

# THE IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 4, Vol. 1

Friday, Feb. 1, 2008

Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan

## Personal data potentially compromised

Okinawa Consolidated  
Public Affairs Office

CAMP FOSTER, OKINAWA, Japan – Marine Corps Bases Japan officials are currently investigating the Jan. 11 theft of a laptop computer, which contained personally identifiable information for as many as 4,000 clients of Marine Corps Community Services' New Parent Support Program.

According to Marine Corps officials, the laptop may contain names, ranks, social security numbers, dates of birth, children's names and mailing

addresses of U.S. military service members, U.S. Government employees and status of forces agreement personnel on Okinawa and Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni. It does not include driver's license numbers or bank and credit card information.

"The Marine Corps takes very seriously its responsibility to safeguard the personal information of its service members, their families and government employees," said 1st Lt. Garron Garn, a Marine Corps

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## Injured Marine provides hope, inspiration



WASHINGTON – Sgt. Klay South, 31, was wounded November 2004 and spent a long recovery process to reconstruct his face and jaw after being shot in the face with an AK-47. Veterans of Valor visited Bethesda Naval Hospital and Walter Reed Army Medical Center January 17 to give backpacks and words of encouragement to wounded service members. "It's a wonderful feeling, you don't think about yourself. I'm doing this for the wounded that can't do it for themselves. You can't pay me money for this, it's the best job in the world," said Sgt. South. Photo by Staff Sgt. Leo A. Salinas/SEE HOPE ON PAGE 8

## Marine Corps directs resources to family readiness programs

Iwakuni Public Affairs Office

Headquarters Marine Corps personnel will be visiting the Marine Memorial Chapel here Feb. 7 at 6 p.m. to hold a town hall meeting regarding recent changes to the Marine Corps Family Team Building program.

The commandant of the Marine Corps has directed an unprecedented steady-state funding plus-up of \$30 million to modernize Marine Corps family readiness programs to meet current and future needs.

By listening to the concerns of Marines, their families and those who serve them through family readiness programs, the Marine Corps has identified deficiencies and is quickly applying enhancements to better serve the Marine Corps family.

For more information or to schedule free child care, call Iwakuni MCFTB at 253-3754.

## Marines, spouses asked to help evaluate MCCS Children, Youth, Teen program

Marine Corps  
Community Services  
PRESS RELEASE

HQMC (MR), QUANTICO, VA – Headquarters Marine Corps will conduct a brief online survey to help Marine Corps leadership better understand and assess Marine and family member perceptions of the Marine Corps Community Services Children, Youth and Teen program.

The online survey is open to Marines and spouses with children and will gather feedback on the effectiveness, quality and satisfaction with the Children, Youth and Teen program.

The survey will be accessible at [www.usmc-mccs.org/surveys](http://www.usmc-mccs.org/surveys)

from Feb. 1 - 24, 2008, and consists of multiple-choice questions, which take about 15 minutes to complete. Responses will be kept confidential, and all answers will be reported in the aggregate.

Beginning Feb. 1, e-mails containing the survey link will be distributed directly to approximately 8,000 active duty Marines with children, who have established e-mail accounts, requesting survey participation. Marine spouses and Marines with children who do not receive the electronic notification are also eligible to complete the survey and can do so by going directly to the survey Web site.

The survey is part of a larger

process to assess the Children, Youth and Teen program.

In May 2008, headquarters and installation program managers will take part in a rigorous process of documenting the current program and conducting benchmark analysis of other service programs and civilian support agencies with the goal of developing a plan for improving program effectiveness.

For more information about the survey contact the Iwakuni MCCS Children, Youth and Teen administrator Kim Abbott at 253-5584 or the survey project officer Nancie Sullivan at (703) 784-9517, Defense Switched Network (DSN) 278-9517, or e-mail [Nancie.Sullivan@usmc.mil](mailto:Nancie.Sullivan@usmc.mil).

## INSIDE IWAKUNI



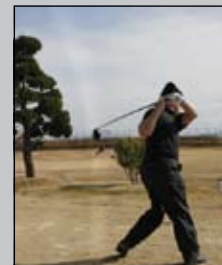
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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan.

All queries concerning news and editorial content should be directed to the Public Affairs Office, Building One, Room 216, MCAS Iwakuni, Japan. Call 253-5551.

*The Iwakuni Paper 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 can be edited for clarity and space. Letters can be dropped off at the Public Affairs Office or sent via e-mail to IWKN\_SMBI-wakuniPAO@nmci.usmc.mil.*

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# Commander's Corner

## Marine Corps directs unprecedented resources to family readiness programs



**Col. Michael A. O'Halloran**  
STATION COMMANDING OFFICER

If you haven't heard, there are big changes coming to Marine Corps Family Readiness programs. These changes stem from guidance the commandant of the Marine Corps issued when he directed that our family and single Marine programs transition to a "wartime foot-

ing." CMC realized that our traditional methods of taking care of families — with little funding and mostly through the hard work of volunteers — needed a significant boost given the demands of the Long War and the frequent deployments with short-turnarounds our Marines and families are experiencing.

We're going to get that boost. By listening to the concerns of Marines, their families, and those who serve them through family readiness programs, the Marine Corps has identified program deficiencies and is quickly applying enhancements to better serve the Marine Corps family.

These enhancements represent a significant shift in Marine Corps family readiness processes. Family readiness is not only the responsibility of Marine leaders, but also the responsibility of the individual Marine. The command is responsible for ensuring unit readiness and the individual Marine, fully supported by a Unit Family Readiness Command Team and refreshed installation support programs, will ensure per-

sonal and family readiness.

New programs and support will help Marines and their families through mission, career, and life events that impact the state of personal and family readiness (i.e., deployments, promotions, relocations, marriage, birth, death, etc.). Specific components of the new construct include increased program staffing, technology upgrades to provide state-of-the-art communication capabilities between commands and families, and expanding the reach of programs to support the extended family of a Marine. The goal is to take care of Marines who were sworn into, spouses who married into, and children who were born into the Marine Corps. If you're a Marine, we also want to include your parents in this outreach.

Want to hear more? I encourage all of you to attend a town hall meeting at the Marine Memorial Chapel on Feb. 7 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Representatives from Headquarters Marine Corps will be here to help roll out the program and answer your questions. Please join us.

## Nature resets minds, reminds of creator

**Lt. Cmdr. Allen Kuss**  
DEPUTY COMMAND CHAPLAIN

"When I see your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you set in place — What is man that you should be mindful of him or the son of man that you should care for him?" Psalms 8:4-5

While driving during a recent trip to Kyushu, the southernmost of the four main Japanese islands, I was

enthralled with the natural beauty of the mountains, valleys, rivers and vegetation. The diversity of the countryside made me ponder the vastness and complexity of creation. Many others have also spoken about the almost religious experience as they have had in nature and while skiing in the mountains in the local area. For others, a walk or run on the seawall provides a similar experience.

Nature has a way of resetting our minds and approach to life if we allow it to impact us. It has a way of quieting, rejuvenating and calming if we take the opportunity to get out of the vehicle, take off the headphones and pause. Even a few minutes sitting in a park, walking along a river or hiking a trail can clear up things complicated by the noise of our busy lives.

Nature can place us in our proper esteem. We are powerful but very small creatures whose influence and importance are usually exaggerated in our own minds. We can see ourselves more clearly when we take a break from the routine to consider ourselves in the wider context of our world and the cosmos.

Nature, because it is so vast and diverse, can remind us of the Creator. The Creator is in charge, is powerful and is forgiving. The Creator delights in creation and cares for each of us.

The only response I could muster to my pondering was in the words of the psalmist at the end of Psalm 8: "O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is your name over all the earth!"

### Iwakuni's own receives Bronze Star



**Capt. John H. Helm, Marine Aircraft Group 12 current operations officer, has his Bronze Star medal pinned on by MAG-12 Commanding Officer Navy Capt. David B. Emich on the Building One command suite balcony Friday. Helm was awarded for his actions from April 2006 to October 2007 while serving as advisor to the Director of Iraqi Armed Forces Recruiting, Joint Headquarters-Transition Team, Baghdad. Photo by Lance Cpl. Kyle T. Ramirez**

# Iwakuni Marines arrive in Korat

## U.S., Thai, Singapore forces combine for Exercise Cope Tiger 2008

Lance Cpl. Kyle T. Ramirez  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

KORAT ROYAL THAI AIR FORCE BASE, Thailand — U.S. Marine Corps and Air Force, Royal Thai Air Force, and Republic of Singapore Air Force aviation units kicked off Exercise Cope Tiger 2008 here Sunday.

Cope Tiger is an annual, multi-lateral field training exercise conducted near the city of Korat, which hosts nearly 700 U.S. service members.

Iwakuni-based personnel supporting Marine Aircraft Group 12 during the exercise include pilots and maintenance personnel from Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 212 and Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12. Also participating are Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 452 from Stewart Air National Guard Base, N.Y., and Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 234 from Fort Worth, Texas.

Capt. Anthony Tilelli, VMFA-212 F/A-18 pilot, said the exercise is a unique opportunity to increase interoperability between allies while honing skills



KORAT ROYAL THAI AIR FORCE BASE, Thailand — Two F/A-18 fighter jets belonging to Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 212 taxi off the runway here Jan. 27 after completing the first training day of Exercise Cope Tiger 2008. Exercise Cope Tiger is an annual, multi-lateral field training exercise conducted near the city of Korat. Photo by Lance Cpl. Kyle T. Ramirez

for air combat operations. During the first day of the exercise, pilots took to the sky rehearsing in-air maneuvers using allied jets as dummy enemies. “Red Air” and “Blue Air” training, as the pilots called it, simulates air combat in short intervals against would-be enemies, trading roles periodically once missions are completed. “The training not only gets us comfortable working with the Singaporean and Thai pilots, it also gets things heated up for the two weeks of flight we have ahead of us,” Tilelli said.

During their stay in Korat, participating service members have the chance to indulge in the local culture after working hours with the assistance of Single Marine Program trips. The opportunity is one Sgt. Doug Connelly, MALS-12 non-destructive inspection technician, says he looks forward to.

“If we become educated about the area and culture, not only are we more informed Marines, but we can most likely understand the locals better and work with them more efficiently,” Connelly said.

## CLC-36 gets new CO, bids farewell to Hairston

Lance Cpl. Kyle T. Ramirez  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Maj. James S. Whiteker took charge as Combat Logistics Company 36 commanding officer, relieving Lt. Col. Reginald L. Hairston during a change-

of-command ceremony at the CLC-36 warehouse here Jan. 23.

Marines, sailors, friends and family watched as the outbound Hairston passed the Dragons’ colors and addressed the company.

“One thing that I hope I have

accomplished is making sure everyone understood that we are a family,” Hairston said. “(Noncommissioned officers) have really stepped up to the plate in my time here and have shown their true worth. I wanted all of them to realize their importance, and leaving here I feel I accomplished that.”

Whiteker, who entered the Corps in January 1995, recently finished a tour of duty as Marine Corps Logistics Command material management officer, which included a six-month deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The New Mexico State University graduate plans to transition his Marines and sailors in the smoothest way possible, leading them through the year’s training exercises.

“Lt. Col. Hairston

really did a good job keeping up the readiness in these Marines,” Whiteker said. “Each one of them is motivated, ready and capable to work hard, and I’m definitely looking forward to working with them and learning from them throughout the year.”

Hairston served as the Dragons’ CO for three months and will assume the duty of 3rd Marine Logistics Group manpower officer-in-charge at Camp Kinser in Okinawa. Following the ceremony, he commented on the adeptness of the new commanding officer.

“The man is full of enthusiasm, and he loves Marines and sailors,” he said. “He’s going to be a fantastic leader for them because the Marines and sailors here are fantastic to lead. They do what Marines and sailors always do: rise high above challenges and expand in leadership capabilities.

“Maj. Whiteker really has a good team working for him now,” he added. “I can tell that as the new commanding officer, he is going to be great.”



Maj. James S. Whiteker, oncoming Combat Logistics Company 36 commanding officer, shakes hands with attendees during a change-of-command ceremony at the CLC-36 warehouse Jan. 23. Photo by Lance Cpl. Kyle T. Ramirez

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Bases Japan spokesman. “Our information systems are password protected and our users are educated on ways to protect personally identifiable information.”

Marine Corps Bases Japan and MCCS officials are working together with J&E Associates, a federal contractor for MCCS and owner of the computer, to

notify potentially affected personnel as soon as possible, Garn said. There is no evidence the information has been misused. Anyone concerned about their information being compromised should contact the New Parent Support Program at 645-0396.

Marine Corps officials encourage service members, their families and government employees who think their information has potentially been compro-

mised to visit [www.consumer.gov/idtheft](http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft) for protective actions against identity theft. Additionally, they may place a fraud alert on their credit files for up to 24 months by contacting one of the three national credit bureaus: Equifax at 800-766-0008, Transunion at 800-680-7289, or Experian at 888-397-3742. A fraud alert will generate a free credit report that should be reviewed for suspicious activity.

# ‘Cleared for takeoff’ ATC Marines help keep airfield running smoothly

Lance Cpl. Chris Dobbs  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

One of the most iconic images of many airfields is the facility’s air traffic control tower. Rising high into the sky, the structure dominates its surroundings.

The scene here in Iwakuni is no different. Within the air station control tower’s angled, tinted windows, ATC Marines work around the clock to ensure aircraft take off and land safely.

The Marines rely on good visibility and communication with pilots to keep the airfield running smoothly.

“The primary mission of a control tower is to make sure an airplane has a safe landing environment,” said Master Sgt. Michael Andersen, station air traffic control noncommissioned officer-in-charge.

To ensure the mission is accomplished, the four-man crews that operate the tower during airfield hours rely on radio communication with pilots and a radar system that aids them in visually locating aircraft. The air traffic controllers then apply flight traffic “rules” to various airfield and airspace scenarios.

Using their knowledge of the Federal Aviation’s Administration Order 7110.65 – also known as the “ATC bible” – and several other manuals, the Marines space, or separate, aircraft.

“We have to separate the planes on the runway and in the air and decide what order they should proceed,” Andersen said. “It’s like a big video game.”

In a joint-use airfield such as Iwakuni, which serves both Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force and U.S. military fixed and rotary-wing aircraft, separation can be complex, according to Andersen.

“We’re mixing every type of aircraft, which have different speeds and sizes on a single runway,” Andersen said. “We’ve got helicopters, US-1s (Japanese Maritimes Self Defense Force search and rescue planes) and jets all operating in an extremely confined space.”

The challenge of sorting aircraft is what makes the job so interesting, according to air traffic controller Cpl. Antonio Hassel.

“This job is exhilarating,” Hassel said. “It’s like a puzzle, and it’s your job to make everything fit together. You just have to learn as much as you can and know everything so your reactions become instinctive.”

Hassel described one situation where he applied the flight separation rules and hoped for the best.

“There were three helicopters and a jet with a general on board all trying to land at the same time,” Hassel said. “It was a really tight situation. I had to wave off the jet and send the helos in order.”

Though it can be difficult, the Marines get it right more often than not, according to



The air traffic control tower stands 84 feet. A new 200-foot tower is scheduled to be built across the flight line in the near future to accommodate increased air traffic as the result of the relocation of Carrier Air Wing 5 from Naval Air Facility Atsugi to MCAS Iwakuni. Photos by Lance Cpl. Chris Dobbs

station pilots.

“It’s tough ensuring an orderly flow with both helicopters and F-18s taking off from the same runway,” said Navy Lt. Philip Gift, Helicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron 14 MH-53E pilot. “The service here is excellent. They’re very friendly, and they keep a good flow going.”

The airfield handles 40-50,000 runway operations a year, and roughly

100-250 daily.

Most days are filled with “hours of boredom and moments of sheer terror,” according to Andersen.

“We don’t think about the ideal situation,” Andersen said. “The role of air traffic control is to constantly think worst-case scenario and create plans ahead of time to prevent that from happening. You kind of have to predict the future.”



From right) Air traffic controllers Staff Sgt. Waylon Eckert, Cpl. Esteban Ramirez and Staff Sgt. Jason Forgunson peer from the air traffic control tower here as they coordinate an aircraft landing Jan. 25.



Air traffic controller Cpl. Esteban Ramirez writes down flight progress information in the control tower her Jan. 25. Ramirez is part of a four-man ATC crew which helps ensure airfield operations run smoothly.

# IronWorks hosts Yoga Day USA

## Participants gain new perspective on centuries-old practice

Lance Cpl. Noah S. Leffler  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Sweat beads on red faces as civilians and service members bend, stretch and flex to the rhythmic beat of a tabla playing on the stereo. At the front of the room a toned instructor leads the class and calls the next position, encouraging students to test their mental and physical limits.

Some might not picture this scene when envisioning a yoga class, but as 43 participants recently learned, the centuries-old practice isn't just for hippies and contortionists.

IronWorks Gym hosted Yoga Day USA, a three-hour seminar teaching yoga's history, benefits and array of styles, in the dojo room Saturday morning.

According to IronWorks fitness coordinator Ingrid Williams, the purpose of the class was to break down common misconceptions about yoga and offer ways station residents can use the practice to better their overall well-being.

"The goal is to spread information to increase awareness," Williams said. "(Yoga) has a positive effect on so many different areas of one's life - from helping to increase blood flow to increasing strength or muscle tone; to help maintain, cure or prevent different ailments and diseases. ... It's mind, body and soul protection."

The day began with a presentation on the history of yoga, which in Sanskrit means "to join together." Students learned the seven common chakras - bodily centers of spiritual energy - as well as breathing and



Station residents take part in a series of yoga exercises during Yoga Day USA at the IronWorks Gym dojo Jan. 26. The three-hour seminar focused on the three types of yoga taught at IronWorks. Photos by Lance Cpl. Noah S. Leffler

chanting techniques.

"A lot of people don't understand the chanting or how to do the breaths with the movements," Williams said.

These elements are just as important as the actual physical positions, she added.

After the basic yoga familiarization it was time to break a sweat on the mats. For the next hour and a half, students got a taste of the three different yoga classes offered at the gym - power yoga: an intense, faster-paced yoga style; yoga flow: a slower-paced style focused on teaching proper poses; and yoga sport: a strength-focused style requiring students to hold the poses for a longer period of time.

First-time yoga student Lance Cpl. Aaron E. VanGundy said the class offered a variety of workouts he would recommend to other service members looking to spice up their normal fitness regimen.

"It was something different," VanGundy said. "Traditional PT

(physical training) doesn't hit those same spots. It was more about stability, which isn't something I typically hit all together (during) PT."

According to IronWorks yoga instructor Kelly S. Kellemen, seeing students such as VanGundy gain a new perspective on yoga is one reason she enjoys teaching her daily classes.

"The first misconception is that (yoga) is for women, that it's female-oriented," Kellemen said. "In all actuality, we're getting a lot more active duty and male patrons. I think they're starting to see that it might help them with their running or strength."

"At the same time, while you're in there you're getting a workout using so much of your flexibility that normally you wouldn't be using," she added.

But you don't have to tell this to VanGundy. Yoga Day USA made a believer out of the Marine Aircraft Group 12 aviation information systems specialist.

"I'll definitely be back," he said. "I'm going this weekend and on Thursday night."

IronWorks Gym offers free yoga classes Tuesday through Friday mornings from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m., Tuesday and Thursday nights from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., and Saturdays from 8 to 9 a.m. For more information, contact Williams at 253-5051.



Tomokazu Mihara performs a handstand during Yoga Day USA at the IronWorks Gym dojo Jan 25.



Angela Cardella, IronWorks Gym yoga instructor, leads a class of 43 participants during Yoga Day USA at the IronWorks dojo Jan. 26.



Nitta Kaede, 9, finishes tying her ice skates at the Kenko Park skating rink in Kudamatsu City in western Yamaguchi prefecture Sunday. The skating rink costs 1,100 yen for adults, 700 yen for elementary school students and 200 yen for children age 3 through kindergarten age. Photos by Cpl. Lendus B. Casey

An ice skater stands still on the ice as families and couples spend time skating around the rink a April 6. However, patrons must buy their ticket before 6 p.m. to be admitted.



Parents skate with their children on the ice at Kenko Park skating rink Sunday. The rink is 1,800 square meters and is open until April 6.



at Kenko Park in Kudamatsu City Sunday. The rink is open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. every day until

Kenta Matsumoto, Kenko Park skating rink employee, hands out a pair of ice skates Sunday. Skate sizes are offered from 16 to 30 centimeters (kid's size 9 to men's size 12).

# Blades meet ice at Kenko Park

**Cpl. Lendus B. Casey**  
THE IWAKUNI PAPER STAFF

Southern Japan's lack of frozen ponds and relatively low snow accumulation doesn't necessarily mean those looking to get out and enjoy a favorite winter pastime are out of luck. Local skaters can still meet their blades to ice at Kudamatsu City's Kenko Park until April 6.

The park is located only 45 minutes west of Iwakuni off Route 2 in Kudamatsu and is a popular area for ice skating enthusiasts. It bolsters an 1,800-square-foot rink and costs 1,100 yen for adults, 700 yen for elementary school kids and 200 yen for children age 3 to kindergarten age.

Want to get out but aren't sure of your skills on the ice? Kenko Park also has an arcade and public bath house known as an onsen. In fact, people who purchase a ticket for the onsen first, which costs 2,200 yen, will receive a 50 percent discount for their rink admission.

For more information and directions to Kenko Park ice skating rink, contact Information Tours and Travel at 253-4377.



Ice skaters glide around the ice at Kenko Park skating rink Sunday. Kenko Park is located 45 minutes away from Iwakuni City off Route 2 in Kudamatsu City.

# AROUND THE CORPS

## *Injured Marine's return to hospital provides hope, inspiration*

**Pfc. Bryan Carfrey**  
HEADQUARTERS MARINE CORPS

WASHINGTON (Jan. 22, 2008) — A previous hospital patient returned Jan. 17 to give backpacks and words of encouragement in support of wounded service members.

Klay South, 31, and his Veterans of Valor organization made visits to hospital and physical therapy rooms at Bethesda Naval Hospital and Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

South, accompanied by country singer John Kiger, shared war stories and presented backpacks put together through donations to Veterans of Valor.

The backpacks contained iPods, video games and athletic gear that included athletic pants that open on the side. The pants were especially well received.

"The backpacks were just phenomenal. One of the best things in there were the side opening sweat-pants, because in my case I have gun shot wounds in my legs and the doctors have to continually check them," said Lt. Col. Keith Schuring.

The visits were a surprise to the patients and many weren't aware that Veterans of Valor would be stopping by.

"I was surprised by the visit and the bag. I had just gotten finished with my physical therapy and was asked to hang tight. The bags are just great; it's something that is certainly needed," said Cpl. Jimmy Kinsey.

South drew upon personal experiences in designing both the bags and the trip to the wounded warriors. He spent many days in surgery and nights in thought through his time at the hospitals.

"I was turning a corner in Fallujah in November of 2004 when I was shot point blank in the face with an AK-47," said the Franklin, Ind. native. "Sometimes I felt like there was no light at the end of the tunnel."

South had between 40-50 surgeries to reconstruct his face and jaw, he said. During his own long road



**Sgt. Klay South with help from this mother, Janet, launched Veterans of Valor on Oct. 4, 2007. South was wounded November 2004 and spent a long recovery process to reconstruct his face and jaw after being shot in the face with an AK-47. Veterans of Valor visited Bethesda Naval Hospital and Walter Reed Army Medical Center Jan. 17 to give backpacks and words of encouragement to wounded service members. Photos by Staff Sgt. Leo A. Salinas**

to recovery he realized help for wounded veterans was needed and he wanted to do something.

Being a previous patient and wounded warrior was also well received by the recipients of the gifts. South was able to sympathize with the feelings that the patients were experiencing and offered his advice on how to get through the recovery process.

"We have had visitors like Donald Rumsfeld and

the commandant of the Marine Corps. But when Sgt. South came in it was like a breath of fresh air. A Marine that has been in combat, a Marine that has started such a great program as Veterans of Valor, its just wonderful to see someone step-up and take charge like he has because he has lived this life. He knows what it's like to be in this position," said Schuring.

Schuring was also impressed that a young Marine spearheaded the organization and talked highly of the noncommissioned officers in the Marines.

"What Sgt. South has done with Veterans of Valor speaks volumes of the NCO corps. We have the strongest NCO corps in the world – bar none," said Schuring. The Veterans of Valor organization was officially launched on Oct. 4, 2007, after raising \$21,000 through donations and fundraisers. The quest for donations never stops.

"We are constantly looking for new ideas for fundraisers and doing ground work to get donations," said Janet South, Klay's mother.

Klay has no intentions of slowing down with his newly founded organization.

"My main goal right now is to do everything I can for Veterans of Valor," said Klay. "As long as there is a need, I'm going to supply it."

To make donations to the organization, visit [www.veteransofvalor.org](http://www.veteransofvalor.org).



**Cpl. Jimmy Kinsey receives his backpack from Sgt. Klay South, founder of Veterans of Valor. Veterans of Valor visited Bethesda Naval Hospital and Walter Reed Army Medical Center Jan. 17 to give backpacks and words of encouragement to wounded service members.**



# Community Briefs

## Community

### Town Hall Meeting

Thursday, Feb. 7 at the Marine Memorial Chapel 6 - 8:30 p.m. Headquarters Marine Corps personnel will be visiting MCAS Iwakuni on Feb. 7 to conduct a special Town Hall Meeting regarding the recent Marine Corps Family Team Building program changes being implemented. The meeting will be open to everyone and it is highly encouraged for all Key Volunteers and interested family members to attend.

Child care will be offered. Please call MCFTB, 253-3754, to sign up your children if needed.

### Free Child Development Screenings

Feb. 13 - 15 at Educational and Developmental Services, Matthew C. Perry Elementary

School, Building 553. Child development screenings are:

- A developmental growth screening for children under 5 years of age to identify your child's strengths and any areas of concern.
  - Child specialists evaluating major areas of your child's growth and answering any questions you may have.
- Sponsored by EDIS and M.C. Perry Elementary School. For more information and to schedule an appointment, call EDIS at 253-4562.

### Married Couples PREP Communication Skills Seminar

Feb. 9, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. at Marine Memorial Chapel, Capodanno Hall. PREP Marriage Communication Seminar is a training course that enhances couples' communication. This class includes knowledge on

handling conflict, solving problems and making decisions. It might also include help in developing the knowledge, attitudes, expectations and characteristics that are important to creating a satisfying relationship. Childcare and lunch provided. Register by calling the Station Chaplains' Office at 253-3371. Deadline is close of business Feb. 6, 2008.

### Women's History Month Art Show - "Women's Vision: Every Woman Is a Work of Art"

March 11, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Club Iwakuni Grand Ballroom. This event is to honor the originality, beauty, imagination and multiple dimensions of women's lives. We invite you to Club Iwakuni to discover and celebrate women's visual arts in a variety of forms and mediums that will help us expand our perceptions of one another and ourselves. For more information, contact Marine Corps Community Services Counseling Services at 253-4526.

### 2008 Seabee Ball

March 7, 6 p.m. - 1 a.m. at the Club Iwakuni Grand Ballroom. All personnel are invited. Cost: E-5 and below - \$35, E-6 and above - \$45, Civilians - \$45. Uniform: Dress Blues for military, appropriate civilian attire. Social hour will be 6 p.m. - 7 p.m. Ceremony/dinner will start at 7 p.m. until 1 a.m. Live band and door prizes. Menu is choice of Jamaican jerk chicken, baked tilapia with lemon butter sauce or sirloin with burgundy mushroom sauce. Meals come with a shrimp cocktail appetizer, black beans and yellow rice, mixed vegetables, fresh-baked rolls and Caesar salad. Tickets will be on sale at the Club Iwakuni Staff NCO Cash Cage from Feb. 1 - 29. Guest speaker is Sgt. Maj. Robert E. Mastriano, sergeant major of Marine Corps Bases Japan. For more information, call 253-5637.

### Guest DJ Spotlight Show

The guest DJ Spotlight show is a great opportunity for air station residents to become a part of their local radio station,

Power 1575. Service members and civilians are invited to be a guest on one of the Friday shows from 8 to 10 a.m. This show is also a way senior leadership can show appreciation to hard working Marines, sailors or employees. The Guest DJ spots fill up fast, so it is important to call in advance to be put on the schedule. Contact the radio section of AFN at 253-5661 to find out what weeks are open.

### Club Beyond

Club Beyond is a globally recognized, command endorsed and funded, faith-based youth program that desires to reach out to every military student in grades 7 - 12. Club Beyond will have monthly events along with retreats and service projects. The youth meetings consist of games, skits, music and a faith-based talk. Please call 253-5183 or IwakuniCB@gmail.com for more information. Or visit our website at <http://iwakuniteens.blogspot.com>

### Ski & Snowboard Retreat: Club Beyond

Feb. 15 - 17 Club Beyond will have a ski and snowboard retreat. This is open to all students in grades 9-12. Only 22 spots are available and reservations are due by noon on Feb. 4. Please contact Club Beyond director at 253-5183, visit our website at <http://iwakuniteens.blogspot.com>, or e-mail IwakuniCB@gmail.com for more information.

## Black History Month Events

### Carter G. Woodson 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament

Feb. 9, 3 p.m. at IronWorks Gym. Winners will receive first, second and third-place awards. Come out and celebrate this historic occasion. For more information, call 253-2871 or 253-4275.

### Black History Observance

Feb. 13, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the Iwakuni Grand Ballroom  
Program Schedule:  
Opening remarks, campaign highlights, guest speaker, song, poetry and closing remarks.  
For more information, call 253-6994 or 4994.

### Night of Soul: Sponsored by Genesis Lodge #89 and the

### Black History Month Committee

Feb. 16, doors open at 7 p.m. at the Club Iwakuni Ballroom. Tickets (\$20 for single person, \$25 for couple) are on sale. For more information or ticket points of sale, call 253-6994 or 253-4994.

### Black History Luncheon

Feb. 21, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the R. G. Robinson and Southside Messhalls, \$3.85.  
Menu Display:  
Louisiana Gumbo Soup, Southern Fried Chicken, BBQ Ribs, Fried Catfish, Orange Glazed Yams, Creamy Mashed Potatoes, Steamed Rice, Creamy Gravy, Simmered Black Eyed Peas, Southern Style Greens w/ Ham Hocks, Corn Bread, Pound Cake, Sweet Potato Pie & Pecan Pie.  
For more information, call 253-6994 or 253-4994.

## Adventure

### Otagawa Yume Hiroba Flea Market

Bargain hunters delight at this great outdoor flea market. Janken game for the kids, free entry and parking for customers, and if you want to run a stall it only costs 1,000 yen per space. Reserve a space by calling or faxing the Hiroshima Recycler's Association (in Japanese) anytime. The flea market will be cancelled in the event of heavy rain.  
Address: "Yume-Hiroba"  
Just past the red bridge on the left side of the river heading away from Hiroshima City near Kawa-uchi 6 and the Otagawa River.

### Dates/Times:

Feb. 9 - 10, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
For more information, contact the Hiroshima Recycler's Association by calling 082-845-5551 or visit <http://www.gethiroshima.com/en/Events/details?eventid=1406>.

### Miyajima Oyster Festival

Feb. 9-10, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
Address: Miyajima, in the open square in front of the pier.  
Take the JR Sanyo line to Miyajima-guchi, then the ferry to the island.  
For more information, contact the Miyajima Tourist Association at 0829-44-2011 or visit <http://www.gethiroshima.com/en/Events/details?eventid=353> or [www.miyajima.or.jp/gy-ouji/kakimaturi/kaki.htm](http://www.miyajima.or.jp/gy-ouji/kakimaturi/kaki.htm)

## Chapel Services

### Roman Catholic

Saturday	4:30 p.m.	Confession
	5:30 p.m.	Vigil Mass
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	Mass
	9:45 a.m.	Religious Education

### Protestant

Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Protestant Service
	1:00 p.m.	Spanish Fellowship
Wednesday	6:00 p.m.	Awana (Bldg. 1104)
	6:00 p.m.	Bible Study

### Church of Christ

Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Bible Study
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service

### Latter Day Saints

Weekdays	6:30 a.m.	Youth Activities
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### Islamic

Friday	Noon	Prayer
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### Jewish

Friday	6:00 p.m.	Shabbat
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### Teen Programs

For times, call 253-5183: high school meetings, junior high meetings, HS and JR Bible studies, retreats, service projects, mission trips, Special Events Volunteer Training and Mentoring, Parent Support Groups

For information regarding divine services, religious education or any other Command Religious Program/Chapel Activity call the station chapel at 253-5218.

# THE IWAKUNI APPROACH

## Classifieds

### AUTOMOBILES

#### 1995 Honda Horizon (SUV)

Asking for \$4,000. JCI until January 2009. Similar to Isuzu Trooper. Loaded, excellent condition, less than 90,000 kilometers (56,000 miles). For more information, call (cell) 080-3393-3185.

#### 1995 Toyota TRX 2.0

4 door, asking \$2,000. JCI good until August 2009. New CD player. Asking \$1500. Call (home) 253-2717.

#### 1994 Toyota Lucida

8-passenger van for sale. JCI good until August 2009. New CD player. Asking \$1500. Call (home) 253-2717.

### JOB OPENINGS

#### Marine Corps Community Services Job List

All positions close Feb. 8. For more information, contact the MCCS NAF Human Resources office at 253-3030 or e-mail iwakuni.vacancies@usmc-mccs.org. Office

hours are Mondays and Wednesdays 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Closed weekends & holidays.

#### MCX/Seven Day Stores

**Senior Sales Associate** – ANN#: 010-08. One regular full-time position, Sundays through Saturdays, variable hours, \$8.39-\$12.59/hr.

#### Wood Hobby Shop

**Recreation Operations Assistant** – ANN#: 005-08. Two flexible hours positions, Mondays through Fridays 5:30 to 9:30 p.m., Saturdays 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Sundays and holidays noon to 5:30 p.m., \$8.39-\$12.59/hr.

#### Car Rental

**Car Washer/Laborer** – ANN#: 167-07; Five flexible hours positions, Sundays through Saturdays and holidays 6:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., \$7.63/hr.

#### Bowling Center

**Recreation Attendant** – ANN#: 012-08; One flexible hours position, Sundays and Tuesdays through Thursdays 12:30 – 9:00 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays

noon to 11 p.m., \$6-\$8.84/hr.

### OTHER ITEMS

#### Moving Sale

- \* Heated queen-size water bed - \$749 (over \$1500 brand new)
- \* Old Suzuki two-stroke dirt bike - \$199
- \* Futon couch/bed (needs TLC) - \$25
- \* Wood tree trunk coffee table - \$49
- \* 6-speed fold up bicycle - \$49
- \* Wetsuits - under \$100 (\$700+ brand new). Other scuba gear as well.

For more information, call (work) 253-5340 or (cell) 090-3175-7317.

#### Items For Sale

- \* Network hub - \$10
- \* 15" computer LCD – best offer
- \* Bike Rack - \$20
- \* Women's 16-speed bike - \$75
- \* Japanese switch box (connect two computers to one monitor) - \$20
- \* Robin Hood DVD - \$10

For more information, call 253-5183.

*To submit an advertisement request, follow the classifieds link on the station Web site and open an advertisement request form. Submit the form via e-mail at IWKN\_SMBIwakuniPAO@nmci.usmc.mil or in person at the Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 1, Room 216. Please submit your request at least one week prior to the date when you want to post it.*

## Weekly Mess Hall Menu

#### Monday

Manhattan Clam Chowder  
Chicken and Rice Soup  
Sauerbraten  
Jerk Style Chicken  
Steamed Rice  
Oven Browned Potatoes  
French Fried Okra  
Calico Cabbage  
Brown Gravy, Dinner Rolls  
Coconut Raisin Cookies  
Double Layer Almond Cake  
Chocolate Creem Pie  
Specialty Bar: Pasta

#### Tuesday

Beef Noodle Soup  
Chicken and Mushroom Soup  
Swiss Steak with Gravy  
Szechwan Chicken  
O'Brian Potatoes  
Noodles Jefferson  
French Fried Cauliflower  
Broccoli Parmesan  
Brown Gravy, Cheese Biscuit  
Butterscotch Brownies  
Apple Pie  
Spice Cake  
Specialty Bar: Tacos

#### Wednesday

Tomato Noodle Soup  
Chicken and Mushroom Soup  
Sweet and Sour Pork  
Yakisoba (Hamburger)  
Fried Rice  
Brussels Sprouts  
Simmered Corn  
Hot Dinner Rolls  
Peanut Butter Cookies  
Sweet Potatoe Pie  
Whipped Topping  
Coconut Cake  
Specialty Bar: Barbecue

#### Thursday

Minestrone Soup  
Cream of Broccoli Soup  
Fried Chicken Beef Stroganoff  
Buttered Pasta  
Candied Sweet Potatoes  
Okra and Tomato Gumbo  
Southern Style Green Beans  
Chicken Gravy  
Cheese Biscuits  
Devils Food Cake  
Pumpkin Pie  
Oatmeal Raisin Cookies  
Specialty Bar: Deli

#### Friday

Beef Barley, Spanish Soup  
Lemon Baked Fish  
El Rancho Stew  
Steamed Rice  
Potatoes Au Gratin  
Cauliflower Combo  
Black Eyed Peas  
Hot Dinner Rolls  
Brown Gravy, Fruit Turnovers  
Bread Pudding, Toffee Bars  
Chocolate Pudding  
Specialty Bar: Hot Dogs  
Polish Sausage

## MCTV Movie Schedule

#### Friday, Feb. 1, 2008

2:00 AM V for Vendetta (R)  
5:00 AM Surf's Up (PG)  
11:00 AM Wild Seven (R)  
2:00 PM V for Vendetta (R)  
5:00 PM Surf's Up (PG)  
8:00 PM Blades Of Glory (PG13)  
11:00 PM Wild Seven (R)

#### Saturday, Feb. 2, 2008

2:00 AM The Da Vinci Code (PG13)  
5:00 AM Goal 2 - Living the Dream (PG13)  
11:00 AM Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (PG)  
2:00 PM The Da Vinci Code (PG13)  
5:00 PM Goal 2 - Living the Dream (PG13)  
8:00 PM Rocky Balboa (PG)  
11:00 PM Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (PG)

*Editor's Note: MCTV movies can be viewed on Ch. 20.*

## Sakura Theater



**Five young New Yorkers throw their friend a going-away party the night that a monster the size of a skyscraper descends upon the city.**

#### Cloverfield (PG13)

Fri 7:00 p.m.  
Sat 4:00 p.m.  
Sun 7:00 p.m.

#### August Rush (PG)

Sat 1:00 p.m.

#### Hitman (R)

Sat 10:00 p.m.

#### Super Bowl Sunday!

Mon 6:00 a.m.



#### No Country For Old Men (R)

Fri 10:00 p.m.  
Sat 7:00 p.m.  
Mon 7:00 p.m.

#### I Am Legend (PG13)

Sun 1:00 p.m.

#### The Bucket List (PG13)

Sun 4:00 p.m.

**Violence and mayhem ensue after a hunter stumbles upon some dead bodies, a stash of heroin and more than \$2 million in cash near the Rio Grande.**

# Friendly games boost comraderie

## JMSDF, Marines build strong relationship one roll at a time

Lance Cpl. Chris Dobbs  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Though the Marine Corps shares the air station with the Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force, most Marines and sailors rarely cross paths with their Japanese counterparts. Probably the closest working relationship can be found between the two services' station operations departments, which work together to keep airfield activities running smoothly.

To ensure the JMSDF and Marines are "on the same page," representatives from the departments get together once a month to discuss issues such as airfield hours, safety procedures and VIP arrivals. Because the meetings are businesslike by nature, station operations officer Lt. Col. John J. Thomas decided he and his staff should get to know their JMSDF "teammates" in a more casual setting.

Thomas and JMSDF operations staff continued a newly formed tradition of getting together following their monthly meetings with a visit to the bowling center here Jan. 23.

Twenty-four Japanese and American service members and civilian employees from the station operations departments participated in the event.

"I wanted to provide the opportunity for us to get to know each other on a more personal level," said Thomas, who started the post-meeting custom by arranging a Thanksgiving feast and softball game with the JMSDF following the groups' November meeting. "I also wanted to show our appreciation to them for being such a gracious host."

Six four-man teams consisting of players from both sides of the flight line competed against each other during the match. Having members from both the JMSDF and U.S. services on each team gave the service members the chance to fulfill the event's purpose, according to Master Sgt. Katrina Alexander, station operations chief.

"Events like this break up the business-like atmosphere that we always have with (the JMSDF), Alexander said. "It's a chance to have fun and get to know them as people instead of just on the operational level."

One look at the players smiling, laughing and high-fiving each other was enough to see the get-



Pfc. Ken Blewett, station aircraft rescue fire fighter, delivers a ball down a lane at the bowling center here Jan. 23. American and Japanese members of the station operations departments got together for a friendly bowling match after their monthly meeting. Photos by Lance Cpl. Chris Dobbs

together was all about having fun. The service members' connection at the lanes is something that will carry over to airfield operations, according to JMSDF Petty Officer 3rd Class Takehiko Yamamoto, Fleet Air Wing 31 photographer.

"I think this was a great opportunity to understand each other," Yamamoto said. "This will help us conduct safe aviation operations."

After the last pins had fallen and the totals were tallied, the "black team" was declared the winner. JMSDF Lt. Cmdr. Yasuhiro Shimada, FAW-31 operations officer, rolled the match's high-game with a 175.

"The event went very well. I was very happy to see everyone having a good time," Thomas said.



Master Sgt. Michael T. Westcott, station recovery noncommissioned officer-in-charge, high-fives Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force Petty Officer 3rd Class Takehiko Yamamoto (left), Fleet Air Wing 31 photographer and Taeko Yoshioka, station technical information specialist, during a friendly bowling match at the bowling center here Jan. 23.

"I'm honored to be able to show our appreciation and strengthen our friendship." Thomas added he's planning to organize a similar event following the departments' monthly meeting in March.

## IWAKUNI SPORTS SCENE

### Lifeguard Class

The Aquatics Department will be holding a pre-skills test for its lifeguard class at the IronWorks Gym indoor pool today at 6 p.m. The required skills are a 300-meter swim using only crawl and breast strokes and a timed object retrieval exercise. The lifeguard classes will be conducted Feb. 2, 9, 10, 16, 17 and 23 from 10 a.m. to approximately 3 p.m. The course costs \$80. For more information, contact the Aquatic's Office at 253-4966.

### Invitational Racquetball Tournament

An invitational racquetball tournament will be held at the IronWorks Gym racquetball courts Saturday. The tournament is open to everybody 16 or older regardless of ability. First and second place trophies and other giveaways will be presented. The tournament will be round-robin format and may feature both

single and team-play depending on the number of players and their ability level. Contact Intramural/Varsity Sports at 253-3067 if interested.

### 2008 Gokukan 5K Fun Run

All base personnel may attend this seawall run Feb. 22 at 11:30 a.m. Signup will take place behind the IronWorks Gym between 10:45 and 11:25 a.m. Trophies will be awarded to first, second and third place in each men's and women's age categories.

### Intramural Basketball Coaches' Meeting

There will be a mandatory meeting for all intramural basketball coaches in the IronWorks Gym wellness room March 4 at 9:30 a.m. For more information, contact Intramural/Varsity Sports at 253-3067.

# Couple dominates field in best ball tourney

Lance Cpl. Chris Dobbs  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Japanese and American golfers brought out their sticks and their parkas as they teed it up and attempted to claim the top prize in the Marine Corps Community Services Best Ball of Two Tournament at Torii Pines Golf Course on a frigid Saturday morning.

No one could match Wayne Gilmore and his wife, Mami Fujimoto, however, as the couple blistered the course and the competition, shooting a 16-under-par 54, six strokes ahead of the nearest teams.

Twenty-three two-person teams hit the links for the best-ball-format event, where each player played his own ball, and the team used its lowest score on each hole toward its total.

When play began at 8 a.m., the sky was overcast and the temperature was 32 degrees. The cold weather combined with the course's damp, barren condition made all types of shots difficult, especially those around the greens.

"The short game is all feel and confidence," Gilmore said. "If you don't have feel, you don't have confidence."

Gilmore said he thought the key to his team's success was Fujimoto's short game. By getting up and down on several occasions, the pair picked up numerous shots on the field.

"My pitching was great today," Fujimoto said, who also claimed the tournament's long-drive competition with a 230-yard-plus bomb on the par-5 third. "I really surprised myself."

While Fujimoto expressed disbelief in her ability, Gilmore said her touch around the greens was the result of preparation.



Golfers watch a tee shot from the tenth-hole teeing ground at Torii Pines Golf Course here during the Marine Corps Community Services Best Ball of 2 Tournament Saturday. Early morning freezing temperatures had less effect on the players' long games as they did on their short games, according to several players. Photos by Lance Cpl. Chris Dobbs

"She's been practicing a lot lately," Gilmore said and added Fujimoto hit bump-and-run chips to minimize the risk of missing shots and to produce more consistent results.

Gilmore said Fujimoto's putting is always good, but it was phenomenal Saturday. The couple's shot-saving short game combined with solid tee-to-green play allowed them to blitz the field.

"I'm just glad (Fujimoto) was my partner," Gilmore added.

For the win, the couple earned two \$30 gift certificates good for use at the golf pro shop.

Several teams tied for second with

a score of 60, and Stephen Regonini's approach on the 140-yard par-3 second to six feet, six inches earned him the competition's closest-to-the-pin award. Though they didn't challenge for the title, the players expressed gratitude for the opportunity to play a round of competitive golf.

"It was a well-organized, well-ran event with a pretty good turnout for such a cold day," said participant Michael Sweeney. "It was fun to get out here and

compete together.

"Hopefully, the weather will warm up, and we'll get even bigger turnouts for the upcoming events."

The next event on the tournament schedule is the MCCS Low Gross and Low Net Tournament Feb. 23. For more information, contact Torii Pines at 253-3402.



Michael Sweeney hits a putt on the ninth hole at Torii Pines Golf Course here during the Marine Corps Community Services Best Ball of 2 Tournament Saturday. Sweeney and his partner posted the tournament's best low-gross total of even-par 70.



Steve Link tees off on the third hole at Torii Pines Golf Course here during the Marine Corps Community Services Best Ball of 2 Tournament Saturday.