

Serving the MCAGCC
Community at
Twentynine Palms, Calif.

VOL. 52 NO. 42
November 3, 2006



COMIC RELIEF, A1

OBSERVATION POST



SOFTBALL, B1

BULK RATE
U.S. Postage
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THIS ISSUE

A5 - Fall Festival

A8 - 2/7 Takes to Field

B3 - Weed Show

HOT TOPICS

COMMANDANT'S MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY MESSAGE AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP

Combat Camera has the Commandant's Marine Corps Birthday Message available for pick up at building 1653. One DVD is available for each unit.

PHILIPS ROAD REPAVING

The Philips Road repaving project between the tank trail and Camp Wilson is scheduled through Jan. 31. Vehicle traffic to and from Camp Wilson will be diverted to a dirt bypass road that runs parallel to the existing roadway. The entire project will be done in three separate phases. Please be attentive to all traffic control signs.

MOTORCYCLE SAFETY AWARENESS PROGRAM BIKERS' FORUM

The Motorcycle Safety Awareness Program coordinator will conduct a bikers' forum in the Headquarters Battalion classroom, Building 1457, Nov. 7 at 8 a.m. The forum will discuss and clarify MCAGCC motorcycle regulation rumors, the MASP program itself and getting people involved with a MCAGCC motorcycle social "group" that can't be called a "club." For more information, call Sgt Bridges at 819-2270.

SINGLE MARINE PROGRAM ADOPT-A- MARINE/SAILOR

Tom Henry, retired U.S. Army colonel, and World War II veteran from the Desert Veterans Memorial Association wants to sponsor up to 74 Marines and sailors for Thanksgiving. They will send a tour bus and the pick up time will be 9 a.m. at the Zone on Fifth Street. Dress casual and in accordance with Marine Corps and Navy regulations. The bus will drop its passengers off at American Legion Post 519 in Palm Desert where Col. Henry will meet them and match them up with Desert Cities families. Any Marines or sailors interested can call Doug Dougwillo at 830-4SMP.

COMING NEXT ISSUE

- Memorial Mass
- 2/7 FINEX
- Col. Paige School Dedication

THIS DAY IN MARINE CORPS HISTORY

November 3, 1943

A detachment of the 3rd Raider Battalion occupied Torokina Island, Solomon Islands, in support of operations at Bougainville.

3, 2, 1, it's a BOMB!

EOD Technicians keep Marines safe



LANCE CPL. KATELYN A. KNAUER

If ordnance cannot be handled remotely using the Talon Robot, sometimes EOD Technicians are required to work in close proximity and handle unexploded ordnance during different phases of an operation.

LANCE CPL. KATELYN A. KNAUER

COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Bending over a mass of wires with beads of sweat running down his head, and the clock counting down ...3...2 — his hands begin to shake.

Thoughts run through his head. Is it the blue wire or the red?

He clips the red wire and the clock freezes at 1.

It's an all too familiar movie scene with the hero saving the lives of many, as he disassembles a bomb

with one second left and everyone is saved.

The Explosive Ordnance Disposal team in essence does just that. They regularly put their lives on the line to prevent injury or death to others. Their mission is to locate, identify, render safe,

transport and dispose of hazards beyond the normal capabilities of a unit, that pose a threat to personnel, installations or equipment worldwide.

To become an EOD Technician, a Marine must attend an eight month joint military

occupational specialty school at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.

"The school covers principles and theories of explosives, safeties, demolition procedures, tools and methods for conducting 'render

See EOD, A3

1st Tank Battalion celebrates 65th anniversary

LANCE CPL. KATELYN A. KNAUER

COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Marines of 1st Tank Battalion along with Bravo Squadron, 1st Armored Regiment, Australian Army, gathered on Lance Cpl. Torrey L. Gray Field to celebrate the 65th anniversary of the battalion Wednesday.

The battalion, which was activated Nov. 1, 1941, at Camp Lejeune, N.C., as the Marine Corps' first tank battalion had a static display and honored the tankers of the year for each company along with a re-dedication of the battle streamers at the ceremony.

The five tankers recognized were Cpl. Jonathan M. Griffith, Headquarters and Service

Company; Sgt. Bobby L. Sjolander, Company A; Sgt. Steven Guerrero, Company B; Sgt. Thomas K. Heard, Company C; and Cpl. Fernando F. Ruizrojo, Company D.

Because Company A is currently deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Company C is currently on post deployment leave and other operational commitments Sgt. Guerrero and Cpl. Ruizrojo were the only two recipients available for the presentation.

"This battalion has participated in nearly every conflict the Marine Corps has engaged in since World War II," said Tanks Commanding Officer Lt. Col. James B. Stopa.

See TANKS, A10

The battalion participated in:

- Guadalcanal
- New Guinea
- New Britain
- Peleliu
- Okinawa
- Occupation of North China
- Korean War
- Vietnam War
- Gulf War
- Operation Restore Hope
- Operation Iraqi Freedom

For more information on 1st Tank Battalion history go to their Web site at:
<http://www.29palms.usmc.mil/fmf/1sttnks/default.asp>



SGT. ROBERT L. FISHER III

A tank sits in the training area as the sun sets behind it. Marines from 1st Tank Battalion celebrated their 65th birthday Wednesday at Gray Field.

EOD, from A1

safe' procedures," said Gunnery Sgt. Kelly Crawford, EOD operations chief. "Then there's the ground ordnance division, which covers U.S. and foreign ordnance. In your first day of ground ordnance you can learn about more than 60 different hand grenades."

In addition to ground ordnance, Marines learn about U.S. and foreign projectiles, rockets and land mines. Other parts of the school are air ordnance division, which deals with aircraft explosive hazards, such as bombs, dispensers, payloads and guided missiles. Then there's the biological and chemical ordnance division that deals with both U.S. and foreign biological and chemical ammunition. They also learn improvised explosive devices and nuclear ordnance division procedures.

While EOD units are stateside they continuously train both in the classroom and in the field.

"Training consists of the IED defeat one class," said Crawford. "We run the Marines through the IED lanes to give them awareness of what they might see in country, how an IED looks in place, and some of the indicators. We also assist the EOD technicians in developing teamwork concepts. We go over tools and equipment, and demolition and disposal."

While deployed EOD units assist in numerous missions receiving an average of six to 10 calls a day.

"When units are in support of OIF [Operation Iraqi Freedom], their mission is locating, identifying and the rendering safe of roadside bombs, vehicle borne IEDs and IEDs placed throughout country to kill and injure coalition



The Talon Robot is used by EOD Technicians to remotely investigate and neutralize suspected improvised explosive devices.

LANCE CPL. KATELYN A. KNAUER

forces," said Crawford.

Becoming an EOD technician, which is a voluntary MOS, does have certain requirements Marines should look into if they are considering a lateral move into the field.

Marines must be E-3 through E-5. A Marine needs to have a GT score of 110 or better and must be willing to extend or re-enlist to have 36 months of obligated service. A Marine is required to be 21 years of age, eligible for a security clearance, be a U.S. citizen, and have normal color vision and no claustrophobic tendencies. They must also be prescreened by an EOD officer and staff noncommissioned officer, according

to the Marine Administrative Directive 150/05.

While being an EOD technician is a fast-paced job, it is one that can be fulfilling.

"It's extremely rewarding ultimately knowing that what you do saves the lives of Marines and civilians around the world," said Crawford, who has been in the job field for around six years.

While the number of Marines who work with EOD is small, they play a huge part in the big picture of everything. Marines both overseas and stateside rely on these Marines to identify and disassemble bombs placed to prevent them from accomplishing their mission.



Pictured are several projectile fuses that can be found on the battlefield. EOD Technicians must know these fuses well to properly disassemble, dispose and render them safe.

LANCE CPL. KATELYN A. KNAUER

Planning on shipping a package to a deployed Marine or sailor?

If you wait too long, it might be too late.

To send parcel post, which usually takes the longest amount of time, the earliest suggested deadline is Nov. 13.

- For packages sent by Space Available Mail, the deadline is Nov. 27.
- For Parcel Air Lift, the deadline is Dec. 4.
- For Priority Mail and first class cards and letters, the deadline is Dec. 11.
- For APO/FPO AE 093 Zip Code addresses, for areas such as Iraq and Afghanistan, the deadline is Dec. 4.



A little comic relief goes a long way

LANCE CPL. NICOLE A. LAVINE

COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Marine Corps Community Services hosted Combat Comics at the Sunset Cinema Theater Oct. 25.

Admission for the show was free to military personnel, but only those 18 and older with military ID's were allowed to attend due to adult content.

The show featured three rising comedians: George Sanchez, Pete George, and

Jamal Doman. The comedians were sponsored and contracted by Entertainmax.

Each comedian performed for about 20 minutes per show with topics and props of their choice.

The first comedian was George Sanchez, a native of Long Beach, Calif., who recently returned from a performance in Germany in support of deployed troops.

The show featured three rising comedians: George Sanchez, Pete George, and

about what they did and who they were. He cracked-up the crowd by making comments about being Hispanic, among other race-based jokes.

The second comedian, Peter George, highlighted his "learning disability" program he was put on in high school. George was the son of a soldier and got his sense of humor from being the butt of jokes, according to his Web site <http://petegeorge.tv>. He put the crowd in an uproar with his musical tal-

ent on the guitar and accurate impressions of characters like Pee-wee Herman, Mushmouth, Ozzy Osborne and Kermit the Frog.

The third comedian was Jamal Doman, a native of Philadelphia, who has done shows in different countries like South Korea, Ireland and Iceland. He especially enjoys performing for military audiences, according to his biography on his Web site <http://www.Jamaldoman.com>. During his show, he highlighted topics like the tenacity of bad guys, and how they never seem to stay dead.

Each audience member had their own favorite comedian, but the show itself seemed to be the winning factor of the crowd.

"It's hilarious, I'm having a total blast here," said Suzanna Hatter, wife of Wilson H. Hatter jr. assigned to 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines. Hatter said she was pulled along by a friend, but very glad she made it to the show now that she knew how funny it was. "I personally liked the first guy a lot," she said.

PFC. David J. Bivins heard about the show through advertisements around base, and after the show he was glad he did.

"It was an hour and a half of pure entertainment," said Bivins.

"This got me away from the school environment during a week day, so that was something new. It kind of helped me escape reality for a little while," he said.

Pvt. James Taglimonte, a Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School student with Company A, felt the same about the show. "The show was phenomenal," he said.

The show, which began about half-an-hour later than planned, had a large turn-out of Marines, sailors and family members.



LANCE CPL. NICOLE A. LAVINE
Pete George, a comedian who performed at the Combat Comics event, does an impression of Mushmouth from the Fat Albert cartoon.

Fall Festival rings in holiday season



Alexis Petersen, 9-year-old daughter of Gunnery Sgt. Blake Petersen, Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School, pulls a pirate from the goopy pumpkin at the Fall Festival hosted by Children, Youth and Teen Programs Oct. 27.



Eunique Williams, 3-year-old daughter of Lance Cpl. Eugene Williams, Weapons Company, 3rd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, shows her net-full of ducks to get a prize at the Fall Festival hosted by Children, Youth and Teen Programs Oct. 27.

SGT. ROBERT L. FISHER III COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Ghosts and goblins, pumpkins, pirates and princesses, and Darth Vader and Yoda all haunted the halls of the Children Youth and Teen Programs center as the staff hosted another Fall Festival.

The staff from all three CYTP centers dressed up in costumes and handed out candy, organized games for the children and rustled some grub for the whole family to enjoy.

Last year, the staff saw 497 parents and their little ghouls storm the CYTP halls in search of candy and prizes.

Cynthia Tompkins, Marine and Family Services, said they anticipate an even larger turnout this year with more than 500 people.

As families flocked toward the festival, the children smiled and giggled as they saw the pony rides, petting zoo and cotton candy. Once inside, the CYTP staff cleverly disguised as a princess, a teddy bear and the cat-in-the-hat handed out candy and directed them to games throughout the center.

"It makes it nice for the parents and the children," said Tompkins. "It's a safe way to play games and to be with their families, and not

worry about trick-or-treating around traffic."

With so many people attending, families filled the CYTP center wall-to-wall. Even the parking lot was filled with people. The lines remained long from beginning to end, and the line to the pony ride kept growing as every child wanted a turn.

"Everybody wants to ride the pony," said Tompkins of the events most popular activity.

People from across the base made their way to the festival. Even the MCCA director, Daisy Dedeaux, found herself sitting in the main entrance to watch the fun.

"I came to support the staff who put this on every year," said Dedeaux. "They take this seriously, and they truly enjoy seeing the smile on each child's face."

Larry Stratton, from the Marine Corps Family Team Building Program, also found himself standing in front handing out candy. He's helped out the event for three years and it gets better every year, he said.

"This is awesome," he said. "The parents and their children really enjoy it."

The festival also gave families of deployed Marines and sailors something to do to

take their minds off waiting for their loved one to return.

"We definitely enjoyed it," said Janine Weise, whose husband, Staff Sgt. Hugh Weise, is currently deployed to Iraq with 3rd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment. "It's a good thing to keep us occupied while he's gone."

"We had a lot of fun," said Weise's 6-year-old son Levi.

"And we got a lot of candy," added his 5-year-old brother Preston.

With candy and costumes in hand, the families gathered their children and made their way back into the night. Each family spent time together and each child left with a smile and a bag full of Halloween treats.



A staff member dressed as a giant teddy bear hands candy to a trick-or-treater at the Fall Festival hosted by Children, Youth and Teen Programs Oct. 27.

2/7 takes to the field before Iraq deployment



SGT. ROBERT L. FISHER III

Pfc. Javier Hinojosa, rifleman with Company F, 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, watches for enemy activity from the back of a humvee while leaving a notional Forward Operating Base during the final exercise of Mojave Viper Tuesday.

SGT. ROBERT L. FISHER III

COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Marines and sailors from 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, finished the final exercise in their month-long Mojave Viper Wednesday.

The training took the battalion through several ranges and finished with a three-day final exercise outside a range filled with role-players for a realistic training exercise.

"The guys are so well trained," said Lt. John T. Meixner, Company F executive officer from Nooksack, Va. "It's a good feeling finishing up this training."

Mojave Viper, along with its final exercise, gave the Marines an up close and personal experience with real Iraqi people and the scenarios they may encounter once in country. Those training the Marines are more than just role-players; many of them are actually from Iraq. They know the customs and traditions, how people react to American military forces and how Marines and sailors can build a good report with Iraqis.

"It's pretty robust training, with an emphasis on the individual Marines and their unity of thought and action," said Meixner. "We're building the Pfc's ability to make decisions in a complicated environ-

ment. It's building a system of judgment."

The Marines take away a myriad of new skills so they are more capable of handling crucial, quick decisions when necessary. They get to interact face-to-face with Iraqi civilians and police. They also sustain and improve urban fighting skills, room clearing techniques, and patrolling and securing a defense.

"Mojave Viper is very valuable training," said Gunnery Sgt. H. Kindrick, F Company gunnery sergeant. "They're constantly updating it. Anytime the Marines get training in what they do, it's not a waste of time."

A month-long training operation can wear anyone out. As they neared the last day, many of the Marines said they couldn't wait to get home, get a shower and "just relax." But while their minds may have drifted toward getting the exercise over with, they didn't lose sight of the main goal - training for combat in Iraq.

"This is very realistic. It's pretty close to the actual thing," said Lance Cpl. Scott Huse, a Company F rifleman from Pendleton, Ind. "I can't wait to go back to Iraq. I'm psyched."

The Marines finished a successful training operation and feel they'll be ready once their boots hit the dirt in Iraq.

State government joins with military to fight tobacco use

ROBERT E. BUSH NAVAL HOSPITAL

PRESS RELEASE

Some of the heaviest users of tobacco in the State of California are active duty military and their families. In response to these high rates of tobacco use, the State of California has joined forces with local military tobacco cessation efforts, such as the program here at the Robert E. Bush Naval Hospital, to form a program called "Project Uniform."

Of the more than 150,000

active duty military personnel in California, almost one-third reported using at least one kind of tobacco product according to a study commissioned in 2004 by the state. This tobacco use rate is double that of the adult civilian population within California. Tobacco use rates differ by branch, however no branch is immune to tobacco's influence. Tobacco use by active duty military personnel has been shown to affect readiness, individual health, and

mental acuity.

In support of military personnel and their families, Project UNIFORM (Undoing Nicotine Influence From Our Respected Military) was created to develop a collaborative bridge between military tobacco cessation programs and services offered by the state of California. Guided by a Board of Advisors, made up of current and former members of military communities, Project UNIFORM is located in Sacramento and works on installations throughout the state. Project UNIFORM has participated in military community health fairs and

events, provided onsite trainings for those working with military personnel as well as given briefings to active duty service members. Project UNIFORM's mission is to provide culturally appropriate cessation information and training to existing military programs on California military installations. Additionally, Project UNIFORM collaborates with military support networks to promote cessation services for family members of those in the Armed Forces.

To ensure appropriate response by state services, Project UNIFORM also edu-

cates tobacco control professionals to the culture and existing services within the branches of the military. One of the major state resources that Project UNIFORM promotes is the California Smokers' Helpline. This free telephone service is available to anyone wishing information on stopping smoking, dipping, or using any tobacco product. All of the telephone counselors have been trained to the realities of military culture and welcome calls from service members and their families.

To reach the California Smokers' Helpline, simply

call: 1-800-NO-BUTTS or 1-800-45-NO-FUME for stop smoking information or 1-800-844-CHEW for stop chew/dip information. The Helpline can also be reached at www.nobutts.org.

For information on Project UNIFORM, please contact Colleen Haydon at 916-339-3424 ext. 26 or visit www.projectuniform.org. For specific Twentynine Palms information, including when the next quit tobacco class starts on base, please contact Twentynine Palms Naval Hospital Health Promotions Coordinator Martha Hunt at 760-830-2814.

Code of Conduct's author passes away

CPL. CURT KEESTER
MCAS CHERRY POINT

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION CHERRY POINT, N.C. — The first time most Marines are exposed to the United States Military Code of Conduct is standing in a gaggle at boot camp, reading from their “big green monster” and hoping their drill instructors wouldn’t come out of the chow hall for another five minutes.

The Code of Conduct is repeated and recited in every branch and by every member of the U.S. Armed Forces, but few know the author, the story behind the code and how it came into being.

Col. F. Brooke Nihart, the author of the United States Military Code of Conduct, died Aug. 30, at Inova Fairfax Hospital, at the age of 87 after he succumbed to heart and kidney ailments.

Nihart was a highly decorated Marine who served as a gunnery officer on the aircraft carrier USS Saratoga early in World War II. He participated in the battle of Wake Island, taught amphibious landing tactics and fought in the battle of Okinawa.

Nihart also led Operation Blackbird during the Korean War. Operation Blackbird was the first night helicopter operation in military history. The Operation landed 200 troops on a hilltop in

North Korea in September of 1951 at the “Battle of the Punchbowl.” After the battle, in which Nihart commanded a battalion, he was awarded the Navy Cross for his heroic acts.

After the Korean War, officials noticed that U.S. prisoners of war who had been subjected to brainwashing revealed military secrets to their captors. In an effort to prevent this in the future, the Marine Corps set out to develop a code of honor for all persons serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. Col. Nihart was assigned the task of putting this code into words, and while working at Headquarters Marine Corps, Quantico, Va., in the summer of 1955, he outlined his ideas, in longhand, on a yellow legal pad.

Although his original version has been rewritten slightly, what he came up with that summer is what we know today as the U.S. Military Code of Conduct, and on Aug. 17, 1955, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed an executive order making the code the official credo for all Americans serving in the U.S. military.

The Code of Conduct:

Article I: I am an American, fighting in the armed forces which guard my country and our way of life. I am prepared to give my life in their defense.

Article II: I will never surrender of my own free will. If in command I will never surrender the members of my command while they still have the means to resist.

Article III: If I am captured, I will continue to resist by all means available. I will make every effort to escape and aid others to escape. I will accept neither parole nor special favors from the enemy.

Article IV: If I become a prisoner of war, I will keep faith with my fellow prisoners. I will give no information nor take part in any action which might be harmful to my comrades. If I am senior, I will take command. If not, I will obey the lawful orders of those appointed over me and will back them up in every way.

Article V: When questioned, should I become a prisoner of war, I am required to give name, rank, service, number, and date of birth. I will evade answering further questions to the utmost of my ability. I will make no oral or written statements disloyal to my country and its allies or harmful to their cause.

Article VI: I will never forget that I am an American, responsible for my actions, and dedicated to the principles which made my country free. I will trust in my God and in the United States of America.

CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

ROMAN CATHOLIC SERVICES

Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel
Sun 7:30 a.m. Rosary
Sun 8 a.m. Catholic Mass*
Sun 9 a.m. Faith Formation/CCD (Bldg1551)
Sun 9 a.m. Military Council of Catholic Women (Bldg. 1551)
Sun 9:15 a.m. Confessions+
Sun 10 a.m. Rosary
Sun 10:30 a.m. Catholic Mass
Sun 10:30 a.m. Children’s Liturgy of the Word
Sun 4 p.m. Choir Practice
Sun 4:30 p.m. Rosary
Sun 5 p.m. Catholic Mass
Sun 6 p.m. Cyrus Young Adult Group 18-35 years of age married or single (3rd Sunday of the month)
Fri 12:15 – 4:30 p.m. Exposition/Adoration Most Blessed Sacrament (1st Friday Each Month)

Ash Wednesday and Holy Days of Obligation Masses

11:45 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel
11:30 a.m. Robert E. Bush Naval Hospital **Village Center**
Sun 9 a.m. Military Council of Catholic Women*
Sun 9 a.m. Faith Formation/CCD

NON-DENOMINATIONAL CHRISTIAN SERVICE

Christ Chapel
Sun 8 a.m. Worship*
Tue 7 p.m. Praise and Worship*

TRADITIONAL SERVICE

Christ Chapel
Sun 9:30 a.m. Worship

INDEPENDENT BAPTIST SERVICE

Christ Chapel
Sun 11 p.m. Worship

LAY-LED GOSPEL SERVICE

Christ Chapel
Sun 12:30 p.m. Worship

LAY-LED APOSTOLIC SERVICE

Christ Chapel
Sun 3 p.m. Worship
Christ Chapel
2 p.m. Study of Book of Acts

MID-WEEK EVENTS

MONDAY

Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel
Mon-Fri 11:45 a.m. Catholic Mass

Ocotillo Housing

7 p.m. Officer’s Christian Fellowship
Call Lt. Cmndr. Faunce 830-6654 for location

TUESDAY

Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel
5 – 7:30 p.m. Catechist Meeting (Second Tuesday of the month)
4 – 5:30 p.m. Children’s RCIA
6 p.m. Baptism Class 1st Tuesday each month
Christ Chapel
9 a.m. Christian Women Fellowship*
7 p.m. Praise and Worship
C&E Mess Hall Bldg. 1660
11:30 a.m. Bible Study
Chaplain Flint 830-6187
Base Housing
6 p.m. All Hands Bible Study
Chaplain Taylor 830-7413 for location

WEDNESDAY

Village Center
11:30 a.m. Prayer Meeting in the Prayer Room
Chaplain Flint 830-6187
6 p.m. Right of Christian Initiation for Adults*

Immaculate Heart of Mary

6 -7 p.m. Life Teen/Youth Group#
Christ Chapel
5 p.m. IHM Choir Rehearsal
5 p.m. Protestant Choir Rehearsal
5:30 p.m. Catholic Choir Rehearsal
7 p.m. Lay-Led Gospel Bible Study

THURSDAY

Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel
7 p.m. Knights of Columbus
1st Thursday of the Month

Christ Chapel

7 p.m. Lay-Led Apostolic Bible Study

Legend

*Indicates Child Care Provided
+Appointments can be made for Confessions by calling 830-6456/6646
Resumes Fall 2006

Joshua Tree VFW to hold Open House

The Veterans of Foreign Wars in Joshua Tree will hold an Open House Nov. 11 from 1 to 4 p.m. Come on down, get acquainted and join us in some “Broom Stick” pool. All active duty personnel are welcome to attend, and active duty or veterans who have been in “harm’s way” are invited to join the VFW.

The VFW is located at 6402 Veterans Way, Joshua Tree, Calif.

For more information, contact the VFW commander, Roger Sherwin at 366-2424, or at 366-2717.

Marines in Iraq, family, friends in U.S. remember fallen Marine, Ohio native

CPL. MICHAEL S. CIFUENTES

3RD BATTALION, 4TH MARINE REGIMENT

AL QA'IM, Iraq — Marines and sailors serving in the Al Qa'im region of Iraq gathered at their forward operating base chapel Oct. 20, to honor the memory of a fallen Marine.

Marines and sailors of Task Force 3rd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, and 8th Engineer Support Battalion, packed into the small chapel here to pay final respects to Sgt. Justin T. Walsh, an explosive ordnance disposal technician with 8th ESB.

Walsh, a Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, native who celebrated his 24th birthday last month, died Oct. 11, from wounds he sustained during combat operations in Iraq six days earlier. Walsh was severely wounded Oct. 5, during combat operations near the Iraq-Syria border in Al Anbar

Province. He was treated for his wounds on scene and flown to a medical facility in Germany.

Finally, he was flown to the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md., where he succumbed to his wounds in the presence of his parents and best friend Oct. 11.

Although the 24-year-old Marine's life was cut short, his presence remains through his spirit and the memory of his outspoken enthusiasm, said Lt. Col. Scott C. Shuster, Task Force 3/4's battalion commander.

"He was full of energy and enthusiasm for his job," said Shuster. "He willingly went forward into that dark night to do his duty and protect his fellow Marines."

At the time of his injury, Walsh played a significant role in protecting his fellow Marines from an improvised

explosive device that had been found in an area where suspected insurgents were planning a small arms ambush, said Shuster.

During the memorial service, Walsh's section leader, Master Sgt. Lee W. Sherwood, described Walsh's personality and characteristics he was most remembered for by his coworkers — hard working, dedicated, professional, fearless and considerate.

Sherwood also recited one of Walsh's favorite comedic lines from comedian Dave Chappelle.

"It's a celebration," quoted Sherwood, expressing to the Marines and sailors what Walsh would've wanted.

It's the same line Walsh recited every time his EOD team arrived on scene to investigate possible IEDs, said Sherwood.

"The good times we shared, the rides we took, tequila we spilled, practical

jokes he played, his banter, his complaints, the dangers we face, and even the outhouse we had to blow up," said Sherwood, a Jacksonville, N.C., native, as he brought to life the experience Walsh and his fellow Marines shared.

As Marines and sailors here congregated in the crowded chapel to remember Walsh, his family and friends recently held a funeral procession for Walsh in Cuyahoga Falls. People there who knew him as simply "Justin," came together in the procession that slowly passed his high school, where Walsh graduated in 2001, and made its way to the First United Methodist Church, according to the Beacon Journal, one of Cuyahoga Fall's local newspapers.

At the request of Cuyahoga Falls mayor, those who lined the streets waved American flags as a symbol of their respect for the town's valiant

and fallen Marine and the Marines he left who still carry on his mission said the report from the Beacon Journal.

According to the newspaper The Columbus Dispatch, Walsh's father, Jim Walsh, said his "all-American kid" died doing what he loved best, but "at least he died in this country," he said.

Following the funeral, Walsh's body was escorted to Washington, D.C., and buried among other American heroes in the grounds of Arlington National Cemetery.

During Walsh's memorial service in Iraq, Navy Lt. Alan Rogers, Task Force 3/4's battalion chaplain, said Walsh's death will only make Marines more determined to "pick up Sgt. Walsh's cause."

"Today we pause to remember, but we will never stop; we will never stop remembering Sgt. Walsh, and like him, we will never stop

playing to win," said Rogers. "We will overcome this heartbreak and any other hardship as we recommit ourselves and renew our determination today to achieve victory in this fight and in this life until we, like Sgt. Walsh, find victory in the next."

Although Walsh's body remains in a cemetery where U.S. military men and women of all ranks, private through general, lay side-by-side with presidents and statesmen, Walsh's story of honor, courage and commitment continues, said Shuster.

"Sgt. Walsh has now become part of our Marine Corps heritage because he died as he lived — doing his duty, committed to his fellow Marines — while demonstrating courage in the face of adversity and danger," said Shuster. "He will live on in our hearts and our memories as a man of honor."

Iraqi Forces, Marines Form Solid Relationships

PFC. DURWOOD BLACKMON

COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

TIKRIT, Iraq — In Iraq, sometimes the smallest gesture of support can go a long way. Here, something as simple as a metal box can help get the job done.

As Iraqi Security Forces expand and assume more control of their country, Coalition forces find themselves transitioning to support-and-assist roles for a growing Iraqi military.

In an effort to help strengthen and build a solid foundation for the ISF, Marines and soldiers of the Region II Department of Border Enforcement work around the clock to ensure Iraqi Border Police have the supplies and training they need for success.

"Today we delivered three Conex containers to the Iraqis," said Marine Lt. Col. Mark Winn, Team Leader, Border Transition Team, Region II DBE. "These containers were procured by the U.S. Government and were delivered to the Iraqis to help them alleviate some of the critical storage deficiencies they have at the Region II headquarters."

The metal storage containers may not appear valuable from the outside looking in, but the supplies and provi-

sions they house and protect make them worth their weight in gold to American taxpayers.

"Part of the Coalition Forces' job in dealing with the ISF is providing a baseline of equipment for them to be able to help provide their own security for their country. Incumbent in that is also making sure they have a prerequisite storage capacity to stow the equipment that U.S. tax dollars are providing for them."

Winn continued, "The Iraqi Border Enforcement Headquarters is woefully deficient in storage capability. Without these Conex containers a lot of the equipment U.S. taxpayers have purchased for the Iraqis would sit outside in the elements; in the heat and rain. This harsh environment takes a toll on equipment."

The Conexes were happily welcomed by the Iraqi Forces. As the containers made their way off the carrier, several IBP gathered nearby to show their appreciation.

"Today the American troops and Marines brought containers for us to put supplies in. This Headquarters and Logistics center here is new and we have received

many supplies. We are constantly in need of the materials the Americans bring us. The Americans are here every day helping us, but we need to be self sufficient and conduct business on our own. These supplies help us to do that," said Sataar Jibard Ali, Officer of Logistics, Region II DBE.

Although the Iraqis are quickly working toward self sufficiency, the Marines and soldiers assisting them acknowledge it's a gradual progression of development that takes a steady fostering of support.

"It's part of a building block process to create an environment of autonomy where the Iraqis are self sufficient and are not relying on the coalition and coalition support to assume security for their country," said Winn.

As Marines and soldiers mounted up to make their way back to Contingency Operating Base Speicher, handshakes and thanks were exchanged by both parties, Americans and Iraqi.

"We continue to make measured progress and I'm extremely proud of our team and our accomplishments," said Winn.



GUNNERY SGT. CHAD MCMEEN

A volunteer service member hands water to runners of the first satellite Marine Corps Marathon hosted at Al Asad, Iraq, Sunday. The runners traveled from all across Iraq to participate in the event and will be added to the books as officially completing the stateside event.

FMEAP helps military members get the job

LANCE CPL. REGINA N. ORTIZ
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Studies confirmed that spouses' employment issues have an effect on retention and readiness of military members, which prompted the Department of Defense Military Family Act of 1985 and the Family Member Employment Assistance Program, according to the Marines Quick Series Guide to FMEAP.

FMEAP assists military family members ages 16 and older with a variety of services, said Virginia Sulick, employment development section, Marine Corps Community Services Career Resource Office.

The program offers job fairs, libraries, computer tutorial programs, referrals to job opportunities in the local community, workshops, career planning, self-assessments, resume writing, vocational testing and any employment assistance for military family members, said Sulick.

"We like to find out what they like to do and what they can do," she explained. "Then start the career exploration process."

There are two different types of clients that Sulick encounters at her office; people who need a job right away, and people who want to grow and find a career, she said.

Either way, FMEAP can help all types of employment seekers. The first step for all clients is building a resume by gathering proof of experiences and skills, such as diplomas, degrees, transcripts, awards and certificates.

FMEAP can even help clients build skills and receive certification in computer programs that help get job seekers hired, said Sulick.

"We have access to a self-paced program by Microsoft that certifies a client in Word, Excel and PowerPoint that has really made a difference in getting clients hired at higher salaries," she explained.

Clients are given classes on how to dress for success, prepping for interviews and the interview process.

Sulick and other CRO representatives hold mock interviews for their clients to help build confidence and develop good interviewing skills, she said.

"We also advise clients on the questions that are allowed to be asked and they don't have to answer," said Sulick. "We teach them how to politely avoid answering questions that they aren't required to answer."

There are questions that are legally not allowed to be asked by an interviewing employer, depending on the state, said Sulick. The CRO is able to give guidelines for job seekers to follow on states' equal opportunity laws.

A liaison between Sulick and local employers is important to maintain so she and her staff have knowledge of jobs as soon as they are open, she said.

"It's also cost effective for the employer," she explained. "They don't have to spend the money on a classified advertisement."

Sulick is also there for her clients after they are hired and move on to pursue their careers. She keeps a file on all of her clients for three years that includes their resume, copies of their certifications and other information about each client, she said.

"There have been times that a client had needed their resume right away and I was able to e-mail it to within minutes," she said.

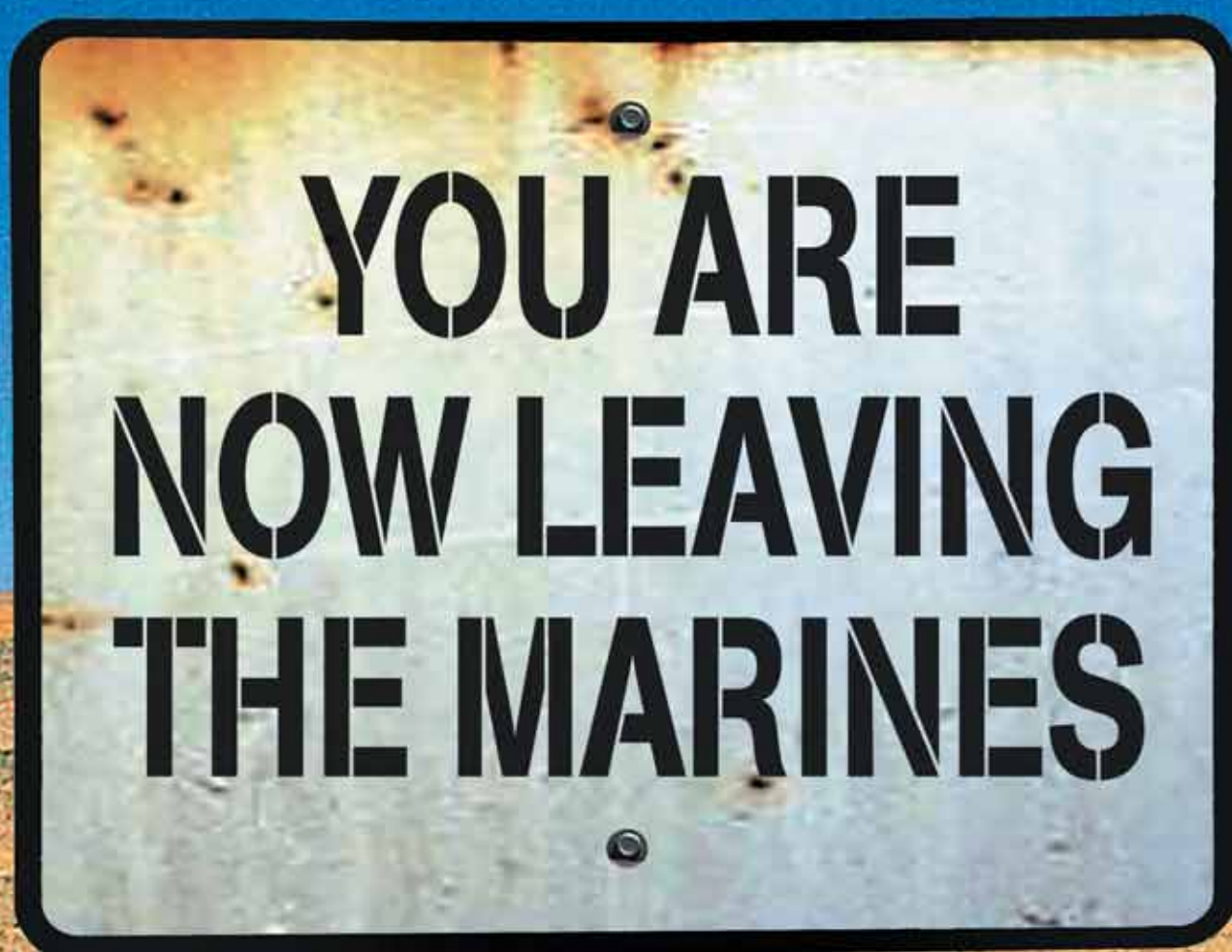
FMEAP has been helping military family members get jobs and start careers for the past 21 years and is constantly looking to improve its services. For more information on FMEAP, call 830-4029 or visit Sulick in building 1438.



COURTESY PHOTO

Now the war is over

Chuck Norris and Cpl. Michael S. Cifuentes, combat correspondent, 3rd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, pose for a photo at Camp Al Asad Tuesday. Chuck Norris visited Al Asad to show Marines that Chuck is on their side and therefore the advantage is theirs in the Global War on Terrorism.



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- Serve in a unit in your hometown

*One-year non-deployment tours available in all states. Some states also offer two-year non-deployment tours.

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YOU CAN

Ontario International airport hosts grand opening for new USO facility

The Ontario-USO will celebrate the grand opening of its new facility at Ontario International Airport. The military-themed event will feature dignitary and celebrity guests, traditional USO-style entertainment, military aircraft and vehicle displays, exhibit booths, special military personnel appearances, and a formal ribbon-cutting ceremony. More than 300 invited guests are expected to attend.

The new 6,000 square-foot facility will serve some 20,000 active duty, reserve, and retired service members and their families each year. The facility is located in Terminal One, ONT's former terminal. It offers spacious and comfortable television lounges with a large collection of current and classic films and television shows on DVD and video; free-lending library stocked with donated books, magazines and other periodicals; bank of state-of-the-art computers with internet access; luggage storage area; children's area and nursery; "Canteen"

snack bar; family room; nap room; international map display area; and outdoor patio area. All services are provided to troops and their families free of charge. The facility is open seven days a week Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Saturday, Sunday and

holidays from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

The Ontario-USO is staffed by volunteers and one full-time director. Volunteers meet and greet service members and their families, and provide directions and information on travel arrangements, flight schedules, local hotels with special rates, and sightseeing and local tourist attractions. They also provide emergency leave and child-care assistance, help with lost baggage, and if available, offer free tickets for local events.

ONT is located in Southern California's "Inland Empire" region that includes

San Bernardino and Riverside Counties. The medium-hub airport, which handles 7.2 million passengers and 575,000 tons of cargo annually, is one of four owned and operated by Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA), a Los Angeles city department that oversees an airport system in the nation's second largest metropolitan area. The other airports owned and operated by LAWA are Los Angeles International (LAX), Palmdale Regional (PMD) and Van Nuys (VNY). The Bob Hope Hollywood USO at LAX has been serving U.S. military personnel and their families since 1985.



Until Every One Comes Home.®



Staff Sgt. Willie Jackson hangs re-designated battle streamers on 1st Tanks' Marine Corps Colors during their 65th birthday ceremony held at Gray Field Wednesday.

TANKS, from A1

"Guadalcanal, Okinawa, Korea, the jungles of Vietnam, the deserts of Kuwait and the cities and streets of Iraq. Tankers have always been at the pointy edge of the spear, doing what we do best," Stopa continued.

Throughout history tanks have played a prominent role in wars. Transporting Marines through terrain they might not otherwise be able to get through.

"A war without tanks would be like taking away a big advantage," said Lance Cpl. Adolfo Castro, tank mechanic.

It's important to celebrate the battalion's birthday to pay respect to Marines who have fallen for our freedom, said Castro.

The Tanks birthday celebration was a time for every tanker to feel a stronger sense of pride in their past, present and future.

"Although, the horses we have rode into conflict have changed over the past 65 years, one thing has remained the same — a constant fighting spirit of tankers," said Stopa. "Easily identified on the battlefield, just look for the dirtiest, greasiest, the most focused and determined warriors and rest assured, you're in good hands."

WHEN: Tuesday, November 7, 2006 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

WHERE: Ontario International Airport Terminal One (Administration Building) 1940 E. Moore Way Ontario, California 91761

Free parking available at designated area next to Terminal One.

Officer's Spouses' Club presents array of flavors

LANCE CPL. NICOLE A. LAVINE
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

The Officer's Spouses' Club hosted its second annual "Roll out the Barrel" wine, beer and spirit tasting event Saturday, and was open to all officers and staff non-commissioned officers.

The event featured a wide assortment of alcoholic drinks available for sampling, German food, a prize give-away and a silent auction.

The money raised from the event, which added up to more than \$2,000, will go toward the Officer's Spouses' Club grant and scholarship program.

"The event last year supported the same cause, but there was no beer available," said

Carol Turner, the OSC representative for 3rd Marines, 7th Marine Regiment, and co-organizer of the event. "We also didn't have as many prizes or sell nearly as many tickets, so it's looking good this year."

Lynne Crowe and Michael Gridley were the other two co-organizers of the event.

Turner said last year's event allowed the means to give more than 30,000 grants to various base programs and organizations.

The event also supported the Toys for Tots program by providing several drop-boxes for new, unwrapped toys set up near the entrance way. For each toy a person donated, they received an additional \$1 opportunity ticket with their name on it to add to the prize draw-

ing. The \$1 and \$5 opportunity tickets were also available for purchase at the door.

The \$1 ticket prizes included items like espresso cups, T-shirts, clocks, hats, decorated mirrors, and even a pair of suspenders. The \$5 prizes included beer and wine glasses and a wide assortment of wines and spirits.

An entry ticket was given to each guest, which they placed in a drawing bowl for the chance to win a bottle of wine from Brig. Gen. Douglas M. Stone's personal collection.

The vendors who volunteered for the job were Paul and Deborah Chatterton from the Wine Warehouse, Adam Garrett and Dave Cormier for Southern Wines and Spirits, and Steve Clem with Young's Market. The volunteers set up the displays of the variety of drinks and served them to those attending the event. Clem was responsible for mixing the Holland Van Gogh Martinis, of which came in 10 flavors like raspberry, double espresso, pineapple, Dutch chocolate and apple.

There was a second display of the same drinks available for purchase in another room set-up by the 7-day store, said Cindy Minarik, the 7-day-store manager.

"Last year we just kept everything in boxes, so we didn't sell very much," said Minarik. "This year, our part is to make sure we get exposure, and make sure people see what our expectations are. This helps us generate some of our own funds, as well. You could say it's two-fold."

The guests were just as enthusiastic about the selection as they were about the prizes.

"I bought five of the one-dollar tickets and three of the 5-dollar ones," said Lt. Col. Sid Zeller, assigned to the Tactical Training Exercise Control Group, Company A. "I'm pretty excited about those prizes."

Toward the end of the evening, a silent auction took place where a black and orange

Jagermeister leather jacket was auctioned off for \$120 to Andy Chatelin, a retired warrant officer. A Saint Pauli Girl inflatable canoe and paddle was also auctioned off for \$20, not to mention the numerous prizes given away to the winners of the opportunity ticket drawings.

More than 160 tickets were sold, said Turner. That meant a tremendous improvement from both last year's sales and attendance.



LANCE CPL. NICOLE A. LAVINE
Paul Chatterton, a Wine Warehouse vendor representative for the event, looks at his display of alcoholic drinks before guests arrive.



LANCE CPL. NICOLE A. LAVINE
Steve Clem, a sales manager with Young's Market, gives samples of Van Gogh Martinis to Staff Sgt. Edward Little and his wife, Sandra.

Those who were there review 'Flags of Our Fathers'

SGT. ROBERT L. FISHER III
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Since the "Flags of Our Fathers" release, reviewers and moviegoers have offered a barrage of mixed reviews — some good, some bad and some that cut a little deep.

Jan Stuart, of Newsday, knocked the film for Clint Eastwood's directing, because he manages to turn every his-

torical period into an "ellipsis or exclamation mark." Jonathan Rosenbaum, of The Chicago Reader, said it was "under imagined and so thesis-ridden that it's nearly over before it starts." Lisa Rose, of the Newark-Star Ledger, said the movie is riddled with clichés that "undermine the power of the story." Thomas Delapa, of Boulder Weekly, went as far as to compare the

movie's experience to "being flogged over the head with a ten-foot tin pole."

With such remarkable insight into the quality of Flags of Our Fathers, it is those who landed on Iwo Jima and survived its brutality who shed a deeper light on the movie's true-to-life movie experience. A few "Flags of Our Fathers" moviegoers included some of those sur-

vivors — Charles Lindberg, Thomas H. Billingsley and Charlie Cooper among them.

The movie revolves around the bloody battles of Iwo Jima and the three surviving American military men from Joe Rosenthal's famous photo, who became reluctant heroes and symbols of a nation at war. While adored by America, the three heroes wanted to remain on the battlefield with their brothers who would fight and die without the same fanfare.

Billingsley and Cooper, both residents of Richmond, Va., who watched the movie together, gave it two thumbs up for the Richmond-Times Dispatch newspaper.

"I thought it was terrific," said Billingsley. "Eastwood treated everything extremely well."

But Lindberg, the last survivor of the six men who actually raised the first flag on Mount Suribachi, told Sun Newspapers he left the theater with mixed feelings. He said the movie, which focused primarily on the second flag raising, missed the significance of the first.

"Most of it was about the second," he said. "It didn't appeal to me too much, but it's put together pretty good."

Later that same day after the first flag was posted, six other men from Lindberg's company were ordered to replace the flag. Rosenthal, photographed the second flag raising.

"There was no cheering or hollering," said Lindberg of the second flag raising.

The reaction of the first flag raising was the one that motivated the men fighting for Iwo Jima, he said.

"They went nuts down

there, the men took off hollering, the ships whistled and everything," he said. "That, I'll never forget."

Regardless of reviews, every movie is going to find

its niche audience. The great photo made famous on Iwo Jima has a legacy all its own. This movie sheds light on some of its history, even the untold blemishes.



PHOTO BY JOE ROSENTHAL
Five Marines and a corpsman raise the second flag on top of Mount Suribachi Feb. 23, 1945. The service members are Ira Hayes, Franklin Sousley, Michael Strank, John Bradley, Rene Gagnon and Harlon Block.



MCCES Relief and Appointment ceremony

Sgt. Maj. Eddie D. Reid receives a noncommissioned officer sword from Col. Marshall Considine, Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School commanding officer, while outgoing MCCES sergeant major, Sgt. Maj. Tyrone Keniry stands at attention during a relief and appointment ceremony Oct. 20 at Lance Cpl. Torrey L. Gray Field.

LANCE CPL. KATELYN A. KNAUER

SPORT SHORTS

YOUTH FLAG FOOTBALL REGISTRATION DEADLINE

Youth Sports will be offering Youth Flag Football for ages 7 to 14 years old. The cost is \$15, which includes a jersey and an award. Age groups will be determined by the number of participants. Register at the Community Center building 1004 now through Nov. 10. For more information call Youth Sports at 830-3910. This event is sponsored by AFAP.

10th ANNUAL UCLA VETERANS AND ARMED FORCES APPRECIATION DAY FOOTBALL GAME

A special invitation is extended to Combat Center Marines, sailors and veterans to attend the 10th annual UCLA Veterans and Armed Forces Appreciation Day football game at the Rose Bowl where the UCLA Bruins will take on the Oregon State Beavers Nov. 11. This special offer is open to veterans and active military. Receive one free general admission ticket, or purchase up to four "buy-one, get-one free" reserved tickets. Tickets are available by presenting proof of military service or arriving in uniform at the Central Ticket Office or Rose Bowl box office on game day, while supplies last. For game time information call 310-UCLA-WIN or visit their Web site uclabruins.com.

WOMEN'S VARSITY BASKETBALL TRYOUTS

Marine Corps Community Services Sports will hold women's varsity basketball tryouts Monday and Wednesday at the East Gym from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. For more information call Sports at 830-4092.

LEISURE

SINGLE MARINE PROGRAM TRIP TO "THE PRICE IS RIGHT"

The Single Marine Program will be taking a day trip to Los Angeles and the CBS Studios to watch a taping of "The Price is Right" Wednesday and Dec. 6. Buses will depart the Zone at 12 p.m. and return at 1:30 a.m. Cost is \$5. For registration drop by the Zone or call 830-4767

Did You Know?

Three out of every six Americans live within 50 miles of where they were born.

Co-ed intermural softball in championship play-offs



Force Preparation Training Services pitcher, Milton Ramirez, pitches the ball during the FPTS vs. Dental Pain softball game Oct. 26 at Felix Field.

LANCE CPL. NICOLE A. LAVINE
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Dental Pain took on Force Preparation Training Services Oct. 26 at Felix Field in a co-ed softball play-off game.

Both teams had a 2-3 record entering the game. The winner of the game would go on to the next round, while the losing team would call it a season.

After the first inning, Dental was ahead with a score of 5-2 due to good hitting and base running.

In the bottom of the second inning, FPTS came back hitting two doubles with players in scoring position, tying the score at 5-5.

In the third, Dental regained the lead at 8-5 with more solid hitting.

No more runs were scored until the bottom of the fourth inning when FPTS players Jim Barnes, Melissa Reindel and Codey Marshall made it home, tying the game at 8-8.

Sullivan hit a homerun with runners in scoring position in the top of the fifth inning, putting Dental back in the lead with a score of 13-8.

FPTS player D.J. Hudson hit a double in the bottom of the fifth inning, followed by another double by Sandy Albertson. Albertson's double gave Hudson just enough time to make it home. Barnes hit a single with Albertson on second. Later, Scott Hamilton hit a homerun, bringing Albertson and Barnes home.

Reindel then hit a single, followed by a double by Marshall which brought Reindel home, bringing FPTS within one run at 13-12.

In the next inning, Chris Renfro hit a homerun with runners in scoring position, making the score 16-12.

The score in the top of the sixth inning was 17-12, Dental. Milton Ramirez hit a single and Agnes Babbirk walked after a fourth ball was called. Hudson hit another single sending Ramirez to third and Babbirk to second. Albertson came up to bat and hit another single. Barnes then hit a double which sent Albertson to third base. Next batter, Butler hit into an out, but not before Albertson made it home.

With only one out to go, Hamilton batted, but because it was Reindel's turn and she had been taken out of the game, she couldn't hit. After an eight-minute delay, a decision was made by the referee to call the game giving Dental the victory with a score of 17-16.



Marine Wing Support Squadron 374 squared off with 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, during a game in the Commanding General's Intramural Football League at Felix Field Monday.

MWSS-374 defeats 1/7

LANCE CPL. KATELYN A. KNAUER
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Marine Wing Support Squadron 374 defeated 1st Battalion, 7th Marines, 30-16, in the Commanding General's Intramural Football League at Felix Field, Monday.

Both teams joined the league late because of deployments in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and did not get added to the schedule until Oct. 23. 1st Battalion, 7th Marines started the season slow with a 0-3 record after Monday's game. MWSS-374 started the season slow as well, only earning their first victory Monday and improving their record 1-2.

Commanding General's Intramural Softball League Standings

TEAMS	W	L
HQBN	6	0
MCCES	5	2
TANKS	4	3
MWSS-374	2	2
1-7	0	4
3/11	0	6



LANE CPL. KATELYN A. KNAUER

Put your right foot in, Put your right foot out...

William Edwards and Richard Jones of team Lighting attempt to steal the ball from Matthew Leonard of team Spiders during a youth soccer game, Oct. 27 at Felix Field. The Youth Soccer League runs from September to November and is open to children 4 to 14 years old.

A word about Colds and Flu from the Naval Hospital

**LT. VIRGINIA SKIBA,
MC, USN**

ROBERT E. BUSH NAVAL HOSPITAL

Are you aware that colds, flu, most sore throats, and bronchitis are caused by viruses? Did you know that antibiotics do not help fight viruses? Plus, taking antibiotics when you have a virus may do more harm than good. And did you know that you can get free over-the-counter medications at the hospital pharmacy, without having to see your provider?

What are some viral infections?

A stuffy nose, sore throat, sneezing are usually signs of a cold. Tiredness, fever, headache, and body aches may mean you have the flu. Persistent cough that brings up mucus and makes it hard to breathe may be bronchitis. Body aches, sore throat, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea

usually mean you have gastroenteritis (stomach flu).

What are some bacterial infections?

Sore throat, headache, fever, without runny nose may be Strep Throat. Swelling or pain around the eyes, headache, and a dry cough or discharge from the nose may mean you are developing sinusitis. Fever and persistent cough that brings up mucus may be signs of pneumonia.

When do you or your child need antibiotics?

If your doctor determines you have a bacterial infection, he or she may prescribe antibiotics. If you are given antibiotics make sure you take them as prescribed and finish the full course.

Why don't antibiotics work for colds and runny noses?

Antibiotics kill bacteria, not viruses. Most coughs,

colds, and sore throats are caused by viruses. Taking antibiotics for viral infections will not cure the infection, will not keep other people from catching the illness, and will not help you feel better.

What are the dangers of using antibiotics?

Using antibiotics when they are not needed causes some bacteria to become resistant to the antibiotic. The resistant bacteria are stronger and harder to kill. They can stay in your body and can cause severe illnesses that cannot be cured with antibiotic medications. A cure for resistant bacteria may require stronger treatment, possibly a stay in the hospital and antibiotics given by a needle. In addition, antibiotics can cause unexpected side effects like diarrhea, stomach pain, and yeast infections in women.

When should you or your child see the doctor?

You usually do not have to see your doctor right away if you or your child have signs of a viral infection. But you should call your doctor in these situations:

- Your symptoms get worse after 5-7 days
 - Your symptoms last longer than 14 days
 - After feeling a little better, you show signs of a more serious problem. Some of these signs are nausea, high fever, chills, chest pain, or coughing thick, dark green or brown mucus.
 - You should bring any child under 2 years old who looks very ill or dehydrated
- How do you avoid getting the cold?
- Wash your hands often!
 - Avoid people with colds whenever possible.
 - Sneeze or cough into a tissue, then wash your hands.
 - Don't touch your nose, eyes, or mouth. Germs can enter your body more easily by these parts.

How do you avoid getting the Flu?

A flu shot can lower your chances of getting the flu.

The best time to get the flu shot is from middle of October to November.

Who should get the flu shot?

Almost all people who want to lower their chances of coming down with the flu can get a flu shot.

Flu shots are most important for:

- Children, aged 6-59 months
- Pregnant women
- People 50 years of age and older
- People of any age with certain medical conditions such as asthma, diabetes, COPD
- People who live in nursing homes and other long term care facilities
- Household contacts of persons at high risk for complications from the flu
- Household contacts of children less than 6 months old

How do you and your child get the flu shot?

The flu vaccine supply should be delivered by early November, please keep checking in with the hospital.

Did you know you and your child can receive free cold and flu medications from the pharmacy, without having to see your doctor?

The pharmacy at the hospital is open Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

You can get the following medications for you and your child over 2 years old, up to 3 a month:

If you want to: Choose this medicine:

Unclog a stuffy nose
Sudafed

Quiet a cough
Robitussin or Robitussin DM

Stop runny nose and sneezing
Benadryl, Dimetapp, Actifed (antihistamines)

Ease a sore throat
Cepacol

Ease fever, headache, body aches
Tylenol or Ibuprofen

Moisturize a dry nose
Saline Nasal Spray

What about your children?

Most runny noses and coughs in kids are due to colds and they do not need antibiotics. However bring your child if he or she has the following signs:

- Worsening symptoms
- Fever more than 101 degrees and ear pain
- Children under 2 years old
- If you have any questions or concerns

Do not give aspirin or other salicylates to children or teenagers with symptoms of a cold or flu. They can get sick or die from a rare condition if they take these medicines while they have these symptoms. However acetaminophen (Tylenol) and ibuprofen (Motrin, Advil) are OK.

DO YOU HAVE OTHER QUESTIONS?

Stop by the hospital or call your provider!

2006 Twentynine Palms Historical Society annual Weed Show: Tools of the trade

TWENTYNINE PALMS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PRESS RELEASE

It's time again for the Twentynine Palms Historical Society's Annual Weed Show, so take a dose of antihistamine if you need to, but find your way to the Old Schoolhouse Museum during the first weekend in November. The theme for 2006, Tools of the Trade, is a tribute to the occupations of the original settlers in Twentynine Palms.

The Weed Show is a unique art show that highlights the plants and artifacts of desert living, as artists transform the mundane to the beautiful. All works are original, and fit within categories that are designed to challenge the creativity of the artists while highlighting activities, people, and things that make the desert a unique, forbidding, and yet lovely place.

The Weed Show origins lie in an off-hand comment by artist Mildred Bryant Brooks to members of the Women's Club, which helped to establish a Twentynine Palms tradition that has endured for more than 60 years.

Brooks, a renowned artist in her time, was visiting to lecture on the art of etching in the summer of 1940. The ladies of the Women's Club were chagrined that they could not present their esteemed guest with a bouquet of fresh flowers — as good etiquette dictated — owing to the shortage of green or flowering vegetation in the hot summer. Brooks' remark, that the desert had so many beautiful weeds that flowers were unnecessary, inspired the club members to establish the first ever Weed Show in 1941. The categories have changed very little since that first Weed Show in 1941, and

still include a range of accessories from junk to beautiful purple glass.

In addition to celebrating the return of the Weed Show, the Old School House Museum is celebrating a major expansion that nearly doubled the available space in the museum. The new facilities include a temperature and humidity controlled curation room, a library, and office space, which has allowed the museum to return the original schoolroom to an authentic state. Come and learn The Tools of the Trade with the Twentynine Palms Historical Society and the Old Schoolhouse Museum on November 4th and 5th. Times for public viewing are on Saturday, from noon to 4 p.m. and Sunday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For those wishing to enter, Entries must be brought to the museum between the hours of 4 and 6:30 p.m. today, or Saturday, from 7 to 9:30 a.m. NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED. Judging is from 9:30 a.m. to noon Saturday.

Tools of the Trade

CATEGORIES

- **Helen Bagley's Shop**
Arrangement using museum quality purple glass
- Composition using broken purple glass
- **Homesteaders and Homemakers**
 - Composition fitting a 6" x 6" x 6" dimension using small items related to the home
 - Composition fitting a 3" x 3" x 3" dimension using small items related to the home
- **Barker & Shay, Cattle Ranchers**
 - Composition using farming or cattle ranching items
- **Bootleggers Trail**
 - Composition using items related to making moonshine

(no plastic bottles or items post-1950)

- **Hard Rock and Hard Times**
 - Composition using items related to mining
- **Twentynine Palms Air Academy**
 - Composition using items related to flight and/or the military
- **Wagons & Mules**
 - Composition using an accessory related to hauling freight
- **Hastie's Bus**
 - Composition using objects that exceed 20" wide by 16" deep by 36" high (displayed items will be unattended outside the museum building)
- **Three R's in Two Rooms (Children Only)**
 - Composition using any accessory related to school or education
 - For ages 4 to 8
 - For ages 9 to 12

Rules for entry are available at the Old Schoolhouse Museum, open Wednesday through Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m., or are available online at <http://groups.msn.com/29palmshistoricalsociety/2006weedshow.msnw>.

HOW TO ENTER

1. Read the Rules for Exhibitors and sign the Exhibitor Agreement Form.
2. You may submit only one entry per category.
3. You may enter as many categories as you wish.
4. Prior to acceptance, our Weed Show Committee will review your entry which will be examined to ensure compliance with the rules and regulations, and will assist you in classifying your entry.

EXHIBITORS' RULES

1. Your entry must be complete and ready for display when you enter the museum to register. There is no workroom at the museum for

exhibit assembly.

2. All compositions must contain a desert plant (it is a weed show).
3. Arrangements may use any type of fresh plant material.
4. Plant material must be in its natural state.
5. Entries may only be held together with natural adhesives, i.e. clay, sand or sap (that means no hot glue, oasis foam or the like).
6. The base used for your entry must be solid enough to permit handling by a committee member. Only committee members will move displays. Construction paper may be used to complement the entry.
7. No artificial plants are allowed.
8. Space is limited. For exhibition inside the museum, keep entries smaller than 20" wide x 16" deep x 36" high. Larger entries will automatically go into the oversize cat-

egory (#8) to be staged outside and will be unattended.

9. Each entry will be judged not only for artistry, but also for its adherence to the criteria of the category, i.e. subject matter, use of accessories, being within the specified dimensions, use of plant material. Each entry must be strong enough to withstand the elements.

Pick up entries on Sunday, between 4 and 5 p.m.

The Twentynine Palms Historical Society is not responsible for loss, damage or any unclaimed entries.



