

BARSTOW LOG

SERVING MCLB DURING TRANSITION AND CHANGE

Vol. 6, No. 5

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California

November 29, 2001

DeCA

30.4 percent cheaper than the rest.

Page 4

STAP

Reenlistment for career Marines improved.

Page 5

Adopt-A-Vet

Helping to make the holiday season a bit brighter.

Page 6

Silver Medal ceremony

Code talkers gather. Local hero recognized.

Pages 6 & 7

Check out the Marine Corps homepage.

<http://www.usmc.mil>

BARSTOW LOG
SUPPORTING MCLB DURING TRANSITION AND CHANGE

<http://www.barstow.usmc.mil>



Photo by Gunnery Sgt. John Cordero

Nelson Draper Sr. smiles after receiving the Congressional Silver Medal on Saturday at Window Rock, Ariz., for his service as a Navajo Code Talker during World War II.

WWII Navajo Code Talkers receive Medals

By Gunnery Sgt. John Cordero
Public Affairs Chief

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. — Two former MCLB Barstow civilian employees received Congressional Silver Medals in a ceremony here Saturday for their service to the United States as Navajo Code Talkers during World War II.

Nelson Draper Sr. and Joe Morris were among more than 300 Navajos honored for their work as the walking, talking secret weapons that helped win the war.

Family members of Code Talkers who have passed away received medals on their behalf.

"I'm happy and proud," said Draper about receiving the medal. "It's important that people are finding out now about the importance of the Navajo Code Talkers."

Draper enlisted in the Marine Corps in August 1943 after a Marine recruiter told him he needed to help his brother, Teddy Draper, who enlisted in 1942. After the war he

worked in civil service at MCLB Barstow until he retired in 1985.

"I'm very happy about it and appreciate the recognition," said Joe Morris, who enlisted in the Marine Corps in April 1944. He worked in civil service for 36 years at MCLB Barstow before he retired in 1984.

The Navajo Code Talkers were a group of Marines who wrote and used a code made from Dine, the Navajo language, to provide rapid and reliable communication from Guadalcanal in 1942 to V-J Day in 1945. The Code Talkers, using the code the Japanese never deciphered, are credited with helping the United States win many key battles in the Pacific during World War II.

The Code Talkers honored in Saturday's ceremony join the 29 Code Talkers who in July received the Congressional Gold Medal in Washington for their work in creating the original code.

What began with the original group

See CODE Page 7

Barstow Toys for Tots telethon Saturday

By Bill Bokholt
Public Affairs Officer

MCLB Barstow's Toys for Tots donations collected to date will be presented during the 22nd annual telethon airing from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday on Time Warner Cable Channel 6 and Elephant Mountain Channel 17.

The telethon features live music, local personalities, individuals, groups and organizations donating toys, making monetary donations and an auction of donated items.

Base Commander Col. Liz Bergman, base Toys for Tots coordinator, fire chief Bob Wynman, asst. fire chiefs Steve Mulcare and Dennis Moore, and other representatives will present the base's collection at approximately 11:30 a.m. during the live telecast from the Barstow Elks Lodge.

MCLB's Marine of the Quarter Lance Cpl. Jason Fields, Hospitalman 3rd Class Dominic Topete, Lance Cpls. Efrén Rangel and William Rowson, and firefighters Evan Bernardino and Greg Breiner will answer pledge telephones on the telethon set from 10 a.m. to noon.



Photo by Bill Bokholt

Lance Cpl. Jason Fields (center) adds a toy to a HMMWV while Santa's helper, Dawn Price, encourages Wal-Mart shoppers to support Toys for Tots during a live KDUC FM 94.3 broadcast Saturday. The radio station appealed to listeners to fill the HMMWV with toys. Fields, Cpl. John Camacho and Lance Cpl. Derrick Christoff supported the effort with a Fleet Support Division HMMWV.

See TOTS Page 6

The toughest questions come from the mouths of babes

By Gunnery Sgt. Kent Flora
OKINAWA MARINE Correspondent

"Are the bad people still shooting at America?"
"Why are there people like that in the world, Daddy?"

"Daddy, why did you join the Marines?"
My daughter asked those questions the other night at dinner.

As I sat at the table pondering the questions posed to me by my, suddenly, very smart daughter of 7 intellectual years, a sea of memories flooded my mind. The blank stare of my wife offered no assistance in my dilemma.

Why did I join the Marines?
I could have answered her by saying a phrase that I had said so many times as a recruiter, "... to be unique, to show my patriotism and love of country, to be part of something greater than myself."

But, the passionate presentation (sometimes given from atop a desk in a Buffalo, N.Y., -area recruiting office) that we all heard from our recruiters, and that some of us have had the enjoyment of "performing" fall on deaf ears when the ears are 7 and can't go to boot camp for another 11 years. My daughter has already informed me that she doesn't want to be a Marine.

What keeps this gunny going — what has kept

me in the Marine Corps for nearly one half of my life?

These two questions are good ones to reflect upon and take inventory. But, now with current world situations as they are, these thoughts hit home a little harder than they once did.

As a high school student, I roamed the halls (actually skipping class) wearing my black trench coat, dark sunglasses and wide-brimmed black hat, made popular by Father Guido Sarducci on "Saturday Night Live." I would try to find a place to smoke my Marlboros where no one would hassle me. There were actually four of us who dressed that way, but we were still considered unique. So, looking for uniqueness can't be the reason I joined the Marines.

After high school when I did join the Corps, there was still a Cold War and a mighty U.S.S.R. "Red Dawn" could have really happened, and if it did, I was going to be trained by the branch known historically for valor and preparedness.

See, I knew it — I did join for patriotism, to show my love of country.

But, wait a minute — Marines aren't the only service members proudly serving their country. I'm sure that soldiers, Sailors and airmen are just as

See **WHY** Page 8

How to be a real turkey

By Lt. Cmdr. Elmon R. Krupnik
Base Chaplain



It is my prayer that all had a good Thanksgiving.

I attended a large gathering of family and friends.

All of us brought different items for the meal. One of the many items, of course, was turkey. There was a difference in the real turkey meat and an imitation version that was supposed to be turkey meat.

It looked good in appearance, but once a person tasted it, that person realized that the meat was not real.

The lives that we live in our faith are to be real, not just an outward appearance. We

become real in our spiritual lives by making God a part of our lives.

Psalm 34:8 tells us, "O taste and see that the Lord is good! Happy is the man who takes refuge in him!"

As we grow from the nourishment of that relationship, we become real with our time with God, and, because of that time spent with God, we become real and honest in our relationships with others.

I Peter 2:3 tells us, "For you have tasted the kindness of the Lord." When we spiritually taste the attributes God has shown toward us, forgiveness, love, understanding, and acceptance, we demonstrate those traits we have received to others.

Let us be real this week as we show others in our conduct what God has shown us.

Blessings to all,
Chaplain Krupnik

Chapel Services

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

Confession services before Mass

Catholic Rosary

First Saturday of every month.

3 p.m. at the Base Chapel.

For more info call 577-6849.

Nebo Bible Study

Wednesday Noon-1:30p.m.

At the Chapel Office.

For more info call 577-6849.



Just doing my job ...

Members of the color guard practice precision drill movements before performing on a burial detail. The color guard is an all-volunteer detail that represents the command at local and distant civic events and festivities, and honors fallen veterans by performing burial ceremonies. Color guard members take great pride in their often-thankless actions and consider it a matter duty and an honor, according to Sgt. Jesse Williams, color guard noncommissioned officer-in-charge.

The color guard is currently seeking new members to join its ranks. To learn more about joining the color guard, call Williams or Cpl. Jason Edminston at 577-6411.

Photo by Sgt. Anwaar AlMoribat



BARSTOW LOG

KEEPING HELD DURING TRANSITION AND CHANGE



Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California
Colonel Ingrid E. Bergman, Commanding Officer
Public Affairs Staff

Public Affairs Officer/Executive Editor:
Public Affairs Chief/Managing Editor:
Press Chief:
Editor:
Correspondent:
PA Support Clerk:

Bill Bokholt
GySgt. John Cordero
Sgt. Anwaar AlMoribat
Cpl. Cory Kelly
Cpl. Joshua Barnhardt
Bertie Dailey

The editorial content of this newspaper is prepared, edited and provided by the Public Affairs Office of Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California. Mailing address: Commanding Officer (B130), Command Headquarters, Marine Corps Logistics Base, Box 110100, Barstow, CA 92311-5001. The Public Affairs Office is located in Building 15. Phones: (760) 577-6430, 577-6450, 577-6451, FAX 577-6350, DSN prefix 282.

This newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the Department of Defense. Contents of **BARSTOW LOG** are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the U.S. Marine Corps. **BARSTOW LOG** is published by Aerotech News, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Marine Corps, under exclusive written contract with Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the U.S. Marine Corps, or Aerotech News, of the products or services advertised. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use, or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation, or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

BARSTOW LOG is distributed every Thursday (or Wednesday preceding a holiday) 50 weeks a year. **BARSTOW LOG** is produced at Aerotech News and printed at Antelope Valley Press in Palmdale, Calif. Printed circulation is 3,500.

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.

Leave donations

Alexander Saiz, supply management branch, Fleet Support Division, have been affected by medical emergencies.

People who desire to donate leave under the Leave Sharing Program may obtain a Leave Donor Application through their division administrative officer. Contact Lorinda Meinicke at 577-7774 for more information.

ASMC Luncheon

The base chapter of the American Society of Military Comptrollers is holding a luncheon Dec. 5 at 11 a.m. at Peggy Sue's Restaurant.

There will be two guest speakers from ASMC headquarters in Washington, D.C., will talk about professional development and the future of ASMC.

The lunch menu is a chef's salad or a Peggy Sue's hamburger special. Contact any ASMC officer for a reservation.

Name	Phone
Randy Meyers	577-6366
Erin Foster	577-6643
Tito Escobedo	577-6369
Lou Ann Presley	577-6636
Conni Lwellyn	577-6596
Maria Bonner	577-6619

'A Christmas Carol'

The Traveling Lantern Theatre will be performing the Charles Dickens classic, A Christmas Carol, Saturday at 1 pm. at the Lucerne Valley Community Center, 33187 Highway 247 East, Lucerne Valley.

To attend, Lucerne Valley Parks and Recreation is asking for donations of \$1 or more for each person attending. Pre-Sale tickets are available.

For more information call Lucerne Valley Parks and Recreation, 248-7048.

Immigration Information Workshop

The city of Barstow has scheduled an Immigration Information Workshop, where questions on immigra-

tion, obtaining residency, work permits, family reunification, citizenship and outreach programs will be answered.

There is no charge for the workshop scheduled for Dec. 8, at 9 a.m. in the City Council Chambers located at 220 East Mountain View St. in Barstow. At this time, area residents will also have the opportunity to start their citizenship paperwork with the help of certified agents. Catholic Charities will help applicants process their paperwork and do fingerprints for a nominal fee.

For more information, call City Clerk JoAnne Cousino at 256-3531, extension 3253.

Mounted Color Guard

The Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard is seeking members.

There are no prerequisites, other than being an active duty Marine. Previous experience with horses is not necessary. Mounted Color Guard Marines represent MCLB Barstow at parades and events throughout the country.

To join or find out more, visit the base stables at the rear gate of the Yermo Annex during normal working hours, or call Master Gunnery Sgt. Kim Ortamond at 577-7302 or 577-7003.

Trailblazer Club

The Happy Trails Children's Foundation started by Roy Rogers and Dale Evans created a membership organization called the Trailblazer Club. With a donation from \$25 on up, you can become a member and help raise funds for a new home for abused children.

The existing Cooper Home houses 40 boys between the ages of seven and 15 with a waiting list to get in. The new home would increase the capacity to 60 beds.

Since 1997, more than 300 children have received help from the Happy Trails Children's Foundation located in Apple Valley.

For more info about becoming a

member call 240-3330.

Wednesday Playmornings

Every Wednesday morning from 10-11:30 a.m. the New Parent Support Program hosts Play Morning at the McKinney Youth Center for parents with children ages six and under.

Among the numerous activities are crafts fun for children and parents alike.

For more information call June Treadwell, 577-6332.

Recycling reminder

All glass, plastic, paper products, and small pieces of cardboard should be placed in the blue 95 gallon containers or the green metal bins, and all cardboard should be placed in the cardboard collection containers located throughout both the Nebo and Yermo Annexes.

There are several green, 3 cubic yard bins located throughout the base for the collection of recyclable materials. Use of these containers is encouraged to help reduce the amount of material being sent to the landfill. The containers are located at the Commissary Parking Lot in Nebo, on the north side of Building 15, and at the Yermo Annex on F Street in front of the Roundhouse (locomotive repair building).

Pick-up for the 95 gallon and green bins is Tuesdays and pickup for the cardboard containers is Wednesdays.

To request more recycling bins or to have unused bins removed or for more information about recycling contact Carmela Gonzalez, 577-6744, gonzalezcj@barstow.usmc.mil.

Barstow Servmart

The Barstow Servmart allows employees aboard MCLB Barstow to shop online for all of their office and workplace needs.

The servmart has administration supplies, cleaning supplies, hardware, tools, and even parts for the Mainte-

See BRIEFS Page 8

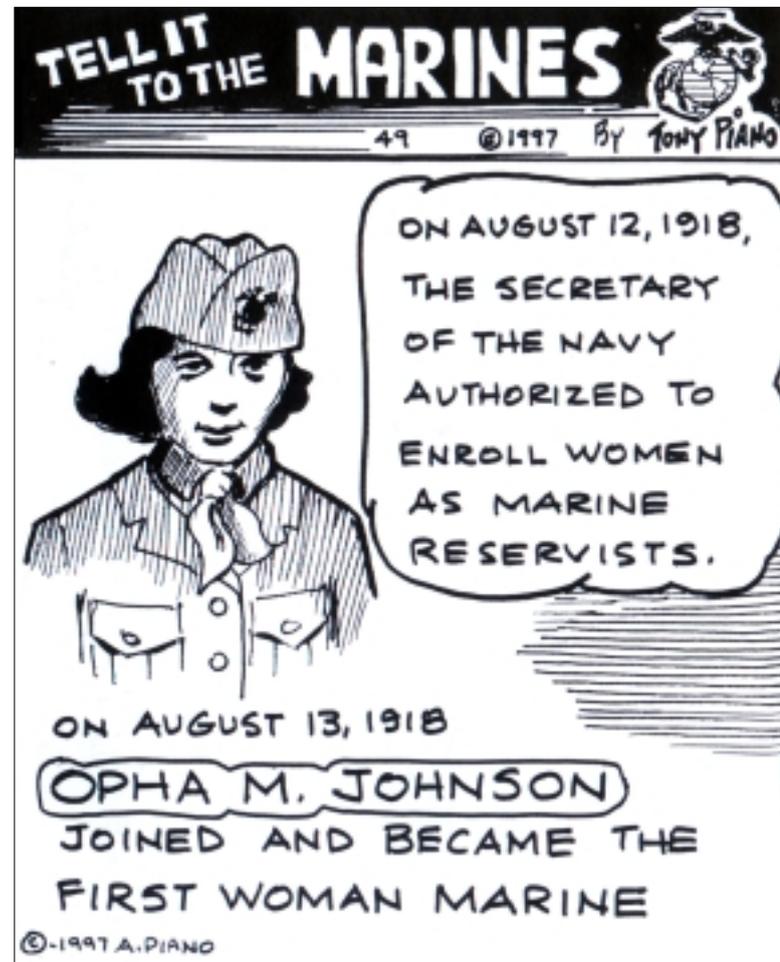


Photo by Sgt. Anwaar AllMoribat

William Boxx, MCCS, personal services division director, Col. Liz Bergman, base commander, and 1st Sgt. James Barksdale, HqBn. first sergeant, make the first donations toward the Christmas food basket drive in Building 15 Monday morning.

Christmas food baskets donations

The Family Services Center is collecting food donations for this year's Christmas food baskets for military families on base.

Last year, 17 baskets were distributed to families aboard MCLB. The success of the program is due to the generosity of the individuals living and working aboard the base.

Donations of any items or a complete dinner are appreciated.

A suggested menu for a family of four would include: ham/turkey, cooking pan, corn starch/gravy, box of stuffing, two cans of a vegetable, mashed potatoes, rolls, cranberry sauce, and a pie or any other dessert item.

Food donations can be made to the drop boxes at Bldg. 302 and the Personal Services Division in Bldg. 129. For donation of perishable items call Master Sgt. Allyson Hedrick or Gunnery Sgt Michael Claudio, 577-6533.

Job Watch

Annc No.	Title/Series/Grade	Open	Close	1st Cutoff	Location
0101, Code 530-ABM	Family Services Counselor GS-0101-11	11-21-01	12-12-01	NA	MCLB Barstow

Applicants interested in announcements beginning with DEA or OTR should submit their résumé 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, 577-6357.

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.donbr.navy.mil>.

This is not an official list. Please see the Websites listed for a complete list.

Commissaries ring up 30.4 percent savings

By Bonnie Powell
DeCA Headquarters

FORT LEE, Va. - The Defense Commissary Agency is hitting the 10-year mark as an agency this fall. "But we're much happier to be hitting 30," says DeCA Director Air Force Major General Robert J. Courter Jr.

Hitting 30? "For the last two years we've made tremendous strides toward several major goals, such as cutting costs and increasing service," says Courter. "But one goal has risen above all others - achieving 30 percent savings for our customers. I'm very pleased to announce that we've hit, and surpassed, the 30 percent mark for the first time in DeCA's history."

"We've really focused on our strategies and objectives, changed the way we do business, and worked even harder to achieve major savings for customers," says Bob Vitikacs, chief of DeCA's grocery buying division, the Marketing Business Unit. Buyers

at the MBU negotiate the lowest possible prices for products sold in commissaries.

"Tougher negotiations with industry have made a difference," says Vitikacs. "And we've obtained tools and technology, such as scanner data, to help us make good decisions."

Data is obtained every time a product is passed over the scanner at the register. The data from commissaries and other retail grocers helps buyers know which products are most popular and which offer the best savings to customers.

"More important than technology is simply listening to our customers and taking action," says Courter. "Listening to our customers directly resulted in initiatives that increased savings. The 'Best Value Item' program is a good example. Shoppers have quickly come to know that when they see the yellow signs on popular products such as baby food, detergents and paper goods, they are getting the low-

est prices available anywhere. Period!"

The latest figures on percent of savings are a result of the most recent pricing survey of grocery, meat and produce items in commissaries compared to retail grocery stores, supermarkets and supercenters.

"Our exact percentage of savings is 30.4 percent, but I'm happy to say

that our savings in produce and meat are well above that mark," says Courter. "Shoppers have noticed that we've made improvements in produce and that we are keeping the shelves stocked all day. Satisfied customers will shop more frequently and make the commissary their 'everyday' store instead of just their 'payday' store."

"Achieving savings of 30.4 percent is a major accomplishment for DeCA," says Courter. "The commissary benefit always ranks at the top of military non-pay benefits, and we have a mission to make sure it stays that way by offering unsurpassed savings, service, and efficiency to our military families."



2002 DeCA scholarship applications in

Compiled by
Public Affairs Office

Applications and fact sheets for the 2002 Scholarships for Military Children program are now available at the commissary and at <http://www.commissaries.com>.

The deadline for filing completed applications for the \$1,500 scholarships is Feb. 5.

The \$1,500 scholarships are funded through industry donations, and the program is administered by the Fisher House Foundation through a professional scholarship

evaluation company. Fisher House is known for building and donating fully furnished comfort homes near military medical facilities where families of patients receiving medical care can stay at a reasonable cost.

Sons and daughters of U.S. military ID card holders, to include active duty, retirees, and Guard and reserves, may apply for the scholarships. Eligibility of applicants, including survivors of deceased members, will be determined using the DoD ID Card Directive. Applicants may be college-bound high school seniors, or students already

enrolled in a four-year undergraduate program.

Students must have at least a 3.0 grade point average and write an essay that describes how his or her activities have enriched the community.

A military ID is no longer needed as proof of eligibility when the application is turned in at the commissary.

Applicants will be checked through the Defense Enrollment and Eligibility Reporting System prior to the awarding of scholarships, so sponsors should ensure that their children are enrolled in DEERS prior to applying.

STAP 2002 implemented to help retain career Marines

By 1st Lt. Megan Ball
Headquarters Marine

HEADQUARTERS MARINE CORPS, WASHINGTON, D.C. (November 15, 2001) — Headquarters Marine Corps has created a new retention program aimed at keeping career Marines in the Marine Corps.

On Oct. 1 the Subsequent Term Alignment Plan began. Similar to the First Term Alignment Plan, which targets young Marines for retention, the new program

aims to retain career Marines in the sergeant to gunnery sergeant range.

In the past, low retention rates among career Marines created the need to keep first-term Marines. In turn, the annual requirements for the first term program rose to nearly unreachable levels.

However, there's more to winning the retention war than keeping Marines in the Corps for a second term.

When career enlisted Marines leave active service, the Corps loses a great deal of experience. Through the subsequent term program, the Marine Corps will focus on retain-

ing these seasoned Marines.

To this end, greater opportunities exist for selective reenlistment bonuses. With the success of the Subsequent Term Alignment Plan, promotion tempos across all military occupation specialties will be more closely synchronized.

As with the first term program, each fiscal year Headquarters Marine Corps will assign target reenlistment goals for the Subsequent Term Alignment Plan.

The goals, which vary according to MOS, go to

the seven major subordinate commands (M A R F O R L A N T, MARFORPAC, etc.) Any sergeant, staff sergeant or gunnery sergeant who reenlists during the 2002 fiscal year will count toward that command's subsequent term goal for the 2002 fiscal year.

However, unlike the First Term Alignment Plan there is no restrictive cut-off for individual specialties. This means that Marines may still reenlist in an MOS even if it has already reached its target number.

There is no competition for boatspaces among career Marines, and no career specialties will close out once they reach a certain number.

The intent is to systematically identify the population within the career force needed for reenlistment. Marine leaders can then encourage those identified to reenlist.

Eligible career Marines interested in receiving a Selective Reenlistment Bonus are encouraged to submit their requests soon.

While the subsequent term program for 2002 does not close until Sept. 30, 2002, current reenlistment bonus rates are only

15.

Career Marines interested in learning more about the Subsequent Term Alignment Plan or other options available to them should contact Staff Sgt. Christian Galbraith, battalion career planner at 577-6684 or visit his office in Building 302.



The intent is to systematically identify the population within the career force needed for reenlistment.

CWRA more than free turkeys

By Cpl. Joshua Barnhardt
BARSTOW LOG staff

The Civilian Welfare and Recreation Association recently gave away four gift certificates to Stater Brothers as part of the annual CWRA turkey raffle.

The winners were Kathleen Dunham, Barry Kelly, Tom Lingren and Tony Hernandez.

The CWRA does many functions for the employees on base. It does everything from trips to putting on luncheons.

"We usually have two or three trips a year to the J. Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles and we go to the San Diego Old Town Cinco De Mayo Festival," said Dan Keirn, CWRA committee member. "We also stop by the Pacific Beach Belmont Park and Tom's Farmers Market on the way down to San Diego."

Some of the trips are to ethnical places, where people can experience another culture.

"We have also been to the Oktoberfest in Alpine Village, and we shop in the European stores and the German grocery store, where they have authentic German foods," said Keirn. "We also go to the border, to Tijuana, Mexico for people to shop."

The luncheon put on by CWRA is for some of the hardest working people on base.

"We have a luncheon every year for Secretary Day," said Keirn. "We bring in a guest speaker for the luncheon and it is for all people who perform a secretary role on base."

Some things the CWRA does are small but meaningful.

"Any time an employee of the base passes away, we send flowers to the spouse of the deceased," said Keirn.

Christmas is also a time CWRA swings into action.

"If they have a base Christmas party, we give out candy to the kids, and this year we're going to pass out candy canes at the gate," said Keirn.

The main mission of the CWRA is to provide employees of the base with tools to let off steam and have some recreational time.

"We provide playing cards, dart boards, ping pong balls and paddles, and basically everything recreational for someone to do on their lunch, for the work sections on base," said Keirn.

The CWRA will also put the turkey cans out next year.

"Every year we have a turkey giveaway like we've done this time when we have a raffle for free and give away four \$15 certificates," said Keirn.

Veterans seeking sponsors

By Sgt. Anwaar AlMoribat
Press Chief

Each year, the Command Religious Program, in a cooperative effort between the chaplain's office and the MCLB Barstow community, administers the Adopt-a-Vet Program in an effort to make a veteran's holiday season brighter.

Residents of the Veterans Home of California – Barstow submit a wish list to the chaplain's office. The chaplain's office does its best to match the veteran with a candidate willing to invest a small sum to make that veteran's wish a reality.

This year's Adopt-a-Vet Program is now underway and will conclude with gift distributions at the veterans home Dec. 15.

Finding the veterans for the program is the easy part, according to the program's administrator. The toughest part comes in finding Marines, sailors and civilian Marines to make the veterans' wish lists become a reality.

"We hope to have as many veterans as possible take part in the program. Last year, we had 216," said Petty Officer 2nd Class Julie Dennison, who administers and solicits supporters for the program. "Right now we have 139 veterans to start with, but the count usually goes up as they put in their wish lists.

"Now we are starting to spread the word and get sponsors involved," she said.

A 100 percent support rate for the program is the primary goal according to Dennison. Members of the community interested in supporting the program should expect taking part in the program to set them back less than \$25 for each veteran they sponsor.

The veterans typically request simple items such as socks, slippers, hats and sweaters to carry them through the cooler months.

As many are familiar with the program, Dennison noted that the only thing new about the program is some of the veterans who are new to the veterans. However, more energy was put into planning this year's program.

"Getting an earlier start in the planning process and getting the word out sooner we hope will make a bigger difference in participation," said Dennison.

Anyone wishing to participate in the Adopt-a-Vet Program can learn more about the program by contacting the chaplain's office at 577-6849 or e-mailing Chaplain Elmon Krupnik at krupnikltdcrelmonr@barstow.usmc.mil or RP2 Julie Dennison at dennisonj@barstow.usmc.mil.

Adopt-a-vet Prayer Breakfast

A prayer breakfast sponsored by the Command Religious Program will be held Dec. 15 at the veterans home prior to gift presentations. Contact the chaplain's office for reservations.

TOTS from Page 1

Individuals, organizations and groups can also take toys or monetary donations to the Elk's Lodge, 1501 W. Main St., and present them on the air or just leave them. People who would rather make a monetary donation than give a toy but can't make it to the telethon can make out a check or money order to Toys for Tots and mail or deliver it to 441 Oakmont, Barstow, CA 92311.

"Our part doesn't end with the telethon," said Wyman. "The telethon is held early in December so toys can be organized and people can submit their applications and the toys can be distributed by Christmas. We'll keep collecting toys on the base and turning them over to the Toys for Tots folks right up until just before Christmas."

"Every year there is an auction and it's become one of the main attractions of the telethon," said Connie Wessel, Barstow's Toys for Tots co-chairperson. "We can always use more items to auction off and hope that people will continue to donate useful things like they have in the past." People with auction donations but no way to get them to the Elk's Lodge can call 252-3093 today and Friday and 256-TOYS Saturday for pickup arrangements.

Mal Wessel, Barstow Toys for Tots co-chairperson said, "The main auction item this year is a 1995 Ford Escort station wagon from Soutar's in Barstow." The car will be on display in front of the Barstow WAL-MART today, tomorrow and Saturday.

"Over the years people have found the auction to be a good source for Christmas gifts," Wessel said.

"This is my fifth year to help coordinate the base's effort and with everyone's help Christmas morning will be a little brighter for a lot of children who might otherwise not have a toy under the tree or in their stocking," said Wyman.

In a related event the Barstow Rotary Club will host a Toys for Tots Turkey Shoot Saturday from noon to 5 p.m. at the Slash X Café, 28040 Barstow Rd. Shooters will use the same shotgun and fire at a paper turkey target. The one participant out of every 10 who has the most hits in the target wins a turkey. Individual

entry fees are \$5 per shot. Organizers hope service clubs, businesses and other organizations will enter 10 person teams that are scored on 10 shots for \$50. All proceeds go to the Barstow area Toys for Tots program.

For more information or to get involved in the base campaign call 577-6732/6866/6865.

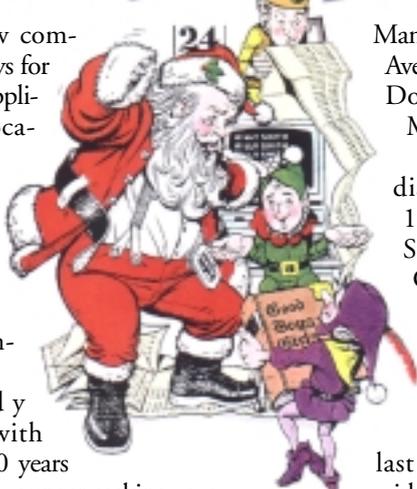
To help set up the telethon Friday and assist at the Elk's Lodge Saturday contact the base public affairs office at 577-6449.

The Barstow community Toys for Tots program is sanctioned by the Toys for Tots Foundation, Quantico, Va.

TOYS for TOTS

Barstow community Toys for Tots toy application locations and distribution dates and location have been announced.

N e e d y families with children 10 years of age and younger seeking toys can pickup applications in Barstow at Mail Boxes N More, 909 Armory Rd.; Connie's Coin Laundry, 963 Armory Rd; Department of Social Services, 1300 E. Mountain View; Desert



Manna, 209 S. First Ave.; and Starlight Donuts, 101 W. Main St.

Toys will be distributed at 1305 E. Main St. (behind Coco's Family Restaurant) from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Dec. 17 for those whose last names begin with A-M, on Dec. 18 for N-Z and Dec. 19 for those who miss the first two days.

For more information or to volunteer with distribution call Laurden Valverdi at 256-3574.

NINNI NAWAJO CODE TALKERS



Nelson Draper Sr. and Joe Morris await the start of the



Nelson Draper Sr. shakes the hand of Jolyana Begay, I



Photo by Gunnery Sgt. John Cordero

Navajo Code Talker Silver Medal award ceremony in which approximately 300 Code Talkers were honored for their service during World War II.



Photo by Gunnery Sgt. John Cordero

Miss Navajo Nation, after receiving the Silver Medal.



Photo by Gunnery Sgt. John Cordero

Joe Morris is escorted to his seat after receiving the Silver Medal. "I'm very happy about it and appreciate the recognition," said Morris.

CODE from Page 1

of Navajos with about a 200-word code in 1942 grew to about 400 Navajos with about a 600-word code by 1945. During the war, the Code Talkers participated in every Marine assault conducted in the Pacific from 1942 to 1945.

The code consisted of using the then unwritten Navajo language to quickly send messages. Navajo words were used for military terms that were not part of the Navajo language. For example, Navajo clan names were given to the different Marine Corps units, and names of birds were used for airplanes. Alternate terms were used for letters in the English alphabet to spell words that were not part of the code.

Navajo Code Talkers served in all six Marine divisions and in Marine Raider battalions, transmitting messages by telephone and radio in their native language.

"This award is long overdue," said Navajo Nation President Kelsey A. Begaye, who stressed that it has been 56 years since the end of World War II and 33 years since the Department of Defense declassified the code.

"From this day forward we will continue to remember the courage and the sacrifice of the Navajo Code Talkers," said Begaye. "Today we salute you for your bravery and your courage. ... You are our true American heroes."

"Their contribution to the preservation of liberty and freedom during World War II will never be forgotten and can never be diminished," said Tom Udall, U.S. Representative from New Mexico, about the Code Talkers.

The Code Talkers began their journey during World War II as Marines, tasked with an important assignment, said Udall. Many of them left their homeland and families with prayers and ceremonies to ensure their safe return.

"Let this day be another ceremony in your life in which we as a country and government recognize your achievements and rightfully give you a place in our nation's history," said Udall.

The Navajo Code Talkers were different than most other American service members. When they came home, nobody knew what historic and heroic acts they performed.

The Navajo code was so important that it remained classified until 1968. It was thought it might be used again to help the United States in a time of war. Therefore it was kept secret.

The role that the Code Talkers played was also kept secret. Only 23 years after World War II could the Code

Talkers say what they had actually done. They took the Navajo language and created a new language to defeat the enemy in battle.



WHY from Page 2

patriotic — aren't they?

My sister-in-law is in the Air Force, and I know she is proud of her service, as is her dad (my father-in-law), who is a retired Marine.

My father served his country in the Army during World War II, and I had uncles in the Navy and Air Force serving during World War II and Korea. Did I join as part of some sort of military legacy? I don't think so.

That only leaves one more question — did I join to be part of something greater than myself? Being part of an

organization where the accomplishments of all are greater or are regarded more highly than the accomplishments of just one surely motivates anyone, right?

The pride we feel as Marines is shown during mess night toasts and was showcased in our annual gala, our Marine Corp birthday ball.

We as Marines, a band of brothers, take pride in the accomplishments of those who came before us — I do! The Iwo Jima flag raising, that's the Marine Corps. That's how America thinks of her Marines. That's how she will remember her Marines!

That was the answer, and that is what

I would say. I carefully composed my thoughts into words, but as I stared down into little blue eyes that awaited an answer, and watched her chomp her grilled cheese sandwich, my answer became clouded.

What I realized is that I didn't really know why I ultimately joined the Marine Corps — it could have been for one, all or none of those reasons. That really doesn't matter.

I do realize, however, why I stay — and I told her.

"I joined the Marines to stop bad people from shooting at America!"

Why did you join?

BRIEFS from Page 3

Finance Center Barstow production line. To get started, go to <http://mcsd4.ala.usmc.mil/mclbbarstow/servmart>.

MCI Exam Advisory

Recent events involving the U.S. Postal Service have affected the delivery of official mail in the National Capital Region.

Since Oct. 19, the Marine Corps Institute has not received any exams mailed through the USPS. MCI anticipates continued interruption in regular mail service for the next month.

To alleviate the problem with the USPS, alternate means for submitting exams have been established.

Express mail services, such as Federal Express should be used for submitting time-sensitive exams. Mail them to 912 Charles Poor St. Southeast Washington Navy Yard, Washington D.C. 20391-5680.

MCI will temporarily receive examinations by fax. However, submis-

sions by fax requires hand-grading and slows the number of exams MCI can grade in a day. The use of fax should only be used if the other alternate submission means are unavailable.

The temporary fax numbers are, (202) 685-7651/7652/7653, or DSN at 325-7651/7652/7653. MCI will discontinue the fax capability when mail delivery returns to normal.

Donation leads

In response to public inquiries regarding donations in support of the relief and recovery efforts in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks on the Pentagon, the following organizations have established assistance funds or programs.

Monetary donations to victims and/or their families may be made to one or more of the relief societies or funds below:

— The Air Force Aid Society, Suite 202, 1745 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Va., 22202. Call (703) 607-3134 or visit <http://www.asaf.org>.

—The Federal Employee Education & Assistance Fund, Littleton, Co. Send checks or money orders to: FEEA World Trade Center/Pentagon Fund, 8441 W. Bowles Ave., Suite 200, Littleton, Co., 80123-9501 or call (800) 323-4140 or (303)933-7580 or visit <http://www.feea.org>.

For donations of building equipment and materials contact the Pentagon Renovation/Emergency Operations Site at (703)528-9524.

To donate volunteer services at the emergency site (e.g., rubble removal) contact the Arlington County (Virginia) Emergency Operations Center, (703) 228-7506.

To donate information technology support contact Gen Loranger at the Network Infrastructure Services Agency - Pentagon, (703) 695-3934.

Additional information regarding donations is available at the Federal Emergency Management Agency Internet Web site, <http://www.fema.gov>.

GUNNY'S PICKS

Week 12



See Spike win. Spike from Transportation Management Division is this week's Gunny's Picks winner. Back from a long absence in the winner's circle, Spike had little to say. A picture is worth a thousand words. Therefore, "you know what time it is ... watch the Redskins."

Can you out-pick Spike? To submit your choices for Gunny's Picks, fill out this section of the newspaper and drop it off at the public affairs office in the Red Wing of Building 15, or e-mail who you think will win each game to editor@barstow.usmc.mil.

Denver at Miami*
Detroit at Chicago*
*New England at N.Y. Jets
Indianapolis at Baltimore*
Minnesota at Pittsburgh*
Carolina at New Orleans*

Tampa Bay at Cincinnati*
Tennessee at Cleveland*
*San Diego at Seattle
*St. Louis at Atlanta
Dallas at Washington*
Arizona at Oakland*

Buffalo at San Francisco*

Monday Night

*Green Bay at Jacksonville
Total points: _____

Name, work section and phone number: _____
Monday night's game is a tie-breaker and must include a total score.

GOT NEWS? *If you think you've got something newsworthy call the public affairs office, 577-6430.*



By Jim Gaines
MCCS Publicity

December sale starts Saturday

The December Sale at the Exchange/Super Seven Store begins Saturday.

Here are some of the sale items: JVC portable CD players with 45 second Anti-Skip for only \$47.99, JWIN 5.5" personal TV sale priced at \$27.99, selected men's & women's watches (many styles to choose from) at only \$9.99, all video cameras in stock at 10 percent off, all Palm Pilots in stock slashed 15 percent off - plus many other great values throughout the store.

The Marine Corps Exchange continues to offer you savings and value, especially when you use your Military Star Card. Military Star Card customers are able to make purchases with no payment and zero interest until April 2002. Purchases must be made between Nov. 23 and Dec. 24, from

in-store stock and stock ordered as special buys. This offer does not apply to catalog orders or online orders. Only authorized patrons of the Marine Corps Exchange can participate.

The Exchange/Super Seven Store is open Mondays - Fridays 6:30 a.m. - 9 p.m. Saturdays 8 a.m. - 9 p.m. Sundays and holidays 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

The Yermo Exchange is open Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. During troop rotations open Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Lunch menu

Today - Chicken Cordon Bleu with mashed potatoes.

Friday - Fried cod with seasoned potato wedges.

Monday - Spaghetti.

Tuesday - Meat loaf with mashed potatoes and gravy.

Wednesday - Sliced Virginia baked ham with stuffing.

Thursday - Chicken Cordon Bleu with rice pilaff.

Friday - Breaded catfish with steamed rice.

Family Night menu

Your voice has been heard - a recent survey conducted at the Family Restaurant regarding whether the Family Night Dining should be held at the Oasis Club or the Family Restaurant - the majority of responses chose the Family Restaurant. Thank you for your responses. Family Night Dining will remain at the Family Restaurant every Thursday night.

Tonight - Enchiladas and make your own tacos! Ole!

Next Thursday - To be announced.

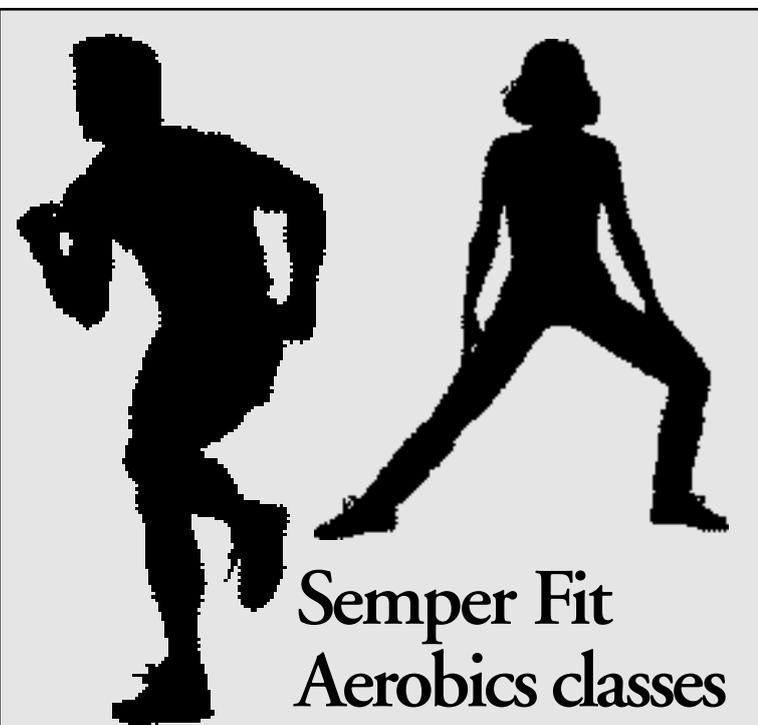
Everyone Family Night Dinners served from 4:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Prices: Adults \$5.50, children five to 11 years \$3.50, children four years and under are free. Prices are the same for military and civilian personnel.

Christmas party at YAC

The Youth Activities Center will host a special children and youth Christmas party on Saturday, December 15, from noon to 5 p.m. at the McKinney Complex.

There will be many fun and entertaining activities for everyone.

Plan for your child to attend. For more information call Margaret at the Youth Activities Center at 577-6499.



Aerobics - it really works! Try our new work out with Fit Balls, Resistant Tubes and Stair Steppers.

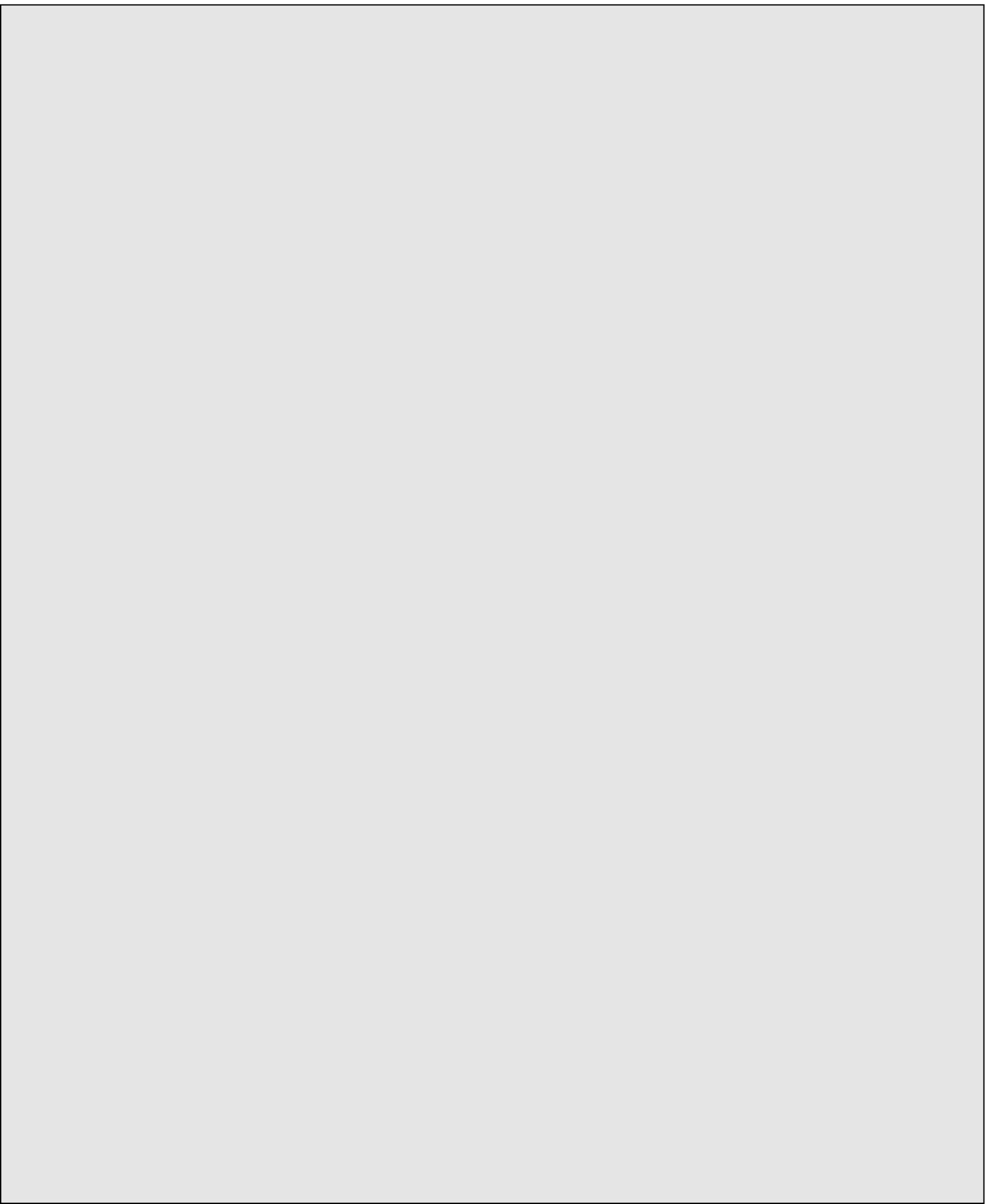
Stay with it - do the exercises - and in a short time the results will amaze you.

Join Gina Gailbraith's classes Monday through Thursday for a one hour class starting at 4:30 p.m.

The cost is \$20 per month or a \$2 walk in fee.

Everyone is welcome. Drop by any afternoon while the class is in session and see what we do. You'll be impressed.

Classes are held in the Aerobics Room of the Base Gym. Call Semper Fit for more information at 577-6971.



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

1993 GEO STORM: New motor, 35k miles, clean inside and out. \$3,500. Call 963-3295.

1983 EL CAMINO: 305 Eng., automatic transmission, A/C, power door locks, rear air shocks, C/C, camper shell, good tires and wheels, body in good cond. \$3,500. Call 255-4205 AWH.

1983 FORD MUSTANG: V6, automatic, good body, runs fine, needs smog work, \$400. Call 244-9802 AWH.

1986 CAMARO: V6 engine, newly rebuilt, 5-speed tranny, runs xlt. \$2,500 OBO. Call 253-2133

1979 SUBARU BRAT P/U: Good body, runs good, needs California registration, \$400. Call 253-1981.

1976 CJ-5 JEEP: 304 Engine, Manual trans, P/S, half doors, like new 32-11.50-15 tires on chrome spoke wheels, \$2,500. Call 256-6103.

1976 CJ-5 JEEP: Started a rock crawler but never finished it. Has Dana 44's with 4.89 gears for the front and rear, 304 engine, manual trains, P/S, full roll cage. All the major items are there, \$2,000. Call 256-6103

1966 DODGE STATION WAGON: 383 V8 auto, air, good, \$1,200. Call 252-9199.

MISCELLANEOUS: Chevy 350 turbo transmission, has shift kit, 10,000 miles, rebuilt \$125; TRW 11:25 .060 over forged alum pistons, new \$125.00. Call 243-1392.

MISCELLANEOUS: Truck tire, LT 312-85 R16, \$25; towing mirrors, \$40 for the pair; receiver hitch class III, \$75; hitch haul (metal platform for trailer hitch) \$75. Call 256-6629.

MISCELLANEOUS: Leer camper shell, fits a Toyota Tacoma, 6 ft. bed, great cond., red, \$400 OBO; bedliner for 6 ft. truck bed, \$75 OBO. Call 240-0919.

MISCELLANEOUS: Radio controlled Off Road trucks and buggies (Losi and Associated) with chargers, controllers and lots of spare tires, motors, batteries and parts. Call for more information; snowboard used one season 155 Nale with Preston bindings, \$200. Call 256-6103.

MISCELLANEOUS: Engine for Nissan, 18CAE, 1.8L, 93,000 miles, needs valve job, good short block replacement. Call 253-5926.

MISCELLANEOUS: GE refrigerator, 18 cubic ft. white, xlt. cond., \$200. Call 256-6629.

MISCELLANEOUS: Fitness Flyer exercise equipment, xlt. cond., hardly used, \$40; Nordic Rider exercise equipment, cardio/strength, xlt. cond., hardly used, \$40. Call 253-5926

MISCELLANEOUS: Queen water bed, book case head board with mirror, \$125; Chevy 350 Performer manifold \$50. Call 253-1942.

MISCELLANEOUS: Electric dryer, older, works, \$15; gas stove, almond

color has microwave built in, \$125; trundle bed never used, \$110; 36 inch white security door, \$55. Call 252-9199

MISCELLANEOUS: Pageant dresses, sizes 2-7, xlt. cond. worn only once, best offer. Call 252-1311.

MISCELLANEOUS: Refrigerator, Hotpoint, 20.6 sq. ft., glass shelves, frost-free freezer, \$400 OBO. Must see, call 252-1018.

MISCELLANEOUS: 12 USED RAILROAD TIES, \$6.00 each, must take all; 396 Pinto head no cracks \$100. also 10/10 crank. Call 243-1392.

MISCELLANEOUS: Child's loft bed w/side rails and homework desk underneath, red metal, \$150 OBO Call 256-1914 AWH.

MISCELLANEOUS: Navy Pea coat, size 38, good cond., \$20; grass trimmer cordless, battery rechargeable, \$20; stereo radio cassette (boom box) \$40; tread-mill, Master Stride 4000, good cond., \$50; electric meat slicer, Protect-O-Matic, good cond., \$45; grill and waffle baker, General Electric, \$35. Call 242-8839.

MISCELLANEOUS: Drywasher, \$200; back machine, \$125. Call 948-5140. Ask for Jim AWH.

