

Friday,  
September 28, 2012  
Vol. 47, No. 39  
Marine Corps Air Station  
Beaufort, S.C.

# The Jet Stream

"The noise you hear is the sound of freedom."

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"100 years of Marine  
Aviation"  
insert?  
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7225.



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### Did you know...

September  
28, 1942,  
Marines with-  
drew from  
Peking after  
the Boxer Re-  
bellion.

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Cpl. Rubin Tar

Lance Cpl. Sarmed Shafi, a Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 251 airframes maintenance technician, removes a hydraulic fitting, while aboard the USS Enterprise, Sept. 1. The Thunderbolts flew more than 1,100 hours in support of Operation Enduring Freedom during the review period for the Golden Wrench.

## Thunderbolts receive Golden Wrench award

Cpl. Rubin J. Tan  
Staff Writer

USS ENTERPRISE, At Sea – The Thunderbolts of Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 251 were awarded the "Golden Wrench Award" while embarked aboard the

USS Enterprise. The award is given every two months to acknowledge a squadron maintenance department whose performance is impeccable while safely maintaining mission-ready aircraft. Navy Capt. Robert

Boyer, Carrier Air Wing 1 [CVW-1] commander aboard the Enterprise, presented the squadron the award for their performance in aircraft maintenance during July and August. During the evaluation period, the squadron

was also reviewed for cleanliness of maintenance areas, accuracy of maintenance logs, maintenance practices and other criteria set by CVW-1. While the Golden Wrench Award is not available in all carrier

air wings, it is seen as a great achievement within CVW-1. The award serves to highlight the hard work and dedication of those Sailors and Marines who work behind the scenes keeping

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## Civilian officer receives prestigious law enforcement award

Cpl. Justin M. Boling  
Staff Writer

Officer John Hancock, a police officer for the Tri-Command's Provost Marshal's Office, received the Law Enforcement Commendation Medal and a certificate of achievement, Sept. 24.

The medal was presented by The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution during a ceremony held at the Provost Marshal's Office aboard the Air Station. The award has only been earned twice in the last 10 years.

"This award means a lot to me," said Hancock, a Quincy, Fla. native. "It keeps the motivation up and makes me want to push from giving 100 to 110 percent."

The Provost Marshal's Office is responsible for the se-

curity and law enforcement of not only the Air Station but Marine Corp Recruit Depot Parris Island and the Laurel Bay living community.

"A lot of people just think that all we do is check [identification cards] and tell people to turn their music down," said Hancock. "We work hard everyday to make the installations safe and make sure everything runs smoothly."

Hancock served as an infantryman and marksmanship coach in the Marine Corps prior to becoming a police officer. Hancock has since served the Tri-Command installations and their residents for nearly three years.

"I nominated Officer Hancock for this award because of his community policing," said Officer Morrell Carter,

SEE MEDAL, PAGE 6



Cpl. Justin Boling

Officer John Hancock, civilian police officer for the Tri-Command's Provost Marshal's Office, received the Law Enforcement Commendation medal and a certificate of achievement, Sept. 24. Hancock has served the Tri-Command installations and residents for nearly three years.

## Child Development Center holds opens house



Lance Cpl. Kris Daberkoe

Gunnery Sgt. Francisco Santos, 6th Marine Corps District Headquarters assistant to officer procurement section, chief and trainer, and his son Xavier, 3, enjoy arts and crafts during an open house at the Child Development Center aboard the Air Station, Sept. 10. The open house is one of many events hosted by the CDC designed to increase military parents' understanding and involvement in their children's daily activities during their work schedules.

# Tri-Command News Briefs



## MESS HALL MENU

**Monday - Friday** Breakfast: 6 - 7:30 a.m.  
Lunch: 11 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.  
Dinner: 4 - 6 p.m.

**Saturday, Sunday and holidays** Brunch: 8:30 - 11 a.m.  
Dinner: 4 - 6 p.m.

**MIDRATS**  
**Sunday - Thursday**  
11:30 p.m. - 1 a.m.

\* Take-out window: Monday - Friday 7:30 - 10 a.m.  
Sunday - Thursday 6 - 8:30 p.m.

### Saturday

**Lunch** Pork loin and mixed vegetables  
**Dinner** Grilled steak and baby carrots

### Sunday

**Lunch** Roasted chicken and vegetable blend  
**Dinner** Fried fish and tater tots

### Monday - Friday Breakfast

Hot farina, hot hominy grits and oven fried bacon

### Monday

**Lunch** Steak sandwich and squash  
**Dinner** BBQ Spareribs and fresh broccoli

### Tuesday

**Lunch** Fried catfish and roasted zucchini  
**Dinner** Pot roast and sweet sour greens

### Wednesday

**Lunch** Pork loin and spinach with garlic  
**Dinner** Beef brisket and vegetable stir fry

### Thursday

**Lunch** Jerk chicken and roasted vegetables  
**Dinner** Pork scaloppini and mixed vegetables

### Friday

**Lunch** Glazed salmon and vegetable medley  
**Dinner** Pork roast and fresh broccoli



## CHAPEL SERVICES

### Roman Catholic

- 9:30 a.m. - Sunday Mass
- 11:15 a.m. - Weekly Mass: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

### Protestant

- 9:45 a.m. - Protestant Church School (Sunday School)
- 11 a.m. - Protestant Sunday Worship Service
- 5 p.m. Wednesday - Protestant Bible Study

### Other Faith Groups

- For Jewish, Mormon and Islamic support, contact the Chaplain's Office at 228-7775

## High Shooter

The high shooter for the week of Sept. 28 is Staff Sgt. J.D. Linke, MACS-2, who qualified with a score of 383.



• The Air Station education office, bldg. 596 room 204, will hold a news express class Oct. 13, 20 and 27. During this course you can write your own true military short-story. Open to all MCCS patrons and veterans. For more information, please call 228-2132.

• The Tri-Command Hispanic Heritage celebration will be held at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island Lyceum from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Sept. 28. For more information, please contact Gunnery Sgt. McMillian at 228- 7209.

• Military housing residents are reminded to adhere to the deadline for removal of restricted breed pets. Per Marine Corps Order P11000.22 Ch 6, residents who received and accepted the conditions of the grandfather waiver are required to remove their restricted breed pet by Sept. 30, 2012. Please contact the Military Housing Office to inform of compliance by Sept. 28. Questions can be directed to the Military Housing Office at 228-6000.

To see the video of Marine Wing Support Squadron 273's return, please visit our youtube channel.

## Chaplain's Corner

# Hope for our families

Lt. Allen Presser  
Chaplain, U.S. Navy

One of God's most wonderful blessings in life is the family unit.

God's heart is for family, and His will is that we would have a happy and healthy family. God's initial design was for a man and woman to get married, love and hold each other, and repopulate the earth (Genesis 1:28).

Further, the Word declares "From the beginning of creation, God made them male and female. For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and shall be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh; so they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate" (Matthew 19:5; Mark 10:6-9; Ephesians 5:31).

God's heart was, and is, for a family unit to both love each other, and to also love Him. In fact, it was from a father and mother that each one of us arrived here on the earth.

Both are equally important and necessary. We even see God's creative hand in the animal kingdom, doing what God created the animals to do, being fruitful and multiplying (Genesis 1:22).

God's heart is to satisfy everything living thing in holy and honorable ways (Psalm 145:16; Leviticus 11:44; 1 Peter 1:16).

Maybe someone would say, "But I no longer have a family because of the mistakes I made, now what?" There may not be the possibility to have the same family back; however, God's heart is to restore you and them if they are still around.

God knew the mistakes that we would make before we made them, and he has provided healing and forgiveness to us, if we would only believe Him for His goodness and forgiveness.

We may not be able to have the same family back, but we can pray that the Lord would not only forgive us and restore our lives, but that He would also restore the lives of those who once were a part of

our families.

If we would have the Lord Jesus Christ as our personal Lord and Savior, not only will we be able to join the family of God in heaven one day, but we can also pray for those we know, including family and friends, that they too may also come to the knowledge of the Lord's saving grace, and be in heaven one day too. We can all be a part of the family of God.

Additionally, when things seem hard, unpleasant, undesirable, and even depressing, then it is time to refocus our lives. It is time to remember God is on our side; He wants us to succeed more than we do; and it is time to remember that everything we see and endure will one day pass away, and we will be with Him and His family forever.

Through the Lord Jesus Christ, we can all be joined to God's eternal and heavenly family. If we have this as hope and goal, then we can not only make a difference in our own lives and the lives of our family members, friends, and everyone else in our lives, but we can also make a difference in the lives of those who are no longer in our lives through our prayers.

Although our lives may not be the exact way we want, we can have a better day today; we can have the hope of eternal redemption, which is the forgiveness of sins through the Lord Jesus Christ; and we can have the comforting God as our friend.

Moreover, Jesus praying for us said, "And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent" (John 17:3).



## Things you need to know

### Fraud, Waste and Abuse

If you know of or suspect any fraud, waste or abuse aboard MCAS Beaufort, call 228-7777.

If you know of or suspect any fraud, waste or abuse within MAG-31, call (252) 466-5038.

The automated answering service on these lines are available 24 hours a day.

### Sexual Assault

The contact number for a Uniformed Victim Advocate is 592-0646. This number can get you in contact with a UVA 24 hours a day.

### Siren sound meanings

Upon notification from the weather office, pre-recorded Giant Voice messages will be broadcast. All destructive weather notifications begin and end with a 12 second wailing siren. Then follow-on information is repeated twice between siren wails. The following are abbreviated examples of each warning that will be broadcast through Giant Voice.

- Lightning within 5 nautical miles...
- Thunder storm condition 1, winds up to 50 knots and/ or hail up to 3/4 of an inch...
- Tornado condition 1 a tornado is imminent...
- Tornado condition 2... observed within 60 nautical miles
- An all clear broadcast will be

announced sounding "all clear".  
Test tone - A steady tone will be broadcast for 10 seconds, followed by an alert stating "This is a test" and then another 10 second tone.  
For more information please call 228-7904, or for example warning tones, visit: [www.whelen.com/outdoor/warningtones.htm](http://www.whelen.com/outdoor/warningtones.htm).

### MCAS Beaufort Movie Schedule

#### Saturday 2 p.m.

Diary of a Wimpy Kid Dog Days.PG.....(1:34)

#### Saturday 4:30 p.m.

Savages.....PG-13...(1:33)

#### Saturday 7 p.m.

The Campaign.....R.....(2:11)



Contact us:

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# Fightertown deployed:



**VMFA-251 Thunderbolts** are currently deployed aboard the USS Enterprise in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.



**MALS-31 Stingers** detachment is currently deployed aboard the USS Enterprise in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.



**VMFA (AW)-533 Hawks** is currently serving at Naval Air Facility El Centro, Calif., for the Weapons and Tactics Instructor course.



**VMFA-122 Werewolves** are currently serving at MCAS Yuma, Enhanced Major Viper training exercise.



**VMFA (AW)-224 Bengals** is currently deployed in the Western Pacific as a part of the unit deployment program.

## CORPS BITS



### Australian Army, US Marines combine arms during urban operations

MOUNT BUNDY TRAINING AREA, Northern Territory, Australia — Marines were positioned and camouflaged throughout a tree line. They waited patiently for their Australian partners to arrive before executing an assault at the urban operations training facility at Mount Bundy Training Area, Northern Territory, Australia, Sept. 5.

The roar of massive M1A1 tank engines echoed between the walls of the training exercise between elements of the Australian Army and Marine Rotational Force – Darwin, composed primarily of Company F, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force. The exercise was the culminating bilateral field training event of the Marines' inaugural rotation to Australia, which began in April.

In this exercise, the Marines had the support of 2nd Troop, A Squadron, 1st Armored Regiment, Australian Army. During the exercise, Marines cleared thirteen buildings while maneuvering under cover fire from the tanks.

After completing the training scenario, many Marines provided positive feedback on the bilateral exercise.

The attack was one of the first scenarios in a three-week bilateral field training exercise between elements of the Australian Army and Marine Rotational Force – Darwin, composed primarily of Company F, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force. The exercise was the culminating bilateral field training event of the Marines' inaugural rotation to Australia, which began in April.

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Cpl. Mark Garcia

Marines kneel down beside the battlefield cross to pay their final respects to Sgt. Bradley Atwell during a memorial ceremony, Sept. 20. During the ceremony, Marines paid tribute to Atwell, an aircraft electrical, instrument and flight control systems technician with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 16, from Kokomo, Ind. Atwell was killed in action while engaging insurgents during an attack on Camp Bastion, Sept. 14.

## Running toward gunfire: Marines, British forces repel insurgents attacking Camp Bastion

Sgt. John Jackson  
Marine Attack Squadron 211

CAMP BASTION, Afghanistan — Sgt. Rasheem Thomas never thought his first night working on Camp Bastion would turn into a gun battle with 15 insurgents.

When Thomas was told he was transferring from 1st Platoon to 2nd Platoon, the landing support specialist with Combat Logistics Battalion 2, Combat Logistics Regiment 15, thought nothing of it. Instead of working on Camp Leatherneck, Thomas would be working at the rotary wing Arrival Departure Airfield Control Group on Camp Bastion, an adjoining base ran by British Armed Forces. He would be responsible for getting coalition forces and cargo on helicopters departing Camp Bastion's airfield heading for remote forward operating bases throughout Regional Command Southwest's area of operations.

Thomas' first night on Camp Bastion was Friday,

Sept. 14. He and a fellow sergeant were driving through a checkpoint close to the airfield when they heard an explosion.

"At first we didn't know if the explosion was on base or off," said Thomas, from Manhattan, N.Y. "We decided to go check on our Marines at the cargo lot and we saw an explosion by the (cryogenics) area. That's when we knew the base was under attack."

Fifteen insurgents dressed in U.S. Army uniforms armed with automatic rifles, rocket-propelled grenade launchers and suicide vests breached the base's perimeter fence at approximately 10 p.m. The insurgents, who were organized into three teams, began to attack fixed and rotary wing aircraft parked on the flightline, aircraft hangars and other buildings on Camp Bastion.

"When I actually saw it was happening on (Camp) Bastion, I was in a bit of shock," Thomas said. "Then rounds began to impact close to our position, and I think every-

one's training just immediately kicked in."

When the attack began, the landing support specialists were in three different locations. Three Marines were at the A/DACG, four Marines where at the cargo lot and the remaining Marines were in their living spaces.

"I started hearing explosions, so I went outside to see what was going on," said Staff Sgt. Justin Pauley, the landing support detachment chief. "I saw a RPG flying overhead, and I immediately told my Marines to get their (personal protective equipment) on."

Despite small-arms fire and indirect fire impacting around his position, Pauley knew he had to make contact with his higher headquarters on Camp Leatherneck to inform them of the current situation he and his Marines were in.

"I called the (Command Operations Center) and told them we were under attack and taking fire," said Pauley, from Sioux Falls, S.D.

"I told them about the situation and what I saw."

After relaying the information to his chain of command, Pauley ensured his three Marines and one civilian at the A/DACG had proper cover, and then he and his Marines began to provide security, ensuring no insurgents made it past their position.

When the first explosion happened, Lt. Col. Stephen Lightfoot, the commanding officer of Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 469, thought the blast was relatively close. Occasionally, friendly forces conduct controlled detonations outside the perimeter fence; however, this explosion seemed to be a little louder and closer.

"I went outside after hearing the first explosion and within 15 seconds I heard another explosion," said Lightfoot. "That's when I saw the flames on the Harrier flightline. I yelled out for everyone to get to the (indirect fire) bunkers on our compound."



### Reserve battery maintains combat readiness at EMFA

SHIZOUKA, Japan — "Fire mission!" The preparatory command echoes across the battery position as teams of Marines prepare their M777A2 155 mm howitzers to fire downrange.

Reserve Marines with Oscar Battery trained alongside active-duty service members as part of 3rd Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, at East Fuji Maneuver Area in mainland Japan during Artillery Relocation Training Program 12-2.

The purpose of the ARTP is to sustain unit proficiency and enhance combat readiness in support of the U.S.-Japan Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security.

Oscar Battery, normally part of 5th Battalion, 14th Marines, is comprised of Marine reservists from Seal Beach, Calif., who deployed to Okinawa, Japan, under the unit deployment program. The maneuver area provides them the opportunity to practice their skills as artillerymen, as well as other common Marine Corps skills.

This will be the last field exercise the battery performs before returning back to its home station in California. Oscar Battery is scheduled to be the final Marine reserve artillery battery to rotate through Okinawa under the UDP.

The ARTP has been beneficial to Oscar Battery because it allowed the reserve unit the opportunity to hone its technical skills alongside active-duty counterparts.

The battery's senior leadership considers the UDP a "unit development program" for junior Marines.

Finding a way for the Marines to efficiently complete their tasks can be strenuous due to conflicting obligations.

"It's difficult for some of the Marines to juggle being a civilian and a Marine," said Lance Cpl. Cooper G. Griffiths, a motor vehicle operator with Oscar Battery. "A lot of us have to sacrifice time at school or our jobs back home in order to participate in the deployment."

In addition to sending artillery rounds downrange throughout the days and nights, Oscar Battery will be participating in other scheduled events during ARTP 12-2, including a small-arms range, a climb to the summit of Mt. Fuji, the battalion field meet, and community relations events.

## Corps Shot

Cpl. Michael Petersheim

A target seen through a scout sniper observation telescope as Marines with 1st Platoon, Bravo Company, Battalion Landing Team 1st Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit, conduct high-angle marksmanship training as part of a three-week training package in Djibouti, Sep. 15, 2012. The training was focused on the application of infantry skills in rugged mountain terrain. The 24th MEU is deployed with the Iwo Jima Amphibious Ready Group as a theater reserve and crisis response force throughout U.S. Central Command and the Navy's 5th Fleet area of responsibility.



# MCCS to hold second half marathon

Lance Cpl. John Wilkes  
Staff Writer

Marine Corps Community Services has scheduled its second half marathon Oct. 6 at 8 a.m. The event begins at the Lasseter theatre aboard the Air Station where participants will run 6.5 miles out on flight line road and back.

"It is a free event with awards, t-shirts and food," said Chuck Culpepper, MCCS athletic director. "This is one of the longest runs that we have held. Most of the races we hold are 5k's, and a lot of people have been asking for a longer run - this is the result."

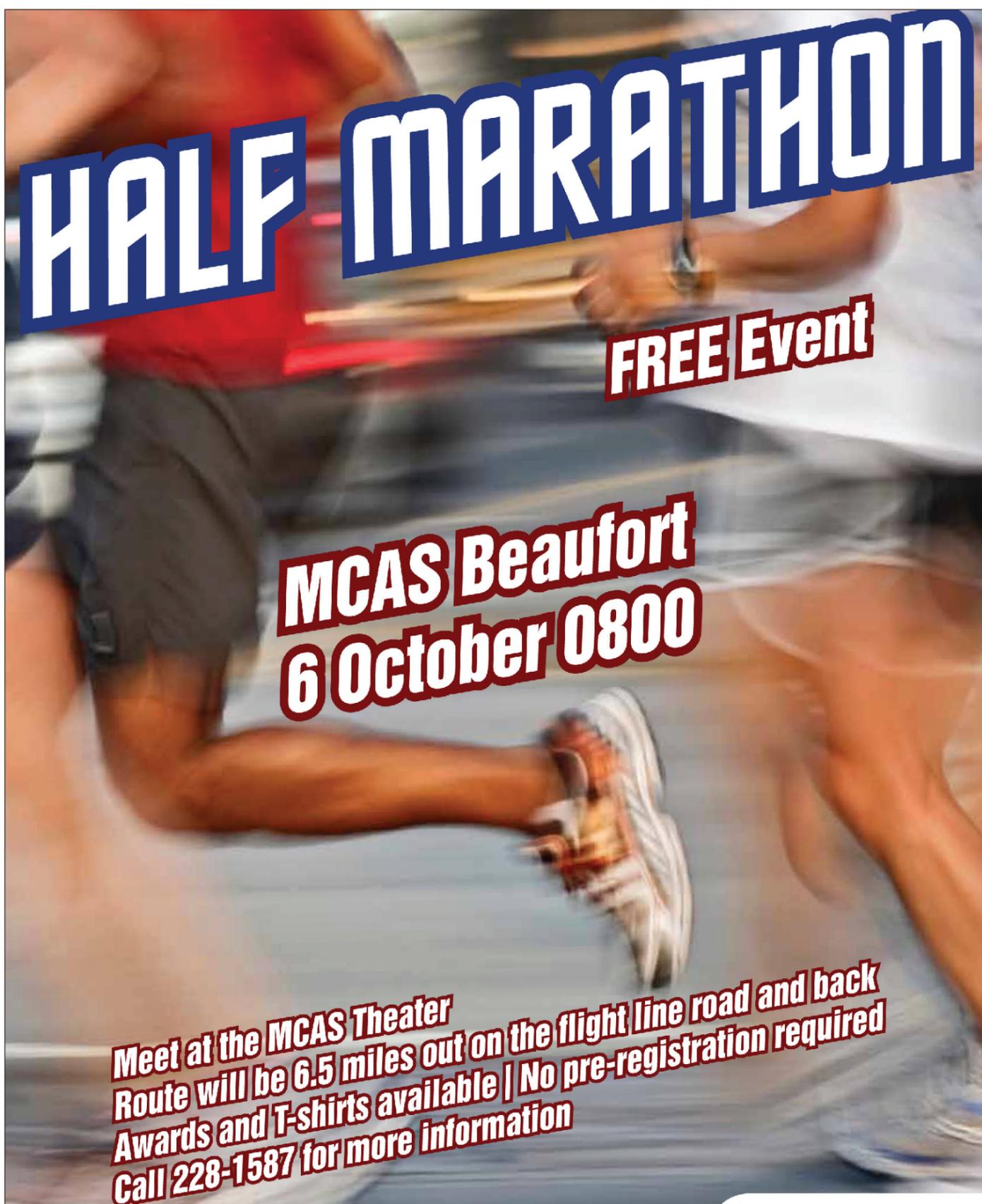
For those not familiar with long-distance running-as with any exercise it is important to hydrate prior to the event. Without sufficient water intake, injury can occur. People can become light headed, dizzy, faint, and in a worst case scenario, death can occur.

"Staying hydrated during physical activity is probably obvious to most people, but even the most ardent athletes have been known to push themselves and forget about water intake," said Michael Giese, Ground Safety.

Above all, always know your body and your bodies limitations, said Harriet Fisher, Semper Fit coordinator.

"We are looking forward to the event," said Culpepper. "Last years turnout was great and we expect this year to be even better."

No pre-registration required, for more information contact Stephanie Connelly at 228-1587.



## Hydration tips

- Drink 17-20 ounces of water two to three hours before the start of exercise.
- Drink 8 ounces of fluid 20 to 30 minutes prior to exercising or during warm-up.
- Drink 7-10 ounces of fluid every 10-20 minutes during exercise.
- Drink an additional 8 ounces of fluid within 30 minutes after exercising.
- Drink 16-24 ounces of fluid for every pound of body weight lost after exercise. Hint: Rehydration occurs faster in the presence of sodium, regardless of whether this is provided in a sports drink

## REACH THE MILITARY AND THEIR FAMILIES

### ADVERTISE IN THE BOOT AND THE JET STREAM

Reach over 30,000 readers weekly with distribution to Parris Island, MCAS Beaufort, Laurel Bay housing and Beaufort Naval Hospital. Copies are also available at various locations in the TriCommand area.

View The Boot and The Jet Stream online at [www.thebootandjetstream.com](http://www.thebootandjetstream.com)

Contact your Account Executive at 843-815-0800 for more information.

### Bring Your Electronics Waste & Paper Shredding for Recycling

Two Locations, Saturday, October 6, 2012, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Beaufort County is offering residents the opportunity to securely dispose of their documents, old computers and other electronic appliances on

**Saturday, Oct 6<sup>th</sup>, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the two County Public Works Sites**  
Beaufort site at 140 Shanklin Road site off Hwy 21 near the Marine Corps Air Station  
Bluffton site at Ulmer & 9 Benton Field Road off Burnt Church Road.

Electronic goods will be accepted free of charge including:

- Computers, printers, scanners, power supplies, monitors, UPS, hard drives, servers, laptops, diskettes
- Cables & wires, surge protectors, switch boxes, sound equipment, tape drives, power supplies,
- Calculators, copy machines, VCRs, DVD players, electric motors, cash registers, overhead projectors,
- Transformers, test equipment, telephones, cell phones and other goods.
- Television sets and all items will be taken FREE

**NOTE: SHREDDING** for this event will be provided by *Shred With Us*.  
Bring all of your paper for safe and secure shredding at both locations.



Electronics Recycling keeps hazardous materials out of the waste stream while reusing valuable resources through recycling.



For additional information or for instructions regarding large quantities, please call the Beaufort County Division of Solid Waste and Recycling at 255-2734  
[www.bcgov.net](http://www.bcgov.net)



Funding for event made possible through a grant from the SC DHEC Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling

# Bengals head to Western Pacific



Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 224 say farewell to friends and family before a six-month deployment to the Western Pacific, Sept. 24. During their previous deployment to the Western Pacific they participated in various exercises such as the Rim of the Pacific, Southern Frontier, Amphibious Landing, and Wolmi-Do Fury.



SSgt. Glen Schoot, a Marine All Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 224 ordnance technician, and his family spend time together before Schoot deploys to the Western Pacific, in support of the Unit Deployment Program.

Story and photos by  
Lance Cpl. John Wilkes  
Staff Writer

Marine All Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 224 deployed to Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan as part of the Unit Deployment Program, Sept. 24.

The six-month deployment is similar to their last when the squadron deployed to the Western Pacific in July, 2010.

While on deployment, the squadron participated in various exercises such as the Rim of the Pacific, Southern Frontier, Amphibious Landing, and Wolmi-Do Fury. The Bengals were able to work closely with their counterparts from Japan and Australia while gaining valuable experience in various tactical areas. This deployment is also a part of the

UDP and shares a similar purpose.

The UDP is a system for assigning deployments to the Marine Corps. To reduce the number of unaccompanied tours and improve unit continuity, the Commandant of the Marine Corps established it to provide for the deployment of units to the Western Pacific for periods of approximately six months.

The Marine Corps' objective is to adhere as closely as possible to a six-month period of deployment away from a unit's continental United States home base.

"We are pretty excited about this deployment," said Sgt. Maj. Patrick Deherrera, VMFA(AW)-224 squadron Sgt. Maj. "We get to interact with our counterparts in the Western Pacific and refine our skills."



SSgt. Ronald Whaley, a Marine All Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 224 maintenance staff noncommissioned officer, and his son spend time together before Whaley deploys to the Western Pacific, in support of the Unit Deployment Program.

## Attention: MILITARY!!!

Now is your chance to tell us what you think!!

Take this Reader Survey at [www.thebootandjetstream.com](http://www.thebootandjetstream.com)

We want your feedback on The Boot and The Jet Stream, your news source for the Military by the Military!

You will be eligible to win one of three prizes just for submitting your survey. How easy is that?

**Win a \$20 Gift Certificate from Bricks Restaurant or a Gorgeous Silk Plant from FWDG or a Round of Golf for Two at Lady's Island Country Club!**



Thank you for your participation!



Petty Officer 3rd class Britney Epps

**Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 251 is currently deployed aboard aircraft carrier USS Enterprise in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The carrier is currently in its 25th and final voyage before decommissioning after more than 50 years of service.**

**AWARD**

continued from page 1

aircraft mission-ready. "Our mission is to not create competitiveness, but to evaluate the steps a squadron makes to become mission ready and effective," said Navy Lt. Cmdr. Kenneth Sanchez, the Maintenance Officer for CVW-1.

However, many of the Marines of VMFA-251 credit teamwork as being the driving force that earned them the award.

"If we don't work as a team we would never accomplish the mission at hand, which is why

it is important to teach new Marines teamwork starting from day one," said Master Sgt. Aaron Bense, the maintenance material control chief for VMFA-251 and a native of Woodbine, Ga.

Although much of the maintenance can be tedious and demanding, it is an essential element in ensuring the air wing is poised to complete the mission at hand.

"[The Squadron's] professionalism, knowledge, sacrifice and willingness to do maintenance by the book and right the first time has earned us the title of best maintenance department in the air

wing," said Lt. Col. Simon Doran, the commanding officer of VMFA-251 and native of Liverpool, England. "The hard work from our Marines continues to give the squadron great jets that are making a difference for the Marines and coalition ground forces."

During the previous cycle, the Golden Wrench was awarded to the Checkmates of Strike Fighter Squadron 211.

The Thunderbolts flew more than 1,100 hours during the two-month evaluation period in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

**MEDAL**

continued from page 1

a fellow officer with the Provost Marshal's office. "He is exceptional.

"Many call him the unofficial mayor of Laurel Bay, his ability to deal with people and relate to them is outstanding," continued Carter. "He is a strong believer in protecting and serving the community, and it has gotten to the point where residents will ask for him by name."

On June 27, the Provost Marshal's Office received a report on a missing child. Officer Hancock responded and found the child in less than 5 minutes after the report was filed.

"I know the area of Laurel Bay really well, when I got there on the scene and

I heard the age of the child I knew there was park near the home, so I headed there and found the child on the way."

According to Carter, Hancock's service to the community does not end when he takes his uniform off.

"Officer Hancock was one of the first to respond to a residential fire while off duty," Carter said. "He managed to ensure that all of the residents vacated the premises safely before emergency responders arrived."

Now with a new award upon his chest Hancock can continue to serve the community and the service members of the Tri-Command.

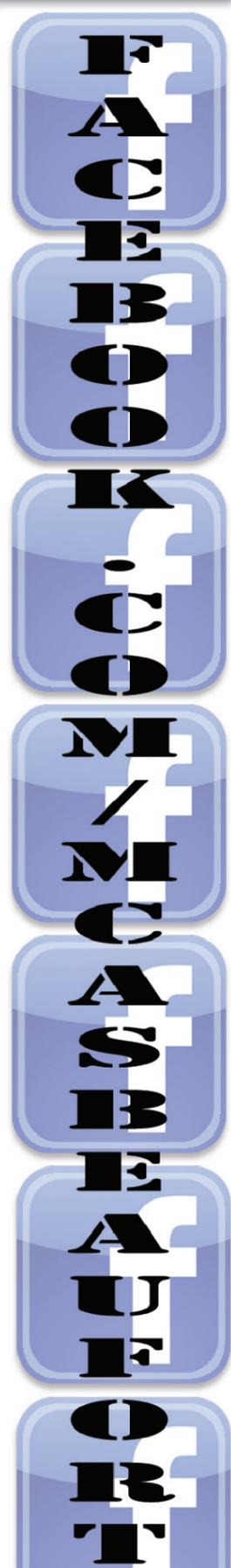
"I have always loved working with people," said Hancock. "Working for people with great people just makes the day go by."



Cpl. Justin Boling

The Law Enforcement Commendation medal was presented by The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution to Officer John Hancock, police officer with the Provost Marshal's Office. The award has only been earned twice in the last 10 years.

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Publishes October 26

# Ball Etiquette Class

Lance Cpl. Sarah Cherry  
Staff Writer

Marines and their guests attending the Marine Corps ball are welcomed to attend Marine Corps Family Team Building's ball etiquette class Sept. 28 from 9 a.m. - noon in the Air Station Officers' Club, and again on Oct. 25 from 5 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. The class offers information on the background of the Marine Corps birthday ball, the sequence of events, do's and don'ts, appropriate uniforms and things to keep in mind after the ball.

"The event is a formal occasion in which customs and courtesies are highly respected and appreciated. Being a United States Marine is an honor and a privilege, but more importantly a noble sacrifice," said Becky Salazar, a Marine Corps Community Services LifeSkills Program Trainer.

November 10, 1775 is the official birthday of the Marine Corps. The first for-

mal birthday ball was celebrated in 1925 and underwent many changes to the sequence of events before being standardized in 1956 and entered into the Marine Corps Drill Manual.

"Those accompanying their Marines, be it spouses, fiancées, girlfriends, boyfriends, or guests, should present themselves in a manner that is respectful and compliments their Marine. They are a direct reflection of their host," said Salazar.

Before 1925, the birthday of the Marine Corps was celebrated with baseball games, mock battles and formal dances.

"There's no doubt that the Marine Corps ball is a memorable, enjoyable evening. Months of planning and coordinating have gone into making this event as successful as possible," said Salazar.

For more information about the class, call Becky Salazar at 228-7334.



**US Marine Corps**

*Ball Etiquette*

FRIDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2012  
0900 - 1200  
MCAS, MCTB OFFICE

*What dress am I going to wear?  
Which fork am I supposed to use?  
Am I supposed to stand up, sit down,  
shake hands or smile for a picture?  
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questions then this class is for you!*

**Topics Covered:**

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- Formal Introductions
- Marine Corps Birthday Ceremony

To register: call LifeSkills Program Trainer, Becky Salazar  
228-7334, or email salazarbm@usmc-mccs.org.

*Childcare is available by contacting PI CDC:  
228-3514; Laurel Bay CDC: 846-1160, or  
MCAS CDC: 228-7290. CDC Vouchers  
will be provided at the end of the  
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## Prisoner of war visits Air Station

Lance Cpl. Sarah Cherry  
Staff Writer

On Sept. 21, on the first day of Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Recognition Week, a man with a beard, a cane, and a flight suit spoke to a crowd of service members in the Lasseter Theatre.

The aging man was once a young captain in the Marine Corps nearly half a century ago when he was shot down in North Vietnam on Oct. 13, 1967, and held as a prisoner of war until March 14, 1973.

"My pilot broke his ankle, and we were in the Demilitarized zone, 450 miles from Hanoi," said Captain James Warner. "You all know that we do not leave our wounded behind, period."

"So, that night, the first night, I carried him around the DMZ, and every night thereafter as we're moving north, I would have to carry him two, three, four hours a night," Warner continued. "That's life."

Warner shared his unique experiences as a POW in Vietnam. He recalled names, events and emotions as he picked up his cane, and sat it back down. He spoke about escapes, subtle communication between different prison camps, and attempts to get information back to the United States.

"I knew we would get to write a letter home for Christmas, and the writer had been a cub scout," said Warner. "I remember in the cub scout manual how it told

you to make invisible ink out of starch,"

Their invisible ink was made from mashed rice and water. The location of the camp was written into the letter, having been discovered through the famous nearby landmark Mt. Ba Vi and stars.

The sacrifices Warner and other former prisoners of war have made are respected. Many prisoners of war, however, never got a chance to come back. Some are still missing in action.

A mantra of the Marine Corps is "No Marine left behind." The Marine Corps strives to uphold this saying by bringing home those we can, and finding the final chapter of those who have passed.



Lance Cpl. Sarah Cherry

**Captain James Warner speaks at the Lasseter Theatre on Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, Sept. 21. Warner was held as a prisoner of war at Hanoi Hilton, Vietnam for five and a half years.**

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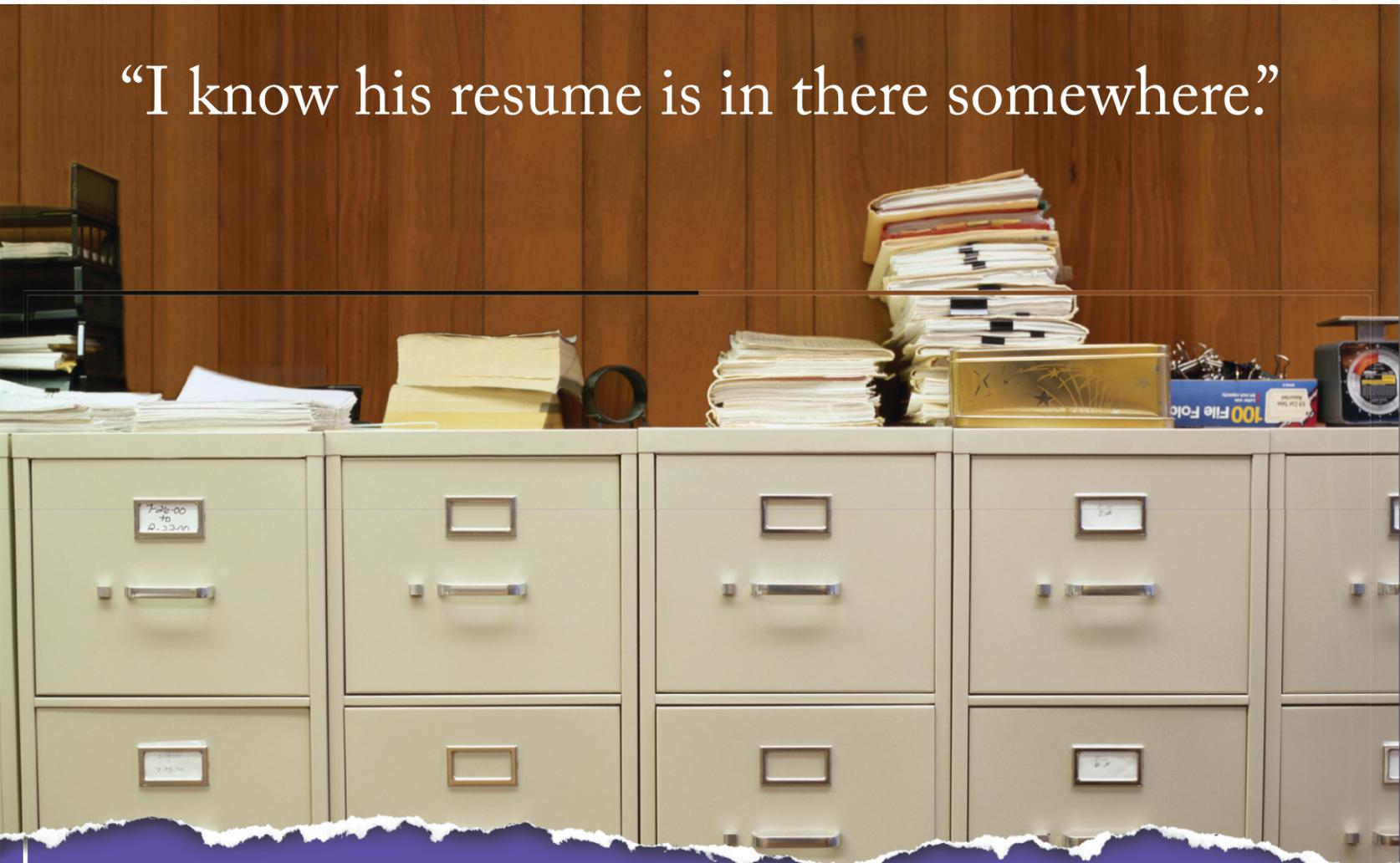
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