

Whiting Tower

NAS Whiting Field, Milton, Fla.

"THE WORLD'S MOST EFFICIENT NAVAL AIR COMPLEX"

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Whiting Teams Help Clean-up Santa Rosa

By **Ens. Andrew Stephenson, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs**

Sailors, Marines, Coast Guardsmen, and their families from Naval Air Station Whiting Field (NASWF) and Training Air Wing FIVE (TW-5) joined with other community groups to clean up the community during the Santa Rosa Great American Cleanup. This event is part of the nationwide Keep America Beautiful's Great American Cleanup, sponsored locally by the Santa Rosa Clean Community System.

More than 150 volunteers from base organizations and commands collected 176 bags of trash along 22.3 miles of local roads.

The Great American Cleanup runs nationwide from March 1 through May 31, and the Santa Rosa event is held every year on the third Saturday in April to coincide with Earth Day celebrations. According to the Santa Rosa Clean Community System website, "The goal of the event is to get the community involved in cleaning up our own backyard, raising awareness of the economic, health and tourism



Sailors and their families from Naval Branch Medical Clinic prepare to head out to participate in the Great American Clean-up April 18. Photo courtesy of Naval Branch Medical Clinic.

benefits of having a clean environment and generating pride among the citizens."

NASWF personnel, families and friends all joined in with a kick off effort on Friday, April 17 and helped with the make

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Nominee for Navy Secretary Vows to Support Sailors, Marines

By **Samantha L. Quigley, American Forces Press Services**

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- President Barack Obama's nominee for secretary of the Navy pledged to address the service's acquisition process to ensure Sailors, Marines, and taxpayers are not shortchanged.

Former Mississippi Gov. Raymond Mabus Jr., acknowledged the Department of the Navy faces complex challenges.

"One of the important [challenges] is gaining control of an acquisition process which, far too often, overpromises and under prices; breaks, sometimes spectacularly, budgets and schedules; ups requirements while lowering quantities; and resists accountability," said former Mississippi Gov. Raymond Mabus Jr.

Mabus told the Senate Armed Services Committee during his confirmation hearing April 28 that if confirmed, that would be one of his areas of concentration.

"I look forward to working with the members of this committee to make sure we don't shortchange our Sailors, Marines and taxpayers because of an out-of-control process," he said.

Mabus noted the contributions made by the men and women of the Navy and Marine Corps. "Thousands of brave Marines and Sailors are engaged, in Iraq and Afghanistan, while courageous thousands more carry out hazardous duties around the globe," he said. "These incredible, wonderful young Americans all volunteered to serve and are defending and representing the United States and all of us."

He also outlined the importance of the department to the nation's interests around the world.

"The Navy and the Marine Corps play critical roles in our nation's service, fighting America's wars, projecting power where needed, protecting the sea lanes, delivering disaster relief, cooperating with other countries, in efforts to multiply force, trying and preventing conflicts from arising or from turning into things which are larger, more dangerous and harder to control, providing training and other assistance, to nations around the globe, and doing many of these things in a sea-based, minimum-footprint way," he said.

The nominee said the office for which he is being considered has many facets, ranging from "making sure that

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Whiting Field to Hold Holocaust Remembrance



Wanda Wolosky, a Holocaust survivor, receives a plaque from Capt. Enrique Sadsad, NAS Whiting Field commanding officer. Wolosky was the guest speaker for last year's Holocaust remembrance ceremony and will attend this year's event Monday, May 4 in the base auditorium. U.S. Navy file photo.

Naval Air Station Whiting Field will host a presentation called "Never Again - What You Do Matters" commemorating the Military's recognition and remembrance of the Holocaust. The event will occur Monday, May 4 in the base auditorium from 10 a.m. to noon. This event is free and open to the public.

Dr. Gail Wallen, the Director of Holocaust Services at Jewish Family and Children Services of Southern Arizona, Inc. in Tucson, Ariz. will present an audio-visual historical perspective of the Holocaust during the first half of the ceremony. Rosa Freund, a Holocaust survivor from the Auschwitz and Birkenau concentration camps, is the featured speaker for the event. Following her time in those camps, she was later taken to Lensing where she was liberated May 5, 1945. She will be relating her personal experiences during the ceremony.

Capt. Enrique Sadsad, Naval Air Station Whiting Field commanding officer will provide the opening remarks, and Col. Scott Walsh, Commander Training Air Wing FIVE will offer a closing respective. Wanda Wolosky, another Holocaust survivor, who spoke at the event last year, will also attend.

Admiral Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff recently stated the importance of holding these commemorations during a message aired on the Pentagon Channel.

"As we pause to remember the 6 million who perished, let us also pause to celebrate the lives of those who survived -- who went on to teach us the great responsibility of life itself," he said. "It matters what we do."

Whiting Helps Clean-up

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the big event Saturday, April 18 a huge success.

Cleanup efforts began on Friday when a group of 87 volunteers from TW-5 cleared enough litter to fill 112 large refuse bags. The volunteers were split into 8 groups to clean along 15 miles of local roads. Air wing personnel picked up debris along Avalon Blvd. from the railroad overpass area south to the Garcon Point Bridge Toll Booth, including all Interstate Highway 10 on/off ramps; Old Bagdad Highway from Avalon Blvd east to Henry St; Munson Highway from Stewart St east to the Blackwater Trail Parking Area; and along Anderson Rd between Berry Hill Rd and Willard Norris Rd.

Saturday was the primary day of the event, and Whiting Field personnel worked in various locations throughout the area. Groups from the base's Crash Division, NASWF First Class Petty Officer's Association, the Naval Branch Health Clinic, Air Traffic Control, Training Squadron TWO, and Helicopter Training Squadron EIGHTEEN collected in excess of 50 bags of garbage.

These 95 volunteers were responsi-



Training Air Wing FIVE flight students pick up litter alongside the road during the Great American Clean-up April 17. More than 80 service members volunteered to help clean the community roadways. Photo by Ens. Melinda Montano.

ble for cleaning nearly 8 miles of local roadways. The areas covered were along Route 90 from Dogwood to Avalon Blvd, State Highway 89/ Dogwood from the intersection of Route 90 to the intersection of Willard Norris Rd, State Highway 89/Dogwood from the intersection of Willard Norris Rd down to Stewart St, and along State Highway 87/89/Stewart up to the Skyline Fire Department, and along State Highway 87.

"Having our group help with the Santa Rosa County Great Ameri-

can Cleanup was a great opportunity to come out and show our continued support for our community," said Petty Officer First Class Pamela Jenkins.

Keep America Beautiful's Great American Cleanup is the nation's largest community improvement program and involves an estimated 3 million volunteers and attendees, donating many hours to clean, beautify and improve local communities in all 50 states.

"As one of the facilitators for this annual county-wide community service project, it was great to see such outstanding participation and support from the TW-5 flight students and Instructor Pilots as well as many of the NASWF organizations," said Kelly McCoy, Great American Cleanup coordinator for this year's campaign on the base. "This year's Great American Cleanup campaign was by far the best turnout we've had during the five years I've been involved. The TW-5/NASWF team provided a significant contribution to the overall success of the 2009 campaign. Thanks and well done to all the volunteers who participated this year."

News and Notes

Sunset Stampede - The Zoo at Northwest Florida's 1st Annual Sunset Stampede 5K Run/Walk will be held on Sat, May 21 at Navarre Beach. The race begins at 6 p.m. with a Kids Fun Run beginning at 5 p.m. The first 500 people to sign up get a t-shirt. Cost: \$20.00 thru 4 Apr, \$25.00 after. See www.zoosunsetstampede.org online for more information.

Country Fest - WXBM's Country Fest will serve as the National Military Appreciation Month kick off event! for the Pensacola Area May 2. Spend the day with Country 102.7 WXBM as they bring Country Fest to life at Five Flags Speedway. This all day family fun music festival features great music, vendors, activities, attractions and so much more! Gates open at 9 a.m. - show starts at 10 a.m.. Tickets are only \$25.00 for adults, children 12 are admitted free. Featuring Artists Craig Morgan, James Otto and Whitney Duncan. For details call studios: 850-994-5357.

ITT Tickets - Your ITT office has discounted CountryFest tickets available now for \$23 for active military only. Wild adventure in Valdosta, Ga. has provided discount tickets to the ITT office for \$35 a \$14 reduction on normal costs. Free 5 day hero salute for Disney world and free day two-park unlimited Universal hero salute tickets are also in stock. Finally, just in are discounted Bama Jam tickets. The three-day concert event in Enterprise, Ala. has a normal cost of \$178, but ITT has them for \$99. Stop by the bowling alley or call 623-7032 for more information.

Runners' Club - Morale Welfare and Recreation (MWR) is looking for a few good runners for a new runners' club. The club is for people of all ability levels, and will offer incentives for certain performance achievements reached. This is a new program and suggestions are appreciated. Sign up at the Fitness Center or contact Todd Mooneyham at (850) 665-6102.

Also, the NAS Whiting Field Running Club will hold its Inau-



Recognizing Our Best and Brightest
Training Squadron SIX (VT-6) Commanding Officer Lt. Col. Javier Ball and Aquasis Services Incorporated Project Manager Kelly McCoy flank Cathie Dean, the Aquasis Employee of the Quarter. Dean was named as the company's Employee of the Quarter for her work as the Logs and Records Clerk for TrVT-6. Photo courtesy of VT-6.

gural Memorial Day 5-K FUN RUN Saturday, May 30 at 10 a.m. Registration will begin at 9 a.m. For more information and to register please contact Todd Mooneyham at 850-665-6102, Fitness Center at 623-7412, or the Liberty Center at 623-7472.

Command Picnic - NAS Whiting Field will hold their all hands picnic, May 15. Military, dependents, retirees, reservists, DOD, contractors, and friends are all invited to join us in this family oriented event starting at 10 a.m. at the Sports Complex adjacent the ball fields. There will be plenty of food and fun, with a menu of: Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Cheese Burgers, Bratwurst, Potato Salad, Coleslaw, Baked Beans, Chips, Cookies and beverages.

Taxi Rule Change - The Escambia County Board of County Commissioners unanimously passed the County Taxicab ordinance. It mirrors the City's ordinance on licensure, fares and insurance. It is being sent to the Florida Secretary of State for ratification and will be enacted in 30 days. From that point on flat rate fares will be banned and the meter will rule -If the meter reads zero the fare is zero. For shared cabs, the fare will be the meter plus \$0.50 per additional passenger.

Embry Riddle Registration - The Pensacola Campus of Embry Riddle Aeronautical University is registering April 30-May 31 for the Spring II term. Registration times are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Fridays in Bldg. 634, Suite 033, 250 Chambers Avenue, NAS Pensacola and on Mondays and Wednesdays, 9:30am-4:00pm in Bldg. 1417, Room 163 on NAS Whiting Field. Add and drop and late registration will be held June 1-5. New Student Orientation will be held Saturday, May 30, 8:30 to noon in Bldg. 634, Suite 033. Everyone is encouraged to register early. Email pensacola.center@erau.edu, visit www.embryriddle.edu/pensacola or call 458-1098 for info.

BIG Sale - The Eglin AFB Commissary will have a 2 day case lot sale May 2 & 3. The sale will be held at Duke Field, Fla. Duke is located about seven miles south of Crestview, Fla. The sale is expected to have more than 100 different items for sale in case quantities and special prices. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Store Director, Ms. Harris at (850) 882-5620.



A Really Big Check

Cmdr. Jody Bridges, commanding officer Training Squadron THREE presents a check for \$1,000 to Mark Hardin, Director for Pensacola Area Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society, April 22. Last year's fund drive totaled \$325,000. This year's final numbers aren't in, but Hardin expects to surpass \$365,000 to be raised for the society. "I am very happy and thankful for the increase in this year's fund drive totals," he said, "especially, in light of the country's economic situation today. We will surely be called upon more often over the next year or two. We want to be well prepared to support our Navy and Marine

Upcoming Events

May, All Month - Asian Pacific American Heritage Month
May 1, 0900 - HT-18 Receives Captain's Cup - HT-18 Bldg.
May 4, 1000 - Holocaust Remembrance - Base Auditorium

May 8, 1300 - HT-28 Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium
May 15, 0730 - NASWF Safety Standown - Base Auditorium
May 15, 1000 - All Hands Picnic - Sports Complex

Fleet and Family Support Center Classes

Welcome to Whiting! - Every Thursday 1000 - 1200

If you are new to NAS Whiting Field or just want to learn more about the Milton – Pensacola area, this class is for you! Come find out about MWR and other recreational facilities, hurricane preparedness, the FFSC and other support services available! Children are welcome and this is a great opportunity to meet new friends! Join us at the Whiting Pines Community Center any Thursday or call the FFSC at 623-7177 for more information.

VA Appointments (Call to schedule) - Friday, May 8, 0800 – 1200 - Friday, May 22, 0800 – 1200

Resume Writing - Monday, May 4, 0800 - 1000

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. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 623-7177.

Car Buying Strategies - Tuesday, May 5, 0900 - 1100

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 623-7177.

Time Management - Wednesday, May 6, 1300 - 1400

At the end of the day, do you ask yourself “where did the day go?” and feel like you have accomplished very little on your list of “things to do?” If you answered “yes” to these questions, this class is for you. The information provided in this class will provide you with tools that will help you make the most of your busy and demanding days. Class will be held at the FFSC conference room. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 623-7177.

Money & the Move - Tuesday, May 12, 0900 - 1100

A Permanent Change of Station (PCS) move can be one of the most exciting adventures of your career as well as one of the best benefits. However, a PCS move can also become a financial disaster that can take months to recover from if not properly prepared for. Class will be held at the FFSC conference room. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 623-7177.

Boarding Training Evolves with the Mission

PENSACOLA, Fla. – Whether it’s searching a Dhow in the Persian Gulf for hidden weapons, or boarding and inspecting a suspected pirate mothership off the coast of Somalia, Visit, Board, Search and Seizure (VBSS) teams are playing an important part in the Navy’s Maritime Strategy.

Managed by the Center for Security Forces (CENSECFOR) in Norfolk, Va., formal VBSS training was created following the first Gulf War in 1990 as a way to standardize and continue the Maritime Interception Operations introduced there as a result of U.N. Resolutions.

“The course was designed to standardize what was previously done through on-the-job training and passdown,” said Kurt Martin, Anti-Terrorism Program Manager for CENSECFOR. “We introduced the curriculum in 1998 and updated it in 2005 to reflect what the teams would be facing in the fleet.”

Initial VBSS skills training is delivered by CENSECFOR at four locations: Chesapeake, Va., Mayport, Fla., San Diego, Calif., and Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. The initial training continuum includes three courses lasting a total of eight weeks, with some team members receiving additional follow-on training. Skills taught in the VBSS courses include tactical movement and shooting, defensive tactics, repelling, searching and other team skills.

The center’s training covers both VBSS Level I, which

focuses on ships that comply with the instructions of the inspection team, and Level II, which addresses the tactics used to board vessels that are non-compliant. Level II ships have freeboard (the distance between the waterline and the main deck of the ship) of 25 feet or less above the water. Non-compliant vessels that have greater than 25 feet of freeboard, or that are actively opposing the boarding, are handled by teams of Special Operations Forces (SOF).

Cmdr. Steve Murphy, commanding officer of USS Mahan (DDG 72), is currently operating as part of Combined Task Force (CTF) 151, a multi-national task force conducting counter-piracy operations in the Gulf of Aden.

Although anti-piracy operations are getting the lion’s share of the news coverage, Martin notes that VBSS teams are not specifically trained for an anti-piracy mission. “You won’t find the term ‘anti-piracy’ in any of the CENSECFOR VBSS training curriculum,” he said. “The fact that the ships depend on the VBSS teams is a by-product of the cohesive unit that forms, and their ability to deliver the team via Rigid-Hulled Inflatable Boats (RHIBs), board vessels and, if necessary, defend themselves should the situation arise. VBSS teams are on Navy ships throughout the world 24/7, keeping the bad guys from smuggling everything from guns to cocaine.”

Military Appreciation Month Update

May 2 - WXBM Country Fest - Five Flags Speedway - 9 a.m.

One-day family fun music festival kicks off the month with advance discounted tickets for military personnel.

May 14-17 - Escarosa Independence Weekend

Check out www.pensacolaindependenceweekend.com for more details, but includes a seminar at Whiting Field May 15 about the casualty evacuation missions during OIF/OEF.

May 15 - Family Day Picnic - NAS Whiting Field - 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Whiting Field, tenant commands and families enjoy a day in the sun at the Sports Complex on the base. Food, games and contests throughout the afternoon.

May 18-22 - Sweet Treats - Whiting Field and Outlying Fields

Volunteers will deliver donuts, fudge, cookies and brownies to security and emergency crews at the various facilities.

May 29 - Karaoke Night - 5 p.m.

Base and tenant command personnel can join with Santa Rosa County for an evening of fun, singing, and giveaways at Ace's Pub.

May 27 - Military Update Breakfast - 7:30 a.m.

Santa Rosa County will sponsor 50 military personnel to a complimentary meal during the May Military Update breakfast meeting.

Throughout the Month

National Military Appreciation Month committee members will be packaging and mailing care packages to Individual Augmentees from Whiting Field commands.

The committee is also encouraging businesses and homes to display yard signs, banners and flags letting the military know how much support they have in the community.

Special Offers from Local Businesses

The Penton Salon and Day Spa in Pace wants to offer any Active Duty Military a 10% off discount May 1-31 for Military Appreciation Month. They must show Military ID.

Throughout May, Cassandra's Designs is having a military appreciation discount on all massages. Show your military ID to receive a 25% discount on a Relaxation, Deep Tissue, and other massages. Located across from Walmart on Hwy 90, call (850) 995-8015 to schedule an appointment today! License number MM11531.

The Starbucks shop in Pace is offering Military Mondays throughout the May. Stop in and get a 10% discount every Monday at Starbucks in Pace. 10% off.

Prospective SECNAV

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the Navy and Marine Corps recruit, train and retain exceptional forces, to ensuring that those forces have enough of the right equipment, to do their job, to caring for them and their families daily and especially in times of crisis, to working with Congress and the other services and the larger Department of Defense."

Mabus, a former naval surface warfare officer, called the experience one of the most profound of his life. "It helped me so much in the other things that I have undertaken," he said.

He also served as Mississippi's state auditor and U.S. ambassador to Saudi Arabia. It was his stint as governor, however, that taught him that one person can't do everything alone.

"Cooperation and collaboration, especially with the legislative branch, is crucial if anything is to be accomplished," he said.

Robert O. Work also addressed the committee. Work, who is nominated to be the next undersecretary of the Navy, said he looks forward to helping Mabus lead the Navy and Marine Corps and working with members of the Senate Armed Services Committee, if they are both confirmed.

"If confirmed, I believe that my life-long experience – first as an active-duty dependent, then a military officer ... a father of a military family; and leader, strategist, and analyst – well-prepares me to contribute to these decisions," Work said.

"I will also work hard with the secretary of the Navy to ensure that our nearly 11,000 wounded warriors receive the best care possible, and that the families of our fallen are treated with the dignity and respect they deserve," he said.

The retired Marine, who followed in his father's footsteps and served in the Corps for 27 years, said that he's mindful of what looks to be an especially challenging fiscal and budgetary environment.

"The incoming secretary and undersecretary will be forced to make hard decisions about the future of the Navy and Marine Corps," he said. "However, I pledge not to enter this important job with any preconceived notions or positions.

"I'll listen to the best available civilian and military advice and, when asked, give ... honest, pragmatic advice and counsel to the secretary of the Navy [and] the secretary of Defense, and the president," he added.

The Senate Armed Services Committee also heard testimony from nominees for Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs, General Counsel of the Department of the Army, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Global Strategic Affairs, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Asian and Pacific Security Affairs, and Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works.

Congrats to CTW-5 Wingers and Scholars



First Row: Cmdr. Mark Murray, USN; Ens. Jaime Lewis, USN; Ens. Aaron Szechtman, USN; Ens. Michael Molloy, USN; Ens. Christopher Norris, USN; Ens. Leif Walroth, USN; Lt. j.g. Jeffrey Storer, USN; and Ens. Christopher Sedlak. Second Row: Ens. Ryan Jackson, USN; Ens. Michael McDonald, USN; Lt. j.g. Robert O'Donnell, USCG; Lt. Roger Barr, USCG; Lt. j.g. Jonathan Lee, USCG; Ens. Kevin Ringelstein, USN; Ens. John Geary, USN; Ens. Joshua Magder, USN; and Col. Scott Walsh, USMC. Third Row: Lt. Col. Clay Stackhouse, USMC; Ens. Samuel Clement, USN; Lt. j.g. David Farrell, USN; 1st Lt. Kyle Smith, USMC; Ens. Stephen Smith, USN; Lt. j.g. Andrew Lathrop, USN; Lt. j.g. Matthew Mangaran, USN; Lt. j.g. Christopher Yates, USN; Ens. Jaden Risner, USN; and Ens. Zachary Vojtech, USCG. Fourth Row: Cmdr. Christopher Heaney, USN; Ens. Michael Panos, USN; 1st Lt. Anthony Fuhrer, USMC; Ens. Marcus Torres, USN; 1st Lt. Keith Barton, JR, USMC; Ens. John Kohut, USN; Lt. j.g. Matthew Packard, USN; and Rear Adm. John Korn, USCG.



Training Air Wing FIVE recognized a large number of academic awardees April 24 with 12 students earning awards. In no particular order, Lt. j.g. Gregory Dahl, USCG; Ens. William Hardin, USN; 2nd Lt. Michael Harris, USMC; Ens. Mason Hoyt, USN; Ens. Kevin McCadden, USN; and 2nd Lt. Cynthia McDermott, USAF received Academic Achievement Awards for Primary Flight Training. 1st Lt. Tara Businski, USMC; Ens. Mitchell Dow, USN; Ens. Naotomo Gibson, USN; Ens. Richard Hess, USN and 1st Lt. Adamo Manfra, USMC received their Advanced Academic Achievement Awards. Not pictures is Lt. Andrew Wyrick, USN, for an Academic Achievement award. Photos by Marc Bizzell.



And a Fun Day Was Had By All

Naval Air Station Whiting Field's Child Development Center held their annual parent - child picnic Friday, April 24 at the center. The kids and the parents enjoyed face painting by staff members, lunch provided by the center, inflatable slides and jump stations, a visit from Sparky the fire fighting dog, as well as some tricycle and train rides. The event is held every year to celebrate the Month of the Military Child and enable the children to spend a fun-filled day with their parents. This is the 19th year for the event. Photos by HMI Nathan Antonio and Jay Cope

