

# HIGH DESERT

**B** Sunday, August 11, 2013 • Victor Valley & The High Desert

## INSIDE

Combat appears to have little or no influence on suicide rates among U.S. troops and veterans, according to a military study.

Page B7



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Press Dispatch

Sunday, August 11, 2013 | PAGE B3

## NEIGHBORS



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHERYL THOMPSON

Academy for Academic Excellence Air Force Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps cadets class who recently received a Distinguished Unit Award at Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama.

### **VALLEY SNAPSHOT ~ AAE JROTC honored with Distinguished Unit Award CHERYL THOMPSON / CONTRIBUTED CONTENT**

Unit CA-20068 at The Academy for Academic Excellence has been selected as one of 140 units to receive the 2012-13 Air Force Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps Distinguished Unit Award. This award recognizes Air Force Junior ROTC units that have performed above and beyond normal expectations and have distinguished themselves through outstanding service to their school and community while meeting the Air Force Junior ROTC mission of producing better citizens for America.

The objectives of the Junior ROTC program are to educate and train high school cadets in citizenship and life skills; promote community service; instill responsibility, character, and self-discipline through character education, and to provide instruction in air and space fundamentals. Enrollment is open to all young people who are in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade or higher, physically fit, and are citizens or nationals of the United States.

Air Force Junior ROTC is located in 894 high schools across the United States and at selected schools in Europe, in the Pacific and Puerto Rico. Air Force Junior ROTC enrollment includes more than 117,000 cadets.

For more information, call the Academy for Academic Excellence's principal Lisa Lamb or the Air Force Junior ROTC department at the Academy for Academic Excellence at 760-946-5414.

### **AAE Air Force JROTC Instructors awarded Outstanding Instructor award**

For the third year in a row, instructors Col. George A. Armstrong III, USAF (Ret.) and Master Sgt Raymond Britt, USAF (Ret.) of the Academy for Academic Excellence were chosen for the 2013 Outstanding Instructor of the Year award.

Only three instructors from California earned this award; two of them are at the AAE. Out of 1880 instructors worldwide, 112 AFJROTC instructors were given this award. The Air Force recognizes the dedication and hard work of Armstrong and Britt in setting the highest example of Air Force core values, and the exemplary contributions and impact on their cadets, school and community.



Col. George A. Armstrong III, USAF (Ret.) left, and Master Sgt. Raymond Britt, USAF (Ret.) recently were awarded the distinguished the 2013 Outstanding Instructor of the Year award.

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