



Vol. 68 No. 24

Wednesday, June 13, 2012

Area commands honor heroes of Midway

By Lt. j.g. Tim Mosso, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

Naval Air Station Pensacola celebrated the 70th anniversary of the United States' victory at the Battle of Midway, Tuesday, June 5.

Over 1,000 members of the local military and civilian community gathered at the National Museum of Naval Aviation in a display of reverence and remembrance for the sacrifices of Midway's heroes.

Veterans of the battle joined the air station's junior sailors, student aviators, area residents, military retirees, and visiting dignitaries in observance of the occasion. Museum guests from across the nation were greeted at the facility doors with news of the event, and many elected to join the memorial activities in the museum atrium.

2012 marked the first year that the Corry Station/Center for Information Dominance annual Midway commemoration was expanded to include national-scale visibility. Partner commands Naval Air Station Pensacola and

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Midway veteran Charles Wheeler, who served as an aviation ordnanceman aboard the USS Enterprise (CV-6), accepts a commemorative flag from Rear Adm. Donald Quinn, Commander, Naval Education and Training Command, June 5. U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Tim Mosso.

NAS Whiting Field welcomes new Ombudsman



Capt. Matthew Coughlin, commanding officer, Naval Air Station Whiting Field, congratulates Daisy Johnson on her completion of the Ombudsman course and her acceptance of the role of NAS Whiting Field Ombudsman. She replaces Rebecca Rowe who had performed the duties of the job for 31 months. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

By Jay Cope, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

Naval Air Station Whiting Field welcomed a new Ombudsman to the command team in April to help maintain the lines of communication between the command staff and the families. It is an important job that has been part of the Navy community for more than 40 years.

Daisy Johnson, the spouse of Aviation Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class Shawn Johnson, replaces Rebecca Rowe in the demanding job. It is a demanding post that requires representing the families to the base chain of command, and relating information from the commanding officer to the families. Johnson expects the job to be difficult, but knows she is in a hospitable environment.

"I don't know what the [position] will bring, but I am very curious and excited to see what it holds," she said. "But everyone is friendly and has welcomed me with open arms."

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Transition services for ERB-affected Sailors

By Patrick Foughty, Commander, Navy Installations Command Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- When Chief Aviation Machinist's Mate Anthony Hughes received news in November 2011 that he was on the Enlisted Retention Board (ERB) list, he felt like his life was over.

"I remember my CO (commanding officer) sitting me down and saying 'Chief, I've got some bad news,' and I immediately knew what was coming," Hughes said.

His commanding officer informed him of his selection for ERB, which angered him.

"I felt like I had honored my part of the bargain, and the Navy had just backed out on the deal," Hughes said.

Instead of giving up or feeling sorry for himself, Hughes said he quickly accepted the news and started looking toward the future.

"I literally knew exactly what I had to do at that very moment; from that day on my only mission was to get my family back home, so I could get a new job ASAP."

Hughes is one of 2,946 Sailors designated for separation by the ERB in late 2011. All selectees were chosen from a list of approximately 16,000 records the



board reviewed to help reduce manning and meet quotas in various rates across the fleet.

With record high retention and low attrition among active duty Sailors, the Navy became overmanned by greater than 103 percent in 31 of 84 ratings, resulting in increased competition and reduced advancement opportunities for strong-performing Sailors.

The ERB was introduced to allow the Navy to achieve stability and fit across the force while retaining balance based on seniority, skills, and experience.

Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jonathan Greenert explained in his official blog that, "ERB reduces overall manpower by reducing the number of Sailors in overmanned ratings through conversions and separations."

Navy leadership realized, however, that while the ERB was fair and necessary for the needs of the Navy, it also left Sailors with questions and concerns for their future.

"The ERB and follow-on transition process have my full attention," wrote Greenert, "we are putting great efforts to ensure the ERB process is being conducted professionally and

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This Week in Naval History

June 13

1881 - USS Jeannette crushed in Arctic ice pack.
1967 - Operation Great Bend in Rung Sat Zone, Vietnam.

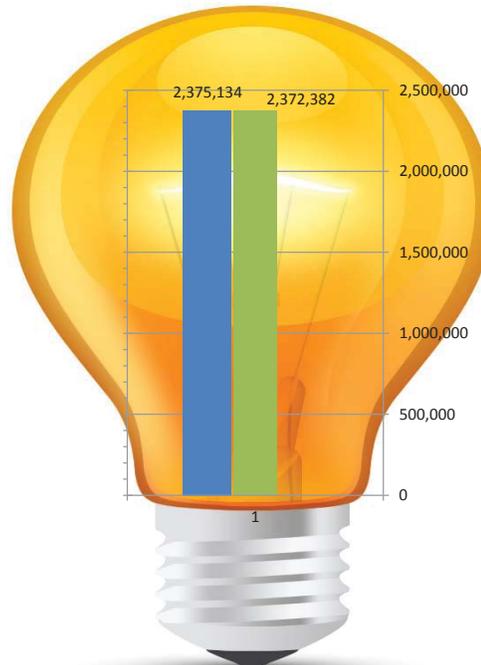
June 14

1777 - John Paul Jones takes command of Ranger.
1777 - Continental Congress adopts design of present U.S. Flag.
1847 - Commodore Matthew Perry launches amphibious river operations by Sailors and Marines on Tabasco River, Mexico.
1940 - President Franklin D. Roosevelt signs Naval Expansion Act to construct ships to increase Navy's tonnage by 11 percent.

June 15

1944 - Fifth Fleet lands Marines on Saipan, under the cover of naval gunfire, in conquest of the Marianas.

Learn more at <http://www.history.navy.mil>



Power Outage

Conserving energy continues to be one of the Navy's prime objectives, so each month we will display the energy usage comparisons for Naval Air Station Whiting Field between 2011 and 2012. As you can see, in May, the base consumed 2,752 fewer kilowatt hours of power than in May of the previous year.

News and Notes

Navy Fitness App - The Navy Operational Fitness and Fueling Series (NOFFS) is available. NOFFS provides Sailors with an evidence-based performance tool that will address injury prevention by physically training the movement patterns of operational tasks. The NOFFS new iPhone application provides the complete NOFFS program in a convenient format that is readily accessible to Sailors and portable anywhere in the world. The program was launched via card sets available at all Navy Fitness Centers and as a downloadable program available at www.navyfitness.org/noffs. The NOFFS iPhone application can be downloaded via the app store on all iPhones and iTouchs and was launched in January.

Leave Transfer Program - The following federal employees have been approved as leave recipients under the Volunteer Leave Transfer Program: ~ Ms. Theresa Houston with Command, Training Air Wing FIVE, HT-28. Ms. Houston recently underwent surgery and will require follow-up treatment and an extensive recovery period. ~ Mr. George Mendez with Naval Support Activity, Orlando (Code N3AT1). Mr. Mendez has been diagnosed with serious medical issues and will be out of work for an undetermined amount of time. It is unfortunate that Mr. Mendez has also experienced Leave Without Pay (LWOP). Anyone wishing to donate to either of these individuals must complete a Request to Donate Leave to Leave Recipient Form (OPM 630-A), which can be downloaded at: http://www.opm.gov/Forms/pdf_fill/opm630a.pdf.

ITT & Big Kahuna - Big Kahuna Water Park in Destin is now open. ITT has great prices on tickets: Daily passes for 48" and above are \$33.50, and under 48" are \$28.25. We also have the season platinum pass \$93.50. Platinum pass is good for anyday of the week, free parking and much more. For more info call ITT at

Barbers and Beers - Ace's Old Time Pub and the NEX Barber Shop in the Navy Gateway Inns and Suite's lobby have partnered to bring you "Barbers & Beers Fridays". Beginning June 15 from 3 to 5 p.m., the barber shop located just outside Ace's will be open for haircuts. Bring your friends by for a trim and a cold beer.



Retaining Our Best and Brightest
Aviation Structural Mechanic 1st Class Kieran Sanders congratulates Aviation Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class Brandon Hughes on his reenlistment. Hughes reenlisted for six years Friday, June 8. U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Tim Mosso.

Preparing for the 2012 Hurricane Season - NAS Whiting Field set Hurricane Condition Of Readiness (COR) V Tuesday, May 29, for the 2012 hurricane season. Navy Region Southeast sets this COR each year prior to June 1. The installation will be in this COR setting effective May 29 through Nov. 30. This Cor setting indicates that the Installation and its Tenant Commands are prepared for the approach of a hurricane within 96 hours. There are five COR settings (COR IV 72 HRs, III 48 HRs, II 24 HRs, and I 12 HRs) and each is set by the number of hours to landfall or nearest point of approach. It is important for all personnel to understand this system and the requirements that are associated with each COR. There is a large amount of information contained in the 2012 Disaster Preparedness Guide published by the Santa Rosa Emergency Management team. This handy guide is available from Fleet and Family Support, Whiting Pines Housing Office and other locations throughout Santa Rosa County. Our Emergency Management Team at NAS Whiting Field has a small number available for distribution as well. For more information concerning hurricane preparedness, please contact your Emergency Management Office at 850-623-7324 or 850-623-7038."

Feel the Heat - Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) announced the phased Navy-wide release of the Housing Early Application Tool (HEAT) beginning May 1. This web based tool will allow Sailors and their families to apply for housing online from any computer.

HEAT utilizes authoritative systems to reduce the amount of personal information and to streamline the online process. HEAT can be securely accessed from any computer with an internet connection. Service members or their spouses can use HEAT prior to receiving permanent change of station (PCS) orders to request information about community housing or check on their eligibility for military and privatized housing. They may also submit HEAT requests to multiple Installations if they are not sure where they may be stationed next.

HEAT will be implemented by region and will be Navy-wide by June 30. To access HEAT and for more information about when your base will have HEAT, please visit <http://www.cnic.navy.mil/HEAT>.



Fair Winds

Senior Chief Aviation Boatswain's Mate Keith Hendrickson walks through the sideboys at the conclusion of his retirement ceremony June 1. He is concluding his Naval career following 24 years of faithful and dedicated service. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

Upcoming Events

June 22, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium

June 29, 1000 - HT-28 Change of Command - Atrium

July 4 - Independence Day

July 13, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium

July 20, TBD - VT-6 Change of Command - Atrium

July 27, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium

Fleet and Family Support Classes

Thrift Savings Plan - Thursday, June 14 from 1 to 3 p.m.

Start investing in your future now. The money you save and earn through your TSP account will provide an important source of retirement income. Class will be held at the FFSC conference room. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 850-623-7177.

VA Representative - Friday, June 15 & 29 from 8 a.m. to Noon. (Call for an Appointment)

Career Exploration - Monday, June 18 from 10 a.m. to Noon.

The fundamental obstacle for most job seekers (whether highly skilled or otherwise) is that the lack the information necessary to be effective applicants. Attending the Career Exploration workshop will provide you with information to assist you develop a more competitive edge when job hunting. In this workshop information will be provided regarding, transferrable skills, local labor market information, strategies for locating the hidden job market, resume writing tips, and interviewing tips. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 850-623-7177.

Couples Communication - Monday, June 18 from 1 to 3 p.m.

Are you newly married? Are you in a serious relationship? Have you been married a long time? If yes, then this workshop is for you. During this class, we will discuss the "Speaker/Listener Technique," a structured way to communicate effectively. This technique helps couples to talk about tough issues without resorting to fighting. Class will be held at the FFSC conference room. Participants must register in advance for all EVENING classes by calling the FFSC before noon on the day the class is being held. If the date and times listed are no convenient for you, you may call to schedule a time that fits better with your schedule. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 850-623-7177.

ERB

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fairly. More importantly, we look to ensure that the means for transition is clear, broadly applied, open and readily available."

For Hughes, that message couldn't have been clearer.

"I knew I couldn't mess around," he said. "With a wife and two small kids, I have mouths to feed and bills to pay. There was no way I was going to let this situation mess up my family and our way of life, and as it turned out, neither was the Navy."

Soon after Hughes received the news, a representative from Challenger, Gray and Christmas (CGC), a firm contracted by the Navy to provide extensive transition services for ERB Sailors, reached out to him and began working with him on his life after active duty.

"One thing that I really needed to work on was my resume, I was taking action on all other areas of my life, from my move to my out-processing, but my resume needed work, and the folks at CGC really helped with it."

Hughes said he was very impressed with the comprehensive resume services offered by CGC.

"I felt like I was talking with someone that had been through the transition process, was in a similar position in the service when they were active duty, so they knew literally all the aspects of creating a resume for me," he said. "In the end my future employer told me my resume was excellent, and a key reason I got the job."

CGC is an employment placement firm that was contracted to "continue to build on the job skills, success and training acquired during Sailors' careers and succeed in the civilian job market," said Rick Trimmer, a contract manager for Commander, Navy Installations Command, who manages CGC's contract.

"We (the Navy) have asked them to reach out to each ERB Sailor and offer as much assistance in their employment transition as possible, from resume writing to help finding employers that need Sailors with their specific skill sets."

Hughes explained that CGC worked in a partnership with other firms and assigned him a personal coach to help with his transition.

"The coach I had, Dennis, offered to take my phone calls with questions or concerns at any time, he even gave me his personal cell phone number. I knew he was doing everything he could to help me find a job," he said.

Hughes reiterated that while CGC was a great help, they couldn't do all the work.

"A lot of this is self motivation," he said. "Sure, they'll help you, but you need to take initiative and work with them too. For instance they could only give me a draft for the resume; I had to fill out my

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Midway

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Naval Air Station Whiting Field, in conjunction with the museum, engaged with the planning process to celebrate seven decades of Midway's enduring legacy.

Center for Information Dominance Commanding Officer Capt. Susan Cerovsky opened proceedings with a succinct summary of Midway's impact and its unique relevance to the NAS Pensacola commands.

"At Naval Air Station Pensacola and the Center for Information Dominance, we partner in a symbiotic relationship for mutual success," Cerovsky stated.

As the "Cradle of Naval Aviation," NAS Pensacola

continues to act as the launch pad for students who seek to follow in the footsteps of Midway's victors. The air station's facilities teem with student aviators, aircrew, and aviation maintenance professionals preparing for the fleet.

CID trains the heirs to the intelligence tradition born of the Navy Radio Intelligence Unit that cracked Japanese cryptology on the eve of Midway.

"In no case more than Midway, with the stakes as high as they were, did cryptology, ships, and aircraft come together as effectively," Cerovsky said.

Guest speaker Rear Adm. Donald Quinn, Commander, Naval Education and Training Command, sought to honor the enormity of Midway's impact on the course of the war in the Pacific and its lasting relevance to American military personnel.

Quinn expounded upon Cerovsky's focus on the primacy of Naval aviation and Naval cryptology in securing victory.

"There were many ingredients in the victory at Midway, but I'd like to focus on just two today. That's because the successors to those whose heroic exploits led us to victory at Midway are training in [Naval Air Station] Pensacola schoolhouses today.

"Those ingredients are cryptology and Naval

aviation," Quinn declared.

He outlined the chain of events leading to the decryption of the Japanese code, the planning of Midway's defense, and the execution of the battle strategy that led to victory. The admiral punctuated his narrative with accounts of the roles that intelligence personnel and aviators played on the path to success.

As the commander of Naval Education and Training Command, Quinn paid special tribute to the personnel training standards that bolstered American prospects at Midway, and he drew parallels to the present day.

"Many would opine that our industrial might won the war in the Pacific. I would offer that our superior training was equally important... even today, we see that modern equipment in the hands of poorly trained operators is a sure recipe for defeat," Quinn observed.

Quinn also highlighted the role that victory at Midway played in galvanizing a nation still reeling from the combined effects of the initial Japanese attack and the relentless stream of wartime losses that ensued.

"For six months following the attack on Pearl Harbor, Japanese forces won battle after battle; on the west coast of the United States, the sense of vulnerability was palpable.... it is important that we all remember.

"The loss of Midway [Island] would have been a game changer," Quinn noted.

The admiral concluded his reflections on the Battle of Midway by calling upon the assembly to join him as he recognized five guests of honor, each a veteran of the battle.

Wiley Bartlett, Victor Kalfus, Leon W. Resmondo, James Stofer, and Charles Wheeler lived the Battle of Midway in 1942.

On this morning in 2012, each man received a personal expression of gratitude from members of the event's distinguished party. Five folded flags were distributed to the venerable warriors.



Rear Adm. Donald Quinn, Commander, Naval Education and Training Command, left, leads Center For Information Dominance Commanding Officer Susan Cerovsky, NAS Pensacola Commanding Officer Capt. Christopher Plummer, and NAS Pensacola Command Master Chief Michael Dollen in a moment of silence. The tribute was preceded by a wreath-laying and the playing of Taps in memory of all personnel who served in the defense of Midway. U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Tim Mosso.

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Midway

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Quinn saluted each veteran in turn, and Wheeler drew a heartfelt outpouring of applause from the crowd when he rose from his seat to return the admiral's salute eye-to-eye.

Memorial activities concluded with the laying of a wreath in remembrance of the sacrifices of the servicemen who fought and won at Midway seventy years prior. Taps was played, and moment of silence was observed.

The ceremony bore the unique fingerprint of Pensacola's military community. Supporting events included a presentation by the Corry Station Joint Forces Color Guard, a flyover by Training Air Wing SIX's Training Squadron TEN, and a practice display by the Blue Angels immediately preceding the event. The Escambia High School Gator Elite Exhibition Drill Team thrilled the crowd with a stunning display of martial discipline and grace.

The Navy Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps squad, which is ranked fourth out of 600 competing teams in the nation, paid tribute to the occasion with a series of synchronized marches, ceremonial gestures, and acrobatic wielding of their rifles.

All members displayed impeccable bearing, immaculate uniforms, and mesmerizing precision. For the duration of the students' routine, the sound of rifle bolts and dress shoes moving in unison was the only audible sound

across the vast expanse of the museum atrium, and the crowd stood spellbound by the spectacle.

Quinn offered a unifying view of events on a day that saw the nation's youngest patriots standing in solidarity alongside America's most experienced veterans.

The admiral reflected upon the words of Midway combatant Ensign Phil Evans, who wrote, "When you hear others saying harsh things about American youth, do all in your power to help others keep the faith... tell them out here, between a spaceless sea and sky, American youth has found itself and given itself so that, at home, the spark might catch... the flame goes on and on."

Quinn concluded, "That flame burns bright here in Pensacola."

Don't forget to visit us on

facebook

at

<https://www.facebook.com/#!/nas-whitingfield>

Christmas in June Golf Scramble

FRIDAY JUNE 29th

GREAT PRIZES!



Registration at 7 a.m. - Shotgun Start at 8 a.m.

Four Person Scramble Format

\$30 per person

\$5 for Three Mulligans and a Tee Buster

A NAS Whiting Field's Christmas Party Fundraiser event!

Prizes for First and Second Place teams as well as Longest Drive and Closest to the Pin
Grand Prize Drawing for a 1 night stay at the IP Casino in Biloxi, MS including 2 free
buffets and 4 free rounds of golf including cart at Dogwood Hills Golf Course in Biloxi.

For additional information or to register for the event, contact Jay Cope at 665-6121 or Jay.Cope@navy.mil.

Congrats to TRAWING-5 Wingers and Scholars



First Row: Cmdr. Jeffrey D. Debrine, USN; Lt. j.g. Shannon M. Yingling, USN; Lt. j.g. Julie M. Froslee, USN; Lt. j.g. Edsel C. Vierra, USN; Lt. j.g. Brenton C. Bischof, USN; 1st Lt. Mason A. Ovian, USMC; and Capt. James Fisher, USN.

Second Row: Cmdr. Christopher L. Pesile, USN; Lt. j.g. Richard A. Mooney, USN; Ensign James M. Riley, USN; Lt. j.g. Adam R. Cohee, USN; Lt. j.g. Matthew C. Cox, USN; Lt. j.g. Mathew C. Mayo, USN; 1st Lt. Jonathan R. Noftsier, USMC; 1st Lt. Jaquelyne Hathorn, USMC; and Cmdr. Frederick C. Riedlin, USCG

Third Row: Cmdr. Paul D. Bowdich, USN; Lt. j.g. James R. Bell, USN; Lt. j.g. Michael W. Vaughn, USN; Lt. j.g. Travis T. Travis, USN; Lt. j.g. Christopher Popa, USN; 1st Lt. Joshua P. Schatz, USN; 1st Lt. Daniel Estrada, USMC; and 1st Lt. Matthew L. Rostine, USMC.



Left Photo: Student Naval aviators display their Achievement Awards at the TRAWING-5 headquarters Friday, June 1, 2012.

First Row: 1st Lt. Daniel R. Westendorf, USMC; Lt. j.g. William J. Sirokman, USCG; and Ensign Patrick J. Boensel, USN.

Back Row: Ensign Ryan K. Stewart, USN; Ensign Evan L. Levesque, USN; 1st Lt. Zachary Allen, USMC; and Ensign Scott W. Bock, USCG.
Right Photo: Lt. j.g. Brian W. Goss, USN, and Capt Jeffrey M. Everett, USAF display their Achievement Awards at the TRAWING-5 headquarters Friday, 8 June 2012.

ERB

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information before their editors could make it presentable.”

CGC also is contracted to assist with actual job search help by providing employment resources to Sailors and even practice interviews and salary negotiation techniques.

“I was overwhelmed with all they were offering, luckily, with my networking efforts I was fortunate enough to meet my future employer here on NSA Crane, so I didn’t really need the full complement of CGC’s services,” Hughes explained.

In the end, Hughes’ setback turned out to be a road to a new a bright future, noted his wife Nikki Hughes.

“The main ‘stressor’ with getting out of the Navy is clearly the job search,” said Nikki Hughes. “But I must say, within the blink of an eye, Anthony had a job offer... with the ERB resources (CGC) plus my husband’s natural abilities to take charge of the situation, we are ready for the next chapter!”

Hughes has a job offer with a local contracting company in his hometown of Crane, Ind., where he plans to

settle his family after he leaves active duty in September 2012.

“I’ll tell you this, no one is going to hand you a job, but with a little help from the Navy and CGC, plus my willingness to lean forward and make a plan, I was able to ensure a future and a life after my 14 year plus career in the Navy.”

The Navy’s contract with CGC is extensive and tasks them to reach out to all ERB Sailors.

Sailors are encouraged to contact CGC by calling 1-800-971-4288 or by e-mail at cgcusnavy@challengergray.com if they desire services and have not heard from CGC. Sailors can also contact the Help Center at Commander, Navy Personnel Command by calling 1-866-827-5672 for more information.

For more information visit the NPC ERB Web Page at www.npc.navy.mil/boards/ERB/, contact the NPC customer service center at 1-866-U-ASK-NPC (1-866-827-5672) or email cscmailbox@navy.mil.

DEFY graduates 2011/2012 program participants

Article Courtesy of NAS Whiting Field DEFY

The Drug Education for Youth (DEFY) program at Naval Air Station Whiting Field held its annual graduation ceremony Thursday, May 24 in the Operations Auditorium. More than 50 people attended the event for the program’s 23 graduates.

The graduation celebrated the students’ dedication to completing the year-long program, which promotes drug awareness and avoidance. The participants spent the year engaging in team-building exercises as well as learning individual self respect and self confidence.

The auditorium was festooned with balloons and streamers to suit the jubilant atmosphere. A slideshow of the entire year’s events was presented to the parents and children while a pizza dinner was served.

After the dinner party concluded, introductions were made and the official ceremony commenced. Naval Air Station Whiting Field Commanding Officer Capt. Matthew Coughlin delivered his congratulations to the youths and thanked program staff members for their hard work. He distributed the graduation certificates to the graduates and posed for a picture with each one.

The children were all smiles.

The night’s program ended with a DEFY graduation cake cutting. With no knife on hand, one of the parents taught everyone a quick trick for slicing cake with dental floss. The resourceful parent’s unique technique got the job done.

“With last year’s youth graduated, we’re looking forward to another group joining us this summer,” Air Traffic Controller 1st Class Nina Buruca observed.

The DEFY program is looking for both additional staff and youth for the coming DEFY season. Activities commence with a summer camp to be held in Niceville at 4H Camp Timpooshee from July 23 to July 27. Youths of ages 8-13 can apply.

To seek additional information or to receive an application, please contact Air Traffic Controller Senior Chief Trevor Rowe at 665-6151 or Air Traffic Controller 1st Class Nina Buruca at 623-7755.



The program staff and 23-student class of NAS Whiting Field DEFY joined base commanding officer Capt. Matthew Coughlin for a graduation party aboard the air station Thursday, May 24. Photo courtesy of DEFY.

Ombudsman

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The Ombudsman post opened when Rowe resigned after two and one-half years in the job. She served as the family representative for three separate commanding officers, but decided she needed to spend more time with her family. After working closely with other Ombudsmen from the training wing and squadrons on projects like the Ombudsmen Assembly monthly meetings and the Family Information Nights, she expects to miss interacting with the families, the other Ombudsmen, and the base personnel.

"We had a strong assembly and everyone contributed to the success," she said. "I got to know a lot of people on a personal level and will miss talking with them and working with them on a regular basis... I learned a lot and it was a great experience."

Rowe also stated that it just "seemed like the right time" to end her volunteer efforts with the command. NAS Whiting Field then had to canvass the families to seek a new volunteer for the job.

When the email went out seeking volunteers to become the new command Ombudsman, Johnson decided it was time to get involved and help Sailors' families like she had been helped early on in her Navy experience.

"I want to help people coming to a new duty station who have questions like I did. The Ombudsman and the Fleet Readiness Group helped me get through three deployments. After that experience, I understand better how to help others and want to ensure families feel welcomed instead of isolated," Johnson stated.

She emphasized that the Navy is part of her life too after being married to Shawn for seven years and that becoming the

Ombudsman is her way of staying involved in that part of their lives. Johnson is a California native who earned her Bachelor's degree in American Sign Language and English in Missouri, so she traveled even before she met her husband. But it isn't her experiences before and during their Navy career that she looks at as her best asset in helping families, it is her attitude.

"I think I am very approachable and friendly," she said. "I have done PCS moves and deployments, and hopefully that will help me connect with other people who haven't been through that yet."

Helping Sailors and their families negotiate the issues surrounding separations due to deployments and the frequent moves are certainly issues Ombudsmen have been dealing with throughout their existence. The volunteer Ombudsman position was initiated in 1970 by Adm. E. R. Zumwalt, Jr. the Chief of Naval Operations at the time. The post was designed to serve as an information link between the families of the Sailors at a given command and the commanding officer. However, the Ombudsman also is an information resource to help direct family members to needed Navy or community resources. The commanding officer sets the priorities for the Ombudsman based on the needs of the command. As such, Naval Air Station Commanding Officer Capt. Matthew Coughlin is happy to have Johnson on board.

"It's an important job, and Daisy brings great enthusiasm to the team," he said. "I am really looking forward to working with her to help our Sailors' families."

SECURITY CHECKPOINT



Question: I'm active duty and wondering if I can receive decals for a vehicle that was a gift from my parents, but which is titled and registered in their name?

Answer: NASWFINST 5560.5A - Requirements for Registration of Vehicles Operated on Roadways of NAS Whiting Field.

(6) Personnel otherwise qualified (Military ID or CAC), who have no vehicles registered on station and who operating a vehicle belonging to an unqualified party with the unqualified party's notarized written permission may be issued appropriate decal for one year or until the unqualified party becomes qualified, whichever occurs first. Vehicles used less than 90 days will be issued a Temp Pass vice a decal. This does not apply to individuals whose privileges are suspended.

NAS Whiting Field Climbing Dates

March 11
April 15
May 20
June 24
July 15
August 19
Sept. 9

The University of West Florida Indoor Rock Wall Military Climbing Day

Climbing days are scheduled for one Sunday a month from **1:00-4:00**. The fee is **\$7.00** per person and families are welcome. This fee includes 3 hours of climbing, rental shoes, harnesses and belay instruction. The University of West Florida's Rockwall is 36 feet high and offers something for all skill levels.

For more information or to sign up please contact the Outdoor Adventure Program onboard NAS Whiting Field at **850-623-7670** or email us at **Outdooradventure.wf@gmail.com**

There are only 20 spots available so sign up soon!

UWF Fitness Center address.
11000 University Parkway
Pensacola, FL 32514
Bld.72 Downstairs