



HIGH DESERT WARRIOR

Volume 6, Number 25

www.irwin.army.mil

June 24, 2010

Published in the interest of the National Training Center and Fort Irwin community since 1981

Public notice of the Year 2009

Fort Irwin Water Quality Report

Fort Irwin's Water System is operated under a privatization contract with CH2M Hill. As the system ownership is not transferred to CH2M Hill, compliance responsibilities still reside with the U.S. Army.

Fort Irwin has recently completed the Year 2009 Water Quality Report for Fort Irwin.

CH2M Hill routinely monitors (on behalf of Fort Irwin) for contaminants in the drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The full results of the monitoring for the period of January 1 through December 31, 2009 are available on the web at www.irwin.army.mil/Post/Environment/. This Web site also contains previous year's reports.

It is important to Fort Irwin that our customers be informed about water quality on Fort Irwin.

MUY IMPORTANTE: Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua beber. Traduzcalo 'o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

The Year 2009 Water Quality Report meets all requirements for the Consumer Confidence Report for 2009. The Environmental Protection Agency and the State of California Title 22 requires that this report be prepared and posted by the community water system on an annual basis to keep the public informed.

Fort Irwin's report contains information on the source of the water and any contaminants that may be present in the source water. For example last year the Fort Irwin's Domestic Use (DU) water exceeded the maximum contaminate limits for Arsenic and Fluoride. The Reverse Osmosis (RO) water provided at small taps and water fountains is safe to drink.

This report's purpose is to improve public health protection by providing educational material to allow consumers to make educated decisions regarding any potential health risks pertaining to the quality, treatment, and management of their drinking water supply.

This year's Water Quality Report along with previous years reports are available on the Fort Irwin Web site at www.irwin.army.mil/Post/Environment/. For questions concerning this report or concerning the water system, please contact the Directorate of Public Works. Contact: Contact: Water Resources Manager, Directorate of Public Works, Fort Irwin. 380-4987. If you have questions concerning Fort Irwin Water System operation contact CH2M-Hill 386-9706.



The new Operations Group commander, Col. Tobin Green, receives the unit guidon from National Training Center and Fort Irwin commander, Brig. Gen. Robert "Abe" Abrams, during change of command ceremony, June 8.

NTC welcomes Col. Tobin Green

New Operations Group commander takes lead to 'Train the Force'

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
GUSTAVO BAHENA
Warrior Staff Writer

The booms heard on the morning of June 8 indicated to this post the importance of the occasion that would follow. The cannon blasts of blank charges signified that National Training Center and Fort Irwin commanding general, Brig. Gen. Robert "Abe" Abrams, would be presiding over the change of command for Operations Group.

Abrams conferred to Col. Tobin Green the

leadership responsibility of Operations Group when he handed over the guidon from that unit. Green took charge of the unit, which was activated in 1982 to provide Observer/Controller capability to the training conducted at the NTC. That initial unit consisted of one OC team, the Cobras. Today, Operations Group is comprised of 15 teams, each with a specific focus.

One mission of Operations Group is to provide feedback to rotational units, ensuring they leave the NTC prepared for combat

operations. Operations Group has modified the rotational scenarios at the NTC in order to keep pace with operational requirements in Iraq and Afghanistan. The current counter insurgency fight and security force assistance mission challenges deploying units with a significantly more complex set of battlefield conditions that include civilians, news media, non-governmental officials, host country representatives, allied forces, guerilla forces, weapons of mass effects, joint operations,

See Welcomes, page 8

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JUNE-JULY 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				24	25	26
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24

ROTATIONAL SOLDIER USE OF POST FACILITIES

■ HEAVY USE | ■ MEDIUM USE | ■ MINIMAL USE

We salute, honor



452

FORT IRWIN SOLDIERS
CURRENTLY DEPLOYED

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

ICE Program Gives Customers a Voice

ICE Year-To-Date Report Jan. 1, 2010 — June 10, 2010

Organization	No. of Comments	Rating	Percent Satisfied
916th Support Brigade	10	●	50
AAFES	238	●	30
Commissary	69	●	43
Fort Irwin Garrison	6236	●	90
Veterinary Services	79	●	68
DENTAC	592	●	96
MEDDAC	837	●	80

ICE Weekly Report May 24, 2010 – June 10, 2010

Organization	No. of Comments	Rating	Percent Satisfied
916th Support Brigade	1	●	100
AAFES	7	●	86
Commissary	2	●	50
Fort Irwin Garrison	139	●	82
Veterinary Services	0	[NOT RATED]	—
DENTAC	14	●	100
MEDDAC	19	●	84

Fort Irwin Garrison Organizations

Organization	No. of Comments	Rating	Percent Satisfied
Fort Irwin Garrison	165	●	82
Family, Morale, Welfare, and Recreation	20	●	69
Civilian Personnel Advisory Center	0	[NOT RATED]	—
Equal Employment Opportunity	0	[NOT RATED]	—
Human Resources	66	●	95
Information Management	0	[NOT RATED]	—
Legal	1	●	100
Logistics	3	●	50
Pinnacle Housing	32	●	64
Plans, Analysis & Integration Office	1	[NOT RATED]	—
Police/Provost Marshall	6	●	50
Public Affairs	0	[NOT RATED]	—
Public Works	2	[NOT RATED]	—
RCI Housing	2	●	0
Religious Support	0	[NOT RATED]	—
Resource Management Office	0	[NOT RATED]	—
Safety	23	●	100
Soldier Arrival, Orientation, and Briefing	0	[NOT RATED]	—
American Red Cross	0	[NOT RATED]	—
Armed Forces Bank 1	0	[NOT RATED]	—
Armed Forces Bank 3	0	[NOT RATED]	—
Community Information Manager	0	[NOT RATED]	—
Landmark Inn	0	[NOT RATED]	—
Military Family Life Consultants	9	●	33
MWR, Recreation, Leisure Travel Services	0	[NOT RATED]	—
Plans, Training, Security	0	[NOT RATED]	—
WIC (Woman, Infants, and Children)	23	[NOT RATED]	—

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

The following are a sampling of ICE submissions at Fort Irwin in the past two weeks. If the customer requests a response, Service Providers are expected to respond to the customer within 3 business days and post follow-up notes in ICE.

Oasis Pool

Customer Comment: We tried to use the pool today, but because of lessons it

was closed until 11:00 a.m. They were only using a small portion of the pool and would not let us use the other section. I don't think that is fair, especially since the Sandy Basin pool didn't open until noon today. They should work something out, so that at least one of the pools is accessible to the residents of Fort Irwin. It is going to be 104 degrees today and there is not much for us to do here, especially with

younger children. **Agency Response:** The Oasis Pool Hours for Summer months (April-September) is 5-9:30 a.m. and then reopen at 11 a.m.-8 p.m. The pool has to close between 9:30-11 a.m. for a variety of reasons and one is swim lessons, especially during the summer months. They also have to clean the pool (vacuum) and always conduct on-going training for lifeguards and

See ICE, page 14

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, NTC PAO Director

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HIGH DESERT WARRIOR

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Printed by Aerotech News and Review, Inc. (877) 247-9288, www.aerotechnews.com.

SUBMISSIONS

Story and photos may be sent to the High Desert Warrior at least two weeks prior to the desired publication date. Items submitted to the High Desert Warrior are always subject to editing. Submissions should include subject's names, ranks and work affiliation (unit or organization) of everyone in the photograph. Group photos of four or more people don't require individual names. Submissions may be e-mailed to the editor at chicpaul.becerra@us.army.mil.

NEWSPAPER AWARDS

2nd Place, 2009 U.S. Army IMCOM-West
Newspaper Competition — Tabloid Category

Honorable Mention, 2008 Dept. of the Army
Maj. Gen. Keith L. Ware
Newspaper Competition — Tabloid category

3rd Place, 2007 U.S. Army IMCOM-West
Newspaper Competition — Tabloid Category

SEND US FEEDBACK

Send your questions, suggestions, or problems to:
1. Your chain of command
2. ICE (Interactive Customer Evaluation)
3. CG's Hotline: 380-5463

1916th Support Battalion receives new commander

**STORY AND PHOTOS BY
GUSTAVO BAHENA**
Warrior Staff Writer

The 'Desert Warriors' of the 1916th Support Battalion welcomed their new commander during a ceremony at Fort Irwin, June 9.

After an inspection of troops, Lt. Col. Pete Calamaras took charge of the unit that, for the past two years, was led by Lt. Col. Bill Davis. The commander of 916th Support Brigade, Col. David Gaffney, handed Kalamaras the guidon and welcomed him to the National Training Center and Fort Irwin. Kalamaras comes from United States Army Forces Command, in Fort McPherson, Ga., where he served with force management.

"I look forward to what you'll bring to us, and the High Desert welcomes you," Gaffney said. "In the words of Gen. Schwarzkopf, 'When placed in command, take charge.'"

Calamaras told an audience of service members, leadership, and family of the 1916th, that he was honored to take command of what he considers a great organization.

"I am humble for the opportunity," Calamaras said. "Desert Warriors, you have my unyielding commitment."

The new commander acknowledged the importance and complexity of the unit's mission. The 1916th provides direct support maintenance, heavy equipment transportation and movement control to NTC rotational



Lt. Col. Pete Calamaras receives the guidon from 916th Support Brigade commander, Col. David Gaffney, during change of command ceremony, June 9. Kalamaras was instituted as new commander of the 1916th Support Battalion at the ceremony.

and tenant units in order to ensure world class realistic training. Five subordinate units comprise the battalion, each having a role in the NTC mission and in the Global War on Terror. Currently, the 2nd Heavy Transportation Company and the 557th Maintenance

Company is deployed in the Middle East. The 699th Maintenance Company returned in December 2009 from a year-long tour in Iraq.

Gaffney commended Davis for his leadership of the 1916th during a time when three of his companies deployed to war.

"Colonel Davis, I know that it's hard for you to believe that today is here and that your command tour is coming to an end," Gaffney said. "However, rest assured that your legacy does not end. You see, Bill took command back in June 2008 with a simple but powerful vision: Number one — develop a warrior's mindset with a focus on deployment training for his companies, with tactical operations remaining the standard, regardless of what a unit was doing, making sure it was ready to go to war. Although understaffed and undermanned, he was relentless in his pursuit to train Soldiers who could successfully move, shoot, communicate and survive at the NTC and abroad."

When Davis addressed the audience, he praised his unit and alluded that Calamaras would be impressed.

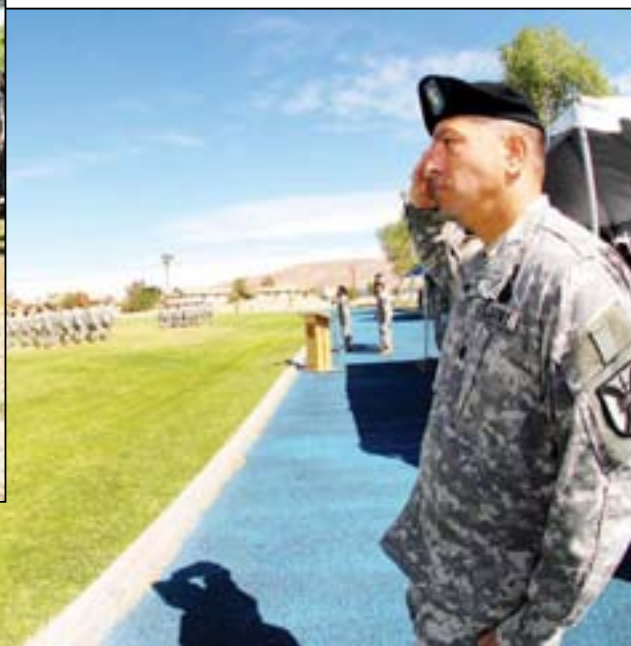
"Pete, you are inheriting the best group of Soldier logisticians in the Army and they will take care of you," Davis said. "I am not going to lie to you; this is a bitter-sweet day for me. However, it is made easier by the fact and by knowing that you will lead them well, and that I could not have hand-picked a better man for the job. Welcome to the team. Desert Warriors, you already know how I feel about you — I have never been so proud and honored to be part of an organization as I have these past two years. You've done everything I've asked and then some."

Davis will next serve in a joint fellowship at the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle, Pa.



(ABOVE) From left to right, the past commander of 1916th Support Battalion, Lt. Col. Bill Davis, and the battalion executive officer, Maj. Cassandra Hooker, walk alongside Lt. Col. Pete Calamaras during an inspection of troops, June 9. Kalamaras was appointed commander of the 1916th that morning during change of command ceremony.

(BELOW) The new commander for 1916th Support Battalion, Col. Pete Calamaras, salutes as the American flag passes during a pass-in-review of his new unit. Calamaras took charge of the 1916th during change of command on Fort Irwin, June 9.



Crime Watch

Information provided by
Provost Marshal Office

Stray animal. Location: Bldg. ####. Fort Irwin Animal Control responded to the report of a stray dog.

Gas leak. Location: Calico Estates housing. Fort Irwin Fire Department responded to the report of a gas leak.

Traffic accident. Location: Sandy Basin housing. Victim reported that his parked vehicle was struck by another vehicle.

Possible fire. Location: Cracker Jack flats housing. Fort Irwin Fire Department investigated the report of a garage fire.

Domestic disturbance. Location: Sandy Basin housing. Police investigated the report of a verbal domestic disturbance.

Traffic accident. Location: Goldstone. Police investigated the report of a minor traffic accident.

Domestic disturbance (verbal). Location: Bitter Springs housing. Police investigated the report of a verbal domestic disturbance.



Adopt-a-pet



Name: Binky
Breed: Papillon
Gender: Male
Age: Six-years-old
Binky 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

Volunteers Needed

Civilian Work Force volunteers are needed for upcoming Community FIRST Focus Group. Fort Irwin needs your help to identify and resolve issues that address the well-being of the Army Civilian Work Force. Community FIRST focus groups supply leaders to hear the voice of the customer and to manage and improve installation services that are important to the installation. The Civilian Focus Group will meet at the Forum in Bldg. 1200, 8 a.m.-12 p.m., July 7. Refreshments are provided and reservations are needed due to limited seating. To reserve your seat to participate in this quarterly focus group, please contact Meredith Storm, Customer Service Officer at 380-7639 or meredith.storm@us.army.mil.

Personal ID Training

Personal Identifiable Information Training, mandatory for all service members, DoD employees, and contractor personnel, will take place on July 22, Aug. 5, and Sept. 2 in Bldg. 552, Avenue G, from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. For more information, call 380-4540/5337.

Radio Broadcast Streaming

Public Affairs Office is streaming radio broadcast on KNTC 88.3FM. The link can be accessed at the Fort Irwin home Web page. Listeners can click on the KNTC logo, located at the top right of the home page, which will open the media player and play the broadcast. If anyone has questions about the stream, call 380-3450.



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Worship Services/Chapel Activities

CATHOLIC

Holy Mass	Sunday, 9 a.m.	Center Chapel
Daily Mass	M, T, Th, & F 11:45 a.m.	Center Chapel
Rosary	20 Min before Mass	Center Chapel
Confession	30 Min before Mass	Center Chapel
Choir Rehearsal	Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.	Center Chapel
LifeTeen	Thursday, 6:30 p.m.	Center Chapel
EDGE	Sunday, 10:15 a.m.	Center Chapel

PROTESTANT

Liturgical	Sunday, 9 a.m.	Blackhorse Chapel
Sunday School	Sunday, 9:30 a.m.	Center Chapel
Chapel NeXt	Sunday, 11 a.m.	Center Chapel
Traditional (LAR)	Sunday, 11 a.m.	Center Chapel
PYOC (Youth)	Monday, 6 p.m.	Center Chapel
PWOC, Morning	Tuesday, 9 a.m.	Center Chapel
PWOC Evening	Tuesday, 6 p.m.	Center Chapel

GOSPEL

Gospel Service	Sunday, 11 a.m.	Blackhorse Chapel
Prayer Warriors	Wednesday, 6 p.m.	Blackhorse Chapel
Children's Church &		
Choir Practice	Thursday, 6 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

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

Prayer	Friday, 12 p.m.	Bldg 317
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JEWISH

Jewish Service	Friday, 6 p.m.	Black Horse Chapel
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CHAPEL ACTIVITIES

AWANA		
(3 yrs.-6th grade)	Wednesday, 4 p.m.	Center Chapel
HS Bible Study	Wednesday, 6 p.m.	Bldg 320
MOPS	2nd and 4th Wed, 9 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.	

AWANA:	Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed	(2 Tim 2:15)
PWOC:	Protestant Women of the Chapel	
PYOC:	Protestant Youth of the Chapel	
CFLC:	Chaplain Family Life Center, Bldg 320	
MOPS:	Mothers of Pre-Schoolers, Bldg 317	
Childcare services	for ages 5-years-old and under	are provided free of charge for all scheduled chapel services.

Chapel Activities Summer Schedule

June: No extra-activities scheduled for June
July: 29 — Army Chaplaincy 235th Anniversary Recurring Worship Services Center Chapel
Friday: Noon — Islamic Prayer Service (Center Chapel (317))
Sunday: 9 a.m. — Catholic Mass (Rosary Before) Sanctuary)
 9:30 a.m. — Protestant Sunday school
 10:15 a.m. — The EDGE Catholic Middle School
 11 a.m. — Chapel Next, Contemporary Worship Service (Sanctuary)
 11 a.m. — Protestant Traditional Service (Activity Room) (Canceled during block leave)
 2:15 p.m. — Latter Day Saints Religious Education (Activity Room)
 3:15 p.m. — Latter Day Saints- Priesthood & Relief Society (Bldg 317) Recurring Worship Services Blackhorse Chapel
Sunday: 9 a.m. — Protestant Liturgical Service (Canceled during block leave)
 11 a.m. — Gospel Service (Canceled during block leave)
 1 p.m. — Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Worship Service
Wednesday: 6 p.m. — Intercessory Prayer; 1900 — Bible study Center Chapel Recurring Weekday Programs & Services
 Daily Catholic Mass — Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri. (11:45 a.m.)
 PYOC — Protestant Youth, Middle School Mon. (6-7:30 p.m.)
 PYOC — Protestant Youth High School Mon. (7-9 p.m.)
 PWOC — Protestant Women of Chapel Tues. (9 a.m.) and (6 p.m.)
 AWANA — Wed. (4 p.m.)
 MOPS — Mothers of Preschoolers 2nd & 4th Wed. (9 a.m.)
 LifeTeen — Catholic High School Students Mon. (6:30 p.m.)
 Operation Helping Hands Food Pantry —
 Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-4 p.m. closed on main Holidays
 For additional information, call Center Chapel at 380-3562

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Community Happenings

GSAB FRG Events

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

HHD, GSAB

July 8: HHD FRG meeting; Time: 6 p.m., Location: Bldg. 507, Topic: Parent/Child Communication. If you should have any questions, contact Ms. Hunter at 380-7781 or email: hhdfrg507@gmail.com.

AAD, GSAB

AAD FRG meeting has not been scheduled as of yet. If you should have any questions, contact Ms. Hunter at 380-7781 or email: aadfrg@gmail.com.

AVCO, GSAB

AVCO FRG meeting has not been scheduled as of yet. If you should have any questions, contact Robin Stewart at 252-7592 or email: acanrobin@yahoo.com.

Independence Celebration

Celebrate Fourth of July at Fort Irwin's Army Field, 5-10 p.m., ending with a Firework Extravaganza. There will be entertainment, contests, fun, food, activities, games, water slides, dunk tanks, monkey jumpers, face painting, and more. For more information, call 380-2194.

Vendors Wanted

Food and retail vendors needed for the Fourth of July celebration at Fort Irwin. Attention all units and family readiness groups (FRGs): if you need a great opportunity to raise funds, come on out for the Fourth of July. Call 380-2194 for details.

Thrift Store Community Workdays

In the past two years, the Fort Irwin Thrift Store, through the Officer and Civilian Spouses Club Welfare and Scholarship campaigns, has returned more than \$45,000 to the community. Recipients include numerous private organizations, individual college scholarship awardees, and the students, parents and teachers of public schools. The Thrift Store is closed during Block Leave and donations have piled up. The donation box is full and so are the storage buildings. Thrift Store needs the community's help to restock the store and prepare it for our July 2 store reopening. If your organization, club, or school has received money from the Thrift Store, this is your opportunity to help the Thrift Store continue to support you. Community workdays are June 28 and 29 and July 1, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information or to volunteer, call 380-4076 or stop by the store to help.

Youth Sports Camps

Sign up now for Youth Sports Summer Camps. For more information, call 380-7044. Youth must be registered with Parent Central to participate.

Rock Climbing

Outdoor Recreation is offering a Rock Climbing/Bouldering trip at Joshua Tree National Park, July 31. The cost is \$11 for transportation and \$25 (in cash, the day of the trip) for Rock Climbing. The tour will leave Bldg. 976 at 6:30 p.m. The minimum age for participation is eight-years-old. Bring plenty of water/sports drinks and a sack lunch and snacks. Dress in layers appropriate for weather, wear sunscreen and bring a camera. Registration deadline is July 23. For more information, call 380-4327.

Car Design Competition

Military and Army civilian employees are invited to a car design competition. For more information, rules and guidelines, go to Battle of the Builds Web site <http://battleofthebuilds.com/> or call 380-9275. Win bragging rights for Fort Irwin and do the installation proud.

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

Pet Grooming Available

Sgt Fuzzbuddy's Kennel does pet grooming on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. It's convenient and very affordable. Check them out.

Multiples Support Group

New Parent Support Program will host a Multiples Support Group meet at the Army Community Services Conference Room, 9-10 a.m., July 12. Multiples Support Group is for parents of twins, triplets or more children. Group provides emotional support and a means of discussing experiences associated with having multiple children. Call 380-8344/4021.

Bark Park Closure

The Bark Park will be closed temporarily for improvements as of June 23. Improvements will be made so your experience at the park will be better. For more information, call 380-7387.

New Parent Support

New Parent Support is a program designed to assist you every step of the way with raising your children in a nurturing, safe, and healthy environment. Childcare is provided for all New Parent Support classes offered. Infant care classes offered Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays by appointment only. Classes are held in the Army Community Service conference room. Point-of-contacts are Kahalia Anderson, 380-8344 and Shawn Robinson, 380-4021.



Skeet and Trap Open

Skeet and Trap's hours of operation are Mondays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. while Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Operation closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Range closes half hour before dark. For more information, call 380-4327.

Weight Watchers

Weekly meetings are on Thursdays, at 12 noon, Bldg. 317 (2nd Street and Avenue E). Sign-up 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.

EDGE! For Children

Check out June classes at www.fortirwinfmwr.com and program descriptions. Read Santa Monica Pier trip Information and let your children know what is available for them. Register your children now for fun EDGE! programs. For more information about EDGE! programs, contact Angela Austin, MWR partnership specialist, Child Youth and School Services at 267-5067

Celebrating Faith, Friendship

The Protestant Women of the Chapel (PWOC) will host 'Aloha, It's A New Day,' a women's event that celebrates life, faith, and new friendships. There will be Women of Faith video series on June 29, 9-11 a.m. and 6-8 p.m. Feel free to wear your favorite Hawaiian shirt to this island-themed event. Childcare, snacks, and new friendships will be provided.

Board Game Day

Join boardgamers during Board Game Day at the Ingalls Recreation Center, 12:45-7:45 p.m., tonight. Play Flames of War, Tide of Iron, or Warhammer. Think board gaming is just about Monopoly and Risk? Play with like-minded gamers in the High Desert of California. Bring your games with you or just drop on by to see what is going on. Minors attending must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Post your comments or questions at <http://www.boardgamegeek.com/thread/535605>.

Design Votes Needed

Fort Irwin needs your votes for the Fort Irwin Battle of the Build entry. The design is called M.S.C. (Modified Stock Control) — go to http://battleofthebuilds.com/?page_id=77 The vote is open to anyone, including your family and friends in the fun. Let's make Fort Irwin proud. For more information, call 380-9275. Voting ends on June 30.

Temporary Closures

Burger King is closed through Friday, and Popeye's will be closed from Saturday through Monday for repairs.

Dining Facility Hours

Dining Facility operational hours during Block Leave are: DFAC No. 2 will be closed from June 21 to June 27 for maintenance and DFAC No. 1 will operate its normally scheduled hours.

Gas Outage

During block leave, Contractor IAP has scheduled gas outage (replace gas valves) on residential homes between Red Pass Drive and Mojave Lane, from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The following homes affected are: 3860, 3861, 3862, 3863, 3864, 3865, 3866, 3867, 3868, 3869, 3870, 3871 and 3872. IAP should have sent notification to all tenants.

Relationship Workshops

The Chaplain Family Life Center, located in Bldg. 320 — behind the Center Chapel, will host a series of mini-workshops on a variety of relationship issues, from 11:45 a.m.-1245 p.m., Tuesdays, beginning July 6 through Aug. 17.

Youth and School Activities

Middle School Teen Center Summer Camps 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Bldg. 1313

Week 5 June 21-25: Experience Technology (robotics, logo design, make a music video, science experiences)

Week 6: June 28-July 2: If you build it (constructing items for the dog park, weave polls, jumps, teeter board, and water bowl holders). Please register your youth at Parent Central Bldg. 1322.

MST 1-6 p.m.

Learn to play spades, badminton, tie die pillow cases, painting, patriotic wreath, guitar tournament, dodge ball, and much more.

Cooking Club: Banana Pudding, Chicken Salad, Peanut butter cornflake cookies, Cinnamon toasts

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.

Send Community Happenings briefs at least two weeks in advance of event to the editor, chicpaul.becerra@us.army.mil



Fort Irwin Community Calendar

Tue., Jun. 29

PWOC- Aloha, it's a New Day
9 a.m.-8 p.m.
Chapel
380-3562

Sun., Jul. 4

4th of July Celebration
5-10 p.m.
Army Field
380-2194

Tue., Jul. 6

Relationships Mini-Workshop
11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m.
Family Life Center, Bldg. 320
380-4664

Wed., Jul. 14

Coping with Deployments Course
8:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
FI Red Cross Station
Heather Adams, 380-3697

Thu., Jul. 22

Safeguarding Personal Information
Training
8:30-10:30 a.m.
Bldg. 552, Avenue G
380-4540/5337

Sat., Jul. 31

Rock Climbing/Bouldering Trip
6:30 a.m.
Joshua Tree National Park
Bldg. 976, 380-4327

Post Exchange Facilities Block Leave Hours of Operation

MAIN STORE PX

Mon.-Sun., June 14-July 2 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

MCSS & FURNITURE STORE

Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sat./Sun. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

DUST BOWL TROOP STORE

June 13-27 CLOSED

BURGER KING EXPRESS

Mon.-Sun. 8 a.m.-8 p.m.

POPEYE'S

Mon.-Sun. 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

DUST BOWL BURGER KING

June 13-27 CLOSED

ANTHONY'S PIZZA AND

CHARLEY'S STEAKERY

Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

ROBIN HOOD

Sat./Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
Sun. CLOSED

BASKIN ROBBINS

Mon.-Sun. Noon-5 p.m.

STARBUCKS

Mon.-Fri. 6 a.m.-6 p.m.
Sat.-Sun. 8 a.m.-6 p.m.

THEATER

Sun.-Sat. One Showing

EINSTEIN BAGEL:

Mon.-Fri. 7 a.m.-Noon
Sat./Sun. CLOSED

TACO BELL:

Mon.-Sat. 10:30 a.m.-8 p.m.
Sun. 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

MANCHU WOK:

Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m.-7 p.m.
Sat./Sun. Noon-6 p.m.

CLASS 6

Sun.-Thu. 10 a.m.-8 p.m.
Fri./Sat. 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

24 HOUR SHOPPETTE

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Mon.-Sat. 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Sun. CLOSED

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Welcomes, from page 1



Stephanie Green receives the customary bouquet of yellow roses during a change of command ceremony for her husband, Col. Tobin Green. Green became the Operations Group commander during the ceremony held on Fort Irwin, June 8.



From left to right, the 20th Operations Group commander, Col. Tobin Green, stands next to National Training Center and Fort Irwin commander, Brig. Gen. Robert "Abe" Abrams, and Col. Ted Martin, during change of command ceremony, June 8.

detainee operations, and host-nation sustainment and reconstruction operations.

Green spoke during the change of command ceremony to thank Operations Group personnel and to acknowledge the significance of his new command.

"My wife, Susan, and I are really excited to be here to join Operations Group at the best place on earth to prepare Soldiers and units with the challenges associated with combat," Green said. "I think the months ahead will be [important] as the NTC adapts to the needs of our Army and assumes a leading role in a strategy to bring greater warfighting balance to our forces. Operations Group is going to play an important role in that endeavor with the development of entirely new scenario designs across the entire spectrum of conflict, even as we continue to sharpen the point of the spear for outfits headed into harm's way in Afghanistan and Iraq."

Abrams welcomed Green and praised him as a commander with a good deal of experience.

"[Col. Green] is a distinguished combat leader and renowned trainer with a tremendous amount of operational experience," Abrams said. "He is the exact, right person to take on the responsibility of training, coaching, and mentoring our deploying forces for the challenges of today's operational environment and those of the future."

Green arrives from Fort Hood, Texas, where he commanded the 1st Brigade Combat Team of the 1st Cavalry Division. He is married to the former Susan Knobel. Their two children are cadets at the United States Military Academy.

The outgoing commander of Operations Group, Col. Ted Martin, is going to be the 45th commandant of the U.S. Army Armor Center and School in Fort Benning, Ga.

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PHOTO BY GUSTAVO BAHENA

Clark Supports Irwin Boy Scouts

Jimi Nelson, executive assistant for Clark Builders Group on Fort Irwin, presents a \$500 check to Austin Mayer, a 13-year-old senior patrol leader with Troop 67 of the Boy Scouts of America, June 9. Austin and his fellow Boy Scouts (pictured as well) plan to use the donation towards the cost of taking the Troop camping for a week. The camping trip is scheduled for the end of June at Sequoia National Forest. The contribution was part of a donation program of the Clark CARES Foundation, which gives to local military communities throughout the nation.

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Fort Irwin and National Training Center Commander Brig. Gen. Robert "Abe" Abrams presents an Army Achievement Medal award to Sgt. Nicholas Carducci, a squad leader with A Troop, 1st Squadron, 11th ACR. Carducci was named Noncommissioned Officer of the 4th Quarter for the NTC and Fort Irwin.



Fort Irwin and National Training Center commander, Brig. Gen. Robert "Abe" Abrams, presents to Staff Sgt. Christopher Wilson, a scout section sergeant of K Troop, 2/11th ACR, an Army Achievement Medal award during a luncheon June 8. Wilson won the board for Noncommissioned Officer of the 3rd Quarter of NTC and Fort Irwin.

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

Soldiers, NCOs ac

Post holds ceremony for 3rd

STORY AND PHOTOS BY GUSTAVO BAHENA
Warrior Staff Writer

A recognition ceremony luncheon was held June 8 on Fort Irwin to praise the achievements of two Soldiers and two noncommissioned officers.

The four service members were recognized for having won the boards for Soldier and NCO of the Quarter of the National Training Center and Fort Irwin for the third and fourth quarters of fiscal year 2009-2010.

The Soldiers receiving acknowledgement that day were: Spc. Blake Bainter, an M249 squad automatic weapon gunner with K Troop, 2nd Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, was named Soldier of the 3rd Quarter for NTC and Fort Irwin; Staff Sgt. Christopher Wilson, a scout section sergeant of K Troop, 2/11th ACR, was awarded NCO of the 3rd Quarter for NTC and Fort Irwin; Spc. William Van Alstyne, a supply specialist with 699th Maintenance

Company, was named Soldier of the 4th Quarter for NTC and Fort Irwin, and Staff Sgt. Van Alstyne, a squad leader with A Troop, 11th ACR, was named NCO of the 4th Quarter for NTC and Fort Irwin.

Command Sgt. Maj. V. Martinez, sergeant major of NTC and Fort Irwin, addressed an audience that consisted of Soldiers and NCOs. He spoke about the significance of the ceremony and the leadership from this position, appearing in front of a large audience.

"There is a lot of study and preparation for getting in shape," Martinez said. "It was physical fitness culminating with the board. It was a big deal. It did these Soldiers appear then again, a second board. This is a big deal."



Spc. Blake Bainter, an M249 squad automatic weapon gunner with K Troop, 2nd Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, was named Soldier of the 3rd Quarter for NTC and Fort Irwin.

Achieve recognition

1st, 4th Quarter board winners

Member of the 4th Quarter of the 1st Quarter board winners, Sgt. Nicholas Carducci, 1st Squadron, 11th Cavalry, 4th Quarter for NTC

Victor Martinez, command sergeant major of Fort Irwin, addressed the board. Martinez commented on the military and civilian boards and remarked that the board is only a fraction of

the work and a lot of long nights in uniforms and yourself. "It just wasn't the board, it was the mess, marksmanship, and hard. Ultimately, not only at their brigade level, but at the post level. So,

Martinez said that Soldiers should strive to make a difference. He declared that the four Soldiers recognized that day had surpassed their competition.

"I always ask Soldiers, 'What have you done differently than your peers to distinguish yourself,'" Martinez said. "These Soldiers here have done that. They've distinguished themselves from their peers by stepping up to the challenge. They didn't have to do that. My hope is that these Soldiers have served, not only as a reminder, but an inspiration to all of us, because learning never stops — it never stops. The more you increase in responsibility, the more your knowledge must increase as well. In the pursuit of excellence, there is no finish line."

For their success, the four board winners received an Army Achievement Medal and a commanding general coin of excellence from NTC and Fort Irwin commander, Brig. Gen. Robert "Abe" Abrams. Martinez presented the selectees with a watch, and they all received certificates and savings bonds from various local organizations.



Calvin Phillips, High Desert chapter president of the Association of the United States Army, presents Spc. William Van Alstyne a certificate of commendation, a savings bond, and one-year membership to the AUSA. Van Alstyne, a supply specialist with 699th Maintenance Company, was recognized as Soldier of the 4th Quarter of the NTC and Fort Irwin.



From left to right, National Training Center and Fort Irwin Command Sgt. Maj. Victor Martinez stands next to the Soldiers and Noncommissioned Officers of the 3rd and 4th Quarters along with NTC and Fort Irwin commander, Brig. Gen. Robert "Abe" Abrams. The awardees were recognized during a luncheon at Fort Irwin, June 8.

Bella the Safety Bee says ... "Your best bet is to let the professionals handle the fireworks"

Fireworks possession, use prohibited on post

BY DALE DOMEK

Fort Irwin Deputy Safety Officer

Approximately 10,000 people are treated in hospitals every year for injuries resulting from mishandled fireworks, over 3,000 of these usually are children. Also, several fatalities occur each year from fireworks.

Per NTC Regulation 420-2: The sale, storage, possession or use of fireworks of any description on the Fort Irwin Installation, including Army owned housing areas, is prohibited as well as in many townships and counties in California.

For areas outside the installation, check with local government officials about the use of fireworks. County, state, and federal government lands (i.e., parks) are off limits for fireworks.

Here are some safety tips if you are going to handle or purchase fireworks:

- Read and follow all warnings and instructions.
- Never allow children to play with or ignite fireworks.

- Keep other people are out of range before lighting fireworks.
- Only light fireworks on a smooth, flat surface away from the house, dry leaves, and flammable materials.
- Never try to relight fireworks that have not fully functioned.



- Keep a bucket of water in case of a malfunction or fire.
- Have a fire extinguisher at all times while lighting fireworks.
- If someone approaches you to sell one of many illegal fireworks, politely decline and contact your local authorities.
- Never buy fireworks from an individual's house or from someone on the street.
- Consumer fireworks regulated by the Consumer Product Safety Commission are packaged in bright colors and have safety warnings on the packaging.
- Typical consumer fireworks include fountains, cones, sparklers, firecrackers, bottle rockets and multiple tube products.
- Illegal fireworks are often unpackaged and are wrapped with plain brown paper.
- Illegal fireworks are very unlikely to have any safety warnings or place of manufacture.
- Some illegal fireworks go by names such as M80, Quarter Sticks, or Cherry Bombs.

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Red Cross training open to all

Coping with Deployment

The Fort Irwin American Red Cross Station will host the course Coping with Deployment on July 14, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m., to registered participants. Registration deadline is July 7. This course will provide useful information on how to strengthen your ability to successfully respond to the challenges you may encounter throughout the deployment cycle and will explain how to assist others who are dealing with the same challenges. This course is available to family members of active duty personnel, Reserve and National Guard service members, including spouses, older children, parents, siblings and significant others, as well as to military members who take it with their family. Veterans and their family members are also welcome. To register and to obtain more information, contact the Red Cross at 380-3697, 380-6140, or visit Bldg. 573.

Lifesaving Skills Class

Fort Irwin American Red Cross Station will host its Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), Automated External Defibrillator (AED), and First Aid Class

on July 24, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., and July 25, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. It is \$45 for Soldier or family member and if an additional person attends from the same household, cost is \$22.50. For active Red Cross volunteers with 20-plus hours-per-month, cost is \$10. For all others, cost is \$60. Seating is limited. Advance registration is required by July 22. Call Fort Irwin Red Cross Station to register at 380-3697/ 4160 or visit Bldg. 573.

Lifesaving Skills Class

Fort Irwin American Red Cross Station will host its Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), Automated External Defibrillator (AED), and First Aid Class on August 21, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., and August 22, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. It is \$45 for Soldier or family member and if an additional person attends from the same household, cost is \$22.50. For active Red Cross volunteers with 20-plus hours-per-month, cost is \$10. For all others, cost is \$60. Seating is limited. Advance registration is required by August 19. Call the Fort Irwin Red Cross Station to register at 380-3697/ 4160 or visit Bldg. 573.



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Kick it up!

BY SANDRA CLARK

Coyote Activity Center Fitness Coordinator

Kickboxing is one of today's most popular styles of group exercises. They are not designed to make you a "fighter," nor a class used to teach self defense. It is a class designed to give you a well balanced workout, offering both cardio and strength training aspects.

Here at the CAC, we offer two different types of kickboxing classes. First, we have Turbo kick. Turbo kick is a kickboxing workout that combines; kickboxing, shadow boxing, cardio drills along with hip hop dances move to keep your workout fun and efficient. Ryndee, our Turbo kick instructor, will take you through a work so fun, that you will not even realize you're working out. It's a fun-filled class with high energy and great music. With Turbo, kick you will have a choreographed routine which will stay the same for several

weeks. This will give you the opportunity to learn the moves and take your workout to the next level.

The second kickboxing class is a glove and bag style kickboxing. In this class you will be a partner, bags and gloves. During the first part of class, you spend time punching and kicking your way to a stronger learner body while your partner holds the bags for you. The rounds are 3 minutes with squats, lunges, and other drills in between. This workout is not a choreographed routine and is fairly easy to pick up. The second part of the class, you will switch with your partner; you will hit and they will hold. It is intense, but fun. Sandy will take you through a class that will test you both physically and mentally.

Kickboxing is a great workout, no matter which style you chose. You don't have to chose, join us for both. They are both different, and both a lot of fun! I promise you'll have a great workout and many laughs.

ICE, from page 2

staff. So when the pool opens at 5 a.m. and closes at 8 a.m., it is only closed for 1.5 hours during that time frame. There should be plenty of time for all to swim. Hope this answers your question. Also, please go to www.fortirwinmwr.com to get all the latest activities on Fort Irwin for all ages.

Levy Briefing

Customer Comment: On Tuesday, June 8, my husband and I attended the Levy briefing. I am a previous Pinnacle employee, and I was absolutely appalled by the lack of knowledge of your representative. A PCS is one of the most difficult times for a Soldier and their family, especially when going overseas. She was unable to answer numerous questions. Some of the Soldiers were leaving within a month and would be unprepared. When asked about the 21-day California policy she simply stated, "I never heard of that and referred them to their community managers." This is unacceptable, I wanted so badly to answer the Soldier's questions and explain that I never charged for anything that was not necessary to help prepare the home for the next incoming family. What are the qualifications for someone to be able to conduct these briefings? Fort Irwin Soldiers and their families deserve so much better than what my husband and I witnessed yesterday!

Agency Response: Spoke to representative regarding the levy briefing on the 21 day soc. She feels that employee was not experienced enough. Explained that levy briefing venue is to let the Soldiers know that they need to put in 30 days notices and the process of the pre and final inspections.

Manchu Wok Restaurant

Customer Comment: I would like to acknowledge that I received an excellent experience at the Manchu Wok Restaurant, Fort Irwin, CA. The young man that served me I noticed, was a cook as well as a server. He makes you feel welcome that you choose to dine with the Manchu Wok Restaurant. The experience was uplifting because it is not often that you witness people that enjoy their position as well as keep a good attitude with people that are impatient in this day and age. I would like to state that this young man demonstrated a job well done with excellence. **Agency Response:** Thank you for the comment concerning Manchu Wok. It is wonderful to hear that we are meeting your expectations on customer service. The team at Manchu Wok will appreciate the comment and the employee will be thrilled to see the comment.

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Pfc. Andrea Witmer, Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, assists a Soldier with "zeroing" the Multiple Integrated Laser Engagement System attachment on the M-4 rifle, June 1. The MILES weapon attachment simulates hitting an enemy target and is paired with a MILES harness that registers when the Soldier is hit. MILES gear must be worn by all Soldiers training at the U.S. Army National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif.

Armorer keeps unit mission ready

**STORY AND PHOTOS BY
PFC JENNIFER SPRADLIN**

16th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

In the modern Army, there are many ways to be a Soldier, but on the battlefield a Soldier without a weapon is ineffective. Weapon familiarity and maintenance can be the deciding factor in a Soldier's survival.

All Soldiers are responsible for their personally issued weapon, but certain Soldiers are chosen to be the unit armorer. The armorer has additional training on the assembly/disassembly and maintenance of a variety of weapons systems. The armorer is also in charge of the unit arms room where weapons and sensitive items, such as night vision goggles, are stored when not in use.

The armorer is held to a higher level of accountability because of the importance of their duties, and it is unusual for a Soldier lower than the rank of sergeant to be the head armorer for a unit – unusual but not impossible.

Pfc. Andrea Witmer, Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, is an example of a young Soldier filling the shoes of the head armorer as the unit prepares for an upcoming deployment to Iraq with a mission readiness exercise at the U.S. Army National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif.

"The first time I touched a weapon was in basic training," said Witmer, a New Port Richey, Fla., native. "I never grew up with them. I had never seen them except for on television until I hit basic training."

Witmer said that she loved learning basic rifle marksmanship but it wasn't until she arrived at Fort Hood, Texas, where the 3rd ACR is based, that she was picked to attend the armorer course. After graduating the course, Witmer worked to get the unit's arms room ready for an annual inspection by III Corps and earned the first mark of excellence for the troop.

"It was a lot of work, but it was definitely worth it," said Witmer, who is trained as an automated logistics specialist.

At NTC, Witmer must keep accountability for more than 425 individual and crew served weapons. Witmer said that Soldiers look to the armorer as a weapons expert and often come to her when their weapon is malfunctioning.

"I've read regulations and technical manuals on my own time to make myself better at what I do," said Witmer. "But the best way to learn is from experience. If I don't know something, I'll be the first to admit it and then I'll do some research and try to figure it out. I always try to sit down and go through it with that person so that we are both learning."

Witmer said the biggest issue at NTC has been with Soldiers either not cleaning their

weapon or taking their weapon apart for cleaning beyond their level of expertise.

In addition to being a junior enlisted armorer, Witmer admitted that some Soldiers are surprised that a female Soldier is so interested in and capable with weapons.

"I think it's more of an individual stereotype than a mass one," said Witmer. "I've gained a lot of respect for being in the arms room."

Sgt. Thomas Warden, a supply sergeant with HHT, 3rd ACR, said Witmer is the type of Soldier to get things done. Warden was the assistant armorer that helped Witmer stand up the unit's arms room at Fort Hood.

"She's squared away. She knows what she's doing," said Warden, a Jefferson, Texas, native. Warden has 10 years of combined service in the Army. "She enjoys the job, and she strives to excel."

Warden said that his advice to Witmer on the upcoming deployment to Iraq, her first, is to keep a level head and take the deployment "one day at a time."

For Witmer, being the unit armorer is an extra source of pride and has added to her experience in the Army so far.

"Being the armorer makes me feel accomplished," said Witmer. "It's kind of an honor."

Witmer will continue her armorer duties while the regiment is deployed to Iraq.



Pfc. Andrea Witmer, Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, cleans her M-4 rifle while training at the U.S. Army National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif. June 1. Witmer, the head armorer for HHT, stressed the importance of cleaning weapons in the field to avoid a potentially fatal weapon jam.

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

HIGH DESERT WARRIOR CLASSIFIED AD POLICIES AND FORM

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The ONLY personnel eligible to place free ads in the High Desert Warrior are:

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The ONLY Classified ads that are available as free ads to above listed personnel are:

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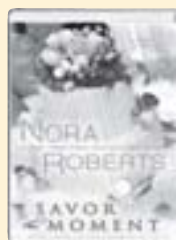
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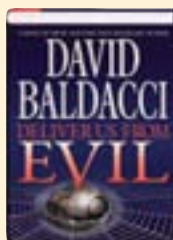
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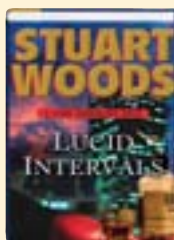
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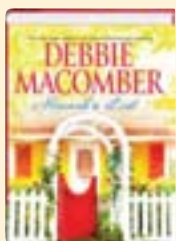
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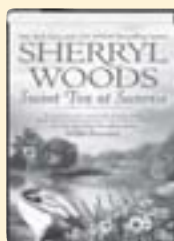
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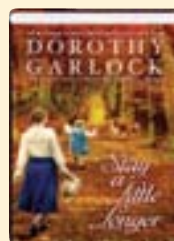
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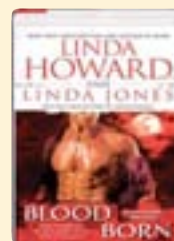
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