

# The Globe

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THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 2020

## COVID-19: 2D MARDIV-led 'Task Force Commitment' deploys to MCRD Parris Island; troops ensure training pipeline unimpeded

BY STAFF SGT. JEFFREY CORDERO  
2d Marine Division

Somewhere in the U.S. sits a poolee – the title given to future U.S. Marine Corps recruits – patiently awaiting their report date to either Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island or Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, and wondering how the COVID-19 situation will affect them. Due to events surrounding COVID-19, the Marine Corps organized a special effort, dubbed "Task Force Commitment," to ensure the health and safety of prospective recruits, as well as training personnel aboard the depots.

The task force includes Marines from major subordinate commands across II Marine Expeditionary Force, the majority of whom are from India Company, 3rd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment (V36), 2d Marine Division. The Marines are working out of The Citadel, the military college in Charleston, S.C., and "providing additional measures in response to

COVID-19," according to Maj. Richard Martinez, the deputy officer-in-charge of Task Force Commitment. "The Marine Corps has implemented a 14-day staging period for every poolee that would arrive at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island or San Diego."

The task force has been supporting recruit receiving operations since mid-April. It is one of the many efforts the Marine Corps adapted to combat the spread of the novel COVID-19 virus, especially at the recruit training depots, which receive hundreds of future Marines every month. The task force facilitates the 14-day isolation period, which is supplemented by the use of face masks and the practicing of social distancing. Furthermore, hand sanitizing/washing stations have been provided since the release of official guidance recommending the practice from The Center for Disease Control. Coincidentally, these efforts are implemented not just at the recruit training depots but at Marine Corps installations throughout the U.S.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Rebecca L. Floto  
U.S. Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Collin P. Lybrand, 3rd Battalion 6th Marines, 2nd Marine Division, teaches a poolee basic drill movements at The Citadel, a public military college temporarily utilized to stage poolees for a 14-day observation period in Charleston, S.C., May 6.

"In addition to all of the measures the recruit depot is implementing, this [Task Force Commitment] is another layer to ensure they are cleared before they get started," said Martinez.

The 2d Marine Division Marines managing the staging of poolees have already witnessed the effectiveness of their operation, when, during one of their first iterations, the depot received some poolees who initially tested positive for COVID-19 and were processed accordingly. Without the current quarantine process, the situation easily could have gone unnoticed.

"We were able to isolate those poolees and make sure it didn't spread," said Sgt. Samuel Whitehead, a platoon sergeant with India Company, V36, currently serving as a watch commander for Task Force Commitment. "Because we are able to mitigate that and make sure those poolees got to recruit training safely, we are able to ensure training continues."

The efforts of the Marines go beyond disease prevention. One beneficial impact of the 14-day quarantine is the opportunity for the poolees to experience day-to-day interaction

with Marines prior to commencing their 13-weeks of rigorous training.

"They are providing the necessary supervision, and also that first exposure outside of a recruiter of what a Marine is or how they should act," said Martinez. "Every day the task force Marines spend interacting with the new arrivals is yet more opportunity to ensure they are that much better postured to undertake the rigors of recruit training."

This exposure has resulted in recruits not only better prepared for recruit training, but also future Marines ready for more challenges, according to Whitehead.

"The majority of the after action we've received is these recruits catch on a lot faster," Whitehead said. "They are able to go in already understanding basic customs and courtesies, and that allows drill instructors to go at a quicker pace, which ultimately means (follow on training) and the fleet gets a better Marine."

The benefits of the challenges go beyond the

recruits. According to Whitehead, this experience has had a favorable effect on the readiness of task force Marines and poolees alike.

"It's been a triple win scenario," said Whitehead. "The first is we're stopping COVID from spreading. Second, these poolees and recruits have more time to develop, and third, the Marines that come down here are being tested in our ability to maintain professionalism and to perform duties outside of what we normally do, which will be a force multiplier when we get back to our units."

Despite the universal disruption COVID-19 has caused, Marines continue to train and maintain readiness. The combined disease-prevention efforts of recruit training personnel and the Marines assigned to Task Force Commitment are ensuring the safety, efficiency and effectiveness of the accession pipeline.

"Recruit training is still going because the task force is here," Martinez said. "It is a huge effort by all involved."



## HPCON BRAVO

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MCIEAST COMMSTRAT

In alignment with local, state, federal, and Department of Defense guidelines, Marine Corps Installations East (MCIEAST) is transitioning from Health Protection Condition Charlie (HPCON-C) to Bravo

(HPCON-B) across most of its installations with the exception of Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island and Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany, effective immediately. HPCON-B means there are still confirmed cases of COVID-19 present in the areas sur-

rounding MCIEAST installations. MCIEAST installations been in HPCON-C since March 24 of this year.

During HPCON-B, most services aboard the installation will be available, however MCIEAST military and medical leaders are continuing to imple-

ment COVID-19 mitigation measures to prevent any future outbreak through the regular enforcement of face coverings, hand-washing, social-distancing and other site-specific health prevention measures.

Along with the transition to HPCON-B is the resump-

tion of the Trusted Traveler Program which allows for uniformed service members and dependents (over age 16), DoD employees, and retired uniformed service members and spouses to vouch for occupants inside a vehicle when entering a military installation,

provided they possess a valid DoD identification card. For more information on the program visit <https://www.lejeune.marines.mil/Visitors/Trusted-Traveler-Program/>.

For additional guidance on COVID-19, please visit [www.coronavirus.gov](http://www.coronavirus.gov).

## 2nd LAR holds memorial ceremony



Photos by Lance Cpl. Patrick King

A U.S. Marine hangs a dog tag on a battle cross during a 2nd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion memorial ceremony at Camp Lejeune, May 22. The memorial service honored Marines who lost their lives during combat operations.



U.S. Marine Corps Lt. Col. Christopher Conner, the commanding officer of 2nd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 2d Marine Division, gives remarks during a memorial ceremony.

# 2nd MLG Makerspace Marines awarded for COVID-19 support

BY LANCE CPL. ZACHARY ZEPHIR  
2nd Marine Logistics Group

The 2nd Marine Logistics Group Makerspace led the way in innovation during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic that affected the entire world. Two Marines from Makerspace were recognized for their effort and complete dedication to duty during this time.

Corporal Michael Espinosa and Lance Corporal Paul Dovo were awarded Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals for their contribution during COVID-19 response operations at Camp

Lejeune, May 29.

The Marines were directly responsible for rapidly 3-D printing personal protective equipment (PPE) to be sent to aid FEMA Region 8, Naval Medical Center Camp Lejeune, and 2nd Medical Battalion for COVID-19 screenings. They worked in shifts of twelve-hours, constantly adapting to design and produce PPE during the shortage.

"Espinosa and Dovo are both the poster children for this new kind of Marine and critical players in the making," said Capt. Matt Audette with Marine Forces Systems Command. "They are punching way above their

weight class on their ability to both grasp and teach these new concepts and turn their outside the box thinking into real solutions."

Makerspace is a collaborative environment for Marines and Sailors to cultivate an innovative culture to explore new ideas to improve policies, procedures, or products to reduce maintenance costs, increase equipment readiness, and improve combat effectiveness.

"It has been such a great experience being able to learn so much in the time that I've been here," said Espinosa. "I can proudly say that I've made a difference in people's lives."



U.S. Marine Corps Cpl. Michael Espinosa receives the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal at Camp Lejeune, May 29. Espinosa received the award for his contribution designing and producing personal protective equipment during the shortage of masks caused by COVID-19.



Photos by Lance Cpl. Zachary Zephir

U.S. Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Paul Dovo assigned to Makerspace, 2nd Marine Logistics Group, salutes after receiving the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal during a ceremony at Camp Lejeune, May 29. Dovo received this award for his contribution designing and producing personal protective equipment during the shortage of masks caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

## 2nd ANGLICO pays tribute to fallen US Navy SEAL



Photo by Cpl. Stephen Campbell

U.S. Marines with 2nd Air-Naval Gunfire Liaison Company, II Marine Expeditionary Force Information Group, perform pull ups during a "Murph Challenge" at Camp Lejeune, May 28. The challenge is a tradition honoring U.S. Navy SEAL Lt. Michael Murphy, who died while participating in Operation Red Wings on June 28, 2005, and was posthumously awarded the U.S. Medal of Honor for his actions during Operation Enduring Freedom. Participants are timed during the challenge and it consists of a one-mile run, 100 pull-ups, 200 pushups, 300 air squats and finishing with another one-mile run.

## OFF-LIMITS

The following businesses are designated by the base commander as "off-limits"

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Bell Auto Salvage II at 136 Abbots Branch Rd., Hubert.  
Best Exxon at 2945 Richlands Highway, Jacksonville.  
Club Phoenix at 209 East 5th St., Greenville.  
Dash-In at 1316 Hargett St., Jacksonville.  
Drive Thru Mini Mart at 2729 Commerce Road, Jacksonville.  
D's Drive Thru (AKA: Raul's Drive Thru) at 226 Wilmington Highway, Jacksonville.  
D's Quick Mart at 2840 Highway 258 West, Richlands.  
Expressions at 419 South College Rd., #39, Wilmington.  
Express Way at 1261 Gum Branch Rd., Jacksonville.  
Golden Dragon (AKA) Tokyo Asian House at 1850 Wilmington Highway, Jacksonville.  
Highlands Tobacco aka Piney Green  
Tobacco at 835 Piney Green Road, Jacksonville.  
Highway 24 Tobacco at 1448 West Corbet Ave. Jacksonville.  
Hubert Tobacco at 393 Hubert Blvd., Hubert.  
J&N Grocery at 1142 Beulaville Highway, Richlands.  
Karen Huffman's Cleaning Jacksonville.  
King's Tobacco Drive Thru at 1796 Gum Branch Rd., Jacksonville.  
Laird's Auto and Truck Repair (U-Haul Rental) at 1197 Piney Green Rd., Jacksonville.  
MB Super Discount at 800 Shipyard Blvd., Wilmington.  
Moe's Mart at 2105 Belgrade-Swansboro Rd., Maysville.  
Nash Market at 237 New River Drive, Jacksonville.  
OJ's Tobacco and Vapor at 8900 Richlands Highway, Richlands.  
One Stop Shop at 501 Corbin St., Jacksonville.  
\*Precision Motor Sports at 1321 Lake Cole Road, Jacksonville.  
Price is Right Lawn Design in Jacksonville.  
Reid's Mart at 461 Hubert Blvd., Hubert.  
Sahara Hookah Lounge at 917 North Marine Blvd., Jacksonville.  
Saint Thomas Custom Homes at 3560 McArthur Rd., Broadway.

Smart Buy at 375 Jacksonville Mall, Jacksonville. (currently not open, but has history of reappearing)  
Speedy's Drive Thru at 357 Henderson Drive, Jacksonville.  
Sun House Vapor and Tobacco at 2840 Richlands Highway, Jacksonville.  
Super-Fast Drive Thru Mini Mart at 1005 North Marine Blvd., Jacksonville.  
Tobacco at 521 Yopp Rd., Unit 106, Jacksonville.  
Tobacco Leaf at 343K Western Blvd., Jacksonville.  
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Veterans Affairs Service Jacksonville. (This is a private organization not affiliated with the Department of Veterans Affairs, VA Outpatient Clinic, nor Onslow County Veteran Services.)

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H&D Express (AKA: Citgo)  
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Tobacco Outlet (Havelock and New Bern)  
Tobacco Shop & Gifts (Beaufort and New Bern)  
Tobacco Town  
Tobacco Shop (Newport and New Bern)  
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### OFF-LIMITS ROADS:

Catfish Lake Road

\* Identifies a new business added since the last update of the Bulletin.

## Hotline numbers to report fraud, waste, abuse and corruption

II MEF Hotline - 451-5555 [www.iimef.marines.mil/UnitHome/CommandInspectorGeneral.aspx](http://www.iimef.marines.mil/UnitHome/CommandInspectorGeneral.aspx)  
MCIEAST Hotline - 451-3928 [www.mcieast.marines.mil/StaffOffices/CommandInspectorGeneral/CommandingGeneralsInspectionProgram.aspx](http://www.mcieast.marines.mil/StaffOffices/CommandInspectorGeneral/CommandingGeneralsInspectionProgram.aspx)  
TECOM Hotline - (703) 432-1650 [www.tecom.usmc.mil/pages/ig.aspx](http://www.tecom.usmc.mil/pages/ig.aspx)  
Naval Hospital Hotlines - (910) 450-4240 [NHCL-IGHotline@med.navy.mil](mailto:NHCL-IGHotline@med.navy.mil)  
MARSOC Hotlines - 440-1045/0941 [www.marsoc.marines.mil/UnitHome/InspectorGeneral.aspx](http://www.marsoc.marines.mil/UnitHome/InspectorGeneral.aspx)  
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# 2nd MLG welcomes new commanding general

BY CPL. RACHEL YOUNG-PORTER

2nd Marine Logistics Group

Brig. Gen. (select) Forrest C. Poole III assumed command of 2nd Marine Logistics Group (MLG) from Brig. Gen. Kevin J. Stewart during a ceremony at Camp Lejeune, May 29.

Stewart was praised for his accomplishments during his time in command by Lt. Gen. Beaudreault, commanding general of II Marine Expeditionary Force. He credits the 2nd MLG Marines and Sailors who served for and alongside of him for his success as a commander.

"I can highlight a few of the successes, the day-to-day readiness that's improved, and the focus on warfighting," said Beaudreault.

Stewart, who served as the commanding general of 2nd MLG from June 2018 to May 2020, will be taking his next assignment at United States Transport

ation Command at Scott Air Force Base, Illinois.

"I'm humbled and honored to have served in the 2nd MLG," said Stewart. "I don't know if you know, but when we exchanged the colors, I didn't want to let go because I don't want to leave. It's been two incredible years."

Poole served as the executive assistant to the deputy commandant, Installations and Logistics, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps, Washington, D.C., prior to assuming command of 2nd MLG. He was welcomed by the 2nd MLG family which he addressed during the ceremony.

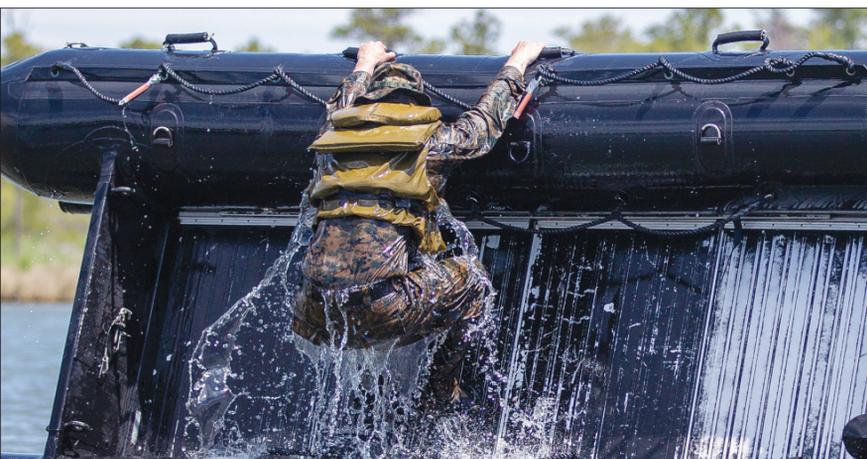
"My commander's intent is very simple, it's three words: fight, serve and support," said Poole.

2nd MLG provides tactical logistics support above the organic capabilities of supported elements of II MEF and task-organized Logistics Combat Elements in support of Marine Air-Ground Task Force operations.



Photo by Lance Cpl. Scott Jenkins  
U.S. Marine Corps Brig. Gen. Kevin Stewart, the outgoing commanding general of 2nd Marine Logistics Group, right, shakes the hand of Brig. Gen. (select) Forrest Poole, incoming commanding general of 2nd Marine Logistics Group in a change of command ceremony at Camp Lejeune, May 29. In the ceremony, Brig. Gen. (select) Forrest Poole III assumed command of 2nd Marine Logistics Group from Brig. Gen. Kevin Stewart.

# Task force Marines deploying to Latin America to conduct small boat training



Photos by Cpl. Benjamin D. Larsen

A Marine with Special Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force - Southern Command hangs onto a combat rubber raiding craft amidst a broaching drill during a training exercise at Camp Lejeune, May 12. The Marines train and learn small boat skills and procedures to better help the SPMAGTF-SC with mission accomplishment when deployed within jungle environments. These training events assist the Marines and Sailors when working alongside partner nations in Latin America and the Caribbean with crisis response preparedness, security cooperation training, and engineering projects.



Sgt. Thomas Roeder, top left, and Staff Sgt. Luis Perez, top right, military policemen with SPMAGTF-SC, broach a combat rubber raiding craft with the help of their crew members.



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# Training while it's raining with 2d Recon



Photos by Lance Cpl. Jacqueline Parsons

U.S. Marines with Force Reconnaissance (Recon) Company, 2d Recon Battalion, 2d Marine Division conduct a hideshow breakdown drill on Camp Lejeune, May 22. Force Recon Company conducted live-fire immediate action drills including vehicle drop-offs, vehicle pick-ups, and simulated casualty evacuations to enhance weapons familiarization and unit capabilities.



U.S. Marines with 2d Recon Battalion, 2d Marine Division conduct a chance contact drill with a vehicle pick-up.

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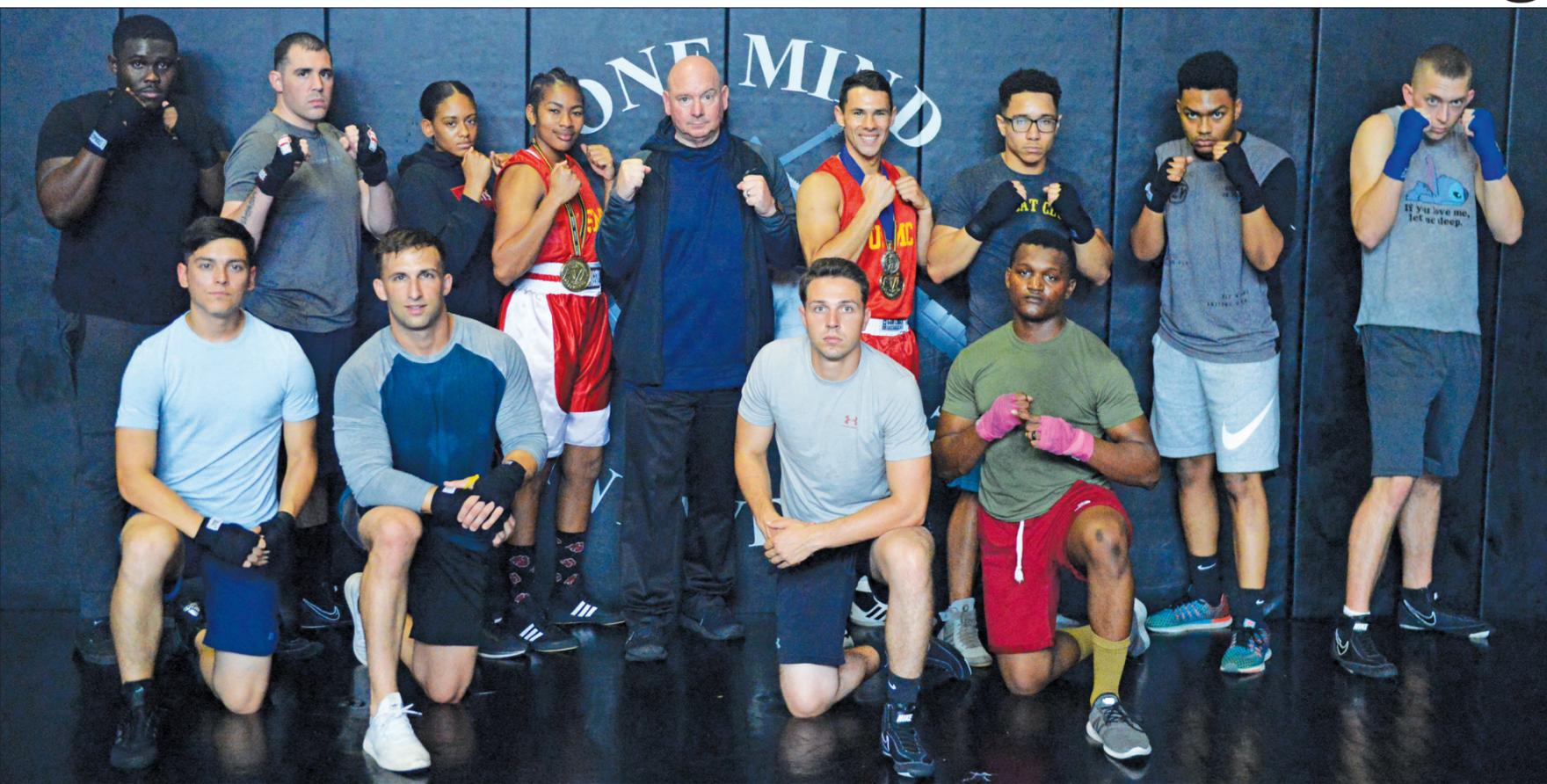
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## Marines seek best selves in boxing



Photos by Calvin Shomaker

U.S. Marines with the Marine Corps Boxing Team pose for a photo with Head Coach Michael Cline, a retired sergeant major, at practice on Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, May 21.

BY CALVIN SHOMAKER  
Sports Writer

About every day between a dozen and two dozen Marines meet on Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune to practice boxing, not knowing the next time they'll step into the ring to face a real opponent due to COVID-19. They all show up for different reasons - to maintain physique, try something new, become a champion or simply get out of the barracks.

One common thread runs through all the Marines who train for retired Sgt. Maj. Michael Cline, Marine Corps Boxing Team head coach - they want to grow and become the very best they can be.

"Coach ensures these guys know it's not just about being part of the team, but it's about mak-

ing sure you pull the best out of you," said Marine boxer Chief Warrant Officer 3 Victor Vega. "They get an opportunity to lead, but they also get an opportunity to challenge themselves beyond what they thought they were capable of."

Coach Cline utilizes his experience as both a boxer and a coach to form a strong nucleus for the operation.

"He is a motivator," Vega said. "He's going to push you to drive the best out of yourself."

Cline says the number one attribute a boxer must have is heart, because that's where blood flows and passion is found. Boxers also need to understand the meaning of commitment.

"Boxing is not a weekend warrior sport," Cline

said. "It's a commitment, a dedication and a self-motivator."

The ultimate goal Cline has for his boxers is to win an Olympic gold medal for "God, Corps and Country," he said, but even if a Marine has no boxing experience, a spot on the team can be earned if you're driven enough.

Cline also uses various approaches to teach Marines the correct boxing techniques and fundamentals while placing a focus on leadership training and self-discipline so they can have positive impacts on their fellow Marines.

"I have a lot of knowledge," Cline said. "I can't take it with me. All I can do is pass it on."

Marines with serious interest in boxing can text Cline at (910) 265-2710 for more info.



U.S. Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Jesus Rodriguez, right, trains with Cpl. Ramon Matossegura during a Marine Corps Boxing Team practice on MCB Camp Lejeune, May 21.

## Annual DoD WARRIOR GAMES canceled amid COVID concerns

BY CAPT. DANIELLE PHILLIPS

Marine Corps Wounded Warrior Regiment

As the U.S. continues to navigate the challenges posed by the COVID-19 global pandemic, the U.S. Marine Corps and City of San Antonio leadership remain committed to the safety and health of our service members and local communities.

As the lead planners for the 2020 Warrior Games, the Marine Corps announced the decision to cancel the Games, citing the paramount concerns for the health and well-being of the 300 U.S. military active-duty and veteran athletes, international military teams and residents within the greater San Antonio area.

The Games, originally scheduled to occur across multiple sporting venues in San Antonio Sept. 20-28, would have marked the 10th anniversary of the annual competition of wounded, ill and injured service member athletes in 12 adaptive sports. The Marine Corps was selected to host the 2020 Games on behalf of the DoD. International participants originally sched-



Photo by Sgt. Annika Moody

Team U.S. Marine Corps enters the arena at the 2019 DoD Warrior Games opening ceremony in Tampa, Florida.

uled to attend included wounded, ill and injured athletes from the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, Denmark and the Netherlands.

"While the Warrior Games is truly an amazing event for our recovering service members, our top priority has always been their journeys to recovery," said Col. Richard Pitchford, commanding officer of the Marine Corps' Wounded Warrior Regiment. "After careful consideration for all parties involved, canceling this year's Games is the

best option to ensure our athletes and their supporters remain healthy and safe during these times."

The DoD Warrior Games are a part of the larger DoD Warrior Care program. Within this program, a multitude of resources outside of adaptive sports are provided to support service members throughout the recovery and transition process.

"Adaptive sports, while one of the many resources within the Warrior Care program, does play a large role in the recovery of our

service members," said Maj. Leslie Harkness, operations officer of the Marine Corps' WWR and lead planner for the 2020 Warrior Games. "The entire warrior care community is disappointed we cannot provide this specific opportunity for so many men and women who look forward to it every year. We will, however, continue to offer every other resource we can safely provide."

More information about the DoD Warrior Games can be found at [www.dodwarriorgames.com](http://www.dodwarriorgames.com).

## Social distancing protocols in place at recreational shooting facilities



BY CALVIN SHOMAKER  
Sports Writer

The McIntyre-Parks Recreational Shooting Complex on Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune reopened on May 8 after being closed due to COVID-19. Patrons must wear face coverings while indoors as well as maintain proper social distancing.

The shooting complex is home to an eight lane practice archery course with targets from 10 to 50 yards and seven skeet fields with two trap overlays and a five stand overlay. Rental bows and shotguns are available on site.

The base Pistol Range located at F-11A Piney Green Road has reopened as well for authorized

patrons 13 years of age and older; however those under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. There are no rental pistols available yet, but MCCS Recreational Shooting Manager Lou Colon said that could change.

Upcoming recreational shooting events include the \$5 Archery Day Pass deal held on Fridays through July 3, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and the Kid's Archery Day free pass on June 13, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information about recreational shooting on MCB Camp Lejeune, such as rates and base regulations for transporting a privately owned firearm, visit [www.mccslejeune-newriver.com/shoot](http://www.mccslejeune-newriver.com/shoot) or call (910) 451-3889.

# Meet Lejeune High's girls track seniors



Photo by Calvin Shomaker

LHS senior Madison Williams runs a relay event in Lejeune's final meet of the season at home against Croatan, March 12.

## Honoring Lejeune's spring sports seniors

BY CALVIN SHOMAKER  
Sports Writer

We continue our series recognizing Lejeune High School's spring sports seniors with the girls track team who only got to compete in two meets this season due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

We are taking the time to feature these ladies because of the adversity they faced in their final semester of high school and the resilience they've learned as a result. No senior's contribution to their school should go unrecognized, especially during such trying times.



Photo by Calvin Shomaker

LHS senior Isabella Stone throws discus in Lejeune's final meet of the season at home against Croatan, March 12.



### Aubrey Cheek

- Plans to attend East Carolina University to major in music education
- Favorite LHS memory was Junior Prom



### Angelina Heiser

- Plans to attend ECU to major in elementary education
- Favorite LHS memories are the friendships gained



### Kayla Lazaro

- Plans to attend Campbell University on an Army ROTC Scholarship
- Favorite LHS memory was doing the LHS talent show with her mom



### Caroline Morgan

- Plans to attend ECU and major in nursing to become a Registered Nurse
- Favorite LHS memory is being a part of the tennis team



### Georgia Lee

- Plans to attend Abilene Christian University to major in special education
- Favorite LHS memories include going to states



### Kayla Stevens

- Plans to attend Elizabeth City State University to major in social work
- Favorite LHS memories include playing sports



### Isabella Stone

- Member of the 2019-2020 Lejeune High School Cheerleading team



### Hannah Velarde

- Plans to attend Liberty University to major in strategic intelligence
- Favorite LHS memories include participating in powderpuff football



### Madison Williams

- Member of the 2019-2020 Lejeune High School Cheerleading team (Winter MVP)

Photos submitted or by Globe Staff

## Sports on TAP

For more information on games, tryouts, special events and exercise classes around MCB Camp Lejeune and MCAS New River, check out Sports on Tap each week. To add your activity, call (910) 451-7421. Availability is limited to space. To add your event to our website calendar, visit [www.camplejeuneglobe.com](http://www.camplejeuneglobe.com).



### \$5 Fridays Archery Day Pass

Fridays through July 3, 10:00 a.m., to 4:00 p.m., McIntyre-Parks Recreational Shooting Complex, R-100 Old Sawmill Rd, MCB Camp Lejeune  
Special does not include a bow rental. Event is open to all authorized patrons and their guests. Remember to use proper social distancing measures. For more info, call (910) 451-3889 or visit [www.mccslejeune-newriver.com/shoot](http://www.mccslejeune-newriver.com/shoot).

### Globe & Anchor Championship

Saturday, June 13, 9 a.m. to Sunday, June 14, Paradise Point Golf Course, MCB Camp Lejeune

The second tournament in the 2020 Grand Slam Series is a 36-hole stroke play event scored by both gross and net. Cost is \$25 per golfer plus cart and greens fee. The tournament is open to the public and a USGA handicap is required. Register by June 10. For more information, call (910) 451-5445.

### Paradise Point Open

Saturday, July 11, 9 a.m. to July 12 Paradise Point Golf Course, MCB Camp Lejeune

Register by July 8 to compete in this event consisting of two 18-hole rounds scored by stroke play, gross and net. USGA handicap required. Cost is \$25 per golfer plus cart and greens fee. For more info, call (910) 451-5445.

### Base Championship

Saturday, August 22, 9 a.m. to Aug. 23, Paradise Point Golf Course, MCB Camp Lejeune

Compete for a chance to be named the 2020 Camp Lejeune Golf Champion. Register by August 19. Cost is \$25 per golfer, plus cart and greens fee. Tournament consists of two 18-hole rounds scored by stroke play both gross and net. Players must have a USGA handicap. For more info, visit [www.mccslejeune-newriver.com/golf](http://www.mccslejeune-newriver.com/golf) or call (910) 451-5445.

### Marine Corps Half Marathon

Saturday, Sept. 12, 7 a.m. to 12 p.m., Goettge Memorial Field House, MCB Camp Lejeune

This race is a scenic flat run and lends itself to setting personal best records. It's ideal for experienced half marathon runners as well as beginners. This race, which includes a five mile option, is the finale of the 2020 Grand Prix Series Trifecta. Runners who already completed the X-treme Endurance and St. Paddy's Engineer Challenges, and were planning on completing the Trifecta, can still earn the Trifecta medal by completing either the Marine Corps Half Marathon or five mile option. Register early for the best value. For registration info, visit [www.mccslejeune-newriver.com/grandprix](http://www.mccslejeune-newriver.com/grandprix).

## ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



### SGT. JOSH MEDINA



Photo by Sgt. Devin Hester

**Sport:** Wrestling

#### Quick Facts:

- Trenton, New Jersey native
- Bronze medalist in 2019 Pan-American Championships
- Joined the Marine Corps in 2011
- Joined the All-Marine Wrestling Team in 2019
- Two-time Puerto Rican National Team member

#### Q: HOW HAVE YOU BEEN DURING THIS PANDEMIC?

**A:** It was kind of slow in the beginning, but I quickly found my own routine by running more, working out more and eating better. With that extra time I found out different ways I can help elevate my game outside of actually wrestling through my diet and doing yoga. The break I guess was needed to step back and notice different things that could help me out.

#### Q: HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE THE CAMARADERIE OF THE ALL-MARINE WRESTLING TEAM?

**A:** The brotherhood and camaraderie is like no other. It is one of a kind. Every single day whether we are wrestling, lifting weights,

Marine Corps drilling, studying, whatever we are doing is very competitive with this group of guys, but it is a healthy competition. We all put out. We all give the very best that we can.

#### Q: WHAT HAVE YOU BENEFITED MOST FROM BEING ON THE AMWT?

**A:** Getting to meet all these Marines from different walks of life and just being with somebody that cares about being a World Champion and an Olympic Champion as much as I do. It is truly humbling ... From my first day in the practice room I knew that I was going to have to go out of my comfort zone, get out of that bubble and get better today. That was a choice that I had to make within a half a second.

#### Q: WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR PROUDEST MOMENT AS A WRESTLER?

**A:** It's hard to pinpoint that moment because every single day I am running into a wall pretty much, and sometimes the practice is one hundred times harder than the match is. So I am very proud to even make it to the next day of practice when it feels like you are going to die and we are constantly getting pushed to the brink.

#### Q: WHAT ADVICE DO YOU HAVE FOR YOUNG WRESTLERS?

**A:** You need to put in the work, and if you need to join us you need to find us on social media and contact us. Don't stop working out. Don't stop believing. Your dreams might be on a pause right now, but they are not over.

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

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## PART 10

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



Photo by Cpl. Thomas Hermesman

Lt. Col. Christopher Naler, commanding officer, Brigade Headquarters Group, Marine Expeditionary Brigade-Afghanistan, and Sgt. Maj. Ronald Whittington, BHG sergeant major, march down a formation of British soldiers from Normandy Company, 4th Battalion, The Mercian Regiment and 17 Squadron, Royal Air Force Regt, Sept. 29, 2009. British troops along with Marines from BHG created a team who patrolled and secured the areas surrounding Camps Leatherneck and Bastion, known as the Belleau Wood North area.

BY PAT GRUNER  
Managing Editor

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

### Part 10: "It takes a coalition"

2nd MEB-A's genius lay in its adaptability, as reflected in the MEB's Brigade Headquarters Group, air support, civil affairs Marines, Female Engagement Teams and others. Companies that were traditionally called on to perform certain duties were thrown into the deep end with a choice to sink or swim.

Being Marines and Sailors, naturally, they swam. Adapting to those changes as they came, however, was greatly aided by coalition allies.

Traditional cannon companies, like 5th Battalion 1st Marine Regiment, were suddenly operating completely free of cannons. 5-1's Fox Battery commander, then Lt. Col. Bob McCarthy, recalls that transition and working alongside Afghan forces.

"We didn't employ artillery during this deployment," McCarthy said. "This was the beauty of the BHG. 5/10 was a traditional cannon (M777A2) battalion. It was tasked with the BHG mission which included running Camp Leatherneck, providing quick reaction forces, perimeter and internal security, partnering with Afghan Security forces and maintaining security and internal camp functions

at Camp Dwyer. The Battalion quickly transitioned its traditional role and embraced the complexities of the BHG in a short amount of time. This is the great lesson of the BHG - leadership, vision, competence, and flexibility governed the BHG and serves as a great example of how any unit with the right mindset can achieve great things."

Marines were also partially responsible for training Afghan soldiers at Leatherneck, ensuring their marksmanship and physical training.

"We had heard so much about police being corrupt and predatory," said retired Lt. Gen. Larry Nicholson, commanding officer for 2nd MEB-A. "We set up a boot camp of sorts and ensured they had to graduate from our course to serve. We had a 60 percent graduation rate. Leatherneck became the site for training, which we called Leatherneck

Boot Camp, to become soldiers and police. Over six weeks they learned what we saw they needed to be soldiers."

McCarthy believes working with allies was one of the biggest lessons he took away from the deployment, one that all Marines should focus on.

"Coalition Warfare moves at the speed of trust," McCarthy said. "The amount of energy we spent developing, growing, and sustaining our relationships with the British, Afghans, Danes, Estonians, and US Joint Forces was exhausting. I never expected how much of my time would be consumed by those relationships. A fantastic lesson that served me well when I went back to Leatherneck in 2014... You couldn't come in heavy handed and say 'my way or the highway.'"

According to McCarthy, the lessons learned by Marines adapting to new duties is reflected

in the modern Marine Corps as well.

"It is about being able to take core competencies and adapt them to whatever job needs doing," McCarthy said. "For instance, the modern Marine Corps is seeing changes in equipment. We see the cannons being done away with in favor of rocket capabilities. Certain infantry units are shifting their specialties to littoral operations. That is what (then Lt. Col. Chris) Naler (commanding officer for the MEB's BHG) did."

Every Marine and Sailor, from seabees laying marston matting for air strips to women Marines conducting aid missions in Afghan villages, the mission was focused on aiding locals and supporting warfighters. Outside the lines of Leatherneck and Dwyer, Marines were engaging the enemy on their own turf. While the installation provided some measure of security,

infantry Marines were under near constant fire. McCarthy saw the interoperability between Marines inside and outside the lines as a major challenge the MEB faced.

"In the early stages, how do you create the ability to sustain operations between Marines who were eating MRE's and (using the bathroom) in tubes compared to Marines getting three hot meals a day?" McCarthy said. "I think that was a problem Gen. Nicholson had to tackle."

**Editor's Note: Next week's series will shift focus to 2nd Battalion 8th Marine Regiment's time in Garmsir as part of Operation Khanjar. If you or someone you know was part of 2-8, 1-5, or 2nd LAR at this time and would like to share any experiences from the deployment, please contact Pat Gruner at pgruner@camplejeuneglobe.com.**



Photo by Cpl. Michael Curvin

Gunnery Sgt. Charles R. Stephens, future operations chief with Marine Expeditionary Brigade - Afghanistan, refereed two Estonian soldiers fighting each other during Marine Corps Martial Arts Program training, Sept. 4, 2009. Marines conducted training for allied forces during the deployment.



Photo by Cpl. Jennifer Callaway

A Marine infantry instructor at the Afghan National Security Force Academy in Camp Leatherneck, Helmand province assists a recruit executing a low crawl tactical movement technique, Nov. 9. More than 50 Afghans volunteered for the two month long basic training iteration hosted by coalition forces.

# Above-normal hurricane season predicted for local area

## Prepare now, say installation officials

**STAFF SGT. JENNIFER POOLE**  
Marine Corps Installations East

The official start of the Atlantic hurricane season began June 1 and local meteorologists advise Eastern North Carolina residents to be prepared for an above-normal season.

During a webinar held May 21, National Weather Service (NWS) meteorologist Erik Heden and NWS science operations officer Ryan Ellis said the National Hurricane Center (NHC) is predicting an above-normal season.

The NHC is forecasting 13 to 19 named storms for 2020, of which six to 10 may reach hurricane strength, with the chance of three to six major hurricanes.

Many local Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune and Marine Corps Air Station New River residents are still recovering from the damage caused by Hurricane Florence in 2018, which made landfall in coastal North Carolina and passed through Eastern North Carolina.

"To maintain a high degree of preparedness, coordination is always on-going between MCAS New River, MCB Camp Lejeune, surrounding counties and North Carolina's government,

in addition to private businesses and volunteer organizations," said Kert Lang, emergency manager for MCAS New River. "Our decisions and actions are considerate of each other's needs, capabilities and limitations, because disasters, regardless of it occurring on or off base, don't recognize a fence line, and we are all living and working in the same community."

Community members should be making preparations now for the hurricane season.

"Anytime from May onward, we're at risk for tropical cyclones," Heden said. "You (coastal residents) should be ramping up preparations now."

This year, the NWS and NHC have added two new improvements to their hurricane forecasting services.

A 60-hour forecast will be added to hurricane and tropical storm track forecasts and an experimental peak storm surge forecast graphic.

Over the last 20 years, Ellis said from his experience a lot of improvement has been made to forecasting the track of hurricanes and tropical storms.

However, forecasting the intensity of hurricanes and storms is still a challenge.

Heden advised caution when deciding whether or not to evacuate in the face

of an oncoming storm. He cited examples of storms and hurricanes which changed in intensity quickly and unexpectedly.

"We're not the best at intensity forecasting," he said. "We may not have many days to consider evacuating like we did with Florence."

Heden also advised not to focus too much on a hurricane's category stating the category is only measured by the wind speeds and there are other more dangerous hazards produced by severe tropical weather.

"Since 2010, we've had 175 hurricane and tropical storm-related deaths and billions of dollars in damages from Category 1 hurricanes," Heden said. "Water is what kills; 90 percent of the deaths were related to rain and storm surge."

Heden said half of all tropical weather-related deaths since 2016 have occurred in vehicles and encouraged residents to "turn around, don't drown" when approaching roadways with standing water or debris.

"It only takes six inches of moving water to knock an adult off their feet, and only two feet to sweep a vehicle away," Heden said.

Additional hazards such as rip currents, wind and tornadoes can come during

a hurricane or tropical storm, Heden said.

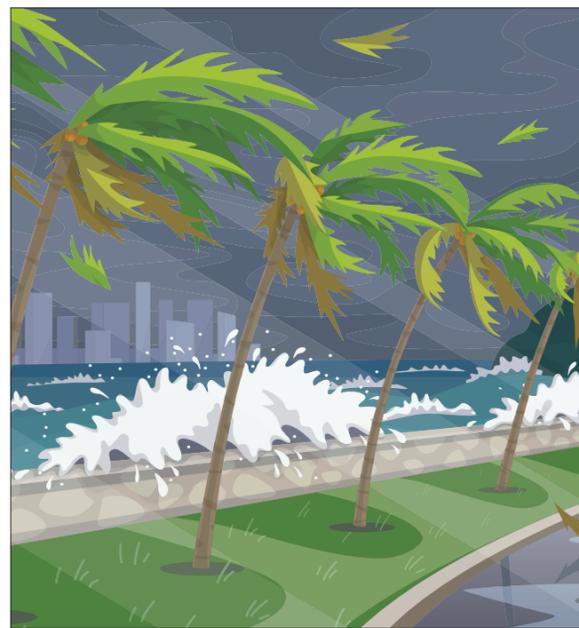
In the event there is a need for evacuation or shelter, base leaders are positioned to support those who may be displaced.

"We are reviewing Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) guidance and planning considerations for managing hurricane response and recovery operations while in a COVID-19 environment," Lang said. "There will certainly be some changes to how we staff and manage shelters, and how we maintain separation of healthy populations from those infected."

To better prepare or stay informed during hurricanes, officials recommend to make a plan and build emergency kits designed for their unique needs, and also prepare for COVID-19 precautions.

"Know where emergency shelters are and have more than one way to receive weather alerts such as battery powered weather radio, TV, weather apps, etc.," said Chris Royal, emergency manager for MCB Camp Lejeune. "Ensure you pack hand sanitizer, soap, and two cloth face coverings for each person."

To lower the risk of spreading COVID-19, shelter preparations include additional cleaning,



the wearing of face mask coverings and temperature screenings.

"Emergency sheltering is one service normally provided on Camp Lejeune for those who may feel the need to relocate for safety," Royal said. "Our shelter teams are planning special precautions to lower the risk of spreading COVID-19, however, individuals and families are encouraged to consider other options such as making arrangements to stay with family or friends where possible."

Officials stress the importance of making preparations now. With

COVID-19 restrictions still in place, media and social media are our primary tools for pushing out up to date information. The ReadyNC.org and Ready.Marines.mil websites offer information to help prepare for destructive weather and many other types of hazards.

"The steps taken now can go a long way toward making what could be a devastating emergency into something much more manageable and tolerable for all of us, and ultimately, protect the force and our collective ability to conduct our mission," Lang said.

## HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

**WATER:** at least one gallon per person per day for at least three days



**FOOD:** nonperishable food to support everyone in the household for at least three days (low sodium canned goods with high liquid content)



**MANUAL CAN OPENER**



**FIRST AID KIT**



**FLASHLIGHT:** one flashlight for every two people in the household



**RADIOS:** Battery-powered or hand-crank, and all-hazards NOAA weather radio



**EXTRA BATTERIES:** sizes and quantities based on flashlights, radios, and other items in kit



**MONEY:** \$100 minimum in local currency, small denomination bills



**WRENCH/PLIERS:** for turning off utilities

**PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS:** enough for at least three days



**PERSONAL SANITATION SUPPLIES:** items such as moist towelettes (one container for every two people in the household), garbage bags, and plastic ties



**DUST MASKS/ COTTON T-SHIRTS:** for every member of the household to help filter the air



**LOCAL MAPS & EMERGENCY PLAN**



**DOCUMENTS:** Important personal and financial documents; printed copies or electronic copies on a durable storage media such as a thumb drive and stored in water-proof container



**POC INFO:** Your command personnel accountability Point of Contact information



# COVID-19

All updates involving MCIEAST and NMCCCL will be posted here:

## ONLINE

- [www.lejeune.marines.mil/](http://www.lejeune.marines.mil/)
- [www.newriver.marines.mil/](http://www.newriver.marines.mil/)
- [www.med.navy.mil/sites/nhcl/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.med.navy.mil/sites/nhcl/Pages/default.aspx)

## SOCIAL MEDIA

- [@camp.lejeune](https://www.facebook.com/camp.lejeune)
- [@mcasnewriver](https://www.facebook.com/mcasnewriver)
- [@NMCCLejeune](https://www.facebook.com/NMCCLejeune)

- [@camp\\_lejeune](https://twitter.com/camp_lejeune)
- [@mcasnewriver](https://twitter.com/mcasnewriver)
- [@NMCCLejeune](https://twitter.com/NMCCLejeune)

## MORE INFO

For additional guidance on COVID-19, please visit [www.coronavirus.gov](http://www.coronavirus.gov)

# Camp Lejeune Girl Scouts announce area top sellers

BY PAT GRUNER  
Managing Editor

Christian Joyce of Jacksonville, NC, is the Camp Lejeune top seller for the 2020 Girl Scout Cookie Program. Joyce sold 2,400 boxes of Girl Scout cookies in the annual cookie program that ended in March.

“By being a Girl Scout and selling cookies I gain a sense of accomplishment from surpassing my personal goals,” Joyce said. “I have learned how to be a successful leader and entrepreneur. It is rewarding to know that my-

self and my fellow troop members can participate in camping, badge work and fun trips because of our hard work.

Joyce also noted that she and her troop have had to adapt to social distancing and other protocols put in place from the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Being a Girl Scout in these trying times has been difficult because we have not been able to have traditional meetings and events,” Joyce said. “We have had virtual meetings and at home activities. As long as we support each other and our community

we will get through this.”

Selling cookies is meant to teach girls the skills of goal setting, decision making, money management, people skills and business ethics while running her own small business.

“The Girl Scout Cookie Program is the perfect opportunity for girls to develop important skills that they will use throughout their life while raising funds to support future leadership endeavors with Girl Scouts,” said Kelly Griffin, product sales director for Girl Scouts – North Carolina Coastal Pines.

Linda Douglass of

Midway Park, NC placed second with 1,260 boxes sold and Anabelle Soto of Tarawa Terrace placed third with 1,216 boxes sold. The 2020 Cookie Program was held January 11 through March 1.

This year, the council collected donations to send over 104,000 boxes of cookies to the military men and women. The project, titled “Operation Cookie Drop,” has delivered over a million boxes of cookies since 2005.

For more information on the Girl Scouts Cookie Program, visit <https://www.ncccoastalpines.org>.



Courtesy photo  
Christian Joyce, the Camp Lejeune top seller for the 2020 Girl Scouts cookie program. Joyce sold 2,400 boxes of cookies over three months.

## ROTC scholarships benefit Lejeune seniors



Courtesy photo

Nathaniel Presson (left) and his brother Dylan pose for a photo in their JROTC uniform. Both brothers have received Air Force ROTC scholarships.

BY SOPHIA HARDING  
Editorial Intern

With Lejeune High School’s military connection and successful JROTC program, it is no wonder that many seniors will be attending college this fall on ROTC scholarships.

James Gardiner, who helps run the JROTC program, reports that eight students had been offered ROTC scholarships. Although the requirements for ROTC scholarships vary slightly by branch and school, they are all highly competitive.

“Each scholarship recipient finished in the top 25 of the class, scored in the top 20% on standardized tests, and maxed (or came very close to max) the service physical fitness test,” said Gardiner.

In addition, candidates must show that they are well rounded by demonstrating excellence in academics and sports, participation in extracurricular activities such as student government, and letters of recommendation. The selection committees for these scholarships interview potential candidates in-person.

“The application process was certainly extensive and time consuming, but entirely worth it. It was very clear that they want to know everything from your high school career,” said Kamrin Wisherd, a Lejeune student who received an Army ROTC scholarship to East Carolina University.

Not only do recipients of ROTC scholarships have tuition and all college expenses paid for, they also

get advantages going into military service.

“They get a head start on their peers based on the military training they received in college and have the opportunity to network while in college and begin to establish their reputation. They also receive pay while they attend college and their time counts towards their overall pay date for their career,” Gardiner said.

“The biggest benefit of my ROTC scholarship is that it takes a great deal of pressure off by offering financial support,” said Nathaniel Presson, who will be attending East Carolina University on an Air Force ROTC scholarship.

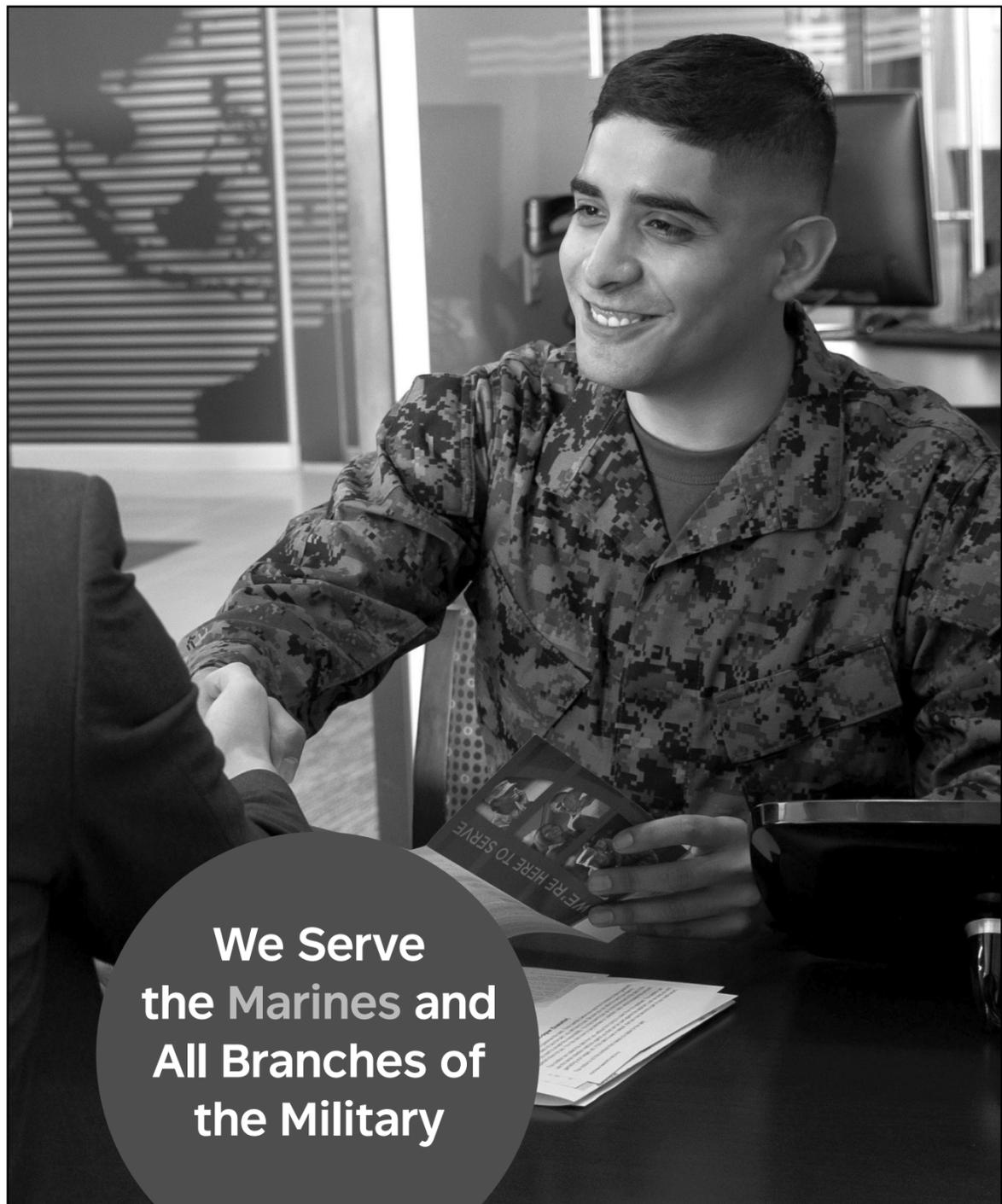
“My Air Force scholarship has given me the ability to go to Texas A&M, which is out of state,” said Dylan Presson, Nathaniel’s twin brother.

Wisherd and the Pressons all give credit to the Lejeune JROTC program for making them competitive applicants for ROTC scholarships.

“JROTC was a great resume booster and helped prepare me for military service,” Nathaniel Presson said.

Maintaining ROTC scholarships throughout college includes keeping up GPAs, attending classes, summer training and maintaining good conduct. Although there are many benefits of ROTC scholarships, the time commitments and the payback period to the military aren’t for everyone.

“Between college and (a career in) the Army, it really determines my next 12 years of life,” Wisherd said.



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