



2010 Military Saves Campaign Kicks Off at NASNI

By Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Amanda Tatom, Naval Base Coronado Public Affairs Office

NAVAL BASE CORONADO, Calif. — With opening remarks from Capt. Yancy Lindsey, Commanding Officer of Naval Base Coronado, the 2010 Military Saves Campaign was officially underway, with a financial seminar at the Lowry Theatre on Naval Air Station North Island Mar. 2.

The Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) conducted seminars at local bases to help get the word out about financial readiness. The theme for this year's five-day campaign was "Start small. Think big."

FFSC Personal Financial Program Supervisor Pamela Beard said while last year's slogan, "Build wealth, not debt," helped make that campaign successful, it was imperative to add an additional message this year.

The seminars had different vendors that promoted savings focusing on the necessities in a service member's day-to-day lives, like car insurance, banking, and shopping. Guest speakers; Peter G. Bielagus, "Young America's Financial Coach", and Kelvin Boston, host of the Public Broadcast Services (PBS) series "Moneywise", presented helpful and motivational information on starting the journey to financial well being.

The website www.militarysaves.com is available year round for financial help. The Military Saves Campaign started as a test from 2003 - 2006 by its non-profit sponsor, Consumer Federation of America and military services. The program was then launched throughout the Department of Defense (DoD) on Feb. 25, 2007. The DoD "Financial Readiness Campaign," and the national "America Saves" campaign are two larger campaigns also apart of the Military Saves. The website allows its users to take the "saver pledge" that promotes building wealth not debt.

FFSC is available year round for assistance in becoming debt free and to provide financial guidance.