

PROSPECTOR

MARINE CORPS LOGISTICS BASE BARSTOW



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Vol. 1, No. 8

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Motorcycle Rodeo

Promoting motorcycle safety and earning bragging rights

CDC constructs robot

Using a fun project to promote recycling

Military Spouse Appreciation

Military spouses protect the homefront

On The Cover:

Photo by: Cpl. Thomas Bricker
Hundreds of motorcycle enthusiasts gathered at the inaugural Motorcycle Rodeo and Safety Event held aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, May 2. The event promoted motorcycle safety and allowed riders to participate in a number of riding competitions testing their skills in a controlled environment.

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THE PROSPECTOR

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California
Colonel Daniel P. Ermer, Commanding Officer
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Photo by Cpl. Thomas Bricker

Mal Wessel (center), his wife Connie (center right), and granddaughter Miranda Wessel-Allmon (second to the left), stand with the Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard underneath the newly unveiled street sign in Barstow, Calif, May 5. Wessel, co-chairman of High Desert Charities, former FBI agent, and former mayor of Barstow, also supported the Toys for Tots for more than 30 years.

On the web

Website:

<http://www.marines.mil/unit/mclbbarstow/pages/default.aspx>

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

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





Photo by LCpl. Dominic Smarra

Sgt. Jacey Marks browses the Redbox DVD rental kiosk with his daughter at the Marine Corps Exchange aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, May 1. The Redbox was recently installed for service members and civilian Marines to utilize and enjoy. For more information contact MCCS at 577-6968.

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Leave Share Program

The following is a comprehensive list of individuals currently affected by medical emergencies and in need of your leave donations. Arvon Allen, Valerie Ashbrook, Patricia Benavidez, Lester Bonner, Marilyn Cochran, Helen Duty, Hayde Jones, and Sandra Perez.

Anyone desiring to donate annual leave under the Leave Sharing Program may do so by obtaining a leave donor application form from the Human Resources Office. Please ensure completed forms are turned into HRO as well. For more information, please contact Michelle Eichler at 760-577-6915.

**Today in
U.S.M.C. history**

May 10, 1845: Marines and Sailors aboard the USS Constitution land at Tourane, Cochin China (later known as Da Nang, Vietnam). This marked the first time Marines landed in Vietnam.

Spring Fling

Thursday, May 17 from 4 to 8 p.m. on Sorensen Field. Come enjoy free food, live music, zip line, laser tag, obstacle courses, inflatables and more. The Single Marine Program will sell beverages. This event is open to all MCLB patrons and their sponsored guests. For more information contact 577-6968.

Story Time

It's story time every other Tuesday from 9:30 to 10 a.m. Come to the library, McTureous Hall Bldg. 218 for our story time the first and the third Tuesday of each month. We will have crafts, puppets, and great stories. For more information, contact the Library at 577-6395 or email at LibraryBarstow@usmc-mccs.org. Visit our web site www.mccsbarstow.com/library.

Early bird sign ups by Friday, May 11 receive an additional \$500 in chips. For more information contact 577-6269.

**Tees and Trees
on Mother's Day**

May 13 - Mothers play free with children on Mother's Day. For more information, contact 577-6431.

**Burn Your Own Steak and
Family Dining Nights**

Everyone is invited to "Burn Your Own Steak Night" and "Family Dining Nights" at the Maj. Gen. James L. Day Conference Center and Sugar Loaf Hill Bar. Burn You Own Steak and Family Dining Nights start at 4:30 and run until 8 p.m. The Sugar Loaf Hill Bar will be open as well, but only on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Burn Your Own Steak Night on Tuesdays- Pricing: Active Duty \$10.95 Civilian \$12.95 Family Dining on Thursdays-Pricing: Military \$6.50, Children ages 5-12 \$6.50, Civilian \$7.25, (children under five are free). For questions or comments, call 577-6296.

TGIF...TGIY !!

Thank goodness, it's Friday (on Wednesdays) Thank goodness for YOU! Wednesdays in May is "What's it mean?" April 16 - "To Make Decisions..." May 30 - "To Set Goals..." Come to the Desert View Housing Community Center from 1 to 2 p. m. For more information contact 577-6533.

MCX Specials

Sunday May 13 receive 10 percent off all fragrances for Mother's Day. Saturday May 19 Armed Forces Day 10 percent off military logo items. May 28 come see us for our Memorial Day sale items. For more information contact 256-8974.

Desert Lanes Bowling Center

Sunday May 13 Mothers bowl free and Saturday May 19 free shoe rental for Armed Forces Day. For more information contact 577-6264.

**Texas Hold'Em
Poker Tournament**

Texas Hold'em, Tuesday, May 15 in the Maj. Gen. James L. Day Conference Center, Bldg. 38. Check in begins at 5:30 p.m. Game play starts at 6 p.m. Sign up at any of these locations: Sugar Loaf Hill Bar, Bldg. 38, Family Restaurant, Bldg. 301, Oasis Temporary Lodging Facility, and Bldg. 185A.

STAY IN THE LOOP!

Visit www.mccsbarstow.com or pick up a Quarterly Connection Magazine at any of your MCCS facilities.

CDC constructs life-sized robot out of recyclables

Story and photo by
Cpl. Thomas A. Bricker
Combat Correspondent

In the future, mankind may have technological advances so intelligent, many ordinary chores like recycling could be done by robots. Until this day is at hand, the children at the Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow Child Development Center will stick to creating their own robot and, instead of utilizing it to recycle everyday household items, they've decided to use these products to build her instead. Her name is Rachel and she's larger than almost everyone in the classroom.

The concept of a robot made entirely of recyclable materials came from MCLB Barstow's Environmental Days, a week long event creating awareness of current and relevant environmental issues. Although the event wasn't held this year, employees at the CDC felt it was still worthy to celebrate it somehow.

"Last year, we did a 'Castle in the Clouds' project. It's a great way to show the kids recycling can be fun too," explained LaNell Mayberry, an education technician with the CDC aboard base. "This year, the base didn't hold Environmental Days, but we still wanted to have a project for the kids. I think it helps show how much the event affected the kids," she added.

The children of the pre-kindergarten class voted on a robot for this year's project and quickly got to work on collecting the materials.

"We taught the kids what things at home were able to be recycled after they were done with them and asked them to bring in any recyclables," Mayberry said.

Mayberry explained that items with refundable

value were saved to recycle out in town and having Rachel, the class's robot, made out nonrefundable recyclable items show the kids that there are more than just bottles and cans that can be recycled.

Throughout the course of April, a class of nearly 20 children brought in the supplies needed to bring their classroom Frankenstein to life. Everything from empty paper towel rolls and newspapers, to cereal boxes and sheets of cardboard were used to make Rachel come to life.

"Building Rachel was a way to have the kids become interactive with the project. It helped them have fun and it helped us teach them about recycling at the same time," Mayberry explained.

While Rachel was being constructed, the class learned about different aspects of environmental awareness including "the three 'R's" or effects on the environment the children would be able to notice.

The children enjoyed building their class project and learning about ways to protect the environment through the help of their robot Rachel. Through her construction, the class was able to tie in their lessons to an interactive project that took an effort from the whole class.

"I liked putting Rachel together in school,"



LaNell Mayberry and some of her pre-kindergarten class pose with their recycling project Rachel, a full-sized robot made entirely of recyclable products at Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow's Child Development Center, April 27.

explained Leland Lundin, son of Amaris Kanteena, an employee at MCLB Barstow's Yermo annex. "My favorite part was making the [paper-mache to make the] paper stick together," the 5-year old added.

The materials brought in to the class with refundable value had use to the class as well, but not with Rachel.

Mayberry explained that the money they made from turning in the recyclable items out in town will be donated to charity. It's another way to show the next generation how recycling helps.

The employees of the CDC hope the creation of Rachel will have an impact on people aboard the base and inspire them to be more aware of recycling.

"We hope people see what the kids have done here and see how important it is to be environmentally conscious," Mayberry concluded.

2012 Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month was originally introduced as Pacific/Asian heritage week by Congressmen Frank Horton and Norman Mineta in the House of Representatives in July 1977. On 23 October 1992, the 102nd Congress unanimously approved public law 102-450, designating May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. The 2012 theme is "striving for excellence in leadership, diversity, and inclusion."

Asian Pacific Americans have contributed to the growth of America in every walk of life for more than 200 years. From the arrival of Chinese and Filipino immigrants during the early 18th century through today, Asian Pacific Americans continue to contribute in the development of our nation. During Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, we honor the many contributions citizens of Asian and Pacific island ancestry have made to our nation.

Throughout our history, Asian Pacific Americans have answered the call to defend and protect our nation and liberty. The dedication and valor of Asian Pacific American men and women can be traced in every American battle since the Civil War. Asian Pacific Americans bring cultural talents and skills that enhance our Corps' warfighting capabilities in many areas to include military, diplomatic, and community activities. This year we recognize Gunnery Sergeant Myung Yoo as one of those outstanding individuals who continues to epitomize the citizen-warrior attributes best displayed in a diverse force. Gunnery Sgt. Yoo will receive the 2012 Federal Asian Pacific American Council's military meritorious service award for military personnel that best displays the ideals of duty, honor, country, and core values.

Asian Pacific Americans have contributed to this country's progress and prosperity in government, business, science, technology, arts, and sports. The fabric of America's multicultural society is stronger due to the significant role that Asian Pacific Americans have played in our nation's history.

One of America's greatest strengths is in the heart of its people and the richness of its diversity; we must understand Marines to lead Marines. By recognizing the achievements of Asian Pacific Americans, our nation celebrates the importance of diversity and inclusion in building a brighter future.

Motorcycle Rodeo and Safety Event brings Army and Marine Corps together for a cause



Photo by Cpl. Thomas A. Bricker

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow kicked off its inaugural Motorcycle Rodeo and Safety Event held aboard base, May 2. During the event, riders participated in a timed cornering course to test their handling skills on a motorcycle.



Photo by Cpl. Thomas A. Bricker

Soldiers from National Training Center Ft. Irwin ride into Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow for the inaugural Motorcycle Rodeo and Safety Event held aboard the base, May 2. During the event, riders participated in several activities including a timed cornering course, a slow race, and a bike show.



Photo by Cpl. Thomas A. Bricker

Many bikes were on display at Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow's inaugural Motorcycle Rodeo and Safety Event, May 2. Men and women from the surrounding communities came out to participate in the Motorcycle Rodeo.



Photo by Cpl. Thomas A. Bricker



Photo by Curt Lambert

(Upper Left) Participants in Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow's inaugural Motorcycle Rodeo and Safety Event gathered to view one of several bike competitions, May 2.

(Upper Right) Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow kicked off its inaugural Motorcycle Rodeo and Safety Event held aboard base, May 2. During the event, riders were able to participate in a timed cornering course to test their handling skills on a motorcycle.

(Right) Colonel Daniel P. Ermer, commanding officer of Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, rides in an all-terrain vehicle during the MCLB Barstow's inaugural Motorcycle Rodeo and Safety Event, May 2.



Photo by Cpl. Thomas A. Bricker



Photo by Cpl. Thomas A. Bricker

Bike enthusiasts gather and talk during the inaugural Motorcycle Rodeo and Safety Event held aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, May 2. During the event, riders gain bragging rights by participating in several competitions, putting their riding skills to the test against one another.



Photo by Keith Hayes

California Highway Patrol officers Scott Stevenson (right), a native of Riverside, Calif., and his partner M.O. Baker, from Sheridan, Wyo., demonstrate slow-speed motorcycle handling skills, during the inaugural Motorcycle Rodeo and Safety Event held aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, May 2. This was one of several events that riders could participate in that included a timed cornering course, a slow race, as well as a bike show.

PROCLAMATION

Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month

May 2012

WHEREAS, motorcyclists have all the same rights and privileges as any motor vehicle driver on the roadway; and

WHEREAS, today's society is finding more citizens involved in motorcycling on the roads of our country; and

WHEREAS, motorcyclists are roughly unprotected and much more likely to be injured or killed in a crash than other vehicle drivers; and

WHEREAS, campaigns have helped inform riders and motorists alike on motorcycle safety issues to reduce motorcycle related risks, injuries and most of all, fatalities, through a comprehensive approach to motorcycle safety; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of all who put themselves behind the wheel to become aware of motorcyclists, regarding them with the same respects as any other vehicle traveling the highways of this country; and

WHEREAS, reminding drivers of all other vehicles and all road users to safely "share the road" with motorcyclists, and to be extra alert to help keep motorcyclists safe.

NOW, AND THEREFORE, I, Colonel D. P. Ermer, do hereby proclaim the Month of May 2012 as "Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month" aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base, Barstow.



D. P. ERMER

Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps

Commanding

Barstow to honor slain U.S. Navy sailor with street renaming

By Keith Hayes
Public Affairs Specialist

On May 12, the city of Barstow is renaming a street in memory of a U.S. Navy Sailor killed 25 years ago in an Iraqi missile attack.

Seaman Apprentice Brian Michael Clinefelter was 19 years old when he died May 17, 1987, along with 36 other sailors, in a missile attack on his ship the USS *Stark*, a guided missile frigate.

Clinefelter's sister Jennifer Martinez said he came from a long line of Navy veterans including both grandfathers, his two uncles, his older brother Dennis Clinefelter, and his father Gary.

As a Navy dependent, Clinefelter lived all over the world including San Diego, Guam, Troy, Ind., and Pomona, Calif., before the Clinefelter family settled in Barstow in the summer of 1979, Martinez said.

Clinefelter graduated from Barstow High School in June 1986 and joined the Navy in December of the same year.

He completed Navy boot camp at the San Diego Naval Training Center in January 1987.

On April 23, 1987, Clinefelter arrived on-board the USS *Stark* as it patrolled the coast of the small island nation of Bahrain, United Arab Emirates.

On May 17, 1987, Martinez said her brother had just gotten off watch and was preparing to go to bed when an Iraqi pilot launched two Exocet missiles at the *Stark*.

The first missile failed to explode, but did result in a large fire from leaking fuel. The second exploded, leaving a 10x15-foot hole in the side of the ship.

Clinefelter was buried at Riverside National Cemetery with full military honors and his family was presented with his Purple Heart, Martinez said.

The street renaming for Clinefelter carries on a tradition of naming city landmarks and roads to honor military veterans and local dignitaries.

Most recently, Pettit Street was officially

named to honor Marine Master Sgt. William R. Pettit, a long time resident of Barstow who was taken as a prisoner of war first by the Japanese during World War II and then by the Chinese during the Korean War.



Photo courtesy of Clinefelter family

Seaman Apprentice Brian M. Clinefelter, from Barstow, Calif., was only 19 years old when he and 36 other sailors died by an air-to-ship missile fired by an Iraqi fighter pilot which struck the guided missile frigate USS *Stark*, May 17, 1987.

Military Spouse Appreciation Day recognizes sacrifices

By Pfc. Victoria Fairchild
Combat Correspondent

“On Military Spouse Appreciation Day, we have an opportunity to not only honor the husbands and wives of our service members, but also thank them by actively expressing our gratitude in both word and deed,” said First Lady Michelle Obama, May 5, 2011 from the Presidential Proclamation.

Military spouses are recognized each year for their hard work and dedication to the armed forces, which is why Military Spouse Appreciation Day was created.

Military Spouse Appreciation Day began on May 23, 1984, after President Ronald Reagan made a proclamation to recognize the hard work done by military spouses every day. Typically held on the Friday before Mother’s Day, the eventful day is celebrated throughout the United States and on military installations worldwide.

“Being a spouse isn’t always easy,” said Nichole Marks, chairwoman of volunteers aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow and wife of Sgt. Jacey Marks. “He handles a lot of things at work and I do my part at home to take care of the kids while also working at the base thrift store,” she said.

Military spouses have been known for their strength through deployments with the help of friends and special programs offered aboard all military installations. While their significant other is overseas protecting our freedom, spouses keep things stable and running smoothly on the home front.

“My husband has been in for a total of 17 years and I find such pride in what he does for us,” said Melanie Morales, a Marine Corps family team building administrative assistant. Her husband is a sergeant first class now with the National Guard at Fort Irwin. “Not everyone is cut out for the job they do, but being a part of it is important.”

Morales has been through two major deployments with her husband, the first being to Bosnia for seven months. During this time, the family was stationed in Baumholder, Germany. The second deployment was to Afghanistan

10 for 14 months. Having various

means of communication made the distance and time apart from each other a little easier.

“Technology has definitely changed since his first deployment,” said Morales. “We used to only have a few phone calls and letters, but since then we were able to Skype and have phone calls more frequently. I felt better being able to hear him more often.”

Some spouses don’t particularly enjoy the moving aspect of being in the military, but Morales said she enjoys it and knows it’s not for everyone.

“Spouses do a lot for the service members,” said Sgt. Marks. “I know that while I’m gone on deployments, I can trust that everything will be fine back home. I know that my kids are being taken care of and that my wife is handling everything in the best way possible.”

One of the challenges military spouses sometimes face, is being kept apprised of military events and news, but not for his wife, explained Marks.

“She keeps me informed on a lot of stuff that’s going on around the base,” said Marks. “If I’m busy all day at work, I know that she’ll still keep me updated on what I need to know. I’m sure not a lot of the Marines actually

realize what spouses do for them as a whole. My wife keeps me grounded, helps with my uniforms, keeps my hair looking good, and cooks while I’m out.”

After 28 years of Military Spouse Appreciation Day, military spouses have become involved in many support groups; one very popular group is Operation Homefront. Operation Homefront has many events throughout the country’s military installations, that focus on the needs of military families with a deployed loved one. Another accomplished group of military spouses and parents is the Blue Star Mothers of America group. This group supports troops overseas by sending care packages and other needed supplies.

“I’ve gone on four deployments,” said Marks. “One of the main things that got me through is receiving letters and phone calls. It makes you realize it’s the little stuff that helps you get through everything. I know she’s taking care of the family back home; she’s strong.”

MCLB Barstow will be hosting a brunch in honor of military spouses at the Maj. Gen. James L. Day Conference Center, May 11, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. For more information, contact Julie Wilbanks at (760) 577-6675.



Photo by LCpl. Dominic Smarra

Sgt. Jacey Marks and wife Nichole sit with their two children, May 1. The family has been through rough times, but Jacey explains that no matter where he is, he can always trust that everything will be fine back home because of his wife.

Chaplain's Corner

Change takes two

By Lt. Benjamin Warner
Base Chaplain

A few years back I worked at a bookstore. We had a section labeled “self-help.” One day, a recovering alcoholic was shopping in the store and told me that he objected to the very notion of “self-help.” He said that when he got sober the first admission they made was that they *could not help themselves*. I imagine all of you reading have some thoughts and/or feelings about this—table that just for a minute. I want to compare it with something else I was pondering today. In preparation for the upcoming Olympic games, I was reading an article about an interview with Michael Phelps—Olympic swimmer and America’s great hope for multiple gold medals in swimming. He said that after the last games, he had to decide for himself whether or not he still had the passion, others could not decide for him. Both of these anecdotes revolve around an issue that has generated a lot of thought for me in my life. Where does change come from? In the first example, change resulted in sobriety. In the second example, change resulted in greater dedication. But, in the first example it was

external while in the second it was internal.

Looking at Scripture, we see that change is very difficult. If you read through the whole chapter of Jeremiah 13, God basically announces to His people that because they have become so accustomed to disobeying Him, they are unable to change. We all recognize the truth of this: the more you get used to something, the harder it is to change. This reality applies from even small, insignificant things like which way we load the toilet paper onto the roll all the way to significant moral issues like telling the truth. When looked at this way, it’s easy to see why change has to come from outside us. Yet we also need to keep in mind other examples from Scripture where change is motivated by an inner desire. I think of Daniel, when he’s first put into a Babylonian education program. He decides to honor God by avoiding unclean meat. Later he shows inner conviction by illegally praying to a God other than the king.

We live in a culture where we take pride in our ability to pick ourselves up by our bootstraps and make something of our lives. That’s important—I’d never want to lose that sense of determination and grit. Let me ask, though, what else comes

to mind when we think of someone getting to the point of having to *actually* pick themselves up by their bootstraps? Usually it means they’ve suffered some sort of setback, and here’s where the tension of change arises. For us to find the internal motivation to change, we must be confronted by an external reality we are unwilling to live with. My father-in-law is a prime example of this tension. The man had smoked since he was a young teenager. He never had any desire to quit, nor do I think he ever even tried. When the doctor told him he had COPD, he immediately quit cold turkey. It wasn’t that he lacked the ability to quit beforehand; it was that he lacked any desire or motivation. External realities had to confront the internal motivation. I would say the same is true for most of our spiritual growth. If we are not confronted with external realities (i.e. God’s instructions) it’s unlikely that we’re going to do anything differently. When we do come face to face with challenging truths, you’d be surprised of what we’re capable.



Staying on track with career, education expo

By Lance Cpl. Dominic A. Smarra
Combat Correspondent

Searching for a career after honorably serving in the military can be stressful and tedious.

To ease the transition, Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow hosted its annual Career and Education expo at McCarver Hall, April 26.

Bringing companies and colleges together enables people to network resources and figure out what they want to do and what the best route to achieve that goal would be. This job fair focused on military members who are ready to transition, as well as base employees and military spouses. More than 20 kiosks helped explain positions that were available and other opportunities that the companies had to offer to patrons.

“Everyone transitions at some point,” explained Francis Villeme, education services officer aboard MCLB Barstow. “The career expo enables people to see what criteria businesses are looking for as well as the ability to apply for college.”

The career and education expo, as Villeme explained, serves to provide people with the best opportunities to be successful. With the skills that are gained through being in military service, ser-

vice members do not always know what can and cannot be used toward something like a degree or a job. When someone speaks with a representative for a college or a potential employer, they often realize that there is a certain skill set that they already possess, or did not know they could apply their knowledge toward a degree or toward a specific career field.

The vendors at the career expo displayed the jobs or colleges they worked for and the benefits that come with that institution. Several vendors had prior military service, therefore, they had a better understanding of how to help the service members by explaining how their Sailor/Marine American Council on Education Registry Transcript or (SMART) can be used.

“We love helping military members,” said Fabiola Hurtado De Mendoza, education coordinator with American Military University. “It’s nice to be able to show people how to use what they have already learned to do something they enjoy or want to do. We are very familiar with the way military education works and it’s great to be able to show people how to take advantage of the things they have at their disposal.”

Doing Marine Corps Institute (



Lance Cpl. Andre Nelson, system administrator aboard base, discusses future opportunities with an education representative, April 26.

) courses is a simple way for Marines to gain some college credits as well as helping Marines in their specific job field, explained Villeme. The goal of the career and education expo is to show people what opportunities are available to them, to help them become more successful in the military and civilian sector.

“It allows people to step into the job field with their eyes wide open,” explained Villeme.

Career and Education expo’s like this bring a mass amount of information about various opportunities to one place, helping service members who are looking to transition to civilian life much easier, he concluded.

For more information on education services, contact Francis Villeme at 760 577-6118. **11**

