May 19, 2017

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Capt. Andrew Kim, intelligence officer, Marine Corps Tactics and Operations Group, prepares to receive a Silver Star Medal from Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. Glenn M. Walters at Sunset Cinema aboard the Combat Center, Thursday. Kim's Bronze Star Medal was upgraded to a Silver Star Medal, the third-highest personal decoration for valor in combat, through an initiative from the Department of Defense to review valor

ACMC presents Silver **Star to MCTOG Marine**

STORY AND PHOTOS BY LANCE CPL. NATALIA CUEVAS

of the Marine Corps, Gen. Glenn M. Walters, Marine Corps Tactics and Operations Group, during Kim's award presentation at Sunset Cinema, Thursday.

Through an initiative from the Department of Defense, the Department of the Navy has reviewed valor awards presented to sailors and Marines for actions after Sept. 11, 2001.

"It is my privilege and honor to be here," Walters said. "There's no other place I'd rather be

Assistant Commandant than here to present this award to Capt. Kim."

Kim initially received presented the Silver Star a Bronze Star Medal for Medal to Capt. Andrew actions performed on Kim, intelligence officer, August 6, 2003, while serving as a counterintelligence specialist with Task Force Scorpion, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

> "When reviewing more than 1400 valor awards this one rose to the top to be elevated," Walter said. "It is a small group of people in more than 15 years of conflict

> > See Silver Star A6



Capt. Andrew Kim, intelligence officer, Marine Corps Tactics and Operations Group, thanks his family after receiving the Silver Star Medal at Sunset Cinema aboard the Combat Center, Thursday.

Combat Center conducts active shooter exercise

STORY AND PHOTOS BY CPL. THOMAS MUDD

The Combat Center conducted an Active Shooter Full Scale Exercise at Robert E. Bush Naval Hospital, Tuesday.

The exercise allowed for the naval hospital, Provost Marshals Office, Fire Department and Naval Criminal Investigative Service to practice and assess their ability to detect, identify and respond to an active shooter incident,



A simulated active shooter runs down a hall way during an Active Shooter Full Scale Exercise at Robert E. Bush Naval Hospital, aboard the Combat Center, Tuesday. The exercise allowed for the naval hospital, Provost Marshals Office, Fire Department and Naval Criminal Investigative Service to practice and assess their ability to detect, identify and respond to an active shooter incident, validating emergency response procedures.

validating emergency response procedures.

"We conduct an Active shooter exercise once a year," said Michael Burns, force protection Supervisor, G-7, Mission Assurance. "This exercise gives us the ability to test how well each agency aboard the base is able to react

See Exercise A6



Officers from the Provost Marshal's Office check rooms of Robert E. Bush Naval Hospital during an Active Shooter Full Scale Exercise aboard the Combat Center, Tuesday.

Inside the Observation Post

Volume 61, Issue 19

	•
A2	Combat Center History
A3	What I've Learned
A4	County Board Base Tour
A5	MCCES Mentorship
B1	. We Salute You Celebration
B4	Archery Range Opening



Combat Center holds We Salute You Fest

See page B1

Marine Corps' Top Shot

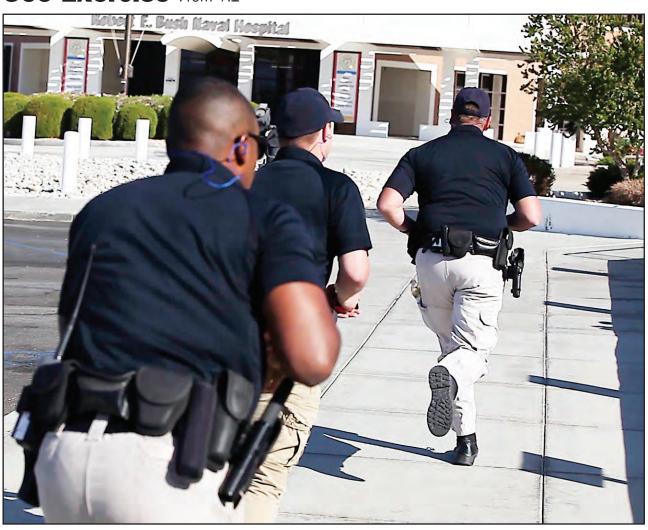
Every week, thousands of fans cast their votes for the best photograph posted on the Corps' Facebook page. This week's top shot comes from Gunnery Sgt. Ezekiel Kitandwe.



A U.S. Reconnaissance Marine jumps out of a CH-47 Chinook during helo-casting training operations, as part of the Reconnaissance Team Leader Course held at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, April 24. The purpose of the Reconnaissance Team Leader Course is to provide the students with the required knowledge and skills needed to perform the duties of a Reconnaissance Team Leader. This course emphasizes planning, briefing and leading teams in patrolling, ground reconnaissance, and amphibious operations.

A6 May 19, 2017 OBSERVATION POST

See Exercise From A1



Officers from the Provost Marshal's Office respond to gun fire in the Robert E. Bush Naval Hospital Twentynine Palms during an Active Shooter Exercise aboard the Combat Center, Tuesday.

to a mass casualty situation like an active shooter."

The exercise consisted of a simulated active shooter storming through the hospital, firing multiple simulated weapons while hospital personnel exercised their run, hide, fight procedures. During this time members of the Provost Marshal's Office entered and cleared the building until they found the active shooter. The officers used simulated weapons to neutralize the shooter and clear the rest of the building.

The exercise tested the capabilities of multiple installation entities including members of the Criminal Investigation Department and NCIS, who conducted a subsequent investigation of the notional crime scene, the Combat Center Fire Department, who treated and transported simulated casualties, and Adult Medical Care Clinic, which exercised the a continuity

of operations plan by providing an alternate location for simulated casualties to be triaged and treated.

"We were able to handle the situation well and were able to practice our SOPs and ensure that we could handle internal situations if the main hospital would come under attack in a situation like this," said Keith Johnson, emergency management specialist, Naval Hospital Twentynine Palms.

Additionally, Combat Center officials were able to exercise and evaluate standard operating procedures with local first responders.

"The exercise went well," Burns said. "We were able to meet all of our training objectives and test all the different agencies' SOPs. We found that some forms of our internal communications need to be practiced, however the different agencies did all they were supposed to do and worked well with each other."

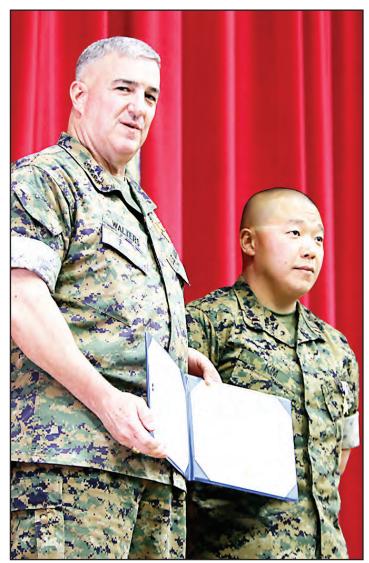
See Silver Star From A1

who will share the company of Capt. Kim."

Kim, a sergeant at the time, was conducting operations with his team chief, a linguist, and a source, when they were approached by an Iraqi man who suddenly produced a pistol and shot the team chief. Kim immediately returned fire, killing the man.

He was then hit several times by small arms fire from the rear. Disregarding his own wounds, Kim maneuvered to his fallen team chief, helped him into a vehicle and began egressing from the kill zone. Five Iraqi aggressors in a white pickup truck pursued him, subjecting his vehicle to intense volleys of enemy fire. Kim linked up with a light armored reconnaissance security element and ordered a deadly counterattack on the enemy.

"I'm humbled to have this award upgraded," Kim said. "I want to take this opportunity to thank all those who supported me through this time. We are all here together, to help one another, you're never alone."



Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. Glenn M. Walters awards Capt. Andrew Kim, intelligence officer, Marine Corps Tactics and Operations Group, a Silver Star Medal at Sunset Cinema aboard the Combat Center, Thursday.

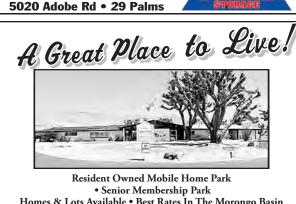
Starting Soon!

760-365-0033



Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. Glenn M. Walters addresses the audience during a Silver Star presentation at Sunset Cinema aboard the Combat Center, Thursday. Walters presented the medal to Capt. Andrew Kim, intelligence officer, Marine Corps Tactics and Operations Group.





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A2 May 19, 2017 **OBSERVATION POST**



Reprinted from the Observation Post May 16, 1961

Air Field Completed; Prop-Jet Landing OK

With the landing of the Marine Corps' new prop-jet propelled aerial tanker, the GV-1 Hercules on the main landing strip here marked the completion of the rehabilitation of that strip by "D" Company, 7th Engineer Battalion.

The overall landing strip rehabilitation and training project is now 95% complete according to captain G.B. Cornwall, Company Commander at "D" Company who has directed the dual purpose exercise for the past two months.

The main runway, now 5,000 feet long and 200 feet wide, is entirely complete down to the white line which runs one foot wide for the entire length. Yet to be completed are four runway crossover lanes, some grading and drainage, and an asphalt cover of the main strip shoulders and on an area extending 300 feet to each end of the main

A total of 28,000 gallons of asphalt have been used thus far on the runway and slightly over one million square feet of

pierced steel planking, according to Captain Cornwall. He also said the personnel from the Company's parent organization, the 7th Engineer Battalion from Camp Pendleton, have returned to their unit two weeks ahead of schedule.

Captain Cornwall added that the main strip has been completed mainly due to the outstanding cooperation from the Military Police who assisted in directing traffic during the hauling phase of the project; the contribution of fork

lifts from various Force Troops Units; and the many working parties supplied by the 1st Field Artillery Group. Without the aid of these people and numerous others the early completion date could never have been realized, said the Captain.

"No better training value than that received during this project is available," added Captain Cornwall.

"The results of this type training are immediately seen and are long lasting."

The remaining 5% of the landings and takeoffs.

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work is expected to be done by the original deadline date of May 26. Included in this, yet separate from the rehabilitation is a project undertaken by the engineers in cooperation with Marine Air Group-36 from El Toro. This will involve a soil stabilization project on the west taxiway of the landing trip.

This is being done in connection with Phase IIII of Operation Greenlight for the purpose of minimizing dust which occurs during helicopter

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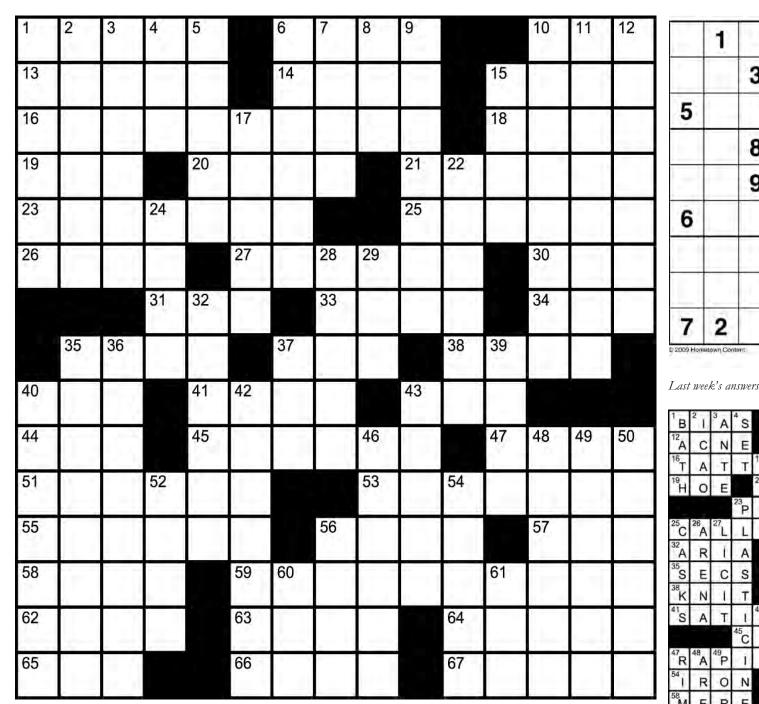
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D

CROSSWORD SUDOKU



Across

- 1. Coffee order
- 6. Bunch
- 10. Bon ___ (witticism)
- 13. Carry away, in a way 14. Strengthen, with "up"
- 15. Quite 16. Radiation of power
- from space
- 18. A chorus line
- 19. Appropriate
- 20. Attempt 21. One who kicks the
- football 23. Deserved
- 25. To write a poem
- 26. Egg on 27. Red shade
- 30. "Harper Valley ____"
- 31. "A rat!"
- 33. Length x width, for a rectangle

Public Affairs Chief - Cpl. Medina Ayala-Lo

34. Basic monetary unit of Romania

- 35. Antares, for one 37. Conk out
- 40. Boar's mate
- way!")
- 43. ___ green

- 47. Alpine transport

- 55. Deletes
- 56. Delight
- 58. Clue
- Prize physicist

- 38. Cows and sows
- 41. "Not on ___!" ("No
- 44. "Much ___ About
- Nothing"
- 45. Beethoven's
- "Moonlight ____'
- (hyph.)
- 51. A telegraph key
- 53. 2, to 1/2
- 57. "I ____ you one"
- 59. Mentally _
- 62. Carve in stone 63. Fit
- 64. Wolfgang ____, Nobel
- 17. To make sure 22. Anxiety 24. "I had no ___!"

Lance Cpl. Natalia Cuevas

11. Groups of eight

15. Beach, basically

65. "Malcolm X" director

67. Wrote or said a word

66. Boris Godunov, for

1. Picking up camp

5. III tempered mutt

3. Leader Fidel

6. Didn't shuffle

7. Checked item

8. "___ calls?"

10. Numerous

12. Henry David

9. Scorn

2. One who runs away

4. Store convenience, for

out

Down

short

- 28. Indian condiment with cucumber or yogurt
- 32. Desk item
- rocks
- equal to two pennies

- 49. Too
- 52. Approach
- 56. Apple variety

- 29. Anger
- 35. Mineral in alkali rich
- 36. Bronze coin of UK

- in Heav'n": Milton 40. Small bag
- 46. Cultivator

- 50. Modify again

- 60. Consumes
- 61. 40 winks

S

0

- 37. Animal house 39. "Unimaginable as ____
- 42. Kind of belt 43. Control ____
- 48. Irish accent
- 54. Vice presidents infor-

all military personnel.

OBSERVATION POST Commanding General - Brig. Gen. William F. Mullen III Correspondents - Sgt. Connor Hancock Installation Sgt. Maj. - Sgt. Maj. Michael Hendges Cpl. Thomas Mudd Public Affairs Officer - 1st Lt. Karen Holliday Cpl. Julio McGraw Deputy Public Affairs Officer - Ms. Lauren Kurkimilis Lance Cpl. Christian Lopez

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- 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
- Teazer's Bar & Grill Nightclub, 14269
- Sam's Smoke Shop, 16520 West Main Street,
- Seventh Street, Victorville • Angelo's Kars, 222 & 226 S. Coast

Diego

- Highway, Oceanside • Denny's Parking Lot, 692 E Street, Chula
- Burger King & McDonald's, 28th Street (parking lots), San Diego • Club Mustang, 2200 University Avenue, San
- Club San Diego, 3955 4th Avenue, San Diego
- Get It On Shoppe, San Diego · Main Street Motel, 3494 Main Street, San
- 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

OBSERVATION POST May 19, 2017 A3

WHAT I'VE LEARNED

Annalisa Camden, N.J. Lance Corporal, tactical air defense controller, Bearmat, HQBN

REISSMAN

I LOVE THAT I CHOSE THE MARINE CORPS; SO FAR I REALLY HAVEN'T FOUND ANYTHING I DON'T LIKE ABOUT IT. MY FAVORITE PART ABOUT THE MARINE CORPS IS THE DIVERSITY. BEFORE THE CORPS I NEVER THOUGHT I WOULD MEET SO MANY DIFFERENT PEOPLE WHO I COULD ACTUALLY BECOME FRIENDS WITH.

>I'm from Camden, NJ. I was raised by my mom Tracy Flythe and my dad Holger Reissmann, up until high school. After my parents got divorced just as I started high school, I was raised by my father.

>I always wanted to join the Marine Corps because I know that a lot of people can't because they don't meet the physical requirement, I just wanted to prove that I can succeed in the world's toughest military branch.

> joined the Marine Corps in May 2015. I decided to go open contract so that I could get shipped out as soon as possible. I was hoping to get either intelligence or air crew. I would have chosen intel because I like analyzing and figuring things out and air crew because I love flying and water.

> love that I chose the Marine Corps; so far I really haven't found anything I don't like about it. My favorite part about the Marine Corps is the diversity. Before the Corps I never thought I would meet so many different people who I could actually become friends with.

> l love hosting barbecues. My friends and I have barbecues at least once every week. Although I have a specific group of friends I usually hang out with, anyone is welcome to join us.

> also love swimming; I could do laps in the pool for hours. I started swimming when I was five and joined the swim team when I was 10. I left when I got to high school because I wanted to concentrate on getting good grades.

>At the end of the day I especially love spending time with my friends. It doesn't matter if we are having a barbecue or swimming or just hanging out, I just love spending time with them.

>When the time comes for me to re-enlist then I'll decide what to do, but right now I'm more than likely going to reenlist.

>When I get out of the Corps I want to go to college to study psychology, law or medicine. I would like to become a psychologist to help people with mental problems such as post-traumatic stress disorder or people who just need someone to talk to. I would like to become a family lawyer so that if a couple gets divorced I can ensure the children end up in the place that is best for them. I would like to become a doctor because it's a way to help people. I want to do one of these things because helping others is important to me.

>The advice I would give to someone is to always be there for someone who needs to be listened to, you never know when someone just needs to talk. Never give up. It's cheesy but it's also how I've reached a lot of my goals. I never judge a person based on the first few times we meet because they always end up surprising me.

>To me the details don't always matter. Yes in the Marine Corps a lot of the time the details matter but sometimes what's more important is the big



picture.

>If I had someone that I would model myself after then it would be my dad. In my eyes he is perfect in basically everything. He is amazing at sports and he is also incredibly smart, he never fails at anything. When I was

in the swim team he would always push me beyond my limits, I think that's why I'm always trying to prove that I can do anything. He is the one who shaped me to be who I am, I can't put into words just how much I love and look up to him.

Interviewed and photographed by Lance Cpl. Natalia Cuevas



5/19/17 - 5/25/17

Alien Covenant (R) 12:00 3:00 6:00 9:00

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3D 9:00 **Guardians of the** Galaxy Vol. 2 (PG13)

2D 12:00 3:00 6:00 3D 9:00

Snatched (R)

12:00 3:00 6:00 9:00





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Combat Center hosts San Bernardino Board of Supervisors

AYALA-LO

G-5 Government and External Affairs hosted the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors for a tour of the Combat Center, May 12.

The function of the County Board of Supervisors is to oversee the operations of the government in their county. San Bernardino is the largest county in the United States with a population of more than 2 million people and contains five military installations, to include the Combat Center.

"What Marines take for granted, what we understand in terms of how the Marine Corps works, the rest of the United States doesn't," said Lt. Col. Jason Roach, operations officer, Tactical Training Exercise Control Group. "Working aboard [the Combat Center] I'm also a member of this community so these are my neighbors. Having them out here helps them understand why we operate the way we do."

Of the five San Bernardino County Supervisors, Chairman Robert Lovingood, 1st District Supervisor and Chairman James Ramos, 3rd District Supervisor, were in attendance along with several members of their staff. The first stop on the tour was Range 400, where supervisors and staff were able to observe Marines training and learn more about how the expansive lands on which we train are used to make our fighting force more effective.

"The installations in our county are critically important to our economy and also to the protection of our nation," Lovingood said. "Seeing the service members who keep this country safe conducting live was incredible."

Following Range 400, the supervisors and staff were taken to the installation's Recycling Facility, where they gained insight to the Combat Center's commitment to conser-

vation and resourcefulness. The next stop on the tour was the Frontline Restaurant where visitors viewed a video highlighting the Combat Center's training capabilities and enjoyed lunch with Combat Center Commanding General, Brig. Gen. William F. Mullen III.

"What we do has an impact on the rest of the community," Roach said. "I think if we can all come to a common understanding, like the importance of the base, we're probably going to be much closer aligned in our viewpoints."

The tour concluded with a visit to the Battle Simulation Center. There, participants learned about the capabilities of the convoy simulator and its usefulness in preparing units for what they may face in a deployed environment.

"I'm walking away today with confidence in our national security and the relationships we maintain worldwide," Lovingood said. "It's not only America we're protecting, we're protecting our allies and we're given a world class training center to do that in. I think the more we let the citizens know what's being provided for their own protection, the more it strengthens the belief and recognition of the relationship the community and the installation shares."



Josi Kenline, Chief of Staff for Chairman Robert Lovingood, 1st District Supervisor, operates a simulated High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle at the Battle Simulation Center, during a tour of the Combat Center, for the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors, May 12. The tour was hosted by G-5 Government and External Affairs.



Charles Jones, work leader, Recycling Facility, explains the functions of the Recycling Facility to the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors during a tour of the Combat Center, May 12. The tour was hosted by G-5 Government and External Affairs.



CPL. MEDINA AYALA-LO

Lt. Col. Jason Roach, operations officer, Tactical Training and Exercise Control Group, briefs the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors on the training that occurs aboard the Combat Center, May 12. The tour was hosted by G-5 Government and External Affairs.



CPL. MEDINA AYALA-LO

Combat Center Commanding General, Brig. Gen. William F. Mullen III enjoys lunch with Chairman Robert Lovingood, 1st District Supervisor and Chairman James Ramos, 3rd District Supervisor, during a tour of the Combat Center, for the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors, May 12. The tour was hosted by G-5 Government and External Affairs.

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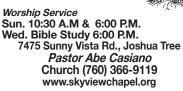
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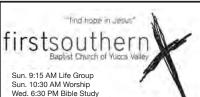
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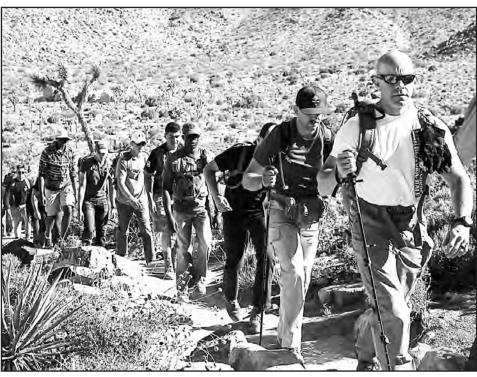
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OBSERVATION POST MAY 19, 2017 A5

MCCES Mentorship Program Steps-off

Photos by Cpl. Dave Flores

1st Sgt. Ryan Cantrell, Company B First Sergeant, Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School, leads the Marines on a hike in the Round Table Mentorship Program up Ryan Mountain in Joshua Tree National Park, Calif., May 12. Round Table is a mentorship program created by MCCES to break down walls between leadership and junior Marines by encouraging open dialogue and develop professional relationships across the ranks.





1st Sgt. Ryan Cantrell, Company B First Sergeant, Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School, speaks to Marines in the Round Table Mentorship Program on top of Ryan Mountain in Joshua Tree National Park, Calif., May 12. Round Table is a mentorship program created by MCCES to break down walls between leadership and junior Marines by encouraging open dialogue and develop professional relationships across the ranks.

Where

MBTA

take

you?

Yucca

Valley

Joshua

Tree

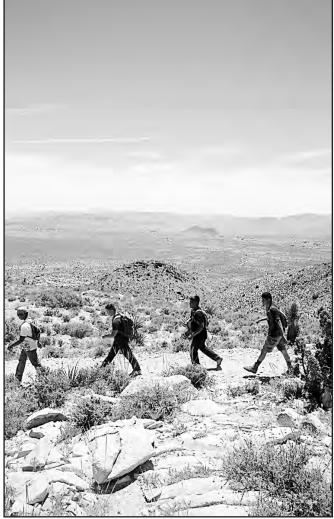
CMC

29 Palms

Marine

Base

can



Marines in the Round Table Mentorship Program hike back down Ryan Mountain in Joshua Tree National Park, Calif. May 12. Round Table is a mentorship program created by MCCES to break down walls between leadership and junior Marines by encouraging open dialogue and develop professional relationships across the ranks.

Relax And Let Us Get You Where You Want To Go!



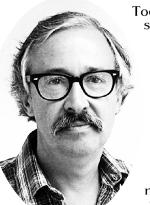
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It has been 1 year, 12 months, 365 days, 8760 hours, 525,600 minutes, or 31,536,000 seconds rather since you have left us. Your photography, your trains, and your classical music is still here. *You* are still here, and as you know, we still speak.

Today our hearts are heavy because we still feel the emptiness. From the



JOHN EDWARD WHITE JULY 13, 1933

Today our hearts are heavy because we still feel the emptiness. From the handwritten notes reminding us to do our everyday menial tasks, to the hugs at the end of a long day, and knowing that when we came home you'd be there. And after you left we found your piece. Not sure it is to say that you had known what was to come, or simply that you had appreciated what had been;

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having felt the wonderful and intimate love of a woman or the wonderful feeling of enjoying a close friend.

Time does go on, but it does not heal everything. Forever in our hearts, Love your family.

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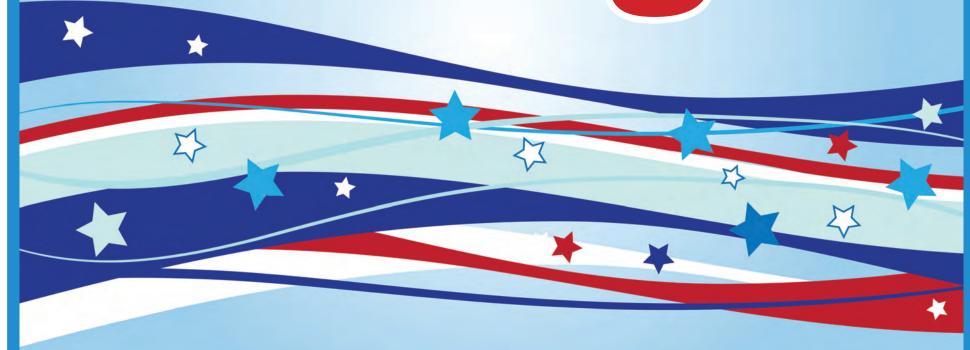


A8 May 19, 2017 OBSERVATION POST

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May 19, 2017 Since 1957 Vol. 61 E

Combat Center celebrates * * * * * * * *

WE SALUTE YOU FEST

STORY BY LANCE CPL. NATALIA CUEVAS PHOTOS BY LANCE CPL. BRIANA ASHLEY

Marine Corps Community Services hosted the annual We Salute You Fest, at Victory Field aboard the Combat Center Saturday to show their appreciation for the hardworking service-members who protect this country.

The day kicked off with a car show featuring cars, trucks and motorcycles of all makes and models. Those in attendance were able vote for their favorite vehicles in each category.

The first place winners in the cars, trucks and bikes categories were Bob Moseley Austin Davis, and Vince Vazquez respectively.

"It's nice to get out of the barracks and learn about the activities offered on base," said Pvt. Angel Ortiz, student, Marine Corps Communication-Electronic School. "I love cars so it's great to be able to come out here and see all of the different vehicles displayed."

Throughout the day kids enjoyed inflatable houses, face painting, a rock climbing wall and games. Various food and beverages were provided for the families while stands were maned by sponsors and volunteers.

Towards the end, Gary Sinise and the Lt. Dan Band made an appearance to spread honor, gratitude and rock and roll to Combat Center patrons.

"Today is a great opportunity to say thank you and give a little something back to our community for everything that they do for us," said Jill Weber, marketing special events manager, MCCS. "This helps boost morale among our Marines, sailors, and their families and it helps us show them how much we appreciate them."





Combat Center children learn from a Marine with Explosive Ordnance Disposal about their EOD observation robots during the annual We Salute You Fest at Victory Field aboard the Combat Center, Saturday. Marine Corps Community Services hosts the event to show their appreciation for all the hard working service members who protect this country.





Staff Sgt. Robert Bouchard, technician, Explosive Ordinance Disposal, helps his daughter Tenley, 3, hold an unarmed RPG during the annual We Salute You Fest at Victory Field aboard the Combat Center, Saturday.







Staff Sgt. Robert Bouchard, technician, Explosive Ordinance Disposal, helps his daughter Tenley, 3, hold an unarmed RPG during the annual We Salute You Fest at Victory Field aboard the Combat Center, Saturday.





THE LT. DAN BAND PERFORMS DURING THE ANNUAL WE SALUTE YOU FEST AT VICTORY FIELD ABOARD THE COMBAT CENTER, SATURDAY. MARINE CORPS COMMUNITY SERVICES HOSTS THE EVENT TO SHOW THEIR APPRECIATION FOR ALL THE HARD WORKING SERVICE MEMBERS WHO PROTECT THIS COUNTRY.



B2 May 19, 2017 OBSERVATION POST



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11:00 p.m. — Unforgettable, R

Sunset Cinema

11:00 p.m. — Ghost in the Shell,

12:00 p.m. — The Boss Baby, PG

2:30 p.m. — Smurfs: The Lost

5:00 p.m. — Going In Style,

8:00 p.m. — The Fate of The

11:30 p.m. - The Zookeeper's

12:00 p.m. — Ghost in the Shell,

2:30 p.m. — Smurfs: The Lost

5:00 p.m. — The Promise, PG-13

6:30 p.m. — The Promise, PG-13

5:00 p.m. — Going In Style,

7:30 p.m. — The Zookeeper's Wife,

5:00 p.m. — The Boss Baby, PG

7:30 p.m. — Ghost in the Shell,

5:30 p.m. — The Promise, PG-13

8:30 p.m. — How To Be A Latin

8:00 p.m. — Unforgettable, R

6:30 p.m. — Unforgettable, R

Friday - May 19

Saturday - May 20

Village (3-D), PG

Furious, PG-13

Sunday - May 21

Monday - May 22

Tuesday - May 23

Wednesday - May 24

Thursday - May 25

Friday - May 26

Lover, PG-13

Wife, PG-13

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B4 May 19, 2017

Observation Post

Combat Center opens Archery Range

STORY AND PHOTOS BY CPL. THOMAS MUDD

The Combat Center celebrated the opening of Range 3A, a new archery range located at the Marksmanship Training Unit, May 11.

Members of the Combat Center community expressed the desire to have a range capable of supporting recreational archery. This was done sothrough the installation's newly-implemented Facebook group, Make the Stumps Better The Facebook group is an initiative proliferated by Combat Center Commanding General, Brig. Gen. William F. Mullen III, in order to solicit opinions and concerns from Combat Center patrons and determine actionable change from leadership.

"At first I wasn't certain how we would accomplish creating an archery range,' said Gunnery Sgt. Jaren Wright, staff noncommissioned officer in charge, MTU. "We decided to use Range 3A as the Archery Range over the weekends. As long as the Marines who use the range keep it clean and

properly check the range in and out, we may be able to open it to more than just the Marines in the future."

The range is open on Saturdays and Sundays to active duty and retired Marines. Those who wish to use the range must go to Bearmat, the installation's range control authority that is located in building 1559, and check out the key to the range and target container. Marines can go at any time during the day to get the keys however, they may only occupy the range during daylight hours. Marines who wish to use the range will have access to the approximately 30 targets was well as hay bales while utilizing the range.

"The members of RTAMS, Range Safety and the MTU all came together to help make this happen for the Marines," said Andres Fuentes, installation range control officer, G-3, Operations and Training. "The hope of this range is to give the Marines another activity they can do over the weekends."

Combat Center leadership learn about the different parts of

a bow and arrow from Creg McDonald, liaison to Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command, Joint Improvised

Threat Defeat Organization, during the opening of the



Combat Center Commanding General, Brig. Gen. William F. Mullen III aims an arrow during the opening of the Combat Center's new archery range on Range 3A aboard the Combat Center, May 11. The idea was proposed through the installation's newly-implemented Facebook group, Make the Stumps Better, which is an initiative proliferated by Mullen, in order to solicit opinions and concerns from Combat Center patrons and determine actionable change from leadership.



Creg McDonald, liaison to Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command, Joint Improvised Threat Defeat Organization, fires the ceremonial first shot at the opening of the archery range on Range 3A at the installation rifle range aboard the Combat Center, May 11.



Combat Center Commanding General, Brig. Gen. William F. Mullen III listens to Andres Fuentes, installation range control officer, G-3, Operations and Training, explain the rules and regulations of the archery range during its opening on Range 3A at the installation's rifle range aboard the Combat Center, May 11.

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