MCAGCC TWENTYNINE PALMS
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PHOTO BY LANCE CPL. CONNOR HANCOCK

Combat Center Commanding General, Maj. Gen. Lewis A. Craparotta, speaks to veterans and families during the 2015 Morongo Basin Veterans Day Tribute at Veteran's Park in Twentynine Palms, Calif., Nov. 11.

Combat Center salutes communities' veterans

STORY BY CPL. JULIO MCGRAW

Combat Center Marines and sailors showed their appreciation of veterans within the community during the 2015 Morongo Basin Veterans Day Tribute at Veteran's Park in Twentynine Palms, Calif., and the 19th annual Palm Springs Veterans Day Parade in Palm Springs, Calif., Nov. 11.

In Twentynine Palms, Combat Center Commanding General, Maj. Gen. Lewis A. Craparotta, served as a guest speaker and Capt. Stephen M. Lee, Combat Center Chaplain, performed the closing prayer for the event. In addition, the Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Squadron 1 Color Guard presented the National and Marine Corps colors and Combat Logistics Battalion 7 and 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion provided a display of military vehicles and 3rd Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment displayed an M777 howitzer for the community to look at and learn more about.

Craparotta spoke to the community sharing his personal experiences about his family and the military. He also reminded the community to always appreciate and honor those service members who came before them.

PHOTO BY CPL. JULIO MCGRAW

The Combat Center Color Guard carry the National and Marine Corps colors, followed by vehicles from Combat Logistics Battalion 7 and 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, during the 19th annual Palm Springs Veterans Day Parade in Palm Springs, Calif., Nov. 11.

"Every veteran, just by his service, made a choice as to the kind of world they wanted for their children," said Craparotta. "But whether you volunteered or got drafted, the most important point today is that our citizens have always risen to the occasion and believed in this country enough to protect the freedom and

See **Veterans pg.** A6

Marines celebrate legacy with birthday pageant

STORY AND PHOTOS BY LANCE CPL. LEVI SCHULTZ

For 240 years Marines have served as the nation's force in readiness, always prepared to defend our country and Constitution from America's adversaries. Throughout the years, Marines have donned many different uniforms to meet the needs of the time and to remain ever-ready to answer the call of duty.

Combat Center Marines celebrated their extensive legacy and the Marine Corps' 240th birthday by showing off many of the uniforms used throughout their rich and illustrious history with the annual Marine Corps Birthday Uniform Pageant at Lance Cpl. Torrey L. Gray Field, Nov. 10. The Combat Center Color Guard carried the colors as the national anthem, Marines' Hymn and Anchors Aweigh played in honor of the birthday.

Marines with Headquarters Battalion don garb from different eras of Marine Corps history during the annual Marine Corps Birthday Uniform Pageant at Lance Cpl. Torrey L. Gray Field, Nov. 10.

During the event, Marines dressed in uniforms from different time periods, dating as far back as 1775, and took turns speaking lines detailing the history and battles that their garb associated with. Navy Corpsmen also received recognition for their years of service alongside Marines throughout history.

At the conclusion of the event, Combat Center Commanding General, Maj. Gen. Lewis A. Craparotta, performed the traditional cake-cutting ceremony wherein the oldest and youngest Marines each received pieces of birthday cake.

While the ceremony displayed how the Marines' wardrobe has changed many times over the years, it reaffirms that the 'Esprit de Corps' that defines the Marine Corps as the nation's most effective fighting force remains the same.

See **more photos pg.** A5

Combat Center Commanding General, Maj. Gen. Lewis A. Craparotta, salutes the colors during the annual Marine Corps Birthday Uniform Pageant at Lance Cpl. Torrey L. Gray Field, Nov. 10.

Distinguished visitors observe ITX 1-16

STORY AND PHOTOS BY LANCE CPL. LEVI SCHULTZ

The Principle Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Readiness), Daniel Feehan, and Congressman, Paul Cook, toured the Combat Center facilities and received a glimpse into the service level training hosted aboard the installation with the observation of Integrated Training Exercise 1-16, November, 6.

Beginning the tour with a brief in the Commanding General's Conference Room, Combat Center leadership informed the guests of current and future base operations.

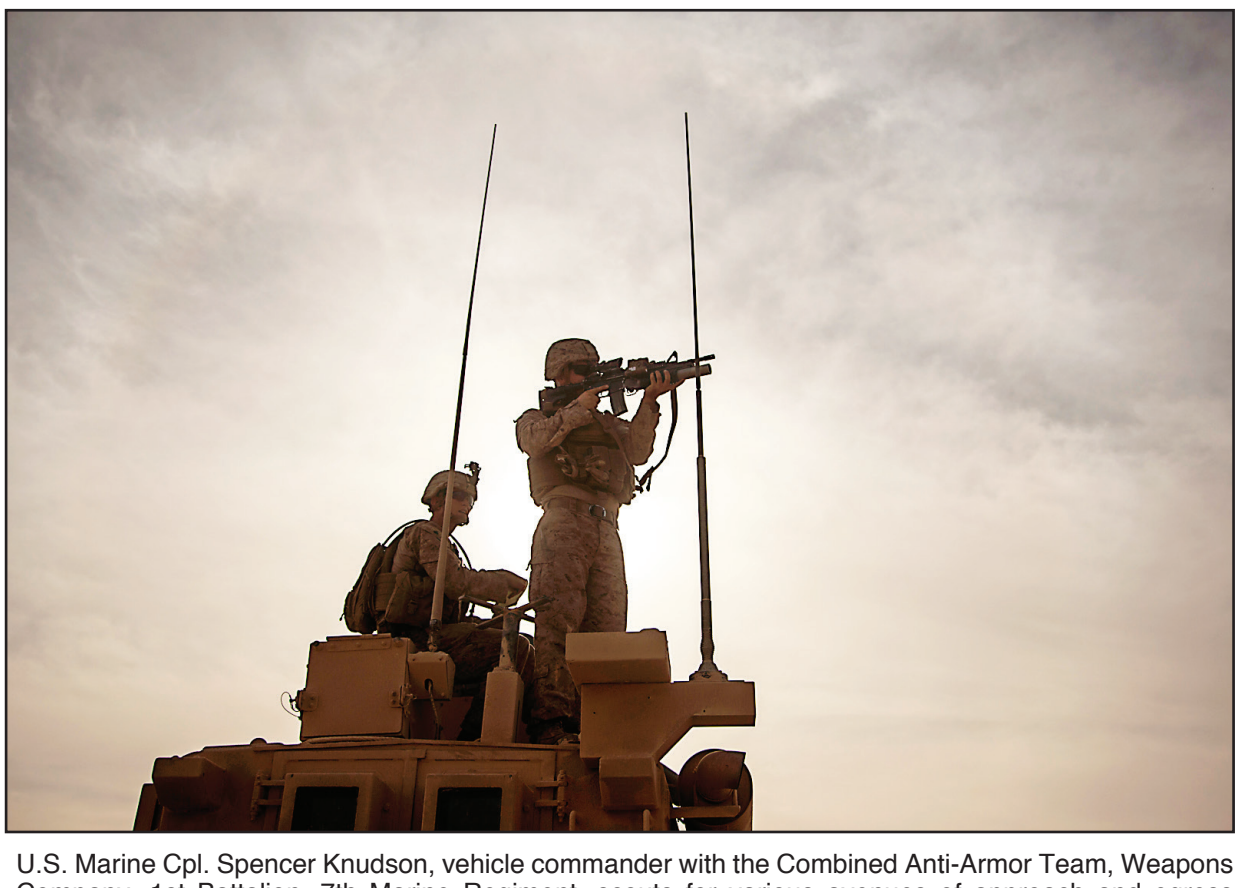
"Their trip here is to inform them as to the ways and means we use to get the Marine Air Ground Task Force ready for world-wide deployment," said Col. Andrew Kennedy, director, Tactical Training Exercise Control Group. "It's an opportunity for them to talk to us and

See **Training pg.** A6

Principle Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Readiness) Daniel Feehan and Congressman Paul Cook speak to Marines with 1st Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, during a tour of various Combat Center facilities, Nov. 6.

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 Cpl. Akeel Austin.



U.S. Marine Cpl. Spencer Knudson, vehicle commander with the Combined Anti-Armor Team, Weapons Company, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, scouts for various avenues of approach and egress points on Al Asad Air Base, Iraq, Oct. 23.

This Week in Combat Center History

Reprinted from the Observation Post
November 11, 1996
Story by Pfc. Steve Leonard

Redeye Fired Before 500 viewers at MCB

A Redeye missile shoot, the final exam for the graduating gunners of the Redeye School, was witnessed by BrigGen Regan Fuller, a representative delegation from MCAS, El Toro, 350 civilians forn General Dynamics, a motion picture team from Camp Pendleton, civilian photogaphers, and a detachment of California Cadets, in the field at Marine Corps Base, 29 palms, on Thursday, Nov. 3.

Firing the Redeye, a shoulder mounted fired anti-aircraft missile, was the last phase in the intense three-week training schedule for prospective gunners. Twenty-three men were attempting to qualify with the deadly little weapon during the shoot. Their targets were special target drones guided by remote control by Navy personnel.

Gunnery Sergeant Tom Allen, NCOIC of the Redeye Gunner School, describes the test that the men fired as, "a very difficult course. We're training men as combat gunners, and it does it doesn't pay to baby a man. The Redeye is a very positive and effective weapon; before we say that a man can use it, he must prove himself with it under combat conditions."

As each target drone became airborne, tree gunners who were standing by, grabbed their weapons and raced for the firing areas. The three Marines sighted in on their target… the command, "Fire at will" came, and they released their missiles. The drones were blasted out of the air.

Redeye is a small weapon, as weapons go: it looks like a miniature rocket launcher. But considering the fact that the little heat-seeking explosive device can knock any aircraft out of the sky, is has a very large potential, indeed. It weighs under thirty pounds, it can be carried into any terrain, and it is operated by only one man.

Max Golden, Vice President of General Dynamics, and people from that organization came to view the firing of the weapon which they make. Many of the men brought their wives and enjoyed the coffee and cake served. They learned many things about the Navy drones when the Marines (instructors from the Redeye School) gave detailed talks about the shoot.

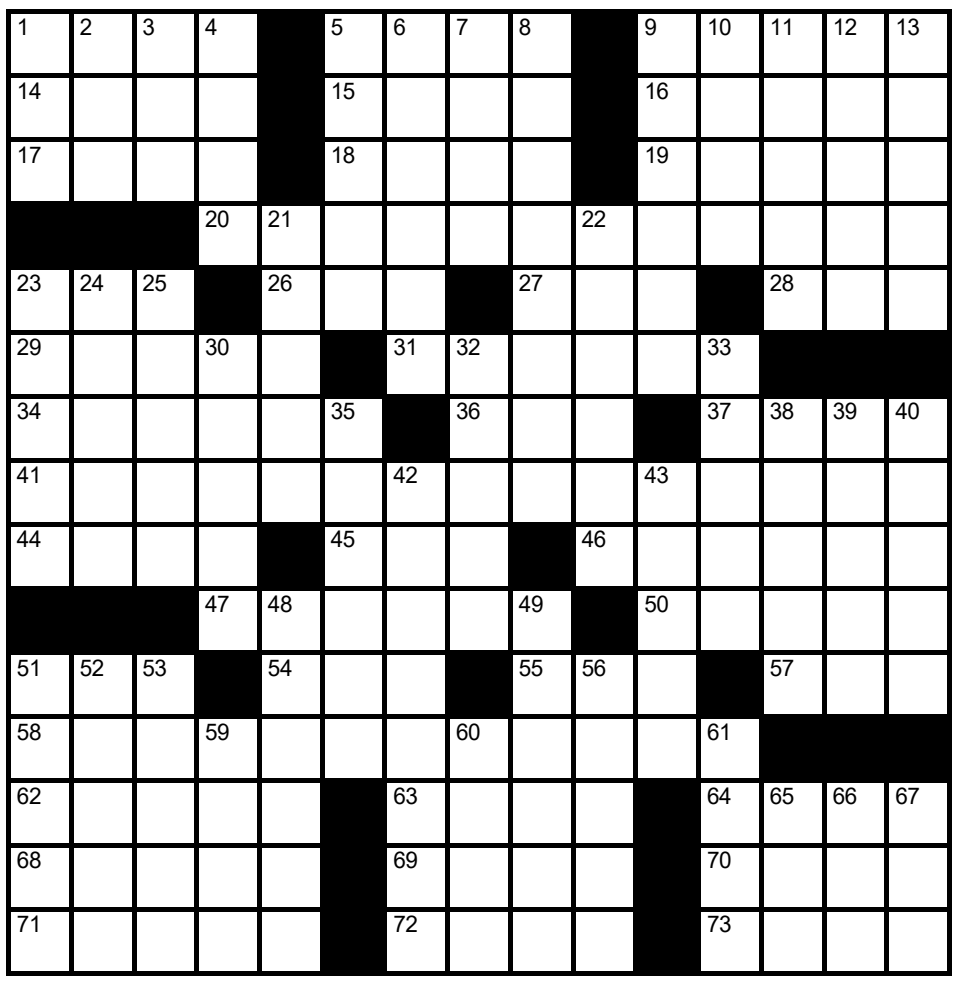
Officers and men from El Toro represented virtually every unit stationed at the Marine Corps Air Station. LtCol W.L. Breach, Operations Officer of Marine Wing Service Group-37, and senior man of the part said, "we brought every man who was free here. We can learn something from this shoot… that Marines on the ground can give support to those in the air. It isn't always the other way around."

LtCol D.E. Erway, Commanding Officer of MARMTD and officer in charge of the shoot, described the operation to visiting Marine and Army observers, as well as a detachment of California Cadets, a boys' military club, is made up of schoolboys from 7th thru 12th grade and commanded by Paul Cross. Since he is a retired Marine Maser Gunner Sergeant and a reserve Captain in the National Guard, Crodd has plenty of experience with which to "break in" his troops.

Heading the six-man team of cameraman and other movie specialists from Camp Pendleton, 1st Lt D. Mosley had a special assignment during the shoot: cover the operations and make a movie about Redeye. His men made films of the drones in flight, the missiles firing and the hits scored. They shot from the top of their truck, in the gun pits and all over the range to complete their assignment.

All in all, Thursday, Nov. 3, was quite a day: the Redeye gunners proved themselves,, documentary movies were made, and a good number of civilians and service personnel learned about the Marine Corps operation of a deadly little missile: Redeye.

CROSSWORD



Across

1 Door post
5 1947 Literature Nobelist André
9 Like some wings, poetically
14 Rink leap
15 E pluribus ___
16 Direct attention elsewhere
17 Carson City neighbor
18 Place for a genie
19 "Charlotte's Web" boy
20 Alliterative athletes #1
23 Classic film station: Abbr.
26 Bill "The Science Guy"
27 Scepter's go-with
28 Rent
29 Target for middle management?
31 "___ World"
34 In the unique case that
36 Actor Stephen
37 Pen name of essayist Charles Lamb
41 Alliterative athletes #2
44 Common cookie
45 Have a piece of cake
46 Set up, so to speak
47 Ray of the Kinks
50 Smithy
51 Chest beater
54 Funnyman Brooks
55 "Piece of the rock" company, informally
57 Kyoto coin
58 Alliterative athletes #3
62 Strong denial
63 Willa Cather's "One of ___"
64 Café enhancer
68 Justice Kagan
69 Comedienne Meara
70 Beast of many a fairy tale
71 Kind of calculus
72 "Working Girl" heroine
73 Regained consciousness

Down

1 Pantry container
2 Double-bladed weapon
3 Restroom sign
4 Shapeless mass
5 Full of whirlpools
6 "Gimme some time"
7 Russian assembly
8 One getting bossed around
9 Buoyant Buster
10 Strauss with the denim inventory
11 "If ___" (Beatles song)
12 Hostess Mesta
13 Illicit meeting
21 Disentangle
22 Fancy schmancy
23 "One down, ___ go"
24 Chairperson?
25 Creator of Kanga and Roo
30 Gathering of the cloth
32 Mountain cat's perch
33 Fistfight
35 Battleship guess
38 David of television
39 Years old
40 Forest quaker
42 Pond skimmer
43 For a laugh
48 Lacking standards
49 Cold-shoulders
51 Mammy Yokum's son
52 English Channel port
53 City north of Bonn
56 Climbs
59 Writer/editor Brown
60 Mystical mark
61 Not quick
65 "Long ___ …"
66 Nettle
67 Booter's aid

SUDOKU

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	9		7		3			

Last week's answers

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R	O	T	H	■	I	S	E	E
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■	■	■	R	O	I	L	■	E
G	E	R	M	S	■	O	D	O
A	R	A	■	T	H	A	I	■
S	O	P	R	O	U	D	L	Y
L	I	T	E	F	M	■	L	E
I	C	O	N	■	E	N	Y	A
T	A	R	■	B	R	A	■	R
■	■	■	B	R	I	D	A	L
G	I	J	O	E	■	I	R	I
A	M	A	N	A	■	N	I	N
B	O	R	E	D	■	E	D	G

F	L	O	S	S
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S	A	W
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A	N	N	A	N
■	■	■
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A	■	S	K	I	N
Y	■	■	E	L	K

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

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

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- 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 locations.

In Twentynine Palms:
- 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.mil

WHAT I'VE LEARNED

Stephen SMITH

Ferndale, Wash. V-22 Osprey pilot, Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 263

1st Lt. Stephen Smith from Ferndale, Wash., serves as a V-22 Osprey pilot in Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 263. Growing up in a military household, he became one of eight aviators in his family.

>I come from a military family, in which, I am one of eight aviators.

>Growing up, I spent ten years in southern California because my dad was an artillery officer in Camp Pendleton.

>The Marine Corps in particular was appealing to me because I'm generally idealistic and patriotic. I wanted the opportunity to lead, mentor and strive for excellence. I also wanted the opportunity to build mutual trust and those relationships where I can help people on a daily basis. The Marine Corps offers a sense of adventure to see and do things most people can't do.

>When I was looking into college, I spent a long time going through the course catalogue. I couldn't decide between the 20 courses I wanted to study.

>I ended up majoring in Public Relations at Bob Jones University in Greenville, South Carolina. I got my master's degree in Pastoral studies.

>I'm going to go back to school again to continue to learn about the various disciplines and interests that I have.

>My hobbies mostly involve being outdoors. My wife and I enjoy going sailing and snowboarding together.

>I like adrenaline and the challenge of snowboarding. You can make what you want of it, finding jumps or making your own trials.

>I snowboard primarily in the Northwest. I usually go to Mt. Baker, Mt. Hood and Mt. Bachelor.

>I remember when we had a record amount of snow in Washington. The mountain staff had to carve out snow from underneath the lifts because there wasn't enough clearance. It was a fun week.

>I also enjoy running and riding my motorcycle which is a Ducati Monster 1100.

>I have four kids: two boys and two girls. The oldest is five years old and my youngest is one.

>My kids and I rock climb together and I enjoy teaching them what I can, which led me to coach my daughter's soccer team.

>My goal is to raise my kids up in a way that they can improve their circle of influence and excel in wherever they're placed or whatever they do. I want to give them the guidance they need to take initiative and grow, instead of just riding the trajectory of the environment they're in.

>I want to impact those around me also so I also mentor the youth in my church in my free time.

>I plan on staying in the Marine Corps for at least ten years, but I'll take note of the impact it has on my family. If it's too much for them, I'll take what I've learned and apply it somewhere else. If the family is supportive and it looks like the right thing, I'm not opposed to continuing on. My family is the number one responsibility and stewardship I have.

>The Marine Corps has taught me a lot, but I have a lot to learn.

>This may sound cliché, but one thing I've learned is at the end of the day, you've got to do the right thing for the right reason even if some people around you aren't willing to agree.

>I'm looking for more opportunities to lead, but I value from watching others who lead well and learning from them. Some people have leadership inclinations but no one is a 100 percent natural leader. There's always room to learn.

>A day that goes by without learning something new is a day wasted, no one knows who said it, but it sure holds a lot of truth.

Interviewed and photographed by Lance Cpl. Connor Hancock

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Is Your Pet One of the Cutest Pets in the Basin?

Submit your pet's photo to be in this year's Hi-Desert Publishing Company's **"CUTEST PETS in the GREAT OUTDOORS" 2016 Calendar!**

All pet submissions will be considered and judged by our readers and the top 13 pets will be featured in our 2016 Calendar! ***The calendars will be distributed throughout the basin and be available for purchase at the Hi-Desert Star & Desert Trail... just in time for the holidays!***

Submit a photo of your pet enjoying the great outdoors **(HI-RESOLUTION JPEGS PREFERRED)**, along with a $10 entry fee that will be donated to a shelter of your choosing and your pet will be considered!

The thirteen selected pet owners will be notified.

Cutest Pet Calendar 2016

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email address: _____

Submit by: November 20, 2015.

Email electronic photo to: **rcrabtree@hidesertstar.com** or bring photo in with submission form and entry fee. The top pets will be featured in our calendar. $10.00 submission fee does not guarantee your pet will be included.

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Retirees celebrate 240th Marine Corps birthday

Combat Center Chief of Staff, Col. James F. Harp, ceremoniously takes a bite of birthday cake during the annual Retiree Ball celebrating the 240th Marine Corps birthday at the Combat Center's Officer's Club, Nov. 7.

Combat Center Chief of Staff, Col. James F. Harp, delivers Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. Robert Neller's birthday message during the annual Retiree Ball celebrating the 240th Marine Corps birthday at the Combat Center's Officer's Club, Nov. 7.

The Headquarters Battalion Color Guard carries the colors during the annual Retiree Ball celebrating the 240th Marine Corps birthday at the Combat Center's Officer's Club, Nov. 7.

Combat Center leadership and retiree guests stand during the playing the national anthem during the annual Retiree Ball celebrating the 240th Marine Corps birthday at the Combat Center's Officer's Club, Nov. 7.

STORY AND PHOTOS BY LANCE CPL. LEVI SCHULTZ

"Old Corps? New Corps? It doesn't matter as long as it is Marine Corps."

These words rang true as service members, young and old, gathered to share memories, break bread, and celebrate the Marine Corps' 240th birthday during the Combat Center's 18th annual Retiree Ball at the Officer's Club, November 7. Combat Center Chief of Staff, Col. James F. Harp, served as the ceremony's guest of honor.

"It's a special function especially for the retiree community," said Candace Coward, catering and events director, Marine Corps Community Services. "It's a time of reminiscences to look back and reflect on their years of service."

Local retired service members attended the event put on by the Retiree Ball Committee with help from volunteers from Headquarters Battalion who provided the color guard and Marines to serve as cake escorts. Following a traditional ceremony, retirees ate dinner with the volunteers and shared stories about their time in service.

"It's about tradition and camaraderie; the Marine Corps has a special camaraderie," said Dave Werner, local retired Marine. "I always look forward to the ball and haven't missed more than a couple Marine Corps birthdays in 65 years."

According to Werner, although a lot has changed over the years; he feels the more things change, the more they stay the same.

"These young men and women from all 50 states are still signing on the line, vowing to defend our country," Werner said. "The saying, 'some gave all and all gave some,' is still true today because some are still giving all and it makes me proud of these young Marines."

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Marines pay homage to Corps' history

Cpl. Brandie Lane, distribution management specialist, Headquarters Battalion, represents the modern blue dress 'B' uniform during the annual Marine Corps Birthday Uniform Pageant at Lance Cpl. Torrey L. Gray Field, Nov. 10.

The Combat Center Color Guard presents the colors during the annual Marine Corps Birthday Uniform Pageant at Lance Cpl. Torrey L. Gray Field, Nov. 10.

Combat Center Commanding General, Maj. Gen. Lewis A. Craparotta, cuts the birthday cake during the annual Marine Corps Birthday Uniform Pageant at Lance Cpl. Torrey L. Gray Field, Nov. 10.

Cpl. Antwan James, barracks manager, Headquarters Battalion, dressed in Korean War attire, pauses for a moment to pray for service members who gave their lives in combat during the annual Marine Corps Birthday Uniform Pageant at Lance Cpl. Torrey L. Gray Field, Nov. 10.

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PHOTO BY LANCE CPL. LEVI SCHULTZ

The Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard from Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow carry the national and Marine Corps colors during the annual Palm Springs Veterans Day Parade in Palm Springs, Calif., Nov. 11.

PHOTO BY LANCE CPL. LEVI SCHULTZ

Light Armored Vehicle during the annual Palm Springs Veterans Day Parade in Palm Springs, Calif., Nov. 11.

Veterans from pg. A1

freedom we value so dearly. Today, we honor them by recognizing their service and contribution to our nation and our way of life. I am thankful that we have taken this opportunity to honor our veterans and remember their service."

Later in the day, as fanfare music and rhythmic beating drums played by a marching band echoed off the San Jacinto Mountains from Palm Canyon Drive, a sense of patriotism and pride was felt over the crowd of veterans, active-duty service members and civilians with the passing of the Combat Center Color Guard and military vehicles at the 19th annual Palm Springs Veterans Day Parade in Palms Springs, Calif.

The Combat Center Color Guard and the Robert E. Bush Naval Hospital Color Guard displayed and marched the National and Marine Corps colors in the parade. Combat Center Chief of Staff, Col. James F. Harp; Col. Harold B. Eggers, commanding officer, Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School and Sgt. Maj. Ryan W. Meltesen, battalion sergeant major, Combat Logistics Battalion 7 were among those in attendance. Lt. Cmdr. Paul Armstrong, chaplain, MCCES, gave the opening invocation to begin the parade.

3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion and CLB-7 displayed two High Mobility Multi-purposed Vehicle, two Light Armored Vehicles and a Medium Tactical Vehicle Replacement in the parade.

"It's an honor being here and representing the base and the Marine Corps," said Lance Cpl. Felipe Rodriguez, motor transportation operator, CLB-7. "Seeing all the veterans from all the branches of service makes it worthwhile and listening to their stories makes me proud to wear my uniform."

Veterans from every war dating back to WWII shared stories and looked at the vehicles that the Marines from CLB-7 and 3rd LAR utilize on the modern battlefield.

"It's definitely different from the stuff we had in my day," said Burton Spivack, WWII Army veteran. "It is a lot better and this equipment shows how far we have come and also the might of the U.S. military today."

The history of Veterans Day began in November 1919 when President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed November 11 as the first commemoration of Armistice Day, to honor the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory of WWI. In 1954, after World War II had required the greatest mobilization of troops in the Nation's history and after the brutal fighting during the Korean War, it became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.

"There are a lot of people who sacrificed a lot, some even their lives, for this beautiful country," said Ken Burdutte, Vietnam War Navy veteran. "It is important to honor all of them. Seeing all of the Marines and other service members out here participating in the parade today makes me and a lot of the veterans in the crowd proud that we served and that our military is still in good hands."

Training from pg. A1

ask us how this training works into the schedule of a unit getting ready for a deployment."

Throughout their visit to the installation, the guests visited 1st Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, as they conducted ITX 1-16. To better understand all the components of the MAGTF, they visited 1/8's combat operations center, the Strategic Expeditionary Landing Field, and went out to talk with Marines performing exercises within the training areas. Lastly, they visited the Exercise Support Division for a look at the different vehicles and equipment available to Marines that come to the installation for various exercises.

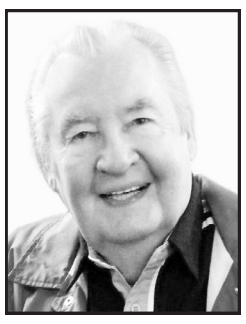
"This is a live fire facility and we try to maximize our opportunities with regard to that," Kennedy said. "It's a unique place in the world, allowing us to conduct combined arms support and maneuver in a way that can't be done anywhere else in the [Marine] Corps."

Principle Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Readiness), Daniel Feehan, observes 1st Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, at work during Integrated Training Exercise 1-16 as part of a tour of various Combat Center facilities, Nov. 6.

Principle Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Readiness), Daniel Feehan, observes 1st Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, at work during Integrated Training Exercise 1-16 as part of a tour of various Combat Center facilities, Nov. 6.

TOUGH MINDED OPTIMISM

by Lou Gerhardt



Three people have contacted me in recent days with a serious concern I want to share with you. I asked my friend Derwood Andrews who loves animals, all animals, and is an extremely good supporter of the No Kill Animal Shelter in Joshua Tree, to write this column. Read and react.

A message to our local veterinarians…

There is always the unanswered question, why do bad things happen to good people and why does the bad come at the worst time…

In particular with our pets up here in the hi- desert. It's sod's or Murphy's law that your loved ones will have an emergency during a weekend or a national holiday, which leaves just one choice which is to somehow get down below to Indio to the only emergency veterinary clinic within a hundred mile round trip along with a huge bill to consider.

There was a time up here before our local clinics became more corporate and less family orientated that there was co-operation between the vets to make sure a local emergency was covered by local caretakers. When the owner of a business is no longer a true part of the community then the local folk suffer. When it comes to care for your loyal clientele, should we put the holiday hot dogs before real ones?

My point is if you make money servicing a community, one should step up the service as you step up your charges, we need a rotation of responsibility for the care of the caring, and a real positive thing available when bad things happen.

This column sponsored by:

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Combat Center receives SECNAV energy award

STORY BY CPL. JULIO MCGRAW

The mission of the Marine Corps and Navy is to provide the global presence necessary to ensure stability to deter potential adversaries and to present options in times of crisis. Access to secure, reliable energy and water is critical to their ability to provide that presence. With both services transforming their culture, diversifying supplies and optimizing use of energy and water it is no wonder that the Combat Center continues to be exemplary stewards of the environment.

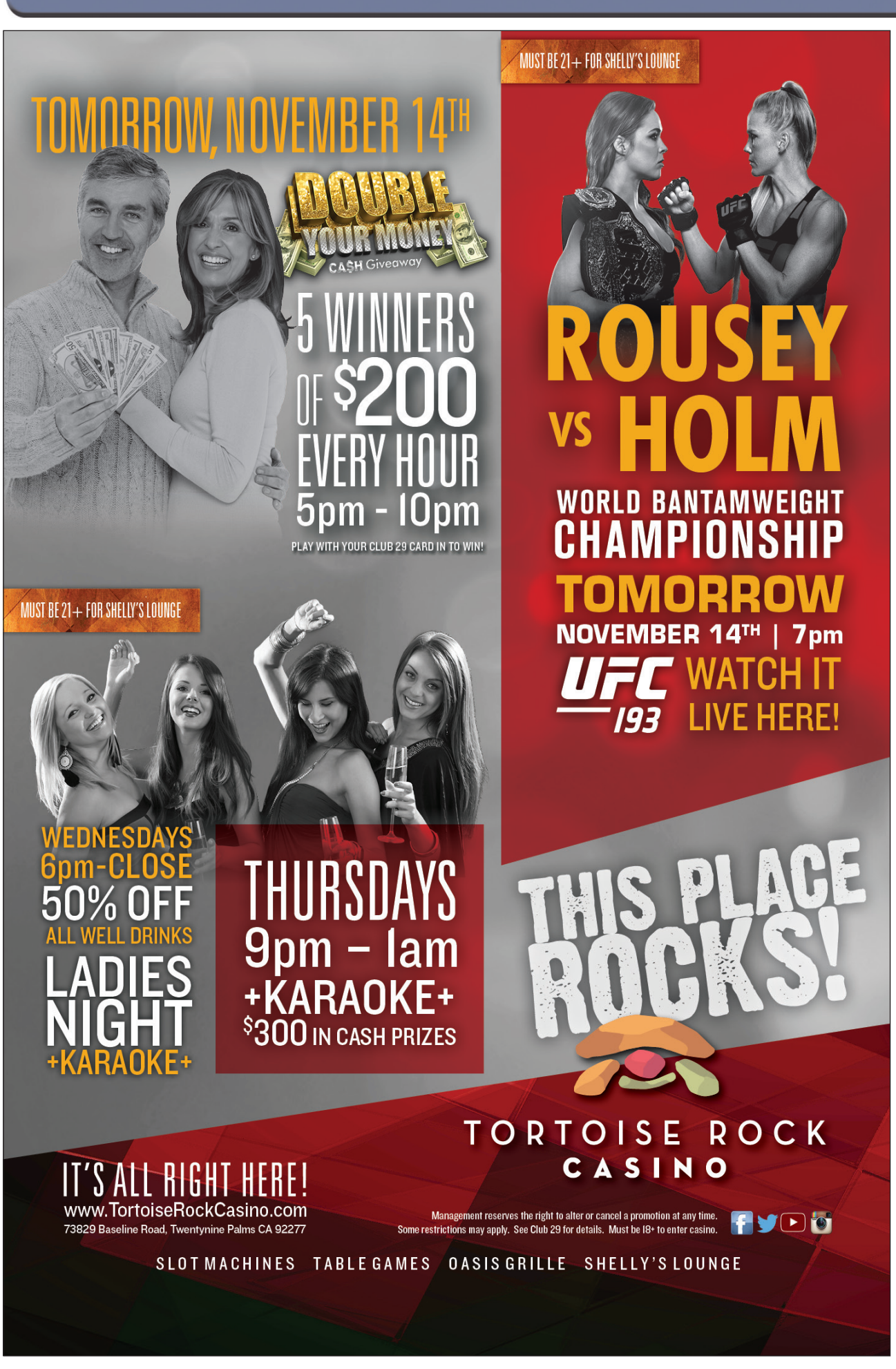
In All Navy message 076/15, Ray Mabus, Secretary of the Navy, recognized the Marines, sailors and civilians whose efforts in energy and water conservation earned their installation the Fiscal Year 2015 SECNAV Energy and Water Management Award or the Gold or Platinum award in conservation based on 2014 accomplishments.

The Combat Center's Exercise Support Division was recognized with the 2015 SECNAV Energy and Water Management award in the United States Marine Corps Expeditionary category. The efforts of the leadership and personnel at the winning commands included developing energy awareness campaigns, deploying energy efficiency technologies, and adopting new operational procedures that resulted in a consistent reduction in energy or water consumption.

The SECNAV Award winners will receive a grant to be used at the discretion of the Commanding Officer and are authorized to fly the SECNAV Energy Flag for one year. They will also be recognized at a series of award ceremonies to be held over the course of the year.

In addition, the Combat Center is also recognized with the Gold award for having indicated a 'very good to outstanding energy or water program.' The installation will receive a certificate of achievement for its efforts.

"Congratulations to all of our award recipients," said Mabus. "Improving how we manage energy and water is critical to accomplishing our mission and your success provides a model that the rest of the Department of the Navy should emulate. I encourage all commanders to look to the accomplishments of our award winners and identify ways that your commands can improve how we manage these critical resources."



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November 13, 2015 Since 1957 Vol. 59 B

Celebrating our heritage

STORY BY CPL. MEDINA AYALA-LO

The Marine Corps was born on November 10, 1775 in Tun Tavern, a small Philadelphia pub. On that day, the Continental Marines were established with the intended purpose of being able to fight for independence on land and at sea. Over the years the Marine Corps has evolved into a force capable of defending its people and providing humanitarian aid to the nation and its allies from air, land and sea, all while maintaining itself as a force in readiness.

"Being a Marine is something I take pride in, and that is instilled in us from day one," said Sgt. Maj. Abel Leal, Headquarters Battalion Sergeant Major. "We are warfighters and the way we operate is very unlike the other branches. I'd like to think every Marine has some of our values instilled in them."

Since the Marine Corps' inception it has been known as the nation's force in readiness. Marines are recognized by the way they train, the customs they uphold, and the morals that are instilled in them. Although the organization continues to grow, many of the customs have remained the same. The Marine Corps' birthday is one of the many traditions that Marines take great pride in celebrating annually.

"The ball is a tradition that we celebrate every year," Leal said. "I bring a family member to the birthday ball because they don't understand it in the same way [Marines] do. But when they see all the ceremonial events in it; the moment of silence for our fallen brothers, the reading of Gen. John A. Lejeune's birthday message and the passing of the cake from the oldest Marine to the youngest, they get to share in the pride that we feel."

Although tradition is something Marines hold dear, there was a time when the birthday wasn't always widely celebrated. In 1921, Maj. Gen. John A. Lejeune declared November 10, an official Marine Corps holiday. Since then, whether it was a small celebration between fellow comrades while deployed or a grand affair while in garrison, Marines have taken the time to honor the Corps' illustrious history.

"I love the Marine Corps Birthday," said Sgt. Maj. Ray Wilburn (ret.), veteran of World War II, Korea and Vietnam. "It doesn't matter where you are or how many Marines you're with. Two Marines can celebrate it with a cup of water while deployed and it will still have the same meaning."

The Marine Corps Ball has been regarded as a time-honored tradition that celebrates the birth of the Corps. It is a night that provides Marines from all generations with a chance to come together, recognize the sacrifices made by those who came before them, and celebrate a proud heritage.

"It's nice to celebrate the birthday in fancy venues, but we shouldn't get wrapped up in that," Leal said. "We should focus on celebrating our birthday for the heritage and tradition that comes with it."

The birthday is a day that does more than celebrate a beginning. For Marines it signifies much more. The birthday stands for a day when those from all generations, who swore an oath to protect and serve, can join as one to share in the pride of being a United States Marine.

Combat Center Events

Marine Corps Community Services and Focus are hosting the 2nd Annual Military Kids Birthday Ball at the Frontline Restaurant on Nov. 17 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Come and show your kids a glimpse of Marine Corps Birthday Ball traditions. Cake and refreshments will be available as well as a DJ with dance instructions by Teen L.I.N.K.S. For more information, call (760) 830-3110.

The Fall Crafting and Movie Get Together is scheduled to be held on Nov. 19, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Marine Corps Community Services Community Center. The cost is $2 per craft and the movie is Free Birds. There will be popcorn and lemonade at the event. For more information call (760) 830-3910.

Registration and Coaches meeting for the Winter Basketball League will end Jan. 5. The season starts on Jan 12. There can be 12 participants per roaster and a minimum of seven. The event is open to all active duty personnel, MCCS employees and DOD civilians. Registration is free for active duty personnel and all other personnel will have a $20 fee.

The Wood Hobby Shop's new hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. To utilize equipment, attend a required safety course Saturday at 11 a.m. For more information call (760) 830-7214.

Sunset Cinema

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5:00 p.m. – Hotel Transylvania 2 (3-D), PG
7:30 p.m. – Love The Coopers, PG-13
10:30 p.m. – Crimson Peak, R
Saturday, November 14
12:00 p.m. – Hotel Transylvania 2, PG
2:00 p.m. – Pan, PG
4:30 p.m. – The Martian, PG-13
7:00 p.m. – Bridge of Spies, PG-13
9:30 p.m. –Sicario, R
Sunday, November 15
12:00 p.m. – Sicario, R
3:00 p.m. – Goosebumps (3-D), PG
8:30 p.m. – Crimson Peak, R
Monday, November 16
7:00 p.m. – Crimson Peak, R
Tuesday, November 17
7:00 p.m. – Love The Coopers, PG-13
Wednesday, November 18
5:00 p.m. – Hotel Transylvania 2, PG
7:00 p.m. – The Intern, PG-13
Thursday, November 19
5:00 p.m. – Goosebumps, PG
7:30 p.m. – Everest, PG-13
Friday, November 20
5:00 p.m. – Goosebumps (3-D), PG
7:30 p.m. – The Martian, PG-13
13:00 p.m. – Crimson Peak, R

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Smart, savvy 'Steve Jobs' shows the man behind digital revolution

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Steve Jobs was a digital pioneer and technological entrepreneur whose ferocious drive and tenacious zeal for perfection lead to companies, products and services that today define much of the world's lifestyle: Mac computers, iTunes, iPhones, iPads, iPods and Pixar movies.

But Jobs wasn't successful right off the bat—and his life wasn't nearly as sleek and smooth as the clean, uncluttered lines of a thin, new iPhone.

"I'm poorly made," Jobs (Michael Fassbender) confesses to his head of marketing and longtime business associate Joanna Hoffman (Kate Winslet) in Steve Jobs, the sprawling new biopic directed by Danny Boyle based on former Time magazine editor Walter Issacson's 2010 bestseller.

His former partner, Steve Wozniak (Seth Rogen), comes to agree. "Your products are better than you are," he tells him.

The movie begins in 1984 at an event heralding the launch of Jobs' Macintosh computer, which turned out to be an overpriced, underpowered flop and ended his career at Apple, the California computer company he started in his garage in the 1970s with Wozniak. The film continues through two other "acts," also around product launches: Jobs' NeXT cube, in 1985 (another flop), and then the 1998 unveiling of the iMac, which marked his triumphant, full-circle return to Apple.

Director Boyle, an Oscar winner whose previous work includes Slumdog Millionaire and 127 Hours, keeps things moving at an almost breathless pace and uses three different types of film (grainy 16mm, standard 35mm and crisp, high-def digital) to define each of the movie's trio of distinctive segments. The screenplay by Oscar-winning screenwriter Aaron Sorkin is full of the smart, savvy, rat-a-tat-tat dialog that made The Social Network, Moneyball and the TV shows The Newsroom and The West Wing zip and zing.

As the man at the center of it all, Fassbender portrays Jobs across a span of three decades and masterfully summons the powerful gravity that pulled other objects into his orbit—as well as the icy, distant chill that pushed most people away, including his daughter, Lisa (played at three different ages and stages by Makenzie Moss, Ripley Sobo and Perla Haney-Jardine), by former girlfriend Chrisann Brennan (Katherine Waterson).

Jeff Daniels, a Sorkin mainstay, plays Apple CEO John Sculley, and Rogen steps outside his usual stoner-comedy roles as Wozniak, who comes to resent his former partner's arrogance and hubris, his dismissive treatment of everyone who was ever close to him, and his rise to rock-god-like stardom.

Jobs—who died in 2011 from complications of a pancreatic tumor—may have been a tech and marketing genius, but Steve Jobs makes it clear he could also be a colossal jerk. To gazillions of Apple product uses, however, he became a guru, if not a messiah. Maybe that's why Doyle's closing shot—with Jobs bathed in blinding light, beaming, walking slowly into the camera before disappearing into a wash of white—looks so much like a resurrection.

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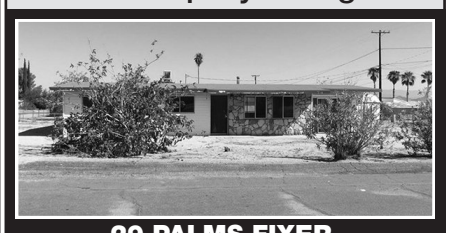

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(909) 387-8304

HI-DESERT WATER DISTRICT

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
Hi-Desert Water District, Yucca Valley, CA

Hi-Desert Water District seeks a Chief Financial Officer (CFO). A key management position, reporting to the General Manager, the CFO is responsible for the financial functions of the District, including directing, managing, and overseeing the daily activities of the finance department staff, short and long-term financial management, banking and investment management, grant management, project financing, auditing, payroll, accounts payable, and special projects. The CFO conducts analyses, makes recommendations, represents the District in front of official bodies and the general public, and explains accounting procedures to the public, auditors, management staff, and Board of Directors, both orally and in writing.

The ideal candidate is an experienced finance professional, who possesses strong accounting, presentation, supervisory, communication, and technical skills. Knowledge of the principles and practices of grant acquisition and administration is required. Experience managing Information Technology services is a plus.

A Bachelor's degree in Accounting, Public Administration, or related field, and a minimum of five years' experience in accounting and fiscal management at the supervisory level is required. A Master's degree and/or CPA certification are desirable.

Application and job description are available at www.hdwd.com. Candidates can mail, fax, hand-deliver, or email a completed District application, resume, and cover letter with salary history to: HR Dept., Hi-Desert Water District, 55-439 29 Palms Highway, Yucca Valley, CA 92284-2503. Fax: (760) 418-2248 Email: hr@hdwd.com. Position open until filled. EOE.

HI-DESERT WATER DISTRICT

Hi-Desert Water District is seeking a **Communications and Conservation Officer.**

The successful candidate must be able to develop, coordinate, and facilitate community outreach programs; provide public education via multiple platforms; review, analyze and interpret existing and proposed federal, state, and local legislation; and serve as District spokesperson both within the community and in the larger governmental and legislative arena.

Candidate must have the ability to design and develop water conservation programs; promote and facilitate conservation education; design, write and edit press releases, newsletters, and other multi-media content; produce web content and use social media to engage the public.

Candidate must be a management-level professional, experienced in meeting multiple deadlines with minimum supervision. Strong presentation skills are a must.

The **Communications and Conservation Officer** will be a team player, and a key member of the executive staff.

Requirements include a minimum of three years of performing increasingly responsible professional level public relations duties including community outreach, public relations, government relations, and/or legislative analyst work. A Bachelor's degree in communications, marketing, journalism, public relations, public administration or a related field from an accredited four-year college or university is preferred.

Candidates must have a California driver's license and good driving record; be able to type 50-60 wpm; have expertise in MSWord, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher, and Outlook; and be available to participate in evening and weekend meetings and events on a regular basis.

For a complete job description, and to download an application form, visit www.hdwd.com.

Please submit completed application, cover letter, and resume to Human Resources, 55-439 Twenty-nine Palms Blvd., Yucca Valley, CA 92284; Email: hr@hdwd.com; Fax: 760-418-2248. Deadline is November 16, 2015 at 12:00PM. EOE.

Marines compete in CFC Golf Tournament

Lance Cpl. Philip Armstrong, rifleman, 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance, putts during the Combined Federal Campaign Golf Tournament at Desert Winds Golf Course, Nov. 6

Lance Cpl. Garry Goldman, rifleman, 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance, drives a golf ball during the Combined Federal Campaign Golf Tournament at Desert Winds Golf Course, Nov. 6.

Sgt. Steven Anderson, vehicle commander, 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance, drives a golf ball during the Combined Federal Campaign Golf Tournament at Desert Winds Golf Course, Nov. 6.

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
LANCE CPL. CONNOR HANCOCK

The Southern California Combined Federal Campaign and Marine Corps Community Services hosted the CFC Golf Tournament at Desert Winds Golf Course, Nov. 6.

Combat Center Sergeant Major, Sgt. Maj. Karl Villalino, spoke to approximately 80 competitors before teeing off in the tournament. Approximately 15 volunteers from MCCS and CFC supported the event.

The tournament and food sales collectively generated approximately $2,000 in donations to CFC. Funds from the tournament's admission costs were donated to the CFC Semper Fi Fund and the CFC Wounded Warriors Organization. Remaining funds from food sales were donated to the CFC.

CFC awarded the first place team; consisting of Scott Ferguson, along with Lance Cpl. Garry Goldman, rifleman, Lance Cpl. Philip Armstrong, rifleman and Sgt. Steven Anderson, vehicle commander, 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance, with Desert Winds Golf Club polos.

CFC is structured to support and promote philanthropy through a voluntary program that is cost-efficient and effective in providing all Federal employees the opportunity to impact the CFC charitable interest of their choosing.

This year's CFC Campaign will continue through Dec. 15. More information on CFC and charity donations is available at www.socalcfc.org.

Scott Ferguson, golf instructor, drives a golf ball during the Combined Federal Campaign Golf Tournament at Desert Winds Golf Course, Nov. 6.