May 20, 2016 Since 1957 Vol. 60 Issue 20

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LANCE CDI PRENDAN KIN

Col. James Wellons, incoming commanding officer, Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron One, performs a pass in review, along with all former MAWTS-1 commanding officers, during a change of command ceremony aboard Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Ariz., May 12.

MAWTS-1 changes command

STORY BY CPL. MEDINA AYALA-LO

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION YUMA, ARIZ.—Col. James Adams relinquished command of Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron One, to Col. James Wellons May 12, aboard Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Ariz.

Adams took command of MAWTS-1 in May 2014. During the ceremony, Adams described how proud he was of his Marines for their hard work and dedication to the squadron. He also thanked all those who traveled from near and far to share in the moment with him to include Maj. Gen. Lewis A. Craparotta, Combat Center Commanding General, and his wife Laurie who officiated the ceremony.

"To the Marines at MAWTS-1, the discipline and precision that you put into this ceremony speaks volumes to the heart you all have," Adams said. "I

See MAWTS-1 pg. A6



Aviation Washing

Col. James Adams, outgoing commanding officer, Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron One, passes the squadron colors to Col. James Wellons, incoming commanding officer, MAWTS-1, during a change of command ceremony aboard Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Ariz., May 12.

'Rhinos' bid farewell to sergeant major

STORY AND PHOTOS BY LANCE CPL. DAVE FLORES

Sgt. Maj. Darren E. Sullivan relieved Sgt. Maj. Chasen E. Getty as squadron sergeant major for Marine Wing Support Squadron 374 during the squadron's relief and appointment ceremony at Lance Cpl. Torrey L. Gray Field, Thursday.

Getty assumed command as the squadron sergeant major for MWSS-374 in January 2015. According to Lt. Col. Steven Murphy, commanding officer, MWSS-374, Getty's leadership style set a precedence within the squadron.

"When Sgt. Maj. Getty is out with the Marines, they don't get anxious around him," Murphy said. "They treat him with respect and admiration. I've never seen him angry at his Marines. He always works with them."

During the ceremony, Getty passed the noncommissioned officer's sword to Sullivan, signifying the symbolic change of senior leadership for 'Rhinos.' After addressing the crowd, Getty turned to his squadron of Marines and sailors and left them with these parting words.

"Thank you for all the good times you Marines have given me," Getty said. "I enjoyed working with you and I am grateful that you stayed strong and worked hard under my command."

More photos: Page A6



Sgt. Maj. Darren E. Sullivan, oncoming squadron sergeant major, Marine Wing Support Squadron 374, takes the noncommissioned officers' sword from Lt. Col. Steven Murphy, commanding officer, MWSS-374, during a relief and appointment ceremony at Lance Cpl. Torrey L. Grey Field, Thursday.

Marine Corps, Combat Center phase out car decals

STORY BY CPL. THOMAS MUDD

In accordance with Marine Corps Administrative Message 245/16, the Combat Center has eliminated the use of car decals aboard the installation.

According to MARADMIN 245/16 the decals no longer serve a useful purpose, specifically to preform 100 percent identification checks for all personnel entering the base. For active duty personnel, ID checks will be performed with the common access card while dependents and veterans will need appropriate government issued identification.

Prior to this, every vehicle was required to have a decal denoting their affiliation with the base, placed on their windshield in order to be allowed aboard the Combat Center.

"The process to register a vehicle has not changed, except for the fact that we are not using the decals on the car anymore," said Master Sgt. Jeremy Gohl, provost sergeant, PMO. "We have to check the driver's common access card as they enter the base with or without the stickers."

All Marines are still required to register their vehicles when they check in and check out of their respective unit, however they will not need to fill out DD Form 2220 to receive their decals. According to Gohl, the old decals can be removed and disposed of by the vehicle owner.

"Phasing out the decals puts the responsibility of registering personally owned vehicles on the individual Marine," Gohl said. "This also places more responsibility on the small unit leadership to ensure their Marines are registering their vehicles. In the end we will still vet every person who comes onto base, just in a more effective manner."

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. Brandon Maldonado.



U.S. Navy Corpsmen board an MV-22B Osprey to practice treating patients during a casualty evacuation drill taking place as part of the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit's exercise aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., May 9.

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Reprinted from the Observation Post May 18, 1973 Story by Cpl. Doug Jacobs

1st Field Artillery Group

1st Field Artillery Group's training objective - shoot, -- move, -communicate - proved successful for the individual, section, and batteries in their recent week long field firing exercise.

The radio sections had a chance to operate the TRC-166, a new piece of radio equipment that went to the field for the first time in the hands of the group. The radio operators, including about 20 Field Skill Training Marines, learned the artillery terminology and practiced their own radio jargon and procedures.

The gun crews had their chance to polish some skills: moving posi-

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tions and setting up artillery pieces in the five major moves, one in the dark, in the paradoxical desert: heated in the day and chilling at night.

The two 175mm gun batteries, 1st 175mm Gun Battery (Self Propelled) and 3rd 175mm Gun Battery (SP) fired 16,500 meters maximum range utilizing a charge two in this field operation.

The Eight Inch Howitzer utilizing a charge seven as a maximum range of 16,500 meters, but 1st Eight Inch Howitzer Battery (SP) only fired a maximum range of 14,000 meters in this week-long operation.

Survey learns from Survey Metro, Headquarters Battery, 1st Field

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the guns and plotted camp areas at Deadman Lake, Wood Canyon, Echo Area, and Bravo II areas. They had some good training experience aligned the gun batteries for the target areas.

A competitive fire demonstration heralded 1st Eight Inch Howitzer Battery (SP) as the most accurate battery on Saturday, May 5. Although every round from all the guns from all the guns impacted within two meters of the targets, the Howitzer needed only two rounds to hit dead center on the target.

3rd Hospital, attached to the group, accompanied 1st Field

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50 Pacific

52 Leans

53 "Halt, salt!"

55 Aware of

58 Young 'un

60 "Holy moly!"

64 Senator Cruz

61 Race unit

54 Gambling city

56 Newsman Conan

57 Heredity carrier

59 Every which way

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Artillery Group travelled ahead of Artillery Group in the field, and for the first time, provided a shower unit in the field. The armor section arrived on Monday, May 7, bringing the crew served weapons to the field. The .50 caliber and the M-60 machine gun are regularly brought out to the field to give each Marine an opportunity to fire and familiarize himself with them. They were returned to mainside that evening.

> Brig. Gen. William Joslyn, Base and Force Troops Commanding General, visited on Monday too. He talked with several young Marines of each gun crew and watched an Eight Inch Howitzer direct fire two rounds.

Crossword

Across

- 1 Gulf state
- 5 Shell alternative
- 10 Promise
- **14** Part
- **15** "Don't be
- **16** Butter alternative
- **17** Meals on wheels provider?
- 20 More than -er
- **21** Turpentine, e.g.
- 22 Partner, with "the"
- **23** Back in?
- 25 Inedible orange
- 27 Meals on wheels providers?
- 33 Frost lines
- 35 Inflate
- 36 Romance lang.
- 39 Globe
- 40 Better
- **42** Big time
- **43** Action film staple
- **44** Not for free
- 45 Relieve
- 46 Carryalls
- 48 Perfect rating
- 49 English paper
- **51** Animation unit
- **53** Tree feller
- **54** Meals on wheels provider?
- 61 Dunham of "Girls"
- **62** "Adios"
- 63 Shed
- **65** Opposer
- 66 Scuba gear
- **67** Yep's opposite
- **68** Poverty-stricken 69 Winter hazard
- **70** Squeaked (out)

Down

- 1 Harmony
- 2 Code creator
- **3** Somewhat
- 4 Ariz. neighbor
- 5 S.A.T. section
- 6 "Look who's here!"
- 7 Hill's rival
- 8 " this town"
- **9** TV actor Rob 10 Triumphed
- 11 Classical works
- **12** Corp. shuffling
- 13 Search for water
- 18 Berkshire school

- 19 '80s muscle car
- 24 Daiguiri base
- 26 Make tracks?
- 28 Pessimist's word
- 29 Snare's kit-mate
- 30 Hint
- 31 Speak at length
- 32 Lines on mdse. 33 Make a face
- 34 Soup pasta
- 37 Met song
- 38 Disney dog
- 40 Oil holder
- 41 Nook reading 47 Cream puff

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- In National City:
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- 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 officialwebsite at http://www.29palms.marines. **OBSERVATION POST** May 20, 2016 A3

WHAT I'VE LEARNED

Patricio Miami, Fl. Sgt., warehouse noncommissioned officer in charge, Headquarters Battalion

>When I was three years old, I came to the United States from Ecuador with my mom and my older sister.

>My dad was a pilot in the Ecuadorian Air Force and passed away from lung cancer when I was three. My mom worked two to three jobs at a time to support us.

>Seeing all the effort my mom put into to supporting our family made me appreciate how important it is to be there for my children when I have them.

> want to take care of my body and be as healthy as possible so I can always be there for my family.

> I focused on academics and athletics while I was growing up. I played football, soccer and competed in swimming throughout high school. Sports helped me stay productive and interact with my peers.

> I graduated early at 17 and was working at a restaurant and a 24-hour bank while going to community college. Trying to balance work, school and my social life was rough.

> was doing homework in my college's lobby when a Marine Corps recruiter approached me. He talked to me about earning money for college and convinced me to look into the Marine Corps. I thought "Why not?" I turned 18 and signed up. I've been in eight years now and I still talk to him.

>My mom was livid when she found out. Now, she understands I'm doing what I love.

>During my first enlistment, I was stationed in Marine Corps Air Station] New River and [Marine Corps Base] Camp Lejeune, N.C. Toward the end of my first enlistment I was looking into commissioning as an officer in the Army. Between the Army officer program and the Marine Corps, I chose to reenlist for an opportunity to deploy. That's when I got stationed at [the Combat Center].

> l exercised as hard as I could when I got here to be ready for my first deployment. My chief warrant officer sent me to Camp Pendleton, [Calif.], to deploy to Afghanistan with Combat Logistics Battalion 1.

>Two weeks after I got to Afghanistan, I got promoted to sergeant. My mentor, Staff Sgt. Bowman, gave me fair warning that the senior sergeants were going to be hard on me. It was rough but I learned a lot from the senior Marines I was around.

>After being in CLB, I got orders to Headquarters **Battalion.** I submitted a recruiter package because I enjoy communicating with people and being social.

>My staff noncommissioned officer was a drill **instructor** and he told me I would be better as a DI. I was expecting to go to recruiter's school when my orders came back and said 'DI West'.

>My staff NCO helped me prepare mentally by practicing drill and commanding troops. I was supposed to leave in April but I got injured playing soccer. Fortunately, my mentors and my command have been supportive. They were able to get me into the next drill instructor school this summer.

>Every time I've reenlisted, I've met great people and gained new experiences. The Marine Corps has helped me a lot. I have a lot more discipline now, whether it's getting the

Parra comes from a foreign military family and is taking a new step in his eight-year Marine Corps career to become a drill instructor. He has a passion for leading Marines and maintaining his health.



mission done or accomplishing daily tasks that are thrown at me. My attitude has changed to just grab whatever is thrown at me and run with it. Handling a stressful situation just means anything after that will be a piece of cake.

>I'm more confident. I used to be scared to speak in front of people. Now I can talk in front of any amount of people. I've instructed lance corporal seminars and really enjoyed them because each one is different.

>My goal after completing DI school is to submit a warrant officer package so I can learn more and get out of my comfort zone. I've been impressed by the warrant officers I've worked with and they have shown me a lot.

>I've learned no matter how hard things can be, at the end of the day if you're still breathing, you'll be fine.







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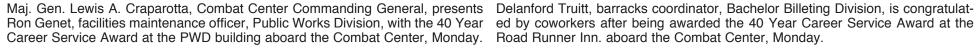
Combat Center civilians earn 40 Year Career Service Award

PHOTOS BY LANCE CPL. LEVI SCHULTZ



Maj. Gen. Lewis A. Craparotta, Combat Center Commanding General, presents Delanford Truitt, barracks coordinator, Bachelor Billeting Division, with the 40 Year Career Service Award at the Road Runner Inn. aboard the Combat Center, Monday.







ed by coworkers after being awarded the 40 Year Career Service Award at the Road Runner Inn. aboard the Combat Center, Monday.







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OBSERVATION POST MAY 20, 2016 A5

Eager Lion 2016 Live Fire Range

PHOTOS BY CPL. LAUREN FALK



U.S. Marines with 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force Crisis Response Central Command 16.2, participate in a live fire range during Exercise Eager Lion 16 at King Abdullah II Special Operations Training Center, Kingdom of Jordan on Tuesday. Eager Lion 16 is a U.S. military bi-lateral exercise with the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan designed to strengthen relationships and interoperability between partner nations.



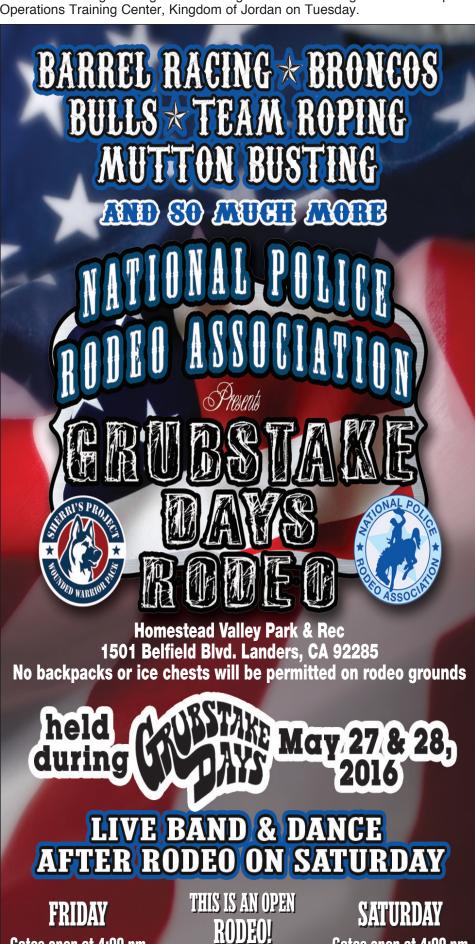
A U.S. Marine with 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force Crisis Response Central Command 16.2, receives ammo at a live fire range during Exercise Eager Lion 16 at King Abdullah II Special Operations Training Center, Kingdom of Jordan on Tuesday.



U.S. Marines with 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment , Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force Crisis Response Central Command 16.2, participate in a live fire range during Exercise Eager Lion 16 at King Abdullah II Special Operations Training Center, Kingdom of Jordan on Tuesday.



A U.S. Marine with 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force Crisis Response Central Command 16.2, participates in a live fire range during Exercise Eager Lion 16 at King Abdullah II Special Operations Training Center, Kingdom of Jordan on Tuesday.



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MAWTS-1 From pg. A1

stand before this crowd humbled honored and blessed. I would never have made it this far in the Marine Corps were it not for the camaraderie, mentorship and friendship of many people. It is to all of you that I owe this debt and gratitude."

Wellons, former executive officer, U.S. Southern Command, intends to continue the hard work put into the squadron by Adams.

"The reason MAWTS-1 is so great is because of people like Col. Adams. I would argue he's given more than any Marine alive to make this unit the organization it is," Wellons said. "I appreciate how you have set us up for success. I could not have asked for a better commander or a tougher act to follow."

As Adams began a new chapter in his Marine Corps career, he left his Marines with these parting words.

"Along the way I've realized caring for Marines is the most critical responsibility that we as Marine officers are given," Adams said. "I draw my inspiration from them knowing that the future of not only MAWTS-1 but our great nation and our Corps is in their hands. I feel very confident that there's a great road ahead."



Col. James Adams, outgoing commanding officer, Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron One, exchanges words with Col. James Wellons, incoming commanding officer, MAWTS-1, during a change of command ceremony aboard Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Ariz., May 12.

'Rhinos' From pg. A1



Marine Wing Support Squadron 374 color guard present the national and Marine Corps flags during a relief and appointment ceremony at Lance Cpl. Torrey L. Grey Field, Thursday.

TOUGH MINDED **OPTIMISM** by Lou Gerhardt



One of the criticisms of this weekly column is that I am always saying good things about people, businesses and events. My critics say I am too "Pollyanna-ish" and never discuss the negative aspects of people and their often disappointing actions.

My critics are absolutely correct. So be it.

I am delighted to report that for the second year in a row Tom Huls and the Yucca Valley Big O Tires team has received the Platinum Performance Award. Wow!

Actually, this is not a surprise to me.

Tom Huls and his entire team are as good as it gets. Big O Tires has been serving the Morongo Basin's automotive needs for 23 years. Owner Tom Huls, who bought the tire shop eight years ago, points out that Big O does much more than tires. Big O also does brakes, maintenance, fluid exchange, belts, hoses and is a true one-stop shop for your automotive needs.

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This column sponsored by:

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Dr. Lou can be reached at 760-367-4627 800-995-1620 res19mxc@verizon.net



LANCE CPL. DAVE FLORES

Marines with Marine Wing Support Squadron 374 stand at parade rest during a relief and appointment ceremony at Lance Cpl. Torrey L. Grey Field, Thursday.



3rd Marine Aircraft Wing Band performs at a relief and appointment ceremony at Lance Cpl. Torrey L. Grey Field, Thursday.

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Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized ever

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

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\star \star \star \star \star \star \star Around the Corps \star \star \star \star \star \star

Big boom: EOD conducts protective works demo range

STORY AND PHOTOS BY LANCE CPL. SAMUEL GUERRA

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP LEJUENE, North Carolina – Approximately 20 Marines with 2nd Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company conducted a Protective Works Demolition Range at Camp Lejeune, N.C., May 12.

The range focused on testing the effectiveness of procedures which allow EOD to mitigate explosions and fragmentations that could otherwise harm people or damage important buildings.

"Our mission while [executing] protective works is to protect personnel and property," said Staff Sgt. Travis Vuocolo, an EOD technician with the unit. "This type of training [enables] us to rehearse a variety of methods that reduce the effects of a blast and allows us to continue applying our skills."

EOD conducts this training semi-annually and utilizes the range as an opportunity to not only maintain their skills; but to strengthen them.

"We're constantly getting better at what

we do," Vuocolo said. "We take this training very seriously because we want to make sure we are prepared for any scenario where [our services] are needed."

Key leaders and Marines interested in on the job training were welcomed to observe the range; therefore, the unit trains persistently and diligently to demonstrate their capabilities to all Marines within II Marine Expeditionary Force.

"We enjoy bringing out prospective Marines interested in joining EOD," said Staff Sgt. Christopher Fitzpatrick, EOD team leader with the unit. "We also bring out the battalion commander and other officers, so they can see how we operate and understand how to best utilize us in the field."

Despite whatever obstacles they may face in the future, the unit validated they are capable of applying their skills in any combat scenario throughout the world.

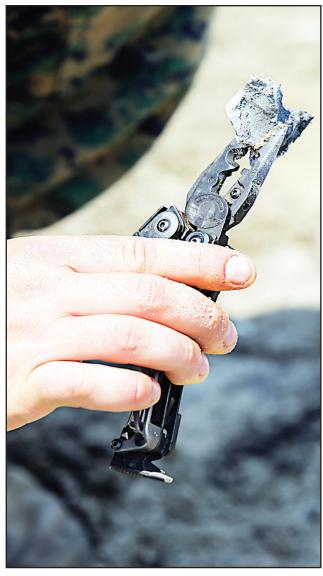
"We have very experienced Marines in our unit today," Fitzpatrick said. "I am more than 100 percent confident that we would successfully execute our missions if we had to deploy tomorrow."



A Marine with 2nd Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company observes a target during a Protective Works Demolition Range at Camp Lejeune, N.C., May 12. After detonating the explosives, the EOD technicians traveled to the blast site to analyze the aftermath and collect data for future references.



A Marine with 2nd Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company observes a target during a Protective Works Demolition Range at Camp Lejeune, N.C., May 12. After detonating the explosives, the EOD technicians traveled to the blast site to analyze the aftermath and collect data for future references.



A Marine with 2nd Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company seizes a piece of M107 155mm projectile fragmentation during a Protective Works Demolition Range at Camp Lejeune, N.C., May 12. The range focused on testing the effectiveness of procedures that allow EOD to mitigate explosions and fragmentations that could otherwise harm people or damage important buildings.





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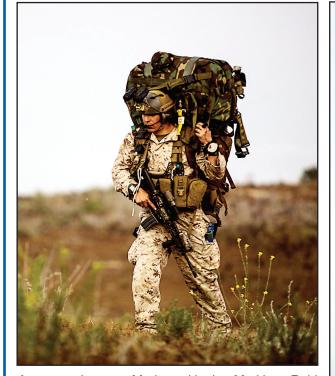
A8 May 20, 2016

Observation Post

WeekINPhotos

MEUEX: Reconnaissance and Surveillance





A reconnaissance Marine with the Maritime Raid Force, 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit, patrols to his objective during a reconnaissance and surveillance mission at a MEU field exercise aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., May 12.



Reconnaissance Marines with the Maritime Raid Force, 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit, parachute into an objective area during a reconnaissance and surveillance mission at a MEU field exercise aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., May 12.

Photos by Lance Cpl. Devan Gowans





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3rd Battalion, 11th Marines tests chrome-plated barrels

A Marine with 3rd Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment, fires a 155mm M777A2 Lightweight Towed Howitzer in the Lead Mountain Training Area aboard the Combat Center May 3.

STORY AND PHOTOS BY LANCE CPL. LEVI SCHULTZ

Marines with 3rd Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment fired six Pilot Production M776 Chrome Tubes for the 155mm M777A2 Light-weight Towed Howitzer in the Lead Mountain Training Area aboard the Combat Center May 3.

'Thunder' conducted the experiment as part of an ongoing 18-month acquisition program agreement with the Program Manager Towed Artillery Systems (PM-TAS) of Picatinny Arsenal, N.J., to evaluate the chrome-plated barrels prior to making a decision to go into full-rate production. This firing exercise was focused on the ability of the M776 Chrome Tubes to resist the formation of hardened downbore residue when firing the M232A1 Propelling Charge 5H (top zone charges). The exercise consisted of gun crews firing 50 M232A1 top zone charges, or an equivalent full charge (EFC) without cleaning the cannon using conventional means to prevent the accumulation of residue.

"We came out here to test how the chrome plating reacts to having such a large charge go through it," said Sgt. Brian Smart, section chief, 3/11. "When we finished, we left the lining alone so the people who designed it could do their measurements and see how the material held up."

Currently, the Marine Corps and Army utilize a steel barrel for their howitzers. This new design incorporates a chrome plating, which helps to extend the life of the tube by two to three times and has prevented build-up of residue within the bore during controlled testing. This allows the gun to fire top-zone charges in succession without the need to fire a low-er-zone charge to clean out the barrel, a requirement for the legacy steel barrel.

According to Smart, the chrome-lined tubes have shown numerous advantages, in both cleaning and durability, over their legacy steel counterparts.

"It's a lot easier to clean than the old steel tubes because they would cake up, while the chrome lining tends to shed off residue a lot easier," Smart said. "In theory, we could be able to use these tubes almost indefinitely before they start to wear down." The chrome tubes have a projected sustainability of more than 2,600 EFCs, before it starts to wear on the chrome plating.

"Most of the time, we are shooting four or lower charges," said Master Sgt. Davy Cadd, battalion field artillery chief, 3/11. "It often takes 10 or more rounds for us to get up to a single EFC. The [chrome plating] enables us to fire thousands and thousands of rounds before we start to wear the tube."

Clede O'Neal, test manager, PM-TAS, explained that the Chrome Tube Program has more than a decade of testing at US Army Yuma Proving Ground. At first, the chrome plating had issues with unacceptable amounts of chrome loss; however, the cannon designer and manufacturer have significantly reduced the amounts of chrome loss to help ensure the tubes are ready for troops to use.

"We are giving the tubes to the unit so they can assess how well the tubes work as far as durability and their ability to be cleaned and inspected," O'Neal said. "At the end of the program, if the Marines and the program office are satisfied, we may be approved to start a M776 Chrome Tube Full Rate Production program to retrofit as many of the M77A2 Howitzers as funding permits".

For the experiment, PM-TAS chose the Combat Center for its vast training area and harsh environment to better gauge the resiliency of the chrome plating.

"We looked at units and installations across the Marine Corps when deciding where the best place was to field the tubes," O'Neal said. "We found [the Combat Center] had the best conditions to fire top zone charges, which allows us to create the harshest conditions possible for testing the chrome tubes."

According to Cadd, it is important to test and experiment with new equipment to find better ways to accomplish the mission and support the service members in the operational environment.

The M776 Chrome Tube was designed by Benet Laboratories with US Army Armament Research, Development, and Engineering Center and manufactured by Tank-automotive Armament Command at Watervliet Arsenal. PM-TAS has oversight for the M777A2 Howitzer and the M776 Chrome Tube acquisition program.



Marines with 3rd Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment, fire a 155mm M777A2 Lightweight Towed Howitzer in the Lead Mountain Training Area aboard the Combat Center May 3.

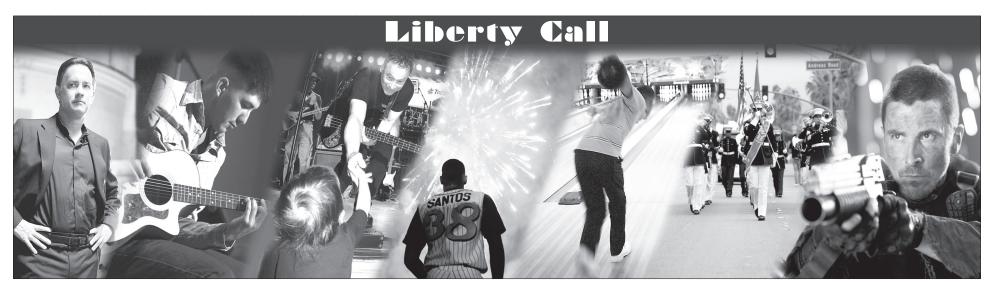


Marines with 3rd Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment, prepare to fire a 155mm M777A2 Lightweight Towed Howitzer in the Lead Mountain Training Area aboard the Combat Center May 3.



Marines with 3rd Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment, fire a 155mm M777A2 Lightweight Towed Howitzer in the Lead Mountain Training Area aboard the Combat Center May 3.

B2 May 20, 2016 OBSERVATION POST



Combat Center Events

The MMA Fight Night will be held at Del Valle Field on June 10th at 7 p.m. with special guest UFC Hall of Famer Forrest Griffin. There will be eight amateur bouts and a meet and greet following the fights. Food and drink concessions are available. For more information call, 760-830-5086.

Head down to the Homestead Valley Park to view the Combat Center Color Guard in the Grubstake Days Rodeo, May 27 and 28 at 7 p.m. The event will feature food, drinks and entertainment the whole family can enjoy. For more information, call 760-218-1980.

Hashmarks Staff Noncommissioned Officer Club hosts Steak Night every Monday from 4:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday. The event is open to all hands Monday and SNCOs on Fridays. For more information, contact 760-830-5035.

Sunset Cinema

Friday, May 20

4:30 p.m. - The Jungle Book, PG

7:00 p.m. – Barbershop: The Next Cut, PG-13

9:30 p.m. - The Boss, R

Saturday, May 21

12:00 a.m. - The Huntsman: Winter's War, PG-13

11:30 a.m. - The Jungle Book (3-D), PG

2:00 p.m. – Midnight Special, PG-13

4:30 p.m. - Eye in the Sky

7:00 p.m. - Barbershop: The Next Cut, PG-13 9:30 p.m. - The Boss, R

Sunday, May 22

12:00 a.m. - Criminal, R

12:30 p.m. - The Jungle Book, PG

3:00 p.m. - The Huntsman: Winter's War, PG-13

5:30 p.m. – Criminal, R

8:00 p.m. Elvis and Nixon, R

Monday, May 23

7:00 p.m. – The Huntsman: Winter's War, PG-13

Tuesday, May 24

7:00 p.m. – Eye in the Sky, R

Wednesday, May 25

7:30 p.m. – Midnight Special, PG-13

Thursday, May 26 5:00 p.m. - The Jungle Book, PG

7:30 p.m. - Elvis and Nixon, R

Friday, May 27

4:00 p.m. - Finding Nemo

(NDVD - Free Admission), G

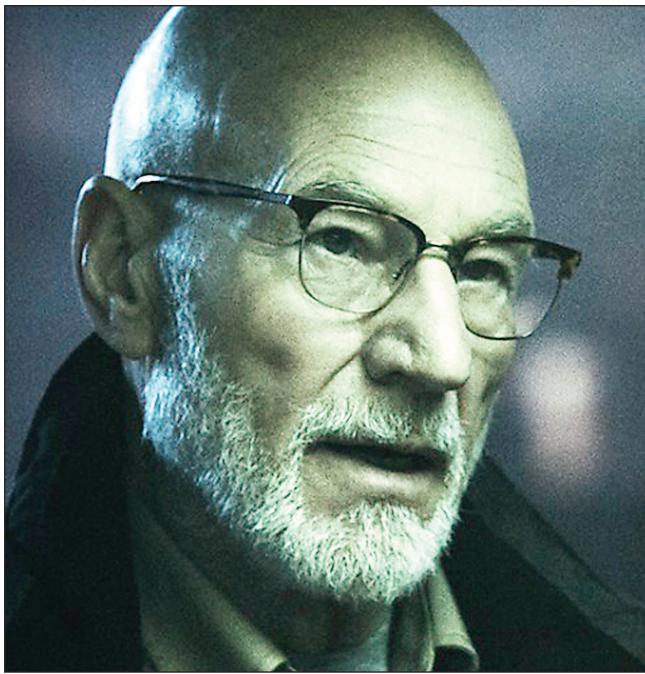
6:30 p.m. - The Boss, R

9:00 p.m. - The Huntsman: Winter's War, PG-13

11:30 p.m. - American Sniper

(NDVD - Free Admission), R





Punk Rock Shocker

Backwoods gig becomes bloody living nightmare

NEIL POND

Green Room' Starring Patrick Stewart, Anton Yelchin and Imogen Poots Directed by Jeremy Saulnier Rated R

In show business, a "green room" is the spot backstage where performers go to relax, hang out and kick back before or after a show. It's usually a secluded place of high spirits and hospitality.

But not in this wickedly sharp thriller-chiller horror show about a band of young punk rockers whose gig turns into a ghastly fight for their lives. Barricaded in the club's grungy green room, they square off against the owner and his army of neo-Nazis when a shocking episode of violence becomes a raging nightmare.

Anton Yelchin (Chekov in the Star Trek movies), Alia Shawkat (from TV's Arrested Development), Callum Turner and Joe Cole play the members of the Ain't Rights, whose unlikely booking at a backwoods roadhouse full of white supremacists turns into a bloody standoff when they stumble onto the aftermath of a "crime of passion" and can't get away before the owner (Patrick Stewart) tries to frame them for it—and eliminate them along with all the evidence.

British actress Imogen Poots has a key role as a club patron who inadvertently becomes part of the mayhem as the young rockers—who play music steeped in destruction, doom and deathfind out how they fare when suddenly faced with the real thing.

In his debut mainstream theatrical feature, director Jeremy Saulnier, 36, shows an incredible amount of promise. He takes his time setting up the story and establishing the characters, patiently drawing the audience into the subculture of their musical world and their low-rent camaraderie—a slog of constant touring to crappy gigs in their old van, living on food scraps, siphoning stolen gas and playing loud, anarchic songs to indifferent or sometimes hostile listeners.

Saulnier gets the details just right: life on the road, the band's dedication to their music, their banter and their interactions—and how actual people might react, think and speak when they find themselves in the middle of a situation that suddenly, unexpectedly becomes gruesome and deadly. As another band rumbles through their songs onstage, the dark, ominous tones reverberate through the walls of the club, into the bowels of the green room, like the howls of a great, angry beast.

The movie has the gritty, grubby feel of a film-festival, midnight-madness indie, especially when it gets down to the bloody business of slashing, hacking, shooting, stabbing, ripping and tearing. Who will escape, who will survive? It's not for the queasy or the faint of heart, but Saulier makes inventive use of his set and props, including the squeal of PA feedback as a weapon, a fire extinguisher and a permanent marker first seen in a band prank.

But the real treat is watching the classically trained Stewart, best known as Star Trek's wise Capt. Picard and as Professor Xavier, the benevolent leader of the X-Men, in a role that stretches him so far in the other direction. In Green Room, he's one seriously scary dude mixing evil and eloquence, refinement and malevolence, and hell-bent on maintaining order anywhere things get messy. His harrowing performance gives this raw, edgy, awesomely impressive, little hard-hitting punkrock movie even more of a visceral kick.



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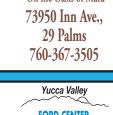
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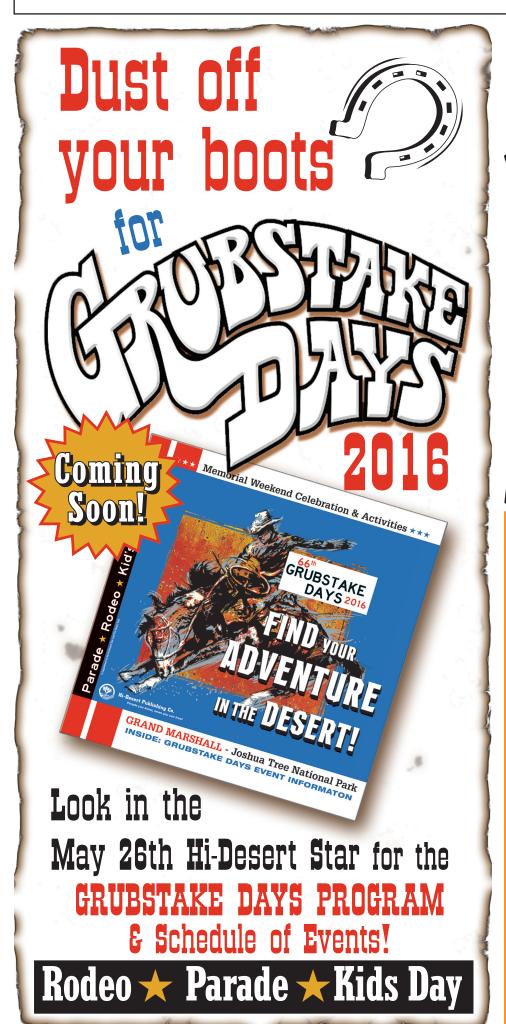
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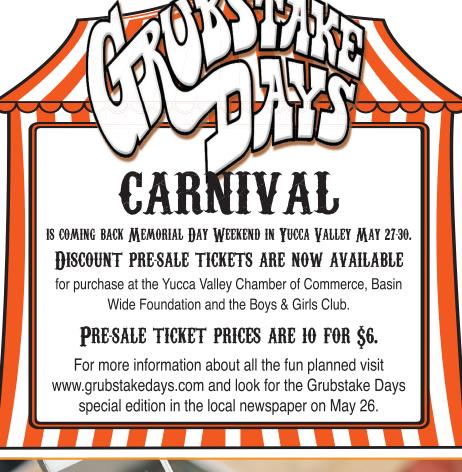
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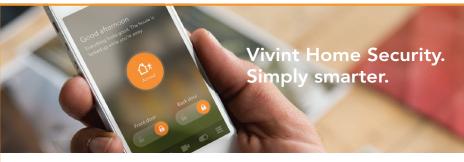
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