

On Base

Shred Challenge

Now - March 7

Located at the Fitness Center

Call 601-679-2367 for more details

Story Time

Every Wednesday 1000 at Andrew Triplett Library

Cosmic Bowling

Every Saturday at 1800 McCain Rec Center

Staff Nights

Every Wednesday Night Rudders • 1600-2100

Get Connected



SCAN for NAS Meridian App



SCAN for the Captain's Virtual Suggestion Box



Follow us!

Trump Returns to Power After Unprecedented Comeback

By Zeke Miller, Chris Megerian and Michelle L. Price
Associated Press

Donald Trump was sworn in as the 47th president Monday, promising a “revolution of common sense” and taking charge as Republicans assume unified control of Washington and set out to reshape the country’s institutions. He pledged to “completely and totally reverse” the actions of his predecessor.

Trump, who overcame impeachments, criminal indictments and a pair of assassination attempts to win another term in the White House, will act swiftly after the ceremony, with executive orders already prepared for his signature to clamp down on border crossings, increase fossil fuel development and end diversity and inclusion programs across the federal government.

Declaring that government faces a “crisis of trust,” Trump said in his inaugural address that under his administration “our sovereignty will be reclaimed. Our safety will be restored. The scales of justice will be rebalanced.”

Trump claimed “a mandate to completely and totally reverse a horrible betrayal,” promising to “give the people back their faith, their wealth, their democracy and indeed their freedom.”

He added: “From this moment on, America’s decline is over.” The executive orders are the first step in what Trump is calling “the complete restoration of America and the revolution of common sense.”

Frigid weather rewrote the pageantry



Photo by Julia Demaree Nikhinson
President-elect Donald Trump and Vice President-elect JD Vance arrive at the 60th Presidential Inauguration in the Rotunda of the U.S. Capitol in Washington, Monday, Jan. 20.

of the day. Trump’s swearing-in was moved indoors to the Capitol Rotunda — the first time that has happened in 40 years — and the inaugural parade was replaced by an event at a downtown arena. Throngs of Trump supporters who descended on the city to watch the inaugural ceremony on the West Front of the Capitol from the National Mall will be left to find somewhere else to view the festivities.

At the Capitol, Vice President JD Vance was sworn-in first, taking the oath read by Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh on a bible given to him by his great-grandmother. Trump followed moments after noon, using both a family bible and the one used by President Abraham Lincoln at his 1861 inauguration as Chief Justice John Roberts administered his oath.

• **Inauguration, page 4**

Mississippi Secretary of State Visits NAS Meridian



Photo by Evelyn Adams
Mississippi Secretary of State, Michael Watson (right), and Mississippi Director of External Affairs, Wade Hinton, tour the air operations building onboard NAS Meridian, Jan. 23. State officials came on base to tour facilities and discuss future partnerships between state leaders and the installation. In 2019, Watson was elected to serve as Mississippi's 36th Secretary of State for a second term.

A Guide to Winter Motorcycle Safety

By Jaun Aguilar
Naval Safety Command

As the winter season sets in, motorcycle riders face entirely different challenges than the warmer months. Lower temperatures, harsher weather conditions and the potential for icy roads make winter riding risky. However, with the right approach, winter can still be an enjoyable time to ride.

The wear of proper personal protective equipment (PPE) is a key consideration for safe winter riding. The following information is to provide practical insights and advice for motorcyclists braving the cold months while ensuring their safety and comfort.

In December, the Naval Enterprise recorded 23 motorcycle crashes, four of which resulted in fatalities. For the 11th month in a row, California led in motorcycle crashes with seven reportable – almost a third of the incidents (30%), followed by Virginia with six (26%), Japan with three (14%) and Florida with two crashes (9%). The remaining crashes occurred throughout the United States, including one in Bahrain.

Almost a quarter of the crashes reported had minimal or no data regarding age reported; 26% of the crashes involved riders between the ages of 22 to 25 years. Thirty percent of the crashes occurred between noon and 4 p.m. and 26% of the crashes occurred between 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. Additionally, 61% of the crashes occurred on weekdays and 39% on the weekends.

It’s crucial to pay attention to the factors behind this month’s motorcycle crashes and understand that detailed and accurate reports help ensure the data collected reflects the actual circumstances of each incident. Comprehensive data allows for identifying patterns and trends, such as common causes, locations or times of day when crashes occur. These statistics emphasize the critical importance of motorcycle safety awareness and proactive measures to prevent future tragedies.

• **Motorcycle, page 4**

► Inauguration

A cadre of billionaires and tech titans — including Mark Zuckerberg, Jeff Bezos, Tim Cook and Sundar Pichai — were given prominent positions in the Capitol Rotunda, mingling with Trump’s incoming team before the ceremony began. Also there was Elon Musk, the world’s richest man, who is expected to lead an effort to slash spending and federal employees. Trump began the day with a prayer service at St. John’s Episcopal Church. He and his wife, Melania, were later greeted at the North Portico of the executive mansion by outgoing President Joe Biden and first lady Jill Biden for the customary tea and coffee reception. It was a stark departure from four years ago, when Trump refused to acknowledge Biden’s victory or attend his inauguration. “Welcome home,” Biden said to Trump after the president-elect stepped out of the car. The two presidents, who have spent years bitterly criticizing each other, shared a limo on the way to the Capitol.

Trump’s inauguration realized a political comeback without precedent in American history. Four years ago, he was voted out of the White House during an economic collapse caused by the deadly COVID-19 pandemic. Trump denied his defeat and tried to cling to power. He directed his supporters to march on the Capitol while lawmakers were certifying the election results, sparking a riot that interrupted the country’s tradition of the peaceful transfer of power. But Trump never lost his grip on the Republican Party and was undeterred by criminal cases and two assassination attempts as he steamrolled rivals and harnessed voters’ exasperation with inflation and illegal immigration. “I am ready for a new United States,” said Cynde Bost, 63, from Lake Havasu City, Arizona. Trump used his inaugural address to repeat his claims that he was targeted by political prosecutions, and he promised to begin “fair, equal and impartial justice.” He also acknowledged that he was taking office on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, which honors the slain civil rights hero. Trump said, “We will strive together to make his dream a reality,” and he thanked Black and Latino voters for their support in November.

Now Trump is the first person convicted of a felony — for falsifying business records related to hush money payments — to serve as president. He pledged to “preserve, protect and defend” the Constitution from the same spot that was overrun by his supporters on Jan. 6, 2021. He’s said that one of his first acts in office will be to pardon many of those who participated in the riot. Eight years after he first entered the White House as a political newcomer, Trump is far more familiar with the operations of federal government and emboldened to bend it to his vision. Trump wants to bring quick change by curtailing immigration, enacting tariffs on imports and rolling back Democrats’ climate and social initiatives. He has also promised retribution against his political opponents and critics, and placed personal loyalty as a prime qualification for appointments to his administration. With minutes to go before leaving office, Biden issued preemptive pardons to his siblings and their spouses to shield them from the possibility of prosecution. He said in a statement that his family “has been subjected to unrelenting attacks and threats” and that he has “no reason to believe these attacks will end.”

Earlier in the day, Biden took a similar step with current and former government officials who have been the target of Trump’s anger. Biden said “these are exceptional circumstances, and I cannot in good conscience do nothing.” Trump has pledged to go further and move faster in enacting his agenda than during his first term, and already the country’s political, business and technology leaders have realigned themselves to accommodate Trump. Democrats who once formed a “resistance” are now divided over whether to work with Trump or defy him. Billionaires have lined up to meet with Trump as they acknowledge his unrivaled power in Washington and his ability to wield the levers of government to help or hurt their interests. Long skeptical of American alliances, Trump’s “America First” foreign policy is being watched warily at home and abroad as Russia’s invasion of Ukraine will soon enter its third year, and a fragile ceasefire appears to be holding in Gaza after more than 15 months of war between Israel and Hamas.



Photo by Chip Somodevilla
President-elect Donald Trump takes the oath of office as he is sworn in as president during the 60th Presidential Inauguration in the Rotunda of the U.S. Capitol in Washington, Monday, Jan. 20.

Trump said he would lead a government that “expands our territory,” a reference to his goals of acquiring Greenland from Denmark and restoring U.S. control of the Panama Canal. He also said he would “pursue our manifest destiny into the stars, launching American astronauts to plant the Stars and Stripes on the planet Mars,” a key goal of Musk, who cheered and pumped his arms above his head as Trump spoke. Also present in the Rotunda was the head of TikTok, the popular Chinese-owned social media app deemed a national security risk by the U.S. Trump has promised to lift an effective ban on TikTok through one of many executive orders expected to be issued on Monday as the new president attempts to show quick progress. Trump is planning to swiftly reinstitute his 2020 playbook to crackdown on the southern border — again declaring a national emergency, limiting the number of refugees entering the U.S. and deploying the military. He’s expected to take additional actions — including constitutionally questionable ones — such as attempting

to end birthright citizenship automatically bestowed on people born in the U.S. Trump will also sign an executive order aimed at ending diversity, equity and inclusion programs within the federal government. The order will direct federal agencies to coordinate with the White House on identifying and terminating DEI programs. Conservatives have long criticized programs that give preference based on race, gender and sexual orientation, arguing they violate the Constitution. Others orders are expected to allow more oil and gas drilling by rolling back Biden-era policies on domestic energy production and rescind Biden’s recent directive on artificial intelligence. More changes are planned for the federal workforce. Trump wants to unwind diversity, equity and inclusion programs known as DEI, require employees to come back to the office and lay the groundwork to reduce staff. With control of Congress, Republicans are also working alongside the incoming administration on legislation that will further roll back Biden’s policies and institute their own priorities.

NAS Meridian Welcomes Leadership Lauderdale on Base Tour



Photo by Penny Randall
Leadership Lauderdale tours NAS Meridian, Jan. 15. The tour consisted of a Military Working Dog Demonstration, viewing a T-45, as well as touring the Regional Counterdrug Training Academy. The tour allows the group to see the unique offerings that the installation brings to the community. The Leadership Lauderdale program provides participants an opportunity to enhance their civic knowledge and network. For more than 15 years, this program has helped participants better understand how our community works, build relationships with the area’s current and future leaders, and become inspired to serve our community.

NAS Meridian Remembers Martin Luther King Jr.



Photo by Evelyn Adams
NAS Meridian holds the Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Service in the Chapel onboard the installation, Jan. 17. Thank you to CW04 Rishard Winters, AC1 Ruby Wesby, Lenray Gandy, Terronne Hobson, and all those on the Multi-Cultural Committee for making the service great!

The Skyline ~ Naval Air Station Meridian, Miss.

Command Staff

Commanding Officer ~
CAPT Luke H. Davis

Executive Officer ~
CDR Mike Missler

Command Master Chief ~
CMDCM Randy Griffeth

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

EEAP (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

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 evelyn.m.adams@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.

LOCAL HAPPENINGS

JANUARY:

24: The Magic of Motown, 7:30 p.m. - Don't miss this amazing journey through all of the hits. Hailed by audiences as "the best Motown show in the country," this show will dazzle you for over two hours. A cast of 18 people will perform hits from The Temptations, The Jackson Five, Diana Ross & The Supremes, the Four Tops, Aretha Franklin, Smokey Robinson, and more. **Located at the Temple Theater in Downtown Meridian, MS.** [Click here for tickets, entries, & info.](#)

31: Old Crow Medicine Show, 7:30 p.m. - In more than a quarter century of making music, Old Crow Medicine Show has established itself as America's most beloved old-time string band. Its signature song, "Wagon Wheel," is one of the most widely sung folk songs in history. **Located at the MSU Riley Center in Downtown Meridian, MS.** [Click here for tickets, entries, & info.](#)

FEBRUARY:

1: Echoes of Excellence, 6 & 8:30 p.m.- Immerse yourself in an unforgettable fusion of flavors and melodies, paying homage to the diversity and resilience of Black history. Indulge your senses with a curated selection of culinary delights and drinks, as we honor the profound legacy of Black culture through music and community. **Located at the Copeland Center in Meridian, MS.** [Click here for tickets, entries, & info.](#)

8: Meridian Railroad Museum Chili Cookoff, 12 - 9 p.m. - The deal: Come hungry, stake your claim and ride it out. Winners will be announced and coveted trophies awarded, right on the spot. More information soon. Call 601-710-0843 or 601-479-2483 for all of the details. **Located at the Meridian Railroad Museum in Meridian, MS.** [Click here for tickets, entries, & info.](#)

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.](#)

AREA HAPPENINGS

JANUARY:

31 - February 2: Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey presents The Greatest Show On Earth - Get ready to have the most amazing time at The Greatest Show On Earth! The all-new Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey welcomes everyone, from kids to grown-ups, to a world of thrilling fun. Picture the "ultimate playground" with trapeze swings soaring through the air, jaw-dropping somersaults off teeter-totters, extreme BMX riders defying gravity on huge ramps, and a merry-go-round stage spinning with excitement, and much more. It doesn't get any bigger or better than this! **Located at the BJCC in Birmingham, AL.** [Click here for tickets, entries, & info.](#)

FEBRUARY:

18 - March 2: Hamilton - Watch the epic saga that follows the rise of Founding Father Alexander Hamilton as he fights for honor, love, and a legacy that would shape the course of a nation. **Located at the Orpheum Theater in Memphis, TN** [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.

Reenlistment!



Photo by MC2 Molly Tice
Congratulations MAC Garcia, MA1 Dehart, MA2 Barretta, and MA3 Dressler for reenlisting in the U.S. Navy onboard NAS Meridian, Jan. 17.

COMMAND PATCH SALE

Cash, card or
Venmo @meridiannavyball

Located in the Public Affairs Office
Bldg 255 Ste 163

\$10

This is a non-federal entity. It is not a part of the Department of Defense or any of its components and it has no governmental status. The Department of the Navy does not officially endorse any private company or sponsor their products or services.

Sale... Or

HOMES/APARTMENTS

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.

Nanny or caregiver services. Call Alice at 601-934-1866 or 601-

MISCELLANEOUS

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.

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

● **Motorcycle**

Winter riding can be a rewarding experience, offering crisp air and a sense of adventure, but it also presents significant risks. By understanding the challenges of winter riding and investing in proper PPE, motorcyclists can reduce these risks and enjoy their rides safely. Helmets, gloves, jackets, boots and other protective gear must be chosen carefully to ensure warmth, comfort and safety. Along with proper gear, regular motorcycle maintenance ensures the bike remains in optimal condition for winter. Whether you ride casually or during your daily commute, prioritizing safety and preparation is essential for winter riding success. Amidst the critical mission of ensuring operational readiness, the diligent efforts of motorcycle safety representatives (MSRs), supervisors and collateral duty safety officers help keep your Sailors and Marines current with their training and licensing. The Rider Down reports are indispensable tools in your arsenal, integral to safety and training briefs. Their detailed insights and analysis are invaluable in understanding the factors contributing

to crashes and formulating preventive measures. Winter riding introduces a variety of unique challenges for motorcyclists. These challenges extend beyond simple discomfort due to cold weather and can affect safety, visibility and riding performance. Cold temperatures create discomfort and can impair a rider's physical abilities. Cold fingers can hinder riders' ability to operate the throttle or brakes effectively, while frostbite and hypothermia are a serious concern during long rides in freezing temperatures. Icy and snowy conditions lead to slippery roads, reducing the available grip of tires. This increases the risk of losing control of the bike. Black ice, which often goes unnoticed, is hazardous because it can cause sudden and unpredictable loss of traction. Winter frequently comes with rain, snow and fog, which reduce visibility for riders and other drivers. Shorter daylight hours and frequent overcast skies compound these issues, making it harder to see and be seen on the road. Wet or icy roads increase stopping distances significantly, so riders must be even more cautious when approaching intersections or slowing down. Braking too



hard or too suddenly can cause a skid or loss of control. While road salt is used to melt ice, it can damage your bike's components. This makes cleaning your motorcycle after rides even more important to avoid rust and corrosion. The proper PPE is cru-

cial for winter riders to protect against crashes and incidents, combat the cold and ensure control over the motorcycle. A full-face helmet is essential in winter, protecting against wind and cold air. It also helps prevent visor fogging, which can impair

visibility. Anti-fog visors or inserts, along with insulated liners, offer added protection. Insulated and waterproof gloves, such as those made from Thinsulate or Gore-Tex, are crucial to keep hands warm and dry. Heated gloves are an excellent option for extended cold-weather rides. Winter jackets and pants should be insulated, waterproof and offer crash protection. A layering system helps maintain warmth while providing mobility. Additionally, reflective strips and high-visibility gear are essential for low-light conditions. Boots should be insulated, waterproof and provide a solid grip on icy surfaces. Boots with impact protection and anti-slip soles ensure stability in cold weather. A balaclava or neck warmer shields against the cold, while heated neck wraps can provide additional warmth in extreme conditions. Consider wearing reflective vests or strips and adding LED lights to your bike to improve visibility. Maintaining your motorcycle is also key to winter safety. Wintertires offer better grip in cold, wet or snowy conditions. Ensure they are correctly inflated and in good condition. Freezing

temperatures can drain batteries quickly. If storing your bike, remove and periodically charge the battery. Cold weather thickens oil, reducing its viscosity. Use the appropriate oils for winter and check fluid levels regularly. To those with Risk Management Information (RMI) access, we've integrated Rider Down reports within RMI. Once logged into RMI, click on the left-hand tab under "Pubs and Refs" homepage and proceed to "Motorcycle Rubber Side Down" to subscribe to and view these issues. The site contains the current year motorcycle publications produced by NAVSAFECOM for Navy and Marine Corps MSRs, riders and safety professionals. More information, videos and archived newsletters can be found on the NAVSAFE-COM website: <https://navalsafetycom-mand.navy.mil/Media/Mags-Pubs/Motorcycle-Rider-Down-Reports-Newsletters/>. Also visit the CAC-enabled site for more tools and resources, <https://intelshare.intelink.gov/sites/nsc/Pages/PMV-2.aspx>.



U.S. Marine Received Two Purple Hearts, Bringing Awareness to the Effects of Traumatic Brain Injuries

The wind was crisp as Marines stood in formation, with family and friends coming together in the winter morning. As the medal, the countenance of George Washington set in violet, was pinned over Faffler's heart, his wife and children by his side, it was hard to not shed a tear as emotions were heightened during this special moment. U.S. Marine Corps Chief Warrant Officer 2 William J. Faffler, the visual information officer with 3rd Marine Logistics Group, received two Purple Hearts from Brig. Gen. Kevin G. Collins, the commanding general of 3rd MLG, during a Purple Heart ceremony on Camp Kinser, Okinawa, Japan, Jan. 6, 2025. Although this ceremony took place in 2025, the origin of these medals began in 2010, during his deployment to Helmand Province, Afghanistan, during Operation Enduring Freedom 10-1. Cpl. Faffler was the singular combat videographer for 1st Marine Division headquarters from March 2010 to March 2011, where he supported the Division's ground combat elements as the videographer chief, providing visual documentation and imagery product creation and review. On May 2, 2010, Faffler was attached to Combat Engineer detachment, Task Force Thor, in the vicinity of Now Zad, when his vehicle struck 120 pounds of homemade explosives. His group was inside a Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected Ve-



Photo by Lance Cpl. Weston Brown
U.S. Marine Corps Brig. Gen. Kevin G. Collins, right, the commanding general of 3rd Marine Logistics Group (3rd MLG), presents a Purple Heart to Chief Warrant Officer 2 William Faffler, left, a visual information officer with 3rd MLG, during a Purple Heart ceremony on Camp Kinser, Okinawa, Japan, Jan. 6.

hicle (MRAP), which is designed to withstand mines and Improvised Explosive Devices (IED). "I was unconscious for about two minutes and received

a Grade III concussion. When I returned to consciousness, everything seemed dark and moving in slow motion," Faffler recounted. "The front tires had been launched about 100 meters outboard, but the main body stayed intact. I have no memory of how we returned to base." Faffler immediately suffered severe headaches, sensitivity to light, confusion, disorientation, mood swings, and memory issues, and had to take about a month for his symptoms to subside before returning to his mission. Col. Robert Gardner, retired, former operations officer with 1st MarDiv during that time, recounted the operational environment they dealt with, stating that the IED Faffler's convoy struck was four times the normal size of explosives normally encountered. "At the time, Helmand Province was the most kinetic province in Afghanistan, with IED attacks occurring almost daily, along with direct small arms and machine gun attacks by insurgent forces," Gardner said. "He is lucky to have survived, since 40-pound IEDs had shredded vehicles in other areas of Helmand Province." On Oct. 25, 2010, five months following the TF Thor convoy, Faffler was attached to Company Bravo, 1st Reconnaissance Battalion, for Operation Eastern Endeavor, in the green zone between Sangin and the Kajaki Dam.

-Lance Cpl. Rachel Mason
3rd Marine Logistics Group

[Read more, click here](#)

N9 Nook

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



Fried Catfish Friday

Begins January 24



Served with hushpuppies, fries and slaw

Download the DOTG app to order ahead





PLAY TO WIN.

Worldwide Online Tournaments

HALO INFINITE

January 24 & 25

First Place:
\$500 Gift Card & Custom Jersey

Second Place:
\$150 Gift Card & T-Shirt

Prizes provided by Navy MWR.

Sponsored by



No Navy endorsement implied.

navymwr.org/esports twitch.tv/NavyMWR

SIGN UP NOW





A SERVICE PROVIDED BY CYP:

HOURLY CARE

3 WAYS TO MAKE OR CANCEL RESERVATIONS:

- Scan the QR Code
- Call 601-679-2652
- In person, at the Child Development Center



FFSC SCHEDULE

JAN-MAR 2025

JAN

STALKING AWARENESS & FAP MONTH
FAMILY EMPLOYMENT READINESS MONTH
FINANCIAL WELLNESS MONTH

RESUME WRITING WORKSHOP

Located at The Fleet and Family Support Center, BLDG 405
Classroom 1, 8:30am

JAN 21

JAN 21

VISION BOARD PARTY

Located at The Fleet and Family Support Center, BLDG 405
Classroom 1, 1:30pm (1330)

NAVIGATING USA JOBS

Located at The Fleet and Family Support Center, BLDG 405

JAN 14

JAN 28

SPONSORSHIP TRAINING

Located at The Fleet and Family Support Center, BLDG 405

WOMEN'S SELF DEFENSE CLASS

Feb 1st - Ages 12-16. Feb 8th - Ages 16 and up. Anyone under 18 years of age, must be accompanied by an adult. Classes start at 9:15am until 10:45am at the gym.

FEB 1&8

FEB 3-7


TAP CLASS

CAPSTONE to follow on Feb 20TH
Located at The Fleet and Family Support Center, BLDG 405

COMMAND FINANCIAL SPECIALIST TRAINING

Located at The Fleet and Family Support Center, BLDG 405


MAR 10-14

 **MORE INFO:**

CALL: 601-679-2360

CHAPLAIN SCROGGS & FLEET AND FAMILY
INVITE YOU TO ATTEND:

WOMEN'S SELF-DEFENSE CLASS



CALL 601-679-2360 TO SIGN UP

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST - AGES 12-16
*MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH - AGES 16 AND UP

CLASSES START AT 9:15AM UNTIL 10:45AM
AT THE GYM

INSTRUCTOR: CHAPLAIN SCROGGS
8TH DEGREE BLACKBELT AND CERTIFIED INSTRUCTOR