



Whiting Tower

Seventy Years of Aviation Training News

Naval Air Station Whiting Field, Milton, Fla.
Vol. 69 No. 23

Forging Wings for the Fleet
Wednesday, August 7, 2013

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Final Air Force student completes training

By Ensign Emily Hegarty, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

As 1st Lt. Dave Zitelli closed out his flight plan on the morning of July 23, he closed out an era of joint primary student pilot training between the Navy and the Air Force.

Zitelli's landing of the T-6B "Texan II" marked the end of his primary phase of military pilot training, and made him the last Air Force student to study in the joint student pilot primary training pipeline at Naval Air Station Whiting Field, Milton, Fla. Capt. James Fisher, Commodore of TRAWING FIVE, attended the historic event and congratulated Lt. Col. Brian Schafer, the Commanding Officer of Training Squadron THREE (VT-3) and the Instructor Pilot for this event, as well as Zitelli as they climbed out of the T-6 to a crowd of VT-3 instructor pilots and students on hand to witness the completion of the flight. Fisher acknowledged that "the end of the student transfer today marks an important milestone in the Navy and Air Force relationship." He continued, "I'll miss having the Air Force students - training students has always been my passion. But I'm glad the Air Force instructor pilots will be here until further notice. We've learned a lot from the Air force and I hope

Cover Photo

Cmdr. Jennifer Whereatt taxis a T-6B "Texan II" through a spray of water. Whereatt passed command of Training Squadron TWO while flying this aircraft and Lopez assumed command in the following craft. The Fire and Emergency Services Gulf Coast fire trucks sprayed the water to welcome them back for the rest of the ceremony. Go to page 11 to see more photos from the event. U.S. Navy photo by Ensign Emily Hegarty.

they've learned a lot from us."

Since 1994, VT-3 has served as the only Navy/Air Force joint primary training squadron, hosting Air Force instructor pilots and students alongside Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and foreign nation service members as they complete the requirements of primary flight training.

The program began when Air Force Capt. Robert Keliher

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The Whiting Tower

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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.

HT-28 instructor pilot aids car crash victims

By Ensign Emily Hegarty, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

An HT-28 Instructor Pilot was standing in the driveway of his home in the Whiting Pines housing complex on the afternoon of Monday, July 8, when he heard a crash and a blaring, continuous car horn.

Running over to see what caused the noise, Lt. Adam Shreders, HT-28's public affairs officer and a night vision goggle event instructor, quickly became instrumental in removing two victims from a damaged vehicle involved in the two car collision.

At the intersection of Dogwood Drive and Hamilton Bridge Road, a black Dodge truck and Red Chevrolet Avalanche had collided, causing the Avalanche to roll onto the driver's side.

Arriving at the scene, Shreders saw about fifteen bystanders gathering around the two cars, and noticed that two passengers were still trapped inside the Avalanche. "There were two people inside, the husband was standing in the cab of the truck and his wife was unresponsive in the passenger seat," Shreders reported.

Climbing on top of the vehicle, he stated that he and an off-duty paramedic worked together to wrench the pas-

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Hagel decreases furlough for civilian employees

"When I announced my decision on May 14 to impose furloughs of up to 11 days on civilian employees to help close the budget gap caused by sequestration, I also said we would do everything possible to find the money to reduce furlough days for our people. With the end of the fiscal year next month, managers across the DoD are making final decisions necessary to ensure we make the \$37 billion spending cuts mandated by sequestration, while also doing everything possible to limit damage to military readiness and our workforce. We are joined in this regard by managers in non-defense agencies who are also working to accommodate sequestration cuts while minimizing mission damage. As part of that effort at the Department of Defense, I am announcing today that, thanks to the DoD's efforts to identify savings and help from Congress, we will reduce the total numbers of furlough days for DoD civilian employees from 11 to six.

When sequestration took effect on March 1, DoD faced shortfalls of more than \$30 billion in its budget for day-to-day operating costs because of sequestration and problems with wartime funding. At that point we faced the very real possibility of unpaid furloughs for civilian employees of up to 22 days.

As early as January, DoD leaders began making painful and far reaching changes to close this shortfall: civilian hiring freezes, layoffs of temporary workers, significant cuts in facilities maintenance, and more. We also sharply cut training and maintenance. The Air Force stopped flying in many squadrons, the Navy kept ships in port, and the Army cancelled training events. These actions have seriously reduced military readiness.

By early May, even after taking these steps, we still faced day-to-day budgetary shortfalls of \$11 billion. At that point I decided that cutting any deeper into training and maintenance would



Secretary of Defense
Chuck Hagel

jeopardize our core readiness mission and national security, which is why I announced furloughs of 11 days.

Hoping to be able to reduce furloughs, we submitted a large reprogramming proposal to Congress in May, asking them to let us move funds from acquisition accounts into day-to-day operating accounts. Congress approved most of this request in late July, and we are working with them to meet remaining needs. We are also experiencing less than expected costs in some areas, such as transportation of equipment out of Afghanistan. Where necessary, we have taken aggressive action to transfer funds among services and agencies. And the furloughs have saved us money.

As a result of these management initiatives, reduced costs, and reprogramming from Congress, we have determined that we can make some improvements in training and readiness and still meet the sequestration cuts. The Air Force has begun flying again in key squadrons, the Army has increased funding for organizational training at selected units, and the Navy has restarted

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This Day in Naval History

Aug. 5

1832 - Frigate Potomac is first U.S. Navy ship to entertain royalty, King and Queen of Sandwich Islands, Honolulu.

1864 - Rear Admiral David Farragut wins Battle of Mobile Bay, sealing off last Confederate port on Gulf Coast.

1882 - Authorizing of first steel warships, beginning of the modern Navy.

1990 - Navy and Marine Task Force -- USS Saipan (LHA 2), USS Ponce (LPD 15) and USS Sumter (APA 52) -- begin evacuation of U.S. citizens and foreign nationals from Liberia during civil war.

Aug. 6

1862 - CSS Arkansas destroyed by her commanding officer to prevent capture by USS Essex.

1943 - Battle of Vella Gulf begins. U.S. destroyers sink three of four Japanese destroyers.

1945 - Atomic bomb detonated over Hiroshima, Japan. Navy weaponeer, Capt. W.S. Parsons, armed the atomic bomb on the B-29 bomber, Enola Gay.

1990 - President George Bush orders Operation Desert Shield, largest overseas deployment since Vietnam, to protect Saudi Arabia after Iraqi's invasion of Kuwait.

Aug. 7

1782 - Badge of Military Merit (Purple Heart) established.

http://www.navy.mil/search/display_history.asp



The Power of History

Capt. Wallace Lovely, mission commander for Pacific Partnership 2013, salutes prior to laying a wreath during a commemoration of the 71st anniversary of the Battle of Guadalcanal. U.S. Navy Photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Chris Fowler (Released)

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. Bldg. 1416, Public Works, -33.6 percent; Bldg. 1423, VT-3, -25.7 percent; and Bldg. 1406, South Field, -19.7%.

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.

Feds Feeds Families - The Feds Feeds Families program is ongoing and has collected more than 3,000 so far for distribution through the Bay Area Food Bank. The commissary is the main donation point. There is a contest between the squadrons as to who will be the most active in the program. Training Squadron THREE currently leads with nine bags donated. For more information on the program contact Religious Programs Specialist 1st Class Yolando Jordan



A Blue Ribbon Special

Lt. Kenyatto Mayes presents an Honorable Discharge certificate to Aviation Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class Renaldo Colosito during his reenlistment ceremony in the Crash Division workcenter. Colosito reenlisted for four more years of Naval service. U.S. Navy photo by Ensign Emily Hegarty.



Honoring a Milestone

Naval Air Station Whiting Field Commanding Officer Capt. Matthew Coughlin receives a proclamation from the Santa Rosa County Board of County Commissioners. The proclamation celebrated the 70th anniversary of NAS Whiting Field. and reads in part: "WHEREAS, the total economic impact of NAS Whiting Field on Santa Rosa County is a staggering \$1.13 billion including direct defense spending, retirement/pensions, procurement etc. which comprises approximately one-third of the county's economy annually, but the more meaningful impact on our community is that of the men and women serving at NAS Whiting Field through the years that have contributed so much to our culture and heritage, truly making this a better place to live, serve and raise families.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Santa Rosa County Board of Commissioners join Congressman Miller and the entire community in celebrating the 70th Anniversary of NAS Whiting Field saluting the men and women serving our country and making our community a better place to live. Photo courtesy of Joy Tsubuka.

Fish Fry - The Navy League Santa Rosa Council will hold a fish fry Thursday, Aug. 22, from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Milton Community Center (5629 Byrom Street). Congressman Jeff Miller will serve as the guest speaker for the luncheon. Price is \$10 for a fried fish plate which includes: baked beans, coleslaw, hush puppies and choice of water, lemonade or tea. Tickets may be purchased in advance at the Santa Rosa County Chamber of Commerce or by seeing Kristal Kelley at Pen Air Federal Credit Union on base.

Back to School Bash - The Santa Rosa County Back to School Bash will be held, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 17 in the church grounds behind CiCi's Pizza (next to Pea Ridge Elementary School). The event will include hay rides, cow train rides, buggy rides, horse back rides, a petting zoo, inflatable jump houses, clowns, mascots, puppets, face painting, firetrucks, police vehicles, and more. There will be food and non alcoholic drinks as well as many door prizes. Finally, there will be bags of school supplies for the kids. As always, everything is free.

BonFest - Japanese culture will be celebrated Saturday, August 25 at the Bayview Community Center from noon until 4 p.m. The BonFest Pensacola 2013 will feature Taiko Dojyo workshop, unique costumes and dance contest, vendor booths, Japanese food, games, and a Kimono Experience (a chance to be dressed in a kimono). The event is free and open to the public.

Pensacola Paracon - A Convention for Fans of Science Fiction, Horror, Fantasy, Gaming, Anime, the 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. 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.

Family Assistance

Fleet and Family Support Center Classes

VA Representative - Friday, August 9 & 23 from 8 a.m. to Noon. (Call 850-623-7177 for appointment)

Resume Writing - Monday, August 12 from 10 a.m. to Noon.

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.

Budget for Baby - July 20 from 10 a.m. to Noon.

You'll discover local resource information, financial assistance, and volunteer opportunities and have fun while attending. All ranks and branches are welcome to attend the class. Eligible clients will also receive Baby's first sea bag (featuring a handmade blanket). Class will be in the Atrium Bldg., Suite 169, class room A & B (same building as ITT and NMCRS office - across from FFSC). Call 850-452-2300 to save a seat for the Budget for Baby class at Whiting Field.

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.



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Air Force

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was assigned to VT-3 as the first exchange Air Force instructor pilot in February 1994. The first Air Force student, 1st Lt. Kevin Armstrong, and the first Air Force skipper of the VT-3 Red Knights, Lt. Col. Shawn Elliott, entered the program in 1995. At the time, all training was conducted in the T-34 Turbo Mentor.

It is ironic that Armstrong and Zitelli literally and figuratively marked the beginning and the end – the A to Z – of the 18 year exchange program.

In September 2009, VT-3 became the first squadron to transition to training pilots in the T-6B Texan II. The first T-6B-trained student graduated from primary in October 2010.

Over the course of the joint pilot training program, VT-3 trained an average of 96 Air Force students annually, resulting in completion of 1,700 Air Force students, 85,300 flights, and 179,130 flight hours.

Schafer will be the last Air Force Skipper to lead the Red Knights. Following Schafer's tour, VT-3 will no longer alternate Navy and Air Force skippers. The unit will return to a solely Navy command structure, beginning with Navy Cmdr. Brian Conatser, VT-3's current Executive Officer, who is due to assume command of the squadron following the completion of Schafer's tour.

Schafer, who will remain in command until November, states that he's enjoyed having the Air Force students train at Whiting Field. And while the student exchange is coming to an end, he remarked that VT-3 will "still have a joint exchange occurring at the Instructor Pilot level, so we'll still have some of the same Air Force flavor here on base."



VT-3 had a cake on hand for the milestone flight, and Zitelli gets his piece quickly. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.



Training Air Wing FIVE Commodore Capt. James Fisher congratulates 1st Lt. Dave Zitelli, USAF, on his successful flight. The flight was the last event to be completed before he finished his primary flight training with Training Squadron THREE. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

He noted that the end of the exchange program is not a result of the sequestration, but rather has to do with Permanent Change of Station (PCS) moving costs associated with moving students from Vance Air Force Base in Enid, Okla. to Whiting. "While the exchange was occurring," Schafer acknowledged, "it was beneficial in that it opened everyone's eyes up to the other service, but it's hard to put a finger on the monetary value due to today's fiscal environment."

Schafer also spoke on his own experience as a student at a joint exchange location, where he was trained at an Air Force installation commanded by a Navy skipper.

"I really noticed the effects of the joint training when I was overseas and different services were operating together. You would recognize people you had trained with, so normal walls that would've been in place were not, and you had a better sense of appreciation for the other services. The joint training helped us to better understand the internal culture of the other service, and the relationships we built here are really one of the most beneficial aspects of the joint program. In the end, we fight as a group."

The differences between the two services, Schafer found,

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NASWF anniversary placed in Congressional Record

Editor's Note: Naval Air Station Whiting Field was entered into history July 24 when Congressman Jeff Miller read a citation into the Congressional Record to recognize the base's contributions to the nation during its 70-year history. The full record is listed below.

Congressional Record

Proceedings and Debates of the 113th Congress, First Session, The Honorable Jeff Miller of the First District of Florida. Washington, Wednesday, July 24, 2013.

Celebrating the Seventieth Anniversary of Naval Air Station Whiting Field.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 70th anniversary of Naval Air Station Whiting Field.

Rich in its military history, Northwest Florida is home to several military installations that continue to play an essential role in contributing to our Nation's defense, including Naval Air Station Whiting field located in Santa Rosa County.

For seventy years, Whiting Field has provided support and training for some of our military's best aviation war fighters, and Northwest Florida is grateful and proud of its service to our community and our Nation.

In 1943, just months after the death of its namesake, Captain Kenneth Whiting, Whiting Field was already turning into a key naval air training facility. The need to quickly train elite aviators for missions led to Whiting Field becoming an efficient military flight school in a matter of months. The commissioning ceremonies for NAS Whiting Field were held on July 16, 1943, only six days after the invasion of Sicily. Whiting Field then became a leading training facility for our Nation's aviators that helped carry the United States to victory in World War II.

Whiting Field's storied history that includes a pilot training rounds and prisoner-of-war camp for German soldiers during World War II, a once home to the Blue Angels Flight Demonstration Team and the Navy's first jet



Santa Rosa County Chamber of Commerce President Tracy Allen cuts the cake during the 70th anniversary celebration for Naval Air Station Whiting Field. Surrounding Allen are Milton City Councilman Wesley Meiss, Florida State Representative Doug Broxson, NAS Whiting Field Commanding Officer Capt. Matthew Coughlin, Dave Murzin - a representative for Florida State Senator Greg Evers, Sheila Bowman - a representative for U.S. Congressman Jeff Miller, Santa Rosa County Commissioner Don Salter, Daniel Fish - another representative for Miller, and Milton Mayor Guy Thompson.

training unit has today become the busiest Naval Aviation Station in the world where more than twelve hundred service personnel complete their essential flight training annually. It is situated on 12,000 acres, with 12 outlying fields and three separate and fully operational airfields. Whiting Field supports six Training Squadrons and two Instructor Squadrons, which comprises 141 T-6Bs and 124 TH-57s. Eleven percent of all of U.S. Department of Defense's flying hours are flown there, amounting to approximately 1.5 million annual flight operations.

*Don't forget to visit us on
facebook
at
<http://www.facebook.com/nas-whitingfield>*

Shreders

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senger's side door open by bending the frame outward. Reaching inside, Shreders supported the woman's body from above as her husband unbuckled her seat belt. Shreders lifted her out of the vehicle and handed her off to some of the bystanders who had gathered to help.

Shreders then climbed into the vehicle and assisted the man, who was standing up in the cab of the sideways truck, in exiting the truck through the back window.

After the injured man was safely clear of the vehicle, Shreders brought him over to sit beside his wife, who seemed to be alternating in and out of consciousness.

Shortly after the two victims were clear of the vehicle, police and then emergency medical service personnel arrived on scene.

Shreders stated that "the man was pretty badly cut-up," and that under the supervision of a medical attendant he assisted in applying a bandage to the man's arm. Although not formally trained in emergency medical response, he credited his general first aid knowledge to training he has received throughout his time in the military.

The Santa Rosa Gazette reports that fuel was leaking from one of the vehicles. Both the husband and wife that Shreders helped extricate from the car, as well as the driver of the second vehicle, were transported by ambulance to the hospital.

As for his part in rendering aid, Shreders said, "I didn't do that much. I just wanted to do something to help out." But help he did, and as Lt. Col. Jeff Pavelko, the executive officer of HT-28, states, Lt. Shreders' actions are just what he expects "of any service member who came across the same scenario.

"This is another great example of how the squadron and the military community in general want to be involved with the local community. [His] actions reflect the same values we teach at HT-28. As one of our IPs, Lt. Shreders understands doing the right thing all the time. We teach, coach and mentor our officer students to act and conduct themselves in a fashion that is keeping with our services' Core Values. We pride ourselves on our actions at HT-28, and Lt. Shreders represented himself, the squadron and the Navy very well."

Air Force

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were not as significant as they may first seem.

"Fundamentally, flying is not that much different between the two services. The biggest difference between the two services is the vernacular, the exact wording that people use, but the underlying focus on what's important is the same. Pilots out of any organization will speak a similar language."

While the Air Force student exchange program has come to an end, Air Force instructor pilots will continue to teach at VT-3. VT-3 is currently home to 18 Air Force, 23 Navy, nine Marine Corps, and five Coast Guard instructor pilots.

After primary training is complete, Zitelli's next stop will be advanced fixed wing flight training at Vance AFB, where he will train on the T-1 "Jayhawk." Zitelli officially selected his next training platform in a ceremony at VT-3 Thursday, July 25. As for what platform he eventually hopes to fly, Zitelli says he's "just happy to be selected to fly a fixed-wing platform."

Zitelli says he's glad "to have had the experience to be able to join in training with the Navy. I went to the United States Air Force Academy, so I got to see one side of things there, here I've been able to see the way Navy does things and I plan to incorporate some of the things I have learned here when I go back to training with the Air Force."



1st Lt. Dave Zitelli hangs his helmet after completion of his final T-6B flight as a student. The Air Force officer was the final student to complete training with Training Squadron THREE as part of an exchange program with the Air Force. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

From TRAWING-5

Congrats to TRAWING-5 Wingers and scholars



Back row, from left to right: Cmdr. Matthew Bowen, USN, CO HT-8; Lt.j.g. Jessica Whitens, USN; 1st Lt. Daniel Ouellette, USMC; Lt.j.g. Zachary McCune, USCG; 1st Lt. Lewis Flinn, USMC; Lt.j.g. Gregory Bukata, USCG; and 1st Lt. Jason Wahl, USMC.

Middle row: Lt. Col. Robert White, USMC, CO, HT-18; Lt.j.g. Daniel Delgadillo, USN; Ensign Matthew Lawson, USN; Ensign Michael Sweeney, USN; 1st Lt. Matthew Johnson, USMC; Ensign Mark Randazzo, USN; Lt.j.g. James Stranges; and Capt. James Fisher, USN, CO, TRAWING FIVE.

Front row: Lt. Col. Jeffery Pavelko, USMC, XO, HT-28; 1st Lt. Thomas Nell, USMC; Ensign Walter McGann III, USN; 1st Lt. Ryan Small, USMC; Lt.j.g. Rachel Clapp, USN; 1st Lt. Michael Bebow, USMC; Lt.j.g. Carolyn Boothe, USN; Capt. Nicholas Oney, USMC; and Lt. Col. Mark Thompson, USMC (Ret.).



Ensign Nicholas J. Macklin, USN; 1st Lt. Matthew D. Dieska, USMC, and Ensign Robert M. Pritchett, USN display the Academic Achievement Awards they received Friday, Aug. 2 at the Training Air Wing FIVE headquarters building.

New, flexible career options provide opportunities for a lifetime of Naval service

MILLINGTON, Tenn. (NNS) -- Continuum of Service (CoS) programs provide Sailors more flexibility to move between the active and Reserve components, allowing for a lifetime of service, officials said in an Aug. 7 message. NAVADMN 198/13 applies to eligible officer and enlisted Sailors who currently serve on active duty or in the Reserves.

The message provides an overview of various CoS programs which allow Sailors to transition between the components. The message also details rating and designator conversion programs for enlisted and officer personnel, and the Career Intermission Pilot Program, which allows Sailors to temporarily transition to the Individual Ready Reserve.

Applications for CoS programs can be submitted by detailers, command career counselors or anyone with prior access to Fleet-RIDE through the new Career Waypoints (C-WAY) information technology system. A NAVPERS 5239/8 (SAAR Addendum) is required to access C-WAY.

The C-WAY system is a part the Career Navigator Program and combines all Navy career management processes together to provide Sailors with tools that are more transparent and integrated, and give them a more active role in managing their careers.

Sailors considering any rating conversion may improve their opportunity for selection by taking the Armed Forces Classification Test to improve their initial ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) score. This may expand the number of ratings for which they qualify.

Active-duty Sailors not granted an in-rate or conver-



Gunner's Mate 3rd Class Joseph Janelle, left, from Apple Valley, Calif., speaks to explosive ordnance disposal personnel during a career fair in the aft mess decks aboard the aircraft carrier USS Nimitz (CVN 68). (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Derek A. Harkins/Released).

sion opportunity can always request to join the Navy Reserve five-to-three months prior to their end of active obligated service. The Navy Reserve also offers a two-year deployment deferment for Sailors who join within six months of leaving active duty.

The Career Transition Office (CTO) at Navy Personnel Command (NPC) provides counseling and support to active-duty officer and enlisted Sailors considering a transition to the Reserves. Interested Sailors can contact a CTO representative by phone at (901) 874-4192, or email at cto.officer@navy.mil or cto.enlisted@navy.mil.

Hagel

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some maintenance and ordered deployments that otherwise would not have happened. While we are still depending on furlough savings, we will be able to make up our budgetary shortfall in this fiscal year with fewer furlough days than initially announced.

This has been one of the most volatile and uncertain budget cycles the Department of Defense has ever experienced. Our fiscal planning has been conducted under a cloud of uncertainty with the imposition of sequestration and changing rules as Congress made adjustments to our spending authorities.

As we look ahead to fiscal year 2014, less than two months away, the Department of Defense still faces major fiscal challenges. If Congress does not change the Budget Control Act, DoD will be forced to cut an additional \$52 billion in FY 2014, starting on October 1. This represents 40 percent more than this year's sequester-mandated cuts of \$37 billion. Facing this uncertainty, I cannot be sure what will happen next year, but I want to assure our civilian employees that we will do everything possible to avoid more furloughs.

I want to thank our civilian workers for their patience and dedication during these extraordinarily tough times, and for their continued service and devotion to our department and our country. I know how difficult this has been for all of you and your families. Your contribution to national security is invaluable, and I look forward to one day putting this difficult period behind us. Thank you and God Bless you and your families."

Around the Base

Whereatt hands reins of command to Lopez



Following an aerial exchange of duty, Cmdr. Jennifer Whereatt, U.S. Navy, and Cmdr. Juan Lopez, U.S. Coast Guard, entered the hangar at Naval Air Station Whiting Field Friday, July 26 to complete the ceremonial portions of their change of command event. Lopez, a native of Youco, Puerto Rico, assumes command at the squadron following about 15 months as the executive officer. Cmdr. Thaddeus Withers becomes the new executive officer.

Whereatt's next tour of duty will be at the Pentagon.

Above: Training Air Wing FIVE Commodore Capt. James Fisher presents Whereatt with the Navy Meritorious Service Medal.

Above Right: Lopez takes the microphone to express his appreciation for the squadron members' hard work and his excitement at working with them as the commanding officer.

Below Right: Lopez entering the hangar after exiting the aircraft he flew for the exchange of duties.

Below: Whereatt exits the yellow T-6B "TexanII," which was painted especially for the Centennial of Naval Aviation in 2011 to resemble a "Texan" from the 1940s and 50s.



CNRSE conducts emergency response exercise

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. – The Commander, Navy Region Southeast (CNRSE) Family Readiness Program hosted phase II of an Emergency Family Assistance Center (EFAC) exercise on board Naval Air Station (NAS) Jacksonville July 17.

The training was the second installment of a three-phase exercise designed to test the region's ability to establish and sustain EFAC operations in the days and weeks following the landfall of a hurricane.

Phase I, conducted on May 30, involved more than 30 Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) representatives from NAS Jacksonville, Naval Station (NS) Mayport and Naval Submarine Base (NSB) Kings Bay, as well as installation and training officers and emergency management personnel from all three bases. Phase II incorporated a variety of additional base organizations, such as the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society, Navy Legal Service Office, Navy Gateway Inns and Suites, base housing and many others.

"This training is vital because it's not a matter of if one of our installations will be affected by a hurricane, it's a matter of when," said Rear Adm. John C. Scorby Jr., commander, Navy Region Southeast. "Our ability to bring together multiple organizations and people to work as a cohesive unit is crucial to our recovery efforts in this kind of scenario, and I think training like this has a huge impact on our ability to respond when the real thing does happen."

The EFAC exercise is essentially a continuation of the region's HURREX 2013, which tested the region's hurricane preparedness through a scenario involving multiple, simulated storms that made landfall near installations throughout the Southeast Region. While HURREX focused on pre-landfall preparations, the EFAC exercise was designed to focus on the recovery phase of disaster response.

In this scenario, NS Mayport and NSB Kings Bay residents were evacuated prior to landfall and each base suffered extensive flooding as the simulated storm passed. Afterward, FFSC personnel from all three participating bases worked with emergency management, training personnel and other installation departments to establish an EFAC on board NAS Jacksonville.

"Phase II of this exercise had a lot more moving pieces due to the fact that we brought in a variety of additional agencies to participate," said Carol Lucius, CNRSE Family Readiness Program work and family life coordinator. "To incorporate all these different people into this exercise is invaluable because we will be working together in the event of a real disaster and establishing roles, responsibilities and relationships is crucial."

After a real disaster, the EFAC would function as a hub for FFSC case workers and emergency

response personnel to provide a wide range of support services for affected family members. According to Lucius, much of that support is managed through the Navy Family Accountability and Assessment System (NFAAS).

Lucius said training like this is essential for preparing emergency management and FFSC personnel for an actual event, but it is equally as important for family members and dependents to know what to do in the event of an emergency.

"They really need to know about NFAAS. They need to know that it is essential for them to have their personal contact information updated in NFAAS so that when a disaster strikes, they can be contacted and they know how to contact somebody for help," she said.

While phase II of the exercise included about 30 more participants than phase I, phase III of the exercise will expand even further and will include a number of civilian agencies and organizations, including the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Salvation Army and others.

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.

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.

TRICARE Notes

COMMUNICATING WITH YOUR DENTIST

One of the easiest ways to improve your oral health is by fostering open, two-way communication with your dentist.

To focus your communication efforts, you may want to ask yourself these questions during your next dentist visit:

- What is the purpose of this visit? Is it to relieve pain, restore function or is it cosmetic?
- Did I ask the right questions?
- Do I understand my dentist's treatment plan?

And here are some of the questions you may want to ask your dentist:

- What does this treatment plan mean?
- Is there an alternative treatment available?
- Would an alternative treatment solve my problem?
- Which of your recommendations are required? Which are elective?
- Can any of these procedures be postponed?
- What will the procedure(s) cost?
- What will I be expected to pay?

UNDERSTANDING YOUR TRICARE EXPLANATION OF BENEFITS

After you receive health care services, you will receive a TRICARE explanation of benefits (EOB) that can also be viewed online at <http://www.mytricare.com/internet/tric/tri/tricare.nsf>. Your EOB is not a bill. An EOB is an itemized statement that shows the action TRICARE took on your claims and the health care services and supplies you received.

You should review your EOB to ensure it accurately represents the care you received. If you notice any information that looks incorrect, call the toll-free number listed on your EOB. You also have the right to appeal certain decisions regarding your claims. You can file an appeal in writing within 90 days of the date of the EOB notice. You should keep EOBs with your health insurance records for reference.

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

SECURITY CHECKPOINT



NASWF INSTRUCTION 5530.14A – Points of Entry and Exit. Pedestrians and vehicles are authorized to enter and exit NASWF at the following entry control points unless granted prior permission to utilize other entry control points by the Security Officer. The West Gate

is located on Highway 87A/West side of NASWF. This gate is operated 24 hours/7 days a week. Commercial Vehicles, POVs with trailers, mobile homes, large recreational vehicles, or buses must be inspected at the West Entrance (6am-6pm M-F). After hours or on weekends, inspections can be performed by an Inspection Team on an on-call basis. The East Gate is located on Highway 87A/East side of NASWF. This gate is operated 24 hours/7 days a week.

Note: Dates and times of operation are subject to random change.