



Vol. 69 No. 1

Wednesday, January 2, 2013

Whiting Tower looks back at the past year

- 2012 saw the end of the T-34's 35 year-long run at NAS Whiting Field

Editor's Note - Without a doubt, the single most important event at Naval Air Station Whiting Field in 2012 was the end of student training in the T-34C Turbo Mentor. The venerable aircraft completed its historic run and was replaced after an 18-month transition to the T-6B Texan II. However, that was hardly the only significant event during the year, so read ahead to revisit last year's happenings.

Jan. 11 - Naval Air Station Whiting Field began laying the foundation for the future of the base in December with the first steps toward establishing the next Master Plan. Working with the consulting group, Parsons, the air station is setting the path for the installation's next 20 years. The Master Plan is the roadmap the base will use in planning the facilities, functions, capabilities, and land use needed to fulfill NAS Whiting Field's support mission now and in the future.

Jan. 11 - Training Squadron TWO was recognized as the winner of the 2011 Naval Air Station Whiting Field Captain's Cup athletic challenge on Jan. 3, 2012. Runners up included the Security Department and Helicopter Training Squadron EIGHTEEN.

Jan. 18 - Naval Air Station Whiting Field's new Public Works Energy Installation Manager, Sabrina Williams, arrived after serving at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. As a member of the Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southeast team, Williams will focus her eye for efficiency on the air station and Naval Air Station Pensacola's infrastructure.

Feb. 1 - Naval Air Station Whiting Field recently selected its Sailors of the Quarter for the First Quarter for fiscal year 2012. Master-at-Arms 1st Class Scott Grettum, Aviation Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class Darrell Zofcin, and Air Traffic Controller Airman Keesha Hunt were respectively named the Sailor, Junior Sailor, and Blue Jacket of the Quarter. All three Sailors were recognized for their outstanding performance on duty and within the community.

Feb. 8 - Training Air Wing FIVE and its tenant commands are bringing Navy colors to children in need through the Navy's Caps for Kids outreach program. The Caps for Kids program is a unique and meaningful outreach program conducted solely to raise the spirits of children fighting serious illnesses in hospitals across the country. Under the program, Sailors visit children's hospitals and present patients with



Members of the Fire Department at Naval Air Station Whiting Field respond to a simulated motor vehicle accident staged as part of Citadel Shield. The drill was part of the Navy-wide Solid Curtain / Citadel Shield exercise going on at Navy bases across the country that week. U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Tim Mosso.

Navy ball caps and other Navy mementos, and conferring on them the title of "Honorary Sailor."

Feb. 15 - The Naval Air Station Whiting Field Diversity Committee hosted an African-American heritage celebration Feb. 15. The luncheon was open to the entire Whiting Field community.

Feb. 22 - Naval Air Station Whiting Field Commanding Officer Capt. Matthew Coughlin signed a proclamation Wednesday, Feb. 15 supporting the annual Military Saves Campaign to make service members aware of the importance of a savings plan.

Feb. 29 - Naval Air Station Whiting Field will be helping Atlantic coast fighter squadrons meet their training requirements through the next eight months as jet pilots work to complete their simulated carrier landing qualifications.

Feb. 29 - Balfour Beatty Communities, LLC, one of the leading Public-Private Partnership (PPP or P3) providers of housing, lifestyle, and community solutions for members of the U.S. military and their families, has been honored by the

- (Cont. on Page 5)

January proclaimed National Mentoring Month

- Americans asked to enrich lives of children through guidance



President Barack Obama

Our American family is bound together by caring individuals who make it their mission to serve others. During National Mentoring Month, we pay special tribute to the men and women who enrich the lives of our young people and fortify the unbreakable bonds between one generation and the next.

Mentors know that helping a child unlock their full potential begins with care, guidance, and support -- which is why my Administration is proud to celebrate mentorship nationwide through programs that help young people see the strength within themselves. We created the Corporate Mentoring Challenge, which encourages businesses across our country to open or expand mentoring programs that equip our youth with the tools to achieve. We have connected young men and women in the Washington, D.C., area with mentors at the White House, and we have partnered with groups across the public, private, and nonprofit sectors to build pathways to summer job opportunities for low-income and disconnected youth. And since 2010, we have worked to build strong connections between children and responsible adults through our Fatherhood and Mentoring Initiative.

A supportive mentor can mean the difference between struggle and success. As we mark this important occasion, I encourage all Americans to spend time as a mentor and help lift our next generation toward their hopes and dreams. To learn more about how to get involved, visit www.Serve.gov/Mentor.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim January 2013 as National Mentoring Month. I call upon public officials, business and community leaders, educators, and Americans across the country to observe this month with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this thirty-first day of December, in the year of our Lord two thousand twelve, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-seventh.

Usage Information

Total Used

1,733,421 kWh

	1 Year Ago	Last Month	This Month
Total kWh Used	1,848,396	2,017,062	1,733,421
Average Daily kWh	61,613	65,067	57,781
Days In Billing Period	30	31	30

Power Corner

Conserving energy continues to be one of the Navy's and Naval Air Station Whiting Field's prime objectives, so each month the Whiting Tower will display the energy usage comparisons for the base between comparable timeframes of 2011 and 2012. As you can see, for November, the base consumed 168,664 fewer kilowatt hours of power than in 2011.

This Week in Naval History

Dec. 31

1862 - USS Monitor founders in a storm off Cape Hatteras, N.C.
1941 - Adm. Chester W. Nimitz assumes command of U.S. Pacific Fleet.

1942 - Commissioning of USS Essex (CV 9), first of new class of aircraft carriers, at Norfolk, Va.

Jan. 1

1950 - Mary T. Sproul is commissioned as the first female doctor in the Navy.

1959 - The U.S. Naval Observatory introduces the system of uniform atomic time using cesium beam atomic oscillators. This measurement has since been adopted as standard by the International Committee on Weights and Measures.

1962 - Navy SEAL (Sea, Air, and Land) teams established.

Jan. 4

1813 - Congress authorizes construction of two 74-gun ships and six 44-gun frigates.

1937 - Adm. William Leahy becomes the seventh Chief of Naval Operations.

http://www.navy.mil/search/display_history.asp

News and Notes

Liberty Center Hours of Operation- The Liberty Center has extended its hours of operation. Their new hours are: Monday-Friday 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturday-Sunday 1 p.m.-10 p.m.

Receive Daily Reflection - Daily Reflection is a brief inspirational thought-for-the-day e-mailed throughout the work week dealing with all kinds of life issues. To receive Daily Reflection, e-mail Chaplain Charles Luff at charles.luff@navy.mil.

ERAU Registration - Embry Riddle Aeronautical University is now registering through Jan. 14, 2013. Hours on board NAS Pensacola are 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Fridays in Bldg. 634, Suite 033, 250 Chambers Avenue. Hours on board NAS Whiting Field are Wednesday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. in Bldg. 1417, Room 163. Late registration and add/drop a course for a full refund will be held Jan. 14 - 20. Everyone is encouraged to register early. Classes begin Jan. 14. New Student Orientation will be held Wednesday, Jan. 9, 2013 5 - 6 p.m. on board NAS Pensacola in Bldg. 634, Suite 033. Embry Riddle Aeronautical University's Pensacola campus offers certificate programs, associate and bachelors degree programs with various specializations in Professional Aeronautics and Technical Management and the Master of Aeronautical Science degree. Email pensacola@erau.edu, visit www.embryriddle.edu/pensacola or call 458-1098 for more information.

Send in the Clowns - The Ringling Bros. Circus is coming to town. Discounted tickets available at ITT for one week only; Friday, December 28 through Friday January 4. Only \$17.00 per ticket / gate price is \$22.00. Limited number of discounted tickets available from ITT. Call ITT for more information or to reserve your tickets with your credit card 850-665-6250

Go Daddy Bowl - NAS Whiting Field's Information Tickets and Travel office has free tickets available for the 14th Annual Go Daddy Bowl. The game will be held Jan. 6, 2013, at the Ladd-Peebles Stadium in Mobile, Ala. The tickets are available to any authorized MWR patron with proper military ID. Tickets are limited. Call 850-623-7032 for details.

Business After Hours - Santa Rosa Medical Center will host Business After Hours on Thursday, Jan. 10 from 5 to 7 p.m. in the education building located directly behind the hospital. This event is being held in conjunction with the Santa Rosa County Chamber of Commerce, and members of all chambers, including the Pace Area Chamber of Commerce and the Navarre Area Chamber of Commerce, are invited to attend. Heavy hors d'oeuvres and soft drinks will be served, and entertainment will be provided. For more information about Business After Hours, please call 850.626.5113.

Budget for Babies - A Budget for Baby class will be held at Naval Air Station Whiting Field Saturday, Jan. 19. You'll discover local resource information, financial assistance, and volunteer opportunities and have fun while attending. All ranks and branches are welcome to attend the class. Eligible clients will also receive Baby's first sea bag (featuring a handmade blanket). Register before Thursday, December 6th to reserve your seat. Class will be in the Atrium Bldg., Suite 169, class room A & B (same building as ITT and NMCRS office - across from FFSC). Call 850-452-2300 to get more information or reserve a seat for the class.

Bridge Closing - Wagner Bridge, located on Springhill Road



Recognizing Top Sailors

Aviation Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class David Harrell receives a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal citation from Master Chief Aviation Boatswain's Mate Jeff Jones Friday, Dec. 28. It is Harrell's third award. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

over East Coldwater Creek, will close beginning Monday, Jan. 7 for approximately six to eight weeks. The existing wood piling bridge will be demolished and a new steel piling bridge will be rebuilt in the same footprint. Construction is weather dependant and will be completed by Santa Rosa County Public Works staff. Wagner Bridge is located approximately one-half mile east of Lewis Road. The northern detour route is Munson Highway, to Hwy. 4, and Hwy. 87. The southern detour is Munson Highway, to Whiting Field Circle, to East Gate Road, and Hwy 87.

Senior Bowl - Beginning Jan. 23 and leading into the Jan. 26 game, Mobile will be hosting their annual Senior Bowl activities. This year's game will include a pre-game Memorial for CG 6535 that crashed into Mobile Bay last Feb. Tickets are \$10 or \$20 dollars through the Senior Bowl Ticket Office at 888-736-BOWL. See www.seniorbowl.com for additional information.

Half Marathon - The Pensacola Runners Association presents the Pensacola Beach Run 1/2 Marathon - 10K - 5K, Saturday, Jan. 12. The event kicks off at 7:30 a.m. at Casino Beach. Call Jehan Clark at 850-261-2200 or visit www.pensacolarunners.com for details.

Candlelight Tour - Fort Pickens will host "A Candlelight Tour of Fort Pickens" Saturday, Jan. 12 and Feb. 9 beginning at 5 p.m. The event will feature costumed interpreters presenting the history of Pensacola during the Civil War at different stations inside the fort. The event is free. Call 850-934-2600 or visit www.nps.gov/guis for additional information.

Beethoven & Blue Jeans - The Pensacola Symphony will perform a concert featuring Peter Rubardt, conductor, and Bridget Kibbey on the harp, Saturday, Jan. 12 at the Saenger Theatre. Music will include: Beethoven, "Overture to Creatures of Prometheus," "Alegria," "Concerto Seranata," and more. Call 850-435-2533 or visit www.pensacolasymphony.com for details.

Corks and Canvases - New World Landing will serve as the venue for a "Midnight in Paris" themed event to benefit Big Brothers Big Sisters Friday, Jan. 18. Call 850-433-5437 for details.

Upcoming Events

Jan. 11, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium
 Jan. 18, 1000 - Northwest Florida Blood Drive - NEX
 Jan. 21 - Martin Luther King Holiday Observed

Jan. 25, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium
 Feb. 8, 1830 - Navy League SOY and IOY Banquet - Sikes Hall
 Feb. 18-22 - 2013 Solid Curtain Exercise

Fleet and Family Support Center Classes

Applying for Federal Jobs - Monday, Jan. 7 from 10 a.m. to Noon.

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 listing for keywords, and how to apply for jobs. Class will be held at the FFSC conference room. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 850-623-7177.

IA Discussion Group - Monday, Jan. 7 from 1 to 3 p.m.

VA Representative - Friday, Jan. 11 & 25 from 8 a.m. to noon. (Call 850-623-7177 for appointment)

Married to the Military - Tuesday, Jan. 8 from 9 to 11 a.m.

This class will introduce you to the traditions, culture, and lifestyle of the military. We will cover things such as where to go to get information, do's and don'ts, PCS orders, reading an LES, military time, and much more. If you are new to the military or just want to find out what having a military ID means sign up for this class at 623-7177.

Smooth Move - Wednesday, Jan. 9 from 1 to 3 p.m.

Make your next change of duty station move a smooth one. Learn what resources are available to you and the five key steps to minimizing stress during the relocation and transition period: get to know your FFSC Relocation Assistance Program Specialist, develop a plan of action, know your benefits, manage your moving day, make it a family affair. For more information, call NAS Whiting Field Fleet and Family Support Center at 850-623-7177.

Car Buying - Thursday, Jan 10 from 1 to 3 p.m.

Many people begin the car buying process by visiting a dealership, which should be one of the last things you do. Come find out how to research and compare for the best prices, when and how to negotiate your trade-in, how insurance fits in, and your best option for financing. Class will be held at the FFSC conference room. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 850-623-7177.



2013 Gulf Coast Military Mardi Gras Ball

When:	Friday, 01 February 2013 6:30 P.M. – Happy Hour 7:30 P.M. – Dinner Begins
Where:	Renaissance Riverview Plaza Hotel 64 South Water Street Downtown Mobile
Dress:	Military Personnel: Dinner Dress Blue* *O-3 & Below may wear: Service Dress Blue (SDB Coat, No Cover) Civilian Guests: Men: Tuxedo Women: Evening Gown or Tea-Length Cocktail Dress (Mid-Calf)
Buffet:	Chicken Marsala, Broiled Flounder with Lemon Caper Sauce, Kobe Beef Meatloaf, 3 Cold Salads, Steamed Vegetables, Yukon Garlic Whipped Potatoes, Rolls, Desserts

Price per person...	
E1 thru E4	\$25
E5 and E6	\$35
E-7 thru E-9; GS-10 and below	\$50
CWO2 thru O-3	\$55
O-4; GS-11 and higher	\$60
O-5 and higher	\$65
Civilian guests, CG Auxiliary and Contract Employees	\$50
CGES & NAF Employees	\$50

* Retirees pay at grade of retirement
 * Spouse of member is same price as military member

militarymardigras.com

Questions:
 AMTCS Kit Harris (251) 441-6175
 LCDR Mick Scott (251) 441-6189

Round-up

- (Cont. from Page 1)

Professional Housing Management Association (PHMA) for their outstanding customer service at Naval Air Station Whiting Field located in Milton, Fla.

Mar. 7 - Helicopter Training Squadron EIGHTEEN celebrated the 40th anniversary of its commissioning at Naval Air Station Whiting Field on Thursday, March 1. Training Air Wing FIVE Commodore Col. James Grace led a group of honored squadron alumni, instructor pilots, students, and civilian staff in recognizing the milestone event.

Mar. 14 - Lt. Cmdr. Thomas Leach passed responsibility for the Naval Branch Health Clinic, Naval Air Station Whiting Field to Capt. Philip Blaine during a change of charge ceremony on Wednesday, March 7. **Mar. 14** - The Naval Air Station Whiting Field Staff Association gathered at the Bay Area Food Bank, Thursday, March 8, to help the organiza-

tion support less privileged families in the local area. This is the second year that the association has worked with the Bay Area Food Bank.

Mar. 21 - Naval Air Station Whiting Field conducted a test of its physical security and emergency response capabilities during a simulated security breach Tuesday, March 20. The drill, which was conducted as a component of the March 19-25, Navy-wide Solid Curtain / Citadel Shield force protection exercise, was designed to engage and evaluate each of the air station's crisis response professions.

Mar. 21 - Naval Air Station Whiting Field has brought aboard a Navy-wide campaign to improve the environment among its junior Sailors; specifically, those between the ages of 18 and 25. Coalition of Sailors Against Destructive Decisions is a peer mentoring program that aims to influence the behavior of young Sailors in a positive way.

Apr. 4 - Naval Air Station Whiting Field is redoubling its efforts to promote awareness, avoidance, and action as it enters National Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) this April. The air station is taking the initiative through appointment of the base's first Sexual Assault Response Coordinator and the launch of innovative outreach techniques. Base SARC Rachel Phillips joins the Fleet and Family Support Center team with a wealth of experience promoting assault prevention, protection, and education efforts

throughout the military.

Apr. 11 - Naval Air Station Whiting Field celebrated Women's History Month with a luncheon hosted by the base's diversity committee Thursday, March 28. Women's History Month has been celebrated since 1986 to honor the achievements and contributions of women throughout the nation's history.

Apr. 11 - More than 80 children from Naval Air Station Whiting Field were excited to visit with the Easter Bunny on Saturday, April 1 at the base. Sponsored by the First Class Petty Officer Association, the event was an exciting opportunity for the kids to have some pre-Easter fun. The second annual event consisted of contests, games and an Easter egg hunt.

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Commissary holiday hours for the weeks of 24 - 29 Dec 2012 and 31 Dec 2012 - 5 Jan 2013

Monday 24 th	Open 0900-1500
Tuesday 25 th	Closed
Wednesday 26 th	Open 0900-1800
Thursday 27 th	Open 0900-1800
Friday 28 th	Open 0900-1800
Saturday 29 th	Open 0900-1630
Monday 31 st	Open 0900-1800
Tuesday 1 st	Closed
Wednesday 2 nd	Open 0900-1800
Thursday 3 rd	Open 0900-1800
Friday 4 th	Open 0900-1800
Saturday 5 th	Open 0900-1630

Congratulations TRAWING-5 Wingers and Scholars



Third Row: Cmdr. Paul D. Bowdich, USN; 1st Lt. Christopher Troke, USMC; Ensign Alexander Zaccaria, USN; Ensign Amy E. Davis, USN; Ensign Austin J. Lugo, USN; 1st Lt. Timothy S. Meldahl, USMC; Capt. James Fisher, USN.

Second Row: Lt. Col. Robert S. White, USMC; Capt. Sarah K. Horn, USMC; Ensign Claire M. Calaway, USN; Ensign Ryan D. Jarvis, USN; Lt. Kelly A. Winslow, USCG; 1st Lt. Kyle A Whitlock, USMC; Cmdr. Timothy Kinsella, USN.

First Row: Cmdr. Christopher L. Pesile, USN; Lt. j.g. Christina M. Carpio, USN; Ensign Alvin J. Bueno, USN; Ensign Alicia R. Willms, USN.



Left Image: 2nd Lt. Christopher D. Millar, USMC, and Lt. j.g. Ian M. Sibberson, USCG, display their academic achievement awards Friday, Dec. 14 at the Training Air Wing FIVE headquarters.



Right Image: Ensign Martin S. Doerr, USN, receives his academic achievement award from Training Air Wing FIVE Deputy Commodore Capt. James Fisher, USN, Friday, Dec. 7 at the Training Air Wing FIVE headquarters.

Round-up

- (Cont. from Page 5)

Apr. 18 - The 2011 Chief of Naval Operations Aviation Safety Awards have honored one fixed-wing and one rotary-wing

squadron under Training Air Wing FIVE for outstanding performance in their advancement of aviation training safety. Honorees Helicopter Training Squadron TWENTY-EIGHT and fixed-wing Training Squadron TWO were cited as leaders in the field of aviation safety and models for Naval aviation training units under the Chief of Naval Air Training.

Apr. 19 - Naval Air Station Whiting Field rendered a farewell salute to the T-34C Turbo Mentor on Thursday, April 19. The final student training flight in the venerable craft was witnessed and celebrated by over 100 guests from throughout the extended Naval aviation community. Training Squadron TWO Commanding Officer Cmdr. John Hensel and student Naval aviator 1st Lt. Sarah Horn teamed to conclude thirty-five years of T-34C operations by the air station's Training Air Wing FIVE.

Apr. 20 - Cmdr. John Hensel turned over command to Cmdr. Jennifer Whereatt following the completion of his one-year tour as commanding officer of Training Squadron TWO. The event was held in the Naval Air Station Whiting Field Atrium Friday, April 20 at 10 a.m.

May 2 - Nearly 60 second graders from Bagdad Elementary School trekked through trails, sought out wildlife, learned about conservation, and a whole lot more during Naval Air Station Whiting Field's third annual Wildlife Ecology Field Day, Thursday, April 26. The day-long schedule is designed to foster respect, appreciation, and understanding of the Northwest Florida environment.

May 9 - The Honorable Juan Garcia, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, arrived aboard Naval Air Station Whiting field April 14, 2012. Garcia was visiting the area to observe a regional Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps drill competition due to occur later that day at Naval Air Station Pensacola and made time to visit NAS Whiting Field. However, the visit was not only a meet-

and-greet, but included a flight in the new T-6B Texan II primary training platform.

May 9 - Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southeast Public Works Department Pensacola awarded a \$3.6 million Utility Energy Services Contract to Gulf Power for an energy conservation project at Naval Air Station Whiting Field, Milton, Fla. The contract, which was awarded on April 25, will be managed by Public Works Department Whiting Field.

May 18 - With a bright, sunlit day, children dancing and smiling, abundant food, and lots of games and prizes, Naval Air Station Whiting Field was a happy place Friday, May 18. The Santa Rosa County community hosted its Military Appreciation Picnic. More than 100 sponsors, businesses,

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Round-up

- (Cont. from Page 7)



VT-2 Commanding Officer Cmdr. John Hensel and student Naval aviator 1st Lt. Sarah Horn celebrate after completing the final training flight of the T-34C at NAS Whiting Field on Thursday, April 19. U.S. Navy photo by Lt.j.g. Tim Mosso.

and community volunteers combined to help make the annual event at the base a memorable affair.

May 23 - The second annual Naval Air Station Whiting Field

Family Fun and Fitness Festival inspired an enthusiastic response and robust turnout from the air station community. Bargain hunters, outdoor enthusiasts, families, and athletes flooded the display booths and aisles of the base commercial center during the May 17-19 event.

May 30 - Working to maintain a culture of fitness, and in accordance with First Lady Michelle Obama's initiative to curb childhood obesity, Naval Air Station Whiting Field hosted their second annual America's Kid's Fun Run, May 19, at the NAS Whiting Field base sports complex.

Jun. 6 - Naval Air Station (NAS) Whiting Field recognized the accomplishments of soon-to-be-advanced Sailors during a frocking ceremony Thursday, May 31. Seventeen Sailors were all smiles as they were able to wear the new collar devices for the first time.

Jun. 13 - Naval Air Station Whiting Field welcomed a new Ombudsman to the command team in April to help maintain the lines of communication between the command staff and the families. Daisy Johnson, the spouse of Aviation Boat-swain's Mate 2nd Class Shawn Johnson, replaced Rebecca Rowe in the demanding job.

Jun. 20 - The Naval Air Station Whiting Field Fleet and Family Support Center was honored with renewed accreditation by Commander, Navy Installations Command. CNIC accreditation is an honor bestowed upon the Navy's Fleet and Family Support Centers in recognition of consistently high standards of service and community engagement.

Jun. 27 - Naval Air Station Whiting Field's "Feds Feed Families" food drive started off around half-way to their

goal Thursday, June 21 with a check presentation from the base's Staff Association. The organization donated \$500 to the program that helps to feed the hungry, particularly in the summer months, when there are shortages in food banks and an increased need among children who are out of school and not benefitting from school lunch programs.

July 4 - Lt. Col. Mark Thompson passed command of Helicopter Training Squadron TWENTY-EIGHT to Cmdr. Christopher Pesile Friday, June 29, at 10 a.m. in the Naval Air Station Whiting Field atrium. The transition marked Thompson's final official duty in a Marine Corps career that spanned 20 years.

July 11 - Helicopter Training Squadron EIGHT instructor pilot, Lt. Cmdr. Gabe Somma and another beach goer helped save 60 year-old Margaret Murphy from the Gulf Coast's erratic currents.

July 25 - Following 13 months at the helm, Lt. Col. Daniel Verda passed command of the Training Squadron SIX "Shooters" to Cmdr. Donald Jamiola Friday, July 20, at 10 a.m. in the Naval Air Station Whiting Field atrium.

Aug. 1 - Cmdr. Jeffrey DeBrine passed command of Helicopter Training Squadron EIGHTEEN to Lt. Col. Robert White Thursday, July 26, at 10 a.m. in the Naval Air Station Whiting Field auditorium.

Aug. 8 - NAS Whiting Field recognized AC1 Nina Baruca, ABH2 Derrick Watkins, and ABH3 Andan Rempel as its

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SECURITY CHECKPOINT



With a new year comes a new set of new laws. Security Corner will not detail these new laws but will advise you to check with your state DMV to understand new policies that affect your drivers license. A lot of states

don't give automatic extensions to military or their family member's driver licenses. In some states, you must notify the DMV that you are military; some let you do a renewal by mail; others make you carry an extension card. So, if you or a family member's drivers license is expired or about to expire, check with your state DMV, because the last thing you want is to be pulled over and be told that your license is expired after your state didn't grant you an automatic extension.

Round-up

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Sailor, Junior Sailor, and Bluejacket of the quarter for the third quarter of 2012.

Aug. 15 - Naval Air Station Whiting Field exercised its emergency response capabilities fully Tuesday, Aug. 7, when the base executed a casualty drill that called into action elements from the base and local agencies. The exercise was evaluated by the Commander Navy Region Southeast Training Team and was one of four drills the base will perform this year.

Aug. 22 - Naval Air Station Whiting Field's Fleet and Family Support Center staff completed another successful job fair Aug. 16. For the third consecutive year, more than 1,000 people walked through NAS Whiting Field's Sikes Hall seeking a match for their respective skills. More than 100 were successful and in excess of 600 interviews took place during the event.

Aug. 29 - The Naval Air Station Whiting Field Whiting Warriors softball team always had the heart of champions, and now the base's boys of summer have the rings to match. The Warriors capped a season for the ages with a dominant win over Tyndall Air Force Base in the United States Specialty Sports Association Military World Tournament in Panama City, Fla. on Sunday, Aug. 19.

Sept. 19 - Training Air Wing FIVE honored the late Ensign Justin Woods at a memorial service Thursday, Sept. 13 at the Naval Air Station Whiting Field chapel. TRAWING-5 leaders, students, and family members gathered to celebrate the life of the student military pilot who perished in a motorcycle accident Aug. 23.

Sept. 26 - The Whiting Division of the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps hosted a "birthday celebration" Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 8-9 onboard Naval Air Station Whiting Field.

Oct. 3 - Naval Air Station Whiting Field celebrated National Hispanic American Heritage Month Thursday, Sept. 27 with a showcase of culturally distinctive food, music, and history. The Hispanic American Heritage Festival, which was organized by the base Diversity Committee, attracted a broad spectrum of the air station community and exceeded all expectations for turnout and participation.

Oct. 17 - NAS Whiting Field selected Master-at-Arms 1st Class Adam Turner, Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Erica Roten, and Aviation Boatswain's Mate Third Class Andan Rempel as its Sailor, Junior Sailor, and Bluejacket of the Year.

Oct. 24 - Officers from Helicopter Training Squadron EIGHTEEN and Helicopter Training Squadron EIGHT teamed up to tackle the Fourth Annual Military Wilderness Challenge in Fayetteville, W.Va. earlier this month. The four-person squad successfully completed the grueling two-day event. Cmdr. John Quillinan, USN; Lt. Cmdr. Thad Smith, USN and Capt. Genevieve Studer, USMC from HT-18, joined Capt. Joe Heintz, USMC from HT-8 to form the team. The



Naval Air Station Whiting Field Commanding Officer Capt. Matthew Coughlin leads the push to back the ladder truck into the newly extended bay for the vehicle. The "Push In" ceremony relates back to the early history of fire engines when the machines were drawn by horses; after the horses were unhitched, the fire fighters had to push the cart back into the bay. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

unit persevered through the five-event ordeal claiming second place overall and first place Marine Corps.

Oct. 31 - When the heavy, haze gray helicopters lifted off Friday, Oct. 26, and departed from the Naval Air Station Whiting Field flight pattern, it signaled the end of another successful Fleet Fly-In. More than 20 fleet aircraft mingled among the 150 orange and white TH-57 training helicopters to help show the student aviators what awaits them in their future.

Nov. 7 - The Florida Department of Environmental Protection recognized Naval Air Station Whiting Field's water supply facilities with an award for its "outstanding" water systems and programs, Oct. 16.

Nov. 14 - Naval Air Station Whiting Field celebrated American Indian and Alaskan Native Heritage Month Thursday, Nov. 8, with help from members of the Santa Rosa County Creek Indian Tribe.

Nov. 14 - Master-at-Arms 1st Class Adam Turner, Aviation Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class Julie Maness, and Air Traffic Controller Airman Jake Black were respectively named the Sailor, Junior Sailor and Blue Jacket of the Quarter for the fourth quarter 2012.

Dec. 5 - Following 13 months at the helm, Cmdr. Philip Brock passed command of the Training Squadron THREE "Red Knights" to Lt. Col. Brian Schaefer Friday, November 30, at 10 a.m. in the Naval Air Station Whiting Field atrium.

Dec. 12 - Naval Air Station Whiting Field marked its 21st consecutive year as a National Arbor Day Foundation "Tree City, USA" Tuesday, Dec. 4 by the base's supply building, and celebrated its enduring commitment to ecological leadership by planting a sapling live oak on the grounds.

Merry Christmas to All

Naval Air Station Whiting Field and Training Air Wing FIVE celebrated the holidays in fine fashion this past December. The joint children's Christmas party, one of the largest joint holiday events in recent memory, topped the season with more than three hundred children getting to meet Santa, write and send letters to the North Pole, and enjoy crafts and games. Santa's arrival via helicopter highlighted the event. The base also held its annual tree lighting ceremony where children from the Child Development Center come to the command building's front lawn to hang hand-made ornaments from class, sing carols, feast on cookies and hot chocolate, and help light the base Christmas Tree. U.S. Navy photos by Lt. j.g. Tim Mosso and Jay Cope.



Rules for use of government vehicles explained

Have you ever noticed the license plate on a government vehicle states “For Official Use Only?”

The definition of “Official Use” is “the use of all Navy owned and controlled vehicles shall be restricted to official purposes only.” The term “official purposes” means that a person must perform travel in his official capacity. The purpose of the trip must be related to the performance of official duties or in connection with activities conducted under official authorization.

Many people do not realize that official use of government vehicles is NOT just merely a regulation or a policy. It is Public Law. What is the penalty for illegal use of a government vehicle? Penalties for willfully using, or authorizing the use of a Government-owned or leased motor vehicle, for other than official purposes, are stipulated in U.S. Code 31, Section 1349.

Examples of misuse of a government vehicle could include transporting officers or employees of the Government between their residences and places of duty/employment, taking a vehicle to lunch, or going through a fast food drive through. The vehicle may only be used at such locations if purchasing official goods for the Navy. SPECIAL AUTHORIZATION IS GRANTED FOR WHITING FIELD INVENTORY VEHICLES ONLY. DUE TO DISTANCE DRIVEN BY EMPLOYEES TO CONDUCT OFFICIAL BUSINESS AT OUTLYING FIELDS (OLFS) IN ALABAMA AND EGLIN EOD IN NICEVILLE, FLORIDA, EMPLOYEES ARE AUTHORIZED TO TAKE THE VEHICLE TO LUNCH IF THEY HAVE DRIVEN AT LEAST 30 MILES FROM WHITING FIELD OR EGLIN PROPER.

Do you know what the “Permissible Operating Distance (POD)” of a government vehicle is? It is usually more

economical to use the services of commercial carriers for the transportation of personnel and cargo to destinations outside the immediate area of an activity. A one-way distance of 100 miles has been selected as a guide to base permissible operating distances for motor vehicles. The POD established for an activity should be sufficient to support normal operations. Based on installation experience, a POD shall be established which shall adequately support the installation's motor vehicle transportation requirements. For transport of material, refer to NAVSUP Manual, Volume 5, Part E. The 100-mile guide shall not be exceeded without written authorization and justification signed by the activity commanding officer or individual assigned signature authority.

There are a few exceptions for individuals who are in an official travel status (TDY/TAD). The Joint Travel regulations (JTR) allows the following: Use of government-owned vehicles and special conveyance (rental vehicles) are limited to official purposes including transportation to and from duty sites, lodgings, dining facilities, drugstores, barber shops, places of worship, cleaning establishments, and similar places required for the traveler's subsistence, health or comfort. However Navy regulations state the first resource of vehicles used in a TDY/TAD status shall be a commercial short term rental vehicle authorized on official TDY/TAD orders.

Most infractions of “Official Use of Government Vehicles” are not performed deliberately – we just don't think. Make sure you and your co-workers are aware of how government vehicles may be used. If you are unsure if you are authorized to use a vehicle for a particular matter – don't take a chance – call your local transportation office for a determination of your particular use.

TRICARE Notes

USING TRICARE WITH OTHER HEALTH INSURANCE

For both medical and pharmacy claims, TRICARE is the secondary payer to all health benefits and insurance plans except for Medicaid, TRICARE supplements, the Indian Health Service, and a few other health programs. Let Humana Military and health care providers know if you have other health insurance (OHI), so they can help you coordinate benefits and ensure timely reimbursement.

File claims with your OHI first. If the OHI does not cover the full cost, you can file a claim with TRICARE. TRICARE issues reimbursements based on provider status, so it will not necessarily cover all of the remaining cost. For more information, please visit www.tricare.mil.

ENSURING YOUR RIGHT TO PRIVACY

As a TRICARE beneficiary, you can trust that your privacy will always be protected. Under the Health Insur-

ance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), all military and civilian health care plans (including TRICARE) and health care providers must comply with HIPAA's standards for providing security and protection to ensure the privacy of patient data.

Under the HIPAA Privacy Rule, medical staff are allowed to use and disclose your protected health information (PHI) for treatment, payment and health care operations without written authorization. However, nearly all uses and disclosures require your permission.

The HIPAA Privacy Rule allows you to receive a copy of the Military Health System Notice of Privacy Practices, request access to PHI, request amendment of PHI, request an accounting of PHI disclosures, request restrictions on PHI use and disclosure, and file a complaint regarding any privacy infractions.

To learn about your rights and responsibilities within the Military Health System, visit www.tricare.mil.