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CPL. LEVI SCHULTZ

Sgt. Maj. Jared A. Hoversten, left, and Sgt. Maj. Gabriel E. Macias perform the traditional passing of the noncommissioned officer sword during a relief and appointment ceremony at Lance Cpl. Torrey L. Gray Field, Feb. 3. During the ceremony, Macias relinquished his post as battalion sergeant major for 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, to Hoversten.

2/7 holds relief, appointment ceremony

STORY BY CPL. LEVI SCHULTZ

Sgt. Maj. Gabriel E. Macias relinquished his post as battalion sergeant major for 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, to Sgt. Maj. Jared A. Hoversten at Lance Cpl. Torrey L. Gray Field, Feb. 3.

Macias has served as the battalion sergeant major since June 2015 and will now become battalion sergeant major for 1st Tank Battalion.

"I'm looking forward to the challenge,"



Inside the Observation Post

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Marines sailors cheer on Super Bowl from Camp Wilson See page B1

Seabees hard at work aboard Camp Wilson story and photos by

LANCE CPL. DAVE FLORES

With Marines and sailors rotating through the Combat Center to conduct service-level Marine Air Ground Task Force combined-arms training, the continued maintenance and expansion of Camp Wilson is important to the accomplishment of Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command's mission.

Throughout the month of February, U.S. Navy Seabees



Macias said. "I've never been a part of a tank battalion and I know that they are a different animal."

During the ceremony, the Marines and sailors stood in formation while Macias performed the ceremonial passing of the noncommissioned officer

See Warlords A6

Lt. Col. John Kenney, commanding officer, 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, speaks during a relief and appointment ceremony at Lance Cpl. Torrey L. Gray Field, Feb. 3.

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 Cpl. Aaron Patterson.



Marines assigned to Weapons Company, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, fire a M252A2 81mm mortar system at Range 106 during Integrated Training Exercise 2-17, aboard Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, Calif., Jan. 13. ITX is a combined-arms exercise which provides all elements of the Marine Air Ground Task Force an opportunity to utilize capabilities during large scale missions to become a more ready fighting force. 1/3 is currently participating as the ground combat element for this exercise.

U.S. Navy Seabees with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 3 attach an arch to a K-Span unit at Camp Wilson aboard Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, Calif., Feb. 2. NMCB 3 is in Camp Wilson for three weeks working on the construction of displacement walls and K-Span units for their upcoming deployment in April.

with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 3 will build two K-Span units and two displacement walls at Camp Wilson to expand the housing and facilities for Marines training aboard the installation.

"Our battalion was tasked with helping expand the berthing as well as the erosion control here at Camp Wilson," said Ensign Frank Sysko, detachment Twentynine Palms Officer in Charge, NMCB 3. "Not only does it benefit the Marines, it also improves the quality of the training here, and provides our team with experience that we will use on our upcoming deployment."

NMCB 3 will deploy in April to Camp Shields in Okinawa, Japan to build three much larger K-Span units to expand the housing for the unit's Alpha Company.

"Out of the 21 sailors we have working here, only two of them have previously worked on K-Spans, so this is the perfect learning environment for them," said Chief

See Seabees A6



U.S. Navy Seabees with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 3 prepare sheets of metal while constructing K-Span units at Camp Wilson aboard Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, Calif., Feb. 2. NMCB 3 is in Camp Wilson for three weeks working on the construction of displacement walls and K-Span units for their upcoming deployment in April.



Reprinted from the Observation Post February 8, 1985

SUDOKU

LAV Marines visit Alaska

Successful results are coming in from Alaska as Marines from Company "A" 1st Light Armored Vehicle Battalion administer various cold weather tests to the Corps' newest all-terrain vehicle the LAV 25.

According to Major Wiley Pearson, Company "A" 1st LAV Commander, 12 Marines from his company have been at Fort Greeley, Alaska working with the Army in testing the LAVs.

"They've been there since November putting the LAVs through strenuous cold weather operations," he said.

CROSSWORD

"From what I've heard, they're doing an excellent job."

Throughout January, the unit centralized their testing on the M242 25mm automatic gun which is mounted on the LAV to determine its effectiveness under arctic conditions at Fort Greeley's Texas range.

A press release from the 172nd infantry Brigade's Public Affairs Office reports that the Marines and their LAVs are experiencing all types of weather and environmental conditions during their stay there.

The release also reports that the Marines are consistently finding new ways in which to utilize the LAVs various function.

Other tests this month will focus on the Webasto air heater which has a maximum heating range of 40,000 BTU's. Engineers will see how it holds up in the LAV, carrying nine combat ready Marines at cruising speeds for several hundred miles. Tests will also be conducted on the LAVs specialized DF-A artic diesel fuel which is designed for weather conditions under

14 degrees Fahrenheit.

Last month, Alpha Company First Sergeant E.W. Fright flew to Alaska to observe his Marines and their testing procedures. The first sergeant said the testing is going according to schedule with no major difficulties.

"If everything continues to go well," he said. "Final test on the LAVs will be administered during mid-March. As things stand now. We're right on schedule."

The 12 Marines are slated to return to the Combat Center by March 31.

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

- Off Limit Establishments as of Oct 25, 2016
- Adobe Smoke Shop, 6441 Adobe Road, Twentynine Palms
- STC Smoke Shop, 6001 Adobe Road, Twentynine Palms
- Puff's Tobacco, 57063 29 Palms Highway,
- Yucca Valley • Yucca Tobacco Mart, 57602 29 Palms
- Highway, Yucca Valley • NYPD Pizza, 260-262 North Palm Canyon Drive, Palm Springs
- Sam's Smoke Shop, 16520 West Main Street, Barstow
- Teazer's Bar & Grill Nightclub, 14269
- Seventh Street, Victorville
- Angelo's Kars, 222 & 226 S. Coast

- Highway, Oceanside
- Denny's Parking Lot, 692 E Street, Chula Vista
- Burger King & McDonald's, 28th Street (parking lots), San Diego
- Club Mustang, 2200 University Avenue, San Diego
- Club San Diego, 3955 4th Avenue, San
- Diego • Get It On Shoppe, San Diego
- Main Street Motel, 3494 Main Street, San Diego
- Trolley Stations, Palomar Street & San Ysidro, San Diego
- Vulcan Baths, 805 W. Cedar Street, San Diego
- Dream Crystal, 1536 Highland Avenue, National City
- Sports Auto Sales, 1111 National City Boulevard, National City

WHAT I'VE LEARNED

AINSWORTH IS WORKING ON PUBLISHING HIS SECOND BOOK. HE SPENDS MUCH OF HIS FREE TIME DRAWING, PAINTING AND PLAYING HIS GUITAR.

Platoon sergeant, Combat Camera, Headquarters Battalion

Gene 'Tripp' Jacksonville, Fla. **INSWORTH II** Α

> I grew up in Jacksonville, Fla. We moved up and down the East Coast, so I've lived in a bunch of different places like Ohio, Virginia and Pennsylvania. I graduated high school in Virginia Beach and was recruited into the Marine Corps from there.

> I originally enlisted as a combat illustrator, before they changed the occupation into production specialist. I was one of the last Marines to go through that course when it was actual illustration. The first month was pen and pencil while the second was charcoal and ink, before moving on to digital. Originally, the illustrators were the guys who climbed up a tree and drew maps; now it's more geared toward art and reproduction.

> I've never actually done either one of those jobs. For my first duty station, I had orders to 1st Marine Division in 2007 and when I got there we were short on manpower. They gave me a camera and said, "Hey, learn." I went to Korea for a month. I came back and they sent me on leave before Mojave Viper and then to Afghanistan.

> I was deployed with [2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment,] in 2008. The Combat Camera guys typically got put in different companies and from there we captured photos of operations. I spent all my time in the Weapons Company with the [Combined Anti-Armor Team] platoon.

> Once we got back, I stayed in [Marine Corps Base Camp] Pendleton for about six months before I went to [3rd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment] and deployed to Afghanistan with them. My first deployment was very kinetic and we did a lot; the second one was much slower.



> The Marine Corps has taught I've been in the Marine Corps for 10 years. me a lot about stress and time management. In 2011, I got sent to the 11th MEU and we went to about 15 different countries. I got back from the MEU in 2012 and then went through the Military Information Support Operations] Course at Ft. Bragg, N.C. As of last November,

> I play a lot of guitar, paint a lot and I'm actually working on getting my second book published. I published my first back in October called, "Smokepit Fairytales." It's a pretty in-depth story about a Marine lance corporal and his best

friend who is a corpsman.

> I actually really like the aspect of just sitting down and writing. It's almost like you're letting your imagination out of your brain for a little bit.

> More than anything, art is an escape from reality. If you see something that's awesome you can take a picture, but you can only take a picture of something that already exists. Say I have an image in my head of the Eiffel Tower. To me, it looks like Godzilla's toothpick. You're never going to get a picture but with painting and art you can create that image. It allows you to get outside of the realm of reality.

> I taught myself how to play guitar. My dad knew how to play and inspired me to learn, but he's the kind of guy who would play chords and sing along. I was already geared more toward Guns and Roses and death metal, so I learned how to pick a lot of different songs.

> You're less stagnant that way. There is a lot more freedom in what you can do while picking different tunes.

> Out of everyone who inspired **me** in the Marine Corps, I would say the most inspiring was this guy named Freddie Cantu, one of my platoon sergeants. He's a real smart and strong dude. If you had a medical appointment at 7 a.m. and couldn't make the 10-mile run for morning PT, he would take you on the run during our lunch break and do it again with you.

> Once I leave the Marine Corps, if I can get a literary career going great. If not, I'll go to art school and learn how to do tattoos. The common argument against tattoos is that your body is supposed to be a temple. Well, what temple doesn't have art in it?

Interviewed and photographed by Cpl. Levi Schultz



Keep up with the 29 Palms





Tyler Ammerman, student, Twentynine Palms High School, practices stick welding with Leslie Hundley, welder, Exercise Support Division, during the Job Shadowing Event aboard the Combat Center, Feb. 2.

STORY AND PHOTO BY CPL. THOMAS MUDD

ocal high school students came to the Combat Center during the 14th annual Job Shadowing Event, Feb. 2.

Approximately 40 students from Yucca Valley and Twentynine Palms High School shadowed Marines and Combat Center personnel during the event. The students spent the majority of their day visiting different professionals throughout the installation.

"We hold this event in hopes that we can show the people of the community the base," said Thomas Cruz, school liaison, Combat Center. "The base is close for the students but most of them don't get to see what happens aboard it. This opens it up to them to see a little more of what Marines do and what they could do."

Students were divided into groups based on jobs they chose to about welding. Now that I have, I learn about. During their visit, stu- know I want to go to school and dents shadowed Marines and civil- make welding my career choice."

ians at Exercise Support Division, Robert E. Bush Naval Hospital and Marine Corps Community Services.

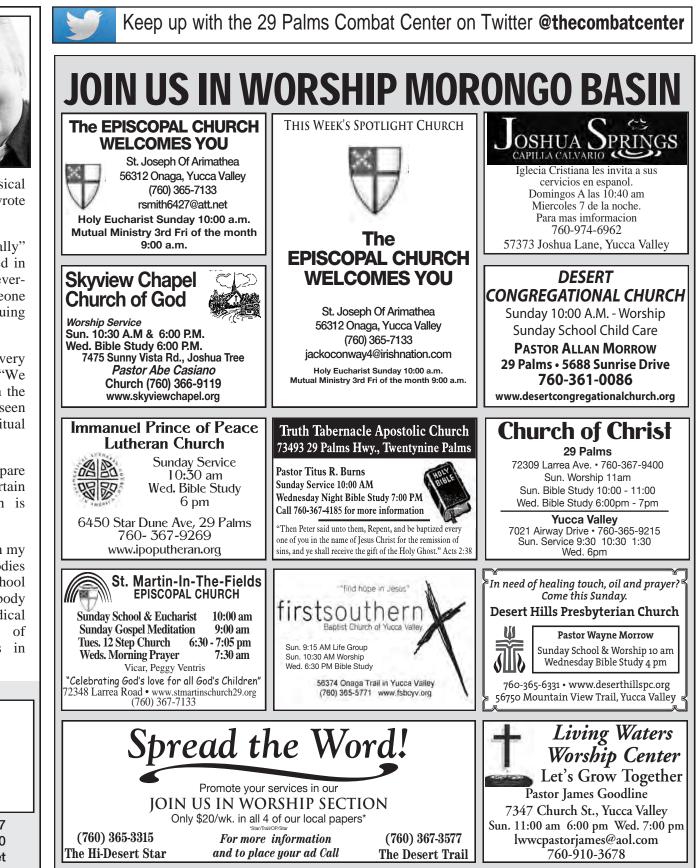
"This event gives the members of base a chance to demonstrate what they do to members of the community," Cruz said. "The students who come to the base are told to ask as many questions as they can to try and help them figure out the best way to start their potential careers."

Students who went to ESD learned about welding and vehicle maintenance. They received hands-on experience with some of the equipment and saw some of the vehicles that Marines use in their training aboard the installation.

"I came because I wanted to know as much as I can before I graduate," said Tyler Ammerman, student, Twentynine Palms High School. "I want to learn more



Leslie Hundley, welder, Exercise Support Division, explains the basics of welding to students from Yucca Valley and Twentynine Palms high schools during the Job Shadowing Event aboard the Combat Center, Feb. 2.



TOUGH MINDED **OPTIMISM** by Lou Gerhardt



When I'm asked about my use of physical death I often share a note Darlene Morris wrote to me some time ago:

"I like how you say someone "physically" died in your articles, because I have learned in Christian Science that Life is spiritual and neverending. Even though to human sense someone seems to die, actually their life is continuing where we cannot perceive it."

What a great statement! I agree with every word. It was the Apostle Paul who wrote "We look not on the things that are seen, but on the things that are unseen. The things that are seen are only temporary, but the unseen spiritual things are eternal." (II Corinthians 4:18)

I think it is important that each of us prepare now in a very practical way with the certain knowledge that our own physical death is inevitable. Here is what I have done.

After discussing the matter thoroughly with my wife Patty I have donated my body to the Bodies for Science Program at the Loma Linda School of Medicine, Loma Linda University. The body will be used to help train young medical scientists and enable that fine School of Medicine to continue making advances in medical science.

This column sponsored by:





Warlords From A1

sword with Hoversten."The entire time I was here this was a phenomenal battalion," Macias said. "They were excellent from every shop to every rifle company. I talked to them the other day but they can't hear it enough; in my mind they were the best battalion, and I can't thank them enough."

Hoversten, previously company first sergeant for 3rd Battalion, 4th Marines, 7th Marine Regiment, Weapons Company, expressed optimism toward his future with the battalion.

"My job as the sergeant major is to work for the Marines," Hoversten said. "I'm looking forward to getting to know each of the Marines and serving them the best I can."



The color guard for 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, carries the colors during a relief and appointment ceremony at Lance Cpl. Torrey L. Gray Field, Feb. 3.

Seabees From A1

Chris McPeters, detachment Twentynine Palms operations chief, NMCB 3. "The design and construction of these K-Spans are simple when compared to the ones we will be building in Okinawa, so this is a time for them to really learn the machines and the process."

During the construction of the K-Spans, Brig. Gen. William F. Mullen III, Combat Center Commanding General, visited the Seabees from NMCB 3 to observe the progress.

"With the primary use of our base being training, Camp Wilson is important," Mullen said. "We like to bring in different units from different commands such as Navy Seabees or Army engineers to conduct training that is mutually beneficial."



Petty Officer 3rd Class Laine Roman, main operator, Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 3, turns on the K-Span Machine to create the metal sheets used to create the K-Span units at Camp Wilson aboard the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, Calif., Feb. 2. NMCB 3 is in Camp Wilson for three weeks working on the construction of displacement walls and K-Span units for their upcoming deployment in April.

MUST BE 21+ FOR SHELLY'S LOUNGE



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SLOT MACHINES TABLE GAMES OASIS GRILLE SHELLY'S LOUNGE

Ensign Frank Sysko, detachment Twentynine Palms Officer in Charge, Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 3, and Brig. Gen. William F. Mullen III, Combat Center Commanding General, tour the construction of the diversion walls in progress at Camp Wilson aboard Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, Calif., Feb. 2. NMCB 3 is in Camp Wilson for three weeks working on the construction of displacement walls and K-Span units for their upcoming deployment in April.



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Vol. 61 B



Marines and sailors cheer in response to a big play during the Palm Springs Bob Hope USO hosted showing of Super Bowl LI at the dining facility at Camp Wilson aboard the Combat Center, Sunday.



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STORY AND PHOTOS BY CPL. LEVI SCHULTZ

Marines and sailors at Camp Wilson received a brief respite from their Integrated Training Exercise to cheer on their favorite team during the Palm Springs Bob Hope USO hosted showing of the Super Bowl aboard the Combat Center, Sunday.

In keeping with their mission to maintain the connection between service members and their families, home and country while they are serving, Bob Hope USO brought Super Bowl LI to the units conducting training on base.

"This is just one of the ways we can keep them connected to what's going on," said Theresa Cherry, center manager, Bob Hope USO. "Even though they are out here training, they can stop and take a break for a couple of hours and enjoy the game."

During the intense game between the New England Patriots and Atlanta Falcons, more than 15 volunteers worked in conjunction with 29 Marine food service specialists to serve a tailgating party-themed meal to service members.

"It's a great morale booster for the Marines," said Master Sgt. Raul Zepeda, food service specialist, 1st Marine Regiment. "They've been recharged and are ready to go and complete their training."



Cpl. Scott Gedeon, food service specialist, 1st Marine Logistics Group, cheers on his favorite team during the Palm Springs Bob Hope USO hosted showing of Super Bowl LI at the dining facility at Camp Wilson aboard the Combat Center, Sunday.



Marines and sailors participating in training watch Super Bowl LI during the Palm Springs Bob Hope USO hosted showing of the Super Bowl at the dining facility at Camp Wilson aboard the Combat Center, Sunday.

Commandant of Marine Corps Message to the Force: 'Seize the Initiative'

GENERAL ROBERT **B. NELLER** 37TH COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

I want to share my thoughts on what we accomplished in 2016 and where we need to go this year and beyond. This message builds on the initial guidance and priorities we outlined a year ago in FRAGO 01 /2016: "Advance to Contact." It also complements an updated list of tasks that I recently issued to the Deputy Commandants (DCs) in order to support you.

This message is an extension of my ongoing discussions with all of you. It provides six resolutions for all of us to follow in 2017. I expect all Marines to read this message and take action. I'm also directing all Commanders to discuss these resolutions and DC tasks within their units. I need our Small Unit Leaders to talk about this guidance within their teams. It is important that all of us appreciate what the Marines on our flanks are doing so that we work together and support each other. The foundations of our Warfighting doctrine are based on shattering the enemy's cohesion through maneuver, a shared understanding of the mission, commander's intent, and trust. These principles promote unity of action, increase tempo, and enable individual initiative. Every one of you must and will play a critical role in improving our Corps. This is a team effort. The Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps and I look forward to hearing your feedback. Your responses and actions will help guide our course into the future.

Assessment of 2016: Sergeant Major Green and I spoke with numerous Marines around the globe last year. Based on your valuable feedback on FRAGO 01, we

clarified and updated several policies, instituted promotion panels, and revised PFT/CFT standards in order to make ourselves better. We reinvigorated Sea Dragon, our warfighting experimentation program. We also released our Marine Corps Service Strategy (MCSS), which outlines how we will organize, train, and equip our Marine Corps in the years ahead. We published the Marine Corps Operating Concept (MOC), which describes how we will employ our Corps and fight in the future. We made significant investments in our Marine Corps Force 2025 (MCF 2025) initiative, which will realign and shape the Marine Corps to meet future threats. All of these actions are generating momentum, yet much work remains to be done. Together, we will strive to get better every day.

Where We Stand Now and the Challenges Before Us: I'm proud of all of you and honored to serve as your Commandant. Marines today continue to perform exceptionally well in peace, crisis, and conflict- from humanitarian assistance efforts in Haiti, security cooperation operations in Europe, the Middle East, and Indo-Asia-Pacific, and embassy reinforcement in East Africa, to combat operations in Afghanistan, Libya, Yemen, and Iraq. Our Corps remains ready, capable, and lethal. Every Marine should be proud of their contribution to our Nation's defense.

As professionals, we have to remember our ongoing success does not guarantee victory tomorrow. We must continue to confront and overcome numerous internal and external challenges. Externally, we must adapt to the operational environment and acknowledge the advancements made by our adversaries. Over the last 15 years, we primarily focused on counter-insurgency operations

while peer and near-peer competitors watched us, learned, and improved significantly. The gap between us has narrowed-and in some cases, completely closed. From now on, we will have to fight not only in the domains of land, sea, and air, but also in space and cyberspace. We will have to fight for and with information on the battleground of perceptions and ideas. And we will have to win the battle of electromagnetic signatures in which to be detected is to be killed. We can never take our enemies for granted. We will be tested.

We must also tackle our internal challenges. We must improve our overall readiness-particularly in our aviation units. We continue to accelerate our purchases of new systems while maintaining current equipment. Right now, our "ready bench" is not as deep as we need it to be for crises and contingencies.

As we address our readiness shortfalls, we must simultaneously modernize our Corps. This is a tough, but necessary balancing act. We must be prepared to fight today and in the future.

Other internal challenges we face are more personal. We need to be brutally honest with ourselves and be accountable for our shortcomings. We must be more disciplinedboth at the individual and unit level- and live up to our core values of honor, courage, and commitment. We need to police our ranks better and hold ourselves and our fellow Marines accountable, eliminate hazing and sexual assault, and reduce avoidable mishaps and abuse of alcohol. 152 of our fellow Marines died last year. This is nearly the equivalent of a rifle company. Only one of these Marines died in combat. We lost the rest mostly due to suicides, accidents,

and reckless behavior. We are better than this. We must do a better job of looking out for each other.

Where We Need to Go: We have to continue to adapt, innovate, and change to meet future threats. We must always challenge the status quo and ask ourselves: Are we doing the right things? Are we doing them in the right way? What do we need to do differently? We need to approach our challenges with humility, an open mind, and a burning desire to win. To that end, we must all resolve to:

1) Improve readiness because we need more Marines and equipment ready to fight now.

Modernize the 2) force because our future readiness depends upon it.

Become smart-3) er because your mind is your most important weapon.

Take better care 4) of ourselves because combat is the most extreme and demanding test.

"Protect What 5) You've Earned" because our success in battle depends upon teamwork.

Have more fun 6) as Marines because it is a privilege to be a part of this elite warfighting organization.

Conclusion: All who have earned the Eagle, Globe, and Anchor have contributed to our reputation as the world's most formidable, feared, and

respected military organiza tion. This is our sacred heritage. Every Marine must protect it and own a piece of our success. Never forget that we exist to defeat our Nation's enemies. The American people expect their Marines to fight our Country's battles and win-always. Victory is our legacy-in the past, now, and in the future.

Remember, our enemies will never rest. In our business, there's no prize for 2nd Place. That's why we must remain a "Gold Medal Organization." And that's why we all need to bring our A-Game every day. Learn your job, and do it with maximum intensity and skill. The next fight will evolve rapidly, and it will force us to be more agile, flexible, and adaptable. To win, we need Marines who are smart, fit, disciplined, resilient, and able to thrive in the face of uncertainty and the unknown.

Over our entire history, we have been an adaptive and innovative force. It was the Marine Corps that first developed Close Air Support, wrote the Small Wars Manual, and developed the doctrine and designed the equipment needed to conduct amphibious assaults. We were the first to adopt maneuver warfare as the central tenet of our warfighting philosophy. Like the Marines of the past, we will continue to overcome challenges, remain flexible, and defeat all enemies. We have been, and will continue to be, the Nation's elite expeditionary force-in-readiness.

Through your initiative, we will impose our will on the enemy. We cross the line of departure together- seeking every day to improve ourselves, each other, and our Corps. What will you do in 2017 to up your game? Marines, the time is NOW; "Seize the Initiative!"

Sunsei

Friday, Feb. 10 6:00 p.m. - Assassin's Creed, PG-13 8:30 p.m. - Why Him?, R 11:00 p.m. - Underworld: Blood Wars, R

Saturday, Feb. 11

11:00 a.m. - Sing (3-D), PG 1:30 p.m. - Hidden Figures, PG

4:20 p.m. - Underworld: Blood Wars. R

6:30 p.m. - Assassin's Creed. PG-13 9:00 p.m. - Passengers, PG-13

11:30 p.m. - The Bye Bye Man, PG-13

Sunday, Feb. 12

12:00 p.m. - Underworld: Blood Wars, R

2:10 p.m. – The Bye Bye Man, PG-13

7:30 p.m. - Sleepless, R

Monday, Feb. 13 Patriots Day, R

Tuesday, Feb. 14

5:00 p.m. - Why Him?, R 7:30 p.m. - Underworld: Blood Wars, R

Wednesday, Feb. 15

5:00 p.m. - Assassin's Creed, PG-13

7:30 p.m. - Passengers, PG-13

Thursday, Feb. 16

5:00 p.m. - Sing, PG 7:20 p.m. - Live By Night, R

Friday, Feb. 17

2:00 p.m. - Storks (NDVD-Free Admission), PG

3:50 p.m. - Captain

America: Civil War (NDVD-Free Admission), PG-13

6:50 p.m. - Underworld: Blood Wars (3-D), R

9:10 p.m. – The Bye Bye Man, PG-13

11:30 p.m. – xXx: The Return of Xander Cage (3-D), PG-13



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LANCE CPL. CHRISTIAN OLIVER CACH

Military working dog, "Scooby" takes down U.S. Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Cody Martinelli, a military policeman with Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, as part of a demonstration during the Yuma Military Appreciation Day at Arizona Western College, Saturday.



SGT. JAMES SKELTON U.S. Marines attending the Methods of Entry course, use a saw to cut through steel during a practical application exercise aboard Quantico, Va., Jan. 25. MOE teaches Marines advanced level skills on how to properly and effectively gain entry into buildings, structures and ships.

Think you're SAVING MONEY doing your OWN TAXES? THINK AGAIN!





LANCE CPL. ANTHONY BROSILOW

Family and friends of U.S. Marines assigned to Marine Attack Squadron 542, wait for their return from deployment at Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C., Saturday. VMA-542 was deployed with the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit.



SGT. SARA GRAHAM

iment, 4th Marine Division, sets up 360-degree security during exercise Riley Xanten II, in Burwash, Ontario, Feb. 3-5. During the exercise, the Marines joined soldiers from the Canadian Armed Forces to exchange knowledge and increase proficiency in cold