

# FAMILY NEWSLETTER



March 2014



## NATIONAL NEWS



### SIGN UP FOR SUMMER CAMP NOW!

BY DARIO SANTANA, FAMILY PROGRAMS & CHARITABLE RESOURCES COORDINATOR  
NAVY WOUNDED WARRIOR – SAFE HARBOR

Spring is the best time to begin searching for summer camps that your children might like to attend. Keeping children busy during school vacation can be a difficult task, especially for the families of wounded warriors, who are consumed with many more pressing tasks. The resources outlined below may help alleviate some of the stress that can accompany summer scheduling.



Children from military families enjoy adventures at Operation Purple Camps.

Camps designed specifically for military children can be particularly enriching for wounded warrior families. There, children can connect with others just like them. The camps bring together children from all ranks and services, and provide a unique and memorable summer camp experience. Check out these great opportunities:

- **Camp Corral:** This camp offers a week of non-stop fun and excitement in the great outdoors for military children ages 8 through 15 (with a special focus on the children of wounded warriors). Visit [www.campcorral.org](http://www.campcorral.org).
- **Boys & Girls Club Camps:** Many Boys & Girls Club chapters offer summer camps for local children. Visit [www.bgca.org](http://www.bgca.org).
- **Military Teen Adventure Camps:** The Department of Defense's Office of Family Policy partners with several universities to offer Teen Adventure Camps for military children ages 14 to 18. Visit [bit.ly/1hah2lJ](http://bit.ly/1hah2lJ).
- **Operation Purple Camps:** These camps offer a free week of summer fun for military kids whose parents have been, are currently or will be deployed. Visit [bit.ly/1lwaeBy](http://bit.ly/1lwaeBy).
- **Other Resources:** Check out the online Summer Camp Directory at [www.campage.org](http://www.campage.org) or find local programs at [www.militaryinstallations.dod.mil](http://www.militaryinstallations.dod.mil).



### APRIL IS THE MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

Navy Wounded Warrior (NWW) – Safe Harbor joins the Department of Defense and the entire military community in celebrating April as the Month of the Military Child. Military children face many special challenges, such as having a deployed parent or moving frequently. April is a time to recognize their accomplishments and resilience.

In particular, the children of wounded warriors often face taller hurdles than other children. Their family dynamic is forever changed after their loved one is injured or diagnosed with a serious illness. They, too, have to heal, and to find a new normal.

NWW provides assistance to wounded warrior families, including children. From connecting them to scholarships and camps, to sharing mental health resources and literature on coping strategies, NWW is ready to help.

Learn more about the Month of the Military Child at [www.monthofthemilitarychild.org](http://www.monthofthemilitarychild.org).



NWW is pleased to welcome its new director,  
Capt. Brent Breining!

He is looking forward to assisting NWW enrollees and their families and caregivers.

Visit <http://safeharbor.navylive.dodlive.mil> to learn more about him!



# Wounded Warrior Family Newsletter

March 2014



## REGIONAL NEWS



*BELOW IS A SAMPLING OF ADDITIONAL NEWS AND RESOURCES FOR WOUNDED WARRIOR FAMILIES IN NAVY REGION SOUTHEAST.*

### **eKNOWLEDGE OFFERS SAT AND ACT PREP FOR NAVY FAMILIES**



Do you have a family member who is preparing for college entrance exams? The Navy's eKnowledge program offers SAT and ACT PowerPrep programs for less than \$20. The programs are available online or on a single DVD. The programs include more than 11 hours of video instruction and 3,000 files of supplemental test preparation materials, such as interactive diagnostic tools, sample questions and practice tests. To get started or to learn more, visit [www.eKnowledge.com/USNavy](http://www.eKnowledge.com/USNavy) or call 951-256-4076.

### **FILE SCHOOL RECORDS VIRTUALLY!**



The Military Child Education Coalition offers a cutting-edge education resource for military children called SchoolQuest. The site serves as a safe, centralized virtual file drawer, where students or parents can keep track of the many details that are so difficult to organize, but essential when students move or apply for college, jobs or military service. The site also serves as a search site for students preparing for college entrance exams, searching for scholarships, looking to learn about financial aid options and more. Visit [www.schoolquest.org](http://www.schoolquest.org) to create a profile.

Save the Date!

### **LT. DAN BAND CONCERT**

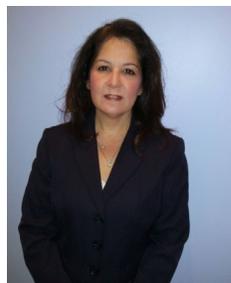
Friday, March 28 ~ 7:00 p.m. Showtime

Naval Air Station Jacksonville ~ Dewey's Parking Lot

NWW enrollees will enjoy a meet-and-greet with the band afterwards!  
Contact NWW Regional Director Lt. Dan Simonds at 904-542-5810.

### **SOUTHEAST REGION STAFF SPOTLIGHT**

By Lt. Dan Simonds, NWW Regional Director



*Higgins-Echevarria provides top-notch support.*

NWW Recovery Care Coordinator Melissa Higgins-Echevarria, who is located at Naval Hospital Jacksonville, has been a fantastic addition to the Navy Region Southeast team. Her attention to detail and tenacity have made her a superstar in the Recovery Care Coordinator world. She is developing great ideas to innovate practices that help make

NWW Southeast a more efficient machine. She possesses the innate ability to identify local resources, often employers, and share that information with transitioning service members. She is a wonderful resource for local wounded warrior families, and she can be reached at 904-542-0444 or [melissa.echevarria.ctr@navy.mil](mailto:melissa.echevarria.ctr@navy.mil).

### **RESTORATIVE RETREAT OPPORTUNITY**

Gratitude America, a Florida-based nonprofit organization, hosts Marineland Military Support Retreats for service members and families impacted by deployment experiences. The retreats encourage healing by immersing participants in natural beauty and offering recreation activities, yoga, guided meditations, dolphin interaction and equine therapy. The retreats are available free of charge and are staffed by veterans, experts in military and veterans issues, and dedicated community members. Learn more and apply at [www.gratitudeamerica.org/marineland](http://www.gratitudeamerica.org/marineland).

### **ARE YOU AWARE...**

OF THE MANY SERVICES AVAILABLE TO ENROLLEES OF NAVY WOUNDED WARRIOR - SAFE HARBOR?  
*From adaptive athletics to a mentor program for transitioned wounded warriors, there is something for everyone! Learn more at*  
[HTTP://SAFEHARBOR.NAVYLIVE.DODLIVE.MIL](http://SAFEHARBOR.NAVYLIVE.DODLIVE.MIL)

GET CONNECTED TODAY!

<http://safeharbor.navalive.dodlive.mil>

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