

Whiting Tower

Seventy-three Years of Aviation Training News

Learn to conquer the sky

Discere vincere in caelum

Naval Air Station Whiting Field, Milton, Fla.
Vol. 72 No. 06

Forging Wings for the Fleet
November 4, 2016



- (Pg 2) *Gulf Power and NAS Whiting Field Partner to Bring Energy Savings to the Installation*
- (Pg 2) *Petersen Family Celebrates Continued Legacy in Naval Aviation*
- (Pg 4) *NAS Whiting Field Obtains Easements for Buffering Acreage*

Gulf Power and NAS Whiting Field Partner to Bring Energy Savings to the Installation



Naval Air Station Whiting Field Commanding Officer Capt. Todd Bahlau accepts a LED tube from Gulf Power General Manager of Marketing and Sales Foster Ware III to symbolically kick-off the \$9.8 million Utilities Energy Services Contract (UESC) at the installation. The LED tube is one of thousands that will be used to replace fluorescent lighting across the installation. NAS Whiting Field Energy Manager Jason Poe, Public Works Officer LCDR Tim Gleason, and Gulf Power Energy Services Supervisor Chris Hood joined in the groundbreaking that celebrated the commencement of the initiative that will ultimately shave about 15% of the base's energy costs. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs.

By Jay Cope, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

Standing in front of a 20 foot tall helicopter simulator, Gulf Power's General Manager of Marketing and Sales Foster Ware, III, shook hands with Naval Air Station Whiting Field Commanding Officer Captain Todd Bahlau signifying the start of a Utility Energy Service Contract (UESC) project that will help the installation conserve energy and provide for more efficient use of tax dollars well into the future.

The \$9.8 million project is the largest, single conservation project for any Department of Defense facility in the area through Gulf Power. When completed, the contract will shave 15 percent off the installation's energy usage.

"This project advances many of our strategic energy initiatives," Bahlau stated. "It reduces our energy footprint, enhances our energy resiliency, and enables us to reprioritize the savings to advance our operational priorities for years to come."

Roughly 92 percent of NAS Whiting Field's main complex will be affected by the UESC. This encompasses 53 facilities and more than one million square feet of workspaces. Best of all, the contract enables almost

- (Cont. on Page 5)

Cover Photo: Last morning on the flightline of the Gulf Coast Fleet Fly-In. Photo by Cristobal Sanchez, Airbus Helicopters Flight Test Technician.

The Whiting Tower

Commanding Officer

Capt. Todd Bahlau

Executive Officer

Cmdr. Don Gaines

Command Master Chief

Command Master Chief (AW/SW) Lee Stephens

Public Affairs Officers

Jay Cope
Jamie Link

Public Affairs Staff

Lt. j.g. Sarah O'Shea
Ensign Kyle Shields
Ensign Brittany Stephens

The Whiting Tower is an authorized publication for members of the Naval Air Station Whiting Field team, tenant commands, their family members and retirees in the surrounding area. The contents of this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Navy, and do not imply endorsement thereof. The editorial content is prepared, edited and provided by the Public Affairs Office of Naval Air Station Whiting Field.

Petersen Family Celebrates Continued Legacy in Naval Aviation

By: Petty Officer 2nd Class Paolo Bayas, CNAF Public Affairs

Lt. j.g. Audrey Petersen received her Naval Aviator "wings" during a ceremony at Naval Air Station (NAS) Whiting Field in Milton, Florida, Oct. 28.

Audrey is a 2014 graduate of Vanderbilt University Navy Recruit Officer Training Corps (NROTC) and is slated to pilot the MH-60S Seahawk with the "Island Knights" of Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 25 in Guam.

"This is a huge deal, so incredibly special for me," said Audrey. "Every time I fly, I fly with six other dog tags that belong to the other service members of my family. Two are Marines, the other four-my mom, my dad, my brother and my grandfather's wings. All aviators. It is an honor to be the next one in line."

Audrey was pinned with her wings of gold by her mother, Amy Petersen and father, Craig Petersen during the ceremony.

"I am very proud of Audrey as she receives her wings," said Amy. She's had tremendous support from her family, but each time she gets in an airplane or helicopter it is just her, and the accomplishment is hers alone."

Her Mother, Amy, retired as a commander with 2,393 accident-free flight hours in the Navy Reserve. She was winged at NAS Corpus Christi in June of 1985 and flew EC-130s with VQ-4 at NAS Patuxent River and the TC-4C with VA-42 at NAS Oceana. She is currently a United Airlines 747 first officer with more than 16,000 flight hours.

Her father, Craig, also retired from the Navy Reserves in May 2014 with 1,478 accident-free flight hours and 439 carrier-arrested landings. A 1984 graduate of the Marquette University NROTC program, Craig received his Naval

- (Cont. on Page 9)

F-35 Lightning II Testing Begins on USS America

By: USS America (LHA 6) Public Affairs

Five Lockheed Martin F-35B Lightning II aircraft landed on the amphibious assault ship USS America (LHA 6) on Friday, October 28.

America will embark seven F-35Bs -- two are scheduled to begin the third shipboard phase of developmental test (DT-III) and five are scheduled to conduct operational testing.

America, the first ship of its class, is an aviation-centric platform that incorporates key design elements to accommodate the fifth-generation fighter.

The ship's design features several aviation capabilities enhanced beyond previous amphibious assault ships which include an enlarged hangar deck, realignment and expansion of the aviation maintenance facilities, a significant increase in available stowage of parts and equipment, as well as increased aviation fuel capacity.

America is capable of accommodating F-35Bs, MV-22B Osprey tiltrotor aircraft, and a complement of Navy and Marine Corps helicopters.

The third test phase will evaluate F-35B Short Take-off Vertical Landing (STOVL) operations in a high-sea state, shipboard landings, and night operations. The cadre of flight test pilots, engineers, maintainers, and support personnel from the F-35 Patuxent River Integrated Test Force (ITF) are assigned to Air Test & Evaluation Squadron (VX) 23 at Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Maryland.

"It's exciting to start the execution phase of our detachment with VMX-1 (Marine Operational Test and Evaluation Squadron 1) on USS America," said Lt. Col. Tom "Sally" Fields, F-35 Patuxent River ITF Government Flight Test director assigned to VX-23. "During the next



An F-35B Lightning II aircraft launches for the first time off the flight deck of the amphibious assault ship USS America (LHA 6). The F-35B short takeoff/vertical landing (STOVL) variant is the world's first supersonic STOVL stealth aircraft. U.S. Navy photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Benjamin Woody.

three weeks, we will be completing critical flight test for both Developmental Test (DT) and Operational Test (OT). The F-35 Pax River ITF and VX-23 will be conducting DT work that will establish the boundaries of safe operation for the F-35B in the 3F configuration. VMX-1 will be conducting OT operations focused on preparing maintenance crews and pilots for the first deployment of the F-35B aboard USS Wasp (LHD 1), scheduled to start in just over a year."

The operational testing will also include simulating extensive maintenance aboard a ship, said Col. George

- (Cont. on Page 5)

This Day in Naval History

November 4

1923 - Lt. Alford J. Williams, flying an R2C-1 equipped with a Curtiss D-12 engine, raises the world speed record to 266.59 mph at Mitchel Field, Long Island, N.Y., beating the record set by Lt. Harold J. Brow only two days before.

November 5

1915 - Lt. Cmdr. Henry C. Mustin, in an AB-2 flying boat, makes the first underway catapult launch from a ship, USS North Carolina (ACR 12) at Pensacola Bay, Fla. This experimental work leads to the use of catapults on battleships and cruisers through World War II and to the steam catapults on present-day aircraft carriers.

November 6

1967 - Helicopters from USS Coral Sea (CVA 43) rescue the 37-man crew of Liberian freighter Royal Fortunes after she runs aground on a reef in the Gulf of Tonkin.

November 7

1861 - The U.S. Naval force under Rear Adm. Samuel F. DuPont capture Port Royal Sound, S.C. During battle, DuPont's ships steam in boldly and the naval gunners pour a withering fire into the defending forts Walker and Beauregard with extreme accuracy. Marines and sailors land to occupy the forts until turned over to Army troops under Gen. T. W. Sherman.

November 8

1956 - Navy Stratolab balloon, piloted by Lt. Cmdr. Malcolm D. Ross and Lt. Cmdr. M. Lee Lewis, surpasses the world height record by soaring to 76,000 ft. over Black Hills, S.D. The flight gathers meteorological, cosmic ray, and other scientific data.



World Speed Record Set

Lt. Alford J. Williams, flying an R2C-1 equipped with a Curtiss D-12 engine, raises the world speed record to 266.59 mph at Mitchel Field, Long Island, N.Y., beating the record set by Lt. Harold J. Brow only two days before.

NAS Whiting Field Obtains Easements for Buffering Acreage

By: Jamie Link, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

Naval Air Station Whiting Field received approval for the acquisition of a restrictive easement for approximately 626 acres north of NAS Whiting Field during a recent cabinet meeting with Governor Rick Scott.

This acreage, part of the Florida Forever Wolfe Creek project footprint, is underneath noise contours, flight track profiles, accident zones and within a military planning zone.

This long term investment will serve a vital role in preserving and conserving critical habitat, as well as protecting the installation's primary mission of training Naval aviators in perpetuity. The easement prevents incompatible development surrounding the military installation providing buffering to help military missions continue with less impediment.

Cmdr. Eric Seib, NAS Whiting Field Operations Commander addressed Governor Scott and Cabinet during the meeting to explain the impact of the restrictive easement.

"Your cooperation in managing developmental buffers are crucial for us to complete our vital training in a safe manner", Seib said.

NAS Whiting Field's longstanding multiyear Encroachment Partnering agreement with the State of Florida has made this project possible through the use of over \$500K of the Readiness Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) funding coupled with \$1 million in State funds.

Scott and his Cabinet praised the partnership, and thanked the installation for its work in conservation and base buffering initiatives.

This restrictive easement acquisition is part of the state's \$2.2 million Florida's Defense Infrastructure and Reinvestment Grant Program,

"As a Navy veteran, I am proud to announce today that more than \$2 million has been awarded for defense communities across 10 counties," Scott said.

Vernon Compton, Project Director for the conservation organization Long Leaf Alliance Project also addressed the Governor and Cabinet to echo the importance of conservation buffering acreage for NAS Whiting Field.

"Supporting this project today, you will be continuing that effort. It's a win for the environment and it is really a win for base buffering and protecting Naval Air Station Whiting Field", Compton said.

This acquisition continues NAS Whiting Field's relationship with the State of Florida, Santa Rosa County, and its partners in encouraging compatible land development, conservation of public and private lands and encroachment partnering initiatives. In addition, the gained easement has the potential to be used for recreational opportunities for the base population, as well as the surrounding community.

The installation is known as the busiest aviation complex in the world, serving 1.1 million flight
- (Cont. on Page 9)



Naval Air Station Whiting Field Operations Commander, Cmdr. Eric Seib addressed Fla. Governor Rick Scott and cabinet during a recent cabinet meeting to explain the impact of gaining the easements for 626 acres north of NAS Whiting Field. By: Jamie Link, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs Office.

THE LANDING STRIP

#54 - Psalm 23 for Instructors

THE T-6 IS MY SHEPHERD;
I SHALL NOT WANT.
IT LETS ME FLY DOWN IN
GREEN PASTURES,
AND BEAUTIFUL
STILL WATERS.

IT RESTORES MY WAYWARD
SOUL.



IT LEADS ME IN PATHS OF
COURSE RULES FOR
DECONFLICTION'S SAKE.
AND EVEN THOUGH I FLY
IN THE VALLEY OF THE
SHADOW OF DEATH,
I WILL FEAR NO FAM IS.

FOR MY EJECTION SEAT
IS WITH ME.

Editor's Note: Special thanks to Ensign Zach Morris who granted permission to use the comics in The Whiting Tower. The paper will run two of his comic strips each week for as long as he has material for us to run. If you have an idea for a strip, please email zmorris1011@gmail.com for a chance to see your idea put into print.

Energy

- (Cont. from Page 2)

\$500,000 a year in energy savings that can be reutilized to support operational priorities.

“By pursuing a project like this, we are doing our part to advance the Navy’s priorities and create a more efficient and resilient ashore infrastructure,” Bahlau said.

The UESC encompasses a variety of energy saving initiatives under one contract. Projects will involve replacing fluorescent light bulbs with LED tubes in 41 buildings, installing low-flow water fixtures in 26 buildings, heating and air conditioning improvements, an expansion of the energy management control system, and providing low voltage electrical transformers. The accumulation of these projects will save 17,000 MBTUs annual which equates to 350 houses worth of energy. They will also save 26 million gallons of water reducing the installations consumption the amount that 180 households would use in a year.

The helicopter simulator building was selected as the location for the kick-off of the UESC as the largest single project will be a virtual chiller plant that will link the cooling units from four different simulator buildings

and enable them to work as a collective unit. A new, high-efficiency magnetic bearing chiller will be incorporated into the virtual chiller plant. The set-up will enable the units to cool the buildings more efficiently while protecting the buildings and electronic equipment should any one unit stop functioning.

The T-6 simulator building and the helicopter simulator building are the two highest energy consuming buildings aboard NAS Whiting Field. Reducing the energy use of the training devices while protecting the ability to use them continuously is a vital part of the contract, and a key component of why Gulf Power Company of Pensacola desired to team with NAS Whiting Field on the project.

“It goes back to being a partner in the community and being committed to customer service,” Gulf Power’s Energy Services Supervisor Chris Hood emphasized. “Reducing the amount of energy the Navy buys helps us act as a true partner in meeting their energy conservation goals.”

F-35B

- (Cont. from Page 3)

Rowell, commanding officer of VMX-1, based at Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Arizona.

Rowell stated one of the VMX jets on board will be placed in the hangar bay, taken apart, and put together again, just to make sure everything goes well.

The maintenance work will include the replacement of a lift fan, the specialized equipment made by Rolls Royce and Pratt and Whitney that gives the F-35B variant its short take-off, “jump jet” capability, Rowell said.

The Marine Corps variant of the F-35 Lightning II reached the fleet first, with the service declaring initial operational capability July 2015.

“The F-35 Lightning II is the most versatile, agile, and technologically-advanced aircraft in the skies today, enabling our Corps to be the nation’s force in readiness -- regardless of the threat, and regardless of the location of the battle,” said Lt. Gen. Jon Davis, deputy commandant for aviation, Marine Corps. “As we modernize our fixed-wing aviation assets for the future, the continued development and fielding of the short take-off and vertical landing, the F-35B remains the centerpiece of this effort.”

“The America class of amphibious assault ship design enables it to carry a larger and more diverse complement of aircraft, including the tiltrotor MV-22 Osprey, the new F-35 Lightning II, and a mix of cargo and assault helicopters,” added Davis. “America is able to support a wide spectrum of military operations and missions, including putting Marines ashore for combat operations, launching air strikes, keeping sea lanes free and open for the movement of global commerce, and delivering humanitarian aid following a natural disaster.”

WARRIOR CARE MONTH

NOVEMBER IS
WARRIOR CARE MONTH
NAVY WOUNDED WARRIOR - SAFE HARBOR

A SHOW OF STRENGTH

1-855-NAVY WWP (1-855-628-9997)
safeharbor.navylive.dodlive.mil

NAVY WOUNDED WARRIOR SAFE HARBOR
CNIC FLEET • FIGHTER • FAMILY
NAVYSAFEHARBOR

Training Airwing Five Hosts Gulf Coast Fleet Fly In

By: Ensign Brittany Stephens, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

Naval Air Station Whiting Field and Training Air Wing FIVE hosted 22 aircraft Oct. 24 through 28 for the 27th annual Gulf Coast Fleet Fly-In.

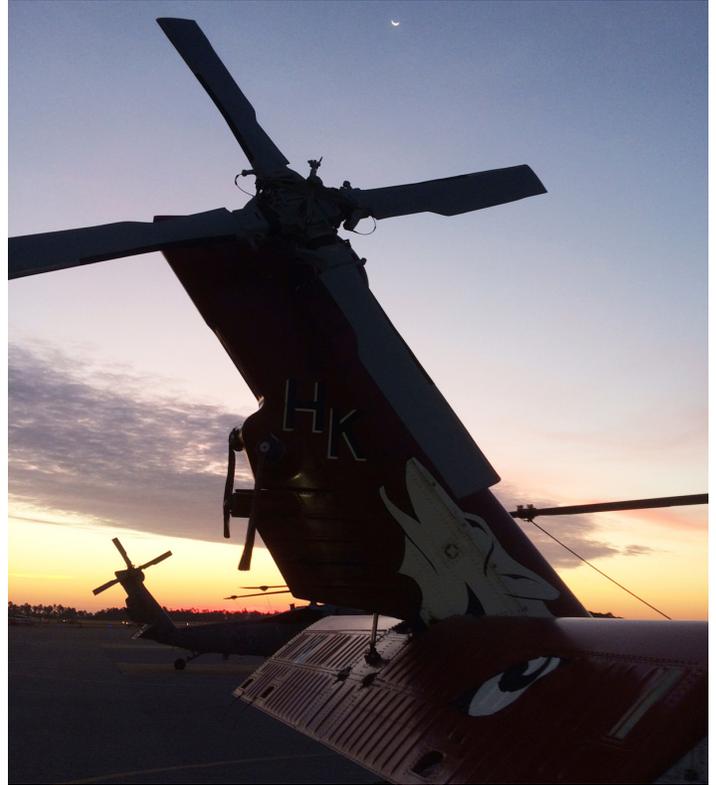
Aviators and aircrew converged from across the country in Milton, Fla. to share their aircraft, knowledge, and possibly a few sea stories with student military aviators (SMAs) and aviation enthusiasts. The Fleet Fly-In is the one time each year that student aviators in the Rotary pipeline can experience mission ready helicopters of the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard.

The Fly-In commenced Oct. 24 with the arrival of the helicopters on base. The MH-60S Knighthawk, the MH-60R Seahawk, the H-53 Sea Stallion, the AH-1W Super Cobra, the H-65 Dolphin, and the C-144 Ocean Sentry platforms represented the United States Navy, Coast Guard, and Marine Corps in addition to several civilian helicopters.

TRAWING FIVE officially opened the Fly-In at the Naval Aviation Museum on Oct. 25 with the playing of the national anthem and opening remarks from guest speakers.

“Do not hesitate to reach out with questions,” stated Capt. Mark Murray, Commodore of TRAWING FIVE, to a group of student military aviators (SMAs) attending the opening ceremony. “And to the pilots, be receptive and responsive to these questions.”

The ceremony was followed by a panel of senior officers participating in the Fly-In. Students and instructors directed questions towards the panel regarding the general field of aviation and the individual officer’s specific experi-



Two MH-60R’s parked on the South Field flightline during an early morning sunrise at the annual Gulf Coast Fleet Fly-In. U.S. Navy Photo by Jay Cope, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs.

ences out in the Fleet. The events served to welcome the visiting pilots and enabled students to interact with the visiting fleet officers.

Throughout the week, the Fly-In provided significant information towards the future careers of SMAs in the Rotary pipeline. Students attended community briefs and social events 25 Oct. through 27 that enabled them to speak directly with the pilots and crews about the geographic locations and mission requirements of their respective platforms, in order to aid them in making better-informed choices with their aircraft selection.

Students also familiarized themselves with the interior of the aircraft, followed by “orientation flights” under the instruction of the visiting aircrew and pilots. They were allotted two flight windows on Oct. 26 and 27. For many students, the opportunity to experience actual mission aircraft and not the typical training helicopter was an exciting prospect.

“It’s smoother and more powerful than the 57. And it was a lot of fun,” says Ensign Zack Wallace, who flew the MH-60S on Wednesday. Wallace also spoke to the MH-60S pilots and crew about their mission. “It is definitely influential for my decision.”

While Wallace enjoyed his flight in the MH-60S, he feels he will be satisfied with any helicopter when it

- (Cont. on Page 8)



TH-57 performing a training power-off autorotation to a full-stop landing during the skills competition at the Gulf Coast Fleet Fly-In. Autorotation is an emergency landing procedure used in the event of an engine failure. U.S. Navy photo by Ensign Kyle Shields, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs.

Fleet Aircraft Fly In to NAS Whiting Field



MH-60R on the flightline at sunrise. U.S. Navy Photo by Ensign Brittany Stephens, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs.



Aircrew for the MH-60S talk to Fleet Fly-In attendees to discuss their platform and its capabilities. U.S. Navy Photo by Jamie Link, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs.



A line of Navy and Marine Corps MH-53's parked on the flightline at the NAS Whiting Field Fleet Fly-In. U.S. Navy Photo by Ensign Antonio More, Helicopter Training Squadron 28.



Airbus Helicopters H-125 and the Augusta Westland AW-119 coming in for a landing at the Fleet Fly-in. U.S. Navy Photo by Ensign Kyle Shields, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs.



Student Military Aviators walk out to board the MH-53. These students each got the opportunity to pilot the aircraft for the first time during the annual Gulf Coast Fleet Fly-In. U.S. Navy Photo by Ensign Kyle Shields, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs.

Fleet Fly-In

- (Cont. from Page 6)

comes time for his selection.

Instructor Pilots based out of NAS Whiting Field also participated in the Fly-In. Several took advantage of the opportunity to fly civilian helicopters during scheduled flight windows during Oct. 25 through 27. Instructor pilots also attended the scheduled briefs to keep in touch with their respective communities and reach out to fellow aviators.

Squadrons also participated in a Flight Skills competition on 26 Oct. One helicopter of instructor pilots from NAS Whiting represented their respective squadrons in performing three maneuvers: an autorotation, hovering to lift an external load, and popping a water balloon under a skid. The winning squadron takes a trophy home until the next skills competition, encouraging friendly competition between the squadrons. This year, HT-8 took the trophy.

The helicopters and their crews departed NAS Whiting Field on Friday, 28 Oct after a successful week of dialogue and training.

“The Fly-In promoted Naval Aviation, it informed prospective pilots, and it’s a good time,” stated Lt. James Cozby, an instructor pilot. 🇺🇸

CDC Hosts Fall Festival

By: Lt. j.g. Sarah O’Shea, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs.

The Child Development Center (CDC) on board Naval Air Station Whiting Field hosted its fall festival for base personnel and children who attend the CDC Oct. 28. The kids enjoyed games, face painting, and slides while celebrating fall and upcoming Halloween.

The children arrived dressed in their Halloween costumes and were greeted by employees of the CDC who prepared booths for the kids to participate in. The booths included pumpkin painting, a photo booth, face painting and sand art. After the games, the kids enjoyed time in the bounce houses and blow up slides.



Child and Youth Programs assistants Shaina and Lita assist children at the crafting table at the during the Child Development. U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Sarah O’Shea, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs.

SECURITY CORNER

By: Stacy McFadden, NAS Whiting Field Security



Contraband and other restricted items aboard NAS Whiting Field as per NASWFINST 5530.14A JULY 15 2013. 6. Contraband/Other Restrictions. The following items are forbidden aboard NASWF: personal firearms and /or ammunition; explosives/ illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia; surveillance equipment (without Commanding Officers approval); any hazardous chemical, biological or nuclear material without the appropriate NASWF approval, permits, warning symbols and safety placards. Other weapons not identified above must be declared to the Security Sentry. Recreational off-road driving is prohibited on any NASWF property.



Petty Officers 2nd Class Kyle Wyrock and Phillip Alicea, and Petty Officer 1st Class Matthew Kolb volunteered their time Oct. 28 and Oct. 29 to assist in setting up for Bagdad’s “Howl-O-Ween” festival at the Bagdad Mill Site Park on October 29th. The three sailors from Naval Air Station Whiting Field assisted in setting up tents and booths for the festival which served 3,000 people from the local area U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Sarah O’Shea, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs.

Before the kids arrived, Mary Marcoux, the director of the CDC, announced “the kids are going to have so much fun! The adults already had fun just setting up for it.”

This is the first year the CDC expanded its fall festival to the grassy field next to its main building. “The larger space allows for the kids to run around more,” said Marcoux “and for space to host activities like the bounce houses.” NAS Whiting Field’s Morale, Welfare and Recreation provided the slides, bounce houses, and booth tents for the event.

Nerissa Edwards, who recently moved to the area with her husband and enrolled her one year old and four year old in the CDC noted, “I really like the holidays and having activities for the kids to go to. I think it’s really great to have something for them to celebrate the

Petersen Winging

- (Cont. from Page 2)

Flight Officer wings in August 1985 at NAS Pensacola. He flew A-6 Intruders with VA-85 and VA-75 at NAS Oceana.

Her brother, Austin, is a 2012 graduate of Vanderbilt University NROTC and received his wings in April 2014, also at NAS Whiting Field. He flies the MH-60S with HSC -14 at NAS North Island and is currently a lieutenant with 653 flight hours.

“We are incredibly fortunate to have all four of us physically qualified, to have all four of us interested in flying, and to have all four of us have successfully earned our Wings of Gold” said Amy. “Military service is a way of life for our family” 🏠



Lt. j.g. Audrey Petersen with her family after being pinned at the Training Air Wing five Naval Aviator Designation Ceremony onboard Naval Air Station Whiting Field. She will be flying the MH-60S. U.S. Navy Photo by Ensign Kyle Shields, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs.



Lt. j.g. Audrey Petersen is pinned with her wings of gold by her mother, Amy Petersen and father, Craig Petersen during the Training Air Wing five Naval Aviator Designation Ceremony onboard Naval Air Station Whiting Field. She will be flying the MH-60S. U.S. Navy Photo by: Jamie Link, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs Office

Easements

- (Cont. from Page 4)

operations and executes 139,969 flight hours comprising 14% of all US Navy hours flown worldwide. Over 1,300 flight students from the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Allied Forces train here annually.

NAS Whiting Field has three towered airfields, 12 Navy outlying landing field, 16 miles of runways, over 4 million yards of airfield tarmac, 7,000 acres of land management, 4,500 square miles of airspace and 92 miles of fence line that encompass 13,035 acres.

Serving as the Navy's largest Air Wing, the installation trains 100 percent of the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard helicopter pilots where they earn their Wings of Gold producing 600 new aviators per year.

NAS Whiting Field is recognized as the Department of Defense role model for its mission sustainment, encroachment partnering and innovative outreach strategies to protect the installa-

tion's mission and footprint.

The execution of this project provides a substantial buffer in sustaining NAS Whiting Field's military mission, as well as safeguarding continuity of quality resources for biological diversity. 🛩️



News & Notes

Navy vs Army Video Spots

This year's Army-Navy game is scheduled for Saturday, 10 December 2016 at M&T Stadium (Baltimore). CBS Sports will televise the game and will once again accept "Go Navy, Beat Army" video spots from the Navy and Marine Corps team to be considered for broadcast during the game. Please note that CBS generally only airs one spirit spot from each service, selected at their discretion.

Deadline for submission is 30 NOV. This is the 40th Anniversary of the integration of women into the service academies, and that is the suggested theme. For full guidance on how to submit, contact the Public Affairs Office at 623-7341.

NASWF Sailors of the Year

Congratulations to our 2016 Sailor, Junior Sailor and Blue Jacket of the Year.

SOY: Petty Officer First Class Jeffrey Garcia

JSOY: Petty Officer Second Class Kyle Wyrock

BJOY: Petty officer Third Class Tinea Lewis

NAS Whiting Field is bursting with talented Sailors that provide the leadership and expertise we expect from our professional Sailors. The departmental representatives were extremely competitive and there are many of you that are deserving of this prestigious recognition, but unfortunately we can only select one per category each year. Please join me in congratulating these three outstanding Sailors.

NASWF Civilian and Junior Civilian of the Year

Congratulations to our 2016 Civilian and Junior Civilian of the Year:

Civilian of the Year (COY) : Mr. Chris Hendrix (MWR)

Junior Civilian of the Year (JCOY): Mr. Eric Wuesthoff (MWR)

I am truly impressed with our extremely dedicated and talented civilian workforce. Every year the competition for COY and JCOY is very tight, and this year was no different...well done to all the nominees and BZ to Chris and Eric. Please join me in congratulating these outstanding members of the NAS Whiting Field team.

VA Rep Appointments

Naval Air Station Whiting Field's VA Representative, Mr. James Badini, has open appointments 10 & 18 Nov 2016. Personnel who are within six months of their separation/retirement date are in the window to see him. Anyone who would like to see Mr. Badini, should call 850-623-7177 to get further instructions. Please "do not" make the mistake of assuming that you are not eligible for any VA benefits, know it for a fact. A sealed copy of a medical record is needed in order to see Mr. Badini, and there are other required forms that must be downloaded and filled out prior to an appointment. The Branch Medical Clinic will make a copy but sometime it takes about 10 days.

Santa Rosa County Veterans Day Office Closures

The following Santa Rosa County offices will be closed Friday, November 11, in observance of Veterans Day.

*Santa Rosa County Board of Commissioners, including the library system and animal shelter

*The Central Landfill will be open Friday, November 11 from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Santa Rosa County 9-1-1 Dispatch, Lifeguard Ambulance Service and fire departments are open daily

*Santa Rosa County Clerk of the Court

*Santa Rosa County Property Appraiser

*Santa Rosa County Supervisor of Elections

*Santa Rosa County Tax Collector

For more information, visit www.santarosa.fl.gov

Boots to Business Workshop

When - 14 & 15 Nov 2016

What Time - 0800-1600 Each Day

Where - TGPS Classroom (BLDG 2998) - West End of the Coffee Shop BLDG

What's in it for you? This Entrepreneurship workshop is open to separating or retiring service-members who are interested in go-

ing into business for themselves after their military service. This workshop is also open to military retirees and military spouses. Please call the Fleet & family Support Center at 850-623-7177 to reserve your seat. A minimum of 10 students is required by the instructors to hold this workshop so please forward this info on to those who are eligible and interested in this great opportunity.

Annual Homeless Candlelight Vigil

Join the EscaRosa Coalition on the Homeless for the Annual Homeless Candlelight Vigil to remember those who have died without a home.

On November 14, 2016 at 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. a one-hour candlelight vigil will be held to commemorate National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week and raise awareness about homelessness in the area. The location will be at the Waterfront Rescue Mission located at 348 Herman St. Pensacola, Florida. This event will be held outdoors so be sure to dress warm! Refreshments will be provided after the service.

Christmas Party is now selling tickets

The POCs are CPO Jernigan, PO2 Dornbusch, PO2 Martin, and SN Gray. E6 & Below: \$21.00. E7 & Above: \$25.00. Civilians: \$25.00 Child care will be provided by the CDC from 1730-2330. Space is limited so it is highly recommended that parents sign up early. Parents must show their Christmas party ticket to register their child. Price will be \$4 per hour/per child. The payment method is cash or credit only.

Marine Corps Birthday Dinner

NASWF Marine Corps Pre-Ball Birthday Dinner: VT-6 and HT-28 will host a pre-ball dinner at 1700 on Saturday, 19 November, to celebrate the Marine Corps' 241st birthday. Dinner will be at the Pensacola Grand Hotel and is open to all NASFW Personnel and guests. This event is separate from the MATSG-21 Birthday Ceremony at the Naval Museum, but the dinner timeline will allow guests to attend both events if they chose. Dinner is open to all NASWF personnel, and dinner tickets can be purchased through VT-6 PAO or HT-28. Ticket sales will end on Monday, 14 Nov. For more info contact Maj Whiteford, VT-6 Senior Marine, at 850-623-7793.

MATSG-21 Officer's Birthday Ball celebrating the 241st anniversary of the United States Marine Corps

Join MATSG-21 on 19 Nov at the Naval Museum from 7 -11p.m. Tickets are \$35 and include hors d'oeuvres and a ball favor. To purchase tickets, see Sonja in TW-5 OPS. For more info, call 850.623.7147.



Sailor of the Year Awardees

NAS Whiting Field Commanding Officer Capt. Bahlau (middle-left) congratulates the 2016 Sailor of the Year Petty Officer 1st Class Jeffrey Garcia (left), the Junior Sailor of the Year Petty Officer 2nd Class Kyle Wyrock (middle-right), and the Blue Jacket of the Year Petty officer 3rd Class Tinea Lewis.

CHALKBOARD MINUTE

What Is Federal Impact Aid and MORE IMPORTANTLY, How Can It Help My Child's School?

By: Chris Hendrix, NAS Whiting Field School Liason Officer

WHAT IS FEDERAL IMPACT AID?

Ordinarily, school districts receive funding from property taxes paid by individuals and local businesses. Because property on military bases and other Federal property isn't taxed, local school districts do not receive tax revenue from it. Federal Impact Aid is money given to local school districts to help to make up for this loss of income. The funds go directly into the school district's general fund for operations such as purchase of textbooks, computers, utilities, and payment of staff salaries.

HOW IS IMPACT AID GENERATED?

Each year, schools hand out a Federal Impact Aid survey to all children to take home to be signed by parents/guardians and returned to the school. Each survey returned by children of parents or guardians who are Active Duty military, Department of Defense/Federal employees, contractors and/or residents who live and/or work on Federal property, generates money going budget for local district schools.

Survey results are used to assess the

number of federally-connected students enrolled in a district. This number is reported to the U.S. Department of Education in the form of an application requesting Impact Aid.

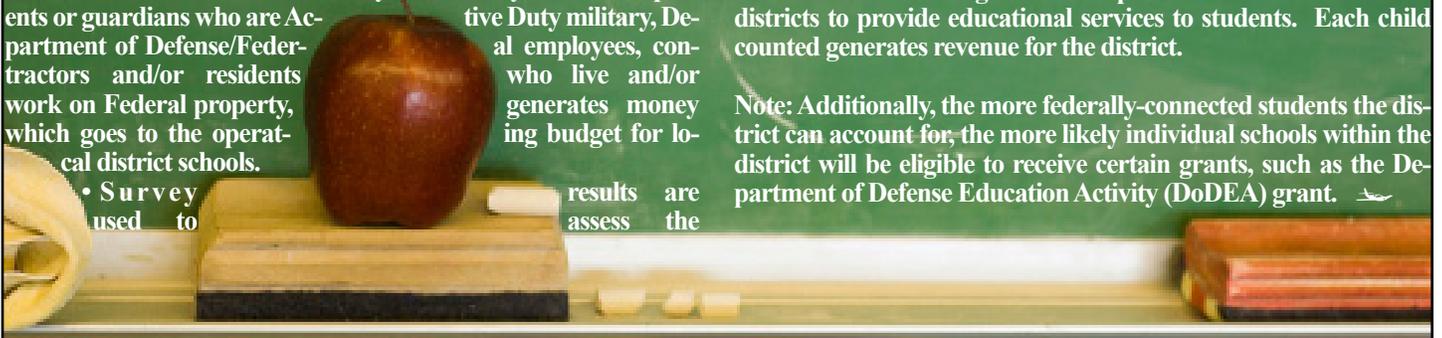
WHEN DOES THIS HAPPEN?

Surveys will be given to students each year in October. Each district will indicate the return date on the form.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT FOR EACH CHILD TO BE COUNTED?

To be eligible to receive Impact Aid, a school district must have at least 400 federally-connected students in their Average Daily Attendance (ADA) or federally-connected students must account for at least 3% of the district's ADA. This is why parents' responses to the survey are so critical. Underreporting excludes districts from receiving funds and places a financial burden on districts to provide educational services to students. Each child counted generates revenue for the district.

Note: Additionally, the more federally-connected students the district can account for, the more likely individual schools within the district will be eligible to receive certain grants, such as the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) grant.





17 THURSDAY
NOV Show starts at 6pm

NAS Whiting Field
Sikes Hall (Ace's Pub)
~ Ace's opens at 4pm ~



HEADLINER
Brad Upton



EMCEE
Lace Larrabee



FEATURING
Dan Gabriel



FEATURING
Mark Evans



Due to some mature content 18+ only

Hours of Operation for MWR Food Service Locations:

Tower Café (Starbucks)	Mon-Fri	0600-1300
South Field Snack Bar	Mon-Fri	0600-1900
Mulligans Grill	Mon-Fri	0630-1400
Bowling Center	Mon-Fri	0700-1900
North Field Snack Bar	Mon-Fri	1030-1700

Like us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/naswhitingfield
Follow us on Twitter: @naswf
Follow us on Instagram: @naswhitingfield

Personal Excellence

By: Jamie Link, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs.

Training Squadron THREE, Red Knights observed a change of command onboard Naval Air Station Whiting Field on Oct. 28 as Executive Officer Cmdr. Christopher M. Biggs assumed command from Commanding Officer Cmdr. Jade L Lepke.

Bells rang in the Atrium, salutes were rendered, and the unmistakable call of whistles announced the official party for a time honored tradition steeped in military heritage that dates back to The Great Depression. The Change of Command ceremony provides an opportunity for Sailors, NAS Whiting Field personnel, and friends and family to witness the official transfer of command and authority.

Retired Capt. James Fisher, USN, served as guest speaker for the event. His opening remarks for the ceremony included a story about the impact a great flight instructor can make on a



Cmdr. Biggs receives Command Ashore pin by his wife Jennifer. U.S. Navy photo by Ensign Kyle Shields, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs.



(from left to right) Retired Capt. James Fisher, the Prospective Commanding Officer Cmdr. Christopher Biggs, the offgoing Commanding Officer Cmdr. Jade Lepke, and the Commodore of Training Air Wing FIVE Capt. Mark Murray await the commencement of the VT-3 Change of Command Ceremony. U.S. Navy photo by Jamie Link, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs.

student, as he recounted the story of his first safety solo check ride failure, and what it was like to pass the second check with ease because of a great flight instructor.

"I learned more in those two flights than all eight of my previous flights. The most important thing I learned from him in the cockpit is that I could meet the standards of Florida Aviation", Capt. Fisher remarked.

"The flight instructors are the most important billets in the flight training squadron" said Fisher during his remarks.

Lepke transferred the authority with the symbolic passing of the squadron colors to Cmdr Biggs in the decorated atrium as personnel from the Red Knights, family, and friends looked on following the formal reading of the orders marking the transfer of command.

"VT-3 is an exceptional squadron and I am honored to have had the opportunity to be together for the past fifteen months. I know you (to Biggs) are eager and ready to take the reigns as skipper, congratulations." Lepke said

Congratulations TW-5 Academic Scholars



Congratulation to Training Air Wing FIVE's academic scholars for making the Commodore's List. Photos courtesy of Training Air Wing FIVE.

Congratulations to the TW-5 Wingers



Top Row: Lt. Col. Cory DeKraai, USMC, CO HT-28; Ensign Ethan Hahn, USN, HT-28; 1st Lt. Philip Williams, USMC, HT-8; Lt. j.g. Christian Farus, USN, HT-8; Lt. j.g. Joel Vircks, USN, HT-28; Ensign Evan Zonnefeld, USN, HT-28; Lt. j.g. Luke Vaughn, USN, HT-8; 1st Lt. Dwayne Saunders Jr., USMC, HT-18; Lt. j.g. Audrey Petersen, USN, HT-18; 1st Lt. Marisa Roberts, USMC, HT-28; Vice Adm. Charles Ray, USCG, Deputy Commandant for Operations; **Middle Row:** Cmdr. Brian Sanderson, USN, CO HT-18; 1st Lt. Callan Roybal, USMC, HT-18; Ensign Christian Merkel, USN, HT-8; Ensign Jack Nilson, USN, HT-18; Lt. j.g. Anthony Davis Jr., USN, HT-28; Lt. j.g. Thomas Cogley, USCG, HT-18; 1st Lt. Kevin Flaherty, USMC, HT-28; Ensign Scott McNabb, USN, HT-8; Ensign Matthew Crochet, USN, HT-8; Capt. Mark Murray, USN, Commodore TW-5; **Bottom Row:** Cmdr. Steve Audelo, USN, CO HT-8; Ensign Richly Babauta, USN, HT-8; Lt. j.g. Zachary Visser, USN, HT-8; Ensign Kendall Benjamin, USN, HT-18; 1st Lt. Timothy Winkler, USMC, HT-18; Lt. j.g. Feras Alqurashi, RSNF, HT-18; 1st Lt. Derek Deeb, USMC, HT-28; Lt. j.g. Jeremy Lenhart, USN, HT-28; Lt. Patrick Collins, USCG, HT-28; 1st Lt. Gabriel Acevedo, USMC, HT-8

Congratulations to the VT Solos

VT-2

2nd Lt. Booth, John
2nd Lt. Sharbel, Ian
2nd Lt. Hiller, Daniel
2nd Lt. Maire, Steven
2nd Lt. Priolo, Mark
2nd Lt. Sampson, Nathan
Ensign Anderson, Michael
Ensign Arinello, Dennis
Ensign Bohanon, Guy
Ensign Byun, Leo
Ensign Cross, Conor
Ensign Dilenschneider, Michael
Ensign Gyori, Paul
Ensign Lovdon, Daniel
Ensign Miller, Michael
Ensign Morris, Matthew

Ensign Unpingco, Benjamin
Ensign Vandegriff, Daniel
Ensign White, Tyler
Lt Kelley, Derek
Lt.j.g. Smedley, Gary

VT-3

2nd Lt. Balanowski, Mark
2nd Lt. Bentley, Austin
2nd Lt. Funk, Casey
2nd Lt. Jaeckel, Jeffrey
2nd Lt. New, Abigail
2nd Lt. Quadland, Graham
2nd Lt. Schillaci, Robert
Ensign Bomhold, Reece
Ensign Brown, Nathanael
Ensign Cavender, Christopher

Ensign Gates, Jonathan
Ensign Hawker, Adam
Ensign Manson, Kristin
Ensign Pennington, Zachary
Ensign Pitsas, Demetrios
Ensign Radford, Jordan
Ensign Theodotou, Andrew
Ensign Thomas, Jordan
Ensign Vandenberg, Ernst
Lt. j.g. Dugal, Brian

VT-6

2nd Lt. Fabian Gries
2nd Lt. Kevin Williams
2nd Lt. Matthew Tate
Ensign John O'Leary
Ensign Kathryn Carpenter