



Captain Dimitri Stepanoff, executive officer, Communication Training Battalion, accepts a gift presented to him from students of the Basic Communications Officer Course 1-16 during the course's graduation ceremony at the base theater, April 1.

CTB graduates chiefs, officers

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
CPL. JULIO MCGRAW

Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School's Communication Training Battalion graduated Communications Chief Course 1-16 and Basic Communications Officer Course 1-16 at the base theater, April 1.

Both classes are the first to graduate in 2016 and were the first to have a portion of an aligned curriculum for staff noncommissioned officers and officers in the communications field.

"Last year we started teaching officers [aboard the Combat Center] and we realized that there are a lot of similarities between the courses where relationships can be built between the senior enlisted personnel and the officers," said Lt. Col. Speros Koumparakis, commanding officer, CTB. "From what I have seen, good relationships from the two groups were built and that will make communication platoons in the Fleet Marine

See **CTB pg. A6**



Marines from Communication Training Battalion's Communications Chief Course 1-16 bow their heads during the invocation of the course's graduation ceremony at the base theater, April 1. The course provided the students with overall knowledge of equipment capabilities and system integration of all elements of transmission, telecommunication and information systems found throughout the Marine Corps.

Every day is Earth Day aboard MCAGCC

WRITTEN BY THE OFFICE OF NATURAL
RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs staff would like to thank all of our Marines, sailors, civilians and family members for your continued efforts and cooperation in our solid waste and recycling program. Last year, the Combat Center's recycling efforts reached a 37% recycling rate, falling just short of the Department of Defense's mandate to recycle at least 50% of non-hazardous solid waste. With renewed efforts and working together, we can achieve the 50% recycling goal.

Recycling is our responsibility and has become second nature, but we can still do more. Separating your recyclables from your common trash and placing all your mixed "commingled recyclables" in your designated recycling collection receptacle to be collected by the installation's Residential and Commercial Recycling Section is a step in the right direction.

Below are examples of just a few of the materials you can recycle aboard MCAGCC:

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- Cardboard
- Aluminum
- Steel and tin cans
- Glass bottles and jars
- Plastic bottles and containers numbered 1&2 (please see the recycle symbol at the bottom of container)
- Electronic waste

See **Earth Day pg. A6**

Commanding General commends men of 567th Red Horse Squadron

PHOTOS BY CPL. MEDINA AYALA-LO



Maj. Gen. Lewis A. Craparotta, Combat Center Commanding General, speaks with airmen of the 567th Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineer Squadron based out of Seymour Johnson Airforce Base, N.C., at Camp Wilson, April 1. Craparotta visited the airmen to commend them for their hard work on the newly constructed K-Spans.



Maj. Gen. Lewis A. Craparotta, Combat Center Commanding General, hands Senior Airman William Hyatt, civil engineer, 567th Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineer Squadron based out of Seymour Johnson Airforce Base, N.C., a coin at Camp Wilson, April 1.



Staff Sgt. Demetrius Vines and Senior Airman William Hyatt, civil engineers, 567th Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineer Squadron based out of Seymour Johnson Airforce Base, N.C., admire a coin given by Maj. Gen. Lewis A. Craparotta, Combat Center Commanding General, at Camp Wilson, April 1.

Marine Corps' Top Shot

Every week, thousands of fans cast their votes for the best photograph posted on the Corps' Facebook page. This week's top shot comes from Lance Cpl. Levi Schultz.



A light armored vehicle with Company B, 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, idles in the Combat Center training area, March 22.



Reprinted from the Observation Post
April 8, 1983

CAX 5-83 gearing up

The Carolina's Marine Corps Air Ground team will participate in Combined Arms Exercise (CAX) 5-83, a live-fire, three-day operation starting Monday here.

Marines of 3d Battalion, 4th Marines, 2d Marine Division, Camp Lejeune, N.C., and Marine Aircraft Group (MAG)-14, 2d Marine Aircraft Wing consisting of aircraft support from New River and Cherry Point, N.C., have been training aboard the Combat Center since their arrival March 28.

The CAX will emphasize fire support coordination within a Marine Air Ground

Task Force (MAGTF). The Tactical Exercise Evaluation Control Group (TEECG) of the Combat Center (which plans, controls and coordinates all aspects of combined arms warfare training here) will prepare and present a critique of the exercise force's overall performance.

The planned live-fire scenario calls for the MAGTF to attack northwest in the Delta Corridor and destroy the simulated enemy force in the area. The air-ground Carolina mechanized force will charge through Delta, Noble Pass, Quackenbush and Gypsum Ridge, ending the

live-fire operation Wednesday.

In addition to fire support coordination, the force will have to prepare themselves for employment of chemical agents and electronic warfare.

Since their arrival here, they have taken part in numerous training exercises, which has helped them acclimate to a desert environment as well as to prepare them for their live-fire CAS. Marines from 3d Battalion, 6th Marines of Camp Lejeune, N.C., and air elements from 2d Marine Aircraft Wing are scheduled to arrive here April 18, for CAX 6-83, May 1-3.

CROSSWORD

- Across**
- 1 Drone, e.g.
 - 5 Map
 - 9 Lively
 - 14 Subj. with graphs
 - 15 Defaulter's loss
 - 16 Variety show
 - 17 Heavy kettle
 - 19 Scare
 - 20 Tulsa coll.
 - 21 Bitter tasting
 - 23 Data
 - 24 Taj Mahal, e.g.
 - 26 Time of one's life
 - 28 Morning side
 - 35 Casual pants
 - 37 Milk, cheese, etc.
 - 38 "I think," briefly
 - 39 Decides
 - 40 URL shrinking site
 - 41 In addition
 - 42 Born in France
 - 43 Earth's shape
 - 44 Mouthing off
 - 45 Rash cause
 - 48 Prehistoric
 - 49 "Psst!"
 - 52 Let out
 - 55 Goes diving
 - 59 RR stop
 - 60 Make use of
 - 62 Hearty pub meal
 - 64 Copycat's words
 - 65 Knight fight
 - 66 "Try this!"
 - 67 Projecting part
 - 68 "La ___ Bonita"
 - 69 In the center of

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- Down**
- 1 Red Bordeaux
 - 2 Lexus rival
 - 3 Classic loafer
 - 4 S.A.S.E., e.g.
 - 5 ___ Harum
 - 6 Author Primo
 - 7 Newspaper piece
 - 8 Novelist Morrison
 - 9 Car protector
 - 10 Bas ___
 - 11 ___ the Terrible
 - 12 Ride the waves
 - 13 ___ Sabe
 - 18 Executes, in a way
 - 22 Toyota model
 - 25 Getaway spots
 - 27 Chap
 - 29 "Eat crow," e.g.
 - 30 Composer Erik
 - 31 "Broom ___"
 - 32 Saving protocol
 - 33 Radio host Don
 - 34 Nibble
 - 35 Author Erica
 - 36 Foil alternative
 - 40 Gives in
 - 41 Hunted
 - 43 Country lass
 - 44 ___ and blood
 - 46 Court request

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Last week's answers

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



The Combat Center has its own YouTube channel
Find it at <http://www.youtube.com/user/CombatCenterPAO>.

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- Main Street Motel, 3494 Main St.
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WHAT I'VE LEARNED

Ashley
ARVIS

Elmhurst, Ill., Expeditionary airfield support specialist, Marine Wing Support Squadron 374

Arvis plays violin for Joshua Tree Philharmonic Orchestra at the High Desert Cultural Center in Joshua Tree, Calif. She has been playing the violin since she was seven years old.



>When I was seven years old, I saw my cousin practicing the violin. I asked my mother if I could play too and she got me my first violin. I'm 23 now and I've played violin for almost 16 years.

>The violin is a very soothing instrument. It serves as a pick-me-up for when I'm feeling mentally and physically exhausted after a long day of work.

>I really enjoy playing in an orchestra because there is a family dynamic. Everyone works together toward a common goal. I also like playing in a quartet but if you make a mistake it is a lot more noticeable.

>With Joshua Tree Philharmonic, we rehearse every Monday night at the Joshua Tree Cultural Center. We also hold concerts for the local community.

>I believe the hardest part of being a musician is being a perfectionist. When you're practicing on your own, you can work on something until it's perfect. However, when playing for an audience you only have one chance to get it right.

>I grew up 20 minutes from Chicago in Elmhurst, Ill. Our school was very music oriented and while I was in the marching band we had the opportunity to travel to New Orleans to perform. It was a very memorable experience.

>After I graduated from high school, I went on a sort of hiatus. Recently, I started playing again because I missed the feeling that came along with making music for others.

>I've practiced playing with a lot of different instruments.

INTERVIEWED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY LANCE CPL. LEVI SCHULTZ

I taught myself how to play the piano when I was 16, the ukulele when I was 17, the guitar when I was 18 and also took lessons to play the drums.

>When I was learning the violin, I struggled holding the bow at first because my hand would cramp up. I used a pencil to help me practice and over time it became second nature.

>It is frustrating to hear yourself play an instrument poorly at first. Eventually you get the hang of it and it becomes a lot of fun.

>My older sister works as a hairstylist and plays the guitar very well. She is much better than me because she practiced a lot to get where she is now.

>I joined the Marine Corps for the camaraderie, to travel the world and to meet new people. Being in the military has taught me to be more humble and appreciate the little things such as being able to sleep in on my days off. I definitely have come to appreciate the time I have with my family more.

>Another aspect that drew me to the Marine Corps was the challenge. I felt I had to prove to myself that I could make it.

>At first my parents didn't like the idea of me joining the Marine Corps. Over time, they have grown to love it.

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CTB Company D holds change of command



Maj. Chad E. Craven passes the Company D, Communication Training Battalion, Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School, guidon to Capt. Dimitri Stephanoff during a change of command ceremony at the Combat Center theater, April 1.



Maj. Chad E. Craven, outgoing company commander, Company D, Communication Training Battalion, Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School, displays “The Last Lecture” by Randy Pausch during the company’s change of command ceremony at the Combat Center theater, April 1. During the ceremony, Craven gave the book as a present to Capt. Dimitri Stephanoff, oncoming company commander, to wish him well in his new position.



Lt. Col. Speros C. Koumparakis, battalion commander, Communication Training Battalion, Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School, speaks during the change of command ceremony for Company D at the Combat Center theater, April 1.

STORY AND PHOTOS BY LANCE CPL. LEVI SCHULTZ

Maj. Chad E. Craven relinquished command of Company D, Communication Training Battalion, Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School, to Capt. Dimitri Stephanoff during a change of command ceremony at the Combat Center theater, April 1. Within CTB, it is Delta Company’s task to oversee the training of commissioned Marine officers in the communication field.

“What’s important is the accomplishments of the Marines,” Craven said. “All of the Marines, many of them lance corpo-

ral to staff sergeant, have really stepped up to the plate in the teaching and organizing of the courses designed to teach officers.”

During the ceremony, the passing of the unit guidon between Craven and Stephanoff symbolized the passing of authority over the Marines of Co. D. Stephanoff had previously served as the course coordinator for the communication officer courses and expressed eagerness to take charge of the company.

“I know there will be challenges ahead but I look forward to leading the company,” Stephanoff said. “I’m confident in our future because I have a very good staff working for me.”

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CTB from pg. A1



Lt. Col. Speros Koumparakis, commanding officer, Communication Training Battalion, addresses the crowd during the Basic Communications Officer Course 1-16 graduation at the base theater, April 1.

Force that much better.”

Gunnery Sgt. Alan Crittenden, communications chief, 3rd Marine Division, was the honor graduate of the Communications Chief Course. He along with fifteen communication chiefs graduated the course which spanned 40 training days and provided staff NCO’s with overall knowledge of equipment capabilities and system integration of all elements of transmission, telecommunication and information systems found throughout the Marine Corps.

“We taught them about force modernization and they are ready to take it and run with it,” said Master Gunnery Sgt. Carl Bisson, communications chief, CTB. “These staff noncommissioned officers who will be future communications chiefs, or are currently working in that capacity, are anxious to train the next generation of young Marines who will be better, smarter and have new technology to work with.”

According to Bisson, force modernization is an observation of the military occupational specialties of digital wideband repairmen and technical controllers, meant to bring the communications field to the next level with cybersecurity, command and

control and new technology the operating forces are scheduled to receive or already have.

After the senior staff NCO’s graduated, 2nd Lt. Juliann Hitt, honor graduate, and more than 68 lieutenants walked across the stage, signifying their successful completion of the 21-week Basic Communications Officer Course. Instructors of the course provided qualification training for selected officers to prepare them for platoon commander, staff duties and other responsibilities in entry-level communications billets.

“Many of them are going to their first FMF unit and there are three main points that I want them to walk away with,” Koumparakis said. “One is to know who they work for and what they want to accomplish. Two is to know the mission of the organization. Third is to always be a leader. The platoon does not serve them; they should always strive to serve the platoon and make them the best.”

In the final two weeks of training, the officer’s course and the chief’s course constructed a communications plan for a notional Large Scale Exercise similar to the Marine Expeditionary Brigade-level LSE held aboard the Combat Center.

“We make it extremely hard for them here at the

schoolhouse so it’s easier for them in an actual scenario,” Koumparakis said. “We took the lieutenants, who have orders to future Ground Combat Elements, Logistic Combat Elements, and Air Combat Elements, and we had them create a plan for their respective portion of the Marine Air Ground Task Force with the chiefs mentoring them throughout the exercise. Traditionally we trained everyone for infantry battalions, now we are training them to create communications plans for a MAGTF similar to what they are going to be doing in the FMF for a Marine Expeditionary Unit or Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force.”

According to Koumparakis, good relationships and bonds were built between the two groups that would not have been possible prior to them coming together. He plans on reviewing the curriculum with the instructors to see what improvements can be made.

“Like anything new, it needs refinement,” Koumparakis said. “But from what I have seen from the two groups, great relationships were built. The interpersonal relationships they build here, they should maintain as they go out and support every unit of the MAGTF.



Master Gunnery Sgt. Carl Bisson, communications chief, Communication Training Battalion, addresses students of the Communications Chief Course 1-16 during the course’s graduation ceremony at the base theater, April 1.



Basic Communications Officer Course 1-16 students stand at the position of attention during the playing of the national anthem during the course’s graduation ceremony at the base theater, April 1.

Earth Day from pg. A1

- Universal waste such as; batteries, cell phones, laptops

Below are some examples of materials that should NOT be placed in your trash receptacle:

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- Medical or Bio-waste (syringes)
- Hot ash or hot coals
- Bulky items such as; furniture and appliances (contact recycling section for pickup)
- Oil & other auto parts (contact Hazardous Waste Section)
- Tires

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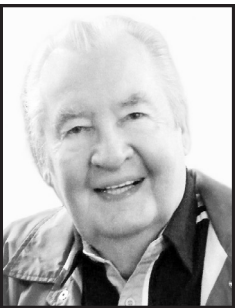
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TOUGH MINDED OPTIMISM

by Lou Gerhardt



Among the wisest words I have ever read are these by Rainer Maria Rilke:

“Be patient toward all that is unsolved in your heart
And try to love the questions themselves
Do not now seek the answers that cannot be given you
Because you would not be able to live them.
And the point is to live everything.
Live the questions now.
Perhaps you will gradually,
Without noticing it,
Live along some distant day
Into the answer.”

Most of you know that every Thursday at 10:00 a.m. I conduct a popular seminar on positive living at St. Joseph of Arimathea Episcopal Church at Onaga and Church in Yucca Valley. About 50 of us have a great time laughing, learning and enjoying an abundance of treats and drinks. (I wish you would join us.)

Then many of us go to Yucca Valley’s Old Town and have a delicious lunch together at the popular, award-winning Las Palmas Mexican Cuisine.

People that listen to me speak week after week and/or read my columns know how much I urge people to embrace with joy each and every day.

My Thursdays are especially great because I get to share my thinking with beautiful people and then have lunch with some of them. Why not join us?

Our good friend Arturo, always make the occasion joyful in every way.

My spirit is much like that of John Burroughs who wrote “I still find each day too short for all the thoughts I want to think, all the walks I want to take, all the books I want to read, and all the friends I want to see.”

This column sponsored by:

Lois Salzmman Johnson -Yucca Valley
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Children’s Sunday School: 9:30 AM
Wednesday Bible Study 10:00 AM

Pastor John Runckel
Office: 760-365-3671



Sunday School & Eucharist 10:00 am
Sunday Gospel Meditation 9:00 am
Tues. 12 Step Church 6:30 - 7:05 pm
Weds. Morning Prayer 7:30 am
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Marines honored at Veteran’s Expo



Cpl. Stephen Garces, noncommissioned officer in charge of drafting and surveying, Marine Wing Support Squadron 374, listens as he is recognized by Tom Tucker, morning news anchor, CBS Local 2 News, during the 6th Annual Veteran’s Expo at the Riverside County Fairgrounds in Indio, Calif., Saturday.

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
LANCE CPL. LEVI SCHULTZ

Two Combat Center Marines were honored during the 6th Annual Veteran’s Expo at the Riverside County Fairgrounds in Indio, Calif., Saturday.

“The Veteran’s Expo is a collaboration of many organizations that come together to provide exposure for a lot of the services that benefit our service members and veterans,” said Sean Kelsey, officer in charge, Coachella Valley Salvation Army.

This year, Cpl. Stephen Garces, non-commissioned officer in charge of drafting and surveying, Marine Wing Support Squadron 374, and Lance Cpl. Andrew J. Conkey, mortarman, 3rd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, were selected to receive

honors at the event.

“It’s great being honored by the community as well as having the opportunity to represent the base and the Marine Corps,” Garces said. “Just being out here and showing our presence is important. It’s a fantastic opportunity to share stories with veterans.”

More than 70 organizations attended the expo to provide information on services for veterans including education, housing, medical and legal assistance all in one place.

“There are a lot of organizations involved and we wouldn’t be able to hold the event without all the support,” Kelsey said. “The Salvation Army has been serving our military since WWI and will continue to serve around the world for many years to come.”



Footprints created by military children at the Combat Center Armed Services YMCA are displayed during the 6th Annual Veteran’s Expo at the Riverside County Fairgrounds in Indio, Calif., Saturday. The children traced their active duty parent’s boot and used their feet to paint their prints in the center.



Staff Sgt. Wesley Alexander, construction foreman, Marine Wing Support Squadron 374, speaks to Navy veteran, Gary Brown, during the 6th Annual Veteran’s Expo at the Riverside County Fairgrounds in Indio, Calif., Saturday.

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**As reported by Military Times, July/August 2015*

WeekINPhotos

‘Teufelhunden’ improves tactics



Marines with Lima Company, 3rd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, board a UH-1Y Venom assigned to Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron One during a roof insertion and extraction exercise, at Yuma Proving Grounds, Yuma, Ariz., Saturday. This evolution was part of Weapons and Tactics Instructor course 2-16, a seven week training event, hosted by MAWTS-1 cadre, which emphasizes operational integration of the six functions of Marine Corps aviation in support of a Marine Air Ground Task Force.



A Marine Corps UH-1Y Venom assigned to Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron One flies during an air insertion and extraction exercise as part of Weapons and Tactics Instructor course 2-16, at Yuma Proving Grounds, Yuma, Ariz., Saturday.



Marine Corps UH-1Y Venom pilots with Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron One take off for an air insertion and extraction exercise during Weapons and Tactics Instructor course 2-16 at Yuma Proving Grounds, Yuma, Ariz., Saturday.



A UH-1Y Venom assigned to Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron One, stands by during an air insertion and extraction exercise as part of Weapons and Tactics Instructor course 2-16, at Yuma Proving Grounds, Yuma, Ariz., Saturday.



Lance Cpl. Frank J. Mondello III with Lima Company, 3rd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, posts security during a roof insertion and extraction exercise as part of Weapons and Tactics Instructor course 2-16, at Yuma Proving Grounds, Yuma, Ariz., Saturday.

Photos by Lance Cpl. Anabel Abreu Rodriguez

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SAPR hits the ground running with sexual assault awareness month



Runners pass through a check point during the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response annual Colorful Consent 5k Run held aboard the Combat Center, April 1.

STORY AND PHOTOS BY CPL. THOMAS MUDD

The Sexual Assault Prevention and Response program held their annual Colorful Consent 5k Run aboard the Combat Center, April 1.

SAPR held the run to raise awareness of sexual assault, as well as provide the Combat Center community with more opportunities to learn about the installation's tools to prevent it.

"April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month," said Deliesse Hitt, sexual assault response coordinator, SAPR.

"We held our first run last year because we wanted to put on a fun event that would help spread awareness about sexual assault. From what we've seen the participants enjoyed it."

The event started with opening remarks about sexual assault and how Marines and sailors can receive help if faced with a sexual assault situation. The run took the participants around a 5-kilometer course, starting at the installation's physical fitness test track. The runners went through four different stations where they were covered in various colored powders. At the finish line, the runners

were given a packet of the powder that would be used to cover themselves in more colors during 'color parties' held at the finish line of the race.

"The run was a fun way to learn about sexual assault awareness," said Pfc. Oseas Osio, artillery mechanic, Exercise Support Division. "Raising awareness for sexual assault helps prevent incidents from occurring in the future. Being able to be part of the solution is a great feeling."

Anyone can report sexual assault. To report, contact a SAPR Victim Advocate at 760-799-0273.



Participants take off from the start of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response annual Colorful Consent 5k Run held aboard the Combat Center, April 1.



Participants of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response annual Colorful Consent 5k Run are covered in colored powder while running through the five kilometer long course aboard the Combat Center, April 1.



Participants of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response annual Colorful Consent 5k Run throw colored powder during a 'color party' held at the finish line of the run held aboard the Combat Center, April 1.



Marines throw colored powder onto participants of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response annual Colorful Consent 5k Run held aboard the Combat Center, April 1.



Combat Center Events

Head down to the Curation Center's Tortoise Garden to see the Combat Center's ambassador desert tortoises Thelma and Louise April 14 and 15 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. All hands are welcome.

Head down to the Desert Winds Golf Course for the Earth Day 5k Fun Run, April 15. The run will begin at 6:30 a.m. A participation fee of a recyclable aluminum can or plastic bottle will be collected prior to the start of the event and participants will receive an event T-shirt after signing up while supplies. The run is open to all hands. To sign up visit www.green29.org.

Hashmarks Staff Non-commissioned Officer Club hosts Steak Night, open to all hands, Mondays from 4:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and SNCOs only on Fridays. For more information, contact 760-830-5035.

Sunset Cinema

Friday, April 08
5:30 p.m. – Eddie The Eagle, PG-13
8:00 p.m. – Gods of Egypt, PG-13
11:00 p.m. – Whiskey Tango Foxtrot, R

Saturday, April 09
12:00 p.m. – Zootopia (3-D), PG
2:30 p.m. – Race, PG-13
5:30 p.m. – Risen, PG-13
8:00 p.m. – London Has Fallen, R
10:30 p.m. – 10 Cloverfield Lane, PG-13

Sunday, April 10
12:30 p.m. – 10 Cloverfield Lane, PG-13
3:00 p.m. – FREE ADVANCED SCREENING-
Barbershop: The Next Cut, PG-13
7:00 p.m.- The Perfect Match, R

Monday, April 11
7:00 p.m. – London Has Fallen, R

Tuesday, April 12
7:00 p.m. – Whiskey Tango Foxtrot, R

Wednesday, April 13
6:30 p.m. – Race, PG-13

Thursday, April 14
5:00 p.m. – Risen, PG-13
7:30 p.m. – The Witch, R

Friday, April 15
5:30 p.m.- Zootopia, PG
8:30 p.m.- London Has Fallen, R
11:00 p.m.- 10 Cloverfield Lane, PG-13



Monster Mash

There's big trouble above and below in '10 Cloverfield Lane'

NEIL POND

'10 Cloverfield Lane'
Starring Mary Elizabeth Winstead, John Goodman & John Gallagher Jr.
Directed by Dan Trachtenberg
Rated PG-13

Waking to consciousness after a car crash on dark highway, a young woman, Michelle (Mary Elizabeth Winstead), finds herself on a pallet in a leg brace, hooked up to an IV drip—and chained to the wall of a subterranean concrete bunker.

“Please let me go,” she fearfully, tearfully begs when she meets the man who brought her there as he delivers a tray of food. “There’s nowhere to go,” Howard (John Goodman) calmly tells her. “Everyone outside of here is dead.”

There’s been an attack, he explains, a big one—maybe chemical, maybe nuclear, maybe Russians, maybe Martians. “Luckily,” he reassures her, “I’m prepared.”

So begins 10 Cloverfield Lane, the “little” movie—with a small ensemble cast of three, filmed almost entirely in a tight, enclosed set—that comes with such big expectations. Beginning as a script called The Cellar, it later enlisted the writer-director of the critically lauded Whiplash, Damian Chazelle, to “whip” the screenplay into something with a bit more bite. When Midas-touch superstar producer J.J. Abrams came onboard, fresh off the blockbuster buzz of Star Wars: The Force Awakens, and changed the title, fans went crazy with frenzied spec-

ulation: How would this movie connect to Cloverfield, the 2008 surprise-hit monster-movie smash about an extraterrestrial attack, that he also produced?

Questions abound in (and about) 10 Cloverfield Lane, and if you want them answered, well—you’re just like the characters. And also like them, you’ll have to stick around to the end of the film, a terrifically tense, tightly wound underground psychological thriller that eventually explodes wildly, violently upward and outward.

Is Howard an overzealous doomsday prepper, a conspiracy-theorist nut-job, a grieving father, a U.S. Navy vet who went off the deep end, all of those, none of those, or something else entirely? Why was Michelle in such a hurry to leave town that night? And what about Emmett (John Gallagher Jr.), the other guy in the bunker? What are those noises? Cars? Helicopters? Spaceships? Is the air outside really as contaminated as Howard says?

The mysteries mount, the clues pile up, the screws turn tighter and tighter, the distrust deepens, and claustrophobia and paranoia permeate every frame. Debut feature director Dan Trachtenberg, working with cinematographer Joe Cutter and production designer Ramsey Avery, creates an underground mini-labyrinth that teems with the details of Howard’s scarily obsessive mind—like a show home stocked from the Armageddon bargain bin of Bed Bath & Beyond.

Howard, Emmett and Michelle eat meals, play old board games, work jigsaw puzzles and listen to classic rock on an old jukebox in an artificial, increasingly edgy loop of normal domestic life. Frankie Valli’s “Venus” and Tommy James’ “I Think We’re Alone Now” never sounded so ominous and foreboding.

When things really break loose, in the movie’s final sequence, fans of the original Cloverfield will finally be able see just how this movie connects to the previous one. And as the address in the title suggests, monsters can come in all shapes and sizes, in all kinds of places, above us, below us and even right beside us.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS 400

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• (2) 60HZ Tuff Equip Diesel Generator: Min. bid \$200
Items will be on display at the Fire Dept. 11207 Ocotillo Street Morongo Valley 92256 - April 11 - April 15 9 AM - 2 PM - Bids must be sealed and dropped at the same address Mon - Thurs -9-2 and must be received by April 18, 2016 at 2:00PM Bid sheets available at Fire Dept. and in office – (760) 363-6454
DISTRICT EMPLOYEES ARE PROHIBITED FROM PURCHASING SURPLUS PROPERTY

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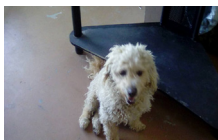
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April
13

Mountain Bike Event
Duration: 7 miles
Start: 8 am | 4th Street
Adjacent to Bldg.1480
by the Rappel tower

April
14

Road Bike Criterium
Duration: 8.8 miles
(1.1 mile loop)
Start: 8 am
15th & Dunham Street

April
15

5K Fun Run
Start: 6:30 am
Desert Winds Golf Course
Register early and get your
FREE t-shirt while supplies last.

April
15

Earth Day Extravaganza

Carnival Rides
Food
Music
Info Booths
Camel Rides

4:30 – 8:30pm
Trophy presentation: 6pm

Lincoln Military Housing
Athletic Field
(Behind ASYMCA)

**LINCOLN
MILITARY
HOUSING**

**Register & view maps
at green29.org**
For more information,
contact 830.6857
Entry Fee:
One recycled item
Walk ups for all events
are welcome!

Trophies will be presented
at Earth Day Extravaganza.

April
30

Park to Park Ride
50 miles
Knott Sky Park through
Joshua Tree National Park

300 Riders | Pre-registered will receive a t-shirt
For more information, call 760.367.7562
or visit 29palms.org

Cost: \$25
\$10 Active Duty, Retirees & Family Members

**For more information, contact
NREA: 830.8238**

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**16th Annual Car Show
& Street Fair**
Saturday, April 16th, 2016
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Luckie Park
Twentynine Palms, CA

FOOD
MUSIC
SOAP
BOX
DERBY
50/50
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29
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...and MUCH MORE!

FREE Event for all ages!
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of all years, makes & models

Artwork created by Jasmine Kumpke, Age 9
3rd Grade, Friendly Hills Elementary School

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Kiwans Club of Twentynine Palms
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GOLF CLUB AT BLUE SKIES

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