

On Base

Spring Fling & Egg Hunt

19 April
1100-1300
Located at the
Community
Rec Complex

Staff & Game Night
Every Wednesday Night
Rudders • 1600-2000

Cosmic Bowling

Every Saturday
at 1800
McCain Rec Center

Open Mic Night
Every Friday in August
Rudders • 1900-2100

Get Connected



SCAN for the Captain's Virtual
Suggestion Box



Follow us!



Scan to see FFSC's Facebook!

FEMA Visits NAS Meridian



NAS Meridian welcomed two representatives from the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Region 4 Office located in Atlanta, Georgia to the installation, March 26. NAS Meridian is one of several military installations that is identified as a secondary FEMA Incident Support Base prior to and following natural disasters. The representatives were here to update command leadership on the procedures that FEMA would enact if NAS Meridian was identified as a staging area for ground teams, various transportation resources, generators, trailers, or fuels. Region 4 includes Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

Photo by MC2 Molly Tice

Happy Birthday Chiefs!



Photos by Penny Randall and MC2 Molly Tice

Left: Master Chief Aaron Adkins and Chief Amanda Urrutiaesteve cut the birthday cake celebrating the 132nd birthday of the Chief Petty Officer rank during lunch in the LCpl Roy M. Wheat Galley onboard Naval Air Station Meridian. Right: Chief Petty Officers from NAS Meridian and various tenant commands muster for morning colors outside the administration building. The chief petty officer rank was officially established April 1, 1893. Today, there are three chief petty officer ranks: chief petty officer, senior chief petty officer, and master chief petty officer. Chiefs are recognized for exemplary technical expertise within their rating, superior administrative skills, and strong leadership ability. Most importantly, chiefs bridge the gap between officers and enlisted personnel, acting as supervisors as well as advocates for their Sailors.

Navy Exchange Celebrates 79th Birthday!



CAPT Luke Davis, commanding officer of NAS Meridian, and Merritt McKenna, general manager of the Meridian Navy Exchange, cut the birthday cake celebrating the 79th birthday of the Navy Exchange organization.

Photo by Penny Randall

Nine Aviators Earn Wings of Gold in March Ceremony

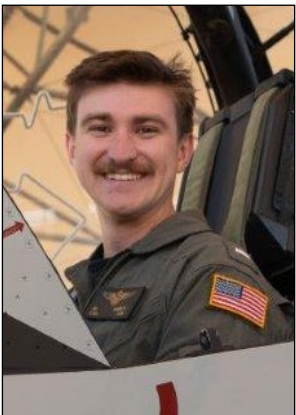
From Staff Reports

There was a naval aviator designation ceremony March 21 onboard Naval Air Station Meridian. Nine Aviators received their “Wings of Gold” during the ceremony

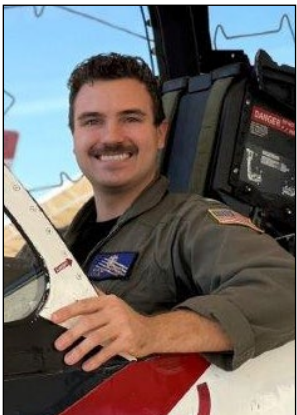
The naval aviator designation ceremony is not prescribed specifically by U.S. Navy regulations, but has emerged as an honored product of the rich heritage of naval tradition. It marks the culmination of nearly two years of specialized training, which has prepared these officers for the rigorous demands of aerial combat and carrier operations -- earning each the title of “Naval Aviator” and the right to wear the coveted “Wings of Gold.”

LTJG Robert James Barrett, USN, is a 2020 graduate of Florida Institute of Technology, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Aeronautical Science with Flight. While in Advanced Jet Flight Training, he earned a Navy “E” for bombing accuracy. LTJG Barret completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron Seven.

LTJG Mikel Jon Cammisa, USN, is a 2017 graduate of DeSales University, where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice. LTJG Cammisa is also a 2019 graduate of The Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M University where he received a Masters of In-



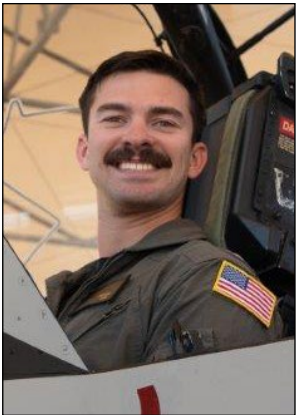
Barrett



Cammisa



Carroll



Dreher



Driver

ternational Affairs degree. While in Advanced Jet Flight Training, he earned five Navy “E’s” for bombing accuracy. LTJG Cammisa completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron Nine.

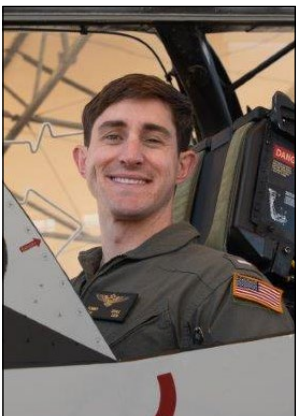
1stLt. Benjamin Joseph Carroll, USMC, is a 2021 graduate of the University of Mississippi, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering. 1stLt. Carroll completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron Seven.

LTJG Zachary Richard Dreher, USN, is a 2020 graduate of Bowling Green State University, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Aviation. LTJG Dreher completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron Seven.

LTJG Jonathan Patrick Dyer, USN is a 2019 graduate of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Aeronauti-



Dyer



Grall



Lassiter



Standford

cal Science. LTJG Driver is also a 2022 graduate of he received a Masters of Science in Aeronautics and Space Systems. LTJG Driver completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron Seven.

LTJG Jonathan Patrick Dyer, USN is a 2021 graduate of the University of Mississippi, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineer-

ing. LTJG Dyer is also a 2022 graduate of the Naval Postgraduate School, where he received a Master of Science in Aerospace Engineering. LTJG Dyer completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron Seven.

LTJG Thomas Albert Grall III, USN, is a 2019 graduate of San Francisco State University, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. LTJG

Grall completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron Seven.

1stLt. John Bolton Lassiter Jr., USMC is a 2021 graduate of Citadel, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering. 1stLt. Lassiter completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron Seven.

LTJG Nathanael Douglas Stanford, USN is a 2017 graduate of Con-

cordia University, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Physiology. LTJG Stanford is also a 2019 graduate of Boise State University where he received a Masters of Science degree in Kinesiology. While in Advanced Jet Flight Training, he earned two Navy “E’s” for bombing accuracy. LTJG Stanford completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron Nine.

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 LTJG Zachary Dreher during a winging ceremony in the chapel onboard NAS Meridian, March 21. 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.

Fair Winds & Following Seas



Photo by Penny Randall

CAPT Luke Davis, left, wishes David Boyer farewell as CDR Mike Missler looks on. Boyer serves as NAS Meridian’s Installation Housing Manager and will retire April 1.

The Skyline ~ Naval Air Station Meridian, Miss.

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Executive Officer ~
CDR Mike Missler
Command Master Chief ~
CMDCM Randy Griffeth

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Public Affairs Officer ~
Penny Randall
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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

APRIL:

11: Full Moon on 5th featuring 80's Night with The Bouncing Betty Band, 6-9 p.m. - Bring lawn chairs and enjoy the block party along 5th Street in downtown Meridian. Free entry and free kid's themed activities. Local eateries offering food. **Located in Downtown Meridian.** [Click here for tickets, entries, & info.](#)

12: Sipp & Savor Food and Drink Expo, 6 p.m. - The event features dozens of award-winning chefs, master brewers and craft distillers. **Located at the Mississippi Arts + Entertainment Experience in Meridian, MS.** [Click here for tickets, entries, & info.](#)

12: Kids Fishing Rodeo at Q.V. Sykes Park, 9 - 11 a.m. - Come and be part of the excitement at our annual Kids Fishing Rodeo. This event is open to all children aged 5 to 17. Don't forget to bring along your own bait and fishing poles. Exciting prizes await the participants! For more information, please call 601-485-1802. **Located at the Q.V. Sykes Park in Meridian, MS.**

18-19: Threefoot Art Festival - With an exciting music lineup, artist demonstrations, make & take crafts, the Threefoot Mile race, a Youth Art Contest, and more - there is something for the whole family! The Threefoot Festival is free and open to the public. ***Friday: Live music, food trucks, and beverages. *Saturday: Vendor market, live music, and more!** **Located in Downtown Meridian.** [Click here for tickets, entries, & info.](#)

18 and 20: Annual Easter Egg Hunts - Hosted by the City of Meridian Parks and Rec. For ages 3 to 10-year-olds only. Dates are April 18 at 10 a.m. at Velma Young Park and April 20 at 4 p.m. at Highland Park. Join Us for an Egg-citing Event! Over 4,000 eggs filled with golden egg prizes, candy, and surprises! Bring the kids and enjoy music, a bounce house, and plenty of fun.

MAY:

06: Wings and Tails hosted by the Mississippi Council of the Navy League - 5:30 p.m. social hour; 6:30 p.m. dinner. Scott McQuaid and The Tomcasts will perform. Tickets can be purchased at the gate, available from any Navy League member or by calling 601-917-2697 or 601-479-8013. **Located at the at Key Brothers Hangar at the Meridian Regional Airport.** [Click here for tickets, entries, & info.](#)

AREA HAPPENINGS

APRIL:

10: Willie Nelson & Family, 7:30 p.m. - Concert features performance from Tami Nelson. **Located at the Brandon Amphitheater in Brandon, MS.** [Click here for tickets, entries, & info.](#)

23-27: Crawfish Music Festival - This event offers a blend of live music, delicious boiled crawfish, and family-friendly activities. Attendees can enjoy headline entertainment, a variety of food options, and exciting midway rides. A highlight of the festival is the Crawfish Cook-Off on Saturday, April 26, where teams compete for cash prizes and the title of best boiled crawfish. **Located at the MS Coast Coliseum in Biloxi, MS.** [Click here for tickets, entries, & info.](#)

26: Shane Gillis Live, 8 p.m. - Shane Gillis is a comedian, actor, and writer, that is known to get people laughing. **Located at the BJCC Arena in Birmingham, AL.** [Click here for tickets, entries, & info.](#)

MAY:

03: Lil Wayne, 7 p.m. - Concert includes performances from Quavo and Anella. **Located at the BJCC Arena 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.

TW-1 Spotlight



Submitted Photos

Left: Chief of Naval Air Training, RADM Richard T. Brophy, present the Civilian Service Commendation Medal to Tausha Bianchi, who serves as a Program Operations Support Assistant with Training Squadron 9 on board Naval Air Station Meridian, March 24. Right: CAPT Juston Kuch, right, presents the Oath of Office to Ensign Brandon Roeseler, March 20. The delivery of this permanent appointment, changes Ensign Roeseler's rank to Lieutenant Junior Grade. Congratulations on a Job Well Done!

Budgeting Made Easy



Pay yourself first.
Dedicate at least 10% of income to savings. This can include saving for retirement, emergencies, big purchases or another financial goal.



Control spending.
Living expenses can take up to 70% of income. This includes "needs," such as mortgage or rent, groceries, gas, and electricity, plus, "wants," such as dining out, hobbies, travel, beauty supplies, and alcohol.



Manage debt wisely.
Keep debt payments under 20% of income. This includes car payments, credit cards not paid off monthly, and student loans.

Financial Wellness
Small steps can lead to big changes.



Sale... Or

HOMES/APARTMENTS

For Rent: 2 BD/1 BA unfurnished home in North Hills. Available May/June. Call 601-504-5415.

For Rent: MOVE-IN READY!! This 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. Recently updated with all new floors and paint, several new appliances, ceiling fans and 2-inch blinds throughout. The open, split floor plan has large rooms and features a bright and airy sunroom for relaxing. 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 Rent: Water front home in Dalewood Shores located at 8992 Lake Flora Dr. Lauderdale, MS. 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 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/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.

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



NAVY EXCHANGE DRY CLEANING SERVICE

Starting March 31st 2025

Drop/off & Pick/up

every

Monday & Wednesday

60 days trial period through May 29th 2025

Bravo Zulu Awardees



Photo by MC2 Molly Tice
Congratulations to the Sailors who were recognized for their outstanding achievements during Awards Quarters, March 20.



**MILITARY
ONE SOURCE**

YOUR SUPPORT WHEN MILLIFE HAPPENS

Military OneSource from the Defense Department is your 24/7 gateway to trusted information, resources and confidential help. When MilLife happens, it's your "first line of support" — giving service members and military families tools to stay well and thrive. Call us anytime at [800-342-9647](tel:800-342-9647) — we're here for you.

DoD completes Underway Recovery Test 12 with NASA

Courtesy Story
Expeditionary Strike Group 3

NASA's Exploration Ground Systems Landing and Recovery team and the Department of Defense successfully completed the third recovery test for the crewed Artemis II mission aboard amphibious transport dock USS Somerset (LPD 25) off the coast of San Diego, March 31.

The primary objectives for Underway Recovery Test 12 were to demonstrate and evaluate the processes, procedures, and hardware for recovery operations for the crewed Artemis II mission around the moon.

"The U.S. Navy and NASA have a long history of partnering together to support the recovery of astronauts and equipment used for space exploration and research," said Capt. Andrew Koy, commanding officer, USS Somerset. "The inherent capabilities of our amphibious transport dock ships are the perfect combination to ensuring the Artemis capsule and crew are safely recovered following their mission. The well deck, flight deck, medical facilities, and immense cargo carrying capacity crewed by highlight



Photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Nettie Manfull
Machinist Mate 2nd Class Jacob Warner, assigned to amphibious transport dock USS Somerset (LPD 25), participates in small boat operations while NASA engineers prepare to release a crew module test article from the ship's well deck during NASA Underway Recovery Test 12 in the Pacific Ocean, March 26.

trained and proficient Sailors, continues the NASA and Department of Defense legacy." Underway Recovery Test 12 allowed NASA and the Department of Defense to practice operational procedures for Artemis II, including timing of crew extraction from the capsule to the ship's medical bay and day-and-night recovery procedures to support certification of personnel and processes for Artemis II mission. Artemis II astronaut U.S. Navy Capt. Victor Glover embarked the ship for Underway Recovery Test 12. "This puts my two

loves together, space and the navy. I am really in my happy place here," said Glover. "The partnership between NASA and the U.S. Navy is a testament to a fostered symbiotic relationship built on trust, where our needs are met by their unparalleled expertise and resources. Together, we're not just working side by side; we're one team! As we prepare to send the next group of explorers around the Moon and beyond, we're pushing the boundaries of human achievement, all thanks to the strength of this incredible partnership."

[READ MORE, CLICK HERE](#)

CFAS Sailor Perseveres Despite Overwhelming Odds

By MC1 Kristen Yarber
Commander, Fleet Activities
Sasebo

SASEBO, Japan — People often say there is no shame in failure, only in quitting. For one U.S. Navy Sailor, quitting was never an option. Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Angelique Fulton, a military working dog (MWD) handler assigned to Commander, Fleet Activities Sasebo (CFAS), refused to let obstacles—big or small—hold her back throughout her time in service. Fulton enlisted in September 2020, expressing a strong interest in the dog handler field. She was immediately met with resistance.

"The recruiter told me I had better odds of becoming an officer before I got to touch dogs," said Fulton through a subtle smirk. Undeterred by opposition, she used the discouragement to fuel her drive for getting the job she wanted. After a stringent interview process, she officially became a MWD handler. This career choice took her halfway across the world. Her first permanent duty station was CFAS where she quickly acclimated to the high-intensity nature of the job. Two months into her dream job, disaster struck while training a canine. "I got the leash caught [around] my leg," recalled Fulton. "I got my left leg



Photo by MC1 Kristen Yarber
Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Angelique Fulton, a military working dog (MWD) handler assigned to Commander, Fleet Activities Sasebo (CFAS), poses for a photo with MWD Nevil at the CFAS Maebata Ordnance Facility in Sasebo, Japan, March 10, 2025. For 78 years, CFAS has provided, maintained, and operated base facilities and services to empower forward-deployed U.S. and Allied Forces while providing superior support to their families and the community.

out; I didn't get my right leg out in time, and she threw me on my back." As a former roller derby enthusiast, Fulton was accustomed to a harsh fall. She and her coworkers laughed at first, not realizing the severity of the situation. A few moments later, the pain began. "I had never had pain like it before," she said. "It took the breath right out of me." Months after the incident, the pain refused to subside. "I could feel it from my tailbone slicing through all the way down to

my ankle," she said. "There would be times where from my pinky toe up, I would lose sensation." Additionally, Fulton suffered from "drop foot" where the front part of the foot loses function while walking. She walked constantly with a hunch. Even a simple sneeze caused immobilizing pain. For the next three years, she did physical therapy twice a week. She also received a spinal injection in hopes of alleviating pressure on her sciatic nerve.

[READ MORE, CLICK HERE](#)

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 Spotlight



Courtesy Photo
Recently, 65 Marine students from Marine Aviation Training Support Squadron One attended a Tax Q&A session at the Navy Reserve Center. The guest speaker was Barbara Bennett from the IRS Communication & Liaison Office in Jackson who provided valuable insights. Additionally, the students were given information on Military One Source, which can be reach at 1-800-342-9647 or via website at www.militaryonesource.mil



Courtesy Photo
Fleet & Family Support Center Personal Financial Management Marie Brinston partnered with Marine Aviation Training Support Squadron One to host a two-day class on the Million Dollar Program for 76 enlisted A School students. The Million Dollar Program training agenda included: Consumer Awareness, Millionaire Money Management, Wealth Building: Savings and Investing/Retirement Planning, Car Buying, Home Buying and Credit Management. If you have any questions or would like to setup and financial class at your command, or meet one-on-one with Marie Brinston, PFM, please reach out to her at FFSC (601) 679-2360 or email: Shirley-marie.brinston.naf@us.navy.mil



Courtesy Photo
Christen Alarcon, Installation SARC, kicks off the Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Campaign by handing out cards with vital helpline numbers and SAPR pins at the front gate, April 1.

Safe Helpline
Sexual Assault Support for the DoD Community

Live 1-on-1 Help Confidential Worldwide 24/7

Help is just a *Click*,
Call or *Text* away!

For confidential victim assistance visit www.SafeHelpline.org

FFSC Upcoming Events.

APR 02 PAINT THE BASE TEAL Decorate your area in TEAL for Sexual Assault Awareness.	APR 15 PURPLE UP DAY Show your support for our Military Kids by wearing purple!
APR 02 GO BLUE DAY Let's come together to show our support for individuals with autism and their families by wearing blue!	APR 17 NAVIGATING USA JOBS WORKSHOP This workshop will be held at FFSC at 8am.
APR 04 FAVORITE FOOTBALL TEAM Show your support for our Military Kids by wearing gear from your favorite football team.	APR 18 CAMO DAY Show your support for our Military Kids by wearing camo!
APR 08 WELCOME ABOARD Held at FFSC. Join us to learn more about NAS Meridian!	APR 21 MINDFUL MOVEMENT YOGA Join us at the Sonny Montgomery Fitness Center at 6pm for a relaxing yoga session!
APR 09 TOGETHER IN BLUE Join us in wearing blue to raise awareness for child abuse!	APR 25 PURPLE LEMONADE I&R DRIVE THROUGH Drive through the FFSC parking lot at 11am to pick up lemonade and an informational bag!
APR 11 ROCK PAINTING Join us for family bonding and meaningful conversations about building safe and supportive environments for our children.	APR 30 DENIM DAY Show your support for Sexual Assault Survivors by wearing denim!
APR 14 CHALK THE WALK Join us at FFSC at 10am to spread positive messages!	<p>Follow us on Facebook to stay up to date on all FFSC events!</p> <p>SCAN ME</p>

For more information on any of the above events call 601-679-2360 or email kasie.d.mcinnis.naf@us.navy.mil

SPRING FLING EGG HUNT

FUN GAMES • LIVE DJ • FOOD
APRIL 19th 1100-1300
Community Recreation Area
BOUNCE HOUSES • FACE PAINTING

601-679-2526
No pets permitted at this event

No Navy endorsement implied

DAY TRIP TO PENSACOLA

April 19 \$10

- Visit the National Naval Aviation Museum.
- The van departs Community Recreation at 0800 and departs the museum by 1600
- Register at Community Recreation front desk

PLAY TO WIN.

Worldwide Online Tournaments

CALL OF DUTY BLACK OPS 6
April 24 & 25

First Place:
\$500 Gift Card & Custom Jersey
Second Place:
\$150 Gift Card & T-Shirt
Prizes provided by Navy MWR.

Sponsored by

SIGN UP NOW
navymwr.org/esports twitch.tv/NavyMWR

Follow these programs to see updates!

FFSC:

Instagram

Facebook

MWR:

Instagram

Facebook

Focus on balanced and sustainable eating

#NationalNutritionMonth

Food Connects Us
2025 NATIONAL NUTRITION MONTH
A Campaign by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics