

# Whiting Tower

**Seventy-four Years of Aviation Training News**

**Learn to Conquer the Sky**

**Discamus vincere in caelum**

Naval Air Station Whiting Field, Milton, Fla.

Vol. 74 No. 02

Forging Wings for the Fleet

January 25, 2018

Dream:  
ive a dream... dream deeply  
merican dream--one day  
n will rise up and live up to it's  
e hold these truths... be self-  
at all men are created equal."  
eam...  
Martin Luther King Jr. (1963)

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## Dr. King Honored at NAS Whiting Field

By Jamie Link, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs Officer

Naval Air Station Whiting Field Chapel held a Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Service on Jan. 12. This service featured special guests with direct ties to Dr. King who shared their stories of his historic significance.

Among these special guests was Mrs. Jawana Jackson, who had a close connection to Dr. King. On March 25, 1965 Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and a crowd of 25,000 marched on Montgomery Ala. in support of voting rights for African Americans. The night before that event Mrs. Jackson, then a six year-old little girl played around her childhood home as the men and women who would become leaders of the Civil Rights Movement discussed the logistics and plans for that historical march. It was a normal occurrence for Dr. King himself to visit and even stay in her childhood home in the months leading up to the march.

Jackson was in attendance at NAS Whiting Field

**Cover Photo: Guest speaker Rev. Jamie Smith receives recognition from NAS Whiting Field executive officer Cmdr. Don Gaines during the very first Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Service in the base chapel. The event was held on Jan. 12 in conjunction with a viewing of MLK items from the Dr. King Museum via Mrs. Jawana Jackson. Photo by Ens. Caroline Ready, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs Staff**



Naval Air Station Whiting Field held a Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Service on Jan 12 in the NAS Whiting Field base chapel with special guests Rev. Jamie Smith and Mrs. Jawana Jackson. Photo by Ens. Caroline Ready, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs Staff

Chapel during the MLK commemorative service, ready to tell some of her story and display some of the items of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his journey that led to his legacy.

“There were people staying in this house that were dedicated to the progressive movement of African Americans from the early 1900s,” says Mrs. Jackson, the daughter of Sullivan and Richie Jean Jackson. The house was built in 1906, and has a long history connected to the Civil Rights movement. Booker T. Washington visited the home prior to his death in 1915. Later, in the 1960’s, many prominent Civil Rights leaders stayed at the home while attending leadership training at nearby Selma University.

The Selma house (Jawana Jackson’s childhood home) is now listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the Alabama Register of Landmarks and Heritage.

Jackson’s childhood home became ground-zero for the voting rights campaign focused on Selma, Alabama. Civil Rights proponents such as Ralph Abernathy, Andrew Young, and C.T. Vivian were frequently found meeting, strategizing and even sleeping in the home. At times, particularly in the days and weeks leading up to the marches, there were up to 30 people staying in the home. Jackson even recalled times - *Cont. on Page 6*

## The Whiting Tower

### Commanding Officer

**Capt. Paul Bowdich**

### Executive Officer

**Cmdr. Don Gaines**

### Command Master Chief

**Master Chief (AW/SW) Lee Stephens**

### Public Affairs Officer

**Jamie Link**

### Public Affairs Staff

**ENS Kyle Muka**

**ENS Caroline Ready**

**ENS Nick Spaleny**

The Whiting Tower is an authorized publication for members of the Naval Air Station Whiting Field team, tenant commands, their family members and retirees in the surrounding area. The contents of this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Navy, and do not imply endorsement thereof. The editorial content is prepared, edited and provided by the Public Affairs Office of Naval Air Station Whiting Field.

# Navy Installations and Commands Exercise Force Protection

*By Navy Installations Command Public Affairs*

WASHINGTON (NNS) - Navy installations within the continental United States (CONUS) will conduct Exercise Citadel Shield-Solid Curtain 2018 Jan. 29 - Feb. 9.

Citadel Shield-Solid Curtain 2018 is a two-part anti-terrorism force protection exercise conducted by Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) in conjunction with Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command (USFFC) on all CONUS Navy installations.

Citadel Shield is a Field Training Exercise led by CNIC from Jan. 29 - Feb. 4. Solid Curtain is a Command Post Exercise portion co-led by USFFC and CNIC from Feb. 5-9.

This annual exercise is designed to enhance the readiness of Navy Security Forces and ensure seamless interoperability among the commands, other services and agency partners. This exercise is a regularly-scheduled exercise and is not in response to any specific threat.

Citadel Shield-Solid Curtain 2018 is of vital importance to our ability to execute the Navy's mission in support of homeland defense and to - *Cont. on page 7*



Sailors and civilians assigned to Navy Expeditionary Combat Command (NECC) along with the Virginia Beach Police Department participate in an active shooter training exercise on board Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek-Fort Story as part of the annual Exercise Solid Curtain-Citadel Shield 2016. This annual exercise is designed to enhance the training and readiness of Navy security forces. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Benjamin Woodydy.

# USS Fitzgerald Arrives in Pascagoula for Restoration

*By Naval Sea Systems Command Office of Corporate Communications*

WASHINGTON (NNS) - The Arleigh Burke-class guided missile destroyer USS Fitzgerald (DDG 62) arrived in Pascagoula, Mississippi, Jan. 19, aboard heavy lift vessel MV Transshelf inward bound from Yokosuka, Japan.

Fitzgerald is expected to spend several days in the Port of Pascagoula as the heavy lift ship will commence the reverse operation of unfastening, lowering and guiding the ship off the platform. The ship will then be taken to its designated pier space at Huntington Ingalls Industries shipyard.

Due to the extent and complexity of the restoration, both repair and new construction procedures will be used to accomplish the restoration and modernization efforts. Various Hull Mechanical and Electrical (HM&E); Command, Control, Communications, Computers and Intelligence; and Combat System - *Cont. on page 7*



The guided-missile destroyer USS Fitzgerald (DDG 62) arrives at the port of Pascagoula, Miss., Friday, Jan. 19, 2018 aboard the heavy lift transport vessel MV Transshelf. Fitzgerald will begin restoration and modernization work at Huntington Ingalls' Industries shipyard in Pascagoula. U.S. Navy photo by David L. Stoltz.

## NAS Whiting Field Participates in Navy-wide Advancement Examination

By ENS Caroline Ready, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs Staff

Naval Air Station Whiting Field participated in the Navy-wide advancement examination for all Sailors who are eligible to advance to the paygrade of E7, on Jan. 18. Those interested in the limited duty officer program were also required to take the test.

The Navy advancement examination consists of 25 professional military knowledge questions and 150 job specific rating technical questions. The three hour exam is only the first step in the advancement process for E7. The Sailor must score within the top 60 percent and then must compete against their peers at an E7 selection board.

37 NAS Whiting Field Sailors were eligible to take the test this year. The Sailors rates varied from Air Traffic Controls to Hospital Corpsman. Navy Counselor Chief Winkler, the NAS Whiting Field



NAS Whiting Field participated in the Navy-wide advancement exam on January 18. 37 Sailors from multiple ratings took the three-hour test. Photo by ENS Caroline Ready, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs Staff.

Education Services Officer, administered the Navy-wide advancement examination.

“All 1st class petty officers who are eligible for Chief have to take this exam just to be Board eligible,” said Chief Winkler. “From there, the 1st classes have to submit a packet to be reviewed by the Master Chiefs in the corresponding rating to actually be selected for Chief. This is the first step toward becoming a Chief.”

Chief Winkler stresses the importance of this test and how it shouldn’t be taken lightly.

“They are about to embark on the next phase of their career,” said Chief Winkler. “This test is just the first step in achieving these goals. For those who passed the test and become Board eligible and subsequently selected to become a Chief, they will be in a unique position to serve both as mentors and leaders for junior officers and junior enlisted alike.”

The test results will be released in March. For more information about the Navy Advancement Center and NEAS, visit [www.facebook.com/Navy-Advancement-Center-213190711299/](http://www.facebook.com/Navy-Advancement-Center-213190711299/).

Additional information on the Naval Education and Training Professional Development Center can be found via [www.netc.navy.mil/netc/netpdc/Default.htm](http://www.netc.navy.mil/netc/netpdc/Default.htm).

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Building 1417

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## Scholarship for Military Children Deadline is Feb. 16

By Mike Perron, DeCA Public Affairs Specialist

FORT LEE, Va. – Having put 2017 in the rear view mirror, some military families are turning to the first big deadline of 2018: finalizing their Scholarships for Military Children applications in time for the program's Feb. 16 application cutoff.

Applying for one of the 700 available \$2,000 scholarship grants is straightforward. Requirements include providing a completed two-page application; the student's official transcript indicating a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above on a 4.0 scale for high school applicants, or college transcript indicating a cumulative minimum GPA of 2.5 or above on a 4.0 scale for students already enrolled in college; and a typewritten or computer-printed essay of 500 words or less, and no longer than two pages.

This year's essay question addresses the effect of the internet on modern society and the family: "With the development of high speed internet, you are now living in a world that is completely different than 20 years ago. What are the pluses and minuses for society and the family? How would you address the minuses?"

### Stroller Fitness

**Workout With Your Baby!**  
~ Tuesdays & Fridays ~  
10:00 am ~ 11:00

The perfect workout option for any mom / dad looking to get into great shape, but don't want to leave your baby(s) behind.



Full body workout for mom/dad and fun for baby(s) too. There is no age requirement, as long as your child will stay in the stroller for the entire hour long class.

**MWR Fitness Center: 850-623-7412**  
[www.navymwrwhitingfield.com](http://www.navymwrwhitingfield.com)

Join us for



**FREE**  
REGISTRATION  
REQUIRED

**4:30pm**  
MEET IN THE  
"TOWER BOOKS & CAFÉ"  
*Thursday, 8 Feb*  
& *Tuesday, 20 Feb*

 MWR  
Books & Café

Two sessions in January, the 11th and 23rd, at 4:30pm, located in the Tower Café. We will use our creativity and innovation to build Star Wars themed creations. Parents must be present with their children for the duration of the program. All children ages 6 and up are welcome to attend. Registration required, space is limited. This event is open to all eligible MWR patrons.

 Please call the Library for more information: **850-623-7057**  
[www.navymwrwhitingfield.com](http://www.navymwrwhitingfield.com)

The Scholarships for Military Children Program was created in 2001 to recognize the contributions of military families to the readiness of the fighting force, and to celebrate the role of the commissary in the military family community. The program is administered by Fisher House Foundation, a nonprofit organization that provides assistance to service members and their families.

"With the deadline to submit your application for the Fisher House Scholarship for Military Children fast approaching, make sure you double-check the list of items required to be submitted to be eligible for the scholarship," said Marye Dobson, the Defense Commissary Agency's scholarships program liaison.

The two-page application, your high school or college transcripts and the short, typed essay all have to be submitted in one package.

Eligibility for the program is determined using the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System database. Applicants should ensure that they, as well as their sponsor, are enrolled in the DEERS database and have a current military dependent ID card. The applicant must also be planning to attend or already - *Cont. on Page 8*

## Dr. King Honored -Cont. from page 2

there were people sleeping in the bathtub.

Jackson hosted a small group of NAS Whiting Field personnel at her current home in Milton just weeks before her visit the Navy base. There, she relayed the story of how Dr. King had made a phone call to his friend Sullivan Jackson (Jawana's father) for help with his idea to have a major march in support of voting rights which was to be staged at Selma.



**Mrs. Jawana Jackson of the Jackson Foundation Museum in Selma Ala. shows photos and tells the story of her childhood up-bringing and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. connection to Naval Air Station Whiting Field personnel in her home in Milton Fla. Photo by Jamie Link, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs Officer.**

“He (King) told my dad how much he felt that our democracy was so tied to voting rights, and how America could not be the best it could be without every citizen obtaining and having the right to vote...would you allow me to use your house as a platform to stage the march?” Jackson recalled.

“That night when my dad left his dental office, he went home to discuss it with my mom. They looked at me (I was four at the time) and they knew what was going to happen-my dad went back to work and called Uncle Martin and said, in essence, ‘Jawana is four years old. She, and other children in this nation and around our world deserve a better shot, they deserve to grow up in a place full of justice, peace and freedom,’” Mrs. Jackson said.

The service, held in the base chapel, consisted of the traditional ceremonial components, including the presentation of the colors by Milton High School NJROTC unit, the National Anthem sung by Tracy Johnson, the invocation by NAS Whiting Field Command Chaplain Lt. Cmdr. Michael Griggs and the benediction by Chaplain

Lt. Roy Fondren.

The event also included an Old and New Testament reading, opening remarks by Executive Officer Cmdr. Donald Gaines and closing remarks by Training Air Wing FIVE Commodore Col. David Morris and a guest speaker.

The guest speaker for the service was Reverend Jamie K Smith, pastor of Mt. Pilgrim African Baptist Church, Pensacola Fla., who spoke about King's legacy.

“The legacy lives on with this great man and all that he has done...and I encourage you today to keep the message of Dr. King alive,” Smith said.

Some of the historic items Jackson brought to the base chapel included a pair of King's pajamas and copies of a children's book King autographed for Jawana. She recalled the story of how King had spelled her name wrong in the first copy. When she (in tears) brought this to his attention, he then came back with a second copy with her name spelled correctly, also autographed by Jackie Robinson.

She also brought photos, including a photo of Dr. King sitting in her living room in her Selma house watching President Johnson announcing signing of the 1965 Voting Rights Act on television. In addition, Mrs. Jackson brought copies of Life magazine with King on the front cover, and a coat and books belonging to Dr. King.

After the Selma march King said in part, “Like an idea whose time has come, not even the marching of mighty armies can halt us. We are moving to the land of freedom,” King said in an address to a crowd.

King ended his March 25, 1965 speech in Montgomery by addressing the question of how long the struggle for equality would take. “How long? Not long, because the arc of the morale universe is long but it bends toward justice,” King said.

Jackson resides in Milton Fla., less than 30 minutes from NAS Whiting Field, and has been invited to attend another NAS Whiting Field event on Feb. 6 to share more of her story.

For more information regarding Mrs. Jackson's book (co-written with her mother), or the Selma house museum please visit [www.jacksonfoundationmuseum.com](http://www.jacksonfoundationmuseum.com). 📖

# Whiting Field News

**Force Protection** -Cont. from page 3  
protect our people, equipment and facilities in situations that pose a significant and immediate threat.

Measures have been taken to minimize disruptions within local communities and base operations but there may be times when the exercise causes increased base traffic or delays in base access. Area residents may also see or hear security activities associated with the exercise. Advanced coordination has taken place with local law enforcement and first responders to minimize any inconveniences.

Navy Installations Command's 53,000 military and civilian employees provide infrastructure management, base operations and fleet and family support to 71 installations around the world.

For more information about Navy shore installations visit [www.cnic.navy.mil](http://www.cnic.navy.mil).

For more news from Commander, Navy Installations Command, visit [www.navy.mil/local/cni/](http://www.navy.mil/local/cni/).

## USS Fitzgerald Restoration -Cont. from page 3

equipment, including the electronic warfare suite, radar, switchboard, gas turbine generator and air condition plant, require repair and/or replacement. Fitzgerald will also receive HM&E; Combat System; and Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Collaboration and Intelligence; upgrades that were originally planned for installation during a fiscal year 2019 availability.

Work on the ship is expected to occur on a land level facility throughout 2018 and one to two quarters of 2019, followed by an extensive test and trials period to

ensure all systems and spaces are restored to full functionality and operational capability. The entire restoration and modernization effort is expected to complete approximately 24-months post work commencement on the ship.

Fitzgerald was involved in a collision with the Philippine-flagged ACX Crystal June 17. Seven Sailors lost their lives and the ship was damaged on the starboard side above and below the waterline. The Navy released a comprehensive review of the incident Nov. 1.

## Winery Tour

Saturday,  
27 January 2018

Depart at 8:30am - Return 4:30pm

Visit Northwest Florida's local wineries and leave the driving to us.

We'll visit three local wineries and one distillery. Visit area vineyards, make new friends and enjoy the day tasting and toasting together.

**MWR** Community Recreation  
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\$20 per person  
Seating is Limited



## *This Day in Naval History*

**January 25**

**1945** - USS McLanahan (DD 615) shells the German command post on the Italian Riviera and silences the shore battery.

**January 26**

**1953** - The body of John Paul Jones is laid in its final resting place in the Chapel of the Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md.

**January 27**

**1973** - The Paris Peace Accords are signed, ending U.S. participation in the Vietnam War.

**January 28**

**1865** - Confederate torpedo boat St. Patrick strikes the side-wheel gunboat USS Octorara, off Mobile Bay, but her spar torpedo fails to explode.



Aerial Photo of NAS Whiting Field, May 15, 1943. U.S. Navy Official Photo.

## Scholarship Deadline -Cont. from page 4

be attending an accredited college or university, full time, in the fall of 2018 or be enrolled in a program of studies designed to transfer directly into a four-year program.

Applicants who are awarded a full scholarship to attend a college or university or receive an appointment to one of the military academies or affiliated preparatory schools are not eligible to receive funds from this program. A full scholarship is usually defined as one that provides for payment of tuition, books, lab fees and other expenses.

All rules and requirements for the program, as well as links to frequently asked questions and the downloadable application are available at the Scholarships for Military children website.

Fisher House also recently added a custom scholarship search engine to the site, tailored to military families, called "Scholarships for Service." It's free, easy to use, and available on mobile devices or computers at militaryscholar.org.

Students enter brief background information and educational goals and the search tool will identify military-affiliated scholarships they may be eligible for based

**Love on the Run AND Cupid Dash**  
**5k 12:30pm** **1 mile Prizes 12:50pm**

**SIGN UP AT THE FITNESS CENTER**

**Tuesday, 13 February**  
**Start/Finish at the Fitness Center**

Get a Box of Chocolates and the chance to win a Grand Prize! Grand prize will be raffled off at the end of the run! One raffle ticket per runner! 1st place Male and Female 5k runners will receive 4 additional raffle tickets!

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**MWR Fitness Center: 850-623-7412**  
**www.navywmrwhitingfield.com**

**FREE POLAR PLUNGE**  
 Accept the Challenge! SATURDAY 10:00am  
**3 Feb**  
 ~ SIGN UP ~ 850-665-6250

**MWR Whiting Park**  
 Outdoor Recreation Facility  
 ~ 5499 Old River Road - Milton, FL 32583 ~  
**Costumes & Festive Energy are Encouraged**

Certificate of Courage awarded to all those who brave the icy waters of the Blackwater River.  
 ~ warm refreshments will be served ~

MWR wishes to express its gratitude to Panera Bread who's generosity has helped to make this event possible.  
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~ Whiting Park: 850-623-2383 ~

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- Sports & Fitness
- Food & Beverage
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- Community Recreation

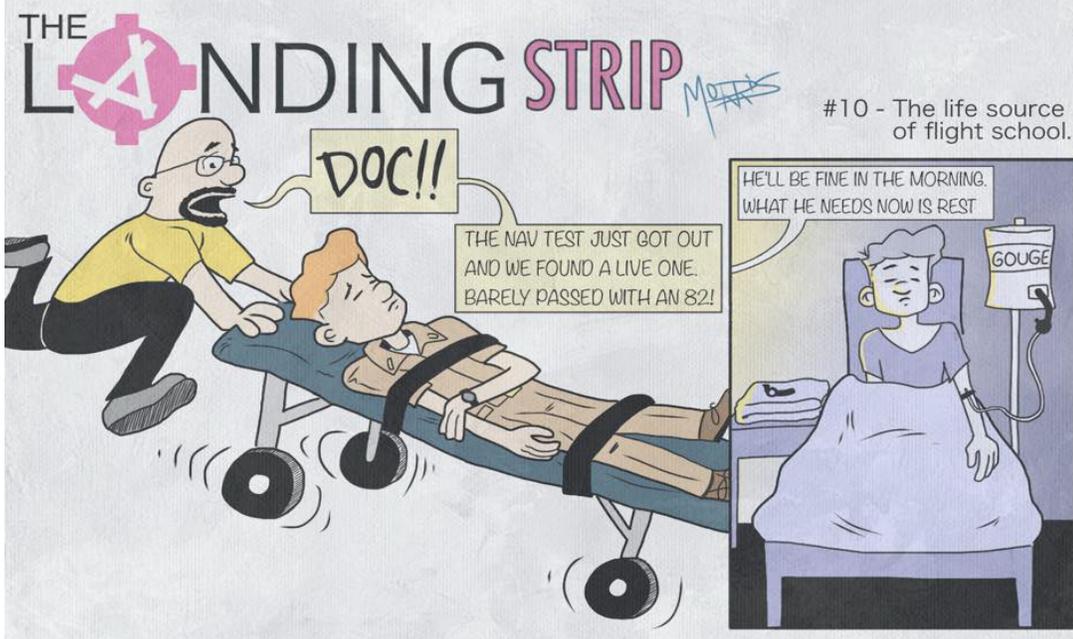
**www.navywmrwhitingfield.com**

on their input. Once the search is complete, students receive a list of scholarships with a summary of eligibility requirements, points of contact and links to the scholarship provider's website. Students can elect to have a PDF file of the results immediately emailed to them for use in selecting which scholarships to apply for.

According to Brian Gawne, vice president of community relations for Fisher House, the Scholarships for Service search engine is never used to collect data for marketing purposes. "We're not using this to collect data and then send email or other solicitations," he said.

The Scholarships for Military Children program is managed by Scholarship Managers, a national, non-profit organization. If students have questions about the scholarship program application, they should call Scholarship Managers at 856-616-9311 or email them at militaryscholar@scholarshipmanagers.com.

No government funds are used to support the Scholarships for Military Children Program. Commissary vendors, manufacturers, brokers, suppliers and the general public donate money to fund the program.



shop. Participation in the full two days is required. Enjoy small group discussions and skills practice that are based upon adult learning principles and experience powerful videos on suicide intervention. Feel challenged and safe. Learn suicide first aid. Available to all military, DoD and NAS Pensacola, Corry Station, Saufley Field and Whiting Field civilian employees. To register, contact Mr. Tony Bradford or Chapel Staff (850) 452-2342 or email [tony.bradford.ctr@navy](mailto:tony.bradford.ctr@navy).

### Volunteer at East Milton Elementary School

They are hosting a book fair on January 31st. Ms. Kathy Cowell is asking for 3-4 bodies to meet at the front desk of school at 1200 that day to help take down the exhibit. This event should only take 1 hour with the bodies that are provided. If you are interested in this event, and would like to volunteer, please contact ABH1 Clark or ABH1 Sauber at 850-623-7220.

### Education Fair

The NAS Whiting Field Education Fair has been rescheduled for 30 Jan 0900-1500 in the Atrium. Open to military members, their families, and base staff, Colleges and University representatives will be here to talk about certifications, associate, bachelor's, master's and doctorate programs. The VOLED (voluntary education) region advisor will be on site!

### Winery Tour

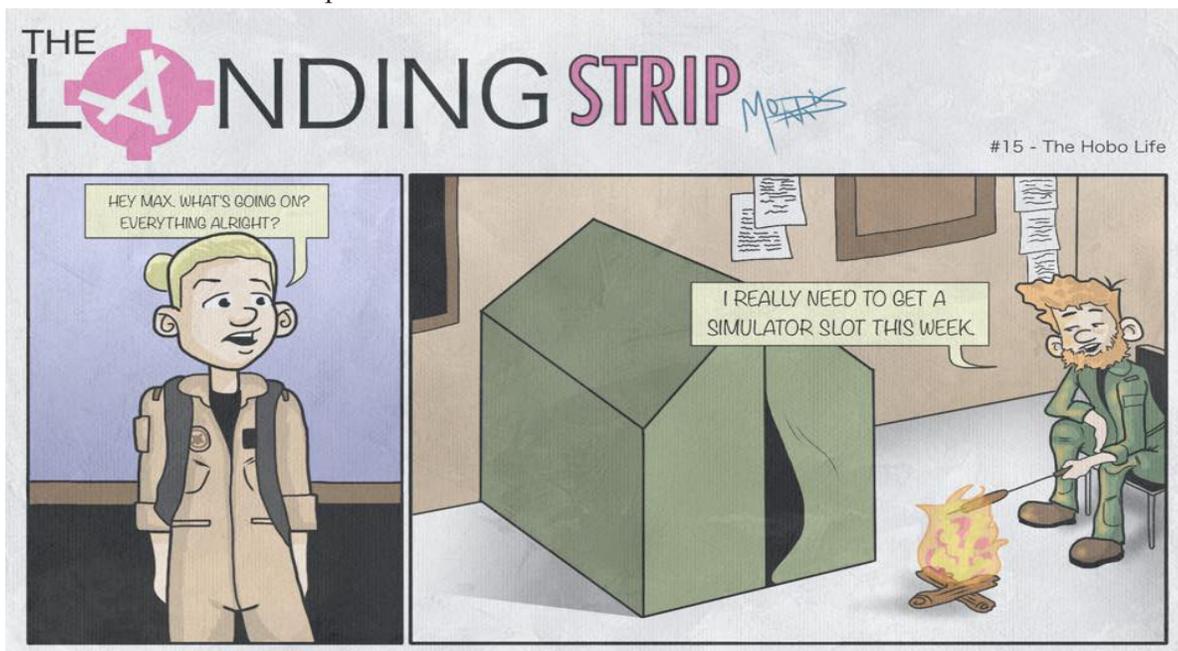
Saturday 27 January, depart at 8:30am - return 4:30pm. Visit Northwest Florida's local wineries and leave the driving to US! We'll visit three local wineries, one distillery and make new friends and enjoy the day tasting & toasting together. \$20 per person and seating is limited so reserve your space now! Call Community Recreation at 850-665-6250 to sign up!

### West (Main) Gate Improvement Notice

Expect to see additional signage and barriers similar to the attached depiction at the West Gate. The outbound traffic lane will be reduced from 12 feet to 10 feet and occasionally flagmen will direct traffic as necessary for various construction activities. Please use caution and consider use of the East Gate when possible and allot some extra time into your commute as we work to improve NAS Whiting Field.

### ASIST Workshop

February 6 and 7 0800-1600 at NAS Pensacola. The ASIST workshop is for anyone who wants to feel more comfortable, confident and competent in helping to prevent the immediate risk of suicide. Over one million caregivers have participated in this two-day, highly interactive, practical, practice-oriented work-



## Congratulations to TRAWING-5 Wingers



**Top Row:** Cdr Robert Dulin, USN, CO HT-28; Lt. j.g. Philip Deford, USN, HT-8; Lt. j.g. Bradley Foster, USN, HT-28; Lt. j.g. Jonathan Gates, USN, HT-8; Lt. j.g. Daniel Vandegriff, USN, HT-18; Col David Morris, USMC, Commodore TWS

**Middle Row:** LtCol Aaron Brunk, USMC, CO HT-18; Lt. j.g. Andrew Schwalbenberg, USCG, HT-18; Lt. j.g. Carlo Conte, ITN, HT-18; Lt. j.g. Michael Twardy, USN, HT-18; 1st Lt. Matthew Tate, USMC, HT-18

**Bottom Row:** Cdr Stephen Audelo, USN, CO HT-8; 1st Lt. Amanda Millard, USMC, HT-8; Lt. j.g. Kristen Cox, USN, HT-8; Lt. j.g. Kristin Manson, USN, HT-18; Guest Speaker: Capt Timothy McGuire, USCG (Ret.), T6-B Simulator Instructor.

