

MA1 turned Ensign in NAS Meridian Commissioning Ceremony



Photos by MC2 Molly Tice

Master at Arms 1st Class Calvin Green repeats the oath of commissioning and swears into the Naval Officer Corps at the rank of Ensign during his commissioning ceremony at the Naval Reserve Center, NAS Meridian, Ms October 31. Green will continue on to training at Limited Duty Officer Academy, Officer Training Command Newport, Va. Congratulations, Sir!




MWR
NATIONAL NAVAL RESERVE CENTER
NAS MERIDIAN

TURKEY EVENTS

13 NOVEMBER

ANDREW TRIPLET LIBRARY

Make and Take Turkey craft

17 NOVEMBER

SONNY MONTGOMERY FITNESS CENTER

3 point shoot & Medicine ball toss
(winner will receive a turkey)

18 NOVEMBER

LIBERTY CENTER

Shake your Tail Feathers game
(winner will receive a prize)

19 NOVEMBER

COMMUNITY RECREATION

Turkey Golf Shoot
(winner will receive a turkey)

21 NOVEMBER

COMMUNITY RECREATION

3D Turkey Shoot
(winner will receive a turkey)

17-21 NOVEMBER

MCCAIN REC. CENTER-BOWLING

Bowling for Turkeys
(3 strikes in a row)
(winner will receive a turkey)

*Rules and guidelines for individual events will be posted at the participating facility. No pets allowed.

On Base

Tickets & Travel @ Community Rec

Offers a variety of tickets to popular vacation destinations, such as Walt Disney World, Universal Studios Orlando and more. Call 679-2526

Cosmic Bowling Nights

Every Saturday @ 1900 McCain Rec Center

Story Time

Every Wednesday @ 1000 Andrew Triplett Library

BUCK Workout

Wednesdays @ 0515 Fitness Center

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Sixteen aviators earn Wings of Gold in October ceremony

From Staff Reports

There was a naval aviator designation ceremony October 24 onboard Naval Air Station Meridian. Three 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 Nicholas Abdalla, USMC, is a 2020 graduate of the University of Maryland, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Conflict Resolution. While in Primary Flight Training, 1stLt Abdalla was named to the Commodore’s List. During Advanced Jet Flight Training, he earned two Navy “E’s” for bombing accuracy. 1stLt Abdalla completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron NINE.

1STLT Tyler Anderson, USMC, is a 2022 graduate of the United States Naval Academy, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Operations Research. He was named to the Commodore’s List during Primary Flight

Training. During Advanced Jet Flight Training, he earned three Navy “E’s” for bombing accuracy. 1stLt Anderson completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron SEVEN.

1STLT William English, USMC, is a 2021 graduate of the University of Pittsburgh, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Ecology and Evolution. During Advanced Jet Flight Training, he earned four Navy “E’s” for bombing accuracy. 1stLt English completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron NINE.

LTJG Zachary Genereaux, USN, is a 2022 graduate of the United States Naval Academy, where he received a

Bachelor of Science degree in Quantitative Economics. While in Primary Flight Training, LTJG Genereaux was named to the Commodore’s List. During Advanced Jet Flight Training, he earned two Navy “E’s” for bombing accuracy. LTJG Genereaux completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron NINE.

LTJG Francis Hanson, USN, is a 2021 graduate of the University of Missouri-Columbia, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology. While in Primary Flight Training, LTJG Hanson was named to the Commodore’s List with Distinction. During Advanced Jet Flight Training, he earned

three Navy “E’s” for bombing accuracy. LTJG Hanson completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron NINE.

1STLT Jackson Hayes, USMC, is a 2021 graduate of Appalachian State University, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Physics. He was named to the Commodore’s List during Primary Flight Training. During Advanced Jet Flight Training, he

earned three Navy “E’s” for bombing accuracy. 1stLt Hayes completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron SEVEN.

1STLT Alexander Mack, USMC, is a 2022 graduate of Arizona State University, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Software Engineering. During Advanced Jet Flight Training, he earned three Navy “E’s” for bombing accuracy.

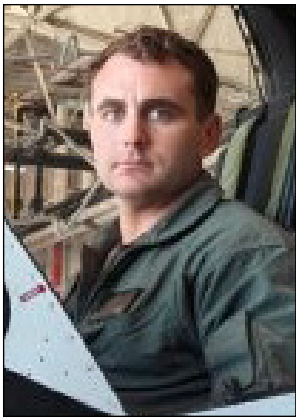
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Golden Stick Award



Photo by MC2 Molly Tice

Mississippi Council of the Navy League President Joe Mercado has the honor of presenting the Golden Stick award to ENS Hugo Le Rolland, French Navy, during a winging ceremony in the chapel onboard NAS Meridian, September 26. The Golden Stick is awarded to the student with the highest composite score during training and sponsored by the Mississippi Council of the Navy League.



Abdalla



Anderson



English



Genereaux



Hanson



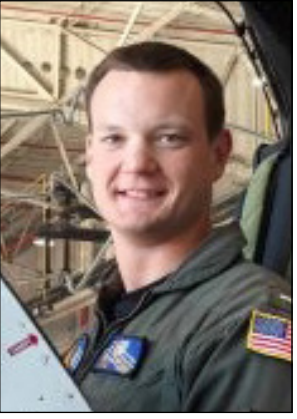
Hayes



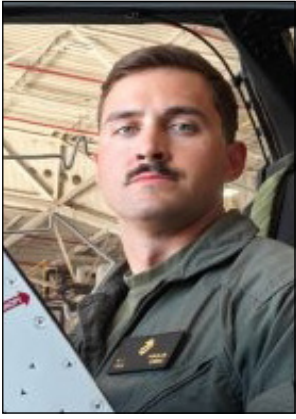
Mack



Martin



Mills



Poulin



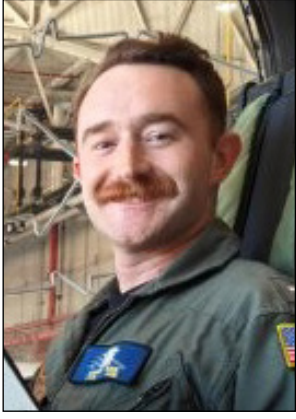
Rinko



Skilbred



Stapp



Turk



Walton



White

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LOCAL HAPPENINGS

Oct. 31 from 5 pm to 10 pm: Spooky Ale Trail in Downtown Meridian! Calling all ghouls, goblins, and spirited revelers! Prepare for a good time as the Spooky Ale Trail returns to Downtown Meridian this Halloween! Join us for an evening of spirited sips and eerie delights as you crawl your way through some of downtown’s favorite places. It’s the perfect way to celebrate Halloween with friends, discover new ales, cocktails, and mocktails, enjoy small bites, and soak in the spooky atmosphere of our historic district.

Nov. 1 from 5 pm to 7 pm: Free Family Fall Fest: LET’S CELEBRATE THIS AMAZING TIME OF YEAR! Costumes are optional and there’s no need to sign up. Just show up! There will be free food, games, activities, and so much more! Lots of fun for folks of all ages and not just kids. Find out all the details at LoveNOW.org/fall

Nov 1 from 10 am to 2 pm: Creatives and community leaders from around the state are invited to The MAX to learn how public art can shape your community – and explore funding opportunities such as the Mississippi Arts Commission’s Mississippi Public Art in Community Grant. After a keynote by Sandra Bloodworth, we’ll announce a new mural opportunity at The MAX, followed by a panel conversation and opportunities to visit with funders, and artists.

Nov. 10 from 12 pm to 2 pm: Sarah McQuaid in Concert: Join us Monday, November 10 at 1:00 PM for a special afternoon with internationally acclaimed singer, songwriter, and multi-instrumentalist Sarah McQuaid. With a rich, soulful voice and a gift for blending folk, blues, and contemporary styles, Sarah’s music creates an intimate and unforgettable experience. Born in Spain, raised in Chicago, and now based in England, Sarah has built a worldwide following through her captivating live performances and acclaimed recordings, including her most recent album The St Buryan Sessions. Don’t miss this chance to enjoy her artistry up close in the welcoming setting of the library.

Nov. 15 from 1 pm to 3 pm: Rose Hill Storytelling Conference. This is the only event in this category presented in this area. It is a teaching as well as entertaining presentation known at Rose Hill Storytelling Conference. Come and listen to a variety of stories as presented by professional storytellers presented by local and as well out of town tellers. Also enjoy the time of the storytelling interviews when attendees may learn the art of storytelling and as well learn to tell their own stories. Free event. For more info: 601-479-2483

Nov. 23 - Dec 31: TREES OF CHRISTMAS at Merrehope. November 23rd – December 31st Monday – Saturday – 10am to 4pm Sunday – 1pm to 4pm Adults \$15 | Military & Senior Citizens \$10 | Students \$5 Experience the Wonder at the 57th Annual Trees of Christmas at Merrehope, where 70 stunning trees and exhibits transform the historic 20-room mansion into an elaborate holiday showcase. With each room uniquely styled by talented designers, visitors are immersed in a world of creativity, beauty, and holiday spirit. Experience the Wonder through ever-changing, thoughtfully curated displays that draw thousands of guests from across Mississippi, the United States, and around the world.

Dec 4 - Dec 7: A Christmas Carol, the Musical. Join Meridian Little Theatre for A Christmas Carol, The Musical, a heartwarming retelling of Charles Dickens’ beloved classic. Filled with festive music, lively performances and a powerful message of hope and generosity, this family-friendly production brings our community together to reflect on what truly matters: kindness, connection, and the spirit of giving.

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● Winging

1stLt Mack completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron SEVEN. 1STLT Colin Martin, USMC, is a 2020 graduate of Boston College, where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science. During Advanced Jet Flight Training, he earned two Navy “E’s” for bombing accuracy. 1stLt Martin completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron SEVEN. LTJG Trent Mills, USN, is a 2021 graduate of Texas A&M University, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Aerospace Engineering. During Advanced Jet Flight Training, he earned five Navy “E’s” for bombing accuracy. LTJG Mills completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron NINE. CAPT Samuel Poulin, USMC, is a 2021 graduate of The Citadel, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Physics. During Advanced Jet Flight Training, he earned two Navy “E’s” for bombing accuracy. Captain Poulin completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron NINE. LTJG Jack Rinko, USN, is a 2021 graduate of

the University of Southern California, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Biomedical Engineering. During Advanced Jet Flight Training, he earned three Navy “E’s” for bombing accuracy. LTJG Rinko completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron SEVEN. 1STLT Cole Skilbred, USMC, is a 2021 graduate of the University of Colorado, where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics and International Relations. He was named to the Commodore’s List in Primary Flight Training. During Advanced Jet Flight Training, he earned two Navy “E’s” for bombing accuracy. 1stLt Skilbred completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron SEVEN. 1STLT Hunter Stapp, USMC, is a 2020 graduate of Virginia Tech, where he received a Bachelor of Science degrees in Electrical and Computer engineering. During Advanced Jet Flight Training, he earned a Navy “E” for bombing accuracy. 1stLt Stapp completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron SEVEN. LTJG Aaron Turk, USN, is a 2022 graduate of the United States Naval Academy, where he received a

Bachelor of Science degree in Aerospace Engineering. While in Primary Flight Training, LTJG Turk was named to the Commodore’s List. During Advanced Jet Flight Training, he earned two Navy “E’s” for bombing accuracy. LTJG Turk completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron NINE. LTJG Joseph Walton, USN, is a 2022 graduate of the United States Naval Academy, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Cyber Operations. While in Primary Flight Training, LTJG Walton was named to the Commodore’s List. During Advanced Jet Flight Training, he earned three Navy “E’s” for bombing accuracy. LTJG Walton completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron NINE. LTJG Michael White, USN, is a 2022 graduate of the United States Naval Academy, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Operations Research. While in Primary Flight Training, LTJG White was named to the Commodore’s List. During Advanced Jet Flight Training, he earned four Navy “E’s” for bombing accuracy. LTJG White completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron NINE.

Sale... Or

HOMES/APARTMENTS

For Rent: 3 BD/2 BA. West Lauderdale School District. No HUD, Renter is responsible for all utilities, 1 year lease, \$1700 a month, \$1700 deposit. Contact 662-694-1696

For Rent: 2 BD/1 BA, 600 sq. ft. Rent is \$1275/ Month with a \$1275 Security Deposit. Rent includes an 8x11 Storage Unit, In Unit Stackable Washer/Dryer, granite countertops and Stainless Steel appliances. Pets are negotiable. No Smoking. Contact Rhonda at 601-488-1963

For Rent: 3 BD/2 BA, 1100 Sq. Ft. Rent is \$1425/Month with a \$1425 Security Deposit. Rent includes an 8x11 Storage Unit, In Unit Stackable Washer/Dryer, granite countertops and Stainless Steel appliances. Pets are negotiable. No Smoking. Contact Rhonda at 601-488-1963

For Rent: 2 BD/1 BA unfurnished home

in North Hills. Available May/June. Call 601-504-5415.

For Rent: 3 BR/2 BA home in a quiet family neighborhood comes with all appliances (incl. W/D), and is convenient to NAS Meridian, schools, shopping, activities and major employers in the area. Outside, there’s a large fenced yard with patio and an attached 2-car garage with keypad entry. All electric with central AC/heat. Contact Leslie Turner, 601-527-4670 to view. See Zillow listing for more information and to submit applications. Rent \$1,750 per month.

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 Sale: 2275 sq ft 3BR/2.f BA with attached 2 car garage built in 1996 on appx 1.15 acres. New roof and fresh paint in August 25. Seperate 25x30 detached garage. Covered front porch. Nice covered back patio with new ceiling fans. Located 5 miles to Clarkdale school, 5 miles from I-20 and a 20-25 minute drive to NAS. Contact: Marsha Boyken 601-917-3900

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.

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

101 Years Young, 250 Years Strong: Honoring a WWII Marine for the Corps’ 250th Birthday

By Lance Cpl Harleigh Faulk
Marine Corps Base Quantico

In the center of the yellow brightly lit bedroom of the hospice center, 101-year-old World War II veteran U.S. Marine Corps Pfc. John Grimes lay quietly watching his television. Unbeknownst to him, behind the door of his room at the Jefferson in Arlington, Virginia, Oct. 10, 2025, three Marines with the Quantico Ceremonial Platoon were just outside his room with balloons and a cake. It wasn't Grimes' birthday though. The Marines came out to not only honor a veteran, but to also celebrate the Corps' 250th anniversary early with a brother. Grimes' youngest son Jacques knew the Corps was special to his father but didn't know if he'd make it to the Marine Corps' actual birthday on November 10.

"It means a lot to him [that the Marines came to visit]," said Jacques Grimes. "I don't know how much longer we'll have him, but while he's here, I figured... let's make him as happy as he can be."

The Marine Corps was always very important to the elder Grimes. At four years old, he'd lost his father, Thomas Grimes, a Marine who served in the Corps from 1898-1903. That loss left an impact on him,

leading him to enlist in the Corps in 1943 to honor his father. After graduating boot camp, Grimes became a radio operator and fought in WWII during the Battle of Tinian in 1944. During the battle he was injured by a mortar blast and later awarded the Purple Heart.

The old Marine shared this story as the Marines sat patiently but fully focused on him. As he talked about his time during the war, he also shared a little of what he'd learned as a Marine.

"You need to be obedient, well-instructed, and proud," he explained when asked about what makes an effective warrior ready for war. He continued talking about how his Drill Instructors did their best to prepare their Marines, including him, so they'd be ready to survive the battles to come. "I was always afraid, but I am grateful [I survived]."

Grimes found himself missing home. In 1946 he decided to get out and forge a new path. He eventually joined the Department of State and became a diplomatic courier and later became a Foreign Service Officer. The structure that Grimes found in the Marine Corps served him well in these roles and allowed him and his family to see the world.



Photo by Lance Cpl Harleigh Faulk
Marine Corps Base Quantico's Ceremonial Platoon presents U.S. Marine Corps Pfc. John Grimes, a World War II veteran, with a cake to celebrate the upcoming 250th birthday of the Marine Corps at The Jefferson, Arlington, Virginia, Oct. 10, 2025. Grimes enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1943 and became a radio operator and fought in WWII during the battle of Tinian in 1944. During the battle he was injured

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)

MA1 Johnson Reenlistment



Photo by MC2 Molly Tice
Master at Arms 1st Class Joshua Johnson recited his oath of reenlistment, conducted by Lt Eli Haynes, during his reenlistment ceremony at NAS Meridian, October 24. Johnson signed a contract of four more years. Congratulations, MA1!

BZ to our Sailors of the 4th Quarter!



SENIOR SAILOR
AC1 Aaron Guthrie



JUNIOR SAILOR
AC2 Alexander Beaucamp



BLUE JACKET
ACAN Josphe Hordes

FFSC Hours:
Mon.-Thurs.:
0800-1630
Fri.:
0700-1530

N9 Nook


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



FFSC Events

Throughout October Fleet and Family hosted educational workshops, information tables, and outreach events to promote healthy relationships, empower survivors, and ensure all service members and families know where to turn to for help.



<div><div>GROUP EXERCISE SCHEDULE<div><div><div><div>Heavy Operational Fitness and Training Systems</div><div><small>small classroom spaces are small classes</small></div></div></div></div></div><div><div>All classes are FREE to authorized patrons. For more information call 801.879.2379.</div></div></div>				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
		5:05 Rock Jenni		
9:15 HIIT Jenni	9:15 Lower Body Strength Jenni	9:05 HIIT Jenni	9:05 Upper Body Strength Jenni	9:15 FIT Friday (NOFFS Endurance Series) Jenni
1:00 Circuit Training Jenni			11:00 Total Body Jenni	
	12:00 YOGA Ryan			
<div><div><div>HIIT is a workout that consist of short energy burst followed by quick recovery</div><div>Total Body Strength: a workout that works lower and upper body and core</div><div>Lower/Upper Body Strength: workouts that are done using machines and free weights to increase muscle strength</div><div>Circuit Training: a workout that consist of multiple workout stations that are rotated through during the workout</div></div><div><div>NOFFS & COMMAND</div><div>PT SESSIONS</div><div>AVAILABLE BY</div><div>APPOINTMENT</div></div></div>				

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