

The Windssock

Vol. 70, No. 49

www.cherrypoint.marines.mil

December 6, 2012

Super Stallion pilot earns Bronze Star

LANCE CPL. PAUL E. WYATT
MCAS CHERRY POINT

Maj. Troy D. Callahan, the director of safety and standardization and a CH-53E Super Stallion pilot for Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 366, was awarded a Bronze Star during a ceremony at the squadron's hangar Nov. 30.

Callahan earned the award for his actions in Afghanistan, which included flying more than 250 combat flight hours and leading a number of tactical operations.

The squadron as a whole flew more than 4,500 flight hours during the six-month deployment, which Callahan said is equivalent to two years of flight hours in the United States.

"I am very honored," Callahan said. "I have much to be thankful for. I'm happy we brought everyone home, that we didn't damage any aircraft, and I'm very thankful to the maintainers who kept the aircraft in shape for the combat operations we

See **STAR** page A3



LANCE CPL. PAUL E. WYATT

Maj. Troy D. Callahan, the director of safety and standardization and a CH-53E Super Stallion pilot with Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 366, receives the Bronze Star medal from Lt. Col. Richard T. Anderson, the commanding officer of HMH-366, for his actions in Afghanistan.



LANCE CPL. S. T. STEWART

Brig. Gen. Gary L. Thomas, commanding general of 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward), salutes the colors shortly after uncasing them during a ceremony signifying the official activation of the unit at Cherry Point Nov. 30.

2nd MAW (Fwd.) activates

LANCE CPL. S. T. STEWART
MCAS CHERRY POINT

The 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward) formally activated during a ceremony at the air station theater Nov. 30 in preparation for a deployment to Afghanistan in early 2013.

Brig. Gen. Gary L. Thomas, commanding general of 2nd MAW (Fwd.), and Sgt. Maj. Lisa Nilsson, sergeant major of 2nd MAW (Fwd.), uncased the unit's colors during the ceremony, signifying the official activation.

"We have unveiled these flags a number of times in the last 12 years, and this might be the last time we send this size

of a unit forward, and in that perspective, this is historic," said Maj. Gen. Glenn M. Walters, commanding general of 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing.

Walters commanded 2nd MAW (Fwd.) the last time it went forward from March 2011 through March 2012. Now, it stands ready to take on that same role as the lead aviation combat element in Southwestern Afghanistan under the command of II Marine Expeditionary Force (Fwd.) commanding general Maj. Gen. Walter L. Miller Jr.

The Marines with 2nd MAW (Fwd.) will replace 3rd MAW (Fwd.), deployed from Marine Corps Air Station

Miramar, Calif.

Nilsson said she is anxious to deploy with the unit and that her number one goal is to bring every Marine home safely.

Thomas said the unit's mission while deployed is to provide responsive air support to II MEF (Fwd.) and perform at a high level. 2nd MAW (Fwd.) will assist the Afghan National Security Forces as they take the security lead for their country.

"I am confident that we will be able to do that because of the great Marines

See **MAW** page A3

Local medical foundation spreads holiday cheer

LANCE CPL. GLEN E. SANTY
MCAS CHERRY POINT

'Twas a day of Christmas excitement as children of all ages frolicked through the halls and dining room of the New Bern Riverfront Convention Center in their finest holiday attire Dec. 1. They scurried from workshop to workshop with cheer in their eyes, and, in the end, all received a holiday surprise.

CarolinaEast Foundation hosted the 11th annual "Breakfast with Santa" all-day luncheon and invited 15 military families to eat,

decorate ornaments, play games and get a family portrait with Santa for free.

"CarolinaEast loves the military and wants to support them in all aspects, including their families," said Jill Thompson, executive director with the CarolinaEast Foundation. "We are proud supporters of the military, and we want to do everything we can for those who are supporting our country."

The foundation hosts events year round to help support military members and their families.

Thompson said she personally enjoyed the event because it welcomes and invites military families into the community, it lets them know that people care about them and what they do is appreciated.

Members of the Cherry Point community said they felt welcome.

"It's nice of them to do something like this, especially for the military," said Karen Derouin, a military spouse who attended the

See **SANTA** page A3



LANCE CPL. GLEN E. SANTY

A gingerbread house decorates a table at the "Breakfast with Santa" event at the New Bern Convention Center Dec. 1.

2D MARINE AIRCRAFT WING BAND
PRESENTS THE
2012 CHRISTMAS CONCERT
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7th AT 7PM
MCAS CHERRY POINT THEATER
-TOYS FOR TOTS WELCOME
-DOORS OPEN AT 6PM
FREE ADMISSION

What's Inside

News Briefs	A2	Last CH-53E Flight	A8
Pearl Harbor	A5	Mess Hall Menu	B2
WTO Training	A7	Announcements	B3

In This Edition:



CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

See B1 for photos and story



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

News Briefs

Web TA Implemented

According to Marine Administrative Message 625/12, the implementation of web-based tuition assistance began at Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Ariz., and Cherry Point Dec. 1.

Implementations will be conducted one unit at a time until Dec. 31.

Marines aboard Cherry Point can access the tuition assistance application through the Navy College Management Information System.

The transition was put in place to eliminate the paper-based format, provide Marines with better oversight of the tuition assistance process and improve management of missing grades and course work.

Command approval training sessions will be held Dec. 12 at the Jerry Marvel Training Center, building 4335, room 171A and B at the following times:

8 a.m.– 8:45 a.m.
9 a.m.– 9:45 a.m.
10 a.m.– 10:45 a.m.
1:30 p.m.– 2:15 p.m.
2:30 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

For more information or to reserve a seat, email Debbie Bowen at debra.r.bowen@usmc-mccs.org or call 466-3500.

Commander Chosen

The Senate Armed Services Committee approved President Barack Obama's choice, Gen. Joseph Dunford, the assistant commandant of the Marine Corps, to be the top commander in Afghanistan Nov. 29.

Dunford will replace Gen. John Allen, the current commander in Afghanistan who has been nominated to assume the post of the Supreme Allied Commander Europe.

II MEF Drug Task Force

Maj. Gen. Ray Fox, II Marine Expeditionary Force commanding general, enacted a campaign to preserve the force and its readiness.

The II MEF Counter Drug Task Force will invoke an existing, cohesive partnership with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service Carolina Field Office, the Provost Marshall's Office, Marine Corps Installations East Security and Emergency Services and 2nd Law Enforcement Battalion.

The campaign reflects the Corps' zero-tolerance policy and will detect, disrupt and deter illegal drug use.

Fox ordered a MEF-wide urinalysis for the nearly 53,000 active-duty Marines and Sailors Nov. 30.

The samples were collected from the service members and analyzed before the end of the day as a part of the detection phase.

3 Ospreys to Guam

Three MV-22 Ospreys from Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 265 are participating in Exercise Forager Fury 12 at Anderson Air Force Base on the Island of Guam through Dec. 18.

The Ospreys provide an opportunity for Marine Aircraft Group 12 to incorporate the diverse capabilities of the aircraft into MAG-level exercises.

During Exercise Forager Fury 12, Anderson AFB will serve as the MAG-12 forward operating base and will be the venue for the MAG-12 operations center.

Training on the Marianas Island Range Complex includes emplacement of arresting gear and fuel storage and distribution for purposes of extending aviation training throughout the complex.

Child Safety:

Communication key to Internet safety

SANDY THOMAS

COMMUNITY COALITION FOR CRAVEN COUNTY CHILDREN

As families adjust to the constantly changing world we live in, concerns are not uncommon between parents and teens. Sometimes, these concerns can seem overwhelming.

News that a child has been hurt or is missing may cause parents to become more restrictive of their own children out of the fear that something may happen.

As parents increase their restrictions, it is not uncommon for children to become more resistant. This struggle can make day-to-day living difficult.

For most kids and teens, technology is an important part of their lives. They may browse the web for information, use social networking sites, text, and chat.

But there can also be dangers, and it is important for parents to monitor their children's Internet use and teach them how to be safe online.

Part of teaching is being aware of how your child uses the computer, the telephone and other resources available to them.

Keeping the lines of communication between parents and children open is the first necessity. Parents and children both need to be committed to this goal to keep each other informed.

Ask your child:

- To never give out personal information, such as full name, address, phone number, or school name.
- To tell an adult if any information, sites, or communications (chat, text, email message) makes them feel threatened or uncomfortable.
- To never post or send photographs without parental permission.
- To never download or install any software without

parental permission.

- On social networking sites, to only "friend" people that you know.

Ask your parent:

- To set reasonable rules and guidelines for computer use.
- Not to overreact when you tell them about a problem you are having on the Internet.
- To be willing to learn new information that may be available to you.

Parents can also encourage their children to be aware of tell-tale signs that a person they meet online may not have their best interests at heart.

Unfortunately, there are always going to be some people who try to exploit or even harm others.

Be careful about people who come on too strong or who immediately try to become your best friend or confidant.

Flags to worry about include offers of gifts, excessive flattery or asking things like whether parents are around.

Be wary of anyone who tries to exploit disagreements or issues within the family or among close friends.

The best parental safety tool is having calm conversations with teens while keeping an open mind. Of course you have advice for them, but before you tell them what you think they need to know, find out what they do know.

It may surprise you to learn that they're already thinking about safety, or you might discover some gaps that need reinforcing. But keep calm and try not to overreact.

Chaplain's Corner:

O' Holiday Tree, O' Holiday Tree

CMDR. PHIL KING

MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 14 CHAPLAIN

On Nov. 28, which just happens to be my son's birthday, Western Piedmont Community College reversed its ban on the word "Christmas" when attached to "tree." It took some intervention from a lawyer with the Alliance Defending Freedom, but the college did change its position. So what's the problem?

Until the news broke, I didn't know anything about Western Piedmont Community College. Due to Fox News' "fair and balanced" coverage, conservatives and men who think Fox's female anchors are cute now know about it. I'm now thinking of taking classes there after I retire. Or, maybe I'll just watch more Fox News.

The chances of me buying a Christmas or Holiday tree from the student group selling them at Western Piedmont Community College were and are about as pretty and slim as Megyn Kelly. I'm guessing people supporting the student group selling these trees would buy them no matter what they were called. So, what's the problem beyond the initial goofy ban on the part of the community college?

What's the problem with all these towns that are no longer allowing nativity scenes to be placed on town property? What's the problem with department stores that won't allow employees to wish customers a "Merry Christmas?"

Is America going to hell in a hand basket? What is a hand basket? And where are all the people who are upset by these developments? They're probably Christmas – or holiday – shopping somewhere. They may be buying their trees from a godless salesperson in a frosty lot somewhere. Or, they have already purchased a beautiful, pre-lit artificial tree most likely made in China. I'm guessing that tree wasn't made by persecuted Christians in an underground artificial tree factory.

Are those who are upset by these real and imagined expressions of godlessness reacting to them in a way that positively reflects their faith? How many Christians elbowed their way through the crowds on Black Friday in order to get a "must have" item no one really needs? Is that the best testimony one can muster in this season of "peace on earth and good will toward humanity?"

The problems aren't the problem. The problem is how we react to the problems. Many of these problems aren't going away. Some will get worse. In the midst of this, a passage for Sunday, Dec. 2 reads, "May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you." (1 Thessalonians 3:12)

How can those of us who claim to be followers of Jesus react to these problems? With overflowing

See **CHAPLAIN** page A3

CPL. MARK A. BOUGHTON

Job Title: Guitarist

Unit: 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing Band

Hometown: South Bend, Ind.

Age: 21

Date Joined: Oct. 19, 2009

A true enthusiast for his work, Cpl. Mark A. Boughton, a guitarist with the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing Band, spends countless hours each week playing his instrument.

What amps up Boughton is that his mission in the Marine Corps actually requires him to mix his love of music with his love of physical fitness and serving his country.

"Growing up, I always wanted to serve, not knowing that I could play in the Marine Corps," he said. "There's a part of me that wants to go out and be a famous rock star, but for right now, this is a good gig. I get a steady paycheck, all the benefits of the military, and I get to play my guitar."

Since he joined, Boughton has strived to excel both musically and as a Marine.

Outside of work, Boughton usually spends no less than 30 hours a week playing guitar and has earned a black belt in the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program.

"When I put the guitar down, I'm still a Marine," he said. "I constantly play and keep pushing myself to achieve."



Highlighting Cherry Point's Warriors



LANCE CPL. GLEN E. SANTY

The Windsock

The editorial content is edited, prepared and approved by the Public Affairs Office at Cherry Point. Correspondence should be addressed to: Commanding Officer, Public Affairs Office, (Attn: Individual concerned), PSC Box 8013, MCAS Cherry Point, N.C. 28533-0013. To provide comments or suggestions call 252-466-4241, email: cherry.point.windsock@gmail.com, or visit <http://ice.disa.mil> to submit an ICE comment. Windsock is a registered trademark. To address any distribution problems please contact Ellis Publishing at 252-444-1999. This Department of Defense newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the DoD. Contents of the Windsock are not necessarily the official views of or endorsed by the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, United States Marine Corps, Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, or the Public Affairs Office, Cherry Point, N.C. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, the U.S. Marine Corps, or Ellis Publishing Co., of the products or services advertised. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. The Windsock is published by Ellis Publishing Co., a private firm in no way connected with the Department of Defense or the U.S. Marine Corps under exclusive written contract with Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point, N.C. The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of the PAO.

COMMANDING OFFICER
MCAS CHERRY POINT
COL. PHILIP J. ZIMMERMAN

PUBLIC AFFAIRS DIRECTOR
MAJ. WILL KLUMPP

PUBLIC AFFAIRS CHIEF
MASTER SGT. MARK E. BRADLEY

PRESS OFFICER
1ST LT. ALEJANDRO AGUILERA

PRESS CHIEF
GUNNERY SGT. MICHAEL A. FREEMAN

EDITORS
CPL. BRIAN ADAM JONES
LANCE CPL. GLEN E. SANTY
LANCE CPL. S. T. STEWART
STACEY R. SWANN

STAFF WRITERS
CPL. BRIAN ADAM JONES
CPL. SCOTT L. TOMASZYCKI
LANCE CPL. CORY D. POLOM
LANCE CPL. GLEN E. SANTY
LANCE CPL. S. T. STEWART
LANCE CPL. PAUL E. WYATT

Highlight Your Marine or
Sailor Superstar

Call or email The Windsock

cherry.point.windsock@gmail.com

466-3542

REMEMBER TO RECYCLE



STAR from page A1

did out there. I'd like to say I had something to do with it, but those maintainers and those aircrew made everything happen."

After leading Marines for 13 years, and flying the CH-53E for most of them, Callahan said he feels that the best aspect of his job is using his behemoth helicopter to support Marines on the ground.

"Being able to provide support to the ground forces, that's the most gratifying part of it," he said.



LANCE CPL. PAUL E. WYATT

Maj. Troy D. Callahan, the director of safety and standardization and a CH-53E Super Stallion pilot with Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 366, receives the Bronze Nov. 30 Star for his actions in Afghanistan.

SANTA from page A1

event. "This is a safe and easy way to get the kids out and doing something. For the spouses whose significant other is deployed, it helps take your mind off the fact they're gone. It's hard to explain to a child why mommy or daddy isn't here."

As on any military installation, service members are constantly coming and going. Staff Sgt. Austin Keelty recently transferred from Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island to work as the logistics chief with Marine Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Squadron 2.

"I've never seen anything like this," he said. "It's great what they do for us. For them to take the time to put this together is great for everyone. This gives us something to do, and it helps welcome us to the community."

The fun and games went on through the day, and the parents relaxed as the children played. "Breakfast with Santa" went on without flaw and holiday cheer was passed on to all.

CHAPLAIN from page A2

love, with love that comes from and reflects the love of Jesus himself. Not just for his followers – for everyone.

Let's not beat up on Western Piedmont Community College. They made a mistake. They corrected it. Christmas Trees will be sold. Those stores that don't allow their employees to say, "Merry Christmas," if you happen to be shopping at one, don't take your frustration out on the employee! Reflect the love of Jesus! Towns that don't allow nativity scenes? If so moved, put one up on your own lawn, lovingly.

The frostbitten cranky old guy drinking whiskey just to stay warm who happens to be selling you your Christmas tree needs some of Jesus' love too. He also may need more whiskey. If I don't see you before Dec. 25, "Merry Christmas" or "happy holidays." Take your pick. I mean it sincerely, with love.

MAW from page A1

we have in the wing and the tremendous support that we have from our families," said Thomas. "We look forward to the challenge ahead and helping to forward the success of this campaign."



LANCE CPL. S. T. STEWART

Brig. Gen. Gary L. Thomas, commanding general of 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward), and Sgt. Maj. Lisa Nilsson, sergeant major of 2nd MAW (Fwd.), uncased the wing's colors, signifying the official activation of the unit during a ceremony at Cherry Point Nov. 30. The unit's mission while deployed is to provide responsive air support to II Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward).



CPL. JUSTIN M. BOLING

Silver Eagle 206, a Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 115 F/A-18, completed its 9,000th hour of flight in the skies above the Lowcountry before landing back aboard Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, Nov. 13. The maintainers who ensure the aircraft continue flying are also responsible for ensuring the squadron maintains a high state of readiness to forward deploy.

Old Hornet does one more trick: VMFA-115 F/A 18 soars beyond 9,000 hours

CPL. JUSTIN M. BOLING

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION BEAUFORT, S.C.

MCAS BEAUFORT, S.C. – The aircraft maintainers of Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 115 waited patiently on the flightline for the return on the investment of all of their effort.

Silver Eagle 206, a grey F/A-18, completed its 9,000th hour of flight in the skies above the Lowcountry before landing back aboard Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, S.C., Nov. 13.

“Many of these aircraft rolled off the line in 1985,” said Lt. Col. Matthew Phares, commanding officer of Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 115. “Many of the maintainers that work on them were not even born yet.

“They are still flying and are more lethal than the day they rolled off the line with advanced munitions and systems,” continued Phares. “The aircraft is still going strong and we expect it to see 10,000 hours.”

For every hour that Silver Eagle 206 flew, 10 hours of meticulous maintenance was performed. This includes numerous upgrades and overhauls to ensure the aircraft was capable of flying to intercept and destroy enemy aircraft and attack and destroy surface targets.

“There is a lot of maintenance performed throughout the maintenance levels to keep it flying,” said Chief Warrant Officer Ramon Vasquez, the Silver Eagle’s maintenance material control officer. “At our maintenance level, we ensure that the aircraft stay in tip top shape, ready to complete the mission at hand.”

According to Phares, VMFA-115 operates some of the oldest F/A-18s on MCAS Beaufort and within the entire Marine Corps.

“We look left and right and we see younger aircraft, but we are not going to use that as an excuse,” said Phares. “We are going to do our best to outfly our peers, and have better readiness rates and train our pilots to the best of our ability.

“When we go out to our aircraft, we expect each one of them to launch and be ready to complete the day’s mission.”

In addition to the squadron’s numerous inspections, naval aviation standards require numerous inspections to ensure flight readiness of all aircraft.

“Older aircraft are put through even more inspections, which increases the burden on our squadron’s maintainers to keep these aircraft ready,” Phares added. “The Marines manage to accomplish this task without the squadron losing any flight

hours. This is a testament to all the maintenance Marines in our squadron.”

“Each work center is responsible for inspecting their section of the aircraft,” said Sgt. Christopher Harrison, a squadron maintenance controller. “An example would be the ordnance Marines inspecting any part of the aircraft that releases munitions.”

The hard work of the squadron’s maintainers allows the F/A-18 Hornet to complete its many tactical applications including: air-to-air and air-to-ground target engagement and conducting intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance missions to safeguard ground forces.

“It doesn’t matter if the aircraft is old or brand new; we have the same job and responsibility,” Harrison said. “Whether it has one flight hour or 10,000, the same amount of pride goes into the maintenance that is performed by the Marines.

“A lot of pride comes from the generations of Marines who came before us, who wanted to take care of their aircraft,” Harrison continued. “You want to see it fly and come back having completed its mission successfully.”

Maintainers are responsible for the squadron maintaining a high state of readiness to forward deploy.

“These Marines do an outstanding job of providing a great quality of work day in and day out,” Vasquez said. “They manage to complete these numerous inspections in a timely fashion to allow the squadron to continue with the mission.”

As much as the maintainers are responsible for the aircraft’s readiness, aviators entrust the mission and their lives to the maintainers’ proper and skilled maintenance.

“I have complete faith in every Marine that I have worked with or trained with in this squadron that these aircraft are safe and ready for flight,” said Harrison. “I can say with an absolute guarantee, ‘Yes sir, this plane is ready to fly.’”

“Our lives are in their capable hands everyday and they never fail us,” said Phares.

A well-known motto in the Marine Corps, “Doing more with less” has definitely played a large role in maintenance at the Silver Eagles’ hangar.

“Our maintainers on the flightline take some of the oldest F/A-18s in the inventory and enable us to do better than anyone else is doing,” Phares said.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

An aircraft burns at Naval Air Station Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii, during the Japanese attack, Dec. 7, 1941. In the Pacific campaign that followed, Marine aviation distinguished itself, downing 2,355 Japanese aircraft over the course of the war.

‘A date which will live in infamy’

War that followed infamous attack on Pearl Harbor defined Marine amphibious assault, Marine aviation

CPL. BRIAN ADAM JONES
MCAS CHERRY POINT

Friday marks the 71st anniversary of the United States' entry into World War II. An early morning surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, Dec. 7, 1941, thrust America headfirst into an all-out war in the Pacific with the Empire of Japan.

According to the National Archives, "On December 7, 1941, the U.S. naval base on the island of Oahu, Hawaii, was subject to an attack that was one of the greatest military surprises in the history of warfare."

In attacking Pearl Harbor, the Empire of Japan sought to preemptively eliminate the Pacific Fleet, and thus the U.S. military, as a threat. The opposite occurred. The morning after the attack, President Franklin D. Roosevelt addressed Congress and the nation to declare war.

"Yesterday, Dec. 7, 1941 – a date which will live in infamy – the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan. Japan

has ... undertaken a surprise offensive extending throughout the Pacific area. The facts of yesterday and today speak for themselves," the president said. "As commander in chief of the Army and Navy, I have directed that all measures be taken for our defense. But always will our whole nation remember the character of the onslaught against us."

Marines distinguished themselves in the war that followed. Battles at places that included Wake Island, Midway, Guadalcanal, Tarawa, Guam, Iwo Jima, and Okinawa solidified the Marine Corps' place in history as the world's preeminent amphibious fighting force.

Marine aviation also carved its place in the history books. In fact, construction began on this air station just 17 days before the attack on Pearl Harbor. In the Pacific theater, Marine pilots downed their first enemy aircraft at Wake Island and their last in the Battle of Okinawa. Over the course of the war, Marine aviation shot down 2,355 Japanese aircraft.



Marine aviation shot down 2,355 Japanese aircraft during WWII



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The USS Arizona burns in the aftermath of the attack on Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, 1941. Friday marks the 71st anniversary of the raid, which at the time was the largest attack to occur on U.S. soil.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The USS Shaw explodes during the Japanese raid on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, Dec. 7, 1941. The unexpected attack catapulted the nation into an all-out war with Japan in the Pacific.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Japanese sailors cheer as an attack plane takes off from an aircraft carrier during the launch of the second wave attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, the morning of Dec. 7, 1941. By attacking Pearl Harbor, the Empire of Japan sought to preemptively eliminate the Pacific Fleet, and thus the United States military, as a threat.

First two Marine operational F-35 fighter pilots attend transition training

ENSIGN LISA LILL

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION YUMA

EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. – The first two operational Marine F-35 fighter pilots from Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 121 attended F-35 transition training at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., from Sept. 17 through Nov. 20.

Lt. Col. Jeffrey Scott, VMFA-121 commanding officer, and Capt. Robert Guyette, VMFA-121 training officer, were selected for the F-35 program through a rigorous application process. They have extensive flight experience in the AV-8B Harrier II and F/A -18 Hornet respectively.

The transition training is comprised of instructor-led and hands-on training on F-35 systems, safety and software. The training systems at Eglin blend traditional courseware with electronic classrooms, simulators, flight events and event-based maintenance training.

Prior to their first flight, both pilots completed simulator training and safety inspections. The simulators contain actual F-35 software to provide students the most realistic experience possible. Once the pilots successfully completed these events, they transitioned to flying the aircraft.

“The unique aspect of the flight training is that the F/A-18 Hornet and AV-8B Harrier II have two-seater models for training. The F-35 only has a single seat, so you’re alone in the aircraft with the instructor as your wingman,” said Guyette.

In addition to pilot training, several maintainers from VMFA-121 are attending training at the Academic Training Center and Field Training Detachment at Eglin. Upon successful completion of this training, the maintainers will receive their F-35 military occupational specialty. The MOS allows maintainers to perform maintenance on the aircraft.

“VMFA-121 is the first organic F-35 squadron that will maintain the aircraft with Marines,” said Scott.

Upon completion of the schools at Eglin, pilots and maintainers will remain in a continuous learning environment with access to all training courseware, applications and deployable training devices.

The next block of pilot training is scheduled to begin Nov. 3 at Eglin. Maintenance training is on-going.

Marine Corps Air Station Yuma’s second F-35B, BF-20, flown by Maj. Aric Liberman, a pilot with the squadron, arrives at MCAS Yuma’s flight line following the redesignation ceremony for Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 121 Nov. 20. The Green Knights, formerly an F/A-18 Hornet squadron, is the Marine Corps’ first operational F-35 squadron. This ceremony marks an important milestone for the Marine Corps and the Department of Defense as the F-35 progresses from a testing and training aircraft toward full-scale tactical aviation operations.



CPL. SHELBY SHIELDS



PHOTOS BY LANCE CPL. PAUL E. WYATT

Capt. Jason T. Schulze, the quality assurance officer for Marine Attack Squadron 223, checks instruments before takeoff at Cherry Point Nov. 28, during a training flight to prepare for his weapons training officer certification. In order to become a weapons training officer, pilots must give three lectures, conduct four flights in simulators, and they must fly two training flights – one armed reconnaissance and one basic conventional weapons delivery.

Wing attack pilots sharpen skills

LANCE CPL. PAUL E. WYATT

MCAS CHERRY POINT

Four pilots with Marine Attack Squadron 223 are currently in the midst of an intense five-to-seven week course to become certified as weapons training officers, a billet in AV-8B Harrier squadrons that maximizes pilots' understanding of the aircraft's weapons systems and employment options.

In preparation for their training to become weapons training officers, the pilots must give three lectures, similar to preflight briefs; they must conduct four flights in simulators, practicing everything from close-air support to aerial interdiction; and they must fly two training flights – one armed reconnaissance and one basic conventional weapons delivery.

Once certified, the pilots say they will be greater assets to their unit, both in training environments and in operational theaters abroad.

In deployed environments, being a weapons training officer "gives you the ability to analyze weapons' impacts, malfunctions and helps you know what to use for effect," said Capt. Alexander M. Mellman, the pilot training officer for VMA-223.

Marine aviation is a key component of the Marine Air-Ground Task Force's ability to accomplish any mission in any clime or place. For decades, the AV-8B Harrier has been a key part of that mission.

The Harrier, a powerful tool for the close-air support mission, has consistently provided immediate, accurate firepower in support of Marines fighting on the ground.

Capt. Jason T. Schulze, a student in the certification course and the quality assurance officer for VMA-223, described the training as "very challenging, but very rewarding."

"We are learning how to analyze on a different level than we had previously," said Schulze.

After the work-ups, the pilots will face certification at Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Ariz., with an instructor from Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron 1.

Once they become certified weapons training officers, the pilots say it will significantly change their roles in the squadron.

"I look forward to taking a more active role in training junior pilots who will be deploying with me," said Schulze.



LANCE CPL. MIKE GRANAHAN

A CH-46E Sea Knight helicopter flies over Marine Corps Air Station Futenma Nov. 26. The last of the Sea Knight helicopters with Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 265 flew to Camp Kinser Nov. 26-27 to await final disposition. VMM-265 is part of Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

Squadron's Sea Knights make final flights

LANCE CPL. MIKE GRANAHAN

III MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE / MARINE CORPS INSTALLATIONS PACIFIC

CAMP KINSER, Japan – The last of the CH-46E Sea Knight helicopters with Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 265 flew here from Marine Corps Air Station Futenma Nov. 26-27 to await final disposition.

Although many Marines with VMM-265, a part of Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, are disappointed to see the CH-46E go, they are excited about the enhanced capabilities the MV-22B Osprey brings to the table, according to Staff Sgt. Bradley A. Leddy, a crew chief with the squadron.

“The CH-46E is a battle-proven aircraft, but it is older technology,” said Leddy. “Bringing in the Osprey gives us the ability to go about three times as fast and four times as far. They provide a long reach and over-the-horizon capabilities.”

The phasing out of the CH-46E is bittersweet, but the reputation it obtained during its more than 50 years of service will not be forgotten. The Osprey has some big shoes to fill, according to Col. Jeffrey K. Arruda, the commanding officer of MAG-36.

“The legacy that the CH-46E has in the Marine Corps, everything that it’s done from Vietnam to Lebanon, Desert Storm,

Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, is a testament to its capabilities and dependability,” said Arruda.

Most Marines have a nostalgic side that will miss the old aircraft, but the new capabilities of the Osprey are necessary for the Marine Corps to move forward, according to Leddy.

“Everyone is sad to see (the CH-46E) go. It’s an icon in the Marine Corps,” said Leddy. “Pretty much every motivational video and every motivational poster you see in some way has a CH-46E in it.”

The Osprey brings 1st MAW into the future, providing an enhanced ability to

provide support to the Asia-Pacific region, according to Arruda.

“It’s the way ahead for the Marine Corps. The Osprey brings an enormous capability, it’s great to have it out here in this theater, and we’re going to do a lot with it,” said Arruda. “The MV-22 is a great, safe aircraft and we expect great things.”

Though VMM-265’s Sea Knights have transitioned out of operations, there will still be CH-46E sightings around Okinawa. Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 262, MAG-36, will continue to fly its CH-46E helicopters until next summer.

MALS-13 Marines follow the bomb

Yuma station Marines get a glimpse at the life of an ordnance Marine

CPL. SEAN DENNISON

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION YUMA

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION YUMA, Ariz. – Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 13 ordnance technicians gave station Marines a glimpse of the bread and ballistics of Marine Corps Air Station Yuma’s aviation operations Nov. 19 during a “Follow the Bomb,” event.

Follow the Bomb, which began three years ago, provides non-ordnance Marines a chance to spend the day with MALS-13 ordnance technicians, Marines who assemble and distribute the bombs and munitions used by the aircraft on base, primarily the AV-8B Harriers.

The day is exactly like it sounds: Marines witness the assembly and distribution of bombs, from the MALS-13 ordnance technicians building them to the Marine Attack Squadron ordnance technicians loading them onto the aircraft.

“It provides a different perspective,” said Lance Cpl. Christine Keaney, a Marine Aircraft Group 13 intelligence specialist. “It’s very interesting to see what goes on behind the scenes. It’s one thing to hear about various aircraft’s armament, but to actually see the components go together, it’s very educational.”

The observers watched the MALS-13 ordnance technicians put together GBU-16s, and then traveled to VMA-214 to see the bombs put on an aircraft.

“It’s a lot more complex than taking bombs out of a box,” said Staff Sgt. Joseph Walsh, the MALS-13 munitions support supervisor. “There’s a lot of work and a lot of man hours.”

MALS-13 ordnance technicians can come into work before sunrise and often leave after sunset; their schedules are dictated by squadron operations and how much ordnance they want to drop, which, according to Walsh, can be anywhere from “two to 40 bombs a day.”

MALS-13’s ordnance arsenal includes active and inert bombs used for training purposes in order to qualify the pilots to drop ordnance. The technicians see their work being put to use during combat operations, where ordnance saves and ends lives.

“I wake up every day knowing what I’ve done has made a difference,” said Walsh. “When you need that airstrike, the feeling comes with building the bomb and seeing it work as advertised.”

The abilities of MALS-13 ordnance technicians also mean they are often called on for deployments, and thus are away from their families for longer stretches of time.

“It makes it more personal,” said Keaney, who, with the others, listened as Walsh related stories from his ordnance deployments, some lasting for more than a year, others lasting for a few months. “It’s one thing to be in the shop reading about these various weapons. To learn how they work ... I think it will change how I view my job.”

After the Marines followed the bomb to the underside of a Harrier, they each returned to their respective section, wiser about how aviation operations impact the Corps’ ground combat element.

Pfc. Timothy Kulesza, a Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 13 customer support division clerk, weighs an MK-76 inert bomb in his hands during a Follow the Bomb event at Marine Corps Air Station Yuma Nov. 19. Follow the Bomb, which began three years ago, allows non-ordnance Marines to spend a day with MALS-13 ordnance technicians.





PHOTOS BY LANCE CPL. PAUL E. WYATT

Children of Cherry Point-based personnel sit on Santa's lap after telling him what they want for Christmas at the annual Christmas tree lighting in front of the Marine Corps Exchange here Nov. 30. Children and their families lined up for a chance to meet the jolly old elf.

Let there be light

Cherry Point ushers in holiday season with tree lighting

LANCE CPL. PAUL E. WYATT
MCAS CHERRY POINT

Good tidings were plentiful at the annual Christmas tree lighting held in front of Cherry Point's Marine Corps Exchange Nov. 30.

The event featured Christmas carols, free refreshments, door prizes and even a visit from Santa. As the evening drew to a close, there was an outdoor showing of "How the Grinch Stole Christmas."

Lt. Col. Eric Weissberger, the executive officer of the air station, thanked all the Marines, Sailors and families who came out to the event, as well as those overseas for the holiday season.

"It's nice seeing all the families come out here," Weissberger said. "Realizing that some of their loved ones are deployed, it's nice to have this coming together."

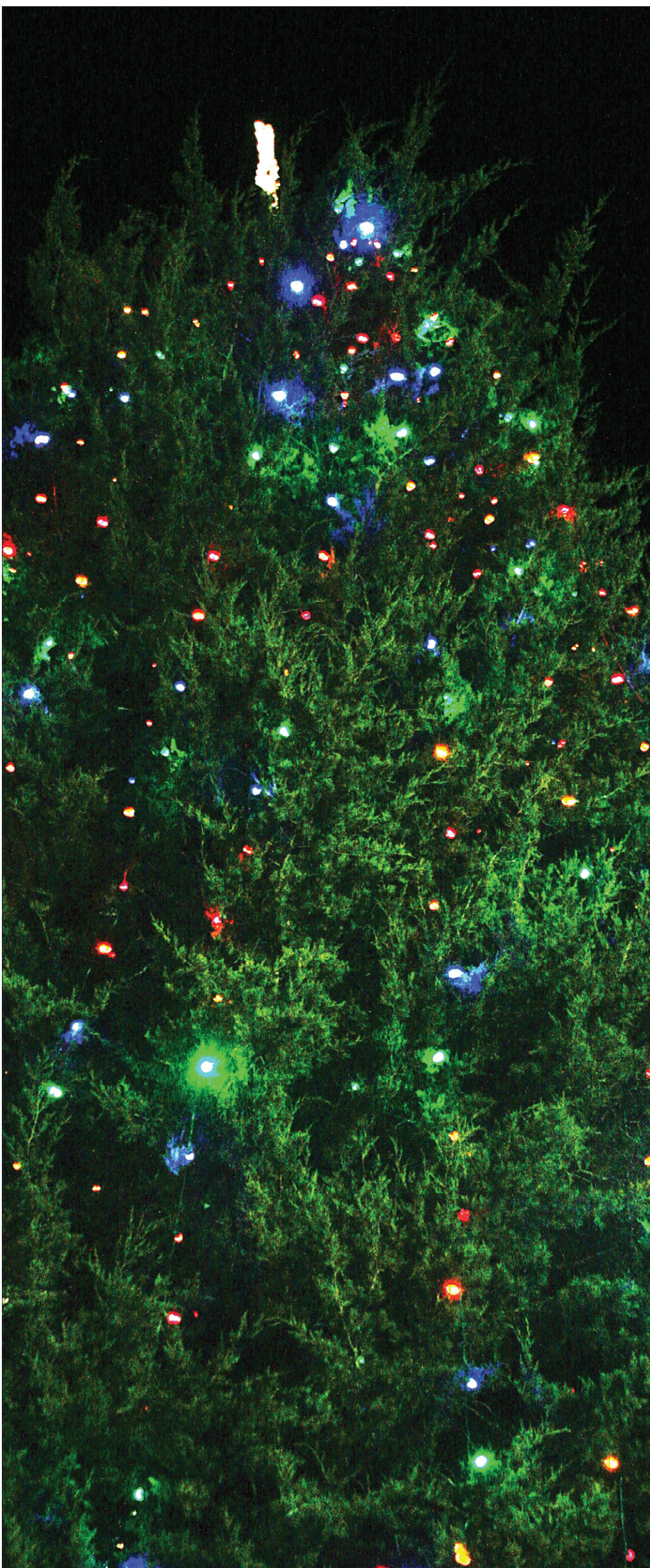
The feeling of community was

strong at the event. Service members and their families came together to officially welcome in the holiday season.

"It's just a community," said Rosemary Hong, who is married to Sgt. Scott Yonemura of Marine Wing Communications Squadron 28. "I feel like part of this big military family."

Lance Cpl. Elias Irizarry, a fixed-wing aircraft safety equipment mechanic with Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 252, said he felt the event offered a familiar sense of the holidays to Marines and Sailors who may not have family nearby.

"It brings us all together as a family, both in and out of the Corps," said Irizarry, who was at the tree lighting with his family. "Fellow Marines who don't have families nearby have one here."



The Cherry Point Christmas tree beams at the annual tree lighting in front of the Marine Corps Exchange here Nov. 30. This is the 13th year the air station has hosted the event, which included carols, refreshments and a visit from Santa.



A child of a Cherry Point-based Marine admires the gift Santa Claus gave him at the air station's annual Christmas tree lighting in front of the Marine Corps Exchange Nov. 30.

CHERRY POINT MESS HALL

HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday-Friday

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

Saturday-Sunday/ Holiday Hours

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

FAST FOOD LINE

Monday-Friday

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

Breakfast Menu

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

Specialty Bar Menu & Blendz

Tuesday and Thursday Lunch (Blendz) - Banana-strawberry yogurt, banana-blackberry yogurt, banana-peach yogurt, banana-pineapple yogurt, banana-mango yogurt, banana-blueberry yogurt, Asian chicken chopped salad, Asian beef chopped salad, Savannah fried chicken salad, Southwest chicken strip salad, chef salad bowl, buffalo chicken salad, turkey club salad, beef fajita salad, BLT club salad, Southwest flank steak salad, chicken caesar salad, Chinese chicken salad, antipasto salad.

Monday - Pasta primavera, lasagna, chicken rotini casserole, baked ziti with four cheeses, meatballs, baked Italian sausage, boiled rigatoni, boiled spaghetti, simmered ziti, simmered linguine, simmered fettucini, simmered penne rigate, simmered rotini, Italian meat sauce, alfredo sauce, caesar salad, toasted garlic bread and breadsticks.

Wednesday - Chicken enchiladas, taco beef filling, burritos, Mexican rice, refried beans with cheese, Mexican corn, shredded lettuce, diced tomatoes, chopped onions, sliced jalapeno peppers, taco shells, flour tortillas, taco sauce, salsa, sour cream.

Friday - Wings of fire, honeyed barbecue wings, teriyaki wings, French fried chicken wings, French fried garlic fries, corn on the cob, baked beans, carrot sticks, celery sticks, blue cheese dressing, ranch dressing.

Weekly Menu

Thursday December 6

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

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

Friday December 7

Lunch - New England clam chowder, maple glazed salmon, turkey potpie with baking powder biscuits, long grain and wild rice, green beans, cauliflower polonaise **Dinner** - Turkey vegetable soup, mambo pork roast, lasagna, candied sweet potatoes, marinara sauce, steamed broccoli, Mexican corn

Saturday December 8

Lunch - Beef barley and onion soup, vegetable and black bean enchiladas, chicken and broccoli casserole, confetti rice, Spanish-style beans, steamed vegetable medley **Dinner** - Cream of chicken soup, java molasses pork loin, Swiss steak with mushroom gravy, lyonnaise potatoes, buttered egg noodles, stewed tomatoes, peas

Sunday December 9

Lunch - Vegetable beef soup, baked citrus herb crusted fish, fried chicken, brown rice pilaf, red bliss mashed potatoes, cream gravy, green bean casserole, corn **Dinner** - Turkey noodle soup, creamy Cajun shrimp penne, meat loaf, roasted garlic mashed potatoes, brown gravy, Louisiana-style smothered squash, okra mēlange

Monday December 10

Lunch - Beef short ribs, chicken vegetable pasta, steamed rice, roasted zucchini, steamed baby carrots, minestrone soup **Dinner** - Braised pork chops, turkey meatloaf, buttered egg noodle, islander's rice, lyonnaise wax beans, broccoli polonaise, brown gravy, chicken gumbo soup

Tuesday December 11

Lunch - Salmon with tomato cucumber relish, chicken fried chicken, rice pilaf, mashed potatoes, sausage gravy, succotash, southern style greens, cream of potato soup **Dinner** - Roast beef, baked ziti with Italian sausage, parsley buttered potatoes, peas, vegetable stir fry, toasted garlic bread, navy bean soup, horseradish sauce

Wednesday December 12

Lunch - Santa Fe glazed chicken, baked smoked chicken, southwest orzo pasta, whipped sweet potatoes, corn on the cob, simmered mustard greens, raison sauce, chunky beef noodle soup **Dinner** - Swedish meatballs, spicy shrimp with cheesy grits, rice pilaf, French fried cauliflower, French cut green beans, brown gravy, chicken noodle soup

SURVIVED AN IED ATTACK ON HIS CONVOY NEAR BAGHDAD.

SURVIVED REPEATED AMBUSHES FROM THE ENEMY IN FALLUJAH.

SURVIVED SNIPER FIRE IN THE HELMAND PROVINCE.

KILLED BY A SELF-INFLICTED GUNSHOT WOUND IN HIS HOME.

IF YOU SUDDENLY FIND THE ENEMY IS IN YOUR HEAD, YOU NEED TO FIGHT BACK. THE DStRESS LINE PROVIDES CONFIDENTIAL COUNSELING FOR MARINES AND THEIR FAMILIES WHEN IT'S NEEDED MOST. CALL TODAY AND LET US HELP YOU WIN YOUR PERSONAL BATTLES.

DStRESS
NO MARINE LEFT BEHIND.
1.877.SEMFER.FI

Officer Professional Military Education

Distance Education Program

Expeditionary Warfare School
&
Command and Staff College

Register for Fall Academic Year 2010 Seminars

Contact Your Regional Coordinator www.tecom.usmc.mil/cee 1.888.4DL.USMC



I am a mentor.
I am a comrade.
I am a friend.
I am a loved one.
I will reach out for help.



I am a Marine

You are not alone. There is support. If you or someone you know is in immediate danger of hurting himself or others, please call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.

1-800-273-TALK (8255)

It's important to talk about suicide and feelings of depression or PTSD. If you're looking for more information or resources, trained health professionals are available 24/7 at the:

DCoE Outreach Center

866-966-1020

resources@dcoeoutreach.org

www.dcoe.health.mil



MCAS Cherry Point
STATION THEATER
E Street

Movie Hotline: 466-3884

Visit us at www.mccscherrypoint.com

Adults only \$4 • Kids (4-12) only \$3

NOW SHOWING

Thursday, December 6

NO MOVIES SHOWING

Friday, December 7

NO MOVIES SHOWING

Saturday, December 8

2:00pm - Hotel Transylvania PG

4:15pm - Taken 2 PG 13

6:45pm - Fun Size PG 13

9:00pm - Silent Hill Revelation R

Sunday, December 9

2:00pm - Hotel Transylvania PG

4:15pm - Silent Hill Revelation R

MOVIE SYNOPSIS

Taken 2 - Bryan Mills is the retired CIA agent with a "particular set of skills" who stopped at nothing to save his daughter Kim from kidnapers. When the father of one of the villains Bryan killed swears revenge, and takes Bryan and his wife hostage in Istanbul, Bryan enlists Kim to help them escape. Bryan then employs his unique tactics to get his family to safety and systematically take out the kidnapers, one by one.

Fun Size - Wren, a sarcastic high school senior, is eager to distance herself from her dysfunctional family by going off to college. Before that can happen, Wren's mother, Joy, insists that she watch her little brother Albert on Halloween night, so Joy can go to a rager with her much younger boyfriend. When Wren gets distracted by an invitation to the party of the year, Albert disappears into a sea of trick-or-treaters. Frantic to locate him before their mother discovers he's missing, Wren enlists the help of three of her friends. This unlikely foursome embarks on a high-stakes, all-night adventure to find Albert, crossing paths with outrageous characters every step of the way.

Hotel Transylvania - Welcome to the Hotel Transylvania, Dracula's lavish five-star resort, where monsters and their families can live it up, free to be the monsters they are without humans to bother them. On one special weekend, Dracula has invited some of the world's most famous monsters -- Frankenstein and his bride, the Mummy, the Invisible Man, a family of werewolves, and more -- to celebrate his daughter Mavis's 118th birthday. For Drac, catering to all of these legendary monsters is no problem -- but his world could come crashing down when one ordinary guy stumbles on the hotel and takes a shine to Mavis.

Silent Hill Revelation - Heather Mason and her father have been on the run, always one step ahead of dangerous forces that she doesn't fully understand. Now on the eve of her 18th birthday, plagued by horrific nightmares and the disappearance of her father, Heather discovers she's not who she thinks she is. The revelation leads her deeper into a demonic world that threatens to trap her forever.

Movies are subject to change without notice

Announcements

► *Indicates new announcement*

Toys for Tots

Toys for Tots is returning to Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point through Dec. 16. Drop off locations are as follows:

- The Roadhouse 3542 E. Street
- The Marine Corps Exchange
- Havelock Walmart
- Morehead City Walmart

Contribute by donating a new, unwrapped toy, hosting a Toys for Tots event or volunteering at the local warehouse.

For more information call Sgt. Jesse T. Cody at 466-7316 or email Jesse.t.cody@navy.mil.

Aviation Enlisted Monitor Visit

The aviation enlisted monitors will visit Cherry Point to give Marines the opportunity to discuss career paths within their fields Friday from 8 a.m.–3 p.m.

Interviews will take place at Miller's Landing.

For more information, contact your unit career planner.

2nd MAW Band Christmas Concert

The 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing Band will perform its annual Christmas concert at the air station theater Friday.

The Concert will be open to the general public. Doors open at 6 p.m. Admission is free. Toys for Tots donations are welcome.

Gift-Wrapping at the MCX

The Enlisted Spouses Club will offer free gift wrapping at the Cherry Point Exchange on the following dates:

- Saturday, Sunday, and Dec. 15, 16, 22 and 23 from 10 a.m.–6 p.m.
- Friday and Dec. 21 from 4–8 p.m.

For more information, contact Bethany Revenaugh at 444-0766.

Rotary Corn Toss Tournament

Swansboro Rotary will host the second Rotary Corn Toss Tournament at the Rotary Civic Center in Swansboro Saturday.

The cost is \$50 per two-person team. Registration begins at 10 a.m.; competition begins at noon. Swansboro Rotary funds support a variety of community projects, including scholarships for deserving high school graduates.

For information call 910-326-6175.

► Barracks Cooking Class

Marine Corps Community Services will host a free barracks cooking class Wednesday for all Marines living in the barracks.

The class will be held at the chapel kitchen on "E" St. Food and recipes will be provided.

For more information and to register call 466-6474.

► Cherry Point Inn Yard Sale

Cherry Point is having a cash-only yard sale at the Cherry Point Inn, building 487 off Madison Drive, Dec. 14 and 15 from 8 a.m.–4 p.m.

E-book Friday at the Library

The station library will host e-book Friday at the library Dec. 14 from 11 a.m.–1 p.m.

The event will teach patrons about the library's electronic resources, share e-book and e-book reader tips and allow patrons to try out a variety of e-book readers.

The library will also take requests for e-books.

For more information call 466-3552.

Santa by the Sea

The North Carolina Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores will host Santa by the Sea Dec. 14 at 5:30 p.m.

Admission is \$9 per person. Advance registration is advised. One 5"x7" professional photo is included with admission for each child 12 and under. The event includes magic shows, children will help prepare snacks for Santa's reindeer, elves will lend a hand with keepsake crafts and holiday cookies to take home, Mrs. Claus will read holiday stories and Rudolph will make a special appearance.

Visit www.ncaquariums.com/pine-knoll-shores or call 247-4003 for more information.

The Nutcracker

New Bern Ballet Company will host the Nutcracker at the air station theater and event center Dec. 14.

The event is free; doors open at 5 p.m.; show starts at 6 p.m. The event will include door prizes, cookies, goody bags for kids, popcorn, drinks and a photo opportunity with Santa. Cameras are welcome.

For more information call 466-3850.

Free Photos with Santa

Santa is coming to the Marine Corps Exchange to have his picture taken with willing patrons Saturday, Sunday, Dec. 15, 16, 22 and 23 from 11 a.m.–3 p.m.

One free roll of wrapping paper will be given to the first 100 customers with a Toys for Tots donation.

For more information call the exchange at 447-7041.

A Beary Merry Christmas

The downtown council of the New Bern Area Chamber of Commerce is hosting "A Beary Merry Christmas," in downtown New Bern though Dec. 25.

The event includes the Beary Merry Christmas

scavenger hunt, Beary Beautiful Wreath, Christmas Bear Trolley Tour, Breakfast with Santa, Jaycees Christmas parade, Christmas flotilla, The Holly and the Ivy Holiday Homes Tour, breakfast with Bernie and the Bernie's Beary Merry Mistletoe March.

Visit <http://www.downtownnewbern.com> or call Amanda Banks at abanks@salempca.net.

I Golf For Food

The Sound Of Freedom Golf Course is offering all golfers who pay greens fees and riding cart fees for 18 holes an "I Golf for Food" gift certificate good for an up to \$10 value-lunch at Miller's Landing through Dec. 31.

The offer is valid Monday–Friday.

For more information call 466-3044.

Half-Staffing of National Flag

At the direction of the President of the United States, the flag of the United States shall be flown at half-staff on Friday, in honor of the individuals who died as a result of their service at Pearl Harbor.

The flag shall be flown at half-staff on all Department of Defense buildings, grounds and Naval vessels throughout the United States and abroad.

Marine and Family Programs

Marine, Family Programs Office Numbers

Building 298

- Library – 466-3552.
- Retired Activities – 466-5548.

Building 286

- Exceptional Family Member Program – 466-3305.
- Child Development Resource and Referral – 466-5490.

Building 87

- Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program – 466-5490.
- Substance Abuse Counseling – 466-7568.
- New Parent Support Program – 466-3651.
- Family Advocacy Program – 466-3264.
- Military Family Life Consultant – 876-8016.
- Families Overcoming Under Stress Representative – 466-7137.

Building 4335

- Lifelong Learning – 466-3305.
- The Family Member Employment Program, Transition Assistance Management Program, Relocation Assistance Program and accredited financial counselors can be reached at 466-4201.

Budget for Baby

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

To register, call 466-2031.

Breastfeeding Class

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

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

To register, call 466-2031.

Veterans' Assistance

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

Marine Corps Family Team Building

Educational resources and services to foster personal growth and enhance the readiness of Marine Corps families. Located in Building 87. For more information, email family.readiness@usmc.mil.

Monthly and Weekly Events

Courage to Change

Cherry Point and Havelock Courage to Change support group is for friends and families of people who suffer from alcoholism. Meetings are held at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Havelock, Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

For information, call 241-6155.

Marine Corps League Meetings

Cherry Point's detachment of the Marine Corps League meets the third Tuesday of each month at Miller's Landing at 7 p.m. For more information, call 515-1175.

Dart Tournament

Weekly dart tournaments at the Road House restaurant and recreation facility are held Saturdays at 8 p.m. For more information, call 241-6155 or 466-3044.

Disabled Veterans

Chapter 26 of the Disabled American Veterans meets the third

Wednesday of the month at the Senior Center in Havelock at 7 p.m. For information, contact Ancil Jones at 622-5245.

Domestic Violence Support

Support groups for victims of domestic violence are provided by the Carteret County Domestic Violence Program. The group meetings are held Wednesdays at 6 p.m. For more information, call 728-3788.

Basic Budgeting

Learn basic financial management skills in room 159 of the Training and Education building. The class will be held today at 9 a.m. For more information, call 466-4201.

Zumba

Zumba exercise classes are offered every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday at the Marine Dome aboard the air station at 5 p.m. For more information, call 466-1147.

Al-Anon Family Group Meeting

Al-Anon family group meetings are held Tuesdays at 8 p.m. for family members and friends of individuals with possible alcohol problems.

Meetings are held at Havelock First Baptist Church.

For more information, call 447-8063.

Table Talk Bible Study

The Cherry Point Chaplain hosts a weekly bible study at Miller's Landing Thursdays at 6 p.m.

For more information, call the Chaplain's office at 466-4000.

Education Fairs

The Cherry Point Education office hosts monthly career and education fairs, at the Jerry Marvel Training and Education building, room 171b. The next fair is Jan. 11.

For more information call, Dana Bayliss, at 466-2046.

Hotlines

2nd MAW Command Inspector General

466-5038

Station Inspector

466-3449

Fraud, Waste and Abuse

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

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

Sexual Assault

This procedure is not meant to replace calling 911 if you are in immediate danger. Immediately call 665-4713, which is monitored 24/7.

The person answering the call will help you decide the next steps to take. You may remain anonymous.

Severe Weather and Force Protection

Cherry Point personnel call 466-3093.

FRC East personnel call 464-8333.

DLA personnel call 466-4083.

This month in Marine Corps History

December 8, 1941 Japanese aircraft attacked Wake Island within hours of the fateful attack on Pearl Harbor. Marines of the 1st Defense Battalion and Marine Fighting Squadron 211 resisted Japanese invasion attempts for more than two weeks before finally succumbing to an overwhelming force.

December 15, 1948 The Secretary of the Navy signed a memorandum of agreement with the State Department which laid the basis for the modern Marine Security Guard program at U.S. embassies throughout the world.

December 20, 1989 Operation Just Cause was launched in Panama to protect American lives, restore the democratic process, preserve the integrity of the Panama Canal Treaty, and apprehend dictator Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega. One Marine, Cpl. Garreth C. Isaak, was killed and three others were wounded during the operation.

Off Limits

MCAS CHERRY POINT AREA

- 98 CENT ONLY STORE
- (BIG DADDY) WESLEY'S GROCERY
- COASTAL SMOKE SHOP
- EXPRESSIONS
- FRIDAY'S NIGHT CLUB (AKA CLUB INSOMNIA, CLUB CLASSICS, INFINITY LOUNGE)
- H&D EXPRESS AKA CITGO
- NADINE'S FOOD MART
- SUPER EXPRESSWAY
- TOBACCO OUTLET (HAVELOCK AND NEW BERN)
- TOBACCO SHOP & GIFTS (BEAUFORT AND NEW BERN)
- TOBACCO TOWN
- TOBACCO SHOP (NEWPORT AND NEW BERN)
- TWIN RIVERS (NOT THE MALL)
- WHITE SANDS CONVENIENCE STORE

MCB CAMP LEJEUNE AREA

- BELL AUTO SALVAGE II
- DASH-IN
- DISCOUNT TOBACCO
- D'S DRIVE THRU
- D'S QUICK MART
- EXPRESS WAY
- KINGS DRIVE THRU
- LAIRDS AUTO & TRUCK CENTER
- MOE'S MART
- NEW YORK TOBACCO CENTER
- ONE STOP SHOP
- SMART BUY
- SMITTY'S R&R
- TOBACCO FOR LESS
- TOBACCO HOUSE CIGARETTE CENTER
- TOBACCO LEAF
- VETERANS AFFAIRS SERVICES