Fleet Activities, Yokosuka, Japan

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Nile C. Kinnick homecoming parade wows local community

Story and photo by Gregory Mitchell, CFAY Public Affairs

Nile C. Kinnick High School band members lead student and faculty members down Clements Blvd during the 2012 Nile C. Kinnick Homecoming Parade at Fleet Activities Yokosuka Oct. 6.

YOKOSUKA - Nile C. Kinnick High School celebrated its Homecoming weekend with a parade down Clements Blvd. on board Fleet Activities Yokosuka Oct. 7.

The parade followed the Homecoming dance which was held the night before, then was followed by the Homecoming football game in which Kinnick defeated Seoul American High School 27-0.

"Our military families are in stressful situations in many cases while being here. To add a bit of hometown flavor to their day, especially on a day like we had, is a good thing," said Emily Lee, Kinnick acting school principal. "It just felt really down to earth and friendly and I'm hoping that it was kind of a stress reducer for some of the families, Sailors and Marines; to just get a smile on their face and say oh this is something similar to what I have seen back home in America."

With its origin traced back to the 1911 Kansas vs. Missouri football game, Homecoming is defined as the tradition of welcoming back alumni of a specific school or former residents of a city or town. It is commonly referred to as a time-honored tradition held in universities, colleges and high schools throughout the United States and is celebrated either late September or early October.

School celebrations usually include activities such as sports and culture events and a parade through the streets of the city or town. Led by the sounds of the Kinnick band, their public display was no exception.

"I think that we have such a wonderful band and that is really the pride of the community," said Lee. "They actually call themselves the pride of Kinnick, and indeed they are. There only two large marching bands like this in all of the (Department of Defense Education Activity) and all over the world, with us being the ones to represent in the Pacific, so they really are a source of pride for our kids and our community and I like that very much."

Lee emphasized the efforts of the Kinnick student counsel, which was under the instruction of math department head Cheytoria Hickey and the school counselor, Foster Jones.

*See **HOMECOMING** page 12*

Regional Fire Dept. hosts 15th annual friendship dinner

Commander Naval Region Japan, Fire`fighter, Takashi Takeda stands in position with a fire axe while performing the Fallen Firefighters Ceremony during the 15th annual CNRJ Fire and Emergency Services Friendship Dinner held at Hotel New Sanno Sept. 28.

Story and photo by MC2 Adam K. Thomas, Navy Region Japan Public Affairs

TOKYO – Commander Navy Region Japan's (CNRJ) Regional Fire Department hosted its 15th annual friendship dinner at the New Sanno Hotel Sept. 28.

The Regional Fire Department hosted the 15th annual dinner to recognize and thank its staff and mutual aid partners for their continued support to Navy installations throughout Japan. This year's theme was "Friendship and Introduction".

Event coordinator and CNRJ Deputy Fire Chief Gifton Lawrence says this year's dinner was a great opportunity for the emergency professionals to come together and make new contacts to help better coordinate the combined efforts needed to effectively protect both community and CNRJ people and property.

This year's dinner brought in 249 emergency service professionals, to include the Commissioner of the Japan's Federal Disaster Management Agency, Mr. Hiromi Okazaki. His position is similar to that of the United State's director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, or FEMA.

"It is very significant and important for the U.S. Armed Forces in Japan, and the cities, towns and villages in the region to exchange friendship, and deepen understandings with each other, especially the Fire and Emergency Services organizations on both sides that have the common target of saving lives and property," said Okazaki.

*See **RFD** page 12*

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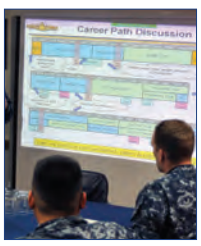

USS McCampbell hosts SWO detailer brief

The head of the Surface Warfare Officer Assignments at the Navy Personnel Command visited *USS McCampbell* (DDG 85) to hold a career brief Sept. 25.

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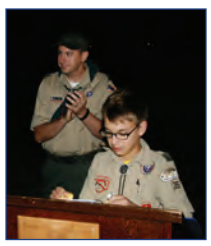

Yokosuka Boy Scouts recognize their own

Boy Scouts of Troop 35 gathered for a quarterly "Court of Honor" awards ceremony Sept. 24 beneath the gazebo at Berkey Field on board Fleet Activities (FLEACT), Yokosuka.

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