

Desert **WARRIOR**



June 07, 2012
Number 17

RIDING INTO SUMMER

MCAS YUMA OFFERS COOL TOYS TO BEAT THE HEAT



MINIMAL IS MORE
MARINE TAKES ON NEW CHALLENGE

HAZING IN THE CORPS
STATION COMMANDER PROVIDES CLARITY

THE 21 GUN SALUTE
CORPS CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS



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Where will you be June 16 at 6:30 a.m.?

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It better be at the Firehose 5K run

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TOMCATS RETURN FROM PACIFIC RIM



Photo by Petty Officer 3rd Class Daniel Barker

An AV-8B Harrier II jet assigned to Marine Attack Squadron 214, based out of MCAS Yuma in Arizona, begins a vertical descent toward the amphibious assault ship USS Boxer off the coast of Southern California. Boxer is on a training exercise preparing for a Western-Pacific deployment scheduled for early next year.

Desert WARRIOR

MCAS Yuma's Official Newspaper

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MARINES ON TV



<http://www.youtube.com/embed/3KVQuRPT3E0>

Yuma celebrates memorial day to honor past and present military members.



<http://www.marines.mil/news/pages/marinestv.aspx>

Marine speaks at college graduation and inspires young and old.

Front Page Photo



Anthony Aviles, an Arizona Adventures employee, rips some waves on one of the many vehicles, a jet ski, Arizona Adventures offers to Marines and Sailors for recreational use at Lake Martinez, Ariz., June 2.

Photo by
Lance Cpl. Zach Scanlon

Marine Attack Squadron 311
Welcome Home!



Marine Attack Squadron 211
Southern Afghanistan

Marine Attack Squadron 214
11th MEU, Pacific Rim



News to Use

MCAS YUMA ROAD CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

June 7-8 and June 18-22: The MCAS Yuma Main Gate will be closed for outbound traffic. All drivers must use the North Gate to exit the air station. Please take delays in to consideration when planning your travel on and off station, watch for construction workers and expect lowered speed limits during these dates.

Beginning June 11 until completion: Prepare for lane closures approaching the Main Gate from the south on Avenue 3E due to construction between the Main Gate and County 13th St. A full listing of road closures and detours can be found in the MCAS Yuma Weekly E-news and at www.yuma.usmc.mil.

JULY 4TH HAPPENINGS

The Military Affairs Committee of Yuma and MCAS Yuma senior leadership will recognize the MCAS Yuma Marine and Noncommissioned Officer of the Year at the Yuma Armed Forces Park on July 4th at 7:30 a.m. during a formal Independence Day Flag Raising Ceremony. The public is welcome to attend. The park is located at 281 S. Gila St. Please contact Don Foltz, the Chairman for the Yuma Military Affairs Committee, at (928)580-6008 for more information.

FIREHOSE 5K FUN RUN

Marine Corps Air Station Yuma is scheduled to host a Fire Hose 5K Fun Run at 6:30 a.m. on June 16, 2012. MCAS Yuma invites the local community to participate in the fun run. During the run fire trucks will be stationed at certain parts to spray runners with the fire hoses. All participants will receive a t-shirt, medal and certificate of appreciation. Participants for the fun run can register at www.mcsyuma.com. A registration fee of \$20 is requested for active duty Marines and \$25 for all other participants.

SUMMER YOUTH SPORTS CLINICS, CITY OF YUMA

Summer is here and what a better way to spend your summer days than trying a new sport. The coaching staffs of this summer's sports clinics are ready to teach basic fundamentals of soccer, dodgeball, basketball, football and cheerleading to ages 5 to 14 in any or all of three sessions this summer - all in the air-conditioned Yuma Civic Center. For more information, contact the Yuma Parks and Recreation center at www.yumaAZ.gov.

ARIZONA SPECIAL OLYMPICS SEEKING PARTICIPANTS, COACHES

The Yuma, Arizona Special Olympics is seeking additional youth and adults to participate in upcoming area events. Additionally, they are always looking for mentors and coaches to assist with the activities. For more information, please contact: Lisa Ball at (928) 341 - 4117 or Lisa@specialolympicsarizona.org.

REMINDER: OFF LIMIT LOCATIONS

Per Station Bulletin 1620, dated May 30, the following locations are now off limits for all military personnel at all times: 8th Street Smoke Shop; Dely's Smoke Shop and CMS Smoke Shop. The area known as, "Shit Creek," continues to be off-limits to all military from sunset to sunrise.



5 Questions

Station Operations Director
Lt. Col. John Hicks

As a seminar instructor for the Expeditionary Warfare School Distance Learning Program, what are the benefits of studying non-MOS specific Marine Corps concepts, doctrine and tactics?

It makes leaders more well rounded by introducing them to concepts of planning and employment for Marine Air-Ground Task Forces that will serve them well in future billets and operations. It also teaches them the capabilities and limitation of other members of the MAGTF, joint services, and coalition forces that they may be able to leverage in future assignments. In the Expeditionary Warfare School Distance Education Program, we are preparing company grade officers and select senior staff non-commissioned officers for success as a contributing member of a staff at the Regiment or Group level and below, including conducting the Marine Corps Planning Process as part of an operational planning team. They will begin to think and function not only at the tactical level of warfare that they have been perfecting during their MOS training, but they will also start to see the picture at the operational level and how that affects their day to day operations.

If a Marine was contemplating completing his or her professional military education, what guidance would you give them?

Get started. The Expeditionary Warfare School Distance Education Program takes two academic years to complete. There is no "box of books" that you can check out and do in your spare time anymore. Successful completion of EWS is all but mandatory for selection to major, and is a crucial area of distinction for other boards such as Career Designation, Marine Officer Instructor, or other academic programs. Considering the length and frequency of deployments over the last decade, it is extremely difficult to find two consecutive years to dedicate to PME.

What other professional military education opportunities are available?

There are always professional courses available through MarineNet and books to study off of the Commandant's reading list, but many Marines overlook other venues of PME such as foreign language training, Marine Corps Martial Arts, and dedicated MOS related courses taught by MAWTS-1, including their Weapons and Tactics Instructor's Course.

Can professional military education benefit Marines getting out who are either going to college or preparing their civilian resume?

Yes. Not only can professional military education benefit Marines while they're still active, it can help bolster their resume and show potential employers and educational institutions that the applicant has a strong motive for continued education and self improvement. It will also improve study habits and time management skills at work. Personally, I found that when I completed the Command and Staff seminar that I had built a steady study routine and had allocated time in my week for academic development. I decided to continue that routine and used it to complete a Master's degree program. I probably would never have found the time in my schedule to do that level of studying if I hadn't developed it through non-resident PME.

What advice would you give Marines in the area of military and MOS-specific proficiency training?

Get your PME complete for grade, and immediately start working on the next level. Being done early only opens door for you. If you later decide to leave active duty, those academic habits will follow you. If you decide to try and attend resident PME, having the non-resident seminar completed makes you more competitive. It may even make possible other services and foreign military schools because the Marine Corps knows that you are proficient and conversant in the Marine Corps doctrine first. Delaying getting your PME complete will only limit your options in the future. Every year captains come up to me asking how they can get EWS completed in the next few months before the promotion board meets. The answer is simple; you can't.



Romeo & Juliet

Juliet is a young, beautiful girl with a lot of energy and love to share. She is a 9-month-old shepherd mix and has all her vaccines, spayed and a microchip. For more information about adopting, contact the Humane Society of Yuma at (928)782-1621.

Harrier Airframers provide structure for attack squadrons

Lance Cpl. Sean Dennison

Desert Warrior Staff

There are more than 500 panels covering the AV-8B Harrier. That's more than 500 reasons to exercise utmost prudence when performing maintenance on the aircraft, more than 500 chances for a mistake to send mission safety spiraling downward.

Airframes mechanics ensure those mistakes don't occur. "We're the body shop in the world of aircraft," said Sgt. Billy Garner, a Marine Attack Squadron 513 airframes mechanic and a native of Denton, N.C.

The armor sheathing the decades-old Harrier? The hands of an airframe mechanic have been all over it.

The responsibilities of any airframes division comprise mostly of the external components of the Harrier. This includes phase maintenance, where all the panels come off the Harrier, and corrosion control, whereupon the mechanics wash the jet to minimize damage from the elements.

Phase maintenance is of particular importance to a squadron; this allows the other maintenance sections to reach areas where they need to be. Like the other maintenance sections, airframers use publications when troubleshooting a problem in their area.

"If you mess up anything, and you don't follow the publications . . . you get your qualifications taken away," said Lance Cpl. Tyler Garrison, a VMA-513 airframes mechanic and a Kansas City, Mo., native.

Airframes mechanics are also charged with the Harrier's hydraulics system, which powers the aircraft's flight controls

and landing gear.

"Without airframes, the aircraft wouldn't be able to fly," added Garner. "It would just be a chassis with a motor."

"Swinging with the Wing" is a Corps-wide joke that explains the difference between life in the Air Wing and that of other echelon commands. For airframes mechanic, it's a reality.

Wing pulls, or wing swings, are used to remove the wings of the Harrier in order to extract the engine or allow other maintainers to get at the motor, explained Garner.

Maintainers as a whole put in wild amounts of hours to ensure the jet takes off and the new mechanics, technicians and pilots can all get their qualifications in their areas. With such a cyclical lifestyle, it can be easy to lose track of why so many hours are needed to go into training.

Airframes mechanics who have an Afghanistan deployment under their belt agree supporting Marines directly from a combat zone gave them a greater appreciation for their job.

"I went aviation because that's what supports the troops on the ground," said Garner. "Their lives are in our hands. Our actions can alter the flow of their mission and ours."

"Back here (in Yuma), it's training,"

added Garrison. "Out there, they're using it, doing the Marine Corps work you signed up to do."

For now, it's well over 100 degrees in any squadron's hangar, and the sweat from the airframers are mingling with the storied hull of the Harrier. But there's still work to be done.

"Next time you see it fly, you're like 'Wow, I just did that,'" said Garrison.

It's a feeling of self-satisfaction that goes with watching any Harrier take off.



Photo by Lance Cpl. Sean Dennison

Cpl. Michael Doss, below the wing, a Marine Attack Squadron 513 airframes mechanic and a native of San Diego, Calif., helps his fellow maintainers perform maintenance on one of the squadron's AV-8B Harriers. Airframers cover responsibilities ranging from structural integrity to hydraulics issues.

STEPHANNE VAN ACHIEVES GREATNESS



Photo by Lance Cpl. Bill Waterstreet

Stephanie Van, currently the secretary in the environmental department for MCAS Yuma, also coaches the station's men's basketball team.

Lance Cpl. Bill Waterstreet

Desert Warrior Staff

Not often does a person come along who has the dogged determination and relentless work ethic to be a force in the world. Lucky enough for MCAS Yuma, we have characters with these traits in abundance, characters like Stephanie Van.

Van is currently a secretary in the environmental department, but has been a familiar face at the Provost Marshall's Office for years, moving to environmental after becoming a Sergeant. In addition to her daily job on station, she is also the head coach of MCAS Yuma's men's basketball team and the president of the MCAS Yuma American Federation of Government Employees Union.

"She's outgoing, charismatic and takes command," said Cpl. David Burck, a Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron Patrolman, and boyfriend to Van. "She is extremely passionate about everything she does. If she's doing something, she does it right. With her it's 100 percent or nothing."

Van stands at five-foot-nine, with pale blonde hair, fair complexion and a smile distinct as her personality. She was raised in San Jose, Calif., before enlisting in the Air Force. She served four years in security forces at Hollowman Air Force Base, N.M.

"Everyone should try the military once," said Van, 35. "My father and my uncle were both military and I wanted to follow in those footsteps."

For full story, visit

Yuma.usmc.mil

Station employees undergo safety training

Lance Cpl. Bill Waterstreet

Desert Warrior Staff

Station Marines and civilian employees underwent training with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration in an effort to create a safer working environment.

The OSHA 10-hour course provides civilian employees an opportunity to learn basic skills and knowledge about protecting the health and safety of themselves and their fellow workers.

The course will assist employees with locating and applying OSHA safety and health standards to the workplace, supplementing existing safety and health programs by identifying common violations of OSHA standards and proposing abatement actions, said Karl Semler, course instructor.

Marine Corps Air Station Yuma has had a 49 percent reduction of its Total Case Injury Rate from Fiscal Year 10 to FY-11. This number is significantly less than the Marine Corps average and is a testament to the successful partnership between the Department of Safety and Standardization, supervisors and employees stationwide.

The addition of the OSHA 10 Hour Course will sustain this positive trend momentum for current and future employees.

"We're taking you outside of your box to make you safety specialists," Semler told his students.

For full story, visit

Yuma.usmc.mil

Are You Listening? Help MCCS employees help Marines

Cpl. Aaron Diamant

Desert Warrior Staff

The station's Marine Corps Community Services slogan is "Serving those who serve." To accomplish this mantra, a special training seminar opens the eyes of employees to the myriad services available to station residents and employees.

"Are You Listening?" is designed to empower MCCS employees to go outside of their job description to assist the Marines, Sailors and their dependents to meet their needs," said Virgil Tapisipan, facilitator for the training

Part of the class enlightens participants to the various services offered on station, including counseling and treatment options, as well as recreational activities.

AYL covers information from Marine Corps life stressors, community connectedness, identifying warning signs of distress and learning programs and resources both onboard the station and in the community.

"Some of our participants were surprised about programs or resources for our military personnel and their dependents they thought never existed," said Tapisipan.

"Not all MCCS employees see themselves as part of preven-

tion as a whole," he added. "A cashier at the gas station, the floor manager at the exchange, the personnel at Semper Fit Gym, etc., have the opportunity to hear and see things that others may not. The stress of the daily grind of the Marine Corps lifestyle can leave some of our Marines and Sailors, or their family members, struggling to manage some issues."

For full story, visit

Yuma.usmc.mil

Minimal is More: Marine takes on new challenge

Cpl. Patrick P. Evenson
MAWTS-1 ComCam

Every step is a tender struggle. Every sensation is heightened by each consecutive strike. Most would not even think about braving a cold winter's day without a coat, or taking an evening stroll around the block barefoot. So, naturally it would be ridiculous to take it one step farther, and at a faster pace -- Ridiculous to everyone, but Marine Corps Gunnery Sgt. C. Nuntavong who for nearly a year has been running with nothing between his own two feet and the ground, except for a thin layer of conditioned skin trained to take the brunt of every step.

It's called minimalist running or forefoot running, a running style which relies on, uses, and, more importantly, trusts the natural design of the foot to do the work of running without the added padding that shoes are designed to provide. The logic of it is simple -- when running directly on the balls of the feet, they absorb the shock of your running, rather than landing on the heels where there is a shock that is sent straight up the leg.

"I prefer to run barefoot, completely without shoes, because I feel it's healthier for my body," Nuntavong said. He said he needed something new to take him away from the monotony of running; the kind of running that he has become all too familiar with throughout his 15 years in the Marine Corps.

Even before he joined the Marines he swam varsity all four years in high school, so when a friend joined the Navy, Nuntavong figured it would be a good fit for him. One evening after school he went to the Navy Recruiting office in Pacifica, Calif., but discovered an empty room. Disappointed, he turned to leave and ran into a Marine recruiter who asked, "Why do you want to join the Navy?" When Nuntavong explained his swimming ability, the recruiter said, "Marines do that too. We do it all."

So began his long journey out of the water, and on the hard surface of the world, as a Marine and runner, one heel strike after another, left followed by right.

*"Up in the morning with the
Maryland sun,
We run all day until the day is
done,
We love to double time,
We do it all the time,
MARINE CORPS!"*

In San Diego he ran. In Yuma, Ariz., he ran. In Garden City, New York, Miramar, Calif., Iraq, Okinawa, Japan, Denver, and Washington, he also ran.

And today, he is running, on a track at Fort Meade. Nuntavong nonchalantly strips his shoes and socks from his feet and takes off running in a silent rhythm. The track is still damp from last week's snow, and just an hour earlier the sun peeked from the clouds for the first time in four days. The few other people running the quarter-mile loop double-takes at the shoe-less athlete who passes them. He glides across the ground in short deliberate strides as if he was enjoying a run on a soft-sanded beach.

The Thailand descendent is first generation American and stands at five feet, eight inches. He calmly composes himself with an unassuming confidence. He speaks in a relaxed manner and lets out a scent of humility, especially when talking about running.

"Running is a very individual sport, and it gives me time to think, or even not think. It kind of takes you to this mental plain where you can clear your thoughts," he says. "I've never experienced, what's called a 'runners-high,' but I do enjoy running."

It shows. Now on his second pass around the track, he seems



Photo by Cpl. Patrick P. Evenson

Gunnery Sgt. C. Nuntavong, a student at the Defense Information School, stretches before a barefoot run on the track at Fort Meade, Md., Jan. 19, 2011.

to find his stride and escapes from the chaos of life. In removing his shoes he has symbolically removed any pressures of responsibility he carries. He is a child with innocence and wonder, who can't be contained by manufactured soles and laces.

At times it is hard to imagine that this calm, peaceful man is a Public Affairs chief in the Marine Corps who no doubt has encountered anything but calm situations. In August of 2009, he was part of the Social Media Team at Headquarters Marine Corps, Washington D.C., responsible for integrating the Corps into the world of social media.

He said it all started with a Twitter account and the question, "What do you think we can do with this, Gunny?" From there and without any guidance from anybody, the team set out on the venture of liberating the Corps to the World Wide Web. Once the leadership realized that social media was a good way to communicate its mission to the masses, they expanded the strategies that Nuntavong helped plan.

"It was definitely hard," Nuntavong said. "We had to work with different elements of the Marine Corps and work together."

In May of 2010 the Public Relations Society of America asked the Marine Corps to be part of its Digital Impact Conference, along with Google and The New York Times.

It is the same ambition and discipline he displays in the Marines that led him to take on the unique endeavor of minimalist running.

His wife of ten years, Jennifer, a minimalist runner herself, introduced him to the style after he hit a plateau in his running. It was no longer fun for him. He started by running three miles with shoes and added a half-mile barefoot at the end. Every two weeks he would tact on another half mile.

Weather became a limiting factor. He said, "The problem was I was running in the summer, and I was running on black top. It was like 120 degrees off the blacktop and my feet didn't like that at all. So when you get moisture and heat together you get blisters." There might have been a better time of year to start running, he says, but after a couple weeks the blisters were gone.

Depending on the weather Nuntavong runs as often as he can. The key of starting minimalist running is not to do too much, too fast, he says. "Bones, muscles, and tendons aren't used to it. You didn't learn to walk in one day; you can't learn to run barefoot in just one day."

After his second jaunt around the frigid track, he comes to a bouncing stop with a grin of refreshed relief on his face like someone who has just woke up from a power nap. He's relaxed, at ease, but the glint in his eyes says at any moment he may

spontaneously take off for a few more laps. His posture says he still craves the earth beneath his feet. He desires it. He needs it.

This past fall he competed in the New York City Barefoot Run and the Fort Belvoir Turkey Trot 10k. He says that in both races he could have kept running.

In any sport, pushing past physical and mental trials is part of the game, but for Nuntavong, the social struggle of running barefoot was the hardest part. He hears people whisper their judgments and sees their shocked looks as he speeds by. He says his wife has on an occasion been stopped and asked if she was in trouble. "I don't have time to educate everybody who is out there. Hopefully they will get home, do some looking on the Internet and make a decision for themselves, whether or not barefoot running is good for them."

It was his own research that led him to an up-in-coming minimalist shoe company. According to its website, its mission is to, "Design footwear that encourages biomechanically correct performance with as little interference as possible." Through its simple five-page site the message is clear - it isn't shoes it is trying to promote; it's a healthy lifestyle.

For Nuntavong, the company sparked a marriage between his running and social networking passions. When he found on Twitter that they put out a request for a social media manager he jumped at the chance to commit his free time apart from the Marine Corps to this endeavor. This was right up his alley, and he was just the man they were looking for. So much so that CEO personally called Nuntavong.

Today's welcomed rise in temperature is a mirror of Nuntavong's post-run spirits. As he walks away from the track with his shoes and socks apathetically in his hands, he says just one thing with a smile on his face, "My feet are cold."



Courtesy Photo

Full Ads

Obama Announces Military-to-Civilian Skills Certification Program

Claudette Roulo

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, June 1, 2012 – President Barack Obama today announced a new presidential initiative aimed at preparing service members for civilian employment.

Obama provided details about the military-to-civilian certification program during his visit to a Honeywell International Inc. plant in Golden Valley, Minn. Defense contractor Honeywell reportedly has hired hundreds of military veterans at its plants and facilities since early 2011.

“Let me tell you something -- if you can save a life on the battlefield, you can save a life in an ambulance. If you can oversee a convoy or millions of dollars of assets in Iraq, you can help manage a supply chain or balance its books here at home,” Obama said at the plant. “If you can maintain the most advanced weapons in the world, if you’re an electrician on a Navy ship, well, you can manufacture the next generation of advanced technology in our factories like this one. If you’re working on complex machinery, you should be able to take those skills and find a manufacturing job right here -- right here at home.”

But unfortunately, Obama said, many returning veterans with such advanced skills “don’t get hired simply because they don’t have the civilian licenses or certifications that a lot of companies require.”

At the same time, the president noted, business leaders often say they can’t find enough workers with the skills necessary to fill open positions.

“Eighty percent of manufacturers say this, according to one survey,” Obama said. “So think about it -- we got all these openings and all these skilled veterans looking for work, and somehow they’re missing each other.”

That doesn’t make any sense, the president said, noting it’s time to fix it.

“Today, I’m proud to announce new partnerships between

the military and manufacturing groups that will make it easier for companies to hire returning service members who prove they’ve earned the skills our country needs,” Obama said. “Soldiers, sailors, Marines, airmen, Coast Guardsmen -- if they’ve got skills in machining or welding or weapons maintenance, for example, you’ll have a faster track to good-paying manufacturing jobs.”

“Service members with experience in logistics or maintenance on the front lines” will “have a faster track to jobs in those fields here at home,” he added.

The initiative will enable up to 126,000 service members to obtain civilian credentials and certifications in a number of high-demand industries, officials said.

“I applaud President Obama’s initiative to help thousands of

service members obtain industry-recognized certifications for the trade skills they have learned and worked hard to master while in uniform,” Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta said in a statement issued today.

The Defense Department has created a military credentialing and licensing task force as part of the initiative, officials said. It developed partnerships with major manufacturing credentialing agencies to expand certifications to active duty military personnel in the fields of engineering, logistics, maintenance and welding.

For full story, visit
Yuma.usmc.mil



US Army photo by Sgt. Uriah Walker

President Obama and first lady Michelle Obama visit Fort Stewart, Ga., April 27. Obama today announced a new presidential initiative aimed at preparing service members for civilian employment.

Pass and Review: MAG-13, H&HS receive new Sgts. Maj.



Photo by Cpl. Aaron Diamant

Top: Sgt. Maj. Michael Montoya, left, walks with Sgt. Maj. William Wiseman onto the station parade field during the Headquarters & Headquarters Squadron relief and appointment ceremony, June 5, where Wiseman passed the sword of office to H&HS' new senior enlisted advisor, Montoya. Wiseman heads to Marine Corps Base Hawaii, where he'll serve as the senior enlisted advisor for 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment.

Right: Sgt. Maj. Irene O'Neal, left, and Sgt. Maj. Lawrence Archambault, salute a procession of Marines representing the Marine Aircraft Group 13 during the unit's relief and appointment ceremony on the station parade field, June 5.



Left: Sgt. Maj. Irene O'Neal, the Marine Aircraft Group 13 outgoing sergeant major. Her next tour of duty will see her as the senior enlisted advisor to the Inspector General of the Marine Corps.

Right: Sgt. Maj. Lawrence Archambault, the MAG-13 incoming sergeant major. Archambault recently came from the 12th Marine Corps Recruiting District.

Photo illustrations by Lance Cpl. Sean Dennison



Photo by Lance Cpl. Sean Dennison

1/2 Ads

LAST CH-46 PILOT GRADUATES



Photo by Lance Cpl. Michelle Piehl

Top: Maj. Gen. Andrew W. O'Donnell Jr., left, the commanding general of 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, congratulates 1st Lt. Zerbin Singleton, right, as the last CH-46 Sea Knight pilot upon the completion of his final check flight aboard Marine Corps Air Station Camp Pendleton, May 23. The CH-46 is slowly phasing out, to be replaced by the versatile tiltrotor MV-22B Osprey.



**COMMANDING OFFICER
MARINE CORPS AIR STATION
YUMA, AZ
HAZING
POLICY STATEMENT**



The policy of this command is to ensure hazing does not occur, in any form, at any level. It is my intent to prevent hazing on the Installation and improve effectiveness as a fighting force. I will ensure all Marines, Sailors, and civilians understand that hazing violates our Corps Values.

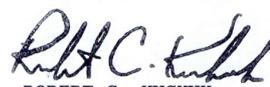
Per MCO 1700.28A, hazing is defined as "any conduct whereby a military member or members, regardless of Service or rank, without proper authority causes another military member or members, regardless of Service or rank, to suffer or be exposed to any activity which is cruel, abusive, humiliating, oppressive, demeaning, or harmful. Soliciting or coercing another to perpetrate any such activity is also considered hazing. Hazing need not involve physical contact among or between military members; it can be verbal or psychological in nature. Actual or implied consent to acts of hazing does not eliminate the culpability of the perpetrator."

HAZING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. I will pursue appropriate action in all cases of substantiated hazing. I do not see humor when Marines get a laugh at the expense of another. I do not see the "training" in Marines providing corrective measures or punishment to other Marines that have not been awarded by proper authority and specifically allowed.

Marines, Sailors, and civilians who are victims of hazing have victim rights and will be immediately offered legal advice, medical assistance, and counseling as necessary. Reprisal actions against any victim(s) or witness(es) of hazing incidents are strictly prohibited. Covering up, or participating in covering up an incident is also prohibited.

The following avenues, in order of precedence, are available to report instances of hazing:

- Inform your Chain of Command. If your immediate superiors are involved, request mast to your Commanding Officer or to myself
- Call the Base Inspector, MCAS Yuma at 928-269-2379
- Call IGMC Hotline at 703-604-4526 DSN 664-4526
- Use the Hotline procedures found at the "Inspector General" link on www.hqmc.usmc.mil


ROBERT C. KUCKUK
COLONEL, U.S. MARINE CORPS
COMMANDING OFFICER

1/2 Ads

Arizona Adventures takes Yuma for a ride

Lance Cpl. Zac Scanlon
Desert Warrior Staff

Riding around on a dune buggy in the desert under the Yuma sun or jet skiing at Lake Martinez may seem like an expensive or unrealistic thing to do as a weekend activity while stationed at MCAS Yuma. But, Arizona Adventure proves that it's not.

Arizona Adventures, a recreation equipment rental and activity service department under Marine Corps Community Services, houses ATVs, dirt bikes, camping equipment, paint guns, mountain bikes and many other items. Military members and DoD civilian employees can rent equipment from Arizona Adventures or take part in their group events throughout the year with no to very little out of pocket expense.

Because some of the equipment requires specific safety training, Arizona Adventures offers pre-rental safety courses and, in some cases, requires that trained staff oversee the usage of the equipment during group rentals. The great part of having an Arizona Adventure staff member on your trip is that they take care of organizing the transportation and safe use of the equipment, allowing you to focus on having a great time.

Although Arizona Adventures is located on station and easily accessible, there is still a mystery behind what is offered.

"We are an outdoor facility," said Bill Cardenas, Arizona Adventures outdoor director. "We provide outdoor activities and programming for our Marines on station and our DoD employees."

Specific activities provided by Arizona Adventures include water sports such as jet skiing, boating and tubing, and land sports such as ATV, dirt bike and mountain bike trail riding. The group events can be reserved through the Operation Adrenaline Rush program, which is for Marines returning from deployment; for military units looking for a way to build teamwork and camaraderie; or for eligible patrons seeking a fun way to enjoy Yuma. Some events are free of charge while others have a fee in addition to renting the equipment.

"Everybody can enjoy the same equipment," said Cardenas. "The only difference is, if you're coming back from deployment, it's free. Otherwise, you can still do programming. It will just be a small charge."

For more information about how to rent equipment or sign up for an Arizona Adventures event, call (928) 269-2848 or visit www.mccsyuma.com and look under the recreation tab.



Photos by Lance Cpl. Zach Scanlon



Top: Arizona Adventures host a variety of outdoor equipment and events in support of recreational activities for Marines at MCAS Yuma. A program run by Arizona Adventures, Operation Adrenaline Rush, which gives redeployed Marines a chance to decompress through stimulating activities in a safe environment. Top right: Anthony Aviles, an Arizona Adventures employee, tests one of its jet skis at Lake Martinez, Ariz.



Top: Roberto Pou, the assistant athletic director of Marine Corps Community Services, instructs employees from Arizona Adventures on how to control and safely operate a jet ski on Lake Martinez, Ariz., June 2, 2012. The purpose of this training is for the employees to be able to teach Marines on how to safely ride the jet skis during the unit outings.



Top: A class on operational stress control and readiness is given to staff noncommissioned officers of units participating with Operation Adrenaline Rush at Arizona Adventure on MCAS Yuma, June 4, 2012.



Top: Paintball guns line racks at Arizona Adventures. The equipment is used to provide Marines and Sailors with fun alternatives on the weekend.

Below: Andrea Beach, an ATV Safety Institute and Motorcycle Safety Foundation instructor, gives a safety class to the Marines before setting out on an ATV trail at MCAS Yuma, June 4, 2012. This class teaches the Marines how to minimize risk and maximize safety while still having fun.



Full Ads

LETTER TO A YOUNG INVESTOR

USA.gov

George Papadopoulos, a certified financial planner, recently forwarded me a letter that he wrote to a 21-year-old friend of his who had asked for his thoughts on how to be financially secure. I liked his advice; here are some excerpts:

First, I would concentrate on getting a good education in something you enjoy doing that will provide you with good income with potential [for growth].

Whatever you do, work a little harder than the next guy and always be connected by getting involved in your chosen profession/industry. Never stop networking.

Always have some money laying aside in the bank or an online savings account for emergencies. As you will find out, [bad stuff] does happen when you least expect it.

Avoid carrying credit card balances, they are truly evil!

If you have a 401(k) at work, sign up right away and maximize your contributions!

Start saving for a house down payment. Renting is also okay, too, until you have a 20 percent deposit for you first purchase. And whatever you get, do not buy more house than you can afford!

Marry well. (Just kidding...well, not really.)

Never ever spend more than you earn!

Always save, at a minimum, 10 percent of what you earn. 15 percent is better, 20 percent is super.

Don't blow your money in a brand new sports car. Buy one a little used and have two or three dealers compete against each other on the price you got on the Internet. And, don't fall in love with those wheels, they are just transportation.

When you do have an investment portfolio, always diversify with no-load mutual funds, preferably cheapindex funds and ETFs.

Never believe that there are gurus who have "proven" systems who can make you rich, they are full of it and are looking for suckers to separate from their money.

That's some great advice for a soon-to-be college graduate.

LEAVING THE CORPS

Women Veterans Igniting the Spirit of Entrepreneurship

<http://whitman.syr.edu/vwise/>

What is V-WISE

V-WISE is committed to women Veterans by providing them the tools to become successful entrepreneurs. Their goal is to integrate their leadership, integrity, focus and drive into a premier educational training program taught by accomplished entrepreneurs and entrepreneurship educators from across the United States.

PHASE 1: What's first?

A 15 day online course focused on basic skills of entrepreneurship and the language of business.

PHASE 2: Ready, Set, Goal!

A three-day conference where participants are exposed to accomplished entrepreneurs and entrepreneurship educators from across the United States. Hotel room and tax are completely paid for and each attendee has a room of their own. It is open to all female Veterans* with a passion for entrepreneurship and the desire to start their own business. Applicants may have served in any branch of the military during any era. Participants must be able to complete the online component of the program and be able to travel to one of the mandatory conferences held at numerous times from spring 2011 through fall 2013. *Now open to female spouses/partners of Veteran Business Owners and active duty transitioning female military personnel.

PHASE 3: Keep Moving...

Ongoing support and mentorship delivered online and through a robust, comprehensive network of mentor partners.

How do I apply?

Please apply at <http://www.whitman.syr.edu/VWISEApplication2/>. Admission is on a rolling basis and early application is highly encouraged. Selection is based on proof of military status and demonstration of entrepreneurial passion on the application. After your application is accepted by Syracuse University, a registration link will be sent via email to students. This registration link will allow access to select class schedule and pay the \$75.00 registration fee.

Events Calendar

don't forget to mention you saw this on the MCCS Events Calendar!

june 7

Success over Stress and Anger

WHEN Thu, June 7, 2pm - 4pm
where Building 598

This weekly group is for individuals who have completed the Anger/Stress Management course and who feel they would benefit from additional support. For more information call 269-2561.

Spa Night: Stress and Coping

WHEN Thu, June 7, 7pm - 9pm
where Building 598

This fun night equips you with ways to thrive despite the stress life throws at you. Experience a variety of services from Lotus Day Spa. To register call 269-6544

june 8



Toddler Crafts

WHEN Fri, June 8, 11am - 12pm
where Building 645

Weekly on Friday, until Dec 28, 2012. Call (928) 269-2561 for more information.

Youth Center Camp Carnival

WHEN Fri, June 8, 12pm - 2pm
where Youth Center

Youth will engage in a variety of carnival games. We will also enjoy cotton candy and sno cones. Call 269-5390 for more info.

june 9

Youth Center Car Wash

WHEN Sat, June 9, 9am - 1pm

where Base Chapel

Come help us wash cars and sell sno cones to raise money for a trip to Wet N Wild Water Park on July 21. You can support the Youth Center by bringing that dusty car by! 269-5390 for more info.



Live dj

WHEN Sat, June 8, 8pm - Sun, June 9, 1am

where Club Pulse

Every Friday and Saturday come out to Pulse the Nightclub to listen to the Live DJ. Call (928)269-2711 for more information.

june 11

California Career School Visiting

WHEN Jun 11 9am-12pm

where Education Center, Bldg. 850

California Career School offers Commercial Truck Driver Training. A representative will be available to speak with you about their program on a walk-in basis or you may contact the school at (714)720-7580 to schedule an appointment.

Testing Opportunity: TABE

WHEN Jun 11 8am-10pm

where Education Center, Bldg. 850

Test of Adult Basic Education is a 90 minute multiple choice test that measures an individual's knowledge of math, reading and language.

june 11

Session One Swim Lessons

WHEN Tue, June 11-21

where Building 850

Classes are offered at 7am, 8am, 9am and 10am. Parent-tot, pre-school, level 1/2 and level 3/4 are available. Cost is \$40. For more information call 269-2914.

june 12

College 101 brief

WHEN Wed, June 12, 10am - 11am

where Bldg. 850

This hour long brief focuses on the policies and procedures that are in place for using military Tuition Assistance. This brief is required for anyone who wants to use Tuition Assistance. For more information call 269-3589

Full Ads

The 21-Gun Salute: Marine Corps Customs and Traditions



U.S. Navy photo

Marines from Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force 26 render a 21 gun salute as Pre-commissioning Unit New York passes by Ground Zero, Nov. 2, 2009.

USMC History Division

The 21-gun salute honoring the President of the United States, like many American military traditions, appears to be another custom inherited from Great Britain. In early times, it was customary for a ship entering a friendly port to discharge its broadsides to demonstrate that they were unloaded; eventually it became a British practice to fire a seven-gun salute. The forts ashore would fire three shots for each shot fired afloat. The three guns fired on shore to one gun fired on ship had a practical explanation. In earlier days, gunpowder was made of sodium nitrate and was easier to keep on shore than at sea. When gunpowder was improved by the use of potassium nitrate, the sea salute was made equal to the shore salute. The use of numbers seven and three in early gun salutes probably was connected to mystical or religious significance surrounding these numbers in many cultures.

Gun salutes continue to be fired in odd numbers, of course, and this is likely because of ancient superstitions that uneven numbers are lucky. As early as 1685, the firing of an even number of guns in salute was taken as indicating that a ship's captain, master, or master gunner had died on a voyage. Indeed, the firing of an even number of salute guns at the coronation of George VI in 1937 was regarded by at least one observer as an "ominous" portent. Incidentally, the normal interval of five seconds in the firing of gun salutes

likely is in order for the salute to have full auditory effect, and also to give the salute a more solemn character.

The United States presidential salute has not always been 21 guns. In 1812 and 1821 it was the same as the number of states, i.e. 18 and 24, respectively, which was also our international salute. After 1841 the President received a salute of 21 guns and the Vice President 17; currently the Vice President receives a salute of 19 guns.

There has evolved over the last 175 years or so a prescribed number of guns, set forth in various Army regulations, to be fired for various dignitaries in accordance with the perceived importance of their positions. On 18 August 1875, the United States and Great Britain announced an agreement to return salutes "gun for gun," with the 21-gun salute as the highest national honor.

Today, a 21-gun salute on arrival and departure, with 4 ruffles and flourishes, is rendered to the President of the United States, to an ex-President, and to a President elect. The national anthem or "Hail to the Chief," as appropriate, is played for the President, and the national anthem for the others. A 21-gun salute on arrival and departure with 4 ruffles and flourishes also is rendered to the sovereign or chief of state of a foreign country, or a member of a reigning royal family. In these ceremonies, the national anthem of his or her country also is played.

1/2 Ads

Main St. Cinemas

Lance Cpl. Bill Waterstreet
Desert Warrior Staff

I, like many Marines from MCAS Yuma, have seen numerous films at the Harkins Yuma Palms 14 Theater. However, until this weekend, I hadn't visited the Main St. Cinemas downtown, and after my journey there, I will definitely return.

Main St. Cinemas offers all the same new releases as other mainstream theaters and provides all the same services expected of a motion picture venue.

This service apparently does not impact the prices as with other locations, as a ticket for a military member to see a new release is only \$5.00, as compared to Harkins' \$6.50 or the near \$10.00 of other theater chains across America. This theater also differs in that instead of a large open lobby to welcome moviegoers, there is a coffee shop, offering an array of caffeinated products. Though being squeezed into a downtown building and the addition of the coffee vendor cuts down on open space in the theater, the dearth of emptiness adds a cozy atmosphere. The artwork on the walls, some depicting scenes of the Arizona desert and others memories from past Hollywood tales, help it rise from cramped to comfortable.

Alas, the price advantage of the Main St. cinemas does not transfer to their concessions, which can only be described as average. The selection is standard and the prices absurd.

The facilities are clean and properly maintained, as is the structure itself, but the true strength of the locale is its vacancy. The population present here is dwarfed by the attendance of Harkins, and that alone makes it worth the little extra drive to get downtown. Movies are best enjoyed with utter immersion, and that is hard to achieve with the usual light-show of texting and cacophony of popcorn chomping at a more popular theater.

The largest downside this venue ails of is not being featured on www.fandango.com, even though it is present on most other sites movie show-times can be found.

All in all, Main St. Cinemas rate a B+, losing points for not being featured on a prominent website and unremarkable concessions. That said, I am looking forward to my next cinematic experience here.



Courtesy photos



Movie Review: *Battleship*

Lance Cpl. Sean Dennison
Desert Warrior Staff



I remember playing the game Battleship as a kid with my cousins. This would happen every family function up until we were about ten. Birthdays, holidays, funerals, Battleship was the only constant in our celebrations.

The thing is, my violent cousins would always win. And by win I mean they would look at my battle map and if I was winning, punch me in the face or if I was losing, punch me in the face. I was successful in pushing them down the stairs a few times, but the inevitable plastic showdown was a lose-lose situation.

Which is exactly how this movie feels.

Do I even need to go into detail as to how terrible this

film is? Was Rihanna in her acting debut — and don't even bring up whatever cameos she's already made — not enough of a tip off?

Anyway, the acting is abysmal (bless them, they try though), the special effects are competent but in this day and age I expect more bang for my buck; a movie crosses the line from bad to unwatchable if even a military discount seems like a waste of an evening. The plot is...well you already know about the plot. I mean, how does Peter Berg go from Friday Night Lights, one of the most meaningful coming of age stories for my generation, to explosive pulp such as this?

Oh right, *Hancock*.

On behalf of America, I apologize, MCAS Sailors.

Opinion: The conquest of fear, the terror of ourselves

Lance Cpl. Bill Waterstreet
Desert Warrior Staff

Recently I saw a horror film where all the characters were continuously running scared in the traditional horror fashion. Normally, I don't put much stock on such movies on an intellectual level, but as the story progressed I realized many of their predicaments resulted from them acting on the sole basis of fear. They might have made it out alive had they kept level heads and not been overcome with terror.

Such fear is innate to the human psyche. It has been with us since the dawn of man, and it has served us well; we evolved this way for a reason. The capacity for fear molds our behaviors, shaping our decisions to err on the side of caution and choose self-preservation first. When we see a dark, ominous cave in the woods, fear tells us there is danger in there and causes us to turn around and walk away, possibly saving our lives.

That said, we must never let frightened apprehension devolve into paralyzing terror. Fear is an emotion that must be controlled, controlled not with the leash but rather the lash. Half-measures will not work; we must master our fear or it will master us.

Today, many in our society fall victim to our basic emotions and in moments of crisis will let frightened minds control them. Case in point, the Station Fire in West Warwick, R.I., 2003,

caused the deaths of 100 people because panic took the crowd and caused a stampede which trapped many of the victims inside, where the blaze consumed them.

The perception of danger, whether true or imagined, forces us to action we would otherwise never consider, given a calm, rational state of mind. Something as simple as determining a man of Arabic descent as a threat at an airport because of his heritage alone will completely change our behavior.

Thus, fear must be mastered if we are to function in a time of crisis. Such terror exists as an instinct, and to give up logical thought to the impulsion of instinct removes the single facet that has led humanity to rise above the animal kingdom — intellect. We have the ability to function on a higher mental plane, and to give up that power is to handicap ourselves when we most need all our faculties in check.

George R.R. Martin once wrote, "Fear cuts deeper than swords." The human body and mind are capable of magnificent feats in times of crisis, but only if we can find it in ourselves to face danger with courage in our hearts. Fear will always make an enemy seem more indomitable and an obstacle more insurmountable than it is. To clear the haze from our eyes and look clearly on the threats we face will reveal the reality that the dangers before us are not as perilous and invincible as we imagined.

However, fear powerful enough to shape our lives does not only exist in emergencies, but also in our everyday actions on a much more subtle level. When we ignore a career opportu-

nity that would greatly alter our lives, neglect to ask a beautiful stranger out due to fear of rejection, or decide against taking initiative because the risk of failure, shame or punishment is present, that is fear controlling us.

Of course we rationalize those moments and thoughts that scare us, such as choosing not to make the new career choice because you need to get something done first or neglecting the initiative because you are doing something more important. The sad truth is we are letting fear steer our lives, and in the process of permitting it, we are fooling ourselves into docility. Letting the terror instinct meld with our higher, logical thought processes in this way gives us the keys to the Corvette that is life. With fear in control, it will seek safety and park our hundreds of horsepower in the garage, never to see the road again.

This is not to be mistaken as advocacy for recklessness. Our corvettes aren't meant to do 120 miles-per-hour in a residential zone, but should we find ourselves alone on the highway, sun shining and wind in our hair, never be afraid to let those horses sing.

There are times in all our lives we will come face-to-face with what scares us most, and the fear will be there. But as the great World War II leader Winston Churchill once said, "We have nothing to fear but fear itself." Whether we let our nightmares continue their dominion over us, or rather rise up and awake from our fitful slumbers is the truest measure of our characters.

Wounded Warriors, families connect with first ever Warrior Family Games

Cpl. Jovane M. Henry
MCB Camp Pendleton

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDELTON, Calif. — More than 200 wounded warriors, their spouses and dependents participated in Camp Pendleton's first Warrior Family Games at the Wounded Warrior Battalion-West compound here, June 1.

The event, loosely based on the military's annual Warrior Games, featured various sports and other physical activities, including rock climbing, tennis, track races, air-rifle shooting, horseback riding, seated volleyball wheelchair basketball and archery.

The goal was to get families involved in interacting physically with their Marines and getting a glimpse of the activities feature at the Warrior games, said Lt. Col. James R. Fullwood, commanding officer of Wounded Warrior Battalion-West.

"When a Marine is wounded, their family's involvement in the recovery process is critical," said Fullwood. "We're using sports and activities to draw the families in and encourage them to be interactive with their Marines. It's a vital part of rehabilitating these Marines mentally, physically and emotionally."

For Amy Sanchez, a Marine spouse, the day served as a testament to the challenges Marine

face and overcome on a daily basis. "Seeing all the Marines out here having a great time and keeping active is awesome," said Sanchez. "It really shows the families what being a Marine is all about."

In addition to the fun and games, a cookout was also provided, offering everything from burgers and hot links to gourmet cupcakes and sugar cookies.

Many of the grills were manned by veteran volunteers from Vietnam-era to present day.

"We didn't have anything like this for the Marines when I was on active duty," said Don Robbins, a Vietnam veteran and volunteer with the battalion for more than a year. "I absolutely love the camaraderie and family bonding I see out here today. It just warms my heart."

The atmosphere of the day provided perspective for not only spouses and dependents, but for other Marines as well.

"It's been great for my son to come and see where I recovered, and I think the newer Marines are benefitting as well," said Gunnery Sgt. Eric Osorio, who has been with the battalion for eight months.

"Getting to see other Marines who have gone through the same struggles they're facing lets them and their families know and see that things do and will get better."



Photo by Cpl. Jovane M. Henry

Marine spouses and dependents enjoy a horseback ride during Camp Pendleton's first Warrior Family Games at the Wounded Warrior Battalion-West compound here, June 1. The event, loosely based on the military's annual Warrior Games, featured various sports and other physical activities, including rock climbing, tennis, track races, air rifle shooting, horseback riding, seated volleyball wheelchair basketball and archery.

1/2 Ads