

# THE IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 29 Vol. 5 | Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan



SGT. DANIEL K. BROWN

Gunnery Sgt. Brent Marston (left), Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 265 quality assurance chief, Warrant Officer Weiguo Xu, HMM-265 maintenance material control officer, and Capt. Christian Kapey, a HMM-265 pilot, look on as an MV-22 Osprey rotates its rotor blades as an HMM-265 aircrew performs routine maintenance and functional checks at the Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni tarmac here July 25, 2012. This marks the first MV-22 Osprey aircraft deployment to Japan and a milestone in the Marine Corps' process of replacing CH-46E helicopters with the MV-22 Osprey, a highly-capable, tiltrotor aircraft which combines the vertical capability of a helicopter with the speed and range of a fixed-wing aircraft.

## Servicemembers volunteer in stables, rodeo

CPL. VANESSA JIMENEZ  
IWAKUNI APPROACH  
STAFF

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR  
FORCE BASE TINDAL,  
Australia — Approximately 16  
U.S. servicemembers volunteered

during the 47th Annual Katherine Show, in the town of Katherine, Northern Territory, Australia, July 21, 2012.

Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 232 and Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 servicemembers gave a helping hand to assist in a show, which has been a hallmark

of the Katherine region since 1965.

The show was created to promote and encourage the development of agricultural, cultural, industrial and commercial activities in the region.

"We are volunteering for the Katherine Show, which is a

big annual event," said Lt. j.g. Alexander J. Cho, Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 232 Chaplain and volunteer. "Community outreach is important because the town is able to see we care about the

SEE COMREL ON PAGE 3

## MCCS answers questions during town-hall meeting

LANCE CPL. CAYCE NEVERS  
IWAKUNI APPROACH  
STAFF

Marine Corps Community Services held a town-hall meeting for station residents at the Sakura Theater here July 25, 2012.

The meeting was organized to help station residents understand the future of the station, as well as to answer any questions or concerns the residents may have.

"The town hall meeting serves to provide education on MCCS offerings, accountability, organizational structure,

funding and to provide a venue for questions to be answered in an open forum," said Sean W. McHenry, MCCS marketing director.

Residents and MCCS employees discussed topics for everyone, including what MCCS offers aboard the station, the improvements being made to the air station and other topics such as cutbacks.

"After an overview of MCCS offerings and how MCCS fits within the air station's organization, John E. Iwaniec, MCCS director, discussed

SEE TOWN ON PAGE 3

## CLC-36 Marines race through tactical-convoy training

LANCE CPL. NICHOLAS RHOADES  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

COMBINED ARMS TRAINING CENTER CAMP FUJI, Japan — Combat Logistics Company 36 Marines performed immediate action drills in the case of an improvised explosive device explosion while conducting a convoy during Dragon Fire 12 here July 19, 2012.

"The importance of having the convoy training is to try and get the Marines prepared for the worst," said Sgt. Delshan R. Martinez, CLC-36 training observer. "We got (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) out there for live detonation, so they could experience a little bit of the panic and force the Marines to perform their immediate-action drills under stress."

This training ensured Marines can instinctively perform and provide security without having to be told. The faster these drills happened, the faster the training was completed. Providing security quickly also gave the Marines more time to save the lives of wounded passengers.


"Hopefully they learned how important it is to be in a convoy, what to look out for and all the other things that fall into being prepared and ready," said Martinez.

While in a convoy, everyone had specific roles. The group needed to work together in order to complete the task safely and effectively.

"It all went smoothly," said Pfc. Onur N. Tasyontar, a training

SEE IED ON PAGE 3





**Commanding Officer/Publisher**  
Col. James C. Stewart

**Public Affairs Officer**  
Maj. Neil A. Ruggiero

**Public Affairs Chief**  
Gunnery Sgt. Bryce R. Piper

**Press and Operations Chief**  
Sgt. Charles McKelvey

**Editor**  
Lance Cpl. Benjamin Pryor

**Combat Correspondents**  
Cpl. Charlie Clark  
Cpl. Vanessa Jimenez  
Cpl. Kenneth K. Trotter Jr.  
Lance Cpl. J. Gage Karwick  
Lance Cpl. Cayce Nevers  
Lance Cpl. Nicholas Rhoades

**Webmaster**  
Yukie Wada

**Community/Media Relations**  
Hiroko Soriki  
Hiromi M. Kawamoto

**Administration**  
Hiro Sumida

“This weekly newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the military services stationed overseas and their families. Its contents do not necessarily reflect the official views of the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the U.S. Marine Corps, and does not imply endorsement thereof.”

Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan. All queries concerning news and editorial content should be directed to the Public Affairs Office, Building One, Room 216. Call 253-5551.

*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.*

PSC 561 Box 1868  
FPO AP 96310-0019  
Phone 253-5551  
Fax 253-5554

# CHAPLAIN’S CORNER

## In the praise of shoes

CMDR. DEAN L. HOELZ  
MAG-12 GROUP CHAPLAIN

Today, I have to speak for those who exist in silence and are relegated to a humble existence. Although they have a tongue, they cannot speak. Though they have a sole, they have not life. Quietly, they go everywhere we go, one step at a time, and are taken for granted by many. To what am I referring to in this brief epistle? It is none other than the humble and lowly shoe.

Why do I bring attention and offer lofty praise to such humble items? It is because I owe much of my spiritual development, especially the gift of prayer, to shoes. I know it sounds strange but allow me to share my story.

As a child growing up in church, prayer was always part of my life. However, I treated this practice more like a check in the box. I, more or less, went through the motions with little actual thought about prayer. This going through the motions lasted into my adult life until my first mentor, Larry, asked me about my prayer life. No one had ever asked me about my prayer life! He knew I regularly attended church and also recognized something wasn't clicking in my life. It's funny how

the people who love us have the ability to see our problems before we can see them ourselves. It's their love and concern which empowers them to be honest with us. That same love encourages us to listen to them when they speak.

At the right time and in the right way, Larry spoke to me. He asked me if I prayed and I said, “Of course I pray.” Then he asked me, “Do you pray on your knees?” I was taken aback by his question and immediately felt defensive. “Well, at church we usually kneel to pray,” I told him. But he didn't mean church. He was asking if I knelt down on my knees as I did when I was a child at night to say my prayers. I told him, “I don't. I kind of out-grew that.” He encouraged me to try praying on my knees. But I said I didn't feel the need to do it. Larry, who is persistent, said, “Of course you don't need to pray on your knees. You can pray standing, lying down, walking, driving, etc. But, why not try my suggestion?” He recognized my reluctance right away and said, “Here's what I'd like you to do: When you go to bed, I want you to put your shoes under your bed that way you're going to have to get on your knees. While you're there, just pause and say your prayers. In the morning,

when you get up you will have to get on your knees again to get your shoes and while you're on your knees, say your prayers.”

Thank God for shoes and thank God for people who care about us! In a very real sense, shoes taught me how to pray. I've learned if I start the day on my knees in prayer, I can stand before anyone or anything. When I start my day in prayer, there is no challenge, difficulty, hardship or decision too great I cannot faithfully meet with confidence. I owe a lot to Larry. He told me what to do with my shoes. I owe a lot to my shoes. They helped save my soul. I suppose it was one sole speaking to another soul, one sole giving new life to this tired soul.

Today, I no longer have to place my shoes under my bed to pray. Prayer, the thing I once considered a check in the box, has become as natural as breathing and just as important. So, let me freely pass along to you what Larry freely gave to me. If you find your days are filled with challenges, if your work and family responsibilities seem overwhelming at times, or if something simply doesn't seem to be clicking in your life, why not try what Larry taught me? Spend some extra time with your shoes in the morning and at night and see if their sole might just speak to your soul and walk with you into a daily life of prayer.

## SUMMER SAFETY: Outdoor Recreation Safety

### Camping Safety

You should always consider safety when camping. Many of these tips start before you begin your journey. One of the most important things you need to bring with you on any outing is a first aid kit. While no one expects to get hurt, it is better to be prepared and not need it than to need supplies and not have them. If you get a cut or a bug bite while camping, it can get infected and become a bigger problem.

Some other safety tips when you go camping are making sure other people at home know where you are and what time to expect you to return. For first time locations, do your best to gather information of the camping area ahead of time.

- If something happens, you get lost, injured, or stranded, then someone will know there is a problem and send help.
- You should have a cell phone with you and know what number to call in case of an emergency. An emergency kit with a signaling device, a compass, and a fire starter are some tools you also want available.
- Keep matches, lighters and other items in a water proof container. Even a sealed plastic bag can act as a waterproof container in a pinch.
- Make sure you are not walking around without shoes, unless on a beach and always bring extra dry clothes with you and a jacket of some kind, especially if you are camping in the mountains.
- Keep a flashlight with you, either with extra batteries, or one you can hand crank to charge.
- Make sure you do not wander too far from camp and never hike alone.
- While nobody expects an accident or to get lost, it is a good rule to expect the unexpected.

SEE **SAFETY** ON PAGE 10

# Volunteers support 47th Annual Katherine Show

COMREL FROM PAGE 1

community.”

Volunteers had the responsibility of helping set up the equestrian show-jumping courses along with picking up rails if a horse knocked it down. Volunteers also provided a Marine Corps martial arts demonstration for spectators to enjoy and see some Marine Corps training.



ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE BASE TINDAL, Australia — A competitor clears a jump during an equestrian show-jumping competition at the 46th annual Katherine Show in Katherine, Northern Territory, Australia, July 21, 2012. Competitors entered in 10 different classes.

## Questions, comments, concerns answered

TOWN FROM PAGE 1

areas of concern pulled from I.C.E. (Interactive Customer Evaluation) comments and frequently asked questions,” said McHenry. “The broad range of topics included 2011 financial data, shipping challenges, product assortment, pricing and profit margins, serving policies, 2013 funding cuts and future developments. The floor was then wide open for questions and answers.”

For the military personnel and station residents who attended the meeting, the information provided proved very informative.

“I came to the meeting because I wanted to know what was going to happen to the station,” said Lance Cpl. Phillip M. Brosseau, Marine Aircraft Group 12 fiscal clerk noncommissioned officer-in-charge. “I learned what the plans for the station are and what improvements are on the way. That way, if I ever come back out to Japan, I will know what to expect.”

Many of the station residents’

concerns involved topics such as hair-cut prices, employment aboard station, bus routes, Boy and Girl Scouts’ facilities and playgrounds. Another concern was the locations of the various new sports fields.

“The information they provided at the meeting that I am curious most about is the other part of base that is approximately 15 minutes away from the station,” said Brosseau. “They are building several fields there so the youth and Marines can remain active outside of physical training.”

There were many discussions throughout the meeting and many questions and concerns brought up. The questions were answered by Iwaniec, Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni Commanding Officer Col. James C. Stewart, and other subject-matter experts.

“The information gained during the town-hall meeting, as well as information gathered through focus groups, surveys and even word of mouth is communicated to the directors responsible for consideration in future decision making,” said McHenry.



An equestrian show-jumping competitor sits with her horse in between events at the 46th Annual Katherine Show in Katherine, Northern Territory, Australia, July 21, 2012. Competitors entered in 10 different classes.

IED FROM PAGE 1

convoy’s fourth vehicle driver. “Everyone posted security, the gunners were posted at all times and the docs did their job with helping anyone who was injured, along with a fast recovery team. Overall, I feel it went very well and everyone did their specific tasks,”

IEDs stand as a viable threat in today’s battlespace. The quicker

not only proved rewarding to all who gave a helping hand, but was educational as well.

“My favorite part about community-relation events is showing the people involved that the military wants to help people and learn more about their culture,” said Cho.

Spectators enjoyed sales and food vendors and were provided entertainment from dog jumping to equestrian events, fireworks and V8 Utes, an Australian motor-racing series.





LANCE CPL. TODD F. MICHALEK

COMBINED ARMS TRAINING CENTER CAMP FUJI, Japan — Army Pfc. Robert T. Wimsatt, an 83rd Ordnance Battalion signal support systems specialist, performs ammunition can lifts with Combat Logistics Company 36 Marines before starting Dragon Fire 12 at Camp Fuji, Japan, July 10, 2012. Dragon Fire allows Marines to conduct infantry training in a field environment.



LANCE CPL. TODD F. MICHALEK

COMBINED ARMS TRAINING CENTER CAMP FUJI, Japan — Army Pfc. Robert T. Wimsatt, an 83rd Ordnance Battalion signal support systems specialist, fires an M1014 combat shotgun during Dragon Fire 12 at July 13, 2012. Dragon Fire is an annual exercise held by Combat Logistics Company 36 to give Marines a chance to conduct infantry training in a field environment. Wimsatt learned about some of the differences between the Army and the Marine Corps.



LANCE CPL. TODD F. MICHALEK

COMBINED ARMS TRAINING CENTER CAMP FUJI, Japan — Lance Cpl. Michael S. Gutschmidt, a Combat Logistics Company 36 heavy equipment mechanic, and Army Pfc. Robert T. Wimsatt, an 83rd Ordnance Battalion signal support systems specialist, carry a simulated casualty to the medical evacuation Humvee after a simulated improvised explosive device strike while participating in Dragon Fire 12, July 19, 2012. Dragon Fire is an annual exercise held by CLC-36 to give Marines a chance to conduct infantry training in a field environment.

## CLC-36 welcomes 'HOOAH' for training

LANCE CPL. TODD F. MICHALEK  
COMBAT CAMERAMAN

COMBINED ARMS TRAINING CENTER CAMP FUJI, Japan — Combat Logistics Company 36 hosted Army Pfc. Robert T. Wimsatt, an 83rd Ordnance Battalion signal support systems specialist based in Kure, Japan, as he trained with Marines during their recent training evolution, Dragon Fire 12, here July 9 – 24, 2012.

The rivalry between the Army and the Marine Corps can be especially strong, but throughout the course of the exercise the bond between Marines and soldier grew stronger.

The cross-service training was made possible as part of an agreement between Maj. Andrés H Cáceres-Solari, CLC-36 commanding officer and Army leadership within the 83rd Ordnance Battalion.

"At first, it was kind of scary because you're around a bunch of Marines and everybody is going to make fun of me and everything, but everyone was pretty cool and welcomed me," said Wimsatt.

The Marines were quick to let Wimsatt know what to expect during the exercise, giving him a heads up on patrolling, conducting military operations in urban

terrain, range rules and physical training. Before the exercise started, Wimsatt had the opportunity to do some preliminary training with his adopted unit.

"We ran the obstacle course and that was awesome, it was a lot of fun. It was scary at first because I didn't know how to do it and I thought I would look bad. I went out there and did pretty well at it," Wimsatt said.

With all the preparation the Marines gave Wimsatt, they forgot one thing: Field day.

"I had never experienced a Marine style field day. You had all the corporals running around blowing your head off," Wimsatt said.

Field day also brought to the forefront the difference between an E-4 in the Army versus the Marine Corps.

"The way the Marines and Army operate are very different," said Wimsatt. "We have corporals in the Army, but where I'm at I don't see a whole lot of corporals. I see specialists. The specialists don't really boss you around or give you orders like the corporals do in the Marine Corps. At first it was awkward. After a while, you get used to it."

Wimsatt also had to acclimate to calling Marines by their rank.

Wimsatt said that saying proper ranks, like staff sergeant and gunnery sergeant, was something that took a little to get used to.

Wimsatt did, on one occasion, call a gunnery sergeant a sergeant. The gunnery sergeant understood and corrected the situation without making an example of Wimsatt in front of all the Marines.

For Wimsatt, coming out to train with Marines was something he said he looked forward to. Not many soldiers get the opportunity to train with Marines, so when the opportunity presented itself, he took it.

"I was excited to come and train with Marines," said Wimsatt. "You hear everybody talk about the Marines. The Marines are the finest fighting force in the world. It's cool to come and get the training. You all have better marksmanship, so it was definitely cool to come and learn how to shoot better."

After a while, their differences didn't matter. Over the course of the training exercise, it wasn't an uncommon sight to see a Marine helping Wimsatt apply camouflage paint or Wimsatt helping a Marine with a weapon. The exercise was mutually beneficial for both Marine and soldier. The exercise enhanced the relationship between the two branches and showed even with a past and present of continual competition, the Army and Marine Corps can work together to achieve a mutual goal of combat readiness.



CPL. VANESSA JIMENEZ

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIRFORCE BASE TINDAL, Australia — Joel Nas, a search and rescue crewman, and Petty Officer 2nd Class Darin Buckley, a Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 232 corpsman, execute a double winch here July 18, 2012, as part of Southern Frontier 2012. SF12 is an annual, unilateral training exercise hosted by the Royal Australian Air Force allowing Marine Aircraft Group 12 F/A-18 squadrons, like Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 232, the opportunity to focus on offensive-air Support training in order to improve squadron readiness.



CPL. VANESSA JIMENEZ

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIRFORCE BASE TINDAL, Australia — Joel Nas, a search and rescue crewman, helps Petty Officer 2nd Class Darin Buckley, a Marine Fighter Attack squadron 232 corpsman, out of the hoist during winch training as part of Southern Frontier 2012 here July 18. SF12 is an annual, unilateral training exercise hosted by the Royal Australian Air Force allowing Marine Aircraft Group 12 F/A-18 squadrons, like Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 232, the opportunity to focus on offensive-air support training in order to improve squadron readiness.

## Corpsmen conduct search-and-rescue winch training as part of Southern Frontier 2012

CPL. VANESSA JIMENEZ  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIRFORCE BASE TINDAL, Australia — Navy corpsmen here in support of Exercise Southern Frontier 2012, were given the opportunity to conduct winch training with Search-and-Rescue (SAR) members July 17 – 18, 2012.

Exercise Southern Frontier 2012 is an annual, unilateral training exercise hosted by the Royal Australian Air Force allowing Marine Aircraft Group 12 F/A-18 Hornet squadrons, like Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 232, the opportunity to focus on offensive-air support training to improve squadron readiness.

SAR here is a RAAF asset, contracted to the Air Force from CHC Helicopters. SAR members provide search and rescue for ejection seat aircraft.

The training gave Corpsmen an opportunity to familiarize themselves with the Sikorsky S-76 helicopter and some of the equipment.

"We conducted the training we do with medics when it's their first time flying with us called a basic medical winch sortie," said

Joshua Elloy, search and rescue air crewman. "We just take them out to a big, open area and go through the process of being hooked up to a winch and being winched out of the aircraft and down to the open area. It is comprised of helicopter safety and familiarization of our specific aircraft."

Sailors went through a groundbreaking training class, which covered procedures and safety of the aircraft before winching, later in the afternoon and the next day.

The training was conducted in an open area near the hangar. The helicopter hovered approximately 15 feet above the ground, and corpsmen were hooked up to a hoist and winched down to the ground.

"They'll start off going out with a rescue crewman on a double winch," said Stuart Dawes, S-76 Tindal search and rescue pilot captain. "If they do well on the double, they'll go out on a single hoist alone."

A safety supervisor is located on the ground throughout the training. He makes sure trainees land safely, take the hoist strap off and clear the area.

Winching becomes more advanced with the

use of gear and location.

"As you progress in training, we'll incorporate stretchers and medical gear," said Elloy. "We'll also go to places outside the airfield with less room, more trees or cliff faces."

In case of an emergency, this training can help medical personnel work efficiently when flying with SAR members.

"It helps give medical staff an awareness if they need to fly with us in a real emergency," said Dawes. "When you get a real job, things happen at a quicker pace and they really need to know what's coming up and what's expected of them as far as moving in the aircraft, what we do and how we do things."

Members involved in the training walked away with a better understanding of SAR and a good experience.

"It was fantastic being able to be on the aircraft and learn a little more about SAR procedures," said Petty Officer 2nd Class Darin Buckley, a Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 232 corpsman. "This is something we'd probably have to do if there is a downed aircraft or fire, so having this knowledge is great."



# Station volunteers assist, host children's home

Lance Cpl. J. Gage Karwick  
IWAKUNI APPROACH  
STAFF

Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 Marines and various other units' volunteers hosted the Yahata Gakuen children's home at the WaterWorks Pool here July 21, 2012.

The children came for a pool party and traditional American barbecue during a day of swimming, games, food and loving volunteers.

"This is an event that has been taking place for the last four years," said Jesus Dominguez,

MWSS-171 Marine volunteer. "MWSS-171 sponsors this orphanage and we bring them aboard station twice a year. During the summer, we extend an opportunity to the kids for them to have a day of fun at the pool."

Plenty of food and drinks were brought for the volunteers and children.

"There's tons of food," said Dominguez. "We have about 100 to 115 people here right now ... so it really shows the will of every one here and their willingness to help to make a difference and touch the hearts of these children. This specific orphanage

has about 60 kids and there's a little over 40 here today."

MWSS-171 was not the only organization to assist the children. The Calvary Chapel Church also assisted with the donations and volunteer efforts.

"We were happy to be able to spend time with the kids from the children's home," said Walter Chan, Calvary Chapel Church volunteer. "A lot of these kids have gone through a lot, so they don't get many opportunities to smile. So we get the chance to show them love and also a little American culture with a traditional American barbecue with burgers and hotdogs. I told

a lot of the people at the church what was going on and they were all happy to help. They brought over cupcakes and baked goods and things like that."

The Marines had one rule they felt was beneficial to the kids: Every child had a Marine or sailor buddy who spent the entirety of the visit with them. At the end of the event, the enjoyment spending a day aboard station showed on each child's face, and the satisfaction of providing such a day was reflected from the Marines and volunteers.



LANCE CPL. J. GAGE KARWICK

Children from Yahata Gakuen children's home play with Marines and station community-relations volunteers in the WaterWorks pool during the pool party hosted by Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 here July 21, 2012. The children experienced a day of fun with a volunteer Marine or sailor buddy.



LANCE CPL. J. GAGE KARWICK

A Marine volunteer attending the Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 community-relations event pool party at the WaterWorks pool for the Yahata Gakuen children's home takes a photo of the two children with whom he spent the day here July 21, 2012. The children's home visits the station twice a year, once in the summer and once in the winter.



LANCE CPL. J. GAGE KARWICK

One of the Yahata Gakuen children's home children blows out the never-extinguishing trick candles for his birthday month during the Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 community-relations event pool party at the WaterWorks pool here July 21, 2012. Every month MWSS-171 donates a cake to the Yahata Gakuen children's home for the children who have birthdays that month.



LANCE CPL. J. GAGE KARWICK

Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 Marines and volunteers swim with Yahata Gakuen children's home children during a community-relations event at the WaterWorks Pool here July 21, 2012. The children came aboard station for a day of fun with the Marines during a pool party and traditional American barbecue.



LANCE CPL. J. GAGE KARWICK

Community-relations event volunteers along with children from the Yahata Gakuen children's home begin gathering near the food at the pool party hosted by Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 at the WaterWorks pool here July 21, 2012. The Yahata Gakuen children's home is sponsored by MWSS-171.



CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE

31st MEU practices decontamination skills

LANCE CPL. MATTHEW MANNING  
MARINE CORPS BASES  
JAPAN

Marines with the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit conducted a mass-casualty decontamination training exercise at Kin Blue Beach training area July 11, 2012. The training was conducted to ensure the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, III Marine Expeditionary Force, is prepared to respond to potential chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear threats in the Asia-Pacific region.

“Having the capability to provide mass-casualty decontamination increases the capabilities of the 31st MEU in regards to humanitarian assistance and disaster relief missions,” said Cpl. Carlos S. Sahagun, a chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear defense specialist with Combat Logistics Battalion 31, 31st MEU. “A recent example of this was during Operation Tomodachi where there was a radiation threat.”

Marines with the 31st MEU used this decontamination process on themselves during Operation Tomodachi, according to Chief Warrant Officer Jonathan B. Davis, CBRN defense officer with the 31st MEU.

During the training exercise, the Marines of CLB-31 cross-trained with CBRN defense specialist Marines from the 31st MEU command element.

“The Marines from CLB-31 were fast learners,” said Lance Cpl. Marci L. Strickler, CBRN defense specialist with the command element. “This is an easy process to learn, and it increases the abilities of the 31st MEU.”

Marines of both CLB-31 and the command element acted as victims in a contaminated area during the training.

“Once we set up the decontamination lane, we sent out

our triage team to find those inside the infected area and brought them back to be decontaminated,” said Sahagun. “The role players were classified as either ambulatory or non-ambulatory by the triage team. Those who are ambulatory walked through the different stations in the lane while the triage team carried the non-ambulatory (victims) back to be decontaminated.”

The first step in the decontamination process was to have those who were contaminated remove their valuables and clothing, according to Davis.

“Once they remove their valuables and clothes, the valuables will be placed inside a plastic bag,” said Davis. “Their clothing will then be destroyed because of the contamination on them.”

Upon removal of valuables and clothing, victims proceeded to a shower station.

“We have a shower system set up for the ambulatory patients to clean themselves off,” said Davis. “Marines will clean off the non-ambulatory by using sponges and buckets of solution to remove the contamination. After the patient has been cleaned, we will scan them for contaminants. If the scanner detects contaminants they will be required to wash again until the scanner says they are clean.”

Those going through the decontamination lane are either taken to medical facilities or released once scanners say they are clean, according to Davis.

“Overall the exercise was beneficial for these Marines,” said Davis. “We were able to get Marines trained on how to properly set up and use a decontamination lane. We also learned it would be better to have multiple lanes for non-ambulatory victims since they take longer to decontaminate.”



LANCE CPL. MATTHEW MANNING

Marines work to cut off Cpl. Eric E. Kruger's boots during mass-casualty decontamination training at Kin Blue Beach training area July 11, 2012. Kruger was a non-ambulatory role player during the training. Kruger serves as a landing support specialist with Combat Logistics Battalion 31, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, III Marine Expeditionary Force.



LANCE CPL. MATTHEW MANNING

Marines with the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit perform mass-casualty decontamination training at Kin Blue Beach training area July 11, 2012. The training was conducted to ensure the 31st MEU is ready to respond to potential chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear threats in the Asia-Pacific region. The Marines taking part in the training are with Combat Logistics Regiment 31 and the command element of the 31st MEU, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS | CLASSIFIEDS

Briefs

**Caribbean Pool Party**  
The H&HS Family Readiness team will host a Caribbean style pool party for H&HS personnel and families at the WaterWorks pool pavilion August 24, 2012, from 1 - 5 p.m.

**Speed Limit Change**  
The speed limit on Newell Dr., located in front of the Sakura Theater, is now 30 km/h. The station is in the process of changing the posted speed limit signs.

**Thrift Store Funds**  
The Thrift Store gives funds generated from donations they receive back to the community. If your organization is hosting a community event, or wondering how they will fund their next community relations project, your Thrift Store may be able to help. For more details, contact Sharon Rostkowski at 253-4711

**SMP Movie Night**  
H&HS will host a movie night at the Sakura Theater August 15, 2012, from 6 - 10:30 p.m.

The movies playing are scheduled to be 300 and Gladiator. One free medium popcorn and drink per person are to be provided.

**Seawall Closures**  
Sectioned portions of the seawall have closed for construction scheduled through April 2013. The affected area of the seawall includes any portion of the seawall after the "NO THROUGH PATH" sign. Take extra care because construction vehicles will pass through. The affected areas will shut down completely when heavy equipment is transferred. For more information on the closures, call Walter Chan at 253-5004.

**BHC Change of Charge**  
The Robert M. Casey Medical and Dental Clinic is scheduled to hold its change of charge ceremony August 10, 2012, at 2 p.m.

**Gospel Choir**  
Gospel choir practice will be held every Thursday night in preparation for the 2012 Annual Christmas Concert. For more information, call Billie Scott at 080-3272-5902 or

e-mail billiej316@gmail.com

**Off-limit Establishments**  
The following establishments are off-limits:  
• The multi-tenant building "NOW," Tenant occupant's names change frequently. Past names for this building include, Ran, Massage Parlor, Welcome American, Follow Me and F-18.  
• Hiroshima's Tougan Goods Company.

**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. 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 ensure you provide all requested information to simplify the request process and ensure. The deadline for submissions is 3 p.m. every Friday.

Abuse it, Lose it

Shopping carts are no longer allowed to leave the Commissary parking lot. From now on, the bagger will bring your cart to the car and take the cart back.

Upcoming MCVCS closures

August 1: Baskin Robbins will close for renovations, the coffee side will remain open.

August 3: Grand Buffet will close due to a scheduled event. The soup and salad bar will remain open, along with JD's Grille.

August 8-9: Burger King will close for maintenance. They will resume normal operating hours the 10th.

August 15: Food Court will close at 1:30 p.m. for maintenance. They will resume normal hours the following day.

KUNI TOONS: INTERCONNECTED





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
Mon. – Thurs.	11:30 a.m. Weekday Mass
Protestant	
Sunday	9:30 a.m. Lutheran Service 10:30 a.m. Protestant Service 10:30 a.m. Children's Church 10:30 a.m. Church of Christ Meeting 1 p.m. Contemporary 5:30 p.m. FLOW (Youth Group)
Monday	7 p.m. Men's Bible Study
Tuesday	9 a.m. Ladies' Bible Study 5 p.m. Working Women Bible Study
Wednesday	10:30 a.m. Ladies' Tea 5:45 p.m. AWANA (Bldg. 1104)
2nd Saturday	7:30 a.m. Men's Discipleship
Bahai	
Sunday	11 a.m. Bahai Meeting

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

THE IWAKUNI APPROACH CULTURAL LESSONS

Kanji Adventures



Japan is known world wide for its outsanding tranportation system. There are multiple modes of transportation available throughout Japan, including air planes, ferries, buses, local trains and the Shinkansen. This week's transportation information will focus on air travel throughout Japan and the region. Japan is home to a plethora of airports, which range in size from domestic travel to international travel. There are two airports located in Tokyo. The more well-known of the two is Narita International Airport. The other is Haneda, also known as Tokyo International Airport, which also offers international destinations and getaways, but focuses more on domestic travel. Kansai International Airport, located in Osaka, also offers travelers an opportunity for international exploration. Kansai Airport is built on reclaimed land in Osaka Bay. There are also many other international airports in Japan which offer people a chance to visit many exotic and unique locations across Japan, Asia and the world. A few of these places include cities such as Fukuoka, Beijing, Hanoi and Bangkok.

SAKURA THEATER

<b>Friday, August 3, 2012</b> 7 p.m. The Dark Knight Rises (PG-13)	<b>Tuesday, August 7, 2012</b> 1 p.m. Brave (PG)
<b>Saturday, August 4, 2012</b> 4 p.m. Ice Age: Continental Drift (PG) 7 p.m. The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel (PG-13)	<b>Wednesday, August 8, 2012</b> 1 p.m. Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted (PG)
<b>Sunday, August 5, 2012</b> 3 p.m. Brave (PG) 7 p.m. The Dark Knight Rises (PG-13)	<b>Thursday, August 9, 2012</b> 1 p.m. Kung Fu Panda (PG) 7 p.m. The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel (PG-13)
<b>Monday, August 6, 2012</b> 1 p.m. Beverly Hills Chihuahua (PG) 7 p.m. The Amazing Spider Man (PG-13)	

The movie schedule is subject to change. Please check [www.mccsiwakuni.com/sakura](http://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](http://www.mccsiwakuni.com) or call 253-5291.

SAFETY FROM PAGE 2

General safety tips for overall summer recreation

- Avoid being in the sun too long. Use sunscreen and wear a hat outdoors.
- Take frequent breaks to cool down and hydrate when participating in sport activities. Heat stress occurs indoors and outdoors, even at night.
- Stay away from rivers swelling from heavy rain. Notice the emergency lights along the river. When they are flashing, the water level is high or the dam located up river is being released.
- Learn about the outgoing tides (rip tides) and dangerous sea life in the local area before entering the water.
- Stop all outside recreation activities ASAP when lightning or thunder is present.
- Know how to call for help wherever you are. Use "ta su ke te" (HELP!) for emergencies.
- Have some Japanese money with you when you are leaving station.

MORE INFORMATION ON OUTDOOR RECREATION SAFETY TO FOLLOW NEXT WEEK.

Proper hygiene makes smiles light up rooms

LANCE CPL. J. GAGE KARWICK  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

There are a few common mistakes people may make when caring for their teeth, said Seaman Apprentice Cody M. Frink, Robert M. Casey Medical and Dental Clinic dental technician. Not flossing, brushing too hard, not brushing long enough and various other mistakes can cause tooth pain, cavities and even tooth loss, Frink added.

"Flossing is really important," said Frink. "It helps fight Gingivitis and gum disease. When Gingivitis starts to get into the more advanced stages, your gums start to recede. You start getting tooth loss and your gums will bleed when you brush them."

Choosing a toothbrush is a large part in dental hygiene, said Frink.

"A lot of people use a hard-bristle toothbrush and when they brush they get toothbrush abrasions," said Frink. "Enamel is strong, but you can still wear it away. People who brush really hard begin to wear it away and it gets to a point where you can see it and it is very painful and makes your teeth extremely sensitive. To prevent that, use a soft-

bristle toothbrush and grip the brush lightly to reduce force."

Also, many station residents may not know the dental office offers free whitening treatment to all active-duty servicemembers and their dependents.

"If you want your teeth whitened, you are better off coming into dental, rather than using whitening strips and other means which could possibly damage your teeth, and getting impressions made for bleaching trays," said Frink. "It's completely free whether you're active duty or a dependent. But, we go through the cleaning solution pretty fast. So, unfortunately, sometimes we have to turn people away. It takes about two weeks to get the impressions made, then come back in to pick them up and we will give you two tubes of a bleach-variant solution to use for two weeks, then off for a week, then a follow up at dental."

Going in to dental when in pain or for a routine checkup is available for all station residents in order to maintain proper dental hygiene. Proper dental hygiene is something which not only positively or adversely affects servicemembers day to day, but can make a difference in an overall healthy body and life.



LANCE CPL. J. GAGE KARWICK

Seaman Apprentice Cody M. Frink, a Robert M. Casey Medical and Dental Clinic dental technician, works on a Marine's teeth during a dental checkup inside the Branch Health Clinic here July 18, 2012. "Flossing is really important," said Frink. "It helps fight Gingivitis and gum disease. When Gingivitis starts to get into the more advanced stages, your gums start to recede. You start getting tooth loss and your gums will bleed when you brush them."



LANCE CPL. J. GAGE KARWICK

Seaman Apprentice Cody M. Frink, a Robert M. Casey Medical and Dental Clinic dental technician, works on a Marine's teeth during a dental checkup inside the Branch Health Clinic here July 18, 2012. When it comes to dental hygiene, there are a few mistakes people may make when caring for their teeth such as not flossing, brushing too hard, not brushing long enough. Yearly dental checkups and proper dental care can also help to prevent the spread of such gum diseases as Gingivitis and Periodontitis. Daily tooth brushing, flossing and gargling with mouthwash are the strongest tools in proper dental hygiene and combating gum disease.

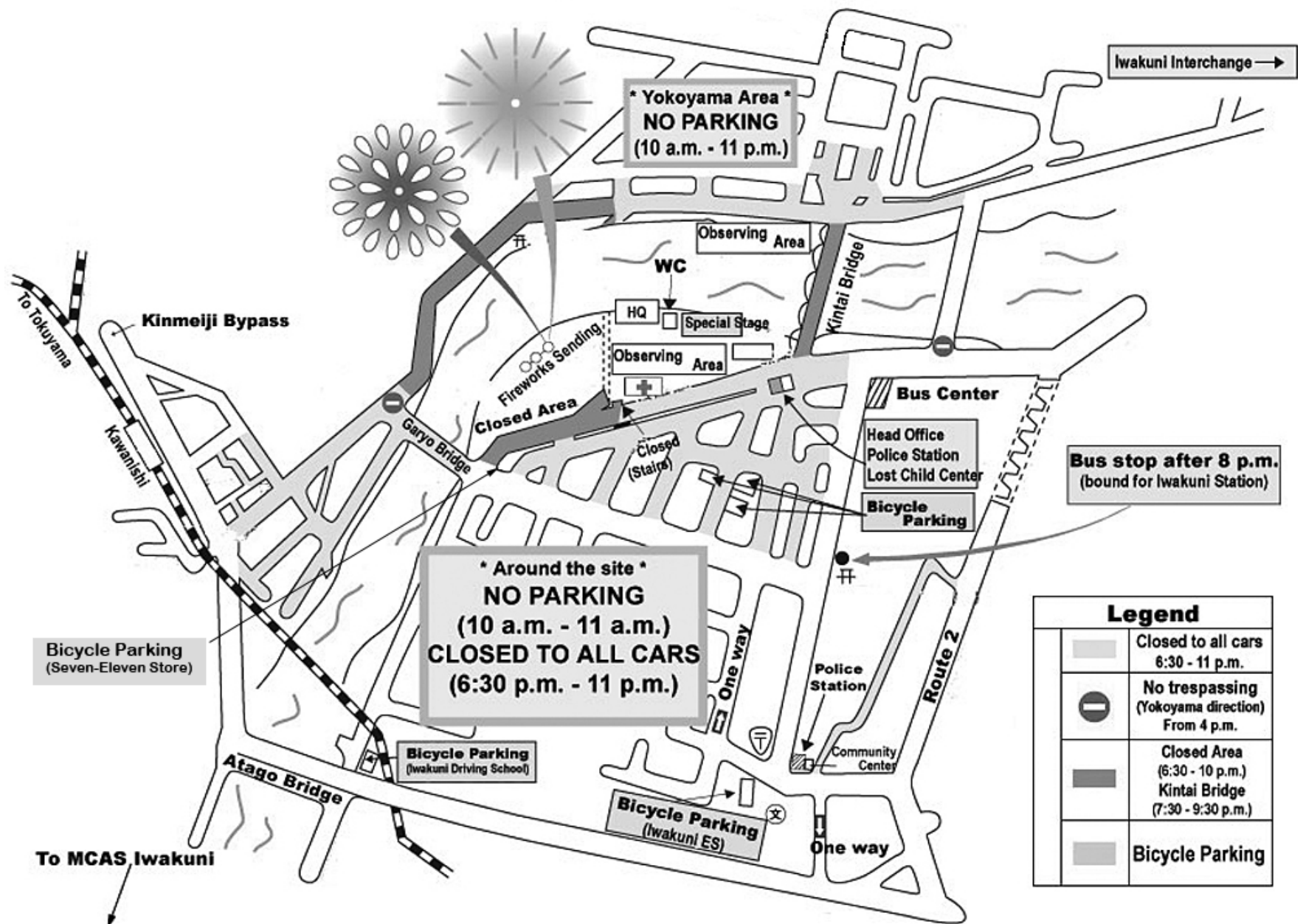


LANCE CPL. J. GAGE KARWICK

Seaman Apprentice Cody M. Frink, a Robert M. Casey Medical and Dental Clinic dental technician, works on a Marine's teeth during a dental checkup inside the Branch Health Clinic here July 18, 2012. Mistakes such as not flossing, brushing too hard, not brushing long enough and various other tendencies could cause one to experience pain, cavities and even tooth loss.



# 45th Nishikigawa Water Festival



Event opens at 9 a.m. Fireworks begin at 8 p.m.  
Traffic restrictions are in effect Saturday near the Kintai area to make way for the 45th Nishikigawa Water Festival.

There will be no parking near the firework launching area from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m., and the area is closed to all traffic from 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Designated bicycle parking spaces are available at Iwakuni Driving School (English sign at entrance), Iwakuni Elementary School, three locations at Iwakuni 1-Chome and the Seven-Eleven Kintai-kyo shop.

No swimming or rafting is allowed at designated areas.

## The traffic restriction map

Shuttle buses are available between JR Iwakuni Station and the Kintai Bridge (approximately 20 minutes), and from Marifu Elementary School to the bridge (approximately 15 minutes).

Parking space is available at Marifu Elementary School.

## Bus schedule

### ■ Outbound to Kintai Bridge

JR Iwakuni Station (bus stop No. 2), first departure 5 p.m.

Marifu Elementary School, first departure 4:30 p.m.

### ■ Inbound to JR Iwakuni Station (via Marifu Elementary School)

Kintai Bridge, last departure 10 p.m.

Fare (one-way):

■ JR Iwakuni Station – Kintai Bridge 240 yen for adult, 120 yen for elementary school students or younger

■ Marifu Elementary School – Kintai Bridge 210 yen for adult, 110 yen for elementary school students or younger

**\*\* Shuttle buses will depart once full. Times may fluctuate due to gridlock and unforeseen events.**

**\*\*In the event that there is bad weather the festival will be postponed until August 25.**