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Community at
Twentynine Palms, Calif.

VOL. 52 NO. 5
February 3, 2006



OBSERVATION POST



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This Issue

A3 - Navy Commendation

B1 - 2/7 Photos

B3 - ITT

Hot Topics

ROAD CLOSURE

Fourth St. between Bourke and Brown Streets will be closed through Feb. 28.

GREAT AMERICAN VOICES

The National Endowment for the Arts and Marine Corps Community Services presents the live musical "Great American Voices," Feb. 8 at 7 p.m. at the Sunset Cinema. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

DENTAL HEALTH 101

MCAGCC's 23rd Dental Company invites you to observe National Children's Dental Health Month. Lt. Kevin Hudson is hosting an informal town hall-style meeting Feb. 9 from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Lifelong Learning Library that will discuss Dental Health 101: Basics of Good Oral Health. Topics will include the child's first dental visit, tooth structure, dental caries and periodontal disease, tooth-unfriendly foods and drinks and brushing and flossing techniques.

ROBERT E. BUSH NAVAL HOSPITAL

The Robert E. Bush Naval Hospital will undergo a Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Health Care Organizations and Medical Inspector General survey from Feb. 7-9. The survey team will hold customer focus groups at 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Feb. 9 in classroom 4. The focus groups are open to anyone who would like to attend and discuss any issues pertaining to their healthcare.

COMING NEXT ISSUE

• 29 CPCA

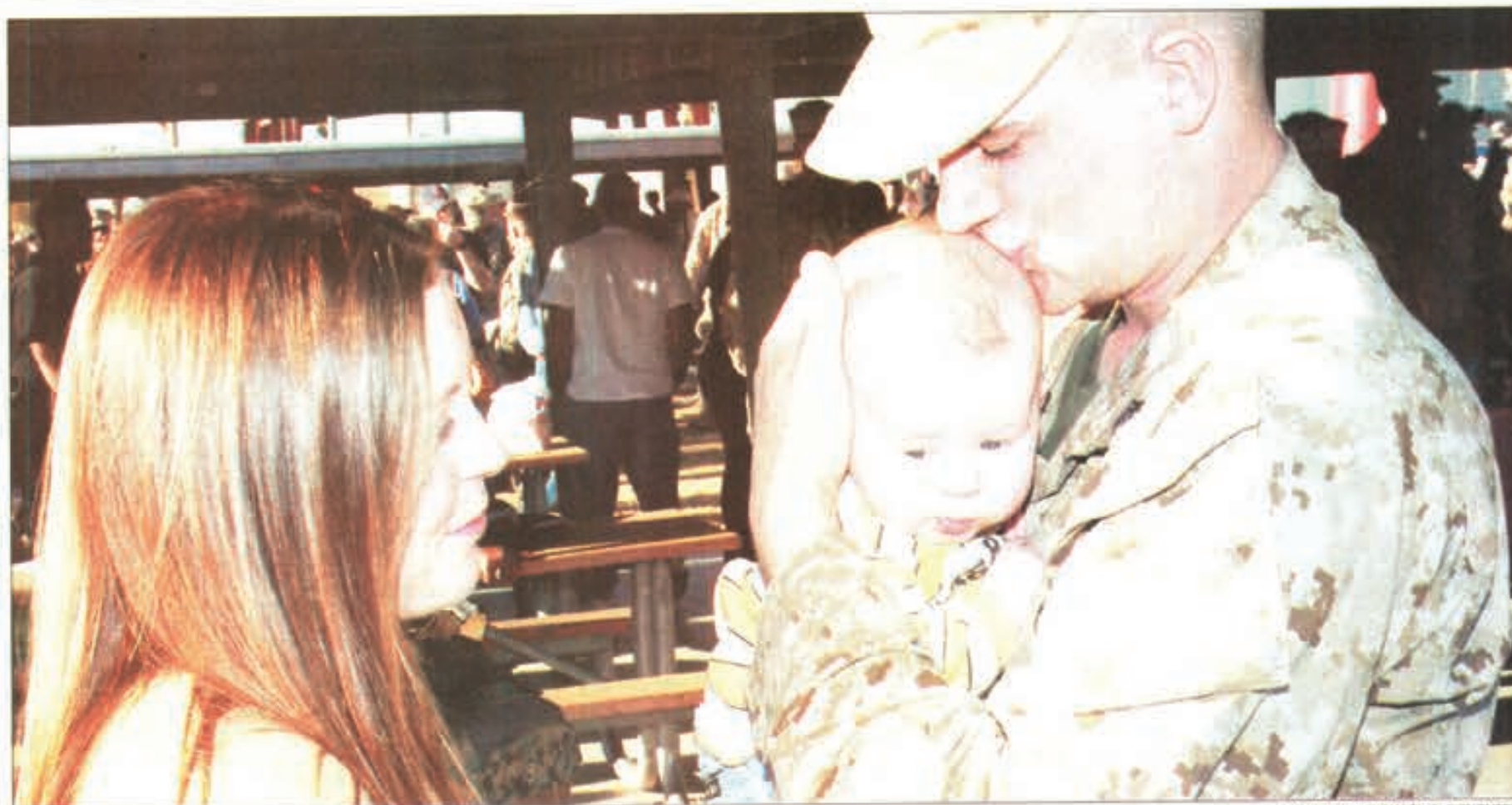
• Great American Voices

• Start Smart Basketball

THIS DAY IN MARINE CORPS HISTORY

Feb. 3, 1904

Marines clashed with Colombian troops in Panama



Cpl. Benjamin D. Vaughn, a mortarman with Golf Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, holds and kisses his 4-month-old son, Benjamin Jr., for the first time Sunday moments after he reunites with his wife, Caitlin, at the Combat Center's Victory Field.

War Dogs come back from Iraq

Return to new lives

LANCE CPL. MICHAEL S. CIFUENTES
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

The Combat Center's Victory Field was filled with high spirits Sunday afternoon when the families and friends of 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, gathered to greet their returning heroes.

The celebration called for balloons, ribbons, flags, cheering, banners and posters that read, "Welcome home."

Most of the excitement came from wives and parents. Friends and other Marines with the battalion who returned a month earlier also shared in the excitement. But, certain loved ones could not express their joy like others because many were new born babies.

In July 2005, more than 700 Marines and Sailors from 2/7 departed the Combat Center to support the ongoing global war on terrorism. Along with their loved ones, some of the service members left behind a new life, which later became a new member to their families.

Jennifer Shultz waited seven months for her

dream to come true, she said. Shultz, along with a 4-month-old new family member, waited anxiously for the battalion's buses to arrive.

"The deployment was really hard for me because I was pregnant for most of the time," said Shultz before her husband returned. "After the birth, it was hard for me to recover without my husband. He couldn't call much during the beginning of the deployment but then he was able to call more and more toward the end. I'm so excited to see him. I'm even more excited for him to see his son for the first time. The truth hasn't hit me yet. The day I've been waiting for is here and it doesn't seem real. It seems like I'm still dreaming."

The Marines and Sailors with the battalion arrived at Victory Field at 3 p.m. and were greeted by a large mass of excited family members. Many overwhelmed family members couldn't hold in their tears as they reunited with their Marine or Sailor.

For Lance Cpl. Eli L. Shultz, a mortarman with Golf Company, his return home was more enjoyable when he met his 4-week-old, baby boy, Evan, along with his wife.

Cpl. Benjamin D. Vaughn, a mortarman with Golf Co., also came home to a grand, yet small, enjoyment.

Four-month-old Benjamin Vaughn Jr., and his mother Caitlin, awaited their returning Marine Sunday afternoon also.

"It was very hard for me knowing that I couldn't be there for her troubles when she was pregnant," said Cpl. Vaughn. "I know she missed me and I'm glad she and my son were OK. Being with them now feels amazing. I feel like a dad for the first time. I was very excited to come home but I was much more anxious to see my son and wife the most."

Vaughn's wife shared the feeling.

"It was nerve wrecking knowing he was out there," she said. "I'm glad this day came. I just couldn't wait for them to meet. As for now, I plan to spend a lot of time together — just the three of us. We are going to go home and do a lot of catching up."

This was the battalion's second combat deployment to Iraq.

The rest of the battalion returned to the Combat Center Monday.

See photo spread, B1

Headquarters 7th Marines begin their march to Iraq

LANCE CPL. MICHAEL S. CIFUENTES
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

For the past eight months, Marines and Sailors with Headquarters Company, 7th Marine Regiment, have been sharpening their combat skills here in preparation for their 14-month deployment to Iraq.

The culmination of their training was reached Jan. 27 the day they began their deployment.

The company congregated at the Combat Cen-

ter's West Gym on the night of Jan. 26 to spend their final moments with their families and friends. At 2 a.m., the platoon sergeants took role, they boarded the buses and began their trip to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The company was formed into different elements involving different missions. In addition to working as a headquarters and service element, the company is tasked with providing their own provisional rifle platoon and a jump team - tasks ordinarily assigned

to infantry units. These elements will be known as Regimental Combat Team 7 and will have their own internal capabilities, said Capt. Randal M. Walsh, commanding officer of Headquarters Co.

"There are many advantages to these elements and it relieves stress from infantry command elements," he said. "The colonel needs to go out and see his men, so the jump team will provide him with the convoy and security. Other line units will also be

See 7TH MARINES, A5

Former CG passes away, honored by family, friends, community

CPL. BRIAN A. TUTHILL
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

"I think a true measure of success is how many people show up to honor you when you're gone," said Richard Reid, surrounded by dozens of his late father's close friends, family and fellow Marines. "Looking around, the quality of people and the number of friends that are here is a testament to the lives he touched."

More than 150 people gathered for a memorial service and celebration of life for retired Brig. Gen. Ernest "Ernie" R. Reid, Jr., at the Protestant Chapel and the Officer's Club Jan. 27.

Reid, who passed away at the age of 80, served as commanding general aboard the Combat Center from July 1975 to July 1976, and who friends say devoted himself to his family, the Corps, and the community of Twentynine Palms.

Reid was born July 10, 1925, in Dallas and retired from the Marine Corps in 1976 after 33 years of active service.

"I didn't expect this many friends to show up because many of them are older or live far away," said his wife, Lou, who was presented with a crisply-folded American flag by Brig. Gen. Douglas Stone, Combat Center commanding general, in



Lou Reid is comforted by family and friends as she clutches a flag presented to her in honor of her late husband, Brig. Gen. Ernest R. Reid Jr., retired, during a memorial service at the Protestant Chapel Jan. 27.

See REID, A5

A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT

On behalf of the entire Marine Corps, it is an honor to congratulate the Marines and Sailors of the 1st Marine Division on the 65th anniversary of your activation. Units of the division first saw action nearly a century ago, earning the highest honors for valor, battlefield prowess, and the esprit of its dedicated Marines and Sailors through the ensuing decades.

From Guadalcanal to the Chosin reservoir, the "old breed" has amassed an unparalleled legacy born of courage and determination. The division's distinguished service in Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom have added new chapters to the division's lore, further demonstrating that whether in action against the nation's foes or conducting stability operations, the 1st Division creates stability in an uncertain world.

As the division prepares to return to Iraq, we mark this anniversary by celebrating our heritage and paying tribute to those who have preceded us. Know that Marines around the globe honor your service and sacrifice and wish you continued success.

Semper fidelis and keep attacking!
M. W. Hagee,
General, U.S. Marine Corps
Commandant of the Marine Corps

Sempertoons

By Gunnery Sgt. Charles Wolf



C.O.P. Corner
Community
Oriented Policing



The proactive voice of crime prevention

Presented by the Provost Marshal's Office Crime Prevention Section

Seatbelts and children

The California Vehicle Code and Combat Center Order regarding seatbelts requires that:

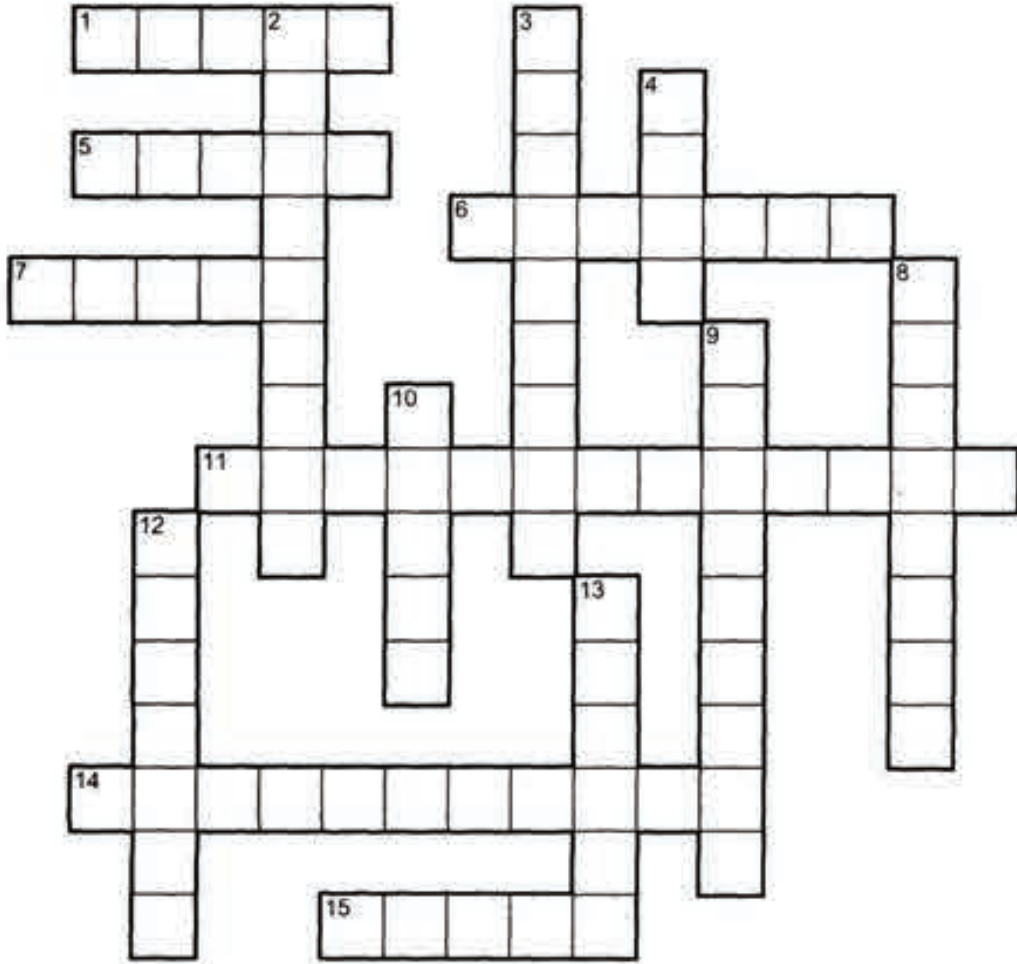
Children under 6 years of age and under 60 lbs. are required to be in child safety seats. The safest place for children is in the rear seating area, away from airbags. All drivers and passengers are required to be properly restrained.

It is the driver's responsibility to ensure children under 16 years of age are properly restrained.

The following services are available to on-base personnel and residents through Crime Prevention: literature, briefs, education, crime assessments, safety tips, the Stranger Danger program, McGuff the Crime Dog, the Officer Friendly program, the Property Marking program, and the Child Identification and Fingerprinting program. For more information call Crime Prevention, 830-6094/5457.

Presented by the Provost Marshal's Office Crime Prevention Section

SUPERHEROES



ACROSS

- 1 A combination of lightning and chemicals transformed Wally West into The _____, the fastest man alive.
- 5 Batman's sidekick
- 6 A demon, raised from infancy after being conjured by and rescued from the Nazis, grows up to become a defender against the forces of darkness.
- 7 She's born with the mutant ability to absorb the powers of those she comes into skin contact with
- 11 "Go planet!"
- 14 She is one of the first female superheroes and arguably the most famous
- 15 Born in darkness. Sworn to justice

DOWN

- 2 Peter woke up after getting bit by a spider and his vision becomes blurred.
- 3 "The Man Without Fear," "The Scarlet Swashbuckler," Mathew Murdock
- 4 The Incredible _____. He's green.
- 8 "It's a bird. It's a plane. It's _____"
- 9 This mutant heals quickly, possesses animal-like senses and reflexes and has three forearm-length claws on each hand.
- 10 Stormy Weather is a very clear parody of the X-Men's
- 12 Scott Summers has a dangerous eye
- 13 Bruce Wayne's name at night

[Solutions on A4]

Marines, Sailors, and cab drivers: MCOS will reimburse ANY licensed cab company for transportation to the Main Gate, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center. Drivers: please log all record information from your fare's military I.D. card. Thank you for participating.

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Centerspeak

Who do you want to win the Superbowl?

Opinions expressed in Centerspeak are not necessarily those of the OBSERVATION POST, the Marine Corps or Department of Defense.



PFC JACOB CULWELL
CHARLIE CO., 1ST BATTALION,
7TH MARINES

"The Steelers. They are just the best."



LANCE CPL. LEO KESSELMAN
HEADQUARTERS CO., MWSS-374

"I have a lot of family who are Steelers fans and my staff sergeant, too."



1ST SGT. MARK BROWN
BRAVO CO., 3RD LAR BATTALION

"My Giants didn't make it, so the Steelers."



PFC JAMES SERAFINO
CHARLIE CO., 1ST BATTALION,
25TH MARINES

"Pittsburgh has been red-hot all year and Seattle can't take it."

What's on your mind?

Centerspeak welcomes questions or submissions from service members, Department of Defense civilians and family members.

Address submissions to:
Commanding General
Public Affairs Office
(Attn. Press Chief)
MCAGCC
Box 788200
Twentynine Palms, CA 92278-8200

Or E-mail to:
evan.eagan@usmc.mil

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1st Lt. Christy L. Kercheval
Gunnery Sgt. Christopher W. Cox
Sgt. Jennie E. Haskamp
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Sgt. Robert L. Fisher III
Cpl. Evan M. Eagan
Cpl. Heidi E. Loreda
Cpl. Brian A. Tuthill
Lance Cpl. Michael S. Cifuentes
Lance Cpl. Regina N. Ortiz

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Chief Warrant Officer 3 William A. Kelly and Master Sgt. James H. Shawgo, officer-in-charge and staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge, of radar training section at the Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School, both received Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals Jan. 27 for their heroic actions during a traffic accident Jan. 1.

MCCES Marines awarded for heroism

CPL. BRIAN A. TUTHILL
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Two Combat Center Marines who risked their lives to save others during a vehicle accident were recognized Jan. 27 during a ceremony at the Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School.

Chief Warrant Officer William A. Kelly and Master Sgt. James H. Shawgo were both awarded Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal certificates, in lieu of second awards, in front of their peers and fellow Charlie Company Marines for their heroic acts the night of Jan. 1.

The two were driving separate vehicles through Yucca Valley that evening to pick up foreign military students arriving at the Palm Springs International Airport.

Shortly after passing a civilian-owned military five-ton truck, both were forced to slam on their brakes and swerve into the center median to narrowly avoid colliding with a stalled car being pushed across both west-bound lanes of Highway 62.

"We both were thinking about the five-ton," said Kelly, the radar training officer-in-charge. "I looked in the rear-view mirror and saw it try to slow, then roll over and then all the dust."

Shawgo, the radar training staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge, said he had similar thoughts as he looked back at the truck.

"Those trucks have a very high center of gravity and you just can't swerve with them," said Shawgo.

The truck was unable to stop in time and the driver jerked the wheel to avoid a collision. When it hit the soft shoulder, the vehicle rolled and caught fire, jamming the throttle open as it crashed.

With night falling, the engine fire, which continued to grow, was large enough to illuminate the area, said Shawgo.

"It was scary," said Kelly. "I have not been scared like that in a long time. I was shaking. Fire is a scary thing when it's out of control, but I knew I had a Marine I could trust by my side and that was huge knowing he was there."

Both ran from their cars to assist the upside-down truck passengers. They doubled their efforts when they heard the shouts of a boy from inside the cab. With the engine now fully engulfed in flames, Kelly said, moving swiftly was the only option.

"I don't know how we heard anything over the engine noise, but we heard someone yelling for help," said Kelly. "I went running over there and could not get the passenger door to open. When [Master Sgt. Shawgo] came over, we were able to get it open together."

"We were both pretty worried about the flames shooting from the truck," Kelly continued. "We knew it was diesel and so it would not blow and the tank wasn't leaking, so

that made us feel better. We were moving fast though because diesel doesn't explode, but it does burn."

The two managed to pull a boy from the wreckage and took him away from the fire despite his injuries. The teenager suffered a broken leg and other minor injuries, but his father, who was driving, did not survive the crash.

"I got back in there to try to get the father out, but he was already gone," said Kelly.

The pair quickly turned their attention to the cargo area of the truck after the child told Kelly and Shawgo his brother and two friends were sitting in back on the return from their hunting trip.

"We didn't have a flashlight, and were still worried about the fire," said Kelly. "But when we finally got a light and got a look at the back of the truck, the metal side frame was what was holding it up."

The two decided to dig around the frame so as not to disturb it and risk collapse. Kelly said the view inside did not look good.

"When I got a look inside, I could see the spare tire was pinning all three kids against

the rail and one of them [was very badly hurt]," he said.

Suddenly, the shooting flames and the roar of the engine died away, and minutes later fire trucks arrived to help with the rescue, said Shawgo.

"When we found we could not move them, we just tried to reassure them that the fire department was there and that the fire was out and everything would be OK," said Kelly.

All of the children involved in the accident survived, but one had to be airlifted by helicopter to an area hospital.

"During all of this, the guy who was blocking the road must have gotten his car started and took off," said Kelly.

"The fact that he didn't stick around to provide aid when it's evident that someone needs it is just really wrong," added Shawgo.

The two said they were very surprised to receive an award for their actions, after only telling the story to other Marines at their unit.

"We told some of the Marines about what happened

when we came back," said Kelly. "It was one of those 'you won't believe what happened' stories."

Maj. Dennis C. Teitzel, commanding officer, MCCES Charlie Co., said he heard about the incident and submitted the two for the commendations.

"It took a few days to get the write-up and the process completed, but we're very proud to recognize these Marines for their actions," said Teitzel.

"This is very indicative of these two Marines," he continued. "With their traits and their personalities, I know these two would never pass something like this and let it go."

Kelly and Shawgo said they were both shocked and grateful to be recognized.

For both Marines, however, the incident has changed the way they look at driver safety.

"I think it's important to see how through carelessness someone's life can be lost," said Shawgo, whom according to Kelly is a cautious driver. "Those kids are lucky to

be alive."

For Kelly, the event inspired him to buy new roadside equipment in another emergency encounter in the future.

"I went out and bought fire extinguishers for my car and house," he said. "We felt so bad because we had nothing with us to help, not even a flashlight. I've also bought road flares and triangles—everything short of the Jaws of Life and a hydraulic lift."

"It has also changed my driving habits," Kelly continued. "I was normally the 50 means 56 or so guy. When I saw the father's wedding ring on his hand it really hit home for me."

Although they say they are proud to be acknowledged, both would just as soon give the medals back if it meant changing what happened.

"If I had to give it back and not have it ever happen, that would be better," said Shawgo. "Hopefully, I never have to go through anything like that again."

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\$10,000 - \$24,999	0.65%	0.65%
\$25,000 - \$49,999	0.70%	0.70%
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WCUA

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TEARING IT UP!

Two workers rip up the asphalt around a sewer hole on Fourth Street between Bourke and Brown Rd. Fourth St. will be closed due to road construction through Feb. 28.

CPL. EVAN W. EAGAN

Marine Corps provides tools to make best of paycheck

LANCE CPL. REGINA N. ORTIZ
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

"The demands of military life are challenging," said Jany Wasdin, finance counselor at the Combat Center's Personal Financial Management Office. "Providing the military community with the basic principles and practices of sound money management makes these demands attainable and improves the balance between military career and family life."

There is a Personal Financial Management Program available to all service members and Department of Defense civilian employees aboard all Marine Corps installations.

The program is set up to educate, train and counsel advice seekers in their finances. The main focus is to give a solid understanding of personal financial situations and prospects to give better chances of achieving financial success during a person's career, and having the confidence when faced with financial challenges and responsibilities, according to the Personal Financial Management's official Web site, <http://hqinet001.hqmc.usmc.mil>.

Wasdin's mission statement is as follows:

"To further the mission of the Marine Corps Community Support Center by directing, implementing, and monitoring comprehensive personal financial management education, training, and counseling programs," she said. "These programs emphasize personal financial responsibility and accountability through basic principles and practices of sound money management, specialized financial counseling, consumer education and information and referral services."

With this in mind, Wasdin, the only financial management counselor aboard the Combat Center, sets out to enhance financial situations throughout the community here.

Education classes are available through the program on an individual or group basis. Unit commanders may request professional military education-oriented classes given to their troops by Wasdin.

Some items covered in these instructions include banking, basic budgeting, car buying, checkbook management, insurance, consumer rights, marriage preparations, divorce, transition, retirement, pre-deployment preparations, tackling debt, credit, savings and investments.

There are basic guidelines to follow to keep finances under control, according to the Web site.

Developing a budget and maintaining records of all expenses to track weekly and monthly spending will help pinpoint areas of overspending and will also help in planning ahead.

Maintaining an emergency fund that equals three to six months of your living expenses will help prevent a backlash into debt when emergencies arise.

Keeping personal debts low by looking for the lowest interest rates and paying off the highest interest rate accounts as soon as possible will stop any extensive debt in the future.

Keep updated credit reports once per year. Having good credit means you will pay less for the goods you purchase over the period of your life. Credit reports can be ordered from <http://www.experian.com>, <http://www.transunion.com> and <http://www.equifax.com>.

Invest money towards a tax-deferred retirement plan, such as 401K or the Thrift Savings Plan.

There is much more financial advice to be given, depending on individual situations. Wasdin can be found at the Village Center in building 1551, or reached at 830-7342. Appointments are required, and spouses are urged to come, said Wasdin.



DENTAL CORNER

Using it once a day helps fight decay

ACADEMY OF GENERAL DENTISTRY

Some people loop. Some people spool. Others simply refuse. The verdict is in: flossing is one of the best things you can ever do to take care of your teeth.

"Flossing every 24 hours to break up plaque is imperative for good oral health," says Gordon Isbell, DMD, MAGD, spokesperson for the Academy of General Dentistry.

An article in the October 2005 issue of AGD Impact, AGD's monthly news-magazine, describes how floss is the single most important factor in preventing periodontal disease, which affects more than 50 percent of adults.

Flossing, which is just as important as brushing, helps remove the plaque and debris that stick to teeth and gums in between the teeth. It also helps polish the tooth's surface and control bad breath.

Dental floss can be waxed or unwaxed, flavored or unflavored, wide or regular. All floss helps clean and remove plaque. Wider floss, also known as dental tape,

may help people with a lot of bridgework and is usually recommended when the spaces between teeth are wide. Waxed floss can be easier to slide between teeth with very little space between. Unwaxed floss makes a squeaking sound, which let the user know their teeth are clean.

Recently, electric flossers have entered the scene, but most dentists contend there is no substitute for manually flossing one's teeth.

"Electric flossing is no substitute, but if someone has a disability (and can't manually floss,) it is better than nothing," says Dr. Isbell.

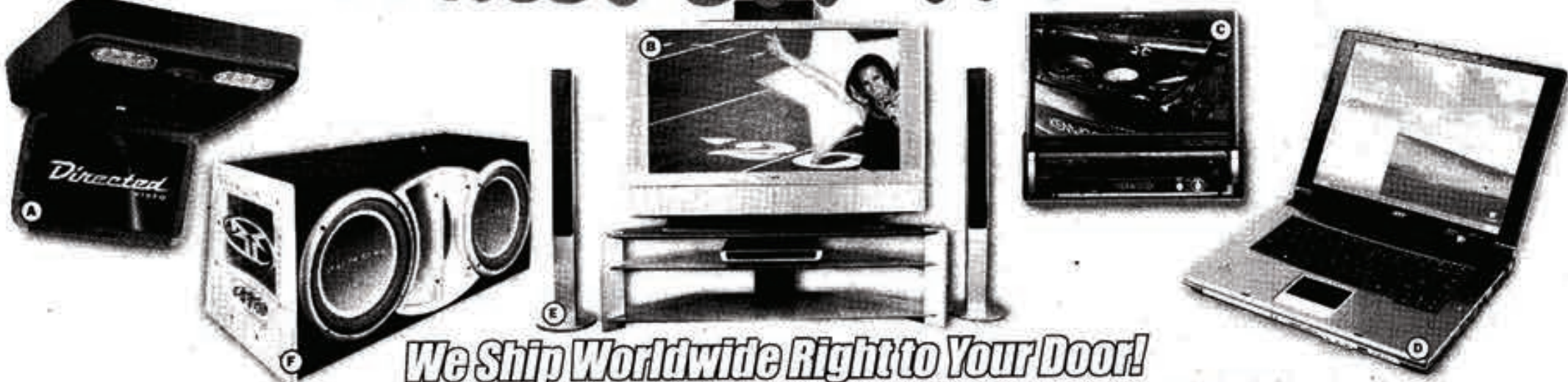
Similarly, dentists say that waterpicks should not be used as a substitute for brushing and flossing because they don't remove plaque. Dentists do recommend waterpicks for people with gum disease who have trouble flossing because of pain.

Benefits of flossing:

- Decreased risk of gum disease
- Better breath
- Removes plaque in between teeth
- Polishes tooth surfaces



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F \$14 PER PAYDAY*

Dual 12" Stage 2 Sub Box A11
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Bay Heights Dining Room Set A2
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Durapella-Steel Sofa & Loveseat A1
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City Crossings Bedroom Set F2
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Lou Reid is presented a folded American flag in honor of her late husband, retired Brig. Gen. Ernest R. Reid Jr., from Brig. Gen. Douglas M. Stone, Combat Center commanding general, at a memorial service at the Protestant Chapel.

REID, A1

honor of her husband.

"I thought it was marvelous," Mrs. Reid continued. "I've been to others and I don't like them, but this one was magnificent."

Friends took turns leading the group in prayer and song throughout the memorial, often smiling and sharing fond memories and stories about a man many seemed to hold in the highest regard.

"We had a sign language interpreter for my oldest son, Rodney," said Mrs. Reid about her son who is deaf. "He had never heard some of those things about his father so that was great for him."

"Everybody who spoke today was wonderful and really made this very special," she continued. "But it was so great that my son could understand these things about his father."

Retired Col. Bill Bouldin, who served as chief of staff during Reid's command here, eulogized Reid.

Bouldin spoke about Reid's career; how he was commissioned in 1945 as a second lieutenant, how a grenade injured him before he was captured and held as a prisoner of war for three years in Korea, and his service at Headquarters Marine Corps and his command here at Twentynine Palms.

During his command, Reid was one of the driving forces in establishing the expeditionary airfield at Camp Wilson to integrate the base with the air-ground combat training concept the Marine Corps is familiar with today.

"I have never seen a broader grin on the general's face than when Lt. Gen. [John N.] McLaughlin arrived [by

plane] at the recently-completed airfield," said Bouldin. "General 'Mac' was in that North Korean POW camp with Ernie and was one of his buddies who saved his life."

Renowned to those who knew him throughout the years was his unwavering support from and for his wife Lou. Not many eyes were without tears at the chapel as Bouldin described the love and dedication the two shared throughout their lives.

Mrs. Reid heard nothing from her husband for nearly five months while he was a POW in Korea, and gave birth to their first son while he was behind enemy lines.

After his retirement from the Marine Corps, Reid completed a career as an organizational and management troubleshooter for Hughes Aircraft, and traveled the world until finally settling down in

Twentynine Palms in 1990.

"He was very pleased to have been a board member of the Friends of Copper Mountain College where he was highly respected for his continued enthusiasm and wise council," Bouldin said.

The board of trustees at the college recently announced the next expansion of the campus: the Brigadier General Ernie Reid Bookstore, which will be dedicated this year.

Bouldin also spoke of Reid's work as a founding father and his service as the Executive Director of Action Council for the City of Twentynine Palms. His contributions can be seen every day in the world-class murals he helped have painted around town.

The Armed Forces YMCA located aboard the base also owes its establishment to Reid's hard work, said Bouldin.

As Bouldin closed his remarks, "Ruffles and Flourishes" was played along with "Anchors Aweigh," the "Marines' Hymn" and a rifle salute accompanied by the stirring echoes of "Taps."

Though the memorial carried a somber tone and those close to Reid mourned his passing, nearly all in attendance said they reveled to know him in life and to have had the chance to pay tribute, share memories and say goodbye to their friend, Ernie.



Brig. Gen. Ernest "Ernie" R. Reid, Jr.



2nd Lt. Eric K. Frey, Headquarters Company, 7th Marine Regiment, says goodbye to his wife, Jessica, as she holds him close for a final moment before he deploys to Iraq early Jan. 27 from the Combat Center's West Gym.

7TH MARINES, A1

able to turn to us, other than infantry battalions, for infantry support. We measure up to a quick reaction force."

All the Marines in these platoons have been identified by their section leaders and are mostly volunteers, added Walsh.

"I feel like we're definitely ready to go over there and do what we were trained to do," said Lance Cpl. Matthew F. Shipley, machine gunner with the PRP. "It's going to be a long deployment, but we're ready to take on what's thrown at us."

Moments before the Marines boarded the buses, Col. William B. Crowe, regimental commanding officer, 7th Marine Regiment, addressed the families and friends of the deploying Marines and Sailors.

"Thank you for giving us your husbands, sons and brothers," he said. "Our job couldn't be done without them. Our mission is to maintain a presence in the streets, and we will be persistent. We'll support infantry time-to-time. We're going out there to win. This couldn't be done without your support, and we will stay committed to God, to our family and to the Corps."

Cpl. Jason G. Alvarez, communications technician, will be deploying for the first time. His parents, his wife, and his brothers feel most of the anxiety.

"I'm sad and worried," said Gustavo Alvarez, Jason's father. "I'm not sure of what will happen over there. He doesn't tell us much of what he does because he knows we

will worry. I just wish him well, and I will be praying for him night and day."

The company kicked off their training in September, conducting many field exercises training for convoy operations and enhancing their marksmanship skills. Their main mission is bringing supplies between bases in Iraq and creating their own

security for convoys, said Gunnery Sgt. Jeffrey P. Jones, company gunnery sergeant.

"This company is probably the best headquarters company we've had go out there," said Jones. "We had better training skills and more survival skill this time. I will be left behind because I'm retiring in August but I wish them the best."



Two family members stand outside the Combat Center's West Gym Jan. 27 watching their Marine ride away with Headquarters Company, 7th Marine Regiment.

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Transition teams focus on teaching Iraqi forces

CPL. JOSEPH DIGIROLAMO
MCB CAMP PENDLETON

MCAGCC TWENTYNINE PALMS, Calif. — Iraq's security forces must be prepared to handle any situation as Iraq grows more independent.

That's why a select group of Marines are chosen to train and mentor Iraqi Security Forces as Iraq moves forward.

3rd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment's Military Transition Team practiced its marksmanship skills at the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center in Twentynine Palms as part of their pre-deployment training to assist the Iraqi Security Forces.

"Living with, training, and mentoring the Iraqi military is our mission," said Maj.

William F. Wahle, MTT leader for 3rd Bn., 8th Marines.

Their goal is to give the ISF ownership and the ability to provide its nation's security and to be self-sustaining, said Wahle, 37, from

Tampa Bay, Fla.

Iraq is fighting to become a peaceful country. However, the insurgency is preventing this by targeting civilians.

"When we get to an Iraqi battalion, we can focus on teaching their officers on how

to become independent so that they can drive their own operations," Wahle said.

The battalion's MTT was formed on Dec. 1, 2005, and is made up of Marines from different military occupational specialties.

The team consists of infantry, intelligence, logistics, communications and artillery Marines, along with a corpsman, Wahle said.

They are also crossed trained in a variety of fields such as marksmanship, for-

eign weapon systems, combat lifesaver techniques and the Arabic language.

"I'm used to doing just medical stuff, now I'm a jack of all trades," said Petty Officer 2nd Class Joshua W. Leventhal, MTT corpsman.

Leventhal, who also previously deployed with Weapons Company, 2nd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment as a senior line corpsman in charge of three other corpsmen, will now work alone.

The MTT focused on the M-203 grenade launcher, anti-tank rockets, and the Enhanced Marksmanship Program (EMP).

"We don't have lance corporals to fire these weapons for us. We need to know how to do it ourselves," said Wahle, who deployed as Headquarters and Service Company commander for 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, last year.

"Marksmanship is the biggest thing we focus on, from EMP to machine-gun techniques, grenades and rockets," said Wahle.

The training the MTT are focused on comes from the direct experiences of teams deployed before them.

"This EMP training is new to me... I'm definitely getting more of a Marine aspect from it," said the 27-year-old Leventhal from Salem, Oregon.

The MTT Marines believe the success of the Iraqi Security Forces is their victory.

"It's a necessary mission because we want to make them as qualified as possible to protect their country against insurgents and make them good enough to be on their own," said Gunnery Sgt. Deangelo R. Williams, communications chief for the battalion's MTT. "This is a group of professional Marines, and we all want to contribute and we all have a positive attitude about it."

Wahle, who was previously in charge of a company-size unit, now enjoys the closely-knit life as the leader of a small group of Marines.

"We all live in the same space and eat chow together. We've been a tight team since the beginning. It's rare to have all these guys from different parts of the country and different MOS's come together so well," Wahle said.



Maj. William F. Wahle, Military Transition Team leader for 3rd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment calls out "back blast area all secure," during an AT-4 simulated fire exercise on Range 104.

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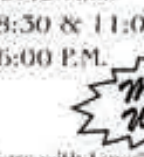
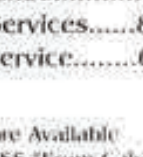
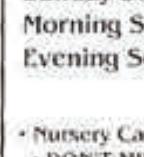
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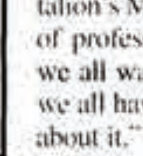
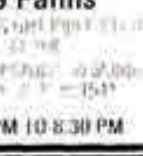
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Capitol Hill visits Fallujah

CPL. HEIDI E. LOREDO
II MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE (FWD)

CAMP FALLUJAH, Iraq — A bipartisan delegation from the House of Representatives visited here, Jan. 21-22 to get a first-hand view on the progress made in Iraq and to give Marines and sailors a chance to voice their concerns.

Representative Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, 18th Congressional District of Florida, led a four-person delegation which met with ground troops and foreign ministers in Iraq, Kuwait and Afghanistan.

"It's an important opportunity to see firsthand what our fighting men and women are doing, the progress as well as the problems," said Ros-Lehtinen, a member of the House International Relations Committee.

The visiting congress included two Pennsylvania Republicans, Reps. Todd Platts, 19th District, and Jim Gerlach, 6th District, as well as Massachusetts Democrat Rep. Stephen Lynch, 9th District.

Each congressional member received a situational brief from Maj. Gen. Stephen Johnson, commanding general, II Marine Expeditionary Force (FWD), before meeting with Marines and Sailors from the states they represent.

During their two-day visit, the four representatives surveyed several sites aboard the camp, always making time to speak with troops. Twenty Marines and one Sailor dined with the delegation and took advantage of the opportunity to tell their respective congress member about their experiences in Iraq.

Corporal Joseph T. Mayo, orders chief and common access card chief, Group Personnel Administration Center, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Headquarters Group, II MEF (FWD), spoke with Platts about experiences with Iraqis and their general consensus about coalition forces in Iraq. Mayo, from Erie, Pa., who fulfilled duties at entry control points and the badge office where Marines were responsible for identifying, screening and talking to locals, told both Pennsylvania congressmen that he sees changes in Iraq. He said he sees Iraq becoming a great nation that is able to support itself sometime in the future.

"Most of the Iraqis I have come into contact with are grateful for the U.S. forces being here in Iraq," said Mayo, who's been in country for 10 months. "They have told me on numerous occasions how they have never known freedom the way they do now. One in specific was the local named Yass. He told me that this is the first time he can speak his mind



Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, 18th Congressional District Florida, sneaks a peek inside an armored military vehicle during a congressional delegation visit aboard Camp Fallujah on Jan. 21. The Miami Republican is a member of the House International Relations Committee and led a four-person delegation that met with ground troops and foreign ministers during a survey of Iraq, Kuwait and Afghanistan. Ros-Lehtinen's stepson is a Marine currently stationed in Al Asad.

without fearing death."

The issue of body and vehicle armor being debated on the battlefield as well as Capitol Hill was addressed as well. Motor Transportation Marines from II Marine Expeditionary Force, Headquarters Group, II MEF (FWD), showed the delegation and accompanied media armored vehicles used during missions and protective and other essential gear used by Marines.

The representatives surveyed the East Fallujah Iraqi Camp on their final day of the visit and witnessed the progress of the Iraqi Security Forces. The delegation sat down with Iraqi Army basic combat training instructors and asked for their opinion on the ISF's progress and what could be done to improve the army.

Lynch thanked Johnson for raising the concerns of the men and women who serve beneath him. Several Marines present voiced their opinion concerning the American public and their support for the troops.

"Sometimes when you read the paper or hear news accounts the public doesn't understand or fully appreciate the support for your work and for your mission," said Lynch. "I think I can speak for the other members as well, we see it every day in our district in terms of support the troops rallies or bumper stickers on every car. Sometimes it's hard to read that message because you're over here but we just want you to know the message, love, respect and the appreciation for the sacrifices that you have made and the sacrifices that your families have made. It's so deeply appreciated in the United States Congress."

All differences aside, congressional members agreed on one thing.

"In regards to people like you who are willing to put on that uniform and fight for our country—that is a high honor," said Lynch to the Marines. "You put the rest of your lives aside and focused on this. You and your family are standing on the verge of the rest of the country. That's an unbelievable service."

Iraqi insurgents now battling al Qaeda terrorists

GERRY J. GILMORE
AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — The al Qaeda in Iraq network has lost scores of key leaders as the result of anti-terrorist operations and now it's being attacked by Iraqi insurgents, a senior U.S. military officer told reporters at a Baghdad news conference today.

Al Qaeda in Iraq has had 111 of its leaders killed or captured in the past year, Army Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, a spokesman for Multinational Force Iraq, said. Jordanian terrorist Abu Musab al-Zarqawi runs al Qaeda in Iraq.

"We indeed have had significant impact on terrorists and foreign fighters, al Qaeda in Iraq, in terms of their leadership," Lynch said.

In addition, U.S., other coalition and Iraqi security forces, Lynch said, have been getting help from an unexpected quarter in the past several weeks.

"The Sunni rejectionists, if you will, are conducting planned attacks against Zarqawi and his network," Lynch said. The Sunni Iraqis were favored under now-deposed dictator Saddam Hussein. Some Sunnis are suspected of carrying out a home-grown insurgency against U.S. and other coalition troops in Iraq.

However, al Qaeda has routinely killed innocent Iraqi citizens during its attacks. That's a situation that Lynch said has galvanized most Iraqis — including home-grown insurgents — against the foreign terrorists.

In fact, Iraqi insurgents have killed six key al Qaeda in Iraq leaders since Septem-

ber 2005, Lynch said.

And "recently we've seen significant operations where the local insurgency has turned on the Zarqawi network and forced them out of Ramadi," he said. Ramadi is an Iraqi town in Anbar province.

Al Qaeda in Iraq's ability to conduct operations has become degraded, Lynch said. Iraqi insurgents' actions, he said, are now contributing to this state of affairs.

"Zarqawi's on the ropes," Lynch said, noting U.S., other coalition and Iraqi security forces will continue offensive operations against the terrorist leader and his network.

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The Ultra Armored Patrol Concept Vehicle sits on display in front of the Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory following an Office of Naval Research presentation to senior Army acquisition officials Jan. 18.

'Blast bucket' looked at by Marines

CPL. JONATHAN AGG
MCB QUANTICO

MARINE CORPS BASE QUANTICO, Va. — The Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory hosted an Office of Naval Research presentation of the Ultra Armored Patrol "Concept" Vehicle to senior Army acquisition officials Jan. 18.

Lt. Gen. Joseph L. Yakovac Jr., military deputy to the assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics and technology, and his deputy, Maj. Gen. Jeffrey A. Sorenson, attended the hour-long briefing, as did program officers from MCWL and Marine Corps Combat Development Command. A viewing of the vehicle, which features innovative systems and components which potentially could enhance survivability and performance, followed the presentation.

The Ultra is a diesel-propelled, four-passenger vehicle capable of reaching 60 mph. The Ultra's "blast bucket" cabin is built on a Ford F-350 chassis and, when armored, may be able

to protect up to four passengers who are arranged in an outward, 360-degree facing orientation. But this has not been tested. Jeffrey Bradel, ONR's manager of Marine Corps maneuver science and technology, led the Jan. 18 presentation and said hollow tubes in the blast bucket's frame could theoretically channel the blast from an improvised explosive device to minimize damage to the Ultra and injury to its occupants.

The Office of Naval Research used expertise from academia, industry and government, including the principal design, which was developed by the Georgia Institute of Technology.

Despite Ultra's promising design, ONR representatives close to the project are cautious about touting the vehicle as the next humvee.

"A lot of the guys on the project are sensitive about throwing around the phrase, 'humvee replacement,'" said Colin Babb, science writer and editor of OriginaTOR, ONR's internal newsletter. "The bottom line about Ultra is the vehicle is more about testing the central part, the armored blast bucket. That's

the novel part. Someone could turn that into a vehicle if they wanted to, but really the central idea is testing a combination of components, which is true of most of ONR's prototypes. They're about testing the technology and showing it off, not necessarily about building preproduction vehicles, whether they're ships or land vehicles as in this case."

Yakovac said the Ultra's radical design could influence the next generation of the Humvee or its eventual replacement.

"It's a concept vehicle, and from it we will get a lot of good ideas for the Army and Marines, as we go about this in a joint manner to best meet the challenges of the future, not only with capability, but the balance of capability with cost," Yakovac said. "Neither service can afford to do it alone anymore. You're talking a quantum leap in costs, in development, production and ownership. Unfortunately, that's what drives all this. It's about how much money modern capability costs. Unless we leverage that together, we won't be able to afford the future."

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SPORT SHORTS

STEP CLASSES

Step Classes are now available at the West Gym on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at 6 a.m. For more information, call 830-4131.

YOGA CLASSES

Yoga classes are now available from 9 to 9:45 a.m. at the Community Center and from 5 to 5:45 p.m. at the East Gym. For more information please call 830-4131.

LEISURE

OEF VALENTINES PARTY

3rd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, is hosting an Operation Enduring Families Valentines party Feb. 11 from 6 to 11 p.m. in the Mesa room at the Officers' Club. There will be a karaoke machine and appetizers. Tickets are \$5. Contact the Officers' Club for more information at 830-6610.

29 PALMS 101: HISTORY & ART OF THE DESERT

The Officer Spouses Club will host 29 Palms 101: History and Art of the Desert, Feb. 16 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The morning will start with a tour of the Old Schoolhouse Museum followed by a tour of the 29 Palms Art Gallery and ending with lunch on the gallery patio. The cost is \$10. Please make reservations by Feb. 13th by calling Lylah at 368-9352.

MARINE CORPS SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

The Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation is now accepting applications for their 2006-2007 Academic Year. Scholarships range annually from \$500 to \$10,000. Applications are available at the Education Center or at www.mcsf.org. High school seniors must submit applications by March 1. All other applications are due by April 15. Call the Education Center at 830-6881 for further information.

STEAK NIGHTS

Hashmarks SNCO Club and the Officers' Club will continue the popular Monday Steak Night after football season. Attendees will receive grilled to order steaks, a baked potato, Texas toast and a salad. Prices are \$9.75 for members and \$10.75 for non-members. Reservations are requested no later than the Friday before. Call 830-6610.

BURGER TUESDAYS, TACO WEDNESDAYS

The Combat Center Officers' Club: Back by popular demand, Burger Tuesdays, burgers are \$2 for members, \$2.50 for Non-Members; Taco Night Thursdays, Tacos are \$1 for Members, \$1.50 for Non-Members from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. For more information, call 830-6610.

Did You Know?

Fewer than half of the 16,200 Major League Baseball players have ever hit a home run.



CPL BRIAN A. TUTHILL

Seven buses carrying Marines of Headquarters and Golf Companies from 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, arrive at Victory Field to cheering crowds.

ALL GAVE SOME. SOME GAVE ALL. WE WILL NEVER FORGET.

Staff Sgt. Daniel J. Clay,
Fox Company

Lance Cpl. John M. Holmason,
Fox Company

Lance Cpl. David A. Huhn,
Fox Company

Lance Cpl. Adam W. Kaiser,
Fox Company

Lance Cpl. Robert A. Martinez,
Fox Company

Cpl. Anthony T. McElveen,
Fox Company

Lance Cpl. David A. Mendez Ruiz,
Weapons Company

Lance Cpl. Scott T. Modeen,
Fox Company

Lance Cpl. Andrew G. Patten,
Fox Company

Pfc. Ramon Romero,
Weapons Company

Sgt. Andy A. Stevens,
Fox Company

Lance Cpl. Craig N. Watson,
Fox Company

Lance Cpl. Scott A. Zubowski,
Weapons Company



LANCE CPL. MICHAEL S. CIFUENTES

Family and Friends of the Marines and Sailors of 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, wait for the buses to arrive at the Combat Center's Victory Field Sunday.



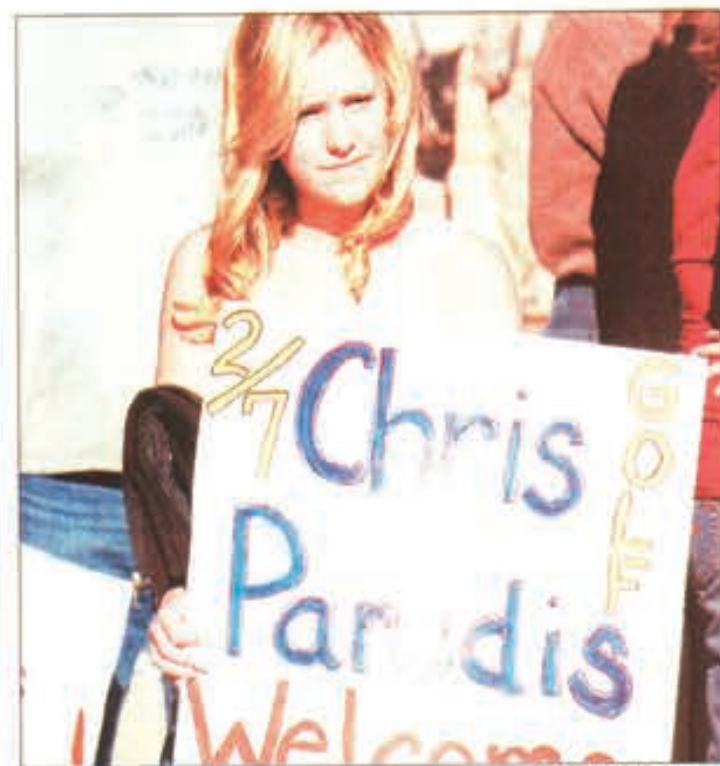
LANCE CPL. MICHAEL S. CIFUENTES

Cpl. Benjamin D. Vaughn, a mortarman with Golf Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, kisses his wife, Caitlin, for the time in seven months Sunday at the Combat Center's Victory Field.



CPL BRIAN A. TUTHILL

Cpl. Michael Hourihan, a field radio operator with Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, shares a moment with his wife Melissa and 19-month-old son Matthew at Victory Field.



CPL BRIAN A. TUTHILL

Lindsay Paradis holds a sign for her husband, who returned with his fellow Marines of Golf Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, to Victory Field.



CPL BRIAN A. TUTHILL

Jana Becker embraces her son, Pvt. Cory Becker, a rifleman with Golf Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, upon his return at Victory Field.



Eric Cooke, 1st Tank Battalion, goes for a rebound in a game against Robert E. Bush Naval Hospital Monday night.

Naval Hospital defeats 1st Tanks in heated battle

SGT. ROBERT L. FISHER III
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Another night of basketball action lit up the West Gym Monday night as the Commanding General's Intramural Basketball League continued.

Headquarters Battalion Team 2 continued their domination as they claimed their fourth win, this time against Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School Team 2.

Headquarters quickly took the lead and finished the first half with an 11-point lead at 45-34.

In the second half, Headquarters continued paving the way and nearly built a 20-point lead with 10:50 remaining in the game.

But MCCES almost recovered from their deficit to bring the score to 67-62 with 1:40 remaining.

After a timeout, Headquarters extended their lead, winning the game 75-64.

"We're doing real good — right now we're 3 and 0," said Jeff Frank, a player with Headquarters Battalion who is averaging 20 points per game.

The best rebounder from Headquarters recently deployed to Iraq so they started hurting on rebounds, said Lance Raymond, Headquarters Battalion Team 1 coach.

"We're hurting down low, that's our weakness," Raymond said about rebounding. "But we've been able to pull it out when it matters most."

Game two brought Robert E. Bush Naval Hospital up against 1st Tank Battalion in a heated battle.

The game began with 1st Tanks building a

six-point lead early in the game. But by the 16-minute mark, Naval Hospital started fighting back to take the lead and finish the first half 23-19.

William S. Harvey, 1st Tanks coach, said he was confident his team was not out of the game yet.

"We're going to play man-to-man, give them a different perspective," said Harvey. "The score is not too bad, we're only four behind. We're in good shape."

But 1st Tanks' defense couldn't keep up with Naval Hospital as they secured a 10-point lead midway through the second half.

Regardless of being 10 points behind, 1st Tanks continued fighting to even the score, but couldn't pull it out in the end as Naval Hospital took the win 48-47.

James Redmond, Naval Hospital coach, also coached the team from 1st Tanks last season.

"Playing my old family against my new family was heart ripping, but I had to set my heart aside," said Redmond. "Our defense was good... we had one minor set back last week when we lost to Headquarters Battalion."

In the final game of the night, MCCES Team 1

defeated Headquarters Team 2, 62-37. Win or lose, coaches and their teams still have many games left in the season to eliminate weaknesses and build their game strategy before the playoffs.

Games are played Monday and Thursday each week. Stay tuned to the Observation Post for continuing coverage of the upcoming games in the CG's Intramural Basketball League.

Commanding General's Intramural Basketball Competition 2006 Team Standings as of Jan. 30

	WON	LOST
1. HOBN (1)	3	0
2. 1st Tank Battalion	3	1
3. Naval Hospital	3	1
4. MCCES (1)	2	2
5. MCCES (2)	1	3
6. 3 / 11	0	2
7. HOBN (2)	0	3



Antonio DeLeon, 1st Tank Battalion, storms the lane for a lay-up in the Commanding General's Intramural Basketball League Monday night.

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LANCE CPL. REGINA N. ORTIZ
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Most military installations provide movie theaters, dining facilities, gyms and recreation facilities, but once in a while people just need to get away.

Information, Tickets and Tours, located in the Main Exchange, is the place to go for weekend getaways and adventures.

In conjunction with various companies, ITT receives tickets to amusement parks and vouchers to hotels at a discounted price and sells the items for one dollar more than they paid. Depending on the facility, the discounts range anywhere from \$9 to \$40, said Laure Mosteller, ITT employee.

Along with ticket sales, ITT provides day trips by bus to nearby cities and attractions on Saturdays for the cost of \$20. This is different from the Single Marine Program, in that attendees can bring family members. Unfortunately the bus has been out of commission for the last couple months, but is expected to be running again soon, said Mosteller.

ITT also has vouchers for more than 15 hotels near amusement parks and attractions in the Southern California area that save customers more than \$70.

Customers can save \$9 off the gate price at Disneyland or California Adventure. Annual passes are also available.

The Southern California City Pass is available for \$181.10. This includes a three day Disneyland Park Hopper, one-day at Universal Studios Hollywood, a one-day ticket to Sea World San Diego and one day at the San Diego Zoo or San Diego Zoo's Wild Animal Park.

Also available are tickets available for Knott's Berry Farm, Medieval Times, Six Flags Magic Mountain, Aquarium of the Pacific, Pharaohs Lost Kingdom Adventure Park, Legoland, Sea World, Birch Aquarium and San Diego Harbor Excursions.

There is also a wide variety of museums and specialty sites such as the Hollywood Wax Museum, the Guinness Book of World Records, the San Diego Aerospace Museum, the R.H. Fleet Science Museum, the National Comedy Theater, the San Diego Maritime Museum, the Pacific Southwest Railway Train and Museum, and the Richard Nixon Library and birthplace.

Ski lift tickets are also available for Big Bear Mountain Resorts with a \$7 savings off the gate price. Lift tickets are interchangeable between Snow Summit and Big Bear and there is a free shuttle service between the two resorts.

ITT also makes reservations for Lake Havasu vacation rentals. Marine Corps Community Services have nine vacation rentals at Lake Havasu's Crazy Horse Campgrounds, located on a small island, providing privacy and proximity to town. The rentals are equipped with full-size refrigerators, stoves, microwaves, coffee makers and cable television. There are water sports rentals throughout the city with a variety to choose from. Shops and boutiques can be found at the English Village as well as the two-story Island Fashion Mall. Kayak tours and golfing are available as well.

"We try to get the lowest prices we can," said Mosteller. "We know the Combat Center is pretty isolated, so we try our best to get service members away for a low, convenient price."

The ITT crew is available to sell tickets and book getaways Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information call 830-6163, extension 252.



A desert paradise at 49 Palms

BART R. KERCHEVAL
SPECIAL TO THE OBSERVATION POST STAFF

My brief tenure here at the Combat Center has exposed me to a climate I never thought I would find attractive. Hailing from the humid Gulf Coast of Texas, I brought several stereotypes of what I anticipated SoCal to be like—few of which were true. I guess now I understand why I received such funny looks when I got off the plane with my cattle-prod ready to fend off the myriad of anti-war protestors I expected. A surprising number of sane people do inhabit this region, though I must say I expected to meet at least one hippy named Joy by now. My brain must have exaggerated the depictions people made as they described a seemingly tropical oasis full of nutcases and beautiful people only seen in magazines.

Last weekend I did encounter a piece of "paradise" that fulfilled my perception of the area—minus the head cases—and it was no more than a stone's throw from Twentynine Palms. I was let in on a "secret" hike that few of the Marines I journeyed with even knew about. Located on the outskirts of Joshua Tree National Park, the 49 Palms Oasis trail offered plenty of parking, a clean restroom and required no entrance fee.

Though not truly hidden, the oasis was not exactly advertised until the sign at the trailhead. The oasis trail is located at the south end of Canyon Rd. off of Highway 62, west of downtown Twentynine Palms, just past the Hi Desert Animal Hospital. You will know you're headed in the right direction when you see the humorous "Pill Hill, Pop. 2" sign located on the left-hand side of Canyon. Though the trailhead measured the hike at 1.5 miles, I believe this measurement was under-estimated to entice would-be hikers to make the trek, which is worth the extra mileage once you reach the oasis.

As the hike snakes up and down several hills, each with their own unique, picturesque views, a glimpse of the oasis becomes visible once you are nearly halfway to your final destination. However, this view does not do the oasis justice, as only four or five palms are visible out of the ironically 49 some-odd trees located in its entirety.

I was truly surprised to find a natural spring of—you guessed it—water in the middle of the desert, which provided the tranquil background noise that amplified the serenity of the oasis. The elevation and moderate humidity (considering), along with the shade provided by the surrounding mountains and palms, gives the area a slight chill. On a typical day this drastically differs from the arid, sun-baked trail that is journeyed through.

Makeshift stairs comprise nearly a quarter of the trek, making it a potentially perfect cross-country trail to test even avid runners. Water is a necessity on the hike, so at the least fill a water bottle or two before the endeavor, along with a small snack to tide your hunger for the hour you will inevitably spend soaking up the cool shade.

Countless rock formations provide natural obstacle courses to explore, and give you an opportunity to bask in the refreshing sunlight if the shade of



A beautiful paradise known as 49 Palms Oasis lies in a valley just in the outskirts of Joshua Tree National Park.

the oasis leaves you chilled. They also offer multiple vantage points overlooking the greater Twentynine Palms area.

For the romantic and adventurous types a packed picnic may be the key to those elusive brownie points every gentleman loves to collect. Make sure your sweetheart won't mind getting dusty and has a decent sense of balance before committing her to the trail because it may get slick at some points.

Just in case you forget how close you are to the Combat Center, you are reminded by the distant noise of exploding artillery and grenades, as long as training exercises are underway while you relax. There is an excellent view of the entire base, including a sliver of Range 215's opaque buildings, which are visible over distant ridges. Binoculars provide the ability to survey the depth of the area in its entirety.

When all is said and done, the hike may be exactly what you need if you want to escape—or rather—forget the environment you have been living in. Or perhaps you are one of those dreadful optimists, who constantly look for a reason to appreciate your surroundings; this paradise may be just the excuse you need to sustain that appalling smile that everyone seems to try and wipe off your face.

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Library's Mad Science Night hit with kids, parents



CPL. BRIAN A. TUTHILL
Charles Dykes stretches his "outrageous ooze" to the limit as his mother Saori and brother Joey watch at the Lifelong Learning Library's Mad Science Night Jan. 26.

CPL. BRIAN A. TUTHILL
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Dozens of children and their parents poked, prodded, mixed, dropped, dripped and drooled over the fourth annual Mad Science Night Jan. 26 at the Lifelong Learning Library.

More than 25 children of all ages took part in the event, which was open to all, but planned as a preparation for the Morongo Unified School District's upcoming science fair.

"The goal of this event every year is to inform adults and students who are participating in the science fair for the district, and to let everyone have a good time to make science fun," said Hope Rayman, library volunteer and former organizer for the exposition.

"The best part was that all the kids were able to do each event this year," Rayman said. "In years past, there had been some planning problems and maybe they could only do a few. Everyone this year got to do it all. That's what we were going for."

Shirley Hofseth, a teacher and the Morongo district science fair coordinator, kicked off the evening by giving a presentation for kids and their parents on what is and is not prime science fair material.

A common trend with students is that they do not distinguish an experiment from a presentation, she said. Making a volcano is a good example of one to avoid. A good way to find an experiment to do is to ask a question and find the answer to that question.

After Hofseth's lesson was over, the kids, many of whom had younger siblings with them, swarmed to the five activity tables.

The first table was a color splash where oil, water and food coloring was swirled with a pencil on paper to make a tie-die looking design.

A fingerprinting station, where kids used tape and pencil lead to see their own fingerprints, was the favorite event of the night for 6-year-old Jasmine McCook.

"I liked the fingerprints with the pencils," said the Oasis Elementary School 1st grader. "I'm having a lot of fun, and I got to see my fingerprints."

For her mother, May, she was impressed at how eager her daughter was to learn and have a good time.

"This is good for her," said McCook. "Everyone is here having a good time and I saw her having fun. She's learning, too, and it's important that she learn new things."

McCook also took part in some of the activities with her daughter, and said, "I liked the gooey stuff. It's messy, but it's fun and feels different."

The "gooey stuff" was part of the third and most popular station of the night, the outrageous ooze.

By combining simple household materials and food dye to personalize their mixture, kids made and played with the semi-solid, semi-liquid goop they created, for the rest of the evening and even brought it home in plastic bags.

At the next station the children created edible structures out of toothpicks and gumdrops and they made geodesic shapes at the next table.

The water density demonstration table was an unexpectedly big hit, said Kay Emerson, head librarian. By combining color-coated water samples of different salt concentrations, students could see how dense each sample was.

"The kids really liked doing the water density experiments," said Emerson. "They actually wanted to take those home with them, where we thought they'd just dump it out. So that turned out great."

For Lindsay Nesbitt, the lead coordinator for Mad Science Night this year, the event was a complete success.

"Tonight was all about making science fun for the kids," said Nesbitt. "I was really happy to see that it all came together so well."

The Library's next youth program will be a Valentine's Day craft event Feb. 13 from 3 to 5 p.m.

For more information call the Lifelong Learning Library at 830-6875.

NOT YOUR AVERAGE CAR WASH



CHRISTOPHER MARTIN, TWENTYNINE PALMS HIGH SCHOOL

Pvt. Brandon Burnham, a cannoneer with India Battery, 3rd battalion, 11th Marine regiment, washes dirt, sand, oil and carbon from an M777 155mm lightweight howitzer at the Del Valle wash station Thursday. India Battery had just returned from a three-day firing qualification exercise.

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TRAVEL TRAILER - 1993 Fleetwood Prowler travel trailer. Must sell \$5K OBO. Call 760-819-9353. 2/3/06

TRUCK SHELL - Like new black ARE truck shell, fits '97-'03 Ford F150 short bed, \$500 OBO. Call Jeff at 799-7885. 1/27/06

'91 FORD RANGER - 4.0 V6 long bed w/ 59K miles. Pioneer stereo in dash, 12 disk CD changer, amp, subwoofer. \$4,700 OBO. Call 760-367-4690. 1/6/06

MOTORCYCLE - New 05' Suzuki GSX-R 750. \$9,000 O.B.O. Call 760-361-4075. 12/09/05

MOTORCYCLE - 2004 Harley Davidson Softail

Duece, EFI, pipe and chrome upgrades, 1741 miles, perfect condition. \$16,500. Call 760-369-8515. 12/09/05

MOTORCYCLE - New 05' Suzuki GSX-R 750. \$9,000 O.B.O. Call 760-361-4075. 12/09/05

HELP WANTED

HORSE RIDER - Want an experienced, horse lover to work out 2 horses. Will provide tack, etc. Call 362-1124. 1/6/06

PETS

BLACK LAB - 10-month-old AKC purebred black lab, leaving country, \$300 OBO. Call 760-366-9322, leave message. 2/3/06

CHOCOLATE LABRADOR - AKC, OFA hip & elbow. CERF male, 4 years old.

Shots, dew, microchipped, \$200.00. Call 760-449-0944. 1/20/06

MISC.

HOME FOR SALE - 1650 sq. ft. on 1/2 acre lot. 3br 2bath, large kitchen, living room and dining room. 232K. House is 6854 Alpine Ave. Call 760-880-6928. 2/3/06

ELECTRIC DRYER - Sears Kenmore 70 series. Used 3 months. Sacrifice for \$300 OBO. Call 760-819-9353. 2/3/06

GLASS-TOP TABLE - Includes 3 chairs. Good condition, chairs need reupholstered. \$45.00 O.B.O. Call 368-0349. 2/3/06

FITNESS EQUIPMENT - E-Force cross trainer \$35 OBO, DP Healthmate treadmill \$50 OBO. Call 366-8188. 1/27/06

SPINNER BIKE - Multi-SPORTS EnduroCycle 200, excellent cond. \$350.00 OBO. Call 361-7541. 1/20/06

ROOM FOR RENT - Master bedroom for rent in Yucca Valley. All utilities incl. Private bath. \$550 per month. 1 yr agreement. Call 760-449-0944. 1/20/06

MISCELLANEOUS - Washer and dryer \$100, full size bed/frame \$75, nightstand \$25. Call 760-365-9653. 1/6/06

ELECTRONICS - WebTV setup: includes Internet box, laser keyboard remote, scanner, printer plus all instructions \$45. Call 367-7066 or 799-8445. 1/6/06

MISCELLANEOUS - 180 ft. chain-link fence with 2 gates for \$275 OBO. Call 760-367-7950 or 760-401-0182. 1/6/06

APPLIANCES - Kenmore avocado green, cook top stove, 36 in. gas w/ 4 burners and griddle. Great condition \$55. Call 367-7066 or 799-8445. 1/6/06

APPLIANCES - Maytag washer/dryer with Neptune front for large loads capacity for \$700.00 obo, call 368-3232. 12/02/05

FURNITURE - Leather couch/double recliner for \$750.00 obo; leather swivel/rocker/recliner for \$300.00 obo. For more info, call 219-2184. 12/02/05

DRYER - Frigidaire heavy-duty electric dryer with manuals in excellent condition for \$100.00, call 366-7317. 11/25/05

The deadline for submitting Trader ads is noon Friday, the week prior to publication. Trader ad forms may be filled out during normal working hours at the Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 1417. Ads may

also be submitted through e-mail, but will only be accepted from those with an @usmc.mil address. Ads will only be accepted from active or Reserve duty and retired personnel, their family mem-

bers and civil service workers. The limit for ad submissions is two per household per week.

The Trader may be used only for noncommercial classified ads containing items of

personal property offered by and for individuals authorized to use this service. Such ads must represent incidental exchanges not of sustained business nature.

Ads for housing rentals

will not be considered for the Combat Center Trader.

To have a "House For Sale" ad run in the Observation Post, applicants must provide Permanent Change of Station orders and have the ad

approved by Base Housing. This ensures the Combat Center Trader is not used for commercial real estate endeavors.

Ads are run on a first-come, first-served, space-available basis.

300 HELP WANTED

300 HELP WANTED

220 UNFURNISHED HOUSES

220 UNFURNISHED HOUSES

220 UNFURNISHED HOUSES

300 HELP WANTED

300 HELP WANTED

300 HELP WANTED

300 HELP WANTED

FT Pressman & Pressman's Helper
(nightshift position)

Benefits, paid vacations, no week-ends. Apply at Hi-Desert Star 56445 29 Palms Hwy, YV. No phone calls. EOE

300 HELP WANTED 300 HELP WANTED

raswell Family Senior Care

THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS ARE AVAILABLE

Desert Manor
8515 Cholla, Yucca Valley

F/T RN OR LVN
Apply in person or contact Shelly @ 365-0717

FT & PT DISHWASHER AND FT COOK
Apply person

ADMINISTRATOR / ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR
Long term care, alzheimers and/or dementia exp. preferred. Fax resume to (760) 365-4156

CNA'S
Are you a CNA with a full time job that is looking for an extra shift? We would love to work around your current schedule. Part time, on-call and Per Diem available. Please apply in person.

Sky Harbor
57333 Joshua Lane

FT LVN POSITION AVAILABLE
Apply in person or contact Donna @ 365-4870

300 HELP WANTED 300 HELP WANTED

Now accepting applications for:
Data Coordinator/Office assistant
Must be an organized self starter and have experience with Microsoft Office.
No phone calls please.
Must apply in person.
61607 29 Palms Hwy., J.T. EOE

300 HELP WANTED 300 HELP WANTED

MORONGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
367-9191/365-3394 ext 225
Is now accepting applications for:
ACCOUNTING COORDINATOR
\$55,475-\$63,790 per year
12 months per year
Excellent Benefit Package
Education and Experience: Four years of increasingly responsible and varied financial record keeping experience. Community College or Vocational School degree with study in related field, desired.
Applications may be downloaded from www.morongo.k12.ca.us or obtained by calling 367-9191 ext 225, and must be returned to Human Resources, Morongo Unified School District, PO Box 1209, 29 Palms, CA 92277 on or before:
FEBRUARY 16, 2006
EOE/AA

300 HELP WANTED 300 HELP WANTED

Management:
No experience needed. We will train you. Start at \$9.00/hour + bonus + vacation + benefits.

Drivers:
Fast money every shift plus paycheck.

For Mgmt & Driver positions you must be:
18, car/insurance, Ca D.L.

Applications taken at:
13900 Palm Dr. D.H.S.: 58146 Hwy 62, Y.V.: 3665
Adobe, 29 Palms; 28201 Dale Palm, CC: 1717 E.
Vista Chino, P.S.: 78702 Hwy 111, La Quinta;
35750 Date Palm, CC: 77920 C.C., P.D.

2 bdrm, 2 ba, 1,500 sq ft, in Western Hills, high in the rocks, awesome views of the city, \$1,050 + dep 250-0794

3 bdrm, 1 1/2 ba, country living, 4 min. to Wal-Mart, \$995/mo, util, pd except propane, anyone @ 366-8565 or cell 861-6192

3 bdrm, 1.75 ba, new carpet & paint, pets ok, \$1,100 + dep. 361-5334

ARTIST retreat 1 ac + close to town. 2 bdrm, 1 ba, w/d, stone thru-out, \$1,000. 322-6219

AVAIL. in Yucca Valley. 3 bdrm, 2 ba, 2 car gar., 1,256 sq ft, rent \$995 + sec. dep., avail. mid Feb. for more info call (715) 643-6404 or (715) 643-2024

CUTE, 2 bdrm, close to town, w/d h/kups, Incd yd, \$595/mo. avail now 7471 Elk. 365-3499

300 HELP WANTED

HORSE property 1 1/4 ac., coral, 2 bdrm, 2 ba., basement w/detached car & workshop, \$850/mo. Avail now (760) 365-1724

NEW home in Yucca Valley. 4 bdrm, 2 ba, 2 car gar., 1,650 sq ft, rent \$1,400 + sec. dep., no pets, for more information call (715) 643-6404 or (715) 643-2024

TOWNHOUSE 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 1 car gar, very nice, dishwasher, laundry fac., \$900/mo. 365-9738

LOOK FOR IT IN OUR CLASSIFIEDS

300 HELP WANTED

UNITY HOME DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAM

Accepting Applications For:

Domestic Violence Advocate
Full & Part Positions Available.
Computer skills helpful.

No phone calls please.
Must apply in person.
61607 29 Palms Hwy., J.T. EOE

300 HELP WANTED

300 HELP WANTED

PART-TIME MORNING SHOW PRODUCER
for KKUU. Min. 2 yrs radio experience and production skills required. Must be able to work flexible hours up to 29 hrs per wk. Rush air-check and resume to: erin.deveaux@morris.com. EOE

300 HELP WANTED

300 HELP WANTED

SALES ACCT. EXEC.
for six station radio group. Full benefits. Outside sales experience required. FAX resume to Davis Nola at (760) 322-5493. No phone calls please. The Desert Radio Group is an equal opportunity employer.

300 HELP WANTED

300 HELP WANTED

CONTRACTORS NEED HELP!

I HAVE THE OFFICE. YOU HAVE A DESK!

IN DOWNTOWN YUCCA VALLEY
HOURLY OR DAILY RATES

- JOB POSTING
- OSHA REQ.
- PAY-ROLL
- BIDS & CONTRACTS

CALL: TINA @ (760) 408-3852

300 HELP WANTED

300 HELP WANTED

EQUIPMENT OPERATOR I TRAINEE
\$2,447-\$3,120/Mo.
Plus Benefits

Req's 1 yr exp. in the maint/const. of roadways, flood control facilities or in the operation of light const. equip. and a valid Class B driver license with endorsements for air brakes, tank and manual transmissions. Apply by 12/13/06.

MAINTENANCE & CONSTRUCTION WORKER II
\$2,697-\$3,444/mo
Plus Benefits

req's 2 yrs exp in the const and maint of roadways and flood control facilities AND a valid Class B driver license with endorsements for air brakes, tank and manual transmission. Apply by 12/10/06.

San Bernardino County HR
157 W. Fifth St.
(909) 387-8304
www.sbcounty.gov/hr
EEO/ADA Compliant

LARGE HOUSE



\$1,200 County Club, also house to share \$800 in Sky Harbor and Palm Desert, no smoke/pets. (760) 660-1583 after 7:00

223 ROOMS 4 RENT

29 PALMS

2 rooms avail in home w/utl hshld use, includes utl & Indry. Call for details, 361-2927

ROOMS for rent (brand new home!) \$395. Private studio w/kitchenette \$495. All utilities & cable included! (714) 749-2728

Employment Advertising Policy:

This newspaper does not knowingly accept employment ads that indicate an age preference, from employers covered by the Age Discrimination Act, or knowingly accept ads expressing a preference of sex, where no bona fide occupational qualification exists under the Fair Employment Act from employers covered by that act. Nor do we in any way condone employment that discriminates on a basis of race, religion, ancestry or national origin. For further information regarding occupational qualifications and employers covered, contact the Fair Employment Practice Commission.

Hi-Desert Publishing Co.



Employment 300-399

300 HELP WANTED

1 or 2 caregivers needed, Sat., Sun. & Mon., some nights for C/P man. 366-3465

AASPN Village Care accepting applications for Caregivers, fingerprint, Phy., & TB, call Christie @ 228-2729

300 HELP WANTED

300 HELP WANTED

300 HELP WANTED

Morongo Basin Counseling & Recovery Center
Yucca Valley, CA

Our growing agency is currently accepting resumes for:

Mental Health Services
Licensed Psychiatric Tech. (LPT.), LVN or RN - F/T temp. position
Assist our Psychiatrists in providing mental health assessments/evaluations/medication support services and professional case mgmt. services for adults and children. Local travel may be required with reimbursement. Temporary but may become regular position. Flex shift available 9/80's

LMFT & LCSW - F/T positions providing Mental Health Evaluations, Psychotherapeutic counseling, implementing treatment plans and crisis intervention or referrals. Assist Clinical Director, Clinical Supervisor & Lead Clinician in all aspects of client development. Experience working with adults & children highly desirable. Excellent Health & Retirement benefits. Bilingual a plus but not necessary. Flex shift available 4/10's

Parent Partner - F/T position, under direct supervision. Providing referral and support services to parents and families of children with serious emotional and behavioral disturbances. Work with therapists & staff in a high capacity out-patient environment. Excellent Health & Retirement benefits. Flex shift available 9/80's

Please submit resume, Attn: Dr. Sarah Rushbrook, PhD.
Mail to: MBCRC 55475 Santa Fe Trail, Yucca Valley, CA 92284 or Fax: (760) 365-3513

EOE/ADA



GENERAL ASSIGNMENT REPORTER/PHOTOGRAPHER

The Big Bear Grizzly has an immediate opening for a full-time reporter/photographer. The Grizzly is an award-winning weekly covering several resort communities in the San Bernardino Mountains. The successful candidate is an experienced journalist who likes to do it all. Assignments could include covering local government meetings, crime, theater, a high school basketball game or snow boarding event. Applicant must have journalism experience and be willing to relocate; will consider a recent journalism graduate. Ideal candidate has a nose for news, is a creative writer who can work under light deadlines and handle multiple assignments. Must be able to work nights and weekends.

Send resume and clips to:
Judi Bowers, Editor
P.O. Box 1789
Big Bear Lake, Ca. 92315
Fax to: (909) 866-2302 or via e-mail at: jbw@bigbeargrizzly.net
NO PHONE CALLS!

H2O Plus Ponds (License 728422) in Joshua Tree, is seeking PT workers: Smart/reliable/strong call (760) 366-2426 (8a-5p daily)

EXPERIENCED Plumber/service/repair person wanted for new company in Morongo Basin. Salary nego, must have valid CA drivers license. Call 760-367-1500 for appt.

EXPERIENCED Trailer Park Manager needed, for 32 space park, near Base, (858) 756-8762

FREE rent & util. in exchange for house-sitting, & salary for PT office help position to be discussed. Call Paul or Edith between 9am-5pm. 365-2748

HERT TRUCKING CLASS "A" DRIVERS
• Company Drivers
Avg. \$38 p/m - Loaded/Empty
• Local & Part Time
• Off Weekends
• Weight Bonus
• Medical & 401K
• Profit Sharing
• Paid Vacation
• Steady Year Round Work

QUALIFICATIONS
• 1 Year Experience
• Class "A" w/Doubles
"We're large enough to have quality equipment, yet small enough to know you"
Call (760) 248-7077 Monday - Friday

LOOKING for apprentice carpenter, minimal tools req'd, must have own transportation. Starting pay \$10-\$12 per hr. Call 369-1420 or fax 369-1423.

HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR
TRAINING FOR EMPLOYMENT.
Bulldozers, Backhoes, Loaders, Dump Trucks, Graders, Scrapers, Excavators.
National Certification. Financial Assistance. Job Placement Assistance.
(800) 383-7364
Associated Training Services
www.atsr-schools.com

JT Dental office looking for exp. dental receptionist, bilingual a plus, call 366-8877

PAINTER & painters helper, exp'd, own transportation req'd, top pay available for qualified 3 personnel. 228-2207

PIPELINE and grading operators labor good benefit. call 902-9166

PLUMBER needed must have experience. Call (760) 885-7691

PRESSER PT exp preferred, will train responsible mature adult. Silver Tanger Cleaners. 6376 Adobe 29 Palms

300 HELP WANTED

300 HELP WANTED

MORONGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
367-9191/365-3394 ext 225
is now accepting applications for:

LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER CLERK
2-3 hr. per day, 11 mo. per yr.
\$11.37 per hour

Position has paid Sick Leave and Vacation

REQUIREMENTS: Knowledge of library methods, terminology and basic computer use. Library or school media experience. High School Graduate or equivalent. Associate degree desired. PASSING Score must be achieved on a written exam.

APPLICATIONS may be downloaded from www.morongo.k12.ca.us or obtained by calling 367-9191 ext 225, and must be returned to Human Resources, Morongo Unified School District, PO Box 1209, 29 Palms, CA 92277 on or before **February 7, 2006**
EOE/AA

300 HELP WANTED

PROFESSIONAL dental assistant needed w/X-ray lic, please call 365-2331

WANTED: Versatile, sober individual for varied, part time maintenance, repair, renov., retired, semi line. Reply to PO Box 880 C-800 Yucca Valley, Ca. 92286.

WHY drive far to work, when work is here in the Morongo Basin? Growing Plumbing Co. needs Exp. Plumbers, Excellent benefits, now hiring, call 365-7680

WINDOW & door installers needed, tools/truck/exp./good driving record - a must, 369-9188

WONDER Garden Cafe looking for intergetic upbeat team players for counter help & Baristas full & part time avail. Submit resume to 73511 29 Palms Hwy.

305 KIDS CLASSIFIEDS

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.

15 yr old seeks all kinds of yard work, weeding, watering, cleaning etc/ 29 Palms area only, please call 361-4008 or Iv msg.

RESPONSIBLE high school student looking for yard work. Monthly weekly or one time. Also odd jobs, reasonable rates call 365-6941

TEEN baby sitter, Red Cross Certified, will sit all ages Base Housing only 361-3417.

TWO very experienced 14 yr. olds will babysit and/or clean house. Call Courtney 365-4748 or Amanda 228-2691 Thank you.

310 WORK WANTED

CAREGIVER for elderly. 25 yrs. exp. I come highly recommended w/ ref's. (760) 366-3532

L.H.S.S. aid/ attendant male, 2 care 4 u. cook, clean, drive, shop, valid lic. + insur. 364-3907

WILL do elderly care, ambulatory only, call between 7am & 10am, 12pm-2pm, Evelyn 366-7752



Services

400-499

Advertise in the Classifieds
365-3315

300 HELP WANTED

Phelps Chevrolet Nissan is looking for fun, energetic & personable people to join our organization!
Fixed operations taking applications for:
• ASE certified technicians, Nissan & GM experience preferred.
• Service porters.

Sales: looking for 4 motivated sales people to join our team at the largest auto dealership in the Hi-Desert, \$2,000/mo. guaranteed while in training (earn while you learn).
• Complete benefits, including medical, dental & paid vacations.
• Work in our brand new, state of the art dealership.

Apply in person at:
Phelps Chevrolet Nissan
56916 29 Palms Hwy
Yucca Valley, Ca 92284
or call for an appointment 365-2348
Sales ask for Pam V., or Gary M.
Service ask for Greg B.

300 HELP WANTED

MORONGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
367-9191/365-3394 ext 225
is now accepting applications for:
INSTRUCTIONAL ASSISTANT
3 hrs per day, 10 mo per year
Classroom \$6,485 per yr
Computer Lab \$6,813 per yr
Special Education \$6,813 per yr
Severely Handicapped \$7,168 per yr
All Positions Have Paid Sick Leave & Vacation
REQUIREMENTS: Basic techniques related to the instruction of students. Ability to assist in teaching reading, writing and math; one year exp working with children in a supervisory or training capacity; High School diploma or equivalent required, Associates Degree desired. Passing score must be achieved on a written exam.
Applications may be downloaded from www.morongo.k12.ca.us or obtained by calling 367-9191 ext 225 and must be returned to Human Resources, Morongo Unified School District, P.O. Box 1209, 29 Palms, CA 92277 on or before: **February 7, 2006** EOE/AA

Services Offered Policy

This newspaper does not accept responsibility for services offered, by any advertiser, using this newspaper. Please carefully evaluate any services advertised and do not use that service unless you have checked the references, and know and understand all terms of agreement and conditions between you and the advertiser.

California State law requires that contractors, builders, and landscapers who perform work for \$500 or more, including materials and labor, must be licensed. License numbers should be indicated in all 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 Colley Drive, Suite 200, Colton, CA 92324

Hi-Desert Publishing Co.

400 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Enjoy Wine?

Visit beautiful California Wine Country... from the comfort of your home or office. Learn about wines, where they are made, and the people behind the wines. You can get recipes to go with them or plan your trip to this fantastic region.

Come see what's new at www.winecountrythisweek.com

Photo Ads

Get 5 editions for only \$27.00
1x2 size ad with photo and ad description.

For more information contact Linda!

The Desert Trail
367-3577

403 BOARD & CARE

SENIOR room & board near Sky Harbor. 3 good meals a day, laundry and 24 hr. security. Reasonable rates. Call 365-1247

HIDESERT FAMILY ELDERCARE
"Senior Living at its best"
Specializing in Alzheimer's & Dementia care.
6410 El Reposo St.
Joshua Tree, Ca 92252
(760)366-3845
Lic. #366409076

300 HELP WANTED

Phelps Chevrolet Nissan is looking for fun, energetic & personable people to join our organization!
Fixed operations taking applications for:
• ASE certified technicians, Nissan & GM experience preferred.
• Service porters.

300 HELP WANTED

MORONGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
367-9191/365-3394 ext 225
is now accepting applications for:
INSTRUCTIONAL ASSISTANT
3 hrs per day, 10 mo per year
Classroom \$6,485 per yr
Computer Lab \$6,813 per yr
Special Education \$6,813 per yr
Severely Handicapped \$7,168 per yr
All Positions Have Paid Sick Leave & Vacation
REQUIREMENTS: Basic techniques related to the instruction of students. Ability to assist in teaching reading, writing and math; one year exp working with children in a supervisory or training capacity; High School diploma or equivalent required, Associates Degree desired. Passing score must be achieved on a written exam.
Applications may be downloaded from www.morongo.k12.ca.us or obtained by calling 367-9191 ext 225 and must be returned to Human Resources, Morongo Unified School District, P.O. Box 1209, 29 Palms, CA 92277 on or before: **February 7, 2006** EOE/AA

403 BOARD & CARE

AASPEN VILLAGECARE
Now Accepting Ambulatory & Non-Ambulatory



Residents
Assisted living for the elderly. "You will feel like you're at home"

7633 & 7645 Kickapoo Trail, Yucca Valley (760) 228-2729 RCFE Lic# 366410679 Lic# 366410681

DESERT ROSE ELDER CARE "Assisted Living"
Semi private room available now!
29 Palms
73511 Sunnyvale Dr (760) 367-9175 Lic# 366404072

405 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

ESTABLISHED "PET STORE" SINCE 1999 FOR SALE IN 29 PALMS 30K/obo 760-361-1433

410 FAMILY & CHILD CARE

CHILD DAYCARE in 29 Palms, M-F, LICENSED & ECE CERTIFIED
1 Seat available age 3yrs up.
760-362-5293

LITTLE CARSON'S DAY CARE
Open Mon-Fri. 6:30am-5:30pm
"Lic" food program
"CPR/First Aid Cert." ref's. Call Martha 760-361-1470

NEED childcare? Stay at home mom of 3 will watch your child Mon-Fri. 6:30a.m.-5:30p.m. Great rates/ref's avail. Call Kim 760-361-0731

CAREGIVER For Seniors



Certified with references
24 hr. shifts avail., including lower desert areas. All aspects of care, excellent cook. No smoking/drinking.

Call Billie 366-2880

420 HEALTH & FITNESS

DO you or someone you know on Social Security need help paying for prescription drugs? Call 1 (800)736-1041

425 INSTRUCTIONAL

HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR TRAINING FOR EMPLOYMENT
Bulldozers, Backhoes, Loaders, Dump Trucks, Graders, Scrapers, Excavators
-National Certification
-Financial Assistance
-Job Placement Assistance
(800) 383-7364
Associated Training Services
www.atstc-schools.com

435 SERVICES

TRI-COUNTY
Clean up, Hauling Service, Junk, wood, metal, trash, debris removal from houses, garages & rentals.
Member of Better Business Bureau
361-6701,
or (760)685-8001

A/C & HEATING.
Eagle Construction, Inc., Heating & Air Conditioning, Residential, Sales, Installation & Service (760) 333-9590 or 366-1914

Dick & Cheri's Mobile Butchering Shop
"We are still local"
63536 Aberdeen Dr.
Joshua Tree
366-3391
All size pigs avail.

APPLIANCE Repair washers, dryers, dishwashers, range ovens. Call MB Appliance Repair (760) 464-3020
ASPHALT repairs, all types, free estimates, unlic., call (760) 228-2869

CONCRETE, driveways, patios, house slabs. Also carpentry & room add's. No job too small. Call Bill 365-6724. Lic#409280

435 SERVICES

AUTO BOB'S Mobile Auto Repair, reasonable prices, excellent service! 364-1098 or 401-1402 Lic./Reg. #A0233282

BEST Maintenance & Home Improvement, 35 yrs. Lic. #757239, Call 228-0532

BOB Cat Service: rock placement, decorative rock supplier, Silver Star Enterprise, John Harmon, Owner-Operator (760) 780-8029 unlic.

CLEANING, by George, residential carpet care & commercial cleaning. Military & senior disc. Lic., bonded & insured. (760) 365-4223.

CONCRETE, Masonry & Patio Covers, Call Jeff McGowan Concrete & Masonry @ 228-1694 Lic#772649

CONCRETE, Landscape Borders, Erosion Control, Garden Borders. Call The Curb Maker (760) 365-2221 unlic.

CONSTRUCTION Chimney sweep, fireplaces, masonry, waterfalls. Duda's Construction 228-0842 Lic # 702827

CONSTRUCTION T. T. Wolf Construction block - brick - wood patios, decks, retaining walls & fences. www.ttwolfconstruction.com (760) 660-3325

CONSTRUCTION, Custom wood, furniture, finish carpentry & cabinetry. Michael Holz Construction (760) 228-5884. Lic#542705

CONSTRUCTION, New construction, additions, remodels & repairs. John Saffie Construction Co. 363-7134 Lic #296895

CONSTRUCTION, Additions, remodels, tile work, roofing, framing, concrete & backhoe work. Call Paradise Construction 272-4025 ext. 365-5160 off. Lic #813976 See Business Directory ad

CONSTRUCTION, Home Improvement. No job too small! Specializing in Drywall. Call Hamm Construction (760) 365-0949 Lic#684360

CONSTRUCTION, Roofing, concrete, additions, remodels, & drywall. Call Paradise Construction 272-4025 ext. 365-5160 office Lic #813976 See Business Directory ad

CONSTRUCTION, Serving the Morongo Basin Since 1984. Goodpaster Construction (760) 228-1985 Lic#503172

CONSTRUCTION, specialize in custom concrete & foundations. Breeze const. 365-5814 or 401-6192

CONTRACTOR remodels, concrete, drywall, pool decks, etc. Jesse James Construction, (760) 363-7690 Lic # 823344

CUSTOM cabinet complete kitchen & bath room remodeling, room additions. Call Jim @ 369-3369. Lic # 258290

DRYWALL, Drywall, tape, texture, acoustic, patch work, custom textures. Sunrise Drywall Lic#48068 365-3525

ELECTRIC, KDB Custom Lighting & Electric. "When only the best will do!" (760) 369-7447 Lic#572842

ELECTRIC, Comm., & Resid. Service upgrades, solar installation, ceiling fans, spa hook-ups, landscape lighting. Hi-Tek Electric 363-6743. Lic#C10-550908

ESTATE buyers foreign gold, scrap & dental gold, jewelry, sterling. Pay 4 X's face value. Call Quality Coins (760) 365-8991

FENCING Applied Fencing, Inc., 24 yrs. exp. Custom fencing, enclosures & automated entry systems. Free estimates. 366-0101. Lic. #832634

FENCING Chain link, field fencing, wood fence, no job too small. Fatty's Fencing 366-5462 or (760) 668-3525. (lic. pending)

GARAGE Doors. For all your garage door needs call Door Medic. (760) 401-732 4 Lic #846130

GARAGE Doors, Hi-Desert's largest inventory. Family owned & operated. Precision Garage Doors. 369-DOOR (3667) Lic#815220

GARAGE Doors, Openers, Parts and Service. Great Prices! Dan Dan 366-3353

HAIRCUTS: by Journey & Cheri, wash 'n wear, cuts for men, by appt only 365-1919

HANDYMAN Retired electrician. No job too small! Ceiling fan installation, etc., general repairs. (760) 902-1531 unlic.

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