

THE PROSPECTOR



Vol. 10, No. 14

Serving the Corps since 1943
Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow

July 22, 2021


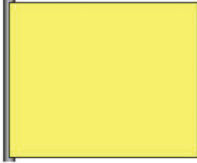




Fire's volunteerism impacts readiness
MCLB Barstow's earns safety award
Bearsun's MCLB Barstow visit



Heat Stress Conditions

For Marine Corps Training

Flag Color	WBGT Range	Restrictions
 Green	80°-84.9°	Heavy exercise for unacclimatized personnel should be conducted with close supervision.
 Yellow	85°-87.9°	Outdoor classes in the sun are avoided. Strenuous exercise, to include marching, is suspended for unacclimatized personnel with less than three (3) weeks on station.
 Red	88°-89.9°	Limited activity not to exceed six (6) hours per day for unacclimatized personnel. All physical training halts for personnel with less than 12 weeks on station.
 Black	90° or above	All strenuous, nonessential outdoor physical activity will be halted for all units. Essential activities are defined as those activities associated with scheduled exercises or other major training evolutions where the disruption would cause undue burden on personnel or resources, be excessively expensive, or significantly reduce a unit's combat readiness. Essential outdoor physical activity will be conducted at a level that is commensurate with personnel acclimatization as determined by the unit's commanding officer in coordination with the unit's medical officer or medical personnel. All efforts should be made to reschedule these activities during cooler periods of the day.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drink lots of fluids. Avoid fluids that contain alcohol, caffeine, or sugar. • Plan strenuous activities/games early or late in the day to avoid the hot, midday to late afternoon period. • Some prescribed medications and sun don't mix well. Check with your doctor and medicine labels. Use sun block and build up sun/heat tolerance gradually. • At the first sign/symptom of heat stress, get out of the sun, rest, and slowly hydrate. When in doubt about the type of heat stress, seek medical help. • The wearing of body armor/helmets or nuclear, biological, chemical (NBC) protective uniforms in effect adds 10 degrees Fahrenheit to the measured Wet Bulb Globe Temperature. Training must be adjusted appropriately. 		
Combat Camera, Camp Johnson <i>Be safe! Pay Attention to the warnings!</i>		

060918-D-RH960-001

On The Cover:

Cover photo by: Laurie Pearson

Julia Kretschmer, wife of base sergeant major, Sgt. Maj. Edward Kretschmer, discusses their time spent living in Okinawa Japan, with children during their LINKS for Kids class held aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, July 8. The LINKS training encourages education on Lifestyle, Insights, Networking, Knowledge and Skills and this particular training was focused on "PCS'ing Around the World" when military service members receive orders to change their duty stations, and may be called to live anywhere around the world where a military base exists. The children were introduced to the cultures of various bases, specific points of interest, historical information, and even got to try a military Meal Ready to Eat, better known as an MRE.



THE PROSPECTOR

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

Communication Strategy and Operations Office

CommStrat Officer: Rob L. Jackson
CommStrat Planner: Vacant
CommStrat Chief: Laurie Pearson
Editorial Assistant: Adam Aikens
Visual Information Chief: Jack Adamyk
Graphic Specialist: Anthony Plummer

The editorial content of this magazine is prepared, edited and provided by the Communication Strategy and Operations Office of Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California. Mailing address: Commanding Officer, Attn: CommStrat Office, Box 110130, Barstow, CA 92311-5050. The CommStrat is located in Building 204. Phones: (760) 577-6430, 577-6450, 577-6451, FAX 577-6350, DSN prefix 282.

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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





Photo by: Robert Jackson

Captain Christian Lara, former Headquarters Battalion commander, performs a move on William Wright, Judo coach for the Police Activities League in Barstow, during a sparring session at the Semper Fit Gym, July 16. Lara was promoted to 3rd Degree Brown Belt in Judo on that same day.

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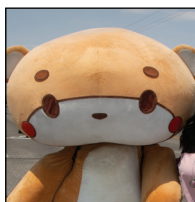


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News Brief

COVID-19 Delta variant becomes dominant strain in CA

California is seeing a spike in COVID's Delta variant spread across the state as vaccination rates wane across the country. When questioned on new state-level restrictions to combat this new viral variant, CA Gov. Gavin Newsom said, "If we continue to get people vaccinated that'll be unnecessary and this is the call that anyone who hasn't been vaccinated get vaccinated." Virologists have noted concerns of a resurgence in COVID cases later in the year due to the aggressive nature of the Delta variant as state and national restrictions loosen yet projections under the Biden administration regarding vaccinations fail to meet.

MARADMIN CANCELLATION 038/21

U.S. MARINE CORPS MARINE CORPS GUIDANCE ON USE OF MASKS AND OTHER CONTAINMENT MEASURES FOR 2019 NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

MARADMIN CANCELLATION 039/21

U.S. MARINE CORPS GUIDANCE FOR DEPLOYMENT AND REDEPLOYMENT OF INDIVIDUALS AND UNITS, SURVEILLANCE AND SCREENING AND TESTING, AS WELL AS LABORATORY DIAGNOSTIC TESTING DURING THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 PANDEMIC

MARADMIN 371/21

FORTHCOMING CHANGES TO MCO 1040.31, ENLISTED RETENTION AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

This Marine Administrative Message (MARADMIN) serves as an update to references A and B as a result of implementation of the Junior Enlisted Promotion Evaluation System (JEPES). References A and B establish a reenlistment prerequisite of having minimum conduct and proficiency mark average of 4.0/4.0 during the current enlistment contract and extensions to that contract. This requirement may be waived by HQMC. References C and D announced the implementation of the JEPES which replaced the legacy Proficiency and Conduct system and associated Individual Records Administrative Manual (IRAM) that served the Marine Corps for decades. The minimum conduct and proficiency mark average of 4.0/4.0 to meet reenlistment prerequisites is hereby waived

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.

MARADMIN 369/21

CLARIFICATION ON THE REQUIREMENT FOR OFFICIAL PHOTOS

This Marine Administrative Message (MARADMIN) announces clarification to the photo policies outlined by references (a) and (b). The guidance provided within the references has not changed and reflects current Marine Corps requirements.

Marines shall have a photograph taken annually (every 365 days) for placement into the Marine's Official Military Personnel File (OMPF).

Effective 1 September 2020, photographs are not authorized information for promotion boards and selection processes pertaining to assignment, training, education, and command. HQMC (CMC) will continue to ensure OMPF photographs are not considered by promotion boards and selection processes.

All Marines continue to be authorized to have photos taken by COMCAM sections or DOD photographic units. Marines continue to be required to have an official photo in their OMPF.



MCLB Barstow earns coveted award

Story by: Laurie Pearson
COMMSTRAT Chief

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow earns the coveted Secretary of the Navy Safety Excellence Award, for fiscal year 2020.

“This award is a direct reflection of MCLB Barstow’s dedication of Safety first,” said David Romero, lead Safety & Occupational Health specialist. “The entire Safety Program is looked at for this award. So, it’s the entire installation that is involved in earning this award.”

“The safety training, the programs, the culture of our base are what wins the installations’ safety awards,” said Sara Montez-Diaz, Safety and Occupational Health specialist. “The Voluntary Protection Program drives a lot these awards. MCLB Barstow’s remarkable success is in part attributed to the earning and maintaining of VPP status, to include three star certifications to date.”

The SecNav level award is top tier and in order to be competitive, the base has to have been nominated by Headquarters Marine Corps. The Safety staff first entered a packet for nomination to earn the Marine Corps Safety Award which was endorsed by the Commanding General of Marine Corps Installations West.

“After submitting for the Marine Corps Safety Achievement Award they determine if we meet the criteria to move forward to the next step,” Diaz explained. “Once nominated, winners are determined by whether or not they are providing all of the core safety services to all of its tenants and to what level. Also, aside from what the base does for themselves, evaluators look at how bases work to improve the safety of other bases and the Marine Corps as a whole.”

The safety office puts together the award packets based on all criteria of Safety Program, which means it is the entire base and the personnel on the base that make the base competitive for the awards, with a focus on Safety First.

“Once the packet was complete for the Marine Corps Achievements Award, it was approved by the commanding officer, prior to being sent to the

Commanding General of MCIWEST for endorsement,” Romero said. “Then higher headquarters determined that we were to be placed in the running for the Secretary of the Navy’s Safety Excellence Award.”

Some additional contributing factors for the base to qualify then earn the award are:

- Employees working in a safe manner
- People following rules and guidelines intended to keep them safe
- Always remembering that safety is everyone’s responsibility

“The safety program aboard MCLB Barstow sustains itself because of the people who make things happen and keep each other safe,” Diaz said. “By knowing that an employee can say that something is an unsafe act and stop their co-worker on the job, employees keep each other safe. This is what taking safety into your hands is all about.”

The official awards ceremony will be held at the Pentagon, in the District of Columbia. During the ceremony, the Secretary of the Navy presents the award to representatives of the base command staff. The date and time are yet to be announced. In addition to a certificate, the SECNAV will present a plaque and a SECNAV flag. Once presented the flag, the base is authorized to fly it for one year

“The award simply means we are doing our job, and we are getting the support we need from the leadership of the base to do our jobs effectively,” Romero said. “It also means that the employees have a ‘safety mindset’ when performing their jobs. We have a safety culture here aboard the base with management, employees and our Safety office that shows we are all striving to meet the same goal, which is to be safe.”

“The goal, at the end of the day, is to go home in one piece and the culture that we have shown in Barstow is that Safety will continue to be first priority so we can achieve this goal,” Diaz said.

Story by: Laurie Pearson
COMMSTRAT Chief

Corey Sierra, a firefighter with Fire and Emergency Services aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow since 2012, has started a non-profit to benefit volunteer fire departments in the High Desert.

The idea took seed when, in 2018, MCLB Fire Chief Paul Purdy called for a monthly training initiative with fire mutual aid partners.

“Looking to contribute, I volunteered to spearhead the initiative,” Sierra said. “We came up with a two- hour, once-a-month gathering of all the mutual aid partners in the surrounding area, with a few goals. One, understand the responding capabilities of our community’s partners. Two, learn tactics, strategies, and techniques to stay safe on calls. Three, to improve relationships with our off-base partners.”

The group meets on the first Tuesday of every month. The location varies based on the type of training being conducted for the month. Most often, it is held at Daggett Fire Station 372. They effectively called it First Tuesday Training or FTT.

“Except for the halt last year, FTT has been running smoothly,” Sierra explained. “The mutual aid partners are learning from one another. The relationships have improved, and as a result, the effectiveness

of emergency incidents has got [sic] better. As the coordinator of the program, I get to know all of our partners. What I noticed is that the three volunteer fire departments with whom we run calls face additional challenges that none of the other mutual aid partners have. While they are exceptional in the effort, their equipment is outdated, PPE is expired, Stations and apparatuses require maintenance, and additional certification training is needed.”



Photo by: Corey Sierra
Firefighter Sierra with a group of volunteers after a Sta-Fit workout.

As a result of these experiences and trainings, Sierra realized that he could, and wanted, to do more.

“I can do more than just coordinate two hours of training per month,” he said. “I began to brainstorm ideas, and the most prevalent was to start a non-profit organization to help fill the gaps for our volunteer counterparts.”

That is how the Silver Valley Fire Alliance was formed. The goal of SVFA is to help get Training, Equipment, and Recruitment to the Volunteer Fire Departments in the Silver Valley.

“We do this so the local community and commuters can have the best possible emergency service care,” Sierra said.

Seven mutual aid partners participate in SVFA’s First Tuesday Training Program. They include the Army’s Fort Irwin National Training Center Fire Department, Daggett Volunteer Fire Department, Yermo Volunteer Fire Department, Newberry Springs Volunteer Fire Department, Desert Ambulance, Mercy Air 66, and MCLB Barstow.

“The FTT training schedule is planned for the year,” Sierra said. “Each mutual-aid partner takes turns to lead instruction on various topics. MCLB Barstow personnel have led two trainings this year and has participated as assistant instructors in another. In April,

Firefighter Jose Peralta and Fire Fighter Zac Maring of MCLB Barstow led a training evolution on Pump & Roll operations for wildland initial attack. In June Firefighter Paramedic Warren Carson with Firefighter Manny Franco assisted Desert Ambulance personnel and Mercy Air 66 staff to conduct Emergency Medical Services training on bleed and hemorrhage control, vital signs, and vascular access set-up. Most recently in July, Capt. Marvin Torgerson Jr. and his crew, along with Ft. Irwin Fire, led a class on rapid intervention crew operations.”

s bolster readiness

In addition to the First Tuesday Trainings, the Silver Valley Fire Alliance also implemented another program at the beginning of the 2021 focusing on physical fitness as a vital part of a firefighter's lifestyle.



Photo by: Corey Sierra

Capt. Marvin Torgeson and firefighter Steven Holland demonstrate how to effectively apply an SCBA mask from the RIT Pak.

"It helps them run emergency incidents safely and effectively," Sierra said. "That's why SVFA implemented Station Fitness, or 'Sta-Fit,' to assist volunteers to acclimate to operating in firefighting turnouts in the Desert heat. Having a strong volunteer fire force outside of the base is critical to MCLB Barstow. From an emergency operations standpoint, it's important because they are our closest resource. If there is a major emergency on base, they are going to be the first agencies

on the scene to help. The work SVFA is doing may make a direct impact on our base population. MCLB Barstow's Fire and Emergency Services is also vital to the local community as their closest mutual aid partners."

Though the volunteer fire departments of Daggett, Yermo, and Newberry Springs are the beneficiaries of the monetary and equipment donations, SVFA is more than just a non-profit organization that helps get training, equipment, and recruitment to them. It is a means for all of the emergency responding agencies to connect, network and share knowledge and experience.

"Although we got our 501c3 status in October of 2019, we officially started operating in the summer of 2020," Sierra said. "I have a bachelor's degree in Business Management

with a concentration in Marketing. That education has played a major role in managing SVFA. Once I committed to starting the organization, I hired a consultant who provided the initial training on how to start. She also assisted in organizing the documents required to submit to the IRS and the State of California. While waiting for the approval, I began in-depth research on how to operate an NPO. I read books on non-profit management, met with the Small Business Administration, spoke with other NPO directors,

listened to podcasts, and of course, watched YouTube videos.

In 2020 they raised approximately \$6,300 in monetary donations. The majority of the funds were used to reimburse volunteers who attended paid certification classes.

"Training at 'No Cost' to the individual volunteers is SVFA's highest priority," Sierra said. "We believe that even with outdated or weathered equipment, a well-trained firefighter can still perform safely and effectively. In a perfect world, our volunteer force will have both. That is why we used a portion of the funds raised to purchase equipment that each fire department needed, to include new hand tools, gloves, various hose fittings, binoculars, uniforms, badges, and helmet shields. Additionally, there were donations of assorted Personal Protective Equipment, boots, and over 400 cases of bottled water. For instance, Capt. Ryan Hanify of Station 401, volunteered his personnel truck, trailer, and time to deliver 150 cases of bottled water to each department earlier this year."

One of the ways they raise funds is by engaging in community events. One such event is a comedy show due to take place August 14 at the Cora Harper Fitness Center in Barstow. For details and ticket information, and more information about SVFA you can follow them on Instagram @SilverValleyFireAlliance and on Facebook @SilverValleyFireAlliance.

Bearsun walks Route 66 through base

Photos by: Laurie Pearson



Bearsun is escorted through Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow as part of his journey from Los Angeles to New York in a bear costume to raise awareness for various charities, July 14. This part of Historic Route 66 is the only portion not accessible to the public without special permission by the base commanding officer, Col. Gregory Pace. Colonel Pace approved the request and the Marine Corps Police Department provided the escort. He stopped several times in 102 degree heat to graciously take photos with base fans. Jesse Larios started out his journey as #IAmBearSun to raise awareness for charities such as autism, cancer, and the environment, in the area of Little Tokyo, in Downtown Los Angeles, July 5. His goal is to walk from LA to NY in costume, despite weather, and other potential hazards. He has said several times that when he began this trek, he thought he would be alone for most of the journey, but people began to track his location using an app called ISharing, and spreading the word by social media. He has been overwhelmed by the number of people tracking him down for photos and offers of support in various ways.

To be clear, he does NOT have AC in that costume.



MCLB Barstow HQBn's change of command



Photo by: Laurie Pearson

Captain Christian Lara prepares to pass the Colors to Capt. Evan Medford during a Battalion Change of Command held at Semper Fit Gymnasium aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, July 12. Medford is the deputy director of Communications, in addition to his new role as battalion commanding officer.



Photo by: Jack Adamyk

Marines from MCLB Barstow's headquarters battalion present arms as their commander, Captain Christian Lara passes the responsibilities of the command to Capt. Evan Medford during the July 12 change of command ceremony..



Photo by: Jack Adamyk

Above: Colonel Gregory Pace bids farewell to Captain Christian Lara and welcomes Capt. Evan Medford as the two exchange command of MCLB Barstow's headquarters battalion.

Right: Captain Evan Medford (joined by his wife, Marrisa) stands at attention while assuming command of MCLB Barstow's headquarters battalion during the July 12 ceremony.



Photo by: Jack Adamyk

Partners in safety

Story by: MSgt Evan Labounty
MCLB Barstow Saftey Specialist

It is reasonable to assume, not a single employee aboard MCLB Barstow arrives to work each day hoping to get injured on the job, or get exposed to hazards that may result in an occupational illness. Rather, the expectation is quite the opposite. So much so, the expectation for an employer to provide a work place free of recognized hazards was codified in the Williams-Steiger Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970. Under the OSHAct, regulatory requirements are published as Occupational Safety and Health Administration standards in Title 29 of the Code of Federal Regulations. The regulatory requirements almost exclusively focus on the responsibilities of the employer. Granted, an employer who strictly enforces each and every applicable OSHA regulatory requirement would in fact meet the intent of the OSHAct, but it misses the bigger picture. A safe work environment relies on the mindset and culture of the entire organization, not just an individual C-suite officer, safety representative, first-line supervisor, or employee. In order to shape the safety culture of an organization, employers have many options from which to choose. However, OSHA

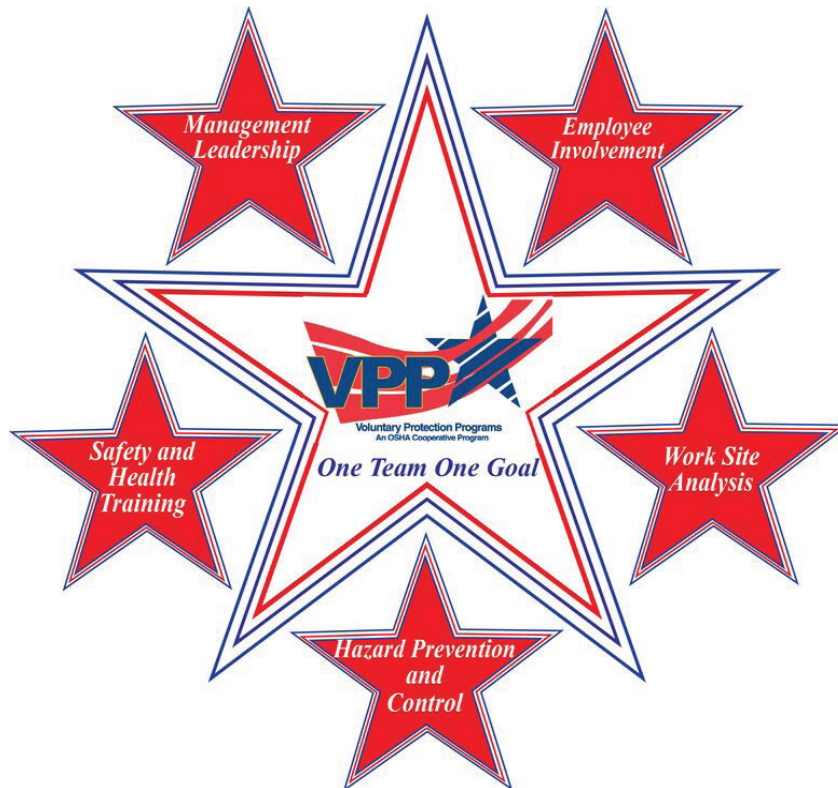
has developed five cooperative programs designed to improve an organization's safety and health management systems. Active participation in one of these programs in-turn helps prevent fatalities, injuries and illnesses in the work place through collaborative efforts and continuous process

improvement. Of OSHA's five established programs, MCLB Barstow has been actively involved in the Voluntary Protection Programs since 2006 and STAR certified since 2008.

It is almost certain, everyone aboard MCLB Barstow has heard about VPP and possesses a basic understanding of how it enhances our safety awareness and culture. What may be less commonly known is the significance of MCLB Barstow's continued certification as a STAR site. In essence, MCLB

Barstow's long-term VPP STAR status (13 years and counting) demonstrates our employer's dedication to cooperatively work with their employees, Union (if so represented) and OSHA to reduce or eliminate safety and health hazards and promote safe work conditions for each and every employee. To date, this dedication to safety has transcended six installation commanders and countless managers, supervisors, and

employees. The fact so many personnel have come and gone from all levels of the organization and yet we are still able to maintain our VPP STAR status is a true testament to our organization's enduring safety culture and all the employees' contributions, past and present. More importantly, through management and employee involvement we have been able to consistently maintain Total Case Incident Rates (TICR) and Days Away, Restricted or Transferred (DART) well below the national average for our particular industry. In short, this means fewer employees are getting injured on the job or experiencing an occupational illnesses, which is truly the ultimate goal of the program.



All of the past success set aside, our current objective is to ensure the continued safety and health of our present and future work force. We will achieve this by relying on VPP's four elements of an effective safety and health management system: management leadership and employee involvement; worksite analysis; hazard prevention and control; and safety and health training. Each of these four elements play a vital role in the continued success of the Installation's safety program and you can support these elements by:

- **Getting involved.** All Installation employees, regardless of rank, rate, and status are encouraged to join the VPP Sub-Committee. The sub-committee meets once per month and is vital to building interdepartmental relationships, developing fresh ideas for safety outreach campaigns and using collective experience to solve unique problems.
- **Staying Alert.** Look for changes in your work environment and processes. We rely on continuous process improvement, just because a worksite analysis was conducted in the past doesn't mean conditions

and processes will remain the same.

- **Taking Action.** You don't have to be a trained safety specialist to prevent or control hazards. Cleaning up a spill, removing items from walkways and similar actions are examples of measures all employees can do to address hazards. For hazards that extend beyond your abilities, notify others then immediately report the hazard to your supervisor or the safety office, so we can properly abate the hazard.
- **Rely on Your Training.** Employers are required to properly train their employees, but the training is only effective if put into practice. Use your training to guide your actions and if there are gaps in your capabilities request an update, refresher, or suggest how the training curriculum can be improved.

If you are interested in learning more or participating in the VPP Sub-Committee, feel free to contact Ruby Adam, Sara Montez-Diaz, or MSgt Evan LaBounty at 760-577-6266.

SCREENS & STRIKES IS BACK!

**\$2 BOWLING GAMES!
SNACKS & DRINKS!
WATCH A MOVIE WITH THE FAMILY!**

**AUGUST 13, 2021
1700-1900**

**LEATHERNECK
LANES**

For information, call 577-6264

July 2021



Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Sugar Loaf Social	3
4	5	6 Anger Management Artist Take Home Kits	7 Barracks Bash Game Tournament	8 Within My Reach L.I.N.K.S. for Kids	9	10
11	12 Preschool Story Time	13 Artist Take Home Kits	14 Rec Center- Movie Night Nacho Bar	15 PRS Financial Planning	16 Advanced Investing Spending Plans	17
18	19 Preschool Story Time	20 Million Dollar Marine	21 Million Dollar Marine	22 Within My Reach L.I.N.K.S. for Kids	23 Renter's Insurance Play Morning	24 SMP Event
25 SMP Volunteer - Feed the Hungry	26 Command Specialist Course	27 Command Specialist Course	28 Command Specialist Course	29 Reading Club Ice Cream Party	30 Command Specialist Course	31