



BYE DADDY



SGT. HEATHER GOLDEN

[Above] Gunnery Sgt. Jared Hoversten, Regimental Combat Team 7, 7th Marine Regiment, gets a goodbye kiss from his 22-month-old daughter, Kaydence, Tuesday before he boards a bus and heads to Afghanistan.

[Right] Kaydence Hoversten sits in front of buses shortly before RCT-7, 7th Marines leaves for their deployment to Afghanistan Tuesday at 7th Marine Regimental Headquarters.

For more photos check out the Combat Center facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/thecombatcenter>



CPL. WILLIAM J. JACKSON

RCT-7 heads off to Afghanistan

Sgt. Heather Golden
 Combat Correspondent

Kaydence is almost 2 years old. She likes blowing kisses and playing with her 8-week-old baby brother. She really likes Gatorade. And she loves her daddy.

Just after midnight Tuesday morning, Kaydence gave her dad a goodbye kiss before he boarded a bus and deployed to Afghanistan with Regimental Combat Team 7, 7th Marine Regiment. Kaydence will be almost 3 years old before she gets to see him again.

"This is maybe three or four times now; it never gets easier. They say you'll get used to it. You can't. And kids, kids get older. They start to know more."

— Maggie Jimenez

The Marines and sailors of RCT-7, 7th Marines, departed the Combat Center for the Helmand province, Afghanistan, where they will be taking over as the senior ground combat element in the area.

Among their numbers are infantrymen, radiomen ... and a small handful of women.

The unit augmented three women into their ranks, this being one of the first times they have done so. All three will be filling support roles, and all three volunteered for the positions.

Sgt. Mariajose Borja, who came from Headquarters Battalion, 1st Marine Division, in Camp Pendleton, Calif., said this was something new for her, too. She spent the last few months

See **DEPLOYMENT** page A6

Corps' 'First Lady' develops reading list

Sgt. Heather Golden
 Combat Correspondent

As the wife of the Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. James F. Amos, Bonnie Amos has experienced hardships common to just about every military spouse — deployments, temporary single motherhood and more moves than the average American will ever see.

She's also picked up a thing or two about successfully handling these challenges along the way. Now, she's promoting a new reading list, dubbed the "First Lady of the Marine Corps Recommended Reading List," geared toward helping military families cope with those same stresses. The list was developed through collaboration between several military spouses, including Mrs. Amos, Mrs. Phyllis Stewart, Mrs. Holly Scherer, the



AMOS

Marine Corps Exchange and the Marine Corps Association. Families have had difficulty finding information resources with no official, centralized information and advice source. The First Lady's reading list brings together in one location books that have all been vetted as credible sources for helpful advice for military families. The Marine Corps is the first military branch to develop a resource list of this nature.

"I think that the new list is terrific; it gives our USMC spouses a one-stop shop for finding books that are relevant to being a USMC spouse and family," said Kathleen Smith, the spouse of the Combat Center's Commanding General. "The most effective Marine is one whose family is well taken care of. This includes providing knowledge and skill building on family and spouse resiliency and coping mechanisms. The Corps is well served by any program that accomplishes this fact.

"It's absolutely fabulous that the Corps has recognized this and is doing its best to meet the need here," Smith said. "There has been a lot of careful consideration in choosing the books represented here."

The official kick-off for the list is anticipated for Oct. 15. The list includes books for both adults and children, and many

See **READING** page A6

'First Team' RETURNS

1/7 comes home from Afghanistan deployment

Lance Cpl. D. J. Wu
 Combat Correspondent

Hundreds of friends and families of 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, flocked to Del Valle Field Sunday, to welcome their Marines and sailors back home from Afghanistan.

More than 200 members of 1/7 returned home from their 7-month deployment to Sangin, Afghanistan.

"Our mission over in Sangin was to bolster the Afghan National Security Forces," said Maj. Jonathan Holder, executive officer, 1/7. "We were there to help train and advise those guys."

The majority of the returning party were from Company B of 1/7. The remaining members were from Co. A, Co. D and H&S Company.

"This is my fourth time coming home from combat," Holder said. "It doesn't get old. It's great to be back and be in a normal environment."

Families lined the parking lot of Del

Valle Field, awaiting the return of their loved ones. Jacqueline Franco awaited the return of her son, Anthony Quinterilla.

"We talked through Facebook while he was deployed," Franco said. "I would get up at one or two o'clock in the morning just to hear from him and to make sure he's OK. As a mother it's hard, because you know your son is out there and in harm's way. I'm super excited to see him come

home and to know he's OK."

Even Marines that didn't have family waiting for them, had their fellow Marines waiting.

"This is really par for the course for the battalion," Holder said. "We

preach family, not just for the Marines, but for husbands, wives and other family members too."

As the Marines marched in from the armory, where they turned in their weapons, to meet their loved ones, they were met by thunderous cheers and warm welcomes. They were embraced by wives, families and close friends and welcomed back to their normal lives.

"We preach family, not just for the Marines but for the husbands, wives and other families too."

— Maj. Jonathan Holder



Families and friends cheer and hold signs as the returning members of 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, march onto Del Valle Field, Sunday. Marines from Companies A, B, D, and H&S returned home from their 7-month long deployment to Sangin, Afghanistan.

Voting day Approaching

■ Marines encouraged to cast their ballots

Lance Cpl. Ali Azimi
 Combat Correspondent

On Nov. 6, the men and women of the United States will be pouring into poll booths to vote for their favorite candidates.

With voting day less than a month away, Marines are encouraged to do their part and vote.

"This is our country, a democratic country," said Larry Ward, installation voting assistance officer, G-1. "We have a voice and if you don't exercise it, you're leaving it in the hands of everybody else that does vote."

Service members are sworn to support and defend the Constitution of the United States. The right to vote is an amendment to the constitution.

"Voting is not only a civic duty but a personal responsibility as well," Ward said. "Especially if you're wearing a uniform, you're out there on the pointy end of the spear, defending your and the rest of the country's right to do that."

Many Marines are stationed outside their home state or currently deployed. This does not take away their given right to vote.

Service members and their family members of legal age, outside the state of their home of record, can send in a Federal Post Card Application to their home state. The application requests an absentee ballot from their home state. The individuals mark their vote on the ballot and send it back to their respective states.

Marines overseas during election time can fill out the same form, the only difference is timing. It is recommended that service members who wish to vote during their deployment send in their ballots sooner rather than later to meet the deadline set 15 days prior to Election Day. This year's deadline is Oct. 22.

Combat Center Marines can fill out an

See **VOTE** page A6



Ward

Combat Center Intramurals

Individual Rifle Competition

Trophy: Cpl. William Frentz; score 562.21, MTU
Silver Medal: Sgt. Pierre Deforest; score 546.19, 3rd LAR
Bronze Medal: Cpl. Eric Havlick; score 544.17, MTU

Individual Pistol Competition

Trophy: Sgt. Wayne Gallagher; score 488.04, MTU
Silver Medal: Cpl. William Frentz; score 472.04, MTU
Bronze Medal: Sgt. Pierre Deforest; score 420.01, 3rd LAR

Grand Aggregate Champion

Trophy: Cpl. William Frentz; score 2601.62, MTU
Silver Medal: Sgt. Wayne Gallagher; score 2476.37, MTU
Bronze Medal: Sgt. Pierre Deforest; score 2436.52, 3rd LAR

Team Rifle - Avengers (Score 1059.39)

Staff Sgt. Samuel Church, MTU
 Sgt. Wayne Gallagher, MTU
 Cpl. William Frentz, MTU
 Cpl. Aaron Routt, MTU

Team Pistol - Avengers (Score 835.06)

Staff Sgt. Samuel Church, MTU
 Sgt. Wayne Gallagher, MTU
 Cpl. William Frentz, MTU
 Cpl. Aaron Routt, MTU

Combat Infantry Team Trophy - Avengers (Score 241)

Staff Sgt. Samuel Church, MTU
 Sgt. Wayne Gallagher, MTU
 Cpl. William Frentz, MTU
 Cpl. Aaron Routt, MTU

Honorable Mention

Biggest Improvement (Rifle): Lance Cpl. John Kelly, CLB-7
Biggest Improvement (Rifle): Lance Cpl. Amanda Bustamante, PMO
Biggest Improvement (Pistol): Lance Cpl. Amanda Bustamante, PMO
Highest Final Rifle: Staff Sgt. Philippe Monroy, 3rd CEB
Highest Final Pistol: Lance Cpl. Devon Mayer, 3rd CEB
Table 1 Zulu: Lance Cpl. Jarrod Copeland, 3rd LAR

OFF-LIMITS ESTABLISHMENTS

MCIWest off-limits establishments guidance prohibits service members from patronizing the following locations. This order applies to all military personnel.

Local off-limits guidance prohibits service members from patronizing the following locations.

In Oceanside:
 - Angelo's Kars, 222 S. Coast Hwy, Oceanside, Calif., 92054
 - Angelo's Kars, 226 S. Coast Hwy, Oceanside, Calif., 92054

In Twentynine Palms:
 - Adobe Smoke Shop, 6441 Adobe Rd.
 - STC Smoke Shop, 6001 Adobe Rd.
 - K Smoke Shop, 5865A Adobe Rd.

In San Diego:
 - Club Mustang, 2200 University Ave.
 - Club San Diego, 3955 Fourth St.
 - Get It On Shoppe, 3219 Mission Blvd.
 - Main Street Motel, 3494 Main St.
 - Vulcan Baths, 805 W. Cedar St.

In Yucca Valley:
 - Yucca Tobacco Mart, 57602 29 Palms Hwy.
 - Puff's Tobacco Mart, 57063 29 Palms Hwy.

In National City:
 - Dream Crystal, 15366 Highland Ave.
 - Sports Auto Sales, 1112 National City Blvd.

In Palm Springs:
 - Village Pub, 266 S. Palm Canyon Dr.

For the complete orders, but not off-limits, check out the Combat Center's official website at <http://www.marines.mil/units/29palms>

SUDOKU #2689-D

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See answers on page A3

ALL-DAY EVENT

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70						71				72		

- ACROSS**
- Easy marks
 - Diamond defect
 - Dwelt
 - It may thicken
 - Cohort of Kent and Olsen
 - Ring great Griffith
 - "__ boy!"
 - See 24-?Across
 - Big name in bridge
 - Venus at sunrise, sometimes
 - Singer DiFranco
 - When paired with 18-?Across, miscellany
 - Utter chaos
 - Thick __ brick
 - Beirut is its cap.
 - Crystal ball consultant
 - Tend to the turkey
 - "Just for the heck __"
 - Leather piercers
 - Tea, e.g.
 - Top-shelf
 - Pound or Cornell
 - "Nancy" rich kid
 - Go ballistic
 - Lyrical Gershwin
 - Brylcreem amount
 - Lead from the dugout
 - Pull at the earth's surface, briefly
 - Corrida shout
 - Formal attire
 - "Zelig" director opener
 - Brie covering
 - Al, "inventor" of the Internet
 - Apartment sign
 - "The Raven" opener
 - Jacob's twin
 - Eyelid problems
 - Bewhiskered barker
 - HUD, for one: Abbr.
 - Sauerbraten, et al.
 - Mike holder
 - Defat, whaler-?style
 - Singer k.d.
 - Added stipulations
 - Shrine Game side
 - Ogrish Simon
 - "Editorially speaking," in chat-? room shorthand
 - Like the flu
 - Actress Verdugo
 - Strauss material
 - Do-?nothing
 - Assists, criminally
 - Harsh Athenian lawgiver
 - Quatrain scheme
 - Ahead of the tag
 - Flask filler
 - Commandments mount
 - Half of octa-
 - On behalf of
 - Part of a V-? formation, perhaps
 - In __ land (spacy)
 - Grubby guy
 - Israeli desert region
 - Arboreal ape
 - Scully and Smart
 - Short poem on two rhymes
 - Zoo barriers
 - Dole out
 - Literature Nobelists
 - Urged, with "on"
 - Lustful god
 - Mudville complement
 - Andean of old
 - End of a shooting
 - Not masc. or fem.
 - Shoebbox letters
- DOWN**
- Cyber-trash
 - Choir voice

OBSERVATION POST

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WHAT I'VE LEARNED

THE PILOT

Billy D. Bouldin

Marine Corps colonel (retired), 82,
Pecos, Texas

INTERVIEWED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY
LANCE CPL. ALI AZIMI

October 5, 2012

> **My dad worked in the oil fields** in Pecos, Tx. That's where I was born, in the oil fields.
> **The oil companies had** houses for their employees on the leases. When it came for me to be born, my mother went outside because my father was working on top of the oil derrick. It was very noisy. She was trying to yell at him, "Come on down, I have to go to the hospital."
He couldn't hear her, so she climbed the side of the oil

derrick, pregnant, and I was born up on top, 300 ft in the air. I tell the story that that's how I got into aviation.

> **My father was transferred** to the oil fields in Santa Barbara, Calif., and that was the oil fields the Japanese submarines attacked during WWII.

> **When the war started** my dad enlisted in the Navy and sent my mother, brother and me back to Texas.

> **I went through high school** there and got a football scholarship to Texas A&M as a quarterback. I was going to college strictly to get two years of college, that's what was required to go to flight school in the Navy.

> **I didn't have enough money** to stay in college so I enlisted, because I was told from an enlisted status, if you can pass a GED equivalency test, then you can go to flight school and that's what I did.

> **I graduated from flight school** and commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant.

> **My first assignment out** of flight school was to El Toro, Calif., flying C1-19s or RQ-4s as they were called in the Marine Corps. One of my scheduled flights was to fly to Camp Pendleton and pick up 42 Marines and drop them off in a place called Twentynine Palms. That was on March 17, 1952.

> **Flying in I thought**, what in the world is this? A dry lake-bed for an airfield?

> **I brought them out here** and we landed on the dry lake-bed. Where the front gate is right now is just about the touchdown point to land. Those were the first Marines to come and set up the tent camps when the Marine Corps took over Twentynine Palms.

> **I went on for 30 years** flying for the Marine Corps. I flew in the Korean War and the Vietnam War, flying everything from single engine props, to multi-engine props, to multi-engine jets, to helicopters.

> **I applied for and was selected** for the Navy's test pilot school where I got to fly some really exotic stuff in the flight center, like a bat-shaped wing airplane, a F4D-Skyray they called it. That model developed into the F4 series jets.

> **Another one was** the nicest airplane I've ever flown, it was called the FJ-4 Fury. That was the same as the Air Force's in Korea, the Saber Jet.

> **After that** I had a nice tour on embassy duty in Mexico City. It was just fantastic. I had twin engine transport airplane for the ambassador and I use to fly him all over Mexico to the point where I knew Mexico almost better than I knew the United States.

> **I was a Major** at the time and I ran the Marine Corps Ball every year with the Embassy Guard and invitees from the Mexican military. The one embarrassing thing was when we sang the Marine Corps hymn, "from the Halls of Montezuma." That was only two blocks away.

> **From there I was** concerned I wasn't going to get a piece of the Vietnam Wars, so I requested overseas duty.

In Vietnam I went down with the airplane and injured my back and got medically evacuated home. I spent a year in Balboa, recovering.

> **I was assigned** to be the CO of MAG-16 at El Toro, Tuscan. I learned the Marine Corps was going to start its Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center at Twentynine Palms and I volunteered for that job. I didn't remember how bad it was.

> **Obviously we didn't** have an airfield and that was my first duty, to build an expeditionary airfield out at Camp Wilson.

> **The climate at that** time to getting funds to build an airfield were impossible, because Congress was closing military bases at that time so there was no way we were going to get funds. I found a tactical airfield system using aluminum matting. It was only supposed to last six months. This one out here has lasted years now and it continues to be an excellent training facility.

> **In '79 I retired.** We had two daughters just getting ready to start high school and my wife, Faye, and I decided to stay here at Twentynine Palms and give them a hometown high school experience because we had moved around so much.

> **My kids love Twentynine Palms**, to the point that even though they are spread all around the world, they still enjoy coming home. We're still here. My wife and I found and purchased an old Adobe house. My wife says she is going to be in the Adobe house forever.



**LOOKING
for local
entertainment?**

See page B2 for our
**LIBERTY CALL
section**



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

Jane WAYNE

Oct. 10, 2012

CLB-7 EDITION



PHOTOS BY LANCE CPL. LAUREN KURKIMILIS

Loved ones of Combat Logistics Battalion 7 Marines receive a range safety brief before patrolling through a Military Operations on Urban Terrain town during CLB-7's Jane Wayne Day aboard the Combat Center Wednesday.

CLB-7 spouses step into husbands' boots for a day

Lance Cpl. Lauren Kurkibilis
Combat Correspondent

Dust filled the air as a cool breeze trickled through Del Valle Field. The battalion sergeant major briefed the formation as sand began to cover everything; kevlar, combat boots and manicured fingernails.

Combat Logistics Battalion 7 held a Jane Wayne Day for more than 20 spouses and girlfriends Wednesday. The group of excited and anxious women arrived at 7:30 a.m. to be accounted for, check gear and hydrate. They were already starting off their day like their Marines would.

Sgt. Maj. Amerigo Walton, battalion sergeant major, CLB-7, welcomed everyone and expressed his appreciation of CLB-7 family members supporting their Marines. The group then loaded in 7-ton trucks, sporting full battle rattle and headed off to Range 113A for live-fire weapons training.

"Shooting the rifle was pretty awesome," said Shae Sand, CLB-7 wife. "The weapon was heavier than I thought and the recoil was surprising."

Sand was one of many women impressed with their husbands' ability to handle the

M16-A4 service rifle.

"Holding the weapon the right way, alone, was pretty hard," said Becky Krohn, CLB-7 wife. "Being accurate with it, is a whole different story."

Confidence and camaraderie built as the Janes cycled through their firing relays, shared stories and once again loaded in the 7-ton vehicles to travel to their next location.

"Getting in the truck with all this gear on is not easy at all," Krohn said. "This stuff is heavy."

Once the women arrived at Range 215, they were given the opportunity to dine like Marines as well. The women gathered in a courtyard located in the heart of Range 215's Military Operations on Urban Terrain town and received their pre-packaged military rations.

The women rustled through the boxes of meals, finding entrees that seemed the most appetizing and CLB-7 Marines walked them through the art of preparing the meals. As the women ate their chow, they were briefed on what was to come; patrolling in a fire team through a simulated combat zone.

CLB-7 Marines acted as enemy combatants. They hid in buildings, jumped through windows and ran

through alley ways to provide targets for the wives to fire at while they patrolled.

"I definitely have a new-found respect for my husband," Krohn said. "Running around with (a flak jacket) is really heavy with the SAPI plates in it and in the desert, it's hot. When you're running around sweating and firing blanks, it's really an adrenalin rush."

The day was fast paced and ran well into the afternoon. The women were then scheduled to experience the Combat Vehicles Off-Road Terrain Course in transit back to Del Valle Field. This was followed by an obstacle course and Marine Corps Martial Arts Program demonstration.

"I think it was definitely a really good experience getting familiarized what my husband does when he's deployed," Krohn said. "I think that's a big key in a relationship; to understand what the spouse, who's in the military, does."

Many of the wives were part of the volunteer program for the battalion, but had never gotten together to meet one another and have fun. The wives not only experienced the physical demands of what it takes to be a Marine, they also experienced the camaraderie and support that is thickly woven into the Marine Corps lifestyle.



A wife of a Marine in Combat Logistics Battalion 7 patrols through a Military Operations on Urban Terrain town during CLB-7's Jane Wayne Day aboard the Combat Center Wednesday at Range 215. Jane Wayne Day allows loved ones and spouses to get an in-depth perspective of their Marine's day-to-day life.



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DARKSIDE

Jane WAYNE

Oct. 10, 2012

3RD BN., 4TH MARINES EDITION

3/4 Marines take wives to the field

Lance Cpl. D. J. Wu
Combat Correspondent

Third Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, hosted the first Jane Wayne Day event the battalion has ever held Wednesday.

Because of the multiple deployments the battalion has been involved with during Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom, 3/4's leadership decided to host the event to provide the spouses an inside look at a day in the life of their Marines.

"To my memory we haven't had a Jane Wayne day," said Heidi Harting, Family Readiness Officer, 3/4. "The battalion deploys so often, we have a hard time fitting it in with their training schedule."

During the event, the spouses got a chance to spend some time in the field with their husbands and with the rest of the 'Darkside' family.

"I'm a little nervous," said Alice Martinez, wife of Pfc. Fernando Martinez, administrative clerk, Headquarters and Services Company, 3/4. "There's all this equipment and gear around. There are these big trucks and I don't even know where we're going."

"I told my wife to expect anything and everything that the Marine Corps has to offer," Fernando said.

They started the day with an Explosive Ordnance Disposal demonstration. A unit with 3/4 was at Range 800 conducting counter-improvised explosive device training. The Marines there showed the equipment and techniques used in IED detection.

"We wanted to just take a breath and sit back and let the spouses see a small snapshot of what our Marines go through every day," Harting said.

"Just getting into the back of a 7-ton (truck) is an eye opener for a spouse."

Then they moved to Range 101 for the rest of the day. There they got to experience a pre-packaged military ration. With help from their husbands they navigated their way around the meal. Their husband showed them the best ways to prepare the meal and creative tricks they use to make it taste better.

When they arrived at Range 101, the spouses learned about Marine Corps vehicles and weapons. The arsenal ranged from M1A1 Abrams Tanks and Light Armored Vehicle-25 to M2 .50 Caliber machine guns and an M72 Light Anti-Tank Weapon. The Marines showed their spouses the weapons systems they use when they are in the field and deployed overseas.

The highlight of the day was the shooting event, where the spouses got to shoot M16 A4 rifles and M4 A1 rifles on the range.

"It was intimidating but it was fun," Martinez said. "I have more appreciation for my husband and his job after this. I think that every spouse that has the opportunity to do this in the future should definitely do it."

The day was full of information for the spouses. Because of the frequent deployments and field operations the 'Darkside' Marines participate in, it was refreshing for the Marines to take their families to work with them.

"We take the Marines away from their families, spouses and significant others, a lot to do training and deployments," said Maj. Michael Cable, battalion executive officer. "We wanted to give them a demonstration of what their husbands are out doing."



PHOTOS BY LANCE CPL. D. J. WU

[Above] 2nd Lt. William Minor, platoon commander, Company K, 3rd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, shows his wife the ins and outs of a pre-package military ration at the battalion's Jane Wayne Day at Range 101 Wednesday. The event was held to give loved ones a taste of what the Marines go through on a day-to-day basis.

[Below] Marines and loved ones with 3/4 watch an improvised explosive device demonstration Wednesday during the unit's Jane Wayne Day at Range 800.



DEPLOYMENT, from A1

training side-by-side with her new brothers-in-arms, and said she received an immediate welcome into the unit.

"It's been great," Borja said. "They've all been very respectfully, and treated me as part of them from day one."

This reaction was not a surprise to unit leadership at all, though. "Colonel Renforth (commanding officer, 7th Marines) was very adamant that once you're a part of this command, you're a part of this command," said David Plaster, family readiness officer, 7th Marines. "With women in combat units being more accepted, they looked for whoever best met the qualifications for the job."

The team will be gone for about a year, and the families left at home will have their own battles to overcome, waiting for their Marines to come back and trying to keep a semblance of regular life going.

Of the families gathered under the street lights before dawn, there were young families of newlyweds, brand new babies and fiancés. There were husbands and wives with decades of partnership under their belts. There were mothers and fathers and nephews and best friends.

For some, like Lindsay Vantassel, who has only been married to her sailor for a month, this will be the first time facing a deployment. For others, like Maggie Jimenez and her 9-year-old daughter, Katie, this is just another deployment in a long list of them.

"This is maybe three or four times now; it never gets easier," Jimenez said. "They say you'll get used to it. You can't. And kids, kids get older. They start to know more."

The families are not expected to deal with this by themselves. In fact, the unit is doing what they can to keep families connected to each other and to the unit's leadership.

"We want to make sure they know that even though the Marines and sailors are forward deployed, there is still a support element for them here," Plaster said.

There will be at least one spouse event a month until the unit returns, and plans for Halloween, Thanksgiving and holiday dinners are already underway, he added.

Keep track of the team's work in Afghanistan on the regiment's e-Marine site. If you're a family member of an RCT-7 Marine or sailor, and you want more information on how to connect with e-Marine, contact David Plaster at 830-6613.

For more photos check out the Combat Center's official Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/thecombatcenter>.



[Left] Cpl. Grant Yoder Regimental Combat Team 7, 7th Marine Regiment, kisses his wife goodbye Wednesday before he deployed to Afghanistan.

[Below] Gunnery Sgt. Jared Hoversten, Regimental Combat Team 7, 7th Marine Regiment, plays with his his 22-month-old daughter as Capt. Adam Address looks on Wednesday before their bus pulls out and they head to Afghanistan.

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PHOTOS BY SGT. HEATHER GOLDEN



READING, from A1

were authored by military spouses. The list formalizes the Marine tradition of spouses helping spouses by sharing their experiences and lessons learned.

Families will soon be able to find these books at the Main Side Exchange and base library within their own specialized section, indicated by the reading list's logo. Smith also said the plan is to constantly evolve the list's selection, "so it will always be fresh."

"I hope that our families regularly browse this section of the Exchange to see what's available," Smith said. "It's always a joy to read, especially when it's on topics that are near and dear to your heart. Just think how fun it would be to start some book club discussions on some of these topics. Knowledge really is power."

Mrs. Amos is scheduled to appear for book signings at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar and Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego Oct. 26.

The official list of books will soon be available on the Marine Corps Association website at <http://www.mca-marines.org>.

VOTE, from A1

application through their unit voting officer, the installation voting assistance officer or through the federal voting assistance website: <http://www.fvap.gov>.

The FVAP website not only provides ballots for out of state Marines, but can help register first time voters.

With all the available ways to vote, there is no reason for any Marine not to have their voice heard.

"It's been shown numerous times, even one vote can make a difference," Ward said. "If you don't vote and you don't like who ends up in office, you don't have a right to complain about it."

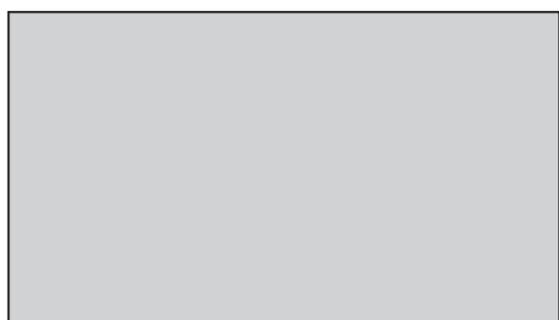
To contact the Combat Center's voting assistance officer or for more information about the FVAP and local polling areas visit www.marines.mil/unit/29palms/pages/info/vote.aspx.

For local entertainment see our LIBERTY CALL section on page B2

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 Hey Combat Center fans – Spread the word! The Combat Center has its own Flickr photo and video streams. Find them at <http://www.flickr.com/the-combatcenter>.

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DOs and DON'Ts of POLITICS

Every few years Marines and other service members have the opportunity to support their favorite political candidate by voting. As important as it is to vote, Marines also need to know what they can and cannot do in politics.

The Department of Defense has a longstanding, well-defined policy regarding political campaigns and elections to avoid the perception of DOD sponsorship, approval or endorsement of any political candidate, campaign or cause. The department encourages service members to fulfill the civic obligation to vote, but makes clear members of the Armed Forces on active duty should not engage in partisan political activities.

Do Not:

- Imply Department of Defense sponsorship of partisan politics.
- Wear the military uniform to partisan political events.
- Distribute campaign literature.
- Make public commentary for political candidates, campaigns or causes.
- Speak before a partisan political gathering.
- Campaign for a candidate.
- Solicit contributions for a candidate.
- March in a partisan parade.
- Use official authority or influence to interfere with an election.
- Post to a political party, partisan political candidate, campaign, group or causes webpage or social media.
- Make direct links to such pages.
- Comment on such pages.
- "Tweet" at accounts of such.
- Suggest others follow or support the same.
- Forward solicitation from partisan social media sites to others.

Do:

- Register to vote.
- Express a personal opinion on political candidates and issues, but not as a representative of the Armed Forces.
- Join partisan or nonpartisan groups and attend meetings.
- Sign a petition for a specific legislative action or a petition to place a candidate's name on an official election ballot.
- Make donations to a political campaign.
- Become a "friend" of, or "like" or follow accounts of a partisan political party, candidate, campaign, group or cause.
- Vote.
- Express your personal views on public issues and political candidates on social media platforms.
- Protect service members and junior enlisted from coercion.

Remember, supporting a candidate is ok but endorsing one is not.

For voting information visit <http://www.fvap.gov/>



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A DECADE LATER

■ Prior Marine, Seabee reunite in Afghanistan

The sound of power tools and abrupt commands coming from the battalion aid station, startled some Marines walking by. Two Corpsmen stick out from the crowd inside the building, working to remodel their work area.

Lance Cpl. Timothy Lenzo
7th Marine Regiment

FORWARD OPERATING BASE JACKSON, Afghanistan — The two servicemembers started their military careers in different fields, but now they work together in Afghanistan. One trained to be a Marine, the other a Navy Seabee.

“When I joined the Navy, I had a degree in construction, so that’s what the Navy wanted me to do,” said Petty Officer 2nd Class David Cergol, a hospital corpsman with the battalion aid station, 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment. “At the time, the Seabees were undermanned, so it was more important for me to help them.”

Cergol, from Pittsburgh, Pa., started working construction when he was 14. After 10 years in the civilian world, he decided he wanted a change, but found himself again working construction for the Navy.

“The Seabees are a great group of people, but I ultimately joined because I wanted to be on the front lines and be with the Marines,” said Cergol.

Unlike Cergol, Petty Officer 2nd Class Jordan Fitzgerald, another hospital corpsman with the BAS, started his military career with the Marines. He served with 1st Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, and was part of the initial push to begin



Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Cergol’s and Fitzgerald’s paths first crossed during the initial push into Iraq. Fitzgerald served in the infantry and fought on the front lines. Meanwhile Cergol, working as a builder with the Seabees, followed behind the infantry, helping with security.

“We were both able to talk about the towns we went through, and the forward operating bases being set up,” said Cergol. “He was more the tip of the spear, and I was more behind doing logistics.”

After their first enlistment, the two servicemembers decided to split ties with their old units.

Fitzgerald, from Yucca Valley, Calif., dabbled with joining the Navy SEALs before deciding on a different future.

“Being a grunt, I had a pretty good idea of what corpsmen did,” said Fitzgerald. “I knew corpsmen went with Marines, and I’m not the guy who likes ship life. Also I enjoy helping people and knew I’d be helping Marines.”

While Fitzgerald looked at other jobs first, Cergol knew from the start he wanted to be a corpsman. He helped as a Seabee because that’s where the Navy needed him, but he jumped at the chance to start his career in the medical field.

“I enjoy the medical side,” said Cergol. “I wanted to be with the Marines, and I wanted to make more of a difference and ultimately save lives.”

The two use their prior jobs as tools for their current jobs. Cergol became certified to operate the heavy equipment around the forward operating base. He regularly helps by driving forklifts and constructing new fixtures.

“I’m able to draw on my experience with the Seabees to strengthen security and improve overall living conditions,” said Cergol. “When I was in Iraq, one of the bases we stayed at had little to no security. We were able to get together and build up the walls and better secure our buildings.”

Cergol’s experience as a Seabee helps him in tangible ways, while Fitzgerald’s experience as a Marine is more abstract.

“He’s very disciplined,” said Cergol. “You can tell he used to be a Marine. He still has that rigid discipline about him.”

Fitzgerald also learned a great deal of leadership from the Marines. This skill helps him teach the corpsmen under him.

“I think the Marine Corps teaches small-unit leadership better than the other branches,” said Fitzgerald. “The Marine Corps taught me how to manage situations really well.”

Their focus is the health of the Marines and sailors, but servicemembers will see Cergol behind that forklift or Fitzgerald correcting his corpsmen on the proper wear of the uniform. The two moved on in their military careers, but find they use the same skills every day.

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Photos and story by Lance Cpl. Ali Azimi



A Day to Remember

High desert community honors firefighters with picnic

The Sawtooth Complex fire in 2005 was one of the biggest wild fires the high desert ever experienced. The incident forced people out of their homes while firefighting units from the surrounding area fought to save the property and lives of the locals.

The Combat Center Fire Department was one of the many units to respond to the tragic event.

"We sent our fire trucks out," said Wayne Giannini, fire captain, Combat Center Fire Department. "You can look at the hills all around and see where the fire was."

The Combat Center Fire Department and all the Morongo Basin firefighting units have been invited to the annual Firefighter Appreciation Picnic since the 2005 calamity.

"I put the first one together in

three weeks. I wanted to get the community together to say 'thank you' to our firefighters for protecting our houses and our towns," said Jodi Godden, the creator and coordinator of the picnic. "I knew I wasn't the only one who felt that way."

This year's picnic was held on Oct. 9 at Covington Park, Morongo Valley, Calif., where many families showed up to show their support.

The event provided music, food, kids' events and a raffle for the honorees and families.

"The kids come in and enjoy the petting zoo and the bounce house. It allows the parents to sit back with a hotdog and a hamburger and joke around with their friends," Godden said. "Everybody comes and has a great time."

At the edge of the park, the Combat Center firefighters set up a static display to allow spectators to see their fire truck and the different

types of tools they use.

"This is the local community. This is who we come out here to support," Giannini said. "We provide support for the base, but when we get a chance to come and provide support for the community like this, it is like icing on the cake."

The Combat Center firemen took pictures with the kids and their families and answered any questions they had. Kids shook loose of their parent's grip and ran up to the shiny red trucks, excited to meet the firemen and see the inside of the giant vehicle.

"When their face lights up as the big red truck passes by, is fantastic," Giannini said. "It's a great feeling."

Across the park, the base's Provost Marshal's Office set up a K-9 demonstration.

"It's a great opportunity to come out here and show the families what we are capable of," said Cpl. Jose

Rivera, dog handler, PMO K-9 unit. "We show the community our support for them and they show their support back."

It was the K-9 unit's first time making a demonstration for the annual picnic and it had patrons of the picnic huddling to watch.

The dog handlers demonstrated the obedience and skills of their working dogs to the crowd of spectators.

For their finale, one of the handlers put on a protective suit and showed the canines' attacking capabilities.

The picnic provided its patrons with food and fun and in addition to the show of support of the firemen of the high desert area, the picnic raised money to be evenly split between the Red Cross and the Firefighter's Association.

"The main focus is the firefighters," Godden said. "That's what all this is about."

[Above, left] Mitchel Sulak, K-9 Officer, Provost Marshal's Office K-9 unit, is attacked by his dog while wearing a protective suit during a demonstration for the Firefighter Appreciation Picnic Oct. 9 at Covington Park, Morongo Valley, Calif.

[Above, right] David Maiden, 7, looks excitedly at the PMO K-9 unit demonstration during the Firefighter Appreciation Picnic at Covington Park Morongo Valley, Calif. Oct. 9.

[Right] Wayne Giannini, fire captain, Combat Center Fire Department, meets 5-year-old Savannah, during the Firefighter Appreciation Picnic Oct. 9 at Covington Park, Morongo Valley, Calif., Oct. 9.





Combat Center Clubs

Excursions Enlisted Club

Monday: Margarita Mondays
 Thursday: Rockin' Karaoke 7-10 p.m.
 Friday: Social hour with food, 5 - 7 p.m. followed by DJ Gjettblaque, 8 - 11 p.m., Ladies Night
 Saturday: Variety Night, DJ Gjettblaque 8 - 11 p.m.

Bloodstripes NCO Club

Monday: Margarita Mondays
 Thursday: Warrior Night 4:30 - 9 p.m.
 Friday: Karaoke Night 6 - 9 p.m.

Hashmarks 29 SNCO Club

Friday: Steak Night, 4:30 - 8 p.m.
 Monday-Friday: All-hands lunch
 Monday: All-hands steak night, 4:30 - 8 p.m.

Combat Center Officers' Club

Monday: Steak night, 5 - 7:30 p.m.
 Monday-Friday: All-hands lunch, from 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
 Thursday: Taco Night, 5 - 7 p.m.

For complete calendars visit <http://www.mccs29palms.com>.

Local Events

Dave Gleason

Free country music show
 When: Friday, Oct. 12, 8 p.m.
 Where: Pappy and Harriet's Pioneertown Palace
 53688 Pioneertown Rd., Pioneertown, Calif.
 For more information, call 365-5956.

Darkum Asylum

When: Oct. 19-31, check website for times
 Where: Theatre 29
 73637 Sullivan Rd., Twentynine Palms, Calif.
 For more information call 316-4151
 or visit <http://www.theatre29.org>

Free Line Dance Lessons

Learn to dance to traditional country music
 When: 5 - 9 p.m., every Sunday
 Where: Willie Boy's Saloon and Dance Hall
 50048 29 Palms Hwy, Morongo Valley, Calif.
 For more information, call 363-3343.

Lower Desert

Ian Anderson

Professional flutist plays
 When: 9 p.m., Friday, Oct. 19
 Where: Agua Caliente Casino Resort Spa
 32-250 Bob Hope Dr., Rancho Mirage
 For more information call 888-999-1995 or visit
<http://hotwatercasino.com>.

John Legend

Nine-time Grammy Award winner performs
 When: 9 p.m., Friday, Nov. 16
 Where: Fantasy Springs Resort Casino
 84-245 Indio Springs Parkway, Indio
 For more information call 800-827-2946 or visit
<http://www.fantasyspringsresort.com>.

Moon Walker

The ultimate Michael Jackson experience
 When: 8 p.m., Saturday Nov. 17
 Where: Spotlight 29 Casino Resort
 46-200 Harrison Place, Coachella, Calif.
 For more information call 866-377-6829 or visit
<http://www.spotlight29.com>.

Sinbad/Zapp

Comedian performs
 When: 8:00 p.m., Friday, Nov. 23
 Where: Morongo Casino Resort and Spa
 49500 Seminole Drive, Cabazon, Calif.
 For more information call 800-252-4499 or visit
<http://www.morongocasinoresort.com>.

Sunset Cinema

Friday, October 12

6 p.m. - ParaNorman, Rated PG
 9 p.m. - Odd Life of Timothy Green, Rated PG
 Midnight - Expendables 2, Rated R

Saturday, October 13

FREE MATINEE 10:30 a.m. - Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Roderick Rules, Rated PG
 12:30 p.m. - ParaNorman, Rated PG
 3 p.m. - ParaNorman 3D, Rated PG
 6 p.m. - Total Recall, Rated PG-13
 9 p.m. - Bourne Legacy, Rated PG-13
 Midnight - Expendables 2, Rated R

Sunday, October 14

12:30 p.m. - ParaNorman, Rated PG
 3 p.m. - Premium Rush, Rated PG-13
 6 p.m. - ParaNorman 3D, Rated PG
 9 p.m. - Hit and Run, Rated R

Monday, October 15

7 p.m. - Total Recall, Rated PG-13

Tuesday, October 9

7 p.m. - ParaNorman 3D, Rated PG

Wednesday, October 10

5:30 p.m. - Bourne Legacy, Rated PG-13
 8:30 p.m. - The Campaign, Rated R

Thursday, October 11

5:30 p.m. - Odd Life of Timothy Green, Rated PG
 8:30 p.m. - Total Recall, Rated PG-13

Young cast gets laughs in comedy about college acappella groups



COURTESY PHOTO

The real-life campus of Louisiana State University doubles as the setting of the fictional Barden U. in "Pitch Perfect," where two rival groups — the all-female Bellas, recovering from an unfortunate previous-season setback, and their male adversaries, the reigning-champion Treblemakers — assemble at the start of new school year.

NEIL POND

"Pitch Perfect"

Starring Anna Kendrick & Brittany Snow
 Directed by Jason Moore
 PG-13, 112 min.

Fans of TV's "Glee" and TV's numerous popular singing competitions will dig this high-spirited, youthful comedy romp. But anyone who's ever been specifically bitten by the bug of ultra-competitive college a cappella singing groups, which make all their musical noises vocally, will especially find plenty to like and laugh about.

The real-life campus of Louisiana State University doubles for as the setting of the fictional Barden U. in "Pitch Perfect," where two rival groups — the all-female Bellas, recovering from an unfortunate previous-season setback, and their male adversaries, the reigning-champion Treblemakers — assemble at the start of a new school year.

On the campus teeming

with "aca-geeks," they scout for fresh blood and begin the ramp-up to regional and national competitions.

Freshman Bella (Anna Kendrick) isn't into the singing scene, but when one of the Bellas hears her "pitch perfect" singing in the shower, she becomes a reluctant recruit.

The petite and perky Kendrick is the movie "veteran" of the cast, with previous supporting roles in three "Twilight" movies, a critically praised co-starring role as George Clooney in 2009's "Up in the Air," and another movie, "End of Watch," also in theaters now. At 27, she's still believable playing a college student.

Brittany Snow, who plays the Bella who discovers Beca, made numerous appearances as a young teenager on the soap opera "Guiding Light," played the spoiled Amber Van Tussle in "Hairspray" (2007) and had a recurring role on TV's "Harry's Law."

Before becoming con-

trol-freak Bella taskmaster Aubrey, Anna Camp had a small role in "The Help," played Caitlin D'Arcy on TV's "The Good Wife" and stirred up a fan base on the series "True Blood," in addition to appearing in several other TV roles.

Adam Devine, who struts with cocky over-confidence as the leader of the Treblemakers, will be familiar to viewers of Comedy Central's hilarious "Workaholics" series. Elizabeth Banks (one of the movie's producers) and John Michael Higgins toss off a cascade of snarky acazingers as recurring competition commentators.

But it's Rebel Wilson who steals the show. The saucy Aussie stand-up comedian-turned-actress, introduced to American audiences with a small part in the raunchy comedy "Bridesmaids," truly gets to shine here. As Fat Amy, she's a big, bountiful Bella whose generous physical proportions are matched by her gift of knowing how, when

and where to sprinkle just the right amount of comedic side-dish seasoning onto any scene or snippet of dialogue.

We get to know the characters and follow them through various subplots, in particular a "forbidden" romance between Beca and one of the off-limits Treblemakers. But the movie really comes alive in the music, a fresh, energetic mash-up of trad and rad that the two groups work up for their performances.

The hip, witty script, by "30 Rock" writer Kay Cannon, is full of fun, feisty fire, and there's only one real comedic misstep, a running gag of gross-out, puke-tastic messiness that the movie runs into the ground...and smears all over the floor.

But otherwise "Pitch Perfect" hits a lot of right notes for a movie that only wants to make you laugh, and the young, extremely enthusiastic cast gives this tune-filled tale of competing college crooners a delightfully entertaining spin.

Week **IN** Photos

Honoring Korean War Veterans, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif.



PHOTOS BY LANCE CPL. DERRICK K. IRIONS



[Above] Marines stand by 105mm Howitzers and lower their heads during a moment of silence, paying tribute to fallen Korean War era Marines, at the 62nd Memorial Anniversary of the Korean War at Camp Pendleton's Pacific Views Event Center, Sept. 22. The event was held to honor the veterans who fought during the Landing on Inchon, in the streets of Seoul and in the northern mountains near the Chosen Reservoir.

[Far, left] Korean War veteran, 1st Sgt. John F. Farritor, honors fallen Korean War era Marines during the 62nd Memorial Anniversary of the Korean War at Camp Pendleton's Pacific Views Event Center, Sept. 22.

[Left] Weapons from the Korean War era are displayed for attendees during the 62nd Memorial Anniversary of the Korean War at Camp Pendleton's Pacific Views Event Center, Sept. 22.