

# Chapel Hill native builds on Seabees 80-year legacy

By **Megan Brown**  
Navy Office of Community Outreach

GULFPORT, Miss. - Since 1942, sailors assigned to the U.S. Navy's Construction Force have been building and fighting around the world. Constructionman Isaiah Moretti, a Chapel Hill, Tennessee, native is one of those sailors.

Eighty years ago, members of Navy Construction Battalions were fittingly nicknamed, "Seabees," a play on the C and B initials. They are responsible for building military bases and airfields, supporting humanitarian efforts and conducting underwater construction projects.

"I joined the Navy because it is a family tradition," said Moretti. "It's also something I knew I could do."

Moretti, a 2021 Forrest High School graduate, currently serves with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion One at the headquarters for naval construction forces in Gulfport, Mississippi.

"I want to thank my parents because my dad has been active for 21 years," said Moretti. "My grandfathers from both sides were in the Navy. My grandfather on my dad's side was also an equipment operator, which is the same job I have in the Navy."



Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Vanessa White, Navy Office of Community Outreach

**Isaiah Moretti**

According to Moretti, the values required to succeed in the Navy are similar to those found in Chapel Hill.

"My hometown taught me respect because it is a small town," said Moretti. "You have to learn to get along with people and respect them. Even if you don't like them, you will eventually see them again."

Serving in the Navy means Moretti is part of a team that is taking on new importance in America's focus on strengthening alliances, modernizing capabilities, increasing capacities and maintaining military readiness in support of the National Defense Strategy.

"We don't need an order from Congress to move," said Moretti. "Infrastructure on the Seabees' side is one of the most important aspects to keep the world turning."

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 the importance of accelerating America's advantage at sea.

"Maintaining the world's best Navy is an investment in the security and prosperity of the United States, as well as the stability of our world," said Adm. Mike Gilday, Chief of Naval Operations. "The U.S. Navy—forward deployed and integrated with all elements of national power—deters conflict, strengthens our alliances and partnerships, and guarantees free and open access to the world's oceans. As the United States responds to the security environment through integrated deterrence, our Navy must continue to deploy forward and campaign with a ready, capable, combat-credible fleet."

Moretti and the sailors they serve with have many opportunities to achieve accomplishments during their military service.

"I am most proud of shooting expert on both my rifle and pistol marksmanship," said Moretti.

As Moretti and other sailors continue to train and perform missions, they take pride in continuing an 80-year legacy and serving their country in the United States Navy.

"Being in the Navy means service to others above self," added Moretti.

# Have you hugged an etiquette expert lately?

By **Danny Tyree**

"Were you raised in a barn?"

I never had the legendary Mrs. Montgomery as a teacher; but she was a senior class adviser and I needed her input on a school program script, so I made the rookie mistake of assuming her wide-open door meant I could forego the formality of knocking.



Thus, the piercing glare and the intimidating inquiry about sharing living quarters with cattle, swine and the occasional hobo (who was presumably condemned to a vagrant lifestyle because he insisted on CHEWING GUM IN CLASS).

The late Mrs. Montgomery would doubtless be delighted by the recent release of the centennial edition of Emily Post's definitive guide "Etiquette," completely rewritten by two of Ms. Post's great-great-grandchildren. The book is calibrated to bring decorum to a society complicated by Uber, online dating, Zoom meetings, artificial intelligence, self-checkout and the like.

Not that there aren't critics. ("Dude, they didn't list a single tuxedo shop specializing in tuxes that display your underwear for the

whole world to see.")

Many others see the book as an indispensable referee in the clash between technology and manners. ("It only took me six months, Grandma, but I'm texting to thank you for saving my life by donating both your kidn — oh, wait, here's another TikTok video. Gotta go.")

On the other hand (the hand reserved for firm handshakes, which -- combined with making eye contact and smiling -- will render everyone you meet so compliant that they will let you whack their butler repeatedly with a croquet mallet), most of us have a love-hate relationship with the demands of etiquette.

We love it when other poor slobbs get brought to justice and hate it when our own charming eccentricities are put under the microscope. ("Okay, smarty — which fancy fork am I SUPPOSED to use to scratch my bunion?")

The book arrives just in time for families torn apart by political disagreements. ("I really want to make my cousin eat crow, but she's a vegan and I need to know the non-fowl equivalent of crow.")

Yes, we live in a time when dinner parties and other invitation-only events are unreasonably stressful. ("I was going to bring a 'plus one,' but the math is too hard. Wish we had better school systems, like

in Belgium and those other African countries.")

Guests expecting potent potables at a reception or society soiree face more awkward situations than ever. It used to be a question of "open bar" or "cash bar." Now it's just as likely to be a "let the next generation figure out how to pay for it" bar.

Sure, we chafe at arbitrary, hoity-toity rules of civility; but deep down most of us appreciate an authoritative voice. We know it's not going to kill us to say "please" or "thank you" or "let me pay half since the weight of my body piercings blew out your tires"; but we still like experts to compile the morbidity charts. ("Please" and "thank you" — declared mostly non-lethal. Still hashing out whether 'excuse me' is tied to chronic irritable bellybutton syndrome.")

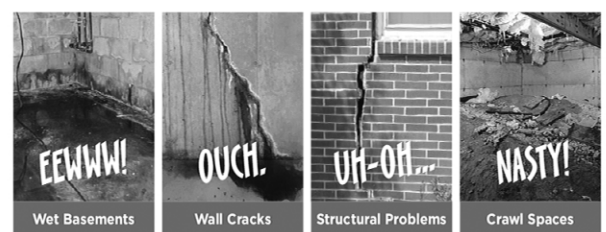
If your parents failed to teach you all the niceties of polite society, don't despair. It's never too late to learn. When one door closes — another one has a Mrs. Montgomery wannabe waving a big stack of detention slips.

Party until the cows come home — unless it's your home, too.

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### Notice

#### Early Voting Dates & Hours Open

The Early Voting period for the November 8, 2022 Election begins Wednesday, October 19, 2022 and ends Thursday, November 3, 2022 at the Marshall County Election Commission office. The Marshall County Election Commission office is located at Hardison Office Annex, 230 College Street, Suite 120, Lewisburg, TN 37091. Office telephone is (931) 359-4894.

Hours Open are: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Thursday, October 20, 27 & November 3: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
Saturday, October 22 & 29: 8 a.m. - 12 noon

A Satellite Early Voting location will be held at the Chapel Hill United Methodist Church beginning Friday, October 21, 2022 – Wednesday, October 26, 2022. The Chapel Hill United Methodist Church is located at 316 N. Horton Pkwy., Chapel Hill, TN 37034.

Hours Open are: Friday, October 21: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Saturday, October 22: 8 a.m. - 12 noon  
Monday, October 24: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Tuesday, October 25: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Wednesday, October 26: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Voters who wish to vote an Absentee Ballot may request to do so in writing by Tuesday, November 1, 2022. Said request must contain:

1. Name of the Registered Voter
2. Voter's Legal Residence
3. Voter's Social Security Number
4. Address to Mail the Ballot To
5. Elections the Voter Wishes to Vote In
6. Legal Reason to Vote Absentee
7. Date of Birth
8. Voter's Signature

Federal or TN State government issued photo ID is required to vote, unless an exception applies. To learn more about the law and its exceptions, please call Marshall County Election Commission or visit [www.GoVoteTN.gov](http://www.GoVoteTN.gov).

Marshall County Election Commission

Janet Heckle, Chairman

Chundra (Cee Cee) Davis, Secretary

Charles Evans, Member • David Trinkle, Member • Barbara Woods, Member

Attest: Andrew Robertson, Administrator of Elections

# Finding state pride in three Tennessee asters

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. - Did you know that the aster family gets its name from the Greek word for star? Since I am in the Tri-Star state, I have chosen three native Tennessee asters as the focus of this column. 'Rockcastle aster' (Eurybia saxicastellii), 'Raydon's Favorite' (Symphyotrichum oblongifolium 'Raydon's Favorite') and 'Rachel Jackson' (Symphyotrichum oblongifolius 'Rachel Jackson') are attractive southeastern natives that provide three seasons of interest while supporting wildlife and showcasing what Tennessee stars offer in the landscape.

Our first Tennessee star is the white 'Rockcastle aster' that is native only to Tennessee and Kentucky. This is one of the most visited-by-pollinators plants in East Tennessee according to the latest research at the University of Tennessee. The two other native Tennessee stars cited here are more commonly found. Believed to have originated near Lookout

Mountain in southeast Tennessee, 'Raydon's Favorite' is an excellent aromatic aster to add to the garden. It is similar to the standard garden favorite 'October Skies' but has a more compact growth habit and a darker purple color. 'Rachel Jackson', found in former First Lady Rachel Jackson's garden at historic Hermitage mansion in Nashville, has purple flowers that stop you in your tracks when seen en masse. Plant either of the latter varieties in front of a living screen or in a pocket area of the garden that can be viewed from various angles. I love the purple against a contrasting backdrop. While 'Rockcastle aster' blooms from August to November, both 'Raydon's Favorite' and 'Rachel Jackson' bloom October to November.

Each of these asters adds winter interest to the garden when the stems are left uncut and also provides excellent shelter for our native pollinators. Cut stems back in early spring for lush growth.

All three asters grow well in average garden soil and can be found at UT Gardens, Knoxville. 'Rachel Jackson' is on display near the Gardens' Neyland Greenway. 'Raydon's Favorite' grows near the Kitchen Garden and 'Rockcastle aster' in research sites throughout the Gardens. While 'Rockcastle aster' can tolerate partial shade, the other two prefer full sun. 'Rachel Jackson' is hardy to USDA zone 4, 'Raydon's Favorite' is hardy to zone 3 and 'Rockcastle aster' is hardy to Zone 6a—making them ideal perennials to add to your Tennessee home landscape. Plant these asters in a place where you can enjoy their beauty up close and from afar to take advantage of their propensity to attract pollinators and their delightful colors. I encourage you to show your state pride by planting and preserving these three Tennessee stars.

### WHO SHOULD CALL?

Homeowners • Contractors.

### WHEN TO CALL?

- Planning on building a new home, deck or patio.
- Installing a pool, fence or mailbox.
- Planting trees or shrubs.

### WHY CALL?

- For your safety • Utility lines may be shallow.
- Multiple lines may exist in one area.
- Simple digging can damage lines.
- Damages can knock out service to a neighbourhood.

## IF YOU SMELL GAS ODORANT IN YOUR HOME OR BUSINESS

### DO NOT:

- Smoke or strike a match
- Open doors and windows.
- Switch on/off lights or appliances.
- Start truck or car.

### DO:

- Leave.
- Call from a safe location.



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