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Nov. 6

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From hobby to career

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Congrats newly pinned FY23 Chiefs!



Fiscal year 2023 Chief Petty Officers pose for a group picture after a pinning ceremony in the Chapel onboard NAS Meridian, Oct. 21. The FY23 Class includes (alphabetically): MAC Samuel Clark, OSC Jonathan Dallas, OSC Gregory Ellzey, ACC Robert Gabrelcik, YNC Jeffrey Gross, AZC Kevin Hedgepeth, RSC Daphne Lindsay, MAC Craig Palmer, MAC Thomas Sills, ACC Chereigne Smith and ACC Andrew Wheeler. The Chief's mess from NAS Meridian, NTTC Meridan, Navy Reserve Center, Meridian --a as well as retired chiefs -- participated in the ceremony

See page two for individual photos.

Photo by Penny Randall

More partners sign on to hire military spouses

By C. Todd Lopez
DoD News, Defense Media Activity

The Defense Department today signed up an additional 70 government organizations, nonprofits and private sector companies to participate in its Military Spouse Employment Partnership program. With the new additions, there are now more than 600 such organizations committed to recruiting, hiring, promoting and retaining military spouses.

Gilbert R. Cisneros Jr., the undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, welcomed the new companies into the partnership during an induction ceremony at the three-day MSEP Engage 2022 event in Northern Virginia.

"I want to welcome and congratulate and thank the more than 70 new employer partners



Courtesy photo from Air Force

During an induction ceremony Oct. 25, 2022, the Defense Department added more than 70 new government organizations, nonprofits and private sector companies as partners within its Military Spouse Employment Partnership program. Those new organizations and companies have made a commitment to recruiting, hiring, promoting and retaining military spouses.

who have joined the Military Spouse Employment Partnership here today," Cisneros said.

"Today we're celebrating your commitment and induction, and this marks the culmination of

a robust vetting process, all of which clearly demonstrated that you, the class of 2023, are truly committed."

Since the MSEP program began in 2011, the program's partnering efforts have helped connect more than 250,000 military spouses to employment opportunities across all industry sectors, Cisneros said.

"You've joined an elite group that opens you to the military spouse community and the diverse skills and talents that they offer," he said. "With these latest inductions we're up to more than 600 total MSEP partners since we started this program back in 2011."

Additionally, more than 40,000 military spouses were reported as hired by MSEP partners since last October, Cisneros said.

[Read more, click here](#)

US economy returned to growth last quarter, expanding 2.6%

By Paul Wiseman
AP News

The U.S. economy grew at a better-than-expected 2.6% annual rate from July through September, snapping two straight quarters of economic contraction and overcoming punishingly high inflation and interest rates.

Thursday's estimate from the Commerce Department showed that the nation's gross domestic product — the broadest gauge of economic output — grew in the third quarter after having shrunk in the first half of 2022. Stronger exports and steady consumer spending, backed by a healthy job market, helped

restore growth to the world's biggest economy.

Consumer spending, which accounts for about 70% of U.S. economic activity, expanded at a 1.4% annual pace, down from a 2% rate from April through June. Last quarter's growth also got a boost from exports, which shot up at an annual pace of 14.4%.

Housing investment, though, plunged at a 26% annual pace, hammered by surging mortgage rates as the Federal Reserve raises borrowing costs to combat chronic inflation. The outlook for the overall economy has darkened. The Fed has raised interest rates five times this year and is set to do so again next

week and in December. Chair Jerome Powell has warned that the Fed's hikes will bring "pain" in the form of higher unemployment and possibly a recession.

The government's latest GDP report comes as Americans, worried about inflation and the risk of recession, have begun to vote in mid-term elections that will determine whether President Joe Biden's Democratic Party retains control of Congress. Inflation has become a signature issue for Republican attacks on the Democrats' stewardship of the economy.

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