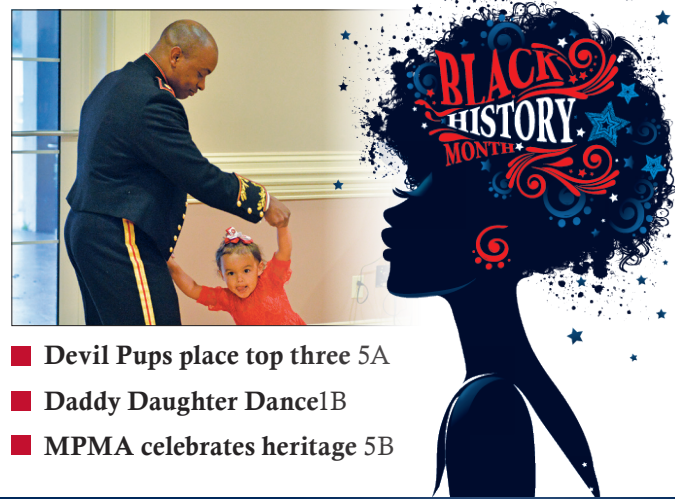


The Globe

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2020



- Devil Pups place top three 5A
- Daddy Daughter Dance 1B
- MPMA celebrates heritage 5B

Weapons and Training Battalion to host 2020 Marksmanship Intramurals

BY LANCE CPL. GINNIE LEE

Marine Corps Installations East

Weapons Training Battalion (WTBN), Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune will host the Marksmanship Intramurals competitions at the Stone Bay rifle range from Feb. 27 to March 13. Due to renovations on the Alpha and Bravo ranges, this will be the first time the intramural competition will be held since 2016.

The annual intramural competition, sponsored by Marine Corps Community Services, prepares service members for the opportunity to compete in the Ma-

rine Corps Marksmanship Competitions-East (MC-MC-E), which is scheduled for March 23 to April 5. During MCMC-E, shooters will compete for the opportunity to participate in the Marine Corps matches.

All active duty Marines, Sailors and select active reserve Marines are eligible to compete. The maximum capacity for the 2020 fiscal year competition is 240 competitors.

"This competition offers interested service members an opportunity to compete using their acquired marksmanship skills in a competitive setting," said Chief Warrant Officer 4 Eric M. Brown, infantry weapons

officer with WTBN.

According to Brown, there are two courses of fire which include the individual course of fire and team competition. The individual course of fire includes Table 1 alpha and Table 2 of the annual marksmanship rifle qualification and the Combat Pistol Program's blocks one through five. Following the individual events, there will be a one-day rifle and pistol team competition with a specific course of fire.

During the competition, service members will fire the M16A4/M4 service rifles and the M9 pistol. They will compete

in a series of events that test the individual's marksmanship skills.

Awards will be presented to individuals and teams placing in the top three places for each yard line, as well as an overall champion. All service members who participate in the competition will receive their annual rifle and pistol qualifications for the 2020 fiscal year.

"These competitions give the service members a sense of camaraderie and small unit leadership opportunities while enhancing the Marine Corps' lethality," said Maj. Matthew J. Altomari, operations officer with WTBN.

"It helps the Marine Corps reaffirm that every Marine is a rifleman."

To sign up, service members should go through the

WTBN S-3 at building R11D on Stone Bay before Feb. 14. For more information, call the WTBN S-3 office at (910) 440-2917.



Photo by Lance Cpl. Ginnie Lee
Lance Cpl. Adam Gil, motor transportation operator, Combat Logistics Battalion 2, 2nd Marine Logistics Group, fires an M16A4 rifle during a rifle marksmanship qualification at Alpha Range at Stone Bay on Camp Lejeune, Oct. 3, 2019.



Photo by Lance Cpl. Taylor Smith
The historic steam plant stands on Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, Feb. 4. The plant, built in 1942 and decommissioned in April 2017, is scheduled to be removed in the next few weeks as part of the decentralization of steam plants on base. During its peak demand, the plant produced just under 360,000 pounds per hour of steam. When the plant began operation in 1943, it was the largest central steam plant owned by the United States military.

Out with the old: Historic steam plant to be demolished

BY LANCE CPL. TAYLOR SMITH

Marine Corps Installations East

With its four massive boilers, the Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune main steam plant used to serve as the primary source of heat and hot water for barracks, administrative buildings and mess halls for more than 74 years.

The raucous symphony of mechanical noises that once permeated the plant have all but silenced since its decommissioning in April 2017, but the history still stands – at least for a little while longer.

The three-story high plant is scheduled to be removed in February as part of the decentralization of steam plants on base.

"The original project to decommission the steam plant and to also transi-

tion to natural gas fired boilers, was in an effort to reduce our energy intensity goals," said Andrew Smith, utilities director for electrical distribution and steam generation systems on MCB Camp Lejeune. "We were able to reduce the thresholds by about 40 percent from the baseline about 10 years ago."

Like a well-oiled machine, the plant operated 24 hours a day, seven days a week for over seven decades with the exception of annual summer cleanings, spanning just 72 hours in July or August of each year when steam demand was minimal.

"Originally we had five steam plants that served over 548 buildings across the installation," said Amanda Renjifo, installation energy manager for MCB Camp Lejeune. "We had about 50 miles

of steam and condensate lines that spanned the base. For a long time the plant served its purpose very well."

After the plant's decommissioning, there was an investment of more than \$150 million in individual facility boilers, natural gas fired equipment and alternative energy sources. The project dramatically lowered the installation's energy intensity, reduced fuel costs by roughly 30 percent and significantly reduced MCB Camp Lejeune's environmental impact with respect to energy consumption.

"The decentralization of the plant has reduced our greenhouse gases by 69,000 tons a year, caused an overall reduction of our energy use by 50 percent and has saved 87 million gallons of water," said Renjifo.

A Pipeline to success: Veterans In Piping

BY LANCE CPL. TAYLOR SMITH

Marine Corps Installations East

Thousands of service members transition out of the military yearly. Countless resources and programs are available to further prepare active-duty military personnel as they prepare to enter civilian life.

One program, Veterans In Piping (VIP), is a

pathway into an apprenticeship with the United Association (UA), a union of plumbers, fitters, welders and service techs, that offers high-quality skills training and jobs in the pipe trades to active-duty military who are about to leave the service.

"The program started as a veteran's model for people who had already transitioned out," said David Porter, VIP instructor. "In

2009, we started a pilot program in Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton for active-duty service members."

The 18-week program consists of accelerated training in highly-marketable skills such as welding, fire sprinkler fitting and heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration (HVAC-R).

The program and the state-of-the-art equipment is funded through the UA. The

VIP program was the first of 13 skill bridge programs established on Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune.

"There are nine of these programs in seven different bases across the country," Porter said. "Six are welding focused, like here in MCB Camp Lejeune; two are HVAC-R programs and one is a sprinkler fitting program."

The UA VIP Program gives a unique opportunity

for transitioning military service members to move into a career in high demand so they can better support themselves and their family. VIP participants earn industry-recognized certifications and a direct entry into secure private-sector jobs with good pay and benefits.

"The program is a great opportunity," said Sgt. Cody Lemons, a videographer with Headquarters and

Headquarters Squadron, Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point. "Once you graduate the program, it's a 100 percent job placement. So no matter what, everyone who graduates will have a job when they get home."

For more information about the program, visit www.uavip.org, or stop by the UA VIP classroom, located next to the Auto Hobby Shop on Birch Street on Camp Lejeune.



(Left) U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Cody Lemons, a combat videographer with Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, cuts metal during a practical application portion of the Veterans in Piping (VIP) course on Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, Jan. 29. The course is an 18-week long program that focuses on accelerated training of highly marketable skills such as welding and the repair of HVAC-R (heating, ventilation, air conditioning, refrigeration) systems. (Right) Sgt. Steven Hover, a machine gunner with 1st Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, welds steel



Photos by Lance Cpl. Taylor Smith

Camp Lejeune Marines make splash during swim qualification

BY LANCE CPL. GINNIE LEE
Marine Corps Installations East

U.S. Marines with Headquarters and Support Battalion (H&S Bn), Marine Corps Installations East-Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, conducted the basic qualification portion of the Marine Corps Water Survival Training Program (MCWSTP) at the Area 5 pool on MCB Camp Lejeune, Feb. 7.

There are three levels of water survival qualifications: basic, intermediate or advanced swimmer. The program is designed to instill self-confidence

and implement the procedures needed to overcome mental and physical adversity that could arise during actual combat water survival scenarios. Marines must have at least the basic qualification renewed bi-annually.

“As United States Marines we are an amphibious force of readiness,” said Gunnery Sgt. Giancarlo Maragni, a training chief for the MCIEAST Regional Brig on Camp Lejeune. “Increasing the water survival capabilities of every Marine is important, because it better prepares our force to execute amphibious assaults with more efficiency and less

casualties from water-related incidents.”

During basic qualification, Marines conduct a 25-meter swim to establish the abilities of the individual swimmers. Next, swimmers jump from a 10 foot diving platform to simulate the overboard procedures in the event their ship is compromised.

Following the jump, swimmers conduct a 10-second underwater gear shed to show how to effectively shed gear while still maintaining positive control. The final event of the basic qualification segment is a 4-minute water tread where the swimmers are tested on their

ability to keep positive control of their breathing and the execution of floatation tactics learned involving different articles of clothing.

Marines are given four days to obtain the basic swim qualification, however if the Marine fails on day one, they have three chances to qualify before being dropped from the program. If a Marine qualifies on day one, they are afforded the opportunity to upgrade their qualification to intermediate and advanced swimmer.

For more information about the MCWSTP, refer to Marine Corps Order 1500.52D.



Photo by Lance Cpl. Ginnie Lee

A U.S. Marine with Headquarters and Support Battalion, Marine Corps Installations East-Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, jumps from a platform to simulate an overboard procedure during the basic qualification segment of the Marine Corps Water Survival Training Program on MCB Camp Lejeune, Feb. 7.

USO of N.C. in Jacksonville pays tribute to fallen hero



Photo by Calvin Shomaker

A plaque is displayed in memory of Staff Sgt. Benjamin S. Hines in the newly renovated media room at the USO of N.C. Center in Jacksonville, Feb. 6. The room was renamed in honor of Hines, who was killed in action in Afghanistan in 2019.

BY CALVIN SHOMAKER
Sports Writer

The USO of North Carolina, in partnership with Lowe's Home Improvement, held a ceremonial ribbon cutting at the USO of N.C. Center in Jacksonville to unveil its newly renovated media room, renamed as the Staff Sgt. Benjamin S. Hines Media Room in remembrance a Marine who was killed in action in Afghanistan in April of 2019.

“I think he epitomized what the Marine Corps is

about, and that is selfless service and caring about those around you more than you care about yourself,” said Jim Whaley, president and CEO of the USO of N.C. “From what I hear, he was outgoing, he loved life, he cared about his troops (and) he cared about his Marines.”

Hines joined the Marine Corps out of high school. He earned more than a dozen awards and completed two previous combat deployments in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. His father Scott Hines is a longtime

Lowe's employee and a store manager near Wilmington.

For Joe McFarland, Lowe's executive vice president, the media room will serve as a place where service members can gather and feel safe.

“The hope here is as our (service) men and women pass through this door that they have a safe place, that wherever they are at in their military career, wherever they are in their own personal challenges (or) professional challenges that it is a safe haven,” McFarland said.



Courtesy photo

The ribbon is cut to symbolize the reopening of the newly renovated media room during the dedication ceremony held in memory of Staff Sgt. Benjamin S. Hines, a fallen Marine.

OFF-LIMITS

The following businesses are designated by the base commander as “off-limits”

CAMP LEJEUNE REGION:
Atheas Attics at 420 Eastwood Rd., Wilmington.
Bell Auto Salvage II at 136 Abbots Branch Rd., Hubert.
Best Exxon at 2945 Richlands Highway, Jacksonville.
Club Phoenix at 209 East 5th St., Greenville.
Dash-In at 1316 Hargett St., Jacksonville.
Drive Thru Mini Mart at 2729 Commerce Road, Jacksonville.
D's Drive Thru (AKA: Raul's Drive Thru) at 226 Wilmington Highway, Jacksonville.
D's Quick Mart at 2840 Highway 258 West, Richlands.
Expressions at 419 South College Rd., #39, Wilmington.
Express Way at 1261 Gum Branch Rd., Jacksonville.
Golden Dragon (AKA) Tokyo Asian House at 1850 Wilmington Highway, Jacksonville.
Highlands Tobacco aka Piney Green
Tobacco at 835 Piney Green Road, Jacksonville.
Highway 24 Tobacco at 1448 West Corbet Ave. Jacksonville.
Hubert Tobacco at 393 Hubert Blvd., Hubert.
J&N Grocery at 1142 Beulaville Highway, Richlands.
Karen Huffman's Cleaning Jacksonville.
King's Tobacco Drive Thru at 1796 Gum Branch Rd., Jacksonville.
Laird's Auto and Truck Repair (U-Haul Rental) at 1197 Piney Green Rd., Jacksonville.
MB Super Discount at 800 Shipyard Blvd., Wilmington.
Moe's Mart at 2105 Belgrade-Swansboro Rd., Maysville.
Nash Market at 237 New River Drive, Jacksonville.
OJ's Tobacco and Vapor at 8900 Richlands Highway, Richlands.
One Stop Shop at 501 Corbin St., Jacksonville.
*Precision Motor Sports at 1321 Lake Cole Road, Jacksonville.
Price is Right Lawn Design in Jacksonville.
Reid's Mart at 461 Hubert Blvd., Hubert.
Sahara Hookah Lounge at 917 North Marine Blvd., Jacksonville.
Saint Thomas Custom Homes at 3560 McArthur Rd., Broadway.

Smart Buy at 375 Jacksonville Mall, Jacksonville. (currently not open, but has history of reappearing)
Speedy's Drive Thru at 357 Henderson Drive, Jacksonville.
Sun House Vapor and Tobacco at 2840 Richlands Highway, Jacksonville.
Super-Fast Drive Thru Mini Mart at 1005 North Marine Blvd., Jacksonville.
Tobacco at 521 Yopp Rd., Unit 106, Jacksonville.
Tobacco Leaf at 343K Western Blvd., Jacksonville.
Triple C Diesel Performance and Mobile Repair
602 Richlands Highway, Jacksonville
Veterans Affairs Service Jacksonville. (This is a private organization not affiliated with the Department of Veterans Affairs, VA Outpatient Clinic, nor Onslow County Veteran Services.)

MCAS CHERRY POINT AREA:
98 Cent Only Store
(Big Daddy) Wesley's Grocery
Coastal Smoke Shop
Expressions
Friday's Night Club (AKA: Club Insomnia, Club Classics, Infinity Lounge)
Flyers at 400 Fontana Blvd., Havelock.
H&D Express (AKA: Citgo)
Nadine's Food Mart
Tobacco Outlet (Havelock and New Bern)
Tobacco Shop & Gifts (Beaufort and New Bern)
Tobacco Town
Tobacco Shop (Newport and New Bern)
Twin Rivers (Not the mall)
White Sands Convenience Store

OFF-LIMITS ROADS:
Catfish Lake Road

* Identifies a new business added since the last update of the Bulletin.

Hotline numbers to report fraud, waste, abuse and corruption

II MEF Hotline - 451-5555 www.iimef.marines.mil/UnitHome/CommandInspectorGeneral.aspx
MCIEAST Hotline - 451-3928 www.mcieast.marines.mil/StaffOffices/CommandInspectorGeneral/CommandingGeneralsInspectionProgram.aspx
TECOM Hotline - (703) 432-1650 www.tecom.usmc.mil/pages/ig.aspx
Naval Hospital Hotlines - (910) 450-4240 NHCL-IGHotline@med.navy.mil
MARSOC Hotlines - 440-1045/0941 www.marsoc.marines.mil/UnitHome/InspectorGeneral.aspx
New River Hotline - 449-6029.

To report crimes on and off base

To report crimes on and off base, you can call the Crime Stoppers anonymous hotline at 938-3273 or text your tip to TIP4CSJAX + your tip to 274637.

- Cash rewards up to \$2,500 for information deemed of assistance to law enforcement.
 - Caller never reveals his/her identity
 - Reward is collected through code system

Help keep Marine Corps bases and Onslow County safe!

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II MIG uses 19th Century tech for 21st Century warfighting exercises



Photo by Lance Cpl. Larisa Chavez

(Right) Dave Wood, president of the Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club, instructs U.S. Marines with 2nd Radio Battalion and 8th Communication Battalion, II Marine Expeditionary Force Information Group, on amateur radios during a HAM Amateur Radio Licensing Course at Camp Lejeune, Jan. 10. The objective of the course was to increase knowledge on amateur radios and radio operating procedures in order to develop and enhance the Marines' capabilities.

II MEF INFORMATION GROUP

By Cpl. Stephen Campbell

U.S. Marines with Information Group, II Marine Expeditionary Force (II MIG) participated in a HAM Amateur Radio General Licensing Course as part of the group's High

Frequency Auxiliary Initiative on Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, Jan. 27-31.

The course, taught by members of the Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club out of Greenville, North Carolina, helps Marines learn the principles of high frequency radio operations as a contingency against a

peer-to-peer adversary in real-world operations.

Throughout the duration of the course, Marines learned HAM radio frequency and propagation theory, frequency band allocation, conventional and field-expedient antenna theory in addition to HAM radio operations and control.

U.S. Marine Corps Col. Jordan Walzer, commanding officer of II MIG, created the High Frequency Auxiliary Initiative after recognizing the need for utilizing more options in a combat environment. He wanted the Marines to familiarize themselves with older technology to ensure their lethality in any situation.

"Embracing technology is great but overreliance leaves us vulnerable," Walzer said. "In a peer-to-peer conflict, our space-based capabilities will be attacked. The next war will look less like 'Saving Private Ryan' and a lot more like 'Ghost Fleet'."

HAM radios make effective alternate communication because they do not rely on satellites or internet, but instead, radio waves. They can travel directly or indirectly, along the ground or by bouncing the radio waves off of the ionosphere or troposphere layers of the atmosphere to communicate.

"Right now, our adversaries are aggressively pur-

suing counter-space weapons to target our satellites and ground stations," Walzer said. "If our satellites get knocked out, what do we do then? [High Frequency] radio has been around for well over a century and is still used today. Why? Because it's a reliable, low-cost alternative to satellite communications. With the right training and education, a Marine with a radio and some slash wire can communicate over-the-horizon for long distances, even between continents."

Although most people use HAM radios as a hobby, II MIG views them as potential lifelines in a highly contested environment.

"I think the course was very informative," said Sgt. Matthew Griffith, an intelligence surveillance reconnaissance systems engineer with 2nd Radio Battalion, II MIG. "It's good to learn the things that make our equipment work. In my area of this field we use the equipment but don't [always]

know how the equipment works on the inside, which sometimes makes it harder to troubleshoot if a problem arises. Leaving the course with this knowledge will be invaluable for my Marines and me in the future."

Dave Wood, the president of the Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club and instructor of the course, plans to conduct the first expert level course in the future after enough Marines have graduated from the intermediate course. The club plans to host the next entry level course during the summer of 2020 and train more Marines.

"The volunteers who make up our High Frequency Auxiliary are absolutely vital to us building a world-class capability," Walzer said. "We're drastically improving our skill by pairing experts with Marines who have a passion for HAM radio. They may not wear the uniform, but they're American patriots serving our country in a different way."

2019 Novel Coronavirus update

COURTESY STORY NMCCCL

The 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) is a virus identified as the cause of an outbreak of respiratory illness first detected in Wuhan, China. As of Feb. 12, there are more than 43,000 confirmed cases globally with more than 1,000 deaths. In the United States, there are 13 confirmed cases. Imported cases of 2019-nCoV infection in travelers have been detected in the U.S. person-to-person spread of the virus has also been seen among close contacts of returned travelers from Wuhan, China, but at this time, the virus is NOT currently spread-

ing in the community in the U.S. according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), for the general American public, who are unlikely to be exposed to this virus, the immediate health risk from 2019-nCoV is considered LOW at this time.

The U.S. Department of State has advised NO travel to China due to the 2019-nCoV. All persons aboard Marine Corps Installations - East installations (active-duty, civilian personnel, dependents, retirees) are encouraged to follow CDC guidance regarding the virus.

Naval Medical Center Camp Lejeune is working closely with medical providers across MCI-East,

II Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Special Operations Forces Command, Navy and Marine Corps Public Health and the CDC to ensure all appropriate measures are taken to prevent potential spread.

Anyone contracting a respiratory illness should not assume its 2019-nCoV. In fact, the flu is far more commonplace. Please ensure your flu vaccination is current.

Any beneficiaries who have traveled to China in the past 14 days with fever, cough, or difficulty breathing should seek medical care right away. Call NMCCCL prior to arrival or let medical staff know immediately upon check-in if you have traveled to China recently.

2nd Marine Division celebrates 79 years of military excellence



Photos by Lance Cpl. Tyler M. Solak

U.S. Marine Corps Maj. Gen. David Furness, commanding general of 2nd Marine Division, attaches a campaign streamer to the Division colors during a Battle Colors Rededication and Award Ceremony on Camp Lejeune, Feb. 7. Marines and Sailors participated in the ceremony to celebrate the accomplishments over the past 79 years.



Furness presents a trophy to Cpl. Jessica Purcell with Headquarters Battalion, 2d MarDiv, for her selection as Marine of the Year.

Five tips to prevent illness

1. Thoroughly wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
2. Use alcohol-based hand sanitizers with at least 60% alcohol
3. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
4. Avoid close contact with those who are sick
5. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces

PUBLIC NOTICE

Restoration Advisory Board Meeting Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, North Carolina

You are invited to the next Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting for Marine Corps Base (MCB) Camp Lejeune. The RAB is a community advisory group that meets quarterly to discuss the Base's Environmental Restoration Program. Please join us at the next RAB meeting to learn more about the environmental cleanup process on the Base and to provide your input.

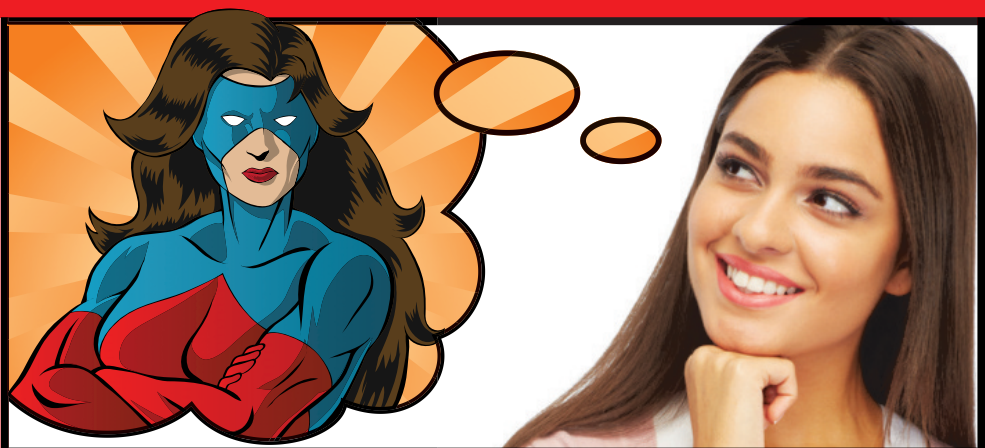
This RAB meeting will be held on

Wednesday February 19, at 6:00 PM at:

Coastal Carolina Community College
Business Technology Building, Room BT106
444 Western Boulevard
Jacksonville, NC 28546

If you would like to receive additional information about the RAB, please contact Ms. Kirsten Hiortdahl, Co-Chair, at (910) 451-5878, or visit: <http://go.usa.gov/x3f7m>.

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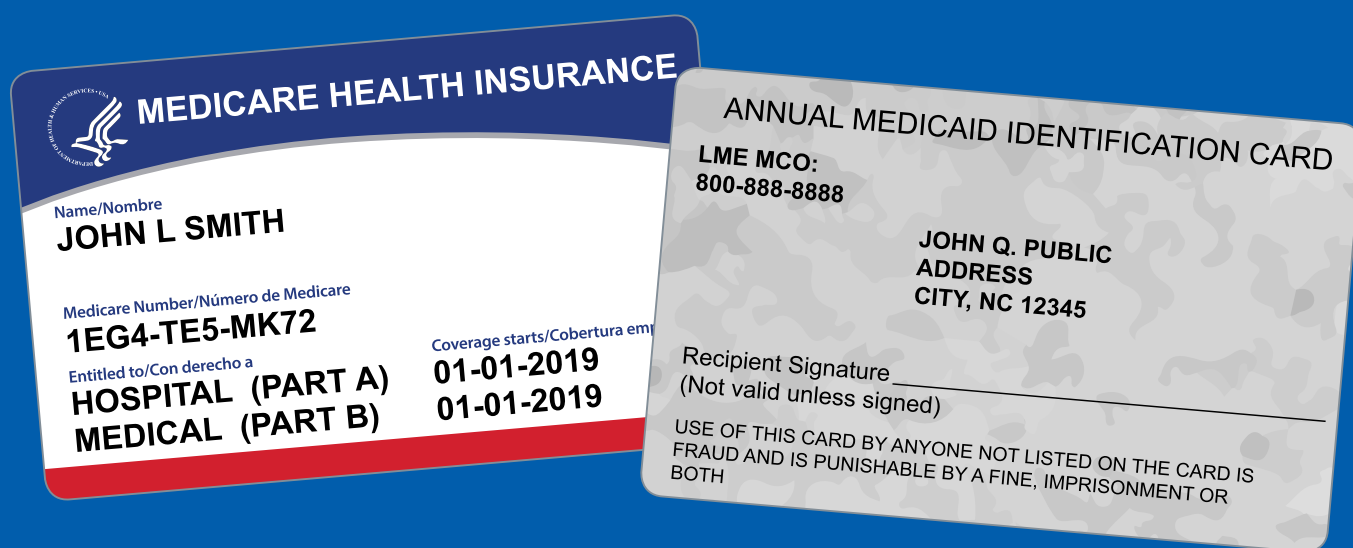


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Jacksonville, NC 28540
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On to states: Devil Pups place top three at conference meet



Lejeune's Tyler Gilman, center, runs a relay event during the Coastal 8 Conference (1A/2A) meet at Heide Trask High School, Feb. 5. Gilman is one of 14 Devil Pups competing in Saturday's state meet.

More than a dozen LHS athletes set to compete at state meet

BY CALVIN SHOMAKER
Sports Writer

The Lejeune High School winter track team finished top three at the Coastal 8 Conference (1A/2A) meet at Heide Trask High School, Feb. 5.

The LHS boys got second place with gold medal-winning performances from Kyle Baldwin, Karl Benson, Niklas Cooper, Nicholas Presley and Tyler Shelton. Also medaling for the Devil Pups, who locked up second by more than 50 points, were Tyler Gilman, Kamrin Wisherd, Dylan Presson and Dillon Turner. Marcus Cooper, Ryan Miller and Preston Berthold earned points as well.

"I think this is the strongest we've ever been," said Baldwin, a senior in his fourth year at LHS who will compete in pole vault and the 55-meter hurdles at the state meet. "I have noticed a lot more team cohesion."

The LHS girls were two points shy of second. Skyler Kuncik, Elizabeth Schwend, Hailey Lamb and Madilyne Blanton

earned silver medals. Dajanae Kelley and Emalee Reynolds won bronze medals for the Devil Pups, who also got points from Kilala Stone, Anna Perdue and Aspen Peterson.

The Croatan boys' and girls' teams each got first. Heide Trask joined Lejeune and Croatan in the top three.

Despite the transient nature of athletes at LHS, assistant coach Amanda Tungett said that having the track athletes welcome newcomers with open arms has been huge for the program.

"Every person that comes in, they are totally accepting of right off the bat," Tungett said. "They're a good group, and we have a lot of fun."

More than a dozen Devil Pups will compete for a state championship in Winston-Salem on Feb. 15.

OF NOTE: Kyle Baldwin was named the conference's most outstanding male track & field athlete for the winter season. Dixon's Tamarius Ramsey was named most outstanding male track athlete.



Lejeune's Karl Benson, left, makes a pass during a distance run at the conference meet, Feb. 5. Benson won the 1,000-meter run and will compete in four different events at the state meet on Saturday.



Lejeune's Kilala Stone nears the finish line of a sprinting event at the conference meet, Feb. 5.



Lejeune's Kyle Baldwin competes in the high jump at the conference meet, Feb. 5. Baldwin was named the conference's most outstanding male track & field athlete.



Lejeune's Skyler Kuncik, left, enters the final stretch of a distance run at the conference meet, Feb. 5. Kuncik will compete in the 4x800-meter relay at the state meet on Saturday.

Photos by Calvin Shomaker

Lejeune boys ease by Trask, set for showdown with Pender

Photos by Calvin Shomaker



Lejeune's Nick Simon, left, drives past a Heide Trask defender, Feb. 7. Simon finished with 24 points and 8 assists.



Lejeune's LaKeigh Harris, right, scores two of his 16 points versus Heide Trask, Feb. 7.

BY CALVIN SHOMAKER
Sports Writer

Nick Simon and Andrew Navarro scored 24 points apiece as the Lejeune High School boys' basketball team got a big conference win over Heide Trask 80-59 at home, Feb. 7.

LaKeigh Harris scored 16 points and Jaylon Armstrong had 11 points to go

with 20 rebounds for the Devil Pups, who improved to 11-8 overall and 7-5 in the Coastal 8 Conference (1A/2A) with the win.

As the third best 1A team in the conference, Lejeune's playoff chances aren't quite certain, but are looking good after winning eight of their previous 11 games.

"We have just been playing team basketball," Simon

said of Lejeune's hot streak. "I feel like we are finally finding our groove."

In Lejeune's final regular season games, they'll go up against the conference's two top teams and two of the top 1A teams in the state. The Devil Pups faced East Carteret on Tuesday night, losing 83-59, and will host Pender on Friday. Both opponents are ranked amongst the top

10 1A teams in the state, according to NCPreps.com.

Though it is a tall task to take down the Pender Patriots, who are led by one of the area's top college prospects in senior guard Jajuan Carr, the Devil Pups think they know what it will take to get their biggest win of the season.

"We are small, but we push the pace," Simon, the

team's point guard, said. "We play fast. We get a lot of shots up, so we just got to play good defense, be aggressive, cause chaos and we'll see what happens."

For LHS coach Hugh Miller, who said his team will have to fight hard to beat Pender, the growth of the Devil Pups has been evident in their recent play.

"It's proven that they've

gotten better," Miller said. "When other coaches are noticing how much better they've gotten, that speaks for their work and their determination. They don't ever shy away."

OF NOTE: The LHS girls' team lost to Trask 63-22, Feb. 7. Katherine Coltey led the team with 10 points.

LHS swimmers compete at state meet

BY CALVIN SHOMAKER
Sports Writer

Lejeune High School senior Dean Fecteau finished 12th in the 200-yard freestyle with a time of 1:52.17 at last Saturday's 1A/2A NCHSAA State

Swimming Championships in Cary. Fecteau earned five team points to put LHS ahead of eight other 1A/2A schools that had men earn points at the state meet.

Caroline Morgan hit a personal best in the

100-yard breaststroke with a time of 1:14.69, but finished 22nd in the event. Morgan and Fecteau were the two LHS swimmers competing at the state meet, having qualified for states with a pair of top six finishes at the regional.

Sports on TAP

For more information on games, tryouts, special events and exercise classes around MCB Camp Lejeune and MCAS New River, check out Sports on Tap each week. To add your activity, call (910) 451-7421. Availability is limited to space. To add your event to our website calendar, visit www.camplejeuneglobe.com.

Wrestling Open Mat

Monday to Wednesday, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., Marine Corps Air Station New River, AS-4000

Weekly open mat hosted by the All-Marine Wrestling Team. Open to all active-duty DoD personnel. To learn more, contact the All-Marine Wrestling Team via social media.

Monthly Scramble

Saturday, Feb. 15, 8:30 a.m., Paradise Point Golf Course, MCB Camp Lejeune

Monthly Scrambles are held (weather permitting) on the third Saturday of each month. Register by 8 a.m. in the Pro Shop. Computer determines draw from players' USGA Handicap. Cost is \$10 per person plus cart and greens fees. Scramble is open to the public. To learn more, call (910) 451-5445 or visit www.mccslejeune-newriver.com/golf.

Hard Corps Series Full Power Meet

Saturday, Feb. 22, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Stone Bay Fitness Center, MCB Camp Lejeune

Categories will include squat, deadlift and bench press. All skill levels welcome. Open to authorized patrons 18 years of age or older. Register at Wallace Creek Fitness Center or Stone Bay Fitness Center. Cost is \$70. To learn more, visit mccslejeune-newriver.com/hardcorps or call (910) 440-2054.

Couples Yoga

Saturday, Feb. 29, 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m., Wallace Creek Fitness Center, MCB Camp Lejeune

Connect with your special someone through a two-hour yoga class designed for couples. Cost is \$5 per person. Pre-paid group exercise monthly passes and/or punch cards are not accepted. Free admittance with Active Duty ID Card is not valid either. Open to all authorized patrons 18 years and older. Personal yoga mat recommended, but not required. To learn more, call (910) 451-0025.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Q&A

Sport: Strongman

Quick facts:

- Facilities manager for Wounded Warrior Battalion-East
- Representing the United States at the Arnold Sports Festival, an International Federation of Bodybuilding and Fitness competition, March 5-8 in Columbus, Ohio
- Won national women's strongman competition in 2019

Q: HOW DID YOU GET INVOLVED IN STRONGMAN COMPETITIONS?

A: I got involved about two and a half years ago. My strongman coach is Greg Popejoy, an active duty Marine. He helps host the strongman events on base from the Hard Corps Series, so he was just like 'You should compete in Strongman. I think you could do it.'

Q: WHAT IS YOUR FOCUS GOING INTO THE ARNOLD SPORTS FESTIVAL?

A: The weights I have to hit for the overhead presses are weights that I have never hit before, so for this prep since November, I have just been focusing on strength without losing any endurance for my moving events.

Q: WHAT IS THE BIG APPEAL OF BODYBUILDING AND WEIGHTLIFTING AS A SPORT?

A: Just looking and feeling like a super hero is kind of what really got me into it.

Q: WHAT IS THE KEY TO BEING GOOD AT STRONGMAN COMPETITIONS?

A: It has to be mentality. You just have to believe you can do it.

Q: WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PART ABOUT WORKING AT WOUNDED WARRIOR BATTALION EAST?

A: The people, being able to help the Marines and see them evolve and become who they have to become now.

Q: DO YOU HAVE ANY ADVICE FOR ASPIRING BODYBUILDERS AND POWER LIFTERS?

A: If you are interested in bodybuilding or strongman, just do it. Start here locally. Start here right on base. Find your tribe, the people who are going to teach you, and just go. Even if you don't have anyone to teach you, show up. The way you are going to learn is to do it.

If you'd like to nominate an area athlete for Athlete of the Week, email cshomaker@camplejeuneglobe.com.

Melba Roelofs: Local sports pioneer, future hall of famer

The former teacher, coach, trainer and athletic director impacted sports in the area to an indescribable degree.



Melba Roelofs, left, tapes a Lejeune High School football player's ankle in the early 1990s.



Melba Roelofs, right, tends to a Dixon soccer player in the mid 2000s.

BY CALVIN SHOMAKER
Sports Writer

In the early 1970s, when Melba Roelofs began teaching physical education at Lejeune High School, there were no girls' sports programs besides cheerleading.

But Roelofs helped change that, first by starting a girls' track team and highlighting the lack of girls' sports in Onslow County by calling in to a local sports radio show to fan the flame.

Soon after, girls' sports started to take form across the area.

Roelofs helped start girls' softball, volleyball and basketball programs at Lejeune, but it wasn't easy. She even put her job on the line for girls' basketball. In order to combat

administration concerns about fighting, Roelofs proved her commitment by vouching she would quit if one of her players attempted to fight.

Roelofs led the girls' track team to state championships in 1989 and 1998. She became the first certified athletic trainer in the county, inspiring many of her students to pursue careers in sports medicine and health care.

Without question, Roelofs has touched a number of lives.

"She is the reason I became a PE teacher," said Jerri Wingo, a late '70s graduate of LHS.

"She was a mentor, not only as a teacher, but she was a friend."

"She made sure that I was taken care of," said Brandy McCollum, LHS

class of 1998. "She was like my big support system as a coach. She always supported me and always had my back."

"She was a great inspiration to a lot of the students here," said Debra Bryant, LHS athletic director, who followed in Roelofs' footsteps. "She made a big impact and a difference in a lot of students' and coaches' lives."

"It's been great to have her as a mentor and someone who you can ask questions of and get good advice from," said Lisa Beavers, who began her path to becoming the LHS athletic trainer while a sophomore at the school because of Roelofs' guidance. "She taught me everything I knew to start off with, how to run the training

program, how to set it up and how to even coach and be a quality coach."

Roelofs was supported by her husband Tim, a former Marine. The two coached with and against one another, each winning at least one state title in track, but the Roelofs' legacy isn't about winning. It is about putting the kids first, doing things the right way, with dignity, and being dedicated to whatever you do.

"Winning is easy," Roelofs said. "Emphasize teaching. Emphasize team building, because that will do more than skill."

Roelofs dedicated more than 40 years to student-athletes in Onslow County. She spent more than 30 years at Lejeune High School, with stints as athletic trainer



Melba Roelofs, left, addresses the Lejeune High School volleyball team in 1984. Also pictured is Beth Morrison, right.

and athletic director, prior to spending seven years at Dixon High School as athletic trainer until 2012. She will be

inducted in the Jacksonville Onslow-Sports Commission Hall of Fame at Sturgeon City in Jacksonville, May 7.

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Grand Prix Race Series kicks off with X-treme Endurance Challenge 12k+



Runners competing in the X-treme Endurance Challenge 12k+ follow the race's course near Henderson Pond on Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, Feb. 8. The 7+ mile race had over 300 participants and was the first of four events in the 2020 Grand Prix Race Series, which includes the Marine Corps Half Marathon. To learn more about the Grand Prix Race Series, visit www.mccslejeune-newriver.com/grandprix.



Dennis Tucker acknowledges the camera during the X-treme Endurance Challenge, Feb. 8.



Cara Lazenby, right, smiles for the camera.



Shane Legg acknowledges the camera.



Mark Smith, right, and Steven Lavigne, center, cross a bridge.

For more photos from the event, visit www.camplejeuneglobe.com/photo_galleries.

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Daddy Daughter Dance

brings down the house at Marston Pavilion



A Marine father spins his daughter on the dance floor at Marston Pavilion during the All Ranks Daddy Daughter Dance, Feb. 8. The event featured food, music and a photographer for families.

Photos by Pat Gruner



BY PAT GRUNER
Managing Editor

They shook it off. They twisted. They even put their left foot in and took their left foot out. For Marine and Sailor dads and their daughters, some rhythm and good vibrations made for a night full of memories at the All Ranks Daddy Daughter Dance at Marston Pavilion, Feb. 8.

The evening was split into two designations, an early dance for children aged three to five and another for ages six and up. Both featured hors d'oeuvres, a photographer for formal pictures and plenty of music to keep the party going.

For those interested in a similar event, another is typically held at Marine Corps Air Station in June.

For more information, visit <https://www.mccslejeune-newriver.com>.



Smith and Lawrence reunite for an action-packed 'Bad Boys for Life'

ED SYMKUS
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When "Bad Boys," the cop-buddy film directed by Hollywood bad boy Michael Bay, and starring Will Smith and Martin Lawrence, was released 25 years ago, it took in just over \$141 million at the box office. When "Bad Boys II," with the same directing-acting combo came out 17 years ago, ticket sales were \$273 million. I didn't see either of those films until a week ago, when I sat down for a double feature on my living room couch. And I liked them! A lot!! It was easy to see why they were such big hits. Both featured boatloads of action, breakneck editing, gobs of handleable violence, a steady thread of humor, snappy banter, a lush and richly saturated color scheme, and a believable and loving camaraderie between the two leads. Over the years, I had also become - with the exception of his dizzyingly unwatchable "Transformers" films - an unabashed fan of Michael Bay. When I discovered he wasn't directing "Bad Boys for Life," and that it would be co-directed by the unfamiliar (to me) Adil El Arbi and Bilal Fallah, I had some negative thoughts. But 10 minutes into it, and already caught up by all of the action, fast editing, violence, humor, camaraderie, etc., I knew I was in good hands. About 20 minutes later, when

Michael Bay had a cameo as a wedding emcee, and I realized he had given the film his blessing (and later found out he produced it), I was settled in for the ride. In fact, it opens with a ride - a wild one, with Mike Lowrey (Smith) at the wheel of his Porsche, zigzagging through a high-speed police chase in Miami, with his partner Marcus Burnett (Lawrence) in the passenger seat, screaming for him to slow down. But it turns out not to be a chase. It's a high-speed ride to a hospital, where Marcus' daughter is giving birth to his first grandson. And so begins the story of what appears to be the dissolution of the partnership. Mike and Marcus have been together all these years, but now Marcus is considering retirement "because family is all that matters." To which Mike, with no thoughts of retirement, replies, "I'll be running down criminals till I'm 100!" Meanwhile, somewhere in Mexico, there's a bloody jailbreak, a reunion of a vindictive mother and her murderous son, and a vengeful plan that includes making Mike the target of some bullets. With that plotline in play, it's safe to say that retirement is at least temporarily put on the backburner. There's some dark, serious stuff going on here, but the writers and directors make sure to include a fair share of fun



Marcus (Martin Lawrence) and Mike (Will Smith) are “Bad Boys for Life.” Photo courtesy of Columbia

in the mix, and there's some funny crosscutting between action-man Mike still keeping up his old lifestyle and old-fashioned family man Marcus settling into his new one. To clarify, Mike wants revenge on those who tried to off him, and Marcus wants to enjoy life with his grandson. Joe Pantoliano returns for his third portrayal of the overly excitable Captain Howard, a man who regularly needs a swig

of Pepto Bismol whenever Mike goes rogue on him. Series newcomers Paola Nuez, as the head of a special police team, and Kate del Castillo and Jacob Scipio, as the malevolent mother-son duo, are perfectly cast. But as with the first two entries, it's the onscreen relationship between Smith and Lawrence, the peanut butter and jelly of cop-buddy movies (that's a compliment), that makes the film work.

Their characters are similar in that they're committed to their jobs. They're different because ... well, Mike drives that Porsche, and Marcus drives his wife's Nissan Quest. The nice thing about them playing these action roles again after all this time is that they're convincing as a couple of guys who are too long in the tooth to do it, but can still do it. Will there be a "Bad Boys 4?" The script makes it feasible, but let's

see how well this one does at the box office (my guess is very well).
Editor's note: More Content Now, is a media news service providing a variety of lifestyle, niche and partner content for GateHouse publications. The opinion of the writer does not constitute the views or endorsement of the Department of Defense, the U.S. Marine Corps, or Gate House Media.

MOVIE SCHEDULES

CAMP LEJEUNE Bldg. 19 McHugh Blvd.	MIDWAY PARK Bldg. 4014A in Midway Park	NEW RIVER Bldg. AS240 Curtis Rd., Air Station
FRIDAY "Bad Boys For Life" R, 6:30 p.m. "1917" R, 9:20 p.m.	FRIDAY "Just Mercy" PG-13, 7 p.m.	FRIDAY "Dolittle" PG, 6 p.m. "The Grudge" R, 8:30 p.m.
SATURDAY "Spies in Disguise" PG, 3:30 p.m. "Just Mercy" PG-13, 6:30 p.m.	SATURDAY Half Price Matinee: "Little Women" PG, 11 a.m. "Dolittle" PG, 2 p.m.	SATURDAY "Bad Boys For Life" R, 6 p.m. "1917" R, 8:30 p.m.
SUNDAY "Dolittle" PG, 3:30 p.m. "Little Women" PG, 6:30 p.m.	SUNDAY "Bad Boys For Life" R, 2 p.m.	SUNDAY "Just Mercy" PG-13, 2 p.m. "Spies in Disguise" PG, 5 p.m.



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Photos by Onslow County Animal Shelter



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My name is Chipper, and I am a male, buff and white Domestic Medium Hair mix. The shelter doesn't know how old I am.
Pet ID# 43699861

The Onslow County Animal Shelter is open Tuesday through Friday from noon to 6:30 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
To see more photographs of pets available for adoption, visit www.onslowcountync.gov/AnimalServices. For more information, call 455-0182.

What's happenin' CAROLINA

For information on concerts, festivals, special events and classes up and down the Carolina coast, check out What's happenin' CAROLINA each week.

To add your event, email pgruner@camplejeuneglobe.com or call **451-7421**. Space is limited to availability.

To submit your event for our online calendar, visit <https://www.camplejeuneglobe.com/calendar>.

Valentine's Dinner Dance Feb. 14, 5:30 to 11 p.m.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9983 celebrates Valentine's Day with a dance at the Post featuring live music and a steak dinner. Tickets are \$20 per person and available on Post 9983's Facebook Page or at the Post. Tickets should be purchased in advance to ensure a plate. For more information, call **(910) 329-1881**.

Kids' Night Out Feb. 14, 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Onslow County Parks and Recreation offers a chance for parents to spend Valentine's Day together while their kids socialize and have fun at Onslow Pines Park. Crafts and other themed activities available. Open to ages six through 12. Registration required at <https://www.onslow.recdesk.com> or by calling **(910) 347-5332**. Tickets \$10.

Chilly Chili Poker Run Feb. 15, 9 a.m.

Rolling Thunder Inc. Chapter 5 N.C. is holding their annual bike run at Lejeune Motorsports in Jacksonville. Prizes will be available for the best hand, second best hand and worst hand. Riders will receive free food and drink. Door prizes available. For more information, call Joe at **(910) 545-0260**.

BBQ Bash and Chili Cookoff Feb. 28, 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

The New River Officer Spouses Club hosts a chili and BBQ cookoff at the New River Marina. For information on how to enter your chili or BBQ or tickets, visit <https://newriverosc.org/event/bbq-bash-chili-cookoff/>.

My One Word



CHAPLAIN'S COLUMN

BY LT. CMDR. CALVIN B. GARDNER, SR.

School of Infantry - East

"Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my rock and my Redeemer."

Psalms 19:14

American author and life coach, Tony Robbins reminds us that throughout human history, our greatest leaders and thinkers have used the power of words to transform our emotions, to enlist us in their causes and to shape the course of destiny. Words cannot only create emotions, they create actions. From our actions flow the results of our lives.

What Robbins is positing is that our words carry a great deal of meaning. Words help shape our spiritual, professional and personal lives. Words also demand that we recognize and explore them so that we can adjust our lives accordingly.

It is estimated that the English language is comprised of 800,000 words; 300,000 of which are technical terms. The average person knows 10,000 words and uses 5,000 in everyday speech. It is believed that journalists know approximately 15,000 words and use around 10,000. Perhaps this can be contributed to their line of work. Whatever the case, we humans cannot live without words. We need them to communicate the thoughts of our hearts and minds to others.

We also need words to offer our prayers to God. Consider how words shape our prayers and life.

Recently Delphine and I attended a chaplain and spouse marriage/ personal growth retreat in Asheville, North Carolina. During this time of spiritual renewal, retired U.S. Army Lt. Gen. Robert L. Van Antwerp, Jr. challenged us to depart from the New Year's resolution path and take a more concentrated annual journey. He called this challenge "My One Word." Here is how it works: Think about your life; who you are; who you desire to become and think about one word that you can focus on or keep returning to throughout the year so that you can stay the course for your spiritual and personal growth in 2020. Don't rush it. Take your time and really think about your one word. Make a list and discuss it with a friend or family member – then choose your one word. Now go live it and have someone hold you accountable so that you can check your progress periodically. Blessings!

"Do you see a man who is hasty in his words? There is more hope for a fool than for him."

Proverbs 29:20

"Wise words bring many benefits."

Proverbs 12:14

Catching up with a Pup:

ANTHONY SCHWEND, CLASS OF 2018



Photo by Matthew Sokol



Courtesy photo

(Left) Anthony Schwend, poses for a photo while in JROTC at Lejeune High School, May 21, 2018. (Right) Schwend is now a sophomore at The Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina, and plans to obtain a commission in the Marine Corps following graduation.

SOPHIA HARDING
Editorial Intern

Anthony Schwend graduated from Lejeune High School in 2018 and is currently a sophomore at the Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina. Schwend is majoring in mechanical engineering and plans to obtain a commission in the Marine Corps following graduation.

Schwend was not originally planning on going to the Citadel, but he says that his unique experience at LHS as part of the JROTC program opened him up to the possibility and has been beneficial during his time at the Citadel.

"People here have a big issue of being scared to talk to higher ranks, but being in JROTC taught me that those ranks are still people; they aren't out of reach," said Schwend.

In fact, Schwend owes

much of his success to his JROTC days.

"I wouldn't be where I am, I would not have gotten the scholarship to the Citadel that I did and I wouldn't be able to take the small leadership positions that I am offered here and step into them," Schwend said.

Schwend feels the biggest advantage of being a military child going into college is adaptability. He believes some colleges can be a culture shock and the Citadel is meant to be a culture shock. Most kids are not supposed to be able to handle it, but military kids do.

"You spend your whole life constantly changing circumstances and constantly having something going on, so when life throws you a different set of circumstances or situation you just say 'alright I guess that's what we are doing now,'" said Schwend.

Overall, Schwend is happy that he was able to attend a high school where his classmates were all going in different directions, both figuratively and literally. He hopes his fellow LHS graduates find success in their lives and take an important role in the world.

"If you did high school right, you miss it," Schwend said. "The most valuable knowledge I have learned from college is that nothing will get done if you don't do something. I used to just ignore problems and expect them to go away, but that doesn't work as well in college as it did in high school. If you want something done, go do it."

Editor's Note: Catching up with a Pup is a recurring column. Sophia Harding is a student at Lejeune High School. Facts not attributed are the opinion of the writer.



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Whole Vet Military Career Transition Day sets sights on networking, employment

BY PAT GRUNER
Managing Editor

“Transitioning is the most stressful event of your military careers.” Those were the words of retired Marine Corps Lt. Col. Giles Walger, now working with Amazon, during Whole Vet’s Military Career Transition Day at American Legion Post 265 in Jacksonville, Feb. 7. The event, featuring non-profits, academic institutions, government entities and international corporations, was a chance for veterans and transitioning service members to rub elbows with employers and human resource professionals who can set them on the right path to their next chapter. “We would like that every person who steps through that door walks

out of here with a future career,” said Dale Robbins, president and founder of Whole Vet. “We know that is not entirely realistic. What we can do is bring in companies that are no joke hiring vets, military members and spouses from the community and set them on that path to future employment. We aim to inspire, encourage and connect these members of the military community.” Some employers in attendance were Whole Vet alumni. Retired U.S. Marine Corps Chief Warrant Officer 5 Ian Anthony, former commanding officer for the Installation Personnel Administration Center on Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, credits the organization with finding him his current role.

“I am a Whole Vet baby,” Anthony said. “I was admin with the Marine Corps and now I am a project manager working with electrical engineering. They got me in touch with a company (Pike Enterprises) that got me trained up and able to use my skills from the service. I tell people, you have to do your TRS (transition readiness seminar), have to build a resume and have to go to these Whole Vet events.” Valerie Bennett, who left the service as a staff sergeant in 2017 and is now a project manager with Cisco Systems, agrees that one’s military occupational specialty (MOS) does not have as much of a bearing on future career plans. “The best advice I ever



HR professionals from corporations speak to veterans and transitioning service members.



“We would like that every person who steps through that door walks out of here with a future career.”

Dale Robbins, President and Founder of Whole Vet

Dale Robbins, president and founder of Whole Vet, polls the crowd of attendees during Whole Vet’s Military Career Transition Day at American Legion Post 265 in Jacksonville, Feb. 7. The event got veterans and transitioning service members in touch with potential employers and helped build a career network for vets.



Photos by Pat Gruner

Alex Stokman Brackett, a marketing manager with Caterpillar Incorporated, speaks about entrepreneurship.



got was to look at what you value and find a company that reflects that,” Bennett said. “What you did in your MOS is fantastic but that is not all you are capable of. If you were an infantry Marine, you still have an understanding of logistics, administration and other things. Assess what your gifts are and show employ-

ers everything you can bring to the table.” Walger, the former executive officer with Headquarters and Support Battalion on MCB Camp Lejeune, highlighted the importance of networking. “One of my strategies was to use these hiring events to narrow the scope of my search,” Walger

said. “Each event I attended I came prepared. I talked to these HR professionals who have done this forever and got their insight to overcome the preconceived notions I had going into my employment search. ... Everybody here today is here for a reason. They need to fill a position.”



Retired U.S. Marine Corps Lt. Col. Giles Walger, who now serves as an Amazon Military Pathways operations manager, speaks about networking and the importance of being prepared.

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Montford Point Marine Association Auxiliary celebrates African American heritage

BY PAT GRUNER
Managing Editor

Fabrics of various colors and designs meshed together into a tapestry celebrating African American culture and community at The Point in Jacksonville, Feb. 8. The Montford Point Marine Association Inc. Lejeune 10 Auxiliary held its 4th Annual Afri-

can American Heritage Luncheon, inviting all people to attend in the dress of their ancestors' culture.

"Look at the beauty of all these diverse cultures coming together as one," said Renea Lewis, auxiliary public relation officer. "We have seen more people participating in dressing with the theme this year."

Judy E. James, the

MPMA national auxiliary president, served as the event's chairperson.

"I wanted us to do something to celebrate African American History Month as well as to celebrate our unity," said James, who sees the event as having grown over the past four years.

This year's theme was "Believe, Achieve, Succeed." "African American

history, our history, is American history," Lewis said during the luncheon's opening remarks. "Modern history often ignores African American history, instead skipping straight to slavery. ... History shows us that if you believe it, you can achieve it. For our forefathers, those beliefs were freedom, education and equality."

The event's guest speaker was Ernie Wright, a U.S. Marine Corps veteran and attorney. Wright has served as Onslow County Commissioner, a state chairman, president of the Onslow County Bar Association and a multitude of other roles in the community.

Also in attendance was honored guest Norman Preston, a Montford

Point Marine, who turns 98-years-old in May. Preston served in the Marine Corps from 1943 to 1947. He was also the first African American electrician on the Pacific railroad.

"Everything we do is because of the Montford Point Marines," Lewis said. "We aim to continue their legacy and honor their memory in all our work."



Norman Preston, left, and Wade A. Smith pose for a photo at the Montford Point Marine Association Inc. Lejeune 10 Auxiliary's 4th Annual African American Heritage Luncheon at The Point in Jacksonville, Feb. 8. Preston is an original Montford Point Marine who served from 1943 to 1947.



Attendees applaud a speaker.



(From left) Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Phi Lambda Lambda chapter brothers Marlin Porche, Grover Lewis III, Ernie Wright, Will Johnson and Anthony Hillmon pose for a photo. Wright was the luncheon's guest speaker, having served as an attorney in North Carolina since 1982. He served from 1978 to 1982 in the U.S. Marine Corps.

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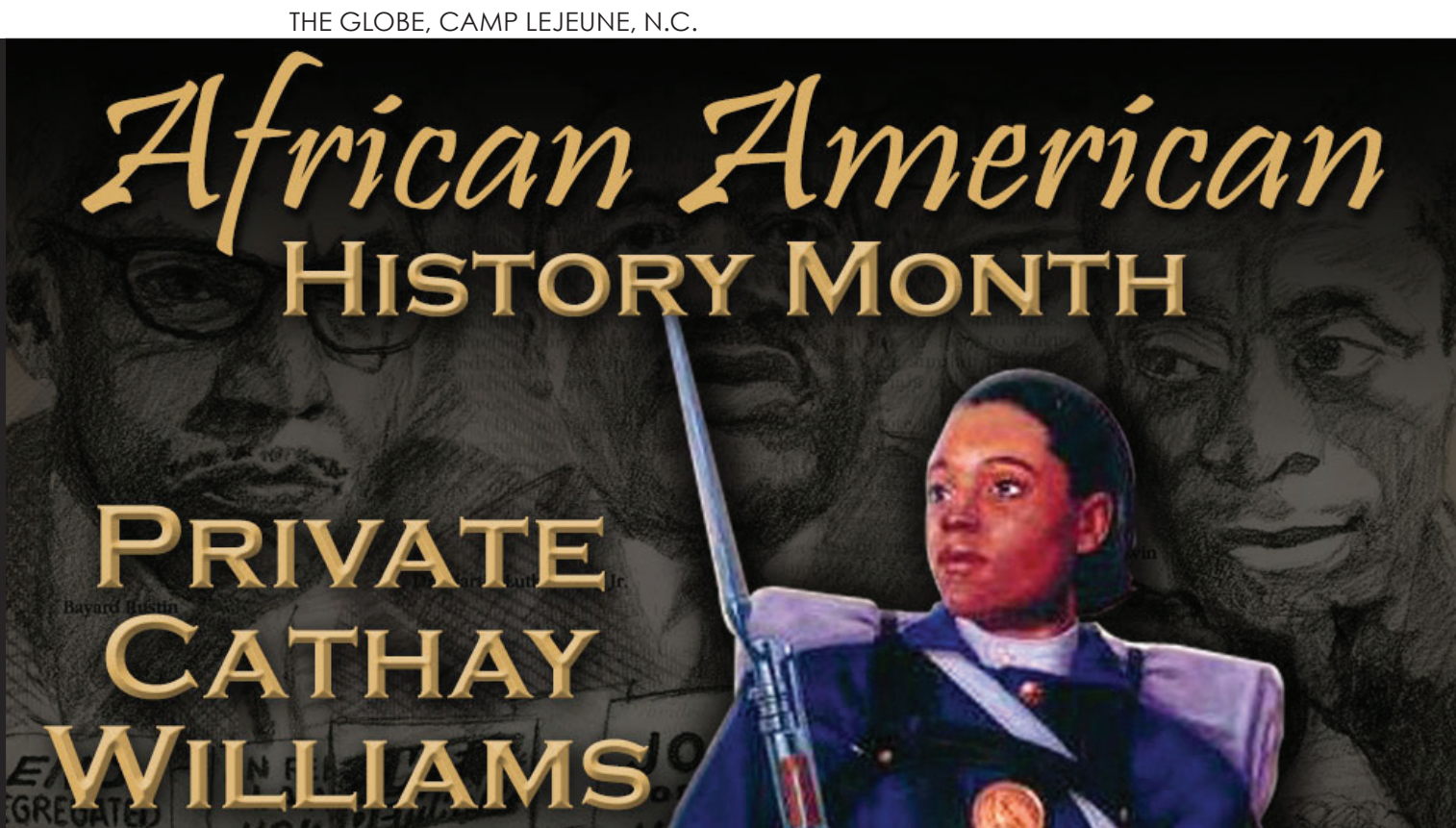
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Graphic by Anthony Summa

MCIEAST COMMSTRAT

In 1866, Cathay Williams enlisted in the Army using the name William Cathay. She told her recruiting officer that she was a 22-year-old cook. An Army surgeon examined her and determined the recruit was fit for duty. Williams made her mark in history by becoming the first documented African-American woman to enlist in the Army even though U.S. Army regulations forbade the enlistment of women. Learn more at <https://www.deomi.org/human-relatio.../special-observances.cfm>.



ASBP blood drives support service members domestically, abroad



Photos by Pat Gruner
Pfc. Logan Standerling, Headquarters and Support Battalion, Marine Corps Installations East - Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, donates blood during a unit blood drive on MCB Camp Lejeune, Feb. 10.

BY PAT GRUNER
Managing Editor

Supporting fellow service members is a key part of any Marine or Sailor’s mission. Thanks to blood drives put on by the Armed Services Blood Program (ASBP) across Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune and Marine Corps Air Station New River, Marines, Sailors, retirees and family members can provide essential blood that keeps that mission going strong.

“The ASBP is a military program designed to collect from military communities to provide to the military without civilian agencies,” said Wendy Binder, Naval Medical Center Camp Lejeune ASBP public affairs officer. “NMCCCL’s ASBP is one of two programs in the nation that works to freeze whole blood so it can be better transported

to military downrange or in our facilities. Unfrozen, whole blood lasts about 35 to 40 days. Frozen, it can last 10 years. That blood is stocked in areas where active duty service members do not have immediate access to blood, like on ships or for those who are forward deployed.”

While civilian agencies can hold blood drives just about anywhere, the ASBP is required to hold blood drives on federal property. Without donor turnout, that can lead to difficulties ensuring essential blood is available.

“Donating blood through any agency is admirable,” Binder said. “We ask anyone on base to come (to ASBP drives) because, since we are only allowed on federal property, our population is so much smaller. While we get great support from battalions and regiments, if schools

are training or service members are deployed, we do not have much of a safety net to fall back on. We need to meet our biweekly quotas to ensure blood is available.”

With those factors in play, all active duty service members, families and retirees are asked to support the program.

“We never want to be in a position where we cannot send blood forward,” Binder said. “If we don’t have it at our transfusion facilities, there is a large cost association with getting blood units from civilian agencies.”

NMCCCL’s ASBP has also begun providing letters of appreciation to those who donate. That, along with a competitive aspect across units, is further incentive to donate.

“We have talked about holding ceremonies to award units that provide the most blood,” Binder said.



Sponse Sit-down: I’m new here.

BY SHELLY FIERRO Graphic Designer

“Worry never robs tomorrow of its sorrow, it only saps today of its joy.

- Leo Buscaglia

Are you a new military spouse? If yes, then that makes two of us.

Although my husband and I started dating over three years ago, we just got married in November of last year. Our lives didn’t change much. We got to wear rings that signified our promise to one another, and our financial state got a little better. It helped that we had already been together for a few years, so we knew how each other’s lives operated.

Still, for a lot of people being a military spouse can present itself as being “scary” or “overwhelming”, especially in the early stages of marriage. Getting wed is a big commitment in and of itself, but pledging to be a military spouse is vowing to be that much more

dedicated.

“What if we go to war?” “Being away for so long would be hard on the relationship.” These and many others are fears that present themselves to new and aspiring military spouses. It’s easy to worry when so much can happen, and none of it is in your own hands. But, to the worriers and those who fear the worst, I say live for now.

You love this person, right? You love this person so much that even if your worries came true, you would still love them, right? And you know that worrying changes nothing, it only extends the negativity to the present, right? So why worry? It’s not worth ruining the peace you have right now.

Try to put your fears aside. Be thankful, and be supportive, always. Fight

fear with love. Fight the “what could be” with the “what’s happening right now.” As Leo Buscaglia said, “Worry never robs tomorrow of its sorrow, it only saps today of its joy.”

As I asked in the beginning, are you a military spouse? Yeah? Well that makes a lot of us, so you don’t have to feel like you’re facing your battles alone. Reach out to your local spouse groups. Find community, relinquish your fears and most importantly, be the military spouse you aspire to be.

Editor’s Note: Spouse Sit-down is a recurring column. Shelly Fierro is the Graphic Designer for The Globe. Facts not attributed are the opinion of the writer.



Lance Cpl. Angelique Aguillar, H&S Bn, MCIEAST - MCB Camp Lejeune, donates blood.

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