

- Paradise Point Golf Course remains open 5A
- **2nd MEB-A: 10 years later** 1B
- Motorcycle Mentorship Program 5B

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THURSDAY, APRIL 02, 2020



MCIEAST implements Health **Protection Condition Charlie**

MARINE CORPS INSTALLATIONS EAST

As directed by the Secretary of Defense, Marine Corps Installations East (MCIEAST) has implemented Health Protection Condition Charlie (HP-CON-C) across all of its installations to maintain the

base and air station personnel and families.

HPCON-C there are multiple confirmed cases of a disease nationwide such as the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). As of today, there have been FOUR confirmed cas-

slow County. The County Health Department says means one of those cases is travel-related; the other two cases are speculated to be from community transmission. The ONE confirmed case of COVID-19 aboard Camp Lejeune has recovered and been

readiness and protection of es of COVID-19 in On- medically cleared. While there is no indication of widespread outbreak in Onslow County, community transmission has been seen in greater numbers in other counties in North Carolina to include Durham, Mecklenburg, and Wake Counties.

As a preventative mea-

sure, MCIEAST previouserations as appropriate that ly implemented many of could potentially increase the HPCON-C health and the spread of the virus. A safety requirements during list of updates on services HPCON-B, as a result the can be found at www. base population will notice mcieast.marines.mil/servery few visible changes. viceupdates. Leaders will continue to assess conditions on the ground and cancel or cur-

tail services, events and op-

For additional guidance on COVID-19, please visit www.coronavirus.gov or www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.

A message from MCIEAST CG to NC installations



To our North Carolina-based installations:

In an effort to fight the spread of COVID-19, the Governor of North Carolina has issued a stayat-home order to citizens of the State that will go into effect at 5 P.M. Monday, March 30. To the extent we can, we intend to be community partners and comply with his directive.

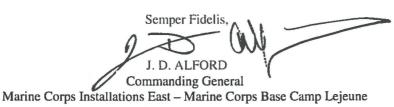
So what does this mean for our installations in Eastern North Carolina? We have already cancelled or curtailed non-essential services, and we are limiting our operations to those critical functions that directly support the operations of II Marine Expeditionary Force and other tenant commands. Continue to look for areas that each installation can further mitigate risk and prevent the spread of the virus while providing critical services.

To that end, I want to encourage commanders to limit the on-hand work force to only those employees and service members required to perform mission-critical tasks, and release all others to their quarters. Contact your command leadership if you have questions about whether you should go to work or not. This requires accountability on everyone's part. While government employees and contractors will not be restricted in their travel to and from work by local civilian authorities, it is our duty to comply with the Governor's order to the greatest extent possible. Compliance is both a civic responsibility and the right thing to do for the health and safety of our forces, our families, and the community.

This is what I want you to do:

If you are not involved with carrying out critical services and operations that support the needs of our operational forces and tenant commands, stay home. Minimize your trips to the store and other activities/services, but when necessary use the appropriate precautions. Minimizing unnecessary trips or interactions will reduce the spread of the virus and likelihood of you becoming infected.

Continue to follow the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention by practicing strict social distancing, washing your hands consistently, coughing into your elbow and contacting your healthcare provider if you feel sick. Report any conditions or circumstances encountered within your local communities which counters the provisions provided here for situational awareness and remediation. Finally, I urge each and every one of you stay focused on our mission to support those warriors training to go into harm's way and their families. Thank you for your patience and continued support during this health crisis.



Prepared to fight COVID-19: 2d MLG brings medical kits to Camp Lejeune



Photos by Cpl. Rachel K. Young-Porter U.S. Navy Sailors with 2d Medical Logistics Company, 2d Supply Battalion, 2d Marine Logistics Group, load medical kits on Camp Lejeune, March 18.



The Sailors are preparing kits to provide for national coronavirus (COVID-19) aid alongside II Marine Expeditionary Force and will include hand sanitizer gel, surgical masks, disinfectant wipes, latex gloves, sphygmomanometers, stethoscopes, thermometers, and isolation gowns.

2d Assault Amphibian Battalion conducts ship-to-shore event



A U.S. Marine with 3rd Platoon, Bravo Company, 2d Assault Amphibian Battalion speaks through a radio while conducting a ship-to-shore event at Camp Lejeune, March 19. The annual training requirement was used to maintain and improve the unit's readiness and proficiency while conducting amphibious operations.

II MIG Marines returning from overseas exercise screened for COVID-19



U.S. Marines with II Marine Expeditionary Force Information Group practice social distancing in formation after being screened for coronavirus on Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, March 24. The Department of Defense is following the guidelines set by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Department of Health and Human Services to take the necessary precautions to protect redeploying service members and mitigate the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

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 Abbits 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.,

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

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:

602 Richlands Highway, Jacksonville

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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Marines participate in marksmanship training despite competition cancellation

"You may fire when your taaargets appear!"

BY CPL. MICHA PIERCE Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point

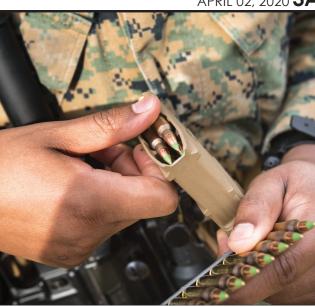
U.S. Marines assigned to Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Cherry Point and the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing were invited onto the range March 13, to participate in marksmanship training, originally meant for the 2020 Marine Corps Marksmanship Competition that was unfortunately cancelled.

Although it was cancelled, the Marines still showed up and showed out, honing their shooting techniques and weapons handling skills with the M16A4/M4 service rifles.

The Marines even got one-on-one coaching and guidance from personnel with the MCAS Cherry Point range on how to perfect their marksmanship skills and enhance their range knowledge.



A U.S. Marine fires an M16A4 service rifle during training at the range, Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, March 13.



U.S. Marine Corps Cpl. Jonathan Gibson, an aviation supply specialist, loads a magazine with rounds.



A U.S. Marine assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron fires an M16A4 service rifle.

2d Marine Division readies Marines with live-fire tank training



ion, 2d Marine Division idle before entering the firing range.



U.S. Marine Corps Cpl. Juan Martinez, a tank crewman, fires an M1A1 Abrams tank from the main gun during a live-fire exercise at Camp Lejeune, March 20. The range prepares Marines to make rapid and attentive decisions.

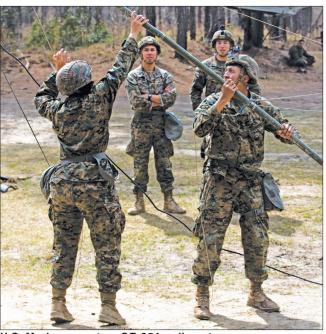
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2d Marine Division conducts Battalion Field Exercise



U.S. Marines erect an OE-254 radio antenna.



U.S. Marine Corps Cpl. Geovanni Cotovasquez, a data systems administrator with Headquarters Company, at Camp Lejeune, March 18. The exercise focused on mission readiness, lethality, and combat effectiveness within the Division. The training included defensive combat procedures, chemical weapons readiness, communications, and convoy operations.



U.S. Marine Corps Cpl. David Rodriguez, a human intelligence specialist, poses for a photo.

Marine Corps Recruiting Command transitions to digital, telephonic prospecting

BY GUNNERY SGT. JUSTIN KRONENBERG

Marine Corps Recruiting Command

Amid the national emergency caused by the COVID-19 outbreak, the Marine Corps Recruiting Command (MCRC) is taking steps to protect its recruiters, its applicants, their families and the communities where they live and serve by dramatically limiting face-to-face interactions with the public.

Effective im MCRC will temporarily transition to prospecting entirely via digital and telephonic means, and Marine Recruiters will no longer meet with new applicants

"The preservation of our recruiting force, applicants, poolees, and their families is the highest priority for the Marine Corps Recruiting Command during this national emergency," said Maj. Gen. James W. Bier-

man, commanding general of MCRC. "With that in mind, we will immediately transition to prospecting exclusively via digital and telephonic means, and no longer initiate in-person interviews.

ly-qualified men and women our Nation needs for its Marine Corps.

ted to recruiting the high-

We remain commit-

"Because recruiting is an activity of vital importance

to our Nation and Corps, we will continue our efforts to ship young men and women to our Recruit Depots and Officer Candidate School as conditions permit," Bierman said. "At the same time, it is recognized this imperative is not the only consideration. Our efforts will prioritize protecting our Marines and

Local recruiting offices will continue to be staffed, but at reduced manpower levels commensurate with social distancing guidelines recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Leaders at every level have full discretion to carefully appraise the personal and geographic risk factors unique to each situation, and then smartly move to curtail or modify activities when necessary. Travel is limited to mission-essential requirements, and no more than two individuals will travel in a vehicle.

Additionally, any member of the recruiting staff who has family members in a high risk category as it pertains to COVID-19 will work remotely from their residence.

Young men and women who share our fighting spirit and are interested in becoming U.S. Marines should visit www.marines. com or call 1-(800) MA-RINES to speak with a Marine Recruiter.



Photo by Sqt. Servante R. Coba

U.S. Marine Staff Sgt. Dimitri Armstead, a recruiter for Recruiting Sub-Station Stafford, works on his computer while prospecting from the office, Nov. 21, 2019. The Marine Corps is temporarily transitioning to prospecting solely via electronic means amid the COVID-19 pandemic, in an effort to limit its spread and protect Marines.

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Athlete of the Week 8A

On Page 6A

Disc golf: a social



WWW.CAMPLEJEUNEGLOBE.COM THURSDAY, APRIL 02, 2020

Open for business

Paradise Point Golf Course taking mandatory measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19



Photos by Calvin Shomaker

Retired U.S. Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Frank Davis putts as retired Marine Corps Master Sgt. Mike Varga keeps his distance on hole No. 17 at Paradise Point Golf Course's Gold Course, March 28.

BY CALVIN SHOMAKER Sports Writer

Golf courses in North Carolina have been allowed to stay open during the current COVID-19 pandemic, largely in part to the fact that it is a sport which can be played while maintaining proper social

distancing. Gov. Roy Cooper's stay at home order, which runs from March 30 through at least April 29, lists golf among its suitable outdoor activities, something Cooper has deemed essential. Individuals and businesses

must limit the number of people in a room to 10 or less as well as maintain six feet of distance between

Last Saturday, golfers took to Paradise Point Golf Course on Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, but showed a rea seriousness about following the proper guidelines.

A bulletin on the front door of the clubhouse notified golfers no more than 10 people are allowed in the pro shop at a time. On the course, cups have been raised one inch to eliminate the touching of

flag sticks. Once your ball hits the cup, it's considered

a hole out. Golfers are not allowed to share carts, and after the round, the carts are thoroughly cleaned. The snack bar has also been closed

until further notice. Paradise Point's head golf pro John Johnson is not anticipating the closure of the course as long as everyone abides by the

For course rates and information, visit www. mccslejeune-newriver. com/golf or call (910) 451-5445.



Retired U.S. Marine Corps Master Gunnery Sgt. Ernesto Lindsay, right, makes a birdie putt on hole No. 17 at Paradise Point Golf Course's Gold Course as Gordon McInnes, center, keeps a safe distance, March 28.



driving ranges and three putting greens. Play is open to the public, but visitors must be sponsored by an authorized cardholder.

coach and trainer Melba Roelofs is one of Paradise Point Golf Course, located at 2015 Brewster Blvd. on Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, features two 18-hole courses, two three inductees in this

Coastal Bank & Trust Sports Hall of Fame ceremony rescheduled for October



BY CALVIN SHOMAKER Sports Writer

The Jacksonville-Onslow Sports Commission announced last week its hall of fame induction ceremony has been postponed to Oct. 1 due to COVID-19. The event will still be held at the Sturgeon City Environmental Education

Center in Jacksonville. Longtime Lejeune High School teacher,

year's class. Stephanie Rose, a former White Oak High School soccer star, and Kendric Burney, a former three-sport standout at Southwest Onslow will also be inducted. The JOSC Hall of

Fame was created in 2002 and is housed in the Commerce Center at 1099 Gum Branch Road in Jacksonville. For more information and tickets to the induction ceremony, visit www.playjosc.com/ **halloffame** or call the Sports Commission office at (910) 347-3141.

Disc golf: a social distancing sport, for now



Hole No. 9 at Northeast Creek Park's disc golf course in Jacksonville is a 204-feet, downhill par-3.

Local disc golfers ordered caution, but still allowed to play for exercise.

BY CALVIN SHOMAKER

Sports Writer

With the onset of COVID-19, recreational activities are limited, but disc golf is still an option, though organized tournaments and outings have been canceled.

Gov. Roy Cooper's stay at home order deems outdoor activity essential and allows residents to travel for outdoor exercise such as walking, running, biking, hiking and golfing. Onslow County and Jacksonville parks will remain open, but playground equipment is off limits, per the order.

The disc golf courses at Northeast Creek Park in Jacksonville and Steed Park in Richlands will remain open. Groups should keep to a minimum of 10 players while maintaining six feet from each other.

Still, some are hesitant

"No one is out here doing things they shouldn't be, (but) it's a stay at home order, so everyone (should) stay at home," said Franco Blanchard, a U.S. Marine Corps chief warrant officer 2.

Marine Corps Sgt.

Blaine Shaw, a member of the Onslow Flying Disc Association who plays in pro tournaments across the region, isn't sure when he will play again. "For the most part,

(the sport) follows the CDC guidelines," Shaw said. "The only iffy thing is the baskets. It's kind of something that everyone is touching.'

People should stay home as much as possible for now, but Shaw thinks that disc golf is a game more people should try in the future.

"Anyone can pick it up," Shaw said. "When I

first started I had one disc, and I just went from there. Now I have a trunk full of discs."

It's also a good activity for military personnel, who make up a portion of the players at Northeast Creek, according to Shaw.

"It's definitely something that military members should get into so they're not just stuck in their barracks room," Shaw said. "It gives them a good, safe recreation that's something to do instead of just sitting in the barracks playing (video games)."

Local disc golf courses open for play:

- · Northeast Creek Park, Jacksonville (18 holes)
- Steed Park, Richlands
- (18 holes) • Emerald Isle Woods Park (9 holes)



U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Blaine Shaw putts on No. 18 at Northeast Creek Park, March 27.



The course at Northeast Creek Park offers two tees to choose from. The blue tees are for more skilled players as the white tees are for beginners and less skilled players.



Hole No. 5 at Northeast Creek Park is a 325-feet par-3 from the white tee and a 435-feet par-4 from the blue tee.



tees off at Northeast Creek Park, March 27.



U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Blaine Shaw throws a putt at Northeast Creek Park, March 27.

Stay fit at home with HITT



COMBAT FIT. COMBAT READY.

Daily High Intensity Tactical Training workout plans will help you be active while social distancing.

BY CALVIN SHOMAKER

Since the COVID-19 outbreak has prompted the shutdown of fitness facilities, High Intensity Tactical Training (HITT) staff members across the Marine Corps have designed daily HITT workouts that can be done at home with little to no equipment.

The workouts are broken down into sections, such as a dynamic warm up, task specific exercises, an endurance phase and then recovery activities. The daily workout plans are posted on the HITT Facebook page for the public to view.

Raymond Anderson, Camp Lejeune's HITT Program Coordinator, said he has been keeping active with his family during the outbreak. They've found a

yoga channel on YouTube that has helped them learn proper techniques and new poses to do. Finding similar resources online can be effective in helping you stay in shape while social distancing. Having a scheduled routine and designating specific days and times for certain activities is also a key to keeping fit during these challenging

If anyone ever has any questions or needs support, Anderson said to contact your local HITT Program Coordinator. Contact information for the HITT coordinators on Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune and Marine Corps Air Station New River is located at www.mccslejeune-newriver.com/hitt.

Additional resources can be found at www. fitness.marines.mil.



Photo by Calvin Shomake

APRIL 02, 2020 **7A**

U.S. Marine Corps Capt. Billy Van Vianen does the agility shuttle at the 2019 HITT Competition preliminary at the HITT Center on

Compete to do good deeds





SPORTS FOCUS

CALVIN SHOMAKER

Sports Writer

When talking to a friend a few weeks ago, he said something about the current pandemic that made me think.

"These are the kinds of times that will define a generation," he said.

This pandemic will have lasting impacts, but the circumstances don't define us. How we deal with the situation will.

It may feel like we can't do much as we distance ourselves and spend more time at home. We can't write personal checks for large amounts like professional athletes and the wealthy, but there are ways to make a difference.

We need to help those who are impacted by the virus the most - families who have lost loved ones, people who have lost their jobs, the elderly, the immunocompromised, the less fortunate, healthcare workers, first responders and emergency personnel.

Reach out to these people and let them know they are appreciated. For the unemployed, offer financial help or resources to find employment. For the elderly and at risk folks, offer to pick up goods for them so they can stay home, or cook them a meal. For healthcare workers, a simple

'thank you' means a lot. Single parents, grocery store workers, janitors and people who can't work from home should be acknowledged as well.

We can't compete in sports, but we can create competition in doing good deeds. Consider teaming up with others to see who can raise more funds for local charities, stay home the longest, collect the most food for the local food bank, send out the most thank you letters or post the most meaningful and heartfelt messages online to raise awareness and spread hope.

We all should be staying home and distancing ourselves. If you have to go out, do a favor for a neighbor. Make someone feel special. Find simple ways to make a big impact. Cartoonist and author Scott Adams once said "There's no such thing as a small act of kindness. Every act creates a ripple with no logical end."

We can all make a difference. The sooner we get past this, the sooner sports and other things we love will return, but we must make sacrifices and live our lives differently - or else the consequences will be grave.

> Local organizations you can help make a difference:

United Way of Onslow County: (910) 347-2646

Accepting food donations for their Children Healthy Eating on Weekends (CHEW) program.

American Red Cross: (910) 347-3591 (Onslow County), (910) 451-2689 (Camp Lejeune)

In need of blood donations. Canceled drives have caused shortages.

Onslow Community Outreach: (910) 455-5733

Needs basic lunch items for soup kitchen.

Salvation Army: (910)

 Accepting donations for food pantry.

Ways to be active while adhering to NC's stay-at-home order



Playing tennis at the Paradise Point Tennis Courts located on Seth Williams Blvd. on Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune is one way for service members and their families to stay active while practicing social distancing. Here's a few other ways to stay active in these challenging times:

Walk, run, hike or bike

Travel is allowed for these outdoor activities.

Golf

- Travel is allowed for golfing.
- Disc golf courses remain open in Jacksonville, Richlands and Emerald Isle.

Workout from home

- Visit the High Intensity Tactical Training (HITT) Facebook page for daily at home workout plans.
- Find a fitness channel on YouTube or other online resources.
- Implement a routine and stick to a schedule.

Tennis

Tennis is a great social distancing sport.

Important: All outdoor activity must abide by social distancing requirements, which state it is mandatory that individuals stay six feet or more away from each other and not gather in crowds with ten or more people in a single space.

Athletes:

We want to hear from YOU



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Nicholas Brow A couple plays tennis at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, March 20. Tennis is one way to engage in physical fitness while practicing social distancing.

How are you dealing with social distancing?

Are you or is someone you know an athlete or someone who is finding ways to still be active and participate in sports they love while practicing social distancing?

We want to hear from you and share your stories.

Message us on social media (Facebook: @camplejeuneglobe, Twitter and Instagram @lejeuneglobe) or email cshomaker@camplejeuneglobe.com to let us know how you are staying active and dealing with social distancing for a chance to be featured in a future edition of The Globe and on https://www. camplejeuneglobe.com.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



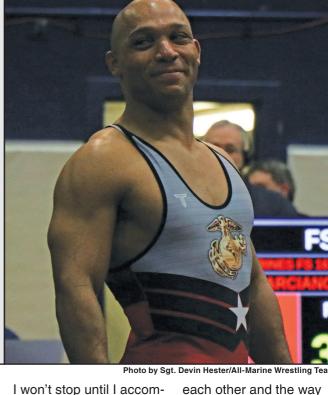
LANCE CPL. MARCIANO ALI

Sport: Wrestling **Team:** All-Marine **MOS:** Fixed-Wing Aircraft Safety

Equipment Mechanic (6287)

Quick Facts:

- Grew up in Brooklyn, New York
- Has served nearly four years in the Marine Corps
- Won bronze at the Pan-American Championships and Pan-American Olympic Qualifier in Canada in March
- Began wrestling as a high school freshman



Q: WHAT IS THE CAMA-**RADERIE LIKE ON THE ALL-MARINE WRES-TLING TEAM?**

A: We are pretty close knit. A lot of us are like brothers, following our rank structure of course to the utmost, but we pretty much stand behind one another very tightly no matter where we are or where we are compet-

Q: WHAT HAS BEEN THE MOST MEMO-**RABLE MOMENT OF** YOUR WRESTLING **CAREER?**

A: I would say the first opportunity that I got to compete in the Pan-American Wrestling Championships because it was such a huge learning curve when we went out to Argentina last year. It helped me to realize the potential that I could possibly accomplish as a wrestler and how much of a great support system I have with my team and my coaches.

Q: WHAT KIND OF **WRESTLER ARE YOU** ON THE MAT?

A: Hungry, motivated and

I won't stop until I accomplish my goal.

Q: ARE THERE ANY ATHLETES YOU LOOK UP TO?

A: Two of my teammates, mainly. Staff Sgt. John Stefanowicz and Capt. Peyton Walsh.

Q: WHAT DO YOU AD-**MIRE ABOUT THEM?**

A: Watching them go after it at every practice. They always go hard. They set a huge example for me when I first joined the team. I just love their pace, the way they push

each other and the way they are constantly there for each other. When it comes to the mat, it's nothing but business. They stay focused and they work on their craft one hundred percent of the time.

Q: WHAT ARE YOUR **GOALS FOR THE FU-TURE?**

A: It really depends on how things go with the virus, but my goal still is to make the Olympics. I was really close (to qualifying) at Pan-Ams. It just made me that much hungrier.

If you'd like to nominate an area athlete for Athlete of the Week, email cshomaker@camplejeuneglobe.com. (Nominations must have connections to the local military community.)

What if the NCAA tournament wasn't canceled? Picking the West Region

With the cancellation of the NCAA tournament, we can only speculate about who would have won it all.

BY CALVIN SHOMAKER

Sports Writer

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We continue our fivepart series of the hypothetical NCAA tournament with week three - picking the West Region.

The West Region

This region has some good teams in the middle of the pack that could make for some interesting

Gonzaga

Oklahoma

Michigan

Oregon

New Mexico State

LSU

Yale

BYU

Indiana

Seton Hall

matchups. At least a handful of teams in this region had Final Four potential. Let's take a closer look.

The virtual lock: No. 1 Gonzaga.

Coach Mark Few and the Gonzaga Bulldogs have never won a national title, but the Zags were on track to bring a championship banner to Spokane.

They led the nation in

scoring offense at 87.4

Prairie View A&M / NC Central

points per game, scoring ond in field goal percentage and fourth in assist to turnover ratio.

An upset pick and a potential Cinderella: No. 7 Arizona over No. 2 San Diego St.

Back in November, I wrote an article on my top three college basketball players to watch this year. One of them was Arizona's freshman point guard

Gonzaga

Michigan

Oregon

BYU

LSU

margin (nearly 20) and win his passes and three-point percentage. They were sec-shot to his dribbling and finishing ability, the kid is fun to watch. Mannion only averaged 14 points a game, but he is more than a scorer, and if I was an opposing coach, I wouldn't want to face him.

Nico Mannion. From

I think Mannion would have carried the Wildcats to the Sweet Sixteen, but First Team All-American Myles Powell and Seton Hall would have been too much.

The tossup: No. 8 LSU vs. No. 9 Oklaho-

At first glance, this one

Gonzaga

but LSU was the stronger team. Oklahoma went 9-9 in the Big 12 while the Tigers went 12-6 in the SEC, which says a lot.

may seem like a tossup,

The Regional Final: No. 3 Seton Hall over No. 1 Gonzaga, 83-76.

I want to think Few and the Zags would have made the Final Four and won the first national title in school history, but it takes a lot to sell me a team from the West Coast Conference, even if it is Gonzaga.

In the NCAA tournament, the team that has the better star player usually prevails. Powell averaged more than 20 points a game in each of his last two seasons and averaged double figures in scoring his freshman and sophomore years.

Propelled by Powell,

the Pirates won a share of the Big East, arguably the strongest league. They had a few letdowns, but I think the Big East had them well

prepared for a national

semifinals appearance.

Editor's Note: The preceding are the opinions of the writer and do not reflect the views of the U.S. Marine Corps or Department of Defense.



Gonzaga - 76

Who would

region?

Seton Hall

Oregon

have won the

No. 7 Arizona Arizona No. 10 Texas Tech

Eastern Washington

No. 2 San Diego State No. 15 **UC** Irvine

San Diego St.

Seton Hall

Arizona

Seton Hall - 83

Seton Hall University **Pirates**

■ NCDHHS Updates 3B

"Pawdcast" with MWDs 4B

■ Vietnam War Veterans 6B

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THURSDAY, APRIL 02, 2020

10 years later, 2nd MEB-A remembers service in Afghanistan



Courtesy photos

A Marine with Marine Expeditionary Brigade-Afghanistan talks with local Afghan children during Operation Khanjar.

BY PAT GRUNER Managing Editor

Part 1, Making a MEB

WWW.CAMPLEJEUNEGLOBE.COM

From May 29, 2009 to April 12, 2010 the 2nd Marine Expeditionary Brigade was deployed to Helmand Province, Afghanistan. Over the course of that year, Marines would establish expeditionary installations, train Afghan police and soldiers, take back Taliban controlled strategic hubs and lay down for posterity new operating procedures among the U.S. Marine Corps.

"We were the first large Marine footprint in Afghanistan," said Ernest Hoopii, former sergeant major for Marine Expeditionary Brigade - Afghanistan (2MEB-A). "We went in with two regimental combat teams, a Marine Aircraft Wing and joint task force support."

Retired U.S. Marine Corps Lt. Gen. Larry Nicholson was the commanding general of 2MEB-A during its time in Helmand Province. In 2008, during a deployment to Iraq, Nicholson had heard rumblings of an Afghan deployment in the works. Stateside, he was assured by LtGen. Hejlik, then commanding general of II Marine Expeditionary Force, that the chances of a deployment to Afghanistan were low.

Later that year, he was informed he was to be the CG of 2MEB-A.

"Late 2008 LtGen. Hejlik told me, you're going to Afghanistan" said Nicholson. "That began an interesting 60 days at Camp Lejeune. The MEF Forward was on its way to Iraq. We formed and started deploying in February, March and April (of 2009)."

The MEB was composed of elements from across the Marine Corps.

As such, there was no room for egos.

"We were not an East Coast of West Coast brigade," Nicholson said. "In terms of training a MEB staff, we were building the plane as we flew it. We were an international undertaking. There were Marines from all three MEFS as well as reservists with MARFORRES (Marine Force Reserves). As we went through procedures we would record our time. A big part of it was finding out how to procure what we needed to help Marines and the Afghan people."

In the beginning, 2MEB-A was 11,000 strong. That number would grow as needs were addressed, but the small staffing meant that things happened at a breakneck pace. Curtis Lee, part of the MEB's civil affairs group, saw the numbers as a part of what made the experience work.

"There was no room for infighting or politics," said Lee. "We were nimble because we had to be. It was not perfect but these are folks I would follow anywhere at any time."

Establishing a footprint would require a base of operations for Marines. From the ground up, Marines would establish Camp Leatherneck in the middle of one of the most hotly contested Taliban footholds, Helmand province.

Editor's Note: The retrospective on 2nd Marine Expeditionary Brigade - Afghanistan will continue next week focusing on Camp Leatherneck. If you or someone you know were part of 2MEB-A contact Pat Gruner at pgruner@camplejeuneglobe.com to provide your insight on the MEB, 10 years later.



Marines conduct physical training in the Helmand Province heat in September of 2009.

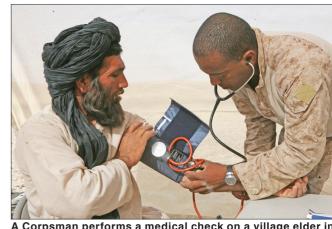


A Marine takes a moment to relax during the build-up phase of Marine Expeditionary Brigade-Afghanistan's time in Hel-

mand Province in July of 2009



A Memorial Ceremony is conducted in Helmand Province by 2d Battalion, 3d Marines in August of 2009 to honor casualties suffered during Operation Eastern Resolve.



A Corpsman performs a medical check on a village elder in Helmand Province in August of 2009.

Movies that you can (and should) watch while you're stuck at home

BY ED SYMKUS

More Content Now

Well, we're all becoming more familiar with our living rooms and focusing on a good movie is a good way to pass the time there. Here's a second entry in a planned three-part series featuring films that are so good, each one of them made my Top 10 list, and I've seen each of them at least twice. All are available on various streaming platforms, including Netflix, Hulu, Amazon Prime and HBO Go or HBO Now.

ACTION

"The Road Warrior" - The "Mad Max" sequel, about post-apocalyptic goings-on in Australia, is the best of the series. Mel Gibson is Max, once fueled by revenge, now just driving across the wasted landscape, looking for fuel. The adrenaline-drenched film feels like one long, spectacular, stunt-filled car chase and it gives new meaning to vehicular homicide.

"Saving Private Ryan" -Steve Spielberg proved that war is hell in the first 23 minutes of his WWII epic with a violent recreation of American soldiers getting slaughtered at Omaha Beach. But the plot turns to a Ranger captain (Tom Hanks) who is ordered, with his squad, to find and rescue the title character.

"Kingpin" - The Farrelly brothers made "Dumb and Dumber," then ramped up their raucous, often grossout ideas in this tale of a down-on-his-luck former bowling champion (Woody Harrelson) who meets a naive Amish fellow (Randy Quaid) who's a natural at the lanes. The film culminates in a battle of bad hair when the good champ bowls against a bad champ (Bill Murray).

"Raising Arizona" -Career criminal Hi (Nic Cage) and cop Ed (Holly Hunter) are deeply in love, and they really want a baby

... but she's "barren." The solution: Break into the home of Nathan and Florence Arizona, who have just had quintuplets, and take one of them, triggering a chain of events including being chased by a demonic bounty hunter, harboring escaped criminals and stealing diapers. There's dazzling camera work, a

ridiculously fast pace, and endless sight gags.

DOCUMENTARY

"Aquarela" - Russian documentarian Viktor Kossakovsky's study of the many shapes of water in Greenland, Russia, Venezuela, and parts of Florida grabs hold of viewers and doesn't let go. There are swelling oceans, giant icebergs, flooding rivers. It's a majestic, beautiful, frightening and serene film.

'Winged Migration" - It took three years, five teams of filmmakers and travel to eight continents to assemble this story of the constant search for food by birds. The film also looks at the dangers of natural predators and man-made disasters that challenge them. The ambient aural sounds are amazing, but the visuals are what make this special.

DRAMA

"Mean Streets" - Martin Scorsese set his story in New

York's Little Italy, where his cast of characters, headed by Robert De Niro as loose cannon Johnny Boy, and Harvey Keitel as small-time hood Charlie, are confronted with constant threats of violence, and regular explosions of it. One of Scorsese's most nerve-racking movies.

"Parenthood" - Ron Howard's narrative on parents and children, and the ups and downs of their relationships, is a marvelous piece of writing and acting. Perplexed husband/father Gil (Steve Martin) is at the center, and though his is the character we're most concerned about, there isn't a soul in the film - Mary Steenburgen, Jason Robards, Keanu Reeves and Joaquin "Leaf" Phoenix - that we aren't rooting for.

FOREIGN

"Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" - Ang Lee's film has a mythical atmosphere, eye-catching cinematography, exciting sword fights and intriguing stories going for it. There are also bigger-than-life performances by Chow Yun Fat as a former warrior and Michelle Yeoh as a friend of his who was once much more than a friend. Though the fights are amazing, this turns out to be more of a character-driven film.

"Pan's Labyrinth" - This adult fairy tale from Guillermo del Toro is about young Ophelia in 1944 Spain who, with her mom, is forced to move into the woods, where her military stepfather is wiping out remaining Spanish Civil War resistance members. It's in those woods that Ophelia meets the horned creature Pan, who tells her she's really a princess. Or is she just over-imaginative? You decide.

"Big" - A 12-year-old boy has a crush on a cute girl with a tall boyfriend, goes to a carnival wishing machine and says he wants to be bigger. When he wakes up the next day, he's become Tom Hanks, a kid in an adult body, with no idea of how the world works. That's the premise - except for how he deals with his young best friend, how he becomes a star idea man at a toy company, and how he deals with romance ... with an adult (Elizabeth Perkins).

"Hugo" - An orphan in 1930s Paris lives a Dickensian life - stealing food and hiding from authorities. A young girl befriends him, and a series of coincidences lead him to a toy booth owner (Ben Kingsley) who turns out to be silent-movie pioneer Georges Melies, and whose story this film turns out to be. An unexpected bit of warmth from Martin Scorsese.

SCIENCE FICTION

"The Fly" - Jeff Goldblum is a socially inept but brilliant scientist who invents a matter transporter, a device that he can't quite get the bugs out of. In fact, on the day he tests it on himself, a bug - a stray fly - is inside it with him, and the two are "transported" together. Goldblum and love interest Gina Davis are soon in a relationship that goes as awry as the experiment.

"Tremors" - There's no explanation as to where the "bugs" - or are they giant, sharp-toothed worms? - in this one came from, but they keep rising out of the ground to devour people. Until a scientist (Finn Carter), a couple of yokels (Fred Ward and Kevin Bacon) and some survivalists take them on. It's funny, it's scary and it's an original.

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.



'Saving Private Ryan'

MOVIE SCHEDULES

CAMP LEJEUNE

Bldg. 19 McHugh Blvd.

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NEWRIVER.COM

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*** ATTENTION ***

For the safety of our volunteers, staff and community, OCAS is implementing temporary measures to encourage social distancing.

We are now available for stray intake, owner reclamations and adoptions by appointment only. Please call 910-937-1164 to make an appointment.

Photos by Onslow County Animal Shelter

Animal Control Officers will be responding to emergency calls

Please call 910-450-0182 to report an animal control emergency.

All volunteer trainings, volunteer opportunities, adoption events, rabies vaccination clinics and in person donation drop-offs have been temporarily suspended.

> For routine inquiries, please feel free to email us at: animalservices@onslowcountync.gov

Thank you for your patience and understanding.



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.

COVID-19

All updates involving **MCIEAST and NMCCL** will be posted here:

- www.lejeune.marines.mil/
- www.newriver.marines.mil/
- www.med.navy.mil/sites/ nhcl/Pages/default.aspx



- @camp.lejeune
- @mcasnewriver
- @NMCCLejeune



- @camp_lejeune
- @mcasnewriver
- @NMCCLejeune

For additional guidance on COVID-19, please visit www.coronavirus.gov



NCDHHS Updates NCDHHS Updates NCDHHS Updates

Child care options available to critical workers amid mass COVID-19 closures

COURTESY STORY

The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDH-HS) has part-nered with the North Carolina Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) network to launch a hotline to provide child care options for children of critical workers who do not have access to typical care because of COVID-19 closures.

Families who have flexible working arrangements are encouraged to stay at home with their children. Workers who need care may call 1-888-600-1685 to receive information about local options for children from infants through age 12. The hotline is open Mon-day through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

"Child care is a critical service. People working on the front lines of the COVID-19 re-sponse need access to safe, quality child care so they can know their own children are being well cared for as they care for others," said NCDHHS Secretary Dr. Mandy Co-hen.

Care will be offered by child care providers who agree to meet updated health, safety and operational guidelines. Priority will be given to children of critical workers, which includes emergency and first responders, hospital staff, front-line health care provid-ers, nursing and adult group home staff, child care program staff, food service staff and others working to keep our communities safe and healthy in response to COVID-19.

Priority will also be given for care for children who are receiving child welfare services, homeless or in unstable or unsafe living arrangements.

Yesterday, NCDH-HS distributed updated health guidance to child care programs to best protect the health, safety and well-being of both the child care workforce and the children and families they serve. Child care providers will need to meet the new guidance to stay open.

The hotline will be staffed by CCR&R, which partners with the North Carolina Division of Child Development and Early Education and the fourteen NC CCR&R regions to support a strong child care resource and referral system statewide.



Gov. Cooper announces food assistance services



COURTESY STORY NCDHHS

Governor Roy Cooper announced today that parents who need food assistance for their children can text FOODNC to 877-877 to locate nearby free meal sites. The texting service is also available in Spanish by texting COMI-DA to 877-877.

After entering their address, parents will receive a text with the location and serving times for nearby pick-up and drive-thru free meal sites while schools are closed. Sites have been set up across the state for families with children ages 18 and younger, in-cluding preschool children, who rely on free and reduced-price meals at school.

"School closings mean no meals for some of our most vulnerable children. Now fami-lies have an easier way to find food during these times of financial stress," Governor Cooper said.

Parents can also call 2-1-1 to speak with an operator who will help them locate meal sites in their community. The 2-1-1 service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Services are provided in English, Spanish and many other languages.

Additionally, No Kid Hungry has created a map of local school sites, community organ-izations and food assistance programs across North Carolina where families can ac-cess food. The interactive map can be viewed at nokidhungrync.org/covid19/ and is updated daily.

The Governor's North Carolina COVID-19 Education and Nutrition Working Group. co-chaired by the NC Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) and the NC Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI), worked in partnership

with state and com-munity organizations such as No Kid Hungry to set up the texting program.

School sites and community organizations providing food are experiencing a high de-mand for services and rely on dedicated volunteers to provide meals. NCDHHS and NCDPI ask that people who are not at high-risk for severe illness associated with COVID-19 sign up to volunteer to prepare meals. Those interested in volunteering should call their local school district office, community organization or visit

volun-teernc.org. For more information and additional guidance on regulations and recommendations related to the health threat from COVID-19, please visit the NCDHHS website at www.ncdhhs.gov/ coronavirus and CDC's website at www.cdc. gov/coronavirus.

How to support small businesses amid social distancing

BY GREGG THOMPSON

NFIB North Carolina

Social distancing is taking its toll on North Carolina's small businesses. We don't have

state-specific numbers, but a new survey by the National Federation of Inde-pendent Business says 76% of the nation's small business owners say they've been affected in some way by the COVID-19 outbreak.

Over half say sales are down, while 23% say the coronavirus has affected their supply chain. One in five owners surveyed by NFIB said the outbreak hasn't affected them, but most think it will eventually.

As NFIB's state director, this troubles me, because small business is the heart and soul of North Carolina's economy. According to the U.S. Small Business Administration, small businesses ac-count for 99.6% of all employers in the state, and they employ about 44% of the state's work-force.

On Wednesday, the U.S. Senate passed the

Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. The economic stimulus package would help ease the economic strain caused by the coronavirus by providing cash flow and liquidity to small businesses here and nationwide.

But that's only the start of the process. The CARES Act is now pending in the House, and North Carolina's small businesses need relief now.

That's why we're asking everyone to continue supporting small businesses during the corona-virus outbreak

Small businesses are owned by and employ our family, friends, and neighbors. Small businesses create jobs and support our schools and civic groups.

When something happens that hurts small businesses, it hurts the rest of us, too. That's why I believe we should make a point of supporting locally-owned shops and restaurants even as we socially distance ourselves.

Some shops and restaurants are closed, but others are open and doing

everything they can to address the needs of their customers, safely. That means we can:

- Get take-out or delivery. Restaurant dining rooms may be closed, but a lot of local restaurants' kitchens are still open for customers to want to pick up or have food delivered.

- Shop online. Stores may be closed, but local merchants may have their own websites where cus-

tomers can place orders. - Buy gift cards or gift certificates to local businesses. Buy it today and spend it once the COVID-19 outbreak passes.

North Carolina's small business owners are determined to get through this, but it won't be easy. Sales may be down because of social distancing, and some locations may be closed, but own-ers still have bills to pay – rent utilities, taxes. Some owners have already sought financial help to get them through the crisis, and more are expected to do so in the future.

We know the economic impact of the coronavirus outbreak will be significant.

Something as simple as ordering take-out, shopping online, or buying gift cards can help lessen the economic impact the virus

is taking on small, locally-owned businesses.

Because when we help small businesses, we help everybody.

Editor's Note: Gregg Thompson is the North Carolina state director of the National Federation of Independent Business.



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@BPCJacksonville

Pawdcast: Bitz fifth graders create podcast on military working dogs for national challenge

BY LANCE CPL. TAYLOR

Marine Corps Installations

Two fifth grade students from Bitz Elementary School on Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune recorded a podcast highlighting military working dogs and their handlers March 9, 2020. Malerie Gregrow and Kouilee Ortiz created the podcast to submit to the National Public Radio (NPR) Student Podcast Challenge.

The challenge is open to teachers with students between 5th and 12th grade. Each podcast can be between three and 12 minutes long and winning submissions will be featured in segments on NPR's Morning Edition or All Things Considered.

Jessica Buckley, a fifth grade technology teacher at Bitz Intermediate School, challenged her students for the second year in a row to create a podcast of their own to submit to the national challenge. Buckley currently has 35 groups of students participating in the challenge.

"I try to bring their learning to life; that's one of the biggest reasons I chose this challenge," said Buckley. "A lot of times, this is the first time kids get to do a podcast, it kind of takes what we are learning and applies it."

The topic of military working dogs and their



handlers was chosen because of Gregrow's admiration of her mother, U.S. Marine Corps Gunnery Sgt. Sara Gregrow, a kennel master with the 2nd Law Enforcement Battalion, II Marine Expeditionary Force.

"My mom is really awesome; she's a magician with training dogs. She trains dogs in the military," said Gregrow. "She's the reason I wanted to do this podcast on dogs. This is my first podcast, now that we've gotten started on it, I'm really excited."

Officer Trent Tallman, a 10 year-veteran military dog handler with the Camp Lejeune Provost Marshal's Office kennels, and his military working dog, Dude, were the subjects of the students' interview.

During the three-anda-half minute interview, the students learned that Dude, currently an explosive detection dog, was previously used as a specialized search dog. Dude is also trained in specialized off-leash training which means he can go in any direction, at the command of his handler, for long distances. These types of trained dogs typically work based off hand signals, but in the Marine Corps, they can also receive commands via radio receivers. Dude was reclassified to his current position in December 2019 due to operational needs.

"You can see military working dogs anywhere in the Marine Corps," Tallman said. "They don't have to be with a specific canine unit; the dogs can be augmented out to different units on base."

The podcast challenge submissions are to be uploaded to Soundcloud by April 7, 2020. For more information and complete rules, visit https://www. npr.org.



Malerie Gregrow, (left) and Kouilee Ortiz, fifth grade students at Bitz Intermediate School, greet Dude, a military working dog.



Malerie Gregrow and Kouilee Ortiz pose for a photo with Officer Trent Tallman, a dog handler with the Provost Marshal Office's kennels, and Dude on Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, March 9. Gregrow and Ortiz are two of 36 students at the school who have entered to win a podcast challenge for National Public Radio (NPR).

USS North Carolina deploys from Pearl Harbor



Children wave goodbye as the Virginia-class fast-attack submarine USS North Carolina (SSN 777), departs Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam for a regularly-scheduled deployment, March 25. The submarine is 377-feet long, displaces 7,800 tons, is equipped to carry torpedoes and tomahawk missiles, and possesses the capacity to insert special operations forces into a multitude of environments and battlefield scenarios.



Officer Trent Tallman and Dude perform a training demonstration for students at Bitz Intermediate School

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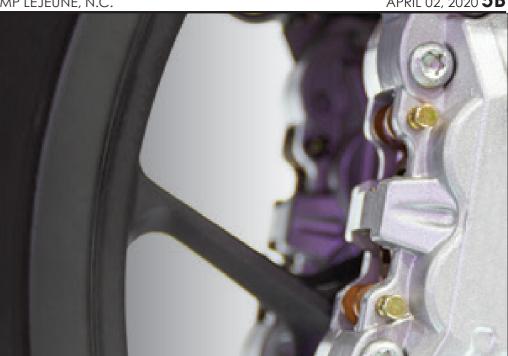
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MOTORCYCLE MENTORSHIP PROGRAM



BY LANCE CPL. TAYLOR

Marine Corps Installations

Motorcycle riders across Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune came together to discuss possible changes to the Motorcycle Mentorship Program (MMP) at the Paradise Point Officer's Club on MCB Camp Lejeune, March 12.

The focus group was the beginning of an initiative taken by the Motorcycle Safety foundation (MSF) and the Department of Defense (DoD) to build the community of motorcycle riders and to help bring resources to increase

safety within the community. The discussion was broken down into two parts; the first group was comprised of 22 of Camp Lejeune's Motorcycle Mentorship Program presidents and the second group was comprised of some of the members of the program.

"The Marine Corps has a requirement for every unit to have a motorcycle program, we want the units to have the opportunity for riders to get together to talk about riding, different aspects of riding and really anything, from gear to different training opportunities," said Dale Wisnieski, a traffic safety

manager for the Commandant of the Marine Corps Safety Division. "A lot of people are limited on material that they can use, they may have a lot of experience riding, but may not have experience mentoring younger riders."

The goal of the program is to provide the mentors with a product that will allow them to teach riders how to handle different scenarios, different exercises to perform and how to evaluate members during group rides. The program will give the riders material to mentor themselves, mentor others and hopefully reduce mishaps with motorcycles.



U.S. Marine Corps Gunnery Sgt. Travis Howard, right, a Motorcycle Mentorship Program (MMP) president, writes down changes riders would like to implement within MMP.

According to Wisnieski, the purpose of the focus group is to fine-tune the program to fit the needs and wants of the people in the program to make it better all around.

'The talks today are great," said Gunnery Sgt. Travis Howard, a signals intelligence chief with **Expeditionary Operations** Training Group. "We are getting everyone together to determine what the way forward is going to look like and what needs to happen so that the mentors that are assigned to each unit have resources, a training program to go through and an overall baseline, so they all share the same training."

One of the biggest overall themes of the meeting was safety. According to Wisnieski, the way toward safer practices is for program mentors to talk to their mentees about riding, decision making and looking out for obstacles. This program will help push out the knowledge on what products and services

are available to them to become safer riders.

"The big thing is making sure other riders are safe, you see a lot of people doing dumb stuff," said Lance Cpl. Adam Nelson, a brig escort with Headquarters and Support Battalion. "They don't have anyone to teach them about what to do on and off the road, how to take care of their bikes and themselves. I don't want to see any riders, whether I know them or not, go down."



Motorcycle Mentorship Program (MMP) presidents discuss changes to implement with the MMP at the Paradise Point Officer's Club on Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, March 12. The meeting was an initiative taken by the Motorcycle Safety Foundation and the Department of Defense to build the community of motorcycle riders and to help shape resources to increase safety.

VA adjusts MISSION Act amid COVID-19 pandemic

COURTESY STORY

Veterans of Foreign Wars

The Department of Veterans Affairs is not pausing the MISSION Act during the COVID-19 outbreak. The department is ensuring the best medical interests of veterans are met by adhering to the law in a manner that takes into account whether referrals for community care are clinically appropriate, the VA is taking the following steps in order to ensure the safety of veterans as they access care:

- VA community care referrals for emergent or

urgent clinical needs will continue as necessary.

- Veterans with care currently scheduled in the community should continue with this care as clinically appropriate and if available.

- Referral requests for non-emergent care with community providers will be reviewed on a case-bycase basis for immediate clinical need and with regard to the safety of the veteran when being seen in-person, regardless of wait

time or drive time eligibility. - VA is expanding the use of c telehealth and telephone sessions to

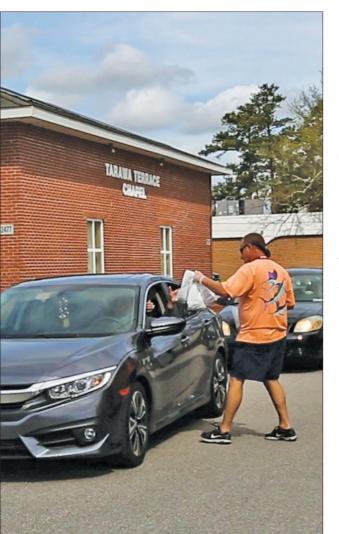
address many of veterans' routine medical needs.

"We understand the need for community providers to halt in-person, non-emergent care to veterans, and all patients for that matter, in order to lessen the curve of this virus sweeping our nation," said B.J. Lawrence, VFW Washington Office executive director. "Many private health care providers around the country are being forced to make similar difficult decisions, but ultimately decisions that keep the overall safety of all patients in mind. Vigilance is required in

slowing this coronavirus pandemic. The VA is taking the correct approach in handling this matter but it remains vital that many of our veterans are able to still receive the care they require. Telehealth and telephonic medical sessions are good adjustments to current conditions but the VA must make accommodations for veterans who are unable to access these means of care."

For more information about the VA Missions Act, visit https://militarybenefits.info/va-mission-act/#ixzz6IBEkx5Yg.





Photos by Lance Cpl. Isaiah Gomez

Chris L. Cook, a bus driver for Camp Lejeune Transportation brings food to a family at the Tarawa Terrace Chapel on Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, March 20.

Food Service supports children during Camp Lejeune, New River school closures

BY LANCE CPL. ISAIAH **GOMEZ**

Marine Corps Installations

Food Service personnel are conducting a base-wide school-lunch distribution program at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune and Marine Corps Air Station New River, North Carolina, from March 16 until further notice. The base is providing free meals to families with school-agechildren, as the schools continue to be closed amid the world-wide Coronavirus outbreak.

Camp Lejeune School District has delayed opening all schools until March 30, 2020. In that time they intend to continue educating and supporting their

students and families. The distribution centers will operate from 11

a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Friday. The meals are provided to all children who are currently living in base housing and attending school on base.

"We had a long line of people before we even opened," said Chris L. Cook, a bus driver for Camp Lejeune Transportation. "Places like Hero's Manor had lines stretching for over two blocks."

At each station a school bus driver and a local school representative were present to distribute the packed lunches to the local students. Pickup locations are

Midway Park Community Center, Midway Chapel, Tarawa Terrace Youth Pavilion, Tarawa Terrace Chapel, Watkins Outdoor Swimming Pool, Heroes Manor Child Development Center and Knox Landing Community Center.



Chris L. Cook brings food to a family. Food Service personnel conducted a base-wide school lunch distribution program to families with school-age-children, as the schools continue to be closed amid the world-wide Coronavirus outbreak.

ANNOUNCEMENT:

Easter Sunrise Services on Camp Lejeune, New River

For more information, call the commercial line at (910) 451-3210 or visit https://www.lejeune.marines.mil/Offices-Staff/Chaplain/.

Renewing the American Spirit

CHAPLAIN'S COLUMN

BY LT. JASON M. OLSON

2nd Marine Division



This is my last week as a Navy Chaplain. I have had the privilege of ministering to America's Marines and Sailors for the last five and a half years, and it has been extraordinary.

I'd like to share a recent story from Twentynine Palms, California on my hope in our Marines and Sailors.

In the drab, austere desert conditions of that training ground, a small group of a dozen Marines joined for what we informally called our "prayer group." I shared a biblical thought and led the group in prayer daily and after a few weeks of our meeting together, this group began to trust one another. One Marine asked me if he could share the devotional.

I said, "Of course!" This Marine began to

recount the struggles of his life story and how God intervened each time to deliver him from hopelessness and perpetual sorrow. The Spirit of God was palpable in his testimony.

I felt prompted to ask other Marines if they wanted to share their testimonies. Everyone got up and took their turn, sharing personal stories with the group and building faith and camaraderie.

I was thrilled to see Marines supporting each other spiritually. It was a force multiplier in ministry. Most importantly, it was a special moment when, in the empty environment of the California desert, we could feed each other

spiritually and hang on.

This tells me God is still working in our nation. We certainly have battles ahead and the only way we will be able to persevere through the combat conditions of the future is to turn to God and one another.

Our nucleus of faith flowed outward and became a blessing to others not accepting our invitation to join the inner circle. They knew all were welcome, that faith was always available.

As chaplain, I did not have to take the lead in worship. The Spirit of God did and that gives me hope that as Americans build their faith in God, so will we be able to accomplish our national mission.

Direct internment only at state veterans cemeteries

BY PAT GRUNER Managing Editor

State veterans cemeteries updated operating procedures as a matter of public health and safety, March 23.

Committal services and the rendering of military funeral honors, whether by military personnel or volunteer organizations, will not be conducted until further notice at state veteran cemeteries.

Families that have internments scheduled and contact honors providers are urged to cancel their services. The cemetery where the interment is scheduled should be contacted as soon as possible if the family wishes to postpone the interment. A committal or memorial service will be scheduled at a later date for those families that choose to continue with the direct internment or postpone the internment.

While cemeteries will remain open to visitors, all guests are urged to obey local travel restrictions and avoid unnecessary travel. Visitors should expect that certain portions of a cemetery typically open to the public may be closed such as public information centers and chapels.

For more information contact Coastal Carolina State Veterans Cemetery at (910) 347-4550.

Vietnam War Veterans Appreciation Day goes virtual amid pandemic



Courtesy photo

Living U.S. Veterans who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces at any time during the period of No-vember 1, 1955, to May 15, 1975, regardless of location, are eligible to receive one lapel pin.

How do you fare?



SHELLY FIERRO Graphic Designer

We all know yesterday, April 1, was April Fools Day. April Fools Day is that time of the year when pranks are pulled across the nation, and no one is safe. This year, April

Fools day is more important than ever. With COVID-19 looming over everyone's heads, it's nice to take a break and have a little fun, and April Fools Day is just that.

But what about you? How did you fare this April Fools Day? Have a funny story? Share with us at pgruner@camplejeuneglobe.com with the chance of having your story featured in an upcoming issue of the paper.

BY PAT GRUNER Managing Editor

March 29 marked Vietnam War Veterans Appreciation Day. While organizers canceled or postponed many events to slow the spread of COVID-19 through social distancing, veterans were encouraged to stay connected and participate in virtual events.

Social media gave veterans and supporters a chance to show their appreciation through special Facebook frames. Additionally, the Department of Veterans Affairs released two short videos on Facebook at https:// www.facebook.com/VeteransAffairs, Twitter at https://twitter.com/Dept-VetAffairs and Instagram at https://www.instagram.com/deptvetaffairs/.

Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) show-

cased photos, poems, art-

work and music on their Facebook page March 27. The comment with the most likes received a prize from the national office.

On March 29, Vietnam veterans were encouraged to share their service photos on the VVA Facebook page as the nation remembered heroes for their service and sacrifice. Vietnam veterans were also encouraged to share their favorite C-Ration recipe or meal on the VVA Facebook page March 30.

In recognition of all who served in the Vietnam War, Team Red White and Blue offered a virtual Vietnam War Veterans Day Workout of the Day (WOD). The challenge includes exercises like squats, push ups, and a run or walk. Veterans can complete the challenge at home on their own schedule, at their own pace, alone or with a partner. Team RWB asked participants to give it their all and to pause,

remembering those who served and sacrificed.

Living U.S. Veterans who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces at any time during the period of November 1, 1955, to May 15, 1975, regardless of location, are also eligible to receive a lapel pin in appreciation of their service. Normally, these lapel pins are presented during a dignified, public ceremony to individual Vietnam Veterans. However, given the global pandemic, most commemorative events have been postponed, while others have been rescheduled for next year.

As a unique alternative during this challenging period, The Vietnam War Commemoration is encouraging Vietnam Veterans to submit a request for their lapel pin via email at whs. vnwar50th_events@mail. mil. At the earliest opportunity, Veterans will receive a lapel pin in the mail.

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