

Iwo Jima...from Page 1A



Photo by Lily Avery
Retired U.S. Marine Col. Howard J. Lovingood in the Feb. 19 commemoration of the Battle of Iwo Jima.

Post 23 and Auxiliary, American Legion Riders, U.S. Marine Corps League Detachment 783, and North Georgia Honor Guard also attended the event with members of their families, all in the name of remembrance and honor for this 73rd anniversary.

The Battle of Iwo Jima would prove to be one of the most calamitous battles in World War II, as well as American history.

From Feb. 19, 1945, to March 26, 1945, American forces suffered more than 26,000 casualties on the island, and nearly 7,000 soldiers lost their lives in the service of liberty and freedom for everyone back in the States and around the world.

Retired U.S. Marine

Corps Maj. Gary Wimsett began the anniversary program by welcoming all in attendance to the ceremony to remember the battle that would pave the way for the end of World War II.

“Welcome to the 73rd anniversary of the Battle of Iwo Jima and the raising of the American Flag on Mount Suribachi,” said Wimsett. “This is also a memorial service for those who gave their lives on Iwo Jima.

“While we will never forget those who fought and died on Iwo Jima, today we celebrate the veterans who were there on land, on sea, or in the air in that battle area. We also wish to honor our WWII veterans who are here today.”

Charley Andrews, retired U.S. Navy, introduced Towns

County Sole Commissioner Cliff Bradshaw, as well as U.S. Navy World War II veteran Martha Warth.

Commissioner Bradshaw spoke to the group briefly, sharing his support for the veteran communities and the brave men and women who have served this country.

“Seventy-three years ago today, the United States Military started the invasion on Iwo Jima,” said Commissioner Bradshaw. “We needed a base closer to the Japanese coast, and I stand here in awe of all those who fought for us. It is an honor to be here. I want to thank all of you who have served.”

Warth set the scene of Iwo Jima for those present at the ceremony last week, explaining how the United States came to be at Iwo Jima, how the island was a fortress for the Japanese during that time, and all the bravery, dedication and perseverance that led to U.S. victory.

“We were able to conquer the Japanese because of the Army, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard, Seabees, Air Force and all those who fought,” said Warth.

Following Warth, the guest speaker for the ceremony was retired U.S. Marine Corps Col. Howard Lovingood.

Col. Lovingood enlisted in October of 1952, working his way through the ranks before retiring from the service in 1997 and taking a position as the executive director of the National D-Day Museum in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Now, Col. Lovingood lives in Murphy, North Carolina, and teaches at Tri-County Community College.

Col. Lovingood picked up where Warth left off, focusing on what the Battle of Iwo Jima

did for the U.S. military and what it symbolizes to this day.

“The sacrifice that defined the generations of Americans was evident everywhere on Iwo Jima,” said Col. Lovingood. “Make no mistake about it, it’s

still there today with the young men and the young women we have serving our country. We have the greatest military across the spectrum.

“Iwo Jima provided proof that the U.S. military

was one of the most effective fighting forces on the planet. We love our Iwo Jima veterans and we thank you for all that you did.”



Photo by Lily Avery
Veterans saluting during the national anthem in the Feb. 19 remembrance.

Residents must start separating plastics by March 12



Photo by Shawn Jarrard
The Recycling Center at the Union County Transfer Station off Deep South Farm Road.

By News Special North Georgia News

Come March 12, residents who recycle will be required to separate their plastics by #1 and #2 at all Union County Recycling Centers.

The North Georgia Resource Management Authority, which organizes the county recycling program, is always looking for ways to increase the money made by the recycling program.

Now, the county has the opportunity to increase reimbursement for plastic by about three times if residents separate their #1 and #2 plastics.

New signage will be placed at all the facilities to aid in determining which plastics go in which bins.

During the first few days of the change, there will be someone present to help with any questions people might have regarding what plastics should go where, and if certain plastics can be recycled or not.

After that, should residents have questions, they can call the Union County Commissioner’s Office at (706) 439-6000, and they will be put in touch with the Recycling Program Coordinator.

The county is still not able to take salad containers,

fruit containers or butter tubs, even though they are marked #1 and #2.

Here is some more information on why the county can be reimbursed more for separated plastics.

The #1 and #2 plastics have different molecular structures once they are molded into whatever item they are going to be in their initial production process, and when they are recycled they must be melted down to make new products.

This melting process is where the issue of separating comes into play.

Due to their different molecular structures, they melt at different temperatures, with #2 plastics having to reach a much higher melting temperature.

If the two plastics are mixed together to be melted, the #1 plastics will be completely melted and the #2 will still be in un-melted clumps.

This will make the entire batch of recycled plastic useless.

The county can only take items with screw top lids, and residents need to remove the lid.

Items like salad and fruit containers have a different molecular structure, even though they are labeled as #1 and #2. They are molded differently

than an item with a screw top lid, so this causes them to melt at a different rate even though they have the same recycling number.