# **OBSERVATION POST**

**OCTOBER 8, 2010** 

SERVING THE TWENTYNINE PALMS COMMUNITY SINCE 1957

**Vol.** 53

ISSUE 40

# Amos confirmed as Marine Corps commandant

AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE, HEADQUARTERS MARINE CORPS

WASHINGTON – The Senate yesterday confirmed Gen. James F. Amos as the 35th Marine Corps commandant, to replace retiring Gen. James T. Conway who has served in the post since November 2006.

The voice vote makes Amos the first career aviation officer to hold the top Marine post. He is slated to be sworn in at an Oct. 22 ceremony at Marine Barracks Washington, officials reported.

The Senate's confirmation vote makes Amos, who has served as assistant commandant since July 2008, a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

The Senate yesterday also confirmed Lt. Gen. Joseph Dunford, of I Marine Expeditionary Force, to serve as Amos' deputy.

During his Sept. 21 confirmation hearing, Amos vowed to make winning the war in Afghanistan his top priority. Amos added that he'll be forthright in assessing the Marine

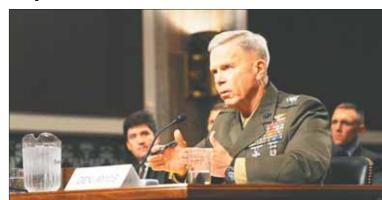
"I am keenly aware of the challenges our nation faces today, and likely will face in the future," he told the Senate Armed Services Committee. "And, I understand

the critical role of our expeditionary forces."

In the biggest headline-making comments during the hearing, Amos told questioning lawmakers he personally opposes repeal of the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" law that prohibits gays and lesbians from openly serving in the military. He vowed, however, to ensure that whatever is decided regarding the law, he would ensure that it is enforced.

Amos credited Conway with producing what he said are the best Marines in decades.

"Our Marines have never been better trained, or better led," he said. "They are simply magnificent."



**CPL. CHRISTOPHER A. GREEN** 

Gen. James F. Amos, assistant commandant of the Marine Corps, listens to questions and addresses the Senate Armed Services Committee during his confirmation hearing Sept. 21 at the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, D.C.

# Regimental Combat Team 7 returns from deployment



LANCE CPL. ANDREW D. THORBURN

Corporal Carmelo Sierra, a field radio operator with Regimental Combat Team 7, hugs his wife, Obdulia, and daughter, Juliana, during the homecoming of RCT-7's main body Monday at Del Valle Field Monday.

LANCE CPL. ANDREW D. THORBURN

Family and friends filled the Del Valle baseball field to welcome home their Marines and sailors from a yearlong deployment to Helmand province, Afghanistan, Monday.

Regimental Combat Team 7 replaced the 3rd Marine Regiment in October 2009, assuming authority over the Helmand province. They conducted counterinsurgency operations and took part in three major operations during the deployment.

Master Gunnery Sgt. Brian Velloza, the regimental food service chief, said while deployments mean hard times away from friends and family there were some rewards for their efforts.

"Our mission was to win the hearts and minds of the locals and give them a purpose," Velloza said. The reward was "seeing them execute that purpose," and witnessing their efforts "turn into something good," he said.

Before the Marines' and sailors' rode the busses arrived. Denise Cullum, the family readiness officer for RCT-7, the anticipation of the those waiting was obvious. Family members waiting alongside Cullum See HOME, A8

to welcome home their heroes said they felt the same.

"It hadn't really hit me until this morning, because this is our first deployment," said Cheyenne Williams, wife of Cpl. Joshua Williams, a radio operator for RCT-7. "He has been calling me as they come up the hill. It is getting really exciting. I am getting kind of nervous."

Members of RCT-7's advanced party who arrived home last month, also waited to reunite with the rest of their unit.

"It's like a surprise birthday party," Velloza said. "I was over there with the regiment and came back with the advanced party, and I'm just glad to have the boys back.

Those in the unit with young children were in for even more surprises.

"I think [Elijah Williams, 14-monthold son of Williams,] is going to know who his dad is but Joshua is going to be shocked because he has learned how to walk, talk a little bit and is eating now," Cheyenne said. "I think he is going to be great with him at this age now. He is going to be surprised on how big he is."

The heartfelt homecoming was just the first stage in the Marines' return to

The returning veterans have four

# Marines, sailors, airmen train as combined fighting force

CPL. ANDREW S. AVITT COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

MOUNTAIN WARFARE CENTER, TRAINING BRIDGEPORT, Calif. -Airmen say "jarhead," Marines say "flyboy," but despite the playful name-calling, members of the two military services worked well together at 8,000 feet while

conducting a cordon and Marine Regiment, along search exercise at the Mountain Warfare Training Center Wednesday.

The high altitude hike helped prepare the war fighters for upcoming deployments to Afghanistan and future operations as a combined fighting force.



An Airman gently brushes away the earth where his metal detector had detected a possible notional improvised explosive device during a Cordon and Search exercise Oct. 6 at the Mountain Warfare Training Center in Bridgeport, Calif.

with four airmen from various explosive ordnance disposal units, worked together with Afghan role players to successfully diffuse a roadside improvised explosive device.

'This is good for us," said Air Force Tech Sgt. Christian Mckay, an EOD craftsman with the 48th EOD. "When we are deployed to Afghanistan or Iraq, we are out there working with a lot of different services."

After a two-kilometer hike up steep terrain, the patrol came to a small simulated village on the crest of a hill.

Second Lt. Jeremy Dittmer, the commander of 3rd Platoon, Company C, along with Air Force Staff Sgt. Robert Laney, an explosive ordnance craftsman with 9th EOD, sat with the town's Afghan elders, engaging in a common practice for U.S. military members deployed overseas.

'Marines have always been trained to kill the enemy," Dittmer said. "But in this kind of environment, with that



Air Force Staff Sgt. Robert Laney, an explosive ordnance disposal craftsman with the Air Force's 9th EOD, shakes hands with a role player posing as an Afghan village elder during a Cordon and Search exercise Oct. 6 at the Mountain Warfare Training Center in Bridgeport, Calif.

kind of attitude, the enemy is ourselves, which makes this a great opportunity to work on our people skills."

Dittmer explained the capabilities of U.S. medical assis-

tance and supplies, and then offered the use of the medical staff to help the villagers.

Through the use of an interpreter, the elders, now friendly and comfortable

with their guests, informed the patrol of a possible IED on the edge of town.

Next it was Laney's turn to

See FORCE, A5

Cordon and search~ See A3



'Cutting Edge' is home ~ See A3



**Donating love** ~ See B1



4-0! ~ See B3

**B2** OCTOBER 8, 2010 **OBSERVATION POST** 



#### Combat Center Clubs

#### **Excursions Enlisted Club**

Fridays: Social food, 5 to 7 p.m.; Salsa dancing, 7 to 8 p.m.; Ladies' night, 8 to 10 p.m.; DJ Vlad, 8 to 11 p.m. Saturdays: Variety Night with DJ Gjettblaque Sundays: Football coverage, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Mondays: Closed for Columbus Day, Oct. 11 Wednesdays: Karaoke with DJ Gjettblaque, 8 to 10 p.m.

#### **Bloodstripes NCO Club**

Mondays: Closed for Columbus Day, Oct. 11 Wednesdays: Italian sausage with peppers and onions, green salad. 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

#### Hashmarks 29 SNCO Club

Fridays: Dinner, full menu, 4:30 to 9 p.m., Social hour 5:30 p.m., DJ, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Monday: Closed for Columbus Day, Oct. 11 Tuesday-Friday: All Hands Lunch, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Wednesdays: Dinner, full menu, 4:30 to 9 p.m., Karaoke, 5 to 7 p.m.

#### **Combat Center's Officers' Club**

Monday: Closed for Columbus Day, Oct. 11 Tuesday-Friday: Lunch served, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday: All Hands Bingo from 6 to 6:45 p.m.

For complete calendars, visit http://www.mccs29palms.com.

#### Local Events

#### Terry Hanson & California Whiskey!

Description: The California country rocker performs When: 7:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 8

#### Nice & Friendly Festival, Saccharine Trust, The Chuck Dukowski Sextet, Insects vs. Robots and more Description: Former Black Flag members and others

perform at all day fest When: 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 9 Where: Pappy and Harriet's 53688 Pioneertown Road, Pioneertown For more information, call 365-5956 or visit http://www.pappyandharriets.com.

#### The Starry Nights Festival

Description: The 14th annual stargazers event When: 2 to 10 p.m., Saturday Oct. 9 Where: Yucca Valley Community Center Complex 57090 Twentynine Palms Highway, Yucca Valley For more information call 369-7212.

### "Daddy's Dyin' (Who's Got The Will?)"

Description: Groves opens their season with the Del Shores' hilariously biting comedy When: 8 p.m. on Saturdays, 2:30 p.m. on Sundays through Oct. 31

Where: Groves Cabin Theatre 8768 Desert Willow Trail, Morongo Valley For more information call 365-4523 or visit http://www.grovescabintheatre.org.

## Lower Desert

## **Golden Boy Boxing**

Description: Eloy Perez battles Rialto Dominic Salcido When: 8 p.m., Friday, Oct. 15 Where: Fantasy Springs Resort Casino 84-245 Indio Springs Parkway, Indio For more information call 800-827-2946 or visit http://www.fantasyspringsresort.com.

## **Bachman & Turner**

Description: The rock 'n' roll giants are reunited When: 8 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 16 Where: Spotlight 29 Casino Resort 46-200 Harrison Place, Coachella For more information call 866-377-6829 or visit http://www.spotlight29.com.

## Al Green

Description: The soul legend performs When: 8 p.m., Friday, Oct. 22 Where: Spotlight 29 Casino Resort 46-200 Harrison Place, Coachella For more information call 866-377-6829 or visit http://www.spotlight29.com.

### Shakira

Description: Shakira plays her original sensual rhythms When: 8 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 26 Where: Fantasy Springs Resort Casino 84-245 Indio Springs Parkway, Indio For more information call 800-827-2946 or visit http://www.fantasyspringsresort.com.

## **Gladys Knight**

Description: The classic soul/pop artist performs When: 5 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 7 Where: Morongo Casino Resort and Spa 49500 Seminole Drive, Cabazon For more information call 800-252-4499 or visit http://www.morongocasinoresort.com.

## Sunset Cinema

The Sunset Cinema will be closed for the month of October to replace fire sprinklers and to complete the lighting project.

We apologize for the inconvenience.

Please enjoy FREE DVD rentals from the Lifelong Learning Library or \$1 per night REDBOX rentals.



The movie focuses on one particular young bird, Soren, and his entry into the world of the legendary Guardians, a noble treetop empire.

## **NEIL POND**

American Profile

"The Owls of Ga'Hoolie" Rated PG

With an unwieldy title, tongue-twisting character names like Ezylryb, Gylfie and Eglantine, and bird-centric fantasy setting, this movie seems likes it's almost inviting audiences to skip it.

But not so fast. "Legend of the Guardians: The Owls of Ga'Hoolie" is a feast for the eyes and a welcome relief from most Hollywood fare for younger viewers.

It comes to the big screen based on a series of juvenilefiction novels about an ancient, highly-evolved civilization of owls. The movie

focuses on one particular young bird, Soren, and his entry into the world of the legendary Guardians, a noble treetop empire with oft-told exploits.

The Guardians are so legendary, the line between fact and fiction has become blurred. Soren's brother, Kludd, doesn't believe they even exist.

After a party of "bad" owls from a militaristic sect called the Pure Ones kidnaps Soren and his brother, he discovers an insidious plot in the hatching. Soren manages to escape to the safety of the land of the Guardians, but Kludd remains behind, willingly giving himself to indoctrination as a loyal

soldier. And so the stage is set for an epic aerial between good and evil and between brothers.

The gorgeous settings teem with detail, especially the dark, gloomy, dungeon-like mountain lair of the Pure Ones, and the sunny, green, wave-kissed island tree of Ga'Hoolie, the Guardians' paradiselike home. Director Zack Snyder,

whose credits include the Greek-history battle epic "300," leads his animation team to achieve an amazing degree of realism. These owls look and move like real owls, not stylized cartoon animals. And they sound like

Helen Mirren, Geoffrey Rush, Hugo Weaving, Sam Neill and a bunch of other British and Australian actors and actresses whose names probably won't ring a bell.

But you've never seen owls, real or animated, do what these owls do. They

amazing degree of realism.

'Owls' soars above most other animated movies fight, in fierce aerial clashes, with blades on their talons and armor on their heads. They play music, read and write, and study. The Pure Ones use bloodsucking bats as their sentries and scientistsorcerers, and Soren's family

> has a snake as a nanny. While it does offer elements of occasional comic relief, the movie's serious, heavy and often scary tone and scenes of combat violence should make parents heed its PG rating. The overall feel is something like "Lord Of The Rings," "Star Wars," "The Wizard of Oz" and the world of Harry Potter put into a blender, and then served on a big bed of bird feathers.

But in avoiding the slapstick humor, smart-aleck sass and other bottom-feeder fodder that forms the floppy framework of many animated, talking-animal movies, "The Owls of Ga'Hoolie" soars high above the crowd.



Director Zack Snyder, whose credits include the Greek-history battle epic "300," leads his animation team to achieve an



**AutoTrader** 

# **Special Discount Ticket Offer For The** AutoTrader.com Open **EXCLUSIVELY FOR 29 PALMS MARINES.**

The NBA returns outdoors when the Phoenix Suns play host to Dirk Nowitzki and the Dallas Mavericks on Saturday, October 9 at the Indian Wells Tennis Garden in Indian Wells, CA. Tip-off is set for 6:30 p.m. Here is your chance to see two of the NBA's most popular and entertaining teams square off in the world's most picturesque outdoor setting for basketball.

Tickets JUST for our Marines are available at only \$20.00 (Reg. \$55.00). To purchase, follow the link below and type in your SPECIAL PASSCODE: MILITARY. See you at the game!

> Visit our site to get your Tickets www.hidesertstar.com

For questions please contact Phillip Douglas with the Phoenix Suns at 602.379.7679 or PDouglas@suns.com

**OBSERVATION POST** OCTOBER 8, 2010 A3

### SJA CORNER

## Tenants' rights explained

CAPT. D. C. SEAGRAVES

LEGAL ASSISTANCE OFFICE

Regrettably, many landlords in our region have allowed their properties to enter foreclosure, leaving tenants wondering what options they have. Thanks to a law passed in 2009, tenants have rights some may not even know about.

The Protecting Tenants at Foreclosure Act, public law 111-12, was signed into law on May 20, 2009. The law gives rights based on the type of purchaser of the foreclosed property and whether or not tenants have a lease.

If the purchaser of the foreclosed property is a private owner who wants to move into the residence, tenants have 90 days to move out after receiving notice the owner wants to occupy.

For all other purchasers, whether they are banks or private investors, tenants' rights will depend on whether they are renting month-to-month or have a lease with multiple months remaining. Tenants who are renting month-tomonth or have an expired lease for a fixed time, are owed the same 90 days after notice of foreclosure to leave. Tenants who have a lease with a term that has not expired are able to maintain the same lease until it expires.

This lease must be "bona fide" according to the law. The tenant cannot be the owner upon whose mortgage was foreclosed or the owner's spouse, child or parents. The lease also had to be the result of an "arms-length" transaction, meaning the lease was not a special deal with a friend or relative. The rent also cannot be substantially less than the fair market rent for the property.

Some banks and investors have contacted tenants and informed them a new lease is required to bring the rent up to this fair market rent. If this occurs, I recommend you seek legal advice from either the legal assistance office or Legal Aid, as you will likely need assistance fighting this issue.

Some investors and banks have offered money to leave the property early in what some are calling "Cash for Keys" programs. These programs are incentives for tenants to leave early, waiving their rights provided under the new law. These incentives can be attractive to those who are able to move quickly. Each individual tenant will have to make the decision on whether to waive their rights for cash incentives.

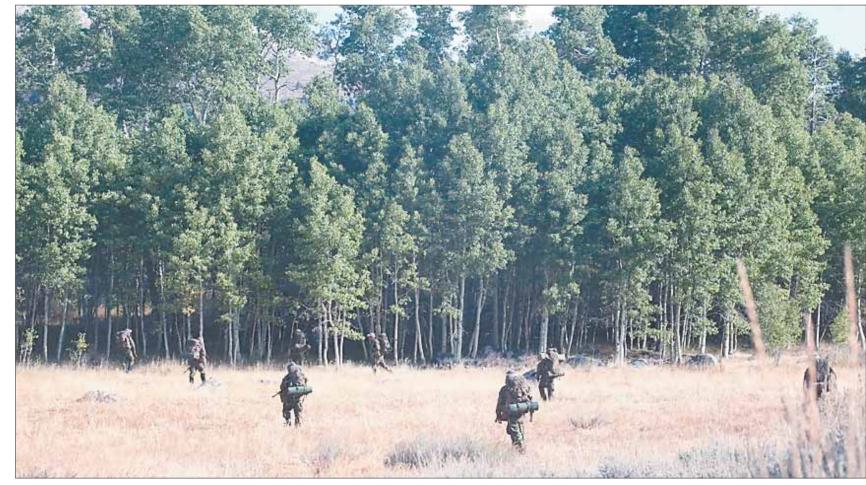
Whatever road you decide to take, just remember, you do have rights.

To contact the Legal Assistance Office, call 830-

# Did you know?

If you are active duty, retired military or a family member you can place a FREE ad in our Combat Center Trader Ads

See page A9 for details and limitations



Marines and sailors patrol with 3rd Platoon, Company C, 1st Battalion 3rd Marine Regiment, across a meadow through Mill Creek Canyon in the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest Oct. 5 during Mountain Warrior Training at the Mountain Warfare Training Center in Bridgeport, Calif.

# Marines, sailors train for Afghanistan's mountains

STORY AND PHOTOS BY **CPL. ANDREW AVITT** 

COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

The air was thin as Marines and sailors with 3rd platoon, Company C, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, made their way through the rolling hills of Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, practicing the very security patrols that they are anticipating to use during their upcoming deployment to Afghanistan early next summer.

The Mountain Warrior Training course at the Mountain Warfare Training Center in Bridgeport, Calif., a three-week course now nearing its end for the Marines and sailors, has challenged the unit with hard-hitting terrain and high altitudes while they conducted tactics in some of the region's most adverse weather conditions. Even with only days

remaining, troops will tell you the learning isn't quite over yet. "It was pretty intense the first week, but when the cold

came, just a few days ago it got much worse," said Lance Cpl. Daniel Diazrico, a team leader with the platoon who braved one of Bridgeport's first snows of the season just days before.

"We were all wet, and that's what did it," said the Santa Maria, Calif., native.

Now relatively dry with only a light mist falling, the Marines and sailors practiced land navigation and

security patrolling to a nearby objective, a mock Afghan village in Mill Creek Canyon.

But it wasn't just about reaching their objective in the dense aspen and pine forest, it was about doing it tactically, said 2nd Lt. Jeremy Dittmer, 3rd platoon's commander.

We came within a close proximity to the objective and then circled around to the high ground to get a better view," said the Denver native, pointing out the importance of using elevation differences to a unit's tactical advantage.

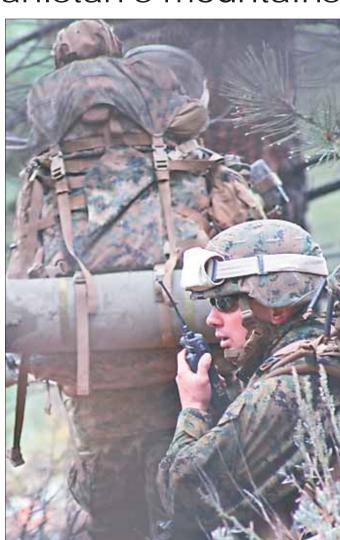
"We are giving them the building blocks," added Staff Sgt. Rob Turek, a Mountain Warfare Training instructor. "We give them all the different skills so that they can combine them to attack different situations."

After securing the objective, Dittmer reviewed the platoon's progress and highlighted areas needed improvement, such as communication.

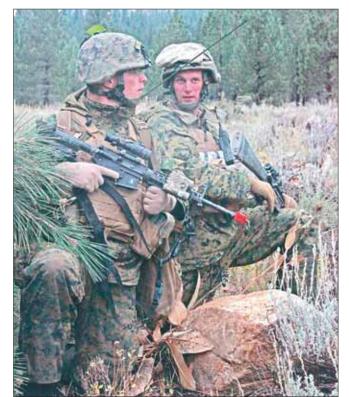
The necessity of clear and constant communication is vital, he told his Marines. Especially when visibility is low, everyone reacting as a unit can mean life or death.

"For some the past three weeks has been the most difficult training that they have experienced," Dittmer said. "But they all have repeatedly told me, that this is what they signed up for."

With Afghanistan beckoning the Marines and sailors to its mountainous fronts, they won't be showing up untried, Dittmer said. A mountain is a mountain no matter where it is, and the lessons learned at Bridgeport will soon serve as an experience manual of the do's and don'ts of mountain warfare overseas.



Denver native 2nd Lt. Jeremy Dittmer, commander of 3rd Platoon, Company C, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, keeps up radio communications with his platoon during a security patrolling exercise Oct. 5 while training at the Mountain Warfare Training Center in the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest.



Corporal Thomas Meyers passes word to Lance Cpl. Richard Woolston, the platoon radio operator, from Highland, Utah, during a security patrol Oct. 5 while training at the Mountain Warfare Training Center in the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest.







7293 Dumosa Ave, Suite 2 • Yucca Valley Each office is independently owned and operated

(760) 365-8880 TOLL FREE (888) 365-8880 **OPEN 7 DAYS PER WEEK** 



NAVY 
FEDERAL **Credit Union** 

WE ARE YOUR EXCLUSIVE RELOCATION SPECIALISTS

Get up to \$3,100.00 when buying and selling a home through our USAA Movers Advantage program

Let us show you how to SAVE dollars when purchasing your new home! GO TO OUR WEBSITE:



www.cbroadrunner.com GO TO "RELOCATION SERVICES"-

Start saving money NOW!

OR JUST CALL— JEFF POLAND 760-660-3247 **BROKER/RELOCATION SPECIALIST** 

62543 Belmont St, Joshua Tree

A4 OCTOBER 8, 2010 **OBSERVATION POST** 

# NORTH MAINSIDE CONSTRUCTION







#### CONSTRUCTION **UPDATE**

As part of on-going construction activities aboard the Combat Center, the North Mainside Infrastructure project is now underway. In order to ensure the safety of all Combat Center personnel and ensure expeditious construction progress, significant potions of this area are now off limits to all personnel and dependents. Access will only be granted to authorized construction personnel without prior approval from the Resident Officer in Charge of Construction. The construction manager for this project is Blade Geary, 830-9162. The engineering technician is Marjorie Trandem, 830-3954.

As highlighted on the accompanying maps, the affected area extends from the Combat Center's East Gymnasium at the top of 4th Street and continues all the way to 16th Street. The construction area also extends as far west as Del Valle and includes all of Gillespie Road on the east side of the installation. Please obey all posted signs and placards, and be cautious while driving near construction zones.

There is an alternate physical training trail just east of the old trail that starts at the East Gym. Anyone choosing to PT in that area must stay east of the tortoise fence.









**OBSERVATION POST** OCTOBER 8, 2010 A5



An Air Force and Marine team approaches a road where a notional improvised explosive device is believed to be planted. During the Cordon and Search exercise, role players posing as Afghan natives informed the service members of the IED Oct. 6 at the Mountain Warfare Training Center in Bridgeport, Calif.

Air Force Staff Sgt. Robert Laney [left], an explosive ordnance disposal craftsman with the Air Force's 9th EOD, and Air Force Tech Sgt. Christian McKay, an explosive ordnance disposal craftsman with 48th EOD, prepare to talk to role players posing as Afghan elders during a Cordon and Search exercise Oct. 6 at the Mountain Warfare Training Center in Bridgeport, Calif.



CPL. ANDREW S. AVITT

reflected on the joint exercise.

me, because I've never deployed," he said. "Working

with the Marines and seeing

how they operate was a

major takeaway."

"This is all really new to

## Prefer your news from the web?



29palms.usmc.mil

#### FORCE, from A1

do the talking, as he asked specific questions relating to the whereabouts and size of the threat.

Using the intelligence provided by the elders, Marines and sailors took up security positions while the Air Force EOD team probed for explosives using a metal

SUDOKU

3 9 2 4 5 6 8 1 7

1 5 7 3 2 8 9 4 6 7 6 5 9 1 2 3 8 8 2 1 6 4 3 7 5 9 3 5 2 8 7 4 6 1 6 9 8 1 4 3 7 5 5 8 3 7 6 2 1 9 4

8 1 7 9 5 2 3

spot bomb materials.

It wasn't long before a few containers, wired together and hidden behind a large boulder, were discovered mere feet from the road. After setting up the proper perimeter, a notional charge was placed by the IED for proper disposal.

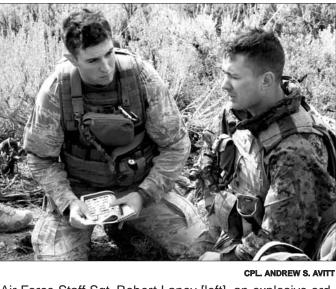
After the simulation was complete, Air Force Senior detector and eyes trained to Airman Ryan Hoagland

(	CF	80	S	SV	V(	DF	P	S	01	LU	TI	0	NS	
S	Α	G	s		٧	Α	L	Ε		Κ	N	Ε	Ε	D
Р	R	Ε	Т		-	Т	Ε	М		Ε	Α	R	Ε	D
Ε	Т	Т	U		С	0	С	0		Υ	Р	R	Ε	S
С	0	ı	N	s	Α	Р	Н	R	Α	s	Ε			
Κ	0	Т	Т	Ε	R			Υ	Ε	Т		0	Т	Т
			s	Т	Α	s	Н		R	0	s	Т	Ε	R
0	Т	В			G	L	Ε	Ε		N	0	Т	R	Ε
С	н	Α	N	G	Ε	0	F	s	С	Ε	N	Ε	R	Υ
Н	0	s	Ε	Α		Ε	Т	Т	Α			R	Ε	s
Ε	М	1	G	R	Ε		s	Ε	L	Ε	s			_
R	Ε	N		F	L	Α			Α	М	U	s	Ε	s
			s	1	L	٧	Ε	R	В	U	L	L	Ε	Т
s	L	Α	Т	Ε		Α	R	Ε	Α		Т	Α	R	Α
Р	Ε	D	Α	L		s	1	Р	s		Α	К	Ι	N
Α	w	A	R	D		Т	E	s	н		N	E	Ε	Ь



# BIG FOOT MONSTER fruck is com

Come See the **Bigfoot Display at Roy's Tire Pros** October 21-23 2010. 4082-B Adobe Rd. • 29 Palms Roy's TIRE PRUS (760) 367-0222 www.**roystires**.com



Air Force Staff Sgt. Robert Laney [left], an explosive ordnance disposal craftsman with the Air Force's 9th EOD, and 2nd Lt. Jeremy Dittmer, the commander of 3rd Platoon, Company C, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, discuss information they learned from role players posing as Afghan village elders Oct. 6 at the Mountain Warfare Training Center in Bridgeport, Calif.

#### **COMBAT CENTER RELIGIOUS SERVICES**

#### **Sunday Immaculate Heart** of Mary Chapel Roman Catholic Services

8:45 a.m. - Confessions+ 9 a.m. - Rosary 9:30 a.m. - Catholic Mass\* 9:30 a.m. - Children's Liturgy of the Word 4 p.m. - Choir Practice 4:15 p.m. - Confessions+ 4:30 p.m. - Rosary 5 p.m. - Catholic Mass **Christ Chapel** 

9 a.m. - Calvary Fellowship\*
(Contemporary Worship)
9 a.m. - Children's Church 10:30 a.m. -Redemption\* (A blend of traditional and contem-

porary worship) 10:45 a.m. - Children's Church Weekday Events Immaculate Heart

of Mary Monday - Friday, 11:45 a.m. - Catholic Mass **Christ Chapel** Monday - Friday, noon -Daily Prayer

**Tuesday** Christ Chapel

9 a.m. - Christian Women's Fellowship\* (Sept. through May)

Immaculate Heart of Mary

3:30-5:30 p.m. - Military Council of Catholic Women Wednesday **Immaculate Heart of Mary** 

First Wednesday, 6 p.m. -Baptism preparation class First Wednesday, 7 p.m. -Knights of Columbus **Thursday** 

**Immaculate Heart of Mary** 9 a.m. - Adult Class 6 p.m. - Children RCIA

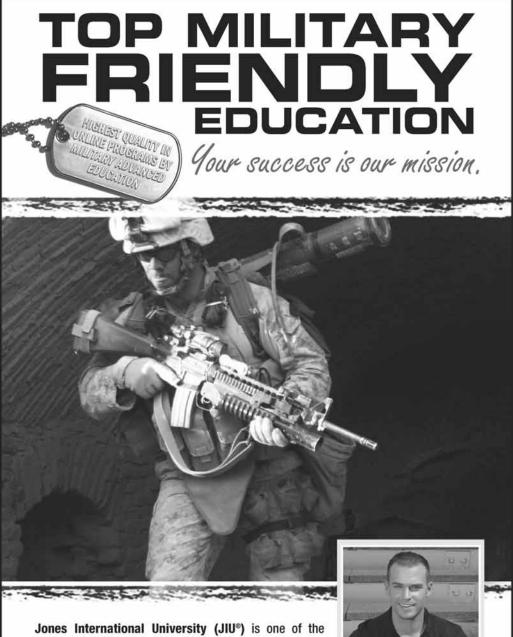
6:30 p.m. - RCIA (Sept.-April) 7 p.m. - Gr. 7 and Confirmation <u>Friday</u> **Immaculate Heart of Mary** 

12:15 p.m., 4:30 p.m. -Exposition/Adoration Most Blessed Sacrament **Legend** \* Indicates child care is pro-

First Friday each month,

+ Appointments can be made for confessions by calling 830-6456/6482

Muslim prayer space is available in the Village Center, room 87. Jewish prayer space is available in the Village Center, room 93. For more information call 830-5430.



top military friendly universities in the world. JIU is dedicated to providing the value and flexibility to help military students easily achieve their goals by offering affordable tuition, waived fees, flexible online class and degree policies, professional career counseling and multidimensional support from admissions to graduation.

## AFFORDABLE EDUCATION

- Reduced undergraduate tuition—military tuition assistance rates.
- 20% graduate tuition scholarship—graduate scholarships for military personnel and their dependents.
- Military Undergrad Book Program
- TOP TEN ONLINE UNIVERSITY
- Top 10 Online University—by The Best and Worst in Online Degree Programs.
- Top 20 Online MBA—by CEO Magazine in 2009.



**✓ SOCMAR Member** 



# Quantico hosts world's largest military exposition

LANCE CPL. JACOB D. OSBORNE

HEADQUARTERS MARINE CORPS

MARINE CORPS BASE QUANTICO, Va. - Vehicles of every shape and size and various weapon systems were featured at the 30th Modern Day Marine Exposition Sept. 28-30.

The first exposition was held Aug. 18, 1981, in Tucson, Ariz., and opened with a twin turbine jet touching down in the parking lot. This year, the Marine Corps League started the exposition with a ribbon cutting ceremony.

"The purpose of the expo is so that the vendors can show the Marines what they have to offer to the Corps," said Staff Sgt. Shawn Beckwith, administration chief at the commander's office, Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va.

The Silent Drill Platoon kicked off the second day of the expo, showcasing their rifle-spinning skills. Following the marching performance, Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. James T. Conway and Sgt.

Maj. of the Marine Corps Sgt. Maj. Carlton W. Kent recognized several Marines, including the recruiter and drill instructor of the year.

Thousands of attendees flooded more than 400 exhibits, according to retired Maj. Carl White, expo public affairs and media liaison officer.

White also said this year's expo hosted more than 8,500 visitors, making it the most successful event he has seen in years.

Aside from the U.S. military, the expo also drew in members from foreign militaries and corporate representatives. GLOCK, a global manufacturer of pistols and accessories, donated \$50,000 to the Young Marines.

"It's a good feeling to know that people are supporting us in this endeavour and helping develop the youth of America," Young Marine Sgt. Maj. Casey Scott, 16, and national Young Marine of the Year.

For more information on the Modern Day Marine Expo, visit www.marinemilitaryexpos.com.



More than 400 vendors displayed their products at the Modern Day Marine Exposition Sept. 28-30, at Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va. Among the vendors was Nammo Tally Inc., they were displaying a shoulder-launched munitions system called the Serpent.



LANCE CPL, JACOB D, OSBORNE

Thousands of Marines made the trip to Quantico, Va., to see what the vendors had to offer at the Modern Day Marine Exposition Sept. 28-30. One of the items being displayed was the laser target locator module, which are essentially a pair of infra-red binoculars that allow users to locate a target and find the correct range, night or day.

## **Spirit and Truth Worship Center**

Sunday Morning Worship 9:45 Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00

(760) 361-2450 4751 Adobe Rd. 29 Palms, Ca. 92277 spirit\_truthworshipcenter@yahoo.com



Spectators at the Modern Day Marine Exposition in Quantico, Va., watch Paul Smith, of Ultimate Survival Tech, demonstrate 'Blast Matches,' Sept. 28. These matches work in virtually any environment, including wet and compact ones.



CPL. BRYAN LETT

Sporting an infrared scope, the M249 Squad Automatic Weapon was on full display in Quantico, Va., during the Modern Day Marine Exposition Sept. 28. This year's event marked the 30th anniversary of the exposition, which is the largest of its kind in the world.





Service Times:

Sundays 7:30, 9:00, 10:40 AM, & 6:00 PM Wednesdays 4:30 & 7:00 PM Saturdays 6:00 PM Servicio en Espanol: Sun 10:40 AM & Wed 7:00 PM

Loving God Loving People





Christian Center Church "Developing Disciples For Christ" gin Your Week With Pastor T. K. & Gerri Washington · Sunday School - 10 A.M. • Sunday Morning Worship - 11:30 A.M.

• Wednesday Night Church in Action - 7 P.M. • Friday Night Intercessory Prayer - 7 P.M.

Don't Just Be ...

5898 Adobe Rd. Twentynine Palms, CA www.gfccc.org

...LIVE! 760.361.6510





Sunday Bible Study

**Sunday Morning Worship** 

Sunday Evening Worship

Wednesday Bible Study



This Week's Spotlight Church

29 PALMS CHURCH OF CHRIST

72309 Larrea Ave. (1 block up from KFC)

367-9400

#### Skyview Chapel OASIS COMMUNITY CHURCH Church of God 6631 Utah Trail, 29 Palms Service Times *Worship Service* 10:30 A.M & 6:30 P.M. Sunday 9:00 am Wed. Bible Study 6:30 P.M. 7475 Sunny Vista Rd., Joshua Tree Pastor Abe Casiano Nursery provided at 9.0 Church (760) 366-9119

**DESERT** CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH Sunday 10:00 A.M. - Worship

Sunday School Child Care 29 Palms • 5688 Sunrise Drive 760-361-0086



"The will of God will never

take you where the grace of

God will not protect you."

**United Methodist Church** Joy in Worship-Fun in Fellowship

Sunday Worship-10:30 AM

57273 Onaga Trail at Joshua Lane

Yucca Valley CA-760-365-3671

Open Hearts Open Minds Open Doors

Yucca Valley Church of Religious Science Healing Lives & Building Dreams Reverend Ron Scott Sunday Celebration & Junior Church 10 Am 7434 Bannock Trail, Yucca Valley 365-2205

First Baptist Church of 29 Palms Sunday Services
Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

Evening Service 6:00 p.m. red Couples Ministry 6:30 p.m. ried Couples Ministry 6:30 p.m. www.fbc29.org Good Shepherd Lutheran Church WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 AM WE PREACH CHRIST RISEN

59077 Yucca Trail, Yucca Valley
CHURCH: 365-2548 Preschool & Daycare: 369-95

Joshua Tree First Baptist Church Bible School Worship Service 9:00 AM 10:30 AM 10:30 AM 6:15 PM 6740 Sunset Rd. 366-3704

10:00AM

11:00AM

5:00PM

6:00PM

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST SUN. SERVICE & SUN. SCHOOL... 10 AM WEDNESDAY MEETING... 7 PM READING ROOM Tues.-Thurs. 12-3 PM Sat. 9-Noon (Except Holidays)

56039 Santa Fe Trail • 365-4185 Corner Apache Trail, Yucca Valle



**United Methodist Church** of Twentynine Palms 6250 Mesquite Springs Road Phone: 367-7338 Sunday School: 8:00 a.m. - Worship: 9:00 a.m. (Child Care Provided)

Reverend Lynn Reece

Pastor Titus R. Burns Sunday Service: 10:00 AM Wednesday Night Bible Study: 7:00 PM Call 760-367-4185 for more information

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the nar sus Christ for the remission of sins, and ve shall receive the gift of the Holy Gh

Worship......10:45am † FCCYV

**SUNDAY** 

29 PALMS CHURCH OF CHRIST

72309 Larrea Ave. (1 block up from KFC)

Sunday Morning Worship 11:00AM

367-9400

"We are baptized into ministry." 72348 Larrea Road (2 blocks N. of KFC) vww.stmartinschurch29.org (760) 367-713

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

365-4014

Bible School......9:30am

St. Martin-In-The-Fields EPISCOPAL CHURCH

5:00PM

9:00 am 7:30 am

(760) 367-7133

Sunday Bible Study

Sunday Evening Worship

Wednesday Bible Study

Sunday School & Eucharist Sunday Gospel Meditation Weds. Morning Prayer

Valley Community Chapel Sunday Services - 9:00 AM • 11:00 AM Wednesday Service - 6:30 PM Sundays en Español - 1:30 PM • 3:00 PM

Come Pray With Us – JOIN US IN WORSHIP IS PROUDLY SPONSORED BY:

VALLEY INDEPENDENT PRINTING - COPIES, COLOR COPIES, COMMERCIAL PRINTING AND MORE! 56445 29 Palms Hwy., Yucca Valley • 365-6967 • Military and Church Discounts Available

**OBSERVATION POST** OCTOBER 8, 2010 A7

# 31st MEU completes annual CERTEX

CPL. MICHAEL A. BIANCO 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit

USS ESSEX, AT SEA -Throughout September, the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit conducted an annual certification exercise called CERTEX to update its qualifications as a Maritime Contingency Force.

The MEU is now preparing for upcoming bilateral training evolutions with neighboring countries.

CERTEX assessed the MEU's ability to conduct a multitude of operations, including humanitarian assistance and disaster relief efforts; visit, board, search and seizures; and amphibious assaults. The exercise tested the MEU's air, ground, logistics and command elements, as well as Marine Corps and Navy interoperability.

Battalion Landing Team 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, serves as the MEU's ground combat element. The Battalion Landing Team conducted helicopter, vehicle, small boat and mechanized raids at numerous locations on both Guam and Okinawa and provided security during a mock non-combatant evacuation operation lead Combat Logistics Battalion 31.

"CERTEX was a good test for us and the culmination of 10 months of tough training by the Marines and sailors of [Battalion Landing Team 1st Bn., 7th Marines]," said Lt. Col. Todd Simmons, Battalion Landing Team 1st Bn., 7th Marines, commanding officer. "We are ready to execute any mission that 31st MEU assigns us. I couldn't be prouder of our whole team.'

CLB-31 was the lead during the humanitarian assitance and disaster relief training operations exercises, including setting up a water purification system and medical treatment center as well as food and water distribution sites to help the local population.

Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 262 (Reinforced), supported by elements of Marine Attack Squadron 542, provided air support on a daily basis, transporting Marines and sailors from ship to shore and supplying raids with Marine aviation close air support.

Although Marines are more than capable of accomplishing the mission once they are on the ground, getting there takes coordination with their naval counterparts of Amphibious Squadron 11. Navy personnel, assigned to the ships the MEU is embarked on, are in charge of the well and flight decks, where most missions begin. They are relied on heavily for mission success.

"Essex sailors were keenly aware of the importance of supporting the MEU CERTEX," said Navy Capt. Dave Fluker, Essex executive officer. "In order to execute the diverse mission sets upon which the Marines were evaluated, nearly every sailor played a role.

"Whether it was conducting flight operations, issuing ammunition, providing spare parts or serving over 8,000 meals a day, the sailors quietly and professionally did their part to help ensure the success of the certification," he said.

Being a part of a Maritime Contingency Force means there is no time for rest. The Marines and sailors of the 31st MEU and PHI-BRON 11 are moving straight into preparation for upcoming bilateral exercises with the Republic of the Philippines and the Republic of Korea.



U.S. Marines with the Maritime Raid Force, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, post as security during a visit, board, search, and seizure exercise aboard the U.S.S. Alan Shepard in support of a certification exercise conducted by the MEU.

# A New Creation Flowers & Gifts

Flowers, Gifts for bath & body, Bridgewater candles, stationary, jewelry, balloons

& chocolates teleflora

6296 Adobe Road, 29 Palms, CA 92277

(760) 367-1144

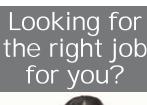
www.anewcreationflorist.com

# 'Cutting Edge' reunited with loved ones



LANCE CPL. M. C. NERL

Friends, family and fellow service members happily greet some of the Marines and sailors from 3rd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, at the Combat Center's Del Valle field Monday, as they return from their recent deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. While deployed, the Marines conducted counterinsurgency operations. They also distributed food and helped outfit a schoolhouse with supplies and basic equipment in time for the start of the school year. The rest of the battalion is scheduled to return to the installation in the coming weeks, then take some well-deserved time off.





Check the **Observation Post** Classified section



Free Pick up and Delivery to your Business

Call for Estimates

Valley Independent Printing and Copy Center (760) 365-6967

vipprintandcopy@verizon.net 56445 29 Palms Hwy. • Yucca Valley, CA 92284







Glow from head to toe for your Ball with our natural, organic service & products. Special Ball Packages, scrubs, facials, natural peels, sculptured tanning, professional makeup, waxing www.naturalives,com 5% Discount with AD

Marine Corps Ball Special \$18 Full Set (clear tips) \$30 Relaxing Mani & Pedi

29 Palms Spa & Naíls (760) 361-3999 5737 Adobe Rd., 29 Palms, CA 92277

Want something stunning for the Marine Corps Ball? RENT IT For 15% of the total value DeMorrow's Jewelry & Repair

Tues. - Fri. 10-6 Sat. 10-3 Special Appointments Also Available 367-7185 73501 29 Palms Hwy., 29 Palms Parking in the Rear • Corner of Tamarisk & Hwy 62

Elektric TANNING, Beach WAXING, Tanning FACIALS, **MICRODERMABRASION** 

760-367-TANN (8266) 6257 Adobe Road, 29 Palms



(760) 361-4438 kellysallbeauty@yahoo.com or gmail

**ී** (760) 367-2448 ළ**ී** Large variety of costume jewelry, formal bags and clutches 5686 Historic Plaza, 29 Palms 367-7437 www.cowboyattic.com

Wed ~ Fri 10 a.m to 5 p.m. • Sat 10 a.m to 4 p.m



365-6967 TIRES & WHEELS (760) 367-0222





Your Community **Newspapers** Working to serve you better A8 OCTOBER 8, 2010 **OBSERVATION POST** 



Colonel Randy Newman, the commanding officer of Regimental Combat Team 7, hugs his 8-year-old son after a yearlong deployment to Helmand province, Afghanistan, during the homecoming of RCT-7's main party Monday at Del Valle Field.

### HOME, from A1

days to spend with their families before they attend warrior transition classes. Velloza said.

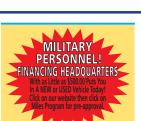
"It is something that needs to happen," he explained. "They start the transition into the civilian life vice living 12 months in a combat zone, so we can catch any behavior changes. If somebody needs help, we

will give it to them."

Although all of RCT-7 returned safe and sound, as Marines, sailors and families headed out to enjoy their time off, they couldn't forget about the friends they'd made who won't be seeing their families again. A memorial service for those attached to RCT-7 who paid the ultimate price is scheduled for Oct. 15 at Lance Cpl. Tory Gray field.



Corporal Joshua Williams, a radio operator for Regimental Combat Team 7, kisses his wife, Cheyenne, during the homecoming of RCT-7's main body Monday at Del Valle Field.





# YUCCA VALLEY FORD CENTER





\*2.9% APR on select certified vehicles.











VIN 111200 / STK P1938



V8 5.4L, Auto, AC, PS, PW, PDL, Tilt CD, Tow Pkg. VINA14298 / STK P1910A







Certified, A/C, PS, PDL, Tilt, CC VIN 9W232670 / STK #P1916





VIN 207135 / STK 10F204A



Pkg, Prem. Whls.. VIN 150036 / STK P1936A





VIN 9U352160 / STK #P1941







Seating, P/Glass. VIN 317580 / STK P1940



A/C, PW, PDL, CD, Alloy Wheels VIN122396 / STK P1919



VIN 600440 / STK P1937



CC, MP3/CD, Bed Liner. VIN B87516 / STK #P1927







V6, Auto, AC, MP3/CD, Leather, 3rd Row Seat, Tow Pkg. VIN A37925 / STK P1915



WE'RE DIFFERENT AND WE'LL PROVE IT! SEE WHY!



## Exchange runway show models strut ball fashions

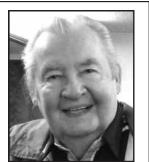


LANCE CPL. SARAH ANDERSON

Larissa DuVall, an employee at the Marine Corps Exchange, models a dress at the fashion show in the MCX September 30. The Marine Corps Ball is coming up, and women are in need of dresses. The fashion show was held to highlight the new evening gowns and accessories the MCX has available to help women find their perfect look. Marine Corps Birthday Balls are traditionally held in November.

## **TOUGH MINDED OPTIMISM**





I met the epitome of a tough minded optimist last week when I met Jeff Haflerfor the first time. Jeff is the young businessman who has been selected to be one of two Grand Marshalls for the October 16 Pioneer Days parade in Twentynine Palms. The other Grand Marshall will be my friend, former Mayor M. J. "Mac" Dube.

Jeff was selected as a "Pioneer of the Future." What a great choice! What a great guy!

Jeff owns and operates the Beauty Bubble, a salon located next to the home he shares with his partner Mikel Winn and their adopted son, Cash. The 10 acre property also features a significant beauty equipment museum and a first class bed and breakfast.

In addition to Jeff's busy daily work schedule he and his brother Jamie often entertain at the 29 Palms Inn. And they are pretty darn good!

I am very proud that I live in a community in which our Chamber of Commerce demonstrated a nonjudgmental, intelligent, far-sighted attitude when they made their superior decision.

Jeff and Mikel are wonderful parents and drive their lively and exceptionally bright 5 year old Cash Donovan Hafler to and from Twentynine Palms Elementary every school day.

Jeff and Mikel know Cash's birth mother and were at the hospital in Los Angeles when he was born and he was legally adopted at birth. When Jeff and Mikel were married in the Big Morongo Preserve, Cash was present as a young witness.

Pet lovers will also appreciate the fact that they have two dogs, one cat, two goats, 20 chickens, 30 rabbits and three tortoises. What a family!

This message sponsored by:

# Catja Arnzen for Hospital Board

Dr. Lou can be reached at 760-367-4627 800-995-1620

res19mxc@verizon.net



# BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS



#### **JACKSON TYLER HIPPLE**

Born to Lance Cpl. Jess Hipple and Justine Hipple Sept. 27

#### GIA JULIANNA MARTINEZ

Born to Sgt. Christian Martinez and Julie Martinez Sept. 25

#### ARYA KAY HENDRICKS

Born to Cpl. Jacob Hendricks and Nadia Hendricks Sept. 24

#### ATHAN LAWRENCE HOLLOWAY

Born to Cpl. Allan Holloway II and Alicia Holloway Sept. 25

#### **RILYN DANAE WILSON**

Born to Gunnery Sgt. Antonio Wilson and Heidi Wilson Sept. 23

#### JASON RAY ASHLEY

Born to Lance Cpl. Tyler Ashley and Kaila Ashley Sept. 23

#### **RAYMOND DEAN WISE**

Born to Lance Cpl. Raymond Wise and Michelle Wise Sept. 23

#### MALACHI ALEXANDER BOWDOIN

Born to Lance Cpl. Cody Bowdoin and Jennifer Bowdoin Sept. 23

#### **CONNOR RILEY GARRIDO**

Born to Cpl. Jeffrey Garrido and Meghan Garrido Sept. 21

#### JORDYN ELIZABETH WARTHEN

Born to Cpl. Jedidiah Warthen and Dovie Warthen Sept. 20

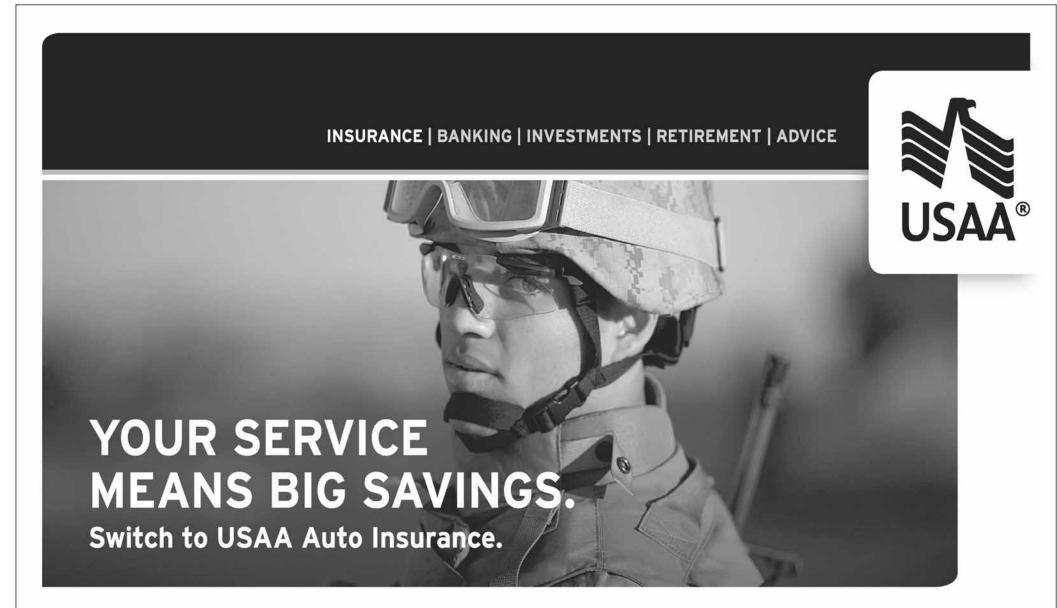
## Volunteers needed

Joshua Tree National Park officials are looking for 20-30 Marine volunteers to help in the park Oct. 23 from 8 a.m. to noon.

This includes working with the Boys & Girls Club as mentors, followed by a barbecue lunch.

The project is focused on trail restoration.

Contact Kristina Streeter, the Combat Center's community relations officer, at 830-3765 for more information or to sign up.



USAA believes those who serve deserve more. That's why we offer low auto insurance rates that most insurers can't match. Plus, USAA provides exclusive benefits for military personnel, including:

- Up to 80% savings when your vehicle is in storage.2
- On-base garaging discount, in most states.3
- With USAA Mobile, you can initiate claims and get proof of insurance anytime, anywhere.



# Switch to USAA Auto Insurance today. 800-CAR-USAA | usaa.com/car

'Average auto premiums based on countrywide survey of new customers from 10/01/08 through 9/30/09, who reported their prior insurers' premiums when they switched to USAA. Savings do not apply in MA. Use of competitors' names does not imply affiliation, endorsement or approval. <sup>2</sup>To qualify for the discount, the vehicle must not be driven and must be stored in a secure location. Other restrictions apply. <sup>3</sup>Also known as Military Installation Discount, this is a reduction in your premium for comprehensive coverage, except in CA, where it applies to your premium for collision coverage. Not available in MA and NY. Other restrictions apply. Property and casualty insurance products are available to military members and their former dependents who meet certain membership eligibility criteria. To find out if you are eligible, contact USAA. Underwriting restrictions apply. Automobile insurance provided by United Services Automobile Association, USAA Casualty Insurance Company, USAA General Indemnity Company, Garrison Property Insurance Company, USAA County Mutual Insurance Company, San Antonio, TX. Each company has sole financial responsibility for its own products. © 2010 USAA. 122204-1010

## **Combat Center Trader Ads**

## AUTOMOTIVE

**2000 NISSAN XTERRA.** 4x4, auto, PDL, PW, roof rack, tow pkg., newer timing belt, 31" BFG's, 132K miles, \$5,000. Call 957-5630. 10/8/10

**1952 PLYMOUTH.** 4 door, restored. 1966 Ford Galaxie, needs work. Call Steve for more information. 272-9948. 9/24/10

**1957 NASH EXECUTIVE MODEL PROJECT CAR.** Registered, complete engine, \$500 OBO. 5 rims, size 15.6 lug, off-road heavy duty. \$180 OBO. Call Jose 361-3509. 9/24/10

**2008 TOYOTA YARIS.** \$10,000 OBO. Approx. 38K miles. Good condition. Consistent maintenance. 622-4562. 9/10/10

**2009 HONDA SHADOW 750.** One owner, low miles, like new. \$5,000. Call Logan for details. 423-504-6926. 7/30/10

**2002 CR250R DIRT BIKE.** Eline starter, FMF pipe and silencer, paddle tire for the dunes. Runs very strong. \$2,800. 910-3979. 6/25/10

**1999 TRANS AM 30TH ANNIVERSARY CONVERTIBLE.**White with blue stripes, 5.7 LT-1,
Auto, \$12,500. 408-9088. 6/11/10

**2006 TRIUMPH SCRAMBLER.** 3,275 miles. \$6,000 firm. Modern classic styled after Steve McQueen's Desert Racer. 365-

MISC.

5902.6/11/10

**1930 DAISY 118 TARGETEER BB PISTOL.** Very collectible, cheap at \$100. Firm Call Bill 367-6030. 10/1/10

RARE STERLING SILVER MARINE CORPS COINS. 24 two ounce. Over 35-years-old. Steal at \$750. Great gift. Call Bill 367-6030. 10/1/10

**BALL GOWNS.** Worn once. Long black size 6-8, \$50. 2 long gowns size x-small \$50. 1 short black, size x-small \$40. 367-6030. 10/1/10

**MISC. ITEMS.** Golf set \$75 OBO. Baby play pen \$50 OBO. Baby swing \$50. Call 361-3509. 9/24/10

**OAK BOOKCASE BUNK BED.** With storage drawers. \$150. E-mail bookowl50@yahoo.com

for pictures. 369-4239. 9/24/10 **AMAZON PARROT,** \$500 OBO. Upright freezer \$200 OBO. Twin

bed, captains. \$100 OBO. 285-

**OAK BOOKSHELF,** \$100 OBO, Ikea couch and ottoman \$100 OBO. Other household items. 285-1603. 9/10/10

**WANTED, GERMAN LUGAR.** Semiautomatic AR 14-15. Buy or trade (good things) 367-6030. 9/10/10

SPORTS AND SCI FI CARD COLLECTION. Mid '80s to mid '90s football and baseball. Some older baseball cards. Star Trek and Star Wars cards. Sold by individual heroes, hero sets, team sets or the whole collection. Call 567-7921. 9/10/10

YOUR AD HERE

# The deadline for submitting Trader Ads is noon Wednesday, for the upcoming Friday's newspaper.

Trader Ad forms are available at the Public Affairs Office and may be filled out during normal working hours at Bldg. 1417. Ads may also be submitted through e-mail, but will only be accepted from those with an @usmc.mil address.

If you are active duty, retired military or a family member and do not have an @usmc.mil address you can go to the PAO page of the base Web site at: http://www.29palms.usmc.mil /dirs/pao/ and complete a

request to publish an ad.

The limitations for ads are: 15-word limit, limit of two ads per household and the Trader may be used

only for noncommercial classified ads containing items of personal property offered by and for individuals authorized to use this service. Such ads must represent incidental exchanged not of sustained

1603. 9/10/10

business nature.

Ads for housing rentals will not be considered for the Combat Center Trader.

To have a "House For Sale" ad run in the Observation Post, applicants must provide Permanent Change of Station orders and have the ad approved by Base Housing. This ensures the Combat Center Trader is not used for commercial real estate endeavors

Ads are run on a first-come, first-serve, space available basis. If you have questions please call 830-6213.

A10 OCTOBER 8, 2010

OBSERVATION POST



# SPORTS AND LEISURE

MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER

**OCTOBER 8, 2010** 

SERVING THE TWENTYNINE PALMS COMMUNITY SINCE 1957

D 1

# Daisies grab a paw in need at animal shelter



LANCE CPL. SARAH ANDERSON

Maritza Barrientos, a Combat Center Daisy Girl Scout, pets a kitten at the Palms N Paws Animal Shelter Saturday. The Daisies donated animal supplies to the shelter as a community service trip.

LANCE CPL. SARAH ANDERSON

COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

TWENTYNINE PALMS, Calif.—The Combat Center's Daisy Girl Scouts learned a valuable lesson in helping the community at the Palms N Paws Animal Shelter in Twentynine Palms, Calif. Oct. 2.

The girls donated muchneeded animal supplies, such as food and kitty litter, to the shelter.

Daisies are girls in kindergarten and first grade. The group spends their time together going on trips to learn about and explore their community.

"This teaches the girls to be considerate and caring [toward others] and be aware of the needs in the community," said Colleen Watts, a troop leader for the Daisies. "By coming here, the girls get to see what their donations are going toward. It gives them a better understanding how to see the needs in the community and fill them."

The donations were greatly appreciated and will have a positive impact on Palms N Paws, said Rick Boyd, an animal control supervisor at the

shelter

"It means a lot. We are limited on funds," he said. "This is not a money-making facility. We depend on donations."

The shelter cares for animals who are neglected, abused, roaming the streets or cannot be taken care of by their owners.

After the girls brought in their donations, Boyd taught them a little bit about the shelter and showed them around to see the animals.

As they went from room to room, it was evident which room was the group's collective favorite - the kitten room.

Excitement clearly written on their smiling faces, the girls crowded around the kittens, gently petting them and begging their moms to let them keep their furry new friends. The mothers simply laughed and rolled their eyes.

The Daisies also visited dogs, snakes and ferrates under the shelter's care.

Next month the girls plan on donating gently used clothes to the installation's Armed Services Christian Association.

For information on how to help the Daisies, call the ASYMCA at 830-7481.



LANCE CPL. SARAH ANDERSON

Caitlynn Halsey, a Combat Center Daisy Girl Scout, pets a dog at the Palms N Paws Animal Shelter Saturday. The scouts donated animal supplies to the shelter and spent some playtime with their new four-legged friends.

# Co-Ed Softball hits home run

LANCE CPL.

ANDREW D. THORBURN

COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

The Combat Center's Co-Ed Softball league began its season Tuesday with the most teams it has had in years with the Co-Ed Softball Jamboree at Felix Field.

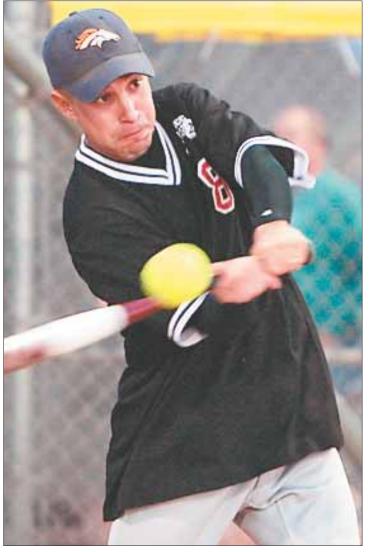
"This year we are getting a lot of our troops home, and the families are trying to get more involved," said Randy Husted, a sports specialist for the Combat Center. "Our average is four to

five teams, and this year we have 12 teams. So it is an increase of about 70 women."

In Co-Ed Softball the teams are half men and half woman and the batting line-up is in a "girl-boy" fashion.

"Our biggest problem putting the teams together is the lack of females stationed on the base," Husted explained. "We always have teams calling in saying they have plenty of

See SOFTBALL, B4



LANCE CPL. ANDREW D. THORBURN

Jason Salo, an outfielder for the Hard Hitters, eyes the outfield as he swings to slam the pitch during the Co-Ed Softball Jamboree Tuesday at Felix Field.

# Cross country runners go the distance



PHOTOS BY LANCE CPL. SARAH ANDERSON

Kylie Harrison [left], and Kristina Duran enjoy the course during the Commanding General's Intramural Cross Country Championship Wednesday at the Desert Winds Golf Course. The course was about six miles long and routed around the golf course.



Arold Sylvain, a competitor in the Commanding General's Intramural Cross Country Championship, reaches the halfway point Wednesday at the Desert Winds Golf Course, finishing second of

38 participants with a time of 34:12.



Aaron Wagner, a runner in the Commanding General's Intramural Cross Country Championship, pushes hard to the finish line followed closely by Randy Howell Wednesday at the Desert Winds Golf Course. The event consisted of 38 runners total.



Amalia Schocken, a competing in the Commanding General's Intramural Cross Country Championship, stretches her stride to reach the finish line Wednesday at the Desert Winds Golf Course. The run featured 38 participants and was about six miles long.

**B2** OCTOBER 8, 2010 **OBSERVATION POST** 



#### Combat Center Clubs

#### **Excursions Enlisted Club**

Fridays: Social food, 5 to 7 p.m.; Salsa dancing, 7 to 8 p.m.; Ladies' night, 8 to 10 p.m.; DJ Vlad, 8 to 11 p.m. Saturdays: Variety Night with DJ Gjettblaque Sundays: Football coverage, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Mondays: Closed for Columbus Day, Oct. 11 Wednesdays: Karaoke with DJ Gjettblaque, 8 to 10 p.m.

#### **Bloodstripes NCO Club**

Mondays: Closed for Columbus Day, Oct. 11 Wednesdays: Italian sausage with peppers and onions, green salad. 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

#### Hashmarks 29 SNCO Club

Fridays: Dinner, full menu, 4:30 to 9 p.m., Social hour 5:30 p.m., DJ, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Monday: Closed for Columbus Day, Oct. 11 Tuesday-Friday: All Hands Lunch, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Wednesdays: Dinner, full menu, 4:30 to 9 p.m., Karaoke, 5 to 7 p.m.

#### **Combat Center's Officers' Club**

Monday: Closed for Columbus Day, Oct. 11 Tuesday-Friday: Lunch served, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday: All Hands Bingo from 6 to 6:45 p.m.

For complete calendars, visit http://www.mccs29palms.com.

#### Local Events

#### Terry Hanson & California Whiskey!

Description: The California country rocker performs When: 7:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 8

#### Nice & Friendly Festival, Saccharine Trust, The Chuck Dukowski Sextet, Insects vs. Robots and more Description: Former Black Flag members and others

perform at all day fest When: 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 9 Where: Pappy and Harriet's 53688 Pioneertown Road, Pioneertown For more information, call 365-5956 or visit http://www.pappyandharriets.com.

#### The Starry Nights Festival

Description: The 14th annual stargazers event When: 2 to 10 p.m., Saturday Oct. 9 Where: Yucca Valley Community Center Complex 57090 Twentynine Palms Highway, Yucca Valley For more information call 369-7212.

### "Daddy's Dyin' (Who's Got The Will?)"

Description: Groves opens their season with the Del Shores' hilariously biting comedy When: 8 p.m. on Saturdays, 2:30 p.m. on Sundays through Oct. 31

Where: Groves Cabin Theatre 8768 Desert Willow Trail, Morongo Valley For more information call 365-4523 or visit http://www.grovescabintheatre.org.

## Lower Desert

## **Golden Boy Boxing**

Description: Eloy Perez battles Rialto Dominic Salcido When: 8 p.m., Friday, Oct. 15 Where: Fantasy Springs Resort Casino 84-245 Indio Springs Parkway, Indio For more information call 800-827-2946 or visit http://www.fantasyspringsresort.com.

## **Bachman & Turner**

Description: The rock 'n' roll giants are reunited When: 8 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 16 Where: Spotlight 29 Casino Resort 46-200 Harrison Place, Coachella For more information call 866-377-6829 or visit http://www.spotlight29.com.

## Al Green

Description: The soul legend performs When: 8 p.m., Friday, Oct. 22 Where: Spotlight 29 Casino Resort 46-200 Harrison Place, Coachella For more information call 866-377-6829 or visit http://www.spotlight29.com.

### Shakira

Description: Shakira plays her original sensual rhythms When: 8 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 26 Where: Fantasy Springs Resort Casino 84-245 Indio Springs Parkway, Indio For more information call 800-827-2946 or visit http://www.fantasyspringsresort.com.

## **Gladys Knight**

Description: The classic soul/pop artist performs When: 5 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 7 Where: Morongo Casino Resort and Spa 49500 Seminole Drive, Cabazon For more information call 800-252-4499 or visit http://www.morongocasinoresort.com.

## Sunset Cinema

The Sunset Cinema will be closed for the month of October to replace fire sprinklers and to complete the lighting project.

We apologize for the inconvenience.

Please enjoy FREE DVD rentals from the Lifelong Learning Library or \$1 per night REDBOX rentals.



The movie focuses on one particular young bird, Soren, and his entry into the world of the legendary Guardians, a noble treetop empire.

## **NEIL POND**

American Profile

"The Owls of Ga'Hoolie" Rated PG

With an unwieldy title, tongue-twisting character names like Ezylryb, Gylfie and Eglantine, and bird-centric fantasy setting, this movie seems likes it's almost inviting audiences to skip it.

But not so fast. "Legend of the Guardians: The Owls of Ga'Hoolie" is a feast for the eyes and a welcome relief from most Hollywood fare for younger viewers.

It comes to the big screen based on a series of juvenilefiction novels about an ancient, highly-evolved civilization of owls. The movie

focuses on one particular young bird, Soren, and his entry into the world of the legendary Guardians, a noble treetop empire with oft-told exploits.

The Guardians are so legendary, the line between fact and fiction has become blurred. Soren's brother, Kludd, doesn't believe they even exist.

After a party of "bad" owls from a militaristic sect called the Pure Ones kidnaps Soren and his brother, he discovers an insidious plot in the hatching. Soren manages to escape to the safety of the land of the Guardians, but Kludd remains behind, willingly giving himself to indoctrination as a loyal

soldier. And so the stage is set for an epic aerial between good and evil and between brothers.

The gorgeous settings teem with detail, especially the dark, gloomy, dungeon-like mountain lair of the Pure Ones, and the sunny, green, wave-kissed island tree of Ga'Hoolie, the Guardians' paradiselike home. Director Zack Snyder,

whose credits include the Greek-history battle epic "300," leads his animation team to achieve an amazing degree of realism. These owls look and move like real owls, not stylized cartoon animals. And they sound like

Helen Mirren, Geoffrey Rush, Hugo Weaving, Sam Neill and a bunch of other British and Australian actors and actresses whose names probably won't ring a bell.

But you've never seen owls, real or animated, do what these owls do. They

amazing degree of realism.

'Owls' soars above most other animated movies fight, in fierce aerial clashes, with blades on their talons and armor on their heads. They play music, read and write, and study. The Pure Ones use bloodsucking bats as their sentries and scientistsorcerers, and Soren's family

> has a snake as a nanny. While it does offer elements of occasional comic relief, the movie's serious, heavy and often scary tone and scenes of combat violence should make parents heed its PG rating. The overall feel is something like "Lord Of The Rings," "Star Wars," "The Wizard of Oz" and the world of Harry Potter put into a blender, and then served on a big bed of bird feathers.

But in avoiding the slapstick humor, smart-aleck sass and other bottom-feeder fodder that forms the floppy framework of many animated, talking-animal movies, "The Owls of Ga'Hoolie" soars high above the crowd.



Director Zack Snyder, whose credits include the Greek-history battle epic "300," leads his animation team to achieve an



**AutoTrader** 

# **Special Discount Ticket Offer For The** AutoTrader.com Open **EXCLUSIVELY FOR 29 PALMS MARINES.**

The NBA returns outdoors when the Phoenix Suns play host to Dirk Nowitzki and the Dallas Mavericks on Saturday, October 9 at the Indian Wells Tennis Garden in Indian Wells, CA. Tip-off is set for 6:30 p.m. Here is your chance to see two of the NBA's most popular and entertaining teams square off in the world's most picturesque outdoor setting for basketball.

Tickets JUST for our Marines are available at only \$20.00 (Reg. \$55.00). To purchase, follow the link below and type in your SPECIAL PASSCODE: MILITARY. See you at the game!

> Visit our site to get your Tickets www.hidesertstar.com

For questions please contact Phillip Douglas with the Phoenix Suns at 602.379.7679 or PDouglas@suns.com

OBSERVATION POST OCTOBER 8, 2010 B3

# Combat Center Sports



LANCE CPL. SARAH ANDERSON

Justin Rossiteo, a player with the HQBN Bulldogs, fights a tackle during a Commanding General's Intramural Football League game against the MCCES Mustangs at Felix Field Wednesday. The game ended with a Bulldog victory of 19-3.

# **Athlete of the Week**



Name: Sage Koch Job title: Armorer

**Unit:** 3rd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment Recognition: Finished first place in the Commanding General's Intramural Cross Country Championship, with a time of 30:16.

**Favorite aspect of the sport:** "You learn something new every race. You learn your pace, the feel of your body and how it reacts to your training."

**Advice to aspiring athletes:** "Push yourself. Commit, and don't sit around, run. Put forth time and effort into your sport."



LANCE CPL. SARAH ANDERSON

Guillermo Manzo, a player for the HQBN Bulldogs, hits the ground after a tackle during a Commanding General's Intramural Football League game against the MCCES Mustangs at Felix Field Wednesday.



LANCE CDL SAL

An aggressive HQBN Bulldogs defense swarms over an MCCES Mustangs ball carrier during a Commanding General's Intramural Football League game at Felix Field Wednesday. The Bulldogs easily defeated the Mustangs 19-3.

facebook

Visit the official MCAGCC facebook page at http://www.facebook.com/thecombatcenter

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY°

Online Information Center

# SET YOUR GOALS AND ACHIEVE THEM







Earn your degree with a leader in online education.

- Explore the wide range of associate's, bachelor's, and master's degrees you can earn online or on campus
- Discover personalized support to help you complete your education
- Talk with an advisor and create the right education plan to meet your goals
- Experience the flexibility of taking an online course
- Learn about financial aid options

Visit the National University Online Information Center at Westfield Palm Desert 72840 Highway 111 Palm Desert, CA 92260

degrees.nu.edu/PalmDesert 760.346.3230



The University of Values

An Affiliate of National University System



- PHYSICAL THERAPY OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
  - SPEECH AND LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

Locally owned & operated Two Convenient Locations To Serve You:

YUCCA VALLEY

56299 29 Palms Hwy Yucca Valley, CA **369-1743**  29 PALMS
5930 Adobe Rd.

5930 Adobe Rd. Twentynine Palms, CA **367-1743** 

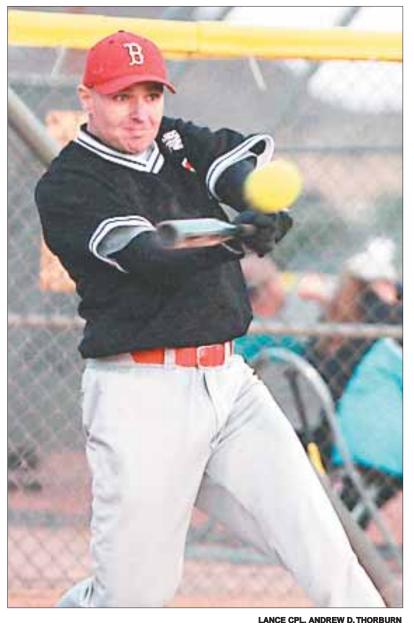
Hours: Mon-Thur. 7:30AM-5PM • Fri. 7:30AM-4PM www.hdprg.com

Did you know that you have the right to choose your therapist? You can have the best therapy right here in town!



All proceeds & donations will go to our SBCFD Explorer Post

**B4** OCTOBER 8, 2010 **OBSERVATION POST** 



Eric Arther, a third baseman with the Hard Hitters, swings to connect his bat to an incoming pitch during the Co-Ed Softball Jamboree Tuesday at Felix Field.



LANCE CPL. ANDREW D. THORBURN

Shawn Sumner, the short stop for the Hard Hitters, catches the ball while the Sticks and Chicks runner dashes to third base during the Co-Ed Softball Jamboree Tuesday at Felix Field.



LANCE CPL. ANDREW D. THORBURN

Nikkie Alvarez, the pitcher for Sticks and Chicks, throws the ball to first after a bunt from a Hard Hitters batter during the Co-Ed Softball Jamboree Tuesday at Felix Field.

### SOFTBALL, from B1

male Marines to play, but they need more spouses or active duty females to play on their teams."

In addition to increased family participation, Husted said two other factors helped increase the turnout of players.

This year I think marketing did an outstanding job in getting the flyers out over a

month in advance," Husted said. Word of mouth from players of previous seasons also helped increase the num-

ber of female participants, he said. Hearing their teams needed more females motivated some to try out.

"I never played before, so I thought I would try out, and plus, they needed more females on the team," said Tania Atlas, a player for Misfits Red.

Some of the players in the league also take part in the intramural softball league in the spring and use this league for extra practice.

"For me, it is something to do since I am [on temporary assigned duty] here from Yuma," said Eric Culver, the pitcher for Misfits Red. "I play on the base team down there, so this is great for me to come out here and get some more practice and get to know some of these guys, too."

The regular season begins Oct. 12, and because of the number of teams, this year's season was extended to 11 weeks, from the 8 weeks last year.

There will also not be a playoff season. The regular season champion takes all the bragging rights, and the first and second place teams will both receive team trophies and individual trophies for all players.

For more information on Co-Ed Softball, contact Husted at 830-6857.



# FULL TANK OF GAS WITH EACH PURCHASE REE CARFAX REPORT! 29 Palms Yucca Valley Chrysler

72878 29 Palms Hwy. Twentynine Palms

Sales Open 7 Days a Week • Service Dept. 8am - 5pm Mon. - Fri.

# PRE-OWNED VE VEHICLES IN THE HIGH DESERT



\$11,888

**07 SUZUKI XL7** 



FAMILY SIZE

\$16,888

**06 DODGE RAM 1500** 



#P6402A

\$21,888

**08 FORD FUSION** 

\$13,888 #8R223630

**07 FORD FOCUS** 



\$7,888

**08 NISSAN ALTIMA** 



NICE

\$16,888

**10 FORD MUSTANG** 



26,000 MILES

CAB

09 HYUNDAI SONATA



**09 FORD FOCUS** 



\$10,888

07 TOYOTA COROLLA



\$18,888

07 FORD MUSTANG GT



\$13,888

FAMILY



\$11,888

\$18,888

09 NISSAN VERSA



\$11,888

# FREE RIDE FROM BASE •

\*On approved credit. Plus government fees and taxes, any finance charges, any dealer document preparation charge, and any emission charge. Exp. 10-14-10\* See dealer for details.

Y.V. Chrysler 29 Palms Service Department 72878 29 Palms Hwy 1-760-367-1919

We service all makes and models



FREE CAR WASH W/30-60-90K **SERVICE** 



GOOD CREDIT! BAD CREDIT! NO CREDIT! NO\* PROBLEM!



(760) 367-4430