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Vandiver Receives 600th T-6B Made by Beechcraft

By Jay Cope, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

Hawker Beechcraft Corporation (HBC) celebrated the delivery of the 600th Beechcraft T-6 – the world’s most proven military training aircraft. The U.S. Navy took delivery of the milestone aircraft, a T-6B, which will be based at Naval Air Station Whiting Field in Milton, Fla.

Training Air Wing FIVE Commander Capt. James Vandiver was present at the Wichita, Kan. ceremony and was handed the keys to the 17th T-6B Texan to be stationed at Naval Air Station Whiting Field, Apr. 7. The aircraft is part of the growing inventory of T-6Bs for TRAWING-5 that will eventually number more than 120

“We all take pride in this milestone and this aircraft program,” said Jim Maslowski, president, U.S. and International Government Business. “For more than 70 years, Hawker Beechcraft and its predecessor companies have been meeting and exceeding mission needs for militaries around the world. We look forward to continuing this proud tradition.”

Deliveries of the T-6 began in 2000 after the aircraft

- (Cont. on Page 7)



Jim Maslowski, President Hawker Beechcraft Corporation (HBC) Government Business; Capt. James Vandiver, TRAWING-5 commander; Bill Boisture, Chief Executive Officer HBC; and Matt Martin, Vice President Programs and OPS Government Business stand in front of the 600th T-6 to be manufactured by HBC, Apr. 7. The aircraft will be stationed at NAS Whiting Field and be used by the training wing for student training. Photo courtesy of Hawker Beechcraft Corporation.

Spouse Career Training to be Offered at NAS Whiting Field

- *First Workshop to Focus on Balancing Military Life and Careers*



Naval Air Station Whiting Field’s Fleet and Family Support Center is partnering with the Military Spouse Corporate Career Network to offer military spouses a series of employment workshops focused on helping them with career planning, job search preparation and employment solutions. The first session will be held Apr. 21 in the NAS Whiting

Field’s Atrium at 10 a.m.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics unemployment is currently at 9.7 percent. In today’s economic climate this can create stress on a marriage. NASWF Fleet an Family Services and MSCCN realize this is a stress that can be avoided.

Each workshop focuses on training military spouses to navigate their career and maintain employment as a military spouse. Spouses will learn to create a portable career plan, how to balance their career,

personal, and family goals, and what alternatives are available when employment is not an option.

The workshop also includes segments on the struggles military
- (Cont. on Page 7)

Correction

In the April 7 edition of the Whiting Tower, CWO4 Carlos Lobo’s award was initially identified as being a local CNATT Det. Milton award. It was, in fact, a CNATT wide award. We apologize for the error and extend our heartiest congratulations to Warrant Officer Lobo for his achievement.

2010 Census Reaches Milestone of Census Day

- April 1 Designated as the Official Day for Use in Responding to Census

From The Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

WASHINGTON – April 1 is no joking matter – it’s Census Day, the day you count.

The federal government designated April 1 as the official day of the population count in the United States. Sailors and their families should use this day as the point of reference for answering Census questions.

“When completing the Census, answers should represent a snapshot in time — they should paint a broad picture of your household on a single day, Apr. 1,” said Chief Warrant Officer Melanie Kinchen, of Navy’s Personal Readiness and Community Support Branch, and the lead for coordinating Navy’s overall Census efforts. “Sailors, Navy civilians, and their families should use this date no matter what day the form is actually completed.”

All of the information disclosed on the Census to include race, gender and age are used to ensure accurate representation of the population to federal agencies which target funds, resources and policies toward age-based, civil-rights based and gender-based services.

“The government needs to know what services each community needs. For example a community which houses mostly single working adults will require different services than a community which houses an abundance of children or retired adults,” said Kinchen. “In order to provide the right services to the right communities, the Census asks questions such as age and gender.”

Once the Census form is completed and returned, it will ultimately be compiled with the input of the nation and forwarded to the White House for apportionment of House Seats and to help determine the distribution of approximately \$400 billion per year in federal funding for neighborhood schools, hospitals, senior citizen centers and emergency services.

For those who have not completed and returned their Census forms, the Census Bureau will begin to assign and dispatch Census workers to conduct interviews in order to compile the required data.

Navy personnel stationed onboard vessels Apr. 1 will receive the Shipboard Census report; those assigned to group quarters will receive a Military Census Report; and those who maintain a stateside residence will receive the standard Census questionnaire at their home. All forms have 10 or fewer questions and take less than 10 minutes to complete.

Members stationed overseas will be counted using personnel records from the Defense Manpower Data Center.

Census 2010 Quick Facts: Frequently asked questions

1. Why does the census need exact Birthdates?

ANSWER: The Census collects the ages of residents in order to provide federal agencies with the information necessary for programs which target funds or services to children, working-age adults, women of childbearing age, and the older population. The Department of Education uses census age data in its formula to determine state allotments. In addition, under the Voting Rights Act, data on the voting-age population is required for legislative redistricting. Lastly, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs uses age to develop its mandated state projections on the need for hospitals, nursing homes, cemeteries, domiciliary services, and other benefits for veterans.

2. Why do Sailors have to provide their phone numbers?

ANSWER: For the standard Census form, the Census Bureau requires phone numbers to clarify data, when necessary. Some forms are returned illegible or incomplete. By providing a phone number discrepancies may be addressed over the phone instead of sending a census worker to your home. Your telephone number is kept confidential, as are all your responses

Phone numbers are not required on the Military Census Report or Shipboard Census Report.

3. What is the purpose of the census knowing what race a Sailor is?

ANSWER: Information on race is required for many Federal programs and is critical in making policy decisions, particularly for civil rights. States use these data to meet legislative redistricting principles. Race data also are used to promote equal employment opportunities and to assess racial disparities in health and environmental risks.

4. What happens next?

ANSWER: If you have completed your Census Form, your data will be compiled at the end of the Census and final counts will sent to White House for apportionment of House Seats and distribution of approximately \$400 billion a year in federal funding.

If you have not completed your form, shortly after Census Day, Apr. 1, the Census Bureau identifies addresses from which no response has been received. A Census worker will be dispatched to your residence to conduct interviews.

Additionally, a Census worker will return to each installation to collect census forms for group quarters and transitory location (i.e. campgrounds, marinas, etc)

News and Notes

TPC Tickets for Military - All active duty, Reserves, retired military members and their dependents are invited to be guests of THE PLAYERS Championship (TPC) and see the best professional golfers in the world compete at TPC Sawgrass May 3-9. Military members and their families can receive complimentary tickets by going online to www.ticketmaster.com/promo/t0p06r and downloading their free tickets. A valid CAC card must be shown when entering the golf course at the appropriate gate. The complimentary tickets will be valid Monday through Sunday. Parking passes are also available. For the second year, military members and their dependents attending TPC are also invited to enjoy a private hospitality venue called the Patriot's Outpost, which is located on the hill between #16 and #18 fairways. A valid CAC card must be presented to gain admission into the area. A free lunch will be provided. For more information, call 623-7032.

Give a Day, Get a Day - Visit Walt Disney World Resort, for free? For one day of volunteer work you can receive a 1-day, 1-theme park ticket to the Disneyland Resort or Walt Disney World Resort, free. There's no better time to make a dream come true for others and let Disney make a few come true for you! For more details, visit: <http://disney Parks.disney.go.com>.

Disney on Ice - ITT has tickets available for Disney on Ice at the Pensacola Civic Center. Shows are April 22-25, 2010. Tickets are \$21.50. For further information contact: ITT 623-7032.

Big Band Music - Milton High School will host the Drum Corps International Drum and Bugle Corps show, Thurs. July 29. The show is titled Sounds of the South. There will be seven drum and bugle corps at this event and the DCI corps are the elite of the elite when it comes to marching bands. For more information go to one of the following two links: <http://www.mhsbandboosters.info/index.php?menu=event4> or <http://www.tealsound.org/drum-buglecorps/events/soundsofthesouth/>. Tickets are \$20 for the Super Section and \$15 for General Admission. There is also a \$5 Military discount with ID at the gates. For additional information, please call 207-8206.

Voluntary Leave Program Donations - Mrs. Yolanda R. Cardenas (Rocky) of CNRSE, Code N1, HR Kings Bay Satellite Office, NAVSUBASE, Kings Bay, has been approved for the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program. Cardenas has suffered an unexpected medical emergency and is required to be out of work for an undetermined length of time. Due to her caregiving to a terminally ill parent, she has exhausted all of her leave. Cardenas is in great need for donated leave for her unexpected medical emergency, and currently is in a Leave Without Pay (LWOP) status. Anyone wishing to donate annual leave under this program may complete the applicable Leave Donor Form. The point of contact is Diane Stukes at CNRSE (Code N1), (904) 542-2283 or DSN 942-2283.

Military Health System Open Forum - The Health Services Consumer Council is seeking a few people from each command in the area to attend the quarterly, open forum meeting at Corry Stations Cross Winds Conference Center, Apr. 29 from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. This event provides updates on the Military Health System, TRICARE, and our health care delivery with issues and what's going on. The forum also gives an opportunity to share views and concerns so that the program may be responsive to members' needs and improve health care entitlements. Please direct any questions to Ms. Tara Rettig at (505-6048).



Fair Winds

CMDCM Dave Acuff presents a farewell memento to Capt. Jeff Plummer during a picnic held in his honor. Plummer was the officer-in-charge of the Naval Branch Health Clinic at Naval Air Station Whiting Field, and his last day was Friday, April 9. He is transferring to the hospital at Camp Pendleton. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

Great American Clean-Up - In celebration of Earth Day, many citizens and groups will take to the streets and be proactive by participating in The Great American Clean-Up. The event is sponsored locally by the Santa Rosa Clean Community System and will be part of a nation wide effort sponsored by their parent organization Keep America Beautiful. The goal of the event is to get the community involved in cleaning up our own back yard, raising awareness of the economic, health and tourism benefits of having a clean environment and generating pride among the citizens. Similar events will be taking place from March through May in hundreds of communities throughout the United States. The event will take place on Saturday, April 17 from 8 a.m. through noon. Meeting sites are: Milton - Milton High School, Navarre - Navarre Park (in front of Butterfly House), and Munson - Blackwater Baptist Church Floridale - Bliss Way.

Car Wash - The Naval Air Station Whiting Field Christmas Party Committee is in the fundraising mode and will be sponsoring a Carwash / Food sale in the NEX parking lot from 1000-1300, Fri., Apr. 16. All proceeds will go towards this year's Christmas Party. We are looking to seeing your vehicles and be ready to eat!

The Glass Menagerie - The Panhandle Community Theatre will be presenting the Tennessee Williams drama *The Glass Menagerie* Thursday through Saturday at 7:30 p.m., Apr. 15-17, and 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, Apr. 18. Tickets are \$12 each and the play will be performed at the Storage Masters Retail Complex at 4614 Woodbine Road in Pace, Fla. Reservations are recommended. Please call 221-7599 to reserve a seat or to request more details.

Book Sale - The Friends of the Milton Library Book Sale will be held April 16 and 17 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Milton Library, 5541 Alabama Street, Milton. Hardback books are \$2 and paperbacks are \$1. Call Bill DuBois at 626-9853 for information or visit www.friendsofmiltonlibrary.org.

5K Run/Walk - The Lupus Lifesaver 5K run/walk will take place Apr. 24 on Pensacola Beach. The race begins at the Casino Beach parking lot and will travel along Via de Luna. The event begins at 7 a.m. Registration is \$20 and includes a tee-shirt or tank top. Visit www.thelupussupportnetwork.org or call 478-8107 for details.

Upcoming Events

Apr. 23, 0900 - Earth Day Event Bagdad Elem - Nature Trail

Apr. 23, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium

Apr. 23, 1300 - NASWF Safety Stand Down - Sikes Hall

Apr. 29, 1000 - HT-18 Change of Command - Auditorium

Apr. 30, 1300 - VT-3 50th Anniversary Reunion - VT-3

May 7, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium

Fleet and Family Support Center Classes

VA Representative (Call for Appointment) - Friday, 9 April, 0800–1200

How to Apply for a Federal Job - Monday, 12 April, 0800-1000

“Is it worth your while to invest your time and effort in 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. Class will be held at the FFSC conference room. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 623-7177.

Anger Management - Wednesday, 14 April, 1300-1400

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.

Deployment Support Group for Children - Monday, 19 April, 1800-1930

Kids and youth ages 5-18 who are children of deployed service members are invited to meet for fun and fellowship! Creative activities engage the mind and promote conversation. Share experiences and feelings with others who are also dealing with the absence of a parent due to deployment. For more information, please contact the FFSC at 850-623-7177. Hope to see you there!

Car Buying - Wednesday, 21 April, 1400-1500

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 623-7177.

VA Representative (Call for Appointment) - Friday, 23 April, 0800–1200

Resume Writing - Monday, 26 April, 0800-1000

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 623-7177.

Glass Recycling Now Available in Santa Rosa County

Discarded glass has a new purpose with Santa Rosa County announcing the start of a new glass recycling program. As one of only an estimated 150 pulverized glass recycling facilities in the United States, glass jars and bottles placed in home curbside recycling containers collected by Waste Pro or deposited at one of the 27 recycling areas around the county, will have a new use as a gravel or sand product. The recycled glass is safe for people, pets and marine life and has numerous uses including landscape material, filtration and drainage material, aggregative mix, asphalt and cement fill, and as a decorative and art material.

An Impact 100 Grant awarded to Santa Rosa Clean Community System funded the purchase of the glass pulverizing machine which removes labels and tops and produces both a gravel and sand product. The glass gravel and sand have no sharp edges and come in a vari-



ety of colors including green, brown, blue, mixed and clear.

Initially, the recycled glass will be used at various government and non-profit sites to introduce the many uses of recycled glass to the public. Sometime after September 2010, the gravel and sand will be available to the public at "innovation stations" in limited amounts at no charge by Santa Rosa Clean Community System. As the process is refined and larger amounts of glass are collected through residential recycling, agreements with restaurants and bars, and other landfills that do not have glass recycling capability, the recycled glass gravel and sand will be marketed and sold. Profits will be used to help continue recycling efforts in Santa Rosa County.

Learn more about glass recycling in Santa Rosa County online at <http://204.90.20.174/news/>, under the County Fact Sheet Series tab.

Florida Division of Forestry Seeking Volunteers to Help Staff OHV Park

The State of Florida Division of Forestry Off Highway Vehicle Advisory Committee held a meeting in NW Florida at the Bear Lake Recreation Area, Blackwater State Forest on April 6, 2010. The purpose of this meeting was to finalize plans for the NEW Off Highway Vehicle Park known as "Whiting Field Clear Creek Riding Area".

The project is well underway with the acquisition of the property complete. An engineering firm and trail designer have been hired and are in the process of site layout. The Committee members toured the site and discussed many options as to the positioning of the entrance way, parking area, restroom facilities, trail system and youth training area.

Over the past several years the State of Florida has recognized the increasing demand for legal Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) riding areas. Off Highway Vehicle's consist of 4 wheelers (ATV's) and Off Highway Motorcycles (OHM's) and are a popular recreational sport for adults and families.

Wayne Briske, Chairman of the OHV Advisory Committee stated, "this is an excellent opportunity to show a cooperative effort between the Florida Division of Forestry, Santa Rosa County Florida, U.S. Department of the Navy, The Nature Conservancy and the many OHV clubs in Northwest Florida. When this park is completed it will be a model for other parks around the state as to the cooperative effort between all of the groups involved."

To make this park a success the Division of Forestry will be looking for volunteers that will help with trail construction, maintenance and trail ranger programs. Anyone who would like to volunteer or get on an email broadcast list with updates on this park please send an email address and name to wblue272@yahoo.com. That will enable the volunteer to receive regular updates on the project as well as volunteer opportunities. For more information on other OHV projects in the State of Florida please visit <http://www.floridaohv.org/>

TRICARE Notes TRICARE BENEFIT UPDATES

TRICARE is committed to providing you with high-quality, affordable health care choices. One of the ways we honor this commitment is by offering valuable new benefits and keeping you informed about changes in your coverage. Listed below are some of the benefit updates for 2010.

TRIAP and Telemental Health

The web-based TRICARE Assistance Program (TRIAP) allows eligible beneficiaries to interact with licensed counselors via online chat or video conference 24 hours a day, seven days a week. There are no referral or authorization requirements.

The Telemental Health Program uses secure, interactive audio-visual features to promote medically necessary clinical consultation, individual therapy, psychiatric diagnostic interview examination and medical management

TRICARE Pharmacy Program

Express Scripts continues to administer the TRICARE Pharmacy Program, providing mail-order, retail and specialty pharmacy services to TRICARE beneficiaries. Call 1-877-363-1303 or visit www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE.

Vaccines and Over-the Counter Drugs

TRICARE beneficiaries can visit participating TRICARE retail network pharmacies to receive seasonal flu, H1N1 flu and pneumonia vaccines at no cost. This expanded coverage is available to all TRICARE beneficiaries eligible to use the TRICARE retail pharmacy benefit.

TRICARE ECHO Benefit Enhancements

The TRICARE Extended Care Health Option (ECHO) provides financial assistance to qualifying active duty family members with specific mental or physical disabilities.



VT -3 Red Knights 50th Anniversary

Main Events

29 April – Alumni Tour and Ribbon Cutting
30 April – Golf Tournament
30 April – 50th Anniversary Formal Ball

Ball Ticket prices - \$30 (Black Tie Event)

RSVP with VT-3 Call: 850-623-7321 or
E-mail: sue.ancetil@navy.mil

Whiting Field Hosts Earth Day Event for Students

By Jay Cope, NAS
Whiting Field Public
Affairs



With airplanes and helicopters flying overhead, airfields in constant use, and the sounds of maintenance drifting out of the hangars, Naval Air Station Whiting Field might not be

the first thought for a school tour about nature. However, that is exactly what will happen April 23 when 80 second graders from Bagdad Elementary School invade the base to celebrate Earth Day and to learn about the environment.

Despite the initial perceptions, NAS Whiting Field has vigorous land management and environmental programs that help preserve a helpful balance between the natural and the industrial. Partnerships with the Nature Conservancy and the Forestry Department only strengthen Earth friendly programs including preservation of a nature trail walk and more than a thousand acres of surrounding woodlands.

The students will be at the base for nearly four hours to walk the Clear Creek Nature Trail on the base and to experience hands-on stations about the environment. The visit is being sponsored by the bases Environmental Division which is part of Whiting Field's Public Works Department and the Santa Rosa County Extension Office.

"It's always fun to get kids and peak their interest in the natural environment," Ron Cherry, Natural Resources Program Manager said. "Kids love to touch things and be hands on rather than lectured, and we want to encourage that."

The event was coordinated as part of NAS Whiting Field's Earth Day celebrations. The Department of the Navy has been participating in Earth Day for 36 of the 40 years it has been recognized. During that time, the Navy has made improvements both on shore and at sea through conservation, recycling and pollution prevention.

Most people associate Earth Day with neighborhood and beach clean-ups, but Earth Day is more than just picking up trash. Earth Day is about respecting the planet by conserving energy, water and natural resources through reducing, reusing and recycling. Just by making small adjustments in lifestyles, people can save money and the environment. NAS Whiting Field acts in the spirit of Earth Day every day through the station's recycling program, energy and water conservation, and reduction in chemical usage. Just like the Earth Day slogan, Whiting Field tries to, "Make every day Earth Day."

The students will go on a guided tour of the Nature Trail and enjoy various environmental activities planned for the young environmentalists. Current plans have them learning about the lifecycle of trees, insects, recycling and more.

According to Cherry, Clear Creek Nature Trail makes

Earth Day for Bagdad Elementary

Volunteers are needed for Friday, April 23rd, from 0900 - 1300, to help with NASWF's Earth Day Event. We are expecting approximately 80, 2nd graders, ages 7 - 8, from Bagdad Elementary. The event will consist of a tour of NASWF's Clear Creek Nature Trail and environmental activities. The school is providing a bag lunch for each student. Volunteers and anyone having any questions about the event can get in touch with Terri Mason: 623-7603 or by email at: terri.mason@navy.mil.

for a unique walk due to its variety of ecological systems. Within just a very short area, there are four distinct areas: Sand hill uplands, a transitional zone, wetlands, and open water. Visitors can see all four in roughly a one and one-half hour walk.

The base protects these natural zones in much the same way as it cares for the protected species within its fence lines, like the reticulated flatwoods salamander and the gopher tortoise. Part of Cherry's responsibilities is to ensure for the continued balance between the natural resources and the military mission of the base.

The natural settings around NAS Whiting Field make for an interesting hike, and a good educational opportunity for the kids. The school will extend the lessons by talking about the natural environment throughout the next week.

As for Cherry, he just hopes the students can have some fun while they are learning.

"I think the kids will really enjoy the hike and being around the beautiful nature that we have here," he said.

Eco-nomics

- Believe it or not, it's been estimated that nearly 17% of cars on the road have broken or missing gas caps. What's the big deal? Escaping fumes not only hurt fuel economy but release smog-causing compounds into the air. Avoid air pollution and improving fuel mileage is as easy as replacing a bad gas cap.

- For every 5 mph you reduce highway speed, you can reduce fuel consumption by 7%

- Avoiding jack-rabbit starts and stops, and herky-jerky driving will improve fuel economy. Don't believe it? Lousy driving on the highway can add as much as one-third to your gas bill.

For these facts and more visit <http://www.thedailygreen.com/>.

Navy Exchange to Give-A-Way Reusable Bags

By Lt. j.g. Michael M. Daharsh, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

Naval Air Station Whiting Field's Navy Exchange is doing its part to "GO GREEN" Apr. 21 when they will be giving away reusable green bags in celebration of this year's Earth Day. It is part of a nationwide Navy Exchange promotion that will issue 200,000 reusable bags across the country.

"It's really a way to inform customers of their availability and get them ready to use them," Linda Larrabee, General Manager of Naval Air Station Whiting Field's Naval Exchange said. "It's a win/win situation. They get a free bag and save money."

The bags will be given away, one per customer, with a purchase of anything from one of the five locations: Main Exchange, NEX Package Store, NEX Auto Port, CBQ Mini-NEX, and Whiting Pines Mini-NEX. Normally, the reusable bags range in cost of \$1.99 - \$3.99 depending on the type of bag you get. Also, when you bring back any of your reusable bags to shop at the NEX locations you will save five cents per bag used.

According to the Wall Street Journal, the United States of America goes through 100 billion plastic bags a year. When properly disposed, these bags will end up in a landfill, where it takes as long 500 years to finally decompose. This is a fact that Ireland realized responded to by creating a plastic tax, or "Plas Tax". By charging an addition 20 cents at check out if an individual asks for plastic, the country cut back on plastic bag usage by 90 percent. Fortunately, the NEX is not charging extra for still using plastic bags, but an additional 5 cents off a purchase for each reusable bag



The Naval Air Station Whiting Field Navy Exchange will be giving away free reusable green bags Apr. 21 as part of an Earth Day celebration. Throughout the day the bags will be given to customers who make any purchase at any of the base's five Navy Exchange establishments. Nationwide, the NEX promotion is expected to distribute more than 200,000 bags. U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Michael Daharsh.

can add up to sizeable savings.

The promotion is exciting for Larrabee as the NEX at Whiting Field tries to take proactive steps in helping the environment.

"It's just good for the planet," she said.

When Patrons grab a free bag at the Whiting Field NEX they will have a chance to add a tag line onto the standard recycling slogan. They will help the command's desire to Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and now - Save.

MSCCN Workshop

- (Cont. from Page 1)

spouses encounter when returning to work. The event consists of four segments of interactive learning taught by representatives from MSCCN, Fleet and Family Support, and the Education office.

Finding Balance between Your Career and Military Life, the first workshop in the series, will be offered Apr. 21, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Atrium. The event is free to military spouses in the Santa Rosa and Escambia County areas and lunch will be provided. Other workshops will be announced at a later date.

For more information or to RSVP for the event, contact Whiting Field Fleet and Family Support Center at (850) 623-7177. The Series is open to spouses of all branches of service. For more information about the MSCCN, see their website at <http://www.msccn.org/>.

600th T-6

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was initially selected to fill the Joint Primary Aircraft Training System role for the U.S. Air Force and the U.S. Navy. Since then, additional military programs worldwide, including NATO Flying Training in Canada, the Hellenic Air Force of Greece, the Israeli Air Force, the Iraqi Air Force and the Royal Moroccan Air Force, have chosen the T-6 and its derivatives as their primary trainers.

For NAS Whiting Field, the T-6B will replace the venerable T-34 Turbomenter as the aircraft used for primary flight training. The new aircraft is more powerful, faster, flies higher and can handle increased stress from g-forces. The plane also has a heads-up display and digital readouts which will enhance preparation for the pilots heading out to the more advanced aircraft in the fleet.

"You're providing a great service to our country," Vandiver told the Hawker Beechcraft employees. "We'll be good stewards of your planes, and we'll be good stewards of your sons and daughters as they go through flight training with us."

- Sports -

Registration Open For 2010 All-Military Wilderness Challenge

- Tenth Annual Competition to Take Place in Appalachian Mountains



Participants struggle during the 2009 All-Military Wilderness Challenge. Registration is open for the 2010 challenge which includes a 13-mile whitewater raft race on the Gauley River. Sixty teams will compete in the challenge which will also include an eight kilometer mountain run, a 14-mile mountain bike race, a 14-mile forced hike, and a seven-mile kayak race on the New River. The Navy and Army have yet to win the competition. U.S. Navy file photo.

The challenge contains a series of five outdoor adventure races in a team format designed to bring camaraderie, competition and team spirit between all five branches of the Armed Services. Teams participating in this year's challenge will compete in an 8K mountain run, a 14-mile mountain bike race, a 14-mile forced hike through the mountains, a 13-mile whitewater raft race on the Gauley River and a 7-mile kayak race on the New River. Last year's winner was the "Dale Mil-ton Racing" team from the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

"The Army and the Navy have yet to win the Wilderness Challenge," Bond stated. "This is a great opportunity for a team from one of these services to step up and win big."

"It is not an easy competition and only the strong survive, so the winning team will be the best of the best in outdoor recreation and physical endurance," Bond concluded.

Registration is open to all branches of the military. Teams must be comprised of four active duty military, one of which must be female. Registration can be made online at www.wildernesschallenge.net or by calling (757) 887-7256.

YORKTOWN – Registration is open for the Mid-Atlantic Region, Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Department's 10th annual all-military Wilderness Challenge. The Wilderness Challenge takes place, Oct. 7–9, in the heart of the Appalachian Mountains and on the New and the Gauley Rivers in West Virginia. The event is hosted and co-organized by ACE Adventure Resort, West Virginia's largest outdoor outfitter.

More than 300 military people representing teams from around the World are expected to compete. Only the first 60 teams will compete, so teams are encouraged to register early.

"The MWR Wilderness Challenge continues to bring together the best athletes in the armed forces and puts them to the test," said Michael Bond, event coordinator. "The competition gets tougher and tougher every year." Bond encourages teams to register early to reserve their space in the competition.

MWR Notes

Swim Lesson registrations are open! For information call Kelsey Holmes at 623-7096.

Interested in a golf league? Please contact Todd Mooneyham at 850-665-6102 or via email at todd.mooneyham@navy.mil.

Allied Forces Soccer

The area military soccer program has reformed to provide service members on Whiting Field, NAS Pensacola, Corry Station, and Naval Hospital the opportunity to play competitive and recreational soccer. Competitive, recreational and coed teams are available. The teams play local clubs and other area military base teams typically on Sunday afternoons as well as participating in regional tournaments.

All Active-Duty members from any service or international military program as well as dependents, contractors and government employees 18 and over are welcome to participate. Training and games are Thursdays, 5-7 p.m. at the Barrancas Field on NAS Pensacola. For more information, contact LCDR David Toellner at (850) 382-5494 or kiwi_soccer@yahoo.com.