



Hensel assumes command of the Doerbirds

By Lt. j.g. Megan Dooner, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

Cmdr. John C. Hensel, USN, officially took command over the VT-2 “Doerbirds”, Friday, Mar. 18, at 10 a.m. in the Naval Air Station Whiting Field Atrium. A reception followed the ceremony, held outside the Atrium, for all guests to attend.

The change of command ceremony is an honored product of the rich heritage of Naval tradition. It is customary that it be formal and impressively designed to strengthen respect for authority. The ceremony hinges around the formal reading of official orders by the relieving officer and the officer relieved. This observance of customs reflects the dedication of free men serving their nation proudly.

In the spirit of ceremony and tradition, it is fitting that Capt. Timothy M. McGuire, USCG and Hensel embody the traits of an officer. The guest speaker, Capt. Andrew J Berghorn, USCG, spoke of both Capt. McGuire and Cmdr. Hensel with the utmost respect.

“I can truly say with confidence that these two are the good

- (Cont. on Page 5)



Capt. Timothy McGuire passes the squadron colors to Cmdr. John Hensel Friday, March 18, signifying the turnover of command for Training Squadron TWO. Hensel steps into the top spot for the squadron following a year as the executive officer. U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Megan Dooner.

A nice garden can mean victory at NAS Whiting Field

By Jay Cope, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

Taking a page from World War II, Naval Air Station Whiting Field is encouraging teams on the base to begin planting “Victory Gardens.” The gardens are more in the spirit of friendly competition and camaraderie than conservation for a war effort, but the fresh produce will be a welcome by-product either way.

The contest is the brain-child of Capt. Pete Hall, NAS Whiting Field commanding officer, who was inspired by the garden kept at the base marina the past few years.

“I got the idea at Whiting Park and looking at their garden, thought ‘that looks like fun, why can’t we do that?’ I thought maybe we could have a garden at 1401, and if we could have one, then see if anyone else would be up for a little competition,” he said.

Gardens may either be in buckets or in the ground, although any digging must be approved by Public Works department first. The gardens will be judged by: variety of produce, garden aesthetics, health of plants, quality of produce, and largest vegetable.

The largest vegetable category will be picked at random April 1, the official kick-off, from a list of 18 vegetables to provide an even start date on that

- (Cont. on Page 5)



Capt. Pete Hall is urging groups on base to grow produce like this with a Victory Garden competition kicking off April 1. Photo courtesy of UWF.

Santa Rosa County holds amnesty day March 26

- South End Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Offered at no Charge

Amnesty Day, which offers south end Santa Rosa County residents the opportunity to dispose of household hazardous waste at no charge, is scheduled for Saturday, March 26 from 8 a.m. to noon at the Santa Rosa County South Side Service Center located at 5819 Gulf Breeze Parkway in Midway. This year, only a south side location will be available for Amnesty Day as residents can now also dispose of hazardous household waste at no charge at the entrance of the Central Landfill at 6337 Da Lisa Road in Milton, during the regular operating hours of Monday through Saturday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Materials will also be accepted from conditionally exempt small quantity generators including small businesses, schools and growers at a reduced rate. Small quantity generators must call (850) 981-7135 by noon on Friday, March 25 to schedule a drop off time. Calls will be accepted from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Amnesty Day is not a recycle day, but a special day for disposal of household hazardous waste. The following items should never be thrown out with your household garbage. On Amnesty Day, citizens can dispose of up to five gallons each at no cost: oil, gasoline, paint, antifreeze, oil filters, lubricants, greases, solvents, pesticides, fertilizers, batteries, five-gallon propane bottles, pool cleaners, household cleaners, computers, cathode ray TVs, monitors, printers, fax machines, DVD/DVR players, typewriters, copy machines, battery backups, fluorescent lights, and fire extinguishers.

- (Cont. on Page 7)

This Week in Naval History

March 22

1820 - Commodore Stephen Decatur dies after a duel with Capt. James Barron.

1915 - "Naval aviator" replaces "Navy air pilot" for officers qualified as aviators.

1929 - Navy ships protect Americans and their property during a Mexican revolution.

1946 - USS Missouri (BB 63) departs the United States to return the body of a deceased Turkish ambassador to Turkey for burial. Missouri arrived in Istanbul April 5.

March 23

1815 - USS Hornet captures HMS Penguin in a battle lasting 22 minutes.

1882 - The Secretary of the Navy, William H. Hunt, issues General Order No. 292, creating the Office of Naval Intelligence.

1917 - USS New Mexico (BB 40) is launched as the first dreadnought with turboelectric drive.

1945 - Carriers begin pre-assault strikes on Okinawa; kamikaze attacks follow.

1958 - Simulated Polaris missile is launched from a submerged tactical launcher facility off California.

1965 - Lt. Cmdr. John W. Young, pilot of Gemini 3, completes three orbits in four hours, 53 minutes, at an altitude of 224 km. Recovery was by helicopters from USS Intrepid (CVS 11).

March 24

1783 - At the conclusion of the American Revolution, Congress orders all Continental naval vessels and privateers home.

1903 - George Dewey is commissioned Admiral of the Navy with the date of rank, March 2, 1899. He was the only person to hold this rank.



The Commanding Officer
Naval Air Station Pensacola
cordially invites you to attend the
National Medal of Honor Day Ceremony
Friday, 25 March 2011
beginning at 0900 at the
National Naval Aviation Museum

Uniform:
Military: Working Uniform
Civilian: Appropriate civilian attire

News and Notes

Safe Driving Course - NAS Whiting Field will host a AAA Driver Improvement Course March 25 Bldg. 1417 room 169A from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. This course satisfies the training requirement for military and DoD civilian personnel who operate a GMV as their primary duty, or who operate a GMV more than eight hours a week as part of their incidental duties. This course may also get you a discount with your insurance company. Sign up through Navymotorcyclerider.com.

West Florida Railroad Museum - Every Friday and Saturday you can inspect pieces of railroad history in Milton at the Old Louisville and Nashville Depot, 5003 Henry Street. There are several railroad cars at the site, including two cabooses and a dining car, that you and your children can climb around on. Inside the museum freight house there are displays of a dispatchers office, yard tools and equipment from years gone by. There's an indoor HO gauge model train display in a real bridge tender's house and a huge outdoor layout of G-scale trains operated by the Emerald Coast Garden Railway Club. Children can ride our 7-1/2 inch gauge freight train around the layout. The museum is open on Fridays and Saturdays from 10 to 3 (other times by appointment). The outdoor G scale display runs only on Saturdays. Email: conductor@wfrm.org. Museum: www.wfrm.org. Garden Railway Club: www.ecgrc.com. Telephone: 850-623-3645.

Artists Needed for Arts Festival (Date Change) - The Santa Rosa Arts and Culture Foundation (SRACF), is calling for all artists, entertainers, performers, historic and ethnic cultural groups, vendors and volunteers for the 23rd Riverwalk Arts Festival. The Festival will take place April 8, 9 and 10 in downtown Milton. Call 850-393-0121 for more information.

Navarre Fun Fest - The Navarre Area Chamber of Commerce will present their 27th Annual Fun Fest Friday, April 29, and Saturday, April 30, at Navarre Beach. The family two-day event is sponsored in part by Santa Rosa Medical Center. Application forms for: Artists & Crafters, Food Vendors and Sponsors are located on the Navarre Chamber website at: www.navarrechamber.com. The event is seeking painters, potters, stain glass artists, beach arts and all types of crafts welcomed. Spaces are available for \$100.00 per 10 x 10 space. Any artist or crafter seeking information may contact Connie Jones at: 939-7964, For general information about Fun Fest, call: 939-3267.

Talladega Trip - NASCAR FANS ...WE WANT YOU! Join MWR's ITT staff on a trip to Talladega Super Speedway to watch the "Aaron's 499" on April 17. The 499 is part of the "Sprint Cup Series" and promises to be an exciting race. Cost is \$175, and includes: comfortable bus ride to and from Talladega, tailgate party before and after the race, choice of hotdog or hamburger with sides, dessert & a soda, tower seats diagonal from pit row exit and start/finish line (\$125 value). Pit passes are also available for an additional \$60. A \$75 non-refundable deposit is required by 18 March, with balance due on 1 April. For more information, please call Marcy Allen at 850-623-7032.

CPO Golf Tournament - Join the NAS Whiting Field Chief Petty Officers for "The Goat Rope" the Inaugural Chiefs Birthday Golf Tournament presented by the NAS Whiting Field CPOA. The scramble tournament will be held Apr. 1, at 8 a.m. with a shotgun start at 9 a.m. Cost is \$35 per person, and prizes will be held for top 3 teams, closest to the pin, longest and "shortest" drive. Contact



Recognizing Top Sailors

Cmdr. Joseph Hutchinson, Naval Air Station Whiting Field operations officer, presents a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement medal to Aviation Boatswain's Mate Third Class Christopher Formosa. The medal was presented to him during the March 18 award ceremony in the base auditorium. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

ACC Carl Proffen at 623-7045 or via email at carl.proffen@navy.mil for reservations. Please RSVP by March 25.

Plant Sale - The University of Florida 14th Annual Emerald Coast Flower and Garden Festival will be held at the Pensacola State College Milton Campus Friday, April 8 through Sunday April 10. The event is sponsored by the University of Florida Milton Campus Student Club. Plant sale proceeds are donated to the UF-Milton scholarship fund. Contact Robin Vickers, the plant sale coordinator at (850) 983-5216 ext. 113 or via email at rvickers@ufl.edu for more information about the plant sale. Also, for more information about UF Milton Campus see www.miltongators.com.

Army of Hope Summer Camp - The Florida Elks Youth Camp is providing a six day sleep away camp FREE to the dependents of active military because they care. The camp will run from July 31 to Aug. 6 and is available to all dependents of active military ages 9 to 16. The program provides a recreational camp where children can just be a kid for a week. Contact 800-523-1673 extension 249 for an application.

Luxury Cruise - The Panhandle Community Theatre will present the Comedy, Luxury Cruise April 7-10, and 14-17 at the Storage Masters Retail Plaza on Woodbine Road in Pace. "Luxury Cruise" is a rollicking comedy set aboard an ocean liner with three acts, each in a different suite. It is a story about three pairs of passengers who embark upon a cruise around the world. The entire audience will have the opportunity to win a dolphin harbor cruise for two via a raffle sponsored by Chase-N-Fins of Pensacola Beach. Performances begin at 7:30 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays with Sunday matinees at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12, and there is limited seating available. Please call 221-7599 to make reservations or email panhandlecommunitytheatre@yahoo.com.

Outdoor Adventures - MWR's new Outdoor Adventure Program (OAP) will hold its grand opening Apr. 4 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Look for food, door prizes, demos, and some great deals on rental equipment and upcoming trips. The newly launched facility is NOW open for business from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Thursday and until 6 p.m. Fridays. The OAP is located in Bldg 2958 Room 8157/8158. Please call 623-7670.

Upcoming Events

March 23, 0900 - NASWF AT Exercise w/SWAT - Auditorium

March 25, 0900 - Medal of Honor Day Ceremony - NASP

March 25, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Auditorium

April 1, 0900 - CPOA Golf Tournament - Golf Course

April 8, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Auditorium

April 10-16 - National Volunteer Week

Fleet and Family Support Center classes

VA Representative (Call for Appointment), Friday, March 25, 8 a.m. to noon

How to Apply for Federal Jobs - 10 a.n. - Monday March 28

Is it worth your while to invest your time and effort in searching and applying for a federal job? If your answer is yes, then you need to attend this class in order to learn how to prepare the best application possible. You will learn how to read an announcement, analyze core competencies for language, analyze vacancy listings for keywords, and how to apply for jobs. Class will be held at the FFSC conference room.

Time Management - Wednesday, March 30, 1 to 2 p.m.

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? If you answered yes to these questions, this class is for you. The information provided in this class will provide you with tools to help you make the most of your busy and demanding days. Class will be held at the FFSC conference room. For more information, contact a work and family life specialist at 623-7177.

Home Buying Class - Thursday, March 31, 1 to 3 p.m.

Are you in the market for a new home? We can help! From finding the best agent, to negotiating price, types of mortgage loans, and how to get the best interest rates, we can help! Find out how to buy a home and maintain your lifestyle. For more information call FFSC at 623-7177.

Alarm company has been target of government action

Pensacola, Fla. (March 11, 2011) – Your BBB is warning consumers to be wary of salesmen who are going door-to-door offering home security systems "at no cost." Vivint, Inc. has been the subject of numerous government actions and numerous complaints filed with BBB.

Individuals in northwest Florida have alerted BBB that salesmen identifying themselves as being from Vivint, Inc. are offering "free" security systems if consumers pay for a monthly monitoring service.

Vivint, Inc., <<http://www.bbb.org/utah/business-reviews/burglar-alarm-systems-dealers-monitoring-and-service/vivint-in-provo-ut-4002276>> which also operates under the name APX Alarm Security Solutions, Inc., has had 1,441 complaints filed against it in the last three years, BBB's standard reporting period. Additionally, the BBB Serving Utah, where Vivint/APX is headquartered, reports that at least four states have filed government action against Vivint/APX for a variety of violations including operating without a license and using false or misleading sales tactics.

The state of Arkansas fined Vivint/APX <<http://arkansasalarm.org/asp/adobe/2009-09.pdf>> \$40,850 for over 40 violations in 2009. The state of South Carolina



fined Vivint/APX <<http://www.llr.state.sc.us/POL/Contractors/FinalOrders/pdfs/APX%20Alarm%20Security%20Solutions,%20Inc.pdf>> \$5,000 for violating South Carolina codes by having their license cancelled in another state (Louisiana). The South Carolina order references a \$50,000 fine levied by Louisiana <http://sfm.dps.louisiana.gov/doc/lic/licfn_penalties-fines.pdf> for utilizing unlicensed employees, violation of a Cease and Desist Order and engaging in false, misleading or deceptive acts or practices. Minnesota imposed a civil penalty of \$25,000 against Vivint/APX <<http://www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/LicElectricalDiscipline09.asp>> for failure to comply with licensing requirements. And last year, the Oregon Department of Justice announced a \$60,000 settlement <<http://www.doj.state.or.us/releases/2010/re1042810.shtml>> with Vivint/APX for misleading and aggressive sales practices.

Your BBB warns consumers to be cautious doing business with anyone who shows up on their doorstep. Don't feel pressured to make a decision on-the-spot. Verify licensing, bonding, insurance or any other requirements that may be necessary for that industry. Consider getting estimates from multiple trustworthy businesses to ensure you're getting the best deal.

Victory garden - (Cont. from Page 1)

category for all participants. (Zucchini, Tomato, Beet, Bell Pepper, Okra, Cucumber, Yellow Squash, Kohl Rabi, Carrot, Jalapeno, Eggplant, Potato, Sweet Potato, Turnip, Red Radish, White Radish, Onion, or Cabbage) Teams are welcome to begin their gardens now, but the largest vegetable category will not be announced until Apr. 1.

Variety of produce, garden aesthetics, and health of plants will be judged June 1 while quality of produce and largest vegetable is tentatively planned for the end of June, depending on the growing season.

Prizes, if any, will be announced Apr. 1, though the contest is for bragging rights more than any other gain.

"It really is just for fun, and if we have any excess produce, the food bank would love to have it," Hall said.

Teams are able to use the produce however they see fit, and a logical extension of the contest is to have a "Victory Garden Cooking Contest" and pot luck luncheon for the participants.

The fire department and the marina already have gardens, and Bldg. 1401 is beginning to plan theirs. Other teams are welcome to join in the friendly challenge by calling Michael Flournoy, 665-6119, to enter.

Change of command - (Cont. from Page 1)

guy's of leadership. I know that because I have been serving with them in VT-2. Their dedication, humility and general concern for their students is rare."

Following Berghorn's speech, Capt. James Vandiver, Training Air Wing FIVE commodore, presented McGuire with the Meritorious Service Medal for his accomplishments during his tour. He thanked the students, instructors, contractors and staff for their dedication, hard work and goal focused mind set. However, he first thanked the most important influences in his life.

"If I have a theme it is this: Conduct yourself with an attitude of gratitude. So let me start off correctly. I have to thank God first. Every day I sent a prayer to God to keep our squadron safe. So thanks to God. Second, family. To whom my heart beats around, my wife Leslie, my son Owen and my daughter Molly."

To the students of VT-2, McGuire spoke well wishes, respect and an extremely large compliment.

"This is America, if our greatest generation is behind us, then we are in trouble. Talk to these students, ask them why they joined. Our country is in a time of war and they joined to



Jeannie Hensel pieces her husband's command at shore pin on his uniform during the change of command ceremony March 18. U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Megan Dooner

NMCRS annual fund drive underway

Naval Air Station Whiting Field's Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society is conducting their annual fund drive now, and will continue through April 15.

According to the organization's website - www.nmcors.org, the group's mission is to provide, in partnership with the Navy and Marine Corps, financial, educational, and other assistance to members of the Naval Services of the United States, eligible family members, and survivors when in need; and to receive and manage funds to administer these programs.

NMCRS is recognized by the Department of the Navy, but it is its own non-profit agency. The annual fund drive and a direct mail campaign to retirees are their primary income programs during the year. Contributions are tax deductible.

Funds are distributed from NMCORS in the form of emergency aid, scholarships, grants or low cost loans to Sailors, Marines and their families in need. Financial education and counseling services are also offered.

Contact ACC Jaqueline Williams, 623-7594, the NAS Whiting Field NMCRS fund drive chairperson for details.

serve. Our greatest generation is in front of us."

Hensel then took the podium as the new commanding officer of VT-2, and quickly extended his thanks and gratitude to all in attendance as well - especially his wife Jeannie and sons Nick and Jack. He explained to the "Doerbird" students his expectations, telling them to study hard, come to their briefs prepared and to take away all that they could from the minds of their talented instructors. Hensel emphasized the squadron must continue their legacy of high standards and record breaking successes.

"Through our transition from the T-34C to the T-6B, we will continue to fly one quality sortie at a time, safely prepared and smartly flown," he said.

The ceremony concluded with the service songs, performed by the United States Navy Band New Orleans. The guests all took a turn to shake both McGuire's and Hensel's hand and to congratulate them on their respective successes.

McGuire will continue on to Washington, DC where he will be stationed at Coast Guard Headquarters. He will assume the position of Deputy Director of Coast Guard Health and Safety.

Sailors offered early out and reserve affiliation

MILLINGTON, Tenn. (NNS) -- Active duty and Full Time Support (FTS) Sailors who want to pursue Reserve options have a new opportunity to do so with the Early Career Transition Program (ECTP) announced March 17.

According to NAVADMIN 088/11, Sailors with at least two, but less than 16 years of service are now eligible to transfer into the Selected Reserves (SELRES) through the new program.

“ECTP was created to provide Sailors an early transition opportunity to continue their Naval service and pursue educational or personal goals,” said Senior Chief Personnel Specialist (AW) Robert Ferrari, SELRES Enlisted Community Management techni-



Sailors, like these aboard the USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN-72) have a new opportunity to receive an early out to pursue educational objectives. The Early Career Transition Program was announced March 17 via NAVADMIN 088/11. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Seth Clarke.

cal advisor. “The program further allows us to match active component (AC) ratings with reserve component (RC) needs.”

ECTP-eligible Sailors can transition into the SELRES on a date prior to their End of Active Obligated Service (EAOS) by submitting their requested date three to 15 months in advance. This differs from the Early Transition Program which allows Sailors to request an early separation up to 12 months prior to their scheduled EAOS. If approved, a Sailor’s career counselor should contact the Career Transition Office (CTO) for transition assistance guidance.

“The CTO will assist Sailors throughout the transi-
- (Cont. on Page 7)

“The Goat Rope” Inaugural Chief’s Birthday Golf Tournament

Presented by NAS Whiting Field CPOA

April 1st, Sign in @ 8:00, Shotgun start @ 9:00

4 Person Golf Scramble
\$35.00 per person

Happy Birthday CPO

Prizes for Top 3 Teams,
Closest to the Pin, Longest and Shortest Drive
Pay the day of the tournament.

Contact ACC Carl Proffen @ 623-7045 email carl.proffen@navy.mil
for reservations. RSVP by 25 March

Early out

- (Cont. from Page 6)

tion process,” said Cmdr. Dan Harris, CTO director, Navy Personnel Command. “We help them select a Navy Operational Support Center (NOSC), educate them on RC programs and benefits, complete any required RC documents and bonus paperwork, and more.”

Upon transition, Sailors could be eligible for a host of benefits.

“ECTP Sailors will be eligible for all Reserve benefits and enlistment/affiliation bonuses,” said Harris.

Benefits of Reserve affiliation can include:

- Mobilization deferment. Sailors who transition immediately into the SELRES qualify for a two-year deferment from individual mobilization.
- Affiliation bonus. Sailors could be eligible for an affiliation bonus, however, they will be required to repay any unearned portion of any current active component bonus or incentive.
- Continued exchange and commissary privileges.
- GI Bill benefits.

For more information, read the naval message at the NPC website www.npc.navy.mil. Eligible Reserve bonus ratings are listed in NAVADMIN 294/10.

For more news from Navy Personnel Command, visit www.navy.mil/local/npc/.

Amnesty day

- (Cont. from Page 2)

Residents will be required to remove any accepted items from their vehicle. Please note that tires, general debris or household garbage will not be accepted as part of Amnesty Day, but may be taken to the Central Landfill located at 6337 Da Lisa Road in Milton at a minimal charge.

Amnesty Day is made possible by Santa Rosa County in cooperation with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and Jim Reece of the Okaloosa County Environmental Office. For more information, please contact (850) 981-7135.

TRICARE Notes

OBESITY IN THE UNITED STATES

Did you know more than half of the U.S. population is now considered overweight or obese? Over the years, obesity has risen at an epidemic rate in the United States, and it is now considered a major public health problem worldwide.

Reaching and maintaining a healthy weight is a challenge for many people who are overweight or obese. For more information on assessing your weight, losing weight and preventing weight gain, visit the beneficiary portal on Humana Military's website at www.humana-military.com and click on Fighting Obesity under the Health and Wellness tab.

TRICARE COVERS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH FOR NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE

Recent media reports suggest National Guard and Reserve deployments will continue into the future. TRICARE is fulfilling the behavioral health needs of these members and their families, even when they're not activated.

During activation, National Guard and Reserve members have access to the same benefits, services and programs as active duty service members and should seek behavioral health services from their operational health asset or at a Military Treatment Facility (MTF). However, if services are not available at the MTF, the service member can seek treatment from an authorized network provider with a referral from their Primary Care Manager (PCM).

Ec  nomics

Conserve Water

Washing your car in a commercial car wash is better for the environment than doing it yourself. Commercial car washes not only use significantly less water per wash – up to 100 gallons less – but they often recycle and reuse rinse water. If every American who currently washes a vehicle at home chose instead to go to a professional car wash – just once – up to 8.7 billion gallons of water could be saved, and some 12 billion gallons of soapy polluted water could be diverted from the country's rivers, lakes, and streams.

For flower beds and gardens, use drip irrigation or soaker hoses instead of regular sprinklers. You can save up to 70 percent of the water you would typically use because evaporation will be minimal and only base of plants will be receiving water as opposed to the leaves and foliage.

Consider installing a rain sensor to override your automatic sprinkler cycle during and after rain events. Depending on the local climate, your water consumption (and your water bill) could drop up to 30 percent per year.

See www.thedailygreen.com for more tips.

MWR improving golf course for players' pleasure

By Jay Cope, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

The Frank Dahlinger golf course and Mulligans will be receiving a face lift during the next few months to improve the quality of play on the course and the enjoyment after the 18 holes are finished. The infrastructure improvements to the Morale Welfare and Recreation facilities at Naval Air Station Whiting Field were a high priority for the MWR staff after several years where only maintenance could be completed.

With the closing of Mulligan's kitchen this week for renovations, food service may be the one area patrons are noticing the work, however, there are a slew of projects in progress or planned shortly. These improvements include: an awning for the side entrance of Mulligans, patio and awning at the rear entrance, replacing sand in the sand traps on the course, new paint and carpet throughout Mulligans, increasing the amount of turf management for the course, yardage markers will be placed on sprinkler heads throughout the course, new furniture inside and out of the clubhouse, moving the sand trap for the chipping green, and updating the directional signs on the course.

This is all in addition to the renovation of Mulligan's kitchen which will involve moving the counter space forward six feet to give more working space to the employees, replacing two freezer units and two refrigerators, increasing ventilation to the space, and changing the direction of customer flow to improve efficiency.

All of this work is being done in the hope of making a day at the course a more enjoyable and relaxing experience.

"We have a nice facility, and these improvements will make it even better," Wayne Short, MWR Recreational Programs Manager said.

"We wanted to improve the quality of the service and the aesthetics, and hopefully the end result is that we attract more players and more tournaments."

Mulligan's renovations are slated to cost about \$12,000 with PRI/DJI performing much of the work. Many of the projects are being done through self-help labor to help keep costs down. With the budget tightening throughout the past few years, these types of improvements have been lacking, but the course has been kept in good shape through the hard work of the golf course team.

"I am very proud of the golf course maintenance crew. With minimal supplies, they have done a wonderful job," Joe Vukovcan, the MWR director said. "I don't think people realize how nice of a course we have here. It has been a number of years since any recapitalization has been done, and this year we just needed to make it happen."

All of the projects are expected to be complete by the time MWR brings back an old tradition. A "Captain's Invitational" tournament is being planned for June 10-12 with a scramble event on Friday and a multi-day stroke play competition over the weekend. It is a tournament that fell off the schedule several years ago, but MWR plans to bring it back as an annual event. Additional details will be released April 1.

In the meantime, the staff reminds patrons that winter rates are still in effect and players should enjoy the course while they can for the cheaper rates.

"The course is in great shape and golfers should grab the \$20 active duty and \$22 greens fees while they can," Short said.



The NASWF Diversity Committee Presents
"A Celebration of Women in Aviation"
"OUR HISTORY IS OUR STRENGTH."
Thursday
March 31st
1100 - 1200
NASWF
Auditorium
Guest Speaker LCDR Lena Buettner, USN