

# THE PROSPECTOR

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Serving the Corps for 75 Years  
Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow May 24, 2018



Everyday Hero: Officer Caceres receives third award

Multicultural Day celebration

Marines tackle MAI course



**Photo by: Jack Adamyk**

Veterans and supporters participated in the 30th annual "Run for the Wall", a Vietnam veteran era organized ride who's motto is "We Ride for Those Who Can't" and rode on the old Route 66 aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., May 16.

## On The Cover:

### Front Cover: Jack Adamyk

Motorcycle riders from around the country rode through the base for the "Run for the Wall", a Vietnam veteran era organized ride who's motto is "We Ride for Those Who Can't" and rode on the old Route 66 aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., May 16

### Back Cover: Jack Adamyk

Amaya Norman, dancer of BCOGIC Devine Dancers, leads the team during their presentation at the Multicultural event aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., May 16.



Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California  
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Sgt. Maj. Sergio Martinezruiz, 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](http://www.twitter.com/#!/MCLB_Barstow)



# Memorial Day Message

Memorial Day is our national day of remembrance to honor the men and women of every generation who gave their lives in military service to our country. As I overlook Arlington National Cemetery from my office, I realize it would be impossible to find better words to honor their sacrifice than those spoken there by Union Army veteran and future president James A. Garfield on May 30th, 1868: "We do not know one promise these men made, one pledge they gave, one word they spoke; but we do know they summed up and perfected, by one supreme act, the highest virtues of men and citizens. For love of country they accepted death, and thus resolved all doubts, and made immortal their patriotism and virtue."

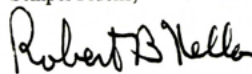
In observance of this solemn day, I charge all Marines to join me in honoring and celebrating those of this, and every, generation who sacrificed all for our nation, our ideals, and their brothers and sisters in beloved Corps.

We must be ready to fight tonight, to answer our Nation's call, just as past generations of Marines have always done. This requires the dedication of every Marine to take care of our own, because every Marine makes a vital contribution to the Corps' mission. On or off duty, exercise vigilance and sound judgment in all that you do. Do not let carelessness or poor decisions keep you from the next fight.



Official USMC photo

Semper Fidelis,



Robert B. Neller  
General, U.S. Marine Corps  
Commandant of the Marine Corps

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

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# News Briefs

## Leave Share Program

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

**Bernal, Michael**  
**Jones, Anna**  
**Ludwowski, Ginny**  
**Madero, Annette**  
**Oppermann, William**  
**Renteria, April**  
**Ulmer, Wayne**

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

## Sugar Loaf Social

**Bldg. 38**

**Fri. May 25**

**4 - 9 p.m.**

Come on down and have fun with your friends and co-workers at happy hour from 4 - 6 p.m. Snacks such as mozzarella sticks, nachos, chicken tenders, fries and more are available for purchase. Enjoy a game of darts and pool.

## Infant Massage Class Desert View Housing Community Center

**Wed. May 30**

**9 - 10 a.m.**

Each 5-week series teaches massage techniques and the benefits of infant massage therapy promoting attachment and bonding between the caregiver and child. Workshops are designed for parents of infants ages 0-1. Parents of toddlers and with multiple children are welcome. Registration is recommended but not required. To register or to get more information, call New Parent Support at 4 577-6533.



## Summer Reading Program Opening Event McTureous Hall Tues. June 5 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Sign up for the 2018 Summer Reading Program. This year's theme is *Reading Takes You Everywhere*. The program is open to kids, teens, and adults, and all MCLB Barstow patrons are welcome to sign up. Whether you're reading to babies, have kids learning to read, want your teen to keep reading skills up to date during the summer vacation, looking to read for fun or for education *Reading Will Take You Everywhere!*

## Oasis Pool Season Opener Bldg. 38

**Sat. May 26-Mon. 28**

**11 a.m. Sat. - 7 p.m. Mon.**

The Oasis Pool will be open Memorial Day weekend starting Saturday, May 26 through Monday, May 28. The Oasis Pool will reopen for the remainder of the season on Saturday, June 9. For more information call 577-6898 or visit [www.mccsBarstow.com/pool](http://www.mccsBarstow.com/pool).

## Energy Tip

Check your sprinkler system frequently and adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered and not the house, sidewalk, or street.



## Play Morning Desert View Housing Community Center Fri. May 25 9 - 11 a.m.

Come join in the fun! Play morning is every Friday. All active duty service members and their dependents are invited to come enjoy singing, stories, crafts and have structured play time with toys and interactive time learning how to socialize babies and toddlers. Make new friends and learn something new each week. For more information contact New Parent Support at 577-6533.

## Operation Tobacco Free Marine

**Semper Fit Gym**

**Mon. May 28**

**11:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.**

The "Operation Tobacco Free Marine" Tobacco Cessation Program provides the tools and resources to help you become tobacco free. Individual and group classes are available to the entire Marine Corps community.

**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

# Everyday Hero: Officer Jose Caceres

Story by: Laurie Pearson  
CommStrat Chief

Assemblyman Jay Obernolte, 33rd Assembly District, presented Jose Caceres, an officer with Marine Corps Police Department aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, with an Everyday Hero Award at an awards dinner held at Sunset Hills Memorial Park, in Apple Valley, Calif., May 3.

The Everyday Hero Awards are a tool used by Assemblyman Obernolte to recognize the men and women in uniform who work to keep citizens safe.

"One of the things I enjoy most about my job is recognizing deserving people in our community," said Assemblyman Obernolte. "My Everyday Heroes Awards ceremony was a way to give special recognition to those members who stand out for going above and beyond the call of duty. Jose Caceres is an officer with the Marine Corps Police Department and his leadership helped reduce theft and vandalism of U.S. Army equipment last year. Officer Caceres is one of those everyday heroes whose hard work and dedication make our community a better place."

"Since joining the department in March 2016, Officer Jose Caceres has continually been a top performer and a valuable member of the Marine Corps Police Department, Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow," stated Darwin O'neal, MCPD chief on base. "He has continually strived to improve upon his technical and tactical proficiency and his work product is always thorough, complete and well structured. During 2017, Officer Caceres played a vital role in the proactive effort by the police department to minimize the reported theft and vandalism of staged U.S. Army rail transported equipment en route to the National Training Center on Fort Irwin, Calif., via the Yermo Annex aboard MCLB Barstow."

These efforts resulted in a substantive decrease in the reported theft and vandalism of Army equipment over the interim and Caceres' actions were consistent with his initiative and dedication to duty, O'neal continued.

Other awards he received were Officer of the Quarter in 2016 and Officer of the Year in fall of 2017 making this his third award in just over two years working as a police officer on base.

"It's not expected but it feels good to be recognized," said Caceres. "It's nice when other people notice the job that you do and it builds morale. It's what I've been like all my life, as a service member, as a correctional officer and now as a police officer. I love the people and serving."

In the U.S. Navy, Caceres was a Master at Arms for thirteen years on active duty and still serves in the Naval Reserves. He then worked in Adelanto for the Federal Bureau of Prisons as a correctional officer



Official USMC photo

before accepting the opportunity to work here for MCLB Barstow.

"I won some awards there, too, in those jobs," he said with a humble smile. "My family is always proud of what I do."

When not policing, Caceres' swaps his law enforcement hat for his family-man hat. His wife Alma is a substitute teacher for Apple Valley School district and they have four children: Kevin, 16; Juliana, 13; Christopher, 5; Sophia, 2.

"We do a lot of stuff together, and I'm hoping that we're building great memories for our children," he said. "We like to go camping, use our jet skis, and go fishing together."

He remains humble about his awards, stating that he thinks it has a lot to do with taking the initiative to get involved and get others involved. He said keeping a positive attitude about whatever challenges people face is really important.

"The department as a whole has a lot of potential for great things in the future," Caceres said. "The opportunities are there and I plan to embrace those opportunities when they're given. My focus is on embracing the challenges and then focusing on the possibility of promoting. That keeps me motivated."

Motivation is one of the key characteristics noted by his chain of command, in addition to other notable qualities which make him stand out in a great way.

"He is a consummate professional, and his work ethic, dedication to duty, leadership and positive attitude are qualities that his fellow department officers and employees should aspire to attain," O'neal said. "His performance and accomplishments were evident in his selection as both Marine of the Quarter and Marine of the Year. He is to be commended and is truly deserving of this recognition."



# Strength through diversity: Multicultural D

Story by: Keith Hayes  
CommStrat Planner

A Multicultural Day celebration was staged aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., May 17.

More than 300 people attended the celebration at the Semper Fit Gym, snacking on specially prepared foods and watching songs and dances performed by different groups representing several cultures.

“This (event) meets all the requirements put out by the DoD through the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute,” said Gunnery Sgt. James Hainer, the military Equal Employment Opportunity representative, who along with an eight-member council, organized the event. “DEOMI describes all of the cultural observances that the military is required to facilitate and provide some form of recognition for.”

Officially there are more than a dozen cultures mandated by the DoD which must be recognized.

“Since we’re such a small command the easiest way to meet all requirements is our Multicultural Day celebration,” Hainer said.

Hainer said the last four in the chart are not required

by the DoD to be celebrated, but were included in the recognition as having cultures and customs unique to the particular department.

Three Montford Point Marines attended the celebration to honor the first black Marines to serve in the Corps.

Among them were Capt. Edward Q. Hicks, Master Gunnery Sgt. Bob Reid and Gunnery Sgt. Louis Massengale, all of whom served at MCLB Barstow in the 1950s and ‘60s.

“The goal of this afternoon is to educate and entertain,” said Col. Sekou Karega, base commander, as he kicked off the celebration. “It’s to foster an environment of unity. This event gives us an opportunity to teach and learn about the different ethnicities and cultures which make our nation and our military great. Our diversity unifies us and unity make us stronger.”



CULTURAL DISPLAY	ASSIGNED SECTIONS/Volunteers
Hispanic Heritage Month	COMPROLLER
Martin Luther King Day	S-3, BPO, MAD
African American Heritage month	S-6
Days of Remembrance	HRO
National Disability Employment Awareness	SAFETY
Religious Diversity	CHAPLAIN
Military History and Static Display	CommStrat
Native American Heritage Month	IG
Sexual Assault Awareness Month	MFS/Michelle Lawing
Domestic Violence Awareness Month	MFS/Angelica Mora
Women’s Equality Month	HQCO, S-4
Women’s History Month	HQCO, S-4
LGBT Pride Month	SES
Asian/Pacific Islander	S-1 (ADJ), Postal, MilPers
Suicide Awareness	FOCUS (Jessica Grow), BH (Dawn Dialon)
Equal Employment Opportunity Awareness	EEO
Cultural Preservation	I&L, Public Works, Facilities
Firefighter history/culture	MCLB FIRE
MCPD History/Culture	MCLB MCPD

# ay at Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow



Photo by: Jack Adamyk

Colonel Sekou Karega, base commander, presents an honorary award to three of the Montford Point Marines, who are of the first African Americans to serve in the United States Marine Corps, during the 3rd annual Multi-Cultural event held aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., May 16.

Juan Rivera, S-6 Communications director, demonstrates how to disarm an assailant, played by Lance Cpl. Brandon McDowell, wireman, during the Multicultural Day celebration aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, May 16. Rivera's demonstration was one of several performed for the crowd at the second annual Multicultural Day celebration.



Photo by: Keith Hayes



Photo by: Keith Hayes

The Whiteclouds Native American dance group performs in elaborate costumes to traditional music during the Multicultural Day celebration at MCLB Barstow May 16. Held at the Semper Fit Gym the event drew approximately 300 base employees to learn about various cultures that make the base strong.



Photo by: Jack Adamyk

In 2013, the US Department of Veterans Affairs released a study that showed 22 veterans take their own lives every day and was personified by this display of boots at the Multicultural Day celebration held at the Semper Fit Gym aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., May 16.

# Three-peat for Marine Corps Logistics Base

Story by: Keith Hayes  
CommStrat Planner



Photo by: Jack Adamyk

Colonel Sekou Karega, base commander, spoke to multiple law enforcement agencies, thanking them for their service and remembering the importance of our National Police Week, as we honor those who serve their communities, during the range brief at the Barstow Police Department, Barstow Calif., May 18.

For the third consecutive year, the Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow Police Department shooting team has taken first place in the Barstow Local Law Enforcement 6th annual Shooting Competition, May 18.

The annual shooting competition which regularly draws dozens of officers from around the high desert was hosted by the Barstow Police Department at its shooting range.

The five-person team from the Marine Corps Police Department consisted of Capt. Charles MacNeil, operations officer for the MCPD on base, as well as Marine Sgt. Jeff Avery, Lt. Kris Smith and Officers Jose Caceres and Chris Perez.

"It's a three-gun competition, so we have to shoot our shotguns, rifles and pistols, the ones we usually use on the job," MacNeil said.

He said all of the shooting also involved a lot of running.

"On one of the ranges we had to run to acquire five different targets. You had to move to see around a barrier to find the targets. You had to put down the long gun and pick up the shotgun and shoot four clay pigeons and then run all the way back to the beginning of the range and use your pistol to fire four magazines of eight rounds each at various targets."

Although the MCPD team did take first in the team shoot for the third straight time, MacNeil said BPD is really improving.

"This year it was uncomfortably close," he said.

Sabrina Ellis, an evidence technician with the BPD, whom has organized the event since it began, noted that the



Photo by: Jack Adamyk

Corporal Cristobal Perez, police officer, fires the M1014 shotgun during the 6th annual Law Enforcement Competition shoot at the Barstow Police shooting range, Barstow Calif., May 18.



Danny Strand, Security and Emergency Services director, competition, as this is Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow other local police agencies, Barstow, Calif., May 18.

# Barstow police shooting team

five-person MCPD team's collective time to finish the course was 4 minutes and 21 seconds, while the BPD team time was 4 minutes 29 seconds.

The top shooter on the MCPD team was MacNeil, who came in second to Detective Tom Lewis Jr., of the BPD. This is the fourth straight win for Lewis in the individual shooting round.

"I am extremely proud of our officers," MacNeil said. "The training and dedication of the members of the team and their willingness to give up their time off to come in and practice at the range really made a difference."

Besides the BPD and the MCPD teams, shooting teams from the California Highway Patrol, the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, and the Bureau of Land Management were also competing.

"Barstow is such a small city we really depend on assistance from surrounding law enforcement agencies," said Ellis.

"The idea of the shooting competition was to point out that even though we may work for different departments we're all on the same side," Ellis continued, "and this competition is a way to show that."

"This competition is important because it allows us to practice a vital skill needed as a police officer," MacNeil said, "and it also brings us together as law enforcement officers under better circumstances than we usually meet. It's an atmosphere of friendly competition and camaraderie that helps promote unity among the departments."



Photo by: Jack Adamyk

Jose Caceres, police officer, fires his rifle from the standing supported position during the 6th annual Law Enforcement Competition shoot at the Barstow Police shooting range in Barstow, Calif., May 18.



Photo by: Jack Adamyk

holds the plaque showing the previous five winners of the law's 3rd consecutive year winning as a department against



Photo by: Jack Adamyk

Charles MacNeil, police officer, shoots clay pigeons during the individual shooting competition and went on to receive second place for best shooter during the Law Enforcement Competition shoot held at the Barstow Police shooting range in Barstow, Calif., May 18.

# Marines tackle MAI course

Story by: Laurie Pearson  
CommStrat Chief

If you see several Marines fighting at various locations throughout the month of May, there is a good chance they are students participating in the Martial Arts Instructors Course aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif.

The three-week course is taught by Gunnery Sgt. Justin Kratzer, radio maintenance chief in Communications and 3rd-degree martial arts instructor trainer. Included in his instruction staff are Staff Sgt. Justin Mears, Marine Corps Community Services chief and 1st-degree MAI trainer; Staff Sgt. John Fleming, logistics chief and 1st degree black belt instructor; Sgt. Regis Dugan, motor transportation mechanic and 1st-degree black belt instructor; Cpl. Kenneth Mullins, training noncommissioned officer and brown belt instructor. The variety of instructors allows for a broad array of capabilities and the training benefits the Marines in myriad ways.

“Once the Marines attending the course graduate, they will become MAIs, allowing them to train Marines up to their current belt level in the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program,” said Kratzer. “They will also receive an additional Military Occupational Specialty of MAI, 0916, along with a boost in their promotional status.”

The students graduate with their current belt level, plus an additional tan tab, explained Kratzer. If the Marines have a gray belt status, they’ll also receive a boost in belt level upon graduation. The students are gaining much more than martial arts instruction through the program. The MAI course challenges Marines to push beyond their comfort zones in order to prepare to become not just experts in MCMAP, but to become excellent instructors and presenters, too.

“I appreciate that they’re honing our leadership skills and teaching us how to give a period of instruction effectively,” said Staff Sgt. Keegan Borer, a quality control technician for Fleet Support Division and a student in the MAI course.

10 “We want them to learn to become an eternal

student,” explained Mears. “There’s a concept of being an Eternal Student. We use a phrase that you’re either ‘being’ or you’re ‘becoming.’ If you’re ‘being’ then you can become stagnant and satisfied with where you’re at and that you’ve already learned what you need to know. We don’t want to encourage that mindset. Instead, we want to set them on a path to ‘becoming’ such as becoming greater than what they are whether that involves knowledge, or improving a mental aspect, or perhaps improving their character. In some cases, it may be religious work, or volunteer work and putting in those hours off-duty. Then also there is a physical aspect to this, so if they’re already

putting in a perfect 300 physical fitness test score, then they can still go out and do Aikido, or Jiu Jitsu or something to continue to better their skills.”

Mears also pointed out the importance of acknowledging that, no matter how much you train or how hard you work, there’s always someone out there who is putting in more hours, working harder and doing more.

“Especially with us, as Marines, we think we are the best of the best, few and the proud,” Mears said. “Yet we’ve seen it throughout the battles Marines have been in, that there is always somebody out there training harder, working harder and gaining more knowledge. So that concept of ‘becoming’ is a really important aspect of the program.”

The program is certified by the Martial Arts Center of Excellence out of Quantico,

Va. It includes classroom lectures held at both McTureous Hall and the Major Gen. James L. Day Conference Center. The physical, fighting portions of the training are conducted at various locations throughout the base. The program includes informal and formal lectures, as well as physical demonstrations.

“It’s important to have a steady flow of MAIs on base because instructors and trainers are constantly receiving Permanent Change of Station orders,” Kratzer said. “With a new group of MAIs, MCLB Barstow will be able to continue to teach and receive MCMAP instruction once the current instructors leave.” 🌸



Photo by: Jack Adamyk

*Gunnery Sergeant Justin Kratzer, radio maintenance chief, delivers what looks to be a devastating blow to Cpl. Jacob Brown, administrative clerk, during the controlled sparring phase of the three week long Martial Arts Instructors Course aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., May 10.*

# MCLBB Marines lead students in drills

Story and photos by: Keith Hayes  
CommStrat Planner

Marines from Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., went back to school in Yermo, not to learn but to teach young students how to march.

Sergeants Jeffrey Xoichicale, supply, and Edward Rojas, career planner, along with Cpl. Kenneth R. Mullins, HQCO training NCO, and Lance Corporals Brendan T. McDowell, communications and Andy R. Molina, mail clerk, imparted their knowledge to about 80 13 and 14-year-old students from Yermo School, May 15.

The Marines had volunteered to teach marching and drilling to the students as part of Yermo School Civil War Days event.

“Many of our students have expressed interest in becoming Marines, and we use Civil War Days as a way to get them interested in history and the military,” said Diana Sandridge, 8th grade teacher and organizer of the event.

“We have the North and South ‘armies’ face off against each other



Lance Cpl. Brendan McDowell, communications technician, provides individual instruction to a student participating in Civil War Days activities at Yermo School, May 15. Five Marines from Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., spent the day at the school teaching military discipline and drilling skills to about 80 students.

for the day and then we determine who the winner is,” she explained. “Sometimes the South wins.”

On the large flattop area in back of the school, students learned how to form up in platoons, to distance themselves properly from the students around them and how to march in step to commands relayed by their chosen student

commander.

The Marines taught the students which foot to step off on, left face, right face, forward march, column left and right, and other commands common to military maneuvers.

By the time the event was half an hour old, students from other grade levels had been released from class to ring the blacktop and watch the older students march.

“I was surprised at how fast they learn,” Sgt. Xoichicale said. As the color sergeant he regularly participates in drills. “They responded well to training and instruction and had started to march pretty well after about half an hour.”

“I think young people can benefit from military drill because it teaches them how to stay silent and still so they can listen to the commands,” he concluded.



Corporal Kenneth R. Mullins, HQCO training noncommissioned officer, and Sgt. Jeffrey Xoichicale, supply technician, guide a student “platoon” through learning how to march in step during close order drilling at Yermo School during Civil War Days activities, May 15. Five Marines from Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., took on the task of teaching some military discipline to about 80 students at Yermo School.

