

OBSERVATION Post

MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER

OCTOBER 23, 2009 SERVING THE TWENTYNINE PALMS COMMUNITY SINCE 1957 VOL. 52 ISSUE 42

2/7 rocks Yuma with helo air raid



CPL. PETE ZRIOKA
MARINE CORPS AIR STATION YUMA

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION YUMA, Ariz. – Marines of Company E, 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, participated in a helicopter-borne raid on a mock Middle Eastern village at the U.S. Army Yuma

Proving Ground on Oct. 12 in anticipation of their upcoming deployment with the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit. The company, based out of Twentynine Palms, Calif., is making use of the helicopter training offered at the biannual

See HELOS, A4

GUNNERY SGT. BILL LISBON

Lance Cpl. Mark W. Briggs, assaultman with Company E, 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, waits to be extracted in UH-1 helicopters from an urban training range at the U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground in Arizona during a helicopter raid exercise Oct. 12, 2009. Sixteen Marines landed on the outskirts of the range in four UH-1 helicopters and stormed the buildings from all sides searching for two insurgent leaders, simulating a mission they could be called to perform during their next deployment.

Up in Smoke; tobacco to be banned from Naval hospital

CPL. R. LOGAN KYLE
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Sailors and civilian personnel employed at the Robert E. Bush Naval Hospital will soon have to change their tobacco habits while at work. Beginning Jan. 1, military and civilian personnel will no longer be authorized to use tobacco products of any form while on naval hospital and all other naval medical care center grounds. The policy will also go into effect aboard Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center Bridgeport, Calif., and Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake, Calif.

Martha Hunt, the Health Promotions and Awareness coordinator at the hospital, said the move to ban tobacco from hospital grounds has been a long time coming. “This process began in July 2008,” said the Pontiac, Mich., native. “In July, the Surgeon General of the Navy [Vice Adm. Adam M. Robinson Jr.] signed a policy encouraging the ban of all tobacco use on naval hospital campuses.” In the document, Robinson challenged naval commanders and senior

enlisted advisors to make the move to tobacco-free naval medical facilities quick and thorough. “The unnecessary, harmful effects of tobacco on our service members and the burden on our healthcare system must be addressed,” said the Louisville, Ky., native in Navy Policy 09-009. “Our strong commitment to the health and well-being of our service members is most clearly evident by our own examples of a tobacco-free lifestyle.” Once the policy is implemented aboard the Combat Center, all ash cans will be removed from hospital grounds. For sailors, however, the ban of tobacco use on hospital grounds is not the only change they will face. “Sailors won’t be able to use tobacco while in uniform,” Hunt said. “That means during working and duty hours, no sailor will be authorized to use tobacco even if they aren’t on hospital campuses.” Civilian employees and Marines aboard the base will also be expected to adhere to the policy while on naval hospital grounds, including Base Aid Stations and other branch clinics, she said. For some sailors who use tobacco, the policy will make getting through the working day a little harder. “I think this is certainly going to make it more difficult for people to use tobacco,” said Lt. j.g. Sarah Bishop, a data analyst with the naval hospital who uses tobacco. “I also think people will go to great lengths to find a way

See TOBACCO, A6

Lake Bandini gets facelift

CPL. R. LOGAN KYLE
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

The smell permeating from the Combat Center’s Waste Water Treatment Plant will get worse before it gets better. Contractors are slated to begin deepening the treatment plant’s fermentation pond Tuesday. Ensign Benjamin Queener, the resident officer in charge of the Waste Water Treatment Plant project, said waste buildup over the years has made the fermentation pond too shallow to work correctly. “The waste currently flows into the pond and is supposed to settle in and break down gradually through aeration and exposure to sunlight,” said Queener, of Oneida, Tenn. “The problem is the sunlight in Twentynine Palms penetrates the water and heats up the sludge on the bottom. This causes the recently flushed material to rise to the surface like zombies. “This is one of the reasons why on particularly hot days the smell is so much stronger,” he added. “The fix for this is to dig a deeper fermentation pit in the pond giving the waste will have a chance to sink to the bottom and break up before it moves on.” Queener said the material excavated from the pond will

be set to the side to dry. This means it will smell worse before it starts to smell better. The treatment plant is made up of a series of small ponds, linked together, designed to break down fecal matter as it passes through each pond. The project to restructure the treatment plant and reduce chemical and energy use, has been an ongoing process, said Lt. Cmdr. Yvonne R. Lyda, the MCAGCC public works officer. “Design for the projects began in spring 2008,” said the Daleville, Ala., native. “Two construction projects were awarded in June to repair the primary and secondary treatment systems.” Officials are also planning to set up other ways to break down waste and produce clean water. “Next year we will add a natural wetland to the water purification cycle with different kinds of plants known for their ability to break down and process biological contaminants that will scrub the water clean,” Queener said. There are several infrastructure and efficiency issues being addressed with the current waste water project, however, the most offensive issue in the eyes of installation personnel is

See WATER, A3



CPL. R. LOGAN KYLE

Beginning Jan. 1, Marines, sailors and civilian personnel will no longer be allowed to use tobacco products while on the Robert E. Bush Naval Hospital grounds or any other naval medical care facility aboard the Combat Center. The policy will also go into effect aboard Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center Bridgeport, Calif., and Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake, Calif.



Supporting Steel ~ See A3



CMSC steps off ~ See A4



AAVs on parade ~ See B1



Old Timers teach troops ~ See B1

Semper Moto

The Swiss army knife of motorcycles

JOHN FLEMING

Any motorcyclist can tell you there is no perfect motorcycle. Some are built for speed. Others are built for comfort. And a few are destined for the dirt. Twenty years ago, a few manufacturers designed multi-purpose motorcycles that were called Enduros. Theoretically, they were multi-purpose machines. But honestly, they weren't very good at anything. They were too heavy for off-road riding. And they were uncomfortable and under-powered for highway use.

Today, most manufacturers are building multi-purpose machines – they're called dual-sports – and they are pretty good motorcycles. Granted, they have their limitations. Their knobby tires, which provide superior traction for off-road use, aren't as grippy on pavement as pure street tires. They tend to be pretty tall machines, and their single-cylinder motors are not as smooth as a multi-cylinder machine.

But for the rider that is limited to one machine, today's dual-sport motorcycles do many things well. They make excellent commuter bikes, especially in urban settings. Their long-travel suspensions handle potholes with ease, and their nimble handling can be a real asset in city traffic.

The dual-sport machine also enables a motorcyclist to ride to his favorite off-road area, without having to transport his machine on a trailer or in the bed of a pickup truck.

For the genuine adventure rider – the person that wants to ride from Ketchikan, Alaska to Santiago, Chile – the dual sport machine is simply in a class by itself, able to handle rugged dirt roads, stream crossings, long stretches of open desert, and hundreds of miles between fuel stops.

If you're thinking of purchasing a motorcycle that can do it all, the dual-sport may be the right choice for you.

John Fleming is a rider coach with Cape Fox Professional Services, providing motorcycle safety training for Marines and sailors aboard the Combat Center. To submit your comments or contributions about motorcycling, his email is michael.j.fleming@usmc.mil.

School Liaison Information



Question: People keep mentioning the Interstate Compact, what is that? What can it do for me?

Answer: The Interstate Compact for Educational Opportunity for Military Children is legislation in which states agree to provide some flexibility for students transferring between states in the compact. Academically it allows for some tests to be waived or other exams substituted. It allows more freedom in evaluating high school transcripts, and allows students who are in gifted programs to transfer straight into another gifted program without having to wait for new testing. For students with special needs, the IEP from the sending state remains in effect while new evaluations are done.

For more information, please contact
smbplmsmccsschooliaison@usmc.mil or call 830-1574.



SEMPERTOONS: CREATED BY GUNNERY SGT. CHARLES WOLF, USMCRET.

Combat Center Spotlight

Name: Tabitha Ochtera
Hometown: Queens, New York
Job title: Library aid
Job Duties: Help customers find and check out books, and keep track of who is using the internet.
What do you like most about your job? I really like books so when new ones come I have first pick at them.
Significant Achievements: There are usually long lines to use the computer, and I make sure everyone gets to one.
Hobbies: Reading, video games and getting tattoos.
Military Service: None.
Time at Combat Center: Four months.



OBSERVATION POST

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Hot Topics

COMBAT CENTER BAND NEEDS MARINE PIANO PLAYER

The Combat Center Band is looking for a Marine from Pfc. – Staff Sgt. who is able to read music and perform in various styles to include Latin, swing, rock and pop. An audition is required. For more information call Gunnery Sgt. Rodriguez-Hower or Gunnery Sgt. Nunley at 830-6635.

SMP HAUNTED HOUSE

The Single Marine Program Haunted House will be open at 7 p.m., Oct. 30 and 31 to the Combat Center public. It will be held at the east gym and is for ages 13 and up.

AREA CODE OVERLAY

In light of California's new area code overlay, Combat Center personnel can expect only small changes in phone operations. Beginning Saturday, local phone numbers dialed aboard the installation will require callers to dial 9-9-1 and the area code (760) followed by the phone number. All numbers within the installation may still be reached by dialing 830-xxxx. For more information about the area code overlay, call the G-6 telephone division at 830-7141.

THE ZONE CLOSURE

The Zone is scheduled to be closed Nov. 1 – Jan. 31. The temporary new home of The Zone will be next to Subway. Trip schedules will remain the same. For more information call the Single Marine Program at 830-4767.

Marine Corps History

Oct. 23, 1983

An explosive-laden truck slammed into the BLT headquarters building in Beirut, Lebanon, taking the lives of 220 Marines.

Centerspeak

Who is your favorite movie character and why?

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



2ND LT. CHRIS ROBERTS
1ST TANK BATTALION, COMPANY C

“I like Gerard Butler's character in 'Law Abiding Citizen.' He stuck to his principles as misguided as they were.”



CPL. JUSTIN METCALF
MWSS-374, SUPPORT COMPANY

“Tom Cruise in 'Mission Impossible 3,' because he's the man everyone can count on.”



STAFF SGT. JESUS HERNANDEZ
3RD CEB, SUPPORT COMPANY

“I like Angelina Jolie in 'Tomb Raider,' for all the obvious reasons.”

SUDOKU #1604

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SPLITTING UP

[puzzle Solutions on A8]

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ACROSS

- Crime family head
- Crime family head
- Monopoly stack
- Loft bundle
- Point after deuce
- Log item
- Blacken, in a way
- Army mascot
- Take, as advice
- Resource-pooling organization
- Pollock's work
- Symbol of deficit
- Spanish dessert wine
- “Weeds” network
- List-ending abbr.
- Online sales
- Seeks bargains
- Rhoda's sitcom mother
- Tanning salon device
- Took it easy
- Pointed a finger at
- Subtle emanations
- Flock members
- “__ you ever?”

DOWN

- UK telly network
- Waikiki's island
- Verbally assault
- Belgrade native
- Feature of many cell phones
- X-rated
- Dosage unit
- Fit for drafting
- “The Wreck of the Mary __”
- Make unreadable, for security
- Rebuke from Caesar
- Deliver by air
- Roget's entry: Abbr.
- Type of sleeve
- Search in the dark
- River to the North Sea
- Attorney-__
- Starbucks order
- Run on TV
- Did a smith's work
- Hang on to
- Pageant wear

- Jingle writer
- Mental failure
- __ Valley, Calif.
- Gawking sort
- Darth __ of “Star Wars”
- Director Jean-__ Godard
- Moves like a crab
- Strongly disinclined
- Bean town five, briefly
- Track meet part
- One of the Four Corners states
- Connecting point
- Nightclub in a Manilow tune
- Place to use Easy-Off
- Cereal used in party mix
- Move like the Blob
- Feline sound of content
- Duke and Clemson's sports org.
- __ Tafari (Haile Selassie)

CLB-7 provides support, supplies for Operation Steel Knight

LANCE CPL. ANDREW D. THORBURN
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Marines with Combat Logistics Battalion 7 are working round the clock to make sure the 1st Tank Battalion and 1st Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion have the supplies they need to complete a pre-deployment exercise here Oct. 17 through 30.

CLB-7 is joining forces with CLB-5, based out of Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton Calif., to deliver supplies by convoy to the training battalions partaking in Operation Steel Knight.

Operation Steel Knight is a battalion level training exercise which allows battalions to come together under scenarios similar to those likely to be encountered in theater.

“This is great experience for the new guys working in the desert and Afghanistan,” said Lance Cpl. Salvador Portillo, a Transportation operator for Support Company, CLB-7.

To assist 1st Tanks and 1st LAR with their mission, the Marines of

CLB-7 set up a forward operating base to help coordinate the convoy’s objective during the operation. Within the FOB, the logistics Marines plan the routes for the convoys and the supplies they will be carrying.

Marines with the Motor Transport Co. were given details on convoy routes and safety prior to kicking the plans into motion. After loading the necessary supplies onto Medium Tactical Vehicle Replacements, the convoys set off into the desert.

“The convoys have to keep a lookout for [notational] IEDs [improvised explosive devises] the closer we get to Oct. 24,” said 1st Lt. Jeremiah Hartley, watch officer for CLB-7, Headquarters and Service Co. Hartley explained as the exercise draws closer to its end date, the battalion can expect higher chances of notional IEDs being added to the mix.

“The convoys have been taught what to do in case of an IED and know that it’s a possibility during

See SUPPORT, A5



LANCE CPL. ANDREW D. THORBURN

Lance Cpl. Salvador Portillo, Lance Cpl. Justin Harris, transportation operators for Support Co., Combat Logistics Battalion 7, and a working party from the 1st Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, restack a tipped shipment of ice at the Combat Center Wednesday.

WATER, from A1

the smell.

“Several things cause the smell and we are addressing all of them,” Queener said. “As each piece of the project

is completed the odor will decrease.”

For personnel aboard the Combat Center, the new waste water treatment facility will truly be a breath of fresh air.

“Every time I run the

[Physical Fitness Test] course I can smell the lake,” said Cpl. Chase Rieger, a vehicle commander with Company C, 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, and Bellevue, Neb., native.

“It makes me want to vomit. I think more people would actually want to go to the new parks if there wasn’t a smell coming from Bandini.”

Queener explained there are two other main sources of the smell in the current configuration of the plant.

“When the waste water comes into the Waste Water Treatment Plant, there is an auger that lifts debris out of the water that might clog the system,” he explained. “This can be anything from a flushed skivvy shirt to heavy paper material. Unfortunately, the auger also has a tendency to lift out some of the more solid wastes Marines flush as well.

“All this Marine ‘debris’ then makes an amphibious assault into the waste dumpster. Imagine the worst garbage dumpster you have ever smelled,” he said.

Queener said there are plans to fix the issue, includ-

ing enclosing the headworks.

“The project will fix the auger and all the headworks with a new building,” he said. “The building will have constant vacuum pressure, so it is always sucking in the bad air and not letting it out the smells. The air will vent through a large compost bio-filter that will absorb the stuff causing the stink before it gets loose.”

The last major source of odor is the clarifiers; the clarifiers, stir the sewage to help the sediments settle and to skim off lighter wastes.

“As you can imagine, stirring the pot agitates the sewage and puts off a lot of odor,” Queener explained. “The project replaces the clarifiers with other processes that are a little more palatable. The current clarifiers will be completely removed during the project.”

The fermentation pond is slated to be complete by

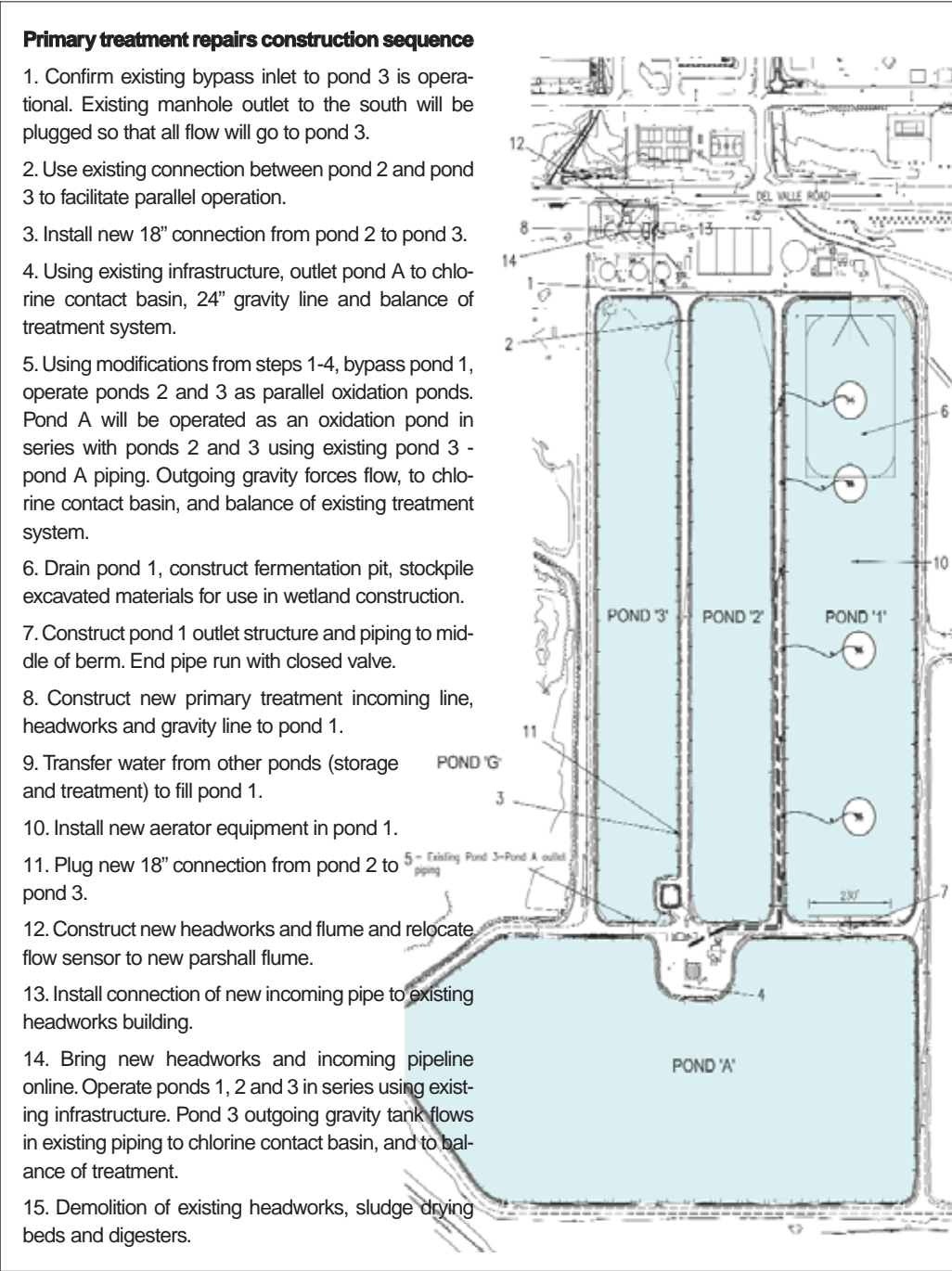
February, and the clarifier demolition is slated to be completed in April, with the wetlands popping up in June.

Once the project is complete, Queener said personnel will still smell something from the treatment plant.

“The wetlands and open water will smell,” he said. “But it won’t be the same overpowering stench of raw sewage.”

He said the project is among the most important topics and concerns facing the Combat Center community and will be greatly appreciated when completed.

“I believe that this is the single greatest quality of life issue at Twentynine Palms, he said. “Fixing this problem not only solves the odor issue, but helps other recently completed quality of life projects like the skate parks, amphitheater and water park. People will enjoy these other parks a lot more if they don’t gag when they breathe.”



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Headquarters Battalion Marines take on infantry challenge

LANCE CPL. M. C. NERI
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Marines from the Combat Center's Consolidated Material Support Center are currently preparing for something they have never done before, which is the Darkside Derby, a squad competition started by 3rd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment.

The Marines of CMSC are stepping outside of their natural element to challenge themselves and gain a higher skill set than they would training for their regular, day-to-day jobs, said Maj. Douglas Burkman, the officer in charge of CMSC and a native of Encino, Calif.

"The Darkside Derby is an event created by [Col. Bryan McCoy] in 2002 or 2003 when he was the commanding officer of 3/4," Burkman said. "When I first arrived, I wanted to do something to challenge the Marines in a competition and their overall physical fitness."

Burkman elaborated on the challenges his Marines

would be undertaking. "The five-day derby begins with a [Physical Fitness Test] Monday," he said. "There is a weight lifting event the second day followed by a 10-mile run the third day."

"Thursday was changed from the [obstacle course] to the [Combat Fitness Test]," he said. "The last day of the competition, Friday, is a 20-mile hike."

Burkman said the challenge is a great opportunity for his Marines who don't have experience in a deployed environment, or who have never prepared for one.

"Most of our Marines here can't deploy right now," he said. "Before they get a chance to go to another unit, this competition will give us a chance to prepare them, and show them a lot of techniques and what the situation will be like when they go to a deploying unit."

He added the unit has been divided to increase the infighting and make it more

See INFANTRY, A6



LANCE CPL. M. C. NERI

Marines with the Combat Center's Consolidated Material Support Center march during an eight-mile hike Oct. 16, aboard the Combat Center. CMSC is currently in preparation for the Darkside Derby, a squad competition normally reserved for deployable units to utilize as part of their training.



GUNNERY SGT. BILL LISBON

Members of Company E, 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, run toward a landing site where they will be extracted in UH-1 helicopters from an urban training range at the U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground in Arizona during a helicopter raid exercise Oct. 12. Sixteen Marines landed on the outskirts of the range in four UH-1 helicopters and stormed the buildings from all sides searching for two insurgent leaders, simulating a mission they could be called to perform during their next deployment. The battalion, based in Twentynine Palms, Calif., is scheduled to deploy with the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit in early 2010, with Co. E assigned to specialize in helicopter insertions and raids.



GUNNERY SGT. BILL LISBON

Sgt. Patrick R. Stephens, squad leader with E Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, halts members of his squad behind a wall before deciding his next move in an urban training range at the U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground in Arizona during a helicopter raid exercise Oct. 12.

HELOS, from A1

Weapons and Tactics Instructor course here, as they will serve as the helicopter company in the MEU's ground combat element.

Inserting in four different locations around the village via UH-1N Hueys, the company's objective was to clear the houses and extract three role players targeted as high-value individuals.

Additional role players acted as insurgents, defending the village as the Marines moved from house to house, clearing rooms and courtyards.

"Overall, I think it went well," said Capt. Zeb Philpott, company commander. "This was a large area for a squad-sized element to cover, but it was a success from a time management standpoint. We only had a half hour to work with."



In addition to time constraints, the Marines were also

required to perform a medical evacuation in the midst of their exercise. Because the evacuation left them with less personnel and one less Huey, there was less room on the three remaining outbound helicopters.

Once the three targets were apprehended, the Marines made their way to extraction points and lifted off.

"It was good to get exposure to working with helicopters," said Philpott, a former WTI student. "This experience will help when we deploy with the MEU in the planning phase. I'll know how to better marry ground combat and aviation support to accomplish the mission."

The 31st MEU based out of Okinawa, Japan, is scheduled to depart in early 2010 and is slated to participate in Exercise Cobra Gold in Thailand, as well as visit Singapore and the Philippines.

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Officers discuss careers, duty assignments

CPL. R. LOGAN KYLE
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Combat Center Marine officers gathered in the Mesa room of the Officers' Club Tuesday to meet with members of the Manpower Management Officer Assignment team to discuss career opportunities and where they could potentially be stationed in the near future.

Robin Whitten, a management analyst with officer staffing, said the MMOA team only comes to the Combat Center once a year. "This is a great opportunity for these guys to go one-on-one with their monitors," said Whitten of The Dalles, Ore.

The event began with a brief class by MMOA personnel in the Tactical Training Exercise Control Group's auditorium, where the team covered a wide variety of career knowledge including how to set up fitness reports and where the officers should have experience throughout their careers.

Capt. Randy Hooper, a monitors with the team, said many Marines he met with were newly commissioned lieutenants wanting to speak with their monitor for the first time.

"A lot of these guys are fresh out of the basic school and are here to show their face and become known by their monitor," said Hooper, of Westminster, Md. "Even though most of the monitors won't be here when it comes time for them to [Permanent Change of Station] or make big career moves, it's still good for them to know how the process works.

"Basically a monitor's job is to sit down with an individual, listen to what they want, where they want to go, and tell them what's available," Hooper said.

First Lt. Jared Hidalgo, the executive officer of Headquarters Company, 1st Marine Regiment, based in Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., was one of several officers from the base to travel to the Combat Center to attend the event.



CPL. R. LOGAN KYLE

Capt. Randy Hooper, a career monitor with the Manpower Management Officer Assignment team, speaks with Chief Warrant Officer Sandy Alvarez, the deputy director for the Installation Personnel Administration Center here, about future duty assignments and other options in the Mesa room of the Officer's Club Tuesday.

"I came up here to hopefully get orders cut," said the Delafield, Wis., native. "I've deployed twice with [1st Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment] and am looking to do a B-billet like [School of Infantry West] to set up my career."

Hidalgo also recently became a father and said he hopes to not deploy again for

a while.

The team left the Combat Center Wednesday and will continue to travel to bases throughout the Corps to assist their peers in making all the right decisions before making their way back to the installation around this time next year. For more information please call 830-7088.

SUPPORT, from A1

the operation," he said.

The element of surprise may add to the authenticity of the training since the drivers have no indication of any notional IEDs during the training operation.

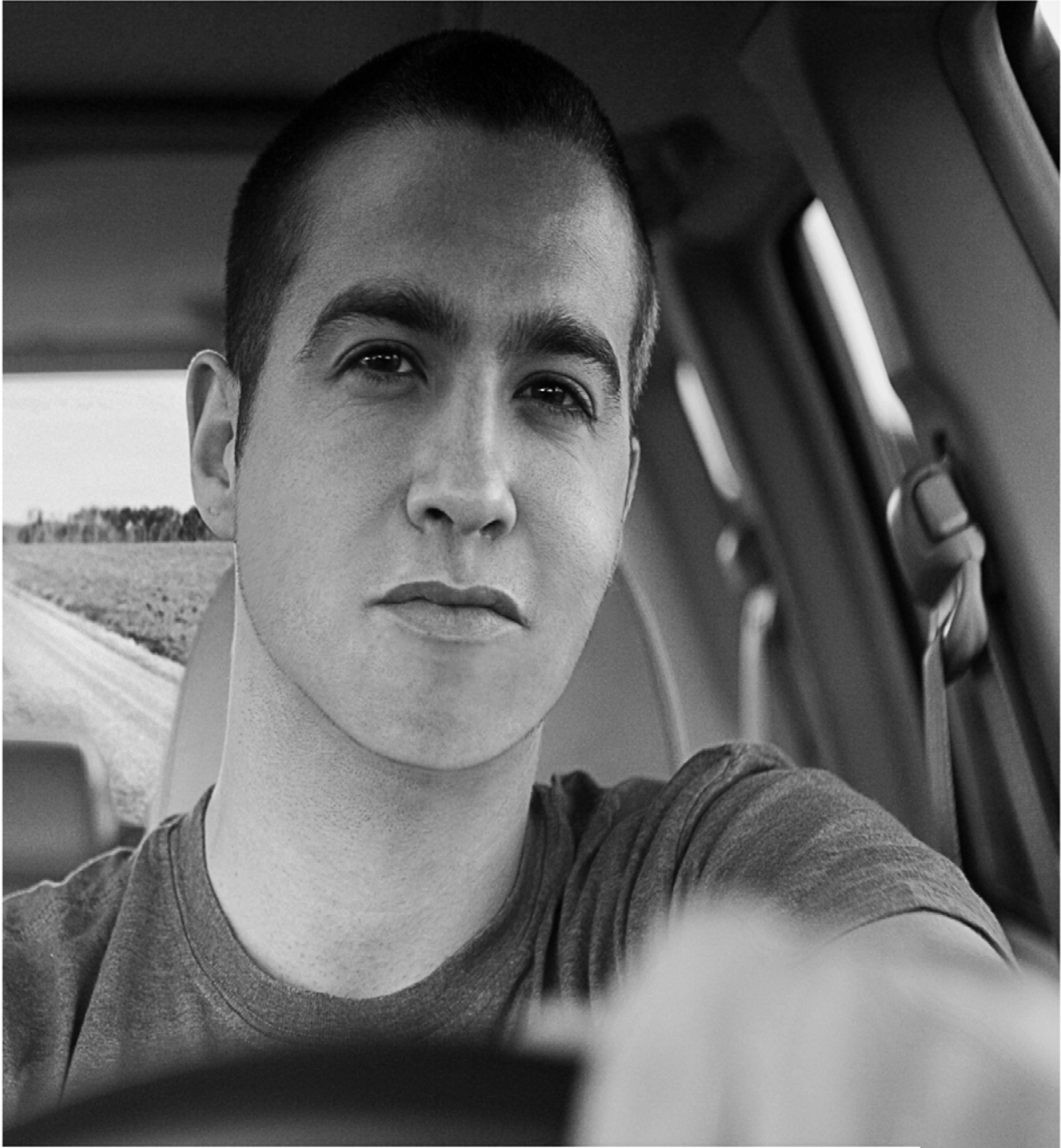
"We have already been doing this for about a week and it's been the same thing everyday," said Lance Cpl. Emery Langley, a motor transportation operator with Support Co., CLB-7. "I hope things change up a little bit."

As Operation Steel Knight runs its course, CLB-7 will continue to offer support to units expecting to deploy in the near future.



LANCE CPL. ANDREW D. THORBURN

Lance Cpl. Justin Harris, a transpiration operator for Support Co., Combat Logistics Battalion 7, Lance Cpl. Jeff Moore and Lance Cpl. Ulysses Garcia, warehouse clerks with Supply Co., 1st Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, restack a tipped shipment of ice at the Combat Center Twentynine Palms Wednesday. CLB-7 has been doing this convoy since the 1st LAR arrived Oct. 14.



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Combat Center Trader Ads

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1990 FORD F350 TRUCK. Diesel, 90,000 on re-built engine, new turbo and clutch, stretch with 60" sleeper, 5 speed. Drives but needs tranny work. \$4,000. Call 447-0499. 10/2/09

1987 FORD F250 TRUCK. Extra cab, diesel, four speed with overdrive. Set up for gooseneck or fifth wheel. \$2,850 OBO. Call 447-0499. 10/2/09

2005 KAZUMA 110CC ATV. Runs good, new battery. \$600 OBO. Call Chris 362-5293. 9/25/09

1916 BUICK D-45. Needs complete restoration. Many additional hard-to-find parts to help with the project. Call 367-3326 for more info. \$6,700. 9/11/09

1989 JEEP WRANGLER. New rebuilt engine, new head, new fuel pump, new seats, new tires. Call 367-3326 for more info. \$5,500 OBO. 9/11/09

2002 32-FOOT FIFTH WHEEL. \$10,500. one superslide and one bedroom slide. Immaculate shape, sleeps four, two TV's, stereo, microwave, oven, dining table and chairs. Two rockers. Located on lemon lot on base, call Bo 819-1677. 8/14/09

MISC.
WOOD WORKING HELP WANTED. Looking for someone with the skill and time to assemble, stain and finish some unfinished hardwood furniture (two 3-drawer chests and one 5-drawer chest). I also have a ladder shelf ensemble that I would like to have fixed (a couple of cracks), sanded and refinished. Fee is negotiable. Please call 880-1773 if interested. 10/23/09

TREDMILL WITH T.V. \$1000, weight bench w/ weights \$300, exercise bike \$ 175. Call 910-9052. 10/23/09

PURE SILVER MARINE CORPS COIN SET. 35 years old. Asking only \$1,000. Marine Corps challenge coins, different prices. Olympic coins. Large entertainment center. Oak. Must sell. \$100. 367-6030. 10/2/09

WANTED-PISTOL. 45 Caliber, military. 367-6030. 10/2/09

FRENCH POODLE. Active medium-sized (18 pounds). Looking for permanent adoption/placement at no cost. All shots are current, good health, very active, obeys commands/orders. Please call Norbert between 10 a.m. and 10 p.m., 7 days a week at 322-9277. 9/25/09

SNCO EVENING MESS DRESS WITH GUNNERY SGT. CHEVRONS 42R. Trousers 34, all accessories included. Like new; worn only twice, half-price \$400 OBO. Blues jacket 41R anodized buttons. Two trousers one 33R/30L. \$50 for all three. Call 208-899-3021. 9/4/09

SEARS KENMORE REFRIGERATOR. 2001 white. \$300. 369-7306. 9/4/09

BREAKFRONT CHINA CABINET. Oak finish. four glass doors, silverware drawer. \$300. 32" TV in entertainment cabinet \$50. Oak veneer coffee table on casters \$15. Leave message 567-7921. 9/4/09

The deadline for submitting Trader ads is noon Wednesday, for the upcoming Friday's paper.
Trader Ad Forms are available at the Public Affairs Office and may be filled out during normal working hours at Bldg. 1417.

Ads may also be submitted through e-mail, but will only be accepted from those with an @usmc.mil address. If you are active duty, retired military or a family member and do not have an @usmc.mil address you can go to the PAO page of the base

Web site at: <http://www.29palms.usmc.mil/dirs/pao/> and complete a request to publish an ad.
The limitations for ads are: 15-word limit, limit of two ads per household and the Trader may be used only for

noncommercial classified ads containing items of personal property offered by and for individuals authorized to use this service. Such ads must represent incidental exchanged not of sustained business nature.

Ads for housing rentals will not be considered for the Combat Center Trader.
To have a "House For Sale" ad run in the Observation Post, applicants must provide Permanent Change of Station orders and have the ad

approved by Base Housing. This ensures the Combat Center Trader is not used for commercial real estate endeavors.
Ads are run on a first-come, first-serve, space available basis. If you have questions please call 830-3762.

At home, home on the range



LANCE CPL. M. C. NERL

The Combat Center's Marksmanship Training Unit hosted the 2009 Commanding General's Intramural Rifle and Pistol Competition this year from Sept. 28 through Oct. 16, with the winners being awarded their prizes Oct. 16. Reservist Marines, 1st Tank Battalion, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment and Headquarters Battalion's MTU supplied the competitors. Awards were presented to teams and individuals who shot the highest scores. Team "Hot Garbage" won the rifle team match and the infantry team trophy. Team "Tanks" took the gold for the pistol team match. Sgt. Robert Lynn won both the individual rifle competition and the individual grand aggregate. Sgt. Mark Davis was awarded for the highest individual pistol competition.

TOBACCO, from A1

around this." For Bishop, a New Orleans native, being able to smoke a cigarette is a way for her to relax and clear her head during stressful hours. Bishop added once the new smoking areas are set up outside the hospital's campus, civilian employees, who usually take numerous smoke breaks, will have to walk farther, taking time that will add up throughout the day.

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Hunt said the Department of Defense is in essence a business, and when any business begins to lose money, it identifies and eliminates the problem. "DoD medicine loses money eight to one on tobacco sales," Hunt said. "For every dollar in sales on base, the DoD health care system loses eight dollars in tobacco related health care. Besides the financial losses tobacco places on the military, officials are perhaps more concerned with the health risks it implies on service members. "Tobacco use is the leading cause of death and disability in the United States," Hunt said. "Tobacco use

causes cancer, heart disease, respiratory illness, diabetes, infertility and a wide range of other disabling conditions. It is also one of the leading detractors from combat readiness, impacting the healing of injuries, heat stroke, night blindness, [Post Traumatic Stress Disorder], and others." Hunt said the naval hospital continues to provide assistance to Marines, sailors and their families who seek to quit using tobacco. Marines and sailors can arrange appointments at the hospital where they can sit down for one-on-one counseling and be referred to their BAS to receive medications that will help them

quit, she said. She also said the hospital is slated to host the Great American SmokeOut, a comprehensive program that aims to reduce smoking and tobacco use by teens and adults, Nov. 19, beginning at 11:00 a.m. in classrooms one and two at the hospital. Colleen Hayden, the program manager for Project UNIFORM, an organization dedicated to helping active duty service members in California quit tobacco, is expected to attend the event to speak with base personnel. For more information, contact Health Promotion & Wellness at (760) 830-2814 or email NHTP-tobaccofree@med.navy.mil.

INFANTRY, from A6

intense for the Marines. "We've split ourselves up into two teams to promote better competition," he said. "There's the warehouse team and the office team, so all the Marines will have a chance for some in-house competition." Burkman described the various benefits his Marines would take from training for and participating in the derby. "Our Marines are going to take a lot from the competition," he said. "It's great for building camaraderie, but the number one benefit is seeing what it takes to go to combat and deploy." The Marines of CMSC are confident in their abilities as a team and claim they are ready to

take on challengers. "We welcome all competitors to come out and endure five days of intense physical training," said Sgt. Malina Shippen, a supply chief with CMSC and a native of Philadelphia. Other Marines from CMSC see the value of the competition. "Its an opportunity for a non-deployable unit to focus on a challenge that builds camaraderie," said Lance Cpl. Christopher Spurgeon, a supply clerk with CMSC and a native of Mobile, Ala. "The Darkside Derby is a good way for Marines to test the peak of their strength." CMSC will continue to build up for their training event, which is scheduled to begin in December aboard the Combat Center.



LANCE CPL. M. C. NERL

Marines with the Combat Center's Consolidated Material Support Center march down a hill during an eight-mile training hike Oct. 16, aboard the Combat Center. CMSC completed the hike in preparation for their participation in an upcoming Darkside Derby.

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Worship Service - 10:30 am
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55922 29 Palms Hwy., Yucca Valley
760-910-5261

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Acts 2:38
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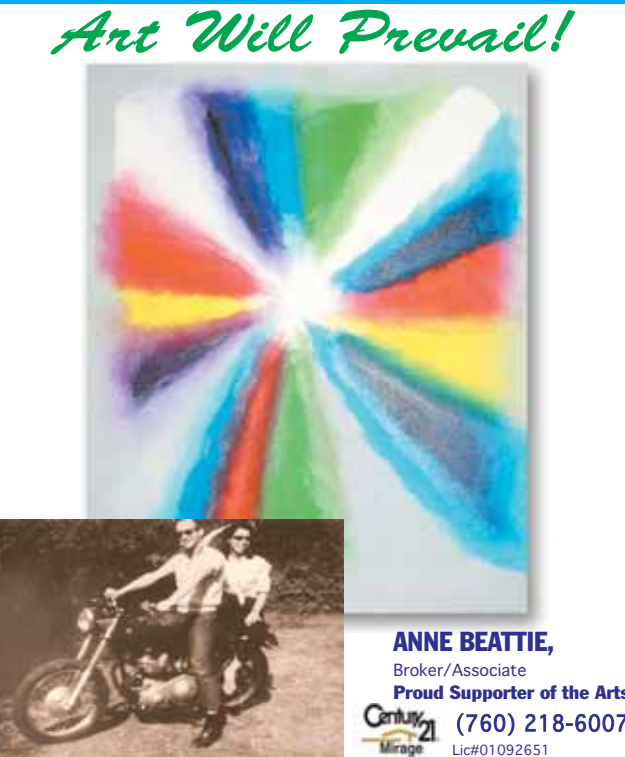
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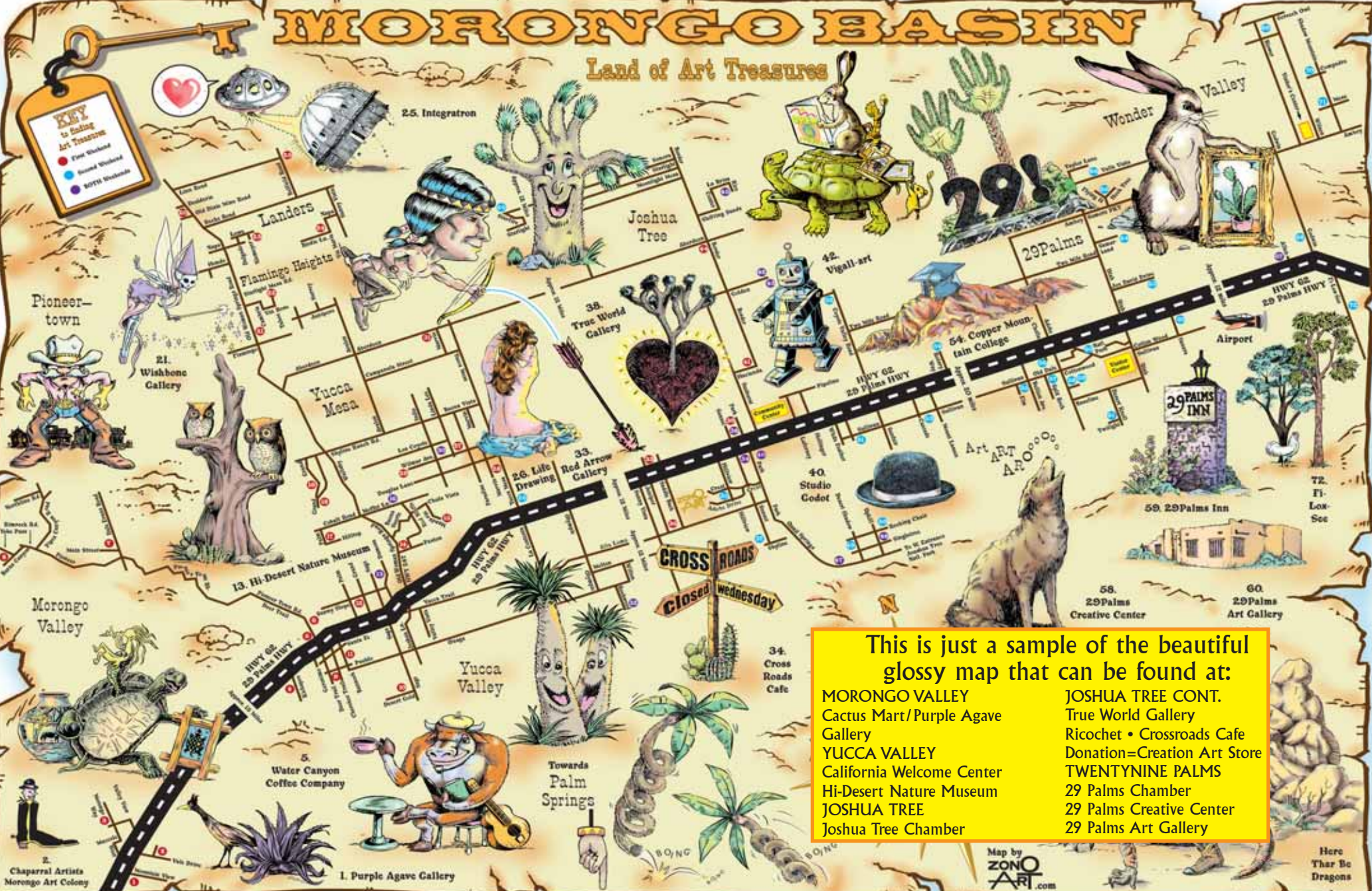
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MORONGO BASIN

Land of Art Treasures

Map by ZONO ART

This is just a sample of the beautiful glossy map that can be found at:

MORONGO VALLEY
Cactus Mart/Purple Agave Gallery
Joshua Tree Chamber

JOSHUA TREE CONT.
True World Gallery
Ricochet • Crossroads Cafe
Donation=Creation Art Store
TWENTYNINE PALMS
29 Palms Chamber
29 Palms Creative Center
29 Palms Art Gallery

ARTIST DIRECTORY/Legend for map

1. Cactus Mart/Purple Agave Art Gallery featuring Wally Pacholka, photography-Cheryl Jordan, photography-Penelope Krebs, paintings-Nancy Lostien, jewelry-Valerie Davis mandala art, jewelry-Kathleen LaHaye, jewelry
October 24-25, 9 AM-5 PM

2. Chaparral Artists/Morongo Art Colony: 4th Annual Harvest Art Show, variety of mediums
October 24-25, 9 AM-5 PM

3. James Hagerty, paintings and rust iron sculptures
October 24-25, 9 AM-5 PM

4. Christy Anderson, recycled metal art and glass
October 24-25, 9 AM-5 PM

5. Water Canyon Coffee Co featuring John Luckett, paintings, mixed media
October 24-25, 9 AM-5 PM

6. Lenny Mazzo, found metal
October 24-25, 9 AM-5 PM

7. Pioneer Bowl featuring Stef Balcik, photography, digital multi-media-Mark Meadows, photography
October 24-25, 9 AM-5 PM

8. Bobette Milici, stained glass-Tony Milici, clay, paint, found objects
October 24-25, 9 AM-5 PM

9. Michael Cramer, clay
October 24-25, 9 AM-5 PM

10. Bonnie Brady, paintings and paper-making-John Greenfield, ceramic sculpture and tiles-Susan Brady Gonzalez, paintings on leather
October 24-25, 9 AM-5 PM

11. Jean Bevel, jewelry, stained glass-Charles Eric Bevel, painting, wood working
October 24-25, 9 AM-5 PM

12. Mae Fox, stained glass, paintings
October 24-25, 9 AM-5 PM

13. Hi-Desert Nature Museum/Art Tours Collective Show, variety of mediums
Both Weekends, 9 AM-5 PM

14. Mark Junge, acrylic paintings
October 24-25, 9 AM-5 PM

15. Carlos Reyes, photography, digital arts
October 24-25, 9 AM-5 PM

16. Richard Daniel, acrylic's and metal-lic's -Deborah Valiquet-Myers, painting
Both Weekends, 9 AM - 5 PM

17. Davis Murphy, metal sculpture
October 24-25, 9 AM-5 PM

18. Ray Yeager, digital photography
October 24-25, 9 AM-5 PM

19. Deane Locke, watercolor and photography-Kathi Klopfenstein, basketry-Paul Klopfenstein, gourds
October 24-25, 9 AM-5 PM

20. Pepper Wagner, Tile Art & Design Works by Pepper
October 24-25, 9 AM-5 PM

21. Wishbone Art Gallery/Triple Cross Trading Post featuring Gussie Mustain, illustrator, acrylics-Paul Steinbeck, wood sculpture
October 24-25, 9 AM-5 PM

22. Steve Riemann, sculpture
October 24-25, 9 AM-5 PM

23. Robert Barrus, photography, sculpture-Elouise Barrus, watercolors, jewelry
October 24-25, 9 AM-5 PM

24. Tina Bluefield, oils, mixed media
October 24-25, 9 AM-5 PM

25. The Integratron/Plein Aire Art Show, variety of mediums
October 24-25, 9 AM-5 PM

26. Morongo Basin Life Drawing League/Group Show, variety of mediums
October 31-November 1, 9 AM-5 PM

27. AMLEAHY, artworks, photography
October 24-25, 9 AM-5 PM

28. John Baltad, metal sculpture, photography
October 24-25, 9 AM-5 PM

29. Ed Keesling, pottery
October 24-25, 9 AM-5 PM

30. Karen Caygill, clay
Both Weekends, 9 AM-5 PM

31. People and plants: Laura Lawler and Anna Beck, mixed media and environmental art
October 24-25, 9 AM-5 PM

32. Mike Smiley, metal sculptures, jewelry
Both Weekends, 9 AM-5 PM

33. Red Arrow Gallery
October 24-25, 9 AM-5 PM

34. Crossroads Cafe/Art Tours Group Show, variety of mediums
Both Weekends, 9 AM-5 PM

35. Zono Art Museum of Madness, Mirth and Magic, POPart and readymade sculpture
October 31-November 1, 9 AM-5 PM

36. Karine Swenson, painting, printmaking-Nora Lousignont, mixed media acrylic-Marjorie Franklin, watercolor, acrylic-Esther Shaw, oil on canvas and watercolor
October 24-25, 9 AM-5 PM

37. Karin Skiba, painting, assemblage
October 31-November 1, 9 AM-5 PM

38. True World Gallery featuring Mary-Austin Klein, oil paintings, prints
Both Weekends, 9 AM-5 PM

39. Mojave Desert Land Trust featuring Drew Reese, photography
October 24-25, 9 AM-5 PM

40. Studio Godot featuring Sydney McCutcheon, Lo-Res Lifestyle Photo Show Both Weekends, 9 AM-5 PM

41. Mayah Martin, ceramic sculpture, stained glass mosaic
October 24-25, 9 AM-5 PM

42. Vigall-art featuring Ric Vigallon, metals-Barbara Wells-Roberts, photos, jewelry-Bruce Miller, photography-Rick Unger, acrylic on canvas
Both Weekends, 9 AM-5 PM

43. Kevin Wong, photography, painted furniture
Both Weekends, 9 AM-5 PM

44. Troy Pence, metal sculpture-Michelle Pence, oil painting
October 24-25, 9 AM-5 PM

45. Elise Kost, art medicine adornment-Diana Durr, oil painting
Both Weekends, 9 AM-5 PM

46. Judy Wold, oil on canvas
October 31-November 1, 9 AM-5 PM

47. Ellen Hill, mixed media, jewelry-Virginia Louise Alkin 'Dali Mama', textiles and design-Ellie Tyler, photography
Both Weekends, 9 AM-5 PM

48. Mark Wheeler, pyrography on gourds
Both Weekends, 9 AM-5 PM

49. Bobby Furst, sculpture and mixed media
October 31-November 1, 9 AM-5 PM

50. Lily Stockman, painting
October 31-November 1, 9 AM-5 PM

51. Diane Best, painting, photography
October 31-November 1, 9 AM-5 PM

52. Anahita King, ceramics, watercolor
October 31-November 1, 9 AM-5 PM

53. Shant Agajanian, watercolor, print-making
October 31-November 1, 9 AM-5 PM

54. Copper Mountain College Student Photography Competition Both Weekends, 9 AM-5 PM (Saturday Only)

55. B.J. Duke, clay, paper collage
October 31-November 1, 9 AM-5 PM

56. Jacquie Angove, mixed collage, acrylic
October 31-November 1, 9 AM-5 PM

57. Mojave Monkey Studio featuring Jane Cipra, oil painting, photography
October 31-November 1, 9 AM-5 PM

58. 29 Palms Creative Center & Gallery featuring Gretchen Grunt,mixed media print making-Mikal Winn, jewelry, mixed media sculpture-Anna Houghton, paintings, fabric dolls
October 31-November 1, 9 AM-5 PM

59. 29 Palms Inn featuring David Jesse Mc Chesney, photography-Vera Topinka, photography-Wally Pacholka, photography
October 31-November 1, 9 AM-5 PM

60. 29 Palms Art Gallery/Southland Show, over 40 artists - variety of mediums
October 31-November 1, 9 AM-5 PM

61. Allen Robison Barter, sculpture, mixed media-Mita Markland Barter, petite assemblage
October 31-November 1, 9 AM-5 PM

62. Cynthia Enfinger, gourds, tapestry
October 31-November 1, 9 AM-5 PM

63. Diane Mooradian, contemporary quilts
October 31-November 1, 9 AM-5 PM

64. Laura Peterson-Volz,oil paintings-Suzanne Ross, mixed media, sculpture
October 31-November 1, 9 AM-5 PM

65. Helen Matoush, gourds, basketry
October 31-November 1, 9 AM-5 PM

66. Janet Braley, ceramics, fabrics
October 31-November 1, 9 AM-5 PM

67. Robert Arnett, oil paintings
Both Weekends, 9 AM - 5 PM

68. Perry Hoffman, mosaics, photography
October 31-November 1, 9 AM-5 PM

69. Lori Greene, jewelry-David Greene, ceramics, paintings-Jennifer Ruggiero, photography-Mary Kinninger Walker, painting, mixed media
October 31-November 1, 9 AM-5 PM

70. Wonder Valley Labyrinth featuring Di-ane Mitchell, rock sculpture
October 31-November 1, 9 AM-5 PM

71. Mark Heuston, metal, ceramics
October 31-November 1, 9 AM-5 PM

72. FiLox-See Gallery featuring Jane Maru, batik-Scott Montelich, paintings and mixed media
October 31-November 1, 9 AM-5 PM

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1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

The Marine Corps ball and your awards

Marines and units around the Marine Corps have begun planning for their respective Marine Corps Ball. In order to review your currently listed awards and medals visit your S-1 or Marine Online at www.mol.usmc.mil. Click on 'Personal Information' and then click on 'Awards' under Personal Reports.

Important references:

MCO 1650.19 Marine Corps Awards Manual
MCO P1020.34 Marine Corps Uniform Regulations
MARADMIN 299/08 Campaign Stars for the Afghanistan and Iraq Campaign Medals
MARADMIN 499/04 Global War on Terrorism Service Medal
www.manpower.usmc.mil and click on 'Awards'

Special Leave Accrual

At the beginning of every fiscal year, service members with leave balance accounts in excess of 60.0 days are automatically reduced to 60.0 days effect Oct. 1. In accordance with MARADMIN 137/08, the threshold was temporarily moved to 75.0 days for the period of Oct. 1, 2008 through Dec. 31, 2010. If your leave balance account was reduced to 75.0 days Oct. 1, for this reason, report to your respective S-1 office. Leave may be restored through the SLA process. In accordance with Pay and Advance Advisory Notice 63-09 and Reserve Pay and Advance Advisory Notice 59-09, all requests for leave restoration, through the SLA process, must be submitted through your S-1 office.

Your responsibility		
You must report		
If you...	to IPAC at the...	No later than...
Return from a location outside the U.S.	Deployment Office	within 5 days upon return
Return from outside the U.S. on emergency leave	Deployment Office	within 5 days upon return
Visit a Medical Treatment Facility (Hospital)	Deployment Office	within 5 days upon return
If you are going on Terminal Leave	Separations Office	10 days prior to leave
Receive notification of orders (PCS or PCA)	Orders Office	immediately upon notification
Add or lose a dependent (spouse, child, etc.)	Customer Service Office	within 5 days of change
Transfer units on base (PCA, TAD, or FAP)	New Joins Office	within 5 days of reporting
Transfer units from off base (PCS)	New Joins Office	within 5 days of reporting
Are a MCCES student with an admin issue	Orders and Management Branch (with pass)	within 5 days

... in order to complete and update your information and receive your entitlements

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LIBERTY CALL
section

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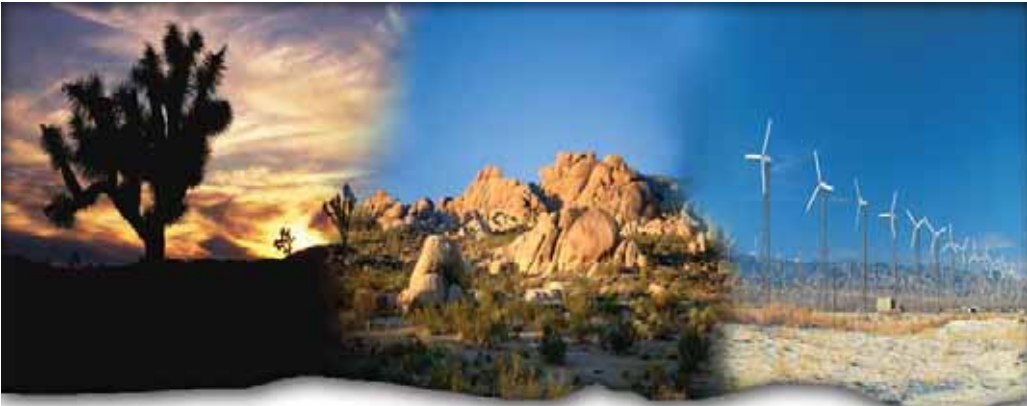
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9	3	8	7	4	5	1	2	6
5	2	7	6	3	1	4	8	9
4	1	6	2	8	9	7	5	3
8	4	2	3	5	7	6	9	1
1	5	9	4	6	8	2	3	7
7	6	3	9	1	2	5	4	8

Teacher shortage predicted

Currently 47 percent of public school teachers in California have reached the minimum retirement age. The number of new teachers entering the profession has fallen over 30 percent over the last three years. In a couple of years there will be a mass exodus of teachers retiring and few in the pipeline to replace them. This situation is true across the nation. Learn how to prepare now to take advantage

of these future career opportunities by attending a "Teaching As Your Next Career" presentation being given at MCAGCC at 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 27, by a Troops to Teachers representative. The presentation will be about one hour long in building 1524, the Education Office. It is free and open to anyone who has ever considered becoming a public school teacher. Those leaving the service in 2011 and later are specifically encouraged to attend.



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Robert Evans, M.D.
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Yucca Valley, CA 92284
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OCTOBER

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Every October, the international community promotes Breast Cancer Awareness Month. In Canada, one woman in nine will be afflicted with this type of cancer during her lifetime. This is why it is so important to raise awareness of the ways to prevent this disease from developing.

Of course, priority has to be placed on screening, as, the sooner a cancer is detected, the higher the chances of survival are. For women 50 years and older, the simple fact of having a mammogram as well as a breast examination every two years reduces the death rate in 50 to 69 year olds by more than 25%! So it's clear that breast cancer rates would be reduced significantly if all women had regular breast examinations.

Doctors suggest several ways to reduce the risks of contracting this devastating disease. First and foremost, they recommend a diet rich in fruits and vegetables and, even more importantly, low in fat. Several studies demonstrate that a healthy diet can prevent certain cancers as well as heart disease.

Another component in the fight against cancer is regular exercise. By adding a period of light to moderate physical activity to your daily routine, you can help protect yourself. It doesn't have to be anything complicated, just a walk around the neighbourhood, playing outside with your children or even biking to work. And lastly, it is strongly recommended to reduce alcohol consumption and to stay well away from cigarettes!



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B1

73rd Annual Pioneer Days parade rolls through 29 Palms

**LANCE CPL. M. C. NERL**

COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

TWENTYNINE PALMS, Calif. – Service members from the Combat Center, along with their families and local civilians, gathered

in the town of Twentynine Palms Saturday to enjoy the 73rd annual Pioneer Days parade.

The parade is held every year in celebration of the founders of the town, who were pioneers in search of

valuable minerals, and the town itself which was established in the late 19th century, said Gary Daigneault, the president of the Twentynine

See PARADE, B4

LANCE CPL. M. C. NERL

Marines with 3rd Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment, wave to the crowd during the 73rd annual Pioneer Days parade in the town of Twentynine Palms Saturday. The annual parade is held the third weekend of October every year.



LANCE CPL. ANDREW D. THORBURN

Pfc. Trayia Wilson, an ammunition technician with the Center Magazine Area Company B, Headquarters Battalion, Cpl. Westly Yacinthe, a navigational aide for Marine Wing Support Squadron 374, and Pfc. Kyler Anderson, a postal clerk with Company A, Headquarters Battalion, fold up a canopy tarp after the Old Timers Reception at the Twentynine Palms Museum Saturday.

Old Timers Reception, where the old meet young

LANCE CPL. ANDREW D. THORBURN

COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Combat Center Marines and members of the Twentynine Palms Historical Society gathered under clear blue skies in front of the Twentynine Palms Museum to set up the annual Old Timers Reception Saturday.

The Old Timers Reception has been a tradition for the Twentynine Palms community since Bill and Prudie Underhill, residents of Twentynine Palms, hosted a social gathering at

their home in 1968. They hosted the reception until the 80's. Due to the Underhill's age, the Historical Society then took over and held the event at the town's first school house, according to the Historical Society's Web site.

The society asked the Combat Center to help out with the setup and breakdown of the canopies, tables and chairs for the reception, and eight Marines showed up ready to help.

"I volunteer for a lot of the opportunities I hear about," said Pfc. Trayia

Wilson, an ammunition technician with the Center Magazine Area, Company B, Headquarters Battalion.

After the Marines finished setting up the event, they took time to look around the museum. Some Marines stayed for the entire day to hear the stories a few of the city's elder residents shared about the town.

"I want to hear all the retired military guys' stories," said Lance Cpl. Douglas Tierney, an ammunition

See OLD, B3

Despite War, Marines seek to outrun the competition

HEADQUARTERS MARINE CORPS PRESS RELEASE

HQMC (MR) QUANTICO, Va. – Top Marine runners from the Corps will battle their service rivals without pause from the operational tempo or wars in Iraq and Afghanistan at the Marine Corps Marathon in Arlington, Va., on Sunday, Oct. 25.

The Armed Forces Marathon is held annually in conjunction with the Marine Corps Marathon. It is the top distance running competition between the different branches of the U.S. military services, including the: U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard.

This is the 34th running of the Marine Corps Marathon. The Armed Forces Championship has been a part of the race since 1998.

"The other services can have an easier time pulling together a team," said Maj. Billy Canedo, Operations Officer for Marine Sports and Athletics. "Running teams in the other services can groom their runners early, bringing them up from service academy cross country and track teams and we don't have that luxury," said Canedo.

Roughly one-third of the Marines that are part of the All Marine team can be expected to be deployed at any one time. For example, 1st Lt. Erin Demchko will be competing in the Marine Corps Marathon despite being back from Afghanistan less than one week before the race. Demchko was deployed in support of Operation



GUNNERY SGT. KIMBERLY LEONE

Stretching before and after their workouts help Maj. Lauren Edwards (front), future operations and engineer officer, Combat Logistics Regiment 2, Marine Expeditionary Brigade-Afghanistan, and 1st Lt. Erin Demchko, maintenance management officer, Marine Wing Support Squadron 371, Marine Aircraft Group 40, Marine Expeditionary Brigade-Afghanistan, avoid sore muscles and maintain a high-intensity training schedule as they prepare for the 2009 Marine Corps Marathon.

Enduring Freedom for a seven month deployment with Marine Wing Support Squadron 371.

"Marines on the team are considered Marines first, and they have to fit their training into their normal workday and unit work-up schedules, which can be in any clime and place," said Canedo. "Their level of dedication is impressive."

In addition to the race in Arlington, there will also be a similar race conducted in Iraq and Afghanistan by Marines forward-deployed there. Maj.

Lauren Edwards of Combat Logistics Regiment Two is serving as the race coordinator for Marine Corps Marathon Forward, Afghanistan. A total of 258 runners have registered for the 26.2 mile race in Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan.

"Training here is an absolute challenge," said Edwards. "The summer months were brutally hot. You're at altitude, you're in moon dust, on gravel...and

See RUN, B3



Local Events

Open Studio Art Tours West End

Description: Local artists open their studios
When: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 24 and 25, east end will be Oct. 31 and Nov. 1
Over 100 participating locations
For information call 366-2226 or visit <http://www.hwy62arttours.com>.

Halloween Haunt, 6th Year of Fear

Description: Haunted house tours every 10-15 minutes
When: 6 to 10 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, 6 to 9 p.m. on Thursdays, Oct. 23-24 and Oct. 29-31.
Where: Theatre 29,
73637 Sullivan Road, Twentynine Palms
For more information visit <http://www.theatre29.com>.

Music: The Farmers (formerly The Beat Farmers)

Description: A sound like Bo Diddly or the Yardbirds
When: 7:30 p.m., Friday
Where: Pappy and Harriet's
53688 Pioneertown Road, Pioneertown
For more information call 365-5956 or visit <http://www.pappyandharriets.com>.

Art reception: "The Cold, Hard Fiction of Life"

Description: Paintings by Jesse Wiedel
When: 6 to 9 p.m., Saturday
Where: The Art Queen
61855 29 Palms Highway, Joshua Tree

Music: Ruby & The Rock Spiders

Description: Classic rock 'n roll music
When: 9 p.m., Saturday
Where: Joshua Tree Saloon
61835 Twentynine Palms Highway, Joshua Tree
For more information call 366-2250.

Karaoke Night at PJ's hosted by Troy Michaels

Description: A sophisticated computerized setup with a great sound system
When: Every Tuesday and Saturday night at 8 p.m.
Where: PJ's Pub, 57564 Twentynine Palms Highway
Yucca Valley in the Von's Shopping Center.
For more information call 228-1199.

Lower Desert

Music: Alice Cooper

Description: The flamboyant hoodlum who forever altered the face of rock and roll
When: 8 p.m., Friday, Oct. 30
Where: Fantasy Springs Resort Casino
84-245 Indio Springs Parkway, Indio
For more info call 800-827-2946 or visit <http://www.fantasyspringsresort.com>.

Comedy: Margaret Cho

When: 9 p.m., Oct. 30
Where: Agua Caliente
32-250 Bob Hope Drive, Rancho Mirage
For more info call (888) 999-1995 or visit <http://hotwatercasino.com>.

Comedy: Lewis Black

When: 8 p.m., Nov. 13
Where: Agua Caliente
32-250 Bob Hope Drive, Rancho Mirage
For more info call (888) 999-1995 or visit <http://hotwatercasino.com>.

Joe Perry

Description: Co-songwriter and lead guitarist of Aerosmith
Where: Fantasy Springs Resort Casino
84-245 Indio Springs Parkway, Indio
For more info call (800) 827-2946 or visit <http://www.fantasyspringsresort.com>.

Music: Willie Nelson

When: 8 p.m., Friday, Dec. 4
Where: Fantasy Springs Resort Casino
84-245 Indio Springs Pkwy, Indio
For more info call (800) 827-2946 or visit <http://www.fantasyspringsresort.com>.

Sunset Cinema

Friday, Oct. 23

6 p.m. – 500 Days of Summer, Rated PG-13
9 p.m. – Inglorious Bastards, Rated R
Midnight – Gamer, Rated R

Saturday, Oct. 24

11 a.m. Free Matinee: Shrek the Third, Rated PG
2 p.m. – Julie and Julia, Rated PG-13
6 p.m. – I Can Do Bad All By Myself, Rated PG-13
9 p.m. – Whiteout, Rated R
Midnight – Sorority Row, Rated R

Sunday, Oct. 25

2 p.m. – All About Steve, Rated PG-13
6 p.m. – Love Happens, Rated PG-13
9 p.m. – The Informant, Rated R

Monday, Oct. 26

7 p.m. – Halloween 2, Rated R

Tuesday, Oct. 27

No movies - Fallen Heroes Rehearsal

Wednesday, Oct. 28

7 to 8 p.m. – Fallen Heroes Memorial Concert

Thursday, Oct. 29

7 p.m. – The Final Destination, Rated R

'Zombieland' a funhouse of gross giggles

NEIL POND

AMERICAN PROFILE

Zombieland

Starring Woody Harrelson, Jessie Eisenberg, Emma Stone & Abigail Breslin
Rated R

Zombies – you know, those ravenous, re-animated corpses with the insatiable munchies for human-body bits – have been chewing up the big screen for more than 50 years. Their latest appearance, in this big-budget horror spoof which mixes equal parts carnage and comedy, has become a bona fide box-office hit.

It's no surprise. "Zombieland" is a wild funhouse ride of grossness and giggles that should coast into Halloween as a must-see for fright-flick fans who agree that laughter makes any zombie popcorn apocalypse easier to digest.

In a decimated, dead-zone America with rabid flesh-eaters springing from every nook and cranny, Woody Harrelson is Tallahassee, a good ol' boy survivalist with a fetish for weapons and a sweet tooth for Twinkies. Jessie Eisenberg plays Columbus, a lovelorn nebbish with irrita-



COURTESY PHOTO

Woody Harrelson (right) is Tallahassee, a good ol' boy survivalist with a fetish for weapons. Jessie Eisenberg (left) plays Columbus, a lovelorn nebbish. The two damsels in faux distress (Emma Stone and Abigail Breslin), eventually join forces with the guys.

ble bowel syndrome who outfoxes zombies by adhering to a long list of precautionary, common-sense rules – like "Check the back seat" and "Beware of bathrooms."

When Tallahassee and Columbus come across two wily young damsels in faux distress (Emma Stone and Abigail Breslin), they eventually join forces and head to the comedic centerpiece – an audaciously out-of-left-field encounter in the

Hollywood home of a movie icon. To say more would spoil the surprise, and it's a whopper.

The splatery conclusion is staged in an amusement park, which provides several opportunities for inventive, zombie-fied interludes on the midway. If you thought the Drop Zone was dangerous under normal circumstances, just try it with a horde of hungry zombies drooling for you to come back down. And if you've ever thought clowns were creepy, wait until you come face-to-face with one that wants to slurp your brain through your skullcap. Yikes!

The dialogue is fast, funny and full-on R-rated, and Harrelson is a hoot as the drawly daredevil at the epicenter of all the merry, macabre mayhem, nursing a secret hurt inside the tender heart of his hard shell.

"Mama always said I'd be good at something," he notes at one point. "Who woulda known it'd be zombie killing?"

Sociologists and pop-culture pundits say that various social, political and economic situations are represented by movie zombies, from the lumbering graveyard ghouls in George Romero's "Night of the Living Dead" to the turbo-charged carnivorous sprinters in Danny Boyle's "28 Days Later." But all that's just so much blah-blah-blah when it comes to the experience of sitting in a dark theater, surrounded by a bunch of other giddy moviegoers, everyone primed for goosebumps.

If you've outgrown Halloween's little-kid-stuff sugar rush, "Zombieland" can help put some chewy, gooey, scary, grown-up fun back into fright night.



COURTESY PHOTO

Columbus, played by Jessie Eisenberg, outfoxes zombies by adhering to a long list of, common-sense rules – like "Check the back seat" and "Beware of bathrooms."

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Where The Wild Things Are (PG) Everyday: 2:15, 4:30, 6:45, 9:00	Law Abiding Citizen (R) Fri-Mon: 2:15, 4:30, 6:45, 9:00 Tues: 2:15, 4:30, 6:45	• ADULTS \$8.00 • SENIORS \$6.00 • CHILDREN \$6.00 www.cinemaitheatre.com

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CPL. NICOLE A. LAVINE

Mary Jones (left), wife of Staff Sgt. Donald Jones, an instructor with Company B, Marine Corps Communications-Electronics School, and Sarah Salazar, wife of Staff Sgt. Daniel Salazar, Co. B, MCCES, and Jones' 5-year-old daughter, Katie, sort through free shoes after rummaging through more than 2,000 formal gowns during the "From Our Closet to Yours" event at the Combat Center Community Center Oct. 15. The dresses and accessories were donated to military spouses by the Armed Services YMCA and sponsored by Marine Corps Community Services. Each year, ASYMCA donates these items to spouses in anticipation of the Marine Corps Birthday Nov. 10. "This is my first time doing this, but not my last," said Jennifer Andrews, a spouse who volunteered to help with the event. "This saves me the \$100 or \$200 I would spend at the mall. Now we'll have extra money to enjoy ourselves since this is about the only time of year we get to do something like this." Spouses were allowed to enter the Community Center gym in groups of 20, and were then turned loose to pick however many dresses they wanted after each group had taken a turn. "This will make the ball much less stressful," Andrews said.

RUN, from B1

the air quality...between the burn pit and the dust from the roads...wow, the air quality is terrible," said Edwards. Higher altitude training presents unique challenges since the air is thinner. At higher altitudes the body has to produce more red corpuscles in the blood stream to capture the scant oxygen and carry it from the heart to the extremities.

"Not a run goes by where we don't get absolutely dusted by the convoys or that our throats aren't absolutely burning from the air," said Edwards of the running environment around Camp Leatherneck. Due to security reasons, Marines are only allowed to run inside of the camp perimeter.

"I'm so fortunate to have been able to train with Erin (Lt. Demchko). Usually the team is all spread out and we only get to see each other at the races. Despite the lack of sleep or the crazy work days, I'm in so much better shape than I would have been without her here. I'm so very excited for her and the rest of the team," said Edwards.

This year the All Marine team competing at the Marine Corps Marathon includes: Lt. Col. Alexander Hetherington from Oceanside, Calif.; Capt. Rick Jennings from Albany, Ga.; Lt. Col. Thomas Blackwell and Capt. Maureen Carr from Arlington, Va.; 1st Lt. Erin Demchko from Yuma, Ariz.; Maj. Kristin McCann, 2nd Lt. Adam Crandall and Sgt. Ryan Ellis from Miramar, Calif.; Sgt. Billy Van Vianen from Camp Lejeune, N.C.; 2nd Lt. Kyleigh Millhouse from

Pensacola, Fla.; Staff Sgt. Tyler Hubbard, Capt. Michelle Macander and team captain Col. Steven D. Peterson from Quantico, Va., "We've got some really strong runners this year, and I think they are going to do extremely well at the actual MCM as they compete against the British Royal Navy and the rest of the US Armed Forces. As for the rest of us here in Afghanistan...we'll be with them in spirit. Train Hard, Race Well," said Edwards.

Edwards volunteered to serve as the de facto race director for the Marine Corps Marathon Forward, Afghanistan. She worked with the Marathon Staff, headquartered in Quantico, Va., to outline a course, obtain competitor shirts and prizes and for all of the back office administrative functions that are required to have a well-organized race. While the scoring is separated, competitors entered in the race in Afghanistan and Iraq are considered officially registered as participants in the Marine Corps Marathon in Arlington, Va.

Runners for the All Marine Running Team are picked from the ranks. They are selected based on past performance and recorded finish times. Marines in active duty and reserve status are welcome to apply. An application for the team is available on the Marine Sports homepage at: <http://www.usmc-mccs.org/sports>.



LANCE CPL. ANDREW D. THORBURN

Lance Cpl. Gerardo Mangual, an ammunition technician with the Center Magazine Area, Company B, Headquarters Battalion, helps Les Snodgrass, a member of the board of directors for the Twentynine Palms Historical Society, take a tarp off a canopy after the Old Timers Reception at the Twentynine Palms Museum Saturday. The Historical Society owns the museum and has been hosting the Old Timers Reception there since the first year it opened in 1995.

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Athlete of the Week



Name: Tu Tran
Hometown: San Diego
Unit: Company B, Marine Corps Communications-Electronics School
Job Title: Transmission Training Section officer in charge
Recognition: Coach of the MCCES football team which is undefeated 6-0
Major sports achievements: Leading an undefeated team and recognizing potential players and bringing it out
Favorite aspect of the sport: "Being around great talent, coming together as a team and doing the greatest thing – winning."
Advice for aspiring players: "Don't neglect your practices and get your players on the same page as far as being in shape."

OLD, from B1

technician with CMA, and a Beauregard, Ala., native. "A lot of my family is in the military and this will give me more stories to tell when I'm with them."


When the old rustic clock in the museum struck 1 p.m., the event began with a slide show presentation with pictures from the town's first photographer, Harlow W. Jones, which was presented by his daughter Ann Maier.

Once the slide show

wrapped up and everyone was finished going down memory lane, they headed outside to enjoy tasty food and ice cold drinks.

All the "old timers" spent hours telling the younger attendees how the town was different in their youth and all the achievements people have accomplished over the years.

All who showed up had the chance to learn something new and to talk with "old timers" who remember Twentynine Palms when it was still young.



TOUGH MINDED OPTIMISM
by Lou Gerhardt

When I write a brief essay for this column I try to discuss something both local and current that will hopefully interest someone who doesn't have much involvement with organized religion.


Today I will discuss the perennial struggle between the inherent power and wisdom of age old traditions and the inevitable changes that occur in every life, family and society.

Let's face the truth and accept the fact that change is a reality in every person, relationship, family, and community. Your attitude toward changes in yourself and others determines whether your life is filled with frustrations or joys. As John Steinbeck suggested in "Travels With Charley", those who resist change end up with only the misery of defeat and with none of the satisfaction of gain.

The other thing I want to share today is the necessity of each person possessing a sense of belonging to someone or something that encourages what Abraham Lincoln called "The Better Angels of Our Nature." We need that sense of utterly belonging and we find our greatest satisfaction in helping others to develop such a sense of belonging in their lives. Jane Howard said it well, "Call it a clan, call it a network, call it a tribe, call it family. Whatever you call it, whoever you are, you need one."

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PARADE, from B1

Palms Chamber of Commerce and a resident for 30 years.

“We’re here to remember all the hardships the pioneers went through when they first came out here,” Daigneault said. “The parade and Pioneer Days is a great way of remembering the pioneers.”

Daigneault said mother nature also cooperated for the parade this year.

“It was a really good parade, with great weather too,” he said. “Everyone really lucked out this year. The good Lord was good to us, I’ve seen parades in the past when it was freezing, over 100 degrees, you name it. We really had a good one.”

Residents of the town, who have spent years enjoying the festivities, said it has not lost its appeal.

“I love coming to the parade every year, it just never gets old seeing what people come up with,” said Troy Winters, a native of the town whose family has attended Pioneer Days for decades. “You see some real weirdos walking around in the parade. I saw a guy dressed like that dude from the Adams Family just hanging around the fire department [trucks], but oh well.

“It’s Twentynine Palms,” he said. “You never know what kind of people are out there, but they can put on a good show.”

The Pioneer Days parade and other events are scheduled every year for the third weekend in October, always in downtown Twentynine Palms, outside the main gates.

For more information about future events, or about activities in Twentynine Palms, contact the Twentynine Palms Chamber of Commerce at 367-3445.



LANCE CPL. M. C. NERL

Brig. Gen. H. Stacy Clardy III, the commanding general of the Combat Center, rides in the Pioneer Days parade Saturday with his wife Alison. The parade is part of the 73rd annual event to honor the founders of Twentynine Palms, who were pioneers and miners.



LANCE CPL. M. C. NERL

Randy Council, a participant in the 73rd annual Pioneer Days parade, navigates the route with his horses Saturday in the town of Twentynine Palms. The Combat Center and the local community celebrate Pioneer Days every year in October in honor of the founding members of Twentynine Palms in the 1800’s.



LANCE CPL. M. C. NERL

Members of the California Mounted Search and Rescue Patrol ride in the 73rd annual Pioneer Days parade in the Town of Twentynine Palms Saturday. The annual parade is held every year in the town in remembrance of the pioneers who settled Twentynine Palms many years ago.

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