

»»» QUARTERLY ISSUE «««

# THE COMMUNICATOR

## ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOME



### A PREMIER RETIREMENT COMMUNITY FOR OUR NATION'S VETERANS

#### AGENCY NEWS



#### ADDRESSING AGENCY BUDGETS

For Fiscal Year (FY) 24, our agency received \$77 million in spending authority, including \$68 million for operations and \$9 million for capital maintenance projects. That is an increase of \$2 million from FY23s for capital projects. The FY25 President's Budget requests an increase for operating funds to \$69.5 million but reduces capital spending authority to \$1 million. The request also includes \$31 million to complete the Sheridan Building renovation.

#### PRIORITIZING DC ADVERTISING

*As we continue to track inquiries made by potential applicants, Public Affairs will be prioritizing outreach for the Washington campus.* The Gulfport campus has consistently maintained about 75% of all interest, and currently has about thirty applicants scheduled for move-in through the end of the calendar year, not including other potential applications that will be submitted in the coming months. With the gorgeous Gulf Coast calling to your fellow retirees, we recognize that our sanctuary in the city hasn't gotten its share of the love!



#### ADMISSIONS UPDATES

# DC CAMPUS

## >>> D-DAY: FREEDOM FROM ABOVE

The Washington campus is honored to lend a Medal of Honor to the National Museum of the U.S. Army for their current D-Day exhibit.

The medal belonged to PVT Carlton W. Barrett for actions in the vicinity of St. Laurent-Sur-Mer, France. Under heavy fire, PVT Barrett return to the surf for several hours to rescue his fellow soldiers.



Barrett retired as a staff sergeant in 1963. He remained reluctant to talk about June 6, 1944, and when asked about it, he refocused the conversations to the heroes who didn't make it home. We're honored to be in possession of his medal and to share his story with the general public.

## >>> TAKING ON CHALLENGES

Hilary Rosado, a Resident and Army veteran, will be in Scotland in June to take part in the Cateran Yomp, an endurance event that challenges participants to complete 22, 36.5, or 54 miles in the Scottish Highlands within 24 hours. Hilary is part of the Allied Forces Foundation (AFF) team which includes veterans from the United States, United Kingdom, France and Ukraine and whose goal is to raise money in support of ill, injured and wounded veterans and their families. Hilary's goal is a minimum of 22 miles. However, she says that simply being able to participate in this physical and mental challenge alongside other veterans will be rewarding enough.

The event will take place on June 8 and 9, but the team will also get to enjoy a variety of cultural activities before and after the event. We'll be checking in with her and providing Facebook updates during the Yomp!!

## >>> PARISHIONERS DONATE

Residents of the Washington campus Catholic Chapel Fund voted to make a significant contribution to the the Archdiocese of Military Service's (AMS) Cosponsored Seminarian Program. All candidates for the Seminarian Program agree to 5 years service as a military chaplain in the U.S. Armed Forces. The Washington campus has gratefully received Catholic services on behalf of the current Chancellor of the AMS who has been voluntarily providing weekly Sunday Mass for the residents since April of 2023. This contribution from the Catholic parishioners' fund was a way to show gratitude for his service and to support the military chaplaincy.



# GP CAMPUS

## THANKING OUR VOLUNTEERS <<<

April was Volunteer Appreciation Month, and we'll never miss an opportunity to highlight the incredible contributions of volunteers at AFRH-G. The volunteer coordinator oversaw 505 volunteers who contributed over 15,000 hours of service to the AFRH-G community. That means on average, a single volunteer performed almost 30 hours of service, or over 3 business days of work.

It's especially important to highlight the residents who make up a large number of those hours volunteering as bingo callers, library assistants, driving escorts, RAC members, etc. The staff are thankful for the goodwill of every resident willing to lend a hand!



## KEEPING UP <<<

Gulfport is home to the Naval Construction Battalion Center, a 1,100-acre Naval industrial complex which houses the Atlantic Fleet Seabees and has been a base of operations for these construction experts since 1942. The Gulfport AFRH campus has a close relationship with the Seabees, a nod to its history as the Naval Home.

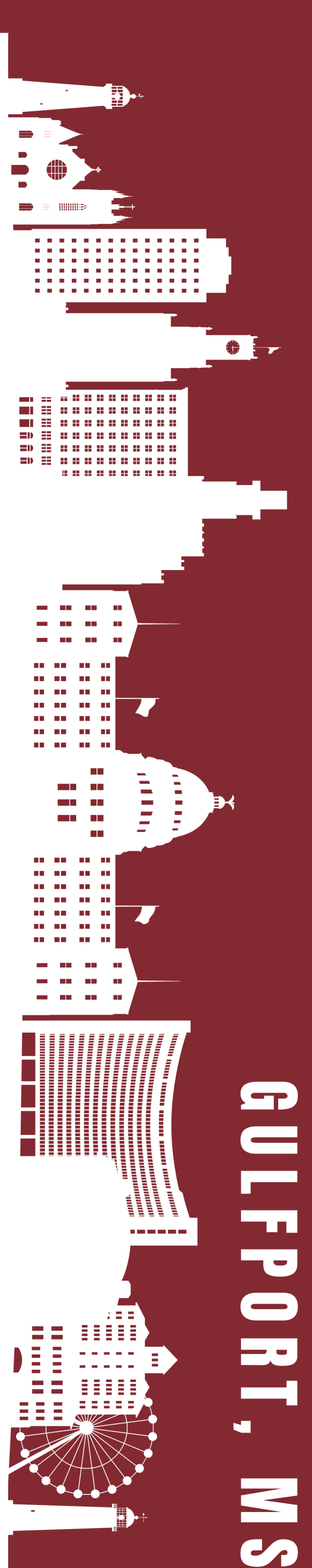
They were notably active during the security and clean-up endeavors following Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Did you know that all military personnel attached to the NCBC during the recovery received the Armed Forces Service Medal and the Humanitarian Service Medal as a result?

The Seabees will be re-affirming that relationship with the campus and our Veterans in May when Seabee veterans meet for breakfast and a tour at AFRH-G during the All Seabee Reunion.

## A VIEW ON RECREATION <<<

Every great organization sees changes in staff, saying good-bye to long-time employees and advocates, and welcoming new ones! Recreation at AFRH-G is blessed with a new librarian who is already pushing for greater resources to the resident community. A new partnership has begun with the Harrison County Library System and their mobile library will now station weekly outside the main building.

The Book Mobile can help residents receive or renew a library card, request new book deliveries, and help with access to technology services. Any bestsellers you'd like to see in e-book form? This is the perfect place to ask!





# OUR LEGACY

## BRAD MARSHALL

### >>> EARLY YEARS

Brad Marshall is one of eight siblings and grew up in a small town in Upstate New York. He started shooting arrows at the age of ten alongside his parents who were avid archers and had archery targets set up in the backyard for practice. He says he derives a competitive streak from attending archery competitions in the summertime.

### >>> PERSONAL LIFE

Brad has won 11 championship archery competitions with recurve and bare bows. He is the current U.S. and World compound barebow champion, and set five IFAA and EFAA records in 1994. He says in his life, he's had 30+ motorcycles and and probably 50 bows, but only one wife. He and Diana have two children, and joke that while they have no grandchildren, they rent them.

### >>> PROFESSIONAL CAREER

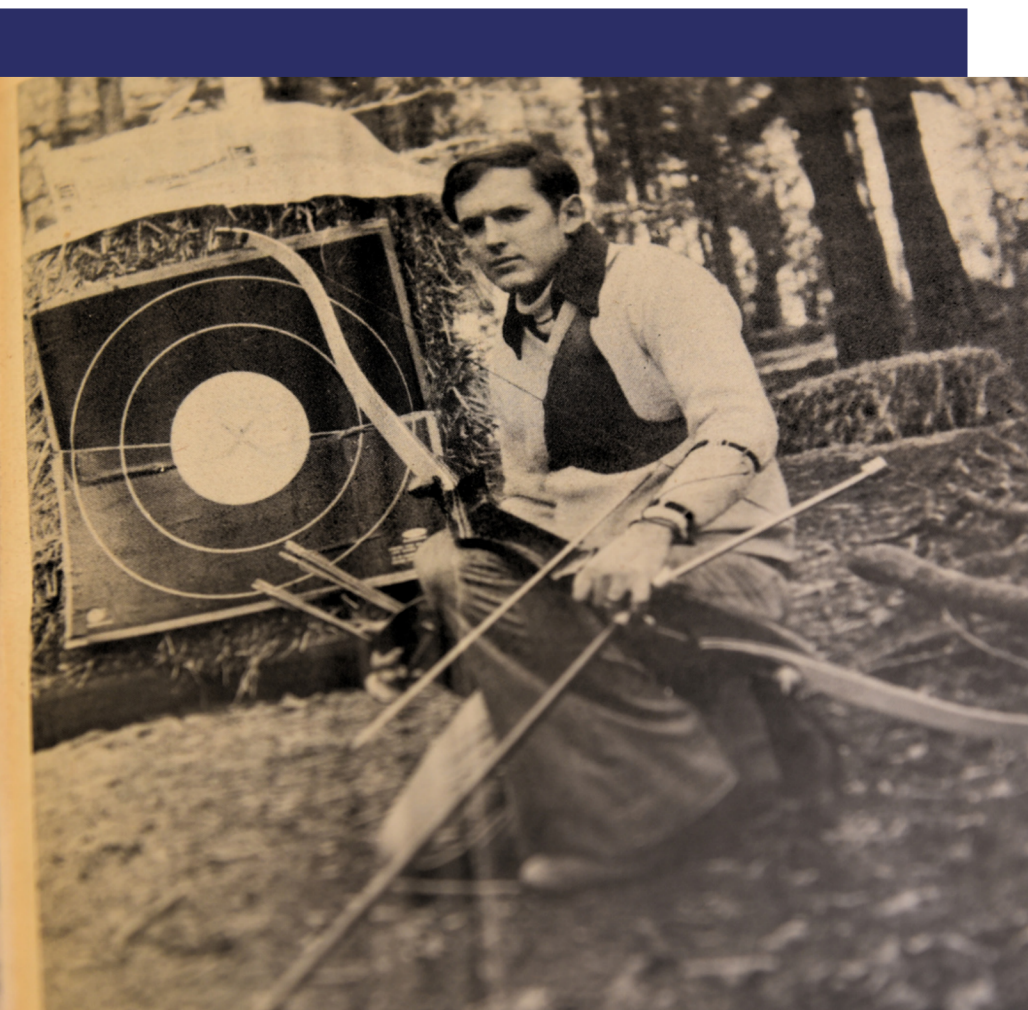
Brad served for 20 years in the Air Force – eight years active duty and 12 years in the guard and reserves. The choice was obvious since many of his family members were airmen and his brother had encouraged him to go into electronics to secure future job opportunities. He served as a crypto maintenance technician, which turned out well.

During his time in the military, Brad was stationed mostly in Europe - Germany and England, specifically. When he left active duty, he secured a job at ICM which eventually was wrapped into division at Lockheed Martin where he worked on a variety of defense programs.

### >>> RETIREMENT

After working for 30 years with Lockheed Martin, and Diana working as a teacher and docent, the Marshalls moved to Arizona where Brad enjoyed golf, archery, and the outdoors in general. When it became time to decide their plans for later in life, it was fortunate that AFRH had changed the eligibility requirements to welcome National Guard and Reserve retirees. With all the outdoor space, it was a no-brainer. Brad toured the campus in April 2023, and they moved to the Washington campus the following August. It turns that in all her years of moving around the world, Diana ended up right where she started – She was born in Takoma Park, MD about 15 minute drive away.

Look out for their upcoming interview on Facebook!





# OUR LEGACY

## DONALD INNIS

By Dan Ellis



### EARLY YEARS <<<

Donald Innis was born December 16, 1939 at Boston, MA to Russell and Marguerite Innis. The family moved to neighboring Hingham, where he first attended a one room school house before entering Lincoln Jr. HS. and then Hingham Highschool, where he joined the Marine Corps Reserves in 1957.

### MILITARY CAREER <<<

Don was assigned to active duty and sent to Parris Island followed by Infantry training at Camp Lejeune, NC where he later reenlisted for three years and, by his choice, was sent to Electronics school in Jacksonville, FL.

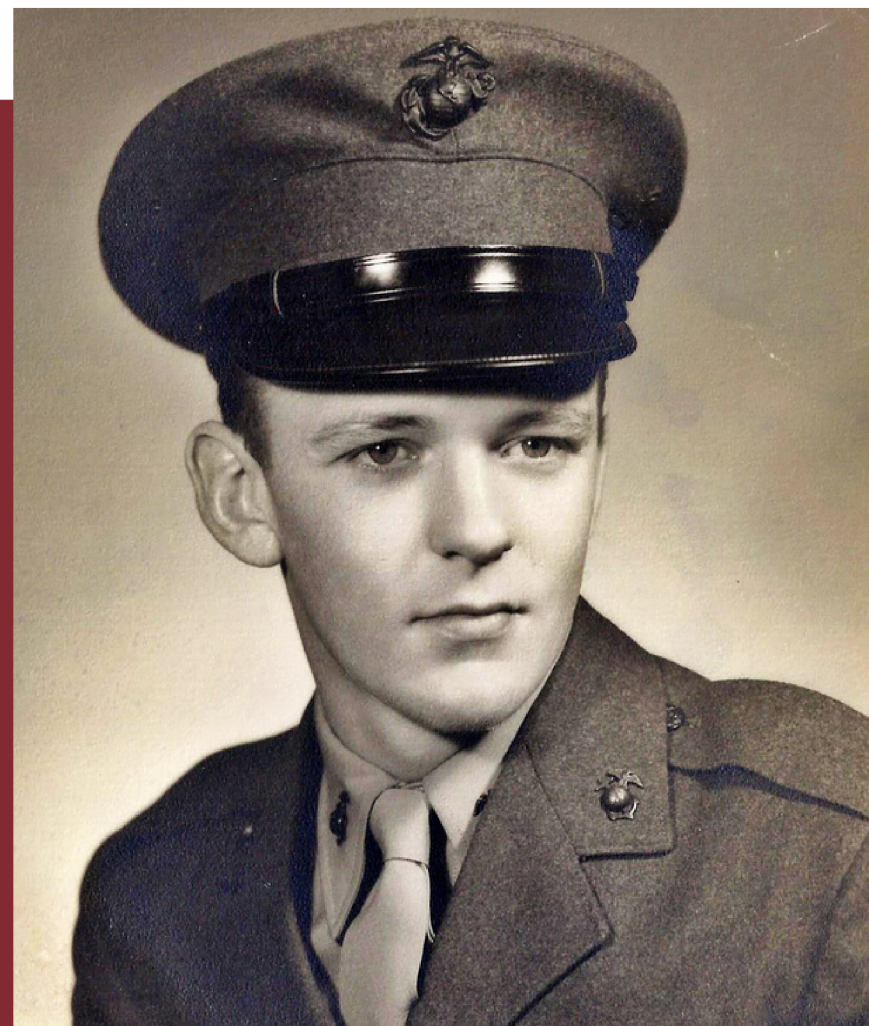
Following the completion of his initial training, he was then assigned to Aerographer training before being sent to Iwakuni, Japan as a Weather Observer. In 1964, Don was sent to Lakehurst, NJ where his schooling and promotion designated him as a professional Forecaster, grade E-5. In 1966, he accepted a commission and set out for Chu Lai Air Base, Vietnam as a Weather officer and Base historian. He promoted to Captain when he returned state-side. This was short-lived however, because several years later, Don was reassigned to Okinawa, where he reverted to E-8.

In his own words, Don stated, "I went from Captain to gunnery Sgt., up to master gunnery Sgt., then 2nd Lieutenant again, then up to Captain again, then I became Director of Meteorology for the U.S. Marine Corps and retired in 1980."

### PERSONAL LIFE <<<

Don became Program Manager for Harris Corp. in Melbourne, FL. where he and his team were part of the launching program that was installed at Cape Canaveral. In 1995, he founded his own business, Innis International, a consulting firm to major electronic companies including the Department of Defense.

In 2006, when his wife, Chris, became ill, he sold his company and became a care-giver until 2019. Don has two daughters, the older succumbed to Covid in 2021.



### >>> RETIREMENT

In October 2023, Don became a resident at AFRH where he spends his time championing his fellow residents. He is also a member of the Yankee Doodles, who promote special and military holidays with parades and observances.



# THANKS FOR READING

DO YOU HAVE A STORY YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE?  
AN IDEA FOR A STORY YOU'D LIKE TO READ?



Send your suggestions! Are you part of a special community group? Did you move to a campus for a specific reason? Are you a staff member working on a project that will create positive change for your campus? We're waiting to hear from you.

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Or see the public affairs specialist at your campus!