

THE PROSPECTOR



Vol. 9, No. 14

Serving the Corps for 75 Years
Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow

July 23, 2020

SGE of the Year

Thrift store reopens

RailOps transports divested tanks

PPB new structure complete





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On The Cover:

Front cover: Laurie Pearson

Ruth Clemans, thrift store lead, tallies and rings up a purchase for Elise "Lam" Yuen, commissary store clerk, at the newly reopened Navy Marine Corps Relief Society's Thrift Store, now located at Building 204 aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif. July 21. Yuen was pleased to find an espresso machine in perfect working order and slippers to fit his feet. The thrift store was moved from Warehouse 3 to building 204 over the last two months, then Clemans, along with volunteers Beth Graham and Sgt. Ana Santiago spent countless hours building creative displays and even interactive challenges such as a Do It Yourself - Before and After Station where people can show off their efforts at breathing new life into used items.



Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California
 Colonel Craig C. Clemans, commanding officer
 Sgt. Maj. Edward C. Kretschmer, base sergeant major

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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



Customers find fresh fruits, vegetables

Submitted by: Kevin L. Robinson
DeCA public affairs specialist

FORT LEE, Va. - Commissary produce personnel and industry partners are working through challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure the military stores are well-stocked with plenty of fresh fruits and vegetables.

For service members and their families, this means continued access to the nutritious fruits and vegetables needed for their daily meals, said Deborah Harris, registered dietitian and health and wellness program manager for the Defense Commissary Agency.

"...we work really hard with our produce distributors to procure local fresh fruits and vegetables whenever possible," Harris said. "We support local investments to strengthen local communities while reducing our carbon footprint with less food miles."

Now that summer is here, commissary customers can find nutrient-dense fresh produce by shopping for varieties – fresh, canned or frozen – that have no added sugar, sodium, and are low in fat.

"Fresh produce, because it hasn't undergone any processing, is a sure bet, as nothing has been added," Harris said. "A great way to get kids to increase their fruit and vegetable intake is to let them choose an item in our produce section on their own and then help you prepare the item for a snack or meal. We have a great selection of dietitian-approved recipes on our website, www.commissaries.com."

Working through COVID-19

The impact of COVID-19 on commissaries is visible to customers, such as plexiglass shields, disinfecting carts, handwashing stations, social distancing tape on floors, and staff wearing masks. The adjustments for produce departments were less visible. Unprecedented shopping trends pressed store teams, prompting managers to forecast orders well in advance to obtain sufficient quantities of high-demand items, said Mike Pfister, chief of the perishable division for DeCA's Store Operations Group.

"Produce is highly perishable and not mass produced in a factory; it is grown, harvested, processed, and then shipped to locations for display," Pfister said. "A lot of time goes into



maintaining a produce department as well as the logistical planning to provide fresh fruits and vegetables for our customers, along with dealing with so many other variables such as weather, insects, contaminants/diseases and workforce availability."

Teamwork and communication between the commissaries and their headquarters support is crucial,

Pfister said, to address concerns with produce suppliers, trucking companies, contracting issues, installation access restrictions and adjustments to delivery times.

Partnering with industry

In the best of times, commissaries work closely with their industry partners to supply the products customers want. COVID-19 put that relationship to a test no one had anticipated, said Bridget Bennett, produce category manager for the agency's sales directorate.

"Daily communications with all of our produce suppliers became critical," Bennett said. "With the initial panic buying, the suppliers were caught off guard as we all were. Order quantities increased 50 percent on many items, and they couldn't get enough product into the warehouse as quickly as it was being depleted.

"Items we would normally sell gave way to larger packs of harder items such as citrus, apples,

potatoes and carrots," she said.

However, going into the summer, most produce availability is returning to normal, Bennett said. One notable exception would be corn, which at the moment, is in very limited supply. "Produce is in peak season for summer fruits and vegetables, and commissary shoppers are hungry for fresh cherries, watermelon, cantaloupes, peaches, squash, tomatoes, corn and all the other goodies – too many to mention."

From the farm to the commissary shelf: It's a supply line that cannot be taken for granted, Harris said.

"I have personally been in the fields of our American farmers and have seen the product that is being grown for our military families," she said. "One thing that is never lost on me is the pride the farmers feel in knowing that they are supporting our nation's greatest assets, members of our military community."



At Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California, Commissary, store associate Nora Gabuat sanitizes a produce display case to ensure preventive measures are followed. (DeCA photo: Robert Lunetta)

For more on commissary produce and supply chain visit www.facebook.com/YourCommissary,

PPB's new structure ready for artisans

Story by: Laurie Pearson
COMMSTRAT Chief

Production Plant Barstow, Marine Depot Maintenance Command, has expanded its facilities to include a new space for overhaul and repair of military vehicles on the Yermo Annex aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif.

The new structure is adjacent to the massive Building 573 and is structurally similar to that existing main crane way.



Photo by: Betty Jackson

Production Plant Barstow, Marine Depot Maintenance Command's began construction on their new facility by implementing a little destruction first to clear the way, on the Yermo Annex aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., Jan. 17, 2019.

"It will give us the capabilities of quickly adjusting to workload changes," said Jim Seifert, engineering technician with PPB. "There are two 40-ton overhead cranes, 32 bays and 16 jib cranes, as well as shop air, power, and exhaust at each bay. There will also be various presses, grinders, blast cabinets and other shop equipment within the building."

"Each bay can have between two and four mechanics working at a time, so up to 128 tradesman, eight leaders, four supervisors and branch heads as needed," said Alicia Florez, supervising

mechanical engineer at PPB.

One of the goals with this new facility was to care for and protect the artisans. Much of their current workload is done outside, under sunshades with extreme heat and windy conditions to contend with.

"The extreme conditions in the Mojave Desert can be hard on the work force and the equipment," Florez said. "Also, there is a lot of movement of equipment and materials that will be greatly reduced as we will have cranes and necessary utilities immediately on hand for the mechanics to use. This will save a lot of production time and can help us meet schedules and while providing a much safer environment for our most valuable assets, our work force."

The structure was initially listed on the five-year build plan back in 2012 as a fiscal year 2015 project. The project was awarded in April 2018 and construction started in November 2018 with a completion date scheduled for July 2020.

"Mortenson is the prime contractor awarded this particular project and we have worked great together as a team," Seifert said. "Initial 'design and changes' are a huge effort in any project this size, but throughout the project there are many changes that have to be coordinated and agreed on by the contractor, MDMC, Facilities Engineering and Acquisitions Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command and other organizations. It's an ongoing process and requires close coordination by everyone involved."



Photo by: Betty Jackson

Contractors use a crane to further progress on building the new facility at Production Plant Barstow, Marine Depot Maintenance on the Yermo Annex aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., July 24, 2019.

Initial cost estimation for the structure was \$25.7 million, but the award amount was \$20.8 million. Final completion cost is \$21.9 million due to some changes in scope and upgrades.

"This project started with a requirement and a vision," Florez said. "Working with MCLB Barstow and NAVFAC Southwest, we were able to thoroughly explain our need through the Military Construction process and received project approval from Congress

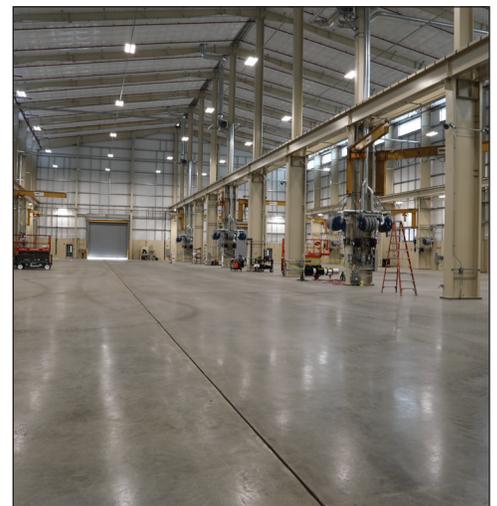


Photo by: Betty Jackson

The interior of the new facility nears completion at Production Plant Barstow, Marine Depot Maintenance on the Yermo Annex aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., June 9, 2020.

RailOps transports divested tanks and oth

Story by: Laurie Pearson
COMMSTRAT Chief

As part of the Commandant of the Marine Corps' Force Design

2030, nearly 200 M1A1 Abrams Tanks, M-88 Recovery Vehicles, and Armored Vehicle Launched Bridges are moving through Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California throughout this month.

"The tanks currently assigned to 1st Marine Division, Exercise Support Division, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center 29 Palms, Marine Forces Reserve (West Coast) and Logistics Command," said Chad Hildebrandt, Railway Operations supervisor for the base. "They are all being consolidated here at MCLB Barstow for further movement to U.S. Army Depots at Sierra Army Depot in Herlong, California, and to Anniston Army Depot in Aniston, Alabama."

The movement is being conducted as part of the new United States Marine Corps Force Design 2030 guidance published by General David H. Berger, Commandant of the Marine Corps, March 2020. The 15-page document outlines a plan to modernize the Marine Corps in accordance with the National Defense Strategy, and doing so within the financial means available. It is also being conducted with respect for the history of The Corps.

Keeping fiscal restraints in mind, part of the

General Berger wrote:

"While the future force we are developing is different in terms of structure and capabilities, it is consistent with our historical roots as Fleet Marine Forces and directly supports our Title 10 responsibility to seize and defend advanced naval bases, and perform all such duties as directed by the President. It is also important to note that the methods and concepts such as Expeditionary Advanced Base Operations are not the sum total of our contribution to the joint force. We will continue to serve as the nation's premier crisis response force around the globe, and contribute to the deterrence and warfighting needs of all combatant commands."

6

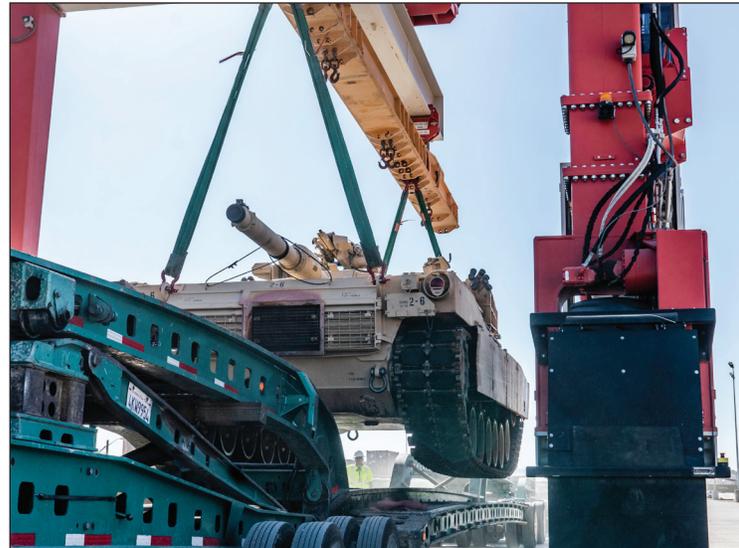


Photo by: Jack Adamyk

A civilian employee looks on as a M1A1 Abrams tank is transferred from the trailer it arrived on and is loaded on the rail cars aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., July 7.

Commandant's directive was to use the more efficient and less expensive transport method for moving all of the equipment.

"The Commandant's guidance was to leverage rail as the primary transportation mode for this divestment where it makes sense," Hildebrandt said. "Installations such as Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, Blount Island Command, Jacksonville, Florida, and Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany, Georgia will most likely be shipping their tanks



Photo by: Jack Adamyk

Civilian employees use hand signals to lower the M1A1 Abrams tank onto the rail cars aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., July 7.

er heavy equipment from USMC to Army

by rail, as well. Smaller locations that house tanks for MARFORRES will be making individual decisions based off of rail versus commercial truck use cost analysis.”

The tanks arrive from their various locations to MCLB Barstow by commercial line haul carriers. Once they arrive here, the Railhead Operations Group staff receives the tanks and verifies all documentation and shipping labels are accurate.

“Once that’s done, the tanks are immediately loaded onto railcars,” Hildebrandt said. “We have Marines from several units here to assist with the offload, on load, and securing of the equipment. The loaded cars will be stored on base until we have all tanks loaded and secured, then they will all ship out to the Army at the same time.”

Marines supporting the RHOG movements and controls are from various units to include:

- Combat Logistics Battalion 11
- 1st Battalion 5th Marines
- 1st Tanks
- 1st Battalion 1st Marines
- 1st Marine Division.

As the Marine Corps changes from using the heavier tanks and M88s, there is a focus to increase capacities in other areas, such as Rocket Artillery Batteries, Light Armored Reconnaissance companies and active component unmanned aerial vehicle squadrons.



“We have sufficient evidence to conclude that this capability, despite its long and honorable history in the wars of the past, is operationally unsuitable for our highest-priority challenges in the future. Heavy ground armor capability will continue to be provided by the U.S. Army.”

- General David H. Berger



Photo by: Jack Adamyk

Private First Class Josue Valazquez Diaz, logistics embarcation, 1st Marine Division, measures tracks to ensure proper loading of the M1A1 “Abrams” tank on rail cars aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., July 7.



Andrews nabs SGE of the year for region

Story and photo by: Keith Hayes
COMMSTRAT Planner

A member of the Voluntary Protection Program committee aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, has been named the top Special Government Employee in her region.

Reah Andrews, Supply Management Specialist, S-4 Logistics, was named the SGE of the year for Region IX after her name was submitted for consideration by base safety manager Ray Aguilar. The base safety office manages and administers VPP activities aboard base.

“Region IX encompasses California, Arizona, Nevada, Hawaii, Guam, American Samoa, and the Mariana Islands,” Aguilar said. “It is a huge area that our eight SGEs help administer to ensure that the culture of safety at both Marine Corps and private industry sites continues to thrive.”

“Reah is an active contributor within the Region IX Voluntary Protection Programs Participant Association (VPPPA),” Aguilar said. “She also serves at the VPP Steering Committee chairperson and has mentored other Marine Corps’ and private industry installations on how to achieve their own VPP Safety Star status.”

“I really love being an SGE,” Andrews said. “I enjoy the work that comes with it. I like teaching, mentoring, learning, auditing, and assisting in the VPP process with other installations.”

The choice of Andrews for the recognition continues the long-standing tradition MCLB Barstow has in producing top quality SGEs, Aguilar said. This is the eighth time in the past 12 years that an SGE from this base has been chosen as either the best in Region IX or the best in the entire Department of Defense.

8 “MCLB Barstow first

achieved VPP Safety Star status in 2008, becoming the first Marine Corps installation to be recognize for its top quality safety practices,” he continued. “We not only were the first to get the VPP Star, but the first base in the Corps to get recertified for the honor twice.”

There are eight employees aboard base who participate in the VPP committee, but to loosely paraphrase a Biblical quote, many are called but few are chosen to actually become SGEs.

“Not all VPP committee members are SGEs,” Andrews said. “There are extra requirements that the Occupational Safety and Health Administration imposes in order for a person to be named an SGE. Whether you’re an SGE or not, being on a committee is very rewarding in itself. It’s a lot of fun, and extremely helpful to the base in keeping our VPP Star status.”

As an SGE, Andrews said her job varies when she is called upon to mentor an installation or business.

“Often, we inspect on behalf of OSHA into the private company or Department of Defense site programs,” she explained. “We help determine if they are either qualified to become a Star site, continue to be a Star site, or need more assistance in certain areas.”

“A majority of the Marine Corps sites our SGEs have mentored during the past twelve years have gained their own VPP Star Site recognition,” Aguilar said. “The contributions Reah and our other SGEs make in mentoring these sites are one of the main reasons those industries and bases continue to be recognized for their own outstanding culture of safety within the guidelines of OSHA’s VPP requirements.”

“As SGEs we assist OSHA by supplementing its on-site evaluation teams at both Marine Corps and private industry



USMC Official Photo

installations,” Andrews said. “But we learn from them just as they learn from us. The best practices that we bring back from other sites during our mentoring activities are incorporated into our safety programs. It’s a win-win situation for all parties involved.”

“Reah has greatly contributed to the well-being and safety of her fellow workers, Marines, friends, and family members, and the public in general. Her efforts have had a significant impact on her base and have helped sustain MCLB Barstow as a model VPP Star site to be emulated throughout the Marine Corps, DoD, and all work sites,” Aguilar concluded.

The Region IX VPPPA Safety Summit set to take place in Las Vegas this year was where Andrews was to receive her official recognition as the SGE of the year. Because of COVID restrictions, that summit has been cancelled, according to the Region IX board of directors at <https://www.regionixvpppa.org/>.



Horse Marine takes NCO of the Quarter

Story and photo by: Keith Hayes
COMMSTRAT Planner

A member of the exclusive Mounted Color Guard is the Noncommissioned Officer of the Quarter for the third quarter of 2020 for Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California.

Sergeant Timothy J. Wolfbrandt, stableman with the Marine Corps' last Mounted Color Guard, was tapped as NCOQ recently, going up against stiff competition from a large pool of NCOs aboard the base, including Sgt. Amy E. Carter, a fellow MCG stableman.

"I believe if I hadn't been chosen, then Sgt. Carter probably would've gotten the recognition," Wolfbrandt said.

Wolfbrandt sought out the MCG posting after his advisor told him after his last deployment he had only a year and a half left on his current enlistment contract and could not be deployed again.

He discovered after his research on social media sites just how important a recruiting tool the MCG is, especially in rural areas where there usually is not much of a recruiter presence.

After being assigned to the MCG, the sergeant found out getting that position used to be like any other duty station in the Marine Corps; you were ordered to report even if you had no riding experience.

"Now it's considered more of a prestige assignment," Wolfbrandt said. "I believe that's a better way because now you get a better pick of Marines whom want to be a good ambassador for the Corps with the many public appearances the unit makes every year ... or at least did make every year before COVID-19 restrictions were put in place."

Wolfbrandt was born in the small town of Jackson, California, in Amador County, which history buffs will recognize as being Gold Country, where the California Gold Rush era kicked off.

"I was raised in Volcano, Calif., which has a population of about 100 people (115 as of the 2010 U.S. Census)," he explained "My folks had to go to Jackson for my birth because we didn't have a hospital in Volcano."

Though tiny by any standard, Volcano has some important history behind its name Wolfbrandt said.

"It was the first community in California to have a public library, it was also the first community in the state to have an observatory," he said.

Marine Brigadier General Harry Liversedge, the recipient of the Navy Cross in both World War I and World War II, was born in Volcano, the sergeant said.

"It got its name when an Army regiment from New York, on their way to fight in the Mexican-American War, stopped at the creek in Volcano in 1849 and discovered gold," Wolfbrandt said. "They decided stay on in the area and mine for gold in what was then called Soldiers Gulch."

The name Volcano stuck after one of the soldiers said it resembled a volcanic crater after all of the trees in the area were cut down due to gold mining.

The sergeant joined the Marine Corps right out of high school in 2012. He had a driving interest in joining the Corps because of the events of 9/11.

"I was raised in an area where there were a lot of military veterans who fought in Vietnam and the Korean conflict," Wolfbrandt said. "I knew I wanted to join the military from an early age. Originally, I wanted to join the Navy to become a fighter pilot and attend the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, but I chose the Marine

Corps after 9/11 because I knew it would get me into the fight quicker and I wanted to take part in handing out justice for the 9/11 attack."

He attended boot camp at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego in June 2012. His first assignment out of boot camp was Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton where as a member of the 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines he was deployed to the Asian and Southeast Asian Theater.

"I was deployed to Okinawa, Japan; Australia, South Korea and Indonesia," Wolfbrandt said. "After I reenlisted I was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines (Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center) Twentynine Palms."

"I have been deployed twice to Kuwait, once to Iraq and once to Syria, with a little bit of time in Jordan,"

NCOQ story continues on page 11



(2nd from left) Sergeant Timothy Wolfbrandt stands ready as a "sideboy" to help pipe Lt. Col. Timothy Silkowski ashore during Silkowski's retirement ceremony at the Maj. Gen. James L. Day Conference Center aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., July 17.

Marine Corps Marathon goes virtual

Compiled by: Keith Hayes
COMMSTRAT Planner

The novel coronavirus pandemic has claimed another big event for runners.

Marine Corps Marathon officials announced July 20 that the traditional fall race will be canceled for the first time in its 45-year history.

The 2020 in-person Marine Corps Marathon events scheduled to take place in and around Washington, D.C., from Oct. 23 to Oct. 25 will now go entirely virtual. Rick Nealis, the Marine Corps Marathon Organization's director, said the decision was made after several meetings with local government and public health officials.

"We understand this is disappointing news for many, but we could no longer envision a way to gather together in compliance with safety guidelines," Nealis said in a statement. "While we are unable to celebrate in person this October, we are excited about the opportunity to bring the 45th anniversary event to the homes of runners around the world through a rewarding and engaging virtual experience."

The virtual MCM will take place between October 1 and the Marine Corps' birthday on November 10.

Last year's MCM drew more than 30,000 participants to the streets of the District of Columbia with the average time for completion between 4 to 5 hours, but elite runners can complete the course in around 2 hours.

Major Terry J. Herzog, S-1 director, Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, and the founder of the Barstow Marines Running Club, said he will be participating in the Virtual Marine Corps Marathon.

"Participants pay their fees, then run at a location of their choice, and send the results to the Marathon committee," he explained. "Those results



Marine Corps photo by: James Frank

A 105mm Howitzer fires to start the 2017 Marine Corps Marathon, Arlington, Va., Oct. 22, 2017. Also known as "The People's Marathon," the 26.2 mile race drew roughly 30,000 participants to promote physical fitness, generate goodwill in the community, and showcase the organizational skills of the Marine Corps.

are compiled and analyzed, then the winners in the several categories of the virtual event are determined."

According to the web site for the MCM, <https://www.marinemarathon.com/blog/2020-mcm-weekend-is-officially-virtual-only>, whatever day between October 1 and November 10 a participant chooses to run in the Virtual MCM, they must begin and end their run in a continuous time on the day they started, so no breaking up the run on different days.

As with the past in-person MCMs, there are no cash prizes for the winners, just the participant bib and place medal should you win in one of the several categories, and "fun virtual awards," for everyone who participates.

"The runners run for bragging rights and to establish their own personal best time," the major said.

The Marine Corps Marathon is not the first major race to be canceled due to the coronavirus pandemic. The Boston Marathon was canceled in May after the race was first postponed. The Chicago Marathon was canceled this month, and the New York

Marathon was scrubbed in June.

The decision to cancel the Marine Corps Marathon was made July 17 by Marine Corps Commandant Gen. David Berger, according to The Washington Post, which first reported that the in-person events had been axed. Nealis announced last month that two other events that take place the same weekend in October -- the Marine Corps Marathon Kids Run and 10-kilometer event -- would be virtual-only.

Information for this article was gathered from several different web sites including:

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2020/07/20/marine-corps-marathon-canceled-1st-time-its-history.html?ESRC=marine_200721.nl

<https://www.marinemarathon.com/blog/2020-mcm-weekend-is-officially-virtual-only>

<https://www.marinemarathon.com/>

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2020/07/20/marine-corps-marathon-canceled-1st-time-its-history.html?ESRC=marine_200721.nl

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/sports/2020/07/20/marine-corps-marathon-is-cancelled/>





Photo by: Betty Jackson

Contractors put final touches on Production Plant Barstow's new structure on the Yermo Annex aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., July 24, 2019.

to fund this new construction. Numerous meetings, site visits, and

design reviews were very important pieces in finalizing the design of this new facility.”

Upon completion of the design, it has taken a little over a year and a half to construct the facility from the ground up, including the installation of smaller production equipment that will be used by the artisans who will occupy the facility.

“Our artisans are our most important resource,” Seifert explained. “Without them, we would not be able to meet our mission of providing depot level repair. This facility will allow us to move our artisans inside of a facility to perform their function protected from the harsh elements of the desert and with all of the tools readily available, to include work

benches, utilities, cranes, and more.”

The previous configuration of the space was very constrained and limited what they could do, as well as how quickly the work could be completed.

“All of that has changed with this new construction,” Florez said. “A benefit of this facility is the flexibility in the configuration. The open floor plan, controlled environment, and crane availability allows us to accommodate an array of different types of workload.”

Although the official celebratory ribbon cutting ceremony was postponed due to COVID-19 protocols and delays, the artisans are slotted to moving into the facility and beginning operations starting within the next month.



NCOQ story continues from page 9

believes the leadership traits he demonstrates on the job also helped him get the NCO of the Quarter spot. He credits that to his past leadership roles in the Marine Corps, especially in Syria where he was the guard force commander for a fire base.

“Usually an E-5 NCO doesn’t get that kind of responsibility, but Syria was a dynamic and changing environment which required Marines to adapt quickly to responsibility,” Wolfbrandt concluded.

Being deployed to active combat areas had a real effect on the sergeant, especially when he saw firsthand the devastating effect the conflict had on civilians in the region.

“It certainly made me appreciate America much more,” Wolfbrandt said.

He credits his time deployed for developing an appreciation for his fellow Marines.

“When you’re part of a group that is deployed to a combat zone they pretty much become family and everything you do is for them ... your Marines,” Wolfbrandt said.

“The same attitude follows you to whatever assignment you’re given, and I believe that is also one of the reasons I was chosen as NCO of the Quarter,” he said.

Sergeant Emily Rowe, the Noncommissioned Officer In Charge of the MCG and Wolfbrandt’s supervisor, put him up for NCOQ consideration.

“He has a real passion for doing his job right and for being a good Marine,” Rowe said. “Whatever task he is assigned he does to the best of his ability, even if he’s had no prior experience at that task. He finds out what needs to be done and does it.”

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow was a real

Wolfbrandt said.

Wolfbrandt

change for the sergeant when he arrived in April 2019.

“It was surreal not being assigned to an infantry unit and be in charge of several Marines as an NCO,” he said. “Now I’m in the Mounted Color Guard with five Marines and not assigned to handle any of them.”

Because Wolfbrandt had been stationed at Twentynine Palms, though, he did not experience the “terrain” shock that some people have when they come to MCLB Barstow.

“I like the desert, its geography and the history in the area so I’m enjoying being here,” he said.

Post-Marine Corps for Wolfbrandt is going to be about horses.

“I want to work at a job that allows me to be on a horse and to carry a weapon,” he said. “That’s usually a law enforcement position, and the Forest Service has cool jobs like that.”

Or, Wolfbrandt continued, he could sign on as an apprentice to a master horse trainer with the goal of eventually owning his own ranch and doing horse training for a living.

Wolfbrandt recommends for anyone thinking about joining any branch of the military to attend college first, then go in to the military as an officer.

He also has a philosophy about being a good Marine.

“It’s not that hard to do the right thing, in my opinion,” Wolfbrandt said. “I’ve never had any disciplinary problems because it wasn’t hard to stay out of trouble.”

“If you’re in the Marine Corps or any branch of the military, for the right reasons, it’s pretty easy to stay on the straight and narrow. If you join the military because you truly care about your country, the rest comes pretty easy,” he said.





Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow

To preserve the health and welfare of base employees
and to help limit the spread of COVID-19
the following are changes to base activities and areas of function.

Postponed or Closed

- Self-Defense Classes
- Spin Classes
- Wellness Series
- Swim Lessons
- LINKS Coffee Chats
- Play Mornings
- ITT
- Pass & ID Nebo 101, Yermo 406

Modified Hours and Services

Leatherneck Lanes Bowling Alley open w/modifications (kitchen closed):

- Call for details and hours which vary by the day - 760-577-6264

Marine Memorial Golf Course open w/modifications: Call for details - 760-577-6431

Semper Fit Gym:

- Unmanned hours for AD and their dependents on base 7 p.m. Sun to 5 a.m. Sat.
- Combat room open 24/7 for AD, police and fire only.

SMP/Rec Center:

- Single Marines only, no guests
- Mon - Fri 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Oasis Pool:

- Tues - Fri 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Lap swim/Unit PT; 1 p.m. - 7 p.m. Recreational swim
- Sat & Sun 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Recreational swim

Route 66 Cafe: Open for dine-in service. Can also orders in ahead at 760-577-6428.

Entrance Gates:

- Gate guards will not handle your CAC when entering base, but should still scan it

Pass & ID 236: Appointment only - 760-577-6969

Commissary:

- Open every Tues 9 a.m. -9:30 a.m. for active duty and spouses only
- Open Tues - Fri 9:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Sat 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. NOTE: IDs will be verified.

Base Library:

- Open Mon - Fri 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Personal & Professional Development

- Open Mon - Fri 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Behavioral Health

- Open Mon - Fri 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- To set an appointment call 760-577-6533.

Auto Skills

- Open every other weekend, Sat 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Sun 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- Aug 8 & 9, 22 & 23; Sept 5 & 6, 19 & 20.
- Call Bruce for further information: 760-577-6260, or cell at 760-267-1075

For additional information about the base go to: <https://www.mclbbarstow.marines.mil>

For a complete list of MCCS hours and services impacted go to: <http://mccsbarstow.com/Impact/>