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IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 19 Vol. 4 | Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan

Aviation flight equipment techs ensure pilot safety

Lance Cpl. Charlie Clark
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

KADENA AIR BASE, Japan — Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 533's aviation flight equipment technicians inspect the pilots' personal gear before they suit up to ensure their safety.

One piece technicians inspect is the survival gear.

"We make sure the survival gear has anything the pilots would need if they were in (a survival) scenario," said Lance Cpl. Drew C. Weston, a VMFA(AW)-533 aviation flight equipment technician. "We have limited space for gear. It's important the pilots have items that will work for any location."

Some survival gear items include: knives, flares and an encrypted radio capable of calling and sending short text messages to a rescue party on all search and rescue frequencies.

Another important piece of equipment the aviation flight equipment technicians inspect regularly is the H-harness.

An H-harness will keep a pilot secure in

SEE GEAR ON PAGE 3

Corporals chant motivation to graduation crowd

Corporals Course graduation name listing | P. 4



LANCE CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.

Cpl. Marcel C. Brown, Corporals Course 13-11 class commander, leads the "Marines' Hymn" during a Corporals Course graduation at the Marine Memorial Chapel here Tuesday. The course taught the corporals close-order drill, Marine Corps history and improved physical fitness. Sgt. Maj. Blake L. Smith served as the guest speaker for the graduation. He reminded the Marines they are not just corporals but rather the corporals their junior Marines will look to for guidance.



LANCE CPL. CAYCE NEVERS

Gayla Hines, a Matthew C. Perry Elementary School second-grader, pours sand into a tube to layer different colors into a design at the sand booth during the M.C. Perry Spring Fling School Carnival at the M.C. Perry Elementary School playground here May 13. Hines used more pink sand than any other color on the table for her sand design.

Students spend family time at M.C. Perry Spring Fling School Carnival

Lance Cpl. Cayce Nevers
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

As students of Matthew C. Perry Elementary School gathered around in a semi-circle, Susie Strasner, an M.C. Perry Elementary School counselor, sat on the wooden plank above the water and hoped she wouldn't get dunked.

The dunk tank was just one of the many activities at the Spring Fling School Carnival held on the M.C. Perry Elementary School playground May 13.

One-by-one the students took their three shots at the target. Many students missed, but some managed to hit all three balls on the target.

Once the ball hit the target, Strasner fell into the water and came back up splashing as the students laughed.

"I will do anything for the kids," said Strasner. "We wanted to make this day as fun as possible for them."

Misty Hines, an M.C. Perry second-grader, dunked Strasner more than once.

"It was fun because my sister couldn't throw it hard enough, but I did, twice," said

Hines.

All the money made from selling tickets and food during the event went to the school for supplies.

Many different activities were present at the carnival.

There was a teacher jail, temporary tattoos, face painting, an obstacle bounce house, a barbecue and many more activities.

As students went from activity to activity with snakes, soccer balls, smiley faces and other designs painted on their face, they munched away at sticks of pink cotton candy and turned their mouths blue with juice from snow cones.

Many went hunting like animals for their teachers to put them in jail for 15 minutes; Strasner was a big hit with the children and was taken to jail multiple times. While those students were on the hunt, some students went to the sand making booth.

Maria Calderon, an M.C. Perry sixth-grader, made her way to the tattoos.

"I like how the tattoos look and they come off," said Calderon.

SEE FLING ON PAGE 3



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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

'Reject passivity'

Lt. j.g. Bruce B. West
H&HS CHAPLAIN

Sometimes life really sucks. At least, I feel that way.

In high school, the girl I had spent most of the year dreaming about and hanging out with decided she had better options.

She went to the prom with some other goof and never gave me a second thought.

Two weeks later, I lost the New York State Section Three 1600-meter run Championship by less than a second. I didn't enjoy losing.

Then a few days after, I got a speeding ticket passing through a remote part of Fulton County.

I knew my dad would be furious, but I didn't expect him to pull me off his insurance.

It seems like some people handle the low points of life really well; others, not so much.

I usually lay awake at night thinking about what I could have done differently.

"Why did I go out so fast in that race?"

"Could I have said something another way that would have gotten me out of that ticket?"

"If she wasn't so darn arrogant and selfish, could we get along better?"

Sleepless, preoccupied nights are frustrating and dwelling on

negative situations without a means to a solution can lead to hopelessness and depression.

So, what do we do when life sucks?

At 18, most of my friends lacked any really helpful insight but they never lacked the boldness to share an opinion. Contrary to their common advice, not once in my entire life have I spent the night drinking to wake up with a clearer perspective on life than I had the night before.

My brother-in-law is notorious for "clearing his head" with a few drinks.

The next morning, hungover, late for work and tired, his wife would reengage.

Do clearer heads prevail? Absolutely not.

Stewing over a situation never really changes anything, but careful reflection helps me gain perspective.

Objective advice is even better.

Too often we tend to see life through the lens of our individual consequences but focusing so closely on ourselves can lead to defensiveness, frustration and discouragement. But, obviously we can't go through life blissfully ignoring our problems and pain.

My brother always says, "If it doesn't kill you it makes you stronger." I disagree.

Suffering through life doesn't automatically make you a stronger or better person, but how we respond to challenges in life does define us.

Too many people spend their

lives being defined by their pain and defeat. Passivity rarely leads to the outcomes we desire.

So, what's the alternative to passivity? Engagement.

Are you caught in a bad circumstance?

Maybe you can take the bull by the horns, try harder or reengage your issue from another angle.

Talk to someone about it; it may not be as bad as it seems.

Is your issue relational?

The hard thing about relationships is they aren't just dependent upon you.

Can you understand the other perspective?

Humility, forgiveness and self-sacrifice are keys to engaging relational problems.

Is your issue a result of bad conduct?

Remember I was the speeder.

Change your conduct to reflect values that produce positive outcomes.

Is your issue spiritual?

God isn't passive either; he has already done the hard part.

If you are ready to engage him, he is ready for you.

The reality is everyone goes through difficult, sometimes hideous, situations in life.

You may think you're in it worse than everyone else, but it's not true.

Don't avoid your problems, get some input, evaluate your values and address the issues. Chances are, with a little work, your problems are opportunities to make some positive changes.

Nurse Corps celebrates 103 years of service



LANCE CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.

Lt. Cmdr. Stella Annunziato, Robert M. Casey Medical and Dental Clinic education and training urgent care clinic department head of staff, Navy Lt. Sarah E. Gentry, Branch Health Clinic staff nurse, Cmdr. Sherri R. Coleman, BHC senior nurse officer, and Navy Lt. Beverly J. Torres, BHC staff nurse, cut a cake celebrating the 103rd birthday of the Navy Nurse Corps at the BHC here May 13. The Nurse Corps has aided service members in times of war, providing medical care and comfort for all service branches. The Nurse Corps' rich tradition can be traced back to the Angels of Bataan, the first group of female service members taken as prisoners of war during World War II.

Students throw balls, darts, bags to win prizes

FLING FROM PAGE 1

Another big hit at the Spring Fling School Carnival was the barbecue.

They served hotdogs, burgers, pizza, corn, chips and other foods as well as having drinks available. The line snaked its way around booths and other activities for a good amount of the time.

The parents, although there was not much for them to do, had fun being dragged around by their excited children and seeing their children's smiles.

Gina Friedhoff, an M.C. Perry teacher and parent, said it's a good way to spend time with our children. Yes, we are dragged around but it's still bonding with them."

As the event came to a close, students and parents rushed around the prize table trying to turn in their tickets first. After the tickets were turned in the students walked up and down the tables staking out their prizes.

The parents and students walked away from the crowded table with smiles on their faces and prizes in their hands.



LANCE CPL. CAYCE NEVERS

Jewels Friedhoff, a Matthew C. Perry Elementary School fourth-grader, gets a soccer ball painted on her face during the M.C. Perry Spring Fling School Carnival held at the M.C. Perry Elementary School playground here May 13. The paint booth was just one of many booths at the event. All the money made from selling tickets and food during the event went to the school for supplies.

No small job: Aviation flight equipment technicians keep pilots safe, gear mission ready

GEAR FROM PAGE 1

the cockpit so he isn't bouncing around while performing aerial maneuvers. The H-harness also is what connects the pilot to his parachute if he were ever in a situation where he needed to eject.

The aviation flight equipment technicians look for corrosion in the straps and general wear and tear of the device.

"Our motto is 'The last to let you down.'" Weston said. "If everything else goes wrong, the gear we inspect and maintain is going to work."

Routine pilot gear inspections are conducted every 30, 90 and 180 days.

The communication equipment pilots use to talk to each other and the masks the equipment is housed in is checked every 30 days.

The masks also supply the pilots with oxygen to keep them from suffocating while flying at high altitudes where the cockpit is pressurized.

The gear in the survival vest and helmets are inspected every 90 days to ensure there are no cracks on the helmet or strap corrosion.

The G-suit is checked every 180 days.

G-suits apply pressure to the legs and torso of the pilots forcing blood back to their heads to prevent them from losing consciousness at high speeds.

"The pilots can go without the



LANCE CPL. CHARLIE CLARK

KADENA AIR BASE, Japan — Lance Cpl. Drew C. Weston, a Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 533 flight equipment technician, checks the radio in a VMFA(AW)-533 pilot's flight jacket here May 9. The radio can be used to send short text messages and can be picked up on search and rescue frequencies.

G-suits," said Staff Sgt. Michael A. Parks, the VMFA(AW)-533 aviation flight equipment staff non-commissioned officer in charge. "The G-suits just make flying missions, especially combat missions, much safer."

One of the more recent items Weston has had to inspect is the joint helmet-mounted cueing system.

The JHMCS has a heads up display in the visor that can designate friendly and enemy aircraft. If an aircraft flies under or above the pilots, a marker tracks where the aircraft went so the pilots don't have to tilt the cockpit to see them.

"This makes our job a lot

easier," said Capt. Ernie Drake, a VMFA(AW)-533 F/A-18 pilot. "Now we can just look around and see a little box in our HUD and know that's the enemy."

Before the pilots climb into the cockpit, they check their gear to make sure everything is there.

"We really just make sure everything is there when we put on the gear," said Drake. "Beyond that, we just trust in the equipment technicians to make sure that every component works."

The trust the pilots are able to put into the aviation flight equipment technicians allows the pilots to focus on what's most important, completing the mission.



LANCE CPL. CHARLIE CLARK

KADENA AIR BASE, Japan — Lance Cpl. Drew C. Weston, a Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 533 flight equipment technician, checks the multi-purpose tool in a VMFA(AW)-533 pilot's flight jacket here May 9. The pilots are allowed to have up to five pounds of extra gear in their flight jackets.

Corporals Course: 13-11

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Iron Man: Cpl. Jairo A. Javier H&HS
Gung Ho: Cpl. Macjoseph A. Artap VMFA(AW)-242

Petty Officer 3rd Class Bryan T. Banks	MWSS-171	Cpl. Christopher A. Juliana	MAG-12
Cpl. Kyle J. Baskin	MALS-12	Cpl. Lance B. Ladwig	H&HS
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Cpl. Nicholas R. Garcia	MWSS-171	Cpl. Oscar M. Rodriguez	MWSS-171
Cpl. Andrew Gonzalez	MALS-12	Cpl. Jay L. Schenkel	MWSS-171
Cpl. Keaton N. Grisham	VMFA(AW)-242	Cpl. Justin P. Tousignant	H&HS
Cpl. Paul A. Harris	MALS-12	Cpl. Curtis C. White	MWSS-171
Cpl. Joseph A. Jones	MWSS-171	Cpl. Clarence E. Wilcox	MWSS-171
		Cpl. Kyle D. Wilson	MALS-12

American Red Cross, how it helps you

Lance Cpl. Cayce Nevers
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The American Red Cross has impacted my life more than once, three times in a six month period to be exact. With three Red Cross letters, there is one in particular that is always on my mind.

On Feb. 8, 2010 I arrived aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C., and stepped onto those yellow footprints leading me to a new life. One I wasn't fully prepared for.

"The fastest way off this island is to graduate," the drill instructors constantly yelled.

Only two weeks into training, I was called into the drill instructor's office.

The other recruits stared at me as I walked down behind the beds, making my way toward my senior drill instructor.

I could tell they were curious as to why I was being called inside the office, the stares and whispers said everything.

Walking in, I looked around and saw my senior drill instructor, the company first sergeant and the chaplain standing with their heads down.

I had a feeling I wasn't in trouble, but they were avoiding eye contact with me.

That's when the chaplain sat in front of me, looked me in the eyes and told me the news.

The chaplain said my name and said, "I have some bad news. Your mother sent a Red Cross message informing us that your father has passed away."

I looked around, I wasn't ready to believe the information they were giving me and asked them if they were joking.

My senior drill instructor shook her head.

Less than five minutes after receiving the news, it hit me.

It was still unknown to me how, or when, I only knew that my father was gone.

Not a day goes by when I don't think about the Red Cross message I received and how it has affected me.

One hundred and thirty years ago, on May 21, 1881, the American Red Cross was

founded, making it possible for those serving in the military today to receive messages such as the ones I received during bootcamp.

According to the American Red Cross website, within the first 25 years of the Red Cross, the organization conducted the first disaster-relief efforts and gave aid to the military throughout the Spanish-American War.

The American Red Cross gives aid to U.S.

"I have some bad news. Your mother sent a Red Cross message informing us that your father has passed away."
— Recruit chaplain

military members all over the world.

According to the Red Cross website, During World War I, the Red Cross took a big leap in the military by recruiting and sending approximately 20,000 registered nurses.

The website also states that the Red Cross assists victims of major disasters, prepares packages for American and Allied prisoners-of-war as well as shipping thousands of tons of supplies to those who need it.

The Red Cross is not government funded; instead, the organization receives its money and donations from the public.

The Red Cross is a way to keep in touch with news of family members back home. Not all Red Cross messages are upsetting. While some may devastate a military member about a death of an immediate relative, Red Cross messages are also sent about good news such as the birth of a newborn baby.

Imagine the good and bad memories one would have working for the Red Cross, having to deliver those messages.

Brenda Hindman, American Red Cross station manager, said that she can remember the memories.

While in Baghdad, she was informed a Marines' grandfather had passed away. Before informing the Marine, she was informed that on the way to the hospital to see the Marine's grandfather, both his parents were in a car accident and both parents died.

For Hindman, having to tell someone that a family member had passed away is her worst memory of delivering Red Cross messages.

Yet, at the same time, she remembers informing a Marine his baby was born and gave him an opportunity to Skype his wife and newborn baby.

The Red Cross is not only used as a connection between family members, it is also used as a way to help and assist those in need.

No matter the location, the Red Cross is always looking for volunteers.

Throughout the next few months, several volunteer opportunities for station residents ages 14 and up are available.

Volunteer opportunities for teens are the current focus of the organization here.

The teens can get a taste of what it is we do, said Hindman.

The teens are urged to volunteer 20 hours per week.

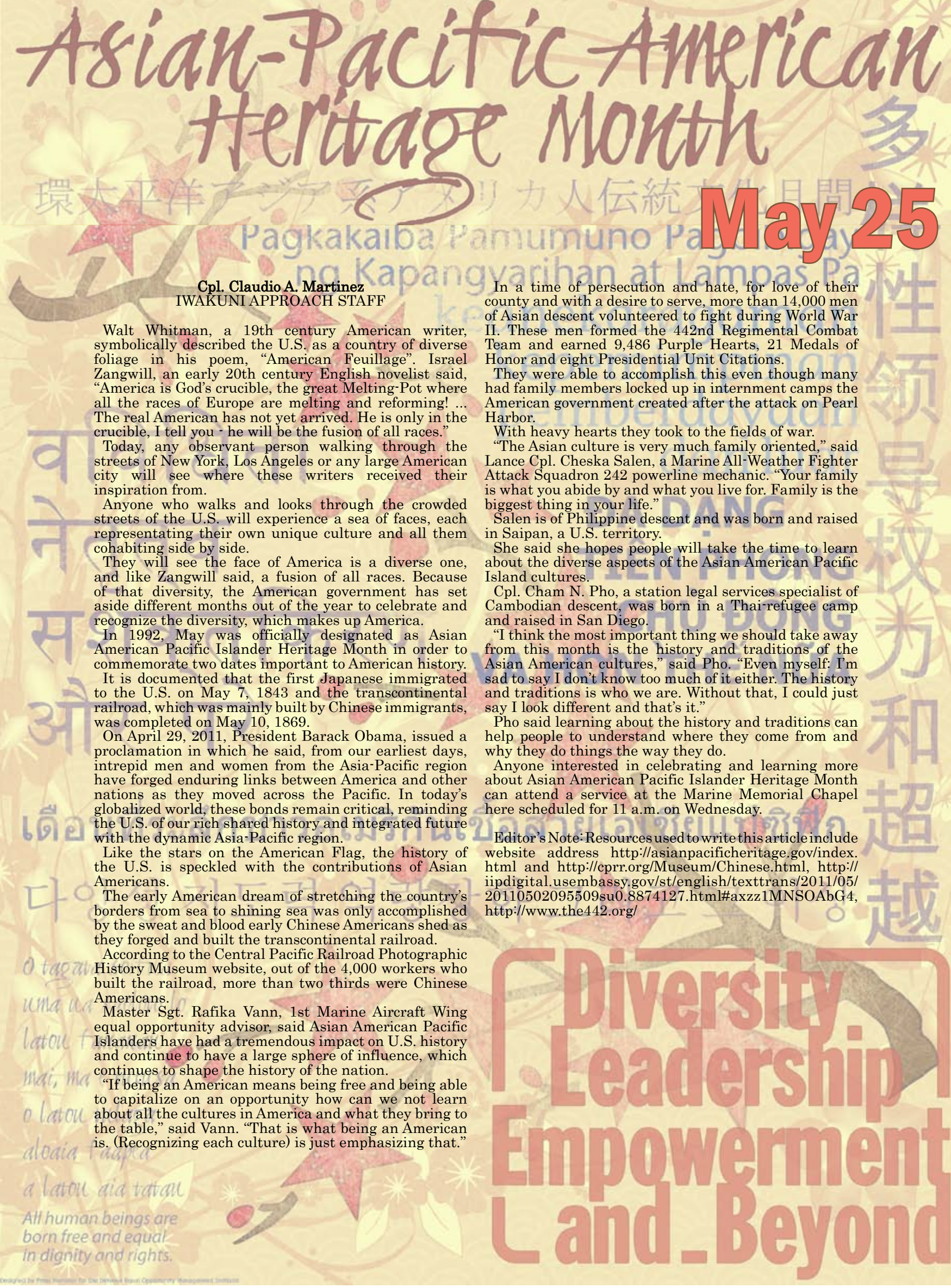
"It gives the children something to do other than sit around and get in trouble," said Hindman. "It helps the new teens who come here learn about the station and the people here."

The American Red Cross is also looking for adults who can be case workers or leadership volunteers.

With all the help the Red Cross has and everything its volunteers have done since the beginning, the organization still stands strong with dedicated volunteers.

To volunteer for the American Red Cross, visit Brenda Hindman at the American Red Cross office at the Marine Memorial Chapel here.

Station to celebrate



Cpl. Claudio A. Martinez
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Walt Whitman, a 19th century American writer, symbolically described the U.S. as a country of diverse foliage in his poem, "American Feuillage". Israel Zangwill, an early 20th century English novelist said, "America is God's crucible, the great Melting-Pot where all the races of Europe are melting and reforming! ... The real American has not yet arrived. He is only in the crucible, I tell you - he will be the fusion of all races."

Today, any observant person walking through the streets of New York, Los Angeles or any large American city will see where these writers received their inspiration from.

Anyone who walks and looks through the crowded streets of the U.S. will experience a sea of faces, each representating their own unique culture and all them cohabiting side by side.

They will see the face of America is a diverse one, and like Zangwill said, a fusion of all races. Because of that diversity, the American government has set aside different months out of the year to celebrate and recognize the diversity, which makes up America.

In 1992, May was officially designated as Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month in order to commemorate two dates important to American history.

It is documented that the first Japanese immigrated to the U.S. on May 7, 1843 and the transcontinental railroad, which was mainly built by Chinese immigrants, was completed on May 10, 1869.

On April 29, 2011, President Barack Obama, issued a proclamation in which he said, from our earliest days, intrepid men and women from the Asia-Pacific region have forged enduring links between America and other nations as they moved across the Pacific. In today's globalized world, these bonds remain critical, reminding the U.S. of our rich shared history and integrated future with the dynamic Asia-Pacific region.

Like the stars on the American Flag, the history of the U.S. is speckled with the contributions of Asian Americans.

The early American dream of stretching the country's borders from sea to shining sea was only accomplished by the sweat and blood early Chinese Americans shed as they forged and built the transcontinental railroad.

According to the Central Pacific Railroad Photographic History Museum website, out of the 4,000 workers who built the railroad, more than two thirds were Chinese Americans.

Master Sgt. Rafika Vann, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing equal opportunity advisor, said Asian American Pacific Islanders have had a tremendous impact on U.S. history and continue to have a large sphere of influence, which continues to shape the history of the nation.

"If being an American means being free and being able to capitalize on an opportunity how can we not learn about all the cultures in America and what they bring to the table," said Vann. "That is what being an American is. (Recognizing each culture) is just emphasizing that."

Station residents treated to festival of family, fun and fitness



Atkin M. Chapa, 8, Matthew C. Perry Elementary School third-grader, jumps from ball to ball during the Family Fun Fitness Festival that was held outside the Marine Corps Exchange and station Commissary here Saturday. The obstacle course focused on keeping the children moving. Training and better nutritional habits were discussed during the festival.



Thomas F. Durning, IronWorks Gym athletic director, instructs Rhianna Hardwell in the use of the Total Resistance Exercise Suspension Trainer during the Family Fun Fitness Festival here Saturday outside the Marine Corps Exchange. The TRX uses straps to offer resistance training in a variety of exercises ranging from inverted rows to modified burpees.

Lance Cpl. Kenneth K. Trotter Jr.
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Semper Fit, in conjunction with the Marine Corps Exchange, treated station residents to the annual Family Fun Fitness Festival here outside of the MCX and station Commissary Saturday. The festival informed families of the benefits of healthier living and proper exercise and nutrition. Semper Fit had various displays showcasing interesting facts concerning issues some residents did not know.

The display booths were set up in such a way as to funnel informants toward the less commonly known health facts.

“The whole point of this was to educate and inform the community,” said Alma Dickinson, Semper Fit Health Promotions Director. “That’s why we have the info booths. Some of the booths were geared not just toward children or families, but some of the junior Marines.”

The festival informed station residents and particularly their children of some healthier food choices.

“They’re young,” said Dickinson. “We wanted to introduce them to healthy options in their diet early on.”

Along with healthier eating habits, exercise was also spoken of at the festival.

The Total Resistance Exercise Suspension Trainer is an exercise apparatus devised of several straps of varying length and resistance. Children and adults attempted to beat the device in a test of endurance and strength in such exercises as inverted rows and suspended burpees. Adults took part in the 30/30 challenge, performing 30 repetitions of a particular exercise and then resting for one minute before performing another 30 reps of another exercise. Children only had to do 15 reps.

Thomas F. Durning, IronWorks Gym athletic director, served as the TRX’s demonstrator and provided audiences with information.

Durning said the TRX is available to station residents who work out at the IronWorks Gym.

“The TRX was rough,” said Carnessa L. Pulliam, festival attendee. “I put a physical training session in here today. It was a challenge.”

One booth that caught the people’s attention was the display of two blocks, one representing five pounds of fat and the other, five pounds of muscle. The block of fat was thick and mushy, taking up twice as much space as the muscle block. Many people were surprised by how much more space the fat tissue occupied compared to muscle.

Though fitness and health were apparent all around, fun and family were just as evident. When children were not attempting to show up their parents, they played in a bounce house. They also participated in a miniature obstacle course comprised of jumping over hurdles, bouncy balls, and performing high knees.

Some residents, seeing the festivities as they passed by, decided to check out the festival without knowing about it.

“A friend and I saw the balloons and we decided to come over and check it out,” said Pulliam. “I actually had a good time. We need more activities like this to not just get families out but Marines out as well.”

Along with the fitness and bounce houses, the community came out in droves to provide food and entertainment. Several tents outside the Commissary, provided healthier food options such as fresh ears of corn, and heads of lettuce and cabbage.

The festival lived up to its reputation as a fun day for all involved. More than \$500 was awarded during giveaways, ranging from gift cards to watches and sporting apparel. At the end of the day, the festival was also about informing the community.

The success of the festival was obvious: it lasted well past its scheduled end time.



Thomas F. Durning, IronWorks Gym athletic director, encourages Jason N. Nickell, a Semper Fit volunteer, through the 30/30 challenge of the Total Resistance Exercise Suspension Trainer during the Family Fun Fitness Festival here in the parking lot of the Marine Corps Exchange and station Commissary Saturday. The 30/30 challenge involved participants completing 30 repetitions of a particular exercise, resting one minute and proceeding to perform another exercise for an additional 30 reps.



LANCE CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER



LANCE CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER

(LEFT) Connor O. Jagger, 8, a third-grade student at Matthew C. Perry Elementary School student, performs through the high knees portion of an obstacle course here during the Family Fun Fitness Festival Saturday. The festival showcased various fun facts and statistics for station residents to help improve the station’s awareness of healthier food options on base.

(RIGHT) Jazlyn K. Aronhalt, 6, a Matthew C. Perry kindergartner, jumps over hurdles during an obstacle course during the Family Fun Fitness Festival here outside the Marine Corps Exchange and station Commissary Saturday. The festival focused not only on station residents making healthier choices and better physical habits but providing fun and entertainment for those in attendance. The festival was a success as it lasted well past its scheduled time.

CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND
SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE

ANA, Marines search for weapons, IED materials

Cpl. Benjamin Crilly
REGIMENTAL
COMBAT TEAM 8
2ND MARINE DIVISION

PATROL BASE FULOD, Afghanistan — The Marines of 2nd Platoon, Company C, 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, while on patrol with their Afghan National Army counterparts, searched an abandoned structure on a routine security patrol to ensure it was not being used to store weapons or improvised explosive device components.

Culturally, the ANA served a vital role when the Marines search inhabited compounds since they are able to explain to local homeowners the intent of the search and be accepted as doing their job instead of seen as an outside threat to the Afghan's privacy and freedom.

"We know that at times they cannot conduct searches on their own and collect all the necessary intelligence that we see as important," said Sgt. Kevin W. Zarefoss, a squad leader for 2nd Plt. "It is still important for us to put their face to it. We are putting an Afghan face on an Afghan problem."

This also allows the Afghan soldiers to see how to properly search for, collect and document evidence by watching the Marines.

If they see the Marines care about respecting the culture and the property, the soldiers might have more trust in the Marines,

said Lance Cpl. Patrick C. Hawco, a point man with 2nd Plt.

The ANA are an invaluable asset to the Marines when searching large abandoned compounds.

In Afghanistan multiple families can live in the same part of a compound and that complexity makes it hard for the Marines to distinguish what each room was used for at times. With this particular compound the Marines had been to the multifaceted location before but had never had the chance to search it thoroughly.

"Despite walking through this compound before briefly, we had not been able to piece together what it had functioned as and therefore, did not know what could have been out of place," said Zarefoss. "Knowing your area and having a good grasp of what goes on in it does not mean going on one patrol."

Some of the senior Afghan soldiers in Sangin have been here for a while, said Hawco. They know what should and should not be in that part of compounds.

"For us that is tremendous," said Hawco. "They see the little things that are out of place and can point it out to us."

Their ability to identify abnormalities also works the other way, said Keith R. Ablard, a law enforcement professional for Co. C, 1/5. By having the Afghan soldiers search with Marines, the soldiers are able to identify, eliminate and pick out the important evidence to be brought



CPL. BENJAMIN CRILLY

SANGIN, Afghanistan — Cpl. John Wienke, a team leader for 2nd Platoon, Company C, 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, searches an opening in a compound wall while conducting a search here May 10. Obvious places that need to be searched are easy for the Marines to identify, but the Afghan National Army assist them by alerting them to when something is out of place.

back and processed by analysts.

This enables Marines to ensure that they are not trying to get some mundane household item processed as intelligence substantiation.

"It helps the processing of evidence because if you were to bring in information that is not even evidence, you are wasting [the] analyst's time that could be used to process more important things," said Ablard, a former

Marine with 13 years of law enforcement experience as a Virginia police officer.

When Marines search with Afghan soldiers, they are able to work together to maximize the efficiency of the search and find a lot more information about a place, said Hawco.

That intelligence allows partnered forces to better employ their assets to improve the security of Sangin.



CPL. BENJAMIN CRILLY

SANGIN, Afghanistan — Sgt. Kevin W. Zarefoss, a squad leader for 2nd Platoon, Company C, 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, and the Afghan National Army squad leader stops a vehicle outside of Patrol Base Fulod here May 10. The ANA assist the Marines in stopping vehicles on patrols and talking to the drivers to see if there is anything suspicious.



CPL. BENJAMIN CRILLY

SANGIN, Afghanistan — Afghan National Army soldiers and Marines walk through the courtyard of a compound they searched here May 10. The ANA assisted the Marines in the search by identifying household layout and showing them what things were out of place or, as they would say, "No Good."

COMMUNITY BRIEFS | CLASSIFIEDS

Briefs

Northside Post Office Relocation Plan

The old northside post office will close at noon today. Personal mail will not be placed in PSC boxes and will not be available for pick up after noon. New PSC boxes will be issued 9 a.m. Monday at the new northside post office. Current customers' addresses will not change.

TriCare Coverage Change

A new TriCare program offers coverage for young adults under 26, uniformed services dependents under 26, unmarried, and not eligible for their own employer-sponsored health care coverage may be qualified to purchase TYA, which offers TRICARE standard coverage for monthly premiums of \$186. A premium-based TRICARE Prime benefit will be available later this year. For more information visit <http://www.tricare.mil/mediacenter/news.aspx?fid=706>.

Marriage Enrichment Small Group

A marriage enrichment small group is scheduled to be held every Monday at 6:30 p.m. in Building 936C. For more information, call chaplain Bruce West at 253-3371 or e-mail bruce.b.west@usmc.mil.

NMCRS Quick Assist Loans

The Iwakuni Navy Marine Corps Relief Society is providing

Quick Assist Loans to prevent active duty service members from falling prey to predatory lenders. These loans are designed to assist with short-term living expenses up to \$300, interest free and must be repaid within 10 months. For more information, call the Iwakuni NMCRS at 253-5311 or stop by the Marine Memorial Chapel, Room 148.

Temporary Mess Hall

Building 240 is designated as a temporary mess hall. Hours of operation are 6 – 7:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Monday – Friday. The special shuttle bus will continue to run during the dinner and dinner/brunch meal periods. A sandwich bar is also available from 1:30 – 5:30 p.m.

PMO Lost and Found

Contact the Provost Marshal's Office Lost and Found if you have lost anything around the installation. Examples may include: Cell phones, keys, digital cameras, bicycle helmets, etc. To recover lost items or for more information, call 253-4929.

Birthday Break

The birthday break is an ongoing promotion held every Friday at 9:15 a.m. on Power 1575 radio. The promotion is open to anyone with a birthday. Just visit www.mccsiwakuni.com/birthdaycake, fill out the form and let Power 1575 and Marine Corps Community Services take

care of the rest. Every Friday, birthdays from the previous week will be announced and on the last Friday of every month there will be a random birthday cake giveaway for one birthday in the upcoming month.

Fellowship Breakfast

Christian fellowship and group discussion breakfasts are scheduled 6:30 – 7:15 a.m. every Wednesday at the northside mess hall. For more information, call chaplain Bruce West at 253-3371 or John Cordero at 253-5301 or 080-3217-3205.

Lending Locker Program

The lending locker program is available to provide small home appliances and utensils for incoming and outgoing command-sponsored members for up to 60 days inbound and 30 days outbound. A copy of PCS orders is required. The lending locker is located in Building 411 Room 101. For more information call, 253-6161.

Emergency Preparedness for Family Members Course

The station safety center is offering a free voluntary noncombatant respirator course at 3:30 p.m. every other Wednesday until May 30. For more information or to sign up, call 253-6381.

Mothers of Preschoolers Volunteer Opportunities

Mothers of Preschoolers is looking for volunteers to work with their MOPPETS ages 0-5 years old. If you would like to

help, call at 253-2031.

Americable Activation

Americable is scheduled to begin service activation in certain areas of the base. Tune in to channel 37 for more information or stop by the Americable office in the Crossroads Mall.

Crime Stoppers

To report a crime, call 253-3333. Callers can leave a detailed message without having to speak to a live person.

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. Desirable for the candidates to have travel agency or airline experience, and SABRE CRS experience. Knowledge of government travel regulation is also preferred. Send all inquiries and resumes to mkenat@cwtsatotravel.com. No phone inquiries.

Commissary Merchandiser

SARVIS Inc. is currently looking for a part-time commissary merchandiser, 48-hours per month. Workplace is Iwakuni Commissary/DeCA CDC. Experience in retail or commissary merchandising is preferred. For more

information, e-mail Mr. More at tmore_sarvis@yahoo.com.

English Teachers

Two positions are available to teach English in Tokuyama every Friday 6 – 8 p.m. For more information, call 253-6868.

Pets

Free Cat

Two years old, spayed cat named Rose looking for good home. She is loving and cute. For more information, call Billie Scott at 080-3272-5902.

Brief and Classified Submissions

To submit a community brief or classified ad, send an e-mail to iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil. Include a contact name, a phone number and the information to be published. You may submit your brief or ad in person at the Public Affairs Office, Building 1, Room 216 or call 253-5551. 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.

Got News? Got News? Got News?

Do you have an idea for a story or need coverage for an event? We are here for you. Contact the Public Affairs Office two weeks in advance of projected publication date for review by e-mailing iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil, calling 253-5551 or stopping by Building 1, Room 216.

BOOT SCOOTIN' ROUNDUP

A live 1-hour radio show featuring the best country music. Kick up your boots 9 - 10 a.m. Mondays-Thursdays on Power 1575.

Emergency Phone Numbers

- Antiterrorism Force protection: 253-ATFP (2837)
- Life, limb or loss of vision threatening emergencies while on the air station: 119 or 911. From a cell phone or for bilingual capability: 082-721-7700.
- For security issues, contact the Provost Marshal's Office: 253-3303. To report without talking to a person, Crime Stoppers: 253-3333.
- Sexual Assault: To make a confidential report of sexual assault or harassment, contact the victim advocate at 253-4526 during working hours. For after hours, weekends and holidays, call 090-9978-1033 or 080-3427-0835. You can also call the installation Sexual Assault Response Coordinator at 253-6556 or 080-5865-3566.

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
Tues. – Fri. 11:30 a.m. Weekday Mass
Wednesday 6 p.m. Inquiry Class for adults

Protestant
Saturday 7 a.m. Men's Ministry
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
Tuesday 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



LANCE CPL. FRANCISCO ABUNDEN
Recruits from Platoon 3038, India Company, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, climb over the wall at the Battle of Mariana Islands May 5 - 6 during the Crucible. The group used teamwork to conquer the obstacle. Have your own photo to submit? Submit photos to the Public Affairs Office by e-mailing them to iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil or submit them in person at the Public Affairs 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. For more information call 253-5551.

SAKURA THEATER

Friday, May 20, 2011
7 p.m. Sucker Punch (PG-13)
Premiere
10 p.m. Fast Five (PG-13)

Saturday, May 21, 2011
1 p.m. Rio (PG)
4 p.m. Sucker Punch (PG-13)
7 p.m. Lincoln Lawyer (R)
Premiere

Sunday, May 22, 2011
1 p.m. Rio (PG)
4 p.m. Lincoln Lawyer (R)
7 p.m. Paul (R)
Premiere

Monday, May 23, 2011
7 p.m. Red Riding Hood (PG-13)
Last Showing

Tuesday, May 24, 2011
7 p.m. Battle: Los Angeles (PG-13)
Last Showing

Wednesday, May 25, 2011
7 p.m. Paul (R)

Thursday, May 26, 2011
7 p.m. Limitless (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
Cream of mushroom soup, Creole soup, sauerbraten, hot and spicy chicken, fried rice, oven glo potatoes, fried zucchini, calico corn, dinner rolls, potato salad, mixed fruit salad, standard salad bar, congo bars, double layer marble cake with buttercream frosting and blueberry crunch.

Tuesday
Cream of potato soup, chicken noodle soup, southern-fried chicken, barbecue beef cubes, steamed rice, buttered pasta, black-eye peas, Creole squash, cornbread, macaroni salad, deviled potato salad, standard salad bar, chocolate chip cookies, spice cake with buttercream frosting and lemon meringue pie.

Wednesday
Cream of broccoli soup, vegetable soup, tempura fish, steamed rice, oven glo potatoes, glazed carrots, brown gravy, dinner rolls, club spinach, potato salad, country-style tomato salad, standard salad bar, peanutbutter cookies, double layer devil's food cake with buttercream frosting and cheese cake.

Thursday
Tomato soup, cream of chicken soup, baked ham, macaroni and tomatoes, fried shrimp, fettuccini noodles, Alfredo sauce, grilled cheese sandwich, tempura vegetables, peas and carrots, dinner rolls, macaroni salad, German tomato salad, standard salad bar, sugar cookies, strawberry shortcake with whipped topping and vanilla cream pie.

Friday
Clam chowder soup, minestrone soup, braised beef and noodles, baked fish, mashed potatoes, fried potatoes, fried cabbage, mix vegetables, chicken gravy, dinner rolls, potato salad, spinach salad, standard salad bar, banana bread, shortbread cookies and Dutch apple pie.

G-SUPP supplies basketball playoffs with fire

Lance Cpl. Kenneth K. Trotter Jr.
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

G-SUPP once again emerged victorious against their archrivals the ROC BOYZ 49-37 during the intramural basketball season playoff finals at the IronWorks Gym sports courts here Monday.

The ROC BOYZ took it to its undersized opponents during the first game of their best of three series.

Using size to their advantage, the ROC BOYZ players were able to pull away late in the first half, forcing their opponents to attempt to catch up.

Dewayne C. Bigge, ROC BOYZ center, and Terry A. Bonds, ROC BOYZ shooting guard, made a home beneath the basket all night as they forced G-SUPP back into the paint and used their height to secure rebounds. The ROC BOYZ led the first half 28-18.

The second half was a mad dash for G-SUPP to place points on the board as it went to its reliable 3-point shooter, Steve A. Navar, G-SUPP shooting guard, to try and shorten the gap. Learning from their previous tangle with G-SUPP, the ROC BOYZ players did not allow Navar to settle into his natural groove of three-point placement.

"We didn't come out to play the first game," said Navar. "We thought we were just going to come out and just beat them easy but they showed up to play."

The first game ended with the ROC BOYZ winning 51-42.

G-SUPP proved they were determined the second game by putting on an offensive clinic.

They played as a different team in the second game. The team that played the first game was gone, replaced by a team that now went after the basketball with tenacity.

From the tipoff, G-SUPP took an early lead scoring nearly twenty unanswered points before ROC BOYZ managed to respond. The ROC BOYZ continued its strategy to focus on Navar, which opened the way for G-SUPP's surprise breakaway star.

Drevonn M. Fluellen, G-SUPP shooting guard, was a man possessed, making breakaway after breakaway down the court. As the ROC BOYZ changed its game plan to contain Fluellen, it opened the way for DeMarcus J. Charleston, G-SUPP power forward, and Rabosky Tanner, G-SUPP power forward, to inflate the lead 58-21 in the middle of the second half and force the mercy rule.

"We didn't play like we needed to in the second game," said Paul A. Torres, ROC BOYZ shooting guard. "We started out with a bang and we should have finished with a bang as well."

The final game between the two powerhouses was a much closer affair than the previous game.

G-SUPP started the game much like the previous one, scoring nearly 20 unanswered points. The ROC BOYZ players were still not prepared time for the onslaught as they attempted to fire back. The first half closed with a score of 30-15, G-SUPP.

Frustration was on some of the ROC BOYZ players' faces as they sought to find a way to contain their opponent. It seemed whatever the ROC BOYZ did to slow down G-SUPP, G-SUPP managed to score.

The ROC BOYZ players managed to keep the game respectable as they found their comfort zone in the second half. G-SUPP managed to stay ahead of the ROC BOYZ as fouls became an issue during the second half.

In an attempt to stop the clock



LANCE CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.
Rabosky Tanner, G-SUPP power forward, sizes up the ROC BOYZ's defense at the IronWorks Gym sports courts in the finals of the intramural basketball playoffs here Monday. G-SUPP won with a final score of 49-37. The finals were a best-of-three series and pitted G-SUPP in a rematch against the ROC BOYZ.

and create a new game plan, the ROC BOYZ fouled late in the second half.

"My hat's off to them (G-SUPP)," said Rajiv Douglas, ROC BOYZ

shooting guard. "They came to play."

As time wound down, G-SUPP kept the ball away from the ROC BOYZ and won 49-37.



LANCE CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.
Zach C. Host, G-SUPP point guard, prepares to perform a crossover against a ROC BOYZ defender in the finals of the intramural basketball playoff here Monday. G-SUPP went on to win the final two games of the series 58-21 and 49-37. Fast breakaways and a high percentage of rebounds were the keys to G-SUPP's victory.



Staff Sgt. Ryan Chilson, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron competitor, aligns himself as he prepares to drive a golf ball down the field during a Commander's Cup Long-drive competition at the Torii Pines Golf Course here May 13. Units picked five participants to represent their command and each participant was given five chances to drive a golf ball as far down the green as they could. H&HS took first place. Combat Logistics Company 36 took second place and Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 took third.



First Lt. Craig Decico, Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 competitor, winds his club back just before whacking a golf ball down the field during the Commander's Cup Long-drive competition at the Torii Pines Golf Course here May 13. Competitors were challenged by high windage and a soggy field, which caused many golf balls to stick in the mud when they landed. Competitors quickly learned to adjust their positions accordingly.

H&HS swing long drive for tee-shot win

Lance Cpl. Jennifer J. Pirante
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Marines and sailors spent their lunch hour putting their best tee-shot in play during the Commander's Cup Longest Yard competition at the Torii Pines Golf Course here Friday.

The competition was sponsored by Marine Corps Community Services, which provided scorekeeping and awarded trophies.

Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron took home first place. Combat Logistics Company 36 took home second place and Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 took home third.

Master Sgt. Louis Starnes, H&HS competitor, accepted the first place trophy on behalf of his unit. It was his first time participating in the Commander's Cup Longest Yard competition even though he identifies himself as an avid golfer who likes to play golf on a regular, daily basis.

"Whether you're an avid golfer or not, you can come out, have fun and enjoy yourself with other Marines and sailors who come out," said Starnes. "It's just a great time."

The object of the competition was simple.

Units picked five participants to represent their command.

Each participant was given five chances to drive a golf ball as far down the green as they could and whichever service member hit the ball the farthest earned the win for their unit.

During the competition, service members faced two major challenges: wind and a soggy field.

Competitors battled against wind pull, which often stole the ball and carried it far left and out of bounds. The Marines and sailors quickly learned to adjust their positions accordingly.

The rain, which fell during the week prior to the competition, left many water puddles and a slew of muddy terrain, creating a disadvantage for short-driven balls.

"We saw a lot of really short distances because no one was getting any roll," said Lt. Cmdr. Keith Applegate, H&HS competitor. "Normally, you hit a ball and if you get enough spin, it will hit, it will bounce and it will roll. That's where a lot of people get their distance. There's no carry because the balls are sticking in the mud."

Although competitive, the atmosphere between the service members was anything but tense.

In between turns, Marines and sailors kept everyone entertained with jokes and friendly banter.

Applegate, rocked his lucky, cheetah-patterned Hello-Kitty onesie, equipped with a hood to keep the sun off his head.

"Anyone who knows me knows I'm all about the jokes," said Applegate. "We're all military. So, naturally, we all have a very competitive spirit, but we're also just out here for fun."

With each swing, service members cheered each other on whether competitors were on their team or not.

"The (Service members) looked like they were having a lot of fun joking around with each other," said Paul Hahn, Torii Pines Golf Course manager. "It created a little camaraderie between them and gave them something to take back to the office."

MCCS and the Semper Fit fitness department are slated to host the next Commander's Cup Ultimate Frisbee competition at the Penny Lake fields here June 10.