



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
MARINE HEAVY HELICOPTER SQUADRON 461
MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 29
2D MARINE AIRCRAFT WING, U.S. MARINE CORPS FORCES COMMAND
POSTAL SERVICE CENTER BOX 21013
JACKSONVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA 28545-1013

IN REPLY REFER TO
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1 May 15

From: Commanding Officer, Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 461
To: Marines, Sailors, Significant Others, and Family Members

Subj: WELCOME LETTER

1. Welcome to the Ironhorse Family! The mission of Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 461, "Ironhorse", is to provide assault support transport of heavy equipment, combat troops, personnel, and supplies during expeditionary, joint or combined operations. To facilitate our difficult mission, we must rely heavily on a strong and growing Family Readiness Program. This program provides you with squadron information and access to a myriad of locally available resources. If you are a family member or significant other of a Marine or Sailor, I consider it vitally important to keep you who support our Marines informed. You are also a key member of our HMH-461 Family. Our Family Readiness Program also includes Family Readiness Assistants that are HMH-461 family members. They volunteer their time, helping us bring a touch of family to our unit. If you are interested in becoming involved in this aspect of Family Readiness, then please contact the Family Readiness Officer (FRO). Our FRO, Judy Robinson, will provide you with:

- Official two-way command communication
- Information and Referral services
- Readiness and Deployment Support

If you have any questions, or need anything, please contact Judy Robinson at (910) 449-6020 or email judy.robinson@usmc.mil.

2. I would encourage you to consider registering for a **Lifestyle Insights Networking Knowledge Skills (L.I.N.K.S.)** session. **L.I.N.K.S.** is a tremendous program that teaches Marines, spouses, parents, family members, and significant others about life in the Marine Corps. **L.I.N.K.S.** sessions provide information and tips on a host of things such as base services, moving, deploying, pay, understanding your Leave and Earning Statement (LES), and Marine Corps history and traditions. **L.I.N.K.S.** sessions are taught by Marine spouses who, because of their own experience, are able to provide a firsthand look at Marine Corps family life from the spouse perspective. It doesn't cost anything, childcare is free, and it will make your Marine Corps experience much more enjoyable and fulfilling. Please call Marine Corps Family Team Building at (910) 450-1464 for more information. [Http://www.mccslejeune-newriver.com/mcftb/](http://www.mccslejeune-newriver.com/mcftb/)

3. For Single Marines, We will be keeping you informed on all activities that the Single Marine Program (SMP) has to offer. You can find information at the following link <https://www.mccslejeune-newriver.com/smp/index.html> or call the MCAS New River SMP office at (910) 451-4642. There are always things to do, places to go, and people to meet!

4. Additional parts of our Family Readiness Program are our weekly E-News, information line, and eMarine social network. All of these include information on upcoming events, Family Readiness opportunities, and general goings-on within the squadron and in the community. The weekly E-News will be sent by email and will be available on eMarine. Please ensure that we have accurate e-mail addresses and that you are registered for eMarine so that we can "keep you in the loop."

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5. My wife and I are excited to have you aboard. Families are important to us - our direct family, our extended family, and our Marine Corps family. We welcome you to our Ironhorse family. We are proud of those who support the Marines and proud of the Marines/Sailors volunteering for this right and honorable calling, the defense of our Nation. You are truly our Nation's most precious resource. If there is anything we can do to facilitate your transition to HMH-461, please let us know. Also, feel free to browse our website at <http://www.mag29.marines.mil/MAG29Units/HMH461/FamilyReadiness.aspx>

S. T. TRENT