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# OBSERVATION POST

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## THIS ISSUE

A4 - 3/7 features

A6 - Predatory lenders

B1 - Varsity basketball



## HOT TOPICS

### ROAD CLOSURE

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

### MARINE SECURITY GUARD SCREENING TEAM VISIT

The MSG screening team is coming to the Combat Center on Tuesday. The team will be screening all interested Marines for the demanding duty with the State Department. The screening will be at the Protestant Chapel from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. All Marines to be screened will report in their Charlie uniform and have a completed Commanding Officers Screening Checklist (Phase 1), a completed Financial Worksheet, and their Medical and Dental records. For more information, contact the base Career Retention Specialist Gunnery Sgt. Whitaker at 830-6171 or speak to your unit CRS.

### SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR MILITARY CHILDREN

The deadline for submitting applications for the 2006 Scholarship Program for Military Children is fast approaching. The deadline for submission is Wednesday, Feb. 22. As of Tuesday, no applications have been received from this command. Information regarding the program and application submission guidelines are provided on the following Web site <http://www.militaryscholar.org>. Applications must be hand delivered to the commissary manager. Contact the commissary manager, Ms. Cyndy Fultz, by calling 830-7572 ext. 3001.

### HUMAN RESOURCE OFFICE HIRING FOR "HOT JOBS"

The MCAGCC Human Resources Office is currently seeking veterans or other appointment eligibles to fill "hot jobs" aboard the Combat Center. We currently employ hundreds of civilians in a wide variety of occupations in support of our mission. Some of the available positions include Laborers, Maintenance Workers, Telecommunication Mechanics, Heavy Mobile Equipment Repairers and Microwave Technicians.

In addition to a competitive salary, we offer paid vacation time and sick leave, a portable retirement plan with government matching contributions, affordable health and life insurance plans, as well as health and wellness services. Please stop by or bring a resume to the Human Resources Office located in bldg. 1551 Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## COMING NEXT ISSUE

- CMC visits Combat Center
- 1/7 Family Day
- Education Office

## THIS DAY IN MARINE CORPS HISTORY

Feb. 17, 2000

Marines from 2nd Reconnaissance Battalion became the first personnel to conduct parachute operations from the MV-22 Osprey tilt rotor aircraft.

## 'Great American Voices' brings culture to the desert



Daniel Fallus plays the piano while Heather Calvete, Eli Villanueva, LeRoy Villanueva, Michal Connor and Robert MacNeil sing the final song of the evening, "America the Beautiful," at the Great American Voices performance.

LANCE CPL. REGINA N. ORTIZ

COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Opera is drama set to music — a style that originated in Europe in the 16th century. Broadway musicals are almost the American version of opera that later developed in the 19th century.

The two types of theatre are still popular among a wide range of people, but there are also those who know nothing about these classic forms of entertainment.

An audience of more than 300 people experienced and learned about both types of music during

a performance from the Great American Voices Military Base Tour: Unforgettable Melodies from Opera and Broadway Feb. 8 at the Combat Center's Sunset Cinema.

The tour is presented by the National Endowment for the Arts and OPERA America, a non-profit organization supporting the creation, presentation and enjoyment of the art form. Admission was free to military personnel and their families.

There were five professional opera and Broadway performers and one pianist that starred in the event.

The musicians performed 13 ballads, including some from Georges Bizet's "Carmen," Leonard Bernstein's "West Side Story" and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's "Don Giovanni."

Before each performance, there was brief background information given and translation for the songs sang in a foreign language.

The show was sprinkled with light humor and received a standing ovation after the closing performance by all artists singing America the Beautiful.

See VOICES, A3

## CLB-7 leaves for Al Anbar

CPL. BRIAN A. TUTHILL

COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

The clock had just passed midnight on the morning of Feb. 10 as more than 45 Marines and Sailors of Combat Logistics Battalion 7 restlessly prepared for another deployment to Iraq.

Many Combat Center spouses, children and other family members of Maintenance- and Headquarters and Service Company Marines joined their loved ones at CLB-7's maintenance yard until the moment the white bus left.

Their 56-hour journey halfway across the world will eventually land them in the Al Anbar province in Iraq, where they will join the rest of their more than 1,300 comrades in theater to support Regimental Combat Team 7.

"It's a night of mixed feelings for our Marines, Sailors and their families," said Lt. Col. Drew T. Doolin, commanding officer of CLB-7. "Deployments are tough."

See CLB-7, A7



Staff Sgt. Andrew Vaughn says goodbye to his wife, Tonja, before departing for Iraq with his fellow Combat Logistics Battalion 7 Marines and Sailors.



Combat Logistics Battalion 7 Marines load seabags into a truck as the unit departs for a seven-month tour in Iraq.

CPL. BRIAN A. TUTHILL



# Birth announcements



**NATHAN LEIGH GUTTE Jr.**  
Son of Cpl. and Mrs. Nathan Gutte  
Born Jan. 1, 2006, weighing 8 lbs. and  
measuring 21 inches

**MATTHEW RUSSELL PRIGMORE**  
Son of Sgt. and Mrs. John Prigmore  
Born Jan. 1, 2006, weighing 8 lbs. and  
measuring 21 inches

**LADY-JAYLEN MIRRAH-FELISH  
RUSSELL**  
Daughter of Cpl. and Mrs. Keith Russell  
Born Jan. 3, 2006, weighing 8 lbs. 2 oz. and  
measuring 18.4 inches

**BRODY HALL**  
Son of Sgt. and Mrs. Ryan Hall  
Born Jan. 3, 2006, weighing 9 lbs. 4 oz and  
measuring 21 inches

**DONOVAN MICHEAL ESPINOZA**  
Son of Spc. and Mrs. Reynoldo Espinoza  
Born Jan. 4, 2006, weighing 7 lbs. 9 oz. and  
measuring 20.7 inches

**JULIA SAMANTHA BEROLD**  
Daughter of Gunnery Sgt. and Mrs. Jason  
Berold  
Born Jan. 9, 2006, weighing 6 lbs 8 oz. and  
measuring 19.9 inches

**ANNALISE GABRIELLE LUNA**  
Daughter of Gunnery Sgt. and Mrs. Evan  
Luna  
Born Jan. 10, 2006, weighing 8 lbs 4 oz. and  
measuring 20 inches

**LIAM DEAN McMAHON**  
Son of Lance Cpl. and Mrs. Matthew McMa-  
hon  
Born Jan. 10, 2006, weighing 8 lbs. 10 oz. and  
measuring 22.3 inches

**NEVAEH ARVIZU**  
Daughter of Pfc. And Mrs. Hector Arvizu  
Born Jan. 11, 2006, weighing 5 lbs 2 oz. and  
measuring 18.3 inches

# Sempertoons

By Gunnery Sgt. Charles Wolf

sempertoons.com



..and just like that, The Orange Traffic Cone  
found itself deeply in love! "

# C.O.P. Corner



## Community Oriented Policing

The proactive voice of crime prevention



Presented by the Provost Marshal's Office Crime Prevention Section

### Domestic Violence Prevention

Domestic Violence is a pattern of behavior in an intimate relationship where one partner seeks power and control over another through intimidation, coercion, violence or the threat of violence. The abuse may be emotional, mental, verbal, physical, sexual, spiritual or economic. It often becomes more frequent and severe over time.

Domestic violence is a crime and can be punishable under the Uniform Code of Military Justice and applicable state laws. According to <http://www.endabuse.org>, a recent study shows nearly one-third of American women reported being victims of domestic violence, however, domestic violence is not limited to women being the victim. Though women are five to eight times more likely to be victims of domestic violence, men are also victimized.

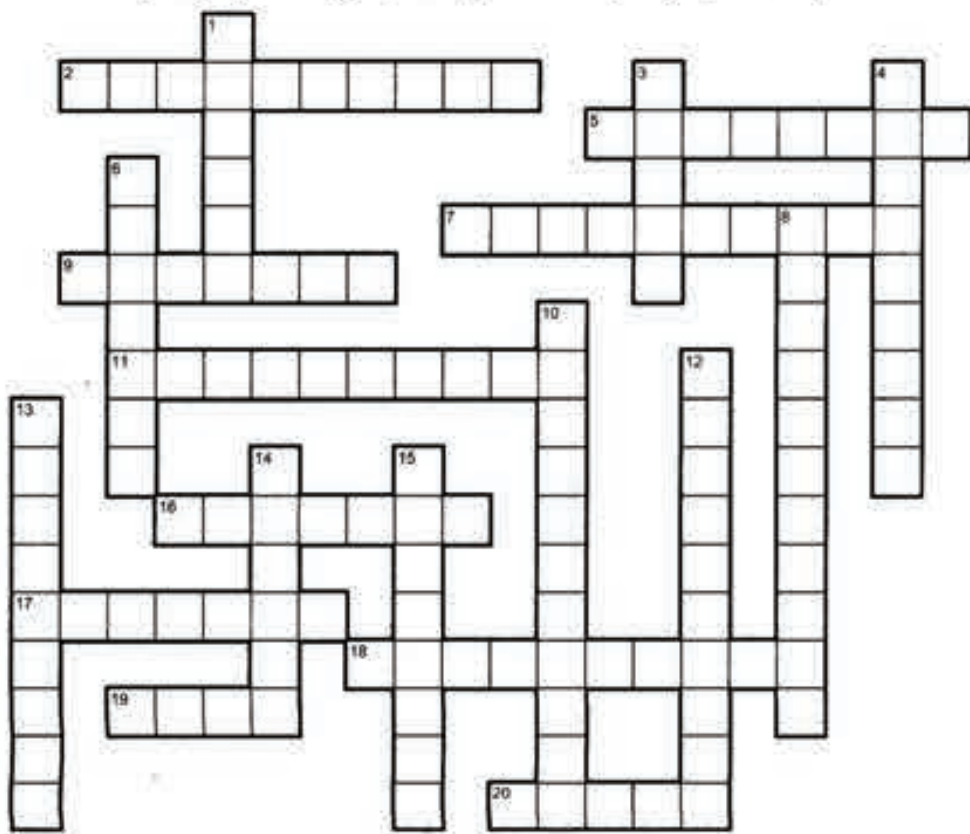
Domestic violence can have a severe impact on the whole family, especially children who have witnessed or been involved in an incident.

For more information on Domestic Violence go to <http://www.endabuse.org>.

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, McGruff 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

# FEBRUARY HISTORY



## ACROSS

- The Battle of \_\_\_\_\_, Va., occurred Feb. 7, 1865.
- President William Henry \_\_\_\_\_ was born Feb. 9, 1773.
- President George \_\_\_\_\_ was born Feb. 22, 1732.
- President Andrew \_\_\_\_\_ was impeached by United States House of Representatives and was later acquitted by the Senate Feb. 24, 1868.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ Party formed in Ripon, Wis., Feb. 28, 1854.
- President \_\_\_\_\_ Lincoln was born Feb. 12, 1809.
- \_\_\_\_\_ invaded by U.S. Marines Feb 9, 1945.
- President George Washington signed an act creating the United States \_\_\_\_\_ Feb. 20, 1792.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ Distinguished Service Medal authorized Feb. 19, 1919.
- President John Quincy \_\_\_\_\_ died Feb. 23, 1848.

## DOWN

- President Ronald \_\_\_\_\_ was born Feb. 6, 1911.
- The Treaty of \_\_\_\_\_ ended the Seven Years War Feb. 10, 1763
- Astronaut \_\_\_\_\_ became the first American to orbit the Earth aboard the Friendship VII Mercury capsule Feb. 20, 1962
- President \_\_\_\_\_ Wilson died Feb. 3, 1924.
- The tomb of King \_\_\_\_\_ unsealed in Egypt Feb. 16, 1923.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Railroad was established Feb. 1, 1838.
- The St. \_\_\_\_\_ Day Massacre occurred Feb. 14, 1929.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ Fire destroyed 80 blocks/2,600 building Feb. 7, 1904.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ Awards were first held Feb. 29, 1968.
- Black Muslim leader \_\_\_\_\_ was assassinated Feb. 21, 1965.

[Solutions on A4]

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# Centerspeak

"What is your favorite Winter Olympics sport or event?"

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



1ST LT. JOB ARMENTA  
2ND MP BATTALION, CAMP LEJEUNE

"I like to watch the  
four-man team  
bobsledding event.  
Americans are new on  
that scene, but they're  
up and coming."



SGT. GIOVANDA CAMPBELL  
MCCES, HEADQUARTERS CO.

"Ice skating. The  
costumes they  
wear and the way they  
skate make it look like  
a fairytale, it's really  
pretty to watch."



SGT. DAVID MARS  
MCCES, BRAVO CO.

"Hockey."



LANCE CPL. JOSE SOTO, JR.  
1/14, HEADQUARTERS CO.

"I don't really have a  
favorite. I like to  
watch all of them, or  
just whatever's on TV.  
I think they're all inter-  
esting to watch."

# OBSERVATION POST

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# 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](mailto:evan.eagan@usmc.mil)



A Message From The Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Division

## Life begins with the onset of Spring

With the warm temperature and the coming of spring, wildlife in the Mojave Desert has come to life. Many of our MCAGCC residents may have noticed this, as the weather warms up the wildlife sounds and calls also become more prevalent. This is what spring is all about. Springtime brings about what we biologists call reproduction. New life is brought into the world during the springtime and most animals are in the process of getting ready for birth in some fashion or another. Birds start to build nests in housing eaves and on vehicles. Rodents start to build nests in that old sleeping bag you may have in the garage or attic, and insects start to become more of a nuisance than docile pests.

The Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Division would like to remind the Marines, Sailors, and military dependents with the onset of spring many desert animals might establish a temporary residence in your living areas or personal space.

Many wildlife concerns can be avoided by following a few basic steps:

- Never feed any wildlife, this includes birds and coyotes.
- Always feed your pets indoors.
- Keep all household garbage in the proper containers.

Rodents and insects causing concerns should be turned over to the Combat Center's Pest Control Section. You may contact them by calling 830-6650. The Natural Resources Section should be notified of all other wildlife concerns such as snakes, bats, and birds. They can be reached at 830-7396 ext 234 or 236.

### VOICES, A1

In addition to the show here, the musicians visited the Twentynine Palms High School to work with 60 pre-selected ninth- through 12th-grade students who are serious about pursuing a career in the music industry.

The musicians spent four hours a day for two days, working with the students, practicing opera and Broadway selections. The students performed in front of other students, including guests from Condor Elementary School's fifth- and sixth-grade classes, Feb. 9.

"It was fantastic," said Amy Woods, principal, Twentynine Palms High School. "The kids got the opportunity to work with professionals and receive individual attention. It was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for these students to be around the culture the singers bring."

Planning for the musical guests began in mid-summer last year, and the high school has been anticipating the visit ever since, she said.

"The kids loved it and greatly appreciated the experience," Woods said.

The performers also spent time with the fifth- and sixth-grade students from Condor Elementary before the high school's performance.

With audience participation from the elementary students, the singers performed skits from various plays.

"They made it real fun for the kids," said Carol Dougwillo, sixth-grade teacher, Condor Elementary School. "It was great to have professional performers of that caliber, with so much experience, interacting with our students."

"It was just awesome to be able to have that much culture in our area," Dougwillo continued.

The NEA and the Department of Defense have coordinated to bring other art projects to military installations over the past couple years. "Operation Homecoming: Writing the Wartime Experience," brought writing workshops to more than 20 bases nationwide and abroad. "Shakespeare in American Communities Military Base Tour," took the Alabama Shakespeare Festival and its production of Macbeth to 13 bases across the country.

In support of excellence and education of the arts, the NEA launched the Great American Voices Tour, in coordination with DoD, in October to reach more than 39 bases nationwide and will continue until August.

For more information or a tour schedule, log onto <http://www.greatamericanvoices.org>.



Michael Connor sings "Ride On, King Jesus," a traditional spiritual, during the Great American Voices performance.

## Filing an identity theft police report can save you money

### PRESS RELEASE

CALIF. DEPT. OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — More than 60 percent of the people who reported being victimized by identity theft last year did not notify their local law enforcement agency. One reason for this surprising statistic, recently released in a Federal Trade Commission report on 2005 identity theft complaints, is because many states have not enacted laws that require law enforcement agencies to take a police report and investigate the crime.

"California leads the nation when it comes to critical privacy protection laws," said Charlene Zettel, director of the California Department of Consumer Affairs. "California law [Penal Code section 530.6] enables California residents who believe they have been victimized by financial fraud and identity theft to request a police report — regardless of whether the crime was committed in the victim's location or somewhere else in the country."

The most common type of identity theft is financial, in which the victim's information is used to get access to credit or bank accounts.

When this happens, the first steps for the victim to take are contacting creditors on fraudulent accounts, contacting the credit bureaus to place a "fraud alert" on credit files, and reporting the facts to the police. Filing a police report of identity theft is critical, as copies of the report are needed to clear up the damage done by the thief.

A less common occurrence is "criminal" identity theft, in which a criminal record is created using the victim's information. This can result in repeated arrests and the inability to get a job, as well as credit problems.

"If you have been the victim of criminal identity theft, having factual documentation may just keep you out of jail," said San Diego Sheriff Bill Kolender. "If a thief commits a crime in another person's name, it is important that — once the victim finds out — he or she reports this to law enforcement so the evidence can be presented in a court of law to establish the person's 'factual innocence,'" he said.

California has enacted nearly 80 privacy protection laws during the past six years. "Having civil and criminal identity theft penalties in place and continuing to

inform Californians on how to prevent the theft of their personal or financial information will help stem this invasive crime," Zettel said.

A helpful Identity Theft Victim Checklist is available from the California Department of Consumer Affairs' Office of Privacy Protection at <http://www.privacy.ca.gov>. There is also a Guide for Victims of Criminal Identity Theft. The California Office of Privacy Protection provides information, advocacy, training, and "best practice" guidelines for consumers, businesses and other organizations.

For more information on identity theft and other privacy issues, Californians can contact the Office at (866) 785-9663.

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# 3/7 Marine helps build stronger Iraq

**CPL. SHANE SUZUKI**  
2ND MARINE DIVISION

AR RAMADI, Iraq — Sacrifice. It's a word that is often thrown around when deploying to war. For some, it means foregoing college for a year; for others, it means being away from family for months at a time. For Lance Cpl. Geoffrey Heath, it meant missing the birth of his first child.

"I left a month before my wife had our first child," said the Miami, Fla., native. "When I get home, I'll meet him for the first time. We are here, making a little bit of history and for that, we all have to make sacrifices. This is mine."

This is the 22-year-old rifleman's first deployment. Being able to contribute toward the successful elections and having a hand in the progress made by the Iraqi Army is something that he had looked forward to since his days with the Fleet Anti-Terrorism Security Team.

"I was in a different unit before this that didn't deploy and when they asked me where I wanted to go, I said to a unit that was deploying," he said. "I had friends in 3rd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, and I wanted to be part of an infantry platoon doing my part in this war, but really, I didn't care as long as I was able to come here."

Since coming to Iraq at the beginning of September, Heath and his fellow Marines in Company K have been part of the

main effort to secure the city and prepare the Iraqi Army for the responsibility of maintaining the security and peace here.

"We're supposed to be here helping these people get back on their feet and sometimes, it's tough," he said. "We do information campaigns and the peace will last about a week and then we will find more bombs. The insurgency here is being backed up against a wall, which means we are doing our job and staying vigilant."

A major reason for optimism in the battle against the insurgents here is the rapid improvement by the local Iraqi Army brigades. The Marines here concentrated much of their efforts on working with and training the IA and it is starting to show dividends.

"Even though we never work with the same group, they generally stay vigilant and work very hard," said Heath. "They want to get better and that is important. Since we've come here and began working with them, there has been a significant change in how they operate. They take their posts more seriously and that has helped keep the number of [improvised explosive devices] down."

While the dangers are still very real, Heath and his fellow Marines are noticing that their work is paying off and that the city does seem to be improving.

"Even with all the bad things that happen here, I am glad to be here," he said. "It's an important job and no two days are the same."



CPL. SHANE SUZUKI

Despite missing the birth of his first child, Lance Cpl. Geoffrey Heath, a rifleman with Company K, 3rd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, is glad to be serving in Iraq and is proud of the progress Ar Ramadi has made in the four months 3/7 has been here.

## 3/7: From the oldest post to the front lines

**CPL. SHANE SUZUKI**  
2ND MARINE DIVISION

AR RAMADI, Iraq — The streets here are a far cry from the corner of 8th and I streets in Washington, D.C., and yet for an infantryman who joined the Marine Corps to travel the world and do his part in the War on Terrorism, it is the only place he wants to be.

Corporal Jared St. Clair, an infantryman with 4th Platoon, Company I, 3rd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, has finally made it to Iraq and is making the most of his opportunity. He's serving in the city that many experts and officials are calling the most important city in the war and he has been here for both the constitutional referendum and the first parliamentary election.

St. Clair's previous assignment at Headquarters Marine Corps is prestigious, but not what the 22-year-old joined the Marine Corps to do.

"I was anxious to come here, I wanted to come to Iraq and do my part," said the Cochise, Ariz. native. "It's a whole different world here in Iraq though. People's mentalities are different. At 8th and I, you get liberty everyday after work, where now we look forward to those couple days off we can rest and call home."

The work here is nonstop: patrols, missions, maintenance, movements and training. However, it's been worth it just for

the experiences and knowledge he will be able to take home from this deployment.

"In the short time we've had, I've made leaps and bounds from what I knew and did before I got here," he said. "We work hard but it's necessary in order to do the job here."

Relearning the skills necessary in the often dangerous urban terrain that dominates the battalion's area of responsibility was a daunting task at first. However, his training soon came back to him and he made the transition easily.

"Garrison posts like 8th and I don't do field training like we do in California," he said. "We're always dressed up in our blues and we practiced a lot of drill and those sorts of things. Now, we do a lot more field training, firing weapons and practicing movements — the things we need to know here. Now the only uniform we wear is our cammies."

Although a world apart in terms of responsibilities and experiences, St. Clair is excited to be deployed, especially to such an important city.

"I am proud to say I was at 8th and I. I stood post during President Reagan's funeral, which was pretty prestigious," he said. "However, this is where I wanted to be. [Improvised explosive devices] are still going off and we are still finding [weapons] caches, so the work here isn't done yet. The Iraqi Army is progressing and we are helping train them. So that is another thing we are doing to help."

"I am glad I'm here and making a difference."

## 3/7, Iraqi Army work together at making Ramadi streets safer

**CPL. SHANE SUZUKI**  
2ND MARINE DIVISION

AR RAMADI, Iraq — The patrol almost screams to a stop, with humvees speeding past the targeted vehicle only to turn suddenly and cordon off the traffic while Marines and Iraqi soldiers quickly climb out and secure the area. While the selected vehicle is rapidly emptied and searched thoroughly, another squad searches the occupants for anything that might link them to the insurgency and asks them if they have information that could prove helpful.

It's called a snap vehicle

checkpoint and it has become a successful deterrent against an enemy that blends into the local populace and continues to practice hit-and-run tactics against the Marines and Iraqi Army forces in the city. By randomly selecting vehicles during both heavy and light traffic periods, the Marines of 3rd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment are showing the insurgents left in the city that they are never safe — even during their morning commute, according to 2nd Lt. Mauro Mujica, the platoon commander for Weapons Platoon, Company L.

"We try to push out five to seven days a week," he said. "It keeps the main routes of the city clear and keeps the insurgents on their toes. Even if we go out and don't capture anything, it helps keep the streets clean."

In addition to the obvious benefits of keeping the streets clear of explosives and keeping the enemy off main routes through the city, these snap VCPs give the residents of Ramadi a chance to see the progress their Iraqi soldiers are making here.

"It's good for the Iraqi people to see an Iraqi face in their security forces," said Mujica. "The people need to see that their government and military are doing things for them, that they are working to improve the country."

When it comes to the Iraqi Army though, the experience they gain by conducting missions with the oversight of the Marines is invaluable. The IA is able to gain the skills and confidence needed to take over responsibility by conducting operations under hostile conditions.

"When we started doing these missions with the Iraqis, we were a little nervous to be working with them out in the streets," he said. "But they have proved themselves over the last three months and are constantly improving. They also teach us things every once in a while. They are more familiar with local people and the culture and can tell when something is wrong and needs to be checked out."

"The IA is extremely motivated to get out and do these types of missions and others. They want to train and get better and do their part in the struggle for freedom here."



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## SOLUTIONS





# Lejeune unit strikes Mojave Viper, prepares for Iraq

CPL. JOSEPH DIGIROLAMO

MCB CAMP PENDLETON

Cpl. Joshua B. Johnson is turning up the volume when it comes to training his Marines with another deployment right around the corner.

Johnson, a squad leader for Weapons Company, 3rd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, and about 1,000 others from his battalion based in North Carolina have completed their month long pre-deployment capstone training exercise. The exercise, known as Mojave Viper, consists of conventional combined-arms training and stability and support operations training.

"We're going to take away from this training as much as possible... everything we learn here is going to be used on the streets over there," said Johnson, a 20-year-old from Caddo, La. "The training is very important especially because a lot of the junior Marines have never done this stuff before."

"It also gives the battalion the opportunity to deploy over 1,000 men across the United States, deploy them in realistic combat training and then redeploy back to Camp Lejeune, hence maintaining our expeditionary warfare," said Lt. Col. Stephen M. Neary, battalion commander, 3rd Bn., 8th Marines.

Mojave Viper covers a multitude of aspects in preparing the battalion for war. Early on, the Marines and Sailors receive classes including desert survival, high-risk capture procedures, and how to identify and avoid improvised explosive devices.

Johnson, an Operation Iraqi Freedom veteran, knows how important these classes are for his Marines.

"Our highest concern is IEDs," Johnson said. "The Marines are learning what IEDs can and cannot do to you, they're being spun up on the basics."

The battalion experienced an onslaught of realistic training, such as live-fire movement/maneuver at the reinforced platoon and company sized level. Finally, the battalion was involved in scenarios in an artificial Iraqi town housing over 300 role players. The battalion received the benefit of training in an urban environment against an opposing force whose methods were based on current enemy tactics, techniques and procedures.

The new town adds to the realism of the battalion's SASO training.

"There are more Middle Eastern role players that bring the training to life. Last year at March Air Force Reserve Base [in California], the neighborhood was small and most of the role players were our Marines," said Cpl. Jeffery S. Stockton, machinegun squad leader for 2nd Platoon, Company I, 3rd Bn., 8th Marines. "It didn't feel too realistic when I would take down someone that was in my same company."

In preparing for its mission in Iraq, the unit believes Mojave Viper is a great opportunity to really test the "new team" of 3rd Bn., 8th Marine's, Truck and Engineer Platoons, and the transition teams.

The battalion fell under Regimental Combat Team 8 the last

time at Twentynine Palms. This year it has become the senior unit for the exercise.

"Our focus was strictly battalion level training and operations," said Hotchkiss, a 28-year-old from Huntsville, Ala. "The battalion is acting as a Regimental Command Element and is responsible, not only for ourselves, but also for all other units participating in the exercise during this period."

The military transition teams and border transition teams are some of the newest elements to the training.

"The MTTs and BTTs are the next step in the military's role in Iraq," said Hotchkiss. "These teams are pieced together with experts in a myriad of military occupational specialties with the intent to train and guide the Iraqi military."

Capt. Mark R. Liston, company commander for Weapons Co, 3rd Bn., 8th Marines, believes this training is very relevant for the unit.

"It gives us the opportunity to conduct a well-structured training package that focuses on realities of Iraq today," said Liston the 34-year-old from Warwick, R.I. "It's proven to be an excellent reinforcement for Marines returning from Iraq and provides a realistic environment for the new Marines."

The training is not all about firing weapons and learning the newest tactics. The young unit leaders are paying special attention to another important aspect as well.

Stockton, a squad leader in charge of 12 men in his platoon says, "It allows the Marines to get comfortable with the new fire teams."

Mojave Viper will assist the battalion in bringing well-trained Marines and Sailors to the fight.

"Every unit who takes advantage of the training opportunities provided during Mojave Viper will be better trained, more prepared and ultimately successful in combat," said Hotchkiss.



1st Lt. Michael J. Donaldson, assistant team leader for Border Transition Team 13 faces towards a target and gets prepared to engage. Donaldson is one of many Marines participating in the Enhanced Marksmanship Program.

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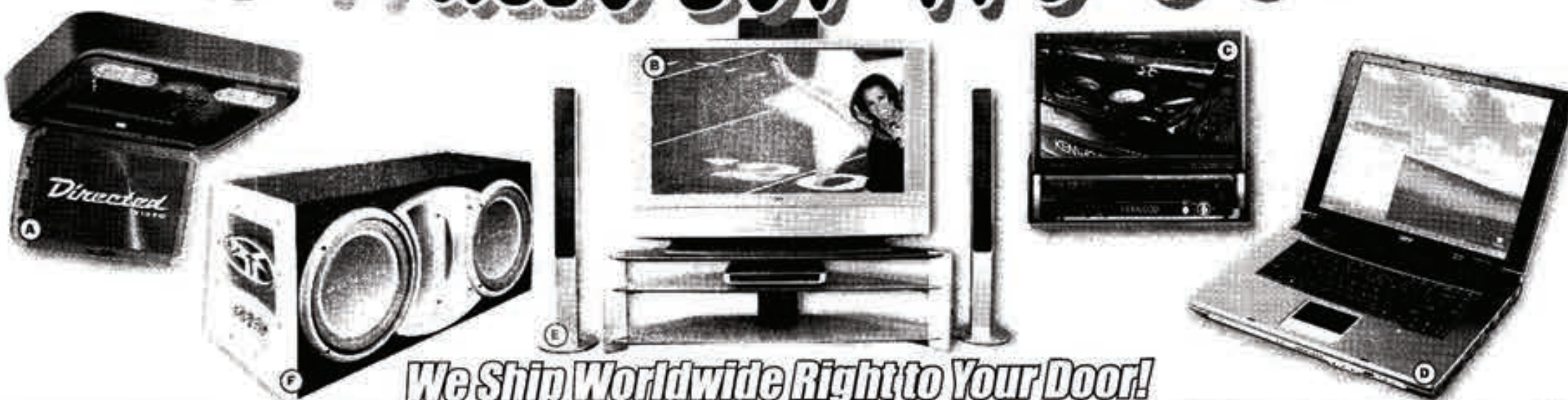
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## Alternatives to payday loans

- Military credit union loans: small loans at a fraction of the cost of payday loans
- State and local credit union loans: cash advances as low as 12 percent APR
- Other credit unions: from prime to 18 percent APR
- Military relief societies: low interest rate loans and grants in cases of urgent financial need
- Credit card advances: one-tenth the cost of payday or less
- Small consumer loans: some states limit interest rates to 36 percent on these loans
- "Good" overdraft protection: this protection, tied to a savings or line of credit, may work for you but avoid new overdraft loan programs that end up costing huge fees
- Late fees: usually cheaper than one payday loan fee, always cheaper than a repeat payday loan
- Work out a plan with creditors: utility companies, credit card companies and landlords often allow extra time to pay

# Caught in a debt trap!

Young military families make perfect targets for predatory payday lenders

CHARLES LOWERY  
CENTER FOR RESPONSIBLE LENDING

Imagine you are a payday lender. You have one of those strip-mall shops with the neon signs that say "cash advance" or "easy money," and a little scheme that is amazingly lucrative. All you have to do is loan 300 bucks to the same guy every two weeks, passing it back and forth over the counter of your little shop.

Only every time that \$300 comes back your way, it has an extra \$50 in the stack.

You say your fees are just \$15-\$20 per \$100 borrowed, not bad when you consider that many credit cards charge 24 percent interest or more. (You don't say that the 24 percent figure is an annual rate. Payday loans are two-week loans that turn into long-term debt, and their annual interest rates easily can surpass 400 percent.)

The longer you can get the customer coming back at every payday, the better. You're making about \$100 a month — \$1,300 a year — from each customer, for one little cash outlay of \$300.

Quite a scheme, isn't it? And it works. Studies show that the average borrower pays \$800 for a \$325 payday loan.

Now imagine that you're the potential payday loan customer. You think you know better than to fall into this trap. Well, that's what we all say. Everyone plans to pay back their first loan on payday, but hardly anyone does.

After all, this is no ordinary loan. Payday cash advances are carefully designed so that what seems like a short-term boost turns into long-term, high-cost debt, without you even knowing what hit you.

Most people who live paycheck to paycheck simply can't make up a cash shortage in two weeks. But payday lenders don't offer installment loans, they don't give you time to re-pay, and they hold your signed personal check — preventing you from depositing it — to make sure you come back on the due date. If your bank account won't cover the check, you risk bounced check fees and maybe even a civil lawsuit.

Or you fall into the trap the payday lender has set for you: You pay another \$50 and refinance the loan.

Most borrowers pay the \$50. And while paying the fees and as each payday rolls around, it gets harder and harder to pay off the loan and walk away. Before fully understanding the danger, the borrower often obtains a second payday loan to try to pay off the first. Many are caught for weeks, months, even years, paying interest of 400 percent or higher on the same repeatedly refinanced loan.

This repeat use is not the exception — it is the general rule. The Center for Responsible Lending and other groups concerned about the impact of predatory lending have documented that the industry depends upon repeat-use accounts for most of its profits.

**Looking for young families: the less financial experience, the better**

Now think about this: If you were a payday lender, where would you locate your business? You'd look for a

concentration of working people bringing home a steady but modest income to keep you raking in the cash and maintaining a bank account to ensure that one's personal check is an effective means of collection. Young families would be ideal — the less experience with finances, the better.

And what if you could find a population who faces extra consequences for not paying debts on time as well as a social expectation for responsibility and self-sufficiency? Would such people seek help if they got into trouble?

If you are a payday lender, then it makes perfect sense to locate your stores around military bases, right in the path of these young, hard-working families. And that's exactly what they do.

Two university researchers released a report last spring which documented this fact: Where military bases are located in America, payday lenders are poised to strip service members and their families of their hard-earned cash.

Christopher Peterson of the University of Florida and Steven Graves of California State-Northridge University mapped payday loan locations in 20 states serving as home to 109 military bases. The study found that, in almost every instance, military towns ranked among the highest in the number of payday lenders per capita. At Camp Pendleton, for example, 24 payday loan stores operate within three miles of the base, far more than the five stores the researchers would expect to find in a community with similar demographics.

The Center for Responsible Lending recently published a report that documents the level of payday lender penetration into military com-

munities. Based on industry statements describing the percentage of payday borrowers who are active-duty military, the Center made these estimates:

- Active-duty military personnel are three times more likely than civilians to have taken out a payday loan.
- One in five active-duty military personnel were payday borrowers last year.
- Predatory payday lending costs military families more than \$80 million in abusive fees every year.

Meanwhile, The New York Times has reported that more than one fourth of all military households have been caught up in payday lending. Officials at the Army Emergency Relief office in Fort Bliss, Texas, have estimated that at least 10 percent of its active duty personnel have sought counseling for payday lending and other debt problems.

Those are just the service-members who have been willing to come forward and seek help. It's not easy to do — they are worried about their reputations and the impact on their careers. Failure to repay a loan is a violation of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, punishable by confinement, court martial, loss of security clearance, transfer to a different unit or discharge. Payday lenders count on this intimidation to keep cash-strapped families coming back again and again.

### Escaping the trap

So what's the answer to

this huge problem for military families?

**1. Just don't go there.** Stay out of payday loan stores in the first place.

Payday loans may provide quick and easy cash, but they're not worth the risk. Local credit unions and financial institutions provide quick cash advances and small signature loans at a fraction of the cost of a payday loan. For people drowning in debt, credit counseling and emergency relief programs are the best alternatives. A payday loan is never the only alternative and never the best alternative.

**2. Plan an exit strategy.** If you're already in, seek help getting out.

Higher-ups in the military are well aware of the payday lending problem. Don't be afraid to ask for support. If you're trapped in a payday loan, seek help from the military financial counselor at your installation.

**3. Fight back.** Help stamp out predatory lending.

Several initiatives designed to protect borrowers from abusive lending practices are pending in Congress and individual states. Some of this legislation specifically addresses payday lending and military personnel.

As you work your way out of trouble — and it will take work — speak out and join those who have been burned by payday loans. Don't let these scam artists continue to get away with stripping the hard-earned income of military families.

This article appeared in the Winter 2005-06 issue of *Military Money* magazine. It is reprinted by permission of the publisher.

Charles Lowery is policy counsel for the Center for Responsible Lending ([www.responsiblelending.org](http://www.responsiblelending.org); 1-800-747-3207), a non-profit, non-partisan research organization dedicated to fighting predatory lending practices.

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## Other Abusive Lending Practices

Predatory lending strips billions in wealth from consumers and communities in the U.S. each year. Borrowers lose more than \$25 billion annually due to payday loans and other lending abuses:

**Rent-to-own companies** charge a weekly or monthly rent for a stated period until the property is owned by the consumer. A late payment can trigger very high interest, although the company usually repossesses the item. Under a typical rent-to-own contract, a consumer may pay as much as \$2,200 over two years to purchase a \$500 TV.

**Predatory mortgage lending** typically involves a refinance of an existing loan that is packed with excessive or unnecessary fees and provides no tangible benefit to the borrower. Most abusive lending takes place in the subprime market, targeting people with weak or blemished credit records.

**Tax-refund anticipation loans** are short-term cash advances against a customer's anticipated income tax refund, offered at annual interest rates as high as 700 percent. These loans speed up the refund process by as little as one week. More than 12 million people take out tax-refund loans each year.

**Overdraft loans**, or "bounce protection" plans, are offered by banks to cover account overdrafts up to a set dollar limit. In exchange, bounced check fees range from about \$20-\$35 for each transaction. Some banks also charge \$2-\$5 per day until the account shows a positive balance.

**Credit card abuses:** Many families of limited means have come to rely on credit cards to weather economic downturns or simply to make ends meet. They have become attractive targets for the marketing of cards that contain hidden transfer charges, exorbitant late fees and exploding interest rates.

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**Patricia Muao**  
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Funeral Service: Sat., Feb. 25, 10AM, Wiefels & Son Chapel, 29 Palms,  
Graveside to follow at 29 Palms Cemetery

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Viewing Fri., Feb. 17, 6-8PM. Funeral Service Sat., Feb. 18, 11AM at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. Graveside to follow at Mountain Valley Memorial Park.

**Percy Grover**  
Witness Scatter, Fri., 2/18, 1PM. Mountain Valley Memorial Park.

### Predatory Lending Case Study Worksheet

Case study information contained on this worksheet is being collected to respond to Section 579 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006, to define the prevalence and impact of predatory lending practices. This worksheet should be given a wide dissemination for completion, to include commanders, command NCOs, first sergeants, family support center staff, command financial specialists, legal assistance officers, military relief society staffs, and individuals who wish to express their personal dealings with predatory lenders. Responses on this worksheet shall not contain personal identification information, as described in the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC Section 552a). All information will be redacted in order to protect the privacy of individuals.

#### 1. Demographic Information:

- a. Installation and state where assigned: \_\_\_\_\_  
b. Military Service and military rank: \_\_\_\_\_  
c. Number of family members: \_\_\_\_\_

#### 2. Loan transaction:

- a. Type of loan taken (mark only one; fill out a separate sheet for each type of loan):  
☐ Payday loan at outlet around the installation  
☐ Internet payday loan  
☐ Predatory auto sale/financing (see reverse side of sheet)  
☐ Auto title loan at outlet around the installation  
☐ Other lender around the installation requiring high interest/fees/insurance charges, and/or taking predatory collection actions (specify): \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Other internet lender requiring high interest/fees/insurance charges, and/or taking predatory collection actions (specify): \_\_\_\_\_  
b. Total amount borrowed for type of loan taken: \_\_\_\_\_  
c. Total number of loans represented by the total amount: \_\_\_\_\_  
d. Total amount paid in interest and fees (in addition to the amount borrowed): \_\_\_\_\_  
e. Total number of roll-overs before closing out the loan(s): \_\_\_\_\_

- f. If involving an auto title loan or auto sale/financing, was the car repossessed? Yes ☐ No ☐

#### 3. Adverse actions as a result of the loan:

- a. Was the unit involved in collection action? Yes ☐ No ☐  
b. Was the borrower threatened with having wages garnished? Yes ☐ No ☐  
c. Was there disciplinary action taken?  
☐ Non-judicial punishment (letter of reprimand, article 15, Captain's mast)  
☐ Loss of security clearance  
☐ Loss of Personnel Reliability Program (PRP) status  
☐ No longer deployable/returned from deployment  
☐ Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

#### 4. How was the loan resolved? (mark all that are applicable)

- ☐ Through assistance from the relief society  
☐ Through assistance from the bank or credit union  
☐ Through assistance from friends and family  
☐ Through the family budget  
☐ Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

#### 5. Other impacts of the loan(s) not expressed above (please use reverse side of this sheet)

#### Other questions concerning auto sales/financing:

- a. How far was the dealership from the installation?  
☐ 1 - 2 miles  
☐ 3 - 5 miles  
☐ 6 - 10 miles  
b. If the dealer provided transportation to the dealership, did the dealer provide transportation back to the base even if you didn't by a car? Yes ☐ No ☐  
c. Did you receive or purchase any of the following in connection with the car purchase, did you understand this purchase was either required or optional, and if used, were they honored?  

	Didn't purchase	Optional	Required	Honored
Service or warranty contract				
Rust protection contract				
Car security contract				
Auto club membership				
- d. Were you given a copy of all of the papers you signed before you left the dealership? Yes ☐ No ☐  
e. After you drove the car off the lot, did the dealer call you and tell you that the financing fell through? Yes ☐ No ☐  
f. If you answered "Yes" to question e., did any of the following happen to you?  
Did the dealer ask you to sign new financing papers? Yes ☐ No ☐  
Did you feel the new loan terms were no longer satisfactory? Yes ☐ No ☐  
If you had traded in a car in the deal, was the trade-in still available if you wanted to cancel the deal? Yes ☐ No ☐  
g. At the time you were made aware of the interest rate on the car loan, did you feel you could walk away from the deal with no strings attached? Yes ☐ No ☐  
h. Did you feel the cash price for the car was a fair price at the time you bought the car? Yes ☐ No ☐  
After owning the car? Yes ☐ No ☐  
i. If the car was used, have you experienced serious problems with the car that you weren't told about? Yes ☐ No ☐

Other concerns you wish to express about predatory loans:

## CLB-7, A1

Over the past week and a half, CLB-7 deployed its sections in a series of staggered departures from the Combat Center for their seven-month tour in Iraq.

Jessica Barrientos, who watched her husband, Sgt. Vicente Barrientos, depart Feb. 9, said the experience is different for everyone. Barrientos said she came to provide moral support to other spouses and lend support to the battalion.

"I think that it's all about attitude," said the 26-year-old Anaheim, Calif., native, who kept a positive outlook on her second separation from her husband. "If you keep a good attitude, it can make it go easier for you. If you think of it as long and hard and horrible, then that's how it's going to be."

"It's always sad to say goodbye," Barrientos said. "There is always melancholy and it's bittersweet, but he's happy doing what he wants, so you've got to stand behind him."

As the time grew nearer to leave, the Marines checked, accounted for and loaded up their combined thousands of pounds of gear.

Once loaded, Doolin took time to address his Marines and Sailors from atop a Humvee. He left them with a message of accountability, safety, efficiency and to beware the threat of complacency.

"They are ready," said Doolin of his Marines. "They are motivated, they are trained, and they want to get it on out there. It's a great feeling." Doolin departed for Iraq Wednesday with another group of Marines from CLB-7.

Most Marines and Sailors spent their last minutes before boarding the buses with their loved ones, shedding tears, giving long hugs and saying their goodbyes.

Staff Sgt. Andrew Vaughn, one of the supervisors for the evening's departure, wiped tears from the eyes of his wife, Tonja, as well as his own, as he held her.

"We're ready to go," said Vaughn as the call to board the bus came. "It's time to get it started with, get it done with and get back home and bring everyone back with us."

## PREDATORY PAYDAY LENDERS

Ever been involved in the never-ending cycle of debt because you fell prey to "payday lenders" either on the Internet or at one of many off-base locations? The form on the left is a survey. The information collected from this survey is in response to Section 579 of the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2006, to be used in an effort to define the prevalence and impact of predatory lending practices. Responses on the survey shall not contain personal information as described in the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC Section 552a). Take five minutes to complete this survey and play a major role in helping to develop federal legislation that could come to protect you and servicemembers considering payday loans. Turn in completed surveys to the Legal Assistance Office, bldg 1514 or at the Personal Financial Management Program office, Bldg. 1556. For more information contact Legal Assistance, 830-6111 or the PFMP, 830-7342.

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# Free bread!

A Combat Center community member takes a loaf of bread from one of four baskets at the Armed Services YMCA Bread Giveaway, building 696, Feb. 10. Every Friday, the ASYMCA has a large donation of bread available for active duty service members and their families. The giveaway starts at 8:30 a.m. and stays open until the bread is gone. For more information, call 830-7481.

LANCE CRI. REGINA N. ORTIZ



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## SPORT SHORTS

## STEP CLASSES

Step Classes are 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 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

## FEBRUARY IS NATIONAL CHILDREN'S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH

Did you know it's very important for parents to try and make tooth brushing a fun daily event? The Dentists at the Combat Center want to remind you that initially it is not important that a young child has good tooth brushing skills, but rather that they get into the routine of doing it. The skill will come with daily practice. Encourage your children to practice daily, and supervise younger children until they start to get the basics down.

## 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 <http://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.

## OFFICERS SPOUSES CLUB MARDI GRAS

The Officers' Spouses Club's annual Mardi Gras scholarship and grant fundraiser is March 4. Tickets are \$12.50 each and include heavy hors d'oeuvres. Cocktail hour starts at 6 p.m. with a silent auction at 6:30 p.m. and a live auction at 7:30 p.m. You must be 21 or older to attend. Tickets are available at the Officers' Club weekdays until Feb. 28. Call 368-3891 for more information.

## STEAK NIGHTS

Hashmarks SNCO Club and the Officers' Club have Monday Steak Night. 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?

The only man to win a gold medal in both the summer and winter Olympics is American Edward Eagan who won the gold in the 1920 light-heavyweight boxing title and in 1932 as a member of the bobsled team.



CPL. BRIAN A. TUTHILL  
MCAGCC's Lamar Tomblin prepares to make a freethrow.

# MCAGCC on target at varsity basketball games

CPL. BRIAN A. TUTHILL

COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Six varsity basketball teams from the Southwest visited the Combat Center Saturday and Sunday to compete in five games at the West Gym.

Men's and women's varsity teams from Camp Pendleton, Luke Air Force Base and the Combat Center played at the only varsity-level basketball competition to be held here this year.

One reason this is the only time this year the Combat Center will host this event, is because the base is at a disadvantage due to its location, in spite of this, it was good opportunity for the Combat Center's teams to play at home, said Skip Best, Marine Corps Community Services Sports director.

"This was a great weekend of basketball, particularly for our teams to play at home," said Best. "I was very pleased with the efforts of both our men and women's teams."

The four games on Saturday began with the Combat Center's women's team taking on Luke AFB.

MCAGCC took the win, 73-49.

"The Twentynine Palms women's team took a recent set back with the loss of two key players," said Best. "They did themselves proud this weekend with their efforts against two of the better military teams on the West coast."

Game two featured men's teams from Camp Pendleton and Luke AFB, which ended in a Camp Pendleton victory, 83-67.

The third game of the day pitted the Luke AFB women's team for their second game against the undermanned Camp Pendleton females. To fill the holes in the roster, Combat Center women stepped up to play, but Luke still walked away with a 78-66 win.

Saturday's final game was between MCAGCC men and Luke AFB. The game had some on the edge of their seats until the buzzer sounded with MCAGCC on top for a final score of 90-76.

"Today Luke had already played a game," said Miguel Bridges, head coach for MCAGCC's women's team and a player on the men's team. "They were tired, so we knew we had an advantage. Especially we as Marines, we're always running and pushing the ball."

The varsity league is much different from the intramural sport, said Bridges, who is also an intramural league basketball player.

"In particular, is it's much more organized and practiced where intramural is just coming out and playing ball, almost like street ball," said Bridges.

For Spencer Rutledge, coach and player for the MCAGCC men's team, his team's wins this weekend were a sign of progress made.

"This showed that we are getting better as a team and that our wins were not a fluke," said Rutledge. "It's always nice to play at home, too."

The final installment Sunday morning again showcased the skills of MCAGCC's men's team against Camp Pendleton.

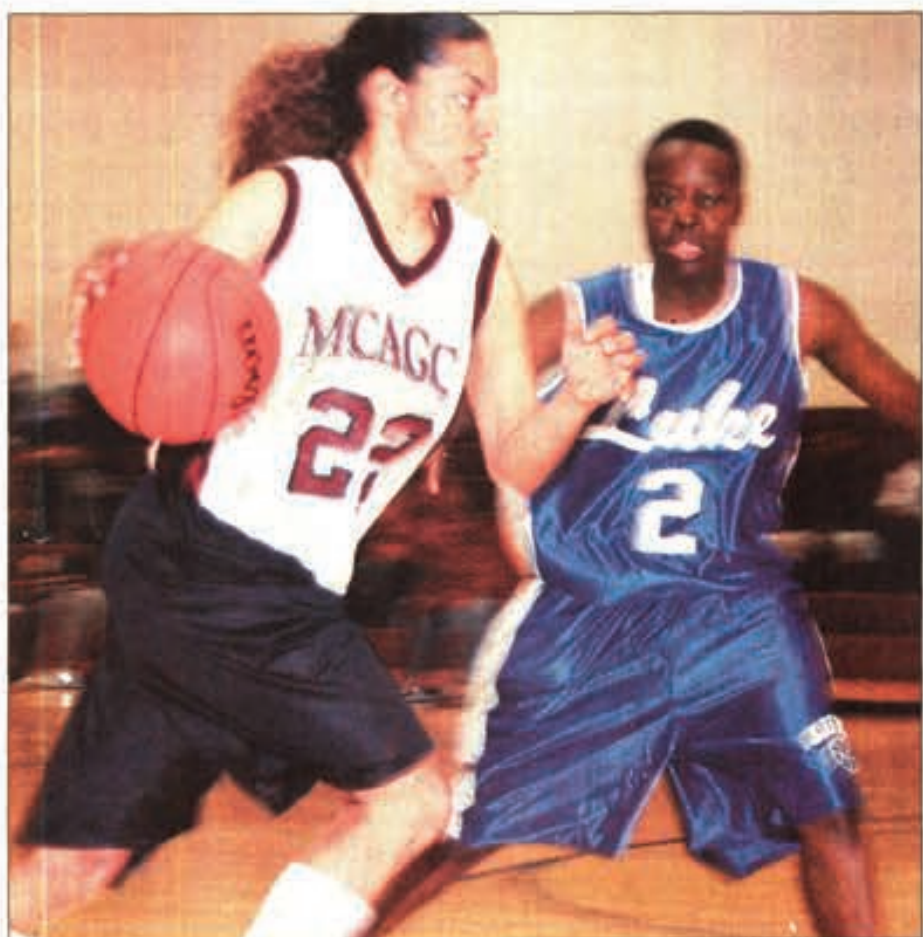
After an arduous road to victory, MCAGCC prevailed, 97-89.

"It just goes to show you that you just can't take anybody for granted, especially Twentynine Palms," said Bridges.

Both MCAGCC men's and women's teams will travel to the University of Arizona to take part in the National Intramural Sports Association Western Regional Basketball Championship March 3-5.



CPL. BRIAN A. TUTHILL  
Camp Pendleton's Ashley Lawless moves the ball down court.



CPL. BRIAN A. TUTHILL  
MCAGCC's Deniece Newton dribbles past a Luke Air Force Base defender.



CPL. BRIAN A. TUTHILL  
Ashley Lawless of Camp Pendleton makes a jump shot from inside the three-point line against Luke Air Force Base.



# OEF unites spouses at Valentine's Day party



LANCE CPL. REGINA N. ORTIZ

Goody bags were given to each guest, filled with candy, a water bottle, heart stamps, a mini-notebook, a heart key chain and a decorative "Love" pin.



LANCE CPL. REGINA N. ORTIZ

Michelle Awtry, left, and Carole Turner dance during the Operation Enduring Families Valentine's Day Party.

LANCE CPL. REGINA N. ORTIZ  
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

It was ladies' night at the Combat Center's Officer's Club Saturday with more than 60 women attending Operation Enduring Families' Valentine's Day Party for food, drinks, karaoke and dancing.

Tickets were sold in advance and at the door for \$5 each. Goody bags were given to each guest, filled with candy, a water bottle, heart stamps, a mini-notebook, a heart key chain and a decorative "Love" pin.

There were also raffle tickets sold for \$1 each to enter a drawing to win one of the 12 prizes. The prizes included body lotion, a body spray and wash set, candles, a crystal vanity set, assorted purses, jewelry and watches. A raffle ticket was drawn every 10 minutes until all prizes were won.

Guests ate from an assortment of sandwiches, veggie and fruit trays and had a strawberry covered chocolate cake for dessert.

Island Breeze Productions in Twentynine Palms provided a disc jockey, Sam Guerrero, to keep the ladies dancing to songs such as the "Electric Slide", the "Macarena" and the "Chicken Dance".

Karaoke was also sung throughout the night. For one song, more than 10 spouses of 3rd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, joined together and filled the stage for their performance.

Half the crowd donned pajamas, while others preferred to use the night out as a reason to dress-up. No matter what they decided to wear, smiles were seen everywhere.

"It's real important to keep yourself busy and have fun even

though your husband is deployed," said Joy M. Froio, a 24-year-old native of Phoenix. "It's better than sitting at home by yourself letting all your worries be all you can think of."

Joy's husband, Lance Cpl. Jeremy Froio, 3rd Bn., 7th Marines, has been deployed three times since he enlisted three years ago. The couple has only been married three years as well, she said.

"We're still practically newly-weds," said Froio. "But I've gotten used to him deploying. I've learned how to accept the fact he might not come home, and I'm ok with it. He loves what he does, and I love him, so I support him no matter what."

Marine Corps Community Services Operation Enduring Families was developed as a way to collaborate the efforts of the services and programs available to the families of deployed Marines and Sailors. The program aims to provide support for the needs of the families left behind, said Daisy Dedeaux, director, MCCS.

"Happy families make for happy Marines and Sailors," she explained. "OEF goes over and above our other services to keep spouses engaged in the community and be part of a family."

Operation Enduring Families sponsors a series of events and classes. But while other MCCS programs focus more on basic needs such as counseling, financial help, and team building skills, OEF is an expansion of that by providing fun ways to pass the time, said Dedeaux.

"It's real important to come together on these special holidays you would normally spend as a couple," she added.

For more information on any MCCS programs for families of deployed service members, call 830-6344.



LANCE CPL. REGINA N. ORTIZ

The spouses of deployed Marines do the "Electric Slide".

**Cinema 6**  
MOVIE TIMES 365-9633  
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<b>8 Below</b> (PG) Fri-Sun: 2:15 • 4:30 • 6:45 • 9:00 Mon-Th: 2:30 • 4:45 • 7:00	<b>Final Destination 3</b> (R) Fri-Sun: 2:15 • 4:30 • 6:45 • 9:00 Mon-Th: 3:30 • 4:45 • 7:00	<b>The Pink Panther</b> (PG) Fri-Sun: 2:15 • 4:30 • 6:45 • 9:00 Mon-Th: 2:30 • 4:45 • 7:00
<b>Firewall</b> (PG-13) Fri-Sun: 2:15 • 4:30 • 6:45 • 9:00 Mon-Th: 2:30 • 4:45 • 7:00	<b>Sunday Feb. 26th FREE Military Day</b>	ADULTS \$7.50 SENIORS \$5.50 CHILDREN \$5.50 ALL SHOWS BEFORE 6:00 PM \$5.50 www.Cinema6Theatre.com

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## Visiting Nurses Program brings healthcare to homes

LANCE CPL. REGINA N. ORTIZ  
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Since its beginning, the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society has been concerned with the lack of adequate medical care and facilities for the families of service members. Navy and Marine Corps families were not allowed to be treated by Naval hospitals because of laws that only an Act of Congress could change.

In 1922, the Parris Island, S.C., Navy Relief Society requested approval of a resident nurse to be hired and available to families to perform duties and make home visits. The idea was almost immediately approved and Nell Watson was hired as the first visiting nurse of the Visiting Nurses Program.

In its early years, the Visiting Nurse's position was not held steadily at most bases and lacked documented organization. But since the 1950s, the program became more professional and developed standardization for the practices provided.

The duties of a visiting nurse were listed in the 1951 Manual for Auxiliaries:

- Follow-up visits as directed by the medical officer on patients discharged from the hospital to render services indicated by the Medical Officer
- Follow-up visits on patients confined to bed at home, as directed by the medical officer
- Home visits to mothers of newborn infants to assist and instruct them in carrying out the care and feeding of the babies (an example would be demonstration of a baby bath)
- Giving inoculations and vaccinations at the home of patients or at designated centers when not available or practical for patients to obtain them otherwise
- Transportation to dispensary or hospital for emergency cases when other transportation is not available

Fifty-five years later, the visiting nurses still have the same duties, and are only a call away, instead of requiring a recommendation from a medical officer, said Lisa Geduld, visiting nurse, Combat Center Navy Marine Corps Relief Society.

Geduld, a native of Hackensack, N.J., has been the Combat Center's visiting nurse for more than 11 years.

The demographics of the area determine what kind of care the visiting nurse will provide, she explained.

"Here, at the Combat Center, we have a lot more young couples and first-time parents," said Geduld. "I do a lot of home visits to weigh babies to ensure proper growth and development."

Geduld also provides professional advice for diaper rash, teething, crying, skin care, sibling issues and safety-proofing the child's environment. Geduld is available for quick referencing on any type of childcare, she said.

"Most people in the military, or married to a military member, are far away from their own families," she explained. "It's scary to have a sick child and have nowhere to turn to for questions."

For Geduld, her role as a visiting nurse means much more than providing information. She is there to listen, she said.

"I've helped patients that have gone through a miscar-

riage or loss in their family and postpartum depression," said Geduld. "I've been able to relate with most of them because of my own experiences as a mother."

Geduld is used as a quick reference by most of the new parenting programs aboard the base. Through her own experiences and education, she is able to answer questions or knows where to look to find them, she said.

"I always stress education," she said. "Times have changed and the more you know about current medical care, the better you can care for you and your family."

Geduld is available to anyone associated with the military, whether they are on active duty, reserve duty, retired, or a family member or widow of a service member.

For the elderly, Geduld is available to deliver medications, do blood pressure assessments, and most regular nurses duties, she said.

"I look forward to coming to work everyday, knowing I'm going to touch at least one person," she continued. "That's the first reason anyone becomes a registered nurse, to help people."

Geduld can be found at the Village Center, building 1551, or call 830-7451 for more information.

## Tanks leaves tracks over MCCES 2, 54-46

### Naval Hospital on the mend

CPL. BRIAN A. TUTHILL  
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

The squeak of shoes, the rhythmic thud of the ball, the swish of the net and a really loud buzzer means that more basketball was played aboard the Combat Center Monday night.

The eighth set of three games in the Commanding General's Intramural Basketball League was held at the West Gym as six teams passed, shot and dribbled toward a chance for victory.

The evening began with the top-rated Headquarters Battalion Team 1 facing Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School Team 1. HQBN 1 took the win, 75-62.

In the second game of the evening, MCCES 2's 46 points were not enough to counter 1st Tank Battalion's 54.

"This wasn't an easy game by any means," said Tanks head coach William Harvey. "They have some pretty talented players, some big players and they have come a long way since the beginning of the season. They are not to be underestimated."

The Tanks and MCCES 2 match up began with Tanks taking a small lead in the opening minutes, but MCCES 2 never trailed by more than a few baskets. Both teams scored nearly point-for-point and used most of the shot clock before attempting shots.

As halftime approached, MCCES 2 held their own as they brought the score to within one point of Tanks. Both teams stole the ball from each other frequently, but MCCES 2 kept it close until the halftime buzzer sounded and rested the score at 22-21 with Tanks leading.

"I think the entire first half we came out pretty flat," said Harvey. "We just weren't motivated and didn't have the intensity. I think we had the feeling that we could come out and win it easily."

After words of encouragement from the coaches, players spent the remainder of halftime reviewing plays, practicing shots and taking a breather.

It was Tanks who delivered the first blow as the second half began, taking the lead at 30-24.

Although the ball remained predominantly on the MCCES 2 side of the court, Tanks seemed to have trouble taking it to the hole.

"In the second half we came out and played man-to-man and pressured the ball, but they did the same right back to us," Harvey said.

That pressure was the cause of many missed opportunities for both sides as each failed to score, locking the board at 36-27, while five minutes melted off the clock.



CPL. BRIAN A. TUTHILL  
Daryl W. Taylor, MCCES 2, reaches over Tank's Darius Cook for the ball.

"We could have done better this week if more people came to practice," said Bruce Woolley, Tanks' power forward. "We did well in the second half only because we started playing like a team."

As Tanks took a 12-point lead, 46-34, MCCES 2 countered by snatching rebounds and sinking a few three-pointers. With less than one minute on the clock and an eight-point deficit, MCCES 2 could not muster a comeback.

The game ended at 54-46.

"We just took care of the ball better and made better passes, that's all," said Harvey. "We tried to slow the game down a little bit at the end — we wore the clock to our advantage."

The final game featured the Robert E. Bush Naval Hospital's win over HQBN 2, 66-45, which came after Hospital's loss last week to MCCES 1.

The next set of games will be held Thursday at the West Gym beginning at 5:30 p.m.

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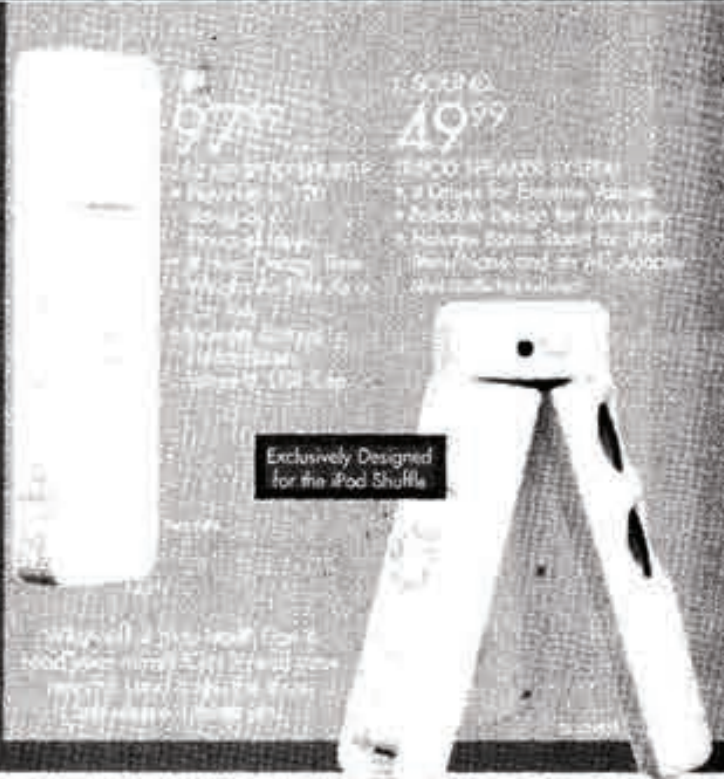
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**'91 FORD RANGER XLT** - 4WD, long bed P/U, 4.0 V6

w/ 4sp. O.D., A/C, tinted windows, cruise, power windows and door locks, slider rear window, hitch. Pioneer AM/FM cassette deck w/ 12 disc CD changer, amp, sub. Only 60,000 orig. miles, 2nd owner, \$5,200 OBO. Call 760-367-4690 or 760-217-5474. 2/10/06

**'83 CAMARO** - 6 cyl., black, rebuilt engine, rebuilt transmission, new tires, runs good, \$4,000. Call 760-406-1569. 2/3/06

**'02 HARLEY-DAVIDSON** - FLSTF Fat Boy, carburated, non-California rated, 10,000 plus miles, black, aftermarket pipes/grips/levers/mirrors, excellent condition, minor blemishes, all paperwork from servicing, \$17,500 will negotiate. Call 760-819-9208. 2/3/06

**'03 MAZDA PROTEGE** - Great condition, <43,000

miles, leaving country, must sell \$8,500 OBO. Call 760-366-9322, leave message. 2/3/06

**'05 HONDA CRF150F** - Less than 15 hours, must sell \$2,800 OBO. Call 760-819-9353. 2/3/06

**'00 SPECIAL EDITION MIATA** - Must see. \$13,500 OBO. Call 760-218-1364. 2/3/06

**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

## 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.

**MOTEBECANE BIKE** - Unisex, with clips, frame fits 5'4" to 5'6", good bike for beginner triathlete. \$400 OBO. Call 362-4812.

**GAS DRYER** - Kenmore heavy-duty gas dryer with manuals. In excellent condition, \$60 OBO. Kitchen rug 8 X 11, like new, \$25. Call 361-3686. 2/10/06

**STROLLER** - In Step Safari - TT double jogging stroller, blue. Never used, \$175 for a \$300 stroller. Call 368-0552. 2/10/06

**WORKOUT EQUIPMENT** - Weider 3200 Pro Home Gym \$150, Nordic Trak Elliptical Machine \$400. Call 361-7004. 2/10/06

**G.E. WASHER AND DRYER** - Almond color, \$150. Call 361-7004. 2/10/06

**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

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.

## 223 ROOMS & RENT

**JOSHUA TREE**

**RENTAL WEEKLY**

**225 VACATION RENTALS**

**YUCCA VALLEY**

FOR rent, turn key luxury vacation rental, jacuzzi, exercise room, lots of extras. \$1,700/mo. + \$1,700 dep. 365-3998

**235 WANTED SHARE**

**29 PALMS**

SHARE 3+2, you get 2 bdrms+full house use, discount for Marines, I'm hardly home, util & phone included, \$640/mo, 760-362-3077

**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**

78 year old man needs occasional rides to doctors etc. local & P.S., need valid DL, ins. & ref's, \$7/hr 218-2941 leave msg

ACCEPTING applications for: Sales Associates, Custodians, Laborer, Recreation Attendant, CDC Program Assistant, Housekeeper, Desk Clerk & Finance Center Cashier. Send Application/Resume to: MARINE CORPS Community Services MCAGCC Box 788150 29 Palms, CA 92277, view all jobs at [www.29palms.usmc.mccs.org](http://www.29palms.usmc.mccs.org) FAX 760-830-8820

ADMINISTRATIVE Assistant-part time to eventual full time, needs strong computer skills, and bookkeeping/accounting exp., pay based on exp. Call Jon, 363-1136

CABINET maker & plumber for new construction wanted. Must have exp., work locally. Call 366-5327

## 300 HELP WANTED

CABINET maker wanted. Must have exp., work locally. Call 366-5327

CAREGIVER, YV, exp., for handicapped businessman, personal care, cooking, light housekeeping, references, 447-4117

CHILD care assistant/ preschool teacher needed for family child-care home, exp., fingerprints, & CPR req'd., Kelly 365-7561

COMMERCIAL, Residential & Service Depts. are hiring foreman, journeyman electrician & laborers, exp. depends on position. Drivers lic. & reliable trans. req'd., Calif. journeyman card (if applicable). Competitive pay rates, pd. time off & holidays. Med., dental & vision ins. and retirement accts. Call Brana (760) 320-4429 or fax resume to (760) 323-3302

CONCRETE Finisher, experienced only, zero tolerance, Parker Concrete (760) 401-3233  
DANCERS wanted. No nudity. Make big \$\$\$! Flexible hours. Amateurs welcome. Leave msg. (760) 363-7266  
DJ wanted. Only crowd pleasers need apply. Leave msg. (760) 363-7266

DOCTOR'S office in 29P needs help with front and back office. Mail resume to Box 984, Yucca Valley, Ca, 92286

**DRIVER PAID TRAINING**  
Great Pay & Benefits No Experience nec. **ROBERTSON'S** 1-888-498-JOBS (5627)

ELECTRICIAN wanted min 3 years exp. Contact 228-2640  
ELECTRICIAN: Certified residential journeyman, Full-time w/benefits. 364-4201

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

## 300 HELP WANTED

EXPERIENCED bartender & waitress needed, apply at JT Saloon, 366-2250

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

FT retail/sales position, Must be 18 or older, Apply in person at Yellow Mart 56845 29 Palms Hwy.

**Heating & Air Conditioning Installers & Service Tech's.** Exp'd. Benefits. Call 365-4242.

**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.katsr-schools.com](http://www.katsr-schools.com)

HELP Wanted: Earn up to \$500 per week assembling products at home. No experience. INFO (985) 646-1700 DEPT CA-504

HOME Health Care provider for hospice patient. Private residence in 29 Palms. CNA duties a plus. Call Karen 8am-4pm @ (760) 362-1988

HORSE care & ranch maintenance. Live-in quarters, horse exp., vehicle & some income a must. (760) 363-1273  
IMMEDIATE opening for a Hairdresser. Apply in person Adobe House of Style, 6235 Adobe Rd 29Palms.

LANDERS cabinet shop needs exp'd help. "Jonathan call me". 364-3268 or 364-4865.

LEGAL Secretary wanted in progressive 29 Palms office. Min. 2 yrs exp. Full or part time. Call 361-1223

## 300 HELP WANTED

LIFE Insurance Sales High compensation. Leads, training, immediate consideration call Stephen (951) 699-3080 x 108

LOOKING for receptionist w/exp. in medical office. Bilingual a plus, experience a must! Offering medical benefits. Please bring resume to 7024 Airway Ave, Suite D, YV

NEED Lot Attendant, Mon-Fri, drivers license req'd. Apply in person 4082 Adobe Rd 29P. Call (760)361-5000

NOW hiring all crew and management positions. Taco Bell Express MCAGCC 29 Palms. Apply within. Call Sharon/Brian (760) 368-1300

NOW hiring all positions Barr Lumber 29 Palms 6854 Adobe Rd. and Yucca Valley 7054 Old Woman Springs Rd. Apply in person.

OFFICE Manager, basic accounting and Quick Books Pro exp. needed. Fax resume 363-9163

OVER 62? Need additional cash each month? If you own a home, we can do a reverse mortgage! **Susan King-Home Savings Mortgage** 228-2076

PHLEBOTOMIST or MA to draw blood. 8-5, in Yucca Valley (951) 845-3830

PLUMBERS: Why drive far to work, when work is here in the Morongo Basin? Growing Co. needs Exp. Plumbers in new construction, xnt benefits, now hiring, call 365-7680

RECEPTIONIST w/Medical Assistant & CPSP experience-Bilingual a plus, submit resume to Morongo Basin OB/GYN @ 57445 29 Palms Hwy, Suite 301 (Airway) or fax 365-1406 Attn. Lisa

**300 HELP WANTED**

## 300 HELP WANTED

RETAIL, PT merchandiser for glasses & jewelry. Local. Flex hrs, 8 per mo. Contact: lbrysha@fgxi.com or 1-800-283-3090 x5446

TACO Bell is now hiring for general manager & assistant manager, restaurant exp. preferred. Will train. Call Sunny (714) 777-0036

**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

WANTED tile installer. Call (760) 366-8100

WANTED Nurse Practitioner for urgent care, nutritional and anti-aging medicine center. Ask for Linda 366-7489

WELDER FABRICATOR/ MACHINIST, exp. in detailed projects mandatory. Fax resume to: 363-9163

WILLIAMS Insurance Service seeks full-time insurance agent. Experience preferred but will train the right person. \$10/hr plus benefits to start. Email resume to dee@wisservice.com

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

## 305 KIDS CLASSIFIEDS

16 yr old needs work doing house cleaning, babysitting, dog sitting, yd work. Call 361-0839

**300 HELP WANTED**

## 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.

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.

## 310 WORK WANTED

CAREGIVER for elderly, 25 yrs. exp. I come highly recommended w/ ref's. (760) 366-3532  
HANDYMAN: plumbing, elect., & auto repair. Tree cutting, 366-4697 or 368-7233, Jim

**For Classifieds & Legals**

**365-3315**

**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

## 305 KIDS CLASSIFIEDS

16 yr old needs work doing house cleaning, babysitting, dog sitting, yd work. Call 361-0839

**300 HELP WANTED**

**300 HELP WANTED**

**EXP. FURNITURE FINISHER**

Knowledge of finish materials and application techniques primary. Photos or examples of past projects a plus. Competitive wages and benefits. **MUELLER TURNER COMPANY** 54465 Twentynine Palms Hwy Yucca Valley, Ca Phone: (760) 369-3690 Fax: (760) 369-3691

**300 HELP WANTED**

**300 HELP WANTED**

**BANKING**

WHEN you work for Union Bank of California, you can expect more than a great career. You can expect opportunities and challenges - and the training and development to meet them. You'll be joining a bank with a 130 year history, a strong foundation, and a commitment to its employees and customers.

**Financial Services Specialist**

Our Yucca Valley branch is seeking a Financial Services Specialist with 3 or more years experience in banking operations/ customer services. 2+ years direct experience in consumer financial products, excellent verbal and written communication skills, and PC proficiency are also required.

For consideration, please apply at 57500 Twentynine Palms Highway, Yucca Valley, 92284 EOE M/F/D/V

## 400 ANNOUNCEMENTS

**FREE Dental hygiene services.** Cleaning, X-Rays, fluoride treatments, ect. performed by student at SJVC. Please call Jennifer C. For an appt. 992-6373

**Services 400-499**

**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 so indicated in their advertising.

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

Unlicensed contractors should also be indicated in their advertising.

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

**Hi-Desert Publishing Co.**

**300 HELP WANTED**

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**Services 400-499**

**Services Offered Policy**



## 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

Subscribe Today!!!  
The Desert Trail 367-3577  
Hi-Desert Star 365-3315

## 403 BOARD &amp; CARE

AASPEN VILLAGE CARE  
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# 366410681

DESERT ROSE ELDER CARE  
Assisted Living for Seniors  
Best in care. Best in service!  
73511 Sunnyvale Dr 29 Palms  
Contact Shari or Kathy  
(760) 367-9175  
Lic# 366404072

HIDESIDE 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

## 400 ANNOUNCEMENTS

FSSI  
FIELD SUPPORT SERVICES

Housing maintenance provider in support of  
MCAGCC - Vista Del Sol Housing

We are announcing that we have moved to  
73660 Homestead Dr. in the city of 29 Palms

Our new phone number for maintenance services & also for emergency services is  
(760) 361-1086

Our hours are from 7:00am to 3:30pm & sell help items will be available from 9:30am to 3:30pm Monday-Friday

## 635 RV's

## we want your rv

LET US CONSIGN YOUR  
Travel Trailers, 5th Wheels &  
Motorhomes, Horse Trailers,  
Flat Bed Trailers, Cargo Trailers  
& Car Haulers



IDEAL  
Location on 29 Palms Hwy!!  
WE SELL IT FAST...

## YUCCA VALLEY CHRYSLER

55288 29 PALMS HWY, YUCCA VALLEY  
(760) 228-1818  
HOURS: Monday-Friday 8-7  
Saturday 9-6 • Sunday 10-5

## 410 FAMILY &amp; CHILD CARE

BLOWOUT CLEARANCE SALE!  
40-60% discounts in  
children's clothing!  
www.magickidsusa.com  
Mention code  
MK18311

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

## 415 FINANCIAL

PRIVATE parties paying 10% interest secured by 1st trust deeds (760) 325-7794

## 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.atsn-achops.com

## 435 SERVICES

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

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

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IDEAL  
Location on 29 Palms Hwy!!  
WE SELL IT FAST...

## YUCCA VALLEY CHRYSLER

55288 29 PALMS HWY, YUCCA VALLEY  
(760) 228-1818  
HOURS: Monday-Friday 8-7  
Saturday 9-6 • Sunday 10-5

## 435 SERVICES

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

ATTENTION Lawyers! MG Courier can do your Court Filings. 369-4270

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

CONCRETE, Landscaping 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. # 702627

CONSTRUCTION T. T. Wolf Construction block - brick - wood patios, decks, retaining walls & fences. www.ttwolfconstruction.com (760) 400-3325

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. #296655

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

CONSTRUCTION, Home Improvement. No job too small! Specializing in Drywall. Call Hamm Construction (760) 365-0949 Lic#64360

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

CONSTRUCTION, Serving the Morongo Basin Since 1984. Goodpastor Construction (760) 228-1985 Lic#80172

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. # 258270

DRYWALL, Drywall, tape, texture, acoustic, patch work, custom textures. Sunrise Drywall Lic. #888088 365-3525

DRYWALL, A Wizard of Walls. Drywall, ceilings, acoustic, textures, stucco repair, painting & roofing. (760) 364-1907. unlic.

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

## 435 SERVICES

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, storing. Pay 4 X's face value. Call Quality Coins (760) 365-8991

ETHERIDGE construction, septic systems, grading, gravel, house pads, land clearing, 898-5582 Lic#620003

FENCING Applied Fencing Inc., 24 yrs. exp. Custom fencing, enclosures & automated entry systems. Free estimates. 366-0101, Lic. #832834

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. #940130

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.

HANDYMAN Try Us Handymen No job 2 big or 2 small Call Art 364-4884 Senior & Military Disc.

HANDYMAN, Free estimates. Prompt reliable service. Call Hub-bards for Rent. @ 365-3438 or (760) 218-8567 unlic.

HANDYMAN, Call Henry's your #1 confident handyman. Lic#779988 (760) 362-5491

HANDYMAN, Home Maintenance & Repair. See Business Directory for more info. KMS Services 369-0521

HANDYMAN, one call does it all! General home repair, custom sheds & door installation. Call Ed Kennedy 365-2177

HAULING ??? Busy Husband ??? Gar. cleaning, hauling & odd jobs. Low rates for seniors. Free Estimates Call (760) 401-2719

HAULING- Trash & debris removal from homes, garages, yards & construction sites. Reasonable rates. Call 365-0016 or (760) 408-4334

HOUSE Cleaning Honest & Reliable. Serving the Desert since 1994. Call Denise's Desert Dusters (760) 365-1967

LAURIE WHITE House Cleaning



• Reasonable Rates  
• Free Estimates  
• Oneday  
• Weekly  
• Monthly  
Call  
(760) 366-7330 or  
Cell (951) 852-0552

LANDSCAPE: contractor w/ over 15 yrs of designing & installation of all types of commercial & residential landscaping 362-5491 Lic. #277095

LANDSCAPING Clear it Away Landscaping, Commercial and Residential landscaping at a low rate. Call for your free quote. 366-3435 or 365-4083

LANDSCAPING, & Maintenance. Weekly & Monthly. Ref's available. Call Alex @ Alvarez Gardening 228-0409 (unlic)

LANDSCAPING, No job too small! Best Quality & Lowest Prices. Call Bill's Landscaping (760) 365-7964 Lic#785593

TREE Service Free Estimates! Call Dee Bee Tree service (760) 228-1922 Lic# 535741

## 435 SERVICES

LANDSCAPING/TREE 15 years. exp. Tree trimming/removal & yd cleaning. Senior Disc. Free estimates. Call Top Notch Tree Service, 369-1950 unlic.

MASONRY, Brick, Block, Stone, Tile, and Concrete. A little more money for a lot more quality. Elam Masonry (760)365-6251 Lic. #823651 B-C-29

MASONRY, Stone Mason, counters, ceramic tile, showers, fountains, firs & fireplaces. Call Johnny Donovan (760) 668-9886 (unlic)

NEED Kerosene, MG Courier has it! 369-4270

NOW OPEN! Chinese Caddis Massages 5910 Adobe Rd. #D: 29Palms 760-361-0928

PAINTING, 35 yrs. exp. Quality Work Guaranteed up to 1 yr. Call Dominic's Custom house painting Lic#748860 365-1895

PAINTING, also offering home inspections & handyman services for sellers. Call Classic Painting 369-2351 or (760) 898-2588 Lic. #454549

PAINTING, Concrete restoration, acid staining, custom painting, garage floor finishes. Zebra Concrete Coatings & Painting. (760) 401-0650 Lic#429537

PLUMBING Jack's Plumbing servicing the Desert area since 1993. "No job too small" 228-1215. Lic#720014

PLUMBING Service - 24 hr., Ipex plastic pipe certified. Y.V. Landers, Johnson Valley, J.T. & Morongo (760) 464-1518

PLUMBING, drain cleaning & gas lines. Low prices, free estimates. Call Accustom Plumbing. (760) 217-2622 unlic.

POOL Repair: Free estimates, salt systems, acid washes, remodels, and more! 333-1588 or 366-7781

PRINTING, Copies, color or copies, calendars, business printing. Self service copies or professionally prepared for you by your friends at Valley Independent Printing & Copy Center. 365-6967

PROFESSIONAL window & mirror cleaning, residential & commercial. 365-2776 or 662-9544

ROOFING - All types. Call Mike @ 369-0200 Lic. #571085

ROOFING Repairs & Maintenance is our specialty! Roof certification A & N Roof Co. 365-9885 Lic#576241

ROOFING REPAIRS Tile, shingles, tar & gravel. 20 yrs exp. Call Tom "If I can't do it no one can" (760) 780-2540. (unlic)

SCREENING Onsite mobile screening service, serving the entire Morongo Basin! Windows, doors, patios. ScreenMobile 369-4053

SCREENS: Hunters Mobile Screen, free est., door & window repair, fast friendly Mobile service, 953-9704

TELEPHONE installation & repair, business & residential. See Business Directory ad or call 365-3609 or 343-3700

THE Chimney Sweep & Stone Mason-See ad in Business Directory or call (760) 219-1398

TOOL REPAIR Small engine repair, generators, compressors, chainsaws, repairs and more. Call (760) 228-0360 D & B Tool Repair

TRACTOR work, backhoe, trenching, grading, septic tanks, leach lines, now installation & repair. Ask for Sam 366-8154 Lic#81009

TREE Services, landscaping & house-cleaning, concrete serv., free estimates, 485-9166 or 368-7209

TRENCHING & Backhoe Service Foundations, septic systems, irrigation, retaining walls, post holes. Call AJM Custom Trenching & Backhoe Service. 365-3012 or (760) 553-4229 (unlic)

WATER Truck & Backhoe Service Foundations, septic systems, irrigation, retaining walls, post holes. Call AJM Custom Trenching & Backhoe Service. 365-3012 or (760) 553-4229 (unlic)

WINDOW/GLASS Finance avail. Custom replacement windows, wood, vinyl, aluminum. United Glass & Door/ Yucca Valley Minor & Glass. 365-8302

WINDOWS, Residential & commercial. Xlnt ref's. Call Steven @ Rightway Window Cleaning. 364-3678 or 401-1754 cell unlic.

EVERYDAY till gone! Autos, boats, trailers, furn, sinks, doors, windows, too much to mention. Yucca Mesa/Mesa Dr. 369-4404/534-1951

GARAGE Sale 2-18, Sat., furn., cook books, misc. 56388 Carlyle Dr.

GARAGE sale, 2-18, 8am-3pm, furn. & misc items, 6845 Pioneer-town Rd. YV

## 435 SERVICES

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

## GENERAL POLICY

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

Hi-Desert Publishing Co.



Merchandise 500-599

## 505 ARTS &amp; ANTIQUES

GRANDPA'S COURTYARD (760) 365-8999

## 520 BARGAIN COUNTER

ENGINE stand, \$75, sand blaster approx 10 gal. \$155 774-0021

## 530 FURNITURE

GRANDPA'S COURTYARD (760) 365-8999

## 533 GARAGE SALE

Need Extra Money? Have a garage sale! Get 6 lines of advertisement in 5 editions and a sign package for only \$18 Call 367-3577 today and place your ad! Special expires 2/28/06

## 29 PALMS

29 Palms, Sat Feb 18, 7:30-11:30, 72755 Larrea Ave. TV, blenders, misc hshld, jeans, furn, gardening items

EAS MOVING SALE 2 glass top display tbls, lg dog kennels, 0-4 kids items, 2 patio swings, ba, rm & kit, items. 2/18 @ 7am-noon 5901 Aztec #200

YARD sale, Sat & Sun 2/18-19 8am-? 6039 Encelia X St El Paseo 29 Palms. Everything from dishes to furn!!

YUCCA MESA

YARD sale Saturday @ 8am-2pm only. We've got a little bit of everything. 4124 Palm Ave. on Mesa, X-st OWS, 1/2 mile before Aberdeen, look for signs.

YARD Sale, Fri. Feb. 17- Sun. 19th, 7a-3p, lots of items, 58684 Oleander Dr. Yucca mesa Area Xst Indio

## YUCCA VALLEY

ESTATE sale 61745 Wt Reposo Circle, mostly furniture, some misc. Feb. 17, 9-4, Feb. 18, 9-2 no early birds.

EVERYDAY till gone! Autos, boats, trailers, furn, sinks, doors, windows, too much to mention. Yucca Mesa/Mesa Dr. 369-4404/534-1951

GARAGE Sale 2-18, Sat., furn., cook books, misc. 56388 Carlyle Dr.

GARAGE sale, 2-18, 8am-3pm, furn. & misc items, 6845 Pioneer-town Rd. YV

## 533 GARAGE SALE

Henderon furn., automobile parts, clothing, shoes, dolls, motorcycle parts, something for everyone, Fri. & Sat. 8-1p, 7690 Joshua Ln

MOVING retired contractor selling tools and misc items. Fri & Sat 7a-4p, 7572 Shawnee Tr. Xst Santa Fe & Onaga.

MOVING sale, Fri. & Sat. only 8-5. lg sofa \$75, oak entertainment unit \$50, twin bed \$35, walnut free standing cabinet \$30, white bookcase \$10, misc cookware & glassware. 7425 Church Sp# 46 369-1616

MOVING/YARD sale, for this weekend & next weekend, Fri. Sat & Sun. 9-5, 5060 Faith Ln

## MULTI FAMILY SALE

Fri & Sat @ 8a-2p. 55925 Deset Gold Dr. Xst Acorna.

SAT only 8-2, kids toys, clothes & etc., kitchen, electronics, record albums, 58298 Arcadia Tr. So. of Yucca Trl off Hanford

SAT, only, tools, stones, railroad ties, applic., S on OWS to E on Buena Vista, S. on Balsa, Sierra Vista E, 58384 Sierra Vista Dr.

## 540 LIVESTOCK

Special (oat wheat, barley mix) barn stored \$12.45/bail (no more 'till summer) Dunham's 228-1064 Delivery avail. Open Sat & Sun. only, 8-3 also antique farm tool yard decorations

Yucca Valley Equestrian Center •Rental •Boarding •Lessons •Training 365-4433

## 545 LOST &amp; FOUND

FOUND brown & white Husky type puppy Ca-huilla & El Paseo 29 Palms Feb 7, 361-0839







# 29 Palms

Give Us A Chance!

*The Giant* **Yucca Valley #1 Chrysler Centers**

The Only Full Service Pre-Owned Dealership in 29 Palms  
Full Parts Dept. • Chrysler 5-Star Certified Tech.

99 FORD EXPLORER SPORT UTILITY 2D

XL, A/C, PS, PW, PDL, TLT, CC, ROOF RACK, PRIVACY GLASS, TOW PKG. #P4283



**\$5,888.88**

02 KIA SPORTAGE

A/C, PS, PW, PDL, AM/FM STEREO, DUAL FRONT AIR BAGS #P4208



**\$9,888.00**

01 CHEVY SILVERADO

A/C, PS, 2WD, 4.8LITR #P4176A



**SOLD**

02 PONTIAC BONNEVILLE SE

VEA/C, PS, PW, PDL, TLT, CC #P4212



**\$10,888.00**

03 TOYOTA TACOMA XTRA CAB

SR5, A/C, PS, AM/FM STEREO, CD, AIRS, BEDLINER, 5 SPD #P334A



**\$10,888.88**

02 BUICK REGAL LS

A/C, PS, PW, PDL, TLT, CC, CASSETTE, TRACTION CONTROL #P4186



**\$11,888.00**

99 CADILLAC DEVILLE

LOADED LOADED LOADED #P4217



**\$11,888.00**

03 FORD TAURUS SE SEDAN 4D

A/C, PS, PW, PDL, TLT, CC, ALLOYS, AM/FM STEREO, CASSETTE #P4178



**\$11,888.88**

03 FORD WINDSTAR SE

7 PASSENGER, A/C, THIRD SEAT, & MORE #P418A



**\$12,888.00**

03 PONTIAC MONTANA

8 PASSENGER, A/C, DVD #P4160



**\$12,888.00**

02 CHEVY BLAZER SPORT

W/D, A/C, PS, V6 & MORE #P4233



**SOLD**

03 NISSAN FRONTIER XE KING CAB

LOADED #P4213



**\$13,888.00**

02 BUICK LE SABRE LIMITED

A/C, TLT, CC, CASSETTE, PS, PW, PDL #P4168



**\$13,888.00**

01 PONTIAC FIREBIRD TRANS AM

A/C, PS, PW, PDL, TLT, CC, AM/FM STEREO #P4223



**\$16,888.00**

04 FORD F150 HERITAGE SUPER CAB SHORT BED

XL, A/C, PS, CD, ABS #P41333



**\$16,888.00**

04 DODGE 1500 SHORT BED

A/C, PS, TLT, CASSETTE, DUAL FRONT AIR BAGS #P4222



**SOLD**

05 FORD F150 SHORT BED

XC, A/C, PS, TLT, ABS #P4196A



**\$17,888.00**

04 DODGE DURANGO

SLT, A/C, REAR AIR, SPD SEAT, & MORE #P4193



**\$20,888.00**

03 DODGE RAM 1500 QUAD CAB

SLT, A/C, PS, CUSTOM BUMPER #P4232



**\$21,888.00**

03 GMC SIERRA 1500 EXTENDED CAB SHORT BED

SLT, A/C, PS, PW, PDL, TLT, CC, PREMIUM SOUND, ABS, STEERING WHEEL, TONNEAU COVER #P4191



**\$22,888.00**

**ACTIVE DUTY E-1 & UP...  
YOU'RE GOOD TO GO!  
NO CREDIT -  
BAD CREDIT  
....OK!**

**AND DRIVE HOME TODAY!!!**

*Yucca Valley Chrysler Center*

**29 Palms Store  
(760) 367-1919**

**72878 29 PALMS HWY  
29 PALMS**

**SERVICE DEPARTMENT OPEN  
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
MONDAY THRU FRIDAY**

**SALES DEPARTMENT OPEN  
9:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
MONDAY THRU SATURDAY  
SUNDAY 11 AM - 4 PM**

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