MACG-28 Marines ready for OEF deployment

Point collaborated in an effort to practice aspects of air command and control and air defense in eastern North Carolina, Feb. 1-11.

According to Lt. Col. Matthew C. Culbertson,

commanding officer of Marine Air Control Group 28, the Marine air command and control systems integrated site training exercise was held at three different sites throughout the state, Cherry Point, Marine Corps Outlying Landing Field Oak Grove and Davis Airfield, south of Jacksonville, N.C.

During the exercise, MACG-28 Marines

executed missions with air and ground support

from the subordinate squadrons.

Culbertson said the purpose of the training evolution was to prepare the Marines of MACG-

28 for an upcoming deployment in 2011.
"The focus was on an Afghanistan scenario in support of Operation Enduring Freedom,"
Culbertson said about the exercise. "While we still have a significant Marine air command and control systems detachment deployed to Afghanistan for a few more months, the vast majority of our training this year is building toward our anticipated

See **TRAINING** page A4



Cpl. Benjamin Alvarez manages a list of active and upcoming missions during a Marine air command and control systems integrated site training exercise at Davis Airfield, south of Jacksonville, N.C., Feb. 9. Alvarez is an air support operator with Cherry Point's Marine Air Support Squadron 1.

Marines from 2nd Marine Division, 3rd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, board a KC-130J Hercules leaving for Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Feb. 6. The leathernecks from 3/6 replaced Marines with the 22nd MEU already



A Marine with the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit carries a box of meals-ready-to-eat to a KC-130 Hercules leaving for the Toussaint Louverture International Airport in Port-au-Prince, Halti, Feb. 6

Otis transports Marines, provides support for Haiti

On the cold, dreary Saturday morning of Feb. 6, when most Marines aboard Cherry Point were still asleep, a handful of Marines with Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 252 had already begun planning a transport mission to the earthquake-stricken

"The crew's mission was to bring back 44 Marines from the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit and replace them with other Marines in order to support Haitian humanitarian assistance and disaster relief," said Capt. Aleksandr Martin-Nims, the aircraft commander for the

Although the squadron was tasked with carrying out the mission, many of the crew volunteered, Martin-Nims said.

Once briefed, the crew of the KC-130J Hercules made its way to Cherry Point's aerial point of entry. Sixty combat capable Marines from the 2nd Marine Division, 3rd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, boarded the aircraft.

See **HAITI** page A4

VMA-231 flying high after 90 years

From flying in Nicaragua in 1919, to providing close air support in Afghanistan 90 years later, Marine Attack Squadron 231, nicknamed the "Ace of Spades," holds a place in history as the oldest squadron in the Marine

"Keeping up with tradition is important because Marines have gone forth and done wonderful things in the past, and we have to make them proud," said Capt. Adam Campbell, an AV-8B Harrier pilot with VMA-

As the decades passed and the aircraft used by the squadron have evolved, the mission of the Ace of Spades, for the most part, has remained the same.

In Afghanistan, the Ace of Spades coordinates with the other squadrons of Marine Aircraft Group 40 to support the various missions of Marine Expeditionary Brigade-Afghanistan.

"We've conducted long-range escorts with MV-22 Ospreys and CH-53 Super Stallions for all types of

See FLYING page A4

2010 US Census to begin soon

will have the opportunity to make a lasting impact on the quality of life for themselves and military families here for years to come - and it will only take about five minutes of their time.

The 2010 Census, which begins April 1, will provide data that will be used to determine where \$400 billion in federal funds will be allocated each year for services such as roads, schools, hospitals, water, sewer, social services, health care, etc. The amount each community is eligible to receive is largely based on its population. For Cherry Point personnel, their count directly affects Havelock, New Bern, Morehead City and the other communities they live in.

So when service members complain about lack of local services, the first question they should ask themselves is, "Did I make sure I was counted during

Participation in the census is required by law but. historically, some personnel have risked the penalties

MWSS-271 welcomes incoming sergeant major

Sgt. Maj. James P. Humphrey passed on his responsibilities of senior enlisted advisor of Marine Wing Support Squadron 271 to Sgt. Maj. Brett C. Scheuer during a relief and appointment ceremony at Cherry

and loyalty you have given me. Humphrey congratulated his Marines on their hard work and professionalism.

"This is a good group Point's Cherry Tree House, Feb. 9. "Today I get my right hand taken away



271 commanding officer Lt. Col. Paul D. Baker, passing the noncommissioned officer sword to Scheuer. "Sgt. Maj. Humphrey, you have been that right hand.
I appreciate all the guidance, confidence

of young people we have in this squadron, supported by truly professional staff noncommissioned officersandagreatofficer corps," Humphrey said. "I move on with a very heavy heart. I will miss the Marines of MWSS-271 very much. This has been a humbling and arduous effort at times but we got through it by

sticking together. Humphrey ssured the squadron's

See **RELIEF** page A4

Marine Dome to reopen

LANCE CPL. RASHAUN X. JAMES

After more than a year of renovations Cherry Point's Marine Dome is scheduled to reopen this spring, said Gil George, the assistant athletic director for the air station's Semper Fit department.

The Semper Fit staff will also be moving their offices to the new facility permanently after the renovations are completed.

The improved facility will feature an entirely new, state-of-the-art gym flooring system, which is composed of a floating surface meant to improve shock absorption. Improvements have also been made to the locker rooms and shower facilities, to include central heating and air conditioning, new showers with private stalls and larger saunas and steam

"We also had new scoreboards installed that will do more than just display the scores for each team," said George. "The upgraded scoreboards will allow us to display player fouls and timeouts as well. We think this will keep the fans more involved in the game."

"I think people are really going to enjoy this new, state-of-the-art facility," said Nathan Newton, quality control and



Miguel Ramirez, a drywall specialist with Precision Walls Inc., puts the finishing touches on a ceiling inside Cherry Point's Marine Dome, Feb. 17.

project superintendent for the Virtexco Corporation, the contractor handling the renovation. "The Marine Dome is now modernized to fit patrons' expectations

Yellow Ribbon Program expands education benefits

LANCE CPL. SANTIAGO G. COLON JR.

Since 2008, the Post-9/11 G.I. Bill has been a reality, expanding the educational benefits created by the Montgomery G.I.

Bill for service members.

According to the G.I. Bill Web site, According to the G.I. Bill Web site, http://www.gibill.va.gov, the bill wes created to pay for 100 percent of a public four-year undergraduate education for a veteran who has served three years on active duty since Sept. 11, 2001.

Some of the new benefits of the Post-9/11 G.I. Bill include a monthly housing allowance, a \$1,000 book and supplies stipend and the ability to transfer all ben-

efits to a dependent.

As comprehensive as the new bill is, many military members may not be aware of all it has to offer.

According to the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008, which added additional education benefits, veterans who have served a mini-mum of three years active duty can now attend a public university without paying

The bill will only pay for the highest in-state university cast and does not include private universities, graduate schools or out-of-state schools.

For some veterans like James D. Hamel, who received a bachelor's degree, there is a provision included in the Post-9/11 Act that covers paying for a graduate-level education, the Yellow Ribbon G.I. Enhancement Program.

"My end of active service date was August 2007," said Hamel who served four years in the Marine Corps and finished his enlistment as a corporal. "Because of college courses I took while serving,



Former Marine Cpl. James D. Hamel, a public affairs specialist aboard Cherry Point during his enlistment, graduated from Ohio State University with a bachelor's degree in August 2009, two years after his end of active service.

I was able to graduate from Ohio State University with a bachelor's degree in political science and philosophy in August 2009."

A couple of months after graduating Hamel received his acceptance letter from the prestigious Yale Law School in New Haven, Conn.

"After finding out about my acceptance, I met with the director of admissions," the 25-year-old Hamel said. "He told me that Yale participates in the Yellow Ribbon Program. After the meeting,
I did research on the program."

What Hamel found was the Yellow

Ribbon G.I. Enhancement Program, another provision of the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008. Ac-cording to the G.I. Bill Web site, the Yellow Ribbon Program allows Post-9/11 G.I. Bill-eligible service members to attend a participating private, graduate or out-of state-university without having to pay the difference not covered by the bill.

According to the Web site, participating schools voluntarily enter into an agreement with the Department of Veter-an's Affairs to fund tuition expenses that exceed the highest public in-state undergraduate tuition.

"Yale Law pays 50 percent of the tu-ition, and the Department of Veteran's Affairs matches that amount to cover the full rate of tuition," Hamel said. "Because I have 16 months left on my G.I. Bill, I will only have to pay \$100,000 instead of \$200,000."

Hamel also said the Yellow Ribbon program falls under the same guidelines as the Post-9/11 G.I Bill.

"Just like the new G.I. Bill, the pro gram is transferable," Hamel said.
"So if one of your dependents wants
to attend a private school or graduate school, you can transfer the pro-gram to them."

Hamel expressed his sense of relief in finding out about the Yellow

Ribbon Program.

"There are no law school scholarships," Hamel said. "The truth is, if it was not for the Yellow Ribbon Program I would not be going to law school."

According to Hamel, veterans and active-duty service members should understand what their options are concerning education benefits.

"This program is really one of the great things a Marine gets out of ser-vice to their country," Hamel added. "Everybody needs to know because everybody can benefit from the pro-

For more information about the Yellow Ribbon G.I. Enhancement Program visit the Web site at http:// www.gibill.va.gov/GI_Bill_Info/ CH33/YRP/Yellow_ribbon.htm.

From the Chaplain:

The true value of life is earned

In late January 1956, during the tense In late January 1956, during the tense days of the Montgomery Boycott, civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. could not sleep. A threatening phone call had terrified him. So he prayed, "I am here taking a stand for what I believe is right. But Lord, I must confess that I'm weak now, I'm faltering, I'm losing my course. New Lord feet, if he needs to be seen to the confess that I'm standard in the needs of the seen to the seen t courage. Now, I am afraid ... the people are looking to me for leadership, and if I stand before them without strength and courage, they too will falter. I am at the end of my powers ... I can't face it

King later wrote, "At that moment, I experienced the presence of the Divine as ed him before. It s

as though I could hear the quiet assurance as intugn i could near the quiet assurance of an inner voice saying. 'Stand up for righteousness, stand up for truth; and God will be at your side forever.' Almost at once my fears began to go away. My uncertainty disappeared. I was ready to free auxiliare."

Anything of any true value in this life is earned, never given. The most valuable things in this life are obtained only through courage, determination and faith.

Are your convictions worth fighting for?

Remember, if you face opposition when

you are trying to do what is right, cry out to the Lord. He will be your "rock of ref-uge, a fortress of defense," Psalms 31:2. He is your reliable source of strength and protection. Call on him today.

Taxpayers can get help for filing taxes

When choosing to use a tax service to file a return, choose a tax preparer wisely. Individual tax filers are legally responsible for what is on their tax returns even if

they are prepared by someone else. So, it's important to find a qualified tax

The most reputable preparers will request to see records and receipts, and will ask multiple questions to determine total income and qualifications for expenses, deductions and other items. By doing so, it will help the taxpayer avoid penalties, interest or additional taxes that could result in having the IRS contact you.

Most tax preparers are professional, honest and provide excellent service to their clients. The following tips can help in choosing a property of the control of the contro

in choosing a preparer:
• Find out what the service fees are before the return is prepared. Avoid preparers who base their fee on a percentage of the amount of the refund or who claim they can obtain larger refunds than other

preparers.

• Only use a tax professional that signs

- Only use a tax proressonant rart signs tax returns and provides the taxpayer with a copy for personal records.
 Avoid tax preparers that ask tax filers to sign a blank tax form.
 Choose a tax preparer that will be around to answer questions after the return has been filed.
- · Ask questions. Do you know anyone who has used the tax professional? Were they satisfied with the service they re-

• Check to see if the preparer has any questionable history with the Better Business Bureau, the state's board of accountancy for CPAs or the state's bar association for attorneys. Find out if the preparer belongs to a professional organization that requires its members to pur-sue continuing education and also holds them accountable to a code of ethics.

Determine if the preparer's credentials meet your needs. Does your state have licensing or registration requirements for paid preparers?

paid preparers?

• Is he or she an enrolled agent, certified public accountant or attorney? If so, the preparer can represent taxpayers before the IRS on all matters – including audits, collections and appeals. Other return preparers can represent taxpayers only in audits regarding a return signed as a

preparer.

• Before signing a tax return, review it and ask questions.

Suspected tax fraud and abusive tax

Suspected tax tratud and adustive tax preparers are reportable to the IRS on Form 3949-A, information referral or by sending a letter to Internal Revenue Service, Fresno, Calif., 93888. Download Form 3949-A from http://www.irs.gov or order by mail at (800) 829-3676.

For more information on filing taxes, you can visit the air stations' tax center.

you can visit the air station's tax center located next to the Cherry Tree House or call 466-2001. You can also visit the Web site at http://www.cherrypoint.usmc.mil





LANCE CPL. CODY J. DECK

Job Title: Fixed-wing crew chief Unit: VMGR-252 Age: 25 Hometown: Lawton, Okla Date Joined: March 2007

What's your job?

I am a KC-130J Hercules crew chief, responsible for the overall safety of the aircraft, its maintenance, and ensuring that all emergency procedures are followed accurately.

What's your favorite part? I enjoy the high expectations and heavy responsibility that is expected of myself and the job I do.

What's the most challenging part?

Having to know everything about the aircraft is challenging. I spend many hours studying the flight manual.

How do you support the missions of 2nd MAW and MCAS Cherry Point?

We support numerous operations whether it's transporting cargo and troops or refueling various aircraft. Recently, we have been transporting Marines to and from Haiti while they support the relief

Highlight Your Superstar

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

The Windsock

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PRESS OFFICER
ALEJANDRO ÁGULERA

The Windsock February 18, 2010 A3



Chief Warrant Officer Matthew A. Burg, the production control officer for Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 14, uses a resistance machine during a semper fit class at Cherry Point's Fitness Connection, Feb. 2.

Trainers help Marines enhance endurance

Fitness is a huge part of what it means to be a Marine, and some civilians aboard the air station have made it their mission to keep leathernecks in shape and always ready.

air station have made it their mission to keep leathernecks in shape and always ready. Cherry Point's semper fit fitness program provides military families a multitude of exercise classes led by civilian physical trainers and instructors. According to Vicky Lee, the fitness program coordinator for the semper fit program, one class in particular is general toward preparing Marines for the combat fitness test, a yearly analysis of a devil dog's ability to withstand the physical rigors of combat. "The semper fit class is a high intensity class that works the same muscle groups as the CFT," Lee said.

Karen D. Walter, a trainer and instructor with the semper fit program, said the class

is conveniently scheduled every Tuesday and Thursday from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the Fitness Connection, building 4027 on Alexander Road in the Nugent Cove housing area. The class is free to all military members and their dependents.

"Marines come during their lunchtime to participate in the class," Walter said. "We also have some civilians participate in the class." Walter added that participate in the class enjoy the cardiovascular workout supplemented with muscle endurance training.

"We really try to do full body movements as much as possible," said Walter. "All the exercises we do are anaerobic and crossover to the type of things Marines have to do during the CFT."

The exercises include squats and lunges, which build the lower body muscles necessary The exercises include squats and lunges, which build the lower body muscles necessary to execute the combat drag performed during the CFT, explained Walter. In addition, curls, push-ups and a resistance-training machine are used to improve the upper body muscles necessary to carry out the ammunition can-lifts also done during the CFT. "We perform high intensity cardio exercises," Walter added. "We really emphasize endurance more than strength, since that is a major component of the CFT."

According to Walter, the attendance rate for the semper fit class validates the effectiveness of the physical training.

effectiveness of the physical training.

effectiveness of the physical training.
"This class really fills up during the day," Walter added. "We are running out of room at the Fitness Connection, which is a major concern for Marines who enjoy the class." Walter said despite the space issue, the trainers at fitness connection encourage Marines and dependents alike to participate in the many free classes offered. "We really have a lot going on right now," Walter added.
Other classes offered drude water aerobies, kickboxing, indoor cycling and two high-intensity classes that are an hour and a half, and one hour, respectively. Also

offered are a choreography-based step class and, for the athletically-elite, an extreme fitness program.

According to Walter, semper fit trainers use a common-sense mindset when it comes

to workout routines.

"Functional fitness is the key to our training," Walter added. "We exercise in a way that prepares people to perform everyday activities like walking, bending, climbing and, in the case of Marines, mimicking combat maneuvers."

For more information on the semper fit fitness program, call 466-1147 or visit the Web site at http://www.mccscherrypoint.com/fitness.



• • •

Karen D. Walter, a trainer and instructor with the semper fit program, leads Cherry Point residents during a semper fit class at the air station's Fitness Connection, Feb. 2. The class is held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. and is geared toward preparing Marines for the combat fitness test.



Marines perform squats with a weighted bar during a semper fit class, Feb. 2.



Cherry Point Marines execute abdominal crunches with medicine balls during a semper fit class, Feb. 2.

TRAINING from page A1

Operation Enduring Freedom deployment in 2011."

According to Cpl. Lashawn M. Jasper, an embark noncommissioned officer with MACG-28, the exercise was also held to familiarize Marines with systems used in

"We use the blue force tracker system to locate military vehicles on the ground and see their position on our computer screen," Jasper said. "It is really a bona fide global positioning tracker.'

Along with the ability to see where convoys are via map, Jasper added they have the ability to communicate with the troops on the ground by text on a computer screen "This is the same system we are using in deployment," Jasper also said.

According to Culbertson, some of the other equipment utilized in the training included mobile, extended-rigid wall shelters for the tactical air command center, the tactical air operations module for the tactical air operations extert, and numerous tactical communications systems, networks, which provide communications including video, multimedia, data and imagery.

"The idea is to keep the training as realistic as possible and ensure that our Marines are familiar with the expeditionary equipment that they use in combat," Culbertson said.

Culbertson added that the Marines completed the missions successfully, and the training

exercises and the main dear of what will happen during their deployment.

"This was a successful evolution because our Marines were simulating their duties in combat and beginning to familiarize or re-familiarize themselves with the Afghanistan theater of operations," Culbertson said.

HAITI from page A1

Master Sgt. Kraig S. Kerkenides, a loadmaster with VMGR-252, had the arduous task

"My primary responsibility was to execute the safe loading and unloading of all personnel and equipment aboard the aircraft," Kerkenides said.

In addition to performing his primary duties, Kerkenides was also working with a student loadmaster and instructing him during the mission.

After reaching Haiti's capital city of Port-au-Prince, the crew landed at Toussaint

Louverture International Airport and off-loaded the Marines with 3/6 from the aircraft. A half an hour later, Marines from the 22nd MEU made their way to the aircraft and prepared to take off.

Cpl. David Van Winkle, a refrigeration mechanic from Combat Logistics Battalion 22,

felt the 2 1/2-week-long mission to Haiti was definitely a unique experience.

"I liked it," said Van Winkle. "Coming to Haiti isn't something most Marines do every day. I enjoyed helping people in need."

Martin-Nims explained one of his motivations for being a part of the mission.

"The Marines we brought out of Haiti proudly performed their duties, and it is time for them to move on and to spend time at home," said Martin-Nims. "Supporting Marines and missions of the Marine Corps is what Marines do, and it is always an honor to be a part of the VMGR-252 team."

Although it was Kerkenides' first mission to Haiti, he said he is prepared to go on many more missions to the country in the future.

"Helping the people and government of Haiti during their time of need is extremely important." Kerkenides said. "I execute any missions my chain of command deems important. Without a doubt, they know this is an important mission for the country of Haiti."

At the end of the day, the Marines of VMGR-252 had completed their mission safely

"I enjoy being a part of real-world missions," Kerkenides said. "I take personal pride in being part of a squadron that can always be counted on in any situation in any part of the world and to perform all missions asked of it.'

FLYING from page A1

operations since day one," said Lt. Col. David Forrest, commanding officer of VMA-231 and a Harrier pilot.

The Ace of Spades has provided close air support and information surveillance reconnaissance as its primary missions in Afghanistan. However, it has been tasked with additional responsibilities as well.

'We also locate enemy positions and conduct patterns-of-life operations," said

Regardless of the type of mission, the Marines of VMA-231 come to work with

We prepare ourselves for the best- and worst-case scenarios before every

"We prepare ourselves for the best- and worst-case scenarios before every flight," said Campbell. "There is nothing different between missions and being ready to provide close air support for every flight, if we need to." In order for the pilots to provide the air combat support needed for ground units, they rely on the squadron's maintenance Marines to keep the aircraft fit for duty. "Although we are the ones flying the actual missions and supporting the Marines on the ground, none of this would be possible without the hard work and dedication that our Marines put in day in and day out," said Campbell. "Our maintenance Marines make what we do nossible "

Marines make what we do possible."
"It is good to know that the work I do keeps our aircraft in the air," said Lanee Cpl. Gabriel Valdez, an airframes mechanic with VMA-231.

Before arriving to Afghanistan and replacing VMA-214 in November 2009, the

Acc of Spades had to complete a rigorous training schedule.

"To qualify for this deployment, we participated in Mojave Viper, Advanced Mojave Viper and Operation Green Flag in Barksdale, Louisiana," said Forrest. "All of our pilots got their hours in, and we even got to participate in a combined air exercise with 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, who is out here also." There has been no shortage of responsibilities for the Marines of VMA-231 since they arrived here, but the Marines are determined to live up to the squadron's

"We are happy to be at the forefront of history and to continue the legacy that was established by the Marines in 1919," said Forrest.

RELIEF from page A

Marines their new sergeant major was distinguished

"I've learned a lot from you, and I hope you have learned from me," Humphrey said. "Your new sergeant major is outstanding. I'm positive the Workhorses are in good hands."

The former 2nd Marine Division, 2nd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment Headquarters and Service Company first sergeant, Scheuer, took the floor afterward, addressing Humphrey, his new commanding officer and the Marines of MWSS-271.

"Sgt. Maj. Humphrey, I greatly appreciate the smooth transition," Scheuer said.
"Lt. Col. Baker, sir, I look forward to serving with you. I plan on giving 100
percent of my efforts every day I am here."
Addressing the Marines now under his charge, Scheuer offered them assurance

of his dedication.

of his dedication.

"I am going to hold myself accountable for each and every one of you," Scheuer said. "I am looking forward to serving alongside all of you Marines."

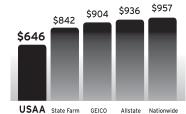
Humphrey will transfer to Marine Corps Air Station New River, N.C., where he will serve as the senior enlisted advisor for Marine Helicopter Training Squadron

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larine Corps bear (

A Marine of a different nature now greets service members and patrons coming and going from the Coastal Carolina Regional Airport in New Bern, N.C.

A professionally painted bear, which is the mascot of New Bern, as bern means bear,

now stands in the airport's main lobby.

The bear, named Semper Fi, stands tall wearing a Marine Corps dress blue uniform. The paint job on Semper Fi is very detailed, down to every ribbon, an expert rifle badge and the eagle, globe and anchor on his collar.

The artist of Semper Fi is Vicki Vitale-Farrow, painted two other bears around the city for New Bern's 300th anniversary. Vitale-Farrow works on the Bear Town Bears team, which is an all-volunteer non-profit organization that places fiberglass bears decorated by local artists at New Bern businesses and other public locations

When asked why she was at the ceremony, Vitale-Farrow said she was there to honor

the Marines.

"It's for all the Marines that come in and out of this airport and for what they do for

Retired Marine Corps Maj. Gen. Tom Braaten, Coastal Carolina Regional Airport director, presented the newly adopted bear to the crowd alongside Vitale-Farrow. To thank the artist for her hard work, Braaten gave Vitale-Farrow a Marine Corps'

"Look Sharp" guide with ruler and a ribbon rack with all the ribbons she painted on

The ribbons on the bear's chest represent the many wars Marines have fought throughout history for decades. The bear proudly wears the Korean Service ribbon, the World War II Victory ribbon, the Vietnam Service ribbon, the Southwest Asia Service ribbon, the National Defense Service ribbon, a Combat Action ribbon, and the Good Conduct ribbon.

Vitale-Farrow said she didn't count the hours she spent painting Semper Fi. She normally spends between 70 to 100 hours on each bear. Semper Fi, she said, took about 45 days to finish.

"It was worth every minute," said Vitale-Farrow, adding it was truly an honor

Semper Fi was made a Marine corporal, which is the senior enlisted rank that Braaten achieved before going to Officer Candidates School. He felt the rank of corporal was and still is, a very important position in the Marine Corps.

"We have some Marines in three or four years that have life and death in their hands sometimes, and they're making huge decisions," said Braaten. "Pinning on corporal is a real stepping-stone and they're proud when they put on that second stripe and become a noncommissioned officer."

As the bear was unveiled, the front lobby of the airport filled with people from the community, other New Bern bear artists and, copious cameras ... creating a red-carpet feel with flashes shining through the crowd.

"I think it's going to pick service members' spirits up and make them feel good about coming home," said Cutis Bare, vice chairman of the airport authority.

As soon as the masses parted, patrons about to catch a flight or simply walking out of the airport to return home, stopped to admire Semper Fi.

Braaten said he looks forward to seeing kids get their pictures taken with Semper Fi and when children's parents return from deployment, they too can take a picture.



The artist of the newest adopted New Bern bear, Semper Fi, is Vicki Vitale-Farrow. She painted Semper Fi in a Marine Corps dress blue uniform to honor all service members. The bear stands in the main lobby of the Coastal Carolina Regional Airport in New Bern, N.C.

Having your picture taken with a bear dressed in a Marine Corps uniform gives Marines a sense of gratitude from the surrounding communities in which they live,



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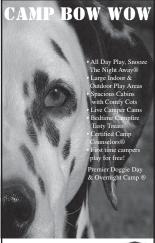
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CENSUS from page A1

of the law due to common misconceptions about how the count will affect them.

- Here are the facts:

 Everyone is to be counted based on where they actually live on April 1 not based on other residences or their military home of record. That means being counted here has no effect on your IRS home-state tax filing.

 Being counted here will not affect your residency status. Again, the census is designed to provide a snapshot of where people physically reside on April 1.
- The information that you provide is confidential you are protected by the Privacy Act. The records collected cannot be opened for 72 years, which was based on the average American lifespan when the act was created.
- Service members who are deployed overseas will not be counted here, but their

families still residing (and using local services) here will still count locally.

At Cherry Point, like everywhere else, the census will be conducted through two basic measures. In mid-March, census forms will be mailed to all households, including base housing units. Residents should fill out the forms and mail them back to the Census Bureau. Starting May 1, census takers will visit households that did not return the forms by mail. If nobody is home to provide the information, census takers will schedule several dates to return and try again.

"Our census takers will wear vests and carry identification that will clearly identify them during the visits to homes here," says Joe Simcox, Military Bases Census Crewleader. The plan, says Simcox, is to hire local residents to conduct the visits. That helps keep community members in their own areas and also gives some residents the opportunity to make some extra part-time cash on the side. The Census Bureau is offering \$11 an hour, plus mileage expenses, to census takers.

The count here will not only be conducted in base housing but also in the barracks.

Units will have trained and sworn census takers on hand to account for all personnel

Units will have trained and sworn census takers on hand to account for all personnel who reside in the barracks.

By the end of the year, the Census Bureau will deliver population data to the president, and redistricting data will be provided to the states by March 2011.

"We hope that all residents will act responsibly during this census and make sure they are counted," says Simcox. "It is believed that the local count was low during the last census conducted in 2000. That may have had negative impacts on the quality of life for precoped who have lived here for many veser." of life for personnel who have lived here for many years."

More information about the 2010 Census is available at http://www.census.gov

Anyone interested in applying for a job as a census taker may call (866) 861-2010 to schedule an appointment.

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Marines, Afghan soldiers face harsh weather conditions in Helmand province



Marines from India Company, 3rd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment and a Pashto linguist patrol during a sandstorm in Helmand province, Afghanistan, Feb. 8.

LANCE CPL. TOMMY BELLEGARDE

helmets and anything else exposed to the elements served as a frozen consequence of sleeping outside in the harsh desert of Helmand, province Afghanistan during the wintertime.

Frost was only one of the many challenges to the Marines and Sailors of India Company, 3rd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, and soldiers of the Afghan national army, living outside without the protection of permanent structures.

Earlier in the week, a brutal hailstorm. without warning, pelted the Marines with large chunks of ice.
"I was standing on top of a hill and the

hail started sprinkling a little bit," said Cpl. Charles Hickey, a mortarman with India Co. "Then the wind picked up and it started hurting more. All of a sudden, instantly, marble-sized hail started coming at us at like 100 miles an hour."

The hail fell from the sky so hard and

fast that it even left visible marks on the Marines' hodies

"Marines have bruises on their arms and

their backs from the hail," said Lance Cpl RECOMPOSE COMP TENT 7

HELMAND PROVINCE, Afghanistan

Dan Reilly, a motarman with India Co. "I have them on the back of my legs."

The troops have been nomadic while in - The troops awoke from their tarp-covered fighting holes, Feb. 10, to find a blanket of frost, covering everything laround them. Their boots, flak jackets, living in makeshift shelters using whatever materials they have on hand and have been exposed to all types of weather conditions including sandstorms.

'You've got to cover every part of your body to keep the sand out," said Hickey.

On one particular day, the troops were bombarded by a day-long sandstorm. The wind howled throughout the land, pelting the service members with bitterly cold air

the service members with bitterly cold air and grainly sand.

"The whole day, the wind wouldn't stop blowing," said Reilly. "I've had sand in more places than I knew I could," he humorously added. "That day was just miserable."

The treeps also had to deel with other

The troops also had to deal with other inclement weather conditions during their stay in the desert, including thunderstorms and frequent cold fronts. Nevertheless, the

troops deal with it as best they can.
"It could always be worse," said Reilly, in regard to the horrible weather. "Some Marines have had it worse, so I just do what I can and keep on keeping on.

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Heavy helicopter squadrons transfer authority in Afghanistan

CAMP BASTION, Afghanistan – Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 462 transferred control of air support for Marine Aircraft Group 40, Marine Expeditionary Brigade-Afghanistan, to HMH-466 during a transfer of authority ceremony, Jan. 21.

The HMH-462 Heavy Haulers' primary mission in the MEB-Afghanistan area of operation was transportation of troops and cargo throughout the battlespace, their primary aircraft is the CH-53D; a mission the

HMH-466 Wolfpack took over.

"HMH-462 has done a great job and we will continue supporting MAG-40," said Lt.

will continue supporting MAG-40, 'said Li. Col. Mitchell Cassell, commanding officer of HMH-466, as he addressed the Marines and Sailors of both squadrons. The deployment for the Heavy Haulers started with three months in Iraq before they arrived in Afghanistan. Upon arrival, the Marines of HMH-462 noticed the pace in Afghanistan was hidper than it was in in Afghanistan was higher than it was in Iraq. Operations for the Heavy Haulers significantly increased and they knew the value in their presence in Afghanistan.

value in their presence in Arghanistan.
"Operational tempo is much higher here," said Master Sgt. James Bennington, a maintenance chief with HMH-462. "The Marines work hard all day long and seem to be happier with more work they have to

During their time in Helmand, the Heavy

Butting their time in Heiniand, the reavy Haulers participated in numerous missions inserting troops and transporting follow-on supplies for many of those same troops. In three months, the Heavy Haulers transported nearly 16,000 troops and 3 million pounds of cargo throughout Helmand requires.

Over the past 50 years, the Heavy Haul-



Marines from Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 462 and HMH-466, Marine Aircraft Group 40, Marine Expeditionary Brigade-Afghanistan, stand in formation for the transfer of authority ceremony here, Jan. 21.

ers have seen operations in Vietnam, Saudi of MCAS New River, N.C., to form the Af-Arabia, Japan, the Philippines, Iraq and Af-ghanistan Wolfpack.

The arrival of HMH-466 has marked a new chapter for operations in Afghanistan What makes this helicopter squadron different than most, is that they are comprised of Marines from two squadrons. The Wolf-pack Marines are originally from Marine Corps Air Station in Miramar, but have been joined Marines from HMH-464 out ghanistan Wolfpack.

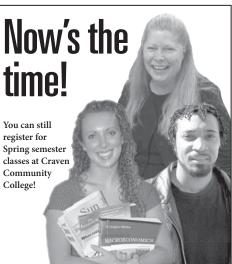
Joining two squadrons into one may seem

out of the ordinary, but Cassell pointed out that HMH-466 is one squadron operating in support of missions in southern Afghanistan as a cohesive team.

The Wolfpack was being commissioned Nov. 30, 1980. Nearly ten years after the unit was commissioned, they deployed as the first CH-53E Super Stallion helicopter

squadron to Saudi Arabia in support of Op-erations Desert Storm and Desert Shield. Following both operations, the Wolfpack

supported missions in Japan, Somalia, East Timor, Yemen, Thailand and Iraq. In 2003, they also assisted areas around the city of San Diego by launching six aircraft to carry 1,320 gallon buckets of water in order to douse wildfires that scorched approximate-ly 400,000 acres of land in California.



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A8 February 18, 2010

VMGR-152 supports multinational training exercise in Thailand



An AV-8B Harrier hooks up to the fuel line of a KC-130J tanker aircraft during an aerial refueling Feb. 4, in support of Cobra Gold 2010. Cobra Gold is a joint and coalition multi-national exercise hosted annually in Thailand. This year marks the 29th anniversary of the exercise, which consists of a global peace operations initiative exercise, command post exercise, humanitarian civic assistance projects and field training exercises.

Maj. Richard Hawkins, operations officer for Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 152, flies a KC-130J tanker aircraft while two AV-8B Harrier II perform aerial refueling, Feb. 4, in support of Cobra Gold 2010.

SPC. LYNDSEY R. DRANSFIELD

UTAPAO, Thailand – Marines from Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 152 maneuver their giant KC-130J tanker aircraft around the airstrip in preparation for takeoff. Their mission: to conduct a mid-air refueling for two AV-8B Harrier jets in support of Cobra Gold 2010, Feb.4.

"Refueling jets in the air keeps them in the fight longer, helping Marines and Soldiers on the ground," said Capt. Ben Grant, a pilot with VMGR-152.

Since the Marines assigned to VMGR-152 arrived in Thailand, the crew has been in the air daily providing fuel for various missions. The fueling not only supports the Cobra Gold multinational training exercise, but provides training for the crew.

"All of the training we do is in preparation for the real fight," Grant said. "We are far

more effective when we execute these missions in real-world scenarios.

"Back at home we're busy executing other missions, so this is a great way to accomplish squadron training," Grant added. He said the training here gives the younger members of the air crew more opportunities to conduct missions that they may not use until a realstic

Cpl. Josh Palmer, a loadmaster assigned with VGMR-152, said training on a daily basis improves his team's performance.

"It's all about experience," Palmer said. "The more we do it, the better we get at it, and the more efficient we'll be. That's our ultimate goal."

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Semper Fi, Mrs. Eva Virtue

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Mojave Viper



Marines with Company K, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, from Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., watch a CH-46 Sea Knight lift off Feb. 1, at Combat Center Range 220 during their enhanced Mojave Viper predeployment training. The battalion will deploy to Afghanistan this spring to support Operation Enduring Freedom.

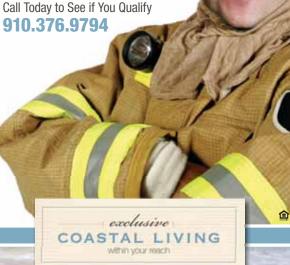
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Life&Ti



Turner G. Blount, one of the first African-Americans in the Marine Corps, holds his boot camp graduation photo. Blount was drafted into the Marines in 1943 where he served in three wars: World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War. He retired in 1969 as a master sergeant and went on to become a councilman for the city of

Montford Point Marine shares life-changing experiences

LANCE CPL. AMY A. TRAIL

When Turner G. Blount was growing up in the small town of Keysville, Ga., he didn't know a Corps of Marines existed until he received his draft letter in 1943.

"I knew nothing about the Marine Corps," said Blount, one of the first African-Americans in the Marine Corps, "I grew up in a small town. There wasn't much news unless it was on a radio back then."

Blount said he and a friend had to

take an entrance examination before selecting their branch of service. After they took the examination, they were given the choice between the Marine

given the choice between the Marine Corps and the Army.

"I had a friend who knew all about the Marine Corps," said Blount with a slight laugh. "He said we should join the Marines because it's the toughest thing out there. So I did."

With a distant gaze, Blount recalled arriving at Martford Point now pamed

arriving at Montford Point, now named Camp Johnson after Montford Point Marine Sgt. Maj. Gilbert "Hashmark" Johnson.

"We came in on a bus around midnight," said Blount. "They dropped us off at the main gate, and we walked from there to the administrative build-ing to check-in."

When Blount came into the Corps,

African-Americans were sent to a basic training camp separate from other Marines. At first, white drill instruc-tors trained the black Marines. However, soon after the first few groups of black recruits graduated they were sent through training as drill instructors in order to begin training the recruits at Montford Point.

"I went through training when the black drill instructors were training us," said Blount with a glimmer in his eyes. "The training was rough being new, and I didn't know what to expect. The drill instructors didn't have any mercy but they made sure we could be Marines, that we proved we belonged.'

Nearly 20,000 black recruits went through basic training from 1942 through 1949 at Montford Point in Jacksonville, N.C., and none of them were allowed in the city after 'We couldn't cross the railroad tracks," said Blount, "If you did, the military police

or the city police would get you. I remember having to get onto a barge and float down the river to go to the rifle range because the city didn't want blacks riding in the back of

Shortly after graduating from basic training, Blount found himself on a ship to Ha-

"It was a short stay. Once we got there we were told we were going further," said Blount. "After I was on the ship for 10 days, I looked out into the ocean and saw many other ships and destroyers. It was in June of 1944, and at that time I learned we were participating in the Saipan invasion."

Blount remembers landing on the island on June 15, 1944, and being ready to go in

with the first wave of Marines.

"I had been trained to the point where I just wanted to do something," said Blount. "I was really ready to go, but I didn't make the first wave. We had to climb down a ladder

to get on the barge that would take us the rest of the way in."

Blount said they had to do everything they could to take over the island, while at the same time fighting the belief that the black Marines did not have what it took to accomplish the mission

"The first thing I remember seeing once I got off the boat was a lot of dead Marines,

said Blount. "There was a chaplain going around trying to identify them, and they picked
a Marine to help him pull their dog tags off ... that Marine was me. That

was one of the roughest times I experienced in the Marine Corps."

Next, Blount and his company were sent to help take the island of Tinian and eventually Okinawa where he stayed until a cease fire was called in August 1945.

"I came back home to Georgia after that," said Blount. "Once I got back, the only thing the Marine Corps had to offer was being a cook. I remember thinking I have never cooked in my life and I don't want to, so I asked to be discharged."

After being discharged, Blount went home to finish high school.

Once he finished school he joined the Marine Corps Reserves.

"I wanted to come back in," laughed Blount. "It didn't feel right being a civilian. The recruiters swore me in at my home."

Blount said he was soon called back to active duty because of the Korean War and shortly after found himself back in Jacksonville, N.C. He served in a motor transport unit carrying supplies to Marines in the



field and attended various schools.

"It was different this time," said Blount. "We were allowed to go to Camp Lejeune."

The next step in Blount's Marine Corps career was serving in the Vietnam War from
1965 to 1966 with Marine Air Base Squadron 16 at Marble Mount Air Facility in Viet-

"I provided security for a helicopter squadron there," said Blount. "My job was to set up machine gun positions and protect the helicopters. The Vietnamese would wait until dark every night and then try to come in to get to the helicopters."

Blount recalled one night when the Vietnamese got through their security line.

"They got through our line and did some damage to some of the helicopters before we could stop them," said Blount, "One of our fluel trucks caught on fire, and I remember this one Marine, while all the fighting was going on, getting in the truck to move it away

from the helicopters."

For his actions in Vietnam, Blount received a Secretary of the Navy Commendation for Achievement.

Blount retired in 1969 as a master sergeant. Afterward he spent 14 years as a council-

man for the city of Jacksonville.

Blount said the town accepted him as a councilman. He said Jacksonville residents to this day tell him the city needs him back in politics.

"It makes you feel good when people come up to you and say that," said Blount. "I've been treated real well. It was rough and tough, but we made it through.

B2 February 18, 2010

How to determine alcohol abuse, dependence

Recently and unfortunately, I have been in many conversations with commands on their concerns about service members and the abusive alcohol patterns that have increased. I hope the information that follows will shed some light on this subject or just

When it comes to alcohol, service members should remember that it is against Navy and Marine Corps policy to abuse the substance. Although alcohol is a legal drug, it is still a drug and should only be used in a responsible manner. Drinking becomes abusive in nature when it causes or elevates the risk for alcohol-related problems or complicates the management of other health issues.

The use of alcohol, when done responsibly, is acceptable in most societies, and the Naval services. The use of alcohol to celebrate, socialize and relax is usually not a problem. Everyone should keep in mind never to use alcohol to deal with stress, life problems, or for the relief of any negative emotion. The use of alcohol for such purposes can lead to problem drinking (binge), alcohol-related problems and possible addiction. People whose use of alcohol has negative effects on any aspect of their lives, includ-

ing health, relationships, work, school and money, are considered to have an alcohol problem. These problems can range from mild to severe. The severity of an alcohol problem depends on several factors, including the type of alcohol you drink, how much you drink and how long you have been drinking. Alcohol abuse

Is a pattern of drinking that involves one or more of the following problems within a one-year period:

- Failure to carry out major responsibilities at work, school or home

- Drinking in physically dangerous situations, such as driving
 Legal problems related to using alcohol
 Continued drinking despite ongoing problems in relationships with other people that are related to alcohol use

Alcohol abuse does not involve physical dependence on alcohol. But if it is not treated, alcohol abuse can lead to alcohol dependence.

Alcohol dependence

Is a chronic and potentially fatal disease in which a person is addicted to alcohol. It cannot be cured, but it can be successfully controlled. Alcohol dependence is characterized by three or more of the following occurring in a one-year period:

- · Tolerance: increasing amounts of alcohol needed to get the same effect
- Withdrawal symptoms, such as shakiness, sweating, nausea, anxiety and depression, when alcohol use is stopped after heavy drinking. Also, use of alcohol to relieve or avoid withdrawal symptoms.
- Drinking larger amounts for longer periods of time than you intended
- Inability to cut down or quit drinking

 Spending a lot of time drinking alcohol or recovering from its effects

 Reducing or giving up important work or leisure activities



Alcohol is the most commonly abused substance among Marines. Going out with the intention of only drinking a small amount and ending up drunk, or altering one's fliestyle and habits to incorporate drinking are signs of an emerging dependence

· Continued use despite the physical or emotional problems it causes to the drinker or

How do I know if I have a drinking problem?

Drinking is a problem if it causes you to be involved with law enforcement, negatively impacts your relationships, in work, in school, in social activities, or in how you think and feel about yourself. If you are concerned that either you or someone you know might have a drinking problem, you can contact the substance abuse center at 466-4875 or consult with your personal health care provider.

Avoid peer pressure toward unwelcome sexual activity

If someone is pressuring you to engage in unwelcome sexual activity, it is important to remember that being in this situation is not your fault. You didn't do anything wrong, it is the person who is making you uncomfortable who is to blame. But if you need to get out of an uncomfortable or scary situation, here are some things that you can try:

• Trust your instincts. Don't feel obligated to

- do anything you don't want to. "I don't want to" is always a good enough reason.

 Be true to yourself. Do what feels right to you and what you are comfortable with.
- · Have a code word with your friends or family so that if you don't feel comfortable you can call them and communicate your discomfort without the person you are with knowing. Your friends or family can then come to get

you or make up an excuse for you to leave.

- Lie. If you don't want to hurt the person's feelings, it is better to lie and make up a reason to leave than to stay and be uncomfortable, scared or worse. Some excuses you could use are: needing to take care of a friend or family member, not feeling well, having somewhere else that you need to be, etc.
- Try to think of an escape route. How would you try to get out of the room? Where are the doors? Windows? Are there people around who might be able to help you? Is there an
- emergency phone nearby?

 If you and/or the other person have beer drinking, you can say that you would rather wait until you both have your full judgment.

Contact or visit your installation fleet and family service center or Marine Corps Community Services for more information

Movies playing in the area

"Leap Year" is a romantic comedy about a woman who schemes to pro-

"Leap Year" is a romantic comedy about a woman who schemes to propose to her boyfriend on Feb. 29.

The story is based on an old Irish tradition in which a man must say yes if proposed to on leap day.

Amy Adams ("Julie & Julia," "Doubt," "Enchanted") stars as Anna, a successful real estate exhibitor, but somewhat of a control freak, who has been dating her boyfriend for many years and is ready to get married. Adam Scott ("The Great Buck Howard") co-stars as Jeremy, Anna's being boxfriend searching is who is in no push to its the leaf.

boring boyfriend, a cardiologist, who is in no rush to tie the knot.

When another anniversary passes by without a marriage proposal, Anna decides to take action.

So when the opportunity presents itself and Jeremy must go to Dublin for a conference, Anna makes plans to follow him.

Anna is aware of the old Irish tradition where women can propose to their men, and so she follows Jeremy overseas to ask him to marry her.

But bad weather diverts her plane and fate alters her plan.
Stranded on the wrong side of the isle, she meets a surly innkeeper to help her get to Dublin.
Matthew Goode ("Watchmen," "Match Point") stars as Declan, a hand-

some Irishman, who can very possibly derail Anna's plan.

Declan and many unforeseen circumstances certainly throw a huge wrench into Anna's carefully laid out plan.

The path of true love never runs smoothly, and Anna has to travel a

rocky road to find happiness.

Also appearing are John Lithgow ("Confession of a Shopaholic") as Jack, Anna's father; and Noel O'Donovan ("Eden") as Seamus.

Jack, Annia Statuef, and Noet O Donovan (Eden) as Seamus.

Anand Tucker ("When Did You Last See Your Father," "Shoppirl,"
"Hilary and Jackie") directed this cute and corny comedy.
"Leap Year" is a warm and fuzzy romantic comedy that is a lot of fun to watch. The very predictable tale is nicely portrayed by the charming stars and plays out in the sprawling and gorgeous Irish countryside.

"When in Rome" is a sweet little romantic comedy about an unluckyin-love tourist who gets hounded by suitors after she steals coins from the magic fountain in the Eternal City.

Kristin Bell ("Couples Retreat," "Forgetting Sarah Marshall") stars as

Beth, an ambitious New Yorker who works as curator at the Guggenheim

Beth has been burned a few times too often and is disillusioned about

When she takes a whirlwind trip to Rome to serve as bridesmaid to her when she takes a wintiving trip to Roline to serve as bruceshaut to net sister, played by Alexis Dziena ("Fool's Gold"), she lets her guard down when she meets a charming journalist.

Josh Duhamel ("Transformers," "Win a Date With Ted Hamilton") stars

as Nick, who seems immediately attracted to Beth and the two hit it off.

However, due to a misunderstanding, Beth feels she is scorned again, gets drunk and climbs into the La Fontana de Amore, a magical fountain

that is supposed to help people find love.

Beth decides to swipe a couple of coins from the magic fountain of love, wishing her dreams for love would come true.

The magic has it that the owners of the coins now fall in love with

Beth.

She soon gets chased around by a band of potential suitors and now has to wade through a bunch of weirdos to maybe find Mr. Right.

Among the many guys who vie for her affection and are chasing her all over New York are: Will Arnett ("Semi-Pro") as Antonio, an artistic painter, Jon Heder ("Blades of Glory") as Lance, a street magician; Dax Shepard ("Mama"s Boy") as Gale, a model; and Danny DeVito ("Even Money") as Al, the sausage king.

And let's not forget Nick, the charming reporter, who pursues her relentlessly and who really has honest feelings for her.

How is Beth to find out who is the one for her?

Angelica Huston ("Blood Work") appears as Celeste, Beth' boss at the

Angelica Huston ("Blood Work") appears as Celeste, Beth' boss at the

Director Mark Steven Johnson ("Ghost Rider," "Daredevil," "Simon

Birch") also wrote the screenplay. "When in Rome" is an enjoyable and cute film. The romantic comedy is made special by its pleasant and charming actors and is a sweet treat just in time for Valentine's Day. However, the title is misleading – very little of the action takes place in Rome and that is too bad.



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THE LOCAL BUZZ

Announcements

► Generation 2 and ChildESIGNS Recall

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission is announcing the recall of all Generation 2 Worldwide and "ChildESIGNS" drop-side cribs. The CPSC is warning parents and caregivers who own these drop-side cribs that infants and toddlers are at risk of serious injury or death due to strangulation and suffocation hazards presented by the cribs. The CPSC staff urges parents and caregivers to stop using these cribs immediately and find an alternative safe sleeping environment for their baby. Do not attempt to fix these cribs.

The name "Generation 2 Worldwide" appears on a label affixed to the crib's headboard or footboard. The name "ChildESIGNS" appears on the teething rail of some of

The recalled cribs were sold at numerous local furniture and retail stores including Buy Buy Baby, Kmart and Walmart stores nationwide.

Consumers are urged to contact the CPSC and report any difficulties in obtaining a replacement from their

ace of purchase.

For more information on crib safety, visit the CPSC's Crib Information Center.

To see this recall on the CPSC's Web site, including pictures of the recalled product, please go to: http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml10/10134.html.

▶ 2010 Census Bureau Jobs

The U.S. Census Bureau is recruiting temporary, parttime census takers for the 2010 census, including posi-

tions for Cherry Point base housing.

These short-term jobs offer good pay, flexible hours, paid training and reimbursement for authorized work-related expenses, such as mileage incurred while conducting census work. Best of all, census takers work right in their own communities.

Apply today by calling (866) 861-2010 to schedule an

appointment.

Scholarships Available for Dependents

The Officers' Spouses Club of Cherry Point is now accepting college scholarship applications. The OSC award scholarships in incremental amounts of \$25,000 to quali-

Eligible applicants must be students who are beneficiaries of active-duty military members assigned to tenant commands aboard Cherry Point or beneficiaries of retirees or deceased military members living in Craven, Carteret or Pamlico counties

Applicants who are high school seniors, community col-Monthly and Weekly Events

Gifts and Decorations

at less than retail prices. For more information, call 444-

www.cherrypointosc.org.

within 90 days of marriage.

chapel/default.asp to sign up

Together For Life

Treasures of the Point Gift Shoppe, located inside The Whistle

Stop, building 1691, sells one-of-a-

kind gifts for family and friends. The Whistle Stop has decorations

0949 or visit the Web site at http://

The "Together for Life" one-day premarital seminar is held for active-duty personnel age 26 and under,

Please visit the chapel Web site at https://www.cherrypoint.usmc.mil/

lege or university students, or nontraditional students will be considered based on eligibility and must be enrolled or applying for admission in the 2009-2010 school year. Applications must be post marked no later than March 31.

Applications are available at http://www.cherrypointosc.
org or at The Whistle Stop Thrift Store on Cherry Point.

Military Saves Week 2010

Cherry Point will host Military Saves Week in conjunction with the Military Saves Program, Feb. 21-28

at the air station's training and education building.

Barbara Bennett, investor education specialist, State of N.C. Securities Division, will be a guest speaker, Feb. 23, from 2-4:30 p.m.

The brief will cover personal financial literacy, avoiding fraud, types of scams, smarter investing, tips to prevent identity theft, credit issues, and ways to raise your credit

For more information, call 466-4401

Free Military Appreciation Show

The USO club is hosting a free military appreciation show for active-duty Marines and Sailors in Jacksonville at 4 p.m., Feb. 27.

Food, drinks and entertainment will be available at the

For more information or directions, call the USO at 910-455-3411.

Free Admission to Universal Studios Florida

The Military Salute Program is offering service members free, seven-day base tickets with park-to-park acces to Universal Orlando Resort and Universal Studios Flori-

da through March 26.

The tickets are primarily sold at military installations Tickets are available at participating military ITT/ITR offices nationwide and at the Shades of Green Resort in

For more information, visit the Web site at http://www. media.universalorlando.com

Free Classified Advertisements

Service members, military dependents, Department of Defense and Marine Corps Community Services employ ees are eligible to submit a classified advertisement in the Windsock for free.

You can post a classified advertisement as follows:

Visit the Cherry Point Web site at http://www.cherry-point.usmc.mil and follow the link in the middle of the page for free Windsock ads. The direct link is http://www. cherrypoint.usmc.mil/cpwinad.asp.

E-mail your ad to the joint public affairs office at chpt.

Domestic Violence Victims

A support group for victims of do-mestic violence is provided by the

Carteret County Domestic Violence

Program.

The group meetings are held ev-

For more information, call 728-

School Volunteers Mentors are needed for individual

students in school. Several schools

have also requested volunteers for

For more information call Donna

their reading programs

Bagley at 466-4196.

jpao.omb@usmc.mil. Put "Windsock Ad" in the subject line and format your e-mail to include the information needed to ensure your ad goes in the right place

Free Wilderness Expeditions

Outward Bound is offering free wilderness expeditions for Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring edom veterans who were deployed or who are pending medical screenings.

The 5-7 day expedition includes backpacking, rock climbing, canoeing, dog sledding, sailing, kayaking and white-water rafting.

For more information, visit the Web site at http://www.

outwardbound.org/index.cfm/do/cp.veterans. To enroll, please call (866) 669-2362, extension 8387.

Marine and Family Services

Marine, Family Services Office Numbers

The Family Member Employment Assistance Program, Transition Assistance Management Program, Relocation Assistance Program and accredited financial counselors can be reached at 466-4401.

- The Exceptional Family Member Program can be reached at 466-7547.

 • The Family Counseling Program at 466-3264
- · Retirees can contact the Retired Activities Office at 466-5548
- The Substance Abuse Counseling line at 466-

· New parents can call the New Parent Support

Budget For Baby

Veterans' Assistance

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society offers Budget for Baby classes. Learn about and plan for new expenses.

Call 466-2031 for information or to register.

A representative from the Veterans Affairs Office visits Cherry Point each Thursday in building 232. Call 466-4401 for assistance.

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SOUTHERN COMFORT

Student Assistance Company
Talk of the Town II
Tender Touch (aka Baby Dolls)
Ty's R&R
Veterans Affairs Services

This week in Marine Corps History

8063 or 447-2109.

Disabled Veterans

Matthers at 447-2761.

Chapter 26 of the Disabled American Veterans meets on the

third Tuesday of each month at the

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7315 in Havelock at 7 p.m.

Al-Anon Family Group Meet

There are Al-Anon family group meetings Tuesdays, 8-9 p.m., for

family members and friends of

individuals who may have or had alcohol problems in their lives.

First Baptist Church.
For more information, call 447-

The meetings are held at Havelock

For information, contact Doug ery Wednesday at 6 p.m.

Feb. 23, 1945

Four days after the initial landing on Iwo Jima, 1st Lt. Harold G. Schrier led 40. men from Company E, 2nd Battalion, 28th Marine Regiment, up Mt. Suribachi to secure the crest and raise the small American flag that battalion commander Lt. Col. Chandler Johnson had given Schrier.

Feb. 24, 1991

The I Marine Expeditionary Force and coalition forces began a ground assault on Iraqi Forces in the final chapter of Operation Desert Storm. The 1st and 2nd Marine Divisions stormed into Iraqi defenses while heavily armored allied forces attacked the Iraqi defenses. In one-hundred hours, U.S. and allied forces defeated the Iraqi Army.

Operation Eagle Eyes

Suspicious People

Are you aware of anyone who does not appear to belong in the workplace, neighborhood or business establishment near the military facility?

> If you observe this or other suspicious incidents, call 466-3616 or 466-3617 immediately. MCAS Cherry Point Emergency Dispatch



Hotlines

2nd MAW Command Inspector General

If you are a victim of sexual assault

Immediately call 466-3264 during working hours or (800) 208-8086 after hours and on weekends. The person answering the call will help you decide the next steps to take. You may remain anonymous. This procedure is not to replace calling 911 if you are in immediate danger. Remember, it's not your fault Support is available.

Severe weather and force protection information Military personnel call 466-3093

FRC East personnel call 464-8333. DDCN personnel call 466-4083.

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

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- ttailiner Broip Tream? FOUR Show) 466-4078
- Charry Floris Volume 444-2702
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- Floris Advisory 460-3204
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- Floris Advisory 460-3204
- Floris Advisory 460-3204
- Floris Management 460-4207
- Floris Management 460-4201
- Harlind Advision Assistance 460-4201
- Harlind Advision Assistance 460-4201
- Victim Advisory 460-3204
- Report Advisory 460-3204
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Outdoor Connection 466-4056

- Curvinghant's Recreation Center 466-3027

- Theater 466-360)

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CLUBS - Curningham's Recreation Center 466-3037 - The Pt 466-9561

EDUCATION

- Education Office 606-3500

- Colleges & Universities

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Movie Hotline: 466-3884

Adults \$2 • Children (2-12) \$1

NOW SHOWING

Thursday, February 18	untime		
No Movie - Command Event			
Friday, February 19	8		
5:00pm - Alvin & The Chipmunks 2: The Squeakquel PG	1:29		
7:00pm - It's Complicated R	1:58		
9:15pm - Precious R	1:49		
Saturday, February 20	8		
3:00pm - Alvin & The Chipmunks 2: The Squeakquel PG	1:29		
5:00pm - Alvin & The Chipmunks 2: The Squeakquel PG	1:29		
7:00pm - It's Complicated R	1:58		
9:15pm - Precious R	1:49		
Sunday, February 21	8		
2:00pm - Alvin & The Chipmunks 2: The Squeakquel PG	1:29		
- MOVIE SYNOPSIS			

Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel - (animated)

Starring the voices of: Jason Lee, Zachary Levi, Anjelah Johnson, Wendie Malick, Justin Long . Pop sensations Alvin, Simon and Theodore end up in the care of Dave Seville's twenty-something nephew Toby. The boys must put aside music superstardom to return to school, and are tasked with saving the school's music program by winning the \$25,000 prize in a battle of the bands.

It's Complicated - Starring: Meryl Streep, Steve Martin, Alec Baldwin, John Krasinski, Lake Bell. Jane is the mother of three grown kids, owns a thriving Santa Barbara bakery/restaurant and has - after a decade of divorce - an amicable relationship with her ex-husband, attorney Jake. But when Jane and Jake find themselves out of town for their son's college graduation, things start to get complicated. An innocent meal together turns into the unimaginable - an affair.

Precious - Starring: Mo'Nique, Paula Patton, Mariah Carey, Gabourey Sidibe, Sherri Shepherd. Clareece "Precious" Jones is an overweight, illiterate African-American teen in Harlem. Just as she's about to give birth to her second child, Jones is accepted into an alternative school where a teacher helps her find a new path in her life.



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Attention: HI Department
135 Little Nine Dr.
Morehead City NC 28557
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Financial Planning and Analysis/Accounting Manager

FREEDOM ENC COMMUNICATIONS IS SEEKING:

This position will be located at ENC's Jacksonville office. The FP&A/A Manager will be responsible for the financial analysis, planning needs, accounting and reporting operations for three dailies and five weekly newspapers including The Daily News in Jacksonville, The Free Press in Kinston, and the Sun Journal in New Bern.

The right candidate will be able to quickly understand the organization's business drivers and operational needs; possess strong organizational, analytical, and written and verbal communication skills; have the ability to clearly and professionally present financial information and communicate effectively with all associates within the

MINIMUM POSITION QUALIFICATIONS

Experience: Three to five years of financial planning and analysis experience with a foundation in accounting, preferably in the newspaper or publishing industry; previous management experience necessary

Education: B.S. degree in Accounting or a related discipline; CPA or MBA is a plus Skills: Strong working knowledge of essential software applications (Great Plains Excel)

Responsibilities

Prepare the annual operating budget & Quarterly forecasts

Preparation of P&Ls

Oversee and assist the preparation of monthly and quarterly financial and statistica reports

Calculate the rate of return on investment

Operating capital, revenues and expenses

Design tracking systems to monitor effectiveness

Supervise the accounting staff with responsibility for all accounting-related activities and provide back-up support as needed

Assist with preparation and analysis of commission plans

Ensure the design and implementation of the month-end close process is working

Prepare and/or review reconciliations of all general ledger balance sheet accounts

Ensure compliance with policies and procedures over Accounts Payable

Oversee and assist in preparation of all monthly journal entries, corporate monthly & quarterly reports

Manage fixed asset addition and deletion records

Other duties as assigned

• • •

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PINE STRAW

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190 Lots & Acreage

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