

HIGH DESERT WARRIOR

Fort Irwin



Volume 11, Number 2

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February 6, 2015

NTC leadership honors DA civilians, Soldiers, NCOs



National Training Center and Fort Irwin Commander Maj. Gen. Ted Martin pins an Army Commendation Medal on the uniform of Sgt. Joseph Bailey, Non-commissioned Officer of the Year for fiscal year 2014 during a ceremony here, Jan. 12. Command Sgt. Maj. Stephen Travers (center) served as part of the official party for the event.

Story and photos by Gustavo Bahena

Public Affairs Office

The National Training Center and Fort Irwin conducted a quarterly military and civilian awards ceremony, Jan. 12.

The event awarded Soldiers and Department of the Army civilians for various achievements. The non-commissioned officer of the year, for fiscal year 2014, received an Army Com-

mendation Medal. Four Soldiers and NCOs received Army Achievement Medals for winning boards in two quarters of fiscal year 2015. Civilians received length of service awards and employee of the year awards.

The awardees:

Non-commissioned Officer of the Year for fiscal year 2014: Sgt. Joseph Bailey, Operations Group.

Soldier of the Quarter, first quarter for FY 2015: Pfc. Milian Tabuso, B Company, 229th Aviation Regiment.

Non-commissioned Officer of the Quarter, first quarter for FY 2015: Staff Sgt. Derek Stevenson, B Company, 229th Aviation Regiment.

Soldier of the Quarter, second quarter for FY 2015: Pfc. Jonathan Tanner, B Company, 229th Aviation Regiment.

Non-commissioned Officer of the Quarter, second quarter for FY 2015: Sgt. Jose Linares, S3 Operations, 1916th Support Battalion.

Employee of the Year FY 2014, category 1: Anthony Wynn, United States Army Medical Department Activity.

Employee of the Year FY 2014, category 2: Samantha Mendoza-Rodriguez, G4 NTC.

Employee of the Year FY 2014, category 3: Jessaka Menzie, Office of the Staff Judge Advocate.

Employee of the Fourth Quarter FY 2014, category 3: John Manser, OPS GRP.

Length of Service award for 40 years of service: David Stoddard, G1 NTC.

Length of Service award for 30 years of service: Dave Key, NTC Safety.

Length of Service award for 25 years of service: Patricia Tyson, MEDDAC.

Length of Service award for 25 years of service: Angela Turner, Fort Irwin United States Army Garrison.

We salute, honor



10

FORT IRWIN SOLDIERS
CURRENTLY DEPLOYED

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

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Celebrating a century of life, history, culture

By Public Affairs Office

The National Training Center and Fort Irwin invites the community to celebrate African American/Black History Month at Sandy Basin Community Center at 11:30 a.m., Feb. 11.

The theme for this year's observance is "A Century of Black Life, History and Culture." The theme was proclaimed by the 100-year-old organization, Association for the Study of African American Life and History.

Over the past century, African American life, history, and culture have become major forces in the United States and the world. In

1915, few could have imagined that African Americans in music, art, and literature would become appreciated by the global community. Fewer still could have predicted the prominence achieved by African Americans, as well as other people of African descent, in shaping world politics, war, and diplomacy. Indeed, it was nearly universally believed that Africans and people of African descent had played no role in the unfolding of history and were a threat to American civilization itself. A century later, few can deny the centrality of African Americans in the making of American history.

(Information from a news release by Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute)

My transformation

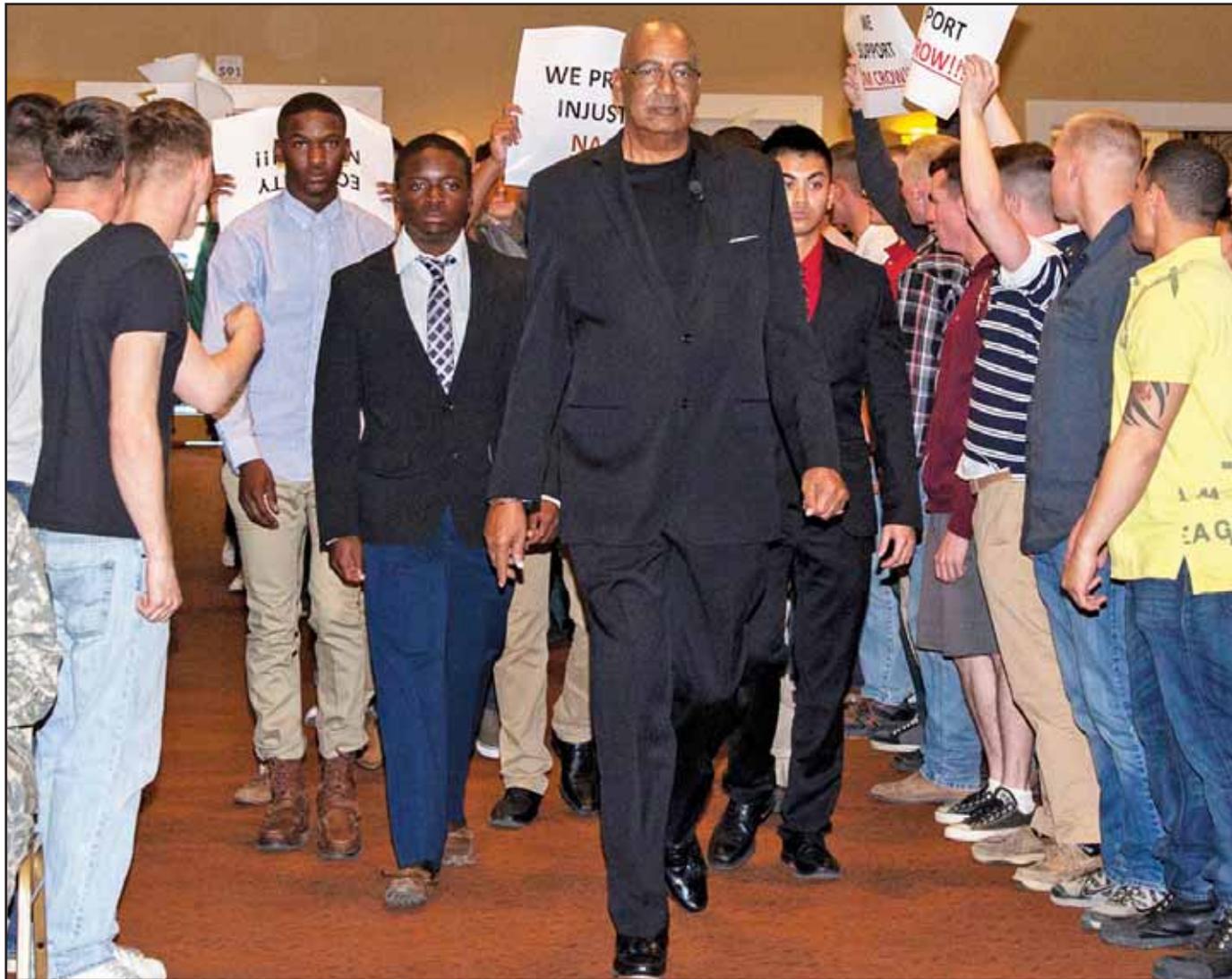


Photo by Casey Slusser, TASC

John Winkfield, director of the National Training Center Equal Employment Opportunity office, leads a reenactment of a Civil Rights march during the 2015 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. commemoration here, Jan. 7.

By Gustavo Bahena
Public Affairs Office

A well-known Department of the Army civilian here, and friend of many, spoke at a Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. commemoration, Jan. 7.

John Winkfield, director of the National Training Center Equal Employment Opportunity office, shared a personal story of transformation he attributed to several factors, including seeing Dr. King speak in the 1960's.

At the ceremony, honoring

King and his legacy, Winkfield spoke about his challenges as a young man feeling hate and wanting nothing to do with non-violence his father and grandfather advocated and

King practiced during the Civil Rights movement.

"I was centered on hatred, fighting back, hitting back," Winkfield said. "My father was just the opposite, my grandfa-

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WHO WE ARE

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Commanding General

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Post CSM

Col. Jon P. Braga
Garrison Commander

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Garrison CSM

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NEWSPAPER AWARDS

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

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

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

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 2. ICE (Interactive Customer Evaluation)
 3. CG's Hotline: 380-5463



Tough love in this harsh, beautiful desert

By Col. Todd Kimura, Commander

Fort Irwin Dental Clinic Command

The month of February may bring to mind many things, such as Valentine's Day, flowers, candy, and a special dinner or meal with a significant other.

Special holidays may generate special memories and special expectations. There may be times when we feel the pressure to perform or to demonstrate our love and commitment to one another. Here at the National Training Center we demonstrate day by day our "tough" love through loyalty and commitment to our spouses, our families and our country.

At the NTC, our leaders, our Soldiers, our civilians, and our family members are what make this place America's premier combat training center. This is the place where we train, test and develop America's future Army teams and leaders at all echelons. We put them through the crucible to develop their characters and competencies to the highest limit possible. One thing is for certain in this uncertain world, we will not stand down until our enemy is defeated. We do all we can at the NTC, in a collaborative effort, to insure that America's sons and daughters are the best prepared and have the best leaders and experience to fight the next battle and win wherever it may be.

This high intensity requires trustworthy and resilient battle buddies and family members, "tough love." This sustained intensity requires focus, balance, commitment, camaraderie and community. One of the ways the Army supports its Soldiers and family members is through medical and dental support.

In this month's paper you will find an article

on Children's Dental Health month. We want to help you keep your children's smile healthy and we want our future generations to be academically successful. Similar to last year, the Dental Clinic Command will be teaming up with Fort Irwin schools to perform dental screenings to help you stay informed on your child's dental health.

In this month's paper you will also find some of the great Department of the Army civilians who have been recognized and rewarded for their commitment and professionalism to our Army here at the NTC and Fort Irwin. Every day our DA civilians make that trip down Fort Irwin road to serve our country here at the NTC.

Fort Irwin has a special sense of community and has plenty of resources to help us be more resilient. Other resources besides dental and medical include: sports, fitness, aquatics, Family Advocacy Programs such as "Total Mom" and "Daddy Boot Camp," the BOSS program for single Soldiers, Warrior Zone, Army Community Service support groups, education programs, chapel ministry activities, MFLCs, Resiliency Week, Military Civilian Spouses Club, and the chain of command teams. We are all in this together so nobody should feel alone. Please remember "you are not alone."

Thanks for all you do as Soldiers, civilians and family members. Thanks for your tough love in this harsh, but beautiful desert. Thanks for your resiliency and your patience as we train, re-train and develop future combat teams that protect and guard our future way of life.

"Serving to Heal...Honored to Serve"



Photo by Gustavo Bahena, Public Affairs Office

The commander of Fort Irwin Dental Clinic Command, Col Todd Kimura, and his daughter, Hannah, participated in the December Resiliency Week chili cook-off with their recipe, "Boiler Tailgate DENTAC Chili." Kimura says, "Here at the National Training Center we demonstrate day by day our 'tough' love through loyalty and commitment to our spouses, our families and our country."

Army Values

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ther just the opposite. They were talking about the non-violent approach."

Winkfield grew up in northern California and watched on television the movement during the King era. His parents noticed his anger and took him to a Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

"At this conference all my heroes at that time were there – H. Rap Brown, Stokely Carmichael, Dick Gregory, Muhammad Ali," Winkfield said. "They all spoke ... about fighting back – not being non-violent."

"Finally the last speaker ... was Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and I never will forget as long as I live ... I was 90 feet from him and the podium. There was a time during his speech – and his speech was all about non-violence – [that] he looked down at the audience and to me. I swear he looked right at me. I cannot truly articulate the impact it had on me, on my life. It didn't happen overnight, but it was a start."

Winkfield explained that spending nine months in a boys detention camp and being influenced by one of its counselors also made an impression.

After finishing high school, Winkfield enlisted in the Army and as a staff sergeant was tasked to escort a Soldier to her mother's funeral in Alabama. However, he had vowed to himself never to visit southern states.

"I had sworn that I would never go anywhere south of the Mason-Dixon Line as I grew up," Winkfield said. "I just refused. I had opportunities to go to a lot of places in the south, but I refused to go because it was passed the Mason-Dixon Line and I was not going to go."

Once at the Soldier's home, Winkfield saw the support she received from, not just family,

but the community.

"This is when I had to really stop and just pay attention to what was going on, because I saw black people, I saw white people coming in and out of the house and I'm saying 'wow, ok, ok,'" Winkfield recalled.

Winkfield grudgingly spent the night with a neighbor of the Soldier's family, who had retrieved his luggage from a hotel and shared meals with him.

"You have to understand my frame of mind, you know, I was messed up with hate," Winkfield said. "It was destroying me on the inside. I very reluctantly gave in."

After that moment, Winkfield believes he also gave in to the ideals of King.

"I had to stop ... and do what Dr. King said: 'Let no man pull you low enough to hate him,'" Winkfield told the audience. "I allowed that to happen and as I started to make this transformation from hate to who I am today, John E. Winkfield, I really began to actually live. Before that I don't think I was really living, I was just existing, not living as a person."

The Army retiree and NTC veteran of 19 years said it was a challenging conversion.

"It was a tough journey," Winkfield said. "I had some really rough roads. Each of those rough roads I had to travel was education for me, because I learned a great deal. I learned a lot about myself and people."

Winkfield came to realize what King taught many during his shortened life: hate will never solve your problems or help you with your problems.

His final quote from King to the audience: "Darkness cannot drive out darkness, only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate, only love can do that."

Your Child's Health

Defeat Monster Mouth!

By Maj. Kristy Hayes, DMD, Pediatric Dentist

Fort Irwin DENTAC

February is Children's Dental Health Month and at the Fort Irwin Pediatric Dental Clinic we love to see kids smile!

Here are some tips to help keep those smiles sparkling.

Brush: Brushing twice daily with toothpaste that contains fluoride is an important part of your child's routine. Fluoridated toothpaste may be used as early as the first tooth erupts, as long as you're only using a small amount (about the size of a grain of rice). While many children want to independently brush their teeth, it's important that an adult help them brush until they are about 8 years old, this will ensure that no area is missed.

Floss: Do I need to floss my child's teeth? Look in your child's mouth, if their teeth are touching (there are no spaces between them), then they should be flossed. In some children, only the back teeth are touching while in others all the teeth are touching.

Healthy Diet: A healthy diet is just as important as brushing and flossing. Consuming beverages that contain sugar (juice, flavored milk, Kool-aid, sodas) puts your child at a significantly higher risk of tooth decay. We recommend that your child consume only four to six ounces of a sugar-containing beverage per day and drink water and plain white milk at all other times. It's also important to avoid snacks that are sticky (fruit snacks, raisins), because their sticky nature makes them more likely to adhere to the teeth and cause a cavity.

Aren't they Baby Teeth? Baby teeth are important space holders for the adult teeth that are still developing in your child's jaw. Many of the baby teeth will be with your child until they are 11-12 years old.

Dental Check-Ups: The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry recommends that children have their first dental check-up six months after the eruption of the first tooth or at age 1, whatever occurs first. At their dental visit, your child will have teeth professionally cleaned, get a fluoride treatment, and the dentist will check to ensure that the teeth are healthy and developing properly. The dentist will let you

See MOUTH, page 4

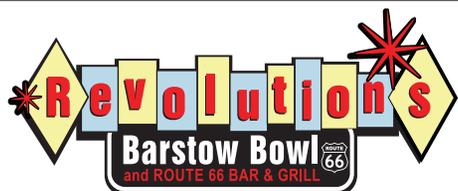
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Clean between your teeth daily.
Limit snacks, eat healthy meals.
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From **MOUTH**, page 4

know how often he/she wants to see your child.

If you're in need of a dentist for your children (8 years and younger) and live on post, then Dental Clinic 1 is available to take care of their dental needs. Call 380-3284 to schedule an appointment.

The Fort Irwin Pediatric Dental team will be visiting the following schools to promote dental health and complete dental screenings (contact your child's school for more details):

Lewis Elementary School: Feb. 10 and 11

Colin Powell Preschool: Feb. 18

Tiefert View Intermediate School: Feb. 19

Homeschool students: 10:30 a.m. on Feb. 26 at the post library, building 331, on 2nd Street

More than 100 years of service

The United States Army Dental Care System has provided dental care to Soldiers for more than 100 years beginning with a congressional authorization on March 3, 1911. The Army Dental Care System is a diverse team of staff officers, clinicians, Soldiers, Department of the Army civilians and contractors – all synchronized by the operational command, Dental Command. The mission of DENCOM is to provide responsive and reliable oral health services and influence health to improve readiness and advance wellness in support of the force, military families, and all those entrusted to its care.

It's a mystery!
Help K-9 and The Plagster unscramble the words in these oral health messages!

1. Visit your _____ twice a year.
TTNSIDE

2. Eat plenty of fruits and _____.
SE EBEGVTAL

3. Brush your teeth two _____
two times a day. **SNEMIUT**

4. Don't forget to brush your
_____.
GTUENO

5. Always wear a _____
when playing sports. **GTHUDARUMO**



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Community Calendar

ONGOING

Tax filing services. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday - Friday. Tax center, building 230. Free tax services available to active duty military personnel (including Reserves and National Guard on orders for 30 days or more), their dependents, and military retirees. Call 380-3604.

FEB 11

African American/Black History Month Celebration. 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Sandy Basin Community Center. This year's theme is "A Century of Black Life, History, and Culture." The event will feature Maj. Kiryenski Jones of the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment as guest speaker, educational materials and a cultural food sampling. Fort Irwin EO/EEO Offices, 380-4963/4961.

FEB 13

Deadline for DeCA Scholarships for Military Children Program. Applications available at www.militaryscholar.org. Program awards at least one \$2,000 scholarship at each commissary.

FEB 21 AND 28

CYSS Rotational Saturdays day care. 6 a.m.-6 p.m. Cactus Corner CDC, building 4150. \$4 per hour by reservation; \$8 reservation fee. Reserve by Monday prior to Saturday. Minimum of 15 reservations required for service. Call 380-9441.

FEB 26

EFMP Support Group meeting. 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. Building 1200 on Normandy Drive. Support groups are for those who have special needs or children with special needs. Attend a support group to receive support from others who are in similar situations. Learn new information and resources. For more information call 380-3698.

MARCH 3

Deadline for MCSC Spring Welfare applications. Applications available at www.mscftirwin.org. The MCSC Welfare Campaign provides assistance to various non-profit organizations and government entities through financial support for special projects and events based upon merit and need. For more information contact Derra Miller at mcssecondvice@yahoo.com.

MARCH 7

MCSC Wild West Casino Night. 6 - 11 p.m. Samuel Adams Grille. Adults only. \$25. Enjoy western style appetizers, opportunity drawings, and live and silent auctions. Tables featuring: Texas Hold'em, Black Jack and Left Right Center. For ticket information go to www.mscftirwin.org. Childcare reservations taken until Feb. 20 at Parent Central.

MSA New Hours
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 Fri. Grades 6-8 3-7 p.m. Sat. Grades 6-8 2-7 p.m.
Grades 9-12
 Fri. 3-9 p.m. Sat. 2-9 p.m.



Fort Irwin Religious Support



Worship Services

Recurring Chapel Activities

SERVICE	CHAPEL	TIME, DAY	ACTIVITY	CHAPEL	TIME, DAY
Catholic Mass	Post theater	9 a.m., Sunday	Protestant Women of the Chapel	Center	9 a.m. & 6 p.m., Tuesday
General Protestant	Post theater	11 a.m., Sunday	Mothers of Preschoolers	Center	9-11:30 a.m., 1st & 3rd Wed.
Multi-cultural Gospel	Blackhorse	1 p.m., Sunday	AWANA Boys & Girls club	Center	4 p.m., Wednesday
Latter Day Saints	Blackhorse	Noon, Sunday	Catholic Women of the Chapel	Center	9 a.m., Thursday
Weekly Mass & Confession	Center	11:30 a.m., Thursday	Middle School Girls - Small Group	Annex/The Rock	6 p.m., Monday
Islamic Prayer	Annex	12:30 p.m., Friday	High School Girls - Small Group	Annex/The Rock	6 p.m., Thursday
Catholic Mass	Post Theater	9 a.m., 1st Sat. of month	High School Boys - Small Group	Center	6 p.m., Thursday
			Pacific Islander Bible Study	Blackhorse Annex	4:30 p.m., Sunday
			Earth Based	Annex	4 p.m., Tuesday

NTC Command Chaplain, 380-3562/3440; 11th ACR Chaplain, 380-4913; OPS GRP Chaplain, 380-6048; 916th Chaplain, 380-4703
 Center Chapel: building 315; Annex/The Rock: building 317; Blackhorse Chapel: building 211

Middle School and Teen Center Events:

- Feb. 6 Cross Stitch Heart
- Feb. 9 Building Robots
- Feb. 10 Mine Craft
- Feb. 11 Gumball Machine
- Feb. 12 Crystal Hearts
- Feb. 13 Mosaic Stepping Stones
- Feb. 16 3D Lanterns
- Feb. 17 Rubik's Cube
- Feb. 18 Mario Strikers
- Feb. 19 Football Mini Camp
- Feb. 20 Scrapbook Art
- Feb. 23 Microsoft Paint
- Feb. 24 Duct Tape Wallets
- Feb. 25 Anime
- Feb. 26 NBA Combine
- Feb. 27 Working with Glue (Glue Art)

AT THE Movies

- | | |
|---|--|
| Feb. 6
7 p.m. The Hobbit: The Battle of Five Armies (PG-13) | Feb. 8
7 p.m. Annie (PG) |
| Feb. 7
7 p.m. Studio appreciation advance screening; movie TBD, rated PG. Free admission. Tickets available at Exchange food court. Seating open to non-ticket holders 30 minutes prior to show time. | Feb. 12
7 p.m. Big Eyes (PG-13) |
| | Feb. 13
7 p.m. The Hobbit: The Battle of Five Armies (PG-13) |

Tickets: Adult - \$5.00/3D-\$7.00, Children 6-11 - \$2.50/3D-\$4.50 Five and Under are FREE. This schedule is subject to change at the last minute to accommodate changes in movies and free showings. ID cards are required from all personnel not in uniform when purchasing movie tickets. For more information and movie updates, call 380-3490.

Mission

Gray Eagle soars above NTC

Story and photo by Gustavo Bahena

Public Affairs Office

Soldiers of B Company, 229th Aviation Regiment, put into flight a MQ-1C Gray Eagle unmanned aircraft here, Jan. 9.

The "Flying Tigers" company operates Gray Eagles and their duty is to provide mission-configured, unmanned aircraft system support to division combat aviation, fires and battlefield surveillance brigades, brigade combat teams and other Army and Joint Force units.

The unit, under the 2916th Aviation Battalion, 916th Support Brigade, was activated here in October. They are now flying the aircraft, which provides a tremendous combat advantage – according to 2916th Commander Lt. Col. William Garber. The aircraft can stay aloft for almost a day, carry four Hellfire missiles and look down from 18,000 feet while recording video.



A MQ-1C Gray Eagle unmanned aircraft flies at the National Training Center, Jan. 9.



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On the cutting edge of fun

By Jason Miller

Public Affairs Office

Local military kids enjoyed a trip to Inscription Canyon with the EDGE! program while touring the high desert in the Desert Discovery Tour Polaris RZR off-road vehicles, Jan. 10.

“On the trip, the kiddos got a photo opportunity at the Pizka Indian petroglyphs, a local Native American historical site, and visited an old Pony Express Depot in the middle of Black Mountain Canyon,” said Edward Iden, manager of Outdoor Recreation here.

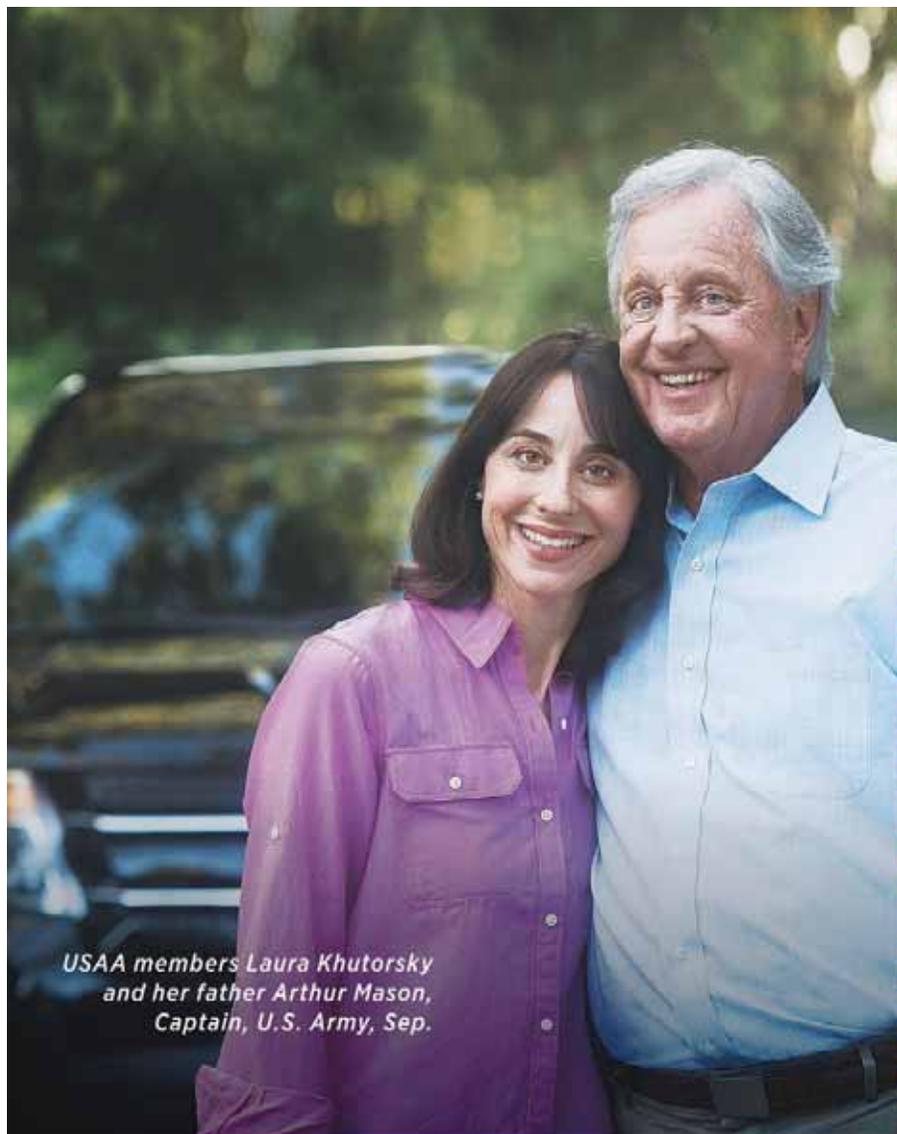
The EDGE! program provides fitness, life skills and adventure activities for Fort Irwin children through the Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation directorate. To find out more about the EDGE! program, call 380-5816.

To go on a Desert Discovery Tour, call Outdoor Recreation at 380-4327.



Photo courtesy of Desert Discovery Tour

Children with the EDGE! program here enjoyed a Desert Discovery Tour aboard Polaris RZR off-road vehicles, Jan. 10.



USAA members Laura Khutorsky and her father Arthur Mason, Captain, U.S. Army, Sep.

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Length of Service award for 20 years of service: Eric McFarland, Fort Irwin USAG.

The NTC and Fort Irwin Commander Maj. Gen. Ted Martin and Command Sgt. Maj. Stephen Travers served as the official party and presented medals and certificates. Soldiers and NCOs also received keepsakes and gifts from the Association of the United States Army, the Exchange, the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club, and Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

Martin expressed that it is important to understand the significance of the recognized individuals to the NTC team and its mission of training rotational units.

“You know it’s hard to do, because we do it each and every

month,” Martin said about the training schedule. “And it couldn’t be done without the entire team, from the Department of the Army civilians, to the Soldiers, to the families, to the contractors, to everybody who comes to Fort Irwin, California – to make it a successful operation for the brigade combat teams that come here to hone their combat skills.”

The general asked the younger generation to take heed of the service by those being awarded.

“Try to become what they are – great shining examples of both Department of the Army civilians, and Soldiers and non-commissioned officers – that’s what it takes,” Martin said.

Bailey, a helicopter (AH-64 Apache and OH-58 Kiowa) repairman with Eagle Team, OPS GRP, competed in five boards

to reach his milestone. He was excited and surprised to learn he won, and explained that the most challenging aspect of the process was getting over his nerves and focusing on the task.

He recommends to junior Soldiers and NCOs that they participate in quarterly board competitions, because it helps with career progression – regardless of the outcome.

“It prepares you for promotion boards and we all want to do well at those,” Bailey said. “It helps you learn doctrines and regulations that we should already know. And if you progress far enough into the competition you will brush up not only in knowledge, but skills also. It can do nothing but help you – if you go into it with the right attitude.”



Department of Army civilian awardees, left to right: Employee of the Year fiscal year 2014, category 1: Anthony Wynn, United States Army Medical Department Activity; Employee of the Year FY 2014, category 2: Samantha Mendoza-Rodriguez, G4 NTC; Employee of the Fourth Quarter FY 2014, category 3: John Manser, Operations Group, and; Employee of the Year FY 2014, category 3: Jessaka Menzie, Office of the Staff Judge Advocate. They are flanked by, left, National Training Center and Fort Irwin Command Sgt. Maj. Stephen Travers and, right, NTC and Fort Irwin Commander Maj. Gen. Ted Martin.



Awardees, left to right: Non-commissioned Officer of the Quarter, first quarter for fiscal year 2015: Staff Sgt. Derek Stevenson, B Company, 229th Aviation Regiment; Soldier of the Quarter, first quarter for FY 2015: Pfc. Milian Tabuso, B Co., 229th AVN REGT; Non-commissioned Officer of the Quarter, second quarter for FY 2015: Sgt. Jose Linares, S3 Operations, 1916th Support Battalion, and; Soldier of the Quarter, second quarter for FY 2015: Pfc. Jonathan Tanner, B Co., 229th AVN REGT.



Length of Service award recipients: 25 years - Patricia Tyson, MEDDAC; 30 years - Dave Key, NTC Safety, and; 40 years - Dave Stoddard, G1 NTC.



National Training Center and Fort Irwin Commander Maj. Gen. Ted Martin congratulates Samantha Mendoza-Rodriguez, of G4 NTC, at the conclusion of a Civilian and Military Awards ceremony here, Jan. 12. She was named Employee of the Year for fiscal year 2014, category 2.



Calvin Phillips, president of the High Desert chapter of the Association of the United States Army, shows a sword to Pfc. Jonathan Tanner, of B Company, 229th Aviation Regiment. Tanner was named the Soldier of the Quarter for the second quarter of fiscal year 2015. Phillips presented the keepsake to Tanner for his achievement.



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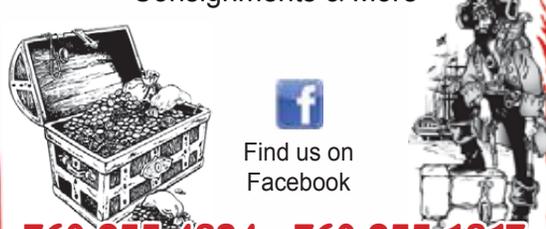
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Your Finances

Tax Center opens for business

Story and photo by Leslie Ozawa

Public Affairs Office

Fort Irwin's Tax Center opened Jan. 20 with a ribbon cutting ceremony by National Training Center Commander Maj. Gen. Ted Martin and Command Sgt. Maj. Stephen Travers.

The tax center offers free tax preparation services by tax preparers certified by the Internal Revenue Service and the California Franchise Tax Board. The center is located at building 230 and open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The tax center takes walk-in customers, but highly encourages appointments to be made by calling 380-3604.

Eligible clients: active duty Soldiers and their dependents, military retirees and their dependents, and Reserve/National Guard Soldiers on orders for 30 days or more.

Documents required: military identification card, Social Security card, W-2, 1099-R, 10-99INT, or other tax documents regarding income and expenses and last year's tax return.



The Fort Irwin Tax Center ribbon cutting ceremony is conducted by National Training Center Commander Maj. Gen. Ted Martin (left, center), Command Sgt. Maj. Stephen Travers (center), Staff Sgt. Jesse Cuellar (right, center) and Capt. Tristan DeVega (right). Inside the tax center entrance (from left) are tax preparers Pfc. Duncan Kaplan, Spc. Alexis Kenley and Spc. Behnam Ghandhari. Cuellar is non-commissioned officer in charge of the center and DeVega the officer in charge.

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Arctic Wolves prove their endurance

By Sgt. Sean Callahan

U.S. Army Alaska Public Affairs

The 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team "Arctic Wolves" from Fort Wainwright, Alaska conducted an 18-day training here that concluded Feb. 5.

The brigade, part of the 25th Infantry Division, was provided with four additional days in "the box" to hone its war-fighting skills. In all, the brigade was scheduled to be here just over five weeks. Rotations at the National Training Center are typically four weeks with 14 days in the training area.

Though there is plenty of land for training in Alaska, the NTC is uniquely resourced to mass training and evaluation support at one location to sustain a brigade-sized full spectrum validation.

"NTC is the largest (Army) training center, spanning over 1,200 square miles," said Lt. Col. Steven Adams, NTC G3 operations officer. "The terrain is rugged and well suited for large combat formations. It's nearly impossible for the BCT to train at home station like we do at the NTC; NTC is resourced to provide an observer-coach-mentor to support, guide and train every commander and staff section."

The NTC conducts tough, realistic, unified land operations with unified action partners to prepare brigade combat teams and other units for combat, according to Adams. Every unit that trains at the NTC improves throughout the rotation. Additional repetitions afforded by the 18-day training model provide additional time for the unit to depart the NTC at a much higher level than when it arrived.

Deputy commander of the 1st SBCT, Lt. Col. Mick Braun, explained that the rotation was an opportunity to seriously stress systems and capabilities of the brigade.

The extended training also allowed the brigade more time with integrated enablers, such as: an aviation battalion with AH-64 Apache, UH-60 Blackhawk and CH-47 Chinook helicopters, and; an armor company with M1-A1 Abrams tanks.

"We also have different signal assets assigned, military information support operations and civil affairs elements from not only regular Army, but also from Reserve and National Guard units not available to us in Alaska," Braun said during the rotation.

United States Army Alaska Deputy Commander Col. Shawn Reed agreed the "Arctic Wolves" were part of a larger training model incorporating National Guard and Reserve units.

"This is a rotation designed for one brigade combat team, but the fact of the matter is, this training is on a much larger concept of total Army integration," Reed said.



Photo by Sgt. Lindsay High, Operations Group

Soldiers of Alpha Battery, 2-8 Field Artillery, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, handle a 155 mm artillery shell to be used in a M777 howitzer during training here.



Photo by Sgt. Charles Probst, Operations Group

A Soldier with 1st Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, prepares equipment on a Stryker vehicle at sunset at the start of decisive action rotation 15-03 here.



By Spc. Ashley Marble, Operations Group

Second Platoon, Charlie Company, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, provides security at a rear entry control point of a staging area during training rotation 15-03 at the National Training Center.



Photo by Sgt. Lindsay High, Operations Group

Soldiers with Alpha Battery, 2-8 Field Artillery, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, fire a M777 howitzer during decisive action rotation 15-03 here, Jan. 20.



Photo by Spc. Ashley Marble, Operations Group

Two Soldiers of the 25th Brigade Support Battalion, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, move a simulated casualty to a collection point during a training rotation here, Jan. 21.



Photo by Spc. Ashley Marble, Operations Group

A Soldier with 25th Brigade Support Battalion, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, aims his weapon while taking a fighting position during decisive action rotation 15-03 here, Jan. 21.



Photo by Sgt. Charles Probst, Operations Group

Soldiers with 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division operate Stryker vehicles during training rotation 15-03 here. There are eight variants of the Stryker, which can weigh between 20-23.5 tons and reach a top speed of 60 miles per hour, according to the Army's Program Executive Office Ground Combat Systems. The Stryker enables the Army to respond to urgent operational requirements using rapidly deployable, agile and strategically responsive combat support vehicles.

Replicating accurate unconventional warfare threats

By Capt. Jessica Edmonds and 1st Lt. Evan FitzGerald, Commander and Executive Officer

Vanguard MICO, RSS, 11th ACR

Throughout Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, the prevalence of roadside bombs and unconventional tactics brought about the development of counter insurgency operations.

At the National Training Center, the unconventional or irregular fight is one that occurs at the same time as force-on-force battles during training rotations. One organization that deals with irregular tactics is the Terrorist Explosive Network of the Vanguard Military Intelligence Company, Regimental Support Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment.

The TEN is able to build simulated roadside bombs which are used by the 11th ACR's opposing force to prepare rotational training units for deployment. The TEN combines the most up-to-date information with lessons learned from more than 10 years of continual conflict. These simulated roadside bombs enhance the training environment and exposes training units to the most accurate and potentially deadly situations they are likely to encounter.

"The TEN-shop fabricates [improvised explosive devices] to provide the realistic replication for the 11th ACR, every rotation," said Staff Sgt. Joseph Ingalls, platoon sergeant with the TEN. "We work to enable the rotational units to meet their training objectives by making them counter the IED threat on the battlefield."

The 11th ACR uses pre-existing infrastructure, to include towns, roads, checkpoints, hostile paramilitary and partisan forces to harass training units using a combination of guerilla attacks, simulated roadside bombs and psychological warfare. The OPFOR replicates tactics currently used by terrorist organizations by applying lessons learned from deployed United States forces.

Several teams on Fort Irwin collaborate to create this hybrid environment. These teams include the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization, the TEN, Operations Group and emplacement teams of the 11th ACR. Information on how to employ the training roadside bombs is gathered from JIEDDO and several databases with information on the most current IED technology, techniques and procedures. Soldiers from MICO replicate roadside bombs by using four of the five main components of an IED: the switch or trigger, initiator, power source, and container. Due to replication safety precautions, the fifth component of the IED, the main charge, is replaced with a light linked to a noise amplification device which signals a successful detonation.

"We teach rotational training units how to react to an IED in a safe and controlled environment," said 2nd Lt. Derek McCarty, platoon leader of the TEN. "We have a close working relationship with JIEDDO that helps us to determine what sort of IED threats the training unit may experience down range."

Utilizing similar off-the-shelf materials as insurgent groups, the TEN quickly produces a variety of simulated roadside bombs. The TEN Soldiers tailor these training aids to the NTC operating environment to ensure RTU Soldiers are aware of the effects. Simulated roadside bombs are emplaced around the training area and often destroy "soft" targets, such as logistical convoys on main supply routes. It is the job of trained OPFOR Soldiers to strategically emplace these training aids; it then becomes the job of OPS GRP Soldiers to serve as adjudicators, determining what damage a detonation causes.

The Soldiers from the TEN not only build roadside bombs for the NTC training environment, but they also teach the Blackhorse Insurgent Academy. A five-day course taught by MICO Soldiers provides Blackhorse Soldiers with pyrotechnic safety information and emplacement techniques. The focus on proper employment techniques enhances OPFOR's complex attack capabilities during the wide area security fight, which requires the training units to put themselves at additional risk in protecting populations, forces and infrastructure.

The U.S. military continues to gather information and adapt training to match the evolving design and use of roadside bombs by adversaries. With this knowledge, the TEN replicates and uses tactics similar to what today's enemy has to offer. It is imperative that the 11th ACR and other NTC organizations present training units with the most realistic combat scenarios possible. Replicating the most accurate unconventional warfare threats prepares Soldiers for the current combat environment.



Photos by Sgt. David Beckstrom, 11th ACR Public Affairs

A training aid for real-world improvised explosive device emplacement signs and markers are on display at the Terrorist Explosive Network shop here. This display helps Soldiers spot roadside bombs before they can be detonated.



On display are some of the devices that the Terrorist Explosive Network shop here uses to simulate an explosion of a roadside bomb. These devices use smoke, lights and sirens to signal a detonation, which facilitates the realistic training the rotational training units receive here.

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3rd ID brings Bystander Intervention to NTC

By Maj. Robyn Boehringer, SHARP Program Manager

National Training Center and Fort Irwin

The Chief of Staff of the Army's guidance to take on the fight against sexual assault and sexual harassment as a primary mission is resonating throughout the force.

The National Training Center's response to this difficult problem-set is the Bystander Intervention program developed by 3rd Infantry Division Raider Initiatives Group. The powerful interactive and dynamic program is a primary prevention training model that focuses on trust and judgment development at the small unit level. It is designed to assist Soldiers and units to initiate the culture shift necessary to reduce the probability of potentially harmful behaviors. The Bystander Intervention technique allows small group leaders to facilitate conversations within their formations in an effort to prevent all types of risky behaviors.

Bystander Intervention was initially developed by the Raider Initiatives Group in an effort to eradicate sexual assault and sexual harassment in 3rd ID. Once the program had been established, it became clear that the fundamental concepts of BI address not only sexual assault and sexual harassment, but the entire spectrum of potentially harmful behaviors, including suicide and domestic violence awareness.

Headed by Master Sgt. Jeff Fenlason, the 3rd ID Raider Initiatives Group conducted a five-day train-the-trainer course that has resulted in the certification here of 29 non-commissioned officers and commissioned officers as Bystander Intervention facilitators. Facilitators range in the rank of sergeant to sergeant major, and second lieutenant to captain. This group of select personnel has been charged with the implementation of the Bystander Intervention program here, in an effort to create a climate that encourages a bias for action among Soldiers at every level. By creating this environment, the NTC is placing an emphasis on establishing a culture where Soldiers are empowered to step in and change the trajectory of an event in order to prevent undesirable consequences in negative situations and build positive unit cohesion through trust development and open, professional dialogue among Soldiers.

"BI Is a great way to address the underlying issues that create the space for destructive behaviors and unfortunate circumstances," said 1st Lt. Michelle Schimko. "It doesn't just treat the symptoms of the problem, it really gets to the root of the issue which is the current culture of the Army."

During the five-day program, students were introduced to material in many different ways.

"First, we let them experience the presentation purely emotionally and connect to the material," said Fenlason. "Then they are taught techniques of facilitation and then those techniques are brought together with the presentation itself. [Finally] students are given an opportunity to practice their delivery and understanding of the material during student-led sessions."

While the bystander approach is not new, or limited to only 3rd ID, the approach taken by the Raider Initiatives Group resonates strongly at all levels because it uses operational requirements in a new and refreshing way. By using Army Doctrine



Photo by Gustavo Bahena, Public Affairs Office

Master Sgt. Jeff Fenlason (left), lead trainer with 3rd Infantry Division Raider Initiatives Group, interacts with Sgt. Maj. Jeffery Dice, operations sergeant major of 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, during a train-the-trainer course for Bystander Intervention. "The professionalism and expertise of Fenlason's team during the facilitator course helped to establish an environment of trust that was unparalleled to any type of training we have conducted or hosted in a very long time. I would strongly support this training for any unit that is struggling with how to reduce risky behaviors amongst their Soldiers." – Maj. Robyn Boehringer, SHARP Program Manager.

Publication 6-0 Mission Command requirements, the unit is able to demonstrate and role model the importance of trust development and cohesion at every level. Raider Initiatives Group is comprised mostly of junior NCOs who are deeply dedicated to stamping out sexual assault and other high risk behaviors in the unit by role-modeling both professionalism and deeply held dedication to soldiering.

"As junior non-commissioned officers, having the opportunity to travel, and being able to do this work, is extremely rewarding," said Sgt. Nick Krejci, a member of 3rd ID Raider Initiatives Group. "It sends a message that every Soldier has the ability to affect change."

Bystander Intervention training has been implemented during the newcomer's training for Soldiers arriving to the NTC. Instructors are also available for unit training. Call 380-2290 for scheduling requests.

Sexual Harassment/ Assault Response and Prevention program

The Army's Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention program exists so that the Army can prevent incidents of sexual harassment and sexual assault before they occur. The SHARP program's mission is to promote an Army culture and command climate that ensures adherence to the Army values and ensures that every Army team member will be treated with dignity and respect at all times and in all circumstances. Every Soldier, Department of the Army civilian and family member serves and supports the Army and the nation; they deserve no less.

DPW plans for future

Story and photo by Jason Miller

Public Affairs Office

The Real Property Master Planning Division, Directorate of Public Works, hosted an Installation Infrastructure Visioning Practicum here, Jan. 21-23.

The hands-on workshop developed a vision plan, which lays the foundation for the installation's real property master plan that will be developed over the next six months.

The visioning practicum was facilitated by Maureen Goodrich, master planner with United States Installation Management Command, and the Louis Berger consulting firm, who brought their expertise and experience of master planning to the table.

A week prior, Louis Berger staffers met with various Fort Irwin community members and asked quality-of-life questions, which fed into the visioning practicum to get an overall sense of the community's concerns.

"In the past, consultants would travel to an installation and conduct short interviews, go back to their office and return with a master plan," said Ken Kost, vice president and director of federal facilities planning with Louis Berger "The way it's done now, throughout the Army, is the master plan really rises up from the entire community."

The visioning practicum started with a visual survey, an exercise to develop an eye for aesthetically pleasing architecture, which led to a brainstorming breakout session to analyze what the current infrastructure strengths and weaknesses are on the installation. After the break-out session, the group was able to define objectives and goals for the future of the installation's infrastructure.

"The goal is to build facilities that are not meant for a single purpose, but to build to support any mission requirement," said David Weatherman, chief of Master



Brainstorming during the Installation Infrastructure Visioning Practicum session here, Jan. 21-23 (left to right): Mark Reeves, safety specialist with Garrison Safety Office here; Ben Zitelli, senior master planner with the Louis Berger consulting firm, and; David Weatherman, chief of Master Planning with Directorate of Public Works here.

See **FUTURE**, page 20

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Lewis Elementary succeeding per district strategy

Story and photos by Gustavo Bahena

Public Affairs Office

A group of educators and parents met to provide input for the best strategy in sustaining success and making improvements at Lewis Elementary School here, Jan. 26.

The meeting was part of the Silver Valley Unified School District's strategy-building plan that involves each of its seven schools. Fort Irwin is site to three – Lewis, Tiefert View Intermediate School and Fort Irwin Middle School.

Lewis Principal Patti LeBlanc and several of her school's teachers and parents collaborated with SVUSD Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services Jeff Youskievicz and SVUSD Deputy Superintendent Jesse Najera; the meeting was facilitated by Mary Townsend, strategic plan consultant with SVUSD.

LeBlanc opened the meeting with a report on the school's academic improvements. She explained Lewis increased its academic performance index from 781 to 897 in 2013. The school also met all growth targets for California's adequate yearly progress in 2013 and exited the state's program improvement program that same year. Lewis received the Title I Academic Achievement Award for 2013-14. She credited the school's progress to her teachers.

"I have an outstanding staff," LeBlanc said. "I cannot tell you how nice it is to be able to go into any classroom and see learning going on. That great teaching really contributed to the growth that we have had."

LeBlanc also commended the school district.

"They support us at our school sites consistently through ... staff development, through ... technology, through all of the implementation we have been doing," LeBlanc said. "The district is very supportive of us."

Youskievicz said the district's API score of 815 has placed it as the highest scoring in the high desert. The Lewis score of 897 in the California Standards Test places the school in the highest ranking tier, 10, in the state.

"We've had great success," Youskievicz said. "The challenging part is 'Where do we move from here? Once you're successful, what's the next step we have to take?' That's why you're here today. Let's talk about that success and build on it."

The district's meetings at school sites during its strategy planning began last year, said Youskievicz. However, SVUSD has been strat-

egizing for almost a decade.

"Silver Valley decided about seven years ago to go into a strategic planning process and part of that process was built on trying to focus more on what is really important," Townsend said. "By having a focus, [SVUSD] ... would be able to concentrate efforts on the key things that were really going to make a difference in this district."

Najera explained that the 2007 district strategy was developed around the four focus areas of student achievement, technology, parent and student support, and district stability.

Beginning last year, the state requires districts to craft a Local Control and Accountability Plan that addresses eight priorities, which are: basic services, course access, implementation of common core standards, parent involvement, student achievement, student engagement, school climate and other student outcomes.

"We've always had priorities in our district strategic plan, so to us the LCAP just fell into what we were doing already," Najera said. "We're excited that we're ahead of the game that way."

The LCAP directs accountability to the local level.

"We're going to be held accountable by our own school board, our community – our own stakeholders," Najera said.

During breakout sessions at the meeting, four Lewis teachers presented topics to the attendees who then discussed concerns or offered recommendations. Topics covered were common core standards, community involvement, technology, and Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support.

Andrea Janoe, a military spouse with a child in Lewis and substitute teacher, appreciated the discussion on common core. She mentioned her experience as a teacher in several school districts around the country and described SVUSD as very attentive to the needs of the community.

"I've sat at the [SVUSD] strategic planning meeting as well and it is, by far, the most collaborative district that I've ever been a part of," Jano said. "They really collaborate with each other and listen to all parties involved in the school system – and I haven't really seen that in very many districts that I've worked for or been a part of."

Janoe said the district wants to hear constructive ideas and wants to be successful, beginning at the local level.

The recommendations made at the four



Andrea Janoe (left), a military spouse with a child in Lewis and substitute teacher, shares ideas with a group discussing common core standards during a site strategy meeting at Lewis Elementary School here, Jan. 26. Lewis Principal Patti LeBlanc (second, from left) opened the meeting with a report on the school's academic improvements, explaining Lewis increased its academic performance index to 897 in 2013 and received the Title I Academic Achievement Award for 2013-14.



Jeff Youskievicz, assistant superintendent of Educational Services with Silver Valley Unified School District, displays an academic score from Lewis Elementary School here, Jan. 26. The Lewis achievement of 897 in the California Standards Test placed the school in the highest ranking tier, 10, in the state.

table presentations would be further discussed by school staff in a second meeting, said LeBlanc. The district will eventually incorporate

those deliberations into its LCAP, which will be presented in a public hearing and to the local school board later this year, said Youskievicz.

from **FUTURE**, page 19

Planning with DPW.

Members of the workshop were from several local organizations including Fort Irwin United States Army Garrison, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, U.S. Army Medical Department Activity and the 916th Support Brigade.

The group will meet again in the next few weeks to construct an area development plan for the south-eastern quadrant of the cantonment, home to the United States Army Materiel Command and the 916th SPT BDE, according to Weatherman.

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To this line - \$22.00

To this line - \$26.00
Each additional line \$4.00

Code: _____ (For Aerotech Office Use Only)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Visa/Mastercard/American Express # _____

Exp. Date: _____ Daytime Phone: _____

ALL ADS MUST BE RECEIVED BY TUESDAY NOON FOR THAT FRIDAY'S PAPER

To Submit Ads:

Please submit your ads via one of the following methods:

BY MAIL:
Paid And Free Ads
456 E. Ave. K-4, Ste 8
Lancaster, CA 93535

BY FAX:
Paid And Free Ads
(877) 247-9188

BY EMAIL:
Paid And Free Ads
adrienne2@aerotechnews.com

BY PHONE:
Paid Ads Only
(877) 247-9288

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Announcements

CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE IS TUESDAY AT NOON EACH WEEK!

Events

AMERICAN LEGION DINNERS!!

American Legion Hall
2181 Armyory Rd.
Barstow

Spaghetti Dinner

Fri., Dec. 6th 5-7:00pm
Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce, Salad, Garlic Bread, Desert
\$8.00

Steak Night

Fri. Feb. 20th 5-7:00pm
16 oz. Ribeye
Baked Potato, Vegetable Salad, Roll & Dessert
\$16.00

Next Month!

Fri. Mar. 6th 5-7:00pm
Stuffed Burger Night
Hamburger w/Choice of Ingredients to Stuff
Chips, Salad, Dessert
\$10.00

Open to the Public
Thank you for your Support

All Proceeds Towards
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and Local Scholarships,
For More Information
Call 760-252-8369

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With a Classified Ad!
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Aerotech News & Review

Real Estate

All real estate advertised in this publication is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race color, religion, or national origin, or an intention to make such preference limitation or discrimination. Real estate advertisements that are in violation of the law shall not be accepted for publication. All dwellings advertised in this publication are available on an equal opportunity basis

Personals

SAY IT LOUD! Birthdays! New Jobs! Weddings, Anniversaries! Express Yourself!

☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
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Homes for Rent

Beautiful and Spacious 2 Master Bedrooms/2.5 Baths/2 Car Garage, 1327 sq. ft. in Gate Community. Appliances included. Fenced Yard, Community Pool. \$995/mo.

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Apartments for Rent
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SMALL PET OK • 3-MONTH LEASE & UP

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Casa Del Sol

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760-514-2100

Ask for Julieta

RENTALS@OSL-INC.COM



Large 1-Bedroom
with Large Kitchen
\$400/mo

Large 2-Bedroom with
Large Living Room only
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Utilities Paid

No Pets
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