The Prospector

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Serving the Corps since 1943
Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow

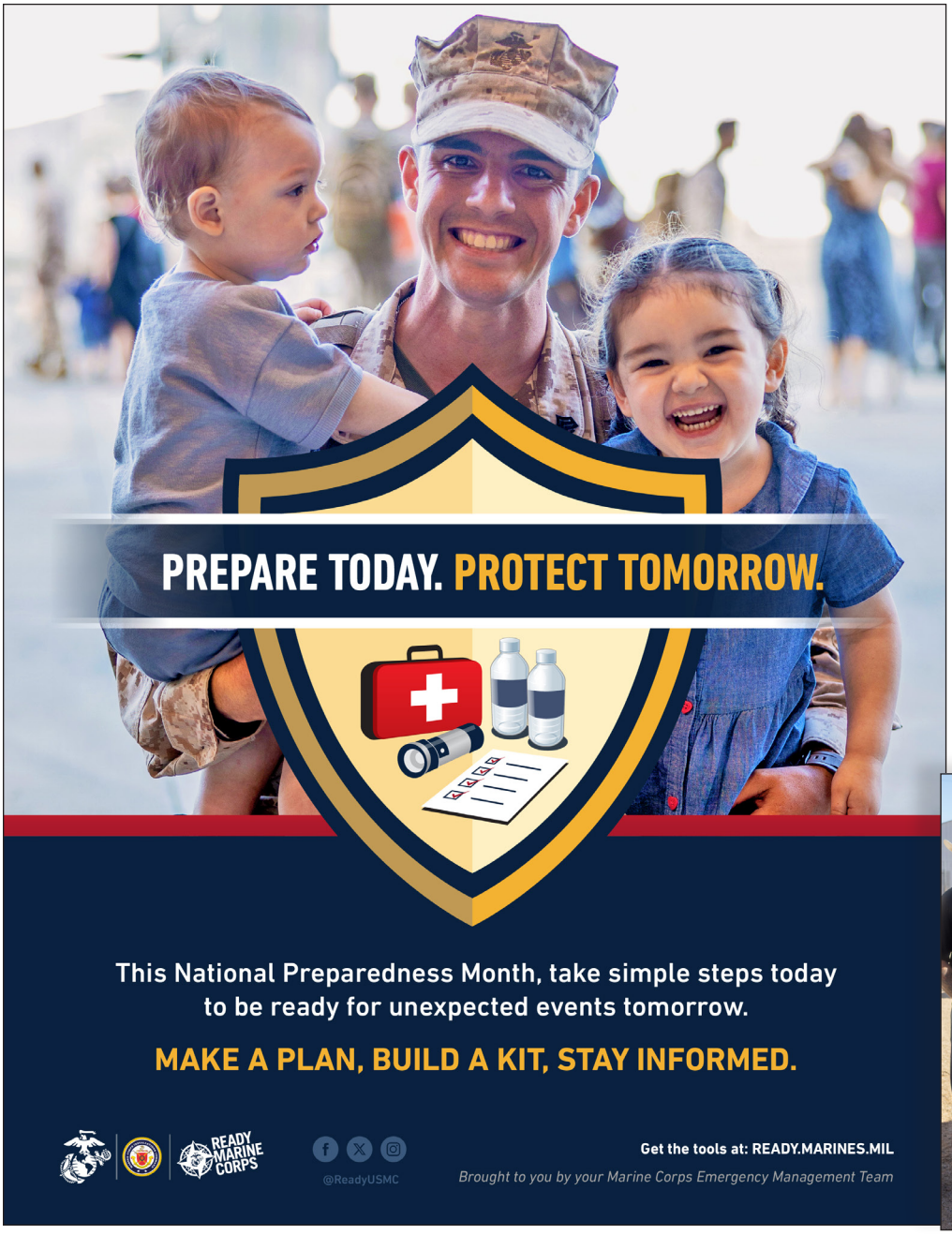
September 30, 2026



National Preparedness Month

9/11 Commemoration Ceremonies

Fall Festival 2026: Concert in the Park



COVER

Cover photo by: LCpl Jonathan Sherchand

Sgt Lauren Lynch, stableman, of the U.S. Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard participates in the barrel races during the first annual Barstow Western Roundup rodeo aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, Sept. 12.

THE PROSPECTOR

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Special Photo Feature!



Brig. Gen. Nick Brown shares a moment with one of the Mounted Color Guard mustangs during the day two tour of the MCIWEST Commander's Conference aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, September 11. Read more on page 8!

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Social Media Links & Base Website

OUR OFFICIAL BASE SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE CAN BE FOUND AT THE FOLLOWING LINKS:

Website: ***http://www.mclbbarstow.marines.mil***

Facebook: ***http://www.facebook.com/MCLBBarstow***

Instagram: ***mclb_barstow_official***

X: ***MCLB_Barstow***

LinkedIn: ***linkedin.com/company/marinecorpslogisticsbasebarstow***





Photo by: Katherine Cortez

Newly hired personnel with Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow Fire and Emergency Services participate in Basic Skills Tower 6 training at the base fire training area aboard MCLB Barstow, California, September 16. The weeklong training evolution held September 14–18, focused on tool and equipment familiarization, standard operating procedures, and foundational emergency response skills to ensure new firefighters are safely and effectively integrated into the department's active shift operations.

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National Preparedness Month

Story by: Katherine Cortez
Public Affairs Specialist

Across Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California and installations worldwide, emergency management programs provide the framework for preparing for, responding to, recovering from, and mitigating all-hazards incidents, especially in light of National Preparedness Month each September. The focus throughout the month serves as a reminder to all that readiness begins before an emergency occurs.

A well-prepared Marine Corps community is essential to the execution of critical national security functions and warfighting missions worldwide.

According to the Emergency Readiness Program and Ready Marine Corps, emergencies can happen with little warning, but preparedness starts long before they do. National Preparedness Month is an opportunity to take practical steps that can help protect you, your family, your workplace, and your community. Build an emergency kit, make a communication plan, know your evacuation routes, and stay informed.



Photo Courtesy of Ready.gov.

"Think through some of the most likely emergencies that you could face, think of a plan, then objectively think through that plan and find the weak points in that plan, and refine your plan, said Master Sgt. Matthew Biesman, Communications chief. "Prepare supplies for your plan. Make a 'go bag' with at least 72 hours of supplies (food, water, medicine, first aid kit, a knife, clothes, diapers, etc.) And finally, practice your plan. Making your plan 'muscle memory' is the best thing you can do to help yourself. You have no idea how your body will react in an emergency, but if you have already trained your mind and body to enact your plan, you are that much farther ahead."

National Preparedness Month 2026 slogan is "Prepare Today. Protect Tomorrow." Ready Marine Corps invokes the idea that "small preparedness actions taken now can reduce stress, protect loved ones, and help communities recover more quickly when emergencies happen. Another proactive way to stay prepared is by building an emergency kit, protecting vital documents, building and accruing an emergency savings fund, and keeping critical documents and contacts accessible."

"If you are already prepared even when an emergency is not expected, and you practice your plan, you will remain more calm in that emergency and are more likely to make the correct decision that could potentially save lives. Also, if you stay ready, you don't have to get ready. If you pre-plan to have the things you need in the places they are needed, you have already done the work before the emergency which could again save lives," Master Sgt. Biesman said.

Aboard MCLB Barstow, all personnel are encouraged to enroll in a communication system that alerts personnel of hazards and emergencies in your area, so you can take action when it matters most and in a timely manner.

"MCLB Barstow's primary method is the Alert! Mass Notification System. Alert! quickly and accurately informs MCLB personnel, in real time, of any possible threats, and provides any necessary instructions in the event of an emergency., "said Lori Morgan, base security manager. "Alert! users on the Marine Corps domain who log on to their Marine Corps Enterprise Network computers via a common access card will automatically receive the network pop-ups from Alert!"

"We have several ways to communicate emergency information with base personnel, we have 'big voice', social media, public address systems on Provost Marshal's Office vehicles, and (coming soon) the base app," Master Sgt. Biesman said.

To ensure preparedness for all base personnel, dispatch offers specific tips. "Follow current events via social media, news, and the radio," said Kelly Arps, public safety telecommunicator. "Keep up-to-date on extreme weather conditions, local and state hazards. Always follow protocols and adhere to guidance on safety measures."

Social media may be a good source to communicate with other personnel and families on base, but it is imperative that any phishing emails, posts, or virtual attacks be reported to your office, and S-6 Communications Division. This helps to ensure that communication is disbursed throughout the installation appropriately and accurately and helps reduce vulnerabilities to the installation.

You may reach the Communications Strategies and Operations office (760)577-6430 with any unusual messages, emails, or phone calls and do not release information in any context to unknown information seekers. For Communications, call 1-855-ESD-USMC (373-8762).

"To receive emergency notifications with base official information via e-mail, text, and telephone, users must manually register their emergency contact information to the Alert! system," Morgan said. "We strongly recommend that users register all devices and methods that they would prefer to receive emergency information."

If you do not have Marine Corps Enterprise Network access but need to receive critical base notifications, you may contact MCLB Barstow Mission Assurance mclbb_ma@usmc.mil or 760-577-5838/5401 to register for the Alert! system.

For additional information on how to build an emergency preparedness kit, plan or more, go to the following website: www.ready.gov.

Barstow's Western Round-Up 2026

Photos By: LCpl Jonathan Sherchand

Members of the U.S. Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard participate in the first annual Barstow Western Roundup rodeo aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, Sept. 12. The event, hosted by the Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard Association, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, featured the Marine Corps' last remaining mounted color guard presenting the national and organizational colors during the opening ceremony before competing in events including team roping, barrel racing, and bull riding. The competition highlights a unique tradition of military horsemanship, ceremonial excellence, and local community engagement.





















September 11th Comm

Photos by: Katherine Cortez









Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow Fire and Emergency Services, Mayor Tim Silva, veterans, and other official representatives, together with local community members, convened for September 11th commemorative ceremonies. The U.S. Veterans Support Group organized the first observance on September 5, while Barstow Community College hosted a second ceremony on September 11, both held in Barstow, California. Participants engaged in reflection upon the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, through multiple addresses, a period of silence, formal wreath placement ceremonies to honor those who perished, recognition of the heroism demonstrated by first responders including the Firefighter's Prayer, and an instrumental performance to celebrate the valor of first responders, thereby reinforcing the nation's steadfast dedication to perpetual remembrance.







emoration Ceremonies













MCLB Barstow hosts MCIWEST Commanders Conference

Story by: Kristyn Galvan
Public Affairs Chief

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow hosted a Marine Corps Installations West commanders conference Sept. 10-11, 2026, bringing together senior leaders and representatives from installations across the region to discuss shared challenges, exchange best practices and strengthen collaboration across the region.

The conference welcomed Brig. Gen. Nick I. Brown, commanding general, MCIWEST, Sgt. Maj. Sherri Cook, senior enlisted leader of MCIWEST, along with leaders and representatives from Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, MCAS MIRAMAR, MCAS Camp Pendleton, Marine Air Ground Tactical Force Training Command Twenty-Nine Palms, and Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center Bridgeport.

The gathering provided an opportunity for commanders and senior leaders to discuss installation priorities, share lessons learned and identify ways to strengthen support for Marines, sailors, civilian employees and their families while maintaining mission readiness.

"It is awe inspiring to see you all in action every single day; it is not easy at the levels you are all at and the sacrifices that you face head on in the day to day. The train never stops, it is a busy time, so I thank you all for being here," Brig. Gen. Brown said in starting his opening remarks. "This year, we are going to focus on the best practices on day one and because you are doing such great things out there, coming together and doing this, understanding what other bases are doing. Everything from how you manage resources, to how you take care of your Marines, whatever the topic is that you lay out, it is meant to make all MCIWEST better."

Commander's conferences provide senior leaders with an opportunity to step away from their individual installation environments and examine challenges and opportunities from a broader regional perspective. By sharing experiences and successful practices, leaders can identify solutions that may benefit installations throughout MCIWEST.

"I'm excited to be here because we have all the senior leaders of MCIWEST in one room together to use this time to collaborate, look at best practices, and to look at some things that are going well or some things that are going no so well so that we can work on fixing those gaps collectively," SgtMaj. Cook stated. "I believe that true leadership is not about the cliché of doing 'more with less' but, how to operate and maneuver with those things we have; how to be flexible and agile to accomplish the mission-that is what makes us Marines."

In addition to conference discussions, attendees received an opportunity to see several of MCLB Barstow's unique capabilities and missions firsthand during a tour of the installation.

The tour included stops at the Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard stables and Rail Operations, highlighting capabilities that contribute to the installation's mission and distinguish MCLB Barstow within the MCIWEST region.

At the stables, guests received an inside look at the MCG and the training and care required to maintain the unit's horses. The visit provided leaders with an opportunity to engage with Marines and personnel responsible for a mission that combines ceremonial tradition, horsemanship and community engagement.

The group also toured Rail Operations, providing attendees with a closer look at the capabilities and personnel supporting the movement of thousands of pieces of Department of War equipment annually, and resources through one of MCLB Barstow's critical mission areas.

The combination of conference discussions and installation tours allowed visiting leaders to gain a broader understanding of MCLB Barstow's mission while providing Barstow personnel an opportunity to showcase the capabilities that support the Marine Corps worldwide.



Photo by: Kristyn Galvan

Senior leaders and installation commanders from across the region gather for a group photo in front of the Eagle, Globe and Anchor statue during the MCIWEST Commanders Conference aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, Sept. 10-11, 2026.

"If we walk out of here even just one percent better, we will have accomplished what we have come here to accomplish," Brig. Gen. Brown said.

As Marine Corps installations continue to adapt to evolving mission requirements, collaboration among regional leaders remains essential to maintaining effective support for the operating forces and the communities surrounding each installation.

The two-day conference reinforced the importance of communication, shared knowledge and leadership across MCIWEST, while highlighting the unique capabilities and people that contribute to MCLB Barstow's mission.

Military Mixer 2026

Photos by: Katherine Cortez



Local civic leaders, business owners, and military personnel gather during the 2026 Community Military Mixer hosted aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, September 18. The annual networking event, co-hosted alongside the Barstow Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee and the National Training Center-High Desert Chapter AUSA, is designed to strengthen relationships, foster open communication, and celebrate the shared interests and enduring partnership between the installation and the surrounding High Desert communities.











MCLB BARSTOW LIBRARY

HALLOWEEN CRAFT BASH

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23RD
5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

bldg 218, library + library lawn

Celebrate the spooky season with crafts, food, a movie and an escape room!

Call (760) 577-6395 to RSVP for the Escape Room!

MARINE & Family | Libraries

MCCS MARINE CORPS COMMUNITY SERVICES

Fall Festival 2026: Concert in the Park

Photos by: Katherine Cortez

Community members and military families gather for the annual Fall Festival and Concert in the Park at Sorenson Field aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Sept. 25. Hosted by MCCS Barstow, the family-friendly event featured live music, interactive games, and a special appearance by the Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard to foster community relations and celebrate the autumn season.











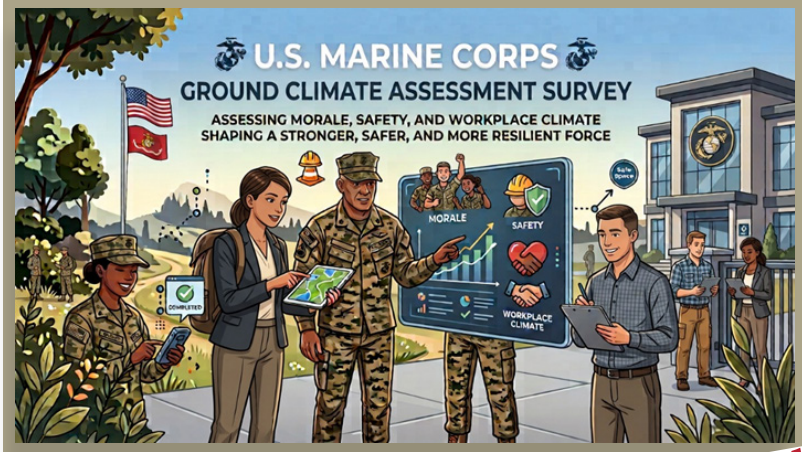








BASE PERSONNEL! Are you an MCLB Barstow base employee? We need your input.



It's time to let the command know how it's doing with regard to our climate. We cannot improve as a team culturally, without your thoughts and opinions - They are extremely valuable and were given careful consideration as with last year's results and comments. Last year MCLB Barstow was rated #1 in multiple areas. Not to say we did have weaknesses as well. This is the time to compare results to see did we improve those weaknesses and are there other areas we need to focus on now? This survey is designed to identify and highlight areas where we might best focus our resources. This survey is for both Marines and civilians, and it allows you to give the Base Commander your honest thoughts on not only our safety culture but our overall morale and practices at MCLB Barstow. The survey will run from October 1st to October 31st.

Scan this QR code to get started!

Or go to the website below:
https://semperfisurveys.org/RespRate/5117729

*All surveys can be done anonymously

Domestic Violence Awareness Month
Wear Purple Fridays!
Breast Cancer Awareness Month

October 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	1-3 PM: Volunteer Orientation, Bldg. 126 5-7 PM: Screens & Strikes-Halloweentown @ Leatherneck Lanes 2	11AM - 3PM: Thrift Store Open 3
4	5	1-3PM: LifeSkills: Say What?! @ Bldg. 126 9 - 10AM: Take It, Make It Activities @ Desert Housing Community Center 9AM - 1PM: Thrift Store Open 6	9-10 AM: Sponsorship Training @ Bldg. 126 3-4 PM: Kid's Class-Create Space @ Bldg. 218 7	10 AM- 12PM: Homeschool Hub 9-10 AM:Smooth Move Workshop @ Bldg. 126 9AM - 1PM: Thrift Store Open 8	L.I.N.K.S. Networking @ Bldg. 363 9	World Mental Health Day 10
11	Columbus Day 12	10-11 AM: NPSP Playground @ Desert Community Housing Office 9AM - 1PM: Thrift Store Open 13	3-4 PM: Kid's Class-Create Space @ Bldg. 218 9-11AM: Domestic Violence & SIDS Info Table @ MCX 14	10-11AM: Playground @Desert Housing Communithy Center 9:30-10 AM: Library Storytime @ Bldg 218 9AM - 1PM: Thrift Store Open 15	5-7PM: Screens for Marines @ Leatherneck Lanes L.I.N.K.S.Networking Waffle Welcome with MFP Info Tables @ Bldg. 363 16	National Pasta Day 17
10AM: Worship Service @ Base Chapel 18	19	10-11AM: Playgroup @ Housing Center 9AM - 1PM: Thrift Store Open 20	2:30-3 PM: Library Storytime @ Bldg 218 3-4 PM: Kid's Class-Create Space @ Bldg. 218 21	L.I.N.K.S. Networking: Invensting in Community @ Bldg. 126 9AM - 1PM: Thrift Store Open 22	23	24
25	26	10-11AM: Infant Massage @ Bldg. 218 9AM - 1PM: Thrift Store Open 27	SACP Red Ribbon Week Info Dispay @MCX 28	9:30-10 AM: Library Storytime @ Bldg 218 5-7PM: DVAM Light up the Night Candlelight Vigil @ Housing Center SACP Red Ribbon Week Info Dispay @MCX 9AM - 1PM: Thrift Store Open 29	SACP Red Ribbon Week Info Dispay @MCX 30	Halloween 31

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