



Navy League of the United States

The Helmsman

Broward County, Florida Council, Inc.

Serving the Sea Services Since 1902

VOL. 22 ISSUE 7

George Reeves, President
Marianne Giambrone, Editor

SEPTEMBER 2011

NAVY

MARINE CORPS

COAST GUARD

MERCHANT MARINE

SEPTEMBER DINNER SOCIAL

We are honored to welcome our Navy League National President Dan Branch and his wife Kathleen to South Florida. Dan will address Navy League issues including progress and challenges facing our Country's sea services.

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Tropical Acres Restaurant
2500 Griffin Road Fort Lauderdale 33312

Cocktail hour begins at 6:30 Dinner at 7:15 PM

Dinner choices: Prime Rib
Norwegian Salmon

**RSVP your dinner choice before September 1
by mailing your check (payable to BCNL) to:**

Tom Jones, Treasurer
6201 SW 16 Street, Plantation FL 33317

BCNL local dues paying members = \$30
National dues paying members and guests = \$35
Active military and spouses = \$20

For additional information, call Joan at 954-753-2322 or Sandra at 954-587-4618

All attendees are asked to bring an item to include in the care packages the Council sends to the deployed Marine units in Afghanistan.

USS COLE DDG 67 VISITS PORT EVERGLADES

On August 18, 2011, the USS Cole DDG67 arrived in Port Everglades and was greeted by Navy Leaguers and members of Broward Navy Days. That evening, Broward Navy Days hosted an All-Hands Party at Briny's Irish Pub. There was a great turnout of sailors and civilians who enjoyed good food, drinks and great conversation.

The USS Cole was commissioned at Port Everglades on June 8, 1996 and it is the adopted ship of Broward Navy Days.



Shown above is Council member Alan Adler with Sailor of the Year BM3 Travis Cliborne.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

National President Dan Branch and his wife Kathleen will visit Ft. Lauderdale in early September and will take advantage of our Council's dinner/social on September 8th at Tropical Acres Steakhouse to meet and greet the membership and friends of our combined South Florida area Councils. Dan will be our principal speaker and will address the challenges of our Country's sea services.

At a national level, during these times of budget constraints, Dan has been in the forefront in an effort to educate Congress, Administration officials, the private corporate sector and the general public regarding the imperative of maintaining maritime superiority in an era where the Navy's tasks are many, the geography immense, and the number of ships on the decline. He has been a stalwart spokesman of the Navy League's position that a 325 ship minimum for the maintenance of secure sea lanes is required to foster international trade and to protect our Country as well as the maritime interests of our allies. Dan has also been an active proponent of renewed Coast Guard sea and air assets in the face of the increased operating costs of seriously aging equipment in an environment of the expansion of the Coast Guard's mission.

In addition to his maritime representational and educational duties, Dan has dedicated considerable time to internal Navy League management and financial issues, membership and retention, so as to reposition our Navy League as a worthy and viable proponent of the sea services for the years to come.

As always, we'll have our reception for all at 6:30PM followed by dinner at 7:15. Announcements have been circulated to all.

Please confirm your attendance soonest to Joan Sefton at 954-753-2322 or Sandra Jones at 954-587-4618. Checks need to be mailed to Treasurer Tom Jones no later than September 1st.

Let's give a warm South Florida welcome to Dan and Kathleen.

George Reeves
Council President



GUEST SPEAKER



DAN BRANCH
NATIONAL PRESIDENT
NAVY LEAGUE OF THE U.S.

Dan Branch is the 45th National President of the Navy League. He has served as National Vice President for Legislative Affairs, Rocky Mountain Region President, Region Vice President for Legislative Affairs, Colorado State President, Denver Council President, and as a

National Director for 10 years. Navy League awards for his work include two Navy League Commendations and the Scroll of Honor.

Dan is a retired career naval officer with over 30 years of service. After graduation from the U. S. Naval Academy, he went to sea in three surface ships and three submarines. He was Commanding Officer of nuclear attack submarine U.S.S. Scamp, and surface ship U.S.S. Orion, a Submarine Tender in La Maddalena, Italy. Earlier sea tours were on Destroyer U.S.S. Bigelow, the first nuclear DLGN, U.S.S. Bainbridge, nuclear attack submarine U.S.S. Gato, and strategic missile submarine U.S.S. James K. Polk. He completed the first deployment on U.S.S. Bainbridge, and was Quarantine Screen Flagship Weapons Officer during the Cuban Missile Crisis. He was Deputy Squadron Commander, Submarine Squadron 16 in Kings Bay, Georgia when Naval Submarine Support Base Kings Bay became operational in 1979. He was a Battalion Officer at the U. S. Naval Academy and a member of the Academy Admissions Board. In NATO HQ in Brussels, Belgium, he was Senior Staff Officer, SACLANT Representative Europe with nuclear weapons policy, and nuclear and conventional weapons arms control responsibilities. At the Atlantic Submarine Force HQ, his duties included Submarine Tactical Readiness and Training, and training Navy SEALs on submarines. Dan is a Distinguished Graduate of the Naval War College, Command and Staff College. Additionally, he has a Masters Degree in International Affairs from The George Washington University. Awards on active duty include numerous Letters of Commendation, the Meritorious Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Defense Superior Service Medal, and the Battle Efficiency "E" Award for two consecutive years as Commanding Officer, U.S.S. Scamp.

After Naval Service, Dan had over eleven years with corporations as an executive. He has been a member of several Colorado Congressmen's Military Academies Selection Boards and Advisory Boards over the past decade. He also has been on the Board of Trustees of the Naval Academy Alumni Association, and is a Trustee for the Naval Academy Foundation, A & S Division. He currently serves as The Colorado Chapter President, U. S. Naval Academy Alumni Association.

Dan and his wife Kathleen Lanahan Branch make their home in Boulder County, Colorado, near Denver.

USS SPRUANCE DDG-111



On October 1, 2011, in front of a spectacular sunset, the Navy's newest Aegis Guided Missile Destroyer USS SPRUANCE (DDG-111) will be commissioned in Key West. The

ship is the 61st Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer in the United States Navy. The ship's namesake, Admiral Raymond A. Spruance, was a U S Navy admiral during World War II. He commanded US naval forces during two of the most significant naval battles in the Pacific theatre – the Battle of Midway and the Battle of the Philippines Sea. After the war, Spruance was appointed President of the Naval War College and later served as the American ambassador to the Philippines.

HMS DAUNTLESS



On July 21, 2011, the British destroyer HMS Dauntless arrived in Miami for a four day visit, allowing approximately 200 crew members to take a well deserved break.

HMS Dauntless is the second ship of the Type 45 class of air defense destroyer (also known as the *Daring* or 'D' class) built for the Royal Navy. She was launched at Govan in January 2007, was handed over to the Royal Navy in December 2009 and was formally commissioned in June 2010. Council members Erwin Sefton, Bob Marks and Mike Gordon were able to take a complete tour of the ship. The following email was sent to Erwin after the ship left Miami:

It was a pleasure to have you tour the Ship. We sailed yesterday with a fantastic sunset backdrop which was very fitting for our departure and the end of our USA trip. We now leave with happy memories and hope to visit again.

Best regards

"Vinnie"

A VUNIWAQA
Lt RN
DME0
HMS DAUNTLESS

CHANGE OF COMMANDS

On June 17, 2011, the Change of Command at Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale took place. LT Doug Watson was relieved by LT Paul Turner.



On June 20, 2011, the Change of Command at Coast Guard Air Station Miami took place. CAPT Rick Kenin was relieved by CAPT Joe Kimball.



LT Watson and his family are now in Alaska while CAPT Kenin is close by at Coast Guard District 7 in Miami.

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SUPPORTING OUR TROOPS



LCDR David Risberg is a reservist who is assigned to NOSC and is a member of our Council along with his wife Karen. LCDR Risberg is deployed to Kandahar and is serving at The NATO medical facility, called the NATO Role 3 Medical Treatment Facility, which was originally built as a tent hospital by Canadian troops, who were in charge of overseeing that medical region for NATO. When the U.S. Army took control of the region, NATO had already decided to construct a permanent hospital. The hospital started seeing patients in May 2011 while the officials finished taking care of nonessential additions to the building and its equipment. In August, arrangements were made for its last shipment of supplies to be sent overseas. Shipping enough equipment, furniture and supplies to sustain a trauma care hospital is quite a project. The contractors shipped their goods to the Navy Expeditionary Medical Support Command in Williamsburg, Virginia. Containers were color-coded and packed into larger containers, and all the goods ended up in boxes the size of school buses. More than 300 containers and 15 aircraft were needed to send the hospital's initial shipment from Virginia to Afghanistan.

Below is email received by Council from LCDR Risberg thanking us for the care packages.

Today is Thursday August 11th and your packages have just arrived! I was completely surprised by the seven boxes you had sent. Your generosity is overwhelming and greatly appreciated. You have placed one heck of a Navy smile on many faces today. With all the hard work everyone does here putting back together the injured Warriors, its nice to be reminded of organizations like yours who are thinking of us back home. I shall put together a short video of who and what we are at the Kandahar Hospital. My time is coming to a close here and I will be home in early September. Thanks for remembering those of us in the War Zone. I have sent a copy of this message to the Commanding Officer of the Navy Operation and Support Center of Miami, LCDR Brett Bormann. He is well aware of the fine contributions the Broward County Navy League continues to provide for all our Sailors.



Front: IA honorees EM1 Jeremy Bivens, LSCS John Lavery, Frank Drennan (RADM-Ret, IT2 Daniel Rivera and LS2 Courtney Grace Back: Ken Lee President Palm Beach Council, LCDR Todd Biggs CO, NOSC West Palm Beach, Deirdre Krause, CSCS Mike Mosely CMCPO NOSC West Palm Beach and, Jim Bowman

The Palm Beach Council hosted West Palm Beach Navy Reservists who had been deployed to the Middle East over the past year. The event for these Individual Augmentees was held on June 11, 2011 at the Tiki Waterfront Sea Grill in Riveria Beach. Each honoree received a clock/photo desk set, a framed certification of commendation and a specially minted Navy Augmentee challenge coin. Honored reservists included Senior Chief Petty Officer John Lavery, Petty Officer First Class Jeremy Bivens, Petty Officers Second Class Daniel Rivera and Courtney Grace. Petty Officer Grace returned from Iraq in May and earlier on the day of the event was awarded the Joint Service Commendation Medal during drill day at the Navy Operational Support Center (NOSC). Attending the event from our Council were Board members Shelly and Al Stein and Sandra and Tom Jones.



Tom and Sandra Jones, Al Stein, LT John Oliva

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

COMMUNITY AFFILIATES

Construction Consulting Inc., 2020 W McNab Road Ste 102, Fort Lauderdale FL 33309 Phone: 954-972-5787 Fax: 954-973-0612 Sponsor: Joe Giambrone

Tom Carney, 5331 NE 32nd Avenue, Fort Lauderdale FL 33308, Phone: 954-972-5787 Email: ccitac@bellsouth.net

Julie Carney, 5331 NE 32nd Avenue, Fort Lauderdale FL 33308

Shad Culp, 8594 Jared Way, Boca Raton FL 33433, Phone: 954-972-5787 Email: shadcci@bellsouth.net

Webb Commercial Realty Inc., 1300 NW 167th St Ste 2, Miami Gardens FL 33169-5787 Phone: 305-624-8585 Sponsor: Teresa Perez

William Webb, 1300 NW 167th St Ste 2, Miami Gardens FL 33169-5787, Phone: 305-624-8585 email: joel@webbco.com

REGULAR MEMBERS

David A. Cinalli USCG (Retired), 8845 SW 177 Terrace, Palmetto Bay FL 33157-5854, cell 786-382-1811, email: David.cinalli@yahoo.com, Sponsor: George Wardwell

Anne and Alan Clark, 2908 Carambola Cir S, #B405, Coconut Creek FL 33066-2583 Home phone 954-968-4154 Email: anneeac@aol.com Sponsor: Larry Ott

Kris Hopkins, 1221 S. Andrews Ave, Ft. Lauderdale FL, 33316, phone 561-715-0225 (h), 954-522-7984 (w), email khopkins@seafarers.org. Sponsor George Reeves

Simone Ramos, 2609 NE 14th Ave, Unit 505, Oakland Park FL, 33334, 954-931-7362, email simone.ramos2603@gmail.com. Sponsor Erwin Sefton

REMEMBERING A LONG-TIME MEMBER

Long time Council member Sid Waldfogel passed away in mid-July. Sid joined the Navy League in 1993 and was very active in the Council, serving as Treasurer from 1998 -2000. Funeral services were held for Sid on July 29 at the South Florida National Cemetery.

MEMBER TO BE HONORED



The Symphony of the Americas Society has announced their Style & Substance honorees which include our board member Alan Starr. Other honorees include Mary Kay Follin, Andrew Lampasone, Chris Madsen, Hugh McCauley, Betsy Russo, Mary Short, Jane and Bob Toney and the Finizio family. The honorees, who have distinguished themselves through outstanding service and commitment to the community, will be recognized at the annual "Style & Substance Luncheon" on October 25 at the Hyatt Regency Pier 66 in Fort Lauderdale. Recently designated as a major cultural institution of Broward County, the symphony has partnered with the Broward Cultural Council, the Boys & Girls Clubs, the Bonnet House and Broward County Schools to provide music to underprivileged children. The annual "Style & Substance Luncheon" benefits the Symphony of the Americas' Educational and Outreach Programs, which aims to reach more than 35,000 people annually. For more information on the "Style and Substance Luncheon," contact Judy Marini at 954-644-9049 or judyarini@aol.com.

MEMBER SERVED AS CHAIRPERSON

Council director Col. Connie Christensen, USA (Ret) served as an honorary chairperson of the Veterans Day parade in New York City. She is pictured here with Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg at a breakfast reception. The parade honored those serving in the armed forces in Afghanistan and Iraq as well as those who wore the uniform during conflicts including World War II, Korea and Vietnam.



NAVY LEAGUE NEWS



During the annual Board of Directors' Meeting in Washington, DC, Phil Dunmire was elected National President-elect of the Navy League of the United States. He will officially assume his position in October of 2011. As the incoming National President, Mr. Dunmire's primary objective will be to encourage the current membership to take a more active role in supporting the mission of the Navy League. Phil Dunmire has been a Navy League volunteer for 23 years and a National Director for 16 years. He served as National Vice President of Youth Programs as well as National Vice President of Corporate Affairs and Development. He is a retired banker having served as President and CEO of First Wisconsin Trust Company of Florida and Chairman and CEO of Merchants Bancorp of Pennsylvania. Mr. Dunmire is a member of the Palm Beach Florida Council.

The Navy League National Convention will take place in Chattanooga Tennessee from October 26-30, 2011. The convention will offer time to enjoy the historically important area, some fine entertainment, cool weather, very friendly townspeople, reasonable cost (hotel is \$119 for online registration), two of the world's finest aquariums, a beautiful river, and fun to boot. The program for the convention appeared in the August issue of Seapower magazine and it is also on the Navy League website (www.navyleague.org). There will be optional events offered such as an excursion to the historical civil war site, Chickamauga Battlefield. Also planned is a very special evening event at the Tennessee Aquarium; this event will also be a fundraiser for the Wounded Warrior Regiment. If you have never attended a National Convention before, you should plan to join fellow Navy Leaguers in Chattanooga.

The Council was recently notified that they were rated as a Meritorious Council for 2010 under the leadership of President George Reeves. Selection for a council award is based on criteria established in the Navy League Operations Manual. Council performance for the previous year is evaluated using a council annual report and scrapbook, which is submitted to National each March. Ratings of Outstanding, Meritorious or Honorable can be awarded. Other Florida Councils receiving awards this year are St. Augustine and Tampa which were rated Outstanding; Mayport which was also rated Meritorious and Central Florida which was rated Honorable. The Broward Council was rated Meritorious in 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006 and Outstanding in 2007, 2008 and 2009.

The Council made submissions of its website and newsletter for the Donald M. Mackie Award in the "medium" council category (126-499 members). The Donald M. Mackie Awards were established in 1964 to encourage more effective communication between Navy Leaguers. The award is named for Donald M. Mackie, an instrumental figure in establishing "Navy – The Magazine of Sea Power", now known as "Seapower". The award honors excellence in both print and web-based communication. The Council is quite proud of the website and newsletter but, unfortunately, did not place in any award category. The winners for the best council newsletter in the medium council size category were the Greater Austin, Oak Harbor Area and Savannah Councils. In the website medium council size category, the winner was the Dallas Council.

GUARDIANS' GALA

The 4th Annual Guardians' Gala will take place on October 22, 2011 at the Westin Diplomat Resort and Spa in Hollywood. The year's Gala is being held in honor of Coast Guard families and the sacrifices they make on a daily basis. The Gala will begin at 6 PM with a cocktail hour followed by a dinner with John Offerdahl, former Miami Dolphin all-star, as the keynote speaker. John currently owns and manages Offerdahl Café Grill with several locations in South Florida. He will entertain the crowd with memorable anecdotes of his professional football and business careers. Tickets for friends of the Coast Guard are \$100 per person. To order your tickets or to find additional information, visit thesfcga.com/events/2011-guardians-gala.



SEA SERVICE NEWS



Military Sealift Command hospital ship USNS Comfort (T-AH 20) departed Costa Rica in early August after providing medical, dental and veterinary care, engineering support and participating in subject matter expert exchanges with the country. Continuing Promise 2011 (CP11) is a collaborative effort among the United States, partner nations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) working together to provide humanitarian assistance and to build strong partnerships throughout the Caribbean Basin and the Central and South American region. During the 11-day mission stop in Costa Rica, CP11 personnel and Costa Rican volunteers triaged 8,376 patients, bringing the total number of patients seen throughout CP11 to more than 63,047. Comfort has provided humanitarian assistance to Columbia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Jamaica, Nicaragua and Peru during CP11 and will complete its five-month deployment in Haiti.



The Coast Guard Cutter Mohawk held a change of command ceremony at Coast Guard Sector Key West on August 11, 2011. Cmdr. Mark J. Fedor became the Mohawk's 12th commanding officer, relieving Cmdr. Robert T. Hendrickson. Coast Guard Atlantic Area Commander Vice Adm. Robert C. Parker presided over the change of command and awarded Hendrickson the Meritorious Service Medal recognizing his service and performance of duty aboard Mohawk. During Hendrickson's two-year command, the cutter responded to the devastating earthquake in Haiti within 24 hours and later deployed to Africa in support of the Navy's Sixth Fleet and U.S. Africa Command. The crew also yielded three drug busts netting more than \$133 million. Cmdr. Fedor reports to the Mohawk from Washington, D.C., where he earned a master's degree in National Security Strategy from the National War College.



The U.S. Navy's first female master chief died in early August at the age of 90. Master Chief Yeoman (Ret.) Anna Der-Vartanian began her military career in 1943 when she enlisted in the Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service program, or WAVES. In 1946, she transitioned to the Navy and 13 years later she became the

first woman in any of the armed services to advance to E-9, the highest enlisted pay grade. During her Navy career, Der-Vartanian was stationed in Washington, San Francisco, Boston, Pearl Harbor, and Paris. After retiring from the Navy in 1963, she went to work for the CIA as a junior analyst and later worked as a counterintelligence specialist.



Marine Corps Sgt Tristeza Castellanoz is an aviation operations specialist deployed to Afghanistan with the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing. As the wing's air tasking order chief, she oversees air support requests from Marines and their coalition partners operating in southwestern Afghanistan. Although she has a busy job, when her schedule permits, she grabs her professional grade digital camera and continues to hone her skills as

a photographer. Capturing moments in time is a passion for Castellanoz. What began as a casual interest in photography has grown into a long-term hobby, a method of expression and a potential career for the Nyssa, Oregon native. After her career in the Corps, Castellanoz said, she plans to pursue a career in photography. But while she remains on active service, she said, she may consider changing specialties to a field with a focus on photography. "I like my job, I like what I do, and I like being in charge," she said. "But, if the Marine Corps gives you the opportunity to pursue something you can do after the Marine Corps, you should take it."

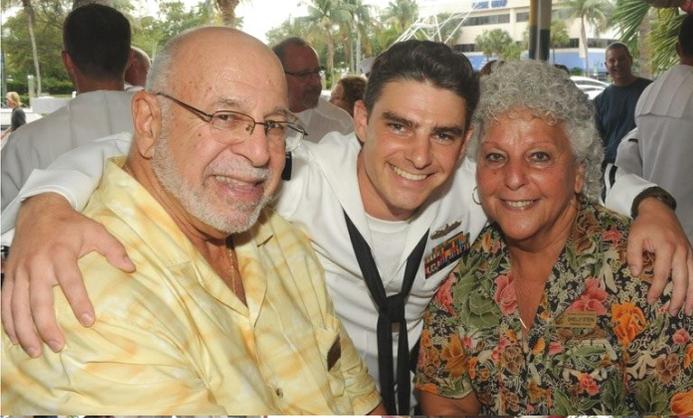


On August 1, the USS Bataan held a change of command ceremony at which time Capt Steve Koehler was relieved of command by Capt Erik M. Ross. Capt Ross received his commission through the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps program at Cornell. From May 2010 to July 2011, Capt Ross served as Executive Officer on USS Bataan. Captain Ross' first shore

tour was as a Student in the Advanced Education Program (AEP) at the University of San Diego, graduating with a Master of Arts in International Relations. Recently, Captain Ross served as an instructor at the Navy's Command Leadership School in Newport, Rhode Island.

USS COLE

More photos from the All Hands Party held at our Community Affiliate, Briny's Irish Pub, on August 18, 2011. Photos taken by Peter Caspari.



DVDs AND CDs ARE NEEDED

My name is James Lee and I am a 10th grader at Cardinal Gibbons High School in Fort Lauderdale. My grandmother is Dorothy Porges and my grandfather was the late Jay Porges both long time members of the Broward Council Navy League. I am collecting DVDs or CDs which I pack and mail to the sailors on the USS Leyte Gulf. This project is my way of doing something for the Navy in my grandfather's memory.

Alan Stein is my liaison with the Broward Council. The project has been approved by the Executive Officer of the ship and he said the crew is looking forward to a fresh supply of movies and music. Considering the sacrifice these young men and women are making to keep us safe, it is a small token of our appreciation.

My plan is to ship via USPS flat rate boxes (12 x 12 x 5) once a month. The box will also contain hard candy and small personal size soaps and hand creams, filling up unused space. Over the summer, I shipped out three boxes and the XO e-mailed that the crew was thrilled.

You can bring your DVDs to the monthly meetings. I will make arrangement to pick them up, however, if you prefer you can donate a \$5 gift card from Target and I will purchase a new DVD.

Thank you for your support.

James Lee
Lee36570@bellsouth.net



BACK TO SCHOOL



Once again this year, Council members registered as Dollar Tree Store pickup volunteers for the Operation Homefront-Florida Back to School Brigade. Donations were collected at Dollar Tree stores from July 8th through July 25th. Pickup volunteers coordinated with store managers to make pickups. All donations were brought either to the Florida National Guard Armory in

Hollywood or to the U. S. Army Garrison in Miami where the supplies were distributed to military families who had pre-registered. In 2010, the Back to School Brigade program raised over \$2 million in school supplies nationwide through its partnership with Dollar Tree. Through the generosity of individual and corporate contributors, Operation Homefront provided 29,000 backpacks to children of military service members.

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COAST GUARDSMAN IN THE SPOTLIGHT

AET3 Eric Ernst Enlisted Person of the Quarter Coast Guard Air Station Miami



Duty Title: Avionics Electrical Technician

Time in the Coast Guard: 4 yrs

Why I joined the Coast Guard: I joined the Coast Guard to assist in saving lives and to assist in the detection and enforcement of illegal drugs coming into our country.

Greatest achievement since joining the Coast Guard: Being nominated and selected by the Chiefs as the Enlisted Person of the Quarter for our Air Station.

Goal hoping to achieve before leaving the Coast Guard: My one goal that I wish to achieve is that I would like to become a Company Commander at Tracen Cape May so that I may train and mold future Coasties.

Plans after Coast Guard life: After retiring from the Coast Guard I hopefully plan on working for Customs and Border Patrol, or working with disadvantaged children or at risk youth.

The thing I like most about my job is: The opportunity to travel and see different places, as well as working on Aircraft. No single day is the same thing, every day is a different challenge, and I love the challenge.

PROUD PARENTS



Council members Asela and Brian Flynn have quite a bit to be proud of these days. Their son Dylan (shown here) just completed his summer training at the Air Force Academy!



BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA COUNCIL, INC.
NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES
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