



# April Activities

- 1-30 April: Find the golden eggs hidden on NEBO, return them to Behavioral Health (Bldg. 218) and earn a prize!
- 7 April: Service members and family aboard MCLB Barstow can walk/drive and pickup an Easter basket for children. Some baskets come with a winning ticket! Turn it in to Behavioral Health for a prize!
- 22 April: MCLB Barstow will be hosting a virtual presentation for family and staff aboard regarding the prevention and intervention of child abuse and sexual assault.
- 28 April: MCLB Barstow staff and visitors are invited to wear their favorite blue fashion and post a selfie using #AllInToEndChildAbuse to social media!



## **On The Cover:**

## Cover photo by: Jack J. Adamyk

U.S. Army Cpl. Tristan Bittick, crew chief, Alpha Company, 2916th Aviation Battalion, assists in landing efforts aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., March 23.

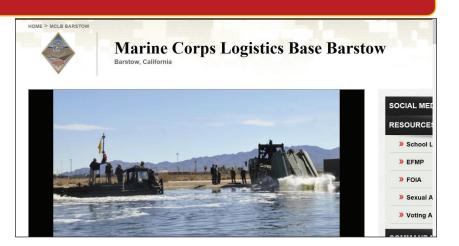


Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California Colonel Craig C. Clemans, commanding officer Sgt. Maj. Edward C. Kretschmer, base sergeant major

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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





Lazarus Piringer runs along Historic Route 66 as he makes his way from Los Angeles area to New York City, raising awareness for #NoKidHungry, March 23. Part of his journey took him through the portion of Route 66 not typically open to citizens, as it is part of the main corridor through Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California. His crew, and girlfriend Avagail Hesson requested special permission to Communication Strategy and Operations to traverse that stretch of Route 66, which the commanding officer, Colonel Craig C. Clemans, approved. Throughout the cross country trek, Hesson and their American Bulldog, Turbo, follow in their RV support vehicle, which also serves as their mobile office and home for the duration of the event. (Photo courtesy of Lazarus Piringer, Avagail Hesson and Turbo).

## Contents



Col. Cleman's CAPM and SAPR 4-5 Proclamations



Army and MCLB 10 Barstow Agree on Support



All in to End Child Abuse 6-7



LazRun's Route 66 Through Barstow **11** 



DeCA's Recognition of Vietnam Vets



8

MCCS Updates



4

## CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH PROCLAMATION

Child Abuse Prevention Month has been recognized during the month of April by the Department of Defense. It has also been recognized nationally since 1983. The 2021 campaign will focus on providing resources to help children and families heal and prevent future abuse in the military community. As such, the theme for 2021's Child Abuse Prevention month is:

## "All In To End Child Abuse"

The theme this year aims to raise awareness by drawing on the strength and unity of the military community to encourage adults to go all in to end child abuse. Going all in for child abuse prevention is helping children and families at risk for abuse receive support before a crisis occurs. It provides information on how to access parent-training resources which can reduce the risk of child abuse and neglect. It is also offering guidance on reporting suspected child abuse to the Family Advocacy Program.

As we celebrate military children and recognize National Child Abuse Prevention Month, I encourage you all to recognize your role aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow in keeping our children safe and supporting their resilience in the face of adversity. Keeping our children safe is a military priority. This April, we will take the time to remind ourselves that our first duty is to our next generation. As a military community, we are all in to end child abuse!

Whether you are a parent, mentor, teacher or friend, the military child in your life looks up to you. Be an encouraging influence and help them through the harder days by learning what you can do to help them grow up safe and healthy. Supporting parents who serve is another way to be all in. Listen and reassure them that taking the time to learn more about how to navigate parenthood is healthy, and encourage them to practice self-care to keep their family strong.

I challenge everyone in our Marine Community to go "All In to End Child Abuse" and become more aware of what you can do to get involved in child abuse prevention. If you have concerns about a child's safety, make sure you know what to do. Call your Installation Family Advocacy Program at (760-577-6533).

Craig O. Clemans Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps Commanding Officer Marine Corps Logistics Base, Barstow, CA



## "Protecting Our People, Protects Our Mission" Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month April 2021

April is recognized as Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month (SAAPM) across the country by both civilian and military communities. The month is an opportunity to highlight the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Program's effort to care for victims and its innovative ways of working to infuse prevention practices into our daily mission. The Department of Defense observes SAAPM by focusing on creating the appropriate culture to eliminate sexual assault and requiring a personal commitment from all Service members.

In 2021, we will continue with the theme "Protecting Our People, Protects Our Mission". This allows us to continue our messaging that, regardless of rank, grade, or job specialty, we all can take action to "protect our people". The theme's tie to "protecting our mission" supports the Department of Defense's priorities to enhance our readiness.

### **Protecting Our People...**

Each service member, regardless of rank, must know, understand and adhere to service values and standards of behavior in order to eliminate sexual assault and other inappropriate behavior.

Each service member needs to address sexual harassment in a unit as it is an important step to preventing sexual assaults. Understanding how to recognize opportunities for intervention is vital to stopping unsafe behavior, to include any form of retaliation.

#### **Protects Our Mission...**

In addition to the devastating impact on an individual, a sexual assault can severely impact our unit's readiness to perform its mission. We must encourage positive behaviors by recognizing acts which contribute to a supportive command climate.

We can protect our mission by ensuring everyone aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow is committed to advancing an environment where sexual harassment, hazing, bullying, and sexual assault are not tolerated, condoned, or ignored.

Sexual assault can occur anywhere, any time, and to anyone. Living up to our values to protect our fellow Marines and our mission requires us to remain committed to preventing it. By sustaining the right command climate, ensuring leadership support, and empowering all hands to safely intervene, we can create the environment to eliminate sexual assault.

CRAIG C. CLEMANS Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps Commanding Officer Marine Corps Logistics Base, Barstow, California

# **Child Abuse Prevention Mon**

## **Story by: Laurie Pearson** COMMSTRAT Chief

During Child Abuse Prevention Month, the Behavioral Health Section personnel emphasizes the need to be "All in to End Child Abuse" aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, throughout the month of April.

"According to the National Children's Alliance. 700,000 children in the U.S. are victims of abuse and neglect each year," said Michelle Adams, Prevention & Education Specialist/Victim Advocate with Behavioral Health. However, there is a lot of abuse that goes underreported so the actual number is probably a lot higher. Younger children are also usually the most vulnerable, especially within the first year of their life because they rely solely on their caregivers."

Neglect is often the most common reported form of abuse and many children have suffered from two or more forms of abuse. There are around 3 million child abuse cases reported globally each year, but the actual number is believed by experts to be closer to 9 million cases each year. In some cases, the abuse can end in death.

"In 2018 there were approximately 1770 children who died from child abuse and neglect in the U.S. alone," Adams said.

Throughout this pandemic, there has been an increase in the risk for child abuse and even murder.

"There have been several additional factors that have contributed to abuse such as heightened stress, school and day care closures, loss of income and social isolation this last year and it has all increased the risk of abuse and neglect, but reports have declined a bit due to lack of face-to-face notification opportunities."

As an example, when children go to school or daycare, the parents get a break, but the teacher also has the opportunity to actually see the child and observe for any signs of possible abuse and neglect.

"Due to this, there is lack of clarity surrounding this issue at this time," Adams explained. "Some people think that as things start to open up, reporting will increase."

The Children's Bureau's 2018 Child Maltreatment Report, which was released in 2020, indicates the following:

- 4.3 million referrals in 2018 alone to CPS involving alleged maltreatment involving 7.8 million children.
- The national referral rate is 58.5 referrals per 1000 children. Of these referrals, approximately 2.4 million reports were appropriate for CPS response and received an investigation or alternative response.
- The national rate for children receiving an investigation or alternative response is 47.8 children per 1000 in the population.

Far too often, the abusers are reported to be the caretaker or parent, or other loved ones.

"According to the National Children's Alliance, 78 percent of children are victimized by a parent," Adams said. "Twenty to 25 percent of Child Abuse Center cases involve a child hurting another child. The Children's Bureau 2018 Child maltreatment report shows that 83 percent of all perpetrators were between the ages of 18 to 44 years of age. More than half according to them are women and about 45 percent are men."



Child abuse can happen for myriad reasons, such as:

- Poor knowledge of healthy parenting and lacking healthy parenting skills
- Not having a good social support system
- Having a history of child abuse in their own childhood
- Having a substance abuse disorder or mental health condition
- Multiple socioeconomic stressors
- Domestic violence in the home

"Two Individual Risk Factors for victimization are children who have a special need such as a disability and any children under four years of age," said James

# th: All in to End Child Abuse

Maher, Behavioral Health Section head and licensed clinician. "Some factors contributing to someone becoming a perpetrator are drug or alcohol abuse, mental health issues, high levels of stress, belief that violence or aggression is justified, low education. Family Risk Factors are isolation, family violence, high conflict and negative communication styles, having family members in jail."

There are also Community Risk Factors such as high crime rates, high poverty level, high unemployment rates, unstable housing, drug and alcohol abuse, and low community involvement and support.

"This is why prevention is key," Adams said. "Every interaction with a family is an opportunity for education about what healthy parenting looks like. The more protective factors children have in their lives the less likely they are to be abused."

There are also several Individual Protective Factors such as creating safe and positive relationships with children, practicing nurturing parental skills, having basic needs such as food, shelter, education and health services.

"Having a college degree, and steady employment, can also be IPFs," Adams said. "Some Family Protective Factors include a strong social support system, positive relationships with others around them, having caregivers present and active in the child's life, monitoring children, and having role models or mentors."

Community Protective Factors include access to safe housing, safe childcare, after school programs, access to medical care and financial help, and having work opportunities with familyfriendly policies.

Signs of abuse vary, but include social withdrawal, changes in behavior, depression or anxiety, lack of supervision, frequent absences from school, reluctance to leave childcare or school activities or not wanting to go home, attempts to run away, stealing or hiding food, self-harm or suicide attempts, unexplained bruises or injuries or having injuries that don't match up with the given explanation.

"Sexualized behavior or knowledge that is not appropriate for the child's age, and statements from the child that they were abused are indications that they need help," Adams said. "It's also important to look for a lack of medical or dental care, or lack of appropriate clothing, and poor hygiene."

"In some cases, parents or caregivers may show little concern for the child, blame the child, describe the child in negative terms, use harsh discipline, demand inappropriate levels of performance for their age, and offer conflicting explanations for a child's injuries," Maher said.

"This is why this year's theme for April's Child Abuse Prevention Month is 'All In to End Abuse.' Going all in for child abuse means helping children and families at risk for abuse. It means helping them get needed services before a crisis occurs.

People can refer families to Family Advocacy Program for parent training resources, education, classes, counseling and support that can reduce the risk of child abuse and neglect. It means doing your part to report child abuse and suspected child abuse to FAP or Child and Family Services."

"Our first priority is to our next generation," Adams said. "We must keep them safe and supported. We need to support parents and encourage them to practice self-care and to be knowledgeable about the resources on the installation and in the community that can be beneficial to parents and their children."

Additional resources on base include the New Parent Support Program, Play Morning, home visits, breast feeding support and the Community Counseling Program which provides individual, couple and family counseling for service members and their families.

To report potential abuse, contact the Family Advocacy Program and 24/7 hotline at (760) 577-6533. Children and Family Services may be reached at 1-800-827-8727. The National Child Abuse Hotline is 800-4-A-CHILD.

For information regarding the activities taking place throughout the month, go to: https://barstow. mccscp.com/ or call Behavioral Health at 577-6533.



# Commissaries recognize service, sacrifice of vets

**Story by: Kevin L. Robinson,** DeCA public affairs specialist

**F**ORT LEE, Va. – Select commissaries worldwide are planning to schedule recognition events to honor Vietnam War-era veterans, surviving spouses and their families from March 22-31.

In observance of Vietnam War Veterans Day, March 29, eligible veterans who served from Nov. 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975 will receive a lapel pin at commissary events. Participants are advised to check with their local commissary for scheduled ceremonies.

Due to COVID-19, any inperson recognition event will include safety protocols such as limited access, "nontouch" checking of temperatures prior to entry, social distancing, the wearing of masks and no-contact presentations of lapel pins.

Despite the pandemic, the Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA) will join the nation in recognizing the service of Americans who served in that era, said Bill Moore, the agency's director and CEO. "Our Vietnam War-era veterans earned the nation's gratitude through their service and sacrifice," Moore said. "We at DeCA are proud to be part of the national effort to say 'thank you.' We also want to continue welcoming the millions of eligible veterans and their caregivers who are now authorized to shop on-base."

Approximately 9 million U.S. military members served on active duty during the Vietnam War era. Out of the 2.7 million U.S. service members who served in Vietnam, more than 58,000 were killed and more than 304,000 were wounded. Vietnam Veterans Day was first established by presidential proclamation in 2012 leading to the start of annual observance events in 2014. The Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act of 2017 further established the events as a national observance to recognize Vietnam War-era veterans for their service.

For retired Army Maj. Gen. Peter M. Aylward, director of the United States of America Vietnam

War Commemoration, the mission is simple: The nation needs to tell these veterans that their service mattered. "There is a scene from Saving Private Ryan where an aged Private Ryan (played by Harrison Young) turns to his wife and says: 'Tell me I've led a good life. Tell me I'm a good man,'' Aylward said referencing the World War II movie on the Vietnam War Commemoration website.

"We believe that is what we do when we extend our nation's thanks to our Vietnam

veterans. We tell these men and women they earned it. They made a difference in our lives and in the lives of our children."

In addition to honoring these veterans, Moore said DeCA owes those of whom are disabled, a commissary benefit worthy of their service.

"My dad was an old Vietnam vet, so this is personal for me," he said. "For our Vietnam Warera veterans, we honor their service and for any of those vets who are disabled and can shop in our stores, we want to reach out to them and let them know the commissary is here to deliver savings on

their grocery bill."





# NATIONAL VIETNAM WAR VETERANS DAY 29 MARCH

Join the Nation... Thank a Vietnam Veteran for Service to our Nation



U.S. Armed Forces personnel with active duty service between November 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975, regardless of location of service.

vietnamwar50th.com

## Army and MCLB Barstow agree to \$850K Annual Support

## Story by: Laurie Pearson **COMMSTRAT** Chief

new Rail Operations **A** Support Agreement is underway between the Army's National Training Center at Fort Irwin and Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California.

preventative maintenance on 33 miles of rail infrastructure aboard MCLB Barstow.

"This allows for the organic staff on the base to work solely on the replacement of the rail infrastructure project that is scheduled to take five years to complete," Ibarra said. "It



Photo by: Laurie Pearson

Soldiers work together to load equipment onto railcars as part of their training rotation leaving Fort Irwin's National Training Center, at the railhead on the Yermo Annex aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, October 1, 2020.

The S-3 Operations Department aboard MCLB Barstow, to include the **Operations Director**, Rail Supervisor, and Support Agreements Manager, as well as the S-8 Comptroller Department, to include the Comptroller and **Financial Management Analyst** are overseeing the facilitation of the agreement on base.

"The agreement was signed on November 30, 2020 and is effective October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2025," said Kristen Ibarra, Continuous Process Improvement Analyst with the Business Performance Office within Operations.

The overall scope of the agreement entails a contractor to provide

was created after an in-depth inspection was conducted of the current infrastructure and it was determined that approximately 61,000 linear feet of track is either RED or AMBER in condition. RED track is in danger of immediate failure, and AMBER track is recommended to be replaced within one to five years."

The replacement of the railway system aboard MCLB Barstow is critical in order to ensure that the day-to-day operational support to the Army Unit rotations destined for the National Training Center can continue without interruptions.

"There are approximately 10 Army rotations scheduled to come through MCLB Barstow, Yermo Annex railhead, annually," said Antonio Flores, Rail Operations supervisor. "There are typically an additional five major rail movements going through this railhead in support of the Marine Corps, Defense Logistics Agency, and Department of Defense movements. On average over the last three years, we have moved 25,317 pieces of equipment through our railhead, with a large portion of that being for the Army."

"The agreement will be implemented by contract to fund preventative maintenance and repair to the Yermo Annex rail," Ibarra said.

"Yermo Annex railhead will benefit from this project up front by way of the rail infrastructure being improved," Flores clarified. "All other units which have property being railed in or out of Yermo, will benefit through the ease of movement once the project is completed. The project is going to be spread out over the course of five years so immediate benefits will be felt on a small level each year."

The Rail Operations Support Agreement will provide \$4.25 million over a five year period, averaging \$850k per year.

"The end goal is to update the current rail infrastructure in order to keep up with the increasing need of rail as a mode of transportation within the DOD," Flores said. "Additionally, with the update of the rail infrastructure we will be able to provide the needed movement of large amounts of military equipment in a timely and efficient manner in and out of MCLB Barstow."

"Public Works looks forward to the opportunity to strengthen our operational support of Rail," said Lt. Cmdr. Jamie Rivas, Public Works Officer. "We are working towards the contract service requirements for preventative maintenance."



10

## LazRuns' LA to NYC run takes them across Historical Route 66 on base

#### **Story by: Laurie Pearson** COMMSTRAT Chief

Florida man runs across country to raise awareness for No Kid Hungry, including a stretch of Route 66 that crosses Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, 19 March.

Laszlo Piringer, a 39-year-old man born in Hungary, Budapest, now living in Miami Beach, Florida, is a musician and philanthropist, who has taken to the roads, literally.

"I knew I wanted to do a transcontinental run, for many personal reasons, but in doing so I knew it was going to be a massive undertaking and that I wanted to have a cause, as well, to run and raise awareness for, something that was bigger than just myself," said Piringer.

He has been running for years, but this



#### Photo by: Laurie Pearson

Lazarus Piringer, musician, runs along Historic Route 66, as part of his mission to run across country, from Los Angeles area to New York City, to raise awareness and funds for #NoKidHungry, including a portion of Route 66 that is not typically available to citizens, aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, March 24. His crew, Avagail Hesson and American Bulldog, Turbo, follow and track his progress in their recreational support vehicle, which also functions as their sleeping quarters, and mobile office. (Photo courtesy of Avagail Hesson).

is his first transcontinental run, stretching from Santa Monica to New York City, covering approximately 3,200 miles, at a pace of about 40 miles per day.

"Route 66 is historical for so many reasons," Piringer said. "It's a landmark original highway and I thought it perfect for my journey because of its distinct history and recognizability." In 1942, MCLB Barstow began construction along Route 66 as part of the War Department's strategic rapid mobilization efforts. Over time, the base boundaries moved, and a 1.7 mile stretch of the historic highway became the main road through the base, with a secondary name of Joseph L. Boll Avenue. It is the only stretch of Historic Route 66 that is not readily accessible to the public.

In order to gain access to this portion of Route 66, Piringer's girlfriend, 30-year-old Avagail Hesson, contacted Communication Strategy and Operations on base and submitted their information, requesting access to run across the base on the projected date. Once vetted, they were able to move forward with their plans and LazRuns' LA to NYC adventure began on March 15.

Hesson, a Miami Beach, Florida native, set aside her work as a jeweler to crew this mission along with their companion, an American Bulldog named Turbo. The duo follows LazRuns along his route in a recreational vehicle which functions as a support vehicle, mobile office, and living quarters throughout the crosscountry trek.

"I wouldn't have it any other way," Hesson said, of the adventure.

Running is a passion for Piringer, and when asked why he enjoys it, his response is a challenge. "Run a lot and you'll find out!" he

"Run a lot and you'll find out!" he said. "Running is amazing, it helps you think and see clearly. It teaches that it is up to you to achieve what you want to achieve!"

Although running is optional, and a runner can stop at any time, it is in "pushing through" that LazRuns said "you can and will overcome that weak and conformist voice in your head."

"You go on, all the way to the goal, because that's the decision you made!" he said. "You will learn that you are capable of anything, of so much more than you thought, because you alone simply decided. To me, running is inspiration. It's mental training. You can also call it active meditation or self-awareness. Running is life! You are alive because you have chosen to use your body, which, if properly prepared, will take you to the end of the world."

Running is a fairly common form of exercise, but cross-country running, literally from one coast to the other, is a feat tackled by very few. "Though this year, in particular after COVID-19, I have seen quite a few!" Piringer said. "So because it's such a big project, visiting so many places along the way, it's a great opportunity to talk and meet with people and spread awareness about who were trying to raise money for and also just to perhaps encourage people to be healthier and go out and create their own adventures!"

As passionate as he is about running, the couple is also passionate about making sure that every child is able to receive decent meals.



Photo by: Laurie Pearson

Avagail Hesson and her American Bulldog, Turbo, crew the mission for LazRuns, from the comfort of their recreational support vehicle, as Lazarus Piringer undertakes the monumental task of running across country to raise awareness for #NoKidHungry, including a portion of Route 66 aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, March 19. The run is approximately 3,200 miles from Santa Monica, California to New York City, traversing Historic Route 66 first, then other roadways once they hit the end of that highway in Chicago, Illinois. (Photo courtesy of Lazarus Piringer, Avagail Hesson, and Turbo).

"It's the absolute bare minimum and no person, or child especially, should ever be without food," Piringer said. "I want to do my part to help make sure that is available to those who need it."

To that end, once they complete the run, LazRuns will be donating funds received to No Kid Hungry. Piringer and Hesson offer yet another challenge.

"Go out there and do something!" they said. "Don't be a person who just sits and watches life pass by in front of your eyes. There are no do overs! If you are here on this planet just one time, make sure you're not spending it staring at a phone screen for years."





## **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

## **Postponed or closed**

## **MFP Virtual Events**

## • Self defense

- Spin
- Pass & ID Nebo 101
- Pass & ID Yermo 406
- Swim lessons
- Play mornings
  Wellness series
- weiness serie

## **Modified hours and services**

### Leatherneck Lanes Bowling Center & kitchen open w/modifications:

• Call 760-577-6264 for hours, reservations (recommended) and to place a food order.

## Marine Memorial Golf Course open w/modifications:

• Call for details 760-577-6431

## **Semper Fit Gym:**

 Unmanned hours for all permanently assigned DOD employees on base begin Sept. 16. Call 760-577-6812 to make an appointment to register your CAC ahead of time.
 Combat room CLOSED.

## **SMP/Rec. Center:**

- Single Marines only, no guests Mon. Fri. 11 a.m. 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. -7:30 p.m.
- Closed Thursday nights, as well as Sat. & Sun. during COVID restrictions.

#### **Oasis Pool and Water Park:** CLOSED FOR THE SEASON

#### **Route 66 Cafe:**

• Open for dine-in and take out. Can also call orders in ahead at 760-577-6428.

## **Commissary:**

- Open every Tues. 9 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 are mandatory and will be verified.

## **Base Library:**

- Open Mon. Fri. 8 11 a.m. Starting Feb. 16, hours will change to Mon. Fri. 7:30 a.m. 4 p.m. Personal & Professional Development:
- Available via Telework

## **Behavioral Health:**

- Telehealth services available
- To set an appointment, call 760-577-6533

## Auto Skills Shop:

- Open every other weekend, Sat. 8 a.m. 5 p.m. and Sun. 10 a.m. 6 p.m.
- Call Bruce for further information, 760-577-6260, 760-267-1075

#### ITT:

• Open Mon. and Thurs. 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

## Pass & ID 236:

• Appointment only, 760-577-6969

## Thrift Store:

- Open Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m. and the first Saturday of each month 1 4 p.m.
- Closed November 24 and 26 for Thanksgiving holiday.

For additional information about the base, go to https:mclbbarstow.marines.mil For a complete list of MCCS hours and services impacted by COVID-19, go to http://mccsbarstow.com/Impact/

For a list of MFP virtual events, dates, times and links, contact Beth Simpson, MFP coordinator, 760-577+6675, or visit https://www.facebook.com/MCFTBBarstow/