winds cutting a 50-mile-wide hole through Bay County. Where Mexico Beach just to the east was swallowed in record-setting storm surge, Tyndall bore the brunt of the historic eyewall winds so strong the equipment used to monitor them malfunctioned.

Earlier this month, Balfour Beatty submitted its plan to repair and restore the base’s housing to the Air Force and the senior lender for the project for approval. Total restoration would take about two years but, if all goes to plan, the first homes could open back up by the fall.....

NSA Panama City —

Leadership changes hands at Naval Support Activity Panama City

<https://www.newsherald.com/news/20190318/leadership-changes-hands-at-naval-support-activity-panama-city>

New Herald © March 18, 2019

By COLLIN BREAUX , News Herald Reporter

Leadership of Naval Support Activity Panama City changed hands Tuesday during a change of command ceremony.

Incoming Commanding Officer Kevin Christenson took over from outgoing Commanding Officer Jay Sego in front of employees and personnel from NSA PC and its units, families and loved ones and community partners. Christenson most recently was the executive officer for Naval Surface Warfare Center Panama City Division, one of the tenant units at NSA PC. Sego’s next duty station is with Commander, Navy Installations Command in Washington, D.C.....

Whiting Field —

Escambia County Celebrates NOLF-8 Land Exchange

<http://www.northescambia.com/2019/04/escambia-county-celebrates-nolf-8-land-exchange>

April 2, 2019

Escambia County marked the land transfer and future of Naval Outlying Landing Field Site 8 with a ceremony on Monday in Beulah.

County residents received approximately 635 acres of prime property to utilize for improvements in the heart of the growing Beulah community while the Navy received a new training field in Santa Rosa County.

The National Defense Authorization Act in 2015 that authorize the land exchange. In 2016, the land exchange agreement was formalized with the intention to transfer the property at NOLF Site 8 to Escambia County, in exchange for a suitable replacement.

Escambia County purchased land in Santa Rosa County and began construction in 2016 on what is now called OLF-X. Naval Facilities Southeast Region in Jacksonville,

Navy Installations Command and Whiting Field coordinated with Escambia County to ensure requirements for the training mission at NAS Whiting Field were met for the new outlying field. On January 29, the deeds were exchanged, finalizing the transfer. NAS Whiting Field opened Naval Outlying Landing Field-X for flight training operations on January 30.....



MacDill AFB—

From 75th Ranger Regiment to the Pentagon, Gen. Clarke now helms SOCOM

https://www.armytimes.com/news/your-army/2019/04/02/from-75th-ranger-regiment-to-the-pentagon-gen-clarke-now-helms-socom/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ebb%2003.04.19&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief

Army Times © April 2, 2019

By: Kyle Rempfer

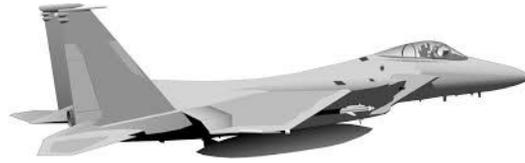
Gen. Richard D. Clarke took control of U.S. Special Operations Command from Gen. Raymond A. Thomas III during a change of command ceremony in Tampa, Florida, on Friday.

Clarke, 56, is coming to SOCOM from his role as the director for strategic plans and policy, joint staff at the Pentagon, Washington, D.C. He has led soldiers in five different divisions, the 173rd Airborne Brigade, and the 75th Ranger Regiment in Europe, Iraq, Afghanistan and state-side, according to a command news release.



Acting Secretary of Defense Patrick M. Shanahan and Army Gens. Raymond A. Thomas III and Richard D. Clarke prepare for the U.S. Special Operations Command change of command ceremony March 29, 2019 in Tampa, Fla. (Michael Bottoms)

He also served six years in the 75th Ranger Regiment as a company commander from 1994 to 1996, battalion commander from 2004 to 2006 and regimental commander from 2007 to 2009, according to the release.....



Spotlight on Corry Station

Corry Station is part of NAS Pensacola

History of Corry Station

The original Corry Field, initially Kiwanis Field, had its beginning in 1923 in a remote area north of Pensacola, Florida, with relocation to its present site in 1928. The station honors Medal of Honor recipient LCDR William M. Corry, Jr., USN.



In its beginning, Corry Field was an active aviation training complex where advanced fighter plane techniques were taught. In 1943, the field was re-designated as Naval Auxiliary Air Station Corry Field, continuing to serve as a training center for student Naval Aviators through World War II and during the Korean War and Cold War, until its decommissioning as an active airfield in June 1958.



The site saw its metamorphosis from flight training to technical training in 1960, when the first class of Navy enlisted Communications Technicians (their rating insignia indicated by a feather pen crossed by a spark; later known as Cryptologic Technicians) arrived. During this time, the installation was known as Naval Communications Training Center Corry Field. Hangars were converted into classrooms and laboratories that were stocked with communications training equipment. To reflect this change, the Chief of Naval Operations changed the name of Corry Field to Naval Technical Training Center Corry Station in 1973. NTTC Corry Station was among the first Navy technical schools to be accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and this accreditation certified that the instruction offered at NTTC and students could receive college-level credit for completed courses.

In 2003, Naval Technical Training Center Corry Station officially became the Center for Cryptology Corry Station, as part of the Chief of Naval Operations establishment of Navy Learning Centers in support of the Revolution in Training.

In 2005, Center for Cryptology Corry Station and the Center for Information Technology San Diego merged to become the **Center for Information Dominance Corry Station**.

In 2007, the Center for Information Dominance Corry Station is home to itself, as well as the Center for Information Dominance Unit Corry Station.

As of 2015, the Center for Information Dominance Corry Station is now known by its parent command of Naval Air Station Pensacola as well as its own name.

The Information Warfare Training Command (IWTC) Corry Station is the Navy's Learning Center that leads, manages and delivers Navy and joint force training in Intelligence, Information Warfare, Cryptology and Information Technology. Originally chartered by the Chief of Naval Operations to align the training responsibilities for the key disciplines of Information Dominance, their current mission is to provide the fleet with the optimally trained Sea and Joint force warriors who can deftly operate within the Information Domain to create both kinetic and non-kinetic advantage." IWTC now administers over 168 courses to students all around the globe, training more than 24,000 service members per year with a staff of nearly 1,300 military, civilian and contracted staff. IWTC Corry Station is one of four commands for the Center for Information Warfare Training (CIWT), a learning center for Naval Education and Training Command.

In July 2016, the name of our enterprise evolved from Center for Information Dominance (CID) to CIWT to emphasize a shift in thinking of information warfare as a critical capability of the Navy's mission sets. Our command name changed from CID Unit Corry Station to IWTC Corry Station.

Other Tenant Units at Corry Station:

- Navy Information Operations Command (NIOC)
- Navy's Center for Language, Regional Expertise, and Culture (CLREC)
- U S Army Reserve - 350th Civil Affairs Command
- U S Air Force - 316th Training Squadron, Operating Location -Alpha
- Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
- Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS)



*The
Commons
at
Corry Station*



★
★ **NOTES FROM THE STAFF** ★
★

★ Thank you to all the dedicated members of the Florida Defense Alliance for all you do on a daily ★
★ basis to support your military communities and keep Florida the most military friendly state in ★
★ the nation! Your work on behalf of Florida’s military installations and missions truly makes a ★
★ difference. The relationships you build with our base personnel are keys to solving problems and ★
★ assisting our service members and their families. Keep up the great work! ★
★

★
★ **Florida Defense Alliance Leadership** ★
★

Chair – Kellie Jo Kilberg

Vice Chair – Tim Jones

Mission Sustainment Working Group Chair – Mike Jones

Family Support Working Group Chair – Lynn Brannon

Executive Board: Jonathan Borgert, Jennifer Codo-Salisbury and Paul Hirsch



Florida Defense Alliance Newsletter

April 17, 2019

FDA Vision: To maintain and enhance the position and reputation of Florida as the most military-friendly state in the nation.

NEWS

Governor Signs Extension of Interstate Compact – Last week, the Governor signed SB21 which extends Military Interstate Children’s Compact till 2022. The Compact deals with the challenges of military children and their frequent relocations. It allows for uniform treatment as military children transfer between school districts in member states.

Governor’s Initiative to Provide Pro Bono Legal Services to Military Members – At the FDVA Forward March event in Tampa on March 29th, Governor DeSantis announced an initiative that will draw from the talent of Florida’s major law firms to provide pro bono services for military members. This program is expected to formally announced in the very near future.

DOD Report on Bases Most Affected by Climate Change -- Some of the military’s largest and well-known bases are directly threatened by climate change and its effects, according to a new report from the Defense Department. The report assesses the current and potential threat to the top 10 bases most vulnerable to climate change in the United States for each military service. Potential threats are defined as likely to happen within the next 20 years. The report can be downloaded at: <https://federalnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Updated-Ranking-of-Installations.pdf>

Florida Defense Exchange –Florida moving forward rapidly on creating the Florida Defense Exchange – focused on helping small businesses compete for defense contracts. This is an EFI initiative working with DEO. The Simple Vue out of Atlanta has already begun work putting together a plan for this exchange.. We have included partners from the Florida Defense Contractors Association and the SBDC and PTAC to ensure this portal is user friendly. This is the same company that set up the Georgia Defense Exchange over a year ago. Funding for this interactive portal was provided by DOD. This exchange is intended to assist small businesses compete for Federal defense contracts in Florida. We expect this exchange to be up and running by the end of August.

RFP for 2019 Economic Impact Analysis Posted – The RFP for the 2019 Economic Impact Analysis has been posted on both the FDA and Task Force web sites. Proposals are due no later than 5 PM EDT on April 30, 2019. This updated economic impact analysis provides the data for the Florida Defense FactBook.

American Forces Travel: New Travel Service for Military Members and Veterans – Service members, veterans and their families now have a one-stop shop for finding and booking travel with military discounts. The Department of Defense has teamed up with Priceline to create a travel booking site exclusively for U.S. Military members. American Forces Travel is a new Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) program arising out of a joint service initiative combining the efforts of each of the five branches of service and MWR. Military personnel, retirees and their family members now have access to an exclusive discount travel website managed by Priceline.

ENTERPRISE
FLORIDA

- Authorized Patrons Today:
- All current Active Duty military (Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard)
- All members of the Reserve components and National Guard
- All Retired Military, including those in the Reserves and National Guard who are retirement eligible
- All Medal of Honor recipients and 100% disabled veterans
- All Department of Defense civilians serving outside the United States, including appropriated funds (APF) employees and non-appropriated funds (NAF) employees
- American Red Cross and United Service Organizations (USO) paid-personnel currently serving outside the United States
- All eligible family members who are officially sponsored (ID card holder) by patrons in the above categories

In addition to dramatically enhancing quality of life for the military community, American Forces Travel will inject critical revenue into MWR programs by providing commissions from every booking made. American Forces Travel is a full-service travel booking site, offering hotel, flight, car rental and cruise deals as well as bundled or package deals.

For more information head to: <https://www.americanforcestravel.com/>

Colonel (Ret) Terry McCaffrey Leaving Enterprise Florida – Terry McCaffrey will be leaving his position as the Executive Director of the Florida Defense Support Task Force effective May 3, 2019. Terry will be taking a new position in Emergency Management within Volunteer Florida. In his new position, Terry will continue to serve the citizens of Florida as he coordinates disaster relief efforts. Terry has done an outstanding job as the Executive Director of the Florida Defense Support Task Force and we will miss him greatly. We wish him good luck and Godspeed as he takes on another important position for Florida.

From ADC:

Space Command Finalist List Includes Installations in Colorado, Alabama, California

Posted on Apr 08, 2019 07:54 pm

An Air Force memorandum obtained by CNN lists the six military bases that could house the proposed U.S. Space Command.

The list includes four proposed locations in Colorado and two others in Alabama and California. The Colorado locations are Buckley Air Force Base, Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station, Peterson Air Force Base, and Schriever Air Force Base.

The Army's Redstone Arsenal in Alabama, and Vandenberg Air Force Base in California are the other proposed finalists.

The list is expected to disappoint Florida lawmakers who had advocated for the new command to be located there. Florida Republicans Sen. Marco Rubio and Rep. Michael Waltz had publicly urged DOD leaders to locate the command in their home state.

DOD Officials Talk Space to Industry, Congress

Posted on Apr 09, 2019 06:31 pm

DOD officials have dubbed the next few days "Space Week," culminating with a Senate Armed Service Committee hearing Thursday morning. Developments leading up to this week's testimony include:

- Acting Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan, Air Force Secretary Heather Wilson, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David Goldfein, and head of the Air Force Space Command Gen. John Raymond are in Colorado Springs, Colo., at the annual Space Symposium, Defense One reports.
- In Space Symposium remarks Tuesday Shanahan said the U.S. needs to “grow our margin of dominance in space to protect our \$19 trillion economy and ensure access for our warfighter.” He said the U.S. is in an era of “great power competition, and the next major conflict may be won or lost in space.”
- Rep. Mike Turner (R-Ohio), ranking member of the House Armed Services Strategic Forces Subcommittee, has qualified his position on the proposed Space Force. “I’m not opposed to undertaking a separate space function under the Air Force; I just want to make certain we do it right,” he told Defense News. “What we proposed before was haphazard, and what we have an opportunity to do now is very thoughtful undertaking to try to advance our operations and our acquisitions of space assets.”
- Rep. Jim Cooper (D-Tenn.), one of the one of the architects of a Space Corps proposal that has become the model for the Space Force, still supports the proposal but wants more congressional involvement. “I had always wanted a space capability within the Air Force,” Cooper told Defense News. “We did not want it to be outside the Air Force; we want to play nicely with others, and it’s a graduated process. I think one day it will be an entirely separate department, but not in the short run.”
- Air Force Technology provides an overview of what is known so far about the proposed Space Force.

SASC Lawmakers Raise Doubts About Space Force Proposal

Posted on Apr 11, 2019 07:57 pm

Senators from both parties repeatedly questioned senior DOD officials Thursday about whether adding a sixth branch of the military would improve space operations. The Senate Armed Forces Committee meeting was the first formal hearing on the administration’s Space Force proposal, The Hill reported.

“When we first heard about the proposal, I asked two simple questions: What will the organization fix, and how much will it cost?” Chairman Jim Inhofe (R-Okla.) said in an opening statement. “It has come out of the administration that this is going to be a \$2 billion program. So, for my purposes, I’m going to assume that’s right. But I’m still waiting for the answer for the other question.”

Ranking member Jack Reed (D-R.I.) also questioned if a new branch would counter increasing space threats.

“I fully agree that the threat is real and that changes need to be made to better address the threat,” Reed said. “However, creating a new branch of the Armed Forces for the first time in 70 years is not a decision Congress should make lightly.”

DOD leaders argued a Space Force is inevitable as Russia and China will militarize space in the future.

“Five years from now is going to look much different,” Acting Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan said. “I think sometimes we look through the lens of today and we extrapolate going forward.”

If approved by Congress, the Space Force headquarters would be created in 90 days, and the service would be operational by 2024, Air Force Secretary Heather Wilson told the committee.

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

When was the last time you had a big “a-ha” moment? I ask as you interact with your military installation and community to find that “a-ha” moment. When we share best practices, challenges and opportunities are we looking for “a-ha” or are we just taking notes and not connecting the dots back to our local communities and installations? To be innovative and forward thinking, we need to be looking for that “a-ha” moment.

As we finalize the agenda for the May 15th FDA meeting, if you have an “a-ha” you would like to share or want more information, please let us know. Invite others to the meeting to be engaged in our conversations so we can share and leverage the brain power to be creative in our partnerships to address the challenges and opportunities. Congratulations to Lynda Weatherman, EDC of Florida Space Coast and Space Coast Defense Alliance, who has been appointed to Veterans Florida. Lynda will be a great addition to their board.

And finally, we will miss Terry McCaffrey being part of our defense team. We wish him well on his new adventure.

Until next time, reach out and tell your compelling stories about your communities and installations partnerships. Never assume your neighbors know what activities are happening to be innovative in securing our locations and missions as part of strategic basing and for our National Defense Strategy.

Kellie Jo Kilberg



FDA CALENDAR:

Wednesday, May 15, 2019

FDA In-Person Meeting

Four Points by Sheraton Tallahassee Downtown

FDA Website: www.enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense/

QUOTATIONS OF THE DAY

“The art of war is simple enough. Find out where your enemy is. Get at him as soon as you can. Strike him as hard as you can and keep moving on.” --- Ulysses S. Grant

“Councils of war breed timidity and defeatism.” --- Jack Kemp

News from the Bases & Regions

Military Mission Line —

Gov. Ron DeSantis downplays chances of offshore drilling

<https://www.news-press.com/story/news/politics/2019/04/17/gov-ron-desantis-downplays-chances-offshore-drilling/3482783002/>

News-Press © April 17, 2019

By Jim Turner

Gov. Ron DeSantis this week downplayed growing concerns that President Donald Trump is putting Florida’s coastal waters back in play for oil exploration.

A political ally of the president, DeSantis said he will “be raising Cain” if drilling plans advance that include Florida waters, particularly in the Gulf of Mexico Range Complex, a military testing range that stretches from the Florida Panhandle to Key West.

DeSantis said he anticipates “accommodations” will be made to shield Florida from drilling, as was first announced early last year by then-Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke.

“We’re just not a state for that,” DeSantis told reporters after an appearance at the Tampa Bay Christian Academy in Tampa. “I think for other states there may be a different calculation. But for us, you know our entire state is coastline. You have a mishap; it has a cascading effect. Whatever jobs would be created (by drilling) could be undercut by chilling tourism.”.....

Top Republican on climate subcommittee supports offshore drilling despite bipartisan outcry

E.A. CRUNDEN, APR 2, 2019, 3:15 PM

<https://thinkprogress.org/republican-graves-climate-change-offshore-drilling-bipartisan-green-new-deal-21ce23dcd70a/>

The top Republican on the House subcommittee devoted to climate change offered a strident defense of offshore drilling during a hearing on Tuesday despite significant bipartisan opposition to the issue. His comments come as Republicans struggle to find their footing on climate change and offer a plan of their own to answer growing calls for action.

Lawmakers and local community leaders spoke out during the hearing on three separate bills seek-

ing to limit or block offshore drilling in Pacific and Atlantic waters. In early 2018, President Donald Trump announced plans to open up virtually all U.S. waters to offshore drilling.....

Space Coast —

Ron DeSantis still high on Trump's Space Force

<http://www.tampabay.com/florida-politics/2019/04/12/ron-desantis-still-high-on-trumps-space-force/>

Tampa Bay Times © April 12, 2019

By News Service of Florida

Gov. Ron DeSantis and other state officials aren't aborting pursuit of the operational command of President Donald Trump's Space Force, despite a report Florida isn't on the U.S. Air Force's short list of potential bases.

DeSantis wrote on Twitter he's certain the window remains open for Florida, while linking to a report by CNN that an Air Force memorandum identified six military bases for the new command and that none are in Florida.....

From Twitter:



Ron DeSantis

✓ @GovRonDeSantis

USSPACECOM belongs in Florida. @LtGovNunez and I remain confident of Florida's unique qualifications. Our commercial space industry is flourishing and no other state hosts more Combatant Commands.

Six Air Force Bases in Running for Space Command Headquarters: Report

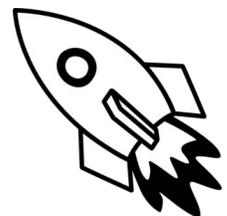
https://www.military.com/daily-news/2019/04/08/six-air-force-bases-running-space-command-headquarters-report.html?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ebb%2004.09.19&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief

Military.com © April 3, 2019

By Oriana Pawlyk

The Air Force is narrowing down the best location to house the Defense Department's newest unified combatant command, and many of the bases in top contention are in Colorado, according to a new CNN report.

Air Force officials are still reviewing installations to house U.S. Space Command, which officials have called a stepping stone to creating a U.S. Space Force.....



Tyndall AFB—

Tyndall Air Force Base still rebuilding 6 months after Hurricane Michael

<https://www.news4jax.com/weather/hurricane/tyndall-air-force-base-still-rebuilding-6-months-after-hurricane-michael>

News4Jax © April 12, 2019

By Jennifer Ready

Six months after Hurricane Michael ravished Tyndall Air Force Base, workers are still rebuilding and trying to recover from the powerful storm.

The airmen there say they live and work by one motto.

“Our mission and story here is that the mission must go on,” said the command chief, Master Sgt. Craig Williams. “I must say, as of last month, we are flying more sorties we did before the storm.”

Hurricane Michael's 130 mph winds damaged nearly every building on base and a half-year later several of the dorms are still unlivable. Airmen are staying temporarily in tents.....

Eglin AFB —

DOD: USAF Bases Most At-Risk From Climate Change Threats

http://www.airforcemag.com/Features/Pages/2019/April%202019/DOD-USA-F-Bases-Most-At-Risk-From-Climate-Change-Threats.aspx?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ebb%2004.09.19&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief

Air Force Magazine © April 8, 2019

The Air Force's base infrastructure is the most at-risk of all services from climate change, with Hill AFB, Utah, facing the most danger, according to a recent breakdown from the Pentagon.

The Defense Department on March 22 sent an updated analysis of the military bases most likely to be affected by climate change, including recurrent flooding, drought, desertification, wildfires, and thawing permafrost. The list was originally sent to Congress in January but lawmakers criticized the report for not adequately addressing the threats.

The new list, which is broken down by the Departments of the Air Force, Army, and Navy, outlines current and potential threats, and finds there is a high threat—both now and in the future—of flooding, drought, desertification, and wildfires at Hill. The other at-risk Air Force installations, in order, are:

- Beale AFB, Calif.
- Vandenberg AFB, Calif.
- Greeley ANG, Colo.
- Eglin AFB, Fla.
- Patrick AFB, Fla.
- JB Andrews, Md.
- Malmstrom AFB, Mont.

- Tinker AFB, Okla.
- Shaw AFB, S.C.
- JB San Antonio, Texas.....

NS Mayport —

ANOTHER CONSTRUCTION PROJECT SECURED FOR NAVAL STATION MAYPORT

By: Stephanie Brown @SBrownReports, March 29, 2019 4:50 PM

<https://www.wokv.com/news/local/another-construction-project-secured-for-naval-station-mayport/lnPsKLbZGD0WDVkyNUz3lL/>

Jacksonville, FL – One of the Naval Station Mayport projects listed on the Department of Defense’s inventory of military construction projects that could be tapped to fund President Trump’s National Emergency declaration, is now partially secure.

That project overall is \$82.3 million for a Littoral Combat Ship Support Facility, which consists of a large administrative building and a parking garage. Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southeast now says that \$17 million garage is officially under contract. They previously told WOKV they’re hoping to have the rest committed before September.

The garage and future administrative building are intended to support the growing LCS program at Mayport, which serves as a hub for one design of the ship. The Navy says the base is expected to get 14 of these ships overall, although that number was higher in past years. The parking garage will be five stories and will include 1,355 spaces. It’s slated to be complete by April 2021.....

Whiting Field—

Escambia County Celebrates NOLF-8 Land Exchange

Written by William, April 2, 2019

<http://www.northescambia.com/2019/04/escambia-county-celebrates-nolf-8-land-exchange>

Escambia County marked the land transfer and future of Naval Outlying Landing Field Site 8 with a ceremony on Monday in Beulah.

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at NOLF Site 8 to Escambia County, in exchange for a suitable replacement.

Escambia County purchased land in Santa Rosa County and began construction in 2016 on what is now called OLF-X. Naval Facilities Southeast Region in Jacksonville, Navy Installations Command and Whiting Field coordinated with Escambia County to ensure requirements for the training mission at NAS Whiting Field were met for the new outlying field. On January 29, the deeds were exchanged, finalizing the transfer. NAS Whiting Field opened Naval Outlying Landing Field-X for flight training operations on January 30.

NOLF Site 8 was originally constructed in 1940 as an auxiliary airfield for Pensacola NAS. At approximately 635 acres, Site 8, along with NOLFs Spencer and Pace, was one of the oldest NOLFs still in use until the land transfer with Escambia County in 2019.

Site 8 was initially used as a fixed wing training field. The field had undergone several changes and was temporarily closed in the mid to late 1950s. In 1964, the NOLF was brought back into service as an NOLF to support NAS Whiting Field's rotary-pilot training mission. The NOLF was used as a primary tactical training asset by TRAWING 5. The field provided facilities to support training in rotary tactics, confined area landings, platform landings, external loads missions, hot refueling and was tentatively studied to support night vision training

Military Spouse —

4th Annual Military Spouse Night Out

April 25, 2019

5:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

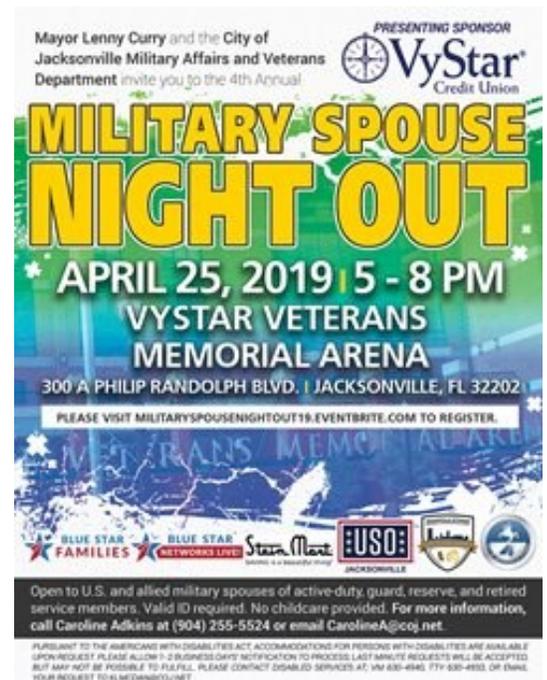
VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena

300 A Philip Randolph Blvd

Jacksonville, FL 32202

(904) 255-5524

The 4th Annual Military Spouse Night Out presented by VyStar Credit Union will be on Thursday, April 25th, 2019 at the VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena. Military Spouse Night Out is for military spouses all over the greater Jacksonville area to come and enjoy themselves, be pampered, and hopefully leave with lasting memories!



Mayor Lenny Curry and the City of Jacksonville Military Affairs and Veterans Department invite you to the 4th Annual

PRESENTING SPONSOR
VyStar
Credit Union

MILITARY SPOUSE NIGHT OUT

* APRIL 25, 2019 5 - 8 PM *
VYSTAR VETERANS MEMORIAL ARENA
300 A PHILIP RANDOLPH BLVD. | JACKSONVILLE, FL 32202

PLEASE VISIT MILITARYSPOUSENIGHTOUT19.EVENTBRITE.COM TO REGISTER.

BLUE STAR FAMILIES | BLUE STAR NETWORKS LIVE | Stearns Marine | USO | Jacksonville

Open to U.S. and allied military spouses of active-duty, guard, reserve, and retired service members. Valid ID required. No childcare provided. For more information, call Caroline Adkins at (904) 255-5524 or email CarolineA@coj.net.

PLANS/ACT TO THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. ACCOMMODATIONS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST. PLEASE ALLOW 10 BUSINESS DAYS NOTIFICATION TO PROCESS. LAST MINUTE REQUESTS WILL BE ACCEPTED BUT MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE TO FULFILL. PLEASE CONTACT DISABLED SERVICES AT: (904) 430-4943. TTY: 430-4933. OR EMAIL: YOURREQUEST@ALMEDIANGOV.NET

This event is open to U.S. and allied military spouses of active-duty, guard, reserve, and retired service members. Valid ID required. No childcare provided.

[Registration Website](#)

[Military Spouse Night Out 2019 Event Flyer](#)

From Facebook:

Today, an amazing military spouse stood before the Florida Senate's Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development as they voted on Senate Bill 1610; Emergency Mitigation and Response. She told the story for those who could not, who are still suffering from the devastation of Hurricane Michael. She has been delivering help, supplies and hugs to those in need, but as she told the subcommittee "...I am just one person and 188 days past landfall, they need You."

The bill passed!! [Click here to watch the video](#)

[Spouse Education and Career Opportunities Program - SECO](#) is holding a Virtual Military Spouse Symposium April 24! Join them as they share insights on how to build a resume, tips for acing job interviews and more.

Register for the event here: <https://myseco.militaryonesource.mil/portal/spousesymposium>.



Spotlight on Naval Air Station Pensacola—Cradle of Naval Aviation

Naval Air Station Pensacola, situated in Escambia County, is considered the "Cradle of Naval Aviation". It has a myriad of activities including the headquarters and staff of the Naval Education and Training Command; Training Air Wing Six and subordinate squadrons; USAF 479th Flying Training Group and subordinate squadrons; Naval Aviation Schools Command; Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training; Naval Air Technical Training Center; Marine Aviation Training Support Group-21 & 23; Center for Information Warfare Training, Corry Station; Navy Medicine Operations Training Center; Naval Recruiting Orientation Unit; Naval Education and Training Professional Development and Technology Center, Saufley Field; US Coast Guard Station-Pensacola and the world-renowned Blue Angels Flight Demonstration Squadron. NAS Pensacola is one of the largest training operations in the Navy with nearly 60,000 students graduating from training programs annually. NAS Pensacola trains students from every branch of military, the US Coast

Guard, other agencies and foreign allies. It is one of only four installations in the continental United States with an active runway and a deep water port. NAS Pensacola attracts in excess of 1 million visitors each year. A continuing attraction for visitors to the Southeast is the National Naval Aviation Museum and the Barrancas National Cemetery. NAS Pensacola employs over 23,000 personnel (>17,000 military and >5,000 civilian) contributing to an economic impact exceeding \$2.2 Billion on the local economy.



History

The site now occupied by Naval Air Station Pensacola has a colorful historical background dating back to the 16th century when Spanish explorer Don Tristan de Luna founded a colony here on the bluff where Fort Barrancas is now situated. President John Quincy Adams and Secretary of the Navy Samuel Southard, in 1825, made arrangements to build a Navy yard on the Southern tip of Escambia County, where the air station is today. In its early years the base dealt mainly with the suppression of slave trade and piracy in the Gulf and Caribbean. When New Orleans was captured by Union forces in 1862, Confederate troops, fearing attack from the west, retreated from the Navy Yard and reduced most of the facilities to rubble. After the war, the ruins at the yard were cleared away and work was begun to rebuild the base. In October 1913, the Secretary of the Navy, approved the establishment of an aviation training station in Pensacola. The "Cradle of Naval Aviation" has trained naval aviators since before WWI. In August 1940, a larger auxiliary base, Saufley Field, was added to Pensacola's activities. In 1971, NAS was picked as the headquarters site for NETC, a new command which combined direction and control of all Navy education and training. In 1992, pilot training at Training Air Wing Six was relocated to NAS Whiting Field and other Naval Air Stations and Training Air Wing Six assumed responsibility for training all Naval Flight Officers. In 1993, the Base Realignment and Closure Commission directed the relocation of the Naval Air Technical Training Center from NAS Memphis to NAS Pensacola, a move that further established NAS Pensacola as a major training center for the Navy. In 2005, the Base Realignment and Closure Commission directed all USAF Combat Systems Operator training be relocated to NAS Pensacola.



**Commanding Officer
Captain Timothy Kinsella**





NAS Pensacola Headquarters – Bldg 1500

Did You Know

20 Interesting Facts About Aircraft Carriers

Here are 20 Interesting Facts About Aircraft Carriers.

1. During WWII, the Japanese navy had submersible aircraft carriers. These carriers were able to carry three aircraft underwater to their destinations, resurface, launch their planes and quickly dive again before they were discovered.

2. One US aircraft carrier has a more powerful air force than 70% of all countries.

3. French named one of their aircraft carriers after Ferdinand Foch, who interestingly said, "Airplanes are interesting toys, but of no military value".

4. Brazil once tried to sell an aircraft carrier on eBay

5. It costs \$7 million per day to operate the newest class of US Aircraft Carriers, the Gerald R. Ford Class.

6. The Nimitz-class aircraft carrier can operate for 20 years without refueling.

7. During WWII, the US Navy had two freshwater aircraft carriers on the Great Lakes to train its pilots.

8. All the poop generated on the US Navy's newest aircraft carrier will be vaporized by plasma.



9. Besides the USA only 1 other nation has ever built a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, France.
10. China's First Aircraft Carrier was a decommissioned Ukrainian Aircraft Carrier that was sold to a Chinese businessman to be a "Floating Casino" in 1998.
11. The USAF C-130 Hercules can land and take off on an aircraft carrier.
12. While filming Top Gun, Director Tony Scott paid \$25K to turn the aircraft carrier for a five minute shot, so he could have the sun as back-lighting.
13. During WWII, the British had serious plans of making an aircraft carrier primarily out of wood pulp and ice.
14. When in 1960 a Dutch aircraft carrier wanted to dock in Australia, the local seamen's union wouldn't help it dock. The crew solved this problem by tying the planes to the deck with chains and using the aircraft's propeller thrust to dock.
15. In 1970s, the U.S. Air Force had plans to build an aircraft carrier from a Boeing 747, essentially creating a mothership.
16. An aircraft carrier (USS Lexington CV-2), helped power the city of Tacoma, WA for a month in 1929.
17. In 1957, 10 Sydney University students dressed as pirates boarded the aircraft carrier USS Bennington, reached the bridge, and announced over the PA that they had captured the ship.
18. The largest aircraft carrier built in WWII by the Japanese was sunk on its maiden voyage
19. American aircraft carriers can desalinate 400,000 gallons of water per day.
20. The command center structure that rises above the flight deck on an aircraft carrier is called "the island."



POSTER OF THE DAY:



AIRCRAFT CARRIER

More than 90,000 tons of diplomacy.

fakeposters.com

NOTES FROM THE STAFF

Thank you to all the dedicated members of the Florida Defense Alliance for all you do on a daily basis to support your military communities and keep Florida the most military friendly state in the nation! Your work on behalf of Florida's military installations and missions truly makes a difference. The relationships you build with our base personnel are keys to solving problems and assisting our service members and their families. Keep up the great work!

Florida Defense Alliance Leadership

Chair – Kellie Jo Kilberg

Vice Chair – Tim Jones

Mission Sustainment Working Group Chair – Mike Jones

Family Support Working Group Chair – Lynn Brannon

Executive Board: Jonathan Borgert, Jennifer Codo-Salisbury, Paul Hirsch and Jim Breitenfeld



Florida Defense Alliance Newsletter

May 1, 2019

FDA Vision: To maintain and enhance the position and reputation of Florida as the most military-friendly state in the nation.

NEWS

Military Friendly Bill moving toward Final Passage – Senator Broxson’s military friendly bill (SB620) cleared its final committee stop last week and will be married with Rep Ponder’s bill (HB891). The bills contain several military-friendly provisions including amending s. 163.3175, F.S.; specifying additional military installations that may exchange certain information with local governments regarding compatibility of land development; amending s. 197.572, F.S.; providing that an easement for certain military lands continues after a tax sale or deed execution; amending s. 1003.05, F.S.; requiring a student whose parent is transferred or pending transfer to a military installation within a school district to be considered a resident of the district and provided preferential treatment in the controlled open enrollment process under certain circumstances; amending s. 1009.21, F.S.; revising requirements for active duty servicemembers and their families to be classified as residents for tuition purposes; and providing for a license plate commemorating the Blue Angles naval air demonstration team. If passed this week through both House and Senate, this bill will go to the Governor for signature.

Space Command Summit – Governor DeSantis has directed Space Florida to capture the newly re-established US Space Command for Florida. To assure we incorporate all of Florida’s extensive capabilities in the offering to DOD and the White House we are hosting a state-wide Summit on May 9, 2019 at the Orlando International Airport – Terminal C from 12:30 -5:30. Please register at the link below: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/us-space-command-summit-tickets-60886847199> Password: **WHYFLORIDA** Please direct any questions to Dale Ketcham at dketcham@spaceflorida.gov

Military Mission Line (MML) Moratorium on Oil Exploration and Drilling in Jeopardy – Although oil drilling in the Gulf is opposed by the Governor, the Florida Legislature, the Florida Congressional Delegation, the Department of Defense and most Floridians, the new Secretary of the Interior Bernhardt told Senator Rubio that “the plan won’t expand energy exploration off Florida’s coast, but that the EGOM drilling ban would be lifted.” This message sparks concern that military testing capability in the Gulf of Mexico could be negatively affected by upcoming lease sales that will be east of the Military Mission Line and will encroach on the Gulf Range Complex

Florida Chamber Hosts Tour of Northwest Florida / Tyndall AFB Recovery – On Apr 16-17 the Florida Chamber of Commerce hosted a business development mission to raise awareness of the continued slow recovery of area affected by Hurricane Michael and lack of funding coming in from federal or state sources. Locations visited on the 16th included Mexico Beach, Tyndall AFB, and selected small businesses in Panama City. The theme was the tremendous resilience of the people, but that continued and vast needs remain for relief funding and support. As part of the Tyndall visit, members were briefed on the importance of missions at Tyndall due to its location and proximity to the Gulf Range. Day two focused on recovery of more rural areas north of Panama City in the path of Hurricane Michael.

**ENTERPRISE
FLORIDA**

Lawyers Assisting Warriors Initiative – A new Governor initiated program was launched that provides contact information for pro-bono legal services for servicemembers. According to the concept, “Governor DeSantis is committed to ensuring our service-members have the support of the state’s legal community and its best legal minds. To achieve this goal, the Governor’s Initiative on Lawyers Assisting Warriors (GI LAW) will draw from the talent of Florida’s leading law firms to provide pro bono services for military members. Through this initiative, our state’s men and women in uniform will receive local counsel in a variety of civil matters, including actions in local courts. Participating attorneys will dedicate time and expertise to ensure prompt and fair resolution of legal matters.” Once approved, information will be available through the FDA web site at: <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense/lawyers-assisting-warriors/>

Governor’s Base Commanders Meeting Set – Governor DeSantis’ first base commander meeting is set for June 12, 2019 at Camp Blanding. We encourage FDA leaders to contact their bases and offer assistance in preparing Base Commanders for this meeting. If there are any issues that can be worked/solved in the local community, FDA always attempts to help our Base Commanders with them.

2019 Defense Communities National Summit – The Association of Defense Communities (ADC) National Summit in Washington DC is coming soon, June 10-12, 2019. The summit focuses on strengthening the foundation of partnership that bring together the military, defense communities, states and the private sector. This year the summit will be at a different location, the Hyatt Regency Washington, on Capital Hill. For more information or to register, go to <https://www.adcsummit.org/>

RFP for 2019 Economic Impact Analysis Posted – The RFP for the 2019 Economic Impact Analysis has been posted on both the FDA and Task Force web sites. Proposals are due no later than 5 PM EDT on April 30, 2019. This updated economic impact analysis provides the data for the Florida Defense FactBook.

Okaloosa County to Receive Funding for Crestview ByPass -- After hearing from U.S. Rep. Matt Gaetz and other advocates, the Triumph Gulf Coast board gave conceptual approval Monday to Okaloosa County’s request for \$64.1 million in Triumph money for the southwest Crestview bypass. The bypass would include a wider PJ Adams Parkway, a new Interstate 10 interchange, a new road from I-10 north to U.S. Highway 90 and a new road between Antioch Road and SR 85 north of the interstate. Besides reducing traffic congestion and supporting Eglin’s mission, the bypass would lead to economic development.

[From ADC:](#)

House Lawyers File Motion to Stop Milcon Funds from Going to Border Wall

Posted on Apr 24, 2019 08:16 pm

House lawyers filed a motion Tuesday evening requesting a federal judge block the administration’s plan to use reprogrammed DOD funds for southern border barriers, according to [The Hill](#).

The motion seeks to stop about \$6 billion in military construction and counter-drug funds for building President Donald Trump’s long-promised border wall.

“Defendants are moving quickly to construct the border wall, and they have awarded contracts against funds that Congress did not appropriate for that purpose,” House General Counsel Doug Letter wrote with other lawyers. “And more contracts are coming soon. Once made, these unconstitutional expenditures cannot be undone, and the grave institutional injury inflicted on the House cannot be remedied.”

The motion argues the president violated the Constitution when he sidestepped congressional authority in directing reallocation of funds in his February emergency declaration.

The Army Corps of Engineers, which handles most of the barrier contracts, has moved to award up to \$8 billion in DOD funds, according to a [Quartz](#) report.

The Department of Homeland Security has moved forward with using DOD funds for barriers in Arizona and New Mexico, [Military Times](#) reported Tuesday.

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

French novelist Marcel Proust said, "The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes but in having new eyes." As we prepare for the FDA meeting in two weeks, I ask you to look at your communities and military/defense partnerships and activities with new eyes. Are you just updating information and formats or are you really looking at the old landscape in front of you with new eyes? It may be the same landscape; however, is there a new mission or leadership? Are there new opportunities for infrastructure or programs? Are we really looking and listening or are we going in with the same old knowledge and not seeing or listening to the realities of what outside forces may be imposing on our installations and missions? Are we being proactive and forward thinking to addressing challenges and opportunities? It's time to review your programs and activities with fresh eyes and perspective and seek the best of the best to move forward. To be the best, you must continue to move forward with new eyes on the landscape.

Until next time, reach out to your partners around the state, share your ideas and best practices, ask questions, and connect resources so we move the bar forward on the "Most Friendly Military State in the Nation". May is Military Appreciation Month – thank you for all you do for our military men, women and their families. Refocus your eyes to see what is new!

Kellie Jo Kilberg

FDA CALENDAR:

Wednesday, May 15, 2019

FDA In-Person Meeting

Four Points by Sheraton Tallahassee Downtown

FDA Website: www.enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense/

QUOTATIONS OF THE DAY

"Wisdom is the reward you get for a lifetime of listening when you'd have preferred to talk."
---Doug Larson

"If you make listening and observation your occupation, you will gain much more than you can by talk."
---Robert Baden-Powell

"Most people do not listen with the intent to understand; they listen with the intent to reply."
---Stephen R. Covey

News from the Bases & Regions

DeSantis announces initiative to provide free legal help to active-duty military

<https://www.pnj.com/story/news/2019/04/18/desantis-initiative-provide-free-legal-help-active-duty-military-florida/3508479002/>

By Melissa Nelson Gabriel

Pensacola News Journal © April 18, 2019



Surrounded by some of Florida's top lawyers while speaking to a crowd of Eglin Air Force Base airmen, Gov. Ron DeSantis announced plans to provide free legal help to active-duty service members statewide during a brief stop at the base early Thursday.

DeSantis told the airmen that he and Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs Director Danny Burgess had identified access to legal services is one of a number of areas of critical concern for the state's large military population.

"When you deploy and have some legal issues, it can be tough. If the legal issues are taken care of, you are going to do a better job," he said.....

Military Mission Line —

Matt Gaetz, Francis Rooney Want to Meet With President Trump on Drilling in the Gulf of Mexico

By KEVIN DERBY, 04.18.19

<https://www.floridadaily.com/matt-gaetz-francis-rooney-want-to-meet-with-president-trump-on-drilling-in-the-gulf-of-mexico/>

Two Florida congressmen are calling on President Donald Trump to back a "permanent moratorium on oil and gas drilling and pre-leasing activity East of the Military Mission Line in the Gulf of Mexico" and want to meet with him on it.

U.S. Rep. Matt Gaetz, R-Fla., and U.S. Rep. Francis Rooney, R-Fla., wrote Trump on the matter on Wednesday and asked for a meeting with him. Gaetz has been one of Trump's most visible and vocal supporters on Capitol Hill. Rooney has generally voted with the administration but he broke with the White House on several fronts, including opposing Trump's executive action on immigration and backing a carbon tax championed by Democrats including U.S. Rep. Charlie Crist, D-Fla., and U.S. Rep. Ted Deutch, D-Fla.....

Florida lawmakers offer bill to ban drilling off state's coast

BY REBECCA BEITSCH

<https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/440031-florida-lawmakers-offer-bill-to-ban-drilling-off-states-coast>

The Hill © April 22, 2019

A bipartisan group of Florida legislators introduced a bill Monday that would ban offshore drilling along Florida's coast.

Spearheaded by Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-Fla.), the legislation comes ahead of a new five-year plan from the Trump administration that is expected to expand offshore drilling along the Atlantic Coast.

Oil and gas industry sources have said those plans include Florida, despite a much publicized exception for the Sunshine State from former Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke.....

Space Coast —

Florida House Passes Sirois' Memorial To Make Florida Home To U.S. Space Force

<https://spacecoastdaily.com/2019/04/florida-house-passes-sirois-memorial-to-make-florida-home-to-u-s-space-force/>

Space Coast Daily © April 18, 2019

House Memorial 1281 by Representative Tyler Sirois (R- Cocoa), which requests Congress to approve the creation of the United States Space Force and establishment of its headquarters on the Space Coast, was passed unanimously Wednesday by the Florida House of Representatives.

The memorial follows a recent White House proposal by President Donald Trump, and Governor Ron DeSantis' call for the Space Force to be headquartered in Florida.

To determine the location, the U.S. Department of Defense is conducting a study on the merits of each proposed location.....

Patrick AFB's secret lab watches for nuclear explosions worldwide

https://www.airforcetimes.com/news/your-air-force/2019/04/21/patrick-afbs-secret-lab-watches-for-nuclear-explosions-worldwide/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ebb%2004.22.19&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief

Air Force Times © April 21, 2019

By: Rick Neale

Inside a secretive Patrick Air Force Base laboratory, Airman 1st Class Cynthia A. Schroll prepares batches of complex chemicals alongside futuristic-looking fume hoods and a white cabinet labeled "Acid" in large red letters.

Wearing blue rubber gloves and a white lab coat, Schroll is a rare breed in the U.S. military: She earned a doctorate in analytical chemistry from the University of Cincinnati. She has written two books. She has a patent in her name.

And Schroll conducts classified lab work at the Air Force Technical Applications Center. The organization detects and analyzes nuclear explosions detonated by foreign countries, utilizing a sprawling network of more than 3,600 sensors deployed around the globe.....

Tyndall AFB—

Balfour Beatty Communities Moves Forward with Housing Restoration at Tyndall Air Force Base Inviting Local Contractors to Submit Bids/Visit Site

<https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20190418005483/en/Balfour-Beatty-Communities-Moves-Housing-Restoration-Tyndall>

Business Wire © April 18, 2019

Balfour Beatty Communities announced today that it is finalizing the scope for the next phase of work in the Tyndall AFB housing restoration project and is inviting local contractors to submit their interest/credentials for consideration. On Tuesday, April 23, 2019, and Wednesday, April 24, 2019 Balfour Beatty will conduct site visits with contractors interested in the comprehensive housing rebuilding and restoration project at the base. Tyndall AFB, including the privatized housing on base, sustained significant and devastating damage from Hurricane Michael. While extensive roofing work is already underway at the property, this next phase of the restoration will be mostly to the interiors of the homes and is expected to begin in May following an expedited bidding process.....

Forum tonight discussing Tyndall, NSA PC recovery plans

<https://www.starfl.com/news/20190422/forum-tonight-discussing-tyndall-nsa-pc-recovery-plans>

The Star © April 22, 2019

Let's talk about the recovery of the area's military installations after Hurricane Michael.

The sting of the lack of the supplemental disaster aid from Congress has been felt throughout the region following the Category 5 storm, but arguably, the area's two military installations, Tyndall Air Force Base and Naval Support Activity Panama City (NSA PC) have the most to gain or lose, as they appear the most dependent on the funding.

Repair work at Tyndall, for instance, is slated to stop as soon as May 1 if a supplemental disaster aid bill isn't passed. On the other hand, the base also has the potential — and key promises — to be rebuilt as the "base of the future.".....

Repairs at Tyndall Air Force Base will stop May 1 without disaster aid funds

<https://whnt.com/2019/04/24/repairs-at-tyndall-air-force-base-will-stop-may-1-without-disaster-aid-funds/>

WHNT © April 25, 2019

BY KELLY VAUGHEN

TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala. -- Tyndall Air Force base was badly damaged in Hurricane Michael. The Air Force says the base will be rebuilt as the "installation of the future," but that takes money.

The base is currently using funds from the Air Force to rebuild, but that is scheduled to run out this week. If that happens, rebuilding will stop without additional disaster aid from Congress.

"It's different looking around, and there's no trees on this base. There's no shade," said Colonel Brent Hyden, director of the Tyndall project management for reconstruction. "There's a lot of buildings frankly that are down on the ground."

Senator Rick Scott to Congress: Pass disaster relief bill

<https://www.newsherald.com/news/20190429/senator-rick-scott-to-congress-pass-disaster-relief-bill>

News Herald © April 29, 2019

By COLLIN BREAUX

Over two hundred days after Hurricane Michael tore through Tyndall Air Force Base and surrounding areas, Sen. Rick Scott pleaded for a federal supplemental disaster relief bill to be passed by Congress.

"We're not where we need to be," said Scott. "We are sitting at (over 200) days without solving these problems. It's been frustrating. I've been in the Senate now for about 100 days and this is all politics. It's not about, 'What do I need to do?' The Democrats are playing politics with this disaster relief."

Eglin AFB —

Eglin AFB named Air Force 2019 SECDEF Environmental Award recipient

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs / Published April 22, 2019

<https://www.af.mil/News/Article-Display/Article/1820329/eglin-afb-named-air-force-2019-secdef-environmental-award-recipient/>

ARLINGTON, Va. (AFNS) – The Air Force's largest installation was named a recipient in the 2019 Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards.

Eglin Air Force Base, Florida, received the 2019 Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards Natural Resources Conservation, Large Installation Award. Eglin AFB spans more than 460,000 acres of land and 120,000 square miles of water test ranges and contains 34 distinct ecosystems that are home to more than 100 rare or endangered plants and animals. Effective management of natural resources directly supports the Eglin AFB mission by alleviating or eliminating regulatory restrictions that would otherwise impede the current military training mission or hinder our flexibility to meet future mission changes.....

Highlands County —

Florida Forever Triple Diamond Acquisition to Preserve Important Habitat in Central Florida

Earlier this month, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection along with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service were conveyed approximately 4,000 acres (1,992 and 1,999 acres respectively) in Okeechobee County within the Avon Park Air Force Range (APAFR) Sentinel Land-

scape's MIPA 2 near the Range's southeastern corner. The purchase was part of the Triple Diamond Florida Forever Project in association with the Everglades Headwaters National Wildlife Refuge and Conservation Area and was made possible through the acquisition work of the Open Space Institute with the support of the Wyss Foundation. Not only is the site located within the APAFR Sentinel Landscape, but it is contiguous with existing conservation land adjacent to the Range, thus expanding the Range's buffer while supporting landscape conservation in Florida's Heartland. Successful multi-agency public and nonprofit partnerships like this not only protect important natural resources including critical wildlife habitat and water quality and quantity, but also contribute to a coordinated and comprehensive approach to preventing encroachment near the Range. Ongoing efforts continue within the Sentinel Landscape Partnership to secure REPI funding for the protection of the site's remaining 4,000 acres.



Spotlight on Tyndall Air Force Base

Tyndall Air Force Base is a United States Air Force Base located 12 miles (19 km) east of Panama City, Florida. The base was named in honor of World War I pilot 1st Lt Frank Benjamin Tyndall. The base operating unit and host wing is the 325th Fighter Wing (325 FW) of the Air Combat Command (ACC).



The 325th Fighter Wing's primary mission is to provide air dominance training for F-22 Raptor pilots and maintenance personnel and air battle managers to support the combat Air Force.

Training for F-22 pilots is performed in the 43d Fighter Squadron. The 325th Air Control Squadron trains air battle managers for assignment to combat Air Force units. Additionally, wing personnel manage the southeastern air combat maneuvering instrumentation range and provide mission-ready F-22 air dominance forces in support of the Commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD)/1st Air Force (1 AF) contingency plans. Other specialties trained under the 325th Fighter Wing include F-22 intelligence officer training, F-22 crew chief training and officer and enlisted air traffic controller training.

The 325th Fighter Wing is host to more than 30 tenant organizations located at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. The wing comprises the 325th Operations Group, 325th Maintenance Group, 325th Mission Support Group and 325th Medical Group.

From 1983 to 2010, training for F-15 pilots was performed at Tyndall by the now inactive 1st, 2d, and 95th Fighter Squadrons. During this period, the 325th FW also hosted training for F-15 Maintenance personnel, and Intelligence Officers assigned to F-15 units. The 1st Fighter Squadron was inactivated in 2006. The 2d and 95th FS's were also inactivated in May and September 2010, respectively. However, with the return to Air Combat Command, the 325th FW gained a combat-coded F-22 squadron.

Hurricane Michael hit Tyndall AFB on October 10, 2018 with 155 MPH winds and destroyed almost 30% of the buildings. In the wake of this disaster, the Air Force reassigned the combat-coded F-22 aircraft to other bases with only the training squadron remaining. The F-22 flight simulator remains at Tyndall for pilot

training and aircraft are located at Eglin AFB temporarily.

Tyndall is scheduled to receive the MQ9 Reaper Drone as well as receive 3 operational F-35 squadrons in the next few years.

AOC

The 601st Air Operations Center (often referred to as America's AOC) plans, directs, and assesses air and space operations for the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) and U.S. Northern Command (USNORTHCOM). The AOC provides aerospace warning and control for NORAD Defensive Counter Air activities. Additionally, it directs Air Force air and space capabilities in support of USNORTHCOM homeland security and civil support missions.



F-22 Raptor



**Commander
Colonel Brian Laidlaw**

Colonel Brian S. Laidlaw is the commander, 325th Fighter Wing, Air Combat Command, Tyndall AFB, Fla. The 325th is the largest F-22 Fighter Wing in the Air Force consisting of more than 4,400 personnel and 52 fifth generation aircraft. The wing trains and prepares F-22 Raptor pilots, intelligence officers, maintainers, and other support specialties for worldwide assignment to combat Air Force units. Additionally, the 325th Fighter Wing sustains ready forces for worldwide deployment in support of combat operations and one on-call air dominance F-22 squadron.

As the installation commander, Colonel Laidlaw supports the 23,000 Airmen, civilians, contractors, and families who call Tyndall AFB home. The 325th Fighter Wing hosts 19 tenant units from multiple Major Commands and across several military mission sets. These supported mission partners include First Air Force (Air Forces Northern), the 601st Air Operations Center, the 53rd Weapons Evaluation Group, the Air Force Civil Engineer Center, the 337th Air Control Squadron, and Silver Flag.

He has served in multiple fighter assignments flying both the F-15 Eagle and the F-22. In addition to his flying assignments, Colonel Laidlaw was a Legislative Fellow in the U.S. Senate, attended the National War College, and spent two years on the Office of the Secretary of Defense staff as a fighter program analyst. Operationally, he has deployed multiple times to the Middle East.

He is a command pilot with more than 2,200 hours.



Did You Know

MQ 9 Reaper – Coming to Tyndall AFB

The MQ-9 Reaper (sometimes called Predator B) is an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) capable of remotely controlled or autonomous flight operations primarily for the United States Air Force (USAF). The MQ-9 and other UAVs are referred to as Remotely Piloted Vehicles/Aircraft (RPV/RPA) by the USAF to indicate their human ground controllers.



The MQ-9 is the first hunter-killer UAV designed for long-



Florida Defense Alliance Newsletter

May 22, 2019

FDA Vision: To maintain and enhance the position and reputation of Florida as the most military-friendly state in the nation.

NEWS

Military Friendly Bills Passed– Senator Broxson’s military friendly bill (SB620) was passed on May 1st. It contains several military-friendly provisions including amending s. 163.3175, F.S.; specifying additional military installations that may exchange certain information with local governments regarding compatibility of land development; amending s. 197.572, F.S.; providing that an easement for certain military lands continues after a tax sale or deed execution; amending s. 1003.05, F.S.; requiring a student whose parent is transferred or pending transfer to a military installation within a school district to be considered a resident of the district and provided preferential treatment in the controlled open enrollment process under certain circumstances; amending s. 1009.21, F.S.; revising requirements for active duty servicemembers and their families to be classified as residents for tuition purposes; and providing for a license plate commemorating the Blue Angles naval air demonstration team. This bill now goes to the Governor for signature.

Lawyers Assisting Warriors – Now Online – A new Governor initiated program was launched that provides contact information for pro-bono legal services for servicemembers. The Governor’s Initiative on Lawyers Assisting Warriors (GI LAW) will draw from the talent of Florida’s leading law firms to provide pro bono services for military members. Through this initiative, our state’s men and women in uniform will receive local counsel in a variety of civil matters, including actions in local courts. Participating attorneys will dedicate time and expertise to ensure prompt and fair resolution of legal matters.” Information is available through the FDA web site at: <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense/lawyers-assisting-warriors/>

Governor’s Base Commanders Meeting Set – Governor DeSantis’ first base commander meeting is set for June 12, 2019 at Camp Blanding. We encourage FDA leaders to contact their bases and offer assistance in preparing Base Commanders for this meeting. If there are any issues that can be worked/solved in the local community, FDA always attempts to help our Base Commanders with them.

2019 Defense Communities National Summit – The Association of Defense Communities (ADC) National Summit in Washington DC is coming soon, June 10-12, 2019. The summit focuses on strengthening the foundation of partnership that bring together the military, defense communities, states and the private sector. This year the summit will be at a different location, the Hyatt Regency Washington, on Capital Hill. For more information or to register, go to <https://www.adcsummit.org/>

Economic Impact Analysis – Matrix Design has been awarded the contract to complete the 2019 Florida Defense Economic Impact Analysis. This is the study that produces the Florida Defense Factbook every other year. We expect the new 2019 Florida Defense Factbook to be published by December 2019.

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From ADC:

Tyndall Calls Off Recovery Projects; Offutt to Begin Cutting Projects in June

Posted on May 01, 2019 07:43 pm

The Air Force said it will no longer move forward with planned hurricane recovery projects at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla., because the service has run out of needed repair funding, **Military Times** reported.

Air Force Secretary Heather Wilson said Tuesday the service has been forced to postpone its rebuilding efforts to repair the \$4.7 billion in damage caused by Hurricane Michael in October. "Homeowners and businesses purchase insurance to protect themselves from these kinds of disasters, but that's not an option for the military," Wilson said in a statement. "When unavoidable catastrophes strike our facilities, supplemental funding is our only recourse. If they don't step in, our communities, our readiness, and our security all pay the price."

Officials said in March they anticipated a stoppage in relief work if Congress didn't grant them the additional funding.

Tyndall and Offutt Air Force Base, Neb., which was hit by severe flooding in March that caused more than \$400 million in damage, are considered critical infrastructure bases, according to senior defense officials.

Similar disaster repair projects will stop in June at Offutt, where dozens of buildings sustained extensive flooding damage.

House Appropriators Seek Space Force Cost Details

Posted on May 02, 2019 07:06 pm

House Appropriations Defense Subcommittee lawmakers told Acting Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan Wednesday they want more information on the long-term costs of the Pentagon's new space organizations, **Space News** reported.

The lawmakers warned during a DOD budget hearing that without more detailed cost information, it could delay the defense appropriations bill.

The panel plans to begin marking up the spending bill May 15. Subcommittee Chairman Pete Visclosky (D-Ind.) said appropriators want to ensure the funding is passed before the current fiscal year ends Sept. 30.

Shanahan wrote a Wall Street Journal op-ed this week titled "It's Time to Create an American Space Force."

Acting Defense Secretary Shanahan to be Nominated for Top Pentagon Role

Posted on May 09, 2019 08:10 pm

The White House announced Thursday that President Donald Trump is formally nominating Acting Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan to become the Pentagon's chief.

Shanahan, who has held the position on an interim basis since December, was recently cleared in a Pentagon inspector general's report investigating whether he had shown preference for his former employer Boeing.

“Based upon his outstanding service to the country and his demonstrated ability to lead, President Trump intends to nominate Patrick M. Shanahan to be Secretary of Defense,” White House Press Secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders announced in a tweet.

“I am honored by today’s announcement of President Trump’s intent to nominate,” Shanahan responded in his own tweet. “If confirmed by the Senate, I will continue the aggressive implementation of our National Defense Strategy. I remain committed to modernizing the force so our remarkable soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines have everything they need to keep our military lethal and our country safe.”

Shanahan became acting defense secretary after Marine Corps Gen. James Mattis retired from the role late last year. In addition to overseeing development of the National Defense Strategy, he has also overseen DOD’s fiscal 2020 budget request, increasing southern border commitments, and other defense priorities.

The Pentagon has operated without permanent officials in many top posts, including the deputy secretary, comptroller and chief management officer, as well as and a host of supporting appointments.

If confirmed by the Senate, Shanahan’s appointment is expected to help in filling agency vacancies.

President Trump Tours Hurricane Damage at Tyndall Air Force Base

Posted on May 09, 2019 08:05 pm

President Donald Trump visited Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla., Wednesday and surveyed ongoing recovery efforts and lingering damage from Hurricane Michael, which struck the installation last October, **Air Force Times** reported.

The hurricane’s impact included damage to nearly all 700 structures on the base, roughly one-third were destroyed, and 11,000 base personnel were evacuated, according administration figures. After touring the base, Trump promised officials that it will be rebuilt “better than ever.”

The area around Tyndall has received about \$1.1 billion in federal disaster aid through mid-April, but the region still struggles to fully recover from the storm.

At a campaign event later in nearby Panama City, the president announced that additional Housing and Urban Development recovery funds would be available for local communities impacted by the hurricane, and that the federal government would pay 90 percent of the costs “in many circumstances.”

The recovery effort at Tyndall has been stalled by disputes over of a disaster aid package that has been at an impasse among the administration, the GOP-led Senate and House Democrats, as ADC has reported.

On May 1 all new recovery work at Tyndall was halted, deferring 121 projects until millions more in needed funding is authorized.

Space Organizations’ Cost Estimate Exceed Pentagon Projections, CBO Says

Posted on May 09, 2019 07:48 pm

A Congressional Budget Office report released Wednesday estimates the Pentagon's proposed space organizations will require thousands of additional personnel and cost billions more than DOD originally projected, **Space News** reported.

The report, requested by Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman James Inhofe (R-Okla.) and ranking member Jack Reed (D-R.I.), details that personnel and program investments would add up to \$1.3 billion yearly, significantly exceeding DOD's \$500 million yearly projected costs.

According to the report, a new separate military service, a combatant command and a Space Development Agency would tally up to \$1.9 billion annually.

The CBO presented its estimates without offering specific conclusions.

"In keeping with CBO's mandate to provide objective, impartial analysis, the report makes no recommendations," CBO Director Keith Hall wrote.

The report estimated costs of five different proposed organizations: a separate military space force, a space force under Air Force command – as proposed by DOD – a combatant command, a Space Development Agency and a space policy directorate.

The Trump administration's fiscal 2020 DOD budget request seeks funding for three of those five options: a space force, a Space Command and a Space Development Agency.

Pentagon Defends Projected Space Force Costs

Posted on May 13, 2019 07:18 pm

The Pentagon disputes Congressional Budget Office estimates of the long-term costs of the Trump Administration's proposed space organizations, a DOD spokesman told **Space News**.

"The CBO estimates are based on different assumptions than the DOD's legislative proposal," spokesman Tom Crosson said in a statement.

"The CBO did not consult with DOD or evaluate the DOD space force proposal," he said. "The department proposed a lean organizational structure for the space force that avoids significant bureaucratic growth by leveraging existing Air Force capabilities."

A CBO report issued last week estimated DOD creation of a space force under the Air Force, a U.S. space command and the Space Development Agency would incur annual costs from \$1.1 billion to \$1.9 billion, plus another \$1.8 billion to \$4.7 billion in one-time costs.

"The establishment of the United States space force is a small investment to ensure American leadership in space, protect our \$19 trillion economy that runs on space, and ensure space capabilities for our soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines," Crosson added.

White House Holding Military Spouse Employment Summit

Posted on May 13, 2019 07:15 pm

The White House plans to continue efforts to address military spouse unemployment and underemployment at a Tuesday summit of business leaders, **Military.com** reported.

Second Lady Karen Pence made the announcement last week while speaking to military spouses. "I'm excited to pay a debt of gratitude to what I call our 'home front heroes,' to all of our military

spouses for your invaluable contributions to our nation,” she said.

Pence said the leaders from 46 businesses will convene next week so she can “ask their help in addressing the high rate of unemployment and underemployment.”

Estimates of the military spouse unemployment rate range from about 16% to 24%.

The topic of military spouse employment will also be discussed in a general session at ADC’s Defense Communities National Summit in June.

Military Family Child Care Highlighted at Personnel Subcommittee Hearing

Posted on May 20, 2019 07:34 pm

House lawmakers pressed the Pentagon’s service personnel chiefs last Thursday on why military families are waiting as much as six months and longer for on-base child care, Military Times reported.

During a Military Personnel subcommittee hearing, Vice Adm. Robert Burke, the Navy’s personnel chief, said about 8,000 personnel were on wait lists and “about 2,000 of them are in excess of 180 days.”

Army Deputy Chief for Personnel Lt. Gen. Thomas Seamands told the panel that Army wait lists vary by location, but in Hawaii waits can be more than 100 days.

And Air Force Manpower, Personnel and Services Deputy Chief Lt. Gen. Brian Kelly said waits at some bases are “upward of 140 days.”

The wait lists concerned lawmakers who said it is about military quality of life.

Ranking Member Rep. Trent Kelly (R-Miss.) said “family services are directly related to retention.” He warned of losing talented personnel whose skills are in demand in the private sector.

Military child care has been an growing concern. Last week the House Defense Appropriations Committee included \$70.7 in its markup to upgrade child care facilities while directing the services to generate “innovative ideas” to solve the shortage of on-base child care.

Military family child care will be will be discussed in a general session at the upcoming ADC 2019 Defense Communities National Summit June 10-12 in Washington.

The session, “The Future of On Base Quality of Life Services“ will feature several leading private and government speakers..

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

Thanks to everyone who travelled near and far to attend last week’s FDA meeting in Tallahassee! Everyone have a safe and wonderful holiday weekend.

Kellie Jo Kilberg

FDA CALENDAR:



Mission Sustainment Conference Call

Week of July 8th—TBD

More Information to Follow



Thursday, September 12, 2019

FDA Conference Call Meeting

9:00 AM CDT/10:00 AM EDT

FDA Website: www.enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense/

QUOTATION OF THE DAY

"Nothing in the world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not; nothing is more common than unsuccessful men with talent. Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb. Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts. Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent."

--- Calvin Coolidge

News from the Bases & Regions

Military Spouses

Air Force to pay up to \$500 for spouse occupational license transfer during PCS

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs / Published May 15, 2019

ARLINGTON, Va. (AFNS) -- The Air Force announced the spouse relicensure reimbursement program, May 15, which would provide financial relief up to \$500 to Airmen whose spouses must obtain state occupational relicensures or recertifications during a permanent change of station or assignment across state lines.

The Air Force will reimburse qualifying relicensure and recertification fees incurred during PCS/PCAs authenticated on or after Dec. 12, 2017.

"Part of taking care of Airmen and families means making it easier for spouses to continue their careers after a military move," said Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson.

“This policy reduces financial burdens and makes the professional careers of our Air Force spouses more portable.”

The 2018 National Defense Authorization Act authorized the military services to reimburse service members for occupational state relicensing and recertification costs their spouses incur due to a PCS/PCA. While some states authorize reciprocity for certain types of occupational licenses, not all states do, resulting in the spouse needing to update a license or certification according to the new state’s requirements.

“The strength of the nation’s Air Force is not the platforms we operate or the technologies we employ; it is our Airmen and their families. Family readiness is Airman readiness,” said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein.

The new policy will allow for reimbursement of relicensing fees including exams, certifications and registration, and will cover occupations such as teaching, cosmetology, real estate and nursing. Qualifying relicensing costs must be incurred and paid after and within 24 months of the date the member’s PCS/PCA orders are authenticated.

“We can’t do enough to support Air Force families. This is a positive step in the right direction to support our spouses as they pursue their own careers,” said Shon Manasco, assistant secretary of the Air Force for manpower and reserve affairs.

Airmen and spouses can find more information about this program at www.afpc.af.mil/Benefits-and-Entitlements/Employment-Resources/.

General information about career and education programs for spouses is available from an installation’s airman & family readiness center, the Department of Labor website at <https://www.veterans.gov/milspouses>, and the Department of Defense Spouse Education and Career Opportunities Program at <https://myseco.militaryonesource.mil>.



The graphic features the Air Force logo in the top left corner. Below it, a woman is shown working at a computer. The text 'AIR FORCE SPOUSE RELICENSURE REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM' is displayed in white on a dark blue background. To the right, the text 'Providing financial relief up to \$500' is shown, with '\$500' in a white box on an orange background. Below this, it states 'to Airmen whose spouses must transfer state occupational licenses or certifications'. At the bottom, it notes 'Effective for fees incurred during PCS/PCAs authenticated on or after December 12, 2017'. The URL 'www.afpc.af.mil/Benefits-and-Entitlements/Employment-Resources/' is at the very bottom.

AIR FORCE SPOUSE RELICENSURE REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

Providing financial relief
up to \$500

to Airmen whose spouses must transfer state occupational licenses or certifications

Effective for fees incurred during PCS/PCAs authenticated on or after December 12, 2017

www.afpc.af.mil/Benefits-and-Entitlements/Employment-Resources/

Defense leaders mull changes to overseas base policies to help military spouses find jobs

https://www.militarytimes.com/news/pentagon-congress/2019/05/13/defense-leaders-mull-changes-to-overseas-base-policies-to-help-military-spouses-find-jobs/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=EBB%2005.14.19&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief

Military Times © May 13, 2019

By: Leo Shane III

As Congress considers new rules to help military spouses find work stateside, military officials are moving to ease barriers for spouses working overseas.

Air Force Secretary Heather Wilson and Army Secretary Mark Esper said at a press event Monday they had signed a memorandum of understanding earlier in the day with Navy Secretary Richard Spencer to look into rule changes regarding spouses' employment at overseas bases.

The three services will spend the next few months discussing military-wide changes that could make working from home at overseas locations or applying for jobs at overseas bases easier.....

Space Coast —

Florida officials to hold summit on luring military's U.S. Space Command

https://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2019/05/08/Florida-officials-to-hold-summit-on-luring-militarys-US-Space-Command/7981557350193/

UPI © May 8, 2019

By Paul Brinkmann

Government officials in Florida have organized a summit to launch a campaign aimed at attracting the new Space Command military branch to the state.

Titled "Why Florida," the summit is open to the public but may not have much seating, according to the organizers. It will start at 12:30 p.m. Thursday at Orlando International Airport.....





Spotlight on Eglin Air Force Base

Eglin Air Force Base (AFB) is located approximately 3 miles southwest of Valparaiso, Florida in Okaloosa County.

Eglin AFB was established in 1935 as the Valparaiso Bombing and Gunnery Base. It is named in honor of Lieutenant Colonel Frederick I. Eglin (1891–1937), who was killed in a crash of his Northrop A-17 pursuit aircraft on a flight from Langley to Maxwell Field, Alabama.

The host unit at Eglin is the 96th Test Wing. The 96 TW is the test and evaluation center for Air Force air-delivered weapons, navigation and guidance systems, Command and Control systems, and Air Force Special Operations Command systems.

Eglin is an Air Force Materiel Command (AFMC) base serving as the focal point for all Air Force armaments. Eglin is responsible for the development, acquisition, testing, deployment and sustainment of all air-delivered non-nuclear weapons.

The base plans, directs and conducts test and evaluation of U.S. and allied air armament, navigation and guidance systems, and command and control systems.

Severe weather testing of aircraft and other equipment is carried out at the McKinley Climatic Laboratory.

Major units include the 96th Test Wing, 33rd Fighter Wing (includes both 58th Fighter Squadron and VFA 101 with F-35s), 53rd Wing, Air Force Research and Testing Laboratory, the Armament Directorate and 7th Special Forces Group.

96th Test Wing Mission

The 96th TW executes developmental test and evaluation enabling the warfighter to put weapons on target in all battlespace media while also providing support for all other Team Eglin missions as the installation host wing. Eglin deploys combat ready forces while delivering full spectrum support to the DoD's largest, most dynamic Air Force Installation.



The 96th Test Wing, Eglin AFB, Fla., is the test and evaluation center for Air Force air-delivered weapons, navigation and guidance systems, Command and Control systems, and Air Force Special Operations Command systems. The wing provides expert evaluation and validation of the perfor-

mance of systems throughout the design, development, acquisition, and sustainment process to ensure the warfighter has technologically superior, reliable, maintainable, sustainable and safe systems. The 96th TW performs developmental test and evaluation across the complete system life cycle for a wide variety of customers including: Air Force Systems Program Offices, the Air Force Research Laboratory, logistics and product centers; major commands; other DoD services and U.S. government agencies (Department of Transportation, NASA, etc.); foreign military sales; and private industry.

Additionally the wing commander serves as the installation commander, supporting Team Eglin with traditional military services as well as all the services of a small city, to include civil engineering, personnel, logistics, communications, computer, medical, security, and all other host services. Critical to the success of Eglin's mission, the 96th TW provides a myriad of base operating support functions like material resources, mobility requirements, and meeting the needs of Eglin personnel.



**Commander
Brigadier General
Evan Dertien**

Brig. Gen. Evan C. Dertien is the Commander, 96th Test Wing, Air Force Materiel Command, Eglin Air Force Base, Florida. The 96th Test Wing also supports seven tenant wings and wing equivalent units to include the 33rd Fighter Wing (F-35 Joint Strike Fighter), the Army's 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne), Joint Explosive Ordnance Disposal Training Center and 37 other associate units including the Army's 6th Ranger Training Battalion and the Air Force's 20th Space Control Squadron. As commander, he interacts with local officials across a three-county, 11 city region with a military economic impact of \$2.7 billion annually.

General Dertien served as an operational F-15 pilot and completed three combat deployments. He then served as an F-15 RTU instructor pilot and was selected to attend USAF Test Pilot School. He was also assigned as an initial cadre instructor pilot for the first operational F-22 unit at Langley AFB, Virginia. General Dertien served as a Flight Test Squadron Commander, Vice Wing Commander, Test Wing Commander and Vice Center Commander.

General Dertien is a command pilot with over 3,000 flying hours in a variety of aircraft.



F-35



Photos from the May 15th FDA Meeting in Tallahassee



Kellie Jo Kilberg



Joe Giangrosso



Liz Miller



Bruce Grant



Mike Jones



Lynn Brannon





Tom Neubauer



NOTES FROM THE STAFF

We had a great May 15th meeting in Tallahassee! Kellie Jo put together an extremely informative agenda and the meeting provided a tremendous opportunity for both learning and networking. Thanks to all who attended. Staff cannot thank you enough for all you do on a daily basis to support your military communities and keep Florida the most military friendly state in the nation! Your work on behalf of Florida’s military installations and missions truly makes a difference. The relationships you build with our base personnel are keys to solving problems and assisting our service members and their families. Keep up the great work! Hope to see many of you at the Annual ADC Summit in Washington June 10-12 to see Bay County recognized as a Great American Defense Community.

Florida Defense Alliance Leadership

Chair – Kellie Jo Kilberg

Vice Chair – Tim Jones

Mission Sustainment Working Group Chair – Mike Jones

Family Support Working Group Chair – Lynn Brannon

Executive Board: Jonathan Borgert, Jennifer Codo-Salisbury, Paul Hirsch and Jim Breitenfeld



Florida Defense Alliance Newsletter

June 5, 2019

FDA Vision: To maintain and enhance the position and reputation of Florida as the most military-friendly state in the nation.

NEWS

Space Command – The Florida Congressional delegation sent a letter to the Secretary of Defense questioning the announced down-select of 6 bases for Space Command. That letter can be found at: https://www.rubio.senate.gov/public/_cache/files/b7eebf0e-2250-47de-93af-f1dbbedd83d3/8955655DCB5CD79476CE200C5D922819.05232019-florida-delegation-letter-to-dod-re-space-command.pdf

Lawyers Assisting Warriors – Now Online – A new Governor initiated program was launched that provides contact information for pro-bono legal services for servicemembers. The Governor’s Initiative on Lawyers Assisting Warriors (GI LAW) will draw from the talent of Florida’s leading law firms to provide pro bono services for military members. Through this initiative, our state’s men and women in uniform will receive local counsel in a variety of civil matters, including actions in local courts. Participating attorneys will dedicate time and expertise to ensure prompt and fair resolution of legal matters.” Information is available through the FDA web site at: <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense/lawyers-assisting-warriors/>

Florida Licensure Reciprocity – Florida is the nation’s leader is providing licensure reciprocity for military spouses. Through their VALOR Program, the Florida Department of Health honors all valid and current medical licenses from other states and will issue the same license from Florida for no fee. The Department of Business and Professional Regulation honors all valid and current professional licenses from other states and will issue the same license for the corresponding profession from Florida. The Florida Department of Education honors all valid and current standard or professional teaching certifications from other states and will issue a corresponding Florida certification. The Florida Bar allows active duty military spouses who are members of the bar of other states to practice law in Florida when they accompany a military member stationed in Florida. The following web sites contain this same information:

Health – <http://www.flhealthsource.gov/valor>

Professions – <http://www.myfloridalicense.com/DBPR/military-services/military-and-veteran-spouses/>

Education – <http://www.fldoe.org/teaching/certification/military/#MCFW>

Law -- <https://www-media.floridabar.org/uploads/2019/04/Ch-21-RRTFB-3-29-19.pdf>

Note: This is the language that will be highlighted in the 2019 Florida Military Friendly Guide

Host a Hero Program -- Host A Hero is dedicated to rewarding our nation’s bravest warriors and their families. The mission of her organization is to enrich the lives of our ACTIVE DUTY Special Operations Forces combat warriors by providing them and their immediate family an all-expense paid, week-long vacation to reunite, relax and reconnect. This program seeks to help our Special Operations Forces that are perpetually prepared for active engagement and statistically at the greatest risk of losing their lives. Quality time with

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their family is a luxury that is often unattainable. Host A Hero works as a liaison between Second Home Donors and Eligible Active Elite Combat Warriors. Additionally, through generous monetary contributions, we cover all week-long vacation expenses, including flights, ground transportation, gas, groceries, dining, activities, and cleaning. More information is available at: <https://hostahero.org/>

Governor's Base Commanders Meeting Set – Governor DeSantis' first Base Commander meeting is set for June 12, 2019 at Camp Blanding. We encourage FDA leaders to contact their bases and offer assistance in preparing Base Commanders for this meeting. If there are any issues that can be worked/solved in the local community, FDA always attempts to help our Base Commanders with them.

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Economic Impact Analysis – Matrix Design has been awarded the contract to complete the 2019 Florida Defense Economic Impact Analysis. This is the study that produces the Florida Defense Factbook every other year. We expect the new 2019 Florida Defense Factbook to be published by December 2019.

Welcome Ray Collins, Newest Member of the Team – We want to extend a warm welcome Ray Collins, Lt. Col., USAF (ret). Ray served a full military career as an Air Force intelligence and foreign area officer. He spent much of his career as a strategic planner, command & control expert and crisis manager serving in a variety of fixed, ground mobile and airborne command centers. Ray served at both CENTCOM and SOUTHCOM during his career. Ray has assumed duties as the Deputy Executive Director of the Florida Defense Support Task Force.

From ADC:

Senate NDAA Includes Raise in Military Pay, Privatized Housing Reforms

Posted on May 27, 2019 07:17 pm

The GOP-led Senate Armed Services Committee advanced its version of the fiscal 2020 National Defense Authorization Act Wednesday, authorizing \$750 billion in defense spending while departing from the White House on how some DOD funding is allocated.

The measure aligns with President Donald Trump's overall fiscal 2020 defense request, but notably reduced from \$164 billion to \$75 billion his request for uncapped overseas contingency funds, according to a bill summary released Thursday.

The committee authorized a base budget of \$642.5 billion and \$23.2 billion for Department of Energy national security programs. It also authorized \$8.4 billion in defense-related spending.

Military construction accounts were also authorized \$3.6 billion to replenish funding that had been redirected toward a southern border barrier.

Other authorizations included:

- An additional 7,700 troops and a 3.1% military pay raise
- \$40 million for educational agencies supporting children of military families and \$10 million for schools supporting severely disabled military children.
- Military privatized housing reforms, including pulling some funding from private contractors and

redirecting it toward installation housing improvements.

- Approval to move forward with creating the administration's proposed space force.
- \$10 billion for 94 fifth-generation Lockheed-Martin F-35s, 16 more than the administration requested.
- \$948 million for eight Boeing F-15EXs, matching the Air Force's request.
- \$24.1 billion to buy 12 new battleships matching shipbuilding funding for fiscal 2019.

The NDAA process next moves to the House where it will mark up its own annual defense policy bill in early June. It then moves to a House-Senate conference the second week of June.

ADC Congratulates 2019 Defense Community Award Winners

Posted on May 28, 2019 08:15 pm

ADC is proud to announce the 2019 recipients of its Defense Community Awards. Winners will be recognized during the 2019 Defense Communities National Summit, June 10-12, in Washington.

Community/State Leadership Award, recognizing an individual whose outstanding leadership helps build a military-community partnership to enhance the mission of an active installation:

- * Kay Ivey, Governor, State of Alabama
- * Michael Coleman, Military Relations Liaison, Commonwealth of Virginia Office of Veterans and Defense Affairs

Military Leadership Award, recognizing an individual from any branch of the military whose outstanding leadership has been essential in building and sustaining partnerships with defense communities that are home to active, realigning or closing installations:

- * Col. Marc Packler, Commander, 375th Communications Group, Scott Air Force Base, Ill.
- * Ivan Bolden, Chief, Army Partnerships, Department of Defense

John Lynch Base Redevelopment Leadership Award, recognizing an individual for outstanding leadership in guiding economic development following base realignment or closure:

- * Michael Houlemard, Jr., Executive Officer, Fort Ord Reuse Authority, Calif.

House Blocked From Approving Disaster Aid Bill for Third Time

Posted on May 30, 2019 07:48 pm

The bipartisan \$19.1 billion disaster aid bill stalled again Thursday when for the third time a GOP lawmaker objected to a request to approve the package by unanimous consent, CQ reported.

Rep. John Rose (R-Tenn.) blocked the latest request, following previous procedural objections by Reps. Chip Roy (R-Texas) and Thomas Massie (R-Ky.).

"This is absolutely, without a doubt wrong," Rose said in blocking the latest request. He objected to the approval of nearly \$20 billion in spending while the majority of lawmakers were out of Washing-

ton.

The package, which gained approval from both the Senate and President Donald Trump late last week, is now expected to pass the House when lawmakers return Monday.

The long-delayed disaster relief package includes \$3.2 billion to rebuild military bases and Coast Guard facilities that have sustained extensive damage from natural disasters in the past year.



FDA CALENDAR:



Mission Sustainment Conference Call

Week of July 8th—TBD

More Information to Follow

Thursday, September 12, 2019

FDA Conference Call Meeting

9:00 AM CDT/10:00 AM EDT



FDA Website: www.enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense/

QUOTATION OF THE DAY

“It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat.”
--- Theodore Roosevelt



News from the Bases & Regions

National Guard—

National Guard teams, local first responders train together to save lives

<https://www.news4jax.com/news/military/national-guard-teams-local-first-responders-train-together-to-save-lives>

News4Jax © May 30, 2019

By Vic Micolucci

When your life depends on it, first responders are there. However, when there's an emergency like a hurricane, the governor often calls up the Florida National Guard for additional help.

With the countdown to June 1, the official start of the 2019 hurricane season, and with the reminder from Hurricane Michael that storms can be deadly and devastating, search and rescue teams are training hard for the next emergency.

The Florida National Guard teams that were on the ground in the Panhandle last October after Michael made landfall as a Category 5 storm, invited News4Jax to see firsthand how they are training for the next emergency.....

Space Coast/Space Command—

Senate authorizers approve Space Force but switch up its organizational structure

https://www.defensenews.com/space/2019/05/23/senate-authorizers-approve-space-force-but-switch-up-its-organizational-structure/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ebb%2004.24.19&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief

Defense News © May 23, 2019

By: Valerie Insinna

The Senate Armed Services Committee has approved the establishment of a Space Force in its defense authorization bill, potentially setting up a clash with House lawmakers who have questioned the need for a sixth military branch for space.....



Marco Rubio, Rick Scott question Defense Secretary over Space Command

<https://floridapolitics.com/archives/297369-marco-rubio-rick-scott-question-defense-secretary-over-space-command>

Florida Politics © May 27, 2019

Just a mere couple of weeks ago Florida, received official confirmation that the state is no longer in the running for U.S. Space Command (USSPACECOM). Now, Sens. Marco Rubio and Rick Scott are formally responding to Acting Secretary of Defense, Patrick Shanahan, regarding the disappointing announcement that left local officials stunned. On Thursday, Rubio issued a letter to the acting Secretary with the support of the state's entire congressional delegation. Scott was among the signers.....

Tyndall AFB—

Tyndall AFB discusses rebuilding plans with local contractors

<https://www.mypanhandle.com/news/tyndall-afb-discusses-rebuilding-plans-with-local-contractors/2040760584>

My Panhandle.com © May 31, 2019

One of the groups that need disaster funding the most is Tyndall Air Force Base, but even with the disaster bill stuck in Congress plans are still moving forward to rebuild.

The Air Force is committed to rebuilding Tyndall due to its unique airspace, which provides opportunities for building next-generation aircraft and the chance to participate in large scale engagements.

Eglin AFB—

The last F-35C Lightning II belonging to “Grim Reapers” squadron left its home base

<https://defence-blog.com/news/the-last-f-35c-lightning-ii-belonging-to-grim-reapers-squadron-left-its-home-base.html>

Defence Blog © May 25, 2019

The U.S. Navy's Commander Joint Strike Fighter Wing has announced that the last F-35C Lightning II fighter jet belonging to Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 101 “Grim Reapers” left its home base at Eglin, AFB in Fla. for Naval Air Station Lemoore (NASL) as the squadron deactivated after more than seven years of training F-35C pilots and Sailors and Marines.....



Robotic arm is newest Egin innovation

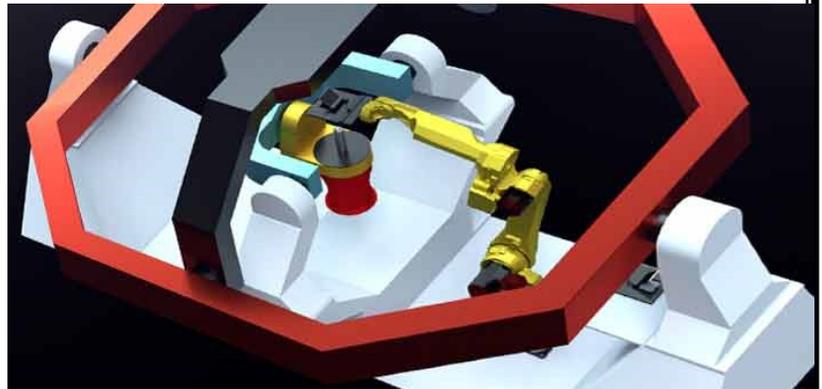
http://niceville.com/robotic-arm-is-newest-eglin-innovation/?fbclid=IwAR3V6o4VxefbEraXX1Ox--fQdo-MdpKdyI5WXz_zKh_fGNzHbKdIpfMGIo

By Niceville on May 27, 2019

What began as just a casual comment about a robotic arm during a performance evaluation quickly became the 96th Test Wing's newest funded innovation project and a kick off for the wing's Efficiency Challenge.

The project is to purchase and mount a robotic arm to missile flight motion simulator, located in the Guided Weapons Evaluation Facility. The robotic arm, known as CalBot, will perform multiple instrument calibrations to the simulation autonomously greatly reducing test downtime and manpower.....

The flight motion simulator is a gyroscopic test device used to create flight simulations for missiles. A large hydraulic arm moves and rotates around the seeker portion of a missile simulating an aircraft in flight. Upon (simulated) missile launch, another arm moves the seeker to track and intercept the aircraft. Data is gathered from the test to improve weapon reliability and performance.



SOUTHCOM—

SOUTHCOM Commander US Navy Admiral Faller Optimistic about Venezuela Crisis

<https://dialogo-americas.com/en/articles/southcom-commander-us-navy-admiral-faller-optimistic-about-venezuela-crisis>

Dialago Americas © May 30, 2019

By Marcos Ommati

When experts gather to discuss security issues in Latin America, they inevitably talk about Venezuela. That was also the case on May 22, at Florida International University's Fourth Annual Hemispheric Security Conference, where U.S. Navy Admiral Craig S. Faller, commander of U.S. Southern Command (SOUTHCOM), led the discussions.....



Spotlight on Naval Support Activity Panama City



Mission

Naval Support Activity Panama City's professional military and civilian personnel deliver an integrated suite of efficient, effective, and responsive shore capabilities, to enable and sustain the readiness of tenant activities.

The Activity totals 657 acres and houses 221 buildings. The unique conditions in the Gulf of Mexico, coupled with mission synergy make NSA PC, an ideal location for fleet training and littoral warfare missions. NSA, Panama City employs approximately 3000 civilian and military personnel with an annual payroll of more than \$294 million. The Activity contracts services, buys local goods and maintains an active construction program. Its economic impact is more than \$600 million annually. Throughout its existence, NSA Panama City and its tenants have continued to evolve to meet the demanding requirements of the U.S. Navy - to defend today and to plan for tomorrow in response to national needs.



Military Value and Strengths

Mine Warfare: Continued advancements in mine warfare are vital to the key customers of NSWC PCD. Mine detection, avoidance and countermeasures are necessary to ensure battlespace dominance of the littorals. NSWC PCD maintains an aggressive research and development effort to meet future requirements for mine warfare.

Homeland Defense: NSWC PCD is a leader in applying military technology to Homeland Security. Technologies emerging from NSWC PCD mission areas are inherently adaptable to homeland security.

Unique Missions: NSA PC tenants are also unique and their capabilities are synergistic to the NSWC PCD Littoral Warfare mission areas.

National Asset: NSA PC and its tenants have responsibilities that are inherently governmental and are performed by a critical mass of technical and scientific experts whose combined knowledge is a national asset.

Joint Warfighting: NSWC PCD has extensive sponsor funding for Joint Program development, training and readiness in a variety of critical areas such as Chem/Bio defense, diving systems, situational awareness systems and maritime special operations systems.

Growth Capacity: NSA is an excellent candidate-receiving site: Quality of life is excellent, and there is adequate space for complementary mission growth.

Major Tenant Commands:

- Naval Surface Warfare Center, Panama City Division
- Naval Diving and Salvage Training Center

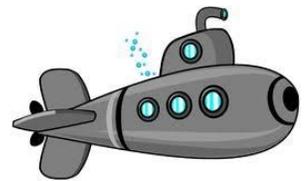
- Navy Experimental Diving Unit
- Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit Six
- Naval Special Warfare Group 3 (NSWG-3) for future Detachment Shallow Water Combat Submersible
- Center for Explosive Ordnance Disposal and Diving

NSA Tenant Commands Mission Areas:

- Research and Development Testing and Evaluation
- Mine Warfare
- Amphibious & Expeditionary Warfare
- Naval Special Warfare
- Unmanned Systems
- Fleet Support
- Diving, Life Support, Salvage, Rescue, SDV Seal Delivery Vehicle Training

Major Responsibilities:

- System Engineering Role in Acquisition
- Maintenance of Specialized Navy-Unique Expertise and Facilities
- Quick Reaction Support to Fleet, Often in Theater
- Warfare Analysis for Warfare Procurement
- Deployable Joint Command and Control



**Commander
Kevin Christenson**

CDR Kevin Christenson enlisted in the United States Navy in August 1988 and was detailed as a submarine nuclear propulsion operator. In 1995 while on instructor duty, he was selected for the enlisted commissioning program. Christenson graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering at the University of Florida and was commissioned in May 2000.

His sea assignments include Engineering Watch Supervisor on the USS Michigan (SSBN 727). During his first operational flight tour with Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron Light Four Four, he served as Air Detachment Training Officer on the USS Philippine Sea (CG 58); Air Detachment Maintenance Officer on the USS Churchill (DDG 81); Air Detachment Maintenance Officer on the USS San Jacinto (CG 56) and HSL 44's Squadron Quality Assurance Officer. While attached to the Vipers of Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron Light Four Eight, he served as Air Boss on USS Bulkeley (DDG 84) and HSL-48's Squadron Operations Officer.

Christenson's assignments ashore include Instructor at the University of Florida; Tomahawk mission planner and Deputy Joint Strike Officer at COMUSNAVCENT; Navy Region Southeast's Deputy Operations Officer; Executive Assistant to Commander, Navy Region Southeast; NSA Bahrain's Executive Officer; Naval Surface Warfare Center-Panama City Division's Executive Officer.

CDR Christenson is a shore installation management community officer.



Naval Surface Warfare Center Panama City Division Commanding Officer Capt. Aaron Peters, USN, dives the Diver Augmented Vision Display (DAVD) heads-up display mounted inside the Kirby Morgan 37 Oct. 12, 2017 during in-water testing at Naval Diving Salvage Training Center in Panama City, Florida. U.S. Navy photo by Anthony Powers (Released)



NSWC PCD proudly supports the Program Executive Office Littoral Ship (PEO LCS) Mine Countermeasure Mission Package for the U.S. Navy



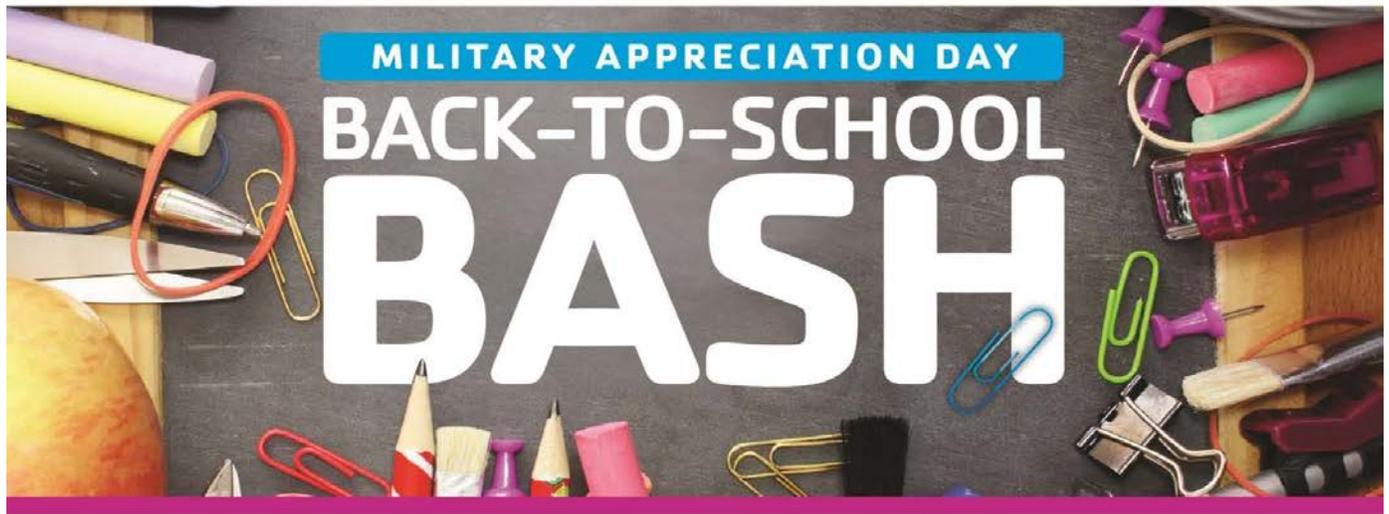
NSWC PCD is home to LCAC 66 and 91 - two Landing Craft Air Cushions used for Fleet modernization and future LCAC fleet testing. NSWC PCD proudly supports NAVSEA's next generation LCAC called the Ship to Shore Connector



The MK-29 Initial Response Diving project is the latest example of rapid prototyping using 3D laser scanning and 3D printing for test and evaluation purposes in support of our Fleet customers.



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



MILITARY APPRECIATION DAY BACK-TO-SCHOOL BASH

**Calling all active duty,
guard and reserve
military members!**

You do so much to keep our country safe – let us give back to you. Please join us for a fun-filled day focused on the health and well-being of you and your family.



**Saturday, July 27 &
August 3, 2019**

10:00am – 1:00pm

To register for event, please visit:
2019FLMilitaryB2S.EventBrite.COM

July 27th Events:

WINSTON FAMILY YMCA
221 Riverside Ave.
Jacksonville, FL 32202
904.355.1436

**BARCO-NEWTON
FAMILY YMCA**
2075 Town Center Blvd.
Fleming Island, FL 32003
904.278.9622

ST. AUGUSTINE YMCA
500 Pope Rd.
St. Augustine, FL 32080
904.471.9622

BROOKS FAMILY YMCA
10423 Centurion Pkwy N
Jacksonville, FL 32256
904.854.2000

**MCARTHUR FAMILY
YMCA**
1915 Citrona Dr.
Fernandina Beach, FL
32034
904.261.1080

**THE BETTY J. PULLMAN
FAMILY YMCA**
2379 Pawnee Drive
Navarre, FL 32566
850.936.0049

August 3rd Events:

**HOMESTEAD FAMILY
YMCA**
1034 NE 8th Street
Homestead, FL 33030
305.248.5189

SUNCOAST YMCA
1005 S. Highlands
Clearwater, FL 33756
727.467.9622

FRANK DELUCA YMCA
3200 SE 17th Street
Ocala, FL 34471
352.368.9622

OSCEOLA COUNTY YMCA
2117 W Mabbette St.
Kissimmee, FL 34741
407.847.7413

**TITUSVILLE FAMILY
CENTER YMCA**
2400 Harrison Street
Titusville, FL 32780
321.267.8924

MCMILLIAN ARMORY
1225 Easterwood Drive
Tallahassee, FL 32311
850.245.0131

Join our 'BAND' for the most up to date info, photos and more!

Visit <https://band.us/@flmilitaryb2s> or Download 'BAND' from Apple & Google Play Store or Scan Code:



The Back to School event serves dependents from all branches of service. We are in need of school supplies and backpacks and we would love to have vendors and service providers in attendance across the state that work in education, employment, childcare, behavioral health and nutrition. For more information please contact Lynn Brannon, Building Healthy Military Communities, at (904) 229-6440.

POSTER OF THE DAY:



TEAMWORK

The nice thing about teamwork is that you always have others on your side. ~ Margaret Carty

NOTES FROM THE STAFF

Staff cannot thank you enough for all you do on a daily basis to support your military communities and keep Florida the most military friendly state in the nation! Your work on behalf of Florida's military installations and missions truly makes a difference. The relationships you build with our base personnel are keys to solving problems and assisting our service members and their families. Keep up the great work! We look forward to seeing many of you at the Annual ADC Summit in Washington June 10-12 where Bay County will be recognized as a Great American Defense Community.

Florida Defense Alliance Leadership

Chair – Kellie Jo Kilberg

Vice Chair – Tim Jones

Mission Sustainment Working Group Chair – Mike Jones

Family Support Working Group Chair – Lynn Brannon

Executive Board: Jonathan Borgert, Jennifer Codo-Salisbury, Paul Hirsch and Jim Breitenfeld



Florida Defense Alliance Newsletter

June 19, 2019

FDA Vision: To maintain and enhance the position and reputation of Florida as the most military-friendly state in the nation.

NEWS

Association of Defense Communities National Summit – The ADC held their annual summit in Washington, D.C. June 10-12th. Florida was represented by approximately 20 members of the FDSTF and the Florida Defense Alliance. All present had many valuable opportunities to hear from, and discuss concerns with, multiple members of Congress, Mrs. Karen Pence (2nd Lady of the United States), numerous defense and service secretaries, undersecretaries, assistance secretaries and service chiefs as well as local defense community leaders from around the country. The articles of interest this week summarize the discussions from this summit and the hyperlink that follows links to the summit website. <https://www.adcsummit.org/>

Governor's Base Commanders' Conference – Last week, at Camp Blanding Joint Training Center, Governor DeSantis held his first meeting with military base commanders from around the State of Florida. Topics discussed included encroachment, quality of schools or difficulties for students transferring mid-term due to Permanent Change of Station moves, protection of the Gulf Range, tolls and Tyndall AFB reconstruction efforts were topics that surfaced repeatedly.

Eight Florida Bases on List of DoD's Most Threatened by Climate Change – This week the Department of Defense presented to Congress a prioritized list of the bases most vulnerable to the effects of climate change. This week's list is a supplement to a January report (attached) on the overall impact of climate change on the military's bases, however DoD did not have the list of affected bases prioritized by January. Of note, six Florida Air Force bases plus NAS Key West and USMC Support Facility Blount Island all are among DoD's installations most vulnerable to the ongoing effects of global climate change. The article and full list is here: <https://www.defensecommunities.org/blog/congress-dod/gao-most-u-s-installations-underprepared-for-climate-change/>

Senator Rick Scott sponsors bill providing education savings accounts for military families — Senator Scott is pushing to expand school choice options for military families, co-sponsoring a bill called the "Education Savings Accounts for Military Families Act of 2019." The measure would grant \$6,000 to families, increasing annually, to go toward private schools, private tutoring or other education options. The bill "builds on our efforts to help make Florida the most military and veteran-friendly state in the country — and provides military families the flexibility to choose which educational opportunities are the best fit for their family."

Secretary of State Visits MacDill Air Force Base — On Monday, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo met with Marine Gen. **Kenneth McKenzie Jr.** and Army Gen. **Richard Clarke**, commanders of U.S. Central Command and U.S. Special Operations Command respectively, to align the Government's efforts in the Middle East, according to Central Command. The meeting focused on deterrence plans against Iran after U.S. officials blamed the country for two recent oil

ENTERPRISE
FLORIDA

tanker attacks in the Gulf of Oman. “We are there to deter aggression,” Pompeo said. “President Trump does not want war.”

New Secretary of Defense Nominated – Acting Secretary of Defense Patrick Shanahan has withdrawn from consideration as the next SECDEF. President Trump has chosen Secretary of the Army Mark Esper as the acting Secretary of Defense.

From ADC:

Senate to Start Debate on Fiscal 2020 Defense Policy Bill Tuesday

Posted on Jun 16, 2019 06:50 pm

The Senate is scheduled to start debating its version of the fiscal 2020 National Defense Authorization Act on Tuesday.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell formally moved to set debate this week after Armed Services Committee Chairman James Inhofe (R-Okla.) and Ranking Member Jack Reed (D-R.I.) formally filed the legislation on Wednesday for floor action, according to a press release.

The House is expected to begin debating its version of the annual defense policy bill the week following its return from the Independence Day holiday recess.

The companion versions by the GOP-led Senate Armed Services Committee and Democrat-led Armed Services panel agree on many major issues, but critical differences are expected to create friction.

Key differences between the two bills include a significant gap on the overall level of defense spending and the use of DOD funds for the administration’s southern border barrier construction.

“I am concerned about the House and some of the differences that exist between our two committees,” Sen. James M. Inhofe (R-Okla.), Senate Armed Services Chairman told CQ. “But that’s what conferences are for.”

The Senate bill would authorize \$741.5 billion in discretionary defense spending, while the House version would reduce that level by nearly \$17 billion to \$724.9 billion. The significant spending differences on the fiscal 2020 defense spending could foreshadow contentious negotiations on the overall fiscal 2020 budget this summer.

The two NDAA versions also differ on other provisions including climate policy and the final makeup of the administration’s proposed space force.

The two versions vary on their approach to space force funding, but they agree on the general structure of a new space corps.

Space Force Authorized by House Armed Services Lawmakers

Posted on Jun 13, 2019 07:58 pm

The House Armed Services Committee authorized language Thursday in its fiscal 2020 National Defense Authorization Act bill that would create a new space force military branch.

The measure, offered by Rep. Jim Cooper (R-Tenn.), chairman of the Strategic Forces subcommit-

tee and Rep. Mike Rogers (R-Ala.), advanced with unanimous support and would authorize funding for a space corps within the Air Force, according to [Defense News](#).

“It is not a \$13 billion expenditure, a gold-plated plan like had been proposed to us by the Secretary of the Air Force,” Cooper said. “It is instead a reorganization so that space professionals can be properly recognized for their skill and ability and be promoted.”

The House defense bill differs from the Senate’s version which authorizes forming a new space military service with funding set at \$72.4 million.

Tyndall Receives \$250 Million from Disaster Relief Package for Recovery Projects

Posted on Jun 12, 2019 01:48 pm

Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla., will receive \$250 million of the disaster recovery funds provided in the recently passed disaster relief bill, Inside Defense reported.

The bill, signed by President Donald Trump last week, allocated the Air Force \$670 million for expenses. Tyndall is expected to begin making awards for its share of the funding to rebuild base infrastructure damaged in Hurricane Michael last October.

Brig. Gen. Patrice Melancon, Tyndall’s Program Management Office executive director, said the installation will soon award contracts for smaller repair projects and to replace three key buildings: a fire station that was wiped out by the hurricane, a small arms training range and the air battle manager simulation building, according to Inside Defense.

Tyndall will also continue with current recovery repair projects, perform debris cleanup and demolition, and begin to return to the installation’s long-term recovery plan.

Col. Brian Laidlaw, commander of the 325th Fighter Wing, described the path forward for reducing operations costs at Tyndall.

“We’re going to do the same amount of mission in the future, but our intent is to do it in a smaller number of facilities that are more efficient, that are more resilient, that cost less over time to maintain operations and maintenance bills,” he said.

DOD’s McMahon Expresses Support for DCIP at Defense Communities National Summit

Posted on Jun 12, 2019 01:52 pm

Assistant Secretary of Defense for Sustainment Robert McMahon addressed the 2019 Defense Communities National Summit Tuesday in a morning question-and-answer session.

Below are a few highlights of McMahon’s remarks:

On the Defense Community Infrastructure Program: “Conceptually it’s a very important program,” McMahon said. “If the funding is made available, then the question is how to go execute. There are infinite projects and a finite amount of money. It’s a DOD program that will be pursued if the funding comes through.”

On Military Housing: “We need to look at military housing from a broad view of how we provide housing for all service members and in individual communities,” McMahon said. “Right now we’re focusing the those who live in privatized housing on installations. I agree with what Senator Inhofe

said earlier that we ‘took our eye off the ball.’ I’m also proud of the military families that came forward and brought the attention to it that it deserves.”

On BRAC: McMahon emphasized that in the current budget environment there are no new planned BRAC rounds, but that could change in the future. “You can make difference by talking to your garrison and installation commanders,” McMahon said. “What are you doing today to make sure you’re a gainer?” Thinking of things you can do to help installations is essential.”

On ADC: “Thank you for what you do for your military installation and the support you provide to service members and families,” McMahon said. “If you have a military installation in your community, it’s important to remember it’s a privilege, not a right. Remember that it’s a competitive environment so you need to make the effort to do it right.”

House Passes Long-Stalled Disaster Aid, Sends to President for Signature

Posted on Jun 03, 2019 07:45 pm

The House finally passed a \$19.1 billion disaster aid package Monday night, ending a long-delayed stalemate over recovery funding needed after a series of natural disasters over the past year, Roll Call reported.

The package, which passed with bipartisan support, was approved by the Senate before the week-long Memorial Day recess, but then became stalled over House procedural hurdles. It received a 354-58 vote Monday evening and now heads to the president for his signature.

During the recess the Democrat-led House attempted three times to pass the bill by unanimous consent, but each time a GOP lawmaker blocked approval with objections that a costly spending bill deserves a recorded vote by the entire chamber. They also said it should have included money for the crisis at the southern border.

The package includes \$3.2 billion to rebuild military installations and Coast Guard facilities that were damaged by extreme weather events in the past year.

Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N.C., suffered \$3.6 billion in damage from Hurricane Florence in September, and in October Hurricane Michael caused an estimated \$3 billion in damage to Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla.

In March, major Missouri River flooding struck Offutt Air Force Base, Neb., causing \$420 million in damage. Those bases and others have been awaiting recovery funds as some repair work has been halted, as On Base has reported.

Space Command Nominee Receives Positive Senate Reception, Pledges Seamless Transition of Commands

Posted on Jun 04, 2019 07:31 pm

Air Force Gen. John Raymond, the administration’s nominee to lead the proposed space force, enjoyed a smooth Senate confirmation hearing Tuesday but warned lawmakers there would be substantial challenges ahead in forming the new command, [The Hill](#) reported.

During his Senate Armed Services Committee confirmation hearing, Raymond, currently chief of the Air Force Space Command at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., offered few details on how DOD would create the new space command. He did pledge to lawmakers careful coordination of resources to streamline the nation’s space defense capabilities.

“If confirmed, my first priority will be to ensure the seamless transition of the command and control of critical space capabilities that the nation and the joint force depend on each-and-every day,” Raymond wrote in responses to earlier questions from lawmakers, which were released during his confirmation hearing.

The Air Force’s fiscal 2020 budget requested \$84 million in funding to start the command, and in his written responses Raymond said it will require an initial group of about 642 personnel from commands across the military.



NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

Last week, we were in Washington, DC at the ADC Summit. Florida had a great delegation in attendance as we celebrated Bay County being recognized as a Great American Defense Community. Once again, we were reminded that having an installation in your community is a privilege and not a right. Just like in professional sports, communities must be innovative to keep installations and recruit new missions that fit their installations and communities. In fact, communities need to be offering solutions to challenges for our installations as well as the military families assigned to those bases. My thought-provoking questions to you – are you being strategic, innovative and timely in seeking solutions with urgency or are you relying on one or two people to carry the ball or simply just following a meeting schedule and agenda? Is there engagement at your meetings or just updated presentations? Are you spending 15 to 20 minutes of every meeting on strategic initiatives? Are you inviting new people to your group to expand your knowledge, influence and resources? Are you educating your communities on the importance of the missions at your installations? How does your community show support for our military men, women and their families? When was the last time that you cataloged all the activities and events in your communities? It might be time to do a deep dive reality check on your programs.

Resiliency was a big topic at the summit. What programs at your installations are addressing the issues of resiliency across the infrastructure board from energy to water (quality and quantity) to transportation to cyber? Today, we must be forward thinking and solution seekers. We need to keep our minds, eyes and ears open to the changing waves of innovation, partnerships and costs reductions to stay and grow in this industry of military and defense. If you continue to do the same old thing, your installations and missions will be moving to those areas addressing current and future needs.

Until next time, be out asking questions and listening for challenges as well as solutions for your installations. Enjoy your days of summer and continue to grow your base of influence.

Kellie Jo Kilberg

FDA CALENDAR:

Mission Sustainment Conference Call

Wednesday, July 10th - 10 AM EDT

(888) 585-9008

Conference Room 262-492-927

Family Support Conference Call

Tuesday, July 16, 2019 - 1:00 PM EDT

(888) 585-9008

Conference Room 262-492-927

Thursday, September 12, 2019

FDA Conference Call Meeting

9:00 AM CDT/10:00 AM EDT

FDA Website: www.enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense/

QUOTATION OF THE DAY

“Far and away the best prize that life has to offer is the chance to work hard at work worth doing.”

--- Theodore Roosevelt

News from the Bases & Regions

Military Spouses/Families—

Google Rolls Out Remote Job Search Tool Aimed at Military Spouses

13 May 2019

Military.com | By Amy Bushatz

<https://www.military.com/2019/05/13/google-rolls-out-remote-job-search-tool-aimed-military-spouses.html?fbclid=IwAR1qX32jmp6xCsUK8VBid-F5uYvvBxrslfhoy4FoqwzTack-ltHFV4wekn4>

A new search feature announced Friday by Google and designed specifically for military spouse job seekers aims to make it easier to find remote jobs.

Thanks to the upgrade, now users need only type their field of work and "work from home" or a similar phrase into the search box to specifically pull out jobs that can be done remotely, Google officials said.

The search upgrade was one of several announcements made Friday by Google to coincide with Military Spouse Appreciation Day. Although it will not only look for jobs targeted at military spouses and can be used by anyone interested in remote work, the company launched it because of its ongoing efforts to promote veteran and spouse economic growth, said Jacqueline Fuller, vice president of Google.org, Google's philanthropic arm....

A MILITARY FAMILY'S GUIDE TO SCHOOL TRANSITIONS



<http://militaryfamiliesforhighstandards.org/military-family-guide-interactive?fbclid=IwAR01vKOaVnGbZ4BytgyBXOHmNvL8fb67grp3InpicCeHC6GZiRJyoi12370>

Moving to a new post can spark anxiety in military families over the quality of the schools in a new location. But families with children in preschool through high school can take certain actions to mitigate these concerns and help their children transition effectively to a new school.

This guide has been compiled by military spouses with decades of experience, and endorsed by nine organizations who support military families, in an effort to help simplify that process. Cherry Okahara, military liaison for the Hawaii Department of Education suggests that “parents keep this [guide] with them or put this in their favorites bookmark on their computer.”

Whiting Field—



A MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

Recently, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Florida Park Service had the privilege of being selected as a finalist for the National Gold Medal. The award is presented by the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration in partnership with the National Recreation and Park Association. The Florida Park Service is the only three-time winner of the Gold Medal, and we are working to win a fourth.

Being selected as a finalist recognizes the terrific work of our staff, volunteers and partners. Together, we make sure visitors can have transformative experiences, even as we protect the best of Florida's natural and cultural resources. With over 800,000 acres, including 100 miles of beaches, the Florida Park Service has a proud legacy of leading conservation and recreation in Florida. This legacy is built on the way the Park Service connects with people, engages with communities and adapts to emerging needs. You can watch our new video to see some of the great things happening in Florida State Parks.

Founded in 1965, the Gold Medal Awards program honors communities in the United States for excellence in parks and recreation through long-range planning, resource management, volunteerism and environmental stewardship. The awards are separated into five classes based on population, one class for armed forces recreation, and one class for state park systems that is awarded on odd numbered years

Nationally, we are happy to congratulate our fellow finalists, Tennessee State Parks, Maryland State Parks and Washington State Parks. In Florida, we congratulate the City of Tampa Parks and Recreation Department and **Naval Air Station Whiting Field in Milton**. They are competing in the 150,000 to 400,000 population class and the armed forces recreation class, respectively.

We thank our visitors, staff, volunteers and partners for helping to make Florida State Parks one of the best park systems in the country.

Eric Draper

Space Coast/Space Command—

Space Corps' gets OK in House committee's NDAA markup

<https://www.defensenews.com/congress/2019/06/13/space-corps-gets-ok-from-hasc-ndaa-markup/>

Defense News © June 13, 2019

By Joe Gould

The House Armed Services Committee approved a new military branch for space early Thursday. The panel unanimously adopted the measure by a voice vote after debating for less than an hour. It was offered by Strategic Forces Subcommittee chairman Jim Cooper, D-Tenn., and Rep. Mike Rogers, R-Ala., who first offered the idea of a sixth branch two years ago.

"So the Space Corps is as close as we could make it to the proposal that passed this committee overwhelmingly," Cooper said.....

Tyndall AFB—

President Trump signs disaster aid bill

<https://www.newsherald.com/news/20190606/president-trump-signs-disaster-aid-bill>

By Patrick McCreless

News Herald © June 6, 2019

President Donald Trump signed into law on Thursday the long-awaited supplemental disaster aid bill for Hurricane Michael recovery, including the rebuilding of Tyndall Air Force Base.

The bill was signed nearly eight months since the Category 5 hurricane struck the Panhandle. The legislation, passed by the House a few days ago after much political bickering, also includes billions of dollars for other recent natural disasters.....

Florida National Guard—

Director of Emergency Management, senior leaders talk Florida Guard capabilities before peak hurricane season

<https://www.dvidshub.net/news/326794/director-emergency-management-senior-leaders-talk-florida-guard-capabilities-before-peak-hurricane-season>

VIDS © June 11, 2019

Story by Staff Sgt. Carmen Fleischmann, Florida National Guard Public Affairs Office

Ahead of any threatening hurricane or potential natural disaster, the governor of Florida has the authority to activate the state's National Guard. Since the numbers and specific equipment needed might vary depending on the severity of the threat, it is vital for senior leaders at the state level and the Division of Emergency Management to understand the force's capabilities.

With that goal in mind, the Adjutant General of Florida Maj. Gen. James O. Eifert and key Florida National Guard leaders met with DEM Director Jared Moskowitz today at Camp Blanding Joint Training Center post headquarters.....

Florida Guard unit completes mission at Exercise Tradewinds 2019

https://www.army.mil/article/223167/florida_guard_unit_completes_mission_at_exercise_tradewinds_2019

By Sgt. Leia Tascarini and 2nd Lt. James Lanza, Florida National Guard

LAS CALDERAS NAVAL BASE, Dominican Republic - Over the past two weeks, Soldiers from the Florida Army National Guard's 54th Security Force Assistance Brigade teamed up with allies from throughout the Caribbean as part of U.S. Southern Command's exercise Tradewinds to bolster Caribbean defense capacity and strengthen regional ties. For the Soldiers of the FLARNG 54th SFAB, this marked their first overseas unit mobilization in the unit's history.

Designed to train, advise and enable partner nation forces, the SFAB's existence is a recent phenomenon spurred from the growing need for highly skilled and specialized Soldiers to help build skills in regional security and humanitarian aid.

Eglin AFB—

Jackson Guard named best in DOD

By Niceville on June 12, 2019

[http://niceville.com/jackson-guard-named-best-in-dod-photos/?](http://niceville.com/jackson-guard-named-best-in-dod-photos/?fbclid=IwAR0jrZ6x7rVQC60rNvadMKypzle824KToRSq6dMcN3eVI6esZrTFsnp9Pao)

[fbclid=IwAR0jrZ6x7rVQC60rNvadMKypzle824KToRSq6dMcN3eVI6esZrTFsnp9Pao](http://niceville.com/jackson-guard-named-best-in-dod-photos/?fbclid=IwAR0jrZ6x7rVQC60rNvadMKypzle824KToRSq6dMcN3eVI6esZrTFsnp9Pao)

EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE, FLA. — Eglin's Natural Resources Management, known as **Jackson Guard**, recently won the **2019 Secretary of Defense Natural Resources Conservation Award**.

The Department of Defense established the Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards to celebrate military service members and civilians for their exceptional commitment to protecting human health and the environment while advancing the military mission.

This is the fourth DOD award Eglin's Natural Resources Management Branch claimed in the last nine years. In all, Eglin's Environmental Management Division also won the DoD Sustainability Award in 2017, the DoD Environmental Quality Award in 2016 and the DoD Cultural Resources Management Award in 2011, bringing their total to seven DOD awards in nine years.



Eglin was recognized for relocating 1,030 gopher tortoises to avoid its listing under the Endangered Species Act and potential mission impediments. The unit also conducted 160 prescribed burns across more than 145,000 acres on base, removing 290,000 tons of hazardous fuel biomass, and reducing wildfires caused by mission activities on test areas by 20 percent

NS Mayport—

Floating Train Wreck: The Navy's Littoral Combat Ship Is a Disaster

<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/floating-train-wreck-navys-littoral-combat-ship-disaster-62127>

The National Interest © June 11, 2019

by David Axe

The U.S. Navy's Littoral Combat Ship was supposed to be cheap, fast, flexible and easy to build. But after spending \$30 billion over a period of around two decades, the U.S. Navy has managed to acquire just 35 of the 3,000-ton-displacement vessels. Sixteen were in service as of late 2018. Of those 16, four are test ships. Six are training ships. In 2019 just six LCSs, in theory are deployable.....

Navy's newest littoral combat ship is second vessel to honor Twin Cities

<https://www.stripes.com/news/navy-s-newest-littoral-combat-ship-is-second-vessel-to-honor-twin-cities-1.585773>

Stars and Stripes © June 13, 2019

By CHRISTIAN LOPEZ

The Navy plans to christen its newest littoral combat ship, the USS Minneapolis-Saint Paul, during a ceremony Saturday at Fincantieri Marinette Marine in Marinette, Wis.

Jodi Greene, deputy undersecretary of the Navy, the ship's sponsor, is expected to follow tradition and shatter a bottle of sparkling wine across its bow. Rep. Betty McCollum, D-Minn., will deliver the principal address.

"The christening of the future USS Minneapolis-Saint Paul marks an important step toward this great ship's entry into the fleet," Secretary of the Navy Richard Spencer said in a Navy statement.....

NAS Key West -

NAVAL AIR STATION KEY WEST TO CHANGE COMMAND JUNE 6

[http://konklife.com/naval-air-station-key-west-to-change-command-june-6/:](http://konklife.com/naval-air-station-key-west-to-change-command-june-6/)

BY GUY DEBOER

Capt. Mark Sohaney will relieve Capt. Bobby Baker as Commanding Officer of Naval Air Station Key West in a ceremony June 6 at 10 a.m. in Hangar A-936 on Boca Chica Field.

Baker has been at Key West for three years and will celebrate his 26-year Naval career during a retirement ceremony as part of the change of command.

Sohaney is reporting from the U.S. Pacific Fleet Director of Maritime Operations, where he was the Executive Assistant.

Spotlight on Naval Station Mayport

Naval Station Mayport is one of three major Navy installations in the Jacksonville area. Mayport is home to a busy seaport as well as an air facility. The mission of NS Mayport is to sustain and enhance warfighter readiness. Naval Station Mayport is also home to the Navy's 4th Fleet, reactivated in 2008 after being deactivated in 1950.

Since its commissioning in December 1942, Naval Station Mayport has grown to become the third largest fleet concentration area in the United States. Mayport's operational composition is unique, with a busy harbor capable of accommodating 34 ships and an 8,000-foot runway capable of handling any aircraft in the Department of Defense inventory.



With more than 3,400 acres, NS Mayport is host to more than 80 tenant commands including 22 naval ships and six Light Airborne Multi-purpose System (LAMPS) Mark III helicopter squadrons. NS Mayport is also the operational and training headquarters for the SH-60B Seahawk LAMPS MKIII with a primary mission of anti-submarine warfare.

The Navy at Mayport covers 3,409 acres and is the third largest Naval Facility in the continental United States. As a major Surface and Air Warfare organization, Mayport remains dedicated to providing the "Finest Service to the Finest Fleet," as it grows into the 21st century.



Did You Know?

Navy Surface Vessels

Aircraft Carriers



USS Nimitz

Aircraft carriers have the ability to put most nations within striking distance of U.S. air power which makes them the cornerstone of US forward deployment and deterrence strategy. Multiple carriers are deployed around the world to provide military presence, respond quickly to crises, and participate in joint exercises with allied forces; this has led the Navy to refer to their *Nimitz*-class carriers as "4.5 acres of sovereign and mobile American territory". The power and operational flexibility of a carrier lie in the aircraft of its carrier air wing. Made up of both fixed-wing and rotary-wing aircraft, a carrier air wing is able to perform over 150 strike missions at once, hitting over 700 targets a day. Carrier air wings also protect friendly forces, conduct electronic warfare, assist in special operations, and carry out search and rescue missions. The carriers themselves, in addition to enabling airborne operations, serve as command platforms for large battle groups or multinational task forces.

Amphibious Assault Ships



USS Kearsarge (LHD-3)

Amphibious assault ships (also referred to as a commando carrier or an amphibious assault carrier) are a type of amphibious warfare ship employed to land and support ground forces on enemy territory by an amphibious assault. The design evolved from aircraft carriers converted for use as helicopter carriers, but includes support for amphibious landing craft, with most designs including a well deck. Coming full circle, some amphibious assault ships now have a secondary role as aircraft carriers, supporting V/STOL fixed-wing aircraft. The role of the amphibious assault ship is fundamentally different from a standard aircraft carrier: its aviation facilities have the primary role of hosting helicopters to support forces ashore rather than to support strike aircraft. Most of these ships can also carry or support landing craft, such as air-cushioned landing craft (hovercraft) or LCUs.

Amphibious Command Ships



USS Mount Whitney

Amphibious command ships (LCC) of the United States Navy are large, special purpose ships, originally designed to command large amphibious invasions. However, as amphibious invasions have become less likely, they are now used as general command ships, and serve as floating headquarters for two, forward deployed, numbered Fleet commands. Currently, they are assigned to the 6th and 7th fleets as flagships.

Amphibious Transport Docks



USS San Antonio

Amphibious transport docks, also called "landing platform dock" (LPD), is an amphibious warfare ship, a warship that embarks, transports, and lands elements of a landing force for expeditionary warfare missions. Several navies currently operate this kind of ship.

Dock Landing Ships



USS Harpers Ferry

Dock landing ships (also called landing ship, dock or LSD) is an amphibious warfare ship with a well dock to transport and launch landing craft and amphibious vehicles. Modern dock landing ships also operate helicopters. The US Navy hull classification symbol for a ship with a well deck depends on its facilities for aircraft - a (modern) LSD has a helicopter deck, a LPD also has a hangar, and a LHD or LHA has a full-length flight deck.

Cruisers



USS Port Royal

Cruisers and guided missile cruisers are a type of warship. The term has been in use for several hundred years, and has had different meanings throughout this period. During the Age of Sail, the term *cruising* referred to certain kinds of missions – independent scouting, raiding or commerce protection – fulfilled by a frigate or sloop, which were the *cruising warships* of a fleet.

Destroyers



USS Lassen

Destroyers are fast maneuverable long-endurance warships intended to escort larger vessels in a fleet, convoy or battle group and defend them against smaller powerful short-range attackers.

Guided-missile destroyers are destroyers designed to launch guided missiles. Many are also equipped to carry out anti-submarine, anti-air, and anti-surface operations. In addition to the guns that destroyers have, a guided-missile destroyer is usually equipped with two large missile magazines, usually in vertical-launch cells.

Frigates

Frigates (according to the modern classification of U.S. navy warships) are smaller ships than destroyers. They are designed primarily to protect other ships (such as merchant convoys), and perform some Anti-Submarine Warfare duties. They are cheaper but of more limited capability than destroyers. The last active class of frigates in the US Navy was the *Oliver Hazard Perry class*, decommissioned in September 2015, leaving the navy no active frigates.

On January 15, 2015 U.S. Navy Secretary Ray Mabus announced that ships of the Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) classes built in the future would be re-classified as "frigates". This would apply only to the future variations of these ships. Current ships will retain the LCS classification unless and until they are upgraded to the standards of the newer ships.

Littoral Combat Ships



USS Freedom

Littoral combat ships (LCS) are a class of relatively small surface vessels intended for operations in the littoral zone (close to shore). It was "envisioned to be a networked, agile, stealthy surface combatant capable of defeating anti-access and asymmetric threats in the littorals."

Mine Countermeasures Ships



USS Avenger

Mine countermeasures vessels or MCMV are a type of naval ship designed for the location of and destruction of naval mines which combines the role of a minesweeper and minehunter in one hull. The term MCMV is also applied collectively to minehunters and minesweepers.

A "minesweeper" is a small naval warship designed to engage in minesweeping. Using various mechanisms intended to counter the threat posed by naval mines, waterways are maintained clear for safe shipping.

A "minehunter" is a naval vessel that actively detects and destroys individual naval mines.

Patrol Ships



USS Typhoon

Patrol ships are relatively small naval vessels generally designed for coastal defense duties. They may be operated by a nation's navy, coast guard, police force or customs and may be intended for marine (blue water) and/or estuarine or river ("brown water") environments. They are commonly found engaged in various border protection roles, including anti-smuggling, anti-piracy, fisheries patrols, and immigration law enforcement. They are also often called upon to participate in rescue operations.

Happy 244th Birthday US Army



The **United States Army (USA)** is the land warfare service branch of the United States Armed Forces. It is one of the seven uniformed services of the United States, and is designated as the Army of the United States in the United States Constitution. As the oldest and most senior branch of the U.S. military in order of precedence, the modern U.S. Army has its roots in the Continental Army—before the United States of America was established as a country. The Continental Army was created on 14 June 1775 by the Second Continental Congress.



NOTES FROM THE STAFF

It was great to see everyone at the ADC National Summit in Washington! Florida was well-represented at this event by members from all over the state. The “friendly” Florida delegation even got together for lunch on the 2nd day of the conference. This event was highlighted some terrific speakers and informative panels covering issues from spousal employment to PFOAS to resiliency. Lots of time for networking and sharing best practices with other states and communities. All in all a great and worthwhile conference.

Florida Defense Alliance Leadership

Chair – Kellie Jo Kilberg

Vice Chair – Tim Jones

Mission Sustainment Working Group Chair – Mike Jones

Family Support Working Group Chair – Lynn Brannon

Executive Board: Jonathan Borgert, Jennifer Codo-Salisbury, Paul Hirsch and Jim Breitenfeld

Photos from the ADC National Summit



Bruce Grant, Mike Jones, Kellie Jo Kilberg, Richard "Beef" Haddad, Ray Collins



Kellie Jo Kilberg, Chairman, FDA & John Henderson, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force – Installations, Environment and Energy



Kellie Jo Kilberg, Chairman, FDA; Debi Graham, Vice President, Armed Services, Greater Pensacola Chamber and Lucian Niemeyer, recently nominated as the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Installations.

More Photos from the ADC National Summit



Larry Martin, Major General USAF (Retired), Tampa Bay Defense Alliance; Kellie Jo Kilberg, Chairman, FDA; John Conger, President, Center for Climate Security; and Richard "Beef" Haddad, Major General USAF (Retired), Tampa Bay Defense Alliance and Florida Defense Support Task Force



Richard "Beef" Haddad; Kellie Jo Kilberg; John W. Henderson, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force – Installations, Environment and Energy; and Gordon Fornell, Lt. General USAF (Retired), Okaloosa County EDC Defense Support Initiative.



Florida Defense Alliance Newsletter

July 3, 2019

FDA Vision: To maintain and enhance the position and reputation of Florida as the most military-friendly state in the nation.

NEWS

Representative Mel Ponder appointed to Task Force –Last week the Speaker of the House appointed Representative Mel Ponder of the 4th District (Okaloosa County) to the Florida Defense Support Task Force. Representative Ponder will begin his term on July 1st and is replacing Representative Jay Trumbull.

Governor DeSantis Signs SB 620 – Military Friendly Initiatives – The Governor signed this bill into law last week. It contains several military-friendly provisions including:

- Adds two military installations to the list of those that designated local governments are required to coordinate with regarding compatibility of land development;
- Provides that a conservation easement created to prevent encroachment to a military installation survives a sale of property for nonpayment of taxes;
- Establishes the Blue Angels license plate to be developed by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles and used to fund the Naval Aviation Museum Foundation;
- Requires school districts to accept a permanent change of station order as proof of residency for all public school programs including special academic programs;
- Specifies the time at which active duty members, spouses, and their dependents are classified as residents for tuition purposes.

Amending s. 163.3175, F.S.; specifying additional military installations that may exchange certain information with local governments regarding compatibility of land development; amending s. 197.572, F.S.; providing that an easement for certain military lands continues after a tax sale or deed execution; amending s. 1003.05, F.S.; requiring a student whose parent is transferred or pending transfer to a military installation within a school district to be considered a resident of the district and provided preferential treatment in the controlled open enrollment process under certain circumstances; amending s. 1009.21, F.S.; revising requirements for active duty servicemembers and their families to be classified as residents for tuition purposes; and providing for a license plate commemorating the Blue Angels naval air demonstration team.

Governor DeSantis Signs 2019-2020 Budget – Last week, Governor Ron DeSantis signed the FY 2019-2020 state budget. The *Bold Vision for a Brighter Future* state budget totals \$90.98 billion and provides nearly \$400 million in tax relief. This budget continues the funding for the Florida Defense Support Task Force (\$2 million) and the Defense Reinvestment (\$850,000) and Infrastructure (\$1.6 million) Grants.

ENTERPRISE
FLORIDA



Florida Legislature Sets Interim Committee Week Schedule – The 2020 Florida Legislative Session begins on January 14, 2020 and ends on March 13, 2020. Here is the schedule for committee weeks:

- Monday, September 16 – Friday, September 20, 2019
- Monday, October 14 – Friday, October 18, 2019
- Monday, October 21 – Friday, October 25, 2019
- Monday, November 4 – Friday, November 8, 2019
- Tuesday, November 12 – Friday, November 15, 2019
- Monday, December 9 – Friday, December 13, 2019

Florida Chamber Military, Defense and Veterans Opportunity Summit August 13-14 in Jacksonville -- Join leaders – including our own FDA leadership -- from Florida’s military and defense industry, economic development experts, policymakers and the business community to examine the challenges and opportunities facing this important industry as well as strengthening Florida's position as the most veteran friendly state. Key topics to include:

- Florida's economic development and expanding defense industries,
- Global risks and readiness,
- Briefing on Florida bases and military operations,
- State and federal issues impacting veteran hiring, and
- Creating and supporting veteran-owned business opportunities.

More information at: https://www.flchamber.com/event_post/military-defense-veterans-opportunity-summit/

OEA Issues New Open RFI, Requests Innovative Energy Resilience Ideas from Industry—

Following the success of a similar solicitation, the Air Force Office of Energy Assurance (OEA) issued a new Request for Information (RFI), [solicitation number W912DY-19-U-OEA1](#), to collect technical and financial data as well as innovative project development concepts from industry.

OEA plans to use the information provided by industry to identify new energy resilience opportunities, as well as build on its project development portfolio.

This Open RFI has no deadline for responses. For more information, please visit [FedBizOpps](#).

From ADC:

White House Announces Intent to Nominate Esper for Defense Secretary

The White House announced Friday President Donald Trump’s intent to nominate Army Secretary Mark Esper for Secretary of Defense, Under Secretary of Defense David Norquist as Deputy Secretary of Defense, and Army Under Secretary Ryan McCarthy as Secretary of the Army.

Earlier in the week Trump had named Esper as acting defense secretary after on Monday he announced that former Acting Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan would not continue to pursue his nomination for the Pentagon chief due to personal reasons.

The announcement of the three nominations allowed the administration to informally authorize the officials into their new positions so that they would be in place this week, [Military.com](#) reported Friday.

However, if Esper does not quickly receive a formal defense secretary nomination following Trump’s intent announcement, he would be unable to step into the role due to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998, according to the report. The law generally does not allow a secretary nominee to fill the roll in acting capacity, which would trigger a line of succession placing Navy Sec-

retary Richard Spencer as acting defense secretary if Trump does not name another formal nominee.

With the Senate's July schedule a major factor prior to its annual August recess, the Pentagon confirmed it has not yet received Esper's formal nomination paperwork, according to a Pentagon spokeswoman.

"As of right now, we don't have anything official that he's been nominated yet," Jessica Maxwell told Military.com. "We'll have just have to wait for an official nomination to come through," she said. Esper has served as Army secretary since 2017 and as a former Army infantry officer during the Iraq War he earned the Legion of Merit and the Bronze Star.

House Advances \$108B VA-Milcon Bill

Posted on Jun 23, 2019 06:40 pm

The Democrat-led House appeared on track to pass a \$108 billion fiscal 2020 VA-Military Construction bill after quickly moving through a number of amendments Friday and ending floor debate on the measure, CQ reported.

A summary of the bill, which is part of a larger five-bill, \$383.3 billion minibus package, would provide:

- \$10.5 billion for military construction projects, \$207 million more than enacted for FY 2019.
- \$1.5 billion for construction, operation and maintenance of military family housing. The funding is \$117.8 million below FY 2019 levels and \$140.8 million above DOD's budget request.
- \$217.5 billion in discretionary and mandatory VA funding, an increase of \$20.3 billion above FY 2019.
- \$94.3 billion in VA discretionary spending alone, \$7.7 billion above FY 2019.
- \$80.4 billion in total VA medical care funding, including: \$9.5 billion for mental health; \$222 million for suicide prevention; \$582 million for women's health; \$1.9 billion for homeless assistance programs; \$397 million for opioid abuse prevention; and \$270 million in rural health initiatives.

The full five-bill minibus spending package faces little chance of surviving intact, however, as the GOP-led Senate and Trump administration disagree with the House on overall discretionary spending levels.

House Passes \$733 Billion Defense Spending Appropriations Bill

Posted on Jun 19, 2019 08:19 pm

The House passed a four-bill, nearly \$1 trillion minibus spending package Wednesday that includes a \$733 billion topline in overall defense funding for fiscal 2020, which starts Oct. 1.

The package passed on a 226-to-203 vote that fell along party lines. The chamber's entire Republican ranks and seven Democrats voted against the measure.

The defense spending breakdown includes \$645.1 billion in base funding, \$261.7 billion in base nondefense spending, \$68.1 billion for Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO), and \$8 billion in nondefense OCO funding, according to a bill summary.

"With this vote, House Democrats have honored our promise to invest for the people," House Appropriations Committee Chairwoman Nita Lowey said in a press release.

The Democrat-crafted defense measure also sought to challenge President Donald Trump's border emergency declaration by blocking DOD and the Army Corps from diverting defense funds to build a southern border barrier, The Hill reported.



NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

Summer has officially begun! Whether you bask in the sun or retreat to the shade - stay hydrated and cool. As we head into the 4th of July holiday, we have had many changes of commands and leadership at our installations and mission programs. I know many of you are having events in support of your active military members, families and communities. Once we get on the other side of the holiday, reach out to the new leadership and share our stories on how we assist our active military members and installations. What are their visions and concerns? Our Mission Sustainment and Family Support Working Groups each have conference calls in the next two weeks. Be prepared so we have engaging conversations. Call or email Mike Jones and Lynn Brannon ahead of the calls with your challenges and opportunities. Don't wait for the call...be proactive!

Action requires us to have information so we can connect the dots to be prepared to assist and have the right individuals on the call to be timely. When we are flying into the wind or going up stream, we are not leveraging our resources and time to the best of our abilities. And yes, it takes time to be prepared. It is important to take that time now, so we are innovative in addressing opportunities and challenges.

Until our conference calls, relax and enjoy your 4th of July holiday with your families and friends. Thank our military and their families for our FREEDOMS we have here in America. Smile and say "hello" as you are out and about. A smile will go a long way for setting your day up for some fun and laughter as well as making someone's day.

Kellie Jo Kilberg

FDA CALENDAR:

Mission Sustainment Conference Call

Wednesday, July 10th - 10 AM EDT

(888) 585-9008

Conference Room 262-492-927

Family Support Conference Call

Tuesday, July 16, 2019 - 1:00 PM EDT

(888) 585-9008

Conference Room 262-492-927

Thursday, September 12, 2019

FDA Conference Call Meeting

9:00 AM CDT/10:00 AM EDT

FDA Website: www.enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense/

QUOTATIONS OF THE DAY From General Colin Powell

“Great leaders are almost always great simplifiers, who can cut through argument, debate and doubt, to offer a solution everybody can understand. “

“Surround yourself with people who take their work seriously, but not themselves, those who work hard and play hard.”

“I think whether you're having setbacks or not, the role of a leader is to always display a winning attitude.”

News from the Bases & Regions

Whiting Field—

Whiting Field helicopter training squadron changes command

<https://www.srpressgazette.com/news/20190615/whiting-field-helicopter-training-squadron-changes-command-photos>

srpressgazette.com © June 13, 2019

By Ramon Rios

A Navy Reserve officer who had served as executive officer of Helicopter Training Squadron 8 at Naval Air Station Whiting Field became the squadron's commanding officer in Friday ceremonies, continuing to make history for the training unit.

Cmdr. Lena Kaman, who had been executive officer — the squadron's second in command — since April 2018, became the first member of the Navy Reserve's Full-Time Support program to command a squadron at Whiting Field. Naval Air Station Whiting Field is the site of all initial helicopter training for the Navy, Coast Guard and Marine Corps.

Kaman replaces Navy Cmdr. Jessica Parker, who had commanded the squadron since April 2018. Parker will be heading to the U.S.S. Bataan, a Norfolk, Virginia-based amphibious assault ship, where she will serve as "air boss...."



Space Coast/Space Command—

Boeing is moving space division headquarters to Florida

<https://apnews.com/59450fca83dd4a4695c9be841f4d8252>

AP © June 21, 2019

Boeing says it is moving the headquarters of its space and launch division to Florida. The company said Tuesday that it was moving the space division headquarters from Arlington, Virginia, to Titusville on Florida's Space Coast.

Boeing official Leanne Caret says it makes sense to move Boeing's space headquarters to Florida, where so much space history has taken place and the company is working on several future launches.

Florida's Space Coast is home to the Kennedy Space Center, Cape Canaveral Air Force Station and Patrick Air Force Base.....

MacDill AFB—

2019 DoD Warrior Games underway in Tampa

<https://www.af.mil/News/Article-Display/Article/1888324/2019-dod-warrior-games-underway-in-tampa/>

By Senior Airman Alexis Suarez, 927th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs

More than 300 wounded, ill and injured service members and veterans from all four U.S. military branches, U.S. Special Operations Command and five partner nations are in the Tampa area until June 30 competing in adaptive sports as a part of the 2019 Department of Defense Warrior Games, hosted by U.S. Special Operations Command.

This is the second time the Warrior Games are being held in public venues and not on a military installation. The games are free to watch, open to the public and offer a rare opportunity to watch and be inspired by wounded warriors who have shown incredible resilience as they overcome significant physical and psychological challenges to compete in adaptive sports all around Tampa.....





Coast Guard Air Station Clearwater—

Coast Guard Air Station Clearwater welcomes new commander

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDHSCG/bulletins/24df76e>

U.S. Coast Guard sent this bulletin at 06/27/2019
01:13 PM EDT

CLEARWATER, Fla. — Coast Guard Air Station Clearwater welcomed a new commanding officer Thursday during a change-of-command ceremony at Air Station Clearwater.

Capt. Joseph McGilley relieved Capt. Edward Sandlin from the duties and responsibilities of commanding officer during the ceremony.

McGilley reports to Clearwater after serving at the Coast Guard 9th District headquarters in Cleveland, where he served as the chief of response for the district, which coordinates and executes all Coast Guard search and rescue, environmental, security and maritime law enforcement actions in the Great Lakes region



Tyndall AFB—

325th MDG goes from last to first

<https://www.tyndall.af.mil/News/Article-Display/Article/1876950/325th-mdg-goes-from-last-to-first/fbclid/IwAR1s5ZUnllN2p54AuBs09f8iilMJ8ApXWGIYL1YSsxy8DU966Fs17sKm8Ao/>

By Airman 1st Class Alexandra Singer, 325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The 325th Medical Group at Tyndall Air Force Base rose to the top in an Air Force wide Individual Medical Readiness assessment.

The Air Force goal for fully mission capable (FMC) Airmen is 80% or more, but Tyndall came in at 37% after Hurricane Michael destroyed medical facilities and scattered base personnel.

Over 1000 Airmen were marked red for flu shots, which resulted in the scant percentage. The 325th MDG administered two weeks' worth of flu shots before closing for three months due to the storm. The closure caused other IMR components, such as dental and optometry, to be incomplete as well.....



U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Haley Lecomte, 325th Medical Group immunizations noncommissioned officer in charge, administers a vaccine to Staff Sgt. Alyssa Korb, 325th MDG aerospace medical technician, June 6, 2019, at Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida. The Air Force goal for Fully Mission Capable Airmen is over 80%, and Tyndall was at 37% post Hurricane Michael. (U.S. Air Force photo Airman 1st Class Alexandra Singer)

Hurlburt Field—

24th SOW welcomes new commander to charge sole ST wing

<https://www.dvidshub.net/news/328914/24th-sow-welcomes-new-commander-charge-sole-st-wing>

DVIDS © June 14, 2019

Story by Senior Airman Rachel Yates , 24th Special Operations Wing Public Affairs

Hundreds of Air Commandos, families and friends gathered to welcome the new commander of the 24th Special Operations Wing during an assumption of command ceremony, here, today.

U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Brad Webb, commander of Air Force Special Operations Command, introduced U.S. Air Force Col. Matt Allen as the newest and fifth wing commander of the sole Special Tactics wing in the Air Force.

Since April 2018, when the 24th SOW had their last change of command, Special Tactics operators have conducted 264 combat missions, controlled over 500 aircraft and removed more than 730 enemies from the battlefield. Webb commended their efforts.....





Spotlight on Naval Air Station Jacksonville

Naval Air Station Jacksonville is one of the Navy's finest and fastest growing installations and is the recipient of the 2012 Presidential Excellence Award and 2013 Commander, Navy Installations Command Excellence Award. They are the largest Navy base in the Southeast Region and third in the nation. As a master air and industrial base, Naval Air Station Jacksonville supports U.S. and allied forces specializing in anti-submarine warfare and training of the best aviators in the world.



History

During World War I, the area now occupied by NAS Jacksonville, often referred to colloquially as "NAS Jax", was named *Camp Joseph E. Johnston*, and was commissioned on October 15, 1917. The United States Army trained quartermasters and the center included more than 600 buildings; by 1918 Camp Johnston was the largest of all Quartermaster mobilization and training camps. The second largest rifle range in the U.S. was constructed there, but the camp was decommissioned on May 16, 1919. The Florida National Guard began using the site in 1928 and it was renamed *Camp J. Clifford R. Foster*. In 1939 a group of 10 ex-service men traveled to Washington at their own expense to talk the Navy, who was looking for a new base, to come and look at the old National Guard base, they did and liked what they saw. Most of their names are lost to history. Only two are known: Charles Bennett and Ira Lane. On October 15, 1940, Naval Air Station Jacksonville was officially commissioned, and became the first part of the Jacksonville Navy complex that would eventually include NAS Cecil Field and Naval Station Mayport, as well as numerous naval auxiliary air stations and outlying fields in NW Florida.



Commander Captain Michael Connor

Captain Michael Connor was commissioned in June 1993 after graduating from the United States Merchant Marine Academy with a Bachelor of Science in Marine Engineering Systems.

In August 2016, Connor reported to NAS Jacksonville, Florida, as executive officer, and in April 2018, Connor became the installation's 48th commanding officer.

Connor is a 2012 distinguished graduate of Embry Riddle Aeronautical University with a Master's of Science Degree in Aeronautical Science, a non-resident graduate of the Naval War College's Command Staff Program, and a graduate of the Joint and Combined Warfighting School at the Joint Forces Staff College.

Connor has logged more than 3,100 flight hours in the P-8A Poseidon, FA-18EF Super Hornet, FA-18A-D Hornet, T-45A Goshawk, and T-34C Turbo Mentor, and he has logged 526 carrier-arrested landings.

NAS Jacksonville has the following tenant commands:

- Commander, Navy Region Southeast
- Naval Hospital Jacksonville: Hospital and Branch Health Clinic
- Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training Unit Jax
- Commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing Eleven
- Fleet Area Control and Surveillance Facility Jacksonville
- Fleet Logistics Center Jax
- Fleet Readiness Center Southeast
- Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Weapons School (MPRWS)
- Navy Drug Screening Lab Jax
- Region Legal Service Office
- Jacksonville University Navy ROTC
- Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station Jax
- Document Automation Printing Service
- Personnel Support Detachment Jax
- Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southeast
- Navy Entomology Center of Excellence
- Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 14
- Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit 202
- Navy Band Southeast
- Navy Munition Command Det Jax
- Transient Personnel Unit Jax



About Commander, Navy Region Southeast

Commander, Navy Region Southeast (CNRSE) manages and oversees shore installation management support and execution for 18 installations within the Southeastern United States, including Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.



Rear Admiral Gary Mayes

Rear Adm. Gary Mayes graduated from Purdue University in 1987 and received his commission from Aviation Officer Candidate School in 1988. He was designated a naval aviator in 1989.

At sea, he flew the SH-60B/R during tours with Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light (HSL) 48 and 46. He served as the executive officer and commanding officer of HSL-44.

He participated in operations conducted in Haiti, South America, Mediterranean Sea, Red Sea, Adriatic Sea and Persian Gulf. His shore assignments include duty as a station pilot at Naval Air Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; Senate liaison officer in the Navy Office of Legislative Affairs; naval aide to the vice president of the United States; administrative aide to the secretary of the Navy; commanding officer of Naval Base Coronado; deputy director, Plans and Programs for Commander, Navy Installations Command; executive assistant to the assistant secretary of the Navy for Energy, Installations and Environment; commander, Navy Region Northwest; and served on the staff of Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Fleet Readiness and Logistics.

Mayes assumed command as the 41st commander of Navy Region Southeast in February 2019.

He has accumulated over 3,300 flight hours in fixed and rotary wing aircraft.



Did You Know?

P-8 Poseidon Stationed at NAS Jacksonville

The **Boeing P-8 Poseidon** is a military aircraft developed for the United States Navy (USN). The aircraft has been developed by Boeing Defense, Space & Security, modified from the 737-800ERX. The P-8 conducts anti-submarine warfare (ASW), anti-surface warfare (ASUW), and shipping interdiction, along with an early warning self-protection (EWSP) ability, otherwise known as electronic support measures (ESM).^[8] This involves carrying torpedoes, depth charges, Harpoon anti-ship missiles, and other weapons. It is able to drop and monitor sonobuoys. It is designed to operate in conjunction

with the Northrop Grumman MQ-4C Triton Broad Area Maritime Surveillance unmanned aerial vehicle.

The P-8 is operated by the U.S. Navy, the Indian Navy (as the **P-8I Neptune**), and the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF). The aircraft has been ordered by the UK's Royal Air Force (RAF), and the Royal Norwegian Air Force (RNoAF).

Armament: Torpedoes, cruise missiles, bombs, mines Propulsion: Two high-bypass CFM56 turbofan engines Airspeed: 490 knots Range: 1,200 nautical miles radius with four hours on station. Crew: Nine

A militarized version of the Boeing 737 commercial aircraft, the P-8A Poseidon replaced the U.S. Navy's ageing P-3 Orion fleet as the service's front-line anti-submarine warfare aircraft.

The P-8A has an active multi-static and passive acoustic sensor system, inverse synthetic aperture radar, new electronic support measures system, new electro-optical/infrared sensor and a digital magnetic anomaly detector.

Its nine-person crew includes a dual-pilot cockpit and five mission crew (plus relief pilot and in-flight technician). The P-8A has workstations with universal multi-function displays, and ready accommodation for additional workstations and workload sharing. The Poseidon is armed with an internal five-station weapons bay, four wing pylons, two centerline pylons, all supported by digital stores management allowing for carriage of joint missiles, torpedoes and mines. Boeing was awarded the contract to develop the P-8A on June 14, 2004. The P-8A will be a derivative of a modified Boeing 737-800ERX airliner, bringing together a reliable airframe and high-bypass turbo fan jet engine with a fully connected, state-of-the-art open architecture mission system.



Posters of the Day: Anti Submarine Warfare (ASW)

What is ASW?

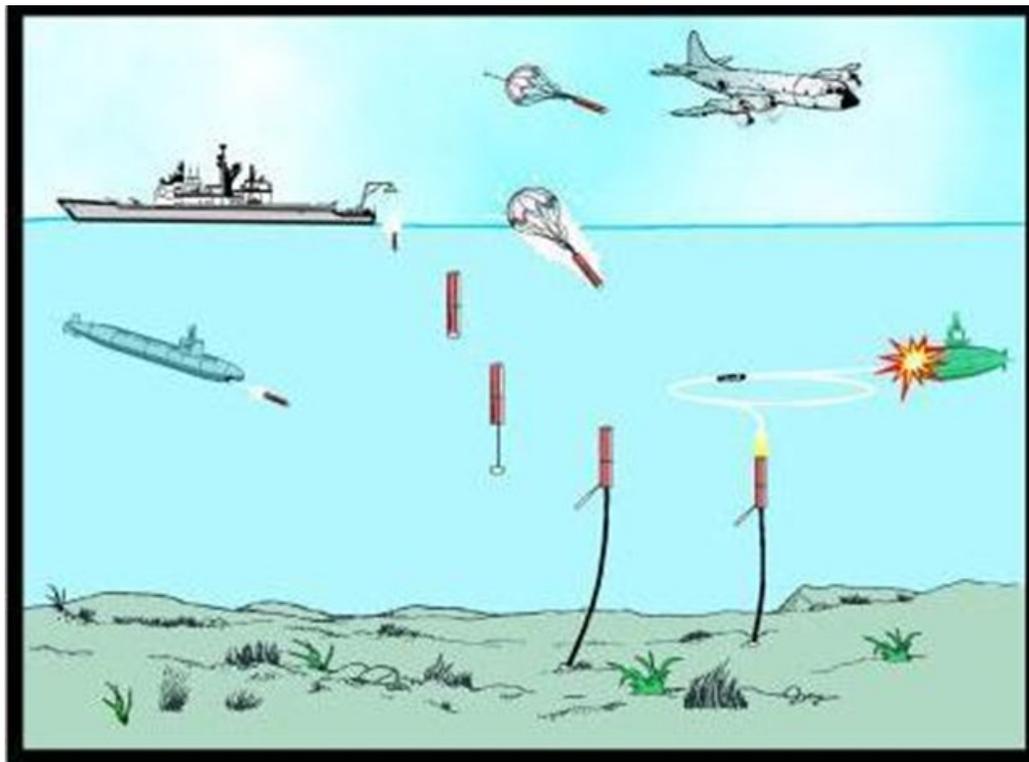
Anti-submarine warfare (ASW) is a type of undersea warfare, which is executed by aircraft, surface ships, submarines and information/intelligence gathering. It's an operation conducted with the intention of denying the enemy the effective use of submarines.

Step 1: Detection
Ships, aircraft and helicopters use different sensors such as passive or active sonar, visuals, radar, etc. to search for and locate a possible submarine.

Step 2: Classification
Possible submarine contacts are further investigated with the various sensors along with contact behaviours and movement to determine whether the detection is classified as a submarine or not.

Step 3: Identification
If a contact has been classified as a submarine, further analysis and verification of our own submarine movements can identify whether the submarine is friendly or not.

Step 4: Tracking
If the submarine is identified as unfriendly, the sensors are used to maintain contact and track the submarines movements and engage if necessary.



NOTES FROM THE STAFF

We are blessed to have a great state defense alliance and tremendous support from our Governor and Legislature! Communities around the state welcome our service members and go the extra mile to our nation's military and their families are well-cared for in our communities. This is a tribute to all of you who work this so diligently every day. Staff wants to thank all the dedicated members of the Florida Defense Alliance. You continue to do an outstanding job daily supporting our military and keeping Florida as the most military friendly state in the nation!

Florida Defense Alliance Leadership

Chair – Kellie Jo Kilberg

Vice Chair – Tim Jones

Mission Sustainment Working Group Chair – Mike Jones

Family Support Working Group Chair – Lynn Brannon

Executive Board: Jonathan Borgert, Jennifer Codo-Salisbury, Paul Hirsch and Jim Breitenfeld





Florida Defense Alliance Newsletter

July 24, 2019

FDA Vision: To maintain and enhance the position and reputation of Florida as the most military-friendly state in the nation.

NEWS

Florida Defense Support Task Force and Florida Defense Alliance Express Strong Support for Military Advocacy in Washington – At the Task Force meeting last week in Milton, the Florida Defense Support Task Force and the Florida Defense Alliance (FDA) jointly expressed their strong support for continuing the advocacy efforts on behalf of Florida’s military installations and missions. Florida has enjoyed great support from the Principi Group since 2012 as they have advocated for Florida’s military and defense infrastructure in Washington, DC. Thanks to their outstanding efforts, Florida has seen a significant increase in military missions and resources. The Task Force and FDA will be sending a letter soon to Governor DeSantis expressing this support.

Governor Ron DeSantis Announces More Than \$2.9 Million through DEO-Managed Infrastructure and Reinvestment Grants – Text of Official Press Release Below

Defense Grants Announced -- Today, Governor Ron DeSantis announced more than \$2.9 million in funding for military-related programs through the Defense Infrastructure Grant Program and the Defense Reinvestment Grant Program, administered by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO). These grants provide funding to defense-dependent communities to support advocacy and military community relations.

“As a veteran, I know the value in supporting Florida’s military installations and their surrounding communities,” **said Governor DeSantis**. “We will continue to rebuild and create resilient bases, especially those impacted by Hurricane Michael, for the hardworking men and women who serve our country and state.”

“Under Governor DeSantis’ leadership, DEO will continue to support military installation communities across the state,” **said Ken Lawson, Executive Director of DEO**. “These grants are another great example of how we are utilizing every resource we have available to help Florida communities, especially those in the Panhandle that are recovering from Hurricane Michael.”

The Defense Infrastructure Grant Program funds local infrastructure projects that benefit both a local community and military installation and have a positive impact on the value of military installations within the state. Infrastructure projects may be related to encroachment, transportation and access, utilities, communications, housing, environment and security. Communities awarded funding through the Defense Infrastructure Grant Program include:

- **Bay County Public Works** – (\$500,000) to design a new subaqueous, potable water main underneath East Bay at Dupont Bridge to provide treated drinking water to Tyndall Air Force Base and Mexico Beach.

**ENTERPRISE
FLORIDA**

- **City of Jacksonville** – (\$500,000) to complete the purchase of an over 400- acre parcel to provide an increased buffer zone for flight operations at NAS Jacksonville.
- **Clay County Development Authority** – (nearly \$367,000) to resurface roads around Camp Blanding.
- **Space Coast Economic Development Commission** – (nearly \$367,000) to build a new Brevard County Emergency Management Operations Center.
- **Santa Rosa Board of County Commissioners** – (nearly \$367,000) to continue easement purchases around Whiting Field.

The Defense Reinvestment Grant Program funds projects that protect existing military installations, diversify the economies of a defense-dependent communities and develop plans for the reuse of closed or realigned military installations. Communities awarded funding through the Defense Reinvestment Grant Program include:

- **Bay Defense Alliance** – (\$125,000) to support focused recovery efforts post-Hurricane Michael at Naval Support Activity Panama City and Tyndall Air Force Base.
- **Clay County Development Authority** – (\$57,000) to strengthen and diversify the areas in the non-defense economic sectors, while promoting the military training operations at Camp Blanding Joint Training Center and Naval Support Activity Jacksonville.
- **City of Jacksonville** – (\$100,000) to support development strategies that promote military/defense and aviation industry growth at Naval Air Station Jacksonville and Naval Station Mayport.
- **Space Coast Economic Development Council** – (\$95,000) to support long and short-term strategies for community and military partnerships, attracting new businesses and investments throughout the Space Coast.
- **Economic Development Council of Okaloosa County** – (\$125,000) to develop and implement strategies to preserve and protect diversified employment opportunities in the defense-rich, tri-county area of Okaloosa, Santa Rosa and Walton counties.
- **The Greater Pensacola Chamber** – (\$85,000) to expand the newly formed West Florida Defense Alliance to create higher skilled jobs in the non-defense economy.
- **Miami Dade Beacon Council** – (\$70,000) to build awareness and connectivity with defense and non-defense communities, creating opportunities for defense and private businesses to collaborate.
- **Orlando Economic Partnership** – (\$75,000) to support initiatives that are intended to help promote, protect and set the conditions in the area to grow the defense simulation business industry.
- **Santa Rosa County** – (\$58,000) to support continued work of the retention of defense related jobs and the creation of high-skilled, nondefense jobs.
- **Walton County Chamber of Commerce** – (\$60,000) to continue strategies of developing an entrepreneurial climate supporting the community surrounding Eglin Air Force Base.

Senate Confirms New Secretary of Defense – The Senate has confirmed Dr. Mark Esper to be the next Secretary of Defense. The vote was 90 to 8. Now Trump's Army secretary, Esper saw strong bipartisan support despite questions about his ties to Raytheon, a top defense contractor where he had worked as a top lobbyist.

AFSOC Change of Command -- Lt. Gen. Brad Webb relinquished command of Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC) to Lt. Gen. Jim Slife.

96th Test Wing Change of Command -- The 96th Test Wing also had its change of command: Brig. Gen. Evan Dertien relinquished command to Brig. Gen. Scott Cain.

Interactive Map of PFAS Contamination in the U.S. – An environmental advocacy group has identified 58 more military sites where levels of harmful chemicals used in firefighting foam have been detected in groundwater or drinking water sources, from Elmendorf Air Force Base and Fort Richardson, Alaska to Fort Eustis, Virginia. This brings the total to 175 military installations and sites nationwide that are known to be contaminated by fluorinated compounds known as PFAS, according to the Environmental Working Group. The advocacy group's interactive map of all the sites includes information about the contamination in drinking water and groundwater. Many of the new sites reported relatively high PFAS levels — greater than 100,000 parts per trillion. Service members and military families can click on the interactive map to find the levels of contamination in a particular area, based on EWG's research using DoD and other data. These sites were previously identified by military officials. Below is the link to an interactive map of sites identified as having contamination. https://www.ewg.org/interactive-maps/2019_pfas_contamination/map/

Strengthening Military Family Readiness Report – The National Academies Committee on the Well-Being of Military Families was formed to conduct a review of military family readiness. They issued a report and noted that, on the whole, military-connected children and families are doing well, but there are "subgroups that would benefit from greater support." The link to the report: <https://www.nap.edu/read/25380/chapter/1#xii>

[From ADC:](#)

Senate Confirms Gen. John Raymond as U.S. Space Command Chief

Posted on Jul 07, 2019 06:35 pm

The Senate has confirmed Air Force Gen. John Raymond to become the commander the newly established U.S. Space Command, [The Hill](#) reported.

Raymond, who currently serves as the commander of Air Force Space Command, will be performing a dual role for both the Air Force space mission and as the new chief of the separate Space Command.

The administration is forming the U.S. Space Command as a broader move to increase the military's focus on space as it seeks a new "Space Force" as a sixth military branch, according to the report.

The Senate's approved version of its fiscal 2020 NDAA and the House version that will be considered this month include provisions creating a new military branch for space. However, there are differences between the two versions that will need to be reconciled.

Raymond will remain chief of the Air Force Space Command for at least one more year while also leading the new combatant space command, which is expected to begin forming this year, according to [Air Force Magazine](#).

The Pentagon's 2020 budget request sought \$83.8 million for a U.S. Space Command. The request includes funding for about 643 military and civilian personnel who will transfer from the U.S. Strategic Command to establish the new space command.

Moran Declines Recent CNO Appointment; Past Professional Judgment Questioned

Posted on Jul 08, 2019 07:54 pm

Adm. Bill Moran, who in May received Senate confirmation to become the next Chief of Naval Operations (CNO), will retire instead of assuming the service's top military post after facing top-level Pentagon scrutiny over poor professional judgment, the **Associated Press** reported Monday.

Moran, a four-star admiral, would have become the Navy's top officer Aug. 1 but was confronted with increasing concerns by Secretary of the Navy Richard Spencer about poor judgment regarding a professional relationship, according to the report.

Moran's abrupt move came Sunday evening when he released a written statement that he had informed Spencer he would decline his CNO appointment and requested retirement instead.

"As painful as it is to submit my request to retire, I will not be an impediment whatsoever to the important service that you and your families continue to render the nation every day," Moran wrote.

He was slated to replace current CNO Adm. John Richardson and become a member of the Pentagon's Joint Chiefs of Staff. Richardson will now remain in the role until a new CNO is confirmed.

"Adm. Bill Moran recently brought to my attention that over the past two years he maintained a professional relationship with an individual who was held accountable and counseled for failing to meet the values and standards of the Naval profession," Spencer said in a written statement Sunday evening.

"While I admire his faithful service and commitment to the Navy, this decision on his part to maintain that relationship has caused me to call his judgment into question. Therefore, today I accepted Adm. Moran's request to retire."

Navy Secretary Gets Green Light to Nominate Adm. Michael Gilday as Next CNO

Posted on Jul 11, 2019 07:58 pm

Navy Secretary Richard Spencer has received White House approval to nominate three-star Navy Adm. Michael Gilday to become the next Chief of Naval Operations, **Defense News** reported Thursday.

If confirmed by the Senate, Gilday, currently the Director of the Joint Staff, would be promoted over several four-star colleagues who will remain in their current roles. Gilday and other senior Navy leaders met with President Donald Trump on Wednesday where they received his approval to move forward his promotion and nomination, according to the report.

Gilday's appointment to CNO would replace the Navy's current top military official, Adm. John Richardson.

Richardson was originally scheduled to be replaced Aug. 1 by Adm. Bill Moran.

Last week Moran abruptly declined the appointment and requested retirement after Spencer raised new questions about Moran exercising poor judgment involving a past professional relationship.

Milley's Joint Chiefs Chairman Hearing Goes Smoothly, Senate Confirmation Expected

Posted on Jul 15, 2019 08:48 pm

Army Chief of Staff Gen. Mark Milley easily handled his confirmation hearing last Thursday to be the next Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, Defense One reported.

Milley appeared before the Senate Armed Services Committee where both Republicans and Democrats praised Milley as the right selection to become the next top military officer.

Committee members Sen. Tim Kaine (D-Va.) committed to supporting Milley's nomination and Sen. Angus King (I-Maine) said, "I don't think there's anyone that I have met in my work here that I have more confidence in and in the position that you're about to embark upon."

Milley did face strong questioning from lawmakers on both sides of the aisle about DOD's current lack of confirmed senior civilian leadership at the Pentagon.

Currently 18 senior DOD civilian leadership roles are being performed unconfirmed officials, including the defense secretary, deputy defense secretary, chief management officer and Army and Air Force secretaries.

During his hearing Milley also emphasized to committee lawmakers that in his view China would be the chief military rival for the next century, Task and Purpose reported.

"I think China is the main challenger to U.S. national security over the next 50, 100 years," Milley said.

"China has expanded throughout all the regions of the globe, in clear competition," he added.

"Primarily in competition for resources in order to build and improve their military, to fund and fuel their economy."

If confirmed, Milley will replace Marine Corps Gen. Joseph F. Dunford as the top Pentagon military official, personally advising the president on military strategy.

Nation's Mayors Urge Congress to Fund Defense Community Infrastructure Program

Washington, D.C. - The United States Conference of Mayors (USCM) unanimously passed a resolution supporting \$100 million in funding for the Defense Community Infrastructure Program (DCIP) in next year's defense appropriations. Passed by Congress in 2018, DCIP provides critical funding for community infrastructure outside the base that has a direct impact on military readiness.

The Conference of Mayors' endorsement came during their 87th Annual Meeting in Honolulu last week and was advanced by the Mayor of Everett, Wash., Cassie Franklin. "As our city and local military presence continues to grow, so do our infrastructure needs, and many of our municipalities are not financially able to maintain those needs without federal support. This additional funding is crucial to help communities like Everett with significant military populations to best support our local service members and their families."

Everett is home to Naval Station Everett (NSE), the most modern shore installation in the U.S., and

is one of only two Navy-owned deepwater ports on the continental west coast.

“While military construction dollars provide direct support on base, states and communities often bear the burden of financing infrastructure off-base where on average more than 70% of service members and their families live,” said Tim Ford, CEO of the Association of Defense Communities.

“States and communities have invested billions in infrastructure to support the military over the decade without a comprehensive federal program to support them. DCIP will change that and make sure national security infrastructure investments in our communities that support installations are prioritized. We applaud the Conference of Mayors for taking this step to advance this important program and the critical investments it will support.”

The United States Conference of Mayors is the official nonpartisan organization of cities with populations of 30,000 or more. There are 1,408 such cities in the nation today.

Authorized for 10 years as a pilot program, DCIP will support community infrastructure for transportation, schools, hospitals, police, fire, emergency response, water, wastewater, telecommunications, and electric, gas, or other utility infrastructure that are owned by a state or local government. A state/local match will be required except in rural locations. Despite widespread congressional support, the Department of Defense has not released details on the program’s structure or criteria despite continued requests from Congress. Congress is currently considering funding levels for the program as part of the fiscal 2020 defense appropriations.

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

As most of you know, I’m always asking you to stop using the term “BRAC”. I believe BRAC is looking in the rearview mirror and not forward thinking. We do not know “if” or “when” there may be another BRAC. Local and state officials do not see the urgency with investments in military and defense programs because they don’t see a BRAC coming and we do not do a good job of explaining that realignment of missions and programs happen without a BRAC. In fact, without a BRAC we need to be more engaged, proactive and forward thinking.

So, here is my new phrase...**STRATEGIC INSTALLATIONS RESILIENCY & REALIGNMENT or SIR2.**

Going forward, let’s be in the driver’s seat to be strategic, innovative, forward thinking and solution seekers through collaborations and partnerships to leverage and maximize resources as well as reduce costs. Let’s not only tell our story but show our story of the Florida Military Complex of installations, ranges, missions and programs as assets in the National Military Defense Strategy.

Never assume your neighbors know your local installations’ stories nor the statewide story of how each of our installations are key assets in the National Military Defense Strategy. Every installation and range in the state interacts within the Florida Military Complex from air, land, sea, sub-surface and space. We create the synergy for integrating live, virtual and constructive testing and training. Missions and programs will be realigned and moved without hearings on Capitol Hill. Another reason to tell our story on

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR (continued)

why the Florida Military Complex is interconnected and an asset in the National Defense Strategy and we are able to accept more compatible missions to leverage our infrastructure and defense industries.

As we move forward, a featured range is our Gulf Range which is a foundational piece of the Complex. Last week, the Department of Interior announced the Region-wide oil and gas lease sale for the Gulf of Mexico. Scheduled for sale on August 21st is 77.8 million acres. "Two Gulf-wide lease sales are scheduled to be held each year and includes all available blocks in the combined Western, Central and Eastern Gulf of Mexico planning areas." Currently, the moratorium established by the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 excludes our area east of the military mission line until June 2022. That's right, we are on the clock and have less than 2 years to get the extension needed to ban oil and gas drilling in the Gulf Range. The number one priority is to protect the Gulf Range for National Security and Military Force Readiness.

Other states are upping their investments in their local Military programs and engagement in Washington, DC to be proactive and ready to act on a moment notice if challenges or opportunities arise. Are you and your communities ready? Where are you being proactive and strategic? Are you collaborating and developing partnerships? It's changes of command season at the installations. Have you met with the new commanders? Are you sharing the story? Are you listening to their visions? We must be agile and able to address opportunities and challenges. It will take everyone as we move forward.

Remember this phrase...Strategic Installation Resiliency & Realignment or SIR2. Thank you for your time and energy in supporting our Florida Military Complex and the men, women and families who give so much to protect us.

Kellie Jo Kilberg

FDA CALENDAR:

Family Support Conference Call

Thursday, July 25, 2019 - 10:00 AM EDT

(888) 585-9008

Conference Room 262-492-927

Thursday, September 12, 2019

FDA Conference Call Meeting

9:00 AM CDT/10:00 AM EDT

FDA Website: www.enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense/



QUOTATIONS OF THE DAY

"No man is entitled to the blessings of freedom unless he be vigilant in its preservation."
-- Gen. Douglas MacArthur

"This will remain the land of the free so long as it is the home of the brave."
-- Elmer Davis

"When the will defies fear, when duty throws the gauntlet down to fate, when honor scorns to compromise with death -- that is heroism."
-- Robert Green Ingersoll



News from the Bases & Regions

NAS Pensacola —

NAS Pensacola Fleet and Family Support Center Celebrate 40 Years

<https://www.dvidshub.net/news/332194/nas-pensacola-fleet-and-family-support-center-celebrate-40-years>

DVIDS © July 19, 2019

Story by Jason Bortz

The Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) celebrated the 40 year anniversary of the establishment of FFSCs with a birthday party and open house July 19 at the organization's headquarters onboard NAS Pensacola.

During the ceremony, NAS Pensacola FFSC Director Kathleen Doherty lauded the continued efforts of the approximately 40 FFSC staff for the services they provide to service members and their families at the largest Navy Regions Southeast (CNRSE) installation.....

Tyndall AFB—

Tyndall Air Force Base in Panama City still suffering from hurricane damage

<https://www.wfla.com/news/florida/tyndall-air-force-base-in-panama-city-still-suffering-from-hurricane-damage/>

by: Trevor Shirley

Since October, Tyndall Air Force Base in Panama City has been slowly rebuilding after suffering

almost \$5 billion in damages from Hurricane Michael.

Now, money to continue those efforts has to make its way through Congress and survive partisan squabbling.

“They still have a lot of troops living in tents,” said Florida Congressman Neal Dunn (R). Dunn says getting money for a full fix at Tyndall Air Force Base has become a major frustration.

“It shouldn’t be a partisan battle but it has become one,” said Dunn.....

From the Bay County Chamber of Commerce Facebook Page:

Good news for Bay County! A Community Partnership Memorandum between Tyndall Air Force Base and Bay County, local municipalities, the Bay County Chamber and Bay Defense Alliance was signed on July 11th to promote collaborative and innovative partnerships with the base. These partnerships offer a means to leverage the capabilities and resources of military installations, local governments, nonprofit alliances and commercial entities to enhance mission effectiveness, increase efficiencies, reduce costs and enhance quality of life.



Highlands County —

Central Florida RPC Organized Landowner Assistance Expo 2019

The Central Florida Regional Planning Council (CFRPC), with support from the Highlands Soil and Water Conservation District, held the inaugural Landowner Assistance Expo 2019 (LAX 2019) at the Bert Harris Jr. Agriculture Center Auditorium in Sebring. The Expo brought together 17 presenters and exhibitors from local, state, federal, and non-governmental organizations who support landowners by providing cost-share, technical assistance, and conservation easement opportunities.

With diverse presentations covering wildlife conservation, alternative crops farm loans, tax preparation, efficient water use and more, there was a little something for everyone. In addition, private landowners with experience in the various programs were honored guests as they provided firsthand knowledge of program usefulness. Attendees were excited about the variety of programs discussed and the fast-paced format that encouraged brief overviews of the programs while allowing ample time for networking and visiting specific exhibits. Based on the positive feedback from presenters and attendees, LAX 2019 was a success and the Central Florida Regional Planning Council is planning for an expanded LAX 2020.



LAX 2019 was held in support of the Central Florida RPC's coordination of the Avon Park Air Force Range Sentinel Landscape Partnership. The Partnership brings together the U.S Departments of Defense, Interior, and Agriculture to support working lands, conservation efforts, and the military training mission by encouraging compatible development around the Avon Park Air Force Range. The Partnership also includes many non-federal members who all share a common goal of responsible stewardship and effective management of the region's natural resources.

Eglin AFB —

Eglin AFB F-35s Hit Their Highest Mission-Capable Rate

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2019/07/20/eglin-afb-f-35s-hit-their-highest-mission-capable-rate.html>

Military.com © July 20, 2019

By Jim Thompson

As President Trump's nominee for defense secretary is telling the Senate Armed Services Committee that the F-35 Lightning II stealth fighter jet won't meet a Pentagon goal for an 80% mission-capable rate across all military services by Sept. 30, the 33rd Fighter Wing at Eglin Air Force Base is nonetheless flirting with that number.

In April, the 33rd -- a graduate flying and maintenance training wing -- posted a 77.1% mission-capable rate for the 33 F-35s on its flight line, according to Lt. Savannah Stephens, the wing's public affairs officer. That's the highest mission-capable rate achieved by the wing since August of 2016, when the Air Force declared initial operational capability status had been reached for the F-35A, the Air Force's version of the jet.....

Large quantities of munitions fired, dropped into Gulf Test Range

<https://www.srpressgazette.com/news/20190720/large-quantities-of-munitions-fired-dropped-into-gulf-test-range>

Santa Rosa Press Gazette © July 20, 2019

By Jim Thompson

From World War I through the 1970s, untold tons of military munitions were dumped all but surreptitiously into ocean waters along the U.S. coasts, including the Gulf of Mexico. Today, the Gulf continues to be an ongoing repository for munitions, although for purposes other than mere disposal and under tight safety and environmental controls.

Approximately 120,000 square miles of the eastern Gulf, designated along with 724 square miles on land as the Eglin Gulf Test & Training Range managed by the 96th Test Wing at Eglin Air Force Base, now serve as the U.S. military's largest test and training range.....



Spotlight on Camp Blanding



Camp Blanding Joint Training Center (CBJTC) near Starke, is the National Guard's premier training site in North Florida. The 73,000-acre post provides resources to enhance joint, interagency, intergovernmental, and multinational training in support of our nation, state and communities. As a key stakeholder in the region, CBJTC continues to grow new partnerships and enhance existing ones.

Quality customer service is provided to a wide range of customers spanning the Joint, Interagency, Intergovernmental and Multinational (JIIM) Spectrum. This diverse customer base keeps CBJTC relevant while providing various revenue streams to sustain its capabilities. The application of state and federal funds provides continual improvements for existing services, creates opportunities for the development of new ranges, and supports construction of facilities to better meet the needs of our customers. Camp Blanding remains committed to and capable of supporting JIIM organizations desiring to train both federal and state missions.

Named after former Chief of the National Guard Bureau and Florida Guardsman, Army Lt. Gen. Albert Hazen Blanding, the post has been an important training site for our military members since World War II. In January 2015, CBJTC celebrated its 75th Anniversary recognizing its past importance as a mobilization station as well as highlighting its future relevance in the current Volatile, Uncertain, Complex and Ambiguous (VUCA) operating environment.

Camp Blanding aspires to be the premier domestic and combat training facility in the southeastern U.S with a focus on Unified Land Operations up to brigade size elements. It continually seeks opportunities to offer training for the "whole of government" approach while showcasing its capabilities as a state-of-the-art, year-round training venue.

History

Camp Blanding has had an interesting history. It was originally designated as a Naval Air Station in the later part of the 1930's because it is located on Lake Kingsley. The site the Navy really wanted was on the St. James River in Jacksonville, but the land was already designated for the Florida National Guard use. The two forces engaged in talks and a land-swap was arranged. At that time the National Guard Officers Association of Florida recommended the camp be named in honor of Lieutenant General Albert H. Blanding. Blanding was a Florida native who commanded the 2nd Florida Brigade during the Mexican Border War in 1916-17.



In 1940 the regular Army leased Camp Blanding as a training center. It became an induction center for soldiers, an infantry replacement training center and for a period of time, it was also a German prisoner of war detainee camp that held 2000 Germans. During World War II Camp Blanding had grown so much it was equal in size to the fourth largest city in Florida and was one of the largest training centers in the United States. After the war, the camp downsized and land was given back to Florida for use as a guard training site. From the end of the war until 1970 when efforts to upgrade the post began, there was little use made of Camp Blanding. In 1981 the Department of Defense designated the camp as a class A military installation and Camp Blanding has been building and growing ever since.



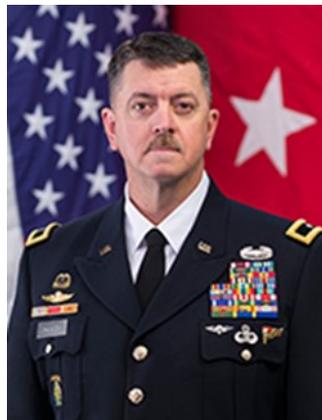
Florida National Guard Leadership



MG James Eifert
The Adjutant General



COL (P) John Haas
Asst. Adjutant General
Army



BG Paul Chauncey III
Asst. Adjutant General



BG Brian Simpler
Asst. Adjutant General
Air

Did You Know?

Army National Guard Facts:

1. Each member of the National Guard is sworn to uphold two constitutions: federal and state.
2. The term "national guard" was popularized by Marquis de Lafayette to describe each state's militia. It didn't become an official term until 1916.
3. 50,000 members of the National Guard were called to take on various missions during the 9/11 attacks in 2001.
4. Only two presidents have served in the National Guard in its modern structure: Harry S. Truman and George W. Bush.
5. The National Guard is older than the Army. Militias were used as early as 1636 to protect British colonies. The U.S. Army wasn't formed until the beginning of the Revolutionary War.
6. American Samoa is the only territory of the U.S. to not have a National Guard unit.
7. National Guard units were called Minutemen during the American Revolution due to their rapid response ability.
8. The most senior member of each state National Guard unit is the Adjutant General. Some states elect the Adjutant General, while others have their Governor appoint someone to the position.
9. The National Guard formed one of the first all African American units in U.S. military history, the 54th Massachusetts Volunteers. Their creation was met with mixed reactions, but the unit serves to this day and the first African American to receive a Medal of Honor, William Harvey Carney, hailed from it.
10. The National Guard is second only to the U.S. Army in terms of number of members.

★
★
NOTES FROM THE STAFF
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★

★ Staff is putting together a presentation on protection of the Gulf Range for the Governor in advance of
★ a marketing effort to get the word out on the importance of a united statewide effort to preserve this
★ national treasure. I have attached the DRAFT briefing on this for your information. We thank you for
★ the great support you provide your local military installations and your efforts to improve the quality
★ of life for all our military personnel and their families.

★ We are blessed to have a great state defense alliance and tremendous support from our Governor and
★ Legislature! Communities around the state welcome our service members and go the extra mile to our
★ nation's military and their families are well-cared for in our communities. This is a tribute to all of you
★ who work this so diligently every day. Staff wants to thank all the dedicated members of the Florida
★ Defense Alliance. You continue to do an outstanding job daily supporting our military and keeping
★ Florida as the most military friendly state in the nation!
★

Florida Defense Alliance Leadership

Chair – Kellie Jo Kilberg

Vice Chair – Tim Jones

Mission Sustainment Working Group Chair – Mike Jones

Family Support Working Group Chair – Lynn Brannon

Executive Board: Jonathan Borgert, Jennifer Codo-Salisbury, Paul Hirsch and
Jim Breitenfeld



Florida Defense Alliance Newsletter

August 7, 2019

FDA Vision: To maintain and enhance the position and reputation of Florida as the most military-friendly state in the nation.

NEWS

Governor Makes Appointments to the Florida Defense Support Task Force – Last week, Governor DeSantis announced three appointments to the Florida Defense Support Task Force. Major General James Eifert, The Adjutant General of Florida, was appointed replacing Major General Michael Calhoun. Rear Admiral (Retired) Stanley Bozin was appointed replacing Admiral (Retired) Mark Fitzgerald. Captain, US Navy (Retired) Keith Hoskins was appointed replacing Commissioner Barbara Stewart. The Florida Defense Alliance welcomes all the new Task Force members and looks forward to working with them.

Task Force 2020-2021 Grant Program Accepting Applications – The Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF) is now accepting grant funding applications for fiscal year 2020 – 2021. The application period is August 1 – 30, 2019. You may access the grant application at: <https://www.tfaforms.com/4753345>, or from the FDSTF website at: <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/fdstf/>. If you have questions or require further assistance, please contact: Marcy Muldrow Sanders, Grants Manager, Florida Defense Support Task Force at (850) 878-4566 or msanders@enterpriseflorida.com.

2019 Military, Defense & Veterans Opportunities Summit - The Florida Chamber will hold it's 2019 Military, Defense & Veterans Opportunities Summit in Jacksonville on August 13th and 14th. Major topics will include protecting Florida's bases from encroachment, the establishment of Space Command & Space Force, rebuilding Tyndall AFB and attracting more defense industry to Florida. I've pasted the hyperlink for the event below. General Mike Jones will headline the summit with remarks on the federal perspective and FDA Chair Kellie Jo Kilberg will lead a panel discussion on the Gulf Range. https://www.flchamber.com/event_post/military-defense-veterans-opportunity-summit/

President Signs Budget Deal Into Law – Last Friday, President Trump signed the 2 year budget agreement into law. The bipartisan budget package increases military and non-military spending by \$320 billion above the budget caps that would have taken effect if Congress failed to stop sequestration. Under the deal, defense programs would see a 3 percent hike in fiscal 2020, topping off at \$738 billion. Non-defense programs would increase 4 percent over current levels to a total of \$632 billion, which includes a \$2.5 billion adjustment for the 2020 census.

From ADC:

Senate Confirms Gilday as CNO

Posted on Aug 01, 2019 07:46 pm

The Senate confirmed Vice Adm. Michael Gilday by voice vote Thursday to be the next chief of naval operations, [Stripes.com](https://www.stripes.com) reported.

**ENTERPRISE
FLORIDA**

Gilday was confirmed one day after his Armed Services Committee confirmation hearing and just before upper chamber prepares to adjourn for its August recess.

His confirmation makes him the Navy's most senior leader and he will also become a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, where he has served as director since March. He will also receive his fourth star and a promotion to full admiral.

Current CNO Adm. John Richardson is scheduled to retire later this summer after 37 years of service, allowing the Navy to avoid a gap in its top leadership. He has been serving in that position since September 2015.

A native of Lowell, Mass., Gilday is the son of a career sailor and has served as a surface warfare officer since graduating from the Naval Academy in 1985, according to his service biography.

Senate Confirms Norquist as Permanent Deputy Defense Secretary

Posted on Jul 31, 2019 07:30 pm

Deputy Secretary of Defense David Norquist was confirmed into his new permanent post Tuesday evening with a Senate voice vote that easily approved him to become DOD's second-ranking official.

Norquist, who was sworn in Wednesday, was the latest Senate confirmation vote came as the chamber hustled to vote on numerous high-priority administration nominees before the chamber adjourns for its August recess, according to [Roll Call](#).

Norquist, previously DOD's comptroller, led the Pentagon through its first complete audit in 2018 and though the department ultimately failed in the effort, he received bipartisan praise last week from the Senate Armed Services Committee for undertaking the daunting project.

During last week's confirmation hearing Committee Chairman James Inhofe (R-Okla.) offered praise that he had "strong feelings" about Norquist's guidance at DOD, [The Hill](#) reported.

"In fact, I remember telling the president a long time ago it doesn't matter who ends up being secretary of Defense so long as you have Norquist in here helping," Inhofe said.

"Secretary Norquist, we face many challenges that require strong leadership and the ability to make tough decisions," added Ranking Member Jack Reed (R.I.). "I am very confident you can make those tough decisions."

Norquist's appointment establishes his permanent authority in a role he has been performing in an acting capacity since January. The appointment is a welcome development for recently confirmed Secretary of Defense Mark Esper who last week said that filling Pentagon vacancies is one of his top priorities.

However, until the Senate returns from its upcoming August recess, Esper and Norquist are expected to lead the nation's agency with several key civilian positions still unfilled, including Army and Air Force secretaries.

Esper Announces PFAS Task Force to Grapple with Installation and Community Contamination Issues

Posted on Jul 24, 2019 06:46 pm

Defense Secretary Mark Esper announced on his first full day in office Wednesday that he has signed a Pentagon directive creating a task force to deal with the problem of PFAS contamination on military bases, [Military Times](#) reported.

Esper, who had been sworn in only hours earlier on Tuesday evening, told Pentagon reporters that the task force would “address all the key areas” of DOD’s response to the presence of the toxic contaminants used in military firefighting foam.

He also pledged the new task force will address a wide range of issues resulting stemming from PFAS contamination on military installations and in surrounding communities.

“Whether it’s cleanup, whether it’s finding an alternative for the current firefighting, you name it,” Esper said. “It will include the military department and our health affairs folks.”

Esper has also asked the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to be involved, as well as other government agencies, according to the report.

He emphasized the effort is “to make sure we go after this problem very aggressively, very holistically and get in front of it, stay in front of it and take care of our soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines and the outlying communities that are affected by it.”

The chemicals, perfluorooctanoic acid and perfluorooctane sulfonate, referred to as PFAS, have been detected in contamination levels at many military installations nationwide, as **On Base** has reported.

Chairman, Other Confirmations Moving Forward

Posted on Jul 25, 2019 08:40 pm

The Senate easily confirmed Army Gen. Mark Milley on Thursday to be the next chairman of the Joint Chiefs, **The Hill** reported.

The Senate voted 89-1 to confirm Milley as the nation’s top military officer and succeed Marine Corps Gen. Joseph Dunford whose term as Joint Chiefs chairman closes at the end of September.

“I am humbled and honored to be confirmed as the next Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff,” Milley said in a statement. “Thank you to the president and the Senate for their confidence. I have been privileged to serve as chief of staff of the Army these last four years and look forward to the opportunity to continue working alongside the soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, Dept. of Defense civilians and families serving our nation’s military.”

The Senate has moved quickly this week to confirm top Pentagon nominees for roles that have lacked permanent officials for months. On Tuesday the upper chamber confirmed Secretary of Defense Mark Esper to become DOD’s first permanent chief since January.

The Senate Armed Services Committee also Thursday advanced DOD Comptroller and Acting Deputy Defense Secretary David Norquist’s nomination to the full Senate for his vote to become the permanent deputy secretary, **Roll Call** reported.

Norquist completed his confirmation hearing Wednesday and could be confirmed next week before the Senate adjourns for its August recess.

Air Force Gen. John Hyten’s nomination to become the next vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs was also expected to move forward Thursday after SASC members interviewed him in private, **Military Times** reported.

Hyten, currently chief of the U.S. Strategic Command, met with the committee to defend himself against recently resurfaced allegations of sexual harassment, according to the report.



Thornberry Says Space Force Requirements Will Take Time to Work Out

Posted on Jul 25, 2019 08:19 pm

Rep. Mac Thornberry (R-Texas) told reporters Wednesday that it will take time to work through the different requirements coming from the White House, Congress and Pentagon to stand up a new space service, [Military.com](#) reported.

Thornberry, ranking member of the House Armed Services Committee, spoke at a roundtable discussion in Washington, D.C., and emphasized the upcoming conference committee negotiations on the fiscal 2020 NDAA to get the new force off the ground.

"I think we will come out of conference with a lean Space Force designed to meet the objectives that we all want to achieve," Thornberry said according to the report.

Thornberry said the White House started with a relatively simple proposal for a separate military branch, then DOD added its contributions that in their current form Capitol Hill does not generally support.

In addition, the Senate and House have different proposals on how the command should be organized, and the amount of start-up funding to allocate.

Both legislative chambers agree the new branch should reside within the Air Force, but have differences on its structure and creation.

The Senate Armed Services Committee has moved forward with plans largely based on DOD's proposals while the House proposal has a slightly different organizational structure.

A likely negotiations sticking point is that the Democrat-led House favors a "Space Corps" within the Air Force, rather than an independent military branch sought by the White House.

Another sticking point is that the Senate Armed Services Committee authorized \$72.4 million in line with DOD's proposal, while House Democrats will likely seek to reduce DOD's request.

Thornberry emphasized that Capitol Hill lawmakers aren't ignoring the Pentagon's contributions. "We'll listen to what DOD officials say, but there are a lot of different voices saying things ... depending on where you are," Thornberry said.

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

It's hard to believe that it's back to school time as summer rolls along. It's time for football, fall soccer, band and all of the other school activities. As this craziness begins, remember that we have new military families in our communities trying to get into our school systems. We thought SB620 was our answer to assisting military families, however we are finding there are still some challenges. We are asking for your assistance regarding the school districts as well as assisting with information on childcare. Lynn Brannon, chair of Family Support Working Group, sent out a request following the working group's conference call. We need your support in accomplishing the following **3 Actions**:

1. We would like to reach out to Superintendents and local Officials around our installations to make sure they are aware of SB620 and what that means to military families within their county. If your installation serves several counties, make sure to reach all to all counties involved. Help us locate those people across the State.
2. We would like to schedule a call with CDC Directors on our installations to better understand how they maneuver around the need for childcare in their area. We need to understand their criteria for credentialing CDC centers in the community and the time frame it takes to see if we can formulate a task

force to assist with addressing this issue. Childcare or the lack of childcare truly impacts readiness and retention across all branches of service. Help connect us with the CDC Directors on installations where you are.

3. Lastly, we would like to reach out to the Military Family Advocacy Program offices with Career-Source. Could someone assist Lynn with those connections?

You are the connection in our communities, and we need your assistance. The Florida Legislative Committee Weeks start in September. If there are challenges that need to be address during session, we must get started now to get the information and begin the process with our legislators.

I hope to see you next week in Jacksonville at the Florida Chamber Foundation's Military, Defense & Veterans Opportunities Summit. I will be moderating a panel with members from FDA on Mission Ready. Although, we do not have a lot of time, this is a wonderful opportunity to inform others about the Florida Military Complex, how we all work together and how we fit into the National Military Defense Strategy. If you are attending, remember to tell your story. Don't assume those in attendance actual know the facts or how we must have a proactive plan for Strategic Installations Resiliency & Re-alignment (SIR²).

Until next time, enjoy your days of summer before school starts. Assist with the 3 actions requested from Lynn Brannon, Family Support Working Group. Thank you for all that you do to support our installations, missions and active members, their families, retirees and veterans.

Kellie Jo Kilberg

FDA CALENDAR:

Thursday, September 12, 2019

FDA Conference Call Meeting

9:00 AM CDT/10:00 AM EDT

(888) 585-9008

Conference Room 262-492-927

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

FDA In-Person Meeting

Tampa, Florida

Renaissance Tampa International Plaza

More Information to Come!

FDA Website: www.enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense/

QUOTATION OF THE DAY

"Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future."
--- President John F. Kennedy

A Message from Lynn Brannon, Family Support Working Group Chair:

We had a great FSWG call this month!

Some of the top issues we discussed were related to Service Members receiving their orders to move, re-locating but unable to find a permanent residence in the County of choice for the School system.

We reviewed SB620 which states: requiring a student whose parent is transferred or pending transfer to a military installation within a school district to be considered a resident of the district and provided preferential treatment in the controlled open enrollment process under certain circumstances, etc.

That being said, we are still finding this is not known throughout the State and military families are still having problems with this issue.

We also discussed the childcare issue across the State. CDCs are at full capacity with multiple year waiting lists. There are also some CDC certified centers within some communities surrounding some of our installations but the problem we run into there is the certifications and clearances that happen through DoD take around a year to process and the family member trying to open these centers to alleviate the childcare burden are normally in the area for only two years so that means they only have 1 year they can operate before they PCS.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!! Please read over Kellie Jo Kilberg's [Notes from the Chair](#) and look over our objectives to see if you can help!

Lynn Brannon
Family Support Working Group Chair
(904) 229-6440
lynn.b.brannon.ctr@mail.mil



News from the Bases & Regions

The Gulf Range —

Defense Against Hypersonic Attack Is Becoming The Biggest Military Challenge Of The Trump Era

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/lorenthompson/2019/07/30/defense-against-hypersonic-attack-is-becoming-the-biggest-military-challenge-of-the-trump-era/#594cafab62co>

Forbes © July 30, 2019

By Loren Thompson

In the eternal competition between offense and defense for military dominance, the offense is winning. Russia has been testing a hypersonic cruise missile with a speed above 6,000 miles per hour that can be used to deliver nuclear or conventional warheads against targets at sea or on land. The U.S. military at present has no defense against the weapon.

U.S. intelligence expects the missile, called Zircon, to be deployed on Russian warships in the near future. Meanwhile, Russia is testing a second hypersonic weapon, a glide vehicle boosted to speeds in excess of a mile per second by a ballistic missile, that is expected to carry a nuclear warhead over intercontinental distances. China has similar research under way, and has tested its own hypersonic system within the last year.....

U.S. Space Command—

US Space Command Set to Launch Within Weeks

<http://www.airforcemag.com/Features/Pages/2019/July%202019/US-Space-Command-Set-to-Launch-Within-Weeks.aspx>

Air Force Magazine © July 31, 2019
BY RACHEL S. COHEN

A new US Space Command will formally launch within weeks, the deputy commander of US Strategic Command told reporters July 31.

“I think it’d probably be about weeks—we should see the actual establishment of US Space Command,” Vice Adm. David Kriete said. “I think we’re on a good track in terms of our planning.”

Kriete said the timeline for launching the revived SPACECOM, which will take over responsibility for space combat operations from STRATCOM, will be at the discretion of new Defense Secretary Mark Esper. The Pentagon has not yet announced where SPACECOM headquarters will be, but its two major components will be located at Vandenberg AFB, Calif., and Schriever AFB, Colo. The Senate recently confirmed Air Force Space Command boss Gen. Jay Raymond to lead the combat command.....

NS Mayport—

Naval Station Mayport welcomes Navy's newest warship

Action News Jax | Posted July 31, 2019 | by Elizabeth Pace

<https://www.actionnewsjax.com/news/local/naval-station-mayport-welcomes-navys-newest-warship/971606817>

The Navy’s newest warship will now call Naval Station Mayport home. USS Paul Ignatius (DD 117) pulled into Jacksonville Wednesday with more than 300 sailors.

The warship was named after Paul Ignatius, who served as secretary of the Navy during President Lyndon B. Johnson’s administration.



He spoke Saturday at the commissioning ceremony in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Ignatius is a 98-year-old Navy veteran who served during World War II....

US Navy To Commission USS Billings Littoral Combat Ship

Defenseworld.net | Posted August 1, 2019 | by Elizabeth Pace

<https://www.defenseworld.net/news/25224/>

[US Navy To Commission USS Billings Littoral Combat Ship#.XUMg5B1KjiQ](#)

The United States (US) Navy will commission its latest Freedom-variant Littoral Combat Ship (LCS), the future "USS Billings" (LCS 15) on Saturday, August 3, in Key West, Florida.

The ship is designed to defeat asymmetric "anti-access" threats such as mines, quiet diesel submarines and fast surface craft. It will be homeported in Mayport, Florida, the US Department of Defense announced on Wednesday.



The LCS is a set of two classes of relatively small surface vessels designed for operations near shore. The Freedom-class and the Independence-class are the first two LCS variants....



Navy accepts delivery of USS Indianapolis littoral combat ship

UPI | Posted July 29, 2019 | by Ed Adamczyk

<https://www.upi.com/Defense-News/2019/07/29/Navy-accepts-delivery-of-USS-Indianapolis-littoral-combat-ship/3441564414292/>

The U.S. Navy accepted delivery of its newest Freedom-class littoral combat ship, to be named the USS Indianapolis, in a ceremony in Marinette, Wis.

The delivery signifies the official transfer of the ship from Lockheed Martin and Fincantieri Marinette

Marine to the Navy. The vessel is planned for commissioning on Oct. 26 in Burns Harbor, Ind. and will be homeported at Naval Station Mayport in Florida.

The ship completed its acceptance trials, the milestone prior to delivery, in June....

Defense Industry —

Lockheed Martin celebrates missile program's move to Space Coast that could bring 350 jobs

Orlando Sentinel | Posted July 30, 2019 | by Marco Santana

<https://www.orlandosentinel.com/business/os-bz-lockheed-martin-ballistic-missiles-20190730-4j2yparofvg2rkza4ycvkejlu-story.html>

Lockheed Martin marked the relocation of its ballistic missiles program here Tuesday, raising flags on a site that's expected to eventually generate 350 new or relocated jobs.

But as it celebrated with the mostly symbolic gesture, economic leaders say the program’s arrival adds to a region that has already been boosted by launch firms SpaceX and United Launch Alliance.

“This headquarters expands what is already a growing trend to diversify the economy beyond a dependence on NASA programs,” Space Florida President and CEO Frank DiBello said. “That (lack of diversification) has hurt us so many times in the past....”

EDC Efforts Key in Relocation of Lockheed Martin FBM Headquarters to Florida’s Space Coast

Space Coast Business | Posted July 30, 2019

<https://www.spacecoastbusiness.com/edc-efforts-key-in-relocation-of-lockheed-martin-fbm-headquarters-to-floridas-space-coast/>

Today, the Economic Development Commission of Florida’s Space Coast (EDC) recognized a significant milestone in Brevard County’s history as Lockheed Martin’s Fleet Ballistic Missile (FBM) Headquarters officially marked its relocation to Titusville, Florida.

This milestone comes nearly fifteen years after EDC efforts played an essential role in retaining the Naval Ordnance Test Unit (NOTU) in Cape Canaveral. The FBM program supports NOTU and its submarine-launched Trident missiles. In 2005, a federal base-closure commission reversed a Department of Defense recommendation to relocate NOTU to Kings Bay, Georgia retaining nearly 1,000 jobs locally. The presence of NOTU was one of the key factors in the decision to relocate the FBM Headquarters, announced by Lockheed Martin in February 2017



Spotlight on Team Orlando



Naval Support Activity (NSA) Orlando opened in 1988 as the home of the Naval Air Warfare Center Training Systems Division (NAWCTSD) Orlando. NAWCTSD Orlando is the Navy’s principal center for modeling, simulation, and training systems technologies. The Center provides training systems development for a wide spectrum of military programs, including aircraft, surface ships, submarines, and other specialized requirements.

Today, NSA Orlando provides support to all Department of Defense activities in Central Florida, most of which support military training and simulation missions. It has added the U.S. Army's Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training, and Instrumentation, the Army's equivalent to NAWCTSD Orlando, as a major tenant unit.

Other major supported organizations adjacent to NSA Orlando include the U.S. Marine Corps' Program Manager for Training Systems; the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command's SFC Paul Ray Smith Simulation & Training Technology Center; the Orlando office of the U.S. Air Force Agency for Modeling and Simulation; the U.S. Navy Human Performance Center Orlando; the United States Joint Forces Command's Joint Development Integration Facility and Joint Training Integration and Evaluation Center, and the Joint Advanced Distributed Learning Co-Laboratory.

A major factor in the success of Team Orlando is not only the cooperation between all of the services, but the collaboration between the military/government agencies academia (University of Central Florida) and industry (represented on the Team Orlando Board by the National Center for Simulation). Finally, Central Florida government is represented by the Orlando Economic Partnership and the technology community provides support through the Florida High Tech Corridor Council.

Team Orlando is housed on NSA Orlando and includes all the military services and other federal partners engaged in Modeling, Simulation and Training (MS&T). Additionally, there are more than 1,000 Florida companies & organizations involved in MS&T. This sector directly employs more than 27,000 Floridians with average annual salaries of approximately \$70,000. MS&T contributes almost \$5 billion to the Florida economy and provides in excess of 60,000 jobs.

Mission

Provide consistent, effective and efficient shore installation support services to all tenant DoD agencies enabling their mission accomplishment in a joint services environment.

Population Served

The combined government end-strength of the base and its tenants currently comprise approximately 120 Active-Duty military and 2,200 civil service serving on or near NSA Orlando. We also serve a community of approximately 350 military family members, 3,200 Joint Services Reserves, and 48,000 military retirees in the Central Florida area.

Key Tenants

- Naval Air Warfare Center Training Systems Division (NAWC TSD)
- Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southeast (NAVFAC SE)
- US Army Program Executive Office, for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation
- US Marine Corps' Program Manager for Training Systems
- US Army Research, Development and Engineering Command SFC Paul Ray Smith Simulation & Training Technology Center
- US Air Force Agency for Modeling and Simulation Orlando office
- United States Joint Forces Command Joint Development Integration
- Facility and Joint Training Integration and Evaluation Center and the Joint Advanced Distributed Learning Co-Laboratory

Location

NSA Orlando is located on the eastside of Orlando's city limits in Orange County, in the Central Florida Research Park adjacent to the University of Central Florida. Orlando is one of the world's fastest-growing cities. It is among Florida's major cities and has one of the nation's lowest unemployment rates. Orlando is a center for digital media and bio medicine. The City has the 9th busiest airport in the U.S. and is warm and sunny all year round. Orlando is the county seat for Orange County, Florida and is considered a relatively high cost of living area. Orlando is also the home of Walt Disney World, EPCOT, Universal Studios, and Sea World which are located just 35 miles Southwest of NSA Orlando.

History

The installation initially opened in 1988 as a Warfare Center within the Naval Air Systems Command and in October of 2003 was officially re-designated as Naval Support Activity (NSA) Orlando. Today NSA Orlando is the home of several United States Armed Forces military training and simulation commands. NSA Orlando occupies 45 acres within the Central Florida Research Park.



Commander—Captain Tim Hill

After graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy Class in 1992, Captain Hill completed short tours as a research associate at and on the Chief of Naval Education and Training Staff. He earned designation as a Naval Flight Officer in January 1996.

CAPT Hill deployed in USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65) and USS DWIGHT D EISENHOWER (CVN 69) NATO operations in the former-Yugoslavia and enforcing the United Nations no-fly zone and other sanctions in Iraq. Next he returned to VS-41 as an instructor prior to selection to attend the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School (USNTPS) at Patuxent River, MD. and subsequently reported to the Naval Force Aircraft Test Squadron as a Viking project officer.

He returned to operational flying with the Topcats of VS-31 at NAS Jacksonville, FL in 2003, deploying in USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73) in 2004 in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM. After completing transition training in the F/A-18F Super Hornet at VFA-106 and Strike Fighter Weapons School Atlantic, he reported to VFA-32 in early 2009 and assumed command in July 2010 while deployed in USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75) supporting Operations ENDURING FREEDOM and NEW DAWN.

CAPT Hill served in the F-35 Lightning II Joint Program Office from late 2011 to late 2014 as Deputy Director, F-35 Mission Systems and Deputy Program Manager for Block 2B. From September 2014 until June 2016, he worked as Deputy Director of the Long Range Anti-Surface Missile Deployment Office. He reported to his previous assignment as Executive Officer of the Naval Air Warfare Center Training Systems Division in June 2016. He assumed command of NAWCTSD on November 2, 2018.



George Cheros, President, National Center for Simulation



Did You Know?

THE FLORIDA DEFENSE ALLIANCE



Purpose

Enterprise Florida, Incorporated created the Florida Defense Alliance (FDA) in 1998 in accordance with Florida Statute 288.980 as a non-profit partnership between the Governor, Florida state officials, the Florida Congressional Delegation, state legislators, base commanders and staff, community leaders, and business executives to increase military value, enhance base capabilities, and promote multi-service synergies for Florida's military bases, while supporting and enhancing the quality of life of Florida military families.

Mission

- Foster federal military presence in the State of Florida in support of national defense.
- Preserve test, training, and staging areas suitable for maneuver by ground, naval or air forces to guarantee future availability of such areas to ensure the readiness of the Armed Forces conducting operations in Florida.
- Expand defense-related industries.
- Ensure that both active and retired Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, National Guard, reserves, and family members receive continual improvement to quality of life.
- Support local efforts to enhance the value of military installations.

Membership

The Florida Defense Alliance is a grass roots consortium of representatives of defense-related organizations including federal, state, and local government as well as defense industry, economic development organization, and other interested parties who come together in order to protect, promote and enhance military value of Florida installations and missions. FDA will establish working groups, as required.

NOTES FROM THE STAFF

Staff sincerely appreciates the dedication and commitment of all Florida Defense Alliance members across the state. You do a great job daily supporting our military and working with Base Commanders and staffs to improve the military value of Florida's bases. In so doing, you are doing a wonderful job of keeping Florida the most military friendly state in the nation!

Florida Defense Alliance Leadership

Chair – Kellie Jo Kilberg

Vice Chair – Tim Jones

Mission Sustainment Working Group Chair – Mike Jones

Family Support Working Group Chair – Lynn Brannon

Executive Board: Jonathan Borgert, Jennifer Codo-Salisbury, Paul Hirsch and Jim Breitenfeld



Florida Defense Alliance Newsletter

August 21, 2019

FDA Vision: To maintain and enhance the position and reputation of Florida as the most military-friendly state in the nation.

NEWS

Task Force 2020-2021 Grant Program Accepting Applications – The Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF) is now accepting grant funding applications for fiscal year 2020 – 2021. **The application period is August 1 – 30, 2019.** You may access the grant application at: <https://www.tfaforms.com/4753345>, or from the FDSTF website at: <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/fdstf/>. If you have questions or require further assistance, please contact: Marcy Muldrow Sanders, Grants Manager, Florida Defense Support Task Force at (850) 878-4566 or msanders@enterpriseflorida.com.

2019 Military, Defense & Veterans Opportunities Summit - The Florida Chamber held it's 2019 Military, Defense & Veterans Opportunities Summit in Jacksonville on August 13th and 14th. Major topics included protecting Florida's bases from encroachment, the establishment of Space Command & Space Force, rebuilding Tyndall AFB and attracting more defense industry to Florida. Both FDA and Task Force members participated and did a great job of highlighting the importance of the Florida Military Complex. Kellie Jo Kilberg did an outstanding job of moderating the panel which was the highlight of the summit.

Strategic Plan Review – Last week, staff sent the 1st draft of the 2019 revision of the Strategic Plan to the Task Force members and asked them to review both the overall Florida plan and the sections that pertain to the specific bases in their areas. Staff asked the members to return comments/edits no later than August 30th. Staff asked Task Force members to coordinate with local Florida Defense Alliance organizations to solicit their input. Please work closely with your respective Task Force members on this. The intent is to have all input in no later than August 30th so that the Task Force can review this at the September meeting.

2019 Military Friendly Guide – The 2019 Florida Military Friendly Guide is posted electronically on both the FDA and Task Force web sites. The hard copies are at the printing shop now and should be distributed within the next two weeks. In the meantime, you can download the updated digital version at this link: <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/Florida-Military-Friendly-Guide.pdf>

New Military Spouse Employment Assistance Programs – In recent months both the Department of Defense and the VA have launched programs to help military spouses find employment and this week both agencies distributed new information to publicize these new efforts. More information can be found at: <https://msepjobs.militaryonesource.mil/msep/>

OEA rebrands Joint Land Use Study to Compatible Use Plan (CUP) -- Over the past several decades Joint Land Use Studies have assisted in preserving and protecting the lethality and readiness of our nation's military. During that time OEA has identified that the compatibility challenges that our military and communities face go beyond the use of land. Joint Land Use Studies can also address encroachment challenges such as spectrum interference, unmanned aerial systems, and cyber vulnerabilities. In recognition of the broader challenges faced by our military and communities the Joint Land Use Study is being rebranded as the

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FLORIDA

Compatible Use Plan. State and community driven Compatible Use Plans will continue to be the primary tool to promote compatible use in order to sustain the military missions.

New CUP Federal Funding Announcement --

<http://oea.gov/office-economic-adjustment-announcement-federal-funding-opportunity-ffo>

Building off of the successful Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) Federal Funding Opportunity (FFO) focused on siting of energy projects, OEA is launching a new FFO in an effort to further the Compatible Use Program. In addition to assistance with energy sitings, the new FFO is expanded to allow state and local governments to request funding to assist states and communities to work with their local military installations to promote and guide civilian development and activities which are compatible and support the long-term readiness and operability of military installations, ranges, special use air space, military operation areas and military training routes. This FFO allows states and communities to nominate their installation (s) and region for compatible use efforts. OEA will maintain a concurrent annual process for the military services to nominate installations for Compatible Use Plans.

From ADC:

Office of Economic Development Announces Federal Funding Opportunity

Posted on Aug 11, 2019 04:55 pm

The Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) is accepting proposals for grant assistance to develop compatible use strategies and/or plans to promote civilian development compatible with continued operational utility of a DOD installation, range, special use air space, military operations area, and/or military training routes from: states, counties, and municipalities; other political subdivisions of a state; special purpose units of a state or local government; other instrumentalities of a state or local government; and tribal nations. In addressing encroachment, grantees may at the same time develop initiatives to enhance the security and resiliency of a military installation.

Eligible activities may include, but are not limited to: "Compatible Use Plans" to comprehensively understand concerns and opportunities, and to develop a responsive strategy and action plan; preparation of land use ordinances; analysis and dissemination of information; timely consultation and cooperation among DOD, state and local governments, and other stakeholders; coordinated interagency and intergovernmental assistance; technical and financial studies; clearinghouses or websites to exchange information among federal, state, and local efforts; resolution of regulatory issues impeding the support of compatibility measures; drafting of state legislation; feasibility studies; integration of the Department's Military Aviation and Installation Assurance Siting Clearinghouse procedures with local/state reviews; development of follow-on open space/easement opportunities for the Department's Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Program; and other innovative approaches.

These potentially eligible activities may be undertaken to respond to current, future, or potential areas or incidences of encroachment upon installations and ranges, including: energy project siting; incompatible development in aircraft runway clear and accident potential zones; light pollution; urban growth; noise; electromagnetic spectrum interference; protection from a threat of unmanned aerial and underwater vehicles; vertical obstructions; incompatible use of land, air, and water resources; cyber vulnerabilities; and, the management of endangered species.

Please see the [Federal Funding Opportunity](#) for full information on how to apply.

Heritage Analysis Says DOD Window to Consider FY 2020 BRAC Round Closing Quickly

Posted on Aug 18, 2019 07:20 pm

A new Heritage Foundation analysis published last week proposes that the next several months may determine whether the Defense Department will conduct another base realignment and closing (BRAC) in the next decade.

The report, issued by the well-known conservative think tank, presents a fiscally-focused case to Pentagon leaders not to disregard the impact of another potential BRAC round on freeing up budgets and bolstering readiness.

Heritage Foundation officials in the past have advocated a new BRAC round to reduce excess military infrastructure and maximize annual defense funding.

The author, Frederico Bartels, policy analyst for defense and budgeting at the foundation, said a Pentagon report currently being produced on feasibility of a new BRAC round may be the last opportunity to propose the process for years ahead, according to **Military Times**.

"I think it's the last chance of the Trump administration to make an argument for this," he said in an interview with Military Times. "Even if he gets re-elected next year, I think it will be hard to go back and make the case if they're unsuccessful this time."

Bartels said Pentagon leaders have explored another BRAC in recent years but have been unsuccessful in convincing lawmakers, according to the report.

The fiscal 2019 National Defense Authorization Act does order a new DOD infrastructure capacity report which is due next February. Defense officials could make a case in the report for additional closures as similar recent DOD reports have shown excess capacity of between 19 and 22%, according to the report.

"The department needs to make the case for a new round of BRAC based on two key tenets: potential savings and the National Defense Strategy," Bartels wrote in the report. "A new BRAC round could save \$2 billion by reducing unneeded infrastructure. Additionally, a new round of BRAC would permit the department to assess its infrastructure against the threats outlined by the National Defense Strategy, providing a holistic look at all of the infrastructure."

The report warns that identifying potential locations will only increase political tension and proposes DOD publicly acknowledge problems with the 2005 BRAC to regain congressional support.

The Pentagon convened six base BRAC Commissions between 1988 and 2005, shuttering hundreds of military installations and turning those properties over to state and local municipalities.

The last BRAC round, more than a decade ago, was particularly challenging as DOD consolidated numerous installations into joint bases and massively altered force structure to modernize the military.

Cost reductions from that round were significantly below projections, and since then lawmakers have been strongly opposed to any new BRAC rounds.

The full report is available on the Heritage Foundation's website: <https://www.heritage.org/sites/default/files/2019-08/IB4992.pdf>

FDA CALENDAR:

Thursday, September 12, 2019

FDA Conference Call Meeting

9:00 AM CDT/10:00 AM EDT

(888) 585-9008

Conference Room 262-492-927

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

FDA In-Person Meeting

Tampa, Florida

Renaissance Tampa International Plaza

More Information to Come!

FDA Website: www.enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense/

QUOTATIONS OF THE DAY From Stephen Covey

“The main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing.”

“The key is not to prioritize what's on your schedule, but to schedule your priorities.”

“Listen with the intent to understand, not the intent to reply.”

“There are three constants in life... change, choice and principles.”



News from the Bases & Regions

BRAC —

Plans for a new base closing round may be running out of time: Report

Military Times | Posted August 15, 2019 | by Leo Shane III

[https://www.militarytimes.com/news/pentagon-congress/2019/08/15/plans-for-a-new-base-closing-round-may-be-running-out-of-time-report/?](https://www.militarytimes.com/news/pentagon-congress/2019/08/15/plans-for-a-new-base-closing-round-may-be-running-out-of-time-report/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=EBB%2008.16.19&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief)

[utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=EBB%2008.16.19&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief](https://www.militarytimes.com/news/pentagon-congress/2019/08/15/plans-for-a-new-base-closing-round-may-be-running-out-of-time-report/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=EBB%2008.16.19&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief)

The next few months could decide whether the Defense Department gets another base closing round in the next decade, according to a new analysis from a conservative think tank warning military officials not

to dismiss the potential looming impact on budgets and readiness.

In a report released this week, author Frederico Bartels — policy analyst for defense budgeting at the Heritage Foundation — said a Pentagon report on the issue being compiled now represents “the best chance for the Department of Defense to make the case for a new round of BRAC” in years, and perhaps the last realistic chance to advance the idea for the near future.....

Gulf Range—

Florida Chamber President: Offshore Drilling a Threat to State’s Defense Industry

Florida Daily | Posted August 13, 2019 | by FLORIDA DAILY author

<https://www.floridadaily.com/florida-chamber-president-offshore-drilling-a-threat-to-states-defense-industry/>

A prominent leader of the business community in Florida warned this week that expanded energy exploration off the coast of the Sunshine State could impact military bases across the state.

The Florida Chamber Foundation met in Jacksonville this week for the 2019 Military Defense and Veterans Opportunities Summit and Mark Wilson, the president and CEO of the Florida Chamber of Commerce, insisted the defense industry is a cornerstone of the state’s economy.

Wilson and retired Army Major Gen. Michael Jones noted that the moratorium on energy exploration off Florida’s coast ends in 2022—and that could hurt defense efforts in Florida....

Florida Chamber highlights military’s importance in state

Clay Today | Posted August 14, 2019 | by A.G Gancarski

<https://www.claytodayonline.com/stories/florida-chamber-highlights-militarys-importance-in-state.18670>

The Florida Chamber kicked off its two-day “Military, Defense and Veterans” summit on Tuesday. Chamber President Mark Wilson addressed the “State of Play: Preparing for Disruption and Tomorrow’s Opportunities and Ensuring Competitiveness, Prosperity and Resiliency.”

His speech addressed where Florida’s defense industry is, and where it’s going. The merger of the military and the marketplace....

US Space Command—

‘Keep the pressure on the White House’: Florida still wants Space Force

Florida Politics | Posted August 13, 2019 | by A.G. Gancarski

<https://floridapolitics.com/archives/303200-white-house-florida-space-force>

On Tuesday afternoon at the Florida Chamber Military, Defense and Veterans Summit, the head of Space Florida discussed aerospace. That subject included the Space Force.

While there is a persistent narrative that Florida is no longer in the running, Frank DiBello thinks Florida must continue to be at the center of American space activity.

And the state must continue to fight for Space Force, odds notwithstanding. DiBello noted that, regarding Space Force, the Governor mandated recruitment of the headquarters. “It remains a high priority,” DiBello said....

USSOCOM —

SOCOM Plans New Artificial Intelligence Strategy

<https://www.nationaldefensemagazine.org/articles/2019/8/9/socom-plans-new-artificial-intelligence-strategy>
8/9/2019

By Connie Lee

Advancements in technology are spurring Special Operations Command to examine how it can improve its artificial intelligence capabilities on a data-driven battlefield.

“We really wanted to focus on growing the discipline,” David Spirk Jr., the organization’s chief data officer, said during a speech at the Special Operations Forces Industry Conference hosted by the National Defense Industrial Association. This “applies to people, applies to technology and applies to the culture and those changes in the formation to get there.”

To do this, the command is crafting a new artificial intelligence and machine learning strategy to inform its future spending, he said. These advancements are expected to improve technologies across the core military services as well, he noted.....

Tampa/West Central Florida—

Underwater veteran memorial, the nation’s first, officially opens off Pinellas County coast

<https://www.tampabay.com/news/tns/underwater-veteran-memorial-the-nations-first-officially-opens-off-pinellas-county-coast-20190805/>

By Ileana Najarro; Published August 5; Updated August 5

More than 30 divers, including veteran amputees, counted down Monday before plunging into the choppy gulf waters miles off the Pinellas County coast. They were headed toward a dozen concrete U.S. service members standing in a circle formation 40 feet below.

The Circle of Heroes underwater veteran memorial, which creators call one-of-a-kind, officially opened to the public Monday after about a decade of planning. The six-foot statues and center monument bearing the bronze emblems of five military branches are meant to be a permanent



A diver is seen underwater near a statue of a soldier during the installing of Circle of Heroes in the Gulf of Mexico. Located roughly 10 miles off the shore of Pinellas County at a depth of 40 feet, Circle of Heroes is the nation’s first-of-its-kind underwater dive memorial honoring our veterans. [Photo courtesy of Preston Rudie]

fixture at Veteran's Reef, honoring the armed forces and providing a unique diving experience for tourists and wounded warriors.

A diver is seen underwater near a different statue of a soldier. The underwater veteran's memorial officially opened Monday 10 miles off the Pinellas County coast. At a depth of 40-feet, Circle of Heroes is the nation's first-of-its-kind underwater dive memorial honoring our veterans. [Photo courtesy of Preston Rudie]



Largest intelligence community IT conference coming to Florida

08.13.2019

Story by Maj. Angel Jackson

The intelligence community's largest information technology conference is coming to Tampa, Florida. The Defense Intelligence Agency will host its annual Department of Defense Intelligence Information System Worldwide Conference at the Tampa Convention Center, Aug. 18-21, 2019.

Hosted by DIA Director Lt. Gen. Robert Ashley, Jr. and DIA Chief Information Officer Jack Gumtow, the DoDIIS Worldwide Conference offers multiple opportunities to share experiences, network with government and industry, and access the latest solutions from hundreds of onsite vendors.

This year's theme, "Resiliency, Redundancy and Security: Adapting to Asymmetric Threats," brings together experts and innovators from the military, government, industry and academia to share unique insights on a range of IT topics including the future of IT, information sharing, data and global security.

NS Mayport—

Navy plans to test water from wells in Mayport area for contaminants

News4JAX | Posted August 14, 2019 | by Brittany Muller

<https://www.news4jax.com/news/florida/duval-county/mayport/navy-plans-to-test-water-from-wells-in-mayport-area-for-contaminants>

The U.S. Navy is concerned about possible contaminants that may have seeped into the ground and ended up in private drinking water wells around Naval Station Mayport.

As a proactive measure, the Navy plans to sample water from private drinking wells outside the base near Mayport Road and Wonderwood Drive. It intends to test for the presence of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), an ingredient used in the manufacture of Aqueous Film Forming Foam, which is a firefighting foam used at the base. Studies have shown the chemical could cause cancer or other illnesses.

The Navy wants to test the private wells in the highlighted area of Mayport seen in the photo for two PFAS -- perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)....

Spotlight on Homestead Air Reserve Base



Homestead Air Reserve Base (ARB) is a United States Air Force base located approximately 6 miles east-northeast of Homestead, Florida.

The host unit at Homestead is the 482d Fighter Wing (482 FW) assigned to the Air Force Reserve Command's Tenth Air Force. The 482 FW is a fully combat-ready unit capable of providing F-16C/D multi-purpose fighter aircraft, along with mission ready pilots and support personnel, for short-notice worldwide deployment. The wing has more than 1,500 members, including approximately 1,200 reservists, of which 250 are full-time reservists (Air Reserve Technicians), in addition to 300 full-time civilians.

Homestead ARB was established in 1942 as Homestead Army Airfield (AAF). After a period of dormancy following World War II, the installation began reactivated in 1954 and was redesignated as Homestead Air Force Base in 1955. After its destruction by Hurricane Andrew in August 1992, the base was taken off active status with the Regular Air Force and rebuilt, and officially re-designated as Homestead Air Reserve Base on March 31, 1994.

The first test for the new base came in September 1994 when a multi-service group assembled at the base in preparation for an invasion of Haiti. The newly designated base continued to be a forward joint service operating location for events surrounding Operation Uphold Democracy/Restore Freedom in Haiti. That year also marked the beginning of another major role in the region as Homestead became a forward supply stop for Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The base was also a staging area for masses of Cuban immigrants receiving paroles into the United States.

In February 1995, the base faced its next serious threat from the Base Realignment and Closure Committee, which sought to close the ravaged base. The civilian community, including state and federal government leaders, rallied in support of the base, and launched a fight for the base's survival and the return of fighter operations to South Florida. The BRAC ultimately withdrew Homestead AFB from the closure list on June 22, 1995.

Today, the 482nd FW, the host unit of Homestead ARB, continues to support contingency and training operations of U.S. Southern Command and a number of tenant units, including Headquarters Special Operations Command South, the U.S. Coast Guard Maritime Safety and Security Team, and an air and maritime unit of U.S. Customs and Border Protection. In addition, Homestead ARB is home to the most active NORAD alert site in the continental United States, operated by a detachment of F-15 fighter interceptors from the 125th FW of the Florida Air National Guard.

As we look toward the future, the 482nd FW continues to provide the



Department of Defense with an efficient, cost-effective air reserve base on the rim of the Caribbean Basin. Its strategic presence at the southernmost tip of the continental United States provides an invaluable platform from which to launch its full range of capabilities. Poised to protect and defend, readiness is its primary mission. Whether responding to real-world contingencies and tasks in support of homeland defense or performing its on-going mission of training America's finest citizen Airmen, the 482nd FW consistently lives its vision of service before self, integrity first, and excellence in all we do.

482d Fighter Wing Mission:

Provide decisive combat power and agile support by leveraging our unique team capabilities while developing Airmen, supporting their families, and participating in our community.

482d Fighter Wing Vision:

Dedicated Citizen Airmen providing premier global combat dominance and regional humanitarian support to the joint war fighter.



**Commander
Colonel David A. Piffarerio**

Col. David A. Piffarerio is the commander of the 482nd Fighter Wing, Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla. As Wing Commander, he is directly responsible for overall management of the installation, to include a squadron of 29 F-16C/D aircraft. His leadership span of control encompasses over 2,500 Airmen, including 165 active duty Air Force active association personnel; more than 1,700 traditional reservists, over 280 Air Reserve Technicians and over 280 full-time civilians. Additionally, he oversees the seamless integration of 11 tenant units to include the Florida Air National Guard, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, U.S. Coast Guard Maritime Safety and Security Team, Headquarters Special Operations Command South and a geographically separated detachment of 35 Airmen at Shaw Air Force Base, S.C.

Col. Piffarerio was commissioned in 1994 as an honor graduate of the United States Air Force Academy. He is a command pilot with more than 3,500 flying hours in multiple fighter aircraft. Prior to his present assignment, he served as command center director for North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Northern Command.

Col. Piffarerio served 13 years in the active duty Air Force in a variety of F-15E and F-22 operational and test assignments. He has commanded at the squadron and fighter group level. He has flown combat missions in support of operations Northern Watch, Southern Watch, Enduring Freedom, and Noble Eagle. Col. Piffarerio was the first pilot in the USAF to reach 1,000 flight hours in the F-22 Raptor.





Did You Know?

Compatible Use Plan (formerly known as Joint Lands Use Study (JLUS):

What is the Compatible Use Plan?

The Compatible Use Plan (CUP) is studying the planned land uses in the areas that surround the military installation, and the military training needs of the armed forces to determine their compatibility. The study is designed to protect public health, safety and welfare while safeguarding the ability of the military services and homeland security agencies to provide training and operational activities.

Military operations can be loud and can present safety concerns for civilian communities. Conversely, urban development near the perimeter of military installations and ranges can impact the viability of the installation and its mission. Development can be affected by low level flight patterns in military operating areas and required clear zones for airport runway approaches. The purpose of the CUP is to protect the health, safety and welfare of the civilian communities relative to aircraft approach and departure routes and discourage incompatible development in high noise areas and accident potential zones. The CUP will also study how to protect the installation's ability to conduct effective training of homeland security, public safety, and military personnel.

Most military installations located near the perimeter of urban areas due largely to the availability of land and for defense and security purposes. Over time however, installations drew people and businesses closer and closer to take advantage of civilian job opportunities offered by the installation and to provide the goods and services to support the installation's operations. As urban growth and development increased near and around military installations land use conflicts between mission activities and civilian settlements increased. Military operations can be loud and present safety concerns for nearby civilian communities. For example, low flying, high performance, military aircraft, create both noise and accident potential during landings, take-off, and training exercises. Likewise, ground-training exercises (e.g., artillery firing ranges, maneuver areas, and aerial bombing ranges) generate impact noise that can adversely affect the surrounding community if the civilian population chooses to locate too close. Conversely, when developing urban centers build next to the fence line of active military bases, the operational effectiveness, training, and readiness missions can be impaired.

Urban encroachment near a military base if allowed to go unregulated can compromise the utility and effectiveness of the installation and its mission. For example, certain types of land use activities, such as homes, places of assembly (i.e., schools or religious centers), childcare centers, nursing homes, hospitals, restaurants, theaters, shopping centers, etc. often are not compatible uses/activities if located close to military operations. When people and communities are exposed to irritating noise and accident potential, they seek relief. Typically, this results in public pressure on the military base commander to modify or curtail operations or transfer activities to other installations. Mission constraints can lead to closure. The commensurate reduction in installation personnel and mission activities can have a direct and detrimental effect on the jurisdiction through reduced economic activity and loss of jobs, impacting the local tax base and economic health. The extent of urban encroachment impacting the operational utility of an installation is one consideration in determining the future viability of an installation.

Compatible Use Plan (CUP):

- In 1985, Congress authorized the Department of Defense (DoD) to make community planning assistance grants
- Title 10 U.S.C. Section 2391 to state and local government to help better understand and incorporate the ICUZ/ENMP technical data into local planning programs
- The Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) manages the JLUS program.

CUP Purpose:

- A CUP is a cooperative land use planning effort between affected local government and the military Installation
- The recommendations present a rationale and justification, and provides a policy framework to support adoption and implementation of compatible development measures designed to prevent urban encroachment; safeguard the military mission; and protect the public health, safety, and welfare.

CUP Implementation Measures:

- May involve revisions to the community's comprehensive plan and traditional land use and development controls, such as zoning, subdivision regulations, structural height restrictions, and promotion of planned unit development concepts
- Additional actions may include amending local building codes to require increased sound attenuation in existing and new buildings, land exchanges, and transfer of development rights, and real estate disclosure.

CUP Project Initiation:

- When a Military Service believes an installation may be experiencing encroachment problems or that there is the likelihood for encroachment that could adversely affect the military mission, the Service may nominate the installations for CUP to OEA
- OEA staff visits the installation, meets with the local base command and local government officials
- OEA will evaluate existing or potential encroachment problems, the availability of AICUZ/ENMP information, and local development controls to determine if a CUP is justified
- A CUP will proceed if there is both base command and local jurisdiction interest
- CUP assistance normally is technical, but can include funding as well through a Community Planning Assistance Grant.



Motivational Poster of the Week



GOOD MORNING

Some people wake up, stretch and enjoy Freedom
Some people wake up, stretch and defend it

NOTES FROM THE STAFF

Staff sincerely appreciates the dedication and commitment of all Florida Defense Alliance members across the state. You do a great job daily supporting our military and working with Base Commanders and staffs to improve the military value of Florida's bases. In so doing, you are doing a wonderful job of keeping Florida the most military friendly state in the nation! Your work will take on more importance as you help the Florida Defense Support Task Force advocate for our bases without the assistance of a dedicated advocate in Washington. Please keep up the great work.

Florida Defense Alliance Leadership

Chair – Kellie Jo Kilberg

Vice Chair – Tim Jones

Mission Sustainment Working Group Chair – Mike Jones

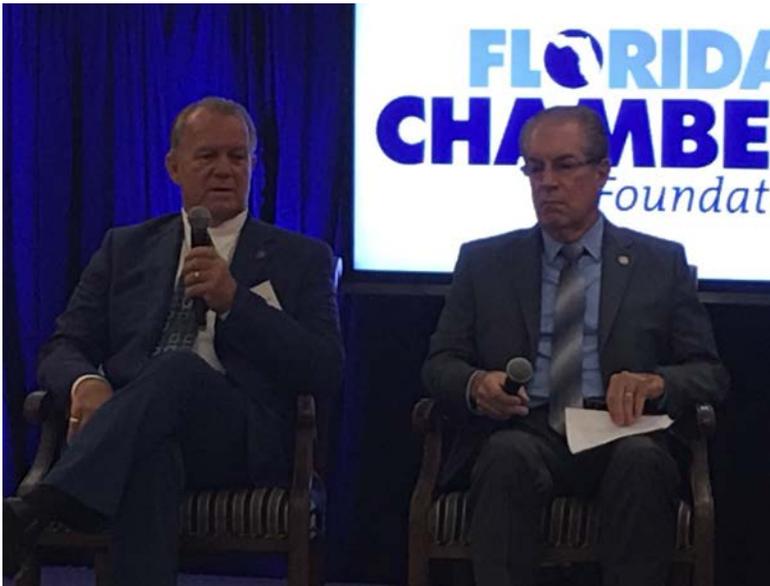
Family Support Working Group Chair – Lynn Brannon

Executive Board: Jonathan Borgert, Jennifer Codo-Salisbury, Paul Hirsch and Jim Breitenfeld

Photos from the Florida Chamber's Military, Defense & Veterans Opportunities Summit in Jacksonville last week

(photos courtesy Bruce Grant & Kellie Jo Kilberg)







Florida Defense Alliance Newsletter

September 4, 2019

FDA Vision: To maintain and enhance the position and reputation of Florida as the most military-friendly state in the nation.

NEWS

2019 Military Friendly Guide Hard Copies – The 2019 Florida Military Friendly Guide is now available in hard copy. Over 2,600 have been mailed to the Commanders of all Florida’s military bases and another 2,000 have been mailed to the local defense communities. The new guide is also posted electronically on both the FDA and Task Force web sites. You can download the updated digital version at this link: <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/Florida-Military-Friendly-Guide.pdf>

Strategic Plan Review – Staff has sent the first draft of the 2019 revision of the Strategic Plan to the Task Force members and asked them to review both the overall Florida plan and the sections that pertain to the specific bases in their areas. Staff is currently consolidating all comments into a final draft for the Task Force to review at the September meeting.

Governor Announces Awarding of \$725,000 in Task Force Grants -- Governor Ron DeSantis announced that \$725,000 has been awarded through the Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF) Grant Program to projects to protect military installations across the state. This year, awards were given to the Clay County Development Authority, Economic Development Commission of Florida’s Space Coast in Brevard County and the Military Child Education Coalition in Duval, Hillsborough, and Okaloosa Counties. Grant funding will support community projects at Florida military installations that will diversify local economies, provide support for local infrastructure projects and strengthen Florida’s bases ahead of any potential Department of Defense realignment or closure actions.

For more information on the individual grant award for projects throughout the state, see below:

Clay County: \$500,000 Defense Grant

\$500,000 was awarded to Clay County through the Florida Defense Support Task Force Grant Program to buffer Camp Blanding from incompatible land development. Camp Blanding trains over 350,000 Florida National Guard troops, active duty military members and law enforcement units.

Brevard County: \$125,000 Defense Grant

\$125,000 was awarded to the Economic Development Commission of Florida’s Space Coast, the home of the 45th Space Wing which includes 27 mission partners plus tenants at Patrick Air Force Base (PAFB) and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station (CCAFS). The base is home to approximately 13,000 military, Department of Defense civilian and defense contractor personnel. PAFB and CCAFS serve a unique role as it serves to enhance space operations capability for the United States. The base is also critical to the local economy. This grant supports mission growth by identifying opportunities and resources by producing a detailed assessment of the conditions of critical infrastructure supporting Eastern Range space operations.

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FLORIDA**

Duval, Hillsborough, and Okaloosa County School Districts: \$100,000 Defense Grant

\$100,000 was awarded to Military Child Education Coalition® (MCEC) to support military-connected children in Florida. Frequent school moves and poor connections to schools have been linked with lower grades and test scores, poor attendance and higher dropout rates, an increased risk of failing or repeating a grade, adjustment problems, and an increased probability of engaging in risky behaviors. By demonstrating its support for military families through programs that will enhance the education experience of military-connected children, Florida continues to position itself as the most military-friendly state by supporting military families.

Admiral Mike Gilday Assumes Duties as CNO – On August 22nd, Admiral Mike /Gilday relieved Admiral John Richardson and assumed duties as the new Chief of Naval Operations. His message to the fleet is at: <https://navylive.dodlive.mil/2019/08/23/cno-gildays-message-to-the-fleet/>

Bruce Grant Retiring – Bruce is retiring at the end of September. He has been with Enterprise Florida since 2012.

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

As I write this note, we are still waiting to see where Hurricane Dorian will go. As we hurried to get prepared, patience has been running thin as Dorian had a mind of its own. For those that were or are in the possible path, did you feel prepared? Do you as an organization that supports our military and their families have plans to coordinate with the installations for disaster preparedness? We still have three months remaining of hurricane season. If you haven't had those meetings to get coordinated, do so now.

In August, members of the FDA served on a panel at the Florida Chamber Foundation's Military, Defense and Veterans Opportunity Summit in Jacksonville. Once again, we had people who are in the know not have a clue about all of the military assets in our Florida Military Complex. I'm not sure people understand that without our installations and the types of military missions we have, many of our defense companies or veterans would not be here. The Florida Military Complex is an important part of the National Defense Strategy as well as the Florida economic base. People just assume the installations and missions will continue to be here without any proactive advocacy and innovative solutions to the challenges that our military faces today and more importantly, in the future. We cannot protect or grow our missions if we continue to do the same old thing and sit quietly. It is up to you and your communities to be actively engaged in Washington, DC, at the Pentagon and on the Hill. Without the presence that we have had for the last seven years, your team will need to ramp up and develop and enhance those relationships on an ongoing basis with more visits. We will need to communicate more frequently so we all understand the other missions around the state and how we interact and support each other.

One tactic we will use to help tell our story is to create a Facebook page. We will be asking each community to assist us with information for us to post. I will discuss this more on our conference call next week. Further, we now have organizations that have been on the edges of our work for years, who now want to become engaged and in some cases take the lead on some issues. We live in a time of change. It is now time to review your challenges and opportunities

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR (continued)

to let the Florida Defense Support Task Force know where you need support and how they and the Florida Legislature can assist. The Legislature will begin committee weeks work this month with the session starting in January 2020. Do not sit back and think you can work on this later. The time is now if we, as a State, want to grow the military/defense sector as well as help the family members who support them.

Until next time - Remember to be Forward Thinking: Strategic Installations Realignment & Resilience (SIR²).

Kellie Jo Kilberg

FDA CALENDAR:

Thursday, September 12, 2019

FDA Conference Call Meeting
9:00 AM CDT/10:00 AM EDT
(888) 585-9008
Conference Room 262-492-927

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

FDA In-Person Meeting
Tampa, Florida
Renaissance Tampa International Plaza
More Information to Come!

FDA Website: www.enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense/



Teleconference Meeting Agenda

Dial-in number: (888) 585-9008
Conference Room: #262-492-927

(As of: September 4, 2019)

Thursday, September 12, 2019

1000 - 1100 EST

1000 – 1005 Roll Call.....Michelle Griggs

1005 – 1015 Opening Remarks.....Chair

1015 – 1025 Space FloridaTBD

1025 – 1030 FDSTF Update.....Ray Collins

1030 – 1055 Around the State/Top 3 challengesBy Region

- Northwest
 - Escambia, Santa Rosa, Walton, Okaloosa, and Bay Counties
- Northeast
 - Duval and Clay Counties
- East Central Florida
 - Brevard and Orange Counties
- West Central Florida
 - Highlands, Polk, Tampa, and Pinellas Counties
- South Florida
 - Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties

1055 – 1100 Closing Comments.....Chair

1100 Adjournment.....Chair

QUOTATIONS OF THE DAY

“Nothing in the world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not; nothing is more common than unsuccessful men with talent. Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb. Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts. Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent.”
--Calvin Coolidge

“Far and away the best prize that life has to offer is the chance to work hard at work worth doing.”
--Theodore Roosevelt



News from the Bases & Regions

Gulf Range—

Opinion: Wilson: Gulf drilling plan must protect Florida beaches

Herald Tribune | Posted August 27, 2019 | by Mark Wilson

<https://www.heraldtribune.com/opinion/20190827/wilson-gulf-drilling-plan-must-protect-florida-beaches>

One thing most Floridians can agree on is that Florida is special. We enjoy beautiful weather, one of the nation’s best education systems, incredible beaches, a military infrastructure vital to

our way of life, a \$1 trillion and growing annual economy, and a shared spirit of optimism about our future.

However, it is going to take a strong collective effort on all our parts to truly secure Florida's future. That's because in 2022, the current moratorium on drilling for oil virtually anywhere in the Gulf of Mexico expires. If Congress fails to generate bipartisan support, and the current moratorium expires, oil platforms could be sitting just nine miles off Florida's coastline, where Florida waters end and federal waters begin.

There will be no protections in place unless, before 2022, a majority of the members of the U.S. House of Representatives and a supermajority of 60 bipartisan members of the U.S. Senate reach agreement on some form of extension that the president would agree to sign into law....

US Space Command—

SPACECOM is a go: Newest combatant command signed into existence

Defense News | Posted August 29, 2019 | by Aaron Mehta

https://www.defensenews.com/space/2019/08/29/spacecom-is-a-go-newest-combatant-command-signed-into-existence/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=EBB%2008.30.19&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief

The Pentagon has a new combatant command. With a twirl of the pen, Secretary of Defense Mark Esper signed into creation U.S. Space Command, the 11th war-fighting command for the Defense Department.

"This is a landmark day, one that recognizes the centrality of space to America's national security and defense," President Donald Trump said during the event, held in the Rose Garden of the White House. "It's all about space," Trump said, adding that for anyone looking to challenge the U.S. in orbit, "it's going to be a whole different ballgame."

Air Force Gen. Jay Raymond is the new head of SPACECOM; Army Lt. Gen. James Dickinson has been nominated to become the deputy commander. Upon Trump's signature, 287 individuals, pulled largely from U.S. Strategic Command, became the first members of the new command....

Raymond's First SPACECOM Move: Two New Subcommands and Their Leaders

Breaking Defense | Posted August 30, 2019 | by Theresa Hitchens

https://breakingdefense.com/2019/08/raymonds-first-spacecom-move-two-new-subcommands-and-their-leaders/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=EBB%2009.03.19&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief

Space Command (SPACECOM) head Gen. John Raymond today announced two new subcomponent commands and their leaders: one for day to day operations including with allies; the other to "conduct space superiority operations."

Raymond yesterday told reporters at the Pentagon the two new subcommands were being stood up — giving us a whole new set of acronyms to be learned. He did not, however, provide the names of the new leadership or the exact breakdown of their functions.

The Combined Force Space Component Command (CFSCC), commanded by Air Force Maj. Gen. Stephen Whiting, will "plan, integrate, conduct, and assess global space operations" for both US commanders and those of allies and partners, according to a SPACECOM press release.

The Joint Task Force Space Defense (JTF-SD), commanded by Army Brig. Gen. Tom James, will “conduct space superiority operations in unified action with mission partners to deter aggression, defend space capability, and when directed, defeat adversaries throughout the continuum of conflict,” the release said....

Space Force to Florida? It’s Donald Trump’s call, Ron DeSantis says

Florida Politics | Posted August 28, 2019 | by A.G. Gancarski

<https://floridapolitics.com/archives/304450-ron-desantis-space-force-to-florida>

Gov. Ron DeSantis expressed confidence Wednesday that President Donald Trump would base Space Force in the Sunshine State. DeSantis, addressing reporters in Jacksonville, thinks his ally in the White House could override forces within the Air Force that would prefer it in Colorado.

DeSantis also doesn’t see the Air Force as “supportive” of Space Force, and Colorado offers another advantage there. “If you keep it underneath in Colorado where you have all the Air Force brass, you really keep it in a box. Whereas, if you put it out here, this thing could really blossom and become something bigger,” DeSantis said.

“My pitch to the President was I want you to pick Florida, but I’m not even saying you should do that right now, What I would like is a commitment that it’s going to be your decision.”

“Absolutely,” Trump said – according to DeSantis....

Tampa/West Central Florida—

Tampa manufacturer lands multiyear contract with Northrup Grumman

By Crystal Owens – Reporter, Tampa Bay Business Journal

Aug 16, 2019, 2:20pm EDT

<https://www.bizjournals.com/tampabay/news/2019/08/16/tampa-manufacturer-lands-multiyear-contract-with.html>

One of the Tampa Bay area’s largest manufacturers has been awarded a multiyear contract from Northrop Grumman Corp. to build a variety of mission-critical electronic assemblies for one of the U.S. government’s largest Department of Defense programs.

Terms of the agreement between Tampa-based Sypris Electronics LLC, a subsidiary of Sypris Solutions Inc. (NASDAQ/GM: SYPR) were not disclosed, nor was the DoD program the assemblies will go toward.

The award from Northrop Grumman (NYSE: NOC) includes the production and test of a variety of electronic assemblies for communication and navigation. Production on these assemblies will begin in 2019 and continue into 2021, according to a statement.

“This was another important win for Sypris in the DoD sector of our business,” said [Jim Long](#), vice president and general manager of Sypris Electronics in a statement. “This is a very significant government program for our country and one we have been involved in with Northrop Grumman for many years. Northrop Grumman is a leader in these high reliability specialized military applications and our technical and operational strengths were key to this win.”

Giving Back: Tampa nonprofit members walk 31 miles in D.C., raise \$16K in honor of fallen military

By Crystal Owens – Reporter, Tampa Bay Business Journal

Aug 23, 2019, 6:28am EDT

<https://www.bizjournals.com/tampabay/news/2019/08/23/giving-back-tampa-nonprofit-members-walk-31-miles.html>

Family, friends and supporters of local residents Scott and Jennifer Bill on Aug. 4 walked 31 miles through the night to honor the fallen of Extortion 17.

Extortion 17 is named for the operation in August 2011 that killed 25 American special operations personnel, five U.S. Army National Guard and Army Reserve crewmen, seven Afghan commandos and one Afghan interpreter as well as a U.S. military working dog when their helicopter was shot down west of Kabul by enemy fire.

The event, 31Miles for 31Heroes, took place in Washington D.C. over a 13-hour period, beginning at The Lincoln Memorial and ending in Arlington National Cemetery. 31Miles for 31Heroes honors the 30 active duty military members and one military working dog killed in action when their helicopter was shot down. It is considered the worst loss of life in a single incident during the Afghanistan campaign.....

Low-cost military mental health clinic opens in Tampa

The Steven A. Cohen Military Family Clinic at Aspire Health Partners will fill mental health service gaps for veterans and their family members.

By Ileana Najarro

Published Aug. 26; Updated Aug. 27

<https://www.tampabay.com/news/military/2019/08/26/low-cost-military-mental-health-clinic-opens-in-tampa/>

TAMPA — Post-9/11 veterans and their family members now have a new, more affordable option for mental health services.

The Steven A. Cohen Military Family Clinic at Aspire Health Partners, which...To continue reading, subscribe to The Tampa Bay Times.....



Medal of Honor recipient Ryan Pitts, right, speaks while Clinic Director Karen Blanchette, left, Michael Sullivan, a Cohen Veterans Network Board Member, center, and Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, look on during a ceremony Monday marking the opening of the Florida Steven A. Cohen Military Family Clinic at Aspire Health Partners in Tampa. [OCTAVIO JONES | Times] ["OCTAVIO JONES | TIMES" | Times]

Tyndall AFB —

Here's How USAF Will Spend \$1B in Disaster Aid

Air Force Magazine | Posted August 27, 2019 | by Rachel S. Cohen

<http://www.airforcemag.com/Features/Pages/2019/August%202019/Heres-How-USAF-Will-Spend-1B-in-Disaster-Aid.aspx>

The Air Force plans to spend \$1 billion in supplemental disaster-aid funding on 15 military

construction efforts at three bases, according to a list of the projects obtained by Air Force Magazine. Congress approved the funding in June, but required the Air Force to explain how the money would be spent.

Seven projects are slated for Tyndall AFB, Fla., which was hit by Category 5 Hurricane Michael in October 2018. Four will take place at Offutt AFB, Neb., following severe flooding that covered about one-third of the base in March. Another four are planned for JB Langley-Eustis, Va., so it can host the F-22 formal training unit previously located at Tyndall.

Four projects will rebuild facilities to accommodate the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter at Tyndall: a maintenance hangar, a parking apron, a maintenance squadron complex, and munitions storage facilities. The Air Force plans to replace the F-22 mission at Tyndall with the F-35 starting in 2023. Another Tyndall effort aims to further base-wide site development and utilities repair. Restoring the child development center is also a top priority....

Hurricane Dorian—

Florida military bases move planes, ships as they prepare for Hurricane Dorian

Military.com via Task and Purpose | Posted September 1, 2019 | by Oriana Pawlyk And Gina Harkins

<https://taskandpurpose.com/hurricane-dorian-military-bases>

Florida-based troops and their families are being urged to make hurricane preparations as Hurricane Dorian picks up speed as it careens toward the state, forcing aircraft and ships to be moved out of the storm's path.

Maj. Gen. James Eifert, head of the Florida National Guard, said during a Friday press conference that nearly 2,000 Air Force and Army Guardsmen would be mobilized by the end of the day.

Here's a look at how bases across the state are preparing ahead of the potentially dangerous storm....



U.S. Air Force evacuates aircraft ahead of Hurricane Dorian

Defence-blog.com | Posted September 2, 2019

<https://defence-blog.com/news/u-s-air-force-evacuates-aircraft-ahead-of-hurricane-dorian.html>

The U.S. Air Force began evacuation of its aircraft and helicopters in preparation for 'catastrophic' Hurricane Dorian.



According to the current information, the MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa began its storm prep on Thursday, removing KC-135s from the 6th Air Mobility Wing to McConnell Air Force Base in Kansas due to the projected winds. Also, Florida Air National Guard F-15 Eagle fighter jets were evacuated to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, Aug. 30, 2019.

While Hurricane Dorian is not expected to make direct landfall in eastern Florida, the storm is forecast to impact cities along the Florida

coast. Cities along Florida's coast that are expected to be impacted by the storm include Fort Lauderdale, West Palm Beach, Daytona Beach, and Jacksonville....

Military Family—

Spouse Employment, Childcare Highlighted in New Navy Family Framework

USNI News | Posted August 21, 2019 | by Ben Werner

https://news.usni.org/2019/08/21/spouse-employment-childcare-highlighted-in-new-navy-family-framework?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=EBB%2008.22.19&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief

To retain sailors, the Navy Family Framework version 2.0 addresses stressors facing active duty service members, their spouses and children.

Whereas the original framework, released in November 2017, detailed ways to encourage spouses to better integrate into Navy life, the new version recognizes the changing nature of Navy families by highlighting ways to assist Navy spouses in continuing with careers.

Vice Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Robert Burke has frequently spoken of the need for the Navy to recognize the needs of service members' families. When Burke was still the chief of naval personnel, he testified before the House Armed Services subcommittee on military personnel in May about ways force is changing. Burke cited work-life balance, professional development of spouses and access to childcare as critical pieces to retaining a highly trained active-duty force....

A PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE MILITARY CHILD EDUCATION COALITION

Reference: Florida Senate Bill 620 (2019) Section 4. Assistance to transitioning students from military families (Open Enrollment). SB 620 Section 4 amends s. 1003.05, F.S., Assistance to transitioning students from military families.

Dear Military Parents,

If you are being transferred to Florida, you should be aware of a July 2019 change to the Florida statutes regarding school enrollment for your children.

This new Florida legislation ensures school districts accept a permanent change of station order as proof of residency for all public school programs, and that active duty members, spouses and their dependents are classified as residents for tuition purposes.

A student whose parent is transferred or is pending transfer to a military installation within a school district while on active military duty pursuant to an official military order shall be considered a resident of the school district for purposes of enrollment when the order is submitted to the school district and shall be provided preferential treatment in the controlled open enrollment process of the school district pursuant to s. 1002.31.

Effective July 1, 2019, Florida school districts must comply with this new requirement to enroll military children based on orders instead of residency.

Should you and your child(ren) encounter any challenges regarding this matter we encourage you to contact your installation school liaison officer for assistance. A worldwide listing of School Liaisons can be found at: www.dodea.edu/Partnership.

The **Military Child Education Coalition® (MCEC®)** is a nationally-recognized 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization focused on ensuring quality educational opportunities for all military and veteran-connected children affected by mobility, transition, deployments, and family separation. The MCEC provides training, programs, and services for military-connected students, their parents, and the education professionals who support these children.

Point of Contact at MCEC is John.Ballantyne@MilitaryChild.org at (254) 953-1923ext 1124



Spotlight on Patrick Air Force Base



Patrick Air Force Base is located between Satellite Beach and Cocoa Beach, in Brevard County, Florida. It was named in honor of Major General Mason Patrick, USAAC. An Air Force Space Command (AFSPC) base, it is home to the 45th Space Wing (45 SW). In addition to its "host wing" responsibilities at Patrick AFB, the 45 SW controls and operates Cape Canaveral Air Force Station (CCAFS) and the Eastern Range. It was originally opened and operated from 1940-1947 as Naval Air Station Banana River, a U.S. Navy airfield. It was then deactivated as a naval installation in 1947 and placed in caretaker status until it was transferred to the Air

Force in late 1948.

Total employment is 10,400. There are 13,099 military, dependents, civilian employees and contractors on base.

There are currently four active launch complexes on the Eastern Range; Launch Complex 37 for ULA Delta; Launch Complex 40 for SpaceX Falcon 9; Launch Complex 41 for ULA Atlas; Launch Complex 36 for Blue Origin, who is in a contract with Space Florida, and Launch Complex 18 is reserved for Moon Express. The Navy continues to launch Trident II (D5) Missiles underwater from the OHIO Class of nuclear-propelled TRIDENT submarines. The 45th Space Wing supported 23 successful major launches in 2016 and anticipates more than 30 launches in 2017 with a drive to achieve 48 launches in one year by 2021.

Tenants/Mission Partners

The 45th Space Wing has more than 30 major mission partners and tenants at Patrick AFB and Cape Canaveral AFS, including:

- Defense Equality Opportunity Management Institute
- Air Force Technical Applications Center
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration
- Naval Ordnance Test Unit
- 920th Rescue Wing, Air Force Reserve Command
- Joint STARS Test Force
- Department of State INL Air Wing
- Air Force Office of Special Investigations
- 333rd Recruiting Squadron
- American Red Cross

The History and Heritage of the 45th Space Wing: Patrick Air Force Base and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station

The 45th Space Wing's evolution into the World's Premier Gateway to Space and the Spaceport of the Future on Florida's Space Coast began in the 1940s when what's now known as the Eastern Range was used as a home for Army missile testing. The 45th Bombardment Group (Light) was activated from January 1941 until December 1942 to conduct patrols and search missions off the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts. On Aug. 26, 1950, the Air Force's long-range proving ground base in Cocoa Beach, Fla., was named Patrick Air Force Base in honor of the late Maj. Gen. Mason M. Patrick, who retired as chief of the Air Corps, Dec. 12, 1927.

Permanent launch complexes were built in the 1950s and 1960s on the range.

First launched in 1959, the Titan family of boosters served for nearly 50 years putting satellites and astronauts into orbit. Since the 1960's the Eastern Range also supported the Navy's launches of sea-based deterrent missile systems from the Atlantic Ocean. On Oct. 1, 1979, Patrick Air Force Base and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station were consolidated under the Eastern Space and Missile Center (ESMC) to assume responsibility over all activities at the range.

In the 1980s, Air Force Space Command was formed and assumed launch responsibility for all Atlas E, Atlas II, Delta II, Titan II and Titan IV assets and missions. A new operational wing, the 45th Space Wing, was established in 1991 to oversee Eastern Test Range operations. Under the new designation, the 45th Space Wing's first launch was NASA's Space Shuttle Atlantis on Nov. 24, 1991.

On March 28, 1996, the first launch of the Global Positioning System replenishment satellite, Navigation System Timing and Ranging II-25, lifted off from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. This system changed the way members travel from point A to point B, while increasing the accuracy and efficiency of daily operations.

On May 22, 2012, the 45th Space Wing supported the first SpaceX Falcon 9 launch on its NASA commercial

resupply mission to the International Space Station. SpaceX's Dragon became the first private spacecraft in history to visit the station.



**Commander
Brigadier General
Douglas A. Scheiss**

Brig. Gen. Douglas A. Schiess is Commander, 45th Space Wing, and Director, Eastern Range, Patrick Air Force Base, Florida.

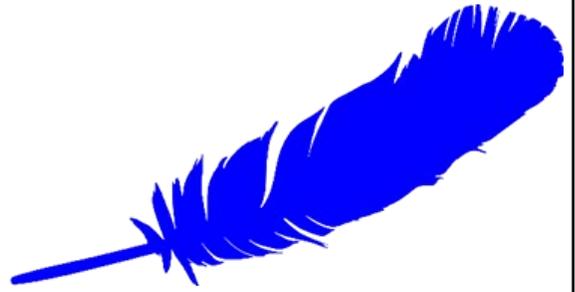
General Schiess is responsible for more than 15,000 military, Department of Defense civilian and contracted personnel. As the commander he leads the safe and secure processing and launching of U.S. government and commercial satellites from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Florida. General Schiess is also the final approval authority for all launches on the Eastern Range, a 15-million-square-mile area which supports an average of 25 launches per year aboard Delta, Atlas, Falcon, Navy and emerging launch vehicles. In addition, he manages wing launch and range infrastructure supporting NASA, commercial and missile test missions.

General Schiess entered the Air Force as a Distinguished Graduate of ROTC at the University of California at Los Angeles in 1992. He has commanded the 4th Space Operations Squadron at Schriever AFB, Colorado; the 45th Operations Group at Cape Canaveral AFS; and the 21st SW at Peterson AFB, Colorado. The general deployed to Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar, in support of operations Enduring Freedom, Resolute Support and Inherent Resolve. His staff assignments include Headquarters Air Force Space Command, the Air Staff and Office of the Secretary of the Air Force. Prior to his current assignment, General Schiess was the Senior Military Assistant to the Under Secretary of the Air Force.



Did You Know?

Blue Origin



Blue Origin, LLC is an American privately funded aerospace manufacturer and sub-orbital space-flight services company headquartered in Kent, Washington. Founded in 2000 by Jeff Bezos, the company is led by CEO Bob Smith and is developing technologies to enable private human access to space with the goal to dramatically lower costs and increase reliability. Blue Origin is employing an incremental approach from suborbital to orbital flight, with each developmental step building on its prior work. The company motto is *Gradatim Ferociter*, Latin for "Step by Step, Ferociously".

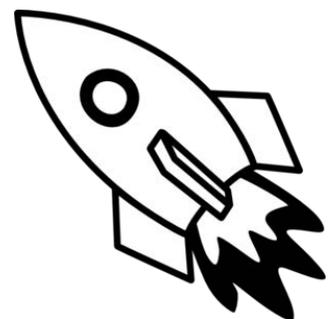
Blue Origin is developing a variety of technologies, with a focus on rocket-powered vertical takeoff and vertical landing (VTVL) vehicles for access to suborbital and orbital space.^[4] The company's name refers to the blue planet, Earth, as the point of origin.

Initially focused on suborbital spaceflight, the company has designed, built and flown multiple testbeds of its *New Shepard* spacecraft at its facilities in Culberson County, Texas. Developmental test flights of the New Shepard, named after the first American in space Alan Shepard, began in April 2015, and flight testing continued into 2018, with its first passenger-carrying spaceflight planned for 2019. On nearly every one of the test flights since 2015, the uncrewed vehicle has reached a test altitude of more than 100 km (330,000 ft) and achieved a top speed of more than Mach 3 (3,675 km/h; 2,284 mph), reaching space above the Kármán line, with both the space capsule and its rocket booster successfully soft landing.

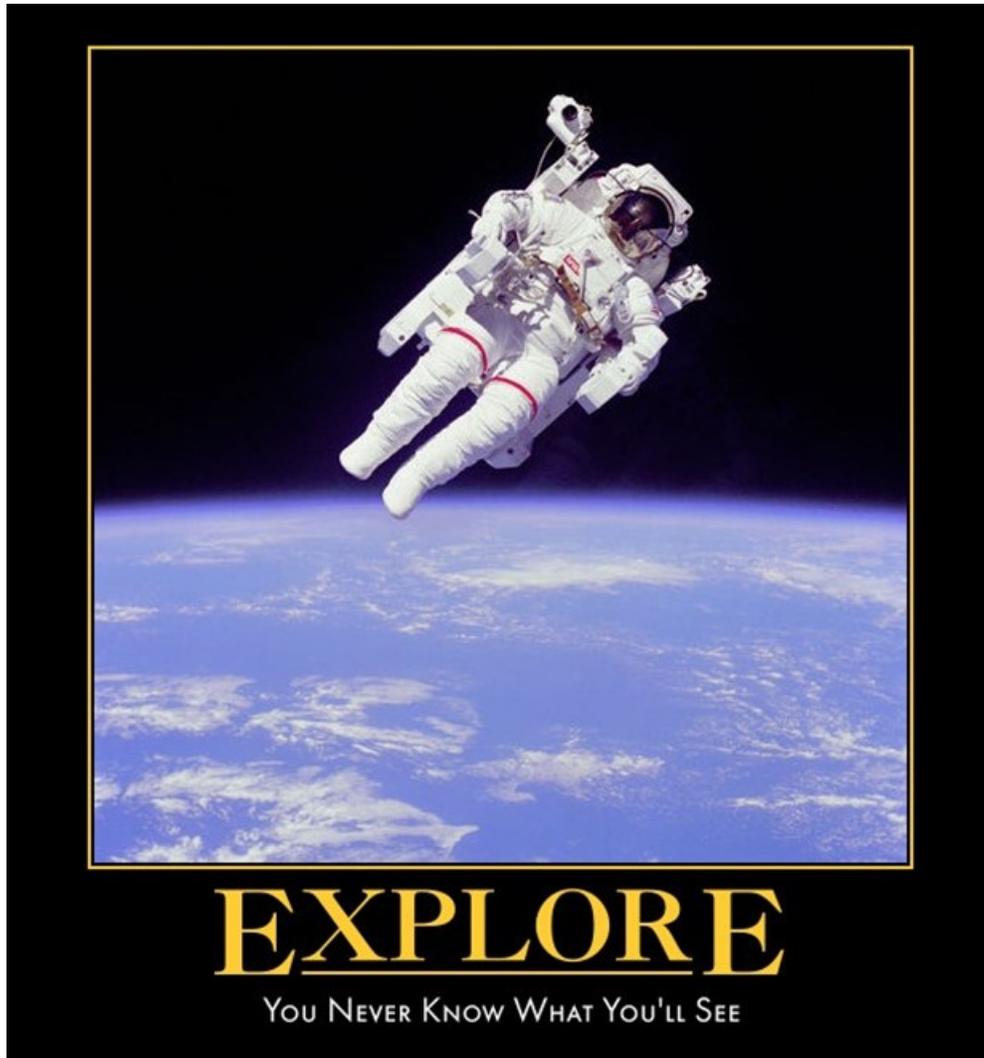
Blue Origin moved into the orbital spaceflight technology business in 2014, initially as a rocket engine supplier for others via a contractual agreement to build a new large rocket engine, the BE-4, for major US launch system operator United Launch Alliance (ULA). By 2015, Blue Origin had announced plans to also manufacture and fly its own orbital launch vehicle from the Florida Space Coast, known as the New Glenn. BE-4 had been expected to complete engine qualification testing by late 2018, but the test program continued into 2019.

In May 2019, Jeff Bezos unveiled Blue Origin's vision for space and also plans for a moon lander known as "Blue Moon", set to be ready by 2024.

Blue Origin will be Landing its Rockets on a Used Cargo Ship beginning in 2021.



Motivational Poster of the Week



NOTES FROM THE STAFF

Sincere thanks to all the dedicated members of the Florida Defense Alliance. You are the reason that Florida is the most military friendly state in the nation! Please know that what you do every single day on behalf of our military and their families is deeply appreciated.

Florida Defense Alliance Leadership

Chair – Kellie Jo Kilberg

Vice Chair – Tim Jones

Mission Sustainment Working Group Chair – Mike Jones

Family Support Working Group Chair – Lynn Brannon

Executive Board: Jonathan Borgert, Jennifer Codo-Salisbury, Paul Hirsch and Jim Breitenfeld



Florida Defense Alliance Newsletter

September 25, 2019

FDA Vision: To maintain and enhance the position and reputation of Florida as the most military-friendly state in the nation.

NEWS

Florida's Programs to Mitigate Encroachment to Military Installations – The 2019 version of this document is now posted on the FDA and Task Force web sites. It provides a summary of the many ways Florida protects its military installations from incompatible development. It can be found at: <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/Florida-Programs-to-Mitigate-Encroachment-to-Military-Installations-FINAL-July-12.pdf>

Military Base Protection/Non-Conservation Lands – In accordance with Florida Statute 288.980, DEO has sent letters to all the Base Commanders in the state asking them to identify encroachment threats from non-conservation lands so that the state can consider acquiring them. With recent changes to the statute, both SOUTHCOM and NSA Orlando are included in the list of bases submitting. Additionally, DEO has for the first time included the US Coast Guard installations. Base Commanders have until September 30th to provide this information to Sherry Spiers at DEO. Currently, there is no funding provided from the Legislature to acquire these lands.

2019 Military Friendly Guide Hard Copies – The 2019 Florida Military Friendly Guide is now available in hard copy. Over 2,600 have been mailed to the Commanders of all Florida's military bases and another 2,000 have been mailed to the local defense communities. The new guide is also posted electronically on both the FDA and Task Force web sites. You can download the updated digital version at this link: <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/Florida-Military-Friendly-Guide.pdf>

Strategic Plan Review – At last week's meeting, the Task Force made significant progress with the annual update of the Strategic Plan. The final version of the Strategic Plan will be approved in the next month.

Florida Defense Factbook – The study on the economic impact the defense sector makes to Florida's economy is well underway and on track to be published this Fall. While the final numbers are not yet in, the preliminary news is good as it is clear that the defense sector's contribution to Florida's economy is even greater than it was two years ago when the last study was conducted.

Legislative Committee Weeks Have Begun – Last week was the first full legislative committee week leading up to the 2020 Legislative Session. The remaining legislative committee weeks are:

- Monday, October 14 – Friday, October 18, 2019
- Monday, October 21 – Friday, October 25, 2019
- Monday, November 4 – Friday, November 8, 2019
- Tuesday, November 12 – Friday, November 15, 2019
- Monday, December 9 – Friday, December 13, 2019

Bruce Grant Retiring – Bruce is retiring early October. He has been with Enterprise Florida since 2012. His replacement should be announced later this week.

**ENTERPRISE
FLORIDA**

From ADC:

DOD Acknowledges PFAS Contamination Cleanup Costs Will Exceed \$2 Billion

Posted on Sep 15, 2019 07:24 pm

<https://www.defensecommunities.org/blog/congress-dod/dod-acknowledges-pfas-contamination-cleanup-costs-will-exceed-2b/>

Pentagon officials acknowledged late last week that PFAS contamination cleanup costs are likely to exceed DOD's original \$2 billion estimate to mitigate the "forever chemical" problem impacting installations and communities across the country.

Despite acknowledging an expected rise in cleanup costs, Assistant Defense Secretary for Sustainment Robert McMahon met with reporters for the first time since DOD established its PFAS task force and emphasized that service members are not drinking PFAS-laced water, The Hill reported.

"We are committed to ensuring that we have a safe place for our people and their families to live, work, play and pray," McMahon said according to the report.....

Perspectives: Virginia Commonwealth Accelerates Military-Friendly Status Through Promotion of Local Partnerships

Posted on Sep 15, 2019 07:15 pm

<https://www.defensecommunities.org/blog/dc360/perspectives-virginia-commonwealth-accelerates-military-friendly-status-through-promotion-of-local-partnerships/>

As the host state of 30 different military installations and missions, the Commonwealth of Virginia has been accelerating its efforts to make the state a strong military and veteran-friendly state.

Virginia is home to 155,046 military members and 725,028 veterans while its defense economy accounts for a \$102 billion in annual gross state product and more than 884,000 jobs throughout the Commonwealth.

One way the state is leaning forward to accelerate its military-friendly mission is through the efforts of Virginia Secretary of Veteran and Defense Affairs Carlos Hopkins to promote and advocate for community partnerships.....

Tyndall AFB, Bay County, Fla., Partner on Third "Industry Day" Since Hurricane Michael

<https://www.defensecommunities.org/blog/congress-dod/tyndall-afb-bay-county-fla-partner-on-third-industry-day-since-hurricane-michael/>

Nearly one year after Hurricane Michael caused extensive damage to Tyndall Air Force Base and Bay County, Fla., the Air Force and local community are rebuilding and looking to the future, according to a U.S. Air Force feature article.

The massive storm struck on Oct. 10, 2018, and since that destructive event both the installation and surrounding community have been working together to be resilient, sustainable and adaptable to recover and rebuild from the damage.

This drive toward recovery was the mantra of Air Force planners, community leaders and industry representatives collaborating on the rebuild of Tyndall AFB during an Air Force industry day held near the base Sept. 12, according to the article.....

Air Force Secretary Nominee Emphasizes Creating Space Force Would Be a “Key Imperative”

<https://www.defensecommunities.org/blog/congress-dod/air-force-secretary-nominee-emphasizes-creating-space-force-would-be-a-key-imperative/>

Posted on Sep 16, 2019 07:09 pm

The administration’s nominee to become the next Air Force Secretary emphasized during her Senate confirmation hearing last week that she would prioritize establishing the Space Force, The Hill reported.

Barbara Barrett, who would replace former Secretary Heather Wilson, told the Senate Armed Services Committee she believes a Space Force is “overdue.”.....

School Districts Near Installations to Provide Quality Education

<https://www.defensecommunities.org/blog/congress-dod/perspectives-dod-pressing-communities-and-school-districts-near-installations-to-provide-quality-education/>

Communities across the nation hosting military installations should take heed that their long-term economic well-being due to the local infusion of DOD funds could be at risk if your public schools are faltering, a new Dallas Morning News column warns.

Military members with school-age children are increasingly concerned with school quality around military installations, and poor quality is a major factor in their decision to continue serving. Military leaders are listening and taking action, and that could have serious implications for the economic health of local communities, according to the column.....

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

Welcome to Fall! Monday was officially the first day of the fall season. The new season bring changes to the FDA and the Florida Defense Support Task Force as Bruce Grant retires at the end of the month. Bruce brought a focused vision and leadership to our military and defense programs in the state. His leadership will be missed. The complexity of the linkages between our installations and missions is not learned over night. Take this time to put together your binder and presentation for the new vice president of military and defense. The FDA will work with the new Vice President to host round table discussions around the state to bring this new team member up to date as soon as possible. We look forward to building this new relationship and moving Florida forward as the most military friendly state.

As we lose Bruce Grant, we welcome Deborah Keller, The Nature Conservancy, back to the group. Keller will be assisting Northwest Florida with their Sentinel Landscape Application. Her positive energy, wisdom and partnership building skills is an asset to the FDA.

Talking about assets, the 2019 Florida Military-Friendly Guide is out. The back cover discusses Florida being a leader in providing Military Spouse Licensure Reciprocity. Did you know that Florida recognizes every license from other states for all health practitioners, professions, educations and attorneys? As Defense Secretary Mark Esper asks the Council of Governors to assist with transfer of occupational licenses, Florida has been answering the call. Make sure you are meeting with our CareerSource and employment partners in your region to share this knowledge and find out if there are any other career license/certification challenges that need to be addressed.

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR (continued)

And finally, how are the grades of the schools in your region? Many of our communities with installations and missions receive additional Department of Defense dollars to assist with funding our schools. However, a recent article in the Dallas Morning News warns that DOD funds could be at risk if the quality of schools is poor. Are you involved in making sure your schools are making the grades, have the programs and the flexibility and space for our military school-aged children? Too many times, we operate in silos and not as a united team. Let's make sure we are creating the teams to look at all aspects of the military installations, active service members as well as their families' needs.

Until next time, check in with Ray Collins to review the Florida Defense Support Task Force's Strategic Plan. Verify the information in the plan. Be forward-thinking and solution seekers to the challenges and opportunities facing our installations. Remember SIR2 (Strategic Installations Realignment & Resilience) and let's show how the Florida Military Complex is a unique and vital asset to the National Defense Strategy.

Kellie Jo Kilberg



FDA CALENDAR:

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

FDA In-Person Meeting

Tampa, Florida

Renaissance Tampa International Plaza

More information to come soon!

FDA Website: www.enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense/

QUOTATION OF THE DAY

“The most important thing I learned is that soldiers watch what their leaders do. You can give them classes and lecture them forever, but it is your personal example they will follow.”

– General Colin Powell



POWER UP ENERGY EXPO

Resilient Bases & Smart Communities

You are invited to attend **POWER UP ENERGY EXPO 2019** at the Sheraton Panama City Beach Golf & Spa Resort on November 13-14, 2019

Resilient Bases & Smart Communities

Now in its 10th year, **POWER UP ENERGY EXPO** is the largest business event for energy and sustainability professionals along the Gulf Coast. Recently, Congress passed and the President signed a \$19 billion disaster relief bill, including funds for rebuilding Northwest Florida and Tyndall Air Force Base following Hurricane Michael. Join us and learn about new business opportunities and expand your professional network.

Workshops: Smart Buildings Sustainable Design, and Fortified Construction, Innovative Solutions for Energy & Water Security, Energy Microgrids and the "Base of the Future", Electric & Autonomous Vehicles, Resilient Bases + Smart Communities, Community Partnerships to Advance Environmental and Economic Resiliency, and so much more.



Sheraton Panama City Beach Golf & Spa Resort
4114 Jan Cooley Drive
Panama City Beach, FL 32408



Dr. Ariel Castillo,
Director, Energy Resilience,
U.S. Department of Defense



Dr. Julia Nesheiwat,
Chief Resilience Officer,
State of Florida



Mr. R. Paul Robinson,
Chief, Energy Division,
U.S. Army Corps of
Engineers, Huntsville



Mr. Dan Soto, PE, PMP,
Renewable Energy
Division Chief, Air Force
Civil Engineer Center



Mr. Steven Webster,
Regional Energy Program Manager,
Naval Facilities Engineering
Command, Southeast, U.S. Navy

For sponsorship information or to register go to: www.PowerUpEnergyExpo.com

This event is co-hosted by the Gulf Coast Energy Network and the Defense Leadership Forum
www.GulfCoastEnergyNetwork.org www.usdlf.org

Supporting Organization
Society of
SAME
American Military Engineers
Panama City Post



Join us at the **Florida Energy and Climate Summit**,
Powering Change, Oct. 1, 2, & 3, 2019.

The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services will host the Summit in Tampa, Florida at the Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay.

Leaders in energy efficiency, energy development, sustainability, climate change, agriculture, government, academic research, technology and finance from across the state and around the nation will share ideas on diversifying the state's energy sources; promoting energy efficiency, renewable energy and alternative vehicle technology; spurring economic growth; and adapting to climate change.

This year's summit will examine the interconnectedness of energy with other sectors including agriculture, transportation, and the environment.

- Resiliency Panel: Summit attendees will hear from leaders in local governments, business, and utilities who are battling the effects of climate change and what they are doing to build resilience in their communities.
- Transportation Panel: Emerging trends in the transportation sector, how local governments and utilities are embracing new technologies in order to provide a progressive and diversified transportation system that is vital to Florida's large population, evolving demographics, and projected growth.
- Innovation in Agriculture Panel: How agriculture producers are using innovative practices and technology to develop crops, livestock, fruits and vegetables, and fuel.



Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay
2900 Bayport Dr.
Tampa, FL 33607

For more information on the 2019 Florida Energy and Climate Summit, or to register to attend, visit floridaenergysummit.com

For more information about the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, visit freshfromflorida.com



SAME Mobile Post Industry Day 2019

Join us at the Battle House Hotel on Oct 16th and Oct 17th for networking and presentations by federal agencies including various USACE Districts.

Contact Jamie Bartel: (225) 603-1313, jamie.bartel@ghd.com or visit the website below to register.

<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07eginny3a02154ddc&oseq=&c=20ce06f0-777c-11e3-9f7d-d4ae529a7b12&ch=217b36e0-777c-11e3-a10d-d4ae529a7b12>

Society of
SAME
American Military Engineers



Renaissance Battle House Hotel
26 N. Royal Street
Mobile, AL 36602



AIR FORCE CONTRACTING SUMMIT

JANUARY 30 - 31, 2020

DESTIN - MIRAMAR BEACH, FL Hilton Sandestin Beach Golf Resort & Spa
In its 7th year, the Summit will be held at the Hilton Sandestin Beach Golf Resort & Spa, a magnificent resort on the sugar white beaches of Northwest Florida's Emerald Coast. Close to Eglin AFB, Tyndall AFB, and USAF Hurlburt Field. The purpose of the Summit is to educate businesses nationwide about the mission and contracting priorities of the U.S. Air Force, to identify the best innovative defense solutions from industry, to explain contracting procedures for small businesses, to connect businesses with federal contracting resources, and to help prime contractors identify new subcontractors. The Summit Moderator is Howard Snow, the former Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

Registration or more information: <https://www.defenseleadershipforum.org/airforcecontractingsummit>

News from the Bases & Regions

Tyndall AFB —

From the Bay County Chamber of Commerce Facebook Page:

What a turn out at Tyndall's Industry Day #3 held today at FSU-PC Holley Academic Center! This day long event aims to maintain engagement and enthusiasm with industry and our local community regarding the Rebuild of TAFB- The Base of the Future. Other goals include industry collaboration on technical solutions and inter-industry partnerships to participate in TAFB reconstruction efforts. some of today's speakers include Tom Neubauer, President of Bay Defense Alliance; Col. Laidlaw, 325th Fighter Wing Commander; Brig. Gen. Melancon, Exec. Dir. Tyndall Program Management Office; among many others speaking on the master plan and construction strategy.



Military Spouse Employment —

SecDef enlists governors' help on military spouse employment issue

https://www.militarytimes.com/pay-benefits/2019/09/20/secdef-enlists-governors-help-on-military-spouse-employment-issue/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=EBB%2009.20.19&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief

Military Times © September 19, 2019

By: Karen Jowers

Secretary of Defense Mark Esper has asked for Council of Governors' help in easing the burden of thousands of military spouses when they're trying to transfer occupational licenses from state to state.

The Council's agenda supports the National Defense Strategy's three lines of effort, Esper noted: building a more lethal force, strengthening our alliances and partnerships, and reforming the department for greater performance and affordability. And he'd like the governors to expand their support in other ways, he wrote in a Sept. 18 letter.

"I have added a fourth line of effort as a personal challenge - taking care of service members and their families," Esper wrote. He asked for assistance in supporting them as much as possible, especially on issues that are the primary responsibility of states, such as license portability for military spouses.....

US Space Command—

Space Force price tag clouds decision to formally launch, despite White House push

<https://www.defensenews.com/congress/2019/09/19/after-white-house-push-on-space-force-inhofe-mulls-faster-launch-in-defense-bill/>

By: Joe Gould

A key legal change the Trump administration is seeking would enshrine a U.S. Space Force as a separate branch of the military next year – but it could cost billions more upfront than what the Senate had planned.

Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman Jim Inhofe, R-Okla., an ally of the president, indicated Tuesday he was leaning toward the move after Vice President Mike Pence personally lobbied him to include the new force under Title 10, the section of United States code that organizes the U.S. military....

"The president is very strong on wanting to have it and wanting to do it immediately and wanting to do it, obviously, before the election – and we're going to try and get that done," Inhofe said about legislation to create a new Space Force.

Tampa/West Central Florida—

Tampa company awarded \$10M contract to provide services for wounded military

By Crystal Owens – Reporter, Tampa Bay Business Journal

Aug 30, 2019, 11:36am EDT

<https://www.bizjournals.com/tampabay/news/2019/08/30/tampa-company-awarded-10m-contract-to-provide.html>

A Tampa service-disabled, veteran-owned small business has been awarded a \$10.3 million contract from the

U.S. Department of Defense to provide non-clinical case management and advocate training for support for wounded, ill and injured special operations forces recovering service members.

9Line LLC has a mission of providing advocacy and support to wounded warriors and their families and under the contract will focus on recovery care coordination, military adaptive sports, benevolence, career transition and operations as it relates to the U.S. Special Operations Command Warrior Care program.

The contract has four unexercised options, which if exercised, would increase the cumulative contract to \$59 million. Fiscal 2020 operations and maintenance funds will be used for funding the base year subject to availability, according to the DoD.

The work is expected to be performed in 20 locations through the country and overseas, and if all options are exercised, it will continue through fiscal 2024

Honeywell International lands \$38M defense contract

By Crystal Owens – Reporter, Tampa Bay Business Journal

Sep 6, 2019, 1:57pm EDT

<https://www.bizjournals.com/tampabay/news/2019/09/06/honeywell-international-lands-38m-defense-contract.html>

The contract allows Honeywell procurement of the commercial Tactical Advanced Land Inertial Navigator 5000 Inertial Navigation Unit

MacDill will pause for a day to address rising number of suicides in the Air Force

By Ileana Najarro Published Sep. 12

<https://www.tampabay.com/news/military/2019/09/12/macdill-will-pause-for-a-day-to-address-rising-number-of-suicides-in-the-air-force/>

TAMPA — The work day at MacDill Air Force Base will become much more personal Friday when members of the 6th Air Mobility Wing observe a full-day "pause" to address the growing number of airmen...

Whiting Field —

Changes in Whiting Field helicopter training get green light

NW Florida Daily News © September 19, 2019

By Jim Thompson

<https://www.nwfdailynews.com/news/20190919/changes-in-whiting-field-helicopter-training-get-green-light>

No environmental impact statement will be required as the U.S. Navy moves to modernize its helicopter and tilt-rotor aircraft training at Naval Air Station Whiting Field, according to a Thursday news release from Fleet Forces Command in Norfolk, Va.

The Navy recently completed an environmental assessment evaluating the potential environmental effects from the planned replacement of the current fleet of TH-57 Sea Ranger training helicopters with the Advanced Helicopter Training System at NAS Whiting Field. The Navy plans to bring 130 new helicopters to Whiting Field, the initial training stop for all Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard helicopter pilots.....



NAS Pensacola—

New, top-secret classrooms at Corry Station help Navy meet growing cyber threats

Pensacola News Journal | Posted September 17, 2019 | by Melissa Nelson Gabriel

<https://www.pnj.com/story/news/military/2019/09/17/pensacolas-corry-station-opens-new-top-secret-temporary-classrooms/2342213001/>

Military members trained in a new top-secret complex at Corry Station will be critical in combating crises like the one currently playing out in Saudi Arabia, Navy leaders said Monday.

Hundreds of cybersecurity and information warfare specialists from all branches of the military will learn inside the 37,000-square-foot temporary building at Naval Air Station Pensacola's Corry Station. The space is a temporary solution to solve the base's overcrowding issues until a 90,000-square-foot permanent classroom building is built.

Corry Station needed the extra training space as soon as possible because of the high demand for military members with cyber warfare skills, said Mic O'Connell, training support director for the base. Corry Station is expected to increase the average number of students on base each day from 1,900 today to 3,000 in 2021....

Eglin AFB—

State considers land purchases to expand Nokuse Plantation

<https://www.nwfdailynews.com/news/20190919/state-considers-land-purchases-to-expand-nokuse-plantation>

Northwest Florida Daily News © September 19, 2019

By TOM McLAUGHLIN

The state of Florida is considering two land purchases that would “fill in gaps” within Walton County’s Nokuse Plantation conservation area and further the dream of its founder, M.C. Davis, to establish a long leaf pine forest extending “as far as the eye can see.”

Gov. Ron DeSantis and the Florida Cabinet will consider proposals at their Tuesday meeting to purchase conservation easements in Walton and Putnam counties.....

Spotlight on Hurlburt Field



Hurlburt Field is a United States Air Force installation located in Okaloosa County, Florida, immediately west of the Town of Mary Esther. It is part of the greater Eglin Air Force Base reservation, and is home to Headquarters Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC), the 1st Special Operations Wing (1 SOW), the 24th Special Operations Wing, the USAF Special Operations School (USAFSOS) and the



Air Combat Command's (ACC) 505th Command and Control Wing. The installation is nearly 6,700 acres and with a total population of approximately 21,500 inclusive of active duty, reserve, family members, civilians and contractors.

Hurlburt Field is the home of the 1st Special Operations Wing, one of four Air Force active duty special operations wings and falls under the Air Force Special Operations Command. The 1st SOW is a pivotal component of AFSOC's ability to provide airpower to conduct special operations missions worldwide. The primary mission of the 1st SOW is to rapidly plan and execute specialized and contingency operations in support of national priorities. The wing's core missions include close air support, precision aerospace firepower, specialized aerospace mobility, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR) operations, and agile combat support. The 1st SOW is known as "the 4th largest wing in the Air Force and the most deployed installation."



The 24th Special Operations Wing is one of three Air Force active duty special operations wings assigned to Air Force Special Operations Command. The 24 SOW is the only Special Tactics wing in the Air Force. The primary mission of the 24 SOW is to provide Special Tactics forces for rapid global employment to enable airpower success. The 24 SOW is U.S. Special Operation Command's tactical air and ground integration force, and the Air Force's special operations ground force to enable global access, precision strike, personnel recovery operations and battlefield surgery. Core capabilities encompass: airfield reconnaissance, assessment, and control; personnel recovery; joint terminal attack control and environmental reconnaissance.

History:

Hurlburt began as a small training field for the much larger Eglin Field. It was initially designated Eglin Auxiliary Field No. 9, and later as Eglin AFB Auxiliary Field 9/Hurlburt Field when the U.S. Air Force became an independent service, before being administratively separated from the rest of the Eglin AFB complex in the 1950s. However, once separated, the facility retained its history and kept all building numbers the same; i.e., all start with a "9". The installation was named by then-Eglin Field base commander Brigadier General Grandison Gardner for First Lieutenant Donald Wilson Hurlburt (1919–1943), who was killed in an aircraft crash at the main base, then known as Eglin Field, in 1943.

The facility had previously been named the Eglin-Hurlburt Airdrome until 1943; Hurlburt Field, March 1944; Eglin Auxiliary Field No. 9, October 1944; with the current name official on January 13, 1948. The base commander of Eglin Main was also responsible for Hurlburt, 1942–1946, but when the base reactivated on February 1, 1955, it gained a separate commander.





Commander Colonel Michael Conley

Colonel Michael E. Conley is the commander of the 1st Special Operations Wing, Hurlburt Field, Florida. He is responsible for preparing Air Force special operations forces for worldwide missions in support of joint and coalition special operations. As installation commander, Col. Conley also oversees Hurlburt Field's base support for the wing's four groups and 26 squadrons, as well as over 40 tenant units, including Headquarters Air Force Special Operations Command.

Col. Conley previously served as the vice commander of the 27th Special Operations Wing at Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico as well as the as Deputy Director of the Chairman's Action Group and Special Assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Colonel Conley received his commission through the United States Air Force Academy in May 1996. Since completing pilot training in 1998, he has operational experience flying the UH-1N, MH-53 and CV-22, with the majority of his assignments in special operations aviation.





Did You Know?

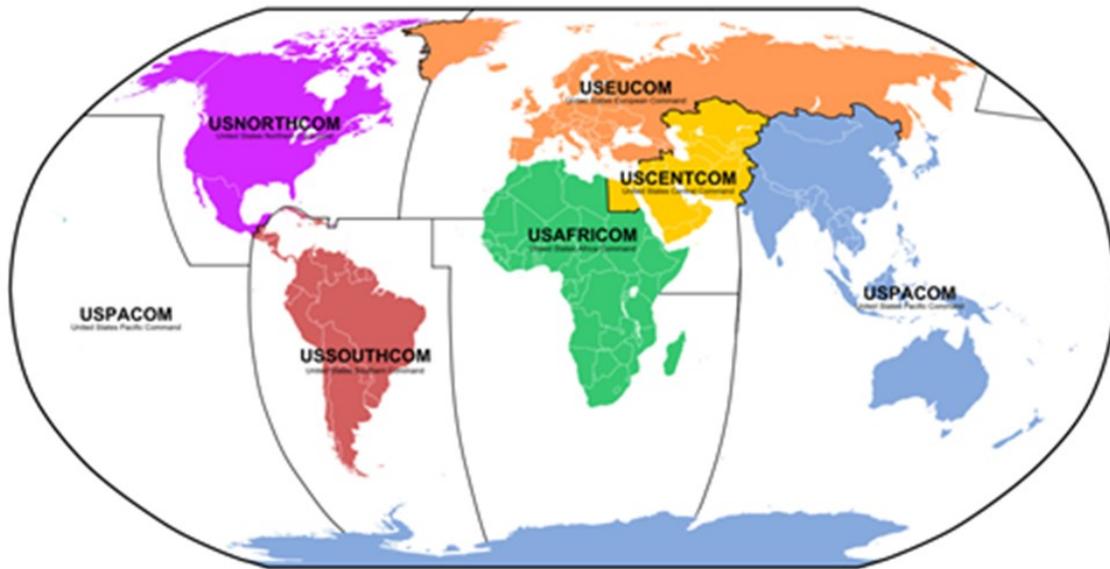
Florida is home to 3 Unified Commands: CENTCOM, SOUTHCOM & SOCOM

A **Unified Combatant Command (UCC)** is a United States Department of Defense command that is composed of forces from at least two Military Departments and has a broad and continuing mission. These commands are established to provide effective command and control of U.S. military forces, regardless of branch of service, in peace and war. They are organized either on a geographical basis (known as "Area of Responsibility", AOR) or on a functional basis, such as special operations, power projection, or transport. UCCs are "joint" commands with specific badges denoting their affiliation.

The **Unified Command Plan (UCP)** is updated annually in conjunction with the DoD Fiscal Year and can modify areas of responsibility or combatant command alignments or assignments. As of September 2011, there are nine Unified Combatant Commands as specified in Title 10 and the latest annual UCP. Six have regional responsibilities, and three have functional responsibilities. Each time the Unified Command Plan is updated, the organization of the combatant commands is reviewed for military efficiency and effectiveness, as well as alignment with national policy.

Each unified command is led by a **Combatant Commander (CCDR)**, who is a four-star general or admiral. CCDRs exercise combatant command (COCOM), a specific type of nontransferable command authority over assigned forces, regardless of branch of service, that is vested only in the CCDRs by federal law in 10 U.S.C. § 164. The Chain of Command for operational purposes (as per the Goldwater–Nichols Act) goes from the President through the Secretary of Defense to the Combatant Commanders.

US Combatant Commands



Current Commands

Emblem	Command	Acronym	Role	Established	Headquarters
	United States Africa Command	USAFRICOM	Geographic	October 1, 2007	Kelley Barracks, Stuttgart, Germany
	United States Central Command	USCENTCOM	Geographic	January 1, 1983	MacDill Air Force Base, Florida
	United States European Command	USEUCOM	Geographic	March 15, 1947	Patch Barracks, Stuttgart, Germany
	United States Northern Command	USNORTH-COM	Geographic	October 1, 2002	Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado



United States Pacific Command USPACOM Geographic January 1, 1947 Camp H. M. Smith, Hawaii



United States Southern Command USSOUTHCOM Geographic June 6, 1963 Doral, Florida



United States Special Operations Command USSOCOM Functional April 16, 1987 MacDill Air Force Base, Florida



United States Strategic Command USSTRATCOM Functional June 1, 1992 Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska



United States Transportation Command USTRANSCOM Functional July 1, 1987 Scott Air Force Base, Illinois

Motivational Posters of the Week





ARMY RANGERS



**GOOD PEOPLE SLEEP PEACEABLY IN THEIR BEDS
AT NIGHT ONLY BECAUSE ROUGH MEN STAND
READY TO DO VIOLENCE ON THEIR BEHALF**

-George Orwell

NOTES FROM THE STAFF

Florida recognizes the importance of the military and defense sector to the state. Moreover, Florida's leaders appreciate the great work done by FDA members every day in conjunction with the military bases throughout the state. Staff would like to thank you for all your hard work on behalf of our state's military personnel and their families. The things you do every day truly make a difference. Keep up the great work!

Florida Defense Alliance Leadership

Chair – Kellie Jo Kilberg

Vice Chair – Tim Jones

Mission Sustainment Working Group Chair – Mike Jones

Family Support Working Group Chair – Lynn Brannon

Executive Board: Jonathan Borgert, Jennifer Codo-Salisbury, Paul Hirsch and Jim Breitenfeld



Florida Defense Alliance Newsletter

October 8, 2019

FDA Vision: To maintain and enhance the position and reputation of Florida as the most military-friendly state in the nation.

NEWS

President Signs Continuing Resolution (CR) Preventing Government Shutdown -- President Donald Trump has signed a temporary government-wide funding bill that staves off the risk of a government shutdown through Nov. 21. This buys additional time for lawmakers to work through a bundle of yearly spending bills that is hung up amid fights over Trump's border wall and abortion. Those measures face a variety of obstacles, and it's not clear whether Congress will pass them. The bill had passed by the Senate by an 82-15 vote.

Legislative Committee Week Upcoming Schedule – The Florida Senate and House of Representatives will soon be back in Tallahassee to resume committee meetings and the FDSTF staff will be speaking to the Senate Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs and Space on Wednesday, October 16th. The remaining legislative committee weeks this year are:

- Monday, October 14 – Friday, October 18, 2019
- Monday, October 21 – Friday, October 25, 2019
- Monday, November 4 – Friday, November 8, 2019
- Tuesday, November 12 – Friday, November 15, 2019
- Monday, December 9 – Friday, December 13, 2019

List of Top 100 Most Heavily Contaminated PFAS Sites at DOD Bases – The Environmental Working Group released the list of the 100 military bases most heavily contaminated by PFAS/PFOA. Of that group, nine are in Florida with Patrick AFB coming in as the third most contaminated base in the country followed by NAS Jacksonville at fifth and Tyndall AFB at 14th. See the full article at: <https://www.ewg.org/news-and-analysis/2019/10/100-us-military-sites-worst-pfas-contamination>

More Defense Related Business Coming to Florida – This week the Department of Defense awarded three contracts to Northrup Grumman and Lockheed Martin for work on various aircraft and missile systems. Much of the work will be done in Florida. Details here: <https://defence-blog.com/news/northrop-grumman-to-upgrade-u-s-air-forces-jstars-surveillance-planes.html> and here: <https://www.bizjournals.com/orlando/news/2019/10/02/lockheed-l3harris-win-500m-military-contracts-with.html>

Gaining Military Missions for Florida – Florida is very interested in gaining additional military missions in the near future. These potential missions would bring additional military resources to the Sunshine State. Some of these include: MQ 25 Stingray – A carrier-based Navy drone refueler, National Guard F-35's possibly to Jacksonville and Reserve F-35's possibly to Homestead. These decisions are pending in the Pentagon in the very near future.

Center of Decision-Making Power for DOD in Washington Shifting – According to an article that appeared in U.S. News & World Report, the center of influence for decision making in Washington related to

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FLORIDA

military matters has been gradually shifting toward uniformed military leaders with civilian leaders holding less sway over the final decision than in the past. Details here: https://www.usnews.com/news/national-news/articles/2019-09-30/how-joe-dunford-quietly-changed-the-joint-chiefs-role-in-preparing-for-war?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=EBB%2010.01.19&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief

From ADC:

Thornberry Announces 2020 Resignation From Congress; Won't Seek Re-Election

<https://www.defensecommunities.org/blog/congress-dod/thornberry-announces-2020-resignation-from-congress-wont-seek-re-election/>

Posted on Sep 30, 2019 06:12 pm

House Armed Services Committee Ranking Member Rep. Mac Thornberry (R-Texas) announced Monday that he will not run for reelection in 2020, **Military Times** reported.

Thornberry, a 13-term member of the House, is facing GOP term limits on the committee, having served two previous terms as chairman before the start of the current Congress, when he became the ranking member after Democrats took control of the House.....

Robert McMahon, Assistant Defense Secretary for Sustainment Submits Resignation, Departing DOD Nov. 22

<https://www.defensecommunities.org/blog/congress-dod/robert-mcmahon-assistant-defense-secretary-for-sustainment-submits-resignation-departing-dod-nov-22/>

Defense Communities 360 © October 3, 2019

Robert McMahon, assistant Defense Secretary for Sustainment, whose responsibilities include DOD's recently established PFAS Task Force and resolving privatized military housing problems, has submitted his resignation effective Nov. 22, **Task & Purpose** reported.

Defense Department spokeswoman Heather Babb confirmed McMahon's upcoming resignation late last week, according to the report.....



FDA CALENDAR:

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

FDA In-Person Meeting

Tampa, Florida — Renaissance Tampa International Plaza

FDA Website: www.enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense/

QUOTATIONS OF THE DAY

“In every battle there comes a time when both sides consider themselves beaten; then he who continues the attack wins.”
— General Ulysses S. Grant

“You can't wring your hands and roll up your sleeves at the same time”
— Pat Schroeder

News from the Bases & Regions

Trump applauds Gen. Milley on becoming Joint Chiefs chairman

https://www.militarytimes.com/news/your-military/2019/09/30/trump-applauds-gen-milley-on-becoming-joint-chiefs-chairman/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=EBB%2010.01.19&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief

By: Lolita C. Baldor, The Associated Press

Army Gen. Mark Milley is taking over as the nation's top military officer against a backdrop of controversy over defense aid to Ukraine that has triggered a presidential impeachment inquiry at a time of persistent threats from China, Russia and Iran.

Milley, who was sworn in during a rain-soaked ceremony Monday at Joint Base Myer-Henderson, will officially become chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and President Donald Trump's top military adviser at midnight.....



Military Spouse Employment —

Is this military spouse federal hiring authority working? Feds — and spouses — want to know

https://www.militarytimes.com/pay-benefits/2019/10/02/is-this-military-spouse-federal-hiring-authority-working-feds-and-spouses-want-to-know/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=EBB%2010.03.19&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief

Military Times © October 2, 2019

By: Karen Jowers

How many military spouses are actually getting hired by federal agencies under a special hiring authority that's been in effect for more than a decade?

The Office of Personnel Management is in the process of finding out, after sending a memo to the human resources directors of all federal agencies on Sept. 27. The agencies must submit detailed information by Dec. 31 to OPM about how many spouses have been hired in fiscal year 2019.

The hiring authority gives agencies the ability to appoint military spouses to jobs without using the traditional competitive examining procedures. The authority was originally provided through an executive order in the Bush administration in 2008, but data hasn't been available from federal agencies on how many spouses have been hired through this non-competitive, faster process.....

US Space Command—

Intended Consequences: The Story Behind the Space Coast's New Headquarters | Lockheed Martin

Space Coast Business | Posted October 3, 2019

<https://www.spacecoastbusiness.com/intended-consequences-the-story-behind-the-space-coasts-new-headquarters-lockheed-martin/>

The real story behind the new headquarters, that are being located on the Space Coast like Lockheed Martin's Fleet Ballistics Missile headquarters', is one that began quite a while ago. Like the awe of seeing a huge wave break on the beach, we usually do not realize that wave may have traveled hundreds, if not thousands, of miles to make that dramatic splash. This story actually began during a sixty-one-day period in 2005.

In that fateful year, Florida was facing the possibility of losing up to five military installations, and Brevard County was especially vulnerable. Three years earlier, United States Secretary of Defense, Donald H. Rumsfeld, announced that 20-25% of all U.S. Military Bases would be closed in an effort to increase the efficiency of our military.....

MacDill AFB—

USSOCOM Unveils AI, Machine Learning Lab in Florida

<https://www.executivegov.com/2019/09/ussocom-unveils-ai-machine-learning-lab-in-florida/>

ExecutiveGov.com © September 30, 2019

By Brenda Marie Rivers



U.S. Special Operations Command has opened a Data Engineering Lab in Tampa, Fla. for the command's artificial intelligence, machine learning and robotic process automation projects, **Military Times** reported Saturday. The lab is located within the SOFWERX complex in Tampa, which houses activities aimed at addressing current warfighter requirements.

Maj. Jennifer Bocanegra, a spokeswoman for USSOCOM, told Military Times that DEL was launched to allow defense entities, private sector partners and the academe to "develop, test and employ new technical approaches to modernize warfighting decision making."

USSOCOM developing military data solutions for the battlefield in Ybor City

<http://www.fox13news.com/news/local-news/ussocom-developing-military-data-solutions-for-the-battlefield-in-ybor-city>

By Lloyd Sowers, FOX 13 News

Updated SEP 25 2019 07:53PM EDT

TAMPA, Fla. (FOX 13) - Navy Seals and Green Berets use firepower, but soon they'll add data to their arsenal on the battlefield.

"... data allows us to see ourselves and the threats," said Gen. Richard Clarke, commander of U.S. Special Operations Command.

Clarke was in Ybor City for the opening of USSOCOM's new Data Engineering Lab, where data scientists and software developers can collaborate and develop new streams of information for the military.

"Our military facilities are behind walls. This place is secure but easier to bring partners in," said David Spirk, Jr., USSOCOM's chief data officer.

Data innovators from small companies and entrepreneurs can bring ideas to the military at a nondescript location outside the walls of MacDill Air Force Base

SOCOM ramps up efforts to develop ‘cutting-edge data techniques,’ opens new data engineering lab

<https://www.militarytimes.com/news/your-military/2019/09/27/socom-ramps-up-efforts-to-develop-cutting-edge-data-techniques-opens-new-data-engineering-lab/>

By: Diana Stancy Correll; September 27

U.S. Special Operations Command is ramping up its efforts to develop “cutting-edge data techniques” like artificial intelligence to boost readiness and minimize costs.

As part of that initiative, the command unveiled its new Data Engineering Lab located at the SOFWERX facility in Tampa, Florida, on Wednesday. SOFWERX was established under a partnership intermediary agreement with SOCOM and DEFENSEWERX, formerly known as the Doolittle Institute, to help address war fighter problems for the command.

The lab was designed to cultivate AI, machine learning, and robotic process automation — all to boost the performance and strength of special operations forces, SOCOM spokeswoman Army Maj. Jennifer Boganegra told the Military Times



The U.S. Special Operations Command Data Engineering Lab grand opening ceremony took place in Tampa, Fla., on Sept. 25, 2019. The lab is an open-concept work environment and is the Command's outpost of a larger DoD modernization eco-system, whose goal is to foster collaboration between Special Operations Forces professionals, data scientists, data architects, software developers, systems integrators and technologists. (Photo by U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Barry Loo)

One Small Step Tampa Bay: Military Members Share Love Of U.S. From Different Spectrums

<https://wusfnews.wusf.usf.edu/post/one-small-step-tampa-bay-military-members-share-love-us-different-spectrums>

By WUSF STAFF • SEP 30, 2019

This week's story from StoryCorps' One Small Step - Tampa Bay focuses on two men who served our country in Afghanistan under Presidents Bush and Obama, and yet both came away from the experience with different political ideologies.

Lutz resident Brad Pupello, 41, is a Marine Corps veteran who considers himself a conservative with libertarian leanings.

"I've felt this way since I can remember," he said. "I never had that liberal-by-20, conservative-by-40 moment. I was pretty much consistent all the way through, hopefully refining my reasoning behind it."

Dade City resident Paul Mott, 49, is an Army veteran who identifies as liberal, but he didn't always feel that way. When he joined the Army, shortly after 9/11, he held more conservative views

Eglin AFB —

ICYMI: Eglin Air Force Base's Natural Resources wins the 2019 Secretary of Defense Environmental Award for Natural Resources Conservation, Large Installation.



EGLIN NATURAL RESOURCES

96th CIVIL ENGINEER GROUP

WINS THE 2019 SECDEF ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD FOR
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION, LARGE INSTALLATION

Seven Department of Defense Awards in nine years

Relocated **1,887** gopher tortoises

Conducted **160** prescribed burns
across more than 180,000 acres

Removed **290,000** tons of hazardous biomass, reducing wildfires caused by mission activities on test area by **20%**

50 civilian and contractor biologists, scientists, foresters and fire management specialists

Jackson Guard conserves the natural environment at Eglin Air Force Base, the largest forested military reservation, enabling essential DOD missions across 464,000 acres and more than 120,000 square miles of water ranges over the Gulf of Mexico.

NAS Jacksonville —

Change of command NAS Jacksonville sees Capt. Brian Weiss become base commander

<https://www.jacksonville.com/news/20191003/change-of-command-nas-jacksonville-sees-capt-brian-weiss-become-base-commander>

Florida Times-Union © October 3, 2019 |
by Taylor Smiley

Capt. Brian D. Weiss took over as commander of Naval Air Station Jacksonville on Thursday from Capt. Michael P. Connor who is retiring after 26 years in the Navy. The ceremony featured Rear Adm. Gary Mayes, commander of Navy Region Southeast, as its guest speaker. Capt. Jeff Hill assumed Weiss' position as the NAS Jax executive officer. The air station's personnel includes 15 squadrons and thousands of civilian employees and sailors....



Team Orlando—

NCS Hires Former Army Research Lab Chief Scientist Neal Finkelstein

<https://militarysimulation.training/technology/ncs-hires-former-army-research-lab-chief/>

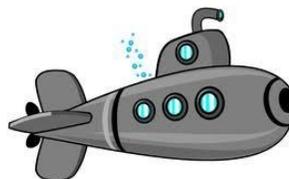
SEPTEMBER 30, 2019

The National Center for Simulation (NCS) announced that Dr. Neal Finkelstein, former Army Research Lab Simulation and Training Technology Center (STTC) chief scientist and 30-year Department of Defense veteran, is the new NCS chief operating officer. Finkelstein, best known in the modeling, simulation and training industry for his passion for building government, industry and academic partnerships, has retired and will officially begin at NCS on October 1.

As the chief scientist at STTC, located on University of Central Florida's (UCF) campus, Finkelstein served as the principle senior technical advisor on technical, programmatic and organizational issues that cut across the organization. He provided evaluation and recommendations on a wide range of diverse day-to-day issues arising from research and development of training aids, devices, simulations and simulators.



"I was lucky to spend many years serving the DoD, and having the opportunity to work on a number of superior projects with a lot of talented people," said Finkelstein. "I am looking forward to applying that knowledge and experience to help NCS continue to grow and further develop our commitment to STEM, expand the use of this valuable technology in key vertical markets, and foster collaboration and integration between the military and the commercial technology markets."



Spotlight on the United States Coast Guard



The Coast Guard is one of the oldest organizations of the federal government. Established in 1790, the Coast Guard served as the nation's only armed force on the sea until Congress launched the Navy Department eight years later. Since then, the Coast Guard has protected the United States throughout its long history and served proudly in every one of the nation's conflicts.

The Coast Guard is both a federal law enforcement agency and a military force, and therefore is a faithful protector of the United States in peacetime and war. In times of peace, the Coast Guard operates as part of the Department of Homeland Security, enforcing the nation's laws at sea, protecting the marine environment, guarding the nation's vast coastline and ports, and performing vital life saving missions. In times of war, or at the direction of the President, the Coast Guard serves under the Department of the Navy, defending the nation against terrorism and foreign threats.

The Coast Guard is a unique branch of the military responsible for saving lives, protecting the environment, and defending America's coastlines and waterways. All of this is done through 11 official missions, which include Port and Waterway Security, Drug Interdiction, Aids to Navigation, Search and Rescue, Living Marine Resources, Marine Safety, Defense Readiness, Migrant Interdiction, Marine Environmental Protection, Ice Operations, and Law Enforcement.

As the principal Federal agency responsible for maritime safety, security, and environmental stewardship in U.S. ports and waterways, the Coast Guard protects and defends more than 100,000 miles of U.S. coastline and inland waterways, and safeguards an Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) encompassing 4.5 million square miles stretching from North of the Arctic Circle to South of the equator, from Puerto Rico to Guam, encompassing nine time zones – the largest EEZ in the world.



As one of the five Armed Services of the United States, the Coast Guard is the only military branch within the Department of Homeland Security. In addition to its role as an Armed Service, the Coast Guard is a first responder and humanitarian service that provides aid to people in distress or impacted by natural and man-made disasters whether at sea or ashore. The Coast Guard is a member of the Intelligence Community, and is a law enforcement and regulatory agency with broad legal authorities associated with maritime transportation, hazardous materials shipping, bridge administration, oil spill response, pilotage, and vessel construction and operation.

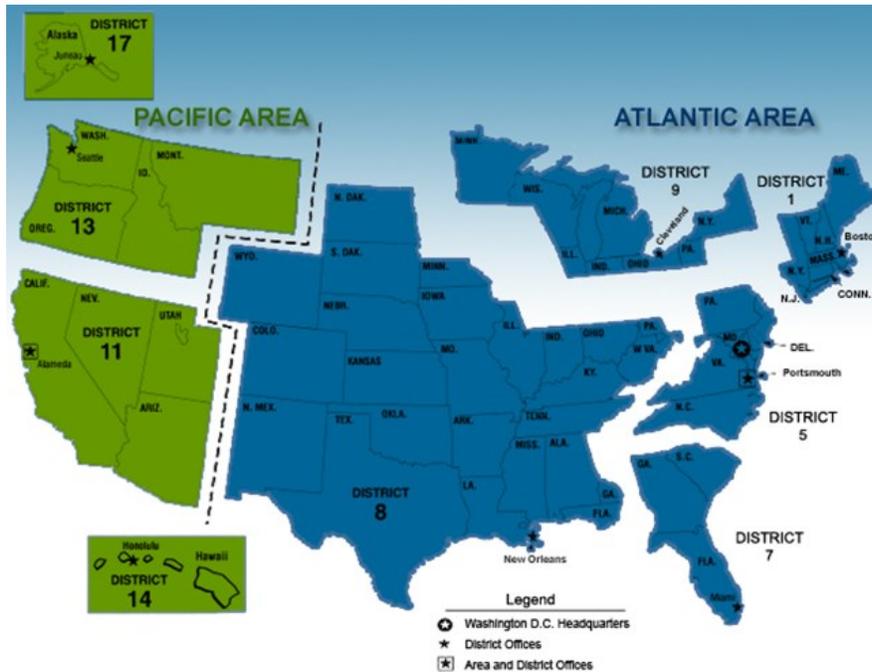
The over 56,000 members of the Coast Guard operate a multi-mission, interoperable fleet of 243 Cutters, 201 fixed and rotary-wing aircraft, and over 1,600 boats. Operational control of surface and air assets is vested in two Coast Guard geographical Areas (Pacific and Atlantic), nine Coast Guard Districts, and 35 Sectors located at strategic ports throughout the country. Six Mission Support Logistics and Service Centers provide services for operational assets and shore facilities. Coast Guard program oversight, policy development, and personnel administration are carried out at Coast Guard Headquarters located on the St. Elizabeth's campus in Washington, DC.

On an average day, the Coast Guard:

Conducts 45 search and rescue cases; **saves 10** lives; **saves over \$1.2M** in property; **seizes 874** pounds of cocaine and **214** pounds of marijuana; **conducts 57** waterborne patrols of critical maritime infrastructure; **in-**

terdicts 17 illegal migrants; **escorts 5** high-capacity passenger vessels; **conducts 24** security boardings in and around U.S. ports; **screens 360** merchant vessels for potential security threats prior to arrival in U.S. ports; **conducts 14** fisheries conservation boardings; **services 82** buoys and fixed aids to navigation; **investigates 35** pollution incidents; **completes 26** safety examinations on foreign vessels; **conducts 105** marine inspections; **investigates 14** marine casualties involving commercial vessels; **facilitates** movement of **\$8.7B** worth of goods and commodities through the Nation's Maritime Transportation System.

USCG Districts of the United States



U.S. Coast Guard Units in the State of Florida (17)

Seventh Coast Guard District Headquarters Office, Miami, FL

Coast Guard Air Station Miami

Coast Guard Air Station Clearwater

Coast Guard Marine Safety Office / Marine Safety Unit Tampa

Coast Guard Civil Engineering Unit Miami

Coast Guard Helicopter Interdiction Tactical Squadron (HITRON) Jacksonville

Coast Guard Station St. Petersburg

Coast Guard Station Ft. Myers Beach

Coast Guard Station Ft. Pierce

Coast Guard Station Islamorada

Coast Guard Station Lake Worth Inlet



Coast Guard Station Marathon

Coast Guard Station Ft. Lauderdale

Coast Guard Station Ponce De Leon Inlet, New Smyrna Beach

Coast Guard Station Port Canaveral

Coast Guard Station Sand Key, Clearwater

Coast Guard Station Key West



Motivational Posters of the Week





Reuters / Kimberly White

U.S. Coast Guard

The last thing drug runners want to encounter in the ocean.

MOTIVATIONAL-GENERATOR.COM

NOTES FROM THE STAFF

Tremendous thanks to all the great volunteers in the Florida Defense Alliance. Through your hard work and dedication, Florida has become a model for support of the military. In defense communities across the state, you have set the standard for being military-friendly. You constantly embrace our service members and their families and integrate them into the tapestry of the larger civilian community. It is these personal relationships that our military members remember years after leaving their assignments in Florida. During this month when we remember our military, staff thanks you for all you do for our men and women in uniform and their families in the Sunshine State.

Florida Defense Alliance Leadership

Chair – Kellie Jo Kilberg

Vice Chair – Tim Jones

Mission Sustainment Working Group Chair – Mike Jones

Family Support Working Group Chair – Lynn Brannon

Executive Board: Jonathan Borgert, Jennifer Codo-Salisbury, Paul Hirsch and Jim Breitenfeld



Florida Defense Alliance Newsletter

October 23, 2019

FDA Vision: To maintain and enhance the position and reputation of Florida as the most military-friendly state in the nation.

NEWS

Eglin Air Force Base's Natural Resources wins the 2019 Secretary of Defense Environmental Award for Natural Resources Conservation, Large Installation – The 2019 winner of the Natural Resources Conservation, Large Installation award is Eglin Air Force Base, Florida. The Natural Resources Conservation, Large Installation award recognizes efforts to promote the conservation of natural resources, including the identification, protection, and restoration of biological resources and habitats; the sound long-term management and use of the land and its resources; support of the military readiness mission; and the promotion of a conservation ethic. Details at: <https://www.denix.osd.mil/awards/2019secdef/winners/natural-resources-conservation-large-installation-fact-sheet/>

EFI Staff Briefing to Senate Committee Last Week – Ray Collins, Executive Director of the Task Force appeared before the Florida Senate Committee on Military and Veterans' Affairs and Space and briefed them on the changes in the Task Force and work of the Task Force since the legislature adjourned last spring as well as the major issues facing the Task Force during the coming year. That presentation was very well received by the Committee.

FDA Chair to Brief Senate Committee This Week – FDA Chair Kellie Jo Kilberg will be briefing the Senate Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs and Space on Tuesday, October 22nd.

Changes in Florida Defense Alliance Leadership – Mike Jones is stepping down as chairman of FDA Mission Sustainment Working Group due to other commitments. Rick Miller from the South Florida Defense Alliance has agreed to become the next chairman of the Working Group. Please welcome Rick to this new position.

US Department of the Interior Proposes Additional Oil and Gas Lease Sale for Gulf of Mexico – Recently, the Department of the Interior proposed auctions for concessions to explore and drill for oil and natural gas in all parts of the Gulf of Mexico not protected by existing Congressional moratoriums. The proposed auction of approximately 78 million acres in March 2020 would therefore not affect the areas of the Gulf of Mexico Test and Training Range that are restricted until 2022, but this action by DOI makes it clear that the Department continues to push for allowing oil exploration in every area in which it is legally able to do so. See the complete article here: <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/interior-proposes-region-wide-oil-and-gas-lease-sale-gulf-mexico-0>

Recent EFI Military and Defense Staff Actions –

- Providing input on legislation for 2020
- Reviewing base submissions for the MBP non-conservation lands program; meeting with DEP and DEO
- Ordering additional 2019 Military Friendly Guides for distribution
- Setting agenda/speakers with FDA Chair for November FDA meeting

**ENTERPRISE
FLORIDA**

- Coordinating with Tampa Bay Defense Alliance and MacDill AFB for November Task Force meeting and base visit to MacDill
- Coordinating with Matrix for their presentation at the Task Force meeting in November
- Working on details of the programs to implement recent Task Force funding decisions
- Coordinating with West Florida Defense Alliance on local education issues
- Coordinating with Liz Miller at DEO on the defense business portal

From ADC:

Senate Easily Confirms Barrett as Next Air Force Secretary

<https://www.defensecommunities.org/blog/congress-dod/senate-easily-confirms-barrett-as-next-air-force-secretary/>

Posted on Oct 17, 2019 06:08 pm

The Senate voted 85-7 Wednesday to confirm Barbara Barrett as the next Air Force Secretary, The Hill reported. “Ms. Barrett will serve as the civilian head at the Air Force at a pivotal time for our military,” Armed Services Committee Chairman James Inhofe (R-Okla.) said in a statement after the vote.

“We need to modernize and innovate if we want to keep up with China and Russia, and this is especially important if we want to maintain air and space supremacy. At her nomination hearing, Ms. Barrett demonstrated she shares these priorities, understands the challenges we face and is prepared to tackle these issues head-on,” Inhofe stated.

The Air Force has been without a permanent civilian chief since the end of May when former Secretary Heather Wilson resigned to become president of the University of Texas at El Paso.

Barrett’s past leadership roles include serving as chairwoman of the Aerospace Corporation, deputy administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration and ambassador to Finland.

Barrett’s confirmation also makes her the fourth female Air Force secretary, joining Wilson, Deborah Lee James who served in the Obama administration, and Sheila Widnall who served in the Clinton administration.



FDA CALENDAR:

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

FDA In-Person Meeting

Tampa, Florida — Renaissance Tampa International Plaza

FDA Website: www.enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense/

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

As I looked at the calendar today, I was amazed that Halloween is next week and yes, it's time for the Hallmark and Lifetime Channels' Christmas movies. Where did the year go? As we enter the holidays and begin attending family and friends' gatherings, it's time to look around our communities to review our many partnerships we have created to address the challenges and opportunities for our military installations, missions and their families. Check in on our military neighbors and ask how they're doing. Are there any new challenges or opportunities we need to know about? We will be meeting next month and it's time to review our year and plan for 2020. Have you implemented any new programs or created any new partnerships? Come prepared to discuss your challenges, opportunities and share best practices.

I would like to welcome Rick Miller, Southeast Florida Defense Alliance to the FDA Executive Committee as the new chairman of the Mission Sustainment Working Group. I know his leadership will engage our members in this ever-changing military landscape. Thank you to Mike Jones for his leadership and service to the FDA. Mike needed to step down due to his demanding travel schedule.

Make sure to share with Michelle any Veteran activities your communities or organizations may have in November as we celebrate and recognize our veterans and their spouses.

Until next time, reach out and tell your stories across as many platforms as you can. Don't assume your neighbors and teammates know the Florida Military Complex. We have a dynamic story. We just need to share it.

Kellie Jo Kilberg

QUOTATIONS OF THE DAY ON CHARACTER

“Character consists of what you do on the third and fourth tries.”

--James Michener

“The way we treat people we think can't help or hurt us — like housekeepers, waiters, and secretaries — tells more about our character than how we treat people we think are important. How we behave when we think no one is looking or when we don't think we will get caught more accurately portrays our character than what we say or do in service of our reputations.”

--Michael Josephson

“Character is like a tree and reputation like its shadow. The shadow is what we think of it; the tree is the real thing.”

--Abraham Lincoln

News from the Bases & Regions

Military Spouse Employment —

Employment Options, Tools Abound for Military Spouses

<https://www.defense.gov/explore/story/Article/1989443/employment-options-tools-abound-for-military-spouses/>

OCT. 15, 2019 | BY C. TODD LOPEZ

Military spouses looking for employment have a lot of options and a lot of tools available to them. During a briefing today at the Association of the U.S. Army 2019 Annual Meeting and Exposition in Washington, Lee Kelley, the Defense Department's director of military community support programs in the Military Community and Family Policy Office, said military spouses can access career coaches through the Military OneSource website from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. on weekdays and all day on Saturdays.

What is the impact of persistent military spouse unemployment?

https://www.brookings.edu/events/what-is-the-impact-of-persistent-military-spouse-unemployment/?fbclid=IwAR3I56c0VqJ9ih4IlesxZASXA7s_F4CG332oUYqjXqCgsoyCC6fd7tj-dxo

The nation continues to ask a great deal of its men and women in uniform—and their families. And as the saying goes, the military recruits the servicemember, but it retains the family. Only if military families are financially secure and otherwise stable can the all-volunteer armed forces remain strong. Although military compensation compares favorably with most jobs for comparable cohorts in the private sector, challenges still abound. Not least among them is the fact that military spouses, because of frequent changes of postings and the additional demands of military life and deployments, often struggle to find and keep good jobs. Yet today's economy can make it very difficult for single-income families to stay afloat.

On October 21, The Brookings Institution will convene a panel of experts to discuss these challenges for military families and what is being done to address them.

Monday, Oct 21, 2019 10:00 AM-11:30 AM EDT
Brookings Institution — Saul/Zilkha Room
1775 Massachusetts Avenue N.W., Washington, DC 20036

FOR MORE INFORMATION Contact Brookings Office Of Communications at 202.797.6105 or events@brookings.edu.

US Space Command—

Does America Need a Space Force?

https://www.defenseone.com/ideas/2019/10/does-america-need-space-force/160475/?oref=d_brief_nl

BY WILLIAM D. HARTUNG

With the impeachment debate moving full speed ahead, President Trump may be hard-pressed to move forward on his larger agenda in the months to come. But a few key policy issues are likely to continue to be the subject of intense debate. One, of course, is the president's much-touted and ill-conceived "wall" on the U.S.-Mexico border. Another, less discussed but also close to his heart, is the president's desire to build a Space Force as a sixth branch of the U.S. armed forces, alongside the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, and Coast Guard.....

Space Florida Awarded \$90M Infrastructure Grant from U.S. Department of Transportation

Space Florida | Posted October 17, 2019

<https://www.spaceflorida.gov/news/space-florida-awarded-90m-infrastructure-grant-from-u-s-department-of-transportation/>

Space Florida is moving forward on a \$90 million infrastructure improvement grant recently awarded by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT). The grant will support three interrelated projects, including replacing the aging SR 405 bridge over the Indian River Lagoon, widening Space Commerce Way, and revitalizing a 3.7-mile stretch of NASA Parkway West. The project is expected to take approximately five years to complete.

With the award in place, Space Florida and its partners from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and NASA's Kennedy Space Center can now move forward with the project. The grant, which is part of DOT's Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) program, will support growing aerospace industry and launch activities at the Cape Canaveral Spaceport.....

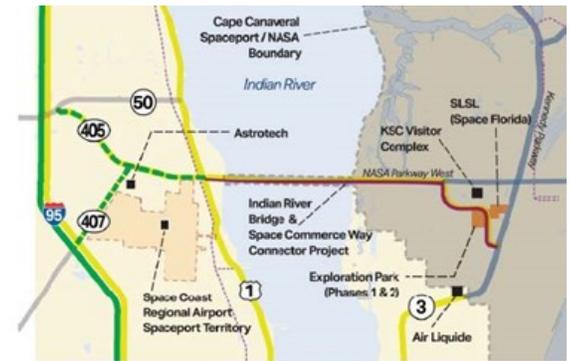


Figure 1: Highway/Bridge Project within Cape Canaveral Spaceport's intermodal facility depicts space-related freight and manufacturing workforce route that also serves as both a routine and emergency public transportation route through the Spaceport. Map illustrates the Project's existing integration into the National Highway System, and its connection to the National Highway Freight Network (NHFN) at Interstate 95.

Tyndall AFB—

Jacobs Gets Tyndall Air Force Base Reconstruction Support Contract

Jacobs Engineering Group | Posted October 15, 2019

<https://www.jacobs.com/newsroom/news/jacobs-awarded-tyndall-air-force-base-contract>

Jacobs (NYSE:JEC) was awarded a contract to develop the program requirements and standards that will transform Tyndall Air Force Base (AFB) into a visionary Installation of the Future (IotF). Jacobs is contracted as a subconsultant to KBR to support and advance the redevelopment of Tyndall Air Force Base. The objectives of reconstruction are to restore the full operational capability of the installation to serve as the prototype for future IotF's.

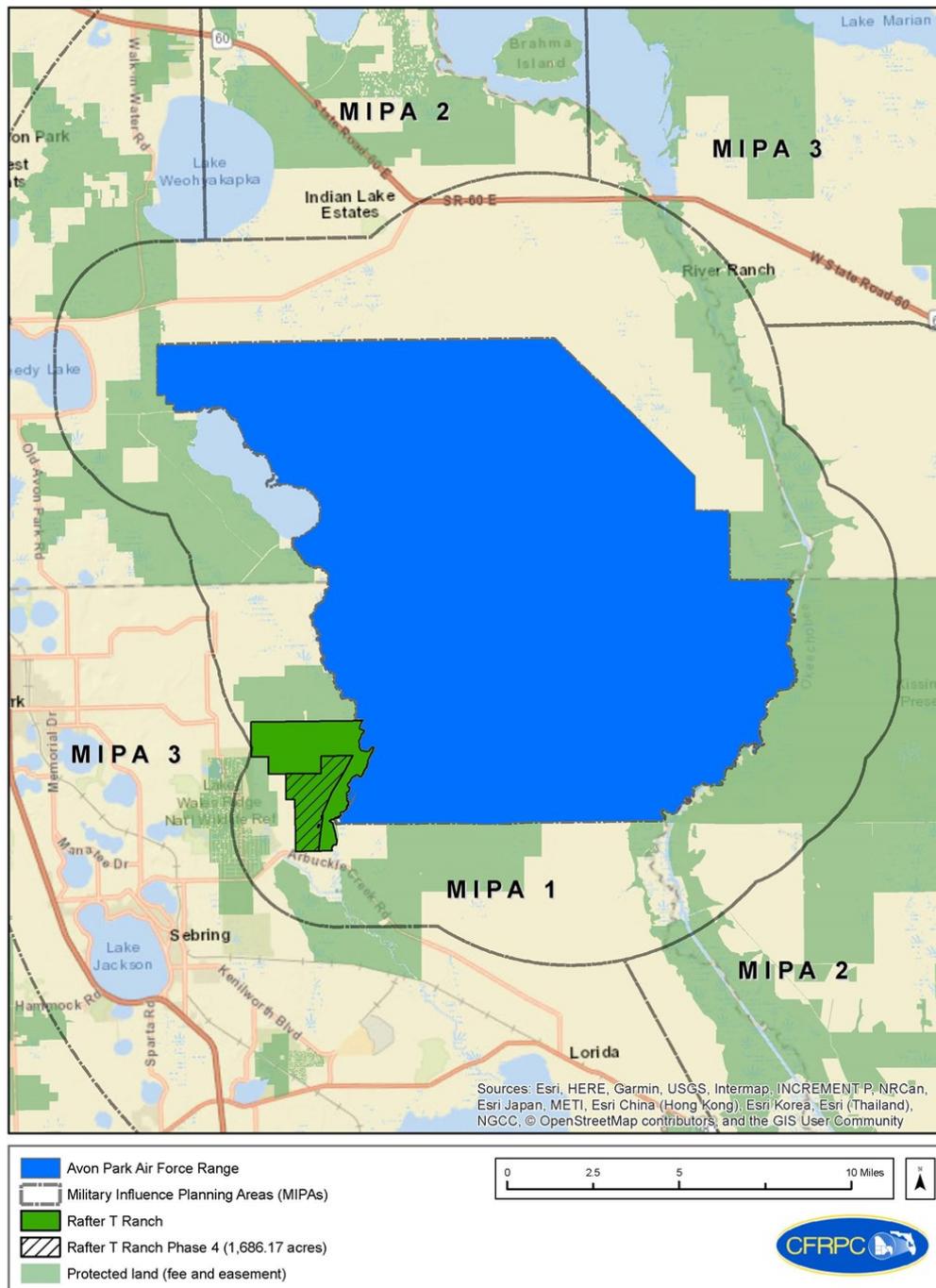
Tyndall AFB located 12 miles east of Panama City, Florida, sustained a direct hit from Category 5 Hurricane Michael, one of the strongest hurricanes to hit the U.S. in more than 25 years. The devastating storm inflicted immeasurable, lasting damage across the region and resulted in significant damage and destruction across the installation.....

Avon Park Air Force Range —

On September 27th, the fourth and final conservation easement closed on Rafter T Ranch, adjacent to the Avon Park Air Force Range (APAFR). The ranch is located in Highlands County and this final phase represents 1,686.17 acres of added protection in Military Influence Planning Area 1. The easement was a joint effort between the Air Force, DOD's REPI program, the Nature Conservancy, USDA's Natural Resource Conservation Service, the Florida Defense Support Task Force, Highlands County BOCC, and the Central Florida Regional Planning Council. The owners of Rafter T have partnered with the APAFR

Sentinel Landscape for many years demonstrating their long-term support for the partnership's buffering efforts. While land protection has been the primary focus at Rafter T, other efforts have included the ranch's willingness to host outreach events while serving as an ambassador for the Sentinel Landscape Partnership. Relationships like this have been instrumental in establishing trust among residents considering similar agreements while also showcasing the possibilities. Not only is the site part of the APAFR Sentinel Landscape, but it is contiguous with existing conservation land, thus expanding the Range's buffer while supporting landscape conservation in Florida's Heartland. Successful multi-agency partnerships like this not only protect important natural resources including critical wildlife habitat and water quality and quantity, but also contribute to a coordinated and comprehensive approach to preventing encroachment near Florida's military installations.

Rafter T Ranch & Avon Park Air Force Range Sentinel Landscape



October 2019

MacDill AFB—

CareerSource Tampa Bay Participates in Seventh Annual Paychecks for Patriots Job Fair **~ Hiring Fair Connects Florida Veterans with Career Opportunities ~**



TAMPA, FL – CareerSource Tampa Bay (CSTB) will be assisting Veterans and their family members on Thursday, November 7, 2019 at the Paychecks for Patriots Job Fair, a special hiring fair dedicated to connecting quality employers with our local Veterans, Military Spouses, and Military Service Members and their families. The event will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at CareerSource Tampa Bay, located at 9215 North Florida Avenue Suite 101, Tampa, FL 33612.

“We are excited to be a part of this statewide event,” said Maria Suarez with CareerSource Tampa Bay. “We want to get the word out to Veterans and the Military community about this special hiring event that will take place.”

Veterans can get more information about the event by contacting Maria Suarez at suarezm@careersourcetb.com, 813.930.7513, or text TampaVets to 41411.

The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, the Florida National Guard and the Florida Department of Veterans’ Affairs have partnered with CareerSource Florida regions to connect members of Florida’s military and veteran community with career opportunities through the Paychecks for Patriots hiring event. This statewide hiring fair addresses the employment needs of veterans by bridging the gap between Florida veteran job seekers and Florida’s job creators. CareerSource Tampa Bay is excited to serve those who have served our country. Through Paychecks for Patriots, companies will be connected with talented, well-trained veterans to join their teams.

In the past six years, more than 5,700 of veteran candidates and military family members who participated across the state have gained employment during the Paychecks for Patriot events.

Veterans will be connected with a wide range of employers at CareerSource Tampa Bay in the following sectors: Healthcare, Information Technology, Manufacturing, Hospitality, Retail, Trades, Finance, and Professional Services.

Veterans or their family members interested in pursuing Florida career opportunities who were unable to attend a Paychecks for Patriots hiring event can view and apply for available positions online at www.employflorida.com. Additionally, a special employment portal for Florida veterans is also available at veterans.employflorida.com with positions and resources geared towards veterans.

About CareerSource Tampa Bay

CareerSource Tampa Bay programs and initiatives are fully supported by the U.S. Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Agriculture as part of awards totaling \$19,293,411.

CareerSource Tampa Bay works with businesses and candidates to leverage their training, retraining, and competitive opportunities in the workforce. Career Source Tampa Bay provided 240,269 services to 36,960 active Wagner-Peyser individuals during program year 2018-2019. Career-Source Tampa Bay, with our five career centers is the single largest source of job candidates in the region from entry-level to executive-level candidates.

Businesses can access Career Source's wide range of services that include recruiting, training for new and existing employees, targeted hiring events, and retention support strategies. All resources and services are provided at no cost to both businesses and job candidates. Programs funded through CareerSource Tampa Bay are equal opportunity programs with auxiliary aids and services available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Persons using TTY/TTD equipment use Florida Relay Service 711. A proud partner of the American Job Center network to learn more, visit www.careersourcetampabay.com.

PFAS —

Pentagon watchdog to examine military's PFAS use

<https://www.theintell.com/news/20191016/pentagon-watchdog-to-examine-militarys-pfas-use>

The Washington Post © October 16, 2019; By Dino Grandoni

The Pentagon's inspector general is examining the military's use of a dangerous but ubiquitous class of man-made chemicals that has leached into the drinking water of millions of Americans, including many living near military bases across the country.

The compounds — known as polyfluoroalkyl and perfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS — have for years been used in specialized firefighting foams on military bases, including at several facilities in Bucks and Montgomery counties.....



Spotlight on the Florida National Guard

The Florida National Guard consists of the Florida Army National Guard and the Florida Air National Guard. The Florida Army National guard is composed of approximately 10,000 soldiers while the Air Guard is composed of approximately 2,000 airmen.

Florida Department of Military Affairs

The Florida Department of Military Affairs (DMA) provides management oversight and administrative support to the Florida National Guard (FLNG).

Directly responsive to the Governor of Florida, the Department operates within the policy guidance and fiscal framework of both



federal and state authorities. The Department manages a force of nearly 12,000 National Guard members, including over 2,300 full-time federal personnel, and more than 450 state employees. Together, the DMA and the FLNG are committed to serving the vital interests of the nation, the state of Florida, and its communities.

The Adjutant General, as head of the department, is specifically tasked with (1) the readiness of the Florida National Guard, (2) its response in times of natural disaster, and (3) assistance to Floridians at risk.

Tracing its heritage back to 1565, the year the Spanish founders of St. Augustine organized their first company of citizen-soldiers, the Florida National Guard's militia heritage extends back into our communities more than 450 years. Whether it was a call to arms during our nation's conflicts, or a cry for help during a natural disaster, the Guard has been there for Florida.

Today Florida National Guard Soldiers and Airmen remain engaged in overseas contingency operations, are vigilant in preparations to respond to domestic emergencies, and are committed to serving Florida's citizens and communities.

Mission

To provide ready military units and personnel to support national security objectives; to protect our citizens; and to support programs and initiatives which add value to our state and nation.

Vision

The nation's premier National Guard, embodying a winning spirit, living our core values, committed to serving Florida's citizens, and ready to meet the nation's call.

Our Values - P.R.I.D.E.

- Professionalism (Duty, Service Before Self)
- Respect (Diversity)
- Integrity (Loyalty, Integrity First, Honor)
- Discipline (Personal Courage, Selfless Service)
- Excellence (Excellence in All We Do)

Florida Army National Guard



State Mission

When Army National Guard units are not mobilized or under federal control, they report to the governor through the state Adjutant General. Each of the 54 National Guard organizations is supervised by the adjutant general of the state or territory. Under state law, the Army National Guard provides protection of life, property and preserves peace, order and public safety. These missions are accomplished through emergency relief support during natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes and forest fires; search and rescue operations; support to civil defense authorities; maintenance of vital public services and counterdrug operations.

Federal Mission

The Army National Guard's federal mission is to maintain well-trained, well-equipped combat units available for prompt mobilization during federal military operations. During peacetime, these combat-ready units and support units are assigned to one of four Florida National Guard major commands to carry out missions compatible with training, mobilization readiness, humanitarian and contingency operations such as Operations Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and Operation Iraqi Freedom in Iraq.

While the Army National Guard provides almost half of the Army's combat units, the National guard also contains communications engineer, logistics, military police, signal, and other combat support organizations capable of deploying to military operations around the globe. In addition, the Florida Army National Guard has deployed units to provide airspace security for the National Capital Region since 2003.

Florida Air National Guard



State Mission

When Air National Guard units are not mobilized or under federal control, they report to the governor of their respective state, territory (Puerto Rico, Guam, Virgin Islands) or the commanding general of the District of Columbia National Guard. Each of the 54 National Guard organizations is supervised by the adjutant general of the state or territory. Under state law, the Air National Guard provides protection of life, property and preserves peace, order and public safety. These missions are accomplished through emergency relief support during natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes and forest fires; search and rescue operations; support to civil defense authorities; maintenance of vital public services and counterdrug operations.

Federal Mission

The Air National Guard's federal mission is to maintain well-trained, well-equipped units available for prompt mobilization during war and provide assistance during national emergencies (such as natural disasters or civil disturbances). During peacetime, the combat-ready units and support units are assigned to most Air Force major commands to carry out missions compatible with training, mobilization readiness, humanitarian and contingency operations such as Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. Air National Guard units may be activated in a number of ways as prescribed by public law. Most of the laws may be found in Title 10 of the U.S. Code.

The Air National Guard provides almost half of the Air Force's tactical airlift support, combat communications functions, aeromedical evacuations and aerial refueling. In addition, the Air National Guard has total responsibility for air defense of the entire United States.



**MG James Eifert
The Adjutant General**

Major General James O. Eifert, The Adjutant General of Florida, is the Governor's senior military advisor and serves as director of a state agency, the Florida Department of Military Affairs. As Adjutant General, he is responsible for the training and operations of the Florida National Guard, which is comprised of approximately 12,000 Soldiers and Airmen.

He previously served as the Air National Guard Assistant to the Commander, Pacific Air Forces, Hawaii. Prior to that assignment, Major General Eifert was the Assistant Adjutant General – Air and Commander, Florida Air National Guard.

General Eifert received his commission from the United States Air Force Academy in June 1982. Following undergraduate pilot training, he flew operational fighter tours in the F-4 and F-15 before joining the Hawaii Air National Guard in 1991.

General Eifert led the first-ever Air National Guard F-15 combat mission policing the Northern Iraq no-fly zone during Operation Provide Comfort.

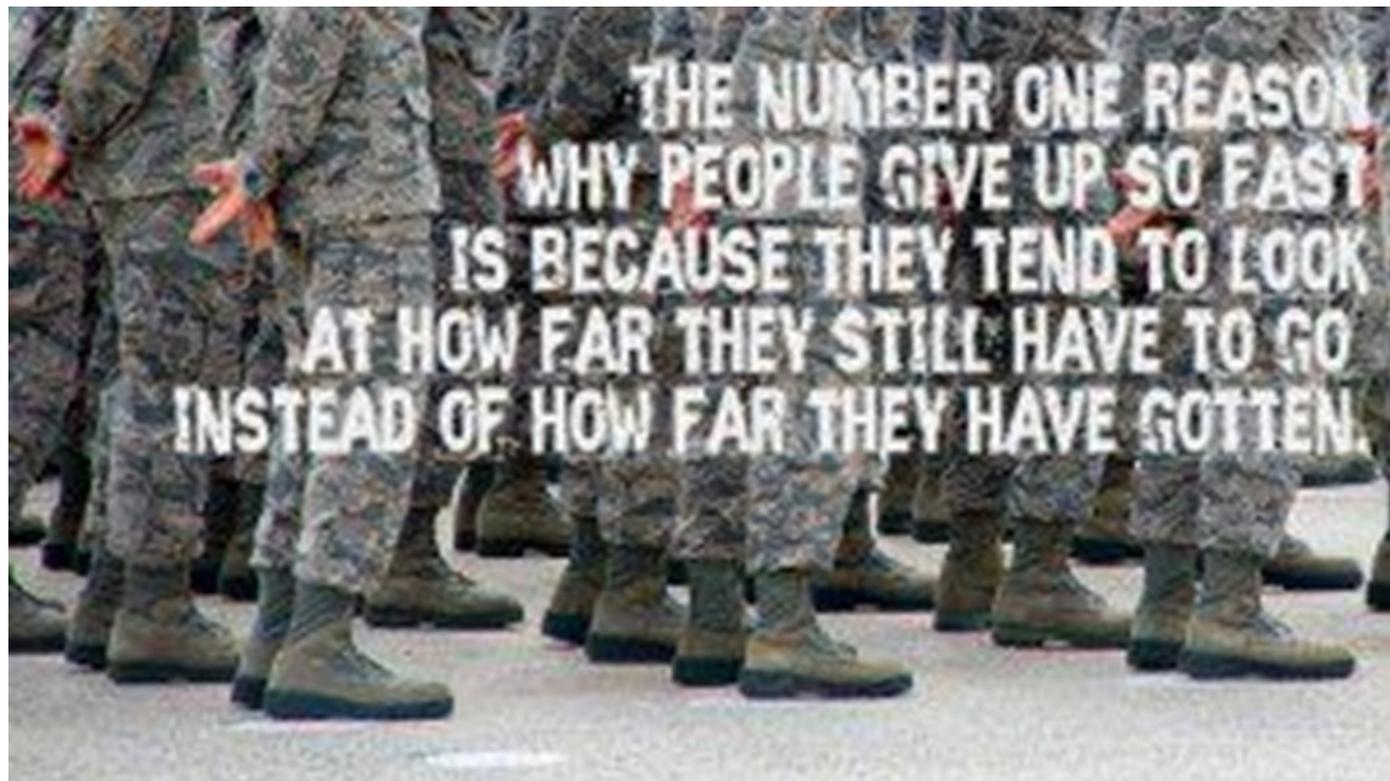
General Eifert executed his Wing's inaugural F-15 deployment to a combat zone during Operation Northern Watch in 1998 followed by a deployment during Operation Southern Watch in 2000.

General Eifert served as the National Strategic Planning System Force Structure Committee Chairman responsible for advising the Deputy Director of the Air National Guard on roles and missions.

He is a command pilot with more than 3,800 flight hours in a wide array of aircraft, including the F-4C/D/E, F-15A/B/C/D, T-37, and T-38.



Motivational Poster of the Week



NOTES FROM THE STAFF

The Florida Defense Alliance continues to thrive in the Sunshine State! The Alliance continues to gain strength and do great work on behalf of our military installations. There will be a Governor's Base Commanders meeting coming up in the next few months. Please touch base with your local Base Commander and see if you can assist with any issues. Keep up the great support of the military and continue to embrace our service members and their families and integrate them into the tapestry of the larger civilian community. It is these personal relationships that our military members remember years after leaving their assignments in Florida.

Thanks for doing great things for our military and family members in Florida!

Florida Defense Alliance Leadership

Chair – Kellie Jo Kilberg

Vice Chair – Tim Jones

Mission Sustainment Working Group Chair – Rick Miller

Family Support Working Group Chair – Lynn Brannon

Executive Board: Jonathan Borgert, Jennifer Codo-Salisbury, Paul Hirsch and Jim Breitenfeld

FDA Vision: To maintain and enhance the position and reputation of Florida as the most military-friendly state in the nation.

NEWS

2020 Heritage Foundation: Index of Military Strength -- Each year, the Heritage Foundation's *Index of U.S. Military Strength* employs a standardized, consistent set of criteria, accessible both to government officials and to the American public, to gauge the U.S. military's ability to perform its missions in today's world. The inaugural 2015 edition established a baseline assessment on which each annual edition builds, assessing the state of affairs for its respective year and measuring how key factors have changed from the previous year. The 2020 index shows an improvement in our military posture. You can read it here: <https://www.heritage.org/military-strength>

New Vice President for Military and Defense – Please welcome Colonel (Retired) Beth Medina. She is the new Vice President for Military and Defense Programs at Enterprise Florida, Inc. Beth had a long career in the U.S. Army and has recent Florida state government experience. She will begin her new position on November 18, 2019. Her picture and bio are below:



Colonel Elizabeth Medina has 35 years of service, technical expertise and leadership working the interface between civilian and military communities locally and globally. She has had a full military career and recent state government experience.

A retired Army officer, her military career includes numerous Civil Affairs assignments highlighted by her service as the Deputy Commander of the 350th Civil Affairs Command in Pensacola from 2014-2017. She also served in the Pentagon in as the Branch Chief, Regional Operations-War Plans.

Colonel Medina's most recent position was as the Project Manager and Risk Manager for the Florida Department of Transportation. She previously served in DEO in the Office of Disaster Recovery and the as the Strategic and Organizational Planning Manager.

She holds several degrees including a BS from the University of Wisconsin, a Masters in Strategic Planning and a Juris Master in Law from the FSU College of Law. Colonel Medina was also a National Security Fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government.

Elizabeth lives with her husband, retired Army Ranger turned Florida wildland firefighter, Nicholas in Freeport, Florida. They have three children and three grandchildren who all live in the greater Washington DC area.

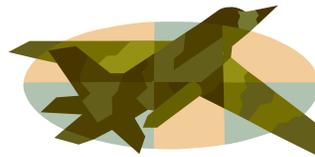
Funding for the Florida Defense Alliance – In October, the Florida Defense Support Task Force approved funding for the Florida Defense Alliance for FY 19-20. This funding will allow the FDA to continue its great work in support of the state’s military installations, missions and military personnel and families. The FDA is a model for other states and has had a tremendous impact not only on protecting our military infrastructure, but also on improving the quality of life for our service members and their families.



QUOTATIONS OF THE DAY

“The soldier above all others prays for peace, for it is the soldier who must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war.”
--- **Douglas MacArthur**

“The valor and courage of our young women and men in the armed services are a shining example to all of the world, and we owe them and their families our deepest respect.”
--- **Bill Frist**



NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

We’re excited about the upcoming FDA meeting in Tampa on Wednesday, November 20th! Spots are still available so please return your registration form to Michelle asap if you plan to attend. We’ve got a full agenda planned (see draft below) and are looking forward to seeing everyone and discussing issues from around the state!

Kellie Jo Kilberg

FDA CALENDAR:

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

FDA In-Person Meeting

Tampa, Florida — Renaissance Tampa International Plaza

FDA Website: www.enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense/



Semi- Annual Meeting Agenda
Renaissance Tampa International Plaza
Tampa, Florida

(As of: October 30, 2019)

November 20, 2019		0800-1700 EST
0800-0815	Welcome Remarks/Introductions	Kellie Jo Kilberg
0815-0830	DRG/DIG Grants Update	Liz Miller
0830-0845	Mayor of Tampa	Tim Jones
0845-0945	Strategic Basing	Kathleen Ferguson
0945-1015	Resiliency	Dr. Julia Nesheiwat
1015-1030	BREAK	
1030-1055	Hillsborough County Public Schools Partnerships	Kim Sukach Robert Bhoolai
1055-1125	Mission United Update	George Howell Cajun Comeau
1125-1135	FDSTF Update	Ray Collins
1135-1210	University-Industry Collaboration	Chris Middleton
1215-1345	Lunch	
1345-1530	Working Groups Meet <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mission Sustainment • Family Support 	Rick Miller Lynn Brannon
1530-1540	BREAK	
1540-1600	Working Groups' Report / FDA Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mission Sustainment • Family Support 	Rick Miller Lynn Brannon
1600-1645	Economic Development Community Significant Current Initiative Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northwest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Escambia, Santa Rosa, Walton, Okaloosa, & Bay • Northeast <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Duval and Clay Counties • East Central Florida <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Brevard and Orange Counties • West Central Florida <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Highlands, Polk, Tampa, and Pinellas Counties • South Florida <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties 	Local Defense Partners
1645-1655	Next Meeting Planning There will be an FDA teleconference on Tuesday, January 28, 2020 at 1000 EST. The next in-person FDA meeting is Wednesday, May 20, 2020, Tallahassee, Florida	Kellie Jo Kilberg
1655-1700	Closing Comments/Adjourn	Kellie Jo Kilberg
1800-2000	FDA / Florida Defense Support Task Force No-Host Dinner – The Pub	

News from the Bases & Regions

National Defense News —

The grades are in for America's military strength

<https://www.defensenews.com/pentagon/2019/10/30/the-grades-are-in-for-americas-military-strength/>

Defense News © October 30, 2019

By: Aaron Mehta and Joe Gould

America's investments in military readiness are paying off, particularly for the Army, but its armed forces would be stretched dangerously thin if they participate in more than one large war at the same time.

That is the conclusion of the Heritage Foundation's "2020 Index of U.S. Military Strength," the think tank's annual review of the past year's defense policy issues. The Index assesses the global operating environment and U.S. military strength. It ranks all topics on a five-tiered scale of "very weak," "weak," "marginal," "strong" and "very strong."

'Skinny' defense bill omits key element: Military construction

Roll Call | Posted November 1, 2019 | by John M. Donnelly

<https://www.rollcall.com/news/congress/skinny-defense-bill-omits-key-element-military-construction>

The Senate Armed Services Committee chairman earlier this week filed a stripped-down defense authorization bill that he said contained the U.S. military's must-pass provisions — a backup plan in case House and Senate conferees cannot agree on a full authorization measure in the next few weeks.

But the so-called skinny bill is missing one essential element: a detailed list of authorized military construction projects.

"A skinny bill is simple," Chairman James M. Inhofe, an Oklahoma Republican, said in an Oct. 29 floor speech introducing the measure. "It extends necessary authorities for military operations, takes care of the servicemembers and their families, and authorizes essential military construction and acquisition programs. That's it...."

What's in the emergency defense policy bill?

Defense News | Posted October 29, 2019 | by Leo Shane III and Joe Gould

<https://www.defensenews.com/congress/2019/10/29/whats-in-the-emergency-defense-policy-bill/>

With political gridlock stalling negotiations over the annual defense authorization bill, the chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee on Tuesday unveiled plans for his backup "skinny" version of the legislation to ensure critical military programs continue uninterrupted into next year.

Sen. Jim Inhofe, R-Okla., said he remains hopeful a compromise can be found on the massive \$738 billion defense policy measure in the coming weeks.

But he also argued that passing the basic military authorities contained within hundreds of additional pages of new programs and requirements — several of which have caused controversy within the House and Senate — is a critical responsibility of Congress and cannot be jeopardized by that infighting....

Protection of the Gulf Range —

Battle to protect Florida coast from offshore drilling continues

<http://www.cape-coral-daily-breeze.com/page/content.detail/id/672710/Battle-to-protect-Florida-coast-from-offshore-drilling-continues.html?nav=5011>

Cape Coral Daily Breeze © October 29, 2019

By TIFFANY REPECKI

The fight to protect Florida's Gulf Coast from offshore oil and gas drilling is far from over.

That was the update delivered on Oct. 28 during a presentation at the Sanibel and Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce's monthly Business After Hours, held in partnership with the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation and Oceana - an international advocacy organization focused on ocean conservation that is leading a national campaign to prevent the expansion of offshore oil drilling.

The event was held at The Dunes Golf & Tennis Club on Sanibel.

"Florida is still at risk," Oceana Offshore Drilling Campaign Director Diane Hoskins said.....

NS Mayport —

Marines train at Naval Station Mayport

They take the amphibious assault vehicles from land to sea and back again.

[https://www.firstcoastnews.com/article/news/national/military-news/marines-train-at-naval-station-mayport/77-d07366e5-88da-406f-a30d-b010911bd095?](https://www.firstcoastnews.com/article/news/national/military-news/marines-train-at-naval-station-mayport/77-d07366e5-88da-406f-a30d-b010911bd095?fbclid=IwAR2G_1Wr8w6XSr_k1A5RdYfyejdx_Vk_WhaFoV61MR7a4IVqN_zonXNIFbw)

[fbclid=IwAR2G_1Wr8w6XSr_k1A5RdYfyejdx_Vk_WhaFoV61MR7a4IVqN_zonXNIFbw](https://www.firstcoastnews.com/article/news/national/military-news/marines-train-at-naval-station-mayport/77-d07366e5-88da-406f-a30d-b010911bd095?fbclid=IwAR2G_1Wr8w6XSr_k1A5RdYfyejdx_Vk_WhaFoV61MR7a4IVqN_zonXNIFbw)

First Coast News © October 24, 2019

By Abigail Curran

The Marines were out at Naval Station Mayport on Thursday conducting amphibious operations. They take the amphibious assault vehicles from land to sea and back again.

On the beach they had an R7- which is used for recovery and maintenance, C7- Which is used to coordinate operations and communications, and a P7, which is the troop transport. It can hold 27 fully combat loaded marines.

Staff Sgt Peter Carelli says they do these drills periodically to make sure everyone is on top of their game.....



USS Indianapolis Sets Sail for Home Port in Florida

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2019/10/30/uss-indianapolis-sets-sail-home-port-florida.html>

Military.com © October 30, 2019

By Joseph L. Pete

After a week at the Port of Indiana-Burns Harbor and a historic U.S. Navy commissioning ceremony that may never take place again in largely landlocked Indiana, the USS Indianapolis Littoral Combat Ship set sail Tuesday morning for its home base in Florida.

The \$450 million ship tasked for mine warfare, the fourth to bear the USS Indianapolis name, will travel up Lake Michigan, through the Straits of Mackinac, across the Great Lakes and through the St. Lawrence Seaway that opens into the Atlantic Ocean northeast of Quebec City in Canada. The warship and its crew of 70 sailors will then travel south down the coastline to the Naval Station Mayport near Jacksonville, Florida.....



The future USS Indianapolis (LCS 17) transits Lake Michigan toward Naval Station Great Lakes for a Sail by and Salute. (U.S. Navy/Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Camilo Fernan)

US State Department approves potential guided-missile frigate sale to Bahrain (Ship is homeported at NS Mayport)

<https://www.armyrecognition.com/bidec-2019-news-official-online-show-daily-bahrain-defense-exhibition/the-us-state-department-approves-potential-guided-missile-frigate-sale-to-bahrain.html>

The State Department has made a determination approving a possible Foreign Military Sale to

Bahrain to refurbish the Oliver Hazard Perry Class ship, ex ROBERT G. BRADLEY (FFG 49) with support for an estimated cost of \$150 million. The Defense Security Cooperation Agency delivered the required certification notifying Congress of this possible sale on October 22, 2019.

The Government of Bahrain has requested refurbishment of the Oliver Hazard Perry Class ship, ex ROBERT G. BRADLEY (FFG 49), spares, support, training, publications, and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated cost is \$150 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of an important ally which is a force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East. This sale is consistent with U.S. initiatives to provide key allies in the region with systems that will enhance interoperability with U.S. forces and increase security.....



USS Robert G. Bradley (FFG-49) an Oliver Hazard Perry-class frigate (Picture source: U.S. Navy)

Save the Date

BUILDING HEALTHY MILITARY COMMUNITIES

Northeast Florida Task Force Meeting

December 3, 2019

Duval County Extension Office

1010 N. McDuff Ave.

Jacksonville, FL 32254

Building Healthy Military Communities (BHMC) is a multi-year initiative that aims address the unique readiness and well-being challenges facing geographically dispersed Service members (e.g. Reserve Component), their families, and the communities in which they live.

On December 3, 2019, representatives of the Department of Defense (DoD) will convene a meeting to discuss and action plan around Florida's BHMC State Strategic Plan. The plan includes two priority areas:

1. Physical wellness and nutrition
2. Behavioral health and substance misuse:
 - a. Tobacco cessation
 - b. Excessive alcohol use

Your expertise is needed to inform and address the challenges faced by this population. Please save this time in your calendars.

This meeting is by **invitation only**. If you feel like someone in your organization or a partner organization should be invited, please email Lynn Brannon, BHMC Florida State Coordinator and Contractor-Goldbelt Glacier Health Services, LLC at Lynn.B.Brannon.ctr@mail.mil.

Registration information and additional details are forthcoming. In the interim, please contact Lynn Brannon, BHMC Florida State Coordinator and Contractor-Goldbelt Glacier Health Services, LLC

Lynn.B.Brannon.ctr@mail.mil or 904-229-6440 with questions.

We look forward to your participation in this important event.

Tyndall AFB —

Tyndall AFB recovery is major focus of recent congressional hearing

<https://www.thedestinlog.com/news/20191029/tyndall-afb-recovery-is-major-focus-of-recent-congressional-hearing>

Destin Log © October 29, 2019

By Jim Thompson

Tyndall Air Force Base was mentioned frequently during a recent congressional subcommittee hearing at which Department of Defense leaders were grilled for two hours on how military installations are being prepared for future severe weather threats, as well as climate change issues and cybersecurity challenges.

Two subcommittees of the House Armed Services Committee met Oct. 16, five days after the one-year anniversary of Hurricane Michael roaring across the eastern Florida Panhandle, laying waste to Tyndall AFB.....

Patrick AFB—

Military Affairs Council tours only radiochemistry lab in USAF

<https://www.16af.af.mil/News/Article/2001330/military-affairs-council-tours-only-radiochemistry-lab-in-usaf/>

By Susan A. Romano, AFTAC Public Affairs / Published October 29, 2019

For the first time since the Air Force Technical Applications Center moved into its new headquarters building in 2014, members of the Cocoa Beach Regional Chamber of Commerce's Military Affairs Council toured the U.S. Air Force Radiochemistry Lab on AFTAC's campus Oct. 16.



Dr. Mark Dibben (right), mass spectrometry flight chief for the Air Force Technical Applications Center, Patrick AFB, Fla., explains to members of the Cocoa Beach Regional Chamber of Commerce's Military Affairs Council how the center uses mass spectrometry as a means to execute its nuclear treaty monitoring mission. The council toured AFTAC's radiochemistry lab Oct. 16, 2019. (U.S. Air Force photo by Susan A. Romano)

The Ciambrone Lab, posthumously named after former AFTAC vice commander Col. Thomas Ciambrone, is the only one of its kind in the U.S. Air Force. The scientists who work in the facility are responsible for identifying radiologic or nuclear debris in support of the U.S. Nuclear Debris Collection and Analysis Program.

The Military Affairs Council is an all-volunteer group of partners from the CBRCC who work together to enhance the quality of life in the local community, with a special emphasis on enlisted members who serve on Florida's Space Coast.....



Spotlight on MacDill Air Force Base



6th Air Refueling Wing



MacDill
Air Force Base

MacDill Air Force Base is an active United States Air Force installation located 4 miles (6.4 km) south-southwest of downtown Tampa, Florida.

The "host wing" for MacDill AFB is the 6th Air Refueling Wing (6 ARW), assigned to the Eighteenth Air Force (18AF) of the Air Mobility Command (AMC). The 6 ARW is commanded by Colonel Stephen Snelson.

MacDill Air Force Base, located in south Tampa, was constructed as MacDill Field, a U.S. Army Air Corps, later U.S. Army Air Forces, installation just prior to World War II. With the establishment of the U.S. Air Force as an independent service in September 1947, it became MacDill Air Force Base. During the 1950s and 1960s, it was a Strategic Air Command (SAC) installation for B-47 Stratojet bombers. In the early 1960s, it transitioned to a Tactical Air Command (TAC) installation briefly operating the F-84 Thunderstreak jet fighter before transitioning to the F-4 Phantom II. During the 1960s, 1970s and early 1980s, it operated F-4 Phantom II fighters under various fighter wings, followed by F-16 Fighting Falcons in the mid- and late 1980s and early 1990s.

MacDill became an Air Mobility Command installation in 1996 and home to the 6th Air Refueling Wing, its 310th Airlift Squadron flying the C-37A, and its 50th Air Refueling Squadron and 91st Air Refueling Squadron flying the KC-135. The 6 ARW is further augmented by the Air Force Reserve Command's 927th Air Refueling Wing (927 ARW) and 63d Air Refueling Squadron flying the same KC-135s.

MacDill AFB is also home to the headquarters for two of the U.S. military's unified combatant commands: Headquarters, United States Central Command (USCENTCOM), and Headquarters, United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM). Both commands are independent from one another and each is commanded by a respective 4-star general or admiral.

Two additional sub-unified commands are also headquartered at MacDill AFB: Commander, United States Marine Corps Forces Central Command (COMUSMARCENT), commanded by a 3-star general, and United States Special Operations Command Central (USSOCCENT), commanded by a 2-star general.



**Commander —
Colonel Stephen P. Snelson**

Colonel Stephen P. Snelson is the Commander, 6th Air Refueling Wing, MacDill Air Force Base, Florida. He is responsible for the wing's worldwide combat air refueling and airlift missions and provides installation support to Headquarters U.S. Central Command, Headquarters U.S. Special Operations Command and 31 other Joint mission partners. As the Commander, he is responsible for the security and well-being of the base's 19,900 employees and their families, along with \$2.8 billion in base property and capital assets.

Colonel Snelson was commissioned in May 1997 as a Distinguished Graduate of the Reserve Officer Training Corps program at Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York. He served in various flying and staff positions at the squadron, wing, major command, and joint levels including Chief of Special Operations and Executive Officer to the Commander, Air Mobility Command. He has flown operational missions worldwide including combat missions in support of Operations ALLIED FORCE, SOUTHERN WATCH, ENDURING FREEDOM, IRAQI FREEDOM, and NEW DAWN.

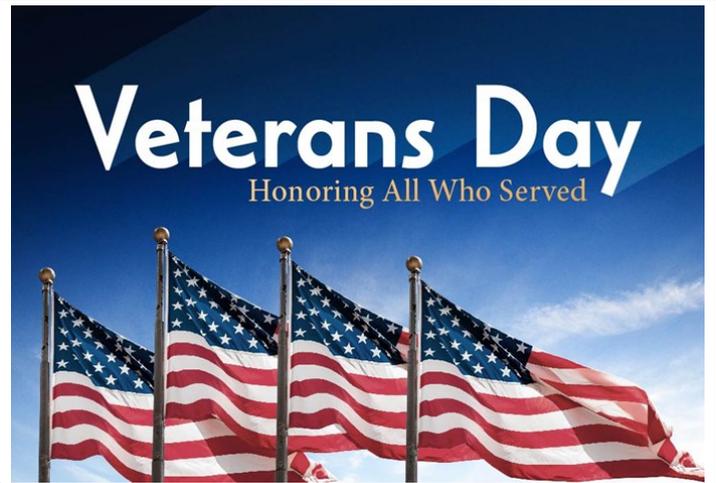
Prior to his current position, Colonel Snelson was the Vice Commander, 62d Airlift Wing, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington.



DID YOU KNOW?

History of Veterans Day

World War I – known at the time as “The Great War” – officially ended when the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919, in the Palace of Versailles outside the town of Versailles, France. However, fighting ceased seven months earlier when an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, between the Allied nations and Germany went into effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. For that reason, November 11, 1918, is generally regarded as the end of “the war to end all wars.”



In November 1919, President Wilson proclaimed November 11 as the first commemoration of Armistice Day with the following words: "To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations..."

An Act (52 Stat. 351; 5 U. S. Code, Sec. 87a) approved May 13, 1938, made the 11th of November in each year a legal holiday—a day to be dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be thereafter celebrated and known as "Armistice Day." Armistice Day was primarily a day set aside to honor veterans of World War I, but in 1954, after World War II had required the greatest mobilization of soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen in the Nation's history; after American forces had fought aggression in Korea, the 83rd Congress, at the urging of the veterans service organizations, amended the Act of 1938 by striking out the word "Armistice" and inserting in its place the word "Veterans." With the approval of this legislation (Public Law 380) on June 1, 1954, November 11th became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.

Later that same year, on October 8th, President Dwight D. Eisenhower issued the first "Veterans Day Proclamation" which stated: "In order to insure proper and widespread observance of this anniversary, all veterans, all veterans' organizations, and the entire citizenry will wish to join hands in the common purpose. Toward this end, I am designating the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs as Chairman of a Veterans Day National Committee, which shall include such other persons as the Chairman may select, and which will coordinate at the national level necessary planning for the observance. I am also requesting the heads of all departments and agencies of the Executive branch of the Government to assist the National Committee in every way possible."

The Uniform Holiday Bill (Public Law 90-363 (82 Stat. 250)) was signed on June 28, 1968, and was intended to ensure three-day weekends for Federal employees by celebrating four national holidays on Mondays: Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and Columbus Day. It was thought that these extended weekends would encourage travel, recreational and cultural activities and stimulate greater industrial and commercial production. Many states did not agree with this decision and continued to celebrate the holidays on their original dates.

The first Veterans Day under the new law was observed with much confusion on October 25, 1971. It was quite apparent that the commemoration of this day was a matter of historic and patriotic significance to a

great number of our citizens, and so on September 20th, 1975, President Gerald R. Ford signed Public Law 94-97 (89 Stat. 479), which returned the annual observance of Veterans Day to its original date of November 11, beginning in 1978. This action supported the desires of the overwhelming majority of state legislatures, all major veterans service organizations and the American people.

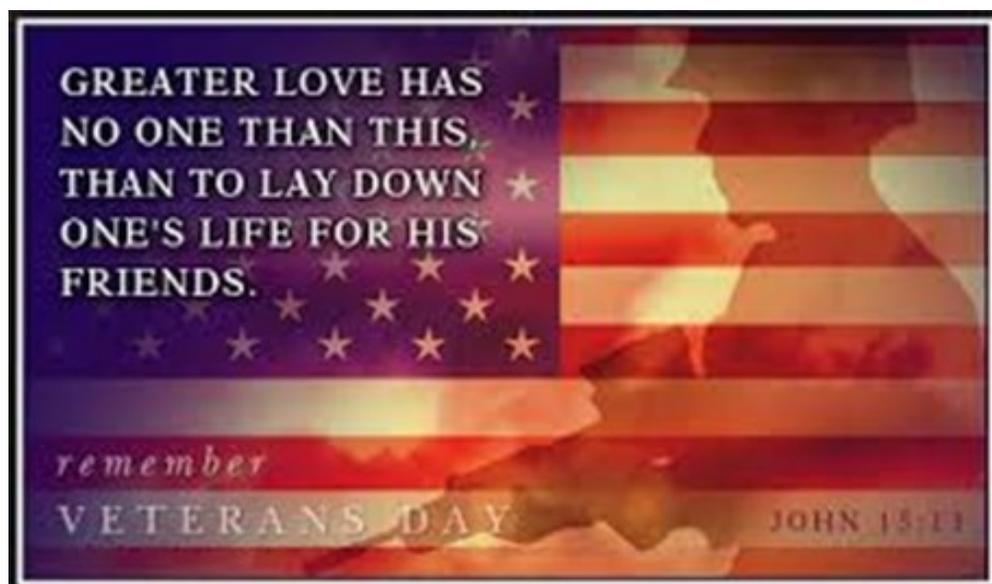
Veterans Day continues to be observed on November 11, regardless of what day of the week on which it falls. The restoration of the observance of Veterans Day to November 11 not only preserves the historical significance of the date, but helps focus attention on the important purpose of Veterans Day: A celebration to honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good

What's the Difference Between Veterans Day and Memorial Day?

Veterans Day is the federal holiday that falls on November 11 and is designated as a day to honor all who have served in the military.

Memorial Day is celebrated the last Monday in May, and is set aside to pay tribute to those who died serving in the military

Posters of the Day





And Don't Forget the Marine Corps Birthday November 10th

The United States Marine Corps was established on November 10, 1775, to augment naval forces in the Revolutionary War. The recruiting headquarters was set up by Capt. Samuel Nicholas in the Tun Tavern on Water Street in Philadelphia, which is considered to be the birthplace of the Marines.



**Happy
Birthday
Marines!**



NOTES FROM THE STAFF

The Florida Defense Alliance is a wonderful group of committed volunteers who live to support their local military bases and personnel. They were doing this long before the Task Force came into being – and God willing -- they will continue their great service to the state of Florida. This group of local defense community leaders is the ultimate tenacious and passionate force supporting our bases and military and family members. I stand in awe of their steadfast allegiance, loyalty and commitment to our nation’s Armed Forces. You have been a great source of inspiration over the years and your example kept me focused and motivated to ensure the team in Tallahassee was always working on your behalf and championing your efforts. It is without a doubt the leadership of our local defense communities that has marked Florida as the leader in supporting and championing our military installations, missions and military personnel.

Happy Veterans Day! Thank you to all the dedicated members of the Florida Defense Alliance for all you do on a daily basis to support your military communities and keep Florida the most military friendly state in the nation! Your work on behalf of Florida’s military installations and missions truly makes a difference. The relationships you build with our base personnel are keys to solving problems and assisting our service members and their families. Keep up the great work – and we look forward to seeing you at the FDA meeting this month in Tampa!

Florida Defense Alliance Leadership

Chair – Kellie Jo Kilberg

Vice Chair – Tim Jones

Mission Sustainment Working Group Chair – Rick Miller

Family Support Working Group Chair – Lynn Brannon

Executive Board: Jonathan Borgert, Jennifer Codo-Salisbury, Paul Hirsch and Jim Breitenfeld





Florida Defense Alliance (FDA) Vision:
(<https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense/>)

To maintain and enhance the position and reputation of Florida as the most military-friendly state in the nation.

Notes from the Vice Chair

Once again, we had an OUTSTANDING FDA meeting! Thank you to all who attended and participated. A special Thank You to Tampa Mayor Castor for providing such an eloquent welcoming and highlighting your visit with your lovable/curious dog. Liz Miller provided an overview of the new DEO Aerospace & Defense Portal which will facilitate the linkage of small and mid-sized businesses with large businesses and provide a one-stop-shop to learn about the new Cyber Training required to obtain federal government contracts. Kathleen Ferguson provided updates on the Tyndall AFB rebuild effort which is moving along on schedule, as well as valuable information on strategic basing issues. Ms. Ferguson will be proving the FDA with her list of three things our communities should be working on to support strategic basing. Rick Miller finished the day with an intriguing discussion concerning Mission Sustainment. The overall take away was:

- On the Gulf Range, still lots of happy talk, but no clarity on what legislative vehicle will get us there
- Tyndall rebuild; financial support so far pretty good (primarily O&M to-date) with first MILCON projects just starting to come
 - ◊ Long-term, there is still at least a \$1.5B MILCON shortfall that will ultimately need to be identified
 - ◊ Year-long CR, if it happens, could be a real killer of progress
- Space command; seems there is more focus now on moving beyond just the HQ element, but still think we should better align with Space Florida to inform our messaging engagements outlined above if we start that program

It was a great meeting and we look forward to continuing the discussions next on Tuesday, January 28, 2020 at 1000! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!

Tim Jones

Florida Defense Alliance Leadership

Chair – Kellie Jo Kilberg Vice Chair – Tim Jones

Working Group Chairs

Mission Sustainment – Rick Miller Family Support – Lynn Schultz

Executive Board

Jonathan Borgert, Jennifer Codo-Salisbury, Paul Hirsch and Jim Breitenfeld

TOP PRIORITIES & UPDATES:

Encroachment
Protecting and Expanding Missions and Basing
Military Industry

FDA NEAR-TERM CALENDAR:

January 16, 2020: Tentative date for Announcement of Economic Impact Study Results at the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting

January 28, 2020: FDA teleconference

Florida Legislative Session Dates (<http://www.flsenate.gov/?Tab=Calendar>):

- **January 14, 2020:** Regular Session convenes (Article III, section 3(b), Constitution) 12:00 noon, deadline for filing bills for introduction (Rule 3.7(1))
- **February 29, 2020:** All bills are immediately certified (Rule 6.8) Motion to reconsider made and considered the same day (Rule 6.4(4))
- **March 3, 2020:** 50th day—last day for regularly scheduled committee meetings (Rule 2.9(2))
- **March 13, 2020:** 60th day—last day of Regular Session (Article III, section 3(d), Constitution)

May 20, 2020: FDA Bi-Annual In-Person Meeting, Tallahassee, Florida

Spotlight on US Special Operations Command, MacDill AFB



MacDill Air Force Base is an active United States Air Force installation located 4 miles (6.4 km) south-southwest of downtown Tampa, Florida.

MacDill AFB is the home to the headquarters for two of the U.S. military's unified combatant commands: Headquarters, United States Central Command (USCENTCOM), and Headquarters, United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM). Both commands are independent from one another and each is commanded by a respective 4-star general or admiral. This includes United States Special Operations Command Central (USSOCCENT), commanded by a 2-star general.

FAST FACTS: Established on April 16, 1987 following the Goldwater Nichols Act, the Headquarters has approximately 2,500 members, while the entire command has more than 70,000 worldwide.

MISSION

USSOCOM develops and employs fully capable Special Operations Forces to conduct global special operations and activities as part of the Joint Force to support persistent, networked and distributed Combatant Command operations and campaigns against state and non-state actors to protect and advance U.S. policies and objectives.



HEADQUARTERS USSOCOM



Current Commander: General Richard D. Clarke currently serves as the 12th Commander of U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) headquartered at MacDill Air Force Base, FL.

Prior to assuming command of USSOCOM, General Clarke served as Director for Strategic Plans and Policy (J5), Joint Staff, the Pentagon, Washington, D.C.

General Clarke's other assignments as a general officer include: Deputy Commanding General for Operations, 10th Mountain Division from 2011 to 2013; the 74th Commandant of Cadets, United States Military Academy at West Point from 2013 to 2014; and the Commander of the 82nd Airborne Division.

His formative and key, Army and special operations, assignments include: Director of Operations, Joint Special Operations Command from 2009 to 2011. Eight years in the 75th Ranger Regiment first as a company commander, then as a battalion commander, and finally as the regimental commander. He also served as commander of 3rd Battalion, 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division.

Current Command Sergeant Major: Command Chief Master Sergeant Gregory A. Smith is the tenth command senior enlisted leader, U.S. Special Operations Command, MacDill AFB, Florida. He assumed the position on July 11, 2019.

Chief Smith entered the U.S. Air Force in 1990 as an aircraft armament systems specialist. His initial assignment was with the 3246th Test Wing, Eglin Air Force Base, Florida. In 1993, Chief Smith was reassigned to the 355th Fighter Squadron, Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska where he served as a weapons load crew member on A/OA-10 aircraft. He completed multiple deployments to the Pacific theater.

Chief Smith was selected for special duty as an AC-130H/U aerial gunner in 1996. He served as lead, instructor and evaluator gunner with the 4th Special Operations Squadron, Hurlburt Field, Florida. He also served as the superintendent of Wing Strategic Plans with the 16th Special Operations Wing. In September 2001, Chief Smith was part of the first team to deploy following the terror attacks on 9/11. He established the first forward operating base and then deployed to Pakistan where he established a joint interagency forward operating location. In 2009, Chief Smith became



the first course director and chief of academics for the Joint Special Operations Forces Senior Enlisted Academy



DIRECT ACTION



MILITARY INFORMATION SUPPORT OPERATIONS



CIVIL AFFAIRS



FOREIGN INTERNAL DEFENSE



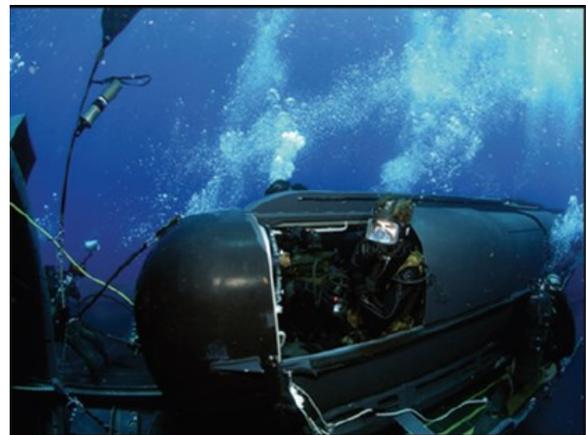
UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE

USSOCOM Vision

Empowered SOF professionals, globally networked, partnered and integrated, relentlessly seeking advantage in every domain to compete and win for the joint force and the nation.

What USSOCOM Does

- Civil Affairs
- Counterinsurgency
- Counterterrorism
- Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction
- Direct Action
- Foreign Humanitarian Assistance
- Foreign Internal Defense
- Hostage Rescue and Recovery
- Military Information Support Operations
- Security Force Assistance
- Special Reconnaissance
- Unconventional Warfare



USSOCOM Component Commands Across the United States: Florida, North Carolina and California



More info: <https://www.socom.mil/FactBook/2020%20Fact%20Book.pdf>



THE SOF TYPICAL OPERATOR

- Is married and has at least two kids
- Average age is 29 years-old enlisted; 34 years-old officer
- Has eight years experience in the general purpose forces
- Receives cultural and language training
- Has attended multiple advanced tactical schools
- Enjoys games which require problem solving like chess
- Is well educated and likely to have a college degree
- Is a thinking athlete - water polo, track, wrestling or football



NOTES FROM THE STAFF

We hope everyone had a well-earned and happy Thanksgiving Day! Our whole team is thankful for the tremendous energy and brain power that our Defense Alliance volunteers provide daily to support your military communities and keep Florida the most military friendly state in the nation! Your work on behalf of Florida's military installations and missions truly makes a difference and will continue to do so even more in 2020!

DECEMBER QUOTES

“Yesterday, December 7th, 1941...a date that will live in infamy.” ...in his speech to Congress the day after Japan bombed the military base at **Pearl Harbor** asking for a declaration of war which was approved almost unanimously by both houses.

– **President Franklin Delano Roosevelt**

“He loves his country best who strives to make it best.”

– American writer, **Robert G. Ingersoll**

News from the bases & regions:

FDVA Executive Director Danny Burgess Statement on Governor DeSantis' Bolder, Brighter, Better Future Budget - Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs Executive Director Danny Burgess issued the following statement today on Gov. Ron DeSantis' Bolder, Brighter, Better Future budget:

“As a former Naval officer, Governor DeSantis has proven to be a lifelong champion of veterans issues, both as a congressman and now as Florida’s governor,” said Danny Burgess, Executive Director of the Florida Department of Veterans’ Affairs. “Following on the heels of our Forward March statewide veteran outreach initiative, his budget recommendation will help grow the path to connect our state’s 1.5 million veterans with their earned services, benefits and support.”

The Governor's Bolder, Brighter, Better Future budget includes funding for staff and start-up operations at two new state veterans’ nursing homes. The budget invests \$18.2 million for the completion of the Ardie R. Copas State Veterans’ Nursing Home in St. Lucie County and the Lake Baldwin State Veterans’ Nursing Home in Orange County. The budget also invests \$6.1 million for 48 positions to complete the required staffing necessary for the Ardie R. Copas State Veterans’ Nursing Home and \$12.1 million for 40 positions to complete the required staffing and repairs necessary for the Lake Baldwin State Veterans’ Nursing Home in Orange County.

Additionally, the budget recommends \$6.7 million for capital improvements, equipment updates and 16 additional nursing staff for Florida’s existing state veterans’ nursing homes.

MacDill AFB —

Tampa Bay Defense Alliance presents trophy to Pat Gallagher

Honored for outstanding service to the Airmen and families of McConnell Air Force Base

TAMPA, Fla. (Nov. 15, 2019) – The Tampa Bay Defense Alliance (TBDA) is announcing the honoree of its 2019 Tampa Bay Trophy, which recognizes lifetime achievement and distinguished service to the United States Air Force and Air Mobility Command. Ms. Pat Gallagher of Wichita, Kansas, was presented with the 2019 trophy at the Airlift/Tanker Association Convention in Orlando, Florida on Oct. 23.

Ms. Gallagher distinguished herself by exhibiting exceptionally commendable conduct and outstanding service to the Airmen and families of McConnell Air Force Base, the greater Wichita community, and to the United States Air Force. As the Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce’s military liaison, Ms. Gallagher unified community and business support for the military. She is the energetic, dedicated leader of the Friends of McConnell, a support group providing a notable social and economic linkage between military leaders, McConnell Air Force Base’s Airmen and their civilian counterparts.

“Once again our community has been blessed with outstanding nominees for the Tampa Bay Trophy,” said Tim Jones, TBDA President. “This year’s recipient, Ms. Pat Gallagher from McConnell Air Force Base, was presented at the Airlift and Tanker Association Convention in front of over 650 people in the Heritage Room. The trophy epitomizes the synergy between our civilian and military communities.”

She served as Honorary Commander for the 22nd Air Refueling Wing and earned recognition as a “Golden Eagle” for her outstanding leadership and volunteer service. She played a crucial role in rallying community support for bringing the KC-46, the Air Force’s newest tanker, to Kansas’ south-central region. As a tireless

advocate for military personnel and her community, she served on the Air Mobility Commander's Civic Leader Council, the Kansas Governor's Military Affairs Council, and Senator Jerry Moran's Military Council.

The Tampa Bay Trophy was started in 2016 and honors a civilian each year for their distinguished service and contributions to our country's airmen.



George Howell (Mission United) with General (ret) Dunford, USMC and General Beydler at the USMC Ball.



Sergeant 1st Class Aaron Figel, a member of USSOCOM, puts a parachute on a Farnell Middle School student. More than 20 USSOCOM service members and civilian employees participated in the Great American Teach-In for Hillsborough and Pinellas Counties. USSOCOM service members and civilians are an integral part of the community in which they work and live.

Articles of Interest:

[Tampa to host Medal of Honor convention this week](#)

[Retired handler says military working dogs save lives](#)

[SOCOM helped solve the mystery of the long-forgotten ashes of a Vietnam War hero. His remains will be interred today.](#)

[Seahawks Celebrate Salute To Service Month](#)

[Lake Wales Marine to be 1st Female Inductee into Florida Veteran's Hall of Fame](#)

National defense news –

[Appropriators-on-tight-timeline-for-big-negotiations](#). Lawmakers and the White House have less than three weeks to agree on the 12 spending bills for fiscal year 2020.

The fiscal year began Oct. 1, but continuing resolutions have kept the government operating at last fiscal year's levels through Dec. 20. Appropriators have a big picture agreement on how to allocate the budget across the 12 spending bills, [Politico](#) reported. As appropriators return to D.C. from their Thanksgiving break – the Senate goes into session Monday and the House re-convenes Tuesday – they will work on the specific bills and other sticking points, such as border wall funding.

[President Trump's New Navy Secretary Pick is a Combat Vet Who Tracked Soviet Subs](#). A U.S. Naval Academy graduate who deployed to Iraq during the initial 2003 invasion is the president's next pick to lead the Navy and Marine Corps, following another unexpected leadership shakeup.

[Navy Asks to Put Off PFAS Lawsuit](#). The Navy has asked a court to delay a lawsuit from Pennsylvania residents over PFAS-contaminated water from Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Willow Grove and the former Naval Air Warfare Center Warminster, [Military Times](#) reported. The motion said the delay is necessary because the federal government is close to setting environmental standards related to PFAS.

Military History Spotlight - After 75 years, a Florida war hero gets France's highest honor. JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (Tribune News Service) — Glenn Pitts has been a laundry manager, a building contractor and a Jacksonville landlord. Friday, the French government named him a knight of the Legion of Honor, its highest distinction, for his part in liberating France from Nazi occupation 75 years ago. "We know what we owe you and your brothers," Laurent Gallissot, France's consul general in Miami, told the 94-year-old Army veteran during a ceremony at Jacksonville City Hall. Pitts, the diplomat said, was "a true hero and a great soldier."



Glenn E. Pitts, 94, holds a photograph of himself as a U.S. Army Sergeant at age 19, during World War II. He was honored Friday, November 22, 2019 at Jacksonville City Hall for his part in the liberation of France. WILL DICKEY, THE FLORIDA TIMES-UNION/TNS

Photos from the November 20, 2019 FDA Meeting in Tampa





Florida Defense Alliance (FDA) Vision:
[\(https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense/\)](https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/floridadefense/)

To maintain and enhance the position and reputation of Florida as the most military-friendly state in the nation.

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

Where did 2019 go? It certainly has been a year of change for the Florida Defense Alliance. We have had some staff changes within our leadership and with each change comes the opportunity for fresh ideas and approaches to challenging times. As we said goodbye to Terry and Bruce, we welcome Ray and Beth. Several of you had the chance to meet Beth Medina at the FDA meeting in Tampa in November. Last week, she and Ray attended the Northwest Florida Defense Communities Working Group. Look at your calendars and when your groups are meeting, invite Beth and Ray to attend. Both have great insights into the vision of the future. Beth brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to our team. I look forward to working with Beth as we develop the updated strategic plan and organizational structure. 2020 is around the corner and the start of the Florida Legislative Session. Remember to reach out to your State Representatives and Senators about the importance of our state military programs. Keep Beth and Ray informed of activities of your installations and missions.

And finally, thank you to all of you for your support and prayers during the passing of my father. I am blessed to call all of you friends. May each of you have a Merry Christmas and a wonderful Holiday Season.

Kellie Jo Kilberg



Florida Defense Alliance Leadership

Chair – Kellie Jo Kilberg Vice Chair – Tim Jones

Working Group Chairs

Mission Sustainment – Rick Miller Family Support – Lynn Schultz

Executive Board

Jonathan Borgert, Jennifer Codo-Salisbury, Paul Hirsch and Jim Breitenfeld

TOP PRIORITIES & UPDATES:

Encroachment

- 1) **Avon Park** — DEO responded to the Polk County proposed amendment to the future land use amendment for Triple Canopy Ranch. They concurred with the CFRPC assessment and responded strongly against the amendment on December 13, 2019.
- 2) **Bugg Spring** – The Villages representative will get with the Navy representative about a resolution on the issue of a proposed land use amendment that infringes on a Bugg Spring mission and get back to DEO. Mailout for the DEO review of the amendment is January 20, 2020.

Protecting and Expanding Missions and Basing

- 1) USAF Enterprise Definition expected by end of month that confirms Jacksonville's 125th Wing as candidate for OPS 9-11 F-35 mission.
- 2) [Defense bill brings \\$1.6 billion in military construction projects to Florida Panhandle](#), Pensacola News Journal, Dec 18, 2019. Please see page 8 for updated appropriations.

Military Industry

- 1) [Lockheed wins \\$64M in sensor work for Orlando facility](#), The Business Journals, Dec 17, 2019
- 2) [Space Coast firm wins piece of \\$808M defense contract](#), The Business Journals, Dec 18, 2019

FDA NEAR-TERM CALENDAR:

January 16, 2020: Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting #80 at the Four Points by Sheraton Tallahassee Downtown, 9 AM EST.

January 28, 2020: FDA teleconference

Florida Legislative Session Dates (<http://www.flsenate.gov/?Tab=Calendar>):

- **January 14, 2020:** Regular Session convenes (Article III, section 3(b), Constitution) 12:00 noon, deadline for filing bills for introduction (Rule 3.7(1))
- **February 29, 2020:** All bills are immediately certified (Rule 6.8) Motion to reconsider made and considered the same day (Rule 6.4(4))
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May 20, 2020: FDA Bi-Annual In-Person Meeting, Tallahassee, Florida

Spotlight on Pincastle Range Complex (PRC)

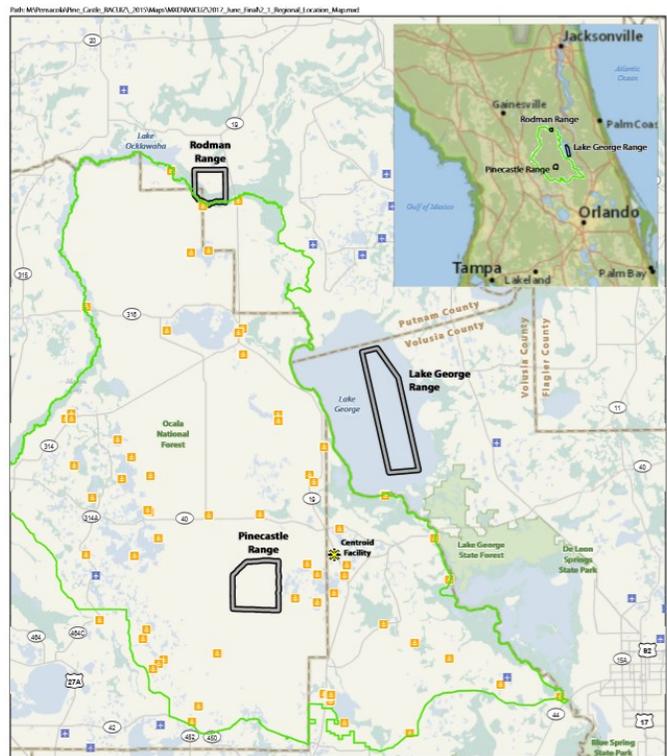
Overview:

The Pincastle Range Complex (PRC), located in North Central Florida, consists of two land ranges and one freshwater range in North Central Florida: Pincastle Range, Rodman Range, and Lake George Range, respectively. These facilities are located in and around Ocala National Forest (ONF) within a four-county region, approximately 75 miles south of Naval Air Station (NAS) Jacksonville. The PRC (Pincastle, Rodman, and Lake George ranges) is part of the larger Jacksonville Range Complex, which offers a variety of air, land, and open ocean training venues in support of operating forces and research, development, test, and evaluation (RDT&E) in the southeast region. NAS Jacksonville manages and maintains the physical resources of the PRC, while Fleet Area Control and Surveillance Facility Jacksonville is the principal scheduling authority for the three ranges.

Mission:

The primary mission of the PRC is to train U.S. Department of the Navy (Navy) and U.S. Marine Corps (Marine Corps) personnel in the delivery of air-to-ground ordnance. Additionally, the PRC is also used by the U.S. Air Force (Air Force), U.S. Coast Guard (Coast Guard), Air National Guard, and other federal and state agencies and law enforcement organizations.

The PRC is a critical training complex and includes Pincastle Range, the Navy's only air-to-ground range on the East Coast that allows high explosives. The PRC is an integral part of the Navy's East Coast Virtual Training Range, which supports all U.S. Atlantic Fleet intermediate and advanced training requirements including Composite Training Unit Exercises, Sustainment Exercises, Fleet Exercises, and carrier and expeditionary strike group training.



The PRC supports its users by permitting strike warfare training through the delivery of air-to-ground explosive and non-explosive ordnance and air-to-ground gunnery (strafing). Strike warfare addresses combat activities by air and surface forces against hostile land-based forces and assets.

In addition to air-to-ground training, the PRC also supports various training activities that may incorporate a ground-based element supporting the mission. These scenarios are pre-coordinated events with the Range Department and, after conducting a Range Safety Brief, may be allowed to operate downrange in different locations throughout the PRC.

Training Operations:

The PRC supports its users by permitting strike warfare training through the delivery of air-to-ground explosive and non-explosive ordnance and air-to-ground gunnery (strafing). Strike warfare addresses combat (or interdiction activities by air and surface forces against hostile land-based forces and assets. Other existing training and testing activities conducted at the PRC are further described by range or possibility through pre-coordination:

- Pinecastle Range: live ordnance training, lasing and strafing.
- Lake George Range: sea search-and-rescue training, mine warfare exercises, and electronic warfare range using flares for small missile simulation.
- Rodman Range: helicopter operations and search and rescue training.
- Pre-Coordinated events through the Range Department: pilot recovery events, opposition force events, convoy tracking events, close air support events, ground base weapons qualifications, convoy training, man-portable air-defense systems, medical evacuation training, squad movement training.



United States Dept of Agriculture—Forest Service National Defense Land Use

Military Training Exercises

Several branches of the military utilize federal land in the Ocala National Forest for training exercises. Special Use Permits are issued to Armed Forces branches such as the National Guard, ROTC, US Army Special Forces and the United States Navy. Most of the permits are for short periods of time, issued for each individual outing.

Bombing Ranges

The Forest Service and the United States Navy have a longer agreement for the use of the Pinecastle Bombing Range. This range was established by the Army Air Corps in 1943 and has been in continuous use by the United States Navy since the early 1950s to train aircrews and support personnel.



More information is available at:

<https://www.public.navy.mil/usff/environmental/Documents/final-prc-raicuz-sept2017-endorsement-accessible.pdf>



<https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/florida/passes-permits/other/?cid=stelprdb5269587>



NOTES FROM THE STAFF

Thank you all for your continued contributions across 2019. As Kellie Jo captured, change continues around us but the work of the Florida Defense Alliance must be persistent. We all must share the news from our viewpoint to create the full Florida snapshot. Every one of our FDA members does just that—thank you. We have another new year in front of us and the confidence that our team is ready to tackle what we know and ready to respond to additional change, together.

Enjoy your holiday—we wish you time with your family and friends that brings true **JOY**. And, follow that by celebrating the New Year: 2020. We'll look forward to seeing you all soon.



DECEMBER QUOTES

Army Brig. Gen. Anthony McAuliffe led the 101st Airborne Division during the Battle of the Bulge. The Americans were outnumbered, surrounded, and running short on supplies when a German delegation requested their surrender. McAuliffe was awoken with the news and sleepily responded "Nuts!" before heading to meet his staff who had to draft the formal response to the German commander. The staff decided that the general's initial response was better than anything they could write. While under siege and near constant attack, the paratroopers typed the following centered on a sheet of paper:

"December 22, 1944
To the German Commander,
N U T S !
The American Commander"

"I have seen it suggested that the terrific battle which has been proceeding since 16th December on the American front is an Anglo-American battle. In fact, however, the United States troops have done almost all the fighting and have suffered almost all the losses. They have suffered losses almost equal to those on both sides in the battle of Gettysburg. Only one British Army Corps has been engaged in this action. All the rest of the 30 or more divisions, which have been fighting continuously for the last month are United States troops. The Americans have engaged 30 or 40 men for every one we have engaged, and they have lost 60 to 80 men for every one of ours. That is the point I wish to make."

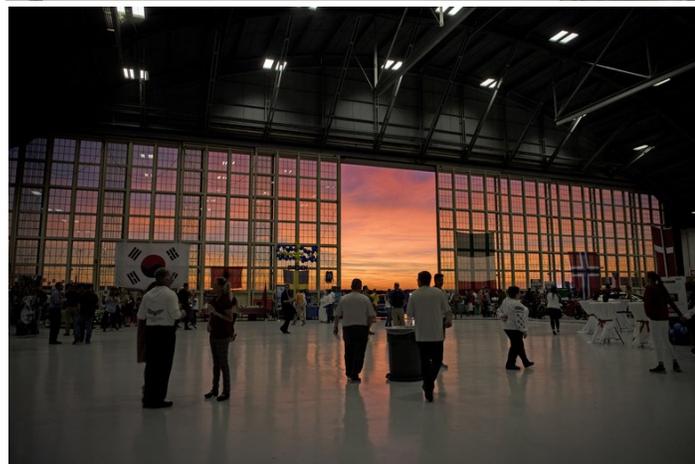
- **Winston Churchill's speech to the British Commons regarding the Battle of the Bulge**

News from the bases & regions:

MacDill AFB —

Around the globe in one night

<https://www.macdill.af.mil/News/Article/2035801/around-the-globe-in-one-night/>



Articles of Interest:

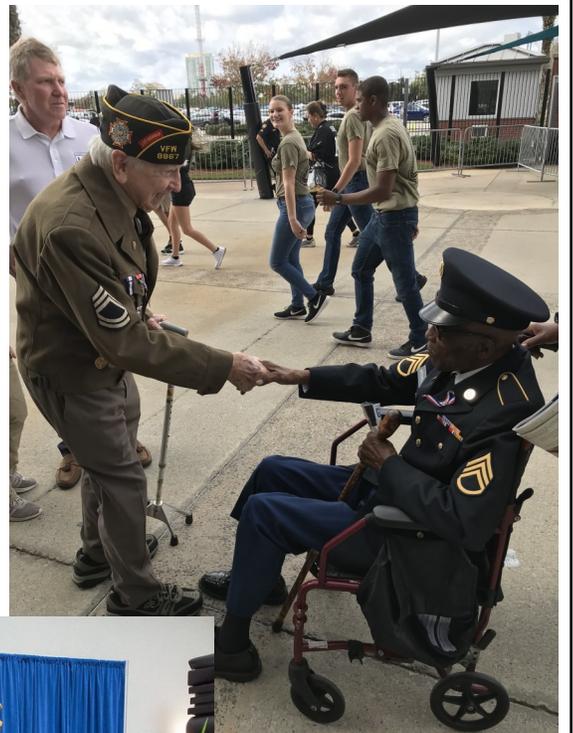
- [Virtual Reality Helps Ease Trauma for Patients at Tampa Veterans Hospital](#)
- [WWII Veteran Returns Coast Guard Flag to Ship after Decades](#)



- [Tampa's Veterans Treatment Court sets a national bar](#)
- [Tampa military wife edits husband into Christmas photo who is serving overseas](#)

Jacksonville—

Photos from the City of Jacksonville's 2019 Celebration of Valor





National defense news –

[Spending Deal Headed to Trump for Signature](#), Posted on Dec 19, 2019



LATE BREAKING NEWS! Funding for Tyndall AFB was increased from \$1.5B to \$2.4B in the Appropriations Bill!!

FY2020 NDAA SUMMARY

For 58 years, the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) has been the primary way Congress

executes its Constitutional duties to “raise and support Armies,” “provide and maintain a Navy,” and “make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces.”

This year’s NDAA charts a consensus national defense policy that continues the restoration of military readiness, implements a National Defense Strategy to confront Russia, China, and other threats around the world, reforms and modernizes Pentagon business systems and bureaucracy, and – most importantly – cares for our troops and their families.

The NDAA Conference Report is consistent with the bipartisan budget agreement. It supports a base budget of \$658.4 billion, an additional \$71.5 billion for Overseas Contingency Operations, and \$5.3 billion for emergency disaster recovery to restore installations damaged by extreme weather or earthquakes.

Discretionary Funding Levels

- DOD Discretionary Base Budget \$635B
- DOE Discretionary Base Budget \$23.1B
- Other Non-Defense \$300M
- FY20 Base Budget NDAA Topline \$658.4B
- Overseas Contingency Operations \$71.5B
- FY20 Discretionary Topline \$729.9B
- Defense-Related Activities Outside NDAA Jurisdiction \$8.1B
- National Defense Topline w/ OCO \$738B
- Emergency Disaster Recovery \$5.3B



Mandatory Spending: The bill also includes \$10.6 billion in authorizations for Defense mandatory spending, as requested in the President’s budget request. The bill also includes approximately \$5.7 billion in additional mandatory spending resulting from three-year phased repeal of the Survivor Benefit Plan/Dependency and Indemnity Compensation offset, a new medical malpractice claims process, 4,000 Afghan Special Immigrant Visas, and other items.



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