

Not in our Marine Corps

MARINE LEADERS ADDRESS SOCIAL MEDIA MISCONDUCT

On March 10, the Commandant of the Marine Corps released White Letter 1-17 to all commanding generals, commanding officers, officers-in-charge and senior enlisted leaders currently serving in the United States Marine Corps.

March 17, 2017

Recent conduct on social media By the Commandant of the Marine Corps

1. In the past week, our core values have come under attack. While the majority of our Marines are focused on sustaining and improving combat readiness and building trust among the team, some have - Victim Legal Counsel

broken faith. We have received reports that within our ranks we Marines have who attacked other Marines on social media. The Marines who were targeted have primarily been female. This inappropriate, disrespectful, and in some cases criminal behavior has a corrosive and negative effect on our Marines and on the Marine Corps. My intent is to ensure all commanders and senior enlisted leaders have a common understanding of this situation, focus our efforts to support any victims of these attacks, raise awareness of resources to support victims, and ultimately eliminate the conditions that allow this cancer to grow.

other misconduct as we would address any other form of misconduct or destructive behavior. Immediate action should be taken to support our Marines who may be victims of online attacks. I need all commanders and senior enlisted leaders to engage with your Marines and encourage them to come forward and report, whether they are a victim, or have knowledge of possible misconduct. There should be no bystanders; Marines should "Join the Conversation." When Marines do report, they must have the full support of their leadership, from NCOs up to the Commanding Officer and Commanding General. They must have a viable means to report and have immediate

resources available to support them. Victims must be educated on the resources available to them, including:

- Chain of Command and Small Unit Leadership

- Chaplains

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vulnerabilities, and expectations of conduct when engaging in online activity. Marines must understand they carry the title "Marine" 24/7, even on social media. MARADMIN 365/10 provides current social media guidance; It will be updated soon. Leaders should remind our Marines they are not anonymous in the virtual world and remain accountable for their actions. Where we find criminal behavior, we will take appropriate action.

4. I have established a task force at Headquarters Marine Corps, led by ACMC, to determine the scale and scope of the problem we face. The task force will be informed by insights from our Marines and address those aspects of our training, leadership, policy, and legal processes where changes or corrective action are required. We will take a hard look at the conditions and attitudes that enabled this problem to develop. We have lost trust with some of our Marines and we have to rebuild it.

> 5. Every Marine is a valued member of our team. I don't care who they are or where they came from. I only care that they earned our title and deserve our respect. The recent attacks on social media can be overcome if we address the behaviors and attitudes that caused these unacceptable actions in the first place. We are better than this. I will leave you with a thought

From the Office of the **Commanding General**



"Marines, we face yet another challenge to the honor of the Marine Corps, and, unfortunately, it is self-inflicted. We have people in our ranks who think that it is perfectly OK to demean their fellow Marines because of their race, sex or religious beliefs. This is not something Marines who have taken the values of honor, courage and commitment to heart would even consider doing to a fellow Marine. It can only be the action of those ...who have forgotten what it was like to have earned the coveted Eagle, Globe and Anchor insignia. When each of us earned that EGA, we became part of the legacy of the Marine Corps. That legacy has been earned on battlefields throughout many wars. It is a legacy earned with the blood, sweat and tears of all who have gone before us, and it is up to each of us to do our part to protect that legacy and enhance it for whatever period we are wearing the uniform. It is a legacy the American public has grown to trust, and now it is tarnished by Marines who cannot, or will not, understand that what they are doing to their fellow Marines is unacceptable. Our success in battle depends largely on the esprit de corps that is built and maintained amongst our fellow Marines who we can count on with our life to be there when needed, no matter what. Treating fellow Marines like they are something less than a full member of the Corps

takes away from that esprit and makes us less effective. I have served in our beloved Marine Corps for almost 31 years now and have spent 31 months in combat. I may know a thing or two about what I am talking about.

Vol. 61 Issue 10

For those who are participating in the type of behavior depicted on sites like "Marines United" or "Just the Tip of the Spear" I ask that you think again before making any sort of statement that demeans a fellow Marine. If you are not smart enough to avoid the negligent discharge that comes from hitting enter before really thinking about what you are sending out to the world, then all I can say is, stand by. There will be consequences. For those who are on the receiving end of such posts, or see it as you move from site to site, I would ask you to confront those who cannot, or will not, understand, and also to report it to the PAO or Inspector General. This represents policing our own ranks and helping to uphold the legacy vice whatever else others might call it. We can only eliminate this shameful behavior by confronting it directly, and dealing with it harshly where warranted.

2. Leaders at all levels must address online sexual harassment, threats of violence, and



- Uniformed Victim Advocates - Equal Opportunity Advisors - Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Victim Advocates - Sexual Assault Support Lines

Technical assistance is also available to help remedy or mitigate the harm they have suffered.

3. To get ahead of future incidents, we must continue to educate Marines on the dangers,

from another senior military leader who dealt with a similar issue in 2013: "the standard you walk by...is the standard you accept." I have faith in our commanders and senior enlisted leaders to guide our Marines through this issue and enforce our standards.

Robert D. Neller

This behavior does not belong in our ranks and we are serious about eliminating it.'

Brigadier General William F. Mullen III

Commanding General Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command Marine Corps Air Ground **Combat Center**

Inside the Observation Post

Volume 61, Issue 10

A3 A4 A5 A6 A7 A8 A10	Combat Center History What I've Learned Jane Wayne Day Paribas Open Tap, Rack, Bang Around the Corps PMO receives stuffed animals Week in Photos



Annual Motocross Jam Fest zooms through Combat Center See page B1

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. Danny Gonzalez.



LANCE CPL. DANNY GONZALEZ

Sgt. Allison DeVries, combat photographer, Headquarters Battalion, 1st Marine Division, boils snow during Mountain Training Exercise 2-17 at the Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center, Bridgeport, Calif., Feb. 26. 1st Combat Engineer Battalion conducted scenario-driven training that encompassed mobility, counter-mobility and survivability operations in a mountainous, snow-covered enironment that challenged 1st CEB to generate combat engineering solutions to infantry driven tasks.



Reprinted from the Observation Post March 17, 1960

Fast firing boosted Rocket XM-70 Developed by **U.S. Army for Corps May replace Heavier Artillery**

Author: Unknown

Plans for the future employment of a new automatic field artillery weapon, the 115th boosted rocket XM-70, were announced by Headquarters Marine Corps March 3. The new weapon can deliver fire at the rate of six rounds in two and one-half seconds.

Now in advanced research and development stages, the lightweight helicopter transportable XM-70 is this countries first automatic field artillery weapon.

It is considered by the Marine Corps to represent the most significant improvement in conventional U.S. artillery since 1940, and is scheduled for initial operational use in the Corps early in 1962.

The XM-70 was developed for the Marine Corps by the U.S. Army to meet Marine requirements for a close support artillery weapon superior to the 105mm howitzer in terms of weight, and lethality.

Capable of delivering single shot as well as automatic fire, the XM-70 operates on the boos¬ted rocket principle.

Automatic firing of the XM-70 is accomplished with two clusters of three breech tubes, each mounted

CROSSWORD

side by side. Each cluster revolves like the cylinder of a six-gun, moving around into position for firing through a single mounted launch tube. The XM-70 weighs only 3,000 pounds, is effective at greater ranges than the 105mm howitzer, and is capable of firing direct as well as indirect close support missions.

The weapon is easily manhandled and can be towed with a lightweight vehicle such as the 3/4ton "convertible mule."

The 115mm boosted rocket round can be equipped with a point-detonating or proximity fuse, and its high explosive warhead is effective against personnel, forces, and similar mechanized artillery targets.

Main advantage of the boosted rocket principle is that it permits lighter construction of launching hardware that can be achieved in conventional artillery.

Because of its light initial booster charge, the XM-70 doesn't require the heavy tube and sturdy overall construction necessary in conventional artillery to withstand the tremendous pressures generated by detonation of the propellant charge. Work on the XM·70 began in June, 1957, when the Marine Corps provided the Army with funds to support development of the weapon. The first prototype was designed and fabricated in fourteen months. Three prototypes have been built to date.

Thus far, the XM-70 has successfully completed road test at the Aberdeen Proving

Ground, Maryland; helicopter transportability tests at Aberdeen and Quantico, Virginia; firing and air-transportability tests at Redstone Arsenal; cold weather tests at Elgin Air Force Base, Florida; and amphibious tests at Camp Lejeune North Carolina.

The XM-70 will undergo further extensive development and suitability tests prior to its adoption by the Marine Corps. To' date, more than 1,500 boosted rocket rounds have been fired.

The Marine Corps plans to have its first XM-70 battery in the field, equipped with six launchers, by February, 1962. Eventually, it is planned that the 115mm boosted rocket will replace the 105mm howitzer and 4.2 mortars in artillery regiments of each of the Corps' three divisions.



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OAKLEY DANIEL POSEY Born on Jan. 24, 2017 Born to Jared and Rachel Posey

EVELYN ROSE HOLLIS Born on Feb. 3, 2017 Born to Jonathan and Jackie Hollis

RAIDEN SKY KILPATRICK Born on Feb. 8, 2017 Born to Shawn and Gary Kilpatrick

HUNTER LOWELL WILLIAMS

Born on Feb. 9, 2017 Born to Jeff and Holly Williams

CONRAD DUKE BIRD Born on Feb. 13, 2017 Born to Donald and Angie Bird

COLTON FORD WHITE Born on Feb. 20, 2017 Born to Scott and Kelly White

JAYCE LESLIE REED Born on Feb. 23, 2017 Born to Krystal and Steven Reed

MICAH RICHARD SHAFFER

Born on Feb. 24, 2017 Born to Rick and Stephanie Shaffer

TRISTAN JAMES HURRIGAN

Born on Feb. 26, 2017 Born to Conor and Geana Hurrigan

KILIAN J. REGAN

Born on March 2, 2017 Born to Sydney and Eric Regan

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OFF-LIMITS ESTABLISHMENTS

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

Branclon Warner Robins, Ga. Staff sergeant, Marine Corps Community Services Marine, 1st Marine Logistics Group WORLEY

> While I claim Georgia as > We are not doing things **my home,** I was born in Panama. My parents were in the Air Force so we moved around a lot.

> My Marine Corps career has been pretty amazing so far. I've done a lot of things and been a lot of places. I started out as a UH-1 Huey Crew Chief with Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron] 369. We deployed twice; once to Iraq and once to Afghanistan.

> When we got back from the deployments, I volunteered for the Marine Security Guard Program. I went to Saudi Arabia, Manila, the Philippines and Frankfurt, Germany, for a year each. I also met my wife on MSG and brought her back [to the States].

> After that I was assigned to HMLA 169 at Marine Corps Base] Camp Pendleton, Calif., once again as a crew chief. It was there that I decided that I wanted to take my career on a different path. I did a [lateral] move into Marine Corps Community Services Marine, 4133.

> When we are stateside, MCCS Marines help out or manage the local exchanges and special events. We deploy pretty often but our main mission is very different from the rest of the Marine Corps. Everything we do is to improve the morale and welfare of the Marines we are supporting.

for our benefit, but for the Marines that are out there doing their jobs. In a deployed environment, we go out to the Marines and bring them different snacks, socks, you name it. We even set up phones so they can call their families. I remember being a lance corporal on the receiving end of that and just being happy to be able to eat my Oreos and call home. It's very interesting and very humbling to be on the other side of that now.

> I have a 1 and a half year old daughter now, and I enjoy playing with her and teaching her new things like how to high-five. >Having a child has really changed my life. It made me realize that I was a really selfish person. I can't just do what I want when I want now; I have to factor her into the equation. I have to think about how my actions are going to affect my child and her future.

> I want to be someone who my daughter can be proud of when she's older. I want to be the best father, Marine and person that I can be. It just puts a whole new perspective on life, which was a big reason why I decided to LAT move.

> I've taken this bear with me everywhere I've been in the Marine Corps. It all started before my first deployment. We were at the airport in Bangor, Worley has taken his STUFFED BLACK BEAR WITH HIM ALL OVER THE WORLD.



Maine, and they had a little gift shop there. I don't really know why, but I bought this little black bear and thought I would take it with me.

> It has been on every flight I could possibly take it on. I've taken pictures with it during flight behind machine guns and on the flight deck; just kind of to document everywhere I've been and everything I've done. I took its snapshots everywhere

from Thailand, the Philippines, Kyrgyzstan, Germany and Afghanistan. Now that I'm married and have a daughter once she is old enough to understand, I will eventually give it to her along with a scrapbook with all the photos. > For me, the best part about the Marine Corps is that I never thought I would join the military. It's proven to me over and over again that just because you never thought you

were going to do something doesn't mean you won't. I've literally traveled the world. I've been so many places and many of my friends from high school never left Georgia. The experiences you can get from the Marine Corps really make it worthwhile. I think if you have a positive attitude and take every experience with a smile and try to make the best of it, you will come out with some awesome stories.

Interviewed and photographed Cpl. Levi Schultz

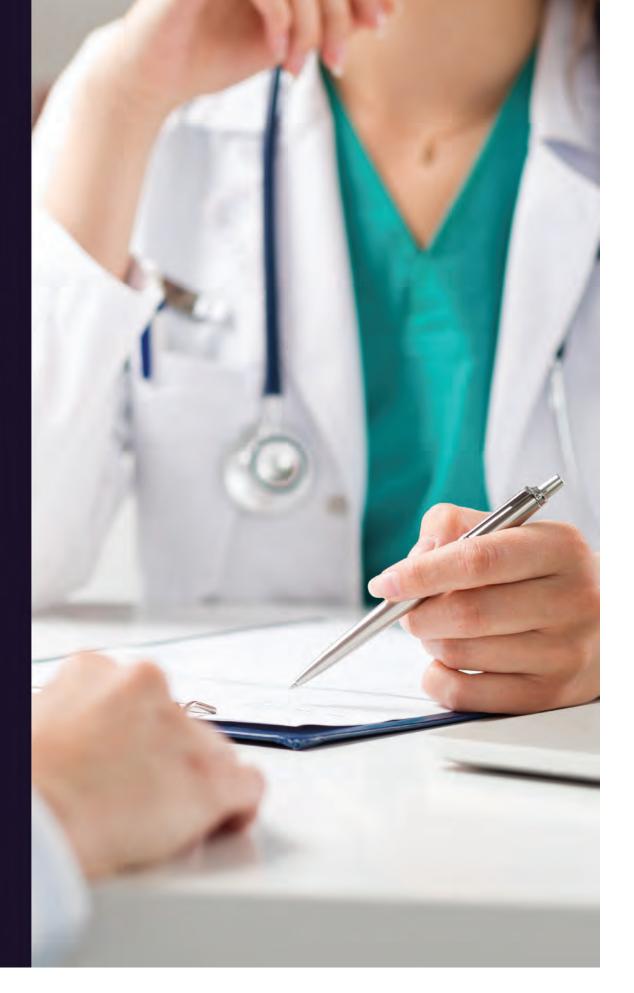
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'Darkside' spouses gear-up for Jane Wayne Day

STORY AND PHOTOS BY CPL. JULIO MCGRAW

Spouses of Marines with 3rd Battalion, 4th Marines, 7th Marine Regiment, got a taste of what it means to be a Marine during the battalion's Jane Wayne Day, March 8.

The "Darkside" spouses ran the gauntlet of physically demanding tasks as they alternated stations at Del Valle Field, where they ran the High Intensity Tactical Training obstacle course, ran a modified Combat Fitness Test and learned Marine Corps Martial Arts Program's techniques.

"I think the spouses got a good firsthand look at what the Marines do," said Capt. Nicholas Pretty, forward air controller, 3/4.

While at each station, the spouses learned about different aspects of Marine Corps culture and the different elements that make up the ground combat element, of which their spouses are a part. 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 1st Tank Battalion and 3rd Assault Amphibian Battalion showcased a static display of their respective vehicles.

"They did a lot of physical things and overall I think they all did well," Pretty said. "The spouses did a lot more things than their husbands do in a day, but I think they understand why they come home tired sometimes."

Known for being the Marine Corps' most deployed unit in the institution's history, the battalion was first activated in 1925 at Naval Base San Diego. It has since been deactivated and reactivated



The wife of a Marine with 3rd Battalion, 4th Marines, 7th Marine Regiment, crawls upside down on a log at the High Intensity Tactical Training obstacle course at Del Valle Field during the battalion's Jane Wayne aboard the Combat Center, March 8.

seven times, most recently reactivating in August 2015. The battalion has fought in operations during World War II, the Vietnam War, Libya, Panama, Iraq and Afghanistan.

The Jane Wayne Day is the last event the battalion will host before deploying in the coming weeks.



The wife of a Marine with 3rd Battalion, 4th Marines, 7th Marine Regiment, holds an M136 AT4 trainer at Del Valle Field during the battalion's Jane Wayne Day aboard the Combat Center, March 8.



The wife of a Marine with 3rd Battalion, 4th Marines, 7th Marine Regiment, hip-tosses her husband during the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program instruction at Del Valle Field during the battalion's Jane Wayne Day aboard the Combat Center, March 8.



The wife of a Marine with 3rd Battalion, 4th Marines, 7th Marine Regiment, performs an ammunition can lift during a modified Combat Fitness Test at Del Valle Field during the battalion's Jane Wayne aboard the Combat Center, March 8.





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BNP Paribas Open honors Combat Center Marines

STORY BY CPL. MEDINA AYALA-LO

INDIAN WELLS, Calif. — Combat Center Marines presented "Old Glory" and the Marine Corps colors during the 15th Banque Nationale de Paris Paribas Open's "Salute to Heroes," March 10.

The BNP Paribas Open, held annually in March, is a two-week combined professional tennis tournament consisting of the Association of Tennis Professionals World Tour Masters 1000 and the Women's Tennis Association Premier. It features the world's top male and female professional players. For the past 15 years the tournament has also honored the nation's service men and women

"Salute to Heroes started in 2002 after 9/11," said Brittany Trabert, event marketing manager, BNP Paribas Open. "We wanted to celebrate, recognize and honor all the service men and women as well as the first responders. We've carried on the tradition each and every year, and it's something we really love doing because we're so grateful for the work that everyone does for us."

During the ceremony, approximately 100 students from Bravo Co., Communication Training Battalion, Marine School,



CPL. MEDINA AYALA-LC

Lance Cpl. Cole Dalton, student, Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School, prepares to present the national colors during the 15th Banque Nationale de Paris Paribas Open's "Salute to Heroes," in Indian Wells, Calif., March 10.

to present the American flag. Immediately following their presentation, the Combat Center Color Guard presented the national and Marine Corps colors as the National Anthem rang through the stadium.

"I think it's important for the community to see that the Marine Corps is representative of who they are and it's important for Marines to see that the community that they defend supports them," said Capt. Christopher Rock, data training platoon commander, MCCES. "It's a very humbling experience to know that the people out here support the service members and they want to honor them."

Following the presenta-

Rafael Fernandez and Cpl. Logan Winterstein, special intelligence system administrators, G-6 Communications and Information Systems, Headquarters Battalion and Cpl. Julian Guerrero, company clerk, Headquarters Battalion, were invited to the field to be honored individually as well as to flip the coin for the final tennis match.

"It was an honor to be able to come out here and represent the men and women who fight every day for us," said Pfc. Francisco Vargas, student, MCCES. "Leaving from presenting the American flag and hearing everyone's applause is just a feeling that no one else can replace, because you know how much



CPL. MEDINA AYALA-LO

Marines with Bravo Co., Communication Training Battalion, Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School, present the national colors during the 15th Banque Nationale de Paris Paribas Open's "Salute to Heroes," in Indian Wells, Calif., March 10. This event began in 2002 after Sept. 11, and is meant to celebrate, recognize and honor all service men and women as well as first responders.



Cpl. Julian Guerrero, company clerk, Headquarters Battalion, and Cpl. Logan Winterstein and Sgt. Rafael Fernandez, special intelligence system administrators, G-6 Communications and Information Systems, Headquarters Battalion are honored during the 15th Banque





Tap, rack, bang: Armorers maintain weapons' function

The old adage, "Every Marine is a Rifleman," is the core of every Marine's warrior ethos. Once a year, Marines requalify with the service rifle.

The Marines responsible for maintaining these weapons are small arms repairers and technicians, known to most as armorers.

Armorers assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, California, are responsible for securing, issuing and maintaining gear and weapons for HHS Marines. They are responsible for every weapon in their armory and must maintain accountability of those weapons at all times.

"Marines are issued weapons cards that correspond with a weapon's serial number," said Sgt. Joseph Patterson, the noncommissioned officer in charge of the HHS armory. "You turn in the card to draw a weapon for a range or duty."

In addition to normal duties as an armorer, HHS is tasked to select one armorer to serve as the onsite armorer at the Carlos Hathcock Range Complex at MCAS Miramar.

At the range, the armor-

er ensures all shooters have a functioning weapon and scope and is the only person that can drop a Marine from the range due to a serious weapon malfunction.

Shooters learn an immediate action drill, a method used to quickly repair several malfunctions that occur on the firing line. The breakdown of the immediate action drill involves tapping the magazine, racking the charging handle to the rear, sending the bolt back to its original position and attempting to resume fire. Applying the "tap, rack, bang" technique while on the firing line allows shooters to clear a stoppage as it occurs.

"We teach shooters to use a method called immediate action for most malfunctions," said Lance Cpl. Anthony Bartelmie, the Hathcock Range armorer. "If they are unable to fix the problem, then it is my responsibility to take a look at the weapon."

The HHS armory contains M16A4 service rifles, M4A1 service rifles and M9 service pistols, which the squadron uses for ranges and personnel serving duty under arms. The armorers perform required mainte-



LANCE CPL. LIAH KITCHEN

Lance Cpl. Anthony Bartelmie, the Hathcock Range armorer, examines a possible weapon malfunction, the Carlos Hathcock Range Complex at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif., March 1. As the range armorer, Bartelmie is responsible for assisting with weapons malfunctions while Marines are on the range.

nance on these weapons to ensure they meet serviceability standards and are ready for issue.

Maintaining serviceability requires an immense knowledge of each weapon system and the ability to diagnose potential problems.

"Making sure every weapon we issue is serviceable is one of our most important responsibilities," said Bartelmie. "Marines depend on us to do our job so they can go out and do their job."

Becoming a small arms repairer and technician requires Marines to attend a three-month long Small Arms Repairer Course located at Fort Lee, Virginia. At the course, Marines learn the necessary skills to completely disassemble and repair weapons. "We are directly respon-

sible for every small arms

weapon in the Marine Corps," said Patterson.

According to Bartelmie, the knowledge and certifications he has as an armorer can often be applied to employment in the civilian sector.

"The skills I possess transfer to becoming a gunsmith or an armorer at a recreational gun range," said Bartelmie. "I enjoy the hands-on aspect of this job. It's interesting to see how a

weapon comes together to fire correctly."

According to Patterson, armorers are directly responsible for every Marine's ability to train with a rifle and qualify in marksmanship.

Gunnery Sgt. Carlos Hathcock, the founder of the Marine Corps Scout Sniper Program once said, "The most deadly thing on a battlefield is one wellaimed shot."







LANCE CPL. LIAH KITCHEN



LANCE CPL. BROOKE DEITERS

LANCE CPL. ARIANA ACOSTA

Staff Sgt. Robert Houser competes in the 2017 Marine Corps Trials Archery Competition aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., Monday. Houser is a member of the 2017 Marine Corps Trials Wounded Warrior Battalion-West Team.

Marines with the Provost Marshal's Office aboard Marine Corps Base Butler, participate in Oleoresin Capsaicin spray training on Camp Foster, in Okinawa, Japan, Wednesday. The OC training helps prepare Marines for situations where they may be contaminated by the spray and need to continue to function and provide security.



CPL. HANNAH PERKINS

Military Working Dog Sgt. Linda, a patrol explosion detection dog with the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit, rests after a long day of kicking tail and barking names in a heloborn raid conducted by the Battalion Landing Team during Realistic Urban Training, aboard the Combat Center, Sunday.



LANCE CPL. RAUL TORRES

Marines walk into a gas chamber at Camp Lejeune, N.C., Tuesday. 2nd Supply Battalion conducted gas chamber training to ensure that Marines are capable of defending themselves in case of a chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear attack.



A U.S. Marine assigned to Black Sea Rotational Force fires during a live-fire range aboard the French ship Mistral in the Mediterranean Sea, March 5, as part of the Exercise Joanne d'Arc. U.S. Marines jointly conducted a live-fire range with French Marines to enhance core infantry skills, broaden knowledge of different weapons systems and to develop camaraderie between the NATO partners.





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Plush toys aid PMO in domestic violence calls

STORY AND PHOTO BY CPL. THOMAS MUDD

hanks to an organization that works with survivors of domestic violence, the Combat Center Provost Marshal's Office is now equipped with an ample supply of stuffed animals and plush toys to assist with calls wherein children are present.

Officer Justin Gardiner, PMO reached out to representatives from a non-profit organization, Kadyn's Place, to receive more tools to use during domestic violence calls. The represntatives visited the installation Tuesday, to deliver 36 stuffed animals.

"We were happy to get these stuffed animals to help the children who are associated with these types of crimes," said Kim Howell, director of business operations, Kadyn's Place. "This is the first amount of toys we plan on donating to this base."

According to its website, Kadyn's

Place works to bridge the gap between the military and civilian resources that exist for anyone who is a victim of domestic violence. The stuffed animals help comfort the children and distract them from the stressful situation that may be happening within their families.

'We don't know what types of calls we will receive or when," said Officer Gilbert Chavez, PMO. "However, as long as we have [these stuffed animals] as part of the gear that we bring along with us, we will be better prepared."

According to Chaves, Gardiner's idea stemmed from a concept he uses. He brought the idea up to his superiors and laid the ground work to find an organization to help them get the resources to better help the people aboard the base.

We hope that by bringing these toys to the officers here, the children will remember that officers and Marines are there to help them," Howell said.



Stuffed animals and plush toys are donated to the Provost Marshal's Office for use during domestic violence calls with children in the household at building 1407 aboard the Combat Center, Tuesday. Kadyn's Place is a non-profit organization that works to bridge the gap between military and civilian organizations that as

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WeekINPhotos

PHOTO BY LANCE CPL. NATHAN MCALLISTER



Pfc. Faith Swoverland, a landing support Marine with Combat Logistics Battalion 15, Transportation Support Detachment attached to the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit, provides security during a convoy halt during Realistic Urban Training aboard the Combat Center, Monday.

Marines with Transportation Support Detachment, Combat Logistics Battalion-15 attached to the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit provide security for simulated wounded Marines during Realistic Urban Training aboard the Combat Center, Monday.





Marines and sailors with Transportation Support Detachment, Combat Logistics Battalion 15 transport simulated injured Marines during unblocked ambush drills during Realistic Urban Training aboard the Combat Center, Monday. The Marines used the convoy training to gain proficiency with gunnery, bounding and casualty evacuation procedures for their upcoming deployment later this year.



Marines with Transportation Support Detachment, **Combat Logistics Battalion** 15 attached to the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit load ammunition boxes in preparation of a live-fire range during Realistic Urban Training the Combat Center, Monday.



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March 17, 2017

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Vol. 61 B



Riders race each other during the Motocross Jam Fest, at 13th and Dunham aboard the Combat Center, Saturday. Marine Corps Community Services hosts the Motocross Jam Fest annually to provide Combat Center patrons with the opportunity to enjoy time out with their family and friends.

Annual Motocross Jam Fest zooms through Combat Center

STORY AND PHOTOS BY LANCE CPL. NATALIA CUEVAS

ombat Center patrons watched in amazement as semi-pro motocross riders performed amazing feats of dirt bike aerobatics during the Motocross Jam Fest at 13th and Dunham, Saturday.

The Motocross Jam Fest, hosted by Marine Corps Community Services, consisted of 12 riders and three freestyle racers to include Destin Cantrell, Cal Vallone and Jimmy Fitzpatrick. All riders participated in "Heat 1" and six participated in "Heat 2," racing against each other through a manmade obstacle course consisting of dirt ramps of varying heights. "This is a great opportunity to get our Marines and families out here to see an action-filled event," said Jill Weber, special events manager, MCCS. "They don't have much to do in Twentynine Palms, [Calif.,] so here at MCCS we try to get them to enjoy their time as much as possible."



stunts, such as the Lazy Boy, the Double Grab and the Hands Free Backflip. Throughout the event, food, drinks and merchandise were available for purchase courtesy of unit vendors.

"My favorite part is having the opportunity to bring my kids out to a wonderful event," said Staff Sgt. Skyler Core, student, Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School.

The event concluded when all 12 riders bok to the course to complete 20 laps. Each rider faced the challenges of the obstacle course paired with their own exhaustion. In the end, only John Jelderda, Dennis Stapleton and Jeremy McCool emerged victorious.

The event began with Heat 1, which consisted of the riders maneuver-



Jumping specialist Jimmy Fitzpatrick performs stunts during the Motocross Jam Fest, at 13th and Dunham aboard Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Saturday.

ing through four rounds, three at a race. With the use of ramps, the ridtime. Afterward Cantrell, Vallone and Fitzpatrick, participated in the freestyle

ers launched themselves more than 45 feet into the air and performed various

After the show, the riders sat down to sign autographs and to answer spectators' questions. They also took pictures with their young fans and their more mature audience members.

"I think this is an awesome opportunity for the little kids to see the freestyle racers," Stapleton said. "Events like this are where young boys and girls become inspired. It's a great way for them to make dreams."



Three riders race against each other in the second race during the Motocross Jam Fest at 13th and Dunham aboard the Combat Center, Saturday.



The Master of Ceremonies congratulates the winners of the Motocross Jam Fest, at 13th and Dunham aboard the Combat Center, Saturday.



The racers sign autographs after the Motocross Jam Fest, at 13th and Dunham aboard the Combat Center, Saturday.



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tured to provide quality training while still permitting a fun environment and memorable experience for participants. Transportation, berthing and meals are provided.

We are looking for kids ages 9-12 to be youth participants and teens ages 13-17 to serve as Junior Staff Mentors (ISM). Active Duty and family members ages 18 and up as Staff Mentors.

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Friday, March 17

5:30 p.m. - The LEGO Batman Movie, PG 8:00 p.m. - The Space Between Us, PG-13 11:00 p.m. – John Wick: Chapter 2, R

Saturday, March 18

11:00 a.m. - The LEGO Batman Movie, PG 1:30 p.m. – A Dog's Purpose, PG 4:00 p.m. - The Space Between Us, PG-13 6:30 p.m. – Resident Evil: The Final Chapter, R 9:00 p.m. - Rings, PG-13 are welcome to volunteer 11:30 p.m. - John Wick: Chapter 2, R

Sunday, March 19

volunteering as a men- 12:00 p.m. - A Dog's Purpose, PG 2:10 p.m. – The Space Between Us, PG-13 5:00 p.m. - The Great Wall (3-D), PG-13 7:30 p.m. - Fist Fight, R

Monday, March 20

6:30 p.m. - John Wick Chapter 2, R

Tuesday, March 21

6:30 p.m. – Great Wall (3-D), PG-13

Wednesday, March 22

5:00 p.m. - The LEGO Batman Movie, PG 7:20 p.m. - Fist Fight, R

Thursday, March 23

5:00 p.m. – A Dog's Purpose, PG

7:10 p.m. - Resident Evil: The Final Chapter, R

Friday, March 24

6:00 p.m. - The Space Between Us, PG-13

9:00 p.m. - The Great Wall, PG-13

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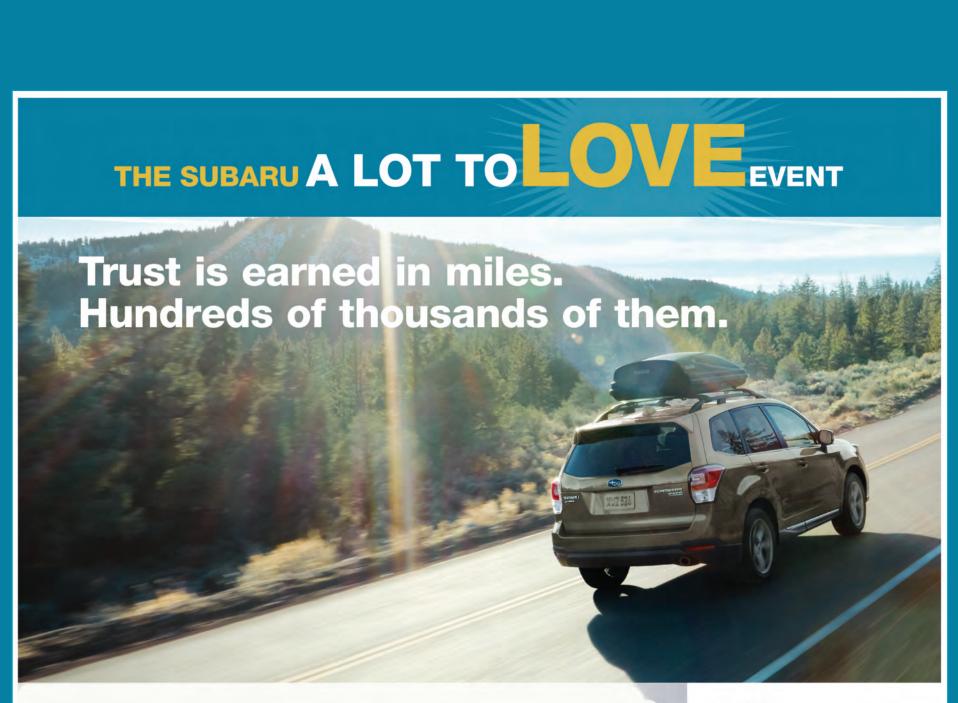
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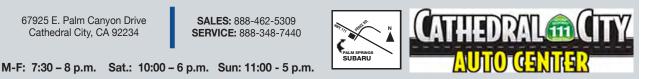
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