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Mississippi's capital only collects 56% of fees from its struggling water system

~ Click here ~

Southern Miss heads to super regionals for second straight season

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Supreme Court rejects case of woman on Alabama death row

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US releases video showing close-call in Taiwan Strait with Chinese destroyer

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LTJG Brown earns Golden Stick

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New House for rent in "For Sale ..."

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2022 Consumer Confidence Report

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Military spouse, author to read at Children's Museum

From Staff Reports

The Mississippi Children's Museum-Meridian will welcome children's book author and military spouse, TaNeil Abraham, to the museum on Saturday, June 10 at 2 p.m. to read her book "Sea Island Express."

The children's book follows the adventures of Sally Seahorse, Steve Stingray, Ollie Octopus and Penny Pufferfish who are excited to go on an adventure aboard the Sea Turtle Express -- they heard it ends with a special surprise! They travel throughout the ocean, stopping at various places to visit different types of amazing sea animals. Sally Seahorse doesn't think they need rules on the Sea Turtle Express, but at each stop finds out the importance of learning and following rules -- especially on a fun adventure!

"I've always found joy in writing," TaNeil said. "In grade school I fostered an appreciation for writing narratives, essays and even



Abraham

reports. When I had kids I realized my love for children's books. That was when I knew one day I would create something for them -- inspired by them."

TaNeil and her husband, LTJG Casey Abraham, who is a student naval aviator with Training Squadron 7 recently transferred to Meridian from NAS Whiting Field. The couple has three children.

"Sea Island Express" is TaNeil's first book which took her about eight months to complete and publish, but says this won't be her last.

Copies of the book will be available for sale and a book signing will take place promptly after story time.

The museum is located at 403 22nd Avenue, Meridian. Admission is \$10 per person, but the museum is also a member of the Blue Star Museums, which allows active-duty service members free admission May 1 through Sept. 4.

Battle of Midway Remembrance



Photo by Adam Prince

Sailors and Marines from NAS Meridian and Marine Training Support Squadron One muster for morning colors in commemoration of the Battle of Midway outside the Administration Building onboard NAS Meridian, June 5. Midway is one of America's most historically significant naval victories, and with the U.S. Navy's determination, zeal, and valor during the multi-day engagement fought June 3-7, 1942, blunted the Imperial Japanese navy's striking force and its advance across the Pacific.

Congratulations to Sailors onboard NAS Meridian who recently earned promotions!



HM3 Destiny Flowal
HM3 Jada Wash
AC3 Malcolm Baskerville
RP3 Kentaija Brown
AC3 Daniel Flory
AC3 Ryan Grant
MA3 Nicolas Ramirez
MA3 Erica Marrufo



HM2 Amanda Burkey
HM2 Hunter Campbell
HM2 Matthew Trond
AC2 Trentan Barlow
MA2 Jacob Cleboski
ABE2 Tyler Creach
AC2 Martina Hatch
AC2 Andrew Pattison
ABH2 Alexander Welsh
MA2 Jalen Wilson



HM1 Armonne Gallow
HM1 Take Velasquez
AC1 Darren Williams

Normandy marks D-Day's 79th anniversary, honors World War II veterans

By Sylvie Corbet and Lefteris Pitarakis
AP News

An overwhelming sound of gunfire and men's screams. That's how World War II veteran Marie Scott described D-Day, as Tuesday's ceremonies got underway in honor of those who fought for freedom in the largest naval, air and land operation in history.

This year's tribute to the young soldiers who died in Normandy also reminds veterans, officials and visitors what Ukraine faces today.

On Tuesday, the whistling sound of the wind accompanied many reenactors who came to Omaha Beach at dawn to mark the 79th anniversary of the assault that led to the liberation of France and Western Europe from Nazi control. Some brought bunches of flowers; others waved American flags.

Scott lived it all through her ears. She was just 17 when she was posted as communication operator in Portsmouth, England. Her job was to pass on messages between men on the ground and Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower and senior officers who were supervising the operation.

"I was in the war. I could hear gunfire, machine guns, bombing aircraft, men screaming, shouting, men giving orders," she recalled.

"After a few moments of horror, I realized what was happening ... and I thought, well, you know, there's no time for horror. You've got a job to do. So get on with it. Which is what I did."

Now about to turn 97, Scott said D-Day was a "pivotal point" in her life.

"As a noncombatant, I was still in the war and I realized the enormity of war. People were dying in that moment."

Scott said she was "disgusted" that another war was now raging on the European continent following Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022.

"For me, war should only be undertaken if it's absolutely (necessary), if there's no other way of solving the problem. It's an atrocity. That's how I feel," she said.

● Normandy, page 2

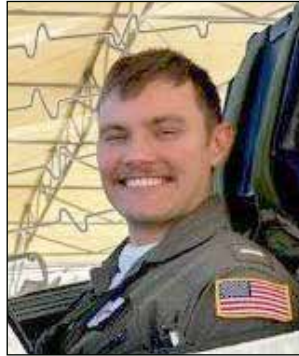
Five aviators earn 'Wings of Gold' in June pinning ceremony

There was a naval aviator designation ceremony June 2 onboard Naval Air Station Meridian.

Five aviators received 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."



1STLT Trevor Fox



LT Slawomir Jozwik



LTJG Jonathan Makauskas



1STLT Skyler McNeely



LTJG Caleb Brown

Golden Stick



Photo by MC2 Molly Crawford

Roger Burke, President of the Mississippi Council of the Navy League, left, presents LTJG Caleb Brown with the Golden Stick award during a winging ceremony in the Chapel onboard NAS Meridian, June 2. The Golden Stick is awarded to the student with the highest composite score during training.

● Normandy

British veteran Mervyn Kersh, who landed on D-Day on Gold Beach, said Western allies should send maximum military aid to Ukraine: "The only way to stay free is to be strong."

Kersh, 98, added with a sense of humor: "I'm still in the reserve, I'm waiting to go to Ukraine now. Next job."

On Tuesday, a ceremony took place at the American Cemetery in Colleville-sur-Mer, overlooking Omaha Beach, which is home to the graves of 9,386 U.S. soldiers, most of whom lost their lives in the D-Day landings and ensuing operations. On the Walls of the Missing are inscribed 1,557 names. Some of those named have since been recovered and identified.

U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin, speaking in front of more than 40 World War II veterans and a crowd of visitors, said "it is our duty to defend ... the principles for which the Allies fought ... We seek a world where civilians are safe from ravages of a war, (and) sovereignty and territorial integrity are respected."

He paid tribute to "brave young men and women from Ukraine who are learning how to fight for their lives and for their country."

"Today, I am more determined than ever to stand by them for as long as it takes," he said.

Joint Chiefs of Staff chairman Gen. Mark Milley also took part in the American Cemetery commemoration.

The Normandy celebrations were a chance for Milley to linger with troops who consider him one of their own, as he winds down his own four-decade military career. The chairman held commands in both the 82nd Airborne Division and the 101st Airborne Division, and the Normandy fields, towns and causeways are these divisions' hallowed ground.

"For me, being among soldiers is home," he said. Milley begins his 44th year of military service on June

10. He is scheduled to retire at the end of September as his term as chairman ends.

Hundreds of current soldiers from both units were there, some on leave with beers in hand, some jumping out of aircraft as their predecessors did 79 years before.

This was Milley's last Normandy visit as their top commander — and as he walked through Sainte-Mere-Eglise, known as the first town to be liberated from Nazi occupation, attended commemorative football games or spoke at ceremonies, it felt like the general stopped to talk to and give a commemorative coin to every last one of them.

In a separate event, French President Emmanuel Macron attended a ceremony on Tuesday in the presence of 100-year-old Leon Gauthier, the last surviving member of the Kieffer commando — an elite French unit which was among the first waves to land in Normandy.

Many visitors came to the American Cemetery before Tuesday's ceremonies to pay tribute to those who sacrificed their lives.

Jean-Philippe Bertrand, a visitor from the southern French city of Marseille, walked through the countless lines of white crosses Monday.

"It's unimaginable to make such a sacrifice for my freedom, for my son's freedom," he said.

"You hear about it on the news and you see the pictures. But once you're here and you see the reality and the sacrifice that has been made for our beautiful country — I wanted to make the trip once in my life to thank all these people to whom we owe so much," he added.

German professor Andreas Fuchs, who is teaching French in Berlin, brought students ages 10 to 12 to Normandy via an exchange program.

"It's very important for children to have a moment in their lives to understand the liberation of Europe. And to know what peace has been for 80 years," he said.

Marine Corps announces the 20th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps

Master Sgt. Michael Cifuentes
Headquarters Marine Corps

Sergeant Major Carlos A. Ruiz has been selected to serve as the 20th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps.

Sgt. Maj. Ruiz is currently serving as the Command Senior Enlisted Leader for U.S. Marine Corps Forces Reserve and U.S. Marines Corps Forces South. He will replace Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps Troy E. Black during a relief and appointment ceremony slated for Aug. 8, 2023.

Sgt. Maj. Black has served as the 19th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps since July 26, 2019. Following the ceremony, he will relinquish his post as the highest-ranking enlisted Marine and principal enlisted advisor to the Commandant.

Sgt. Maj. Ruiz is a native of Phoenix, Arizona. He joined the Marine Corps Nov. 2, 1993, and attended recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, California. He began his career as a Marine Corps warehouse clerk with 3rd Supply Battalion, 3rd Force Service Support Group, in Okinawa, Japan. He continued his career as an enlisted leader serving across the Corps to include 1st Service Support Group; 3rd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment; 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment; and 4th Marine Logistics Group.

He has deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom and operations with the 31st Marine



Ruiz

Expeditionary Unit.

Outside of the Marine Corps operating forces, Sgt. Maj. Ruiz has served as a recruiter in Los Angeles, a drill instructor with 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, MCRD San Diego, and as an instructor, drill master and chief instructor for Drill Instructor School, MCRD San Diego.

Sgt. Maj. Ruiz will serve as Commandant of the Marine Corps' preeminent enlisted advisor with a protocol equivalency of a three-star general officer.

The Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps typically serves a four-year term, though service in the position is at the discretion of the Commandant.

Beat the Heat
 Drink plenty of water • Avoid caffeine
 Protect yourself from the sun • Use sunscreen
 Try to keep cool • Wear light clothing
 Watch for signs of heat stroke

<h2>The Skyline ~ Naval Air Station Meridian, Miss.</h2>		<h3>Hotlines & Helpful Numbers</h3> <p>SAPR Victim Assistance: 601-604-3037 SAPR Civilian Victim Assistance: 601-486-3122 SARC: 601-481-4274 SAFE Helpline: 877-995-5247 Suicide Hotline: 800-273-8255 Military OneSource: 800-342-9647 CEAP (DoN Civilian): 844-366-2327 EAP (NAF Civilian): 800-932-0034 FFSC Meridian: 601-679-2360 Chaplain: 601-604-2015 NMCRS Duty Cell: 601-604-2206 EEO (NAF): 866-295-0328 EEO (GS): 904-542-2802</p>	
<p>Command Staff Commanding Officer ~ CAPT Timothy B. Moore Executive Officer ~ CDR Jamie Epps Command Master Chief ~ CMDCM Craig Johnson</p>	<p>Editorial Staff Public Affairs Officer ~ Penny Randall Public Affairs Specialist~ Adam Prince Photographer~ MC2 Molly Crawford</p>	<p>This DoD newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the Department of Defense. Contents of The Skyline are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or NAS Meridian, Mississippi. The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of the NAS Meridian Public Affairs Office. The Skyline solicits news contributions from military and civilian sources. It reserves the right to edit material selected for dissemination. The deadline for material is 4:30 p.m. the Thursday before publication. Send submissions to: The Skyline, 255 Rosenbaum Ave., Suite 163, Public Affairs Office, Naval Air Station, Meridian, MS 39309-5003 or e-mail: penny.l.randall2.civ@us.navy.mil or adam.w.prince.civ@us.navy.mil. For more information, call (601) 679-2318 or (601) 679-2809. The appearance of any advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense or NAS Meridian of products or services advertised. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation, or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.</p>	

Local Happenings

JUNE

9: Blues Series- Mickey Rogers & Band from 6-9 p.m. at the Mississippi Arts + Entertainment Experience. Spend your Friday night at Maxie's Juke Joint at The MAX with a performance by Mickey Rogers, a long-time bluesman and guitarist from Greenville, Mississippi. Cash bar Registration Required. Tickets are \$20; call 601-581-1550 ext 35.

15: NightMarket from 5-8 p.m. at the Mississippi Arts + Entertainment Experience. Join The MAX and Earth's Bounty for NightMarket at The MAX. Browse vendor booths with products from local artists, artisans, bakers and more. Enjoy a drink, live music and food trucks. Free and open to the public. Call 601-581-1550 ext 35.

19: Juneteenth & Al Wilson Day Celebration from noon-4 p.m. at the Mississippi Arts + Entertainment Experience. Meridian Mayor Jimmie Smith proclaimed June 19 "Al Wilson Day" in 2022. This will be a celebration of this proclamation and Juneteenth. For information call, Laura Hester at 601-581-1550, ext 35.

29: Mingle at the Museum from 6-9 p.m. at the Mississippi Children's Museum - Meridian. Adults are invited for a casual, carnival night event featuring live music, festive fair food, carnival games and plenty of opportunities to win grand prizes. Tickets are \$25; call 601-512-0270.

Area Happenings

JUNE

16: Larry the Cable Guy at 6:30 p.m. (EST) at the Atlanta Symphony Hall, 1280 Peachtree Street NE, Atlanta, GA 30309. Ticket info at <https://www.aso.org/events/detail/an-evening-with-larry-the-cable-guy>

18: James Taylor from 8-11 p.m. at Oak Mountain Amphitheatre, 1000 Amphitheatre Drive, Pelham, AL 35124. Tickets at <https://www.axs.com/au/events/471596>

23-25: New Orleans Caribbean Carnival in downtown New Orleans. The New Orleans Caribbean Carnival is a family-friendly event held annually in June aimed at bringing a taste of the islands to the Big Easy. More info at <https://www.tmorra.com/next/New+Orleans+Caribbean+Carnival>

Keel authenticated for future USS Pittsburgh

The keel for the future USS Pittsburgh (LPD 31), a San Antonio-class amphibious transport dock, was ceremonially laid at Huntington Ingalls Industries' Ingalls Shipbuilding division, June 2.

The ship is the fifth Navy vessel to be named for the city of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and its surrounding region, which play a central role in our national defense infrastructure. The most recent USS Pittsburgh (SSN 720) was a Los Angeles-class submarine, which served the Navy from December 1984 to August 2019.

The contemporary keel-laying ceremony represents the joining together of a ship's major modular components at the land level, and is a significant

milestone in ship production. The keel is authenticated with the ship sponsors' initials etched into a ceremonial keel plate that is later incorporated into the ship. The LPD 31 sponsor is Mrs. Nancy Urban. The speaker at the keel laying was Rear Adm. Tom Anderson, Program Executive Officer, Ships.

"Shipbuilding is a team sport and is one of the most technically complex and challenging things we do in the defense industrial base. I would like to acknowledge the professionalism, skill and perseverance of the HII shipbuilders," said Anderson. "Thank you for spending yourselves in the worthy cause of bringing the future USS Pittsburgh into being."

-- From Team Ships Public Affairs

[Read more, click here](#)

Exercise Baltic Operations 2023 kicks off in the Baltic Sea

Nineteen NATO Allies, one NATO partner nation, 50 ships, more than 45 aircraft, and approximately 6,000 personnel kicked off the 52nd iteration of Baltic Operations 2023 (BALTOPS 23) today in Tallinn, Estonia, June 4, 2023. This premier maritime-focused annual exercise in the Baltic Region takes place June 4-16 and provides a unique training opportunity to strengthen the combined response capability critical to preserving the freedom of navigation and security in the Baltic Sea.

"Fresh from the completion of exercise Formidable Shield 23, and concurrent with Gerald R. Ford Carrier Strike Group operations in the North Atlantic, BALTOPS 23 commences as a tangible

indication of commitment to collective defense capability across the NATO Alliance. We continue to meet the security challenges of today, and prepare for tomorrow, through interoperability and seamless integration in real world operations. Rising above these challenges takes teamwork and trust," said Vice Adm. Thomas Ishee, commander, Naval Striking and Support Forces NATO (STRIKFORNATO) and U.S. Sixth Fleet. "Also, we welcome Finland's participation in BALTOPS as a NATO Ally for the first time in 52 years of BALTOPS history, which reflects our dedication to improving security and stability in Europe."

-- From U.S. Naval Forces Europe

[Read more, click here](#)

U.S., UK Navies respond to merchant vessel distress call in Strait of Hormuz

United States and United Kingdom Royal Navy forces responded to a distress call from a merchant vessel transiting the Strait of Hormuz, June 4, as Iranian fast-attack boats harassed the commercial ship.

The internationally flagged merchant vessel made a radio distress call at 4:56 p.m. local time while transiting the narrow strait. The civilian crew reported three fast-attack craft with armed personnel approached and followed the merchant vessel at close

distance. The fast-attack craft were assessed to be from the Iranian Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps Navy.

U.S. Navy guided-missile destroyer USS McFaul (DDG 74) and UK Royal Navy frigate HMS Lancaster (F 229) both received the distress call, and Lancaster launched a helicopter to provide surveillance. U.S. 5th Fleet also directed a P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft to monitor the scene.

-- From U.S. Naval Forces Central Command Public Affairs

[Read more, click here](#)

Sale... Or

BOATS/CAMPERS/TRAILERS

New Price 21 foot - 2021 Jayco Travel Camper. Like new; beige & walnut interior and mattress kept in original plastic. Selling to upgrade to larger size - Price is \$15,000 some accessories included. To view or request pics please contact: Gary 601-575-5062.

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, plus the \$500 towing kit. Asking \$17,000. Call 360-434-3035.

AUTOMOBILES, ETC.

2018 Subaru Outback 2.5 limited, 12k miles; Subaru safety features and warranties included. Asking \$29k. Call 601-480-5100.

2017 Dodge Challenger, grey with racing stripe. \$24k. Call 601-880-3237.

HOMES/APARTMENTS

New! For Rent: Water front home in Dalewood.

Spacious two-story home facing the Lake; great for fishing and relaxing. Remodeled Kitchen and new appliances. Rent is \$2,000; please call 813-406-9687.

For Sale: 3BD/2BA Home with 2,560 sq. ft. Sits on 1 & 1/2 lots on dead end with privacy woods on 3 sides. Asking \$180,000. Contact: lucindawnichols@gmail.com, call 601-527-7829 or 601-917-6145.

For Rent: 2 BD/1 1/2 BA 1100 square foot home in Dalewood with main lake access. Asking \$1300 a month. Email: rosscande-

loproperties@gmail.com for information..

For Rent: Lake Cabin near NAS Meridian. 1 BD/1 BA; \$700 month. Unfurnished.

For Rent: 3BD, 2BA home with washer/dryer, wifi, lawn service and water included. \$1500/month. Call 601-917-8594.

For Rent: 3BD/2BA private gated home with 2-car garage in West Lauderdale; 15 minutes from the base. Call 601-737-4569 or 601-934-0739.

For Rent: 2BD/1.5BA Home at 3702 Rollins Dr, Lauderdale in Dalewood. 2136 sq ft on a .29 acres

lot. Beautiful newly renovated single family home. Call 973-876-5006.

For Rent: 2BD/1.5BA single family home in Dalewood - fully renovated. Fenced in back yard with boat slip & pier. Pets allowed. Pet deposit \$300. \$1,300 rent per month. Call 973-876-5006.

For Sale By Owner: 3BD/3BA brick home with sunroom, large fenced in yard. Convenient to shopping and base. \$139K. Call 601-513-3395 or 601-227-1870.

MISCELLANEOUS

Event Space for Rent:

Deer Creek Banquet Hall. 6000 sq. ft. indoor with 1600 sq. ft. outdoor spaces for rent for gatherings and events. Call Reginald at 251-455-1559.

Service for hire: Dixie Lawn LLC, lawn care in Meridian. Call 850-376-4499. Military owned company.

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

Listings in the "Sale...Or" column are free for anyone who works at NAS Meridian. To include your announcement, email adam.w.prince.civ@us.navy.mil

DOD must be employer of choice to meet manpower goals

By David Vergun

DoD News, Defense Media Activity

On Jan. 27, 1973, Secretary of Defense Melvin R. Laird Jr. announced that the U.S. military would fill its ranks exclusively with volunteers rather than with draftees. On July 1, 1973, the military draft ended.

Today, to meet recruitment and retention goals, the Defense Department must make volunteering in the military attractive, especially in this era of low unemployment, said DOD officials.

Agnes Gereben Schaefer, assistant secretary of the Army for manpower and reserve affairs and other service leaders discussed the All-Volunteer Force at 50 at the Center for a New American Security National Security Conference on "American Power and Purpose."

There are many advantages to serving, Schaefer said, including professional career paths and working with others who have a diversity of experiences and perspectives.

A big challenge facing the Army, she said, is recognition. "Large swaths of the country just aren't familiar

"We have a tremendously talented nation. And as a result, we have a tremendously talented corps of service members."

— Franklin R. Parker, assistant secretary of the Navy for manpower and reserve affairs

with the Army."

In part, this is due to closures of installations in the northern part of the U.S. in the 1980s, she said.

"Folks don't see neighbors who were in the military, they don't see folks walking down the street in uniform. So we are seeing a really big and growing cultural knowl-

edge gap regarding the military. ... It's amazingly that after 20 years of war we have a country that really doesn't know its military," Schaefer said.

Talent management is a key to making the Army more attractive, she said, meaning matching skills, knowledge, abilities and positions with individual strengths.

It's about "making the Army an employer of choice among the vast choices that people have right now in the private sector," she said.

Once soldiers come into the Army, they tend to stay, she said. "Our retention rates are at historical highs, but I do worry about keeping that shored up. I don't want that to slide."

Franklin R. Parker, assistant secretary of the Navy for manpower and reserve affairs, said recruiting and retention in the Navy and Marine Corps are good.

The sea services are looking for ways to improve retention even more through earlier reenlistment opportunities, improving quality of life, special duty assignments, helping personnel acquire valuable skills and credentials for their profession, incentive pay and removing high-year tenure for a number of positions.

[Read more, click here](#)

2022 ANNUAL CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT WATER QUALITY

NAVAL AIR STATION, MERIDIAN
NAVFAC SE, DETACHMENT, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Water Treatment Facility - MSDH PWS ID # 0380026
229 Allen Road Meridian, MS 39309 (Lauderdale County)

MAY 3, 2023

We are pleased to present our 2022 Annual Consumer Confidence Report for Water Quality as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) for the consumers of Naval Air Station (NAS), Meridian. We are proud to announce there are no violations to report and all sample test results are within required specifications. This report is a snapshot of our water quality and provides you with details about where it comes from and what it may contain. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water is within the safe drinking water limits, as set forth by the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). We are continually striving to improve the water treatment process and to protect our water resources. The MSDH and the Certified Operators of NAS Meridian periodically monitors for more than 86 different organic and inorganic contaminants routinely and periodically, per Federal and State statutes, rules, and regulations.

We want to keep you informed and up to date, about the water quality and service we provide. For your review, the 2022 Water Quality Data Table below contains the results of our sample testing for contaminants between January 1 to December 31, 2022, unless otherwise noted. The EPA and MSDH has a set schedule for some test samples, others are routine daily or monthly testing. All results are reported using the most recent test results available. No test results in this report are more than five years old. For a brief explanation of terms, abbreviations or for definitions, see the reference table at the end.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations for allowable limits for contaminants in water provided by public water systems, as all sources of drinking water, both tap water and bottled water, including all bodies of water and man-made wells contain traces of naturally occurring or manmade contaminants. As water travels it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and may pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic compounds, and very rarely, radioactive substances. Most contaminants are detected at extremely low levels and typically are not considered to be harmful; such as fluoride, sodium, and potassium, which adds nutritional value and improves the taste.

Our water is sourced by the Wilcox Aquifer and treated in a "treatment train" (a series of processes applied in a sequence) that includes coagulation, flocculation, sedimentation, filtration, and disinfection. Coagulation removes dirt and other particles suspended in the source water by adding chemicals (coagulants) to form tiny sticky particles called "floc," which attract the dirt particles. Flocculation (the formation of larger flocs from smaller flocs) is achieved using gentle, constant mixing. The heavy particles settle naturally out of the water in a sedimentation basin. The clear water then moves to the filtration process where the water passes through sand, gravel, charcoal or other filters that remove even smaller particles. A small amount of chlorine or other disinfection method is used to kill bacteria and other microorganisms (viruses, cysts, etc.) that may be in the water before water is stored and distributed throughout NAS Meridian and Base Housing. Our source water assessment has been conducted and the results are available at the office. If you would like to learn more about these reports or have any concerns about the quality of your water, please contact: William D. Chisolm or Merril Hurtt at (601) 679-2151, 0600-1630, Mon. - Fri.


If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Deputy Public Works Officer - (601) 679-2940 or Maintenance Supervisor - (601) 679-2530. We ask that all our consumers help us preserve and protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life, and our children's future.

Sincerely,



BRITT COOPER
Deputy Public Works Officer,
Water Plant Owner of Record

Marina & Boating Safety




Boats can be a great source of summer fun and leisure. But, boaters, swimmers, and marina staff must be aware of dangers in and around the water. Electrical hazards and carbon monoxide (CO) bring unique risks to the boating world. Learn to protect people and pets from these dangers.

ELECTRICAL SAFETY

- ❗ Never allow swimming near the boat, marina, or launching ramp. Residual current could flow into the water from the boat or the marina's wiring. This can put anyone at risk of electrical shock drownings (ESD).
- ❗ Be sure your boat is well maintained. Have it inspected each year. Ask a qualified marine electrician to do this job.
- ❗ Ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) and equipment leakage circuit interrupters (ELCIs) should be installed and tested monthly. Run tests to find out if electrical current is leaking from the boat.
- ❗ Only use cords intended for marine use. Never use household cords near water.
- ❗ Know where your main breakers are on both the boat and the shore power source. This will help you respond quickly in an emergency.

CARBON MONOXIDE SAFETY

- ❗ Poorly tuned engines produce more CO. Keep your engine properly maintained. Follow manufacturer's instructions for service.
- ❗ Proper ventilation for engine and generator exhaust vents must be clear and pipes should be inspected for leaks.
- ❗ Get into fresh air right away and get help if you feel symptoms of CO poisoning. These include headache, fatigue, confusion, dizziness, nausea, or seizures. The symptoms can be similar to seasickness. Assume it is CO exposure until you are sure the boat is safe.
- ❗ Do not swim near the boat's exhaust vents. CO accumulates there.
- ❗ Install CO alarms inside your boat. Test CO alarms before each trip.
- ❗ Choose a CO alarm that is listed by a qualified testing laboratory.
- ❗ If the CO alarm sounds, move to a fresh air location right away.



KNOW THE RISKS!

Electrical shock drownings can occur when marina electrical systems leak electrical current into the water. Boats can also serve as the source of an electrical leakage. Leakage can cause a shock that can injure, disable, or kill a person.

Carbon Monoxide is a gas you cannot see, taste, or smell. It is often called the "invisible killer." CO is created when fuels such as gasoline, diesel, or propane do not burn fully. CO is also produced when wood or charcoal is burned.

Sources of CO on your boat may include engines, gas generators, and cooking ranges. Space and water heaters can also be sources of CO. CO can collect anywhere in or around a boat. The gas is harmful to both people and to pets.

FACT

CO can remain in or around your boat at unsafe levels even if the engine has been turned off.

Name of Organization Here
Contact Information Here

www.nfpa.org/education ©NFPA 2016

The Reluctant Caregiver: Three steps to escaping spousal servitude

Have you ever taken care of your spouse after routine surgery? If not, you're in for a real treat. Even healthy people age. Bodies give way to wear and tear. Our doctors sometimes recommend dreaded cataract removal, joint replacement, bladder tacking, gallbladder extraction, bunion removal, hernia repair and other common procedures.

If your husband goes under the knife, beware. Whether you like it or not, you're on the hook to be his post-operative caregiver.

Back when you stood before family and friends and promised to take "thee," to be your wedded husband, "for better or worse, rich or poor, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death do us part," you were thinking of your sparkly ring, your mother-in-law's side-eye, and whether or not your Uncle Har-

old would get sauced and say something dirty.

You definitely weren't thinking about coming face-to-face with your husband's neglected toenails while putting on his socks after hip replacement surgery. Now, that time has come. Your spouse needs you to make good on that "sickness and health" clause. Ready or not, you're it.

Your instincts may scream, "Run for the hills!" But remember, as a loving wife, it's your job to be there in your husband's time of need. However, as any Bryl-creamed lawyer can tell you, contracts are always up for interpretation. Arguably, your duty to have and hold in sickness and health has reasonable limits, beyond which arises a legal presumption of "Suck it up, Buttercup."

Wives must be honor-bound caregivers during those first post-operative days (or hours, depending on the severity of the procedure) of convalescence, but once her patient-husband is out of the woods, she's well within her rights to mitigate her contractual responsibilities as she sees fit.

Having experienced caregiving first hand after my husband's two hip replacement surgeries, I've developed a step-by-step method for escaping spousal servitude, while coming out smelling like

a peach.

Step One. After he's released from the hospital, be at your husband's constant beck and call. Fluff pillows, make sandwiches, freshen ice packs, bend straws, change socks, and let him laugh at all the silly jokes in "Family Guy." Smile, be kind, and never show annoyance, even when you hear him on the phone telling the umpteenth person his surgery story in excruciating detail.

Step Two. When your husband still needs your help, but has made some recovery progress, it's time to preemptively communicate, "Don't get used to this, cuz I aint no Florence Nightingale." When hubby asks, "Hon, can you put that pillow under my foot?" stand stock still, hold your breath, and let your eyes roll back into your head. Appear as if you are experiencing physical pain. Slowly exhale as if you must regulate your breathing in order to muster the mental strength needed to fulfill your husband's unending demands. Make it clear that caregiving is not something to which you aspire. You have a life. This role is only temporary, and might expire at any minute.

Step Three. This final stage requires your strict adherence to the tenets of what is commonly known as "tough love."

Your husband still wants your help, but your assistance is arguably not necessary for his survival. Just like that lone logger who cut his own leg off with a pocket knife to unpin himself from a fallen tree and crawl for help, your husband could technically get by without you and live to see another day.

This is when he needs you the most — not by providing a bendy straw, but by teaching him to fend for himself. Tell him you have to run a quick errand, but stay out long enough for him to put on his own underwear, find the television remote, and forage for food. Then, upon arriving home, feign admiration, "Well, look who's up and about! Making progress I see!" His feelings of neglect will be overcome by his pride of accomplishment. Once he's progressed, there's no going back. Repeat this process, until your freedom is restored.

Many wives wonder, "What if I'm the one who needs surgery?" My advice to you is simple: "Milk it for all it's worth."

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



Molinari

COLUMN



NAS Meridian, MS • Morale, Welfare and Recreation

Facility Phone Numbers

Fitness Center	679-2379	Library	679-2326	MWR Admin.	679-2551
Liberty Center	679-3760	Rudders Pub & Grill	679-2780	MWR Jobs Line	679-2467
Tickets	679-3773	CDC/CDH	679-2652		
McCain Rec Center	679-2651	SAC	679-5252		
Equipment Rental	679-2609	School Liaison	679-2473		

4V4 COED BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

Registration: May 29th-July 3rd

Team Meeting: July 6th at 1500

Games begin: July 10th at 1730

Scan the QR Code or call (601) 679-2367 to sign up

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FREEDOMFEST

June 30 • 1700-2100
ACROSS FROM THE ADMIN BUILDING (255 ROSENBAUM AVE)

COME TO ENJOY LIVE MUSIC, FOOD TRUCKS, OUTDOOR GAMES, INFLATABLES, FACE PAINTING, & A FIREWORKS EXTRAVAGANZA!

This event is open to active duty personnel, retirees, reservists, DOD Civilians, their dependents and guests, & contractors working full time on the installation. Base Access is required. In the event of inclement weather, FreedomFest will move to Friday, July 7th
Free Admittance • No pets or outside food/drinks • Alcohol sales are card only

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CALL (601) 679-2526

Donuts with Dad

June 16th • 1400-1430 • CDC

Dads come to the Child Development Center to enjoy donuts with your kids! If Dad is unable to attend, feel free to bring a grandpa, uncle, or someone special!

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Color Run 5K

June 17 • 0800 • Fitness Center

A 5K EVENT WITH COLOR! BE SURE TO WEAR WHITE AS YOU ARE COVERED IN CLOUDS OF COLOR AS YOU RUN! SIGN UP THE MORNING OF THE RACE! THE TOP 3 MALE & FEMALE FINISHERS WILL RECEIVE AN MWR CHALLENGE COIN!

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June 21st • 1000 • Library

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JUNE 23RD • 2030 • AQUATICS CENTER

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