Volume 63, Number 4

Wings Over Meridian Air Show: March 28-29, 2026!!

February 20, 2025

On Base

Wreaths & Wine

March 13 at 5:30 p.m. **Community Recreation**

Costs \$25 Pay at Community Rec.

Axe Throwing Competition

March 22 at 11 a.m.

Register: Feb. 17 - March 20

Community Rec. **Pavilion**

Cosmic Bowling

Every Saturday at 6 p.m. McCain Rec Center

Get **Connected**

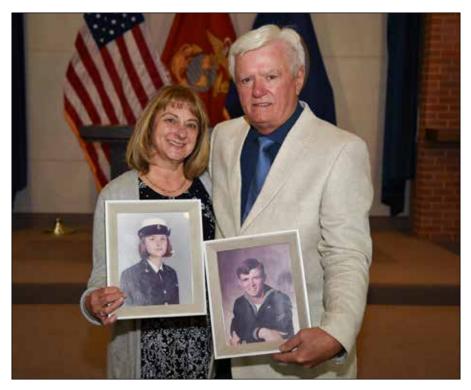




Suggestion Box



Couple Renews 50th Anniversary Vows



NAS Meridian welcomes Mike and Mary Ann Methvin back to NAS Meridian's Chapel for a vowel renewal ceremony conducted by our command chaplain, LCDR Carl Scroggs, Feb. 14. The Methvin's were married in the base chapel on Feb. 14, 1975. Both were serving in the Navy and stationed at NAS Meridian Mary Ann was an Aviation Maintenance Administrationman (AZ) assigned to Training Squadron 9 (VT-9) and Mike was an Aviation Storekeeper (AK) assigned to the base Supply Department. Mary Ann is from Maine and Mike is from Arkansas. Mike served 4 years and Mary Ann served 2 years, once out of the Navy they both attended college and became teachers; Mike was also a coach. They have three children and six grandchildren. Happy 50th Anniversary from everyone at NAS Meridian!

Photo by MC2 Molly Tice

USS Harry S. Truman Conducts Emergent Repair Availability



Photo by Cpl. Darien Wright

Exterior damage of USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) viewed from a ship's rigid-hull inflatable boat following a collision with merchant vessel Besiktas-M, Feb. 12, while operating in the vicinity of Port Said, Egypt. S. Truman, the flagship of the Harry S. Truman Carrier Strike Group (HSTCSG), is on a scheduled deployment in the U.S. 6th Fleet area of operations supporting U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Africa to defend U.S., Allied and partner interests.

Courtesy Story

The Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) arrived at U.S. Naval Support Activity (NSA) Souda Bay, Greece, on Feb. 16 to conduct an Emergent Repair Availability (ERAV) on the ship's starboard quarter following a recent collision.

Damage assessed includes the exterior wall of two storage rooms and a maintenance space. External to the ship, damage assessed includes a line handling space, the fantail, and the platform above one of the storage spaces. Aircraft elevator number three sustained no damage and is fully operational. Forward Deployed Regional Maintenance Center (FDRMC) will lead the pier side ERAV, including an assessment and followon repairs to damages sustained. "While the ship is fully mission capable and the ship conducted flight operations following the collision, pulling into port for emergent repairs will enable the ship to continue deployment as scheduled," said Capt. Dave Snowden. Harry S. Truman's commanding officer.

An assessment team will conduct a full survey of damaged areas and develop a repair plan to be executed immediately following completion of the assessment. The assessment team includes structural engineers, naval architects, and other personnel from FDRMC and Norfolk Naval Shipyard (NNSY). They will be supported by ship's force personnel and local industry partners for the repair effort. ●USS Truman, page 2

Captain's Virtual **Suggestion Box:**

Q. Can we have more Breakfast special meals at

A. We would love to be to accommodate nore breakfast patronage. lowever, done on a ecome a contractual Breakfast Open Base Meals does not just include the modifying of the menu; it also entails changing meal cheduling. We also hold a quarterly menu review board meeting open to all hands and welcome your attendance and inputs.

Q. Who is considered Rudders? MWR? Base Staff?

A. The original intent "Staff Night" was to provide instructors from "A" and "C" schools a studentfree evening at Rudders. **ANYONE**

schools—military or civilian—is considered

Q. Can we please re-rig the privacy fence netting near the Pass and ID building? It looks hideous.

A. Thank you for bringing this to our attention. The privacy fencing has beer Additionally re-rigged. on-going beautification and self help efforts are underway Thank you to all those who have helped out! If anyone would like to get involved or has recommendations or identified areas that need extra attention please email ETC Bryce (brvce.d.brown4 Brown mil@us.navy.mil).

**Statements concerning individual employees will be directed to the appropriate Chain Command.

Suggestions, page 4



Of the Quarter!





●USS Truman

"The Forward Deployed Regional Maintenance Center's ability to mobilize resources within and outside the theater to conduct repairs underscores the warfighting capability of the world's most powerful Navy," said Vice Adm. J. T. Anderson, commander U.S. Sixth Fleet.

Deployed U.S. Navy ships routinely undergo planned and emergent maintenance periods such as mid-deployment voyage repairs and ERAVs, allowing forward-deployed ships to sustain maximal operational readiness. The United States' relationships with Allies and partners provides access to ports around the world, granting the U.S. Navy strategic pier availability and resourccritical for operational flexibility.

"The Harry S. Truman Carrier Strike Group (HSTCSG) units remain operational across geographic regions in support of their component commanders,"

said Rear Adm. Sean Bailey, commander of HSTCSG. "Our mission has not changed and we remain committed to responding to any challenge in this dynamic and global security environment."

The carrier strike group includes the flagship USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75); Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 1, with eight embarked aviation squadrons; staffs from CSG-8, CVW-1, and Destroyer Squadron (DESRON) 28; the Ticonderoga-class guided-missile cruiser USS Gettysburg (CG 64); and three Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyers, USS Stout (DDG 55), USS The Sullivans (DDG 68), and USS Jason Dunham (DDG 109).

HSTCSG's mission is to conduct prompt and sustained combat operations at sea and maintain a forward presence through sea control and power projection capabilities.

For more information, visit DVIDS at https://www.dvidshub.net/unit/CVN75.

Civilian Guard Graduation



Two civilians, Dallas Boswell (Left) and Shabria Hopson (Right), graduated from Naval Security Forces Civilian Guard Academy onboard NAS Meridian, Feb 6.

Former Army Reservist Becomes USMC Officer, Now Competes in **Strong Man Competitions**



Photo by Cpl. Darien Wright

U.S. Marine Corps Capt. Jacqueline Sapitro, a student at the Expeditionary Warfare School, pulls a firetruck during her training for a strongman competition at Fire Station 533 on Marine Corps Base Quantico, Virginia, Oct. 5, 2024. Sapitro's training consisted of the pulling of a fire station truck and ambulance as well as overhead pressing two three-inch water hoses.

She didn't just want to be another Marine; her journey into strength training was about proving herself right.

"I'd like to advocate for and show Marines - not just officers but junior enlisted, too - that it is possible to do amazing things," U.S. Marine Corps Capt. Jacqueline Sapitro said.

She was competitive growing up, her mother, Diane, explained, which was always a part of her character and aided her through her journey of strength training. Although, Sapitro explained her fitness journey really began when she enlisted in the Army Reserves, which gave her a foundation in running.

Sapitro said she enjoyed the military

lifestyle, but she wanted to do more than what the reserves offered her, so she looked to become active duty. The Army, however, didn't have career options that spoke to her. Instead, she found a calling to the Marine Corps, where she enlisted as an aviation maintenance technician

During her time as an enlisted Marine, she was surrounded by Marines who participated in obstacle courses and weight training, and so she naturally began doing the same.

> -By Lance Cpl. Ethan Miller Marine Corps Base Quantico

READ MORE, CLICK HERE

TAKING CARE OF MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY... WHAT MATTERS Explore our exciting academic opportunities at Mississippi State University-Meridian! "As a military-friendly university, we offer a strong support network for our military-connected students, including military and veteran support services, as well as anline and hybrid courses at the undergraduate and graduate levels MSU-Meridian is also fransfer-friendly! We understand that many military service members have completed coursework sewhere, and we work to ensure that your previous credits transfer seamlessly If you're interested in learning more, I'd be happy to schedule a meeting or phone call to answer any questions you might have! For more information, contact advising@meridian.msstate.edu • 601-484-0241

$The \ Skyline$ ~ Naval Air Station Meridian, Miss.

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Editorial Staff Public Affairs Officer ~ **Penny Randall** Public Affairs Specialist~ **Evelyn Adams** Photographer~ MC2 Molly Tice

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 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

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LOCAL HAPPENINGS

FEBRUARY:

20-23: Dracula: A Comedy of Terrors - Ever wondered what would happen if you took Bram Stoker's legendary vampire tale and put it into a blender with Mel Brooks, Monty Python, and The 39 Steps? That's just what happens in this lightning-fast, laugh-out-loud, 90-minute vampy, campy romp. Located at the Meridian Little Theater in Meridian, MS. Click here for tickets, entries, & info.

21: Orkidstra! 6 p.m. - FREE Music for Families! Experience an unforgettable evening of music and storytelling with our special concert featuring the iconic tales of "Peter and the Wolf" and "Goldilocks," infused with the unique talents of Huntsville MET who offer a unique approach to storytelling through music and movement. Located at the Evangel Temple in Meridian, MS. Click here for tickets, entries, & info.

22: Meridian Mardi Gras, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. - Mitchell Distributing and the ACES are proud to announce the 2025 Meridian Mardi Gras celebration, a downtown event featuring parades, delicious food vendors, amazing bands, and MORE! Located in Downtown Meridian, MS. Click here for tickets, entries, & info.

25: 78th Annual Pancake Jubilee, 6:30 a.m. - 7 p.m. - Help celebrate 78 years of community service and raise money by eating all the pancakes and sausage you can hold! We'll have water, coffee, regular & chocolate milk and soda to drink. Tickets are \$6.00 in advance and \$7.00 at the door. Located at the Temple Theater in Downtown Meridian, MS.

MARCH:

1: Gumbo Gala, 7 p.m. - Get ready for a vibrant Mardi Gras weekend event that promises a true feast for the senses! Slip into your most extravagant Mardi Gras mask and join us for a spectacular masquerade extravaganza, where the spirit of New Orleans comes alive through music, food, and fun. Located at the MSU Riley Center in Downtown Meridian. Click here for tickets, entries, & info.

1: LFW Ministries Annual Spring Mega Sale, 7 a.m. - 1p.m. - Booth rental spaces are available for \$25.00. For more information, please contact Staci Harden at 601-527-6888. Located at the Agape Storehouse Family Life Center at 4603 US-HWY 39, Meridian MS 39301.

1: Military Appreciation Day at Meridian Community
College Baseball Game, Noon - All servicemembers and
their families with valid ID get in free. Located at 910 Hwy 19
North, Meridian, MS 39307.

AREA HAPPENINGS

FEBRUARY:

28 - March 2: Cottontail's Village Festival 2025 - Featuring over 200 booths, vendors from all across the US offer a variety of gifts including arts, crafts, clothing, food and jewelry. Located in Birmingham, AL. Click here for tickets, entries, & info.

MARCH:

7: Lil Wayne, 7 p.m. - Concert includes performances by Quavo and Anella. Located in Birmingham, AL. Click here for tickets, entries, & info.

This information is provided for informational purposes only. The Department of the Navy does not approve, endorse, or authorize these entities or their products/ services.



Sale... Or

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: 2BD/1 BA home located in Poplar Springs. 1154 square footage heated and cooled with additional 800 sq ft of basement. Screened in porch, new dishwasher, and new flooring in the kitchen. Looking to get 90k and for someone to take over our VA loan (2.5% interest rate). Please contact Riley Pfeiffer at (919) 909-6651

For Rent: 1BD/1 BA furnished apartment. Has day room, kitchenette, washer and dryer, smart tv's, central heat and air conditioning. Very clean and private, good location. \$1200/month includes utilities and wifi. No Pets. Text or call 601-527-4098.

For Sale: 3 BD/2 BA home. 1,496 square foot heated and cooled. 200 square foot utility room/pantry. Poplar

Springs Elementary school district. Huge fenced back yard and storage building. New roof Dec 2012. New AC April 2017 and remains under warranty until 2027. Around the corner from Northcrest church (North Hills). Asking \$150,000 but there are a few little cosmetic things that could be done so will take \$125,000 as is. Contact Jared or Felicia Monsour at (601) 938-4810 or (601) 934-0931

For Sale: 3 BD/4 BA home with 2965 sq ft of lake view home in beautiful, gated Lake Eddins in Pachuta. Entertainer's kitchen with huge eat at bar. Brick floors in main living areas, all new floor covering in remaining areas, total remodel. Gorgeous brick w/natural cypress home, 2 car garage w/bonus room. Asking \$299,900. Will include additional lot on water for fishing/ boat storage w/asking price. Call 601-720-1420.

For Rent: 3BD/ 2BA house offers beautiful lake views, perfect for fishing and relaxing by

the water. This house has recently been remodeled. Monthly Rent: \$1,500. Deposit: \$1,000. Additional Fees: Dalewood Renter Privileges Fees. Please contact Carlos at 601-604-9986.

For Rent: 1 BD/1 BA. Entire House in North Hills District. Listed on AIRBNB or can book direct. Daily or Weekly rates plus cleaning fees. Contact: 601-504-5415

For Rent: 3 BD/2 BA, only 5 mins from main gate of NAS Meridian. Nice size private yard / garbage and water provided. Pets permitted with deposit. \$1,150 a month. Contact 601-480-1324.

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.

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.

Listings in the "Sale...Or" column are free!
Submission deadline is the Wednesday prior to production.
Email information to nasmeridianpao@gmail.com



Suggestions

Q. We received several questions regarding galley food options.

A. We strive to provide our galley patrons a well-balanced meal catering to all. Our menus and portion sizes are mandated by the NAVSUP 5-WEEK CYCLE MENU, which is approved by the region's dietitian. We also have the soup, salad, bread, beverage, hot, and dessert bars available throughout

the meals. If you have any additional suggestions, we also hold a quarterly menu review board meeting, which is open to all. The galley managers are available during operating hours to assist with any questions you may have. Additionally, you can share your feedback and suggestions by scanning the QR Code.



Q. When two forms of ID or proof of insurance are required at the main gate, it

would be beneficial to have a digital sign announcing this requirement to the line, to allow drivers to already have their needed documents in hand. This would help with congestion/backup, especially in the morning rush hour.

A. Team Security is working towards adding signage to our installation gates to assist common practices that may occur. Please be patient as this will take time to order and arrive. In the meantime, PAO pushes out major changes to operations via email and on social media that affect gate operations, i.e. two forms of ID, suspension of trusted traveler, gate closures, etc.). AtHoc messages are also used to communicate essential information.

Q. Good morning!! It's 62 in our building, can PW turn on the heat so we can manage the building ourselves.

A. Virtually all facilities onboard NAS Meridian operate on heat pump systems and do not require PW action to switch the building system to heating. Bldgs 224 and 266 are the only exceptions. Otherwise, tenants should be able to activate heat mode via their local thermostats. your building's heat is not functioning as intended, please contact your Building Manager, or, if the situation is emergent, the NAVFAC

Q. Sir, the addition of public access vending machines either outside the NEX and/or Commissary would benefit our civilians,

Sailors, and dependents who just need something to eat or drink quickly at a non-typical hour of the day without having to have interactions with students at the NTTC school house.

A. NAS Meridian has 44 vending machines located across the installation: Drink Machines:- Security, - Bldgs. 208, 255, 330 (3), 361 (2), 353, 367, 369, 229, - Hangar 2 (2); Snack Machines: - Security, - Pass & Tag, - Bowling Alley, Bldgs. 208, 255, 330 (3), 361 (5), 353, 367, 369 (Gym), 229, 362, 51, 99, - Corrosion Bldg., Air Ops, Simulator, Hangar 2 (2); Frozen Food Machines: -Bldgs. 330, 361. *Additionally, we are pursuing another Micro-Mart to reside in the Hangar.

Federal Military Spouse Workers Exempt from Return-to-Office Rule

By Karen Jowers
Military Times

Federally employed military spouses who work remotely are now "categorically exempt" from the return-to-office directive issued by President Donald Trump, according to new guidance clarifying the policy.

Federal agencies "shall" allow military spouses to continue working remotely, and agencies may continue appointing spouses to remote work positions, according to a memo issued

Wednesday by Charles Ezell, acting director of the Office of Personnel Management, or OPM. The new guidance clarifies a Jan. 27 memo from OPM and the Office of Management and Budget that included a footnote stating agencies "should also exclude military spouses working remotely based on the Military Spouse Employment Act" from the returnto-office requirement.

The Jan. 27 memo directed agencies to prepare plans to return all eligible employees to in-person

work, with exceptions for those excused for compelling reasons certified by the agency head and employee supervisor. It further noted military spouses working remotely had a compelling reason not to return to in-person work and agencies "should" exempt them from the requirement.

In the wake of the Jan. 27 memo, some military spouses with federal jobs experienced uncertainty and angst about the new policy requiring in person work. Advocates were concerned the guidance

didn't explicitly require federal agencies to exempt military spouses from the return-to-office requirement, potentially leading to inconsistent policies across agencies.

Being able to work remotely, whether in the continental U.S. or overseas, allows military spouses to continue their careers despite frequent moves to new duty stations with their service members. Working remotely opens up more opportunities for military spouses who can be appointed to re-

mote work positions.

Military spouses have long battled problems with unemployment, largely associated with these frequent moves. The military spouse unemployment rate has remained stubbornly above 20%, according to Defense Department surveys.

The new guidance applies to spouses of activeduty members, spouses of deceased service members who died while on active duty and haven't remarried and spouses of disabled service members who retired or otherwise left the service with a 100% disability rating. It also applies to spouses of U.S. Foreign Service members on overseas assignments.

The guidance also clarifies that agencies must allow military spouses to continue working remotely regardless of whether they were appointed under the Military Spouse Employment Act and covers those appointed under other appropriate hiring authorities. That applies to future appointments of military spouses to remote work positions.

Avoid These Common Tax Mistakes

Courtesy Story

Let's face it: Filing taxes can be stressful! We all have to do it but no doubt, questions sometimes abound: Am I doing this the right way? Am I using the right form? Am I forgetting something?

The IRS acknowledges that while tax laws can be complicated, the most common tax return oversights and errors are surprisingly simple. Mistakes such as entering a Social Security number incorrectly or not signing your form can cause delays in getting your refund if you are due one

Other errors, such as failing to claim all the credits and deductions you're eligible for, can cause you to leave money on the table, or worse, pay money you don't really owe!

To avoid these and other "taxing" situations, beware of these eight common tax mistakes and learn how to avoid — and fix — them

now and in the future.

1. Not Claiming

All o f Your Credits and Deductions
Depending on your adjusted gross income, or AGI, or modified adjusted gross income, or MAGI, you may be able to take advantage of the following popular credits:

- Child tax credit Education credits, including the American opportunity tax credit and lifetime learning credit
- Earned income tax credit
- Retirement savings contributions credi

Make sure you're properly claiming all of your dependents. For tax purposes, a dependent is defined as a person, other than the taxpayer or the taxpayer's spouse, whom you can claim on your return if you paid more than 50% of their household expenses for more than six

months in the past year.

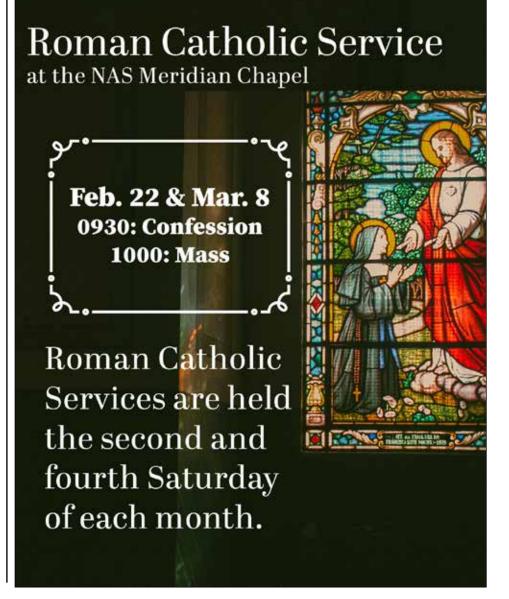
Don't forget about

charitable contributions when itemizing your deductions. The IRS has very specific rules about what and how much you can deduct for charitable contributions, so do your research beforehand.

Deductions also may include money you lose on investments. You may be able to deduct up to \$3,000 in capital losses from your ordinary income each year. If you are married filing separately, the cap is \$1,500. Losses above these thresholds can be carried over to the following tax year.

2. Not Being Aware of Tax Considerations for the Military

Because of your military status, you may be eligible for certain tax considerations, such as an exemption of all or a portion of your earnings from federal income taxes while you are deployed to a designated combat zone



9 1002

Check here to see the latest news with Fleet & Family, Child and Youth Programs, & MWR!

FFSC Educate Students on **Healthy Relationships**



Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) visits the Naval Technical Training Center to educate Navy Administration Students on signs of healthy and toxic relationships, Feb. 14. The FFSC had students create and present artwork demonstrating healthy and harmful realtionships.



COMMAND FINANCIAL SPECIALIST TRAINING

Located at The Fleet and Family Support Center, BLDG 405



CALL: 601-679-2360

JOIN US FOR SOAR:

Survivors Overcoming Assault with Resiliency



SOAR offers a judgement free, safe space for survivors of domestic violence or sexual assault to heal, connect and grow. This group offers the opportunity for survivors to share experiences, find strength in community, and reclaim their power.

> Every Thursday from 4:00pm-5:30pm Held at the Fleet and Family Center

LET'S SOAR TOGETHER!

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO SIGN UP, CONTACT ANNE NYTES, FFSC COUNSELOR

PHONE: 601-679-2360

EMAIL: ANNE.A.NYTES.NAF@US.NAVY.MIL

*Judgement Free Environment

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