

Marines SAVED ROUNDS



One Source for Info Now Offered

Faced with the job of moving to a new duty station or buying a new car, Marines can now find tips on making the process a little smoother.

Marine Corps Community Services' One Source is a program designed to help Marines find information, guidance and answers to almost any question they may have. Available by phone or Internet, One Source offers tips for personal finance, relocation, education, family support, health and wellness, and many other everyday needs.

The One Source Web site gives the military community a large variety of online references and assistance, while the 800-number provides more personal one-on-one assistance. Each of the services has a One Source program.

Users can also access credentialed consultants via e-mail for assistance. The consultants provide patrons with confidential access to prepaid

educational materials, and other reference resources 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

MCCS One Source provides valuable information about local neighborhoods, schools and colleges to Marines and their families who are moving or would like to learn more about the communities in which they live. One Source also offers resources for finding jobs, creating balanced budgets and finding veterinarians.

To register for MCCS One Source, log onto the www.mccsonesource.com Website using "Marines" as the user name and "Semper Fi" as the password. Users will then be prompted to create a personal profile.

For those inside the Continental United States who wish to speak to a live person, call a MCCS One Source consultant at 800-433-6868. Outside CONUS, call toll free 800-869-02788 or collect at 484-530-5908. **M**

< Need info on a college or maybe daycare? MCCS One Source is the one-click resource to help answer your questions about military life and more.

Making Each Vote Count ... Quicker

The Department of Defense and the U. S. Postal Service are launching a series of initiatives intended to expedite absentee ballots from service members overseas during this year's general elections.

Employees from local post offices across the United States will contact each of the approximately 3,000 county election offices throughout the country to coordinate the mailing of absentee ballots.

County election officials are now accepting voter registrations and requests for absentee ballots. Once ballots are prepared for mailing, local post offices will mail the initial batch of ballots via overnight Express Mail to the three military gateways, San Francisco, Miami and New York, about 30 to 45 days prior to Election Day.

Service members and their families can help the mailing process by following Federal Voting Assistance Program guidelines and requesting ballots by the week of Sept. 6, designated "Get Out the Vote Week" by the FVAP, said Charles S. Abell, principal deputy undersecretary of defense for personnel. By then, "if service members haven't already requested their ballots, that's the week to do it."

After the initial ballot mailings, remaining ballots will be

expedited on a daily basis from local post offices to military gateways. USPS will determine the number of ballots per location at the gateways, sort by destination, and then place in specially marked containers providing visibility to give the highest priority while being transported to their destination.

The Military Postal System will then ensure that ballots are given priority handling at overseas destinations and will attempt to deliver them quickly.

The MPS will ensure each completed ballot is given a proper, legible postmark at the time of mailing. It will place balloting materials in easily identifiable containers to ensure they are given priority in transportation back to the USPS gateways. The ballots will be given priority processing for delivery back to county election officials.

The FVAP has also designated the week beginning Oct. 11, as Overseas Voting Week. "If you vote that week, your ballot should arrive back at your home ... before Election Day, which will qualify your ballot to be counted," Abell said.

Traditionally, military members and their families have exercised their rights to vote at a higher percentage than the general population. All administrations have encouraged military members to exercise their rights to vote. "We don't care how they vote, just so long as they do," Abell said.

For FVAP guidelines and more information on voting go to <http://www.fvap.gov> or the Marine Corps' voting homepage at https://inweb1.manpower.usmc.mil/manpower/mi/mra_ofct.nsf/mrp/Voting+Home. **M**



Photo by Air Force Master Sgt. Jim Varhegyi

One for the Gipper

WASHINGTON — Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. Michael W. Hagee renders honors as President Reagan's flag-draped casket is moved to a horse-drawn caisson by a joint honor guard during the funeral procession from the White House to the U.S. Capitol Rotunda here June 9. Following a service June 11 at the National Cathedral, he was flown back to California for a sunset burial in a private ceremony. President Reagan served as the 40th commander-in-chief from 1981-1989. He died June 5 at 93 from complications of Alzheimer's disease. **M**

LOUD & CLEAR

"Some people spend an entire lifetime wondering if they've made a difference. The Marines don't have that problem."

— President Ronald W. Reagan