

## **CSAF** directs safety review

By 18th Wing Public Affairs

5/21/2018 — The Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. David L. Goldfein directed all Air Force wings with flying and maintenance functions to execute a one-day operational safety review by May 21.

Individual units from Kadena Air Base took time to assess and evaluate key aspects of flying and maintenance operations over the course of several days prior to May 21.

"We cannot afford to lose a single Airman or weapons system due to a mishap that could have been prevented," Goldfein said.

During the safety review, Airmen used commander-led forums to discuss safety

practices and concerns. These forums challenged the Airmen who execute the Air Force's flying operations on a daily basis to identify issues that may cause a future mishap.

Airmen from the maintenance and operations groups broke discussions into smaller groups based on rank and specific jobs. The breakout sessions allowed Airmen the ability to provide open and honest feedback about safe operations, and to give possible solutions on better future practices.

Although the safety focus was centered on flying operations, many units across the wing took the opportunity to focus on safety as it applies to their specific mission.



Airmen from the 909th Air Refueling Squadron discuss safety procedures May 21, at Kadena Air Base. Safety is one of the highest priorities for the U.S. Air Force and plays a key role in the accomplishment of missions.

"Safety is paramount and appropriate risk analysis is a fundamental component of safe operations," said Col. Richard Tanner, 18th Wing vice commander. "Even though we have an excellent safety record at Kadena, it never hurts to take some time away from our busy operations and really focus on every aspect of the mission and how we can identify and mitigate risks."

# New tool enhances Air Force safety inspections, assessments and evaluations

By Keith Wright

Air Force Safety Center Public Affairs 5/18/2018 - KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, N.M. — A new module has been launched through the Air Force Safety Automated System on May 17, arming safety professionals AFwide with a single method to document and track both spot and annual inspections, as well as safety assessments and evaluations at a local and enterprise

Created in 2007 by the Air Force Safety Center, AFSAS is the unique safety reporting system used by the Air Force to collect and maintain safety-related data, record mishap investigations, and track mitigation and abatement of hazards for all safety disciplines.

This new capability provides safety professionals and commanders with a single user-friendly tool to identify and track hazards across their installations and increase visibility of all hazards AF-wide.

The inspection module in-



(U.S. Air Force graphic by By Keith Wr

corporates the communication and tracking of identified Risk Assessment Code 1 through 5 hazards with the added ability to automatically transfer 1, 2 and 3 coded hazards to the formal Master Hazard Abatement Program. This capability expands Air Force visibility of more than 1,000 Risk Assessment Code 1, 2 and 3 hazards, as well as allowing for the management of \$142 million in abatement costs.

"This new module will eliminate the myriad of paper processes and shadow databases

safety offices have used for decades," said Senior Master Sgt. Jakob Kurtz, chief of the Air Force Occupational Safety Investigation, Reports, and Analysis Branch. "Everyone benefits when inspection processes are streamlined, consistent, and visible at the enterprise level."

The inspection module will help safety inspectors by synchronizing the access to and use of 30,000 general industry standards from the Occupational Safety & Health Administration Inspection System, ensuring inspection findings and references are consistent with federal law requirements.

"Including general industry standards in the inspection module is a key element of the transition from Air Force instructions to OSHA federal laws and regulations," said Bill Parsons, Air Force chief of occupational safety. "Safety professionals will now be able to search and reference federal standards during their inspections, assessments and evaluations, as well as while generating the related reports."

The module also provides standardized templates for communicating inspection, assessment, and evaluation results electronically to leadership at all levels, increasing the efficiency of report generation and tracking through the coordination process.

Additionally, the module will provide over 900 safety professionals the ability to pull data and trend identified hazards, enabling the Air Force to mitigate and abate those hazards and reduce risks before they lead to mishaps. Prior to deployment of this module, Air Force major commands participated in user acceptance testing and provided comments to the developers. This feedback resulted in end-user perspective adjustments to the module and buy-in from the field.

"AFSAS is continuously evolving to meet the growing needs of Air Force safety professionals," said Frank Svet, deputy chief of the Information Technology and Cyberspace Operations Division at AFSEC. "One intent for this new capability is for safety personnel in the future to utilize a mobile device to perform an inspection, assessment or evaluation and upload their findings right away."

The inspection module is accessible 24/7 worldwide with a Controlled Access Card through the AFSAS website. This is one more improvement in AFSAS on the road to making it the single comprehensive IT tool for the Air Force Safety Management System.

# Kadena Air Base Weekly Newspaper



嘉手納基地内 70 カ所以上、トリイステーション、海軍基地 県内の商業施設や店舗へ 300 カ所以上に無料配布されています 空軍、陸軍、海軍、その家族、軍雇用員、シビリアンなど幅広い層に読まれています。

外国人への集客に是非サムライゲートをご利用ください 広告お問い合わせ / Advertising inquiry

株式会社エイト

お気軽にご連絡ください

info@samuraigate.jp Tel. 098-921-2003





Published by Eight Co., Ltd. a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 18th Wing. The civilian enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services overseas. Contents of Samurai Gate are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force or Eight Co. Ltd. of the products or services advertised. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force or Eight Co. Ltd. of the products or services advertised. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. For commercial advertising, inquiry, send an email to info@samuraigate.jp

## Kadena Elementary opens, uses different approach



The Kadena Elementary School building stands waiting for students May 15, Kadena Air Base. The building was constructed in February 2018 and houses elementary



▲ A series of "Art Bots" designed by a Kadena Elementary School student sit on display May 15, Kadena Air Base. Students are encouraged to "think outside the box" on school projects to create innovative products or solutions.



Programmable toy robots sit at their charging station at Kadena Elementary School May 15, Kadena Air Base. Students at KES are taught various "modern-era" style courses designed to encourage creativity and skills needed in the 21st century.

#### By Senior Airman **Quay Drawdy**

18th Wing Public Affairs **5/17/2018** — The new Kadena Elementary School opened Feb. 22, at Kadena Air Base.

Within the new school, the use of the science, technology, engineering, arts and math, or STEAM, program has meant a new style of curriculum and learning environment for students attending the school.

The school features an open-layout style classroom environment where each grade is assigned a large, open area that each classroom connects to. This allows students from different classes to meet, communicate and work side-by-side on different projects.

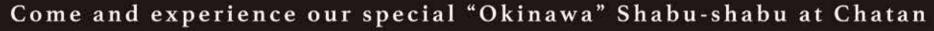
"Most school buildings and classrooms haven't changed

in over 100 years," said Lorri Vallone, Kadena Elementary School assistant principal. "The open layout gives flexibility to reach every student, not where we want them to be, but where they are at that moment. We have the freedom to move students, teachers, furniture and teaching environments as needed. Collaboration and communication, which are

integral elements of the 21st century, is consistently used among teachers and students."

Within the STEAM program, students are receiving instruction within each of the "core" elements, to include science and math, with an added focus on the arts, technology and even engineering. Due to these added focus areas, children are exposed to skills such as basic coding beginning at the kindergarten level.

"It is through exposure and inspiration that our school impacts our students," Vallone said. "Through our STEAM projects, students are finding the truth in the world, accessing reliable resources, developing real-world solutions, presenting original works and developing skills that will be used for the rest of their lives."













51-2 2nd Floor Mihama, Chatan Tel. 098-923-0429 Lunch: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Dinner: 5 p.m. - 11 p.m.









# Israel fueling the fight for RF-A 18-1



(U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Eric M. Fisher)

#### By Airman 1st Class Eric M. Fisher

354th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

#### 5/11/2018 - EIELSON AIR FORCE BASE,

Alaska — More than 5,000 miles from home, an Israeli Air Force B-707 waits high in the sky over Alaska. This location differs greatly from Israel, from the cold and snow to the huge swathes of uninterrupted wilderness, the two places couldn't be more different.

In spite of this, the real challenge for the Israeli B-707 was preparing for and accomplishing its mission to provide in-flight refueling to forces during RED FLAG-Alaska 18-1

Aerial refueling can be a daunting and even dangerous task, with two aircraft flying in close proximity at hundreds of miles per hour while also trying to fly a boom into position to refuel; there is a lot that could go wrong. To accomplish this, it takes an extreme amount of trust between the pilots and aircrews who don't even know each other.

Though new to U.S. Air Force refueling procedures, the Israeli flight crews overcame all obstacles.

"[For the first time] the Israeli Air Force tankers were certified to fuel U.S. Air Force F-15s and F-16s and we were able to incorporate them in voles [missions] throughout the exercise," said Capt. Loren Keisling, the 353rd Combat Training Squadron chief of battle management.

Not only was this the first time an Israeli B-707 tanker has been certified to refuel a U.S. fighter, but it's the first time Israel has participated in RF-A, an exercise which aims to increase interoperability between the U.S. and partner nations.

"Practicing in a different area with dif-

ferent partners enriches our knowledge and improves our professional abilities," said Chief Warrant Officer Haim Baruch, an Israeli Air Force maintainer. "In addition, the exercise strengthens the connections between the countries, from the strategic level to the diplomatic level."

The Israeli participation in RF-A allowed pilots to train in the Joint Pacific Alaska Range Complex, which is more than seven times the size of Israel.

"The training area in Alaska is vast and it gives us the opportunity to do our missions better than we can in [Israel's narrow airspace]," said Maj. B, an Israeli Air Force B-707 pilot.

For pilots from the U.S. and Israeli air forces it can be challenging to communicate and learn each other's procedures during in-flight refueling and conduct them without fail, but both forces overcame such

challenges and learned valuable lessons.

"Flying with all the participating units was great, especially the tanker and fighter squadrons who are part of an Air Force where one of its greatest specialties is aerial refueling and taking aircraft [long distances]," said B.

To accomplish this goal it took true dedication from the Israeli Soldiers, who had to adjust to operate in Alaska's unique and vastly different climate.

"The Israeli weather and topography is definitely different from Alaska," said Baruch. "The low temperatures posed new challenges that we had to deal with, both in terms of [our people] and the behavior of the B-707 in that environment."

Throughout the exercise both sides learned invaluable lessons from one another and built upon the existing relationship between the U.S. and Israel.



# Balikatan 18 strengthens U.S.-Philippine alliance through rigorous training

#### By U.S. Embassy Manila

5/19/2018 - MANILA, Philippines — After 12 days of training, approximately eight thousand service members from the U.S. military and Armed Forces of the Philippines completed this year's Exercise Balikatan, resulting in increased interoperability and improved military skills.

Balikatan, in its 34th iteration, focused on counterterrorism, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, as well as other combined military operations to ensure a more rapid response to natural disasters and manmade crises in the region.

The combined forces conducted a diverse range of training events, such as a combined arms live-fire exercise, an amphibious raid, close air support operations, artillery training, search and rescue operations, and small unit tactics operations. These training events strengthen the U.S.-Philippine military partnership and ensure a more effective combined joint response in future operations.

In Northern Luzon, U.S., Philippine, Australian, and Japanese service members took part in five engineering projects to construct new school buildings, renovate existing structures, as well as take part in beautification projects. They also conducted several health engagements by teaching the local community basic lifesaving skills, disease prevention strategies, as well as physical and dental hygiene.

Through Balikatan, the forces built upon a long and productive history of joint military exercises that enhance interoperability, strengthen partnerships, and improve disaster response and counterterrorism capabilities.



(U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Jack Sanders)



(U.S. Marine Corps photo by Sgt. Scott P. Smolinski)

↑ Airman 1st Class Michael Scott, center-right, a civil engineer with 18th Civil Engineer Squadron, goes in for a layup shot during a basketball game between Airmen with 18 CES and U.S. Marines with 9th Engineer Support Battalion, 3rd Marine Logistics Group versus Philippine Army soldiers with 5th Infantry Division during Exercise Balikatan at Camp Melchor F. Dela Cruz, Isabela, Philippines, May 13.

➤ A young boy, center, helps U.S. Marine Corps Lt. Gen. Lawrence Nicholson (center-right) cut the ribbon during the dedication ceremony for a school building constructed in support of Exercise Balikatan at Cabu Elementary School in Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija, Philippines, May 16. Nicholson, the exercise director, is the commanding general of III Marine Expeditionary Force.



(U.S. Marine Corps photo by Sgt. Matthew J. Brag







# Alcohol's insidious nature: Getting help empowers your career

#### By Shireen Bedi

Air Force Surgeon General Public

5/16/2018 - FALLS CHURCH,

**Va.** — Alcohol abuse has a deceptively gradual onset that can slowly affect family, friends and work. Knowing the signs and getting help early are key to beating alcohol abuse.

"The most difficult thing about alcohol use disorders is how insidious it is," said Lt. Col. Mikel Merritt, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment branch chief for the Air Force Medical Operations Agency. "There is no distinct point where it transforms from social drinking to something that is problematic."

Many individuals find it difficult to tell when alcohol takes a central role in their life and becomes alcohol abuse. According to Merritt, this could be partially due to how the brain rewires itself as alcohol use disorders progress.

"Alcohol does a lot to a person's brain, transforming it so that an individual's main source of pleasure is alcohol," said Merritt. "Other things do not provide the individual with 'neuronal satisfaction' like alcohol would. As a result, they end up craving it."

Due to the gradual onset

and its ability to change brain function, the Air Force offers the ADAPT program to help Airmen overcome alcohol abuse. The program provides a thorough assessment and identifies effective treatments and tools that have been proven to help people beat an alcohol use disorder.

"At ADAPT, we focus on their thoughts and behaviors that make alcohol use and misuse more likely," said Merritt. "This is called cognitive behavioral treatment for alcohol use disorder."

ADAPT works with Airmen to address many of the common challenges they may face as they seek treatment, the potential changes in how to interact with their peer group, and how to overcome those challenges as they seek treatment.

"We work with Airmen on individual techniques as well as their attitudes surrounding alcohol," said Merritt. "Techniques can be as simple as keeping a soda or glass of water in your hand. This makes it less likely that people will offer them a drink."

There are signs that can help you tell if you or someone you know might be battling with alcohol abuse. One common sign is when individuals neglect some of their responsibilities due to alcohol use.



(U.S. Air Force photo by Samuel King Jr.

"If you're concerned, start paying attention to how much of a role alcohol plays in your life," said Merritt. "Do you do things that don't involve alcohol? Do you find that they are less pleasurable than doing things that do involve alcohol?"

Those who think need help with alcohol abuse are encouraged to reach out to ADAPT services, and should not worry about how using ADAPT services would affect their Air Force career.

Capt. Daniel Gibson, ADAPT program manager at Fairchild Air Force Base, Washington, works to break down barriers to ADAPT and dispel misconceptions some Airmen have about the program.

"Some Airmen are scared of ADAPT because there is a perception that it is going to ruin their career and they are going to be kicked out," said Gibson. "We are trying to break down those barriers. The reality is that Airmen who seek help through ADAPT, no matter how severe their situation, find that it actually strengthens and empowers their career."

Airmen can access the ADAPT program through a number of

ways. Most ADAPT clinics are located within the mental health clinic. Airmen can also talk to their primary care manager or any of the other helping agencies on base to get connected with ADAPT.

"Anyone who wears a military uniform bears responsibilities on their shoulders that are very different than anything in civilian life," said Gibson. "Having a program like ADAPT within the military that understands those unique dynamics to provide treatment, allows for a more meaningful form of support for out Airmen."





# Vendor Showcase: promoting businesses, building relationships

#### By Staff Sgt. Jessica H. Smith

18th Wing Public Affairs

5/21/2018 — After four months of planning and organization, Kadena Air Base welcomed representatives for 22 local businesses into the Schilling Center, May 18, for a vendor's fair open to the entirety of the base.

The vendor showcase provides an opportunity for Department of Defense personnel on the island of Okinawa to meet local vendors and learn more about the small businesses within the community while allowing community relations to be strengthened.

Contractors are used for a multitude of purposes throughout the base, explained Senior Airman Aurora Salazar-Alas, 18th Contracting Squadron contract specialist.

From office furniture to specialized gear, the contractors provide many important – and possibly unknown – goods and services to the base.

"We use contractors for goods and services all over the base; we contract them for services such as trash disposal, medical translators [and] dead animal disposal," Salazar-Alas listed. "Without the services and goods provided by contractors, our local Airman would either go without or have to provide it, which would take them away from the critical mission essential roles."

The support and partnership between the base and local community are a key factor in the success of both parties.



(U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Jessica H. Smith)

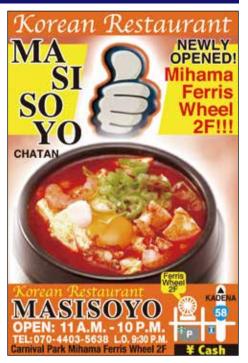
Without the tools and resources provided by the local businesses, Airmen would lack the resources to do their job efficiently.

"Establishing professional business relationships benefits us all," said Paul Keenan, 18th Mission Support Group, deputy director. "The U.S. military is present here in Okinawa to honor the United States' commitment to Japan under our security treaty. In order to carry out our mission – to defend Japan and maintain peace and stability within the region — the U.S. government requires

locally procured supplies, services and construction."

By coming together for the vendor fair, military members and locals alike show their dedication and support not only to the mission, but also to the relationship that has been built throughout the decades.

"Our gracious hosts and excellent business partners ensure the joint success of a variety of missions," Keenan said. "Together, we can build a strong partnership to support the U.S.' mission and the Okinawan economy."









# Air Force Cyber Mission Force teams reach 'full operational capability'



(U.S. Air Force graphic by Tech. Sgt. R.J. Biermann)

#### By Tech. Sgt. R.J. Biermann

Air Forces Cyber Public Affairs
5/16/2018 - JOINT BASE SAN
ANTONIO-LACKLAND,
Texas — Air Forces Cyber
announced today all Air Force
Cyber Mission Force teams
achieved full operational capability May 11.

The 39 total force teams, comprising more than 1,700 Airmen, civilians and contractors, were deemed sufficiently manned, trained and fully mission-ready more than four months ahead of the September 30 U.S. Cyber Command deadline.

"We've reached an enormous military cyber milestone and we're excited about what AFCY-BER can deliver to our service and the joint cyber fight," said Maj. Gen. Chris Weggeman, AFCYBER commander. "Our teams are integral in performing and achieving the common-core mission of cyberspace superiority shared across all Department of Defense services."

As the action arm of CYBER-COM, the 133-team CMF executes the command's mission to direct, synchronize, and coordinate cyberspace operations in defense of the nation's interests.

The Air Force began building its contribution to the CMF in 2013, along with the Army's 41 teams, Navy's 40 teams and Marine Corps' 13 teams. The Air Force build includes 15 Air National Guard squadrons and one Air Force Reserve squadron, which provide both continuously mobilized forces as well as increased surge capacity.

This FOC milestone com-

pletes the personnel and training aspects of the CMF build. Now the respective service commanders can focus on mission readiness of the force.

"I'm very proud of the total force team as this is an important milestone in maintaining cyber superiority," said Gen. Jay Raymond, Commander of Air Force Space Command. "All efforts now focus on continuing to improve readiness to increase warfighting lethality in support of the National Defense Strategy."

Once manned and trained, AFCYBER assessed each Air Force team's ability to defend against and engage simulated cyber threats during themed exercises. These results were then validated by CYBERCOM to declare the team's operational capability.

To maintain each team's readiness level, many CMF Airmen will fulfill back-to-back CMF assignments as new Airmen are continually trained and added to teams.

"This is the battlefield of today and our cyber forces are ready," said Weggeman. "The need for this CMF will remain long into the future, and we will continue to evolve our cyber experts to combat the malicious cyber actors seeking to do us harm"

# PACAF bids farewell to Gen. Terrence J. O'Shaughnessy



Gen. Terrence J. O'Shaughnessy, Pacific Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Juan Torres)

Gen. Terrence J. O'Shaughnessy, Pacific Air Forces commander, left, speaks to Koku Jieitai Gen. Yoshinari Marumo, Koku Jieitai chief of staff, May 8, at Yokota Air Base. O'Shaughnessy travelled to meet with Indo-Pacific allies and partners in order to strengthen our longstanding relationships as well as to emphasize the importance of our Airmen's vital role in ensuring regional security and stability.

#### By Pacific Air Forces Public Affairs

5/21/2018 - JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICK-AM, Hawaii — U.S. Air Force Gen. Terrence J. O'Shaughnessy, Pacific Air Forces commander, departed PACAF May 20, to take command in his new role as North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) and United States Northern Command (USNORTHCOM) mander. During his recent visit to bases throughout the Indo-Pacific region, he highlighted the accomplishments of PACAF Airmen and thanked them for their hard work and dedication to the mission.

"I'd like to start with a sincere thank you for your incredibly hard work over these past two years," said O'Shaughnessy. "I am humbled by all you've accomplished to ensure the security and stability of the Indo-Pacific region. I know we've asked a lot from you to achieve this goal, and as we surged forward, what we've accomplished is nothing short of amazing."









#### By Tech. Sgt. **Heather Redman**

15th Wing Public Affairs

5/22/2018 - IOINT BASE PEARL HAR-BOR-HICKAM, Hawaii — The 515th Air Mobility Operations Wing hosted the 5th Annual Port Dawg Memorial Run here, May 18. The run remembers and honors those lost in the air transportation career field.

"In 2013 the Port Dawg Community experienced the tragic murder of one of our members, Tech.Sgt. Eccleston," said Senior Master Sgt. Duane Fish, Pacific Air Forces air transportation functional area manager. "That year Kadena Air Base, held a memorial run in honor of Eccleston, and began what would become an annual event across the entire Air Transportation Career field. Since then, every year all aerial ports and 2T2's across the world have come together during National Transportation Week to hold a memorial Run."

Aerial ports across the Air Force held and participated in a memorial run, during National Transportation Week, May 14-18, 2018.

"Port Dawg Memorial Run is held

all across the globe," said Fish. "Several locations held their run on the same day, the third Friday in May allowing the Port Dawg community come together. This unites our career field, and builds on the

strong comradery that our career field

already maintains."

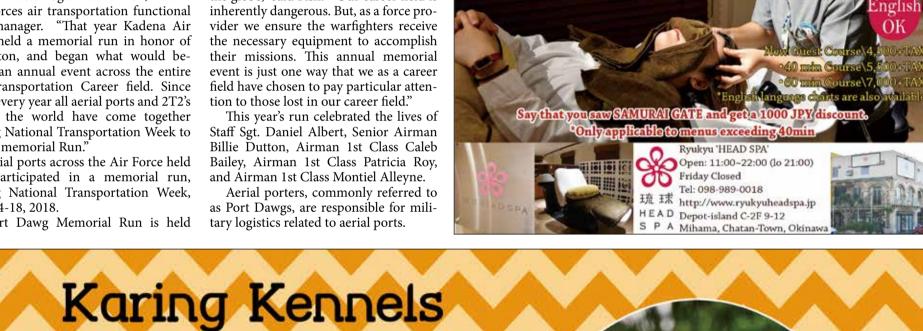
The memorial run is an annual tradition among port dawgs to memorialize fallen teammates across the Air Force with a ceremony and formation run.

"Our career field is very small and deaths in our community are felt across the globe," said Fish. "Our career field is









We make it easy for you to give your pup some first-class treatment! Swing by, call or make a reservation online!

Karing Kennels Boarding Facility Kadena Air Base 036-868-2235 | Building 4065 kadenafss.com







# Magging Tail KAB GATE1 KADENA Som Family Mari Grooming Boarding Kennel Wagging Tail OPEN: 8AM-5PM Phone: 098-894-5720 Closed on Sunday F Waggingtail dog salon



### **@NAVY COMMUNITY NEW5**

## American School in Japan visits Okinawa



(U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Matthew Dickinson

#### By Petty Officer 2nd Class Matthew Dickinson

Commander, Fleet Activities, Okinawa

**5/22/2018** — Students from American School in Japan (ASIJ) learned about the U.S. Navy - its roles, capabilities and missions - in Okinawa during a visit to Kadena Air Base and Camp Shields May 22.

The students were in Okinawa to learn about the history and culture of the island, particularly the Battle of Okinawa and its legacy, as well as the role of the island in the U.S.-Japan security alliance.

"It's important for these students, who don't have a connection with the American military, to actually meet competent and intelligent and just really kind people that are part of the military," said Kathy Krauth, a teacher at ASIJ.

After a briefing on the Navy in Okinawa, the students toured a hangar and a P-8A Poseidon aircraft assigned to the "Skinny Dragons" of Patrol Squadron (VP) 4.

"They were awesome," said Lt. j.g. Madison Buck, from Houston, Tx., a pilot assigned to VP 4. "It was really good to get out and talk to them and hear their stories and to be able to share what we do."

After the tour of the aircraft, the students ate lunch with Sailors from Fleet Activities Okinawa, VP 4 and Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 5 on Camp Shields.

Rae Edmunds, a senior at ASIJ, said that she was interested in seeing the perspective of the U.S. military in Japan.

"Talking to the people who were actually in the military, that was an interest-

Sat: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Closed 3rd Friday Of Each Month

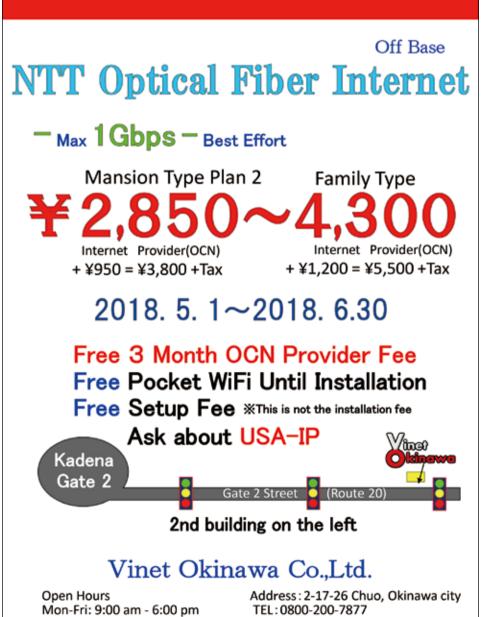
ing perspective," Edmunds said. "That's not something I would get anywhere else. It was enjoyable and informative hearing from the military members."

"I want to thank everybody. There's so many people who are contributing to my students experience in learning today," said Krauth. "I think the most important thing is these people-to-people relationships and how my students are going to remember these types of experiences."

Founded in 1902, the ASIJ is one of the oldest international institutions in Japan.

Fleet Activities Okinawa supports the full spectrum of Navy operations on Okinawa, and its major tenant commands are Commander Task Force 76, Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 5 and Patrol and Reconnaissance Force 7th Fleet.





mail: info-1@vinet-o.com

http://www.vinet-o.com

MAY 25, 2018 SAMURAI GATE

## VP-4 Skinny Dragons welcome New Skipper

## By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Juan S. Sua

VP-4 Public Affairs

5/19/2018 — Patrol Squadron (VP) 4 held a Change of Command ceremony on Kadena Air Base on May 19.

Cmdr. Christopher Purcell relieved Cmdr. Bryan Hager and assumed the duties as the commanding officer of VP-4 in a ceremony attended by distinguished visitors, family and the entire squadron.

The change of command ceremony culminated a highly successful tour for Hager, who led the Skinny Dragons through the squadron's first year of flying the P-8A Poseidon following their transition from the P-3C Orion aircraft.

Chuck Hollingsworth, a retired U.S. Navy Captain and the former commanding officer for both Hager and Purcell while assigned to VP-16, was the guest speaker at the event and offered some words of wisdom to the men and women on VP-4.

"Be ready," said Hollingsworth. "I urge you to know the plane, the weapon systems and your fellow crew members. Before long, I will be back on the East Coast and I will sleep soundly at night because I know the professionals of VP-4 have



(U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Juan S. Sua

Cmdr. Christopher Purcell, left, relieves Cmdr. Bryan P. Hager as the commanding officer of Patrol Squadron (VP) 4 during a change of command ceremony, May 19, at Kadena Air Base. The ceremony, overseen by Capt. Brian Erickson, Commander Task Force SEVEN TWO made Purcell the 69th commanding officer of VP-4 since its establishment in 1943.

been trained and led well and are in fact ready."

During the ceremony, Hager credited the success of his tour to the entire Skinny Dragon family and ended with his iconic catch phrase "much obliged" for

their hard work and dedication under his leadership.

"Saying 'much obliged' is my way of expressing that you owe me nothing and I owe you everything," said Hager. "I fully recognize your contributions and effort to the squadron and I don't take them for granted. I leave VP-4 in the very capable hands of Cmdr. Purcell and Cmdr. Lewis and all the leaders throughout VP-4 who will continue the legacy of the Skinny

Dragons into tomorrow.

With the words "I relieve you, sir" Purcell became the 69th commanding officer of VP-4.

Purcell, a native of St. Louis, Missouri and 2000 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, assumed command of VP-4 following previous assignments with VP-8 and as the VP Placement Officer in Millington, Tennessee.

During his first speech as the commanding officer of VP-4, Purcell reiterated the importance of family, leadership and integrity, the values that serve as the motivational flame for the squadron.

"I challenge every Skinny Dragon here to shape our future by tirelessly setting new standards of excellence so that VP-4 always leads the fight," said Purcell.

VP-4 is assigned to Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing 10, Whidbey Island, Washington. The squadron consists of 71 officers and 228 enlisted personnel who operate and maintain seven P-8A maritime patrol aircraft. The Skinny Dragons are currently on a six-month deployment to the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations conducting missions and providing maritime domain awareness throughout the Indo-Pacific region.

## Pacific Partnership kicks off in Thailand for first time



(U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Caledon Rabbipal)

Sailors and Soldiers from the U.S., United Kingdom and Australia embarked aboard Military Sealift Command expeditionary fast transport ship USNS Brunswick (T-EPF 6), assigned to Pacific Partnership 2018 (PP18), man the rails as the ship arrives in Thailand, May 19.

#### By Lt. Clyde Shavers

CTF73/DESRON 7 Public Affairs

5/21/2018 - PATTAYA, Thailand — Pacific Partnership 2018, the largest annual multilateral humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HA/DR) preparedness mission, kicked off aboard the expeditionary fast transport ship USNS Brunswick (T-EPF 6) in Sattahip, May 20.

This will be the first time Thailand hosts Pacific Partnership since the mission's first iteration in 2006. Over 130 military personnel from the U.S., United Kingdom and Australia will conduct medical, dental and veterinary subject matter expert exchanges at the Queen Sirikit Naval Hospital while working side-by-side with local professionals and non-governmental organizations on HA/DR readiness.

The medical team will share knowledge and experiences on topics ranging from obstetric trauma emergencies, rheumatology and pediatric trauma to nursing care and veterinary education. The civil affairs team from the U.S. Army 83rd Civil Affairs Battalion will be conducting a joint symposium and tabletop exercise with Royal Thai Armed Forces counterparts to practice disaster response and preparedness.

"We are here because, like our U.S. colleagues, we are committed to increasing multilateral cooperation and partnership across the region," said Royal Navy Capt. Peter Olive, deputy mission commander of Pacific Partnership 2018. "Working together with you, our gracious hosts, we therefore hope to build mutual understanding of how better to respond to natural disasters in the future."

Thailand is considered U.S. oldest regional ally as both U.S. and Royal Thai Armed Forces continue to conduct increasingly sophisticated annual engagements including the Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) exercise which began in 1995, Southeast Asia Cooperation and Training (SEACAT) involving more than a dozen nations and Cobra Gold, the Indo-Pacific's largest multinational exercise.

"I would like to thank the U.S. government, Pacific Command and other allies that have made this project happen," said Royal Thai Armed Forces Maj. Gen. Suthon Muanpithak, directorate of joint operations.

Pacific Partnership, in its 13th iteration, began as a humanitarian response to the 2004 tsunami that devastated parts of Southeast Asia. By building on the region's shared goal to strengthen national capacities and preparedness for disaster response, 22 partner nations around the globe in 18 host nations in the region have participated since 2006.

Brunswick has visited Yap, Palau, Malaysia and Singapore as part of the Pacific Partnership 2018 mission to develop sustainable projects on a range of topics that enable critical infrastructure development across the region. So far, the crew have conducted over 100 medical engagements and subject matter expert exchanges, and nearly 20 engineering projects and 100 community relations and band performances.

"Pacific Partnership 2018 will enhance interoperability for quick response of unexpected disasters," said Suthon. "This exercise will be long lasting in our mem-

Brunswick is one of three expeditionary fast transport ships in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations to continue its mission of providing rapid intra-theater transport of troops and military equipment. Specially configured for humanitarian and disaster relief operations, Brunswick is currently capable of accommodating a robust multi-specialized team of medical, engineering and civic assistance personnel to support the Pacific Partnership mission.









## 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command Names 2018 Best Soldier, NCO after Tough Competition

By Sgt. 1st Class Claudio Tejada

5/17/2018 - JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii — Soldiers assigned to the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command (AAMDC) completed, Friday May 11, a grueling five-day competition that tested their physical and mental endurance to be named the 94th AAMDC's Noncommissioned Officer and Soldier of the Year.

This year's Noncommissioned Officer and Soldier of the Year competition had 10 competitors who excelled in other competitions at battalion or unit level before they moved on to the 94th AAM-DC's Noncommissioned Officer and Soldier of the Year competition.

The competition was tough for the five NCOs and five Soldiers participating in the event, but only two could be declared the winner.

Staff Sgt. Mitchell Ratner a patriot fire control enhanced operator assigned to Task Force Talon and stationed in Guam and Spc. Emily Moller a chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear Specialist with 1st Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery (ADA) Regiment, 94th AAMDC, and stationed in Okinawa, triumphed over their peers during the grueling five-day competition and were named the NCO and Soldier of the Year for the 94th AAMDC.

The 10 competitors represented the best of the best from the 94th AAMDC

units stationed throughout the Pacific and its headquarters here in Hawaii.

"During this five-day competition, these Soldiers negotiated 19 physically and mentally demanding events," said Command Sgt. Major. John W. Foley, the command sergeant major of the 94th AAMDC. "They represent the best within the command, 1-1 ADA, Task Force Talon and the 94th Headquarters," Foley said.

The competition events ranged from the Army Physical Fitness Test, a timed road march, drill and ceremony, the assemble, firing and qualification of multiple small arms and machine guns as well as a tough obstacle course and day and night land navigation course.

The competition served as a learning tool for some competitors while others participated in the competition to challenge themselves and push their limits.

"The competition was physically and mentally exhausted," said Spc. Marian Bermudez, an air defense battle management system operator with the Headquarters and Headquarters, 94th AAMDC. "It was a very good learning experience and training for us to do," she said.

Although the days were long and strenuous, the competitors worked together as a team keeping each other motivated.

"Everybody pushed themselves," said Sgt. Wyatt Wolfe an intelligence analyst, Headquarters and Headquarters, 94th AAMDC. "Even though we were competing against each other, we all worked as a group and got along very well during the competition," he added while expressing his thoughts about his peers after the competition was over.

Ratner, the competition noncommissioned officer of the year winner said his inner competition and pride of being a Soldier it's was drives him to compete in these types of event.

"I'm mostly driven to find out what limits I have, and once I'm aware of those limits, I'm able to overcome them to push myself even harder," he said.

Moller, the competition Soldier of the Year winner said she competes to challenge herself and to become a well rounded Soldier.

#### **Competitors:**

#### Junior Enlisted

- SPC Bermudez Marian, 94th AAMDC
- SPC Gordon, Willie, Task Force Talon
- SPC Mathis, Julie, 94th AAMDC
- SPC Moller, Emily, 1-1 ADA
- SPC Regmi, Sarvesh, 94th AAMDC

#### **Noncommissioned Officers**

- SSG Diaz, Jorge, 1-1 ADA
- SSG Linares, Jamie, 94th AAMDC
- SSG Ratner, Mitchell, Task Force Talon
- SGT Singleton, Carly, 94th AAMDC
- SGT Wolfe, Wyatt, 94th AAMDC

Both Ratner and Moller will compete at the U.S. Army Pacific Best Warrior Competition representing the 94th AAMDC, this summer.



# 1st Marine Aircraft Wing spouses take home the trophy

Maj. Gen. Thomas D. Weidley, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing's commanding general, recognizes the team members who won the Spouse Okinawa Area Kickball Association trophy at Building One, Camp Foster, May 21. The team, Marine Wing Headquarters Squadron 1 America's Finest



# "Retreat, Hell!" Marines land in Okinawa



Marines with Battalion Landing Team, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines, load onto busses headed to Camp Hansen, May 18.

#### By Lance Cpl. **Matthew Navarra**

31st Marine Expeditionary Unit 5/21/2018 - CAMP HANSEN, Okinawa

— The Marines and Sailors of 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines, joined the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) in Okinawa, May 21. This is the second time that the battalion has been the Ground Combat

Element (GCE) of the 31st MEU within the last two years.

Battalion Landing Team (BLT) 2/5 replaced 1st Battalion, 1st Marines, as the GCE of the 31st MEU. BLT 1/1 started their first rotation with the 31st MEU in November of 2017. These six month rotations give each BLT a chance to gain experience while also ensuring that the 31st MEU stays forward, flexible and ready.

'We are glad to welcome BLT 2/5 back to Okinawa and the 31st MEU," said Col. Tye R. Wallace, commanding officer of the 31st MEU. "They did a great job last time they were here and I look forward to integrating them back in to the MEU team for the Fall Patrol 2018."

BLT 2/5 is well known not only for being the most decorated battalion, but also for their motto: "Retreat, Hell!" Around 1,200 Marines from BLT 2/5 joined the 31st MEU. During their rotation, they will participate in combined arms exercises, mechanized and amphibious raids and Fall Patrol 2018.

'We were a part of the 31st MEU in the spring of 2017 and we're excited to be back in Okinawa for another rotation," said Lt. Col. Jay A. Lappe, commanding officer of BLT 2/5. "It's always good to test the knowledge and skills that we've been building on to see how much we've

The 31st MEU is the only continuously forward-deployed MEU and is capable of accomplishing a wide variety of military operations including humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, regional security and non-combatant evacuation.









# Kadena Air Base Community Notes

To submit an announcement for the base bulletin, please visit www.kadena.af.mil NO FEDERAL ENDORSEMENT OF PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS OR ACTIVITIES IS INTENDED.

#### Kadena and Camp Foster **Emergency Numbers**

Kadena Fire Emergency Services reminds everyone to program their cell phones with the emergency numbers. To report an emergency on Kadena via cell, dial 098-934-5911, and from an office phone, dial 911. For Camp Foster via cell, dial 098-911-1911, or from an office phone, dial 911.

#### AADD: Get Home Safe NOW LOCATED AT THE USO

Did you drink tonight? Made a plan but it's falling through? Can't catch a cab? If any of this applies to you, call AADD. Don't risk it all, when you can get a ride home for free. Call AADD at the cell phone number 098-961-1110 and then ask for the USO or dial DSN: 634-3889. We're open from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. and we're here to help. Also if you would like to volunteer please click on the Link below! We're open from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. and we're here to help. Any questions please Email our Work Box or contact us on Facebook, Kadena Air Base A2D2. Angel Vargas, President, 090-9786-9431. Henry Huynh, Vice President 090-9785-7935. Roman Nieves, Secretary 080-6485-6464. Jared Bland, Head Scheduler 070-3135-9906. Zachary Todd, Public Affairs 080-9850-5200.

#### How to File a Complaint with IG

If you believe you are unable to resolve your complaint through supervisory channels, you may seek IG assistance to determine if the complaint should be filed with the IG. You can file a complaint if you reasonably believe inappropriate conduct has occurred or a violation of law, policy, procedures, or regulation has been committed. Complete the personnel data information on an AF Form 102 and briefly outline the facts and relevant information related to the issue or complaint. List the allegations of wrongdoing briefly, in general terms and provide supporting narrative detail and documents later, when interviewed by an IG person. Allegations should be written as bullets and should answer who committed the violation; what violation was committed; what law, regulation, procedures, or policy was violated; when did the violation occur. Help is available: Call your Kadena IG office at 634-7622 for Maj. Sarabia or 634-1109 for

Mr. Lovingood, or leave a message on the Kadena Fraud Waste & Abuse (FWA) Hotline at 634-0404.

#### COLA Survey

The Okinawa Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) Living Pattern Survey is available from now until May 31 at the link provided. http://www.defensetravel.dod.mil This survey is used to track the shopping patterns of Uniformed Service members stationed overseas. The data collected will assist in the determination of COLA paid to members in the country of assignment. To prepare for the survey, determine where you purchase groceries, household furnishings, entertainment, communications and transportation. This survey is only available once every 3 years. For more information, contact MSgt. Shane Malone at 634-1300.

#### Shogun Weather Is Migrating

The Shogun Weather is migrating from http:// Shogunweather.com to http://www.kadena.af.mil. Starting June 1, public weather information such as sea conditions and current TCCOR will be available via the kadena.af.mil homepage. Shogunweather.com will cease to update after May 31. For more information, contact Capt. Richelle Greer at 634-4515.

#### Let Your Voice Be Heard

Please take a few moments to give us some feedback through an Air Force approved survey (AF18-020NR) on activities available at Kadena Air Base. The survey takes less than 10 minutes to complete. Your answers will be combined with others at Kadena Air Base and your individual responses will be kept confidential. SURVEY LINK: https://usafmil.az1.qualtrics.com To thank you for participating in the survey, you will have an opportunity to win a \$100 FSS Smile gift card. Winners will only be notified by email, so if you would like to be entered to win a \$100 gift card, be sure to provide your email address at the end of the survey.

#### 18th MDG Clinic Closures

The Kadena Air Base clinic will be closed on the following dates this year: May 28 (Memorial Day) Closed all day May 29 (5th Air Force Training Day) Facility Closed / Appointment Line & Camp Foster Acute Care Open.

The 18th Medical Group is responsible for ensuring the 18th Wing's medical readiness in support of the United States' and Japan's mutual interests. In keeping with this mission, the Kadena Clinic will be participating in 18th Wing upcoming exercises. During exercises, our normal patient care and clinical services (pharmacy, lab, immunizations, etc.) will be impacted, as the clinic may be closed for one day during these exercises (exact dates subject to scenario). We ask for your patience as our trusted professionals exercise their skills and work with the Wing and other agencies on island in support of these training events. We apologize for any inconvenience that this may cause. As always, in the event of an emergency, seek emergency services at the U.S. Naval Hospital on Camp Foster, or by dialing ambulance services at 634-1796 or by cell phone 098-934-5911. For more information, contact Capt. Jennifer Stark at 630-4565, SSgt Larissa Palmer at 630-4504, or Ms. Melissa Cook at 630-5050. For more information, contact Master Sgt. Vivianne Jean-Pierre at 630-4992 or Ms. Salina Shelton at 630-4785 or email at 18MDG.SGHQ.MysteryPatient@

#### **NCO Induction Ceremony Is**

The Non-Commissioned Officer Induction Ceremony has been moved to June 1. The location and time is the same.

#### **Housing Office Closures**

The Kadena DoD Family Housing Office, Camp Kinser Office, Camp Courtney Office, Camp Foster, Furnishing Management Section and Furnishing Management Section Self-Help and Appliance Repair will be closing in observance of The Memorial Day Holiday in addition to one more day in June. May 28 MEMORIAL DAY, CLOSED. May 29 Family Day, CLOSED. June 8 Sports Day, CLOSED. For emergency assistance, please contact 634-HOME (4663).

#### Airman and Family Readiness **Center Closure**

The Airman and Family Readiness Center will be closed May 25, from noon to 5 p.m. for Staff Training. For more information, contact Emie Cox at 634-3366.

#### Kadena Post Office Memorial Day **Weekend Hours**

The Kadena Post Office will be closed May 28 for Memorial Day. On May 29 the Parcel Service Center Pickup Window will be open for pick-up from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. All sections will resume normal operating hours on May 30. For more information, contact the Kadena Post Office Customer Service section at 634-4458 or email 18FSS. FSVP.KadenaPostOffice@us.af.mil.

#### Kadena Post Office Delayed Opening

On June 1, The Kadena Post office along with its parking lot will be closed from 7 - 10 a.m. due to an Exercise. All sections will resume normal operations at 10 a.m. For more information, contact the Kadena Post Office Customer Service section at 634-4458 or email 18FSS. FSVP.KadenaPostOffice@us.af.mil.

#### **Road Cut Notification**

The Arnold Ave, Hampshire St and an unnamed street between Hampshire and Walmsley Way will be road cuts to install new electrical conduits and foundation for street lights for the new Military Family Housing. Onelane of each affected areas will be closed. Contractor will provide flagmen to direct the one-way alternation. Open trenched will be covered with steel plates at the end of each day. For more information, contact Akira Fair at 634-4879.

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS LGBT Pride Month Events**

The LGBT Pride Month Committee is sponsoring multiple events for June. We will open with a showing of Love, Simon on June 1 in the Schilling Ballroom at 7 p.m. On June 9 we will host a Bake Sale fundraiser in front of the BX from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. On June 13 there will be a Q&A Panel at the O-Club at 11 a.m. where representatives from JA, EO, MDG & more can answer your questions. Finally, the celebration will conclude on June 23 with a Reverse, Sprint, Triathlon & pool party in the morning & a Drag Show in the evening. For more information, or to volunteer, please contact TSgt Kris Johnsen at 634-2073 or kristian.johnsen@us.af.mil

Continued on PAGE 15

### TRICARE® OVERSEAS PROGRAM

IMPORTANT FACTS TO REMEMBER WHEN VISITING NETWORK PROVIDERS IN JAPAN



Be quiet. As Japanese people think a quiet environment is needed for patients, speaking loudly or laughing out loud could be frowned upon and perceived negatively. Always follow the rules of the provider, especially during an inpatient stay. For example, observing visiting hours and honoring lights off time.

Saying "Hello/Konnichiwa, Excuse Me/Sumimasen, Thank you/Arigato" are always appreciated by providers or just a simple bow would also work. Demonstrate respect for those you come in contact with.

Be mindful of where you can use your mobile phone. Your mobile phone should be set at "manner mode," meaning set on vibrate or silent. Talking on the mobile and/or use of your mobile phone may be restricted. All hospitals and clinics should have signs displaying rules and preferences. You can download a useful guideline of mobile usage rules at Japanese medical facilities here: www.emcc-info.net/ info/pubcom2/2608\_5.pdf

If you have other health insurance (OHI) including Japanese National Insurance (JNI), it must be declared using the OHI form available here: www.tricare-overseas.com/beneficiaries/claims/other-health-insurance. For JNI holders, please remember to take the card to the appointment. For all other beneficiaries with OHI (except JNI), please prepare to pay upfront and submit a claim for reimbursement.

Beneficiaries who do not receive cashless/claimless care must be prepared to pay upfront and submit a TRICARE DoD/CHAMPUS Claim Form - Patient's Request for Medical Payment (DD Form 2642) for reimbursement.

Self-payment is required for some items that are NOT covered by TRICARE. Examples of these items include: private room upon the beneficiary's request, meals, an extra bed for family or friends to stay with the patient, or certificates (birth/death). All cash payments will be collected at the counter (front desk). Not all providers accept credit card payment, especially for outpatient fees.

Remember to leave plenty of time to arrive to your appointment. The extra time will help you find a parking space and navigate to your scheduled appointment. Punctuality is key.

#### DON'T

Do not be late for your medical appointment. If you arrive late, you cannot be seen by the provider right away, even with an appointment. If you need to cancel your appointment, notify International SOS or the provider as soon as possible. "No shows" can be one of the biggest causes of damaging a good relationship with providers in Japan.

Do not raise your voice or yell.

Do not point fingers at people.

Do not record or take photos in the hospital or clinic.

#### FOR INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

Contact your International SOS TOP Regional Call Center 24/7/365 if you have any TRICARE benefit coverage questions or need language assistance!

> Contact information is available here: www.tricare-overseas.com/contact-us

Japan Toll-free Contact Information:

Customer Service Toll-free\*: 0120-983990

Medical Assistance Toll-free\*: 0120-310200

\*Toll-free lines may not be available for all mobile phone carriers overseas.

"TRICARE is a registered trademark of the Department of Defense, Defense Health Agency. All rights reserved."

#### A Walk to Remember: Raising Awareness for Alzheimer's and Dementia Disease

On June 2 at 8:20 a.m., the members of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. and Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. are hosting their 2nd Annual "A Walk to Remember: Raising Awareness for Alzheimer's and Dementia Disease" at the Risner Fitness Center Track (registration begins at 7:30 a.m.). The event is free, family friendly, and we will also open the event with a guest speaker.

#### **CCAF Graduate RSVP**

The Kadena Top III Graduation Committee would like to remind everyone who has graduated with their CCAF degree for October 2017 and April 2018 that the graduation ceremony will be at the Keystone Theater, June 14 at 2 p.m. If graduates want to participate in the ceremony or get more information, contact 634-0259 by June 1.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES Native Spanish and French Speaking Volunteers Needed at Kadena High School

The Kadena High School Foreign Language Department is seeking native Spanish and French speakers to volunteer in some the classrooms to interact with students in Spanish and French. Speakers are needed during the school day (7:20 a.m. - 2:05 p.m.) on June 1. If interested, please contact Elizabeth Elansari at 634-1216 or via email at elizabeth.elansari@pac.dodea.edu.

#### Ryukyu Middle School Saturday School Volunteering

Volunteers needed to assist Ryukyu Middle School students with school assignments. LOAs will be written and given to all volunteers. DATE(s): May 26 / June 2. All classes will be from 7:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. For more information, please contact Ms. Lee Mik at DSN 634-4849 or email lee.mik@pac.dodea.edu



#### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: SCHOOL FIELD DAY EVENTS



#### Kadena MS Field Day

01 June, 0700-1400 Hours, volunteers sign in at the front office Facilitate games and activities for students, UOD or AF PT gear is appropriate Contact POC to sign-up in advance: <a href="mailto:jason.stevens@pac.dodea.edu">jason.stevens@pac.dodea.edu</a>

#### Kadena ES Field Day

01 June, 0800-1500 Hours, volunteers sign in at the front office Facilitate games and activities for students, UOD or AF PT gear is appropriate Sign-up Genius Link:

www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E044EAEA92AA0FE3-kesfield POC: paige.walker@pac.dodea.edu

#### Kadena & Lester MS Combined Field Day

01 June, 0745-1430 Hours, volunteers sign in at the front office Help set-up, facilitate games and activities for students, BBQ, staff water station, UOD or AF PT gear is appropriate

Contact POC to sign-up in advance: robert.sanders@pac.dodea.edu

#### **STEM Celebration Volunteers Needed**

30 May, 0900-1300 Hours, Risner Fitness Center, Kadena AB Sign-up Genius Link: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080c45aaaf2fa5f85-dodea POC: Theresa.Clayton@pac.dodea.edu



## "YACHIMUN" POTTERY THAT REFLECTS OKINAWAN NATURE

Many people collect pottery from different areas as a hobby, and even those who do not will still want to visit Yomitan Pottery Village, the home of Yachimun pottery, as well as Tsuboya Yachimun Dori which can be found just around the corner from Naha's Kokusai Dori.

In the Okinawan dialect, "Yachimun" means "pottery", and is believed to have a history of about 800 years.
This unique traditional style was created by taking various influences fro ceramics in China. Korea, Japan and oth

created by taking various influences from ceramics in China, Korea, Japan and other parts of South-East Asia

The designs are often based on the various patterns and colors of the diverse nature that can be found in Okinawa, such as plants and fish, and they have a rustic feel to them so that the warmth of Okinawa can be felt from anywhere.

Tsuboya Yachimun Dori has been around since the 17th Century, and with its stone



walls and pavements, it retains the charms of an Okinawa from long ago. If you have half an hour spare, there is a small road you can walk down with lots of pottery workshops and stores lined up one after the other. If you look carefully, then no matter how much time you have to spare, it won't be enough.

From traditional items to more modern ones made by young craftsmen, you will surely find a product you like.













Grab lunch with an Exchange Food

# Rocker Enlisted Club open for business

U.S. Air Force photos by Senior Airman Omari Bernard)

#### By Senior Airman Omari Bernard

18th Wing Public Affairs

5/20/2018 — After two years of construction and the demolition of the previous club, the new and modernized Rocker Enlisted Club opened its doors to the public May 4, at Kadena Air Base.

The Rocker Enlisted Club opened its doors to the public May 4th.

The club carries on the legacy and part of the namesake of the previous facility and continues to be a staple of Kadena for service members and their families dating back to the original construction in 1957.

The new \$47 million club complex, that was completely self-funded through non-appropriated funds, features an intricate design honoring enlisted heritage while paying homage to the host nation of

Japan through its architectural and interior designs that were inspired by the asanoha kimono floral print. The staff that worked at the previous rocker continue to work there today.

"We're here to serve the military community, the public and their guests with high quality entertainment, services and food," said Aaron Feinberg, Rocker Enlisted Club manager. "At the new club we have a staff of approximately 100 personnel, the majority of which are veteran staff that have been here for decades. We are very proud of our team."

The Rocker Enlisted Club now features two restaurants and a cafe – Kazoku Place, Hanabi's and Daily Grind Coffee Shop with free Wi-Fi. It also features multiple entertainment facilities such as the Rocker Lounge, a ballroom with a maximum capacity of up to 800 people, and a game room with more than 80 entertainment slot machines.

The previous Rocker NCO Club was a popular spot on Kadena used for an assortment of events from the Air Force Ball to late-night parties, and the new Rocker carries on the mantle with live entertainment, special programming and holiday buffets.

"Were excited to have the Rocker Enlisted Club reborn," Feinberg said. "There's a lot of heritage in this facility, with the old Rocker NCO club opening up in 1957. We ran that facility for more than 60 years and here we are today, continuing a legacy and serving with honor."



ballroom of the Rocker Enlisted Club on Kadena Air Base, can fit up to 800 people and be separated into three different







