

# THE IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 48, Vol. 1

Friday, December 19, 2008

Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan

## Performers sing for the moment

Hometown Holiday Extravaganza event a huge hit at Sakura

COMPILED BY  
THE IWAKUNI APPROACH

The curtains slowly drew open and a spotlight hit center stage. A rich and melodious voice permeated the theater while the audience sat speechless.

The community joined together for the 4th-annual Hometown Holiday Extravaganza held by the Holiday Cheerleading Committee Sunday at the Sakura Theater here.

The Girl Scouts, Matthew C. Perry Elementary School choir, Filipino-American Association carolers and many others who were selected through open

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Angel Cadavos, 8, recites, "Christmas In Our Heart," at the Sakura Theater here Dec. 14. Cadavos continued singing even when the house lights were accidentally shut off, leaving her and the audience in the dark. Photo by Lance Cpl. Chris Kutlesa



Sam Cadavos, 13, dazzles an audience at the Sakura Theater here with his performance of, "We Are the Reason," at the Holiday Hometown Extravaganza Dec. 14. Both his father and sister performed at the event as well. Photo by Lance Cpl. Chris Kutlesa

## Off-base residents can view local news

LANCE CPL. CHRIS KUTLESA  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

What you don't know may hurt you. That was the main concern of American Forces Network affiliates when they decided to provide off-base residents with local programming here. Now, for the first time, AFN is offering local news, commercials and emergency information to off-base residents via its Direct to Home program on channel 22.

The new programming will be an easier way to communicate command messages and typhoon warnings.

Users can access the new programming by directly tuning their AFN decoder box to channel 22. On-base residents are not affected by this change.

Local news kicks off at 6:25 p.m. with Inside Iwakuni, a five-minute newscast that gives viewers a brief look at weather, sports events, movie times and the current yen exchange rate.

"We don't want the people out in town to not be able to get the information they need to protect themselves," said Gunnery Sgt. Troy Ruby, AFN station manager.

In addition to getting command messages and typhoon warnings, viewers will also be able to get updates and reminders of community events.

Sgt. Andrew C. Milner, AFN news director, added "If they don't know about it, they don't have the option to choose. It's not about knowing all the information. It's about knowing where you can find it, and that's Channel 22."

For questions, problems, comments or event coverage, Ruby can be contacted by calling 253-6661.



(From left to right) Gary M. Walls, Marine Corps Community Services retail director, Joy Mosley, MCCS area exchange supervisor, Kazumi Ishimura, location supervisor, and Lt. Col. Matthew J. McCormack, station executive officer, cut a ribbon in front of the new Marine Corps Exchange Furniture Annex, officially opening the establishment here Dec. 11. Photo by Lance Cpl. Chris Kutlesa

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The Iwakuni Approach welcomes Letter to the Editor submissions. Letters must include a full name and unit, if applicable. Anonymous letters and comments will not be published. Letters are the opinion of the writer only. Submissions may be edited for clarity and space. Letters can be dropped off at the Public Affairs Office or sent via e-mail to iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil. Please submit all content at least two weeks in advance of projected publication date for review.

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## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

### 'Pro Deo Et Patria'

**Lt. JOHN Q. COMETA**  
DEPUTY COMMAND CHAPLAIN

As the end of the year speeds toward us, I want to thank you for your faithfulness, dedication, for your all-out support and for the "togetherness" we have always felt across the miles. For me, MCAS has become like my second home. For the past months, though we come from different commands aboard the station, we have worked hard as a team and shared life together like a family. As we continue to serve our country, remember no greater honor can

be given to any person than the privilege of serving the cause of freedom.

At this writing, it is 13 days before Christmas. I will never forget the day ABS-CBN, the largest media network in the Philippines, interviewed me live on television and asked me, "In one sentence, tell us what is the real meaning of Christmas?"

Caught off guard, I quoted John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

Indeed, God the greatest giver gave us

the greatest gift of all. Jesus is the reason for the season.

I pray that we will continue to be vigilant at all times, knowing we are living in a dangerous world.

Our Marines and sailors have given so much of their time protecting what we cherish most — our families, our faith and our freedom.

Before long we will hail the dawn of a new year that offers us new challenges and joys which fresh progress brings. May we advance with our hand in His, for He is well aware of all that lies ahead and will provide the grace we need for each step of the way.

May we all continue to give our best for God and for our country — Pro Deo Et Patria.



Yoshio Morita, a radar technician with station S-6, and Lt. Col. Matthew J. McCormack, station executive officer, make the first cut into a cake during Morita's retirement ceremony at the Club Iwakuni ballroom here Dec. 9. Morita, who served for 34 years and nine months, retired with several other Japanese individuals with varying years of service. Photo by Lance Cpl. Kyle T. Ramirez

## RETIRES

Department	Name	Position Title	Years of service
Facilities	Akito Kato	Water Inspector	24 years, 1 month
Facilities	Hidemi Matsumae	Glazier	23 years, 1 month
Facilities	Seiji Nakabayashi	Repair Estimator	28 years, 6 months
Facilities	Toshiharu Okihara	Clerk	27 years, 5 months
Facilities	Tsutomu Sakagami	Electrician Foreman	28 years, 1 month
Facilities	Kazue Takahashi	Charge of Quarters Clerk	17 years, 11 months
Facilities	Makio Yamamoto	Electrical Engineer	30 years, 7 months
Logistics	Kimio Fujii	Vehicle Mechanic	22 years, 2 months
Logistics	Shinji Ito	Hazard Waste Handler	23 years, 10 months
Logistics	Toshio Katayama	Cook	31 years, 1 month
Logistics	Masao Matsuo	Claims Examination Clerk	28 years, 9 months
Logistics	Hitoshi Nohara	Administrative Specialist	22 years
Logistics	Tatsuo Ogawa	Vehicle Driver	16 years, 2 months
Logistics	Koji Yasuda	A/C Cargo Truck Operator	24 years, 7 months
MCCS	Yasuko Nishimura	Recreation Specialist	17 years, 10 months
MCCS	Hideo Sagawa	Kitchen Worker	2 years
Station S-6	Akie Kawabe	Supervisor Operations	17 years, 3 months
Station S-6	Yoshio Morita	Radar Mechanic	34 years, 9 months

## Community shares holiday spirit at Christmas Extravaganza



The Matthew C. Perry Elementary School choir sings "In the Spirit" at the 4th annual Hometown Holiday Extravaganza Dec. 14. Photo by Pfc. Claudio A. Martinez

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auditions, performed holiday pieces.

Angie Igana, an event spectator, said the extravaganza is fantastic because it offers the chance to discover the hidden talents of the community here on station.

In between sets, Cpl. Bryan A. McDonnell, radio noncommissioned officer-in-charge at American Forces Network and master-of-ceremony, entertained the audience by telling various holiday facts from around the world.

The unit performances, held during the second half of the show, provided a bit of friendly competition and the opportunity to win prize money for unit party funds. Cpl. Kevin S. Chang, avionics technician with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12, who took first place, won \$250 for his unit

by performing "Winter Wonderland" on the piano. Cpl. Pablo "Elvis" S. Rey, basic water supply technician for Marine Wing Support Squadron 171, won \$150 for his unit after receiving second place in the competition. He sang "How Great Thou Art." Coming in third place was Sgt. Jennytza Montemayor, mobile maintenance facility noncommissioned officer in charge for MALS-12, singing "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas." She won \$100 for her unit's party fund.

The Hometown Holiday Extravaganza brings the community together to share different cultural traditions during the holiday season, said Petty Officer 2nd Class Christina M. Zambrano, the command representative for the Holiday Cheerleading Committee and avionics technician with MALS-12. Every year, more and more people attend, she added.

## Spouses' fellowships to provide education

SUBMITTED BY BONNIE LEWIS  
STATION FINANCIAL FITNESS  
COUNSELOR

WASHINGTON — Nearly 200 military spouses living in the United States and abroad have been accepted into the highly competitive Military Spouse Fellowship Program, one of many efforts launched by the FINRA Investor Education Foundation to increase the financial knowledge of military service members and their families. The program will provide fellowship recipients with the education necessary to earn the Accredited Financial Counselor designation and to provide financial counseling and education within the military community.

The program, which began in 2006, is administered in partnership with the Association for Financial Counseling and Planning Education and the National Military Family Association. The fellowship covers the costs associated with completing the AFC training and testing.

"This program fills a need on two fronts — providing more trained financial counselors who understand and can help address the unique needs of military families, while also helping military spouses foster their own careers and marketability," said Mary Schapiro, CEO



Children of station Marines and sailors watch as a balloon artist creates creatures, weapons and hats among other various items by request at the annual station family Christmas Party held at IronWorks Gym here Dec. 12. Photo by Sgt. Josh Cox.

of FINRA and chairman of the FINRA Investor Education Foundation. "In light of the current challenges facing our economy, the Military Spouse Fellowship Program has never been more important in our efforts to help military families protect themselves in tough financial times."

The 189 military spouses were selected from thousands of applicants, and will immediately begin their training in military communities worldwide. The 2008 class of spouse fellows includes 33 spouses who live abroad. Of the fellowship recipients, 33 percent are Army spouses, 23 percent are Air Force spouses, 22 percent are Navy spouses and 11 percent

are Marine Corps spouses.

Many military employers, such as credit unions, financial aid offices and community service centers, need well-trained financial counselors to meet the increasing demand for financial counseling services. With this training, military spouses can apply their own experiences and help more military families while building a rewarding career that is flexible and can conform to the demands of the military family lifestyle.

Amy Hutchison, an accredited military spouse from the 2006 class of fellows, has put her program experience into practice at the Fleet and Family Support Centers of Hampton Roads (Virginia),

where the training she gained through the Military Spouse Fellowship Program helped her secure a promotion to financial educator.

"The program has helped me personally and professionally," Hutchison said. "It's changed the way I think about money, and through the program, I've had the opportunity to pay it forward to other members of the community."

The program is open to spouses of active-duty or retired Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Army or Air National Guard or reservists, as well as spouses of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

# Day as a Devildog

## Station children get taste of life in Corps

LANCE CPL. KRISTIN E. COTE  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The children sat gathered on the floor, their eyes wide with anticipation as a military working dog bolted from a vehicle in a mad dash toward the enemy. The dog ripped the enemy down by his arm, causing the children to grow loud with excitement.

Twenty-eight children of active-duty Marines and sailors assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron participated in their first Johnny Wayne Day here Dec. 11.

The event, mirrored after the squadron's Jane Wayne Day, provided the children with a firsthand look at what their mothers and fathers experience on a daily basis, said Staff Sgt. Jason M. Jensen, H&HS S-3 operations chief and coordinator for the event.

To start the day off, the children saw a demonstration of a drill instructor interacting with some Marines acting as recruits. The children sat quietly, their faces covered in awe.

Provost Marshal's Office kennel master Staff Sgt. Donell L. Graves, led the children in a military working dog demonstration. The children were able to see the dogs search a room and find a hidden intruder, cover an area to find a lost or concealed object and attack at the command of its handler. They learned how important it is for the dogs to be obedient both on and off their leash and the purpose of military working dogs.

Nikki Genzer, an 8th grader at Matthew C. Perry High School, said her favorite part of the day was volunteering to be attacked by a military working dog. The event allowed her to experience things she normally wouldn't have the chance to, she added.

Explosive Ordnance Disposal technicians taught them how to operate robots used to investigate possible improvised explosive devices and other threats.

Aircraft rescue firefighters assisted the children in operating a fire hose, showed them the aircraft control tower, and taught them about the different safety equipment they used by letting the children try on a proximity firefighting suit.

With little assistance, the children were able to load and fire weapons on their own in the indoor simulation marksmanship training facility.

The day turned out to be quite exciting, said Kaiya S. Scott, an 8th grader at M.C. Perry High School, despite her preconception that the day was going to be boring. She said would definitely participate in next year's Johnny Wayne Day.

The children experienced numerous events that helped them to better understand and respect what their parents do in the military, said Jensen.

With the exception of the complaints that it was too short, the event was well received by the children. Jensen said the evolution will probably become an annual event.



A drill instructor gives a taste of boot camp by yelling at acting recruits during Johnny Wayne Day here Dec. 11. Photo by Lance Cpl. Kristin E. Cote



Children eat lunch at the South side messhall during Johnny Wayne Day here Dec. 11. Photo by Lance Cpl. Kristin E. Cote



In his Santa Claus suit, Cpl. Robert C. Touchston, Combat Logistics Company 36 supply administrative clerk, interacts with students at a local pre-school Dec. 11. Photo by Lance Cpl. Kyle T. Ramirez

## Marines bring holiday cheer to local pre-school

PFC. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Armed with bags of candy and holiday cheer, Marines approached a local school wearing Santa and elf suits, ready to spread holiday cheer.

The Marines from Combat Logistics Company 36, who spend time with the children once a month, went to Kinnan Hoikuen pre-school to share Christmas traditions with them Dec. 11.

While the 3-, 4- and 5-year-old children learn their own alphabet and culture at the school, the visiting Marines exposed them to new ideas and traditions.

"I appreciate visits like these," said Yoshie Inoue, a teacher at Kinnan Hoikuen pre-school. "It sparks their curiosity, inspires them and exposes their minds to the traditions of other cultures."

Teachers looked on with a curiosity of their own as the students, eager to show off their artwork and abilities, interacted with the Marines.

"It's very educational for me too," said Inoue. "Our cultures are so different, and a relationship like this offers us an opportunity to exchange ideas and opinions."

As the Marines entered the classrooms, they were quickly surrounded by dozens of smiling and curious children ready to tackle them down with hugs of appreciation.

The Marines spent the morning going over the English alphabet and passing out candy to the children while they sang and thanked them with Christmas carols in Japanese.

The morning was also spent making paper gingerbread men and playing games.

"It was fun," said Nachi Numata, a student at Kinnan Hoikuen pre-school. "I liked it because I could play Play-dough with them and make rice cakes."

While working with the children the Marines couldn't help but smile and laugh with the students singing and laughter ringing through the school walls.

Cpl. Robert Touchston, logistics administrative clerk (CLC-36) and acting-Santa at the event, said the smiling faces were contagious.



Cpl. Sue B. Young, Combat Logistics Company 36, helps a Japanese pre-school student create paper gingerbread men as part of the day's activities during their visit. Photo by Lance Cpl. Kyle T. Ramirez

# 2008 HOLIDAY VOUCHER PROGRAM



**The Thrift Shop | \$300**



**Cavalry Chapel | \$200**



**Genesis Lodge #89 | \$400**



**Mt. Fuji Military Lodge | \$200**



**Girl Scouts of America Lone Troop | \$100**



**SeaBee Association | \$120**

Happy Holidays to all,

This time of year is very special. There is a spirit of excitement and expectation; a spirit of hope and good will. The lights, decorations, smells and sounds of the season invoke memories of holidays past. There is electricity among children and adults alike for the times together with family and friends, not to mention the wonderful food and gifts that come with the holiday season.

This is also a time that often brings out the best in people: those that have been blessed, in turn look to bless others from their own good fortunes. The Holiday Voucher Program (HVP) provided a charitable mechanism to do just that. The HVP goal was to provide a little relief for service members and their families during the holiday season.

The adage, "charity begins at home," was embodied by our community to bring about the success of this year's program. This was all possible due to the generous and heartfelt monetary contributions provided by the private organizations aboard the Air Station, as well as MCCS and the Commissary.

From the contributions, over 100 HVP vouchers were provided to families of the MCAS Iwakuni community. Each voucher represented a \$40 value redeemable at the Commissary, Club Iwakuni, or the KFC at the Food Court.

I would like to recognize the private organizations that contributed to the HVP Program this year; The Thrift Shop \$300, Calvary Chapel \$200, Genesis Lodge #89 \$400, Mount Fuji Military Lodge \$200, Girl Scouts of America Lone Troop \$100, SeaBee Association \$120, Filipino American Association \$200, Iwakuni Chief Petty Officer Association \$230, Boy Scouts of America Troop 77 \$130, Helping Hands of Iwakuni \$25, Religious Offering Fund Roman Catholic \$1,000, and the Religious Offering Fund Protestant \$1,000.

Again, Happy Holidays and thanks to our Iwakuni community partners, MCAS Iwakuni private organizations and the MCCS and Commissary leadership and staff for their generous support for this year's Holiday Voucher Program.

Semper Fidelis,

M. A. O'Halloran  
Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps  
Commanding Officer



**Filipino American Association | \$200**



**Iwakuni Chief Petty Officer Association | \$230**



**Religious Offering Fund Protestant | \$1000**



**Religious Offering Fund Roman Catholic | \$1000**



**Boy Scouts of America Troop 77 | \$130**

## CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE

## Platoon completes security mission in Rawah

SGT. MICHAEL T. LOWRY  
REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM 5

**RAWAH, Iraq** — Marines from Provisional Rifle Platoon 3, Regimental Combat Team 5 completed a two-month security mission at Traffic Control Points 3 and 4 here Dec. 9.

The PRP-3 Marines turned the control of the TCPs over to a platoon from 1st Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment.

"This was a great opportunity for the Marines, including myself," said 2nd Lt. Randall Blowers, 25, platoon commander for PRP-3 from Vernon, Conn. "Overall, I think the platoon did very well, and now 1st Battalion, 2nd Marines will do well."

The Marines of PRP-3, most of whom are not infantry Marines, conducted more than 120 security patrols throughout Rawah, and they operated in over-watch for Iraqi Police monitoring traffic on the Rawah Bridge, which crosses the Euphrates River.

"I had fun going out on foot patrols through the city and seeing the children and meeting the people," said Cpl. Travis Silhan, 20, a Marine Air Ground Task Force planner with PRP-3 from Houston. "It was interesting walking through the city and seeing the houses being built and seeing how the people act around us."

Silhan was also a member of PRP-1, which mostly performed mounted patrols in the desert of western al Anbar Province. Comparatively, the operations of PRP-3 were more geared toward dismounted patrols and area security, and Silhan and the other Marines said they appreciated getting outside the concrete walls of TCP-3.

"It was always a nice change of scenery, being in town," said Lance Cpl. Robert Schur, 25, a switchboard operator with PRP-3 from Mission Viejo, Calif. "I was hoping to be involved with a lot of patrols and convoys, so I was excited when I got to be part of this PRP."

The Marines were in over watch for the TCPs, which meant essentially that they were providing the security element for the Iraqi Police at the checkpoints so the policemen could concentrate on practicing their jobs.

"Transition is the mission," Blowers said. "The intent from the beginning was to turn Iraq back over to the Iraqis, and PRP-3 was like a microcosm of our mission in Iraq. When we first got to the TCPs, we had to 'hold' (the policemen's hands) a little bit at first, but they started to make a lot of progress."

"The Iraqis have a lot of challenges ahead, and most of the burden is now on



Lance Cpl. Steve Smith, a supply warehouseman with Provisional Rifle Platoon 3, Regimental Combat Team 5, keeps security while other Marines clear a house in Rawah, Iraq, Dec. 4. Smith and PRP-3 recently completed a two-month assignment as security for Traffic Control Points 3 and 4, which are on the Rawah Bridge. Photo by Sgt. Michael T. Lowry

their shoulders because they should be able to handle it," Blowers added. "Some of the (Iraqi policemen) really earned my respect. The neighbors in the area commented that they trusted the IP a lot more after we arrived."

"I was really excited about the opportunity to see how Iraqi people live," said Schur, who was among the Marines who dined with Yasir Humady Khatlan on the eve of Eid al-Adha, one of Islam's important celebrations, the Feast of Sacrifice. "I was eager to taste their food — which was excellent — and to just be within their presence."

"It is an honor and a privilege to invite you to my home," Yasir said, through an interpreter, as he bade farewell to his neighbors from PRP-3. "I am proud to provide hospitality to the Marines, and I want people to know this is how Iraq is now. We make good connections and friendships with people from other countries."

The Marines, especially those who hadn't previously ventured "outside the wire" for an extended amount of time, learned a lot about Iraqis, about military operations in urban terrain and about themselves.

"I'm used to leading Marines from my own military occupational specialty," said Sgt. Rene Gonzalez, 26, a squad leader with PRP-3 and a radio chief with RCT-5 from El Paso, Texas. "This was



Cpl. Jordan Carranza, a fire team leader with Provisional Rifle Platoon 3, Regimental Combat Team 5, keeps alert during a pause in a patrol Dec. 4 in Rawah, Iraq. The PRP-3 Marines kept watch over the Rawah Bridge, once used as a thoroughfare for insurgents coming to western al Anbar Province, Iraq, and now used for local traffic, contractors, and shepherds. The platoon recently completed a two-month assignment as security for Traffic Control Points 3 and 4, which are on the Rawah Bridge. Photo by Sgt. Michael T. Lowry

leading Marines from a lot of different backgrounds, and this was a different type of environment for me."

"I learned a lot from the infantry Marines," said Schur, who normally works with communications equipment. "I didn't really know what to expect from the PRP mission, but I feel really lucky to be part of that experience. I'm thankful for it, and it's something I'll never forget."

The PRP-3 leaders recognized and are grateful for the contributions of every member of the platoon.

"I could go through the roster and think of at least one outstanding thing each individual Marine did out there," Blowers said. "I'm glad to have been given the opportunity to lead this platoon. The conduct of the Marines was exemplary. I couldn't be more proud of everybody in the platoon."

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

## Press pause for Vol. 2

Issue No. 48, Vol. 1 will be the last edition of the Iwakuni Approach for the year 2008. The newspaper staff will pause publication for two weeks. Issue No. 1, Vol. 2 will publish Jan. 9, 2009.

## Flu Shots/Mist Available

The BHC Iwakuni has now received the injectable form of the flu shot for children 36 months to 18 years old. You may receive the flu shot or flu mist at Immunizations in the Iwakuni Branch Health Clinic. Immunization hours of operation are Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 7:30 to 11:45 a.m. and 12:45 to 4 p.m., and Wednesday from 7:30 to 11:45 a.m. If you have any question, contact Immunizations at 253-

6326.

## Commissary Holiday Hours

The Iwakuni Commissary will have a change of schedule for this coming Christmas/ New Year weeks.

Dec. 21 (Sun.): 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Dec. 22 (Mon.): 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.\*  
Dec. 23 (Tue.): 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.\*  
Dec. 24 (Wed.): 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.\*  
Dec. 25 (Thurs.): CLOSED\*  
Dec. 26 (Fri.): CLOSED\*  
Dec. 27 (Sat.): 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Dec. 28 (Sun.): 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Dec. 29 (Mon.): 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.\*  
Dec. 30 (Tue.): 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.  
Dec. 31 (Wed.): 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.\*  
Jan. 1 (Thurs.): CLOSED\*  
Jan. 2 (Fri.): 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.  
Jan. 3 (Sat.): 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
(\* denotes change in schedule)

## Post Office Hours of Christmas

Main Post Office Bldg. 405  
Dec. 24 (Wed.): Normal Hours of operation (Operation Santa Parcel Pick up only 8 - 11 p.m.).  
Dec. 25 (Thurs.) & 26 (Fri.): Closed  
Dec. 27 (Sat.): Resumed Normal Hours of operation.  
North-Side Post Office Bldg 1460  
Dec. 24 (Wed.): Normal Hours of operation  
Dec. 25 (Thurs.) & (Fri.): Closed

## BHC Holiday Closure

The Branch Health Clinic Iwakuni will be closed at noon on Dec. 24 and 31. This is in conjunction with Dec. 25 and Jan. 1 and is in addition to the regular closing on the afternoon of first and third Wednesday of the month. The Urgent Care Clinic will remain open during these times. If you have any question, call Branch Health Clinic at 253-5571.

## UMUC Holiday Closure

UMUC office will be closed for Holiday break from Dec. 24 – Jan. 4. The office will re-open on Jan. 5. In case of an emergency, call the Yokota office at 225-3680. We apologize for the inconvenience.

## Mammograms

The BHC Iwakuni will be conducting mammograms through an onsite van from Jan. 12 to 16, 2009. To schedule this service, call central appointments at 253-3445 so that it can be arranged through your primary care doctor. Once the order is requested by your primary care doctor, appointments will be made by Radiology.

## UMUC Academic Advisor Visit

Jan. 15 and 16, 2009, from 8 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 4:30 p.m. Appointments must be made in advance by contacting the Iwakuni University of Maryland University College Office. Each appointment will be 30 minutes in duration, in a private classroom, one-on-one with an academic advisor. Appointment slots fill up quickly, so make a reservation early to ensure the time most convenient for you. To make an appointment, call the UMUC office at 253-3392.

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

## 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.

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

## 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 Christmas Inc.

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

## Teen Programs

For times, call 253-5183.

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

## Holiday Worship Schedule

## Dec. 14

3 p.m. Catholic - Advent Pageant & Dinner

## Dec. 25

9 a.m. Catholic - Christmas Day Mass

## Dec. 24

5 p.m. Catholic - Christmas Vigil Mass  
7 p.m. Protestant - Christmas Eve Service  
11:30 p.m. Catholic - Carols & Midnight Mass

## Dec. 31 New Year's Eve

7 p.m. Protestant - New Year's Eve Service

## Jan. 1, 2009 New Year's Day

9 a.m. Catholic - Mary, Mother of God Mass

These services are in addition the Chapel's regular worship services. Call 253-3371.

## Sakura Theater

## Friday, Dec. 19, 2008

7 p.m. Hypnotist Show  
All Audiences  
10 p.m. W. (PG-13)  
Premier

6 p.m. Pride and Glory (R)

## Monday, Dec. 22, 2008

11:30 a.m. Bolt (PG)  
7 p.m. Max Payne (PG-13)

## Saturday, Dec. 20, 2008

12 p.m. Bolt (PG)  
2:30 W. (PG-13)  
5:30 Pride and Glory (R)  
Premier  
10 p.m. Hypnotist Show  
Adults Only

## Tuesday, Dec. 23, 2008

7 p.m. Nick & Norah's (PG-13)  
Last Showing

## CLOSED WEDNESDAY

## Thursday, Dec. 25, 2008

1 p.m. Beverly Hills Chihuahua (PG)  
Last Showing  
4 p.m. Four Christmases (PG-13)  
7 p.m. Earth Stood Still (PG-13)  
Premier

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.

# THE IWAKUNI APPROACH CLASSIFIEDS

## Automobiles

### 1996 Toyota Exiv

4 door, dark blue, A/C and heat, CD player, runs great, seats 4 comfortably, JCI until April 2010. Asking \$2,000 OBO. Call at 253-2579 (home).

## Miscellaneous

### Home for sale at Beaufort

Beaufort Orders? Home 20 minutes from the air station for rent 3/2/2. Remote control ceiling fans in the living room and all three bedrooms. Remote control garage door opener with a fenced yard. This spacious, open floor plan home is on a wooded lot with a lagoon. Bluffton is between the air station and Savannah. Make the wife happy with the convenient shopping while you are still close to work and your children are in better schools. For more information, call (843) 321-2917 or e-mail to: ninavanetten@yahoo.com.

## Mess Hall Schedule

### MONDAY

Cream of Mushroom Soup, Creole Soup, Sauerbraten, Hot and Spicy Chicken, Fried Rice, Oven Glo Potatoes, Fried Zucchini, Calico Corn, Hot Dinner Rolls, Congo Bars, Marble Cake Double Layer, Butter Cream Frosting, Blueberry, Crunch  
SPECIALTY BAR: PASTA BAR

### TUESDAY

Cream of Potato Soup, Chicken Noodle Soup, Southern Fried Chicken, BBQ, Beef Cube, Steamed Rice, Buttered Pasta, Black Eye Peas, Creole Squash, Corn Bread, Chocolate Chip Cookies, Spice Cake Double Layer, Butter cream Frosting, Lemon Meringue Pie  
SPECIALTY BAR: TACO BAR

### WEDNESDAY

Cream of Broccoli Soup, Vegetable Soup, Tempura Fish, Pepper Steak, Steamed Rice, Oven Glo Potatoes, Glazed Carrots, Club Spinach, Brown Gravy, Dinner Rolls, Peanut Butter Cookies, Devil's Food Cake, Butter Cream Frosting  
SPECIALTY BAR: BBQ

### THURSDAY

The South side mess hall will be closed. Minestrone Soup, Cream of Chicken Soup, Creole Macaroni, Fried Shrimp, Fettuccini w/ Alfredo Sauce, Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Tempura Vegetables, Peas and Carrots, Dinner Rolls, Sugar Cookies, Strawberry Shortcake, Whipped Topping, Vanilla Cream Pie, SPECIALTY BAR: DELI BAR

### FRIDAY

Clam Chowder Soup, Minestrone Soup, Braised Beef and Noodles, Baked Fish, Mashed Potatoes, Fried Cabbage, Mix Vegetables, Chicken Gravy, Dinner rolls, Banana Bread, Dutch Apple Pie, Shortbread Cookies  
SPECIALTY BAR: HOT DOGS/POLISH SAUSAGE

## Items for sale

- Brand new Futon : Bought at MCX in October, has never been slept on. Paid \$350, asking \$300.
  - Crib Mattress : \$25.
  - Joovy Groovy Double Stroller : Green. Bought brand new for \$250 the week of Thanksgiving. Asking \$200.
- Call to 090-8505-2818 (cell) or email to chris\_leighann.junkins@yahoo.com.

## Projection TV

61" rear projection TV, bought 2001, cover scratches, picture works great. \$400 OBO. For more information, call 253-2437 (home).

## Brand new JAPANESE version WII FIT

Yes, it's a brand new Wii Fit for the special people on your Christmas list. Again, this is a Japanese version and will not work on an American Wii. If you bought your Wii in town, it will work, but if you bought your Wii in the MCX, it will not work. Trust me, I learned the hard way. Asking \$150. First come, first served. Call me at 080-6612-9263 (cell) or 253-2549 (home).

## Free to good home...

2 cats, we prefer to keep them together if possible one male and one female both fixed and chipped. Probably best for older kids. Loving and affectionate once they get to know you. We will give food, litterbox, food bowls, as well as all their "toys" to whoever wants them. They are both up to date on their shots. Call at 253-2579 (home).

## Baby girl clothes for sale

Old Navy, Gap, Osh Kosh, Carters. Size from six months to nine months winter. 12 months to 18 months spring and summer. Have shoes, socks/tights, bibs, sweaters, coats. Excellent shape, lightly worn and free of stains. Will sell individually \$5 per outfit, shoes \$3 per pair of shoes, or will negotiate a price for all. For more information, email to dawn\_larrabee@yahoo.com or call 253-2611 (home).

## Pack-n-play for sale

Pack-n-play with changing table, vibrations, music and bassinet in excellent shape. Asking \$75. For more information, email to dawn\_larrabee@yahoo.com or call 253-2611 (home).

## 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. 29, 2008.

### Part time program coordinator

University of Phoenix is seeking a part time program coordinator. The working location is Iwakuni Education Center, salary is \$11/hour. Open until Jan. 9, 2009. Must be a U.S. Citizen or possess proper documentation to work for a US Company. For more detail, contact the University of Phoenix, Iwakuni office at 253-3335.

To submit an advertisement request, follow the classified link on the station Web site and open an advertisement request form. Submit the form via Web site 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 submission 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.

## Northside: Special Christmas Meal

Food Service will be serving a special Christmas Meal Dec. 25 in the northside messhall from 3 to 5:30 p.m. All station residents are invited. Those receiving community rations (COMRATS), family members and civilian employees will pay \$6.35 for the meal. Family members of E-4 and below will pay \$5.35.

### Special Meal Menu:

Chicken noodle soup, roast turkey, roast beef, baked ham, mashed potatoes, candied sweet potatoes,

simmered corn, lyonnaise green beans, savory bread dressing, hot dinner rolls, pumpkin pie, pecan pie, apple pie, sugar cookies, assorted ice cream

### ■ Mess Hall Closure

The southside messhall will be closed Dec. 25 and 26 in observance of the Christmas holiday. The northside messhall will be closed Jan. 1 and 2, 2009 in observance of New Year's. For more information, contact Master Sgt. John B. Bass by calling 253-6740.

## PROGRAM FROM PAGE 3

### About the FINRA Investor Education Foundation

The FINRA Investor Education Foundation is the largest foundation in the United States dedicated to investor education. Its mission is to provide investors with high-quality, easily accessible information and tools to better understand the markets and the basic principles of saving and investing. The Foundation also presents financial education forums at military installations worldwide.

### About AFCPE

The Association for Financial Counseling and Planning Education (AFCPE) provides professional development experiences for financial educators, practitioners and researchers to improve the economic well-being of individuals and families worldwide.

### About NMFA

The National Military Family Association is the only national organization whose sole focus is the military family and whose goal is to influence the development and implementation of policies that will improve the lives of the families of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. For more than 35 years, its staff and volunteers, comprising mostly military family members, have built a reputation for being the leading experts on military family issues. Visit www.nmfa.org for more information.

Article provided by the station Personal Financial Management Counselor, Bonnie Lewis. For questions about this or other financial concerns, contact her by calling 253-6250 or e-mail bonnie.lewis@usmc.mil.

# All-Marine Wrestling

## Coach engages Iwakuni's future prospective applicants



Sgt. Donovan Depatto (right) squares up with a wrestler from the Bulgarian national wrestling team during the 13th annual Cristo Lutte National Invitational in Creteil, France. Depatto, a Monticello, Minn. native, has been a member of the All-Marine Wrestling team since 2004. Photo courtesy of the All-Marine Wrestling Team official Web site

### LANCE CPL. CHRIS KUTLESA IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

It was a chilly morning when Maj. Dan Hicks passed through Iwakuni's front gates in search of Marines motivated enough to join the prestigious All-Marine Wrestling Team. "My job is to find Marines with wrestling experience, who have talent and potential, and give them a shot at making our team, serving the Marine Corps through wrestling," said Hicks,

head coach of the All-Marine wrestling team.

Hicks tries to visit Iwakuni once every fall to talk to Marines about the program's offerings. Spreading the word is his main concern, not recruiting.

The physical and mental demands are too strenuous for those who aren't 100 percent dedicated, said Hicks.

After the application process in January, approximately 30 Marines travel to Camp Lejeune, N.C. every year to attend a three-month wrestling camp

that starts in February.

"I'm not running an elite, soviet-style wrestling team," insisted Hicks, whose camp involves three practices a day.

The daily routine starts at 7 a.m. with weightlifting and sprints at the track. After a break at 9:30 a.m., Marines hit the mat for two to three hours, sparring and working on their technique. After lunch at 3:30 p.m., the team comes together again for two more hours of intense wrestling.

Hicks said that he rarely has new joins

who do not get hurt at least once during their first year.

"You have to continue to train even when you don't feel 100 percent," Hicks said. "The training is tough on the body, but if you have the mind-set, you will make it through."

For those interested in joining the All-Marine Wrestling Team, visit the organization's Web site at <http://www.usmc-mccs.org/sports/wrestling> and fill out an application or contact Hicks by e-mail at [hicksjd@usmc-mccs.org](mailto:hicksjd@usmc-mccs.org).

## BRIEFS

### Youth Basketball Sign-up

The sign-up period runs until Dec. 24. 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.

### Nutrition Class

Kicking off the new year right, IronWorks Gym will be hosting its nutrition class Jan. 15, 2009 from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. in its Wellness Room. The free class will cover topics including "from-fads-to-fabulous" popular diets, "magic bullet," weight-loss and the negative side-effects and red flags of "junk science." To secure a seat, call 253-6359 to register by Jan. 14, 2009. If seats are available, students can register the day of the class as well.

# Jingle Bell Jog 2008

Prizes for  
Best Dressed!  
Kids, Adults,  
and Units too!

Cameras, iPods,  
Wiis, Gift Cards,  
42" Plasma TV!



## Celebrate the Holidays **Semper Fit Style**

December 22, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

### Fun, Food, Music!

Sandwiches, hot cocoa, cookies and live music  
directly after the run!

### 1.2 K Fun Run!

Get into the Holiday Spirit!  
Dress up and head down to  
the IronWorks Gym...

