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INSIDE INFO



IWAKUNI MARINES MAKE USE OF 3D PRINTERS
 PAGE 3

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Stars and Stripes is looking for an employee to work out of our Yokota Air Base, Japan office. If selected for this NF-04 position, you will be responsible for posting content onto web pages and sections in an electronic publishing system to include all elements (stories, photos, videos, graphics). You will also ensure all text is free of spelling, grammar, and substantive errors, and that headlines and cutlines accurately state what is supported by the content of the story or photo. If you have either three years' experience; a bachelor's degree and related work experience; or specialized education or training in web-based, multimedia journalism then this is a perfect opportunity for you to showcase your skills!

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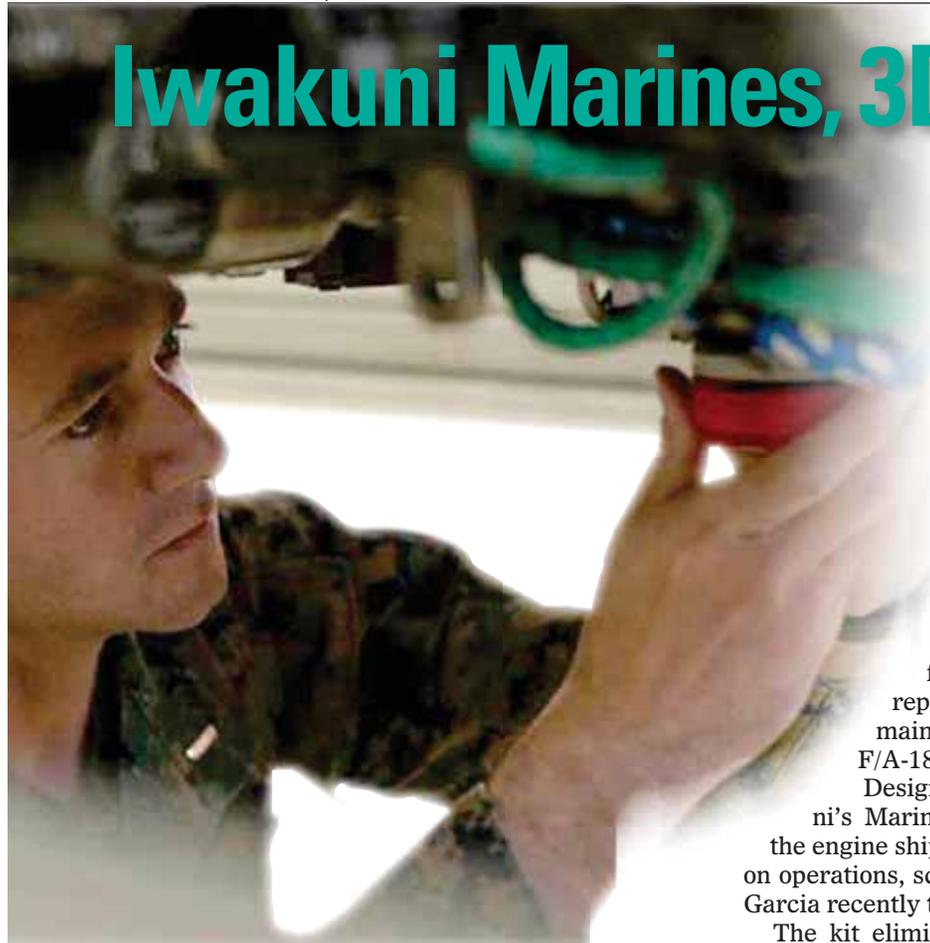
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THE NEW SANNO

Iwakuni Marines, 3D printers keep jets flying



First Lt. Simon Miller demonstrates the installation of drain plugs that are part of an engine ship kit he designed and built using a 3D printer, Nov. 29.

STORY AND PHOTO BY JAMES BOLINGER, STARS AND STRIPES
Published: Jan. 29, 2019

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION IWAKUNI – Using 3D printers, Marines based in southern Japan created two products that reduce the time it takes to repair F/A-18 Hornets and may save the Defense Department money.

Called an engine ship kit, the first innovation is a set of plastic clips and plugs to prevent oil and hydraulic fluid leaking from aircraft engines removed for repairs. The other is a tool that helps maintainers grease the bearings on the F/A-18's high-speed Gatling gun.

Designed by Marines from MCAS Iwakuni's Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12, the engine ship kit will have an immediate impact on operations, squadron commander Lt. Col. Javier Garcia recently told Stars and Stripes.

The kit eliminates the need for maintainers to travel to austere locations to drain oil and hydraulic fluids so an engine can be taken safely back to

Iwakuni for repair.

The plastic drain plugs prevent the fluid from leaking and the clips ensure the plugs are not dislodged as the engine is readied for transport.

The kit is the brain child of 1st Lt. Simon Miller and Chief Warrant Officer 3 Mark Willems, who needed to get a broken F/A-18 engine from Wake Island to MCAS Iwakuni late last year.

The engine began to leak while a C-130 crew tried to load it, Garcia said. In the past, a team of maintenance Marines would have traveled to the location to prepare the engine for safe transport, but that takes away from their mission at MCAS Iwakuni.

To solve the problem, Willems had the idea of creating plugs that would stop the leaks. Miller created the pieces using 3D drafting software and MALS 12's new 3D printers.

"I'm not really sure why no one thought to make this kind of kit before, but this design is going to have an impact across the Navy and Marine Corps," Garcia said.

The same team behind the engine ship kit also created a tool that makes it easier for maintenance Marines to grease the bearing on the F-18's M61A Vulcan, a Gatling-style rotary cannon that can fire 6,000 rounds a minute.

EXCLUSIVE NEWS FROM: STARS AND STRIPES

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SEE 3D ON PAGE 5

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How to trade in your car

Servicemembers, arm yourself with basic car buying skills

BY PATRICK CAMPBELL AND DAMION ENGLISH, CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU

If you live on or near a military base, you've probably heard radio and television ads for car dealerships that go something like: "We'll give you the best deal for your old car. Behind on your payments? No problem, we'll pay off your loan no matter how much you owe."

Be careful to evaluate car trade-in offers. If the ad claims you have no further responsibility for any amount of your prior financing, the ad may be untrue. Since more than 40 percent of car purchases in 2017 included a vehicle "trade-in," it's important to understand the trade-in process so you can maximize your trade-in's value and get a better overall deal. Here are some tips from the FTC.

Know how much your car is worth

Showing up to a dealership without knowing how much your car is worth is like going fishing without any bait. You might make do with what you find, but you're more likely to get what you want with the right tools.

Before you talk to an auto dealer, take a couple of minutes to consult a few online pricing guides to find out how much your



car might be worth. You can also visit more than one dealership and request estimates to get a better sense of the value of your car. Save those quotes and use them along with the online pricing guides as a starting point for negotiations.

What if I own my trade-in car?

When you own your car outright, trading it in to a dealer is more straightforward. You still need to make sure the value of your car offered by the dealer is consistent with online pricing guides (or other sources you consulted), and then negotiate the best amount you can get for the car. The agreed-upon trade-in value is deducted from the new or used car price. You pay the remaining amount for the new car with cash or with auto financing.

Be aware that you can bargain for your trade-in amount. Also know that if you insist on

getting a very high trade-in figure, the dealer may be less willing to negotiate on the car price and charge you more for the new car. Or vice versa: If you insist on a low price for the new car, the dealer might knock down your trade-in price. Be prepared to walk away if you don't think the offered deal is right for you.

What if I still owe money on my trade-in car?

Things get more complicated when you still owe money on your trade-in. Some dealers advertise that when you trade in one vehicle to buy another, they will pay off the balance of your loan—no matter how much you owe. But some people owe more on their car than the car is worth. This is called "negative equity," and the dealer's promise to pay off the entire prior amount owed may not tell you the whole story,

because that amount might be added to your new financing.

Negative equity has been on the rise in recent years. In 2017, nearly 1 in 3 trade-in vehicles had negative equity, with an average amount of \$5,195. We have heard from some servicemembers and veterans that negative equity is increasingly common for the military population as well.

If you have negative equity, you should pay special attention to vehicle trade-in offers. Dealers may include the negative equity in your new car financing. That would increase your monthly payments by adding principal and interest.

Here's how that might play out: Say you want to trade in your car for a newer model. Your financing payoff is \$18,000, but your car is worth \$15,000. You have negative equity of \$3,000, which must be paid off if you want to trade-in your vehicle. If the dealer promises to pay off this \$3,000, it should not be included in your new financing. Nevertheless, some dealers may add the \$3,000 to the financing for your new car, or deduct the amount from your down payment. In either case, this would increase your total cost and your monthly payments: not only would the \$3,000 be added to the principal, but you would be financing it too, paying interest on

that increased amount. If you have negative equity, either on your current car financing or a rollover you already experienced from your previous financing:

- Think about postponing your purchase until you're in a positive equity position. For example, consider paying down your financing faster by making additional, principal-only payments.
- Think about selling your car yourself to try getting more for it than its wholesale value. However, if you financed the purchase of the car and still owe a balance, you likely will need to notify the company holding the lien before selling the car. Check your finance contract for what's required.
- If you decide to go ahead with a trade-in, ask how the negative equity is being treated in the trade-in and the financing. Read the contract carefully, making sure that any promises made orally are included. Don't sign the contract until you understand all the terms, including how the negative equity is being treated, the total amount you're borrowing, and the amount you will be paying every month.
- Keep the length of your new financing term as short as you can manage. The longer your new term, the longer you will take to reach positive equity in the vehicle.

As with all aspects of the car buying process, it's important to educate yourself on how to trade-in a car in order to help you get the most value for your vehicle.

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Speakin' Japanese



Restaurant Talk

Sushi, tempura, savory 'okonomiyaki' pancakes – there are so many yummy edibles in Japan that you shouldn't miss during your stay. Sample some of this lingo the next time you're at a local restaurant to experience some of these specialties.

"Irraishaimase" = Welcome! (Said by shop owners almost every time you enter store. And it is used in not only restaurants but in any store.)

"_____ wo kudasai" = Please give me _____. (For example, you can say "tempura wo kudasai" or "beer wo kudasai.")

"Okawari kudasai" = Please give me another one.

"Totemo oishii" = Very delicious.

Amai = Sweet

Karai = Spicy

Nigai = Bitter

Noukou = Rich

"Okaikei onegaishi masu" = Check please.

"Mata kimasu" = I will be back.

- Stripes Japan

Pronunciation key: "A" is short (like "ah"); "E" is short (like "get"); "I" is short (like "it"); "O" is long (like "old"); "U" is long (like "tube"); and "AI" is a long "I" (like "hike"). Most words are pronounced with equal emphasis on each syllable, but "OU" is a long "O" with emphasis on that syllable.

3D: Kit is revolutionary

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

The bearing on the cannon must be packed with grease every 30,000 rounds, a job that used to take two Marines more than 30 minutes, said Cpl. Christian Smellie, an aviation life-support systems technician who works at Iwakuni's 3D printing lab.

Smellie worked with ordinance Marines to design a plastic ring that is used to smash thick grease into the tightly packed bearing, cutting the maintenance time down to less than 10 minutes.

The current design, or "version 2.0," is two pieces. A large ring holds the bearing in place and a smaller ring pushes the grease into the space between the ball bearings.

The pieces are printed to tight parameters to ensure that the compressed grease doesn't ooze out the sides. The tight fit

can make version 2.0 hard to remove, and the team is already working on version 3.0, which will have a handle to make removing the compression ring from the bearing easier.

The two products are so new that Navy Air Systems Command's additive manufacturing team has not yet figured out how to track the possible savings, NAVAIR official Liz McMichael recently told Stars and Stripes in a phone interview. NAVAIR is a systems command that provides material support for aircraft and airborne weapon systems in Navy and Marine Corps.

The bearing packer could have impact across the Defense Department once it is complete, because the M61A is used in Navy and Marine Corps F/A-18s, and Air Force F-16s, F-15s and F-22s.

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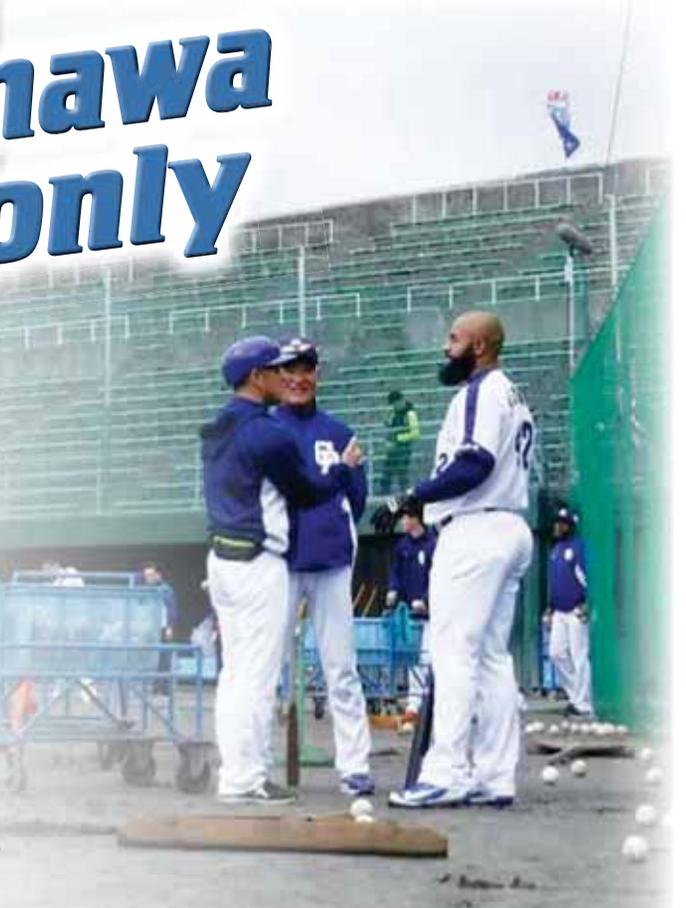
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Baseball back on Okinawa for limited time only

STORY AND PHOTO BY SHOJI KUDAKA, STRIPES JAPAN

Every February, fields of cherry blossom trees wow the masses on Okinawa. But they're not the only fields generating excitement. February also means the boys are back in town – for spring training baseball. All 12 Nippon Professional Baseball (NPB) teams have kicked off practice, with nine of them here on Okinawa for the warm weather. The island is to the NPB what Arizona and Florida are to the MLB. Without a team of its own, regular season baseball is a rarity on Okinawa. And, unlike the regular season games, fans can watch and interact with professional players close up. A lot of quality baseball will be on display for the people on Okinawa. Prior to the actual spring training games, which are set to begin late February, there will be a number of practice and intra-squad games to be played in stadiums across Okinawa, most of which are free to watch. Some stadiums are close to U.S. military facilities. The Japanese teams don't have an Aaron Judge or Mike Trout on their rosters, but players like Ryan Cook or Norichika Aoki might ring a bell to MLB fans. The weather is getting better, so why not get out and enjoy some baseball while it lasts.

kudaka.shoji@stripes.com



NPB Teams on Okinawa

CENTRAL LEAGUE



Hiroshima Toyo Carp

DATES: Feb. 15 – Feb. 26
LOCATION: Koza Shinkin Stadium (near Kadena Air Base and Camp Foster, GPS Coordinates: N 26.333087, E 127.790218)

DAYS OFF: Feb. 14, 20

NOTABLE FORMER MLB PLAYERS: Kris Johnson (P), Johnny Hellweg (P), Casey Lawrence (P)



Tokyo Yakult Swallows

DATES: Feb. 1 – Feb. 26
LOCATION: ANA BALL PARK a.k.a. Urasoe Municipal Baseball Stadium (near Camp Kinser, GPS Coordinates: N 26.251310, E 127.723570)

DAYS OFF: Feb. 5, 12, 19

NOTABLE FORMER MLB PLAYERS: David Buchanan (P), Albert Suarez (P), Dave Huff (P), Wladimir Balentien (OF), Norichika Aoki (OF)



Yokohama DeNA Bay Stars

DATES: Feb. 1 - Feb. 27 (First team); Feb. 1 – Feb. 26 (Farm)

LOCATION: Ginowan Municipal Baseball Stadium (First team, near Camp Foster and MCAS Futenma, inside of Ginowan Seaside Park, GPS Coordinates: N 26.282497, E 127.737381)

Kadena Town Baseball Stadium (Farm, near Kadena Air Base and Torii Station, GPS Coordinates: N 26.369679, E 127.770183)

DAYS OFF: Feb. 6, 12, 18, 22 (First team); Feb. 7, 12, 16, 21 (Farm)

NOTABLE FORMER MLB PLAYERS: Spencer Patton (P), Jose Lopez (1B, 3B), Neftalí Soto (1B, 2B, OF)



Chunichi Dragons

DATES: Feb. 1 – Feb. 27 (First team); Feb. 1 – Mar. 28 (Farm)

LOCATION: Chatan Park Baseball Stadium (First team, near Kadena Air Base and Camp Foster, GPS Coordinates: N 26.311735, E 127.758349); Heiwa no Mori Baseball Stadium (Farm, near Torii Station, GPS Coordinates: N 26.397382, E 127.745814)

DAYS OFF: Feb. 6, 13, 20

NOTABLE FORMER MLB PLAYERS: Daisuke Matsuzaka (P), Dayan Viciedo (1B, OF), Enny Romero (P), Joely Rodriguez (P), Zoilo Almonte (OF), Steven Moya (OF, 1B)



Yomiuri Giants

DATES: Feb. 13 – Feb. 28

LOCATION: Okinawa Cellular Stadium (near Naha military port, GPS Coordinates: N 26.203543, E 127.672991)

DAYS OFF: Feb. 18, 22

NOTABLE FORMER MLB PLAYERS: Scott Mathieson (P), Ryan Cook (P), Christian Villanueva (3B), Taylor Jungmann (P), Alex Guerrero (OF), Hisashi Iwakuma (P)



Hanshin Tigers

DATES: Feb. 1 – Feb. 27

LOCATION: Kariyushi Hotels Ball Park Ginoza (near Camp Schwab and Hansen, GPS Coordinates: N 26.484100, E 127.973340)

DAYS OFF: Feb. 4, 8, 13, 18, 22

NOTABLE FORMER MLB PLAYERS: Randy Messenger (P), Pierce Johnson (P), Jefry Marté (1B, 3B, OF), Rafael Dolis (P), Efen Navarro (1B, OF), Kyuji Fujikawa (P)

PACIFIC LEAGUE



Hokkaido Nippon-Ham Fighters

DATES: Feb. 15 – Feb. 25 (First Team); Feb. 1 – Feb. 23 (Farm)

LOCATION: Nago Shiei Baseball Field (First team, near Camp Schwab, GPS Coordinates: N 26.593055, E 127.966972), Akeomi Sky Dome (First team, near Camp Schwab, GPS Coordinates: N 26.592751, E 127.963803), Kaigin Stadium Kunigami (Farm, GPS Coordinates: N 26.726975, E 128.162014)

DAYS OFF: Feb. 18, 22 (First Team) Feb. 4, 9, 15 20 (Farm)

NOTABLE FORMER MLB PLAYERS ON THE SQUAD: Nick Martinez (P), Justin Hancock (P), Johnny Barbato (P)



Chiba Lotte Marines

DATES: Feb. 1 – Feb. 11 (First team); Feb. 1 - Feb. 21 (Farm)

LOCATION: Ishigaki City Chuo Athletic Park Baseball Stadium (GPS Coordinates: N 24.345124, E 124.171505)

DAYS OFF: Feb. 6 (First team); Feb. 6, 12, 18 (Farm)

NOTABLE FORMER MLB PLAYERS: Mike Bolsinger (P), Josh Ravin (P)



Tohoku Rakuten Eagles

DATES: Feb. 1 – Feb. 9 (Kumejima Island), Feb. 11 - Feb. 21 (Kin Town)

LOCATION: Kumejima Island Baseball Stadium (GPS Coordinates: N 26.349624, E 126.734652); Nakazato Baseball Stadium (GPS Coordinates: N 26.336017, E 126.813090); Kin Town Baseball Stadium (near Camp Hansen, GPS Coordinates: N 26.462516, E 127.941525)

DAYS OFF: Feb. 5, 15

NOTABLE FORMER MLB PLAYERS: Frank Herrmann (P), Zelous Wheeler (OF, 1B, 3B), Jabari Blash (OF), Alan Busenitz (P)

Practice games

FEB. 11

Dragons vs. Hanwha Eagles (KPB) @ Chatan Park Baseball Stadium (near Foster and Kadena), 1 p.m.

FEB. 12

Dragons vs. KIA Tigers (KPB) @ Chatan Park Baseball Stadium (near Foster and Kadena), 1 p.m.

FEB. 13

BayStars vs. Marines @ Ginowan Municipal Baseball Stadium (near Foster and Futenma), 1 p.m.

FEB. 14

Dragons vs. Marines @ Chatan Park Baseball Stadium (near Foster and Kadena), 1 p.m.

FEB. 16

Dragons (Farm) vs. Hanwha Eagles (KPB) @ Heiwa no Mori Baseball Stadium (near Torii), 1 p.m.

Swallows vs. BayStars @ ANA BALL PARK a.k.a. Urasoe Municipal Baseball Stadium (near Kinser), 12:30 p.m.

FEB. 17

Dragons vs. Swallows @ ANA BALL PARK a.k.a. Urasoe Municipal Baseball Stadium (near Kinser), 1 p.m.

Giants vs. BayStars @ Okinawa Cellular Stadium (near Naha Military Port), 12:30 p.m.

FEB. 18

Dragons vs. Hanwha Eagles (KPB) @ Chatan Park Baseball Stadium (near Camp Foster and Kadena Air Base), 1 p.m.

FEB. 19

Dragons (Farm) vs. BayStars @ Heiwa no Mori Baseball Stadium (near Torii), 1 p.m.

FEB. 20

BayStars vs. Marines @ Ginowan Municipal Baseball Stadium (near Foster and Futenma), 1 p.m.

FEB. 21

Dragons (Farm) vs. Hanwha Eagles (KPB) @ Heiwa no Mori Baseball Stadium (near Torii Station), 1 p.m.

Swallows vs. BayStars @ ANA BALL PARK a.k.a. Urasoe Municipal Baseball Stadium (near Kinser), 12:30 p.m.

FEB. 22

Dragons vs. Samsung Lions (KPB) @ Chatan Park Baseball Stadium (near Foster and Kadena), 1 p.m.

BayStars (Farm) vs. Hanwha Eagles (KPB) @ Ginowan Municipal Baseball Stadium (near Foster and Futenma), 1 p.m.

FEB. 25

Dragons (Farm) vs. BayStars @ Heiwa no Mori Baseball Stadium (near Torii), 1 p.m.

FEB. 26

BayStars vs. KIA Tigers (KPB) @ Ginowan Municipal Baseball Stadium (near Foster and Futenma), 12:30 p.m.

Giants vs. Dragons @ Okinawa Cellular Stadium (near Naha Military Port), 12:30 p.m.

Spring Training games

FEB. 23

Dragons vs. BayStars @ Chatan Park Baseball Stadium (near Foster and Kadena), 1 p.m.

Swallows vs. Tigers @ ANA BALL PARK a.k.a. Urasoe Municipal Baseball Stadium (near Kinser), 1 p.m.

Giants vs. Eagles @ Okinawa Cellular Stadium (near Naha Military Port), 1 p.m.

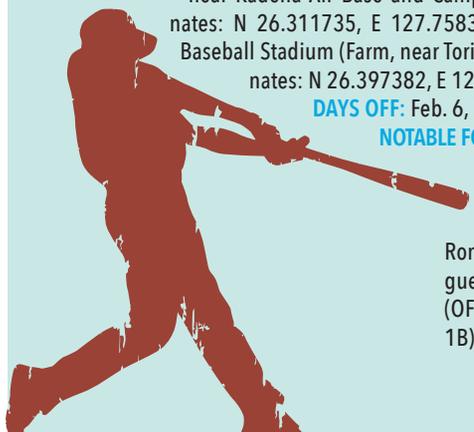
FEB. 24

BayStars vs. Carp @ Ginowan Municipal Baseball Stadium (near Futenma), 1 p.m.

Dragons vs. Tigers @ Chatan Park Baseball Stadium (near Foster and Kadena), 1 p.m.

Swallows vs. Eagles @ ANA BALL PARK a.k.a. Urasoe Municipal Baseball Stadium (near Kinser), 1 p.m.

Giants vs. Fighters @ Okinawa Cellular Stadium (near Naha Military Port), 1 p.m.





Cheap, easy lunch found throughout Japan

STORY AND PHOTOS BY ALLEN ONSTOTT AND TAKAHIRO TAKIGUCHI, STRIPES JAPAN

Just a 5-minute walk from Hardy Barracks, Kourakuen is a very popular Chinese restaurant among the local salarymen. Although you may not be able to read the name in kanji, many people can recognize the chain-restaurant by its red-brick ball logo.

Located in Roppongi, the central business and entertainment district of Tokyo, the front door rarely has the opportunity to completely close, especially around noon.

Once inside, we found clientele mainly in suits, as older men slowly enjoy ramen solo at the front counters.

Due to our pressing hunger, we ordered the largest and most expensive lunch special for 840 yen (\$7.50). The set included plate of six gyoza (Chinese style dumpling), a bowl of fried rice and larger bowl of ramen.

The ramen had a bold, flavorful taste with tender dual slices of pork and all the fixings (bamboo shoots, green onions, mushrooms and seaweed sheet). Adding a dash of rayu (red spicy oil) and black ground pepper enhance the full-bodied hot broth.

As it goes for all noodle dishes, do not wait too long to get started, as noodles of ramen will soak up broth and become soggy. As this was not the case, the noodles here were firm and fresh; slightly oily.

You can drink up the tasty soy sauce based broth, since in Japan, it is appropriate and common to finish off drinking the broth straight from the bowl.

The fried rice, which was

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rather plain, just goes along with ramen and gyoza. Although hot and definitely priced right, the rice was quite skimpy on pork and egg additives.

Grilled just right, the gyoza hit the spot once dipped in soy sauce, vinegar and the spicy rayu oil. Filled with white cabbage, garlic, ginger and Welsh onion, it tasted wonderful.

We could not deny the 100-yen ice cream with fudge sauce. The low price was indicative of the taste, however.

Upon completing our dessert, we noticed the anxious crowd awaiting the next possible table available.

In brief, Kourakuen is an eatery with great value, served efficiently with acceptable food. Since the shop is very popular and always has a line, they don't take reservations.

The restaurant takes most IC cards, such as Pasma, Suica and ID for your quick payment. An English menu is available upon request, as well.

As a national chain with 554 restaurants (35 in Tokyo and 47 in Kanagawa Prefecture), you may be able to find one near your installation. Like most things in Japan, the cheap lunch is worth trying at least once.

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Chopsticks and Japanese dining



BY TAKAHIRO TAKIGUCHI,
STRIPES JAPAN

Any meal in Japan is sure to include some form of chopsticks. Since their invention in ancient China more than 3,000 years ago, chopsticks have been widely used in Asian countries. In Japan, chopsticks are called “*hashi*” and are used for cooking and eating all kinds of dishes including rice, raw fish, vegetables, noodles, soup and desserts. At some restaurants, you’ll even catch locals using their chopsticks to eat French fries.

Being an important dining



Wikipedia

tool, us Japanese usually learn how to use chopsticks before we start walking. Japanese parents take teaching the skill to their children seriously, as it is considered as one of the most important manners in society.

As a child, I remember not being allowed to eat unless I used my chopsticks.

If I stuck my chopsticks vertically into rice in a bowl – a big no-no in Japan – my father would scold me severely because that it is a funeral tradition to offer a bowl of rice in this manner to the altar of our departed ancestors.

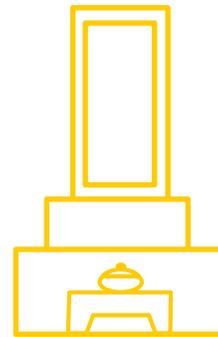
My wife and I also struggled in teaching our daughter how to use chopsticks. At first, she tried to grip it the same way she would hold a spoon, but eventually, with much persistence and patience, she became comfortable enough to pick up food with her chopsticks.

Despite chopsticks’ importance to Japanese culture and tradition, there are still some Japanese people that do not know how to use them correctly. According to a survey by the Cabinet Office (2010), only slightly more than half of Japanese over the age of 18 were deemed to be able to hold their chopsticks correctly. In fact, I often observe some young people using their chopsticks incorrectly and awkwardly.

In Japan, you’ll have plenty of opportunities to master the technique at restaurants or at the home of Japanese friends. As Japanese food gains popularity globally, having chopsticks skills will come in handy when you enjoy sushi, soba

Did you know?

Tatebashi is a ritual where a pair of chopsticks are stuck upright in a bowl of rice and presented as an offering to newly deceased. Doing this at a table is frowned upon for bringing bad luck.



Another blunder to be careful to avoid is passing food directly from one chopstick to another. Much like sticking your chopsticks into a bowl of rice, this also has to do with Japanese funeral rituals. In hashiwatashi, relatives of the deceased use chopsticks to pluck bones from the cremated remains, and then pass the bones from chopstick to chopstick until the remains finally reach the kotsutsubo, or urn.



File photo

noodles and other Japanese and Asian dishes.

Just as chopsticks are a unique, beautiful dining tool, a pair can also be an ideal souvenir for your friends and relatives. Many souvenir stores sell novelty pairs with Japanese animated characters like Hello Kitty or Gundam, but you can also find nicer ones made of lacquered wood or bamboo ranging from 1,000 – 5,000 yen (\$8–40).

At restaurants and convenience stores, you may

encounter disposable chopsticks, called “*waribashi*.” These are made of wood or bamboo and are attached at the top, requiring them to be split apart before use.

As the saying goes, practice makes perfect. Though chopsticks may seem difficult at first, consistently trying to use them will go a long way in ensuring you enjoy authentic Japanese cuisine the authentic Japanese way.

takiguchi.takahiro@stripes.com

Planning a visit to South Korea?

You’ll notice the differences of Korean chopsticks both in aesthetic and in use.

- Jeotgarak, is the Korean word for chopsticks.
- Korean chopsticks are typically made of steel or some other type of metal. This may date back to the Baekje period (circa 18 BC – 660 AD) and used to detect poison in royals’ food.
- Because metal is slippery, chopsticks are flat and have rough tips to make picking up food easier.
- For table setting, the chopsticks sit vertically and are paired with a metal spoon.
- Korean chopsticks are slightly longer than Japanese because of meals are shared and reaching across the table is easier with longer chopsticks.

Similarities to Japan

- Chopstick etiquette is something both cultures take very seriously and teach their children early on.
- Sticking your chopsticks into a bowl of rice is also a no-no in Korea. Here it is also a funeral rite.
- The same goes for sticking food with your chopsticks.
- Don’t stick chopsticks in your mouth or eat directly from communal bowl.

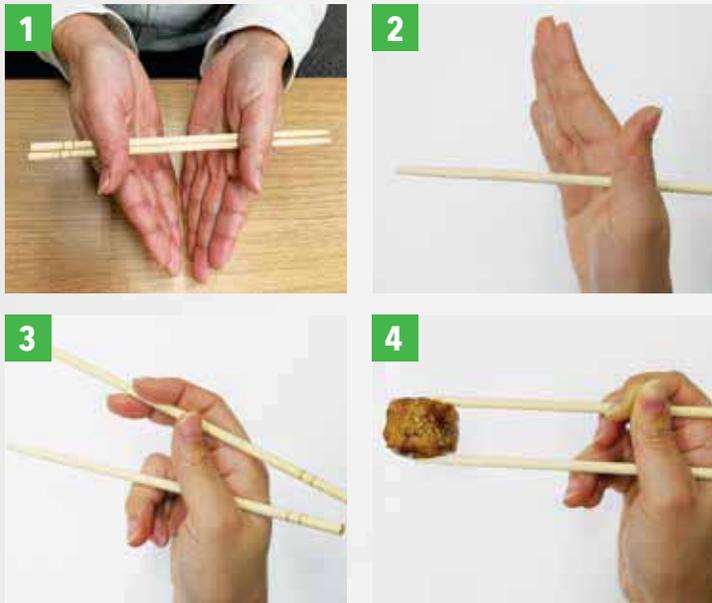


File photo

How to use chopsticks

1. Use both hands when you pick up a set of chopsticks.
2. In the same manner you would hold a pencil, hold the chopsticks about one-third from the top.
3. Then, grip the upper stick with your thumb and index finger, while the lower stick rests on your middle and ring fingers.
4. Bend only the upper chopsticks up and down to make the ends of two chopsticks meet (The lower chopstick shouldn't move.)

Practice enables you to grip, divide, pinch and even scoop foods with your chopsticks. To hone your chopsticks skills, try picking up beans, shelled peanuts or rice grains when you're comfortable with your grip.



See video on Facebook

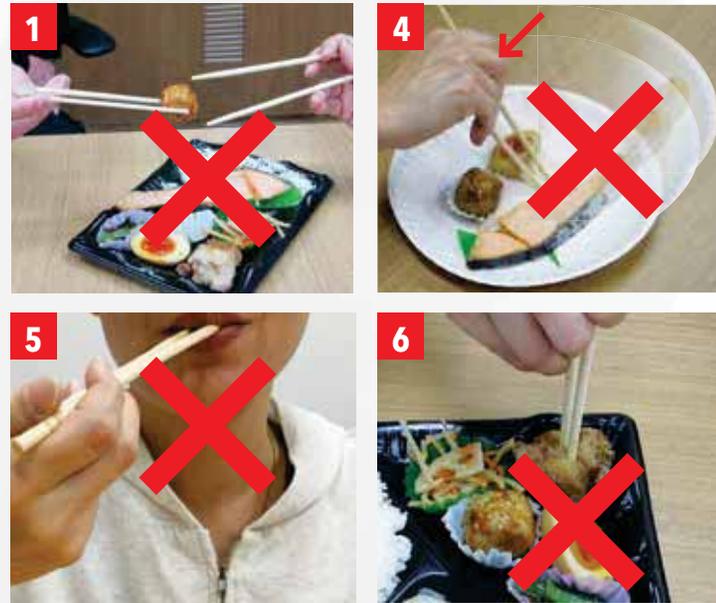
No-Nos with chopsticks

Because chopsticks have a 3,000-year history, various customs and traditions surround their use. Be sure to avoid the following no-nos as they are considered rude:

1. Don't pass food from one set of chopsticks to another.
2. Don't use only one stick to pierce any food.
3. Don't touch others' chopsticks with yours.
4. Don't use your chopsticks to move bowls or plates.
5. Don't put chopsticks into your mouth.
6. Don't stick potatoes or other foods with chopsticks. Instead, hold food by pinching up to help lift it or split the potato into small pieces with the chopsticks first.



See video on Facebook



Photos by Jun Sakahira

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Enjoy stunning views of Sapporo atop Hokkaido's Mount Moiwa

STORY AND PHOTOS BY SETH ROBSON,
STARS AND STRIPES
Published: Jan. 17, 2019

If you fare well in cold weather, or own enough warm clothing, you can experience some spectacular views of Hokkaido's largest city from the summit of Mount Moiwa.

At 1,742 feet tall, the mountain towers over Sapporo's western suburbs and offers a panoramic view of the city, Ishikari Bay and nearby peaks.

Visitors can reach the top of Mt. Moiwa by riding the ¾-mile-long Mount Moiwa Ropeway, before transferring to a smaller cable car that stops at an observation platform.

Up here, you might bump into the mountain's mascot, Mo-risu, who looks a little like the forest-dwelling Totoro from the beloved Japanese animated film "My Neighbor Totoro." Mo-risu is supposed to resemble the Siberian flying squirrels that inhabit the area — although he doesn't look particularly capable of flight.

The indigenous Ainu people called this mountain Inkarushibe, describing a place where people climbed up and looked out.

There are five main hiking trails that range in length from about 1.5 miles to 2.8 miles, all of which take visitors through a primeval forest that was designated a national monument in 1921.

On winter nights, you can see countless twinkling lights from the city below while standing on the summit's

viewing platform. How long you'll spend looking at them might depend on the wind chill and the quality of your cold-weather gear.

Locals flock to the lookout due to its reputation as a popular date spot. Many padlocks left behind by lovebirds, known as "love locks," hang from a fence at the summit. If you want to leave behind a love lock of your own, they're sold at a nearby shop. There's also a large "Bell of Happiness" that visi-

tors can ring, if they're so inclined.

Those who want a closer look at what's below can take advantage of the various binoculars bolted to the viewing platform — but after a few minutes marveling at the lights, you'll probably want to seek shelter and warmth inside.

For those looking to keep warm, the area has a planetarium and The Jewels, a French restaurant with a view. Visitors seeking a quick snack can check out the small shop on site, which sells hot drinks, ice cream and other treats. Despite the low temperatures, the view from Mt. Moiwa makes it worth adding to any Hokkaido itinerary.

robson.seth@stripes.com
Twitter: @sethrobson1

EXCLUSIVE NEWS FROM:
STARS AND STRIPES
www.stripes.com



Couples can lock their love by leaving a padlock near the summit of Mount Moiwa with Sapporo's bright lights as a romantic backdrop.



A snack bar at the summit of Mount Moiwa is a good place to refuel after spending time outside in the cold in winter.

High above Sapporo, Mount Moiwa offers an epic view of the city to enjoy with family, friends and significant others.

MOUNT MOIWA

LOCATION: Fushimi 5-chome 3-7, Chuo-ku, Sapporo.
DIRECTIONS: From Maruyama Koen Station on the Sapporo Municipal Subway Tozai Line, take the JR Hokkaido Bus (Junkan Maru 10/11) and get off at the Moiwa Sanroku or Ropeway Iriguchi bus stops.
TIMES: Winter, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Summer, 10:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.
COSTS: Adult tickets for the railway and cable car are 1,700 yen (about \$15.00), while tickets for children are 850 yen.
FOOD: The Jewels, a French restaurant, has a menu that ranges from 900 yen for a pasta salad during lunch to 9,500 yen for a dinner course including local ham, seafood and beef. There is also a small gift shop selling snacks and souvenirs.
INFORMATION: tinyurl.com/y75jn2ut



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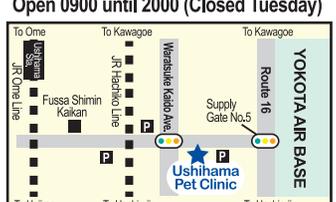


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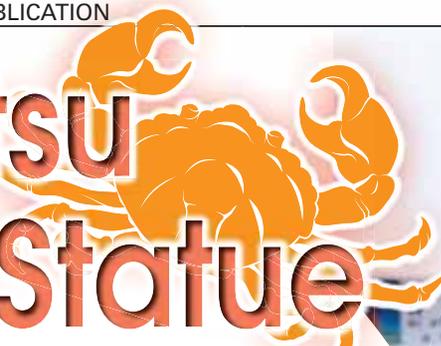
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Monbetsu Crab Claw Statue



An iconic piece of kitschy Hokkaido

STORY AND PHOTOS BY KIM B, JAPANTRAVEL

Monbetsu, in Hokkaido's northeast, is well known for all things crab. The quality of the crab caught in the waters off this part of Japan is repeatedly touted as the country's best, and they celebrate it loud and proud here. There are plenty of places where you can enjoy the delicacy, including Monbetsu Ryoshi Shokudo. You can also embrace the crab culture here by indulging in a fun photo opportunity. Monbetsu lays claim to a giant crab claw statue, and it's

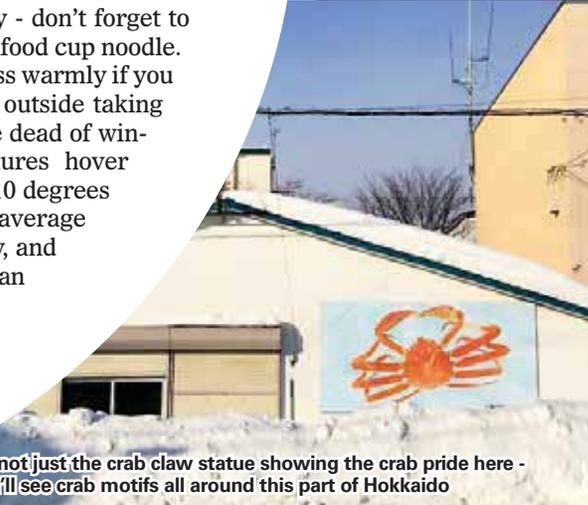
GETTING THERE
The Monbetsu Crab Claw Statue is located by the waterfront, approximately ten minutes drive from the Okhotsk Monbetsu Airport. Both taxis and private car rental vehicles are available from the airport itself.

.....
become something of an iconic symbol of the area. The statue is 12 meters high and 6 meters wide, and one of the best ways to have fun with it is to grab a seafood cup noodle at a nearby supermarket or convenience store, and pose with the crab claw "emerging" from the cup itself. It's actually rather tricky trying to position things in the right spot, and depending on when you visit you may see others shuffling around to do the

same thing. I only realized after I'd left that it probably would have looked more convincing if I'd peeled the lid back on the cup noodle, but my hands were already feeling frozen enough! There are no barriers or admission fees to visit this kitschy piece of fun in Monbetsu, so embrace your humorous side and snap away - don't forget to bring your seafood cup noodle. Be sure to dress warmly if you plan on being outside taking pictures in the dead of winter. Temperatures hover around -5 to -10 degrees Celsius on average during the day, and even colder than that once the sun sets.



Cheesy photos here are a must!



It's not just the crab claw statue showing the crab pride here - you'll see crab motifs all around this part of Hokkaido



Braving the cold winter air and snow to check out the iconic crab claw

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For further information

please contact Mr Nasir on **090 4453 8129**



Hakodate fun

STORY AND PHOTOS BY BONSON LAM,
JAPAN TRAVEL

Fish Market

The little squid that could

If the thought of eating a still “alive” squid makes you squirm, there are other ways to get close to the freshest seafood this side of Toyosu. In the middle of this diverse collection of market stalls, there is a small oval like aquarium, a large blue tank with see through windows where you can see squid swim in a circular motion, a bit like a kindergarten racetrack where none of the “racehorses” will do as they are told.

What happens next is a tragi-comedy. The class clown in your group, or just someone who pulled the shortest straw, is given a simplified fishing rod with a small bit of bait. His or her job is to catch one of the few squid are swimming around.

There are not that many squid, so you just have to be patient. It isn't an impossible task, but one that takes long enough to build up a bit of drama. Remember, Hokkaido is a place where people, and possibly squid, slow down. They didn't even have bullet trains here until March 2016.

Hakodate, like the endearing squid swimming happily around the tank, is a little city that could. Despite being six times smaller than Sapporo, this compact port of 270,000 packs its punch with attractions like the Victorian-era mansions of Motomachi, the Beer Halls on the waterfront, the Mount Hakodate ropeway and Yunokawa Onsen. If you are staying at the onsen, imagine the delights of bathing when gazing at the fishing boats nearby, their lanterns attracting these miniature squid to the surface. It is just as well that our cameo fishermen stayed on shore, for over the horizon, giant squid rule the waves with two hearts and eyes the size of dinner plates.

Back on shore, the local ma and pa stalls gives an authentic old school feel to the market, though you would not see the live auctions and wholesale traders that Tokyo's Tsukiji are famous for. As Hakodate is a popular cruise ship port, the markets can be swamped with waves of tourists. There are many parallel alleyways that make up this market, so there are always an option to go off the beaten track should that happen.

While the Japanese call this the Asaichi or morning markets, many stalls stay open for lunch, making it a treat for late-risers. Like Tsukiji, there are various sections from fish to vegetable markets, as well as a number of



Hokkaido is famous for its crab



Salmon Roe and Sea Urchin Rice Bowl

restaurants on the side streets. There are plenty of things to do here, from fishing, to eating at the food court, or chatting with the local vendors. In honor of our playful squid, maybe it should be renamed the “Fishing Markets”.

ADDRESS: 9-19 Wakamatsu-cho, Hakodate, Hokkaido
TEL: 0120-858-313
URL: https://www.hakodate.travel/en/sightseeing_spots/shopping-spot/hakodate-morning-market

GETTING THERE

The Hakodate Fish Market (otherwise known as the Asaichi or Morning Market) is a 10 minute walk from JR Hakodate Station, Hakodate Bus Terminal or the Eki-mae Tram Stop.



Gotcha! Our cameo fisherman gets his prized squid



Daimon Yokochi is just 10 minutes walk from Hakodate Station

Where you come as strangers and leave as friends

Eat Street

Nightlife on Daimon Yokochi

You may have heard or seen the television series like “Tokyo Diner”, or perhaps “Cheers”, where everyone knows your name. It is the concept of an intimate eatery seating less than 20 people, and run by an “onesan” or “mama”, usually the owner of the eatery. It is no coincidence that the word onesan means ‘older sister’, as the place has more of a family feel, a contrast to the formal atmosphere that some traditional Japanese Kaiseki restaurants are known for, where the customer is treated like the king.

What makes these places so different to the usual bars is that either the customers know each other, or the place is so small and conducive to social connection, that a newcomer is welcomed to their inner circle, kind of a private party where you can order much what you like, and you can chat to anyone in the restaurant.

While they are very much favourites and treasured secrets amongst locals, it is not often that tourists can stumble across a place like this. Here, you can talk on first name terms with the owner, as I call her my “sister” Tomoko, and the party got underway, attracting the attention of passers-by, hoping to get into the action. Invariably a couple would come in, and not wanting them to miss out, we poured them a shot of our huge bottle of sake.

This place features a counter which while a little on the low side, provided a view of the kitchen. We sat a little bit further over two wooden tables, while not next the kitchen, is so close that you can easily chat with the owner.

Tonight, due to several days of supply disruption, there was only four items available on the menu, Potato wedges, fried chicken, gyoza dumplings and yakisoba noodles. These were all crowd pleasers and our party of ten were more than happy to order multiple plates of each dish. Every dish, while simple, was

ADDRESS: 7-5, Matsukazecho, Hakodate, Hokkaido

GETTING THERE

Located near the port, and hemmed between the Pacific Ocean on one side and the cold currents from Siberia on the other side, one could imagine this place being frequented by seafarers barely breathing after an epic David vs Goliath struggle on the raging seas. While this could be the case, you are more likely to see local salarymen fighting everyday battles in the office. The meals served reflect this with every eatery serving some kind of Japanese cuisine. Likewise there is little in English signage. When walking here from Hakodate station or tram stop, look out for the “Daimon Yokochi” or “大門横丁” sign in Japanese kanji script.

cooked to perfection. The chicken was crisp on the outside and juicy on the inside, letting the natural flavours shine without over marinating the chicken. Likewise the Gyoza was juicy and had the right mix of meat and vegetables. Other crowd pleasers include sour citrus Shochu and Kirin beer on tap, though the local product like Sapporo Classic and Nikka Whisky is featured as well.

This is Hakodate's answer to the “hole in the wall” bars in Shibuya and those night eateries in Tokyo folklore that are under the train tracks of Shinagawa or Yurakucho. The place itself is simple, unpretentious, yet homely. There were just some wooden tables and a television in the background showing a baseball game. It blurs the lines between a private party at someone's house, and a pub or bistro.

There are many pubs like this in the eat street, a grid of small bistros in an area that you could be lucky to fit eight cars. They mainly serve Japanese cuisine, and even though our pub didn't have Karaoke, as the place was so small and intimate, it was only natural that we break into song between drinks, whether it was A hard day's night or any other song where everyone knew the lyrics, well at least the chorus.

Travel dilemmas

New year, new perspective on keeping digitally safe

BY CATHARINE HAMM,
LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES (Tribune News Service) — As consumers, we're thinking about data breaches all wrong. We ask how something like this can happen. We are shocked when 383 million people, more than the population of the United States, are potentially affected by digital evil-doers. We think nothing will happen to us. And we continue on our merry way. Wrong, wrong, wrong, and especially wrong, experts say.

The Marriott data breach might better be called the Starwood breach because it was its brands that were affected. (The 383 million number was

recently updated after duplicates were removed, so the number has dropped by 117 million.)

Marriott acquired Starwood in 2016. If you stayed at a Sheraton, W, Aloft, St. Regis, Westin, Element, Luxury Collection, Le Meridien or Four Points, your data may have been exposed.

That includes "people's names, addresses, phone numbers, email addresses, passport numbers, dates of birth, gender, Starwood loyalty program account information, and reservation information," the Federal Trade Commission said on its website. "For some, they also stole payment card numbers and expiration dates."

For info on that breach, go to

answers.kroll.com, or you can call (877) 273-9481.

Interviews with three experts in this field persuaded me to change my point of view on how I look at personal information, especially when it comes to travel. Here's what they explained to me:

First, your information probably will be compromised at some point.

It's time to switch from asking, "How can something like this happen?" to thinking, "I am pretty sure this is going to happen."

Companies can try to block every threat, but they can't. And those that brag they are breach-proof are asking for trouble.

Bad guys "look at those challenges and take them on ... for the challenge" of trying to break through, said Randolph Morris, chief technical officer for Relevance, a digital marketing company in Mission Viejo.

Second, your information is not safe even if you were not affected by the breach.

You and your information might be safe this time, but there are many ways into your digital life.

Ray Rothrock, chairman and chief executive of RedSeal, a cybersecurity analytics platform, recalls being on hotel Wi-Fi and seeing hundreds of other devices sharing that network. "Every device has vulnerabilities," he said. Bad guys "go after low-hanging fruit." He said they think this way: "If I can see it, I can hack it."

Third, you are your own best defense.

You may not be a security genius, but you can help build little fortresses around your world, Rothrock said. The idea, he said, is containment.

Today, people have about 200 digital accounts, said Emmanuel Schalit, chief executive of Dashlane, a password management app. That's a whole lot of numbers, characters and letters to remember, because you are using a different password for each one.

Aren't you?

If not, here are some ways to protect yourself in the absence of protection from any company.

Use different passwords for every account you have, each expert said. That matters, each said, because if you use the same password for every

account, what's to stop the hackers from accessing every account?

Here's how Schalit described it: "Imagine you have 200 copies of the keys to your home and every time someone comes to your house, you (give) them one. None of us would ever do that in the real world." You shouldn't be doing it in the digital one.

Use a password manager. Schalit, of course, would say that. (Full disclosure: I adopted Dashlane three years ago before I knew of Schalit because it came free on my new PC. I liked it so much I upgraded to premium so I can have it across all my devices.) Morris uses LastPass, and Rothrock uses 1Password. PC Magazine offers its best list: lat.ms/PCMagpasswordmgr.

A complicated password may be fine, but if used repeatedly, it's no deterrent, Schalit said.

Change your passwords. Switching may foil hackers, and if you have a password manager, you need to remember only the password to get in to your vault. Again, secure Wi-Fi is key.

Nag your friends and family to get a password manager. OK, Schalit didn't exactly say you should nag, but when I told him I had tried, without success, to get family members to use this form of protection, he didn't disagree that nagging is appropriate, so I took that as an affirmation.

Use two-factor authentication if you can. It's another layer of security. It keeps bad guys out by asking for a second verification besides your password. It may be a PIN you have set up, a number sent to your phone or a fingerprint. It sends a text, calls you or asks for a pass code.

You and your information might be safe this time, but there are many ways into your digital life.



File photo

Ruth
Recording Artist

Ronnie Rucker
Recording Artist

Carol
Gospel Artist

Miwa Shioya
Recording Artist

Alphonso Thomas
Recording Artist

Dionne Hough
Music Minister

Vincento
Gospel Artist

Schanita
Gospel Artist

Michael Bethany
Lead vocalist and Song writer/producer for Grammy award winners Fred Hammond and Kirk Franklin as well as Tamela Mann, Marvin Sapp and Myron Butler. Executive Director of Worship at Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship Church in Dallas, TX under Dr. Tony Evans.

Gospel Square, Sunnyside Gospel Club Tachikawa, Kitasenju, DCC Choir & Youth Mime Ministry

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gospel

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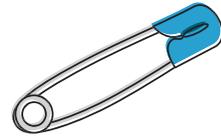
OKINAWA MISAWA YOKOSUKA ATSUGI ZAMA YOKOTA FUJI IWAKUNI SASEBO OKINAWA MISAWA

10 MUST-HAVES FOR THRIFTY TRAVELERS

BY KAREN BRADBURY,
STRIPES JAPAN

Seasoned weekend trippers know the value of traveling light. But even those winging it on a budget airline flight know there are some things it pays to have along in a travel kit. Here are ten things you might find handy to have along on your next weekend getaway:

SAFETY PINS: when buttons fall off, there's not always time to sew them back on, so it's essential to be able to perform a little wardrobe first aid when necessary. Pinning a bag closed can make its contents slightly less susceptible to theft, as can linking the two zippers on the compartment of a backpack together. Pinning keys to the inside of a pocket is a good idea when visiting an amusement park with lots of twisting and turning rides. Other uses for safety pins include holding together first-aid bandages, retrieving lost drawstrings in hoods and sweatpants, or as a stand-in for clothespins or fish hooks.



DENTAL FLOSS: Not only essential for removal of kebab from between the teeth, but dental floss also makes a fine makeshift clothesline, thread for emergency sewing jobs, or a shoelace. Use it as fishing line, or as a quick fix should the screw affixing an arm to a pair of eyeglasses go missing.

SPOON AND FORK: the cheapest place for a meal on the go is often the supermarket. With cutlery in tow, you can always enjoy yogurt or a pre-made salad on a bench in the closest park. (A plastic knife is also handy and won't be taken away at the airport security check like a metal one would be.)

PLASTIC ZIP BAGGIES: these are essential for putting your liquids in when passing through airport security. They're also great for taking away the leftovers of a great meal, eking another day's use out of a nice-smelling bar of soap, or storing the beach glass or pretty rocks you collected on the

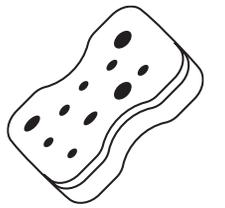
beach. They can also double as a drain stopper for the sink or protect a mobile phone on a boat trip. If there's access to a freezer, fill up a couple baggies the night before and you'll have ice packs the next day.

ELASTIC BANDS: these are handy for emergency repairs to bicycles or sports equipment, or as part of a first-aid kit. They can serve as wrist straps or hands-free holders for telephones or flashlights or can be used to bundle clothing into tiny wads, keep books closed and their pages neat, or organize essential travel docs.

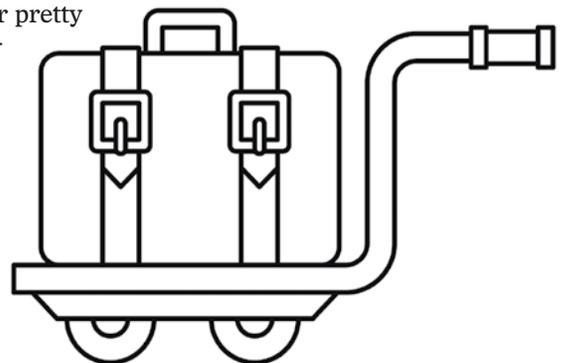
SMALL THIN TOWEL: a towel bigger than a washcloth but smaller than a hand towel won't take up much space but can prove invaluable as something to dry off with after a swim or to sit on at the beach. It's great for wicking sweat off the face, and with a wet corner, it becomes a facecloth.

A dry one, in a pinch, can work as a scarf to ward off a fierce wind. A linen dish towel in a waffle weave might just become your best travel companion instantly.

KITCHEN DISH SPONGE: the uses of a dish sponge are many, from washing stains off of clothing to whisking the raindrops off a picnic table. Shoe rubbing in the wrong place? Borrow a pair of scissors, cut off a chunk and place the makeshift pad where it's chafing. Anyone who's ever tried to get clean just by rubbing shower gel over his or her body in the shower might wish to pack an extra one to use as a shower scrub.



DUCT TAPE: not only handy at home, wrap a wad around a pen or pencil to have an emergency store of this wonder material allowing you to patch or attach virtually anything while on the go.



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Stripes Sports Trivia

Being the Robin to a team's Batman can seem like a slight. When it comes to the Michael Jordan Bulls, Robin was an all-time great and Basketball Hall of Famer named Scottie Pippen. Few remember that Pippen, the No. 5 pick, was traded to the Bulls for Olden Polynice on draft day. Which team made the ill-fated trade?

Answer

Seattle SuperSonics

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The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Pageant title
- 5 Gothenburg native
- 10 Party thrower
- 14 Workout woe
- 15 Like candles or crayons
- 16 Quite fond of
- 17 Work against
- 19 Den denizen
- 20 Call for
- 21 It may be arranged
- 23 Baby powder ingredient
- 25 Baker's need
- 26 Luxury Chrysler until 1993
- 30 Bivouac
- 33 Scand. land
- 34 Void, as a marriage
- 36 Homework helper?
- 37 Divisible by 2
- 39 Doomed one
- 41 iPhone assistant
- 42 Send to a specialist
- 44 Belly button
- 46 Restroom sign
- 47 Bone-boring tool
- 49 Replant timber
- 51 Befitting a king
- 53 Courtroom request
- 54 Out of control
- 57 Drink of the gods
- 61 Musical based on "La boheme"
- 62 Like some tumors
- 64 Unit of measure
- 65 More eccentric
- 66 Bratty talk
- 67 Genealogy diagram
- 68 Repulsive
- 69 Pony's gait

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			
17				18					19			
20					21			22				
			23		24		25					
26	27	28			29		30			31	32	
33			34				35		36			
37		38		39			40		41			
42			43		44			45		46		
47				48		49			50			
		51			52		53					
54	55					56		57		58	59	60
61					62		63					
64					65				66			
67					68				69			

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- 2 Computer symbol
- 3 Word with up or down
- 4 It has 100 seats
- 5 Sign of an injury
- 6 Theme of the 1968 movie "Where Eagles Dare"
- 7 Final, e.g.
- 8 Tooth trouble
- 9 Salad follower
- 10 Flower used in herbal teas
- 11 "Wait your turn!"
- 12 Guys-only party
- 13 Pulled apart
- 18 Coronet
- 22 Carry on
- 24 Big name in cameras
- 26 Lifeless
- 27 Bekins worker
- 28 First choice
- 29 Like some calendars
- 31 Societal norms
- 32 Out of ____
- 35 Pivoting bar
- 38 Ancient drug for grief
- 40 Petroleum plant
- 43 Temper tantrum
- 45 Successful dieter
- 48 UN member
- 50 Get a new actor for
- 52 Lavin or Blair
- 54 Worry
- 55 Derriere
- 56 New England fishes
- 58 Ski lift
- 59 Moreover
- 60 Staff symbol
- 63 Parrot or puppy

Answers to Last Week's Crossword:

L	O	S	T	C	A	P	E	R	B	A	D	E	
O	A	T	S	O	B	E	S	E	O	N	U	S	
C	H	A	P	E	R	O	N	E	S	T	E	N	
H	U	B	D	A	D	A	P	R	A	N	C	E	
L	A	G	E	N	C	O	U	N	T	E	R		
B	E	E	M	E	R	C	A	N	N	Y			
A	C	M	E	O	V	E	R	D	O	P	V	C	
G	R	A	N	O	L	A	G	E	N	E	R	A	
S	U	N	N	E	L	S	O	N	V	I	S	A	
				M	I	M	I	C	T	H	E	M	E
A	R	E	A	C	O	D	E	S	E	R	E		
B	A	R	R	E	D	P	I	T	A	T	U	G	
A	M	O	K	E	N	T	E	R	P	R	I	S	E
S	I	D	E	L	I	E	G	E	O	M	E	N	
H	E	E	D	S	P	R	E	E	W	E	R	E	



DID YOU KNOW?

For Japanese, Guam is one of the most popular overseas tourism and wedding destinations. More than 900,000 Japanese visit the island, which is more than 70 percent of all visitors each year. Two-night tour packages to Guam are cheap and the three-and-a-half-hour flight from Japan alleviates the typical jetlag.

Kanji of the week

花

hana/ka(Flower)

Language Lesson

It's wonderful.

Subarashii desu.

A taste of Taiwan

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Difficulty: Easy

6								
8	1							5
		2	4					3
	9		7	1	4			
		4	6					
7	5		9					
	3					9	6	
1		4	2					
				9				

Edited by Margie E. Burke

HOW TO SOLVE:

Each row must contain the numbers 1 to 9; each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9; and each set of 3 by 3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 to 9.

Answers to Last Week's Sudoku:

6	2	1	9	3	5	4	8	7
9	3	4	7	2	8	1	6	5
7	8	5	1	6	4	3	9	2
1	4	8	5	9	2	7	3	6
3	5	7	8	1	6	2	4	9
2	6	9	3	4	7	5	1	8
4	9	6	2	5	3	8	7	1
8	1	2	4	7	9	6	5	3
5	7	3	6	8	1	9	2	4

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