

Whiting Tower

NAS Whiting Field, Milton, Fla.

"THE WORLD'S MOST EFFICIENT NAVAL AIR COMPLEX"

Vol. 65 No. 39

Wednesday, September 30, 2009

NWS Proclaims Whiting Field "Storm Ready"



Naval Air Station Whiting Field Emergency Manager James Walsh, Commanding Officer Capt. Enrique Sadsad, National Weather Service Warning Coordination Meteorologist Jeff Garmon, and Steve Newborn with the Santa Rosa County Emergency Management Office display the "Storm Ready" sign and plaque for Whiting Field. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

By Jay Cope, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

Hurricane season is still in full swing, and Naval Air Station Whiting Field has the National Weather Service's vote of confidence that the base is prepared if a major storm should occur. NWS assigned their "Storm Ready" designation to the base during a short presentation Wednesday, Sept. 23. NAS Whiting Field is the first military installation in Northwest Florida and only the ninth nationwide to receive "Storm Ready" approval.

Representatives from the regional NWS office in Mobile travelled

to Milton, Fla. to present the plaque and the signs recognizing the base's new status to the base commanding officer Capt. Enrique Sadsad.

"This is a great accomplishment for Whiting Field," Sadsad said. "We have been training and preparing, and if something were to hit us, we know we would be as prepared as we can be."

The "Storm Ready" designation began in 1999 with the intent to help ensure communities had the communication procedures and storm preparedness structure in place to respond

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HT-8 Renews School Partnership

By Jay Cope, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

Volunteering at schools is nothing new for military members at Naval Air Station Whiting Field, but after the Helicopter Training Squadron EIGHT / Hobbs Middle School partnership lapsed for several years, it was important to re-invigorate the program.

With that in mind, Hobbs' principal, Stephen Shell and members from the aircraft squadron agreed to a flagship contract focused on helping the kids.

"I am very excited about the process we are undertaking today," Shell said before signing the agreement. "We are very connected to the military here. It is a big part of Hobbs Middle School and we are excited by a renewal of this partnership."

The agreement was signed by Shell, HT-8 Commanding Officer Cmdr.



Helicopter Training Squadron EIGHT Commanding Officer Cmdr. Michael Fisher signs a school partnership agreement with Lt. Stephen Skinner and Hobbs Middle School Principal Stephen Shell. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

Michael Fisher, and the squadron's volunteer coordinator Lt. Stephen Skinner. It delineates the volunteer needs of the school and areas where HT-8 can help promote school goals. Planned commitments include helping with: individual and classroom tutors, student mentors, school beautification projects, field trips, student athletic fitness, substance abuse prevention programs, and more.

The agreement is a one-year partnership, but with an intention to

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12th Annual Fire & Safety Night Out Is Almost Here

The Naval Air Station Whiting Field Fire Department, Security, Safety, Fleet and Family Support Center, MWR and a host of other organizations are working together to bring the 12th annual Fire and Crime Prevention Night Oct. 6 at Whiting Pines housing complex.

The event serves as a kick-off for the National Fire Prevention Week, and will offer a great way for children and adults to enjoy an entertaining evening while learning how to reduce the dangers associated with household fires and to utilize crime prevention practices.

The event kicks off at 4:45 p.m. with a parade through housing featuring elements of the base fire and rescue units, base police vehicles, Milton Fire Department, Life Guard Ambulance, Santa Rosa County Sheriff's Office, Skyline Fire Department, as well as other area and base entrants.

- (Cont. on Page 2)

BBB® Warns of Buying Flood Damaged Vehicles

Pensacola, Fla. (September 28, 2009)

Following every major flood or hurricane, scam artists try to pawn off flooded vehicles as standard second-hand cars. Flood-damaged vehicles will be popping up at auto auctions, used car dealerships and in classified ads. Unsuspecting consumers, particularly those living in regions of the country unaffected by hurricanes or flooding, are led astray by fresh upholstery, new carpeting and bargain prices.

The Better Business Bureau urges used car buyers to be cautious of unscrupulous businesses and individuals who may try to sell flood-damaged cars without revealing the vehicles' history.

To determine if a used car is flood-damaged, auto shoppers should:

Ask to see the title. Check the date and place of transfer to see if the car came from a flood-damaged state and if the title is stamped "salvage." If you are still suspicious, purchase a history report of the vehicle, which should tell you if a car has ever been tagged as "salvage" or "flood damaged" in any state.

Carefully check the dashboard. Examine all gauges to make sure they are accurate, and there are no signs of water. Look for indications that the dashboard may have been removed.

Test the lights, windshield wipers, turn signals, cigarette lighter, radio, heater and air conditioner several times to make sure they work. Also, flex some wires under the dash to see if they crack: wet wires become brittle upon drying.

Check the trunk, glove compartment, and beneath the seats and dash for signs of mud, rust or water damage. Look for open drainage holes in the vehicle's floor.

Look for discolored, faded or mildewed upholstery and carpeting. Recently shampooed carpets may be cause for concern. Carpeting that has been replaced may fit too loosely or may not match the interior color.

Look for standing water, mud or grit in the spare tire wheel well or around the engine compartment under the hood.

Always check out the reliability of the dealer by getting a free report; start with bbb.org. Also before buying any used car, you should get a pre-purchase inspection by a trusted mechanic.

Fire and Safety

- (Cont. from Page 1)

Following the parade, numerous events will be held to help educate housing residents on fire, crime, and mishap prevention techniques, such as: fire extinguisher training, drunk driving goggles, fingerprinting for children, car seat inspections, Ident-A-Kid photos, bicycle registrations, and more. The fair will continue until 7 p.m.

Special visits by Smokey the Bear, fire prevention clowns, Sparky the fire fighting dog and McGruff are also expected.

Grilled hot dogs, chips and drinks will also be served, and there will be games for the kids. The event is free for all military, family members, and housing residents to attend. Call 623-7639 if you have any questions or would like to volunteer for the event.



Fire Inspector Steve Robertson instructs a young participant from the 2008 Fire and Crime Prevention Night how to use a fire extinguisher. That is just one of the many activities available at the 2009 event Oct. 6 at Whiting Pines. U.S. Navy file photo.

Monarch Madness Is Here

Join the Panhandle Butterfly House in celebrating "Monarch Madness!" The Third Annual Butterfly Festival will be held Friday through Sunday, Oct. 9-11 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Located at 8581 Navarre Parkway on Highway 98 in Navarre, Florida the festival offers fun for the entire family.

Monarch Madness highlights includes educational exhibits, larger-than-life bug displays and guest-speaker workshops that provide an insight into the world of bugs and butterflies and the benefits they provide.

Kids can make and take fun butterfly-related crafts and have an opportunity to release a live butterfly. The entire family will enjoy strolling through the vivarium- a screen structure housing hundreds of butterflies and the plants they love.

Carefully timed to highlight the seasonal monarch migration, kids will also be able to participate in tagging monarch butterflies. "The overwintering population this winter is expected to be small due to below normal rainfall in south Texas and northeastern Mexico. Monarchs are highly dependent on nectar and sources of water to fuel their migration. Learning how to help monarchs during this critical migration is extremely important" said Theresa Friday, Extension Agent in Santa Rosa County.

Admission is free but donations are encouraged and appreciated.

For more information visit our website at www.panhandlebutterflyhouse.org

News and Notes

Splash & Dash - MWR is hosting a "Splash and Dash" Biathlon at 8:00 a.m. at the NAS Whiting Field Training Pool Saturday, Oct. 3. The Biathlon will consist of two legs, a 500 yard swim and a 5K run. Prizes will be awarded for First, Second and Third Place winners in the Men and Women Divisions. This event is free and refreshments will be provided after the event. If you are interested, signups are being taken through the day of the event at: Liberty Center, Wings Club, Fitness Center and MWR Athletics Office. For more information, please call (850) 665-6102.

Run the Bridge - The 2nd Annual Mediacom Garcon Point Bridge Run/Walk is seeking participants for the 4.8 mile trek across the bridge Oct. 17. The event will begin at 7:30 a.m. and post race activities will include hamburgers, hot dogs, and drinks. Entry fees are \$25 for adults and \$20 for those under 18. After Oct. 13th, all registration fees are \$30. The first 300 registered participants will receive an official T-shirt. Registration is available at www.active.com or forms may be downloaded from www.santarosa.k12.fl.us/sref. For information call 850-983-5043.

Haunted House Walking and Trolley Tours - The Pensacola Historical Society hosts its annual Haunted House and Trolley Tours Oct. 16, 17, 23, 24, 30, and 31. Walking tours leave every 30 minutes from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Trolley Tours leave at 6:30 p.m, 7:30 p.m, and 8:30 p.m. All tours will leave from the Pensacola Historical Museum (115 E. Zaragoza St.) and will last one hour. Tours go on rain or shine! Walking Tour tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. Trolley Tour tickets are \$16 for adults and \$8 for children 12 and under. Please call the Pensacola Historical Museum to reserve tickets or to get more details at 850-595-1559.

Electronic Recycling Expo - The Greater Navarre Beach Arts Association and Santa Rosa Clean Community System are teaming up to offer an electronic recycling event on Saturday, October 24 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Navarre Park located at 8513 Navarre Pkwy. The event will include informative tips on recycling, and art created from recycled material by local artists and crafters, as well as food and music. Residents who do not attend the event



Seeing Red

Arnold Ochoa stands next to the 2009 Chevy Camaro he won in a Defense Commissary Agency drawing this summer. The contest was sponsored by Dr. Pepper, so Ochoa ordered his in Dr. Pepper red. U.S. Navy photo by Ens. Robert Hooper, Jr.

are invited to bring their used electronics to the central landfill located at 6337 Da Lisa Road in Milton, Monday through Saturday between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. For details call (850) 623-1930.

First Friday Night - Historic Downtown Milton, will stay open late Oct 2 from 5 - 8 p.m. for a First Friday Night celebration. Shop, dine, or stroll the retail shops galleries and historic homes around Historic Milton. North Willing Street will be closed to through traffic for the evening. Live musicians will perform at Camelot Junction, Blackwater Bistro, Old Post Office Antiques, First Presbyterian Church and Main Street Cafe. Free parking and free admission. Call (850) 626-6246 or visit www.MainStreetMilton.org for more information.

Running the Trail - The Rotary Club of Milton will host its 3rd Annual "5k Running the Trail for Education" Oct. 24, on the Blackwater Heritage State Trail in Milton. Check in will start at 7 a.m. at Milton City Hall and the runners will be bussed to the starting point at 8 a.m. The run will start at 9 a.m. There will be an awards ceremony at the Blackwater Bistro immediately after the race. This 5k run/walk is open to adults and children of all ages. Entry fees are \$20 for adults and \$15 for students 18 and under if signed up by Oct. 23. Free food, drinks and t-shirts will be provided to all entries (while supplies last). You can register at: http://www.active.com/event_detail.cfm?event_id=1794677

Festival of the Arts - Navarre will host their 4th annual Festival of the Arts Oct. 10 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Artists, crafters, food vendors and entertainers will gather for the annual event. Every year the city present new and different artists, showcasing the wonderful local talented people in the area. This year the festival will be held in Navarre Park on Hwy 98. It is FREE and open to the public. For more information go to: www.gnbaa.org

Fire Prevention - The Holley-Navarre Fire District is hosting a Fall Fire Prevention Festival and chili cook-off on Saturday, Oct. 10 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Days Inn & Suites Navarre Conference Center, 8700 Navarre Parkway. The public is invited. Emergency personnel from various area fire and rescue services, along with displayed equipment, will be on hand for the event. Attendees will be able to watch live demonstrations, learn safety tips and enjoy the food and festivities. For more information, please contact the Holley-Navarre Fire District at (850) 936-5236.



Giving Him the Shirt Off Their Backs

Morale Welfare and Recreation employees Traci Vinson and Kelsey Holmes present Mike Ognian with an MWR shirt signed by all the employees. Ognian retired Sept. 30, but the department had a farewell party for him Sept. 25. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

Upcoming Events

Oct. 6, 1700 - Fire & Safety Night - Whiting Pines
Oct. 8, All Day - SR County Day of Caring
Oct. 9, 0730 - NASWF Safety Standown - Sikes Hall
Oct. 9, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium

Oct. 10, 1800 - Navy Birthday Ball - Sikes Hall
Oct. 19, 0700 - NHA Fleet Fly-In
Oct. 24, 1000 - NASWF 66th Anniversary Celebration
Oct. 24, 1600 - Lonestar Concert - North Field

Fleet and Family Support Center Classes

Resume Writing - Tuesday, October 5, 1000 - 1200

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.

How to Survive the Holidays Financially - Tuesday, October 6, 1300 - 1500

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.

Time Management - Tuesday, October 7, 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.

Pick a Partner - Session 1: Wednesday, Oct. 7, 1800 - 2000 & Session 2: Wednesday, Oct. 14, 1800 - 2000

Learn about the warning signs of a difficult partner, relationship skills essential for a healthy relationship, five key areas that you need to explore during the dating process, the difference between "acting like a jerk" and "being a jerk", and how to follow your heart without losing your mind. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 623-7177.

TRICARE Note

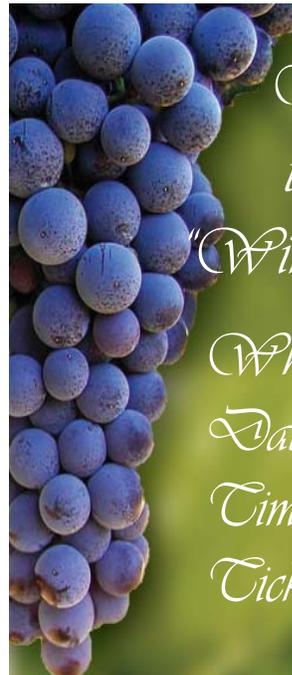
ACHIEVE SOLUTIONS:
ASSISTANCE FOR EVERYDAY PROBLEMS

Achieve SolutionsR is a secure online behavioral health web site offered by ValueOptions, Inc., the administrator of your behavioral health benefit in the TRICARE South region.

To access the Achieve SolutionsR site, visit www.humana-military.com and click on "Behavioral Health" under "Health and Wellness." Then click on "Achieve Solutions."

The main navigation categorizes more than 200 different topics as follows:

- Alcohol and Other Drugs
- Anxiety
- Depression
- Family Care and Education
- Health and Wellness
- Relationships
- Work



*You are invited
to an evening of
"Wine and Conversation"*

*Where: Ace's Bar
Date: October 29th
Time: 1630 - 1900
Tickets: \$15.00*

*Tickets purchased after the 23rd or at the
door will be \$20.00.*

R. S. V. P. to Wings Club at 623-7311.

*Cost covers Wine sampling and light hors d'oeuvres
Cash bar open for beer and cocktails*

“Storm Ready”

- (Cont. from Page 1)

to a weather related emergency. According to NWS statistics, 90 percent of all presidentially declared disasters are weather related leading to nearly \$14 billion in damages annually.

Military bases are qualifying communities, and Whiting Field’s emergency manager Jim Walsh worked for more than six months to ensure the program requirements. Guidelines include having a 24-hour warning point and emergency operations center, providing multiple methods for informing the community of potential weather problems, having a system for monitoring local weather conditions, promoting weather preparedness through community seminars, and developing and training a formal severe weather plan.

“It was a pleasure working with Jim (Walsh) and from the moment we walked on the base there was no doubt that everything was in order,” John Purdy, senior meteorologist with the Mobile office of the NWS said. “The base exceeded qualifications in every area and you can be justifiably proud of your program.”

NAS Whiting Field’s home county, Santa Rosa County, Fla., is also a “Storm Ready” community, and seeing the signs for the designation along the road was the impetus for Walsh’s effort. A little research indicated military bases qualified and he followed up by completing the application process. According to Walsh, Navy bases already have much of the structure in place and it is mostly a matter of documenting the programs



Jeff Garmon presents Capt. Enrique Sadsad and James Walsh with a plaque recognizing Whiting Field’s status as a “Storm Ready” community. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

and activities which the bases perform as a part of their normal routines.

However, having just passed the anniversary of Hurricanes Ivan and Dennis, Walsh sees the added emphasis of the “Storm Ready” designation as being valuable.

“I believe this is a good time to reflect on the turmoil those storms caused and to ensure we are prepared for the next one,” he said. “This designation recognizes the commitment we have made to our populace that we are doing everything possible to be prepared for any storm that may arise.”

NAS WHITING FIELD

66 YEARS OF FORGING WINGS FOR THE FLEET

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION ~ FREE CONCERT FEATURING **LONESTAR**

OCTOBER 24TH 10 a.m. ~ 6 p.m.

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- Military Aircraft Static Displays
- Aviation Demonstrations
- Military Parachutists
- Unmanned Aerial System Flights
- Crash and Salvage Team Demonstrations
- Navy Band New Orleans Ceremonial Band
- Motorcycle Display
- Northwest Florida Modelers Association Demos
- Air Traffic Control Tower Tours
- Kids Play Area
- Food Vendors

GATES OPEN AT 8:30 a.m.

Please no backpacks, coolers, cans, glass, alcohol, pets, tents, bicycles, rolling blades, skates, skateboards, cooking equipment or weapons of any kind.

Folding chairs, blankets, and handheld umbrellas are permitted and recommended.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL (850)665-6011

4 p.m. ~ 5:30 p.m.
FESTIVAL SEATING

School Partnership - (Cont. from Page 1)



Lt. Stephen Skinner, AWSC Sage Mathis, Cmdr. Hans Sholley, Cmdr. Michael Fisher, Hobbs Middle School Principal Stephen Shell, Maj. Warren Bair, School Superintendent Tim Wyrosdick, and School Liaison Officer Chris Hendrix gather around the cake to celebrate the school partnership between Hobbs and HT-8. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

renew it annually. The school and the squadron have actually had agreements dating back 10 or fifteen years according to Shell, but following Hurricane Ivan, other priorities took precedence and the partnership faded.

Fisher is looking forward to getting back on track.

"I want us to be a positive influence on you," he said to the 30 or so students in attendance. "Thank you for giving us the opportunity to reengage in this important partnership."

HONORING THE PAST

FORGING THE FUTURE

NAS WHITING FIELD
234TH NAVY BIRTHDAY BALL
OCTOBER 10TH, 2009
SIKES HALL
1700 - 2400
Music, Dancing, & Door Prizes

TICKETS:
E4 & Below - \$8.00
E5 & E6 - \$12.00
E7 & Above/Civilians - \$16.00

CONTACT ACC ROWE FOR MORE INFORMATION @ 623-7372

Local Festival Sure to Offer Fun to Kids and Adults Alike

Celebrating our multicultural family, the 28th Annual St. Rose of Lima International Fall Festival promises to keep alive the best of a quarter century of happy memories! Beginning with a 5 K Sunset Run and Fun Walk on Friday afternoon (5:30 p.m. starting at the church with prizes to be awarded from the Festival stage later that evening). Carnival rides, games, novelties, crafts, pet contests, and the best array of foods with an international flavor draw visitors to a lineup of continuous musical entertainment and chances for big cash prizes.

Twenty different games for the youngsters vie with Bingo for the adults and carnival rides for everyone. Whether its is German bratwurst, Polish perogies, Cajun gumbo, Filipino shish-ka-bobs, Rose Bowl Clam Chowder, All American BBQ and hamburgers, or Latin quesadillas, there will always be room for those crispy Elephant Ears, Sno Cones and ice cream to go with the luscious baked cakes, cookies, candies and preserves from the Heavenly Bakery Booth! Plenty of parking behind and around St. Rose of Lima Church, and folks ready to hand you a Festival Program Map and activities schedule. For information and applications for the Sunset Run and Walk, call Dan Arndt, 850-626-6213.

Your "Best Dressed Pet" could win a prize, call 850-477-8220 or 850-623-8493 for information about this and other Festival events. The Petting Zoo, "Roots and Bloom" Plant Booth, "The Hop" Coffee Diner with '50's Happy Days memories, "Rose Cottage Crafts" and Raffle Baskets of Cheer are only some of the other Festival opportunities.

St. Rose of Lima Church is located at 6451 Park Avenue, Milton, Florida, between Hwy. 87 and Hwy. 89, within cheering distance of Milton High School. Bring family and friends to enjoy an old fashioned Festival with plenty of good food and fun! Hope to see you there!

Additionally, the Sunset Run and Walk 5K will be held Oct. 9. Runner and walkers are urged to get an application today to participate in this popular 28th Annual St. Rose of Lima International Fall Festival event. The first 100 applications received before Oct. 8 will receive the Sunset Run T-shirt for \$15 (\$10 no shirt option). Applications day of the race are \$20 (\$15 no shirt option). Prizes will be awarded Friday evening on the Festival stage. Race starts promptly at 5:30 p.m. at the Church -- 6451 Park Ave., Milton, FL. Applications available at the Parish Office or call 850-626-6213 or 850-261-1779. Tree-lined course for walkers and runners. Plenty of great food and games to enjoy at the Festival after this event.