



Press Clippings
August 2019
Web

Title: Air Zoo's SBD-2P "Dauntless" Dive Bomber welcomes special guest

Author: WOTV4 staff

Link: <https://www.woodtv.com/wotv4women/maranda/air-zoos-sbd-2p-dauntless-dive-bomber-welcomes-special-guest/>

Date: August 5, 2019

The **Air Zoo** welcomed a very special guest last week, Dr. Arthur J. Lendo who is traveling across the country to honor his uncle, John Henry Lendo. Dr. Arthur Lendo has donated more than \$100,000 to restore the SBD-2P "Dauntless" Dive Bomber in his uncle's honor.

"The story of this airplane and its pilot deserve to be told", says Dr. Arthur J. Lendo, former president of Peirce College in Philadelphia and major donor behind the ongoing restoration efforts. "Combined, they represent a heroic American generation, a link to the past that shouldn't be forgotten."

"We're honored by the trust and support Dr. Lendo and his family have given the Air Zoo. They have not only provided help to restore the SBD 2173 to its former glory, but they've assisted in ensuring our entire community has the unique opportunity to learn its important history by working directly on the aircraft", states President and CEO of the Air Zoo, Troy Thrash. "The story of this SBD and its last pilot, John Lendo, is told every day at the Air Zoo, and thus far nearly 1,000 students and public visitors have contributed to the restoration. In the summer of 2020, the restoration of SBD 2173 is expected to be complete, and the aircraft will go home to the Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum, where its stories will inspire visitors for decades to come."

The Back Story:

On the afternoon of February 18th, 1943, 24-year-old Lieutenant Junior Grade John Lendo, born July 26, 1918 in Gardner, Massachusetts, climbed aboard SBD-2P "Dauntless" Dive Bomber 2173 at NAS Glenview, located just north of Chicago in Glenview, Illinois. As he ran through his pre-flight checklist, the USS Sable, a former side-wheel passenger ship hastily converted to a Carrier Qualification Training Unit (CQTU) in 1942, pitched and rolled on the icy, gray waters of Lake Michigan twenty miles away. Responsible for training the carrier pilots demanded by the United States' entry into World War II, the carriers were kept in the inland Great Lakes for training as the large bodies of water offered similar weather and wave conditions to the ocean, without exposing ships to the threat of German and Japanese submarines aggressively patrolling both U.S. coastlines. Lt. Lendo was one of more than 17,000 aviators who would train on Lake Michigan between 1942 and 1945. A former flight instructor with over 1,600 hours of flying time, he took off that afternoon to complete five carrier

landings, one of the final steps of his training before combat assignment to the Pacific. What transpired after takeoff would ensure, unexpectedly, that this young pilot's name would become an important part of history over six decades later.

“My Uncle John was the personification of a heroic American generation” says Dr. Lendo. “The son of immigrants with no education of their own, who finds his way to an Ivy League school, graduates, and then volunteers to fight in one of history's greatest conflicts. Along the way, he has a rendezvous with an aircraft that's on its own journey, one that has taken it from combat in the Pacific to Lake Michigan where it's used to educate and train him as a young carrier pilot. Their paths intersect and become linked on that afternoon in 1943, and it's a story that should be told, an example of service and sacrifice for future generations.”

Landing an aircraft on a pitching, rolling carrier is considered one of the most dangerous tasks in aviation as the slightest miscalculation can mean injury or death. Crashes were common in the training program, and the young lieutenant certainly knew the risks as he flew towards his rendezvous with the Sable. What he didn't know on that cold, February afternoon was that ice had begun to form in the aircraft's carburetor and was slowly choking off the flow of fuel to the engine. As he lined up for his first landing of the day, disaster struck. Starved for fuel, the dive bomber's engine sputtered and died, and Lendo found himself at low altitude with no power. A situation easily fatal for most young pilots, his experience and skill allowed him to maintain control as he piloted the crippled craft in for a “belly landing” on the surface of Lake Michigan, two miles from the USS Sable. Uninjured, he leapt into the icy water and awaited the Coast Guard “crash boat” already en route to pick him up. As Lt. Lendo fought to stay afloat, SBD-2P “Dauntless” 2173 slipped quietly below the surface and spiraled slowly down through the dark water. It touched down softly on the sandy lakebed some 200 feet below, where it would remain, largely intact, for the next 66 years. [Learn more about John Henry Lendo here.](#)

The discovery and subsequent recovery of SDB-2P 2173 brought more than just the aircraft back to the surface. The name of its last pilot, Lt. John Lendo, began to circulate, and when research revealed he and his F6F Hellcat went missing on December 14th, 1944 in a sweep against heavily defended Japanese airfields near Luzon, in the Philippine Islands, the restoration mission unofficially expanded to serve as a memorial to this member of the “Greatest Generation” who made the ultimate sacrifice. Dr. Lendo, having followed the news of the aircraft's recovery, was pleased with the new attention the memory of his uncle was receiving, and began to explore ways the Lendo family might become involved.

SBD-2P 2173 arrived at the Air Zoo on July 1st, 2016 amidst much fanfare and media attention. It arrived at the front of the Air Zoo's Flight Innovation Center to a crowd of all generations, among them several former World War II pilots. In his public remarks at the event, Troy Thrash, Air Zoo President and CEO, made John Lendo's story a focus, emphasizing its importance to the restoration project. Two weeks after its arrival, Thrash was contacted by Dr. Lendo, who expressed his interest in supporting the project. Thrash met with Dr. Lendo and his brother Kevin in Philadelphia not long after, and the three discussed how the Lendo family could support the restoration of SBD-2P 2173. This initial meeting eventually resulted in a plan ensuring the timely completion of the aircraft's restoration.

Title: Comcast announces largest expansion of its internet services for low-income families

Author: Susan Snyder

Link: <https://www.inquirer.com/education/comcast-internet-low-income-expansion-colleges-20190806.html>

Date: August 7, 2019

Also shared on 1 other news source.

Comcast on Tuesday announced the largest expansion of its discounted internet services for low-income families since the program started in 2011 and estimates that an additional three million households could be eligible nationwide.

The company now says it's opening the Internet Essentials door to anyone who qualifies for a welfare program, substantially taking the service beyond its initial mission of helping low-income families with school-age children.

The changes address criticism that Comcast made the program so restrictive in its initial years that it didn't go far enough in closing the digital divide, or the gap between low-income people who can't afford the internet and those who can.

Among those groups targeted are low-income college students, like Iona Livingston, who began using the service after Peirce College in Philadelphia launched a pilot program with Comcast in 2017. Livingston, 53, who is studying for a certificate in medical coding, used to do her class assignments at the Center City insurance company where she works.

"It helps a whole lot," she said. "I don't have to worry about leaving here late. I'm able to run home, eat, get myself comfortable, go to my laptop, and sign in. It makes it so much easier."

Comcast launched Internet Essentials eight years ago, offering families whose children qualified for free lunches access to the internet for \$9.95 a month, about one-fifth the regular cost. (Internet currently costs about \$53 a month for regular paying customers in Philadelphia, including modem rental.)

Two million households and eight million people have been connected to the service in cities and towns covered by Comcast — two million of them in the last year, the company said. In Philadelphia, 72,000 households representing an estimated 288,000 people have signed on since 2011. That's the third-highest number, behind Chicago and Houston, Comcast officials said.

Comcast does not disclose figures on how many of those who signed up over the years remain users. Company officials said their role is to make the connection, and it's

impossible to know why people quit. Some may move out of Comcast territory or opt for higher speeds as their finances improve.

The company also does not disclose how much it has spent on the program but notes that over the last eight years it has invested \$650 million in digital literacy training for 9.5 million people.

Since the program started, Comcast has expanded criteria for the offering a dozen times, to families whose children qualify for reduced lunches, to Head Start, to those in public housing, to senior citizens in pilot areas, and last year to veterans.

But this week's announcement, said David L. Cohen, senior executive vice president of Comcast, is the largest expansion and may be the last one.

"I don't know who else we expand to," he said. "With this expansion, we have extended the benefit of the program to the entire target population we want to reach, low-income Americans living within our footprint."

There are seven new eligibility criteria including anyone on Medicaid. The others are: SNAP: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program; TANF: Temporary Assistance for Needy Families; SSI: Supplemental Security Income; LIHEAP: Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program; WIC: Women, Infants, and Children; and Tribal Assistance: including Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations.

In addition to low-income college students, Comcast officials expect the expansion will reach more low-income people with disabilities, who may not live in public housing or have children in school, and seniors who hadn't previously been in pilot programs.

Expanding the criteria alone won't increase the number of users, he acknowledged.

"As we go on, these people are harder and harder to reach and harder and harder to connect," Cohen said. "There are real barriers to adoption."

Cohen cited fear of the internet, lack of computer equipment and cost. To combat those barriers, as part of the program, the company has sold more than 100,000 discounted computers and conducted the digital literacy programs.

As with other expansions, Comcast will look to partner with companies and institutions that can get the word out about the service, Cohen said. Company officials are about to embark on a tour to several cities, starting in Miami, to tout the expansion.

Locally, the impact has been significant, Cohen said. In Philadelphia, from 2013 to 2017, the broadband adoption rate grew from 65 percent to 72 percent, he said. He attributed half of that growth to Internet Essentials.

Not all the company's efforts to broaden access have worked, Cohen said. Comcast's pilots with community colleges didn't gain much traction, he said, perhaps because college students have access to computer labs and libraries.

The pilot program with Peirce, however, went well, he said, noting that more than 50 students have signed on.

"It is an added value for those students who perhaps never had access outside of their work and would like it at home," said Peirce president Mary Ellen Caro.

Peirce serves a nontraditional student body. The average age of students is 35 and 60 percent qualify for Pell grants targeted at low-income students.

With the new expansion of eligibility, Comcast officials said they won't need more pilot programs with colleges because low-income students will be covered.

Cohen said that since the program started he has heard from many users who say having internet at home has made a difference. He cited a woman in Chicago whose son stopped skipping school and started thinking about college after he got a computer to do his homework. Another, he said, saw her children's grades improve and went back to school for her GED, with the goal of becoming a schoolteacher.

It made a difference for Livingston, the Peirce student, too.

Livingston said she had to give up cable and internet when she went from two jobs to one. She learned about the Comcast program at Peirce.

"I feel like I get a lot more done with my assignments," she said.

Title: Browns receiver Jaelen Strong battles back from ‘rock bottom’

Author: Marla Ridenour

Link: <https://www.the-daily-record.com/sports/20190807/browns-receiver-jaelen-strong-battles-back-from-rock-bottom>

Date: August 7, 2019

Also shared on 2 other news sources.

More than 19 months later, Browns receiver Jaelen Strong still remembers what “rock bottom” feels like.

Houston’s third-round pick in 2015 after two productive seasons at Arizona State, Strong became the first Texans wide receiver with two touchdown receptions in his NFL debut. He went to the playoffs as a rookie. After his second season was limited to eight games by an ankle injury, he was claimed off waivers by the Jacksonville Jaguars in September 2017 and spent 12 weeks inactive or on the practice squad. When he was called up, his first catch for the Jaguars went for a TD.

But on Dec. 24, 2017, Strong tore the anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee during a game in San Francisco. He announced the news in two Instagram posts, saying, “This lil setback setting me up for a greater comeback.”

Discouragement sometimes pushed aside that brave front.

“Of course, I think that’s with any battle, anything you’re going through. When you hit rock bottom those thoughts always come,” Strong said Monday. “It’s just about not really so much listening to yourself, but talking to yourself and putting the work in and hopefully seeing the light at the end of the tunnel.”

Strong, 25, a three-year veteran, said he had the support of his agent, Zeke Sandhu, who also represents Odell Beckham Jr., his mother and family, who prayed for him every day, and his childhood friend Rob Holloman, a teammate at West Philadelphia Catholic High School. Strong said Hollomon, who went on to play running back at Kent State and Central Connecticut, was with him “every day, every step of the way.”

“There were times I didn’t always have the best attitude, but they helped me get through things. Now it’s a blessing to be here,” Strong said.

With the Browns set to open the preseason Thursday night at home against the Washington Redskins, Strong is among six receivers competing for two spots on the 53-man roster.

Although Strong has gotten reps with the first team in practice, he is vying with Derrick Willies, Damion Ratley, Ishmael Hyman, Damon Sheehy-Guiseppi and Dorian Baker to stick.

“He’s progressed. He’s strung together two or three good days. I’m pleased where he’s at, but he has a long way to go,” Browns receivers coach Adam Henry said of Strong on Tuesday.

Strong isn’t sure who inside the Browns organization made a push to sign him as a free agent in February. Henry, then at LSU, recruited Strong when he was coming out of Peirce College in Philadelphia after the 2012 season. Browns safety Damarious Randall played with Strong in 2013-4 at Arizona State.

From the battle at right guard, to the uncertainty at kicker, here’s what you need to watch for in the first Browns preseason game.

“Coach Henry recruited me out of juco ... I think that was a big interest right there, I’m not really sure. I believe he had a lot to do with me coming in for a workout,” Strong said.

“I used to make plays against [Randall] at ASU. Damarious is a great guy, he was actually talking to me through my rehab process, telling me that you never know what could happen and I ended up here. Never know, Damarious could have had an impact on me coming here, too. He was definitely a very good friend to me when I wasn’t on the team.”

At 6-foot-2 and 220 pounds, Strong had the size to get him in the door. But he’s not the only one. Willies stands 6-4 and 207, Baker is 6-3 and 213 and Ratley is 6-2 and 200.

Although Strong said he’s physically stronger than ever, he knows he must distinguish himself, even if called on to play special teams.

“After everything I’ve been through, every snap does matter. Especially now. Just me showing the coaches and showing everybody I want to be here is what’s driving me,” Strong said.

Strong does not lament the fact that knee surgery sidetracked what might have been a promising start to his career.

“I think those things happen because they have to happen,” he said. “You can’t really get through anything without going through anything. I’m here now for a reason, and I’m going to take full advantage of it and go out there and work every day.”

Asked if late December 2017 was really rock bottom, Strong said, “At the time it felt like it. But there’s no place to go but up when you are that low.”

Title: Comcast Internet Essentials Expansion

Author: Staff Report

Link: <https://app.criticalmention.com/app/#clip/view/b143c781-bb83-40a6-830f-5cf6d8b5f9c4?token=453277b7-547a-4d05-9a23-f83a01effea5>

Date: August 8, 2019



Title: Pasadena Area League of Women Voters Passes the Gavel to Pat Coulter

Author: Staff Report

Link: <http://www.pasadenanow.com/main/league-of-women-voters-passes-the-gavel-for-2019-2020/#.XcG3nZJKiUk>

Date: August 27, 2019

Pat Coulter succeeds Dorothy Keane, professor emeritus at Cal State LA, as president of the League of Women Voters Pasadena Area.

Coulter will preside over her first all-member meeting Sept. 5 with a program on “Do Elections Still Work:”

Acknowledging Keane’s accomplishment of increasing members by 25 percent with people of all ages, genders and ethnicities, Coulter says, “My hope is to foster even more diversity, equity and inclusion, education and action.”

Former president and CEO of the Urban League of Philadelphia for 13 years, she was the first woman to lead the 85-year-old affiliate. She is also the first African-American to head the Pasadena Area League of Women Voters.

Coulter also served on numerous commissions, nonprofit boards and task forces in Philadelphia and won scores of awards, including CBS News Radio Women’s Achievement Award. She also is in the Knoxville College Alumni Hall of Fame.

She holds a bachelor of science in music education from Knoxville College, and a masters in education from the University of Louisville. She completed the Harvard Business School’s Strategic Perspectives in Non-Profit Management and received an honorary doctorate of humane letters from Peirce College in Philadelphia.

Prior to heading the Urban League, she worked in business management for career professional services firms such as Lee Hecht Harrison and executive search firm Salveston Stetson Group. Under her leadership as founding executive director of the eastern region of INROADS, a national leadership development organization, the region became the company’s largest.

She moved to California in late 2014, and joined the League of Women Voters Pasadena Area in 2015. She is senior adviser to the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Task Force of the California league as well as a member of the state league nominating committee.

She has served as founding chair of the immigration committee formed in 2017 and president elect in 2018.

“She brings a vast wealth of experience in developing people and organizations to their full potential,” says Keane. “We are so fortunate to have someone with such an impressive record of improving communities.”

Title: NFL Alumni and Peirce College Join Forces to Expand Access to Bachelor's Degree Completion and Graduate Programs

Author: NFL Alumni

Link: http://money.mymotherlode.com/clarkebroadcasting.mymotherlode/news/read/38774170/nfl_alumni_and_peirce_college_join_forces_to_expand_access_to_bachelor%E2%80%99s_degree_completion_and_graduate_programs

Date: August 29, 2019

Also shared on 145 news sources.

“We are thrilled to partner with Peirce College,” said NFL Alumni CEO Beasley Reece. “This partnership is a great opportunity for former players to complete or advance their education and improve their career opportunities.”

Members and employees of NFL Alumni now have expanded access to affordable, flexible degree programs and certificates designed for working adults and personalized degree completion pathways that maximize transfer credits, professional and military training and other college-level knowledge that has been acquired outside of the classroom.

“Peirce is an excellent fit for the members and staff of NFL Alumni, especially those who entered the league before finishing their bachelor’s degree,” said Dr. Mary Ellen Caro, president and CEO of Peirce College. “Our programs prepare NFL Alumni members and employees for a new career or to advance in their current profession without sacrificing their personal or professional responsibilities.”

In addition to courses, degree programs and certificates, NFL Alumni members and employees gain exclusive access to Peirce College’s career advancement training and returning to learning resources to help members grow their careers.

About NFL Alumni

NFL Alumni, a non-profit organization founded in 1967, is comprised of former NFL players, coaches, staffers, cheerleaders, spouses, and associate members whose mission is to serve, assist and inform former players and their families. The NFL Alumni offers a variety of medical, financial, and social programs to help members lead healthy, productive and connected lives, as well as community initiatives under its “Caring for Kids” programs. Pro Football Legends is the commercial marketing arm of the NFL Alumni. For more information, please visit www.nflalumni.org.

About Peirce College

Established in 1865, Peirce College is Philadelphia’s leading senior private, nonprofit college for adults and a pioneer in online education and leveraging technology in

higher education. Today, Peirce continues its tradition of serving the unique needs of working adults through career-focused online and on-campus programs that provide students with academic excellence, flexibility and personalized support. Peirce offers associate, bachelor's and master's degree programs taught by faculty who are leaders in their respective fields. Learn more at www.peirce.edu.

Title: NFL Alumni, Peirce College team up to provide degree opportunities

Author: NJ BIZ staff

Link: <https://njbiz.com/nfl-alumni-peirce-college-team-provide-degree-opportunities/>

Date: August 30, 2019

Mount Laurel-based NFL Alumni is partnering with Peirce College in Philadelphia to provide career-focused, undergraduate degree completion and graduate programs for retired NFL players, coaches, cheerleaders and their spouses.

Members and employees of NFL Alumni now have expanded access to affordable, flexible degree programs and certificates designed for working adults and personalized degree completion pathways that maximize transfer credits, professional and military training, and other college-level knowledge acquired outside of the classroom.

NFL Alumni members and employees also gain exclusive access to Peirce College's career advancement training and returning to learning resources to help members grow their careers.

"We are thrilled to partner with Peirce College," NFL Alumni Chief Executive Officer Beasley Reece said in a statement. "This partnership is a great opportunity for former players to complete or advance their education and improve their career opportunities."

NFL Alumni is a nonprofit organization founded in 1967 to serve, assist and inform former players and their families. NFL Alumni offers medical, financial and social programs to members, as well as community initiatives under its "Caring for Kids" programs.

Peirce College is Philadelphia's leading senior private, nonprofit college for adults and a pioneer in online education and leveraging technology in higher education.