

# OBSERVATION Post

MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER

MAY 4, 2007

SERVING THE TWENTYNINE PALMS COMMUNITY SINCE 1957

VOL. 50 ISSUE 17

## 3/7 heads out for fourth tour

LANCE CPL. KATELYN A. KNAUER  
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

The Marines and sailors of 3rd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, said their good-byes to family and friends and boarded buses over a span of three days, April 26-28, beginning their fourth deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"It seems like yesterday when we celebrated our homecoming from Ramadi, Iraq," said 1st Sgt. Mike Lanpolsaen, Weapons Company first sergeant. "In reality it has been over a year as we are boarding buses to go back to the same area."

While some with the battalion have multiple tours under their belts, others have yet to see the streets of Iraq. While the dangers of war would scare many away, Marines of 3/7 feel their pre-deployment training has given them the basic tools they need to succeed.

"The predeployment training we have been through has been really good," said Lance Cpl. Joshuan Bradshaw, Company I, who is on his first tour to Iraq. "Mojave Viper taught us a lot. It was a good program. The training we do sets us apart from other battalions, in fact we have been



LANCE CPL. KATELYN A. KNAUER  
Sgt. Chris Macleod stands with his daughter 6-week-old Heather and his wife Allison as 3/7 prepares to deploy to Iraq for a 7-month deployment April 26.

in the field almost every week since Christmas."

"Mojave Viper was a big part in preparing us for Iraq," said Lanpolsaen. The realistic

training with the role players and different scenarios were outstanding. This was 100 percent better than what we got at SASO [Security and Stability

Operations Training] for our last deployment. No doubt about it, all the predeployment training we conducted in the last year has definitely pre-

pared the Marines."

Not only will 3/7 Marines head into combat confident their training has prepared them, but they will head into

combat confident the Marine to the left and right of them is prepared as well.

**See 3/7 DEPLOY, A5**

## Family, friends welcome home returning troops



LANCE CPL. NICHOLAS M. DUNN  
Cpl. Jeremy Clark, 1st Tank Battalion, is welcomed home by family members at the Combat Center's Victory Field Sunday after completing a deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

LANCE CPL. NICHOLAS M. DUNN  
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Marines and sailors from Company A, 1st Tank Battalion and Company D, 3rd Assault Amphibian Battalion, were greeted with open arms by family members, friends and fellow Marines at the Combat Center's Victory Field Sunday.

The returning troops spent the past seven months deployed to Al Anbar province, Iraq, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

While in Iraq, the two units primarily watched over major roadways to prevent insurgents from placing improvised explosive devices that could hinder convoy operations.

"We made sure that our convoys were getting from point A to point B in a safe manner," said Gunnery Sgt. Timmie Leggett, a tank commander and platoon sergeant for 2nd Platoon, Company A, 1st Tank Battalion.

After seven long months, the Marines and sailors received a warm welcome from friends and family.

"While he was gone, we were nervous the whole time," said Valerie Brasel,

mother of Lance Cpl. Sean Brasel, a gunner assigned to 1st Tanks. "At the same time, we were so proud of what he was doing. Now we're all just excited to see him come home safe."

Brasel was greeted by his mother, father, three younger sisters and his fiancé Sophia, who drove all the way from Ogden, Utah, to welcome him home.

"We were nervous and scared the whole time," said Libby Benton, the mother of Lance Cpl. Clay Benton, an amphibious assault vehicle operator. "We're very relieved and very blessed to have him home safe and sound."

"We spent many nights not sleeping well, knowing that something could go wrong," said Donny Benton, Clay's father. "We also knew that something Clay always wanted to do is be a Marine."

Benton was also welcomed home by his grandparents, who flew in from Pageland, S.C.

The buses arrived at Victory Field at approximately 7 p.m. After getting off the buses, the Marines and sailors were immediately reunited with their loved ones.

"It feels great to be home," said Clay. "It's great to be back on American soil again."

"Deploying was a good experience for me," he added. "It was rough at times, but it was good for me. Now I'm going to spend time with my family and get used to things again."

"We all love Sean," said Sophia, Brasel's fiancé. "We missed him and we're glad to have him home."

"We're proud of all of them," agreed Valerie, Brasel's mother.

In addition to family members and friends, the Marines and sailors of the two units were greeted by some of their fellow Marines who were wounded in action during the seven-month deployment.

The wounded Marines had been hit by an improvised explosive device Jan. 24 and were sent home early.

"I didn't want to go," said Cpl. Paul Hale, a tank mechanic and loader. "I wanted to stay and help. It wasn't the same back here without all those guys."

In the explosion, Hale suffered a broken fibula in his left leg and ligament damage in his left knee.

Now that the two units have returned, they will go on block leave and then continue to train for a future deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

### Weekend Weather

Friday  76/55  
Sunny & Windy

Saturday  77/54  
Mostly Sunny

Sunday  81/58  
Sunny

### Inside this issue

- A6: Red Cross seeks volunteers
- A7: Fallen Blue Angel
- A8: Changes to pistol qual

### Observations



21st Annual Ridge Run a success

### This Day in Marine Corps History

— 1942 —

Marines participated in the Battle of Coral Sea during World War II.

# C.O.P. Corner

## Community Oriented Policing

The proactive voice of crime prevention



Presented by the Provost Marshal's Office Crime Prevention Section

## Suicide Prevention: What you can do to help

**Did you know that at least 90 percent of the people who kill themselves, or attempted to kill themselves, have a diagnosable and treatable psychiatric illness?**

Some examples are:

- Major Depression
- Bipolar Depression
- Schizophrenia
- Alcohol and drug abuse (when combined with depression)
- Posttraumatic Stress Disorder
- Bulimia or anorexia
- Personality disorders

Did you know that between 20 and 50 percent of people who kill themselves had previously attempted suicide? Those people who have a family history of suicide or psychiatric disorders are at higher risk for actually taking their lives.

Did you know that males are more likely to commit suicide than females, and elderly caucasian males have the highest suicide rates?

**Here are some warning signs of suicide and tips on what you can do to help.**

Some of the warning signs are:

- Depressed mood
- Loss of interest or pleasure in usual activities
- Change in appetite or weight
- Change in sleeping patterns
- Speaking or moving with unusual speed or slowness
- Feelings of worthlessness, self-reproach or guilt
- Thoughts of death, suicide, or wishes to be dead

**Tips on what you can do to help are:**

- Take it seriously: 75 percent of suicides have given some warning of their intentions to family and friends prior to committing suicide acts.
- Be willing to listen: ask them what is troubling them, suggest professional help, let them know that you care and understand, do not attempt to argue them out of it.
- Seek professional help: Be actively involved and encourage them to see a physician or mental health professional.

For more information on suicide prevention go to the Web site <http://www.afsp.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

## Sempertoons

By Gunnery Sgt. Charles Wolf

**"Your requests are back  
from the X.O. and the C.O.,  
They both said, N.O.!  
Now, G.O!"**



[sempertoons.com](http://sempertoons.com)  
[myspace.com/semperton](http://myspace.com/semperton)

## Light Armor Vehicle Crewman SNCO conversion program volunteer extension

MARADMIN 137/07

The 0313 military occupational specialty conversion program has received a number of enthusiastic responses from volunteers; however, the necessary manpower requirement has not been fully attained. In order to receive additional applications to achieve the requirement, the application deadline has been extended to Wednesday.

If the manpower requirement for the conversion program is not met through volunteers, a mandatory conversion will be implemented.

Commanders and unit leaders at all levels are highly encouraged to promote and counsel qualified Marines to apply for the conversion.

To streamline the application process, commanders can send volunteer information via digitally signed e-mail to the points of contact listed below, by a lieutenant colonel equivalent or above. Enter applicant information into the Microsoft excel data template found on the PP&O Web site listed below.

Commander's recommendation must be signed by a lieutenant colonel equivalent or above.

Applications with unfavorable recommendations are still eligible for consideration.

Applications must include: commander's recommendation, SNCO's last name, first name, middle initial, rank/grade, current PMOS, if attended LAV Crewman Course, last 5 of their social security number, current command and location, current MCC, and armed forces pay entry base date.

Local commands will not make diary entries for converted SNCO's.

See the PP&O/POG/Manpower Web site for up to date information on 0313 SNCO conversion:

<http://hqinet001.hqmc.usmc.mil/pp&o/pog/section%20pages/manpower%20page.htm>

The web address must be lower case. Data template, info papers, modeling results, t/os, and briefs are posted for viewing.

For questions related to required information, promotion opportunity and assignments, commands and interested volunteers are encouraged to contact Master Sgt. Ivan Ayala, the 0313 MOS Monitor by calling 703-784-9964 or DSN 278-9964. He can also be reached by email at [ivan.ayala@usmc.mil](mailto:ivan.ayala@usmc.mil) or contact Maj. Tom Tennant, at 703-784-9334 or DSN 278-9334. He can also be reached by email at [thomas.tennant@usmc.mil](mailto:thomas.tennant@usmc.mil).

The program sponsor is Capt. Paul Gillikin, manpower analyst at PP&O, GCE Branch. He can be reached at 703-692-4310 or 4298 and by DSN 222-4310. He may also be reached by e-mail at [paul.gillikin@usmc.mil](mailto:paul.gillikin@usmc.mil). This initiative is applicable to the total force.

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Thank you for participating.

## Centerspeak

“What did your mentor teach you?”

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



GUNNERY SGT. RICHARD A. NUNLEY  
COMPANY A, HQBN



PETTY OFFICER 3RD CLASS FRANK MYLES  
H&S COMPANY, 3/5



PFC MICHAEL R. TRUDE  
COMPANY B, MCCES

“Don't be afraid to make mistakes and never give up.”

“How to treat people fairly.”

“To always strive for your best, and look out for the guy next to you, because you know he's looking out for you.”

## What's on your mind?

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

Call Cpl. Evan M. Eagan at  
830-5472

Or e-mail to:  
[evan.eagan@usmc.mil](mailto:evan.eagan@usmc.mil)

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## HOT TOPICS

### HOSPITAL EXPANSION PROJECT UNDERWAY

The Robert E. Bush Naval Hospital Pharmacy expansion project is underway. This project involves enclosing the alcove area between Mental Health and the main hospital. During the project there will be a moderate amount of noise and dust in this area. Since the Galley patio area is near the construction site, noise and dust levels may be higher than normal. Please take this into consideration if you choose to eat lunch in this area. Access to and from the patio area will be limited to the Galley and ground floor entrances since the stairs in the patio area will be secured.

This construction will also affect access between the main hospital and the clinics. The public corridor that leads from Mental Health to the hallway in front of the Radiology Reception Desk will be secured. Public travel between the Laboratory/Radiology/Pharmacy/ER areas and the clinics will have to be routed through the hospital's main entrance.

The staff access hallway behind the clinics will not be affected. Please do not direct patient and visitors to use this hallway since it poses significant security and privacy issues. When it is expedient to good medical care, patients may be personally escorted by a hospital staff member; however, this should be done discretionally.

The projected completion date for this project is approximately late July. If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to either contact the Director of Public Health Services at 830-2206 or the Facilities Manager at 830-2395.

### CAC INFORMATION

For those individuals needing to have their pin unlocked or reset, please come to Bldg. 1529. This building is located across from Taco Bell. For those individuals needing a new card or need to have certificates added to their CAC, please go to the DEERS ID center located in Bldg. 1551.

### ROAD CLOSURES

Del Valle Road is currently being repaved from Sixth to Tenth Street. Northbound traffic will be routed up Sixth Street to Brown Road, then down Tenth Street back to Del Valle Road. Southbound traffic will be routed up Tenth Street to Brown Road, then down Sixth Street back to Del Valle Road. Please be attentive to all traffic control signs.

### HEAT CONDITION FLAG WARNING SYSTEM

Summer is coming. MCAGCC Heat Condition Flag Warning System will start effective May 1. It is a leader's responsibility to be aware of heat conditions and to take steps to prevent heat casualties. All organizations on base responsible for informing subordinate units must be aware of the current flag condition and ensure that the information is distributed as appropriate. Leaders should review Combat

Center Order 6200.3D for information concerning prevention of heat casualties, first aid for casualties and the flag condition warning system. The G-3 point of contact for the warning system is Staff Sgt. McMillon who can be reached at 830-6662. The current heat index can be checked at the Naval Hospital's Web site at <http://164.167.141.93/29palms/>.

### OBSTACLE COURSE AND RAPPEL TOWER CLOSED

The obstacle course and the rappel tower are closed until further notice due to safety issues.

## LEISURE ITEMS

### SNCO CLUB CASINO NIGHT

Hashmarks Staff NCO Club will host another popular Casino Night today. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. and play begins at 6 p.m. The evening is open to NCOs, SNCOs and Officers. For more information, call 830-6610.

### TROOP 78 FLAG RETIREMENT

Troop 78 will be performing a flag retirement ceremony May 21, at 7:30 p.m. at the Victory Field pavilion. The scouts will be retiring five flags that evening.

### NEW GYM HOURS

Mon-Fri 5 a.m. - 9 p.m.  
Sat-Sun 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.  
Holidays 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.  
Changes were made to weekend and holiday hours. We

will be open two hours later than before. This will take effect this weekend.

### GSA STORE WILL BE CLOSED

The GSA Self Service Store will be closed Monday through Friday next week for annual inventory.

### PREP WORKSHOP FOR MARRIED/ENGAGED COUPLES

PREP is a 3-day workshop teaching communication skills, ground rules for handling conflict and promoting intimacy for married or engaged couples. The program's aim is to prevent marital problems before they become too great to handle. PREP workshops are offered each month through the Religious Ministries Directorate. Problem solving, building fun and friendship into your relationship, how to handle issues in an effective way, sensual and sexual enhancement, steps in forgiveness, how to identify and handle expectations, money matters, how to raise concerns constructively and how to gain and maintain a safe environment to talk about sensitive subjects using the speaker/listener technique. After May, the next PREP workshop will be July 25-27. Call 830-6464 to enroll.

### SOFTBALL TEAM WANTED

Sports has an opening for one team to join the Commanding General's Intramural Softball League. If interested call sports at 830-4092.

### LIFELONG LEARNING EDUCATION CENTER'S 4TH ANNUAL GRADUATE RECOGNITION CEREMONY

The Lifelong Learning Education Center will conduct its 4th Annual Graduate Recognition Ceremony for graduates of Copper Mountain College, National University, and the Distance Learning Programs. The GRC recognizes the educational accomplishments of service members, family members, and civilians assigned to MCAGCC, who completed certificate and degree programs during the past year. The GRC and reception will be at the Protestant Chapel Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Brig. Gen. M.G. Spiess will be the keynote speaker. Everyone is invited to attend.

### ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN MEAL

Phelps and Littleton Hall will serve a Asian Pacific American Lunch Thursday. The Mess halls will be open to all military family members, retirees, and guests. Standard meal rates apply. The lunch meal hours are from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The points of contact are Gunnery Sgt. Martin and Mr.

Rocha. they can be reached by calling 830-8821 and 830-8023.

### LAST CHANCE TO GET TICKETS FOR STOCK CAR RACING

Orange Show Speedway is offering free tickets to active duty service members and veterans Memorial Day weekend. They will also serve hotdogs, hamburgers, soda, and have static displays and allow attendees to meet the drivers, just to say thank you for serving in the military. Please contact the Public Affairs Office with the number of tickets needed for each command and points of contact for distribution no later than May 16.

### LINCOLN MILITARY HOUSING CURRENTLY HIRING LIFEGUARDS

Lincoln Military Housing is currently hiring lifeguards for housing area pools. The candidates must be CPR and First Aid certified. All qualified applicants should apply at the Lincoln Military Housing Office between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. The pay range will be \$9 - \$11 per hour depending on experience. Applications will be accepted until all positions are filled. For more information, please call Lincoln Military Housing at 368-4500.

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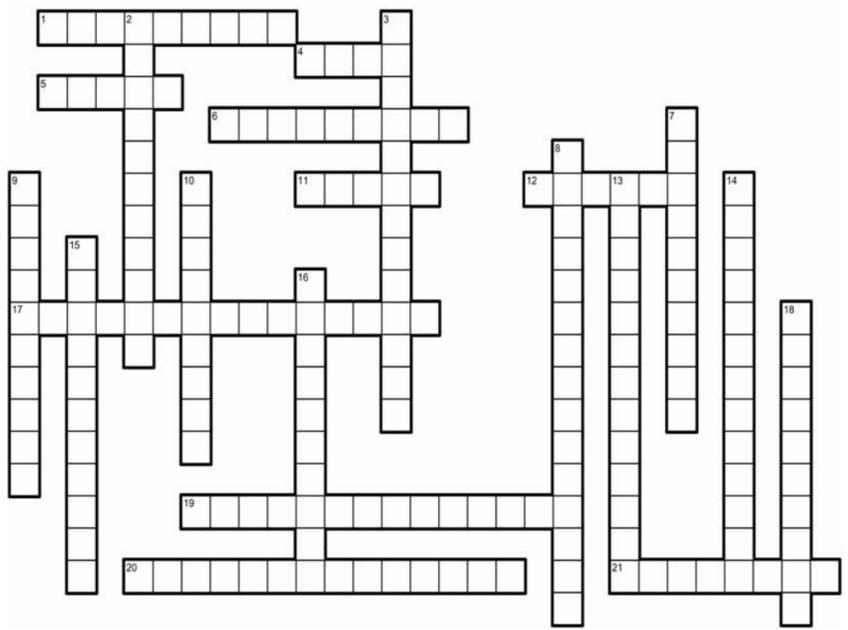


LANCE CPL. NICHOLAS M. DUNN

## Attention to orders

3/11 commanding officer, Lt. Col. Mark M. Tull stands at attention before presenting Staff Sgt. Ronald Jones a Navy Achievement Medal with combat distinguishing device, while Jones' wife, Davinity, watches.

# GOOD MOVIES



### ACROSS

- The aging patriarch of an organized crime dynasty transfers control of his clandestine empire to his reluctant son. "The \_\_\_\_\_"
- A police chief, a scientist, and a grizzled sailor set out to kill a shark that is menacing the seaside community of Amity Island.
- Col. Shaw leads the US Civil War's first all-black volunteer company, fighting prejudices of both his own Union army and the Confederates.
- "\_\_\_\_\_ Redemption"
- "You think you know who you are. You have no idea." Several stories interweave during two days in Los Angeles involving a collection of inter-related characters.
- A computer hacker learns from mysterious rebels about the true nature of his reality and his role in the war against the controllers of it. "The \_\_\_\_\_"
- A Marine observes the dehumanizing effects the Vietnam War has on his fellow Marine recruits from their brutal basic training to the bloody streetfighting set in Hue City.
- Oskar uses Jews to start a factory in Poland, witnesses the horrors endured by the Jews, and starts to save them. "\_\_\_\_\_"
- Lester Burnham, a depressed suburban father in a mid-life crisis, decides to turn his hectic life around after developing an infatuation for his daughter's attractive friend.
- A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away...

### DOWN

- An Alabama man, while not intelligent, has accidentally been present at many historic moments, but his true love, Jenny, eludes him.
- Five villains in New York are rounded up by police in a manner that worries them. After released, they get together for a spot of revenge, but someone else is controlling events. "The \_\_\_\_\_"
- A mentally unstable Vietnam war veteran works as a nighttime taxi driver in a city whose perceived decadence and sleaze feeds his urge to violently lash out.
- 17 year old Marty McFly got home early last night. 30 years early.
- "As far back as I can remember, I've always wanted to be a gangster." Henry Hill, Brooklyn, N.Y. 1955.
- An office employee and a soap salesman build a global organization to help vent male aggression.
- Mr. White, Mr. Orange, Mr. Blond, Mr. Blue, Mr. Brown, Mr. Pink and Nice Guy.
- Capt. Willard missions into Cambodia to assassinate a renegade Green Beret who has set himself up as a God among a local tribe.
- The lives of two mob hit men, a boxer, a gangster's wife, and a pair of diner bandits intertwine in four tales of violence and redemption.
- Classic film set in occupied Africa during the early days of WWII: An American expatriate meets a former lover, with unforeseen complications.
- William Wallace, a commoner, unites the 13th Century Scots in their battle to overthrow English rule.

[Solutions on A8]

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# First woman reserve officer to be general

The Marine Corps will promote the first woman reserve officer to the rank of general during a ceremony in Arlington, Va., May 4.

Deputy Commandant for Installations and Logistics Lt. Gen. Richard S. Kramlich will promote Col. Tracy L. Garrett to brigadier general in the audi-

torium aboard Headquarters Battalion, Henderson Hall.

Garrett has held many billets throughout her 29 years of service. She has been the Headquarters and Service company commander, battalion executive officer and the commanding officer for 4th Landing Support Battalion.

Garrett has also mobilized with the 1st Force Service Support Group out of Camp Pendleton, Calif., on several occasions in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

At the present time, she is the acting commanding general for 4th Marine Logistics Group, Marine Forces Reserve.

## 3/7 DEPLOY from A1

Sgt. Casey Howell, Company I, who is on his second tour to Iraq, says he is confident in the abilities of his junior and senior Marines.

"We train more than any other battalion I have seen," said Howell. "I have seen how the staff NCO's [noncommissioned officers] and officers make sure everyone is trained to the best of their ability, which



LANCE CPL. KATELYN A. KNAUER Stephanie Hullette, wife of Sgt. Everett Hullette, and Angela Harding, mom of Cpl. Michael Harding hold hands with their loved ones as the buses prepare to leave the Combat Center April 26.

makes me very confident in this battalion."

Staff Sgt. Trace Bolding, Company I platoon sergeant, who is on his second tour as well, agrees.

"Without a doubt I am confident in these Marines," said Bolding. "We have had more of an opportunity for training since the last deployment. Along with that, we have experienced Marines who have done multiple tours. In my platoon alone 50 percent have already deployed."

While the Marines head off to war confident they will succeed in their mission, they wave goodbye to family and friends. Some will use their return to the states as motivation; others will use their spouses, kids, family, friends or fellow Marines.

"Mission accomplishment and bringing everyone back safe is going to keep me motivated," said 1st Lt. Jonathan Reed, platoon commander, who is now serving his third tour. "When we originally went to Ramadi, the Iraqi Army didn't know how to do much, now they are taking the lead and we're more of a supporting role. That's motivating to see."

While distance from family is tough, the Marines from 3/7 know they can count on each other.

"3/7 is a good battalion because we're disciplined and we train hard," said Eugene Soto, India Company. "We have the best leaders, and we're like a family."

3/7 is scheduled to return later this year at the conclusion of their seven-month deployment.

# 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 p.m. Life Teen/Youth Group  
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)

## 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. Sunday School\*  
Sun 9 a.m. Worship\*  
Wed 7 p.m. Praise & Worship\*

## LAY-LED INDEPENDENT BAPTIST SERVICE

Christ Chapel  
Sun 11 a.m. Worship

## LAY-LED GOSPEL SERVICE Christ Chapel

Sun 12:30 p.m. Worship

## MID-WEEK EVENTS

### MONDAY

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

### 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\*  
C&E Mess Hall Bldg 1660  
11:30 a.m. Bible Study  
Chaplain Flint 830-6187

### WEDNESDAY

#### Village Center

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

### Christ Chapel

5:30 p.m. Catholic Choir Rehearsal  
6:00 p.m. Praise & Worship Rehearsal  
6:00 p.m. Pre-Service Food/Fellowship  
7:00 p.m. Lay-Led Gospel Bible Study  
7:00 p.m. Praise & Worship Service

### 1ST THURSDAY EACH MONTH

7 p.m. Knights of Columbus

## LEGEND

\*Indicates Child Care Provided  
+Appointments can be made for Confessions by calling 830-6456/6646  
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# Combat Center Red Cross seeks volunteers

**AMERICAN RED CROSS**  
PRESS RELEASE

Each year, the American Red Cross onboard the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center delivers over 1,400

emergency messages between service members and their loved ones. These messages are received, delivered and tracked across the globe by dedicated volunteers that reside here in the Morongo Basin.

Volunteers also dedicate their time to work in the various clinics at the Robert E. Bush Naval Hospital, 23rd Dental Clinic, and at other locations base-wide. These dedicated individuals addi-

tionally assist with counseling families of deployed Marines and sailors and help to welcome the deployed back home from war.

When emergency strikes, the Red Cross is there. And

whether stationed at sea or at a base far from home, military service members can count on this assistance from the Red Cross wherever they go. For over 60 years, the Red Cross has been there for

thousands of military families here in the Morongo Valley. Please help us make sure that we will be here for the next 60. Volunteers are urgently needed now for all of our programs. The American Red Cross on board the Combat Center will be holding Volunteer Orientations on Saturday, May 12 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and May 22 from 1 to 4 p.m. The class is free and open to all. Please pre-register by phoning 830-6685.

The American Red Cross helps people prevent, prepare for and respond to emergencies. Last year, almost a million volunteers and 35,000 employees helped victims of almost 75,000 disasters; taught life-saving skills to millions; and helped U.S. service members separated from their families stay connected. Almost 4 million people gave blood through the Red Cross, the largest U.S. supplier of blood and blood products. The American Red Cross is part of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. An average of 91 cents of every dollar the Red Cross spends is invested in humanitarian services and programs. The Red Cross is not a government agency; it relies on donations of time, money, and blood to do its work.

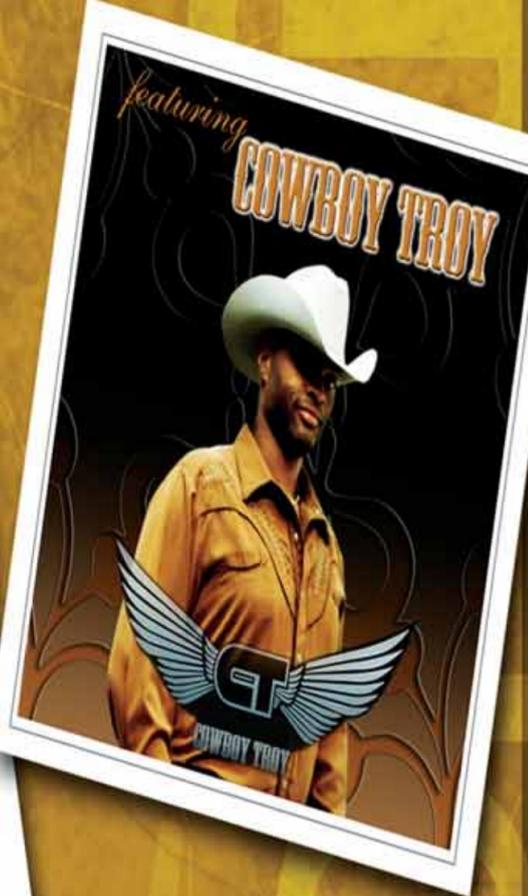


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**Mountain Valley Memorial Park**  
Joshua Tree, CA 92252  
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**Betty Smith**  
Visitation, 10-11 AM.  
Monday, May 7  
Funeral Service 11 AM  
At Wiefels Chapel in Yucca Valley  
Interment at Riverside National Cemetery

**Helen Torres**  
Visitation & Rosary, 9-10 AM, Mass 10 AM,  
Friday, May 4th, at St. Mary's of the Valley  
Graveside, 11:30 AM at Joshua Tree Memorial Park

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**Francette Mace**  
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**Consuelo Alday**  
Services are Private

**Helen Moriarty**  
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Celebration of Life, 4 PM Saturday, May 5th at Joshua Springs Calvary Chapel Interment at Joshua Tree Memorial Park

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# Lowcountry mourns loss of fallen Blue Angel

LANCE CPL. MONIQUE SMITH  
MCAS BEAUFORT

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION BEAUFORT, S.C. — In the final moments of the last performance during day one of the 2007 MCAS Beaufort Air Show, tragedy struck when the Blue Angel # 6 jet from the Navy's Flight Demonstration Squadron crashed.

The pilot, who did not survive, was Lt. Cmdr. Kevin J. Davis, a second year member of the team.

At approximately 4 p.m. Saturday, Davis was joining the Delta formation for the final maneuver of the aerial demonstration when the mishap occurred. The other five Blue Angel jets were not involved in the incident and landed safely moments later.

Davis served as the opposing solo pilot for the F/A-18 Hornet squadron. This was his first year as a demonstration pilot and for his parents, who were in the crowd watching their son, it was their first Air Show.

"Our squadron and the entire U.S. Navy are grieving in the loss of a great American, a great Naval officer and most of all, a great friend," said Lt. Cmdr. Anthony Walley, the right wing pilot for Blue Angel # 2.

The crash occurred approximately three miles outside of the Air Station and was quickly responded to by both civilian and military emergency services.

"We established an incident command team responsible for coordinating all activities and responsible for both cleanup and debris," said William Winn, the Beaufort County Emergency Management director.

"From my vantage point, the response was phenomenal," said Col. Robert Lanham, the Air Station's commanding



Smoke rises above the tree line just moments after Lt. Cmdr. Kevin J. Davis' jet fell out of view April 19.

LANCE CPL. JASON D. MILLS

officer." All of the coordination exercises that we do with the Beaufort County first responders paid off, because the coordination with them at the accident scene was superb. Emergency responders were where they needed to be immediately and began to work to contain the situation and handle the emergency. I was very proud of everyone."

A special tribute was made to honor Davis Saturday night by personnel at the crash site.

"As a tribute, (Saturday evening), the emergency services removed the American flag from the Burton Fire Department and placed it over the stretcher carrying the pilot from the scene," Winn said. "Full honors were rendered at that time by emergency services personnel and by military authorities."

The decision was made to

continue with the second day of Air Show performances, and the day began with a moving opening ceremony paying tribute to Davis by observing a moment of silence, an aerial missing man formation performed by the GEICO Skytypers and the playing of Taps.

"We put a lot of thought into (continuing with the Air Show) for a few reasons," Lanham said. "One is that's what we do and even the Air Show performers wanted to go ahead with it because that's how we've always done business in aviation. As tragic as it is, it's part of our business. We accept those risks and we have to go on with the mission. And going on with the Air Show is symbolic of how we handle the dangerous aspects of our mission. The other aspect is the

solid support we got from the community to go along with it. At the opening ceremony we had Mayor (Bill) Rauch, County Council Chair Weston Newton and Vice-Chair Skeet Von Harten. There was a lot of solidarity between the military and the civilian community to go ahead with it."

In the wake of Saturday's tragic event, many critics have begun voicing their opinions, saying that Air Shows are dangerous and perhaps shouldn't be flown over cities.

"It's not Air Shows that are dangerous, it's flying," Lanham said. "The flying business can be dangerous. Air Shows are done for specific reasons - to provide community relations for us, to assist in recruiting, and to demonstrate aviation and air power to a public that largely doesn't know a lot

about what we do. So I think it's worth the risk that we take."

"We are entirely committed to safety in our historical organization and in Naval aviation," Walley said.

While the second day of Air Show events continued, the death of Davis affected the entire county.

"Beaufort County is very saddened by this incident," Winn said. "We're sorry to lose one of our Naval heroes."

"It was a tragedy that the Blue Angel mishap occurred," Lanham said. "I think other than that, it was a flawless effort on both days. The whole Marine Corps and Navy community at MCAS Beaufort turned out a great show. I received feedback from the performers that it was one of the better-organ-

ized shows that they attended and everybody I talked to was having a really, really good time. And even when we were challenged by tragedy, Team Beaufort responded very well. I was very proud of the effort and it doesn't diminish the level of teamwork and professionalism that the sailors and Marines demonstrated here."

The family has asked that any donations be made to the Make-A-Wish Foundation in Lt. Cmdr. Kevin J. Davis' name. The cause of the accident is currently under investigation

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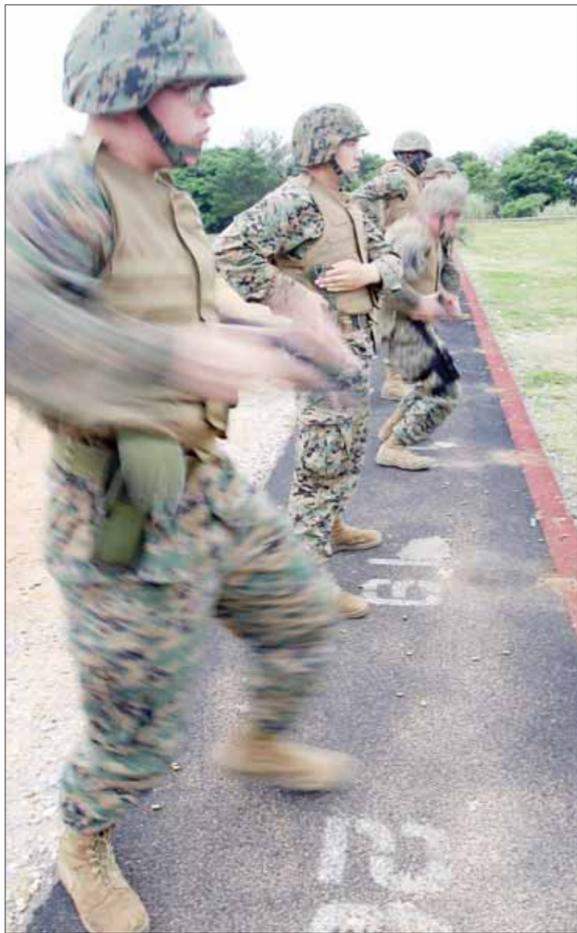
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<p>Yucca Valley 57273 Onaga Tr., 365-3671 <b>The United Methodist Church</b> Sunday Classes for All Ages - 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM (Child Care Available) Bible Study: Mon., 10:30 AM; Wed., 7:00 PM</p>	<p><b>OASIS COMMUNITY CHURCH</b> 6631 Utah Trail, 29 Palms Service Times Sunday 9:00 am, 11:00 am Nursery provided at 9:00am &amp; 11:00am <b>367-7812</b> <a href="http://www.oasiscommunitychurch.com">www.oasiscommunitychurch.com</a></p>	<p><b>Hi-Desert Missionary Baptist Church</b> Pastor Donald Baxter Come Worship As A Family Wed. Night Bible Study 7:00 pm Sunday School 9:45 am Morning Worship 11:00 am 61960 Mt. View Cir. • Joshua Tree 366-7938</p>	<p><b>Yucca Valley Church of the Nazarene</b> 9:45 am Morning Worship 8:30 am Sunday School (All ages) 6:00 pm Evening Service 56248 Buena Vista, 365-7819 <a href="http://www.yvnazarene.com">www.yvnazarene.com</a></p>	<p><b>First Southern Baptist Church</b> Sun. Worship 10:45am • 6:00pm Sun. Bible Study 9:30am Wed. Potluck 6:00pm Wed. Bible Study 7:00pm 6088 Sunset Road JT (760) 366-9211</p>	<p><b>Map:</b> Sage, Cholla, Buena Vista, Pioneer Town, HWY 62</p>

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LANCE CPL. BRYAN A. PETERSON

Pfc. Zachary D. Hardesty, a range block noncommissioned officer, prepares to fire during the new pistol qualification course. Beginning Oct. 1, among other changes to the course, Marines on the pistol range will be required to draw their pistol when targets appear.

# Corps changes pistol qualification, takes on new, tactical approach

LANCE CPL. BRYAN A. PETERSON  
MCB CAMP BUTLER

CAMP HANSEN, OKINAWA, Japan — Beginning Oct. 1, every Marine who qualifies with a pistol will need a flak jacket and a Kevlar helmet.

Recent changes made by the Marine Corps Marksmanship Center of Excellence are intended to make pistol qualification more applicable to a combat environment, according to Chief Warrant Officer-2 Mark W. Clark, the Range Control officer-in-charge for Marine Corps Base Camp Butler, who noted similar procedures for the rifle range have been in practice for some time.

“On the rifle range, Marines are shooting at positions that are used in combat,” he said. “Currently on the pistol range, everyone holds the weapon in their hand at the alert until the targets pop up, no one wears helmets or flak

jackets, and the only position used is the standing. The way the course is right now hasn't been making it right for Marines when they deploy in (combat) areas.”

In addition to the Kevlar helmet and flak jacket, the Marine Corps will incorporate the kneeling position at certain distances of the range.

At the 25-yard line, Marines will kneel during the slow fire portion and shoot controlled pairs while standing and kneeling. The 15-yard line stage of fire will include the standing-to-kneeling speed-reload drills.

In other changes, shooters will be required to start from the holster, not from the alert, Clark said.

“The biggest changes are the tangibles and how Marines will shoot,” he said. “By having the Marines pull the gun out of the holster, it requires them to think

quickly in a situation.

The course also requires shooters to unbutton their holster, draw their weapon and shoot with one hand from the seven-yard line.

Sgt. Derrick A. Wise, Range Control's chief instructor of combat marksmanship coaches and combat marksmanship training, said Marines will have some flexibility with where they place their holster.

“A Marine can't holster the weapon on his back or anything crazy like that,” he said. “The holster can be worn at the hip or between the hip and knee, but the flexibility is such that the Marine will engage the target from the holster comfortably and efficiently without fumbling around with their gear. They need to shoot here the way they will shoot in combat.”

With the new changes, range block noncommissioned officers are spending time each month to familiarize themselves with the new procedures before Oct. 1 so they will know how to enforce the new rules when Marines come to qualify.

Wise said the Marines testing the new modifications are focusing on form and technique.

“Before they go out and enforce the rules and answer any questions people have, they have to know what they are doing first,” Wise said. “With Marines coming on the rifle and pistol range all the time, we can only afford a few days a month to come out here, and that's why we will need until October to get this validated.”

The current pistol course point system will stay the same, Wise said.

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# OBSERVATIONS

MAY 4, 2007

## 21st Annual Ridge Run a huge success



LANCE CPL. KATELYN A. KNAUER

Marines, sailors and civilians break away from the starting line at the 21st Annual Ridge Run April 27. This year's run took on a different course than had been run in previous years.



LANCE CPL. KATELYN A. KNAUER

Anthony Clark, a member of the Pharmacy Team pushes himself to get to the top of Sugar Cookie during the 21st Annual Ridge Run April 27.

**LANCE CPL. KATELYN A. KNAUER**  
*COMBAT CORRESPONDENT*

The sun was beaming down as runners lined up behind the Robert E. Bush Naval Hospital in preparation for the 21st Annual Ridge Run April 27.

More than 240 runners participated in the run, which offered a different course than the previous year's.

"The reason for a new course versus previous years was to provide a degree of variety and ratchet up the level of challenge," said Lt. j.g. Tom Nelson, director for the 21st Annual Ridge Run. "Several runners from the 2006 race indicated that it would be good to mix up the course a little. Without question, it is more difficult than courses offered over the last several years. We added a couple different hills to this year's course, which explains the perceived increase in the level of difficulty."

Runners had the choice to sign up to run either individually, or in a group, and run either an 8-kilometer or 5-kilometer race.

While many were there for the personal challenge, some came back to defend previous titles like the Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School who has had a rivalry going for the Captains Cup with the Robert E. Bush Naval Hospital's team.

"We have been practicing once a week for a month now," said retired Lt. Col. Donald Tolbert. "We also did tryouts to select the best people. The course is so different this year though, so we didn't have a real strategy. We just tried to get out in front and stay out in front."

At the end of the run MCCES' efforts and work paid off for them as they walked away with the team prize, the Captains Cup, with a time of 58:23.

"It's a great feeling when you come down off the mountain and finish the race," said Master Sgt. Steven Hazlett, MCCES team captain. "So many people neglect what their bodies are capable of. No matter how slow someone goes, they're faster than the ones who never started."

Along with the overall team prize, awards were also presented to the first, second and third place male and female for the age groups 25 and under, 26 to 35, 36 to 45, and 46 and over. Awards were also presented to the overall female and male finishers.

The male winner in the 8K was Chad Walton with a time of 45:09, and the female winner was Fabiola Pamatz with a time of 1:02:06. For the 5k the male winner was Adam Crandall with a time of 17:20 and the female winner was Jennifer Sanchez with a time of 29:53.

"The run hurt," said Adam

Crandall, after winning the 5K and then running the 8K just for fun. "The sand made it very difficult. I'm training to do the Marine Corps Marathon and have been running about 90 to 100 miles a week."

The winner for the 25 and under age category for the 8K was Joseph Wilson with a time of 47:12 and Laomise Lapaix with a time of 1:19:20. The winners for the 5K were Evan Haley with a time of 29:26 and Rachel Abelson with a time of 35:28.

The winner for the 26 to 35 age category for the 8K was Michael Keane with a time of 53:15 and Fabiola Pamatz with a time of 1:02:06. The winners for the 5K were Adam Crandall with a time of 17:20 and Jennifer Sanchez with a time of 29:53.

The winner in the 36 to 45 age category for the 8K was Chad Walton with a time of 45:09 and Carol Turner with a time of 1:16:29. The winners for the 5K were Jerome Manne with a time of 26:20 and Jeanmarie Jonston with a time of 34:23.

**See RIDGE RUN, B8**



LANCE CPL. KATELYN A. KNAUER

Rachelle Stiger and Erica Lopez sprint to the finish line after completing the 8-kilometer run during the 21st Annual Ridge Run April 27.

# Pursuing excellence through leadership, diversity and unity

**GYSGT HERRICK ROSS**  
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY ADVISOR

The United States is a nation comprised almost entirely of immigrants and their descendants. The interaction of different cultures, each of which has become a vital part of a culture uniquely American, constantly revitalizes our national spirit and heritage. The United States owes a debt of gratitude to Asian and Pacific Americans for their contributions. In 1978, Representatives Norman Mineta and Frank Horton, along with Senators Spark Matsunaga and Daniel Inouye, introduced resolutions stating that "the President is hereby authorized and requested to issue a proclamation designating the seven day period beginning on May 4, 1979, as 'Asian-Pacific American Heritage Week.'"

Created and shaped by successive waves of immigrants, America has often been regarded as the "melting pot of the world." First, there was a great wave of European exploration and colonization. Colonists later brought

shiploads of Africans to work on Southern plantations. Next, the Chinese were brought to work on the Pacific Railroad, and Japanese, Filipinos, and Koreans came to work on Hawaiian sugar plantations. The New Immigration Act of 1965, which replaced restrictive country quotas with more permissive hemispheric quotas, brought many different groups from around the world. A last great wave of Asian immigration saw Southeast Asian refugees arrive after the fall of Vietnam in 1975. With different histories, cultures, languages, and identities, Chinese, Japanese, Filipinos, Asian Indians, Koreans, Southeast Asians, and Pacific Islanders are grouped together as Asian-Pacific-Americans.

Asian-Pacific-Americans have been here for over 150 years; however, little is known about their history. "Pushed" out of their country by economic depression and "pulled" by hopes and dreams of fortune, emigration to America by Asians and Pacific Islanders was seen as an

opportunity for a better life. Since the Immigration Act of 1965, there has been a huge influx of "brainpower" from Asian-Pacific regions. In India for example, a sluggish economy, unavailability of higher education, and lack of domestic jobs for a well-trained labor force were factors in the emigration of skilled professionals to the U.S. Similar factors can be assigned to the emigration patterns of other Asian-Pacific nations as well. Needed as an "industrial reserve army," they were viewed and treated as outsiders. That view must ultimately give way to a more enlightened perspective of a permanent Asian-Pacific-American presence that is becoming less and less of a minority in America. For Asian-Pacific-Americans to be full contributors to society, they must first be understood and accepted by the rest of America. A complete review of the histories behind 29 different cultures is not possible here, but the following is a brief history of how many of the major Asian-Pacific-American groups came to call

America home.

Chinese is one of the oldest cultures in recorded history. A feudal society bound by traditional roles and responsibilities according to age, sex, birth order, and class within society, it was highly influenced by Confucianism. Confucius (551-479 B.C.E.) was the greatest of the Chinese philosophers, and for nearly two centuries China was guided by his teachings. Confucianism created an orderly society by regulating relationships within the family. The father or grandfather was responsible for teaching of values to the young and the care of parents in old age. Less than one hundred and fifty years ago, there was almost no contact between China and the Western world. The Chinese were forbidden to teach their language to a foreigner or to send books abroad. The first Chinese arrived in 1847 when they were brought by a missionary for schooling in Massachusetts. With the push by America to open up China to trade, the year 1848 saw the arrival of silk merchants and

the first true immigrants, two men and a woman, to work in mining areas. When news of the gold rush reached economically depressed Canton in south China, tales of riches brought twenty-five thousand Chinese to California by 1851. The Chinese had developed mining throughout Southeast Asia, and they named America "Gam Saan," Gold Mountain.

The Japanese on the other hand, have been in the continental United States for more than a century. Some Japanese, slaves held by several Indian tribes, were in the Northwest before the arrival of the first Whites. From 1636 to around 1860, Japanese were forbidden to emigrate from Japan. The Tokugawa shogunate imposed an embargo on emigration in the 17th century, and because of fear of the corrupting influence of the West, had effectively sealed off the borders. But the arrival of Admiral Perry in 1853, and the signing of a peace treaty between the United States and Japan, reversed for a short time Japan's emigration policy. Laws forbidding emigration were reinstated when Japan

feared that the export of labor would lower their prestige among nations of the world. Emigration laws were later relaxed again only because of severe economic conditions and crops failure in southern Japan. From 1886 until 1924 there was considerable Japanese emigration to the Hawaii (238,758) and the United States (196,543).

Filipinos were the third group of Asians to come to America. After changes in immigration laws and the decline of Japanese labor, Filipinos were brought to California and Hawaii in 1907 as a source of cheap labor. After the Spanish-American War of 1898, Filipinos were classified as nationals, free to enter Hawaii. From 1920 until 1935, Filipino immigration increased until the Tydings-McDuffie Act of 1934 granted independence to the Philippines. The legislation, supported by California politicians who opposed cheap labor, limited Filipino immigration to a quota of fifty a year. Filipino immigrants had many of the same characteristics as the Chinese and Japanese. They were young men with a minimal level of education who filled low paying manual jobs such as bellboys, waiters, cooks, busboys, janitors, and hospital attendants. By 1930, 110,000 Filipinos had gone to Hawaii, and another 45,000 lived in California.

While doing the research for this article, I took note of as much of the gifts of Asian-Pacific Americans as I could. Though I had to utilize the library and internet for most of my research, the real history came from my comrades in arms as well as the civilian Marines, like Mrs. Irene Cruse. She works in the protocol office coordinating the official visits from Dignitaries etc. Philippines born and raised, Cometa Brenner of the Children Youth and Teen Development Center and the store manager for MCCC Home Store, Mrs. Aurora, taught me about the fine cuisines that the Pilipino people have added to the everyday American culture. When I went to the Lincoln Military Housing to set up my observance display, I spoke briefly with Ms. Tymenna, a Samoan American who explained to me that there is a substantial difference between a Hawaiian and a Samoan. Though they are both regarded as Polynesian their originations are separate. There is an abundance of knowledge throughout this installation. The diversity of our organization is a cornerstone in the foundation of the Marine Corps.

Certainly the theme of the 2007 Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month, "Pursuing Excellence through Leadership, Diversity and Unity," is quite appropriate. Although Asian-American contributions have been apparent throughout American history, they have proportionately received more publicity in the last 10 years, along with the overall increase in Asian-American population. Asian-Americans have positively affected all facets of American life, and as their representation in the population continues to grow, so too will their influence and contributions to America's future.

## Commanding General's GOLF Tournament

**Friday, May 18 at 9 a.m.**

- The format will be a 4 person scramble or sign - up as an individual to be assigned to a team.
- The cost is \$40 per person and includes: greens fee, golf cart, range balls, continental breakfast, lunch, beverages and prizes!
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# Marines enjoy fine dining in the desert



STAFF SGT. STEPHEN L. TRAYNHAM

Marines at Command Outpost Norseman are served two hot meals a day. Some of the items they have grown to love are the shrimp scampi, pot roast and chicken alfredo.

STAFF SGT. STEPHEN L. TRAYNHAM

2ND MARINE DIVISION

COMMAND OUTPOST NORSEMAN, RUTBAH, Iraq — For many military members working outside of the major bases in Iraq, chow consists of meals ready to eat and maybe one hot meal a day. But for the Marines and sailors working here, chow in the desert resembles the menu of a fine restaurant.

Staff Sgt. Francisco A. Santiago, mess chief and logistics chief for Task Force Tarawa, and his Marines prepare two hot meals a day for more than 750 members of the task force.

"We support all Task Force Tarawa elements with food service," said Santiago, a 28-year-old, Camuy, Puerto Rico, native.

On some of the major military bases, the job of a mess Marine is more curtailed toward quality assurance and control, said Santiago.

"Being out here we do all the cooking," said Cpl. Algie D. Facen-Vaughn, assistant mess chief with TFT. "In the rear, we have contractors that do the cooking. We just check up behind them to make sure the food is good to go for the Marines."

"Out here, we are field mess," said Lance Cpl. Rene M. Cruzhernandez, food service specialist with TFT.

Keeping in tradition with all Marines serving in the field, the ability to adapt to their surroundings played a major role in completing their mission.

"When we got out here, all of the equipment in the kitchen was Army specific," said Santiago. "We had to make it work, and that was a challenge at first. Once we incorporated it with our gear, we were cooking bacon."

Bacon isn't the only thing cooking nowadays at the COP.

"We make our own menus here," said Facen-Vaughn, a 25-year-old, Washington,

D.C., native. "We are on a 15 day cycle, so on day 16 they will get the same meal they had on day one."

Though the menu may seem short with only 15 different breakfast and dinner meals, the spread they put out makes up for it.

"We make chicken parmesan, shrimp scampi, chicken alfredo, and even fried chicken," said Cruzhernandez, a 21-year-old, Winston Salem, N.C., native. "We even provide them with stuff like salad and ice cream, stuff that is hard to come by in the desert."

"Once a week we give them steak and lobster," added Santiago. "It helps boost morale."

According to the Marines here, the chow supersedes their expectations of the food they would receive while in the field.

"The spaghetti is awesome, but I prefer the shrimp scampi and the pot roast," said Master

Sgt. Andreas J. Starling, operations chief for TFT. "I'm used to getting tray rats and MREs. That's what the companies operating in the city wanted, until we introduced them to our field mess."

The units within the city receive the same chow as the Marines and sailors at the COP, explained Santiago.

"We make sure the Marines at the [forward operating bases] eat as well as we do," said Facen-Vaughn.

"There's not a whole lot to look forward to out here," said Santiago. "When the Marines come from out the wire or come back from a patrol, they can expect a good, hot meal. That's the least we can do."

Task Force Tarawa is part of Regimental Combat Team 2, a Marine Corps command responsible for more than 30,000 square miles and 5,500 Marines, sailors and soldiers in Iraq's Al Anbar Province.



STAFF SGT. STEPHEN L. TRAYNHAM

Lance Cpl. Rene M. Cruzhernandez, a food service specialist with Task Force Tarawa, empties a bag of shrimp scampi into a heated serving pan.

# Marines needed for recruiter assistance

MARINE CORPS PRESS RELEASE

Want an opportunity to earn promotion points and spend up to 30 days at home without taking leave? The Marine Corps Recruiting Station in Harrisburg, Pa., is looking for motivated Marines to serve as recruiter assistants. RS Harrisburg covers the following counties in Pennsylvania: Pike, Fulton, Franklin, Perry, Cumberland, Adams, York, Dauphin, Lebanon, Lancaster, Chester,

Berks, Wyoming, Luzerne, Lackawanna, Bucks, Wayne, Monroe, Northampton, Carbon, Lehigh, Schuylkill, Montgomery, Philadelphia and Delaware.

This is the perfect opportunity to earn those extra points you need to excel past your peers and gain your next promotion. Up to 100 points toward your promotion can be earned during time spent on recruiter assistance.

During your time at home you can expect to spend some time with your

recruiters talking to young men and women around town, at the mall and even at your old high school. You will speak with people about joining the Marine Corps and what to expect once they've decided to join. You will also work with poolies on physical fitness, knowledge and more.

For more information about the recruiter assistance program in your hometown area, contact Staff Sergeant Christopher Cunningham at (717) 770-6637.

# Commandant to host 2007 Marine Corps Sports Hall of Fame induction ceremony

MARINE CORPS BASE QUANTICO, Va. — The Commandant of the Marine Corps will host the 2007 United States Marine Corps Sports Hall of Fame induction ceremony here at the Clubs at Quantico, Va., August 17.

Gen. James T. Conway will induct former Marines Angelo Bertelli, Leo Nomellini, Gil Hodges, and Robert Wanzer at a luncheon ceremony that will celebrate their achievements.

Bertelli, a former Marine captain, was the 1943 Heisman Trophy winner and is a member of the College Football Hall of Fame. Nomellini, a former Marine staff sergeant, was a six-time All Pro and a member of the

College and Pro Football Hall of Fames. Hodges, a former Marine sergeant, was an eight-time All-Star and the 1969 Major League Baseball Manager of the Year. Wanzer, a former Marine corporal, is a five-time NBA All-Star and a member of the National Basketball Hall of Fame.

The United States Marine Corps Sports Hall of Fame honors former Marines who have excelled both on and off the athletic playing field. Established in 2001, Hall of Fame inductees will be enshrined in the National Museum of the United States Marine Corps at the Heritage Center near Quantico Virginia.

Twenty-one former Marines have been selected

for the Hall of Fame since it was founded in 2001. Past inductees include baseball legend Ted Williams, Olympic great Robert B. Mathias, International Boxing Hall of Fame member Ken Norton, and Pro Football Hall of Fame member Arthur Donovan jr.

Also to be honored at the induction ceremony will be numerous Marine champion athletes to include the 2006 Marine Corps Male and Female athletes of the year.

For more information about the Marine Corps Sports Hall or the Marine Corps Athlete's of the Year, please contact Steven Dinote, HQMC Semper Fit, (703) 784-9542, or e-mail: steven.dinote@usmc.mil.



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**RIDGE RUN from B1**

The winner for the last age category, 46 and over, for the 8K was Don Tolbert with a time of 53:13. The winners for the 5K were James Sexton with a time of 28:40 and Denise Johnson with a time of 41:20.

While the run provided challenge and healthy physical training to those who participated, it also raised money.

"The total raised was \$513 profit, to be applied to the Naval Hospital MWR [Morale, Welfare and Recreation] Committee Fund," said Nelson.

The sign up fee was \$10, \$12 or \$15 depending on the number of team members and category.

With a good turnout, the run proved to be successful, as teams

left talking about strategies for next year's run.

"This year the number of runners grew," said Nelson. "The level of enthusiasm on race day was significant. Squad's displayed a high degree of team work and really signified what the run is all about ... team building and focusing on the group's accomplishment. When members of a squad finished, they almost exclusively doubled back to encourage their teammates and bring them across the finish line. This speaks well for the camaraderie and team spirit that is felt through participating in this event."

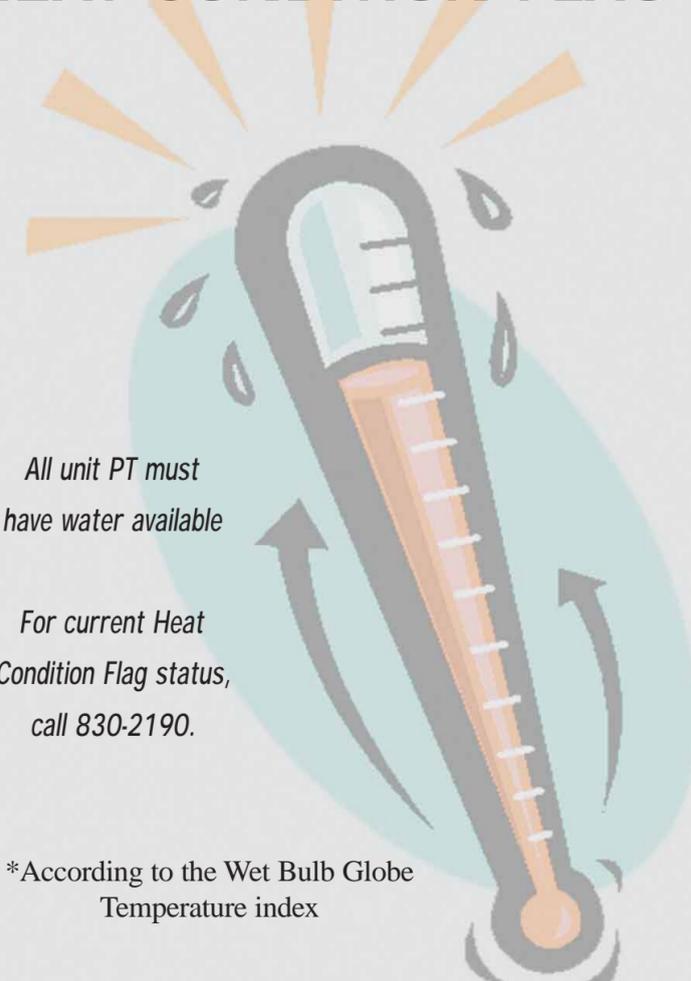
After successful completion of the 21st Annual Ridge Run, runners went home tired, but confident, knowing they handled the rough terrain the Mojave desert presented them.



LANCE CPL. KATELYN A. KNAUER

Runners navigate the course during 21st Annual Ridge Run April 27.

**HEAT CONDITION FLAG COLORS**



**GREEN**  
80° – 84.9°\*

Exercise can be conducted and discretion is required for all heavy exercise unless acclimatized to desert conditions.

**YELLOW**  
85° – 87.9°\*

Strenuous exercise and activity must be reduced for new, un-acclimatized personnel during the first three weeks of heat exposure. Avoid outside classes.

**RED**  
88° – 89.9°\*

Strenuous exercise must be halted or reduced for Marines and Sailors who haven't had up to 12 weeks to acclimatize.

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