FES personnel earn Life Saving Awards
DeCA recognizes MCLB Barstow leader
Base Safety & VPP assist with JHAs
On The Cover:

Cover photo by: Laurie Pearson
In the Among Us Maze portion of the Haunted Tunnel, Jump Scare Tall Clown, played by Colby Jacobs, and Jump Scare Joker, played by Trey White, stalk and spook guests during the Trunk or Treat event held aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, Oct. 27.

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News Brief

MARADMIN 601/21
MANPOWER MODERNIZATION CHALLENGE: RETENTION

The purpose of this challenge is to solicit original ideas from Marines, and government civilians from across the Marine Corps in order to find innovative ways to retain Marines. Each command is encouraged to maximize participation by disseminating this Manpower Modernization Challenge.

This Manpower Modernization Challenge will focus on reenlistment incentives. This message provides the challenge question, schedule, and instructions for submitting ideas. The challenge winner or winning team will have the opportunity to meet and partner with Manpower and Reserve Affairs for further concept development and implementation into the Human Resource Development Process.

Context for the Challenge. The Commandant’s Planning Guidance encourages the exploration of an incentives-based model capable of targeting incentives to specific individuals the Service wants to retain. Moreover, to maintain a competitive advantage needed to fight and win in the future operating environment, the Marine Corps must effectively attract, develop, and retain military and civilian talent by competing with tools and incentives available in the civilian market. Manpower and Reserve Affairs currently offers monetary incentives and considers duty station preferences during reenlistment campaigns. However, other incentives may better meet the needs of our most talented Marines.

The Challenge. What non-monetary reenlistment incentives should the Marine Corps consider incorporating in order to retain the right Marine with the right skills?

Eligibility Criteria. For purposes of this message, this competition is open to the Marine Corps Total Force (military and civilian).

6. Timeline. Ideas can be submitted from 25 October through 30 November 2021. Any submission received after midnight on 30 November will be ineligible. A panel of judges led by Manpower and Reserve Affairs will review submissions. The author(s) of the winning submission will be notified no later than 4 January 2022.

Instructions. Ideas can be submitted as a team. Participants must provide their contact information, the title of their idea, and a description in under 1,500 characters. Participants can access the challenge site at https://slasht/slash/gomax.gov/dod/ManpowerChallenge to submit ideas.

Incentives. Manpower Modernization Challenge winner(s) will be recognized by the Deputy Commandant for Manpower and Reserve Affairs and participate in the future implementation of their idea. Challenge winners will also be recognized in official Marine Corps media channels and publications, such as marines.mil, and the Marine Corps FaceBook page.

MARADMIN 612/21
SUPPLEMENTAL GUIDANCE TO MANDATORY COVID-19 VACCINATION OF MARINE CORPS ACTIVE AND RESERVE COMPONENTS

In accordance with direction on COVID-19 vaccination from the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of the Navy, a fully vaccinated force is a matter of operational readiness and good order and discipline. This MARADMIN provides procedural guidance and reporting requirements for administrative disposition of active duty Marines, and Ready Reserve Marines in an active duty status who are not fully vaccinated, in accordance with (IAW) MARADMIN 462/21 through SECDEF/24AUG21, by 28 November 2021 for active component and 28 December 2021 for reserve component.

Marines refusing the COVID-19 vaccination, absent an approved administrative medical exemption, religious accommodation, or pending appeal shall be processed for administrative separation IAW this MARADMIN and supporting references. General Court-Martial Convening Authorities (GCMCA) retain authority to take any additional adverse administrative or disciplinary action they deem appropriate.

Marines separated for vaccination refusal will not be eligible for involuntary separation pay and will be subject to recoupment of any unearned special or incentive pays and advance educational assistance. Marines who do not complete their service obligation for Transfer of Education Benefits will lose their eligibility to retain transferred Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits and may be subject to recoupment if the Veterans Affairs has already processed a payment for transferred benefits. Administrative actions outlined in this MARADMIN should begin as soon as a Marine meets the definition of having “refused the vaccine in paragraph 3.a.

ROUTE 66 EGA UNVEILING CEREMONY

All MCLB Barstow staff, family, and tenants are invited to the official induction of the base’s Eagle, Globe and Anchor along the historic Route 66 on Nov. 10. Start time will be 11 a.m. at the intersection of Joseph L. Boll Ave and Wake Ave.

Leave Share Program

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

Montez-Diaz, Steven

Goodwill, Francis

Anyone desiring to donate annual leave under the Leave Share Program should contact the Human Resources Office at 577-6915.
P ersonnel with Fire and Emergency Services received Lifesaving Awards during a ceremony held at the flag pole in front of building 15, aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, October 15. The award was a result of the quick and efficient actions taken by firefighters, emergency medical technicians and paramedics during an incident which took place on December 31, 2020.

“At approximately 2:52 p.m., MCLB Barstow’s Fire & Emergency Services Dispatch Center received a call from the Yermo guard shack reporting that one of their officers was feeling ill and needed Fire & Emergency Services to come check him out,” said Greg Kunkel, Emergency Medical Services chief. “At 2:55 p.m. Medic Engine 402 and Reserve Medic Ambulance 401R were dispatched for reported shortness of breath and chest pain.”

Captain/Emergency Medical Technician Tim Yonta, Firefighter/Paramedic Noah Glaza, FF/EMTs Michael O’Dwyer, and Jose Peralta arrived at the front gate of the Yermo Annex in ME402 at 2:58 p.m. and immediately began to assess the patient, a civilian Police Officer with the Marine Corps Police Department.

“Once the 12-lead was completed, Glaza and myself immediately recognized that the patient was actively having a heart attack,” said Moir. “We immediately had the patient loaded up into the ambulance and initiated transport. The patient had a STEMI, which is a life threatening condition in that can only be alleviated with appropriate definitive care at a hospital that has a Cath Lab.”

“A STEMI (ST-Segment Elevation Myocardial Infarction), is the most severe type of heart attack, and happens when an artery supplying blood to the heart suddenly becomes partially or completely blocked,” Kunkel explained.

“With the nature of this call it was determined that the most appropriate hospital was St Mary’s, in Apple Valley,” Glaza said. “The severity of the patient’s status was immediate to both Glaza and Moir, and the decision to start rapid transport to the closest hospital with a STEMI Center was made very quickly,” Kunkel stated. “This kind of injury is extremely time critical to getting proper treatment in order for good patient outcomes,” Moir said. “We finished our assessment and Glaza and I continued care en route to the hospital preparing him for a trip to the Cath Lab without delay once we arrived at the hospital.”

Due to the nature and severity of the call Glaza, from ME402, rode along with Moir in the ambulance in case the patient deteriorated further, during transport. They arrived at St. Mary’s hospital at 3:49 p.m. and the patient was taken directly to the Cath-Lab, bypassing the emergency department, altogether.

“The team gave a report to the cardiologist and his staff upon arrival, and without further incident the patient was prepped for immediate cardiac catheterization,” Kunkel said. “Several days later I, as EMS Chief, contacted St. Mary’s Hospital for a follow-up report on the patient. In speaking with the charge nurse it was conveyed to me that the patient had a 100 percent blockage of the Right Coronary Artery.”

“When the procedure a stent was placed, restoring blood flow to the heart.”

“It is my sincerest belief that had 911 been contacted only a few minutes later, or the crews of ME402 and MA401R not worked so efficiently together, that this very well may have turned into a case where CPR would have been necessary. If not for the quick actions of Yonta, O’Dwyer, Peralta, Glaza, and Moir, this call could have gone very differently. Glaza and Moir worked superbly together to identify, treat, and transport the patient with this life threatening condition to the appropriate facility where he ultimately had the coronary artery blockage alleviated.”

For their actions regarding this incident, Kunkel nominated both crews for the prestigious United States Marine Corps Fire & Emergency Services Life Saving Award. In response to earning the awards, both teams seem to humbly resonate with the same sentiment: They are glad they could be at the right place, at the right time, and be able to help.

FES personnel earn USMC Lifesaving Awards

Story by: Laurie Pearson
COMMSTRAT Chief

Photo by: Rob L. Jackson

Photo by: Rob L. Jackson

(From left to right) Lt. Col. John Bilas, base executive officer, FF/EMT Jose Peralta, FF/EMT Zachariah Maring, FF/EMT Michael O’Dwyer, FF/PM Robert Moir, FF/PM Noah Glaza, Captains/EMT Timothy Yonta, Officer Stephen Martin, Dispatcher Carmen Slack, and Colonel Gregory Pazo, Base Commander, pose for a group shot after the the Fire and Emergency Service personnel were presented Lifesaving Award, Oct. 15. Their quick actions and medical attention saved Officer Martin’s life on December 31, 2020.
Voluntary Protection Program members offer their support in writing your department’s Job Hazard Analysis documents aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California.

A job hazard analysis is a method of reviewing job tasks in order to identify and control potential hazards. According to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the process focuses on the relationship between the worker, the task, the tools, and the work environment. Ideally, after you identify uncontrolled hazards, employees will take steps to eliminate or reduce them to an acceptable risk level and prevent injuries.

“The orders governing the development, structure and review of JHAs aboard the installation are Base Order 5100.11J, Enclosure 22 and the OSHA regulation 3071 2002 (Revised),” said Master Sgt. Evan LaBounty, Safety specialist. The JHAs for each functional area should be reviewed and certified annually, or whenever tasks change. They should also be reviewed after a close call (near miss), after a mishap, during safety talks, or more frequently if needed.”

“Reviewing all of the JHAs can be a daunting task when done all at once,” said Reah Andrews, Fuels manager. “What I like to do is break them up and do maybe two per month, so that the workload is spread out throughout the year. Sometimes people just need a little help, though. Safety and members of the Voluntary Protection Program are there to help.”

Supervisors are responsible for conducting a workplace hazard analysis and maintaining a JHA inventory.

“Essentially, a workplace hazard analysis is listing out all tasks performed by a department, section, or individual trade and evaluating the tasks for hazards and assigning a Risk Assessment Code,” LaBounty said.

The workplace hazard analysis with assigned RACs serve as a method for prioritizing tasks for further evaluation. The supervisor will create JHAs for:

• Jobs with the highest injury or illness rates;
• Jobs with the potential to cause severe or disabling injuries or illness, even if there is no history of previous accidents;
• Jobs in which one simple human error could lead to a severe accident or injury;
• Jobs that are new to your operation or have undergone changes in processes and procedures; and
• Jobs complex enough to require written instructions.

“Supervisors, Collateral Duty Safety Officers, or the individual familiar with the task, should be the one to write the initial JHA,” Labounty said. “However, a Safety expert can be helpful in writing or revising them, saving you time.”

Ideally, it is recommended to draft JHAs in a working group format, as it brings different perspectives to the table.

“Inherently risky situations are sometimes overlooked due to an individual’s experience,” LaBounty explained. “They may not recognize a potential hazard that others may have become complacent toward.”

Once completed, JHAs should be stored where they are readily accessible to all employees performing the tasks. Generally, a master copy is maintained in the CDSO binder and working copies are located in the workplace in a centralized location or next to the location where the task is performed.

“Employees should review the JHAs often to maintain a fresh focus on Safety, but at least review them annually,” LaBounty said. “The order itself is reviewed annually by the Safety Director and updated as needed. The intent is to ensure that the order remains relevant to the organization and to ensure alignment with any applicable higher orders, directives, or standards.”

To get assistance with writing or reviewing your department’s JHAs, talk to your department’s assigned Safety specialist, a VPP sub-committee member, or call 577-6266. Help is just a phone call or email away.
MCLB Barstow's 7th annual Survivor 5K

Participants of the 7th Annual Survivor 5K Run/Walk set their timers prior to the start of the event. The 5K is one of many events throughout October intended to raise awareness for Domestic Abuse.

Photo by: Jack Adamyk

DECA News: Top women in grocery

Story by: Kathy Milley
DeCA Public Affairs Specialist

Fort Lee, Va. – Simone Blythe, store director at the Fort Eustis Commissary on Joint Base Langley-Eustis in Virginia, and Dawn Ballestracci, store manager at Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, have been chosen by Progressive Grocer as “Top Women in Grocery for 2021.”

Since 2007, Progressive Grocer’s Top Women in Grocery has recognized the best and brightest female leaders in the North American retail food industry. This year, the Defense Commissary Agency’s Blythe and Ballestracci are two of 437 selected from over 1,000 nominees.

The winners demonstrate extraordinary achievement in leading innovative corporate initiatives, executing financial and/or strategic objectives, achieving exceptional performance benchmarks, problem-solving acumen and community outreach.

Honorees are recognized in one of three categories – Executive Level, Rising Stars and Store Managers. Blythe and Ballestracci are among only 78 winners chosen in the Store Manager category.

“I want to extend my congratulations to Simone and Dawn. It’s quite a prestigious honor for them and for DeCA, especially during this challenging year” said Bill Moore, DeCA director and CEO. “It shows their hard work and achievements are noticed, appreciated and valued by their peers in the grocery business.”

Blythe began her commissary career in 1999 as a supervisory sales store checker for the Neubrucke commissary in Germany. Her career is highlighted by a series of progressively responsible assignments in 14 different commissaries from Germany to Korea and throughout Virginia and Maryland.

Blythe served as the store director at the Fort Myer Commissary on Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, Virginia, from 2020 to 2021, when she was nominated for the Top Women in Grocery award. Blythe most recently accepted the position as Fort Eustis store director in May.

Beginning as a temporary hire at MCLB Barstow in 1988, Ballestracci embarked on a long career with DeCA, now at 33 years and going strong. While at Barstow, she saw an opportunity to gain leadership experience at Fort Irwin, California, where she eventually served as the front-end supervisor. After several years at Irwin and with supervisory experience under her belt, Ballestracci returned to her beloved Barstow store, first as the grocery manager and ultimately, the store manager, where she and her team were chosen as the Best Small Commissary in 1997.

DeCA’s winners were recognized in the June print issue of Progressive Grocer magazine, as well as on progressivegrocer.com. The magazine will further honor the winners at a celebration to be held in Orlando, Florida, in November.

“Both women are mission-driven leaders who embody the leadership qualities that will move the Defense Commissary Agency forward – by effectively engaging with their communities, increasing operational efficiencies and mentoring future DeCA leaders, all while understanding the unique role we play in serving our military patrons,” said Moore.

Photo by: Robert Jackson

Major Terry Herzog, Administration S-1 Director, leads a pack of Marines during the 7th Annual Survivor 5K Run/Walk held aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, Oct. 20. Marines and civilians participated in the event to help raise awareness of Domestic Abuse.

Photo by: Laurie Pearson

A wildly dressed Corporal Monterius Wheatley, administrative clerk, speed walks while Cpl Kimberly Mendez, fuels clerk, jogs during the 7th annual Survivor 5K Run/Walk held aboard MCLB Barstow Oct. 20.
Trick or Treat
Win a Turkey to Eat!

Entries Accepted October 1 - 31

1. Commissary patrons, submit a photo of yourself, your family, or your pet in their Halloween costume on our website.
2. One submission/entry per person. Entries must be submitted by October 31.
3. Winners will be announced no later than November 15.

Winners will receive 1 (one) 14 to 16 lb. turkey

View complete contest rules and details at www.commissaries.com/halloween-costume-contest