

THE IWAKUNI APPROACH

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Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan



Special Olympics athletes warm up with a stretching routine before getting into the pool during the Special Olympics Hiroshima Sports Day hosted at Ironworks Gym here Nov. 23. Read the full story on page 3. Photo courtesy of Michelle Figueroa

DoD can safeguard its home computers

Anti-virus software free for download, protects employees

LANCE CPL. JOSEPH MARIANELLI
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Free anti-virus software has been made available to Department of Defense employees, military and civilian, to provide further protection of government computers.

The software contracts, in effect since 2001, with Symantec and McAfee specifically state that any DoD user may obtain the software for personal, home use.

With the recent Corps-wide suspension of flash media usage on all government computers, the threat viruses present becomes much more palpable, as simple, everyday file transfers become complicated transactions soaking up productivity and time.

With that in mind, the proliferation of viruses can be greatly curtailed by the use of updated anti-virus software on home computers.

Besides benefiting the Navy-Marine Corps Intranet, the use of anti-virus software protects individual users' personal information and prevents a number of issues that can affect computer performance. Since the software is free and is updated on a daily basis for free, there is no reason to not get it.

In order to obtain the anti-virus software, users have several options.

When S-6 holds introductory information

Ordnance Marines keep business booming during Aussie exercise

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- Aces North firefighters train with structural fires | p.5

LANCE CPL. DAN NEGRETE
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE BASE TINDAL, Australia — Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 121 ordnance technicians have played a vital role during Exercise Aces North 2008, a bilateral training exercise aimed at enhancing interoperability between Marine and Australian F-18 fighter pilots in simulated air-to-air combat.

Since the exercise began Nov. 10, the ordnance technicians have loaded and unloaded a variety of training ordnance, including chaff-and-flare countermeasures, laser-guided training rounds and fixed sidewinder training missiles onto 11 VMFA(AW)-121 F/A-18D fighter jets.

"The purpose of Exercise Aces North 2008 is for Marine and (Royal Australian Air Force) F-18 fighter pilots to train (bilaterally) in air-to-air maneuvers," said Staff Sgt. Shawn D. Jones, VMFA (AW)-121 ordnance noncommissioned officer-in-charge. "For this exercise, no live ordnance has been utilized."

Instead of employing live bombs and missiles,



Lance Cpl. Larry S. Minks, a Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 121 aviation ordnance technician, adjusts the front fin of an AIM-9M training missile attached to the wing of an F-18 fighter jet. Photo by Lance Cpl. Dan Negrete

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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

'It's just not the same'

CHAPLAIN A.R. KUSS
COMMAND CHAPLAIN

"Christmas will not be the same here because Christmas for me means..." These sentiments and thoughts are not new nor confined to our life and mission in Iwakuni. They are the thoughts of anyone far from family, old friends and the familiar routines of the holiday season.

The Christmas holiday is filled with many things — bright decorations with colors of green and red, strings of twinkling lights, the glitter of silver and gold, music of the season, social gathering around food, shopping and gift giving, connecting with family and friends and concerts and worship services. Our senses are bombarded with the sights, sounds and smells that prompt memories of past holidays.

December can be an emotional roller coaster for many people for whom this is the first Christmas away from home and for those who experience homesickness

during this time of year. While it is a time of cheer and joyful activities for many, I would like to share some ideas on how to make the most of this holiday season from someone who has years of experience

First of all, every Christmas is different from the previous because I'm older. I've changed and so need to make adjustments. I am no longer seven-years old and under the care of my parents. I have made a choice to make new friends, live in a different location and now I can choose how we will spend the holiday. It is a time to reflect on what the holidays mean to me personally. It is a time to choose what I want to incorporate into this year's celebration from the past. I can elect to mix things from my past with things from our present.

I make a conscious effort each year to plan activities that remind me of the past and ones that make new memories. At Christmas, I have always made an effort to phone my mother, my family and friends I have made over the years.

My first year away from home, I bought a 18-inch artificial tree and a three-piece nativity scene. That was the extent of my "Christmas decorating" for many years. I tried to stay away from sentimental holiday music because it only got me down. I'm still not a great fan of it but I realize that it does help many people. I realized many years ago that I could not wait for people to entertain me or to get me out of the holiday funk. I realized that I needed to get off my duff and I needed to be with others. Here are some things I have done, and I encourage you to do the same. Go caroling; invite friends in to watch holiday movies; walk around the base or the city to view and photograph holiday decorations; prepare and share foods which are holiday favorites with neighbors and coworkers; bake cookies as a family or with friends; invite friends to play board games; plan a trip and travel to new places even locally; accept invitations to do things even when you don't "feel" like it. It is not about spending money but enjoying the people in your life. Most importantly, this is a season of renewing our care for one another.



The South-side mess hall opens its serving lines to station residents for a hearty Thanksgiving meal Nov. 27. The lines were flooded with people trying to get a taste of Thanksgiving even when far away from home. Photo by Pvt. Ashley M. Howard

Corps Question

Q. When will the Toys For Tots campaign kick off in Iwakuni? How can I participate?

A. The Toys For Tots campaign will officially kick off in Iwakuni Dec. 7. The station is hosting its annual "Thunder Run" motorcycle rally at 12 p.m. at the Hornet's Nest here. Donation boxes will be opened at unit headquarters, the Marine Corps Exchange and the Hornet's Nest following the event.

Aces North employs ordnance technicians

ORDNANCE FROM PAGE 1

the F-18 fighter pilots have called on the ordnance technicians to fix their aircraft with AIM-9M (Sidewinder) training missiles.

"The AIM-9M training missile is identical to its live counterpart in everything but actually being able to fire from the aircraft and hit its target," said Lance Cpl. Larry S. Minks, VMFA(AW)-121 ordnance technician. "It's kind of like the (simulation)-rounds we used in boot camp when first learning how to fire our M-16s, but a lot more sophisticated."

"The seeker head on the AIM-9M training missile tells us when we're locked onto the target," said Capt. Benjamin J. Fiala, a VMFA(AW)-121 F/A-18D weapons and sensors specialist. "The training missile has the same characteristics as the real thing, making it an effective training tool."

It allows us to understand the missile's capabilities and to engage other targets in realistic air-to-air training scenarios."

The ordnance technicians have worked around the clock during Exercise Aces North 2008 to ensure the F-18s have been properly armed with these training missiles.

Account protection helps keep hold of hard-earned money

COMPILED BY BONNIE LEWIS
STATION FINANCIAL
FITNESS COUNSELOR

When you write a check, withdraw money from an automated teller machine, use your debit card to make a purchase or make an automatic bill payment or other electronic payment for more than the amount in your checking account, you overdraw your account.

Your bank (or your savings and loan or credit union) has the choice to either pay the amount or not. If it pays even though you don't have the money in your account, you may be charged an overdraft fee. If your bank returns your check without paying it, you may be charged a bounced-check or non-sufficient funds fee. The person or company that you wrote the check to, for example, a store, your landlord, or the phone company, may charge you a returned-check fee in addition to the fee your bank charges.

How can you avoid overdraft and bounced-check fees? The best way to avoid overdraft and bounced-check fees is to manage your account so you don't overdraw it. Keep track of how much money you have in your checking account by keeping your account register up to



Bonnie Amos (second from left), spouse of Gen. James F. Amos, assistant commandant of the Marine Corps, enjoys breakfast and conversation with station family readiness officers at Club Iwakuni here Nov. 27. Photo by Lance Cpl. Chris Burke

Athletes compete in Special Olympics

PVT. ASHLEY M. HOWARD
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Marine Corps Community Services hosted a Special Olympics Hiroshima Sports Day Nov. 23 at IronWorks Gym and the Strike Zone bowling center here.

Twenty-seven special Olympians, ages 10-44, spent the day swimming at the indoor pool at IronWorks Gym, having lunch at Crossroads mall and bowling at the Strike Zone bowling center.

Planning for the day's activities was coordinated through the Strike Zone bowling center and the IronWorks gym. Brian Eagmin, Strike Zone assistant manager, enlisted the help of Curtis Brown with Semper Fit to coordinate the swimming

event.

Last year, the event was primarily bowling and included lunch at the Crossroads mall. More events were added to further the activities for the special Olympians with help from volunteers from around the station, said Eagmin.

"I, personally, was extremely proud to have been able to have taken a part in this event. Everyone's enthusiasm, graciousness, and humbleness overfilled my heart with more than just gratitude," said Michelle Figueroa, assistant manager at the Strike Zone bowling center.

The event allowed for Japanese special Olympians to interact with and participate in events with their American hosts.

"By the MCAS hosting the Special

VIRUS FROM PAGE 1

assurance classes, which are scheduled to be held every Wednesday, or when attending a refresher, users may bring a blank writable CD-ROM and exchange it for a CD-ROM with the anti-virus software on it as well as drivers and information explaining how to set up a common access card on their home machine and using Outlook Web access for accessing their government e-mail from home.

The alternative option is to access one of the following Web sites, <https://www.infosec.navy.mil/av/index.jsp> or https://www.jtfgno.mil/antivirus/home_use.htm, while logged in with a CAC card on a government computer, downloading the program and burning it to a writable CD-ROM to take home.

What are some other ways to cover overdrafts?

Banks, savings and loans and credit unions may provide other ways of covering overdrafts that may be less expensive. Ask your bank about these options before making your choice.

■ **Link your checking account to a savings account you have with the bank.** If you overdraw your checking account, the bank can transfer funds from your savings account to your checking account. Ask your bank about transfer fees.

■ **Set up an overdraft line of credit with the bank.** You need to apply for a line of credit just as you would apply for a regular loan. If you overdraw your account,

the bank will lend you the funds by using your line of credit to cover the overdraft. You will pay interest on this loan, and there may be an annual fee. The overall costs may be less than the costs for courtesy overdraft-protection plans.

■ **Link your account to a credit card you have with the bank.** If you link your account to a credit card, any overdraft amount becomes a cash advance on your credit card. You will probably be charged a cash-advance fee, and interest charges on the advance will start immediately. The cost of this option depends on the interest rate on your credit card and how long you take to pay back the advance.

date. Record all checks when you write them and other transactions when you make them. Pay special attention to your electronic transactions. Record your ATM withdrawals and fees, debit card purchases, and online payments. Don't forget about automatic bill payments you may have set up for utilities, insurance, or loan payments. Keep an eye on your account

balance. Remember that some checks and automatic payments may not have cleared. Review your account statements each month. Between statements, you can find out which payments have cleared and check your balance by calling your bank, checking online or at an ATM. Be sure to find out the actual amount in your account.

Olympics along with the MCCS IronWorks Gym and the Strike Zone hosting their Olympic events, we on the air station are reaching out to our Japanese communities, hoping to show good cultural relations with our host nation," said Eagmin.

Plans are already being made to help improve the events in next year's Hiroshima Sports Day, such as a cycling event. The station hopes to incorporate more volunteers into next year's event by promoting it through the Armed Forces Network and the station newspaper.

"The event was a complete success, the athletes had a great time and the few volunteers who participated thoroughly enjoyed the event," said Eagmin.

What are courtesy overdraft-protection or bounce coverage plans? Many banks as well as savings and loans and credit unions offer courtesy overdraft-protection or bounce coverage plans so checks do not bounce and ATM and debit card transactions go through.

Avoid using these plans as short-term loans. They are costly forms of credit. If you overdraw your account, get money back into your account as soon as possible.

Remember you need to put enough money back into your account to cover both the amount of your overdraft and any bank fees. There is no guarantee that a financial institution will cover any overdrafted electronic transactions.

Good account management is the lowest-cost way to protect your hard-earned money.



Lance Cpl. Beliveth B. Baltazar and Pfc. Nicholas C. Dillingham proudly display the salad they prepared with Sgt. Chris A. Bainrot, senior noncommissioned officer-in-charge of Royal Australian Air Force Base Tindal's mess hall. The two mess hall Marines are currently serving with Australian cooks during Exercise Aces North 2008. Photo by Lance Cpl. Dan Negrete

Iwakuni cooks learn from Aussie chefs during Aces North

LANCE CPL. DAN NEGRETE
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE BASE TINDAL, Australia — Marine cooks assigned to Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 have joined ranks with their Royal Australian Air Force equivalents at RAAF Base Tindal's mess hall during Exercise Aces North 2008, a joint training exercise between the RAAF and United States Marine Corps.

The Marine cooks have had the opportunity to learn from their Australian counterparts and prepare dishes they've never come across at Marine Corps mess halls. "Our mission is the same," said Pfc. Nicholas C. Dillingham, an MWSS-171 cook. "However, the Australians have a different way of running a mess hall and preparing food."

In the Marine Corps, food is prepared according to a 29-day rotating menu, said Lance Cpl. Beliveth B. Baltazar. Also, we prepare our food following the exact specifications contained in recipe cards, which are universal to all Marine Corps mess halls.

In the RAAF, meals are determined by the chef of the day and planned one day in advance. The recipes go by the kind of produce that is available and the type of meals that were prepared within a 30-day timeframe.

"We try to cook a wide-variety of dishes in order to please those who dine at our facility," said Aircraftman Jag Padaruth, a RAAF cook. "We go by what tastes good and try to flare our dishes as much as we can."

Meals synonymous to an Australian

mess hall include rack of lamb with mint jelly sauce, Moroccan chicken, squid stir-fry, German-style beef stew, oven-roasted potatoes with rosemary, and mashed pumpkin and ripe mangos for dessert.

"They definitely have a lot more room to be creative," said Dillingham, referring to Australian cooked meals. "Their philosophy is to put out exquisite meals for every meal. That's not to say we don't strive for that in the Marine Corps, but here it's a lot easier since they don't have recipe cards to follow."

Dillingham and Baltazar humbly contend that Australian cooks are better prepared than junior cooks in the Marine Corps.

"Australian cooks attend a six-month culinary arts school before serving at their first mess hall," said Dillingham. "Our school was only seven weeks." "Some of their skill-sets are lacking compared to ours," said Sgt. Chris A. Bainrot, senior noncommissioned officer-in-charge of the mess hall here. "However, despite their limited skills, they've always brought a good attitude to work and have mixed well with our staff."

"They're very eager to learn and challenge themselves every day to improve as cooks. Apparently, they've become accustomed to a monkey-see-monkey-do style of cooking wherever they come from."

"I feel lucky to have gotten Australia as my first deployment," said Dillingham. "I've learned so many new recipes from the Australians I've worked with and will definitely bring it all back home with me."



Aircraftman Rod J. Irvine, RAAF cook, goes over the day's menu with Pfc. Nicholas C. Dillingham, a Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 cook, at Royal Australian Air Force Base Tindal's main mess hall. Unlike in the Marine Corps, RAAF cooks determine their meals on a day-to-day basis and leave it up to the chef of the day to decide which dishes will be served. Photo by Lance Cpl. Dan Negrete



Pfc. Nicholas C. Dillingham and Lance Cpl. Beliveth B. Baltazar soak chicken slices in egg and breadcrumbs beside Shandy K. Small, a kitchen hand at Royal Australian Air Force Base Tindal's main mess hall. Photo by Lance Cpl. Dan Negrete

EXERCISE ACES NORTH HEATS UP DOWN UNDER

Lance Cpl. Bandy O. Boggs (right) and Staff Sgt. Robert A. Wichner (left) prepare to enter a conex box set ablaze with class-A combustibles and several buckets of fuel. For Boggs, this was his first time fighting a structural fire since his initial training to become an aircraft rescue firefighter. Photo by Lance Cpl. Dan Negrete



Sgt. Peter D. Noyce, Royal Australian Air Force Airfield Fire Controller, helps Staff Sgt. Robert A. Wichner, aircraft rescue firefighting section leader, fit into his protective firefighting mask before training with a structural fire Nov. 25. Unlike in the RAAF, aircraft rescue firefighting Marines rarely train with fighting structural fires as their main mission entails rescuing pilots and extinguishing aircraft fires. Photo by Lance Cpl. Dan Negrete

Bilateral teams improve their firefighting tactics

LANCE CPL. DAN NEGRETE
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE BASE TINDAL, Australia — While deployed to Australia in support of Exercise Aces North 2008, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron aircraft rescue firefighters have had the unique opportunity to train with Royal Australian Air Force firefighters and learn from their techniques.

The underlying difference between RAAF firefighting and Marine Corps firefighting is that RAAF firefighters handle all types of fires, including structural fires.

"Crash Fire Rescue Marines are primarily aircraft firefighters," said Staff Sgt. Robert A. Wichner, ARFF section leader. "We rarely ever deal with structural fires, even though we received training for it at MOS (military occupational specialty) school. Instead, we rely on base fire departments to handle structural emergencies so we can focus our attention on aircraft firefighting. This is how it works at all Marine Corps air stations."

RAAF firefighters respond to all types of fire emergencies that occur within their installation and immediate vicinity. They train with wild fires, structural fires and aircraft crash, fire and rescue.

Despite both nations' differences in firefighting they still share the same common skills and have sought to bridge their differences while working together during Exercise Aces North 2008.

RAAF firefighters put together a training exercise to remediate and observe the Marines' skills in fighting a structural fire Nov. 25.

The RAAF firefighters filled a conex box, simulating a small room or shed, with miscellaneous class-A combustibles and several buckets of fuel.

After setting fire to the conex box, the Marines went over their plan of attack in proper door breaching, entering, and the manner of extinguishing the fire.

Lance Cpl. Bandy O. Boggs, a member of H&HS aircraft rescue firefighting, was the first to enter the ignited box and extinguish the fire.

"The last time I dealt with a structural fire like this one was at MOS school," said Boggs. "It's an adrenaline rush to be in the thick of the smoke, not being able to see anything, but relying on your other senses to put out the fire. It was a good remediation, and may come in handy if ever something dramatic were to happen in Iwakuni where we might have to help out in putting out some kind of structural fire."

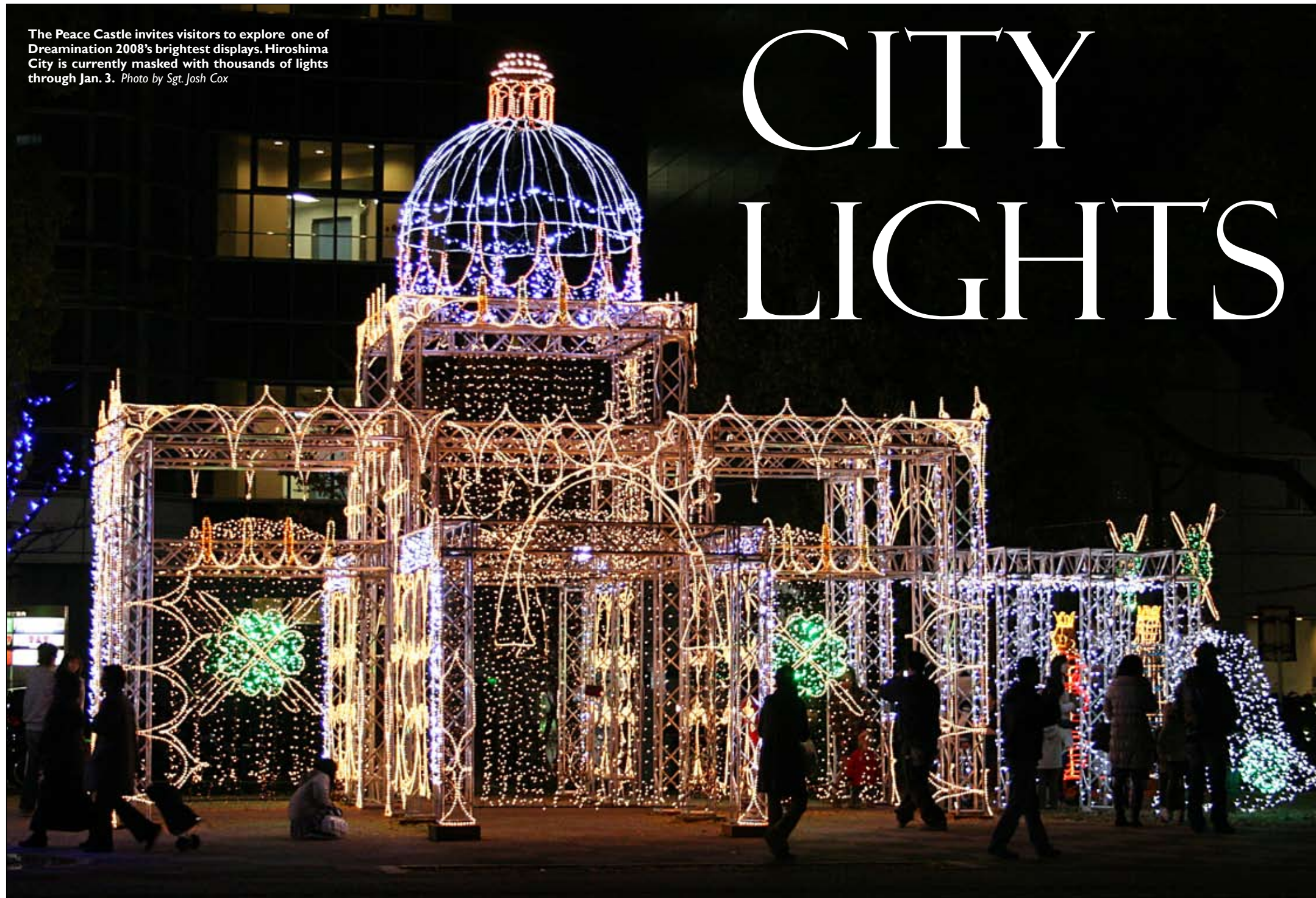
"Their skill levels are sufficient for the task," said Sgt. Peter D. Noyce, RAAF Airfield Fire Controller. "This was the first time we've done work together in a fire training scenarios. It was useful as we now know we can work together with Americans in case of a real fire."

"It's good to see my Marines learning from Australians and enhancing their knowledge in structural firefighting," said Wichner. "For young firefighters like Lance Cpl. Boggs, a training exercise like this serves to build his confidence in his abilities and for him to feel what his gear could do for him."



Lance Cpl. Bandy O. Boggs (left) and Staff Sgt. Robert A. Wichner (right) go over the methods of extinguishing a structural fire prior to extinguishing a conex box filled with class-A combustibles and several buckets of fuel Nov. 25. Photo by Lance Cpl. Dan Negrete

The Peace Castle invites visitors to explore one of Dreamination 2008's brightest displays. Hiroshima City is currently masked with thousands of lights through Jan. 3. Photo by Sgt. Josh Cox



CITY LIGHTS



An illuminated carousel attracts children and adults alike in downtown Hiroshima. Many of the Dreamination 2008 displays are interactive and provide photo opportunities and fun for visitors of all ages. Photo by Sgt. Josh Cox

DREAMINATION ILLUMINATES HIROSHIMA NIGHTS

SGT. JOSH COX
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

LIGHTS. Thousands of colorful lights. If Dreamination 2008, located in downtown Hiroshima, doesn't ignite your Holiday spirit, you'll need to check your vision and pulse.

The city's streets are lined with illuminated displays and dazzling colors through Jan. 3.

The lights seem endless and at sunset turn the busy Hiroshima streets into a bright fantasyland.

The lights are located in various locations in the center of Hiroshima City. The Heiwa-odori, Namiki-dori, Chuo-dori, Alice Garden and other areas are currently illuminated every night from 5:30 until 11 p.m.

Some of the attractions include the Peace Castle, multiple Holiday trees, a massive ship, a locomotive, a carousel and plenty of photo spots. For adults and children alike, Dreamination 2008 is a seemingly endless journey through an illuminated winterland.

Dreamination

- Roundtrip taxi to Iwakuni JR Station 2,000Y
- Roundtrip train ticket to Hiroshima Station 1,480Y
- Roundtrip street car to Hatchobori Street 300Y
- Total transportation cost 3,780Y

• For approximately 5,000Y, one can get to Hiroshima, see the lights, eat dinner and have enough yen left over for a cup of coffee and dessert. Just don't forget the camera and liberty buddy — split the cab ride.



A massive ship riding a glistening wave excites the imaginations of children exploring the Dreamination scenes in Hiroshima. Photo by Sgt. Josh Cox



The Dreamination lights feature small intricacies throughout Hiroshima, like this treble clef. Photo by Sgt. Josh Cox



A gigantic Holiday tree accents a restaurant and shopping area in downtown Hiroshima. Large Holiday trees like this are placed throughout the city. Photo by Sgt. Josh Cox

CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE



Gunnery Sgt. Christopher L. Hambaugh, the Regimental Combat Team 1 Motor Transportation chief from Tampa, Fla., and Staff Sgt. Joshua Higgins, the RCT-1 Public Affairs chief, from Greenville, Tenn., hook up a crane to barriers surrounding RCT-1's new command operations center at Camp Ramadi, Iraq, Sept. 22. Marines adapted quickly after their move to the camp, making it a home away from home. Photo by Cpl. Stephen McGinnis

Camp Ramadi Marines continue improvements for future units

CPL. STEPHEN MCGINNIS
REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM 1

CAMP RAMADI, Iraq (November 25, 2008) — Marines with Regimental Combat Team 1's headquarters and service element packed their bags and for the first time since the war in Iraq began, moved an entire Marine regiment out of Fallujah.

Regimental Combat Team 1 moved out and stuck their guidon in the sands at Camp Ramadi.

Camp Fallujah was ideal; a former military compound, much of its infrastructure was already in place and fortified walls surrounded its inhabitants.

The Marines found their Camp Ramadi facilities in a much different state. Most of their new offices needed renovations, and others had to be built entirely. New lots for the motor transport and supply sections had to be graveled and fenced. And some Marines lived in large tents until living quarters were renovated.

But the Marines adapted and quickly began making Camp Ramadi a home away from home, and they plan to leave it better than they found it.



Marines with Regimental Combat Team 1 shovel gravel near their living quarters at Camp Ramadi, Iraq, Nov. 21. With only a couple of months left on their deployment, Marines are trying to put the finishing touches on the improvements to leave their facilities in good shape for incoming units. Photo by Army Sgt. Amanda Gauthier

"It is important to get the facilities as safe and comfortable as possible," said Maj. Todd Sanders, a 36-year-old logistics officer from Brant, Texas, with RCT-1. "We also want to ensure that the unit that is replacing us has the best facilities that they can, so that they can focus on their mission rather than their facilities."

Some of the camp's improvements required a large amount of heavy construction and renovation. Marines would have spent a great deal of time and man power to make these renovations on their own, so instead they reached out to the local community. "The Iraqi contractors help us do a

lot of the specific construction work, which allows Marines to focus on their mission," said Sgt. Joshua J. Gatewood, a 25-year-old construction and logistics noncommissioned officer from Everett, Wash., with RCT-1.

The use of Iraqi contractors not only makes Marines more readily available to complete missions, it also provides jobs and revenue to help boost the Iraqi economy.

"Hiring local contractors will have a positive effect on the relationship between the Iraqi people and Coalition forces through the influx of funds into the local economy," said Sanders. "As Coalition forces utilize local national contractors, it provides another outlet for jobs and funding to permeate into the local economy."

With only a couple of months left on their deployment, Marines are trying to put the finishing touches on the improvements to leave their facilities in good shape for incoming units.

"When Marines are able to rest and relax in a non-austere environment, it has a positive effect on their moral and allows them to be better focused when they are conducting their mission," said Sanders.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

UMUC Spring Term I Class
University of Maryland University College Spring Term I class schedule for face to face is now available. Registration runs from Nov. 17 to Jan. 18, 2009, and classes run from Jan. 19 to Mar. 14, 2009. Registration for online runs from Nov. 17 to Jan. 26, 2009 and classes run from Jan. 26 to Apr. 5, 2009. For more information, contact UMUC Iwakuni at 253-3392.

Operation Care Packages
Marine Corps Family Team Building will be hosting Operation Comfort and Care Packages in front of the Commissary and Crossroads. MCFTB will be providing the boxes, packing items

and mailing off the packages to those deployed in the Operation Iraqi Freedom-Operation Enduring Freedom areas. Contact MCFTB at 253-3754 for more information.

Operation Letters to Santa 2008
This operation allows children to write a special letter to Santa for Christmas. Bring letters with return addresses to either the Main Post Office (Bldg. 405) or Northside Post Office (Bldg. 1460) and Santa will reply to the requests.

Babysitting Courses
Course will be held tomorrow, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. at the American Red Cross office, Bldg. 1100 (Station

Chapel). Cost is \$40 for ages 11 and up. Call the American Red Cross at 253-4525 For more information.

Babysitting Instructor Course
Course will be held Tuesday, 5 - 10 p.m. at the American Red Cross office, Bldg. 1100 (Station Chapel). Cost is \$75 for certification and materials. For more information, contact the American Red Cross at 253-4525.

Breastfeeding Basics Class
Class runs 9 - 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, at Building 411, room 222. The best start in life begins with the perfect food. This class will cover the benefits of breastfeeding and address some common questions and concerns. Learn information that will help you have a successful breastfeeding experience. Call 253-4928 to sign up.

Girl Scouts Holiday Party
Dec. 12, 2:30 to 5 p.m. in Community Room 589. Girls will meet their troop leaders immediately after school and walk over together. Enjoy a holiday snack, make a Christmas ornament, play the Dreidel game, make a Kwanzaa woven bracelet. Hear holiday stories & songs. FREE. Make your calendar. Complete the permission form and return to your leader as soon as possible. For more information, call 253-2402.

Chapel Services

Roman Catholic

Saturday 4:30 p.m. Confession
5:30 p.m. Mass
Sunday 8:30 a.m. Mass
9:45 a.m. Religious Education
Tuesday - Friday 11:30 a.m. Weekday Mass
Wednesday 6 p.m. Inquiry Class for adults

Protestant

Saturday 9:30 a.m. Seventh-Day Adventist Sabbath School
11:00 a.m. Seventh-Day Adventist Devine Worship
Sunday 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, Adult Bible Fellowship
10:30 a.m. Protestant Service
11 a.m. Children's Church
Wednesday 6 p.m. Awana (Bldg. 1104)
6 p.m. Bible Study (Capodanno Hall Chapel)

Church of Christ

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

Latter Day Saints

Weekdays 6:30 a.m. Youth Activities

Jewish

Friday 6 p.m. Shabbat (small chapel)

Church of the United Christians Inc.

Sunday 1 p.m. Worship Services
Wednesday 7 p.m. Bible Study

Teen Programs

For times, call 253-5183: high school meeting, 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 or chapel activity, call the Marine Memorial Chapel at 253-3371.

Hometown Extravaganza
Holiday Cheer-Leading Committee is presenting the 4th annual Hometown Extravaganza Dec. 14 at the Sakura Theater at 7 p.m. The event is open to all station residents. Cash prize towards a party for the first place unit. Call 253-6745 for specific details.

Victim Advocate Volunteer
Volunteers are specially trained men and women who provide immediate assistance to victims of spouse abuse and sexual assault. Preregistration is required by Dec. 12. Training is Dec. 15-19, 6 to 9 p.m. Please call the Victim Advocate Coordinator at 253-4526 to register.

PTO Meeting

Mathew C. Perry Elementary School PTO will have a community meeting on Dec. 18, 7 p.m. in the school library. Please come and support our school. Your participation is essential to the organization's success. For more information, call 253-2180.

Filipino-American Party

Dec. 20, 6 p.m. at the Club Iwakuni ball room. Celebrate the holidays with Filipino-American Society. Attire is semi-formal/ evening dress. A four-course dinner will be served by Club Iwakuni. Activities include games, prizes and dancing. Ticket price is \$35. The last day to buy tickets is Dec. 11. Call 253-6084 for more information.

Children's Christmas Party

Dec. 21, 3 - 5 p.m. at Marifu Park in downtown Iwakuni. Join us and spread a good dose of holiday cheer! The event is free and is open to all community members. Holiday crafts, games, yummy

sweets, caroling, and so much more! Make a positive impact on lives of our host nation, be a holiday "cheer" leader! For more information or to be a volunteer, call 090-1012-2289 or e-mail jackie@allenintl.com.

Family Housing Office

The Family Housing Division changed its customer service hours. The hours is from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Self Help will maintain its current hours as 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Lost and Found

Provost Marshal's Office, Lost and Found section receives many unclaimed items. If you lose something, please contact PMO at 253-5105.

Station Library - Tutor.com

The station library now offers patrons free access to an online tutoring service that is quick and easy to use. By logging into www.usmc-mccs.org and then clicking on the "tutor.com" link, patrons can receive one-on-one help from a certified subject matter expert by means of chat screens, drawing boards, and through Web site and file sharing. Anyone in grades K-12, college introductory courses, or adult learners can login and receive help in one of 12 different subjects. Those interested can call 253-3078 to obtain a username.

Boy Scouts - 50 years of service

Troop 77 would like to welcome and invite anyone interested in joining to attend one of their weekly meetings. The meetings are every Monday, 6 - 7:30 p.m. at Bldg. 1111. For more information, call Hut at 253-3505.

Sakura Theater

Friday, Dec. 5, 2008
7 p.m. Four Christmases (PG-13)
Premier
10 p.m. Quarantine (R)
Premier

7 p.m. Quarantine (R)

Monday, Dec. 8, 2008
7 p.m. Bolt (PG)

Tuesday, Dec. 9, 2008
7 p.m. Body of Lies (R)

Wednesday, Dec. 10, 2008
7 p.m. Igor (PG)
Last Showing

Thursday, Dec. 11, 2008
7 p.m. Lakeview Terrace (PG-13)
Last Showing

Saturday, Dec. 6, 2008
1 p.m. Madagascar 2 Africa (PG)
4 p.m. Bolt (PG)
Premier
7 p.m. Quarantine (R)
10 p.m. Four Christmases (PG-13)

Sunday, Dec. 7, 2008
1 p.m. Bolt (PG)
4 p.m. Four Christmases (PG-13)

General Admission: Ages 12+ are \$2.50/ Ages 6 - 11 are \$1/ Children ages 5 and under admitted free. For more information, visit www.mccsiwakuni.com or call 253-5291.

253-5291

THE IWAKUNI APPROACH CLASSIFIEDS

Automobiles

1996 Toyota Exiv

4-door, blue. It's like a Corolla. JCI until April, 2010. Brand new tires. A/C & heat work great! Has CD player and seats 4 comfortably! Runs great, great on gas! \$2,000 OBO. For more information, call 253-2579 (home) or 253-3088(work).

1997 Mitsubishi Legnum

JCI until Oct 2009. White, 2L V6, 4 speed auto, AWD, 116,000 km. Good family car, comes with extra set of rims and crossbars for roof rack. For more information, call 090-7540-1844 (cell).

Miscellaneous

Items for sale

- Home theater subwoofer cabinet - 36" x 36" x33".

Subwoofer amplifier, driver, and binding posts available separately for this cabinet. Free

- Boston Acoustics T1000 speakers - 40" tall and 10" wide. \$275
- Usher Audio V-601 speakers - 17" tall and 9" wide. \$450
- Sony CDP-445 5-disc CD player - Like new. Includes original box, manual, and remote. \$50

For more information, call 253-5487 (work) or 080-3274-8282 (cell).

Nutcracker Ballerina

Great Christmas gift for your ballerina! Rotates and plays the Nutcracker Suite!! Asking \$40 OBO. Call 253-3278 (work) or 090-8608-3799 (cell).

Items for sale

All items like NEW.

- Fisher Price "Loving Family" Dollhouse with many extras \$75 firm

- Fisher Price "Loving Family" Talking Van \$15
- Fisher Price Tow Truck w/ Race Car \$9
- Tow Truck w/ Sports Car \$9
- Little Tikes Table w/ 2 Chairs \$20
- Razor 3-wheeled Scooter \$15
- Kolcraft "Music on the Go" Stroller \$75
- Safety 1st Bed-Side Rail \$7
- Thermos Gas Grill 2 Go \$75

Please call 253-2662 (home) if interested.

Jobs

Dental Assistant needed

The dental clinic at MCAS Iwakuni is seeking one motivated Dental Assistant for a great opportunity in dental healthcare services. For more information, stop by Bldg 111 or call 253-5252 or 3331. Applications must be received NLT 4 p.m. on Dec. 15, 2008.

To submit an advertisement request, follow the classified link on the station Web site and open an advertisement request form. Submit the form via website or send the e-mail to iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil. Or you can submit in person at the Public Affairs Office, Building One, Room 216.

- The deadline for submissions is Monday at 4:30 p.m.
- The request is effective a week. If you want to extend a previously submitted ad for an additional week, notify the Public Affairs Office at 253-5551.

SINGLE MARINE PROGRAM

///Upcoming events and programs///

///Pool Tournament///

Every Saturday, Sunday, and Holiday at 2 p.m., the Marine Lounge hosts it's weekend Pool Tournament. Saturday's are Nine Ball tournaments and Sunday's are Eight Ball tournaments. There is a five dollar entry fee. Cash prizes are awarded to First and Second places.

///Toys for Tots Motorcycle Rally///

Dec. 7 at 12 p.m. — The rally is one of the most anticipated community events hosted by the Single Marine Program. This year is the 11th annual rally, in conjunction with the 11th anniversary year anniversary of the SMP. There will be a motorcycle show with trophies to the best cruiser, sport bike, paint job, Christmas decorations, etc. For more information, call 253-3585

Flu Vaccine Now Available

BHC Iwakuni

Free

Immunization Clinic Hours of Operation

Monday 0800-1130 1300-1530

Tuesday 0800-1130 1300-1530

Wednesday 0800-1130

Thursday 0800-1130 1300-1530

Friday 0800-1130 1300-1530

Tel: 253-6326

For more information on requirements or risk factors log on to:

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/vaccination/#patient>

Intramural Flag-Football

BACK FROM THE DEAD!



(Above) Combat Logistics Company 36 defensive back, Matthew Dault, runs back the Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 IYAOYAS line after intercepting a pass at his last seasonal game at the North-side football field here Monday. The night's lineup for CLC-36 proved itself as the most effective so far. (Right) Combat Logistics Company 36 receiver Joel Rogers takes a leap of faith to the goal line near the end of the fourth quarter at his last seasonal game at the North-side football field here Monday. Photos by Lance Cpl. Kyle T. Ramirez



CLC-36 gets unexpected chance for playoff game

LANCE CPL. KYLE T. RAMIREZ
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Even after a shaky season, even after walking on the field expecting another loss, even after receiver Mark Lockfeer sidelined himself mid-game in frustration, Combat Logistics Company 36 pulled through Monday night with a 24-22 victory against the Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 IYAOYAS and are headed for the playoffs.

Numerous interceptions from CLC-36 defensive back, Matthew Dault, gave his offense plenty of opportunities in their passing game as the flag football game drew on into the night at the North-side football field here.

A worthy adversary, the MALS-12 IYAOYAS stayed neck-and-neck with its opponent throughout the second half after they realized CLC-36 didn't bring its regular unorganized, trash-talking offense — or even its normal lineup. According to CLC-36, the team has not kept up a steady roster throughout the season. Some of their key players are absent from key games, resulting in an easily preventable stab at their record. Some players called Monday's victory a luck-of-the-draw win — one that happened to shove them into the playoffs. It's something not even CLC-36 defensive lineman Malcolm Leachman would have expected when he walked onto the field Monday night.

"We did so poorly in the season," he said in a post-game interview. "Nobody was expecting this win. We came here just wanting to have fun but then played ball probably the best we have all season."

Three victories during the regular season leaves CLC-36 with one of the worst records in the intramural league. However, Monday's victory could mean a change of pace in a real nick of time.

"If we keep playing like we did tonight, we're going to do well in the playoffs," Leachman said. "We're going to have to start taking our season seriously again. Who knows? Maybe we can have the worst record and actually win it."

BRIEFS

Basketball Camp Registration

The sign-up period is from Dec. 1 - Dec. 15 at 5 p.m. Sign up for the 2008 Marine Corps Community Services Semper Fit and Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 Youth Basketball Camp. The camp will be conducted inside the Ironworks Gym Sports Courts from

Dec. 27 to Dec. 31. The camp fee is \$25 per participant. The camp is for youth ages seven to 15 and is limited to the first 100 participants to sign up.

Youth Basketball Sign-up

The sign-up period is from Dec. 1 to Dec. 24 at 8 a.m. Age divisions are: 4-year-olds, 5-to-6-year-olds, 7-to-9-year-olds, 10-to-12-year-olds, 13-to-15-year-olds. The fee is \$30 per child. Cheerleaders may sign up at \$30 per child. The sign-up period remains the same.

If registering three or more children, the third child is \$25. After Dec. 24, the registration fee will be \$40. Coaches' Training will be conducted Dec. 17 and Dec. 18 at 5 p.m. in the Wellness Room at Ironworks Gym. Evaluations for 10-to-12-year-old division will be conducted Jan. 5, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. in the Sports Courts at Ironworks Gym. The season's opening ceremony will be held Jan. 19, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. in the Sports Courts at Ironworks Gym. The season's closing ceremony will be held Mar. 15, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. in the Sports Courts at Ironworks Gym.



Campaign hits Iwakuni Sunday

The Toys For Tots campaign will officially kick off in Iwakuni Dec. 7. The station is hosting its annual "Thunder Run" motorcycle rally at 12 p.m. at the Hornet's Nest here. Donation boxes will be opened at unit headquarters, the Marine Corps Exchange and the Hornet's Nest following the event.