



SEPTEMBER 2018

# Gold Star

## ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

### NAVAL DISTRICT WASHINGTON



Thank you for participating in the Navy Gold Star Program at Naval District Washington. Since 2015, The Navy Gold Star Program (NGSP) of Naval District Washington has shared resources, program updates, events as well as remembered loved ones through the monthly newsletter. Whether you participate in our events, call for resources or only receive the annual mailings, we are happy to have you as a part of our Navy Family. This annual newsletter is our means to inform you of what the Navy Gold Star Program is doing to serve Gold Star Families in the region.

FY 2018 Navy Gold Star at Naval District Washington served over 560 Gold Star Family Members in the region. Your Navy Gold Star Program coordinated the Next of Kin Gold Star License plate through the Maryland Department of Motor Vehicles affording 227 Maryland Gold Star families the opportunity to obtain the Next of Kin Gold Star License Plate. The Navy Gold Star Program provided over 36 events and activities for Gold Star Families to participate in such as the Hawaiian Bowl, Annual Chili Cook-off, USO Spouse and Children's Luncheon, Washington Nationals and Bowie Baysox Games, Gold Star Awareness Month, Gold Star Tea, Mission BBQ Picnic, White House Easter Egg Roll, Tour of HMX1, Tour of Marine Barracks 8th and I, VIP Concerts on the Avenue, Raven's Training Camp, Massing of the Colors Memorial Observance, Tours of US Naval Observatory, Bell Across America for Fallen Service Members and Gold Star Mothers and Family Day Observance. We are always striving to do more and provide more for you.

#### IN THIS ISSUE

- Newsletter Welcome
- 2017-2018 Event Photos
- Digital Wall of Remembrance
- Gold Star Tributes
- Base Access ID Cards
- Upcoming Events

Our Gold Star Advisory Workgroup (GSAW) is comprised of Gold Star family members, Chaplains, Legal and Casualty affairs. GSAW met twice this year providing ideas and input allowing us to enhance Gold Star Program services to you. If you are interested, want to assist with ideas and activities to improve the program, please contact the Regional Navy Gold Star Coordinator at 410-714-4040. The GSAW is essential to the programming for our Gold Star families. Please assist us to improve programming for you.

Lastly, this past year was a difficult year with two ship incidents (USS Fitzgerald and USS McCain). The Navy Gold Star pays homage to the sacrifices of all service members regardless of service affiliation or cause of death. Thank you for allowing us to Honor, Respect and Remember the sacrifices of your loved ones.







## 2017-2018 Gold Star Events

A collage of 25 photographs capturing various Gold Star events from 2017-2018. The images show military families, children, and service members participating in activities like group photos, social gatherings, and special events. Key photos include a 'Welcome to Gold Star Mother and Family Day' sign, a 'Go Navy!' banner, and a 'Easter Egg Roll' sign. The collage is set against a dark background with a subtle pattern.





### DIGITAL WALL OF REMEMBRANCE

Your Navy Gold Star Program is creating a *digital* "Wall of Remembrance" which will be unveiled at the Gold Star Mothers and Family Day Observance. If you would like your loved one added to the wall, please submit a photo to your Gold Star Coordinator by **Monday, Sept. 3.**



### GOLD STAR TRIBUTES

Would you like to submit a photo or tribute to your loved one to be featured on the Navy Gold Star website? If so, simply go to [www.navygoldstar.com/tribute/add](http://www.navygoldstar.com/tribute/add) and supply the requested information in the "Provide Your Tribute" section.



### BASE ACCESS ID CARDS

Gold Star Families without Department of Defense ID cards may now apply to obtain a DBIDS ID. To request a form and an appointment date, contact your Regional Gold Star Coordinator at 410-714-4040.



## Upcoming Events

### PATRIOTS DAY AT KINGS DOMINION

Sunday, Sept. 9

Doswell, VA

For only **\$29 per person**, Kings Dominion will be open exclusively to military families and friends.

To purchase tickets, go to [www.KingsDominion.com/save](http://www.KingsDominion.com/save) and enter **KDNDW** as the username and password.

Present your Gold Star card or parking placard upon entrance to receive preferred parking.

### NAVY-AIR FORCE HALF MARATHON

Sunday, Sept. 16

Washington, DC

For more information, visit [www.navyhalf.com](http://www.navyhalf.com)

### ANNAPOLIS 9/11 HEROES RUN

Sunday, Sept. 16

Annapolis, MD

For more information, visit [www.travismanion.org/community-engagement/911-heroes-run/2018-annapolis-md/](http://www.travismanion.org/community-engagement/911-heroes-run/2018-annapolis-md/)

### BELLS ACROSS AMERICA FOR FALLEN SERVICE MEMBERS

Thursday, Sept. 27

**10 a.m.** | NSA Bethesda  
(Bldg. 11 Patio)

**10:30 a.m.** | NAS Patuxent River  
(Parade Field)

**11 a.m.** | NSA Annapolis  
(MWR Pavilion)

**Noon** | NSA Washington  
(Leutze Park)

**1 p.m.** | Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling  
(Enterprise Hall, Bldg. 72)

**6 p.m.** | NSF Dahlgren  
(HQ Flagpole)

A remembrance ceremony honoring those we have lost will be held at various installations throughout Naval District Washington.

### 4TH ANNUAL GOLD STAR MOTHERS AND FAMILY OBSERVANCE

Sunday, Sept. 30

Our 4th Annual Gold Star Mothers and Family Observance, sponsored by Pepsi, will feature: guest speaker RDML Carl Lahti (*91st Commandant, NDW*), performances by the U.S. Navy Band Quartet, and the joint choir of Joint Base

Anacostia-Bolling and Aberdeen Proving Ground, as well as the unveiling of our new Gold Star *Digital Wall of Remembrance*.

*Neither the Navy nor any other part of the federal government officially endorses any company, sponsor or its products or services.*

### BALTIMORE HEROES RUN

Sunday, Sept. 30

Baltimore, MD

For more information, visit [www.travismanion.org/community-engagement/911-heroes-run/2018-baltimore-md/](http://www.travismanion.org/community-engagement/911-heroes-run/2018-baltimore-md/)

### MARYLAND FLEET WEEK

Wednesday, Oct. 3 -

Tuesday, Oct. 9

Baltimore, MD

### USNO TOUR

Monday, Oct. 15

### ARMY/NAVY FOOTBALL GAME

Saturday, Dec. 8

### HOLIDAY POTLUCK

Saturday, Dec. 8

### WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

Saturday, Dec. 15



### NAVAL DISTRICT WASHINGTON GOLD STAR PROGRAM

2691 Mitscher Road, SW, Bldg. 414  
Washington, DC 20373

888-509-8759

[www.NavyGoldStar.com](http://www.NavyGoldStar.com)

[www.Facebook.com/NavyGoldStar](http://www.Facebook.com/NavyGoldStar)

**Regional Coordinator**

410-714-4040

**Installation Coordinator**

410-293-9345

### GOLD STAR eNEWSLETTER SIGN-UP

Sign-up to receive the Gold Star monthly eNewsletter!

Simply call or email your Gold Star Coordinator and request to be added to the group listing.

**No e-mail?** Complete the attached survey and mail it to: NGSP, 2691 Mitscher Rd., SW, Bldg. 414, Washington, DC 20373, or fax it to 202-433-2580.