



Special Commemorative eNews Magazine-Archival Pictorial Edition
Office of the National Commandant

The National Frontlines

Vol. I Issued VI
MMXX



Uncommon
Valor
Indomitable Spirit

A Montford Point Marines of America, Inc. Headquarters Publication



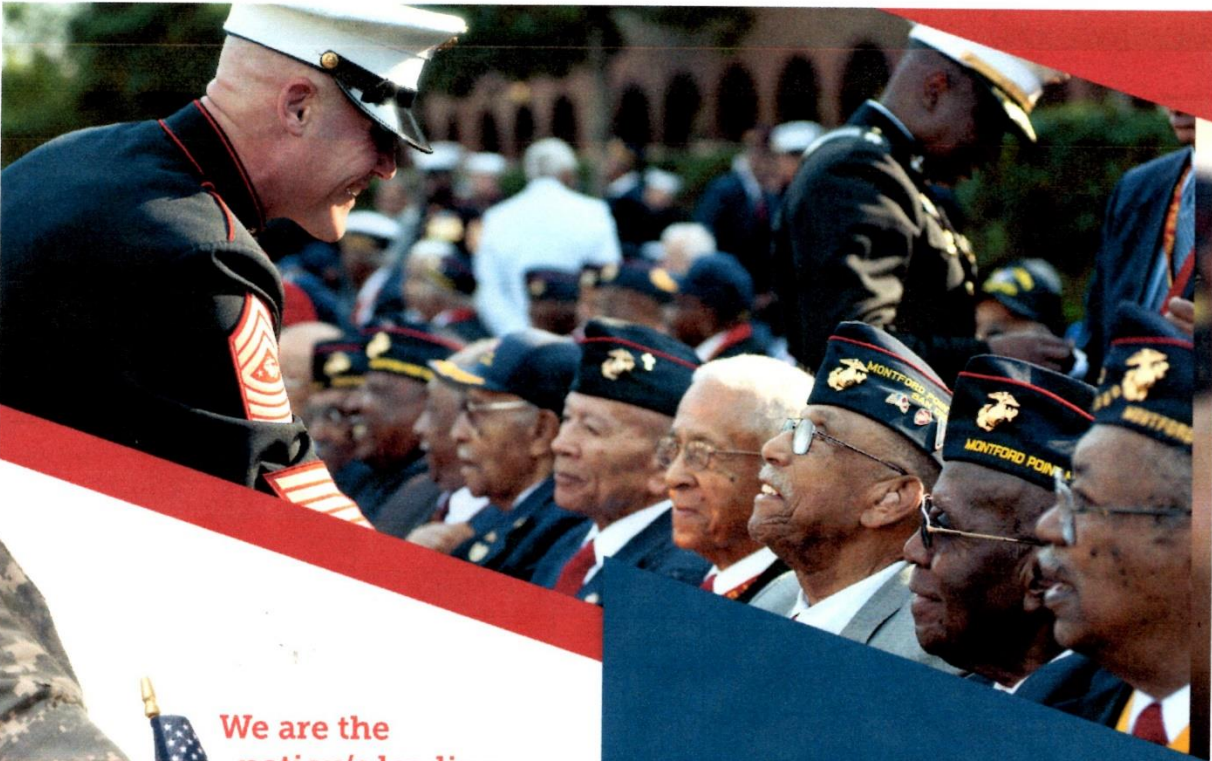
Robert B. Middleton, II
Commandant
National Headquarters
Detroit, MI

ABOUT THE COMMANDANT

Previously an enlisted non-commissioned officer in the United States Marine Corps from 1967 -1972, and served in Southeast Asia in Republic of Vietnam (1968-69). Assigned to 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines, 3rd Marine Division, Forward Air Command and Forward Logistic Command specializing in telecommunications. Coordinated fixed-wing airstrikes and artillery missions in I Corps, Northern Vietnam near the Demilitarized Zone. Participated in the notorious Operation Dewey Canyon where U.S. Marines seized the largest cache of enemy munitions during the Vietnam War. Survivor of two Tet Offensives also having his unit overrun by a North Vietnamese Sapper Squad in the Ashau Valley near the Cambodian and Laotian Border and the Ho Chi Minh Trail. After Vietnam assigned to 1st Battalion, 6th Marines, U.S. Mediterranean 6th Fleet in Middle East until 1970. Merits and combat awards include Combat Action Ribbon, Presidential Unit Citation, Vietnam Gallantry Cross, Navy and Marine Corps Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, National Defense Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, and the Meritorious French Fourragere. In February, 2020, was inducted into the ranks of the prestigious Marquis Who's Who in America.

Commandant's Quote

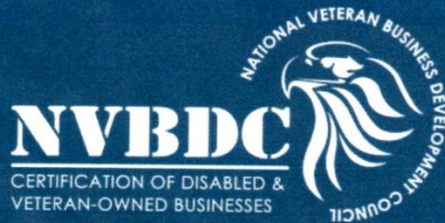
The red carpet of freedom is not colored with dye, but the blood of death and sacrifice. It is often disregarded by those who have paid the least and reaped the most. §



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Letter to Membership and Friends

MPAM has provided this special publication for the purpose of promoting camaraderie and solidarity amongst our members and friends nationwide who promote and preserve the rare Montford Point Marine history and share its heritage.

Coronavirus Pandemic

Also, in response to the recent corona virus outbreak, the Montford Point Marines of America is particularly concerned about its members and pray that everyone is healthy and safe. We encourage you to please follow all governmental mandates and protocols for the purpose of combating COVID19. You should note that we have been successful in streamlining our business and administrative operations at this time that include video conferencing in lieu of face-to-face monthly meetings as we attempt to combat the coronavirus. Coffee and Conversation phone and video conferencing has been added to our mode of activities to better interact with our members and friends being affected during the pandemic period. Due to necessary precautions of COVID19, our scheduled 11th Annual National Heritage Military Banquet for June 28, 2020, has been postponed. Our membership and friends will be informed of forthcoming developments.

Salute to Healthcare Professionals and 1st Responders

We take a solemn pause to recognize, salute and honor those in the healthcare industry and many other workers on the frontlines of combating COVID19 that risk their lives daily in caring for infected patients and unseen others that undergird our society and the economy during this crisis.

Disaster Response Training

About 4 years ago, the Montford Point Marines of America established Emergency & Disaster Survival Intelligence Training Academy/Tactical Survival Crisis Management Unit to train members and volunteers on how to prepare and respond to disasters. Recently, we have offered two video webinar training courses entitled (Part I) Disaster Psychology and Mental Health in the Face of Crisis, and (Part II) Outlook: Probabilities in a Post-Pandemic Society that offers a certificate of training upon completion of the course.

Caveat: High COVID19 Death Rate among African-Americans

According to news sources, special task forces are being created around the nation to investigate high death rate among African American due to glaring disparities in COVID19 deaths. One Registered Nurse with 35 yrs. experience in the medical profession revealed that Black people often present differently to medical staff than most other races. Many low income persons use Emergency Walk-ins at local hospitals because they do not have a personal physician or insurance. No one knows how many have been turned away from receiving urgent care. She stated that patients are presenting with, with Malaise and muscle pain as opposed to fever, cough, and difficulty breathing that conform to usual COVID19 screening guidelines. Black men are reporting a significant loss feeling of well-being and uncomfortable muscle pain. She stated that once this occurs, it means that blood clots are being to form in the lungs and other parts of the body. They are largely being misdiagnosed and sent home where they die after going to sleep. The CDC misstated that COVID19 is transmitted by people coughing and sneezing and touching contaminated surfaces. On the contrary, it is transmitted by inhaling the fine mist after someone talks or breathes and attacks the linings of the eyes and nose.

2020 Event Update: Unfortunately, the 11th Annual National Military Heritage Banquet scheduled for June 28, 2020, at Burton Manor in Livonia, MI has been postponed until further notice.

Montford Point Marines of America

Presents

11th Annual National Heritage Military Banquet

& Awards Ceremony

A Legacy of Tradition

Sunday, June 28, 2020



Guest Speaker

Honorable Lieutenant Commander (USN-RET)

Carlos C. Campbell

Former Assistant Secretary U.S. Dept. of Commerce

Burton Manor Banquet & Conference Center

27777 Schoolcraft Rd.

Livonia, MI 48150





NVBDC RECOGNIZED AS THE AUTHORITY ON VETERAN IDENTIFICATION

DETROIT, MI, UNITED STATES, -- Service qualifications, specifications, along with the federal laws and codes to determine the exact requirements to earn the title of Military Veteran is not as easy as most people think. U.S. Veterans Magazine, the leading Veteran business magazine, recently published the article “What Qualifies Someone as a Veteran,” by Keith King, Founder and CEO, National Veterans Business Development Council (NVBDC). Keith outlines in the article the code for Veteran status qualification. “The article also reinforces misconceptions about the definition of a Veteran. It takes an expert to define “What is a Veteran,” and NVBDC has built a program with the acumen to uphold these standards. The significance achieved by NVBDC validates our status as the expert” said Brigadier General (ret) Dick Miller, NVBDC President. NVBDC identified the need for credible certification that met the industry standards of America’s leading corporations for Service Disabled and Veteran Owned Businesses (SD/VOBs). Established by Vets, NVBDC addressed the growing need to identify and certify both SD/VOBs in the corporate marketplace. NVBDC certification is recognized and accepted by America’s leading corporations who support SD/VOBs diversity spend opportunities within their procurement practices. The acceptance of NVBDC as the only veteran certification organization to meet the Billion Dollar Roundtable (BDR) “audit standards” and match their mission to drive supplier diversity excellence reinforces their authority. Once NVBDC certified, SD/VOBs have the opportunity to access Supplier Diversity programs and corporations have the assurance that their certification is credible. NVBDC Corporate Members rely on the opportunities to connect with NVBDC certified SD/VOBs to fulfill their supplier diversity goals. Keith King was named one of Diversity Plus “2019 Top 30 Champions of Diversity” as another testament to NVBDC’s

expertise. Diversity Plus highlights, “Supplier Diversity is not a social program. When put into practice, it is a principle that drives economic growth, strong communities, business success, and a more equitable world.” A primary goal of NVBDC is to bring together SD/VOBs and Supplier Diversity Professionals to build business relationships. It is imperative to the growth of a veteran owned business to take advantage of these opportunities. NVBDC offers networking events, educational sessions, 1:1 matchmaking, “Veteran Business Mentoring Program, and onsite training, further validating their market leadership. NVBDC has also been named the primary source on the distinguished Crain’s 2020 Book of Lists ranking Veteran Owned Businesses. NVBDC is proud to be a trusted source by Crain’s and their use of NVBDC data to create the list is confirmation of our status as the RECOGNIZED AUTHORITY ON VETERAN IDENTIFICATION.

Visit the NVBDC website: www.nvbdc.org





Detroit Competitor seeks to Undercut Brodhead Naval Armory Renovation Plan

Detroit ---*The Brodhead Naval Armory, built in 1930, served as a training center and barracks for Michigan's military reserves until it closed in 2004. It is a hidden architectural jewel which was known for the largest collection of federally-funded Depression-era artwork of any building in the state, with its opulent painted murals, plaster relief carvings, and elaborate wood designs that covered 100,000 feet of space. For over 70 years the building stood as an intrinsic part of Naval and Marine Corps History and is the site of Joe Louis's first boxing exhibition in the 1930s. The Brodhead Armory also serves as a monument to black history and supports Detroit's reputation as the Arsenal of Democracy.*

A group known as the Broadhead Association, founded in 2018 by retired Naval Commander Jim Semerad, proposed a \$multi-million plan to the City of Detroit to acquire and renovate the building for use by the community, businesses, and various veterans organizations. After two years of substantial research and investigation into the property, it was discovered that there had been no other parties interested in the property for decades. However, about a month ago, a competitor arrived on the scene expressing an interest in the Brodhead building offering \$37 Million to renovate the building and demolish almost 40% of the structure to build an addition that would serve as a storage facility. About 90% of the building's historic value is in the section slated for demolition. The Brodhead Armory was designated a Michigan State Historic Site in 1980 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1994.

National Commandant, Robert Middleton, of the Montford Point Marines of America, headquartered in Detroit, states that; "due to the historical significance of the Brodhead Armory, our organization is unequivocally opposed to a plan to demolish any part of the historic structure. It has contributed significantly to the military heritage of our city and has continued for generations to serve as a source of deep pride and morale for the veteran community." Veterans over the past few years; have maintained the upkeep of the external premises of Brodhead Armory, at their own expense.

The Montford Point Marines of America; recipients of the Spirit of Detroit Award, supports Mayor's Duggan's vision to increase the city's population and enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Detroit. This goal also applies to the 27,847 veterans who are living in the Detroit community. Ranking military officials and veteran's organizations share the mutual sentiment; that preservation of the Brodhead Armory would promote the image of a "veteran friendly" Detroit. The city should have incentives to attract veterans and their families to start businesses, get jobs, purchase homes and raise families, that in turn would contribute to increasing population growth while bolstering the economy. Detroit should capitalize on attracting the substantial groups of veterans that are transitioning out of the military to civilian life and leaving Iraq and Afghanistan. Middleton also states; "why risk sending the wrong message to veterans who could potentially help re-populate the city of Detroit? According to the Census Bureau, Detroit will close the decade in 2020, without having realized a gain of new residents and continues to bleed residents at an alarming rate. Nearly \$30 Billion in federal funding comes to Michigan annually, and is based upon population data. Why not invest in quality of life for our military members? Middleton also states that he has been part of a six-year endeavor that has opened a \$80 Billion market for veteran businesses to contract with Billion Dollar Roundtable corporations around the United States. Veterans are getting millions of dollars in contracts and we want to attract them to Detroit and retain them as progressive citizens. The veteran community has made a strong appeal to the City of Detroit to keep Brodhead Armory intact and allow it to revert to use by the veteran's community for renovation and restoration. In the best interest of Detroit, it would send a clear message to veterans that city government is committed for the long term to honoring their distinguished military service and sacrifice.



Marine Corps Orders Removal of Confederate Paraphernalia

Washington – The highest-ranking officer in the US Marine Corps has ordered Confederate-related paraphernalia to be removed from all Marine installations. The order from Commandant Gen. David Berger was one of several initiatives he prioritized for “immediate execution” in a memo sent to senior leadership last week, Marine Corps spokesman Capt. Joseph Butterfield told CNN.

The [flag of the Confederacy](#), its symbols and the statues commemorating Confederate leaders have long divided the country. Critics call the flag a symbol that represents the war to uphold slavery, while supporters call it a sign of Southern pride and heritage.

The symbols have increasingly become a rallying call for white supremacists. The [Military Times released a poll](#) showing 36% of troops who responded said they personally witnessed examples of white nationalism or ideological-driven racism in recent months. Poll participants reported witnessing not just racist language and discriminatory attitudes, but swastikas being drawn on service members’ cars, tattoos affiliated with white supremacist groups, stickers supporting the Ku Klux Klan and Nazi-style salutes between peers, according to the Military Times.

The Story of Marine Major Jim Capers, Recon Master Diver



Jim Capers was born August 25, 1937 in South Carolina to a family of sharecroppers in the Jim Crow era. He joined the Marine Corps in 1951 during a time bitter racial unrest only 14 years after the Marine Corps had integrated in 1941 and being drafted not too long after the Tuskegee Airmen and Montford Point Marines. Joining the U.S. Marine Corps was the start of a legendary career where he overcame obstacles and broke racial barriers on and off the battlefield and later become one of the greatest Marine to ever wear the uniform. He appeared on an official Marine Corps promotional campaign poster entitled “Ask A Marine” in 1971.

While serving, Capers joined the elite Force Recon Group, one of the Marine Corps Special Operations Forces after failing to be recruited on this first attempt. He was an martial artist and demolitions expert and progressed on to parachute school where he broke training records as one of the best swimmers in the Marine Corps, later becoming a ‘frogman’ Master Diver and to lead top secret dive missions in Vietnam. Major Capers became the first African-American command a Marine Recon Company and the first enlisted Black Marine Officer to receive a battlefield commission. Major Capers and his Recon Team were frequently selected to participate in the most secretive and dangerous combat missions in Vietnam. While serving in the Corps, he participated in 64 long range reconnaissance patrols and five major combat operations campaigns in Vietnam.

In April, 1967, Jim Capers and his 9 member Recon Team were ambushed by the North Vietnamese Army where everyone was wounded, including himself who body was riddled with a dozen pieces of shrapnel to his abdomen and legs earning him the Silver Star and the Purple Heart. Although he had been recommended for the Medal of Honor he was downgraded to a Silver Star that remains to be a subject of debate and controversy. After his tour in Vietnam Major Capers joined in numerous covert Cold War operations as a field agent in Eastern Europe and Africa that remain classified until this day.

In 2010, Major Jim Capers Jr. was one of only 14 members inducted into the inaugural class of U.S. Special Operations Command’s Commando Hall of Honor at a ceremony in front of USSOCOM Headquarters at MacDill Air Force Base. Major Capers continues to be recognized as a pioneer in Recon training tactics that are still used by Special Operations forces around the globe. A great book that every combat Marine should read in “Faith Through the Storm: Memoirs of Major Jim Capers.



Nurse Warns Stay Home: Avoid Uncomfortable Ventilator Experience



The paragraphs below were written by a nurse who works with ventilators: Here you go folks... for those people who don't understand what it means to be on a ventilator but want to take the chance of going back to work....For starters, it's NOT an oxygen mask put over the mouth while the patient is comfortably lying down and reading magazines. Ventilation for COVID-19 is a painful intubation that goes down your throat and stays there until recovery or death.

It is done under anesthesia for 2 to 3 weeks without moving, often upside down, with a tube inserted from the mouth up to the trachea and allows you to breathe to the rhythm of the lung machine. Patients can't talk, eat, or do anything naturally - the machine keeps you alive. The discomfort and pain they feel means medical experts must administer sedatives and painkillers to

ensure tube tolerance for as long as the machine is needed. It's feels like being in an artificial coma. After 20 days from this treatment, a young patient loses 40% muscle mass, and gets mouth or vocal cords trauma, as well as possible pulmonary or heart complications. It is for this reason that old or already weak people aren't able to tolerate the treatment and die. Many of us are in this boat ... so stay safe unless you want to take the chance of ending up here. This is NOT the flu. Add a tube into your stomach, either through your nose or skin for liquid food, a sticky bag around your butt to collect the diarrhea, a foley to collect urine, an IV for fluids and meds, an A-line to monitor your BP that is completely dependent upon finely calculated med doses, teams of nurses, CRNA's and MA's to reposition your limbs every two hours and lying on a mat that circulates ice cold fluid to help bring down your 104 degree temp. Anyone want to try all that out? (Source:)

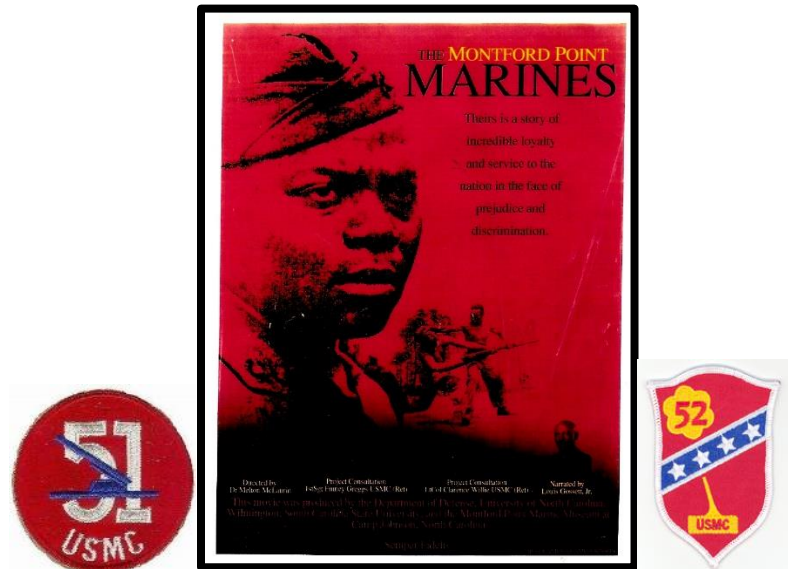
*<https://www.healthline.com/health/ventilator#takeaway>
(Courtesy of the Hon. Theodore R. Britton)*

FBI Urges Vigilance During COVID-19 Pandemic



*As the United States and the world deal with the ongoing pandemic, the FBI's national security and criminal investigative work continues. There are threats you should be aware of so you can take steps to protect yourself. Children are at particular risk for exploitation by hackers and scammers as they spend more time online while schools are closed during the mandated lockdown. Additionally, adults and senior citizens are spending more time online and being exposed to scammers and fraud relating the COVID19. Citizens are encouraged to report COVID-19 Fraud to the National Center for Disaster Fraud hotline at 866-720-5721 or submit an online complaint [justice.gov/DisasterComplaintForm](https://www.justice.gov/DisasterComplaintForm). You may also report it to the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center at [ic3.gov](https://www.ic3.gov) or contact your local FBI field office or submit a tip online at [tips.fbi.gov](https://www.tips.fbi.gov). Protecting civil rights and investigating hate crimes remain a high priority for the FBI. Use the resources on this page to help keep yourself and your family safe from these and other threats. (Source:) <https://www.fbi.gov/coronavirus>
(Courtesy of Brent Williams)*

The Montford Point Story: A Story of Uncommon Valor & Indomitable Spirit



Click here to visit the Montford Point Marines of America website:
www.montfordpointmarinesamerica.org

The WWII Montford Point Marines received the Congressional Gold Medal June 2012, awarded by President Barack Obama and the 112th U.S. Congress on Capitol Hill, Washington, D.C.



Founder & President Emeritus

GySgt. Henry L. Baul, co-founder and President-Emeritus of the Montford Point Marines of America (MPAM); is the 5th African-America in the nation to be inducted into the Marine Corps during WWI at 8th & I St., Marine Corps Barracks, Washington, D.C. Mr. Baul is currently age 97 and resides in Detroit, MI. Mr. Baul a part of the legendary first platoon (#1) the first Black Marines to set foot on the segregated Camp Montford Point, New River, Camp Lejeune, N.C. which later comprised the first Platoon, of the Mighty 51st Defense Battalion. As pit crew chief of the 40mm and 90mm Anti-Aircraft weapons, his crew surpassed all gunnery training records in Marine Corps History. In 2008, Lt.Gen. Ronald S. Coleman held a special recognition ceremony on behalf of Henry L. Baul at the Evening Parade, Marine Corps Barracks, 8th & I St., Washington D.C. Mr. Baul, and two other legendary Montford Point Marines of the WWII era; Joseph Burrell, and Edsel Stallings together incorporated the organization as Detroit Chapter #19 with the Montford Point Marine Assn. (MPMA) in May, 1991, because initially the Marine Corps League did not accept blacks. However, some years later, because of years of gross irregularities, Chapter 19 succeeded from MPMA and reorganized as the Montford Point Marines of America, (MPAM) an independent 501 (c) 3 tax exempt nonprofit in 2014, and under new leadership continues to preserve the rare history of the legendary WWII Montford Point Marines.

Membership in the Montford Point Marines of America is open to the public and members of all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces

A RARE HISTORICAL MEMOIR

The late famed Hollywood Actress & Singer Lena Horne, danced with Marine Henry Baul at a night club performance in Los Angeles in 1945

Recording Artist/Jazz Vocalist, much like her great aunt Lena Horne, reconnects a 74 yr. thread of history when she invites Montford Point Marine CDR Robert Middleton to her nightclub performance in 2018.



Marine GySgt. Henry L. Baul, the 5th Black to join the Marine Corps in 1942, becomes the founder of the Montford Point Marines of America in Detroit.

Robert Middleton, CDR/Montford Point Marines of America learns about the Lena Horne experience from Henry Baul and crosses paths with Kimmie Horne at the Aretha Franklin tribute concert at Chene Park in 2018 where he shares this story with Kimmie Horne.

The lives of several iconic figures are found to be intrinsically woven together through a rare historical thread of destiny that transcends the labyrinth of human encounters over a period of 74 years. When this happens, according to Chinese philosophers, it usually has a significant or major story connected with it, thus, and so it is!

It is discovered that Jazz Vocalist Kimmie Horne and Commander Robert Middleton are connected to two other iconic figures that crossed paths in similar fashion 74 years ago in Los Angeles California. The story goes like this. Famed Hollywood Actress/Singer, Lena Horne and Marine Henry Baul (one of the nation's first Black Marines (a.k.a. Montford Point Marines) connected in the 1940's when she observed a rare group of Black Marines in uniform just returning from the Pacific War Theater. Mrs. Horne then invited them to her table in a club in which she was performing. Lena Horne asked Mr. Baul to have a dance with her, an experience he has never forgotten at the current age of 95.

Over many decades, had Mr. Baul chosen to reside in a city other than Detroit, Mr. Middleton never would have met and chances are that the two of them never would have joined together to form what is now the Montford Point Marine of America, where Mr. Baul continues to actively serve as President-Emeritus. Mr. Middleton now serves as National Commandant of that organization.

Furthermore, if Kimmie Horne, had resided in a city other than Detroit, chances are that Commander Middleton never would have gotten to know her personally, either. Not to mention had she never been born or had chosen to be a Jazz Vocalist like her great aunt Lena Horne. Moreover, had Commander Middleton choose another path besides his involvement with the Montford Point Marines, he may have never met Mr. Baul or been involved with the historical Montford Point Marines. Then, as fate would have it, this story could have never been told. However, Kimmie's destiny seems to have been to carry the Horne DNA back into the path of the Montford Point Marines, 74 years later. And Mr. Middleton's destiny seems to have been, to bring the Montford Point Story to Lena Horne's offspring.

On Christmas Eve, December, 2018 Kimmie Horne invited Mr. Middleton to a Jazz Club in which she was performing and offered him the microphone to tell the audience about her Montford Point Marine connection that extended back to 1945. Only, in recent years did Commander Middleton learn the story about Henry Baul being invited to Lena Horne's table and danced with her. Naturally, Mr. Middleton was compelled to share the story with Kimmie Horne when they crossed paths in August, 2018 backstage following the Tribute to Aretha Franklin concert at then Chene Park in Detroit. The major event in 1945 was the ending of WWII (September 2, 1945). The major event in 2018 was the death and tribute to the "Queen of Soul" Aretha Franklin that took place on August 30, 2018 (almost exactly 74 yrs.). What's even more ironic, is that Mr. Baul and Mr. Middleton live within a few blocks from one another, and Kimmie Horne performs regularly at the Aretha Amphitheater, very close to where both Mr. Baul and Mr. Middleton live!

Hollywood actress Lena Horne was well known for her tours of the USO circuit during WWII, entertaining military personnel. Famed Recording Artist/Jazz Vocalist Kimmie Horne is also performing for military personnel at the 10th Annual National Heritage Military Banquet on June 23, 2019. Commandant Middleton has made Kimmie Horne an Honorary Legacy Member of the Montford Point Marines of America, where this rare history will forever be archived.

Divine providence exceeds historical co-incidence, where a matrix of fleeting phenomenon are often very difficult to capture. But tonight at the 10th Annual National Heritage military Banquet, destiny and history will converge when Kimmie Horne will ask Henry Baul to dance just like her great aunt Lena Horne did in the 1940's. This is "living the legacy"!!!



Hosted by the Montford Point Marines of America, Inc. 501 (c)3

2018 National Annual Heritage

Military Banquet & Awards Ceremony

Theme: Heroes of Democracy



Keynote Speaker & Author
Major General James E. Livingston USMC-RET
President of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society



Guest Speaker
Ambassador Theodore R. Britton, Jr.
Honorary Consul of the Republic of Albania

Sunday, June 24, 2018
Burton Manor Banquet & Conference Center
27777 Schoolcraft Rd.
Livonia, MI 48150

THE HISTORIC MONTFORD POINT MARINES

Presents



11th Annual National Heritage
Military Banquet
& Awards Ceremony



BURTON MANOR BANQUET CONFERENCE & EVENTS CENTER
27777 Schoolcraft Rd, Livonia, MI 48150

www.montfordpointmarinesamerica.org

★★★★★

President-Emeritus Henry Baul being serenaded by Detroit's International Recording Artist Kimmie Horne (Below) as did the late Hollywood Actress and songstress Lena Horne did in 1943 at a night club in Los Angeles, CA after returning from the Pacific War Theatre. Black U.S. Marines were a rare sight in the 1940s. This photo was taken June 24, 2019 at the 11th Annual National Military Heritage Banquet. - Compliments Smile4Me Photography)





Coping with the Pandemic: Firearms Safety and Precautions

The COVID-19 pandemic has forced each of us to recalibrate and redefine the things that are important. Many activities and products that we once enjoyed will forever be altered as we come to discover what a new normal will look like. Social distancing and wearing masks in public are social habits that are likely to remain with us in some form.

Prioritizing needs and wants will be different for many people, but especially so for those who have lost loved ones, and those whose personal economy has been impacted by job loss and the shuttering of small businesses. Close to 85,000 Americans have succumbed to the unrelenting virus, and 36.5 million Americans have applied for unemployment since the outbreak hit the United States (as of May 14th, 2020). As law enforcement agencies are stretched thin and step down enforcement of some crimes, and as some prisoners are released from confinement, firearm ownership and the need to defend self and family has also become a part of the new normal for many Americans who would never have made such a purchase during previous circumstances.

An estimated 4.3 million firearms have been sold since March, a 70 percent increase year-over-year (as of May 5th, 2020). Doubtless, many of these purchases were bought in the panic of not knowing what can happen moment to moment during the pandemic. Naturally, the increase in firearms sales has resulted in a spike in demand for training, but social distancing requirements and stay-at-home orders have shown to be a roadblock for many new gun owners. All first-time firearm owners should seek whatever training they can from reputable, credentialed instructors and sources. The National African American Gun Association, US Concealed Carry Association, National Rifle

Association, and host of state and local organizations can provide these resources. In lieu of in-person training, here are some basic steps that new gun owners can take to be safe with their firearm.

- 1) *Know the Universal Firearm Safety Rules and memorize them*
 - a. *Treat every firearm as if it's loaded when handling it, at all times*
 - b. *Keep your finger off the trigger until you've made the conscious decision to shoot*
 - c. *Never point the firearm at anything you aren't willing to destroy*
 - d. *Always be certain of your target, and know what's in front of, around, and behind it.*



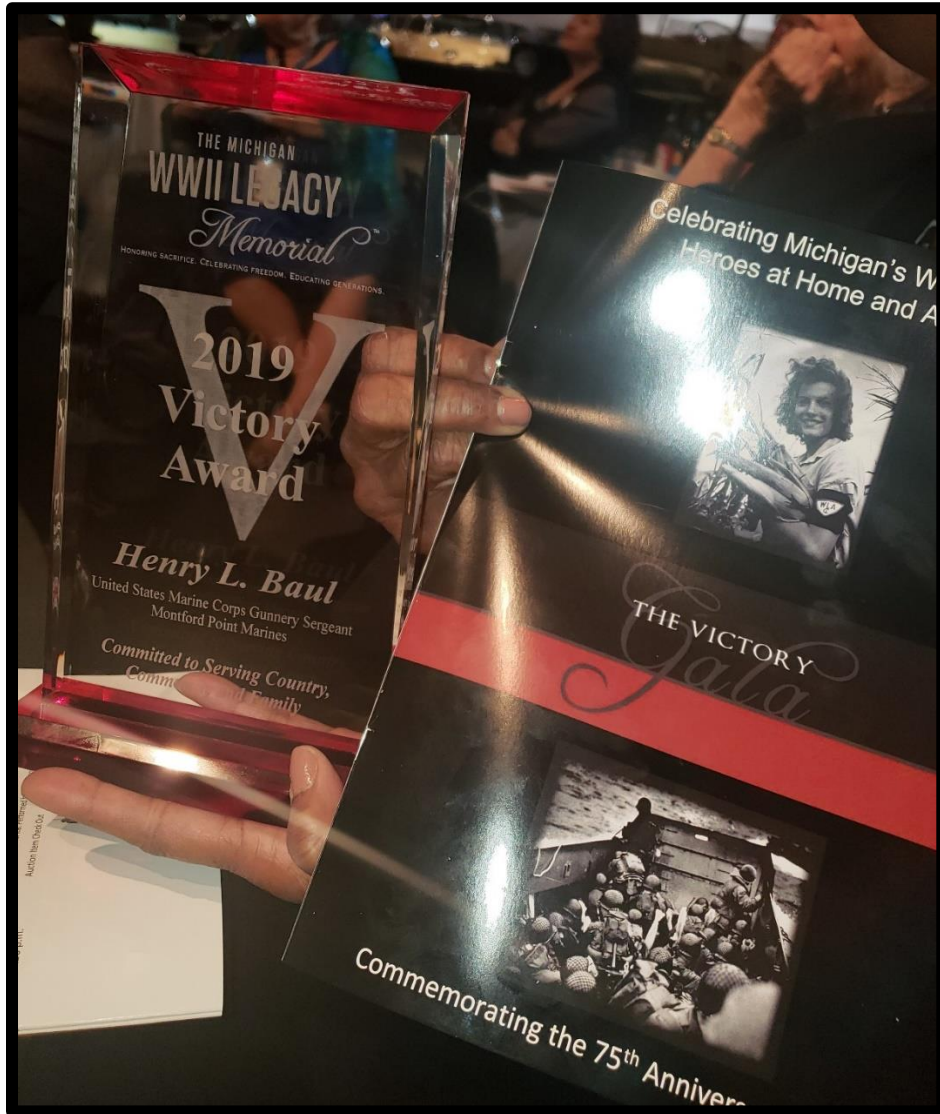
HONORS AND RECOGNITION

Hon. Ambassador Theodore R. Britton, Jr., Mother Theresa Humanitarian Medallion



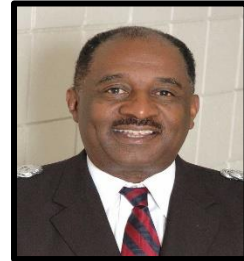


GySgt. Henry L. Baul Receives the 2019 Michigan WWII Legacy Memorial Victory Award





Eddie Ellis, Band Director, Allen University, Columbia, South Carolina is awarded the 2020 James E. Stewart Sr. Distinguished Torch Bearer Humanitarian Award by the Montford Point Marines of America. James E. Stewart Sr. was a notorious Civil Rights Activist and served on the National Board NAACP for twenty 24 years, and a WWII Montford Marine.



Eddie Ellis,
Band Director,
Allen University,
Columbia, South Carolina

The Montford Point Marines Of America 2020 James E. Stewart Sr. Distinguished Torch Bearer Humanitarian award is awarded to Mr. Eddie Ellis. This Humanitarian Award is given as a premier Award and presented at the Montford Point Marines Of America Annual Heritage Military Banquet in Detroit, Michigan Sunday, June 28, 2020.

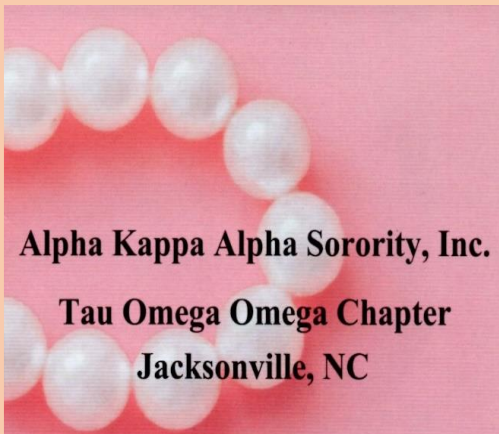
James E. (Jimmy) Stewart's life was a reflection of his burning passion for equality. He aggressively led the fight for equality with his twenty-four years on the National Board Of the NAACP and fighting for justice in Oklahoma and the nation.

This beautiful ten-pound immaculate crystal award honors, Mr. Eddie Ellis, for his scholarly instruction, humanitarian service, innervated influence, and groundbreaking achievements in the music world. This recognition is given to individuals or groups who have distinguished themselves by meritorious direct lifetime actions, with service to humankind.






*Deerena Vanderberg 2020 Debutante Cotillion, daughter of
Clint & Alfreda Carmichael, Montford Point Marines
Assn. #10, Jacksonville, NC.*



Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
Tau Omega Omega Chapter
Jacksonville, NC

2020 Debutante Cotillion



Dreena Vanderburg
Daughter of
Clint & Alfreda Carmichael

Dreena Vanderburg

A Sophomore at Jacksonville High School will soon participate in the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority 2020 Cotillion Debutante. She has a 4.0 GPA in the International Baccalaureate Program and is determined to graduate with same high honors.

She an avid sports athlete and plays year around in such activities as the JASA U16 Soccer Team, High School Soccer. Volleyball, and Basketball. She gives back to her community as a volunteer to Top Soccer that helps special needs children participate in sports, and she is a member of the Student Government Association. She plans to attend Duke University for studies leading to a PhD and M.D. as a Psychiatrist.

The Montford Point Marines of America, Inc. gives her our most sincere and best wishes as she continues to pursue her lofty academic and professional goals. Also, Dreena’s parents; Clint and Alfreda Carmichel deserve much credit for producing such a rising star who will one day impact the world.



Capt. Danielle Morrison USAF, MD., Age 26



A Shining Star

Danielle Morrison, MD, Capt., USAF, a child prodigy born in Japan, and speaks fluent Japanese and Spanish. As a youth was President of the National Music Honors Society, National Honors Society, National Music Honors Society, First Chair Classical Flautist, and accomplished Classical Pianist for the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and Civic and Philharmonic Youth Ensemble. Graduate of Vanderbilt University, and given a four year Vanderbilt Chancellor full-tuition Scholarship and named Vanderbilt's Curb Scholar. Was Debutante at the Inaugural Debutante Cotillion, Graduated as a medical Doctor from the Emory School of Medicine and later earned her Post-Graduate degree M.D.-PhD in Biomedical Engineering and Reconstructive Plastic surgery. She is Spanish-to-English Translator for the Latino Mission Society of Detroit, MI.

She is a Certified PADI Open Water Scuba Diver and licensed pilot with single engine land aircraft. She is Life member of the Gilbert Cargill Chapter of the Black Pilots of America. Her grandfather is a member of the Montford Point Marines of America.



ROBERT B. MIDDLETON, II



The National Commandant of the Montford Point Marines of America was awarded the Sgt. Clyde J. Wilson Warrior's Award on September 11, 2019 at the 5th Annual Warrior's Trust Fund Gala in Farmington Hills, MI.

Also, in January 2020, Commander Middleton joined the prestigious ranks the Marquis Who's Who in America, whereas he has been approved as a subject of biographical record which is limited to individuals who possess professional integrity, and demonstrates outstanding achievement in their respective fields and have made innumerable contributions to society as a whole.

We congratulate Mr. Middleton for his lifelong dedication to excellence with perseverance, and preserving the rare history and legacy of the Montford Point Marines of WWII.

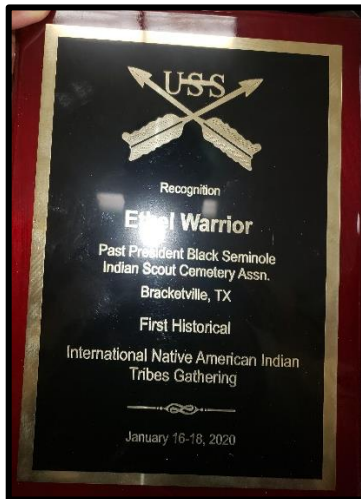




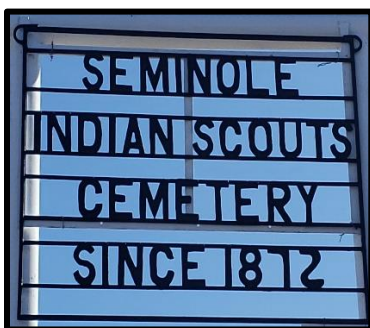
CHIEF WILLIE WARRIOR



Willie and Ethel Warrior are direct descendants of the Seminole Negro Tribal ancestry of the John Horse Band that migrated from Florida by way of the historical Trail of Tears to Naciminto, Mexico during the Indian Wars from 1848-1911. Chief Warrior is Tribal Elder and descendant of John (Ward) Warrior, Seminole Negro Indian Scout for the U.S. Cavalry, and Medal of Honor Recipient who is buried at the Seminole Indian Scouts Cemetery in Bracketville, TX where Ethel is Past President of the Seminole Negro Cemetery Assn.



In January, 2020 Chief Willie and Ethel Warrior were honored at the First Inaugural International Native American tribal Gathering in Del Rio, Tx, where various tribes convened from all over the United States and Mexico. The event was organized by Thomi Lee Perryman of the Warren Perryman Research Foundation.



Awards were presented to Chief Willie and Ethel for their life long work in preserving the history of the Seminole Negro Tribe. The awards were presented by the Montford Point Marines of America, where Chief Willie Warrior is an Honorary Member as well as his niece Carolyn Warrior.

WALL OF FAME



Ambassador Theodore R. Britton, Jr. USMC WWII
Honorary Consul General of the Republic of Albania



Mayor David N. Dinkins USMC-RET
WWII
Former Mayor City of New York and
author of the book,
"A Mayor's Life"



Major General USMC-RET.
James E. Livingston
President of the
Medal of Honor
Society



WALL OF FAME



Lt.Gen, Frank E. Petersen USMC-RET
1st Black Aviator in the U.S. Marine Corps.
Author of, "Into the Tiger's Jaw"



Lt.Gen. Ronald S. Coleman USMC-RET
The 3rd Black Lieutenant General in the U.S.
Marine Corps.



Chief Willie Warrior Tribal Elder
Seminole Negro Tribe John Horse Band and
descendant of John (Ward) Warrior, Medal of
Honor Recipient of the Black Seminole Scouts
24th U.S. Infantry, in 1875.



MajGen. J. Gary Cooper USMC-RET
1st Black Marine commissioned officer to
command a Rifleman Infantry Company in
Vietnam. Former U.S. Ambassador to Jamaica.

Reflections on Change, by Ambassador Theodore R Britton, Jr., Montford Point Marine, January 1944 to May, 1946.

When I first met Colonel Kenneth D. Dunn, I was reminded of an old Baptist Preacher who, on meeting a certain dignitary, said: "I didn't know who you was, but I knew you was **somebody!**" This Naval Academy graduate exuded command and authority. Thus, when he asked me to write an article for *HardAnkle*, the words "yours not to reason why" quickly came to mind..... and I began writing! This periodical, by the way, is published by black graduates of the U. S. Naval Academy. Dr. Dunn is it's president.

But, write about what? The answer came from two high-ranking African-American veterans of the Vietnam War who talked to me after a speech I gave on that sad conflict. It may be that their perspective centered on the war itself with 58,000 Americans killed, countless wounded and missing, maybe personal losses too traumatic to remember. To them, nothing had changed. I respected their views and offered my support if they wished to seek changes in our country, and military. If we are to have a "more perfect union" as our Declaration of Independence suggests, change is always a means to that end, I assured them.

My service began as a Marine in the second World War. Although about 14% of the wartime population, the Marine Corps resisted every effort to accept African Americans into its ranks, including me. We were sent to a nondescript, segregated river-bottom area of southern North Carolina, to become known later as Montford Point Camp. We were trained to perform near menial duties and denied promotion or command over any white Marine. We men of color had to excel, in order to prevail. And we did!

While written and verbal orders were circulated to demean the efforts of we "Montford Pointers", circumstance and exigencies of combat lead us to the front lines. Many of the white Marines who looked down on us Stateside, found themselves looking up to us as we carried their horribly wounded and/or deceased bodies to safe areas for burial or medical attention. It was an inspired officer who suddenly realized that front-line Marines would have fewer casualties period if they allowed sharpshooting African American Marines to join in fighting our tough enemies. Few World War II combat awards were pinned on us despite our heroics. We have since been awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, and a Navy ship has been named in our honor. The country has changed and continues to change.

In the modern-day Marine Corps, our successors have frequently risen to the second highest rank in the Corps: Lieutenant-General. They have commanded both the First and the Second Marine Division. James L. Johnson, Jr., a Montford Pointer, became an Assistant Secretary of the Navy, with responsibility for Marine Corps Affairs. Others have served in late years as Deputy Commandant. Notably, African American women were not allowed to enlist until 1949. One now serves in the ranks of General. As Maya Angelou wrote: Still we rise.

The Vietnam War was perhaps the first in national history where the USA fielded one American military rather than many separated into units based on race. Service has been assigned based on rank, competency, and factors other than race. My fellow Montford Marine Chapter member Master Gunnery Sergeant Edward Sutton commanded battle tanks in Vietnam, always with mixed crews. First Sergeant Charles Gamble, received multiple purple hearts. Lastly, our fellow member John Sims is rarely seen wearing his Silver Star, due to his modesty.

During two of its most brutal years, 1967 – 1969, five African American Marines performed deeds that earned the Medal of Honor. A sixth, Sergeant Major John Canley, was awarded the Honor after Vietnam ended. His mostly white comrades mounted a campaign to have his Navy Cross upgraded to the Medal. Marine officer J. Gary Cooper became our first combat officer, with Bronze Star and Purple Heart honors in Vietnam, later rising to Major-General. Army officer Colin Powell, Vietnam veteran, later rose to full General, and the country's first African American Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff. It may well be that the services of Generals Cooper and Powell, and hosts of others, including the Colonels who see no change, helped their fellow Americans to elect an African American president. To me, anyone who served in Vietnam, including my friend Marine Captain Tom Howe, is my hero and helped to bring about present-day changes.

Having been born in 1925 when the country had no African American Members of the House of Representatives, the Senate, White House, or perhaps even State and City governments, I have seen and still see change. Many shared my pride as fellow Montford Point Marine, David N. Dinkins, was elected Mayor of New York, my home city, in 1989.

Perhaps I've seen more change because I've seen more of our country, 49 of the 50 states. Maybe it's because I've served under seven presidents, in some of its' highest positions. One of our most successful presidents, then a candidate, invited me to breakfast, thanked me for my service, and invited me to help him govern the country, if elected. I did.

I have many reasons to be proud of the changes in our country, including personal honors. One unforgettable honor still rings in my ears. It was my introduction to the Head of State of Barbados. My life began in South Carolina as the son of a poor African American mother and father where courtesies to people of color were rare, if ever.

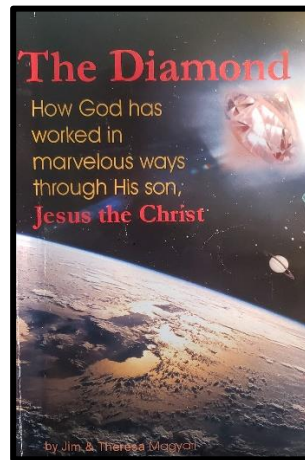
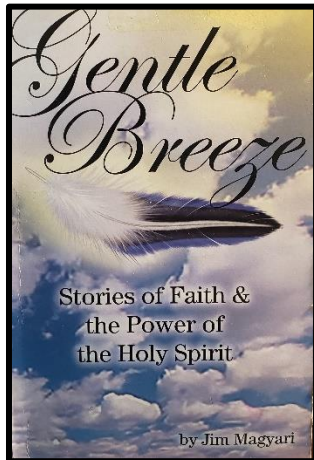
Now, years later, I stood erect as the Governor General of Barbados introduced me to the Head of State, Queen Elizabeth II. I had been accredited to the Queen by President Gerald R. Ford as his Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary. Thus, Sir Winston R. Scott's six well-chosen words will always remain with me. He said: "**Your Majesty. His Excellency. Mr. Britton.**"



Chaplain's Corner, Ebooks, & Inspiration

We are sorry to announce the passing of National Chaplain, Dr. John Saba in December, 2019, who served with distinction on behalf of the Montford Point Marines of America. He was a man of immense faith and a true servant of God who devoted much of his life to serving the poor and homeless for decades, whose prophetic anointing inspired many. Dr. Saba taught us that the most noble profession is that of saving lives and ministering to the souls of the needy.

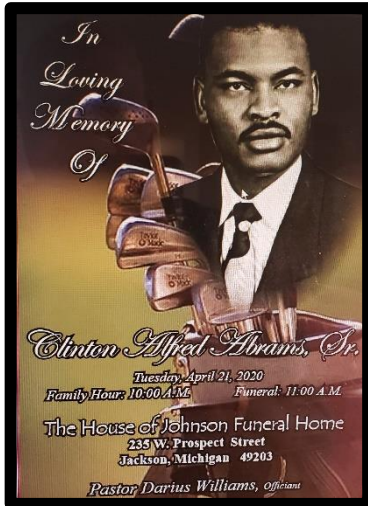
Inspirational Books and Authors



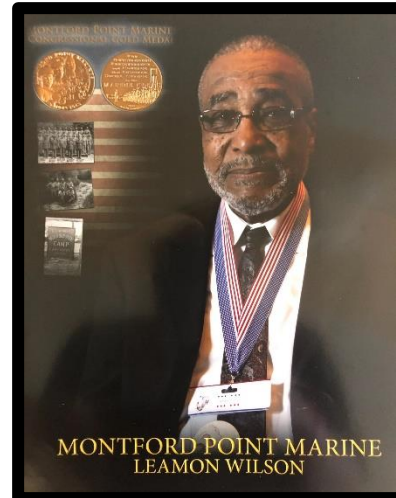
Call for your free copy; Author, Jim Magyari at 313.295-7782



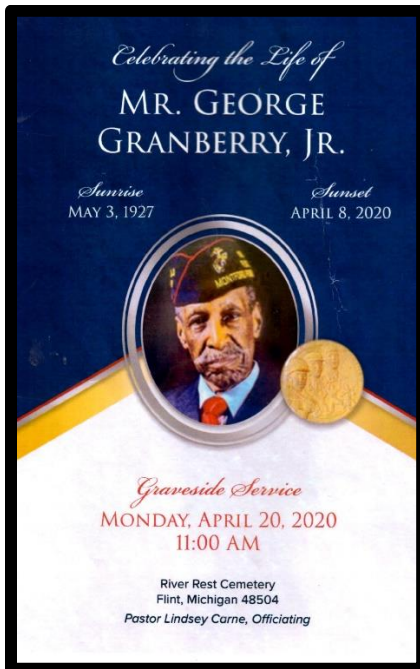
Memorials & Obituaries



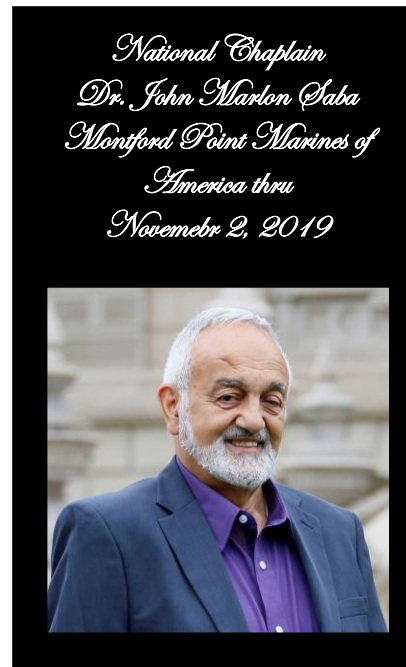
Clinton Alfred Abrams
WWII Montford Point Marines
April 10, 2020



Leamon Wilson
WWII Montford Point Marine
April 11, 2020



George G. Granberry, Jr.
WWII Montford Point Marine
April 8, 2020





Donations, Gifts, Wills & Bequest

You can continue the legacy of leaving a gift to the Montford Point Marines of America by making a gift at the current time, or in a will or estate plan. Your planned gift to the Montford Point Marines of America will be invested to support our mission to Honor and preserve the rare history of the WWII Montford Point Marines, today and for many years to come.

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Simply go to our website at www.montfordpointmarinesamerica.org and go the donation page and select the desired options. We appreciate your support in helping to preserve the history and legacy of the Montford Point Marines.

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Montford Point Marines of America

Mail to:

CDR Robert Middleton

c/o Montford Point Marines America

1 Lafayette Plaisance #912

Detroit, MI 48207



Wills & Bequest

Include a bequest to the Montford Point Marines of America in your will or revocable trust

- *Name the Montford Point Marines of America as a beneficiary of your life insurance policy*
- *Designate the Montford Point Marines of America as a full, partial or contingent beneficiary of your retirement account, such as an IRA, 401(k), 403(b) or pension.*

Bequests can be made in several ways:

- ***Percentage bequest*** – *make a gift of a percentage of your estate*
- ***Specific bequest*** – *make a gift of a specific dollar amount*
- ***Residual bequest*** – *make a gift from the balance or residue of your estate*

Simply include the Montford Point Marines of America as a beneficiary in your will or trust. Your charitable bequest is one of the easiest ways that you can leave a gift that will make a lasting impact. With the help of an attorney, you can include language in your will or trust specifying a gift to be made to family, friends or the Montford Point Marines of America as part of your estate plan, or you can make a bequest using a beneficiary designation form.

- *Receive an estate tax charitable deduction*
- *Reduce the burden of taxes on your family*
- *Leave a legacy*

Gift of Stocks and Bonds

A gift of appreciated securities, including stocks or bonds, is an easy way for you to make a gift to the Montford Point Marines of America

Potential benefits of a gift of stocks or bonds

- *Avoid paying capital gains tax*
- *Receive a charitable income tax deduction*
- *Enjoy possible increased income*

Make a Gift Today by Electronic Transfer.

It's easy. Please contact us for delivery instructions to make a transfer from your brokerage account to the Montford Point Marines of America brokerage account.

Wills & Bequests (Cont'd)

Gift of Retirement Assets

A gift of your retirement assets, such as a gift from your IRA, 401(k), 403(b), pension or other tax deferred plan, is an excellent way to make a gift to the Montford Point Marines of America. If you are like most people, you probably will not use all your retirement assets during your lifetime.

Potential benefits of gifts of retirement assets

Approximately 60 %- 65% of your retirement assets may be taxed if you leave them to your heirs at your death. Another option is to leave your heirs assets that receive a step up in basis (such as real estate and stock) and give the retirement assets to the Montford Point Marines of America. As a charity, we are not taxed upon receiving retirement plan assets.

How To Leave Retirement Assets

Your retirement assets may be transferred to the Montford Point Marines of America by completing a beneficiary designation form provided by your plan custodian. If you designate the Montford Point Marines of America as beneficiary, we will benefit from the full value of your gift because your IRA assets will not be taxed at your death. Your estate will benefit from an estate tax charitable deduction for the gift.

Inform you lawyer, estate planner, financial consultant, or investment advisor that you intend to leave a bequest from your estate in your Last Will & Testament to the Montford Point Marines of America. If you already have a will, simply advise them that you want to add your wishes in a codicil to your will.



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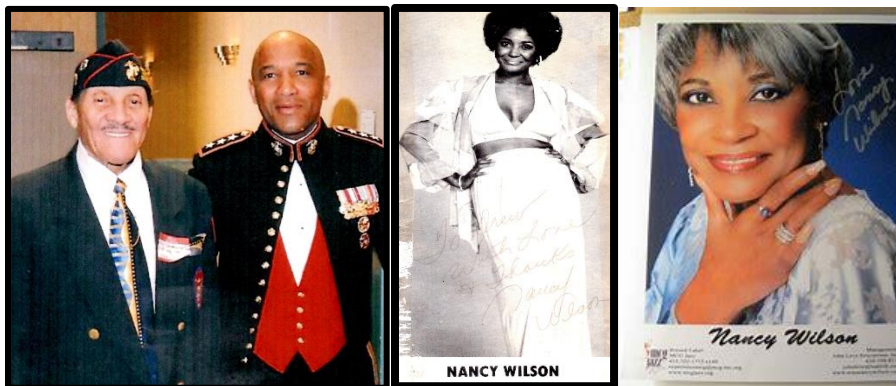
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Nostalgic Roots in Jazz

WWII Montford Pointer, Andrew Evans of Detroit, Michigan was a Jazz Drummer that played in ensembles that included the late world renown Jazz Artist, Nancy “the Baby” Wilson. Commandant Middleton says that Andrew (Drew) and Nancy were lifelong friends since the 60’s, and he and I called Nancy Wilson in California while sitting on my living couch and I got to talk with one of my original Dream Girls. He was a 35-year member of the Detroit Federation of Musicians and died April 5, 2014. (Below) Andrew Evans (left) poses with Lt.Gen. Ronald S. Coleman (USMC-RET), and (Right) an autographed photo from Nancy “the Baby”.





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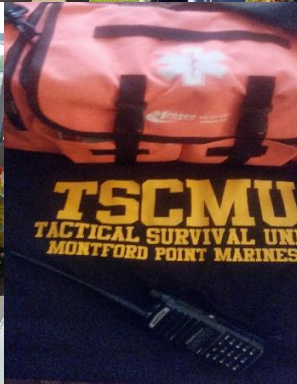
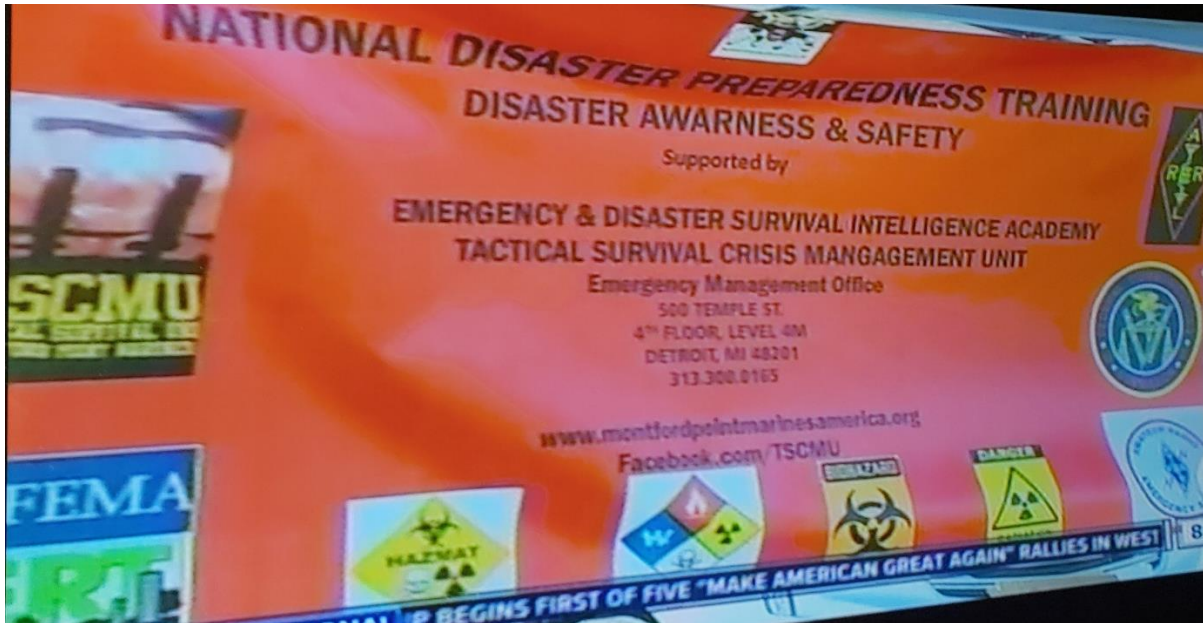
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Montford Point Marines in the Community



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Commandant's Wife Aboard the U.S.S. Detroit following the christening ceremony.



PROMOTING CULTURAL DIVERSITY





National Headquarters Initiatives

- Partner and supporter of the Brodhead Armory (Formerly, the Marine Recruiting Station) multi-million dollar renovation project in Detroit, MI
- Support for the construction of \$7M a Fisher House in Ann Arbor and Detroit VA Medical Center in Detroit.
- Member of Military Veterans Task Force, sponsored by the Detroit City Council to help improve the quality of life for veterans.
- Established the EBVet Connect Program to assist returning veterans with reintegration back into society after military service.
- Created strategic alliance with the National Veterans Business Development Council (NVBDC) to provide nationwide contract opportunities to Service Disabled/Veterans-Owned Business who have 51% ownership control in their company. NVBDC is the nation's leading 3rd party non-governmental certification body that has opened a \$80B market for veterans to do business with major U.S. corporations.

BECOME A MEMBER

For Info please email the Office of the National Commandant:

Montfordpointmarinesamer501@gmail.com

Join our monthly Zoom Video Conference every 3rd Saturday 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (EST) at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6877176798>

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Montford Point Marines Detroit & TSCMU Group



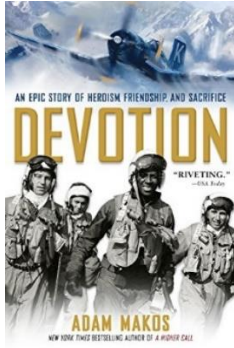
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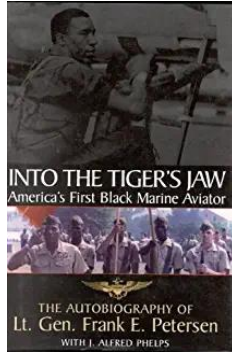
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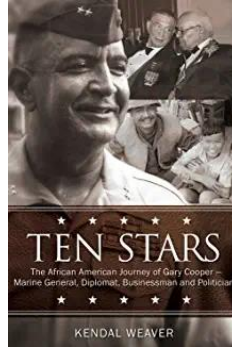
Commandant's Book List



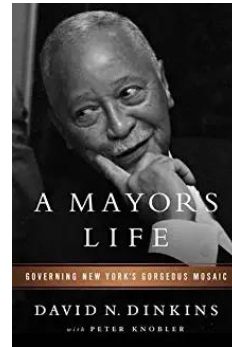
Devotion:
About the 1st Black Naval Pilot Ensign Jessie Brown.



Into the Tiger's Jaw
America's First Black Marine Aviator Lt. Gen. Frank E. Petersen.

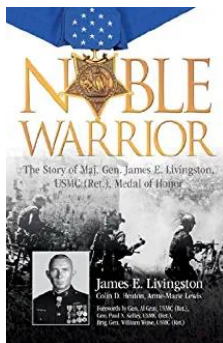


Ten Stars
The 1st Black Infantry Officer in Vietnam MajGen. Gary Cooper.

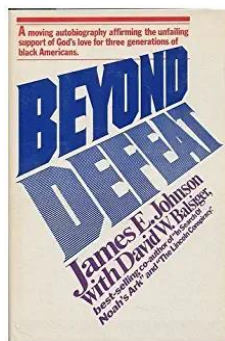


A Mayor's Life
by David N. Dinkins WWII Monford Point Marine.

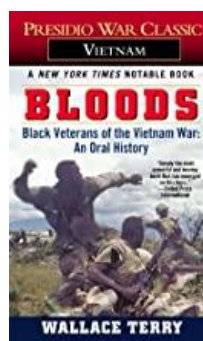
Note: When you order the book; "Ten Stars", by Maj.Gen. J. Gary Cooper through the Montford Point Marines of America, we receive a \$5.00 Donation on each copy. Call 313.300.0165. Retail for \$19.75



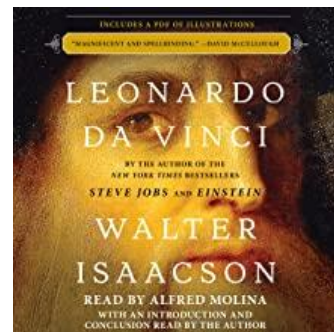
Noble Warrior
by MajGen. Livingston, Medal of Honor Recipient and President of the Medal of Honor Society.



Beyond Defeat
by Dr. James Johnson 1st Black United States Assistant Secretary of the Navy.



Bloods
A riveting oral history Blacks in the Vietnam War.



Leonardo da Vinci
A book of secrets including Michelangelo: Recommended by Ambassador Theodore Britton.