



Maj. Gen. David H. Berger, former Combat Center Commanding General, transfers command to Maj. Gen. Lewis A. Craparotta, Combat Center Commanding General, during a change of command ceremony at Lance Cpl. Torrey L. Gray Field, Thursday. Berger will go on to assume command of I Marine Expeditionary Force.

## All hands welcome new Combat Center Commanding General

Story and photo by  
**Lance Cpl. Paul S. Martinez**

All hands aboard the Combat Center gathered at Lance Cpl. Torrey L. Gray field to witness a historic moment in Combat Center history as Maj. Gen. David H. Berger, former Combat Center Commanding General, formally relinquished his command to Maj. Gen. Lewis A. Craparotta, Combat Center Commanding General, in a change of command ceremony, Thursday.

Distinguished guests from outside of the Combat Center's gates were in attendance, including general officers and sergeants major from other Marine Corps installations, as well as retirees that are affiliated with the Combat Center.

Unit commanders from Headquarters Battalion, Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center, Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron 1, Marine Corps Tactics and Operations Group, and Marine Corps Logistics Operations Group lead their Marines in the formation and pass and review. The 1st Marine Division Band provided ceremonial music.

Sgt. Maj. Karl Villalino, Combat Center sergeant major, brought forth the colors to Berger, who then passed them, and the authority of the installation they represent, to Craparotta.

Berger extended gratitude to the civilian employees aboard the base, the retiree community, supporting organizations throughout the area, and the Marines and sailors currently serving.

"There are many organizations at the top and bottom of the hill that take us into their homes on Thanksgiving, and take care of our families when we need it, and they don't ask for anything in return," Berger said. "They really support us in what we do, year-round. I'm thankful."

Under Berger's leadership, which began Jan. 11, 2013, the Combat Center was awarded the Commander-in-Chief's Installation Excellence Award for the fifth consecutive time in a row, a distinction unmatched by any other United States military installation.

"All of my peers helped shape the way that I lead," Berger said. "I'm grateful for all of your continued bearing."

Berger has been nominated by President Obama for appointment to lieutenant general and command of I Marine Expeditionary Force, based in Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Craparotta's previous assignment was as Director of Operations, U.S. Northern Command.

"For me, it's clear," Craparotta said. "I have to carry

*All of my peers helped shape the way that I lead. I'm grateful for all of your continued bearing.*

- Maj. Gen. David H. Berger

See **COMMANDING GENERAL**, page A7

## Marines featured in soccer game

**Lance Cpl. Paul S. Martinez**  
 Combat Correspondent

CARSON, Calif. – Approximately 40 Combat Center Marines started their Fourth of July weekend by attending a Los Angeles Galaxy and Portland Timbers soccer game at the Stubhub Center in Carson, Calif., July 4.

The trip was made possible by the Combat Center's Single Marine Program, which sponsors monthly trips throughout Southern California for the benefit of service members seeking recreation.

"We have certain partnerships with different organizations," said Lovetta Scipio, program coordinator, SMP. "They love to find ways to provide for the military."

A convoy of three vehicles rolled out to make the drive to the Los Angeles area, with the Marines anticipating their appearance at the

*It felt good to be appreciated by the people here.*

- Pfc. Daewon Min

soccer game.

"We were able to fill up three buses of Marines with 40 tickets," Scipio said. "We just had to provide transportation."

The Marines were invited to don their dress blue bravo uniforms, or civilian attire featuring Marine Corps emblems and symbols.

Before the game, the Marines wearing their dress blue bravo uniforms presented the American flag on the field, receiving applause and verbal compliments by a crowd of thousands for their appearance. The Marines stood in place as the national anthem played.

Afterward, they joined the crowd in watching the game. After 90 minutes of high-speed soccer, the match ended in a tie score of 2-2.

"It was an honor getting free tickets to the [and] game to be out here," said Pfc. Daewon Min, student, Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School. "I've never been to a soc-

See **SOCCER** page A7

## Marines celebrate Independence Day

**Cpl. Charles Santamaria**  
 Combat Correspondent

The first firework jets through the darkness as the Twentynine Palms community watches in anticipation from lawn chairs, vehicle rooftops, and grassy areas of Luckie Park. The firework explodes and color fizzles into the night sky marking the beginning of the fireworks show a proud, traditional, celebration of independence and freedom.

The city of Twentynine Palms hosted a 4th of July celebration at Luckie Park, July 4.

*I'm an American citizen and I love the freedom we have living in this country. Independence Day celebrates that.*

- Larry Bowden

The event featured a band with the Rodeo Revival country music group, static displays of Marine Corps vehicles, face painting, a water park, and fireworks to end the celebration.

"It makes me feel good to be able to make some kids smile by showing them the vehicles and giving them a chance to experience it," said Pvt. David Anderson, motor transportation operator,

See **PARK** page A7

## Scout Sniper Platoon mourns loss of fallen Marine

**Cpl. Joseph Scanlan**  
 Combat Correspondent

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan – Nearly four months into their combat deployment, Marines and sailors with 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, experienced a heartbreaking loss.

Sgt. Thomas Z. Spitzer, team leader, Scout Sniper Platoon, 1/7, was killed while conducting combat operations in Helmand province, Afghanistan, June 25.

Spitzer, a 23-year-old native of New Braunfels, Texas, was born Feb. 28, 1991. He began his Marine Corps career Aug. 21, 2009, when he underwent recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego. He graduated from recruit training Nov. 13, 2009, and then reported to the School of Infantry aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California. After a grueling three-month training evolution, he earned the military occupational specialty of 0341, infantry mortarman.

Spitzer was assigned to 81mm Mortar Section, Weapons Company, 1/7, upon completion of SOI. During July 2010, he deployed in support of the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, and during March 2012, he deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

After being a mortarman for four years, Spitzer decided to take on a new challenge and volunteered to attend a scout sniper platoon screener.

"We started with about 20 Marines in that screener," said Petty Officer Third Class Jordan Lowe, corpsman, Scout Sniper Platoon. "We only ended up taking four of them because at the end of the first day 16 had dropped."

In the searing heat of the Combat Center he proved to his leadership that his determination and skill far exceeded anybody's expectations for those trying out for a spot in the platoon. He was immediately regarded by others as a Marine who represented much more than



**[Right]** Sgt. Thomas Z. Spitzer, professionally instructed gunman, Scout Sniper Platoon, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, poses for a photo shortly after arriving in Helmand province, Afghanistan, March 20. Spitzer, a 23-year-old native of New Braunfels, Texas, was killed while conducting combat operations, June 25.

being just physically and mentally tough. He was also extremely intelligent, humble and had a hunger for success like no one else.

Once he earned his spot in the platoon, he underwent rigorous predeployment training in preparation for his second OEF deployment to Afghanistan. He quickly grasped the concepts of advanced marksman-

See **SPITZER**, page A6

# This Week in Combat Center History



Reprinted from the Observation Post  
dated  
July 16, 2004  
Vol. 50, Issue No. 27

## The boys are back in town

Story by Lance Cpl. Heidi E. Loredo

Nearly 1,000 Marines and sailors of 3rd Battalion, 4th Marines, returned this week from a seven-month tour of duty overseas as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom 2.

The battalion, half of them OIF 1 veterans, departed the Combat Center under the Unit Deployment Program with 3rd Marine Division to Okinawa, Japan, two weeks before Christmas. In February, the unit set out to Iraq for a five-month deployment and is the first large group to return to the Combat Center since the beginning of OIF 2.

“Headquarters Marine Corps directed that an additional two battalions be added to the initial force structure,” said Maj. Andrew J. Petrucci, executive officer, Headquarters and Service Company. “3/4 and 1/5 were identified to be those two battalions. This was the logical choice since both battalions had already made preparations to deploy to Okinawa and were close to completion in personnel and training requirements.

Prior to their departure to Iraq, the battalion focused on security and stability operations that allowed them to practice procedures such as con-

voy operations, mounted patrols, vehicle patrols, medical evacuations communications exercises, and behavioral scenarios.

Petrucci said due to the last minute notification that the battalion was going to participate in OIF 2, the were forced to conduct SASO training while in Okinawa.

“Working closely with 1st Marine Division, Camp Pendleton, Calif., we developed a comprehensive and challenging training package that prepared Marines for some of the most unique challenges associated with SASO,” said Petrucci.

“Being geographically separated from 1st Marine Division did present some challenges, but we recieved tremendous support from 4th Marine Regiment in Okinawa that allowed us to complete the training.”

Once 3/4 arived in Iraq, the battalion conducted patrolling operations throughout western Al Anbar Province and Fallujah.

“SASO prepared Marines for the different types of missions they would undertake,” said 1st Lt. Sean W. Barnes, platoon commander, Lima Company, 3/4. “The training was as realistic as possible and good tactical habits were being ingrained. By the time we executed the missions in Iraq, the Marines had done it before and were good at it.”

The battalion did not come back complete. Four Marines belonging to 3/4 were killed in action during the deployment to Iraq.



## MCTOG bids farewell to operations Gunny

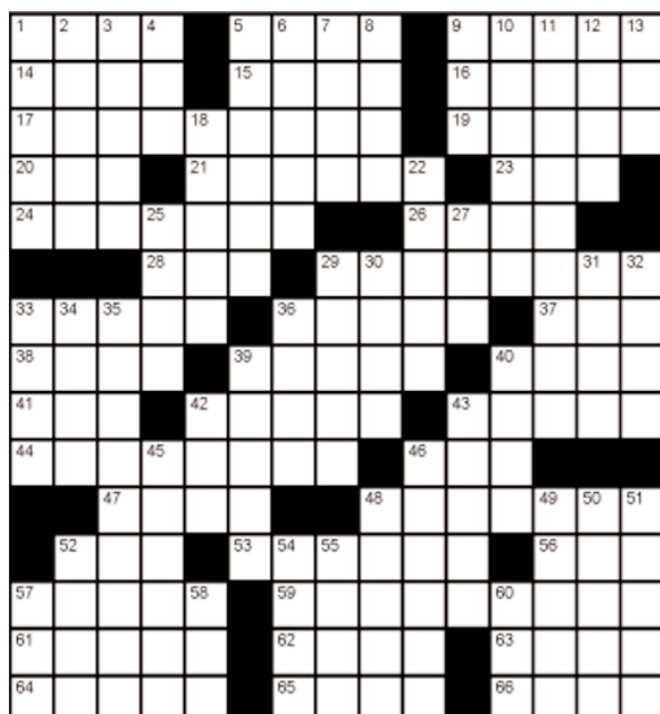
Photo by Cpl. Charles Santamaria

Col. Craig Wonson, commanding officer, Marine Corps Tactics and Operations Group, pins a Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal onto the uniform of Gunnery Sgt. Matthew Maxwell, former information operations officer, MCTOG, during a retirement ceremony at the Protestant Chapel, July 8. Maxwell retired from the Marine Corps after 20 years of service.

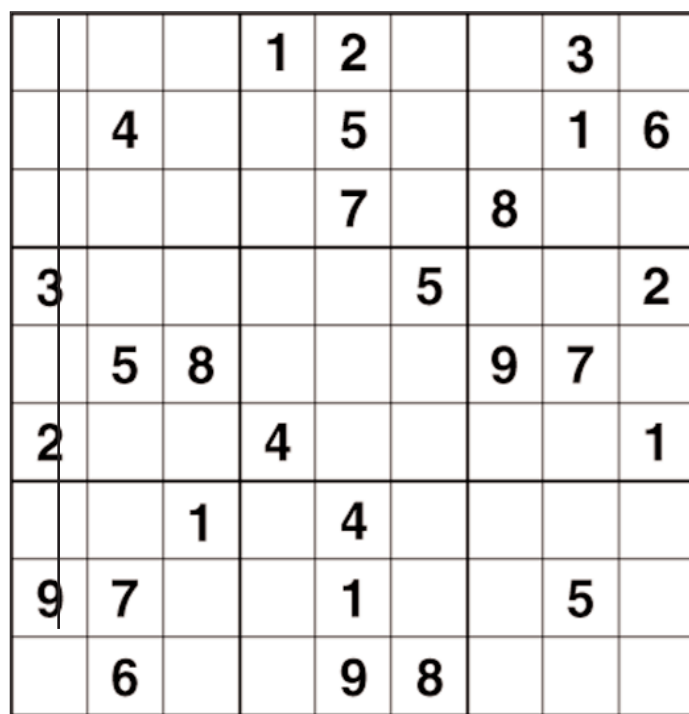
### “SHARE THIS CROSSWORD”

See answers on page A3

- Across**
- 1 Person in charge at work
  - 5 Celebrity
  - 9 Paper written in school
  - 14 \_\_\_ Spumante (sparkling wine)
  - 15 Crazy
  - 16 The Twist or the Macarena
  - 17 Frighten off
  - 19 False fronts
  - 20 Consume
  - 21 Having a strong dislike
  - 23 “\_\_\_ you kidding me?”
  - 24 Piece of furniture in the bedroom
  - 26 Still pink, as a steak
  - 28 “\_\_\_ So Shy”
  - 29 Party game
  - 33 Ford that flopped
  - 36 Word after hope or cedar
  - 37 Mouse’s cousin
  - 38 \_\_\_ and pans
  - 39 Disgrace
  - 40 Surrounding glow
  - 41 Tax shelter of a sort
  - 42 Potato \_\_\_ (snack food)
  - 43 How some hallways are lit
  - 44 What little kids ride in
  - 46 Slugger Williams or actor Knight
  - 47 Monetary field of study
  - 48 Naps
  - 52 “Much \_\_\_ About Nothing”
  - 53 Allowed under Jewish law
  - 56 Tear
  - 57 Flying solo
  - 59 Fifth wheel
  - 61 Button on a television
  - 62 Roll call response
  - 63 Cain’s brother
  - 64 Nervous
  - 65 Dangerous liquid
  - 66 Top of the line
- Down**
- 1 “\_\_\_ on a true story”
  - 2 Academy Award
  - 3 Wyoming or Wisconsin
  - 4 Not madam
  - 5 Lincoln freed them
  - 6 Eiffel \_\_\_
  - 7 Rent-\_\_\_
  - 8 Rogers and Orbison
  - 9 Bradley and Asner
  - 10 World’s largest desert
  - 11 Orchestra instrument
  - 12 High point
  - 13 Not no
  - 18 Painting holder
  - 22 Use one end of a pencil
  - 25 “\_\_\_ the One”
  - 27 Picasso’s stuff
  - 29 Cowboys wear them
  - 30 Works on a skirt
  - 31 James \_\_\_ Jones
  - 32 Remain
  - 33 Amazing
  - 34 “\_\_\_ the Explorer”
  - 35 Intimidate successfully
  - 36 IOU
  - 39 Lamb portion
  - 40 Helps
  - 42 Head of a company
  - 43 John \_\_\_ (tractor brand)
  - 45 Breakfast items
  - 46 Having several levels, as a wedding cake
  - 48 Harry Belafonte’s daughter
  - 49 Apache or Sioux
  - 50 Buenos \_\_\_, Argentina
  - 51 Recently popular grain
  - 52 Soothing plant
  - 54 Govt. arm involved in the workplace
  - 55 On \_\_\_ (without a contract)
  - 57 Fitting
  - 58 Before, in poems
  - 60 Bill at a bar



### SUDOKU 3319 D



Whatever you’re looking for, you can find it in the **Observation Post Classified section**



### OBSERVATION POST

- Commanding General** - Maj. Gen. David H. Berger
- Installation Sgt. Maj.** - Sgt. Maj. Karl Villalino
- Public Affairs Officer** - Capt. Justin Smith
- Public Affairs Chief** - Staff Sgt. Dorian Gardner
- Media Chief** - Cpl. Lauren A. Kurkimilis
- Layout/Design** - Cpl. Ali Azimi
- Press Chief** - Cpl. Alejandro Bedoya
- Correspondents**
- Cpl. Charles J. Santamaria
- Lance Cpl. Paul S. Martinez

The Observation Post is published by Hi-Desert Publishing, a private firm in no way connected with the Department of Defense or the United States Marine Corps, under exclusive written contract with the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center. This commercial enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the military services. Contents of the Observation Post are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the United States government, the DOD, or the United States Marine Corps. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts and supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the DOD or Hi-Desert Publishing of the services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation, or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. Editorial content is prepared by the Public Affairs Office, MCAGCC, Twentynine Palms, Calif. 92278. All photos, unless otherwise indicated are Official USMC Photos. Questions can be directed to the Public Affairs Office, located in building 1417, during normal working hours at 830-6213 or FAX 830-5474. The Observation Post is made with 60 percent recycled paper.

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

- In Twentynine Palms:**
  - Adobe Smoke Shop, 6441 Adobe Rd.
  - STC Smoke Shop, 6001 Adobe Rd.
  - K Smoke Shop, 5865A Adobe Rd.
- In Yucca Valley:**
  - Yucca Tobacco Mart, 57602 29 Palms Hwy.
  - Puff’s Tobacco Mart, 57063 29 Palms Hwy.
- In Palm Springs:**
  - Village Pub, 266 S. Palm Canyon Dr.
  - Whispering Palms Apts., 449 E. Arenas Road
  - NYPD Pizza, 260-262 N. Palm Canyon Drive

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

## WHAT I'VE LEARNED

# Mark Emil DUMDIE

Fort Hood, Texas, fire inspector, Combat Center Fire Department, 43

DUMDIE BEGAN HIS CAREER OF FIREFIGHTING AS AN AIRCRAFT RESCUE MARINE AND SERVED MORE THAN 24 YEARS. HE PARTICIPATED IN OPERATION TOMADACHI OR (OPERATION FRIEND) TO ADD TO THE RELIEF EFFORT IN JAPAN IN 2011.

>I graduated June 2nd and June 5th I was getting yelled at by drill instructors aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, Calif.

>I was actually open contract and that's what they put me in. I was curious about the job and thought it was interesting.

>I stayed in the Marine Corps for 24 years and retired as a Master Sergeant aboard the Combat Center.

>I stayed in the MOS and stayed in the firefighting field because I feel like it is a great career field.

>As a Marine, I deployed in support of both Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

>I served with the Chemical Biological Emergency Response Force in Maryland for three years.

>I got the opportunity to work as the Staff NCOIC for the technical platoon and also worked for the development and coordination department.

>I also got the opportunity to participate in Operation Tomadachi for disaster relief in Japan after the 2011 earthquake and tsunami.

>I was stationed aboard the Combat Center from 2004 to 2009 before going to CBERF. I returned to the Combat Center in December 2012 and retired December 2013. I was hired with the fire department March 2014.

>One of the most humbling things about being a Marine firefighter is getting the opportunity to work with civilian firefighters. One of those experiences was with the New York City Fire Department. The amount of expertise and knowledge and education, the amount of expertise and professionalism I saw not just in New York, but all over the country is tremendous.

>I also got the opportunity to attend Arizona Law Enforcement Training Academy and worked approximately three years as a reserve deputy sheriff.

>At one time I thought I wanted to be a police officer but I changed my mind because I enjoyed the firefighting career field.

>I brought a lot of experience with me, everything from fire science to it's behavior to training and work ethics. Now with fire prevention in the Combat Center Fire Department I've learned so much.

>It goes to show that no matter how long you've been doing something you can always learn more from somebody else.

>I think that's the mentality Marines should have as they transition out of the military and get new jobs. You're the new guy and you're there to learn. It's the mentality I had when I went into fire prevention and it's served me well.

>The fire department here has a really great team, everyone I talk to has a great attitude. They enjoy working for the Marine Corps and enjoy being around the Marines, that's the biggest thing.

>When it comes to safety, you can never do too much. Safety is continuous.

>I like to ride motorcycles and I've been riding for a long time. I have many friends who were injured or killed in motorcycle accidents so I'm also big on motorcycle safety from a 'fellow rider's' perspective.

>I've been riding motorcycles since I was 15 years old, so about 30 years.

>My dad gave me my first motorcycle. He used to ride it back-and-forth and he went back to school so I asked him if I could ride it. I got my hardship license at 15 to drive to work and I've been riding ever since.

>I knew I didn't want to stay in a small town and work at the local grocery store; I wanted to do something bigger.

>In high school, I worked on a ranch and I enjoyed working there but it wasn't a career I wanted. My boss on that ranch was a Marine and he talked to me a lot about the Marine Corps. He was a Vietnam veteran and a lot of the things he had to say about the Corps were good things.

>I got interested, but I didn't know what I wanted to do so I decided to try it for a few years and I enlisted in 1989.

>In the Marine Corps, I learned a lot from other people's experiences. The Marine Corps is tough and challenging, and I wanted that; I wanted more. I didn't want an easy life and I learned how to deal with hardships in the Marine Corps. That helped me learn how to deal with challenges and hardships in the civilian world as well.



Interviewed and photographed by Cpl. Charles Santamaria, June 30, 2014

CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS



SUDOKU SOLUTIONS

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



Visit the official  
MCAGCC  
facebook page at  
[www.facebook.com/  
thecombatcenter](http://www.facebook.com/thecombatcenter)  
for more photos  
and news!

## Cinema 6

Showtimes Effective  
7/11/14 - 7/17/14



Dawn Of The Planet  
Of The Apes (PG13)  
2D 1:30 6:00  
3D 9:30

Transformers:  
Age Of Extinction (PG13)  
2D 1:30 6:00  
3D 9:30

Tammy (R)  
1:30 4:00 6:30 9:30

Deliver Us From Evil (R)  
1:30 4:00 6:30 9:30

Starting July 18th  
• The Purge: Anarchy  
• Sex Tape  
• Planes: Fire & Rescue

1 (760) 365-9633  
[www.cinema6theatre.com](http://www.cinema6theatre.com)



All military personnel  
receive free Tram  
admission with military ID.  
Offer valid July 1-31, 2014. Guests  
of military personnel (Limit 6)  
receive 25% off regular Tram fare.

- World's Largest Rotating Tram
- Spectacular Views
- Hiking & Camping
- Dining at 8,500 ft

760-325-1391

PALM SPRINGS AERIAL  
Tramway



[pstramway.com](http://pstramway.com)



vides air quality management for the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command (Combat Center). The Air Resources Program is responsible for the oversight of all activities that have the potential to emit air contaminants. The Combat Center is continually taking steps to lower our emissions and improve our air quality, which allows the Combat Center to fulfill its mission of training Marines without interruption.

The Air Resources Program has developed several initiatives to ensure air quality and reduce greenhouse gases through data analysis and monitoring. By setting high standards for engines, we ensure that harmful diesel pollution is minimized. More than half of our air pollution and greenhouse gases are emitted from burning fossil fuel, therefore alternative energy sources are utilized Base-wide, such as burning cleaner natural gas for electricity production, utilizing solar energy, and using ethanol fuel blends in automobiles.

The Combat Center has several Air Monitoring Stations that continuously monitor the air quality across the Base. This continuous measurement of the air quality shows consistently clean air and even improvement in our air quality. You can find the monitoring data for the Combat Center at the following website: <http://www.airqualitydata.org/ozonemap/twe.htm>.

#### Water Come From?

All domestic water supplied to MAGTFTC, MCAGCC is groundwater from the Surprise Springs subaquifer of the Twentynine Palms Ground Water Basin. This water is extracted from 11 production wells at a depth between 500 and 700 feet located in a protected and isolated area of the Sand Hill Training Area.

MAGTFTC, MCAGCC's drinking water system consists of 11 potable water

wells and multiple reservoirs that serve the military and civilian work force through a series of pipelines that extend over 84.2 miles of service area.

MAGTFTC, MCAGCC's drinking water is consistently of such high quality in nature that it routinely meets or exceeds all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and California Department of Public Health Services (Department) primary and secondary drinking water standards without any treatment required (other than basic disinfection) before distribution. Basic disinfection is required by the California Department of Public Health Services (Department) as a safeguard against possible microbial contamination due to repairs or maintenance of the system.

#### Investing In Our Future

Challenges facing MAGTFTC, MCAGCC utilities are similar to those faced by other utilities in the area: water supply, aging infrastructure, and population growth. MAGTFTC, MCAGCC issued multiple contracts to repair and improve the quality of the water system.

#### No Drugs Down The Drain

Pharmaceutical waste remains a threat to water supplies. One way to reduce this threat is to dispose of all over-the-counter drugs and prescriptions properly. DO NOT FLUSH DRUGS DOWN THE DRAIN.

Old medicines can be taken to the San Bernardino County Community Household Waste Collection Center located at 62499 29 Palms Highway, Joshua Tree. The hours of operation are the third Saturday of every month from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information on proper disposal of unwanted medicines please visit [www.nodrugsdownthedrain.org](http://www.nodrugsdownthedrain.org).

Types of Water Usage	Average Water Usage		Conservation Usage		
	GALS. USED	METHOD	GALS. USED	METHOD	SAVINGS
Shower (10 min)	50	Showerhead running continuously	25	Shorter showers (5 min) or	50%
			25	Low flow showerhead (10 min) or	50%
			12.5	Low flow showerhead (5 min)	75%
Tub Bath	36	Standard tub, full	18	Standard tub, half full	50%
Toilet Flushing	5-7	Depends on tank size	4-6	Use a displacement bag or milk jug in tank reservoir or	20%
			1.6		73%
Washing Hands	5	With tap running continuously	1	Replace with low flow toilet	80%
Brushing Teeth	10	With tap running continuously	1	Fill a standard basin	90%
Shaving	20	With tap running continuously	1	Wet brush with brief rinses	95%
Washing Dishes	30	With tap running continuously	10	Fill a standard basin	66%
Dishwasher	16	Full cycle	7	Wash and rinse with a half-full standard sink	56%
Washing Machine	60	Full cycle, highest water level	27	Short cycle	55%



Visit the official Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center facebook page at

<http://www.facebook.com/thecombatcenter>

#### LOOKING for local entertainment?

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



**LIVE AT THE ROCK**

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

FREE CONCERT

**TOMORROW, JULY 12<sup>TH</sup>**

**8:30PM**

**SPANKSHAFT**



**HONOR + GLORY**

**CANELO**

VS

**LARA**

**TOMORROW!**

SATURDAY, JULY 12<sup>TH</sup> | 6PM

**CASH**

**BONANZA**

**SATURDAY, JULY 19<sup>TH</sup>**

**\$1,000**

GRAND PRIZE

9pm

WIN YOUR SHARE OF **\$1,000**

HOURLY DRAWINGS

5pm - 8pm

PLAY WITH YOUR CLUB 29 CARD IN TO WIN



**TORTOISE ROCK CASINO**

73829 Baseline Road, Twentynine Palms, CA 92277

[TortoiseRockCasino.com](http://TortoiseRockCasino.com)

Management reserves the right to alter or cancel a promotion at any time. Some restrictions may apply. See Club 29 for details. Must be 18+.

*It's all right here.*

3-WEEK

Strings Conservatory

**Summer Camp!**

JUL 14-31

2014



**ENROLL NOW!**

go to [www.HiDesertCulturalCenter.com](http://www.HiDesertCulturalCenter.com)

or call 760.366.3777

**LEARN TO PLAY MUSIC**

**Violin, Viola or Cello!**

For **NEW & CONTINUING** students!

Directed by Phyllis Moss

*New classes + additions!*

*Every Monday, Tuesday, + Thursday!*

**9 classes! Fee includes book!**

- Mommy/Daddy & Me!** Ages 4-7 (\$75)
- Beginning Strings\*** Ages 8-Adult (\$95)
- JPHIL Prep\*** For continuing students (\$95)

**\*FREE music game & theory class included!**

Class enrollment is very limited. Additional classes will not be added due to demand.

**[Right]** Marines with 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment conduct a 21-gun salute during a memorial ceremony for Sgt. Spitzer aboard Camp Leatherneck, July 2. Marines also paid respects to a battlefield cross constructed in honor of Spitzer.

**[Below]** Petty Officer Third Class Jordan Lowe, corpsman, Scout Sniper Platoon, 1/7, pays his respects to Sgt. Thomas Z. Spitzer during a memorial ceremony aboard Camp Leatherneck, July 2. The memorial was in honor of Spitzer, who was killed while conducting combat operations in Helmand province, Afghanistan.



SPITZER, from A1



CPL. JOSEPH SCANLAN

ship, scouting and observing. He continuously studied, asked questions and gave 100 percent effort during every training exercise in which he participated.

“What truly made Spitzer unique was not necessarily that he was such a quick learner, it was that he put everything else aside to ensure those around him grasped the same concepts,” said Capt. John Dove, commanding officer, Headquarters and Service Company, 1/7. “He took it as his personal responsibility to ensure others succeeded and he perfectly displayed what is expected of strong noncommissioned officers.”

Spitzer’s drive and care for others continued with the battalion’s mission in Afghanistan. He conducted multiple operations in support of Bravo and Weapons companies with a cheerful heart, always leading from the front.

“About two weeks ago I was told that I was to take the jump section and establish a coordination point with the 3rd (Brigade Advisor Team) to liaise with the Afghan National Army in support of the Provincial Support Platform-South retrograde,” Dove said. “The coordination point was to be established on a small ANA outpost off of Highway 1 in an area known for kinetics. Security remained a concern; however, due to their availability that week, I quickly jumped at the opportunity to have the professionals of the sniper platoon to provide our security.”

The section arrived at Patrol Base Yakchal during the evening of June 24 and set in. That night, the Marines began taking a high volume of grenade attacks and automatic fire. Spitzer quickly identified the enemy location and directed his vehicle gunner to engage the enemy in a nearby tree line. This fire allowed for other Marines to maneuver to positions of advantage on rooftop posts, forcing the enemy to withdraw.

“The next day, we had a strong feeling that the enemy would be coming back to fire from the same general area at the same general time,” Dove said.

Knowing that, Spitzer volunteered to man an M240B medium machine gun covering the sector most likely to receive enemy contact. The position overlooked a tree line with thick vegetation that would allow the enemy to come undetected in close proximity of the patrol base.

Spitzer was defending his fellow Marines and sailors, his brothers, when he was struck by small-arms fire. Lowe was immediately on the scene to treat Spitzer.

“Any corpsman that is in a division has gone through so much training and

has had a lot of exposure to certain things like this, but you never know exactly what it’s going to be like until it happens,” Lowe said. “For the most part, the training kicks in and your body starts working, but mentally your mind is just in shock. It sucks to lose somebody, especially somebody that’s the same age as you. I think about if I was in that position, having to leave my family, parents, wife and kid behind, and it really gets to me.”

Spitzer gave his life defending a position that enabled coordination between coalition and Afghan forces, coordination that was vital for the safe retrograde of logistics and advisor personnel from their position in Lashkar Gah along a dangerous route back to Camp Leatherneck.

Cpl. Matthew Kearney, a professionally instructed gunman on Spitzer’s team, was aboard Camp Leatherneck that evening when he heard what had happened.

“I was preparing for our next mission and was waiting to hear about my next orders,” Kearney said. “When I found out, I got on my bike and rode that thing like a madman to get to the hospital. He was such a tough guy; I had never seen him in pain because he never showed it. I just can’t believe he’s gone. Part of me just expects that he’s going to kick open my door.”

The battalion honored his sacrifice during a memorial ceremony aboard Camp Leatherneck, July 2. Several Marines spoke of the memories they shared and the legacy he left behind before the ceremony concluded with a 21-gun salute and the playing of “Taps” by a fellow Marine with a bugle.

Taps is a simple melody. It is a mere 24 notes, but holds more than 150 years of tradition. It can express gratitude when words fail. It honors the men and women who have laid down their lives and have paid the ultimate sacrifice for the cause of freedom.

Spitzer’s sacrifice is measured by the success of a mission that ensured the eventual safe return of those Marines and sailors to their loved ones. Beyond the measure of his sacrifice, the measure of his life is the people he impacted through his example, his leadership and his love.

“I just want his family to know how incredibly sorry I am,” Kearney said. “They raised an incredible man. He was one of those guys who I look up to, both in my personal life and in my career.”

Spitzer is survived by his parents John and Jean Spitzer, his brother Nicholas Spitzer and his fiancé Casey Neef.

*They raised an incredible man. He was one of those guys who I look up to, both in my personal life and in my career.”*

– Cpl. Matthew Kearney

# 1.5%

## CASH BACK EVERY TIME!



- > NO ANNUAL FEE<sup>2</sup>
- > NO BALANCE TRANSFER FEES
- > NO CASH ADVANCE FEE
- > LOW RATES

**NAVY FEDERAL Credit Union**  
 ARMY  
 MARINE CORPS  
 NAVY  
 AIR FORCE  
 COAST GUARD  
 DoD

**SUPERCHARGE YOUR PURCHASES! APPLY TODAY!**  
 navyfederal.org 1.888.842.6328

Federally insured by NCUA. Applies to net purchases. Cash rewards offer is variable APY credit program. 1.5% APR. Rates based on creditworthiness. ATM cash advance fees: None if performed at a Navy Federal branch or ATM. Otherwise, \$3.50 per domestic transaction or \$1.00 per overseas transaction. Foreign transaction fees: 6.00% of transaction amount if in U.S. dollars, 3% of transaction amount if used converted to U.S. dollars. ©2014 Navy Federal Credit Union



**SOCCER, from A1**



LANCE CPL. PAUL S. MARTINEZ

**[Above]** Combat Center Marines display the American flag on the Stubhub Center field in Carson, Calif., before a Los Angeles Galaxy and Portland Timbers game, July 4. Approximately 40 Marines attended the game, with their tickets and transportation provided by the Single Marine Program.

cer game so it was a lot of fun.”

The night had one more feature for those at the stadium. An evocative display of fireworks lit the sky as all stood in awe at the traditional celebration for American Independence Day.

“It felt good to be appreciated by the people here,” Min said. “It was my first trip with SMP, but I’ll definitely go again in the future.”

For Min and many of the Marines who participate in SMP activities, getting involved the program permits a way to have fun and build camaraderie.

“SMP allows us to take our minds off of whatever is happening on base,” Min said. “It’s a break from the barracks and a good feeling. They help keep morale up for junior Marines.”

Trips and recreational competitions, such as ping pong and poker, are scheduled later this summer, according to Scipio.

“[SMP] builds morale by allowing [Marines] to associate with each other,” Scipio said. “[MCCES] students often meet fleet Marines and find a mentor. It builds encouragement and strength amongst the Marines.”

The 5th Street Zone is open to all service members aboard the Combat Center. To get involved with monthly trips and activities, visit their building on 5th Street or call 830-4767.

**PARK, from A1**

Combat Logistics Battalion 7. “It shows the community we have a kind heart and care about our relationship with them.”

The event was open for anyone to enjoy the festivities. The success of the event brings more people each year.

“About three years ago, the city took over management for the event,” said Larry Bowden, recreation super intendant, city of Twentynine Palms, Calif. “Our city council gave us the money for the fireworks and other parts of the ceremony. The first year brought in approximately 3,000 people, the next year was about 5,000, and this year we don’t know what to expect.”

The final fireworks show lasted approximately 15 minutes, concluding the event. As the event grows in attendance, the showing gets bigger and more extravagant.

“We have a really great fireworks show and the people who coordinate them go above and beyond with what they give us,” Bowden said.

Combat Center Marines volunteered to give people of all ages tours of the

military vehicles, allowing them to enter the driver’s seat, operate some of the parts, and start the engines.

“As the day gets cooler the kids always want to go down and see the military vehicles and the Marines who come down love talking to the children about it,” Bowden said. “There are some who may think there’s a big difference between the city and the Marine Corps base and I spent my whole high school years on a Marine Corps base. For me it’s just one big community. Events like this bring everyone together.”

Although Independence Day is celebrated through fireworks, barbecues, and music, the day represents what our ancestors fought and died for more than 200 years ago.

“I’ve had a great life and I’ve been able to do what I wanted,” Bowden said. “I’m an American citizen and I love the freedoms I have living in this country; Independence Day celebrates that.”

**COMMANDING GENERAL, from A1**



LANCE CPL. PAUL S. MARTINEZ

**[Above]** Maj. Gen. David H. Berger, former Combat Center Commanding General, makes outgoing remarks during a change of command ceremony at Lance Cpl. Torrey L. Gray Field, Thursday. Berger extended gratitude to the civilian employees aboard the base, the retiree community, supporting organizations throughout the area, and the Marines and sailors currently serving.

out the vision and priorities that were set by Maj. Gen. Berger and I have to sustain the facilities, resources and services that make the Combat Center run smoothly. I look forward to doing all of these, and I promise you all 100% effort for as long as I am afforded the privilege of command.”

**Looking for local entertainment?  
See page B2 for our Liberty Call section**

**JOIN US IN WORSHIP MORONGO BASIN**

**The EPISCOPAL CHURCH WELCOMES YOU**

Joseph A. Inahea  
56312 Nagaville  
760-365-7133  
jinahea@aol.com

Jane L. Crase, Vicar  
Holy Eucharist Sunday 10:00 a.m.  
Bible Study Friday 10:00 a.m.  
Mutual Ministry 3rd Fri of the month 9:00 a.m.

THIS WEEK'S SPOTLIGHT CHURCH

**Skyview Chapel Church of God**

Worship Service  
Sun. 10:30 A.M & 6:00 P.M.  
Wed. Bible Study 6:00 P.M.  
7475 Sunny Vista Rd.,  
Joshua Tree  
Pastor Abe Casiano  
Church (760) 366-9119  
www.skyviewchapel.org

**PASSIONATE, PROGRESSIVE, CHRISTIANITY.**

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF THE COACHELLA VALLEY - WEEKLY SERVICES AT 10:00 ON SUNDAY, BIBLE STUDY AND SOCIAL EVENTS WEEKLY. 30250 CANDLEWOOD DRIVE, CAHERDAL CITY, CA 92226  
MCCCV.NET 760 512 1700

**Skyview Chapel Church of God**

Worship Service  
Sun. 10:30 A.M & 6:00 P.M.  
Wed. Bible Study 6:00 P.M.  
7475 Sunny Vista Rd., Joshua Tree  
Pastor Abe Casiano  
Church (760) 366-9119  
www.skyviewchapel.org

**DESERT CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

Sunday 10:00 A.M. - Worship  
Sunday School Child Care  
29 Palms • 5688 Sunrise Drive  
760-361-0086  
www.desertcongregationalchurch.org

**To All Christians Concerned**

I know this is a tall order, but is anyone looking for casual fellowship over coffee who is a 5-point Calvinist? Amillennial? Doesn't believe in literal Sabbath-keeping, mandatory tithing, paedobaptism, or the health/wealth gospel? Believes Mat. 24 is fulfilled? Believes we are not the Romans 7 man or part old man and part new man? If so, call me at 760-365-6901.

**Truth Tabernacle Apostolic Church**  
73493 29 Palms Hwy., Twentynine Palms

Pastor Titus R. Burns  
Sunday Service 10:00 AM  
Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00 PM  
Call 760-367-4185 for more information

“Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.” Acts 2:38

*“The will of God will never take you where the grace of God will not protect you.”*

**St. Martin-In-The-Fields EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

Sunday School & Eucharist 10:00 am  
Sunday Gospel Meditation 9:00 am  
Weds. Morning Prayer 7:30 am

“Celebrating God’s love for all God’s Children”  
72348 Larrea Road (2 blocks N. of KFC)  
www.stmartinchurch29.org (760) 367-7133

“find hope in Jesus”

**firstsouthern**  
Baptist Church of Yucca Valley

Sun. 9:15 AM Life Groups  
Sun. 10:30 AM Worship  
Wed. 6:00 PM Bible Study

56374 Onaga Trail in Yucca Valley  
(760) 365-5771 www.fsboyv.org

**Yucca Valley Center for Spiritual Living**

Healing Lives & Building Dreams  
Reverend Ron Scott  
Sunday Celebration 10 AM  
7434 Bannock Trail, Yucca Valley  
760-365-2205  
yvcsl.org

*Desert Hills*

**Presbyterian Church**  
Sunday Service 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday School & Child Care  
56750 Mountain View Trail  
Yucca Valley  
(760) 365-6331

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**  
(Missouri Synod)

WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM  
SUNDAY SCHOOL/BIBLE CLASS 10:30 AM

“Living Under the Son”  
59077 Yucca Trail, Yucca Valley  
CHURCH: 365-2548  
Preschool & Daycare: 369-9590

**First Assembly of God**

73331 Sullivan Rd • 29 Palms  
(760) 367-9973  
Sunday 10:30am

Child care for all services  
Super Kids Program  
www.29palmsag.org

**TOUGH MINDED OPTIMISM**  
by Lou Gerhardt



Here we go again. I want to re-introduce you to a tremendous lady who is the epitome of what it is to be a positive thinker. In other words, a tough minded optimist.

Her name is Frieda Burdette and I have had the joy of knowing her almost 18 years. She is a wonderful person who has a genuine concern for the welfare of others.

Frieda is truly an amazing person. She is 75 years old and has earned a well deserved reputation for her leadership in sharing the beauties of our incredible world with her well publicized and documented group titled “Frieda’s Happy Hoofers.”

“Frieda’s Happy Hoofers” have been hiking together since 2008 and they have visited many areas of great interest.

Frieda invites anyone and everyone of any age, Ethnicity, sexual orientation, church membership, political affiliation, etc. to join the group and simply enjoy. No pledge of regular participation is required. Why not give it a try.

Here is Frieda’s invitation:  
“For July we will be hiking in Big Bear. First hike, Monday July 14, Pedal Path along Big Bear Lake. Hike about an hour, then return for lunch.

Second hike, Monday July 28, Pacific Crest Trail towards Mexico. Hike for about an hour, then return to lunch.

Lunch for both hikes will be at Boo Bear’s Den or the Log Cabin Restaurant.

For both hikes – Meet at the parking lot between Carl Jr. and O’Reilly’s Auto Parts, on the corner of Old Woman Springs Rd and Hwy 62 at 8 AM. Please let me know if you plan to come.”

Frieda’s telephone number is 1-760-364-2872 or hennyen5@hotmail.com.

This column sponsored by:

**Jean Bixby  
Joshua Tree  
Larry and Joan Avner  
Yucca Valley**

Dr. Lou can be reached at 760-367-4627  
800-995-1620  
es19m xc@veironnet

# WeekINPhotos

Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force-South



PHOTOS BY CPL. JOSEPH SCANLAN



[Right] Marines with Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force-South practice riot control formations as part of less than lethal training aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., June 30. The training was only a portion of the Marines' preparation to join sailors aboard the USS AMERICA for her maiden voyage which departed this week. [Top, left] Sgt. Jacey Marks, platoon sergeant, SPMAGTF-South, practices riot control formations aboard MCB Camp Pendleton, Calif., June 30. [Bottom, left] Marines with SPMAGTF-South throw flash grenades during less than lethal training aboard MCB Camp Pendleton, Calif., June 30.

**VIP**  
(Very Important Planet)  
**SMOG & ELECTRIC**

7304 Placentown Rd.  
Yucca Valley, CA 92284 (760) 865-0938

## Get Your Car Road Ready

Serving the Morongo Basin since 1966

### Fred's Tire

**TIRES • WHEEL REPAIR  
COMPUTER BALANCING**

"We promise fast courteous service at the lowest cost possible"

**760-228-2084**  
1 (866) FRED'S TIRE

55666 Yucca Trail • YUCCA VALLEY  
www.fredstireyyv.com  
M-F 8am - 4pm • Sat 8am - 12pm

Your One Stop Shop For Complete Auto Repair

### LIBERTY AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR

**760-363-6900**  
40618 29 Palms Hwy, Morongo Valley

The Only Car We Can't Diagnose Is The One They Haven't Built Yet!

**Alternator - Starter & Battery Check with Free Oil \$8.99**

ASE Certification • Program FR & Exchange  
Tires - New & Used

Open Tue - Sat 7am to 6:00pm  
SUN 10am-5pm

**COMPLETE BY REPAIR**

To advertise here, call your rep today!

**The Desert Trail**  
760-367-3577  
www.deserttrail.com

LEDS AUTO REPAIR & SMOG

Foreign and Domestic  
**760-363-6184**

49927-9 29 Palms Hwy, Morongo Valley 92256  
Hours: Mon-Fri, 8am-5:30pm • Sat, 8am-4pm

Tune-up • Oil Change • Brakes  
Transmission • Clutch • Tires

**TIME TO GET YOUR CAR SUMMERIZED!!**  
CALL TODAY!

<b>SMOG SPECIAL</b> Smog Check <b>\$31.75</b> +Certificate • On Most Cars Must Present Receipt - Expires 8/1/14	<b>BRAKE SPECIAL</b> <b>\$49.00</b> Most Cars +Parts Front or Rear Must Present Receipt - Expires 8/1/14
---	--

### MARK SPEER AUTOMOTIVE

FOREIGN & DOMESTIC  
COMPLETE TIRE & AUTO SERVICE  
10 YEARS IN BUSINESS

**Roy's Tires**

www.roystires.com • www.markspeersauto.com  
**760-367-0222**

4082 B Adobe Rd.  
29 Palms, CA 92277  
90 Days Extra as Cash  
Credit Available

**Hi-Desert Star**  
760-365-3315  
www.hidesertstar.com





## Chasing a Dream

### Cultures unite, play through love of sport

Story by  
Cpl. Alejandro Bedoya

*“It is not just a game, it is a way of life. There are few places you will go where the game is not celebrated. It goes by many names; soccer, futbol, football, but no matter what the people around you call it, it is beautiful. If you make the ball happy, I promise you, no matter what, you and the people around you, will be happy.”*

Those were the words my father repeated to me. I will never forget them because of the way he said it. There was such passion and enthusiasm in his eyes each time he told me, but to this day, he has yet to be proven wrong.

Throughout my life, I have grown up playing, watching and studying the game. Everywhere I have gone, soccer has opened doors for me, entertained me and allowed me to meet people from around the world. Even now, I gather with friends to watch and play the game. Whether it is watching the World Cup or just going out into the street, we are together, laughing, and appreciating what we love most. Soccer.

#### The Beginning

When I was growing up, I naturally looked up to my father. I wanted to be a part of everything he did. If he was working in the yard, I was working in the yard. If he was training, I was training. That’s just how it was. But when it came time for me to lace up my shoes and go out to the yard to play with the soccer ball he was different.

I kicked my first soccer ball at 2. At 4 years old, I was on my first soccer team. I played with kids who were a few years older than me but my dad looked at that as “good training.”

What was first just a game became an obsession for me. I fell in love with the sport and it became a matter of familial pride. I wanted to follow in my father’s footsteps.

My dad started playing professional soccer at the age of 17 and everyone knew him for that. He knew what it took to get to that level. He is known as “Diablo” by his friends and even family members. The nickname was given to him because of his veracity and superior skill and nobody wanted to play against him.



**[Top]** Cpl. Jose Saucedo, combat engineer, 3rd Combat Engineer Battalion, walks on the court as a game of street soccer begins during a series of pick-up games held at the hockey rink near the main exchange, Tuesday.

**[Above]** Pfc. Ulises Ortiz, student, Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School, kicks the soccer ball toward the goal net during a series of pick-up games held at the hockey rink near the main exchange, Tuesday.

**[Right]** Cpl. Alejandro Bedoya, combat correspondent, Headquarters Battalion, dribbles the soccer ball to get passed Cpl. Jose Saucedo, combat engineer, 3rd CEB, who is defending during a series of pick-up games held at the hockey rink next to the main exchange, Tuesday.



PHOTOS BY CPL. CHARLES SANTAMARIA

From 4 to 17 years old my life was dedicated to following my dream of being like my dad. All throughout that period I met people from across the globe. No matter where we were from or the color of our skin, we would instantly get along because we were united through the game. We may have lived completely different lifestyles or have different views on the world but in that moment, we were alike.

After spending my entire life chasing a dream, I had to make a decision that would forever change me and at that time, in my mind, that decision would end that dream.

#### Proof of the Lifestyle

When I graduated high school, I decided I wanted to join the Marine Corps. I knew I would be happy after I joined but I felt as if I was turning my back on the sport that had guided me through my life.

The time came for me to confront my parents. I knew they would support me no matter what but I had a strong feeling they would be silently disappointed in me. In this moment, I thought I would lose the strong relationship I had with my dad, who practically groomed me to become a soccer player, and with my number one cheerleader, my mom.

Once I finally broke the news to them, the both smiled and simply told me how proud they were. Instead of disapproving of not continuing to pursue soccer, my dad hugged me, smiled and said, “I am not worried because remember what I said, there are few places where the sport is not celebrated.”

Throughout my Marine Corps career, I have met even more people and made even more friends through soccer. Between recreational, regional and national soccer leagues, I now have teammates who have diverse backgrounds and different cultures, just as I did when I was growing up. We all have jobs to do during the week but any chance we get, we play or watch soccer.

I also have had the opportunity to coach children who like to play. I try to pass on the knowledge I have gained from soccer to the younger players each chance I get. To me, it is an opportunity to maybe spark the dream that I always strive for.

There are so many precious moments I have had because of soccer. It has made me who I am today. It has led me to have a simple way of looking at life. I am not be afraid to meet new people, strive to excel at what I am doing, or gather with the ones around me and find a reason to smile.

I can honestly say my dream has come true. I now know that, for my dad, it wasn’t about being professional, the nicknames, or any of the glory that comes with the sport. It was about the joy it gave him and the others around him.

When people ask me, “how can you love a game so much?” I look at them, with a grin on my face, and say, “It is not just a game, it is a way of life. There are few places you will go where the game is not celebrated. It goes by many names; soccer, futbol, football, but no matter what the people around you call it, it is beautiful. If you make the ball happy, I promise you, no matter what, you and the people around you, will be happy.”





We're on **facebook**

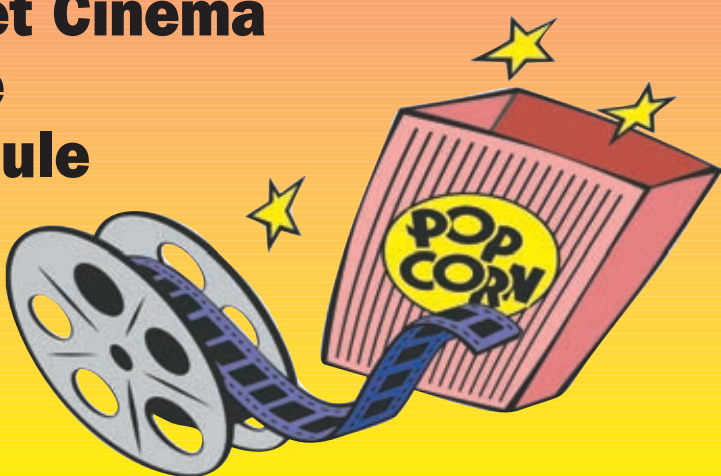
more than 34,000 likes



Join the online community

Visit us at [www.facebook.com/thecombatcenter](http://www.facebook.com/thecombatcenter)

See page B2 for **Sunset Cinema** movie schedule



**Relax with the paper**

Wednesdays and Saturdays with the Hi-Desert Star  
Thursdays with The Desert Trail  
Fridays with The Observation Post



**Hi-Desert Publishing Co.**

Your community newspapers working to serve you better



**SUMMER CLEARANCE EVENT**



**\$0 DOWN**

On Approved Credit

**0% APR 60 Months\***

\*On 2014 vehicles On Approved Credit

Shop 24 Hours a Day... [www.yuccavalleychryslercenter.com](http://www.yuccavalleychryslercenter.com)

**Yucca Valley**



**CHRYSLER CENTER**  
57909 29 Palms Hwy, Yucca Valley  
(760) 228-1818



Whatever you're looking for, you can find it in the **Observation Post Classified section**



**FIREARMS SALES AND GUNSMITHING**  
BY CHRISTOPHER VANZANDT



CUSTOM FINISHES DONE LOCALLY  
DURA COAT CERAKOTE  
PAPERIZING SERVICES

FFL TRANSFERS • SPECIAL ORDERS  
CUSTOM BUILDS • PARTS KIT BUILDS

ELIGIBLE FOR ALL  
MILITARY BONUS CASH  
ON APPROVED CREDIT  
(SEE US FOR DETAILS)

CERTIFIED ARMORER FOR:  
SIG SAUER - GLOCK  
SMITH & WESSON  
REMINGTON

**760-449-6939**

Hours: 10am - 4pm - Monday - Saturday  
By Appointment

SEE US NEXT WEEK IN THE SERVICE DIRECTORY

\*Incl. tax, license, title, dealer fees, and destination charge. Excludes other taxes, title, license, and dealer fees. Dealer price. Dealer's actual price may vary. Dealer's actual price may vary. Dealer's actual price may vary.

©2014 Chrysler Group LLC. All rights reserved. Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep, Ram, and the Pentastar logo are trademarks of Chrysler Group LLC. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners.