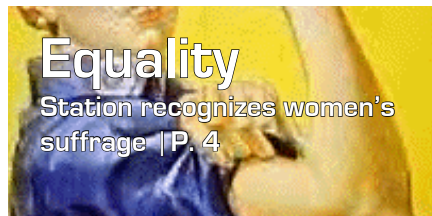




Relief & Appointment

Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 welcomes new sergeant major | P. 9



Equality

Station recognizes women's suffrage | P. 4



Beep-beep

Roadrunners taking over streets | P. 11

IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 33 Vol. 4 | Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan

Mighty Shrikes continue training in Habu Fire II

LANCE CPL. CAYCE NEVERS
IWAKUNI APPROACH
STAFF

KADENA AIR BASE OKINAWA, Japan — Strike Fighter Squadron 94, Mighty Shrikes, launched aircraft to act as red-air aggressors to practice and train pilots in air-to-air operations on the flightline here Aug. 24.

Habu Fire II is a joint-training exercise where VFA-94, Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242, Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 214 and 18th Fighter Wing work together to perform and improve their efficiency in air-to-air operations. The scenarios the pilots preform in support of the exercise help advance their effectiveness.

In red-air/blue-air exercises, pilots train tactics in the sky as either aggressors (red-air) or defenders (blue-air).

"These exercises are an excellent opportunity to try and find the best procedure as we move forward and continue with the mission," said Master Chief Petty Officer John R. Dunlap, VFA-94 maintenance master chief.

When pilots act as aggressors, they execute various flying tactics and allow pilots acting as defenders to make attempts at gaining an advantage over the enemy by implementing their own techniques.

"When performing red-air/blue-air operations, pilots are preparing themselves for com-

bat situations," said Dunlap.

These type of exercises allow pilots training as blue defenders the opportunity to experience different scenarios the aggressors may use.

"Today I was acting as red-air to support the others and allow them to see what kind of possible tactics they may run into," said Navy Lt. Phillip Casha, VFA-94 naval air training and operating procedures standardization officer.

On a daily basis, pilots train and prepare for what possible aggressors will do; however, they are not always prepared for situations presented.

"It allows us to see what other pilots think the enemy may do," said Casha. "We can prepare for situations we never thought we would run into."

When stationed at certain locations, this training is not always a possibility. When on deployments, the different locations this squadron visits allows them the opportunity to use various environments to carry out their training.

"Being on deployment allows us to use all the available ranges out here which may not be available back in Iwakuni or Lemoore," said Casha.

While pilots prepare for these missions, they cannot be completed if aircraft are not primed and ready on a moment's notice.

"I am a final checker and a

SEE **TRAINING** ON PAGE 3

Music festival rocks Iwakuni



Summer Music Festival photo story | P. 6 & 7

CPL. MARCEL BROWN

Beaux Foy, Airlie Down lead singer, hypes up the Iwakuni crowd during their headline Summer Music Festival Open House performance at the Torii Pines golf course here Saturday. Approximately 4,500 station and local residents gathered to celebrate the first ever open house event.

VFA-94 receives award for going above, beyond

LANCE CPL. CAYCE NEVERS
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

KADENA AIR BASE OKINAWA, Japan — The Strike Fighter Attack Squadron 94

Mighty Shrikes were presented the Marine Aircraft Group 12 Tactical Strafe Award by Maj. Gen. William D. Beydler, III Marine Expeditionary Force commanding general, during a

formation at Hanger 3 here Aug. 24.

Beydler presented the award to Navy Cmdr. Curtis Carroll, VFA-94 commanding officer, and the squadron.

The award commemorated the squadron for performing operations above and beyond the standards of the Marine Corps.

"It was great," said Beydler. "There is nothing like presenting an award to a squadron that deserves it."

Three selected squadron personnel were also presented with challenge coins.

The Mighty Shrikes are currently participating in exercise Habu Fire II, a joint-training exercise where VFA-94, Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242, Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 214 and 18th Fighter Wing work together performing and improving efficiency in air-

SEE **AWARD** ON PAGE 3



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The Iwakuni Approach welcomes Letter to the Editor submissions. Letters must include a full name and unit, if applicable. Anonymous letters and comments will not be published. Letters are the opinion of the writer only. Submissions may be edited for clarity and space. Letters can be dropped off at the Public Affairs Office or sent via e-mail to iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil. Please submit all content at least two weeks in advance of projected publication date for review.

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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

'One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish'

LT. D. ANTHONY BAKER
MWSS-171 CHAPLAIN

I have nearly completed the circle of life, as so sung by Sir Elton John in the Lion King. I only have left to be reintegrated into the ground from which I originally came so that the gazelles of the field can munch upon the grass that my remains have fertilized (remember the lesson Simba's father taught him in the movie?).

When I was growing up, my older sister used to read me Dr. Suess books, and it was great for that time in my life. As I got older, I thought that the "Time of the Suess" was over, but no. Now that I have children of my own, I find myself reading the timeless classics like Cat In The Hat, Green Eggs and Ham, and One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish. Ahh, the silly cartoon characters of Dr. Suess are just as good the second time around!

I have heard that living and working on MCAS Iwakuni is referred to as "being in the fishbowl." Now there is an interesting comparison. Think about what it must be like to be a fish, living in a tank as a pet. You can't go where you want, when you want, you have no privacy; you are entirely dependent upon

one food source; every decision you make is known by all and is somewhat curious to those living in and outside of the fishbowl. Hmmmm, now that I think about it, life in Iwakuni is a lot like living in a fishbowl.

Now that my time is up after 3 years, some may ask, "Did you like your time at MCAS Iwakuni?" Perhaps better phrased, "How did you enjoy being a fish living in the fishbowl?" The answer is, at least from my experience, "It was great! I liked being a fish."

There is a lot to learn by living in an environment like this. First, I have really learned the difference between a necessity and a want.

As hard as it is to obtain certain comfort items here such as a choice of toothpaste or the latest in Ipad technology, you learn quickly that those things you thought you had to have aren't really things you need after all. Crest toothpaste is just fine and I will wait till I get back to the States to get the Ipad that I want.

I have really learned to play nice with the other fish. In the tight quarters of the fishbowl, you are constantly bumping into other fish that you may have a problem with.

You learn quickly that it is really hard to avoid that specific person who you don't like. When I have

tried to avoid individuals in the past, invariably I will be in the commissary shopping, crossing over from one aisle to the next and lock eyes with my adversary. After an awkward moment or two, we eventually swim off in our different directions. After a few occurrences early on, I have learned it is better to do your best to try and keep peace in the tank, even with fish that just can't seem to get along with anyone else.

What I have enjoyed most about living in the fishbowl is sharing the tank with some really great folks. On any given evening in my neighborhood on northside, I will have a school of little ones swirling about my street on scooters, bikes, skates, skateboards or some combination of the aforementioned and us parents watching them as we talk about work, the weather and our kids. My friends from the northside like the Howards, Rupples, Goerings, Minnichs, Ramis, and Portillos have made my life in the fishbowl great. Only in an overseas military environment can you make bonds so quickly.

As a chaplain, it has been an absolute joy to be here. Because of the fishbowl, I have gotten to intimately know many Marines and sailors and share in their lives. As a person who wants others to do well in life, it has been a pleasure watching the people aboard this base grow in their careers, their families, and grow in their relationship with God. I close by saying, thank you for the friendships and the memories! God bless you all and goodbye.

MCBJ deputy commander visits station



CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ

Maj. Gen. Peter J. Talleri, Marine Corps Base Camp Butler commanding general/Marine Corps Bases Japan deputy commander (left) addresses Marines who served as individual augmentees in Afghanistan during an afternoon meal at the northside mess hall here Aug. 26. Talleri spent two days here meeting with commanding officers aboard the air station and several junior Marines.

FROM **AWARD** ON PAGE 1

to-air operations.

The squadron went above and beyond what everyone expected and they continue to prove themselves during day-to-day operations, said Beydler in his speech to the squadron.

After the award presentation Carroll spoke to the squadron. "I am so proud of everyone in our squadron," said Carroll. "These kinds of awards are testaments to everybody that the squadron can accomplish their mission on any given day."

The Mighty Shrikes begin working early in the morning and continue until late in the evening.

"The combat performance event like the one we performed

in shows everyone was pulling their weight," said Carroll.

The notice to choose three awardees was given only a few days before the formation.

With the workload on the deployment being more than the squadrons' usual amount, the three personnel chosen for the awards stepped up to the plate and took control where it was needed.

"The awardees were easily recognizable by recent events and performance within the squadron," said Lt. j.g. David Doyle, VFA-94 maintenance material control officer.

"The purpose of the CG visiting our squadron was to recognize the exceptional work our sailors have been doing," said Doyle.

FROM **TRAINING** ON PAGE 1

troubleshooter, so if anything comes up on the line, any problems, I can troubleshoot them and make sure that the aircraft is safe to fly," said Petty Officer 1st Class Kevin Allen, VFA-94 aviation machinist mate.

Without the final inspectors, aircraft would

not be able to fly safely. They ensure all work done to the aircraft is done correctly.

"I couldn't ask for a better team," said Allen. "The Mighty Shrikes have done nothing but prove themselves time and time again. We have proved that in every aspect of this detachment and deployment."

With the Mighty Shrikes geared up and



LANCE CPL. CAYCE NEVERS

KADENAAIR BASE OKINAWA, Japan — Maj. Gen. William D. Beydler, III Marine Expeditionary Force commanding general, presents Cmdr. Curtis Carroll, Strike Fighter Attack Squadron 94, with the Marine Aircraft Group 12 Tactical Strafe Award for the squadron's hard work and for exceeding expectations of the Unit Deployment Program at Hanger 3 here Aug. 24.

CDET program builds wise decision makers

SUBMITTED BY
COL. JAMES P. HOPKINS, USMC
(RET)

The Marine Corps derives its success from the dedication and wisdom of its leadership. Leadership at every level determines the direction of the organization and the success of missions, from the combatant command level all the way down to individual fire teams. Ultimately, the best leader is one whole-heartedly devoted to the mission at hand, and who, once weighing all possible alternatives, makes the best decision — the decision with the greatest probability of success requiring least sacrifice.

The Marine Corps' 236 year history has provided a vast amount of lessons learned, providing insight into best practices, tactics and strategies. The Marine Corps has compiled these lessons and developed courses to better enable and sharpen the decision making skills of the Corps' leadership. Over the years, developers of the Marine Corps' education programs discovered that the Corps' expeditionary nature requires a similar approach to its education system, especially in areas far from the brick and mortar schools, such as Okinawa. In time, this need led to the establishment of the Marine Corps College of Distance Education and Training.

CDET offers a wide range of

Interested officers must enroll by Sept. 25. Courses run from Sept. 26 through June 2012. Both programs are designed as two year, blended learning seminars. This approach has resulted in better educational outcomes, particularly higher rates of completion and rapid progress.

In consideration of attendees' regular work schedules, seminars are held one night a week at several of Okinawa's installations.

The rest of the schooling takes place through the online suite of discussion boards, assignments and quizzes.

To accommodate deployments and temporary assignments, attendees can use online tools

or temporarily transfer to the local CDET branch where they are temporarily assigned. Additionally, any week missed can be made up during the summer.

The inherent flexibility of the CDET's programs make it easier for officers to receive the education they need, developing leadership, critical thinking and strategic decision-making ability to overcome the 21st Century's security challenges.

For more information, please email me, Mr. James P. Hopkins, james.p.hopkins1@usmc.mil or call 645-2230/2500.

Mr. James P. Hopkins is the local regional coordinator for the College of Distance Education and Training.

Officer Professional Military Education

Distance Education Program
Expeditionary Warfare School

&
Command and Staff College

Register for Fall Academic Year 2012 Seminars

Register by September 25

Contact Your Regional Coordinator www.tecom.usmc.mil/cdet 1.888.4DL.USMC

James P. Hopkins (Colonel USMC Ret)
DSN 645-2230/2500 FAX 645-2912



Enroll Today





CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ

2nd Lt. Shannon L. Gross, station Provost Marshal's Office services officer (left), Staff Sgt. Anabell Nevels, station freight operations chief, Warrant Officer Jana Tang, station installation administration personnel officer, and Sgt. Andrea M. Olguin, station combat camera photographer, address service members during a Women's Equality Day assembly at the Building 1 Auditorium here Aug. 26.

All-Female command takes charge of H&HS during Women's Equality Day

CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The first women's rights convention gathered at Seneca Falls, New York, to sign the Declaration of Sentiments in 1848. Twelve resolutions calling for women's equality and their right to vote were outlined in the document. The women's suffrage movement began to take hold of the nation.

It wasn't until decades later when the 19th Amendment, guaranteeing women the right to vote, became a part of the United States Constitution Aug. 26, 1920.

In 1971, New York Representative Bella Abzug called upon Congress to choose a day to commemorate everything women have accomplished throughout history. Congress heard the call and designated Aug. 26 as Women's Equality Day.

"The 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution tore down the last formal barrier to women's enfranchisement in our Nation and empowered America's women to have their voices heard in the halls of power," said President Barack Obama, in an Aug. 25th proclamation issued by him.

He further said, "I call upon the people of the United States to celebrate the achievements of women and recommit ourselves

to the goal of gender equality in this country."

In keeping with Obama's proclamation, the station's equal opportunity officer recommended the Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron command recognize Women's Equality Day by having an all-female command element head the squadron for a day Aug. 26.

2nd Lt. Shannon L. Gross, station Provost Marshal's Office services officer, served as commanding officer. Warrant Officer Jana Tang, station installation personnel administration center personnel officer, served as executive officer. Staff Sgt. Anabell Nevels, station freight operations chief, served as squadron sergeant major. Sgt. Andrea M. Olguin, station combat camera photographer, served as squadron gunnery sergeant.

"The main reason we put them in that position is because the command deck is a fairly high visibility spot," said Lt. Col. Michael R. Coletta, H&HS commanding officer. "Folks may know today is Women's Equality Day but it doesn't really hit them until they see an all-female command deck. This is kind of a visual way that folks can see H&HS recognizes and is observing Women's Equality Day."

The female Marines spent the day enforcing squadron

policies and guidelines as well as learning the fundamentals of running a squadron.

Aside from running the squadron for a day, the Marines also planned a gathering at the Building 1 auditorium to meet with other H&HS female Marines. During the assembly, the Marines discussed ways to help further their careers. They also took some time to discuss the lives of historic women who paved the way for females in today's military.

Coletta said women have had an extremely positive effect in the military and it is important to take time and recognize everything they have accomplished.

The Marines learned about the accomplishments of women like Elizabeth Coleman, first black female pilot of descent. They learned how she paid her way to attend a French college by saving the money she earned as a manicurist.

They talked about the 38 Air Force female pilots who gave their lives during World War II and reviewed the accomplishments of other women who had a profound effect on the nation.

"The purpose of this is to have (the Marines) recognize the females that have made a significant (impact) on U.S. history and to hopefully motivate them to set high goals for

themselves," said Tang.

According to the most recent survey conducted by the Department of Veterans Affairs, approximately eight percent of the active Marine Corps are female. Only about six percent of officers in the Marine Corps are women.

Tang said she hopes the younger female Marines will not be intimidated by the fact women are a small demographic in the Marine Corps and they realize they can still further their careers to make a difference.

Lance Cpl. Estephania de Leon, a station installation personnel administration center administrative clerk, has been on station for one month. She just began her career in the Marine Corps and has set the goal for herself to reach the rank of sergeant major.

de Leon said everything she learned during the day from the all-female command deck motivated her to continue perusing her goals and hopes through Women's Equality Day, Marines everywhere realize one thing.

"We are all Marines," said de Leon. "It doesn't matter that you're a female or a male."

This is the second year the H&HS command recognized Women's Equality Day by having an all-female command deck.



LANCE CPL. VANESSA JIMENEZ

Gunnery Sgt. Shane S. Smoger, Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting section leader and event coordinator, watches as Sgt. Matthew L. Tinsley and Lance Cpl. Andrew R. Pepe, ARFF specialists, assist Paden White, 8-year-old with the Camp Adventure program at School Age Care, to control the fire hose during the second annual station airfield operations facilities tour here Aug. 25. The children were part of the Camp Adventure a SAC summer school program, which provides recreational activities, sports camps, field trips and educational programs.

Station children explore the airfield

LANCE CPL. VANESSA JIMENEZ
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Smiles erupted on the faces of approximately 40 station children as they piled out of the bus ready for the second Annual Airfield Tour here Aug. 25.

More than 40 station children with the School Age Care center here were given the opportunity to tour the airfield Aug. 25 to learn about the different jobs Marines conduct on the airfield.

Children were split up into groups and toured Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting facilities, the weather and flight clearance room, the terminal radar approach control room and the air traffic control tower.

Children received a hands-on learning experience as they explored ARFF vehicles, turned on sirens, put on ARFF gear, and got a view from the ATC tower.

They were given the opportunity to experience some of the things firefighters do and were able to practice with the water hose and shoot cones.

"I learned about how the fire trucks spray water," said Paden White, 8-year-old. "My favorite part was the (ATC) tower. We used binoculars to look at the whole station."

This is the second year the tour has been conducted and Gunnery Sgt. Shane Smoger, coordinator for the event hopes it will become a permanent tour children can take every year.

"(The tour) was a unique opportunity for kids to see how their parents play important roles in the military and have fun while doing it," said Smoger.

Through this tour, children were shown many of the different working parts that make the airfield function.

"I think it's very important that children



SGT. DANIEL K. BROWN

Julia Good, 8-year-old with the Camp Adventure program at School Age Care, uses binoculars to look at the view from the air traffic control tower during the 2nd annual tour of the station airfield operations facilities here Aug. 25. Children also toured Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting facilities, the weather and flight clearance room, the terminal radar approach control room and the air traffic control tower.

see what keeps the airfield operational, and I wanted the kids to have fun," said Smoger.

SAC personnel also agreed the tour was a valuable learning experience for the children.

Brittany Miller, SAC program assistant and event coordinator, said the tour opened the children's eyes to occupational fields they may consider in the future.

The SAC center is an after school program, which operates part of the summer

coordinating events and tours to keep children entertained while learning.

"Everything we did this year was on base," said Miller. "Throughout the week, the kids visited several different units and learned about their jobs."

The SAC center runs throughout the school year on a space available basis.

Anyone interested in signing up their child can go directly to the center or call 253-6675.

SUMMER Music FESTIVAL



Members of Iwakuni Daiko pass sticks while performing a taiko drum routine during the Summer Music Festival Open House at the Torii Pines Golf Course here Saturday. Along with live music, Iwakuni Daiko and the Iwakuni Elite Tigers cheerleading team entertained the crowd with their performance routines.



Lani Abe (left), Airiel Down bass player, and Michael Abe, Airiel Down guitarist, lean back-to-back while jamming to their song "Gorilla" during the Summer Music Festival Open House at the Torii Pines Golf Course here Saturday. Airiel Down was the headline performance for the festival. Other performances included: Ghetto Script, The Iwakuni Elite Tigers, 13s, Blues Workshop, Iwakuni Daiko, Jalopy and Johnny "V" Vernaza.

Bands rock open house music festival

STORY & PHOTOS BY
CPL. MARCEL BROWN
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Approximately 4,500 station and local residents flooded the Torii Pines golf course here Saturday to celebrate the first Summer Music Festival Open House.

Along with live music, attendees indulged in food, drinks and entertainment. Children played in bounce houses, slides and other games. Free prizes were given out to attendees during intermissions, and a raffle contest ran throughout the festival.

"This particular event is important because it joins the community and reminds the community that we are one together," said Sean McHenry, Marine Corps Community Services marketing officer and event coordinator.

Unlike past Summer Music Festivals, this year's open house theme welcomed all local Japanese residents aboard station to enjoy the

festivities.

"Ones in past years were specifically for the (Marine Corps Air Station) Iwakuni community, where as this is open up to anyone in Japan who wants to come," said McHenry.

"We got some units out here that are doing things, so they get a better feel of what we do here," he added.

Where service members were the prominent performers in the past, this year's festival had a large variety of bands and entertainers.

From local Japanese blues bands to head banging U.S. rockers, a blend of musical genres filled the Iwakuni atmosphere throughout the festival.

Performances included: Ghetto Script, The Iwakuni Elite Tigers, 13s, Blues Workshop, Iwakuni Daiko, Jalopy, Johnny "V" Vernaza and the headline alternative American band Airiel Down.

The festival not only fed the crowd servings from a musical melting pot, but gave the

performers a chance to share their music with a broader crowd.

"The performers are not specific to the base," said McHenry. "Most of these bands have a following, so of course the people who follow the bands are going to come to hear them perform, but (the bands) are also opened up to a whole different sector who would never hear them."

Performers like 13s lead singer and guitarist, Damon Lauer, said the event gave an opportunity to broaden their fan base.

"People who wouldn't usually come to see our band come out here, and they get into it," said Lauer. "So next time they'll keep an eye out on stage for us."

For event attendees like Sgt. David Gonzales, the festival was an opportunity to build camaraderie between him and his Marines.

"Being out here in the heat cooking and serving the attendees gives the Marines time to bond and raise money for our unit at the same time," said Gonzales. "So it benefits everyone."

For a first time open-house event, McHenry said the turnout was a huge success, and he hopes more locally-involved events can be planned in the future.



A young Japanese child enjoys a cup of flavored shaved ice during the Summer Music Festival at the Torii Pines Golf Course here Saturday. Shaved ice was a popular treat served by many vendors at the festival.



Walter Gentry, Johnny "V" Vernaza saxophone player, strolls around the audience while performing a melodic jazz solo during the Summer Music Festival Open House at the Torii Pines Golf Course here Saturday.



The Iwakuni Elite Tigers perform a cheer routine during the Summer Music Festival Open House at the Torii Pines Golf Course here Saturday. Like the Iwakuni Daiko, the Iwakuni Elite Tigers used a performance routine to entertain the crowd.

CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE



LOGAR PROVINCE, Afghanistan — U.S. Marines with the Helicopter Support Team, 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward), wait to perform a tactical recovery of aircraft and personnel mission in the Hindu Kush mountains of Logar Province, Afghanistan Aug. 10. Since taking the helm of air combat operations in March, 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward) has supported more than 600 combat operations in southwestern Afghanistan.

Marine general reflects on coalition air efforts in Afghanistan

CPL. RASHAUN X. JAMES
2ND MARINE AIRCRAFT
WING (FWD)

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan — Since taking the helm of air combat operations in March, 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward) has supported more than 600 combat operations in southwestern Afghanistan. Additionally, the wing’s Marines and sailors have carried out thousands of other missions, including troop transport, aerial resupply, close-air support and tactical recovery of aircraft and personnel. Maj. Gen. Glenn M. Walters, the commanding general of 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward), said he sees the Marine wing’s biggest accomplishment at the halfway point of its yearlong deployment as its ability to adapt to an ever-changing battle space. “About 18 months ago, it was all about Marjah, but now it’s more about Sangin and the fight up north,” said Walters. “The war has shifted,” added Walters. “We as aviators have to adjust what we are doing to better support the fight up there.”

In 2010, U.S. Marines, and their coalition and Afghan partners carried out a joint offensive, Operation Moshtarak, to rout insurgents from Marjah in Helmand province’s Nad Ali district. But recent changes center on providing more support in volatile Sangin district. These include establishing forward arming and refueling points to maximize close-air support, creating a detachment of attack helicopters to provide cover for air ambulances, and moving Marine Corps unmanned aerial vehicles north to help in surveillance efforts. “We have operationally shaped the battle for what the conflict has presented us,” said Walters. Walters said he feels these battlefield moves better support ground forces, both operationally and logistically. As the battle on the ground shifts, he said, so too must air support. Partnership for Marines in Afghanistan isn’t limited to their own air and ground forces. Since the beginning of their increased presence in southwestern Afghanistan, U.S. Marines have not fought alone.

The Marines of 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward) live, work and fight side-by-side with coalition partners, particularly members of the British Armed Forces. “Working with the coalition has been great,” said Walters. “There would be no way we could have done all the things we’ve done without them.” Aircraft and support troops from the Royal Navy, Royal Air Force and British Army also operate in southwestern Afghanistan with the Joint Aviation Group. “We are fully integrated into the MAW,” explained Royal Navy Lt. Cmdr. Gary Soar, the chief of staff of the British Joint Aviation Group. “The cooperation, interaction, and the way we share knowledge have definitely allowed us to learn from one another and adopt new methods.” “Working with U.S. Marines has been a privilege,” Soar added. “They do a fantastic job and are a very flexible and proactive outfit. Every one of their squadrons has been an absolute pleasure to work with.” The British and American forces also work daily with Afghan

troops. While the Afghan National Army builds its aerial capabilities, they remain largely reliant on U.S. and coalition aircraft for operational, logistical and medical support. “The Afghan forces are treated just like any of the other coalition forces,” said Soar. “We help them out where we can. If someone needs helicopter support we’ll supply it.” Soar expressed that he looks forward to seeing continued integration between British and American air assets. He said the highlight of his tour so far has been the combined effort between U.S., British and Afghan forces to eliminate insurgent threats in the villages of Gereshk district, Helmand province. “All of the planning on the air side was a joint-planning effort between the British and Americans,” said Soar. “We used almost every Marine aviation platform and all of our U.K. aircraft for the initial infiltration. It was a big aviation assault that was a combined effort we would not have been able to do on our own,” Soar added.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS | CLASSIFIEDS

Briefs

Japanese Language Course
A fall course is scheduled every Tuesday from Sept. 27 – Dec. 27, 7 – 9 p.m. at the Iwakuni Shimin Kaikan civic hall training room. For more information, call 253-5551. Only 40 seats are available on a first come, first served basis.

Breast Cancer
MCCS Semper Fit is scheduled to host a walk to promote breast cancer awareness Oct. 15 at 9 a.m. Starting point is at the sea wall behind the IronWorks Gym.

Girl Scouts
The Iwakuni Girl Scouts is looking for fun-loving, devoted women and men who want to make a positive impact on the lives of young girls. If you are interested in becoming a leader, co-leader, board member or parent volunteer, e-mail iwakunigs@gmail.com.

American Red Cross
The ARC is scheduled to host two health and safety courses throughout the month of September. A baby sitting class is scheduled 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Sept. 10. An Adult, Infant, Child CPR & First Aid class is scheduled Sept. 24 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

The fee for each course is \$40. For more information, call 253-4525.

Childcare
If you have an unborn baby and will need childcare, put your name on the Resources and Referral for Children, Youth and Teens waiting list as soon as possible. If you do not sign up for the waiting list, you are at potential risk of not having childcare. For more information, call Melissa Valdez at 253-4141.

No Parking Notice
Parking will not be allowed on 5th Street in front of Building 1 starting the evening of Sept. 10 due to the Freedom Walk slated for 9 a.m. Sept. 11

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.

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, call 253-4929.

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.

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, are 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.

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. Visit www.mccsiwakuni.com/birthdaycake, fill out the form. 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.

Jobs

Part-time Dental Assistant Position
The dental clinic is seeking a certified dental assistant. For more information, stop by the Robert M. Casey Medical and Dental Clinic, Bldg 111 or call 253-5252/3331 to speak with Petty Officer 1st Class Sean Bohl or Senior Chief Petty Officer Ron Hunter.

Program Management Positions
Louis Berger Group is seeking experienced DoD, retired or separated military members for program management positions located at Camp Courtney, Okinawa, Japan. Some requirements include a minimum four-year degree, five-years experience, U.S. citizen, able to obtain secret security clearance, experience with military requirements, planning and operations. For immediate consideration

for local residents, you may submit an advance resume to lbginokinawa@gmail.com. For more information visit www.louisberger.com and look for the jobs indicated for Okinawa.

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 information you would like to be published. Alternatively, you may submit your brief or advertisement in person at the Public Affairs Office, Building 1, Room 216 or you may call 253-5551. Please 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.

Freedom Bridge inspection and closure

The Marine Corps has funded the biannual structural safety of the Freedom Bridge through a central contract. The inspection will take three days to complete and will include closure to vehicular traffic Saturday and Sunday from 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. The Bridge will remain open to bicycle and pedestrian traffic at all times.

The inspection team will post barricades and signage and provide flagmen at each end of the bridge to guide traffic.

Interested in becoming a DJ?

You could rock the club and enjoy all the night time parties Club Iwakuni has to offer! If you are interested in becoming a DJ, call MCCS Productions at 253-3727 for details.

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

Protestant
Saturday 10 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)

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

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. Nathaniel Haynes, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron administration clerk, hits a punching pad during an Auxiliary Security Force Oleoresin Capsicum course at Penny Lake Fields here Aug. 22. If you would like to submit your own photo, you can submit 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, September 2, 2011
7 p.m. Captain America: The First Avenger (PG-13)

Monday, September 5, 2011
7 p.m. Bad Teacher (R)

Tuesday, September 6, 2011
Theater Closed

Wednesday, September 7, 2011
Theater Closed

Thursday, September 8, 2011
7 p.m. Cowboys and Indians (PG-13)

Saturday, September 3, 2011
4 p.m. Winnie the Pooh (G)
Premiere
7 p.m. Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2 (PG-13)

Sunday, September 4, 2011
1 p.m. Winnie the Pooh (G)
4 p.m. Monte Carlo (PG)
7 p.m. Bad Teacher (R)

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 \$3 / Ages 6-11 are \$1.50 / Children ages 5 and under admitted free. For more information, visit www.mccsiwakuni.com or call 253-5291.

Mess Hall Menu

Monday
Corn chowder, turkey yakisoba, Chinese barbecue diced pork, red pepper glazed fish, pork fried rice, steamed rice, orange carrots amandine, fried cabbage, Chinese egg roll, dinner rolls, macaroni salad, potato salad, coleslaw, standard salad bar, bear claws, cinnamon crumb top muffin, blueberry pie, velvet pound cake, brownies, chocolate cream pudding parfait, Jell-O parfait.

Tuesday
Chicken gumbo soup, French fried shrimp, sukiyaki, barbecue beef cubes, home fried potatoes, steamed rice, cauliflower parmesan, southern style greens, creamy gravy, dinner rolls, macaroni salad, potato salad, coleslaw, standard salad bar, long Johns, banana muffin, lemon meringue, devil’s food cake with chocolate buttercream frosting, shortbread cookies, bread pudding, Jell-O parfait.

Wednesday
French onion soup, Chinese five spice chicken, Swiss steak with brown gravy, mustard dill fish, steamed rice, garlic roasted potato wedges, fried cabbage with bacon, mixed vegetables, brown gravy, dinner rolls, macaroni salad, potato salad, coleslaw, standard salad bar, snails, quick cherry coffee cake, blueberry pie, white cake with buttercream frosting, brownies, vanilla pudding parfait, Jell-O parfait.

Thursday
New England clam chowder, beef stroganoff, pork adobo, baked ham, macaroni and tomatoes, pork fried rice, steamed pasta, scalloped cream style corn, peas with onions, brown gravy, dinner rolls, macaroni salad, potato salad, coleslaw, standard salad bar, kolaches, apple coffee cake, cherry crunch, banana cake with buttercream frosting, macadamian chocolate chunks, chocolate parfait, Jell-O parfait.

Friday
Tomato soup, fried catfish, beef stew, chili macaroni, grilled cheese, Franconia potatoes, steamed pasta, succotash, broccoli parmesan, mushroom gravy, dinner rolls, macaroni salad, potato salad, coleslaw, standard salad bar, cinnamon rolls, quick French coffee cake, blueberry pie, carrot cake with cream cheese frosting, chocolate chip cookie, chocolate parfait, Jell-O parfait.

New running club open to all ages



Lance Cpl. Kenneth K. Trotter Jr. Haley Singler, Iwakuni Roadrunners’ cofounder and treasurer, and Staff Sgt. Paul S. Mancuso, Iwakuni Roadrunners’ cofounder, explain some of the club’s rules to new members outside Crossroads Mall here Aug. 24. Camaraderie and improving physical fitness are the group’s main goals.

Iwakuni Roadrunners race through station, city streets

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

A new fitness club is on station to offer residents an opportunity to participate in group activities and events. The Iwakuni Roadrunners is a nonprofit organization focusing on getting runners, young, old, new and experienced, out together into the community to share in the spirit of camaraderie and fitness while helping the community in the process. The Roadrunners completed its second group run here Aug. 24.

“The purpose of this club is to build a community of runners and encourage beginners and experienced runners who want to improve their abilities,” said Staff Sgt. Paul S. Mancuso, Roadrunners co-founder.

The Roadrunners will also raise funds to donate to local charities, Mancuso said.

The group meets every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in front of the Crossroads Mall before proceeding out the main gate at 7 p.m. The run and the route vary in length from week to week.

“I wanted to do something different with my Marines,” said Staff Sgt. Bryce C. Good, Special Reaction Team training staff noncommissioned officer in charge. “If you stay at the same distance, you’ll plateau. You’re not going to get better if you plateau.”

Turnaround points are also set up at various points along the run if a participant feels they cannot finish the entire run.

The group is open to anyone interested in improving or maintaining



Lance Cpl. Kenneth K. Trotter Jr. Staff Sgt. Carlos A. Calderon, an Iwakuni Roadrunner, runs with his children, Maria B. Calderon, 12 (left), Olivia M. Calderon, 5 (center), and Alex S. Calderon, 8 (right), as part of the Iwakuni Roadrunners outside the Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni main gate here Aug. 24. The Roadrunners are a fitness club focused on getting runners out to share in the spirit of fitness.

their current fitness level. New club members, or those interested in signing up for the club are encouraged to use the experience and knowledge of fellow club members when participating in the runs.

“There’s internal mentorship,” said Mancuso. “There are a lot of experienced runners here who can help the beginners. It provides a community atmosphere where people can exchange ideas and find running partners.”

The runners perform the run as a group. Those who are of the same ability level are encouraged to continue running on their own time.

“This group run is built to get runners together, find who’s around the same skill level, branch off and do your own runs,” said Mancuso.

Running is a requirement for Marines and sailors service wide. It is integral part of the overall fitness of every Marine and sailor. Running and other physical training activities are considered commonplace to encourage unit cohesion and weight management. Spouses do not have the same opportunities as their respective service members.

“If a Marine is out of shape, they have the Body Composition Program to help them get back in shape,” said Christiana M. Sanders, Roadrunners member. “It’s for them. There’s nothing like that for a spouse. So I’m ecstatic about this.”

Sanders said there is always a positive mental attitude with the club.

Maintaining physical fitness may be difficult at times. When a service member trains alone, it’s sometimes hard to push themselves past their physical limits.

“If you ask someone to go PT by themselves, they’ll likely come up with an excuse,” said Good. “If they’re with people who will help push them, then they are more likely to show up. This helps me push myself to get better.”

The club hopes to expand in the upcoming months to where it will eventually become a permanent fixture on station.

If anyone is interested in joining the Roadrunners, send an e-mail to iwakuniroadrunners@gmail.com or search Iwakuni Roadrunners on Facebook.com. A \$35 membership fee includes a Roadrunners T-shirt, a sticker, free entry into all Roadrunner sponsored races and events, and recognition in its 100-mile and 500-mile club. The races will also serve as the Roadrunners’ fundraisers.

FREEDOM WALK

★ ★ ★ AMERICA SUPPORTS YOU ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ REMEMBRANCE SERVICE ★

SEPTEMBER 11

7:45 a.m. - Community Will Gather at Bldg #1 Parade Deck

8 a.m. - Presentation of Colors

8:10 a.m. - Freedom Walk to Chapel

8:25 a.m. - Remembrance Ceremony at Chapel

8:46 a.m. - Ringing of Ceremonial Bell



*You are invited to join MCCS & the Station Chapel to reflect on the lives lost on September 11.
(Rain Plan- In case of inclement weather, the Freedom Walk will be cancelled. The community will gather at the chapel at 8:20.
In the event of a light rain, the Freedom Walk will still occur; please bring an umbrella. Parking will be at Bldg. 411.)*