



THE SKYLINE



Volume 52, Number 22

<https://www.cnic.navy.mil/meridian> & www.facebook.com/NASMeridian

October 30, 2014

On Base...



Daylight Savings Time
Set your clocks back one hour on Sunday, Nov. 2.

✓ **The NAS Meridian DEERS/RAPIDS office** will be closed on Nov. 5 for updates and repairs. For information, call 601-679-2389

✓ **Cornhole Tournament** set for Nov. 6 at 5 p.m. at Rudders.

✓ **DJ Leflore live** at Rudders Nov. 14

✓ **McCain Lanes** offers daily bowling specials. See page 6 for more details.

✓ **Chapel hosts Men's and Women's Bible Study**
Tuesdays at 7 p.m.
Men study from the book entitled "The Family God Uses." Women study from the book entitled "Bad Girls of the Bible." Space limited, call the chapel for location and more information at 601-679-3635.

A Day in Naval History

October 31

1943: Lt. Hugh D. O'Neill of VF(N)-75 destroys a Japanese aircraft during night attack off Vella Lavella in first kill by a radar-equipped night fighter of the Pacific Fleet.

1956: Navy men land in R4D Skytrain on the ice at the South Pole. Rear Admiral George Dufek, Capt. Douglas Cordiner, Capt. William Hawkes, Lt. Cmdr. Conrad Shinn, Lt. John Swadener, AD2 J. P. Strider and AD2 William Cumble are the first men to stand on the South Pole since Capt. Robert F. Scott in 1912.

November 4

1967: Landing craft from USS Navarro (APA-215) rescue 43 men from British SS Habib Marikar aground on a reef at Lincoln Island in the Tonkin Gulf.

1971: USS Nathanael Greene (SSBN-636) launches a Poseidon C-3 missile in first surface launch of Poseidon missile.

November 5

1944: TF 38 (Vice Admiral John S. McCain) begins two days of carrier strikes on Luzon, Philippines.

-- www.history.navy.mil

"The Skyline" is a Russell Egnor Navy Media Award recipient for Best Metro Newspaper

Public officials visit NAS Meridian

By MC2 Casey H. Kyhl
Staff Writer/Photographer

The land area of Naval Air Station Meridian and Joe Williams Outlying Field combined is less than 10,000 acres, yet the military operating areas, where student and instructor pilots routinely fly, cover well over 8 million acres.

These training areas cover multiple counties, multiple states and more than a few municipalities that all have a part in NAS Meridian's mission: "Training to fight from the sea."

On Oct. 24, supervisors and other officials from the surrounding counties toured NAS Meridian to gain a better perspective of the air station and its operations. Many of the tour participants will be involved in the upcoming NAS Meridian Joint Land Use Study that will postulate on how some of the land around NAS Meridian will be used in the future.

"Everyone has seen a jet flying up in the sky, but it is a very different thing to have them land right in front of you," said NAS Meridian Community Planning Liaison Officer Jim Copeland. "It is important for some of these people that have never seen our operations before to get

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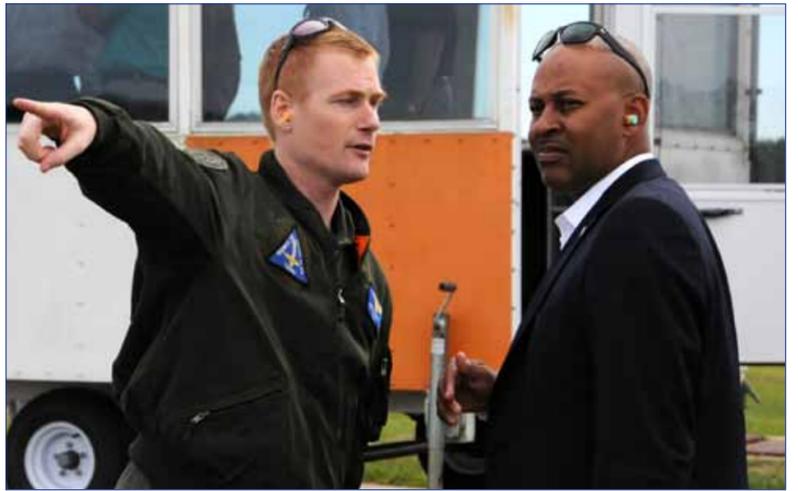


Photo by MC2 Casey H. Kyhl

Lt. Cmdr. Abram Stroot describes aircraft operations to Meridian Mayor Percy Bland who was part of a group of public officials invited to learn more about the Joint Land Use Study that will involve the Naval air station and the surrounding counties.



Herr



Digregorio

NTTC names Sailors of the Year

From NTTC Staff

Naval Technical Training Center Meridian has selected its 2014 Sailors of the Year.

Logistics Specialist First Class (Surface Warfare/Aviation Warfare) Jonathan M. Herr was selected as Instructor of the Year and Aviation Maintenance Administrationman (Aviation Warfare) Megan M. Digregorio was selected as Sailor of the Year.

Herr serves as a Logistics Specialist "A" School instructor, Naval Military Training instructor and 4th Fleet Leading Petty Officer from October 2013 through September 2014. As an LS "A" School instructor, he led four classes consisting of 94 students, resulting

in an impressive grade point average of 90 percent with zero attrition. Additionally, he received 100 percent positive feedback on all student surveys, directly reflecting his ability to perform as a premier military instructor.

Digregorio serves as Temporary Holding Unit Leading Petty Officer and primary Navy Military Training instructor from October 2013 through September 2014. Petty officer Digregorio's commitment to excellence anchored the command's success in preparing Sailors to excel in the Fleet. She expertly spearheaded training for 1120 "A" school students while serving in numerous mission essential, morale-building roles.



VT-7 Reserve Unit welcomes new CO

Cmdr. Bryan Ross, left, relieved Cmdr. David Taylor as Training Squadron Seven Reserve Unit commanding officer Oct. 28. Below, Capt. Brian Goszkowicz presents Taylor with a meritorious service medal for outstanding service during his tenure as CO. Taylor managed a \$1.1 million budget enabling the unit to effectively support high temp day-to-day flight operations and participate in numerous training detachments, while fully integrating with the active component in all critical operational and administrative roles.



Photos by Penny Randall

NEX sponsors Breast Cancer Awareness Walk



Photo by Susan Junkins

Nearly 100 personnel from NAS Meridian participated in the 1.5 mile Breast Cancer Awareness Walk sponsored by the Navy Exchange Oct. 28.

2014 Sanderson Farms Championship will honor area military members with complimentary admission

Special to The Skyline

JACKSON, Miss. – The PGA TOUR's Sanderson Farms Championship, scheduled to take place Nov. 3-9 at the Country Club of Jackson, will express gratitude to our courageous military members and their families by offering complimentary admission and hospitality during the tournament, along with discounted tickets for veterans.

As part of Birdies for the Brave, a national military outreach initiative proudly supported by the tour, active duty and reserve military members, military retirees and National Guard members may receive up to two complimentary tickets to the tournament each day from Nov. 6 through Nov. 9 by showing a Department of Defense-issued military ID at the gate, along with a military ticket voucher. In addition, non-retired veterans and one guest each can acquire discounted tickets for \$15 each.

To receive a military ticket voucher for complimentary admission or discounted tickets, military guests must register online at www.birdiesforthebrave.sheerid.com/Sanderson2014 and have their military status verified by Sheer ID; a military

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Look Inside



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TW-1 hosts Aviator for a Day



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Wounded Warrior – Safe Harbor Program helps Sailors in need



~ Page 5 ~
Grandfather, grandson serve in same battalion 50 years apart





Photo of Week



Photo by Penny Randall

Training Squadron Nine recently hosted a "Spouses Day" for the wives and significant others of student and instructor pilots to learn more about what their spouses do on a daily basis. The group enjoyed tours of the air traffic control tower, simulator building and hangar. They also watched take offs and landings on the runway.

A message from the CO...

I would like to pass my congratulations to the entire Naval Air Station Meridian Team as we were awarded the FY 2014 Secretary of the Navy Energy and Water Management Gold Level Award.

This recognition came in the midst of the Department of the Navy's initiative identifying October as "Energy Action Month." In addition to highlighting energy initiatives, the overall effort reinforced the Navy's commitment to reducing energy consumption ashore and enhancing combat capability for our operating forces through new technology and innovative use of existing systems.

COLUMN



Bunney

What can we do locally to support this effort? The Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 called for a reduction of energy intensity in federal buildings 3 percent annually and 30 percent by 2015 from a FY2003 baseline. The entire NAS Meridian workforce needs to increase our awareness of energy issues well beyond Energy Action Month to facilitate the cultural and behavioral changes that will be essential to meet our energy reduction goal and maximize the operational benefits of ongoing energy efforts.

Installation energy conservation not only positively impacts the environment and lowers our bills, but the Navy can realize some real operations gains. Ashore, every kilowatt hour or MBTU we can avoid burning—while ensuring full support of the mission—allows us to focus limited resources on training, and readiness. Incorporating energy efficient practices and alternative energy sources on our bases can reduce our reliance on the commercial power grid and increase resiliency, which in turn improves our ability to provide support to the operational forces.

The Navy launched its "Energy Warrior" campaign in September, distributing videos and multimedia content via a free downloadable app and other channels. (link: <http://greenfleet.dodlive.mil/energy/energywarrior/>). Please join me in helping NAS Meridian make improvements in energy security, energy efficiency, and sustainability that lead to increased capability for the entire force.

An all hands effort and energy security is critical to mission success. Moving forward, long-term energy security means having assured access to reliable, sustainable, and resilient supplies of energy, and the ability to protect and deliver sufficient energy to meet operational needs afloat and ashore. We can be part of the solution.

Capt. Scott Bunney is the 24th commanding officer of NAS Meridian.

Area Happenings

NOVEMBER

1: Earth's Bounty market and festival at Singing Brakeman Park in downtown Meridian on Front Street next door to Union Train Station from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Join us the first Saturday of April through November for Earth's Bounty -- a beautiful harvest of fruits, vegetables, jams, jellies, soaps, shrubs and greenery and much more! There's bouncy houses for the kids, Tiny-Meridian Main Street's Belgium mare mascot, live music, food truck and tons of vendors.

1: 12th Annual Soule' Live Steam Festival will be held at the Mississippi Industrial Heritage Museum in downtown Meridian, 1808 4th Street from 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. Last year's event attracted more than 7,500 visitors from 24 states. The historic Soule' Steam Feed Works factory complex is open for tours as more than 50 volunteers demonstrate past industrial arts and share the history of how things were made in America. Demonstrations at this event include belt-driven machine shop equipment, blacksmithing, spinning, weaving, broom-making, and much more. The steam-driven machine shop will be in operation. This year the Linotype will be in operation. Alabama Art Casting will present a Molten Iron Pour on Saturday afternoon beginning at 4 p.m. Mold-making classes begin at 10 a.m. in the morning. Cost: \$20. The food court will be open to the public and will feature BBQ, fried fish and a delicious assortment of festival foods. Admissions:\$3 per person, \$15 family maximum. More info: <http://www.soulelivesteam.com>

2: The internationally acclaimed United States Army Field Band of Washington, DC, will continue its long history of presenting free public performances when it appears at The Temple Theatre in downtown Meridian at 2 p.m. Tickets are free and can be picked up at The Meridian Star newspaper, 801 22nd Avenue, Meridian. For information, call 601-693-1551.

6: Buddy Guy in concert at MSU Riley Center at 7:30 p.m. Guy is one of the most celebrated blues guitarists of his generation, possessing a sound and style that embody the traditions of classic Chicago blues while also embracing the fire and flash of rock 'n' roll. With over 30 albums to his credit, Guy has enjoyed the respect of his peers like few guitarists of any genre, with such giants as Eric Clapton, Jimi Hendrix, Stevie Ray Vaughan, and Mark Knopfler all citing him as a personal favorite. Tickets are \$59 and \$53. For information, call 601-483-9810 or go to <http://MSU-RileyCenter.com>

8: 14th Annual Run for Hope at Bonita Lakes from 8-11 a.m. Run for Hope benefits the children of Hope Village will include a 10k Trail Run, 5k Road Race, 2 Mile Walk and a 1 Mile Fun Run. Pre-registration is encouraged and can be done in person at Anderson Regional Health & Fitness Center, by mail or at www.raceit.com. Pre Registration \$20 (\$18 MMA Members) for 10k & 5k; \$18 (\$16 for MMA Members) for Walk & Fun Run. After Nov. 5 registration for each event is \$25

11: Veteran's Day Ceremony & Parade at Doughboy Monument in downtown Meridian. Ceremony will begin at 10:30 a.m. at the Doughboy monument 6th Street and 23rd Ave. Luncheon for veteran's at VFW Post 79 on Old Hwy 80 across from the Army Reserve training center at noon; parade starts at 3 p.m. through downtown Meridian..For information, call 601-481 3949.

ONGOING

Kindermusik registration for the next semester is open. Music and movement classes are for children newborn to 8 years old. The program's mission is to help your child learn and grow through music. Enroll today! For more information call 601-678-7082 or e-mail jcarolmathews@gmail.com or visit www.MusicWithJulie.com.

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) group provides emotional, spiritual and practical support to mothers of preschoolers. Expectant mothers and mothers of preschoolers are invited to the meetings on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month from 9:30-11:30 a.m., at Fifteenth Avenue Baptist Church. This season's theme is "Be You Bravely." Child care provided for ages newborn to five. Visit us on Facebook at Fifteenth Avenue MOPS for meeting details or call 757-574-2557. Fees: Free for first meeting, only \$50 a year to become a member. Military discounts available.

Fleet Reserve Association local FRA branch holds monthly meetings the last Sunday of every month and potlucks every Sunday. For more information visit FRA Branch 264 on Facebook or 8874 Hwy 39 North, Meridian. Open seven days a week noon to midnight. This is a great way for both young and old to share experiences and fellowship. For more information contact Ricky Nelson at 601-917-1007.

CNIC holds change of command

By Sandra Niedzwiecki
Navy Installations Command
Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- More than 500 military and civilian personnel attended the change of command ceremony for Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) on Oct. 24 at Admiral Leutze Park on the Washington Navy Yard. Vice Adm. Dixon R. Smith relieved Vice Adm. William D. French as the fifth commander since the command's inception in 2003.

The ceremony included full gun salutes, musical performances by the Navy's Ceremonial Band, march on of the troops and parading of the colors by the Navy's Ceremonial Guard, and an a cappella rendition of the

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Photo by MC2 Eric Lockwood

Vice Adm. Dixon Smith salutes Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Jonathan Greenert after he assumed command as Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC), during a change of command ceremony held at Leutze Park on the Washington Navy Yard. Hundreds of guests, coworkers and family members attended the ceremony during which Smith relieved Vice Adm. William French.

Social media and political activities

By Lt. Elizabeth Retter
NAS Meridian Staff Judge Advocate Officer

Question: May active duty service member (ACSM) or DOD civilian express his or her own personal views on public issues or political candidates via social media platforms, such as Facebook, Twitter, or personal blogs?

Answer: Active Duty -- Yes, personal views are okay, much the same as writing a letter to the editor of a paper. If you are identifiable as military, you must disclaim that no DOD or service endorsement is intended. However, you may not engage in any partisan



political activity (see below).

DOD Civilian: Same as above, except the rules for DOD civilians are somewhat more relaxed. You can engage in limited political activity as long as you are not on duty, are outside the federal workplace, and are not using government resources or wearing government insignia. However, you cannot personally solicit, accept or receive political contributions.

Question: What is "Partisan political activity"?

Answer: "Partisan political activity" is activity directed at the success or failure of a political party, partisan political

Q&A's: Meridian to conduct water lead testing Nov. 12-14

From CNIC

Recent events have prompted an examination of current policy on sampling and testing drinking water in priority areas of naval facilities to ensure that the Navy has a uniform, consistent, and effective program. A review of installation-level compliance with Navy policy was completed for all priority areas in FY13 and a new Navy policy was issued on Feb. 8, to perform sampling and testing for lead in drinking water at priority areas by Dec. 31 (OPNAVINST 5090.1D). This additional testing is Navy policy, and while it follows EPA recommendations it is above and beyond EPA regulatory requirements.

The Feb. 8, Navy policy redirects all Navy installations to implement a program to sample, test and maintain resultant records for all drinking water in the following priority areas to determine the presence of lead: primary and secondary schools, Child Development Centers (CDCs), Navy operated 24/7 Group Homes, and youth centers.

Region commanders are to ensure installations have developed an appropriate risk communication strategy to inform stakeholders of their plan to minimize the exposure to lead in priority areas. Parents and families of child-care centers are key stakeholders. All CNIC civilians, military personnel, and local nationals working within the CNIC enterprise are also identified as key stakeholders for internal messaging.

Water testing will be conducted at our Child Development Center (CDC) and School Age Care (SAC) facility from Nov. 12-14. Testing samples will be drawn from fountains, faucets, and outlets where water is used for drinking or cooking. More information can be found at: http://www.cnic.navy.mil/regions/cnrse/om/environmental_support/water_quality_information.html.

The following are a few questions and answers to better understand the process:

Question: What is a priority area?

Answer: Locations where there are children such as primary and secondary schools, day care centers, hospital pediatric wards and food preparation areas located on medical facilities. Specific locations for priority testing can be identified through the Navy installation's Environmental Office.

Question: Who is at risk to lead exposure?

Answer: The Navy is proactively testing water based on the new Navy policy, as of February 2014, to ensure the safety of those people obtaining drinking water from identified priority areas on board naval installations. If lead were present, the greatest risk would be posed to children age 6 and under. Pregnant women and nursing mothers should avoid exposure to lead to protect their children. Specific health questions should be directed to the Tricare nurse line at (800) TRICARE (874-2273) option 1 or your health care provider.

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The Skyline ~ Naval Air Station Meridian, Miss.

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NOSC names Sailors of the Quarter



BM1 Natreka Raines
Reserve Sailor of the Quarter



LS2 Demetria Ridgway
Reserve Junior Sailor of the Quarter



CSSN Devarick Benson
Reserve Bluejacket of the Quarter



ET1 Garry Compton
Sailor of the Quarter



PS3 Kay-Lyn Barrett
Junior Sailor of the Quarter

Brothers join Navy together, end up training together at NTTC

By Tom Childress
NTTC Admin Officer

Less than a year ago, Patrick and Ryan Piteo were living their day-to-day routines in their hometown of Queens, New York.

They would wake up in the morning and travel to JFK International Airport where they worked for Jet Blue Airlines. At the end of the day, they would travel back to their residences and spend time with friends, family and their dogs.

Inspired by their uncle who served in the United States Navy, and driven by a difficult economy, Patrick and Ryan decided it was time for each of them to get out and see the world and make a future for themselves.

Patrick, the younger brother at age 26, made a trip to visit his local Navy recruiter, while his older brother, Ryan, 28, paid a

call on a Marine recruiter two days later.

Patrick signed on the dotted line to become a cryptologist, but was diverted to become a ship's serviceman. Ryan, who didn't like what the Marines had to offer, ended up signing with the Navy recruiter to become a logistics specialist. Not knowing where fate would take them, they both ended up shipping out to Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill., where all Navy adventures begin.

With a Navy whose area of responsibility spans the entire globe, fate kept the brothers together through recruit training and all the way to Naval Technical Training Center Meridian, located in east central Mississippi on board Naval Air Station Meridian.

Naval Technical Training Center Meridian provides apprentice training

to about 2,600 new accession Sailors annually in the administrative and logistics fields to prepare them for careers in the fleet. And as fate would have it, the two young brothers from Queens, New York, who grew up in the shadows of the twin towers during 9/11, would stay together to continue their Navy journey in the shadows of a large pine forest.

Mississippi was quite the culture shock for the two young Sailors. Meridian is known as the Queen City, but Patrick said "I don't see any skyscrapers here in Mississippi like we have back at home in Queens."

The Piteo brothers have made the most of their time in Mississippi. Ryan volunteers in the community most recently at a Halloween Haunted House, and Patrick plans on spending some of his off duty hours participat-



Photo by Tom Childress

Brothers Patrick Piteo, left, and Ryan Piteo are currently stationed together at Naval Technical Training Center on board NAS Meridian.

ing in community service projects. When asked about what they missed the most from back home, they both overwhelmingly agreed, "their dogs!"
Logistic Specialist Sea-

man Ryan Piteo recently graduated from "A" School and is heading to serve on board the USS Kearsarge, homeported in Norfolk, Va.
Ship's Serviceman Sea-

man Patrick Piteo still has a while to go before completing his "A" School. Who knows, maybe Kearsarge has room for one more ship's serviceman.
It's a small Navy!

Awards Quarters



Several Sailors were recognized during a recent awards quarters at Air Operations. Front row: AC2 Mata Tai, AC2 Nicholas Whelton and ABH2 Nikita Bowles; second row: AC1 Fredrick Rudolph, AC2 William Freeman, ABH2 Zachary Kube and AC2 Brandon Newberry. Newberry, Bowles, Freeman, Kube and Tai all received Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals. Rudolph and Whelton received Letters of Appreciation.

Aviator for a Day

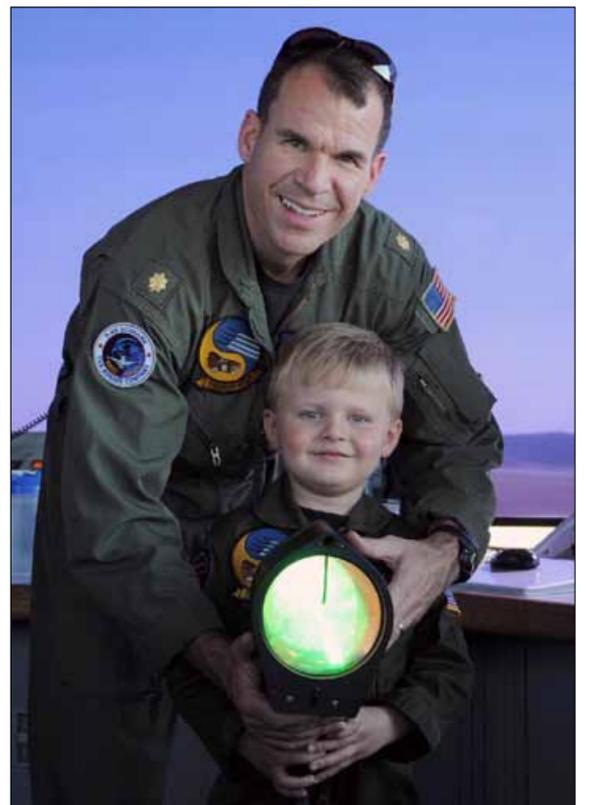


Photo by MC2 Casey H. Kyhl

Colton Bullock and Lt. Cmdr. James Bell operate a Light Gun during Colton's Aviator for a Day tour of the Air Operations Building Oct. 27. Training Wing One partnered with Batson Children's Hospital to allow Colton to live out his dream of being jet pilot. Colton has Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia and undergoes routine chemotherapy treatment His leukemia has been in remission since Oct. 17, 2013.

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Call 601-679-2504.

Administration Building 255, Suite 283

Reenlistment



Photo by NC1 James Flynn

AC2 William Freeman reenlisted for six years on Oct. 15 during a ceremony at Air Operations.

Retirement



Photo by Staff Sgt. Lamar Moore

Gunnery Sgt. Bryan Thompson speaks to the audience during his retirement ceremony Oct. 24. Thompson served 22 years in the U.S. Marine Corps.



Navy Region Southeast Wounded Warrior – Safe Harbor Program helps Sailors and Coast Guardsmen in need

By MC2 Stacy D. Laseter
Navy Region Southeast Public Affairs



JACKSONVILLE, Fla. – The Navy Wounded Warrior (NWW) – Safe Harbor program, is the Department of the Navy’s support program for critically wounded, injured or ill Sailors and Coast Guardsmen, and with over 3,000 served, it is a vital care network for those in need.

The program’s objective is to resolve persistent non-medical concerns and arrange enrollees for transition back to active duty or civilian life so the service members can focus on getting well. They do this by facilitating assistance during three phases: recovery, rehabilitation and reintegration.

“The recovery phase is typically the hospitalization phase,” said Lt. Daniel J. Simonds, the program manager for Navy Region Southeast Navy Wounded Warrior – Safe Harbor. “Next is the rehabilitation phase, when a service member is out of the hospital and learning how to navigate through their injury, illness or wound. Finally, the reintegration phase is if

the service member is found unfit for continued naval service we help with the transition into the civilian life, or if they are found fit, we help reintegrate them back into the Navy or Coast Guard.”

The program currently has over 1,640 enrollees, with more than 1,500 additional service members who have received assistance though they did not qualify for enrollment.

“If a Sailor or Coast Guardsmen is considered severely wounded, ill or injured by a physician, then their parent command will submit information on their behalf and we receive the notification that there is a service member in our region who needs assistance,” Simonds said. “From there an enrollment committee makes the determination on whether they will be ac-

cepted into the program. Regardless of the decision, they can and will receive assistance from us.”

NWW Safe Harbor offers an extensive variety of services, including assisting with employment and education opportunities, connecting them to benefits, hosting adaptive athletics events, and family and mental health resources.

The program was formally established in 2008 and since its foundation, the its mission has extended beyond offering support to service members wounded in combat. Currently, of its enrolled service members, half are injured and half are ill. The injuries may have been acquired while on liberty, training or on shipboard accidents.

For more information about NWW and how to enroll, call 1-855-NAVY WWP/1-855-628-9997, or visit <http://safeharbor.navylive.dodlive.mil> or email safeharbor@navy.mil.

Ready for the holidays?

Commissary cards help spread ‘gift of groceries’

By Kevin L. Robinson
DeCA Public Affairs Specialist

FORT LEE, Va. – As the calendar flips toward the holidays, the Commissary Gift Card is always a viable option for anyone wishing to support their loved ones in the military community, said the Defense Commissary Agency’s senior enlisted advisor to the director.

“The Commissary Gift Card is a wonderful way for anyone to help spread the gift of groceries – whether it’s the holidays or

any time of year,” said Air Force Command Chief Master Sgt. Stuart M. Allison. “The gift card can be sent by anyone for any authorized patron conveniently and quickly.”

Commissary Gift Cards come in denominations of \$25 and \$50. Anyone can purchase a card for an authorized patron either online through DeCA’s website, <http://www.commissaries.com>, or at a commissary.

The gift card can be used to pay for all in-store purchases or customers can use m

● **Holidays, page 7**

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Timeless military traditions

“This ol’ thing? Only cost me \$39.99 at Ross,” I bragged to other military wives in the ladies room of the Naval Station Newport Officer’s Club last weekend. Despite my seeming candor, I wouldn’t admit that I’d actually spent a lot more on the torso-girdle-contraption I was wearing under my ball gown.

The Navy Ball is held each year to celebrate the birthday of the seagoing branch of the armed forces, and it is pretty much the same every year: cocktails, photographs, dinner, speakers, cake cutting, and dancing one’s face off to a band of Navy musicians wearing “crackerjack” dress blues.

This year’s 239th Navy Birthday Ball is not really unique; all five branches of our military celebrate their respective birth dates with similar events. The Army held their 239th birthday ball in June, the Coast Guard’s 224th birthday ball was in August, the Air Force’s 67th birthday ball was in September, and the Marine Corps will hold their 239th birthday ball next month.

My yearly tradition always begins with the hunt for a decent dress to wear. Mine was cheap, fit like a glove, and covered all the things that, at 48 years of age, I didn’t want to worry about -- my lunch lady arms, my armpit chicken fat, and all the other wiggly bits, which I tucked neatly into that girdle contraption. I felt like a million bucks.

Well, considerably more than \$39.99, at least.

We walked to the Club from our base housing neighborhood, me in sensible flats, carrying my heels, which I knew would make my feet feel like they’d been fed through a sausage grinder if worn too long.

Entering the lobby, swarming with Navy folks dressed to the nines, I slipped into my heels and hid my flats under my husband’s cover on the coat rack. Sipping wine and chatting with friends while waiting in line for the professional photographer, I suddenly felt self-conscious about my bargain basement dress and the fact that, arriving home late that afternoon from our daughter’s JV soccer game, I’d gotten ready for the ball in exactly 27 minutes.

My insecurities were eased when another “senior” spouse told me that she’d thrown on one of her “sock drawer gowns” -- dresses that she whips out at a moment’s notice, gives them a good shake, and slips into without any need for ironing or alterations.

Seated at Table 13, I got a little misty during the parading of the colors and the national anthem, because, after 21 years as a military spouse, I’m not sure how much longer I’ll get to be a part of all this.

We settled into our seats, under the warm ballroom light, to listen to the keynote speaker. The soft sounds of glasses clinking and hushed conversations could be heard as the President of the U.S. Naval War College, Rear Admiral P. Gardner Howe, approached the podium. Normally at these functions, I would feign interest, half-listening while secretly people-watching. But this time, motivated by the sense that unique military experiences like this are precious and fleeting, I was all ears.

With all the honor and authority expected of a decorated Navy Seal, and a bit of unexpected charm and familiarity, Admiral Howe spoke to us.

“... The Navy is, at times, about spit and polish, about formal uniforms and ceremonies. But we must never forget that we are also about steel, and fire, and precious blood ... expended in righteous combat against intractable enemies. It is this warrior spirit, this Navy ethos, that sets our profession apart from the citizens we serve. ...”

Not again, I thought, my eyes pooling up. You sentimental fool, get ahold of yourself! I blinked rapidly to disperse an oncoming tear, and applauded the Admiral for his poetic and patriotic words.

An hour later, I was barefoot, sweaty, and doing my own middle-aged housewife rendition of “The Cupid Shuffle.”

With our Navy friends both new and old, we danced the night away, happy in the knowledge that, no matter how long we’ll be in the military, our traditions, our experiences, our pride and our honor will stay with us forever.

Currently stationed in Newport, R.I., Lisa Smith Molinari is a 20-year Navy spouse and mother of three teenagers, whose award-winning columns appear in military and civilian newspapers nationwide, and on her blog, www.themeatandpotatoesoflife.com. Follow Lisa@MolinariWrites.

COLUMN



Lisa Smith Molinari

GET SET, GO! GET GO REWARDS.

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Pvt. Dwanna Delavallade
MATSS-1 Student
Hometown: Bowling Green, Ohio

OOORAH!

Pvt. Candice Pierce
MATSS-1 Student
Hometown: Wooster, Ohio

Pvt. Dwanna Delavallade enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps directly out of high school.

"I became a Marine to challenge myself," Delavallade said. "I knew it was the hardest branch and I still wanted to earn the title of Marine."

Delavallade is currently a student in the Individual Asset Managers Course at Marine Aviation Training Support Squadron One.

The daughter of Tonnette Blackstone, Pvt. Delavallade enjoys skating, singing and playing basketball.

The person she most admires is her grandmother.

"Although she is struggling she still gives her all when it comes to her family."



Pvt. Candice Pierce, 19, is a student in the Individual Asset Managers Course at Marine Aviation Training Support Squadron One.

"I joined the Marines to better myself and to prove to everyone that I can do anything I set my mind to," Pierce said.

Pierce is the daughter of Carolyn Welton and Gregory Pierce. She lists her hobbies as making music and being outdoors.

"I'm looking forward to meeting new people, going new places and experiencing new things that outside of the military I would never have the chance to do," she said.

The person she most admires is her mother. "She is a very strong woman and no matter how hard things got she always kept fighting for what she loved and cared about."

Grandfather, grandson serve in same battalion 50 years apart

By Staff Sgt. Joseph DiGirolamo
31st Marine Expeditionary Unit

USS PELELIU, At Sea -- Lance Corporal Benjamin J. Ferry joined the Marine Corps because of his grandfather.

"My grandpa always said I could go in any branch, and die in any branch, but if I joined the Army he would shoot me tomorrow," said Ferry, a 23 year-old from Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts. "I always wanted to be a Marine so that's the way I chose to go."

Richard Ferry, Benjamin's grandfather, is a Marine combat veteran who served with 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment in the Korean War, fighting in Inchon and at the Chosin Reservoir.

"I encouraged [Ben] to join the Reserves and stay in college so he would have a good shot for a commission," said Richard. "Like me, he didn't pay any attention!"

Benjamin, who was working toward a Criminal Justice degree after high school, temporarily set his books aside to enlist in 2013.

"Infantry was the only option," said Benjamin, an automatic rifleman currently deployed with Battalion Landing Team 3/5, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit. "I wanted to be a trigger puller."

His 83-year old grandfather, a Boston native, had different reasons for joining the Marines, but it would ultimately set a path for Benjamin to follow.

In April 1949, Richard was spending time with a high school classmate who was the son of Boston Red Sox chief scout Neal Mahoney. Neal would often take his son, Neal Jr., and Richard on scouting trips during the summer break. One day at Fenway Park, Richard and Neal Jr. met Ted Williams, the famous Major League Baseball player who served as a Marine Corps pilot in World War II. Neal Jr. was a pitcher in high school at the time, and Ted challenged him to throw some pitches from the mound.

"Neal took the mound and Ted belted a few balls out of the park and teased the hell out of Neal," said Richard. "Afterwards he asked what we were doing in town. Neal admitted that we had caught the ride with his father because we wanted to go to the Federal Building to join the Naval Reserve,

[mainly] so we could get an ID card and alter the date of birth [so] we could drink."

The legal drinking age of Massachusetts was 21 (and still is).

"Of course Ted thought that was funny but he asked, 'what are you, a couple of (wussies)? If you want to drink and be men, why don't you join the Marine Corps like I did?'"

So, Richard and Neal Jr. took Ted's advice and joined the Marine Corps' Inactive Reserve. Later that year, Richard received a telegram ordering him to boot camp at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island.

A year later he was with 3/5 fighting in the Korean War. He was wounded twice at Chosin Reservoir, first on November 27 and again on December 2, 1950. His second wound required an air evacuation from the small village of Hagaru-Ri, and after a series of flights, he eventually ended at the Chelsea Naval Hospital in Boston. He would later receive two Purple Heart awards.

Richard later earned a commission and served in several challenging billets. His notable assignments include training officer, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion at Parris Island, South Carolina; combat cargo officer on the USS Renville (APA-227); an instructor at The Basic School in Quantico, Virginia; and a staff officer for Gen. David M. Shoup, the 22nd Commandant of the Marine Corps.

He resigned as a Captain in 1964 after 15 years of service.

More than 60 years after earning the eagle, globe, and anchor, Richard returned to Parris Island. This time it was to see his grandson, Benjamin, march across the depot's Parade Deck as a new Marine.

Benjamin's drill instructors learned about his grandfather's story and they did not hesitate to introduce themselves after the graduation ceremony.

"Instead of the recruits getting to take pictures with their drill instructors," said Benjamin, "the drill instructors all asked to get pictures with him."

After boot camp, Benjamin attended the School of Infantry, East. While there he shared more stories of his grandfather to his Marine buddies. Like the one about the tootsie roll Marines.



This photo illustration depicts Lance Cpl. Benjamin Ferry and his Grandfather, Richard T. Ferry, side-by-side while each was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment. Coincidentally, both Benjamin and Richard were assigned the same unit with more than 60 years' difference in service time. Richard served with 3/5 during the Korean War, fighting in Inchon and at the Chosin Reservoir before being evacuated with two wounds suffered in combat. Benjamin is an automatic rifleman and is currently deployed aboard the USS Peleliu with India Company, Battalion Landing Team 3/5, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit

"The brevity for mortars in the Chosin Reservoir was 'tootsies,'" said Benjamin. "[My grandfather told me that] some supply person dropped off tootsie rolls instead of mortar rounds."

Although they did not receive the requested mortar rounds, it turns out the tootsie rolls were exactly what the Marines needed.

The blistering subzero temperatures froze a lot of the food rations.

"They kept [the tootsie rolls] on the inside of their parkas so they would soften up to chew on them while they marched out of the Chosin," said Benjamin.

Another story was about the time his grandfather got into trouble just prior to the Korea War and had to report to his commanding officer. That commander was none other than Col. Lewis "Chesty" Puller. While the encounter was short and to the point, it left an impression on Richard to steer clear of trouble in the future.

"[My] Gunny overheard me telling some of the Marines that story," said Benjamin. "He asked to have [my grandfather] be the guest speaker at my graduation."

A few months later, his grandfather came through and was the guest speaker at the graduation.

The already strong bond between the two became stronger when Benjamin received orders to 3/5.

Now they can both say they are a "Dark Horse" Marine.

"I wanted to stay in the Carolinas because I was an East-coast boy, but I said if there was anywhere else I wanted to go, it was 3/5," said Benjamin. "It was exciting for my grandfather when he found out. I don't think he stopped smiling for a couple of days."

"He was the only one in the group that went to 3/5," said Richard. "It was only a coincidence, but I loved it!"

● Marine, page 9

Safety & Energy Efficiency is Our Duty

NAVY ENERGY ACTION MONTH Q&A's

Question: Why is Energy Action Month important to the Department of the Navy (DON)?

Answer: Energy Action Month gives DON an opportunity to highlight energy initiatives and show how improvements in energy security, energy efficiency, and sustainability lead to increased capability.

Question: How much money is DON saving from decreasing energy consumption?

Answer: Although there may be monetary savings due to the decrease in energy consumption, it's important to understand that the Department values energy as a strategic resource that is fundamental to executing our mission afloat and ashore, and is vital to increasing combat capability.

Question: Is the Navy's increased focus on decreasing energy consumption due to sequestration?

Answer: Energy consumption has always been important to the Navy, regardless of the fiscal climate. Incorporating energy efficient practices and alternative energy sources helps us to become a more agile and efficient fighting force. For us it's about increasing our operational capability.

Question: Why is energy security so important to the Department?

Answer: Energy security is critical to mission success. Energy security is having assured access to reliable, sustainable, and resilient supplies of energy, and the ability to protect and deliver sufficient energy to meet operational needs afloat and ashore.

Download the Energy Warrior App at: <http://greenfleet.dod-live.mil/energy/energywarrior>



NAS Meridian Public Access Defibrillator Program

According to the American Heart Association (AHA), there are approximately 700 lives lost daily from sudden cardiac arrest each year in the United States. Public access automated external defibrillation (AED) programs, combined with well trained EMS providers and laypersons trained in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), have shown to save lives of sudden cardiac arrest victims. Over the past few years Navy F&ES has reported numerous lives saved by laypersons and F&ES personnel using AEDs.

SECVININST 5100.17, Department of the Navy Installation Automated External Defibrillation (AED) Program, directed the Navy to develop, implement, and maintain an installation AED program at Department of the Navy installations. On July 13, 2012, Vice Admiral P. H. Cullom signed OPNAVINST 5100.29, Navy Installation Automated External Defibrillation (AED) Program. Current locations of Public Access Auto External Defibrillators at NAS Meridian:

Building

#2: Hangar-Airfield
#189: Corrosion Control-Airfield
#369: Gym - #1
#369: Gym - #2
#369: Gym - #3

#330: NTTC School #1
#330: NTTC School #2
#360: NTTC School
#361: NTTC School
#362: NTTC School Administration
#434: Navy Operational Support Center - #1
#434: Navy Operational Support Center - #2

#212: Navy Exchange Mini Mart
#214: Navy Exchange
#431: Commissary
#388: Golf Pro-Shop

The NAS Meridian Fire Department can schedule CPR and AED classes upon request. Contact Training Officer Kelvin Williams at 601-679-2589. Please contact Assistant Chief William Hagwood (601-679-2589) or Fire Inspector Sammie Pierce (601-679-3866) if you need help, training or further information.





NAS Meridian, MS • Morale, Welfare and Recreation

On the Web: www.nasmeridianmwr.com

Facility Phone Numbers

Fitness Center	679-2379	Library	679-2326	SAC	679-5252
Liberty Center	679-3760	Rudder's	679-2636	SLO	679-2473
ITT	679-3773	Sandtrap Grill	679-2780	P.C. Golf Course	679-2526
McCain Rec Ctr	679-2651	Tutto Bene	679-2345	MWR Admin.	679-2551
The Outpost	679-2609	CDC/CDH	679-2652	MWR Jobs Line	679-2467



McCain Rec Center

Bowling Specials

Sunday- Family Special: 11am-close, \$2.00 games including shoes

Monday- NTTC/MATSS-1 Student Special: 5pm-close, \$2.00 games including shoes

Wednesday- RCTA Visiting Police Special: 5pm-close, \$2.50 games including shoes

Friday- 11/07: 9 Pin No Tap Tournament - \$15.00 entry fee, sign up at 1800. Participants must be 18 or older.

Saturday- Cosmic Colored Head Pin Bowling Special: 7pm-9:30pm, Regular rates apply. If you have a colored pin as your head pin and get a strike, you get that game for free. Limit 1 per game up to 3 free games. Staff must be aware of shot before bowled.

Coming Attractions

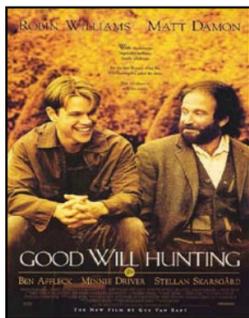
To McCain Rec Center



November 4 • 6pm
Rated R



November 5 • 6pm
Rated PG13



November 6 • 6pm
Rated R



November 8 • 1pm
Rated PG

“Sin City 2”
November 11 • 6pm
Rated R

“Let’s Be Cops”
November 12 • 6pm
Rated R

Looking Back At AutumnFest '14



Photos By Matt Davis/MWR Marketing Manager



HALLOWEEN PARTY

10.31.2014
LIVE MUSIC, COSTUME CONTEST AND MORE!

AT **Rudders**

Find MWR on:

Cornhole Tournament

November 6
1700
At Rudders

Call 679-2379 for info.

Find MWR on:

6th ANNUAL BAILEY HAUNTED FIREHOUSE

OCT. 10, 11, 17, 18, 24, 25, 31, NOV. 1 7PM-12AM
OCT. 30 7PM-10PM

Liberty bus leaves at 1600 on October 30 and returns after we are scared!

* The Liberty Program is only for Single/Unaccompanied Active Duty Military Members.

LIBERTY MWR NAS Meridian, MS

The Sandtrap @ Ponta Creek

Open Monday-Friday: 6:30am-4pm
Weekends: 8am-2pm

Weekly Events



Monday
Monday Night Football
\$1 draught during game

Tuesday
Classic Rock Night
\$1 off select Budweiser Bottled Beer

Wednesday
Country Night
Long Island and Bourbon Street
Tea on special
*Only Night to claim your ticket for monthly giveaway on November 29.

Thursday
Thursday Night Football
\$1 draught during game

Friday, November 14
DJ Leflore

Saturday, November 22
Pool Tournament

Saturday, November 29
Drawing for Montly Giveaway

*Watch College and NFL Football all month long!
\$1 Draught during games.

DJ Leflore Live at Rudders!

Friday, November 14

Have your next party at McCain Rec Center!
For more info call (601) 679-2651.

Andrew Triplett Library

Hours of Operation
Tues.-Fri.: 1000-1800
Saturday: 1000-1600

Some Services Offered:

- Bestsellers
- Audio Books
- Magazines
- Daily Newspapers
- Navy Reading List
- TV/Lounge Area
- Eight Computers with CAC readers - (Free access)
- Copy/Fax/Scanner Service (Free)
- Over 500 DVDs
- Gaming Consoles and Games (Free rental)
- Conference Room

For more info call (601) 679-2326.

Ponta Creek Golf Course Weekly Special

Play 18 holes with a cart for \$20/person daily. To schedule a tee time call (601) 679-2526.

New Golf Shop Hours

Starting Sunday, 2 Nov 2014
0800 - 1630, Daily

The Outpost

601-679-2609
Monday-Friday: 9:30am-6pm
Saturday: 10am-3pm
Now Open On Wednesday!
For more info call (601) 679-2609.

Did you know the Outpost has bikes for rental for riding on the bike trails at NAS Meridian?

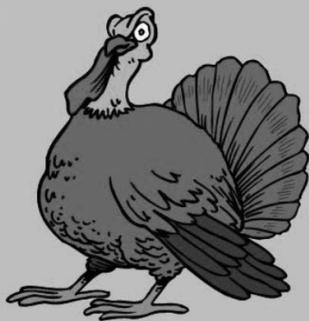




Sports

McCain Recreation Center

"The only place where it's GREAT to be a TURKEY!"



Join us on Thanksgiving Day and bowl 3 games for \$5.

If you roll a TURKEY (3 Strikes in a row) in any of the 3 games you will get those 3 games free. Limited to one set of 3 free games per customer.



Look for MWRMeridian to stay up to date with all the latest MWR Meridian news!

Derby Champ



Congratulations to Adam Arwood, winner of the Home Run Derby that took place on October 23, 2014!

Group Class Schedule

All classes take place in the multi-use room of the fitness center unless noted otherwise.

Monday

Pilates @ 11:30am, Multi-Use Room, Free
Self Defense @ 5pm, Multi-Use Room, Fee Based

Tuesday

Boot Camp @ 5pm, Various locations- Meet in Lobby, Free

Wednesday

Cycling @ 11:30am, Multi-Use Room, Free

Thursday

Cycling @ 5pm, Multi-Use Room, Free

For more info call (601) 679-2379.

2014 Captain's Cup Standings

	N A S	N T C	M A T S S 1	V T 7	V T 9	C T W 1	N B H C
Basketball	98	115	80	0	0	0	0
Bowling	82.5	0	82.5	0	0	0	0
Racquetball	25	0	0	12.5	30	14	0
Softball	110	94	62	104	0	0	70
3v3 Volleyball	37.5	45	0	0	37.5	0	0
Tennis	0	30	0	0	30	0	0
7v7 Soccer	88	120	0	0	0	0	100
3v3 St. Basketball	90	75	0	0	0	0	0
Golf	30	9.5	0	0	0	15.5	4
Flag Football	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5v5 Volleyball	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Horseshoes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	561	488.5	224.5	116.5	97.5	29.5	174

*Standings as of October 16, 2014.

Military Family Month 10 Mile Run

Date: 1 November • Start Time: 8am
Start/Finish Location: Fitness Center
Details: 10 mile run. 'Nuff said.

Co-sponsor: This event is being hosted in conjunction with NAS Meridian's Fleet & Family Support Center.

Kick/Punt/Pass Competition

Location: Fitness Center Multi-Use Field
Date: 20 November • Time: 5pm
Description: Are you the most versatile player on the field? Bring your "A-game" in this all-around football competition.

• Holidays

multiple forms of payments and coupons along with the gift card. Gift cards cannot be redeemed for cash, and customers will not be able to receive change for any unused amount left on the card. With its declining balance, the gift card is used until it is "zeroed out."

Since DeCA began the gift card program in June 2011, commissaries have sold nearly 470,000 cards worth nearly \$16 million, said Bob Bunch, gift card program manager.

"A lot of families and friends of service members have used Commissary Gift Cards because they're a quick and easy way to show support," Bunch said. "Organizations routinely use them, especially during the holidays, to help military families in need."

Here are some Commissary Gift Card quick facts:

- Gift cards are available at all commissaries worldwide - on a rack at full service, front-end registers - as well as through the DeCA website, <http://www.commissaries.com>. Click on "Shopping," then "Gift Cards" and then the "Place your order" box.
- The cards expire five years from the date of purchase.
- Commissary Gift Cards purchased online

incur a shipping and handling fee. These fees are not assessed, however, when the card is purchased in a store.

- There is no limit to the number of gifts cards that a purchaser can buy. However, DeCA officials recommend organizations and activities consider purchasing their gifts cards online if they plan to purchase more than 50 cards at a time.

- Commissary Gift Cards can be shipped anywhere in the United States. When shipping outside the United States, an APO, FPO or DPO address must be used.

- To check the gift card balance, visit <http://www.commissaries.com>, click on "Shopping," then "Gift Cards" and then the "Check your balance" box.

- For customer service questions, please call 877-988-4438, which is also found on the back of the gift card. Customers can also use this number to check the balance on their card.

Customers who still have unused gift vouchers, the precursor to the gift card, may still redeem them through Aug. 31, 2016, regardless of the expiration date printed on it. After this date, DeCA will no longer accept gift vouchers as a form of payment.

• Testing

Question: How much lead in drinking water is too much?

Answer: In school or child care settings, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) guidance has set a guidance level of 20 ppb (one part per billion) it is roughly equivalent to one drop of water in an Olympic sized swimming pool). When results show lead levels exceeding 20 ppb, those fountains and outlets will be taken out of service until corrective actions take place. Risk will vary, however, depending on the individual, the circumstances, and the amount of water consumed.

Question: How can someone be exposed to lead?

Answer: The greatest risk of exposure to lead is swallowing or breathing in lead paint chips and dust. Lead most frequently gets into drinking water by leaching from plumbing materials and fixtures as water moves through the water pipes. A facility may have elevated lead levels due to plumbing materials and water use patterns. Because lead concentrations can change as water moves through the water pipes, the best way to know if a facility might have elevated levels of lead in its drinking water is by testing the water in that facility. Testing facilitates an evaluation of the plumbing and helps target corrective actions, as necessary.

Question: What is the federal law for testing for lead?

Answer: There is no federal law requiring testing of drinking water in schools or priority areas. However, drinking water for schools is regulated under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). Recently, Navy leadership decided to adopt the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) guidelines as policy. This proactive approach to the identification and elimination of potential sources of lead in facilities that cater to children shows our commitment to the safety, and well-being of our Navy families worldwide.

Question: What is the Lead and Copper Rule?

Answer: The Lead and Copper Rule, under the Safe Drinking Water Act, requires public water suppliers to monitor for lead in drinking water and to provide treatment for corrosive water if lead or copper are found at unacceptable levels. Testing under the Lead and Copper Rule is performed based on criteria such as the age of a facility, type of pipe or age of pipe, and the number of sample locations is based on who uses the facility.

Question: Who conducts this water sampling test?

Answer: Navy environmental personnel, along with a Navy environmental contractor, will collect the samples.

The water will be tested by an independent certified laboratory.

Question: What are the options available for reducing lead levels in the drinking water?

Answer: Some routine, short-term and long-term steps to help mitigate the problem include:

Examples of routine activities that should be conducted by the general public to prevent exposure to elevated levels of lead:

- Use only cold water for food and beverage preparation. Hot water will dissolve lead more quickly than cold water and is likely to contain increased lead levels. If hot water is needed, it should be taken from the cold water tap and heated on a stove or in a microwave oven.

- Instruct the users (children and staff) to run the water before drinking or staff could run the water before students arrive, so they are drinking water that has not been in contact with the faucet interior since faucets are often a major source of lead in drinking water.

Examples of routine activities that should be conducted by the general public to prevent exposure to elevated levels of lead:

- Clean debris from all accessible screens frequently. If you discovered sediments in faucet screens, have the sediments tested for lead and continue to clean your screens frequently, even if the analysis finds no lead.

- Placard bathroom sinks with notices that water should not be consumed. You should use pictures if there are small children using bathrooms.

- "Flush" the piping system in your building.

- Shut off problem outlets

Potential Permanent Remedies

- After obtaining an understanding of the water supply and the lead conditions in a facility (as a result of testing), permanent treatment options will be examined by the facilities maintenance team. Potential actions taken may include: Check grounding wires. Electrical current may accelerate the corrosion of lead in piping materials.

- Lead pipe replacement. Lead pipes within the school and those portions of the lead service lines under the water supplier's jurisdiction can be replaced.

- Reconfigure plumbing. In some facilities, the plumbing system might be modified so that water supplied for drinking or cooking is redirected to bypass sources of lead contamination.

Sale... Or

BOATS/CAMPERS/TRAILERS

1996 Ragin Cajun Bass Boat, 200hp Mariner, Loran depth finder and a GPS/depth finder duel livewells mortar guide trolling motor. Runs great and fast. \$4,500. Seats are in good condition. Call Clint at 601-479-7043.

2006 Fleetwood Discovery 39 ft. 3 slide, Cat Diesel, motor home. New tires & A/C, "Fully equipped", original owners, non-smokers. Serious Inquiries Only Please. Will e-mail pictures, full information or set appointment to see RV upon request. Call 601-479-6145.

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

Samsung 42" TV, great condition, \$350 OBO. Call 601-481-5712.

Tan microfiber Ashley sectional sofa, \$450 OBO; **Modern black oval coffee table** (very unique), \$150; **Black side table**, \$25. Call Kim Benson at 785-643-1367 or email: benson.kimberly@gmail.com.

Brown wood grain couch, \$100. **Beige wingback chairs**. Set of two, \$80; **Large Zildjian scimitar 20" Ride CYMBAL**, (hardly used), \$50.

Call 601-696-7067, leave message.

MOTORCYCLES/GEAR/ATV

2002 Harley Davidson Sportster 883cc, blue/chrome. Asking \$3,000 w/ 2 helmets & 2 jackets. Call 985-705-7179.

2005 Harley Davidson Road King Custom FLHRS, Twin Cam 88 CI engine, 70+ Horsepower, 1450cc, Stage 1 Kit, Screaming Eagle Tail Pipes, battery charger, bike stand. BEAUTIFUL machine with ONLY 15,096 miles! VERY well maintained and priced for quick sale at \$13,500. Call 601-737-8175.

AUTOMOBILES, ETC.

Very nice blacked out G35 Coupe with 102k miles. Painted black tail light (still can see lights and brake lights) 19" black staggered rims with fairly new tires, wide 275 tires in rear, full Ark brand exhaust from the headers back. 5 percent tint, 6-month old paint job with partially painted front headlights, cold-air intake and stage-2 clutch. Lowered 1.7" in front and 1.4" in rear. Good size in-dash screen with

tweeter and new door speakers. Remaining speakers are Bose. Sunroof, cruise control, screen has navigation, Bluetooth and iPod hook up, custom front grill. Has one year on driver seat but can be easily redone. Asking \$14,000. Not interested in trades. Serious inquires only! Call/text Mike at 850-797-9462.

2008 Volkswagen Jetta SE, immaculate condition and runs perfectly, never any issues. 109,000 miles, non-smoking vehicle. Asking \$9,500 OBO. Call/Text (631) 205-8877.

2009 Chevy Traverse LS, very good condition, 117,000 miles, 4 years/70K miles remaining on extended warranty. Asking \$9950. Call 601-616-0947.

2012 GMC Acadia SLT-1 FWD, summit white with tan leather interior. 31k miles - Satellite radio - Onstar Navigation - BOSE Premium Sound package - 3rd row seating. Asking \$29,500 OBO. Call (601) 692-3730 evenings.

2009 Ford Flex V6, 87K miles, Maroon color, Great condition. Asking \$13,500. Call 601-604-9180/9549.

HOMES/APARTMENTS

NEW ITEM! For Rent: Home located on Dalewood Main Lake, 8275 Simmons Circle, Lauderdale; 3 BD/2-1/2 BA (boat dock and pier) \$1400/month plus deposit, dues, and garbage fees. Call 601-632-4101 and 601-527-0654.

FOR SALE: 3 BD/1 BA (1540 square feet) on Poplar Springs Drive in North Hills area of Meridian. Lots of natural light. Big fenced backyard. Great neighbors. Call Jennifer at 601-934-6431.

For Rent: 3 BD/2 BA house on large canal at Dalewood Lake. 2200 square feet with 41x26 screened in porch and new deck. Multiple renters accepted. Furnished. Call Joel Mayfield for details at 601-604-4451.

For Rent: 3 BD/2 BA house, central heat & air, W/D hookup, dining room and family room. \$980 Rent. \$600 Deposit. Located at: 4319 King Rd, Meridian. Call (601) 282-0463.

For Rent: Beautiful brick 3 BD/2 BA home, 1800 sq. ft., large kitchen, laundry/mud room, W/D, fireplace, skylights, large covered back patio, dou-

ble car garage, large storage building in back of property, 3 acres close to Okatibbee Lake. House sits at the end of cul-de-sac, great for children in well maintained neighborhood. Location: 8380 Oak Ridge Estates, Meridian. \$1400 per month plus utilities. Call Jack or Cathy at (228) 872-4916.

For Sale: 2 BR/1 BA brick home near Meridian Community College. Large deck, storage, sm. shop. Decent neighborhood, convenient to 19N. Asking \$52,500. Call 601-696-7067, leave message.

For Rent: Lovely 3 BR/ 2.5 BA house on lake at Dalewood. Two living rooms, large kitchen and decks. Two office/studies. 15 mins from base. \$1500 per month. Call 601-678-3458 for appt.

MISCELLANEOUS

NEW ITEM! Weight set for sale to include 4x45lbs, 4x35lbs, 2x25lbs, 2x10lbs, 4x5lbs, 3x2.5lbs, 2x45lbs straight bar, 1x15lbs curl bar, 5x safety clips and a weight stand for \$250. Call 360-551-0805.

NEW PRICE! 10 gallon

aquarium with filter pump and top \$10. Call Teresa at 601-679-3474 between 7 am and 3:30 pm (gone for lunch from 11:30 to 12).

Yugoslavian M24/47 8mm Mauser, \$300. Call Christopher at 620-960-1250.

Matching pair of Red/White/Black 2008 Seadoo jet skis, bought new in 2009. Just serviced, in great condition, less than 70 hours on the engines! Run strong at 60mph! Tandem trailer included, asking \$10,000 OBO. \$300/yr to insure in MS. Okatibbee awaits! Call 951-265-0204 or see brochure at the chapel.

WANTED

Motorcycles any size any condition, will pay above salvage price. Also have a large selection of good used parts for sale. Call 601-938-4295 anytime.

To submit an item to the "Sale...Or" column, e-mail penny.randall@navy.mil. Deadline is the Thursday prior to publication.





Navy League council seeks nominations for Military Spouse Volunteer of Year

From Public Affairs Staff

The Mississippi Council of the Navy League established the Military Spouse Volunteer of the Year Award to recognize spouses who are involved in their community and participate in volunteer activities.

Anyone who is the spouse of U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Coast Guard and Merchant Marine, all ranks, active duty, Guard and Reserve may be nominated.

"This is truly an opportunity to recognize the exceptional stories and contributions in our community," said Arjen Lagendijk, past president of the Mississippi Council of the Navy League. "If you know

(or are) a deserving military spouse, get to the nominating!"

So that all spouses have an opportunity to compete, only the past 12 months activities should be considered.

Who can nominate: Nominations to be accepted from any person or group, civilian and military. A person can submit more than one nomination.

Who can be nominated: Anyone who is the spouse of a U.S. military member may be nominated (all services, all ranks, active duty, Guard and Reserve) living in any of the Mississippi Military Communities covered by the Mississippi Council of the Navy League. The nominee can be active duty military and a spouse. The nominee does not need to be a member of

the Navy League.

How to nominate: Nominations must be made in writing using the format provided on the nomination form. Forms can be obtained in the NAS Meridian Public Affairs Office or by email by calling 601-679-2318.

Nomination Deadline: Nov. 17, 2014.
Who will judge the nominees and determine the winner: A committee of four Navy League Board Members.

How nominees will be judged and winner determined: Review, rate, and evaluate applications based on award criteria. As much as possible, the evaluation should be conducted on the measurable portion of the award criteria; however, since some of the criteria are subjective, the evaluation

encompasses subjective decisions.

Award Criteria:

- Demonstrate exceptional volunteer work accomplishments
- Exhibit selfless giving to others in the community
- Exude ongoing strength in enduring deployments (deployments include individual augmentations), family separations and frequent moves
- Fortitude ingenerating support of other military spouses and their families while "holding down his or her own fort"

Award Date: Nominee will be announced and honored at the Mississippi Council of the Navy League Annual Meeting on Dec. 9.

Naval Academy seeks Navy Reserve instructors

By Lt. Teng K. Ooi, PhD
USNA/NAVAIR Reserve Program and
Capt. Linda J. Beltra, MD, USN (Ret)

Attention Navy Reserve Officers: Are you interested in an opportunity to teach, inspire, and empower the next generation of American leaders to serve our nation?

The U.S. Naval Academy needs qualified Navy Reserve officers, especially at the ranks of lieutenant, lieutenant commander, and commander, with at least a master's degree in an appropriate academic discipline to instruct in designated academic departments for Fall 2015 and to serve as outstanding military role models and mentors for midshipmen.

Recall opportunities will be considered for the following disciplines: cyber security, information systems, and information technology; electrical engineering, computer engineering, general engineering, nuclear engineering, mechanical engineering, naval architecture, ocean engineering, aerospace engineering, and control systems engineering; mathematics, chemistry, physics, computer science, and oceanography; political science, economics, English, history, and foreign language (Spanish, French, German, Russian, Arabic, Chinese, or Japanese).

Interested Navy Reservists should email the following:

• A cover letter that states which discipline(s) you are applying for and your

qualifications for the position

• A resume of experience (academic, professional, and naval experience, including any recent mobilizations, recalls, or extended active duty periods)

• A full-length khaki photo
Email: reserve.recall@usna.edu
Reserve Recall Liaison Officer, CDR John Schedel

United States Naval Academy, Code 11C
121 Blake Road
Annapolis, MD 21402-1300
Telephone: (410) 293-6513
DSN: 281-6513
Fax: (410) 293-2591

To receive full consideration, interested officers for Academic Year 2015-2016 should apply no later than December 15, 2014. Officers selected will be recalled to active duty and assigned orders for an officer-instructor tour, not to exceed three years, commencing July 2015. Recalled officers will remain on the reserve active status list and will remain eligible for promotion consideration before reserve selection boards.

Selections will be made only after USNA placement officers are confident that USNA billets will not be filled from the active duty pool of potential officer instructors. Applicants will be made aware of their selection status by mid-April 2015. Final arrangements are contingent upon PCS funding being available through the Navy.

tributing campaign literature in the physical world.

A: DOD Civilians: Can send message to "all" Facebook friends or post update in "Status" field advocating for a party or candidate. Cannot specifically target subordinates by sending personal messages or e-mail directed at success or failure of a partisan group, as this would be improper use of authority or influence to affect the result of an election.

Q: What about bumper stickers?

A: ADSM and DOD Civilians: Yes, you may place a campaign bumper sticker on your personal vehicle. (NOTE: this does not include disturbing or obscene stickers, and the higher in rank you are (civilian and military) the more seriously you should think about what you're saying – just use the "Navy Times" / "Washington Post" test).

• Legal

candidate, campaign, group or cause (for example, soliciting others to vote for a particular candidate or party, fundraising for a campaign, etc.).

Q: May an ADSM or DOD Civilian become a "friend" of, or "like," the Facebook page, or "follow" the Twitter account of a political party or partisan candidate, campaign, group, or cause?

A: ADSM and DOD Civilian: Yes.

Q: So what is NOT okay to do on Social Media?

A: ADSM: You cannot suggest that others "like", "friend" or "follow" the partisan account, you cannot forward invitations to partisan events, solicit or fundraise on behalf of parties or candidates, you cannot post or share direct links or "likes" to partisan sites (basically actions which are similar to dis-

• Golf

ticket voucher can then be downloaded from the site. A \$1 military status verification fee for each complimentary military or discounted veteran ticket will apply.

While at the Sanderson Farms Championship, all military guests will be treated to complimentary food and beverages and a relaxing venue for viewing all of the tournament action in the Military Outpost, a military-exclusive hospitality chalet located adjacent to the 10th green at the Country Club of Jackson. Sponsored by Trustmark, Pearl River Resort, Radian, The Cirlot Agency and Southland, the Outpost will be open from Nov. 6-9, from 11 am until the end of play each day.

"We are indebted to our courageous military members for everything they do to keep America safe and free, and are delighted to work in partnership with the PGA TOUR and Birdies for the Brave to show these American heroes and

their families how much their service and sacrifices are appreciated," said Sanderson Farms Championship Tournament Director Steve Jent. "On behalf of the tournament, Sanderson Farms and The Country Club of Jackson, I'd also like to extend our appreciation to Trustmark, Pearl River Resort, Radian, The Cirlot Agency and Southland for their generous sponsorship of the Military Outpost."

Birdies for the Brave (www.birdiesforthebrave.org) is a national military outreach initiative proudly supported by the PGA TOUR. Since 2006, Birdies for the Brave has joined with players, sponsors, donors and fans to raise more than \$11 million for nine military homefront groups that are supported by TOUR players, which provide critical programs and services to meet the specialized needs of wounded service members and military families. The program also includes military appreciation activities and special events for mili-

tary families during TOUR events.

For tickets and more information on the 2014 Sanderson Farms Championship, visit www.sandersonfarms-championship.com.

Operation Homefront seeks nominations for 2015 Military Child of the Year

Operation Homefront, the national non-profit dedicated to providing emergency financial and other assistance to military families, has announced that nominations for the 2015 Military Child of the Year® Awards are being accepted online at MilitaryChildOfTheYear.org through Dec. 12.

This award is presented to an outstanding child from each branch of service – Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard. This year, we'll also have a category for children of National Guardsmen. The recipients each receive a \$10,000 award and a laptop, and are flown with a parent or guardian to Washington, D.C.,

for a special awards gala on April 16.

The Military Child of the Year Award® recognizes children who stand out among their peers. Ideal candidates for the award demonstrate resilience, strength of character, and thrive in the face of the challenges of military life.

Anyone can nominate a child. Family members, teachers, coaches, counselors, clergy, neighbors and friends are encouraged to nominate outstanding military children. For more information on how to nominate a child in your community, please log on to MilitaryChildOfTheYear.org.

• CNIC

national anthem sung by Naomi Howell, one of CNIC's civilian employees. A special contribution to the ceremony was the participation of side boys by former submarine Sailors with whom French served during his first command, USS Spadefish.

"From these men," said French, "I've learned the trade of going to sea in submarines. Gentlemen thank you for finding your full dress blues, putting them all together and being here today."

Guest speaker for the ceremony was Chief of Naval Operations, Adm. Jonathan Greenert.

"I'm honored to be here to take some time to speak about a person who has had a long and distinguished career, who has dedicated the last two and half years to CNIC, and who is an extraordinary leader," said Greenert. "Bill French has sustained the fleet, enabled the fighter and supported the family. He has revolutionized the Navy shore enterprise."

Responsible for 52,000 military and civilian personnel, 11 Regions and 69 installations worldwide, French received the Defense Distinguished Service Medal for his accomplishments including the attainment of the Homeport Ashore initiative, the development of governance and oversight for the Overseas Drinking Water program,

and efforts to align CNIC to support fleet requirements.

The ceremony also recognized French's retirement after more than three-decades of exemplary service to the Navy.

"Today I want to thank many people," said French. "One of the many thankful parts of this job is you get the opportunity to work with so many different people both inside the Navy, fellow services and support organizations that take care of our sailor and families outside the Navy."

French thanked his family, fellow shipmates and mentors throughout his career, and welcomed Smith to CNIC recognizing the talent and commitment of Smith's new staff.

Prior to the ceremony, Smith was promoted to Vice Admiral to serve as Commander, Navy Installations Command. He is the first former installation commanding officer to lead CNIC.

Smith shared his enthusiasm about taking on greater responsibility to lead the Navy's shore enterprise.

"CNO, thank you for your kind words," he said. "I'm honored and deeply humbled by your faith and confidence for this opportunity for continued service to our Navy and our nation."

A native of Connecticut, Smith was commissioned through the Naval Academy

in 1983. He was designated as a surface warfare officer in 1985 and then went on to serve aboard five surface combatants and held five shore assignments. Later in Smith's career he went on to lead shore installations as the commander for three Regions including Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, Navy Region Hawaii, Navy Region Southwest, and most recently, Region Mid Atlantic prior to arriving in Washington, D.C.

Smith thanked French for a smooth transition and emphasized his commitment to service through action.

"I'm happy to report that as I assume this watch, that thanks to Vice Admiral Bill French, CNIC is on course, focused on fully supporting CNO's tenets of warfighting first, operating forward, and being ready," said Smith. "CNIC will maintain that course."

Smith offered that he is excited to join the CNIC family.

"I consider it a privilege to lead and serve you," he said. "To those who serve, the only reason we at CNIC exist is to support you. You have my promise and commitment to do just that."

Leading a world-class enterprise, CNIC is responsible for managing shore installation support for the Navy's fleet, fighter and family under the Chief of Naval Operations.

VFW offers scholarship opportunity

Special to The Skyline

The Veterans of Foreign Wars has several scholarship opportunities available to middle and high school age children.

The scholarship is open to all students in public, private, homeschool programs not just members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Grades 6, 7 and 8 will participate in the Patriot Pen Essay contest and win money at the local, state and national levels. Students should submit a 300-400 typewritten word essay on the subject "Why I appreciate America's Veterans."

Deadline is Nov. 1.

Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12 can participate in Voice of Democracy. This is a written and recorded 3-5 minute speech on "Why veterans are important to our nation's history and future" and also have awards at the local, state and national levels. The state winner will earn a trip to Washington, DC and up to \$35,000 for college education. Deadline is Nov. 1.

For more information and applications contact VFW District 4 Commander Norm Copeland at (601) 282-5866 or email meridianvfw@comcast.net.

Golden Apple Award

Honoring Outstanding Teachers and Educators in East Mississippi and West Alabama

Do you have a teacher who has made an impact on your life or on your child's life? Do you have a teaching colleague whose style you admire? Nominate them for the Golden Apple Award! Then, encourage others to do the same! Nominations may be submitted by students, parents, faculty, or community members. Nominees must be someone employed full-time in the K-12 education field (public or private) within the following counties: Lauderdale, Neshoba, Kemper, Clarke, Newton, Choctaw & Sumter

LOG ON TO: wgbctv.com or meridianstar.com

TO NOMINATE A TEACHER

1151308530





IT'S YOUR TURN...

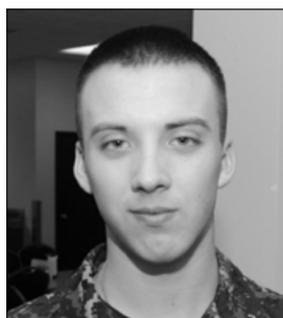
In honor of Halloween we asked these Sailors, "What is your biggest fear?"

By MC2 Casey H. Kyhl



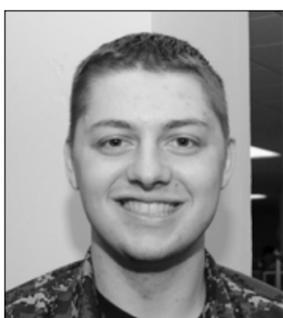
LSSN Anhtu Pham
NTTC Student

"I am afraid of the 'Cat in the Hat' and babies."



LSSA Nate Iverson
NTTC Student

"Being buried alive is the worst thing I can imagine."



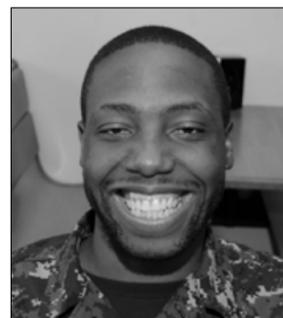
SHSN Jeremy Stewart
NTTC Student

"That giant snake from Harry Potter."



YNSN Elizabeth Abernathy
NTTC Student

"I am deathly afraid of having spiders on my face."



LSSR Eric Campbell
NTTC Student

"I am afraid of having recruit drill commanders yell at me."

Fleet & Family Support Center

Family matters: Becoming a strong family

The Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) extends a special salute to military families for your daily sacrifice for our nation.

This article will discuss a few of the strategies on the path toward becoming a successful and strong family. There is an old Chinese proverb that summarizes all families: "Nobody's family can hang out the sign, 'Nothing the matter here.'" However healthy families develop positive strategies to deal with issues in a constructive way.

A number of traits are common to strong, healthy families. One trait is that they keep open channels of communication. Talking and listening without judging or criticizing is the key to family success. This process allows each member to feel appreciated and worthwhile.

Another trait is good health. Healthy lifestyles help to reduce both stress and tension and thus increase the potential for flexibility. Good health not only includes physical aspects such as recreation and exercise; mental and spiritual health are equally important. Community and unit loyalty are also important and, like loyalty to our family, has a tendency to strengthen all of us. The last trait discussed here is family readiness. We've all heard the term "military readiness." Well, like military readiness, family readiness is also important. It means



being prepared for expected and unexpected future events.

Now, let's examine a few red flags that families need to be aware of to ensure that their chances for success are not sabotaged: Unhealthy lifestyles make up one of the biggest mine fields. Behaviors such as abuse of alcohol, compulsive gambling, family violence, etc. are obvious dangers and habits that are easy to fall into if we're not careful. Ignoring the family's money situation can also do major damage to a family, and finally reluctance to ask for help is a common problem among families who are not doing well. Remember the old Chinese proverb mentioned earlier? Every family needs help at some time or other. Strong military families know it is a sign of strength, not weakness, to ask for help when it is needed.

Your FFSC staff, like military leaders, knows that if families are coping well, the service members can more effectively focus on their jobs and do them well. The bottom line is that to have a successful family means that you must take the time to plan and prepare. It means taking advantage of the resources available to assist in your preparation. "A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step."

From NAS Meridian FFSC Staff

FFSC Briefs

To register for any of the following workshops, please call (601) 679-2360. The class will not be presented if no one registers, so please sign up if interested. If you can't attend at the scheduled time, call anyway -- the workshop facilitator may be able to meet with you one-on-one, give you materials, or let you know when the class will be scheduled again. All active duty, reserve, retired military and their families are eligible for programs and services provided by the FFSC. Civil service employees can utilize the services on a space available basis.

Transition GPS Capstone: Nov. 5 from 9:30-10:30 Ninety days before their separation from military service, members will participate in a CAPSTONE event, which will verify that transitioning service members completed the Transition GPS curriculum and achieved Career Readiness Standards. Service members who require additional assistance will be referred to supplemental training opportunities. In addition, through the CAPSTONE event, all service members will be offered a 'warm handover' to appropriate government agencies and organizations that will be able to provide them continued benefits, services, and support as veterans. See your Command Career Counselor for more information.

Welcome Aboard: Nov. 6 from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. FFSC welcomes you to Meridian by providing current information and policies regarding NAS. Topics covered will include: Navy career choices, FFSC services, Medical/Dental, Exceptional Family Member (EFM) Program, TRICARE, vehicle registration, on- and off-base driving regulations, legal services, community service, Chapel and other area religious services, MWR, things to do at NAS and in Meridian, School Liaison Program, and more!

Holiday Budgeting: Nov. 12 from 3-4 p.m. These days, gift-giving during the holidays is practically mandatory. In addition, many military families travel during the holidays, putting further stress on the old pocketbook. So how can you spread a little cheer to your friends and family without doing massive damage to your personal finances this year? We'll learn strategies for planning (and sticking to!) a holiday budget this year -- and we might even steal a trick or two from Santa himself!

Transition GPS Seminar: 17-21 Nov. 17-21 from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Military personnel who are voluntarily or involuntarily separating or retiring and are within 180 days of separating are required to attend this seminar, held at the FFSC. It is highly recommended that spouses attend. You may also attend if you're up to 24 months away from your separation or retirement date. The following topics will be covered: résumés, job search skills, job interviewing, employment (state and federal), veterans' benefits, pay and travel, movement of household goods, TRICARE, emotional transition to separation, financial planning, forms and documents, benefits and services, military obligations, and more. You must see your Command Career Counselor or Admin Officer before attending Transition GPS to obtain several documents that are required for the seminar.

10 Steps to a Federal Job: Nov. 19 from 4-6 p.m. The government is hiring! But if you want to be successful in landing a federal job, you need to understand the government's unique and complex application process. This workshop, based on the writings and training of federal job search guru, Kathryn Troutman, will walk you through the 10 steps to finding and applying for a federal job. We'll cover: finding and analyzing federal job announcements; crafting a federal-style résumé and an electronic résumé; interpreting the cryptic language of federal hiring process ("core competencies", etc.); the incredible importance of including "keywords" in your application; addressing "KSAs"; and much more!

Thanksgiving Crafts and Movie Time: Nov. 24 from 9-11 a.m. All children, ages 6-12, are invited to the FFSC to create cool Thanksgiving/Fall crafts and join us for a holiday movie! Registration is required for preparation of materials! Refreshments will be served.

What is Exceptional Family Member Program?

By Cynthia Haynes McDonald
NAS Meridian School Liaison Officer

The Department of Defense developed the Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) to provide support to active duty service members in managing the care of family members who have special needs.

As defined in information found on the EFMP website, "Special needs include any special medical, dental, mental health, developmental or educational requirement, wheelchair accessibility, adaptive equipment or assistive technology devices and services."

Enrollment in the program is mandatory for active duty service members and should be completed as soon as a family member becomes eligible for special care. EFMP Coordinators, usually found at the installation Medical Treatment Facility (MTF), will assist families in completing the enrollment process. Assignment of appropriate support services requires collaboration among the service member and his or her family and MTF and Fleet and Family Support Services at each duty station.

Proper screening and enrollment and open communication ensures that service members and their families are assigned to locations where exceptional family members can receive adequate care. Without this precautionary measure, a service member may be assigned to a location where needed medical and educational services may not be readily

COLUMN



McDonald

accessible, causing undue hardship for the family, especially for the exceptional family member. To ensure continuity of care, the EFMP guidelines stipulate, "Enrollees must update enrollment information every three years, 12 months prior to negotiating orders, 12 months prior to a Permanent Change of Station (PCS), and/or with a change of status of a family member enrolled in the EFMP."

Failure to enroll in the program when a need exists for support could contribute to negative consequences for the DoD and for the service member. If the service member gets orders and later it is revealed that a special need exists, command-sponsored travel may be denied if the MTF at the new duty station concludes that required special medical services are not available.

The EFMP is an extensive support program that includes many resources. Parents can download fact sheets, order resources (mostly free), and find links to support programs and service providers at <http://www.militaryonesource.mil/efmp>. With help, caretakers can develop an individualized services plan for their exceptional family member or learn the language that will help them to discuss early intervention services with their child's school. There are tools to help organize medical treatment and school records. EFMP offers guidance in everything from financial planning to disaster preparedness to long-term care for an exceptional family member should the caregiver become incapacitated.

Service members should consult with the EFMP Coordinator, the EFMP website, and print literature to learn more about their options for military and community services.

● Marine
The Marines of BLT 3/5 know Benjamin has big shoes to fill, but it is the passion of his grandfather that pushes him to be a model Marine.

"It's known around the platoon that his grandfather was a part of 3/5," said Staff Sgt. Omar Martinez, platoon sergeant for 3rd Platoon, Company I, BLT 3/5. "[Benjamin] is extremely disciplined and eager to learn. He's working his way to be a team leader and I'm

confident he can fill in those shoes without question."

While Benjamin serves with BLT 3/5 on deployment, Richard is also traveling the world. He is the President and Regulatory Affairs Manager for the Valjean Corporation. More impressive is that he is an avid runner and still competes in races of varying length across the globe, from 5Ks to half marathons. He recently signed up to compete in the Athens Marathon.

Notably, he was the oldest competitor to finish the 2014 Marine Corps 17.75K race. During the event, he wore a Dark Horse 3/5 shirt that read "Get Some in honor of his old unit and grandson. He crossed the finish line waving a banner that read "The Chosin Few".

"The 17.75k meant the most to him; he had some unfinished business," said Benjamin. Benjamin hopes to run a marathon with his grandfa-

ther soon after his tour with the 31st MEU, with both donning 3/5 t-shirts.

"He has always said 'never stop: it's going to be tough... but keep pushing, don't ever stop,'" said Benjamin. "I can't really argue with that because he was at the frozen Chosin."

Benjamin is currently deployed with Co. I, BLT 3/5, 31st MEU, aboard the USS Peleliu (LHA-5) in support of the annual Fall Patrol of the Asia-Pacific region.

● Tour
A first-hand look, to talk to the pilots, to smell the jet fuel. They will soon be making decisions that may affect our mission and they need to understand what we do here."

The group spent a majority of their time next to the South runway, speaking with instructor pilots and watching T-45C Goshawks touch-and-go less than 15 feet away. The next stop was the Air Operations building and the control tower followed by a briefing from NAS Meridian's commanding officer, Capt. Scott Bunney.

"Our flight operations are different than at most other airports," said Bun-

ney during the brief. "We fly a unique landing pattern required to train pilots to land on aircraft carriers, and our newest pilots need many landing operations to succeed in the demanding carrier environment. It's great to have people on base so they can see how we operate and enable the installation to better integrate with community."

Tour participants included the mayors of Meridian, DeKalb, and Marion, various city council members and aldermen. DeKalb's mayor, Homer Hall gained some unique perspective on NAS Meridian operations.

"I was unsure how these airstrips worked," said Hall. "It is a great thing to train



Photo by MC2 Casey H. Kyhl

Doug Vendegrift takes photos of a T-45C Goshawk on board Naval Air Station Meridian Oct. 24. Vendegrift was part of a group of distinguished visitors who toured the installation and got a first-hand look at airfield operations.

and fly this way, spread out information to have going over so much land. It is good forward."



Every branch.

Every war.

Every story.

Today, we honor those who served
and those who serve.

For all they have given to the country,
we can never thank them enough.

 **BOEING**

