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# Final flight for T-34 ground school

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

Fourteen student military aviators are preparing the final logbook entry for Naval Air Station Whiting Field's T-34C Turbo Mentors.

The aspiring pilots, who commenced primary phase ground school on Monday, October 17, will be the last to fly the T-34 prior to Training Air Wing FIVE's final transition to the T-6B Texan II.

The composition of the class was representative of modern joint-force military aviation. No fewer than four



Student military aviators pose with the T-34C cockpit mockup in the Training Air Wing FIVE academics complex. This group represents the last class that will complete its primary phase training in the T-34C at NAS Whiting Field before all fixed-wing operations transition to the new T-6B. U.S. Navy Photo by Lt. j.g. Tim Mosso.

services were represented; Navy; Marine Corps; Coast Guard; and Air Force junior officers were present at the first all-hands muster of TRAWING-5 primary aviation Class 12-030.

All will fly the Turbo Mentor with Training Squadron TWO, the last of the Wing's units to operate the venerable platform.

The air station's first T-34s became operational in 1978, and the type has left an indelible mark on

the history of the base. Larry Mizak, Instructional Systems Specialist for TRAWING-5, offers a unique perspective on

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# Chaplain McCrimmon retires in style

By Ensign James Hedman, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

Lt. Cmdr. Gregory J. McCrimmon of the Navy Chaplain Corps retired from active duty on Friday, October 7 in the Naval Air Station Whiting Field auditorium. McCrimmon, who served 28 years in the military, was one of air station's two full-time chaplains and had served at the base since February 2010.

After the arrival of the official party and colors, Lt. Cmdr. Raymond Summerlin gave the invocation for his counterpart, and award presentations followed.

Capt. Pete Hall, commanding officer, NAS Whiting Field, presented McCrimmon's wife, Terrie, with a certificate of appreciation from the U.S. Navy for "enduring a long separation from [her] husband as he served his country."

Chaplain McCrimmon also received the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal for "demonstrated seasoned spiritual leadership and management skills while presiding over 131 worship services," among other



Chaplain McCrimmon's serenade of his wife, Terrie, was a highlight of his October 7 retirement celebration. Lt. Cmdr. McCrimmon served in three branches of the military over the course of 28 years. U.S. Navy Photo by Ensign James Hedman.

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# McCrimmon retires

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impressive accomplishments.

Another certificate of appreciation followed, this one bearing the personal gratitude of U.S. Military Commander in Chief, President Barack H. Obama.

“Your commitment and dedication have been inspirational to those who follow in your footsteps and for all Americans who join me today in saluting you for a job extremely well done.” Finally, McCrimmon received what Hall referred to as “the one he’s been waiting for,” his retirement certificate.

No U.S. Navy retirement is complete without the presentation of a “shadow box,” or collection of mementos from past duty. Retired Navy Lt. Cmdr. Richard Ballinger of the NAS Whiting Field Safety Office constructed somewhat of an unorthodox one, shaped like an aircraft carrier lined with purple velvet. It even had a small “tower” which housed a POW/MIA coin. The shape of it was appropriate, however, because it had to be large enough to hold all of McCrimmon’s commendations and insignia. Of course, McCrimmon has a large collection of

these keepsakes.

McCrimmon’s decades of service have carried him to the farthest corners of this nation and the globe. In 1973, McCrimmon enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve for two years’ service as an Assault Amphibious Vehicle (AAV) repair technician. He transferred to the U.S. Army where he served as a Cannon Crewman until 1985. McCrimmon has been assigned to locations as varied as Camp Pendleton, Calif., and 2nd Infantry Division, South Korea, among others.

McCrimmon then pursued a calling in ministry, earning his Bachelors in Applied Science and a Masters in Divinity. He was then appointed as Director and Pastor of Ogden Outreach Center in Ogden, Kan., by the United Methodist Church. In 1994, he was appointed as Chaplain to the Colmery O’Neal Veteran Administration Medical Center in Topeka, Kan.

McCrimmon joined the Kansas National Guard in 1995, whence he deployed to Kuwait, Bosnia-Herzegovina,

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From left to right: Lt. Cmdr. Raymond Summerlin, Lt. Cmdr. Gregory McCrimmon, NAS Whiting Field Commanding Officer Capt. Pete Hall and Command Master Chief Rafael Rosado pose with a unique shadowbox. U.S. Navy Photo by Ensign James Hedman.

## This Week in Naval History

### Oct. 19

- 1915 - Submarine Base at New London, Conn is established.
- 1944 -SECNAV orders African-American women accepted into the Naval Reserve.
- 1987 - Iranian oil-drilling platform used for military purposes is destroyed.

### Oct. 20

- 1824 - U.S. Schooner Porpoise captures four pirate ships off Cuba.
- 1944 - Seventh Fleet lands over 60,000 Army troops on Leyte, Philippines while Japanese aircraft attack.

### Oct. 21

- 1797 - USS Constitution is launched at the Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston, Mass. The ship is now the oldest commissioned ship in the U.S. Navy.
- 1842 - Commodore Thomas Catesby Jones, commander, Pacific Command mistakenly seizes Monterey, thinking the United States has gone to war with Mexico.

**YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

WITH THE PURCHASE OF A \$5 BENEFIT SALE TICKET, YOU'LL SUPPORT THE COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN (AND RECEIVE 10% OFF MERCHANDISE STOREWIDE\*)

See any NEX Associate for exclusions and further details.

## News and Notes

**NHA 5K** - The Naval Helicopter Association Fleet Fly-In 5K race will be held Thurs, Oct. 20, at South Field. Start time is 6:30 a.m.. Fee is \$5 per runner. Finishers will receive a custom "Finisher Coin" and each participant will get a 2011 "Fleet Fly In" 5K race bib. There will be food, water, and Gatorade at the Start/Finish, and race support along the way. The Training Air Wing FIVE Squadron with the fastest runner will take home the TRAWING 5K "Winner's Trophy" until next year! This event is open to all TW-5 and Squadron personnel, NHA participants and their family and friends. To register or for additional information, please contact LT Gabriel Somma at email: gabriel.somma@navy.mil.

**"Chip in for a Cure" Golf Tournament** - Tanglewood Golf Course will host the 1st Annual Breast Cancer Awareness Golf Tournament Oct. 28. The event will have a 9 a.m. shotgun start with a four person best ball format. Entrance is \$35 per person with a \$5 mulligan package. Prizes will be awarded for top three teams and longest drive. A closest to pin contest will also be held with a \$2 entry and the winner will take home half the pot. Entry includes green fees, cart and a BBQ lunch. Contact ABH2 Korinne Reese at 530-723-8022 for details or to reserve a spot.

**Motor Sports Show** - The Marine Corps League is hosting their 10th Annual Motor Sports Show, Saturday, Nov. 5 at the 5 Flags Speedway in Pensacola, Fla. The event is seeking entrants for the various categories of vehicles. There is a \$20 registration for each car, and cars must be registered no later than Oct. 15. There will be trophies for the winners, door prizes, food and refreshments and much more. Call (850) 912-2351 for details.

**"Honoring Service to America"** - Colonial Williamsburg will offer free weekend-long admission tickets to active-duty military, reservists, retirees, veterans, and their immediate dependants Friday through Sunday of Veteran's Day weekend, Nov. 11-13. The "Honoring Service to America" ticket provides admission to Colonial Williamsburg exhibition sites, art museums, and most daytime



### Commanding Landing

Training Air Wing FIVE Commodore Col. James Grace and Fixed-Wing Instructor Training Unit Officer-In-Charge Lt. Col. Trevor O'Day pose with TRAWING-5's 100th T-6B Thursday, Oct. 13. The pilots personally ferried their new bird from its manufacturer in Wichita, Kan. to Naval Air Station Whiting Field. U.S. Navy Photo by Lt. j.g. Tim Mosso.

programs. It also includes free parking at the Colonial Williamsburg Regional Visitor Center, access to the short movie Williamsburg-The Story of a Patriot, and complimentary use of Colonial Williamsburg shuttle buses. These weekend-long admission tickets are available only at Colonial Williamsburg on-site ticket sales locations, including the Colonial Williamsburg Regional Visitor Center. Appropriate military identification is required. See <http://www.colonialwilliamsburg.com/visit/planYourVisit/ticketPlans/current-offers.cfm> for details.

**Leave Donor Program** - "Mr. Lawrence Cluck has exhausted all his leave and has been accepted into the voluntary leave donor program. Those interested in donating leave to Mr. Cluck please contact Charles Rigdon at 665-6126 or [charles.rigdon@navy.mil](mailto:charles.rigdon@navy.mil) for leave donor forms. Forms may also be obtained at the OPM web site by searching "leave donor."

**It's a Jungle Out There** - Are you being strangled by the "jungle" in your yard or landscape? If so, you don't want to miss this invasive plant seminar and tree giveaway to be held at the UF/IFAS Santa Rosa County Extension Office on Saturday, November 5, from 9 to 11 a.m. The workshop will cover common invasive plants and trees found in area landscapes and educate participants regarding control options. The seminar will also encourage the use of non-invasive native trees and plants and provide participants with free native trees to replace invasive ones in their landscapes. Following the workshop, UF/IFAS Santa Rosa Master Gardeners will coordinate the free native tree giveaway. Workshop participants may choose from among magnolia, river birch, sweet gum, black gum, holly or live oak trees. Limit of two trees per household. This workshop is free and open to the public. The UF/IFAS Santa Rosa County Extension Office is located at 6263 Dogwood Drive, Milton. Pre-registration is required. Please register online at <http://treegiveaway.eventbrite.com> or call 623-3868.



### Diesel Trucks...And a Fire Engine

Burly volunteers from the NAS Whiting Field and outlying field Crash Crews celebrate their win in the Ronald McDonald House 2011 Fire Truck Pull on Sunday, Oct. 9. The crew raised \$500.00 for the charity by achieving the shortest elapsed time while pulling a 65,000 pound fire truck over a 50 foot course in downtown Pensacola's Seville Quarter. Photo Courtesy of Andrew Hendrickson.

## Upcoming Events

Oct. 19-21, 0700-1600 Daily - NHA Fleet Fly-In

Nov. 4, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium

Oct. 21, 1000 - CNATT Det Milton Change of Charge - B-2945

Nov. 10, 1000 - NASWF Change of Command - Auditorium

Oct. 21, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium

Nov. 18, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium

# Fleet and Family Support Center Items

**VA REPRESENTATIVE - Friday, October 21 - 8:00 a.m. to Noon (Call for an appointment)**

**HOW TO SURVIVE THE HOLIDAYS FINANCIALLY - Wednesday, October 26 - 1:00 - 3:00 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. Class will be held in the FFSC conference room. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 623-7177.

**October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month - Anyone who has concerns or is a victim of domestic violence should contact the Fleet and Family Support Center, their Command Family Advocacy Representative, or call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-SAFE.**

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 list", 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.

## Naval Branch Health Clinic Flu Vaccines

Starting Tuesday, October 11th, all Medical Home Port "Team Jupiter" enrolled beneficiaries that come in for their appointment will be offered the flu shot or mist to be administered during their appointment.

Starting Tuesday, October 11th, Medical Home Port Team Jupiter enrolled beneficiaries are welcomed to walk-in for the immunizations clinic weekdays from 8 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 3p.m. Bring a list of current medications.

Starting Tuesday, October 11th, Eligible beneficiaries (e.g., TRICARE Standard/Prime for life etc.) not enrolled in Medical Home Port "Team Jupiter" can come to the Immunization Clinic on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m. Friday's walk-ins will be from 8 to 11 a.m. only. Bring a list of current medications.

For additional information concerning this and other services of the Naval Branch Health Clinic at Naval Air Station Whiting Field, please call (850) 623-7508 or visit the clinic's official Facebook page at the following address: <http://www.facebook.com/whitingfieldclinic>



# T-34 ground school

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this legacy.

Mizak, who greeted the new group and took roll call, is a retired naval aviator and holds the distinction of ranking among the earliest of NAS Whiting Field's T-34 graduates.

"I trained in some of the first T-34s in 1979, when we flew mostly T-28s at Whiting and the talk was all about the new airplane," Mizak recalled.

Mizak's primary phase training command, Training Squadron SIX, completed its last T-34 student flight on Tuesday, September 27 at the base's North Field.

The majority of TRAWING-5's instructor pilots and ground school technicians gained their first military aviation experience in the Turbo Mentor, and nostalgia for the type is ingrained in the culture of the air station.

Lt. Adam Whitt, an instructor pilot with VT-2, is a T-34 graduate who will act as the official advisor to class 12-030. He will serve as a guide, mentor, and sounding board for this group as they navigate the challenges of military aviation's initial stage. Whitt recognizes the emotional element of this assignment.

"I want to send the plane out on a high note; I want them to be remembered as a strong group of student aviators.

"I grew up on the T-34, and I think the full impact of the end hasn't hit me yet; that will start to set in as we approach their graduations," Whitt reflected.

The T-34 remains a formidable challenge for the officers of class 12-030. An atmosphere of tense anticipation prevailed on the morning of the aptly-named Day One. The assembly of aspiring aviators stepped gingerly among the turbine engine cut-away, sub-assembly mock-ups, and projection screens.

This facility has launched the careers of thousands of military aviators, and the classroom was redolent of the hopes, dreams, and anxieties of generations.

As Mizak strode to the head of the class for an initial roll call, the students followed his movement with rapt attention, the spaces grew silent, and room 3125's clocks seemed to run backward.

This sequence, this silence, this singular focus has endured as a timeless right-of-passage for each group to enter the first day of the flight-training pipeline. In an instant, history was abandoned to the historians and nostalgia to the veterans.

The arrival of young blood seemed to transfuse the venerable classroom with a final surge of energy. Like a weathered pugilist rising off the bench for a final bout, T-34 ground school and its ultimate panoply of pupils pulsed with a palpable vigor and steely resolve.

These students speak of the T-34 with reverence comparable to that of their instructors, but they speak in the present tense. For 12-030, the Turbo Mentor remains the future, the gatekeeper, and their Everest.

As their minds focused on the challenge ahead, student impressions of the moment were characterized by a polite paucity.

"It's great to be part of the end of an era... but we look forward to the flights," 1st Lt. Sarah Horn explained.

The latter sentiment prevailed without exception.

2nd Lt. Derek Munoz was more direct; "we're just excited to start."

Nostalgia is a privilege earned through experience, but even the T-34 veterans of the ground school and VT-2 remain riveted to the task at hand.

Class 12-030 will commence flight operations in mid-November, and the individual student graduation dates are expected to fall within the April 2012 timeframe. Until that juncture, romantic reminiscence will be checked at the flight line gates.

Whitt discarded sentimentality when discussing the challenge at hand.

"Nostalgia can wait; for this group, it's business as usual until the last flight and the last graduate."

## Eco-nomics

### **Crush Litter Bugs**

Dispose of waste properly. Ninety-four percent of people identify litter as a major environmental problem. The biggest sources of litter are cigarette butts, bottles and cans (including tops and ring pulls), candy wrappers, and fast-food packaging. More than two billion pounds of cigarette butts are discarded worldwide-about two pounds for every person in China.

*The above tips and facts are from The Green Book by Elizabeth Rogers and Thomas M. Kostigen.*

### **Boost Insulation**

It may not seem sexy, but insulation is one of the best ways to save energy and money at home. It can make a big difference to add more insulation between walls, and make sure your attic floor and basement ceiling are well covered. The federal government will reimburse you for 30% of the cost, up to \$1,500 for highly efficient insulation. Additionally, 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](http://www.thedailygreen.com) for more tips.*

# Interstate Compact eases school transfers

By Ensign James Hedman

The Department of Defense and Council of State Governments are tackling one of the biggest hurdles that face permanent change of station movers: sending their children to a new school.

The Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children will ease this process.

In a question and answer session with Military Advanced Education, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Military Community & Family Policy) Robert L. Gordon III, said the compact “is designed to remedy the effects of relocation on student transfers of credits, school records, entrance and exit testing, activity participation and more.”

Specific academic requirements for one school may not be a requirement for another, and vice versa, creating delays as students, parents, and counselors scramble to meet the requisite. Additionally, schools can take weeks or months to send a transcript or immunization record to the new school and most will not let the student begin classes until they are received.

The curveball that deployments throw at the service member is especially dreadful. When a single parent has deployed, the person allowed to approve a child’s report card or enroll the student in classes is sometimes different among states.

These small delays will leave the student a few credits behind, and in the long run, these problems can compound to being a semester or even a year off track. Suddenly, graduating on time becomes a concern.

The compact seeks to streamline the process. An interstate compact is an agreement between two or more states for “cooperative effort, mutual assistance, management and regulation of public policy matters by the states, which transcend the boundaries of one state,” according to a Florida Department of Education website.

Naval Air Station Whiting Field’s School Liaison Officer, Chris Hendrix, says the average military child moves every 2.9 years and will encounter 9 different school systems between kindergarten and 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

Hendrix notes that the compact “seeks to level the playing field for military families that transition from one state to another... [it] provides uniform treatment of military children transferring between school districts and states.”

Broadly speaking, the compact puts flexibility in state education law for military families. Counselors can find equivalent courses between schools and plan accordingly or make uniform deadlines for starting school. The compact

also puts a limit on the number of days for the transfer of records: transcripts and credit transfers are 10 days, while immunization records are 30. This is especially helpful when a family has transferred from a DoD school outside of the United States, for which international couriers can be a hassle.

If a parent is deployed, the compact allows for a guardian or an “in loco parentis” official to send the student to his or her current school, even if he or she lives outside of the district zone.

In Florida, for example, this is acceptable; however, the family is expected to provide its own transportation. If, while deployed, it is necessary that the student transfers, tuition may be waived if it is normally charged on a cross-district enrollment, and students can “try out” or participate in extra-curricular activities if the deadline for joining them has recently passed.

Flexibility with absences is also permitted if the parent is deploying or returning on a school day or during a school event.

The biggest challenge that Hendrix deals with concerns the differences among schools. For example, “if your child is used to a certain reading program in Virginia and he or she moves here to Florida, Florida may not offer that reading program, nor are we required to,” Hendrix said.

The most common differences that Hendrix deals with, however, are age and graduation requirements. In Missouri, a child must be six years old prior to the first day of the first grade to begin class, even if he or she has successfully completed kindergarten in another state. “Now, if you finish kindergarten, you’re going to be allowed to enter the first grade even if the child is not six, in that state, as long as they signed the compact.”

Hendrix mentioned a special case where a student transferred from California to Florida a few months before graduating high school.

Both his sending and receiving schools worked together to find equivalent classes based on the former. Because of the short amount of time the schools had to work with, his tests were graded and his package was sent to the principal in California for approval. “He walked here in Florida, but his diploma said ‘California.’”

Currently, 39 states and all DoD schools have signed the compact. Personnel interested in learning more about this program can contact their school liaison officer. Hendrix may be contacted at (850) 665-6105 or (850) 324-1154.



# McCrimmon retires

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and Great Britain. In 1998, he received a commission as an Army Chaplain.

In 2002, McCrimmon joined the U.S. Navy Chaplain Corps, where he served as staff chaplain at Naval Station Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico, Commander Destroyer Squadron NINE, in Everett, Wash., Camp Butler, Okinawa, Japan, and NAS Whiting Field.

After Old Glory was passed and "The Heart of a Seafarer's Wife" was read, McCrimmon took the stage for a moment of earnest reflection: after the applause died down, he began his address with a "Thank you, thank you very much," an uncanny impersonation of The King.

The speech was highlighted by gratitude for family and friends of McCrimmon's, many of whom were present at the ceremony. "Thank you for coming out and sharing this special moment for me, my family and friends, who have come to say farewell to something that I've grown to love over at least four decades," he mentioned. To his

wife, McCrimmon delivered a heartfelt rendition of Lionel Richie's "Three Times a Lady."

Chaplain Summerlin delivered the benediction, and The Watch was read. From there, McCrimmon went ashore. Following the formalities of ceremony and naval tradition, somber reflection yielded to a lighthearted program of concluding events.

Lunch served as an intermission in the celebration, after which six close acquaintances of the chaplain roasted him. All participants shared humorous tales followed by words of thanks and lessons learned. Contributors included Chaplain Azariah Robinson, Master Sgt. Darla Jacobs from the Minnesota National Guard, Summerlin, Cmdr. Joseph Cummings from Naval Hospital Bremerton, Wash., Mr. James Gooden, and NAS Whiting Field Command Master Chief Rafael Rosado.

The audience reeled with laughter at the comical witticisms and applauded the earnest sincerity.

## NHA Schedule of Events

### OCTOBER 19

0730	OPENING REMARKS
0800	INDUSTRY / STATIC DISPLAYS OPEN
0900-1200	MORNING FLY WINDOW
1230	GOLF TOURNAMENT
1200	DISPLAYS AT INDUSTRY DISCRETION
1300-1600	AFTERNOON FLY WINDOW

### OCTOBER 20

0630	5K RUN
0800	COMMUNITY BRIEFS (AIRCREW-MEN)
0800-1015	COMMUNITY BRIEFS (PILOTS)
0800-1030	INDUSTRY DISPLAYS OPEN
1030-1200	SENIOR OFFICER PANEL
1200-1300	SELRES / FTS BRIEF FOR FLEET AVIATORS
1200-1600	INDUSTRY / STATIC DISPLAYS OPEN
1300-1600	AFTERNOON INDOC FLY WINDOW
1630	SNA SOFT-PATCH/HAPPY HOUR
1730	READY ROOM VISITS

### OCTOBER 21

0800-0900	FLEET AIRCREW BREAKFAST
0800-1700	AIRCRAFT DEPARTING
1300	WINGING CEREMONY



The poster features a yellow background with blue and white text. At the top, it says "SHOW OFF YOUR COLORS" in large, bold, blue letters with a yellow outline. Below that, in a cursive blue font, it says "Bring Your CONA Bird". The central part of the poster is dominated by a large circular emblem for the "NAVAL AVIATION CENTENNIAL 1911-2011". The emblem contains a stylized eagle with wings spread, perched on a globe. Surrounding the emblem are silhouettes of various naval aircraft, including helicopters and fixed-wing planes. To the right of the emblem, the dates "18-21 OCT 2011" are written in large, bold, black letters. At the bottom, it says "The 22nd Annual NHA FLEET FLY IN NAS Whiting Field" in large, bold, blue letters with a yellow outline. In the bottom right corner, the website "www.navalhelicopterassn.org" is printed in small black text.

# Public Works Energizes Conservation

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

2011 will be remembered as the year Naval Air Station Whiting Field “turned back the clock” with respect to energy use. Through its manifold conservation measures, the air station not only arrested the rise in base and outlying field energy use; total energy consumption declined.

Reggie Parker, NAS Whiting Field Public Works Department Utilities and Energy Manager, was unequivocal about the preeminence of this achievement in hierarchy of efficiency obstacles the base has surmounted.

“Number one: the fact that we were able to reduce energy usage in fiscal year 2011 vs. 2010. You can say we’ve ‘turned the corner.’

“The reduction encompassed all utility use; water, gas, electrics,” Parker emphasized.

Public Works deployed an arsenal of initiatives to outflank creeping consumption. Foremost among these efforts was the holistic focus on metering.

Where feasible, Public Works utilized advanced digital climate control systems to automatically reduce major facility energy consumption after typical working hours. Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems were pre-programmed to operate at reduced loads during periods when facilities experienced infrequent use.

Additional conservation efforts focused on a tool Parker described as the “low hanging fruit”; common sense. For example, Public Works coordinated the programming of base-wide computer pop-ups that urge “lights out” awareness toward the end of working hours. The notices appear at 1500 on a daily basis, and this Pavlovian repetition is characteristic of the Department’s low-tech thrust to combat waste.

At the other end of the technological spectrum, the air station’s awareness effort was bolstered by the mid-summer installation of radio energy meters. The meters, which will be commissioned in December of 2011, will measure and report energy consumption in all major facilities on base.

“We’ve installed them, and we will be able to read within a fifteen minute window rather than monthly. This is higher-resolution, high-fidelity measurement that will allow precise local assessments of energy use,” Parker explained.

The consequences of this expanded capability are far-reaching. In the same fashion that posting calorie counts on restaurant menus tends to skew customer choices, immediate access to energy consumption figures can discourage excessive use.

“It is generally accepted that once customers know the usage can be measured, that fact in and of itself tends to reduce waste,” Parker explained.

From an operational perspective, the new meters will empower base authorities to frame their plans in light of known power usage patterns. This newfound transparency will allow commands to operate with greater efficiency, or, if operations are inevitable, greater economy.

High-load activities involving simulators, high volume HVAC usage, or facilities maintenance can be planned to include reduced durations or scheduled to coincide with periods of off-peak utility rates.

The air station expanded its fleet of alternative fuel working vehicles in 2011. The base’s fleet has grown to encompass eleven pure electric vehicles and five hybrids. This budding pool of green machines is equipped to handle tasks as varied as short-range mobility and industrial facility maintenance.

Although the GEM electric runabouts may look better suited to the base golf course than the military working areas, Parker warns against underestimating the capabilities of the fleet as a whole.

“With the hybrid trucks, we take those to the outlying fields; they’re GMC four-wheel-drive crew cabs, and we use those for heavy duty assignments,” he said.

Public Works highlighted the technology and big-picture significance of these vehicles on Friday, October 14 with a day-long exhibition at the base’s Naval Exchange parking lot. A follow-up exhibition has been scheduled for Friday, October 28.

“The purpose of these vehicles and the display at the NEX is to show that the Navy is serious about leading the charge, really using the electric and hybrid vehicles on and off base,” Parker noted.

The base’s future conservation efforts will focus on complimentary high and low technology initiatives. Incremental HVAC expense and usage reductions will be realized in the near future when Public Works begins to retrofit buildings 2958 and 2957, which house the barracks and Navy Gateway Inn and Suites, with reflective solar window film.

The air station’s boldest energy-reduction ambitions are embodied in the proposed Utility Energy Service Contract. The suite of upgrades, if approved, would allow



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# Exceptional Family Member Enrollment Streamlined

By Cheryl McGrew

## Navy Region Southeast Family Readiness Program

The Navy launched an Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) enrollment and tracking application on the Navy Family Accountability and Assessment System (NFAAS) (<https://navyfamily.navy.mil>) September 1.

The EFMP application adds an electronic enrollment capability for the EFMP and allows service members to track the progress of the enrollment process. The initial phase will only allow new enrollees to use the system.

Phase Two implementation is scheduled for the middle of fiscal year 2012, at which time all enrollees will have access and all existing enrollee information will be migrated over to the NFAAS system. At that time, EFMP enrollment information will show in the NFAAS profile.

Those who were enrolled in the EFMP prior to Sept. 1, 2011, do not need do anything further at this time. The NFAAS/EFMP module is in Phase One of implementation, which will only show new enrollments after Sept. 1.

Those who enroll in the EFMP after Sept. 1, 2011, should take the following steps:

1.) If you have not already done so, you must manually download and complete the enrollment forms (DD form 2792 and DD form 2792.1) found here: <http://www.public.navy.mil/bupers-npc/Pages/default.aspx>

2.) You or your spouse (if the EFM member) and the physician should complete the forms and attach any applicable documentation.



3.) Make a copy for yourself and submit to the EFMP coordinator at your local military treatment facility or branch medical clinic.

4.) Your local Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC)/EFMP liaison can assist you with locating the coordinator and completing the enrollment process and can provide information, referral and services related to your family member's needs.

5.) The EFMP Coordinator will review the package, complete their assigned sections and upload all documents into NFAAS for submission to the Central Screening Committee (CSC) at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth.

6.) The CSC will review the package and submit it to Navy Personnel Command (NPC) with a category recommendation.

7.) NPC will then review and assign the final category, and notate your detailing record.

Screening and processing typically takes 4-8 weeks. Applicants may contact their FFSC/EFMP liaison or check NFAAS for the status of the application.

The exceptional family module is available online at the NFAAS website at <https://navyfamily.navy.mil>. The NFAAS Navy family member's user guide is available after login and can be found under the help tab.

Sailors with additional questions can contact the regional EFMP liaison at 904-542-9838 or email Cheryl.mcgregor.ctr@navy.mil.

## Conservation

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massive renovations to base facilities.

The Contract would allow the Department to retrofit older structures with the newer direct digital HVAC systems, install reduced wattage, sensor-equipped, replacements for dated lighting systems in several hangers, commission an advanced water cooling system, and implement wholesale plumbing upgrades to reduce waste water.

The potential impact of these renovations would be far-reaching. For instance, the air station's latest digital HVAC systems require only minutes of programming input to meter their output.

By comparison, older pneumatically controlled systems on base may demand months of modifications before new relays, timers and fittings can be installed to alter the output patterns of the systems.

Parker and his department take this comprehensive project seriously.

"We want to pursue the UESC project; it's our [Public Works'] main thrust for 2012.

## BBB offers free shredding to protect personal identities

BBB is partnering with WEAR-TV, Gilmore Services, CatCountry 98.7 Radio, and Qantum Communications to host an identity protection event on Friday, Oct. 28 in Pensacola and Mary Esther. Individuals can take advantage of free on-site document shredding and take home practical tips to prevent identity theft online and off. Get up to 50 pounds of documents shredded free-of-charge. The service will be offered on Friday, October 28, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. at University Mall, 7171 North Davis Highway, Pensacola, Fla. and Santa Rosa Mall, 300 Mary Esther Boulevard, Mary Esther, Fla.

Bring documents to be shredded and take home tips and resources on protecting your identity. Documents to be shredded should be removed from binders, but staples and paper clips are acceptable to be shredded. Please do not tie bags or tape boxes! Please stay in your vehicle when dropping off items. Gilmore Services also plans to accept donations of non-perishable food for Manna Food Bank in Pensacola and Bay Area Food Bank in Mary Esther.