



# IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 40 Vol. 4 | Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan

## Station youth take time to learn positive choices

CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The Matthew C. Perry Schools here kicked off its Red Ribbon Week campaign Oct. 12 with volunteers speaking to kindergarten students about the benefits in living drug- and alcohol-free lives.

Red Ribbon Week is observed the final week of October in schools throughout the U.S. to

promote an alcohol-, drug- and violence-free life.

Red Ribbon Week originated in honor of Special Agent Enrique "Kiki" S. Camarena, a Drug Enforcement Administration narcotics agent and retired Marine.

Camarena was kidnapped and killed by Mexican drug traffickers in 1985 just before he exposed a major drug organization. A friend of his started the Camarena Club in his hometown's high school in Calexico, Calif. after Camarena's body was discovered. Club members took oaths promising to remain drug free and wore red ribbons in memory of Camarena's sacrifice. The club quickly began to spread all over California and then the U.S.

In 1988, President Ronald Reagan formalized Red Ribbon Week after he and his wife served as honorary chairpersons.

The schools here decided to start the campaign early by having volunteers read to the children.

M.C. Perry Elementary, Middle and High School staff have planned activities until the end of October in support of the campaign and are looking for volunteers to speak to students. Volunteers can contact Susan Strasner, M.C. Perry Elementary School counselor, at 253-4438 for more information.

"We want parents to know what a strong stand we are taking against drugs and alcohol," said Strasner. "We are trying to get this information across to students at every level so that the students have a better

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## VMFA-115, VFA-94 play cat, mouse with aerial target

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

Marines from Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 115 and sailors with Strike Fighter Squadron 94 performed an air-to-air banner shoot here, Oct. 10, as part of an ongoing monthlong deployment in the region.

The purpose of the exercise was to test ordnance and pilots' proficiency in their mission capability of deploying aerial weapons.

"We don't normally get to exercise air-to-air employment of the gun," said Maj. Greg A. McGuire, VMFA-115 pilot and maintenance officer. "We generally spend more time using the gun in an air-to-ground role. So this is a great opportunity to head out over the water and work on our gunnery air-to-air."

A banner shoot is when an aircraft or tower, pulls a target as other aircraft attempt to engage and shoot the target.

The target is eight feet wide by 15 feet long and was towed on a 1,500 foot cable.

The exercise demonstrated the difficulty of firing a gun in air-to-air combat.

McGuire also said it serves to bolster confidence for newer pilots should they find themselves in an aerial confrontation in



LANCE CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam — Lance Cpl. Pawel Jamiolkowski, a Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 115 aviation ordnance technician, Gunnery Sgt. Jason A. Hewes, VMFA-115 ordnance chief, and Cpl. Trevor J. Fortin, a VMFA-115 aviation ordnance technician, unravel a banner in preparation of an aerial banner shoot at the flight line here Oct. 10. The purpose of the shoot was to test Strike Fighter Squadron 94 and VMFA-115 F/A-18 pilots in their aerial weapon proficiency with the M61A1 20mm Vulcan cannon.

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## Station residents show breast cancer awareness support

PFC. NICHOLAS RHOADES  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Marine Corps Community Services hosted the third annual breast cancer awareness 5k walk or run along the seawall here Saturday.

The purpose of the walk was to bring awareness of breast cancer to everyone on and off the air station.

"The month of October is breast cancer awareness month and we

are just trying to keep the public aware," said Andrea M. Aguirre, health promotions assistant. "We are educating the public of the risks of breast cancer and what they can do in order to be sure they are healthy or catch it in its early stages."

There are some things which everyone, male or female, younger or older can do to be sure they are healthy.

"We have the mammovan coming

out from Oct. 24 until Oct. 27," said Aguirre. "But there are other things people may do to make sure they are healthy."

The mammovan is scheduled to come out to allow any station residents to be professionally checked for breast cancer.

There are other ways to check for breast cancer throughout the year.

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# CHAPLAIN’S CORNER

## ‘Unconditional Love’

Lt. Cmdr. L. Lee  
COMMAND CHAPLAIN

There are four types of love. The phileo, which is friendship love. The storge, which is a physical show of affection that results from a pure motive (a hug, a kiss, or another expression of genuine affection).

The eros, which is the physical sexual love.

The agape, which is the unconditional love.

Only one type of love that loves us as is, and that is agape love. It has God as its exclusive source.

The Scripture says, “very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person.

Though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this.

While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” Not many of us would die for somebody else.

I don’t know about you, but if I had to make a list it would be short.

Every now and then you’ll find a parent who will die for a child, or a child who will die for a parent.

Every now and then you’ll find two very good friends, one of whom might be willing to step in front of a gun and take the bullet for the other.

But these are atypical situations.

It takes an unusual love in an unusual person for a good person to be willing to die.

It would be unthinkable that someone would die for an individual who is bad.

But that is exactly the way God

loves us.

He loves us in spite of our rebellion against him.

He loves us knowing every bad thing about each of us.

He loves us as is.

I remember many years ago, in my early seminary years, I was trying to buy a half-decent car.

I looked through the newspaper for used cars, and there were a number of cars for sale, “as is.”

Some read, “no transmission,” or “transmission needs work.”

Another said, “good interior.”

That means that its exterior was probably rusted and paints peeled.

I said, “do people really buy these. What do they do with them?” One occasion, I found that the car they were selling had been in a serious accident, front and back, and still were asking for full price.

I wasn’t going to buy a car that has been crashed and repaired front and back.

On another occasion, I went to a dealership. The car they were selling was almost a brand new car, but because it had a lot of problems, the owner of the car sold back to the dealership.

It was a LEMON.

Now, I had my share of lemons, I wasn’t going to buy a lemon.

Why would I want to buy a car up front that has LEMON on the windshield, and sign a paper knowing the kind of car I was getting?

The amazing thing about God is not only that he loves us but that he loves us as is.

He buys us as lemons.

What is even more amazing is that God pays top price for his lemons.

Nobody pays top price for a car that’s “as is.”

Nobody buys a car that has been in an accident, crashed and pay full price.

Nobody buys a lemon and knowingly pays full book price, much less pay above the sticker price.

Yet that is precisely what the love of God is all about.

He knew we were rotten inside and out, we were damaged and crashed, that we had LEMON written all over us, yet he paid the highest price of all.

He paid the price of his own Son’s life.

That is what agape love is. It is an outrageous love. One day, a smart lawyer walked up to Jesus and asked a clever, penetrating question.

“Master, what must I do to enter into the Kingdom of Heaven?”

Jesus answered (Gospel of Matthew 22:37), “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it. Love your neighbor as yourself.”

The best thing we can do in life is to love God and others.

In order to do this we must first experience God’s love.

We can’t give something we don’t have.

I see people all around in need of God’s love, yet unwilling to receive for whatever reason.

When’s the last time you received God’s love in your life?

Would you be willing to practice your faith in order to experience God’s love?

## Ceremony celebrates USFJ employees’ length of service



CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ

Kosakun Morimoto, a United States Forces, Japan employee here, receives an award from Lt. Col. P.J. Kerr, station executive officer, on behalf of all USFJ employees who have worked here more than 30 years as civilian employees during a length of service awards ceremony at the Club Iwakuni ballroom here Tuesday. Employees awarded for more than 30 years of service include: Munenori Ueda, Noriko Yamada, Koichi Ogawa, Masanori Mikami, Minoru Horino, Kosaku Morimoto, Yoko Serai, Hitomi Sugita, Yasuhiro Fukuda, Hiroshi Fujisawa, Satoru Tanaka, Shuji Matsumae, Hiroko Soriki, Yoko Nishi, Yasushi Chikawa, Kazuo Muranaka, Masanori Hashimoto, Setsuo Fujii, Tomio Shitamori, Tatsuhiko Sakamoto, Makoto Yamagata, Jiro Maekawa, Shigeru Ueno, and Seiji Shoya. Employees awarded for more than 20 years of service include: Kasunari Takeshima, Kotaro Nakamura, Takako Ofuji, Katsumi Endo, Kazuhiko Nosaka, Kenji Sakamoto, Ayako Fujimoto, Kyoko Ito, Yumiko Kojima, Hideyuki Yoneda, Yuji Fujimoto, Kenji Fujioka, Yuji Yoshimura, Yoko Hamagiri, Toshiharu Oshiro, Hideo Shimizu, Masami Hayashi, Yasuko Nishimura, Shiro Sakushige, Masumi Okimura, Keiji Yokomichi, Makoto Tsunekuni, Yoshio Yamada, Masako Wakaki, Toshiyasu Tayamoto, Hisaki Yonemura, Kazuki Kataoka, Hironobu Moriguchi, Michio Uemura, Masaaki Isomoto, Kiyoshi Matsumoto, Kazumi Sasamura, Masako Matsumoto, Tadashi Matsumoto, Tetsuo Okamura, Yoshihisa Hamada, Atsushi Nishino, Kunio Muramoto, Kazuko Kishimoto, Kazue Takahashi, Hidehiro Gamou, Hideki Fujioka, Taketoshi Simaoka, Tadashi Wakumoto, Kunio Yamamoto, Katsuro Okamoto, Hideko Nagai, Reiko Kimura, Yuriko Yoshii, Ikuko Takeuchi, and Katsutoshi Kagawa. Employees awarded for more than 10 years of service include: Shintaro Kawaguchi, Hiroyuki Oshikawa, Noriaki Fukunaga, Manabu Yanagawa, Yuzo Hironaka, Naoto Watanabe, Yoshiyuki Okazaki, Takashi Yoshimura, Rowel Nakanishi, Chiharu Masaki, Minako Cox, Yoko Abe, Satomi Morimoto, Tomonori Oki, Takanari Kaneda, Ryoko Kinoshita, Yoshihiro Shimoyama, Elji Watanabe, Masahiko Nakayama, Eiichi Yamamoto, Naomi Yokozeki, Ryoko Yoshida, and Yasunori Nakano.

## Station youth learn, grow from Red Ribbon Week

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understanding of what a drug looks like and for them to have a better understanding about the type of drugs that are out there.”

Strasner said it takes a community working together to take a stand against drug and alcohol abuse, and it’s important everyone in the community gets involved.

The school staff has scheduled plays, guest speakers and spirit days promoting ways to say no to drugs until the end of October. Station residents have also volunteered to read stories to the students about how to avoid drugs and alcohol.

“It’s like learning a foreign language,” said Strasner. “The younger you start with a kid learning a language, the easier it is for them to learn that foreign language. It’s the same with any type of message you are trying to get across to students.”

Several teachers have also planned separate activities teaching students the difference between prescription and illegal drugs.

“The activities are just little reminders to help our kids remember what an important week it is,” said Teena Livengood, a M.C. Perry Elementary school kindergarten teacher. “It’s an important week for teachers. We are concerned and care about our children. We care about their health and their safety.”

Livengood said the message has to be passed to children at an early age because they are easily influenced by others at that age.

Station volunteers visited Livengood’s class and read a story to her students teaching them about the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse. Several of the students readily absorbed the anti-drug message.

“You say no to drugs because drugs are bad for you,” said Ty Nickson, 6, a student in Livengood’s kindergarten class. “The one’s the doctors give you are okay.”

Nickson said he learned a lot and he appreciated the Marines.

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combat.

“It’s good for the young (pilots) to see how difficult it is to hit targets in the air,” said McGuire.

Nine aircraft in total took part in the exercise; one pulling the banner and eight engaging it.

The eight aircraft were equally divided with four from VMFA-115 and four from VFA-94.

The aircraft used non-explosive, painted rounds fired from a 20mm M61A1 Vulcan cannon.

The Vulcan fires 4,000 rounds a minute and is the standard equipped cannon for all F/A-18s. Each aircraft was armed with 500 rounds. The tips of VMFA-115’s rounds were painted yellow while VFA-94’s were not, to distinguish which squadron was more accurate.

Though the rounds were non-explosive, safety is still paramount when engaging in the exercise.

“We have a specific pattern we fly,” said McGuire. “(This pattern) gives us an interval

between the aircraft to keep everyone out of the nose of the firing aircraft.”

This is done to give pilots, in firing range, enough time to disengage should another aircraft come into the pilot’s field of vision.

“Generally speaking, we fly a good pattern,” said McGuire. “We fly a pattern that allows us to come in at an angle on the banner to where we’re not pointed at the F/A-18 that’s pulling the banner.”

Even then, pilots do not fire on the aircraft until they receive the signal from the tail aircraft.

“The pilot who’s flying the banner assesses the nose position of the shooter and as long as it’s not pointing at him and pointing toward the banner, he’ll clear the aircraft (to fire),” said McGuire.

VMFA-115 ordnance Marines played a part in making this possible for the exercise. They made sure every aspect of the exercise from the ordnance side is acceptable beforehand, from the cable to maintenance of the

aircraft.

“It takes quite a bit of man-hours to pull this off, from the building to installing and stretching the cable on the runway,” said Gunnery Sgt. Jason A. Hewes, VMFA-115 ordnance chief.

The tow cable used in the exercise is built by ordnance Marines themselves. They take spools of cable and cut the main cable to 75 feet. The other cable is cut to 1,500 feet.

The training exercise not only afforded the pilots a unique opportunity, as banner shoots are not very common, but ordnance Marines as well.

“I was looking forward to it,” said Cpl. Trevor J. Fortin, VMFA-115 aviation ordnance technician. “It’s always fun learning new things and getting hands-on training with things you haven’t experienced yet.”

Both VFA-94 and VMFA-115 are scheduled to conduct additional training in the coming weeks in the form of rocket and bomb training as well.



LANCE CPL. KENNETH K TROTTER JR.

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam – A Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 115 F/A-18 waits with a tow cable attached to take off on the flight line here, Oct. 10, as part of an aerial tow banner exercise. Pilots and ordnance Marines from VMFA-115 used this exercise to increase their proficiency. Banner shoots are considered something special for both pilots and ordnance Marines as they are not conducted very often.

## Residents walk for Breast Cancer Awareness Month

WALK FROM PAGE 1

“I want people to be aware of the importance of early detection and continuing monthly self exams,” said Alma S. Dickinson, health promotions director.

All station residents and Department of Defense employees were invited to come out and participate in the event.

“We have a variety of participants here, we have some runners out there and we even have some smaller children,” said Dickinson. Sgt. David T. Meredith, assistant section 1

leader for station Aircraft Rescue Firefighters, was one of those runners.

I enjoy coming out, staying fit, helping to educate myself and doing it for a great cause, said Meredith.

MCCS educated everyone about their probability and the risks involved in being diagnosed with breast cancer.

“Now I understand my chances of getting breast cancer, even as a healthy male,” said Meredith.

The primary mission of this event was to bring people together and educate them of the dangers of breast cancer.

“I just love everyone coming together and supporting a cause like this,” said Meredith.

Not only does the run educate everyone here but it also promotes health by keeping people fit with the walk/run.

More than 40,000 people die every year from breast cancer and more than 254,000 thousand are diagnosed with breast cancer annually.

By simply performing a self check every month and being diagnosed and treated while the cancer is still in its early stages, thousands of people could possibly survive of breast cancer every year.



# Special Olympics: Contenders come aboard station for competition

PFC. NICHOLAS RHOADES  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Approximately 75 Special Olympians came out to the Fifth Annual Japanese Special Olympics Sports Day hosted by Marine Corps Community Services here Sunday.

Athletes from three prefectures, Hiroshima, Yamaguchi and Kumamoto, overcame their disabilities and competed in three different sports.

Thomas Durning, MCCS athletic director said allowing athletes to choose their own sports lets them overcome their individual disabilities and compete in what they like to do.

Special Olympians were able to choose to compete in soccer, bicycling or disk golf.

Disk golf is a sport played with Frisbees, which must be thrown through a raised, vertical hula-hoop.

All Special Olympians celebrated together and everyone was a winner.

"The good thing was everyone received medals," said Mai Tajima, MCCS recreational specialist. "Even the brothers and sisters who helped received their medals."

Family members and volunteers also participated in the festivities. Station residents and Special Olympians played, helped and learned from each other throughout the event.

"I want people to recognize the friendship," said Tajima. "They cheered each other on. These athletes don't know each other. Maybe the Hiroshima people know each other,

maybe Yamaguchi or Kumamoto people but they were all playing, talking and laughing (together)."

Athletes and station volunteers gathered to build upon their strong ties during the event.

"There was friendship between American and Japanese. All the participants love to hear English, and they want to be here to hear English, and they don't get to see you guys very often," said Tajima.

Many station volunteers were happy they came out to help with the Special Olympics.

Lance Cpl. Jimmy S. Harden, Combat Logistics Company 36 motor transportation operator, volunteered his free time Sunday to help special competitors.

Harden said he had a great time and will be happy to do it again next year.

Tanaka Kunihiro, a Special Olympian from the Kumamoto Prefecture was just one of the many competitors.

Kunihiro said he was nervous about the competition, but had fun and thinks he did well.

October marks the fifth year the Japanese Special Olympics has been hosted here.

According to the Special Olympics website, most attitudes towards people with intellectual disabilities are framed by negative stereotypes and misconceptions.

Yet when people see Special Olympics athletes in competition, they realize not just what those with intellectual disabilities can do, but what they themselves can do to build a better world.



PFC NICHOLAS RHOADES

Murakami Naho, 9, a competitive disabled athlete screams with joy and holds onto her mother after bowling a spare at the Strike Zone here Sunday. All of the competitors participated when taken to the bowling alley here, and they all received a medal at the end of the Special Olympics.



PFC NICHOLAS RHOADES

Kakuta Shotaro, 16, an experienced Special Olympian, kicks a soccer ball during a game at Penny Lake here Sunday. Shotaro didn't score during the game, but he defended against many offensive plays. He participated in soccer for a majority of the day before all of the competitors went bowling.



PFC NICHOLAS RHOADES

Competitors from Hiroshima Prefecture celebrate their bowling abilities with high-fives at the Strike Zone here Sunday. Athletes from three prefectures including Hiroshima, Yamaguchi and Kumamoto came to the station to compete in soccer, bicycling, disk golf and bowling during the Fifth Annual Japanese Special Olympics Sports Day.

# Sailors celebrate 236 years of honor, courage, commitment

LANCE CPL. CHARLIE CLARK  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Two hundred and thirty-six years ago, when the 13 British North American colonies tried to separate from England and become their own United States, England deployed British ships, then the most powerful naval force known, to blockade colonial U.S. ports and terrorize seaside settlements.

The Continental Congress passed a resolution, which created the Continental Navy, to fight the British Navy.

Samuel Chase, a Maryland delegate, said to build an American fleet was the maddest idea in the world.

The United States Navy was born Oct. 13, 1775 when the Continental Congress voted to arm two sailing vessels to challenge the British.

The ships were armed with 10 carriage and swivel guns and approximately 80 crewmembers.

By the end of the War for Independence, the Continental Navy sent out about 50 armed vessels and took over approximately 200 British ships.

The U.S. Navy has grown considerably since then, with nearly half a million personnel and more than 270 deployable battle force ships.

Station service members and residents attended the 2011 Navy Ball at the Club Iwakuni ballroom here, Oct. 14, to recognize, remember and pay tribute to 236 years of brave sailors past and present.

"This is a tradition," said Chief Petty Officer Franklin B. Dizon, 2011 Navy Ball vice chairman. "We celebrate it because it is our birthday. It is part of our identity as United States sailors."



LANCE CPL. CHARLIE CLARK

Seaman Apprentice Andrew Barr, 2011 Navy Ball color guard rifleman, performs a present arms during the marching of the colors at the 2011 Navy Ball held in the Club Iwakuni ballroom here Oct. 14. Both American and Japanese flags were marched to show respect and honor to the station's host nation.

This year's ball was set with a Japanese theme, which combined naval traditions with paying tribute to the station's host nation.

"I am just awe-struck when I think of all the Navy has accomplished, it's amazing to see where we've come from and where we are today as the strongest naval fighting force on Earth," said Senior Chief Petty Officer Chris A. Lang, Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 medical department senior enlisted advisor and 2011 Navy Ball master of ceremonies. "With us being in Japan, we have the privilege and honor to work with the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force sailors aboard the station. I think we grow as people and as sailors with the experience we gain working abroad."

The explosions of battle, war cries of sailors long passed and cheers of victory seemed to echo through the ballroom as eight side boys took their place, and a boatswain's mate trilled his pipe to signal the start of the Navy Ball's opening ceremonies.

The personnel in attendance reminisced on the memories and traditions of the past 236 years of service as the traditional ringing of the bell introduced the official party and color guard with both the American and Japanese flags.

"It is important tonight that we pay homage and tribute to all the sailors who came before us and served," said Petty Officer 1st Class Brenten Cole, 2011 Navy Ball chairman. "Many gave the ultimate sacrifice so we can live free, peaceful lives."

Lt. Col. Michael R. Coletta, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron commanding officer, gave the opening remarks for the evening's ceremony.

"This is a great way for everyone aboard station to break bread, throw some camaraderie around and toast to the great history the Navy and its sailors have made through 236 glorious years of service," said Coletta. "The Navy and Marine Corps are a team. The Marines are present tonight to show support for our Navy brothers and sisters. Without them, we could not complete our mission and vice versa," he added.

After dinner was served, a time-honored part of the ceremony took place: The cutting of the cake.

Cmdr. Sheri Coleman and Seaman Apprentice Estephani Torres, the oldest and youngest sailors in attendance both held the sword to cut the first slice of cake.

As is tradition, Coleman handed the piece to Torres to take the first bite.

"The passing of the cake represents the older sailors passing down their knowledge and experience to younger sailors," Lang said. "We don't last forever. It's important to teach the young pups everything we can."

After the cake-cutting ceremony, the Japanese ceremonial tradition of opening a sake barrel was performed. Following the opening of the sake barrel a rousing rendition of Anchors Aweigh was played as many sang along. Once the song was over, tables cleared as attendees headed to the dance floor.

Two hundred and thirty-six years have passed since the U.S. Navy first set sail. Today, the inheritors of that legacy celebrated at the Navy Ball.



LANCE CPL. CHARLIE CLARK

Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force Master Chief Petty Officer Masahiko Okita, JMSDF Fleet Airwing 31 command master chief petty officer, breaks open a ceremonial sake barrel during the 2011 Navy Ball at Club Iwakuni ballroom here Oct. 14. This year's ball was set with a Japanese theme, which combined naval traditions while paying tribute to the station's host nation.



LANCE CPL. CHARLIE CLARK

Cmdr. Sheri Coleman and Seaman Apprentice Estephani Torres, the oldest and youngest sailors in attendance, both cut the first slice of cake during the 2011 Navy Ball at the Club Iwakuni ballroom here Oct. 14. As is tradition, Coleman handed the piece to Torres to take the first bite.



# Iwakuni Festival

LANCE CPL. VANESSA JIMENEZ  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Music filled the ears of all who visited the 55th annual Iwakuni Festival Sunday.

A brass band parade marched through the streets to the main stage announcing the beginning of the festival.

According to the event host, approximately 100,000 people permeated the streets of downtown to attend the festival, which was filled with live music, dancing, parades, vendors and food.

Iwakuni City, Iwakuni Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Iwakuni Tourism Association hosted the festival.

To accommodate the festival, approximately 400 meters from Route 188 was closed to vehicle traffic.

Yoshihiko Fukuda, Iwakuni City mayor, greeted visitors as he invited everyone to enjoy the various attractions the festival had to offer.

After the opening parade gathered at the main stage, a Tohoku product exhibition was assembled. The exhibition offered different food, clothing, souvenirs and art.

Stage performers flashed their colorful costumes and showed off their unique dance moves as music blared through the speakers.

The dance groups moved to the beats of hip-hop or traditional Japanese music.

Thirty-two groups performed, which included

500 dancers.

Twelve Marines and sailors with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 and Marine Aircraft Group 12 volunteered for the festival, donning a variety of different uniforms and gear.

A tent was set up for the service members to shake hands and take pictures with the local community members.

Members from the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force set up a tent next to the Marines and sailors, also to spend time with the community.

"This is a great opportunity for the locals to exchange friendship with (the Marines and sailors)," said Fukuda. "I think it is wonderful to have the U.S. Marines here to share the same event together. I hope we can continue the good relationship as a good neighbor with the local residents, Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force and the Marines."

Fukuda also added that he appreciated the participation of the service members and hopes to increase the opportunities for friendship exchange during community relations events.

Cpl. Matthew Doyle, MALS-12 Consolidated Automatic Support System technician and community relations coordinator, attended the festival to have fun and interact with Japanese nationals.

"Being here interacting with the Japanese was extremely humbling," said Doyle. "(The Japanese) are very gracious and kind people."

A downtown park was changed into an area that offered a petting zoo, pony rides, magic shows and rides aboard a miniature train.

"Walking around I really felt like I could immerse myself in Japanese culture," said Lance Cpl. Gerald C. Morales, a MALS-12 aviation precision measurement equipment technician. "What a great festival to showcase what this country has to offer."

Performances were bountiful throughout the day, but as the afternoon crept up on visitors, they began to migrate to the main event of the festival, the parade.

The parade occupied the road with approximately 700 performers within 14 groups from Iwakuni city hall, JMSDF and local businesses.

Crowds of visitors lined the streets. The performance of the Iwakuni's White Snakes, an Iwakuni-oriented species and designated as a national treasure, attracted the crowds.

When the performers brought the beautifully decorated haribote snakes close enough, parade spectators reached out their hands to touch them.

The parade moved to the beat of taiko drums and the cheering from the visitors.

As the parade ended, the colors around downtown Iwakuni slowly dissolved as festival attendees made their way back to their homes leaving the echos of celebration in the streets of Iwakuni.

## Downtown Iwakuni taken over by food, color, laughter



LANCE CPL. VANESSA JIMENEZ

Twelve Marines and sailors with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 and Marine Aircraft Group 12 volunteered for the festival, donning a variety of different uniforms and gear. A tent was set up for the service members to shake hands and take pictures.



LANCE CPL. VANESSA JIMENEZ

A performer smiles during the parade at the 55th annual Iwakuni Festival Sunday held in downtown Iwakuni. The parade occupied the road with approximately 700 performers under 14 groups from Iwakuni city hall, JMSDF and local businesses. To accommodate the festival approximately 400 meters from Route 188 was closed to vehicle traffic.



LANCE CPL. VANESSA JIMENEZ

Two parade performers hold their banners during the opening ceremony at the 55th annual Iwakuni Festival Sunday held in downtown Iwakuni. According to the event host, approximately 100,000 people permeated the streets of downtown Iwakuni to attend the festival, which was filled with live music, dancing, parades, vendors and food.



LANCE CPL. VANESSA JIMENEZ

Approximately 12 performers navigate the haribote, or paper mache White Snakes, an Iwakuni-oriented species and designated as a national treasure, through the parade during the 55th Annual Iwakuni Festival in downtown Iwakuni, Sunday. When the performers brought the beautifully decorated snakes close enough, parade spectators reached out their hands to touch them. The White Snakes attracted crowds during the parade.



LANCE CPL. VANESSA JIMENEZ

Cpl. Michael A. Clemens, a Marine Aircraft Group 12 special intelligence communicator/administrator and photo booth volunteer, helps a Japanese child put on a kevlar and flak jacket for a photo during the Iwakuni Festival in downtown Iwakuni Sunday.



LANCE CPL. VANESSA JIMENEZ

A beautifully garbed Japanese performer dances with fans during his performance at the 55th Annual Iwakuni Festival held in downtown Iwakuni Sunday. The dance groups moved to the beats of hip-hop or traditional Japanese music. Thirty-two groups performed, which included 500 dancers in total entertaining all in attendance during the lively autumn festival.



# CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND  
SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE

## A different fight in Helmand at Fiddlers Green

**FIRE BASE FIDDLERS GREEN, Helmand province, Afghanistan** — Marines with Charlie Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, fire an M982 Excalibur round from an M777 howitzer during a recent fire support mission. The artillerymen spend hours each day running through dry-fire training drills to keep their skills sharp in preparation for requests for fire support. The artillerymen of Charlie Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, are always on call. They live feet from the gun line, ensuring they are suppressing the enemy within minutes when the call for fire support comes in. Oftentimes, the call comes when they are eating a meal or working out, causing Marines to run to the gun line in various forms of dress while throwing on their protective flak jackets and Kevlar helmets.



CPL. JEFF DREW

CPL. JEFF DREW  
2ND MARINE DIVISION

**FIRE BASE FIDDLERS GREEN, Helmand province, Afghanistan** — The Marines of Charlie Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, are always on call.

At any moment coalition units in the area could call for fire support, and the artillerymen must be ready day and night.

“We get fire missions at any time,” said Staff Sgt. Dawud Hakim, a platoon sergeant with Charlie Battery, 1/12. “You stop everything. There is nothing more important than a fire mission. Whatever you are doing, it’s going to stop. You’re in the (bathroom), everything stops; eating chow, you just drop everything and move.”

These Marines fight a different fight. They are rarely called upon to patrol in the fields and farmlands of Helmand province; rather their fight resides right on the gun line within their base.

They know lives are on the line when they receive a request for fire, and the weight of making sure they send rounds accurately downrange

falls squarely on their shoulders.

They live feet from their M777 howitzer artillery cannons to ensure swift and timely movement to their weapons at a moment’s notice, but in between missions, they still make time to enjoy the little things that make life here agreeable.

The Marines spend their time watching movies, completing online courses through the Marine Corps Institute, reading or playing video games during their down time.

The fire base also has a Morale, Welfare and Recreation center where the Marines and sailors can chat online with friends and family back in the United States.

They also perform routine duties to maintain the cleanliness of the base and maintain its facilities.

The Marines must be ever-vigilant, however, regardless of the day’s activities: while performing routine duties, in the middle of a meal, during a coveted conversation with a family member, or even while taking a shower.

If the call for fire support comes, they must answer it.

**FIRE BASE FIDDLERS GREEN, Helmand province, Afghanistan** — Kevlar helmets and flak jackets lie in wait on the Charlie Battery gun line. The artillery Marines with 1st Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, must be able to throw on their personal protective equipment at a moment’s notice to fulfill requests for fire support in the area. At any moment, coalition units in the area could call for fire support, and the artillerymen must be ready day and night. If the call for fire support comes, they must answer it.



CPL. JEFF DREW

# COMMUNITY BRIEFS | CLASSIFIEDS

## Briefs

### Memorial Service

FAW-31 will hold a memorial service at the monument in front of their Headquarters building from 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Nov. 10. Rehearsals will include 70 blank shots from 8:30 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Nov. 7 through Nov. 10. Base personnel need to be respectful during the rehearsals and the event by not playing loud music or cutting through the event site.

### Movie Day

Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron will host a Halloween SCREAM Double Feature Movie Day at the Sakura Theater at 12:30 p.m. Wednesday. In between movies, a Costume Contest will be held. The top prize is a 72 from the CO. For more information, please contact CE1 Scott at 253-5972.

### Holiday Greetings

Service members may come into AFN to record a video of their holiday greetings Saturday from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., and Oct. 24 from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. AFN will have a camera set up at the North side chow hall Oct. 24 for any service members who would like to make a

holiday greeting and can’t make it on Saturday. If attempting to make a holiday greeting service members should be in appropriate uniform. No appointments are required for Monday but are for Saturday. To make an appointment call AFN at 253-5661.

### 4th Annual Arts and Crafts Fair

The 4th Annual Arts and Crafts Fair is scheduled Nov. 19 from 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. at the Crossroads Mall. Deadline to enter is Nov. 1. The fair is open to SOFA and Non-SOFA artists, craft makers, home business owners and fundraisers. For more information e-mail Valeriekpsaunders@yahoo.com.

### Main Gate Construction

Roadway repaving at the Main Gate is scheduled from Oct. 30 through late January. This construction will impact traffic weekdays from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. During these times, all outbound traffic will be redirected to the North and Monzen Gates. Pedestrians and bicyclists will not be affected. The visitor center will be fully operational during this period.

### Wrestling Club

Lt. Col. Thomas Frederick and Maj. Andrew Reed of Marine Aircraft

Group 12 are hosting a wrestling club Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11:30 a.m. at the IronWorks Gym near the basketball courts. It is open to anyone interested in practicing or getting a good workout.

### Childcare

If you have an unborn baby and will need childcare, put your name on the 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 with Resources and Referral for Children, Youth and Teens at 253-4141.

### 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.

### Seawall Closure

The seawall fitness path from the school and housing area to the IronWorks Gym Bldg. 1010 is scheduled to remain closed until May 2012 due to a major repair project. The repair will be conducted

in two phases. The IronWorks Gym to the Port Area Security Gate is scheduled to close from June 2012 to April 2013. Repairs are necessary to maintain safety and serviceability of the fitness path. Community safety and security is paramount.

### Mothers of Preschoolers

MOPS offers fun support and encouragement for mothers of children ages 0-5. Meeting the 1st and 3rd Thursday each month. Volunteers are also needed to help with our children’s program. For more information, call Sarah Spencer at 253-2303 or visit www.facebook/IwakuniMOPS

## 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 253-3331 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 4-year degree, 5-years experience, U.S. citizen, able to obtain secret security clearance, experience with military requirements, planning and operations. 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 to you would like to be published. You may also submit a brief or classified ad in person at the Public Affairs Office, Building 1, Room 216 or call 253-5551. Ensure you provide all requested information to simplify the request process. The deadline for submissions is 3 p.m. every Friday. Submissions will run the following Friday on a space-available basis. The Iwakuni Approach staff reserves the right to edit all submissions*

# MARADMIN 621/11

Marine Corps Combat  
Utility Uniform Policy  
Change:

This MARADMIN  
announces the  
Commandant’s decision to  
change the Marine Corps  
Combat Utility Uniform  
(MCCUU) Wear Policy.

1) Effective Monday, the MCCUU will be worn with the sleeves down, year round. This change does not affect timing of the seasonal uniform change, which will be addressed and announced in a future MARADMIN.

2) Reference (A) will be updated to reflect this change.

3) Release authorized by Lt. Gen. W. J. Williams, Director, Marine Corps staff.



CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ

Two Marines pose in the utilities uniforms, desert and woodland, with sleeves down outside of Building One here Wednesday. The Marines wore both the desert and woodland utilities to represent the new Marine Administrative Message 621/11 regarding the new regulations for Marine Corps utilities.



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**  
2nd & 4th Saturday 10 a.m. Seventh-Day  
Adventist Sabbath Meeting  
Sunday 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, Adult  
Bible Study  
10:30 a.m. Protestant Service  
4:30 p.m. Lutheran Holy  
Communion Service  
(Small Chapel)  
Tuesday 9 a.m. Ladies Bible Study  
Wednesday 5:45 p.m. Awana (Bldg. 1104)  
1st & 3rd Thursday 9:30 a.m. MOPS

**Church of Christ**  
Sunday 9:30 a.m. Bible Study (Small  
Chapel)  
10:30 a.m. Service Fellowship

**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

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



A Marine helps dress a local child for a photo with Marines and sailors during the Iwakuni Festival Sunday. 12 Marines and sailors from Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 and Marine Aircraft Group 12 volunteered for the event. 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, October 21, 2011**  
7 p.m. Shark Night (PG-13)  
*Premiere*

**Monday, October 24, 2011**  
7 p.m. The Help (PG-13)

**Tuesday, October 25, 2011**  
Theater Closed

**Wednesday, October 26, 2011**  
Theater Closed

**Saturday, October 22 2011**  
4 p.m. Dolphin Tale (PG)  
*Premiere*

**Thursday, October 27, 2011**  
7 p.m. Our Idiot Brother (R)

**Sunday, October 23, 2011**  
4 p.m. Dolphin Tale (PG)  
7 p.m. The Debt (R)  
*Premiere*

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, snails, macaroni salad, potato salad, coleslaw, standard salad bar, 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, macadamia 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.

Blue Falcons fly through MAG 13-12

LANCE CPL. CHARLIE CLARK  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The Blue Falcons beat MAG 13-12 during a 2011 intramural flag football season game at Penny Lake Fields here Oct. 12. MAG started the game with possession of the ball. The MAG offense was able to get a first down but incomplete passes to Wilfredo Cieza, MAG wide receiver, and a quarterback sack by Jean C. Acosta, Blue Falcons' defensive lineman, forced a turnover-on-downs. Mikal J. Patterson, Blue Falcons' quarterback, gained yardage by running the ball. MAG defense fired back when Jaime G. Leyva, MAG defensive lineman, intercepted the ball. Before the MAG offense could capitalize on the interception, Seth P. Stringham, Blue Falcons' wide receiver and defensive lineman, intercepted a pass and ran the ball back into MAG territory. Patterson could not deliver to his receivers, and a turnover occurred. "We really came together and took control of

the game in the beginning," said Clayton R. Hullet, MAG wide receiver and corner back. The MAG offense stepped up its game and drove the ball into the end zone to gain the lead 6-0. The Blue Falcons ran the ball down field in just two passes and two runs. Patterson ran through the MAG defense to score a touchdown and tie the game 6-6. "I saw an opening and just booked it to the end zone," Patterson said. During MAG's return, Ronald Watts Jr., Blue Falcons' corner back, intercepted the ball and ran it in for a touchdown, which pulled his team ahead 12-6. Watts caught the ball for an extra point advancing the Blue Falcons' lead 13-6. "For our next game, we are going to work on our defense more," Cieza said. "We need to handle threats deep in our territory better." MAG tried again to gain some yards but could not get past the Blue Falcons' defensive linemen. There was a turnover-on-downs, and it was the Blue Falcons' chance to run down field. MAG's defense was able to stop the Blue Falcons' offense in its tracks and forced a punt. During the first return play, Mike Rodriguez, MAG quarterback, ran the ball deep into Blue Falcons terrain. Derrius R. Beverly, MAG wide receiver, closed the half when he caught a pass and ran a touchdown to close the score gap 13-12. The Blue Falcons started the second half with possession of the ball. The ball changed hands many times during the second half with neither team gaining the upper hand. MAG ended the game trying to get the ball into the Blue Falcons' territory but was unsuccessful. The game ended with the Blue Falcons taking the win 13-12. Both teams seemed to expose each other's faults and where improvements are needed for future games. "I really think Marines and sailors learn a lot about team work when we play intramural sports," said Patterson. "Each game makes us that much better of a team." Both teams continue to their next games with more experience and practice under belts.



Seth P. Stringham, Blue Falcon's wide reciever, runs an intercepted ball during a 2011 intramural flag football game at Penny Lake Fields here Oct. 12. The Blue Falcons won the game 13-12. Both teams continue to their next games with more experience and practice under belts.



The Blue Falcon's defense sets up to block MAG's offense next play at third and goal during a 2011 intramural flag football game here Oct. 12. The Blue Falcons won the game 13-12. Both teams continue to their next games with more experience and practice under belts.





# TRICK-OR-TREAT ON HALLOWEEN

## "Trick or Treat"



The station will host Halloween "Trick or Treating" Oct. 31 from 5 - 7 p.m. For the safety of pedestrians, the Freedom Bridge and Monzen Gate will be closed to all vehicular traffic during this period. "Trick or Treating" will not be permitted at any office spaces or barracks. Residents not wishing to participate will indicate this by turning off their porch light or if living in the Towers indicate by some other means. MLC/IHA employees are welcome to sponsor immediate family members onto the station during this period. The gates will be open to pre-registered Japanese guests at 4 p.m. Sponsors can pre-register their guests at the PMO Administrative Office, 2nd Deck, Bldg. 608 prior to 12 p.m. Oct. 26

Halloween on Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni can be a great time for residents of all ages. The Provost Marshal's Office asks that every member of the community consider the below tips and help to make this Halloween safe and enjoyable for all of our young trick-or-treaters.

### Pedestrian Safety

- Parents are highly encouraged to accompany their children in accordance with Marine Corps Bases Japan Youth Supervision Guidelines.
- Plan your child's route and ensure you have a designated place to meet them in case you become separated.
- Children should use flashlights and stay on sidewalks.
- Children should cross the street at crosswalks and not between parked cars.
- Vehicle operators should drive slowly and watch carefully for children.

### General Safety

- Children should never go into homes - stay outside of the residence when asking for treats.
- Children should never talk to strangers or get into a stranger's cars.
- Wear clothing that is bright, reflective and flame-retardant; wear short clothing that prevents tripping.
- Wear sneakers or comfortable shoes.
- Use face paint (non-toxic, hypoallergenic) and avoid masks - especially if the eye holes obstruct the child's vision.
- Don't wear floppy hats or wigs that slide over the eyes. Also, children should not wear long, baggy, or loose costumes or oversized shoes.
- Avoid toy weapons - if desired, use costume knives and swords that are flexible, not rigid.
- Stay away from pets. The pet may not recognize the child and become frightened.
- Children should travel in small groups and be accompanied by parents or an authorized adult chaperone.

- Children should know their home phone number and their parents' cell phone numbers in case they are separated from one another.

- Children should bring home treats before eating them so parents can inspect them.

Military Police bicycle and foot patrols will be assigned to each housing area.

If at any time you or your child needs assistance please call the Military Police Desk Sergeant at 253-3303 or for emergencies dial 911.

### REGISTERING GUESTS FOR "TRICK OR TREATING"

- SOFA personnel may sponsor guests, up to ten per family. All guests must be escorted by the sponsor at all times while aboard the Air Station.
- Sponsors must pre-register their guests at the PMO Administrative Section, Bldg. 608, prior to 1200, 26 October 2011.
- MLC/IHA employees may sponsor their immediate family members (e.g., spouse, children, children's spouse(s), brother(s), sister(s), parents, and spouse's parents) up to ten per family.
- Sponsors must meet their guests at the Contractors Gate between the hours of 1600 and 1730. All guests may exit the air station via the Main Gate after the event.
- Guests' vehicles are prohibited from parking at the BOQs, BEQs or housing areas.
- "Trick or Treating" will be limited to the housing areas ONLY. BOQs, BEQs and office spaces will be off limits.
- Residents who do not wish to participate will turn off their porch lights or if living in the Towers indicate by some other means and "Trick or Treating" participants will avoid the residence.
- From 1700-1900, 31 October 2011, no one will be allowed to sign guests aboard the installation unless they have been pre-registered with the PMO Administration Section. All other visitors must be signed on before or after these times.
- Station residents be advised that the Monzen Bridge and the inbound lane of Monzen Gate will be closed to vehicle traffic from 1700-1900 due to this event.

\*For more information contact the PMO Administration Section at 253-4386 or GySgt. Spiehs, PMO Physical Security Section at 253-3306.