

Benedict serves as U.S. Navy's "Silent Service"

An Upland native is serving in the U.S. Navy aboard USS Vermont, one of the world's most advanced nuclear-powered submarines.

Petty Officer 3rd Class Nolan Benedict, a 2012 Eastbrook High School graduate, joined the Navy two years ago.

"I was looking for a challenge," said Benedict. "I wasn't sure the Navy was going to be for me, but when they talked about nuclear reactors, I figured that would be challenging."

According to Benedict, the values required to succeed in the military are similar to those found in Upland.

"Growing up in Indiana I learned the importance of looking out for others," said Benedict. "This helps being on a submarine because we have to look out for each other."

Fast, maneuverable and technically advanced, submarines are some of the most versatile ships in the Navy, capable of silently conducting a variety of missions around the world.

There are three basic



Petty Officer 3rd Class Nolan Benedict

types of submarines: fast attack submarines (SSN), ballistic missile submarines (SSBN) and guided-missile submarines (SSGN).

Fast attack submarines are designed to hunt down and destroy enemy submarines and surface ships; strike targets ashore with

cruise missiles; carry and deliver Navy SEALs; carry out intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance missions; and engage in mine warfare. Their primary tactical advantage is stealth, operating undetected under the sea for long periods of time.

The Navy's ballistic-missile submarines, often referred to as "boomers," serve as a strategic deterrent by providing an undetectable platform for submarine-launched ballistic missiles. SSBNs are designed specifically for stealth, extended patrols and the precise delivery of missiles. Their design allows the submarines to operate for 15 or more years between major overhauls. On average, the submarines spend 77 days at sea followed by 35 days in port for maintenance.

Guided-missile submarines provide the Navy with unprecedented strike and special operation mission capabilities from a stealthy, clandestine platform. Armed with tactical missiles and equipped with superior communications capabilities, SSGNs are capable of directly supporting combatant commander's strike and Special Operations Forces requirements. Each SSGN is capable of carrying 154 Tomahawk cruise missiles, plus a complement of heavyweight tor-

pedoes to be fired through four torpedo tubes.

Serving in the Navy means Benedict is part of a world that is taking on new importance in America's focus on rebuilding military readiness, strengthening alliances and reforming business practices in support of the National Defense Strategy.

With more than 90 percent of all trade traveling by sea, and 95 percent of the world's international phone and internet traffic carried through fiber optic cables lying on the ocean floor, Navy officials continue to emphasize that the prosperity and security of the United States is directly linked to a strong and ready Navy.

"What our undersea forces accomplish every day is vitally important to our nation's defense," said Vice Adm. Daryl Caudle, Commander, Submarine Forces. "Our Submarine Force is a critical part of global maritime security and the nation's nuclear triad. Every day, our submariners are at the tip of the

spear, forward deployed and ready - from the depths, we strike!"

As a member of the U.S. Navy, Benedict, as well as other sailors, know they are a part of a service tradition providing unforgettable experiences through leadership development, world affairs and humanitarian assistance. Their efforts will have a lasting effect around the globe and for generations of sailors who will follow.

"This is an awesome community," added Benedict. "Serving on a submarine feels like we're all family. Being an electrician is a great responsibility because we have to know the entire ship."

Holloway is following a family tradition of military service.

"My grandfather, Albert Holloway, served in the Navy, as well as my uncle, Gregg Holloway," added Benedict. "I think it's cool that even though I didn't intend to follow their footsteps, here I am in the same branch of service."

Road closure on St. Rd. 18 near Sweetser

The Indiana Department of Transportation announces the closure of State Road 18 near Sweetser.

The road will be closed for the bridge over Pipe Creek to be reconstructed.

During the closure,

drivers should use the posted detour of S.R. 9, S.R. 37, U.S. 35 and S.R. 19. There will be local access only between S.R. 13 and S.R. 9.

Work is scheduled to begin on or after June 28 and is expected to wrap up by mid-October.

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INDOT reminds drivers to slow down and use caution while driving in and around all work zones. All work is weather-dependent and schedules are subject to change.



One dead, one injured in fatal UPS box truck accident

On June 22 at approximately 5:41 p.m., the Grant County Central Dispatch Center was contacted in reference to a serious personal injury accident at the intersection of C.R. 975 West and C.R. 400 South involving two vehicles.

Prior to the Deputies' arrival, they were advised that CPR was in progress with one of the individuals involved in the crash.

Swayzee Fire Department, Marion General Hospital, and Grant County E.M.S. also responded.

Upon the Deputies' arrival, all the subjects injured in the crash were being treated and prepared for transport. One of the drivers was pronounced dead at the scene, while the passenger of the second vehicle was flown to Ft. Wayne. The other driver in-

involved in the crash refused medical treatment.

Grant County Sheriff's Department Crash Investigation Team 3 was activated to investigate the crash, along with the Grant County Coroner's Office.

The investigation at this time shows that a U.P.S. delivery truck, operated by the deceased, was southbound on C.R. 975 West approaching the intersec-

tion of C.R. 400 South. The other vehicle, a single axel box truck, was westbound on C.R. 400 South approaching C.R. 975 West. For reasons unknown, the U.P.S. delivery truck failed to yield the right of way, striking the single axel truck on the passenger side. The box truck left the roadway to the south into a soybean field and came to a rest on its side facing east.

The U.P.S. delivery truck also left the roadway to the south into the soybean field and came to a rest facing north. Additionally, The driver of the U.P.S. delivery truck was ejected from the vehicle during the crash.

The identity of the deceased is being withheld at this time until all notifications have been made.

The driver of the single

axel box truck has been identified as Daniel Meza, 47, of Kokomo. The passenger of the single axel box truck was identified as Wilmer Corrales, 18, also of Kokomo.

At this time, Corrales has been treated and released from Ft. Wayne Lutheran for head lacerations.

This crash investigation is still ongoing.

Police reports

Week of June 21-27

Monday, June 21

Kenneth Bert McCollum, 40, was preliminarily charged with probation violation in the 100 block of East Fourth Street, Marion.

Scott Wesley Ford, 40, was preliminarily charged with invasion of privacy in the 300 block

of North Main Street, Sweetser.

Keith Allen Spivey, 44, was preliminarily charged with nonsupport of a dependent child, contempt of court, battery resulting in bodily injury, and criminal mischief at 100 East and Selkirk, Marion.

Tina L. Jones, 37, was

served a warrant in the 200 block of East Fourth Street, Marion.

Shawn Marie Scott, 37, was preliminarily charged with unlawful possession of a syringe and possession of methamphetamine during a traffic stop at Grant and Ohio, Marion.

Tuesday, June 22

Brant Edward Purvis, 32, was preliminarily charged with probation violation in the 500 block of South Adams Street, Marion.

Andrew Joseph Pyeritz, 20, was served a warrant in the 100 block of East Fourth Street, Marion.

Zachary Adam Bras-

hear, 35, was preliminarily charged with domestic battery in the 200 block of East Fourth Street, Marion.

Darus E. Rish, 36, was preliminarily charged with probation violation in the 200 block of East Fourth Street, Marion.

Lita Marie Bidwell, 30, was preliminarily

charged with probation violation in the 200 block of East Fourth Street, Marion.

Demetrius Dwayne Dennis, 27, was preliminarily charged with probation violation in the 200 block of East Fourth Street, Marion.