

# Hawaii Marine

## NOLES 2015 FIELD TRAINING EXERCISE CONCLUDES, EXECUTIVE SEMINAR BEGINS



Photos by Sgt. Erlik Estrada | U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific

Maj. Gen. Dato' Mohd Suhaimi bin Hj Mohd Zuki, commanding general of the Malaysian Army Training and Doctrine Command, speaks to Brig. Gen. Edward D. Banta, commanding general of Marine Corps Installations West, during the Non-lethal Weapons Executive Seminar, Wednesday. NOLES is an annual exercise hosted by U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific and is the U.S. Pacific Command's premier multilateral theater security cooperation event for non-lethal weapons. Non-lethal weapons and tactics provide options for U.S. Marines and partner nation militaries while operating in the full spectrum of warfare. NOLES includes a leadership seminar hosting senior leaders from more than 20 nations. This is the 14th iteration of NOLES.



Petty Officer 1st Class Vladimir Ramos | U.S. Pacific Fleet

## EXERCISE DAWN BLITZ 2015 WRAPS UP

**PACIFIC OCEAN** — U.S. Marines assigned to 5th Marine Regiment Headquarters prepare to board an MV-22B Tiltrotor Osprey assigned to Marine Medium Tilt-rotor Squadron 163 with 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing during flight operations aboard amphibious transport dock ship USS Somerset as part of Exercise Dawn Blitz 2015. Dawn Blitz 2015 is an annual multinational training exercise orchestrated by the United States Navy and Marine Corps. The exercise is focused on the development of operational and cooperative capacity with the use of military hardware and craft, such as the amphibious assault vehicle or landing craft air cushion vehicle, while exercising combined arms tactics in a simulated combat environment. Conducted by Expeditionary Strike Group 3 and the 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade, the purpose of the operation is to enhance their ability to conduct joint sea-basing operations and amphibious landings, as well as command and control capabilities while working alongside Japan, Mexico and New Zealand's armed forces. The service members conducted live, simulated and constructive military training events off the coast and ashore aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton and Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Training Center Twentynine Palms, Calif.

## Marine general keeps promise in Pacific, passes on III MEF command

**Jessica Etheridge and Staff Sgt. Jesse Stence**  
*III Marine Expeditionary Force / Marine Corps Installations Pacific*

**CAMP FOSTER, Japan** — Lt. Gen. John Wissler has been arguably the busiest man in the Marine Corps' most active unit during the past two and a half years. In an area where approximately seventy percent of the world's natural disasters occur, III Marine Expeditionary Force continually prepares and responds to events like the earthquake that ravaged Nepal in April. All the while, III MEF maintains strategic partnerships with its allies, such as South Korea and Australia, while continuing to enhance the stability and prosperity of the region.

Suffice to say, leading III MEF involves many moving parts.

As Wissler relinquished command of III MEF to Lt. Gen. Larry D. Nicholson during a change of command ceremony here at Camp Foster today, he fulfilled a promise he made the day he came aboard.

"I promise you this," said Wissler, July 19, 2013. "We will be ready to fight tonight, we will be partner-enabled, and we will be able to respond to any crisis."

Wissler and III MEF were tested early and often. In the fall of 2013, just a few months after he arrived at III MEF, Super Typhoon Yolanda struck the Philippines, resulting in more than 6,000 casualties. The Marines' response was Operation Damayan, a joint and multinational humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operation. During the operation, Marines delivered 1,200 tons of relief supplies and helped evacuate more than 10,000 people.

Wissler said that years of training with partnered nations and developing disaster protocol ultimately saved thousands of lives in the aftermath of the typhoon.



Cpl. Joey Holeman | III Marine Expeditionary Force

**Lt. Gen. John Wissler, middle, passes the III Marine Expeditionary Force colors to Lt. Gen. Larry Nicholson, at Camp Foster, Okinawa, Japan, Sept. 11.**

"We knew who to communicate with in the Philippines, and how we were going to apply force to the problem at hand, which was to get immediate relief to the people of the Philippines," said Wissler.

In April 2015, an earthquake shook Nepal, killing

more than 8,000 people, destroying millions of homes and devastating one of the world's poorest countries. Again, III MEF Marines came to the rescue, often venturing high into the Himalayas, at altitudes where the Marine's aircraft have rarely been called to fly. In the numbing cold, Marines evacuated victims, delivered food and supplies, and conducted search and rescue missions.

"We made the relationships, we knew who to talk to, and we knew how to get things done," said Wissler. "We were able to work with and through the government of Nepal and the Nepalese military to make sure that we met their requirements, and help them to help the people of Nepal."

In addition to humanitarian efforts, Wissler oversaw the Marines of III MEF as they forged partnerships in the region. The Marines of III MEF continually traveled to countries like South Korea, Australia, Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines to train, side-by-side, with their partners. Wissler said this high operational tempo was crucial in maintaining the level of readiness he expected of III MEF.

To illustrate the pace of operations, Wissler explained, "There are about 22,000 MEF Marines west of the International Date Line, but we put about 40,000 sets of footprints on 22 countries every year."

Wissler remarked on the complexity of III MEF's mission and said that none of his previous assignments completely prepared him for the challenges he faced here, despite a lengthy track record. He served as the principal director for Asia Pacific Affairs, Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Policy, and the deputy commander of U.S. Forces Japan. He led II Marine Expeditionary Force Forward in Afghanistan, and prior

*See MEF, A-7*



**A dedication**  
Semper Fit Center at Camp H.M. Smith renamed, **A-6**



**Friendly competition**  
MALS-24 'Warriors' host annual field meet, **B-1**

Saturday

High 85°  
Low 78°

Sunday

High 85°  
Low 77°



# BASE INSPECTOR’S CORNER: DON’T ABANDON YOUR CARS ON BASE

Marines, Sailors and civilians who live and work aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, it has come to the Commanding Offier’s attention that there are many abandoned cars aboard the installation. This is an issue that MCB Hawaii takes very seriously and would like to address.

### How did abandoned cars become a problem?

People abandon cars for various reasons. For example, if a vehicle becomes inoperable or can no longer meet Hawaii state inspection, it’s tempting to park the vehicle in a back lot until the owner has time or resources to repair it. Given the frequent permanent changes of station and the stress that comes with each move, some individuals may leave their vehicle behind when they depart Hawaii.

Each vehicle that is left behind quickly becomes an eye sore, ties up available parking, and becomes a target for vandalism.

An abandoned car is not only an inconvenience for the personnel aboard the installation. The vehicle owner may incur traffic citations, suspended driving privileges on base, possible non-judicial punishment, and even encounter lien holders attempting to collect on outstanding loans.

The base does have procedures in place for abandoned cars. Intially, the Provost Marshal’s

Office will mark a suspected car with an abandoned vehicle notice.

After 72 hours, the vehicle may be towed to the PMO impound lot and investigated. A background check is conducted through the National Crime Information Center, Consolidated Law Enforcement Operations Center and Installation Personnel Administration Center in an attempt to identify the registered owner. The staff at PMO then attempts to contact the last known command, phone number and address.

If these attempts fail, within 72 hours of the vehicle being towed, a certified letter is sent to the last known address of the registered owner. Once the letter is sent there are four possible outcomes.

- The owner retrieves their vehicle, at which point they must take it off base until the vehicle is has a valid safety inspection and it registration.
- The owner responds in writing, releasing the vehicle to the government for disposal.
- The owner comes in person and releases the vehicle to the government.
- The letter gets returned to sender. After 45 days PMO may dispose of the vehicle. Once we get to the point of releasing the vehicle for disposal, each vehicle is released to Marine Corps Community Services for auction or disposal.

So, is there a solution?

Currently, a policy is being developed to utilize off-installation wrecker services, in which the vehicle will be removed from the installation and the registered owner will have to pay storage and tow fees to receive their vehicle back.

Other programs are also being developed for people to donate or release ownership of their vehicles at no cost.

As adults, property owners and active duty service members, it is our responsibility to take care of our property and not leave it for others. It is the owner’s responsibility to remove their vehicle from the installation prior to departure.

We are ambassadors of the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps. Each and every one of us should be doing everything in our power to leave this installation better than when we found it. The privilege of being able to own, store, and operate vehicles aboard this installation is just that, a privilege. We all must do our part to take responsibility for our property and not leave it for others to clean up.

**Lt. Col. David H. Bohn**  
**Deputy Commander**  
**Marine Corps Base Hawaii**

## TOP SHOT



**Photographer: Kristen Wong**

**Age: 34**

**Behind the shot: The U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific Band is always an aesthetically pleasing subject to photograph. The Party Band is especially animated, and their shining instruments and bright uniforms made a difference on a muggy, overcast day at the Health, Wellness & Fitness Fair.**

Sgt. Raion Charles, a musician with the U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific Band and an Elizabeth, N.J., native, performs during the Health, Wellness & Fitness Fair at Mokapu Mall aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Sept. 11. The fair featured representatives from various organizations on and off base, including Tripler Army Medical Center, the Provost Marshal’s Office and the Education Center. This was the last event for the 101 Days of Summer Program, which is hosted each year aboard the base to promote fitness and discourage drug and alcohol abuse.



Kristen Wong | Marine Corps Base Hawaii

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Eid-UI-Adha scheduled Tuesday, Wednesday

The religious holiday Eid-UI-Adha starts Tuesday and Wednesday. Manoa Mosque will be hosting holiday prayers. Starting time will be determined by mosque staff. The mosque is located at 1935 Aleo Place in Honolulu. For more information, call Gunnery Sgt. Jimi Khamisi at 760-586-9355.

### Jewish services scheduled Tuesday, Wednesday

The Aloha Jewish Chapel, located aboard Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam at the Makalapa Gate, will be holding Jewish holiday services for Yom Kippur, Tuesday and Wednesday.

**Tuesday:** Kol Nidre Service: 7:30 to 9 p.m.

#### Wednesday:

Morning service: 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Yizkor/memorial service: 4:30 to 5:15 p.m.

Neilah/closing service: 5:30 to 6:45 p.m. (followed by a breakfast meal).

For more information, contact Chaplain Emily Rosenzweig at [emily.rosenzweig@usmc.mil](mailto:emily.rosenzweig@usmc.mil) or 257-5518.

### National Take-Back Initiative scheduled soon

Turn in your unused and expired prescriptions during the National Take-Back Initiative, Sept. 26 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the parking lot in front of the Marine Corps Exchange at Mokapu Mall. The Substance Abuse Counseling Center along with the Drug Enforcement Agency will be collecting expired prescription medications for safe disposal. The base is one of dozens drop-off locations nationwide.

This service is free and anonymous to prevent potentially dangerous substances from being abused or polluting the environment. The initiative is conducted twice a year. For more information, call Quentin Redmon at 257-8377.

### Exercise caution when riding bikes on base

All bicycle riders aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii are encouraged to use bike lanes when available

as well as ride as far to the right of the roadway as practical when bike lanes are not present. All riders must wear properly fastened bicycle helmets while riding on base.

All bicycles operated during the hours of darkness (between evening and morning colors) must be equipped with a white light visible 500 feet to the front; riders must also wear light colored or reflective clothing to increase visibility. Riders must also yield to all approaching vehicles and pedestrians when emerging from an alley, driveway or building. Wearing radio headsets, earphones or other devices that obstruct hearing is prohibited.

### Important Phone Numbers

On-Base Emergencies	911
On-Base Emergencies (Non-medical)	257-2123/2124
Child Protective Services	832-5300
Fraud, Waste, Abuse & EEO	257-8852
Base Information	449-7110
MCB Hawaii Chaplain	257-3552
DEERS	257-2077

## ICE COMMENTS

**COMMENT:** (The 9th Puka) Snack shop attendant has a very poor attitude and demeanor. I ordered a hot dog, asked for sauce and she told me there was none. She did not have the condiments tray out nor the napkins. I had to reach inside the window to get napkins and she did nothing to help. She has a really poor customer service attitude. Recommend remedial training for this employee.

**RESPONSE:** Dear 9th Puka patron, we appreciate that you took the time to participate in the interactive customer evaluation program. I am the business activities manager at the Klipper Complex, which includes 9th Puka Snack Bar. I am sorry that we have disappointed you with our poor customer service. I have spoken with the employee and she apologized that the condiment tray was not outside as she was preparing to shut down. Customer service is one of the most important aspects of any business and I will definitely re-train my staff throughout the year to prevent an incident such as yours. Ninth Puka will have sauce for you at your next visit. Thank you again for taking time to participate in the ICE program. We value your patronage and comments hope to see you soon at the golf course. If you have any further comments or concerns please call me.

\*Note: Comments have been edited for space and anonymity.

### Interactive Customer Evaluation

#### ICE 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. \*\*The Base Safety Directorate 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>.

## Hawaii Marine

[www.mcbhawaii.marines.mil](http://www.mcbhawaii.marines.mil)  
[www.hawaiimarine.com](http://www.hawaiimarine.com)

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# AROUND THE CORPS

Your weekly guide to what’s happening around the Corps

## WEST COAST



**MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif.** — Sgt. Derek Patrick, a military working dog trainer from Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, demonstrates the capabilities of his military working dog at the fields behind the University of Phoenix Stadium at Glendale, Ariz., Sept. 11. The demonstration was part of Marine Week Phoenix, which allows the Marine Corps to showcase its traditions, history and values.

Sgt. Cuong Le | 1 Marine Expeditionary Force

## OVERSEAS

**NORTHERN TERRITORY, Australia** — U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Todd McCaffrey, the chief of staff of U.S. Army Pacific (far right) and U.S. Marine Corps Col. Daniel Masur, officer in charge of the Forward Coordination Element, Marine Rotational Force – Darwin (far left) pose with soldiers from the 25th Infantry Division, USARPAC and Marines with 1st Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, MRF-D after the Exercise Kowari 2015 closing ceremony Saturday at Larrakeyah Barracks, Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia. In its second iteration, Kowari 15 was a trilateral environmental survival training opportunity hosted by Australia and included forces from the U.S., Australia and China simultaneously.



1st Lt. George McArthur | Marine Rotational Force Darwin



Cpl. Neysa Huertas Quinones | Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point

## EAST COAST

**MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C.** — Cpl. Ian M. Keyser maintains communication with other convoy members during a combat convoy simulator at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N.C., Sept. 9. Marines with 2nd Low Altitude Air Defense Battalion tested their combat skills and decision making as they maneuvered through a simulated desert, mimicking the possible scenarios they could encounter while in a real-life scenario. The training simulator allowed the Marines to efficiently train in a controlled environment without sacrificing safety or accuracy. Keyser is a low-altitude air defense gunner with 2nd LAAD based out of Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C.





Photos courtesy of Equine 808

A child takes a pony ride during one of several educational programs and field trips Equine 808 offers to groups of students at their shelter located in Kunia, Hawaii. The organization is seeking volunteer assistance for these visits, as well as daily horse care maintenance and other administrative projects.

# Must love horses: Volunteers needed for horse sanctuary

**Christine Cabalo**  
*Marine Corps Base Hawaii*

Civilian and military volunteers are harnessing their time and effort to make a difference for abused and abandoned horses in Kunia, Hawaii.

Equine 808, a local nonprofit organization, is recruiting help to care for horses and other animals in need of shelter. A total of 45 donkeys and horses have been rescued since the organization began caring for animals in 2008. The group welcomes everyone, but the organization may offer a unique volunteering experience for service members and their families, said Diane Cornish, the organization’s volunteer executive director.

“Marines and Sailors are very able bodied,” she said. “We do need help doing physical work. In return, here at the shelter you (have open space). This is a perfect opportunity for people who are animal lovers but due to their commitments may not be able to maintain animal ownership.”

When Amanda Forbes has time off from her job as an active-duty Sailor with Navy Region Hawaii, she spends those days of leave at the shelter.

“I grew up on a small farm,” said Forbes, a native of Woodburn, Ore. “I wanted to get back to working with animals. Working at the horse



**Champ, a rescued horse, nuzzles an Equine 808 volunteer for an apple at the shelter’s Hawaii location. Equine 808, a local nonprofit organization, is recruiting help to care for abandoned horses. A total of 45 donkeys and horses have been rescued since the organization began caring for animals in 2008.**

rescue, I can do that and get volunteer hours.”

The shelter is located in central Oahu on a ranch stretching out with an unobstructed back vista of the island’s Koolau Mountains.

“This is such a peaceful and quiet place to get away from city and relax,” Forbes said. “There’s a beautiful view. (Working today) there was a long rainbow that stretched

from the North Shore to Ford Island. It’s a great place to relax you (too). You can do physical work and get out some frustrations.”

Whenever she’s had a bad day, Forbes said she looks forward to how the animals show their affection for her volunteering. Cornish and Forbes said many of the shelter’s animals have been abandoned or abused. With a history of mistreatment,

the animals are not used to human kindness.

“For one of the horses here that has bad feet, every time we get that horse’s feet in a bucket to soothe, the horse shows how much it appreciates the help,” she said. “Once, the horse even nuzzled me in for a hug.”

The nonprofit organization is looking for volunteers to help maintain the horses, assist

with administration work and reach out to the community. Volunteer assistance to repair the shelter’s infrastructure, including the ranch’s fencing, is especially needed.

“We have a ton of damage from recent rain and increased mud,” Cornish said. “We could use material for fencing and help putting it up. With the heavy rains, the ground here is so saturated.”

Volunteers can assist individually or in larger groups. The shelter hosts a volunteer orientation on the first Saturday of the month at 10 a.m. Cornish said units or groups of volunteers can call ahead of time to coordinate. Volunteers 18 or older may individually volunteer. Children ages 7 to 17 may enroll in the shelter’s Equine Education Program and volunteer as part of their learning curriculum. Volunteers are required to wear closed-toe shoes, and Cornish also recommends wearing long pants.

“(The shelter) is a peaceful place,” Cornish said. “People who volunteer can really see the fruits of their labor. If they have a stressful job, this is a place to unwind. Volunteers will be working hard, but in many ways it’s a way for their mind to relax.”

For details, call 590-1210 or email [info@equine808.com](mailto:info@equine808.com). The organization’s website is [www.equine808.com](http://www.equine808.com).



# Marine classes available for senior leaders

## Marine Administration Message 437/15

Headquarters Marine Corps

Historically, professional development for enlisted Marines in the grade of E-8 has been limited to seminars and self-study. Now the 32nd commandant of the Marine Corps, along with the 16th sergeant major of the Marine Corps, has directed the development of a professional military education course targeted to further the study of the art of war for these Marines.

Marine Corps University has developed a course designed to enhance the critical thinking and adaptability skills necessary to function at the operational and strategic levels of war. The senior enlisted course conducts an intense five-week curriculum focused on the following core areas: leadership and professional ethics, communication studies, warfighting and joint operations.

The director will conduct the Senior Enlisted Professional Military Education course at Quantico, Va. Enrollment in classes for the 2016 fiscal year have already started, and the deadline to enroll in the first of the class sessions is Oct. 14. Those accepted will report to class Nov. 20.

Upcoming dates to submit applications for the next series of classes are as follows: Nov. 15, 2015 to Jan. 16, 2016; Jan. 29, 2016 to March 30, 2016; April 22, 2016 to May 25, 2016; June 17, 2016 to Aug. 17, 2016.

Each class will have a set number of seats allocated for each unit during each course. U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific will have 17 slots, while Marine Forces Command will have 12. Other sections, including Navy and joint operations units, will also have a set number of class seats.

Major commands not listed above may nominate students by submitting an email via the appropriate chain of command to the director of the senior enlisted academy. Non-allocated nominations are accepted based on availability of seats. Major subordinate commands may nominate Marines in the grade of E-8 to attend the course in accordance with the above allocations.

Due to limited school seats, nominees must be submitted through the Marine's chain of command to the respective Marine Forces sergeant major. The Marine Forces sergeants major shall screen their applicants and select the most qualified Marines to attend in accordance with the course pre-requisites prior to their registration in Marine Corps Training Information Management System.

Any allocations that are not utilized by the submission deadline will be redistributed by the academy



Courtesy photo

**Marine Corps University is accepting applicants who are ranked E-8 for the Senior Enlisted Professional Military Education Course which begins Nov. 20 in Quantico, Va. The deadline to submit an application for the new class is Oct. 14.**

director. Any changes of registered students after the registration deadline will be communicated to the director before a replacement is made in MCTIMS.

Nominees must have completed the Senior Enlisted Joint PME Distance Learning Course provided by the Joint Forces Staff College.

The SEJPME course is accessed at the Joint Forces Staff College website at [www.jfsc.ndu.edu](http://www.jfsc.ndu.edu) or the SEJPME II at [jkodirect.jten.mil/](http://jkodirect.jten.mil/).

Nominated first sergeants must have completed the Resident First Sergeants Course and the First Sergeant/Master Sergeant Regional Seminar. Master sergeants must have completed First Sergeant/Master Sergeant Regional Seminar. The respective course completion codes must be reflected within Marine Corps Total Forces System.

An active secret clearance, validated in the Joint Personnel Adjudication System and owned by the Marines parent command is required. Marines who do not possess an active security clearance will not be accepted into the course.

Nominees must have one-year obligated service remaining on their contract upon completion of the course in compliance with Marine Corps Order 1043.41. They must also be in compliance with appearance and physical fitness standards.

Sergeants major and master gunnery sergeants, including those that have been selected for promotion to either, are no longer eligible for nomination. Also, no E-8 that has been twice passed for promotion to

E-9 will be considered eligible for nomination. The following information must be submitted through the unit's Marine Forces G-3 department for registration into MCTIMS:

- Course number
- CID
- Full name, electronic data interchange personal identifier and military occupational speciality
- Rank and date of rank
- End of current contract

Forward required nominee information, identified above, to the appropriate email account, digitally signed and encrypted. Those from MARFORPAC should submit to [smb.marforpac.formal.school@usmc.mil](mailto:smb.marforpac.formal.school@usmc.mil).

The director must receive all nominations no later than 60 days prior to the course convene date.

Students registered in MCTIMS who cannot attend a scheduled course must have their registration cancelled within MCTIMS. Cancelling a student registration is the unit's responsibility and shall be coordinated with the respective MARFOR representative.

Authorization and funding for rental cars is the responsibility of the parent command.

Within 45 days following the completion of the course, each unit will provide a copy of the student's liquidation to the commanding general of Training and Education Command at Quantico, Va. Attendees who require lodging must lodge at the Crossroads Inn or Liversedge Hall. A reservation code will be provided to the student via separate correspondence. Funding will be provided by TECOM World-Wide Travel. Orders are the responsibility of the parent command.

All attendees will report to the Senior Enlisted PME Course at Marine Corps University in Quantico, Va. at Upshur Road in building 3078 no later than 6 a.m. on the course convene date. Uniform is physical training gear, with a paper copy of their orders.

Prior to arriving, students must read and become familiar with several materials. These include Marine Corps Doctrinal Publication-1 through 6 entitled "Warfighting;" "Intelligence;" "Expeditionary Operations;" "Logistics;" "Planning" and "Command and Control." Students should also have read Marine Corps Warfighting Publication 5-1 entitled "Marine Corps Planning Process."

Additional information is available on the SEPME website at [www.mcu.usmc.mil/epme/sitepages/senior%20enlisted.aspx](http://www.mcu.usmc.mil/epme/sitepages/senior%20enlisted.aspx) in the senior enlisted course information section.

## NOMINATIONS FOR PRESTIGIOUS FOUNDATION AWARDS PROGRAM OPEN

### *Annual awards recognize outstanding portrayals of Marines in creative arts*

#### Press Release

Marine Corps Heritage Foundation

The Marine Corps Heritage Foundation is now accepting nominations for its 2016 Annual Awards program. Each year the foundation presents awards for outstanding, creative work preserving or highlighting an aspect of Marine Corps history, traditions, culture or service.

Marines and civilians are both eligible to submit their own entries or the distinguished work of others for consideration. Awards will be presented at the Foundation's annual award ceremony, April 23, 2016 at the National Museum of the Marine Corps. The deadline for submissions is Jan. 8, 2016.

Previous winners have included renowned producers and reporters, as well as active duty Marines responsible for extraordinary work. The annual awards are presented in 15 categories, including journalism,

documentary, literature, screenplay, photography and poetry. A diverse panel of experts from major regional and national media outlets, authors, noted photographers and Marines, will review the awards submissions. For a detailed list of the awards as well as the submission requirements, please see: [www.marineheritage.org/awards.asp](http://www.marineheritage.org/awards.asp).

"The Marine Corps Heritage Foundation's Annual Awards program spotlights the artists who have created remarkable work that depicts, advances and preserves Marine Corps life," said Lt. Gen. Robert R. Blackman, Jr., president and CEO of the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation. "Photographs, articles, books, movies, poems and all forms of art not only educate our nation about the history of the Marine Corps, but also connect our citizens to the U.S. Marine Corps and ensure we never forget the sacrifices made by those who have earned the title: 'Marine.'"

Submitting a nomination is free. All winners receive

a \$1,000 cash prize, medallion and a commemorative brick along the Semper Fidelis Memorial Park pathway at the Marine Corps Heritage Center, adjacent to the National Museum of the Marine Corps.

For more information, see [www.marineheritage.org/awards.asp](http://www.marineheritage.org/awards.asp)





Lance Cpl. Jonathan E. LopezCruet | U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific

Lt. Gen. Hank Stackpole III, former U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific commander; Janet Taylor, daughter of Gen. Louis H. Wilson, Jr.; her husband, Jarry Taylor; and Lt. Gen. John A. Toolan, commander, MARFORPAC, pose alongside the sign at the newly named General Louis H. Wilson Semper Fit Center aboard Camp Smith Monday. Wilson became the commanding general of Fleet Marine Forces, Pacific on Sept. 1, 1972.

# MARFORPAC hosts ceremony for renamed Semper Fit Center

**Lance Cpl. Jonathan LopezCruet**  
*U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific*

**CAMP H.M. SMITH** — U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific held a fitness center dedication ceremony aboard Camp H.M. Smith, Monday.

The center was named in honor of Gen. Louis H. Wilson, Jr., a Marine who became the commander of Fleet Marine Forces, Pacific on Sept. 1, 1972.

Wilson’s daughter, Janet Taylor and her husband, Jarry Taylor, traveled from Alabama to give honors to her father.

“The Wilson family was small, just the three of us, but the Marine Corps family is large; embracing, honoring and caring for all within the circle,” Taylor said.

Honoring Wilson’s legacy and the type of leader, man and Marine he was, was not a hard thing to do, according to Lt. Gen. John A. Toolan, commander of MARFORPAC.

“There are other facilities in the Marine Corps rightly named for him,” Toolan said. “We think this one is special for a couple of reasons.”

During the assault on Guam in 1944, Wilson earned the Medal of Honor, the nation’s highest honor for heroism in combat. Because of his wounds during the assault, he was evacuated to the Aiea Heights Naval Hospital, which is now the home of MARFORPAC.

Wilson was well known for advocating for Marines to be physically fit. He even used his

daughter as a training tool for other Marines, Taylor joked.

“When I was 4, he was the commanding officer of The Basic School,” Taylor said. “He taught me to climb a rope in the back yard without using my feet, hand over hand. Without telling my mother, we would go out on a ‘field trip’ to the obstacle course at The Basic School where he would have me demonstrate in front of Marines having difficulty with the rope climb just how easy it was.”

Wilson was well known for how he led from the front and set the example for other Marines to emulate. He became the 26th commandant of the Marine Corps on July 1, 1975. As the commandant, he advocated force readiness, responsiveness and mobility by maintaining fast-moving, hard-hitting expeditionary units.

“I think it’s fitting that we dedicate this facility, built to help our Marines, and our civilian Marines, maintain their best possible physical condition, to a great man who spent his life dedicated to Corps and country,” Toolan said.

This was another part of her father’s legacy that Taylor was proud to experience.

“I can imagine him here, at this facility walking to the building, to the gym, to the weight room, talking to everyone, listening too and finally leaving, saying, ‘heartily press on,’” Taylor said.



Lance Cpl. Maximiliano Rosas | MARFORPAC

Toolan speaks with Taylor after the dedication ceremony. Taylor’s father, Gen. Louis H. Wilson, was the 26th commandant of the Marine Corps and a Medal of Honor recipient.



Lance Cpl. Jonathan E. LopezCruet | MARFORPAC

Janet Taylor, daughter of Gen. Louis H. Wilson, Jr., listens to Toolan as he shares words about Wilson.





Cpl. Joey Holeman | III Marine Expeditionary Force

**CAMP FOSTER, Japan —** Lt. Gens. John Wissler and Larry Nicholson salute Marines during the pass and review portion of the III Marine Expeditionary Force change of command ceremony at Camp Foster, Okinawa, Japan, Sept. 11. Wissler, who has been the III MEF commanding general for the past two years, relinquished his command to Nicholson.

*MEF, from A-1*

to taking command of III MEF, he even served as the deputy commandant for Programs and Resources, Headquarters Marine Corps.

“I think that my time in the Pentagon prepared me to understand the challenges in the rebalance to the Pacific, but I don’t think anything can prepare you for the pace and the level of involvement that III MEF has in this region until you actually physically come here, and live it, and do it,” Wissler said.

With Wissler’s departure, Nicholson, who previously served as the commanding general of 1st Marine Divi-

sion, hopes to contribute his leadership experience to the Marines of III MEF. Prior to leading 1st MarDiv, Nicholson served as the deputy commanding general of Marine Corps Combat Development Command, the commanding general of the 2nd Marine Expeditionary Brigade of Task Force Leatherneck while deployed to Afghanistan, and the senior military assistant to the deputy secretary of defense.

Nicholson welcomes the challenge to lead III MEF.

“We always say there is only one reason we have a Marine Corps, and that Congress expects us to be most ready when the nation is least ready,”

said Nicholson, a native of Toronto, Canada, who graduated from the Citadel, Charleston, S.C., in 1979. “I certainly understand the enormous responsibility that Marines and Sailors have, and I am looking forward to being a part of the MEF team.”

As Wissler, a native of Camp Pendleton, Calif., heads stateside and awaits his next assignment, he considers what the III MEF Marines accomplished over the past two and a half years.

“I started with a purpose and gave them a method and an end state,” said Wissler. “I explained that I wanted them to be able to respond to any crisis in the region, and make a difference, and to

be partner enabled in everything we did. The end state was to have the most prepared MEF, and to eliminate the risk to mission and the people by the way we took care of ourselves -- and the way we take care of our fellow Marines.”

Wissler said he had the privilege of seeing his Marines accomplish his intent every day.

“III MEF Marines and sailors and their families are a different breed,” said Wissler. “Every day, they are making a difference, not only in the lives of their fellow Marines and sailors, but they’re making a difference in the lives of the people in the Asia-Pacific Region every day, and that’s pretty special.”



# Sports & Lifestyle



Photos by Kristen Wong | Marine Corps Base Hawaii

The Marines and Sailors of Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 24 compete in the tug of war during the annual MALS-24 field meet at Riseley Field aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Sept. 11. The MALS-24 “Warriors” competed in various events at Riseley and Pop Warner Fields, such as a water jug relay, tug of war and ultimate Frisbee.

## MALS-24 ‘Warriors’ bond through competition on 9/11

**Kristen Wong**  
*Marine Corps Base Hawaii*

Lance Cpl. Michael Smith shuffles furiously across the grass backward on his palms and heels. As he reaches a bright orange cone, the aviation supply clerk flips himself over, and crawls on all fours like a bear. Upon reaching a second orange cone, he stands, and proceeds to run in a zig-zag pattern, as if fleeing the massive group of Marines chasing and cheering him on, swarming around him like bees, screaming in his ears.

“The screaming doesn’t bother me,” said Smith, a Jamaica Queens, N.Y., native. “You reach a point (where) you just want a win for the team.”

Just before the torrential rains that plagued the islands began to pour later in the afternoon, the Marines and Sailors of Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 24 squeezed in their annual field meet at Riseley and Pop Warner Fields, Sept. 11.

The competitions were numerous and each presented its own challenges. Among other events, the squadron coordinated an interdepartmental volleyball game, disassembled and reassembled rifles, flipped tires and raced in a modified combat fitness test just to name a few.

The squadron had already delayed the meet by one week due to inclement weather, though the day of remembrance



Lance Cpl. Jonathon Leogue, a maintenance mechanic with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 24 and a Davie, Fla., native, reassembles a rifle during one of the events.

seemed a much more fitting day, for Sgt. Maj. Christopher House.

“The purpose of the field meet is (to have the) Marines and Sailors in five different departments (on both sides of



Lance Cpl. Hayden Weishahn, a maintenance electrician with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 24, and a Plymouth, Neb., native, receives encouragement from his fellow service members while attempting to flip a tire during one of the events. The object of the event was for individuals in the team to disassemble a rifle at a table, run to a tire and flip it three times back and forth down the field, then run back to the table and reassemble the rifle.

the) flightline stop what they’re doing and come together for a non-work-related event,” the squadron sergeant major said. “It breaks the monotony of just the everyday run. (Even though we rescheduled due to the weather difficulties) it’s great that we had it today on Sept. 11.”

House, a Monroe, N.C., native, and Lt. Col. Robert E. Flannery, the commanding officer of MALS-24, both competed in the events. In addition to tug of war, House competed in “Dizzy Izzy,” a game in which competitors ran to a cone, stood up a bat, held their forehead on the base of the bat while turning 10 times in a circle before running back to their group.

“We got crushed by Avionics (in ultimate Frisbee), so hopefully we’re going to be make it in the pull-up

competition,” Flannery said with a smile.

Flannery competed in ultimate Frisbee and the pull-up competition.

“Enjoying the competition is what energizes the unit,” said Flannery, a Hanover, Pa., native. “It energizes me. That’s what it’s all about.”

House said the teams had mixed ranks, which allowed the higher-ranking service members to show their junior counterparts that regardless of rank, they are still willing to be involved in fun unit activities.

“They greatly appreciate it and they love the interdepartmental competition,” House said.

After the events, the squadron sat down for a barbecue lunch and the winners were announced. The Avionics Department took first place overall, winning the field meet trophy. Smith said the field meet helps the service members meet new people, form relationships and allow all ranks to bond.

“It makes us stronger as a unit,” he said.



Petty Officer 3rd Class Elijah Tucker, an avionics technician with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 24, and Waldport, Ore., native, fireman carries Lance Cpl. Tyler Walls, a calibration technician with MALS-24, and a Dover, Del., native, at Pop Warner Field.



AT EASE

Your weekly dose of non-mandatory fun in Hawaii Marine

As you unwind reading the paper while you eat breakfast in the morning, wait at the doctor’s office or ride the bus home, check out “At Ease” for some stress relief. Look no further for a funny story, a comic or a puzzle. Are you a budding journalist? Do you have some witty stories, movie reviews or insightful columns our base readers might enjoy? Email your submissions to [hawaiimarineeditor@gmail.com](mailto:hawaiimarineeditor@gmail.com). Please keep your submissions approximately 500 words, and make sure to include your first and last name along with a title for your article. Hawaii Marine staff reviews content and edits submissions. No explicit content, graphic language or topics inappropriate for a general audience. If you have any questions, feel free to call 257-8837.

# Sound Off: Will school changes hurt kids in the long run?

**Lisa Smith Molinari**  
*Contributing Writer*

By now, kids are back into the swing of school, reestablishing seats in the cafeteria, slipping prohibited gum paraphernalia into their pockets and whispering in the hallways. But not every kid is skipping off the bus each day.

Military-connected children relocate three times more often than their civilian peers. Thousands of military children in the U.S. and overseas are the “new kids” at school this year.

Although some are excited to be in new schools, many experience stress, fear and sadness. And at one time or another, new kids feel really awkward. Trying to find a seat on the bus, getting lost on the way to science and wondering who — if anyone — will be their new friend.

Although our daughters have generally benefitted from our moving experiences, our son was quirky. Diagnosed with major developmental delays as a toddler, Hayden was not like his peers. With each move, he was received with mixed reactions. In Germany, he became known as a funny character whom everyone wanted to know. In Florida, he was perceived as odd, a reputation he

was unable to shake. He ate lunch alone most days, and made no lasting friendships at school. By the end of our two-year tour, he was showing symptoms of social anxiety, prompting us to seek medical advice.

Mercifully, Hayden became a veritable celebrity at his last school, where students and teachers thought he was hilarious, uniquely talented and academically inclined. His status as the only military kid in his class only made him more interesting to his peers, who gave him a standing ovation on graduation day.

It doesn’t get any better than that.

But, as I found when I put the issue out on social media, every military family has their own story to tell. I read stories from nearly 50 other military families. There was frustration over inconsistent Individualized Education Program accommodations, inability to transfer test scores, decisions to home-school or move the active-duty parent without the rest of the family to minimize the social and academic impact on their kids.

I thought I’d find a general consensus, but instead, I discovered opinions as diverse as the kids themselves:

“Moving was never easy. I spent the

first three months of my new base high school in Germany eating lunch alone in the library and holing up in my bedroom (AOL instant messaging) my old friends from middle school. I reacted better than a lot of kids I know, whose constant moving around caused them to resort to acting out/trying out drugs and alcohol, etc. (However), I’m super grateful for all of the experiences it gave me and all the amazing families we’ve been able to meet. I still want to spend a lot of my young adult life traveling, but as soon as I have kids, I want to be stationary. I don’t want my kids to have to move around, especially in high school.”

- **Emma, former Air Force child, 22**

“(Changing schools) ultimately makes (kids) better able to handle changes life will throw at us all, whether expected and planned or not. They think on their feet better, make strong, lifelong friendships quickly and learn about the importance of community ... ”

- **Ciara, Navy spouse, 40**

“My observation is that younger kids may be more outwardly upset, but adjust very quickly. Older kids seem to take longer to warm up to their new surroundings.”

- **Amy, Army Reserves spouse, 45**

“My husband was a Navy brat and did not enjoy going to school and living with friends that always move, for that reason we never live in military housing and (our kids) attend schools with less military ... It works best for us.”

- **Krystal, Navy spouse, 32**

“(A) lot of how kids handle change in new schools is how the parents handle the new experiences ... They mirror our behavior and can pick up on our stress.”

- **Liz, Army spouse, 43**

“(As a Navy kid) I loved moving around the country because if I had a bad experience at one school, I just had to stick it out a couple of years before we’d move on. I feel that it made me ... able to deal with the stresses of military life. In fact, I’m a little worried when my husband retires and we have to pick a place to live forever!”

- **Karyl, Navy spouse, 39**

Despite the many challenges of changing schools, the good news is that military families are determined to find their own strategy to cope with them. As Army mom, Liz, put it, “Just be there for your kids ... even if it’s just to listen and give a positive word of encouragement.”

[www.themeatandpotatoesoflife.com](http://www.themeatandpotatoesoflife.com)

Created by: GySgt Charles Wolf (ret.)

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YOUR 1stSGT.....!!!!"

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SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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

ANSWER:

"The Man from U.N.C.L.E." PG-13 Today | 6:30 p.m.

"Sinister 2" R Today | 9:15 p.m.

"Mission Impossible: Rogue Nation" PG-13 Saturday | 6:30 p.m.

"Hitman: Agent 47" R Saturday | 9:15 p.m.

"Shaun The Sheep Movie" PG Sunday | 2 p.m.

"Fantastic Four" PG-13 Sunday | 6:30 p.m.

"Sinister 2" R 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. Call 254-7642 for details.



# What can we do for you? NMCRS provides aid

**Rebecca White**

*Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society K-Bay Branch*

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society is a volunteer-based, nonprofit agency focused on helping service members and their families who need basic financial advice or a loan to help resolve an urgent financial need.

**Walk-in services:**

- Loans for Emergency Travel
- Quick Assist Loans (up to \$500)
- Thrift shops (some locations)

**Services by appointment:**

- Budgets
- Quick Assist Loans with a budget
- Quick Assist Loans with a financial fitness plan
- Advice on savings / debt reduction
- Budget for Baby Workshop
- Financial Boot Camp Workshop
- Combat casualty nurse advice
- New baby nurse advice
- Education assistance
- Traditional loans (for essential expenses)
  - Basic living expenses
  - Vehicle expenses
  - Household set-up (security deposit, furniture, etc.)
  - Medical/dental
  - Command-verified pay problems



- Funerals
- Non-dependent parent basic living expenses
- Other expenses

**Services NOT provided**

- Give legal or investment advice
- Loan for legal or court fees
- Give loans for unessential expenses
- Provide new car loans
- Cover most credit card or personal loan payments
- Cover most pet expenses

- Provide consolidation loans or debt management services

**Come see us when:**

- You are in need of financial assistance
- Your life is about to change (promotion, marriage, divorce, new baby, permanent change of station, end of active service, expiration of term of service, etc.)
- You need to travel for a family emergency
- You’re considering taking on debt for essential expenses
- You need a budget or want to figure out how to get out of debt or increase your savings
- You need advice from a nurse regarding combat casualty, new baby or lactation questions/issues

**Help for special circumstances:**

There are exceptions to some of the things NMCRS does not typically do. For instance, NMCRS often covers certain pet expenses for service animals. If your situation is unique, please contact us for more information.

Not sure if we can help you? Call 257-1972 or come by the NMCRS office before you borrow money anywhere else. If it is something the society may be able to help with, we will set up an appointment with a caseworker so you can discuss the specifics of your circumstances.

## Hazard awareness, response class scheduled

The Kaneohe/Kahaluu Hazard Awareness and Response Program is scheduled to hold its first free class Sept. 23 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Key Project in Kahaluu, Hawaii. The Key Project building is located at 47–200 Waihee Road, toward the mountains of the Kahaluu District Park.

The goal of the HARP, a State of Hawaii Emergency Management Agency program, is to help communities prepare to be self-reliant during and after natural hazard events, improve their ability to take care of their own needs and reduce the negative impacts of disasters.

Participants will learn about hazards and what we can do as a community to respond and recover from a disaster.

Learn how to protect your family and to be able to recover with the least disruption to your life. Build resiliency into your life and into your community. For additional information, visit [www.scd.hawaii.gov/hharp.htm](http://www.scd.hawaii.gov/hharp.htm). Reserve your seat today by contacting Bill Sager at [bsager42@gmail.com](mailto:bsager42@gmail.com) or 374-1114.

## ‘SKINNY DRAGONS’ ASSIST IN RESCUE



Petty Officer 2nd Class Devin Menhardt | Patrol Squadron 4

The U.S. Coast Guard, Patrol Squadron 4 and good samaritans aboard the Captain Kenneth, a fishing boat, helped rescue a sailing vessel that was taking on water approximately 300 miles north of the island of Maui, Sept. 9. At around 11:45 a.m., the Honey Cutter, a 36-foot sailing vessel, sent an SOS message stating the vessel had suffered a keel fracture and was taking on water. The Honey Cutter was enroute from Hawaii to San Diego. The Navy’s P-3C Orion arrived on scene and quickly established communications with the distressed vessel. The crew remained overhead for several hours and coordinated the arrival of the Captain Kenneth to the scene. The efforts of the air crew helped ensure a successful meet up and tow with the two boats. The Captain Kenneth arrived and was able to start towing the distressed Honey Cutter at around 11 p.m. No injuries have been reported.





Base resident Leigh Anne Martin (right) speaks to Thaiha Vo-Le, an education and career specialist with the Education Center, while attending the Health, Wellness & Fitness Fair with her son at Mokapu Mall aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Sept. 11. The fair featured representatives from various organizations on and off base, including Tripler Army Medical Center, the Provost Marshal's Office and the Education Center. This was the last event for the 101 Days of Summer Program, which is hosted each year aboard the base to promote fitness and discourage drug and alcohol abuse. Various events throughout the summer included the races from the Commanding Officer's Fitness Series. The Marines and Sailors could earn points for their units by participating in the events, and taking classes offered by the Health Promotion Office.



## 101 DAYS OF SUMMER PROGRAM WRAPS UP WITH HEALTH FAIR



Photos by Kristen Wong | Marine Corps Base Hawaii

**ABOVE:** Members of the U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific Band's Party Band, including Sgt. Dustin Kaiser (front), a MARFORPAC musician, perform during the fair. **LEFT:** Representatives and attendees chat during the fair.



COMMUNITY, BASE BRIEFS/VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Celebrate National Hunting and Fishing Day at Koko Head Public Shooting Complex

Take part in live shooting and fishing activities at the complex Saturday and Sunday at 8102 Kalanianaʻole Highway in Honolulu. The event is free but accepting donations to help the Hawaii Food Bank. For every can of food or dollar donated, families will receive one activity coupon. Activities include trap shooting, cowboy and single action shooting, archery and fish casting contests. There will also be free displays and demonstrations on both days from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For additional information, call 587-0200.

Discover unique local art and food at Honolulu Night Market

The monthly free event is scheduled Saturday from 6 to 11 p.m. at 449 Cooke Street in Honolulu. This month’s theme is Home Coming. Vendors will be offering food, art, music and fashion items for sale. The Cut Collective will also host a free fashion show starting at 8 p.m. For additional information and upcoming dates, see: [www.honolulunightmarket.com](http://www.honolulunightmarket.com).

Find local food and fun at weekly Farmlovers Farmers’ Markets

Choose from a wide selection of fresh produce and local food at the weekly held markets. Entry is free. Each market is held at a different time and location. The Kailua Town Farmers’ Market is held Sundays from 8:30 a.m. to noon at Kailua Elementary School. The Kakaako Farmers’ Market runs Saturdays from 8 a.m. to noon at Ward Warehouse on Auahi Street between Ward and Kamakee streets. For additional information and locations, see: [www.farmloversmarkets.com](http://www.farmloversmarkets.com).

Lunch and learn explores VA benefits

The Veteran Affairs Benefits Office on base is scheduled to host an upcoming Lunch and Learn information session Monday in classroom C of the Education Center. The topic will be “Education Benefits and Transfer of Entitlement.” Bring your own lunch as you learn what benefits you may be eligible for and how to apply. These free sessions are open to all service members, veterans and spouses. The next class is Oct. 14, in classroom C. The topic will be “Disability Claims and Compensation.” For details, contact Kelvin Bradford at 257-9922 or [kelvin.bradford@calibresys.com](mailto:kelvin.bradford@calibresys.com).

Gear up for car, truck and motorcycle show hosted at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam

The Petrolhead Meet & Greet is scheduled for Sept. 27 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Hickam Bowling Cen-

ter parking lot aboard Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Come see what the other troops are driving. Bring out your project car, truck or motorcycle. If interested in displaying your vehicle, email [petrolplatoon@gmail.com](mailto:petrolplatoon@gmail.com).

SM&SP needs volunteers for Special Olympics

The Single Marine & Sailor Program is recruiting volunteers for the Special Olympics Hawaii Bowl-A-Thon Sept. 26 from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Duties include being lane officials for the bowling tournament. Volunteers receive a letter of appreciation and a T-shirt. Sign-up by Sept. 22. For more information, call the SM&SP coordinator at 254-7593.

Moon Festival 2015 launches in Chinatown

This free festival will feature traditional Chinese activities Sept. 25 and 26 at the Chinatown Cultural Plaza in Honolulu. There will be a moon cake eating contest, lantern display and parade. Live entertainment will be on stage for both days. The festival’s opening ceremony will begin Sept. 25 at 5 p.m. and the lantern parade will be Sept. 26 at 8 p.m. The event is annually celebrated in China to mark the end of the autumn harvest season and is traditionally celebrated on the 15th day of the eighth month in the lunar calendar. For additional schedule information, call 533-3181 or see the official Moon Festival Facebook page.

Join in the Lunch Munch cooking series

Register by Oct. 1 to learn to make gluten-free and vegetarian dishes in this class series. The next session is scheduled for Oct. 5, from 12:15 to 12:45 p.m. at Castle Medical Center’s Wellness Center in Kailua. This half-hour cooking demonstration is a quick, convenient and fun way to learn a new recipe during your lunch break. Instructor Eileen Towata cooks up a healthy ratatouille with tofu and accompaniments, with tasty samples and printed recipes provided. The cost is \$8 per person. To register, call the Wellness Center at 263-5050.

Special free Sesame Street show comes to Marine Corps Base Hawaii

The furry, fuzzy and friendly muppets are back for the “The Sesame Street/USO Experience for Military Families.” The free show will have three performances at the Kahuna’s Community Ballroom. There will be two showings Sept. 30 at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. The final performance is Oct. 1 at 6 p.m. Elmo and his Sesame Street companions will be in this special performance about moving to a new home.

The show features new muppet, Katie, a military kid on Sesame Street who is relocating to a new base. This live production is free for military families and their children and includes a mini-show and giveaways. Doors open 30 minutes prior to the scheduled performance and audiences are welcome to early seating. For more information about the shows, call 254-7502.

Students invited to join program

Through the White House’s new Every Kid in a Park program, fourth grade students can now visit [www.everykidinapark.gov](http://www.everykidinapark.gov), complete an activity and obtain a free annual entry pass to more than 2,000 federal recreation areas nationwide. In Hawaii, the fourth-grade students’ free annual pass covers entrance fees at Haleakala National Park, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park and Puuhonua O Honaunau National Historical Park. The World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument does not charge an entrance fee.

The pass is valid through Aug. 31, 2016. Teachers can contact [valr\\_education@nps.gov](mailto:valr_education@nps.gov) for more information about the program and to schedule class field trips.