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NAS Whiting Field announces SOYs



AC1 Thorice Armstrong

By Ensign James Hedman, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

Naval Air Station Whiting Field recently announced its top Sailors for 2011. Air Traffic Controller First Class Thorice Armstrong was selected for Sailor of the Year. Air Traffic Controller Second Class Ayanna Gregg was named the Junior Sailor of the Year, and Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Handler) Third Class Ogarry Clarke earned Blue Jacket of the Year honors.

of the Year honors.

The Sailor of the Year recognition is annually bestowed upon NAS Whiting Field's Sailors who distinguish themselves due to their exemplary work ethics, community



AC2 Ayanna Gregg

service, educational achievements and service to their fellow Ship-mates. These Sailors set a new standard for their peers to emulate throughout the past year.

Armstrong, a previous Sailor of the Quarter for third quarter 2011, is a worthy recipient of this year's Sailor of the Year. Not only was he described as a technical expert, but Armstrong was equally cited for his ethical demeanor and strong character by his leading Chief Petty Officer, Senior Chief Air Traffic Controller Trevor Rowe.

"He possesses the professional competence to know what to do, fortitude to decide how to do it, and dynamic

- (Cont. on Page 6)

CDC holds annual Thanksgiving meal for families

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

The Naval Air Station Whiting Field Child Development Center hosted its annual Thanksgiving Celebration on Thursday, Nov. 17. Civilians and service members joined their children at the center to give thanks for family, fun, and food on the eve of the quintessentially American holiday.

The center welcomed 19 parents and 37 ravenous young revelers for a freshly cooked feast of fall staples. Members of the air station community dined alongside their sons and daughters during the day's events, which represented



Master-at-Arms 1st Class Adam Turner carves the first of eight turkeys at the Naval Air Station Whiting Field Child Development Center prepared for their annual Family Thanksgiving celebration, Thursday, Nov. 17. U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Tim Mosso.

the culmination of tireless

preparations by the center's staff.

"We have to prepare two months in advance to figure out the menu, we have five master minds in the kitchen right now, and it's worth it because the kids get a real kick out of it," CDC Director Mary Marcoux noted.

The lavish culinary spreads were greeted with a combination of delight and awe by children aged one to four. Four-season childhood favorite macaroni and cheese shared table space with traditional Thanksgiving fare including green beans, mashed potatoes,

- (Cont. on Page 7)

Sailors able to review ERB status online

From Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- Sailors considered by Phase I of the Enlisted Retention Board may now view their retention status on BUPERS Online, according to NAVADMIN 354/11.

The Phase I ERB reviewed the records of ERB-eligible E-4 and E-5 Sailors from 31 overmanned ratings. The board was charged with reviewing each candidate's official military personnel file and any correspondence submitted by the member to identify the best qualified Sailors to receive the finite number of retention quotas available in a fair and transparent manner.

Sailors considered by the board are classified in one of three categories in BOL.

S- Selected for retention

N- Not selected for retention

C- Selected for rating conversion.

ERB Phase II, for E6-E8 Sailors, adjourned Oct 27. Phase II results will be reviewed by BUPERS for conversion opportunities prior to release. Commanders will notify ERB Phase II Sailors in the same manner as Phase I.

Sailors not selected for retention will have access to the Navy's transition assistance management program and other benefits for members who are involuntary separated. This assistance will be proactive, comprehensive, tailored and supported by every level of the chain of command.

"If you've served in the Navy, you've been a good military team member, and we want to give you and your families the best possible transition benefits," said Rear Adm. Martha Herb, director of Personal Readiness and Community Support.

"If you are not selected to stay in the Navy, you can succeed on the outside with your proven military values, education, training, and experience. The transition tools we're providing for separating Sailors will help you hit the ground running and get off to a good start."

As outlined in NAVADMIN 332/11, Sailors separating due to the ERB will be eligible for the following enhanced transition benefits:

-Targeted outreach assistance from various transition service providers.

- Navy COOL will approve waivers for Sailors with less than one year remaining on active duty to allow Sailors time to obtain civilian licenses and certifications aligned with their job or rating prior to their transition;

- Sailors assigned overseas will be afforded a minimum of 60 days in the continental United States prior to separation to ease their transition into the civilian sector;

- A contract for civilian hiring assistance beginning in January of 2012 will provide outplacement services, including pre-separation transition coaching, resume writing, job interview preparation and job search assistance for ERB

separating Sailors.

Sailors and their family members are also encouraged to access the full range of stress management resources available to them during this transition, including their command leadership, ombudsmen, medical and mental health specialists, and counselors at Fleet and Family Support Centers. Information about Navy chaplain support is available at <http://chaplaincare.navy.mil/>.

Education, relocation, counseling and stress control resources are also available through Military One Source at <http://www.militaryonesource.com/>.

Sailors are also encouraged to visit Navy Personnel Command (NPC)'s transition assistance information page at <http://www.public.navy.mil/bupers-npc/boards/ERB/Pages/TransitionInfo.aspx>, which features links to several programs for separating Sailors, including Shipmates to Workmates, Credentialing Opportunities On-Line, TurboTAP and Selected Reserve opportunities. Sailors and commands can also find a link to The Transition Assistance Handbook which explains key transition benefits for all transitioning Sailors.

For more news from Chief of Naval Personnel, visit www.navy.mil/local/cnp/.

This Week in Naval History

Nov. 21

1918 - U.S. battleships witness surrender of German High Seas fleet at Rosyth, Firth of Forth, Scotland, to U.S. and British fleets.

Nov. 22

1914 - The title "Director of Naval Aeronautics" is established.

Nov. 23

1940 - President Franklin D. Roosevelt appoints Adm. William D. Leahy as U.S. Ambassador to Vichy, France, to try to prevent the French fleet and naval bases from falling into German hands.

Nov. 24

1852 - Commodore Matthew Perry sails from Norfolk, Va., to negotiate a treaty with Japan for friendship and commerce.

1964 - USS Princeton (LPH 5) completes seven-day humanitarian relief mission to South Vietnam which suffered damage from typhoon and floods.

Nov. 25

1775 - Continental Congress authorizes privateering.

1943 - In Battle of Cape St. George, five destroyers of Destroyer Squadron 23 (Capt. Arleigh Burke) intercept five Japanese destroyers and sink three and damage one without suffering any damage.

1961 - Commissioning of USS Enterprise [CVA(N)-65], the first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, at Newport News, Va.

News and Notes

NEX Sale - When is Black Friday not on Friday? Wednesday Nov. 23, when the Navy Exchange at Naval Air Station Whiting Field will hold their big Thanksgiving sale before the holiday. The store will open at 7:30 a.m. with terrific sales on electronics, military themed apparel, and more.

Milton Christmas Schedule - The Christmas light displays in downtown Milton will kick-off Nov 25 and will continue to be lit every evening through Jan 2. The Dragonfly Gallery Christmas Store already has their holiday lights on for patrons' enjoyment and will keep them on through Jan. 3. December 2 beginning at 5:30 p.m., Milton will hold their Gallery Night and Light Up Milton festivities with a reception at Dragonfly Gallery, horse and carriage rides, Blackwater Bistro elf dining, carolers, a puppet theatre and more - plus an appearance by the big guy himself, Santa. The annual Santa Rosa County Chamber of Commerce will host their Christmas Parade, Dec. 3, beginning at 6 p.m., and Dec. 10 will feature the popular light boat parade kicking off at 7 p.m.

Ring Those Bells - Santa Rosa's Clean Community System is kicking off the holiday season with a special event for kids to raise money for their new Fireman's Recycling Station. Tickets are \$5, with seating limited to thirty-six at each time. Children five and under must be accompanied by an adult. Each session will last approximate an hour or possibly a little longer. There will be one seating at 11 a.m. and a second at 2 p.m. It will take place in the Clean Community Education building, 6758 Park Avenue in Milton Dec. 10. Children will enjoy refreshments, a hands-on Christmas recycling craft project, favors and will be read the "Firefighter's Night Before Christmas" by special guests, Santa



A Really Big Check

Kristal Kelley presents Capt. Matthew Coughlin and Chief Aviation Boatswain's Mate Daniel McCrae with a donation to the Naval Air Station Whiting Field Christmas Party fund. The \$500 check was presented to kick-off the golf tournament to raise money for the event. More than \$1,100 were raised during the event. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

Rosa County Judge, Robert Hilliard at 11 a.m. and Milton Mayor Guy Thompson at 2 p.m. Kathy Marshall of the Santa Rosa County Sheriff's Department will be available to sign during the 11 a.m. seating only. Additionally, City of Milton firemen will be on hand to show children fire equipment and the city's fire engines.

Looking for a Few Good Men - Did you play baseball in high school or college? If so, the NAS Whiting Field Warriors might be looking for you. The Warriors are looking to add players to their roster for the upcoming USSSA Military Intramural Softball Tournament Series that leads to the Military World Tournament in Panama City Florida. The Warriors have finished third in the World Tournament the last two years in a row. Please call Todd at (850) 665-6102 or email him at (todd.mooneyham@navy.mil) to get your information on try-outs for this year's team.

Santa Fly-In - come see Santa Claus fly into Milton Airport Saturday, Dec. 17 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.. Santa will fly in at noon. This is a free community event sponsored by Aviation Exploring Post #421 and AMS Flight School. All children ages 10 and under will receive a present from Santa. Santa will pose for pictures with the children in front of the airplane as well. There will be bouncy houses; hay rack rides; and hot chocolate, cider and cookies for the kids to enjoy. Call (850) 623-4151 for more information.

12th Avenue Holiday Trolley - Pensacola's 12th Ave. businesses are ringing in the holidays with the 13th annual Holiday Trolley Tour. There will be two trolleys running up and down 12th Ave, Sunday, Dec 4 from 1 to 5 p.m., stopping at all participating businesses, where people can get off to enjoy food, drink, activities, entertainment, shopping and other festivities. The trolley is free. Please call (850) 434-6168 ext. 6 for more information.

Camp Walton Christmas Open House - The Heritage Park & Cultural Center will hold its annual Christmas Open House at the Camp Walton Schoolhouse Dec. 3 from 1-5 p.m. Join in for a free admission day with live music from 2-4 p.m., children's games and crafts, home-baked goodies, and local history. Santa will arrive on an antique fire truck at 4 p.m. and he will light the tree at 5:00 p.m.



Top Sailors Honored

CMDCM Rafael Rosado, Senior Chief Air Traffic Controller Trevor Rowe, Chief Master-at-Arms Russell Nunn stand with Master-at-Arms 1st Class Adam Turner, Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Erica Roten, and Air Traffic Controller 1st Class Thorice Armstrong following the Knights of Columbus military appreciation dinner, Nov. 12. The KofC recognized some of NAS Whiting Field's top Sailors at the St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church. Air Traffic Controller Airman Charlotte Miller was also recognized during the event, but is not pictured.

Upcoming Events

Nov. 24 - Thanksgiving Day Holiday

Nov. 29, 1400 - TW-5 Reserve Comp. Change of Command

Dec. 2, 1000 - HT-8 Change of Command - Base Auditorium

Dec. 3, 1800 - Milton Christmas Parade - Stewart Street

Dec. 6, 1030 - Tree City USA Tree Planting - Fire House

Dec. 6, 1100 - NASWF Christmas Tree Lighting - Bldg. 1401

Fleet and Family Support Center Items

How to Apply for Federal Jobs - Tuesday, Nov. 29 from 10 to 11 a.m.

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. For more information, call 623-7177.

Holiday Spending - Wednesday, Nov. 30 from 1 to 3 p.m.

It's that time of year when stores display holiday decorations, increase their inventory, and gear up to convince you to spend money. Attend this class to learn techniques to control your holiday spending. Call 623-7177 for details.

Resume Writing - Monday, Dec. 5, from 10 a.m. to Noon

This class will assist you in efficiently creating an effective resume. Learn how to handle sticky resume situations like military-to-civilian transition, age, employment gaps, layoffs, and career change. Learn to use your resume as a marketing tool. Class will be held at the FFSC conference room. Call 623-7177 for details.

Consumer Awareness - Wednesday, Dec. 14, from 1 to 3 p.m.

According to the U.S. Office of Consumer Affairs, fraud cost consumers over \$40 billion dollars every year. We are constantly approached by people trying to take our money. Some offers are truly fraudulent and illegal, most, however, are simply rip-offs and misrepresentations. Don't be a victim! Class will be held in the FFSC conference room. Call 623-7177 for details.

For the 13th consecutive year, Naval Air Station Whiting Field Fleet and Family Support Center will hold their Elf Tree program to support children of military families and help ensure all children of NAS Whiting Field have joyful and happy holidays. Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) will put up a holiday display in their lobby for hanging the tags. Parents who need assistance in providing holiday gifts for their children can come into the FFSC and request sponsorship from Nov. 14 to Dec. 2. Confidentiality is strictly maintained throughout OPERATION E.L.F. Tags with "wish lists," age, gender, sizes, etc. will be placed on the tree for sponsors to select. Anyone may be a sponsor, and a \$25 limit per child is advised.

Ec-nomics

Use Caulking and Weatherstripping

Simple leaks can sap home energy efficiency by 5% to 30% a year, according to the U.S. Department of Energy. That means it pays to seal up gaps with caulking and weatherstripping. Take a close look at places where two different building materials meet, such as corners, around chimneys, where pipes or wires exit and along the foundation. Use the incense test: carefully (avoiding drapes and other flammables) move a lit stick along walls; where the smoke wavers, you have air sneaking in. And heating or cooling sneaking out. In another method, have someone on the outside blow a hair dryer around each window while you hold a lighted candle inside. If the candle flickers or goes out, you need to caulk or weather strip around the frame. Low-income households can qualify for an average of \$6,500 worth of weatherization improvements to their homes through government programs administered by each state. Find out about your state's program by contacting local energy agencies.

See www.thedailygreen.com for more tips.

Tree City USA 2011

Tree Awareness Week

December 5-9, 2011



All station personnel are invited to attend:

Naval Air Station Whiting Field's
20th Annual Tree Planting Ceremony

Where: **North side of Fire Station**

When: **Tuesday, December 6, 2011**

Time: **10:00 am**

The River Birch being planted will serve as a symbol of NAS Whiting Field's commitment to a healthy environment, in addition to providing aesthetic beauty.



**The planting will coincide with the annual Christmas Tree Lighting taking place in front of building 1401 at 10:30 am on December 6, 2011.



Shop smart during Black Friday/Cyber Monday sales

The lines between Black Friday and Cyber Monday seem to be getting blurred. The National Retail Federation estimates that nearly one-quarter of shoppers plan to keep track of Black Friday deals by seeking out coupon websites and nearly a third plan to track coupons retailers email directly to them. And social media will play a large role this shopping season with nearly one-third of shoppers planning to check out retailers' Facebook pages.

InMobi's Holiday Mobile Shopping Study estimates that 60 million mobile users plan to shop on their devices, with 21 million planning to make purchases directly from their handset. Even more amazing is that 15 percent of shoppers plan to make a purchase on their mobile device while in a store.

Whether in the store or online, BBB offers advice to help you with your holiday shopping: 1) Budget your shopping money and stick to it. Avoid impulse buys, 2) Look for the details on every sale and understand the specifics, 3) Advertising can be tricky; don't get stuck paying more for an item than you expected, 4) Credit card offers from a store will offer a discount on your purchase but may also carry high interest rates, 5) Keep all receipts and warranty information for each item purchased, 6) Fraudulent charges are

easier to fix if you pay with a credit card than a debit card, 7) Return policies differ with every store. Make sure you know the conditions for returns and exchanges, including whether restocking fees are charged, 8) If you purchase a gift card, look for hidden terms that can decrease its value, 9) Don't leave your wallet, credit card or purse on a counter or in an unattended shopping cart, 10) Ask for a store manager if any advertised offer does not match the price listed on an item, 11) Credit cards provide the most protection if someone steals the credit card number or if you don't receive an ordered item. Keep an eye on your statements to detect suspicious or fraudulent activity, 12) You, the customer, are responsible for knowing and understanding each online retailer's return/exchange policy, 13) Beware of deals that sound too good to be true, especially extremely low priced on hard-to-get items, and 14) Ensure you've installed most recent updates for spam filters, anti-virus, anti-spyware and firewalls.

You are your best protection! Make sure your on-line purchase is secure by looking for the "s" (<https://>) in the URL and the "lock" symbol in the lower-right corner before paying. For additional information and advice you can trust this holiday season, start with bbb.org.

Weekly Spotlight - Anthony Breaux

Branch of service: DoD

Hometown: Edgard, La/New Orleans, La

Job title: Police Officer Instructor

Command: NASWF Security Department

Years in service: 5 years Federal Government and 20 years military

What do you enjoy most about your job?

I enjoyed the training aspect. It brings joy to teach someone the right way to do their job. The last thing a supervisor wants to hear is I didn't know that.

What is the best part of working for/with the Navy?

Working for the Navy gives you different views on certain things. The Navy always has an instruction for instruction. I guess that's why we are considered the greatest Navy ever, because we try to dot every I and cross every T. It's very tasking but very manageable.

What do you envision yourself doing in 5 years?

Training someone on some level whether it's the Navy or my own. I am without a doubt a people person.



SOYS

- (Cont. from Page 1)

leadership to inspire others to accomplish it," Rowe stated.

His credentials back it up. Armstrong is not only manager for the North Field air traffic control tower, but holds eight collateral duties as well for air traffic control division. His duties include ensuring that proper procedures are followed and FAA requirements are complied with for all air operations stemming from North Field. Normally, the billet is held by a Chief Petty Officer, but Armstrong was hand-selected for the position due to his exceptional leadership.

Armstrong has also volunteered to help with the Bay Area Food Bank, East Milton Elementary School Spring Carnival, Santa's Secret Shoppe and various organizational fundraisers.

"He typifies the Navy Core Values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment," Rowe said.

Gregg has also been an outstanding Sailor for the base. She works as a south tower supervisor, and qualified for the watch much more quickly than average. She has overseen more than 84,000 flights, and supervises up to six Sailors in maintaining safe air traffic around South Field.

Not only is she a true professional in the tower, but she is stalwart in her dedication to the community. Gregg volunteered over 150 hours through the Drug Education for Youths program, which has been a Secretary of the Navy initiative since 1992.

She also committed 50 hours of her time to command activities such as the various diversity programs, the Navy Ball and Christmas party committees, and more. She was the primary mover in raising more than \$3,000 for these events.

"Her confidence in her abilities and pride in the



ABH3 Ogarry Clarke

Navy are readily apparent by the enthusiasm and zeal displayed in any assignment," said Air Traffic Control Division Officer Lt. Chris Mitchell.

Clarke was named Blue Jacket of the Quarter for the second quarter in 2011 and continued to shine throughout the year. He is a Sailor with "unlimited potential" according to both his Leading Chief Petty Officer Senior Chief Aircraft Boatswain's Mate Keith Hendrickson and Division Officer Lt. Russell Lawrence.

Clarke's duties as a crash division aircraft fire fighting Chief include managing and training a six-man crew in aircraft fire fighting and rescue operations. During his tenure, he was ready to lead his team to any of the 1.2 million flight operations where emergency services could be required. His team provided a successful response to 50 incidents.

In addition to ARFF Chief, Clarke is also qualified as an ARFF Crewman, Driver and Operator, and Instructor. What is more, Clarke has approximately 200 volunteer hours logged with the Skyline Fire Department.

As the base's Sailor of the Year, Armstrong represented NAS Whiting Field at the regional Sailor of the Year competition in Jacksonville, Fla.

While this year's winners were indeed ideal candidates for the Sailor of the Year awards, the base did not have a shortage of contenders for the honor.

NAS Whiting Field Command Master Chief CMD-CM Rafael Rosado stated, "This year's selection was the hardest ever. A point separated first and second place in all the selections. These Sailors serve as the standard bearers of the Navy and NAS Whiting Field. The Navy's future remains bright with Sailors like these."

Fun Thanksgiving Day Facts

Thanksgiving was proclaimed by Abraham Lincoln to be the national Day of Thanksgiving Nov. 26. (Now the fourth Thursday of November every year.)

The most famous story of Thanksgiving began in Plymouth, Mass., in 1621 (390 years ago!). Congress officially enacts Thanksgiving as an official holiday in 1941.

An estimated 42.2 million Americans traveled 50 miles or more from home over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend in 2010, according to The American Automobile Association (AAA).

Minnesota is the U.S.'s top "producer" of turkeys, with this year's estimate to be around 46.5 million, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

The largest pumpkin pie ever baked, according to the Guinness Book of World Records, weighed 2,020 pounds and was 12 feet in diameter. It consisted of 900 pounds of pumpkin and 300 pounds of sugar, among other ingredients.

The first Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade took place in 1924 to promote "day-after-Thanksgiving" shopping. Today, over 3 million people attend the parade and another 44 million watch it on television.

Professional football games have played in the "Thanksgiving Classic" since 1920. November 24 features Green Bay @ Detroit 11:30 a.m., Miami @ Dallas 3:15 p.m., and San Francisco @ Baltimore 7:20 p.m. (central times).

CDC Thanksgiving

- (Cont. from Page 1)

corn, yams, and cranberry sauce. No fewer than eight turkeys sat among the savory selections from which children could choose.

Master-at-Arms First Class Adam Turner, celebrating with his daughter Leona, was given the honor of carving the first bird.

The festivities presented a rare opportunity for base personnel to break operational schedules and recoup the time that military routines can drain from family gatherings. Parents in uniform accompanied their children through an unconventional chow line as diners young and old helped themselves to sumptuous seasonal servings.

CDC lead cook Carla Gilmore arrived at 6:30 am to prepare the kitchen, and work proceeded at a frenetic pace until the first turkey was carved at 11:00 am. Gilmore oversaw the production of age-appropriate food for all of the development levels of the children in the center.

While Gilmore takes pride in all of the meals that she prepares on a daily basis, this day brought her special satisfaction, and one dish in particular received her honorable mention.

Gilmore gestured to a blanket of immaculately browned marshmallows atop a rich ochre-toned bed of macerated sweet potatoes.

“See that there? That’s what you call a real sweet potato casserole,” Gilmore exclaimed.

CDC’s designated pie specialist, Vikie Lonzie, ensured that every meal ended with a proper Thanksgiving desert.

“I prepared apple, pecan, and pumpkin pie- all with ice cream, of course,” Lonzie said.

Children responded to these offerings with a combi-



Lt. Ryan Theriot of Helicopter Training Squadron EIGHTEEN enjoys a holiday meal with his daughter, Sara, during the Naval Air Station Whiting Field Child Development Center’s Family Thanksgiving celebration. The center prepares the meal each year to give the families a chance to sit down to a lunch with their children for the holidays. U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Tim Mosso.

nation of wide-eyed astonishment and ambitious, self-served portions best reserved for youthful metabolisms.

Occasionally, however, age has its advantages;

“Only the adults get the pecan pie; we don’t allow the kids to have the nuts,” Lonzie noted with a grin.

Military families, especially those with two parents in service, appreciated the rare opportunity.

Information Systems Technician Second Class Derek Jackson and his wife, Ship’s Serviceman First Class Melissa Jackson work at Naval Air Stations Whiting Field and Pensacola, respectively.

The CDC holiday observance provided the Jacksons with a welcome occasion to spend part of their workday together with their son, Josh.

“My family and I had a real good time, the food was great, and the staff was nice.

In fact, my wife was speaking to me afterward about just how nice the staff was,” IT2 Jackson recalled.

For members of the center staff, the jovial atmosphere and bonding between parents and children are sufficient reward for CDC’s exhaustive preparation.

“It brings ‘togetherness.’ The kids get to eat with their parents today... they get to be like grown-ups and fix their own plates; it’s heartwarming to see,” Marcoux declared.



Big Bird: Josh Spearing, 4, son of NAS Whiting Field Police Officer Roland Spearing, takes a stab at an uncarved turkey during the air station’s Child Development Center Thanksgiving Celebration on Thursday, Nov. 17. U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Tim Mosso.