

Hawaii Marine



Lance Cpl. Harley Thomas | Marine Corps Base Hawaii

Marines with Combat Assault Company drive amphibious assault vehicles throughout the Nu‘upia Pond area Feb. 4 aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii. The AAVs drove through the ponds to break up the pickleweed and invasive species growing over the habitat of the endangered Hawaiian stilt.

Marines, Environmental participate in MudOps

Lance Cpl. Harley Thomas
Marine Corps Base Hawaii

Marines with Combat Assault Company and members of the Environmental Compliance and Protection Department drove amphibious assault vehicles throughout the Nu‘upia Pond area Feb. 4 aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii. The purpose of driving through the ponds was to manage the wildlife area and break up pickleweed in order to provide a better habitat for the

endangered Hawaiian stilt, a large, slender shorebird. “We’re conducting what we call ‘MudOps,’ an annual event that was initiated with (Hawaii’s Department of Land and Natural Resources) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,” said Lance Bookless, the senior natural resources manager with the Environmental Department aboard MCB Hawaii. “The program began in 1982 in order to benefit the almost extinct Hawaiian stilt, which were then looking for habi-

tats they might utilize.” The stilts prefer open mud flats with very shallow water and, once the Marines opened the area up with the AAVs, the stilts began to gather in the track marks. Bookless said there were initially only a handful of stilts, but now there is a fair number of the birds residing in the ponds. “That’s why all this happens; we’re managing the endangered stilt’s habitat,” Bookless said. “The pickleweed is an invasive species that grows over

the puddles and exposed mud, reducing the amount of livable habitat for the birds. If the AAVs didn’t drive around the mud, in a couple of years, pools of water would start to fill in, exhausting the bird’s feeding areas.” 1st Lt. Carlos Silva, the AAV platoon commander with CAC, said they have been performing the mud operations annually for 33 years, not only to benefit the environment, but the Marines as

See MUD OPS, A-7



Lance Cpl. Adam O. Korolev | Marine Corps Base Hawaii

Cpl. Christian Cox, a Marine with the Marine Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Squadron 3 and a Tacoma, Wash., native, fires his M16 service rifle in the prone position at the 500-yard line during this year’s Pacific Division Matches at Pu‘uloa Range Training facility on Monday. More than 190 Marines competed side-by-side to claim the title of rifle or pistol champion.

Marines compete in 2015 Pacific Division Matches

Lance Cpl. Adam O. Korolev
Marine Corps Base Hawaii

Marines and their rifles know what counts in war is not the round a Marine fires, the noise of their burst or the smoke they make. They know it is the hit that counts. Even during peacetime, Marines strive to be expert riflemen to maintain combat readiness. More than 190 Marines from different units and 12 other service members from other branches competed side-by-side to qualify as this year’s top shooter during the first day of the Pacific Division Matches at Pu‘uloa Range Training Facility on Monday.

“Every year we hold competition matches where tenant commands within the Marine Corps stationed in Hawaii come together to compete for accolades and bragging rights, as well as to identify best shooting tenants,” said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Jordan Kramp, the Pacific Division Matches executive officer. The first week of the competition began as annual rifle qualification does, with classroom instruction, dry firing, establishing zeroes and live-fire training. After necessary measures have been taken, competitors began the individual practice and preliminary

See PACDIV, A-7

MORTARS AWAY!



Marines with Alpha Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, currently assigned to 3rd Bn., 12th Marines, fire the M777-A2 Howitzer downrange during Integrated Training Exercise 2-15 at Blacktop Training Area aboard Camp Wilson, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, Calif., Jan. 31. ITX 2-15, being executed by Special Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force 4, is being conducted to enhance the integration and warfighting capability from all elements of the MAGTF.



Photos by Lance Cpl. Aaron S. Patterson | Marine Corps Base Hawaii Combat Camera

Cpls. Seth M. Selvidge (left), and Frank T. Esparza with Alpha Battery, 1st Bn., 12th Marines, currently assigned to 3rd Bn., 12th Marines, pound in stakes to firmly secure camouflage netting during Integrated Training Exercise 2-15 at Blacktop Training Area aboard Camp Wilson, MCAGCC Twentynine Palms, Calif., Jan. 30.



A muddy good time
Community competes in Swamp Romp, B-1



Surf's Up!
MCB Hawaii, public compete in 9th annual Pyramid Rock Bodysurfing Championship, B-4



WORDS FROM THE BASE INSPECTOR

From the desk of the Base Inspector: Pets on Base (continued from the Feb. 6 issue of Hawaii Marine).

Last week was a review of Base Order P5233.2, the Base Pet and Wildlife Regulations, with a focus on types of pets authorized aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii and pet owner responsibilities.

Base Pet and Wildlife Regulations also details required controls, immunizations, licensing and registration.

Residents of family housing may keep two dogs, two cats, or one cat and one dog. All dogs and cats must wear a collar at all times with valid tags attached to the collar. Pets must be under control of their owners at all times. In public areas, including common areas in multi-family housing units, dogs must wear a leash. People walking dogs in public must have positive, physical control of their dogs. Owners must remove animal feces daily from their quarters or yard. The owner of the animal must remove animal feces deposited by animals in another yard or on common areas immediately. Owners must carry a

means to remove fecal matter from common areas when walking any pet.

Immunization for rabies is mandatory for dogs and cats over 12 weeks of age. All dogs and cats are required to be vaccinated yearly for distemper, hepatitis, leptospirosis, parainfluenza, and parvovirus. Cats are required to be vaccinated for rhinotracheitis, calaici, panleukopenia and leukemia.

Registration of pets with the Game Warden, shall occur within two business days of bringing pet(s) aboard MCB Hawaii. Permanent registration is required after a pet has received requisite shots, but before the pet is 16 weeks of age.


Marine Corps Base Hawaii registration requires a City and County of Honolulu license for dogs, and a completed pet registration form, verifying microchip and current vaccinations for dogs and cats (available from the MCB Hawaii veterinarian). All dogs and cats living on base are required to have an American veterinary identification device microchip.

Violations of Base Order P5233.2 may result in a letter of warning from the commanding officer, disciplinary action taken against the sponsor through the appropriate chain of command, involuntary removal and confinement of the animal by proper authority, or serve as grounds for administrative action up to and including eviction from family housing.

For a complete copy of the order, please contact the animal control officer at 257-1821 or the Base Inspector's Office at 257-8861.

Please ensure all members of our military community enjoy MCB Hawaii by complying with the base regulations.

Semper Fidelis.
Lt. Col. D. H. Bohn
Base Inspector
Marine Corps Base Hawaii
MCB Hawaii command inspector hotline: 257-8852
KBAZ_HQBN_INSP@usmc.mil



www.mcbhawaii.marines.mil
www.hawaiimarine.com

Commanding OfficerCol. Eric W. Schaefer
Base Sergeant Major Sgt. Maj. Gregory L. Hall
Public Affairs Chief.....Staff Sgt. Matthew Orr
Combat Correspondent..... Lance Cpl. Adam O. Korolev
Combat Correspondent.....Lance Cpl. Brittney Vella
Combat Correspondent..... Lance Cpl. Khalil Ross
Combat Correspondent..... Lance Cpl. Harley Thomas
Photojournalist.....Christine Cabalo
Photojournalist.....Kristen Wong
Graphic ArtistJay Parco

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**Hawaii Marine, Box 63062, Building 216,
MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii 96863
Email: HawaiiMarineEditor@gmail.com
Fax: 257-2511, Phone: 257-8837**

ICE COMMENTS

COMMENT: I am completing a comment card due to the prior unsatisfactory service I received, and for current problems. First I have contacted Forest City three times about my smoke alarms, and my security alarm. I was told to unplug the fire alarm and it will reset. I have done this numerous times and have also replaced the battery, but it is still not working. I currently do not have my smoke alarm plugged in because it continuously chirps. The last time the technician came to my residence to fix my security alarm, he unplugged it. However, it remains broken. Lastly, when three bulbs burnt out in my home, I was told I would only be able to replace two of them at self-help, but would have to purchase the third from the Wiki Mart. The Wiki Mart did not carry the third bulb, so I was forced to purchase it off base. All this was once covered under my lease, but has since stopped. I feel that with the amount of money I pay for this residence that it shouldn't be difficult for the housing office to keep it up. I hope someone can assist me with these problems, for the safety of my residence.

FOLLOW-UP NOTES: A community manager worked with the maintenance manager to have all the failing smoke alarms replaced, and is coordinating with the resident's schedule and security system contractor to secure an appointment for that system to be assessed. The resident was very appreciative of the assistance and follow up after the smoke alarms were replaced. The community manager explained the revised items at self-help and where to purchase the non-specialty light bulbs. The community manager provided the resident with contact information for the Resident Services Office for any future questions or concerns.

- Interactive Customer Evaluation is:**
- A web-based tool for collecting feedback about the services provided by various organizations throughout the Department of Defense.
 - Allows customers to submit online comment cards to rate the service providers that they have encountered at military bases and related facilities around the world.
 - Allows service providers to collect customer satisfaction data in a standardized format which is stored in the ICE database.
 - Provides customers with a convenient and efficient method to express their opinions to service providers and receive feedback.
- ICE is NOT:**
- To be used as a sole source to report safety concerns. **Base Safety should be contacted directly at 257-1830.**
 - Intended for use to submit complaints regarding fellow employees or management, to spread rumors, to threaten or to make public announcements.
- Visit the ICE site at <http://ice.disa.mil>. For ICE FAQs, visit mcbhawaii.marines.mil, then click Departments, Business Performance, then ICE FAQs.

This week in Corps history

*Feb. 15, 1998: 100 years ago, 28 Marines and 232 sailors lost their lives when the battleship Maine was mysteriously sunk by an explosion in the harbor of Havana, Cuba. Though no definitive evidence linked the Spanish with the sinking, the cry went up, “Remember the Maine!” and by late April the U.S. and Spain were at war. - **U.S. Marine Corps History Division***

MARINE CORPS BASE HAWAII EVENTS

TODAY

The Kaneohe Bay Range Training Facility will host a recreational event today from 1 to 4:30 p.m. to promote marksmanship proficiency and firearm safety for only pistols/ revolvers (.45 cal and below). The firing event is open to military members (active, reserve, retired) and their guests (limit two), state and federal law enforcement personnel, Department of Defense civilians and contractors who work aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii. The minimum age to participate is 14; 14 to 18 require adult supervision.

The range no longer provides pistols, rifles or ammunition for the recreational firing events. Refer to Base Order 5500.15b for more details. Park outside the range's main gate, follow the signs and report directly to Range Control. Contact Range Control at 257-3180 for more information.

The next Itsy Bitsy Toddler Workshop is scheduled at the Chaplain Joseph W. Estabrook Chapel from 8:30 to 10 a.m.

Learn creative and educational activities and how to have fun with your child. Reservations are required. This workshop is open to all active duty and dependents. For more information, call the New Parent Support Program at 257-8803.

SATURDAY

The Weed Warrior Project, scheduled for Saturday from 8 to 11:30 a.m., provides an opportunity to learn about native plants and birds aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii. Service members are free to join the Sierra Club, community volunteers, and the Environmental Compliance and Protection Department staff to remove mangrove from the historic Nu'upia Ponds and wildlife wetland habitats on base. The group is meeting at the H-3 Gate parking lot at 8 a.m. and will proceed with Environmental personnel to the work site. The base provides cotton gloves and tools. Those interested

in participating should bring plenty of water, wear old clothes and closed-toe shoes, bring sunscreen and expect to get muddy. For further information, contact Lance Bookless at 257-7000 or lance.bookless1@usmc.mil.

SATURDAY/SUNDAY

Marine Corps Base Hawaii will experience a power outage that will affect family housing. These outages will affect the east side of the base Saturday from 6:30 a.m. to Sunday at 1 a.m.

The facilities department, Marine Corps Base Hawaii Kaneohe Bay, along with the Resident In Charge of Construction, are in the process of upgrading the main electrical power service to the base. This extremely important work is required in order to adequately support both existing and new facilities on base by installing additional electrical service cables into the base power grid. Additionally, major work will be accomplished across the base to support myriad projects and contracts involving maintenance, repair and surveys.

In observance of Presidents Day, the Distribution Management Offices at MCB Hawaii Kaneohe Bay and Camp H.M. Smith will be closed from Saturday through Monday with limited services on Tuesday. Both offices will re-open Wednesday at 7:30 a.m. for normal customer services. The Defense Logistics Agency Disposition (formerly known as DRMO) back gate within the DMO Bldg. 209 will be closed from Saturday through Monday with limited services on Tuesday. The back gate will re-open on Wednesday at 7:30 a.m. for normal customer services. The afterhours DMO duty cellphone will be available for emergencies. For more information, call the DMO Duty at 216-7133.

The Marine Corps Base Hawaii Kaneohe Bay and Camp H.M. Smith Military Post Offices will be closed from Saturday

through Tuesday in observance of Presidents Day.

Both MPOs normal business hours will resume Wednesday at 8 a.m. For more information, call Gunnery Sgt. Virgin Jenkins at 257-2881.

MONDAY

The DEERS Identification Card Center will be closed on Monday and have reduced service on Tuesday in observance of Presidents Day. Normal operations will resume on Wednesday.

Check the online appointment system at <https://rapids-appointments.dmdc.osd.mil/> to schedule your appointment outside of the holiday closure period. For more information, call 257-2077.

TUESDAY

Sign up Tuesday to volunteer on Feb. 22 with the Single Marine & Sailor Program at the Hawaiian Humane Society. Assist with dog running and other duties. Transportation will be provided. Call the SM&SP coordinator for more information or to RSVP at 254-7593.

WEDNESDAY

The next free Personal Readiness Seminar is scheduled Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. This class will ensure Marines receive basic personal financial education within 90 days of arrival at their first permanent duty station. Topics include introduction to Personal & Professional Development, income overview (MyPay & LES), savings and investing, living expenses (wants vs. needs), legal rights and consumer awareness, and SMART goals. Sailors are welcome to attend. Register online at www.mccshawaii.com/pfmp-workshops or call the PFMP office. Class will be held in the Education Center, in classroom G of building 220.

The next Resume Workshop is scheduled Wednesday from 9 to 11 a.m. in

building 220, room B.

For many job seekers, preparing a resume is the first critical step in the job search process. Learn to prepare a resume that will make a positive impression on prospective employers. Issues discussed include how to put your education, experience, and background together to make the resume work for you.

The workshop is open to active duty service members and spouses. Registration is required. For more information, call Family Member Employment Assistance Program & Relocation Services at 257-8354.

THURSDAY

The next Teen Advisory Council meeting is at the base library from 5 to 6 p.m. For teens in the community who are interested in contributing their ideas and opinions regarding the base library. This program is open to all teens 13 and older. For more information, call Meri Healey at 254-7624.

Preschool Storytime is available every Thursday at the base library from 9 to 10 a.m. on the second floor of building 219. There are stories and crafts for children ages 3 and older. The activity is open to all Department of Defense dependents. For more information, call Merri Fernandez at 254-7624.

The next Federal Employment Workshop is scheduled Thursday from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Education Center in room B.

Civil service is an especially attractive employment route for the military community. Learn how the federal selection and hiring process works. Information on veteran's preference, military spouse preference, resume, and other federal employment applications are provided. The workshop is open to active duty and spouses. For more information, call the Family Member Employment Assistance Program & Relocation Services at 257-8354.

AROUND THE CORPS



Pfc. Cedric Haller | II Marine Expeditionary Force

ROK, US Marines exchange combat maneuver tactics

Republic of Korea Marines demonstrate their combat tactics for U.S. Marines during Korean Marine Exchange Program 15-4 Feb. 4 at the Pyeongchang Winter Training Facility, Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea. Sharing cultures is a significant factor in gaining a better understanding of the combat tactics of the two forces despite the language barrier, according to ROK Marine Capt. Moon Jung Hwan. The KMEP is a regularly scheduled, bilateral, small-unit training exercise, which enhances the combat readiness and interoperability of ROK and U.S. Marine Corps' forces. The ROK Marines are with 1st Reconnaissance Battalion, 1st ROK Marine Division. The U.S. Marines are with Lima Company, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, currently assigned to 4th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force under the unit deployment program.

Pfc. Cedric Haller
II Marine Expeditionary Force

PYEONGCHANG, Republic of Korea — Republic of Korea and U.S. Marines exchanged combat maneuvers and tactics during Korean Marine Exchange Program 15-4 at the Pyeongchang Winter Training Facility, Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea. The KMEP is a bilateral, small-unit training exercise, which enhances the combat readiness and interoperability of ROK and U.S. Marine Corps forces. "Today the ROK Marines demonstrated how they would react to enemy contact and close-quarters battle techniques, and then we showed them how we operate," said U.S. Marine

Corps Staff Sgt. Donald J. Leek, a platoon sergeant with Lima Company, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, currently assigned to 4th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force under the unit deployment program. "Training like this really improves the already strong, working relationship we have with the ROK Marines." This training ensures that the ROK and U.S. Marines' understanding of each other's combat tactics is at the highest level possible. "Comparing our tactics with those of the U.S. Marines' was a unique situation, because our tactics are similar in many ways," said ROK Marine Capt. Moon Jung Hwan, the commanding officer

for Special Reconnaissance Company, 1st Reconnaissance Battalion, 1st ROK Marine Division. "What we were looking to take away from this training is the Marines' experience on the battlefield and to apply that to our tactics." For the U.S. Marines, the cold weather training was an unusual opportunity. "This is the third time I've done this kind of winter training and it's still a shock every time I come to this kind of environment," said U.S. Marine Corps Cpl. Preston D. Ellenbolt, a rifleman with Lima Company. "Unless you live in an environment like this, I don't think anyone really gets used to it." Cohesiveness, interoperability and comprehension all play a vital role

should the ROK and U.S. Marines need to work together during any future operation, according to Leek, a Terrehaute, Indiana, native. "These skills are useful in pretty much any conventional warfare setting," Leek said. "The only noticeable difference between our tactics, that I saw, was in the size of the teams." Sharing cultures is a significant factor in gaining a better understanding of the combat tactics of the two forces despite the language barrier, according to Moon, a Seoul, ROK, native. "Training alongside the U.S. Marines gives us a different look at tactics we are familiar with, which will increase our ability to work as a single unit," Moon said.



Cpl. Brendan King | Marine Corps Air Station Miramar

Lance Cpl. Clinton Lehner, a crew chief with Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 369 "Gunfighters," and an Indianapolis native, fires a GAU-17/A Gatling Gun toward a target at the Chocolate Mountain Aerial Gunnery Range, Calif., Jan. 29.

'Gunfighters' live up to name supporting Scorpion Fire

Sgt. Raquel Barraza
Marine Corps Air Station Miramar

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION YUMA, Ariz. – Pilots and crew chiefs from Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 369 "Gunfighters" took part in the annual exercise Scorpion Fire aboard Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Ariz., Jan. 26 through Feb. 6. Marines with both tiltrotor and fixed-wing squadrons within the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing participate in the exercise, which provides a realistic environment for ground units in need of close air support or CAS. "It is imperative to have aircrew trained as Forward Air Controllers (Airborne) to allow them to control [engaging targets] in an operational area where ground forces may be unable to do so due to visibility issues or enemy fire," said Capt. David Femea, external support coordinator with HMLA-369. The ranges surrounding MCAS Yuma make it the ideal place to conduct the training with multiple units throughout 3rd MAW.

"We have pilots gaining the initial qualification, gaining proficiency, or just getting a good exposure to the CAS environment," said Sgt. Matthew Piciocco, UH-1Y Huey crew chief with HMLA-369. "This is the environment we operate in during a time of war, with multiple friendly ground forces and air forces working together." Making sure air and ground units work hand in hand to coordinate these exercises keeps the Marines ready for when the training is needed on the battlefield. "When an aircraft checks into an objective area where ground fire controllers are unable to control fires due to task saturation, low situational awareness, enemy fire, or combat losses, a FAC(A) qualified crew will be able to assess the friendly and enemy situation and develop a plan to control aviation and ground fire in support of ground forces," Femea said. The Marines training during Scorpion Fire said they were proud of their job. "It feels good to go to the desert for a couple weeks knowing you are helping the guys on the ground," said Piciocco.



Cpl. Elizabeth Thurston | 1st Marine Corps District

Hiram Knowles, along with fellow Montford Point Marines and supporters, pose for a photo at the conclusion of the ceremony for Knowles receiving the Congressional Gold Medal on Saturday.

Montford Point Marine vet receives Congressional Gold Medal

Cpl. Elizabeth Thurston
1st Marine Corps District

NEW YORK — Montford Point Marine Sgt. Hiram L. Knowles was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal for his honorable service during World War II on Saturday at the Mary Woodard Lasker Biomedical Research Building, New York City. In 2012, Congress authorized the Congressional Gold Medal to be awarded to each of the 20,000 Montford Point Marines or to their families in recognition of the accomplishments and sacrifices made during a time of segregation. "It's a great honor for anyone to give their service to our country and knowing what my dad did, was a great gift," said Jemere Smith, Knowles' daughter. Montford Point Marines were the first African-American Marines to serve in the U.S. Marine Corps. They got the name because of their segregated training site in Montford, N. C. Along with family and loved ones in the audience, was Ambassador

Theodore Britton Jr., a former Marine who served beside Knowles as a Montford Point Marine. "We had a great time," said Britton, the honorary Consul General of the Republic of Albania. "He was a lot of fun, (but) he took care of business, and didn't take any stuff from no one because he knew what he was doing. I was pleased to serve with him." The Montford Point Marine Training Facility was shut down in 1949 after President Harry S. Truman issued Executive Order 9981 which desegregated the U.S. armed forces. "My time in service was very educational," Britton said. "It was like a college education, reading, writing, and learning. I came out a very well educated person even though I didn't formally go to school." Between 1942 and 1949 over 20,000 African-American Marines were trained. Of those, 13,000 served overseas areas including Vietnam, Japan and Guadalcanal. To date, at least 400 Montford Point Marines have received this honor.

Auto Skills Center to close for renovations

Kristen Wong
Hawaii Marine

The base Auto Skills Center is scheduled to close March 16 for renovations.

The center was originally going to close last September. However, issues with pending permits delayed the process.

The renovation is expected to take anywhere from five to seven months and is projected to be complete by this fall.

The interior of the current center, building 3097, will be entirely renovated with a new engine clean room where service members can rebuild engines, a tool room and a front customer service area with a TV. The manager’s office will also be relocated to the interior of the building.

A new, 3,260-square foot structure will be built on the east side of building 3097. The structure will have six bays and one welding area. Every stall in the new structure will also have new lifts.

“(We’ll have) more space for (patrons) to do their work in,” said Carl Cabrera, the Auto Skills Center manager.

Cabrera said with the new renovations, one stall will have an alignment rack.

He added there will also be a complete tire service machine that will mount and balance tires, accommodating new vehicles with larger tires. The machine will also resurface brake rotors and drums.

In addition, a new, heated downdraft paint booth with powder coat system will replace the existing one.

“We’ll be able to provide better service, give them additional services and at the same time save their wallets.”

Cabrera said auto repairs are among the highest expenses on the island, estimating that patrons could spend an average \$120 per hour on auto repair labor for domestic cars, or \$175 for



Kristen Wong | Hawaii Marine

Sgt. Jason Williams, an airframes mechanic with Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 463, works on his car engine at the Auto Skills Center, Tuesday. The Auto Skills Center is scheduled to close for renovations March 16.

imported cars, off base.

“You come to us, we teach you, you learn, put a skill under your belt,” Cabrera said.

When the center re-opens, it will only be open five days a week instead of six. The center will be closed Monday and Thursday. It will be open Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from noon to 8 p.m., Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and closed on holidays.

In addition, the center plans to add additional services like oil changes and tire rotations. In the past, patrons would still have been able to have these services done, but they would have to be involved in the process, learning alongside

the mechanic.

When the center re-opens, patrons will have the option of making appointments for traditional service. However, Cabrera said the skills program will still be offered.

“We’ll instruct you on how to do it,” Cabrera said. “That’s not going to change.”

New opportunities will also include offering car storage space to deployed Marines and sailors as well as ordering car parts to be delivered to the base. The service member will not be charged additional fees for the delivery.

Auto Skills Center services are available to all authorized military patrons including active-duty service

members, military dependents, retirees, reservists and Department of Defense civilians.

For the duration of the renovation, Sharon Cacurak, a marketing specialist at Marine Corps Community Services Hawaii suggests finding alternatives early, especially for safety inspections, as the Firestone on base does not conduct safety inspections. Center safety inspectors are currently looking into alternatives for safety inspections.

There are also auto skills centers at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Fort Shafter and Schofield Barracks.

Those who have questions about the Auto Skills Center can call the Outdoor Recreation Center at 254-7666.

Alternative auto skills centers

Schofield Barracks Auto Skills Center	Fort Shafter Auto Skills Center	Auto Skills Center Hickam
Building 910, Duck Rd. Phone: 655-9368	Building 1535, Fort Shafter Flats Phone: 438-9402	Moffet Street Bldg 4002 Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam 96853 Phone: 449-2554
Hours of Operation Wednesday through Friday 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.	Hours of Operation Wednesday through Sunday 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 pm	Hours of Operation Tuesday through Friday: 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Closed: Monday, Tuesday and holidays (Closed Wednesday if holiday falls on Monday)	Closed: Monday, Tuesday and holidays (Closed Wednesday if holiday falls on a Monday or Tuesday)	Closed: Sunday, Monday and holidays
	Last sign in/clean up at 4:30 p.m.	Last entry one hour prior to closing. Vehicle pick-ups 30 minutes prior to closing.

School rules: Fair preps children for kindergarten

Christine Cabalo
Hawaii Marine

Parents and their children hit the books to learn about starting school during the Kindergarten Readiness Fair at Mokapu Mall held Feb. 4.

Marine Corps Base Hawaii families spoke with educators, learned about base resources and found other free help available for their children beginning kindergarten or preschool. New Hawaii laws passed in 2014 require all children who will be 5 by or on July 31 to be enrolled in kindergarten.

“The goal of the fair is to give (parents) a better perspective on what their child needs before starting school,” said Natalie Gordon, a training and curriculum specialist at MCB Hawaii’s Kupulau Child Development Center who also helped coordinate the fair. “Parents can know what to do within (the new Department of Education) guidelines.”

Mokapu Elementary staff also met with families at the fair to answer questions about their curriculum and student placement for transitioning children. Several attendees appreciated the quick response by school staff.

“They had packages for signing up all ready to go for Mokapu Elementary School,” said Cristina Perez, a fair attendee and MCB Hawaii spouse who brought along her family. “Everything was printed, and all I have to do now is fill it out.”

Mokapu Elementary, the designated public school for children living on base, will host a kindergarten enrollment night March 11.

Along with Mokapu staff, representatives from private educational installations and MCB Hawaii personnel were present to answer questions. Amy Solomon, MCB Hawaii’s School Liaison officer, assists parents with education options at any school age. She said parents might not realize they also have the option of homeschooling even as early as kindergarten.

“Kindergarten is mandatory in Hawaii,” Solomon said. “Any kindergarten-age child who is not attending a public or private school can file to be in a home school program. Parents can file the simple paperwork and can come to my office for help.”

Children who turn 5 this year after July 31 may enroll into public school in 2016 or consider other schooling options. Before enrolling in kindergarten, children can take part in preschool programs run by private or public organizations as well as at home. The fair also presented several preschool programs run by nonprofit, government and private organizations that are open to military families.

“It was good to hear about the daycare programs for my younger children and about the (pre-kindergarten) programs running,” Perez said. “Mokapu Elementary also has an online page that goes through the steps for enrollment.”

She also appreciated how in addition to free bags



Photos by Christine Cabalo | Hawaii Marine

Natalie Gordon, a training curriculum specialist at the Kupulau Child Development Center, hands out bags and other free gifts to families at the Kindergarten Readiness Fair held Feb. 4. Parents could visit with the School Liaison officer and several organizations who were exhibiting at the fair.

and books, her family also took home fliers with tips on how to get children ready for school. With these tips in hand, Perez said she’ll be able to get her child mentally ready for kindergarten when school starts later this year.

For some fair attendees, the information was



Parents and students meet with teachers and Marine Corps Base Hawaii personnel during the Kindergarten Readiness Fair held at Mokapu Mall, Feb. 4.

crucial in being better prepared. Carina Lopez brought her 4-year-old child to the fair and learned about preschool and kindergarten options for her child who turns 5 after July 31.

“This was the first time I heard about the cutoff date,” Lopez said. “Now I know, and I learned about what else we can do.”

Solomon said for families who couldn’t make it down to the fair or had any questions about their older children, her office is ready to help.

“The School Liaison Office can help provide information needed to make any transition for schooling smoother,” she said. “Whether that transition is moving out of state to transitioning their children to starting kindergarten, parents can get help from our office.”

The next date for many MCB Hawaii families to remember is July 29 — the first day of class for kindergarteners at Mokapu Elementary.

For information about Hawaii schools, call the School Liaison Office at 257-2019 or visit the office’s website at: www.mccshawaii.com/slpreferrals/.



Christine Cabalo | Hawaii Marine

Be aware of closures and special office schedules for Presidents Day, Monday. Lifeguards and other emergency services will still be on call.

Know what to do during this holiday weekend

Press Release

Marine Corps Base Hawaii

Take a break to celebrate our founding fathers. Whether you hit the beach or tackle some errands during Presidents Day, Monday, be prepared with these tips during the holiday weekend.

Keep in mind these closures and offices on special schedules:

- All City and County of Honolulu government offices will be closed, Monday.
- All satellite city halls and driver’s license offices will be closed for Presidents Day.
- TheBus is operating on a Saturday schedule for the holiday. More information about routes and schedules can be found at www.thebus.org.
- State and federal offices will observe the holiday. U.S. Postal

Service offices are closed and there is no mail delivery.

- The Neal S. Blaisdell box office will be closed.
- People’s Open Markets will not be held.

These services will still be running during the holiday:

- Emergency services will be on call. This includes ambulance, fire, lifeguard and police services.
- Residences off-base will still be on a normal trash pick-up schedule, and refuse will be collected. Transfer stations, H-POWER, convenience centers and the Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill will be open.
- Municipal golf courses, parks, botanical gardens and the Honolulu Zoo will be open.
- On-street parking will be free, except for meters on Kalakaua Avenue along Queen Kapiolani Park and metered parking lots.

- Traffic lanes will not be coned for normal contraflow.

If you head to the beach during the holiday, also remember:

- Parking is not permitted on the right side of unimproved sidewalks in the Lanikai loop from Alapapa to Mokulua Drives during the holiday weekend. Police may issue citations and tow. Parking is illegal in any bike lane, and drivers may be fined as much as \$200.
- Use public facilities with respect and care.
- Alcohol consumption is not permitted at the beach, sidewalks, public parking areas or parks. Police citations may be written. They may also be imprisoned for 30 days or less, fined less than \$1,000 or both.
- Respect private property near beaches, parks and other public areas. No trespassing.

PMO Corner

PMO corner is a recurring series provided by the Provost Marshal's Office, providing crime prevention and safety information to Marine Corps Base Hawaii.

PMO contacts

To report suspicious activity/behavior or for non-emergency calls, contact the desk sergeant: **257-1018/2123 (building 1096)**

Check in/out, fingerprinting or weapon registration: **257-6994 (building 1095)**

Pet registration, fishing regulations or lost/found animals, contact the PMO game warden: **257-1821 (building 3099)**

Vehicle decals, base passes and vehicle registration: **257-2047/0183 (building 1637/1095 for MCB Hawaii)**
477-8734/8735 (building 601 for Camp H.M. Smith)

Traffic regulations, citations or traffic court, contact the Traffic Court bailiff: **257-6991/6992 (building 1095)**

For all other numbers not listed, contact base information: **449-7110**

For more information, visit the PMO website: **<http://www.mcbhawaii.marines.mil/Departments/ProvostMarshalsOffice.aspx>**
In an emergency, call 911

Topic of the Week

We at PMO would like to extend a few security considerations regarding the series of power outages that are scheduled to take place every other Saturday from Feb. 14 through May 9.

1. During this time, it is imperative you keep your garage doors closed. Doing so will reduce incidences of crimes of opportunity throughout Kaneohe Bay housing. Historically, a series of larcenies related to open garages have occurred.
 2. Keep your car doors locked, as the reduced street lighting presents additional opportunities for property related crimes to occur.
 3. Please take notice of individuals on the street. With the street lights out, the use of glow belts will be necessary to identify those running on the street or those walking around residences.
 4. Be cautious about answering the door at night, as porch lights will not work.
 5. Please practice appropriate firearm safety.
 6. Do not enter someone’s home unannounced, as accidents involving firearms or dog bites are more likely to occur in the dark.
 7. Although the curfew for minors remains unchanged, parents please be aware of the reduced lighting around K-Bay residences.
 8. During the power outages, PMO will be providing extra patrols for your safety.
- Lastly, if you are having an emergency or need PMO assistance, please contact 911 and request a military dispatcher immediately.

Crime Prevention Tip

Always be aware of your surroundings and report suspicious persons or activity that you observe as soon as possible. A concerned neighbor is often the best protection against crime. They can easily spot suspicious persons and activities in their neighborhood and report them promptly.

Lost and Found

Lost and found items

- bikes
- scooters
- medic bag
- banking cards
- ID cards
- sports watch
- car key

Lost and Found is located at PMO in the Physical Security section of building 1095.

A person claiming ownership of items is required to provide a detailed description and proof of ownership of the article prior to release. Call Jessica Burns at 257-8312, for more information.



Lance Cpl. Harley Thomas | Marine Corps Base Hawaii

Marines with Combat Assault Company drive amphibious assault vehicles throughout the Nu’upia Pond area Feb. 4 aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii. Driving through the ponds provides the chance for newer Marines to familiarize themselves with the vehicles, as well as perform recovery operations and navigate on unstable terrain.

MUD OPS, from A-1

well.

“Churning up the pickleweed is beneficial to the wildlife because when we do that, we’re actually enhancing the area the birds live in,” Silva said. “A lot of the (stilts) stay and live in this area and, by us continuously doing this, we help create a better home for them. For the Marines, they are able to (participate) in various training and readiness events in order to meet their standards and enhance their performance. They are able to train in recovery operations, as well as drive the AAVs on land and navigate on unstable terrain.”

Silva said the Marines would continue to coordinate with the Environmental Department in

order to give back to the base and support the efforts to protect the endangered species.

“If the Marines didn’t come out here, we would lose a lot of the habitat,” Bookless said. “The majority of this area is ripped up by the AAVs and if it wasn’t, all the invasive weeds would encroach on it. We’ve looked at many different ways to control it, but nothing is as effective as the AAV.”

Bookless said they tried herbicides one year, but were unable to treat the entirety of the ponds without having to worry about poisoning the local flora and fauna.

“Their track system is what really does the damage,” Bookless said. “A regular vehicle couldn’t have done anything like this. The AAVs can dig

deeply because they can get into the mud to rip up the roots and, really, anything else — rather than just cut through the first couple inches of soil, which wouldn’t help out much.”

Bookless said that though there was no requirement for the Marines to assist the Environmental Department, they have always been there and he hopes they will continue to do so.

“There are a lot of situations where the military is forced to modify its training based on potential impacts to the environment, and this is a situation where the Marines’ training directly benefits the environment and the endangered species living here,” Bookless said. “If they ever stopped coming out here, we don’t know what we would do.”

PACDIV, from A-1

match portion of week one.

According to Marine Corps Order 3574.2L, the purpose of pre-competition instruction and practice is to “impart the fundamental knowledge and skills necessary for safe and accurate firing of the rifle. This training will form the basis for all other training with the service rifle. “

When it was time to apply what they learned, competitors situated themselves on the firing line, accompanied by turbulent winds under the searing sun, already sporting red faces from dry-fire and live-fire practice.

“Today is match day one of individual shooting,” Kramp said. “Every shot fired counts for a two day aggregate, which determines the individual winners. The combined aggregate will determine the winners (of the competition).”

The competition consists of individual and team pistol and rifle matches, and awards are given to the top individual shooters, top team shooters and the top first-time division shooters.

“The competition is a great experience, said Sgt. Dustin Woods, a Marine with 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment. “It is my first year shooting Pacific Division. It’s a lot different than annual rifle qualification. The targets are a lot smaller at the same distances, and you have less time to shoot on some targets, but overall we are getting a lot out of it.”

The competition’s purpose is not only to define the top shooters of the competition, but to also ensure those who do not go onto further competitions teach what they have learned to others.

“The purpose of the division matches is to promulgate marksmanship skills and to continue to build a level of marksmanship,” said Capt. Jared Dalton, a representative for the commandant of the Marine Corps’ shooting team. “The top 10 percent get badges and get the opportunity to shoot championships. Our purpose as instructor cadre is to teach the other 90 percent who go back to their units to spread the knowledge we give them. Every Marine is a rifleman.”

Sports & Lifestyle



Photos by Lance Cpl. Khalil Ross | Marine Corps Base Hawaii

“The Culture Clash” tromps through thigh high mud in a zigzag mud pit in Marine Corps Base Hawaii’s 21st annual Swamp Romp Saturday at Landing Zone Boondocker. There were more than 1,100 people, either individually or in groups of five or six, who participated in the messy race.

Lance Cpl. Khalil Ross

Marine Corps Base Hawaii

Marine Corps Community Services Hawaii and Combat Logistics Battalion 3 hosted the 21st annual Swamp Romp at Marine Corps Base Hawaii’s Landing Zone Boondocker, Saturday.

The race was 5-miles long and consisted of many obstacles from mud pits to climbing walls and everything in between.

Participants of the race could either run by themselves or in groups of five or six. The race is Hawaii’s first mud and obstacle run and was open to the public.

This year there were approximately 1,120 participants in the race including 289 individuals and 137 teams.

“This year’s turnout was lower than previous years,” said Krista Shipes, the athletic director and race coordinator for Marine Corps Community Services MCB Hawaii. “We believe this is due to the influx of new, similar races coming to the island.”

Shipes said this is the largest race of the Commanding Officer’s Fitness Series. Construction of the race’s 12 obstacles began in January and was installed the week prior to the race.

“There was lot of running and mud, then more running and even more mud,” said Christopher Burke, of Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 367. “You crawled with the mud, swung on a rope with mud; it was overall a lot of fun though.”

Burke recommends that anyone who plans to run the race next year tapes the top of their socks and shoes to keep mud out.

“I ran into a lot of deep mud and obstacles,” Burke said. “There were things to crawl over and under; it was a lot of fun.”

Burke said the race was a lot more difficult than he thought. He said with each step he took his feet got stuck into the sinking mud, which tired him out.

“At new twists and turns you just think, ‘Is this the last one yet,’” Burke said.

One of the things that kept Burke going was the fact that he couldn’t let his own group beat him.

He said the mud and ponds were extremely smelly and humid which added to the intensity of the race.

“It didn’t smell good and it didn’t taste any better,” Burke said. “You just have to block it out and keep running.”

The top three male and female individual winners were awarded for their speed. Medals were also given to the



top three teams in each team division.

The overall feedback was positive and participants enjoyed the race, Shipes said.

The Beast, a 10-kilometer race, is on March 21.

For more information on any of the races and to see results visit mccshawaii.com.



ABOVE RIGHT: Members of “3/3 Ba Spouses Team 1” rush through the first obstacle in Marine Corps Base Hawaii’s 21st annual Swamp Romp Saturday at Landing Zone Boondocker. Marines motivate the runners and shout tips to them to help complete the obstacles.

ABOVE: A participant low crawls beneath camouflage netting during Marine Corps Base Hawaii’s 21st annual Swamp Romp Saturday at Landing Zone Boondocker. This race is the second in the Commanding Officer’s Fitness Series and is 5-miles long.

LEFT: Participants run through Marine Corps Base Hawaii’s 21st annual Swamp Romp Saturday at Landing Zone Boondocker. Swamp Romp, which was open to the public, included low crawls, mud pits and climbing walls.



PASS

IN

REVIEW

Your weekly guide to the best aspects of entertainment

Welcome to the Pass In Review, your No. 1 source for cinema, music, video game, book and product reviews. The Pass In Review crew consists of more than 10 critics, each with their own idea of what makes a movie, album, game, product or book great. Be sure to take advantage of the Better Know A Critic section, which spotlights this week’s critics to better help you choose the critic with opinions most like your own. Using our breakthrough four-point scale system, you can quickly decipher what is worth your time and what isn’t, or read the full review for an in-depth analysis and explanation of the rating. The rating system uses ammunition and range terminology, so if you’re not familiar, here’s a quick breakdown of the ratings ...

- 1/4 — No Impact, No Idea

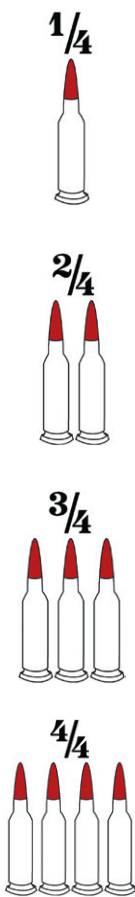
Horrendous. Among the worst of the worst in its genre. Dedicating time to this is not only wasteful, but unforgivable. Avoid at all costs.
- 2/4 — High And To The Right

Mediocrity at its best. Lacks a few things that might have made it really good. A decent time waster, partake only if there’s nothing better to do.
- 3/4 — On Target

Praiseworthy. A great endeavor, not quite an instant classic but still very entertaining. This is a sound investment of your time.
- 4/4 — Confirmed Kill

Genius. In the top 10 percent of its genre. This is the stuff legends are made of. Missing out on it would be a disservice to yourself.

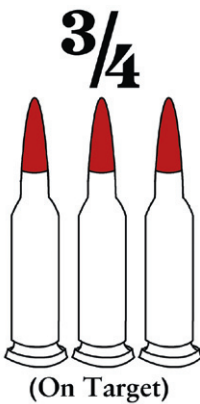
So, there you have it and we hope you enjoy our weekly reviews. Don’t forget, the Hawaii Marine accepts submissions from its readers so if you consider yourself a film buff, music aficionado, gaming geek or bookworm, feel free to submit your own reviews.



Better Know A Critic

Lance Cpl. Harley Thomas enjoys films that are meaningful and display the human condition. He enjoys movies that leave you wanting more after it’s over. Some of his favorites include “Leaves of Grass,” “Detachment”, “Dead Poet’s Society” and “Goodfellas.”

THIS WEEK’S RATING:



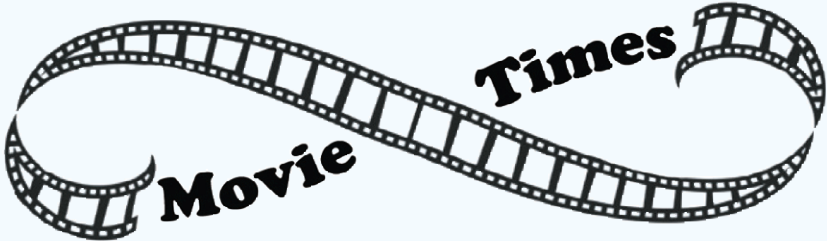
‘The Wedding Ringer’ provides groomsmen, laughs



Lance Cpl. Harley Thomas
Marine Corps Base Hawaii

Despite the R-rated humor, “The Wedding Ringer” is a comedy with heart. Doug Harris (Josh Gad) is a socially awkward, yet strangely loveable, groom-to-be with a slight problem: his lack of a best man — in addition to his complete lack of groomsmen. With less than two weeks until the wedding, Doug becomes frantic searching for a best man. While with the wedding planner, Doug is referred to Jimmy Callahan (Kevin Hart), the owner and CEO of Best Man, Inc., a company that specializes in providing over-the-top best men to those in need. Using the on-screen chemistry between Gad and Hart, what ensues is a hilarious wedding charade. They attempt to pull off the legendary “Golden Tux,” evenly matching seven groomsmen to seven bridesmaids. Initially, Jimmy refuses, claiming it could never be done and he doesn’t need the pressure. However, after hearing Doug’s plea, Jimmy agrees to be his best man along with a payment of \$50,000 and all expenses paid. In his attempt to provide an out-of-this-world wedding — by easing up to the in-laws and making a heartfelt toast — Jimmy does the things that would normally be handled by an actual friend. That being said, Jimmy frequently reminds Doug that they aren’t really friends, and that their relationship will end when the honeymoon starts; whether or not these two will remain friends after Doug’s final payment turns out to be the movie’s dramatic focus.

The screenplay by Jeremy Garelick and Jay Lavender offers an intriguing premise and some truly unpredictable comedy misdirects. Though, the first-time director sometimes undercuts promising ideas through his lack of experience. For instance, there’s a scene where Doug’s soon-to-be father-in-law, Ed (Ken Howard) challenges Doug and the groomsmen to a “friendly” game of touch football, which ends up being a ruthless throwdown because Ed’s friends happen to be NFL alumni. After taking a beating from the old guys, Jimmy manages to rally the belittled groomsmen to fight back, but the sequence is filmed and edited so haphazardly that we never see much of what could have been outrageous physical comedy. Aside from being one of my personal favorites, Hart outshines his material (his roles tend to be funnier and more clever than the scripts he accepts). One can only imagine what he would do if paired with filmmakers at his level. Even here, however, Hart brings his A-game, apparently creating some moments out of thin air. In the scene in which Jimmy tries out his alias “Bic Mitchum” has a very just-keep-the-camera-rolling feel to it, and while some improv can be detrimental to some comedies, here it provides the audience a good laugh. This isn’t the greatest comedy I have ever seen, but I hold “The Wedding Ringer” to a higher caliber than most films. This movie is one of the best comedies I have recently seen. I laughed through and thoroughly enjoyed the entire movie, but I think the director didn’t use the actors to their fullest potential. That’s why I give “The Wedding Ringer” an “on target.”



- “Big Eyes” PG-13 Today | 6:30 p.m.
- “The Boy Next Door” R Today | 9:15 p.m.
- “Selma” PG-13 Saturday | 6:30 p.m.
- “Big Eyes” PG-13 Saturday | 9:15 p.m.
- “Paddington” PG Sunday | 2 p.m.
- “The Wedding Ringer” R Sunday | 6:30 p.m.
- “Taken 3” PG-13 Wednesday | 6:30 p.m.



Prices: All shows are \$5 for adults and \$3.25 for children. All 3-D shows are \$8 for adults and \$6 for children. For ticket pricing, the base theater box office defines an adult as a patron 12 years and older and defines a child as a patron from 6 to 11 years old. Children 5 and younger are admitted free of charge. Parents must purchase tickets for R-rated movies in person at the box office for children 16 and younger. Patrons must present their military identification card when purchasing tickets.

CLB-3 ‘Original’ nails win against ‘Comm’ 43-32

Kristen Wong
Hawaii Marine

Combat Logistics Battalion 3 Marines faced their own peers as two teams from the same unit competed in an intramural basketball game at the Semper Fit Center gym, Feb. 4. The CLB-3 “Original” team defeated CLB-3 “Comm” 43-32.

Despite the various power outages Marine Corps Base Hawaii residents have had in the past few weeks, the intramural basketball season continued to move forward.

Joseph Dugger, CLB-3 Comm forward, noted that the team was unable to practice in the gym due to the outages. However, he said his team has been performing fairly well considering they have only played together a few times.

The team’s first game of the season so far was a loss against Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 24. As for pre-game thoughts, Dugger simply hoped that no one would be injured during the game.

The CLB-3 Original team is named as such because they were the first CLB-3 team to form during this season, preceding the other three. The Original coach, Clemente Rivera, said the team’s practice has also been affected by the

power outages. Original also came to the Feb. 4 game with one loss.

“This is our first time together (playing as a full team),” Rivera said. “(This game) will be a foundation on where we stand.”

But when all is said and done, Rivera said, Original members “play just to play.”

By halftime, the score was 17-12, in favor of the Originals. During the second half, for both teams the air was afoul. The Originals fouled seven times, Comm fouling six. At times it seemed each team would successfully snatch the ball, only for their attempt to bounce off the rim.

Several players brought in three pointers, and some were the breadwinners for each team, namely, Original shooting guard Ryan Jackson, who scored 16 points, and Comm small forward Jesse Clark, who brought in 14 points.

As the game wound down, the winner was clear, however, and both teams knew it. The remaining seconds flew by on the clock, but the tension was gone as the players casually passed the ball around.

The next intramural basketball game is between Special Projects Patrol Squadron 2 and CLB-3 TSC, Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in the Semper Fit gym.



Kristen Wong | Hawaii Marine

Combat Logistics Battalion 3 Comm guard Timothy Gardner attempts to get the ball from CLB-3 Original center Ajuna Rwakatare during an intramural basketball game at the Semper Fit Center gym, Feb. 4.



Christine Cabalo | Hawaii Marine

FINDING CLEAN SHIRTS FOR A MUDDY DAY

Lance Cpl. Roxanne Finsel (left) and Cpl. Mary Loy, pick out the right size shirt for Sgt. Nicole Mullings, who picked up her race packet at the Swamp Romp Expo held Feb. 6. Finsel and Loy were among several volunteers from Combat Logistics Battalion 3 who distributed race packets during the expo. The expo also featured booths from Semper Fit Center’s Health Promotions and other exhibitors encouraging healthy lifestyles.



Photos by Lance Cpl. Brittney Vella | Marine Corps Base Hawaii

Bodysurfers compete at Pyramid Rock

Lance Cpl. Brittney Vella
Marine Corps Base Hawaii

After weeks of anticipation, the 9th Annual Pyramid Rock Bodysurfing Championship, which was open to the public, took place aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Sunday. The event was originally scheduled for January 18 and 19 but was postponed due to inadequate surfing conditions. Finally, Mother Nature supplied the 70 competitors with a good surfing environment.

The competition was created in 2006 by Ben Mercier, a former Marine Corps captain, who, after returning from his last tour in Iraq, wanted to create an event that would raise awareness and funds for the Wounded Warrior Regiment.

Mercier said during his first time to Pyramid Rock he was bodysurfing and noticed others bodysurfers there. Two of the guys happened to be members of the Hawaii State Bodysurfing Association — and ended up being founding members, Steve Capella and Al Balderama. They put their cards on his Jeep when they left that day, and two years later, they coordinated with the base and started the first Pyramid Rock Bodysurfing



Anna G. Santoro, a bodysufer, catches a wave at the Pyramid Rock Bodysurfing Championship, Sunday.

Championship. With the help of the HSBA, the event is supplied with judging and any additional support to ensure it runs smoothly, he said.

Paul Shiraishi, a field radio operator with 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment said he uses bodysurfing to relax.

“(Bodysurfing) is one of the best stress relievers after a long work week,” said

Shiraishi, a San Diego native. “It’s a good way to connect with the environment and with people you wouldn’t meet on a day-to-day basis.”

Shiraishi who placed third in his heat, was happy he was able to compete on a level with more seasoned competitors.

“It was a great competition,” he said.

“It’s a fun, judgement-free environment and I wish more of my fellow Marines had participated. It’s an easy sport to learn and extremely (enjoyable). I was getting anxious because the event kept getting pushed back, but between the great weather and pretty decent wave conditions, it was worth the wait.”

The profits made at the event raise funds and awareness for Wounded Warrior Regiment. The organization has supported 52,509 wounded, ill or injured Marines since 2007, according to the organization’s website at www.woundedwarriorregiment.com.

After receiving treatment and starting a new career, Mercier said he’s working on his own challenges of post-traumatic stress disorder. He recommended Marines and sailors facing the same struggle, to seek support from friends, family and The Department of Veterans Affairs.

While bodysurfing might be one way to fight stress, MCB Hawaii has free counseling and resources that can help. Walk-ins and appointment are available at the Counseling, Advocacy, Awareness and Relationship Enhancment Center in building 216. For more information, call 257-7780 or 257-7781.

COMMUNITY, VOLUNTEER BRIEFS

Chinese New Year celebrations scheduled in Chinatown

Today from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. in Chinatown Cultural Plaza, there will be a Chinese New Year celebration open to the public with a lion dance blessing at 6 p.m., presented by the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii. On Saturday from 9 a.m. to 10:30 p.m., the Chinatown Merchants Association is hosting the free Night in Chinatown Festival. The parade starts at 3 p.m.

Market City celebrates Chinese New Year

Market City Shopping Center is hosting a Chinese New Year celebration Saturday at 10 a.m. in the lower parking lot. There will be taiko drummers, lion dancers, a 100-foot dragon and firecrackers. For more information, visit marketcityhawaii.com.

Bellows AFS offering free movies

Bellows Air Force Station is offering free movies and popcorn Mondays and Wednesdays at 4 p.m. at Turtle Cove. The following movies will be showing:
Monday “Get on Up”
Wednesday “No Good Deed”
Feb. 23 “The Maze Runner”
Feb. 25 “Dawn of the Planet of the Apes”

Lectures offered at Hawaii State Art Museum

Six free public lectures will explore preserving historic cemeteries in the “Experts” series, held this year at the Hawaii State Art Museum at 250 South Hotel Street. The hourlong lectures begin at noon at the Hawaii State Art Museum in the No. 1 Capitol Building, 250 South Hotel Street. The lectures are as follows:

- **Thursday:** Laura Ruby, University of Hawaii at Manoa, “The Mo’ili’ili Japanese Cemetery: Preserving a Community Landmark”
 - **Feb. 26:** Richard Miller, Kalaupapa National Historic Park, “Saving a Special Heritage: Grave Marker Preservation at Kalaupapa”
 - **March 5:** Jessica Puff and Regina Hilo, Hawaii State Historic Preservation Division, “Evaluating and Nominating Cemeteries and Burial Places: The State and National Register of Historic Places”
- For details, visit www.historichawaii.org.

Volunteers needed for Honolulu Festival

The 21st annual Honolulu Festival is scheduled March 7 and 8 with free performances from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Volunteers are needed for various events and exhibits including providing event schedule and information to visitors and more. Register at www.honolulufestival.com/en/contact/volunteer.

“National Memories” traveling exhibit to open at Pacific Aviation Museum

Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor, the site of America’s first aviation battlefield, will serve as the first stop of the “National Memories” 2015 United States tour, March 14. The exhibit, which first went on display in the southern Chinese city of Shenzhen in 2010, has toured through mainland China and Taiwan. Through the use of imagery and more than 100 historic photos taken by the 164th U.S. Signal Photo Company in the China Burma India Theater, “National Memories” brings to life the unusual and little known camaraderie that existed between Chinese and U.S. soldiers as their countries joined forces during World War II. The exhibit is free to museum members or with museum admission. For more information, call 441-1007 or email education@pacificaviationmuseum.org.

Register for lei making workshops

The Department of Parks and Recreation will hold free lei making workshops before the 88th Annual Lei Day Celebration at Queen Kapiolani Regional Park and Bandstand. The lei contest exhibit will be open to the public on May 1, from 1 to 4:30 p.m., in the area between the bandstand and the Waikiki Shell. The exhibit boasts some of the most exquisitely crafted lei in a variety of colors and methods. There are categories for all ages and skill levels, so everyone is encouraged to enter. For more information, visit www.honolulu.gov/parks.

Arts and crafts volunteers needed at TAMC

The American Red Cross is seeking volunteers interested in improving the quality of stay for patients and their families at Tripler Army Medical Center through arts and humanities. Applicants can contact Yolanda Gainwell at 433-6631 or yolanda.m.gainwell.vol@mail.mil.

Love at First Bite scheduled for Saturday

Love at First Bite is scheduled Saturday at Kahuku Maluhia Estates on 56-1080 Kam. Hwy. Enter at Charlie Road, mountain side of Turtle Bay Golf Course. Admission is free to the public for this family fun day, which features food, arts and crafts, games and rides. For more information, email firstbitehawaii@gmail.com.

Ala Moana celebrates Chinese New Year

Ala Moana Shopping Center will feature Wah Ngai Lion Dance Association Feb. 19 and 20 at 6:30 p.m. on its centerstage. On Feb. 21 at 11 a.m., the Narcissus Court will make an appearance, and there will also be kung fu demonstrations, a dance performance by the Phoenix Dance Chamber and a lion dance. At 2 p.m., there will be a lion dance meet and greet. For more information, visit alamoanacenter.com.

Kapolei Commons celebrates Chinese New Year

Kapolei Commons is hosting a Chinese New Year celebration Feb. 21 at 4 p.m. There will be a lion dance, dragon dance, martial arts demonstration and more. For more information, visit thekapoleicommons.com.