

# THE IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 32 Vol. 5 | Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan

## Red Devils return to Iwakuni



CPL. VANESSA JIMENEZ

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE BASE TINDAL, Australia — Marines with Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 232 prepare to refuel from a KC130J tanker here Aug. 15 during one of the last flight operations as part of Pitch Black 2012. PB12 is a biennial multinational exercise hosted by the Royal Australian Air Force designed to facilitate large force training and coalition interoperability out of RAAF Base Darwin. VMFA-232 will return to Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, to conduct turnover before returning to MCAS Miramar, Calif.

## Dental Corps celebrates 100th birthday

LANCE CPL. NICHOLAS RHOADES  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The U.S. Naval Dental Corps put on a giant smile to celebrate its 100th birthday Aug. 22, 2012, around the world.

The Dental Corps exists everywhere simply because everyone has teeth, said Cmdr. Jose A. Suris, Robert M. Casey Medical and Dental Clinic exodontist. "The Dental Corps ensures our warfighters are ready to fight. We exist to make sure the warfighter has healthy oral conditions to be able to fight. And, our mission is to do that, no matter where we need it, whether that's here in Iwakuni or the deserts of Afghanistan."

The Dental Corps is one of the first military dentistry organizations to exercise the use of deployable mobile treatment units, which has become common practice today. It was also the first to focus on the prevention of diseases and discomfort to its patients.

"Back when the Dental Corps was just starting, I don't think they had the emphasis on prevention that we have now," said Suris. "I think the emphasis was more on intervention, whereas now, we place so much energy into preventing disease or intercepting problems before they become serious."

Preventing disease is the first step BHC takes in order to maintain good oral hygiene. Maintaining good oral hygiene to prevent disease among all patients is important to Dental Corps members.

"Our main priority is to ensure the dental readiness of our active duty patients and to serve dependents alongside of retired personnel," said Navy Lt. Mathew R. Burdick, BHC general dentist.

President William Howard Taft signed an act on Aug. 22, 1912, establishing the Naval Dental Corps. It evolved into the Naval Postgraduate Dental School and is considered one of the most prestigious dental schools in the world with some of the most important patients, according to Suris.

"I think you could ask anyone who has experienced dental pain how important it is," said Burdick. "The pain can be very debilitating and under severe dental pain, many people will

SEE DENTAL ON PAGE 3

## Saluting today: 'Present, whatever' CFC, helping servicemembers since 1961

LANCE CPL. NICHOLAS RHOADES  
EDITORIAL

Every Marine, whether he or she went to Marine Corps Recruiting Depot San Diego or Parris Island, or Officer Candidates School, is taught the proper way to salute.

But by looking around you can always watch enlisted and officers alike create their own ways of saluting, whether faster, 'cooler' looking, or just more comfortable. When and how did

so many Marines forget how to give a proper salute?

The salute has evolved primarily into one of three very different movements.

The "Around-the-World": common among motivated Marines because of their desire to constantly look their best and keep all movements sharp and yet stay as fluid as possible.

The "Around-the-World" is made up of a series of movements

SEE SALUTE ON PAGE 3

CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.  
IWAKUNI APPROACH  
STAFF

Marines pride themselves on being a family, each and every one looking out for one another on the battlefield. This mindset not only extends to military campaigns, but to other areas as well. The Combined Federal Campaign allows Marines to give back to various charities and their fellow brothers and sisters-in-arms


through charitable donations.

U.S. President John F. Kennedy established the CFC in 1961 as a way for federal employees to facilitate contributions for charitable groups in the workplace. The CFC is the only one of its kind authorized to do so. Many of these contributions can aid servicemembers in the Pacific.

"It's basically a way for servicemembers to donate

SEE CAMPAIGN ON PAGE 3





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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.*

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# CHAPLAIN’S CORNER

## 'Go for the gold' 2

Lt. Fulgencio L. Legaspi  
H&HS STATION CHAPLAIN

The Olympic cauldron is extinguished and the Olympic flag has passed from London to Rio de Janeiro. The quest for the gold was over in London Games 2012 but still continues in Rio de Janeiro 2016.

The quest for the gold medal in sports will go on as long as there is a world-class Olympiad.

There are young, promising and rising Olympians like the swimmer Missy Franklin and gymnast Gabby Douglas, who have proven their worth earning and searching for the gold.

Looking at it, some have earned the gold and then stopped. It is because maybe they are already satisfied with what they achieved

or their strength and talents cannot compete with the new generation of athletes.

Others have earned the gold and look for more, while others started their quest for the gold.

The quest for the gold is difficult. You have to start early and train hard to have the good chance of finishing strong.

Hard work, commitment and dedication combined will earn you the gold.

In the spiritual sense as I have mentioned in my previous article, “our spiritual gold count will continue if we follow God’s will in every moment of our lives.”

We need hard work, commitment and dedication as religious individuals.

There is no stopping to follow God’s will. No retirement when it comes to striving for holiness of

life. The quest and the desire to earn for the gold are there as long as we live.

Thoughts that are pure, nice words and good deeds are great opportunities to earn gold in our daily lives.

For the athletes of the 2012 London Olympic Games and the past games, the results are written in the record books. Whenever we do something pleasing in the eyes of God, our acts are recorded in the book of life in heaven. Even a small act of kindness, God is delighted with.

On the part of the Brazilian International Olympic Committee, preparations are being made. Just as the Brazilian athletes are preparing for this meaningful event, we for one thing prepare for a meaningful event to face God in his judgment seat surely.

Do we have a lot of shining “gold medals” hanging on our neck in His medal podium?

## SUMMER SAFETY:

### Home Safety Continued

#### DIY Safety

Pay attention to what you are doing. Work deliberately and thoughtfully, always considering the possible reaction to your action!

#### Ladders

■ The distance from the base of the wall to the base of the ladder should be 1/4 the height of the ladder. Most ladders have a graphic on the side to help you determine if the ladder is set at the proper angle.

■ Make sure the ladder's footpads are secure on the ground.

■ Test the ladder to be sure it will not shift. If necessary, tie it off to keep it in place.

■ Keep all ladders, especially metal ladders, away from electrical lines and pay attention to overhead lines when moving an extended ladder into position.

■ Never attempt to stretch while on a ladder. If you can't reach, move the ladder.

■ Only use ladders in good condition.

#### Hand and Power Tools

■ Always wear safety glasses when using power tools. Wear safety glasses when using a hammer or drill.

■ Always follow the manufacturer's recommendations for using their tools and materials.

■ Dull tools are unsafe and can harm the work. Maintain your tools. Always work with sharp cutting blades.

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**SALUTE** FROM PAGE 1

which take up a lengthy salute. First, the person will raise his right arm toward the sky, palm up while keeping his left arm attached securely to his hip. Then he will stop and lock his shoulder in place while beginning to bend the elbow, creating the sweeping movement required for a complete "Around the World." The subject will end the salute when the fingers accurately touch the tip of hiscover, sometimes accompanied by a slight, robotic-like wobble. Also, it is usually preceded by a very formal greeting of the day and possible conversation seemingly forced upon younger Marines.

The “Around-the-World” is wrong, it takes an excessive amount of time, and while showing much respect, it is not in accordance with Marine Corps order and should not be thought of as ‘motivating’ or correct.

Warning: This salute may cause possible finger or arm injury due to hyper-extension of arm and possible surrounding objects to the right or overhead.

The “Fly Swatter”: commonly done by Marines in too much of a hurry. The “Fly Swatter” consists of lowering one’s head and saluting the other person’s feet as quickly as possible. It doesn’t matter where the cover is touched or if it is touched at all, as long as it gives the fast movement to and from the cover.

The “Fly Swatter” is wrong, its speed and effortlessness lookdisrespectful, and it is usually presented with the face downward. It is usually combined with a short phrase able to be used throughout the day such as “How-you-join?” or a short and simple “Rahh.”

It is also closely related to the “Head bang” or “Ear Touch.”

The “Eye Patch”: The “Eye Patch” is much rarer, but is one of the worst saluting techniques possible. It involves a completely proper salute but at the last second the subject will tilt his hand inside to show the palm of his hand to his right eye. The “Eye Patch” is polar opposite to the “High Five,” which simply has exaggerated wrist flair and

presents the other person with a suggested high five.

The “Eye Patch” is the worst of all salutes. It looks nasty and seems weird to anyone receiving the salute.

Warning: While performing a “High Five” salute, one may be careful that if a rank is not noticed then a possible mistaken identity may occur and a literal high five may be possible.

Proper: According to MCO P5060.20 paragraph 2104, the proper execution of the hand salute is performed as follows: “The right hand is raised smartly until the tip of the forefinger touches the lower part of the headdress or forehead above and slightly to the right of the right eye, thumb and fingers extended and joined, palm to the left, upper arm horizontal, forearm inclined at 45 degrees, hand and wrist straight; at the same time, turn head toward the person saluted. To complete the salute, drop the arm to its normal position by the side in one motion, at the same time turning the head and eyes to the front.”



SGT. CHARLES MCKELVEY  
A Marine demonstrates an improper saluting technique outside Building One here Aug. 29, 2012.

**DENTAL** FROM PAGE 1

call out of work and just stay in bed unable to do anything until

they can get the proper help. Our job is to look for the signs of some of the causes of pain and prevent them from happening, especially if someone was deployed and out

on a mission.”

The Dental Corps has been thriving and diligently working for more than one hundred years and plans to continue pushing

onward and upward to newer and more innovative technology, allowing for some of the best and most efficient oral health care.



SGT. CHARLES MCKELVEY  
The campaign occurs once a year from Sept. 1 - Dec. 15, allowing federal employees an opportunity to contribute to approximately 2,500 different non-profit charities across the globe, such as the American Red Cross and the United Services Organization Inc.

**CAMPAIGN** FROM PAGE 1

contributions to different organizations that help out servicemembers in this area overseas,” said Staff Sgt. Jose Santiago, station CFC community area project officer.

The campaign occurs once a year from Sept. 1 - Dec. 15, allowing federal employees an opportunity to contribute to approximately 2,500 different non-profit charities across the globe, such as the American Red Cross and the United Services Organization Inc.

The funds donated by servicemembers are readily

available at the start of January the following year. Donated funds in this area return to local charities.

“If you’re donating to the Red Cross, it will help this area,” said Santiago.

The ability to donate is often quick and easy for those who wish to do so.

“The way you donate is either via a hard check, cash or allotments,” said Santiago. “One thing people don’t know is if you start an allotment it won’t start until January.”

The campaign has successfully collected more than \$18 billion for charity since its inception.

In 2011, the campaign alone received more than \$14.2 million in pledges from more than 80,000 contributors.

The opportunity for servicemembers to continue this proud legacy of giving back to their community is slated to be visible within the next month.

An official kickoff to start the CFC donating season is slated in September. If those interested are not able to attend, there are other options available.

“We do have department (representatives) for all four (Headquarters & Headquarters Squadron) departments, to include the clinic and dental as

well,” said Santiago.

Santiago said there are representatives for Matthew C. Perry High School, the Station Commissary, the Marine Corps Exchange and Marine Corps Community Services.

Eventually, all the reps are slated to perform their own presentations to allow for 100 percent dissemination among the departments.

Servicemembers helping servicemembers has always been a part of the military way of life. The CFC continues to aid that way of life by providing a single, simple and encompassing method of showing their hearts.





LANCE CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER

Hazardous material training course participants discover a chemical inside a drum used during practical application at the Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting firehouse here Aug. 23, 2012. "I hope after this training, these Marines can identify what chemicals they don't know, as well as what they know and understand hazards of these dangerous chemicals and be able to deal with them in a manner that would provide safety to both the public health as well as their own team," said Steven Wood, HazTrain business development director.

# Marines train for hazardous situations

LANCE CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Station Marines participated in hazardous-waste practical application training as part of a week-long hazardous material course at the Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting firehouse here Aug. 23, 2012.

"This training is to teach Marines how to identify and address hazardous materials incidents, which might occur here on the base," said Steven Wood, HazTrain business development director. "They have the protective equipment, etcetera, and their job in both scenarios is to go out and figure out what the chemicals are, what the problems are and then solve and mitigate it."

The initial training course lasts four days and covers a plethora of topics, while those who have already taken the training are only

required to take a day-long refresher course.

"They go through quite a bit of chemistry, quite a bit of toxicology, learning about what these chemicals can do to a person," said Wood. "They learn how to use respirators, how to use the specialized suits. They learn how to use different pieces of equipment and how to wear different kinds of suits for different incidents. They learn techniques on how to do spill control and then they learn (decontamination) techniques, which are what they are training on today."

The practical-application scenarios presented to class participants consisted of locating drums of spilled chemicals and using their training to neutralize any hazards or threats.

"I hope after this training, these Marines can identify what chemicals they don't know, as well as what they know and understand

hazards of these dangerous chemicals and be able to deal with them in a manner that would provide safety to both the public health as well as their own team," said Wood.

Station environmental brings those qualified to conduct the hazardous training aboard station annually.

"Basically, we went out to the units and notified them on to [sic] what we were doing and what the intent was," said Charles R. Hill, station environmental protection specialist. "We put this out primarily for 8056 (hazardous material) Marines to get this training, since it is part of what they do. After those slots we're filled, we told the units, 'Alright, if you have anyone else interested, send them over.' When you have Marines working with hazardous materials and may be involved in some sort of spill, those are the Marines recommended to come out here and complete this training."



LANCE CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER

Hazardous material training course participants learn how to conduct a decontamination procedure during hazardous material training, which took place inside the Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting firehouse here Aug. 23, 2012. A hazardous material training company brings this type of training aboard the station annually.



LANCE CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER

Hazardous material training course participants prepare for practical application training, which took place at the Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting firehouse here Aug. 23, 2012. The practical application scenarios presented to class participants consisted of locating drums of spilled chemicals and using their training to neutralize any hazards or threats.



LANCE CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER

An English seminar Japanese student throws a volleyball to Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni volunteers in the WaterWorks Pool here Aug. 24, 2012. Some students in the seminar were from surrounding Iwakuni and Hiroshima areas, but because of last year's earthquake and subsequent tsunami around northern Japan, children from Ishinomaki, Japan, were given the opportunity to join this trip.

## Station welcomes Japanese English seminar students

LANCE CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER  
IWAKUNI APPROACH  
STAFF

Station volunteers and Boy Scouts of America Troop 77 welcomed Ishinomaki-Iwakuni English Seminar students at the WaterWorks Pool here Aug. 19, 2012, for an afternoon of food and fun.

Troop 77 sponsored the event for the Japanese visitors with the help of Jesus Dominguez, station volunteer.

"This was all made possible through Dominguez. He always does volunteer service with all the orphanages and he became a volunteer for the Boy Scouts as well," said Andrew J. McDermott, Troop 77 Scoutmaster. "When this opportunity came about, he asked me if the Boy Scouts would want to sponsor the event, and I said 'absolutely.' This is a great opportunity for the Scouts to get familiarized with Japanese culture.. This gives them an understanding of how people live in other areas of the world, seeing how their customs and courtesies are."

Some students in the seminar are from surrounding Iwakuni and Hiroshima areas, but because of last year's earthquake and subsequent tsunami around northern Japan, children from Ishinomaki, Japan, were given the opportunity to join this trip.

"This is my very first time in the program. They actually invited me to be the English teacher for the entire program," said Andre L. Boyer, University of Phoenix

full time faculty and English Seminar English teacher.

"Thus far, I'm having a really good time with the kids as they learn English."

The first half of the children's visit was spent during a lunch with volunteers, talking and laughing while making new friends. Students and station residents then spent the next few hours swimming and playing water volleyball in the pool.

"One of the difficulties the Japanese have with learning English is that there aren't many opportunities to use the language," said Boyer. "Anytime they get the opportunity to be near Americans, which being on base is the closest they can get, it can really help them get over the fear of speaking English to other people. It also helps them bridge the gap in their mind of what America might be like. Giving these children access to the base is a really good way to help them improve with using the language."

The students took a group photo before they left and some exchanged contact information in order to keep in touch.

"Bringing students on to the base and giving them that American cultural experience inside of Japan, it will really, really help them, and it also strengthens the bond of the community relationship between Japan and America as well," said Boyer. "I'm very glad the Iwakuni air station was able to offer the program, have them come today and have a tour later on this week."



LANCE CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER

English seminar Japanese students play in the WaterWorks Pool here Aug. 24, 2012. The students came aboard station for an afternoon of food and fun with station volunteers.



A Marine Corps Community Services worker grills burgers during the Summer Music Festival at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, August 25, 2012. The music festival, put on by Marine Corps Community Services, gave Marine families and base employees a chance to relax and enjoy free time away from work.



LANCE CPL. TODD F. MICHALEK

Justin Adams goes down an inflatable slide during the Summer Music Festival at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, August 25, 2012. The music festival, put on by Marine Corps Community Services, gave Marine families and base employees a chance to relax and enjoy free time away from work.



LANCE CPL. TODD F. MICHALEK



LANCE CPL. TODD F. MICHALEK

Jeffrey Williams, left, and Jimmy Stare, perform with their band, Demo Nande, at the Summer Music Festival at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, August 25, 2012. The music festival, put on by Marine Corps Community Services, gave Marine families and base employees a chance to relax and enjoy free time away from work.

# 2012 SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL BUILDS COMMUNITY ON FOUNDATION OF ROCK N' ROLL



LANCE CPL. TODD F. MICHALEK

Spectators watch fireworks during the Summer Music Festival at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, August 25, 2012. The music festival, put on by Marine Corps Community Services, gave Marine families and base employees a chance to relax and enjoy free time away from work.

CPL. CHARLIE CLARK  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Approximately 800 station servicemembers, residents and local community members attended the 2012 Summer Music Festival at Penny Lake field here Aug. 25, 2012. Four bands played, and the event featured demonstrations from a Zumba dance instructor, station children's ballet and martial arts classes. Concessions, bounce houses and slides gave station residents smiles throughout the evening. This year's music festival differed from

last year since the festival was open only to station servicemembers, residents, workers and their families. "What we did this year was instead of having a big crowd, we made it more of a small town community-type event," said Kenneth J. Snook, Marine Corps Community Services 2012 Summer Music Festival event organizer. "Penny Lake field has been a great place for the families to bring their blankets, pillows and food and be able to sit and relax away from the speakers." The crowd stayed under the big tops, set up by the Marine Corps Community Service organizers during the afternoon, until the sun set beyond the Monzen River. "This is a great opportunity to meet your community, hangout with friends, support the bands and listen to some great music," said Snook. The music varied from American Blues to Japanese Rock N' Roll, with variations played as well. "I like every type of music," said Phillip M. Brosseau, 2012 Summer Music Festival participant. "Hearing some Japanese style music was really cool. It was an interesting twist to hear blues music and Japanese lyrics." Some bands were new to the festival,

but some musicians who played were veterans of the Iwakuni crowds. "This is my third or fourth time playing here," said David R. Ralstom, Dave Ralstom Band lead guitarist and singer. "It's a gorgeous landscape and (there are) great people up in Iwakuni. Our band is made up of Japanese and Americans so a festival like this was really perfect for us, and the crowd was great." Guests who stayed to the end were treated with a special show. A dazzling fireworks display lit up the sky to put a colorful ending to a community-building, music-filled day.



LANCE CPL. TODD F. MICHALEK

Jimmy Stare performs with his band, Demo Nande, at the Summer Music Festival here, August 25, 2012. The music festival, put on by Marine Corps Community Services, gave Marine families and base employees a chance to relax and enjoy free time away from work. Four bands played, and the event featured demonstrations from a Zumba dance instructor, station children's ballet and martial arts classes.



CPL. CHARLIE CLARK

A vendor hands a stick of cotton candy to Alani M. Rodriguez during the Summer Music Festival at Penny Lake field here Aug. 25, 2012. Approximately 800 station servicemembers, residents and local community members attended the festival.



LANCE CPL. TODD F. CLARK

Xavier Snell gets his face painted during the Summer Music Festival at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, August 25, 2012. The music festival, put on by Marine Corps Community Services, gave Marine families and base employees a chance to relax and enjoy free time away from work.



# CORPS NEWS

## HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE

### In Afghanistan, 'big brother' is watching

STAFF SGT. BRIAN BUCKWALTER  
REGIMENTAL COMBAT  
TEAM 6

**PATROL BASE SHIR GHAZAY, Afghanistan** — One of a Marine's best friends in a battle is 67-tons of steel, armor and fire power.

In Helmand province, Afghanistan, Marines with Bravo Company, 2nd Tank Battalion, Regimental Combat Team 6, are using the M1A1 Abrams tank to help make the battlefield safer for infantry Marines fighting the enemy.

Lance Cpl. Kevin Quigley, tank crewman, Bravo Co., compared the firepower of one tank to an entire infantry platoon. In addition to its main 120 mm main gun, an Abrams tank has a .50-caliber machine gun and two M240 machine guns mounted.

"There's nothing else like an M1A1 on the battlefield," Quigley, from Emerson, said. "It's a little bit of an ego boost" being a tanker and knowing what the M1A1 brings to the fight.

Capt. Mike Donlin, the company's forward air controller, said all of Bravo Co.'s Marines feel the same way. They are excited to be deployed and "want to see the

infantry ecstatic that 'big brother' is there for them," he said.

Col. John Shafer, commanding officer, Regimental Combat Team 6, recently spoke with Bravo Co.'s tankers. He said they arrived in country at a pivotal and transitional time in the fight, as Marines allow Afghan forces to take the lead in security operations. While Afghans will focus on maintaining security in safer areas, Marines will operate in less secure areas of Helmand province, places that have had little to no coalition presence.

"You are going to stay busy," Shafer told the Marines.

Captain Matt Dowden, commanding officer, Bravo Co., said busy is how his "tougher than nails" Marines want to be. He said prior to deployment his company wasn't sure if tanks were going to be needed in Afghanistan any longer. But when they found out they'd be deploying, his Marines completed more than seven months of pre-deployment preparations in only four months.

"They almost enjoy breaking their backs to get the job done," and they're happy to be in Afghanistan doing what they trained to do, Dowden said.

"They refuse to fail," Donlin

added.

Fourteen tanks make up Bravo Co. It's a tight fit, but a four-Marine crew operates each tank.

"I don't think it would be a good place for someone who is claustrophobic," said Lance Cpl. Joshua Felder, a tank crewman.

In southern Afghanistan, the terrain Bravo Co. operates in varies from fine-powered sand commonly referred to as "moon dust" by the Marines, to coarse and rocky. Water irrigation channels, known as wadis, are scattered throughout the landscape and pose a hazard to the tanks.

"Being over here is like being on a different planet," Quigley said. The terrain they've experienced so far in Afghanistan is nothing like where they trained he added.

Even with the ever-changing landscape, "the ride is really smooth, surprisingly," said Felder.

The ride has to be smooth. Tanks are designed so that Marines can aim in and fire on a target even on the move.

It's a loud ride too. Felder said the 1,500 horsepower turbine engine isn't the noisy part, the tracks are. Responsibility for keeping the tanks running falls on the mechanics, and it's no easy

task.

Lance Cpl. Lucas Walsh, a Bravo Co. tank mechanic, said the routine maintenance on a tank that runs for two hours "could be an all day ordeal."

With a machine as heavy as a tank crossing rough terrain upwards of 40 mph, bolts and hoses can get jostled lose. Beneath its armored exoskeleton, a tank is a web of wires, hydraulic lines and gear works.

"Finding a leak is like finding a needle in a haystack," Walsh from Canton, Mich., said.

On missions, mechanics are never far from the tanks their assigned to. They either drive M-88A2 "Hercules" recovery vehicles, tow trucks for tanks, or 7-ton trucks that carry tools and spare parts.

Both the mechanics and the operators don't mind the long hours, or the cramped environment they often find themselves working in. They all say they want to make sure that the infantry Marines in a fight know that tanks have their back.

"It's easier to replace parts than Marines," Felder said.



STAFF SGT. BRIAN BUCKWALTER

**PATROL BASE SHIR GHAZAY, Afghanistan** — Corporal Kevin Quigley, tank crewman, Bravo Company, 2nd Tank Battalion, Regimental Combat Team 6, stands on top of an M1A1 Abrams tank, July 17, 2012. Quigley, from Emerson, N.J., said There's nothing else like an M1A1 on the battlefield, referring to a tank's firepower and maneuverability over rough terrain. Quigley, and other Bravo Co. tankers said they are excited to be in Afghanistan, providing infantry Marines with support when they need it.

# COMMUNITY BRIEFS | CLASSIFIEDS

## Briefs

Chaplain's office at 253-3371.

### MCX News

Effective Sept. 1, 2012, credit options at all Marine Corps Exchange facilities are limited to the Military Star and all major credit cards; layaway is no longer available. While existing layaway agreements will be honored, all MCX facilities will discontinue layaway programs to comply with Department of Defense instructions 1330.09 and 1015.15.

### 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.

### VRAP

The Veterans Retraining Assistance Program provides eligible veterans, those 35 to 60 years old, with education benefits for up to 12 months of training. For more information, visit [www.benefits.va.gov/VOW](http://www.benefits.va.gov/VOW) or call 888-442-4551.

### Women's Leadership Symposium

Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron is looking for a few noncommissioned officer volunteers for the Women's Leadership Symposium Sept. 6th. Six E-4 to E-5 Marines and sailors are needed to sit on the panel and share their experiences with junior Marines and sailors. To volunteer, send your name, rank and shop name to Staff Sgt. Jason Nickell by Aug. 30.

### Mothers of Preschoolers

MOPS is an encouraging group for pregnant mothers and moms of children ages six and younger.

Now holding summer playdates, visit [www.facebook.com/iwakunimops](http://www.facebook.com/iwakunimops) for times and locations, or email [iwakunimops@yahoo.com](mailto:iwakunimops@yahoo.com)

### PMO Lost and Found

Contact the Provost Marshal's Office Lost and Found if you have lost anything around the station. Examples include helmets, cameras, cell phones, etc. For more information, to report lost items or to claim lost items, call Lance Cpl. Christopher Korsikas at 253-4929 or 253-3306.

### Like To Draw?

The Iwakuni Approach is looking for artistic people with a sense of humor to submit cartoon drawings. If you are interested, bring your drawings by the Public Affairs Office, Building 1, Room 216. Public Affairs approves editorial content for cartoons published each week.

### Brief and Classified Submissions

To submit a community brief or classified advertisement, send an e-mail to [iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil](mailto:iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil). Include a contact name, 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. The deadline for submissions is 3 p.m. every Friday.

## KUNI TOONS: IRONMAN



SUBMITTED BY CPL. CHARLIE CLARK

## Sept. 11 Memorial Service

A Sept. 11th memorial service will be held in the station chapel Sept. 11, 2012. The service will be at 8:15 a.m. A freedom walk will not take place afterwards as it did last year. For more information, contact the station chapel at 253-3371.



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 command religious programs or chapel activity, call the Marine Memorial Chapel at 253-3371.

\* Information for upcoming Mass times is located in the community briefs section.

THE IWAKUNI APPROACH CULTURAL LESSONS

Kanji Adventures:  
Samisen

Something like a mandolin or banjo, the Samisen is thought to have originated in the Ryukyu Islands in 1562, but the style was gradually changed to suit Japanese mainlanders. Japanese samisen makers began to use cat skin instead of snake skin, like the Ryukyu makers did, since snakes are less plentiful on the main islands and snakeskin is less durable. Another noticeable difference is Ryukyu samisen normally have round bodies, but since mainland samisen players place the instrument on their knees to play it, the body is square. The samisen was played by the masses when they sang folk songs, narrated poems and chanted ballads. Instruments like the "koto," the flute and the "tsuzumi," a hand drum, were played by the upper class of society during the feudal days. The instrument became popular among geisha, who were regarded as the most enlightened among Japanese women during the feudal period. Later, the daughters of merchants began to learn the samisen, while those in high society took koto lessons. Samisen music is customarily played during Bunraku (puppet) and Kabuki plays. Long epics, ballad dramas and folk lore are traditionally told to the accompaniment of this instrument. Not all samisen are the same. The better, more expensive samisens are made from sandalwood, while ordinary samisen are made with quince wood. Both types of wood must be imported from India, Burma or Thailand. Silk thread is used for its strings though synthetic thread is sometimes used.



PHOTO BY CPL. CHARLIE CLARK

SAKURA THEATER

<b>Friday, August 24, 2012</b> 7 p.m. Total Recall (PG-13) 10 p.m. Ted (R)	<b>Monday, August 27, 2012</b> 7 p.m. Ted (R)
<b>Saturday, August 25, 2012</b> 4 p.m. Ice Age: Continental Drift (PG) 7 p.m. Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter (PG-13)	<b>Tuesday, August 28, 2012</b> Theatre closed
<b>Sunday, August 26, 2012</b> 4 p.m. Brave (PG) 7 p.m. The Campaign (R)	<b>Wednesday, August 29, 2012</b> Theatre closed
	<b>Thursday, August 30, 2012</b> 7 p.m. Total Recall (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.

Servicemembers show strength in Ironman competition

LANCE CPL. B. A. STEVENS  
IWAKUNI APPROACH  
STAFF

Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron hosted an Ironman competition here Aug. 24, 2012. The event consisted of a timed run through the obstacle course, a five-kilometer run in boots and utilities, a 500-meter swim and a sprint from the IronWorks Gym to the parade deck. Competition directors timed competitors in every event. The top Marines in the obstacle course

received deductions from their total competition time. “Most competitors fear the 500-meter swim,” said Gunnery Sgt. Scott Hayman, H&HS squadron gunnery sergeant. “As Marines, we tend to run a lot and none of the competitors had a problem with the obstacle course this morning.” Lance Cpl. Michael Yellig, H&HS air traffic controller, won the event, excelling at the swimming portion of the competition. “I have swum my whole life,” said Yellig. “Swimming was my sport in high school. When I

found out it was an event with swimming, I got excited about it. Most Marine Corps events don't have swimming involved. I knew coming into this, I wasn't the fastest runner and I didn't think I would have the best obstacle course time, but I knew I could make up time in the pool.” Other top competitors included second place finisher Lance Cpl. Mason McGerry, station administrative clerk, and third place finisher Sgt. Anthony Sidor, H&HS aviation operations specialist. The top three athletes received gold, silver and bronze

medals. The remaining 11 athletes received participation certificates. “The Ironman competitions will be semi-annual, with a team event the first half of the year and an individual event the second half of the year,” said Hayman. H&HS servicemembers interested in competing in the next competition should look in the monthly planner for January. This will be a team event, slated to focus more on combat-related physical fitness and team building than individual effort.



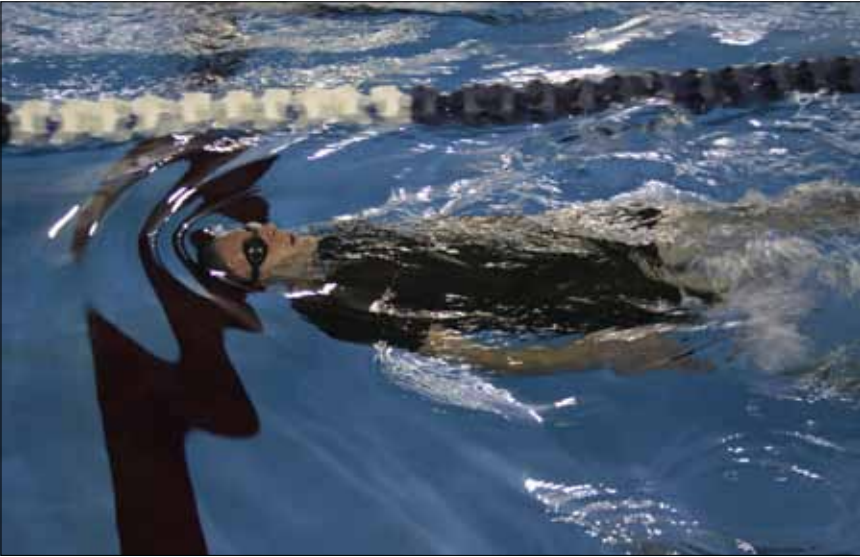
LANCE CPL. B. A. STEVENS

Lance Cpl. Dylan Hale, an Ironman Competition participant, hurdles a log during the Ironman competition here Aug. 24, 2012. Competition directors timed competitors in every event. The top Marines in the obstacle course received deductions from their total competition time.



LANCE CPL. B. A. STEVENS

Pfc. Sebastian Cronen, an Ironman competition participant, scurries down a log during the Ironman competition here Aug. 24, 2012. The competition consisted of a timed run through the obstacle course, a five-kilometer run in boots and utilities, a 500-meter swim and a sprint from The IronWorks Gym to the parade deck.



LANCE CPL. B. A. STEVENS

An Ironman competition participant backstrokes during the Ironman competition here Aug. 24, 2012. The top three athletes received gold, silver and bronze medals. The remaining 11 athletes received participation certificates.

SAFETY FROM PAGE 2

- Unplug power tools before loading them, changing blades or bits, or making adjustments.
- Never use any power tool in the rain.
- Never alter or remove the blade guard on a power saw.
- Always wear proper clothing and safety equipment on the work site.
- Keep children and pets away from the work area and power tools, as well as away from harmful materials, adhesives, and solvents.
- Keep a clean work site and don't let debris accumulate.

MORE INFORMATION ON HOME SAFETY TO FOLLOW NEXT WEEK.



# *The Iwakuni Time Machine*

In the Aug. 30, 1974, issue of the Torii Teller, Marines reported on the ribbon cutting of the new Air Station Correctional Facility, Iwakuni's Boy Scout Troop 77 completing a 50-mile hike and the process for servicemembers going through a Permanent Change of Station.



TUN TAVERN

## Tun Tavern To Be Rebuilt

The Marine Corps War Memorial Foundation has completed plans for the reconstruction of the birthplace of the Marine Corps, Tun Tavern.

The Foundation hopes construction will be completed by Nov. 10, 1975, 200 years after Capt. Samuel Nicholas, acting on the orders of the Continental Congress, came to Tun Tavern to begin the formation of the Continental Marines.

The building will "be historically true in every possible respect to the original" say Foundation officials. It is estimated the replica will cost

between \$350,000 and \$400,000, to be raised through private donations.

As part of the Independence National Historic Park area, the 30-by-60-foot building will be constructed on a 6600 square foot lot only a few blocks from the original site. The original site of the tavern lies in the planned roadbed of Interstate 95. The City of Philadelphia is leasing the land to the Foundation for 50 years at a dollar per year.

## Five Japanese Earn Safety Awards Here

Five Japanese civilian workers received safety awards here Aug. 20.

Receiving safe driving awards were Yutaka Kawai for 16 years of safe driving; Hatsumi Tsuyama and Makoto Fujii, each for eight years

## Eleven MGySgts. Selected Here

Eleven 1stMAW and Air Station Marines were selected for promotion to master gunnery sergeant.

MSgts. Richard A. Benavides, Martin Gold and Jean Pinguet were selected from the Air Station.

MSgts. Eugene B. Allen, James W. Starbuck and Charles N. Wise were selected from MWHS-1.

Those selected from MAG-12 were MSgts. Troy Greenwood, Donald I. Wentworth and Harvey M. Wiegert.

MSgt. Tilghman A. Miller, Jr. was selected from MAG-15 and MSgt. Donald R. Davidson was selected from MACG-18.

The selection board picked 103 for promotion to sergeant major and 176 for promotion to master gunnery sergeant.

