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IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 6 Vol. 4 | Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan



LANCE CPL. MIRANDA BLACKBURN

KORAT ROYAL THAI AIR FORCE BASE, Thailand — Seaman Greyson Harrelson put two children on his shoulders during a community relations event at the Panyonnookun School for Disabled Feb. 4. The Chaplains office donated enough toys to the school during the event for every child to receive at least one.

Marines, sailors spend time in Panyonnookun School for Disabled

LANCE CPL. MIRANDA BLACKBURN
 IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

KORAT ROYAL THAI AIR FORCE BASE, Thailand — Marines and sailors supporting Cobra Gold 2011 participated in a community relations event at the Panyonnookun School for Disabled to aid in humanitarian efforts Feb. 4.

The school educates more than 400 deaf, mute, and otherwise mentally and physically disabled children.

Service members reached out to the children by playing games, dancing, eating and communicating with them as best as they could.

“It’s very simple. We get out and play with kids,” said Cmdr. Dean

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Community relations project reaches out to young, disadvantaged women

LANCE CPL. MIRANDA BLACKBURN
 IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

KORAT ROYAL THAI AIR FORCE BASE, Thailand — Marines and sailors participating in Cobra Gold 2011 visited Narisawat Welfare Protection and Vocational Training Centre for Women Saturday as part of a community relations project through the Chaplains Office.

Cobra Gold is a regularly scheduled joint/combined exercise in the continuing series of U.S.-Thai military exercises designed to ensure regional peace and strengthen the bonds between the seven participating nations: Thailand, Republic of Singapore, Japan, Republic of Indonesia, Malaysia, Republic of Korea and the United States.

Approximately 20 Marines and sailors went to Narisawat Welfare Protection and Vocational Training Centre for Women for the second

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LANCE CPL. JENNIFER PIRANTE

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE, Hawaii — Capt. Erik Dickerson, pilot with Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 533, performs final checks and inspections on an F/A-18 Hornet jet during threat simulation and close air support training here Feb 2.

VMFA(AW)-533 trains with ATAC

LANCE CPL. JENNIFER PIRANTE
 IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE, Hawaii — As of Jan. 30, it was a wrap on Lava Viper 11.1 for 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines and Marine Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Squadron 3, but Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 533 still had one last mission opportunity to carry out during its stay in Hawaii.

Backed by Marine Aircraft Group 24 support, VMFA(AW)-533 pilots teamed

up with Airborne Tactical Advantage Company to accomplish threat simulation training here Feb. 2-3.

ATAC, staffed by former Navy and Air Force pilots, set its goal to provide the highest quality services possible to meet training requirements and enhance unit readiness among all U.S. military forces.

ATAC specializes in air-to-air missions, air-to-sea and ground research and development to improve self defense programs and procedures carried out by

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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

'Pax Tecum: Are you a loving person?'

LT. FULGENCIO L. LEGASPI
MAG-12 DEPUTY CHAPLAIN

Pax Tecum is Latin for peace be with you. How many times did you hear these words in your lives? How do we attain peace? Who gives peace?

Peace is defined as "freedom from civil disorder or absence from war or hostility." Its antonyms are distress, frustration, noise, upset, worry, conflict, disagreement, disharmony, fighting and war.

In the news we watch the political unrest in the Middle East.

There are fights and tensions between neighboring countries. Nations are faced with many issues.

Families and individuals have their own share of problems to solve.

To attain peace in the world we have to start somewhere.

The song said, "Let there be peace on earth and let it begin in me."

Thanks to countless people who in their own way promoted peace like the Nobel Peace Prize winners: Liu Xiaobo, Nelson

Mandela, Dalai Lama, Lech Walesa, Mother Teresa, Martin Luther King Jr., etc.

According to St. Augustine, "Peace is serenity of mind, simplicity of heart and tranquility of soul."

Serenity of mind means to be free from fears and worries.

Simplicity of heart means contentment and simplifying our wants and our needs.

Tranquility of soul means to free ourselves from sin and guilty feelings.

The "Serenity Prayer" states, "God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can and the wisdom to know the difference"

Most of us tend to equate peace with the absence of problems, noise, wars or with freedom from wants, fears and troubles.

For Christians, Christ himself is this peace that he gives. It is peace based not on material possessions, but on a personal relation with Christ.

It is the peace of being freed from sin and being one with God. For me, the word peace is

Personal Experience and Awareness of Christ every day.

If we have those things, then we are at peace.

We have to have a deep consciousness and constant awareness of Jesus' loving presence at all times.

Memories and feelings of anger and hatred in our hearts rob us of peace.

Resentment, guilt, and doubts make us demoralized, disorganized and disintegrated.

One minister asked his congregation, "How many of you have forgiven your enemies?"

All responded, except one elderly lady.

"Mrs. J? Are you not willing to forgive your enemies?"

"I don't have any," the lady replied.

"Oh Mrs. J, would you please tell us all how a person can live 98 years and not have an enemy in the world?" asked the minister.

"All of my enemies died ahead of me," she said.

Are you a peace-loving person? I remember this phrase, "Know Jesus, know peace. "No Jesus, no peace."

SIMULATION FROM PAGE 1

counter military units and squadrons.

ATAC also provides air-to-ground combat controller training to include joint terminal attack controller initial and sustainment training, ground instruction, full debriefing and ground controller "perspective" training using a two-seat aircraft.

According to retired Air Force reservist Ronald Reagan, ATAC pilot, it was a game of good guys versus bad guys, and ATAC pilots are trained to play the bad guys exceptionally well.

"We have a group of very highly experienced guys," said Reagan. "They have experience with all the different types of newer jet fighters."

According to Reagan, ATAC is made up of professionals from JTAC, FAC-A and close air

support backgrounds throughout the different U.S. military branches.

The team stays up to date on the latest military equipment and procedures in order to help the squadrons train, he said.

The ATAC team not only brings a wealth of knowledge to the table, it also brings a growing fleet of aircraft to include F-21 Kfirs, A-4Ns and Mk-58 Hawker Hunters with the ability to carry out a wide spectrum of training operations.

VMFA(AW)-533 spent two days flying against two of ATAC's Mk-58 Hawker Hunters.

The Hawker Hunter is a transonic single seat fighter and ground attack monoplane, which the ATAC pilots use for training but is no longer operational.

According to Capt. Seth Byrum, pilot with VMFA(AW)-533, flying against ATAC is a unique form of training because it allows the

pilots to see their targets through a different platform.

"They are very professional, former military pilots who understand what we're looking for from them," he said.

According to Capt. Erik Dickerson, VMFA(AW)-533 pilot, it's all about using the resources available to take advantage of every training opportunity before the squadron heads to Iwakuni, Japan to continue its Western Pacific deployment.

"It's valuable training when we don't have in-house capabilities. When we have the availability of guys like (ATAC) with different platforms, we like to utilize them," he said. "It's mainly for practice and just to hone our skills."

After a successful exercise, VMFA(AW)-533 is slated to carry out its next mission in support of the Unit Deployment Program.

Thai children receive love, affection

VISIT FROM PAGE 1

Hoelz, Marine Aircraft Group 12 chaplain.

"We interact by games, by song, through hand gestures, and you really find out that people are people no matter where you go."

Before the activities began, a group of six deaf boys and girls dressed in blue sequined costumes showed their gratitude by putting on a hula hoop dance performance for the Marines and sailors.

During the performance, many of the shy Marines and sailors broke out of their shells to sit and interact with the children in the audience.

Before the blink of an eye, the service members had children hanging from every limb. Eager to play, the children began crawling all over them, trying to speak to them in a language they couldn't understand.

But the participants soon realized that even if they didn't respond, they could communicate their love and affection through their facial expressions and smiles alone.

"These Marines shed their comfort zone and inhibitions. They'll get the kids and put them on their shoulders, and they'll hug them," said Lt. Mark Torres, Marine Aircraft Group 36 Chaplain. "I think that language goes beyond the language barrier that we have and shows the community how much we love, appreciate and enjoy them."

The service members immediately opened up to the children, giving them loving hugs, starting arm wrestling competitions and even a few games of thumb war.

"I was having a good time," said Pfc. Michael Haslam, an armorer with Marine Air Control Group 18, Marine Air Support Squadron 2. "I was dancing with them and had them on my shoulders."

Being able to help and show love to underprivileged children was something he will remember for the rest of his life, he added.

The Chaplains Office donated enough toys to the school during the event for every child to receive at least one.

Torres said events like these not only help support the need of the community, but the individual Marines and sailors as well.

"Life is not about you," said Torres. "There is more fulfillment in life than yourself, and life is richer if you give love away."

The Chaplains Office will continue holding community relations events throughout the duration of Cobra Gold 2011.



KORAT ROYAL THAI AIR FORCE BASE, Thailand — Marines and sailors play tug-of-war with disadvantaged young women during a community relations project at the Narisawat Welfare Protection and Vocational Training Centre for Women Saturday. The centre was established in 1966 to support disadvantaged women who have been taken out of human trafficking and prostitution.

Marines, sailors provide fun, friendship to disadvantaged young Thai women

SHELTER FROM PAGE 1

community relations project of Cobra Gold 2011.

Narisawat Welfare Protection and Vocational Training Centre for Women was established in 1966 to support disadvantaged women who have been taken out of human trafficking and prostitution.

The program provides these young women with a sense of independence by giving them spiritual rehabilitation, vocational training and informal education to reintegrate them into society.

Approximately 150 young women aged 8 to 18 had the chance to interact with Marines and sailors by getting to know one another, playing games, dancing and singing.

"Just being able to make

them laugh was the best part," said Lance Cpl. David Odle, Marine Air Control Group 18, Marine Air Support Squadron 2 air support operations operator.

And once the activities began, the smiles were never ending.

"These (projects) show the humanitarian side of the military," said Lance Cpl. Chalisa Thomas, a field wireman with Marine Air Control Group 18, Marine Air Support Squadron 2. "They should have a chance to at least have fun or be happy."

Thomas said she got so involved with the girls because she could tell even her small actions were making a difference. "Not only does it help the people, but you feel good too," she added. "Helping someone else, knowing that they're happy, makes

me happy too." Even though many of the girls couldn't speak English, they all seemed to communicate their love and affection just fine. "Love isn't about giving things to people," said Cmdr. Dean Hoelz, Marine Aircraft Group 12 chaplain. "It isn't so much about what you say but what you do. Love really is like an action verb and that's what our Marines and sailors demonstrated."

By spending just a couple of hours with these young women and donating some needed feminine hygiene products to the Narisawat Welfare Protection and Vocational Training Centre for Women, built relationships and provided the help and welfare to those who needed it most.

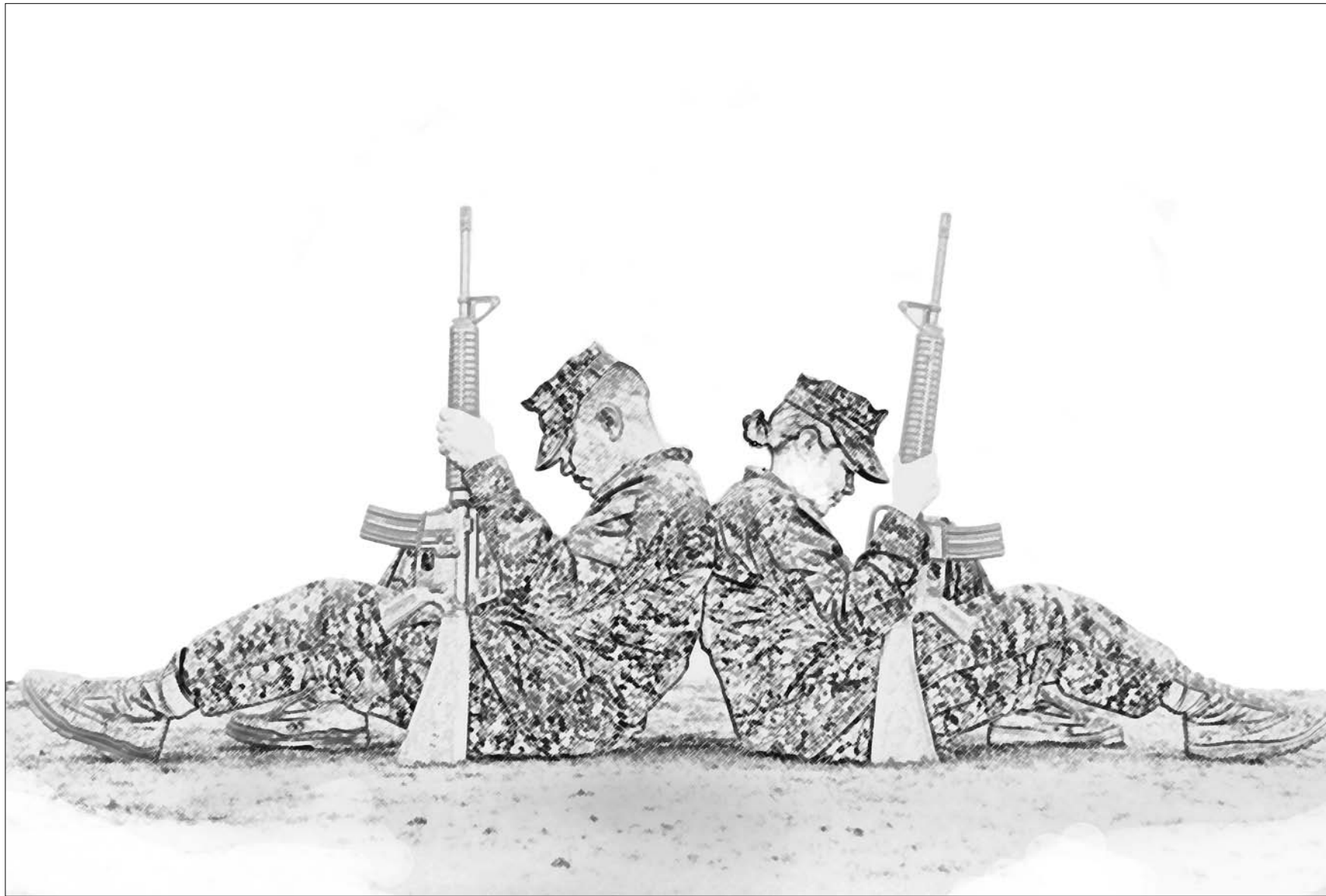


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ

Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron here is slated to implement a new Lean on Me mentorship program starting Thursday to enhance unit cohesion and aid in the positive development of all Marines and sailors. Based on how well the program works with H&HS, it is slated to be presented to the other squadrons here to participate in.

Lean On Me Mentorship Program

Mentorship to enhance unit cohesion, strengthen bonds among Marines

CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron here is slated to implement a new Lean on Me mentorship program starting Thursday to enhance unit cohesion and aid in the positive development of all Marines and sailors.

Every H&HS service member, regardless of rank, will have an assigned mentor and have monthly mentoring sessions. If service members has a preferred mentor in mind, they can speak to their staff noncommissioned officer to make the request.

"It's about Marines taking care of Marines," said Gunnery Sgt. Maria Florentino, station equal opportunity advisor.

"It's about helping each other out from the top to the bottom, from the bottom to the top. (It's about) not forgetting about each other and pushing each other to the side."

Although informal mentoring exists throughout the squadron, not every service member has a mentor and no formal structure exists. Currently, not all mentoring hours are tracked

and most discussions are not recorded.

"(Mentoring) is just natural (for the Marine Corps); it's already in there," said Florentino. "That's what we do. It's already in there, but there's nothing structured. This program kind of brings more structure to what's already there."

Through the Lean on Me mentorship program, mentors and their assigned mentees will keep track of their hours on a database accessible on the station share drive. There will also be monthly meetings, which the mentor and mentees can attend. Women mentees and mentors will attend separate meetings from the men to discuss topics ranging from sexual assault to career choice and promotion processes.

Florentino said since both sexes understand the topics differently, she believes it would be more productive to have separate meetings.

Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron-242 currently has a mentoring program in place. All VMFA(AW)-242 service members are required to participate. Many of the junior

Marines in the program believe it's an effective tool that has helped them both on and off duty.

Lance Cpl. Domingo Lagares, a VMFA(AW)-242 maintenance administrative clerk, has been part of the program for more than a year.

Lagares said the mentorship program provided him with the tools he needed to get him to where he's at today, and it has also helped him outside of work.

A month after Lagares arrived on station, his grandmother passed away. Lagares took emergency leave to attend the funeral and then returned to the station.

"I came back with the mentality that I didn't want to do anything anymore," said Lagares. "My mentor helped me get through that."

Lance Cpl. Jasmin Wyche, a VMFA(AW)-242 maintenance administrative clerk, arrived here two months ago. This is her first duty station.

"When I first got here I was a new Marine to the fleet," said Wyche. "I was having problems adjusting my attitude. With the mentoring program, what it helped me do was change my

attitude."

Although the mentorship program is designed to provide mentees with the help they need to succeed, many Marines believe the program helps mentors also.

"There's that old saying that goes, you're always learning something," said Staff Sgt. Carlos Calderon, station visiting aircraft line staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge. "Just because I've been in the Marine Corps for 15 years doesn't mean I can't learn something from the younger generation. Just because I'm the one teaching doesn't mean I know everything."

Calderon said the basic thing is to just put your pride aside and be open to learning something from each other.

Another benefit for the mentors is they can register with Marine Cops Community Services at <http://www.mccsvolunteering.org/custom/300/index.html> to keep track of their mentoring hours. They can then submit those hours to earn a volunteer service medal.

Depending on how well the program works with H&HS, it is slated to be presented for other squadrons here to participate in.

Corporals Course builds leadership skills

PFC. CAYCE NEVERS
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Corporals Course 4-11 graduated 18 Marines in a ceremony in the Corporals Course classroom here Feb. 3. "The Corporals Course instills a feeling of confidence in their leadership abilities as well as a comfort in the content they have encountered," said Staff Sgt. Anabell Nevels, Corporals Course chief instructor and staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge.

Throughout the 20 training days, the corporals train in close-order drill, sword manual, guidon manual, physical conditioning, academics, promotion system, proficiency and conduct, operational risk management, communications, leadership, land navigation, joint operations, improvised explosive devices, tactical communication and war fighting.

"Corporals Course is a period of military education that provides the Marine corporal with the education and leadership skills necessary to lead Marines," said Nevels.

The corporals who go through this course not only gain knowledge and leadership but also how to work together as a team.

"The Corporals Course is an ongoing PME that allows the Marines to be knowledgeable and proficient war fighters," said Sgt. Maj. David J. Wimberly, Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni sergeant major. "The Corporals Course has a heavy focus on leadership traits as well as working with their peers and building their minds and bodies."

Every Marine who attends Corporals is instilled with the same leadership qualities.

"I use what I learned in Corporals Course every day," said Cpl. Andrea Olguin, station combat photographer who attended a previous Corporals Course here. "I think that being in Corporals Course taught me more about mentoring Marines instead of just being hard on them."

"The course helps those who are more focused in one area, such as correcting the junior Marine or encouraging the Marine, to even it out, and gives confidence in leadership capabilities," said Olguin.

Corporals Course also teaches newly promoted corporals and Marines who have been corporals for a while things they might not have known.

"I feel the course turned me into a better NCO and taught me many things I didn't already know, reinforced some things I did know, and provided guidance on things I thought I might have known but maybe had the wrong idea or impression of," said Cpl. Michael A. Clemmens, Corporals Course 4-11 honor graduate.

To attend Corporals Course, one must be a corporal or lance corporal slated to pick up before graduation day.

The Corporals Course instructors are sergeants who have already gone through Sergeants Course.

These instructors pass on to the Marines attending Corporals Course what they learned in Sergeants Course and their daily experiences in the Marine Corps.

Whether it becomes a mandatory resident course or not, all corporals are encouraged to attend in order to build and improve their leadership capabilities.

The next Corporals Course is scheduled to begin March 2 and graduate March 29.



PFC. CHARLIE CLARK

Col. James C. Stewart, station commanding officer, greets and congratulates Cpl. Michael A. Clemmens, Corporals Course honor graduate, after the Coporals Course Class 4-11 graduation ceremony at the Marine Memorial Chapel here Feb. 3.



PFC. CHARLIE CLARK

Corporals Course Class 4-11 listens while Col. James C. Stewart, station commanding officer, talks about how proud he is of the new Corporals Course graduates for their outstanding performance and dedication throughout the course during the Corporals Course Class 4-11 graduation ceremony at the Marine Memorial Chapel here Feb. 3. Along with Stewart, Gunnery Sgt. Fabio L. Salas, guest speaker, exchanged words of encouragement to the new Corporals Course graduates.

P90X : Station treated to fitness guru's expertise

LANCE CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Tony Horton, fitness guru and creator of the P90X fitness program, visited with Marines and sailors here Monday offering workout tips and advice. He was also on hand to sign autographs at the Crossroads Mall bookstore.

The P90X program is an exercise regimen using various exercises involving calisthenics, cardio and abdominal core workouts.

"My whole workout is functional fitness, core fitness," said Horton.

The program has found a home amongst sailors and Marines as a way to augment their training in the areas of the Combat Fitness Test and Physical Fitness Test.

"There was a lot of talk in Washington at the Department of Defense that our fighting forces were getting out of shape" said Horton. "The guys down range were doing fine but a lot of other folks were struggling."

Practitioners of the P90X were on hand as Horton signed autographs and posed for pictures with fans inside the bookstore. Among them was Sgt. Maj. David J. Wimberly, station sergeant major.

Wimberly, a first time user of the program, implemented the workout into his personal regimen in an effort to rejuvenate his physical training after suffering injuries to both his rotator cuffs.

"What's nice about the program is that you can do it anywhere because it's your bodyweight and you're using the ground," said Wimberly. "It's just like the CFT in its simplicity," he added.

The CFT, a test designed to assess the combat readiness and efficiency of Marines, has been noted by Marines for its capability to be used anywhere. Some days Marines look for programs like the P90X to help give them an edge in their competition.

"Our gym has been doing a lot of the very same things every day of the week," said Wimberly referring to the IronWorks Gym. "They have these similar types of courses, whether it's yoga, jump rope or other activities."

Yoga, along with an intense abdominal workout, is one of the key exercises Horton felt could benefit Marines the most in a combat zone.

"If you're in a Humvee and you get hit, and you've got 80 pounds on your back, your job is to get out," said Horton. He also added if Marines

are not moving as fast as they can in combat, they will get killed. He called these situations "moments of tremendous intensity."

With that mindset, the P90X program is designed to become progressively more challenging from one day to the next.

"It was challenging but it made you accept where you were at physically because you can't move forward unless you know where you're at," said Pfc. Nathan Durazo, another first time user of the program.

Horton said he felt visiting the Marines and sailors abroad was a way for him to give back and show his appreciation for their efforts. He also said he feels he has done his job when service members approach him and tell him how the program has helped them.

Marines are trained to be combat oriented and battle ready. As a result, they must be physically capable and fit. Numerous workouts have attempted to capitalize on that mindset over the years.

If the number of Marines, sailors and residents of the station in attendance at Horton's evening workout session and autograph signing were any indication, the P90X has managed to do just that.



A group of residents work their abdominal muscles during a P90X workout as fitness guru and P90X creator Tony Horton walks through encouraging them here Monday. Horton was also on hand afterward for an additional evening book signing and meet-and-greet with residents.



Adrian R. Figueroa, goes head-to-head with Tony Horton here at the IronWorks Gym sports courts Monday. Horton sifted through the crowd, encouraging participants to stay focused and keep intensity at peak levels as the program progressed. Participants endured five intense levels for over an hour as they worked with Horton.



Andrew Feldon takes part in calisthenics here at the IronWorks Gym sports courts Monday. Feldon was one of many who took part in the evening workout offered by fitness guru and inventor of the P90X workout, Tony Horton.



Tony Horton autographs his newly released book "Bring It!," during his book signing meet-and-greet at the Crossroads Mall bookstore here Monday. Horton exercised with fans after the book signing.



Tony Horton demonstrates his balance and dexterity during an exercise demonstration at the IronWorks Gym sports courts here Monday. Horton challenged participants to continue training if they wanted to see results.

CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE



SGT. DEREK B. CARLSON

HELMAND PROVINCE, Afghanistan — Aircraft rescue firefighters with Marine Wing Support Squadron 373, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward), practice rescue procedures on an up-armored vehicle aboard Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan, Jan. 25. The Marines, assigned to the Tactical Response Team, train on unserviceable vehicles to prepare for real-life scenarios and receive hands-on experience with their equipment.

First responders get fired-up for tactical recovery

SGT. DEREK B. CARLSON
3RD MARINE AIRCRAFT WING

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan — Sometimes, the hardest line of work is the one where not doing your job is a good thing.

For the Tactical Recovery Team with the Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting section of Marine Wing Support Squadron 373, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward), nothing could be closer to the truth.

These Marines are trained as first-responders to countless urgent scenarios involving disabled aircraft or vehicles. Whether it is the result of an improvised explosive device, mechanical failure or any one of the countless mishaps, which are possible across the battlespace, these Marines have what it takes to rescue coalition personnel in distress.

Thankfully, these Marines have not engaged in the tactical recovery of aircraft and personnel; however they are hard at work training and developing standard operating procedures for TRAP missions — where nothing is standard.

"We have not been on any TRAP missions as of today," said Staff Sgt. Uriah Gruber, the training chief for the ARFF Marines. "Without a doubt, if they called us today, these Marines would be ready to go. The training and tempo are up there, we are just waiting for the word."

Being in a deployed environment has given the ARFF Marines, rare and vital training resources. A small number of tactical vehicles, which have been damaged or disabled beyond a state of repair, are taken to a lot behind the fire station, where the Marines can practice and demonstrate rescue procedures in preparation for real-life application.

"We've cut open seven vehicles since October, and from day one, we found numerous different challenges to overcome," said Gruber. "Basically, we are finding the safest and fastest techniques to open these vehicles in order to rescue a victim."

Whether the vehicle is on its side or on fire, been blasted or submerged, ARFF Marines are trained to improvise and do whatever it takes to save the lives of their brothers in arms. Upon the safe recovery of personnel, the focus is then shifted to the recovery and damage mitigation of the disabled vehicle, if the situation permits.

"For me, hands-on training is the money maker," said Sgt. Robert A. Dallas, the section leader for the ARFF section three. "To be able to get in there and use the tool, rather than just hear it and take classes — I think my Marines feel the same way. This way each Marine can weigh the pros and cons, and find out what works for you and what doesn't work for you."

The Marines have a variety of tools at their disposal. The six-in-one tool is a multi-purpose tool used for hammering, prying, twisting, torquing and much more. This steel hammer-shaped object is fitted with multiple uses and is perfect for getting a lot done with little time. The Marines also utilize the "Jaws of Life," a gas-powered saw and an exothermic torch. All of these tools come with a man-portable fuel source, which a Marine may carry on his back. This provides the TRT with an expeditionary capability, able to make a huge difference with a small footprint.

Aside from TRT, the ARFF Marines with MWSS-373 also assist in the transport of casualties arriving at Camp Bastion — ensuring their safe and timely arrival to emergency medical care. They are also on-call around the clock as first-responders in case distressed aircraft are forced to make an emergency landing aboard the flightline.

Though the Marines have not been called upon for many of their duties, they may sleep easy knowing they possess the ability, and training, to do so on a moment's notice. The hands-on drills and practical application they have applied during their tour in Afghanistan has given the Marines an irreplaceable wisdom, which they will carry for the duration of their careers. Furthermore, in the event of a future mishap, hesitation is one thing you won't find in their toolset.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS | CLASSIFIEDS

Briefs

Free Child Development Screening

Educational and Developmental Intervention Services will be holding a free child development screening for children 4-60 months on Feb. 23 and 24 at Matthew C. Perry Elementary School. A child specialist will answer questions and screen five major areas of child development. For more information, schedule an appointment with EDIS at 253-4562.

Station Tax Center

The Station Tax Center, located in Building 608 (SJA side), is scheduled to be open Mondays through Fridays 8 a.m. — 4 p.m. The Tax Center is currently taking appointments for every Saturday in the month of February. To make an appointment or for more information, call 253-5951, 253-3540, 253-5591, 253-5962.

Mothers of Preschoolers Volunteer Opportunities

MOPS is looking for volunteers to work with our MOPPETS ages 0-5 years old. MOPPETS is the children's program for MOPS. If you enjoy working with children and would like to help, contact Michele at 253-2031.

DeCA Sponsored 2011 Scholarships for Military Children Program

Scholarship applications are available in commissaries worldwide and online at <http://www.commissaries.com> — choose the "News & Info" tab and then the "Scholarship Info" tab. Applications are also available at <http://www.militaryscholar.org>. Applications and any essays must be turned in to the Commissary by close of business Feb. 22. For more information, call the DeCA department at 253-4873.

Choir Tryouts

The choir will perform at the Annual Cherry Blossom Gospel Concert that will be held at the Kintai Bridge park stage in April. Tryouts and practices for the choir will be held every Sunday from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, call 090-4104-1541 or e-mail billiej316@gmail.com.

Mafia Murders Dinner

Speakeasy Entry
Password: The Big Cheese.

Contractors in Housing Areas

Contractors are scheduled to be working in the north town homes area 8 a.m. — 5 p.m. Mondays - Fridays until the end of February. They may need to access some back yards, front

yards and outdoor walls. For any questions or concerns, call Sgt. Adam Kruse at 253-4018.

PMO Lost and Found

Please contact the Provost Marshal's Office Lost and Found at if you've lost anything around the installation. The following are just some of what has been turned in: Armed Forces Identification Cards, meal cards, keys, money, digital cameras, cell phones, liberty cards, passports, dog tags, jewelry, glasses, gray sweater, Nintendo DS with case, debit/credit cards, brown wallet, bicycle helmets, computer hard drives and an umbrella. For more information call 253-4929 or e-mail jeffrey.n.anderson@usmc.mil.

CREDO Marriage Retreat

The upcoming Chaplains Religious Enrichment Program marriage retreat is scheduled March 18 — 20 here. Couples will learn to communicate effectively and work as a team. All station service members and their spouses are eligible to attend. Couples must be married for at least one year, and marriage should not be in a state of crisis. Registration with command approval should be completed at the Marine Memorial Chapel by 11 a.m. Feb. 28. For more in-

Vehicles

1999 Harley Davidson Road King

JCI good until July 2012. Asking \$13,000. For more information, call 253-6242 or 090-649-0498.

1997 Honda SMX Wagon

JCI good until April 2012. Asking \$3,000. For more information, call 253-6242, 090-649-0498 or e-mail seangkimhan@hotmail.com.

1999 Toyota Fun Cargo

Well maintained, power everything, A/C and heat works great. Seats 5. \$2000. JCI good until July 2012. For more information, call 253-2602 (home) or 080-4186-0336 (cell) or e-mail jeffery.s.cope@usmc.mil.

Jobs

Travel Counselor

CWTSatoTravel has a travel counselor position available at the government travel office here. This position is responsible for booking air, car and hotel reservations for military travelers in official duty status using the SABRE CRS. Knowledge of government travel regulations, SABRE CRS, travel agency or airline experience is recommended. Please

send all inquiries and resumes to mkenat@cwtsatotravel.com. No phone inquiries please.

Americable International Positions

Americable International Japan Inc. is now accepting applications for office manager, customer service representative, CATV/Internet installer and installer technician positions here. For more information visit www.americablejapan.com for more information. Applications and resumes may be sent to resume@americablejapan.com.

Brief and Classified Submissions

To submit a community brief or classified advertisement, send an e-mail to iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil. Include a contact name, a phone number and the desired information. Alternatively, submit your brief or classified ad in person at the Public Affairs Office, Building 1, Room 216 or you may call 253-5551. Ensure you provide all requested information to simplify the request process. The deadline for submissions is 3 p.m. every Friday. Submissions will run the following Friday on a space-available basis. The Iwakuni Approach staff reserves the right to edit submissions for space and style.



Japanese officials visit during M.C. Perry awards assembly

Motoi Yoshimura, head of Agricultural Cooperative Association, speaks to the students of Matthew C. Perry Elementary School during an awards assembly where he and five other Japanese officials presented 20 boxes of Mikans to the students at the Sakura Theater here Feb. 3. The gifted Mikans were an example of the cultural exchanges between Japan and the station.

The six officials included: Motoi Yoshimura, head of Agricultural Cooperative Association; Hideyuki Yamamoto, Training and Marketing Department Deputy Director; Kazunori Hayata, President-director of board for Iwakuni Kouin Seika Co. Ltd.; Mitsuo Okada, chairman of Iwakuni Seika Brokerage Coop. Assoc.; Hitoshi Kufune, chairman of Iwakuni Seika Brokers Coop. Assoc.; and Yoshihiko Fukuda, Iwakuni mayor.

The 20 boxes of Mikans were grown on the island of Suo-Oshima.

INFOTAINMENT

Chapel Services

Roman Catholic
 Saturday 4:30-5:15 p.m. Confession
 5:30 p.m. Mass
 Sunday 8:30 a.m. Mass
 9:45 a.m. Religious Education
 11:30 a.m. Weekday Mass
 Tuesday - Friday 6 p.m. Inquiry Class for adults

Protestant
 Saturday 9:30 a.m. Seventh-Day Adventist
 Sabbath School
 11 a.m. Seventh-Day Adventist
 Divine Worship
 Sunday 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, Adult
 Bible Fellowship
 10:30 a.m. Protestant Service
 11 a.m. Children's Church
 4:30 p.m. Lutheran Holy
 Communion Service
 (Small Chapel)
 Wednesday 6 p.m. Awana (Bldg. 1104)
 6:15 p.m. Adult Bible Study
 (Capodanno Hall Chapel)

Church of Christ
 Sunday 9:30 a.m. Bible Study (small
 chapel)
 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Latter Day Saints
 Weekdays 6:30 a.m. Youth 12-17 Activities

Teen Programs
 • High School Meetings (Club - grades 9-12)
 • Junior High Meetings (Club JV - grades 7-8)
 • HS&JR Bible Studies
 • Retreats
 • Service Projects
 • Missions Trip
 • Special Events Volunteer Training & Mentoring
 • Parent Support Group
 Call 080-4177-2060 or e-mail jletaw@ClubBeyond.org

For information regarding divine services, religious education or any other command religious program or chapel activity, call the Marine Memorial Chapel at 253-3371.

Photo of the week



PFC. CAYCE NEVERS

Kati Genzer, a sophomore at Matthew C. Perry High School, played running back in the Powder Puff Football game as she attempts to retrieve the ball from the opposing senior team. Submit your ideas or photos to the Public Affairs Office by e-mailing them to iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil, calling 253-5551 or submitting your idea in person at the office in Building 1 Room 216. Entries will be judged by the Iwakuni Approach Staff and the top selection will run in the next edition of the Iwakuni Approach.

SAKURA THEATER

Friday, February 11, 2011
 7 p.m. True Grit (PG-13)
 10 p.m. Love and Other Drugs (R)

Monday, February 14, 2011
 7 p.m. Love and Other Drugs (R)

Saturday, February 12, 2011
 1 p.m. Gulliver's Travel (PG)
 Premier
 4 p.m. Tangled (PG)
 7 p.m. Tron: Legacy (PG)

Tuesday, February 15, 2011
 7 p.m. Burlesque (PG-13)

Sunday, February 13, 2011
 1 p.m. Gulliver's Travel (PG)
 4 p.m. Little Fockers (PG-13)
 7 p.m. How Do You Know (PG-13)

Wednesday, February 16, 2011
 7 p.m. Little Fockers (PG-13)

Thursday, February 17, 2011
 7 p.m. How Do You Know (PG-13)

The movie schedule is subject to change. Please check www.mccsiwakuni.com/sakura often for updates, or call the Sakura Theater at 253-5291 for the latest schedule.

General Admission: Ages 12+ are \$2.50 / Ages 6-11 are \$1 / Children ages 5 and under admitted free. For more information, visit www.mccsiwakuni.com or call 253-5291.

Mess Hall Menu

Monday
 Manhattan clam chowder, chicken and rice soup, sauerbraten, jerked-style chicken, fried rice, oven-browned potatoes, french-fried okra, calico cabbage, chicken gravy, dinner rolls, macaroni salad, confetti rice salad, standard salad bar, coconut raisin cookies, double-layer almond cake, chocolate cream pie with whipped topping.
 Specialty Bar: Pasta

Tuesday
 Beef noodle soup, navy bean soup, Swiss steak with gravy, Szechwan chicken, O'brien potatoes, noodles Jefferson, french-fried cauliflower, broccoli parmesan, brown gravy, cheese biscuits, three-bean salad, cucumber and onion salad, standard salad bar, butterscotch brownies, apple pie, spice cake with buttercream frosting.
 Specialty Bar: Taco

Wednesday
 Cream of broccoli soup, knickerbocker soup, turkey curry, Chinese five spice chicken, pork fried rice, mashed potatoes, vegetable stir fry, whole kernel corn, egg rolls, chicken gravy, dinner rolls, spring salad, deviled potato salad, standard salad bar, peanut butter cookies, sweet potato pie with whipped topping, coconut cake.
 Specialty Bar: Barbecue

Thursday
 Minstrone soup, pepper pot soup, fried chicken, beef stroganoff, buttered pasta, candied sweet potatoes, savory summer squash, Southern style green beans, chicken gravy, cheese biscuits, potato salad, spinach salad, standard salad bar, double-layer devil's food cake with coconut pecan frosting, pumpkin pie with whipped topping, oatmeal raisin cookies.
 Specialty Bar: Deli Bar

Friday
 Beef barley soup, tomato soup, lemon baked fish, el rancho stew, steamed rice, potatoes au gratin, cauliflower combo, black-eyed peas, dinner rolls, brown gravy, mixed fruit salad, Italian style pasta salad, standard salad bar, apple and cherry turnovers, bread pudding, crisp toffee bars, chocolate pudding with shipped topping.
 Specialty Bar: Hot Dog



PFC. CHARLIE CLARK

Jim Davis, an advanced division competitor, practices his serve before the 2011 Invitational Racquetball Tournament at the IronWorks Gym racquetball courts here Saturday. Yanai was able to make it to the championship round, but couldn't come away with the win.



PFC. CHARLIE CLARK

Shuji Yanai, an advanced division competitor, dodges the ball as it zips by giving Jim Davis, an advanced division competitor, the lead in their championship game during the 2011 Invitational Racquetball Tournament at the IronWorks Gym racquetball courts here Saturday.

Serves up! Diverse group of competitors face off in multinational racquetball tournament

PFC. CHARLIE CLARK
 IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Slap. Pop. Pow. The sounds of the little, purple ball being slapped around could be heard during the 2011 Invitational Racquetball Tournament throughout the IronWorks Gym racquetball courts Saturday. Japanese nationals and Marines alike were invited to the tournament to compete in three separate divisions: beginners, intermediate, and advanced.

Andrew Porche, the IronWorks Gym intramural sports coordinator, welcomed 14 competitors who came out.

Unlike tennis, in racquetball the only way to score is serving. There is also a lot more stop and go action with more bending and twisting. "It doesn't matter if you're fast or nimble," Jim Davis, an advanced division competitor, said. "If you know the angles, you'll be going a long way."

There were three competitors in the beginner division, six in the intermediate division and four in the advanced division.

For some, this was their first time in a tournament, let alone with unfamiliar opponents.

"This is the first time I've played in a tournament," said Joel Castillo, a beginner division competitor. "I've only been playing a few years on and off. This will be a challenge for me."

For this being Castillo's first tournament, he proved he's worth his weight in sea salt by outmaneuvering and outplaying the other competitors in the beginners division to get the first place trophy.

Hara Nobufumi, an intermediate competitor from Shunan, said the tournament was a great opportunity to test his skills against the Marines.

"Everybody here is very friendly," Nobufumi said. "This kind of social exchange is an interesting experience."

Nobufumi, however, wouldn't be the one to win the intermediate division. Thomas Durning would come away with the win and the title.

Durning said the competitors were tough, but he had a fun time playing against them.

"I would love to come back and play in more events like this," Nobufumi said. "I only know about Japanese culture, which is like a community. Coming here helps me to understand American culture and the community here."

In the end, the ultimate showdown in the advanced division was between Davis and Shuji Yanai.

The tough match for the title was fierce. In the end, Davis would come out with the win.

"I've been playing racquetball for 30 years," Davis said. "I was looking forward to the new competition."

Davis used his years of experience to out angle Yanai during their match up.

"It was a really good experience playing against Shuji," Davis said. "He's been playing almost as long as I have. It was great to play against someone with that much experience."

After all the action was done and the tournament champions decided, Porche handed the winners their respective plaques for their divisions and thanked everyone who participated.

"Compared to last year's tournament, this was like the Super Bowl to a game of flag football," Porche said.

The multicultural tournament ended with smiles and handshakes, and with the different communities conversing and sharing their collective knowledge.

Wolverines claw away at Soldiers 23- 21

PFC. CHARLIE CLARK
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The Wolverines squeaked by the Soldiers 23-21 in a 13- to 15-year-old youth basketball match at the IronWorks Gym sports Courts here Feb. 5.

Both teams showed great teamwork by passing and allowing all the players who were open to put up a shot.

The Soldiers pulled ahead in the beginning, but in the second quarter the Wolverines utilized the long ball making the score 8-6.

The Soldiers wouldn't go down without a fight. In the third quarter, the Soldiers fought back to regain the lead with a series of layups putting them 15-10 with 3:30 left in the quarter.

The soldiers continued their dominance into the fourth quarter keeping a five-point lead until Malik Hale, Wolverines forward, was fouled. Hale was unable to make the free throws but rebounded and made a bucket, rebooting the Wolverines comeback.

"The teams did a great job tonight," said Hale. "I missed a lot of free throws but in the end we came through."

With help from his teammates, Makkai Leggete, Wolverines power forward, layed up the ball into the bucket, closing the gap to the Soldiers.

"The game was very competitive," said Jimmie King, Soldiers head coach. "My team gave it their all and that's all I can ask for."

The Soldiers made an all out assault from one end of the court to the other, but the shot was blocked and rebounded by Hale, who led the charge behind enemy lines to get the layup, pulling the Wolverines ahead 20-19 with 1:10 left in the game.

Zachary Taylor, Soldiers point guard, was able to make the shot, bringing the Soldiers back for what seemed like the win.

Hale, with help from his team, scored again making this an all-out war until the bitter end.

With only 3.2 seconds left, Hale was fouled again. This time he proved his free-throw prowess, sinking a bucket and winning the game for the Wolverines 23-21.

"This week we did a lot more offensive drills in practice, but we're always focusing on defense," William Gordon, Wolverines assistant coach, said. "The Wolverines players have been working really hard and were just the better team out there today."

The Wolverines won't be the only team to practice offensive drills for their games, King said.

"We missed some key layups," said King. "We'll be working on layup drills at the next practice."



PFC. CHARLIE CLARK

Michael Coletta, Soldiers small forward, attempts a layup to catch up with the Wolverines during the 13- to 15-year-old game at the IronWorks Gym Sports Courts here Feb. 5. Coletta showed his skills against the Wolverines players as he bested their attempts to block his shot.



PFC. CHARLIE CLARK

Tamina Croon, Wolverines small forward, covers Kendralyn Woods, Soldiers point guard, as Woods attempts to get a better position to make the shot during the 13- to 15-year-old game at the IronWorks Gym Sports Courts, here Feb. 5. Woods was unsuccessful with the shot.



PFC. CHARLIE CLARK

Malik Hale, Wolverines forward, leaps before James D. Kerr, Soldiers center, as Kerr attempts to block, to sink a basket during the 13- to 15-year-old game at the IronWorks Gym Sports Courts here Feb. 5. Hale put many points on the scoreboard for the Wolverines as the game raged on.