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HT-18 earns Secretary of Navy Safety Award

By Ensign John Llewellyn, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs



Secretary of the Navy, The Honorable Ray Mabus, presents Cmdr. Jeffrey DeBrine, Helicopter Training Squadron EIGHTEEN commanding officer, with the Secretary of the Navy Safety Award, July 7. Also pictured are: the Honorable Jackalyne Pfanannenstiel, Ass. secretary of the Navy for energy, installations & environment; Lt. Cmdr. Aaron Beattie, HT-18 safety officer; Capt. Timothy Costello, HT-18 aviation safety officer; Vice Adm. Michael Vitale, Commander Navy Installations Command; and Lt. Gen. John Paxton, commanding general II MEF. Photo courtesy of HT-18.

Secretary of the Navy, the Honorable Ray Mabus, presented the Department of the Navy Safety Excellence Award to Helicopter Training Squadron EIGHTEEN during the award ceremony at the U.S. Navy Memorial, July 7.

The award is presented annually to commands that display the vigilance and dedication to preserving the well-being of the military service members in their charge.

“When safety becomes second nature, an integral part of how we do business, when that happens not only does every Sailor and Marine come home at the end of the day, but we are way better as a fighting force, Mabus said. “When operations are accomplished on time and on schedule, when duty rosters rotate smoothly and injuries don’t interrupt the daily routine, that is when we are at our best, and that’s one of the things that keeps us the most formidable fighting force the world has ever known.”

Former SECNAV, Gordon R. England, established the Safety Excellence Award back in 2002. His goal was to pro-

- (Cont. on Page 5)

NASWF families bring their kids to work July 14

By Jay Cope, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

Naval Air Station Whiting Field held their first “Bring Your Kids/Grandkids to Work Day” Thursday, July 14, and treated the children to a slew of activities to help them enjoy the day as they learned about what their relatives do on the base.

The idea was originated by Naval Engineering Facilities Command and Richelle Armstrong, the administrative officer at the NAS Whiting Field detachment agreed to take on the task of organizing the event. Initially planned as a small function for the NAVFAC staff, the idea ballooned to a festival encompassing all areas of the base.

“I think all the kids had a great time and they were all exhausted the by end,” Armstrong said. “It was an incredibly busy day. The kids got to see so many parts of the base, and if they remember one thing, it will be worth it.”

- (Cont. on Page 2)



One of NASWF’s trained EMS personnel, Greg Snyder, talks to a group of children from inside an ambulance. Mr. Snyder discusses the importance of an ambulance and how the equipment inside is used. U.S. Navy photo by Ensign John Llewellyn.

Bring kids to work day

-(Cont. from Page 1)

More than 60 children were brought to the event. Most of them were under the age of 12, but some were as old as 17.

The youths were treated to activities ranging from rides in a helicopter simulator, Morale Welfare and Recreation activities, a nature trail walk, security and fire briefs, an ice cream social and more. The all-day event was split into two groups so that the various stops were organized to be age appropriate so the children could be kept active and engaged.

Armstrong may have organized it and planned the schedule, but she stresses that she hardly did it alone. People throughout the base, NAVFAC, Training Air Wing FIVE, and the fire department all stepped up to host various activities for the children.

“Everybody stepped up to show the kids an enjoyable day,” she said. “It is neat to see how we as a community can keep our kids engaged. When we bring our kids out here, I think we bring some cohesion back to our military family.”

It wasn’t initially planned as an annual event, but given the overwhelmingly positive response from the people who attended, “Bring Your Kids/Grandkids to Work Day” may turn out to be just the first of many.

“Doing this once a year would be pretty special,” Margaret Williams said. An information technology specialist for NAS Whiting Field, she brought her daughter Laura and her daughters friend Destiny. The two 15-year olds seemed to enjoy the day.

“They were very happy to see where I work and meet the people I work with on the job. I talk about the mission of the base and the people here a lot, and I finally got to show them what we do. I don’t know if I was more excited or them.”



Capt. James Vandiver, USN and his 6 year old son David gather into NASWF’s bowling alley for an ice cream social. David tries to decide which ice cream toppings to use. U.S. Navy photo by Ensign John Llewellyn

Ec-nomics

Use an Energy Monitor

Measure your way to savings with an energy monitor. Such a device indicates household electrical usage in real time and projects your monthly bill. Research has found that such info leads consumers to reduce their electricity consumption significantly. In fact, according to the company you’ll save 15%-20% on each bill, which would amount to hundreds of dollars a year. By seeing exactly how much each appliance or activity costs, you’ll start seeing easy ways to cut waste. Go a step further and ask your local utility if it’s making smart meters available in your area, as part of recent federal smart grid investments.

See www.thedailygreen.com for more tips.

This Week in Naval History

July 26

- 1812 - Frigate Essex captures British brig Leander.
- 1912 - First airborne radio communications from naval aircraft to ship (Lt. John Rodgers to USS Stringham).
- 1942 - Capt. Joy Bright Hancock appointed director, Women’s Naval Reserve.
- 1948 - President Harry S. Truman orders desegregation of the Armed Services.

July 27

- 1953 - Korean War armistice signed at Panmunjon, Korea and Korean cease-fire went into effect at 10:00 PM.

July 28

- 1916 - Navy establishes a Code and Signal Section which initially worked against German ciphers and tested the security of communications during U.S. naval training maneuvers.
- 1926 - Team of scientists from Naval Research Laboratory (NRL) and Carnegie Institution determine height of the Ionosphere through use of radio pulse transmitter developed by NRL.

News and Notes

Taste for Art - The Santa Rosa Arts and Culture Foundation will host its 6th annual "Get a Taste for Art" event Saturday, July 30 from 7 to 9 p.m. The event will be held at the county auditorium at 4530 Jimmy's Way in Milton. A \$25 donation gains entrance to this semi-formal/black tie affair that features gourmet hors'doeuvres and decadent chocolate. This year's theme is the British Isles, castles and knights. Entertainment will be provided by area performers such as; "Sweet Prospects," Sarah Worthylake and the Teen Shakespeare Group.

Navarre Arts Association - The Greater Navarre Beach Arts Association has issued a call for artists and crafters for the Navarre Fall Arts Festival 2011. The event is scheduled for Oct. 8 and 9, in the Navarre Park adjacent to the Navarre Visitors' Information Center. Deadline for applications is Sept. 1, however with only 50 booth spaces available, acceptance will be on a "first come" basis. There are also 10 food vendor spaces and 10 local business spaces. The Fall Arts Festival will feature fine arts, hobbyists, crafters, music and performance arts. For more information, go to the GN-BAA Home Page, www.gnbaa.org <<http://www.gnbaa.org/>> , for an application, or contact gnbaaexec@yahoo.com.

Wildlife Expo - The Annual University of Florida - Wildlife Expo will be held on Saturday, July 30, 2011 (9am - 3pm) at the East Milton Recreational Center (Santa Rosa Fair Grounds) located at 8604 Bobby Brown Road in Milton, FL. The Expo is being hosted by the University of Florida - WFREC, University of Florida IFAS Extension Services, and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. This year's event will have information and activities for the entire family. We are striving for an outdoor experience through a variety of vendors and topics on wildlife and fisheries. The Santa Rosa County 4-H will provide a complete set of youth outdoor activities, from shooting safety to learning about wildlife and their environment.

ID Card Office Temporary Closings - The ID card office will be closed Tuesday, Aug. 9 and Wednesday, Aug. 10 for a hardware upgrade. We will be unable to assist customers during this time. We will reopen on Thursday August 11 at 0730 hrs. Naval Air Station Pensacola will be open and able to assist customers with any urgent matters that may arise. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the ID card office at 850-623-7159.

Outdoor Adventure Program Hours Change - The Outdoor Adventures Program will be closed on Wednesdays to allow for admin and maintenance. In cases where reserved equipment needs to be picked up or rented equipment returned, an appointment will be made to accommodate this. For more info on the OAP, please call 623-7670. Normal hours of operation are: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. & Friday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Embry Riddle Registration - Embry Riddle Aeronautical University is now registering for the Fall term through August 8, 2011. Hours on board NAS Whiting Field are Wednesdays 9:00 am-4:00 pm in Bldg, 1417, Room 163. Hours on board NAS Pensacola are 8:00 am-5:00 pm Monday through Thursday and 8:00 am-4:00 pm Fridays in Bldg. 634, Suite 033, 250 Chambers Avenue. Everyone is encouraged to register early. Classes begin August 8, 2011. Embry Riddle Aeronautical University's Pensacola campus offers certificate programs, associate and bachelors degree programs with various specializations in Professional Aeronautics and Technical Management and the Master of Aeronautical Sci-



Learning the Trade

Reid Didier, 15, Gabrielle Brown, 16, and Sally Pendoley, 15, prepare to hoist the flag for morning colors at in front of Naval Air Station Whiting Field's command building. The three youths are part of the annual Naval Sea Cadet Corps summer training that occurs every year on the base, and includes young people from several states. U.S. Navy photo by Ensign John Llewellyn.

ence degree. Email pensacola@erau.edu, visit www.embryriddle.edu/pensacola or call 458-1098 for more information.

Need For O-Negative Blood Donors - Northwest Florida Blood Services announces a critical need for O-Negative blood donors. Due to increased usage for patients at local hospitals, O Negative blood donors are asked to come by the blood centers and help meet the critical need. Location and hours of operation are: Pensacola - 1999 East Nine Mile Road and 2209 N. 9th Avenue; Fort Walton - 405 NE Racetrack Road Center; and Panama City - 2696 Martin Luther King Blvd. Call 850-473-3853 for hours of operation or other information, and check the website at www.nfcblood.org

Road Closure - The Santa Rosa County Public Works Department closed the intersection of North Spencer Field Road and West Spencer Field Road Monday, July 11, for a major roadway realignment. Due to the extensive scope of work, this intersection closure will last for approximately four to six weeks. The detours will be posted to route traffic to Adams Road toward Chumuckla Hwy., and to Chipper Lane through the Winners Gait subdivision. For more information, contact the road and bridge department at (850) 626-0191.

Santa Rosa Medical Center Auxiliary - The Santa Rosa Medical Center auxiliary (SRMC) will host a patriotic celebration at the Chumuckla's Farmers Opry Thursday, Sept. 1 beginning at 5:30 p.m. There will be a silent and live auction as well as entertainment provide by "The Sawmill Band." Tickets are \$25 and proceeds benefit the SRMC Health Care Scholarships. Call 626-5113 for more information.

Don't forget to check out the Naval Air Station Whiting Field's Facebook fan page at <http://www.facebook.com/#!/naswhitingfield> and MWR's Facebook fan page at <http://www.facebook.com/#!/WFMWR>.

Upcoming Events

July 29, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium

Aug. 4, 0930 - Senior royal Saudi Naval Forces Officer Visit

Aug. 12, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium

Aug. 12, TBD - NASWF All Hands Safety Standown

Aug. 18, 0900 - FFSC Job Fair - Sikes Hall

Aug. 26, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium

Fleet and Family Support Center Classes

Applying for Federal Jobs - Tuesday, Aug. 1 - 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Is it worth your while to invest your time and effort searching and applying for a federal job? If your answer is yes, then you need to attend this class in order to learn how to prepare the best application possible. You will learn how to read an announcement, analyze core competencies for language, analyze vacancy listings for keywords, and how to apply for jobs. For more information, call 623-7177.

Anger Management - Friday, Aug. 4 - 1 to 2 p.m.

Is anger affecting your health, your relationships or your work performance? Learn to understand the causes and effects of unhealthy anger, and how to express and release that anger in a healthy way! Class will be held at the FFSC conference room. For more information, contact a work and family life specialist at 623-7177.

JOB FAIR 2011 - Friday, Aug. 18 - 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

In need of a career change? Looking for a new or better job? Separating from the service anytime soon? The Naval Air Station Whiting Field Job Fair provides a broad range of career opportunities for military members transitioning to civilian life, military family members and the general public. The Job Fair will be held in NAS Whiting Field's Sikes Hall on August 18, 2011. Doors open to the public at 9:00 am and close at 3:00 pm. Job Seekers are advised to dress for success, bring several copies of their resume and be prepared for on-the-spot interviews. Employers may phone NAS Whiting Field's Fleet & Family Support Center at (850) 623-7177, or fax (850) 623-7246 to request a booth. There is no fee to employers or job seekers at this event.

Naval Academy Accepting Enlisted Applications

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (NNS) -- The Navy announced July 12 the U.S. Naval Academy's admissions cycle for the class of 2016, entering in July 2012, is open to enlisted Sailors.

Top enlisted performers who possess strong leadership potential, have been recognized as Junior Sailors or Bluejackets of the Quarter or who graduated in the top 20 percent in their "A" and "C" schools are encouraged to apply by Jan. 31, 2012.

To be eligible, top quality Sailors and Marines must meet competitive standards based on academic, military and physical performance. Academically, applicants must possess strong high school grade point averages and SAT scores, and have completed four years of mathematics and English and one year of chemistry.

Applicants must be physically fit with no record of disciplinary action within three years preceding application. They must not have passed their 23rd birthday by July 1, 2012, and cannot be married, pregnant or have incurred obligations of parenthood.

The deadline for initial application to the class of 2016 is Jan. 31. All completed applications and recommendations must be received by March 1 to be considered.

The Naval Academy, located in Annapolis, Md., provides approximately 1,000 officers to the Navy and Marine Corps every year, with many entering as prior enlisted men and women from the regular and reserve components of the Navy and Marine Corps.

Students at the academy are designated midshipmen

and receive midshipman pay plus tuition, room and board. Upon graduation, they receive a Bachelor of Science degree and a commission in the Navy or Marine Corps.

The Naval Academy offers 23 academic majors in engineering, science, mathematics, social sciences and the humanities. In addition to the academic curriculum, students also take military professional courses in navigation, naval engineering, weapons, leadership, naval history and law.

To be eligible, top quality Sailors and Marines must meet competitive standards based on academic, military and physical performance.

Academically, applicants must possess strong high school grade point averages and SAT scores, and have completed four years of mathematics and English, and one year of chemistry.

Applicants are expected to be physically fit with no record of disciplinary action within three years preceding application. They must not have passed their 23rd birthday by July 1, 2012, and cannot be married, pregnant or have incurred obligations of parenthood.

The deadline for initial application to the Class of 2016, is Jan. 31, 2012. All completed applications and recommendations must be received by March 1, 2012, to be considered.

Further information on enlisted applications to the Naval Academy can be found in ALNAV 046/11 at www.npc.navy.mil.

Safety Award

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mote safe practices throughout the Department of the Navy and to recognize those commands that stand out within the safety guidelines and procedures.

“We did not specifically strive for this award, it is our overall safety culture that we work to perfect,” said Cmdr. Jeffery DeBrine, HT-18’s Commanding Officer.

That safety culture allowed the command to submit seven formal hazard reports, eight Bird Aircraft Strike Hazard reports, and 17 Naval Air Training and Operating Procedures [NATOPS] change recommendations. The command also had zero leave and liberty mishaps, almost 1,165,000 Class A mishap-free hours, nearly 118,000 Class B mishap-free hours, and close to 64,000 Class C mishap-free hours.

“HT-18’s operational excellence exists on a foundation of trust, integrity, and leadership, created and sustained by effective communication,” said Lt. Col. Shawn Coakley, former Commanding Officer HT-18, in the nomination package.

It is evident that the squadron’s philosophy “safety is a prerequisite to mission accomplishment” is well adhered to by all its personnel.

“We are honored to represent CNATRA (Chief of Naval Air Training) and Training Air Wing Five for this award. It points out the hard work the command has put forth this past year,” DeBrine said.

There are only 19 Safety Excellence Awards given throughout the entire Department of the Navy for a given year. HT-18 was the only aviation training command to receive an award. Along with a citation and a plaque, the command also received the SECNAV’s safety flag, which they are entitled to fly for a year.



Children and families are in great need of donated food this summer.

Federal employees are joining together to collect 2 million pounds of food nationwide.

Starting **July 5, 2011**, please bring non-perishable items and place into a designated donation box.

Boxes will be picked up by the NASWF Chaplain’s office:

- July 19, 2011**
- August 2, 2011**
- August 16, 2011**
- August 30, 2011**

Contact your **local Chaplain** for drop-off locations and more information.

POC: RP2 Jordan at 850-623-7212 or 850-623-7211

www.fedsfeedfamilies.gov

 @FedFoodDrive  Feds Feed Families

Instruction announces changes to physical readiness

From Navy Personnel Command Public Affairs Office

MILLINGTON, Tenn (NNS) -- In order to improve the overall health of Sailors and enhance the administration and execution of the Physical Readiness Program, Navy announced the revision of OPNAVINST 6110.1J in NAVADMIN 203/11, July 12.

The revised instruction will strengthen program compliance, improve physical fitness assessment (PFA) documentation and encourage Sailors to maintain the level of physical fitness required to support mission readiness. This is the first major revision to the physical readiness program since 2005.

"We reduced the instruction to just what leadership needs to know and the rest is contained in the Physical Readiness Program Operating Guide, which will be a how-to manual," said Bill Moore, Physical Readiness Program director. "It will provide information, procedural guidance, and supplementary information."

Several changes are reflected in the new instruction, including the requirement to complete the medical screening process prior to participating in the PFA as well as a reduction of the number of PRT scoring categories to five, ranging from "outstanding" to "failure."

The rules have also changed regarding medical waivers. Sailors granted two medical waivers in a 12-month period will be referred to a medical treatment facility for a medical

evaluation board.

In addition, failing the body composition assessment (BCA) is now considered an overall PFA failure and Sailors can no longer request a "bad day" exception for the BCA and are limited to one PRT retest for a given PFA cycle.

Mandatory administrative separation will continue for Sailors who have failed three PFAs within the most recent four-year period. While the instruction allows for waivers for those with three PFA failures, individuals may still face separation and may be prevented from transferring, reenlisting or extending in-service.

The instruction also stresses that passing the physical fitness assessment is a requirement for continued Navy service and failure to meet these requirements can result in administrative separation processing.

The Physical Readiness Program Operating Guide is now in place, accompanied by an updated version of the Navy Nutrition Guide and Fitness Enhancement Program (FEP) guidance that will reside online at the Navy Physical Readiness web page.

The guide incorporates policy guidance from OPNAVINST 6110.1H and NAVADMINs 293/06, 277/08, 073/09, 247/09 and 131/10. See NAVADMIN 203/11 for details.



Tumbling Rock Caving Trip

August 20-21, 2011

\$70.00

Do you enjoy exploring? Well join the Outdoor Adventure Program for something different. Come caving with us in one of Alabama's beautiful natural caves. This is a horizontal caving trip. Expect extensive walking, climbing up, down and through rock piles and plenty of crawling through areas with low ceilings and tight spaces. First time cavers are welcome but must be in good physical shape, confident in their ability to complete this trip and be prepared to exercise some muscles that are not normally used. We will have a guide to navigate us through the cave so for those that are a bit nervous have no fear we won't leave you there alone.

For more information contact us: 850-623-7670 or outdooradventure.wf@gmail.com