



Vol. 66 No. 18

Wednesday, May 5, 2010

Coakley Assumes Command of HT-18 from Murray

By Jay Cope, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

Helicopter Training Squadron EIGHTEEN observed a change at the helm Thurs., Apr. 29 as Lt. Col. Shawn Coakley assumed command of the unit. HT-18 is one of six flight training squadrons serving Training Air Wing FIVE at Naval Air Station Whiting Field.

With an exchange of the squadron colors from Cmdr. Mark Murray, a salute and the reading of orders, Coakley is now the commanding officer of a unit that will train roughly 200 helicopter pilots for the fleet. He is the thirty-third commanding officer in the history of the 38-year old squadron.

The importance of that mission was not lost during Murray's command, and was reinforced by retired Navy Capt. Wayne Tunick during his remarks. Murray had served under his command while a young pilot with Helicopter AntiSubmarine Squadron (Light) HSL-44.

"The skills developed when starting at Whiting Field are the same skills pilots carry with them when they go to their first fleet squadron," Tunick said to the full auditorium of family, friends and co-workers. "They will rely on this [training] for the rest of their career. That's why it is so critical to have the best instructors at Whiting Field, and the best leaders like Mark."

During his tenure as executive officer and commanding

officer, Murray lead the "Vigilant Eagles" to fly more than 50,000 mishap-free flight hours and 23,300 syllabus events in support of operational requirements for the squadron. HT-18 set the standard for rotary wing production with the lowest time-to-train, total
- (Cont. on Page 5)



Lt. Col. Shawn Coakley salutes Cmdr. Mark Murray before accepting the squadron flag, which is symbolic of receiving command of the squadron. Coakley took command of Helicopter Training Squadron EIGHTEEN "Vigilant Eagles" Apr. 29 at the Naval Air Station Whiting Field auditorium. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

VT-3 Celebrates Their Golden Anniversary

By Lt. Nicholas Scerbo, VT-3 Public Affairs

The Red Knights kicked-off their Golden Anniversary celebration with a little help from Congressman Jeff Miller (R, FL). Miller submitted the squadron's accomplishments into the Congressional Record as a way to honor the history, service and the achievements of the unit's 50 years of Naval aviation training.

Eric Hannel, the congressman's military liaison, read the citation to begin the two-day celebration. Cmdr. Jody Bridges, Training Squadron THREE commanding officer, followed that with a quick welcome for the 60 alumni present for the occasion. He called up "plank owners," a term for people who were in

the squadron at its inception, and recognized them in front of the crowd.

"I was honored to acknowledge three of the original members of this squadron. The fact that they were here after 50 years shows the strength of the VT-3 brotherhood," he said.

Air Force Capt. Brandon Conwill recounted significant events in the 50-year history of the squadron. After that, there was a quick run-down of the 50-year history of the squadron for assembled guests.

"I wanted to bring together the participants of the celebration while presenting the rich history of the squadron. I am glad to see most of the alumni remembered the events in the presentation.

- (Cont. on Page 6)



Eric Hannel, military liaison to Congressman Jeff Miller, reads the Congressional Record he submitted to honor VT-3's 50 years of aviation training. The recognition kick-off the 50th anniversary celebrations for the squadron members. U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Michael M. Daharsh.

CAPTAIN'S CORNER



Capt. Pete Hall
Commanding Officer

Ahhh, more questions/suggestions in the Inbox. You keep asking and I'll keep answering. Here are the latest:

1) Keep your word! Why is it so hard to get BAH?

While I don't appreciate being called a liar, I'll cut you some slack since you don't have all the facts. Here are some facts: four BAH requests have come to my desk and two were approved. So actually, I'm batting .500.

The first approval was easy – a good performer with very minimal debt (a low car payment and nothing on credit cards) and some money in the bank, who had found an apartment, including utilities, for less than BAH and who presented financial planning that included realistic costs for gas, groceries and entertainment while paying off the car loan early and increasing savings. Who can argue with that?! This solid plan for success got approved for BAH. The second approval was not such an easy sell – a little more debt and a little less savings, but the financial plan was realistic. There won't be a lot left over at the end of the month, but the Chain of Command endorsed the request chit and promised to monitor the Sailor to ensure success. I can work with that. The two chits that were disapproved were also pretty easy. One sailor, with plenty of debt and no savings, said his rent was going to be only \$200 a month and there would be no utilities. Are you kidding me? This sailor was going to eat on \$125 a month and not use any more gas to get to and from NASWF than when he was living in the Q. Does this sound realistic to anyone? The worst part was that the "financial planning" didn't even include a plan to use all that left over money to pay down the debt or to increase savings.

No, it is not "a fact that if we get BAH then we will have the funds to live out in town." That's not true at all. If you think it is, then that is proof that you don't have a realistic picture of the cost of living. If you are just breaking even while living in the barracks, then your BAH is going to need to cover the cost of your rent, utilities, phone, cable, gas, food, entertainment, insurance, etc. If you really found a place to live for \$200 a month, then all the rest of your BAH is going to the insurance you'll need to live in such a place. Or maybe you get along really well with ex-cons and Meth dealers....

As an E-3, drawing BAH is not your right. It's not guaranteed to you in the Constitution. If it sounds like I'm playing hard ball with this, you're correct, I am playing hardball. And the reason why is because your career, your livelihood, are at stake. Without a realistic financial plan, it is easy to get into debt quickly. Many Americans making a lot more money than you or I will ever see are up to their eyeballs in debt. In today's Navy, you must have a security clearance to serve in almost every rating. The fastest way to lose your security clearance is to get into financial difficulty. Every security clearance that I've seen DONCAF revoke has been for a sailor's financial debt. Get into debt, lose your security clearance. Lose your security clearance – lose your job. It's that simple.

I'm all about giving people the opportunity to excel – but it's only an opportunity to excel when failure is not guaranteed. That's why your financial plan has to be realistic. How many miles per day will you drive back and forth to work, to your girlfriend's house, and to the movies? Can you do it when gas is \$3.00 per gallon? What if it goes back to \$4.00/gal? You need money in your savings account for contingencies. The average electrical bill in Santa Rosa County this winter was over 50% higher than last winter, due to the extreme cold. If your financial plan didn't include money for contingencies, or if you didn't have some money already saved up, what would you have done when the temperature was 11 degrees?

So, if you want to move out of your lovely heated and air-conditioned barracks room with its hot showers and electricity paid for by the U. S. Navy, then sit down with your financial specialist and your chain of command and take a good hard look at your living expenses – current and projected. Provide me with a budget that shows that you can make it. When I know that you are positioned for success, I will be happy to sign your BAH request.

2) We need new ceremony bullets. Ours are badly tarnished.

Hmmmm..... sounds like that boring old POOW gig just got more exciting! Start polishing!! Kidding! CMC has ordered new bullets. So, no one has to polish the brass while on watch. (Get back to studying instead!)

3) Consider the ramifications of sleep deprivation on safety.

I gather this is one more complaint about the night time POOW watch. According to CMC, the night watch should be afforded the following day off to recover/sleep/get back on their regular schedule. If you got off watch at 0730 and had to be at work at 1330, then that was a scheduling oversight. If it happens again, notify your chain of command to rectify the situation.

4) Something should be done about Medical.

This suggestion was forwarded to Medical for their resolution. Obviously, health care is important and I think our clinic does a great job of tending to patients as quickly and as fully as they can. But keep in mind, they are a clinic. Their capacity to care for a broad range of health issues is limited. Also, they have been hard hit by IA's. Even their OIC did a 12-month IA. Reduced manning has impacted the number of people they can see in a day. I do believe that we have an excellent clinic with health care providers who really care about giving the best possible care to their patients. But they are not a hospital. If you have serious health care issues, you should go down to Navy Hospital which is equipped to handle the full spectrum of serious, chronic, or emergency health issues. That's it for this week. It's nice to be back at NAS Whiting Field, by the way. Those conferences were two weeks of my life that I won't get back.

News and Notes

Case Lot Sale - The Defense Commissary Agency at Naval Air Station Whiting Field will be having a Case Lot Sale May 6 and 7, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. as well as May 8 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Working in conjunction with Morale, Welfare, and Recreation's Family, Fun, and Fitness Festival being held on corresponding days in the parking lot, the commissary will be selling a variety of cased goods ranging from vegetables, noodles, paper products, etc. MWR's Family, Fun, and Fitness Festival will be holding a variety of events throughout the day, all inspiring healthy living and balanced lifestyle. This is going to be the largest case sale the commissary has had at Whiting Field in over five years.

Red Cross Classes - Lifeguard training will be held at NAS Whiting Field, May 29 - June 6, Saturday and Sundays only. (Class will be on May 29, May 30, June 5, and June 6). Morale Welfare and Recreation department is also still registering for Red Cross Swim Lessons. For more information, please call Kelsey at 623-7032.

Big Band Music - Milton High School will host the Drum Corps International Drum and Bugle Corps show, Thurs., Jul. 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,



Taking Out the Mess

Members of the Chief Petty Officer's Association begin the process of cleaning their Adopt-a-Highway stretch. The chiefs got together to pick up litter Apr. 16 to support the Earth Day and Clean Up Santa Rosa projects. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

please call 207-8206.

Green-up Santa Rosa - The annual Mother's Day Art, Crafts and Plant Show will be held at Green-Up Santa Rosa on Saturday, May 8, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The nursery is located at 6758 Park Avenue in Milton, between Stewart Street (Highway 87) and Alabama Street. There will be about twenty local art and craft vendors placed throughout the extensive gardens of Green-Up Santa Rosa. In addition, there will be also be food and drinks available for purchase. You'll be green with envy. Find just the right plant and/or flowers for that special lady in your life to present to her on Mother's Day, all while helping Green-Up Santa. This annual event, which has been presented for ten years, is a fun, family oriented event. For more information, please call 850-623-1930.

Victorian High Tea celebrates Mothers Day 2010 - Family Promise is hosting a high tea and fashion show as a fundraiser. This event will feature some beautiful formal wear and fun springtime fashions from The Canal Street Exchange. This event is sure to make the mother happy. The events will be held Sat., May 8 from 9 to 11:30 a.m. and an afternoon show 1 to 3:30 p.m.. A Sunday showing will be held May 9 from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. The event will be at the Milton Woman's Club at 6863 Oak Street in historic downtown Milton. Tickets are \$25 each. For more information, call 623-5300.

Fifth Annual Blackwater Bicycle Festival - Bicycle enthusiasts can view and test ride bicycles, compete in bicycle show, and ride bicycle prediction rides from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 15 at the Blackwater Heritage State Trail Visitor Center in Milton. Entrance fee for the bike show is \$5. Pre-registration forms are available online at www.blackwaterheritagetrail.org. All event proceeds will be used to benefit the trail. For more information, call Gerard Graco 983-5338.

Eighth annual Navarre FunFest 5K and one-mile fun run begin 7:30 a.m. May 15 beginning and ending at the Navarre Beach parking lot. The fun run for children 12 and younger begins after the 5K course closes. 5K registration is \$22 in advance, \$25 on race day. The kid's fun run registration in \$15. A post-race party and awards ceremony will feature live music and refreshments. Register online at www.active.com, or download a form at www.navarrechamber.com



Welcome Home!

Lt. Cmdr. Eric Bush returned from a 1 year tour of duty in Iraq on Apr. 12. and is greeted at the Pensacola airport by his wife Yolanda and children Erin and Andrin. Bush was a previous Hellion and was the administrative officer with HT-28 before departing for Iraq. He has follow on orders to Naval Aviation Schools Command. Photo courtesy of Helicopter Training Squadron TWENTY-EIGHT.

Upcoming Events

May 7, 0900 - VT-2 Anniversary Dedication - VT-2 Bldg.

May 7, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium

May 14, 1130 - Military Appreciation Picnic - Sports Complex

May 14 & 15 - VT-6 50th Anniversary Reunion

May 21, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Auditorium

May 27, 1100 Asian Pacific Heritage Luncheon - Auditorium

Fleet and Family Support Center Classes

Time Management - Wednesday, 19 May, 1300-1400

At the end of the day, do you ask yourself "where did the day go?" and feel like you have accomplished very little on your list of "things to do?" Then this class is for you. This class will provide you with tools that will help you make the most of your busy and demanding days. Class will be held at the FFSC conference room. For more information, call 623-7177.

Common Sense Parenting for Ages 5 - 18 - Wednesday, 19 May, 1800-2000

Unfortunately, children do not come with instruction manuals. So FFSC is holding a class that will provide you with tools that will equip you with the skills for raising responsible and well-adjusted children. This class is for any parent who wants to "brush up" on their parenting skills or new parents that are not sure of where to begin. Call a Work and Family Life Specialist at 623-7177 for details.

VA Representative (Call for Appointment) - Friday, 21 May, 0800-1200

How to Apply for a Federal Job - Monday, 24 May, 0800-1000

"Is it worth your while to invest your time and effort in searching and applying for a Federal Job?" 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. Call 623-7177 for more information.

Deployment Support Group for Children - Monday, 24 May, 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!

Understanding Military Pay Issues - Wednesday, 26 May, 1400-1500

Why is it important that you know about the elements of military compensation? To know what you are currently entitled to? To know what you may be entitled to as your circumstances change? Class will be held at the FFSC conference room. For more information call our Financial Educator at 623-7177.

Training Squadron TWO to Celebrate 50 Years of Training

- Squadron Alumni and Present Members Encouraged to Attend Events

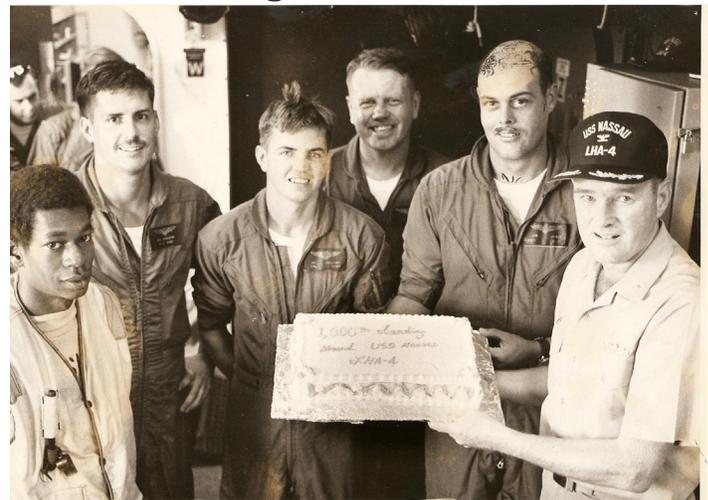
Training Squadron TWO, the first primary flight training squadron commissioned at Naval Air Station Whiting Field, will celebrate 50 years of aviation training May 7 at the squadron headquarters.

To mark the occasion, the unit is planning to dedicate their flagpole in memory of one of the squadron's most memorable pilots at 9 a.m.

"VT-2's 50th celebration is focusing on the traditions of Naval aviation. Exemplifying that tradition, the service of Maj. Daniel S. Haworth, USMC, is being memorialized," said squadron commanding officer, Coast Guard Cmdr. Timothy McGuire. "This plaque will be seen by officers of the maritime services everyday while they raise and lower the colors of our nation. It will motivate the future aviators for years to come by through the shared traditions of dedicated service to our nation."

Haworth was an instructor pilot with the "Doerbirds" from Oct. 1981 to 1985. While with the squadron, he was named instructor of the month four times and surpassed more than 1,000 hours in the T-34C Turbomenter aircraft.

His greatest legacy, however, came on Oct. 4, 1987 while assigned to Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 263 onboard the USS LaSalle (AGF-3) in the Persian Gulf. He was flying a UH-1N Huey helicopter during a night vision goggle



Maj. Daniel Haworth, second from left, helps his squadron and the ship celebrate the 1,000th landing aboard the USS Nassau (LHA-4). Haworth had served as an instructor at Training Squadron TWO and will be remembered with a dedication ceremony during the unit's 50th anniversary events. Photo courtesy of Karen Haworth. gun shoot exercise, when the aircraft suffered a tail rotor malfunction.

"His superb airmanship, composure, and exceptional courage at the controls of his crippled aircraft were solely re-

- (Cont. on Page 8)

HT-18 Change of Command

- (Cont. from Page 1)



Cmdr. Mark Murray receives the Meritorious Service Medal from Training Air Wing FIVE Commander Capt. James Vandiver, Apr. 29. Murray was recognized during his change of command ceremony when he turned over command of Helicopter Training Squadron EIGHTEEN to Lt. Col. Shawn Coakley. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

hours flown and advancing sortie completion rate. The "Vigilant Eagles" also earned the TRAWING-5 nomination for the Chief of Naval Air Training 2008 Training Excellence Award, and received the 2008 and 2009 Chief of Naval Operations Safety Awards.

To recognize his achievements in helping to guide the squadron to such successes, Murray was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal. He was quick to defer credit to the squadron when his turn came to speak.

"We are a team at HT-18. That was emphasized long before I got here, and will be the way the squadron does things long after I am gone."

Murray was commissioned through the Aviation Officer Candidate School and throughout his 18-year career, he has flown for HSL-40 and 44 out of Mayport, Fla.; served as an instructor pilot; worked as a flag lieutenant to Commander, Carrier Group

SIX; graduated the Air Command and Staff College with a Masters Degree in Military Operational Art and Science in June 2002; and completed a joint staff assignment in Washington D.C. He assumed command of HT-18 Feb. 19, 2009.

"Mark's tireless efforts have taken this excellent command to the extraordinary," Tunick said. "And here, they do things so consistently and so well that the extraordinary has become ordinary."

His next tour of duty will be as a member of the OPNAV Staff at the Pentagon in Washington D.C.

Coakley was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant via the NROTC program following his graduation from Norwich University in May 1990. After being designated a Naval Aviator in September 1992, he reported to HMT-301 in Tustin, California for initial training in the CH-46E. Since 1992, he was stationed at HMM-166; graduated from the Marine Corps Command and Staff College with a Masters in Military Studies; served with the 4th Marine Regiment and 1st Marine Wing in Okinawa, Japan; flew humanitarian relief missions to the Philippines and Indonesia; and served as the Joint Staffs Joint Close Air Support Executive Steering Committee representative. He also served with Marine Helicopter Squadron One (HMX-1) during which time he was designated a Presidential Command Pilot and served as the "Marine One" aircraft commander during 50 plus presidential flights in support of Presidents Clinton and Bush.

Murray told the squadron that "they had a better [commanding officer] coming right behind" him in Coakley. Having served as the executive officer, he is familiar with the HT-18 team, and is embracing the mission of the command.

"I've been proud to be a part of this squadron, and I am humbled to be the commanding officer now. Throughout my time here, I have been impressed with the work you people do. We don't train pilots. We train warriors and develop leaders. That is a responsibility we can never take lightly."

The "World Famous"
VT-6 SHOOTERS
Of NAS Whiting Field

Invite YOU to join us in celebrating
FIFTY YEARS of TRAINING EXCELLENCE!
Friday, 14th May 2010

1200: Fun, food, games, and aircraft displays begin with NAS Whiting Field's Community Appreciation Day.
1600: VT-6 Dedication Ceremony & Happy Hour

Saturday, 15th May 2010

0900: Shooters Archery Tournament
0900: "Flying Death" Motorcycle Ride
1000: Shooters "6K" Runway Run
1130: Shooter Family Picnic w/Sponsor Booths
1300: Shooter Golf Tournament
1830: Flight Suit Formal "Aviation Training Through the Decades"

For details, locations, and RSVPs visit us on the web at:
www.traronsix.us



VT-3 50th Anniversary

- (Cont. from Page 1)

It helped to 'break the ice' for the rest of the festivities," Conwill said.

VT-3 was commissioned on May 1, 1960, at South Whiting Field. Its primary mission at the time was to instruct student Naval Aviators in radio instruments, formation flying, and air-to-air gunnery. Air-to-air gunnery was discontinued in January 1965 and familiarization and basic instrument training was added in its place. VT-3 moved to its present location at North Whiting Field in 1973 where it has been ever since.

The squadron was one of the early units selected to be alternately commanded by a Navy or Marine Corps officer beginning in 1980. The "Red Knights" were honored again in 1994 when they became the Navy's first and only joint primary flight training squadron. The first Air Force instructors reported in February 1994 and the first Air Force students followed in July of that same year. VT-3 now alternates Navy and Air Force commanding officers. The squadron will be the first unit to switch over to training in the T-6B Texan and is currently in preparation to begin that training pipeline.

Despite the celebration, some operations still continued for the Red Knights. Thursdays are when students who have completed the syllabus discover which aircraft they will fly for their service. Alumni were invited to witness this tradition, and many enjoyed seeing how this time-honored practice was still carried out in VT-3.

After the selection, all hands went downstairs to the newly named "Legacy Hall" for a ribbon cutting ceremony. This stairwell in Building 1423 has mural paintings of the T-28, T-34C, and T-6B aircraft, showing the squadron's history of transition.

Lt. Tommy Brayden, co-designer of Legacy Hall, said, "The purpose of the hall is to ensure every alumnus is recognized as a part of the strong foundation of the squadron. All of the history depicted on the walls wouldn't be possible without the actual members of VT-3: past and present."

After the ribbon cutting, alumni were given permanent markers to sign the walls with their rank and years they were in the squadron. Each graduating class in the future will sign Legacy Hall. The day then ended with a social mixer and picnic at the newly christened VT-3 Pavilion.

The main event of the celebration was a black-tie ball at the Atrium, Apr. 30. It was a packed house, with more than 200 people capping off the celebration. The Pipe Band from McGuire's in Pensacola played traditional service music to begin the dinner, while the Navy Band New Orleans followed up with ball music during and after the dinner. Major General (sel.) Jon Davis, Assistant Deputy Commandant for Aviation, was the official guest and speaker for the evening. A former VT-3 student, he made it known that it wasn't his first intention to be a Red Knight. But, after serving as a member in the VT-3 family, he proclaimed he was proud and wouldn't have wanted it any other way.

The interaction between past and present continued throughout the ball. Lt. Brad Gilbertson, organizer of the Fri-



Training Air Wing FIVE commander, Capt. James Vandiver, and Training Squadron THREE commanding officer, Cmdr. Jody Bridges, prepare to cut the ribbon to open the squadron's new Legacy Hall. U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Michael M. Daharsh.

day night ball said, "The best part of the celebration was the mutual appreciation I saw between the alumni and the present day Red Knights. I learned a lot about the people and events that helped shape VT-3."

The end of the ball came with a balloon drop from the ceiling, signifying the end of the first 50 years, and the beginning of the next 50.

Ec  -nomics

Use the right-size pot on your stove burners. You could save about \$36 annually for an electric range or \$18 for a gas range. Five percent of the energy bought and used per person in the United States is for preparing and cooking food. Over a year, this exceeds twice the energy a person in Africa uses to power everything in his or her life.

Use left over paper or plastic bags as liners for your trash cans. You'll save money and time shopping in the trash-liner bag aisle. The average cost of twenty kitchen bags is \$5. When one ton of plastic bags is reused, the energy equivalent of eleven barrels of oil is saved. When one ton of paper bags is reused, up to seventeen trees are spared.

Try to flush just one less time per day, and you'll save about 4.5 gallons of water- as much water as the averages person in Africa uses for a whole day of drinking, cooking, bathing, and cleaning.

Child Development Center Host Family Picnic

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

Face painting, bounce house, bean bag toss, and a kiddy train all helped to create an atmosphere of good times and laughter at Naval Air Station Whiting Field Thurs., Apr. 29. Mary Marcoux, the Director of NAS Whiting Field's Child Development Center, and fellow workers pitched in to create a carnival-like picnic as its final week of celebrating April's Month of the Military Child.

"This is one of the biggest events of the year," Marcoux said. "We have every single one of our Child and Youth Program Assistants working today, and they've been helping get ready for it for a while."

In 1986, former Defense Secretary Casper Weinberger established April as the Month of the Military Child. This title was created to honor and recognize the burden taken on by children with parents in the Armed Forces. An average of 1.7 million children under the age of 18 currently have parents in the Armed Forces and about 900,000 have one or both parents deployed multiple times.

"As a grateful nation it is our sacred responsibility to stand by our military children just as they and their families stand by us," First Lady Michelle Obama said in a video statement in early April.

This is exactly what the Child Development Center set out to do. Each week throughout the month the CDC hosted a different event. The First week was career week, where parents came by the center and spoke with the children about what it was they did. The second week was celebrated by having the parents come and help the children plant a garden to the side of the development center.

"The second week was great," Marcoux said. "The parents really got involved. Every day the children would water their plants. We got PRI-DJI to come out and till the ground. It was a group effort."

The third week was an Ice Cream Social, and week four was brought to a close with the family picnic. The CDC pulled out all the stops. Anyone driving by the entrance on Thurs., might have thought there was a drill in process. The road was blocked so they could safely drive the miniature train up and down the street. Parents stood outside the bounce house watching their young ones jump around. Along with face painting, bike riding, and some high energy time spent in the play area the children's faces were all smiles.

"I was excited," Marcoux said. "It was a half day event for kids, parents, and workers to have a lot of fun."



All kinds of fun activities were available to the students at the Child Development Center Thurs. Apr. 29, during the annual parent's picnic. Mini-train rides, bicycling, bounce houses and more were on site for the event. It was the capstone to the CDC's Month of the Military Child celebration. Photo graphic by Lt. j.g. Michael Daharsh.

DEFY Seeking Applicants and Mentors for 2010 Program



During the past year, the Drug Education for Youth or DEFY program has been mentoring base youth. DEFY is a two phase program intended to educate children about the dangers of drugs, alcohol and other topics affecting our youth today. They are also taught how to react if approached by someone offering drugs or alcohol. During the last several months DEFY has covered a wide variety of lessons from cultural differences and how to be a good leader, to self esteem and community service.

Now don't think that all the group does is sit in a classroom and learn. That's only part of the mentoring process. DEFY also has fun by taking trips or other exciting

events. The organization took students to the Exploreum in Mobile, AL. in March. There the youths learned how the human body works and got to walk with the dinosaurs. After April's lesson the kids went bowling.

While it is disappointing that this DEFY year is coming to a close, The group is looking forward to this summer's Phase I camp and a whole new year of great events. The big change this year is a five day residential camp in Gainesville, Fla., where students are taken away from the distractions of society so they can learn and grow as a group. Anyone interested in becoming a DEFY mentor, or enrolling your children in this free program please contact ACC Trevor Rowe at 623-7372, ext. 3 or AC1 Aritha Gregory at 623-7482 or go to <http://www.donhq.navy.mil/defy/> to download a Staff or Youth Application and drop it off in Rm#127 in Bldg 1471.

VT-2 50th

- (Cont. from Page 4)

sponsible for the survival of all his crewmembers, sacrificing his own life," reads a portion of his Distinguished Flying Cross citation. The award was presented posthumously to his wife Karen.

Karen Hayworth still lives in the area and will appear at the ceremony with their children. Their daughter 1st Lt. Stacey Haworth is also now a Marine pilot flying the CH-53 aircraft in MCAS New River, Jacksonville, NC.

Training Squadron TWO was established on May 1, 1960. Their mission is to provide primary and intermediate stage flight training to selected student aviators of the United States Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and several allied nations.

The syllabus completed by VT-2 "Doerbirds" consists of approximately 85 hours of instructional flight time in the T-34C "Turbomenter" aircraft and 21 hours in the 2B37 motion-based flight simulator. During this time each student becomes thoroughly trained in the contact, basic instruments, precision aerobatics, radio instruments, formation, and day and night navigation.

The student aviator, upon completion of all stages of training, is selected to undergo further training in the propeller, helicopter, tiltrotor, jet or E-2/C-2 pipeline.

This complex training evolution requires the coordinated efforts of approximately 67 Naval Officer Instructor Pilots and nine civilian personnel to produce nearly 210 "completers" each year. Logging 2,000 flight hours each month, Training Squadron TWO has flown in excess of 1,800,000 flight hours and trained more than 19,000 students since commissioning 50 year ago.

The squadron will also host a social for all alumni and current squadron members at Flounders Restaurant beginning at 3 p.m. Please call 850-623-7410 with questions or to RSVP.



Green-Up Santa Rosa Hosts

Annual Mother's Day Show

Do the ladies on your Mother's Day gift list love beautiful plants? And, do they also enjoy lovely handmade pieces of art and great crafts? Well, we've got just the place for you to shop!

The annual Mother's Day Art, Crafts and Plant Show will be held at Green-Up Santa Rosa Saturday, May 8, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The nursery is located at 6758 Park Avenue in Milton, between Stewart and Alabama Streets.

There will be approximately twenty local art and craft vendors placed throughout the extensive gardens of Green-Up Santa Rosa. A variety of artistic creations will be featured. In addition, there will be also be food and drinks available for purchase.

Choose from colorful hanging baskets and ferns, plants to attract butterflies, bedding plants and much, much more. Find just the right plant and/or flowers for that special lady in your life to present to her on Mother's Day, all while helping Green-Up Santa.

This event has been held for ten years, and is a fun, family oriented occasion. Green-Up Santa Rosa is a part of the Santa Rosa Clean Community System, which sponsors clean-up, beautification and recycling events throughout the county. For more information, please call 850-623-1930.

TRICARE Notes

TRICARE PUBLISHES NEW BEHAVIORAL HEALTH RESOURCE GUIDE

During Mental Health Month in May, TRICARE would like to remind beneficiaries about the recently published "A TRICARE Guide: Understanding Behavioral Health." The 80- page resource is available online to all TRICARE beneficiaries at the TRICARE Smart Site at: www.tricare.mil/tricaresmart/ then click on Public Site.

The guide provides information on seven main topics: TRICARE and your Behavioral Health; Understanding Behavioral Health; Covered Services; Limitations and Exclusions; Who to See for Care; Getting Care; Your Right to Privacy; and For Information and Assistance.