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NTTC holds 50th birthday celebration

From Staff Reports
 NAS Meridian Public Affairs

The Naval Technical Training Center (NTTC) onboard Naval Air Station Meridian celebrated its 50th birthday with several special events April 12.

The day included a Warrior Toughness Competition and a Heritage Exhibit with special guests, including several former military and civilian employees who served at the command over the last five decades. The celebration ended with a fun carnival style event with food and games for the enlisted Sailors and staff who are currently stationed at the schoolhouse.

NTTC Meridian was officially commissioned April 16, 1974. The center is the Navy's primary training facility for enlisted administrative and supply class "A" schools. Instruction is provided in the following ratings: Retail Services Specialists (RS), Logistics Specialists (LS), Personnel Specialist (PS), and Yeoman (YN), and falls under the Center for Service Support located in Newport, Rhode Island.

In addition, NTTC Meridian also provides advanced training to Flag Officer Writers (YN "C" School). The Aviation Maintenance Administrationman (AZ) "A" School which falls under the Naval Aviation Technical Training Center Pensacola, Florida is attended by both Navy and Marine Corps personnel.

- **NTTC, page 2**
- **More photos, page 6-7**



Photo by MC2 Molly Tice

CDR Karen Teague, left, commanding officer of Naval Technical Training Center (NTTC) Meridian, presents LS1 Calvin Wright with his Sailor of the Year award during NTTC's 50th birthday celebration at the Naval Reserve Center onboard NAS Meridian, April 12.

New Faces at Fleet and Family Support Center

By MC2 Molly Tice
 NAS Meridian Public Affairs

There are a host of new faces at The Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) on NAS Meridian. The center recently welcomed Anne Nytes, Social Advocacy Clinical Counselor; Christen Alarcon, Installation Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC); and Kasie McInnis, Administrative Assistant.

They join Amy Trotto, FFSC Director; Marie Brinston, Personal Financial Management Specialist; and Brittney Butchee, Work-Family Life Specialist.

MEET THE NEW FACES:
Anne Nytes, Social Advocacy Clinical Counselor.

Nytes holds a Master's in Professional Counseling. She has lived all over the world in places ranging from: Nome, Alaska; Vilsack, Germany; Chiang Mail, Thailand to right here in Mississippi.

"I am here to help," said Nytes. "I understand living in a place that is not home, family struggles, adoption issues, parenting issues, marriage struggles, immigration concerns, and just it is hard and you are not alone."

- **FFSC, page 4**



Photo by Adam Prince

From left: Brittney Butchee, Work & Family Life Specialist; Anne Nytes, Social Advocacy Clinical Counselor; Kasie McInnis, Administrative Assistant; Christen Alarcon, Installation SARC and Marie Brinston, Personal Financial Management Specialist, pose for a picture at the FFSC onboard NAS Meridian, April 12. Meridian FFSC is committed to empowering the Fleet, Fighter and Family to be resilient and mission ready through education, training and counseling.

Open for Business!



Photo by MC2 Molly Tice

Representatives with NAS Meridian and its tenant commands along with the Navy Exchange Command officials cut the ribbon on the official opening of the Micro Market located in Building 360 of the Navy/Marine student barracks. Meridian's location is NEXCOM's first Micro Market opened in FY24 and the 79th across the enterprise. The NEXCOM Micro Market is 787 sq. ft. and has self-service operations. It is open 24-hours per day, seven days a week and take both cash and credit card payments. NEXCOM currently has plans to open another 18 Micro Markets in FY24.

NAS Meridian will participate in Hurricane Preparedness Exercise

By U.S. Fleet Forces Command Public Affairs and Commander, Navy Installations Command Public Affairs

U.S. Fleet Forces Command (USFFC) and Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) will conduct their annual two-week hurricane preparedness, disaster response and recovery exercise, Hurricane Exercise/Citadel Gale (HURREX/CG-24) 2024 from April 22 – May 3. NAS Meridian will participate in this exercise.

"We are committed to our Sailors and their families who are our number one priority," said Adm. Daryl Caudle, Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command. "Hurricane preparedness is not only critical to maintaining combat readiness, it's crucial to ensuring everyone's safety during adverse weather conditions. This annual hurricane preparedness exercise, in coordination with our partners ashore, will continue to enhance our collective responses before and throughout this upcoming Atlantic hurricane season."

- **Hurrex, page 4**

NAS Meridian Sailors of the Quarter



MA1 Calvin Green

Sailor of the Quarter
Security/MWD Kennel Master



AC2 Khristofferzson Frades

Junior Sailor of the Quarter
Air Operations



ACAN Elbert Sawyer

Blue Jacket of the Quarter
Air Operations

NAS Meridian Civilians of the Quarter



Bruce Rutledge

Senior Civilian of the Quarter
Security



Kevin Blythe

Junior Civilian of the Quarter
Fire Inspector/Fire & Emergency Services



Deputy Chief Twaskie Graham

Civilian Supervisor of the Quarter
Fire & Emergency Services

•NTTC

Approximately 4,000 Navy and Marine Corps personnel graduate from the center's schools annually. The average on board student population is 500. All the class "A" schools employ the group-paced methodology of training, utilizing the integrated learning environment (ILE), with qualified instructors in the classroom. The average course length is 23 days.

The mission of NTTC Meridian is to support fleet operational readiness through training. Students are taught not only the entry-level skills needed to perform their jobs once they reach the fleet, but also the military skills required by naval service.

This training is provided by full-time military training instructors. The highly qualified staff at NTTC Meridian recognizes the responsibility it has for instilling the technical competence, military motivation and appreciation for the traditions and missions of the Navy.

Award Quarters



Photo by MC2 Molly Tice

Sailors and Civilians pose for a photo during an awards ceremony at the Naval Reserve Center onboard NAS Meridian, March 21.

Chapel Donations



Photo by MC2 Molly Tice

Chaplain Carl Scroggs and Religious Donor Specialist 2nd Class Michael Halloran donated 67 bags of non-perishables, collected from the base commissary, to the Meridian Salvation Army, April 3.

The Skyline ~ Naval Air Station Meridian, Miss.

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Hotlines & Helpful Numbers
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
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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

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Local Happenings

APRIL

20: Kids Fishing Rodeo from 8-10:30 a.m. at QV Sykes Park. Kids ages 5-17 participate in trying to catch as many catfish as possible with some being tagged for prizes. Call 601-485-1802 or visit jamescarson@meridianms.org.

26: Family Escape Room: The Case of the Missing Guitar from 6-9 p.m. at Mississippi Arts + Entertainment Experience. Unleash your inner detective and embark on a thrilling adventure at The MAX! Call 601-581-1550, ext 35 or visit <https://www.msarts.org/events/family-escape-room-the-case-of-the-missing-guitar?occurrence=2024-04-26>

MAY

11: Soule' Spring Steam-Up from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Soule Steam Feed Works. The Industrial Heritage Museum @ Historic Soule' Steam Feed Works invites you to the 2nd Annual Soule' Spring Steam-Up. Call 601-693-9905 or visit <https://www.industrialheritagemuseum.com>

3: Full Moon on 5th from 6-9 p.m. on 5th Street between 22nd and 23rd Ave in downtown Meridian. Join the Arts and Community Events Society for a magical night in Downtown Meridian! String lights and two giant illuminated moons set the mood for a unique block party that you don't want to miss. Call 601-480-6100 or visit <https://www.acesmeridian.org/>

Area Happenings

APRIL

21: Lewis Black at 7 p.m. at Buckhead Theatre, 3110 Roswell Rd NE, Atlanta, GA 30305. Visit <https://www.lewisblack.com/products/atlanta-ga-apr-21-2024>.

20-21: Talladega GEICO 500 at the Talladega Superspeedway. NASCAR's Most Competitive venue announced that select ticket options, including premium upgrades and new, modified fan experiences, are available. Visit <https://www.talladegasuperspeedway.com/>

MAY

3: Foo Fighters at 11 a.m. at 1751 Gentilly Blvd, New Orleans. Visit <https://www.fairgroundsracecourse.com/>

US forces help Israel repel Iranian drone, missile attack

The U.S. military shot down dozens of missiles and drones Saturday that were fired at Israel from Iran and its proxy forces in Iraq, Syria and Yemen.

Iran launched its first-ever direct assault on Israel Saturday, less than two weeks after a suspected Israeli strike in Syria killed two Iranian generals in an Iranian consular building.

An Israeli military spokesman said Sunday that Iran and its proxies had fired more than 300 ballistic missiles, drones and cruise missiles at Israel, but that 99 percent of them were intercepted.

"At my direction, to support the de-

fense of Israel, the U.S. military moved aircraft and ballistic missile defense destroyers to the region over the course of the past week," President Joe Biden said in a statement late Saturday. "Thanks to these deployments and the extraordinary skill of our servicemembers, we helped Israel take down nearly all of the incoming drones and missiles."

Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin in a statement said the U.S. took out dozens of the attacks but did not provide details on ships or aircraft involved in the operation that commanders had been preparing for over the past two weeks.

-- By Geoff Ziezulewicz

[Read more, click here](#)

Feds to make moving government jobs abroad easier for military spouses

Military spouses working for federal agencies may soon find it easier to take their jobs with them when their families move overseas.

Pentagon and State Department officials on April 17 are expected to sign a memorandum of understanding that will remove many of the barriers to remote work overseas for military spouses, Sheila Casey, executive director of Joining Forces, said Tuesday at a conference hosted by the Association of Defense Communities. Joining Forces is a White House initiative to support military families.

The memorandum aims to improve

the Domestic Employees Teleworking Overseas (DETO) program, as required by President Joe Biden's June 2023 executive order outlining steps to enhance economic prospects for military and veterans spouses, caregivers and survivors.

The policy change will address many of the State Department's concerns about residential security requirements for federal employees working overseas, Casey said. If successful, the update would expand military spouses' opportunities to earn income and avoid massive work-related expenses they may incur when trying to telework from abroad.

-- By Karen Jowers

[Read more, click here](#)

Navy Medicine partners with recruiting command to attract STEM-focused students

Encouraging people interested in medicine and science to join Navy Medicine was the focus of the inaugural kaizen meeting at the Navy Recruiting Command (NRC) in Millington, Tenn., April 10-12, 2024.

Kaizen is a Japanese term meaning change for the better or continuous improvement. It is a structured approach focusing on identifying and eliminating roadblocks that hinder a process. This event specifically tackled challenges in recruiting qualified personnel for Navy Medicine.

"Our Navy needs highly skilled physicians, dentists, nurses, corpsmen, and

other medical professionals to care for Sailors, Marines, and their families," said Rear Adm. Rick Freedman, Deputy Surgeon General, Navy Medicine. "The work we do directly contributes to the Chief of Naval Operation's priorities of Warfighting, Warfighters, and building the Foundation that supports them. This kaizen event was a fantastic opportunity to partner with Navy Recruiting Command and explore innovative solutions to enhance our recruiting efforts."

During the event, a collaborative team comprised of BUMED and NRC personnel ...

-- From BUMED PAO

[Read more, click here](#)

Sale... Or

BOATS/CAMPERS/TRAILERS

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 tow-

ing 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

For Rent: 4 BD/2.5 BA home 3632 sq ft, just over 6 acres with workshop attached to 2-car carport. Owners will consider a lease of 12-36 months, and rent is negotiable the longer the term. Call (601)

517-1707 or (601) 517-1707.

For Rent: 3BD /2BA home near North Hills. Spacious yard, concrete patio for gatherings, home gym and covered car garage. Rent \$1,100 per month. Call Jeremy at 601-410-8555.

For Rent: 3 BD/1.5 BA home 15 minutes from NAS at 4814 36th Ave. New refrigerator and 2-year old AC & furnace. Call Terrance at 469-318-9769.

For Rent: 3 BD/1.5 BA with another room used as a gym. All kitchen appliances included. Large backyard. Address 145 Skyland Drive, Meridian.

About 25 minutes to Navy Base. \$900 per month, with \$900 deposit. Available Aug. 1. No pets. Call 601-490-0849.

For Rent: 3BD/2BD home near Causeyville Road. Furnished in quiet neighborhood. \$900 per month. 954-895-5485, 601-692-4048 or 606-571-0820.

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 \$1,800; 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 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

For Sale: Double Wall Oven \$500; Bosch Dishwasher \$500. Both are three years old. Call 601.616.4242.
Nanny or caregiver

services. Call Alice at 601-934-1866 or 601-679-8112. Has installation access; can take children to school and pick up and available days, nights and weekends.

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.

To submit an item to the "Sale...Or" column, e-mail adam.w.prince.civ@us.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

Child Abuse Prevention Month



CAPT Luke Davis, center, commanding officer of NAS Meridian, recently signed the Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation in the Administration building onboard NAS Meridian, April 5. Also pictured, from left: Amy Trotto, Anne Nytes, MA1 Calvin Green and CWO3 Rishard Winters.

As demand rises, Marines need their own school for MQ-9 drone crews

By Todd South
Military Times

UAs the Marines grow their drone fleet, they need to begin training their own crews instead of relying on the Air Force, the top Marine said.

During budget testimony today before a subcommittee of the Senate Appropriations Committee, Sen. John Hoeven, (R-N.D.), asked Marine Corps Commandant Gen. Eric Smith about the Corps' needs for airborne intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance assets.

"The MQ-9 is a vital platform," Smith said. "We're focused on the training and procurement of that end."

The Corps has used the MQ-9A with contractor support since 2018 and began procuring its own MQ-9s and training its pilots through Air Force schools in 2021. As of December, the Corps had 100 MQ-9A trained pilots. The service had two operational MQ-9As as of mid-2023 and plans to field 20 MQ-9s over the next decade.

But as the force grows, the Corps needs its own pipeline to feed the fleet.

"We are currently working with the Air Force to train dually, but we need to stand

up the schoolhouse as well, to pull some of that pressure off the Air Force," Smith said.

This week the Corps announced the assembly of the first MQ-9A at 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing at Cherry Point, North Carolina.

The Marine Corps operates its small drone training certification at the School of Infantry-East, Camp Geiger, North Carolina. The 71-day course teaches Marines to operate the VXE-30 Stalker, the R-80D Sky Raider and the RA-20 Puma, a Marine official said. All of which are group 2 drones, which weigh between 21 and 55 pounds and fly below 2,500 feet.

Marines who earn the small Unmanned Aerial Systems job code of 7316 can then train Marines in the fleet, often in infantry units.

The service first established MQ-9A units in Arizona and Hawaii to support operations under U.S. Indo-Pacific Command.

The Corps opted to focus on the older MQ-9A drone after Congress cut funding in 2018 for a more ambitious sea drone called the Marine Air Ground Task Force (MAGTF) Unmanned Expeditionary (MUX) ...

[Read more, click here](#)

• Hurrex

HURREX/CG 24 is designed to exercise and strengthen the Navy's shore and afloat commands' responses and emergency operation procedures in preparation for an active hurricane season along the U.S. East Coast. The exercise additionally creates opportunities for fleet and installation teams to reinforce coordinating relationships with local/state authorities and partners to enhance the Navy's support to Sailors, their families as well as surrounding communities through any condition or circumstance during what has been predicted to be an active hurricane season this year.

"With climate change producing more frequent and stronger storms, severe weather events pose an increasingly significant challenge to naval operations and infrastructure," said Vice Adm. Scott Gray Commander, Navy Installations Command. "Committing to annual training in coordination with our partners ensures our Sailors and installations are ready to face the uncertainties of severe weather, allowing us to adapt quickly and effectively to safeguard our personnel, assets, and mission readiness."

The first week of HURREX/CG 24 simulates a storm system developing along U.S. Atlantic coast and the Gulf of Mexico to engage fleet and shore commands on heavy weather response procedures and the inevitability of storm impact.

The second week engages commands to shift focus to procedures for recovery from severe weather events. These may include lifting evacuation orders, re-opening installations, conducting damage assessments, and standing up of the Emergency Family Assistance Center (EFAC) require external coordination, strengthening relationships with local/state authorities and partners.

HURREX/CG 24 is an essential part of maintaining and improving installation support and recovery efforts before, during and after major weather events. The quality of service and safety of our people remain our top priority.

Measures have been taken to minimize disruptions within local communities and to normal base operations. However, there may be times when the exercise causes increased traffic around bases or delays in base access.

Sailors and military civilians can log into the Navy Family Accountability and Assessment System (NFAAS) at <https://navyfamily.navy.mil> to verify and update contact information for themselves and their family members.

For more information about HURREX/CG 24 exercises, contact USFFC Public Affairs at usff_nft_pa@us.navy.mil or CNIC Public Affairs at CNICHQ-PublicAffairs@us.navy.mil.

For information about how HURREX/CG 24 may impact your community, please visit your local Navy installation's website or social media channels for additional details.

• FFSC

Christen Alarcon, Installation Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC).

Alarcon holds a Bachelors and Masters in social work from the University of North Carolina. She's worked as a SARC with the Marine Corps, Navy, in the private section and even with the U.S. State Department in China and Morocco.

"After numerous years away from my home state of Mississippi, I am enjoying the reminder of where I come from, and I am excited to share the knowledge and insights I've gained through extensive travel and cultural immersion," said Alarcon. "I started work in the sexual violence prevention field by chance, as it was simply a job I obtained after graduating college, but I was immediately sold on the idea of activism to end sexual violence."

Kasie McInnis, Administrative Assistant.

McInnis work at the NAS Meridian Base Supply Center and Baptist Anderson Hospital right here in Meridian. She's also worked for South Texas Lighthouse for the Blind in California and Hawaii.

"I am a huge supporter for our military," said Kasie McInnis, Administrative Assistant. "I am willing to go above and beyond to help in any way. This is the reason I worked so hard to obtain a position at NAS Meridian."

Meridian FFSC is committed to empowering the Fleet, Fighter and Family to be resilient and mission ready through education, training and counseling. Programs include: financial management, counseling services, relocation assistance and family employment readiness. Office hours are 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays and 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Fridays. Please call 604-679-2360 for more information



CAPTAIN'S CUP BASKETBALL LEAGUE

REGISTRATION: APRIL 9 - MAY 3

TEAM MEETING: MAY 2 AT 1500

GAMES BEGIN: MAY 6 AT 1730

SCAN THE QR CODE OR CALL (601) 679-2367 FOR MORE INFO.



Month of the Military Child Celebration!!

APRIL 27 • 1130 SCHOOL AGE CARE

- Dino Experience (11:30-12:00)
- Gaming Truck
- Face Painting
- Bounce Houses
- Dunking Booth
- Crafts
- Music
- Food

Celebrate Military Children with fun for all ages!

SPONSORED BY: FIRST COMMAND

THIS EVENT IS OPEN TO ALL ACTIVE DUTY PERSONNEL, RETIREES, RESERVISTS, DOD CIVILIANS, THEIR DEPENDENTS AND GUESTS, AND CONTRACTORS WORKING FULL TIME ON THE INSTALLATION.

THE DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY DOES NOT ENDORSE ANY COMPANY SPONSOR OR THEIR PRODUCTS OR SERVICES.



Bobbi's Free Throw Contest

APRIL 23 • 1800 • FITNESS CENTER

Free Throw Rules:
-Each player will take 5 warm up shots
-will take 10 free throws
-The winner will be the first of 5 free throws followed by last of 5 free throws
-Player must not touch the back behind the free throw line

Month of the Military Child Story Time

April 21 • 1000 • Andrea Finkbeiner

Driver In Movie

April 28th • 1930 • FIELD BY BUILDING 216

Month of the Military Child Purple Rock Hunt

April 27 in Base Housing

Find one of the 25 purple rocks hidden on the grounds of base housing & bring it to the School Liaison table during the Month of the Military Child Dr. Seuss Celebration to choose your prize!

- Open to base residents only!
- One prize per child!

The evolution of the cosmos and cosmetology

I tend to wax poetic about the way it used to be in the 80s when ignorance was bliss, before modern advancements turned us all into anxious, over-informed, indulgent ingrates, dependent on 24/7 digital information and instant gratification.

But I have to admit, there are a few modern improvements that have made life better today. Way better.

"Are we doing a few foils to brighten your color up today?" my hair stylist asked yesterday, as I sat in her cozy chair frowning at my gray roots in the mirror.

"Definitely," I smiled, and sipped hazelnut creamed coffee from my Yeti mug. I've been using the same hair stylist since our Navy family PCSed to Rhode Island back in 2013. We've settled into

a comfortable routine, getting cut and colored every seven weeks to hide my mousy grays and tame my natural frizz.

My salon is a bastion of beauty and relaxation, with contemporary, organic decor, thriving greenery, pleasant scents of coconut and jasmine, and soothing background music. During my regular appointments, I chatter softly with my stylist about this and that, whilst my hair is delicately painted with enriching colorants, tenderly bathed in warm water and moisturizing conditioners, softly snipped, gently dried, expertly styled, then finished with a lightweight holding spritz.

Yesterday, I walked out of the salon feeling confident and refreshed, wishing I had somewhere to go other than the commissary.

Not so long ago, hairstyling was very, very different.

As a child, I recall my mother flitting around our brick ranch with her hair in pink plastic rollers, usually covered with a padded scarf. She'd have her rollers in all day, sometimes overnight, before her hair was set. Then, she'd enamel everything in place with an aerosol cloud of Aqua Net. Back then, it was common to see a woman in a grocery store, bank or

gas station with her rollers in. It's what women endured just to curl their hair.

One year, my mother was gifted a square case containing a heavy-duty shower cap attached to the motorized case by a long hollow hose. She'd put rollers in, put the cap over her head, plug the case in and flip the switch. Hot air blew through the hose, inflating the cap. Tethered to the case, my mother had at least an hour to smoke cigarettes, read the paper, and watch an episode of "Lavern and Shirley" before her hair was dry.

Thankfully, in high school, I owned a curling iron. But the curling irons of the 80s were very hot and had small barrels. Hence, teenage girls like me showed up at school with elongated burns on their foreheads and bangs that looked like curved links of kielbasa.

When "permanent waves" became more trendy, I decided to get one. All I had to do was sit in the beautician's chair for two hours while she painstakingly put a gazillion tiny hair rollers all over my head, then doused it with an acrid ammonia-based liquid curling agent. If I managed to survive the chemical fumes, I was guaranteed to have ringlets like Sarah Jessica Parker

or Stevie Nicks. However, after sitting under the hair-drying hood, my perm was flat on top and poofed on the ends à la SNL's Rosanne Rosanna Danna. To make matters much worse, I'd driven my moped to the salon without a helmet. It was the 80s after all. By the time I arrived home, I looked like a blonde bride of Frankenstein.

In the late 90s while stationed in rural England, I went to the village hair salon for "highlights." The hairdresser placed a thick, perforated rubber cap over my head, then used a crochet hook to pull tufts of my hair through, then proceeded to smear a harsh-smelling bleaching paste over the exposed strands. An hour later, I walked out of the establishment looking like I had a striped poll cat on my head.

Despite all my griping about our modern life, I'm actually very grateful for all the amazing cosmetological advances. The cost of a day at the salon may have quadrupled, but its the one place that money can buy happiness.

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.

COLUMN



Molinari

NTTC celebrates a decade of striving for excellence: "Only the Best Will Do"

Thursday, April 19 1984 THE SKYLINE Page 7



Photos by
JO2 Paul Brown



NTTC celebrates five decades of striving for excellence: "...The best is all we do"



Photos by
MC2 Molly Tice
&
Mariah Arvizu

