

Whiting Tower

NAS Whiting Field, Milton, Fla.

"THE WORLD'S MOST EFFICIENT NAVAL AIR COMPLEX"

Vol. 65 No. 32

Wednesday, August 12, 2009

Sadsad Earns ADC Leader Award

By Ens. Austin Nasca and Jay Cope, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

Naval Air Station Whiting Field's encroachment prevention program has been praised as the nation's model program. The program requires a tremendous amount of trust and cooperation between the county and the base to protect Whiting Field's mission. Strengthening the relationship between the base and Santa Rosa County as well as partnering with them on initiatives to help both entities were primary goals for Capt. Enrique Sadsad when he assumed command August 2007.

His efforts earned some unexpected dividends when Santa Rosa County nominated him for the Association for Defense Communities Military Leader of the Year award. Sadsad was even more stunned when he was selected to receive the award which was presented to him at the association's annual conference Aug. 4.

"It was an incredibly pleasant surprise that the Santa Rosa County community would feel strongly enough to nominate me for this award, let alone that I was selected. It is a humbling experience, but it is a true testament to the ter-



Capt. Enrique Sadsad holds the Association of Defense Communities Military Leader of the Year Award. He received the award in Boston during the groups annual conference Aug. 4. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

rific working relationship we have here between Naval Air Station Whiting Field and the county," he said. "It has been a privilege to work with them in strengthening the mission - (Cont. on Page 5)

Fisher Takes Command of HT-8 from Heaney



Cmdr. Christopher Heaney passes the Squadron's flag to Cmdr. Michael Fisher, symbolically turning over command of Helicopter Training Squadron EIGHT to him. Photo courtesy of HT-8.

By Capt. Matthew Sproat, HT-8 Public Affairs

With the symbolic passing of the squadron colors, Cmdr. Christopher Heaney turned over command of Helicopter Training Squadron Eight (HT-8)

to Cmdr. Michael Fisher. The ceremony occurred in front of a large crowd of family members, friends, service members and guests in the Blue Angels Atrium at the National Museum of Naval Aviation on Thursday, July 23.

Marine Col. Scott Walsh served as the guest speaker for the ceremony and reminded the audience that the country is still at war. And that the true value of the military equipment used to execute the strategy lies in the operators' dedication and drive to excel.

"We need our rotary wing warriors right now because helicopters are the most flexible airborne weapon system in our Navy. It comes down to the character of leaders, and those people like Chris and Mike – it's that type of

character," Walsh said. "As you walk through this museum and look at the Dauntless Dive Bomber, don't look at an obsolete aircraft, look at the cockpit and think about what was in that cockpit. Naval Aviation is not about aluminum, fiberglass, rubber, wood – naval aviation is about flesh, bone, blood and what's in here (the heart). The people inside the cockpit make the difference. HT-8 is forging that flesh and blood into the future rotary wing warriors of our nation."

During Heaney's 13-month tenure as Commanding Officer, the Eightballers flew more than 25,500 flight hours and completed more than 14,800 syllabus events. While serving

- (Cont. on Page 5)

Chalkboard Minutes

By Chris Hendrix

Welcome to **CHALKBOARD MINUTES**. I hope to use this forum to keep you abreast of educational information I feel you might need. I will also list important upcoming dates. If there is any other ways that I can help you- please feel free to contact me. As we get closer to school, I thought I would combine some of the best data from websites I found that deal with educational Guidance issues. If you have students in this particular age group, this can be a rough guideline to use to keep your child on track for college.

Thought for the Day: Philosopher Peter Block said, "We must act as if our institutions are ours to create, our learning is ours to define, our leadership we seek is ours to become." Statistics have shown that the most important piece for you child's educational future is you. Please become active in your child's school; volunteer, meet the teachers, get involved- it could make all the difference!

Upcoming Dates:

24 Aug 09- School starts in Santa Rosa County Schools

07 Sep 09- Labor Day- No School

09 Sep 09- Teachers Professional Development Day-Early School Release

September

8th Grade Year- Apply for a Social Security Number if you do not already have one. Talk to friends and family about careers and possible school choices. Consult with your middle and high school counselors to find out which courses you should take that will qualify you to attend certain colleges and/or enter certain career fields.

Freshmen- Visit your Guidance counselor to map out a four-year curriculum that will put you into the most challenging courses you can handle. Build a flexible schedule allowing for study time, extracurricular activities, and your other interests. Learn to use some type of Daily Planner to help you get organized. Get involved only in extracurricular activities in which you have a genuine interest and those to which you are willing to make the necessary time commitment.

Sophomores- Register for the PSAT or the PLAN if they are offered to sophomores at your school. Re-evaluate your high school course selection to make sure it meets college requirements. Try to complete most of your academic requirements by your junior year.

Juniors- Get serious about your schoolwork if you haven't already; junior-year grades are extremely important as is the rigor of your coursework. Be sure to register for the PSAT or the PLAN. Attend college fairs and gather information.

Seniors- Plan to work really hard this term. Your grades will be included on your transcript. If necessary, register to retake the SAT or ACT. Review your final list of colleges with your counselor, and start gathering applications. Once you've received the application forms, begin working on the essays. Thinking about applying early? You need to decide soon.

BBC Holds Housing Survey for Resident Satisfaction

The Annual CEL Housing Survey time is upon NAS Whiting Field once again. In a few weeks, family housing residents will be receiving the CEL Resident Satisfaction Survey. Balfour Beatty Communities encourages residents to fill them out and return them.

By completing and handing surveys in, residents will qualify for weekly drawings.

The survey is part of a performance assessment program. Balfour Beatty Communities ranks "extremely" satisfied and "very good" a passing grade on the survey and any score that is less than this is considered unacceptable.

"We truly strive to exceed our resident's expectations and hope that every resident enjoyed their home and the services that we provided," explained Jessica Heilman, Community Manager for Balfour Beatty Communities.

Once residents complete their surveys and seal them in the postage paid envelopes provided, they can simply bring it to the Balfour Beatty Communities Management Office and drop it in the authorized locked mailbox. Only CEL employees will open the returned envelopes. Survey results are completely confidential and anonymous.

"The survey allows us to see where we are succeeding and where there is room for improvement," said Heilman, "it's important for residents to fill them out honestly."

The survey deadline date is October 7, 2009



Honoring the Top Sailors

HM1 (AW) Pamela Jenkins - NASWF Branch Health Clinic, ABH2 (AW/SW) Jermaine Smith - NASWF Crash Division, and AWS2 (NAC) Matthew Beach - HT-28 are recognized by the Santa Rosa Council of the Navy League Friday, July 31 as the Sailors of the Quarter. Also pictured with the award recipients are: Cmdr. Mathew Frost - Executive Officer, HT-28; Walt Reese - Navy League; Ron Fields - Navy League / CEO Pen Air Federal Credit Union; Matt Garner - Complete Video Productions; and Darrel Greer - Navy League President / Edward Jones Investments.

News and Notes

NHP Accepting New Enrollees - Naval Hospital Pensacola's Primary Care Clinics (Family Medicine and Internal Medicine) are now accepting new enrollees. This enrollment opportunity is open to all Retirees and Retiree Family Members. Please note: Medicare and TRICARE for Life beneficiaries are not included. However, these programs will remain unchanged.

To enroll, please stop by Naval Hospital Pensacola's TRICARE Service Center (TSC) located on the first floor of the hospital in Room D-1051, Monday through Friday between the hours of 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. You may also call Naval Hospital Pensacola's Health Benefits Office at (850) 505-6709 for questions or any further assistance.

Military Wives Host Art Show - Clara's Angels, an American Red Cross volunteer group made up of local military wives, will host an Art Show and Wine Tasting event at the Pensacola Naval Air Station Officers' Club on August 15, 2009.

"We are excited to be partnering with the local Red Cross for this year's event," said Karin Feagles, the event coordinator. "The Red Cross provides a valuable service to the military families in Northwest Florida and to the entire community when disaster strikes," continued Feagles.

Artwork including photography, jewelry, ceramics, pottery, paintings and unique crafts from local artisans will be displayed and available for purchase.

A local beverage distributor, Southern Wine & Spirits, will have a variety of wines available for tasting and appetizers will be served during the evening.

The event will be held from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. and is open to the public. Tickets can be purchased at www.YourRedCross.org or at the door.

Marriage Enrichment Retreats - The Chaplain's Religious Development Operation (CREDO) will host two Marriage Enrichment retreats within the next two months. The first will be at the Renaissance Hotel in Mobile, Ala., Aug. 28-30 and the second will be at Perdido Bay Resort, Sept. 11-13. Both retreats



Recognizing Superior Service

Lt. Brook Bielen (TAD to the HITU fm HT-28) and Lt. Sandy Bielen (TAD to Acad Trng fm VT-2) receive their end of tour awards from Col. Scott Walsh, Commander Training Air Wing FIVE. Both separated from the Navy recently. Photo courtesy of TRAWING-5.

are free and open to active duty, reserve, and retired personnel. The Marriage Enrichment sessions are designed to help couples understand expectations, explore personality differences, improve communication skills and provide quality fun time together to help strengthen relationships. For more information or to sign up, call the spiritual fitness division southeast at (904) 542-3923. Interested personnel may also call Chaplain Ray Summerlin at 623-7211.

Get Back to Nature - New Orleans has proclaimed military travel month through Sept. 30. The city is rolling out the red, white, and blue carpet for all military visitors. The Audubon Nature Institute is providing a military promotion of "buy one get one free" coupons. Valid for up to four admissions, the coupons may be used for the Audubon Zoo, Insectarium or Aquarium. Visit auduboninstitute.org for details or contact ITT at 7032.

Book Signing - The Navy Exchange will host a book signing by Martha LaGuardia-Kotite Aug. 14 from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. She is the author of the book "So Others May Live," a feature about Coast Guard rescue swimmers. The author is a Niceville, Fla. resident and a graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy.

9-Pin No Tap - The NAS Whiting Field Bowling Alley hosts 9-Pin No Tap evenings on the first Saturday of each month. Beginning at 7 p.m. the event features prizes for red and blue headpin strikes and 300 no tap games. Call 623-7313 for details.

Military Discount - August brings fun times at the Blackwater Bistro! This is the month when the restaurant recognizes all Military Personnel, Defense Contractors, those who work on base and serve in any capacity to support and defend the freedoms Americans share. The Bistro will honor all Military Personnel and Defense Contractors with \$1.00 Cold Draft Beer EVERYDAY, ALL DAY, ALL MONTH in August.

Golf Tournament - The 9/11 golf tournament is seeking players and teams for their inaugural event. The tournament at Tiger Point Country Club costs \$75 per individual in advance of the event and \$85 Friday, Sept. 11. The ticket includes green fees, cart, banquet, with guest speakers, prizes and more. The contest is a 4-man scramble with a noon shotgun start. Call 850-758-6698/529-8682 or email: 91109WWPGolf@resallc.com for details.



A Long and Winding Road

Donald McMillan is presented a Length of Service award by Col. Scott Walsh for surpassing 50 years of service to the government. He is the Academic Training Department Head now, but completed 30 years of an active Army career both enlisted and officer, as well as the next 19 as Army GS civilian, mostly in Korea. He has only been with the Navy 8 months so far. Photo courtesy of TRAWING-5.

Upcoming Events

Aug. 14, 1030 - NEX Book Signing Martha LaGuardia-Kotite
Aug. 14, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium
Aug. 14, 1830 - Community Appreciation Luau - Wings Club
Aug. 20, 0900 - FFSC Job Fair - Sikes Hall

Aug. 27, TBD - Rollout of First T-6B Aircraft at NASWF
Aug. 28, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium
Sept. 4, TBD - NASWF Safety Standown - Sikes Hall
Sept. 7, All Day - Labor Day

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, things to do on the weekend, the FFSC and other support services available! Children are welcome and this is a great opportunity to meet new friends! Call to sign up at 623-7177.

VA Representative (Call for appointment) - Fridays, August 14, 0800-1200 & August 28, 0800-1200

Home Buying - Friday, August 14, 1300 - 1500

A home is one of the most complicated and costly purchases you'll ever make. Getting the best deal at the time of purchase can reduce "life of the loan" by thousands of dollars. Let us show you how. Class will be held at the FFSC conference room. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 623-7177.

Anger Management - Wednesday, August 19, 1300 - 1400

Is anger affecting your health, your relationships or your work performance? Learn to understand the causes and effects of unhealthy anger and how to express and release that anger in a healthy way! Class will be held at the FFSC conference room. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 623-7177.

Developing Your Spending Plan - Friday, August 21, 1300 - 1500

This class is not designed to tell you what to do with your money; this class will challenge you to think before you spend. There is no patent on the "right" way to handle your money, but there are better ways to get your dollar's worth. Class will be held at the FFSC conference room. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 623-7177.

Whiting Field to Host Annual Job

Naval Air Station Whiting Field's Fleet and Family Support Center will host their 20th annual Job Fair at the base's Sikes Hall, Thursday, Aug. 20.

More than 60 employers are scheduled to attend with reservations still being accepted. Past fairs have seen prospective job seeker attendance exceeding 800, representing a wealth of veteran, military and military family job experience.

Naval Air Station Whiting Field's job fair is open to the public, and admission is free. Some of the employers who have registered for booths include: Columbia Southern University, Aquasis Services Inc., AGI, Gulf Power/Southern Company, Satellites Unlimited Inc., Santa Rosa Medical, The Home Depot, The Trump Network, Clearwire, Kelly Services, Aerotek, Sikorsky Support Services, Inc., Tom Thumb Store, Guernsey & Associates, West Corporation, Raytheon Technical Services, L-3 Communications, Florida Fish and Wildlife, Florida Highway Patrol, North Okaloosa Medical Center, Landrum Staffing, Tallahassee Police Department, Mobile Aerospace Engineering, Cox Communication, Gulf Coast, United States Secret Service, Keegan Staffing.

Job Seekers will need proof of insurance and a valid diver license to enter the base. For those planning to attend, Whiting Field's Job Fair organizers offer you the following job hunting tips:

1. Be prepared to interview.

- (Cont. on Page 6)

TRICARE NOTE

PREVENTING FRAUD AND ABUSE: HOW YOU CAN HELP

Of the more than \$1 trillion Americans spend every year on health care, the Federal Government estimates that more than \$100 billion-or, about 10 percent-is lost to fraud and abuse. Yet, in many case, both can be prevented with your help.

What Constitutes Fraud and Abuse?

Fraud occurs when a person or organization intentionally deceives others to gain some sort of unauthorized benefits. Abuse occurs when a provider bills for services or supplies that are not medically necessary or do not meet professional standards

How You Can Help Stop Fraud and Abuse

Be sure to carefully review your explanations of benefits statements. If you suspect fraud or abuse, you can:

Call 1-800-333-1620 to report your complaint
Report it online at www.humana-military.com

Mail your complaint to:

Humana Military Healthcare Services, Inc.

Attn: Program Integrity

500 W Main Street, 19th floor

Louisville, KY 40202

HT-8 CoC

- (Cont. from Page 1)



Col. Scott Walsh, Commander Training Air Wing FIVE congratulates Cmdr. Christopher Heaney following the presentation of the Meritorious Service Medal for Heaney's accomplishments as commanding officer of Helicopter Training Squadron EIGHT. Photo courtesy of HT-8.

as Commanding Officer of "America's Squadron," the unit amassed 82,000 Class "A" mishap free flight hours while helping 191 Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Allied aviators earn their Wings of Gold.

It was a mission he could never have accomplished alone. Heaney praised all elements of the squadron profusely, but had a special place in his heart for the instructor pilots and the students.

"The IP's are my heroes – deploying in defense of our country multiple times and then volunteering to come here and pass their knowledge to the next generation. You'd be proud of what they're doing training and preparing our future to take the reigns, he said. "The instructors plant a seed of knowledge and professionalism. The students are the next generation and they're motivated. They volunteered when our nation is at war. "It's been an honor to work and serve with you."

Fisher takes command after a year as the squadron's executive officer. He in turn will be relieved by the incoming executive officer Cmdr. Hans Sholley. Sholley, fresh from a tour with Joint Staff in Washington, DC, also served as the event's narrator.

This Day in Navy History

1918 - SECNAV approves acceptance of women as yeoman (F) in U.S. Navy

1944 - LT Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr., USNR, the older brother of John F. Kennedy, was killed with his co-pilot in a mid-air explosion after taking off from England.

1957 - In first test of Automatic Carrier Landing System, LCDR Don Walker is landed on USS Antietam.

1958 - USS Nautilus (SSN-571) arrives Portland, England completing first submerged under ice cruise from Pacific to Atlantic Oceans.

Sadsad Award

- (Cont. from Page 1)

of the base and enhancing its contributions to the local area. My tour here has been enriched by the many community leaders I am fortunate to call my friends."

The nation-wide award is presented each year to an individual who has proven excellence and leadership in transforming their communities or played a key role in helping their community achieve its goal. ADC also recognizes military leaders and executives of the private sector who have taken the extra step in forming partnerships with defense communities.

Working closely with Santa Rosa County officials, Sadsad has helped to coordinate an agreement to allow the county limited access to the base runways to support a proposed commerce park near the base; partnered with the county to purchase land using REPI funds that is planned for used as a county off-road vehicle park; and increased base participation in community events. The improved relations have benefited both parties and inspired the county to nominate Sadsad for the award.

"I've had the opportunity to work with nine different commanding officers of Whiting Field and all were excellent, but no one embraced the community and region like Capt. Sadsad. He's been incredible at getting the community back to the base," Santa Rosa County Board of Commissioners Chairman Don Salter said.

LIBERTY PROGRAM TRIP TO UNIVERSAL STUDIOS

SEPTEMBER 5-7

ONLY \$50

INCLUDES:

LODGING, TRANSPORTATION, UNIVERSAL STUDIOS

MILITARY SALUTE TICKETS

LIMITED TO FIRST 18 PARTICIPANTS



\$50 DUE BY AUGUST 19TH

SIGN UP BEGINS AUGUST 4TH

AT LIBERTY CENTER 623-7274

Job Fair

- (Cont. from Page 1)

2. Do your homework; know the firm's culture and needs.
3. Bring pens and paper to take notes.
4. Arrive no later than one hour before the event closes.
5. Plan to spend two or more hours at the event.
6. Be gracious to everyone you meet.
7. Look smart.
8. Create a contact database of employers.
9. Stay confident.
10. Dress according to the type of position you are seeking.
11. Children and strollers can be distracting.

Areas are available to hold on-the-spot interviews, so job seekers are encouraged to bring extra copies of current resumes. Booth sites are free, and the hall is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.. It is recommended to arrive early.

Employers and job seekers are encouraged to call Naval Air Station Whiting Field's Fleet and Family Support Center at (850) 623-7177, or fax (850) 623-7246 for more information about this event.



Fair Winds and Following Seas

Maj. Leon Moberg, USMC, receives his shadow box from Col. Scott Walsh, USMC, during his retirement ceremony Aug. 7. Moberg served the Marine Corps for more than 20-years. His last tour of duty was as the Officer in Charge of Training Wing FIVE's Fixed Wing Instructor Training Unit. U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Daniel Ammons-Moreno.

New School Liaison Officer Onboard NASP

Editor's Note: This story ran in the Gosport several weeks ago. The Tower is reprinting it as Carissa Bergosh and Chris Hendrix, the Whiting Field SLO, have jobs that overlap. There will be times when she is the best resource for Whiting Field personnel with children attending school in Escambia County.



Carissa Bergosh is NAS Pensacola's new School Liaison Officer

Story by Anne Thrower, Gosport Staff Writer

There are roughly 2,500 military children attending Escambia County public schools. And now their parents have a go-to person at Naval Air Station Pensacola to answer their questions. Her name is Carissa Bergosh, and she knows the Escambia County School System well. She is a certified teacher who worked as a guidance counselor at Blue Angels Elementary near NASP and Bratt Elementary in Century.

And she served as a school board

member for the 87-school system for one year for her husband, Gary Bergosh, when he was deployed to Iraq in 2003-2004. Her husband, a reserve lieutenant colonel in the Marine Corps, now serves as a circuit judge in Escambia County.

She is well aware of the changes within the system. For example, elementary-age children who live on base will be at a new school this year. Where they once went to Edgewater Elementary, many will now go to Navy Point Elementary.

Her job is not to be an advocate for a certain school. Rather she sees her role as helping the military parents become the best advocates for their children.

"My job is basically to give parents information and not to tell them School A is better than School B," she said.

In her new role as the school liaison officer at NASP she wants to make sure all local military children have a "smooth take off and soft landing" when they arrive in Pensacola. And then continue to help the families once they are here and when they get ready for the inevitable next move.

But her role doesn't stop there. She is now the go-to person for questions about

Florida's state school testing system, home school issues, deployment support and postsecondary information if needed.

Bergosh, who was born and raised in Pensacola, also wants to make sure educators understand some of the stressors that military families go through such as deployment and moving from one area to another where extracurricular activities, credits and grading can be different.

"We have some excellent teachers who are very familiar with the Navy, and we have some who are actually military spouses so they understand," Bergosh said.

But it's those who are not as familiar with the military she wants to enlighten. Bergosh started her new position June 15 and is working out of the Child Development Center at Corry Station.

Other Navy facilities are also adding school liaison officers. At Naval Air Station Whiting Field, the new SLO is Chris Hendrix. He can be reached at 665-6105. Bergosh and Hendrix will be working together as needed.

People wishing to get in touch with Bergosh can call her at 293-9322. They also can visit the Web site www.naspensacola-mwr.com.