October 2, 2015 Since 1957 Vol. 59 Is

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PHOTOS BY SGT. TERRY BRADY

Gen. Joseph F. Dunford Jr., the 36th and former Commandant of the Marine Corps, hands the Marine Corps Battle Colors to Gen. Robert B. Neller during their passage of command ceremony at Marine Corps Barracks Washington, D.C., Sept. 24.

# General Neller takes command

STORY BY SGT. MELISSA KARNATH

Gen. Robert Neller received the battle colors of the Marine Corps from Gen. Joseph Dunford Jr. during a passage of command ceremony at Marine Barracks Washington, Sept. 24, signifying his new position as the 37th Commandant of the Marine Corps.

Neller, an East Lansing, Mich., native and 40-year Marine veteran, assumes responsibility as the senior ranking officer of the Corps.

"I am honored, proud and humbled to be here," Neller said. "I appreciate your support. Now let's go

During the ceremony, Secretary of Defense Ashton Carter spoke highly of Neller and his ability to lead the Marine Corps and spoke about his "greatest trait" — his love for the troops.

"They light up when he's talking to them, and he lights up too," Carter said.

Dunford, a Boston native, relinquished command of the Marine Corps after serving in the top post for less than a year.

"In his short but significant tenure, Gen. Dunford guided the Marine Corps during the final drawdown in Afghanistan, and maintained the Corps as the most formidable expeditionary fighting force that See **Command pg.** A6



Gen. Robert B. Neller, right, and Joseph F. Dunford Jr. salute during a pass in review during their passage of command ceremony at Marine Corps Barracks Washington, D.C., Sept. 24.

# Desert Tortoise Headstart program makes first release

BY KELLY O'SULLIVAN

Nine years after hatching at TRACRS, the Combat Center's Tortoise Research and Captive Rearing Site, No. 2-4 is out on her own, finding her way in the wild.

But she isn't alone. Biologists from the University of California, Los Angeles and the Combat Center's Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Division are keeping close watch on the 4 ½-inchlong desert tortoise, a bright-eyed female about the size of a medium grapefruit.

Following her via a radio transmitter affixed to the front of her shell, they will watch from afar to see how well No. 2-4 settles in to her surroundings by finding a burrow where she can get out of the afternoon sun, and spend her nights underground away from predators before hibernating for the winter. Once satisfied she's adjusting to life outside the covered

called the joint Marine Corps/UCLA venture "a great effort in partnership."

Dr. Brian Henen, an ecologist with NREA who has been with the program since its inception, said the two entities teamed up in spring 2006 to build the six-acre facility in the Sand Hill Training Area in hopes of boosting the local tortoise population. Sand Hill, a non-live-fire area about 10 miles from Mainside, was chosen for TRACRS because it has the largest concentration of desert tortoises on the 1,100-squaremile installation.

TRACRS was UCLA's third joint venture with the Department of Defense. Earlier headstart facilities were built at the U.S. Army's Fort Irwin National Training Center near Barstow and at Edwards Air Force Base near Lancaster.

The desert tortoise is classified as a threatened species because its numbers have declined rapidly over the past few decades



PHOTO BY KELLY O'SULLIVAN

Combat Center Chief of Staff Col. James F. Harp gently sets No. 2-4, a desert tortoise hatched nine years ago at the installation's Tortoise Research and Captive Rearing Site, next to a burrow that biologists dug for her in the desert near her old home, Wednesday.

100- by 150-foot enclosure she's called home for nearly a decade, their visits will taper off from daily, weekly and monthly checks to once a year.

During a brief ceremony attended by city, county, state and federal officials Wednesday at TRACRS, Combat Center Chief of Staff Col. James F. Harp

respiratory disease. Soft shells make young tortoises particularly vulnerable to predators ranging from ants and ground squirrels to ravens and coyotes.

due to predation and upper

That first spring, biologists brought 30 wild female tortoises carrying

See **Tortoise pg.** A6

# Domestic Violence Awareness Month

STORY BY FAMILY ADVOCACY PROGRAM

October is recognized as Domestic Violence Awareness Month across the country and throughout the Department of Defense. Domestic violence is unacceptable in the culture of dignity and respect fostered by the adherence to the core values of the Marine Corps.

Commanders and leaders support service members and military families by modeling and promoting healthy, respectful family relationships, and advocating for the early use of the wide range of available counseling resources.

When domestic violence is reported, commanders and leaders play a key role in safeguarding victims and holding military offenders accountable by coordinating with military and civilian authorities. Victims may request restricted reporting, allowing access to confidential medical, advocacy and counseling services, without command or law enforcement involvement. The Family Advocacy Program is committed to assisting Combat Center families who are in crisis due to abuse. Programs include prevention and education activities to address problems before they happen, and intervention services to those families where abusive behaviors have already occurred.

The military community cares. Courageous service members, military spouses, and DoD civilians look out for each other and act to promote the safety and well-being of all. Risk factors for domestic

See **Domestic pg.** A6

# **Marine Corps' Top Shot**

Every week, thousands of fans cast their votes for the best photograph posted on the Corps' Facebook page. This week's top shot comes from Sgt. Zachary Scanlon.



The Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon marches off the field after their performance at Citi Field in Flushing, N.Y., Sept. 19.



**Reprinted from the Observation Post September 27, 1963** Story by Staff Sgt. Bill Rich

# Exercise "Merit Badge"

the personnel of the Navy-Marine Corps Team. An exercise designed to test and evaluate current doctrine and procedures employed in an amphibious assault.

Merit Badge . . . an exercise that gave training to all elements of an Amphibious Task Force. It was an exercise that included the coordination of naval gunfire and air support, the conduct of anti-air warfare, anti-submarine exercises, shore bombardment, the beach assault, guerrilla action and finally, securing of the objective.

This was Merit Badge and this is the story of how 13,000 Marines joined forces with the Task Force to complete and secure a successful operation.

Movement preparations began for the embarkation of more than 13,000 Marines who composed the 13th Marine Expeditionary Brigade MEB under the command of MGen W. T. Fairbourn.

Marines embarked on Sept. 16 at San Diego and Camp Del Mar. The landing force Marines were comprised of the 7th Regimental Landing Team, commanded by Col. R. M. Twisdale, Landing Force Artillery under Col. T. L. Randall and the First Service Battalion under Col. A. M. Fraser.

The mission of Force Troops, Fleet Marine Force Pacific was to provide combat ready support units to augment the Marine Divisions. Units from Force Troops, Twentynine Palms: 1st 155 guns commanded by Capt. R. M. Cooper moved out from their Hi-Desert Base to the coast and boarded the USS Calvert, USS Stone County, and the USS Tioga.

With the ships loaded the

A major training exercise for Task Force set to sea to conduct anti-submarine warfare exercises and a bombardment of San Clemente Island before the actual assault.

On Sept. 23 the 13,000 leathernecks stormed ashore in an amphibious assault. Once the landing forces had established a beachhead support equipment and reserve forces moved across the beaches.

Force Troops' self-propelled guns from here churned down the causeways and moved into staging positions. "M" Battery, 4th Bn., 11th Marines towed their 155mm howitzers into concealed positions before moving inland to give support to the assault.

According to the beach party, "M" battery set an unofficial record for unloading, by completing the job of unloading and moving out 155mm howitzer, artillery battery in less than 18 minutes.

On hand to observe the initial landings early in the morning were top ranking Naval and Marine officials led by LtGen Carson A. Roberts, Commanding General Fleet Marine Force Pacific. BGen Joseph L. Stewart, commanding general, Force Troops. Twentynine Palms was there to observe the Base units' action.

After a beachhead was established, the assault force moved inland. The inland move was not an easy one for it was constantly hampered by attacks from the "Aggressor,"1st Regimental Landing Team, composed of the 1st and 5th Marines, "K" Battery 4th Bn. 11th Marines and support units commanded by Col. H. C. Wallace.

Close air support was furnished by squadrons from the 3rd Marine

Aircraft Wing, El Toro coming in at speeds of hundreds of miles per hour at "tree top level" the small but mighty Douglas A4 "Skyhawk" attack jet, carried an array of weapons that raked the Aggressor positions which devastation accuracy.

Had the simulated air attacks been real, with their concentrated bombs, rockets, and machine gun fire, the enemy would have realized fully the effect of Marine Close Air Support . . . a tactic that has grown from pre-World War II infancy to one of the most powerful of modern assault techniques.

As "Merit Badge" progressed, self=propelled guns moved into the hills of Camp Pendleton to carry out fire missions in support of the brigade.

As the exercise reached its climax, tired Marines paused and looked back over the week's action. Commanders conferred; what had taken place over this past two weeks, what had been gained what had been learned?

Answers are found in a statement by MGen W. T. Fairbourn, commanding general, 13th Marine Expeditionary Brigade.

"The primary objective of this exercise was to accomplish training objectives established by higher authority. These objectives we designed to improve the combat readiness of the forces involved test operational doctrine, tables of organization and equipment; and develop and evaluate new doctrine and to test and evaluate new items of equipment under field conditions."

The job was completed and Marines played a big role within the big picture of out "Force in Readiness."

**SUDOKU** 

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Last week's answers

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# **BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **BELLA LUNA MORENO**

Born September 3, 2015 Born to John and Tiffani Moreno

### **DILLON CHERRY**

Born September 4, 2015 Born to Darren and Lisa Cherry

### ADDISON ROSE STROUB

Born September 4, 2015 Born to Zachery and Kimberly Stroub

### **ELLIE NICHOLE GERASIMOVICH**

Born September 10, 2015 Born to Michael and Cassaundra Gerasimovich

### **ZOEY ABIGAIL CADE**

Born September 13, 2015 Born to Henry and Rebecca Cade

### PEYTON MACKENZIE FARRISH

Born September 16, 2015 Born to Casey and Minnie Farrish

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### CROSSWORD

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- 5 Onward 10 Kite part
- 14 Mumbai dress
- 15 Billiard shot
- 16
- 17 Tease **18** Add
- 19 Madeline in "Clue" 20 Chrome rival
- 23 Together
- 24 Opening word? 25 Bring upon oneself
- 28 Mac platform
- 31 Fast snacks
- 32 Steinbeck novel
- 35 Place for a pig 36 Dog on "Frasier'
- 37 Meal starter "You Keep Me
- Hangin' On" band Early computer
- language 47 Cyclone part
- **48** The Dow, e.g.
- 49 Swelling reducer 51 1977 double-
- platinum Steely Dan album
- 52 They're taken undercover
- 58 Comic Fev 59 Strike back
- College in New Rochelle
- 62 Coup d' 63 Carpenter's machine
- 64 Surgeon General under Reagan
- 65 Ticker locale: Abbr. Look of disdain
- 67 Cutting part

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- 3 Ricelike pasta
- 5 Copious
- 6 Spoils
- 8 "Like, no way!" 9 Patron saint of
- 10 Put up with put-
- 1994 Peace
- Nobelist

- 4 Go up in smoke
- 7 Are, in Argentina
- France
- downs
- 12 Returnee's cry 13 Some wildcats
- 22 Musical McEntire 25 Part of T.G.I.F. 26 \_ a chance'

21 Calvary inscription

- 27 Boo-hoo 28 Chestnut
- 29 Unfortunately 30 Case for Mulder
- 33 Director Wiseman 34 Rustic locale
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### **OBSERVATION POST**

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Public Affairs Chief - Cpl. Julio McGraw

Press Chief -Lance Cpl. Levi Schultz Correspondents - Cpl. Charles Santamaria Lance Cpl. Medina Ayala-Lo Lance Cpl. Thomas Mudd

Lance Cpl. Connor Hancock

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### OFF-LIMITS **ESTABLISHMENTS**

MCIWest off-limits establishments guidance prohibits service members from patronizing the following locations. This order applies to all military personnel.

- Angelo's Kars, 222 S. Coast Hwy, Oceanside, Calif., 92054
- Angelo's Kars, 226 S. Coast Hwy, Oceanside, Calif., 92054
- In San Diego: - Club Mustang, 2200 University Ave.
- Club San Diego, 3955 Fourth St.
- Get It On Shoppe, 3219 Mission Blvd. - Main Street Motel, 3494 Main St.
- -Vulcan Baths, 805 W. Cedar St.
- In National City: - Dream Crystal, 15366 Highland Ave. Sports Auto Sales, 1112 National City Blvd.

Local off-limits guidance prohibits service members from patronizing the following

### In Twentynine Palms:

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- Adobe Smoke Shop, 6441 Adobe Rd. - STC Smoke Shop, 6001 Adobe Rd.
- K Smoke Shop, 5865A Adobe Rd. In Yucca Valley:
- Yucca Tobacco Mart, 57602 29 Palms Hwy. - Puff's Tobacco Mart, 57063 29 Palms Hwy.
- In Palm Springs: - Village Pub, 266 S. Palm Canyon Dr.
- Whispering Palms Apts., 449 E. Arenas Road - NYPD Pizza, 260-262 N. Palm Canyon Drive

For the complete orders, but not off-limits, check out the Combat Center's officialwebsite at http://www.29palms.marines. **OBSERVATION POST** OCTOBER 2, 2015 A3

### WHAT I'VE LEARNED

# Eric

Snellville, Ga., Student, Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School, Age 28

Montgomery has been singing since he was two years old. Since then, he has performed all over the world to include Vatican City.

# MONTGOMERY

>I'm a natural musician, for as long as I remember I've been good at music.

> | really enjoy the rhythms and the beat; it is something that sort of resonates with me. I don't care about the lyrics, I care about the music. If it's rhythmically good and it flows than I really enjoy it.

>The emotions evoked when you can just feel the music is something that happens with me with all kinds of music whether its rock, pop or classical.

> like creating music like that too. When you hear something beautiful, and you get the opportunity to make it, then it's that much better.

> grew up with 80s rock. Led Zeppelin and Aerosmith are some of my favorite bands.

> started playing trumpet in the sixth grade and played throughout high school. I also picked up piano in high school. I had the opportunity to play at high school events and church.

>I've sang in a number of groups and choirs and have had the opportunity to sing all over the world.

> l used to sing in a music group called the Atlantic Boy Choir. We performed for Pope John Paul II, at the Vatican. We toured the world and sang for a lot of people, which was a great experience for me. I don't know too many people who have been to Italy and Vatican City by the time they were 13.

>When I got older, I also sang for the Atlantic Men's Choir where we traveled across the United States and Canada. We would sing at many historical places and in large cathedrals. It was great experiencing all those amazing places.

>Music gave me the opportunity to travel the world. Being in the Marines, I would like to emulate that and be able to see the rest of the world.

> like challenges and doing new things. I enjoy outdoor activities such as camping, hiking, soccer and rock climbing.

> l like soccer over all the other sports because I like to run and feel the wind on my face.

>Unlike football and basketball where there is a time out every 30 seconds, you're constantly moving and have to think on your feet. You are required to be able to access the situation and figure it out on the fly.



> took a couple years of college at parents have worked in government service jobs. Kennesaw State University. I realized the college experience was not to my liking so I dropped out. Being stuck in the classroom listening to lectures for hours on end wasn't my sort of learning experience so I got a job.

> I grew up in Snellville, Ga. It was a small town about 20 minutes from Atlanta. At first it was nature with stars and trees and over time it kind of dwindled away. I saw the city grow up around me and when I got a chance, I moved away so I could be in the wilderness again. My family still lives in the same house we grew up in.

>I've always been patriotic and wanted to serve my country whether it was as police, a fire fighter or in the military. My parents and grand-

>I choose the Marines because if I was going to do something, I wanted to be the best at it. I felt like the Marines were the best of the best.

>I've been married to my wife for about five years. It's difficult after being in a relationship for that long to separate for months at a time and only be able to write letters or talk over the phone.

>Knowing the benefits that the Marine Corps provides, we are excited for the future because they do put emphasis on family.

>My goal is to finish out a college degree and see where it goes from there. There are a lot of programs and services offered by the military that I look forward to making use of.

Interviewed and photographed by Lance Cpl. Levi Schultz

# Cinema 6

Showtimes Effective 10/2/15 - 10/7/15

The Martian (PG13) 2D 1:30 9:00 3D 6:00

> Sicario (R)

1:30 6:00 9:00

**Hotel Transylvania 2** (PG)

2D 4:00 9:00 3D 1:30 6:30

The Intern (PG13)

1:30 4:00 6:30 9:00

1 (760) 365-9633 www.cinema6theatre.com

Do you need a gown for the Marine Birthday Ball? Desert Best Friend's Closet is hosting its 6th Annual

Military Ball Gown Program!

One weekend only - October 16th, 17th and 18th

**NEW LOCATION:** At the Rabobank Regional Business Center Also known as CVEP/iHub

You must call

### Desert Best Friend's Closet

(760) 776-9975 or email cgolds@bfcloset.org 1 to schedule a dress appointment (No walk-ins please)

\*\*Must show valid military ID card to receive a dress\*\*

3111 East Tahquitz Canyon Way, Palm Springs, CA 92262 (Across from the Palm Springs Airport and the Palm Springs City Hall)

# Master Composter **Training**

Saturday, Oct 3 • 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Yucca Valley Community Center, Cholla Room 57116 Twentynine Palms Hwy, Yucca Valley

The FREE workshop will discuss:

- **Backyard Composting**
- Vermicomposting (composting with worms)
- Grasscycling
- Recycling
- Becoming a Master Composter Volunteer





To sign up, or for more information, call 951.265.8699 or e-mail MC\_Coordinator@dnbvisions.com. Seating is limited, so please RSVP by Friday, October 3.

The workshop is sponsored by The Town of Yucca Valley, the City of Twentynine Palms, the County of San Bernardino and the Mojave Desert & Mountain Recycling Authority

For more info, visit www.urecycle.org, or call 1-888-URECYCLE.

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### UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

MARINE AIR GROUND TASK FORCE TRAINING COMMAND MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER BOX 788100 TWENTYNINE PALMS, CALIFORNIA 92278-8100

> IN REPLY REFER TO: 5000 AUG

Dear Marines, Sailors, and family members of the Combat Center:

The opportunity to learn is one of the greatest gifts we can give our children. Despite the aspirations we have for our future generation of students, public schools continue to battle for every budget dollar. Military and civilian parents who live or work on the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center can help by participating in the Federal Impact Aid Program.

The Federal Impact Aid Program is a law that provides a means for the federal government to reimburse local school districts for the loss of property and business tax support associated with federally connected students residing on or off base. School districts use Impact Aid for a wide variety of expenses, including the salaries of teachers and teacher aides; purchasing textbooks, computers, and other equipment; after-school programs and remedial tutoring; advanced placement classes; and special enrichment programs.

Impact aid dollars are not automatic. Schools that choose to participate must conduct a yearly survey to identify the number of federally enrolled children, which are submitted directly to the U.S. Department of Education. Your child will be bringing home the Federal Impact Aid Survey Card from school in early October. The information retrieved from this survey is the only way our schools are able to qualify for Federal Impact Aid funding. Unfortunately, many schools do not receive the maximum amount of funding available to them due to a low rate of return of survey cards.

We are all aware of the fiscal challenges facing the California schools and the negative effect these budgetary crises can have on our children's education. Your involvement is critical in ensuring that our military impacted schools receive the proper amount of funding to sustain the educational needs of our student population. Low participation in the Federal Impact Aid Survey could result in the loss of millions of federal dollars that could otherwise benefit our local schools and our children's education.

Thank you for your support of this most worthy initiative. By working together on school funding issues, we can better prepare our children for a successful future.

Semper Fidelis,

LEWIS A. CRAPAROTTA

Major General, U.S. Marine Corps

Commanding General



Come play golf at Hawk's Landing **Golf Club any Saturday during the** month of October and get a chance to qualify to win \$1,000,000!

- One closest to the pin winner each Saturday will qualify for the finals (on designated hole)
- Must pay green fee plus \$1 and play between 10am 2pm to be eligible. The extra \$1 will benefit the Miracle League.

Ask at the Pro-Shop for details!



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**Open Daily at 7am** 

55100 Martinez Trail • Yucca Valley, CA www.hawkslandinggolf.com

During over-seed, (9/28-10-25) we will remain OPEN with at least 6 holes and offer a \$5 discount

**OBSERVATION POST** OCTOBER 2, 2015 A5

# Federal Impact Aid

What is Federal Impact Aid?

Federal Impact Aid is a program designed to provide funding to school districts with a significant portion of federally connected students in their school system. These payments are meant to be reimbursements for revenue lost due to federally owned, and there for tax exempt, property (i.e. military bases and Indian reservations).

How does the Federal Impact Aid Program affect my child?

The Federal Impact Aid Program provides funding for schools in five categories:

- Basic Support Payments
- Payments for Property
- Disability Payments

**Top 5 Recipients** 

of Basic Support

Payments:

1. Arizona

3.New Mexico

5. California

2.Alaska

4.Texas

- School Construction Payments
- Department of Defense Supplemental Impact Aid Payments.

Basic Support payments are distributed based or the number of federally connected students enrolled in the school districts. Federally connected students include those who: have a parent in the U.S. Military, are Native American, live on federal property, or have a parent who works on federal property.

Some of the other payments provide funding for Special Education programing and facility improvements.

### What can I do?

It's simple! Every year your child receives a Federal survey card that requests information regarding their federal connection. It is imperative that we have 100% of surveys completed. To receive the Basic Support Payments, the school district must have at least 400 of their students or three percent of their enrollment federally connected. To receive the supplemental funding from DoD, the district must have 20 percent of their student population federally connected.

		School:
MORONGO UNI	FIED SCHOOL DISTRICT FEDER	AL SURVEY as of
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2. Student's Physical Address on 10/07/09:	Street Number and Name	City
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THE LAW OFFICE

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# **Just 5 minutes of your time... EQUALS FUNDING FOR YOUR SCHOOL!**



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Impact Aid cards will come home with your child. For more information, visit www.ed.gov and search "Impact Aid".

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Call us to promote your business today! (760) 365-3315



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### Command from pg. A1

has ever existed," said Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus. "He kept it ready to respond to any crisis throughout the globe in spite of budget constraints, threat of sequestration and the impact of continuing resolutions."

During his time as the 36th Commandant of the

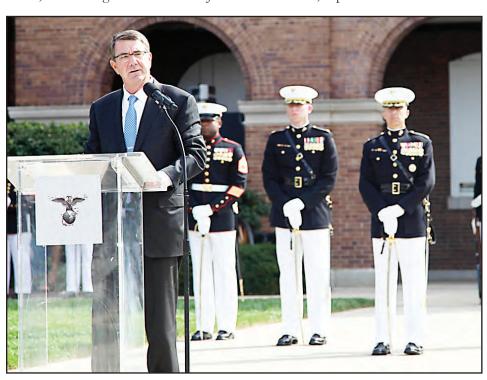
Marine Corps, Dunford moved forward to meet challenges with his planning guidance stressing innovation, adaption and winning America's battles.

"I feel fortunate because a few minutes ago Gen. Neller became my commandant," said Dunford. "Just like all the other Marines and sailors, I have the good fortune to have a leader who's passionate, has extraordinary operational capability, and he has extraordinary energy and vision to take us into the future. We couldn't be in better hands."

Dunford will assume his new position as the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Sept. 25.



Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps Ronald L. Green, right, hands the Marine Corps Battle Colors to 36th Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. Joseph F. Dunford, Jr., during the passage of command ceremony at Marine Corps Barracks Washington, D.C., Sept. 24.



Secretary of Defense Ashton Carter speaks during the Commandant of the Marine Corps passage of command ceremony at Marine Corps Barracks Washington, D.C., Sept. 24.

### Domestic from pg. A1

violence include; family discord, extreme jealousy, economic stress, and behavioral health concerns. Early identification and intervention may help a service member preserve their family, health and career.

During October, our installation will host events to celebrate healthy relationships, educate the community, and connect families with available support We invite resources. you to participate in the events and activities scheduled aboard our installation for the month of October. These events and activities will help you to live by core values to devel-

op healthy relationships. We will offer weekly Lunch & Learns. All of the Lunch & Learns will be held from 1130-1230.

• October 8, 2015 -Tough Couples Challenge -Ocotillo Community Center • October 15, 2015 - Live, Laugh, Love -Desert View Community Center • October 22, 2015 -

Couples Communication Techniques -Adobe Flats Community Center • October 29, 2015 -Developing Healthy

Relationships -Robert E.

Bush Naval Hospital By participating in our Lunch & Learns you will have the opportunity to win a gift card to the main exchange.

We will also host the 2nd Annual Domestic Violence Awareness "Porker Run Style" Motorcycle Ride on October 30. For further information, contact Michele Godfrey at 830-6345.

For further information about how to receive these services, please call 760-830-6345. And remember, relationships should be safe. If you suspect that you or a loved one is a victim of domestic violence or intimate partner violence, please don't hesitate to contact a victim advocate using the 24/7 response line at 760-362-9837.

### **Tortoise** from pg. A1

166 eggs to TRACRS, returning them to their home ranges after they laid their clutches in burrows at the facility. When the hatchlings began emerging in August 2006, biologists marked each one with tracking numbers. They counted 120 hatchlings in all, 114 live tortoises and six that had died, Henen

No. 2-4 was the fourth hatchling of the second tortoise to lay her eggs at the facility.

In mid-September, biologists began releasing the largest of that first cohort of hatchlings. No. 2-4 marked the 35th and final release this year.

After Harp set her gently on the ground next to a burrow biologists dug for her near a creosote bush home, No. 2-4 wasted no time going inside to check out what could become her new digs. She emerged a couple of minutes later, setting off across the desert at a brisk clip.

"This is either curiosity or discomfort," UCLA research professor Dr. Ken Nagy said of No. 2-4's walkabout. "If it's curiosity, she will probably come back to the burrow."

UCLA research assistant Margaret Adam aimed to find out. She spent about four hours Wednesday afternoon hovering in the background as No. 2-4 explored her surround-

### TRACRS tortoise facts

• The 35 tortoises released from TRACRS are the offspring of 14 mothers, whose home ranges are as far as 2 1/2 miles from the facility. The home range of No. 2-4's mother encompasses TRACRS. The day before No. 2-4's release, biologists spotted her mother mating with a wild male (CM-4) just outside TRACRS' fenceline. Both were near the facility on release day; the male delighted visitors when he walked through an open outer gate and through the crowd as they prepared to leave.

 At age 9, No. 2-4 and the other tortoises released this fall are likely too young breed. Desert tortoises normally reach sexual maturity between the ages of 12 and 20.

 Desert tortoises lay their egg clutches in burrows. The babies' gender is determined by egg temperature during incubation. Biologists use the phrase "hot mamas and cool daddies," meaning eggs laid higher in a burrow will produce female hatchlings while those laid further underground will produce male hatchlings.

toise's wanderings with a than a deck of cards. radio receiver that emitted "blip, blip, blip" sounds.

hatched between 2006 and 2013 remain in their pens. They'll stay there, dining on native vegetation, until they are large enough to survive periods when food and water are scarce, and their shells are hard enough to withstand predators' attacks.

To qualify for release, a tortoise must be at least 4 inches long. No. 4-25 and No. 24-24, a pair of active 3-year-olds that some visitors to the site Wednesday got to hold in gloved hands, illustrate just how far the youngest tortoises have to go to reach that mile-

ings, following the tor- stone. Each is no bigger

The next release is a slow and steady series of scheduled for fall 2016 and others will follow over Back at TRACRS, the next few years, Henen just yards from her former another 440 tortoises said, noting that biologists will monitor all of the released tortoises over several years to determine their survival rates. In the captive rearing site, survivorship rates have been high, ranging from 85 percent to 96 percent.

> Henen and Nagy, who have worked side by side overseeing the program and monitoring the young tortoises' progress over the past nine years, are like proud parents who just dropped off their kids at their first college dorm.

"Kind of like a parent, I'm a little worried," Henen said. "We're excited, but cautious."

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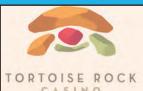
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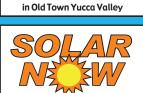
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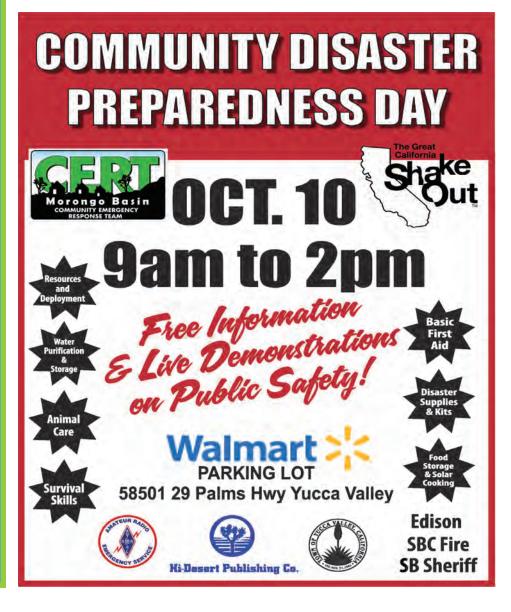












OBSERVATION POST OCTOBER 2, 2015 A7

# CLEO protects natural and cultural resources



Richard Frausto, conservation law enforcement officer, Natural and Cultural Resources, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs, patrols the Combat Center's ranges enforcing laws protecting the unique and irreplaceable natural and cultural resources.

### STORY AND PHOTOS BY LANCE CPL. LEVI SCHULTZ

The Combat Center's training areas are home to many forms of wildlife and hidden archaeological wonders. Conservation Law Enforcement Officers, Natural and Cultural Resources, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs, work to preserve these unique and irreplaceable entities aboard the base.

"The purpose of [CLEO] is to ensure the protection of natural and cultural resources," said Richard Frausto, conservation law enforcement officer, Natural and Cultural Resources, NREA. "We have an agreement with the [United States] Fish and Wildlife Service to enforce regulations aboard the Combat Center."

CLEO regularly performs patrols through the Combat Center's more than 700,000 acres of desert terrain. While patrolling, the officers look out for poachers and scrappers whom may be looking to illegally obtain artifacts, endangered species or metal from expended munition casings and ordnance both exploded and unexploded.



officer, Natural and Cultural Resources, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs, checks his computer during a patrol of the Combat Center's ranges, Sept. 25.

"We perform range patrols to make sure there is no encroachment by those who may be looking to acquire metals illegally," Frausto said. "It is also to ensure the training of service members can continue without harming the resources on base."

The program works to maintain the protected species on the base such as the desert tortoise and migratory birds from poachers and collectors. One of the laws enforced by CLEO is the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, protecting all birds except the House Sparrow, Rock Dove and starlings. They also enforce laws that protect the base's more than 2,000 recorded archaeological sites.

"CLEO is a program funded by the Marine Corps with collaboration through the FWS," said Brian Henen, ecologist, NREA. "The natural resources laws enforced by the program include the Endangered Species Act and Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

These laws serve to protect the various threatened species that migrate through the base. The desert tortoise is one of these species that is exclusive to the Mojave



Richard Frausto, conservation law enforcement Richard Frausto, conservation law enforcement officer, Natural and Cultural Resources, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs, performs a patrol to ensure the protection of natural and cultural resources of the Combat Center's ranges, Sept. 25.

and Sonoran deserts of southwestern United States and northwestern Mexico.

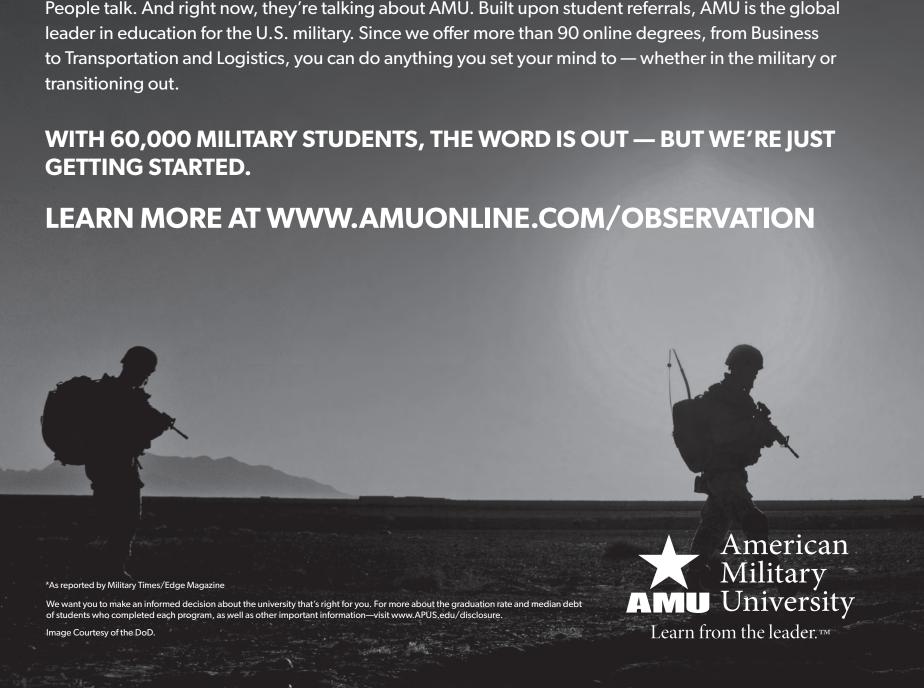
According to Henen, the cultural laws included a few other mandates such as the Native American Grave and Repatriation Act and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act. These mandates protect human remains, burial sites, cultural sites, rock art and tools which may be left behind by Native American cultures that migrated through the area seasonally for 10,000 years. The more prominent tribes included the Serrano, Cahuilla, Mojave and Chemehuevi.

Coordinating alongside other outside agencies, CLEO works to ensure training aboard the base can continue without a detrimental effect to the environment or the various cultural resources aboard the Combat Center.

"CLEO oversees the protection of the natural resources on base and working with other agencies to do the same thing such as National Park Services and Bureau of Land Management," Frausto said. "Our ultimate goal is to maintain those resources not only now but for future generations to come."

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OBSERVATION POST



### **Marines maintain Big Morongo Canyon Preserve**



Pfc. James Jones, student, Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School, removes a log from a trail at Big Morongo Canyon Preserve, Morongo Valley, Calif., on National Public Lands Day, Saturday.

### PHOTOS BY LANCE CPL. CONNOR HANCOCK

Marines volunteered to assist the Palm Springs Bureau of Land Management and National Environmental Education Foundation, to clean and maintain trails in Big Morongo Canyon Preserve in Morongo Valley, Calif., on National Public Lands Day, Saturday.

National Public Lands Day encourages volunteers to improve public lands nationwide. More than 20 Combat Center Marines from Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School volunteered for the clean-up.



Pfc. Melvin Hardy, student, Marine Communication-Electronics School, trims excess vegetation from a boardwalk at Big Morongo Canyon Preserve, Morongo Valley, Calif., on



Pvt. Jessie Williamson, student, Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School, clears off a boardwalk at Big Morongo Canyon Preserve, Morongo Valley, Calif., on National Public Lands Day, Saturday.









October 2, 2015 Since 1957 Vol. 59 B

# Curation Center breaks ground with Monarch Butterfly Garden

STORY AND PHOTOS BY LANCE CPL. THOMAS MUDD

Volunteers and employees of the Combat Center's Archeology and Paleontology Curation Center constructed a Monarch Butterfly Garden at the Curation Center,

The garden is being created to help the butterflies that inhabit the installation. In recent years the population of the Monarch Butterfly has been decreasing and the Combat Center is doing its part to conserve and improve those numbers. The garden will be filled with various flowers and several types of Milkweed, which is the only type of plant the Monarch Butterfly uses to lay eggs.

"The purpose of the garden is to give a safe place for the Monarch Butterfly to feed and reproduce," said D'Anne Albers, curation technician, Curation Center. "The federal government recently put out a mandate telling everyone to do what they can to help the butterflies."

The federal government came out with a "National Strategy to Promote the Health of Honey Bees and Other Pollinators" mandate which promotes the creation of habitats for the Monarch Butterfly as well as several other pollinating insects and stops the decrease of their respective populations.

The Department of Defense Legacy Award program and the Officers' Spouses Club gave the Curation Center a grant to construct the garden for National Public Lands Day. National Public Lands Day is held annually at the end of each September. The day promotes the conservation of public lands throughout the United States.

"We received the grants to build the garden but we could not have completed the garden if it was not for the volunteers from the base," Albers said.

According to Albers, the members of the Curation Center were unsure if the foundation of the garden would be completed that day. The volunteers were glad to participate in the project and were able to complete everything except for the irrigation and sowing of the garden's plants, which is estimated to be completed by mid-November.

"It makes me proud to be one of the people who worked to make something that will give life," said Lance Cpl. Jason Loofborough, supply clerk, Exercise Support Division.

The Monarch Butterfly Garden will be the Combat Center's helping hand in preserving the butterflies and bringing wildlife to the Combat Center.



Lance Cpl. Miguel Alfau-Pozo, ground radio repairer, Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School, levels the garden's dirt while working on the Monarch Butterfly Garden at the Combat Center's Archeology and Paleontology Curation Center, Saturday.



Marine volunteers from the Combat Center add the last shovels full of dirt to a Monarch Butterfly Garden at the Combat Center's Archeology and Paleontology Curation Center, Saturday.



Lance Cpl. Aaron Wrenforrester, ammunition technician, Center Magazine Area, sets the base of the Monarch Butterfly Garden during it construction at the Combat Center's Archeology and Paleontology Curation Center, Saturday



Pfc. Michael Pressley, ammunition technician, Center Magazine Area, digs an area which will be used to irrigate the Monarch Butterfly Garden at the Combat Center's Archeology and Paleontology Curation Center, Saturday.



Sgt. Gilberto Collin, instructor, Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School, shapes a brick used on the retaining wall during the construction of a new Monarch Butterfly Garden foundation at the Combat Center's Archeology and Paleontology Curation Center, Saturday.

B2 OCTOBER 2, 2015 **OBSERVATION POST** 



### **Combat Center Events**

Medal of Honor recipient, Sgt. Dakota Meyer, will be returning to the Combat Center for Hiring Our Heroes workshop, Oct. 7. Unit or section reservations can be made by a staff non-commissioned officer or officer. Seating limited to 85 per session. For more information, contact the Career Resource Office at 780.830.7225.

The Combat Center Library is hosting a pumpkin decorating contest, Oct. 1 through Oct. 29. Drop off your own painted, decorated or bedazzled pumpkin to the Combat Center Library. There will be a grand prize winner for each age group. For more information, contact 760.830.6875.

The Auto Skills Center is celebrating the grand opening for Combat Auto Parts Oct. 2 from 12 - 3pm. There will be a barbeque, cold refreshments and hourly giveaways. For more information or to register, contact 760.830.1145.

Family Advocacy program is hosting weekly Lunch and Learns, Thursdays through the month of October, at Lincoln Military Housing Community Centers and Naval Hospital for Domestic Violence Month. The next Lunch and Learn is Oct. 8, at the Ocotillo Community Center from 11:30 to 12:30. For more information, contact 760.830.6345.

Operation Live Well presents "Fight the Enemy" video contest. Submit your best 29 second video that advocates against tobacco and electronic cigarettes. Open to ages 13-18. Prizes will be awarded for the top three videos. To enter and view contest rules, go to health.mil/FightTheEnemy.

### **Sunset Cinema**

Friday, October 2

6:00 p.m. – A Walk in the Woods, R 8:30 p.m. – No Escape, R

Saturday, October 3

12:00 p.m. – Ricki and the Flash, PG-13

2:30 p.m. – Hitman: Agent 47, R 5:00 p.m. – American Ultra, R 7:00 p.m. – A Walk in the Woods, R

Sunday, October 4

12:00 p.m. - The Man from U.N.C.L.E., PG-13

2:30 p.m. – Straight Outta Compton, R

5:30 p.m. – No Escape, R 8:00 p.m. – Sinister 2, R Monday, October 5

7:00 p.m. - American Ultra, R Tuesday, October 6

7:00 p.m. - No Escape, R Wednesday, October 7

6:30 p.m. – Straight Outta Compton, R **Thursday, October 8** 

5:00 p.m. - Ricki and the Flash, PG-13 7:30 p.m. - The Man from UNCLE, PG-13

by Lou Gerhardt

### TOUGH MINDED **OPTIMISM**



There are many outstanding people in our Morongo Basin. One that comes to mind is Rae Rupert. Rae's loving husband, Gerald, passed away in 2011. Her daughters, Imani and Maya, graduated from Yucca Valley High and went away to college. Rae, feeling isolated, followed the advice of a friend and began attending my seminars.

Rae stands out, not because she is African-American, but because she is so full of positive energy. One can't be around her but to feel her generosity of spirit as it comes out in all she does. Rae is a tough minded optimist and she passed that characteristic on to her daughters.

Both daughters earned undergraduate degrees at the UC, Santa Barbara. Since high school Imani and Maya were involved in myriad extracurricular activities especially in matters of social justice and equality.

Imani went on to University of Chicago where she earned a graduate degree in social work. She settled in Chicago where she married and now successfully directs a social program targeting homeless LGBT youth. Maya earned a law degree from UC, Berkeley, and went on to practice at a Los Angeles firm. Her career lead her to Washington D.C. where President Obama appointed her Chief of Staff for the Office of General Counsel at HUD.

Rae says the best years of her life have been the 30 years spent here in Yucca Valley. She's proud of her daughters and, in fact, they are a source of pride for all of Morongo Basin.

This column sponsored by:

### **Dr. Marc Siegmund** and Ernesto Velarde Chula Vista, CA

Dr. Lou can be reached at 760-367-4627 800-995-1620 res19mxc@verizon.net Johnny Depp is riveting as Boston crime kingpin Whitey Bulger **NEIL POND** eyes can become as cold and menacing as with murder, extortion and drug dealing. But he could also be kind to old ladies, a any weapon. "Black Mass" loving father and a doting son. Black Mass begins in 1975, and Starring Johnny Depp, Joel Edgerton

and Benedict Cumberbatch Directed by Scott Cooper Rated R In the crime underworld, there's

nothing lower than a rat-a snitch, a two-timer, an informer who sells his soul to save his skin.

Early in this powerful screen adaptation of the 2001 book by Boston Globe reporters Dick Lehr and Gerard O'Neill. Irish-American hood "Whitey" Bulger (Johnny Depp) meets with FBI agent John Connelly (Joel Edgerton), who wants Bulger's help in reeling in some even bigger fish—the Italian Mafia.

Connelly asks Bulger to become an informant. Bulger recoils. "Do you know what I do to rats?" he hisses.

The audience doesn't, but we'll soon find out. And if it's anything like we just aw Bulger do to a guy who displeased him with some sloppy snack-food etiquette, we can guess it'll be ugly, brutal and swift.

In Boston crime lore, James "Whitey" Bulger was a legend, a local neighborhood kid who became a fearsome underworld kingpin. A career criminal, he was a stone-cold killer who kept his South Boston crew, the Winter Hill Gang, busy

shows how Bulger did, indeed, become an informant, creating an unholy alliance that—ironically—expanded his criminal reign by giving him "protection," and drawing agent Connelly dangerously deep into Bulger's world. It also complicated things for Connelly's childhood friend, the Massachusetts state senator (Benedict Cumberbatch) who happened to be Bulger's younger brother.

Gangsters and crime movies are Hollywood staples, and there are characters and scenes in Black Mass that may indeed remind you of things that came before: The Godfather, Goodfellas, The Departed. But this gangster flick has something unique: Johnny Depp as one of modern history's most infamous mobsters, reminding us how great he can be when he digs deep into a serious role.

Burying the memories of some of his oader, more flamboyant performanc es (Capt. Jack Sparrow, Willy Wonka, Edward Scissorhands, Tonto) behind piercing blue contact lenses, a yellowed front tooth, an artificially receding hairline and subtle facial prosthetics, he hones in and practically disappears into the part of the notorious, psychopathic crime boss. You get chills whenever he's onscreen, especially in close-up, when his

The cast—which also includes Dakota Johnson, Kevin Bacon, Peter Saarsgard, Jesse Pelmons, Rory Cochrane, Corey Stoll, Julianne Nicholson and Adam Scott—is uniformly strong. The stark, sophisticated cinematography, by master lensman Masonobu Takayanagi (Silver Linings Playbook, The Grey, Warrior) basks in the bleak '70 and '80s grunge of the film's Beantown settings and evokes the amoral chill of its tale. The set design captures all the details of the era, from the big American Fords, Lincolns and Cadillacs—the rides of choice of the mobsters—to the reel-to-reel recorders used by the Feds. Director Scott Cooper, who previously steered Jeff Bridges in Crazy Heart (2009), meticulously juggles the players and pieces of the sprawling, intense, character-driven story that sweeps across a full decade, with a postscript in 1995.

"Southie kids, we went straight from playing cops and robbers on the play ground to doin' it for real on the streets," says one Bulger's henchmen on the trajectory that led his boss and associates from tough childhoods in South Boston into careers of crime. That may not have turned out to be the best life choice, but it sure had the makings of one heck of a fine gangster movie, rats and all.

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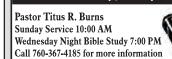
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Unfurnished

Houses

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29 PALMS

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UNFURNISHED

Houses

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LIC#00841552

Sales & Property Management

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9438 Navajo Tr., M. V. - \$500

55140 Airlane, 5-A, Y.V.- \$750

10762 San Jacinto, M.V. - \$??? 2BD, 1BA, fenced.

3BD, 1BA, fenced yard, nat. gas.

61712 Petunia, J.T. - \$750

5430 Abronia, 29 - \$750

2BD, 2BA. on golf course W/T paid.

2BD, 1BA, natural gas, fenced yard.

Studio house on 1/2 ac.

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Practice

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This newspaper does not knowingly accept employment ads that Disability Employer indicate an age preference, from employers covered by the open. Must Age Discrimination Act, or knowingly accept ads expressing perience. a preference of sex where no bona fide occupational qualification exists under DO YOU HAVE the Fair Employment Act from employers

### FOOD? The Roost Café a

Hawk's Landing golf course is looking for a part time line cook Must have experi passion, and customer service per sonality. Some computer skills and food nandlers equired

Hi-Desert Star: 56445 29 Palms Hwy., Yuc Or email resume' to cmelland@hidesert

ng Golf Course is looking for a part time mechanic to maintain & repair maintenance equipment & ehicles. Experience Star: 56445 29 Palms Hwy., Yucca Valley

platforms. Ideal candidate is:

 Organized Team player

market information, be able to initiate advertising concepts and create marketing presentations. Must be goal oriented and able to work in a fast-

Call for Availability

## Yucca Valley Office 760-228-RENT (7368)

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### Help Wanted 営 Help Wanted ≅

Tow-truck driver wanted- Class A only. Apply at 1718 Old Woman Springs Rd, Y.V. No phone calls please.

Taxi Drivers wanted! P/T. Must be 23+, have clean driving record & must pass drug test. 760-475-2310

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Yucca Valley/Landers 58330 Navajo **3/2** - \$1250 7578 Indio **3/2** - \$1100 7052 Avalon 3/2 - \$995 58375 Del Mar 3/2 - \$875 7154 Barberry **3/2** - \$850 56797 Breezy **3/1** - \$750 7339 Condalia 2/1 - \$700 7208 Palo Alto 2/1 - \$700

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2+yrs EXPERIENCED Line Cook & Waitress needed for a local family restaurant. Apply in person @ 73780 29 Palms Hwy in 29 Palms. NO phone calls!!!

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Sky Harbor Care Center, a progressive SNF has the following openings: CNA & LVN. Be part of our team, Enjoy pay based on exp, New grads welcome. Apply in person. M-F. 57333 Joshua Lane Yucca Valley 92284

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We are looking for computer engineers who like to solve difficult problems. Call us now at this number x=35 y=20 760.(y^2-x)  $(y^2+x^2-520)x3$ 

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skills. cash register

experience, computer knowledge, and outgoing personality Experience in copy or print sales helpful. Apply in person @ 56445 29 Palms Hwy.,Y.V. or send resume' to: cmelland@ hidesertstar.com Equal Opportunity

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Free Ads! -If you are between the ages of 12 -17 and are looking for work after school, bring your ID to the Hi-Desert Star or Desert Trail office and We will give you a free ad in this classification.

Do you need landscaping or yard work done the Twentynine Palms area?! I'm your guy! Experienced 17 year old looking for work. Call Tate 760-498-8487

### Announcements & Get your ads

noticed in

the classifieds! For more details on our **Enhanced** Listings, call the Hi-Desert Star at (760)**365-3315** 

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People you know, news you can trust

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Ki-Desert Star | The Observation Post (760) 367-3577

RINT AND ONL

### YUCCA VALLEY

Estate Sale 5253 Puente Ct. Yucca Valley Oct 2-4. 8-4. No early birds. Every-thing goes! 2 houses, garage yard. Please no pets. Do not block roadway, mailboxes or neighbors property. From Hwy 62 & 247 go north on 247, turn left on Skyline Ranch Rd, left on Mormon Ave. Left

Huge Indoor Church Rummage Sale. Fill a bag for \$5. Oct. 9 & 10. 8 to ? Living Waters Foursquare Chapel Community Room. 55673 Santa Fe Trail.

on Puente Ct.

Sky Harbor 57943 Ivanhoe Dr. 8-1. Fri 10/2 & Sat. 10/3. Chevy parts, toys, toolbox, sewing supplies, collectible Barbies

### **Multi-Family Sale** Fri & Sat Oct. 2nd & 3rd

from 8-7, Collectables, yard art, matching wd twin beds, over 1,000 pc new/used clothes infant to adults, fridge, 40+ handbags some designer, 400 pc jewelry, loveseat, chairs. 5262 OWS Rd Y.V.

### chair, Sports collectibles-Nascar - Coke, A.C. 3 ton condensing unit, a bit of everything! 58180 Starlight

by Dawn Blevins Oct 2nd & 3rd, Opens at 8am 59025 La Brisa Dr/ off Avalon. Cargo container + 2 1/2 acres full of vintage car parts, wood, yard art, 1940 Chrysler Winsor, 1951 tractor, farm equipment, household items, wagons, vintage bikes and lots more. It's always a magical treasure hunt!

Call Dawn @ 760-403-1210

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California law re quires that contractors taking jobs that total \$500 or more (labor or materials) must be licensed by the Contractors State License Board. State law also requires that contractors include their license number on all advertising. You can check the status of your licensed contractor at www.cslb. ca.gov or by calling 800-321-CSLB. Unlicensed contractors taking jobs that total less than \$500 must lstate in their advertisements that they lare not licensed by the Contractors State License Board.

LIEN SALE 10/12/15 10AM AT 530 SAN BER-NARDINO 66 UAR LIC# ILINDA VIN# 1F12267

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1bd/1ba 7634 Fox #B \$550/mo 56799 El Dorado \$1100/mo

Joshua Tree 61986 Desert Air \$550/mo 64777 Chollita \$675/mo 1bd/1ba

2bd/2ba 2bd/1ba 3bd/2ba

4774 Avenida La Mirada. \$750/mo 61829 Aberdeen \$1095/mo 29 Palms 6536 El Rey #B \$575/mo

Yucca Valley

1bd/1ba 2bd/1ba 2bd/1ba

5459 Daisy \$625/mo 5655 Mariposa \$650/mo 73314 Sun Valley \$725/mo We've got lots of choices in rentals!

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Double detached garage, great neighborhood.

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55569 29 Palms Hwy. Y.V. CA 92284 affordablerentalsonline.com 760-228-5000 YUCCA VALLEY

6404 El Dorado A 2/1 W/T paid \$585

7772 Jemez Tr. #2 2/1 W/T paid \$625 6236 Airway Ave. 3/2 \$995 JOSHUA TREE

6370 Sunburst St. "B" 2/2 \$625 62179 Crestview Drive 4/2 \$1150 29 PALMS

6416 E. Court Way 2/1 W/T paid \$550 6362 Bagley Ave. 2/1 #4-W/T paid \$575

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California State law requires that contractors, builders, and landscapers who perform work for \$500 or more, including materials and labor, mus be licensed. License numbers should be so indicated in their advertising.

Family child care providers are required by state law to be licensed, and facility license numbers must be indicated in all advertising.

Unlicensed contractors should also be indicated in their advertising.

Please refer questions to Contractors State License Board. 1250 East Cooley Suite 200 Drive. Colton, CA 92324

### Hi-Desert Publishing Co.

**GENERAL POLICY-**Please check your ad the first day it runs to see that all the information is correct. This will ensure your ad is exactly what you want readers to see. Call us the very first day your ad appears to make any changes or corrections. This way, we can credit you for the first day if any error occurred. The Publisher wants to do everything possible within the confines of good taste and legal constraints to help you advertise your products or services to your best advantage. The newspaper does reserve the right to edit or reject any copy or illustration.

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LOST OR STOLEN: Red car hauler trailer. has side rails. It is old er but has new tires. single axle. It was stolen from our house in Yucca Mesa and we would like it back. If you see it please let me know. \$100 to get it back, no questions asked. 714-878-5304.

Desert Tortoise, Lg. female, found in the Alta Mesa/Aberdeen area Call Wild Life Rescue (760) 819-2231 5"-6" Small Tortoise

found on Golden Bee

Joshua Lane area

Valley. Yucca Call (760) 819-2231 to re-Found female German Shepherd puppy. (Approx. 6 mo. old) is the

area of Borrego Trail &

4534

Trail. 909-844

Lost Dog: Male, Chihuahua Shepherd mix, black with white markings on chest & tip of his tail. Paws are brownish tan. No collar, answers to Wiz or Wisdom. Missing since 9/20/15. Vicinity of Sunny Sands Dr. & Avalon (on the mesa) in Yucca Valley. Call (760) 974-6436

FOUND: Lrg brown male dog, possibly shepherd mix, w white front paws, no collar. Found at Yucca Valley Library. Please call Jack 760-408-2762

Lost in Paradise near Indio Ave 9/26/2015 Female Beagle/Basset, , Her name is Sa-die. Call Jake 442-241-

Found 2 cats - 1 male & 1 female. About a year old in Morongo Valley, Friday. Free to good home 760-401-

### Misc. For Sale \arg \arg \



Orange Oak, Avocado, Mxd hardwood. Full, 1/2. 1/4 Cords avail. Call (760) 401-1119

Beautiful Thomas Tri-

anon organ for sale \$150. Please call (760)

365-6832

Dbl mattress set \$80, Rattan glass table w/4 chairs \$150. Commercial paint sprayer \$145. (760) 401-5035

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traveltrailers. 10-24ft. Any condition no title ok. Cash buyer 818-261-5318 Local \$\$\$\$\$

### Pets & Supplies \artif{S} Pitbull Puppys 6 weeks old, father's

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620 99 Mercury Mystique 180K miles, shape, needs trannv. \$1500 obo. Leave 760-366message

Ford Ranchero. 170K miles, 1 owner, CA car. \$5000 obo. 760-366-8618

### **C**YCLES

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\$100 760-364-2010 Free horse manure

Old trunk \$100. 760-

760-228-9152

364-2010 Qn bed like new \$100

obo. 760-799-9336

4 spd 70's Trans. top loader \$200 288-5030 White bakers rack \$40.

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Call (760) 365-0632

Com. vacuum cleaner \$100 (760) 365-4985

\$200. (760) 418-5149 6-shelf wood bookcase \$40. (760) 364-4180

2 Belly dancing skirts \$15ea. 760-365-4985 Book shelf \$10. Call

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B6 OCTOBER 2, 2015 OBSERVATION POST

# $\star\star\star\star\star$ Around the Corps $\star\star\star\star\star$



PHOTO BY SGT. HECTOR DE JESUS

An AH-1Z Cobra with Marine Medium Wing Tilt Rotor Squadron 166 departs the USS New Orleans after refueling during the PHIBRON-MEU integration exercise aboard the USS New Orleans on Sunday. This marked the first at sea exercise for the PHIBRON-MEU Marines and Sailors as they work together in preparation for deployment to the Pacific and Central Command areas of responsibility in early 2016.



PHOTO BY CPL. NEYSA HUERTAS QUINONES

Lance Cpl. Dylan McLean fires an FIM-92 Stinger Missile at a target during a stinger simulation training range at Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C., Sept. 24. Marines with 2nd Low Altitude Air Defense Battalion sharpened their proficiency skills by simulating the weight transfer felt when firing the 34.2 pound missile. The weapon is a personal and portable infrared, homing, surface-to-air missile capable of tracking and engaging aircraft up to an altitude of 10,000 feet and covering distances up to eight kilometers.



PHOTO BY LANCE CPL. HERNAN VIDANA

U.S. Marines with 9th Engineer Support Battalion, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, exercise conducted with the Armed Forces of the Philippines in order to strengthen our interoperability and working relationships across a wide range of military operations from disaster relief to complex expeditionary operations.



PHOTO BY SGT. EMMANUEL RAMOS

and Philippine sailors work together constructing for a civil engineering project Lance Cpl. Steven Knapp, team leader, Kilo Company, Battalion Landing Team at Concepcion Elementary School in Palawan, Philippines, during Amphibious 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit, fires at his Landing Exercise 2015, Sept. 24. PHIBLEX 15 is an annual bilateral training target during a marksmanship qualification course aboard the dock landing ship USS Rushmore, Sept. 24. The marksmanship course focused on sharpening basic marksmanship skills under the cover of darkness which prepares them for potential operations while deployed with the 15th MEU.









This year, during the Pioneer Days Celebration October 14-18, 2015, we have a very special opportunity in our community to honor all those who serve with a special SALUTE. The SALUTE committee is planning a number of events and activities including bringing a replica of THE VIETNAM WALL to 29 Palms escorted by Rolling Thunder and FUELED BY THE FALLEN, a classic car tribute to those lost on 9/11 2001.

We need your tax deductible donations to bring these fabulous **SALUTES** to our community. If you would like to honor all those who serve, go to 29PalmsSalute.com to make a donation and please come out to the events during Pioneer Days weekend. Thank you.