

THE PROSPECTOR



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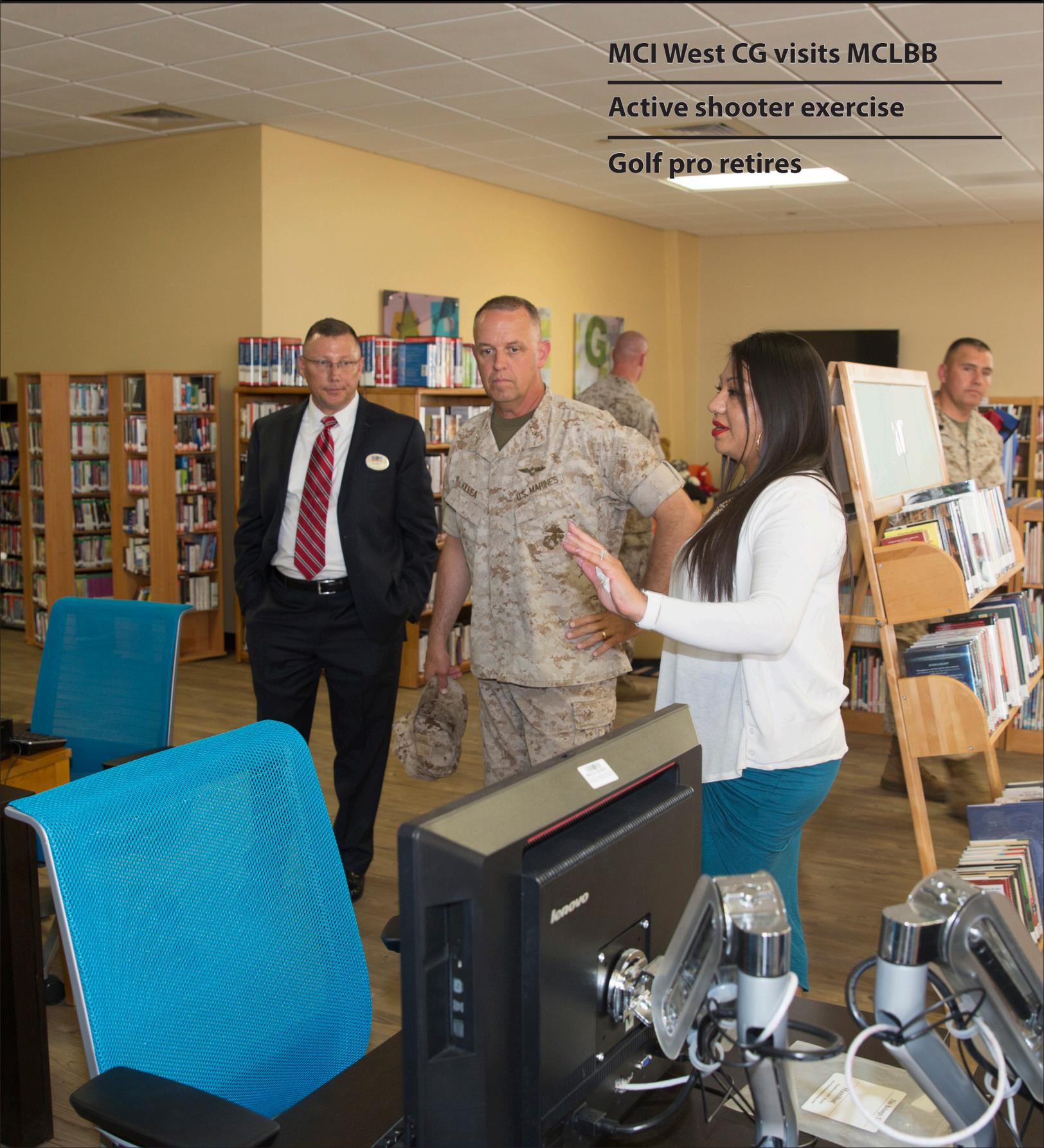
Serving the Corps since 1943
Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow

July 28, 2016

MCI West CG visits MCLBB

Active shooter exercise

Golf pro retires



On The Cover:

Front Cover: Carlos Guerra

Vanessa Garcia-Tzorin, lead librarian at the Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow library, guides Brig. Gen. Kevin Killea, Commanding General Marine Corps Installations West-Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, during his tour of the library and other MCCS facilities aboard MCLB Barstow, July 25, 2016.

Back Cover: Laurie Pearson

Officer Jonathan Cervantes, Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow Police Department, provides security for his fellow officers while clearing a warehouse during an active shooter exercise, July 25, 2016.



Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California
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Sgt. Maj. Sergio Martinezruiz, base sergeant major

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Photo by: Carlos Guerra

Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Favor, executive officer of Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, speaks to participants of the Community of Interest class held at the James L. Day Conference Center, July 18. The COI class highlighted the various training opportunities available to MCLB Barstow civilian employees with which they can further their education and careers.

On the web

Links in this publication are interactive in the online version

Website: <http://www.mclbbarstow.marines.mil>

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Marine-Corps-Logistics-Base-MCLB-Barstow/116845431679314>

http://www.twitter.com/#!/MCLB_Barstow





Photo by: Cpl. Brian Bekkala

U.S. Marine Corps Brig. Gen. Edward Banta addresses the audience during the change of command ceremony, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif, July 15. Outgoing commanding Brig. Gen. Edward D. Banta relinquishes his command to Brig. Gen. Kevin J. Killea.

Got news? Call us! (760) 577-6430

Contents



MCI West CG visit 5



Back to school 9



Active shooter exercise 6



Paint shop: Good first impressions 10



Golf pro retires 8



Forever Wild 11

News Briefs

Leave Share Program

Individuals currently affected by medical emergencies and in need of leave donations:

Jacqueline Griffin

Nicole Arguellas

Stephan Martin

Yvette Costilla

Clairisa Mattig-Smith

Anyone desiring to donate annual leave under the Leave Share Program should contact the Human Resources Office at 577-6915.

Self Defense Class

Weds. Aug. 24

6 - 8 p.m.

Semper Fit Gym

All ages and skill levels are welcome to attend this free class. Even if you don't want to participate you can watch and learn how to be your own personal safety advocate. Registration is recommended at selfdefenseaugust2016.eventbrite.com. For more information call 760-577-6533 or visit www.mccsbarstow.com/prevention-education/.

NMCRS is

Seeking Volunteers

Navy Marine Corps Relief Society Barstow is seeking volunteers for the following: Chairman of Volunteers to manage volunteer operations; Director and Thrift Store Contributors/Volunteers. The COV position is highly regarded within the society and will contribute greatly towards job training and experience. If you have a passion for retail, the NMCRS Thrift Store is for you! We are seeking people with energy, passion and creativity to help sort, display and market various donations. NMCRS offers mileage and childcare reimbursement.

Interested candidates, email 4.retna.shaw@nmcrs.org.

RUN THE NUMBERS: Never leave a child or pet in a car on a warm day!

Vehicle Temperature

Outside	Inside	Time to reach
75	100	10 minutes
75	120	30 minutes
85	90	5 minutes
85	100	7-10 minutes
85	120	30 minutes
100	140	15 minutes

Prevent Child Abuse Indiana pcain.org

Play Morning Desert Housing Community Center Friday July 29

9 a.m.

Come join in the fun! All active duty service members and their dependents with children are invited to come enjoy singing, stories, crafts and play-time. Make new friends and learn something new each week. For more information contact New Parent Support at 577-6533.

Summer Camp Now through Aug. 8 SAC bldg. 64

Children are welcome to join the summer time fun! Some camp activities include trips to the library, pool, bowling center, and planned field trips. To request care first visit militarychildcare.com. Once your request is completed online see Stacey Korves for the rest of the registration packet which consists of emergency contact information, medical records to include vaccination details, and so forth. For more information call 577-6287.

Story Time & Craft Aug. 9 10 a.m. Base Library Bldg. 218

Come join in teaching children about water conservation and why it's important. It's important to teach children about water conservation and their individual role. For more information contact Library Services at 577-6395.

Baby Boot Camp Desert Housing Community Center Weds. Aug. 17 9 a.m. - 11 p.m.

Join the New Parent Support Program for expecting moms and moms of children ages 0-18 months for fun and entertainment. Children are welcome! For more information call 577-6533.

Oasis Pool Summer Hours Tues. - Sun.

The Oasis Pool and Water Park is now open full-time Tuesday through Friday LAP SWIM 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and OPEN SWIM 1 p.m. - 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. OPEN SWIM. For more information call 577-6898 or visit www.mccsbarstow.com/pool/.

Help To Save Water

Don't leave the water running while you're brushing your teeth.

Cover pools and hot tubs after each use. This prevents evaporation and having to keep refilling.

New MCI West CG visits MCLB

Story and photos by: Keith Hayes
Public Affairs Specialist

The new commanding general of Marine Corps Installations West and Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Brig. Gen. Kevin J. Killea, visited Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, July 25 and 26.

Killea assumed command of MCI-West July 15 and made the visit as part of a familiarization tour of the five Marine Corps bases now under his purview.

The first day of his visit, July 25, Killea attended a luncheon with MCLBB commanding officer Col. Sekou Karega and his staff.

Accompanied by MCI-West Director of Marine Corps Community Services, Lee Farmer, they toured MCCS facilities aboard MCLB Barstow recently consolidated under MCI West's umbrella. These facilities included the Semper Fit Gymnasium, Tees and Trees Golf Course, the recently renovated library in McTureous Hall, Marine Corps Exchange, and the Child Development Center.

Killea took a driving tour of the Desert View Housing



(Left) Colonel Sekou Karega, commanding officer, MCLBB, accompanies Brig. Gen. Kevin J. Killea, commanding general, MCI-West/MCB Camp Pendleton and Gunnery Sgt. Antonio Flores, staff noncommissioned officer, Mounted Color Guard, on a tour of the Lt. Col. Robert Lindsley Stables at the Yermo Annex of MCLBB.



(Left) Major Stacey Colon, deputy director, Installations and Logistics, Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Lt. Col. Thomas Favor, executive officer, MCLBB; and Col. Sekou Karega, commanding officer MCLBB; listen as Brig. Gen. Kevin J. Killea, commanding general, Marine Corps Installations-West/Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, answers a question from a member of Karega's staff during a luncheon at the Family Restaurant, July 25. Killea is flanked on his left by Sgt. Maj. Julio Meza, sergeant major, MCI-West/MCB Camp Pendleton and Maj. Christian Carlson, operations officer, MCLBB.

Area as well as the new Marine Corps enlisted barracks, and then traveled to the Yermo Annex side of the base where he took the opportunity to drive a train at the Rail Operations Center under the tutelage of Rail Operations Supervisor Chad Hildebrandt.

During the second day of his visit, July 26, Killea attended a breakfast with enlisted Marines and staff noncommissioned officers where he told them "Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow is an absolutely vital facility that supports the Marine Corps mission because of its unique repair and storage capabilities."

He returned to the Yermo Annex, this time, to tour Production Plant Barstow, Marine Depot Maintenance Command, in building 573 where plant supervisor "Chip" Schwartz accompanied him on a visit to the

Tracked Vehicle Test Area. There Killea observed as an Amphibious Assault Vehicle was put through its paces including the immersion pond to test its watertight integrity and ability to float and the hill climb area where the armored vehicle had to scale a 60 degree incline.

Following the test track Killea visited the craneway area of building 573 as well as the engine and transmission shop, the weld shop and the Non Destructive Test facility where weapons of all sizes can



(Left) Brigadier General Kevin J. Killea, commanding general, MCI-West/MCB Camp Pendleton, inspects a detail on the tracks of an Amphibious Assault Vehicle pointed out by "Chip" Schwartz, plant manager, Production Plant Barstow, Marine Depot Maintenance Command. The AAV had just completed a run of the Tracked Vehicle Test Area.

be checked for any defects that could lead to catastrophic failure in the field.

Killea took the time to thank Col. Karega and his staff for a "useful and informative tour" of MCLB Barstow before returning to Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton.



Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow parti

Photos by:
Carlos Guerra and Laurie Pearson



Law enforcement officers with the Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., July 26. The exercise affords an opportunity for law enforcement with coordinating personnel, equipment, and resources to prepare for potential situations and emergencies in the event of an emergency. The exercise includes the use of an explosive device and role-players pretending to be active shooter and explosives training exercises. Police secured the role-playing area into a potentially "hot zone" to extract victims. K-9 units conducted sweeps and EOD personnel conducted sweeps under the watchful direction of Incident Command.



Participates in base-wide active shooter exercise



Marine Corps Police Department, fire fighters, police officers and civilians participated in a base wide active shooter exercise aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base. The exercise provides base personnel hands-on experience in active shooter and response tactics, as well as coordinating with Explosives Ordnance Disposal officers, to ensure all parties are ready to respond in the event of an active shooter and an implemented active shooter, then escorted fire personnel to the scene for immediate care. At the same time, personnel removed and secured the IED, all personnel participated in the exercise.



MCLB Barstow golf pro retires

Story and photos by:

Keith Hayes

Public Affairs Specialist

The one person who has taught golf aboard base for nearly as long as Marine Corps Logistics Base has been around is hanging up his golf cleats.

Oscar Valenzuela retired in June 2016 after working at the Tees and Trees Golf Course aboard MCLB Barstow since 1949.

"I got my license in 1997 to instruct in golf, and that's when I started charging for my lessons," 86-year-old Valenzuela said in a July 8 interview in the clubhouse at the Tees and Trees Golf course aboard MCLB Barstow.

"Before that I played and taught at Tees and Trees as an amateur," Valenzuela explained.

It was in 1949 that Valenzuela's love affair began with the fairways when he was first stationed at MCLB Barstow. "A Marine chief warrant officer named Gardner designed the course in the shape of a big "M" for Marine," Valenzuela said. "I helped lay in sod and later did some redesigning to make some of the holes longer," he said.

After mustering out of the Marines, Valenzuela continued to play at the course. "As an amateur, I would teach the kids and spouses of Marines assigned to the base how to play golf, for free, giving them tips on how to swing and follow through," the veteran golfer said.

Born in Corpus Christi, Texas in 1930, Valenzuela developed his passion for the sport working at the country club there when he was a teenager. "I would caddy, park cars, even sell bowls of ice on the course so that I could play there, too," he said.

He joined the Marines in 1947 at age 17, with his

parent's permission, and was stationed at Camp Witek, Guam, a territory of the United States, where he continued playing the links.

He was stationed at Marine Corps Logistics Base



(Left) Teen Miss Barstow Harmony Becerra and Miss Barstow Nicole Gutierrez pose with Oscar Valenzuela, the retired golf pro from the Tees and Trees Golf course aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, July 8. The two beauty queens were on the course for a promotional photo session for the Greater Barstow Area Chamber of Commerce when 86-year-old Valenzuela took the opportunity to get in on one of the shots.

Barstow in 1949. "When my enlistment was about to expire, I was extended for another year at the 'convenience of the government' because of the Korean conflict," Valenzuela explained.

He stayed on in Barstow in 1951, working first as a dispatcher for the transportation division at the base and then became a driver, or engineer, for the Marine Corps Fire Department. "I started driving because that was my original (military occupational specialty)."

Even as a firefighter Valenzuela said he continued playing golf and representing MCLB Barstow against other installations as part of its golf team.

After retiring from the fire department, he continued playing golf, not only at the Tees and Trees Golf course but at the City of Barstow's Sun and Sky course. "I helped them out there, too," Valenzuela said, "and I taught at Tee and Trees as an amateur and then a pro."

During a recent golf cart tour of the base Valenzuela pointed at the ancient trees lining the long fairways. "Those trees are 69 years old, and that's as long as I've been playing on this course," he declared.

Now at the close of nearly seven decades with Tees and Trees, Valenzuela said he has enough credit to continue playing there for free, but he can't charge for the lessons. That's all right with him, though. "I can give free tips and advice. But that's what I was doing long before I became a professional golf instructor.

"It was never really about the money," Valenzuela said. "I just loved golf, loved this course and loved teaching people how to play."



Golf instructor Oscar Valenzuela follows through on a swing at the Tees and Trees Golf course aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, July 8. Valenzuela has worked in one capacity or another at the course since 1949, when he was first stationed at the base. He retired after 69 years at MCLB Barstow

Back to school brigade

Story and photos by:
Laurie Pearson
Public Affairs Specialist

Military families were able to stock up on school supplies thanks to the Back to School Brigade event held aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., July 27.

“Last year, there were approximately 130 children who received school supplies and backpacks,” said Adam Diaz, Exceptional Family Member Program case worker and School Liaison Program officer for MCLB Barstow, who coordinated the event along with Jennifer Silva, marketing events coordinator. Due to growing number of families, this year there were more than 140 children benefiting from BSB, a 10 percent increase.

“The event has changed a lot over just a few years,” said Diaz. “It began as only a school supply distribution for the military families, sponsored by Operation Homefront through local Dollar Tree stores. Additionally, the High Desert Marines have been volunteering and providing backpacks at these events. Next, it began to include school representatives (district superintendents, principals, and choice schools) to assist with enrollment for all families. Now, there are opportunities for the families to sit in a short brief to learn about Common Core or Homeschool



Kailyn and Levi Sobey, ages six and three, children of Michelle and CW3 Benjamin Sobey, a pilot with the U.S. Army, along with Madison and Mason Roselli, ages six and four, children of Amanda and 1st Sgt Neil Roselli, the base first sergeant, enjoy the festivities as their families gather school supplies at the James L. Day Conference Center during the Back to School Brigade aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif. Aug. 27.

options. I have a few new things in store for next year as well!”

Once the donations are received, Diaz and Silva recruit volunteers on base to assist with counting and sorting more than 3,000 items.

“I will typically seek out teenagers to help me since they are often interested in being active in their community,” said Diaz. “Spouses and other coworkers also express interest in giving back to the families aboard the base.”

“Volunteering for the Back to School Brigade 2016 event has been very interesting and satisfying,” said Alma Martinez, wife of Sgt. Major Sergio Martinez, the base sergeant major. “Many kids will be able to benefit from this. The Back to School Brigade 2016 (also) helps connect with the community in two different ways. On the one hand it encourages stores to come together in order to donate school supplies to support the school-age kids, and on the other hand it shows the community that MCLB Barstow is more to the community than just a source of employment. We need to thank not just all those individuals that donate their time volunteering for this entire evolution, but also to all those stores who donate school supplies.”

Once everything is prepared, doors open and families registered, then children perused and selected supplies.

“When the families pass through our registration point at the event, they receive a backpack for each school aged child,” explained Diaz. “They will then continue along a path of tables blanketed with pencils, pens, erasers, crayons, colored pencils, paper, folders, binders, spiral notebooks, glue, scissors ... anything you can think that a student would need in order to be successful academically.”

The event is mostly about the children, but it benefits the families as a whole.

“Having so many supplies to give them allows them to make a choice in what they will be walking around with for the start of the year,” said Diaz. “Since these supplies are donated, it lets the parents allocate that money toward something else like shoes, clothes, or other expenses that tend to pop up unannounced.”

From a parent and teacher’s perspective, Ashley Ignatz couldn’t agree more.

“Although my daughter is still too young to attend school, I have spent time as a teacher in classes from Kindergarten through twelfth grade,” said Ignatz. “The Back to School Brigade helps the students go to class prepared, which ultimately allows the teachers to focus on actually teaching instead of stressing about materials. This is such a great opportunity for the families aboard MCLB Barstow.”



Gunnery Sergeant Daniel Garcia, with Battalion Headquarters, Sgt. Xzavier Wolef, career planner, and Cpl. Brandon Dacier, assistant counselor, assist with sorting, counting, and moving donated school supplies in preparation for the annual Back to School Brigade, which offers free school supplies for military families, aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., July 26.

PPB Paint Shop: Good first impressions

Story and photo by: Keith Hayes

Public Affairs Specialist

Visitors to the paint shop will see vehicles, parts, and components from virtually every project worked on at the Production Plant Barstow, Marine Depot Maintenance Command, aboard the Yermo Annex of Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif.

Paint Shop supervisor Paul Clemmons said that is because nearly everything that comes to PPB has to be painted before it is reassembled and shipped out to the customer.

"The first thing our customer sees when they approach a vehicle they're receiving from the Maintenance Center is the paint job. If a paint job looks good it impresses the customer from the word go," Clemmons said during a recent interview.

"What that means is first impressions are very important to us and the customer," he said. "That's also in keeping with the Maintenance Center Quality Policy, which states 'cost, schedule, and performance equal customer satisfaction.'"

The Star 4D system is a computer tool used to teach the paint artisans how to apply the chemical agent resistant coating paint used on military vehicles.

"Star 4D was designed by the University of Iowa to help teach the artisans at federal depots the correct use and application of polyurethane CARC paint," Clemmons said. "It is specifically designed to teach how to lay down a professional coat of CARC paint by measuring transfer efficiency and the thickness of the paint application."

During a demonstration of the Star 4D painting system, work leader Mike Jackson showed how the computer program projected a notional

vehicle "surface" onto a screen. A handheld device similar to a spray paint gun is then used by Jackson to lay down a pattern of paint. The computer program then analyzes whether the paint was applied either too thick, too thin, or just right.

"Paint has two functions. One is corrosion control because all vehicles are subjected to conditions in the field that can lead to corrosion and rust," Clemmons said. "The second function of paint is to make the vehicle look good! A camouflaged vehicle going out of the shop all painted and fresh, that's what I love about this job."



Artisan Jazmine Saucedo, a Barstow resident, applies paint to vehicle components in a sealed paint chamber. The volatile organic compounds in the paint are then captured by a pollution control system which runs the gases through a burner that removes 95 to 97 percent of the pollutants from the air.

Keeping workers safe and protecting the environment are primary goals at the paint shop, he said.

"Safety is not an option at the Paint Shop. Environmental protection is not an option," Clemmons said. "We are guided and mandated by state and federal agencies on how the work is to be performed safely."

"Due to the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District and new clean air regulations we put in an upgraded paint bay indoors in a controlled environment," Clemmons said.

"All of the (volatile organic compounds) contained in the paint that are released during the painting process go through an air pollution control system that burns out 95 to 97 percent of the VOCs."

Clemmons noted that the paint used on military vehicles has certain qualities not found in commercially available paint. "The paint is flat and 'deadened.' It's formulated to block and absorb radar waves unlike regular car paint which reflects radar waves."

Clemmons explained that all of the work being done by the artisans at the Paint Shop has one goal in mind. "It all boils down to supporting the Marines in the field, make no mistake about it. That is why we are here," he said.

Forever Wild Animal Sanctuary

Story by:

Laurie Pearson

Public Affairs Specialist

Photos courtesy:

Forever Wild Exotic Animal Sanctuary

When looking for entertainment, education, and adventure in the High Desert, you may want to consider visiting the Forever Wild Exotic Animal Sanctuary.

Located at 8545 Buttemere Rd in Phelan, Calif., the sanctuary has been in business for more than 20 years, providing rescue and rehabilitation to exotic animals.

Though most of the animals rescued by FWEAS will remain with the facility for the rest of their lives, explained Chemaine Almquist, founder and owner of the sanctuary, there are now some animals such as the sugar gliders, ferrets, and hedgehogs which are only housed temporarily until they can be transported to Arizona. In Arizona, those animals are not illegal to own so the facilities there can rehabilitate the animals and find forever homes for them in their area.

Otherwise, for the various other animals such as tigers, servals, bobcats, tigers, black jaguars, raccoons, monkeys, desert tortoises, parrots, poisonous

snakes, and more, once they arrive at FWEAS, the facility's employees do their best to provide a safe home staffed with caring people.

"There are two paid employees and about 30 volunteers," said Almquist. There is consistently such a high rate of interest in volunteering at the facility that they finally had to narrow down qualified candidates.

"Volunteers must be in school, soon to be in school, or just out of school, studying some field of animal care," she said. "The facility then offers the students an opportunity to get hands-on husbandry experience and practice their skills with the animals."

Having family members who served in both the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps, Almquist and the staff at FWEAS welcome military service members and their families to visit the facility.

"Come relax, enjoy and have a great time learning about the animals," she invited.

There are fees for tours of the facility which may be self-guided or guided by members of the staff. For a little extra thrill, visitors can pay a little extra for the "Extreme Feed" option.

"Visitors are escorted by a staff member and you get two pieces



An inkajou peeks out of his hidey hole at the sanctuary to greet guests.

of meat," explained Almquist. "You can choose which animal or animals you wish to feed! You can split it up or share with someone else if you'd like."

The tours, feeding fees and donations go directly to feeding, enrichment, habitat upgrades and medical care for the animals, explained Almquist.

"The cost to operate the facility is approximately \$10,000 to \$15,000 per month," she said. "We're going to go full-solar very soon which will help cut costs in half."

So, for every tour, every souvenir purchased, the animals benefit.

In 2009 the Almquist family received the great news that they and their sanctuary would be featured on Extreme Makeover: Home Edition. The Almquists had spent their funds caring for the animals to the best of their ability but were unable to expand or improve the sanctuary, let alone their own home. Seeing their need, designer Ty Pennington worked with contractors, partners and hundreds of volunteers to rebuild the facility and the family's home.

The new facilities provide a welcoming feel for guests which was precisely the desire of Almquist and the staff.

"We want to provide a homey feel about the place, and make people feel welcome," said Almquist. "It's also family friendly."

For more information about individual, group, general or guided tours, Extreme Feed options, and fees, go to

www.foreverwildexotics.org



A tiger enjoys a cool soak in the tub on a hot summer day at the sanctuary.

