



LANCE CPL. FRANK CORDOBA

A Marine fires his M240 Machine Gun during a raid as part of Steel Knight 17 at Yuma, Ariz., Dec. 7.

## Sand and Steel: Exercise Steel Knight concludes at Combat Center

STORY BY  
 LANCE CPL.  
 ADAM DUBLINSKE

Marines with 1st Maintenance Battalion, 1st Marine Logistics Group, participated in exercise Steel Knight 17 aboard the Combat Center, which began Nov. 29 and concluded Wednesday.

Steel Knight is an annual exercise lead by the 1st Marine Division that

spans the western United States and California coast. Focusing on ground fires, maneuver warfare tactics and command and control capabilities, this exercise tests Marines and sailors across a range of environments and against a thinking opposing force which ensures that the 1st Marine Division is the Marine Corps' largest, most capable and most lethal combat force in

readiness. 1st Maintenance Bn. supported the division by providing water, food, vehicle maintenance, transportation and 3-D printing capabilities.

"We have maintenance support teams that can be attached to a unit and can be sent out with our own vehicles across all the spectrum of maintenance: ordnance, engineers, repairable management and motor transport," said Capt.

Adam Dierker, the assistant operations officer for 1st Maintenance Bn., 1st MLG. "We also provide all the chow and water for the entire exercise."

While some Marines were sent out to fix equipment, units also sent broken gear back to 1st Maintenance Bn.'s forward operating base. Maintenance Company

See **Sand and Steel** A6



LANCE CPL. FRANK CORDOBA

Marines with 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, load on to a V22 Osprey during Steel Knight 17 at Yuma, Ariz., Dec. 7.

## MCCS lights up holidays with toy giveaway

CPL. MEDINA AYALA-LO

Holiday music danced through the air as children played, wielding balloon swords, puppies and hearts; only stopping to be made into a face-painted persona or to refuel on cookies and hot chocolate. Inside the gymnasium, Marines and sailors wait with their children who were eager to partake in the enchantment of the holidays during a toy giveaway at the West Gym, Saturday.

Marine Corps Community Services once again teamed up with JSerra Catholic High School from San Juan Capistrano, Calif., to host its annual Combat Center Toy



CPL. MEDINA AYALA-LO

Melissa Moreira, 2, daughter of Sgt. Gabriel Moreira, high mobility artillery rocket system operator, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, selects a toy during Marine Corps Community Service's annual Combat Center Toy Giveaway in the West Gym aboard the Combat Center, Saturday.

Giveaway where they gave away approximately 1,500 toys to 1,500 Combat Center patrons. During the event, which was open to all active-duty service members with children, Santa's helpers greeted guests, spreading holiday cheer and even the Grinch made a special appearance.

"I think it's important to hold events like this because active-duty service members of the Combat Center know that they are appreciated for everything they do day in and day out," said Jill Weber, special events manager, MCCS

See **Giveaway** A6



CPL. MEDINA AYALA-LO

Sophia Trevino, 7, and Selene Trevino, 4, daughters of Staff Sgt. Tim Trevino, communication maintenance chief, Marine Corps Logistics Operations Group, get to meet the Grinch during Marine Corps Community Service's annual Combat Center Toy Giveaway at the West Gym aboard the Combat Center, Saturday.

### Inside the Observation Post

Volume 60, Issue 50

- A2 ..... Combat Center History
- A3 ..... What I've Learned: Aaron Williams
- A4/A5 ..... MCCES Toys for Tots Fun Run
- A7 ..... Charity hike builds camaraderie
- A8 ..... Week in Photos
- B1 ..... Toys for Tots fly-in
- B2 ..... Liberty Call
- B6 ..... Around the Corps



Marines, Redlands Airport Association team up for Toys for Tots See page B1

## 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. Kirstin Merrimarahajara.



A U.S. Marine participates in a field training exercise during Exercise Iron Sword 16 in Rukla Training Area, Lithuania, Nov. 29. Iron Sword is an annual, multinational defense exercise involving 11 NATO allies training to increase combined infantry capabilities and forge relationships.



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## Local Holiday Festivities Opened By Base Tree Lighting Tuesday

Christmas celebrations were opened here Tuesday evening when the official tree-lighting ceremony was held on the parade ground, in front of Headquarters Building.

During the ceremony, the Commanding General pulled the switch to light the large tree, and a star on Radar Mountain behind the Officers Club.

Participants were serenaded by the Base Band and the Protestant and Catholic Choirs.

Three days of Turkey and Ham Shooting which began Wednesday ends today, at the Base Trap and Skeet Range, shooting begins at 1 p.m. and transportation will leave the Base Theater, for those who need it.

Children join the holiday festivities when Santa Clause pays an early visit at a party for Base dependent children 12 years and under at the Base Theater tomorrow.

Besides seeing Santa, children will receive

Christmas stockings. Popcorn and soft drinks will be provided to the children free of charge. A Walt Disney movie and two cartoons will keep the kids amused until Santa arrives.

Base officials remind personnel that awards will be given for the best decorated of military and residential units. In the housing area, judging will take place after 5:30 p.m. Sunday.

Displays will be judged in three categories, including religious, most beautiful, and best novelty display.

Winners will be announced in the Observation Post and will receive a \$5 gift certificate.

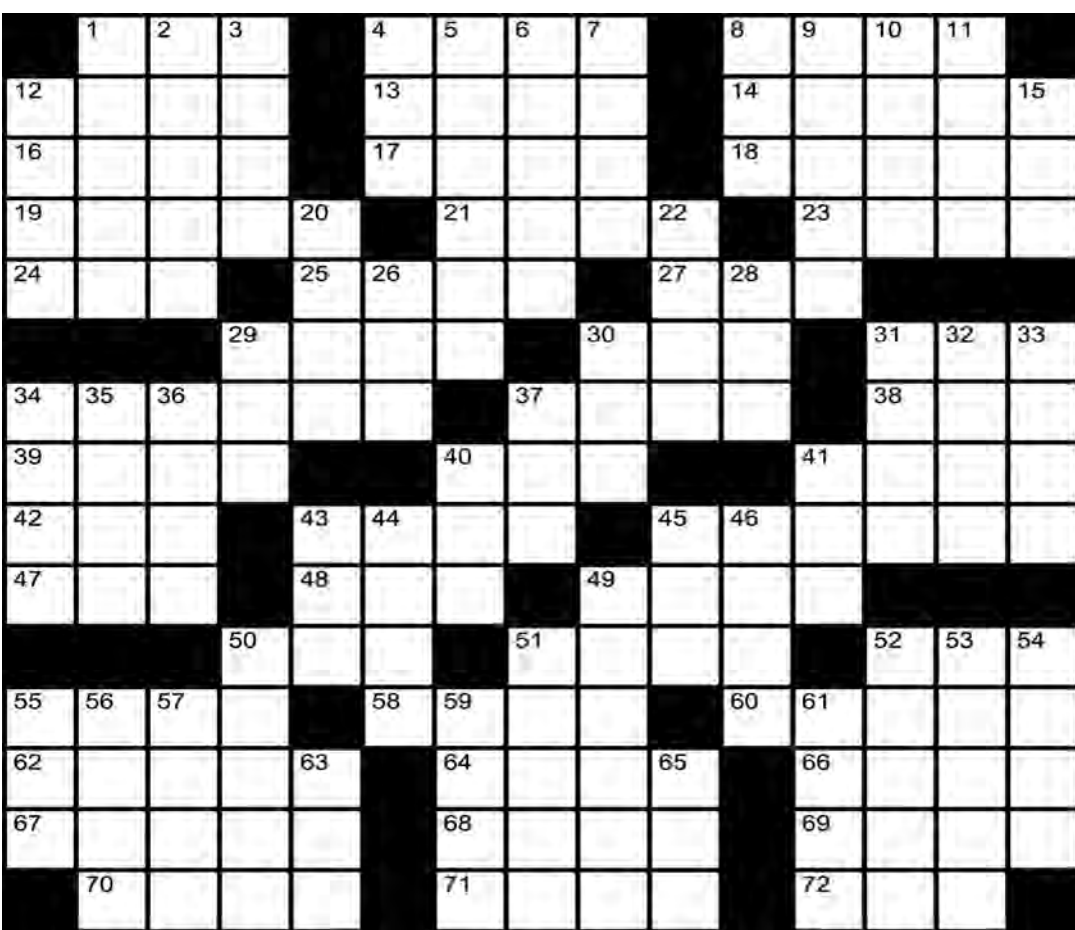
Various areas on the Base are lighted with colorfully decorated Christmas trees. Besides the one in front of Headquarters, trees will be set up at the Base Office, Base Library and both Chapels.

## Got history?



Dedication of the road to Camp Wilson, 1976. (Photo courtesy of Col. Billy D. Beahm, retired)  
The Combat Center Public Affairs Office is looking for photographs, videos and memorabilia for a book and video commemorating the installation's 65th anniversary in 2017. If you have something to share, email kelly.osullivan.ctr@usmc.mil or call her at 760-963-1697 for more information.

## CROSSWORD



### Across

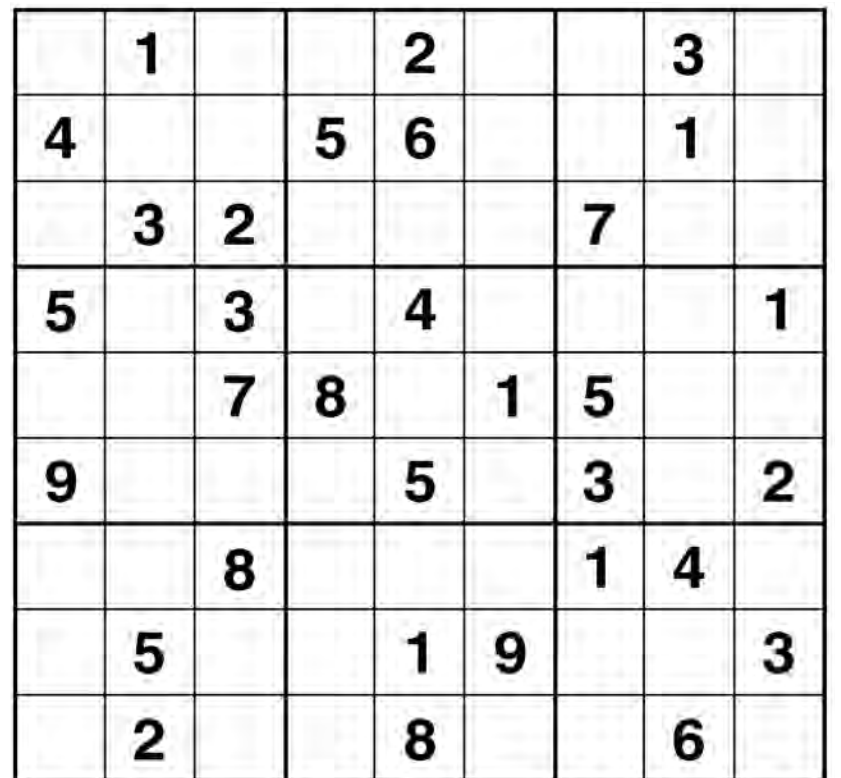
1. Jail, slangily
4. Concrete section
8. Chap
12. 1/500 of the Indianapolis 500
13. Au \_\_\_\_
14. Met expectations?
16. Doing nothing
17. Halo, e.g.
18. Romance, e.g.
19. Demands
21. Medical advice, often
23. Copper
24. Arid
25. Kind of column (2 wds)
27. "Dig in!"
29. Drudgery
30. Carry on
31. Favorite
34. A structure devoted to something holy
37. Exclusive
38. Egg cells
39. Grimace
40. Slang term for AI
41. Cut short
42. Aged
43. Bed board
45. Wastes time
47. "Fancy that!"
48. Best seller
49. Can of worms?

50. Barbie's beau
51. When repeated, like some shows
52. Handful
55. Asian tongue
58. Boris Godunov, for one
60. Safari sight
62. When Harry met \_\_\_\_
64. "Mi chiamano Mimi," e.g.
66. A chorus line
67. Inclined
68. Gulf war missile
69. Bondman
70. Makeup, e.g.
71. Jerk
72. Be nosy

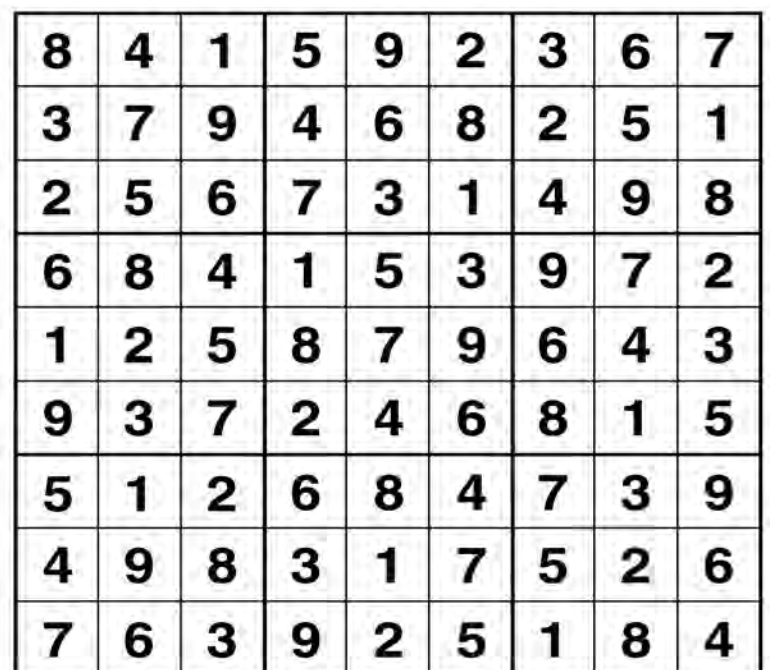
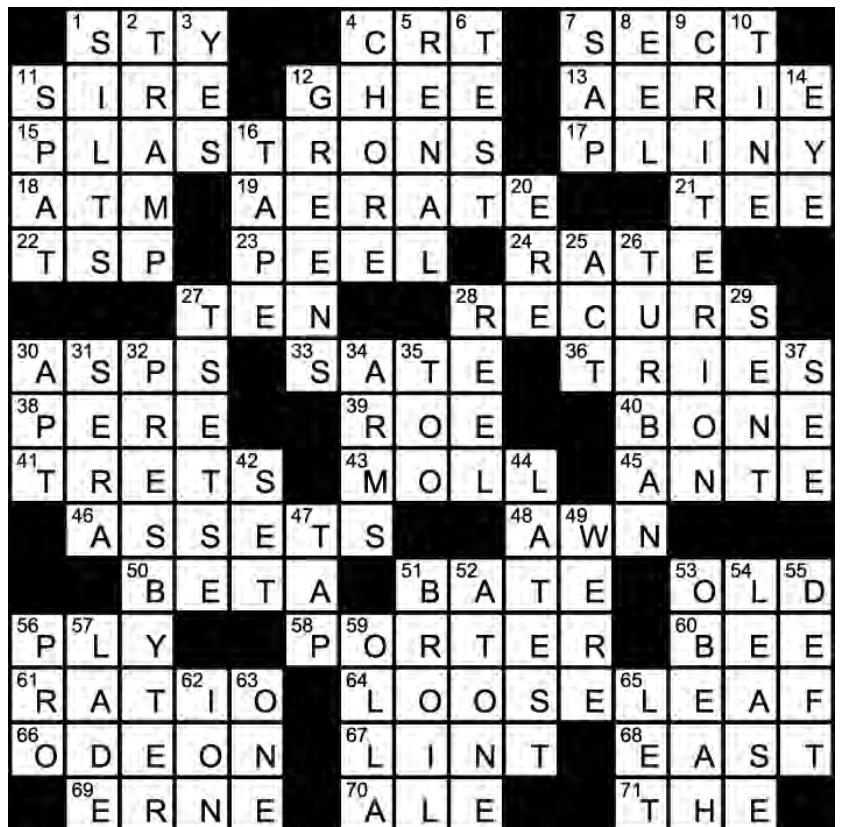
### Down

1. Autumn drink
2. Back street
3. Call for
4. Marienbad, for one
5. Any tree of the genus Laurus
6. Broadcast
7. Bikini parts
8. Joke
9. At attention
10. Opening time, maybe
11. Mountain pool
12. Attention
15. Undertake, with "out"
20. Sometime today, say
22. Be a snitch
26. Pandowdy, e.g.
28. Affirmative vote
29. 20-20, e.g.
30. Ale holder
31. A vote
32. Axis of \_\_\_\_
33. A little night music
34. E.P.A. concern
35. Burrow
36. "How \_\_\_!"
37. Boozehound
40. Dracula, at times
41. Mouse catcher
43. "Ain't \_\_\_ Sweet"
44. Fluff
45. Convened
46. Ticket info, maybe
49. Whitish, metallic element
50. Ovens to bake pottery
51. Tough, durable wood
52. Secretary, at times
53. Admittance
54. Kennel sound
55. Cooking meas.
56. "B.C." cartoonist
57. \_\_\_ vera
59. Back talk
61. Door fastener
63. "Are we there \_\_\_?"
65. "Much \_\_\_ About Nothing"

## SUDOKU



### Last week's answers



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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.
- Off Limit Establishments as of Oct 25, 2016**
- Adobe Smoke Shop, 6441 Adobe Road, Twentynine Palms
  - STC Smoke Shop, 6001 Adobe Road, Twentynine Palms
  - Puff's Tobacco, 57063 29 Palms Highway, Yucca Valley
  - Yucca Tobacco Mart, 57602 29 Palms Highway, Yucca Valley
  - NYPD Pizza, 260-262 North Palm Canyon Drive, Palm Springs
  - Sam's Smoke Shop, 16520 West Main Street, Barstow
  - Teazer's Bar & Grill Nightclub, 14269 Seventh Street, Victorville
  - Angelo's Kars, 222 & 226 S. Coast Highway, Oceanside
  - Denny's Parking Lot, 692 E Street, Chula Vista
  - Burger King & McDonald's, 28th Street (parking lots), San Diego
  - Club Mustang, 2200 University Avenue, San Diego
  - Club San Diego, 3955 4th Avenue, San Diego
  - Get It On Shoppe, San Diego
  - Main Street Motel, 3494 Main Street, San Diego
  - Trolley Stations, Palomar Street & San Ysidro, San Diego
  - Vulcan Baths, 805 W. Cedar Street, San Diego
  - Dream Crystal, 1536 Highland Avenue, National City
  - Sports Auto Sales, 1111 National City Boulevard, National City

## WHAT I'VE LEARNED

# Aaron "Wilbo" WILLIAMS

Lexington, N.C. Field artillery cannoneer, 3rd Battalion, 11 Marine Regiment

WILLIAMS IS A HISTORY BUFF WHO ENJOYS HUNTING, AUTO MECHANICS AND ENTERTAINING HIS FELLOW MARINES WITH STORYTELLING.

> **Each generation of my family has** served since the Revolutionary War. I knew I wanted to join the military at a young age. I joined the Young Marines in 7th grade and later participated in Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps before joining the Marine Corps. I wanted to become a warrior and protect my family. They were my biggest motivation for joining.

> **I became an artilleryman, because** I wanted to have a role in combat support. So far, I've been able to go to Japan and Thailand. Getting to shoot alongside allies like the Thai Marines was a rewarding experience. I'm excited for our next training deployment in Australia.

> **I'm a big historian.** I love studying the past because there is so much you can learn from it. My favorite era to study is the [American Civil War]. When I'm home I also do Civil War reenactments.

> **Lt. Gen. "Stonewall" Jackson** is my favorite general in history because he did many great things with small numbers. I admire him because of his ability to inspire his troops and maintain moral standards.

> **We still use tactics from history's greatest** and that's why I believe history is still relevant. I also enjoy reading a lot about Field Marshal Erwin Rommel. I'm keeping my options open to become a history professor at some point in the future.

> **I stay away from drinking** and enjoy running and physical training because I like to stay productive.

> **I want to stay in the military** for as long as I can. I love artillery; it's



a hard job and can take a toll on your body but it's one of the most motivating jobs in the Marine Corps. I'm still keeping an open mind to other jobs in the Marine Corps.

> **I have had some memorable experiences** in the Marine Corps so far. It's all about the camaraderie and the rest of the guys. It makes for good moments. We know the right times to joke around and the right times to focus and get the mission done.

> **Deployments have offered me** the most remarkable experiences. Earlier this year we were in Korea deep in the snow. It was tough but we pulled

through, shot rounds and accomplished our objective. Sometimes we get mad at each other, then we love each other and that's family.

> **I've also had some great moments** with the guys during liberty. One that comes to mind is when our gun team went cliff diving in Okinawa. The great weather and landscape makes it a beautiful place.

> **When I'm back home in North Carolina,** I love to go shooting and hunting. I mainly hunt deer and small game. I got into the arms trade as a hobby as well. It forced me to learn more and more about different types of guns. I have various modern tac-

tical shotguns and assault rifles, but my favorite gun to shoot is my 1851 Confederate Navy .44 caliber black powder revolver.

> **I'm also passionate about** working on cars. I have two 1966 Ford Mustangs. I'm in the process of customizing one and I plan on keeping the other in its original condition.

> **I try to balance military life with my family life,** because I'm a big family man. I have a 2-year-old sister back home and it kills me that I don't get to see her as often as I'd like to. My family is very supportive and proud because they know I'm protecting them as a Marine.

Interviewed and photographed by Cpl. Connor Hancock

# "AMU HELPED ME REACH HIGHER"

AMU ALUM AND VETERAN WES O'DONNELL (MBA 2011)



Veteran, author, and entrepreneur Wes O'Donnell gained the right tools and confidence from AMU to publish a book, start a healthcare solutions company, and launch a successful digital media group. Join the #1 provider of education to the Armed Forces\* and gain knowledge that's relevant to what you do today and what you want to do tomorrow. Reach higher at [www.AMUonline.com/OBSERVATION](http://www.AMUonline.com/OBSERVATION)

\*As reported by Military Times, July/August 2015

# MCCES brings holiday cheer

BY LANCE CPL. DAVE FLORES



Students and staff of the Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School place toys in donation bins during the Toys for Tots Fun Run aboard the Combat Center, Wednesday.

**M**arine students and staff with the Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School hosted their Toys for Tots Fun Run aboard the Combat Center, Wednesday.

Joined by Brig. Gen. William F. Mullen III, Combat Center Commanding General, more than 2,000 MCCES Marines carried toys while running in formation throughout the installation. As the Marines passed Lance Cpl. Torrey L. Gray Field, they dropped the toys into crates which would later be donated to the Toys for Tots program.

“Doing events like this is important because it shows these young Marines

the importance of service before self,” Mullen said. “I was on Inspector-Instructor duty and for those three years, we did these Toys for Tots donation events. It gives less fortunate families a chance to make the holiday season as special as it should be, making this program worthwhile.”

The students donated six bins full of toys ranging from action figures to board games that catered to a wide range of age groups.

“Coming from a family that did not have much growing up, events like this really hit home for me,” said Pfc. Joshua Navarrosihi, student, MCCES. “Coming to the Marine Corps, I planned on serving others as much as I could. I’m glad to see that we, as junior Marines, are already able to do that.”



KATHLEEN ABRACZEWSKI

Brig. Gen. William F. Mullen III, Combat Center Commanding General, gives Sgt. Joshua Ulrich, radar maintenance chief, Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School, the first gift for donation during the Toys for Tots Fun Run aboard the Combat Center, Wednesday.



LANCE CPL. DAVE FLORES

Students and staff of Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School carry toys to donation bins during the Toys for Tots Fun Run aboard the Combat Center, Wednesday.

## A Picture's Worth A Thousand Words

**Beautiful Babies:**  
A Local Album of Babies born in 2016



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# with Toys for Tots Fun Run



LANCE CPL. DAVE FLORES

Pfc. Joshua Navarroishiki and Pfc. William Brehman, students, Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School, stand guard over toy bins during the Toys for Tots Fun Run aboard the Combat Center, Wednesday.



LANCE CPL. DAVE FLORES

Brig. Gen. William F. Mullen III, Combat Center Commanding General, watches the students and staff of the Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School drop off donated toys during the Toys for Tots Fun Run aboard the Combat Center, Wednesday.



LANCE CPL. DAVE FLORES

A student from the Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School drops off a toy in a donation bin during the Toys for Tots Fun Run aboard the Combat Center, Wednesday.

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## Sand and Steel From A1

identified and worked on 24 broken pieces of gear over the course of four days, utilizing the second iteration of the Expeditionary Manufacturing Facility.

"We provide the cutting edge of technology - right now," said Dierker from West Falmouth, Mass. "We have an Ex-Man, which is 'additive manufacturing.' We can find a part or widget of a piece of gear on the front lines and can find out exactly how it's broken. We can take that back and make the measurements, analyze it, and see if we can 3-D print it. Then we can repair that part and actually bring it back out to the front lines instead of waiting on a supply system."

The second iteration of the Ex-Man is a testament to how far the 3-D printing field has come, according to Capt. Ross Hrynewych, company commander of Repairable Maintenance

Company, 1st Maintenance Bn., 1st MLG. The first iteration of the Ex-Man only produced eight products in eight months.

The capabilities of 3-D printing is unknown to most Marines, so 1st Maintenance Bn. demonstrated them by making a variety of products including a Light Armored Vehicle's 25-millimeter M242 Bushmaster idler sprocket, an Amphibious Assault Vehicle's centrifuge impeller, and a Logistics Vehicle System Replacement mounting bracket.

"We came out to Steel Knight and we're trying to prove the concept of the expeditionary manufacturing shelter," said Gunnery Sgt. Daniel Broom, a machinist with Repairable Maintenance Company, 1st Maintenance Battalion. "When we came out here we started pursuing different units to let them know

what we are working on. We started going around and seeing who might need some things. Things that we didn't have the ability to do before, but now we do have the ability."

Exercises like Steel Knight can provide Marines and units with a look at what a real war-fighting scenario would feel like, and what would be expected of them.

"All of our [military occupational specialties] get critical training while they're out here, primarily just being in support of a real-life exercise," said Dierker. "They never cease to amaze all their supported units and their commanders. They work very hard and do a lot of jobs that not a lot of the [1st Marine Division] side knows about, but there are critical and key billets that support the Division and keep the force sustained in equipment readiness."



SGT. ABBEY PERRIA

Cpl. Rusty Mongold, a machinist with Engineer Maintenance Company, 1st Maintenance Battalion, 1st Marine Logistics Group, cuts a piece of metal using the Computer Numerical Control during exercise Steel Knight aboard the Combat Center, Dec. 8.

## Giveaway From A1



Marines and sailors wait outside of the West Gym prior to Marine Corps Community Service's annual Combat Center Toy Giveaway aboard the Combat Center, Saturday.

Marketing. "This is just one small way that MCCS can give back."

According to Weber, people were lined up an hour prior to the start of the event in anticipation of the festivities. Two weeks

prior to the giveaway, students from JSerra Catholic High School donated the toys that would later be given to Combat Center children. The day of the giveaway volunteers from MCCS and the high school,

which has participated in the giveaway for more than 12 years, helped distribute one age-appropriate toy to each child who attended.

"Today we have about 20 students of all grades and they're helping to distribute toys that were collected for the Marines, sailors and their families over the last two weeks," said Eric Stroupe, principal, JSerra Catholic High

School. "Our students are taught the importance of service to their community, and we know that means Marines are literally putting their lives on the line for our freedoms and for all the liberties we enjoy here in the United States. I think it's one of the best things we do in our school and we're happy to contribute to the holidays."



CPL. MEDINA AYALA-LO

A Jolly Jumps employee paints a unicorn on Cemelia Rangel, 6, daughter of Staff Sgt. Jorge Rangel, LAV crewman, 3rd LAR, aboard the Combat Center, Saturday.

### TOUGH MINDED OPTIMISM

by Lou Gerhardt



"Do You Hear What I Hear?" is without serious question the finest Christmas song written in my lifetime. In only 53 years it has become one of the most popular Christmas songs in the world.

I remember the first time I heard it. I was driving on a busy street in Seattle when the beautiful music with its haunting refrain came from my car radio. I was absolutely over-whelmed by the music and lyrics and had to stop and simply listen. It is truly a glorious song!

"Do You Hear What I Hear?" was written by Noel Regney and his wife at the time Gloria Shayne. It was released to the general public between Thanksgiving and Christmas in 1962. There were 250,000 records produced and they were all sold in the first week. In 1963 Bing Crosby released a record of the song that sold over one million copies. The next year Perry Como, Mahalia Jackson and scores of other artists produced records that sold in the millions all over the world.

The story is that Noel Regney told his wife that he was writing a Christmas song. She told him to make it commercial. He replied "No. I must make it beautiful."

Shortly before his physical death Noel Regney commented on his beautiful song and the response of the general public. "I am amazed" he said, "that people can think that they know the song and not know that it is a prayer for peace."

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# Charity hike builds camaraderie

STORY AND PHOTOS BY  
CPL. THOMAS MUDD

Combat Center patrons participated in the second annual Road March for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Dec. 10.

Mark Geleko, tactical training support, 7th Marine Regiment, organized the road march on his birthday. This year's route took participants from Desert Winds Golf Course to Kimi Grill in Yucca Valley, Calif., 56 kilometers away. The distance of the march corresponds with Geleko's age.

"I started [the road march] last year on my birthday. I made it a charity event, because I'm always donating to St. Jude's and I wanted to do more," Geleko said. "I like pushing myself and trying to push others as well. I figured that with something like this we could do both."

Approximately 20 participants were asked to find sponsors for the march, with the goal of raising \$5,000. Throughout the march, checkpoints provided respite to ensure all the participants had time to rest before continuing as a group.

"I heard about this because Mark is my coach for [mixed martial arts] and he asked me if I wanted to participate," said



Mark Geleko, tactical training support, 7th Marine Regiment, and Lance Cpl. Xavier Vines, tactical air operations module technician, Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School, hike together down Highway 62 during the second annual Road March For St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, Saturday.

Lance Cpl. Xavier Vines, tactical air operations module technician, Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School. "It is not every day that we get

to do something like this. On top of that, we are also getting to raise money for a good cause."

The march lasted approximately 12 hours

and took the participants down Highway 62, the main thoroughfare through the Morongo Basin. Those who attended found a sense of cama-

raderie and pride in finishing the hike.

"There is a sense of accomplishment when you finally reach the end of this hike," Geleko

said. "Last year's wiped everyone out, but it felt good knowing that we could all still do it and that what we are doing will help children in need."



Participants of the second annual Road March for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital rest at the halfway point in Twentynine Palms, Calif., Saturday. Mark Geleko, tactical training support, 7th Marine Regiment, organized the event to raise money to donate to children in need.



Participants of the second annual Road March for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital hike down California Highway 62 toward their end goal of Kimi Grill in Yucca Valley, Calif., Saturday. Mark Geleko, tactical training support, 7th Marine Regiment, organized the event to raise money to donate to children in need.



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# WeekINPhotos



## To Become a Martial Arts Instructor in Hawaii

Photos by: Cpl. Aaron Patterson



Staff Sgt. Jacob H. Olson, an infantry unit leader with Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, assigned to Martial Arts Instructor Course Class 1-17, School of Infantry West, Detachment Hawaii, supervises a grappling match during the MAIC at building 222, aboard MCB Hawaii, Tuesday.



Sgt. Antuan Martin, a communications signals analyst with 3rd Radio Battalion, assigned to Martial Arts Instructor Course Class 1-17, School of Infantry West, Detachment Hawaii, does weighted squats during the MAIC at building 222, aboard MCB Hawaii, Tuesday.



Sgt. Neil S. Hopper, a field wireman with 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, assigned to Martial Arts Instructor Course Class 1-17, School of Infantry West, Detachment Hawaii, conducts weighted squats during the MAIC at building 222, aboard MCB Hawaii, Tuesday.



Marines assigned to Martial Arts Instructor Course Class 1-17, School of Infantry West, Detachment Hawaii, conduct physical training during the MAIC at building 222, aboard MCB Hawaii, Tuesday.

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# Marines, Redlands Airport Association team up for



A stuffed bear sits on the wing of an aircraft that was flown by volunteers from the Redlands Airport Association to deliver toys to Twentynine Palms Airport as part of the 2nd annual Toys for Tots Fly-in, Saturday.

**STORY AND PHOTOS BY  
 CPL. LEVI SCHULTZ**

Marines from 4th Tank Battalion partnered with the Redlands Airport Association to deliver, through a new toy at Christmas, a message of hope to less fortunate children during the 2nd annual Toys for Tots Fly-in, Saturday.

Association pilots loaded more than 25 small aircraft with toys that ranged from stuffed animals to bicycles and began their approximately 70-mile flight to the Twentynine Palms Airport.

“Our whole goal was to fill a bunch of airplanes with toys and bring it to the Marines to donate to the Toys for Tots program,” said Ted Gablin, president, Redlands Airport Association. “In addition to the toys, we collected \$1,000 in donations. We love what the Marines do with Toys for Tots

and we want to support it.”

At the Twentynine Palms Airport, the pilots met the local Toys for Tots coordinator, Staff Sgt. Jason Slye, company master gunner, 4th Tank Battalion. Slye collected the toys to be distributed to less fortunate families in the area.

“Toys for Tots is important because it’s a direct connection to our community,” Slye said. “Last year, we actually collected more than 50,000 toys and distributed to more than 26,000 families in the area. Each year the program has grown, so this year we are looking to outdo ourselves from last year.”

Since its inception in 1947, Toys for Tots has grown into a successful nationwide community action project allowing Marines to give back to communities by helping less fortunate children throughout the United States experience the joy of Christmas.



Toys for Tots is important because it’s a direct connection to our community. Last year, we actually collected more than 50,000 toys and distributed to more than 26,000 families in the area.”

~ Staff Sgt. Jason Slye  
 Company master gunner, 4th Tank Battalion



Staff Sgt. Jason Slye, company master gunner, 4th Tank Battalion, thanks volunteers from the Redlands Airport Association who delivered toys to Twentynine Palms Airport as part of the 2nd annual Toys for Tots Fly-in, Saturday.



Staff Sgt. Jason Slye, company master gunner, 4th Tank Battalion, thanks volunteers from the Redlands Airport Association who delivered toys to Twentynine Palms Airport as part of the 2nd annual Toys for Tots Fly-in, Saturday.



Petty Officer 2nd Class Johnathan Lough-Wekell, corpsman, 4th Tank Battalion, loads toys into a truck during the 2nd annual Toys for Tots Fly-in, Saturday.



Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Dec 17	Dec 18	Dec 19	Dec 20	Dec 21	Dec 22	Dec 23
Dec 24 Christmas Holiday Liberty Period*	Dec 25 Christmas Holiday Liberty Period*	Dec 26 Christmas Day (Federal Holiday Observed)  Christmas Holiday Liberty Period*	Dec 27 Christmas Holiday Liberty Period*	Dec 28	Dec 29	Dec 30
Dec 31 New Year's Holiday Liberty Period**	Jan 1 New Year's Holiday Liberty Period**	Jan 2 New Year's Holiday Liberty Period**  New Year's Day (Federal Holiday Observed)	Jan 3 New Year's Holiday Liberty Period**	Jan 4	Jan 5	Jan 6

Holiday Liberty Periods are in accordance with Combat Center Bulletin 1050.3J

\*Base Mess Hall Hours of Operation for the 2016 Holiday Period Christmas

Phelps Hall and Dunham Hall will be on brunch hours from 24 to 27 December and will resume normal operating hours on 28 December.

Littleton Hall will be closed 24 to 27 December and will resume normal operating hours on 28 December.

\*\*Base Mess Hall Hours of Operation for 2016 Holiday Period New Years

Littleton Hall and Dunham Hall will be on brunch hours from 31 December to 3 January and will resume normal operating hours on 4 January.

Phelps Hall will be closed 31 December to 3 January and will resume normal operating hours 4 January.

### Sunset Cinema

**Friday, Dec. 16**

- 4:00 p.m. – The Santa Clause (NDVD-Free Admission), PG
- 6:00 p.m. – Christmas with the Kranks (NDVD-Free-Admission), PG
- 8:00 p.m. – Almost Christmas, PG-13
- 10:30 p.m. – Inferno, PG-13

**Saturday, Dec. 17**

- 10:00 a.m. – The Santa Clause 2 (NDVD-Free Admission), G
- 12:00 p.m. – I'll Be Home for Christmas (NDVD-Free Admission), G
- 2:00 p.m. – Trolls, PG
- 4:00 p.m. – Doctor Strange, PG-13
- 6:30 p.m. – Keeping Up With the Joneses, PG-13
- 8:40 p.m. – Arrival, PG-13
- 11:00 p.m. – Hacksaw Ridge, R

**Sunday, Dec. 18**

- 12:30 p.m. – The Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause (NDVD-Free Admission), G

- 2:30 p.m. – Trolls, PG
- 5:00 p.m. – Fantastic Beasts and Where To Find Them (3-D), PG-13
- 7:50 p.m. – The Edge of Seventeen, R

**Monday, Dec. 19**

- 3:00 p.m. – The Muppet Christmas (NDVD-Free Admission), G
- 5:00 p.m. – Surviving Christmas (NDVD-Free Admission), PG-13
- 7:10 p.m. – Ouija: Origin of Evil, PG-13

**Tuesday, Dec. 20**

- 3:00 p.m. – All I Want for Christmas (NDVD-Free Admission), G
- 5:00 p.m. – Krampus (NDVD-Free Admission), PG-13
- 7:00 p.m. – Ouija: Origin of Evil, PG-13

**Wednesday, Dec. 21**

- 3:00 p.m. – The Nutcracker (NDVD-Free Admission), G

- 5:00 p.m. – Four Christmases (NDVD-Free Admission), PG-13
- 7:00 p.m. – Inferno, PG-13

**Thursday, Dec. 22**

- 3:00 p.m. – Elf (NDVD-Free Admission), PG
- 5:00 p.m. – The Family Man (NDVD-Free Admission), PG-13
- 7:30 p.m. – Keeping Up With the Joneses, PG-13

**Friday, Dec. 23**

- 12:30 p.m. – A Christmas Carol (NDVD-Free Admission), PG
- 2:20 p.m. – Fred Clause (NDVD-Free Admission), PG
- 4:30 p.m. – Ernest Saves Christmas (NDVD-Free Admission), PG
- 6:20 p.m. – Love the Coopers (NDVD-Free Admission), PG-13
- 8:30 p.m. – Doctor Strange, PG-13
- 11:00 p.m. – Hacksaw Ridge, R

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# ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Around the Corps ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



Marines with 4th Force Reconnaissance Battalion ride a combat rubber raiding craft during dive operations in Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii, Dec. 9. The mission of Marine Corps Base Hawaii is to provide facilities, programs and services in direct support of units, individuals and families in order to enhance and sustain combat readiness for all operating forces and tenant organizations aboard MCB Hawaii.

CPL. AARON PATTERSON



LANCE CPL. RAUL TORRES

Marines with 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, get briefed using a terrain model of a Military Operations Urban Terrain course at Camp Lejeune, N.C., Dec. 8. MOUT is a combat course that allows Marines to train in an urban environment in which they secure buildings while taking simulated enemy fire.



LANCE CPL. MELANYE MARTINEZ

USS Mesa Verde passes near USS Carter Hall (LSD-50) Monday, at sea during Amphibious Ready Group Marine Expeditionary Unit Exercise. ARGMEUEX is a three-week training event that builds Navy and Marine Corps' relationships, amphibious readiness, and allows the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit to further enhance its capabilities for an upcoming deployment.



CPL. JAMES GUILLORY

Marines with Marine Attack Squadron (VMA) 542 wait to conduct preflight inspections during the Aviation Training Relocation Program at Chitose Air Base, Japan, Monday. During the ATR the Marines with the power line division for VMA-542 have ensured the safety of all aircraft involved through routine flight inspections, launching the aircraft and recovering the aircraft.



SGT. BRITTNEY VELLA

A Marine with Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment runs from a CH-53E super stallion helicopter assigned to Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 463 after fast roping into Landing Zone 216 during a simulation of Operation Gothic Serpent aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Saturday. Operation Gothic Serpent was a military operation conducted by U.S. Special Forces in Somalia, Africa from August to October 1993.

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