

### Registration slated for kindergartners from April 18 to 28

Kindergarten registration for children in the Ridgecrest, China Lake, and Inyokern area will be taken by appointment only during the morning hours from April 18 through April 28. Appointments may be made by calling 375-4461, ext. 38.

Children eligible for registration for the 1983-84 year must be 5 years old on or before December 1, 1983. Recognized proof-of-age must be presented at the time of registration and may be a birth certificate, a duly attested baptismal certificate, a passport, or a legally executed affidavit by the parent, guardian, or custodian of the child. Affidavit forms are available at the Sierra Sands District Office on 113 Felspar, Ridgecrest and may be obtained before registration.

The State of California requires children entering kindergarten to have a series of immunizations. The immunizations include the following: a series of four DPT (diphtheria, whooping cough, and tetanus) and a booster after the age of 2, a series of three polio and a booster after the age of 2, a series of rubella and rubella (measles) and mumps after the first birthday.

These immunizations may be obtained from a private physician or the Public Health Department at 250 West Ridgecrest Blvd., Ridgecrest.

An immunization clinic is scheduled for April 4 and will be available during registration on April 21 and April 28. Pre-kindergarten physicals will be done on the second and fourth Mondays at the Public Health Department by appointment only and depending on financial eligibility.

Parents desiring exemption from the required immunizations for personal reasons will be requested to sign a form that will be provided at the time of registration. A statement of exemption for medical reasons must be signed by a physician.

The district nurse will be available to check the hearing and vision of prospective kindergartners during the registration process. This year students entering kindergarten at El Ranchito, Ridgecrest Christian, and St. Ann's schools will participate in the vision and hearing screening. Appointments may be made by calling 375-4461.

### Authentic tamale lunch featured at NWC Chapel

Calory counters who like good Mexican food are saving calories this week so that they will be able to enjoy a luscious tamale luncheon on Tuesday, from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. in the East wing of the chapel.

Funds raised go toward a scholarship.

Those who don't need to watch their weight are equally eager to munch the tamales, refried beans and rice that will be prepared by the NWC Hispanic Employment Program Committee and Los Amigos Hispanos.

Tickets, at \$3.50 per person, may be purchased at the door.



**GETTING ACQUAINTED** — Capt. Lahr discusses matters pertaining to tenant housing as he meets with the officers of the tenants' Community Council. Present are (l. to r.), Barbara Manning, treasurer; Linda Maxwell, secretary; Capt. Lahr; Carol Lambton, president; and Vicky Herron, vice president. — Photo by PHAN Greg Hogan



**COMING FROM GERMANY** — The Mainz Concert Orchestra, piano soloist, will be featured in the final concert of the 1982-83 season next Thursday evening, April 7, at the Center theater.

## Mainz Chamber Orchestra ends concert season

The Mainz Chamber Orchestra, one of Europe's most distinguished musical ensembles, will conclude the 36th season of the Indian Wells Valley Concert Association next Thursday, April 7, at the Center theater. The performance will begin at 7:30 p.m.

The program at China Lake is a part of the first concert tour of the western United States by this group that was founded 30 years ago in Mainz, Germany, by Guenter Kehring.

The latter, who is acknowledged to be one of the leading authorities on chamber music in the world today, is still serving as the conductor of this orchestra.

The 22-member ensemble, which includes wind instruments as well as strings, will present a program of wide appeal. It will consist of compositions by Rameau, Bach, Mozart, Haydn, and Bartok.

Appearing with the orchestra on this tour is the young American pianist, Nina Tichman, who will perform as a soloist in a piano concerto.

Tickets for the concert are on sale in Ridgecrest at the Music Man and Medical Arts Pharmacy, as well as at the business office of the Maturango Museum on board the Naval Weapons Center. If not sold out beforehand, tickets also will be on sale at the Center theater box office when it opens

### Workshop for kids set at Counseling Clinic next Thursday

A fourth workshop in a series entitled "The Kids' Corner" will be presented on Tuesday, from 4 to 5:30 p.m., at the Desert Counseling Clinic, 814 N. Norma St., Ridgecrest.

This workshop, which is designed to help children to become more aware of themselves (especially their strengths), and to feel good about themselves, is for boys and girls 9 through 11 years of age.

There is a \$10 fee for this workshop, which is part of the series developed by Dot Landis, a human relations and personal growth trainer since 1975.

Additional information about this or other workshops in the series can be obtained by calling the Desert Counseling Clinic, 375-9781 or 375-7285.

tickets for this concert is recommended.

Concert-goers who do not have NWC passes or vehicle bumper stickers will be able to obtain special-event passes next Thursday after 7 p.m. at the main gate.

The Mainz Chamber Orchestra is one of the most active musical groups of its type in the world — both in regards to concert appearances and recordings.

In addition to extensive concerting throughout Germany, the Mainz Chamber Orchestra has performed in Italy, France, Switzerland, Austria, Belgium, Africa, the Far East, Canada, South America, and now the United States.

### Regular meeting of NEX Advisory Board Thursday

The regular monthly meeting of the Navy Exchange commissary Advisory Board will be held on Thursday, April 7, at 1 p.m. in the conference room of the Headquarters Building.

Anyone who needs to attend but does not have an NWC pass may pick up a visitor's pass from the Quarterdeck in the lobby of the building.

For further information, please telephone Cmdr. Gary Case, NWC ext. 2906.

### New NEX gas pump hrs.

For the convenience of all military personnel and their dependents, the Navy Exchange gas pumps are now open from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, and from 8:30 a.m. until 3 p.m. Saturdays.

### CL Astronomical Society To see "The Ames Story"

China Lake Astronomical Society (CLAS) members and guests will see "The Ames Story," a 25-minute color motion picture, at the group's regular monthly meeting on Monday at 7:30 p.m. at the Ridgecrest Library, 131 E. Las Flores St., Ridgecrest.

All interested persons are invited to attend.

Anyone who would like further information about either the program or CLAS may obtain it by telephoning Bob Tuck at 357-5001, ext. 229, on weekdays or 377-5396 evenings.

### All Faith Chapel presents second film in new series

A movie on the subject of aging — part of a series entitled "Strengthening Your Grip" — will be presented at 7 p.m. Sunday in the All Faith Chapel.

This is the second in a group of six films that features Charles R. Swindoll, senior pastor of the First Evangelical Free Church in Fullerton, Calif.

The movie series is sponsored by the Protestant Congregation of the All Faith Chapel, and is open to the public free of charge.

### Error made in phone listing for Code C25513

An error was made in listing one of the many telephone numbers included in a recent story about the changeover from in-house to contractor operation of housing maintenance, transportation operation and maintenance, and supply operations.

For those who have had trouble trying to contact Receipt Control (Code C25513), the correct telephone number is NWC ext. 2772 or 2728.

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**MOVIES**

(G) ALL AGES ADMITTED  
General Audience  
(PG) ALL AGES ADMITTED  
Parental Guidance Suggested  
(R) RESTRICTED  
Under 17 requires accompanying Parent or Adult Guardian

**Regular starting time 7:00 p.m.**

<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>"AMITYVILLE II AND POSSESSION"</b>	<b>APRIL 1</b>
	Starring James Olsen and Burt Young (Horror/Drama, rated R, 105 min.)	
<b>SAT., MON.</b>	<b>"A MIDSUMMER NIGHT SEX COMEDY"</b>	<b>APRIL 2, 4</b>
	Starring Woody Allen and Mia Farrow (Comedy, rated PG, 88 min.)	
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>"FIGHTING BACK"</b>	<b>APRIL 6</b>
	Starring Tom Skerritt and Patti LuPone (Drama, rated R, 96 min.)	
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>"JUNKMAN"</b>	<b>APRIL 8</b>
	Starring Christopher Stone and Susan Shaw (Mystery/Thriller, rated PG, 93 min.)	

U.S. Government Printing Office: 1983—No. 19

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**To:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## Preliminary information for first year of massive NWC white blood cell count study now available

Preliminary data are now available for the first year of the massive white blood cell count (WBCC) study underway at the Naval Weapons Center. More than 3,500 military and civilian personnel entered the study.

Cigarette smoking so far seems to be the factor most affecting the WBCC, but other factors may also prove to be significant as the data is examined further.

The study was initiated because physical examinations required by the Center's occupational health program indicated that more employees than statistically expected had a low WBCC. Although no clear evidence indicates that a slightly low WBCC is a threat to health, the Navy was concerned that some undetermined factor could be affecting all employees, not just those known to have exposures that could suppress bone marrow function.

All military and civilian personnel at China Lake were given the opportunity to volunteer for Phase I of the study by having 7cc of blood withdrawn and analyzed. Analysis was performed by a Technicon H6000 differential blood analyzer that bases its analysis on a very large number of cells and transfers the data into computer storage and also provides a printout for the person whose blood is analyzed. Every fourth sample was also checked on a Coulter Counter for cross validation.

Since the WBCC can be temporarily low

for a number of reasons, anyone whose WBCC showed less than 4,500 per cubic millimeter was asked to have another sample drawn in a month. Those whose second sample also showed a low WBCC were asked to return a month later for a third blood test.

Anyone whose blood tests indicated a low WBCC on the third test as well as given the opportunity to enter Phase II of the WBCC study by having a sophisticated bone marrow study done at Navy expense in the San Diego Naval Hospital to determine if bone marrow stem cells are being formed normally.

Of the individuals who volunteered to take part in Phase I of the study, 240 had one blood test that was low. On the second check, 69 still had a low count, and the third test showed 46 with a low WBCC. Some individuals whose initial tests were made in late January or February have not yet had either second or third tests, so these figures may change.

Prior to the current study, 72 persons had been identified as having a low WBCC. Of these, 10 did not have bone marrow studies because they left Center employment, and 17 said that they were not interested in a Navy-sponsored bone marrow test.

So far 30 of the 46 persons identified as having a low WBCC in Phase I of the current study have gone to San Diego for further

(Continued on Page 7)

## Fire Division garners award in medium crash category

For the third time in the past four years, the Fire Division of the NWC Safety and Security Department has been judged the very best in the medium crash category by the U.S. Navy Fire Protection Association.

Tangible evidence of this honor in the form of a trophy was presented recently to Leroy O. O'Laughlin, the Center's Fire Chief, during a meeting held in Memphis,

Tenn., by the Navy Fire Protection Association.

The latest award in the medium crash category is for calendar year 1982, but NWC also won this honor in 1979 and 1980, O'Laughlin said. The latter was accompanied to Memphis by Darryl Johnson, Deputy Fire Chief at China Lake, who also is the program coordinator for the U. S. Navy

Fire Protection Association.

Tests conducted at the Naval Weapons Center's Minideck facility, which were staged to simulate conditions of the May 1981 fire on the aircraft carrier USS Nimitz, played a large part in this latest recognition of the topnotch firefighters at NWC.

Other information covering activities throughout the year also went into an extensive report that included published materials and photos showing the state of readiness of firefighters who must be prepared to meet any type of fire-related aircraft emergencies here.

The report submitted by the NWC Fire Division was judged against those entered in this annual contest by all Navy and Marine Corps fire departments and NWC was voted No. 1 by the panel of experts chosen to make this determination.

One of the lessons learned the hard way during the 1981 fire on board the aircraft carrier USS Nimitz was that overheated ordnance can be lethal to firefighters who have to man hoses around burning aircraft on a ship's deck. Two firefighters were killed by a Sparrow missile that "cooked off" during this fire.

From mid-month until the end of October last year, tests simulating the fire on the USS Nimitz were conducted at the Minideck facility, which is half the size of an aircraft carrier deck. Wind conditions at sea can be simulated by running the engines of an average C-97 transport aircraft and directing that blast of air across the Minideck. In addition, instruments are available to measure the amount of heat that can be generated in a brief amount of time by jet aircraft fuel fires that are set and given a head start before steps are taken to battle the flames.



**CHECKING RESULTS** — Taking a look at the data printed out by the Technicon H 6000 differential blood analyzer are (l. to r.) Grace Seal, the occupational health nurse who has been collecting blood samples, Dr. Frank Garland, who has been analyzing the data gathered during the first year of the study, and Dr. Peggy Rogers, who serves as NWC coordinator for the study. — Photo by PH1 Benita Tetreault



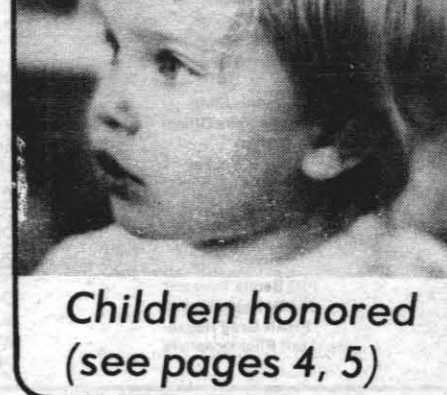
**EXCELLENCE ACKNOWLEDGED** — Capt. Lahr and Leroy O. O'Laughlin, NWC Fire Chief, hold the plaque showing that the Center's Fire Division has been judged the best in the Navy in the medium crash category by the U. S. Navy Fire Protection Association.

During November and December 1982, nozzles capable of delivering from 250 gallons per minute (gpm.) to 12,000 gpm. of either water or aqueous film forming foam (AFFF) were used in fighting fires at the Minideck, and details of these tests were included in the NWC Fire Division's 1982 report.

Observers of these tests included members of the Aircraft Carrier Firefighting Flag Level Steering Committee, headed by Rear Admiral James L. Webber, committee chairman and Vice Commander of the Naval Sea Systems Command.

More tests at the Minideck are pending, O'Laughlin said, and when completed they will add to the inventory of knowledge that is being accumulated by the Flag Level Steering Committee, whose purpose it is to evaluate the data and determine what steps can be taken to improve aircraft carrier fire fighting techniques.

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**Children honored** (see pages 4, 5)





# Varied activities, loving professional care emphasized by staff at Children's Center



I love my security blanket.



Flannel board stories are fun.

The vital role played by military child care centers in readiness and retention has been recognized by Caspar Weinberger, Secretary of Defense, by his proclamation of April as "The Month of the Military Child."

Each week of the year, however, can be considered the week of the child at China Lake because of the concerned care and guidance provided by the three child care centers operated on all working days by the Recreation Services Department under director Polly Ferraro.

The Center's military and civilian personnel entrust an average of 175 children daily to the care of the 35 staff members and 10 volunteers staffing the main center, Annex 1 (drop-in care), and Annex 2 (after-school care). Children range in age from 6 months to 9 years.

A slightly larger number of civilian children receive full time care between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. at the main Children's Center; approximately 85 percent of the children in the drop-in care center, however, are military.

The majority of volunteers, so far, are also military men and women who are earning two hours of free child care for each hour of volunteer time spent. (A new orientation class for potential volunteers will be held on April 5. Anyone interested in volunteering should get in touch with Cynthia Garvin promptly at NWC ext. 2653.)

Mrs. Ferraro emphasizes that the program conducted by the Children's Center is not just babysitting, but is a developmental program.

The program is outlined in an instruction from the Chief of Naval Operations, and is a learning program that includes reading readiness, premath, and learning of perceptual motor skills through ballet and through sports and games.

Youngsters are also taken on a wide variety of field trips, depending on their age and maturity. These include taking swimming lessons in the summer, going to matinees at the Center theater, and heading for such fun places as the library, the fire station, the airfield, the park, and a local farm.

Special events in honor of the Month of the Military Child and the Week of the Young Child are a Children's Fair set at Kern Regional Park from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 9, an open house at NWC's Children's Center on Wednesday, April 13, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Everyone in the community is welcome to attend either event.

All the preschools, child care centers and other children's service agencies are joining in the Children's Fair. There will be games, arts and crafts, puppet shows, petting zoos, clowns, balloons and refreshments for all who attend. Smokey the Bear and his friends are also expected to attend. In case the weather is bad on that Saturday, the fair will be postponed until the following Saturday, April 16, at the same time.

Adult visitors to the open house will be able to see the facilities and talk with the staff about the program offered at the Children's Centers.

Regulations pertaining to child care on a military establishment are more stringent than those applying to a strictly civilian child care center, Mrs. Ferraro points out, and standards at NWC are higher yet. For instance, the regulations suggest that one staff person be hired for each five infants, but locally the staff/infant ratio is one adult per four infants.

Despite the quality of care offered, fees have been kept affordable to all. A varied fee structure covers the multitude of different circumstances in which Center families find themselves. A small amount of support is also received from appropriated funds — such as building rent, utilities, etc. — but the fees do cover the other expenses of the Center.

Planned for the future is a third annex expected to open late this spring that will specialize in infant and toddler care. The building that will be used specifically for this care level is currently being rehabilitated to meet the high standards maintained by NWC's Children's Center.



This is my very best friend.



All right, gang! Gather around...It's picture time. Everybody smile at the photographer.

Photos by  
PH1 Benita Tetreault  
and PHAN Greg Hogan



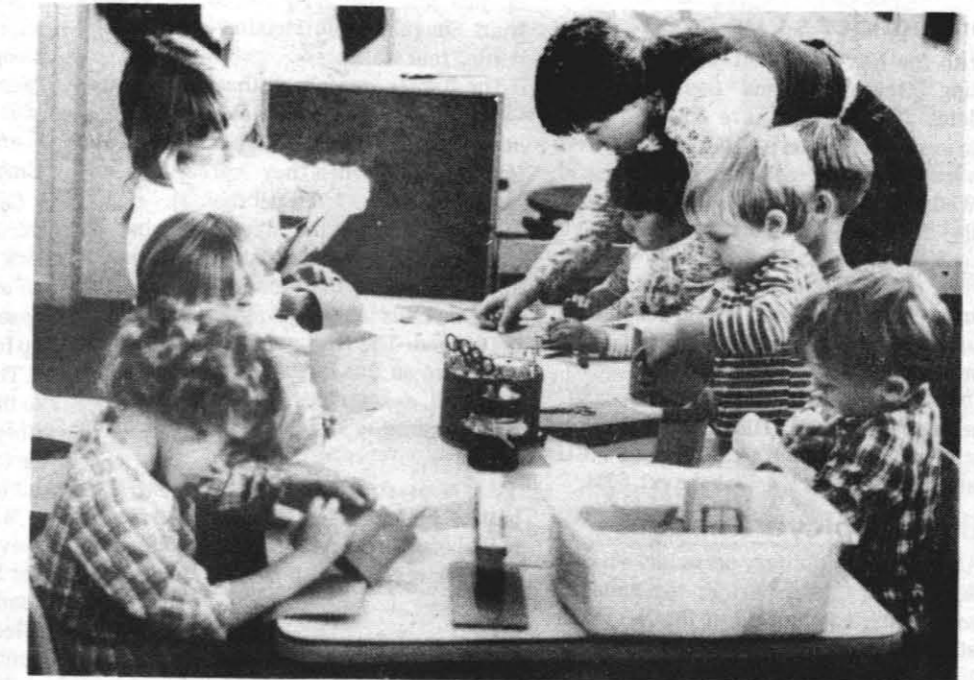
Whatever goes up must...come up? or does it?



Buddies? Or is this sibling rivalry?

Backward,  
Turn backward,  
O Time,  
in thy flight;  
make me  
a child again  
just for tonight.

—Elizabeth Akers Allen



Camie Fielder guides these youngsters in arts and crafts.



Director Polly Ferraro gets involved with children.



Hmm — what shall we have for lunch?



A box is a fun place to hide with friends.



I have the jungle gym to myself!



Is this what Mom goes through every night making dinner?