



CPL. SARAH DIETZ

Lance Cpl. Kyle Binaei, a mechanic with Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 467, gives the pilot a thumbs up, signaling that the helicopter is ready for take off during a turnaround inspection Dec. 2.

East Coast unit returns from deployment with Japan-based MEU

LANCE CPL. GLEN E. SANTY
 MCAS CHERRY POINT

Families and friends waited in darkness for the busses to arrive. Months had gone by since they had seen their Marines. The suspense built as headlights approach from the distance. After an approximately six-month deployment with Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 265 (Reinforced), 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit based out of Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler, in Okinawa, Japan, a detachment of Marines and Sailors from Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 467 returned to their families and friends Sunday. The deployment with Japan-based 31st MEU was the first for an East Coast HMLA squadron said Lt. Col. Bill Bartolomea, commanding officer for HMLA-467. "We do deploy as part of the east coast MEUs routinely," said Barolomea. "This was a unique

See HMLA-467 page A7

Aviation maintenance keep birds in sky

CPL. SARAH DIETZ
 MCAGCC TWENTYNINE PALMS

MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER TWENTYNINE PALMS, Calif. – Getting an aircraft to soar is a long, complicated process. With in-depth inspections, fixing broken parts, weapons and electrical issues, the process of getting the metal beasts in the air falls on the shoulders of some of the youngest Marines in the aircraft wing.

A typical maintenance section is divided into four main shops: avionics, which deals with electrical systems of the aircraft; airframe, which handles metal work repair and hydraulics; flightline, who are the "big wrench" mechanics and air crew; and ordnance, the section that loads bombs and preps weapons.

The four shops work together like a sleek machine, getting the aircraft up as fast as possible, making sure everything is perfect so as not to put the crew in danger.

"These Marines are doing an outstanding job out here," said Master Sgt. John Foster, maintenance control chief, Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 467, 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing. "I am impressed with the professionalism they have, we have very good Marines here."

Foster and his Marines supported the Combat Center's Enhanced Mojave Viper exercise. The individual shops function together like a tight-knit

group. Being small shops given a large task, they grow together.

"Ordnance is like a family," said Cpl. Timothy Smith, aviation ordnance, HMLA-467. "We are the smallest shop. We take care of each other and look out for each other."

For many of the 2nd MAW Marines, this was their first time training at the Combat Center, giving Marines who have been to combat zones an opportunity to teach the more inexperienced ones.

The Marines have asked what they will face in combat situations and training at the Combat Center is a good place to teach them, said Cpl. Jayson Smith, avionics technician and collateral duty inspector for HMLA-467. Knowing these helicopters will save Marines in combat.

Before each helicopter takes off, it goes through a series of inspections, ensuring all is safe for another take off.

"Mechanics look over every piece to make sure it's good for flight," said Lance Cpl. Michael Moss, flight line crew chief with HMLA-467.

The final inspection is done by the plane captain, a Marine who has demonstrated extraordinary knowledge of the aircraft, he added.

With these last few checks complete, the crew takes over and takes off for their mission, secure in the knowledge they

See MOJAVE VIPER page A7



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Capt. Gregory Sanders, who serves as an AH-1 Cobra pilot for Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 467 and served as administration officer with Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 265 (Reinforced), 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, kisses his wife Megan and hugs his daughters Melissa, 2, and Clara, 6 months-old, during the HMLA-467 homecoming ceremony at the squadron's hangar Sunday.



CPL. TYLER J. BOLKEN

The 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing band, accompanied by the Craven Community Choir, performs to more than 2,000 guests who attended the annual 2nd MAW Band Christmas Concert at the Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point Theater Friday. The concert was streamed live online to Marines deployed to Afghanistan.

Christmas concert crescendos at Cherry Point

CPL. TYLER J. BOLKEN
 MCAS CHERRY POINT

Cymbals rasped and escalated into a slow joining drum thump, sprinkled by holiday bells with a reggae ring, for a jovial audience of more than 2,000 at the Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point Theater Dec. 9. The festive event was this year's 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing Band Christmas Concert.

The audience of Marines, families and members of the community, ushered in by Toys-for-Tots gathering Marines, had just taken their seats, escaping the cool winter weather outside for the

evening of music that featured a choir, three solo vocalists and the orchestra of the band.

"It's about all of these people, it's not about us," said Staff Sgt. Brian C. McCartney, a trombone instrumentalist for the band. "It's no sleigh ride. We pull out all of the stops just for Christmas."

A big stop for the evening and a first for the band was the overall outreach of the concert, which could be seen on a live stream in Afghanistan, 7,000 miles away.

"That was the best part of the whole thing," said

See CONCERT page A7

King family recognized for dedication to community

LANCE CPL. CORY D. POLOM
 MCAS CHERRY POINT

Sgt. Brandon E. King and his wife Gracey, were recognized for their acts of kindness in the local community by the city of New Bern at the New Bern Golf and Country Club Dec. 8.

Brandon serves as one of four Rescue Swimmers in the Marine Corps while stationed at Marine Transport Squadron 1 aboard MCAS Cherry Point.

"Sgt. King dedicates his time as a volunteer firefighter and uses his mechanic skills to help fix the buses for Grace Baptist Church," said Sgt. Maj. Michael C. Daley, squadron sergeant major for VMR-1. "He is a great Marine and one that I would gladly go into a firefight with and know I will be safe."

Gracey is the manager of CVS Pharmacy where she uses her own gas to drive prescription drugs to people around the area who cannot get out of the house to pick-up their sometimes life-saving drugs. These people are residents who are injured, elderly or in nursing homes.

See FAMILY page A7

Travel tips

- Make sure that your car is well-equipped for travel. Check the tire tread, battery, antifreeze, windows and brakes. Also check that you have a jack and lug wrench and that your spare tire is properly inflated.
- Allow extra time in your schedule. This is one of the busiest times to travel and patience and flexibility is needed.
- Have a cell phone with you.
- Avoid driving during late night hours.
- Keep a safety kit in your vehicle
- Pack jumper cables, flashlights, blankets and food if you plan to take a long trip.

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Marine firefighters battle pit fire

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With your smartphone download a QR code reader and scan the code.

FOD walking



LANCE CPL. CORY D. POLOM

Marines with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 14 withstand the rain to complete the foreign object damage walk Dec. 5. Once a month a required FOD walk is conducted by 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing units to clear the air field of any rocks or debris which could cause damage to aircraft and injury or death of personnel. "FOD is everyone's problem," said Michael W. Lynch, the aviation safety officer for the air station. "The Marines come out here and do this once a month for the runways but a few times a month just around their hangars."

Celebrating 100 years of Marine Corps aviation



OFFICIAL USMC PHOTO

A McDonnell Douglas A-4D from Marine Attack Squadron 322 making a jet assisted take off in 1960. The A-4 series aircraft was known for its carrying capacity of ordnance, making it ideal for providing covering fire for helicopters in Vietnam. In 1968, they were critical in the "Super Gaggle" concept which provided vital supplies to Hill 881S during the 77-day siege of Khe Sahn.

The Windsock

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LANCE CPL DEVIN P. MASTEN

Job Title: Unmanned aerial system avionics technician

Age: 21

Unit: Marine Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Squadron 2

Hometown: Maple Shade, N.J.

Date Joined: July 19, 2010

Unmanned aerial systems avionics technician Lance Cpl. Devin P. Masten says that the time that that he spends at work always seems to fly by.

"I love my job because I am constantly working and always on the go. I don't want to be stuck behind a desk all day," he said.

As a technician Masten often repairs UAV engines and wings, fuels the aircraft and cleans them.

Masten says that his job has its ups and downs, but he always looks forward to going to work.

"Even though my job is fun and exciting, there is a lot of knowledge that needs to be learned in order to be able to do my job. I love learning new things, and I am constantly making sure that I am up to date on my training qualifications," said Masten.

"As a technician I do more than just maintenance," he said. "Sometimes we provide intelligence information and coordinates to Marines operating the aircraft. If it weren't for us, they wouldn't be able to get their job done."

Highlight Your Superstar

Have a Marine, Sailor or civilian you would like to highlight? Let the Windsock know. Email us at cherry.point.windsock@gmail.com or call 466-3542.



LANCE CPL. ANDREA CLEOPATRA DICKERSON

REMEMBER TO RECYCLE



'FIREFIGHT'

A different meaning for ARFF Marines



PHOTOS BY LANCE CPL. CORY D. POLOM

Aircraft Rescue Firefighting Marines watch as a training fire builds intensity during a pit fuel fires training exercise at the burn pit Dec. 7. The Marines conduct this training during the day and night to better prepare them for real-life scenarios.

Aircraft rescue firefighters battle blazes, sustain skills

LANCE CPL. CORY D. POLOM

MCAS CHERRY POINT

The term "firefight" has a whole different meaning to a select group of Marines here.

On Dec. 7, members of the air station's Aircraft Rescue Firefighting unit engaged in their own firefight against one of the most feared enemies a pilot can face.

It began when a Marine dumped gallons of fuel into a shallow pool of water. Once ignited the blaze of fire engulfed the pit. When given the signal, the Marines began the fight. The two-man teams moved into the pool pushing the fire back while they advanced forward until the fire was completely extinguished.

It was just another hot day for air station ARFF Marines as they spent their morning fighting fires during a pit fuel fires training exercise at the ARFF burn pit aboard MCAS Cherry Point.

Staff Sgt. Justin M. Oakley, a section leader with ARFF said he understands the value of the training the overall benefits of having an Aircraft Rescue Firefighting unit.

"This training helps save the lives of Marines," said Oakley. "It prepares the Marines of this unit to fight fuel fires and gives them the real-life training needed to succeed."

"This is the best training we can get," said Lance Cpl. Mason P. Richard, a hand-line operator with ARFF. "In the school house we put out propane fires. Here, we are put in the direct line of a blaze. Fire has a mind of its own. If you lose your cool for one minute, someone will get hurt."

Richard and other members of ARFF stressed the importance of the pit fire training and agreed the air station needs ARFF.

"Marines take care of Marines," said Staff Sgt. Racheal R. Benezette, ARFF training staff noncommissioned officer in charge. "We make pilots feel comfortable. We are already at the hot zones on the airstrip. We save lives. We save aircraft."

"The pit fuel fires we conduct not only help show us who needs help where, but also help us refine our tactics," said Oakley. "Pit fires help us keep our Marines at the top of their game."



An Aircraft Rescue Firefighting Marine tests his hand line nozzle to check the water flow before beginning the fight with flames during a pit fuel fires training exercise at the burn pit Dec. 7. The Marines fought two fires that consumed more than 500 gallons of fuel.



Flames billow out of the burn pit as Aircraft Rescue Firefighters fight a blaze during a pit fuel fires training exercise at the burn pit Dec. 7



PHOTOS BY LANCE CPL. GLEN E. SANTY

Lance Cpl. Mark Hooper, a food service specialist with Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, makes a fish and dirty rice combo for the Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point Chef of the Quarter Competition at the Cherry Point Mess Hall Dec. 8.



Cpl. Robert Hartnett, a food service specialist with Marine Wing Support Squadron 271, puts the finishing touches on his fajita and rice entrée preparing for the MCAS Cherry Point Chef of the Quarter Competition at the Cherry Point Mess Hall Dec. 8.

Cherry Point recognizes Chef of the Quarter

LANCE CPL. GLEN E. SANTY

MCAS CHERRY POINT

Scrambling around the mess hall, the Marines rush to put the finishing touches on their entrées. Attention to detail is crucial in this stage of cooking. The slightest mistake could mean defeat in the competition.

Three Marines competed for the title of Chef of the Quarter at the Cherry Point Mess Hall Dec. 8. Each Marine prepared an entrée and dessert matching of their themes of choice.

Pfc. Isaiah Thomas, the first place winner of the Chef of the Quarter for Dec. 8 and also a food service specialist with Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron made a chicken breast with pineapple sauce, mashed potatoes and cheesy broccoli to coincide with his Hawaiian Islands theme.

"I was relaxed throughout the competition," said Thomas. "The time limit puts you under pressure, but I enjoy cooking. All I could really think about was 'I hope everybody likes it.'"

Cpl. Robert Hartnett, a food service specialist with Marine Wing Support Squadron 271, placed second in the competition. His dish of choice included fajitas and rice.

"The preparation portion of this competition is definitely the hardest part," said Hartnett. "If I cooked some of my products too soon, they wouldn't be any good to serve so I had to get them all done today. So when I was back there, all I could think was 'I better get this done, I better get this

done.'"

Lance Cpl. Mark Hooper, a food service specialist with H&HS, made a fish and dirty rice combo. Hooper took third in the competition.

"These Marines are always very competitive," said Sgt. Maj. Thomas Sherwood, the H&HS sergeant major. "It's always good to see Marines perfecting their craft like these Marines today."

The Marines were judged on their time management, presentation and taste. Each category added pressure to the Marines.

"There are a lot of different components that go into judging these Marines," said Gunnery Sgt. Peter Jackson, a galley captain with MWSS-271. "People eat with their eyes. If the food looks like slop no one will want to try it."

"We judge on the neatness of the plate, designs, cleanliness, and what we're wanting from them is that their presentation looks like it would be coming from a five-star restaurant."

Across the Marine Corps Marines compete for the Chef of the Quarter. The winner of the Dec. 8 competition will compete against the two previous winners before him for a chance to study at the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, N.Y.

"Winning the Chef of the Quarter is like winning the Marine of the Quarter for their unit," said Warrant Officer David Labonte. "Winning this award is very respectable, dignifying and honorable. They don't just give this award out to anyone."



(Left) Judges for the Dec. 8 Chef of the Quarter taste a fish and dirty rice combo made by Lance Cpl. Mark Hooper, a food service specialist with H&HS, at the MCAS Cherry Point Mess Hall Dec. 8.

(Below) Lt. Col. Samuel Mowery, the commanding officer of H&HS, presents Pfc. Isaiah Thomas, the first place trophy for Chef of the Quarter at the MCAS Cherry Point Mess Hall Dec. 8.

The Marines were judged on their time management, presentation and taste.





PHOTOS BY LANCE CPL. SCOTT L. TOMASZYCKI

Capt. Matthew "C.L.O.W.N." Krivohlavy, a pilot for Marine Attack Squadron 231, puts on his game face before the squadron's Christmas-themed Feats of Strength competition in front of their hangar Dec. 5



Lance Cpl. Buddy T. Tom, Lance Cpl. Shaun M. Staab and Pfc. Alvah W. Kennett lead their teams down the beginning stretch of the Christmas-themed Feats of Strength competition in front of the Marine Attack Squadron 231 hangar Dec. 5.

VMA-231 performs monthly contest with holiday twist

LANCE CPL. SCOTT L. TOMASZYCKI

MCAS CHERRY POINT

Marine Attack Squadron 231 Marines competed for honor and glory Dec. 5 in the squadron's Christmas edition of their monthly Feats of Strength competition.

Competitors sprinted full tilt 50 feet to set up their Christmas tree and then run back to the starting point while attempting to balance a glass of milk on their heads. Waiting at the start point, a teammate dressed as Santa Claus wolfed down a dozen cookies with milk to wash them down. With full stomachs, the teammates then sprinted back to the tree with ornaments in hand to decorate the tree, the clock only stopping when the decorations were complete.

Two minutes, seven seconds was the winning time with the power line shop Marines edging out the airframes Marines by three seconds..

"I didn't really feel any pressure, I was just a little scared that I wouldn't be fast enough. But it turned out I was pretty fast," said Lance Cpl. Sean M. Bellville, an airframes technician for VMA-231. "I thought it was really funny, trying to balance the cup on my head and keep it in the cup, but it was splashing all over me."

Bellville and his teammates finished second, but regardless of winning or losing, he said they had a good time.

"It's going to help bring us all together and have a little fun as a squadron," Bellville said. "Get to know each other a little bit. Learn what we lack and what we're strong in and improve on anything that needs improving or just have fun."

Mixing together work and play in a Feats of Strength competition is fairly new for the squadron.

"The goal was to break up the monotony that comes with day-to-day maintenance on aircraft," said Chief Warrant Officer Jeffrey A. Stapleton, a maintenance material control officer for VMA-231. "The Feats of Strength competition is still in the beginning stages. We've only done this for three or four months now. So far, it's been a pretty good turn out."

Though it was all fun and games, the events hold the practical purpose of improving the abilities of the squadron.

"These guys are constantly working around each other," said Stapleton. "They need to know and trust each other that they're doing the right thing and jobs are being done the right way so we're putting safe aircraft in the sky for the pilots to train in."



The Grinch and Lance Cpl. Chase A. Joyner set up Christmas decorations on a tree during Marine Attack Squadron 231's Feats of Strength competition in front of the squadron hangar Dec. 5. The Christmas-themed event was planned to improve morale and unit trust.

Singapore Armed Forces host US expeditionary unit

CAPT. ROGER HOLLENBECK

11TH MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT

CHANGI NAVAL BASE, Singapore — Marines and Sailors with the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit began a cooperative exercise with elements of the Singapore Armed Forces Monday, focusing on bilateral air-to-air training with the Singapore air force, small unit subject matter expert exchanges, and training in an urban environment.

“We look forward to working with these professional warriors, in the air and on the ground,” said Col. Michael Hudson, 11th MEU’s commanding officer. “We take pride in sharing all that this agile, forward-deployed Marine air-ground-logistics team has to offer.”

The MEU’s AV-8B Harriers will be participating in Commando Sling, an exercise with the Singapore air force and U.S. Air Force at Paya Lebar Air Base. The ground training will be primarily the Marines and Sailors of the MEU sharpening their skills at the Murai Urban Training Facility and Mandai Range. Small unit subject matter expert exchanges during the field training will allow the Marines and their Singaporean hosts to share experiences and best practices.

“This is a great opportunity,” said Hudson. “The venues and knowledge offered by our gracious hosts will give our Marines a different kind of training as they stay sharp for their deployment as America’s premier fighting force in the littorals.”

The Marines and Sailors taking part in



CPL. GENE A. AINSWORTH III

Marines serving with the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit prepare to depart USS Makin Island to begin a training exercise here Monday. The Camp Pendleton, Calif., unit embarked three U.S. Navy ships in San Diego Nov. 14 and arrived in Singapore Monday as part of a regularly scheduled deployment to the Western Pacific and Middle East regions.

the exercise came ashore from the amphibious assault ship Makin Island which departed its San Diego homeport Nov. 14. The MEU, teamed with Amphibious Squadron 5, make up the Makin Island Amphibious Ready Group.

The MEU’s major subordinate elements participating in the training are Battalion Landing Team 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 268 (Reinforced) and Combat Logistics Battalion 11.

11THMEUONLINE

For more stories visit:

www.11thmeu.usmc.mil

<http://www.dvidshub.net/units/11MEU>

CONCERT from page A1

Sgt. Maj. Susan M. Bellis, sergeant major of 2nd MAW. "Because they're getting it done over there and we can't forget them."

Greetings from deployed 2nd MAW Marines also bridged the gap as they played on two big screens in the theater.

From Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan, Lt. Col. Thomas Gore, commanding officer of Marine Attack Squadron 223, greeted his wife, Abby, who was one of the nights vocal attractions.

"Good luck tonight honey," he said.

Abby came on stage with a swagger, singing her first song with a strong sentiment of being away from loved ones during the holidays.

"I just want you for my own, more than you could ever know," sang Abby, from the song, "All I Want for Christmas is You."

"The Marines are just such outstanding showmen," said Kevin Connor of nearby New Bern, in the crowd with his wife, Simmons, and their four children.

"They look forward to it every year," said Simmons of the couple's children. "We think they should add a second show so more people could see it."

For the band, the concert was a crescendo of weeks of preparations and rehearsals.

"It was nice to finally see a finished product," said Cpl. Eric Shields, a French Horn instrumentalist with the band. "We had extra purpose tonight too; make the guys overseas feel a lot better about things because they don't get to celebrate Christmas like we do."

WINDSOCKVIDEO



The 2nd MAW band performed its annual Christmas concert at the air station theater Friday. Watch the band's performance by visiting:

<http://bit.ly/bandchristmasconcert>
Find more videos from 2nd MAW (Fwd.) and MCAS Cherry Point at YouTube.com/MCASCPPA

MOJAVE VIPER from page A1

and their aircraft are ready to go. "I love my job. It's the best job in the Marine Corps," Moss said. "In the aircraft, it takes complete crew coordination, it's important to know each other well. It's a dangerous job, and we take it seriously."

FAMILY from page A1

"Gracey has donated her time with the Muscular Dystrophy Association and raised money in order to fight MD," said Daley. "These both are great things that she uses her own time and money to do."

The Kings were given gifts of appreciation to show thanks for their dedication and support. Some of the gifts ranged from a new tool set to free nights at a few local hotels.

"My wife and I are extremely honored," said Brandon. "We never expected to receive this honor for doing things that we love. The gifts are not needed. Knowing we are helping others is benefit enough."

HMLA-467 from page A1

opportunity to join III Marine Expeditionary Force and conduct real-world expeditionary operations in the Pacific Theater."

Capt. Gregory Sanders, an AH-1 Cobra pilot for HMLA-467 served as administration officer with HMM-265 (Rein.), during the 31st MEU deployment.

"On the 31st MEU we provided the means for close-air support and the capabilities for armed escorts," said Sanders. "Usually the west coast tiltrotor units deploy with the 31st MEU, but because those units were busy in Afghanistan we were tasked with the mission."

HMLA-467 is a newer squadron to 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing. Since it's induction to the 2nd MAW the squadron has only been on three separate deployments said Sanders.

"It feels good to be home," said Sanders. "I always miss my family when I'm away from them. It's good to be back home, to be back with the squadron and to be getting back to training."

Bartolomea said he looks forward to meeting the Marines and Sailors from the detachment.

"They departed before I came aboard, so it will be great to put faces to names," Bartolomea said. "From an operational (standpoint), with different training environments and venues, come different perspectives."

"I look forward to leveraging the unique experiences of our 31st MEU detachment for the betterment of the squadron as a whole."

The unit has provided humanitarian assistance in Haiti with the 22nd MEU based out of Camp Lejeune. A detachment from HMLA-467 attached to Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 266 (Reinforced), 26th MEU from March 2010 to May 2011. The 26th MEU deployed early to support humanitarian efforts in Pakistan and supported strikes in Libya during the deployment.

"467 will be going on the 26th MEU again here in the near future," said Sanders. "We are starting to get in a regular cycle of supporting the Marine Air-Ground Task Forces."



1ST LT. TIMOTHY IRISH

Musa Qal'eh citizens move across the new wadi crossing and down to the farmer's market, Friday, before the official opening of the newly built bridge to commercial traffic. The wadi crossing will keep traffic from both sides of the river running smoothly during the coming rainy seasons.



1ST LT. TIMOTHY IRISH

The steady hands of Helmand Provincial Governor Gulab Mangal cuts the ceremonial ribbon officially opening the Musa Qal'eh wadi crossing, Dec. 9. The Wadi Crossing was constructed by Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 4 and will assist the local citizens as the rainy season arrives to the area.

Wadi crossing opens for Musa Qal'eh residents

STAFF SGT. RYAN SMITH

REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM 8

MUSA QALE'EH, Afghanistan – Commerce and travel through the District of Musa Qal'eh just became easier with the completion and grand opening of the Musa Qal'eh Wadi Crossing, Friday.

The new crossing was officially opened to traffic by Helmand Provincial Governor Gulab Mangal, accompanied by the Regional Command Southwest Commanding General Maj. Gen. John A. Toolan Jr., and several members of 2nd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, during the event which drew a crowd of officials and elders from areas throughout the province to witness the progress and realize the potential of what the new bridge means to the region.

"The symbolic nature of this wadi crossing cannot be understated," said Lt. Col. Bill Vivian, the commanding officer for 2nd Bn., 4th Marines. "Connecting Musa Qal'eh, which has been seen as an island of security to the rest of the province, I think this symbolizes that connection. This is really a crowning achievement, not only for 2nd Bn., 4th Marines, but for all the battalions who have fought here before us."

The bridge over these troubling waters has been a long time coming for both the citizens of the area and the mixture of Afghan National Security Forces and coalition forces who strive to provide security in the town. During the rainy season, the wadi, or seasonal river, had become dangerous because of its depth, up to 6 feet in some areas, and the torrential current flowing through the area. It was decided a permanent and safer way to cross was

needed to support the economic growth of the area and allow the freedom of movement to and from the district center.

"This connects the two separated districts of Musa Qal'eh, the west and the east," said Musa Qal'eh District Governor Alhaj Neamatollah Samih. "Before when there was no bridge, the prices were very high in the winter season; but now it is going to be low and the prices will be fixed in the Musa Qal'eh District," he added in concern to the commercial trade throughout the district.

"What we've hoped to design, working with the governor and the leadership that you see around you today, was to hopefully bring economic development to places like Musa Qal'eh," said Toolan.

The economics of the region can expand even further with the addition of this bridge as well as other projects in the area. A road, known as Route Red, connects the District of Musa Qal'eh to the District of Gereshk, the economic hub of Northern Helmand Province. Now traders from both towns can easily traverse the land and provide more goods and services to the citizens throughout the province.

"The Musa Qal'eh Bazaar is the third largest bazaar in Helmand province," said Vivian. "They rely on supplies from Gereshk and Lashkar Gah to make the economic engine go."

"Something that I like to tell donors and other countries that come to Helmand to see what's going on here is that Helmand is open for business," said Toolan.

As important as the economics of a region are to the stability of the area, the new cross-

ing will allow more interaction between the people and the local government as well. The district governor is more capable to reach out to the citizens and work toward more improvements to the area.

"The completion of the project gives the citizens of Musa Qal'eh tangible evidence of progress and development," said Brian Jalbert, a U.S. State Department official who has previously worked in Musa Qal'eh.

"The bridge itself is part of a larger effort with government and International Security Assistance Forces to be able to connect the District of Musa Qal'eh with (southern areas)," said Maj. David Vanhoof, a civil affairs team leader from 4th Civil Affairs Group in support of 2nd Bn., 4th Marines.

The crossing also enables an Afghan National Army battalion headquartered in the district center, 3rd Kandak, 2nd Brigade, to conduct resupply and better command its forces in other parts of the district. It also allows them to provide quicker response to the citizens when help is needed.

The project began in September as Sailors with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 4 began to assess how the crossing would be built to eliminate the threat of flooding and withstand years of abuse from the eroding effects of currents.

"This crossing is unique by not diverting the water, but using the natural terrain that is already here and widening the area so that more water can flow," said Senior Chief Dan Walker, the NMCB-4 assistant officer in charge assigned to develop the wadi crossing.

The bridge took three months to build and is constructed from 609 pieces of concrete,

weighing approximately 20,000 pounds a piece. The structure is held together by 15,000 welds made to steel inlays within the concrete pieces.

Walker, a New York City native, assures the crossing is "not going anywhere."

"Our Seabees and our engineers have day in and day out confronted (improvised explosive devices) and threats in order to build this bridge and connect it with the road that will take you to Gereshk," assured Toolan to the citizens in attendance for the opening.

A vast number of supporting units were instrumental in order to bring the crossing from concept to completion including Marines from Combat Service Support Battalion and Engineer Support Battalion.

"It was a real team effort," said Vivian. "It was something that from the Regional Command Southwest level all the way to the squad that was in charge of keeping security, working together to make this happen."

The crossing is just one of many infrastructure improvement projects spearheaded by Regimental Combat Team 8. Construction of permanent infrastructure contributes to lasting sustainable improvements by allowing the agrarian-based economies of Northern Helmand province to increase trade.

"As you know we're shrinking in size, but we feel very confident that the Afghan people are very capable of taking the security that's been established and bringing that growth and development to Helmand province," said Toolan.

Force Recon Marines commandeer ship during vessel-boarding drill



CAPT. CALEB D. EAMES

Marines with Force Reconnaissance Platoon, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, fast-rope from a U.S. Air Force MH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter to the flight deck of the USNS Dahl during a visit, board, search and seizure training exercise offshore of White Beach Naval Facility, Okinawa, Dec. 5. The VBSS training allowed Marines the opportunity to practice capturing merchant cargo ships used by weapons smugglers and pirates.

LANCE CPL. KRIS DABERKOE

MARINE CORPS BASES JAPAN

ABOARD THE USNS DAHL — A helicopter hovers 25-feet above the deck of the ship as combat rubber raiding craft simultaneously crash through the waves toward the hostile vessel.

This was the scene as 30 Marines with Force Reconnaissance Platoon took part in a visit, board, search and seizure exercise aboard the USNS Dahl off the coast of Okinawa Dec. 1-6.

The platoon, attached to the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, conducted the training to prepare Marines in the event they are tasked with seizing a merchant cargo ship from pirates or weapons smugglers.

The Marines secured key locations aboard the ship after fast-roping from a U.S. Air Force MH-60G Pave Hawk to the deck.

The exercise began with classes about maritime law, regarding search and seizure of cargo vessels, structural layout of different classes of merchant ships and history of previous visit, board, search and seizure missions, according to a sergeant with Special Operations Training Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, III MEF.

The Marines then took a tour of the USNS Dahl to familiarize themselves with the interior of a cargo ship.

“It’s important for the Force Reconnaissance Marines aboard the MEU to understand how to seize merchant ships rather than warships because odds are pirates

won’t attempt to seize a naval warship,” said Gunnery Sgt. Brian M. Pavlus, a chief instructor with the SOTG. “Training on the Dahl allows us to make the training more realistic.”

The Force Reconnaissance Marines used the top down-bottom up method to clear the ship and secure key locations on the vessel.

“The best thing about the VBSS was we were able to do a top down and then bottom up clearing of the ship, with a full mission profile,” said 2nd Lt. Ashley Thompson, Force Reconnaissance platoon commander with the 31st MEU. “We started clearing the top of the ship via helicopters, fast-roping in, and boarded the ship from the bottom to take the lower portion.

They took the key areas of the ship very quickly, allowing us to take control of the ship’s navigation,” he added. “They did a very good job of securing other key areas for (casualty evacuation) and the movement of other personnel, so we could hand the ship over to the Navy.”

The training is designed to prepare the Marines for the spring certification exercise, which ensures the 31st MEU is capable to conduct operations such as non-combatant evacuation operations, tactical recovery of personnel, amphibious raids, and assaults and theater security operations, according to Pavlus.

“Given that it is a high-piracy area, it is great practice for us should we ever have to do the real thing,” said Thompson.

Life & Times

Facebook.com/MCASCherryPoint

December 15, 2011

Santa Claus is coming to town

Marines, Santa march down street in Morehead City Christmas Parade



LANCE CPL. CORY D. POLOM

Santa Claus waves to children from his sleigh during the Morehead City Christmas Day Parade in Morehead City, N.C., Saturday. Santa's appearance signaled the end of the parade and, to some, the official start to Christmas countdown.



LANCE CPL. CORY D. POLOM

Jim Casti, the national welfare officer with the Military Order of the Purple Heart, salutes the commissioners of the Morehead City Christmas Day Parade in Morehead City, N.C., Saturday.



LANCE CPL. CORY D. POLOM

Marines with 2nd Low Altitude Air Defense Battalion (L to R) Lance Cpl. Chase A. Harbert, Sgt. William R. Heffner, Sgt. Robert D. Basham and Lance Cpl. Tony J. Tart, march the colors of the U.S. and the Marine Corps in the Morehead City Christmas Day Parade in Morehead City, N.C., Saturday. The Marine color guard marched out as the official start of the parade.

LANCE CPL. CORY D. POLOM
MCAS CHERRY POINT

(Morehead City, N.C.) – The countdown until Christmas has begun, and thousands of residents flocked to Morehead City, N.C., to celebrate the holiday season with a parade Saturday, showcasing Marines from Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point and 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing as well as jolly old Saint Nick himself.

The 2nd Low Altitude Air Defense Battalion Color Guard and the 2nd MAW Band led the way down the main street of Morehead City.

"Having about 50 Marines lead the way in the parade is a great way to start of this parade and is an honor," said Tom B. Kies, the executive director of Downtown Morehead City Revitalization Association. "The Marines are the first people we talk to when getting a parade together. We feel they are an integral part of our parade and our community."

Kies said Morehead City is very proud of its armed services especially the Marines of MCAS Cherry Point and 2nd MAW.

"We are extremely lucky to have Cherry Point right down the road," said Kies. "Marines make this parade very special."

"They represent the best of the U.S. The sacrifices they give to defend this country are more than we could ever imagine, and it makes me proud to see them march in our parade."

Residents shouted words of encouragement and thanks as 2nd MAW Band marched by and played Christmas carols.

"This parade brings families and our community together," said Curtis G. Jones, a resident of Morehead City. "Having the Marines in this parade taking the time to play for us makes me feel honored."

As high school cheerleaders, marching bands, area animal shelters, mom and pop shops and several retired military organizations passed by the viewing area, some gave a special salute to recent city officials, mayors, and Lt. Col. Eric S. Weissberger, the executive officer of MCAS Cherry Point. Others performed a dance, all showing their appreciation for the VIPs and what they have done for the community.

"This is awesome and a great thing to see the Marines of 2nd MAW honored for their hard work," said Weissberger. "The Marines helping in this parade keeps the community relations we have with this city in good standing and is a great way for the Marines to give back."

(Left) Marines with the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing Band march down the street in Morehead City, N.C., to start the Morehead City Christmas Day Parade Saturday.



LANCE CPL. CORY D. POLOM



LANCE CPL. CORY D. POLOM

Eastern Carolina Firefighters Pipes and Drums marches down the street of Morehead City, N.C., during the Morehead City Christmas Day Parade Dec. 10.



LANCE CPL. CORY D. POLOM

Children of the local area scramble to pick up candy tossed by the floats and vehicles during the Morehead City Christmas Day Parade in Morehead City, N.C., Saturday.

CHERRY POINT MESS HALL

HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday-Friday

Breakfast 6-8 a.m., Lunch 11 a.m.-12:45 p.m.,
Dinner 4-6 p.m.

Saturday-Sunday/Holidays

Breakfast/Lunch 8:30-11:00a.m.,
Dinner 3-5 p.m.

FAST FOOD LINE

Monday-Friday

Breakfast 6-8 a.m., Lunch 11 a.m.-1 p.m.,
Dinner 4-6 p.m.

Breakfast Menu

Assorted fresh fruit, assorted hot and cold cereals, fried eggs and omelets to order, scrambled eggs and hard cooked eggs, grill special, pancakes, French toast or waffles, breakfast potatoes, breakfast meats, creamed beef or sausage gravy, assorted muffins, breads and breakfast pastries

Specialty Bar Menu

Monday - Grilled Polish sausage, grilled bratwurst, grilled Italian sausage, grilled frankfurters, rolls, French fries, tater tots, baked beans, corn on the cob, chili, cheese sauce, coleslaw, potato chips, corn chips, pretzels

Tuesday - Popcorn shrimp, steamed shrimp, buffalo chicken fritter, grilled chicken strips, sizzlin Caesar salad

Wednesday - Beef taco meat, chicken enchiladas, bean burrito, Mexican rice, refried beans, Mexican corn, shredded lettuce, shredded cheese, diced tomatoes, chopped onions, sliced jalapenos, taco shells

Thursday - Chinese egg rolls, chilled pineapple chunks, teriyaki beef strips, steamed shrimp, grilled chicken strips, pork fried rice, steamed rice, vegetable lo mein with oyster sauce

Friday - Ziti/linguine/fettuccine, spaghetti rigatoni, pasta primavera, lasagna, chicken rotini casserole, baked ziti with four cheeses, penne/rigate/rotini, baked Italian sausage meatballs (ground beef), meat sauce, marinara sauce, Alfredo sauce

Weekly Menu

Thursday Dec. 15

Lunch - Cream of broccoli soup, Jamaican jerk chicken, Creole macaroni, cilantro rice, succotash, balsamic roasted potatoes

Dinner - Chicken and orzo soup, pork scallopini with herbed tomato sauce, baked stuffed shells, rice pilaf, marinara sauce, stewed chick peas with zucchini, mixed vegetables

Friday Dec. 16

Lunch - New England clam chowder, maple glazed salmon, turkey pot pie with baking powder biscuits, long grain and wild rice, green beans, cauliflower polonaise

Dinner - Turkey vegetable soup, mambo pork roast, lasagna, candied sweet potatoes, marinara sauce, steamed broccoli (fresh), Mexican corn

Saturday Dec. 17

Lunch - Beef barley and onion soup, vegetable and black bean enchiladas, chicken and broccoli casserole, confetti rice, Spanish style beans, steamed vegetable medley

Dinner - Cream of chicken soup, java molasses pork loin, swiss steak with mushroom gravy, lyonnaise potatoes, buttered egg noodles, stewed tomatoes, peas

Sunday Dec. 18

Lunch - Vegetable beef supreme soup, baked citrus herb crusted fish, fried chicken, brown rice pilaf, red bliss smashed potatoes, cream gravy, green bean casserole, corn

Dinner - Turkey noodle soup, creamy Cajun shrimp penne, meat loaf, roasted garlic mashed potatoes, brown gravy, Louisiana style smothered squash, Okra melange

Monday Dec. 19

Lunch - Beef short ribs, chicken/vegetable pasta, steamed rice, roasted zucchini, steamed baby carrots, minestrone soup

Dinner - Braised pork chops, turkey meatloaf, buttered egg noodle, islander's rice, lyonnaise wax beans, broccoli polonaise, brown gravy, chicken gumbo soup

Tuesday Dec. 20

Lunch - Salmon with tomato cucumber relish, chicken fried chicken, rice pilaf, mashed potatoes, sausage gravy, succotash, southern style greens, cream of potato soup

Dinner - Roast beef, baked ziti with italian sausage, parsley buttered potatoes, peas, vegetable stir fry, toasted garlic bread, navy bean soup, horseradish sauce

Wednesday Dec. 21

Lunch - Santa Fe glazed chicken, baked smoked chicken, southwest orzo pasta, whipped sweet potatoes, corn on the cob, simmered mustard greens, raison sauce, chunky beef noodle soup

Dinner - Swedish meatballs, spicy shrimp with cheesy grits, rice pilaf, French fried cauliflower, French cut green beans, brown gravy, chicken noodle soup

From the clinic: *Tricare pharmacy Benefits – There's an App for that!*

FALLS CHURCH, Va. – Tricare and Express Scripts, Inc. (ESI) are pleased to announce the launch of the Tricare Express Rx mobile app and mobile-optimized website. These tools allow Tricare beneficiaries to manage their prescriptions and access important health information safely and securely from anywhere using their smart phone.

The Express Rx app and mobile-optimized website will allow beneficiaries to register for Tricare pharmacy home delivery and switch current prescriptions over to home delivery. Beneficiaries can also order home delivery refills and check order status. Another feature allows beneficiaries to look up information on their current prescriptions. On GPS-enabled smart phones, the app can direct beneficiaries to the closest retail pharmacy in their network. "Improving convenience for

our beneficiaries and broadening access to necessary services like prescription information is a key focus for Tricare," said Rear Adm. Thomas J. McGinnis, chief of Tricare Pharmacy Operations. "Express Rx is yet another way for beneficiaries to use their benefit wisely and conveniently, anytime and anywhere."

To ensure security and data protection, beneficiaries must register through the member portal at www.express-scripts.com/Tricare before logging in to the Express Rx app or mobile-optimized site. Once registered, the same username and password allow access to the Express Rx app and mobile-optimized website. ESI is the Tricare Pharmacy contractor.

Smartphone users can download the app for free by going to www.express-scripts.com/mobile or by using services like the Apple App Store or Android Marketplace.

TRICAREONLINE

For more information visit:

- www.tricare.mil/pharmacy
- www.tricare.mil/homedelivery
- www.tricare.mil/subscription
- www.facebook.com/tricare
- www.twitter.com/tricare
- <https://m.esrx.com>
- <https://m.humana-military.com/>



Did you know?



10 tips for a safer, crime free Christmas

PROVOST MARSHAL'S OFFICE

MCAS CHERRY POINT

During the holidays police departments around the country strengthen security to protect citizens and businesses.

But we often forget that crime in neighborhoods also increases. Thieves start canvassing the streets in search of packages left in cars outside homes & families away for the holidays.

You might be feeling safer on these days while Christmas shopping, but it is also necessary to take some precautions at home to avoid becoming a target of crime.

With the rise in internet purchases during the holiday season, thefts of packages being delivered or left at your front door is also becoming more and more common.

Antiterrorism & Law enforcement officials, offer these tips to reduce your chances of being hit at home by thieves this Christmas season and all year long:

1. Conceal wrapped presents from outside view.
2. If you need to store large items, such as exercise equipment or bicycles, in an outside building make sure they are safe.
3. If you have insurance, take some time to make sure it covers all articles of value in your home.
4. Be alert to strangers walking around in your neighborhood and report any suspicious activity to the police.
5. Make sure to lock all doors and windows every time you leave the house.
6. Don't leave checkbooks, wallets and cash lying around the house.
7. Install automatic timers and motion detectors on both front and back porch lights
8. Ask a neighbor to pick up your newspaper and mail if you plan to be away from home for more than one day.
9. If you will be out of town, make sure someone knows where you are going and when you will return.
10. Whenever possible take or update your home inventory by taking pictures or videos and keeping a list of serial numbers.

Remember that crime increases during the Christmas season. Don't let thieves ruin your holidays. Don't give criminals an opportunity. Keep these tips in mind as you rush around and make some time to take extra precautions for a better Christmas with your family and friends.

TOYS FOR TOTS



U.S. MARINE CORPS RESERVE

(910) 440-2843 / (910) 376-7285



E Street

Movie Hotline: 466-3884

Visit us at www.mccscherrypoint.com

Adults only \$3 • Kids (2-12) only \$2

NOW SHOWING

Saturday, December 17

2:00pm - Puss In Boots PG

4:00pm - Puss In Boots PG

6:30pm - Three Musketeers PG 13

9:00pm - Paranormal Activity 3 R

Sunday, December 18

2:00pm - Puss In Boots PG

4:30pm - Three Musketeers PG 13

Tuesday, December 20

5:30pm - Christmas Cartoon Marathon

(Rudolph, Frosty, Grinch)

MOVIE SYNOPSIS

Puss In Boots - (Animation) - *Starring the voices of: Antonio Banderas, Salma Hayek, Zach Galifianakis, Billy Bob Thornton, Amy Sedaris.* Long before he even met Shrek, the notorious fighter, lover and outlaw Puss in Boots becomes a hero when he sets off on an adventure with the tough and street smart Kitty Softpaws and the mastermind Humpty Dumpty to save his town.

Three Musketeers - *Starring: Logan Lerman, Milla Jovovich, Matthew Macfadyen, Ray Stevenson.* The hot-headed young D'Artagnan joins forces with three rogue Musketeers in this reboot of Alexandre Dumas' story. They must stop the evil Richlieu and face off with Buckingham and the treacherous Milady.

Paranormal Activity 3 - The PARANORMAL ACTIVITY franchise continues with this third outing from Paramount Pictures. Oren Peli and Jason Blum return to produce the highly secretive feature.

Movies are subject to change without notice

THE LOCAL BUZZ

Announcements

► Indicates new announcement

► The Nutcracker

The New Bern Ballet will perform the Nutcracker Friday from 6-8 p.m.

Admission is free.

The event will be held at the Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point Station Theater.

There will be door prizes, cookies, goody bags for kids, popcorn, drinks and a photo opportunity with Santa for those who bring their own camera.

For more information call 466-3850

► Stars N' Stripes Bowling Tournament

Toys For Tots will host a nine pin no tap bowling tournament Friday at 1 p.m. at the MCAS Cherry Point Bowling Center located on E street.

There will be cash prizes for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams.

Teams will consist of four people per team.

The cost to play is \$15 per person and an unwrapped toy.

For more information contact the bowling center at 466-3910

► A Barnyard Winter Wonderland

Come see Mr. and Mrs. Claus and meet farm animals Thursday-Saturday at 844 Robert's Road in Newport, N.C.

There will be a free, live nativity story and scene every Sunday at 5 p.m. in December.

Christmas light tours begin at dusk and end at 9 p.m.

Admission is \$6 per person, children under 2 are free.

Pre-registered group discounts are available for 10 or more people.

For more information contact 223-2950.

► Christmas at the Beach

Saturday - Sunday the Morehead Center at 1311 Arendell Street in Morehead City will feature Christmas at the Beach.

The show will feature Santa, Rudolph, Frosty, dancers, singers and timeless music from Christmas shows past.

Admission is \$15 for adults and \$10 for children under 16.

There are group specials for 22 or more people.

For more information contact us online at <http://www.themoreheadcenter.com> or by calling 726-1501.

Camp Christmas Adventure

Camp Christmas Adventure is for children ages 8 through 12 and will take place on Dec. 22, 23, 28, 29 and 30.

Activities include arts and crafts, holiday excursions, tree decorating, cooking projects and more.

Bring \$20 for registration fee through Friday at either the West New Bern Recreation Center or the Stanley White Recreation Center.

For more information contact Emmitt Godette at 639-2912 or godettee@newbern-nc.org.

Toys for Tots

Toys for Tots is looking for volunteers to assist at various locations in the community.

Volunteers will need to be in blue dress "B" and will need transportation to and from the site.

The organization is also in need of a holding facility for the toys collected.

Assistance from local commands would be very much appreciated.

Any organization requesting toys should go to the website <http://bit.ly/toysfortotslejeune> to make contact with the local Marine Reserve for assistance.

Area request forms and conditions can be found on the website.

New Tax Center Location

New location for the tax center this year will be in building 298, by the library, down the hall from DEERS and RAPIDS.

The center will be open from Jan. 17 to April 17.

Hours of operation will be Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for walk-in's and Wednesdays from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. by appointment only.

This is an IRS-sponsored tax center where all Marines preparing taxes are trained and certified by the IRS.

The tax center cannot process tax returns or forms for any documents or itemized deductions to include rental properties, health savings accounts, adoption expenses, simple or SEP IRA distributions, trust distributions, cancellation of debt or home foreclosures.

When visiting the tax center bring W-2 form or wage and tax statement, form 1099, social security number and date of birth for all dependants, valid identification and all documents necessary for deductions and credits.

For more information contact Staff Sgt. David Atkins at 466-3046.

Marine and Family Programs

Marine, Family Programs Office Numbers

The Family Member Employment Program, Transition Assistance Management Program, Relocation Assistance Program and accredited financial counselors can be reached at 466-4201.

• Child Development Resource and Referral – 466-3595.

• Exceptional Family Member Program – 466-3305.

• Family Advocacy Program – 466-3264.

• Library – 466-3552.

• LifeLong Learning – 466-3500.

• Military Family Life Consultant – 876-8016.

• New Parent Support Program – 466-3651.

• Retired Activities – 466-5548.

• Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program – 466-5490.

• Substance Abuse Counseling – 466-7568.

• 24/7 Victim Advocate for Confidential Services relating to Sexual Assault or Domestic Violence – 665-4713.

Budget for Baby

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society offers Budget for Baby classes.

To register call 466-2031.

Breastfeeding Class

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society offers free breastfeeding classes to expectant mothers.

The purpose of the class is to help prepare the mother to be ready and confident to breastfeed once the baby arrives.

To register call 466-2031.

Veterans' Assistance

A representative from the Veterans Affairs Office visits Cherry Point each Thursday in building 4335. Call 466-4201 for assistance.

Monthly and Weekly Events

Courage to Change

Cherry Point and Havelock Courage to Change is a support group for friends and families of people who suffer from alcoholism.

Meetings are held at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Havelock, Tuesdays at 8 p.m.

For more information, call 241-6155 or 670-6236.

AA Beginners Meeting

There are two weekly Alcoholics Anonymous meetings aboard the air station. The meetings are held Wednesdays and Thursdays at 8 p.m.

The meetings take place in Room 208 of Building 229, in the same building as the tax center, next to the Cherry Tree House.

For more information, call 447-2109.

Al-Anon Family Group Meeting

There are Al-Anon family group meetings Tuesdays at 8 p.m. for family members and friends of individuals who may have alcohol problems.

The meetings are held at Havelock First Baptist Church.

For more information, call 447-8063 or 447-2109.

Together For Life

The "Together for Life" one-day premarital seminar is held for active duty personnel age 26 and under, within 90 days of marriage.

Please call the chapel at 466-4000 for more information.

Domestic Violence Victims

A support group for victims of domestic violence is provided by the

Carteret County Domestic Violence Program.

The group meetings are held every Wednesday at 6 p.m.

For more information, call 728-3788.

Marine Corps League Meetings

The Cherry Point Detachment of the Marine Corps League meets the third Tuesday of each month at Miller's Landing at 7 p.m.

For more information, call 515-1175.

Disabled Veterans

Chapter 26 of the Disabled American Veterans meets on the third Tuesday of each month at the Senior Center in Havelock at 7 p.m.

For information, contact Cris Young at 259-3427.

Hotlines

2nd MAW Command Inspector General

466-5038

Station Inspector

466-3449

Fraud, Waste and Abuse

If you know of or suspect any fraud, waste or abuse aboard MCAS Cherry Point, call 466-2016.

This line's automated answering service is available 24/7.

Sexual Assault

This procedure is not to replace calling 911 if you are in immediate danger. Immediately call 665-4713, which is monitored 24/7. The person answering the call will help you decide the next steps to take. You may remain anonymous.

Severe Weather and Force Protection Information

Cherry Point personnel call 466-3093.

FRC East personnel call 464-8333.

DDCN personnel call 466-4083.



Acquiring supplies

Be aware of anyone attempting to improperly acquire explosives, weapons, ammunition, dangerous chemicals, uniforms, badges, flight manuals, access cards, or identification for a key facility that could be used in a terrorist or criminal act.

Dry Runs

Be observant of behavior that appears to be preparation for terrorist activity, such as mapping out routes, playing out scenarios with other people, monitoring military facilities, timing traffic lights or traffic flow, or any other suspicious activities.

OPERATION EAGLE EYES

Off Limits 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)
H&D EXPRESS AKA CITGO
NADINE'S FOOD MART
SUPER EXPRESSWAY
TOBACCO OUTLET (HAVELOCK AND NEW BERN)
TOBACCO SHOP & GIFTS (BEAUFORT AND NEW BERN)
TOBACCO TOWN
TOBACCO SHOP (NEWPORT, N.C.)
TWIN RIVERS (NOT THE MALL)
WHITE SANDS CONVENIENCE STORE

MCB CAMP LEJEUNE AREA

BELFAST QUICK MART
BELL AUTO SALVAGE II
BOTTA BOOMS
CASH-N-ADVANCE
CJ'S QUICK MART
CLUB MICKEY'S
COASTAL SMOKE SHOP
DASH-IN
DISCOUNT TOBACCO
D'S DRIVE THRU
D'S QUICK MART
DOLL HOUSE
EASY MONEY CATALOG SALES
EXPRESS WAY
FANTASIES
HIP HOP AND HOOKAHS
ILLUSIONS
JACKSONVILLE SPEEDWAY AUTO PARTS
KINGS DRIVE THRU
KWIK STOP MART
LAIRDS AUTO & TRUCK CENTER
MILITARY CIRCUIT OF JACKSONVILLE
MOE'S MART
NASH MARKET
ONE STOP SHOP
PAR TECH
PLAYHOUSE
PLEASURE PALACE
PRIVATE PLEASURES (AKA CARRIAGE HOUSE)
RACEWAY AUTO PARTS
REFLECTION PHOTO
REID'S MART
SMOKERS POST
SOUTHERN COMFORT
SMITTY'S R&R
SPEED MART
TALK OF THE TOWN II
TENDER TOUCH (AKA BABY DOLLS)
TOBACCO ALLEY
TOBACCO AND MORE
TOBACCO CLUB
TOBACCO FOR LESS
TOBACCO HOUSE CIGARETTE CENTER
TOBACCO LEAF
VERONA QUICK STOP
VETERANS AFFAIRS SERVICES

OUTSIDE AREAS

CARLAND
CENTENNIAL ENTERPRISES, INC.
STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMPANY
JOSHUA EXPERIENCE/ CLUB ACCESS