

ARMED FORCES DISPATCH

San Diego Navy/Marine Corps Dispatch

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Serving active duty and retired military personnel, veterans and civil service employees

SIXTY-FIFTH YEAR NO. 12

AUGUST 1-15, 2025



DRIVERS, START YOUR ENGINES NASCAR will return to Southern California in 2026 with first-of-its-kind street races at Naval Base Coronado. The NASCAR San Diego Weekend marks a full-throttle, three-day event for the first NASCAR events ever contested on an active military base. Graphic from navylifesw.com

WORST NAVY DISASTER AT SEA LED TO SAFETY CHANGES

by David Vergun, DOD News

Eighty years ago on July 30, 1945, heavy cruiser USS Indianapolis was sunk by a Japanese submarine, resulting in the deaths of 880 sailors and Marines, making it the Navy's worst disaster at sea.

In late March 1945, Indianapolis was participating in the

pre-invasion bombardment of Okinawa, Japan. During that time, U.S. ships were repeatedly attacked by kamikaze aircraft.

Indianapolis shot down six of them, but one managed to drop a bomb on the ship. The damage was enough for the vessel to steam to Mare Island Naval Shipyard in San Francisco for repair.

Following repairs, the skipper, Capt. Charles Butler McVay III, received orders to undertake a top-secret mission to Tinian Island, delivering parts for an atomic bomb that would be dropped on Japan. The assignment was so secret that McVay was not informed of the contents of the cargo container, only that speed was of the essence.

The ship set sail July 16, 1945, and delivered the cargo to Tinian 10 days later. That atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, Japan, Aug. 6, 1945.

After delivering the weapon, the ship set sail for the Micronesian island of Guam and on July 28, 1945, began sailing to Leyte in the Philippines, where the crew was slated to receive combat training for the invasion of the Japanese mainland.

A few minutes after midnight on July 30, 1945, in the Philippine Sea, Indianapolis was

struck by two torpedoes from a cruiser submarine, skippered by Japanese Cmdr. Mochitsura Hashimoto. Within minutes, the ship sank and about 300 sailors lost their lives. Many more would perish in the coming days.

No distress call was transmitted because one of the torpedoes knocked out power and radios in the control room.

The Navy was unaware of the ship's sinking until days later, when an Army Air Forces PV-1 Ventura spotted survivors in the ocean. By that time, hundreds had died of wounds from the torpedo strikes, while others died from shark attacks or dehydration.

Only 316, including McVay, survived and were rescued by ship. The last survivor was pulled from the water in the afternoon of Aug. 3, 1945.

In December 1945, McVay see **Disaster**, page 8



'Raider' joins the crew of USS Makin Island

Morale dog Raider is training to set sail next year when USS Makin Island deploys.

The black lab is learning the ropes as an emotional support animal by San Diego nonprofit organization Shelter to Soldier. The group is best known for training rescue dogs to become emotional support animals for military veterans.

And now, in a first for Shelter to Soldier, they're sending Raider to be the only support dog for Makin Island's ship company and the support crew assigned during deployments.

The Shelter to Soldier program said in a June 26 Facebook reel that highlights Raider's training that he is a "one-year-old lab mix adopted from Labs and More Rescue currently in training with Shelter to Soldier as a shipboard morale dog through our Canine Ambassador program. This initiative is designed to support the emotional wellness, morale, and mental health of Sailors and Marines."

USS Makin Island is the first to partner with Shelter to Soldier, which occurred after the program's director, Nicky Moore, began to bring therapy dogs to



Raider on board USS Makin Island. Photo courtesy of Shelter to Soldier's Facebook

Navy ships, NBC San Diego reported.

"Every single time it was like, 'I really wish we had a dog that stayed on board.' Like, 'Can we take this dog on deployment with us?' And so, we just kind of were like, 'Actually, yeah,'" Moore told the news outlet.

"Aboard USS Makin Island, Raider will serve as a four-legged crew member, offering support through structured interaction, presence, and engagement," Shelter to Soldier continued in the Facebook reel.

Learn more at <https://www.sheltertosoldier.org/>.

San Diego's military to receive new TSA precheck service

SAN DIEGO - In honor of the enduring sacrifice of our nation's military families, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) announced a new partnership with San Diego International Airport, or SAN, to enhance the travel experience for members of the U.S. military community as part of a national campaign, TSA PreCheck. The service offers expedited, front-of-the-line access, at SAN's TSA PreCheck lanes for active-duty service members and their families. Additionally, on certain days when larger crowds are expected, SAN may open a dedicated screening lane for members of the military community. "We are proud to support our military members as they travel through SAN," said TSA Federal Security Director for San Diego Kathleen Connon. "TSA SAN has a strong partnership with our military community, and expanding TSA PreCheck benefits will directly assist the approximately 110,000 active-duty service members and their families stationed in the San Diego area. TSA is committed to honoring the service and sacrifice of military families by ensuring their travel is convenient and stress-free."

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Thrill rides
all
summer
long.

DEL MAR

HOME of the 2025 BREEDERS' CUP

JULY 18 - SEPTEMBER 7

FREE & EASY THURSDAYS

FREE Admission & Seat plus 50% off Michelob ULTRA, Brandt Beef hot dogs and sodas.



HAPPY HOUR FRIDAYS

Half-off Del Mar Signature Drinks and draft beers until 5pm.

SAVORY SUNDAYS

AUG 3



Each week we feature a local restaurant in the Plaza de Mexico with drink specials including \$5 Kona Beers and live music.

AUG 10



TASTE OF THE TURF CLUB*

New farm-to-table brunch inspired by Amaya at Fairmont Grand Del Mar.

Turf Club dress code applies.



UNCORKED WINE FESTIVAL*

Saturday, August 2 Ages 21+

TACOS & TEQUILA*

Saturday, August 9 Ages 21+



BREEDERS' CUP TUMBLER GIVEAWAY

Saturday, August 16

Free with paid admission while supplies last.

TASTE OF NEW ORLEANS*

Saturday, August 23



FAMILY FUN DAY

Sunday, August 31 power pony



Scan for more information

*Paid ticketed event

DoD moves forward with PCS overhaul after HomeSafe Alliance contract terminated

by Air Force Senior Airman Iain Stanley, PCS Joint Task Force

The Defense Department's Permanent Change of Station Joint Task Force is taking decisive steps to stabilize the military move process following the termination of its contract with HomeSafe Alliance in late June.

During a recent press briefing, Army Maj. Gen. Lance G. Curtis, task force commander, stated that the decision was made after HomeSafe Alliance failed to meet contract performance standards, resulting in widespread missed household goods pickups and miscommunication with service members.

"When a service member is worried about their household goods, they are not focused on the mission," Curtis said. "That is unacceptable. We are here to restore trust and ensure that no military family feels alone during their move."

The PCS JTF comprises more than 110 personnel from across all service branches and is now overseeing the transition back to the DOD's Tender of Service program as they work toward streamlining the future of military moves. Curtis emphasized that this program is familiar to most military families and is already supporting the majority of summer moves.

Approximately 450 active shipments initially scheduled

under HomeSafe Alliance remain in transit. According to task force officials, local transportation offices are now directly managing these moves in coordination with the task force.

This capability is expected to be fully operational by Aug. 1, 2025. Until then, the call center is proactively identifying at-risk shipments and reaching out directly to service members



A family unloads their vehicle during a permanent change of station move, July 25, 2022. U.S. Army photo by Kari Hawkins

Service members impacted by the transition are encouraged to contact their transportation office or call 833-MIL-MOVE (833-645-6683) for assistance.

In response to the ongoing challenges, the PCS JTF established a 24/7 call center staffed by military personnel with firsthand PCS experience.

to resolve issues before they escalate.

"This is not just a logistics problem; it's about people," Curtis said, adding that rank is "immaterial," and his team is focused on providing all service members with the support they deserve.

The department is also reviewing long-term changes to the Defense Personal Property Program and plans to deliver strategic reform recommendations to Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth by Sept. 5, 2025.

The joint task force was established in May at the direction of the secretary to improve the process by which the Defense Department moves service members from one assignment to the next.

"We're building a system worthy of their sacrifice," Curtis said. "That's the mission."

For updates or assistance, service members should continue to use www.militaryonesource.mil and may call 833-MIL-MOVE. They can also reach the PCS JTF call center by e-mail at PCSCallCenter@mail.mil.

TOGETHER, WE CAN
FACE THE FIGHT AGAINST
VETERAN SUICIDE



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#FACETHEFIGHT

Early Bird Brief

Top 5

- Anti-'woke' former officer confirmed as Air Force undersecretary
- DOD trying to head off problems with troops' household goods moves
- Army envisions a common launcher to fit allies' weapons
- Defense official disputes Iranian report of encounter with U.S. warship
- Pentagon suspends participation in think tank events

Army

- Army announces Europe and Middle East deployments for six units
- Veteran gets 5 years in prison for stealing Soldiers' identities, cyberstalking
- Schumer asks Army to award New York hero with Medal of Honor

Navy

- Meet the 'cobots' that could lower the cost of building submarines
- CNO nominee Adm. Caudle says he'll look 'hard' at whether to walk away from sub Boise

Marine Corps

- Mexican national married to a Marine Corps veteran seeks release from immigration custody
- Marine veteran freed in Venezuela-U.S. prisoner swap was convicted of triple murder
- Marine F-35s operating on UK carrier HMS Prince of Wales

Air Force

- Air Force suspends use of M18 pistols after airman's death
- Air Force seeks industry info on new cruise missile
- Air Force pegs 153 projects for demolition in FY-26 as excess capacity woes mount
- Air Force Ospreys make precautionary landings in Japan
- What gun will bomber crews fly with now that the Sig M18 is pulled from use?

Space Force

- General in charge of new Golden Dome will rely on existing technology
- China tightens quality oversight over commercial space projects
- Acquisition, ops units team up for more capable satellites
- Space Systems Command chief: First Vulcan national security launch is 'weeks' away

National Guard

- The National Ground Intelligence Center has a new commanding officer

Veterans

- Pearl Harbor survivor gets letter from top Navy admiral for his 104th birthday



The painting “The Chaplain at Valley Forge,” by artist William A. Smith, depicts Gen. George Washington, his chaplain and soldiers praying at Valley Forge during the Revolutionary War. Courtesy of DoD

Army chaplains mark 250 years of ministering to Soldiers

by C. Todd Lopez, DOD News

The Army recently celebrated its 250th birthday — two and a half centuries of defending the nation since standing up, June 14, 1775. Not long after, on July 29, 1775, the Army Chaplain Corps was established to provide ministerial support to those soldiers.

“The members of today’s Army Chaplain Corps are sustaining and enriching a sacred legacy, which our predecessors began building even before our nation was founded in 1776,” said Army Chaplain (Maj. Gen.) William Green Jr., the 26th Army chief of chaplains. “Gen. George Washington requested that chaplains be added to the Army to meet soldiers’ religious and spiritual needs, and to support good morals and morale.”

At the request of Washington, the Continental Congress authorized one chaplain for each regular regiment of the Continental Army, Green said, adding that many of the militia regiments that served alongside those in the Continental Army also had chaplains.

Today, he said, the role of the Army Chaplain Corps remains as important as it was 250 years ago. The Chaplain Corps has evolved to include more than 3,000 chaplains, nearly 3,000 religious affairs specialists, more than 500 chaplain candidates and more than 50 directors of religious education across the regular Army, Army Reserve and Army National Guard. They continue to provide important religious support and advice on spiritual matters to soldiers of all ranks.

“Our U.S. Army Chaplain Corps is the most multifaceted and capable chaplaincy in history, and we will remain so, to support our Army’s preparations to win during multidomain and large-scale combat operations in the years ahead,” Green said. “Our corps is a unique branch of the total Army that remains a necessary, critical contributor to our nation’s success on the battlefields of the future, just as it was on the battlefields during our nation’s war for independence.”

Chaplain (Capt.) Bryce A.

Wiltermood, a Protestant chaplain assigned to the 7th Special Forces Group at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., didn’t start out as an Army chaplain. Back in 2005, he enlisted in the Army as an indirect fire infantryman serving in the 75th Ranger Regiment and the 101st Airborne Division.

“It was a four-year enlistment,” he said. “In those four years, I spent 18 months in combat zones as a mortarman. I went to Iraq ... multiple deployments, but a total of 18 months.”

Following his initial enlistment, Wiltermood left the regular Army, transferred into the Army Reserve and completed a degree in psychology. But by that time, he said, he was thinking about donning the uniform again.

“I knew I wanted to continue serving, but I wanted to serve, I guess, in a different aspect,” he said. “If I had to pinpoint it, it was from just really good chaplains that made a big impact on me. And so, after prayer and talking with my wife about it, this was a calling that I just pursued, kind of toward the end of getting my bachelor’s degree ... [I] went from there and got my master’s in divinity.”

After completing his master’s degree, Wiltermood reenlisted in 2016 as an Army chaplain. He is back on the front lines, this time without a weapon but instead ministering to the Soldiers who do the fighting.

<https://www.defense.gov/News/News-Stories/Article/Article/4257811/>

Living namesake rides first set of sea trials for DDG 124

from NAVSEA Public Affairs

In a rare moment of living history, ship namesake and Medal of Honor recipient, Col. Harvey “Barney” Barnum Jr. joined members of future USS Harvey C. Barnum Jr.’s (DDG 124) crew, the Navy programmatic team, and industry partners on board the ship’s first set of sea trials, departing from General Dynamics Bath Iron Works in mid-July.

Barnum twice served in Vietnam and received his Medal for heroic actions taken against enemy forces at Ky Phu in Quang Tin Province in December 1965 after his company came under enemy fire and was separated from the rest of their battalion. He also served as the deputy assistant secretary of the Navy for reserve affairs.

DDG 124 was named for Barnum in 2016 and is one of

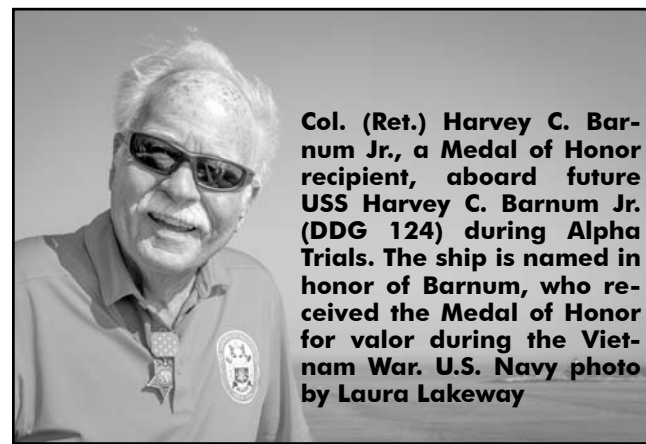
32 DDG 51 class destroyers that are currently named after Medal of Honor recipients.

“It’s a great honor and I was very humbled when I got the call that I was going to have a ship named after me and that it was a warfighter, a DDG Arleigh Burke Class, it made me very proud. I’m very honored to be here for this trial,” said Barnum.

Barnum continues to be a tireless champion of the Navy and Marine Corps team and has closely followed construction of DDG 124. He has been present for all the ship’s significant milestones, including keel laying and christening.

The ship will continue its series of sea trials in advance of delivery to the Navy.

Arleigh Burke-class guided missile destroyers are the backbone of the U.S. Navy’s surface



Col. (Ret.) Harvey C. Barnum Jr., a Medal of Honor recipient, aboard future USS Harvey C. Barnum Jr. (DDG 124) during Alpha Trials. The ship is named in honor of Barnum, who received the Medal of Honor for valor during the Vietnam War. U.S. Navy photo by Laura Lakeway

fleet, providing protection to America around the globe. These highly capable, multi-mission ships conduct various operations, from peacetime presence to national security, providing a wide range of warfighting capabilities in multi-threat air, surface, and subsurface domains.

These elements of seapower enable the Navy to defend

American prosperity and prevent future conflict abroad.

PEO Ships, one of the Department of Defense’s largest acquisition organizations, is responsible for executing the development and procurement of all destroyers, amphibious ships and craft, and auxiliary ships, including special mission ships, sealift ships and support ships.

We stand ready to answer the nation’s call, unified in purpose and unmatched in our combined might,” Farricker said.

Sailors, Marines train to create a lethal joint force

Sailors assigned to the *Iwo Jima* Amphibious Ready Group and Marines assigned to the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit recently completed a Composite Training Unit Exercise, successfully demonstrating their ability to jointly create a lethal, warfighting force.

During the three-week exercise, Sailors and Marines aboard the USS *Iwo Jima*, USS *San Antonio* and USS *Fort Lauderdale* demonstrated they were “capable of delivering decisive combat power in any environment at any time,” said Navy Capt. Chris Farricker, commodore of Amphibious Squadron 8. “Success shows that we are America’s expeditionary quick-reaction force.”

The team planned and executed missions including maritime interdiction operations; visit, board, search and seizure; amphibious assaults; tactical recovery of aircraft and personnel; live-fire exercises; reconnaissance and surveillance and noncombat evacuations.

Sailors aboard destroyer USS

Bulkeley also took part in the exercise, testing and validating their warfighting capabilities across areas such as maritime security, air defense and surface warfare.

“This exercise wasn’t just about individual readiness — it was about building unbreakable bonds and a shared commitment to mission success.

Veterans Legacy Golf Classic

October 10, 2025

<https://www.cvveteranshomesupport.org/events/golf>

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San Diego Outreach

Neil Ash Airport Center

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Camp Pendleton



Become a USO Volunteer

Volunteers are our greatest asset and the backbone of the USO. Whether helping a soldier with a connecting flight, distributing a Care Package, serving snacks with a smile, providing local information, or “welcoming home” troops from deployment, volunteers are vital to the success of the USO’s mission. While the duties of a volunteer may vary, the goal is always the same — to improve the quality of life of service members, boost their morale, and serve as the link between service members and the American people.

Ready to apply to be a USO San Diego volunteer?

Visit <https://volunteers.uso.org/>

Once you navigate to the web page, scroll down to and look at the right side of the page to find information about volunteering.

Camp Pendleton USO Programs Include:

USO Transitions: <https://www.uso.org/programs/uso-pathfinder-transition-program>

Want to be better prepared for future success before transitioning from the military? Are you a military spouse looking for new opportunities? The USO Pathfinder® Transition Program extends the USO experience to active duty, Reserve, National Guard and military spouses by offering professional development services throughout the duration of military service as well as in preparation for life post-military.

MilSpouse Connect: Monthly events bringing military spouses together to connect and thrive.

Craft & Coffee: USO Camp Pendleton provides creative outlets for adults and children to create fun, whimsical or serious works of art through a variety of mediums. Signs up happen online and are usually advertised through the USO Camp Pendleton Facebook page.

Command Support: USO is here to support! We often help support command events across Camp Pendleton such as Family days and Morale Days. Commands can request support in a number of different ways, from outdoor games, a kids craft, or even our mobile photo booth. We also can help provide small refreshments. To request support, please email our Center Operations and Programs Manager, Crystal Gates at cgates@uso.org. All requests must be submitted within 30 days and although we try our best, not all requests can be granted.

<https://california.uso.org/>

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Editor.....Scott Sutherland

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Navy aims to harness innovation, modernize fleet capabilities

by David Vergun, DOD News
Years of shrinking fleet size, diminished shipbuilding capacity and on-time repair delivery are persistent challenges for the Navy and the nation, said Navy Adm. Daryl L. Caudle, who spoke recently at a Senate Armed Services Committee nomination hearing for his reappointment to admiral and to become chief of naval operations.

“As China continues to grow its naval strength and the potential for peer naval conflict grows at a steady pace each passing day, the veil is slowly lifting on the impacts of poor choices made decades ago,” Caudle said.

These poor choices, he continued, “leveraged a perceived myopic peace dividend and now pressurizes and oversubscribes our decision space for the choices we face today.”

The admiral said maritime forces must continue to be lethal, resilient, agile and globally present — capable of deterring conflict and, when called upon, achieving decisive victory — delivering peace through strength derived from the Navy’s credible and persistent combat power.

To achieve this, Caudle said he will “relentlessly” pursue full-spectrum readiness while modernizing the fleet’s capabilities, scaling readiness capacity and aggressively forging resilient and resourceful sailors.

“I also plan to deepen integration across all domains, from sea, air, cyberspace and undersea like never before, massing

effects from multiple vectors, platforms and environments, seamlessly integrating these effects with the joint force, along with our allies and partners,” he said.

To outpace adversaries, Caudle said the Navy must harness innovation, expedite processes and rely on the ingenuity, skill and brilliance of the industrial base to build modern, modular

and scalable platforms while simultaneously integrating capabilities across all domains.

“My sights are locked in on a Navy that is not only lethal and survivable but also adaptable and sustainable, ready to fight and win for decades to come, securing freedom of navigation and projecting power where and when it matters most,” he said.

Top enlisted leader of Air Force tackles DoD priorities at Ramstein AB

by Senior Airman Sabrina Fuller-Judd
RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany - Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force David A. Flosi engaged with Airmen at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, to discuss how they are advancing Department of Defense priorities, July 22-23.

As a hub for the largest American population outside of the U.S., Ramstein AB hosts U.S. Air Forces in Europe-Air Forces Africa, the 86th Airlift Wing and the 435th Air Ground Operations Wing and furthers the DoD’s mission of achieving peace through strength by reestablishing deterrence, rebuilding the military force and restoring warrior ethos.

“We are serving at a time of great consequence where success hinges on our ability

to optimize this team toward the changing character of war,” Flosi said.

His visit included immersions with USAFE-AFAFRICA and both wings to deepen Flosi’s understanding of challenges facing Ramstein Airmen and enable him to advocate for support at the service level. The visit also provided Flosi insight into how all three organizations strengthen the NATO alliance and regional partnerships, enhancing multinational interoperability and bolstering deterrence against adversaries around the world.

Airmen from across the USAFE-AFAFRICA staff showcased the importance of furthering international relationships to build partner capacity, capability and interoperability as an imperative of mission success. Similarly, Flosi learned about the

435th AGOW Airmen’s role in enabling joint and multinational airpower integration at the tactical edge and ensuring resilient communication across multiple domains.

“Our air-minded warfighter must be ready to fight, compete and win in contested environments. Employing combat airpower does not come without risk; we succeed through relationships,” said Flosi.

Another recurring theme of Flosi’s visit was how Airmen contribute to the DoD priority of rebuilding and modernizing the military throughout Team Ramstein. Flosi heard from members of the USAFE-AFAFRICA staff and 86th AW on ongoing efforts to bolster base defense capabilities and address emerging challenges including how to protect installations against unauthorized incursions by unmanned aerial systems.

“It’s important that we adapt to the current warfare environment, these changes and new innovations ensure we excel and remain at the highest caliber of military readiness,” Flosi emphasized.

Airmen from across Ramstein AB also demonstrated their warrior ethos through their unwavering commitment to readiness. While visiting the Silver Flag training site, Flosi discussed the recurring USAFE-AFAFRICA exercise, which brings Airmen together from across various units and functions to develop mission command skills in contested environments.



JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii (July 12, 2025) - Cmdr. Dustin Kraemer, skipper of submarine USS Toledo, greets his family as Toledo arrives here. U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Scott Barnes



FORT BRAGG, NC. (July 26, 2025) Paratroopers assigned to the 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade hook up a HMMWV to a CH-47 on. 3-82 GSAB and 2-82 AHB worked together to conduct sling-load operations in conjunction with Devil avalanche. U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Eli Baker



INDIAN OCEAN (July 24, 2025) Destroyer USS Milvus fires the Mark 45 5-Inch light-weight gun during a live-fire weapons exercise. U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Greg Johnson

MONTHLY OBSERVANCES FOR AUGUST		
American Adventures American Artists Appreciation Arrrr-gust: Int'l Pirate Month Back to School Month Black Business Month Boomers Making A Difference Bystander Awareness Month Children's Eye Health & Safety Month Child Support Awareness Children's Vision & Learning Month Get Ready for Kindergarten Feeding Pets of the Homeless Golf Month Happiness Happens Month	Int'l EFT Tapping Month Motor Sports Awareness Nat'l Breastfeeding Nat'l Catfish Month Nat'l Cheerleading Safety Nat'l Cowgirl Month Nat'l Crayon Collection Nat'l Dog Month Nat'l Goat Cheese Month Nat'l Immunization Awareness Month Nat'l Panini Month Nat'l Political Affiliation Discrimination Awareness Nat'l Minority Donor Awareness Nat'l Read A Romance Novel	Nat'l Spinal Muscular Atrophy Awareness Month Nat'l Traffic Awareness Nat'l Truancy Prevention Nat'l Quality Month Nat'l Wellness Month Nat'l Win With Civility Month Neurosurgery Outreach Personalized Learning Psoriasis Action Month Read-A-Romance Month Rye Month Tomboy Tools Month What Will Be Your Legacy World Mutt-i-grees Rescue

Places of Worship

Apostolic Faith - Door of Hope Christian Church
"A place of HEALING, HAPPINESS, & MIRACLES!"
Rays Of Hope Sunday Morning Glory Prayer 9:30am
Sunday Morning Worship Celebration 10:15am
2420 52nd Street, San Diego 92105
"Wherever there is GOD there is HOPE!" Join Us!
Visit www.hopeformesd.org or Call 619.414.8251

Bayview Church
Attract...Assimilate...Activate Terry W. Brooks, Sr. Pastor
6134 Pastor Timothy J. Winters St., San Diego, 92114 • (619) 262-8384
Sunday Worship Services 7:30am, 9:15am, 11:15am
Studies In Christian Living (formerly Sunday School) Tues & Thurs online only 6pm (contact Church for sign up). In person Saturday 9am & 10am
www.bayviewbc.org info@bayviewbc.org

Bethany Lutheran Church
Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod
2051 Sunset Cliffs Blvd., Ocean Beach 92107
(Parking lot off the Alley - North of the building)
Worship 11am Sundays
Bible Class, Wednesdays 10am
(619)222-7291 Office@BethanyLutheranOB.org

Christ Community Church
"Helping people love God, find community and make a difference"
Sunday services at 8:45am and 10:30am
Children's ministry for all kids. Life groups for teens and adults.
9535 Kearny Villa Rd. Mira Mesa, 92126. Just off I-15 and Miramar Rd.
More Info: www.gotoChrist.com

First Baptist Church of Coronado
"Reach Up, Reach Out, Reach Our World"
Jim W. Baize, Pastor www.fbcoronado.com
Sunday Adult Bible Study 8:45am, Sunday Worship Service 10am
Meeting in person and online on YouTube or Facebook
FB: First Baptist Church of Coronado email: secretary@fbcoronado.com
445 C Ave., Coronado, CA 92118 (619) 435-6588

Immanuel Oceanside, LCMS
Connecting people to what Jesus has done, is doing, and will do.
9:30am Worship service
11am Bible class, Youth, Children's Ministry
1900 S. Nevada St, Oceanside, 92054
immanueloceanside.com - (760) 458-6570

Mesa View Baptist Church
Dr. Darrow Perkins, Jr., Th.D. Pastor/Servant CWO3, USMC (Ret.)
Seeking Sinners: Saving Souls, Strengthening Saints
Sunday School at 8:45am • Morning Worship at 10am
Wednesday Night Bible Study 7pm
13230 Pomerado Rd., Poway • 858-485-6110 • www.mesaview.org

Resurrection Lutheran Church & Preschool of Coronado
Sunday Worship: 10:15am • Adult Bible Study: Sunday at 9am
The Rev. Dr. Timothy Eichler
1111 5th Street, Coronado, CA 92118
www.RL.church
Church (619) 435-1000 • Preschool (619) 435-0286

St. Luke's Lutheran Church
5150 Wilson Ave., La Mesa, CA 91942
Phone: (619) 463-6633
website: www.st-lukes-la-mesa.org
Worship: 9am
Pastor: Mark Menacher, PhD.
We thank you for your service!

Place your ad in our 'Places of Worship' directory....as low as \$15 per week!

4 www.armedforcesdispatch.com AUGUST 1-15, 2025

Career and Education

Adapting to pay adjustments

Information provided by Marine Corps Community Services

Adapting to pay changes is a routine part of military life—and staying financially ready means understanding how those adjustments impact your finances.

The latest National Defense Authorization Act, for Fiscal Year 2025, included a 4.5 percent pay increase for all service members. In addition to this general increase, junior enlisted service members in paygrades E1 through E4 received an extra 10 percent increase, resulting in a total 14.5 percent raise for them. This additional increase took effect in April.

What should you do with a pay increase?

When your paycheck changes, it's the perfect time to:

- Review and update your budget.
- Start or grow your emergency fund.
- Pay down existing debt.
- Reassess spending habits.
- Plan for future financial goals.

Stay focused on the bigger picture

Pay adjustments aren't just about more money in the short term—they're an opportunity to build lasting financial stability. With careful planning and financial literacy, Marines can effectively navigate pay changes and maintain financial readiness.

Free financial help is available

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Army to bolster Patriot fleet with additional battalions

ARMY NEWS SERVICE - The Army plans to add additional battalions to its most stressed element, one of the service's top leaders said.

The Army will stand up to four additional Patriot battalions including one to bolster the Guam Defense System, said the Army's Vice Chief of Staff Gen. James J. Mingus. American forces use a layered and integrated defense system to safeguard the strategic U.S. territory against missile threats. Considered one of the Army's best air defense system, the MIM-104 Patriot utilizes command and control and radar to identify and stop enemy missiles.

Patriot battalions successfully defended Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar against Iranian missiles in June. In addition, the new battalions will use the Lower Tier Air and Missile Defense Sensor or LTAMDS to vastly extend the Patriots' range, Mingus said at a recent Strategic Landpower Dialogue at the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

LTAMDS possesses a greater capability to identify and defeat enemy threats, including low-altitude cruise missiles, hypersonics, short-range ballistic missiles and can detect and defeat multiple targets. It also has the capability to perform at a full 360-surveillance mode compared to the older models of the Army's Q series, AN/MPQ-65 radar system which had a 270-degree limit. Mingus explained that the range of LTAMDS extends from 85 kilometers up to 85 km down.

"So it greatly expands the range, the altitude, and it's a 360," Mingus said. "So you could take those same 15 Patriot battalions we have today, give it [Integrated Battle Command System] and LTAMs, and fundamentally when you operationally employ it, it's immediately doubling that capability."

"You would have the equivalent of about 30 Patriot battalions because instead of having to deploy as batteries, you can break them up and disperse them in a much more tactical way," he said.

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Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy James Honea announces retirement

Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) James Honea will retire from the Navy on September 12, 2025, after 38 years of faithful service to our nation.

"It has been a profound privilege and honor to serve as your MCPON," said Honea. "I will carry with me the countless memories of meeting Sailors across the Fleet, hearing about your remarkable achievements, as well as the level of trust you placed in me to advocate for you and your families. During my tenure it has been my mission to remove barriers and improve the quality of life for you and your family."

MCPON Honea assumed the role as the 16th MCPON on September 8, 2022. Throughout his tenure, he championed efforts to make Sailors stronger, smarter, and better valued—both through direct engagement with Sailors and their families, and through strategic advocacy on Capitol Hill. His collaborative work with Congress and Department of Defense policy makers contributed to significant legislative achievements and quality of life impacts, including a historic 15 percent pay increase for junior enlisted ranks (E-1 to E-4), as well as improvements in unaccompanied housing, medical care, spouse employment, and childcare services.

Within the Navy, MCPON Honea drove initiatives to enhance enlisted leadership development, naval education, and performance evaluations—highlighted by the recent update to the Chief Petty Officer evaluation system earlier this year.

"Since 1775, the United States Navy has been operating forward to defend our nation and defeat those who challenge our freedom. Every one of you embody the fighting spirit, honoring the legacy of those who came before you. As I embark on the next chapter of my life, I will forever cherish the impact you've had on me and look forward to crossing paths with you again in the Fleet."

General officer announcement

Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth announced, July 18, that the president has made the following nomination: Marine Corps Maj. Gen. Christian F. Wortman for appointment to lieutenant general, with assignment as commanding general, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton. Wortman is currently the commanding general, 3d Marine Division, Okinawa, Japan.



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Topping out ceremony for future MCAS Miramar aircraft maintenance hangar

by Katie Cadio
NAVFAC Southwest

NAVFAC Southwest and its partners celebrated a major accomplishment for the new aircraft maintenance hangar at MCAS Miramar last month.

The installation hosted a topping out ceremony during which the final steel beam was ceremoniously hoisted onto the Hangar B building.

“What a great milestone to hit with this enormous project,” said Col. R. Erik Herrmann, MCAS Miramar commanding officer. “To the artisans and tradesmen that are here and have been working on this project, thank you so much. You keep this country that we live in moving and progressing forward, and nobody can compete with the skill, professionalism and dedication that you all have.”

The 168,000-square-foot maintenance facility will include a two-module maintenance hangar with an integrated two-story support building. Crews also poured more than one million square feet of new aircraft pavement that will surround the new hangar.

The facility will feature a wash rack with utility control building, ready service lockers,

a telecom hut, as well as a new airfield lighting vault, and generator buildings.

A new aircraft parking apron with F-35-specific support infrastructure, taxiways, access roads, and vehicle parking will be constructed as part of the site development.

The facility’s exterior design will align with the Base Installation Development Plan and complement the adjacent Hangar A F-35 maintenance hangar.

Once completed, Hangar B will support two F-35B and C operational squadrons home-based at MCAS Miramar.

“On behalf of the 3rd MAW, I just want to say thank you, thank you from the bottom of our hearts,” said Col. Henry Dolberry Jr., Assistant Wing Commander, Third Marine Aircraft Wing. “As the commander said, one day, this hangar will be filled with the aircraft who go out there to do our nation’s bidding.”

The project kicked off in May 2024, when Harper construction demolished the existing Hangar 1 and adjacent utility structures, to accommodate the new hangar footprint. Construction is scheduled to be completed in November 2026.



A crowd looks on as a crane operator ceremoniously hoists the final steel beam onto the Hangar B building during a topping out ceremony for the new aircraft maintenance hangar at MCAS Miramar July 15. Photo by Katie Cadio/NAVFAC Southwest

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PHOTO GALLERY



CAMP PENDLETON (July 25, 2025) Marine Corps Col. William DeLeal II, the incoming commanding officer of I Marine Expeditionary Force Information Group, gives introductory remarks after receiving command of I MIG from Col. William V. Osborne III during a change of command ceremony here. U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Peyton Kahle



SAN DIEGO (July 25, 2025) Barbara Valdes stands at attention as she watches her husband Rear Adm. Guido Valdes, the former commander, Naval Medical Forces Pacific (NMFP), departs at the conclusion of a change of command ceremony where he relinquished command to Rear Adm. Kevin Brown. Valdes will transition to his new assignment as The Medical Officer for the Marine Corps and director, Marine Corps Health Services. U.S. Navy photo by Arsenio R. Cortez, Jr.

TWENTYNINE PALMS (July 17, 2025)

Marines with 2d Reconnaissance Battalion, 2d Marine Division, conduct a freefall jump off a C-130 Hercules during a service level training exercise. The exercise offers a challenging, realistic training environment that produces combat-ready forces capable of operating across all domains of military operations. U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Judith Ann Lazaro



New frame, same fight; Infantry Marines test durability, load-bearing capabilities of Military Light Frame

by Joel Rivera Camacho
Marine Corps Systems Command

Marines with 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, initiated a limited user evaluation (LUE) of the Military Light Frame (MLF), a new load-bearing option designed to improve comfort and mobility without sacrificing durability, on Camp Pendleton July 15.

For the next nine months, representatives from Combat Support Systems (CSS) will work closely with the unit, collecting feedback on the frame's performance during training and real-world scenarios. In the coming weeks, Marines will put the system through its paces during exercises in Bridgeport, California, and at the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center in Twentynine Palms, California.

The MLF was developed in partnership with a company widely known for its innovative pack systems used by members of U.S. Special Operations Command and the reconnaissance community. Now, the Marine Corps is bringing this level of performance to the hands of riflemen, ensuring every Marine benefits from improved load distribution and modularity.

"I've been in the infantry for 10 years and compared to all the other weight loadouts I've walked with; this feels substantially better. Thirty-five pounds feels like 15, maybe 20 pounds," said Staff Sgt. Isaiah Tiner, 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment.

Unlike traditional ruck frames, the MLF offers a lightweight, ergonomic design that reduces strain while maintaining essential load-bearing capability. The system is intended as an optional solution, giving Marines greater flexibility without replacing current issued gear.

"We've designed the system around the human, instead of designing the system and then trying to fit the human into it," said Michael Santivasci, an

instructional systems specialist and product manager at Combat Service Support Equipment (CSSE).

Throughout the nine-month evaluation, CSS representatives will conduct regular check-ins with the unit to track performance, collect data, and incorporate Marine feedback into future decisions. This hands-on feedback loop ensures that any future adoption of the MLF meets the needs of Marines in diverse operating environments.

"This evaluation is more than just a trial. It's our opportunity to refine and deliver innovative load-bearing solutions that

Navy sets sights on fleet-wide family of unmanned ships

In a recent story in *Naval-News.com*, requirements for the Modular Attack Surface Craft (MASC) USV program were recently announced by the Navy's Unmanned Maritime Systems Program Office this week.

The program is looking to deliver up to three different USVs for wide scale operational use in the Navy as a culmination of the Navy's extensive prototype and development of Medium and Large USVs.

The Navy is seeking a wide range of new medium and large USVs as part of its Modular Attack Surface Craft program, an effort started as the end result of NAVSEA's Future Unmanned Surface Vessel request for information which sought an open ocean high endurance, non-exquisite, autonomous vessel that could be delivered to the fleet to rapidly expand the surface fleet's capacity and capability.

PMS 206 and NAVSEA want



Pfc. James Sullivan, 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, poses for a photo during a limited user evaluation of the Military Light Frame at Camp Pendleton July 15. Marine Corps Systems Command is conducting a nine-month survey across multiple units to assess and compare commercial frame options for the standard issue main pack. The evaluation is part of ongoing efforts to improve individual load carriage systems for operational effectiveness. Official Marine Corps Systems Command photo by Kristiana Montanez

enhance modularity, mobility, and mission readiness," said Maj. Joshua Foster, project officer for CSSE. "The feedback from Marines in the field is invaluable, driving decisions that directly impact combat effectiveness. This process embodies our commitment to putting the warfighter first, adapting to their needs so they can maintain the edge in every fight."

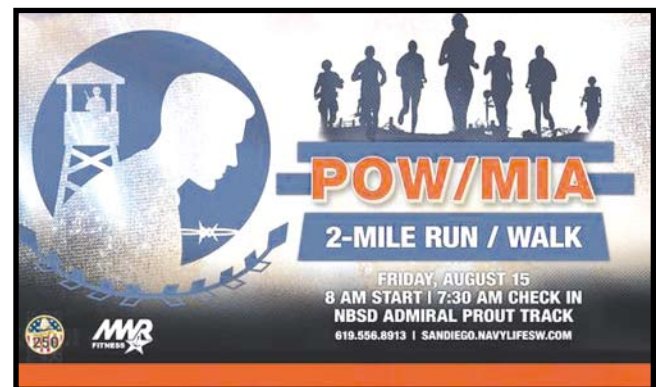
first deliveries within 18 months from a prototype award, with an emphasis on readiness, remote operation, open architecture, and interoperability with existing Navy surface forces. An additional emphasis is placed on non-exquisite platforms to allow multiple shipyards to repair and maintain the MASC USVs.

The MASC program represents the greatest shift towards an unmanned fleet the U.S. Navy has seen in several years.

As the Marine Corps continues to implement Force Design, programs like the MLF underscore Marine Corps Systems Command's commitment to delivering lighter, adaptable, and mission-driven gear to Marines on the ground.

"Competition and collaboration have opened doors for the Marine Corps to reach new technology," said Col. Paul Gilikin, program manager for CSS. "Efforts like this ensure we reach new innovations that improve personal fit and customization to reduce injuries for our Marines and decrease procurement costs for the Marine Corps."

For more information about Marine Corps Systems Command's equipment testing and certification process, visit www.marcorsyscom.marines.mil.



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NAVFAC Southwest performs push-in commemorating NBSD Fire Station 15's Phase 1 completion

by Mario Icarl
NAVFAC Southwest

SAN DIEGO - Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command (NAVFAC) Southwest Commanding Officer Capt. Cathy Eyrych with NAVFAC Southwest Seabees and Public Works Department Naval Base San Diego (NBSD) Production Team members witnessed a ribbon cutting ceremony that commemorated the completion of Phase 1 of the construction of Naval Base San Diego Fire Station 15, July 23 in NBSD.

"I'll tell you what makes this project especially remarkable is the outside of the box thinking and the innovation that made it possible," said Federal Fire Department San Diego (FED FIRE) Fire Chief Shannon Orndorff.

"Take a heavy maintenance building designed for an entirely different purpose and re-imagine it as a fire station required creativity, problem solving and bold vision. That kind of transformation though doesn't happen by chance. It happens because people believe in the mission, and they're willing to look beyond limitations to see what could be instead of settling for what is.

"This building is a perfect example of that mindset. Where challenges became opportunities and vision again became reality. It will now serve as a safe haven, a hub of operational excellence, and a symbol of partnership between the Federal Fire Department San Diego and our many supporting organizations.

"This station isn't just made of steel and concrete and fresh paint, it's made of late nights, long meetings, technical changes, and collective problem solving, relationships, a mutual trust and a shared goal, and keeping our Navy family safe," said Orndorff.

The newly completed Phase 1 of Fire Station 15 was completed in six months for approximately \$727,493.83 with



Naval Base San Diego's Commanding Officer Capt. Rob Heely and Public Works Officer Cmdr. Karen McAllister stand for a photo with Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command (NAVFAC) Southwest Commanding Officer Capt. Cathy Eyrych with NAVFAC Southwest Seabees EA2 Jacob Cerda, BU2 Brendan Lewison, and BU1 Jesse Martinez at a ribbon cutting ceremony which commemorated the completion of Phase 1 of the construction of Naval Base Fire Station 15, July 23. Photo by Mario Icarl/Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command

5,200 man-hours completed by NAVFAC Southwest Seabees and Public Works Naval Base San Diego Production Division team members. Phase 1 involved converting a former Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit 303 Maintenance Facility into a temporary fire station in NBSD. The purpose of the project was to establish an operational ready 24/7 round-the-clock temporary

south waterfront presence for fire and emergency services while closing a critical time response capability gap that existed on NBSD. Fire Station 15 will be utilized while purpose-built fire house facility P-900 is constructed.

The project included demolition of an office area, ductwork, and existing electrical systems.

The team installed a new floor-plan, four berthing rooms, storage, restroom, kitchen, open break room, new electrical systems, split Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning units, windows, doors and overhead doors, flooring, paint, drop ceiling, and new accommodations for Navy Marine Corps Intranet and Enterprise Land Mobile Radio systems.

"This entire endeavor was executed completely in-house by our phenomenal NAVFAC teammates and teammates across the waterfront in just six months," said NBSD Commanding Officer Capt. Rob Heely. "...you talk about building something new in CNIC world, you talk about years. This is what was done in six months with the great teammates we have here on base.

"That's our mission-focused production team working. With the can-do Seabees and FED FIRE to make this work... This project showcases their exceptional skills, unwavering dedication, and remarkable craftsmanship. Let this new station stand as a constant reminder to our commitment to protecting our people and our capital assets."

NAVFAC Southwest Public Works Department NBSD Production Division members and Seabees were recognized by Heely during the event for their outstanding performance which led to the construction dedication.

Warfare on the waves during the Point Mugu Surf Contest



POINT MUGU (July 27, 2025) Over 100 surfers competed at the 11th Annual Point Mugu Surf Contest here.

Point Mugu is revered as one of the best wave locations on the California coast. The combination of a south facing beach and submarine canyons creates a steep, powerful, A-frame wave. It's why the annual contest draws international surfing champions from around the globe, as it's the only time they can surf these waters, which is normally restricted to active-duty or retired military.

"We are fortunate to be part of an incredible community," said Capt. Daniel "DB" Brown, commanding officer, NBVC. "It's our honor to open these private beaches, and host an event that celebrates the great culture and way of life in southern Calif."



USS Indianapolis National Memorial in Indianapolis, in 2024. Courtesy photo

Disaster continued from page 1

was brought up on charges and convicted of negligence for hazarding his ship by not zigzagging.

Hashimoto was called to testify at the court-martial, which was held in the Washington Navy Yard. The submarine commander, who was flown in from Japan, said even if the ship had zigzagged, he would have been able to account for the maneuver and still sink the ship.

Although McVay was convicted, his sentence was remitted because of his many years of outstanding service. McVay retired as a rear admiral in 1949, but those who knew him said he was despondent over the loss of so many of his men. In 1968, he took his own life.

In later years, Hashimoto, who became a Shinto priest, met with many of Indianapolis survivors, each of whom forgave him.

Hashimoto also volunteered his support to the survivors in their efforts to clear McVay's name. Hashimoto died Oct. 25, 2000.

Many survivors of the sinking, as well as those who disembarked in Hawaii, Tinian and Guam, experienced survivor's guilt.

"My uncle Bruce Neibaur was on that cruiser until it stopped in Hawaii, while en route to Tinian to deliver the bomb," Marine veteran O. Paul Mortensen said. "But he was one of about 17 sailors who got other orders and got off. Until the day he died, he suffered survivor's guilt."

Richard A. Hulver, who was the lead historian on the USS Indianapolis Project at the Naval History and Heritage Command in Washington, discussed the tragedy and lessons learned at the Pentagon, July 17, 2025:

•The discretion for zigzagging given to captains in the Pacific Ocean was taken away, and all combatant ships were directed to zigzag at all times. •All vessels carrying more than

500 men were to be escorted. Indianapolis did not have an escort vessel.

•McVay successfully advocated for life-saving improvements, including parachute flares, a pocket containing freshwater in life preservers and changing the dull-colored paint schemes on life rafts to bright yellow.

•Knowledge of the ship



Heavy cruiser USS Indianapolis departs Mare Island Naval Shipyard in San Francisco for Hawaii, July 10, 1945, after receiving repairs for battle damage. Courtesy photo

not reaching Luzon was not relayed up the chain of command, so more rigid movement reporting procedures were put in place.

"Actions of captain and crew of [the] Indianapolis throughout their ordeal and in the aftermath stand as exemplars of the highest traditions and honor of the United States Navy," Hulver said.

In 2016, Hulver conducted research that led to a new search for USS Indianapolis. He identified a naval landing craft that had recorded a sighting of the ship hours before it was torpedoed. By combining tracking movements of both ships, the approximate location was discovered.

The wreck was located, Aug. 19, 2017, by the expedition crew of research vessel Petrel, 5,500 meters below the surface.

Indianapolis also lives on in popular culture.

In the 1975 movie "Jaws," Quint, played by actor Robert Shaw, is a survivor of Indianapolis and recounts the sinking and shark attacks.

The ship is also the subject of the 1991 TV film "Mission of the Shark: The Saga of the U.S.S. Indianapolis," starring Stacy Keach, and the 2016 film "USS Indianapolis: Men of Courage," starring Nicolas Cage, is based on the sinking.

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Becky McBride speaks at the San Diego Automotive Museum plus NASCAR racing in San Diego

Recently I covered “Under the Hood with Becky McBride” at the San Diego Automotive Museum in Balboa Park, where she entertained us with stories about her life in stock car racing. Also, I will share some terrific NASCAR news with you.

First, our invitation to the museum said: “A native of San Diego, CA, Becky McBride is a well-known figure in the ARCA West Series, doing a bit of everything. Becky grew up around racing, going to the Cajon Speedway in CA as a little girl to watch her uncle race. She ended up working at the Cajon Speedway for over 20 years before moving over to NASCAR, where she has been ever since. Becky has held many positions with NASCAR, beginning as scorer all the way to inspector. She has served as an official in all three national NASCAR series during her career. ... Meet Becky and be regaled with stories from her long career in racing and get insights into NASCAR, its history, and the world of racing today.”

Cajon Speedway was San Diego County’s local, Saturday night, stock car racing short track. I loved going to Cajon Speedway to see the racing, demolition derbies and more. Sadly, that track closed many years ago and it was not replaced.

For Becky, stock car racing was very much an extended family affair. Her stepdad and her mom raced at Cajon Speedway. One of her brother-in-laws was a two-time champion. They raced over 25 continuous Saturdays over the course of a year, so people learned that everything, from birthdays to funerals, had to happen around the racing schedule.

In the 70s Cajon Speedway did not allow girls in the pits, so Becky sat in the grandstands. She never tried to race but she enjoyed helping out however she could. She and her friends painted the West-side grandstands (the cheap grandstands, where I sat). The girls were also in charge of the racers’ parties. She had been a volunteer there for over 30 years by the time Cajon Speedway finally closed its doors.

Becky travelled on the road with the racers, not hydrating so that they would not have to stop on her account. They told her that she would need to help score a racer, which meant keeping track of their position each lap. Working on the West Coast races’ crew led to working races further east. NASCAR pays scorers “big money” to score racers at the higher levels.

Becky’s job is “Spotter Official.” The Race Director talks to the spotters, and there is a button on the steering wheel for the driver. As we learned, it can get quite interesting if a “hot-headed driver” does not

AutoMatters™ & More
by Jan Wagner



do what the Race Director wants him to do. Then, as a ‘Spotter Official,’ Becky urges that driver’s spotter to get the desired response from the driver. “This isn’t anything personal. This is them telling you to tell him.”

Becky also does safety inspections, including checking the window nets, the drivers’ suits, shoes, socks, helmet socks and helmets. “I make sure that everything that they’re wearing has not been compromised.”

Afterwards I toured the museum and took some photos. For more information about the San Diego Automotive Museum, visit: <https://balboapark.org/arts-culture/san-diego-automotive-museum-balboa-park/>.

Now for the terrific news from NASCAR. When Auto Club Speedway in Fontana was demolished a couple of years ago, we lost our annual NASCAR race weekend in Southern California. Plans to rebuild

a short track on what was left of the site have not materialized.

However, for three years NASCAR paved and then removed a very short race track within the confines of the LA Memorial Coliseum for the “Busch Light CLASH at the LA Coliseum” (see AutoMatters & More: <https://automatters.net/2023-nascar-busch-light-clash-at-the-la-coliseum/>, <https://automatters.net/gutsy-busch-light-clash-at-the-coliseum-revs-up-a-large-new-audience-for-nascar/> and <https://automatters.net/unprecedented-deluge-of-rain-in-la-upends-nascar-clash/>).

NASCAR confirmed that all three top series — Truck, Xfinity and Cup — will be street racing in San Diego on Father’s Day weekend 2026 (June 19-21), at Naval Base Coronado — the first active military base to host NASCAR racing, and the site of the former Coronado Speed Festival (see AutoMatters & More: <https://automatters.net/2016-coronado-speed-festival/> and <https://automatters.net/a-look-back-and-a-look-ahead-2006-srt-coronado-speed-festival-my-new-years-resolutions/>).

Through iRacing, several NASCAR drivers have already tried out and made suggestions about an early version of the race course. More information will be released in the upcoming months, and fans may put down a deposit for advance ticket pricing at <https://www.nascarsandiego.com>.

Visit <https://www.nascar.com/news-media/2025/07/23/nascar-heads-to-san-diego-in-2026-for-street-races-at-naval-base-coronado/>.

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The Meat & Potatoes of Life



by
Lisa
Smith
Molinari

Having raised three children from birth to adulthood during my husband’s active duty service in the Navy, I know how difficult moving is for military children. Each of our three Navy brats experienced challenges integrating into different school curricula, landing back at the bottom in extra-curricular activities, and fitting in, or not fitting in as it were, with new social groups.

Recognizing these difficulties, the President issued the “Educational Freedom and Opportunity” order in January, stating “the Secretary of Defense shall review any available mechanisms under which military-connected families may use funds from the Department of Defense to attend schools of their choice, including private, faith-based, or public charter schools...” The President ordered this to be done in time for the 2025-2026 school year.

In May, Pete Hegseth drilled down on one option not specifically mentioned in the President’s order: homeschooling. He ordered the DoD to review resources for homeschooling military parents, stating, “Homeschooling offers an individualized approach for students and highlights the significant role parents play in the educational process.” No other options were mentioned in Hegseth’s memo.

Military children move three times more than civilian peers, and military parents homeschool at double the rate of their civilian moms and dads as a way of mitigat-

DoD’s ‘Educational Freedom’ for military families must include more than homeschooling

ing educational instability. It makes good sense for the DoD to offer them more support. However, as I told my military spouse friends who were amazing homeschoolers, “I’d rather get hit in the head with a frying pan.” I wasn’t cut out for homeschooling. My son was smarter than me by age five, my middle child was a master manipulator, and my youngest shared my tendency to get distracted. Instead, I worked hard to finding the best school options after each of our military moves.

Homeschooling isn’t for everyone, as evidenced by the fact that more than 80% of military children attend public and DoD schools. Then why is the Pentagon focused on reviewing resources for homeschoolers? What about “private, faith-based, or public charter schools?”

Studies show that military children of all ages are at substantially higher risk for negative psychological, social, and behavioral health outcomes than their civilian peers, with military adolescents at highest risk especially of suicidal thoughts and behaviors. The reasons are complex, but frequent PCS moves are a primary culprit.

While homeschooling is an excellent alternative for families aiming to stabilize their children’s educational curricula and maximize school success, it doesn’t eliminate psychosocial risks for military children who must move, especially teens for whom strong peer friendships and non-parental adult mentor relationships (coaches, teachers, etc.) are crucial for good mental well-being. Homeschoolers admit that they must be proactive to offer their children adequate peer-to-peer social opportunities, whereas children who attend schools naturally learn how to make, maintain, and

end friendships as needed. Parents may believe that as long as they support their children through each move, they’ll be fine. In fact, research shows that friendship support, not family support, is the most important positive indicator of adolescent resilience presently and later in life. Psychological experts conclude that deep, authentic adolescent friendships are crucial for adolescent development and lead to better outcomes in adulthood.

Parents shouldn’t feel hurt, it’s all very natural. Scientists say, like other mammals, adolescent humans instinctually seek peer relationships that they can depend on when they inevitably leave home. Subconsciously, peer relationships are “a matter of survival” to teens.

It follows that, if military families must move, and moving puts military children at risk, there are no perfect solutions. This may be true, but the DoD should consider every alternative to help military children find the educational stability they desperately need, such as K12 and Time4Learning homeschooling programs; charter and magnet schools that give priority enrollment to military children; state open enrollment programs; state funding programs for private school choice; federal vouchers; and Orion Military Scholars program which helps military teens enroll in U.S. boarding schools for uninterrupted high school experiences.

True “educational freedom” doesn’t exist for military families ordered to move. But with the new school year just around the corner, the DoD must act to make educational alternatives affordable, and finally give military families a choice in the matter.

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Veterans News

Bipartisan push for Major Richard Star Act in NDAA

Senators have introduced the Major Richard Star Act as an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). The bipartisan measure aims to ensure combat-injured veterans receive their full Department of Defense retirement pay and Department of Veterans Affairs disability compensation without offset.

Currently, over 50,000 combat-injured military retirees with less than 50 percent disability ratings or fewer than 20 years of service face a dollar-for-dollar reduction in their benefits. The Major Richard Star Act seeks to eliminate this unfair policy, delivering full earned benefits to these veterans. Named after Major Richard A. Star, a decorated veteran who medically retired due to combat injuries and passed away from cancer in 2021, the amendment has garnered support from over 31 cosponsors.

“The Major Richard Star Act would correct one of the deepest injustices in our present veterans’ disability system,” said Sen. Richard Blumenthal, ranking member of the Senate Veterans’ Affairs Committee. “The support for this correction is clear. Though the namesake of our legislation is no longer with us, we must pass this fix on behalf of the more than 50,000 veterans, including hundreds in Idaho, who stand to benefit.”

Sen. Mike Crapo emphasized the broad support, noting its impact on veterans nationwide, including hundreds in Idaho. Sen. Elizabeth Warren said,, “Including this bill in the NDAA will ensure the federal government keeps its promise to our veterans.”

If passed, the amendment would provide critical financial relief to combat-injured retirees, honoring their service and sacrifice. <https://www.votervoices.net/FRA/campaigns/100773/respond>

ACES Act heads to president’s desk to honor aviators

The House of Representatives passed the bipartisan Aviator Cancer Examination Study (ACES) Act, following its unanimous approval in the Senate last month. This critical legislation, championed by the Fleet Reserve Association (FRA), now awaits President Donald Trump’s signature, marking a significant step toward addressing the elevated cancer risks faced by military aviators and aircrew members.

The ACES Act, introduced in the House by Representative August Pfluger, an Air Force Reserve Colonel, and Representative Jimmy Panetta, a Navy veteran, directs the Department of Veterans Affairs to study cancer incidence and mortality among Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps aviators.

In the Senate, the bill was led by Senators Mark Kelly and Tom Cotton, both veterans serving on the Senate Armed Services Committee. The legislation addresses alarming findings that pilots and aircrews face higher risks of prostate cancer, melanoma, and potentially non-Hodgkin lymphoma and testicular cancer, linked to their service.

Pfluger, who made the ACES Act his top congressional priority, dedicated the bill to his friend and fellow fighter pilot, Col. Andy “Pablo” Shurtleff, who lost his life to an aggressive cancer tied to his service. Speaking on the House floor, Pfluger called the bill “a lifeline and a message to every pilot who has ever put on the uniform to protect our skies that we will fight to protect them in return.” Panetta echoed this sentiment, emphasizing that the bill ensures military and VA providers have the data needed to deliver better care to veterans. Kelly, a former Navy pilot, emphasized the need for answers about health risks that emerge years after service, while Senator Cotton stressed the duty to support past, present, and future aviators.



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area. Newly remodeled. \$4800/mo. Call
619-228-4027.
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IMPERIAL BEACH – 3BR/2BA, 2 car ga-
rage, 4 blks to beach, appliances available.
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\$3500/mo. 619-403-2146
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kitchen with DW. Off st prkng, W/D, all utili-
ties incld, AC, updated. Close to amenities.
\$1600/mo. 619-871-1211 jent51@cox.net
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RENTALS ROOM

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only, near ocean, separate bath. TV & small
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tana high school. First month rent \$2350/mo. &
\$2350 deposit with good credit & good rental
history. No pets. Call or text 619-733-0673.
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<https://miramar.usmc-mccs.org/dining-entertainment/movies>

<https://pendleton.usmc-mccs.org/dining-entertainment/theater>

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gested some material may not be
suitable for children.

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utioned some material may be inap-
propriate for children under 13.

R – Restricted under 17 requires
accompanying parent or adult
guardian.

NC-17 – No one 17 or under
admitted.

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across

1 Hang out in alleys
5 Sporty sunroofs
10 Job jar item
14 Cuatro y cuatro
15 Sprightly movement
16 Lamb pen name
17 Source of damaging rumors
20 Vietnam holiday
21 "What the Constitution Means to Me" award
22 Like Boo Boo and Baloo
23 Lead source
24 Novelist Deighton
25 Wile E. Coyote's supplier
26 Buzz among local gossips
32 Takes short cuts?
34 Part of S&L
35 FDR 34-Across org.
36 One of 1,225 in the first published edition of "War and Peace"
37 They have their pride
39 Put a halt to
40 Is for a few
41 Carson forerunner
42 Hostess snack cakes
43 Nickname of two Six Flags roller coasters
47 Tavern orders
48 Apollo vehicle, briefly
49 Many miles
52 Entertained
55 Vegas rival
56 Hot Dijon season
57 Question asked with a raised voice, as demonstrated in three long puzzle answers
60 Verdi opera
61 Pants style
62 Retin-A target
63 Altar words
64 Stall for Time?
65 Clarinet need

Down

1 Greet formally, as at the start of a sumo match
2 Earth tone
3 Mutant big cat
4 ___ Gatos, California
5 Late game show host with seven Emmys
6 "Gran ___": 2008 Eastwood film
7 ___ in a blue moon
8 Kissing on the kiss cam, for short
9 Even
10 Her Majesty's service?
11 Others, in old Rome
12 Put one's name on the line?
13 Immortal "Citizen"
18 Opinion surveys
19 Image creators, for short
25 Loads
27 Monkey relative
28 Biota growth
29 Undecided
30 Owl's call
31 Catches some z's
32 Places for hot waxes
33 One pulling in pushers
37 Outgoing officeholder
38 Perfect Portions pet food brand
39 Abel, to Adam
41 Throwback diet
42 Handmade stadium sign
44 Gut courses
45 Becomes less overcast
46 Playwright Ibsen
50 Even things
51 Said 63-Across a second time
52 Antioxidant-rich berry
53 Downton Abbey's Daisy, for one
54 Go back, on a PC
55 Default result
58 "Bali" "
59 AirPods spot

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NMRTC Camp Pendleton conducts change of command

by Curtis Hill

Navy Medicine Readiness and Training Command Camp Pendleton

Navy Medicine Readiness and Training Command Camp Pendleton changed command on July 11, 2025, during a ceremony held in the Medal of Honor Promenade of Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton.

Capt. Jenny S. Burkett was relieved by Capt. Virginia H. Damin as both commander of NMRTC Camp Pendleton and as NHCP director. The presiding officer for the event was Rear Adm. Guido F. Valdes, commander, Naval Medical Forces Pacific, and Director of Defense Health Network Pacific Rim.

“Holding the position of command is perhaps the most rewarding milestone and position to achieve in the Navy,” Valdes said. “A commanding officer’s leadership directly affects the well-being and readiness of those who serve our nation, a trust we hold sacred.”

Speaking of Burkett’s time in command, Valdes added, “Your commitment to the support of the operational force spanned from the Indo-Pacific theater to Central Command. Integrating the Naval Hospital and the Expeditionary Medical Facility into critical exercises such as Steel Knight, Keen Sword, Pacific Sentry, and Pacific Partnership 2023 forged a stronger, more interoperable medical force. Your legacy will undoubtedly be felt for years to come.”

Valdes then welcomed the new commander, “Captain Damin, be-



Outgoing Navy Medicine Readiness and Training Command Camp Pendleton Commander Capt. Jenny Burkett (left) salutes incoming NMRTC Camp Pendleton Commander Capt. Virginia Damin (right) during the change of command ceremony held July 11, 2025, in the Medal of Honor Promenade of Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton. Naval Medical Forces Pacific Commander Rear Adm. Guido Valdes presided over the event. Photo by PO2 Stevon Duren.

coming a commanding officer signifies the ultimate vote of confidence from Navy Medicine leadership. It provides opportunity for immense personal satisfaction, but also carries great challenges. I am confident you will lead his organization with vision, dedication, and commitment to excellence.”

Burkett then gave her detaching

remarks where she thanked her family, mentors, peers, and the command and hospital staffs, and spoke of the dedication the hospital team showed during her time in command.

“Over the past two years, this hospital has exemplified what it means to be a high reliability organization — resilient, adaptable, and deeply committed to mission readiness and

patient centered care,” Burkett said.

Addressing her relief, Burkett said, “You are inheriting a phenomenal team. I have no doubt that under your leadership, they will continue to grow and thrive. Enjoy the privilege of command, as it goes fast.”

She wrapped up her comments with a moment of reflection, “As I step away from this position, I leave with deep pride, lasting memories, and complete confidence in the future of this command.”

Burkett will transfer to the Office of the Deputy Navy Surgeon General in Falls Church, Va.

After reading her orders and assuming command of NMRTC, Damin remarked on beginning her fourth tour at NHCP, “Being entrusted with the charge of command is an honor and being given the opportunity to command here is a true gift.”

As Damin neared the end of her comments, she spoke directly to her command “This is what I ask of you: please care about our mission, care about our patients, care about yourselves and each other. Because caring leads to ownership, and if we do that, we can accomplish anything.”

Damin comes to NMRTC Camp Pendleton from her previous position as the executive officer of NMRTC Guam and deputy director of Naval Hospital Guam.

For 250 years, Navy Medicine — represented by more than 44,000 highly-trained military and civilian healthcare professionals — has delivered quality healthcare and enduring expeditionary medical support.

Risky drinking can put a chill on your summer fun

Summer is typically a wonderful season for outdoor activities and spending additional time with family and friends. For some people, these activities include drinking beverages containing alcohol. This summer, take measures to protect your own health and that of your loved ones.

Swimmers Can Get in Over Their Heads

More drownings occur in July than in any other month.¹ Many of these deaths involve alcohol—a recent study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that 31% of all drownings involve blood alcohol concentration (BAC) levels of 0.10% or higher.² Alcohol impairs judgment and increases risk-taking, a dangerous combination for swimmers. Even experienced swimmers may venture out farther than they should and not be able to make it back to shore, or they may not notice how chilled they’re getting and develop hypothermia. Surfers could become overconfident and try to ride a wave beyond their abilities. Even around a pool, alcohol can have tragic consequences. Inebriated divers may collide with the diving board or dive where the water is too shallow.

Dehydration Is a Risk

Whether you’re on the road or in the great outdoors, heat plus alcohol can equal trouble. Hot summer days cause fluid loss through perspiration, while alcohol causes fluid loss through increased urination. Together, they can quickly lead to dehydration or heat stroke.

Stay Safe and Stay Healthy

Be smart this summer—think before you drink. Avoiding beverages containing alcohol while piloting a boat, driving a car, exploring the wilderness, and swimming or surfing can also help keep you and your loved ones safe.

If you’re serving alcohol at a summer gathering, be sure to:

- Provide a variety of healthy foods and snacks. Food can slow the absorption of alcohol and reduce the peak level of alcohol in the body by about one-third. Food can also minimize stomach irritation and gastrointestinal distress the following day.
- Offer various alcohol-free beverages—water, juices, sparkling sodas. Alcohol-free drinks help counteract the dehydrating effects of alcohol. Also, the other fluids may slow the rate of alcohol absorption into the body and reduce the peak alcohol concentration in the blood. They also provide your guests with alternatives to alcohol.
- Help your guests get home safely—use designated drivers, ride-hailing services, or taxis. Anyone getting behind the wheel of a car should not have ingested any alcohol.

And if you are a parent, understand the underage drinking laws—and set a good example.

1 National Safety Council [Internet]. Injury facts: preventable deaths, deaths by month. Preventable deaths by month for select causes, 2021. [cited 2023 May 30]. Available from: <https://injuryfacts.nsc.org/all-injuries/preventable-death-overview/deaths-by-month>
2 Alpert HR, Slater ME, Yoon Y, Chen CM, Winstanley N, Esser MB. Alcohol consumption and 15 causes of fatal injuries: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Am J Prev Med.* 2022 Aug;63(2):286–300. Epub 2022 May 15. PubMed PMID: 35581102

Enjoy the outdoors, support local farmers at one of the county’s farmer’s markets

At daily San Diego farmers markets in neighborhoods throughout the county, you can sample fresh-from-the-farm produce from regional farmers and tasty treats from local artisans.

For more information about farmers markets around San Diego County, visit the San Diego County Farm Bureau website at <http://www.sdfarmbureau.org/farmers-market/>. *Days and times are subject to change. Please email us any corrections: editor@navydispatch.com Subject: Farmers Market Correx*

Coronado

Coronado Certified Farmers Market
Tuesday: 2:30pm-6pm
Coronado Ferry Landing, 1201 First St at B Ave, Coronado, CA 92118

Downtown /

Gaslamp Quarter City Heights Certified Farmers Market
Saturday: 9am-1pm
On Wightman St from Fairmount Ave to 43rd St, San Diego, CA 92105
Gaslamp Artisan Market
Saturday & Sunday: 11am-4pm
Fifth Ave from Island Ave to J St. and Island Ave from Fourth Ave to Fifth Ave, San Diego, CA 92101
Little Italy Mercato Certified

Farmers Market

Saturday: 8am-2pm
501 W Date St from Kettner Blvd to Front St, San Diego, CA 92101
Tuna Harbor Dockside Market
Saturday: 8am-1pm
598 Harbor Ln - Fish Harbor Pier (near Tuna Harbor), San Diego, CA 92101

Hillcrest / Uptown

Hillcrest Certified Farmers Market
Sunday: 9am-2pm
3960 Normal St from Lincoln Ave to University Ave, San Diego, CA 92103
North Park Thursday Certified Farmers Market
Thursday: 3pm-7:30pm
2900 North Park Way from 30th St to Granada Ave, San Diego, CA 92104

La Jolla

La Jolla Open Aire Market
Sunday: 9am-1pm
7300 Block of Girard Ave at Genter St, La Jolla, CA 92037

Mission Bay and

Beaches
Ocean Beach Certified Farmers Market
Wednesday: 4pm-8pm
4900 Newport Ave from Cable St to Bacon St, San Diego, CA 92107
Pacific Beach Certified Farmers Market
Saturday: 8am-12pm
4150 Mission Blvd from Reed St to

Pacific Beach Blvd, PB, CA 92109
Pacific Beach Tuesday Certified Farmers Market
Tuesday: 2pm-7pm
4500 Bayard St. from Garnet Ave to Hornblend St
San Diego, CA 92109

Mission Valley and Old Town

Kearny Mesa Certified Farmers Market
Saturday: 10:30am-2:30pm
Service Road from Lightwave Ave to Spectrum Center Blvd, San Diego, CA 92123

South Bay

Chula Vista - Otay Ranch Certified Farmers Market
Tuesday: 4pm-8pm
2015 Birch Rd. and Eastlake Blvd.
Chula Vista, CA 91915
Imperial Beach Certified Farmers Market
Friday: 2pm-7pm (April - Sept.)
Friday: 2pm-6pm (Oct - March)
Imperial Beach Pier Plaza, 10 Evergreen Ave, Imperial Beach, CA 91932

South Bay Certified Farmers Market
Wednesday: 3-7pm
4475 Bonita Rd. Bonita, CA 91902

East County Borrego Springs Certified

Farmers Market

Friday: 7am-Noon (October – April, closed May – September)
Christmas Circle, 700 Palm Canyon Dr and Borrego Springs Rd
Borrego Springs, CA 92004
La Mesa Village Certified Farmers Market
Friday: 3pm-7pm
La Mesa Blvd from Palm Ave and Allison Ave, La Mesa, CA 91942
Santee Certified Farmers Market
Wednesday: 3pm-7pm (March - October)
Wednesday: 2:30pm-6:30pm (November - February)
9600 Carlton Hills Blvd and Mast Blvd, Santee, CA 92071
Santa Ysabel Certified Farmers Market
Sunday: Noon-4pm
21887 Washington St at Hwy 78 and Hwy 79. Santa Ysabel, CA 92070

North Coastal

Carlsbad State Street Certified Farmers Market
Wednesday: 3pm-7pm (March-Oct)
Wednesday: 3pm-6pm (Nov-Feb)
2900 State St from Carlsbad Village Dr to Grand Ave, Carlsbad, CA 92008
Del Mar Certified Farmers Market
Saturday: Noon-4pm

Civic Center, 1050 Camino Del Mar, Del Mar, CA 92014
Leucadia Certified Farmers Market
Sunday: 10am-2pm
Paul Ecke Elementary, 185 Union St, Encinitas, CA 92024
Oceanside Certified Farmers Market
Thursday: 9am-1pm
Pier View Way and Coast Hwy 101, Oceanside, CA 92054
Rancho Santa Fe Certified Farmers Market
Sunday: 9:30am-2pm
Del Rayo Village Center. 16079 San Dieguito Rd, Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92091
Solana Beach Certified Farmers Market
Sunday: Noon-4pm
444 South Cedros Ave, Solana Beach, CA 92075

North Inland

Escondido Certified Farmers Market
Tuesday: 2:30-7pm (Oct- May)
Tuesday: 2:30-7pm (June-Sept)
200 East Grand Ave from N Juniper St and S Kalmia St, Escondido, CA 92025
Fallbrook Main Avenue Certified Farmers Market
Saturday: 9:30am-2pm
100 S Main Ave from Hawthorne and Fig, Fallbrook, CA 92028
Mira Mesa Certified Farmers Market
Tuesday: 3pm-7pm (February - October) Opens 2nd Tues in Feb.

Tuesday: 3pm-6pm (Nov-Dec, closed in January)
Mira Mesa High School, 10510 Reagan Rd. San Diego, CA 92126
North San Diego (Sikes Adobe) Certified Farmers Market
Sunday: 10:30am-3:30pm
Sikes Adobe Historic Farmstead, 12655 Sunset Dr, Escondido, CA 92025
Poway Certified Farmers Market
Saturday: 8am-1pm
14134 Midland Rd at Temple St
Poway, CA 92064
Rancho Bernardo Certified Farmers Market & Specialties
Friday: 9am-1pm
Bernardo Winery, 13330 Paseo Del Verano Norte, San Diego, CA 92128
San Marcos Certified Farmers Market
Tuesday: 3pm-7pm
250 North City Dr. (between Campus Dr. and Redel Rd.), San Marcos, CA 92078
Vista Certified Farmers Market
Saturday: 8am-Noon
County Courthouse, 355 South Melrose Dr (south of Hacienda), Vista, CA 92081





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USAA CLASSIC CHECKING

\$250 BONUS OFFER

Get \$250 when you apply for your first USAA Classic Checking account between May 7 and Sept. 3, and receive a qualifying direct deposit within 90 days of account opening. Limitations apply.¹



Scan to apply online.
usaa.com/csbonusoffer

1 Checking Cash Promotion Offer Terms and Conditions

Eligibility: Offer available for new USAA Classic Checking accounts from USAA Federal Savings Bank, also known as USAA Bank, applied for between May 7, 2025, and September 3, 2025, by 11:59 PM Central Time. The account is not eligible for this offer if: 1) the primary account holder currently has, or has had, primary, secondary, or any other ownership of a USAA Bank checking account (including USAA Youth Spending accounts) in the 12 months prior to account opening; or 2) the account is titled as a trust account, estate account, Uniform Transfers to Minors Act account, or any other representative or fiduciary account. The primary account holder is the account holder whose U.S. taxpayer identification number is used for tax reporting purposes on the new account. The account must remain open and in good standing through the time we attempt to deposit any earned bonus payment.

Bonus Requirements and Payment: To qualify for the bonus, apply for a new USAA Classic Checking account between May 7, 2025, and September 3, 2025, by 11:59 PM Central Time, open your account, and receive a qualifying direct deposit of at least \$100 into the account within 90 calendar days after account opening. A qualifying direct deposit is a single Automated Clearing House, also known as ACH, electronic deposit of \$100 or more. An electronic transfer initiated from your new USAA Bank checking account that instructs USAA Bank to pull funds from another financial institution into your account does not qualify as a direct deposit. Internal transfers between USAA Bank accounts do not qualify. We will attempt to deposit the \$250 bonus into your qualifying new USAA Classic Checking account within 60 calendar days after the first qualifying direct deposit amount has been received. You are responsible for any federal, state, or local taxes due on the bonus and we will report the bonus as income to the tax authorities if required by applicable law. Consult your tax advisor.

Additional Terms and Conditions: All account applications are subject to approval prior to opening and may be subject to a \$25 minimum opening deposit. For USAA Classic Checking accounts with a daily ledger balance of \$1,000 or more, the APY is 0.01%, accurate as of May 7, 2025. For current annual percentage yield or APY, refer to usaa.com/checking. Rates may change at any time. Fees may reduce earnings. Offer can't be paid without a valid U.S. taxpayer identification number or combined with any other offer related to checking accounts. This offer is limited to one bonus per account, on first eligible account only. If multiple accounts are opened during the offer period, only the first account applied for with the lowest account number will be eligible. Offer cannot be reproduced, purchased, sold, transferred or traded. See the Depository Agreement and Disclosures for terms and conditions of your USAA Classic Checking account. Offer may be discontinued or changed at any time without notice. Membership eligibility and product restrictions apply and are subject to change. Deposit products and services offered by USAA Federal Savings Bank, Member FDIC. No Department of Defense or government agency endorsement. © 2025 USAA. 8014782.1.0625