

ARMED FORCES DISPATCH

San Diego Navy/Marine Corps Dispatch www.armedforcesdispatch.com 619.280.2985
Serving active duty and retired military personnel, veterans and civil service employees



SIXTY-FIFTH YEAR NO. 23
OCTOBER 23, 2025



JUST A SWINGIN' A child rides a wave swinger during the Marine Corps Community Services Camp Pendleton Fall Carnival at the 11 Area parade deck at Camp Pendleton in early October. The event featured live music, hayrides, a pumpkin patch, and carnival games to bring the community together and celebrate the changing season. U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Adrian Estrada

NAVY SEAL MUSEUM OPENS IN DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO

Seeking to inspire service and personal excellence among all visitors, the Navy SEAL Museum San Diego has opened its doors, unlocking exclusive access and insight into the world and ethos of Navy SEALs and their predecessors.

Positioned near San Diego's waterfront at 1001 Kettner Blvd., the museum's collection of interactive exhibits, state-of-the-art galleries, and firsthand docent accounts brings the story of Naval Special Warfare to life.

"The Navy SEAL Museum San Diego is a world-class tribute to the courage, perseverance, and dedication of these unparalleled special operators," said Brian Drechsler, executive director of the Navy SEAL Museum. "It is our honor to share this legacy, and inspire future generations to lead with integrity, serve with purpose and rise to life's challenges."

Building on the legacy of the existing location that opened in Fort Pierce, Fla., in 1985, the Navy SEAL Museum selected San Diego for its expansion west. Central to SEAL training and home to Naval

in the future, for which the search is actively underway.

With an innovative blend of technology, personal narrative and historical context, the museum

by Adm. (Ret.) William McRaven that walks viewers through the operation's major steps from planning to execution.

Other exhibits include a SEAL delivery vehicle suspended above a hands-on gameplay opportunity to operate the covert submersible; a 270-degree immersive theater bringing guests into the life and service of Navy SEALs through documentary style personal accounts; to name a few.

The Navy SEAL Museum opened to the public on Oct. 4. Advanced bookings are encouraged, as the museum operates on a time-entry basis.

Advance ticket prices are \$20 for adults, with free admission for reserve and active-duty military (with ID). Visit NavySEALMuseumSD.org for details.



Special Warfare Command, San Diego is a heritage city for SEALs as an indelible part of their storied history.

The opening of the Navy SEAL Museum's showcase location downtown will serve as a launchpad for a larger San Diego venue

provides exclusive insights into the evolution, missions and mindset of the Navy SEALs.

Visitors can experience an up-close look at Operation Neptune Spear, the Navy SEAL mission to neutralize Osama bin Laden, through a 3D animation narrated

Fleet Week S.D. officials cancel 'Meet the Fleet' event at 32nd St.

by Lt. Drew Verbis, Naval Base San Diego

NAVAL BASE SAN DIEGO - The "Meet the Fleet at 32nd Street" public event for Fleet Week San Diego scheduled for November 1 has been canceled due to the continued lapse in appropriations resulting from the ongoing federal government shutdown.

The cancellation is in accordance with Department of the Navy and Department of War guidance on non-essential activities during the funding lapse.



"We understand this event is a major highlight for the San Diego community and for our Sailors; the decision to cancel was not made lightly," said Capt. Brian Bungay, commanding officer, Naval Base San Diego. "We want to ensure compliance with federal policy while also providing timely notification to community partners, schools, vendors,

and families who had planned to support. Meet the Fleet at 32nd Street remains one of our favorite ways to connect the Navy with our incredible community, and we look forward to hosting it again in the future. We appreciate the community's continued support and understanding."

Currently, there is no rescheduled date for "Meet the Fleet at 32nd Street." Naval Base San Diego remains committed to transparency and will share additional updates if circumstances change or future opportunities for public engagement become available.

Established in 1922, Naval Base San Diego is the largest West coast naval installation and principal homeport of the Pacific Fleet, supporting more than 60 combatant and auxiliary surface ships and more than 250 shore commands.

Fleet Week San Diego was created by community and business leaders who understood the great depth of public support for Sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen. This group sought to provide a means for San Diego to express its support in a way that would establish San Diego as a patriotic, pro-military city.

They shared a vision to recognize the contributions made by the naval services to the many communities of the greater San Diego region.

In 1997, after extensive planning and team building, Fleet Week San Diego was born. Nurtured by the Chamber of Commerce, the annual series of events grew quickly into a recognized feature of the region's annual calendar.

By 2001, Fleet Week San Diego had outgrown its home in the Chamber and was incorporated as The San Diego Fleet Week Foundation, a California Public Benefit Corporation and non-profit. As a Public Benefit Corporation, the San Diego Fleet Week Foundation donates proceeds in excess of operating expenses from Fleet Week San Diego to charities that provide critical support to military families.

Aircraft carrier's sudden homecoming fuels speculation over Trump's trip to Japan

In an Oct. 18 *Stars and Stripes* story by Alex Wilson, aircraft carrier USS *George Washington* returned unexpectedly to its homeport Oct. 18, less than three weeks after resuming its annual patrol and just ahead of President Donald Trump's confirmed visit to Japan. The ship sailed through Tokyo Bay and moored at its usual berth with little fanfare. The only public notice came through the Navy's standard communication to the city of Yokosuka. In rare fashion, the carrier arrived with at least a portion of its air wing still aboard

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

Local
Postal Customer

Read the Dispatch online weekly
New issues posted weekly online in a downloadable pdf format at www.afdispatch.com.

**Your FREE
weekly paper**

Take one!

Fleet Week San Diego is here for 2025!

Join us in celebrating the 250th birthday of the Navy and Marine Corps while honoring and thanking these men and women for their many contributions to our nation and our community. Visit www.fleetweeksandiego.org for more information.

Enlisted Recognition Luncheon, October 31, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at the San Diego Zoo. This luncheon hosts over 300 military enlisted guests who have distinguished themselves by their community service and within their commands. The military guests are seated with leaders of the civic and business communities of San Diego, and are treated to gifts and raffle prizes.

Fleet Week Football Classic, November 1. Held during the SDSU Aztec Home game honoring the Navy, Fleet Week San Diego will host active duty personnel and their families at the Nov. 1 game. Sponsored by Liberty Military Housing.

 Wyoming	Sat, Nov 1
 San Diego St	4:00 PM

Military & Veteran Appreciation Concert, November 2, 2-4 p.m., Spreckels Organ Pavilion at Balboa Park. Enjoy a special combined performance by Navy Band Southwest and Marine Band San Diego. This is a free event held at the beautiful Spreckels Organ Pavilion stage in Balboa Park, San Diego. Vietnam veterans who have not previously been awarded a Commemorative Pin will be honored at the concert.

San Diego Fleet Week Breakfast, November 5, 7:30-9 a.m. Midway Museum. Presenting sponsor TriWest Healthcare Alliance. The community breakfast takes place aboard the iconic USS Midway Museum. We welcome distinguished speakers from across the Department of Defense, including leaders from the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard—both civilian and military.

Student STEM Days, November 5-7, Broadway Pier. For more information on how your student group can participate contact Tara@fleetweeksandiego.org. STEM - Science, Technology, Engineering and Math - are core principles for student learning in the decades ahead, necessary to compete in the digital workforce. Student STEM days are an exclusive opportunity for students throughout the county to participate in Fleet Week San Diego's Innovation Zone before we open to the public. Grade Recommendation- Grade level 4 & up.

Broadway Pier open to the public, November 7-9.

Veterans and Military Boat Parade, November 8, 10:45 a.m. San Diego Bay, downtown. Registration closes November 3. Register at <https://www.fleetweeksandiego.org/veterans-day-boat-parade/>. The perfect way to celebrate Veteran's Day! View the parade from the shore of Shelter Island, Harbor Island, San Diego Embarcadero, Seaport Village and Coronado Tidelands Park. **Post Parade concert!**



PHOTO COURTESY OF S.D. MUSEUM COUNCIL

Inaugural San Diego Fleet Week 5K! November 9, 8 a.m. start. Register now! Designed to be accessible for all fitness levels, the event welcomes runners, walkers, and families alike.

MRE (Meals Ready To Eat) Cooking Competition, November 9, Broadway Pier. Registration required. This takes combat rations to the next level. Infamously not-delicious, MREs are shelf-stable, precooked and designed to feed forward-deployed troops when cooked food is unavailable. However, in the hands of Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard amateur chef teams, these meals are transformed! See who can prepare the tastiest, most attractive meals using only the ingredients in a Standard Military Issue MRE package.

Military Family Day, November 9, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Broadway Pier. A fun-filled day dedicated to military families. Get out and dance (or just listen and enjoy) to live music on stage throughout the day. Experience military displays hands-on, light armored vehicles, armaments and even robots. There's lots of fun activities for the kids, and, of course, food trucks! **REGISTER! MILITARY FAMILY DAY ADMISSION IS FREE!** fleetweeksandiego.org



"Having Kenzo allows me to know I'm not alone anymore. He takes me out of that despair, gives me strength and has helped me find myself again."
-U.S. Air Force Veteran Nathan and his service dog, Kenzo



IS A SERVICE DOG RIGHT FOR YOU?

SERVICE DOG | GUIDE DOG | PTSD SERVICE DOG
SEIZURE RESPONSE | HEARING DOG | MILITARY FACILITY DOG



ALWAYS
FREE



WORLD-CLASS
TRAINING



CUSTOMIZED
SERVICE



9-12 MONTHS
AFTER BEING
ACCEPTED INTO
PROGRAM

REDUCED
WAIT TIMES



EST. 2003
AMERICA'S
VET DOGS

APPLY TODAY!

VETDOGS.ORG/DISPATCH
SUPPORT OUR MISSION AND
DONATE DIRECTLY ON OUR WEBSITE
CFC#81344



Advancing Military Medicine

HJF is a nonprofit dedicated to advancing military medicine. From battlefield wounds to infectious diseases and beyond, HJF supports research that benefits our wounded warriors as well as civilian patients. Your contribution enables this research to expand from the bench to the battlefield and the bedside.

Tax ID 52-1317896

CFC #92719



[linkedin.com/company/hjf](https://www.linkedin.com/company/hjf)

hjf.org

The Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine, Inc.

6720A Rockledge Drive, Suite 100 | Bethesda, MD 20817
P: 240-694-2000 | F: 240-694-3100

CBP and Joint Task Force -Southern Border executes life-saving air mission

by Sgt. Timothy Jackson
DoD Southern Border 2025

FORT HUACHUCA, Ariz. – On October 11, a UH-72 Lakota helicopter from Task Force Sentinel took off from Tucson International Airport for a routine mission. The air crew consisted of Soldiers from the California National Guard and a Border Patrol Agent.

The mission originally began as an air support request in response to a report of six illegal aliens moving on foot in the Nogales Area of Responsibility.

En route to the site to provide overhead support to on-ground border patrol agents, the crew approached Montana Peak, an area known for its isolated and uneven terrain. The on-ground BPAs were able to apprehend two of the subjects, while the other suspected IAs went undetected. The search continued as the crew used their eyesight and a powerful sensor equipped in the Lakota to spot the rest of the group.

“The area we were working in is near Montana Peak in

the Ruby area, which is rough, unforgiving terrain that is very steep and not near any roads or other civilization,” said the pilot in command. “This makes it challenging for agents on ground to work and traverse the area, and equally as tough for the group of IAs [Illegal Aliens] on the ground to traverse.”

According to accounts, the mission was still routine air search at the time, but as the mission progressed toward the north side of Montana Peak; a female illegal alien was detected. The woman appeared to be severely injured, could barely stand and looked as if to be saying “help me, help me.” The closest agents, besides the crew on the Lakota, were over 40 minutes away on foot.

“My function is the [sensor] operator”, the crew chief said. “It was a little abnormal, this woman is wearing a bright red shirt, leaned over on a walking stick and she’s waving at us. Normally we’re searching for illegal aliens who don’t want to be found.”

Upon this realization, the crew



Lakota crew chief and a Bborder patrol agent assist a severely injured female Illegal alien into the aircraft during an impromptu casualty evacuation for medical services, Nogales, Ariz., Oct. 11. U.S. Army courtesy photo

decided that the BPA on board, who is EMT qualified, would be dropped off to gain a better understanding of the situation. Understanding the difficult terrain in this area, the pilots opted to perform a “skids light” landing, to allow the BPA to offload the aircraft without compromising the aircraft. The BPA was able to immediately assesses the woman. He described her condition as “dehydrated, malnourished and having discoloration to the right ankle and calf”.

“The IA stated she had been without food or water for several days and her injuries were caused [directly to her] by people in her group, from crossing

the border,” said the agent. “With all factors considered it was determined that she required immediate higher-level medical care.”

This routine mission quickly turned into a life-saving casualty evacuation (CASEVAC) mission. The pilots successfully located a suitable landing site for the aircraft, allowing the crew chief to assist with the rescue.

Due to the lack of a litter and the rocky terrain, the BPA and crew chief carried the woman back to the Lakota. She was airlifted to Holy Cross Medical Center in Nogales to receive immediate medical attention.

Army

- Army wants a QR code system to replace the paperwork of a new duty station
- Electronic warfare and information advantage added to Army principle cyber advisor portfolio
- Army’s vision for loyal wingman drones to fly with its helicopters is taking shape
- Army ‘hitting stride’ with 155mm production, but general worries over what’s needed next
- Army needs to ask for ‘the right data’ along with right to repair, acquisition chief says

Navy

- Captain of ship at center of Navy SEAL drownings sentenced to 40 years
- Carrier USS *Nimitz* transits Singapore Strait, operates in South China Sea
- Navy CCA program’s shape coming into focus

Marine Corps

- Married Marine officers finish grueling training a week apart
- Joint Task Force established to lead SOUTHCOM counter-narcotics operations
- Marine artillery shell detonates over freeway during Camp Pendleton event

Air Force

- Air Force scraps plan for new capabilities command
- B-1 Bomber Task Force deploys to Japan
- Netherlands joins Air Force program to augment fighter jet potency with drones

Space Force

- No future for Space Futures Command, sources say
- Space Force contract to inform commercial weather strategy

National Guard

- National Guard exceeds recruiting goals for fiscal year 2025



SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS BY SUPPORTING CHARITABLE NON-PROFIT GROUPS

Support Our Veterans

The DAV Charitable Service Trust helps fulfill a focused and noble purpose: empowering veterans to lead high-quality lives with respect and dignity. We support programs and initiatives that improve the quality of life for veterans, their caregivers and families.



Scan the QR code or visit cst.dav.org



Charitable Service Trust



\$10.9 million

in grants were awarded throughout the United States in 2024.

More than **95 cents** out of every dollar donated directly supports programs that help veterans and their families.



The Trust supports the following programs: **Rehabilitation, Crisis intervention, Health care, Employment, Education, Caregivers & families, Recreation**



The Trust has received multiple perfect score ratings from Charity Navigator. CFC #11322

USS Arizona Memorial reopens

Shuttle boat service to the USS Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor has officially resumed, marking the completion of several months of vital preservation work.

According to Pacific Historic Parks, shuttle boats are now operating every 15 minutes from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. daily, providing visitors renewed access to one of America's most solemn

and historic sites. Free tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis at the Pacific Historic Parks Audio Tour Desk at the visitor center.

The restoration project, led by Navy contractors in coordination with the National Park Service, focused on removing two deteriorating mooring platforms that had been attached to the battleship since World War II salvage

operations. The platforms, once used to anchor ships during the recovery effort, had shifted over time and posed a threat to the Arizona's hull.

The reopening comes amid the ongoing federal government shutdown, which has caused widespread closures across the National Park System. To ensure



Photo courtesy of Nat'l Park Service

continued public access, Pacific Historic Parks, together with the Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum

and the Pacific Fleet Submarine Museum, provided emergency funding to sustain operations at Pearl Harbor National Memorial.

Originally dedicated in 1962, the USS Arizona Memorial honors the 1,177 crew members who lost their lives during the December 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor. The remains of more than 900 Sailors and Ma-

rines still rest within the sunken battleship, serving as a powerful reminder of sacrifice and resilience. Nearly two million visitors pay their respects at the site each year.

The nation commends the ongoing efforts to preserve this sacred memorial and ensure that future generations can continue to honor those who gave their lives in defense of the nation.



JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska (Oct. 19, 2025) Western Alaska residents exit an Alaska Air National Guard C-17 Globemaster III, assigned to the 144th Airlift Squadron, 176th Wing here. The AKOM continues coordinated response operations in support of the State Emergency Operation Center following the 2025 West Coast Storm as the mission focus, pursuant to Governor Dunleavy's declaration of disaster, shifts from lifesaving to life sustainment and stabilization of communities and survivors. Photo by Alaska National Guard



GRAFENWOEHR TRAINING AREA, Germany (Oct. 20, 2025) Soldiers assigned to the 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment, Task Force Saber, Joint Multinational Training Group-Ukraine, facilitated the Norwegian Foot March. The march was first introduced in 1915 to build endurance and assess the field readiness of Norwegian soldiers - 18.6-mile ruck march carrying a 25-pound pack within a strict time limit - ranging from four hours and 30 minutes to five hours and 50 minutes, depending on age and gender. U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Arturo Guzmann

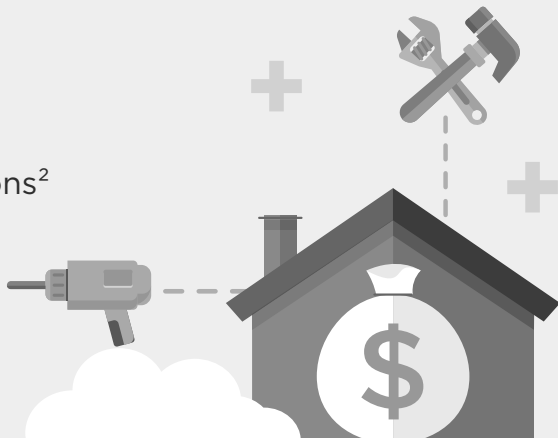


SAVANNAH AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE, Georgia (Oct. 18, 2025) U.S. Airmen assigned to the 165th Airlift Wing (AW), Georgia Air National Guard, palletize equipment during the 165 AW's generation exercise at the This training event was designed to assess the wing's readiness and ability to rapidly mobilize Airmen in support of global operations. U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Victoria Coursey

Open the Door to Your Home's Equity

Dreaming of a new kitchen or need a new roof?
Navy Federal home equity loans offer:

- **flexibility**—Fixed-Rate Equity Loan¹ or Home Equity Line of Credit options²
- **savings**—\$0 application and origination fees, and \$0 closing costs—saving you hundreds
- **opportunities**—pay for a large expense or consolidate high-interest debt



ARMY
MARINE CORPS
NAVY
AIR FORCE
SPACE FORCE
COAST GUARD
VETERANS

Our Members Are the Mission

Explore your options at navyfederal.org/equity



Navy Federal is federally insured by NCUA. ¹Home Equity Loans are fixed-rate loans. Rates are as low as 7.340% APR and are based on an evaluation of credit history, CLTV (combined loan-to-value) ratio, loan amount, and occupancy, so your rate may differ. A sample Fixed-Rate Equity Loan monthly payment based on \$100,000 at 7.650% APR for 20 years is \$814.79. Taxes and insurance not included; therefore, the actual payment obligation will be greater. Navy Federal will pay for all closing costs on new Fixed-Rate Equity Loan applications dated on or after 6/1/23. Covered closing costs include lender fees and fees paid to third parties, such as settlement fees, credit reports, flood determinations, property valuations (including appraisals, if required), title searches, lender's title insurance, recording, mortgage transfer taxes, and government charges. For loan amounts of up to \$250,000, closing costs that members may pay typically range between \$300 and \$2,000. The member is responsible for escrow payments and/or prepaid costs, if required, including property taxes and assessments, homeowners' and flood insurance premiums, association fees/dues and assessments, and prepaid interest. You must carry homeowners' insurance on the property that secures this plan. All loans subject to approval. Offer is subject to change or cancellation without notice. ²Home Equity Lines of Credit (HELOC) are variable-rate lines. Rates are as low as 8.750% APR and 9.750% for Interest-Only Home Equity Lines of Credit and are based on an evaluation of credit history, CLTV (combined loan-to-value) ratio, line amount, and occupancy, so your rate may differ. HELOC has a minimum APR of 3.99% and a maximum APR of 18%. Members who choose to proceed with an Interest-Only HELOC may experience significant monthly payment increases when the line of credit enters the repayment phase. Navy Federal will pay for all closing costs on HELOC applications dated on or after 6/3/24. Covered closing costs paid to third parties include settlement fees, credit reports, flood determinations, property valuations (including appraisals, if required), title searches, lender's title insurance, recording, and government charges. The member is responsible for prepaid interest and escrow payments for first lien HELOCs. Member must carry homeowners' insurance on the property that secures the HELOC. For loan amounts up to \$250,000, closing costs typically range between \$300 and \$2,000. Applications for a HELOC include a request for a HELOC Platinum Credit Card. All loans subject to approval. Offer is subject to change or cancellation without notice. Rates are subject to change. HELOC loans are not available in Texas.

© 2025 Navy Federal NFCU 14215 (1-25)

Enhancing readiness with prepared, trained, and battle-ready security forces

by Darryl Orrell

The terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, overshadowed the dawn of a new century. It was a day that changed how Americans viewed security at the national, state, and local levels, significantly shifting the direction and stance of the United States as a global power and military force to be reckoned with.

Today, U.S. Navy security forces are trained and ready to defend against level one (terrorist) threats, which include foreign intelligence agencies and terrorists involved in espionage, subversion, sabotage, assassinations, and bombing attacks on American assets or its citizens.

Navy leadership has acknowledged that the evolving global threats and the emergence of near-peer competitors have heightened the risk of level two type threats,” said Robert Essmann, force protection program manager at the Center for Security Forces.

Level two threats involve small-scale forces that can pose a significant risk to U.S. Navy personnel, assets, and operations.

Naval installations are responsible for protecting critical assets and naval forces, even during a level two attack.

“In the event of a level two attack, the Navy’s security force will align with the joint security organization, which follows the operational plans of the combatant commander,” said Essmann.

Recognizing the increasing risks and the importance of including joint security operations familiarization in security forces training, CENSECFOR was tasked with analyzing the potential development of a formal “Base Defense” course.

Essmann further clarified that geographical combatant commanders develop operational plans to address potential threats and prepare contingencies, such as safeguarding military installa-



Master-at-Arms 3rd Class Joseph Cabral responds to an active shooter drill conducted during exercise Citadel Shield 2025. U.S. Navy photo by Interior Communications Electrician 2nd Class Ulrika Mendiola

tions, assets, and personnel. As a result, base defense planning is already standardized and integrated into their operational plans. The Navy’s efforts to improve education for its security forces leadership about the joint force structure and the capabilities of the joint operating environment will further enhance its readiness.

CENSECFOR offers an ad hoc version of base defense training that can be customized to specific security concerns in a designated area of operation. Through a mobile training team that conducts on-site visits, tailored exercises, and strategic

San Diego Navy Fleet and Family Readiness ... current job openings

Title	Location	Salary	Closing Date
MWR Fitness Instructor	San Diego	\$46,827 Per Year	Nov. 2, 2025
MWR Yoga Recreation Specialist	Coronado	\$22.44 Per Hour	Nov. 2, 2025
MWR Custodial Worker	San Diego	\$18.47 Per Hour	Nov. 6, 2025
MWR Custodial Worker	San Diego	\$18.47 Per Hour	Nov. 6, 2025
MWR Recreation Assistant	San Diego	\$20.71 Per Hour	Nov. 6, 2025
MWR Lifeguard Assistant	San Diego	\$20.71 Per Hour	Nov. 6, 2025
MWR Fitness Instructor	San Diego	\$22.50 Per Hour	Nov. 6, 2025
Operations Clerk	Point Loma Complex	\$26.41 Per Hour	Nov. 8, 2025
MWR Custodial Worker	Point Loma Complex	\$18.47 Per Hour	Nov. 13, 2025
MWR Assistant Golf Manager	Coronado	\$66,776 Per Year	Nov. 14, 2025
FFSP Clinical Counselor	Coronado	\$101,234.00-\$121,485.00 Per Year	Nov. 16, 2025
MWR Purchasing Agent	San Diego	\$52,169.00-\$56,343.00 Per Year	Nov. 16, 2025

Some employee benefits

If you are a Regular employee who works 20 or more hours per week, you are eligible for benefits (35 hours or more per week for LTD). Employees that are Flex-eligible are only eligible for Medical.

Health and wellness

- Medical, dental, and vision insurance for employees and dependents
- Employee Assistance Program (EAP) - A free program provided by CNIC that is accessible to all employees, members of your household, and dependents, offering 24/7/365 access to private, specialized support. Support and services offered include life coaching, work/life resources, legal/financial resources, and mental health counseling.
- Workplace accommodations for physical or mental health concerns
- Access to Fitness Centers
- Long Term Disability (LTD)
- Life Insurance for employees and dependents

NAF Human Resources Office, 750 Pacific Highway, 14th Floor, San Diego, CA 92132
Hours: Monday-Friday: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Closed Saturday, Sunday & Federal Holidays
Phone: (619) 705-5943; E-mail: CNRSW-NAF-JOBS@us.navy.mil

planning sessions, practical solutions are developed to address real-world security challenges. As Essmann emphasizes, this innovative approach leverages local leadership experience and expertise to create highly effective base defense strategies for actual operational environments.

“Navy Security Forces need to be trained to operate in the joint environment. The Base Defense Course provides basic knowledge and skills to understand that multi-service organization,” said Essmann. It should be noted

that career officers are required to complete joint professional military education, and senior enlisted members should take Enlisted JPME, especially if assigned to a joint command. JPME Phase I can be completed either through an ‘in residence’ course or through distance learning. All intermediate service colleges offer distance learning.”

The Center for Security Forces trains more than 20,000 students annually in Force Protection, Expeditionary Warfare, Code of Conduct, Law Enforcement, and Small Craft Operations. Its training locations, which are located across the United States and worldwide, embody the motto: “Where Training Breeds Confidence.”



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK
DISPATCH
Armed Forces Dispatch Newspaper

FOR MILITARY SPOUSES
Free with MYCAA Grant
CAD/CAM or DENTAL ASSISTING COURSES



Get Certified in 4 weeks!



(858) 722-8504

WWW.DENTALCERTIFICATIONS.COM

GET CONFIDENTIAL
ADDICTION HELP NOW!

Are you struggling with drugs or alcohol but afraid of getting in trouble?

Active duty service members in San Diego can now seek treatment without involving their command.*

Confidential Recovery is in-network withTRICARE. Family members aged 18+ on the plan are also eligible. Private* outpatient drug and alcohol treatment is available in Mission Valley.

CALL US AT (619)452-1200-FELLOW VETS ARE STANDING BY.
Support is Covered, Private, and Easier.

 **CONFIDENTIAL RECOVERY**
www.confidentialrecovery.com



*We will not share information with your command per HIPAA and Title 42 CFR, but TRICARE has records of services billed (if not the medical record). Records could be accessible for a special duty screening, medical board or security clearance check.

Students, researchers, others, operationalize advanced manufacturing

Courtesy story
Naval Postgraduate School

Students and researchers at the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) are playing a lead role in operationalizing advanced manufacturing (AM) techniques and technologies, and the critical warfighting advantages they enable.

Powered by the institution's Consortium for Advanced Manufacturing Research and Education, or CAMRE, and its forward-thinking partnerships with the Marine Innovation Unit and FleetWerx, the NPS-led CAMRE team executed a prolific display of what's possible with Distributed Advanced Manufacturing during the recent Trident Warrior 25 exercise in Southern California.

"I participated in TW24 and TW25, and in both exercises, advanced manufacturing was able to address materiel deficiencies facing the Navy and DOD with a flexibility and speed that I have not seen matched through the



NPS students and faculty supported Exercise Trident Warrior with advanced manufacturing teams on site in San Diego, on board Navy ships, and from the school's lab. U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Abreen Paden

typical process," said Lt. Charles Wallace, a mechanical engineering student at NPS working with the CAMRE team.

"The number one asset of the U.S. military is our human capital, and AM allows the creativity and innovation of our Sailors and Marines to be utilized to address critical supply chain

issues," Wallace added. "AM is an enabling technology that delivers the tools of manufacturing into the hands of those most motivated to employ them for the Navy and the DOD."

The benefits of advanced manufacturing on readiness and warfighting capacity are undeniable, says Capt. Jeremy Gray,

NPS surface warfare chair, and have been demonstrated many times, he adds, through applied research and experimentation by NPS at the school's labs and working with the fleet.

"Traditionally, if we have a system in the Navy that breaks, of course it would have to be repaired. If that part's not readily available, you may have to go back to a manufacturer and create a new one," said Gray during a recent interview.

"This technology, in the form of 3D printing or CNC [computer numerical control] milling, allows us to manufacture parts on site at the demand of the user."

The NPS Trident Warrior team also included students, faculty and service members on the NPS campus, producing parts and testing designs with their industry partners directly involved.

Lt. Jennifer Fairbrother, a submarine officer and September

2025 NPS graduate, supervised the team and helped conduct hands-on training for the visiting service members producing real-world parts for ships in San Diego, including parts for a shipboard Close-in Weapon System used for defense against incoming threats.

Wallace, who supported the team in San Diego from one of the Navy ships engaged in the exercise, said his NPS thesis research is directly related to the work NPS and CAMRE are delivering to the fleet. As a former Nuclear Power Training Unit (NPTU) instructor, he saw

first-hand the expense in both materiel and man-hours needed to keep an aging asset in good working order.

"My thesis research explores replacing existing heat exchangers on naval vessels with an AM triply periodic minimal surface (TPMS) heat exchanger," Wallace said.

"Aided by the advent of AM practices, it has become not only possible but reasonable to produce complex geometry heat exchangers that optimize surface to volume ratio to improve thermal performance."

Camp Pendleton Marine pilot killed in training exercise identified

According to a story by Elizabeth Ireland of the *Times of San Diego*, military officials have identified the Camp Pendleton-based Marine pilot and California native killed in a helicopter crash Oct. 17. Maj. Tyler R. Braconi, 35, died when an AH-1Z Viper carrying two crew members crashed during routine training for the Weapons and Tactics Instructor Course near an unpopulated area of Imperial Gables. The flight had departed from MCAS Camp Pendleton and experienced an "aviation mishap" near the California-Arizona border, officials said.

El Indio
Mexican Restaurant
and Catering

Family Owned & Operated
Since 1940

**Best Mexican Food
in San Diego**

Free Parking! 10% Military Discount

3695 India Street • www.elindiosandiego.com • 619-299-0333
Open Daily 9am - 8pm

Veterans Helping Veterans

DO YOU HAVE Medicare but your needs have changed?
ARE YOU TURNING 65?
Are you TRICARE or a Veteran using VA Benefits?
ARE YOU A SENIOR?
Do you have Medicare Part A & B?
YES! Then you are **ELIGIBLE** up to Additional **\$249/mo.** added to your **S.S.**
Dental \$5.80/mo • Dental Benefit \$2200/year
Vince Parra • 619-763-2425
SERVING ALL OF CA. • CA LIC: 0M89123

Do You Need Homecare, Palliative Care or Hospice Care?
Services At Little or No Cost?
Does a Loved One Have Alzheimers or Dementia?

Armed Forces Dispatch
published by Western States Weeklies, Inc.
2604 B-280 El Camino Real, Carlsbad, CA 92008
619-280-2985 • E-mail: editor@navydispatch.com
Editor.....Scott Sutherland

The Dispatch is published online weekly on Thursdays, and in print on the 1st & 16th of each month by Western States Weeklies, Inc., as a commercial, free-enterprise newspaper. The editorial objective of the Dispatch is to promote support for a strong military presence. Contents of the Armed Forces Dispatch are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, the U.S. Navy or U.S. Marine Corps. The opinions and views of writers whose materials appear herein are those of the writers and not the publishers. Appearance of advertising does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense or any other DOD component, this newspaper, or Western States Weeklies, Inc. Subscription cost is \$75/year.

PAINT YOUR CAR!
Paint Services Starting At:
\$999

• Insurance Welcome • Estimates are Free
• Military Discounts Every day
• Fast Turnaround • "Satin" or "Flat" Black Finishes

Scheibpaintandbody.com

Schieb Paint and Body
1002 W. Main St. 4129 Sports Arena Blvd.
El Cajon, CA 92020 San Diego, CA 92110
Mon-Fri 7:30am-5pm Mon-Fri 7:30am-4pm
619-442-0819 619-501-0924

Trucks, Vans, SUVs and Larger Vehicles Higher. Excludes: Preparation, Bodywork, Rust Repair and Parts. \$25 Hazardous Waste Fee Applies.

FIND THE HOME
THAT FITS
YOUR FUTURE.

JAKE PREUIT
DRE#: 02318437
JAKEPREUIT@BHHSCAL.COM 619-348-5148

SCAN TO START
YOUR HOME
SEARCH TODAY

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HOMESERVICES CALIFORNIA PROPERTIES

NAVY VETERAN | VA LOAN EXPERTISE
RELOCATION & MILITARY | FIRST TIME BUYERS
INTEREST RATES ARE DROPPING!

© 2025 BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HOMESERVICES CALIFORNIA PROPERTIES IS A MEMBER OF THE FRANCHISE SYSTEM OF BHH AFFILIATES LLC. BHHHS AND THE BHHHS SYMBOL ARE REGISTERED SERVICE MARKS OF COLUMBIA INSURANCE COMPANY, A BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY AFFILIATE. EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY.

FLEET WEEK SAN DIEGO
5K
JOIN US AT THE INAUGURAL SAN DIEGO FLEET WEEK
5K & FAMILY WALK!

NOV 9, 2025 - 8AM START TIME
5K RUN DISTANCE: 5 KILOMETER (3.1 MILE)
FAMILY WALK DISTANCE: 1 KILOMETER (0.62 MILE)
DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO - STARTING AT RIJOCO PARK (585 HARBOR LN)
ENJOY SAN DIEGO'S WATERFRONT EMBARCADERO!
FINISH LINE AT BROADWAY PIER!
ALL PARTICIPANTS ENJOY EARLY ACCESS TO FLEET WEEK BROADWAY PIER ACTIVITIES!

SCAN THIS QR CODE OR VISIT US ONLINE AT:
WWW.FLEETWEEKSANDIEGO.ORG

SOCIAL SECURITY MATTERS: How do I navigate the Social Security maze?

by Russell Gloor
Ask Rusty – How Do I
Navigate the Social Security
Maze?

Dear Rusty: I am a woman, turned 65 this month (October 2025). It seems that deciding when to claim Social Security is complicated. I would like more information to navigate through this maze. Thank you. Signed: Ready to Claim

Dear Ready: Deciding when to claim Social Security can be challenging, but we hope to make it a bit easier for you. You can, of course, call us at any time to speak to one of our certified Social Security Advisors, but I'll share some pertinent information here as well.

Be aware that at age 65, you have not yet reached your Social Security (SS) full retirement age (FRA). Born in 1960, your FRA is age 67, and that is when you can get 100 percent of the SS benefit you've earned from a lifetime of working. If you claim SS at age 65, your monthly amount will be reduced by about 13.3 percent from your age 67 entitlement (a permanent reduction). If you wait a bit more and claim at age 66 the reduction would be about 6.7 percent.

To get 100 percent of your "primary insurance amount" you should wait until age 67 to claim. Note you can also wait longer

than your FRA and earn Delayed Retirement Credits up to age 70, when your monthly amount would be about 24 percent more than your FRA entitlement.

If you are still working, at age 65 you will also be subject to Social Security's Annual Earnings



Test (AET) which limits how much you can earn when collecting SS benefits before your full retirement age. The earnings limit for 2025 is \$23,400 (changes annually) and if you earn more than that, SS will take away \$1 in benefits for every \$2 you are over the limit.

There is also a special rule for the first calendar year you are collecting early benefits, which will result in you not getting benefits for any month your work earnings are more than \$1950 after your early benefits start.

So, if you claim SS at age 65 and continue to work, you won't get any SS benefits in any 2025 month thereafter that you earn more than the monthly limit (unless your total annual; 2025 earnings are less than the annual limit). FYI, the earnings limit no longer applies once you attain

your full retirement age.

In the end, deciding when you should claim Social Security should consider your need for Social Security money, your life expectancy, your plans for working, and your marital status. If you are (or were) married, you

might be eligible for a spousal (or ex-spouse) benefit. You may also want to peruse the Social Security Q&A section at our website www.SocialSecurityReport.org. So, as you have already discerned, deciding when to claim Social Security can be confusing, but we are always here to assist you as needed.

You can either call us directly at 1.888.750.2622 or email your specific Social Security questions to us at ssadviser@amacfoundation.org. In either case, we will be most happy to help you decide when to claim, based on your unique personal circumstances.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff,

trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity.

To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadviser@amacfoundation.org.

Russell Gloor is a national Social Security advisor at the AMAC Foundation, the non-profit arm of the Association of Mature American Citizens

The 2.4 million member Association of Mature American Citizens [AMAC] www.amac.us is a vibrant, vital senior advocacy organization that takes its marching orders from its members. AMAC Action is a non-profit, non-partisan organization representing the membership in our nation's capital and in local Congressional Districts throughout the country.

The AMAC Foundation (www.AmacFoundation.org) is the Association's non-profit organization, dedicated to supporting and educating America's Seniors. Together, we act and speak on the Association members' behalf, protecting their interests and offering a practical insight on how to best solve the problems they face today. Live long and make a difference by joining us today at www.amac.us/join-amac.



breakfast
with
santa

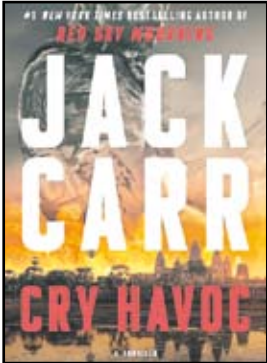
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13 • 9-11 A.M.
\$25 PER PERSON • Kids 3 and FREE.

NB Point Loma

Cry Havoc: A Tom Reece thriller
by Jack Carr

Author Jack Carr brings the worlds of special operations and CIA paramilitary units into direct collision in the jungles of Vietnam with his new thriller introducing young Navy SEAL Tom Reece, a man torn between the blurred lines and allegiances of the military and the increasingly murky world of intelligence. This is how it all began... 1968. A time of division. A time of civil unrest. A time of war. Just before the Tet Offensive, before President Johnson announces he will not run for reelection, before the assassinations of Martin Luther King, Jr., and Bobby Kennedy, as riots and protests rage across the nation, a spy ship is captured by communist forces off the coast of North Korea. The crew thought they had destroyed everything of intelligence value. They were wrong.

CRY HAVOC. RELEASED OCT. 7



VETERAN

COMPENSATION SERVICES

VETERANS WITH LESS THAN 100% VA RATING
WE CAN HELP YOU!

✓ Risk-Free Consultation

✓ Experts in VA Documentation

✓ Veteran Friendly Doctors

✓ Over 95% Success Rate

✓ Thousands of Veterans Served

✓ Experienced A+ Rated with BBB

www.VeteranComp.com

MAIN AUTO REPAIR

"ALL WORK GUARANTEED"

FREE ESTIMATES - Serving Military for Over 25 years

BRAKE SERVICE SPECIAL
from **\$140**
Per Axle, Parts & Labor included.
Most Cars
Standard Brake Packages

A/C Service
\$95

Body Work and Paint

CLUTCH
\$319
Most Cars. Parts & Labor included.
Includes: Pressure plate and disc. Adjustment,
New throw out bearing. Pilot bearing.
Inspect flywheel

TIMING BELT SPECIAL
from **\$199**
Most Cars. Parts & Labor included

CV JOINT AXLE
from **\$220**
Most Cars. Parts & Labor included

FUEL INJECTION SERVICE
from **\$89**
Most Cars. Parts & Labor included

3714 Main Street, San Diego • 619-238-4385

SPOOKY SAVINGS!

HALLOWEEN SHOPS OPEN
10.10.25

HALLOWEEN ITEMS

OCT. 13-19

10% OFF

OCT. 20-26

25% OFF

OCT. 27-31

50% OFF

SCAN TO FIND STORE

OCEANSIDE
SAN DIEGO
LONG BEACH
FRESNO

AMVETS THRIFT STORES

Navy-Marine Corps formation showcases 250 years of amphibious power

by Capt. MacKenzie Margroum, I Marine Expeditionary Force

CAMP PENDLETON – The Navy-Marine Corps team demonstrated the future of naval warfare through integrated command and control, distributed maritime operations, and advanced all-domain capabilities during the Marine Corps 250th Amphibious Capabilities Demonstration at Red Beach here Oct. 18.

The demonstration brought together every element of I Marine Expeditionary Force and U.S. Third Fleet in a synchronized, large-scale operation, featuring amphibious landings, integrated naval maneuvers, and aviation from both sea and shore. It highlighted the Navy-Marine Corps team's ability to project combat power globally, from ship to shore, with speed and precision.

Marines and Sailors train every day to operate from the sea. Weeks of deliberate planning, integrated training, air and waterborne certifications, and rehearsals ensured success at every phase of execution, underscoring the Navy-Marine Corps team's ability to safely conduct complex amphibious operations.

"This demonstration is more than a celebration – it's proof that America's expeditionary force-in-readiness remains capable, credible, and committed," said Lt. Gen. Christian F. Wortman, commanding general of

I Marine Expeditionary Force. "From ship to shore, today's Marines and Sailors demonstrated the same grit and discipline that have defined our Corps for 250 years."

From integrated amphibious landings and live-fire artillery to aviation operations and naval surface maneuvers, this event synchronized the actions of units from across I MEF and Third Fleet. More than 35 aircraft, including CH-53E Super Stallions, MV-22B Ospreys, KC-130J Hercules, and F/A-18 and F-35 jets, supported Marines and Sailors as they executed a synchronized assault with amphibious combat vehicles, High Mobility Artillery Rocket Systems, Navy/Marine Expeditionary Ship Interdiction Systems, landing craft air cushion and light armored vehicles.

Today's Marine Corps fights as a more distributed, networked force – linking dispersed systems through precision sensors and unmanned platforms to enable decisive strikes from sea

to shore. These technological advances increase survivability, tempo and lethality on the battlefield.

"Embarked on a three-ship Amphibious Ready Group, the Marine Expeditionary Unit stands as the United States' most versatile, flexible, and lethal global response force," said Col. Caleb Hyatt, commanding officer of the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit.

"During the 250th Amphibious Demonstration, the USS Boxer Amphibious Ready Group and 11th MEU seized the opportunity to hone and demonstrate our warfighting readiness."

Capt. Wayne Liebold, commodore of Amphibious Squadron 1, emphasized the enduring partnership between the Navy and Marine Corps in projecting power from the sea. "Our Navy and Marine Corps team operates as one – integrated, adaptable, and ready to deliver effects from the sea whenever and wherever our nation calls," Liebold said.

"This demonstration is vital

Marines, Sailors, and civilian officials observe a fly-over during a Beach Bash event following the 250th Amphibious Capabilities Demonstration at Camp Pendleton, Oct. 18, 2025. The Beach Bash, held in

conjunction with the Amphibious Capabilities Demonstration, celebrates Marines, Sailors, and the families and communities who sustain them. The event strengthens the bond between the Marine Corps and the Nation it serves, honoring 250 years of service and sacrifice. U.S. Marine Corps photo by Sgt. Edgar Rafael



CAMP PENDLETON (Oct. 18, 2025) Marine Corps Sgt. Dakota Meyer, a medal of honor recipient, addresses Marines and Sailors during a Beach Bash event following the 250th Amphibious Capabilities Demonstration here. U.S. Marine Corps photo by Sgt. Edgar Rafael

to informing the American public, as well as our adversaries, about the evolving capabilities of modern amphibious warfare," stated Col. Jonathon Frerichs, I Marine Expedition-

ary Force Future Operations Officer. "The Marine Corps' 250-year legacy of sea-based operations remains foundational to our national defense. Events like this reinforce that

legacy and demonstrate the Navy-Marine Corps team's unwavering commitment to readiness and responsiveness in a dynamic security environment."

SEPT 26 - NOV 1

See photos on page 8

The Haunted Trail Balboa Park

HAUNTED TRAIL.NET

SoCalTruck.com
ACCESSORIES & EQUIPMENT
10460 Mission Gorge Rd.
Santee, CA 92071
619-749-0742
Work Smarter, Play Harder!

- Truck Bed Covers • Camper Shells
- Side Steps • Truck Racks
- Tool Boxes • Fuel Tanks
- Carpet Kits • Tow Hitches

MILITARY DISCOUNT
Get \$25 off \$300 or more with this ad

BULLET LINER
An Accella Brand
Spray on Bedliners

"Dress to seduce this Halloween"

Step into the night as a dark nurse, playboy bunny, etc. The choices are endless to complete your fantasy. Naughty accessories and D.I.Y choices. We have it all!

DÉJÀ VU LOVE BOUTIQUE
Shop online at www.dejavuloveboutique.com

2130 Industrial Ct., Vista, CA 92081
866-711-0425
Hours: 10am-10pm 7 Days a Week

Military Discount 20% Off
With valid military ID. Some restrictions may apply. Not valid on any sale items. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Exp. 11/1/25

Fresh squeezed perspectives

Although I’d prefer a hot poker in the eye than submit to my annual mammogram again, of course, it must be done. At least I know exactly what to expect at our local Naval Health Clinic, where the tech is professional and respects my modesty, unlike the discomfiting experience I had while stationed in Stuttgart, Germany.

Twenty-five years ago, I sat in the sterile lobby of the Sindelfingen Krankenhaus, watching a women in the lobby cafe drinking a tall glass of beer and thought, “People may be dying, birthing babies, and having organs removed in here, but nothing will stop this strict, rule-abiding, judgmental society from enjoying their favorite malted beverage.”

As I pondered the irony of the situation, my name was called. “Frau Molinari, bitte, kommen Sie mit.” My stomach jumped as I trailed the nurse down the corridor. I’d heard so many outlandish stories about German mam-mograms and gynecological exams, and I had no idea what was about to happen.

One disturbing rumor that circulated on post described a mammogram waiting room full of German women sitting in chairs nonchalantly reading magazines, completely topless as if it was no big deal.

An American nurse told me a horrifying tale about her gynecological appointment at the German hospital, during which she was required to completely undress in one room then walk naked down an empty hall to the exam room to sit alone on the table and wait for the doctor. When the doctor arrived, she had to submit to the exam, feet in stirrups and all, without so much as a Band-Aid for cover.

After three right turns, I was deposited into a small windowless room with a padded examining table, a sonogram

machine, and a mammogram contraption. As I spied the clear square plates for flattening one’s body parts into pancakes, I felt a psychosomatic twinge of pain.

“Take off your top und bra and wait here,” the nurse instructed in English with a thick accent. While waiting,

The Meat & Potatoes of Life



by Lisa Smith Molinari

I wondered why Americans, who value freedom above all else, are ironically restrained when it comes to our bodies. Conversely, Germans believe “this is what God made” and see nudity as a simple fact of life, nothing about which to be ashamed or embarrassed.

Furthermore, why is it that Americans are well known for being open and friendly to strangers – it’s no big deal to sit at a bus stop and tell a complete stranger your life story, to include the stuff about Uncle Pete’s gambling addiction and cousin Wendy’s bastard love child – but God forbid we expose our naked bodies to a doctor without the protection of a paper gown?

The German nurse’s arrival interrupted my wonderings, and soon, my breast was on the bottom plate of the machine. She pressed a button to lower the top plate, and I watched helplessly as

the device turned me into a French crepe. I felt twangs of pain in my left armpit as the plate mercilessly continued its descent.

“Are you feeling pain?” she asked. “No.” I whimpered, and she dropped the plate a few more millimeters. My eyes watered and I held my breath as the machine took images of my deformed parts.

Ten minutes later the nurse was done, and I felt like a deflated balloon. Mercifully, she said I could put on my shirt without a bra, and lay on the examining table to wait for the doctor to perform a sonogram.

“Hallo, I am Doctor Müller. Pleeze take off your shirt,” he pronounced upon entering the room, and I awkwardly pulled my shirt back over my head.

“Zo, how long have you lived in Deutschland?” Doctor Müller asked as he noisily squirted globs of clear gel from a plastic bottle onto my chest. “Flplpt! Flplpt!” the bottle obnoxiously emitted as I tried to carry on normal conversation. Before I knew it, he performed the sonogram in a flash and pronounced me healthy and normal.

When the procedure was over, Dr. Müller shook my hand and left the room. With a fresh perspective of German culture, I puritanically slipped back into the security of my clothing and thought, “I could really use a beer right about now.”

www.themeatandpotatoesoflife.com

AutoMatters™ & More



by Jan Wagner

“TRON: Ares” Walt Disney Picture’s ‘TRON’ film franchise is iconic, so when the latest installment of the franchise was previewed in Hall H of the San Diego Convention Center during San Diego Comic-Con last summer, the level of anticipation went through the roof — or perhaps I should say it went through the ceiling, since part of the staging for the preview and panel were bright red laser lights beamed around the perimeter of the ceiling of the enormous Hall H.

Costumed “Program” characters from the new film marched up to the stage where the panel was about to be held. With the level of excitement duly built up, the extended-length preview was shown. It blew me away. I could not bear to wait for the movie’s release, but finally that has happened.

Here is how Walt Disney Pictures describes the film:

“ ‘Tron: Ares’ follows a highly sophisticated Program, Ares, who is sent from the digital world into the real world on a dangerous mission, marking humankind’s first encounter with A.I. beings. The feature film is directed by Joachim Ronning and stars Jared Leto, Greta Lee, Evan Peters, Hasan Minhaj, Jodie Turner-Smith, Arturo Castro, Cameron Monaghan, with Gillian Anderson, and Jeff Bridges. Sean Bailey, Jeffrey Silver, Justin Springer, Jared Leto, Emma Ludbrook and Steven Lisberger are the producers, with Russell Allen serving as executive producer.”

This film is fantastic. Rather than a rehash of an old storyline, which plagues so many sequels, “TRON: Ares” has a fresh, exciting new story, and it takes the action full-speed into the real world as the cycles race through the streets and cause mayhem. The special effects are next-level. I want to see it again.

I saw “TRON: Ares” in IMAX

Movie reviews of TRON: Ares & Roofman

and that is what I recommend for you. The only criticism I have is technical. Granted my hearing is not as good as when I was younger, but the scenes where there were loud sound effects and music drowned out some of the dialog. I wish that theaters would not play the audio so loud but it seems to be a trend. I will have to wait until I can see “TRON: Ares” at home to better control the volume level.

To learn more about “TRON: Ares” and to see Walt Disney Pictures trailers, visit: <https://movies.disney.com/tron-ares>.

“Roofman”

“Roofman” is based on a true story. I’ll be honest with you. I most wanted to see this film to refresh my memories about the many times that I spent in Toys”R”Us stores (with and without my kids!), since I’d heard that to make this film they basically built a Toys “R” Us store, complete with shelves full of merchandise. The store was so realistic that they had to turn away potential customers!

Here is how Paramount Pictures describes the film:

“Based on an unbelievable true story, Roofman follows Jeffrey Manchester (Channing Tatum), a former Army Ranger and struggling father who turns to robbing McDonald’s restaurants by cutting holes in their roofs, earning him the nickname: Roofman. After escaping prison, he secretly lives inside a Toys “R” Us for six months, surviving undetected while planning his next move. But when he falls for Leigh (Kirsten

Dunst), a divorced mom drawn to his undeniable charm, his double life begins to unravel, setting off a compelling and suspenseful game of cat and mouse as his past closes in.”

The story is gripping and I found the Roofman-nicknamed character to be sympathetic, but the title of the film is a little off the mark. Whereas the Roofman earned his nickname from robbing a lot of McDonalds locations and other fast-food restaurants, by cutting a hole in the roof, the majority of the film actually revolves around the time period when Roofman lived in the Toys “R” Us store. It looks like it really was quite possible to live in a Toys “R” Us store — store security measures and all, although the food choices were limited and not particularly healthy.

I enjoyed “Roofman” and recommend it. Be sure to stay for the credits, since updates are shown, complete with photos, of the actual people upon whose lives this film is based.

To learn more about “Roofman” and to see Paramount Pictures trailers, visit: <https://www.roofman-movie.com>.

To explore a wide variety of content dating back to 2002, with the most photos and the latest text, visit “AutoMatters & More” at <https://automatters.net>. Search by title or topic in the Search Bar in the middle of the Home Page, or click on the blue ‘years’ boxes and browse. Copyright © 2025 by Jan Wagner – AutoMatters & More #903r1

VA Disability Claim Denied?

Know Your Rights and Don’t Take “No” for an Answer!

Don’t Risk a Permanent Denial and Lose Back Pay

Call the Professional Advocates Today!

No Fees Unless You Win - Free Consultation

800-921-0310

www.VetDisabilityAid.com

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

Gimmanuel 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 CW03, 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

Southwest Baptist Church
"To know Christ and to make Him known"
Welcome All | Retired Military/Chaplain as Pastors
Sunday Bible Study: 9:30am | Sunday Worship Service: 11am
Wednesday Prayer Service: 7pm
2295 Leon Avenue, San Diego, CA 92154 | Phone: (619) 423-2477
Email: pastor@swbcsd.org | www.swbcsd.org

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!

CLASSIFIED ADS

ARMED FORCES DISPATCH CLASSIFIEDS

To place your ad, please call our Classified Advertising Department at (619) 280-2985.

CATERING

We can cater your event with the 'Best Mexican food in San Diego!' Military Discount. El Indio 619-299-0333

New military families have moved to the area over the summer. Advertise your goods & services to the assured-income military community in The Dispatch Classifieds 619-280-2985

RENTALS APARTMENTS

BALBOA PARK – 1BR/1BA, 800 sq ft, close to Navy Hospital, freeway & shopping. Nice quiet area on cul-de-sac. \$1950/mo. Chuck 619-972-9346.

10/1

AVAILABLE NOW!!!
1, 2 or 3 BR's
Apartments, Townhouses
& Houses

MOVE-IN SPECIAL! LEADINGHAM REALTY

1062 Palm Ave., Imperial Beach
619-424-8600

TF

SAN DIEGO – New construction, never lived in. TWO 1BR/1BA units. Stnls steel, granite, AC, solar. Under mile to 32nd St Base. \$2250/mo, renter pays all utilities. Adriana 619-921-1010.

10/1

RENTALS CONDO

BEAUTIFUL 1BR/1BA CONDO AVAILABLE IN MISSION VALLEY!



Email Jessica at
jessica@socalprem.com
to schedule a tour.
1651 Hotel Circle So, Unit D103, SD 92108

Advertise your goods & services to the assured-income military community in The Dispatch Classifieds 619-280-2985

RENTALS CONDO

SCRIPPS RANCH – 2BR/1BA, 914sf \$2700/mo. W/D in unit. Fireplace, balcony, community pool, parking. Water/trash paid. EZ access to I-15. Now Available, 760-517-6316.

10/1

RENTALS HOUSE

IMPERIAL BEACH – 3BR/2BA, 2 car gar, 4 blks to beach, appli's avail. No smoking. Water/trash paid. \$3350/mo. 619-403-2146

10/16

RENTALS TOWNHOUSE

HILLCREST – 3BR/1.5BA, unfurnished, with private fenced yard, newly remodeled, AC \$3900/mo. 619-992-9927.

10/1

WANTED TO BUY

TOP CASH PAID
Records, CD's, cassettes, DVD's, VHS.
I pick up. 858-382-7396.

10/1

MOVIES AT THE BASES

MOVIE SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE SO PLEASE CHECK THE WEB SITE DAY-OF TO MAKE SURE THE TITLE AND TIME ARE STILL CORRECT...

<https://sandiego.navylifew.com/> select movies at dropdown menu on left
<https://miramar.usmc-mccs.org/dining-entertainment/movies>
<https://pendleton.usmc-mccs.org/dining-entertainment/theater>

NBSD and Lowry Theater Policy

- Outside food and beverage are NOT permitted: Sales from the snack bar support the movie program.
- These Theaters are cashless facilities. Debit and credit cards accepted only.
- Premium Offerings
 - Audiovisual assistive equipment available to customers at the front counter.
 - Handicap seats and child booster seats are available.
- Movie Rating System
 - G – General audiences ALL ages admitted.



PG – Parental guidance suggested some material may not be suitable for children.

PG-13 – Parents strongly cautioned some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

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

NC-17 – No one 17 or under admitted.

Visit our military museums

The Veterans Museum at Balboa Park. The Veterans Museum and Memorial Center is a museum located in historic Balboa Park of San Diego, California. Founded in 1989, it is dedicated to create, maintain, and operate an institution to honor and perpetuate the memories of all men and women who have served in the Armed Forces of the United States of America.

Active duty military, Museum Member, Children under 12: Free
Veterans/Seniors: \$4 • Adults: \$5 • Student ID: \$2
2115 Park Blvd, San Diego (Balboa Park) • (619) 239-2300
<http://www.veteranmuseum.org/>
Hours: Call for current hours (619) 239-2300

MCRD Command Museum & Historical Society. Museum focusing on Marine Corps history from the 19th century to today is also a research library. <https://www.mcrdmuseum.org/>
Free admission • The Pass and ID Center may issue day passes to visitors who wish to visit the museum and do not possess military ID-call (619) 524-4200 for information on base access.
1600 Hochmuth Ave, San Diego, 92140 • (619) 524-4426
Hours: Mon 8am-3pm, Tue-Fri 8-4; Family day 8-5:45; Sat 10:30-5, • Closed Sunday

Marine Corps Mechanized Museum Camp Pendleton. Managed under the auspices of Camp Pendleton's Museum Division Office, the collection of over 50 vehicles ranges from World War I to the first Gulf War. It includes Patton tanks, armored wheeled and tracked vehicles, trucks, jeeps and amphibious vehicles. When coming aboard Camp Pendleton, please ensure that you have a valid photo ID for every vehicle occupant along with current registration and proof of insurance. <https://www.themec.org/>
24194 Vandegrift Blvd, Oceanside, CA 92058. (760) 725-5758
Mon-Thur 8am-4pm, Fri 8am-1pm, Closed Saturday & Sunday

USS Midway Museum. The USS Midway Museum is a maritime museum located in downtown San Diego at Navy Pier. The museum consists of the aircraft carrier Midway. The ship houses an extensive collection of aircraft, many of which were built in So Cal. FREE-Children 5 & under, Active Duty military including reservists (w/ valid ID). Adult \$34 (ages 13+). Youth \$24 (ages 4-12). Veterans (w/ID) \$24*Must show ID at entrance.
Open daily 10-5, last admission 4pm. <https://www.midway.org/>

The Ranch House Complex at Camp Pendleton. Listed as the Santa Margarita Ranch House Nat'l Historic Site and as a California State Historical Landmark. Docent-led tours are available by appointment; masks required. Please email your request to: MCBCAMPEN_history@usmc.mil or phone (760)725-5758 The Camp Pendleton Historical Society is a 501(c)3 organization in support of the base's History and Museum's programs. Go to: www.camppendletonhistoricalsociety.org/ for information. Hours: Open daily 10am-5pm • Last admission at 4pm

Thank you for reading the Dispatch!

For more info visit tricare.mil/shutdown

Military Hospitals and Clinics (Medical and Dental)

Inpatient services, including surgeries	No changes for now. Contact your local facility to confirm any procedures you have scheduled.
Emergency services	No changes in hospitals that have emergency departments.
Urgent care	No changes in hospitals that have urgent care departments.
Outpatient care, including lab work, primary, and specialty appointments	There may be changes in hours or services. Your hospital or clinic will contact you if they must cancel an appointment. Contact your military hospital or clinic to confirm sick call or walk-in clinic hours.
Military pharmacies	Will continue to operate, but hours and medications available may change.
Referrals and authorizations	No changes.
Enrollment and new patient services	No changes.

BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY

CATERING

EL INDIO

Mexican Restaurant and Catering
Open Daily 9am-8pm • Free Parking!
10% Military Discount
3695 India Street • Downtown San Diego
619-299-0333
Family Owned & Operated Since 1940
www.ElIndioSanDiego.com

DOG TRAINING

The Dog Wizard Coronado
619 419-0160

15% OFF
All Training Programs
for active and retired military



YOUR AD HERE

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS TO ACTIVE DUTY AND RETIRED MILITARY, VETERANS & THEIR FAMILIES

SOCIAL GROUPS

HORSESHOE CLUB

Southern California Horseshoe Pitchers Association (SCHPA)
Welcomes all levels of pitchers!
Balboa Park • Ramona • Encinitas
Find out more & be part of the fun
<https://socalhorseshoes.weebly.com/>

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

Camp J.H. Pendleton O'side Det 21
760-271-7369
Meeting monthly, 3rd Thursday @ 6pm
Veterans Association of North County
1617 Mission Ave. Oceanside 92058

THRIFT STORES

AMVETS NEW STORE NOW OPEN IN OCEANSIDE

40,000 clothing items & 10,000 miscellaneous items on our floor daily!
1527-A Mission Ave., Oceanside
Just east of I-5
(760) 286-8880
Open 7 days a week 9am-7pm
Sales support veterans & their families



Learn how the lapse in appropriations affects your TRICARE benefit, visit tricare.mil/shutdown

During the current lapse in government appropriations, you may continue to get care or attend currently scheduled appointments with your civilian providers. Your usual out-of-pocket costs will apply.

You may also continue to fill prescriptions at military pharmacies, retail network pharmacies, and home delivery.

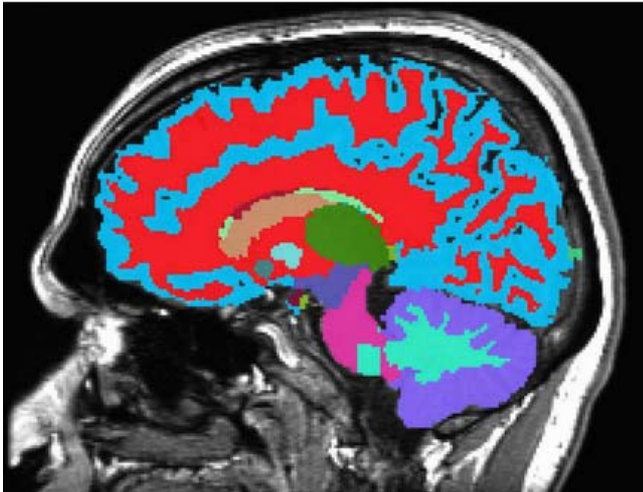
TRICARE will continue to process medical claims. However,

payment for some claims may be delayed until funding is restored. The Defense Health Agency is also working with our TRICARE contractors to also communicate with healthcare providers on potential delays in payment.

We understand this may cause concern and inconvenience, and we sincerely regret the disruption. We remain committed to resuming full operation as quickly as possible once appropriations are enacted.

TRICARE Services (Applies to All TRICARE Plans)

Inpatient services, including surgeries	No changes for now. Contact your provider to confirm any procedures you have scheduled.
Emergency services	No changes. If you believe you have an emergency, call 911 or your international emergency number. Or go to the nearest emergency room. Visit Emergency Care .
Urgent care	No changes. Visit Urgent Care .
Outpatient care, including lab work, primary, and specialty appointments	No changes.
TRICARE Pharmacy Program	No change for retail pharmacies and home delivery. Military pharmacies will continue to operate, but hours and medications available may change.
Call centers	No changes. Visit Contact Us for ways to reach your regional contractor.
Enrollment and PCM changes	No changes. Visit Enroll or Purchase a Plan and Find/Change My Primary Care Manager .
Claims	TRICARE will continue to process medical claims. However, payment for some claims may be delayed until funding is restored.
Referrals and authorizations	No changes. Visit Referrals and Pre-Authorizations .
MHS Nurse Advice Line	No changes. Visit MHS Nurse Advice Line .
TRICARE Prime Travel Benefit	Not available. If you must travel for care, save your receipts, and you may file for reimbursement for reasonable travel expenses for a qualified trip. Visit Prime Travel Benefit .
Online services	No changes. Secure online services like Beneficiary Web Enrollment, milConnect, MHS GENESIS Patient Portal, and secure messaging will continue to operate. Visit Find My Login .
Government administrative services	Government administrative actions like appeals, line of duty determinations, and grievances, may be delayed or paused due to staffing levels.



MRI image of the brain. Ethan Whitman, Duke University. newsinhealth.nih.gov

Brain scan measures aging rate

Biologically speaking, some people age faster than others. Your aging rate can affect your health and disease risks. If you knew this rate, you might be able to work with your doctor to slow the aging process. A research team developed a way to measure aging based on a single brain scan.

The team drew on their earlier studies, where they devised a way to measure biological aging using blood tests. They tracked the health of more than 1,000 people from birth to age 45 and measured 19 factors related to health. These included heart function, metabolism, disease-fighting molecules, and more. Using these, they developed a measurement called the Pace of Aging. It shows how health functions dwindle over time.

Most of the study participants also had an MRI scan at age 45. In the new study, the team combined the Pace of Aging scores with the MRI scan data. They developed a new aging measurement, called Dunedin-PACNI, based on the brain scans alone. They then tested the new tool with data collected on thousands of people from other studies.

DunedinPACNI accurately predicted how quickly a person’s ability to think and remember weakened with age. It also could predict a person’s risk of future disease and death.

“We’ve captured how fast people are aging using data collected in midlife. And it’s helping us predict diagnosis of dementia among people who are much older,” explains Dr. Ahmad Hariri of Duke University. “We really think of it as hopefully being a key new tool in forecasting and predicting risk for diseases.”



Your Local USO Wants You!

Volunteers are our greatest asset and the backbone of the USO. Whether helping a Sailor or Marine with a connecting flight, distributing a Care Package, serving snacks with a smile, providing local information, or “welcoming home” ships and 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 www.volunteers.uso.org.

- On the right side see “Interested in volunteering?”
- Click red “Register Here” button
- Navigate to your area
- Finally, select the USO San Diego center nearest to you!

Positions may be available around San Diego county at:

Neil Ash Airport Center
Camp Pendleton USO Center
San Diego MEPS Center
Special Events Outreach



Put down roots, even on the move.

Use your VA home loan benefit and start owning this PCS.



Whether it's your PCS or your ETS, there's never a wrong time to put down roots.

Not only will buying a home help you build equity, but your VA home loan requires no money down - plus we'll waive your \$1,440 lender fee.* And in some areas, owning a home is actually cheaper than renting.

Let us help find the right VA Loan for you

Contact me today to explore your options!



Mohamed Tawy

Producing Branch Manager/SVP of Mortgage Lending



C: (619) 599-5643

rate.com/mohamedtawy mohamed.tawy@rate.com

12625 High Bluff Dr Suite 110, San Diego, CA 92130



THE
TAWY
TEAM



EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

Receipt of application does not represent an approval for financing or interest rate guarantee. *Restrictions may apply, contact Guaranteed Rate or Mohamed Tawy for current rates and more information. CA: Licensed by the Department of Financial Protection and Innovation under the California Residential Mortgage Lending Act. Mohamed Tawy NMLS ID: 450660, AZ - 1018822, CA - CA DFP1450660, CO - 100522433, CT - LO-450660, DC - MLD450660, FL - LO81708, GA - 450660, HI - HI450660, ID - MLO-2080450660, IL - 031.0065248, KS - LO.0049014, KY - MC738712, LA - Licensed, MA - MLO450660, MD - Licensed, MN - MN-MLO-450660, MO - MO-450660, MT - 450660, NC - I194568, NH - Licensed, NJ - Licensed, NV - 69645, NY - Licensed, OR - Licensed, TN - 227350, TX - Licensed, VA - MLO-62142VA, WA - MLO-450660 Guaranteed Rate Inc.; NMLS #2611; For licensing information visit nmisconsumeraccess.org

Apply on line and receive expert advice with 100% transparency, including rates and payments.

Proud partner of the USO

We are one of a small group of lenders that partner with the USO and their USO Pathfinder® program.

Great savings & choice

We waive the lender fee (\$1,440) and have loan options for credit scores of 550 and up.

FREE appraisal on home purchase or refinance

In honor of your service and to show our gratitude, we are offering a FREE Appraisal on a home purchase or refinance through November 30, 2025.

A dedicated team of VA loan experts

Our VA specialist team includes 55 Vets and has processed more than \$12 billion in VA loans.