

THE PROSPECTOR



Vol. 14, No. 15

Serving the Corps since 1943
Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow

August 08, 2024



HDM Car Show
NMCRS Thrift Store
End of Summer Bash

COVER

Cover photo by: Kristyn Galvan

Classic cars on display at the High Desert Marines car show, held at Victor Valley College, Victorville, California, August 3.

Also at the car show were the Walking Color Guard from Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, who presented colors during the opening ceremony.



THE PROSPECTOR

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California
Colonel Russell W. Savatt IV, commanding officer
Sgt. Maj. Miller Daceus, base sergeant major
Communication Strategy and Operations Office
CommStrat Officer: Laurie Pearson
CommStrat Planner: Vacant
CommStrat Specialist: Vanessa Schell
Multimedia Specialist: Kristyn Galvan
Multimedia Specialist: Anthony Plummer

Ice Cream & Car Wash

**EVERY THURSDAY IN AUGUST!
11:30AM-1:00PM**

***Located on James L. Day St.
in empty lot across from tennis courts,
near base gym.**

**All proceeds will go to Marine
Corps Ball.**

**Ice cream flavors: Vanilla &
Chocolate
Single Scoop-\$1.50
Double Scoop-\$3.00**

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.

This magazine is an authorized publication for members of the Department of Defense. Contents of **THE PROSPECTOR** are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the U.S. Marine Corps.

Social Links and Website

**LINKS IN THIS PUBLICATION ARE INTERACTIVE
IN THE ONLINE VERSION**

Website: <http://www.mclbbarstow.marines.mil>

Facebook: [http://www.facebook.com/pages/
Marine-Corps-Logistics-Base-MCLB-
Barstow/116845431679314](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Marine-Corps-Logistics-Base-MCLB-Barstow/116845431679314)

Instagram: [mclb_barstow_official](#)

X: [MCLB Barstow](#)

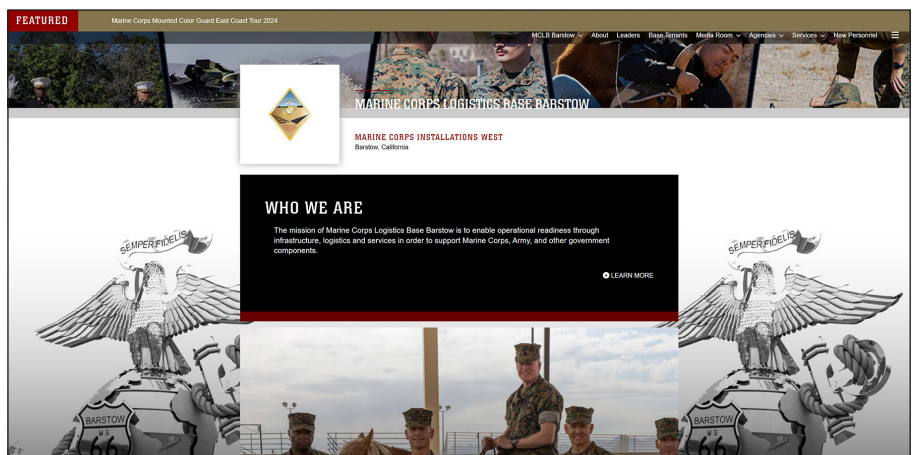




Photo by: Kristyn Galvan

Marines from the Single Marine Program volunteer during a play session with the Marine Corps Community Services New Parent Support Program at the Desert View Housing community center aboard Marine Corps Logistics

Base Barstow, California, August 6. The SMPs engaged in casual play with the children and gave them Hot Wheels toy cars to use on a track. After the play session, the children were able to take the cars home.

CONTENTS



End of Summer Bash 4



NPSP Playgroup 5



NMCRS Thrift Store Volunteers 6-7



ASL Classes Flyer 8



HDM Car Show 9



DeCA News Release 10

End of Summer Bash!

Photos by: Kristyn Galvan
Multimedia Specialist



(left to right) Captain William Bomchill, Melissa Castillo, Capt. Elizabeth Kemp and Capt. William Kemp, played a game of UNO! during the End of Summer Bash at Maj. Gen. James L. Day conference center aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, August 2.



(left photo) Military family enjoy the activities at the End of Summer Bash at James L. Day conference center, which included coloring pages (above photo), at Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, August 2.



A military family plays on the frog slide at the Oasis Pool aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, August 2. During the End of Summer Bash, the pool was open for families and personnel.



Lance Corporal Jayden Williams dives into the Oasis Pool aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, during the End of Summer Bash, August 2.

NPSP Playgroup at Desert View Housing

Photos by: Kristyn Galvan
Multimedia Specialist



Marine Corps Community Services Barstow Behavioral Health held a playgroup for the New Parent Support Program at the Desert View Base Housing Community Center aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, July 30.

The purpose of the program is for parents and children to have the chance to engage in activities designed to promote the child's social and physical development while enjoying themselves. Additionally, parents have the opportunity to connect with other parents and discover new strategies to enhance the parent-child relationship. The next NPSP playgroup will be held August 27, once again at Desert View Housing.



Meet Our Thrift

Story & Photos by: Vanessa Schell
CommStrat Specialist



Donna Hamilton (left), a civilian volunteer, and Nicole Dennehy Williams (right), military spouse volunteer, pose for a photo during their shift at the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society thrift store aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, August 3.

Mark your calendars! August 17 is National Thrift Store Day and the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society thrift store aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, will be open, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The MCLB Barstow NMCRS thrift store currently has two active volunteers, who open the store and manage all the donations. They're actively seeking more volunteers.

Donna Hamilton, lead volunteer, travels from Victorville, California, having retired there after working over 20 years as a stockbroker in Phoenix, Arizona. By chance she attended a luncheon on base and happened across the information packet for volunteer opportunities on base, put together by the volunteer coordinator at the time, Beth Simpson.

"There were so many opportunities on base and in Barstow, and I just honed in on the one about the thrift store. I went home and sent an email, then 90 minutes later, I got a phone call and they said 'your timing is impeccable! Our current volunteer is being transferred to Texas,'" said Hamilton. "So, I started volunteering right away. Now, here I am still. It has been very rewarding and it's something I can do for people."

Hamilton has been volunteering at the thrift store since April 2021, officially as the lead volunteer in May 2021 after the previous lead left for Texas. As a lead volunteer, she does the bookkeeping, all the paperwork (which is sent to the NMCRS aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California) and onboards new volunteers, all on top of the day-to-day functions of the store.

"For about a year and a half, I was by myself. It was a lot of work, but that's what I signed up for. You expect that there's going to be some work that's going into it. So, [in the beginning] I just went room by room and did as much as I could," said Hamilton.

Volunteering at the thrift store was not Hamilton's first experience with NMCRS. Hamilton's father was a career

Marine, who retired after 36 years during which he served two tours in Vietnam. In the 1960s, during his second tour, for some reason his allotment checks were not sent back to the US.

"My mom had four kids and we didn't have any money. She tapped into the Navy-Marine Corps Society Relief funds so she could fix the washing machine, buy groceries, get gas, whatever, even back then in the 60s," said Hamilton. "It is very honorable, now, to help on this side, after my family had been helped on the other side. I help bring in business and bring in revenue so that we can help more families."

Nicole Dennehy Williams, the other volunteer at the thrift store, is a military spouse who immigrated from Ireland and has been volunteering on base since arriving a year ago.

"As an immigrant, I couldn't immediately work and I didn't know anyone, so I thought 'what have I gotten myself into,'" said Dennehy Williams, with a laugh. "Then one day, at the gym, I happened to run into Kim Owens, another volunteer on base who is involved in many things, and she told me about all these volunteer opportunities. So, then I thought, 'okay, I do need something to spend my time on and it will be a really good way to get to know people.'"

Williams is still waiting to legally be able to work in the US, but her professional experience in community development and social outreach in Ireland gave her crucial skills for thriving in all her volunteer opportunities. She also volunteers for the Lifestyle, Insight, Networks, Knowledge and Skills program, where she serves as a certified mentor.

"It's been nice to give something back. The military life is so different from the civilian life. You come out here [to a base] and there are so many more resources. There are so many opportunities to ask for help and someone will step up to help you. It's nice to be able to turn the tables, to do something that gives back in some way," Williams said. "It is more than just a thrift store; it is really building on the sense of community here."

Marines from the Single Marine Program will also volunteer their time to sort through the store's donations and organize the donation storeroom. Hamilton and Williams are always grateful for more help at the thrift store. If you are a single Marine and want to get involved, see the SMP calendar (hanging up in the SMP recreation center) for a full list of volunteer opportunities and contact the SMP coordinator, Albert "AJ" Jacobs, for more information, (760) 577-5889 or albert.jacobs@usmc-mccs.org.

Not only does the thrift store give volunteers invaluable experience, that they can put on their resume, but customer interactions also have a lasting impact.

"One time, relatively recently, we had a group come in, looking for a gift for their pregnant friend. They wanted to surprise her with some baby items. It was so much fun, we had some brand new, still in the box, highchairs and a baby bouncer. They were so excited!" said Williams.

"You will get more familiar with people, the people who come into the store and the people who work on the base. Some

Store Volunteers



A Marine from the Single Marine Program sorts through donations and helps organize the donation storeroom at the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society thrift store aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, August 8.

of them are acquaintances and some of them are, dare I say, lifelong friends. One person in particular is a constant presence in here. She's always shopping. She'll tell me, 'hey, I need this item or that item, please keep an eye out,'" said Hamilton. "She was in here recently and picked up a couple things that I had put aside for her. She told me they're perfect and gave me a new list of items to look out for. I already knew exactly where to go, what to look for and what will fit her," said Hamilton.

American author, Elizabeth Andrews, once said "volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart."

Williams was also involved in charitable programs in Ireland, such as running 10Ks or serving on committees for wildlife organizations. Before moving to California, Hamilton had spent long hours on Saturdays in Phoenix volunteering for a homeless shelter that operated similarly on donations.

"That was a cool job, just as much as this one is a cool job," said Hamilton. "The NMCRS helps a greater good than what I can do here, but I'm still a little cog in that wheel."

"The more people who get involved, the more we can do, the more we can give back," said

Williams. "I find volunteering is a really, really good way to make yourself at home in a community. It helps put down roots, so you don't feel like you're isolated."

According to the 2023 impact report released by the NMCRS, available on their website, 130,000 patrons visited NMCRS thrift stores and purchased items, there were 211 NMCRS locations worldwide and 4100 volunteers, all of which contributed to nearly 200,000 clients receiving assistance through the various NMCRS programs and \$50 million in financial assistance.

Interested in volunteering? No experience necessary. More volunteers mean the thrift store could be open more during the week and be able to process more donations. Please visit <https://support.nmcrrs.org/a/volunteer-nmcrrs> and fill out the form. Or, alternatively, scan the QR code, posted on the window outside of the NMCRS thrift store.

Thanks to the generous donations of people on base and those in the community with base access, the NMCRS thrift store has full racks and shelves, but there are some items they would like more of:

- Children's toys (in-tact and with all the pieces)
- Clothing for girls, 5T to 18 years, especially pre-teen
- Men's clothing
- Kitchenware and dinnerware
- Books
- Vinyl records

The NMCRS thrift store is housed at building 204, across the street from the Marine Corps Exchange. Store hours are every Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and every first and third Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and donations are only accepted during store hours.



A patron browses the girls section at the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society thrift store aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, August 3.

Homeschool Hub

Reserve the Library CreateSpace for
your homeschooling needs!

THURSDAYS 0800-1000 OR 1000-1200

CONTACT : (760) 577-6018 OR EMAIL
JANET.ROCHA-DIAZ@USMC-MCCS.ORG



Would you like to learn a new way to communicate with your child? Come join us in learning American Sign Language and how it can improve communication. ASL is useful for children of all ages, not just babies!



According to the National Institute on Deafness and Communication Disorders, American Sign Language is "a complete, natural language that has the same linguistic properties as spoken languages, with grammar that differs from English. It is the primary language of many North Americans who are deaf and hard of hearing and is used by some hearing people as well."

ASL also has practical applications and could be useful in situations where speaking aloud is not possible, such as underwater or in loud venues.

Interested in learning American Sign Language? Classes are available upon request. Contact Personal and Professional Development, at the above contact number or email, to sign up.

Interested in taking more detailed ASL classes, or would like more information on resources for learning ASL? Contact

Adam Diaz, school liaison officer and Exceptional Family Member Program caseworker:

Email: adam.diaz@usmc.mil

Phone number: (760) 577-5854

The classes that will be available are open to all ages, for military, families and personnel.

"For the already skilled signer, it's another opportunity to experience a shared passion among others. A novice will still leave having learned something new. Any age may participate. Babies are welcome and encouraged to be present. Manual dexterity develops much earlier than oral motor skills, helping babies be able to communicate their basic needs months before learning how to speak," said Diaz.



CPen I MEF & Ft Irwin 916th tour MDMC



Photo by: Kristyn Galvan

I Marine Expeditionary Force Marines listen to the tour presentation at Production Plant Barstow Marine Depot Maintenance Command on the Yermo Annex aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, July 30.



Photo by: Kristyn Galvan

Chief Warrant Officer Zachary Evers explains to I Marine Expeditionary Force Marines from Camp Pendleton, California, about the Limited Technical Inspection as part of the tour of Production Plant Barstow Marine Depot Maintenance Command on the Yermo Annex aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, July 30.



Photo by: Kristyn Galvan

Master Gunnery Sergeant Delroy Wade asks questions and provides supplementary information during the I Marine Expeditionary Force tour of Production Plant Barstow Marine Depot Maintenance Command at the Yermo Annex aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, July 30.



Photo courtesy: Betty Jackson

Malissa Santos, supervisory industrial specialist (center), leads the tour of Production Plant Barstow Marine Depot Maintenance Command to the 916th Support Brigade out of Army National Training Center Fort Irwin, California, August 1.

HDM Annual Car Show

Photos by: Kristyn Galvan
Multimedia Specialist



High Desert Marines held their annual Car Show at Victor Valley College, Victorville, California, August 3. A variety of vehicles, vendors and food trucks contributed to the success of the event. Excelsior High Desert Young Marines and Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow Walking Color Guard were amongst many that were present to support the event.



Affordable Back-to-School Meals with DeCA

Written by: Tressa Smith
DeCA Public Affairs Specialist

As the summer season winds down, the Defense Commissary Agency provides savings, convenience and resources to help families balance their back-to-school meal routines.

“Commissary stores deliver incredible value by selling high-quality products at the lowest possible prices,” said Navy Command Master Chief Mario Rivers, senior enlisted advisor to the DeCA director. “Whether you’re looking to prepare healthy and affordable meals or to find more time in your busy schedule, don’t forget to shop your local commissary.”

Families wanting to save money on back-to-school meals and snacks can take advantage of our private label Commissary Store Brands:

- **Freedom’s Choice** beverages, pantry essentials, dairy products, snacks, and frozen foods (meats, vegetables, seafood) are equal to or better than national brands.

- **HomeBase** sandwich bags, plastic wrap, containers, foil, plasticware, paper towels, napkins, and facial tissue take care of business at a fraction of name brand prices.



Photo by: Vanessa Schell

HomeBase, a Defense Commissary Agency brand, easily identifiable by the HomeBase logo, seen here on double zipper storage bags, found at DeCA commissaries, including the commissary about Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California.

For nutritious back-to-school meal planning, the commissary offers a trio of wellness programs:

- **Thinking Outside the Box** meal solutions are featured in the commissary sales flyer every two weeks and offer dietitian-approved recipes requiring minimal ingredients that are quick and easy to prepare. TOTB featured recipe ingredients are offered at significant savings during the sales period. To help with your TOTB meal planning, DeCA has prepared a refrigerator card available for download, showing the TOTB recipe that will be featured during each 2024 sales period.

- **Dietitian-Approved Thumb** labels on store shelves make it easy for patrons to quickly identify high-nutrition, quality foods to incorporate into a healthy eating routine. DAT uses U.S. Food and Drug Administration-defined health attributes to identify dietitian-approved foods that limit added sugar, sodium and unhealthy fat. The labels also identify foods with whole grains, healthy fats, fiber or lean protein.



Photo by: Vanessa Schell

Dietitian-Approved Thumb label, indicating an item that is high-quality and high-nutrition. Seen at Defense Commissary Agency commissaries, including the commissary aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California.

- **Grab-N-Go Dietitian-Approved Fueling Stations** are located near the front-end checkout aisles in over 170 commissaries and offer tasty, nutritious meals and snacks that provide shopping convenience without the high calories or high cost of a fast food restaurant meal. Patrons can find products that offer protein, healthy fat, complex carbohydrates and low-calorie forms of hydration like low-calorie waters and sports drinks, deli sandwiches, single-serving hummus, ready-to-eat lean protein, fruits and cheese, no-added-sugar yogurts, low-sugar protein bars and prepared sliced fruits and salads.



Photo by: Vanessa Schell

Freedom's Choice brand cheese blocks at the Defense Agency Commissary. Freedom's Choice brands are an affordable solution to other brands that may be higher priced. Found at DeCA commissaries, including the commissary about Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California.

National Immunization Awareness Month
Black Business Month
Back-to-School Month
Family Fun Month



AUGUST

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7 - 11AM: Sunday Drive @ Marine Memorial Golf Course	Work Like a Dog Day	National Sisters Day	National Purple Heart Day	9 - 11AM: 5 Love Languages of Children (online) 930AM - 130PM: Thrift Store Open 12 - 5PM: Kids Bowl Free @ Bldg. 342	6 - 8AM: SMP Summer Breakfast @ Bldg. 375 12 - 5PM: Kids Bowl Free @ Bldg. 342	10AM - 2PM: Thrift Store Open
4	5	6	7	1	2	3
7 - 11AM: Sunday Drive @ Marine Memorial Golf Course		9 - 10AM: (Adult class) Journaling, Organizing & Gratitude @ Bldg. 218 9 - 10AM: NPSP Take It Make It @ Bldg. 363 1 - 3PM: Got Your Back 8 Week Series @ Bldg. 218	12 - 5PM: Kids Bowl Free @ Bldg. 342 2 - 3PM: (Kids class) Name Plate for School @ Bldg. 218	9 - 11AM: Basic Anger Management (online) 930AM - 130PM: Thrift Store Open 12 - 5PM: Kids Bowl Free @ Bldg. 342 4 - 730PM: SMP VR Game Night @ Bldg. 375	12 - 5PM: Kids Bowl Free @ Bldg. 342 5 - 7PM: FAP Info Table at Screens & Sirrkes @ Bldg. 342	12 - 5PM: Kids Bowl Free @ Bldg. 342
7 - 11AM: Sunday Drive @ Marine Memorial Golf Course		9 - 10AM: (Adult class) Crafts & Coffee @ Bldg. 218 9 - 10AM: Interpersonal Communication (online) 9AM - 4PM: Baby Boot Camp @ Bldg. 363 4 - 730PM: SMP Taco Dinner Night @ Bldg. 375	12 - 5PM: Kids Bowl Free @ Bldg. 342 2 - 3PM: (Kids class) DIY Pencil Cup Holder @ Bldg. 218	8 - 11AM: The Happiness Advantage (online) 930AM - 130PM: Thrift Store Open 12 - 5PM: Kids Bowl Free @ Bldg. 342 1 - 3PM: Volunteer Orientation @ Bldg. 126	8AM - 2PM: SMP La Brea Tar Pits/Petersen Car Museum Trip 12 - 5PM: Kids Bowl Free @ Bldg. 342	10AM - 2PM: Thrift Store Open
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
7 - 11AM: Sunday Drive @ Marine Memorial Golf Course		10AM - 12PM: FAP Domestic Abuse Info Table @ Bldg. 319 11 - 1130AM: (Adult class) Beginners Stitching @ Bldg. 218	12 - 5PM: Kids Bowl Free @ Bldg. 342 2 - 3PM: (Kids class) Make Your Own Bookmark @ Bldg. 218	930AM - 130PM: Thrift Store Open 12 - 5PM: Kids Bowl Free @ Bldg. 342 4 - 5PM: L.I.N.K.S. Foundations @ Bldg. 126	Remember Slavery Day 12 - 5PM: Kids Bowl Free @ Bldg. 342	Auto Skills - Open
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Auto Skills - Open 7 - 11AM: Sunday Drive @ Marine Memorial Golf Course 11AM - 1230PM: SMP Volunteer @ Feed Bar-stow's Hungry	Women's Equality Day	9 - 10AM: NPSP Play Group @ Bldg. 363 11 - 1130AM: (Adult class) Beginners Quilting @ Bldg. 218	12 - 5PM: Kids Bowl Free @ Bldg. 342 1 - 2PM: FAP Prevention Hour @ Bldg. 218 2 - 3PM: (Kids class) Intro Card for Teacher @ Bldg. 218			
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

For more details, visit MCLB Bartstow's community events page at:
<https://barstow.usmc-mccs.org/calendar-of-events>