

# BARSTOW LOG

SUPPORTING MCLB'S VISION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

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Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California

August 21, 2003

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**Check out the Marine Corps Web site.**

<http://www.usmc.mil>

**BARSTOW LOG**  
SUPPORTING MCLB'S VISION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

<https://www.barstow.usmc.mil>

# Housing pet policy changes

By Rob L. Jackson  
BARSTOW LOG staff

The regulations regarding ownership of pets in MCLB Barstow's housing area have recently been updated in the Military Family Housing Manual P11101.20A.

One of the most significant changes deals with what are considered potentially dangerous animals.

According to the regulation "potentially dangerous pets are defined as any animal the National Training Center's veterinarian, base inspector, or any other competent authority determines may present an unreasonable risk to the health and safety of those residing or working in or around base housing or on base."

Some examples of pets in this category include but are not limited to the Stafford shire Bull Terrier, American Stafford shire Terrier (pit bulls) Rhodesian Ridgeback, Doberman pinscher, German shepherd, Rottweiler and chow chow.

"Certain dogs, like a Chow, are

dependent on how the owner raised it," said Gunnery Sgt. Edward Lee Jones Jr., housing chief at the Base Housing Office. "I've seen a lot of nice pit bulls, but because of that 10 percent that messed up in the past they group them all together as aggressive animals."

The order goes on to state that the determination of potentially dangerous pets will be based on unusually aggressive or threatening behavior and incidents of substantiated aggressive or threatening behavior, short of an attack on a person or another animal which is grounds for immediate removal.

"If the base inspector (Master Sgt. David W. Vanhovel) and I approach a dog and think it's aggressive then we

**Housing residents are reminded ... that ownership of pets on base is a privilege ... and is dependent upon the ability of the animal to live in harmony with the military community.**

can make that decision," said Jones.

According to Jones, each time the base inspector makes a decision regarding an animal he submits a recommendation to the base commander for review. After reviewing the case, she either approves or disapproves the recommendation.

"In the most extreme case, depending upon the recommendation and how vicious the dog appears, the resident would have to get rid of the animal (the day the decision was made)," said Jones.

Residents owning dogs that are determined to be potentially dangerous should be aware that they are limited to just one pet and no more, according to the regulation. However, waivers of this policy may be granted

on a case-by-case basis, according to Vanhovel. Housing residents should also be aware that animal breeding of any kind is not permitted in base housing.

Otherwise, a maximum of two pets per family, in any combination is permitted such a dog and a cat, for example.

However, exotic animals like reptiles, rabbits and large birds are not allowed.

Residents should also be aware that within three days of bringing a pet on base a pet agreement form must be signed at the Housing Office. Dogs and cats must also be registered with the Pass and Identification Section and registered each year the pet is aboard the base.

The housing chief also reminds residents owning dogs that the animal should always be on a leash when outside and accompanied by its owner.

"That's one of the problems we've been having recently, people wanting

See PETS Page 10

## CWC 721 critical to 'maneuver' warfare

By Lance Cpl. Andy J. Hurt  
BARSTOW LOG staff

Without a simple 400 horsepower internal combustion diesel engine, an M1A1 Abrams tank goes nowhere, LAVs stay on the ship, and MK48s cannot transport supplies to the front lines.

Technical support from Maintenance Center Barstow's Cost Work Center 721 keeps "maneuver" in democracy's battles every day around the world.

Paul Gallegos, supervisor at CWC 721, described the unit mission as "fixing anything that makes these machines move."

In addition to power train devices and transmission, the shop completely rebuilds engines, axles, transfer cases and gear differentials on most tactical vehicles, with the exception of the Coast Guard's PAXMAN diesel engines, Gallegos said.

The components are shipped into CWC 721 from different units at MCB.

The engines are taken out of the vehicles that have been rendered powerless due to engine failure and a work order is filled out.

"We repair things on an IROAN (inspect and repair only as necessary) basis," said Gallegos.

The components may only need small pieces, such as a new cylinder head or piston rings, in which case the shop only repairs vital components.

"They're all rebuildable," said CWC 721's 11-year veteran "Slim" Wright, a transmission mechanic.

Rebuilds seem to be CWC 721's specialty.

An engine rebuild starts when Scott Haislip, a civilian Marine mechanic at CWC 721, steams



Photo by Lance Cpl. Andy J. Hurt

Jim Stradling, a machinist at MCB, CWC 721, grinds and polishes a shaft from a Cummings 400 AAV engine. Stradling and many other civilian Marines from MCB have been working constant overtime in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom

See 721 Page 6

# Secretary of the Navy outlines plan to reduce mishaps

**ALMAR 048/03**  
Headquarters Marine Corps

The following message was released by the Secretary of the Navy and is being re-released as an ALMAR to ensure widest dissemination throughout our Corps.

“Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld sent out a 19 May 2003 memorandum, subject: reducing preventable accidents. He stated: ‘World-class organizations do not tolerate preventable accidents. Our accident rates have increased

recently, and we need to turn this situation around. It is a challenge to all of you to reduce the number of mishaps and accident rates by at least 50 percent in the next two years. This goal is achievable, and attaining it will directly increase our operational readiness. We owe our best efforts to the men and women who defend our nation.’

“The Department of Defense is establishing a DOD safety oversight council to provide governance of DOD-wide mishap reduction efforts.

“We wholeheartedly endorse this endeavor, and want the Navy and Marine Corps to lead the way. What better way to demonstrate that our sailors, Marines, and civilian employees are truly our most precious asset! In addition to being the right thing to do, preventing mishaps will significantly increase our readiness and retain valuable resources.

“We need an aggressive and enterprising approach to accomplish this mishap reduction goal. Future results will directly relate to the level of effort and to the degree

that leadership champions this initiative. To achieve such an ambitious goal, we must dramatically alter the way we have reacted to similar challenges in the past.

“Doing the same things we have always done will merely perpetuate our current mishap rate plateau. We must energize a more vibrant safety culture within DON — a culture that will establish short-term success and sustain long-term improvement while ensuring combat readiness.

“Commanders at all levels will: “First, assume there may be a

smarter way to do business and empower your best minds to develop and implement it. Ensure a sound approach using effective processes, best practices, and available technologies.

“Second, ensure solid resources for safety. Safety programs are not discretionary — fully funding them should be a priority. To move forward, it is also imperative that we resource promising safety initiatives and new system safety technologies.

See **SAFETY** Page 10

## Tender hearts transform marriages

By Lt. Cmdr. **Randel Livingood**  
Base Chaplain



Divorce! Now there is an ugly word!

In our society divorce has reached such proportions that if it were a disease, which I think it might be, the Center for Disease Control would be working overtime to

solve the problem.

There would be an outcry of such a magnitude that the media would be filling the 24-hour news stations with stories and commentary that would last for weeks and months.

There would be people carrying banners in the street demanding that civil authorities take action to stem the tide of divorce. Instead, we simply accept the divorce rate as a normal part of our society.

The latest figures show that 2,327,000 marriages were performed in 2001. That means that 4,654,000 individuals exchanged wedding vows. Here is the startling news: approximately 50 percent of those marriages ended in divorce!

A statistic like that makes you wonder how such a thing can happen. Aren't people supposed

to love each other? Don't people actually get to know each other before they are married so they minimize the “surprise” factor?

The fact is that many people marry after knowing each other a very short time without preparation. As I said in a previous article, many people spend more time researching a major purchase than they do researching their marriages. Now that we have startled ourselves awake let's move on to another question.

Why is it that people get divorced? I can hear the gears turning from here. All the folks who have experienced divorce are cataloging all the things that went wrong in that particular relationship. They are recalling infidelity, anger, abuse, alcoholism, drug use, financial problems and a whole myriad of problems that seem to afflict marriages.

In the end, however, I believe that you can summarize all these problems in one word: selfishness. That's right, selfishness. There is another word that is often used in Scripture for that and it is called being “hard hearted.”

A good example of that is found in the Gospel of St. Mark, chapter 10, verses 2 through 10. Before you read that let me warn you that it is pretty challenging to our modern way of thinking about divorce.

What the writer is saying there is that divorce

See **CHAPLAIN** Page 10

## Just doing my job ...



Photo by Rob Jackson

Ryan Sanderson, a braker/switcher and one of the newest members of the Transportation Support Branch, Installation and Logistics Department, gets ready to board the engine after hooking the brake lines up to railcars loaded with U. S. Army vehicles. The cars are being pre-staged in another area of the Yermo railhead to make it easier to attach other railcars when they are loaded and ready to be shipped off base later in the week.

### Chapel Services

Protestant Sun. 8:30 a.m.  
Mass Sun. 10:30 a.m.

**Confession services before Mass**

### Catholic Rosary

First Saturday of every month.  
3 p.m. at the **Base Chapel**.

For more info call 577-6849.

### Nebo Bible Study

Wednesday Noon-1:30 p.m.

At the **Chapel Office**.

For more info call 577-6849.



Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California  
Colonel Ingrid E. Bergman, Commanding Officer

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# News Briefs

"News Briefs" is designed to disseminate information to the MCLB Barstow community. Submissions should include a point of contact and phone number, and be received by noon Thursdays for the next week's issue. Submit news briefs via e-mail to [editor@barstow.usmc.mil](mailto:editor@barstow.usmc.mil).

## Lunch Menu

Unless otherwise indicated lunch menus for the Family Restaurant and Cactus Cafe are the same. Lunch menus are subject to change.

**Today** – Chicken cordon bleu

**Friday** – Rainbow trout

**Monday** – Veal parmesan

**Tuesday** – Baked ham

**Wednesday** – Salisbury steak

Active duty military \$3.25, all others, including civilians \$4.75. Lunch entrees include roll/butter, vegetable, coffee, tea or soft drink.

Lunch is served at the Family Restaurant from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. At the Cactus Cafe from 11 a.m. to noon. Cactus Cafe serves hamburgers, subs, salads and other line items available for walk in lunch – for other Family Restaurant lunch menu items, call in orders before 9:30 a.m. to the Family Restaurant at 577-6428.

## Breakfast

Breakfast at the Family Restaurant is from 5:30 to 7:30 a.m. At the Cactus Cafe from 5:30 to 6:30 a.m. Prices: Active duty military \$1.60, all others \$3.25.

## Family Night Dining

**Tonight** – Fish-fry night. Deep fried Hoki fish, catfish and filet of cod, dessert, plus a fountain drink of choice.

## Pool hours

Beginning Tuesday the Family Pool will be open Tuesdays through Fridays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for lap swimming only. The Family Pool and Oasis Pool will be open Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. for recreational swimming. The pools will be open Sept. 1 for the Labor Day

Holiday, after which the pools will be closed for the season.

## Water Outage

Base maintenance will be repairing the electrical distribution in the Desert View Housing Area Aug. 28 from 8 a.m. to approximately 2:30 p.m. This will result in a water outage for all housing residents, including the Housing Office.

## Medical requirements

To better serve the active-duty Marine and sailor community stationed at MCLB Barstow, the Branch Medical Clinic will be conducting Active Duty "C" Status/Medical Readiness Record Verifications on service members' birth month. This new process will begin in September. Service members will be contacted through their chain of command based on their birth month to schedule an appointment with the Preventative Medicine Representative and complete their annual medical readiness requirements. The point of contact for any questions and scheduling of appointments is Petty Officer Ayon at 577-6491, ext. 114.

## Essay contest

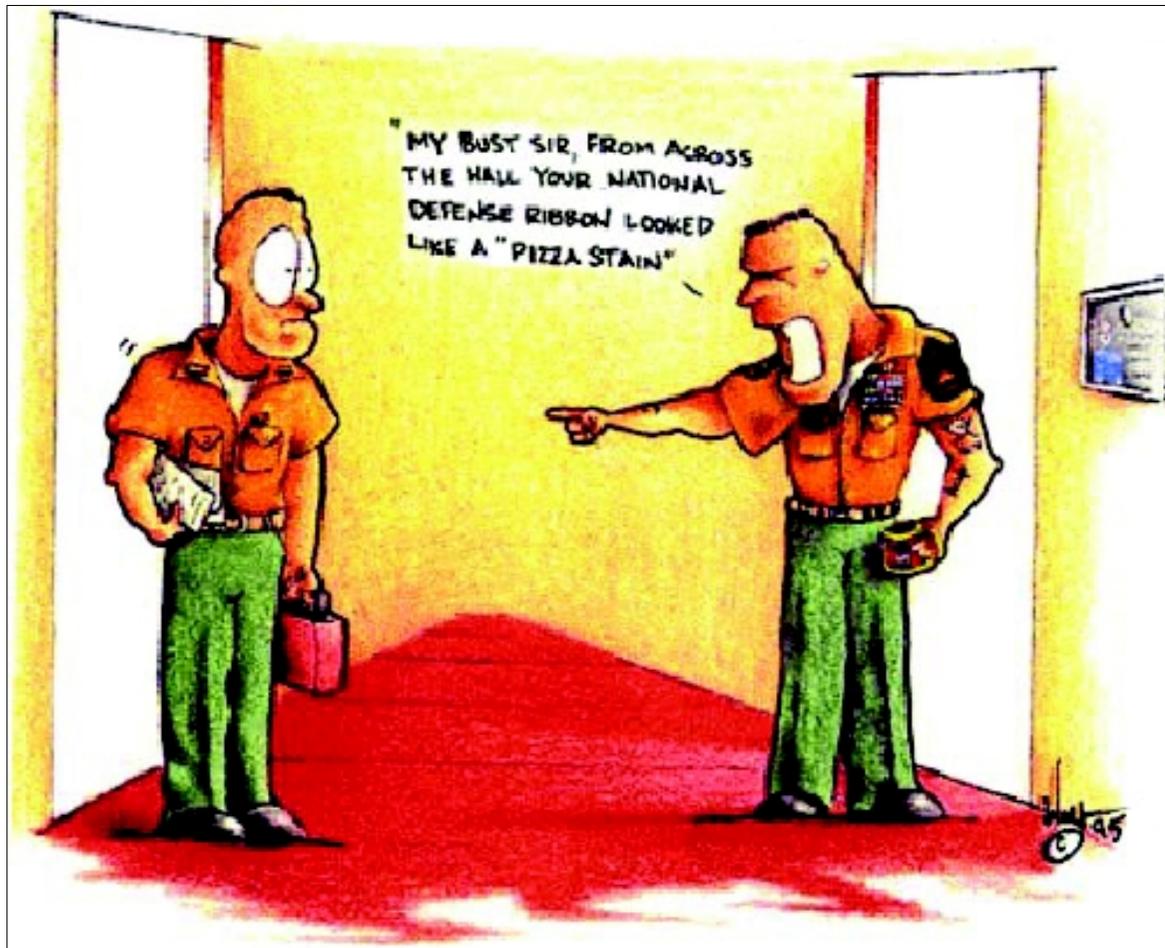
The City of Barstow invites all Barstow-area students in grades six through 12 to compete in an essay contest inspired by the September 11 tragedy.

Prizes donated by the Barstow College Associated Student Body will be awarded to the top-place finisher in three categories: 1) sixth, seventh and eighth grades; 2) ninth and 10th grades; and 3) 11th and 12th grades. The total prizes awarded will value \$300.

Each student is asked to write an essay about an everyday hero who is part of his or her life. Essays must be typewritten and limited to two double-spaced pages.

Essays should be submitted by 5 p.m. on Sept. 5 to Tanya Concho at 220 E. Mountain View St., Suite A Barstow, CA 92311; or via e-mail at [tconcho@barstowca.org/](mailto:tconcho@barstowca.org/).

The essay contest winners will be



announced at the City's September 11 memorial event, "Remember the Fallen, Celebrate Our Freedom," to be held at the Robert Sessions Sportspark (2800 Guadalupe Rd.) on Sept. 11 at 5:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Sue Jones at 252-2411, ext. 7350, or John Rader at 256-3531, ext. 3265.

## Blood drive

A blood drive is scheduled to be held Sept. 4 from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the base gym, Building 44, and at the Maintenance Center, Building T598. All departments should submit a list of voluntary donors to the Human Resources Office no later than Aug. 29. Fleet Support Division and Installation and Logistics Department should submit a list of donors to the Maintenance Center's office. For further details, contact your

See BRIEFS Page 5

# Barstow Unified School District Bus Schedule 2003/2004

Time	Place	School
PU 7:40 a.m.	McKinney School	Crestline, Thomson
PU 6:48 a.m.	McKinney School	Barstow High School
PU 6:56 a.m.	Club Street	Barstow High School
PU 7:40 a.m.	Kwajalein and Inchon	Crestline, Montara
PU 7:43 a.m.	Club Street	Crestline, Montara
PU 7:46 a.m.	Day Care Building 372	Crestline, Montara
PU 8:27 a.m.	McKinney School	Kennedy Middle School
PU 8:30 a.m.	Day Care Building 372	Kennedy Middle School
PU 8:32 a.m.	Club Street	Kennedy Middle School
PU 7:46 a.m.	McKinney School	Crestline, Montara and
1st bus Montara Latch Key(NATT) all girls		
DROP 1:46 p.m.	McKinney School	KMS (WED EO)
DROP 1:50 p.m.	Club Street	KMS (WED EO)
DROP 1:52 p.m.	Club Street	KMS (WED EO)
DROP 1:23 p.m.	McKinney School	Crestline (THUR EO)/Central
Thursday only		
DROP 1:28 p.m.	Kwajalein and Inchon	Crestline (THUR EO)/Central
Thursday only		
DROP 1:33 p.m.	Club Street	Crestline (THUR EO)/Central
Thurs only		
DROP 1:41 p.m.	Day Care Building 372	Crestline (THUR EO)/Central
Thursday only		
DROP 3:45 p.m.	McKinney School	Kennedy Middle School
DROP 3:48 p.m.	Day Care Building 372	Kennedy Middle School
DROP 3:51 p.m.	Club Street	Kennedy Middle School
DROP 1:26 p.m.	McKinney School	Montara School(EO THUR)
DROP 1:32 p.m.	Kwajalein and Inchon	Montara School(EO THUR)
DROP 1:36 p.m.	Club Street	Montara School(EO THUR)
DROP 1:40 p.m.	Day Care Building 372	Montara School(EO THUR)
DROP 2:28 p.m.	McKinney School	Barstow High School
DROP 2:33 p.m.	Club Street	Barstow High School
DROP 3:24 p.m.	Youth Center	Crestline School
DROP 3:28 p.m.	Day Care Building 372	Crestline School

# Job Watch

Ann No.	Title/Series/Grade	Open	Close	1st Cutoff	Location
DEU-287-03-NR	Sandblaster	08-07-03	09-08-03	08-11-03	MCLB Barstow
WG-5423-07 (Term NTE 366 Days)					

Applicants interested in the above positions should submit résumés online at the following Web sites: <http://www.donbr.navy.mil> and/or <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov>.

For information regarding open continuous announcements go to <http://www.donbr.navy.mil>

For more information concerning public job announcements visit the Self-Service Center, Building 236, Mondays through Fridays from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. or call the Human Resources Office, 577-6357, 577-6279, or 577-6481.

This is not an official list. See the Web sites listed for a complete list.

# Semper Fit helps keep MCLB Barstow in shape

By Cpl. Joshua Barnhardt  
Editor

Semper Fit, located in the Base Gym, offers valuable tools to the Marines and civilian Marines of MCLB Barstow to help them stay in good physical shape.

Jennifer Wales, Semper Fit director and health promotions coordinator, has a degree in kinesiology and can help interested people with workout routines and programs.

The Base Gym has a selection of free weights, weight machines, and cardiovascular machines like treadmills available to patrons. All active duty and retired service members and their family members and retired MCLB civilian Marines are allowed to use the gym.

Wales offers different services through health promotions. She can do fitness assessments, body fat measurements, and blood pressure as well as other fitness tests to see where a person is at physically.

She can offer nutritional guidance and set up a program designed to gain or lose weight or to gain strength.

Semper Fit also has different types of aerobics classes available. Starting back in September, Wales said she will be teaching yoga and pilates classes.

Step aerobics is currently offered for \$20 a month or \$2 a class on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. The class offers a variety of aerobics classes like kickboxing.

Somer Meeden is the sports coordinator for Semper Fit and she sets up intramural sports for

the Marines and base employees to take advantage of. Sports offered include basketball, volleyball, softball, flag football and boxing.

The base pools are open for the summer and will be open until Labor Day. The Family Pool is located at the Base Gym and is open to service members ranked E-5 and below and their fami-

lies, retired service members and civilian employees. The Oasis Pool is located at the Oasis Club and is open to service members ranked E-6 and above, retired service members ranked E-6 and above and dues paying members of the Oasis Club.

The pool hours are Tuesdays through Sundays from 1 to 7 p.m. Lap swimming is avail-

able to all ranks, retirees and civilian employees at the Family Pool from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Semper Fit also provides camping gear for free checkout. To get this equipment, make an appointment with Meeden and she will reserve the equipment. For more information on Semper Fit services, call Wales at 577-6817.



Photo by Cpl. Joshua Barnhardt

Joe Morocco, retired civilian Marine, works out at the Base Gym. He said he uses Semper Fit's facilities to stay active.

# VMET helps with transition from Marine to civilian job

**By Cpl. Joshua Barnhardt**  
Editor

The Career Resource Management Center of the Personal Services Division offers training and education about a document all Marines are required to receive prior to departure from active duty, but usually know little about.

The Verification of Military Education and Training document has been around since

1994 and brings together all the training a Marine has received in his or her tour on active duty.

This is to have it all in one space instead of spread out in a Marine's Service Record Book, said Chuck Ashbrook, career resources program manager at the Personal Services Division.

The VMET includes everything from basic training to the last military school attended by the Marine. It even lists a Marine's primary military occupational specialty, secondary MOSs if applicable, and the types of jobs those MOSs relate to in the civilian world.

There are some things the VMET does not contain though. If a Marine

has received certificates for training such as CPR certification and it is not listed in his or her SRB, it will not

be on the VMET.

There is something the Marine can do about it though.

All a Marine has to do is go to the military personnel division and get the certification entered into his or her SRB and it will show up on his or her VMET, said Ashbrook.

"The purpose of the VMET is to

help you put together a resume for your job hunt by showing you all the skills you have learned while in the military," said Ashbrook. "It can also help by showing college counselors what you have done and possibly get credit for the training you have received."

It also provides hard evidence to show an employer if he or she has questions about a person's resume, said Ashbrook.

"A lot of people put bogus information on their resumes and so an employer might check to see if the information you put on your resume is accurate," said Ashbrook. "The VMET can be used in an interview to show the employer you have a basis for the claims you make on your resume."

Before the hightening of security in 2001, Marines could access their own VMET from the internet, but can no longer do that. Ashbrook has authorization to access the document and can do so upon request. All Marines attending Transition Assistance Program classes will receive their VMET, but any Marine can review it by contacting Ashbrook at 577-6533.

**The purpose of the VMET is to help you put together a resume for your job hunt by showing you all the skills you have learned while in the military**

Chuck Ashbrook

## BRIEFS from Page 3

organization's administrative office.

### Acting auditions

Barstow College will hold auditions for its fall production of "Little Women" on Aug. 25 at 6 p.m. on the stage in the college's Norman Smith Center.

The auditions are open to the public and children and adults of all ages are encouraged to audition. Those auditioning will "cold read" from the script.

The production is an adaptation of the Louisa May Alcott classic novel by California playwright, Sands Hall. It will be directed by Amy Ross, Barstow College theatre arts instructor.

Rehearsals for "Little Women" will begin Sept. 1, and performances are scheduled for Nov. 14, 15, 16, 21, and 22.

For more information, call 252-2411, ext. 7243.

### Drover Car Days

Every weekend in August the Mojave River Valley Museum will have a cowboy drover car open for public viewing. The history of the drover car spans a wide swath of American history, from Wild West cattle drives to the Cold War. Do-

cents will be on duty during the regular museum hours of 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. to take visitors through the car and talk of plans to refurbish the drover car. The museum is located at 270 E. Virginia Way, at the corner of Barstow Road and Virginia Way. Call Steve Smith at (760) 256-5452 for more information.

### Play mornings

The New Parent Support Program will be sponsoring "play mornings" every Wednesday from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Parents are encouraged to bring their children, age 5 years old and under, to attend a fun-filled morning of crafts, toys and music. Call the New Parent Support Program at 577-6332 for location and to register.

### Classic cars

The 5th Annual Main Street USA Run is scheduled for Sept. 13 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in downtown Barstow off the Historic Route 66 (from First to Seventh Streets).

The event supports the Boys and Girls Club of Barstow and is open to all years of classic cars, trucks, corvettes, low riders, foreign/imports, and PT Cruisers.

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## 721 from Page 1

the engines to loosen corroded components, then disassembles the engine down to the block. Haislip has been working the CWC for more than 29 years.

As the rebuild progresses, grinding, polishing and replacing parts as needed takes place until the component is once again complete.

Finished machines are taken to one of the shop's many dynamometers, or "dynos" where they are connected to a series of functional test equipment and run through a series of tests including load bearing and torque.

If an engine or other machine performs below average on the test the engine is again cycled through the shop and repaired, as needed.

"We run the engines to 110 percent here," Gallegos exclaimed, describing the mechanical payload laid upon the engines during dyno testing.

The shop utilizes two different types of dynos, which were purchased in the last few years to accommodate cross-over and in-line style engines.

Gallegos said before they purchased the dynos, the only way to test the engine's performance was by taking them to Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center and using their machines.

"We've saved a lot of money this way,"

he said.

The CWC does maintenance and repair for vehicles operated by the Army, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard after the vehicles have been stripped by other work centers.

"Most of our 'customers' are other shops here," Gallegos quipped.

It is the camaraderie of the different work sections coming together, as well as the fluid teamwork of CWC 721 that oils the success of the shop.

"We're all about teamwork here," said Gallegos.

While still providing "heavy" support to Operation Iraqi Freedom, Gallegos credits speed and quality to the people around the shop.

"We have to be on one sheet of music to be successful."

The work section is in constant need of special tools and equipment to get the job done right, and Gallegos said the support has been outstanding.

"(Col. Robert Gerlaugh, commander, MCB) gets us what we need to get the job done. Without special tools, we're like a plumber without a pipe wrench."

In addition to a heavier workload since military action in the Middle East started in late March, the work center has been working at least 10 hours of overtime per week, said Gallegos.

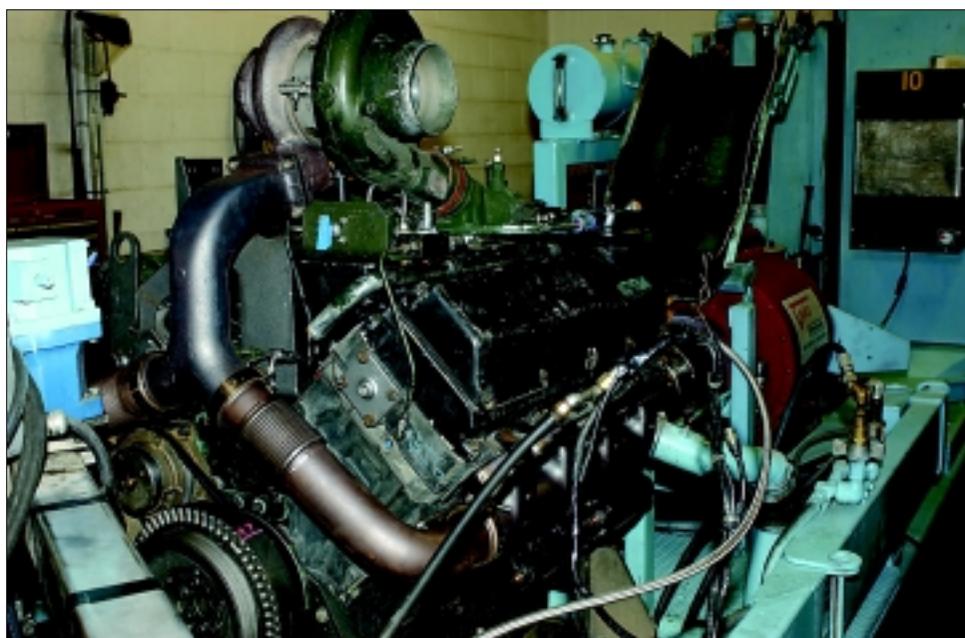


Photo by Lance Cpl. Andy J. Hurt

A turbo-charged Cummings 8-cylinder AAV engine is run through a series of stress tests on one of CWC 721's many dynamometers, or "Dynos." The engines are tested "up to 110 percent," of their capabilities, according to supervisor Paul Gallegos.

"(The employees) are getting tired, but we're staying on schedule," he added.

And though technological changes may twist and realign warfighting in the future, the camaraderie and work ethic combined with support from the command structure demonstrated at MCB's CWC 721 will help ensure democracy lives to see another day.



High-polished cams, cogs, sprockets and gears await placement into one of the many powertrain components at MCB CWC 721. Supervisor Paul Gallegos said that CWC 721 is "all about teamwork."

# MWSS 473 takes out 96' X 96' pad for training

By Sgt. Richard J. Kulleck  
MCAS Miramar

It's hot. The sun reaches anywhere from 70 to 90 degrees Fahrenheit at the peak of the day, no shade and dust is settling on every inch of your clothing. It's coating your mouth with a gritty dry taste and it's getting old... fast. Sound like the least-ideal place to work?

For activated Marine reservists of Marine Wing Support Squadron 473, it's just "good training." The MWSS-473 Marines endured the elements during testing and certification for building a vertical takeoff and landing airfield located on East Miramar Aug. 6-8.

"There is a check list that we have to go through," said Staff Sgt. Richard Huband Expeditionary Airfield Analyst's chief, MWSS-473, 4th Marine Aircraft Wing, MCAS Miramar. "We have a step-by-step evaluator and they check off the little boxes, this is to make sure that if we are ever called up to a war time effort that we are able to do our job efficiently."

Surveying the ground was the first step in creating the 96-foot by 96-foot aluminum "jump pad." Once the site was chosen it was then grated to ground level tolerance by Marine Corps Combat Readiness Evaluation System standards.

After the grating has been completed and the site is within standards, a stick with a sliding weight, called a pentrometer according to Sgt. Matthew L. Kearney EAF technician, MWSS-473, 4th MAW, is used to test the density of the soil. Measuring 30 feet from the center, four points - north, south, east and west - are marked. The weight on top of the tool is dropped, driving the pole into the ground. Depending on how far the pole is driven in and the number of times the weight is dropped

determines soil density. This is done to see how much abuse the soil can handle from aircraft landing and lifting off. If the soil meets the standards of supporting an aircraft, the 144 pound VTOL mats begin to hit the dirt and the creation of the VTOL airfield begins to take shape.

"Matting is a tedious process; it is like a big puzzle you have to put the pieces together perfectly or it will bind up and won't work," said Huband.

Laying mat is a long process, involving the cooperation of numerous Marines. The pieces are slammed on the ground to ensure that every area is level with the rest. If necessary, rocks are removed from underneath or sand is leveled out with a small straight piece of metal. Each mat is interlocked piece-by-piece and row-by-row to prevent prop or jet wash of any aircraft from blowing it away. The process in building a VTOL airfield, depending on size, could take anywhere from two to seven days.

"This is what is done during combat. When there are no airports available in other countries or we normally try to use the existing airports we sometimes have big holes in them and we have to repair those holes with matting or bring in bulldozers and fill in the holes or just build an entirely new airfield depending on the size of aircraft we have coming in," said Huband.

This exercise was conducted in preparation for Weapons and Tactics Instruction conducted at Marine Corps Air Station Yuma starting Aug. 19, and will last a little over a month.

Huband summed it up, saying, "It is a heavy job... it is a real hard job...it is backbreaking work."



Photo by Sgt. Richard J. Kulleck

Lance Cpl. John P. Quitiquit, Expeditionary Airfield Technician, Marine Wing Support Squadron 473, 4th Marine Aircraft Wing, MCAS Miramar, holds a VTOL mat down in order for Sgt. David W. Kosolkit, Maintenance Specialist, EAF, MWSS-473, 4th MAW, MCAS Miramar to use a mallet and straitening tool designed to repair the tracks allowing the mats to interlock with each other.



Photo by Sgt. Richard J. Kulleck

Lance Cpl. Otilia Holguin, Expeditionary Airfield Technician, Marine Wing Support Squadron 473 and Lance Cpl. John P. Quitiquit, EAF Technician, MWSS 473, drop and stomp on a mat to ensure that the dirt underneath levels out giving the VTOL pad the flat surface it needs to allow helicopters and Harriers to land on it.

# Ceramics shop brings out crafty side in people

By Lance Cpl. Andy J. Hurt  
BARSTOW LOG staff

Whether you've never seen, touched, smelled, tasted or heard of clay, or you're a 94-year-old veteran of the earthen arts, the ceramic shop provides satisfaction to all.

Marke Hutchens, MCLB Barstow ceramic shop supervisor, has been working here for about 11 years. When he first took on the job, the ceramics shop was open only two and a half days a week. The shop is now available for use five days per week, closing only Wednesdays and Fridays.

So what might attract someone who doesn't know about ceramics into

the shop?

Ceramics is simply a "good, relaxing hobby," said Hutchens.

The process begins when liquid clay, or "slip," is poured into a plaster mold and left to harden. Patrons may pour their own molds or choose from the hundreds of pre-poured projects available at the shop.

During the drying process the mold may develop imperfections like crumbs or seams. The patron "cleans" the piece by lightly sanding the clay or breaking excess clay off. The dry, raw piece is called "greenware."

The greenware is placed in a super-powered oven called a "kiln" and baked for several hours at high tem-

peratures.

When the piece comes out of the kiln it is a peachy brown color and is brick-hard. This is called "bisque."

Bisqueware is the stage when the mold takes on decoration. Painting and glazing the piece are two creative methods commonly utilized, though Hutchens said it is important not to confuse painting and glazing.

"We have two types of glaze, Non-fire (paint) and fire (glaze)."

According to Hutchens, glaze is a colorful paint-like liquid that hardens and takes on a "glassy" appearance when fired. Glaze is made of elements and minerals taken naturally from the planet Earth.

After the piece has been glazed, it is fired again to higher temperature, hardening the glaze and bringing out colors.

A glaze firing takes anywhere from 4 to 6 hours, said Hutchens, and when the firing is over, patrons have a finished piece.

Another option patrons have is hand-building, said Hutchens. The ceramic shop sells 25-lb. bricks of raw ceramic clay which can be pinched, coiled, sculpted or molded into just about anything a patron can think of.

Proving that "anyone can do it," Hutchens stated that customers range from ages 5 months to 94 years old.

"Ceramics is very family oriented," said Hutchens, adding that when school picks up again in the fall, the shop is bustling with motivated mothers creating holiday gifts for the whole family.

"One woman comes in every year and makes three-dozen ornaments for each of her three children," said Hutchens. "You can't go out and buy things like this."

Hutchens noted the personal touch that ceramic gifts can add to any occasion.

"People realize that you put time, thought and consideration into the projects. That means a lot to some people," Hutchens quipped.

The shop also offers extensive one-on-one instruction, catering to the beginning ceramicist.

The creative atmosphere also nurtures the spirit of fellowship.

"Customers help each other out, sharing ideas and things," said



Photo by Lance Cpl. Andy J. Hurt

Ceramicist Becky Clements constructs candle holders out of raw ceramic clay. The project will be fired, glazed and fired again before it is finished.

Hutchens.

Relaxation is spawned from concentration and effort, and can be extremely gratifying, claimed Hutchens.

"It's a very therapeutic confidence builder."

An open house is slated for Oct. 5. Customers can come in and check out seasonal displays, as well as gather ideas for personal projects.

The ceramics shop is open Wednesdays through Sundays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., unless there is a holiday on a Monday, in which case the shop will be closed Sunday.

For more information about the Ceramics Hobby Shop, contact Marke Hutchens at 577-6228.



Photo by Lance Cpl. Andy J. Hurt

The Ceramic Hobby shop updates its display cases seasonally. Marke Hutchens, Ceramic hobby shop supervisor, said customers may be inspired by different projects displayed.



**By Jim Gaines**  
MCCS Publicity

**Last days of August Super Sale**

The August Super Sale is in the final days at the Super Seven Day Store and the Railhead Exchange.

Don't miss out on these bargains in glassware, rice cookers, CD/AM-FM boomboxes and DVD/CD players - plus a Clearance Rack Sale with apparel at 50 percent off last marked price.

Take advantage of coupon shopping. Drop by the Super Seven Day Store or Railhead Exchange and pick up Super Coupons, good throughout the month of August. These coupons entitle you, to up to 40 percent off selected merchandise. Pick up a set of coupons today. Coupons may also be obtained in the August issue of the MCCS Events Guide.

All sales are in progress now and will continue through the end of August.

For more information call the Super Seven Day Store at 256-8974. The Super Seven Day Store is open Mondays through Fridays from 6:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The Railhead Exchange is open Mondays through Fridays from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call for hours during troop rotation. For more information call 577-7782.

**About three months left**

All active duty military personnel have roughly three months left for the military appreciation free admission. These are offered by the following three attractions listed below. Take advantage of these free offers and reduced prices for family

and friends.

Universal Studios Hollywood offers all active duty military members free unlimited admission all the days between now through Dec. 19 of this year. Five family members or friends of each service person will be able to purchase tickets for \$39 for the same unlimited admission all the days between now and Dec. 19.

Disneyland and California Adventure offers active duty military members a free three day ticket valid for both Disneyland and California Adventure through Dec. 19 of this year. Each service person may purchase a companion ticket for up to five family members or friends for \$39 each.

Seaworld offers a free single day admission to all active duty military members including four of their direct family members. This offer is good through Nov. 11 of this year. ITT has the form required for Seaworld.

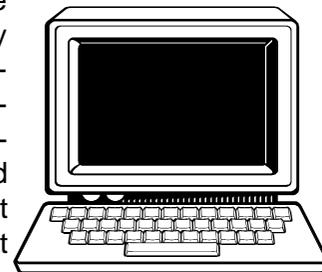
Universal Studios Hollywood and Disneyland/California Adventure require only to show up at the gate with a military ID. To purchase tickets for family members or friends, contact ITT or the individual attraction.

For more details call the attraction listed above or contact ITT at 577-6541. ITT is open Mondays through Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**MCCS ONE SOURCE ON LINE**

The Marine Corps offers you access to MCCS One Source Online, where you can quickly find the most useful information to help balance work and family life.

Summer is here and several of you are relocating. Moving means a lot more than just packing dishes and forwarding mail. That's why MCCS One Source is offering a prepaid copy of the Moving Booklet, which includes helpful advice on moving with older relatives, teenagers, and with pets. Also included is a detailed moving checklist tucked into the inside front pocket of the booklet.



MCCS One Source also offers life articles such as: finding a job after moving as a military family; coping with standardized testing systems when changing schools; overcoming relocation stress; finding resources in a new community; planning for an older relative when your family moves.

To speak with an MCCS One Source consultant, please call 800-433-6868 or call collect at 484-530-5908. A real person will answer every time you call. Or visit: <http://www.mccsonesource.com>  
userid: marines password: semper fi  
For further information, please call PSD 760-577-6533 and ask for Leo Dumo.

## SAFETY from Page 2

“Third, align support and infrastructure for safety. Leadership must be involved at all levels, ensuring senior supervision is present during high-risk evolutions and risk management is integrated into all endeavors. Additionally, leadership must ensure safety officers possess sufficient experience to assist the command, and they must have access to the commander on all safety issues. Commanders should consider the following essential to success: awards and recognition; accountability; partnerships and coalitions both internal and external to the command; and mechanisms to monitor progress.

“Using the above guidelines, I am asking the chief of naval operations and commandant of the Marine Corps to develop plans to achieve the DOD mishap reduction goals. We will jointly monitor progress. Sail safe and semper fidelis!

“A copy of this message will be made available to all hands.

“Released by the Honorable Hansford T. Johnson, acting secretary of the Navy.”

Semper Fidelis, M.W. Hagee, general, U.S. Marine Corps, commandant of the Marine Corps.

## CHAPLAIN from Page 2

was allowed because people were hard hearted. That means that people cared more about themselves than about others and in modern language they were selfish.

Most couples these days certainly know about selfishness. The vast majority of persons I see for pre-marital counseling begin the session by telling me they are Christian; I ask that because one of the wedding party must be in order for me to perform the wedding.

After that I ask some questions about their dating history and find that most are already living together and those who are not are sexually active with each other prior to marriage. It is at that point that I ask them what do they think God thinks about that.

So far all of them have answered they believed their actions to be contrary to what they believe God would like. Yet, they did it despite what they truly believed. How does that happen? Because they are hard hearted.

Let me ask you this. Have you ever seen two truly tender hearted people divorce? I know I have been doing this for a number of years and while I have seen one of

the parties who was tender hearted at times there was always one whose heart was as hard as a stone.

So what is the answer to the skyrocketing divorce rate? I think the answer lies in something I used to say when I worked at a facility for juvenile delinquents. These were some young men who had grown up in less than ideal situations and were so jaded that it often took months before they would learn to respond to each other with even a modicum of courtesy.

What I used to tell them was, “It’s okay to be nice.” That seems simple enough doesn’t it? But if you have ever been involved in divorce settlement you know how impossible that can be at times. So what’s the point of all this?

The point is that we can affect the outcome of our daily lives by learning to be tender hearted. Sure, it is much easier to be hard hearted but then we end up spending our lives lonely and angry. Instead, why not remember that it is OK to be nice and start with the people you care about the most, those in your family.

Peace,  
Fr Randel

## PETS from Page 1

to let their pets go out and take care of its business,” he said. “They just open the door and let the dog out, it does what it has to do then goes back inside. The resident doesn’t understand the policy with regards to cleaning up after the animal.”

Anyone observing dogs running loose, being vicious, or otherwise creating a public nuisance should report it to the military police or the base inspector. As appropriate, such animals will be removed from housing and taken to the Barstow Humane Society, the order states.

Housing residents are reminded by the regulation that ownership of pets on base is a privilege granted by the base commanding officer and is dependent upon the ability of the ani-

mal to live in harmony with the military community.

Another change to the order is forth coming regarding pet care during a resident’s absence. If going on vacation for any period of time the pet should be put up in a pet boarding facility. Residents will no longer be allowed to leave the pet with another resident or leave the pet in the home and have a neighbor check on the pet during the absence.

Although a dog is considered man’s best friend, without proper care and attention it could be your neighbors’ worst nightmare.

For more detailed information about pet ownership on base, check the Military Family Housing Manual P11101.20A, section 2020, or call the Housing Office at 577-6871.

## BRIEFS from Page 5

Pre-registration is \$20 until Aug. 29, after which it will be \$25.

New for 2003: Battle of Bands, valve cover races and children’s model car contest. “Meet and greet” will be held Sept. 12 at Foster’s Freeze (located on Main Street near H St.).

For more information, call (760) 255-1691.

## Marines wanted

How would you like to earn a promotion while working in your hometown? Recruiting Station Louisville, Ky., is seeking Marines from Kentucky, southern Indiana and the greater Cincinnati area to participate in the Permissive TAD Program.

For more information, please contact Sgt. Maj. R.E. Howard, at (502) 582-6612/6610.

MISCELLANEOUS: Truck tires, Michelin, LT 235-85-R16, xlt. Cond., \$35 each; clip on towing mirrors for most pickup trucks, nearly new, \$30 a pair. Call 256-6629.

MISCELLANEOUS: Coffee table, living room wooden, (purchased from Levitz) beveled glass on top, bottom shelf, rounded corners, xlt. cond. \$40. Call 256-4873 (8-5) or 253-2677.

MISCELLANEOUS: Sharp microwave/convection oven (needs a board) \$200, 10-gal Suburban RV water heater, gas/propane, \$100, 4-burner drop-in gas stove w/high oven (new) \$250; Kenmore washer and dryer (working) \$200; Sharp microwave \$40; Kenmore upright freezer (needs thermostat) \$75; 8-foot green velour sofa \$150; 5-foot glass & chrome table \$75. Call 252-4996 to see.

MISCELLANEOUS: New 13,000 BTU RV AC w/heat pump \$500; shallow well pressure pump, \$35; Transport wheelchair w/cover and auto carrier, \$175; tub chair/potty chair (offers). Call 252-4996 to see.

MISCELLANEOUS: Loveseat, neutral colors, huge, great condition, \$200, OBO; pine TV Tray style lift up top coffee table w/storage underneath, really neat \$75, OBO. Call 252-1343 between 9 a.m. – 8 p.m.

MISCELLANEOUS: Comprehensive reading cards and quizzes, select between sports and entertainment, short stories and trivia to improve oral reading skills (grades 4 and 5), \$10 each. Call 252-1160.

MISCELLANEOUS: telephone table with shelf, \$10; lawn mower (needs seasonal maintenance), \$25; men's dress shoes, Nike tennis shoes and baseball cleats (size 11-13), \$3-\$5, men's work T-shirts, (some college & name brand) XL-XXL, \$1 each. Call 252-1160.

MISCELLANEOUS: Waterbed mattress, king size, Simmons Beauty Rest paid \$500 asking \$200. Call 256-6629.

MISCELLANEOUS: Queen bedspread, shams, skirt and decorative pillows, floral print of forest green, mauve, and white with green trim braiding, Spiegel collection, \$25; blended family, many duplicate house hold items and furniture. Call 252-1160.

MISCELLANEOUS: 52" RCA TV includes 30 months of E.S. contract bought 12/01, \$800; LA-Z-Boy luxury-lift power recliner, org. price \$1,200, used 7months, xlt. cond., deep royal blue velveteen, best offer. Call .256-2362.

