

# BARSTOW LOG

SUPPORTING MCLB'S VISION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

Vol. 7, No. 42

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California

October 23, 2003

## Proclamation

The Base Commander sends out her proclamation for Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

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## Car Show

MCB held its annual Stress Relief Car Show Friday.

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## Time to

back one hour

Turn your clock back at 2 a.m. Sunday

**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>

## Military Policeman of the Year named

By Lance Cpl. Andy J. Hurt  
BARSTOW LOG staff

It comes as no surprise when "everything you want an NCO to be," as his superiors have proclaimed him, wins a board, receives a certificate of commendation or gets a meritorious mast.

But the award this lanky 6-foot devil dog won is much more prestigious.

Cpl. Christopher Barrera, an MCLB Barstow military policeman with a spreadsheet of billets and a list of accolades even longer, recently accepted the award for MCLB Barstow Military Policeman of the Year at the International Footprint Association awards banquet in Victorville, Calif.

Barrera was one of hundreds of law enforcement officials from the Southern California region receiving honors in the Oct. 15 ceremony.

Long before Barrera, a Corpus Christi, Texas native, ever dreamed of becoming the MP of the Year here, he was in a situation similar to a lot of young men and women coming out of high school. Eager to pursue a college education straight out of George West High School's class of 1999, Barrera said his partial college scholarship fell through.

Then one autumn afternoon, said Barrera, on a shopping trip with his mother, she encouraged him to stop in and see the Air Force recruiter.

"I went to the Marines instead," he said with a sly grin.

With about two weeks in the Delayed Entry Program, Barrera was shipped to MCRD San Diego. He held a billet as a squad leader for 13 weeks and was meritoriously promoted to private first class upon graduation.

After a brief stint at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., Barrera attended basic military police school at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

"I had friends who were cops, and I thought it would be cool," he said.

Barrera's older brother is also a

military policeman, in the Army.

For his first duty station, Barrera went to Marine Corps Air Station Futenma, Okinawa, Japan, with the air wing there at first, and then for the base provost marshal's office.

Barrera is also one of few Marines here who can admit that he picked MCLB Barstow for his next duty station.

"I picked Barstow so I could finish school," he said.

Shortly after arriving at MCLB Barstow, Barrera found his soul mate. A sassy young postal clerk named Karah Byrnes from Indiana.

The two were married on Oct. 15, 2001.

Life was pleasant for Barrera as a motivated lance corporal.

Less than a year later, however, Barrera was faced with a new challenge and more responsibility when he was promoted to corporal Oct. 1, 2002.

He was sent to the Corporals Course in early 2003, and graduated as platoon honor man, just one of his many awards, including, several certificates of commendation.

Barrera said that with all his awards, many Marines fall under the impression that he tries too hard.

"People think I'm all 'oorah' and like a super-stellar Marine or something, but I just do my job," he said.

It's just doing their job that gives military police a bad rap amongst other Marines from time to time, said Barrera, adding he just laughs when he hears derogatory terms like 'base nazi' and such.

"When people do something stupid and think they got burned, they have no idea how big it could have gotten."

As easy as standing a gate all night as a sentry may seem to some Marines, Barrera confirmed how difficult the duty of an MP really is.

"When there's only six MPs on a shift, and they're in charge of the installation security, that's a big responsibility," he said, adding that MPs are an authoritative extension



Photo by Pfc. Jenna Lassandrello

Antonio Ortiz, 3, enjoyed the free cotton candy offered at the Fall Family Fiesta, held at Sorensen Field Oct. 16. See Page 7 for the story and more photos.

## VA seeks former POWs for possible benefit awards

Story by  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON—The Department of Veterans Affairs wants former prisoners of war who aren't using VA benefits to contact the department to find out if they may be eligible for disability compensation and other services.

More than 23,000 former prisoners of war already receive compensation from VA. This year, the department mailed information about benefits to another 4,700 known ex-POWs not on its rolls. However, VA estimates it does not have an address for as many

as 11,000 more former POWs.

VA is asking former POWs not receiving benefits who did not receive a VA letter recently to call the department at 1-800-827-1000.

Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony J. Principi said VA has expanded policies to cover increasing numbers of former POWs as new illnesses have been found related to captivity. The administration currently is pressing to get even more compensation and medical care benefits for former POWs.

"These veterans sacrificed for their

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See VA Page 8

# USMC 2003 safety close out message

ALMAR 062/03

Headquarters Marine Corps

In the global war on terrorism, the Marine Corps continues to answer the nation's calls. Fiscal Year 2003 brought new challenges to the Corps, among them the Marine Corps' participation in Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF), which brought about deployment in numbers unseen in over a decade. Significantly, no Marines lost their lives during the buildup for OIF, allowing full-strength, combat-ready Marine units to engage and decisively defeat the enemy. Yet, our non-combat losses at home have continued unabated.

We have made some progress in safety during the past few years - that said, more challenges re-

main. It is of utmost importance we understand the nature and significance of these challenges. Our efforts will lead directly to success or failure. While FY'03 closed with fewer aviation and off-duty class 'A' mishaps than the year prior and alcohol related fatalities decreased, nearly a company's worth of Marines died in on- and off-duty accidents during the year. These dead Marines were our brothers, sisters, sons, and daughters. They were the future leaders of our Corps until their lives were tragically cut short in accidents that for the most part were avoidable.

A total of 124 Marines died in aviation, ground, and off-duty accidents, and of these Marines, over half died off-duty. Eighty percent of off-duty deaths involved either cars or motorcycles and 79 percent

were E-4 and below. During the fiscal year, speed related fatalities increased significantly, as did motorcycle fatalities, which doubled. We must develop and implement better strategies to reduce the toll of accidents on the health and readiness of our Corps.

In pursuit of this aim, the Marine Corps and the Center for Naval Analyses are completing a study of non-combat Marine Corps fatalities. The study will form the basis for new strategies, increasing the ability of those in direct leadership positions to proactively intervene and reduce fatalities among Marines most at risk. Among the findings of this study, during the last half of a Marine's first year in the Marine Corps, he or she is at twice the risk of death as at other times. The risk of

dying in a motor vehicle accident is twice as high upon return from deployment. Other insights are being refined, and they will be promulgated shortly.

In light of emerging leading indicators in Marine Corps accidents, the theme of the first quarter, FY 2004 is 'Accountability: If there is a rule or law, enforce it.'

Accompanying this message, the principles of operational risk management must continue to become integral to the Marine Corps' ethos. Our culture is one of our greatest strengths, and it must enforce the safety and welfare of Marines. When fully focused, nothing is beyond our grasp. We can, and must do better in FY 2004.

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

## Parents are irreplaceable

By Lt. Cmdr. Randel Livingood  
Base Chaplain



I am anxiously awaiting my next visit home to see my extended family members and will probably make a trip sometime in January of 2004.

It will be cold and probably snowy up in the green, forested hills of Southern Oregon and the whole family will be gathered for the celebration on Clason Mountain.

One of the qualities of the visit home is always the presence of numerous nieces, nephews, grand-nieces and grand-nephews that seem to literally fill the mountain with laughter, shrieks of joy, sometimes tears when they fall and, of course, all the love that they have to share with each other and the adults who are present.

I do not have any children and always take the opportunity whenever I am home to watch the children and see how much they have grown since the last time I saw them. They always seem to be several inches taller and are now using "big" words. For the older kids they are growing taller and the voices of the boys are deepening and the girls are growing into young ladies both of whom are also maturing emotionally at an alarming rate.

These are wonderful times because I get to see the youngest of the children still overjoyed at the prospect of coming to "the woods," and the older children now mature enough to watch the younger ones and make sure no one gets lost.

It is really remarkable to see. What I find really interesting is how the children learn and grow. I often reflect on how my generation of family members grew up and how much a part of our lives both our parents were.

We were all lucky and were not victims of divorce and the ravages of being shifted from one parent to the other throughout our youth. I did not know what a tremendous blessing that was until I became an adult. Our parents were there to teach us how to live and to take a very active interest in our lives.

I can remember endless hours of my father sitting with me helping me with my homework. He did not just send me to my room and hope that I would complete the assignments; he was right there with me.

His presence taught me how important it was that I do well in school and learn what I needed to learn. My mother was the one who helped me with my English assignments. I can still remember her showing me her report cards from high school and staring with wonder at the "A's" she had received for her work. The care that they demonstrated not only in school work but in

See CHAPLAIN Page 8

## Just doing my job ...



Staff Sgt. Joseph Johnson, substance abuse counselor, Marine and Family Services Division, MCLB Barstow, shares information about MCLB Barstow's substance abuse prevention program with guests during the Barstow Emblem Club's 13 Annual Red Ribbon Week kickoff breakfast at the Elk's Lodge Friday. Red Ribbon Week officially began Monday and ends Friday.

### Chapel Services

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

Morning Prayer in the Building 15 Administration Office Tuesday at 8:30 a.m.

### Catholic Rosary

First Saturday of every month.  
3 p.m. at the Base Chapel.  
For more info call 577-6849.

### Episcopal Mass

Tuesday at 4 p.m. at Building 406 in Yermo.  
Thursday at 11 a.m. at the Base Chapel.



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:** Family Restaurant: Soup and salad bar. Cactus Cafe: grilled chicken salad.

**Friday:** Catch of the day.

**Monday:** Spanish chicken

**Tuesday:** Yaki soba.

**Wednesday:** Pork roast

Active duty military \$3.25, all others, \$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 8 a.m. At the Cactus Cafe from 5:30 to 6:30 a.m.

## Family Night Dining

**Tonight** – Southern night. Fried chicken, collard greens, black-eyed peas, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn bread, and fountain drink of choice.

The Family Restaurant is open Mondays through Wednesdays and Fridays from 4:30 to 6 p.m. for dinner. They offer a dinner menu as well as regular menu service.

## Marine Corps Ball tickets on sale

The 228th Marine Corps Birthday Ball will be celebrated by MCLB Barstow Nov. 7 at the Flamingo in Laughlin, Nev.

Tickets are now on sale and can be bought until Nov. 1.

Cocktail hour will start at 6 p.m., the ceremony will begin at 7 p.m. and dinner will be served at 8 p.m.

The prices for tickets are:

Civilians and officers, \$25; staff non-commissioned officers, \$20; non-commissioned officers, \$15; and lance corporals and below are free. It will cost \$15 for lance corporals and below to bring a date. Tickets can be purchased in the Green Wing of Building 15 from Danielle Heinze. Her phone number is 577-6307.

Child care is now available at the Marine Corps Ball. It will cost \$20 per child and the hours of service will be from 6 p.m. to midnight. Child care must be paid in advance. For more information on child care, call Theresa Meugniot at 577-6059 or Gunnery Sgt. Nohelia Fritz at 577-6459.

For room reservations, call the Flamingo in Laughlin at 1-800-662-5825.

Room rates are \$39 for a regular room, \$150 for a junior suite and \$350 for a two bedroom suite.

## Trick or Treat hours

Family members living on base will be allowed to "trick or treat" Oct. 30 from 6 to 8 p.m. in base housing. The reason it is on Oct. 30 is because the city of Barstow holds its annual Mardi Gras Parade Oct. 31. Since the city of Barstow will be "trick or treating" on Oct. 30, MCLB Barstow has elected to follow the city and encourage participation by base residents of the community events.

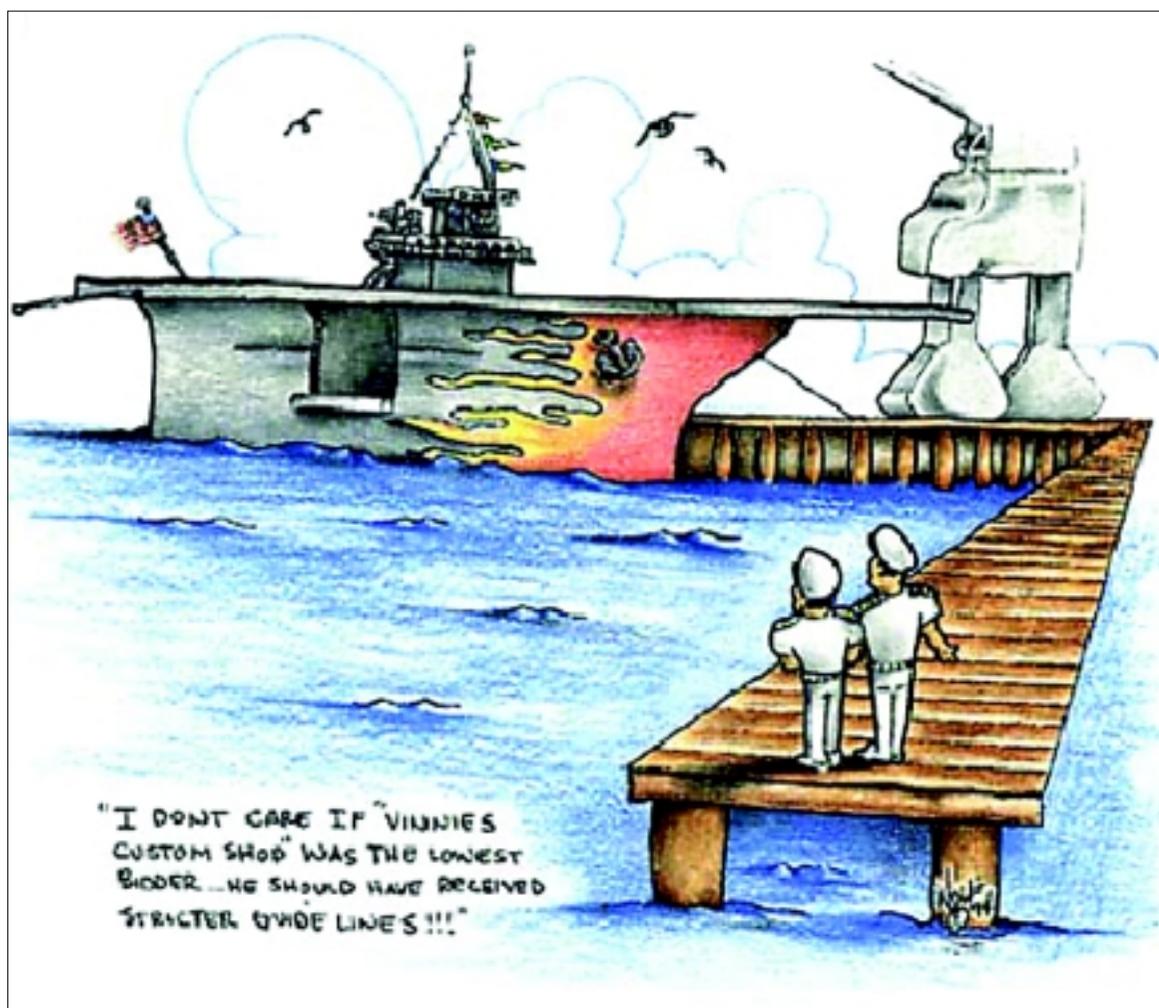
## ID card deadline

The deadline for CAC ID Cards has been extended to April 1, 2004.

All military and civilian employees (to include eligible contractors) need to have their CAC ID Cards in hand by the deadline. Please call 577-6969/6371 for an appointment.

## CWRA Turkey Giveaway

The CWRA Committee is sponsoring another turkey giveaway. There will be a drawing for eight \$15.00 gift certificates, two at each drawing, at Stater Brothers to purchase anything desired, "a turkey," on the following dates: Oct.



30, Nov. 6, Nov. 13, and Nov. 20.

Winner's need not be present to win. The CWRA Committee members will circulate cans with the survey slips to be filled out. There is no cost to the individual. Please include first name and last name printed clearly and work phone number. The following CWRA Committee members and volunteers will have slips and cans available to fill out and participate in.

- |                     |          |
|---------------------|----------|
| Dan Keirn           | 577-6614 |
| Fred Molino         | 577-7210 |
| Barbara Kent        | 577-7330 |
| Barbara Kulseth     | 577-6771 |
| Cliff Acles         | 577-6968 |
| Bruce Rowe          | 577-7346 |
| Wrayanne Huddleston | 577-7346 |
| Richard Tusing      | 577-6523 |
| Vince Chavez        | 577-7580 |
| Tangia Joseph       | 577-7230 |

## Tae Kwon Do classes

Tae Kwon Do classes will be starting

at the Base Gym Tuesdays through Thursdays from 5 to 7 p.m.

The classes are available for all base employees and military family members age 6 years old and up.

For more information, call Semper Fit at 577-6812.

## DEAP luncheon

The Disabled Employee Awareness Program Luncheon is scheduled to be held Oct. 30 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Oasis Club. The guest speaker will be Elisa Sedlacek, with the Community Advocate Center on Deafness High Desert (CODHD). Tickets cost \$7.50. Lunch will include grilled chicken salad and roll or Salisbury steak with mashed potatoes and gravy.

Everyone is invited to attend, with supervisors approval. For tickets, contact one of the following by Monday. Marva Johnson, HRO 577-6965  
Richard Kastner, MC 577-7037  
Jack Stormo, I&L 577-6937  
Ed Tintos, MC 577-7193  
Michael Olguin, FSD,  
e-mail: [olguinmf@barstow.usmc.mil](mailto:olguinmf@barstow.usmc.mil)  
Michelle Noice, Comm Div,  
e-mail: [noicemr@barstow.usmc.mil](mailto:noicemr@barstow.usmc.mil)

## 911 system upgraded

The base 911 systems are currently being replaced and updated. All of the dispatchers have been certified as Emergency Medical Dispatchers. There are two dispatchers on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The goal is to improve the medical as well as police services to all of the

personnel who work and live on the Marine base. Emergency services personnel are currently operating on older 911-trunking systems. This system does work. However, it is slower than the new systems available.

If you dial 911 to report an emergency, there will be a short delay of about 8-10 seconds before you hear the phone ring.

Yermo personnel will have a few seconds longer. Be patient, seconds feel like hours during an emergency. Personnel can give you instructions for medical and other types of emergencies.

If you use a cellular telephone on base and you have an emergency, dial 911. The California Highway Patrol in Barstow will answer your call. Tell them you are calling from the Barstow Marine base and which part of the base you are calling from, either the Yermo Annex or Barstow (Nebo).

If "911" is not working, you may dial the center's 7-digit emergency 911 phone number, 577-6322.

The non-emergency phone number for the Public Safety Dispatch Center is 577-6666. If you have any questions or concerns with the current dispatch center or personnel, you may contact Thomas Stickley, lead dispatcher, at 577-6666.

## Job Watch

Ann No.	Title/Series/Grade	Open	Close	1st Cutoff	Location
DEU-320-03-NR	Heavy Mobile Equipment Repairer WG-5803-08 (Term NTE 4 years)	09-18-03	10-29-03	09-22-03	MCLB Barstow

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.

## Correction:

The Robert O. Lanzer Memorial Service was held Tuesday, Oct. 14, instead of Monday, Oct. 13 as printed on Page one of the Oct. 16 edition of the Barstow Log.

# Corpsman puts in a little extra

By Cpl. Joshua Barnhardt  
Editor

Hospitalman Apprentice Marlon Sammy, treatment room corpsman for the Branch Medical Clinic, is one of the most sought after people at the clinic by both patients and doctors.

Maybe that is because Sammy is well versed in a variety of areas when it comes to the everyday business of the clinic and his peers and supervisors can count on him to complete whatever task is set before him.

That is why Sammy was named Bluejacket Sailor of the Quarter for the MCLB Barstow Branch Medical Clinic.

As a young child, Sammy said the only thing he can remember wanting to be was a doctor. After completing two years at Penn State University, Sammy joined the Navy to follow his dream.

"Right now I am taking classes at Barstow College to work on a degree in Business Administra-



Hospitalman Apprentice Marlon Sammy

tion," said Sammy. "Then I want to go to medical school."

Sammy has prepared himself well for his future goal of attending medical school.

He has done on-the-job training at the clinic's laboratory and is looking to do the same in radiology and the pharmacy in the future.

"I want to learn about all the different areas of the clinic so it can help

me in the future," said Sammy.

Right now, Sammy's main job is seeing patients at sick call and updating medical records by doing such things as getting people their required shots and physicals.

Sammy has also gone beyond the call of duty while being the duty corpsman at Marine Corps Martial Arts Training. He has participated in the action while providing medical support and has accumulated enough training time to test for his tan belt.

"I have done everything but test for the tan belt," said Sammy. "Every time I want to, something comes up."

Sammy takes the attitude he has at MCMAP training to everything he does.

"I want to do as much as I can," said Sammy. "That way I get the most out of it."

Sammy got this philosophy by following his favorite quote.

"The difference between ordinary and extraordinary," said Sammy, "is a little extra."

# Base Commander's Domestic Violence Month proclamation

## Nationwide observance designated for October

By Col. Liz Bergman  
Base Commander

Each October we, as citizens and Marines, are asked to reflect on one of the nation's most serious problems, domestic violence.

It is the leading cause of non-accidental injury to family members and escalates when vulnerable families face increased stress.

It devastates the affected families and negatively impacts the communities in which they reside.

The unique challenges and circumstance of military life can place some families in our community at increased risks.

The identification and support of these families is critical, particularly when they face difficult circumstances such as deployments and military operations.

Frequent relocations often isolate military families from traditional support systems and

too often families don't ask for help before work and family pressures become overwhelming.

Responding early and appropriately to these families is the highest of priorities.

As a community, we have the resources to assist families with support services.

As leaders we must speak out and take a strong position in advocating for families in need. When family issues are addressed early, unnecessary tragedies are avoided.

When we assist Marines in creating "healthy homes, peace of mind" our community is strengthened, as Marines are best able to focus on military readiness.

Therefore, I declare October 2003 as "Domestic Violence Awareness Month" across this military installation.

I. E. BERGMAN  
Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps  
Commanding

**GOT NEWS?** *If you think you've got something newsworthy, call the public affairs office at 577-6430.*



Photo by Rob Jackson

Pfc. Daniel Hart, Col. Liz Bergman, commanding officer MCLB Barstow, Army Brig. Gen. Joseph Fil Jr., commanding general of the National Training Center and Fort Irwin, and Army Spc. Paul Prevot cut the ribbon indicating the official opening of the new Rotational Soldier Billets, Building 594, at the Yermo Annex Oct. 14. Army Sgt. Maj. K.D. Boyink also assists with the ceremony. Hart, 19, is Bergman's driver while Prevot is a 20-year-old reservist assigned to the 617th Movement Control Detachment out of Houston.

# Halloween safety

**By Gunnery Sgt. Michael Parker** your costume or clothing that  
Base Safety Specialist drag on the ground.

There are many ways to keep your child safe at Halloween, when they are more prone to accidents and injuries. The excitement of children and adults at this time of year sometimes makes them forget to be careful.

Simple common sense can do a lot to stop any tragedies from happening.

- Make sure you have a flashlight that works.

- Don't run. It is too awkward while you're wearing an awkward costume, trying to avoid other people, and carrying your bag of candy.

- Use sidewalks; don't cut through yards or alleys. If there is no sidewalk, walk facing traffic and stay with a group.

- When crossing streets, obey the signals.

- Make sure you can walk easily in your costume. Watch out for parts of

sure you can see out of it clearly and easily.

- If you wear a mask, make sure you can see out of it clearly and easily.

- If you are trick-or-treating in dark areas, mark your costume with pieces of reflective tape or carry a small, battery-operated light.

- Knock on doors of houses that are lit. Avoid darkened houses.

- Bring treats home before eating them so parents can inspect them.

- Use costume knives and swords that are flexible, not rigid or sharp.

Halloween can be fun, exciting and a whole lot safer if you review some Halloween safety tips and prepare a bit before your children go out.

## Editor's Note:

Information from [www.safetycenter.navy.mil](http://www.safetycenter.navy.mil) was used in this article.

# Stress Relief Car Show at MCB a big hit

Story and photos by Rob L. Jackson  
BARSTOW LOG staff

Maintenance Center Barstow held its 9th Annual Stress Relief Auto Show Friday and like past shows the employees brought out their pride and joys to show off.

Some of the hottest vehicles in the area were on display, from hot cars and trucks to race cars and bikes, even some still under

construction. And although only about 30 in all were on display there was plenty to keep anyone interested in hot rods and bikes drooling.

The show was started in memory of Charlie Thomas a former MCB employee and former Marine who took his own life due to stress, according to event founder and coordinator Jack Brumit.

"This year's show is dedicated to

Rob Lanzer, who lost his life due to an accident October 3," said Brumit. "Rob was a good man, and a good friend."

According to Brumit the show is put on every year to let people know that they need some kind of hobby to help relieve stress.

"It doesn't have to be cars, it can be anything; just find a hobby or something you like to do and keep at it," he said.



Back in the days of "run whatcha brung" cars such as Louis Lawler's '68 Chevelle and Cliff German's '69 Mustang Mach I were a natural matchup.



Some folks are into cars, trucks, and motorcycles, but for the past 30 years Jay Hartwick, CWC 714, has been involved with bikes. For the 9th Annual Stress Relief Auto Show, Hartwick displayed his 1890s Bone Shaker replica and his Mardi Gras parade toy equipped with a 7hp engine.



Joe Anguiano's '56 Chevy engine was one of the cleanest on display at the 9th Annual Stress Relief Auto Show held at the Maintenance Center Friday.



Jim Bengal, Cost Work Center 713, brought his 1935 Auburn Speedster replica to the show. The car brings back memories of the Hollywood stars from that era, Clark Gable, Erol Flynn and the like.

# Fall Family Fiesta a good time for MCLB families

Story and photos by Pfc. Jenna Lassandrello at the Fall Family Fiesta, put on by Marine Corps Community Services.  
BARSTOW LOG staff

Families from MCLB Barstow gathered at the Fall Family Fiesta Oct. 16 at Sorensen Field, to celebrate the return of the service members who were deployed in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Food, friends and lots of fun attracted many of the families to come and enjoy the festivities

There were many activities that the children enjoyed, including a rock wall, bounce houses, laser tag, an obstacle course and train rides. Cotton candy and shaved ice were free to all, and hot dogs, nachos, soda and chips were also available.

The event was open to service members, civilian Marines and their family members.



Tanner Daly, 10, son of Staff Sgt. James Daly, dominated the rock wall when he reached the top during the fiesta.



Jalen Rawles, 2, son of Sgt. Stanley Rawles, explores the obstacle course at the Fall Family Fiesta.



Facepainting was the entertainment of choice for Kelker Wenzel, 4, son of Army Spc. Ryan Wenzel.



The bounce houses were a ton of fun for the children at the Fall Family Fiesta.

### MPOY from Page 1

of the base commander.

Barrera was nominated for the award during September, with unrivaled support from his superiors, including Gunnery Sgt. Nicholas Betlewicz, physical security chief in the base safety division.

Betlewicz has known Barrera since his days on Okinawa, and says that Barrera is "undoubtedly one of the top five corporals" he's ever had the pleasure of working with, ironically noting, "He's super-motivated and always squared away."

Betlewicz also praised Barrera's commitment to the responsibility of a Marine NCO.

"He's the kind of NCO you want to emulate. He sets the example for his peers and subordinates, and I stand by that 100 percent," he exclaimed.

Master Sgt. Richard Holman, MCLB Barstow's provost sergeant, concurred with Betlewicz on Barrera's work ethic, saying, "In the last year, he has done the job of staff sergeants.

... He does exactly what the Marine Corps wants."

With all of Barrera's accomplishments and motivation, combined with the pride of being a Marine and his recent reenlistment, it was Betlewicz who may have hit the nail on the head.

"I think he should be a sergeant."

### CHAPLAIN from Page 2

other areas of my life let me know that they cared about me and were willing to invest their time in me because I was worth something to them.

I can remember all of these things so clearly because I see them being transmitted still today to the youngest generation of the family. In each successive generation the lessons have been taught and learned by the children and in each generation they have been passed on. The benefits are clear. The children know they are loved. They know that they are important and valued when mom and dad give their own time to make certain the child is getting what they need, not necessarily what they want. I never did want to learn arithmetic,

but my father sure wanted me to learn it. Oddly enough, he never graduated from high school, yet he knew the importance of education and care for his children.

As I watch the young ones this year I will be very grateful for the amount of time the parents have put into raising their children. It will show in how the children behave, in how they socialize with other children and in their respect for adults. The fact is that it is easy to respect those who care about you. So when you feel tempted to let down your efforts for a moment remember how important your children are and make the extra effort to support them with your time.

Peace,  
Fr Randel

### VA from Page 1

country in time of war, and it's the nation's turn to serve them, to help them determine if they are entitled to compensation, health care or other services," Principi said.

According to the VA, 90 percent of former POWs are veterans of World War II, and their service predates the use of Social Security numbers as a military "service number." That, coupled with the decades that have elapsed since their service, makes it difficult for the department to track down those

who have not opened a file with VA in recent years, VA officials said.

The most recent expansion of VA benefits for former POWs was a July regulation that added cirrhosis of the liver to the list of diseases to which entitlement to disability compensation is presumed in former POWs.

Similar policies making it easier for former POWs to obtain compensation have been enacted for POWs detained for 30 days or more who develop specific illnesses.

## Gunny's Picks

Week 8



Congratulations to Nancy Johnson, IT Specialist with Communications Division, on winning this week's Gunny's Picks. Johnson is the second repeat winner this season. She finished the week at 10-4, and by winning, increased the MCLB women's dominance during the season so far at 5-2. "The Seahawks own the NFC West," she said, being a Seattle Seahawks fan. As

for the guys she said maybe they should stop looking at stats and go for the uniforms they like best. Moving right along. There are some pretty intriguing games on the slate for this weekend beginning with the Cowboys taking on the Buccaneers. The Bucs are coming off a loss at San Francisco and are pretty ticked off about it. This should let fans know where the Cowboys really are. Keep an eye on the Seattle/Cincinnati game as well. Here are the rest of pairings for Week 8.

To submit your choices for Gunny's Picks, fill out this section of the newspaper and drop it off at the Public Affairs Office in the Green Wing of Building 15, or e-mail who you think will win each game to [editor@barstow.usmc.mil](mailto:editor@barstow.usmc.mil).

- Detroit at Chicago\*
- \*Seattle at Cincinnati
- NY Giants at Minnesota\*
- Cleveland at New England\*
- \*Carolina at New Orleans
- \*St. Louis at Pittsburgh
- Dallas at Tampa Bay\*

- \*Tennessee at Jacksonville
- \*Denver at Baltimore
- \*San Francisco at Arizona
- \*NY Jets at Philadelphia
- Houston at Indianapolis\*
- Buffalo at Kansas City\*

### Monday Night

San Diego at Miami\*

Total points: \_\_\_\_\_

Name, work section and phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Monday night's game is a tie-breaker and must include a total score.



**By Jim Gaines**  
MCCS Publicity

Trees Golf Course is open daily from 6:30 a.m. to sunset. Golf lessons are available.

**Welcome Home**

A Welcome Home Troop Appreciation Night will be held at the Oasis Club at 4 p.m. today.

Everyone is welcome. For more information call 577-6418.

**Football at the Enlisted Club**

Enjoy the best in football three days a week at the Enlisted Club.

NCAA College Football is shown every Saturday. The doors open at 10 a.m.

NFL Sunday Ticket will air every Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. with a free barbecue.

Monday Night Football is every Monday night with free popcorn, chips and dip. Doors will open at 6 p.m.

Everybody (18 years and older) is welcome. Come on over and join the fun.

A reminder: The Enlisted Club will be closed today for the Welcome Home Troop Appreciation Night at the Oasis Club at 4 p.m.

For more information on the football games or other club activities, call 577-6418.

**Playmornings cancelled**

Playmornings have been temporarily cancelled. This is due to staffing changes at the New Parent Support Program. We apologize for this inconvenience.

Call 577-6533 if you have any questions. Playmornings will be back in operation as soon as possible.

**Golf special**

After 1 p.m. everyday, play golf at special rates: \$15 for a single player, \$20 for two players. These prices include green fees and cart. Call the Tees and Trees Golf Course for more information at 577-6431. The Tees and

# Oasis Club Membership Drive

***Join today and save!!!***

***Discounts at golf course, 2 for 1 meals at Family Restaurant and Oasis Club, free admission to Oasis Club Special Events***

**December  
Members Only Giveaways:  
Large TV - DVD Players  
Home Theater System  
Join now and be eligible**

**SAVE MONEY & WIN PRIZES**

***We need your help. New members needed.***

***November through December, any current member that refers a new member to join will receive;***

***A free meal at the Family Restaurant or Oasis Club (per referral)  
Additional chances to win December Prize Giveaway  
Additional entries in Football Bash Contest (Super Bowl Giveaway)***

*Eligibility for membership in the Oasis Club requires a military rank of E-6 and above as well as a civilian grade of GS-5 and above.*

**JOIN US ...**

**...TODAY!**