

Upcoming Power Outage

Today, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., there will be power outage to allow crews from Southern California Edison to complete a utility project. The outage will start at Bldgs. 680-681 and 289-301. This will also include the Fire Station, Range Control, Spectrum, Bike Lake, NASA Peak, Tiefort Mountain, LFA1, Granite Mountain, Four Corners as well as everything in between. It will not affect Tiefort City. Point of contact for this project is David Canady, 380-7605.

H1N1 Vaccine Available

MEDDAC has received 3,000 doses of H1N1 vaccine. This is sufficient vaccine to immunize all remaining active duty Soldiers and DoD employees. Soldiers and DoD employees may receive their vaccine at Preventive Medicine (Bldg. 172) Mon., Wed., and Fri., 8 a.m.-4:15 p.m.; Tue. and Thu., 10 a.m.-4:15 p.m. Groups larger than 20 people are asked to coordinate with the Preventive Medicine clinic in order to minimize wait times. 11th ACR units will receive vaccine at their regimental aid station. Please call the aid station to coordinate. Call Preventive Medicine clinic, 380-3235/3053.

Traffic Revision

There has been a traffic revision for entering and exiting the Fitness Connection. Entry can only be made via Inner Loop Road and all exits must be made via 2nd St. Note this change and drive safely.

Job Fair

Fort Irwin will hold a job fair on Feb. 10, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Reggie's. The Job Fair is an opportunity to meet Fort Irwin, local and national employers. The event is open to the High Desert community. For questions or for more information, please contact Army Community Service at (760) 380-5165/4784. Dress to impress and bring your resume.

We Salute

Fort Irwin celebrates Black History Month

Project produces 715 new houses

Ribbon cutting ceremony recognizes installation's family home boom

STORY AND PHOTO BY GUSTAVO BAHENA
Warrior Staff Writer

A ribbon cutting ceremony in front of a new house on Rhineland Drive on Fort Irwin served as the symbolic completion of construction that began in 2004 that brought additional housing to this post.

The Jan. 28 event showcased a new house completed recently as part of the Sandy Basin housing area here. Sandy Basin is the final community, and one of several built during an initial development period of new housing construction. The \$350 million construction project was realized by a team consisting of the U.S. Army Fort Irwin Garrison, Residential Community Initiatives, Pinnacle, and Clark. The project produced 715 new family housing units on Fort Irwin that are part of a new standard in housing across the Army.

"Working as a team has made Fort Irwin one of the best RCI projects in the Army," said Rick Wimer, director of Pinnacle on Fort Irwin. "The ribbon cutting signifies the best of all of the accomplishments and that is — the great improvement in the quality of living that has been provided to our service members and their families."

The additional housing has helped maintain the majority of the Fort Irwin service member population on post. In the past, many Soldiers and their families lived off post, which created a set of challenges for units and the mission of the National Training Center. The new housing, however, is more than just lodging; the new housing areas were built within a community infrastructure.

"We started with a blank slate and a mission with making Fort Irwin a place of being, not just a place to be," said Rick Bailitz, development executive with Clark Realty Capital. "We immersed ourselves in the community through various meetings and committees to better understand how our service members lived and what was important to them and their families."

The family living in the house, recognized during the ceremony, belongs to Sgt. 1st Class Travis Williams, of Operations Group. Williams said he is pleased and surprised



Fort Irwin and National Training Center Commander Brig. Gen. Robert "Abe" Abrams (right) leads a ribbon cutting at the residence of Sgt. 1st Class Travis Williams (center, right), of Operations Group here, during a ceremony Jan. 28 at Fort Irwin. The Williams' house was the 715th family unit built during a phase of construction that began in 2004 on Fort Irwin and brought new and modern homes to Soldiers and their families on post. The \$350 million construction project was part of an initial phase that is being followed with additional constructions of homes.

with the house he, his wife, and two children reside in.

"It is probably one of the best housing units I've seen," Williams said. "This is a great house. There's a lot of space. There's a playground right

across the street — convenient for the kids."


William's wife, Taquanula, said she enjoys the neighborhood and also likes a park being

See Housing, page 11

What's Inside

CSM Martinez Commentary...	Page 2
First Sergeant Course	Page 3
Civilian retirement changes...	Page 9
National Prayer Breakfast.....	Page 10
CW4 Buchanan receives FORSCOM award.....	Page 11
Sgt. Audie Murphy Club.....	Page 13

FEB.-MAR. 2010						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
				4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	1	2	3	4	5	6
ROTATIONAL SOLDIER USE OF POST FACILITIES						
■ HEAVY USE ■ MEDIUM USE ■ MINIMAL USE						



244

FORT IRWIN SOLDIERS CURRENTLY DEPLOYED

Source: Directorate of Human Resources
National Training Center and Fort Irwin

NCOs — Keepers of the Standard!

BY COMMAND SGT. MAJ. VICTOR MARTINEZ

National Training Center/Fort Irwin
Command Sergeant Major

The Corps of the Noncommissioned Officer, without a doubt, is what makes our Army the best in the world. You all have heard the phrase “The NCO is the Backbone of the Army.” You may have also heard the phrase that the NCO is “The Keeper of the Standard.” Standards, and compliance of standards, are what make our Army the best in training, readiness, and safety. I want to share with you my thoughts on standards and noncommissioned officers enforcing them.

There is a standard for everything we do in the Army, how we fight, how we train, how we wear our uniform, how we conduct maintenance, how we salute, and so on. Standards are never ending in our profession down to the smallest detail. There are SOPs, policies, Army regulations, field manuals and numerous other publications that publish standards. It is our responsibility to be familiar with them.

It is true that the noncommissioned officers have always been charged with the obligation to be the “Keepers of the Standards”. As an NCO, each of us has a personal responsibility to know what the standards are and ensure we meet them. These standards help us achieve Excellence, Competence, Confidence, Discipline, and Esprit-de-Corps.

As keepers of the standards, it is our obligation to make sure our Soldiers meet the standard in everything they do. First, we ourselves must meet the standard. Most NCOs do this very well; however there are normally a few



Command Sgt. Maj. Victor Martinez

who find this difficult. Usually they are also the same NCOs that don't enforce standards because they know that they are wrong and that they would not have a leg to stand on if they tried to make a correction. You must set the example before you can make a correction, otherwise you will have no credibility.

Example is always the best motivator. Lead by example by demonstrating the standard in all that you do. We have always said when a more senior leader demonstrates a lesser standard; this demonstration now becomes the new standard. The demonstration of a lesser standard goes far deeper than just setting a new standard; it circumvents the authority of the sergeant. Leading by example empowers the Sergeant to enforce standards.

Enforcing basic standards and holding sergeants accountable for their Soldiers is critical to developing these young leaders. In every case where the sergeant stops enforcing fundamental standards and senior leaders do

not hold him accountable, the enforcement of standards in other areas begins to slip. This will affect training, maintenance, and everything else a Soldier does.

NCOs almost always know the standard but don't enforce it. Why? I have my own thoughts on that. I've been given a number of excuses as to why this happens. One response is “I didn't know.” It is our responsibility as NCOs to know. Another response is “I did not see that or realize.” We as NCOs need to be alert and vigilant at all times, recognize when something is not right. Many times, it is because they don't want to be bothered or inconvenienced. It is our duty to make corrections and enforce standards. As a Noncommissioned Officer, don't walk by a shortcoming.

NCOs should ask themselves one question: “What is the standard?” The good ones identify what the standard is and enforce it ruthlessly; PCC/PCIs, uniform policies, military courtesies, individual training, or maintaining equipment/facilities, it doesn't matter ... they enforce the standard!

The bottom line is, if you are an NCO, be the standard, know the standard, and enforce the standard. If you wear chevrons, it is your duty and responsibility to be “The Keeper of the Standard.”

Standards, live them, breathe them, and enforce them! Without the discipline to enforce standards, we no longer have an Army of excellence. Instead, we have an Army of options. Make no mistake, we, as Noncommissioned Officers will not allow that to happen!

TRAIN THE FORCE!!!

WHO WE ARE

Brig. Gen. Robert B. Abrams, Commanding General
Command Sgt. Maj. Victor Martinez, Post CSM
Col. Jim Chevallier, Garrison Commander
Command Sgt. Maj. Mark A. Harvey, Garrison CSM
John M. Wagstaffe, Director, NTC PAO

High Desert Warrior Staff

Chicpaul Becerra, Editor
chicpaul.becerra@us.army.mil
Gustavo Bahena, Staff Writer
gustavo.bahena@us.army.mil
Charles Melton, Staff Writer
charles.melton3@us.army.mil
Agustin Rodriguez, Editorial Assistant
agustin.rodriguez1@us.army.mil
Caroline Keyser, HDW Volunteer Writer
caroline.gotler@us.army.mil

Aerotech News
Tammi Haynes, Graphic Designer

HIGH DESERT WARRIOR

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SUBMISSIONS

Story and photos not pertaining to commercial advertising may be sent to the High Desert Warrior at least two weeks prior to the desired publication date. Submissions may be e-mailed to chicpaul.becerra@us.army.mil

NEWSPAPER AWARDS

2008 Dept. of the Army
Maj. Gen. Keith L. Ware
Newspaper competition—Tabloid category
3rd place, U.S. Army Installation
Management Command-West
2007 Honorable Mention, Dept. of the Army

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Send your questions, suggestions, or problems to:

1. Your chain of command
2. ICE (Interactive Customer Evaluation)
3. CG's Hotline: 380-5463

ICE Program Gives Customers a Voice

ICE Current Fiscal Year Snapshot Report Oct. 1, 2009–Jan. 24, 2010

Organization	No. of Comments	Rating	Percent Satisfied
916th Support Brigade	1	●	100
AAFES	94	●	24
Commissary	23	●	30
Fort Irwin Garrison	2673	●	88
Veterinary Services	20	●	25
DENTAC	270	●	96
MEDDAC	376	●	81

ICE Year To Date Report Jan. 18–Jan. 24

Organization	No. of Comments	Rating	Percent Satisfied
916th Support Brigade	0	[NOT RATED]	—
AAFES	5	●	60
Commissary	2	●	0
Fort Irwin Garrison	156	●	84
Veterinary Services	3	●	67
DENTAC	18	●	94
MEDDAC	21	●	90

Rating Key: ● = 86%-100% Satisfied | ● = 65%-85% Satisfied | ● = 0%-64% Satisfied

See *ICE*, page 12



CHARLES MELTON

New first sergeants stand ready to serve their units after graduating from the First Sergeant Course and receiving their diploma at the Post Theater, Jan. 28.

First Sergeant Class 05-10 takes its place in NCO Corps

BY CHARLES MELTON
Warrior Staff Writer

Sixteen noncommissioned officers walked across the stage at the Fort Irwin post theater on Jan. 28 as they took their place in the Army as first sergeants.

Sgt. 1st Class Charles Strong and 1st Sgt. James Dobson were honor graduates for the class, which was given its call to leadership by Command Sgt. Maj. Matthew Nemec, Regimental Support Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment.

"After today, you will go back and take

your rightful place in the Army," Command Sgt. Maj. Nemec said, noting that most sergeant majors would love to go back to being first sergeants if asked. "You represent the future of today's Army and many of you are already serving as first sergeants in your units."

As first sergeants, the 16 graduates will take on higher levels of responsibility and leadership, Command Sgt. Maj. Nemec said as he spoke about what leadership is.

"It's something so basic and simple that it's often forgotten," he said. "President Harry Truman said it best when he said,

"The surest way to judge someone is by how well or bad they treat someone who can't talk back."

Taking care of Soldiers extends to taking care of their families, because families bear the brunt of multiple deployments, he said.

"The second quality of leadership is doing the right thing even when it's hard," he said, adding that most people don't make the obvious mistakes, but rather go wrong by looking the other way and pretending something didn't happen. "As a first sergeant you are charged to take a stand and do a hard right."

One of the hardest things the graduates may be called to do is to stand up among their peers and superiors and stick their neck out after a decision has been made and take a "hard right," he said.

As he closed, Command Sgt. Maj. Nemec recited words from the First Sergeant's Creed: "I am a first sergeant. My job is people -- Every one is my business. I dedicate my time and energy to their needs; their health, morale, discipline, and welfare. I grow in strength by strengthening my people. My job is done in faith; my people build faith. My job is people -- everyone is my business."

Red Cross supports WTU programs

STORY AND PHOTOS BY HEATHER ADAMS
Red Cross Public Affairs Chairwoman

The American Red Cross Office at Fort Irwin recently donated equipment and supplies valued at more than \$9,000 in support of two Warrior Transition Unit (WTU) Programs on post.

In October, Betty Ridgeway, an American Red Cross Reservist, coordinating with FSG John Shatto and Social Worker Donna Scarborough, provided more than \$5,000 worth of electronics, clothing, gift cards and personal hygiene items to the Traumatic Brain Injury Program. A month later, Ridgeway worked with Capt. David Spencer and Staff Sgt. William Bagnato and provided approximately \$4,000 in sports equipment to the WTU Adaptive Sports Program.

These donations were part of the American Red Cross' Military Hospital Outreach Program and funded through a Department of Defense grant. The Military Hospital Outreach Program provides materials and volunteer support to wounded, ill, and injured service members and veterans who are receiving in-patient or out-patient care in a military or VA medical facility.

According to Ridgeway, the Outreach Program is an example of how the legacy of American Red Cross organizer, nurse and humanitarian, Clara Barton, lives on in the agency today.



Stephanie Luce, the Fort Irwin Red Cross station manager, holds a volunteer drive at the Post Exchange at Fort Irwin, Calif., Jan. 16.



Warrior Transition Unit Soldiers prepare to grab a piece of cake donated by American Red Cross.

Crime Watch

Information provided by
Provost Marshal Office

Police respond to a report of larceny of private property from a residence in Sage Brush housing area.

Police respond to a report of damage to a privately-owned vehicle (POV) in a barracks parking lot.

Police respond to a report of damage to a residence in Calico Estates housing area.

Police respond to a report of a physical altercation in the Tiefort View housing area. Two persons were charged with domestic assault.

Police respond to a report of theft of post decals from a POV from a barracks parking lot.

Police respond to the Dustbowl Shoppette regarding a report of unauthorized purchases with a credit card. After investigating, one person was ultimately charged with fraudulent use of a credit card.

Police respond to a report of larceny of government property (TA-50 items) that was unsecured and unattended in the bed of a pickup truck in a barracks parking lot.

Police respond to a report of larceny of an iPod, that was unsecured and unattended.



Adopt-a-pet



Name: Jake

Breed: Australian Shepherd mix

Gender: Male

Age: Approx. 1-year-old

Jake is available for adoption at the Fort Irwin Vet's Clinic. Call 380-3025 for more information. You can also check out the Fort Irwin section on www.petfinder.com

News Briefs

Free Dental Screenings

In observance of National Children's Dental Health Month, Fort Irwin Dental Activities Command will provide an oral health screening (dental check-up) for students in grades K-5 on the following dates: Lewis Elementary, Feb. 8 (all day) and morning of Feb. 9; Tiefort View Intermediate School, Feb. 10 (8:30 a.m.-1 p.m.) and Feb. 11 (8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.); Gen. Collin Powell, Feb. 16 and 17 (8-10:30 a.m.) and (11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.); and CDC, Feb. 24 (1-5 p.m.).

MILITARY SPECIAL

Bring this Ad and Come join us for all the Festivities:

Live music by *"The Working Poets"* from 12—3 pm

Magician and Balloon Artists

"Monte Carlo Nights" from 4-9pm

Enjoy our Happy Hour Specials All Day

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Chapel Services

CATHOLIC

Rosary	20 Min before Mass	Center Chapel
Holy Mass	Sunday—9 a.m.	Center Chapel
Daily Mass	M, T, Th, & F—11:45 a.m.	Center Chapel
Confession	30 Min before Mass	Center Chapel
Choir Rehearsal	Wednesday—6:30 p.m.	Center Chapel
CWOC	Thursday—9 a.m.	Center Chapel

PROTESTANT

Isunday School	Sunday—9:30 a.m.	Center Chapel
Chapel Next (SANC)	Sunday—11 a.m.	Center Chapel
Protestant (LAR)	Sunday—11 a.m.	Center Chapel
PEWS (Contem)	Sunday—6 p.m.	Center Chapel
PYOC (Youth)	Monday—7 p.m.	Bldg 317
PWOC Morning	Tuesday—9 a.m.	Center Chapel
PWOC Evening	Tuesday—6 p.m.	Center Chapel
Praise Team Rehearsal	Wednesday—7:30 p.m.	Center Chapel
Protestant-Liturgical		
Worship Service,	9 a.m., Sunday,	Blackhorse Chapel

GOSPEL

Sunday School	Sunday—9:30 a.m.	Blackhorse Chapel
<i>*Sunday School is held every Sunday except the first Sunday of the month</i>		
Worship Service	Sunday—11 a.m.	Blackhorse Chapel
Prayer Warriors	Wednesday—6 p.m.	Blackhorse Chapel
Children's Church &		
Choir Practice	Wednesday—5 p.m.	Blackhorse Chapel
Adult Bible Study	Wednesday—7 p.m.	Blackhorse Chapel
Prayer Men Of Integrity/Women of Excellence		
	2nd Wednesday	
	of the Month—7 p.m.	Blackhorse Chapel

JEWISH

Jewish Service	Friday—6 p.m.	Black Horse Chapel
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LATTER DAY SAINTS

Sacrament Meeting	Sunday—1 p.m.	Blackhorse Chapel
Sunday School	Sunday—2:15 p.m.	Center Chapel
Priesthood/RSE	Sunday—3:10 p.m.	CFLC/Bldg 317

MUSLIM

Friday—1 p.m.	Bldg 317
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CHAPEL ACTIVITIES

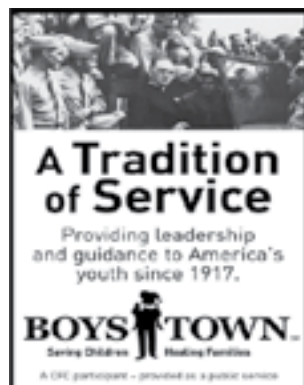
AWANA		
(3yrs- 6th grade)	Wednesday—4 p.m.	Center Chapel
Life Teen	Wednesday—6:30 p.m.	Bldg. 320
MOPS	2nd and 4th Wed—9 a.m.	Center Chapel
Edge	Sunday—10 a.m.	Center Chapel

Note: For more information on chapel activities contact the Center Chapel staff at 380-3562 or the Blackhorse Chapel staff at 380-4088. See back cover for addresses and telephone directory.

AWANA: Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed (2 Tim 2:15)

CWOC:	Catholic Women Of the Chapel
PEWS:	Protestant Evening Worship Service
PWOC:	Protestant Women Of the Chapel
PYOC:	Protestant Youth Of the Chapel
CFLC:	Chaplain Family Life Center, Bldg. 320
MOPS:	Mothers Of PreSchoolers, Bldg. 317
Childcare services for ages 0-5 yrs are provided free of charge for all scheduled chapel services.	

**Protestant
Liturgical Worship
Service
9 a.m., Sunday
at
Blackhorse Chapel**



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Fort Irwin

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Community Happenings

Ski and Snowboard Fun: Reserve a spot at Outdoor Recreation, Bldg. 4100, and head to the slopes with Ski and Snowboard Snow Summit trip, today. Cost: adults (ages 22+) \$ 72; young adults (ages 13-21) \$65; children (ages 7-12) \$44; and children (ages 6 and under) \$29. Price includes transportation — to and from Big Bear, lift ticket, and lunch ticket. Contact Outdoor Recreation at 380-4327.

Annual Mardi Gras: Officers and Civilians Spouses Club will hold its annual Mardi Gras at Reggie's, from 6 p.m. to midnight, Feb. 27. Tickets cost \$12 each and are available at the door. Tickets get you buffet, doubloons for the gambling tables, and entertainment. Festivities include gambling tables, basket auction, silent auction, Bayou Bakery and Gift Shop. Child and Youth Services will offer childcare service (children need to be registered with CYS and reservation). Funds raised at the Mardi Gras will be used to support Fort Irwin community's scholarship and welfare campaigns. For more information, contact Heather Telley, 974-8526.

Women's Basketball Team: Looking for players interested in coming out to represent the Fort Irwin Women's Basketball Team. If interested, signup at the Freedom Fitness Center and Fitness Connection. Contact Raquel Ayers at work, 380-3721 (work) or by cell (907) 687-6925.

Be a Lifeguard: Lifeguard classes are now being offered at the Oasis Pool. Contact the Oasis Pool, Bldg 325. For more information, call 380-3046.

GSAB FRG Events: Following are upcoming General Support Aviation Battalion, Family Readiness Group events:

HHD, GSAB
Feb. 18: HHD FRG meeting; **Time:** 6 p.m., **Location:** Bldg. 1200 Forum. **Topic:** TBD. If you should have any questions please contact Ms. Hunter at 380-7781 or email: hhdfrg507@gmail.com.

AAD, GSAB
AAD FRG has not yet scheduled their next meeting. If you should have any questions, please contact Sherry Martin at (207) 664-8021 or email: aadfrg@gmail.com.

AVCO, GSAB
AVCO FRG meeting is scheduled to be in February but no time, date or location has been set. If you should have any questions, please contact Robin Stewart at 252-7592 or email: acanrobin@yahoo.com.

1916th Support Battalion:

Battalion Ball
Place: Monte Carlo Hotel, Las Vegas, NV
Date and Time: April 1 at 6 p.m.
POC: Company 1SG
Cinderella Closet
Place: Cracker Jack Flats Community Center
Date and Time: Feb. 24 at 6 p.m.

2nd HET, 1916 SB:
FRG Meeting
Place: Sandy Basin Annex
Date and Time: Feb. 8 at 5 p.m.
POC: 2tcfrg@gmail.com

557th Maintenance
FRG Meeting
Place: BN Conference Room (Bldg. 281)
Date and Time: Feb 9 at 7 p.m.
POC: 557thfrg@gmail.com

HHC, 1916th SB
FRG Meeting
Place: Crackerjack Flats CC
Date and Time: March 11 at 6 p.m.
POC: hhccssbfrg@gmail.com

Empowering Women: Register now for the 2010 Fort Irwin Women's Conference, to be held on April 9, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., at Reggie's. The event will be hosted by the Fort Irwin Officers and Civilians Spouses Club and MWR. Enjoy creative workshops, and hear luncheon guest speaker Tanya Biank, author of "Army Wives." Her book inspired the hit Lifetime series Army Wives. Child care is available. Please contact FortIrwinWomensConference@gmail.com or visit www.fortirwinocsc.org for pricing and more information.

Village Mayors Wanted: The mission of the mayoral program is to enhance the quality of life and to provide information and referral to Fort Irwin residents. If you're interested, contact Army Community Service at 380-3776.

Spouses' Orientation Tour: Are you new to Fort Irwin? Check out the 2-day Spouses' Tour - attendance required for both days of the tour. Participants must be military ID card holders. The tour is free of charge and child care is provided. Space is limited and children must be enrolled at Central Enrollment. For more information, call 380-2258.

Photo Contest: Enter the 2010 Fort Irwin Women's Conference photo contest. Judges will look for a photo that is inspiring and meaningful and demonstrates a woman or women in an "Empowering Moment." The winner will have their work unveiled and displayed at the women's conference, presented by Fort Irwin Officers and Civilians Spouses Club and MWR on April 9, from 8 a.m.-4 p.m., at Reggie's. The conference theme is "Empowering Women: The Complete Picture." Deadline for submissions is April 1. For contest rules and details please write fortirwinwomensconference@gmail.com or visit www.ftirwinocsc.org.

Watch Fight Night: Watch Ultimate Fighting Championship Night at Shock Wave on Saturday, 7 p.m., with "Relentless" Couture vs. Coleman. The pizza buffet costs \$5 and \$10 cover. Call 380-3045 for details.

Watch your Weight: Weight Watchers' weekly meetings are on Thursdays, at 12 noon, Bldg. 317 (2nd Street and Avenue E). Signup and weigh-in start at 11:30 a.m. Public is free to check out the meeting. More information: call Christine at 298-3438 or getfit@ww-Christine.com.

Military Career Expo: Military.com and NCOA will co-host a Military Career Expo at Camp Pendleton's South Mesa Club, located at 202850 San Jacinto Road, Camp Pendleton, California 92055, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Feb. 16. Military.com hosts the largest veteran job board in the world while NCOA has been a leader in hosting military job fairs around the country.

Super Bowl Party: Shock Wave will host a Super Bowl Party on Sunday. The party starts at noon and kick off starts at 3:30 p.m. Enjoy food, fun, games and a plasma television giveaway. Watch the game on oversize screens. Call 380-8646 for details.

Strike Zone's Bowl: The Strike Zone will have Super Bowl fun on Sunday. Enjoy \$1 food specials at half time and special giveaways. Also, featured is a special menu, featuring dishes from regions of the two competing teams. Stop by during game day. Call 380-4249 for more information.

Valentine's Dinner Special: Fall in love with our Valentine's menu at Reggie's on Feb. 14, from 5-9 p.m. Enjoy menu items like Roasted Red Pepper Gouda Bisque, New York Strip with Seared Bay Scallops, Cream Poached Lobster Tail and more. Call 380-6717 for details.

Watch Team Irwin: Fort Irwin community is invited to watch their NTC/Fort Irwin Post Basketball Team play the Edwards AFB team at the Freedom Fitness Center, 1 p.m., Saturday. The team is currently 2-0 with wins over Camp Pendleton, 73-59 and 29 Palms, 71-70. For more information, contact 'Scoop' Seals, Adult Sports Office manager, 380-3457.

Comics on Duty: Have some fun and see FREE SHOW Comics on Duty at Shock Wave, 7 p.m., Feb. 25. Hear Steve Bills, P.J. Walsh, James P. Connolly and Gary Brightwell. Call 380-8646 for more information.

Dependent Scholarships: Scholarship applications for dependent children of Soldiers who are on active duty, retired, or deceased are now available until March 1. Online applications, information, and details for the Maj. Gen. James Ursano Scholarship Program can be obtained at the Army Emergency Relief website: www.aerhq.org. The program was established in 1976 as a secondary mission to help Army families with undergraduate college expenses for their dependent children. Applicants will be notified by mail in the first week of June if they have or have not been awarded a scholarship.

Child And Youth Activities

Middle School Activities

Thursday — Cooking Club Cupcakes, Technology Cubism
Friday — Mardi Gras Noise Makers, Open Computer Lab
Monday — V-Day Mailbox, Logo Design
Tuesday — Bear Magnets, Newspaper Club
Wednesday — Smart Girls, 4-H, ULTIMATE JOURNEY

Teen Activities


Friday — Jewelry Making and Scarf Making
Saturday — Fajita's

Hours of Operation:

Middle School: Mon.-Fri. until 6 p.m.
Teen Center:
Friday — 6-11 p.m.
Saturday — 3:30-11 p.m.
Sundays and Holidays — Closed
More information: Kristin Morgan at 380-3732.

At the Movies

Thursday, Feb. 4 7 p.m. Closed (PG-13)	9:30 p.m. Sherlock Holmes (PG-13)
Friday, Feb. 5 7 p.m. Did You Hear About The Morgans (PG-13)	9:30 p.m. Precious (R)
7 p.m. It's Complicated (R)	Sunday, Feb. 7 4 p.m. The Princess and The Frog (G)
9:30 p.m. Sherlock Holmes (PG-13)	7 p.m. Sherlock Holmes (PG-13)
9:30 p.m. Precious (R)	7 p.m. Precious (R)
Saturday, Feb. 6 7 p.m. Did You Hear About The Morgans (PG-13)	Monday, Feb. 8 7 p.m. Sherlock Holmes (PG-13)
7 p.m. It's Complicated (R)	7 p.m. Did You Hear About The Morgans (PG-13)
	Tuesday, Feb. 9 7 p.m. Closed (PG-13)
	Wednesday, Feb. 10 7 p.m. Closed (PG-13)



This schedule is subject to change at the last minute to accommodate changes in movies and free showings. ID cards are required from all personnel not in uniform when purchasing movie tickets. For more information and movie updates, call 380-3490.



Fort Irwin Community Calendar

Thu., Feb. 4

Acquisition Training
8 a.m.
Sandy Basin Community Center
Ernest Hill, 380-8311/3066

Sat., Feb. 6

Basketball Game – Fort Irwin vs. Edwards
1 p.m.
Freedom Fitness Center
Adult Sports Office, 380-3457

Sun., Feb. 7

Super Bowl Fun
3 p.m.
The Strike Zone
380-4249

Wed., Feb. 10

Job Fair
10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Reggie's, Bldg. 37

Silvia Moreno, 380-5165

Tue., Feb. 16

COR Certification Training by ALMC
All Day
MICC Bldg. 503
Ernest Hill, 380-8311

Wed., Feb. 24

Troop to Teachers Presentation
11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
Fort Irwin Education Center,
Bldg. 1020
380-4218

Thu., Feb. 25

Comics on Duty
7 p.m.
Shock Wave
380-8646

Sat., Feb. 27

Mardi Gras Fund Raiser

6-12 a.m.

Reggie's
Heather Telley, 974-8526



Check out these upcoming activities at Fort Irwin

Celebrating Black History Month

HISTORY CHANNEL

Web site Information Page

Black History Month is a national annual observance for remembrance of important people and events in the history of the African diaspora. It is celebrated annually in the United States and Canada in February and the United Kingdom in the month of October.

The remembrance originated in 1926 by historian Carter G. Woodson as "Negro History Week." Woodson chose the second week of February because it marked the birthdays of two Americans who greatly influenced the lives and social condition of African Americans: former President Abraham Lincoln and abolitionist and former slave Frederick Douglass. Woodson also founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, now the Association for the Study of African American Life and History.

Black History

The history of African Americans and Black America is given close consideration during Black History Month. National, social, scientific and political contributions by black americans are recognized during Black History Month. Historic accounts related to the civil war era, the civil rights movement of 1955-1968, mainstream technological advances and inventions that have had positive impact on the economy of a nation are often considered. The following lists popular subjects of research, discussion and review during this annual observance:

- Abolitionist Movements
- African-American History Timeline
- African American Scientists
- African Americans in Politics
- African American Poets
- African American Artists
- African American Writers
- African American Movie Directors
- African American Entertainers

- Civil Rights Timeline
- Civil Rights Heroes
- Civil War of 1861-1865
- Famous Civil Rights March on Washington
- Famous Firsts by African Americans
- Important Cities in Black History
- Notable Speeches by African Americans
- Reconstruction 1865-1877
- Slavery in America
- Ten Important Supreme Court Decisions in Black History
- Scholars of African-American history
- Herbert Aptheker
- Ira Berlin
- John Henrik Clarke
- W. E. B. Du Bois
- Eric Foner
- Elizabeth Fox-Genovese
- Steven Hahn
- John Hope Franklin
- Henry Louis Gates, Jr.
- Eugene Genovese
- Lorenzo Greene
- Vincent Harding
- William Loren Katz
- Peter Kolchin
- David Levering Lewis
- Leon F. Litwack
- Rayford Logan
- Manning Marable
- Gwendolyn Midlo Hall
- Cedric Robinson
- Mark S. Weiner
- Nell Irvin Painter
- Charles H. Wesley
- Carter G. Woodson

Notable Milestones of Black Inventors/Scientists

Excerpt of a list of over 500 African American Inventors with owned patents:

Christopher P. Adams

Patent #5,641,658, 6/24/1997, Method for performing amplification of nucleic acid with two primers bound to a single solid support

Patent Moses T. Asom

Patent #5,386,126, 1/31/1995, Semiconductor devices based on optical transitions between quasibound energy levels

Bertram F Baker

Patent #1,582,659, 4/27/1926, Automatic Cashier

Patricia Bath

Patent #5,919,186, 7/6/1999, Laser apparatus for surgery of cataractous lenses

James A Bauer

Patent #3,490,571, 1/20/1970, Coin Changer Mechanism

William N. Cobbs

Patent #1,780,865, 11/4/1930, Locomotive headlight

James Cooper

Patent #536,605, 4/2/1895, Elevator safety device

Sarah E Goode

Patent #322,177, 7/14/1885, Cabinet bed

Meredith C Gourdine

Over 15 patented inventions relating to Electro-gas dynamics

Mary Beatrice Kenner

Patent #3,957,071, 5/18/1976, Carrier attachment for invalid walkers
Patent #4,354,643, 10/19/1982, Bathroom tissue holder
Patent #4,696,068, 9/29/1987, Shower wall and bathtub mounted back washer

For more information go to www.irwin.army.mil

Standardized rifle marksmanship program could go Armywide

BY VINCE LITTLE

Army News Service

FORT BENNING, Ga. — An advanced rifle marksmanship concept developed at Fort Benning based on “lessons learned” in Iraq and Afghanistan might be instituted across all Army training centers later this year, officials said.

Col. Terry Sellers, operations officer for the Maneuver Center of Excellence, said Combat Familiarization Fire, or ARM 6, has not been formally added to the Army program of instruction, but that could happen around May as part of an overall POI review. New lesson plans are being drafted for the marksmanship field manual to include the CFF version standardized here.

“Some leaders have been taking different variations of this initiative and philosophy to operational units elsewhere for the past year-and-a-half,” he said. “The goal is to make it one standard for all the training centers ... A lot of people want to help make the strategy better, but we’re making sure the formal lesson plans match what’s being done.”

CFF is the culmination of a Soldier’s marksmanship training from basic to advanced, said Capt. Ron Reed, the 198th Infantry Brigade’s operations officer. For about a year, it’s been taught to infantry Soldiers in one-station unit training and basic training with the 198th and 192nd Infantry brigades.

“It was implemented in response to lessons learned in theater,” Reed said. “It’s intended to give a realistic experience for a Soldier deploying to Iraq or Afghanistan ... (Soldiers) learn the fundamentals and apply them. They are thinking about their next firing position, how many rounds they have to fire and time management under the stress factor of a full-combat load.



VINCE LITTLE, THE BAYONET

Pvt. Bryce Boyer of D Company, 1st Battalion, 50th Infantry Regiment, takes part in combat familiarization training Jan. 12 on Fort Benning, Ga.

Plus, the training factors in the weapon malfunction.”

Within the program, Soldiers fire from behind barriers at pop-up targets 50 to 300 meters away, Reed said. They have 30 rounds, and a dummy round is inserted into each of the three magazines to simulate a malfunction. Shooters must hit 16 of 26 targets.

In normal rifle qualification, Soldiers fire from a known distance in various predetermined positions. During CFF, they qualify in full combat gear using the barriers to move to and from different points. The Soldiers also choose the position - prone, kneeling, sitting or standing - they want to fire from based on where the target appears.

Before CFF’s inception, basic trainees and infantry OSUT Soldiers were not exposed to advanced rifle marksmanship, said Staff Sgt. Adolfo Adame, a drill sergeant with D Company, 1st Battalion, 50th Infantry Regiment, which recently completed the training. They only had to go through M-4 qualifications.

“This style is much better because it’s what they’ll see in an urban environment like Afghanistan or Iraq,” Adame said. “It’s going to take more than one round to take down an individual that’s coming at them or shooting at them ... Now, you got a thinking Soldier on the ground who understands, ‘I need some kind of cover to engage the enemy and not just stand out in the open and get hit.’”

Pvt. Brian Jackson of D Company said CFF was beneficial as he learned about the firing tactics used in combat.

“The drill sergeants are giving us a lot of knowledge about their experiences overseas. What we’re doing here is what it’s like ... so I feel I’ll be prepared when I leave,” he said.

“The other firing experiences we had were getting us used to the weapons. Here, you’re actually having to take cover and pop up, with targets coming back up after firing.”

Sellers said CFF emphasizes improvisation while building agile, adaptable, flexible Soldiers. The strategy speeds their development ahead of a combat deployment by mixing complexities with existing standards, he said.

“We got feedback from the field in Iraq and Afghanistan that the training centers needed to do a better job training Soldiers so they can integrate immediately upon arrival and have some idea of what they’ll see in a combat environment,” Sellers said. “We’re now getting benefits from the confidence and competence of these kids being able to use their weapons more effectively.”

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Guidance on National Defense Authorization Act retirement changes announced

BY OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

News Release

A Benefits Administration Letter (BAL) was issued on Jan. 12 from the Office of Personnel Management providing general guidance concerning the benefits under the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) and the Federal Employees' Retirement System (FERS) that have been affected by the "National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010", Public Law 111-84, signed on Oct. 28, 2009.

Further analysis related to the effects of these changes is being conducted by the organization, and informational materials and forms will be updated as needed on their website. Additional BALs will be issued as warranted.

The "National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010," Public Law 111-84, provides for the following benefits changes under CSRS and FERS:

Part-Time Reemployment — Credit for unused sick leave under FERS - Limited expansion of the class of individuals eligible to receive an actuarially reduced annuity under the CSRS — Computation of CSRS annuities based on part-time service — Authority to deposit refunds under FERS — Retirement credit for service of certain employees transferred from District of Columbia service to federal service - Non-foreign area retirement equity assurance

More details about each of these changes can be found on the OPM Web Site and by reviewing the following document: <http://www.opm.gov/retire/pubs/bals/2010/10-101.pdf>



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Tax Center now open



CHARLES MELTON.

Command Sgt. Maj. Victor Martinez, post command sergeant major, center, leads fellow Soldiers in opening the Fort Irwin Tax Center, at Building 288, on Jan. 19. The Tax Center is currently able to e-file tax returns. Tax center is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on a walk-in basis. Center is open on Thursdays, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. by appointment only. Bring necessary documents, including military ID, social security card, wage and earning statements, bank routing numbers and account numbers for direct deposit of refund. For more information, call 380-3604.

Mission of National Training Center at forefront of National Prayer Breakfast

BY CHARLES MELTON

Warrior Staff Writer

As Chaplain (Brig. Gen.) Donald Rutherford spoke at Fort Irwin and the National Training Center's National Prayer Breakfast on Monday morning, he emphasized the mission of the National Training Center, which is "Train the force."

"Every one of you is here for a reason. There is a reason you are here," Brig. Gen. Rutherford told the more than 100 soldiers gathered for the event. "Because you are chosen, you are gifted. Because you are individuals who are called to every day to impart that vision to train the force, to prepare them for what may lie ahead."

Everyone at Fort Irwin and the National Training Center is called to do exactly that, he said.

"To see the vision, to dream, to communicate and to do. That is our calling. The Lord has asked us to do that we're all about," he said.

The Bible is filled with examples of people of vision like in the Book of

Revelation and in the Old Testament as prophets like Zechariah, who spoke about a city of no more walls, he said.

"You are the master builders, the ones who have the vision to go out and help them," Brig. Gen. Rutherford said.

Everyone at Fort Irwin and the National Training Center has been given a vision and build upon the past as they impart that knowledge to those who are about to deploy, Brig. Gen. Rutherford said.

As Fort Irwin/National Training Center Commanding General Brig. Gen. Robert "Abe" Abrams introduced Chaplain (Brig. Gen.) Donald Rutherford, Brig. Gen. Abrams called him a "muddy boots kind of chaplain."

"His bio is in the program and you'll see he's had quite a variety of assignments in the Army," Brig. Gen. Abrams said. "He's one of those guys you look at and wonder what's that chaplain, what's that general all about. The combat badge was well-earned on his part. He's been to all the places all of us have and endured the same hardships."

Fort Irwin/National Training Center Chaplain (Col.) Dennis Newton told everyone that Fort Irwin and the National Training Center are committed to serving everyone as he welcomed the Jewish and Muslim communities to the event.

"It's a special day. We have come together to think about spiritual things and not just our own traditions perhaps, even though those are important to us," Col. Newton said. "As we open up, just want you to be reminded from all the religious groups everyone is reminded to take care of each other, even as Jesus said, 'No greater love hath anyone than that they would give their life for another.'"

During the course of the ceremony a Jewish soldier read from the Torah and a Muslim soldier read from the Koran and Chaplain (Maj.) Jacques Vaillancourt from the Canadian unit currently training at the National Training Center gave a prayer for world peace as Fort Irwin and the National Training Center came together to fellowship during the National Prayer Breakfast.



Chaplain (Brig. Gen.) Donald Rutherford addresses Fort Irwin community during National Prayer Breakfast.

CW4 William Buchanan receives recognition from U.S. Army Forces Command

STORY AND PHOTO BY GUSTAVO BAHENA

Warrior Staff Writer

Chief Warrant Officer 4 William Buchanan is not that type of person to brag about his work, much less his accomplishments that deserved him a Framed Star Coin award from United States Army Forces Command that was presented to him Jan. 26 on Fort Irwin.

Buchanan, who is the safety officer for G3 Aviation at the National Training Center, was given the award signed by Brig. Gen. Eric Porter, the G1 chief at FORSCOM out of Fort McPherson, Ga. Presenting the award was Mario Gabriel, Jr., FORSCOM aviation safety manager.

Buchanan assisted with operations and logistics required for the investigation of three aviation accidents that occurred to a unit during a recent training rotation. Investigations were conducted by a team from FORSCOM. The award citation stated: *Your quick actions in anticipation of operational and logistical requirements allowed each investigation board to concentrate on the tasks at hand, thereby enhancing the quality of the total investigation process. Thanks for an outstanding performance and a job well done.*

Buchanan's support ensured the investigation boards were conducted appropriately, said Gabriel.

"After the first accident Mr. Buchanan started securing the site, securing evidence, providing for or making allocations for those resources that we would need in a short time," Gabriel said. "I think his commander and everybody else who works with him, for him or above him, should be very glad that they have him, because he handled all three accident investigation boards. Mr. Buchanan's performance was well, without question, above and beyond."

Buchanan was quick to give credit to several staff at the NTC who provided the support he needed to accomplish his duties.

"I would be highly remiss if I did not include the people who helped me," Buchanan said. "All I did was facilitate and ask for favors. I'm accepting on behalf of everyone here. It's a safety conscious post and everyone is willing to help. I'm honored, on their behalf, to accept [the award] for them."

Buchanan also thanked his wife, Suzanne, who was in attendance to see the presentation.

"My wife who allows me the time to spend at work and get these things done during the long hours," Buchanan said. "Without her support, taking care of our three kids, I wouldn't be here today. Because of her I can be here and still do my job."



(Left) Col. Joseph Wawro, chief of staff at the National Training Center, shakes hands with Chief Warrant Officer 4 William Buchanan, safety officer for G3 Aviation at the NTC, after a presentation of an award Jan. 26 on Fort Irwin. Buchanan received a Framed Star Coin award from United States Army Forces Command signed by Brig. Gen. Eric Porter, the G1 chief at FORSCOM out of Fort McPherson, Ga. Wawro said about Buchanan: "A super leader here at the National Training Center making things happen in especially a very critical area for us — our G3 Aviation."

Housing, from page 1



(Right to left) Sgt. 1st Class Travis Williams, of Operations Group, wife Taquanula, daughter TaKira, 2, and son Travis II, 10, enjoy ribbon cutting ceremony, held in front of their residence on Rhineland Drive, held Jan. 28. The ceremony celebrated the construction and delivery of 715 homes for Soldiers and their families. The construction of new homes began in 2004 with the creation of the communities Cracker Jack Flats, Sleepy Hollow and Sandy Basin I and II.

near the house. She said the housing here is at a higher standard compared to what she has previously seen.

Col. Jim Chevallier, commander of the Fort Irwin U.S. Army Garrison, said that Soldiers and families have higher expectations of what housing should be and Fort Irwin is part of the Army's transformation towards improved housing.

"In terms of quality of life, it is without a doubt, the single biggest improvement to quality of life for Soldiers and families at the National Training Center," Chevallier said.

For more information go to www.irwin.army.mil

ICE, from page 2

Fort Irwin Garrison Organizations

Organization	No. of Comments	Rating	Percent Satisfied
Fort Irwin Garrison	172	●	84
Family, Morale, Welfare, and Recreation	46	●	76
Civilian Personnel Advisory Center	2	●	0
Equal Employment Opportunity	0	[NOT RATED]	—
Human Resources	88	●	98
Information Management	5	●	60
Legal	4	●	33
Logistics	2	●	50
Pinnacle Housing	3	●	33
Plans, Analysis & Integration Office	2	●	0
Police/Provost Marshall	5	●	50
Public Affairs	0	[NOT RATED]	—
Public Works	8	●	100
RCI Housing	0	[NOT RATED]	—
Religious Support	1	●	0
Resource Management Office	1	[NOT RATED]	—
Safety	0	[NOT RATED]	—
NTC HQ Adjunct General Office		[NOT RATED]	—
American Red Cross	0	[NOT RATED]	—
Armed Forces Bank	2	●	50
Community Information Manager	1	●	100
Landmark Inn	0	[NOT RATED]	—
Military Family Life Consultants	0	[NOT RATED]	—
Plans, Training, Security	0	[NOT RATED]	—
WIC (Woman, Infants, and Children)	1	●	0

Rating Key: ● = 86%-100% Satisfied | ● = 65%-85% Satisfied | ● = 0%-64% Satisfied

See ICE, page 13

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NCOs inducted to Sgt. Audie Murphy Club

STORY AND PHOTOS BY GUSTAVO BAHENA
Warrior Staff Writer

The Sergeant Audie Murphy Club recently welcomed six noncommissioned officers from Fort Irwin into the ranks of its organization, which is named after an American military hero.

The induction took place during a ceremony held Jan. 28 at Sandy Basin Community Center on post. In attendance were Fort Irwin and National Training Center and Fort Irwin commander, Brig. Gen. Robert "Abe" Abrams, and Command Sgt. Maj. Victor Martinez, the post command sergeant major and senior SAMC member.

The inducted NCOs are: Sgt. Matthew Squires, with Fort Irwin U.S. Army Garrison; Staff Sgt. Adam Sahlberg, with U.S. Army Medical Activity Command; Sgt. 1st Class Robert Ferguson, with Operations Group; Sgt. 1st Class Ralph Philpott, with 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, and; Sgt. 1st Class Tennyson Grant, with 916th Support Brigade. Sgt. Guadalupe Morelos, with 916th Support Brigade, was not present at the ceremony, but she is also now a member of the illustrious club.

The SAMC is an organization comprised of NCOs who, after recommendations from their leadership, have undergone a rigorous board process to be selected for induction. The organization is named after Audie Murphy, the most highly decorated Army veteran who fought in World War II. He received every decoration for valor that this country had to offer plus five decorations presented to him by France and Belgium.

Army installations who have SAMC chapters recruit for new members, and on Fort Irwin, the club has been active in identifying SAMC members and organizing the recruitment process. The club president, Sgt. 1st Class Catherine Harris (NCOIC for S1 personnel at 916th Support Brigade), said that the focus of the club is for its



(Left to right) New SAMC inductees: Sgt. 1st Class Robert Ferguson, with Operations Group; Sgt. 1st Class Tennyson Grant, with 916th Support Brigade; Sgt. 1st Class Ralph Philpott, with 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment; Staff Sgt. Adam Sahlberg, with U.S. Army Medical Activity Command; and Sgt. Matthew Squires, with Fort Irwin U.S. Army Garrison. They are flanked by (left) National Training Center Command and Fort Irwin Sgt. Maj. Victor Martinez, and (right) post commander, Brig. Gen. Robert "Abe" Abrams. Not pictured is Sgt. Guadalupe Morelos, with 916th Support Brigade.

members to be active in the community. The club has volunteered at the Barstow Veterans Home, sponsored a canned-food and clothing drive for the Women's Shelter in Barstow, and has sponsored Junior ROTC programs at high schools in West Covina and Ontario, Calif.

"We give back to the community," Harris said.

Martinez said that the ceremony was more than an induction, because it is part of a Soldier recognition program. The NCOs that have been inducted were winners of numerous boards such as 'Soldier of the Month' and 'NCO of the Month.'

"This is not an easy thing to achieve, so I applaud their efforts ... to compete and then to be able to get inducted," Martinez said before introducing Abrams, who was guest speaker.

Abrams said he conducted physical training

that morning with the inductees and other SAMC members and had enthused during the session.

"It was incredibly motivating for me as com-

manding general, and as an officer, to be in the presence of noncommissioned officers ... who are motivated, excited about what they do, proud, professional, and who never missed a beat," Abrams said. "It is inspirational."

The general described the new SAMC members as selfless servants who have distinguished themselves as the "best of the best."

"They put forth the extra effort," Abrams said. "They have the tough jobs. They have prepared themselves mentally and physically. They have gone the extra mile every day to lead by outstanding personal example."

Ferguson thanked the Sidewinder and Tarantula Teams of Operations Group for having supported him throughout the process. This was Ferguson's third attempt at being selected to the organization. His interest in being a member is not just about status.

"It's not about just going to the boards, and it's not a 'check the block,'" Ferguson said. "It's about helping the community and helping other Soldiers and NCOs as well. Also, helping out at Soldier activities and setting the right example."

The SAMC is sponsored by the High Desert Chapter of the Association of the United States Army. For more information about SAMC, call Harris at 380-8386.



A packed house of Soldiers and family observed the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club induction ceremony at Sandy Basin Community Center at Fort Irwin, Jan. 29.

ICE, from page 12

The following are a sampling of ICE submissions at Fort Irwin in the past three weeks. If the customer requests a response, service providers are expected to respond to the customer within three business days and post follow-up notes in ICE.

DFAC No. 2

Customer Comment: The food is terrible. More orange chicken on Chinese day please. Everyone likes, why did they take it away? I can't eat the baked chicken anymore, it makes me throw up. I also can't eat the Mexican food either. I guess the quality of the food is just so poor. I would go to Burger King, but you know it's not healthy to eat that food every day. **Agency Response:** Comment was reviewed by Logistics staff, but no contact information was provided.

AAFES Shoppette

Customer Comment: There are two people associated with this store that need special recognition. I arrived on this post in July, 2009, and went to every available place on post that I knew of to buy the brand of cigarettes I smoke. At the 24-hour Shoppette, I was told I was the only person on post that smokes that brand and they would not order them for me. Finally in January I found the Sandcastle Shoppette and

met a young lady, she offered to order my brand. Long story short, the wrong brand was ordered, but instead of leaving it there, the store manager Charles jumped in and made an order for me. Now as it turns out I am NOT the only person on Fort Irwin who smokes this brand, another lady had been going through the same thing, and when I told her about Charles and his staff, she went over there also. The fine manager Charles and the other people he has working for him know how to treat a customer. **Agency Staff:** Comment was reviewed by AAFES management, but customer did not leave contact info or request response.

Shockwave

Customer Comment: TVs should be on News and Sports only, not Soap Operas (ABC) i.e. Manager should always know what is going on in the facility, not hiding upstairs all day, every day. **Agency:** Comment reviewed but customer did not request a response or leave contact information.

916th Sustainment Rotational Unit Coordination Center

Customer Comment: Very informative and able to meet our unit's needs. This is definitely an asset to NTC. The

Transportation Integration at the SRUCC really helped us and went beyond their call. **Agency Response:** 916th personnel reviewed comment, but customer did not request a response or leave contact information.

Commissary

Customer Comment: Again, I am unable to purchase what I need at the Commissary because everything was out of stock; this time it happened to be frozen pizza. The entire section was empty except for a few random ones squeezed down the back of the shelves. When will Fort Irwin learn to order more stock?! **Agency Response:** Comment reviewed by Commissary staff, but no request for response or contact information given by customer.

Veterinary Clinic

Customer Comment: I have used the Veterinary Service here on post four times, and the staff makes every effort to see you and your beloved pet are cared for and made to feel as if your problem is theirs. I appreciate the treatment we have always received every time we needed them. Keep up the good work. **Agency Response:** Comment reviewed by Clinic staff, but no response requested of contact information provided.

Screenings to save your life

BY SHARI LOPATIN
TriWest Healthcare Alliance

While January is a great time to plan for your health in 2010, you'll never find a wrong time to get vital screening tests. Whether you're a man or a woman, age 25 or 65, make sure to talk with your doctor about the screening tests listed below. These services are available to you and your eligible family members at no cost. You'll find no authorizations, cost-shares, copayments or deductibles for eligible TRICARE beneficiaries. These tests could save your life.

For women

- **Breast cancer:** TRICARE covers one mammogram every 12 months for women older than 39. If a woman is considered high-risk for breast cancer, she can begin receiving mammograms at 35 years old.
- **Cervical cancer:** You can test for cervical cancer by getting regular Pap smear tests. TRICARE covers both pelvic exams and Pap tests together when necessary, or every year beginning at age 18. Once a woman has three consecutive normal Pap tests,

TRICARE will cover screenings once every three years unless a doctor recommends otherwise.

For men

- **Prostate Cancer:** TRICARE covers prostate screenings tests for men who are:
- older than 50
- older than 40 and had a vasectomy
- ages 40-49 with a family history of prostate cancer.

For everyone

- **Colon Cancer:** Several screening options are available, such as the fecal occult blood test, sigmoidoscopy and colonoscopy. People who have a history of colon cancer in their family should talk with their doctor about when and how often to have screening tests.
- **Cholesterol:** Know your numbers! It could affect your heart. TRICARE covers a cholesterol test once every five years, starting at 18 years old, unless it's medically necessary for more frequent screenings.

Remember that when you obtain these services from a TRICARE-authorized provider, you are not responsible for any portion of the cost, even if you have not met your deductible.

For additional information, visit the prevention page at www.TriWest.com/prevention.

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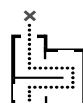
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Pay, medical, family issues highlight budget request

BY DONNA MILES

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Recognizing the nation's responsibility to support its men and women in uniform and their families, President Barack Obama will request increased funding for military pay, housing allowances, family support programs and care for wounded warriors, White House officials said today.

The budget request, expected to be released Feb. 1, will include a 1.4 percent basic pay raise officials say is designed to keep military pay increases in line with those in the private sector. The request also will include an average housing allowance increase of 4.2 percent, as well as a variety of enlistment and re-enlistment bonuses and monthly payments for specialty skills.

Family support programs will grow three percent if Congress approves the request - to \$8.8 billion - to support the family members who officials credit with providing the strength and stability on which the uniformed force relies.

The request will include \$1.3 billion to make affordable, high-quality child care services more available at 800 military child development centers stateside and overseas. This represents an \$87 million increase over fiscal 2010 funding levels, officials noted.

Expanded counseling and assistance services to be funded in the new budget will help families meet the challenges of repeated deployments and family separations, officials noted. The president will request \$1.9 billion for these services, which range from financial counseling to transition and relocation assistance, up \$37 million from fiscal 2010 funding.

In addition, the request will include \$84 million for enhanced career and educational opportunities for military spouses through tuition assistance and federal internship programs. This represents a \$12 million increase over current funding.

Another provision in the request will provide \$439 million to build 10 new Department of Defense Education Activity schools. This is the first step in a Defense Department plan to replace or renovate 103 of the schools by 2015, providing military children what officials called "the world-class education they deserve," offered in "world-class facilities."

Providing high-quality medical care for more than 9.5 million servicemembers and their families and military retirees — but especially wounded, ill and injured troops — remains a top administration priority, officials said. Toward that end, the fiscal 2011 budget request includes support for wounded warrior transition units and centers of excellence in vision, hearing, traumatic brain injury and other areas.

Specifically, it includes: \$30.9 billion overall for medical care, up 5.8 percent from current levels; \$669 million to provide TBI and psychological health care; and \$250 million for continued mental-health and TVI research.

The budget request also will fund more employment and job training for military spouses and veterans, officials noted. It provides \$262 million for the Labor Department's Veterans Employment and Training Service, up \$6 million from fiscal 2010 levels. This includes \$5 million for a new initiative to help homeless women veterans and homeless families.

Another effort, to provide more employment workshops for spouses of separating servicemembers, will receive \$1 million in the president's budget request.

The budget request also seeks to expand veterans' access to medical care, officials noted. Obama will request \$50.6 billion in advance appropriations for the VA medical care program to ensure veterans' care isn't interrupted due to budget delays. The goal, officials explained, is to ensure VA has timely, predictable funding from year to year, so veterans can rely on the quality and accessibility of the care they receive through VA.

For the first time, highly disabled veterans who are medically retired from the military will be eligible to receive both VA disability benefits and military retirement benefits. By 2015, all medically retired servicemembers will be eligible to receive concurrent benefits, officials said.

The fiscal 2011 budget request also provides funds to continue enrolling more than 500,000 veterans with moderate income into the VA health care system by 2011.

Another measure in the request funds technology to improve the timely, high-quality delivery of health care and benefits, officials said. The Defense Department and VA are implementing the Joint Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record - essentially an electronic medical record that will follow a servicemember from initial enlistment through retirement or separation and transition to the VA system.

The request also includes more than \$200 million in automated processing to directly improve both the accuracy and timeliness of

the delivery of veterans benefits - particularly disability compensation and the new Post-9/11 GI Bill benefit, officials said.

Speaking to military spouses today at the Joint Armed Forces Officers' Wives Club at Bolling Air Force Base here, first lady Michelle Obama said the budget request represents a shared interest among administration officials, Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates and Joint Chiefs Chairman Navy Adm. Mike Mullen, and the entire military chain of command to take care of servicemembers and their families.

"The quality of the lives of our military and their families means a great deal, because in the history of our all-volunteer forces, we've never asked so much of so few," she said. "We've seen the huge burden of eight years of war on our troops - tour after tour, year after year, missing out on moments that every parent treasures: a baby's first steps, the first words, the day the training wheels come off the bike, birthdays, anniversaries."

Obama said she's been inspired by the spirit of the men and women in uniform and the families who stand with them as they serve the nation.

"All of you - our troops and families - you do your duty, and you do it without complaint," she said. "You give your all and ask very little in return — only that we back you up so our troops can do their job."

"That's why my husband and his administration have worked to do right by our armed forces and their families," she said, "to be there for you like you have been there for us, to lighten your load as all of you have lightened ours."

Come have some fun at Ingalls Recreation Center

Did you know Ingalls Recreation Center has two movie rooms with DVD players, Satellite, movie theater seating and 60" plasma televisions FREE to use!!? Grab your friends and come watch your favorite sitcom or bring a movie or check out one of ours. Don't forget we also have WiFi, arcade games, ping pong tables and internet stations. For more info on Ingalls Rec, please call 380-3585 or stop by Bldg 361 Third Street, next to Freedom Fitness Center.

New Record at Fitness Center

Freedom Fitness Center has a new record for Pull-ups this week. The count of 42 was performed by Command Sgt. Maj. Buckner of the Operations Group's Scorpion Team. The record was set Jan. 27, at approximately 7 a.m., during the Physical Training hour. Anytime the number of pull-ups executed exceed 30 you have done something to be proud of but when you surpass 40 you are in a rarified class. Congratulations Command Sgt. Maj.

Buckner on a job well done and breaking the previous record of 40.

Arts & Crafts

Come check out our NEW Scrapbook Corner.

Ever Wanted To Learn Ceramics

Take our pouring class: Adult Pouring classes \$5.50 per person

Graffiti Art Contest: Deadline extended until Feb. 12. Submit your entry to Arts & Crafts. Judging is on Feb. 13.

Categories: Lil' taggerz: 8-10 years; Craze Sketchaz: 11-13 years; Sonic Scribbblaz: 13-16 years; Master Mindz: 17-22 years.

Kids Craft Class: Feb. 3, 3-4 p.m. Paint a NEMO Fish \$3 per person. All materials included.

Candy Heart Jar Class : Feb. 6, for your Valentine 11 a.m.-1 p.m. \$10 per person. All materials included.

Make a Sweetheart Chime For Your Honey: Feb. 13, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. \$10 per person. All materials included.

The Fitness Connection Fitness Class Schedule

Thursday, February 4:

Morning

6:30 a.m. Spin/Sandy *Free Class

8:30 a.m. Body Shop/Sandy

11:45 a.m. Spin/Sandy

Afternoon

5:30 p.m. Cardio Circuit Mix/Robin

6:30 p.m. Pilates/Robin

Friday, February 5:

Morning

8:30 a.m. Step/Tamara

9:30 a.m. Pilates/Cara

11:45 a.m. Boot Camp/Sandy

Afternoon

3 p.m. Yoga/Michell

Monday, February 8:

Morning

8:30 a.m. Cardio Craze/Tamar

9:30 a.m. Pilates/ Cara

11:45 a.m. Step/Tamara *30 minutes

Afternoon

12:15 p.m. Upper Cuts/Robin * 30 minutes

3 p.m. No class

5:30 p.m. Spin & Core/Sandy * 45 min Spin

30 min Core

Tuesday, February 9:

Morning

6:30 a.m. Spin/Sandy ** FREE CLASS

8:30 a.m. Body Shop/ Tamara

9:30 a.m. Belly Dancing B/Tamara & El

11:45 a.m. Spin/Sandy

Afternoon

5:30 p.m. Zumba/Robin

6:30 p.m. Yoga/Robin

Wednesday, February 10:

Morning

8:30 am. Cardio Craze/Tamara

9:30 a.m. Belly Dancing C/Tamara

11:45 a.m. Cardio Mix/Tamara* 30 minutes

Afternoon

12:15 p.m. Bottom Line/Robin *30 minutes

3 p.m. No class

5:30 p.m. Power Spin/Sandy*1 hour

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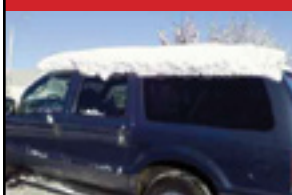
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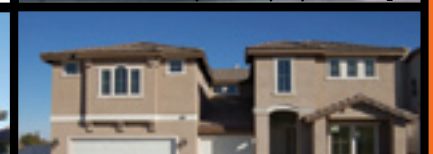
Plan 2 ~ 3 or 4 Br, 2 Ba, 1,891 sqft



Plan 3 ~ 4 Br, 3 Ba, 2,210 sqft



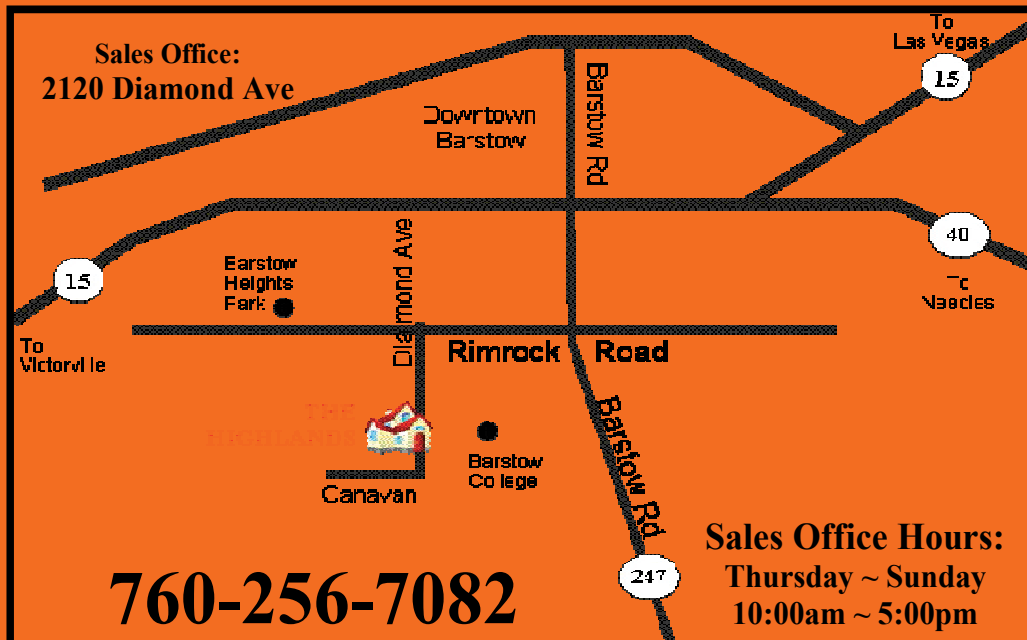
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