

# 205th MI competes for Best Warrior Competition

**SGT. SHAMEEKA R. STANLEY**  
500th Military Intelligence Brigade  
Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER — After a week of mental and physical challenges, noncommissioned officers and Soldiers assigned to 205th Military Intelligence Battalion, 500th MI Brigade-Theater, gave their all as they competed and battled it out to be the No. 1 in the battalion's Best Warrior Competition, or BWC, here, Feb. 1-9.

The competition had a total of eight competitors – five NCOs and four Soldiers – competing to be titled the Best Warrior winners.

Sgt. Jennifer Reeves and Spc. Brady Rogotzke, both assigned to B Company, came out on top. They were announced the 205th MI Bn. BWC winners during an award ceremony held at Richardson Theater, here, Feb. 12.

Reeves, a signals intelligence analyst and a Floral City, Florida, native, was excited over the announcement.

“I feel great! I feel like all of the competitors pushed themselves really hard. We all wanted to win. I’m just happy that I was able to win,” said Reeves. “I trained and went to the gym six to seven days a week after physical training, even on the weekends. I made sure to study.”

The seven-day competition began with the Army Physical Fitness Test, or APFT, which consisted of push-ups, sit-ups and a 2-mile run. The three events measured Soldiers’ physical abilities through strength, endurance and cardio.

As the competitors continued the weeklong competition, they competed in a whirlwind of situational training and endurance-based events at a rapid pace.

All competitors participated in a variety of events from a land and night navigation, an obstacle course, a mystery event, a 12-mile ruck march, a stress shoot, combatives, a gas chamber, an M-4 rifle disassembly and reassembly, an essay and a board appearance.

The events came in mostly rapid succession with a bit of chow or a night’s rest in between them. Every event in the competition was designed and executed in a way that kept the competitors challenged, as their mental and physical determination pushed them through each event.

Rogotzke, a signals intelligence analyst and an Owatonna, Minnesota, native, had the mindset that as long as he gave his best efforts, he would be content with the outcome.

“It was tough; it was a lot of competition throughout the whole thing, which I expected,” said Rogotzke. “If I felt myself getting tired, I had to keep going. I knew if I stopped, whether I was rucking or running, someone could catch me. ... I just kept going; otherwise, I could lose that potential first place.”

Although Reeves and Rogotzke didn’t win first place in every event, they were able to consistently push their way



Photos by Spc. Oscar Duhe, Unit Public Affairs Representative  
**A Soldier assigned to 205th MI Bn., 500th MI Bde.-Theater low crawls during an obstacle course event as he competes in the battalion’s Best Warrior Competition on Schofield Barracks, Feb. 5.**



**Sgt. Jennifer Reeves, a signals intelligence analyst assigned to B Co. 205th MI Bn., 500th MI Bde.-Theater makes her way across the bars during the battalion’s Best Warrior Competition, Feb. 5.**



**Soldiers assigned to 205th MI Bn., 500th MI Bde.-Theater are tested on their combat lifesaver skills during a mystery event compiled of several different stations as they compete in the battalion’s Best Warrior Competition on Schofield Barracks, Feb. 6.**

Peterson, operations NCO, 205th MI Bn, were very influential to the Reeves and Rogotzke success in the competition.

Peterson, the sponsor for Reeves and Rogotzke, encouraged them to keep their head in the game and not give up during the competition.

He said, “As long as you want it, you can do a lot. They both wanted it.”

Peterson added, “I take it personally; they reflect who I am. I am happy for them.”

Reeves and Rogotzke will move up to the brigade level BWC in hopes of winning and moving on to the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command BWC, and then possibly to the Department of the Army competition.

through to the No. 1 spot.

Staff Sgt. Lin Hong, security operations NCO in charge, and Staff Sgt. Paul M.

# Pacific Culinary Champions showcase excellence in 50th Connelly

**1ST LT. JOSEPH WAY**

8th Theater Sustainment Command

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — It is 4:30 a.m., and the only sound is that of generators running in the distance.

Security is set while noise and light discipline is in effect.

Approaching the entry control point, we are greeted with an access challenge by a Soldier from the 95th Clearance Company, 84th Engineer Battalion, 130th Eng. Brigade pulling security.

Moving forward, the sound of the generators becomes more prevalent, the outline of camouflage screening systems slowly become visible, and the smell of fresh breakfast sausages fills the air.

This is the Philip A. Connelly Competition.

The awards program was established March 23, 1968. The program is named for the late Philip A. Connelly, former president of the International Food Service Executives Association (IFSEA).

Conducted on an annual basis, the Joint Culinary Center of Excellence administers the annual Philip A. Connelly Program in both field and garrison environments. At its core, the competition celebrates culinary excellence through the recognition of food service programs. At the unit level, the competition also presents a perfect opportunity to conduct training, ensuring culinary specialists are prepared to answer the nation’s call.

“The Connelly allowed us to showcase the best of our readiness, to transition from a hastily prepared field kitchen in an austere environment to a fully built-up dining experience for the warfighter,” said Capt. Nicholas S. Caito, commander, Forward Support Company.

“For the (Forward Spt.) Co., it was more than just a competition. It was a training event for us to refine our edge to the best possible degree with field feeding, to let us know how capable and ready we are to deploy anywhere, anytime to support the mission.”

Having won the U.S. Army-Pacific-level nomination by defeating teams from across Hawaii; Alaska; Joint Base-Lewis-McChord, Washington; Japan; and the Republic of Korea in September, the 84th Eng. Bn. is one of only four remaining units competing in the

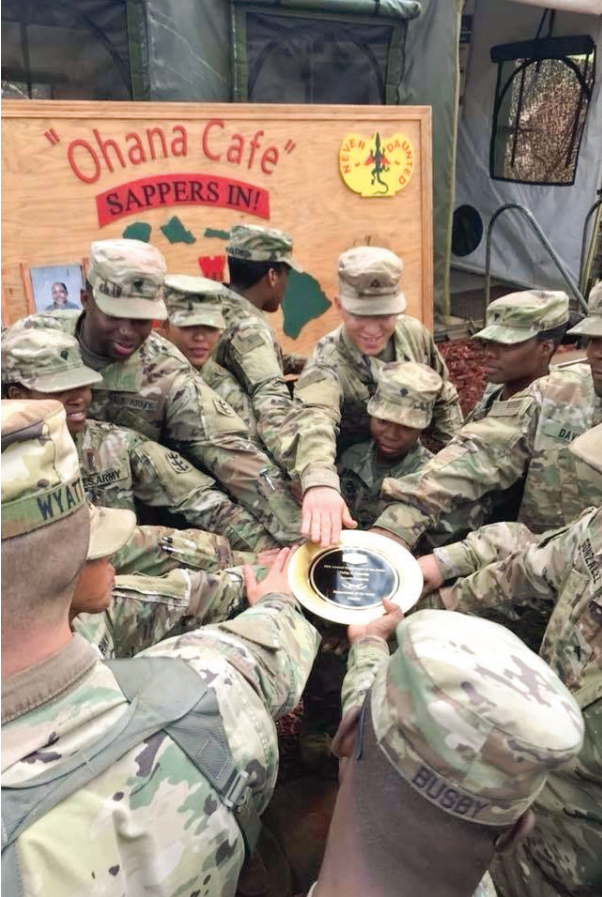


Photo by Capt. John Howard, 8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs

Department of the Army active duty Field Category Competition. The team has participated in multiple levels of evaluations to get to this point. The competition is multilevel, starting at the lowest echelon, which for most units consists of evaluations from brigade all the way to a major Army command level.

“We began competing in the Philip A. Connelly Competition in July of 2017. For more than half of our team, it was their first field Connelly. The planning, coordination and execution has been exhausting,

**Left — Soldiers of the Forward Support Company, 84th Eng. Bn., the USARPAC winners of the Philip A. Connelly award, celebrate with the Gold Plate awarded to them by evaluators for making it to the Department of the Army level competition.**

yet extremely rewarding on both a personnel and professional level,” said Staff Sgt. Francine Talley, the Field Feeding Team (FFT) noncommissioned officer in charge.

“Being competitive calls for extensive planning, resourcing and command support for roughly half a year. Our battalion provided all the necessary equipment and personnel for the competition. The support, assistance and mentorship we received allowed our team to focus on perfecting an immaculate product,” said Talley.

The command support not only allows the FFT to train, but sets the stage for a battalion-wide training exercise.

“At the battalion level, we are able to train in multiple mission essential tasks across our formations. For example, our 95th Clearance Company was able to use this opportunity to conduct route clearance, general engineering support and area defense training. The competition is a battalion effort. We take care of the little things, so the FFT can focus on culinary excellence,” said Lt. Col. Michael A. Busby, commander, 84th Eng. Bn.

Possibly the most important aspect of the competition, one that is easily overlooked, given its scale, is the opportunity to serve hard-working Soldiers excellent food. Taking care of Soldiers is what a 92G culinary specialist does, day in and day out.

Whether in a field or garrison environment, the Army’s culinary specialists are up first and asleep last, preparing the meals that fuel our nation’s warfighters. Their legacy is the impact they have on Soldiers, because as we in the Army know, there is nothing quite like waking up and smelling the sausage.

Winners will be announced at the National Restaurant Association Show later this year in Chicago.





Vol. 47, No. 8

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25TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Capt. John Rhoten has been named the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS) 2018 Mentor of the Year.

Rhoten, an intelligence officer in the 25th Infantry Division's G2, will be recognized for his volunteer service on behalf of the surviving children of fallen members of the Armed Forces at a TAPS Honor Guard Luncheon, March 6, in Washington, D.C.

"I continue to volunteer because it's a passion," Rhoten said. "We, as military members, still care about them and still think of them as part of the military family."

TAPS hosts events throughout the country that give many opportunities for survivors to attend: TAPS National Military Survivor Seminar and Good Grief Camp; the National Military Suicide Survivor Seminar and Good Grief Camp; TAPS Regional Survivor Seminars and Good Grief Camps; and TAPS Retreats for surviving spouses, parents, adult children and siblings.

Rhoten has been a TAPS mentor since 2011 after he returned from an Afghanistan deployment.

"We lost four guys in our platoon and (received) 25 Purple Hearts," he said. "One of my Soldiers that was killed had two daughters, and my best friend's fiancé had a daughter."

The time after his deployment was tough, he said, because of the unit's losses. After learning to cope with the loss, Rhoten said he was in a "good place" and wanted to help others deal with loss.

"I do it as a way of paying it forward. If anything were to happen to me, I know there are people there that would help take care of my family."

Rhoten is now a TAPS group leader and a role model to other TAPS military mentors. He also has support from his family; he's married with children of his own. His wife is a teacher and has also been around children who have lost parents while serving their country.

"My wife realized that interacting with Gold Star Families is important volunteer work for me, and she understands that TAPS has provided me a median to be a mentor



Capt. John Rhoten high-fives another participant during the National Military Survivors Seminar in Washington, D.C., Memorial Day 2017.



Capt. John Rhoten (center), 25th Infantry Division, speaks with Gen. Joseph Dunford (right), chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, during a TAPS event in May 2017.

Capra at a TAPS Good Grief Camp and who remained his mentor from 2012 to 2014.

Capra's father, Air Force Tech. Sgt. Anthony Capra, died in April 2008 in Iraq.

Mark Capra said, "Children need to know that it is OK to have the feelings that they have, to reinforce that their loved one's service mattered and that they will never be forgotten. We owe that to our fellow Soldiers."

Today, Capra is a college student who is paying it forward by also serving as a mentor to other children who have lost a loved one in the military.

Meanwhile, being named TAPS Mentor of the Year is a bonus, Rhoten said, but it's not his reason for volunteering.

"If I didn't have bills to pay, I'd do this for a living," he explained.

He is also humbled, and said TAPS has many accomplished volunteers.

"I think there are so many other great mentors out there that are deserving, and I'm really at a loss of words."

(Editor's note: TAPS contributed to this article.)

# UH Army ROTC prepares for capstone event

Story and photos by  
Cadet Capt. Brock Balmoja  
Army ROTC Program  
University of Hawaii at Manoa

EAST RANGE — Most college students will tell you that their Saturdays are reserved for sleep and relaxation.

That is not the case for the cadets of the University of Hawaii Army ROTC Warrior Battalion.

On a recent Saturday, the cadets awoke early to go to the East Range training area in Wahiawa. Over the next 14 hours, they would be tested in marksmanship and land navigation at the Warrior Bn.'s Super Saturday Lab.

This training event prepares Military Science III cadets for their ROTC capstone event "Advanced Camp." During the summer of their junior year, cadets will spend a month at Fort Knox, Kentucky, where they will be pushed to their mental and



Cadet Raysa Ruiz aims to shoot during Basic Rifle Marksmanship Qualification.

physical limits and will have to demonstrate high levels of proficiency in marksmanship, land navigation, standardized testing, timed ruck marching and tactical operations in a series of field training exercises.



Cadets Taten Wilcox and Stephanie Rivera confirm their location during the day land navigation course.

MSIV cadets (undergrad seniors or masters students), with the guidance and coaching of military instructors, plan and execute a variety of training and community service events. The Super Saturday is one that required over two months of planning and refinement.

Cadet Carlos Bernal, the Cadet Bn. executive officer, stated, "We owe it to (the cadets) to give them the best training possible."

Other MSIV cadets that planned the training echoed this sentiment and stated they believe this will give them an advantage in the future.

For many progression cadets, who have no prior military experience, this was the first time they had ever fired a weapon. For some, it was the first time they were assessed on their marksmanship. Regardless of their ability, the opportunity for these cadets to get some time on the range and familiarize themselves with the fundamentals of marksmanship was invaluable.

Staff Sgt. Paulo Napoles, UH ROTC cadre, stated, "The most important thing is for them to get a good group and zero. Practicing the fundamentals is what is going to make them better marksmen."

Additionally, MSIV Warriors

will vouch for the importance of land navigation at Advanced Camp. Other than being a separately graded event, a platoon leader's ability to read a map and articulate how they are going to travel to their objective will determine whether or not they will accomplish their mission.

The Warrior Bn. takes a very simple stance on how to improve their cadets' performance in the field – "practice makes perfect."

Like basic rifle marksmanship, the day and night land navigation courses that the Warriors completed were just as challenging. For many of the MSI and MSII cadets (traditionally freshman and sophomores), this would be the first time they would receive a map and compass, and be told to go find their points alone in the woodland at night.

The cadets traversed several miles of wilderness while completing these courses, and they would all agree in saying that they gained a tremendous amount of confidence being able to find their way in the woods, alone in the dark at night.

The UH ROTC Warrior Bn. enjoyed a tremendously successful day of training, thanks to the MSIV cadets, UH ROTC cadre and the incredible support of 3rd Brigade Combat Team; Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Bn., 27th Inf. Regiment, 2nd Infantry BCT; and the 524th Combat Sustainment Support Bn., 25th Sust. Bde. – all part of the 25th Inf. Division.

# Voices of Ohana

Because March is National Nutrition Month, we wondered, "If you had to replace a junk food item, what would it be and what would you replace it with?"

By U.S. Army Health Clinic-Schofield Barracks Public Affairs



"I would like to cut out the sweet pastry breakfast foods we tend to share and eat at Logistics. I can eat a banana and a granola bar to go with my coffee in the morning."

**Shawn Jenkinson**  
Medical logistics technician  
USAHC-SB



"If I had to give up one unhealthy food, it would have to be pizza rolls, and my healthy option, I would replace them with would be frozen grapes."

**Pfc. Cody Kedroski**  
Troop Immunizations Clinic



"The junk food I would like to get rid of is fast food. I would like to replace it with baked chicken and salad."

**Staff Sgt. Jeremy Michael**  
Operations NCO  
USAHC-SB



"I am actually a competitive weightlifter who weighs and measures all of my food. No room for junk!"

**Staff Sgt. Remy Roe**  
2IBCT Soldier  
Centered Medical Home NCO  
USAHC-SB



"I would take out cookies/cakes. What I would replace it with: two-ingredient cookies (2 mashed bananas, 2 cups of oats, add peanut butter, if desired) or Greek yogurt with ... cocoa powder ... peanut butter and ... fruit."

**1st Lt. Jessica Teachout**  
Outpatient Nutrition Services  
USAHC-SB



# Army Reserve answers first call for disaster relief

**9TH MISSION SUPPORT COMMAND**  
Public Affairs

PAGO PAGO, American Samoa — When disaster strikes at home, who answers the call to clean up and rebuild?

After a destructive storm struck, here, recently, Army Reserve forces took immediate action. In concert and coordination with various federal, state, local, interagency and non-governmental organization partners, Army Reservists transported Federal Emergency Management Agency and American Red Cross relief supplies and equipment to support their fellow citizens following the destructive path of Tropical Cyclone Gita across the island of American Samoa, Feb. 11-16.

More than 300 U.S. Army Reservists reside and work in American Samoa.

**Helping Americans**

“We are part of this community. We are members of the community, and it is ours to protect,” said Army Lt. Col. Clinton C. Seybold, commander of the American Samoa Detachment. “We are very proud to be here to



Photo by 1st Sgt. Crista Mack, 9th Mission Support Command

help the American people. ... The people of American Samoa are American people.”

The Army Reserve is using its Pago Pago facility as a staging base for federal agencies to operate out of as they conduct their recovery operations.

“It’s very convenient for federal assets,” Seybold said.

**Left — U.S. Army Reserve Staff Sgt. Faiupu Tagaleoo, Theater Support Group, 9th Mission Support Command, assists FEMA personnel with receipt of supplies to support Defense Support of Civil Authority operations in American Samoa in response to Tropical Storm Gita. The 9th MSC based out of Fort Shafter Flats has provided ongoing support for relief operations since Feb. 11.**

“It has been designated the federal team staging facility for the military personnel. Part of the federal response, they come check in with us, and if need be, we house them.”

An emergency declaration made by Samoa’s governor, Lolo Matalasi Moliga, and approved by President Donald J. Trump, allowed aid to be distributed to the island territory.

As the island rebuilds, American Samoa’s Army Reservists will continue to work providing capabilities that support their communities, families and neighbors.

“We are here to answer the call wherever we are needed,” Seybold said. “It just so happened this time we were needed at home.”

# DCE-Hawaii responds to Tropical Storm Gita in Samoa

**MAJ. LINDSEY ELDER**  
8th Theater Sustainment Command  
Public Affairs

PAGO PAGO, American Samoa — Personnel and relief supplies requested by the Government of American Samoa began arriving in the capital of Pago Pago, Feb. 12 and 14.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency provided tents, cots, tarpaulins, clean-up materials and medical supplies to aid those who suffered damage from Tropical Storm Gita.

The storm caused widespread damage to parts of Samoa and American Samoa, with flooding and power outages also reported. Assessments of the damage caused by Gita are still ongoing, but already a local fruit shortage is reported because of the damage to crops.

Part of making relief missions possible is the expertise and coordination efforts of the Defense Coordination Element-Hawaii (DCE), which has been on the clock to assist since the activation in anticipation of the storm’s landfall on Feb. 10.

The governor of American Samoa declared a state of emergency, and the President of the United States signed a Federal Declaration of Emergency on

Feb. 11.

“The role of the DCE in an event like this is to coordinate DOD capabilities as requested by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Government of American Samoa,” said Col. Greg Anderson, the defense coordinating officer.

“We train on a regular basis with American Samoa Department of Homeland Security, our Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officers, U.S. Pacific Command and its service components in the region in order to be ready for this kind of emergency,” said Anderson.

The Indo-Asia-Pacific remains the most natural-disaster-prone region of the world. As such, teams like the DCE are essential for supporting the rapid response needs of the region.

Composed of nine service members and civilians, once activated in support of natural or manmade incidents, the U.S. Army-Pacific Defense Coordinating Element enables Defense Support of Civil Authorities (DSCA) operations through responsive synchronized coordination of Title 10 forces and resources. This supports the Primary Federal Agency (PFA) in the incident order to minimize impacts to the American people,

infrastructure and environment in the State of Hawaii, Territory of American Samoa and U.S. possessions in the Central Pacific.

The team falls under the 8th Theater Sustainment Command and operates from Fort Shafter.

In response to Tropical Storm Gita, the team activated eight service component Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officers (ELPOs) to support operations in both American Samoa and Honolulu.

In concert and coordination with FEMA and other various federal, state, local, interagency and non-governmental organization partners, the DCE helps coordinate the right level of Department of Defense support to the right place for the impacted community.

In the case of American Samoa, this community also included more than 300 U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers and their families.

“A rapid onset of this kind of emergency is fairly typical of American Samoa during storm season. Fast action by our Sea EPLO generated two flights from the Fleet Logistics Squadron, which deployed the majority of FEMA’s Incident Management Assessment Team and Essential Support Function

personnel within 72 hours,” said Lt. Col Douglas Richter, the Deputy Defense Coordinating Officer.

“Our Air EPLOs coordinated with U.S Pacific Air Forces and Air Mobility Command to generate additional flight missions carrying materials-handling equipment materials-handling equipment and relief supplies within five days of the storm,” Richter added.

“The DCE coordinated with the 84th Engineer Battalion, 130th Eng. Brigade for two separate ground movements of tents, cots, tarps and other items, to fill a third C-17 flight on Feb. 20. The overall success of the effort highlights joint service coordination,” he explained.

Sgt. 1st Class Joe Huffman Jr. was among three DCE coordinators to deploy to American Samoa, and as his first activation with the team, he was greatly impressed with the readiness and resiliency demonstrated by the citizens, and how much this event will help in the future readiness for the DCE.

“Seeing it all come together was great; the people were very grateful. One of the first missions we assisted with was getting thousands of gallons of water to one of the town’s tanks that was heavily impacted by the storm,” Huffman said.



WRAPPING UP COBRA GOLD 18

U.S. Army Soldiers with Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, board a CH-47 Chinook to participate in a Combined Arms Live-Fire Exercise during Cobra Gold 18, Feb. 23.

The CALFEX is the culminating event for Cobra Gold 18. The exercise, now in its 37th iteration, is designed to advance regional security and ensure effective responses to regional crisis by bringing together a robust multinational force to address shared goals and security commitments in the Indo-Pacific region.

Exercise Cobra Gold 2018 is an annual exercise conducted in the Kingdom of Thailand held from Feb. 13-23 with seven full participating nations.



U.S. Army photos by Staff Sgt. Justin Silvers



U.S. Army Soldiers with Alpha Co., 1st Bn., 21st Inf. Regt., 2nd IBCT, 25th ID, fly out in a CH-47 Chinook to take part in a CALFEX during Exercise Cobra Gold, Feb. 23.



U.S. Army Maj. Desmond R. Jack, executive officer with 1st Bn., 21st Inf. Regt., 2nd IBCT, 25th ID, applies camouflage in preparation for a CALFEX, Feb. 23, at Camp Friendship in Korat, Kingdom of Thailand.

Thai, U.S. service members visit nursing home in Korat

Story and photos by  
**MARINE CORPS LANCE CPL.  
ANDREW JONES**  
III Marine Expeditionary Force

KORAT, Thailand — U.S. and Thai service members who are participants in Cobra Gold 18 at Camp Friendship and Korat Air Force Base, here, spent their morning presenting flowers, singing and dancing with residents of a nursing home, Feb. 14.

Service members in attendance were U.S. Soldiers with 2nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division; U.S. Sailors with Marine Wing Support Squadron 171; U.S. Marines with Marine Aircraft Group 36; and Airmen from Wing 1, Wing 6 and Headquarters, Royal Thai Air Force.

The visit brought smiles to the faces of the elderly, as well as the service members. It bridged the gap between cultures, ages, branches of the military and the two countries.

“I wasn’t sure exactly what to expect,” said U.S. Navy Lt. Andrew Forester, the command chaplain for Marine Wing Support Squadron 171. “Their energy, hospitality and their warmth made it so that we were the ones who benefited from this exchange.



U.S. Army Pfc. Christopher Wilson dances with a resident of Tam Ma Pa Korn (Watmuang) nursing home during Exercise Cobra Gold 2018 in Korat, Kingdom of Thailand, Feb. 14. Wilson is a religious affairs specialist with 2nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, and he’s a native of Fayetteville, North Carolina.

“It is great to see people who have lived a lot of life, but still have a lot of life in them,” Forester continued. “I think it is easy for service members to lose sight of the long range and what life is all about, and to see people who have figured out

how to be joyful and happy and to enjoy what they have, it’s pretty fantastic.”

Humanitarian civic assistant programs conducted during Cobra Gold 18 demonstrate a mutual commitment to the humanitarian interest of friends and partner



Royal Thai Air Force Flying Officer Pak-orn Pisitsart hugs a resident of Tam Ma Pa Korn (Watmuang) nursing home during Exercise Cobra Gold 2018 in Korat, Kingdom of Thailand, Feb. 14.

nations, and aim to improve the quality of life and the general health and welfare of civilian residents in the exercise areas.

“Community relations events show that we are not just interested in training with their military, but also that we are interested in making genuine contributions to the welfare of their country and increasing the positive relationships developed during the exercise,” said Forester.

Throughout the exercise, more community relations events like this are scheduled to take place.



# New building result of Cobra Gold partnership

Story and photos by  
**ARMY STAFF SGT. JUSTIN SILVERS**  
III Marine Expeditionary Force

KORAT, Thailand — Military service members from the Kingdom of Thailand, the United States and China, plus school educators and members of the local community gathered together to see the official opening of a newly constructed building during a ceremony, here, Feb. 22.

The multipurpose building was built at Nonghipadungkitwittaya School during Exercise Cobra Gold 2018.

Cobra Gold 18 maintains a consistent focus on humanitarian civic assistance, community engagement and medical activities conducted during the exercise to support the needs and humanitarian interests of civilian populations around the region.

The building was constructed by Royal Thai Army Soldiers from the 3rd Engineer Battalion, 3rd Infantry Division.

U.S. Army Soldiers from the 411th Eng. Bn., 9th Mission Support Command, and Chinese Peoples Liberation Army Soldiers from the 74th Group Army, helped with one of six Engineering Civic Assistance Projects during the exercise. The building is planned to be used for student education as well as other community activities.

The ceremony began with groups of students from Nonghipadungkitwittaya School performing dances on stage called Kissadapiniharn and Chab Krab. Following the dances, the students presented silk scarves to commanders and service members as a gesture welcoming them to the Kingdom of Thailand.

After being presented the scarves, service members from the Royal Thai Army, the U.S. Army, the People’s Liberation Army and the director of the Office of Nakhonratchasima Primary-Educational Service Area 3 spoke to the community and service members in attendance.

U.S. Army Lt. Col. Henry L. Tennant, commander of the 411th Eng. Bn., spoke on behalf of U.S. Army engineers involved in the project.

“It is an honor to be here today, to express (our) gratitude for sharing time with us today at this dedication ceremony,” said Tennant. “There was a great deal of camaraderie during the construction – the locals, the Royal Thai Army, the U.S. Army and the People’s Liberation Army



**Service members from the Kingdom of Thailand, the U.S., China and a Buddhist monk stand before a newly constructed, multi-purpose building, Feb. 22, during a ceremony in Korat, Kingdom of Thailand. The building was constructed at Nonghipadungkitwittaya School and was officially opened during the ceremony.**



working together to complete the same goal, this memorable building.

“They worked side by side as they learned and exchanged ideas and techniques. They laughed, joked and really

got to bond with each other. This experience will always be embedded in their minds and hearts, and I hope you all feel the same way. We don’t want to say this is a goodbye, but rather as the beginning of

**Left — U.S. Army Lt. Col. Henry L. Tennant, commander of the 411th Engineer Battalion, and a student from Nonghipadungkitwittaya School, prepare to pile soil over a tree at as part of a ceremony, Feb. 22, in Korat, Kingdom of Thailand.**

a beautiful relationship.” Following their speeches, Tennant and other commanders in attendance toured the building, while Phratham Worranayok, provincial primate adviser of Nakhon Ratchasima and Buddhist monk, blessed the building. Upon exiting the building, commanders stopped at designated trees in front of the multipurpose building and together with students, helped pour soil over the trees. The ceremony concluded with the unveiling of the building’s sign, officially opening the building up to the community. Exercise Cobra Gold 2018 is an annual exercise conducted in the Kingdom of Thailand held from Feb. 13-23 with seven full participating nations.



# BMW opens training facility on military base

## Pilot program provides path to civilian careers

**MICHAEL BORMANN**  
Transition Services Manager  
Directorate of Human Resources  
U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Two Schofield Barracks Soldiers are among a group of nine service members enrolled in the first technician training facility opened by a premium automotive manufacturer on a U.S. military base.

BMW of North America opened the facility, in partnership with the Universal Technical Institute, on Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton in California.

Camp Pendleton began hosting the pilot program for transitioning military service members on Feb. 26.

The BMW Military Service Technician Education Program (MSTEP) will provide new career opportunities for service members transitioning from military

service to civilian life. Created by BMW of North America, LLC, in partnership with Universal Technical Institute, this is the first time a premium automotive brand has opened a workshop and training program for military service members directly on a U.S. military base.

“BMW is honored to be working with the Marine Corps and helping provide service members with great professional opportunities to support their transition to civilian life,” said Bernard Kuhnt, president and CEO of BMW of North America. “The skillset these men and women will bring to our dealerships is invaluable.

“Aside from their unwavering team spirit and discipline, many are already highly specialized in some of the most sophisticated technologies, giving them all the right foundations for a successful automotive career. It is now our turn to serve them with MSTEP.”

The 16-week, BMW-specific, technical

education program features a specialized on-base curriculum and hours of hands-on technical training in a workshop setting. Students receive training on diagnostic paths and service technologies unique to the BMW brand.

The program opens the door for transitioning service members to a promising future with the brand. Upon graduation, BMW assists the new technicians with employment at authorized U.S. dealers. There are currently more than 14,000 BMW technicians across the network, and more are needed every year, especially those trained by the company itself.

“We are proud to host this unique transition opportunity for our service members,” stated Brig. Gen. Kevin J. Killea, the commanding general for Marine Corps Installations West-Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton.

“Programs such as MSTEP help our transitioning service members prepare for a successful career outside of the

military, and we are excited to see them progress through the program and find employment as BMW technicians.”

BMW STEP is the most comprehensive BMW technician development program in North America, taught in nine locations across the country, producing graduates that are preferred by dealers nationwide. The program chooses the finest talent from post-secondary automotive training and colleges.

More than 3,500 STEP technicians have graduated from the program to date and represent part of the current BMW network technician total.

Because of the growing demand for qualified candidates, the company plans to increase the number of STEP students it graduates every year from almost 450 in 2018 to about 800 graduates in 2020.

BMW is furthering its efforts to sourcing the critical technician talent it needs while helping provide promising career opportunities for those who are looking.



**12 / Monday**  
**Sgt. Smith Theater** — Effective March 12-Oct. 31, the Sgt. E.R. Smith Theater will be closed for renovation.

Contractor Anderson Burton, in conjunction with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, will assume control of the building. The entirety of the building interior will be an active construction zone.

Temporary closures of the pedestrian pathway in front of the theater are also anticipated. Due to the hazards associated with construction activities, access to the building can only be granted by Anderson Burton personnel. Appropriate signage will be posted.

## Ongoing

**Scholarship** — Active duty service members, veterans and spouses are eligible to apply to be a 2018 Tillman Scholar and possibly receive an average of \$10,000, per academic year, to be used for tuition, books and living expenses.

For more information, visit [pattillmanfoundation.org/apply-to-be-a-scholar/](http://pattillmanfoundation.org/apply-to-be-a-scholar/).

**Prescriptions** — Did you know that the post pharmacy will take back your expired prescriptions free of charge? Pick up an envelope at the pharmacy for disposal. Call 433-8421 or 433-8425 for more information.

**Fingerprinting** — Digital fingerprinting services are available, weekdays, at the locations and times following.

- Schofield Barracks: Installation Security Office, Bldg. 580, Rm. 130, 9 a.m.-noon and 1-3 p.m. Service is for military, civilians and contractors for clearances. Call 655-8879/1493/9438.

- Fort Shafter: Provost Marshal Office, Bldg. T118, 8:30-11 a.m. and 1-2:30 p.m. (Tuesdays and Thursdays). Service is for military, civilian and contractor clearances, NAF and volunteers. Call 438-8001/1092.

**Text Aloha** — Feeling lonely? Angry? Just need to talk to someone? Call 1-800-273-TALK or 1-800-273-8255,or text “Aloha” to 741741, or visit [crisistextline.org](http://crisistextline.org).

**Battlefield 2 Ballroom** — This organization connects veterans and ballroom dancing in the fight to treat post-traumatic stress disorder, or PTSD, and traumatic brain injury, or TBI. Find out more details. Visit [battlefield2ballroom.org](http://battlefield2ballroom.org).

**Blended Retirement** — Active duty service members with fewer than 12 years of service as of Dec. 31, 2017, and Reserve component service members with less than 4,320 points will have until Dec. 31, 2018, to decide to remain in the current system or opt into the Blended Retirement System.

Mandatory training is available via Joint Knowledge Online at <http://jko.jten.mil/courses/BRS/.html> and via Military OneSource at [militaryonesource.mil/web/mos/-/retirement-planning-the-essentials](http://militaryonesource.mil/web/mos/-/retirement-planning-the-essentials). Both sites assist eligible

Soldiers with the decision to either opt-in or continue with a legacy retirement system.

**Mumps** — During the past 10 months, hundreds of cases of mumps have been confirmed throughout the state of Hawaii.

What is mumps? It’s a contagious disease caused by a virus. It typically starts with a few days of fever, headache, muscle aches, tiredness and loss of appetite, followed by swollen salivary glands.

It is easily spread through coughing, sneezing, sharing cups or utensils, and by touching objects handled by infected individuals.

The U.S. Army Health Clinic-Schofield Barracks is ready to provide free MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) booster shots to help keep you vaccinated against the outbreak. Just walk in to the Immunization Clinic during normal clinic hours.

Learn more about mumps at <https://www.cdc.gov/mumps/outbreaks/>.

**Recycling** — Residents and workers are asked to not dump large items on the outside of dumpsters. Unfortunately, items such as barbecue grills, plywood and bed mattresses have been discarded outside dumpsters, particularly near the southside of Bldg. 310, by the Wheeler Army Airfield dog park. Please help U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii maintain a clean and safe environment around our facilities.

**Soldier Support Center** — The Military Personnel Division’s Soldier Support Center, Bldg. 750, at 673 Ayres Ave., has begun closing on Thursday afternoons for training,

system maintenance and administrative transaction processing. Regular hours on Thursdays are from 7:30 a.m.-noon.

Emergency services will remain available in every section, and this timeframe does not impact Casualty Operations or scheduling for Soldier Readiness Process events at the Conroy Bowl.

**Dental Clinic** — The Tripler dental clinic has moved to Fort Shafter. It’s now located at Bldg. 339, Montgomery Road, Fort Shafter. Soldiers may schedule an appointment by calling 438-5554 or 433-5555. Here are office hours:

- 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. on Monday.
- 7:15 a.m.-4:15 p.m., Tuesday through Friday
- Sick call hours are 9-10:30 a.m., Monday through Friday.

**Cellphones** — A new city ordinance makes it illegal to look at a cellphone or other electronic device while crossing a street or highway on Oahu. Read about this new law at [www.hawaiiarmyweekly.com/2017/10/26/cellphone-safety-bill-now-in-effect/](http://www.hawaiiarmyweekly.com/2017/10/26/cellphone-safety-bill-now-in-effect/).

**Text 911** — New technology has really improved emergency response. If you cannot provide a telephone call to 911, now you can use your cellphone! Visit [hawaiiextto911.com](http://hawaiiextto911.com).

**DCCA** — As part of its outreach to protect consumers across the state of Hawaii, the Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs has produced a guide for members of the military and their families. The guide is available at <http://cca.hawaii.gov/militaryconsumer/>.



*(Note: Times and locations of outages are a best guess. Field conditions may extend the locations and time needed.)*

**13 / Tuesday**  
**Power Outage** — Wheeler Army Airfield and Wiliwili Housing Area will experience a scheduled power outage on from 7:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. The locations and times of the outage may change due to field conditions. The outage is required to support a 25th Combat Aviation Brigade project and provide a back-up feed for housing.

## Ongoing

**Schofield Road Closures** — Full road closures will occur at the intersection of McCornack Road and Waianae Avenue for a traffic signal installation. The four legs of the intersection will be closed in two-week durations through April 20. The work will be performed in four phases.

- Phase I will occupy the west side of the intersection along McCornack Road from Feb. 26-March 9; there will be no through traffic on McCornack with through traffic permitted on Waianae Avenue.

- Phase II will occupy the north side of the intersection along Waianae from March 26-April 6; there will be no through traffic on Waianae with through traffic permitted on McCornack.

- Phase III will occupy the east side of the intersection along McCornack

from April 9-20; there will be no through traffic on McCornack with through traffic permitted on Waianae.

- Phase IV will occupy the south side of the intersection on Waianae from March 12-23; there will be no through traffic on Waianae with through traffic permitted on McCornack.

During all phases, traffic must detour around the road closure.

**Extended Work** — Roadwork on the right shoulder lane on Wheeler’s Wright Avenue will be extended to March 31. Workdays will be from 8 a.m.-3 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

**McCornack Road** — There will be a parallel parking stall closure along Schofield’s McCornack Road near Bldgs. 660, 678 and 676 during crane erection of the new clinic parking structure. Parking will be restricted through April 20. Flaggers will stop traffic intermittently along McCornack during construction activities. The contractor will have appropriate signs.

**Ganhan Road** — Due to project delays and unforeseen site conditions, Wheeler’s Ganhan Road will be closed at the entrance at Wright Avenue through the duration of construction occurring at Bldg. 107. The closure will continue through Aug. 31.

**Revised Traffic Codes** — The Military Police has begun enforcing newly revised and approved U.S. Army-Hawaii Regulation 190-5 traffic codes. The most significant change is the expansion of traffic offenses that incur monetary fines. Visit the Garrison Policies tab at [www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil](http://www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil).





Darienne Dey, a cultural specialist who works with the Archeology branch of the Directorate of Public Works, demonstrates how to recognize different types of soil during a College/Career Day presentation at Wahiawa Elementary School on Monday. Standing behind her is Jackie Walden, a historic building specialist who works with DPW.

# Wahiawa Elementary students explore career opportunities

Story and photos by  
**KAREN A. IWAMOTO**  
Staff Writer

Students at Wahiawa Elementary School learned about some of the career opportunities offered by the Army at their College/Career Day, here, Monday.

Army public affairs officers, social workers, natural resource specialists and cultural resource specialists joined non-Army representatives from the food and restaurant business, airlines, universities, and the Honolulu Police and Fire departments, among others, to meet with the students and answer their questions.

The participating students, who were in the third, fourth and fifth grades, wanted to know how much money they could expect to earn in a given field, how long they would have to study before they could enter the field, and what the most rewarding and most challenging aspects of each job were.

The importance of education quickly became clear, as a higher education translated to a higher salary in almost every career field.

"One of the best things about my job is that I get to spend time outside," said Kimberly Welch, an environmental outreach specialist with the Army's Oahu Natural Resources Program. "I love to hike, and I get to be outside hiking every day for my job. I don't need to go to the gym. I get all of my exercise outside on my job."

Welch encouraged students to go on hikes with their friends and families to see if it's something they enjoy. This could help them better determine if a job that gave them plenty of time outdoors was something they wanted to pursue.

She also explained how she and her colleagues help protect Hawaii's native plants and animals, many of which are endangered, by helping keep their habitats free of invasive species.

Cultural specialists Darienne Day and Jackie Walden, who support the Archeological Division of U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii's Directorate of Public Works, described how they help preserve the past for future generations using their knowledge of the natural and social sciences.

"Part of the importance of cultural

resources is knowing our history, so we know where we came from and we know where we're going," Walden said. "History plays a really important role in repeating itself in the future, so there are a lot of lessons to be learned in archeology and cultural history."

"Our job engages your artistic skills, too," Day, who is contracted to the Army through the Pacific International Center of High Technology Research, told the students. "You have to be able to render what you see, so other people can see and learn from it."

Donna Shock, a clinical social worker for U.S. Army Health Clinic-Schofield Barracks, said she enjoyed speaking to the students.

"A lot of them didn't know what a social worker was," she said, "so I got to explain to them what it is I do, how I can help people."

Shock works with Soldiers and their families who may be experiencing stress and difficulties by identifying issues, providing counseling and connecting them with other resources that could help them.

Aiko Brum, chief of Internal Communication for USAG-HI's Public Affairs Office, and Kristen Wong, photojournalist and layout artist for the *Hawaii Army Weekly*, described how they put the paper together every week.

Wong said the best part of her job was getting to meet different people and learn about their life experiences. Through her work at newspapers, she said she's gotten to interview Medal of Honor recipients, U.S. Navy Blue Angels and war veterans.

The College/Career Day was one of the many ways the Army partners with local schools to strengthen its bonds with the community.

Through its partnership with the Hawaii State Department of Education and the Joint Venture Education Forum, the military in Hawaii have helped approximately 129 public schools throughout Hawaii receive much-needed supplies and manpower. Currently, 49 schools and 43 Army units are actively engaged in the program. More than 600 Soldier



Kristen Wong, a photojournalist and layout artist for the *Hawaii Army Weekly*, shows students how to use a digital SLR camera during College/Career Day, Monday.

volunteers have contributed more than 1,800 hours so far this school year.

Hawaii has the highest number of military-dependent children per capita in the nation,

representing approximately 15,000 students or 8 percent of the total student enrollment, according to the Hawaii State Department of Education. The majority of these students attend 45 schools located on or near military installations in Oahu's Central, Leeward and Windward school districts.

A student at Wahiawa Elementary School takes a photo with a digital SLR camera during College/Career Day, Monday, as part of an interactive presentation on journalism by representatives of the *Hawaii Army Weekly* and the USAG-Hawaii Public Affairs Office.





## Briefs

### 2 / Friday

**Army Emergency Relief Campaign** — Kickoff of the 2018 campaign, 11 a.m., at the SB Nehelani Banquet and Conference Center. Soldiers helping Soldiers; for more information or to donate, contact your unit rep or ACS at 655-4227.

**Lei Making** — Learn to make a beautiful lei every Friday for \$15 at the SB Arts & Crafts Center from 1-2 p.m. Call 655-4202.

**FS Right Arm Night** — Celebrate with your unit, 5-7 p.m., at the FS Hale Ikena.

**3 / Saturday**  
**Party Pong Challenge** — Every Saturday at SB Tropics at 8 p.m. Call 655-5698.

**4 / Sunday**  
**Pottery Wheel Throwing** — This class includes instruction and firing up to 15 pieces during class time, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., on Sundays, and 5-8 p.m., on Tuesdays.  
Costs \$100 for a 10-week session at the SB Arts & Crafts Center, Bldg. 572. Ages 17 & up recommended; for younger patrons, call 655-4202.

**5 / Monday**  
**Sundae Monday at Hale Ikena** — Every Monday at FS from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. build your own ice cream sundae as part of our lunch buffet for \$14.95. Call 438-1974.

**Mongolian BBQ** — Choose your own vegetables and meats for a delicious stir-fry. Get barbecue on Mondays at SB Kolekole Bar & Grill, 1249 Kolekole Ave., from 5-8 p.m. Call 655-4466.

**6 / Tuesday**  
**Resiliency through Art (for Wounded Warriors)** — This program focuses on self-expression through art in a small group setting at the SB Arts & Crafts Center every Tuesday

Send announcements a week prior to publication to [community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com](mailto:community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com).

**2 / Friday**  
**Army ROTC Scholarship** — Army ROTC Study.com offers a \$500 scholarship for the coming year. Apply by April 1, at [http://study.com/pages/Army\\_ROTC\\_Scholarship.html](http://study.com/pages/Army_ROTC_Scholarship.html).

**First Friday** — Chinatown is the place to join the hip crowds at the many unique galleries, boutiques, cafes and restaurants that feature exciting art exhibits and free entertainment every month.  
The art galleries and most shops stay open late, from 5-9 p.m., followed by a late night party at some of the trendiest, most popular bars in Honolulu. Visit [www.firstfridayhawaii.com](http://www.firstfridayhawaii.com).

**Jewish Services** — Weekly worship services are 7:30 p.m., Fridays, at Aloha Jewish Chapel, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. No Saturday morning services or Monday Bible studies are offered at JBPHH.  
Saturday services are available at the Ala Moana Hotel. Call 735-8161.  
Service members interested in Jewish Bible study or keiki Hebrew School (Sunday School) may call 348-4560 or visit [www](http://www).

**Calendar abbreviations**  
8th TSC: 8th Theater Sustainment Command  
25th ID: 25th Infantry Division  
ACS: Army Community Service  
AFAP: Army Family Action Plan  
AFTB: Army Family Team Building  
AMR: Aliamanu Military Reservation

# Resiliency needed to survive failure

**CHAPLAIN (MAJ.) BRIAN KOYN**  
Integrated Religious Support Office

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Can you imagine inventing a product that would make you famous, wealthy and ultimately end up in nearly every home in America? What if someone else had the same idea and beat you to the patent office by a mere two hours? It would be devastating right? One hundred and seventy-six years ago, this week, that is exactly what happened to Elisha Gray when Alexander Graham Bell received a patent for the first telephone.

Both men had been working feverishly to design a device that would allow the transmission of voice on wires over long distances. And so were about a dozen other men, some of whom would claim over the years that they invented the device first. Bell’s lawyer delivered his application to the U.S. Patent Office only two hours before Gray’s lawyer — forever cementing the name of Alexander Graham Bell in history.

Koyn

**Rebounding from failure**  
For many people, this loss would be completely devastating. They would be tempted to give up on their dreams in frustration. But Elisha Gray was an inventor, and one thing that all inventors do is fail. Thomas Edison famously

spoke of his failed attempts to invent a light bulb as just the first 1,000 steps in the process.

So how do you deal with failure? There is a proverb in the Old Testament that says, “Though the righteous man falls seven times, he will rise again.” Like inventing, life involves many failures, false starts and misdirections. Success is too often found in how we recover from setbacks much more than the lack of mistakes. Alexander Graham Bell himself stated the oft misquoted line, “When one door closes another door opens, but we so often look so long and so regretfully upon the closed door that we do not see the ones which open for us.”

After his setback, Elisha Gray did not sit around and dwell on what could have been if only his lawyer skipped breakfast and proceeded directly to the patent office. Instead, he continued on to invent a fax machine, a primitive closed circuit television long before television, and an underwater signaling device for ships all before his death in 1901.

So today, as you look at the mistakes and setbacks in your life, think about what you can learn from them while focusing your attention and energy on the opportunities that still remain.

from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Call 655-4202, as registration is required.

**Preschool Story Time at FS Library** — Attend every Tuesday for stories, songs, dancing and a craft at 10 a.m. at FS Library. Call 438-9521.

**Sand Volleyball and Dodgeball** — Every Tuesday at SB Tropics from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Call 655-5698.

**Quilting and Sewing** — Every Tuesday and Sunday, attend quilting and sewing from 5-8 p.m. or 11 a.m.-3 p.m. for \$25 (first class) or \$6 (each additional class) at the SB Arts & Crafts Center, Bldg. 572. Ages 17 and up recommended; call 655-4202.

**Taco Tuesday at Hale Ikena** — Every Tuesday at FS from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. enjoy a fresh salsa bar, fajitas and tacos for \$14.95. Call 438-1974.

**7 / Wednesday**  
**Preschool Story Time** — Attend every Wednesday for stories, songs, dancing and a

craft at 10 a.m. at SB Sgt. Yano Library. Call 655-8002.

**Xbox Challenge NBA 2K17** — Every Wednesday at 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Call 655-5698.

**Movie Event** — Weekly movie event held on Wednesdays at SB Sgt. Yano Library from 3-5 p.m. All movies will be PG. Titles are available upon request. Call 655-8002.

**Burger Bar Wednesday** — Enjoy at FS Hale Ikena, Bldg. 711, Morton Drive, every Wednesday. Get hot dogs and burgers at the Grand Buffet. Call 438-1974.

**Keiki Night** — Every Wednesday is Keiki Night at the SB Kolekole Bar & Grill. Kids under 10 eat for only \$2.99 from the kids menu from 5-8 p.m. Call 655-4466.

**8 / Thursday**  
**Mom & Tots** — Every Thursday, moms (or a parent/guardian) can enjoy mixed media crafting at \$5 from 10-11 a.m., at SB Arts & Crafts Center, Bldg.

572, 919 Humphreys Road. Call 655-4202.

**Clay Hand Building** — Attend at the SB Arts & Crafts Center, Thursdays, from 1-3 p.m. The first session is \$25; additional sessions are \$5. Call 655-4202.

**Thirsty Thursdays at WAAF Hangar** — Every Thursday enjoy \$0.75 wings and draft specials from 4:30-8 p.m. Call 656-1745.

**Texas Hold’em Poker** — Play Texas Hold’em every Thursday at SB Tropics at 5:30 p.m. Seating is limited. Cost is \$25. MWR Bucks to 1st place. Awarded the last Thursday of each month. Call 655-5698.

**9 Ball Pool Tournament at Tropics** — Join us every Thursday at 6 p.m. for a 9-ball single elimination and sudden death tournament at SB Tropics. Call 655-5698.

**Wing Night at Mulligan’s** — Every Thursday night on FS from 3:30-8 p.m., get 10 wings for \$3, 20 wings for \$5. Call 438-1974.

[chabadofhawaii.com](http://chabadofhawaii.com).

**3 / Saturday**  
**Tribute to the Troops** — The Polynesian Cultural Center in conjunction with USO Hawaii is offering free general admission to service members, reservists, retirees, veterans and their families today only. Guests 11 years and older must provide proof of valid military ID. Free parking is available on site and additional parking is available at Brigham Young University with shuttle service to and from the park. A special Tribute to the Troops show from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. is already sold out.

For more information on other available shows and attractions at The Polynesian Center, visit [www.polynesia.com](http://www.polynesia.com). For more information about USO Hawaii and its upcoming events, visit [hawaiiuso.org](http://hawaiiuso.org) and [facebook.com/HawaiiUSO](https://facebook.com/HawaiiUSO)

**Kolekole Trail** — The SB trail is closed to hikers on Saturday, March 3, due to the Kolekole 10K run. However, the trail is open for hikers on Sunday, March 4.

**Family Fishing** — Ho’omaluhia Botanical Garden in Kaneohe hosts this free catch and release family event, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays. Bring walking shoes, insect repellent, rain gear and fishing bait (fresh white bread).

ASYMCA: Armed Services YMCA  
BCT: Brigade Combat Team  
CDC: Child Development Center  
CYSS: Child, Youth and School Services  
EFMP: Exceptional Family Member Program  
FCC: Family Child Care  
FMWR: Family and Morale, Welfare

A limited number of bamboo poles are available to borrow on a first-come, first-served basis. There is a 20-minute hike to the fishing area. For details/reservations, call 233-7323.

**7 / Wednesday**  
**Blue Note Hawaii** — Acoustic-classical legendary guitarist Earl Klugh performs nightly through March 11, as part of the Hawaii News Now Jazz Legends series at the Outrigger Waikiki Hotel.

**23 / Friday**  
**Luke Bryan in Concert** — Two-time country music Entertainer of the Year/superstar performs, 7:30 p.m., at the Neal Blaisdell Arena with Friday and Saturday night performances, along with the Brothers Osborne. Tickets begin at \$49.50. Visit [www.emporiumpresents.com](http://www.emporiumpresents.com).

## Ongoing

**SAT/ACT Prep** — Free DOD-sponsored prep prepares students for the college testing season. Request a donated program at [eKnowledge.com/HAW](http://eKnowledge.com/HAW) or call (951) 256-4076.

**Freeway Service Patrol** — This service is operating on Hawaii’s freeways and is sponsored by the State Department of Transportation, the Honolulu Police and Fire departments, and Emergency Medical Services.  
The free service provides

and Recreation  
FRG: Family Readiness Group  
FS: Fort Shafter  
HMR: Helemano Military Reservation  
IPC: Island Palm Communities  
ODR: Outdoor Recreation  
PFC: Physical Fitness Center  
SAC: School Age Center

assistance to stranded motorists by changing flat tires, jump-starting vehicles, refilling radiators, making certain temporary repairs and providing an emergency gallon of gasoline.  
The service is available, 5 a.m.-7 p.m., Monday-Friday, except federal holidays. Call 841-4357.

**TAMC Arts & Crafts Volunteers** — The American Red Cross is seeking volunteers for patient and family support. Call Yolanda Gainwell at 433-6631.

**Drunk Driving Prevention Program-Oahu** — You can avoid impaired driving! DDPP will drive you home completely free of charge, and, if you’d like, the DDPP will also drive your car home for free.  
DDPP’s Hawaii chapter (with volunteers from Schofield Barracks) is taking pickups and more volunteers. Call 888-7407 or visit [ddpp.us](http://ddpp.us).

**Food for Families** — ASYMCA at WAAF has an emergency food locker to assist families. It’s open 8 a.m.-2 p.m., Mondays-Fridays. Call 624-5645.

**ASYMCA** — The Armed Services YMCA of WAAF needs your help. Please donate non-expired food to its pantry. It’s located at 1262 Santos Dumont Ave. on Wheeler. Call 624-5645 for more details. Visit [www.asymcahi.org](http://www.asymcahi.org).

SB: Schofield Barracks  
SKIES: Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills  
TAMC: Tripler Army Medical Center  
USAG-HI: U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii  
USARPAC: U.S. Army-Pacific  
WAAF: Wheeler Army Airfield

Additional religious services, children’s programs, educational services and contact information can be found at <https://www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil/rso/USARHAW%20Chapel%20Services.pdf>.

AMR: Aliamanu Military Reservation Chapel  
FD: Fort DeRussy Chapel  
HMR: Helemano Chapel  
MPC: Main Post Chapel, Schofield Barracks  
PH: Aloha Jewish Chapel, Pearl Harbor  
SC: Soldiers Chapel, Schofield Barracks  
TAMC: Tripler Army Medical Center Chapel  
WAAF: Wheeler Army Airfield Chapel

**Buddhist Services**  
•First Sunday, 1 p.m. at FD  
•Last Wednesday, 6 p.m. at MPC

**Catholic Mass**  
•Monday-Wednesday, 11:45 a.m. at Soldiers Chapel  
•Thursday, 11:45 a.m. at AMR  
•Wednesday, 5 p.m. at MPC  
•Saturday, 5 p.m. at TAMC  
•Sunday services: -8:30 a.m. at AMR -10:30 a.m. at MPC -11 a.m. at TAMC

**Gospel Worship**  
•Sunday, noon at MPC  
•Sunday, 12:30 p.m. at AMR

**Islamic**  
•Friday, 12:30 p.m. at AMR (Call 477-7647)

**Jewish Shabbat (Sabbath)**  
•Friday, 7:30 p.m. at PH (Call 473-3971)

**Protestant Worship**  
•Sunday Services -9 a.m. at MPC (Contemporary) -9 a.m. at FD -9 a.m. at TAMC -10 a.m. at HMR (Contemporary) -10:30 a.m. at AMR (Contemporary) -11 a.m. at WAAF (Contemporary)

**Phantom Thread (R)**

Friday, March 2, 7 p.m.



**Forever My Girl (PG)**

Saturday, March 3, 4 p.m.



**Winchester (PG-13)**

Saturday, March 3, 7 p.m.

**Maze Runner: The Death Cure (PG-13)**

Sunday, March 4, 4 p.m.

Closed Monday through Thursday.



PARTNERING WITH COMMUNITY SCHOOLS



Photo by Sgt. Shameeka R. Stanley, 500th Military Intelligence Brigade-Theater Public Affairs

EWA BEACH — Sgt. 1st Class Mitchell D. Tull (in back, center), an electronic maintenance supervisor assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 500th Military Intelligence Brigade-Theater supports Iroquois Point Elementary School’s Career Day, Feb. 21.

Tull spoke with 6th grade students about what it is like to be a Soldier in the U.S. Army. He also encouraged the students to work hard in school – no matter what career they decide to pursue.

Part of the Army School Partnership program, Hawaii-based Army units, including the 500th MI, support local schools in cooperation with the Hawaii Department of Education through community projects, volunteerism and collective Army support of students and their parents.



Photo by Sgt. Shameeka R. Stanley, 500th MI Bde.-Theater Public Affairs



Courtesy photo

EWA BEACH — Sgt. 1st Class Mitchell D. Tull (back, center), an electronic maintenance supervisor assigned to HHD, 500th MI Bde.-Theater supports Iroquois Point Elementary School’s Career Day, Feb. 21.

Left — Sgt. 1st Class Tull (right side of photo) poses with personnel after speaking with 6th grade students about what it is like to be a Soldier in the U.S. Army.

Conversations can go up and down in any marriage

One ordinary weeknight, several years ago, my husband, Francis, and I were lingering at the dinner table after the kids had been excused.

Francis sat in his unbuttoned blueberries, lazily chewing the last bites of beef roast, while I stared out the window of our base house, drumming my fingers on the table.

Suddenly, I perked up when I remembered a story to liven up our dull dialogue.

“Hon, did I tell you about the infuriating conversation I had with the sixth grade math teacher today? That guy is a real piece of work if you ask me,” I began, dabbing the corners of my mouth with a crumpled napkin.

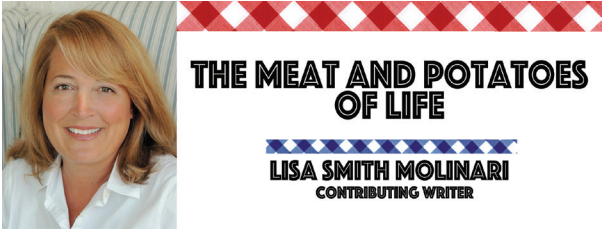
Gnawing a particularly tough piece of meat, Francis shook his head with a dazed look on his face. After nearly two decades of marriage, he knew that I could take 20 minutes to describe cleaning fuzz out of a lint trap. He breathed a heavy sigh and braced himself for excruciating detail and superfluous analysis.

“Well, I called Mr. Lee about Lilly’s semester project,” I continued, “and do you know what that man said to me?”

“No. What.” Francis robotically replied, staring blankly into space, his water glass poised midair.

I went on to describe a rather unremarkable conversation with our daughter’s sixth-grade math teacher, a mundane event in my daily life as a stay-at-home mother of three that was, admittedly, not very interesting at all. However, I had learned to give our dinner conversations a stimulating dose of drama and suspense by embellishing my otherwise ordinary stories with detailed descriptions, exaggerated voice intonation and vivid facial expressions.

I knew that, with a few strategic enhancements, I could make the tale about my phone call with Mr. Lee seem like a thrilling off-Broadway play. I re-enacted the



story for Francis, and during the climax of my narrative account, I used all my dramatic skills to convey the necessary range of emotions.

Francis, tired and irritated after a long day and a mediocre dinner, interjected sardonically, “Oh, please, do that thing again with the bulgy eyes. That’s really attractive.”

He was joking, but in that kind of way that told me there was a nugget of truth behind his humor. Seemingly intending to add insult to injury, he mocked me by trying to project his eyes outward like Marty Feldman, while I sat, stone-faced and silent, glaring at him. Although his deep-set eyeballs could never mimic the natural prominence of mine, Francis nonetheless contorted his face to look as ridiculous as possible.

As I watched his rude display and doggedly gripped my fork on that ordinary weeknight at the dinner table, our entire marriage passed before my genetically protuberant eyes.

What’s happened to us? I thought. We used to be so sweet to each other. We used to enjoy talking for

hours. We thought everything about each other was so damned cute. And now, here we are pelting each other with insults over boxed rice pilaf? Does he think I’ve become unattractive and annoying? Is our marriage hopeless?

Hurt and bitter, I finally interrupted his facial contortions.

“So, who do you think you are over there, Robert Redford or something?”

With blatant hypocrisy, Francis took immediate offense to my ridicule and scowled.

We sat in silence for several minutes, sucking pepper from our teeth and avoiding eye contact.

Never able to remain mute for long, I spoke weakly without looking up from the gristle on my plate.

“I can’t help that my eyes bulge, you know.”

Francis’ biting sarcasm dissipated and was replaced with sincere remorse.

“I’m sorry,” he said, moving in closer and placing his hand on mine.

I released the death grip I had on my fork as I looked into his deep-set eyes.

“Actually,” Francis offered, now striking the right balance, “I think you’re bulgy in all the right places.”

**VOLUNTEER!**

The Army’s Oahu Natural Resources Program leads monthly volunteer opportunities to protect the native forest in the Waianae Mountains. Staff and community volunteers help control weeds, plant native species, and collect native seeds in order to protect some of Oahu’s rarest plant and animal species. Call 656-7741 or email [outreach@oanrp.com](mailto:outreach@oanrp.com).

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# Direct observation therapy offers an LTBI patient option

MARY ONO

Army Public Health Nursing  
Tripler Army Medical Center and  
U.S. Army Health Clinic-Schofield Barracks

HONOLULU — At Tripler Army Medical Center, direct observation therapy, or DOT, has become a “game-changer” in the treatment of latent tuberculosis infection (LTBI), a tuberculosis-related condition that if left untreated could become tuberculosis disease, or TB, one of the most contagious diseases in the world.

The treatment for LTBI has long been nine months of a prescription medication called Isoniazid as the “gold standard.” The prescription medication Rifampin has been an alternative treatment option for patients who could not tolerate Isoniazid, or if Isoniazid was contraindicated.

But a third option became available to the Army community in 2012, when the combination of prescriptions, Isoniazid and Rifapentine, administered in a 12-dose weekly regimen under DOT, was accepted into the formulary at TAMC.

Direct observation therapy is important in military populations because when a Soldier deploys, the previous medication options of daily-dosing Isoniazid or Rifampin is discontinued, since there is not a way to monitor for progress or potential adverse reaction(s). There are also limited resources to refill their monthly medication while Soldiers are “outside the wire” downrange.

Unpredictable and multiple deployment schedules can also interfere with successful treatment of LTBI with Isoniazid or Rifampin. When a Soldier returns from deployment, usually a nine-month absence, the medication must be restarted as “day one” again. A Soldier may be deployed a second or third time, and due to this “stop-start” pattern, he or she could be taking this medication for years before successfully completing months of treatment.

Treatment is the only way to remove the TB from the body. DOT has not only shortened the time required to successfully complete LTBI treatment, but also has enhanced compliance of treatment.

However, ultimately, three options remain for every patient in determining how to treat LTBI. The decision for treatment with DOT for 12 weeks, Isoniazid for nine months, or Rifampin for four months, is determined by reviewing a patient’s current use of medication(s), the medical history, drug allergy history, results of baseline lab work, expectant treatment completion as foreseen by the patient’s schedule, and preference of the patient and the Army Public Health nurse practitioner.

If DOT is chosen as the best treatment option, patients visit either TAMC or the Schofield Barracks



Photo by Leanne Thomas, Tripler Army Medical Center  
**Capt. Everline Atandi, Army Public Health Nurse at Tripler Army Medical Center, dispenses medication to a patient for Latent Tuberculosis Infection Direct Observation Therapy treatment at TAMC, Feb. 6.**

Army Public Health Nursing Clinic, exclusively, to take their medication by direct observation. If a patient’s schedule does not allow for attending weekly visits or the 12-dose weekly regimen, then Isoniazid or Rifampin daily dosing on their own becomes the better option.

If DOT has to be discontinued due to adverse reactions, patients must understand that their safety is paramount and that successful treatment means completing four months or nine months of treatment comfortably without side effect or injury.

DOT is not for everyone, but it is certainly a good option when available. Army Public Health Nursing has a 100 percent treatment compliance rate. Those who do not finish direct observation therapy, or those who are having adverse reactions and are switched to monotherapy are not considered compliance issues.

DOT has changed TAMC practice because the demographic that the center serves is more likely to complete 12 weeks of treatment compared to nine months. The success of the LTBI program is the direct result of having staff who are focused on the patient and patients who are engaged in their treatment.

TAMC’s Army Public Health Nursing staff is committed to the success of each patient’s regimen.

## TAMC TIP Brown Water



Tripler Army Medical Center advises, “If the water is brown, stay out!”

Periods of heavy rain have led to increased runoff into pools of water causing brown water at various beaches across the island of Oahu.

Brown water advisories are then frequently issued by the Hawaii State Department of Health to remind the public to avoid dirty water as this water may be contaminated.

The public is also advised to stay out of flood waters and storm water runoff due to possible overflowing cesspools, sewer, manholes, pesticides, animal fecal matter, dead animals, pathogens, chemicals and associated flood debris.

Not all coastal areas may be impacted by runoff; however, again, if the water is brown stay out.

Continue to practice good personal hygiene and follow-up with your primary care physician if you have any health concerns.



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