

BARSTOW LOG

SERVING MCLB DURING TRANSITION AND CHANGE

Vol. 5, No. 6

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California

December 7, 2000

Today is
Pearl Harbor
Day

December 7

"Lest we forget."

TAD

MCLB welders save
Marine Corps estimated
\$1 million repairing
LAVs on-site in Japan.

Page 4

Toys 4 Tots

Local telethon raises
money, hopes for
children's holiday cheer.

Page 7

Sports

I&L took on
Headhunters for all the
marbles in the
championship football
game Monday morning.

Page 10

Fair Warning

The Public Affairs
Office is not publishing
the BARSTOW LOG
December 21 or 28.

See you in 2001.

Base employees offered VERA/ VSIP buyouts

By Cpl. Brian Davidson

BARSTOW LOG staff

In light of major efforts to transition the civilian workforce into a competitive, capable entity, an expanded civilian buyout and early retirement program has been implemented at MCLB Barstow.

At the beginning of the fiscal year 2001, 151 base employees were offered buyouts under the Volunteer Early Retirement Authority and Voluntary Separation Incentive Pay programs.

Under VERA program, employees can retire early and begin collecting their retirement benefits. Civilian employees with 25 years of service at any age, or are at least 50 with 20 years of service are eligible for the program. Employees under 55 receive a 2 percent deduction in their retirement annuities for every year they are under 55.

The VSIP program, a one-time payment of up to \$25,000 depending on length of service, is offered to eligible civilian employees to leave federal service.

As of Tuesday, nearly 80 employees have opted to take advantage of the buyout offers.

According to Esther Gonzales, Human Resources Office manager, some have been able to take advantage of VERA and VSIP.

See VERA/VSIP Page 4

14 energy-saving years net base employee coveted DOE award

By Cpl. Brian Davidson

BARSTOW LOG staff

During a career spanning 14 years, Larry Emmons has garnered numerous accolades, a shining reputation and, most recently, he distinguished himself among his peers by earning the Department of Energy Federal Energy Management Program Exceptional Service Award to an Individual.

As Energy Manager here, he was chosen for the award for his efforts in leading energy-saving projects at the base. Emmons implemented \$4.2 million in projects over the past three years, which have included retrofits, satellite boilers, energy-efficient motors, and an energy management control system in high-energy use buildings. The project's cost savings for fiscal year 1999 alone are \$650,000.

Studies performed in fiscal years 1996 and 1997 identified a possible savings of \$8.2 million in energy conservation opportunities. Because the base participates in the Defense Energy Services Center spot market purchasing of natural gas and electricity deregulation programs, the savings are especially important, according to Emmons.

"It's crucial because under deregulation the market is becoming unstable and costs could skyrocket," said Emmons.

Beth Shearer, FEMP director, presented Emmons with the award at a ceremony held at the Hotel Washington in Washington, D.C. The DOE awards are given to Federal facility managers and contributors who have

See ENERGY Page 8



Photo by Curt Lambert

Paul Juola, Operations and Management Environmental Issues, House Appropriations Defense Sub-committee, drove a Light Armored Vehicle on the new test track during a visit here Tuesday. Juola, accompanied by David Norquist,

Environmental Issues, House Appropriations Defense Sub-committee were here to observe training and discussed O&M funding, information technology programs, infrastructure and environmental issues.

NTC holds group sessions for property shipment counseling

By LCpl. Cory Kelly

BARSTOW LOG staff

Property shipment counseling for base personnel on Permanent Change of Station orders is now held Wednesday at 8 a.m. in Building 15's Blue Wing conference room by Fort Irwin personnel.

Anyone requiring a personal property counseling session must register at the Fort Irwin Transportation Management Office, 370-3840, for the Wednesday sessions.

The counseling sessions, which were formerly handled by the base as on-the-spot counseling sessions, will now be handled by Fort Irwin Travel Management Office staff in the form of group counseling.

Chief Warrant Officer Jeffrey L. Clawson, Travel Management Officer, said because of the small amount of counseling sessions needed here, it is more cost effective to have a Fort Irwin counselor come and perform the counseling sessions on an as-needed basis rather than retain a counselor on staff.

Personal property damage claims will now be processed by appointment through the Staff Judge Advocate Office in Building 236.

To check the status of an inbound personal property shipment or to arrange the drop off of one, call 370-3840 or DSN: 470-3840.

For more info concerning property shipment counseling sessions call CWO Jeffrey L. Clawson, 577-6994.

THE COMMANDER'S FORUM

The "Commander's Forum" is a tool of the Base Commander to hear and address the concerns of base residents, employees and others. To contact the Commander's Forum, call the hotline at 577-6535 or send your concerns via e-mail to SMB Barstow Commanders Forum.

Creation of new QA billet sparks employee curiosity

Q How can the Base justify the enclosed Quality Assurance position at a GS-11, when the September 15, 2000, CO letter for the second round of VSIP/VERA have targeted two QA billets at the GS-9, and another QA billet at the GS-10?

If this new QA job is so important, why didn't someone think about retaining one of the existing GS-9 or GS-10 QA positions off of the September 15, 2000 VSIP/VERA letter? Also, if the job is that important, why list three QA billets on the second-round VSIP/VERA letter?

The rationale the QA positions are inherently governmental when you have three positions targeted for VSIP/VERA at lower GS grades and then advertise a new QA position at a GS-11 doesn't make sense.

The appearance this is giving is the GS-11 is being advertised for somebody in particular locally by how the job is stated as appointable base employees only.

Thank you for your review of these questions.

A Thank you for raising this issue, it provides me an opportunity to set the record straight. The position announced is a replacement for the transportation superintendent, GS-1610-12, which is being vacated.

The buyout list you referred to was already put together prior

to the announcement of the vacancy. Rather than fill the vacancy using the old PD, we decided to fill the vacancy based on the PDs in the A-76 study. Although the advertised position has the same grade or series as other positions on base, the PD is unique based on the post A-76 organization. The PD is multi-skilled and requires a transportation background not currently resident in that grade and series in other positions on base.

The decision to hire locally is consistent with our policy of RIF avoidance by offering every available program and opportunity to our work force.

Again, thank you for your interest and concern. We will continue to reshape the base work force using all available options. I ask that you stay informed and involved in this process and, when needed, ask for clarification.

Why is Base Library closed?

Q There have been numerous times when either myself or my buddies have wanted to access the Base Library at the EM Club, Bldg. 218, when it is supposed to open at 10 a.m., but no one is there. Sometimes on the weekends, when one of us is working a swing shift, we need to access the books and information (Internet) before our other job starts, and the Base Librarian or workers aren't there at 10 a.m., and the Base Library is closed. So, we can't get our papers typed or take a test on the Internet because we have no computer access. Why is the Base Library posted as open at 10 a.m. when it isn't open all of the time at 10 a.m. as posted?

Some of us are going to college and need to use the computers

to type papers and take tests.

Thank you for addressing this concern.

A Thank you for voicing your concern about library access.

Library operating hours are affected by our current staffing levels. Currently, there is one full time employee responsible for opening the library during the week. Occasionally the librarian picks up mail, materials and supplies prior to opening the library and this causes delays in the opening by 10 or 15 minutes. Once the library is open, it is necessary for it to remain open for the entire shift, including lunch. With respect to changing the hours of operation, based on our current staffing, this could only be done by reducing the hours of operation. Based on the few incidences when the library was not open at 10 a.m., I do not believe a reduction is warranted. We apologize to those who were inconvenienced by these delays.

The library is open Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Delayed opening has not been a problem since there are not administrative requirements outside of the library on weekends. MCCS Life Long Learning programs will continue to anticipate and meet your educational needs. In most circumstances, your library will be open during posted operating hours. As an additional note, MCCS will be conducting a survey in the BARSTOW LOG that will ask our patrons to respond as to the hours of operation they prefer for the library and some of the other activities offered aboard the base to be open. Please take the additional opportunity to voice your concerns by filling out and returning the survey so our programs can better suit your needs.

1,000 points give dad bragging rights

By Lt. Elmon R. Krupnik
Base Chaplain



I went home over the Thanksgiving holiday. It was good to be home with my family. One of the activities in which I participated while home

was attending my daughter's high school basketball tournament. During the third game of the tournament, just before half-time, my daughter, who is a senior, scored her 1,000th career point. We all cheered and one of the assistant coaches held up a sign from the bench with "1000" in big numbers for all to see. I was and am very proud of her. It makes us proud when our offspring have successes, great or small, because they are a

reflection of us.

We are the children of God. All people are the creation of God, and as such, bear the image of God and should be treated with the greatest respect and dignity. Genesis 1:27 states, "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God He created him, male and female he created them." In our own lives, do we reflect the image of God? Do we reflect the love of God, the mercy of God, and the grace of God in our daily lives? If statistics were kept (Thank God they are not!), what would they reveal about our reflection of God?

It is a struggle at times to live the reflection of our heavenly father just as it is a struggle for a basketball player to succeed in a basketball game. Sometimes the shots come easy, such as a lay up or a free throw.

See CHAPLAIN Page 12

Just doing my job ...



Photo by LCpl. Joshua Barnhardt

Margaret Carter is the new base comptroller. She was recently selected for the office after serving as the Base Administrative Officer. Her promotion is effective December 17.

Chapel Hours

Protestant Sun. 8:30 a.m.
Catholic Mass Sun. 10:30 a.m.

**Holy Day of Obligation Mass,
Immaculate Conception Friday 11 a.m.**

Yermo Bible Study

Wednesday 11 - 11:30 a.m.

At the Colonel's Workshop

For more info call
Don Brooks at 577-7165.



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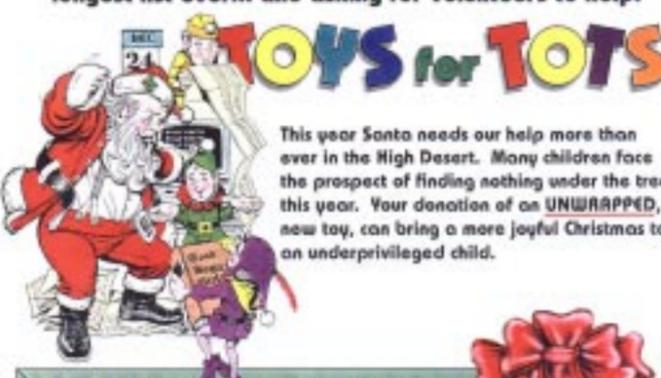
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For information on advertising in BARSTOW LOG, contact Paul Kinison of Aerotech News, Lancaster, Calif., phone: (661) 945-5634.

NEWS BRIEFS

"News Briefs" is designed to disseminate information to the MCLB Barstow community. Submissions should include a point of contact and phone number, and be received by noon, Friday for the next issue. Submit news briefs via e-mail to editor@barstow.usmc.mil.

Look who's here in the "St. Nick" of time, with the longest list ever... and asking for volunteers to help!



This year Santa needs our help more than ever in the High Desert. Many children face the prospect of finding nothing under the tree this year. Your donation of an UNWRAPPED, new toy, can bring a more joyful Christmas to an underprivileged child.

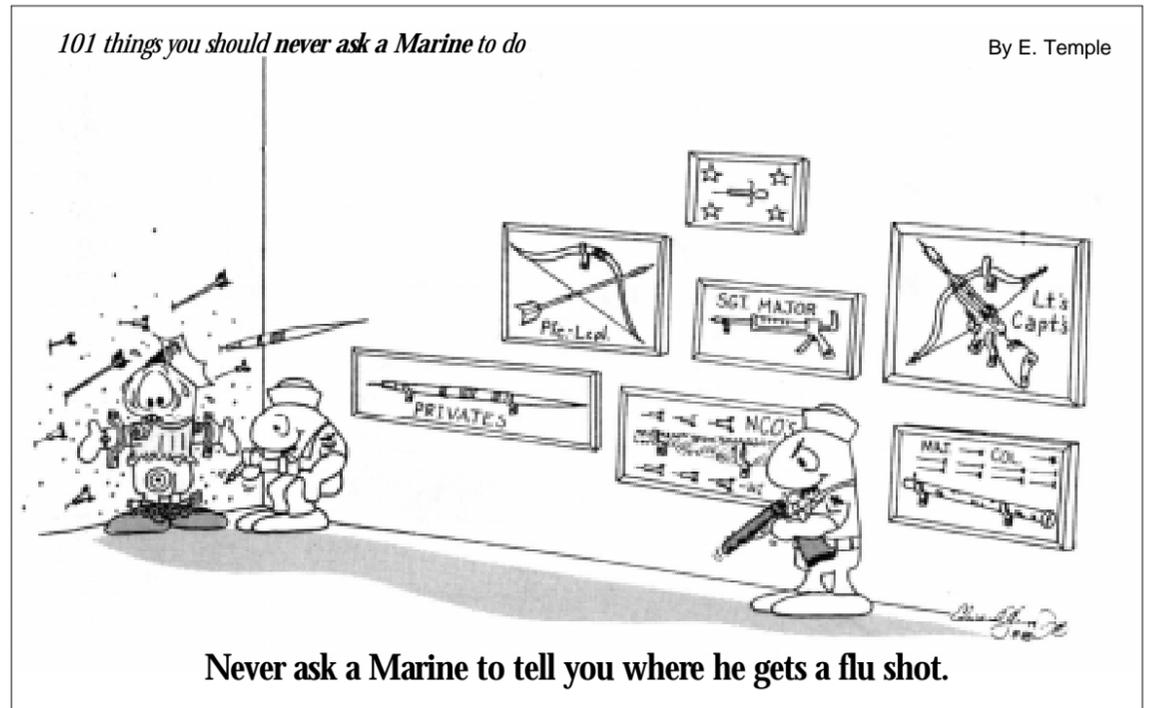
TOYS for TOTS

Environmental - Warehouse 3
 Battalion Lobby - Building 302
 Base HQ/AFGE - Building 15
 SJA/OGC, DLA, C&P - Building 238
 Maintenance - Bldgs 196, 197, 198
 Personal Services - Building 129
 DRMD Lobby - Bldg 226
 Branch Medical Clinic - Bldg 582
 DLA Warehouses 5, 7, 10
 PMO/HRO/TAVSC - Building 37
 Nebo/Yermo Fire Depts - Bldgs 18, 437

Fleet Support - Whse 406
 GMD Lobby - Bldgs 322, 614
 Housing Office - Bldg 588
 Base Safety - Bldg 43
 Exchange - Bldg 342
 Warehouses 401, 402, 403
 All gates
 MCCS - Building 44

Sponsored by the Barstow communities
 Coordinated at MCLB by the
 MCLB Fire Department

For more information call:
 Nebo Fire Department -577-6732/6866/6865



WANTED: VITA REPS

The time for filing taxes is once again around the corner. The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program is looking for a few dedicated military and civilian volunteers. The program allows military personnel, retirees and their respective dependents to file income tax returns for free. VITA allows these personnel to avoid the sometimes hefty processing fees that civilian agencies charge.

All VITA representatives must undergo a training program offered on base by the IRS. VITA representatives will become knowledgeable in aspects of federal and California law in order to offer the best help to personnel.

If you would like to volunteer for VITA, or to get more details, contact

SSgt. Johnny Garcia or Jacque Fadeley at 577-6874.

Leave Transfers

Charlie E. Moyer, Jr., Maintenance Center, has been affected by a medical emergency. Anyone desiring to donate leave under the leave-sharing program may obtain a leave donor application through his or her division administrative officer.

For more info call Pat Snyder, 577-7284.

Toys for Tots distribution set

Needy families with children 10 years of age and younger seeking toys can pickup applications at Mt. St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 505 E. Mt. View St.; Department of Social Ser-

vices, 1300 E. Mountain View St.; Connie's Coin Laundromat in the Stater Brothers Shopping Center on Armory Road; Desert Manna, 209 S. First Ave.; Divine's Market & Liquor Store, 25181 W. Main (Lenwood); and Newberry Market on National Trails Highway in Newberry Springs.

Toys will be distributed at the Barstow Mall, 1876 E. Main St. December 18, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. for those whose last names begin with A-M, on December 19 for N-Z, and December 20 for late comers.

For more information or to help with distribution call Laurden Valverdi at the Toys for Tots Hot Line, 256-3574.

Adopt-a-Vet

The Chaplain's Office is signing up sponsors for the Adopt-a-Vet program. Many veterans don't have anyone to share Christmas with and would not receive a gift if it weren't for this program.

To purchase a gift for one of these veterans, sign up with RP2 Julie Dennison at the Chaplain's Office, Building 126, Monday-Thursday,

7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. and Sundays after each service at the Base Chapel. All gift ideas are under \$25, and adoptions are not limited to one veteran.

For more info call RP2 Julie Dennison, 577-6849, or e-mail her at dennisonj@barstow.usmc.mil.

Christmas on Main Street

Historic Old Town Barstow is planning a winter street festival Tuesday and December 19.

A number of events are scheduled for the festival, including carollers, crafters, food, games, entertainment, skits and, of course, the jolly old elf himself, Santa Claus.

Tuesday evening the Old Town Christmas Celebration starts at 4 p.m. and ends at 8 p.m.

December 19 there is a Midnight

Madness sale so people can get last-minute items for under the tree.

Gate Closures

Vehicle Registration and the rear gates of Nebo and Yermo will be closed December 22 until December 27 at 5 a.m. and again from December 29 until January 3 at 5 a.m.

Christmas Party

The American Federation of Government Employees Local 1482 invites military, civilian employees, friends, and family to their Christmas party Saturday, 1-3 p.m., at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 34872 Victor Street, Barstow.

Santa Claus is available for pictures, and his elves will be doing face painting. There is also a magic show and door prizes as well as refreshments.

Job Watch

Ann No.	Title/Series/Grade	Open	Close	1st Cutoff	Location
OTR-142-00	Management Assistant	11-14-00	12-12-00	11-28-00	MCLB Barstow
DEU-597-00	Safety Technician	1-30-00	12-15-00	N/A	MCLB Barstow
	GS-0344-07 (Temp NTE one year)				
	GS-0019-07				

Applicants interested in announcements beginning with DEA or OTR should submit their resume to:
Human Resources Service Center, Southwest
ATTN: Code 522 (announcement number)
525 B Street, Suite 600
San Diego, CA 92101-4418

For more information concerning public job announcements visit the Self-Service, Bldg. 37, Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. or call the Human Resources Office 24-hour employment information line at 577-6919.

If you have Internet access, browse to <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov>.

For information regarding Open Continuous Merit Promotion announcements point your browser to <http://www.donhr.navy.mil>.



Lawrence Vallejo (left) and Jeremiah M. Barry are all smiles as they display their Great Escape awards. Barry won first place in the locally held National Fire Association's Great Escape Contest and Vallejo took home second place. Barry's entry is being sent to the the NFA's national headquarters to compete for the best fire escape plan in the nation.

Welders save Corps money, fix LAVs

By LCpl. Kathy J. Arndt
CPAO, Okinawa, Japan

CAMP KINSER, Okinawa, Japan – A team of welders from Marine Corps Logistics Base, Barstow, Calif., recently came to Okinawa to repair two Light Armored Vehicles, which saved the Marine Corps an estimated total of more than \$1 million.

Ronnie A. Baca and Steven G. Langevin, both civilian welders, worked with Marines from General Support Maintenance Company, 3rd Materiel Readiness Battalion, 3rd Force Service Support Group for five days to repair cracks in the LAVs' hulls.

The Barstow team was sent because the cracks that developed on the LAVs exceeded four inches, making it a fifth-echelon repair, according to GySgt. James R. Gearheart, staff non-commissioned officer in charge, Support Platoon, GSMC.

Gearheart said his unit here is limited to fourth-echelon repairs because of the sensitivity and difficulty of welding armor plating and the safety hazards of the job.

The repairs to one LAV included cutting out a two-foot square section of the hull and replacing it with a new piece of armor plate. The crack was 14 inches in length.

The other LAV had minor cracks that were not severe enough to remove a section of the hull.

"They repaired the cracks by welding them shut and grinding them smooth again," Gearheart said.

Since the Barstow team came here, the Marine Corps saved money that it can now use in other areas.

The money saved for each LAV was well over \$520,000, according to Gearheart. Doing the repairs on island also saved shipping costs.

"It would cost an ungodly amount of money to prep and ship a vehicle back to the states," Gearheart said.

The Marine Corps also saved time by repairing the vehicles on island.

"It was more cost effective and took much less time for a contact team from Barstow to come here to do the repairs vice shipping the whole LAV back to the states," Gearheart said.

It may have taken months to ship the LAVs to the states, repair them and ship them back, according to Gearheart.

After the Barstow team returned to the states and the repairs were successful, GSMC is considering doing more repairs here with help from stateside repairmen instead of shipping vehicles.

"This way of doing business saves a tremendous amount of money, and the owning unit is back to being fully operational in a short period of time," Gearheart said.

New plastic for DoD travelers

By Gerry J. Gilmore
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – Many authorized DoD military and civilian employees whose government travel charge cards have expired are exchanging their NationsBank 'plastic' for Bank of America Visa cards.

NationsBank, the previous DoD travel charge card contractor, merged two years ago with the Bank of America, said Larry Murray, the component program manager for Washington Headquarters Services, a service organization for the Office of the Secretary of Defense. Travel cards that were issued in 1998 will soon expire because travel cards are valid for only a two-year period.

"It is important for all cardholders to be aware of the expiration date stamped on their travel cards because thousands of cards will expire at the end of each month," said Murray, who noted that there are about 1.5 million travel cardholders in DoD.

Murray provides the following information to cardholders whose travel cards will soon expire:

– Cardholders should receive a letter from Bank of America no later than 30 days before the expiration date stamped on the card. It is imperative to keep the letter because it contains a card receipt and activation code that is needed to activate the account. Customers should call Bank of America 24-hour service phone number at 1-800-472-1424 if they do not receive the letter at least 30 days prior to

See PLASTIC Page 12

VERA/SIP from Page 1

In fiscal year 2001, about 1,000 buyouts under the buyout and early retirement program will be offered within the Department of Defense, according to Diane Disney, deputy assistant secretary of defense for civilian personnel policy.

Of the 151 buyout offers, Maintenance Center Barstow employees received 49; Installation and Logistics received 102 offers, according to Gonzales.

The offers were targeted at employees by title, series, grade and quantity.

"Because we are workload driven, our offers were targeted to workers in areas that we have a surplus

in, but it has the potential to affect a wide range of people," noted Brenda German, MCB supervising manager assistant. "Laborers, some supervisors, draftsmen and planners have received offers."

So far, 28 Maintenance Center Barstow employees have taken the buyout, according to German.

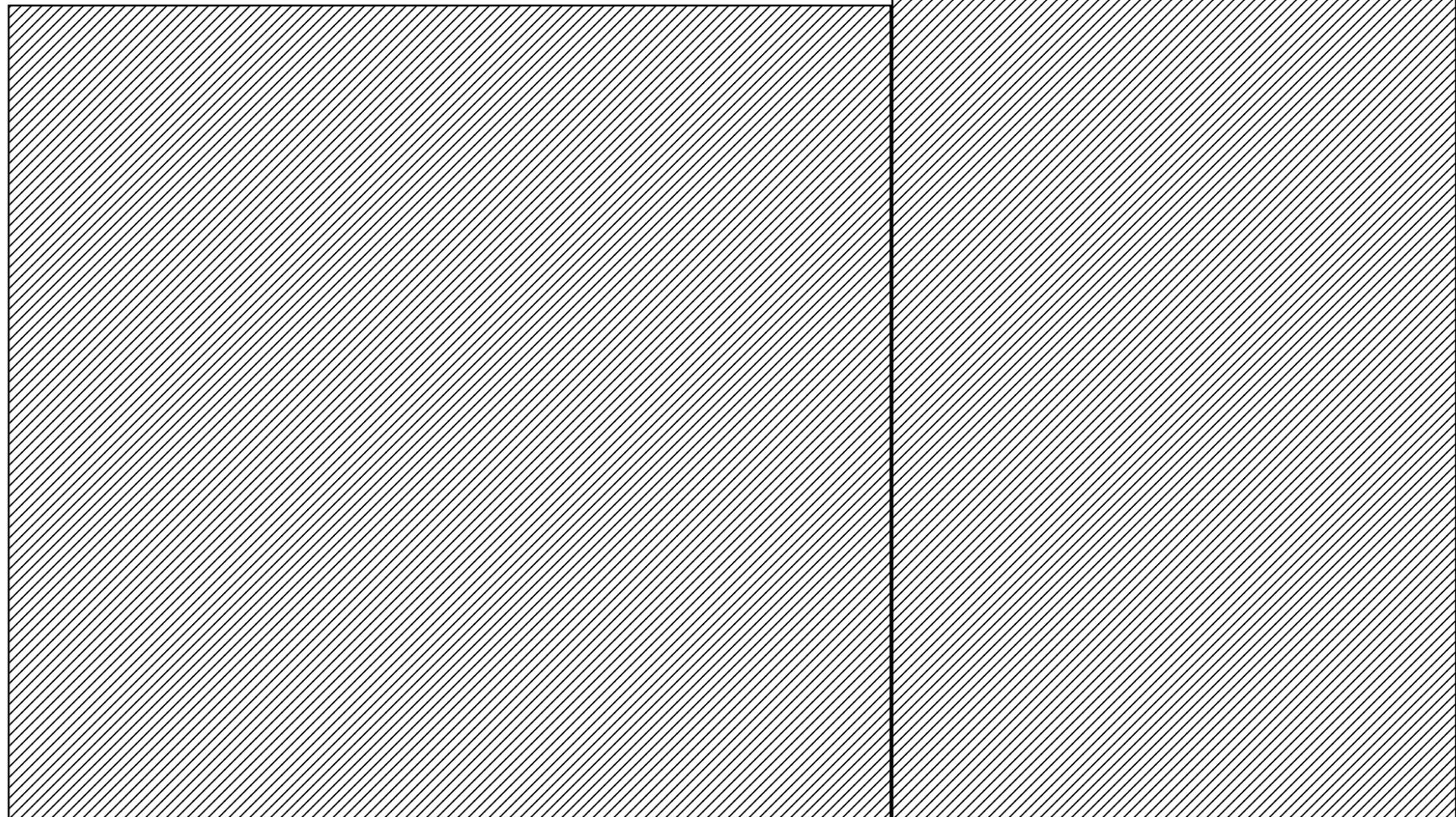
Speaking for I&L, LtCol. Charles Bridgeman,

department director said, "We are offering the buyouts to lessen the impact of a reduction in force on the labor force. If we get into a reduction in force situation,

See VERA/SIP
Page 5

"They are getting all of their money the first month and their retirement pay is coming right behind it."

– Esther Gonzales



Education tops Defense Commissary Agency shopping list

By Bonnie Powell
Defense Commissary Agency

FORT LEE, Va. – The focus is on education this fall at the Defense Commissary Agency. A new program offers a scholarship of \$1,500 or more to a college-bound military child at installations served by a commissary. More than one scholarship may be awarded at larger stores.

The Defense Commissary Agency/Fisher House Foundation Scholarships for Military Children is a high priority with DeCA Director, U.S. Army MGen. Robert J. Courter, Jr.

"The program enhances our local commissaries as important quality of life benefactors for military families," Courter said. "Our stores will be able to increase their impact by providing educational op-

portunities for the children of our military communities.

"The commissary system has long supported promotions with a focus on education," Courter continued. "This program complements, and should not impact, existing local or regional scholarship programs awarded through installation activities, organizations affiliated with the military community, or scholarships funded by a particular vendor at a particular commissary."

Many manufacturers and distributors who sell products through the commissary system enthusiastically support the new scholarship program with their donations.

Students interested in applying for the scholarships can pick up an application at the local commissary starting December 1.

Completed applications must be returned to the commissary prior to February 15, where a store official will validate it by checking the student's or sponsor's ID.

The scholarships are open to qualified sons and daughters of U.S. military ID card holders to include active duty, retirees and guard/reserves. Students must have a 3.0 grade point average to qualify and write a short essay on "What Being a Military Dependent Means to Me."

Students currently attending college may also be eligible to apply. Scholarships offered for 2001 will be at least \$1,500 per commissary.

Recipients will be notified by April 30.

Fisher House Foundation administers the scholarship program and accepts all industry donations earmarked for "Defense Commissary Agency/Fisher

House Foundation Scholarships for Military Children." The foundation also retains an independent contractor to screen the scholarship applications. Well known for building and operating 26 comfort houses near military medical facilities, Fisher Houses offer a "home away from home" to military families who want to stay near loved ones during a medical crisis.

"Fisher House Foundation is delighted to join DeCA and its suppliers in providing scholarships for military family members," said Arnold Fisher, Chairman of Fisher House Foundation and nephew of its founder, Zachary Fisher. "The scholarship program is a natural extension to our ever-growing network of Fisher Houses at major military medical centers.

See LIST Page 12

VERA/VSIP from Page 4

[leaving] is no longer voluntary people you no longer have positions for."

According to Bridgeman, the VERA option is a means of allowing personnel who have had full careers in civil service to move on, while enabling those who are relatively new to continue in their budding careers. At the same time, it benefits the organization by making it more streamlined and competitive.

However, "With the VSIP program we have had some junior employees who are not retirement eligible who have actually taken the cash incentive, and are going on to other aspirations at a younger age," noted Bridgeman.

"A reduction in force, which is determined by what positions are not needed within an organization, could affect any number of positions and is total base-wide," said Gonzales. "Not just a few people in I&L, or just a few people in the Maintenance Center or the Logistics Base."

Programs like VERA/VSIP are designed to avoid reductions in force but without success in buyout programs, a reduction in force can become the only option if normal attrition and hiring freezes fail.

"The VERA authority has to come from higher up and we have to request

approval to offer early retirement," said Gonzales. "In the first phase, in May, we only offered VSIP for the regular retirement eligible and for the resignations that involved employees in I&L and FSC. So, we actually expanded the pool of participants for the VSIP program."

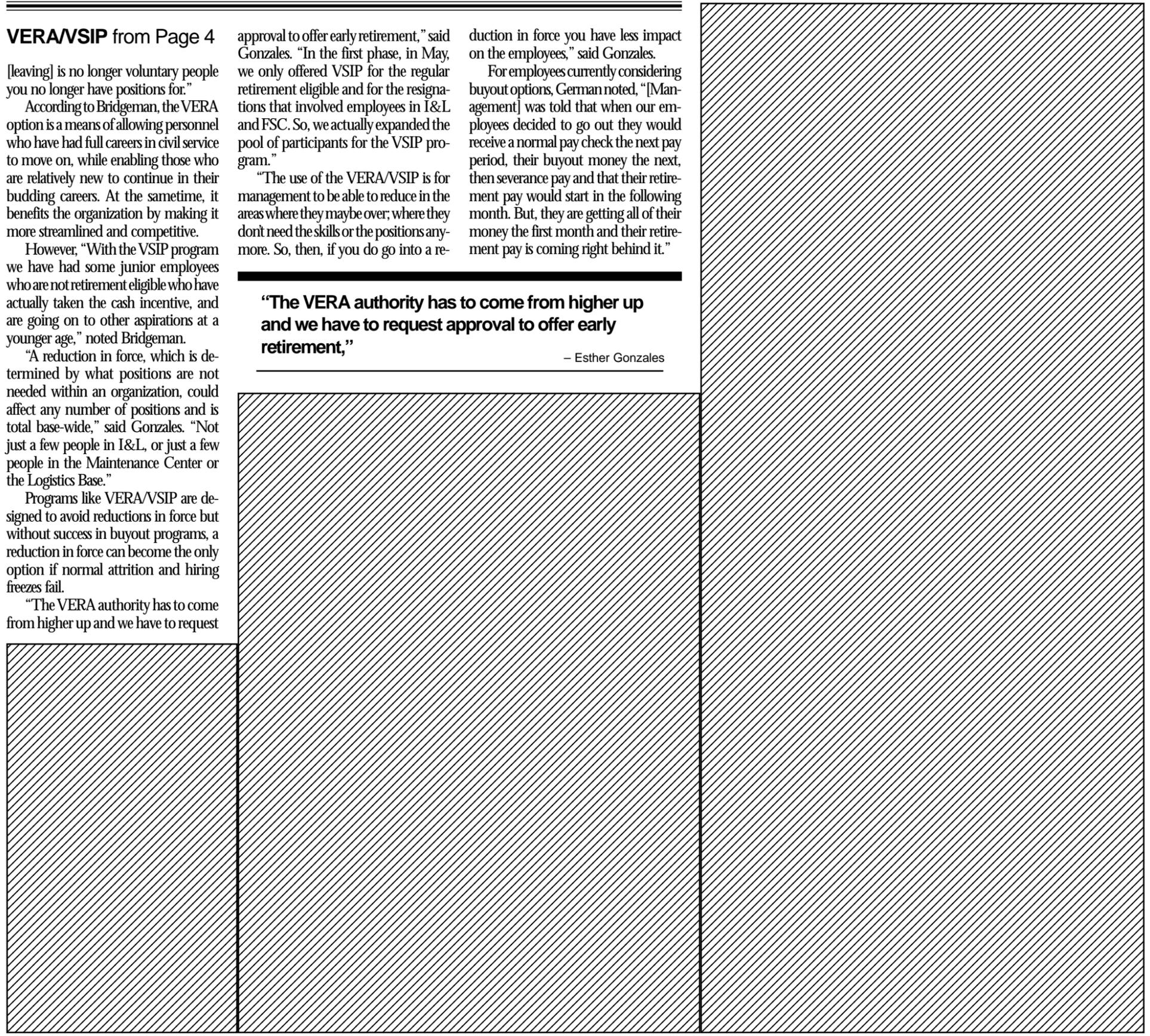
"The use of the VERA/VSIP is for management to be able to reduce in the areas where they maybe over; where they don't need the skills or the positions anymore. So, then, if you do go into a re-

duction in force you have less impact on the employees," said Gonzales.

For employees currently considering buyout options, German noted, "[Management] was told that when our employees decided to go out they would receive a normal pay check the next pay period, their buyout money the next, then severance pay and that their retirement pay would start in the following month. But, they are getting all of their money the first month and their retirement pay is coming right behind it."

"The VERA authority has to come from higher up and we have to request approval to offer early retirement,"

– Esther Gonzales



PERSONAL SERVICES BULLETIN

Marine Corps Community Services – Personal Services Division

Homework: A great gift from a caring parent



By Rich Johnston
Base Education Officer

We have all gone through the trials and peaks and valleys of homework, and most of us have not seen it as a gift. However, if the approach to homework is well thought out and started early the results will be tremendous assets to your children. The value of habits and attitudes associated with learning, which you help establish, will go beyond any material offering that you might give.

We might want to begin this change in viewpoint by asking ourselves the question; why is homework important? Some reasons homework is assigned are:

1. The teacher knows the review and practice will strengthen the knowledge and retention of the methods and concepts that are building blocks for the

next steps.

2. The work is designed to prepare the student for the introduction of a new concept or material.

3. Homework may be designed to teach the student how to use outside resources, such as the library, dictionaries, encyclopedias or to teach the student how to dig deeper into the material instilling a desire to pursue knowledge.

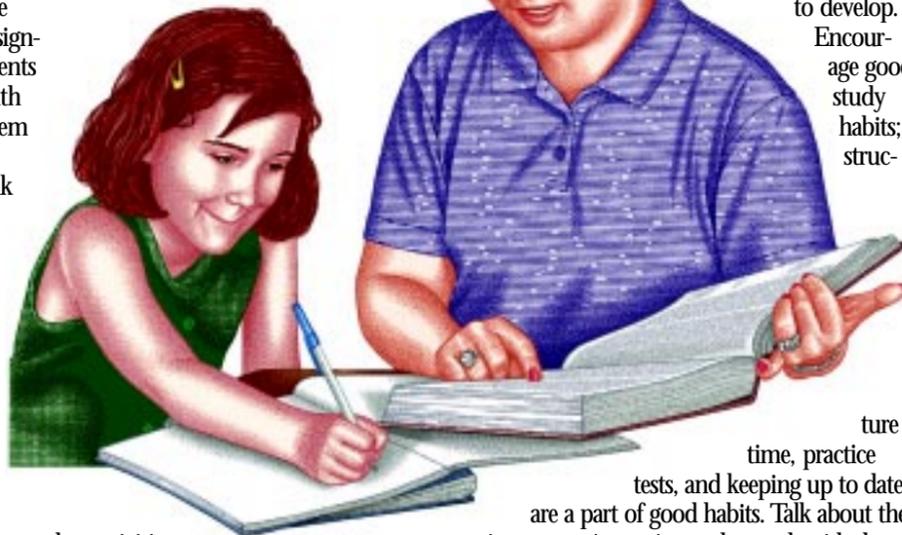
4. Completing homework under the right conditions develops good learning habits and attitudes. This is one of the most important outcomes we can expect of our children. We hope to teach them to work independently, taking the initiative and promoting the self-discipline to carry through an assignment from start to finish. Completing the tasks helps teach responsibility and promotes a love of learning.

Some ways we can show homework is important and support our children as they work on their assignments are: Establish a regular time each day and make sticking to the

schedule a priority. This may require some adjustments in how other activities are scheduled and may require different children do homework at different times. A firm but flexible stand on the start time and how much time each child devotes to daily homework pays dividends. Next, find a place each child can use. This should be well lighted and free of as many distractions as possible. Provide them with supplies like pencils, paper, a dictionary, crayons and or calculator if needed.

Once this is accomplished we need to show an interest in what each is doing.

We can discuss the assignments with them or talk



about what activities took place during their school day. As we get involved with the children and their activities we are in a position to volunteer for class activities, or if that is not possible we can make sure we attend scheduled school activities. Being involved and giving your time lets the child know you really care.

Long lasting results are achieved by following the above suggestions. Here are a few more to keep you and your child on track and in touch. Provide guidance; do not do the assignments for them. By doing the work for them you deprive them of the experience and the chance to understand the material. Help them get organized, provide a

notebook or a calendar to note due dates and special requirements, or provide a folder for each subject. Keeping a time line and completing tasks is an important skill to develop. Encourage good study habits; struc-

ture time, practice tests, and keeping up to date are a part of good habits. Talk about the assignments give praise, and consult with the teacher when problems or praiseworthy incidents arise.

These suggestions may not create a genius, but they can give you and your child a wonderful sense of togetherness, provide hours of interaction, instill a sense of curiosity and promote a love of learning.

“Being involved and giving your time lets the child know you really care.”

PSD BRIEFS

VMET on the Internet

Verification of Military Employment is coming to the Internet January 2.

VMET is an document that provides an overview of a service member's military career and verifies military experience and training. It can be used to help create a resume, complete job applications, etc.

For more info, call the Transition Office, 577-6265.

PSD begins annual food basket drive

By GySgt. Frank Patterson
Public Affairs Chief

Personal Services is again sponsoring the annual Christmas Food Basket Drive now through December 18.

“Our drive is for Marines and Sailors who can really use some help during the holiday season,” said GySgt. Michael Claudio, Financial Counselor, Personal Support Division, adding that last year's drive provided more than 15 food baskets for Marines and Sailors stationed here.

Claudio said there are two different food drop-off points this year. One is at Building 15 (Base Headquarters) and the other is at Building 302 (Battalion Headquarters).

“But all frozen food must be dropped off here, at Building 129,” he added. “That way we can properly store it.”

According to Claudio there were a few problems when it came time to give out the baskets last year.

“There are several things we can do to minimize potential difficulties this year,” said Claudio. “First of all, don't nominate a Marine for a basket when that Marine won't be in town when the baskets are distributed.

“Also, don't tell a Marine that he or she has been nominated when their name has not yet been forwarded to (1stSgt. Allen). It is pretty tough when I have to tell a Marine ‘Sorry, I don't have a food basket for you.’” Claudio noted that even though this actually happened they were still able to provide the Marine a basket.

On the other hand, Claudio asked that if you are nominating a Marine or Sailor for a basket, to please let them know.

“Last year, I called someone to pick up their food basket, and they didn't even know they had been nominated,” said Claudio.

The food basket nomination cutoff date is December 18. All nominations must go through 1stSgt. Charles J. Allen, III, 577-6700.

Nominees may begin picking up their baskets December 20.

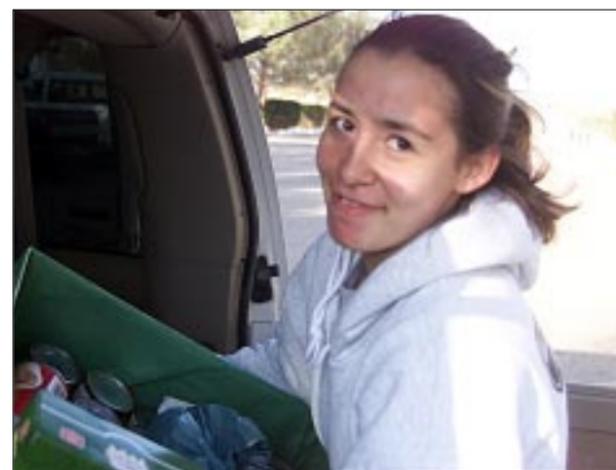


Photo by LCpl. Cory Kelly

Jennifer L. Torres, Senior Class President, Silver Valley High School, drops off canned goods for PSD's annual Food Basket Drive November 24. The students of Silver Valley High School collected more than 400 items for the drive.

Personal Services Director: William Boxx
Program Director: Dr. David Nieman

Personal Services Bulletin Editor: Betty Quiroz
Phone Number: 577-6533



Photo by Cpl. Brian Davidson

(Above) Cameramen focus on telethon hosts presenting items for auction.

(Right) Corporal Christopher Jurgensmeyer, one of Santa's little helpers, takes a break while waiting for his cue to deliver the toys. It is the hard work and dedication of people behind the scenes that helps make the telethon successful year after year.



Photo by Cpl. Brian Davidson

TOYS for TOTS

Annual telethon highlights the Barstow community's 2000 toy drive

By Cpl. Brian Davidson
BARSTOW LOG staff

The 21st Annual Toys for Tots telethon raised \$65,000 in toys and cash donations, according to Mal Wessel, Toys for Tots organizer.

This year's live broadcast telethon featured auction items like a parakeet complete with cage and feed, Bob Barker's golf putter from the game show "The Price Is Right" and the grand finale, a 1993 Toyota Tercel donated by Soutar's.

As usual, MCLB Barstow Ma-

rines and firefighters provided manpower behind the scenes.

The telethon is the climax of the community effort each year, but Toys for Tots is a year-round event for Barstow, noted Wessel.

Wessel said he expects about 3,100 Barstow area children need toys Christmas morning. He thinks that with the amount of toys available each child should receive two gifts.

Parents with children in need during the holiday season can learn about how they can benefit from Toys for Tots on Page 3.



Photo by Bill Bokholt

(Above) Taking call-in pledges and representing MCLB Barstow are (from left to right) Cpl. Brian K. Davidson, HNN Eddie Delapena and MCLB firefighters Rick Dunham and Stephen Mathos manning the phones.



Photo by Cpl. Brian Davidson

(Left) Connie Wessel, Toys for Tots co-chairperson, interviews Col. Mark A. Costa, base commander, as Fire Chief Robert Wyman, Asst. Fire Chief Steve Mulcare and GySgt. Peter F. Errigo, Marine Toys for Tots liaison, stand by. Wyman and Mulcare coordinated the base toy drive.

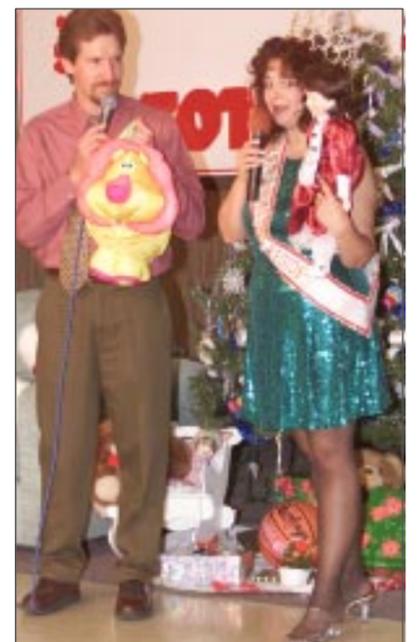


Photo by Cpl. Brian Davidson

Telethon hosts Lance Powell and Shawn Wessel auction a ceramic doll.

SECNAV honors MCLB for energy-saving achievements

By Ellie Sexton

Navy Federal Energy Savings Commission

WASHINGTON - Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, CA, teamed with Southern California Edison's ENVEST to develop and implement energy conservation projects. Barstow implemented \$4.2 million in projects over the past three years, producing a savings of \$650,000 in FY99. In recognition of its achievements, MCLB Barstow is the winner of the FY99 Secretary of the Navy Energy Award in the Marine Corps Small Activity Category - receiving a monetary award of \$30,000 and the privilege of flying the SECNAV energy flag for one year.

One of the key elements in MCLB Barstow's success has been an energy conservation program furthered by Base Energy Manager Larry Emmons. The Building Energy Monitor Program, a program designed to cut energy cost by training personnel in each of the command's divisions to go into buildings under their cognizance and ensure proper conservation methods are being used, was instrumental in attaining the award. Ninety percent of the building monitors in MCLB's program are fully trained, making it one of the more efficient monitor programs in the Marine Corps.

Emmons wrote and introduced a manual detailing facility conservation that is now being used throughout the entire Marine Corps to teach building monitors what their responsibilities and duties are.

The Honorable Robert B. Pirie, Jr., Under Secretary of the Navy, presented the SECNAV awards during a ceremony

at the Navy Memorial & Naval Heritage Center in Washington, DC. The Logistics Base is one of eight Department of the Navy commands recognized for outstanding energy management and conservation achievements. Accepting the award for Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow were LtCol. Charles E. Bridgeman and Larry G. Emmons.

"These awards reflect enormous credit on you all as leaders ... and enormous credit on the hardworking Sailors and Marines and civilians who back you up," said Pirie. "You persuaded them to come along with the program. That's a terrific accomplishment."

Emmons agreed, noting, "every one on base is responsible for this award and have helped make it all possible."

"The efforts you make really epitomize the contributions made by many hardworking Energy Managers throughout the Department of Defense," added the keynote speaker, Mr. Randall Yim, Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Installations. "Without your dedication and motivation, our energy policies would really just be simply hollow initiatives with very little meaning. I congratulate you for doing such a great job."

Navy and Marine Corps shore facilities have slashed energy use nearly 26 percent compared to the 1985 baseline. To date, the Navy and Marine Corps have saved more than \$500 million in inflation-adjusted energy costs since 1985. The Department of the Navy is ahead of its goal to reduce energy consumption 30 percent by 2005 and is on its way to meeting the 35 percent energy reduction goal by the year 2010.

LARRY from Page 1

made notable efforts to reduce energy consumption or who have developed or demonstrated innovative energy conservation technologies.

Emmons was chosen from 145 nominees.

To ensure the base meets its conservation goals, Emmons, more commonly known as 'Energy Larry' works closely with the local utility, Public Affairs Office and local newspapers to promote energy-saving ideas to family housing and base personnel.

His dedication has earned him the utmost respect of his peers.

"When Larry is given a task he does it accurately, completely and on time," noted Capt. Sean T. Dugan, deputy maintenance officer. "He provides you with more enough information to make an informed decision."

At Emmons' award ceremony keynote speaker, David Leiter, DOE principal deputy assistant secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy told Emmons and others, "You are saving energy, conserving water, and implementing innovative practices and technologies. Just last year, you exceeded the fiscal 2000 goal a year early ... It's unusual for government to have

a challenge of that sort and meet it early. [This] achievement means U.S. taxpayers have paid \$2.2 billion less for energy over the last 15 years."

Being formally recognized is great, according to Emmons, but it is not the award that matters most.

"The award recognizes that we are on the right track, saving the taxpayers

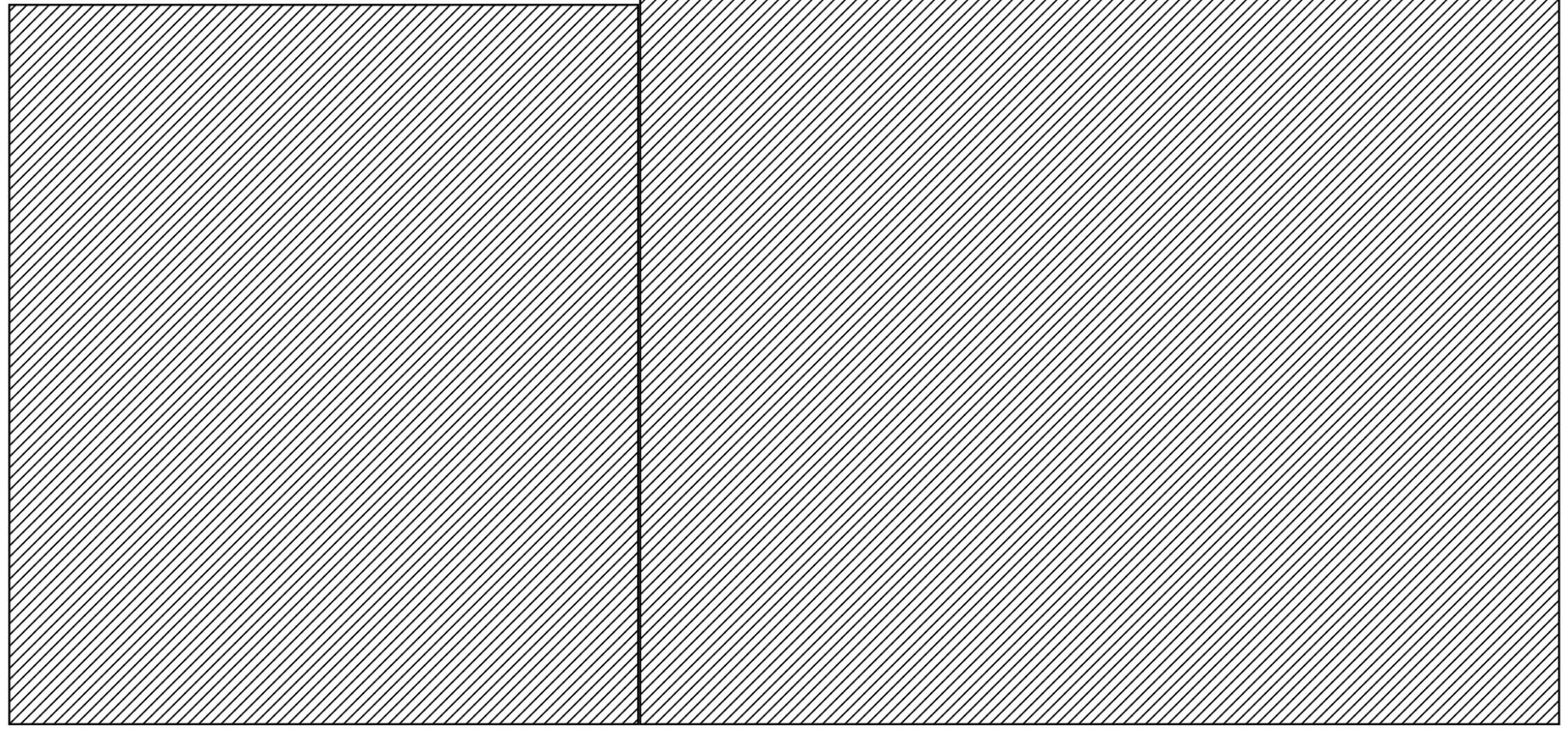
dollars and meeting Congressional mandates," he said. "It seems difficult at first, but hard work and the high level of command support we receive makes it easier."

Energy Larry's primary goal for the near future is what one would expect of an energy manager of his level of dedication, "to keep on saving energy."



Photo courtesy of Department of Energy

Under Secretary of the Navy Robert B. Pirie, Jr., (left), "Energy" Larry Emmons, and LtCol. Charles E. Bridgeman, director, Installation and Logistics, MCLB Barstow, congratulate Emmons on his award as the DOE Federal Energy Management Program Exceptional Service Award to an Individual. Emmon's efforts saved the base \$650,000 in Fiscal Year 1999.





By Jim Gaines
MCCS Publicity

December Sale at the MCX

The December Sale is in progress at the Exchange.

Check out these great buys: RCA Home Stereo System with rechargeable remote, \$159.99; RCA Dolby Digital Pro Logic Home Theater System, \$249.99; Panasonic 5-CD/DVD/Video CD Changer, \$499.99; Street Scooter with rear brake and carry strap, \$79.95; men's and women's fashions, 15 percent off.

The exchange has great buys and famous name brands plus hundreds of other holiday gift ideas at exceptionally low prices.

The Exchange/7-Day Store is open Monday-Saturday, 8 a.m.-9 p.m. and Sunday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Call 256-8974 for details.

The Railhead Exchange (Yermo) is open Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-6 p.m. During troop rotation the Railhead

Exchange is open Saturday and Sunday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 577-7092 for more information.

Weekly Lunch Menu

Today - Beef tips.

Friday - Baked Catfish.

Monday - Lemon chicken.

Tuesday - Stuffed pork chops.

Wednesday - London broil.

Thursday - Stuffed bell peppers.

A la carte and sub sandwiches also available for lunch.

All above meals served with vegetable, roll/butter, coffee, tea or soft drink. Lunch price is \$3 military, \$4.50 civilian.

Lunch at the Family Restaurant (Nebo), is served Monday-Friday, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Lunch at the Cactus Cafe (Yermo) is served Monday-Friday, 11:30 a.m.-noon.

Thursday Family Night Dinner

Thursday - Pork chops and chicken.

Next week - Chicken Parmesan.

Family Night dinners are served Thursday evenings at the Family Restaurant, 4:30-7:30 p.m. Prices: (military & civilian) \$4.50 adults, \$2.50 children (5-11 years), children 4 years and under are free.

All ranks and all base civilians are welcome, so bring the family and enjoy a good meal at a reasonable price.

MCCS Comment Line

Have a question, comment or complaint regarding MCCS?

Call the MCCS Comment Line at 577-6968 24 hours a day.

Your input is important to us, and we want to hear from you.

Monday Night Football

Monday Night Football is back at the Oasis Club. The bar is open and free snacks are provided.

It all begins at 6 p.m. every Monday night. Join us, and enjoy the games.

Call 577-6432 for details.

Basketball Court

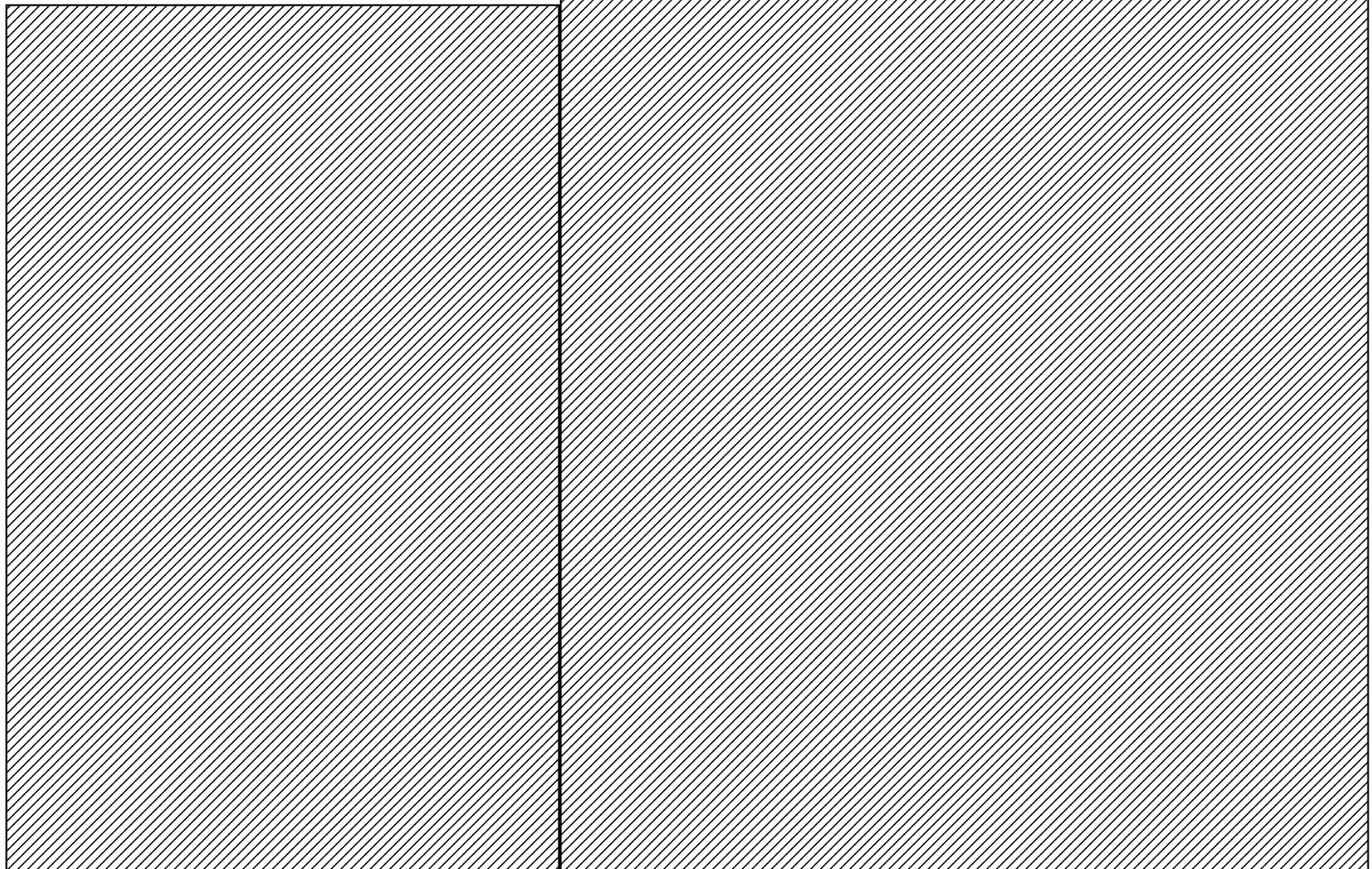
The basketball court at the Gym/Fitness Center is down for approximately three weeks while undergoing renovation.

Semper Fit apologizes for the inconvenience.

The graphic is a stylized, hand-drawn illustration of a party horn (noisemaker) with a long, flowing streamer. The streamer contains the text of the announcement. The horn is decorated with small circles, and the streamer has a decorative, wavy border.

Bring in the New Year at the
MCCS New Year's Eve Bash
Everyone is invited.
All ranks, base civilian employees, their families and guests.
And it's all FREE!
Games - Prizes - Awards
Bowling - Golf Putting - Basketball
Racquetball - Horseshoes
Wall Climbing
plus
Dinner, Comedy Show, DJ
and a New Year's Eve Party
(18 years and older for Comedy Show and New Year's Party)

 **For reservations or info call 577-6971.**



SPORTS

I&L goes head-to-Headhunters; come out on top

They easily put out the Fire during playoffs, but Monday afternoon I&L needed more than a bucket of water and a few hoses to douse the Headhunters

By LCpl. Cory Kelly
BARSTOW LOG Staff

I&L clawed their way to an 8-6 victory over the Headhunters in the Intramural Flag Football championship game Monday afternoon at Sorensen Field.

Even with the blinding sun and cloudless sky, one could almost see the dark shadows collecting over the Headhunters as they were rendered motionless by I&L's defense and forced to punt shortly after their receipt of the kick off.

And seconds later when I&L quarterback Bryan R. McClune rocketed one to Eric C. Behar in the end zone, one could almost smell the jasmine and frankincense surrounding the Headhunters' funeral.

But when Referee, David Hathaway said, "Illegal pass! Foreword lateral! No touch down!" and Larry Chavez caught an interception giving the ball back to the Headhunters, the shadows pulled back and the funeral setting was tossed away.

That is until seconds later when Christopher Jurgensmeyer slid a noose around the Headhunters that read "safety," putting two points on the board for I&L.

Two turnovers later, I&L got the chance to slip down the knot and add a little pressure. McClune threw a short pass into the end zone that bounced off the hands of his receiver, tumbled through the grasp of half the Headhunters defense and was snatched ever-so-ungracefully into the arms of I&L's Michael J. Huckaby closing off the half, 8-0.

The second half opened with one turnover after another. Eventually it was 14 minutes in, fourth down, and all the Headhunters had to do was push a fraction of a yard. Dennis W. Owen loosened the rope from his neck and did just that for the Headhunters, putting them on the board at 8-6.

Sadly enough for the Headhunters, those six points would be the extent of their glory on the field as the time winded down along with their chances at victory.

At game end, the trash-talking stopped, I&L claimed their trophy as this season's champions and the Headhunters went back to doing whatever it is that they do best.



Photo by LCpl. Cory Kelly

I&L's Shane Vasquez takes down Headhunter quarterback Bryan R. McClune during Monday's Intramural Flag Football Championship game. I&L went on to win the game and the championship.

GUNNY'S PICKS

Week 15

Donnie Keeney, won the Picks again this week. This makes two for him. He's currently tied with Juan Rivera for Picks Champ.

Tune in next week and see who is the overall Gunny's Picks champ.

If neither wins then we'll have a "sudden death" Picks with the Superbowl.



- *New England at Chicago
- *Philadelphia at Cleveland
- *Detroit at Green Bay
- Cincinnati at Tennessee*
- *Carolina at Kansas City
- Minnesota at St. Louis*
- Tampa Bay at Miami*

- Pittsburgh at NY Giants*
- Arizona at Jacksonville*
- San Diego at Baltimore*
- Seattle at Denver*
- *Washington at Dallas
- New Orleans at San Francisco*
- *NY Jets at Oakland

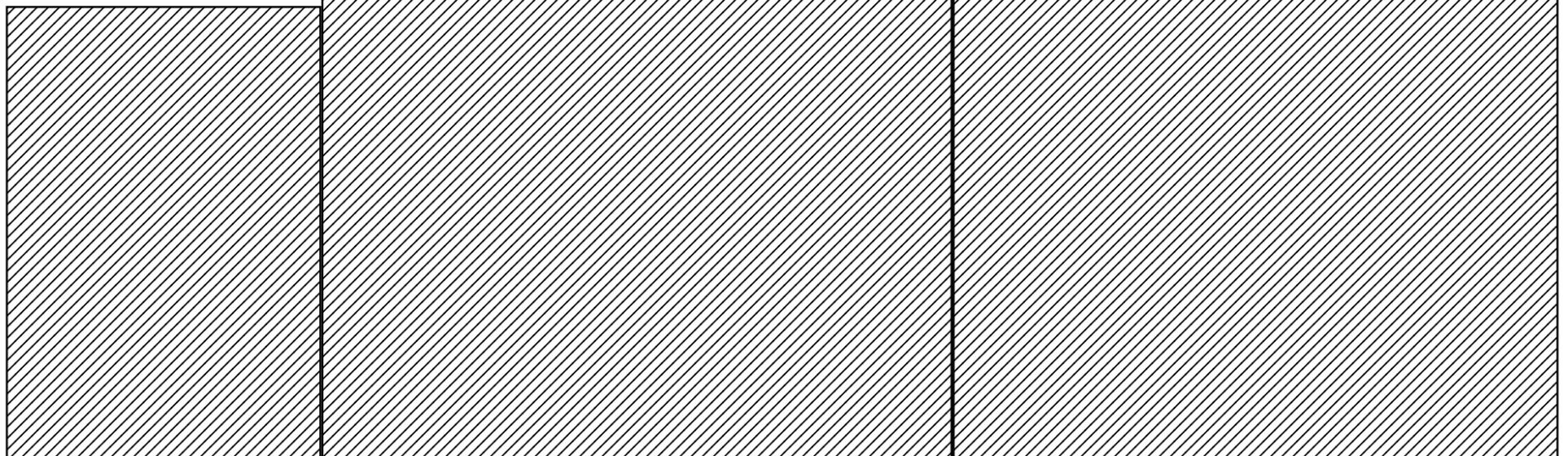
Monday Night

Buffalo at Indianapolis* (42)

Total points: _____

Name, work section and phone number: _____

Monday night's game is a tie-breaker and must include a total score.



Please submit all Trader Ads to editor@barstow.usmc.mil.

1989 NISSAN 4X4 PICK-UP: 5-spd, A/C, 89K miles, A/T tires, custom rims, tint, custom bumpers w/hitch, runs excellent, \$3,750 OBO. Call 252-0039.

1988 FORD RANGER: 5-spd w/ camper shell, red, CD player, \$900 OBO. Call 252-2500.

1998 BLAZER: P/D, P/W, A/C, CD, 4X4, Black, very well maintained, transferable warranty, must sell, \$14,500 OBO. Call 252-8666.

1997 TOYOTA PREVIA S/C: \$15,900 OBO. May consider payments. Call 255-3045.

1994 TOYOTA CAMRY LE: Sedan, 4-door, maroon exterior, tan leather interior, 4-cyl., 2.2L, front wheel drive, P/S, P/W, C/C, AM/FM, cassette, dual air bags, sliding sun roof, \$8,000 OBO. Call 240-5101, relay 888-887-5379.

MISCELLANEOUS: Tow mirrors, for Dodge/GMC pick-up truck, \$40. Pair. Call 256-6629

MISCELLANEOUS: Truck tires, Michelin MH, LT235/85 R16, xlt. condition, matched set, \$40. Call 256-6629.

MISCELLANEOUS: Metal detectors, Fisher Gold Bug, \$250; White's Gold Master, \$450. Call 256-6629.

MISCELLANEOUS: Used ceiling fan, 52", \$12; Child's tricycle, \$20; Stanley cabinet w/sliding doors, model Basic 100, 93" high, \$35 each or 2 for \$70; webbed lawn chair, \$12; baby bath, \$3. Call 256-8803.

MISCELLANEOUS: Navy pea coat, good condition, size 38, \$20; Japanese antique coffee table, 5½'X19"X10", \$30; AM/FM radio/tape cassette/record player with 10"X14" speakers, \$20; pet carrier kennel, 21"X16", \$10. Call 242-8839.

MISCELLANEOUS: Bus pass to Fort Irwin, 19 trips left. Worth over \$40. Will take \$35; Refrigerator side-by-side, ice maker, chilled water, almond color, 27 cubic feet, \$450. Call 255-3045.

MISCELLANEOUS: Brown and beige high/low carpet, approx. 50 yards, \$50. Call 253-5926.

MISCELLANEOUS: Portable-electric range w/one-quart non-stick pot, \$15; grass trimmer, cordless battery, rechargeable \$20. Call 242-8839.

MISCELLANEOUS: Weed-eater, \$5; chair that makes into a bed, \$5; wooden rocker w/pad, \$25. Call 256-7428.

MISCELLANEOUS: Hobart and Gable piano by Story and Clark, good condition, must see to appreciate, \$750 OBO. Call 256-6632. Lv. msg.

MISCELLANEOUS: Treadmill, 0-6 mph, \$75 OBO; Men's and women's 26", 21-speed mountain bikes, \$150 for both. Call 252-3023.

MISCELLANEOUS: Metal detector, white's Goldmaster, 4B, xlt. Condition, \$450. Call 256-6629.

MISCELLANEOUS: Play-Station II, \$900 OBO. Call (650) 343-4284 or e-mail ElSalvgtok@aol.com.

PLASTIC from Page 4

their card's expiration date.

- Cardholders should receive their renewal cards approximately two weeks after they receive their letter, but no later than 15 days before their card expires. Those expected to be on travel or leave at that time should call Bank of America and request that their renewal cards are mailed earlier.

- Upon receipt of their renewal cards, customers should immediately call Bank of America to acknowledge receipt and to activate the account. Use the telephone number and the activation code contained within the Bank of America letter to activate the account.

- The renewal card should have the same account number that is stamped on customers' present travel card. If the account numbers do not agree, notify the Bank of America. Customers should then sign the back of the new card and destroy the old card.

- Customers whose accounts are in a closed or cancelled status will not be issued a renewal card.

- Those who presently have a travel card, but have never called Bank of America to acknowledge its receipt will not be issued a renewal card.

On May 1, 2000, it became mandatory for DoD travelers to use the travel card to pay for official travel expenses.

LIST from Page 5

It's the type of endeavor my uncle had in mind when he set up a charitable foundation to help meet the needs of servicemen and women and their families."

Commissaries have a long tradition of supporting the military community through good will programs such as vendor-sponsored educational and charitable

promotions, cooperative efforts with community quality of life programs, and employee involvement in a wide range of installation activities. Ongoing programs supported include scholarships, military cooking schools, a touring theatrical production, and canine assistants for the disabled.

For more info call Jim Meugniot base commissary director, 577-6404.

CHAPLAIN from Page 2

Other times they are difficult, such as a three-pointer. Sometimes a player gets fouled along the way to the basket. No matter what difficulties a player may face, and even when the odds seem stacked against the team, a good player never stops trying.

In the same respect, we should never stop trying to reflect the image of God in our lives, whether it is easy or difficult, and even when we get fouled along the way. No matter what circumstances we face, we should keep trying to reflect the love of God in our lives.

Blessings to all,
Chaplain Krupnik

