



# Whiting Tower

Seventy Years of Aviation Training News

Naval Air Station Whiting Field, Milton, Fla.  
Vol. 69 No. 22

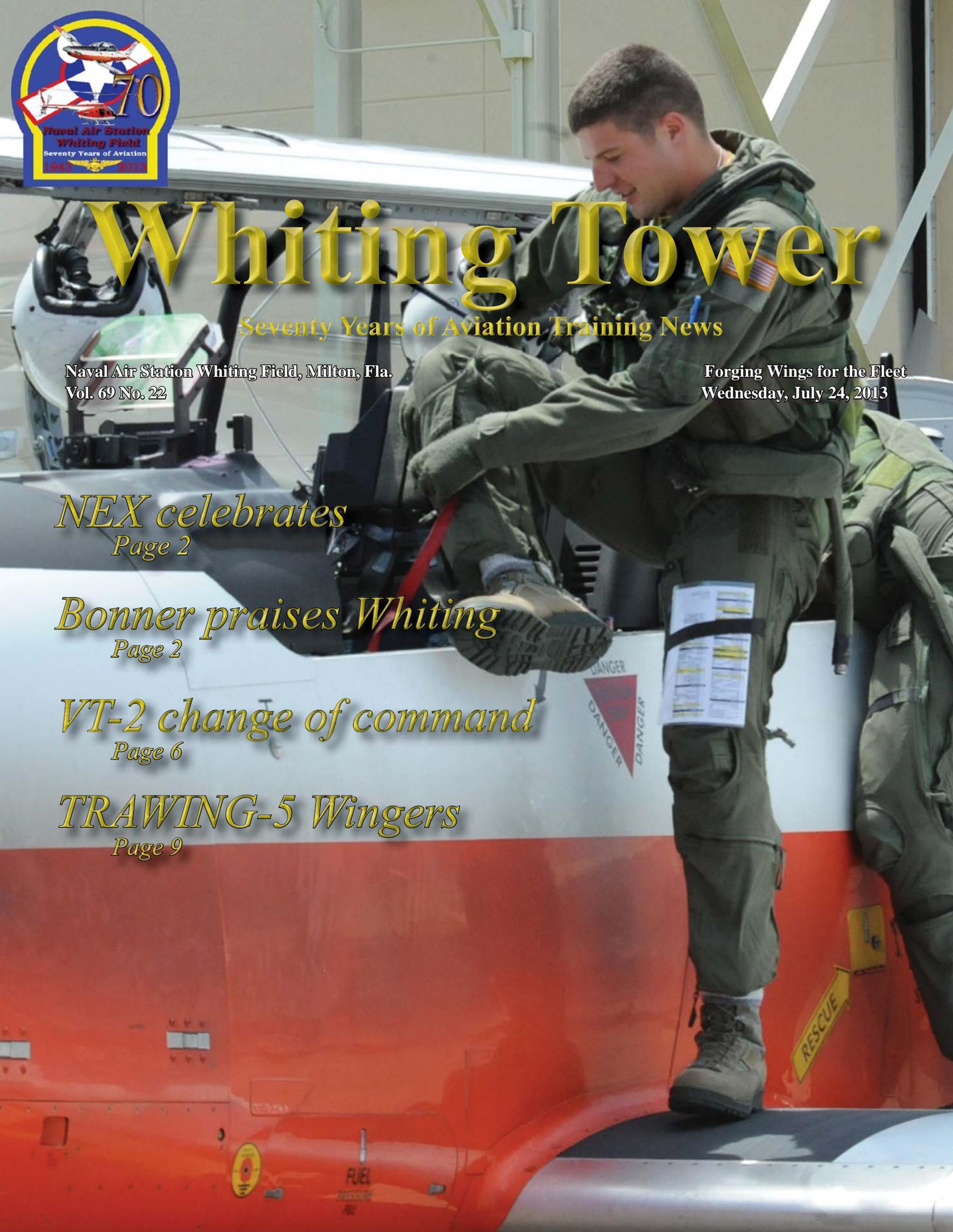
Forging Wings for the Fleet  
Wednesday, July 24, 2013

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## NEX celebrates grand reopening July 10

By Ensign Emily Hegarty, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

After more than two years of renovation planning and four months of construction, the Naval Air Station Whiting Field NEX celebrated their reopening with a gala celebration. The facility recognized the occasion with cake, free hot dogs, giveaways and opportunities to register to win various prizes, including NEX gift cards, haircuts, Subway sandwiches, and even household appliances. Additionally, the NEX hosted its first ever tent sale, which featured 30-75 percentage off discounts on a variety of NEX products, from backpacks to electronics to linens and kitchenware.

The celebrations featured a series of remarks from Stephen Knowles, the Vice President of the Mid-South district; Steven Rosenstein, the District Operations Manager; Linda Larrabee, the Whiting Field General Manager; and NAS Whiting Field Executive Officer Cmdr. Gregory Gray during a ribbon cutting, which was followed by a cake cutting and an invitation for all patrons to take advantage of special discounts throughout the entire store. During the ribbon cutting ceremony, Gray thanked district vendors, the Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM) vision team, and the NASWF team for their hard work on this project, especially in their efforts in staying ahead of the game in order to keep the store open throughout renovations.

### Cover Photo

*1st Lt. Dave Zitelli, USAF, exits the T-6B "Texan II" in which he flew his final event for primary training with Training Squadron THREE. The flight also served as the end of Air Force student pilot training at Training Air Wing FIVE after 18 years and 1,700 students who completed via the exchange program. See the complete story and more photos in the Aug. 7 edition of the "Tower." U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.*

## The Whiting Tower

### Commanding Officer

- Capt. Matthew Coughlin

### Executive Officer

- Cmdr. Gregory Gray

### Command Master Chief

- Command Master Chief (AW/SW) Alton Smith

### Public Affairs Officer

- Lori Aprilliano

### Deputy Public Affairs Officer

- Jay Cope

### Public Affairs Staff

- Ensign Emily Hegarty

The Whiting Tower is an authorized publication for members of the Naval Air Station Whiting Field team, tenant commands, their family members and retirees in the surrounding area. The contents of this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Navy, and do not imply endorsement thereof. The editorial content is prepared, edited and provided by the Public Affairs Office of Naval Air Station Whiting Field.

The renovation started about two years ago once NEX management received approval from NEXCOM to go ahead with their proposals to redesign the store based on changing customer needs. The day after Christmas, NEX workers began emptying the minimart adjacent to the main NEX to make room for the first phases of renovation. The total renovation

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## NASWF earns praise from Congressman Bonner



By Jay Cope, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

Alabama Congressman Jo Bonner recently praised Naval Air Station Whiting Field for the base's assistance to one of the fire departments in his district.

NAS Whiting Field agreed to house a fire truck from the Belforest Volunteer Fire Department in one of the buildings at Navy Outlying Landing Field (NOLF) Silverhill in Baldwin County. NOLF Silverhill lies on the eastern side of the fire district and will enable a quicker response time to fires in that area.

"Please allow me to take this opportunity to thank you and your team for the assistance you have provided to the Belforest Volunteer Fire Department. By being allowed to place a fire engine at the outlying field in Silverhill, Belforest VFD can better serve its fire district," Bonner stated in a letter to the base. "...it is vital that Alabama's firefighters have the resources they need to protect themselves and our communities. You are to be commended for the active role you took in helping Belforest VFD meet their goal to serve

- (Cont. on Page 8)

# SECNAV announces initiatives to fight sexual assaults

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Ray Mabus furthered his commitment to improve the Department of the Navy's sexual assault response by announcing additional resources for investigators and a new initiative designed to enhance accountability and transparency across the Department.

Mabus approved nearly \$10 million to hire more than 50 additional Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) Family and Sexual Violence Program personnel to shorten investigation times, and he directed the Navy and Marine Corps to regularly publish online the results of each service's courts-martial.

"Our Navy and Marine Corps is the greatest maritime force the world has ever known. To uphold our core values of honor, courage, and commitment, we must do all we can to protect our people from those who would wish to do them harm, especially if they reside within our own ranks," said Mabus. "This department is fully committed to using all available resources to prevent this crime, aggressively investigate allegations and prosecute as appropriate. We will not hide from this challenge—we will be active, open and transparent."

The additional Adult Sexual Assault Program (ASAP)

special agents and crime scene personnel approved by Mabus will further help decrease the sexual assaults investigation timeline.

ASAP teams with specialized training in legal jurisdiction, investigative procedures, evidence collection, sexual assault victim sensitivities, and the handling of reports and official statements are currently being deployed to fleet concentration areas worldwide.

To increase transparency of the department's criminal proceedings, SECNAV directed the services to begin publishing the results of all Special and General Courts-Martial, including sexual assault cases, on the service primary websites of Navy.mil and Marines.mil, respectively, by July 25.

The first of these summaries will cover those cases concluded from January through June of this year, but future editions will be published regularly.

Additional information and resources to combat sexual assault is available at [www.sapr.navy.mil](http://www.sapr.navy.mil). Sexual assault affects Navy readiness, and the Navy is committed to preventing sexual assault. Join the Navy's conversation about sexual assault on social media and help raise awareness by using #NavySAPR.

## *This Day in Naval History*

### July 22

1802 - Frigate Constellation defeats 9 Corsair gunboats off Tripoli.

1905 - Body of John Paul Jones moved to Annapolis for reburial.

1964 - Four Navy Divers (LCDR Robert Thompson, MC; Gunners Mate First Class Lester Anderson, Chief Quartermaster Robert A. Barth, and Chief Hospital Corpsman Sanders Manning) submerge in Sealab I for 10 days at a depth of 192 feet, 39 miles off Hamilton, Bermuda. They surfaced on July 31.

### July 23

1947 - First Navy all jet squadron (VF-17A) receives its first aircraft (FH).

1950 - USS Boxer sets record crossing of Pacific to bring aircraft, troops, and supplies to Korea at start of the Conflict.

1958 - USS Nautilus (SSN 571) departs Pearl Harbor for first submerged transit of North Pole.

1993 - Sarah Deal becomes first female Marine selected for naval aviation training.

### July 24

1813- Sailing Master Elijah Mix attempts to blow up British warship Plantagenet with a torpedo near Cape Henry, Virginia.

[http://www.navy.mil/search/display\\_history.asp](http://www.navy.mil/search/display_history.asp)



### Naval Namesake

Naval Air Station Whiting Field passed 70-years of service to the nation July 16. The base was named in honor of Capt. Kenneth Whiting, sometimes called the "father of the aircraft carrier," who was an early Naval aviation pioneer. He learned to fly from Orville Wright in Dayton, Oh. and was designated Naval aviator #16. U.S. Navy file photo.

# News and Notes

**Energy Savers** - The Naval Air Station Whiting Field Public Works Department recognizes the following buildings for their efforts on energy conservation as compared to 2012 costs for the same time frame. Building 2981 - VT2/VT6, Building 2945 - HT28/AMO and Building 1401 - NAS Whiting Field HQ earned the honors for June.

**Leave Donation** - Marie Bresler of NAS Corpus Christi has been approved for the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program. Those of you who have excess leave and wish to donate hours of annual leave can submit the appropriate form from either the OPM 630-A Inside Agency (DON) or OPM 630-B Outside Agency (Other than DON). "Please ensure that you "Encrypt" and then forward completed forms to the CNIC SLDCADA Helpdesk (CNIC\_SLDCADA\_HELP@navy.mil)." Refer any questions to TraLana Linder, Human Resources Assistant, CNRSE HQ HRO, Commander Navy Region Southeast, (904) 542-2283.

**Troy University** - Want to advance in your career? Get a reputable degree? Troy University's online and in-class courses are nine weeks long, enabling five semesters each year. The next semester begins Aug. 12 and student applications are due by July 26 for enrollment for that term. Apply at [www.troy.edu](http://www.troy.edu) Classes are held locally at the New Warrington Road campus in Pensacola. While the NAS Whiting Field office no longer holds regular hours, the NAS Pensacola office is still manned. Call Katherine Wise at 850-458-4757.

**Chili Dog Sale** - The Chief Petty Officer Association is sponsoring a chili dog sale, Thursday, July 25 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Whiting Field CPO Mess. Chili dogs, chips and a drink are \$6 and delivery is available for an extra \$1. Call 623-7645 for details or to place an order.



## Gift of Life

**OneBlood hosted a blood drive outside of the Naval Air Station Whiting Field Health clinic Friday, July 12 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Donors received free t-shirts and a \$5 coupon for Outback Steakhouse. The organization provides blood and blood products to 24 hospitals throughout Northwest Florida. Check out [www.nfbcbloodoorg](http://www.nfbcbloodoorg) for additional information. The next Whiting Field blood drive will take place on September 6th. U.S. Navy photo by Ensign Emily Hegarty.**

**Rib Cook-Off** - Everyone is invited to be the judge Friday, July 26 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. for the second annual NAS Whiting Field Rib Cook-Off. Sample plate to taste the ribs, and a drink is \$5, and enter your ballot for the grillmaster of 2013. If you want to form your own team, opportunities are still available by emailing [kelley.joseph@navy.mil](mailto:kelley.joseph@navy.mil). The event will be held in the atrium courtyard area.

**Pensacola Paracon** - A Convention for Fans of Science Fiction, Horror, Fantasy, Gaming, Anime, Costuming, Fan and Indie Films, Artist, Celebrities, Comics, Renaissance, Cosplay, Steampunk, Theater, Performing, Literature, Publishing, Arts, Mystery, Art, Crafts, Collecting, Model Construction, Film Making, Paranormal, and more will be held at the Pensacola Fairgrounds Aug. 17 and 18 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day. The event will offer celebrity meet and greets, discussion panels, workshops, screenings, demonstrations, events, and competitions. Join our Seville Quarter Zombies, Geeks and Freaks Masquerade Ball. Attend investigations at the Pensacola Victorian Inn and Gray House.

Guests will include: Gil Gerard - Buck Rogers, Richard Epcar - Animation Voice Actor, Cindy Morgan from *Caddyshack & Tron*, Jason Faunt *Power Rangers & Resident Evil 6*, Ari Lehman from *Jason: Friday the 13th*, Michael Berryman from *The Hills Have Eyes, The Devil's Rejects, Star Trek*, Theodus Crane and Addy Miller from AMC's *The Walking Dead*, and many more.

Take pictures with Mystery Machine, Altcon Tardis, and the Captain's Chair. Performances are scheduled for First Jason, Shadow-Clone, Love Guns Kiss Tribute Band, Darrell "The Ballon Dr" Osborn, Up In Flames Poi Dancers, Zuri Belly Dance, Rhiannon & the Frolicking Vagabonds Belly Dancers. Admission is \$10 with a \$2 discount for active duty military with ID. For more information, call (850) 941-4321 or see [www.pensacolaparacon.com](http://www.pensacolaparacon.com).

**Pensacola Para-Con 2013**  
**SAT. AUG 17th - SUN. AUG 18th**  
**ANIME, GAMING, COSTUME CONVENTION**

**Investigations of the Pensacola Victorian Inn & the Gray House**  
**Celebrity Meet & Greets, Panels & Charity Auctions, Fan Fiction & Costume Contest**

**Zombie, Geeks & Freaks Masquerade Ball on Sun Aug 18 from 8p-7**  
**Admission \$10 adults, Children 12 & under free, Open 10:00am - 6:00pm**  
**Dress like a zombie and get \$2.00 off at the door. Join us today!**

**Pensacola Interstate Fair Grounds, Conference Bldg 6655 Mobile Hwy, Pensacola, FL 32526**  
**pensacolaevent@aol.com (850) 941-4321, pensacolaparacon.com**

## Family Assistance

# Fleet and Family Support Center Classes

**VA Representative - Friday, July 26 & Aug. 9 from 8 a.m. to Noon. (Call 850-623-7177 for appointment)**

**Resume Writing - Monday, July 29 & Aug. 12 from 10 a.m. to Noon (July 29) and 8 to 10 a.m (Aug 12).**

This class will assist you in efficiently creating an effective resume. Learn how to handle sticky resume situations like military-to-civilian transition, age, employment gaps, layoffs, and career change. Learn to use your resume as a marketing tool. Class will be held at the FFSC conference room. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 850-623-7177.

**Car Buying - Thursday, Aug. 1 from 1 to 3 p.m.**

Many people begin the car buying process by visiting a dealership, which should be one of the last things you do. Come find out how to research and compare for the best prices, when and how to negotiate your trade-in, how insurance fits in, and your best option for financing. Class will be held at the FFSC conference room. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 850-623-7177.

**Smooth Move - Tuesday, Aug. 6 from 1 to 3 p.m.**

Make your next change of duty station move a smooth one. Learn what resources are available to you and the five key steps to minimizing stress during the relocation and transition period: get to know your FFSC Relocation Assistance Program Specialist, develop a plan of action, know your benefits, manage your moving day, make it a family affair. For more information, call NAS Whiting Field Fleet and Family Support Center at 850-623-7177.

**Job Fair - Aug. 22 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

Annually cited as one of the best organized and productive job fairs in Northwestern Florida, the Naval Air Station Whiting Field Job Fair, sponsored by the Fleet and Family Support Center hosts more than 1,000 job seekers each August. More than 60 employers usually attend and many interview for positions on-site. Bring resume's and dress to impress. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 850-623-7177.

**Now hear this:**  
**NAVY**  
**311**  **is at**  
**your service!**

**Got a question? Get an answer.**  
NAVY 311 is your single point of entry to access help desk support across the Navy—and no topic is off limits. Ask NAVY 311 about systems, equipment, training, facilities, career, IT, medical, logistics, and more. Whether you're at sea, in port, on duty or liberty, NAVY 311 is available 24/7. So toss away that wheel book. NAVY 311 is all you and your family need to reach authorized Navy service providers worldwide.

**1-855-NAVY-311**  
(1-855-628-9311)  
**Web:** [www.Navy311.navy.mil](http://www.Navy311.navy.mil)  
**Email:** [Navy311@navy.mil](mailto:Navy311@navy.mil)



# Lopez to assume command of VT-2 July 26



Cmdr. Jennifer Whereatt

By Jay Cope, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

Amidst the trappings of a time honored Navy ceremony – but with a unique twist, Cmdr. Jennifer Whereatt, USN, will hand over command of Training Squadron TWO to Cmdr. Juan Lopez, USCG, Friday, July 26 at Naval Air Station Whiting Field.

Celebrating their aviation backgrounds, the two officers will formally change command in the air while flying T-6B “Texan IIs”, but will land and taxi to the North Field hangar where the honors, ceremonies, and speechmaking will occur.

Under Whereatt, the “Doerbirds” flew more than 39,000 flight hours and completed in excess of 24,000 events culminating in the completion of 502 Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, and Allied pilots through primary flight training. Her leadership helped earn the squadron the 2011 Chief of Naval Operation Safety Award as well as a Meritorious Unit Commendation. She also implemented procedures to aid in the completion of the transition from the T-34C “Turbo Mentor” to T-6B “Texan II” aircraft enabling the unit to exceed

Chief of

Naval Air Training student goals and helping to create flexibility for other squadrons during their transition.

After gaining her commission from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1994, Whereatt completed flight training and earned her Wings in 1996. She reported to Patrol Squadron SIXTEEN in Jacksonville, Fla. in June the following year. Following tours took her to Patrol Squadron THIRTY for Instructor Duty; to Special Projects Patrol Squadron ONE in Brunswick, Maine in August 2003; and Patrol Squadron TWO for Department Head duty. She joined the staff of the Office of the Secretary of Defense for Special Operations/Low Intensity Conflict and Interdependent Capabilities in 2007.

Lopez assumes the top spot after serving as the executive officer for about 15 months.

A native of Yauco, Puerto Rico, Lopez enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in October 1987 and served as an Aerospace Ground Equipment Mechanic at Norton Air Force Base, CA. After earning a Bachelor of Science and an MBA in Management during his off duty time, he attended Coast Guard Officer Candidate School in Yorktown, Va. Following graduation from OCS in September

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## 24th Annual

# Job Fair



**When: August 22, 2013  
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

**Where: Sikes Hall  
NAS Whiting Field**

## OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

**Local, Regional, and National Employers will be present. Please bring your most current resume and come prepared to be interviewed!**

*For more information please contact the NAS Whiting Field Fleet and Family Support Center at 623-7177.*

## NEX

- (Cont. from Page 2)

was completed in a series of ten stages and took approximately four months. The store remained open throughout all stages of renovation.

Explained Larrabee, “now we feel we are able to give the Whiting Field customer a much more enjoyable experience, which is certainly what they deserve.”

Improvements are visible from the floor to ceiling of the new space, and include all new fixtures, floors, lighting, and paint, as well as a change in the store layout and set up. The store now features wider aisles, a design point incorporated to ameliorate customers’ shopping experience. All of these changes add up to a vastly improved NEX.

Larrabee affirmed that the upgrade was sorely needed, as the building previously featured décor harking back to the late 80s/early 90s. “It’s like Christmas in July!” she exclaimed. “I’m just so proud to be able to offer this kind of environment for our customers to shop in.”

The barber shop also received an upgrade, and Subway will be doing some refreshing and remodeling within the next 30 days.

In addition to permanent material improvements, the remodel gave the NEX a chance to better realign merchandise with the needs of the Whiting Field customer and offered an opportunity for the NEX to evaluate sales, leading them to eliminate or downsize lesser sellers to make room for higher demand items.

One of the biggest changes in merchandise is that the NEX cut back on carrying softlines (product line primarily consisting of merchandise such as clothing, footwear, jewelry, linens) in favor of an active duty section. The new initiative is focused on “making a better you, and driving fitness through power bars, active wear, athletic shoes, and



Linda Larrabee, Naval Air Station Whiting Field’s Navy Exchange General Manager, and NASWF Executive Officer Cmdr. Gregory Gray cut the ceremonial ribbon to celebrate the store’s grand reopening July 10. Others from left to right are: Stephen Knowles, Vice President Mid-South District; Steven Rosenstein, District Operations Manager; and Command Master Chief Alton Smith. U.S. Navy photo by Ensign Emily Hegarty.

supplements so that we’re making the 21st century sailor as fit and ready as possible,” said Larrabee.

The NEX eliminated grocery foods as the commissary next door covers most of those needs. However, in light of the reduced commissary hours, the NEX will be stocking milk, bread, and other food staples to best provide for their customers.

Another significant aspect of the renovation was the restoration of the package store to its original location next to the main NEX. Larrabee stated that they realized customers preferred one-stop shopping, and that they were dealing with higher operating expenses when keeping two freestanding businesses in service.

The package store’s new location is equal in space to the free-standing store. Customers will notice that the layout now separates wine and liquor from beer and soda. Overall, beamed Larrabee, “the shopping experience is far, far improved.”

Fleet and Family services will be moving offices into the space previously occupied by the package store.

One of 300 stores worldwide, the NAS Whiting NEX is distinguishing itself as an example of the NEX’s new branding strategy. In a district that extends from Panama City to Kingsville, TX to Tennessee, the Whiting Field NEX was selected as the first store in the Mid-South district to undergo this type of renovation in keeping with the NEX’s new branding system.

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Customers take advantage of the first ever NASWF NEX’s tent sale, which offered an wide variety of goods at discounts ranging from 30 to 75 percent off. Featured items included backpacks, linens, headphones, electronics accessories, kitchen appliances, and dishware. U.S. Navy photo by Ensign Emily Hegarty.

## Praise

- (Cont. from Page 2)

our community more efficiently.”

Belforest VFD had been working nearly three years to place a fire engine in that area of Baldwin County, but the costs were prohibitive. Board President Lawrence Alley approached NAS Whiting Field’s community liaison, Randy Roy about the prospective location about one year ago and Roy moved the request up the chain of command.

“We can’t meet our mission without the support of Baldwin County, so to help them protect the residents of the area only made sense. The entire chain of command, all the way up to the Chief of Naval Operations, were supportive of the effort,” Roy stated.

With four outlying fields in Baldwin County, the area is vital to the successful completion of the training mission at NAS Whiting Field. The

***“So providing access to the Belfast Fire Department was an easy decision and certainly what we want to do to foster and maintain a sense of community with our neighbors.”***

**- Capt. Matthew Coughlin  
Commanding Officer  
NAS Whiting Field**

## TRICARE Notes

### REVVING UP FOR YOUR RELATIONSHIPS-TURN ON YOUR TRICARE NAVIGATOR

While on the go, here are some pit stops to help you make more time for what matters most.

#### First Stop: ME

Yes, you! We’ve all heard it at some point; that unless you take time for yourself, you’re no real help to others. Positive thinking is a body wellness tip professionals from TRICARE offer when you sign on to [www.tricareonline.com](http://www.tricareonline.com)

#### Destination Arrival: US

Make sure to visit <http://www.tricare.mil/Welcome.aspx> under the “Life Event” tab 30 days from the time of each life’s milestones (newlywed, mommy-to-be or professional mover). Take a shortcut and update your personal information with DEERS and your regional contractor when you visit [www.dmdc.osd.mil/milconnect](http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/milconnect).

#### Are we There Yet? FAMILY

When it’s time for the necessary check-ups, keep your kids’ health on auto-pilot and schedule your next appointment as a TRICARE Prime enrollee at [www.tricareonline.com](http://www.tricareonline.com).

#### SEEING IS ACHIEVING

We all know the old phrase, “seeing is believing,” but when it comes to early childhood education, “seeing is achieving.” Much of what children learn in school is presented visually, so undiagnosed vision problems can lead to poor academic performance.

It is important to have children screened for vision issues that can affect them in the classroom and for the rest of their lives.

Routine eye exams ensure eye health and detect nearsightedness, farsightedness and astigmatism. Routine exams test for vision problems that may interfere with a

outlying fields in Baldwin County are used to help train the primary flight students in T-6B “Texan II” aircraft operations. The building on Silverhill was used to house the emergency response equipment the military fire fighters need in case of an accident at one of the sites. However, now that Silverhill is not currently utilized for runway landings and take-offs, the building is not occupied. As such, it was perfect for the needs of Belfast VFD.

The license agreement enabled the use of the site for the fire department, without formal recompense, for an undetermined amount of time based on the needs of the Navy. The license meets the immediate needs of Belfast VFD while at the same time allowing flexibility for NAS Whiting Field if the usage of Silverhill were to change unexpectedly.

“Their willingness to aid our organization in fulfilling our mission of securing our community from fire related emergencies has been approached as if it were part of their duties in service, and they have resolutely followed through with this license request.” Fire Chief Edward Parker said in his own letter informing the congressman of the agreement. “The level of access we have been granted to the facility is more than ample to lower our response time to that area of our fire district. Additionally it will allow us to meet our budget limitations this year and acquire a larger water tanker to secure our new fire insurance rating.”

Being a good neighbor in the community is an important role for the base, and this is another example of service to the local areas. Between Adopt-a-Highways, volunteer service in local schools, river clean-up trips, participation in local parades and festivals, as well as a host of other endeavors, NAS Whiting Field and Training Air Wing FIVE work to be members of the community.

“We benefit tremendously from living and working in areas where the military is not only respected, but embraced,” NAS Whiting Field Commanding Officer Capt. Matthew Coughlin emphasized. “So providing access to the Belfast Fire Department was an easy decision and certainly what we want to do to foster and maintain a sense of community with our neighbors.”

# From TRAWING-5

## Congrats to TRAWING-5 Wingers and scholars



Back row, left to right: Cmdr. Matthew Bowen, USN, CO HT-8; Ensign Andrew Pagliarulo, USN; Lt. j.g. Patrick Norwood, USN; Lt.j.g. Cameron Welicka, USCG; Lt.j.g. Ryan Corridan, USN; Lt.j.g. James Christy, USCG; Lt.j.g. Conor Buttler-Ricketts, USN; Col. Gary Kling, USMC, Dept. Commodore TRAWING FIVE

Middle row: Lt. Col. Robert White, USMC, CO HT-18; Ensign Richard Holdcroft, USN; Lt.j.g. John Sturgill, USN; Lt.j.g. Nathan Stump, USN; Ensign Paul Marder, USN; Lt.j.g. Nathan Williams, USN; Cmdr. Robert Hawthorne, USN, CO HS-14

Front row: Cmdr. Christopher Pesile, USN, CO HT-28; Lt.j.g. Elisabeth Haines, USCG; 1st Lt. Christopher O'Brien, USMC; Lt.j.g. Zachary Dueñas, USN; 1st Lt. John Howser, USMC; Lt.j.g. Hillary McAnallen, USN



Left Photo: 1st Lt. Manuel Franquez II, USMC; 1st Lt. Anthony Gleis, USMC; Ensign Samantha Smith, USN; Ensign Jedidiah Hendershot, USN (front row); Lt. j.g. Andrew Constantino, USN; Lt. Logan Briery, USN; and Ensign David Gilson, USN (back row) receive their Academic Achievement Awards Friday, July 12 at the Training Air Wing FIVE headquarters.



Right Photo: Ensign David I. Emert, USN; and Ensign Eric J. Reno, USN are the recipients of the awards for July 19.

# Around the Base

## VT-2

- (Cont. from Page 6)



Cmdr. Juan Lopez

1992, he was assigned to Coast Guard Headquarters as a Financial Policy Analyst.

Lopez reported for flight training at Naval Air Station Pensacola in 1994 and received his wings of gold in July 1996. His first duty station was Coast Guard Air Station Houston, TX, where he flew the HH-65A Dolphin. He then served with an assortment of duty stations from Coast Guard Air Station Miami, Fla., Coast Guard Air Station Borinquen, PR, and in November 2007, Lopez led as Officer in Charge of rescue and relief operations in the aftermath of Tropical Storm Noel in the Dominican Republic. His final stop before transferring to VT-2 was as the chief pilot and operations officer of Helicopter Interdiction Tactical Squadron (HITRON) in Jacksonville, Fla. Lopez has accumulated 4,700 flight hours and has participated in over 300 Search and Rescue missions and 23 deployments in support of law enforcement operations.

The incoming executive officer will be Cmdr. Thaddeus Withers.

## Balfour Beatty requests input from residents through housing survey

In a few weeks, residents will be invited to give feedback on Balfour Beatty Communities (BBC) operations through our CEL Resident Satisfaction Housing Survey. The annual survey is an important part of our continuous improvement program that analyzes operational performance to ensure we are consistently delivering quality services in all of our communities. Topics covered in the survey include, but are not limited to, resident experiences regarding leasing, housing, and maintenance.

"The CEL Resident Satisfaction Survey allows us to see where we are excelling operationally and where there is room for improvement," said Vickie Taylor, Community Manager for BBC. "We encourage all residents to fill out the survey honestly so that we may better assist in the future."

Surveys were first issues at the Splash Party July 23 at the Community Center. However, residents who were unable to attend the event can stop by our office to pick one up or call the Community Management Office at 850-626-6202 and they will deliver one to your residence.

Residents that submit a completed survey by August 31, 2013 will be entered to win a prize. Residents that hand in a survey before August 9, 2013 will also qualify for a special Early Bird Drawing.

"At Balfour Beatty Communities, we strive to exceed our residents' expectations and hope that every resident enjoys their experience living with us," added Taylor.

Surveys should be returned to the authorized locked mailbox located at the Balfour Beatty Communities Management Office in the postage paid envelopes provided. Survey information is completely confidential and anonymous and only CEL employees will have access to the returned surveys. The deadline for submitting completed surveys is August 31, 2013.

## SECURITY CHECKPOINT



Contraband and other restricted items aboard NAS Whiting Field as per NASWFINST 5530.14A JULY 15 2013. 6. Contraband/ Other Restrictions. The following items are forbidden aboard NASWF: personal firearms and /or ammunition; explosives/ illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia; surveillance equipment (without Commanding Officers approval); any hazardous chemical, biological or nuclear material without the appropriate NASWF approval, permits, warning symbols and safety placards. Other weapons not identified above must be declared to the Security Sentry. Recreational off-road driving is prohibited on any NASWF property.

*Don't forget to visit us on  
facebook*

*at*

*<http://www.facebook.com/nas->*

# Around the Base

## NEX

- (Cont. from Page 7)

“It’s a big deal for us, this is the store that we’ll use as the example for the rest of our stores,” stated Knowles. He noted that the Panama City NEX will be the next location in the district to undergo remodeling.

The grand reopening was also a chance for the NEX to highlight many discounts and savings opportunities available to customers at the NEX. The military star card program, which features special promotions throughout the whole year, is offering special no-interest deals on certain purchases of electronics. Additionally, customers who apply for a Military Star Card receive an extra 10% off their first day’s purchases.

The NEX also offers price matching for any item they stock and will match competitors prices, including discounts found online.

Sales fliers are available at the store and on [mynavy-exchange.com](http://mynavy-exchange.com).

Larrabee acknowledged that while the Whiting Field NEX does stock a variety of products, the Pensacola NEX sometimes carries products that the Whiting Field NEX doesn’t keep in stock, and it can be a hassle to drive there to pick something up. The solution to that, she stated, is that the Whiting Field NEX can get the product for you.

“If there’s something a customer knows that the



Linda Larrabee and Cmdr. Gregory Gray cut the first piece of cake together. NEX Customers enjoyed slices of the giant cake almost as much as they enjoyed the tremendous sale opportunities featured at the NEX that day. U.S. Navy photo by Ensign Emily Hegarty.

Pensacola NEX has that we don’t carry, we can usually get it for them,” explained Larrabee. Whiting Field NEX sends couriers weekly to the Pensacola NEX, so all Whiting Field customers need to do is ask at the customer service desk. Trips are usually made on Tuesdays, and patrons will receive a phone call once their product is available for pickup at the Whiting Field NEX.

Larrabee acknowledged that some customers may wonder how the NEX can afford these renovations during a time

when so many government-affiliated programs are struggling with their budgets. She explained that the NEX exists only on profit, and used these profits to pay for this renovation, not tax payer dollars. Larrabee stated that the NEX is proud to serve as a “bright light in a gloomy economy,” and use their resources to best serve their patrons.

The biggest thing, noted Larrabee, are the discounts that the NEX is able to offer. “Customers love a good deal, and man are they going to get a good deal. That’s the important thing,” she beamed.

The Whiting Field NEX is currently open from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays, from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays, and 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturdays. The store is closed on Sundays.

## Summer Religious Programs Schedule

### Weekly Services:

**Bible Study** – Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m. A free lunch followed by a lesson and discussion. Guest speakers, non-denominational.

**Chapel** – Thursdays at 11:30 a.m. A Protestant service featuring traditional and contemporary music. Sermons by Lt. Jason Hart and Cmdr. Charles Luff.

**Mass** – Fridays at 11:00 a.m. Traditional Catholic Mass led by Monsignor Michael Reed.

### CREDO Southeast Programs

**Marriage Enrichment Retreat** – from Friday at 7 p.m. until Sunday after lunch. Aug. 9-11, St. Simon’s Island, Ga. Aug. 23-25, Pensacola, Fla.

To register contact CREDO Southeast at 904-542-3923.

### NASWF Programs

**How to Avoid Marrying a Jerk(ette)** – Friday, Aug. 16 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

All seminars will take place in NASWF Atrium Building Room 169. Please contact Chaplain Hart ([jason.r.hart@navy.mil](mailto:jason.r.hart@navy.mil))

, RP1 Yolanda Jordan ([yolanda.jordan@navy.mil](mailto:yolanda.jordan@navy.mil)), or call the office at 850-623-7211 to sign up.

**PREP Marriage Communication/Enrichment Workshop** - Friday, Sept. 20. PREP is an interactive/educational workshop for couples, married or engaged, that develops communication skills within a relationship and provides valuable marriage enrichment information. Please contact Chaplain Hart ([jason.r.hart@navy.mil](mailto:jason.r.hart@navy.mil)), RP1 Yolanda Jordan ([yolanda.jordan@navy.mil](mailto:yolanda.jordan@navy.mil)), or call the office at 850-623-7211 to sign up.