

Base Events

Liberty "Boo"ling

Oct. 14 at 6:30 p.m. at the bowling alley. Call 679-2651.

Parent's Night Out

Oct. 19 from 6-10 p.m. at CDC. Call 679-2652.

Autumnfest

Oct. 20 from 3-6:30 p.m. at Ponta Creek. Call 679-2526.

Halloween Fun Run

Oct. 27 at 9 a.m. at Ponta Creek. Call 679-2526.

Mission Nutrition

Oct. 22-23 from 8 a.m.- 2 p.m. at the Library. Call 679-3751.

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DoD helps to build Pacific alliances

Vice President welcomes new aviators



Photo by MC1 Chris Liaghat

Training Air Wing One on board Naval Air Station (NAS) Meridian, Miss., holds a Winging Ceremony, Sept. 28. During the ceremony eight new aviators earned their Wings of Gold after nearly 18 months of training in the T-45C Goshawk. Vice President Mike Pence and Second Lady Karen Pence were there to see their son, U.S. Marine Corps 1st Lt. Michael Pence, earn his wings. The guest speaker was retired U.S. Navy Captain Sterling G. Gilliam, director of the National Naval Aviation Museum, and Rear Adm. Gregory Harris, Chief of Naval Air Training.

Admiral to aviators: 'Be humble, creditable and approachable'

From Staff Reports

Eight new aviators made the next step in their career on Sept. 28 by earning their Wings of Gold during a ceremony in the chapel on board Naval Air Station Meridian.

Special guests at the ceremony were Vice President Mike Pence and Second Lady Karen Pence who were on hand to see their son, U.S. Marine 1st Lt. Michael J. Pence, receive his wings. First Lt. Pence was also awarded the Golden Stick which is presented to an aviator in each class with the highest composite score.

"Hopefully what everybody felt here today was just a bunch of families enjoying the pride and the respect, and the honor of seeing their children accomplish something difficult with their friends and then going to do something that's bigger than themselves, I think is wonderful," said Capt. Nicholas Mungas, Training Air Wing One commodore.

The guest speaker was U.S. Navy Retired Capt. Sterling G. Gilliam who is currently the director of the National Naval Aviation Museum.

"Vice President Pence has been a servant of our country in the private sector and in politics. As our vice president he represents our executive

branch so well and is such a huge supporter of our department of defense," Gilliam said. "And the beautiful thing about this story is that it continues to grow. The history of naval aviation is not static. These young men and women will be joining the fleet shortly and they'll be writing their own history within a matter of weeks."

There was a message of new opportunities and a new purpose to serve throughout the ceremony and continued with Rear Adm. Gregory Harris, Chief of Naval Air Training.

"I will tell you to be humble, creditable and approachable – these things will make you a successful aviator," Harris told the newly pinned aviators.

Five U.S. Navy, one U.S. Marine Corps and one French Naval aviators will receive their "Wings of Gold" during the ceremony. The naval aviator designation ceremony is not prescribed specifically by U.S. Navy regulations, but has emerged as an honored product of the rich heritage of naval tradition. It marks the culmination of nearly two years of specialized training, which has prepared these officers for the rigorous demands of aerial combat and carrier operations -- earning each the title of "Naval Aviator" and the right to wear the coveted "Wings of Gold."

● **Winging, page 3**

NAS takes part in Bells Across America



Photo by MC1 Chris Liaghat

Air Traffic Controller 2nd Class Dayton Allen rings a bell inside the Navy Operational Support Center auditorium during the Bells Across America remembrance ceremony onboard NAS Meridian, Sept. 27. The event honored and recognized the sacrifices of the area's fallen service members and their families through the Navy Gold Star Program, a program that serves the families of military members who died while on active duty, regardless of the branch of service or cause of death.

NTTC earns CNRSE community service awards

"I would like to extend my personal gratitude for your tremendous commitment to improving the quality of life on our installations and in our local communities."

Rear Adm. Bette Bolivar
Commander, Navy Region Southeast

From Staff Reports

Navy Region Southeast announced the winners of the 2017-2018 Community Service Program Awards, Oct. 2.

Naval Technical Training Center (NTTC), Meridian was recognized in four of the five categories in the small shore command category, including: Personal Excellence Partnership, 2nd place; Health, Safety and Fitness, 1st place; Project Good Neighbor, 3rd place; and Environmental Stewardship, 2nd place.

"It is with great pleasure, I announce the Navy Region Southeast winners of the 2017-2018 Navy Community Service Program (NCSP) awards competition," Rear Adm. Bette Bolivar, Commander, Navy Region Southeast said. "This year's recipients epitomize our core values and demonstrate a sincere commitment to community service throughout the Southeast Region."

In 1981, NTTC established SHIPMATES which stands for Sailors Helping Interested People of the Meridian Area Through Enthusiastic Service program.

"Through these initiatives, the Navy Core Values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment for our Sailors and civil service members are reinforced; honors our community through volunteer service and compassionate giving; instills courage to face overwhelming obstacles and work toward solutions; and, demonstrates our commitment to stay the course and set positive examples for our community," said YN1 Michael Howard, NTTC Community Service Program Coordinator. "SHIPMATES has been an active part of the symbiotic relationship enjoyed between NTTC Meridian and the surrounding counties"

● **NTTC, page 8**

Photo of Week



Photo by MC3 Alexander C. Kubitza

The amphibious assault ship USS Boxer (LHD 4) transits the Pacific Ocean. Boxer is underway in the U.S. 3rd Fleet area of operations.

Area Happenings

OCTOBER

11-16: Singin' in The Rain at the Meridian Little Theatre. Performances run Thursday through Tuesday nightly at 7 p.m. with the exception of a 2 p.m. matinee on Sunday. Tickets are \$22 or \$20; military discount available; call 601-482-6371.

13: USM Rolling Eagles Wheelchair Basketball Team (MACE) from 2-5 p.m. at the Carver Middle School gym. MACE team vs. City of Meridian Community All Stars. Admission is free. Call 601-485-1802.

13: Lonesome Traveler with Special Guest Peter Yarrow at 7:30 p.m. at the MSU Riley Center. This concert version of an acclaimed off-Broadway musical tells the story of folk music pioneers from Woody Guthrie to Bob Dylan and other, plus a special tribute to Leonard Cohen. This evening of music features multimedia projections and lots of singalongs. Tickets are \$39 or \$33. Call 601-696-2200.

20: Downtown Cleanup from 8-11 a.m. starting at the EMBDC Office. EMBDC hosts this event twice a year, and it's a great way to help your community, get service hours and make downtown clean as a whistle! Call 601-693-1306.

19: Take Me to the River at 7:30 p.m. at the MSU Riley Center. The concert springs from the Take Me to the River project, which celebrated the musical heritage of Memphis and now looks down river to New Orleans. Prepare to get down. Tickets are \$43 and \$37. Call 601-696-2200.

19-20: Rails to Reels Film Festival from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Historic Temple Theater. The 5th Annual Rails to Reels Film Festival features two full days of independent films. Admission: \$25 for full day and \$15 per film block. Call 601-479-5094 for schedules.

20: Pumpkin Run 5K and 1M Fun Run from 8-10 a.m. at Bonita Lakes. The Annual State Games of Mississippi Pumpkin Run is a fun Halloween themed 5K and mini one-mile fun run. Racers are encouraged to dress for the part, prizes for best costume. \$25 for 5k and \$10 for "Mini Pumpkin" race. Register online www.stategamesofms.org or call 601-482-0205.

ONGOING

Earth's Bounty from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at Singing Brakeman Park. Event is the first Saturday of the month from April to November. Call 601-485-1944.

Meridian Art Walk from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at 1901 Front Street. Event is the first Saturday of the month from April to November. Email meridianartwalk@hotmail.com.

Military Spouses Support Circle meets Tuesdays from 5:30-6:45 p.m. and Fridays from 1:30-2:45 p.m. at the Balfour Beatty Community Center. Free childcare provided. Call 361-455-2108.

NAS Meridian NMCRS Office is open on Tuesdays from 8 a.m.-noon & Thursdays from 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Call 601-679-2504. Administration Building 255, Suite 283

A DAY IN NAVAL HISTORY

~ Oct. 7, 1975 ~



President Ford signed the landmark legislation directing the military services to admit women to the Army, Navy and Air Force academies the following year. The schools adapted facilities, uniforms and physical education requirements to accommodate women, and the first-ever co-educational classes graduated from the nation's four service academies in 1980. Then, and now, the curricula prepared women as leaders in defense of America, despite their exclusion from certain combat-related roles.



~ Oct. 12, 2000 ~

USS Cole (DDG 67) is attacked by terrorists in a small boat laden with explosives during a brief refueling stop in the harbor of Aden, Yemen. The suicide terrorist attack kills 17 members of the ship's crew, wounds 39 others, and seriously damages the ship.

NAVY NEWS BRIEFS

Navy Personnel Command recognizes 20th anniversary

Sailors, civilians and contractor personnel at Navy Personnel Command (NPC) recognized the 20th Anniversary of its establishment during a ceremony Oct. 1.

"Manning the Fleet to fight and win while delivering exceptional quality of service for Sailors is the BUPERS/NPC mission, and for two decades this team has delivered," said Rear Adm. Jeff Hughes, Commander, Navy Personnel Command. "With our eye on the horizon, we are transforming our processes and introducing the right technology to ensure we put to sea the Navy the Nation Needs while enhancing the career experience for our Sailors and their families."

The decision to create NPC was due to a 1993 Base Realignment and Closure Commission recommendation that the Bureau of Naval Personnel move from Washington, D.C. to Naval Air Station Memphis, now known as Naval Support Activity Mid-South in Millington, Ten-

nessee. The relocation began in mid-1995 and culminated with the establishment of NPC on Oct. 1, 1998.

Navy Personnel Command plank owner Laurie Lee Gschwend, now a human resource specialist working in civilian pay, started working with NPC before the establishment as part of the relocation team converting the future NPC buildings from schoolhouses and classrooms to administrative spaces. Since the establishment there have been many changes, but the mission doesn't change.

"We (NPC) frequently change and reorganize, but the mission, it never changes," said Gschwend. "It starts with taking care of Sailors, making sure the Fleet is manned, and the support team takes care of all. The support people aren't always in the limelight, but we all work together to accomplish the mission. The little changes happen, but the big thing – the mission – doesn't change."

--From Navy Personnel Command Public Affairs

Innovative Navy contract delivers Defense Department-wide benefits faster

The Navy's Command and Control Systems Program Office (PMW 150) began work through its first Other Transaction Authority (OTA) contract in late September, finding a way to save time and money while gaining necessary capability for an effort that has worldwide ramifications.

Through the OTA, PMW 150's Global Theater Security Cooperation Management Information Systems (G-TSCMIS) program will deliver a cloud-hosted database for the Defense Department to enable coordinated security cooperation across the globe. G-TSCMIS is being developed on behalf of the Defense Security Cooperation Agency, or DSCA. PMW 150 is part of the Program Executive Office

Command, Control, Communications, Computers and Intelligence (PEO C4I).

"PMW 150's tenacious effort to get this work awarded through a non-traditional means—in this case an OTA—gets after what we're trying to accomplish at PEO C4I," said Rear Adm. Carl "Chebs" Chebi, the program executive officer for PEO C4I. "It strengthens our partnerships with our industry partners as well as our joint-service partners. It delivers necessary capability to the warfighter in a way that's faster and more affordable so our forces can win tonight. We're not innovating for innovation's sake—we're innovating to give our Sailors and their fighting partners the battlefield advantage."

--By Rita Boland, Program Executive Office Command Public Affairs

NAS Pensacola hosts community response to domestic violence ceremony

Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola Commanding Officer Capt. Christopher Martin signed a proclamation Oct. 2 at the National Flight Academy onboard NAS Pensacola reaffirming the air station's commitment to support victims of domestic violence and end family violence in the NAS Pensacola community.

Martin signed the proclamation during the third annual Community Response to Domestic Violence ceremony, an event designed to publicize the annual designation of October as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The

brief ceremony, attended by nearly 50 individuals representing NAS Pensacola community partners and military leadership, was initiated three years ago and is designed to honor Pensacola-area service members and community members working to support victims of domestic abuse. Thirteen people from six agencies in the community, four service members and one service dog were recognized during the ceremony for their individual contributions to victim care.

--By Ens. Scott Reagh, Naval Air Station Pensacola Public Affairs

The Skyline ~ Naval Air Station Meridian, Miss.

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Hotlines & Helpful Numbers

SAPR Victim Assistance: 601-604-3037
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SARC: 601-481-4274
SAFE Helpline: 877-995-5247
Suicide Hotline: 800-273-8255
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● **Winging**

Those earning wings include:

- ✓ Lt. j.g. Alexander Joseph Carlson, USN, earned one Navy "E" for bombing accuracy during Advanced Jet Flight Training. He carrier qualified in the T-45C onboard the USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77) Sept. 25.
 - ✓ Lt. j.g. Ruairidh Alexander Robert Donaldson, USN, was selected for E-2/C-2 and underwent Multi-Engine Training in Corpus Christi, Texas before beginning training in Meridian. Donaldson will be continuing training in Norfolk, Virginia, and will fly either the E-2 Hawkeye or the C-2 Greyhound. He carrier qualified in the T-45C onboard the USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77) Sept. 25.
 - ✓ Lt. j.g. Connor Andrew Humber, USN, earned two Navy "E's" for bombing accuracy during Advanced Jet Flight Training. He carrier qualified in the T-45C onboard the USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77) Sept. 25.
 - ✓ Lt. j.g. Maxwell James Kampton, USN, earned four Navy "E's" for bombing accuracy during Advanced Jet Flight Training. He carrier qualified in the T-45C onboard the USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77) Sept. 25.
 - ✓ Lt. j.g. Blake Coleman Leming, USN, joined the Navy as an Airman Apprentice in April 2007. After nine months of Aviation Electronics Technician training he went on to serve at Fleet Readiness Center Northwest, in Whidbey Island, Washington, from January 2008 to December 2009. He then completed three years of sea duty at Special Projects Patrol Squadron Two in Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii, to include multiple detachments and deployments in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. He achieved the rank of Petty Officer 1st Class and was selected to commission through the Seaman-to-Admiral Program in October 2012. Leming earned one Navy "E" for bombing accuracy during Advanced Jet Flight Training. He carrier qualified in the T-45C onboard the USS George H.W. Bush (CVN-77) Aug. 10.
 - ✓ 1st Lt. Michael Joseph Pence, USMC, was named to the Commodore's List during Primary Flight Training and was VT-7's Student of the Quarter for the Second Quarter of 2018. He carrier qualified in the T-45C onboard the USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77) Aug. 10.
 - ✓ Lt. Sean Hugo Richardson, French Navy, earned one Navy "E" for bombing accuracy during Advanced Jet Flight Training. He carrier qualified in the T-45C onboard the USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77) Aug. 10.
 - ✓ Lt. Matthew Scott Stafford, USN, was commissioned in the Navy on May 13, 2011, at the completion of Officer Candidate School. He earned his "Wings of Gold" in November 2012 upon completion of Advanced Helicopter Flight Training at NAS Whiting Field, Florida, and trained in the SH-60S Seahawk with HSC-3 at NAS North Island, San Diego. He went on to a three year forward deployed sea tour with Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron Twelve (HSC-12) based at NAF Atsugi, Japan, to include multiple deployments and detachments with Carrier Air Wing FIVE onboard USS George Washington (CVN 73), USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76), and USS Blue Ridge (LCC 19) in the Seventh Fleet Pacific AOR. He was selected for a lateral transfer from HSC to VAQ in 2016. During Advanced Jet Flight Training, he earned two Navy "E" for bombing accuracy. He carrier qualified in the T-45C onboard USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77) Sept. 25.
- All aviators completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron 7.



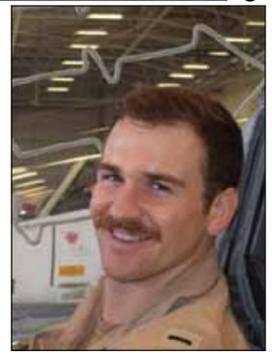
Carlson



Donaldson



Humber



Kampton



Photos by MC1 Chris Liaghat

Above: Second Lady Karen Pence, left, U.S. Marine Corps 1st Lt. Michael Pence and Vice President Mike Pence pose for a group photo after 1st Lt. Pence received his wings at a winging ceremony in the chapel on board Naval Air Station (NAS) Meridian, Sept. 28. Below: Mississippi Council of the Navy League member Arjen Lagendijk, left, presents the Golden Stick award to 1st Lt. Michael Pence during the ceremony.



Leming



Pence



Richardson

MA2 Promoted



Photo by MC1 Chris Liaghat

Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Rebeca Lujan, left, accepts her certificate of appointment from NAS Meridian Commanding Officer Capt. Brian Horstman after being meritoriously promoted to second class petty officer in the pass and identification office onboard NAS Meridian, Sept. 27.

AC3 Promoted



Photo by MC1 Chris Liaghat

Air Traffic Controller 3rd Class Robert Elliott, left, accepts his certificate of appointment from NAS Meridian Commanding Officer Capt. Brian Horstman after being meritoriously promoted to third class petty officer in the security office onboard NAS Meridian, Oct. 9.

RP1 Reenlistment



Photo by MC1 Chris Liaghat

Religious Program Specialist 1st Class Orrin Bryant, right, accepts his reenlistment certificate from NAS Meridian Chaplain Lt. Matthew Purmort at a reenlistment ceremony in front of the chapel onboard NAS Meridian, Oct. 1. Bryant reenlisted in the U.S. Navy for four years.

RP2 Reenlistment



Photo by MC1 Chris Liaghat

Religious Program Specialist 2nd Class Jerome Miller, right, accepts his reenlistment certificate from NAS Meridian Chaplain Lt. Matthew Purmort at a reenlistment ceremony in front of the chapel onboard NAS Meridian, Oct. 5. Miller reenlisted in the U.S. Navy for four years.

U.S. could help Pacific Allies build capabilities

By Jim Garamone

DoD News, Defense Media Activity

The United States can help Pacific island nations with security needs, Navy Undersecretary Thomas B. Modly told the Defense Writers Group here today.

Modly just finished a trip through the island nations of Oceania. The trip involved stops in Kiribati and its capital on the island of Tarawa. He also visited Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, Fiji, the Federated States of Micronesia and the U.S. island of Guam.

The area is vast, he said, and there was hardly an island that was not a battlefield during World War II. The undersecretary said he was sobered by the scale of sacrifice and the scale of distance.

"The vastness of the region is matched by the vastness of the issues and the challenges we have in trying to keep it secure," he said.

Modly met with civilian and military officials in each nation, as well as U.S. representatives. "The overarching theme I got from the government officials I met with there were the paramount value of freedom of navigation and the protection of their economic zones," he said.

The land area in Oceania is small, but the economic zones are huge, and they are 80 percent water, he said. "They are very far flung," he added.

The officials are also very clear about their desires to maintain a strong relation-



Photo by Jim Garamone

Navy Undersecretary Thomas B. Modly speaks to the Defense Writers Group in Washington about developing capabilities with the island nations of Oceania, Oct. 4.

ship with the United States, Modly said. The United States developed relations with the nations – many of them colonial possessions at the time – during World War II. Those continued through the Cold War to today.

But things have changed, he told the defense writers, and the United States is no

longer the only major power operating in the area now.

China is exerting influence into Oceania, he noted. "There is no question China is becoming much more assertive in the region," he said. "They are looking for a variety of different ways to expand their influence. The Chinese government is mak-

ing investments tied to loans, as well as grants."

These projects are largely around infrastructure – extension of runways and construction of buildings and a conference center. "It is apparent they are there and plan to stay there for the long term," he said.

The United States, Australia and New Zealand have a strong partnership in the region, and the moves in the area are complementary. "From my perspective," Modly said, "it is critical to reinforce these partnerships and look for opportunities to help these nations."

One opportunity, he said, is to invest in developing capabilities to use, patrol and police their vast watery economic zones. The countries do not have navies, and their coast guards are limited as well. Modly suggested that the United States could work with these nations to develop fusion centers that channel all sorts of information where it is needed and when it is needed. This information could be as simple as weather reports and fishing information or could be warnings about incursions by illegal fishing ships.

The nations don't have large populations. Intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance assets could give them an unmanned way to search their territory and only have patrol boats go out when they are needed, the Navy undersecretary said.

"It's a pretty modest investment, and the technology is so good right now that it would be helpful," he told the writers.

The horrors that don't scare kids anymore

Having grown up when kids roamed freely while parents smoked Salmon, wore belted vests, ate pimento cheese and adjusted console televisions, my upbringing was undoubtedly different than my children's. Without a 24/7 supply of internet information, my hopes, dreams and fears were based on my imagination, influenced by what others told me and what I saw in movies, television, and comic books.

COLUMN



Lisa Smith Molinari

in an hour or two. No one picked up dog poo, except big brothers who speared it with sticks to chase little sisters. (Trust me.) There were no signs with bag dispensers reading "Pick up after your pet!" Dog poo was a fact of life, and stepping in it was a real danger. Which leads me to the next terror ...

5. Getting worms. "Put on your flip flops or you'll get worms!" My mother used to bellow between puffs of her Taryton 100. Apparently, people weren't as conscientious about vet care back then, so getting worms was a real possibility for barefoot kids. When I didn't heed her warnings, I was punished with few bee stings, but never got worms. Aside from the revolting thought of poo squishing between my toes, the fear of parasites feeding on my innards had me steering clear of piles.

6. Any disease requiring a large brace, an iron lung, shock treatments, or a lobotomy. Sure, needles aren't fun. But I'd take a shot in the arm any day to the diseases that we faced as kids. Vaccinations were new, so we heard real cases of polio, mumps, measles, and chickenpox, and the rumors of treatments were terrifying. Plus, we all knew a kid at school who wore a humongous contraption to brace his legs or spine, and feared we'd end up with a disease too.

7. Getting chopped up in an outboard motor, locked in an abandoned refrigerator, or having an arm ripped off by a passing car. Although we never knew people who had suffered these fates, grown ups told us that, if we weren't careful, these things might happen. We couldn't google to fact check their claims and accepted them as fact.

8. People with tattoos. Today, it's normal to see a mom pushing a stroller with roses tattooed around her bicep. But in my day, with the exception of military men, it was assumed that people with tattoos had suffered some misfortune in life that compelled them to become dangerous deviants, probably carrying switchblades.

Being a kid used to be pretty scary. But nowadays, children can safely munch their fun-sized candy bars and dream of their first (or second) tattoo, knowing that helicopter parents, pharmaceuticals, and the internet will protect them.

Now that's scary.

Lisa Smith Molinari's self syndicated columns appear on her blog, www.themeatandpotatoesoflife.com and she recently co-authored *Stories Around the Table: Laughter, Wisdom, and Strength in Military Life* Follow Lisa@MolinariWrites.

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OCTOBER

Domestic Violence Prevention Month

Visit applocker.navy.mil

You can find the Domestic Violence Prevention-All Hands (DVP-AH) App in the Navy App Locker.

The DVP-AH App is designed to provide Sailors with anytime, anywhere access to both training and resources about Domestic Violence Prevention and Child Abuse and provides an additional tool for GMT.

The DVP-AH App was developed by the U.S. Navy Sea Warrior Program which is dedicated to improving Sailors' manpower, personnel, training and education needs.

Who needs a flu vaccine?

Even healthy people can get the flu. Protect yourself and your loved ones. Get vaccinated.

www.cdc.gov/flu

Pfc. Daquan Brown
MATSS-1 Student
Hometown: Bronx, N.Y.

OOORAH!

Pvt. Juliza Karmolinski
MATSS-1 Student
Hometown: Logansport, Ind.

Pfc. Brown joined the Marine Corps April 9, wanting to give his younger brothers and sisters someone to look up to as they grow up.

Brown spends his free time at the gym, playing football or basketball, or just hanging out with friends to play video games.

He's looking forward to travelling the world and earning better opportunities for himself and his family. He wants orders to the East Coast so he can be close to his family and guide his siblings.

His most memorable experience from boot camp was receiving his EGA and earning the title "United States Marine."



Pvt. Karmolinski joined the Marine Corps on May 21, looking for opportunities to better herself and give the children in her family someone to look up to.

She is most excited about getting to travel the world, experience different cultures and helping those in need in other countries.

During her free time, she working out, fishing with her dad, and volunteering. She hopes to do all of those things by receiving orders to Hawaii after graduation.

Her most memorable experience from boot camp was the shooting range. "I had never shot a weapon before that day," she said.

Man of pure heart and honor

By **Lance Cpl. Tessa Watts**
Marine Corps Forces Reserves

A birthday celebration was held at the National World War II Museum in New Orleans on Oct. 2, 2018 for retired Chief Warrant Officer 4 Hershel "Woody" Williams, the last surviving Medal of Honor recipient from the Battle of Iwo Jima. A man with bright eyes and heartwarming laughter, 95 years old never looked so youthful.

Williams watched as his brothers were drafted into the U.S. Army and decided he wanted to become a U.S. Marine. He enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve in 1943 and retired after approximately 17 years of service.

"I joined the Marine Corps primarily because I knew nothing about the Marine Corps," Williams said. "I was totally uneducated about the armed forces. The Marines were always very sharp, neat, polite, treated women very respectfully, and it caught my eye."

Williams joined the Corps with the ambition to protect the country he called home. Little did he know, he would end up on enemy territory fighting for the freedom he loved so dearly.

"I thought that we would stay right here in the United States of America to protect our country and our freedom, so nobody could take this country away from us," Williams said. "In boot camp, I was being trained by individuals who had been in combat. They were teaching us that if we were going to win, if we were going to survive, we had to fight a war."

A boy from West Virginia working on a farm, Williams underwent the same honorable transformation endured by those before him and those after him: becoming a U.S. Marine headed overseas to enemy territory to defend his country.

"In boot camp, a person's life completely changes," Williams said. "From the time they arrive to the time they graduate, they become a new person. There is a spirit created within us that I cannot explain. It makes you so proud to be a Marine."

Every Marine a rifleman, Williams had another asset



Photo by Lance Cpl. Tessa D. Watts

Retired Chief Warrant Officer 4 Hershel "Woody" Williams, the last surviving Medal of Honor recipient from the Battle of Iwo Jima, explains the importance behind the Gold Star Flag to attendees of his 95th birthday party at the National World War II Museum, Oct. 2,

that made him valuable to the Marine Corps and the war effort. He was selected to carry and use a flamethrower during World War II.

"Naturally, we were all trained to be a rifleman first," Williams said. "I was selected to be in a special weapons unit with a demolition flamethrower. Flamethrowers were being used a lot in the Pacific because of caves, and on Iwo Jima there were many reinforced concrete pillboxes that bazookas, artillery, and mortars couldn't affect."

Little did he know, his actions with that flamethrower would earn him the Medal of Honor on Oct. 5, 1945 for his heroic actions during the Battle of Iwo Jima.

"At that point in time, I did not understand what I was receiving," Williams said. "I had never heard of the Medal of Honor. I didn't even know such a thing existed. As far as I was concerned, I was just doing what I was trained to do at Iwo Jima. That was my job. It wasn't anything special."

After receiving the Medal of Honor at the White House in Washington, D.C., Williams was called upon to speak to the 18th Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Alexander Archer Vandegrift.

A conversation of a lifetime, something very specific stuck with Williams despite the fear of speaking to a man known to never crack a smile.

"When the commandant spoke to me, much of what he said I do not recall because I was too scared," Williams said as he laughed. "One of the things he did say that registered and has never escaped me is 'that medal does not belong to you. It belongs to all of those Marines that never got to come home. Don't ever do anything that would tarnish that medal.' I remember those words very well."

Williams joined the Marine Corps with a pure heart, dedicated to perform his duty to his country. Those duties ended up being significant enough to earn himself the Medal of Honor. A hero in the eyes of many, when he looks in the mirror he sees a man who was simply doing his job and caring for the fellow Marines around him.

With the distant gaze of a mind recalling nostalgic memories, "We were just Marines looking out for each other," Williams said.

UNDISCLOSED LOCATION, GULF OF ADEN



Photo by Cpl. Francisco Diaz

U.S. Marines and Sailors with the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit and the Essex Amphibious Ready Group, look for debris on the flight deck before flight operations aboard the Wasp-class amphibious assault ship USS Essex, Sept. 22. The Essex is the flagship for the Essex Amphibious Ready Group and, with the embarked 13th MEU, is deployed to the U.S. 5th Fleet area of operations in support of naval operations to ensure maritime stability and security in the Central Region.

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION MIRAMAR, CALIFORNIA



Photo by Cpl. Jake McClung

Michaela Negrete, a member of the AWRS-7 Lady Marines, looks at a display during the 2018 Marine Corps Air Station Miramar Air Show Sept. 29. This year's air show honors "100 years of women in the Marine Corps" by featuring several performances and displays that highlight the accomplishments and milestones women have made since the first female enlistee, Opha May Johnson, who joined the service in 1918.

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Tickets	679-3773	CDC/CDH	679-2652	MWR Jobs Line	679-2467
McCain Rec Center	679-2651	SAC	679-5252		
Equipment Rental	679-2609	SLO	679-2473		

September Teamwork Award Winner



Christe Jones

Coming Attractions

McCain Rec Center

- Thursday, October 11**
5 p.m., Incredibles 2, PG
7 p.m., Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom, PG13
- Friday, October 12**
5 p.m., Pocahontas, G
7 p.m., Upgrade, R
- Saturday, October 13**
1 p.m., Moana, PG
5 p.m., Uncle Drew, PG13
7 p.m., Upgrade, R
- Sunday, October 14**
1 p.m., Incredibles 2, PG
5 p.m., Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom, PG13
7:30 p.m., Uncle Drew, PG13
- Monday, October 15**
5 p.m., The Emoji Movie, PG
7 p.m., Ocean's 8, PG13
- Tuesday, October 16**
5 p.m., Into the Woods, PG
7:30 p.m., Solo: A Star Wars Story, PG13
- Wednesday, October 17**
5 p.m., Monster House, PG
7 p.m., Saving Private Ryan, R
- Thursday, October 18**
5 p.m., The Emoji Movie, PG
7 p.m., Ocean's 8, PG13

This event is brought to you in part by:

The Department of the Navy does not endorse any company, sponsor or their products or services.

Coming Attractions

McCain Rec Center

- Friday, October 19**
5 p.m., Into the Woods, PG
7:30 p.m., Solo: A Star Wars Story, PG13
- Saturday, October 20**
1 p.m., Monster House, PG
5 p.m., Saving Private Ryan, R
8 p.m., Solo: A Star Wars Story, PG13
- Sunday, October 21**
1 p.m., The Emoji Movie, PG
5 p.m., Ocean's 8, PG13
7 p.m., Saving Private Ryan, R
- Monday, October 22**
5 p.m., Monsters. Inc, G
7 p.m., Training Day, R
- Tuesday, October 23**
5 p.m., Monsters University, PG
7 p.m., The Shawshank Redemption, R
- Wednesday, October 24**
5 p.m., Antz, PG
7 p.m., Sicario: Day of the Soldado, R
- Thursday, October 25**
5 p.m., Monsters. Inc, G
7 p.m., Training Day, R
- Friday, October 26**
5 p.m., Monsters University, PG
7 p.m., The Shawshank Redemption, R

TRICK or TREAT BOOKS

OCTOBER 15-31 AT THE LIBRARY

Come select a wrapped "trick" or "treat" book to unwrap when you get home. You might discover a spook-tacular book you didn't know existed!



WWW.NAVYMWRMERIDIAN.COM





Sports

INTERESTED IN COMPLETING A HALF OR FULL MARATHON?

Contact running coach & MWR Fitness Director Evelyn Watkins to schedule individual or group run sessions and get ready for the Magnolia Marathon, which will take place this November in Meridian*! (This is a half and full marathon. Military discount is available.) Evelyn will run with you, provide a custom training schedule to follow and offer advice on shoes, form, nutrition and all things running!

Contact Information:
maryevelyn.watkins@navy.mil • (601) 679-2379

*The Department of the Navy does not endorse any company, sponsor or their products or services.

HALLOWEEN 5K/1mi FUN RUN
October 27 • 0900 • Potts Creek Community Rec Complex
Wear your Halloween costume and come have a haunting good time!



Group Exercise Schedule

Group Exercise Classes are held in the Multi-Use room (or outside weather permitting). All classes are FREE to authorized patrons. For more information call 601.679.2379.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1100 Indoor Cycling Courtney	1100 HIIT/NOFFS Metabolic Conditioning Courtney	1100 NOFFS Strength Courtney	1100 Indoor Cycling Courtney	1100 HIIT/NOFFS Metabolic Conditioning Courtney

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ASK A FITNESS STAFF MEMBER ABOUT SCHEDULING YOUR FITNESS ASSESSMENT OR ORIENTATION SESSION TODAY!

MISSION NUTRITION
October 22 & 25 • 0800-1400 • Library Conference Room
Nutrition is an often overlooked topic, yet it is essential for a Sailor's performance. Mission Nutrition was designed by CMC Navy Fitness Program Registered Dietitians to help fuel high nutrition.
This course will:
• Emphasize nutrition as preventative medicine • Offer expert guidance on the basics of nutrition • Provide essential information to enable you to further enhance your health • Show you how to overcome common nutrition faults
This course is open to all authorized patrons, with priority to Active Duty Sailors. You must attend both dates to complete the course.
To register, call (601) 679-2379 or email maryevelyn.watkins@navy.mil.

2018 NATIONAL CYBER SECURITY Awareness Month

- 36 MILLION MALICIOUS EMAIL ATTEMPTS PER DAY STOPPED BY DOD
- 28% ATTACKS INVOLVED INSIDERS
- 87% OF COMPROMISES TAKE MINUTES OR LESS
- 110,000 ATTEMPTED COMPROMISES THE NAVY DEFENDS AGAINST EVERY HOUR
- NEARLY 2/3 OF PEOPLE USING ONLINE SERVICES (2 BILLION) HAVE HAD THEIR PERSONAL DATA STOLEN OR COMPROMISED
- 600 BILLION DOLLARS CYBERCRIME HAS COST THE WORLD
- 1,000 COMPUTERS WITH EXPLOITABLE VULNERABILITIES THAT AN ATTACKER COULD REACH FOR ONLY FIVE DOLLARS
- 209 MILLION IN RANSOM WAS PAID IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2016

Four Things to Know: USMAP Updates

The United Services Military Apprenticeship Program (USMAP) is a formal military training program that provides active-duty and Full Time Support (FTS) Navy, Marine Corps, Army and Coast Guard service members the opportunity to improve their job skills and to complete civilian apprenticeship requirements while they are on active duty.

Service members will now see web-based updates to better serve Sailors, Marines, Soldiers, and Coast Guardsmen. These changes went into effect Oct. 1.

Here are 4 things service members should know about changes to USMAP's website and processes:

- ✓ Enrollment is now automated. Up to now, all enrollments have been processed manually by USMAP staff. If applicants meet the trade requirements for the apprenticeship they are applying to, they can go to the USMAP website (<https://usmap.netc.navy.mil>) and complete the automated enrollment process. Requirements include career aspects such as Military Occupation (e.g. Navy/Coast Guard rating, Navy Enlisted Classification, or Marine Corps/Army Military Occupational Specialty), and service training.

- ✓ The reporting process is changing. Instead of printing out weekly and monthly logs that had to be signed by three supervisors and retained by the service member, participants can now submit monthly logs through the USMAP website, documenting on-the-job (OJT) hours to their supervisors "electronically." The supervisors will receive an email link to approve the

logs. The same goes for a semi-annual report that is signed by a commanding officer or someone authorized to sign by direction.

- ✓ You will still get a certificate in the mail. When you finish your apprenticeship, you will receive an email with final details. You will need to ensure your address is correct in your online USMAP profile. The Department of Labor completion certificate and a Journeyman Card will take approximately four to six weeks to arrive in the mail. Make sure you keep this with your important papers to use as a resource and proof of completion towards annual military evaluations, promotion or officer programs, and when applying for post-service jobs. For Sailors, completion will continue to also be documented through Electronic Training Jacket, Navy Training and Management Planning System, and Fleet Training Management and Planning System. For all service members, USMAP completion will also be annotated on your Joint Service Transcript, which is available to you even after you leave the service at <https://jst.doded.mil/>

- ✓ You will need to retain a copy of your own record after you leave the service. Need to show an employer your logs as proof of OJT hours? Make sure to save a copy of your documents from your profile. The USMAP website currently requires CAC authentication to access your records, so once you leave the service, you will not be able to log back in to retrieve your documents.

USMAP is managed by Naval Education and Training Command as part of a group of programs offering credentialing, apprenticeship and voluntary education opportunities.

--From Naval Education and Training Command Public Affairs

Sale... Or

BOATS/CAMPERS/TRAILERS

2017 Keystone Avalanche 365MB (5th wheel) motor home. Sleeps eight; great living quarters; includes cables, hoses and septic lines. Asking \$49k. Call 586-899-6429.

2018 Mallard M185 Travel Trailer. Sleeps 4 with 1 queen bed/2 bunks. Easy to tow at 3,575 lbs; only selling because military member is moving overseas. Great living quarters with lake view. Hooked up and ready to live in, including cables, hoses, septic lines, plus the \$500 towing kit. Asking \$17,000. Call 360-434-3035

MOTORCYCLES/GEAR/ATV

2010 Ultra Classic Harley Davidson 29K miles 96cc

Screaming Eagle Engine. Excellent condition. Asking \$10,500. Call 601-527-4981.

2010 Polaris Ranger 800XP Browning Edition, camo color, roof, windshield, winch, extra set of wheels/tires, and dual gun scabbard. Asking \$7,800. Call Pete at 601-678-3458.

2013 Harley Davidson Switchback, Asking \$8,000; only one owner; still under warranty; all maintenance done by Harley Davidson. Call 505-658-1675.

1982 Harley Davidson FLHS, 80 C.I. Shovelhead Engine w/4-Speed Transmission. Nice Antique Bike -- just can't ride anymore. Call 601-527-9756/601-986-8378

2004 Honda TRX450R four wheeler \$2,600; **2005 Honda TRX250EX** four wheeler \$1,600; **2002 Ya-**

maha TTR-125L dirt bike \$800; and **2006 50SX-F** dirt bike \$2,200. All in good shape ready to go. Overseas move forcing sale. Make offer ready to deal! Call Ben at 843-597-4221.

AUTOMOBILES, ETC.

2010 Buick Lucerne, Asking \$8,500; 121,000 miles, loaded, excellent condition; garage kept with new tires. Call 601-739-3264.

2017 Camaro Gen6, 4k miles, 50th anniversary limited addition; like-new condition. \$38,500. Call 601-686-1027.

2012 Honda Civic, 47k miles, \$9,200. Call 601-490-3835.

HOMES/APARTMENTS

For Rent: 3 BD/2 BA home in Collinsville. Located

in West Lauderdale School District. Call Joseph at 504-421-8757 or email at Peters-joseph54@yahoo.com.

For Rent: 3 BD/2 BA home 15 minutes from NAS; pets allowed with deposit. \$1,200 per month; \$1,000 deposit with option for 3-year lease at \$1,100 per month. Available Aug. 1. Call 334-654-0571.

For Sale: 3 BD/2 BA Ranch style home in Northeast School district; less than 10 minutes from NAS. Hardwood floors, new metal roof in quiet neighborhood. Asking \$160k. Call 601-454-4990.

For Sale: 4BD/3.5BA Lakefront home in Schamberville Estates. Lots of amenities, including upstairs 4th BD w/ full BA that could be bonus room and three-acre peninsula lot boasts appx

1,000 ft. of shoreline & features an expansive sprinkler system using lake water. Call Jenny Ziemba at 601-480-5969 or 601-282-5261.

For Sale: 4 BD/3.5 BA, Spacious lake front home with bonus room over the garage. Clarkdale school district (ranked #1 within local area). Amenities include wood floors, granite countertops, custom crown molding, plantation shutters, lots of closet/storage space, architectural brick accents, gas lanterns, and more. Asking \$374,000. Call 601-723-0741 for a private showing.

For Sale: 4 BD/2 BA, 2490 square ft. home in Southern Oaks Subdivision, Northeast Lauderdale School District, 12 ft ceilings, heartland pine floors, large brick patio, walk-in closets, walk-in pantry,

granite countertops, alarm system, quiet and safe neighborhood. Asking \$310,000. Call number 601-917-0379.

MISCELLANEOUS

Two Black storage trucks all brass closures; \$10 each. Call 601-482-2276.

Woman's Converse Composite Toe Trainer Safety Shoe Size 10, brand new in box, \$65. White with gray & teal trim. Call Teresa 601-616-9251 (Please no calls after 8 p.m.)

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

Listings in the "Sale...Or" column are free for anyone who works at NAS Meridian. You can purchase an ad for a business or organization in "The Skyline," by calling The Meridian Star at 601-693-1551 -- ask for Advertising or email: advertising@themeridianstar.com



Photo by MC1 Dominique A. Pineiro

Marine Corps Gen. Joe Dunford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, speaks to James Ferguson, founder of the Warrior Reunion Foundation of Cockeysville, Maryland, during the 2018 Newman's Own Awards at the Hall of Heroes in the Pentagon, Oct. 5. The annual competition seeks to reward ingenuity for programs that benefit service men, women, and their families.

Newman's Own distributes \$200K to five vets organizations

By Jim Garamone
DoD News, Defense Media Activity

The nation, writ large, has a moral responsibility to ensure the needs of veterans are met, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff said at a ceremony where the Newman's Own Foundation distributed funds to charities serving service members, their families and veterans.

Marine Corps Gen. Joe Dunford praised Newman's Own for its dedication to service members, veterans and their families. The group distributed \$200,000 to five organizations during the Oct. 5 ceremony in the Pentagon's Hall of Heroes.

Actor and World War II veteran Paul Newman founded Newman's Own in 1982 with the goal of donating all of the company's after tax profits to charities. In the years since, Newman's Own has donated more than \$530 million to thousands of charities. In 1999, the company partnered with the Fisher House Foundation and Military Times publications to aim donations at innovative groups that improve the quality of life for service members, veterans and their families. Since it started, Newman's Own has recognized 179 programs with awards totaling \$1,925,000.

"The reason the United States military has been able to do the things it does ... throughout my career is because of the quality of young men and women we've been able to recruit over time," the general said at the ceremony.

When Dunford entered the military, the all-volunteer force, which began in 1973, was in its infancy. There were many critics who believed the force would fail. The all-volunteer military has become the superb force of today.

The American people do appreciate the military and the sacrifices military families make, Dunford said. "But I am concerned about keeping this up," he said. "It goes back to something George Washington said ... 'The manner in which we treat our veterans will determine the willingness of future generations to serve.'"

He said the recipients of the Newman Own Awards this year cover the full spectrum of services Americans want their vets to have. "We would want them to have housing. We would want them to have a job. We would want them to have health care, and a piece of that is we would want them to be connected to men and women with which they served so they don't feel isolated when they leave active duty," he said.

What these groups -- and many more like them across the nation -- do "really does send a loud and clear message that we really do respect, we value, we appreciate the service of those in uniform," he said.

This year, the Warrior Reunion Foundation of Cockeysville, Maryland, received a \$50,000 grant from Newman's Own. The group looks to help combat vets reconnect with their comrades they served in combat with. It lets veterans sit down with each other knowing that they experienced the same conditions, same uncertainties and sometimes the same traumas.

The Vets on Track Foundation of Garrisonville, Virginia, received a grant of \$37,500. The foundation furnishes homes for vets and their families who were previously living in shelters or the streets.

Code Platoon of Chicago received \$37,500 to educate vets and spouses to become software developers.

The West Virginia Health Right of Charleston received \$37,500 to provide free dental care for West Virginia vets without dental coverage.

And finally, Healing Warriors Program of Boulder, Colorado received \$37,500 to help provide non-narcotic therapies for the treatment of pain and symptoms of post-traumatic stress for vets.

• NTTC

NTTC Meridian is a command comprised of three officers, 28 enlisted and 17 DoD civilian personnel responsible for providing technical training to more than 2,400 entry level Sailors per year.

"To supplement and reinforce our commitment to excellence, the command continues to use the SHIPMATES program to provide our student population with additional choices to utilize their off-duty hours constructively and become involved in the local community," Howard said. "Our goal is to project and maintain the positive image the Navy has established within the community by fostering good community relations through volunteer services."

Volunteer service provided by SHIPMATES contributes directly to the staff and students' positive morale.

"The experience gained by providing volunteer service plays a major role in the development of our future leaders," Howard said.

About 700 NTTC students volunteered 3,215 hours to Lamar Elementary, Northeast Lauderdale Youth Football League, Poplar Springs Elementary School, Northeast Lauderdale Elementary, West Lauderdale Elementary, 17th Annual Hoops for Jesus, Camp Eagle Ridge, State Games of Mississippi, Hwy 80 Song Writer Festival, Boy Scouts of America, Rose Hill Cemetery, East Mississippi Business District, Grace Fellowship Baptist Church, Meridian Housing Authority, Mustard Seed Food Pantry, Earth's Bounty, Meridian Outreach Program for the Homeless, the City of Meridian, and Lauderdale County.

Military Day Friday, October 12th
\$25 Hand Stamp*
Military Discount: \$5 gate admission with valid military ID.

Thursday, Oct. 11 - Mississippi Music presents **MERIDIAN'S MOST TALENTED 5-10pm**
\$15 Hand Stamp

Friday, Oct. 12 - **Midnight Ride Madness 5pm-Close**
\$25 Hand Stamp, MILITARY DISCOUNT: \$5 gate admission with valid military ID

Saturday, Oct. 13 - **Saturday Night Fever 1pm-Midnight**
LIL MISS QUEEN CITY FAIR PAGEANT @ 3pm
\$25 Hand Stamp

Sunday, Oct. 15 - **Family Fun Day Noon - 8pm**
\$5 Gate Admission
\$15 Hand Stamp Noon-8pm

Please see: <http://queencityfair.net/schedule>

601-934-4867

Oct. 8-14
Lauderdale County
Agri-Center
1030 Hwy 19 S.
Meridian, MS

FRIDAY & SATURDAY
9AM TO 4PM NOV 2 & 3 2018
MISSISSIPPI INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE MUSEUM
AT HISTORIC SOULE' STEAM WORKS IN DOWNTOWN MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI

WORKING STEAM ENGINES
HISTORIC FACTORY OPEN FOR TOURS
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IT'S YOUR TURN...

This week we asked: "What is your dream assignment for your career and why?"

By Adam Prince



Pfc. Jonathan Albenez
MATSS-1 Student
"Beaufort, S.C. It's a hidden gem and close to home."



Pvt. Malika Warrington
MATSS-1 Student
"Hawaii because I've always wanted to go somewhere different, and I love the water."



Sgt. Jennifer Nissen
MATSS-1 Staff
"Australia to experience a difficult culture."



Pfc. Jared Burns
MATSS-1 Student
"Hawaii because it a beautiful place and one of the last states I haven't visited."



Lance Cpl. Max Snyder
MATSS-1 Student
"My dream assignment would be anywhere over seas."

Fleet & Family Support Center

Understanding Domestic Violence

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. No one deserves to be abused, ever. Anyone can be a victim of domestic abuse — a friend, relative, neighbor or co-worker.

Once you understand domestic abuse, you can support victims safely, confidentially and at their own pace. Having their abuse discovered can be embarrassing and frightening for victims, so you'll need to tread lightly. And some victims may never report their abuse. If you ever feel a victim is in immediate danger, get help right away.

Understanding domestic abuse:

- ✓ Contact the Family Advocacy Program (601-679-2360) or the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 800-799-SAFE (7233) if you think someone is being abused, but you're not sure. They can help you talk it through.
- ✓ Domestic abuse usually involves a pattern of violence, and emotional and verbal abuse. It's important to understand domestic abuse so you can recognize it and offer help to victims.
- ✓ Abusers may hurt their victims and maintain control over them using insults, put-downs, public humiliation and name calling, along with physical abuse.
- ✓ Abusers may threaten violence, suicide, financial deprivation or to take away the children.
- ✓ The abuser's need to feel powerful and in control of another person's behavior and actions underlies all domestic abuse.
- ✓ High levels of stress created by the cycle of deployment and reintegration, recovery from physical or psychological injuries or military transitions can add to the risk of abuse.
- ✓ Frequent relocations that separate military families from social support systems can also add to the risk of abuse.
- ✓ Economic dependence of many military spouses is another risk factor for abuse.

Warning signs of abuse:

- ✓ Fear of one's spouse or of ending the relationship
- ✓ Physical abuse, including grabbing, pinching, shoving or hitting
- ✓ Emotional abuse, such as put-downs, embarrassment or humiliation in private or in front of others
- ✓ Social isolation, in which the victim isn't allowed to see or talk to relatives or friends
- ✓ Threats of violence against the victim, the victim's children or people the victim loves
- ✓ Unexplained bruises or injuries

- ✓ Increased or unexplained absences from work
- ✓ Harassing phone calls at work or at home
- ✓ Withdrawal from friends, family or fellow service members

If you have a friend, relative, neighbor or co-worker who may be a victim of domestic abuse, reach out and offer support. Many people are uncomfortable raising an issue they think is none of their business, or they're afraid that revealing suspicions will increase the risk of abuse or adversely affect a service member's career. But domestic abuse can be a matter of life and death.

**Here are ways you can offer support:**

- ✓ Show your concern.
- Let the person you're concerned about know you're ready to listen and help. Encourage the victim to seek medical attention for any injuries. Offer information on support resources. You can urge your relative or friend to contact the FFSC to speak with a counselor.
- ✓ Make sure the victim understands the military's options for reporting domestic abuse. Except in certain circumstances, victims can get assistance from an FFSC counselor or the Family Advocacy Program, and receive medical care without it automatically resulting in an abuse investigation or notification to the service member's command.
- ✓ Call 911 if the victim is in immediate danger of assault or physical injury.
- ✓ Remind the victim of the impact of domestic abuse on children. Whether or not they physically experience violence, children living in violent households suffer emotional and psychological damage.
- ✓ Remind the person that abusers rarely stop without help, regardless of promises. An incident of domestic abuse is often followed by a "honeymoon" period. When tensions mount, the violent behavior returns.
- ✓ Be there for the person. A victim of domestic abuse may need you to make phone calls, go with him or her to the police or help with child care while working out a safety plan. Although you can't do it all, ask and do what you can to help.
- ✓ Respect the victim's decisions. You may wonder why the victim stays in an abusive relationship. Many reasons may exist — none of them are simple.
- ✓ Respect and support the victim who chooses to stay. A victim often returns to the abuser several times before leaving for good. Your continued help, support and encouragement are vital.

--From FFSC

3 Things to Know: Navy College Program Updates

By Ed Barker

Naval Education and Training Professional Development Center

As part of the software backbone used to support the functionality of the Navy College Program website and Navy College Virtual Education Center (NCVEC), the Navy College Management Information System (NCMIS) is continually updated.

"Our recent NCMIS upgrades include the latest updates to the Post-9/11 GI Bill, including online acknowledgement of Transferability of Education Benefits (TEB) requirements; Improvements to the MyEducation Application including individual notifications to Sailors; and Upgraded Advanced Education Voucher/Graduate Education Voucher (AEV/GEV) functionality," said Steve Ramey, NCMIS program manager for the Naval Education and Training Professional Development Center.

Here are three things to know about the NCMIS enhancements:

- Updated Post-9/11 GI Bill Process. As announced in NAVADMIN 236/18, all Sailors are required to sign a Statement of Understanding (SOU) to begin the process of transferring unused GI Bill Education Benefits to family members. Once logged into MyEducation from the Navy College Program website, the service member reviews the SOU and agrees to the statement. Further instructions will guide the Sailor to the milConnect website (<https://milconnect.dmdc.osd>).

mil/milconnect/) to transfer benefits. All Transfer of Education Benefit (TEB) requests must be approved by Navy Personnel Command or Commander, Navy Reserve Forces Command. Sailors can see the status of their TEB by logging into milConnect.

- Sailors will now receive individualized messages within MyEducation. The MyEducation Application is used by Sailors to submit funding requests for tuition assistance (TA) and for Navy College Program for Afloat College Education (NCPACE) distance learning (DL) courses. Updates to the Navy College Program Notification Center functionality will keep all communication with a service member within MyEducation and the Navy College Management Information System (NCMIS). This will allow any Navy College staff member to access the Sailor's record of communication to ensure continuity of service resulting in an improved counseling experience.

- Updates to the Advanced Education Voucher (AEV) and Graduate Education Voucher (GEV) program functionalities. For participants in the AEV or GEV program, changes have been made to prevent FY crossovers, allow school fees to be entered for reimbursement, and provide better visibility of remaining program funding on the service members' record.

More information can be found by visiting the Navy College Program website: <https://www.navycollege.navy.mil/index.htm> including how to start the education process, complete required training, or submit a Help Request.

FFSC Briefs

To register for any of the following workshops, please call the FFSC at 601-679-2360. The class may not be presented if no one registers, so make sure you call if you're interested! Can't make the scheduled time? Call anyway - the workshop facilitator may be able to work with you one-on-one, give you materials, or let you know when the class will be offered again. All classes held at FFSC (Building 405) unless otherwise noted

Positive Parenting: Handling Behavior Problems

Oct. 11 from 9:30-10:30 a.m. or 4-5 p.m.

Why do some children sail through childhood with few behavior problems while others seem to have constant struggles with behaving well? Both good and bad behaviors are shaped by the rewards the child receives from parents and other authority figures – and, sometimes, parents accidentally reward bad behavior. Attend this workshop to learn strategies to help guide your child to improved behavior.

Time Management

Oct. 17 from 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Do you often think that there just aren't enough hours in the day to get everything done? Do you frequently feel harried and stressed as you run from place to place and task to task? If so, you might need to learn some new ways to manage that precious resource – TIME! This workshop will focus on learning to maximize use of your time and how to better schedule all the things going on in your life so you don't feel so crunched. Make sure to schedule time for "Time Management"!

Effects of Domestic Violence on Children

Oct. 18 from 5-6 p.m.

Family violence is not a topic people generally like to discuss; however, since October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, FFSC is offering this workshop to explore the impact of family violence on children. Topics will include: tips on understanding the damage caused by family violence, how to recognize the warning signs of domestic violence, and how to offer support efforts to help end family violence.

Halloween Crafts

Oct. 24 from 9:45-10:30 a.m.

All children, ages 3-5, are invited to the FFSC to create Halloween crafts! Registration is required for preparation of materials!

Halloween Crafts

Oct. 29 from 3:45-4:30 p.m.

All children, ages 5-10, are invited to the FFSC to create Halloween crafts! Registration is required for preparation of materials!

Passing the Decanter, the U.S. Naval Academy Way

By Jim Garamone

DoD News, Defense Media Activity

The reign of the Naval Academy's Class of 1978 is over as Navy Adm. Kurt Tidd passed the Old Goat Award decanter to Vice Adm. Bill Leshner during a ceremony at the Navy Yard, here last week.

The Old Goat Award is held by the oldest serving Naval Academy graduate, said Academy Superintendent Vice Adm. Ted Carter. Tidd, the current U.S. Southern Command commander, actually will hold the award until he retires.

Tidd is the last of four members of the class of 1978 to hold the award – a record for the academy. Retired Admirals Mark Ferguson, Cecil Haney and Harry Harris are all previous members of the class who were Old Goats.

The lighthearted ceremony was part of the chief of naval operations three- and four-star gathering. Navy Adm. John Richardson, the class of 1982, poked fun at “the old and gray” goats.

Leshner serves at the Pentagon as the deputy chief of naval operations for integration of capabilities and resources.

“This is one of those dubious distinctions,” Tidd said in the unofficial ceremony. “Dubious because there is certainly no one who

enters the Naval Academy on induction day and says, ‘Man, I hope I can be the Old Goat.’ Usually they are hoping they can just make it through the day!”

Tidd also modified the exchange of the crystal decanter, which has the initials and class years of the recipients engraved on it. “I’m a big believer in a learning culture and a learning institution, and when I got this from my classmate Harry Harris, I looked at it and said there is something wrong with this,” Tidd said. “I have taken it on myself to modify this slightly and I pass this on to everyone who holds this subsequently that at least as long as the trophy is a decanter, it should no longer be empty.”

Tidd, highlighting his time in Central and South America, also presented Leshner with a bottle of 23-year old Zacapa rum from Guatemala to fill the decanter.

Leshner thanked Tidd, not only for the decanter and rum, but for his 40-year Navy career. “I really want to congratulate Admiral Tidd on his impressive and accomplished career,” he said. “I appreciate the honor and privilege of following you, and I look forward to passing this on to somebody else here.”

For the Navy this is a relatively recent tradition, starting with Navy Rear Adm. Alton Stock, who graduated from the academy in 1972.



Photo by Jim Garamone

Navy Adm. Kurt Tidd passes the Old Goat Award decanter to Vice Adm. Bill Leshner during an unofficial ceremony at the Washington Navy Yard. The award is held by the oldest Naval Academy graduate still on active service. Tidd was with the class of 1978, Swisher the class of 1980

First Royal Saudi navy MH-60R sensor operator class graduates

By Carla M. McCarthy

Naval Education and Training Command Public Affairs

Five students from the Royal Saudi Naval Forces (RSNF) completed the inaugural MH-60R Sensor Operator Course offered by the Naval Education and Training Security Assistance Field Activity (NETSAFA) International Training Center (NITC) Sept. 27.

The eight-week “A” school course is the culmination of a year and a half of training, much of it equivalent to the U.S. Navy’s aircrew preparation program.

“This was the first group of students to complete this course, as part of an overall pipeline of training, teaching the basic theory and operations for the various systems the students will be working on in the MH-60R,” said Sammy Rowe, one of the course’s instructors. “I’m particularly pleased with how well all of our students achieved academically as they learned the fundamentals of being an aviation sensor operator.”

The course covered a variety of topics, including MH-60R airframe history, acoustics, radar, navigation, identifi-

cation friend or foe radar, electronic warfare, and Electro-Optical / Infrared sensor operations.

The NITC course is the latest step for preparing the RSNF students for flight operations in the MH-60R multi-mission helicopter, which provides the capability to identify, engage, and defeat maritime security threats along with the ability to perform secondary missions including vertical replenishment, search and rescue, and communications relay.

“These five graduates represent a big step forward in developing an exciting new capability for the Royal Saudi Naval Forces,” said Cmdr. Mohamed Al-Zahrani, RSNF country liaison officer. “We are very proud of their accomplishments.”

Before the NITC course, the students completed intensive English language immersion programs at U.S. universities as part of their training roadmap. Then, they reported to Naval Air Station Pensacola to go through the same aircrew training that their U.S. Navy enlisted counterparts experience, covering a range of skills and topics such as mishap and water survival training, emergency egress pro-

cedures, and aviation life support systems.

The students will continue their training, just like their U.S. counterparts, with the “Air Wolves” of Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron (HSM) 40, the MH-60R fleet replacement squadron that trains U.S. Navy pilots and aircrew, along with international students, at Naval Station Mayport. Operational flight training will consist of ground, simulator and flight events, and is administered by a cadre of fleet-seasoned pilot and aircrew instructors.

“NITC is so proud of this course, and this initial group of exceptional students,” said Cmdr. William Gibson, NITC officer in charge. “It’s courses like this that help us strengthen alliances and partnerships and highlight for us as instructors the common goals we share and how crucial partnerships help us achieve common goals.”

NITC is part of the Naval Education and Training Security Assistance Field Activity (NETSAFA) and provides U.S. Navy training and education in support of the requirements of international friends and allies. For more about NITC, visit <https://www.netsafa.navy.mil/NITC/Default.htm>.

Attention Teachers

Stay safe with tips from Louie the Lightning Bug!

Did you know you can access information from our friend Louie the Lightning Bug to help students learn how energy is made, how to stay safe around electricity and ways to save energy at home?

Visit mississippipower.com/louie to find:

- Videos
- Interactive games
- Lesson plans

You may also request a **FREE** toolkit be mailed to your class to keep students engaged and interested in learning about energy.

Have a safe school year!

Eligibility requirement: Teachers must teach in a school district serviced by Mississippi Power

Honoring Outstanding Teachers and Educators in East Mississippi and West Alabama

Golden Apple Award

Do you have a teacher who has made an impact on you or 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

LaBiche Jewelers * Meridian Coca-Cola Bottling Company

To nominate a teacher, log on to wmdn.net, wgbctv.com, goldenappleawards.com or meridianstar.com