



**Marines train on Okinawa in annual exercise**

**Pg 2**

# CHEVRON

AND THE WESTERN RECRUITING REGION



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“WHERE MARINES ARE MADE”

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2014



**Private Justin C. Pasadava, Platoon 3214, India Company, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, provides security during an event on the Crucible at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Oct. 29. He is a native of Honolulu and was recruited out of Recruiting Substation Honolulu.**

## Marine joins Corps for stability, strength

STORY & PHOTO BY  
CPL. TYLER VIGLIONE  
*Chevron staff*

Some individuals use past experiences to help steer the direction of their future. One Marine used what he had learned from being homeless to motivate himself to be able to provide a future for him and his family.

Private Justin C. Pasadava, Platoon 3214, India Company, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, spent his years under difficult circumstances and used his experiences to help him.

“My grandfather passed way when I was 12 years old,” said Pasadava. “We lived in his house up until the time of his death. Then we were forced to leave.”

Pasadava is a native of Honolulu, Hawaii. After the death of his grandfather, him and his family moved all of their valuables into their vehicles and had nowhere else to go.

“As time went on, all of my families things put more and more stress on the vehicle, causing it to break some parts,” said 18-year-old Pasadava. “We could not afford to fix the problems so they only got worse.”

After 3 weeks of living in the vehicle, the young Private’s uncle let him and his family go stay with him for about two weeks.

“As we were staying at my uncles house, we got a call from my other grandfather, my dad’s father, that he had bought my family plane tickets to another island in Hawaii called Kauai,” said Pasadava. “We lived with him for about 2 years.”

In 2010, Pasadava’s family had some disagreements, causing his mother to take him and his three sisters to live in a shelter for a month. Pasadava explained that the living conditions were hard because there were five of them in total with little room or resources.

“We had three small beds for all of us to

share,” said Pasadava. “We were not provided food so my mother worked part time at a McDonalds, earning minimum wage, so we couldn’t afford much food.”

When his family could not live in the shelter anymore, they met back up with their father because according to Pasadava, his father didn’t want to be away from them anymore.

“We went back to living in our car,” said Pasadava. “There was no space at all so we were uncomfortable all of the time.”

Pasadava explained that the family only ate fish cooked on a portable stove because they caught it and couldn’t afford to buy anything else.

On top of everything, Pasadava still attended school at Kapua High School.

“I didn’t get picked on,” said Pasadava. “Most of the kids helped me out and gave me sympathy because I wasn’t the only one that was homeless at my school.”

**see MARINE ▶ 2**

## Drill instructors make strong first impression



*Cpl. Tyler Viglione*

**Staff Sgts. Justin R. Hilton and Hugo G. Corral (left to right), drill instructors, Receiving Company, Support Battalion, instruct a newly arrived recruit to move faster during receiving at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, Nov. 3. All recruits are placed in Receiving Company during their first week of recruit training to process paperwork, have uniforms issued, to get a medical examination and receive needed shots, and to familiarize themselves with their new environment.**

### BRIEFS

#### MCCS announcements

- Comedy nights at the Recreation Center begin tonight at 8:30 p.m. The event will be held the first Friday of each month. This is for those 18 and older only.
- Fieldhouse resurfacing has begun and will continue for about three weeks. During this time the basketball courts will be closed but showers and restrooms will remain open.

For information on Single Marine Program activities, call Johanna Jones, at (619) 524-8240

#### Marine Corps Ball bus service

Free round trip shuttle bus service between MCRDSD and the Marine Corps Ball at the Hilton San Diego Bayfront Hotel will be provided Nov. 8.

The service is available to all Marines and their guests. Single Marines have priority on all buses.

The MCRDSD pick up point is Building 619 (20-minute loading zone in front of Duncan Hall)

For a complete schedule go to [http://www.mccsmcrd.com/Downloads/CURRENT\\_EVENTS/14-MC-Ball-Trans-flye](http://www.mccsmcrd.com/Downloads/CURRENT_EVENTS/14-MC-Ball-Trans-flye).

#### Free Veterans Day LEGO build

Sign your kids up for a free LEGO build at the MCRD Museum in honor of Veterans Day!

The event runs from 10 a.m. to noon Nov. 11.

Kids aged 4 to 12, with their parents, will build a Service or ‘Blue Star’ flag out of LEGO blocks to take home. This is not the same build that has been offered in the past.

The event is open to active duty and depot civilians. Space is limited to the first 100 kids registered.

To register, e-mail your first and last name, your child’s first and last name, your cell phone number, and your unit, to [info@corphistory.org](mailto:info@corphistory.org).

#### Winter Safety Stand Down

A Winter Safety Stand down will be held at McDougal Hall, Nov. 18.

Two sessions will be held. The first is from 8 to 10 a.m. The second is from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Those attending should arrive 30 minutes before the start to sign in and find seating. For information call Kathleen Atkins at (619) 524-8770.

#### Thanksgiving Buffet

The Bayview Restaurant offers a Thanksgiving Buffet Nov. 27, from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m.

The menu includes sirloin of beef Au’Ju, turkey, Cornish game hens, pasta, salads and all the trimmings; and a dessert station featuring cakes, pies, Bailey’s Irish Cream bread pudding with Bailey’s Cream glaze, assorted cookies, brownies, fruit-&-nut bars.

Cost is \$31.95 for adults, \$25.95 for active duty and seniors, \$15.95 for children five to 11 years of age. Children under five eat for free.

Call (619) 725-6388 for reservations.

#### Send briefs to:

[rdsd\\_pao@usmc.mil](mailto:rdsd_pao@usmc.mil). The Chevron staff reserves the right to publish only those briefs that comply with Department of Defense regulations and the standards of the U.S. Government.



Lance Cpl. Abbey Perria

Marines move in a column toward their objective during exercise Blue Chromite 15 in the Central Training Area of Camp Schwab, Okinawa, Japan. After securing their first objective on the beach, Marines advanced inland to the CTA. The Marines are with 2nd Battalion, 9th Marine Regiment, currently assigned to 4th Marines Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force.



Cpl. Thor J. Larson

Marines conduct a simulated amphibious assault after launching their Amphibious Assault Vehicles from the USS Germantown (LSD 42) during exercise Blue Chromite 15. The Marines are with Combat Assault Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

## Marines train for beach landing during annual exercise Blue Chromite

STORY BY  
LANCE CPL. ABBEY PERRIA  
III Marine Expeditionary Force/Marine  
Corps Installations Pacific

**CAMP SCHWAB, Japan** – Three platoons of Marines with 2nd Battalion, 9th Marine Regiment, executed a ship-to-shore assault Nov. 1-2 during exercise Blue Chromite 15 at Oura Wan Beach, Camp Schwab, Okinawa, Japan.

Blue Chromite demonstrates U.S. Navy and Marine Corps' amphibious and expeditionary capabilities from the sea to shore. Rehearsing integration of arms in a tactical scenario prepares Marines and sailors for future deployments.

This iteration of Blue Chromite integrated amphibious operations with the USS Germantown (LSD 42) and units internal to III Marine Expeditionary Force in one consolidated exercise, according to Maj. Ryan Donahue, the lead planner for Blue Chromite with 4th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III MEF.

Marines left the USS Germantown in assault amphibious vehicles to assault the first objective at Oura Wan Beach. The simulated enemy resistance was provided by 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, currently assigned to 4th Marines, 3rd Marine Division.

"The Germantown was built for Marines," said Master Chief Petty Officer Samuel Olmstead, the command master chief of the USS Germantown, a native of Bisbee, Arizona. "The whole point is to embark United States Marines and take them where

the nation needs them to go."

Three platoons advanced from the shore to seek out the simulated enemy and secure the beach.

"Two platoons held blocking positions to the north and to the south, and that allowed the third platoon to move in and attack the objective on the hill," said Cpl. Seth Cooper, a squad leader with 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines.

After securing the beach on the first day, the Marines rode in AAVs to the Central Training Area near Camp Schwab. Marines destroyed a simulated enemy position in a live-fire exercise at Range 10 in the CTA. Completing their mission set conditions for units in other parts of the exercise.

"Ultimately we are advancing to allow our other company to destroy the (simulated) chemical weapons factory that's located to the south of Combat Town," said Capt. Andrew Eckert, a company commander with 2nd Bn., from New Glarus, Wisconsin. "All of this ... is so that 3rd MarDiv can continue their attack north on the island."

The amphibious assault during Blue Chromite provided Marines, like Cooper, with a new experience they can learn from and pass on.

"The exercise got Marines used to working with outside agencies instead of just the Marine Corps and also it's a different type of attack," said Cooper from Mansfield, Ohio. "When the Marines move onto their next unit, they can be the person who knows about something like this because they have the experience."



Cpl. Thor J. Larson

An MV-22B Osprey conducts landing and take-off drills on the USS Germantown (LSD 42) Nov. 1, during exercise Blue Chromite 15. The exercise demonstrates U.S. Navy and Marine Corps' amphibious and expeditionary capabilities from the sea. The aircraft is with Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 265, Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

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CHEVRON/PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE  
1600 HENDERSON AVE. #120  
SAN DIEGO, CA. 92140  
(619) 524-8722

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\* Indicates Meritorious Promotion

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 Pvt. E. L. Bolke  
 Pfc. D. A. Brandon  
 \*Pfc. T. J. Bridger  
 Pfc. L. P. Bridges  
 Pvt. D. A. Cataldo  
 Pvt. A. Chavez  
 Pfc. B. W. Clark  
 Pfc. B. E. Ferrier  
 Pfc. M. R. Harrison  
 Pfc. D. Hawkins  
 Pvt. R. E. Hodge  
 Pvt. C. D. Jackson Jr.

Pvt. A. Q. Jernigan  
 Pvt. J. D. Johnson  
 \*Pfc. J. D. Kuhn  
 Pvt. D. J. Lee  
 Pvt. V. A. Leon  
 Pfc. C. S. Loomis  
 Pfc. D. K. Lynch  
 Pfc. J. R. Marcotte  
 Pvt. J. K. Mamer  
 Pvt. J. H. Marquez  
 Pvt. K. J. McCasland  
 Pvt. J. A. Medina  
 Pfc. T. V. Nhin  
 Pfc. K. D. Nielsen  
 Pfc. D. A. Nikolaychuk  
 Pvt. L. E. Otero  
 Pvt. M. Pineda  
 Pvt. F. X. Pizzo  
 Pvt. A. D. Powlenko  
 Pfc. D. A. Putnam  
 Pvt. K. A. Ramirez  
 Pfc. A. T. Reid  
 Pfc. F. B. Reiter  
 Pvt. J. S. Reyes  
 Pvt. M. J. Robledo  
 Pfc. A. Rodriguez  
 Pvt. A. X. Rodriguez  
 Pfc. C. N. Rogers  
 Pfc. Z. M. Romero  
 Pvt. D. I. Sanchez  
 Pfc. J. E. Sanchez-Perez  
 Pvt. J. M. Sanchez-Villalpando  
 \*Pfc. M. R. Satkowiak  
 Pvt. N. E. Schroeder  
 Pvt. C. B. Scoville  
 Pfc. D. T. Sealey  
 Pvt. J. P. Seward  
 Pfc. C. H. Shepard  
 Pvt. C. R. Simpson  
 Pfc. T. J. Sorgi  
 Pvt. T. L. Stanfield Jr.  
 Pvt. J. L. Steen  
 Pvt. Z. P. Stephenson  
 Pvt. L. W. Stoddard  
 Pvt. O. Suarez  
 Pvt. G. J. Vermeer  
 Pvt. D. A. Westerfeld  
 Pfc. J. D. Wood  
 Pvt. K. H. Wright  
 Pvt. R. T. Yamanoi  
 Pfc. J. J. Zwickert III

# Marine Corps celebrates 239th birthday



Sgt. Walter D. Marino II

Marines and veterans gather at the Veterans Administration Hospital in La Jolla, to celebrate the 239th Marine Corps birthday, Nov. 3. Brig. Gen. James W. Bierman, commanding general, Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego and the Western Recruiting Region, passed the first piece of cake to the oldest and youngest Marines present to signify passing on the Marine Corps' traditions.



Cpl. Jericho Crutcher

Marines in period service uniforms represent the Corps' history during a uniform pageant and cake cutting ceremony at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego today. The event was in celebration of the Corps' 239th birthday.



Cpl. Tyler Vigliano

Marines stationed at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego participated in a formation run during the last three miles of this year's 239-mile Marine Corps birthday run Nov. 6. The annual birthday run sees Marines run a mile for each year the Corps has served America.

## MARINE 1

After about a month, Pasadava and his family moved to a homeless shelter where they stayed for approximately two more months until everything started getting better.

"Both my parents had jobs and we finally found a place that we could afford rent," said Pasadava.

As time went on, Pasadava and his family began to get financially stronger until they had steady income and didn't have the fear of being homeless again.

Pasadava graduated from high school in 2014 and pursued a career in the Marine Corps.

"I just wanted a stable job and have the chance to save enough money to help myself and my

family out," said Pasadava. "I also want to be able provide whatever I can for my future family."

In August of 2014, Pasadava traveled to Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego to give his all to become a United States Marine.

"While I was in recruit training I thought a lot about my time being homeless and used that to motivate me to get through it,"

said Pasadava. "I had three meals a day and clothes on my back so I didn't think it was that bad."

After completing all of his necessary requirements, Pasadava has earned the title Marine and will move on to the School of Infantry following his graduation from MCRD San Diego. Pasadava will then attend his military occupational specialty

school to be an aviation mechanic in the Corps. He plans on making a career out of the Marine Corps while gaining as much discipline and experience as he can from it.

"I have been through a lot through my childhood," said Pasadava. "It made me stronger in every way and paved the road for me to be where I am today."