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# Pinwheels ignite abuse awareness

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# General encourages reading

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# Garrison adds school crossing guards

Thanks to those individuals who aided in apprehending this subject. This illustrates an involved community can make a difference.

*(Editor's Note: Lexie Tabata is a Wiesbaden High School senior and a student intern with the U.S. Army Garrison-Wiesbaden Public Affairs Office.)*

*(Editor's Note: Information listed is subject to change due to inclement weather. Times listed are the start times for the change of command ceremony.)*

You just may look back one day and see how much you have grown, and without

# Voice

**Miaya  
Simpsons**  
Volunteer and  
Family Member



# Working dogs play important part in the fight

Story and Photo by  
**SGT. ANGIE JOHNSTON**  
3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

FORWARD OPERATING BASE BERNSTEIN, TUZ, Iraq — Staff Sgt. Conan Thomas and his Army “battle buddy,” Sgt. 1st Class Britt, have been working together for nearly two years.

Theirs is not your run-of-the-mill partnership, though. Britt has never said a word to Thomas, but the rapport between the two is unmistakable.

Thomas makes sure that Britt gets paid when he’s done his job, and Britt knows that Thomas will always be there for him.

There’s a mutual trust in their relationship; each knows the other won’t let him down.

“It took a year and a half to get him to this point,” said Thomas, kneeling down to pet his German Shepherd, “a year and a half for Britt and I to have this outstanding relationship.”

Thomas and Britt are assigned to the 148th Military Police Detachment and attached to the 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, during their deployment.

Thomas, a member of the Military Police Corps, went to a special military school to become a dog handler.

Britt is what’s known as a PEDD, a patrol/explosive detection dog. That means he can be used for intimidation purposes and sniffing out anything from detonation cord to bulk explosives.

Britt is definitely intimidating, according to Pfc. James Frey, who volunteered to be the bad guy or criminal during an April 8 training session

with Thomas and Britt. The session entailed Frey running away when he was told to stay put and then letting the military working dog (MWD) pounce on him to stop his flight.

Frey attended a class beforehand on how to behave so his actions would train the MWD.

“I didn’t get hurt, so it was awesome,” said Frey. “He’s very powerful.”

“I did this last week with a friend of mine who’s a lot smaller than me,” Frey continued, “and the dog was really blasting him around.”

His snout covered with a thick, leather muzzle, Britt was only able to knock Frey down and bark menacingly.

Part of the instruction Frey had received from Thomas was to hit the dirt and curl into a ball as soon as Britt bumped him. That wasn’t a problem, considering Frey only outweighed the dog by about 40 pounds.

“Britt is trained on a bite sleeve, but we like to use a whole bite suit just for the safety of the decoy. Today we used a muzzle because we don’t have all the proper training equipment at Forward Operating Base Bernstein,” said Thomas.

“How the decoy [Frey] acts when he goes down is important to make the training good for the dog. The drive for the dog is the bite, and he can’t bite without us having at least a bite sleeve,” said Thomas.

Thomas can only train Britt on the bite sleeve every 10 days or so; otherwise Britt will get frustrated by not “winning,” and he may start to lose the motivation to do what he’s trained to do.



Staff Sgt. Conan Thomas, military working dog (MWD) handler, 148th Military Police Detachment, trains his MWD, Sgt. 1st Class Britt at Forward Operating Base Bernstein, April 8. Britt is chasing after a specially-trained Soldier who Thomas has indicated is a threat.

“It’s just like anything else,” said Spc. Jason David, also an MWD handler at FOB Bernstein. “If you don’t train with it, you’ll lose it.”

David’s dog, Sgt. Bandit, is trained specifically for detecting explosives. He’s what’s known as a specialized search dog.

The 5-year-old English Springer Spaniel can unearth a hidden bullet or discover the faintest trace of a chemical used in bombs.

During training, Bandit easily tracked down five pounds of C4 explosives that David had carefully hidden under a trash can.

“I use what’s called a ‘trigger’ for him. When he wears his vest, he knows it’s time to work,” explained David.

After Bandit finds what he’s looking for during training, he gets to play catch with a neon-colored tennis ball.

“The playing afterward is like the paycheck for the dog; that’s what makes them want to work,” said Thomas.

Although they have two very different MWDs, both Thomas and David use special verbal and visual commands to let their dogs know what to do next.

“Not only do you have to trust your dog, but he has to trust you as well,” said David.

When either of the dogs has to do his job, everything is put on the record. In fact, Thomas and David even keep detailed logs of training. Without training records, the dogs’ findings may not be admissible in court.

“We don’t have a full scent kit,” said David. With the kit, the training could be even more thorough. Since there are different kinds of explosives used in Iraq than stateside, the MWD handlers need a theater-specific scent kit to fully train the dogs for their mission here.

Even without all the training aids that bigger bases are well-stocked with, FOB Bernstein working dogs and their handlers are doing everything they can to stay current on training.

“German Shepherds and spaniels are known for their intelligence. That’s why we use these dogs,” said David. “They have the smarts to go and find what we need them to find.”

OIF



# 84th Engineers help enable Iraqi cultural preservation

OIF

## STAFF SGT. ARMOND CURET

Personal Security Detachment, 84th Engineer Battalion

MOSUL, Iraq – The Soldiers of the 84th Engineer Battalion's Personal Security Detachment (PSD) have gone on more than 75 combat-related patrols and were grateful to be able to escape their normal battle rhythm and partake in a mission that was both rewarding, and in a way, peacefully relaxing.

After a long rough week packed with endless hours of driving and responding to emergency calls throughout Iraq's dry and barren desert landscape, the PSD found itself amidst a lush haven of greenery and picturesque rolling hills, April 6.

The 84th Eng. Bn. entered into a unique partnership with the Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) aimed at preserving Ninewa's unique cultural heritage, a collection of sites spanning civilizations and faiths.

The partnership's common goal is to protect these sites from further degradation and help establish them as the foundation for a tourist economy.

The PSD escorted and provided safeguard to the PRT and the 84th Eng. Bn. commander (joined by senior officials of the United Nations Educational and Scientific Organization, or UNESCO) as they visited two unique sights in Ninewa's Shaikhhan district.

The first was an ancient Assyrian water project at Khennis, where the Emperor Sennacharib's



Sgt. Daniel Cantu | 84th Engineer Battalion

2nd Lt. Chris Babula (right), platoon leader, Personal Security Detachment, 84th Engineer Battalion, provides security and stands among fallen chunks of the wall carvings as a Provisional Reconstruction Team assesses how they will preserve the deteriorating landscape.

engineers used the natural pressure of a mountain spring to elevate a water source sufficient to feeding a 63-kilometer network of stone channels that reached all the way to Ninewa, the seat of the Assyrian empire and in the center of modern Mosul.

As the group made its way along the ancient historical ruins, the PSD was actively sweeping the hills and maintaining a secure perimeter that al-

lowed for a visual survey of the grounds.

Although the PSD team's primary mission includes providing mobility assurance and safeguard to both the battalion commander and the battalion command sergeant major, the task also requires them to exhibit a great deal of flexibility while still performing at their finest.

That flexibility was tested when the locals prepared a meal to share with their guests. Locals

invited the entire PSD team to enjoy their style of taste and flavor. Since refusing to dine would, of course, have been rude, everyone rotated from security to a seat at the feast.

The PSD continued its mission at the Yezidi burial shrine of an 11th century leader in Lalesh, 20 kilometers west of Khennis. The shrine, nestled in a valley high in the mountains, is part of the Yezidi faith, which gives reverence for all living things. The valley is filled with fruit, olive trees and other plant life.

The partnership's goal is to have the shrine designated as a UNESCO World Heritage site, which will help protect it against threats, including development, and make raising funds for its preservation easier.

Regardless of the mission, the Soldiers of PSD prepare and conduct themselves with a sense of pride. Though certain missions prove taxing on the team, the opportunity to get out of the driver's seat and escape the jolts from the bumpy and dangerous roads of Iraq's third largest city, Mosul, was warmly welcomed by all the Soldiers.

The sites visited in the Ninewa province are home to a fabulous tapestry of faiths and cultures. The PSD was delighted to be in partnership with its colleagues from the U.S. Department of State in safeguarding lives and ancient heritage.

*(Editor's Note: Staff Sgt. Armond Curet works with Personal Security Detachment, 84th Engineer Battalion, 18th Engineer Brigade.)*

## News Briefs

Send news announcements for Soldiers and civilian employees to [community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com](mailto:community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com).

### 24 / Today

#### Relocated Housing Office

— The Fort Shafter Housing Services office is closed today to relocate to 111 7th St., Building 1004. For emergencies only, call Catherine Henderson at 275-3149 or Irene Lance at 284-4235. Regular business hours will resume Monday.

#### Alcohol and Family Violence

— U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii's Army Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) will hold a presentation on alcohol and family violence, today, 10-11:30 a.m., at Sgt. Smith Theater, Schofield Barracks.

This workshop satisfies two of the four hours of a unit's annual alcohol and drug awareness training and the Department of Army civilian two-hour requirement. Additional ASAP programs are scheduled June 19 and Aug. 14.

Soldiers can contact Karen or Tracy Powell at 655-8322 for more information. Civilians can contact Catherine Heflin at 655-6047.

### 27 / Monday

#### Tennis Court Closure

— The tennis courts across from Sgt. Smith Theater, Schofield Barracks, will be closed for resurfacing, April 27-May 25. The courts adjacent to the Martinez Physical Fitness Center and the Tropics will remain open.

For more information, contact Peter Burke or Bruce Irvine at 655-9914.

### 28 / Tuesday

#### Military Career Field Briefs

— The Information Operations Proponent (IPO) will hold a series of one-hour briefs on the Functional Designation (FD) Board process and Functional Area 30 (Information Operations), April 28-29, at the Education Center, Building 560, Schofield Barracks. These briefs are open to active duty Army officers through the rank of major.

To make an appointment, call H. David Pendleton, senior IPO personnel analyst, 1-913-684-9448 or e-mail [Henry.David.Pendleton@us.army.mil](mailto:Henry.David.Pendleton@us.army.mil).

#### DAPS Training

— The electronic document management (EDM) and document automation and production service (DAPS) will be hosting a training seminar, April 28, 9:30-11 a.m., at the Installation Training Center, Schofield Barracks.

Learn how EDM and DAPS initiatives have helped transform the Department of Defense from a paper-based to an electronic document environment. Contact Nanette Tamura or Gloria Gonzales, 473-4457 or 655-1400.

#### DAPS Open House

— The document automation and pro-

American Heritage Month observance, May 7, 10-11:15 a.m., at Sgt. Smith Theater, Schofield Barracks.

Grandmaster Jhoon Rhee, known at the "Father of American Tae Kwon Do," will be the guest speaker.

For more information, contact the 8th TSC EO office at 438-1627.

### 8 / Friday

#### Bone Marrow Donor Briefing

— U.S. Army Garrison-Oahu North is hosting a Bone Marrow Drive unit representative briefing, May 8, 1-2 p.m., at the Sgt.

Smith Theater, Schofield Barracks.

Eligible attendees include company/battery/troop representatives, Department of Defense civilians, contractors and agency representatives.

For more information, contact the Oahu North community director's office at 655-0497.

### 12 / Tuesday

#### Newcomers Brief for Soldiers

— The next monthly newcomers briefing for Soldiers is May 12, 4-5 p.m., at the Soldier Support Center, Building 750, Schofield Barracks.

## May

### 4 / Monday

#### Spouse Information Meeting

— The next Spouse Information Meeting is May 4, 9 a.m., in the Post Conference Room, Schofield Barracks.

### 7 / Thursday

#### Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month

— The 8th Theater Support Command (TSC) and Team Equal Opportunity (EO) Hawaii will host an Asian-Pacific

### 19 / Tuesday

#### Oahu North Town Hall

— The next Oahu North Town Hall meeting, for residents of Schofield Barracks, Wheeler Army Airfield and Helemano Military Reservation, is May 19, 6:30 p.m. at the Main Post Conference Room, Schofield Barracks.

For more information, call Monica Anguay at 655-0497.

## Ongoing

**IR Hotline** — U.S. Army Gar-

risson-Hawaii employees, (civilian, military and contractor) can report instances of fraud, waste or mismanagement to the Internal Review Office (IRO) "IR Hotline" by telephone, e-mail, fax or online. The IRO will refer reports to management or initiate an investigation.

Call the IR Hotline at 655-8121. Forms are available online at [www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil](http://www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil) (Click "Directorates and Support Staff"). Fax reports to 655-0791, or e-mail [InternalReview@hawaii.army.mil](mailto:InternalReview@hawaii.army.mil). Please provide the required information on the hotline report.





Soldiers from the 254th Combat Service Support Battalion conduct reflexive-fire training at Pohakuloa Training Area, April 14.

# 524th CSSB: Skills augmented at PTA

CONTINUED FROM A-1

Spc. Michael Sullivan, a quartermaster with the 540th Quartermaster (QM) Company, values the training as an opportunity to learn skills outside of his military occupation specialty. The skills can benefit him down-range in areas like Iraq or Afghanistan.

“When you are in Iraq, it’s close quarter combat that the enemy likes to hide in,” Sullivan said, “so we need this training because you never know what you could be faced with.”

Sullivan’s teams moved into a

two-story building and practiced room-clearing techniques with enemy combatants hiding around many corners waiting to ambush them.

“We don’t do this kind of training that often, so this is an excellent opportunity to be familiar with situations that could possibly happen,” Sullivan said.

The training simulated many conditions in which the service support Soldiers will operate during a deployment. Each morning, vehicles stage outside of gates, team leaders brief their squads, and they practice the many essential tasks to better themselves in combat.

“Every Soldier out here is our priority,” said 2nd Lt. Janelle Jones, 540th QM Co. “The techniques of the enemy are changing. We no longer fight the enemy from a distance anymore, so we’re training in house-to-house operations to meet the enemy face-to-face.”

Although service support Soldiers do not routinely find themselves in front of the enemy, the unit is taking the time to make sure they know what to do in combat.

“Knowing what to do in the heat of battle is very important,” Sullivan said. “When the situation becomes chaotic, Soldiers will have to rely

on their training. The skills we are learning here will make that happen.”

The 524th CSSB is wrapping up its training May 1, but already the command sees results from the training since arriving on the island a few weeks ago.

“The Soldiers have performed fantastically; there’s no better way to say it,” Knight said. “Every Soldier here has put forth their best effort and come to each part of the training with a great attitude and ready to learn. Every Soldier has become even better, and we’ve not only honed their individual skills, but also our collective skills as well.”

# Read: Students love learning from leaders

CONTINUED FROM A-1

kids these days, so I want to let you all know the value of reading. It can open doors for you.”

During the visit, Mason read *The Enormous Carrot* to a class of kindergartners. The book was about teamwork, and Mason emphasized the importance of working together as a unit to get a job done.

“If a lot of people get together, things can happen,” Mason said to the students. “You all can do many things, but if you work as a team, you all can accomplish even greater things.”

Mason also read *Is There Really a Human Race?* to a second and third grade class. The book uses a play on the word “race” and talks about taking “one’s” time and “trying one’s best, instead of beating the rest.”

School Principal Sherrylyn Yamada said the students receive special visits throughout the school year and are happy to have any community leader take the time to read to them.

“We love visits like this,” Yamada said. “These visits are great because they encourage children to read and make it a part of their daily lives.”

Yamada added that the school promotes reading every day to build lifelong learning, which she said can be gained through opening a book.

“Reading is an important thing year-round,” Yamada emphasized. “It’s great to see that Maj. Gen. Mason shares that same value with us. It makes a big difference to the students to have someone encourage that view.”

The school year may be coming to a close for the students of Webling Elementary, but the school principal said guest speakers are still welcome to visit the school to read to children and share words of wisdom.



# Directorate of Public Works leader named best support executive

IMCOM recognizes local environmental leader for his accomplishments

**KYLE FORD**  
Assistant Editor

WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD — Recently, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii (USAG-HI) earned several environmental and conservation awards. However, the programs that garnered the recognition didn't happen in a vacuum. In fact, they had to be nurtured like seedlings in a garden.

The gardener is Alvin Char, chief, Environmental Division, Directorate of Public Works (DPW), who was named DPW Support Executive of the Year at the Headquarters Installation Management Command (IMCOM) DPW Awards Program, April 7.

The IMCOM program recognizes individuals and organizations that demonstrate excellence in management and execution of the Army public works and real property maintenance missions.

As an environmental manager, Char is respected as a leader and professional by his peers, employees and the Army community. He has developed a highly skilled and diverse staff of professional

engineers, biologists, archeologists and environmental protection specialists — all with a wide range of experience, skills and abilities — and transformed them into an intensely motivated team focused on the critical task of environmental protection.

"I've worked for Alvin for 13 years, and he expects a lot," said Peter Yuh Jr., DPW conservation branch chief. "He's an exceptional manager in terms of support of his leaders."

Through Char's leadership, USAG-HI's environmental program excels in putting together and using cutting-edge initiatives to operate in the delicate and fragile environment of Hawaii.

Char manages the industrial activities performed by the 25th Infantry Division, to include drinking water, air pollution, wastewater, hazardous waste, pollution prevention, cleanup sites, and more than 165,000 acres containing more than 100 species of endangered plants and animals.

Char has been tending garden at the Environmental Division since 1979.

"I've seen the program grow from a staff of four people to 22 civilian workers and more than 100 contractors," Char said.

The maturation of programs that strive to satisfy both Army and environ-



"The Army recognizes that the cost of doing business is to take care of the land and environment under its responsibility."

**Alvin Char**  
*Chief, Environmental Division,  
Directorate of Public Works*

mental requirements makes Char happy to come to work every day.

"When I began, the environmental program was a training disabler," Char said. "If there were issues with the environment and training ... the environment won. This did not win friends with commanders of units who needed to perform training and certifications."

The current program is a training enabler, which has since grown to a program that mitigates and improves environmental protections without impacting training.

He's made strides through the environmental compliance officer (ECO) program, which requires each unit down to the company level to designate an ECO and alternate ECO. More than 700 ECOs are provided one week of training by DPW each year.

Additionally, Char has been the mov-

ing force behind implementing a pollution prevention and recycling program. The "recycling miracle" was started two years ago by creating a recycling program manager position and expanding the current recycling contract.

Recycling operations include a recycling center, a curbside collection program, recycling construction debris, recycling requests over the Intranet, sludge recycling from the Schofield Barracks Wastewater Plant, and aggressive grassroots recycling.

Because the Army owns so much land in Hawaii, the public has heightened interest in what the Army does on that land, Char said.

"The Army recognizes that the cost of doing business is to take care of the land and environment under its responsibility," said Char.

He added that Army Hawaii wants to

be a good neighbor and a good steward of the environment.

His programs have significantly reduced costs and improved customer service.

"I don't think people realize how tough his job is," said co-worker Rhonda Suzuki, chief, Environmental Complainace, Pollution, Prevention, Restoration Branch, DPW Environmental Division.

It's a tough balance between military training, building and keeping environmental stewardship, agreed Yuh.

"He has a tough job of balance and see if we 'can do,'" Yuh said. "When environmental concerns block a course of action, such as training, it's (Char's) job to get us to find a way to make it happen. He's a 'can do' man."

Char, an avid outdoorsman, is proud that his work will help preserve and protect the environment for future generations.

"I'm doing what I wanted to do," Char said. "Working for the Army, there is always something new ... there's never a dull moment."

While the award is great, Char said he gets the most satisfaction out of helping the Army accomplish its mission.

"We're here to find a way to help the Army do its job," Char said.

# Volunteer: Garrison makes time for people who 'Change the World'

CONTINUED FROM A-1

the garrison's efforts to recognize individuals who devote their time to support Army Soldiers and families.

Col. Matthew Margotta, commander, USAG-HI, said the sacrifices and efforts of our volunteers need to be recognized beyond the annual garrison ceremony.

"Army families, Army spouses, Army Soldiers, have always come forward to volunteer their time and effort in support of our families and communities. Because the Army provides more services to our Soldiers and families than ever before, we have to rely on volunteers," said Margotta.

Prior to the shopping event, Lisa McCaffrey, senior family readiness group advisor, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, and a volunteer, spoke to the group, thanking them for their service. She reflected on volunteerism and the 2009 theme for the week, "Volunteer to Change the World."



"Most of us that volunteer love to be the givers, not the receivers," McCaffrey said.

"Volunteerism is a love made visible and it

changes lives, it changes communities, and it can change the world. And you all have done that," McCaffrey continued. "I hope you enjoy all

Left — Tracy Clark (left), Army Volunteer Corps coordinator, hands a button to volunteer Mary Ward at U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii's Volunteer Appreciation Week kick off event.

these opportunities this week."

Prizes were drawn, and true to volunteerism, no one went home empty handed.

Just before the AAFES doors opened, Clark called out, "And, don't forget to pick up a button." Clark reminded the volunteers to proudly display their volunteer button all week so community members can identify them and say "thanks."

The week's activities came to a close at the annual Volunteer Recognition Ceremony, Thursday evening, at the Hale Ikena, Fort Shafter.

The events, organized by ACS, Clark and senior spouses, were sponsored by AAFES and the Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA).

*(Editors Note: See the May 1 edition of the Hawaii Army Weekly for more coverage of volunteer accomplishments.)*



# FMWR pools prepared to make a splash this summer

Story and Photo by  
**AMY L. BUGALA**  
Staff Writer

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Opportunities for swimming on the island of Oahu are plentiful whether at the beach or at one of the four Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (FMWR) swimming pools available to residents of U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii (USAG-HI) communities and Army families stationed here.

Swimmers young and old, Soldiers or civilians, can enjoy a variety of amenities at all the facilities with the opening of Aliamanu Military Reservation (AMR) pool, May 25, and the Helemano Military Reservation (HMR) pool, May 26.

The AMR and HMR facilities add to the year-round services already offered at the Tripler Army Medical Center (TAMC) and the Richardson, Schofield Barracks pools.

On The

WEB

Class schedules, operating hours, pool rules and pass fee information for all Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation facilities are listed at [www.mwrmymhawaii.com](http://www.mwrmymhawaii.com).



Wugen Connor, 6, prepares to head down the new 146-foot slide at the Richardson Pool, Schofield Barracks.

year. Towering above it all is one of its newest amenities, a 146-foot long spiral slide.

Smith said the new slide is safer with anti-slip stairs and provides a wider stairway split into two levels, for an easier climb to the top, especially for smaller children.

For Soldiers, the facility was one of the first to receive a Shallow Water Egress Trainer (SWET). Training with the device is the next step in familiarizing Soldiers with the difficulties and hazards of escaping from an overturned vehicle in shallow water.

The Richardson pool is the largest in the Department of Defense and offers 25- and 50-meter lap lanes, a one-meter diving board, two three-meter diving boards, a five-meter dive platform and a

hard top gazebo area with gas grills for pool party rentals.

An 18-inch deep children's wading pool is available for nonswimmers and children ages 5 and younger.

**Tripler Army Medical Facility Pool**

Also open year-round, the TAMC facility will start the high season with a resurfaced children's wading pool.

Although the wading pool is currently closed, "plaster repairs are in the works," Smith said, and she expects the wading pool to reopen in June.

"Toddlers love the TAMC wading pool because it graduates in depth from 0- to 12-inches deep in the center," she said, "like a beach."

She also revealed that the facility will be installing a new 6-foot slide. The

## Community center pool opens at Fort Shafter

**AMY L. BUGALA**  
Staff Writer

FORT SHAFTER — Residents of Army Hawaii Family Housing (AHFH) have a new amenity to enjoy here.

A 25-meter pool servicing AHFH residents garrison-wide opened recently at the 1st Lt. Jonathan Brostrom Community Center, Fort Shafter.

"We're excited to have our first aquatics facility open," said Lisa Reese, AHFH director of property management. "It's another great amenity we can offer, and it's great to see so many of our families enjoying it." The new facility features a 25-meter lap pool, splash park and children's sand pool. Families also can enjoy spectacular views of Pearl Harbor from the pool deck areas.

Unlike Army facilities, such as the pools provided by Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (FMWR), the 1st Lt. Brostrom Community Center was constructed, and is operated, maintained and supported solely by funds provided through AHFH residents and not U.S. Army Garrison-

Hawaii (USAG-HI). Therefore, current policies allow only AHFH residents and their family members (from any garrison installation) to use the pool.

"The community centers, to include the 1st Lt. Brostrom pool, are provided as a benefit and incentive to live in AHFH provided housing," explained Col. Matthew Margotta, commander, USAG-HI.

And in addition, for Soldiers and families who live off-post, "there are facilities that mirror the ones provided by AHFH for their use - that are supported by the Army."

In the southern community, FMWR offers a pool at Aliamanu Military Reservation and Tripler Army Medical Center and in Wakiki there is a pool at the Hale Koa Hotel.

The 1st Lt. Brostrom pool is open during the summer from 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Tuesday-Sunday. The pool is closed Mondays.

A pass is required for entry and can be obtained at the center. For more information about AHFH go to [www.armyhawaiifamilyhousing.com](http://www.armyhawaiifamilyhousing.com).

TAMC community also has access to a hard top gazebo area with gas grills for pool party rentals.

**Military Reservation Pools**

The AMR and HMR pools are smaller, seasonal facilities open May-October. Smith is currently working to offer some convenience upgrades at both facilities to include 20-by-20 foot tents and gas grills for pool party renters.

"This will give our communities at both these facilities a large, shaded area for children and family parties," said Smith. She explains that permanent tents are not in those locations due to the winds. Ultimately, Smith would like to see the facilities get permanent gazebo areas.

Because HMR's pool depth starts at 5-feet deep, the aquatics staff provides a teaching platform in the water to reduce the depth to approximately

two-and-a-half feet.

"The platform is especially useful during the 'Learn to Swim' classes, making it easier for the children," Smith said.

HMR also has a children's wading pool, but AMR does not due to space limitations. However, children ages 5 and younger are allowed in the pool with a life jacket on and accompanied by parents.

**Hale Koa Pool**

The Hale Koa Hotel, located directly on Waikiki Beach, is an Armed Forces Recreation Center that boasts three swimming pools and is open to anyone with a valid military ID.

All FMWR facilities are handicap accessible and offer a variety of classes for all ages. Residents are encouraged to get ready to make a splash, swim some laps, enjoy water aerobics, or learn to swim at these facilities this summer.





Eli Jorr, 8, places a pinwheel on the Capital lawn, April 17, to draw attention to child abuse and neglect. Community volunteers along with Prevent Child Abuse Hawaii and the Child Abuse Prevention Planning Council placed more than 5,000 pinwheels on the lawn to raise awareness. The pinwheels will be on display through April 26.

# Pinwheel: Everyone works together

CONTINUED FROM A-1

New Parent Support Program home visitor at U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, Army Community Service, placed more pinwheels on the lawn.

“At New Parent Support, we aim to prevent child abuse through education,” said Homont. “Events like this impact the whole community by bringing this issue to their attention.”

“It’s everyone working together to prevent child abuse by being aware,” Homont continued, adding that prevention information is readily

available to the community.

More than 3.5 million reports were made to Child Protective Services concerning the safety and well-being of approximately 6 million children in the U.S. in 2006, according to Prevent Child Abuse America. The reports said an estimated 905,000 children are victims of child abuse and neglect.

Prevent Child Abuse Hawaii, the Hawaii Chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America, and the Child Abuse Prevention Planning Council sponsored the Pinwheels for Prevention Project.

# Wolff: Leader, great American missed by family, friends, Army

CONTINUED FROM A-1

The Waianae Military Civilian Advisory Council (WMCAC) was one of several organizations Wolff formed during his command in the late-70s, to foster positive relations among Hawaii’s Army, local and native Hawaiian communities.

“His untiring efforts after his active service ended, contributed significantly to this great community,” Mixon added. “His passing will leave a hole that will be very tough to fill. His notable efforts began ... WMCAC and led the Hawaii Army Museum Society (HAMS).

“We will miss this great American, and our prayers are with his family during this difficult time,” said Mixon.

Born May 24, 1925, in Cologne, Germany, Wolff’s family relocated to the U.S. in 1939 to escape the harsh rule of the Nazi Party.

After the outbreak of World War II, Wolff tried to enlist in the Army, but was rejected as an “enemy alien.” Ironically, the Army drafted him in 1943.

Wolff served in the Pacific Theater. During the struggle on Luzon, when he was a private first class, he earned the Silver Star for Gallantry in Action.

In January 1945, while assigned to the Alamo Scouts, an all-volunteer commando unit, Wolff participated in a daring raid on a Japanese prisoner of war (POW) camp in the Philippines. The Alamo Scouts rescued 511 American POWs. For his leadership and bravery during the raid, Wolff earned a battlefield commission to second lieutenant.

He later earned a second Silver Star for actions during the Korean War, when he commanded two companies and a battalion in combat.

A graduate of Rutgers University and the Uni-

### In Memoriam

- Today, 8-9:30 a.m., Visitation, Central Union Church, 1660 S. Beretania St., Honolulu.
- Today, 10 a.m., Church Service, Central Union Church
- Today, 1 p.m., Burial with full military honors at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl).
- Saturday, 10 a.m., Memorial Service, Fort Derussy Chapel.
- For condolences: The Wolff Family; Queen Victoria, PH 2; 1080 S. Beretania St.; Honolulu, HI 96814.
- For contributions: Hawaii Army Museum Society, P.O. Box 8064, Honolulu, HI 96830.

versity of Maryland, Wolff earned a master’s degree in International Affairs from George Washington University. He was also a graduate of the Army War College.

Among Wolff’s many assignments were the U.S. Army Training Center, Fort Dix, N.J.; the Infantry Training Center, Fort Benning, Ga.; the U.S. Army Security Agency-Pacific in Hawaii; and the U.S. Army Commander in Chief of the Pacific (CINCPAC) Support Group and U.S. Army Support Command, Hawaii (USASCH) – a forerunner of today’s U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii structure.

Wolff received numerous commendations in addition to his two Silver Star awards. He was awarded three Distinguished Service Medals, four Legions of Merit, the Distinguished Flying Cross, four Bronze Star Medals and the Purple Heart.

He is survived by two sons, Rick and Allen, and eight grandchildren.





Earth is unmoved to symbolize a tree planting at the Earthday Festival, Sunday. Pictured (from left to right) is Jacqueline Ralya, with the Kaulunani Urban & Community Forestry Program; Claire Ridding-Johnston, Army Hawaii Family Housing project director; Amber Mirafuentes, 10, a fifth grader at Mililani Mauka and winner of the Arbor Day poster contest; and Col. Matthew Margotta, commander, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii.



**JACK WIERS**  
Staff Writer

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS – "When is my interview?" 10-year-old Aaron Washington eagerly inquired, repeatedly.

The Solomon Elementary School fourth grader wanted to make certain he would be on-the-record concerning his views about Earth Day. He came prepared to share his environmental wisdom.

As Washington and his friends patrolled the second annual Earthday Festival at the Kalakaua community center, here, Sunday, their youth was a central component of the event.

Sponsored by Army Hawaii Family Housing (AHFH), the Earthday Festival kicked off "Green Movement," a campaign to increase environmental awareness with young people.

"Of course, change comes with generations: getting younger generations in early and helping them understand what change is about, what environmental responsibility is about, and using kids as advocates of change," said Claire Ridding-Johnston, AHFH, project director, emphasizing the role Washington's generation plays in the future of the movement.

Free plants and dozens of conservation and environmental exhibits rimmed the site with children, education and the Month of the Military Child as predominant themes of the day.

More than two dozen displays offered insights and educational opportunities for children and adults concerning garrison conservation initiatives. Recycling, water conservation, soil management

and biodegradable household products were highlighted. Farmers and landscapers showcased native and locally grown plants, fruits and vegetables, and they provided tips to home gardeners.

The exhibits combined with a variety of youth-focused activities, such as T-shirt and face paintings, inflatable jumpy castles, dramatic storytellers and plenty of keiki food were more than enough activity to keep Washington and his friends engaged for a sunny afternoon.

"Earth Day is important because it reminds us to conserve and take care of our environment," Washington said, when he was asked about the significance of the day.

Washington's moment had arrived, although he did need to have a friend hold his shave ice during his media encounter.

Eighth grader, Nikki Stuart, 13, from Mililani Mauka Middle School wanted to immediately share some of her newfound knowledge with her parents, and set some new standards for herself.

"I would tell (my parents) to conserve water because we use much more water than we should. After today, I will take shorter showers because I take them too long," Stuart said.

The Earth Day movement evolved as a natural extension of Arbor Day. In the spirit of Arbor Day,



Mirafuentes



All Photos by Aiko Brum | U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs

Michael Gruver, 7, cleans a dirty car on the ground at Bishop Museum's Water Works exhibit, as Rhonda Suzuki, chief compliance branch, Environmental Division, Directorate of Public Works, chats with him. Michael said, "You should wash your car on the grass because, if not, all this dirt goes down the storm drain, and it might kill the animals."

a tree planting ceremony took place designating Schofield Barracks as a "Tree City USA" community.

Col. Matthew Margotta, commander, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii; members of AHFH; and a young local artist, Amber Mirafuentes, helped plant the tree. Mirafuentes, a Mililani Mauka Elementary School student, was recognized as the winner of the Arbor Day poster contest after the planting.

"It all starts with trying to change a generation of young kids. They're our future," said Margotta. "That's the way it is in our household."

"My two boys come home from a field trip, and they talk about sustainability, conservation, the environment ... and they tell us what they learned."

## Engineers partner with community to benefit the 'aina'

**JOSEPH BONFIGLIO**

Honolulu District Corps of Engineers Public Affairs

HONOLULU – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Honolulu District, recently joined with the City and County of Honolulu and concerned citizens to participate in the Earth Day 2009 clean up entitled "Mauka to Makai Connection to the Ala Wai."

Also, more than 60 volunteers participated to clean up the beach and berm area of the Corps' Pacific Regional Visitor Center, Fort DeRussy, April 11. Punahou High School Junior ROTC, Cub Scouts Pack 464 in Mililani, the Corps of Engineers, and family and community members volunteered.

"I feel good about doing this," said Col. Robert Takao, commander, JROTC Punahou H.S. "Our program has been doing this for several years now. It's a very worthwhile endeavor. It helps our students understand how fragile our environment is and how important it is for our students to understand their responsibility to protect the environment."

These sentiments were echoed by Pack 464 leader Tanya Castro.

"I'm teaching the Cub Scouts that we have to take care of the planet so it can take care of us," Castro said. "Our motto is to help and serve. I hope that the Cub Scouts can be role models for us so that we can all take care of the aina (land)."



Courtesy Photo

A group of Junior ROTC cadets from Punahou prepare to clean up Fort DeRussy as part of the Corps and City and County of Honolulu's Earth Day 2009 Mauka to Makai Connection to the Ala Wai cleanup.

"I was happy to join the Earth Day volunteers. We gathered a significant amount of trash from the beach and berm area at Fort DeRussy," said Steve Yamamoto, chief, Civil Works Technical Branch, Honolulu District. "Our Park Rangers, Angela Jones and John Mueller, did a super job in organizing and coordinating this event."

The City and County of Honolulu's Department of Environmental Services also sponsored an Earth Day "Mauka to Makai Environmental Expo" at the Waikiki Aquarium. Participants included

many organizations interested in keeping Honolulu green and clean.

The expo showcased the efforts of city, state and federal agencies to preserve and protect Hawaii's environment, with an emphasis on the islands' unique water resources.

Family-friendly activities included picture-taking with Apoha the oopu, water pollution prevention games, arts and crafts, and storytelling about Hawaii's environment.

At the ocean, children released dozens of Moi into the wild behind the

Waikiki Aquarium. Moi are an important part of the Hawaiian culture, believed to be the prized fish of the Alii (kings).

Cindy Barger, Ala Wai project manager, Honolulu District, attended the expo and explained the proposed Ala Wai watershed project to participants.

The Corps is teaming up with the City and County of Honolulu and the State of Hawaii to study various solutions for a comprehensive watershed approach to reducing the risk of flooding in Waikiki and to improving the water quality of the area.

Barger manned the Corps' booth at the event to educate the community on issues in the watershed and objectives of the Ala Wai project study.

Partners in the Ala Wai watershed project also provided booths at the event: the Natural Resources Conservation Service, City and County Department of Environmental Services, Board of Water Supply, Department of Land and Natural Resources, Commission for Water Resource Management, and the Department of Health.

All of the events featured family-friendly and hands-on educational displays by city, state and federal agencies, and the University of Hawaii. Hundreds of people participated in several other events around the city and county, including many adopt-a-stream clean ups in the Ala Wai watershed.

## Hawaii honors military

The Military Affairs Council of the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, community members and businesses in Hawaii celebrate the military's presence in the Hawaiian Islands throughout May.

All service members and their families are invited to take part in the activities offered during the 24th Annual Hawaii Military Appreciation Month (HMAM).

### Saturday, May 2

**The Bishop Museum HMAM Day** – The Bishop Museum is hosting a Military Appreciation Day, May 2. General admission is free to all retired, active duty and reserve military members and their families with ID.

Regular family Sunday prices apply for kamaaina, \$3; for adult nonmilitary visitors, \$15.95; for ages 4-12 and for 65 years up, \$12.95; and 3 and under are free.

The museum's collections, library, and archives bring the Native Hawaiian language, history and culture alive. Call 848-4106 for more information.

### Saturday, May 16

**Living History Day** – The U.S. Army Museum of Hawaii will host a Living History Day to commemorate Armed Forces Day, May 16, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., on the lawn area of the museum at Fort DeRussy.

The event will include static exhibits of modern military Soldiers and equipment, military memorabilia, restored military vehicles, re-enactors in period uniforms and hands-on displays of nongovernment military artifacts. Call 438-2825.

### Military Band Concert

The Combined Military Band Concert will perform at the Hawaii Theatre, May 16, 7-8:30 p.m. Tickets are free and open to the public. Call 545-4300, ext. 317.

### Thursday, May 21

**Military Recognition Luncheon** – The Annual Military Recognition Luncheon is scheduled, May 21, noon-1:30 p.m. at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Hotel. This event is the public's opportunity to welcome home returning heroes and recognize military community service awardees. Call 545-4300, ext. 317.

### Saturday, June 6

**Honolulu Zoo HMAM Day** – General admission to the Honolulu Zoo is free for retired, active duty and reserve military members and their families with ID, June 6, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Call 971-7195.

### Ongoing

**Contemporary Museum Celebrates Military** – Just in time for Military Appreciation Month, the Contemporary Museum is offering free entry for retired, active duty and reserve military members and their families with ID.

Regular museum hours are Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., and Sunday noon-4 p.m. Call 526-1322.

### More offers

Various visitor attractions, restaurants retailers and other Hawaii businesses offer military discounts/specials throughout the month of May. Check local newspapers for more deals.





## 24 / Today

**Hawaiian Luau** – Experience old Hawaii at the Sunset Café, Pihilaau Army Recreation Center's (PARC). Attend the luau today at 6 p.m. Reservations are required for groups of four or more; call 696-4778.

PARC is open to all active and retired military, members of the Reserve and National Guard, and active and retired Department of Defense civilian employees, including Coast Guard, family members and sponsored guests.

## 25 / Saturday

**Pacific Handcrafts Excursion** – Ride along to the best craft sale on the island, April 25, 9 a.m., at Thomas Square, Honolulu. Spend a day checking out the sites and the best crafts around.

Seating is limited, and registration is required. Call 655-4202.

**Teen Dance Club** – Enjoy dancing and need a place to let loose? Stop by the Teen Dance Party, April 25, noon-4 p.m., at Dave & Buster's, Ward Center, for ages 13-17. Make new friends and have fun with current ones. Cover charge is \$10 with a valid ID. Call 833-0920 or 389-9144.

## 28 / Tuesday

**Mouseercise with Mickey** – Mouse around with Mickey and friends during a mouseercise aerobic routine, April 28, 6:30-7:30 a.m., at the Fort Shafter gymnasium. The 30-minute physical training (PT) event will be followed by a continental breakfast. Bring a gym towel.

Photographs will be available for Blue Star Card holders and their children. Call 655-6465.

**Trauma in the Unit** – The Army Community Service (ACS) Mobilization and Deployment office will be offering "Trauma in the Unit" training for all family readiness group leaders, family readiness support assistants and commanders, April 28, 9-10 a.m., Classroom 2, ACS, Schofield Barracks.

This training is designed to help spouse leaders support survivors after the loss of a loved one. Call 655-4354/4368.

## 29 / Wednesday

**Facebook Training** – Army Community Service will hold a Facebook training class, April 29, 1 p.m., at Army Community Service, Schofield Barracks, Classroom 2.

Family readiness group leaders and family readiness support assistants are invited to learn how to use Facebook within Army regulations. Call 655-4354/4368.

**Poisonous Plants Seminar** – Attend a seminar on poisonous and harmful



Julie Ariola | U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii

# Floating along

HELEMANO MILITARY RESERVATION — Children reach for bubbles along the parade route at the Child Development Center's Month of the Military Child (MOMC) parade, here, April 16. Escorted by the U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii military police and fire department, more than 175 children and parents marched to patriotic songs, blew bubbles and had fun celebrating the military's smallest heroes.

Hawaiian plants, April 29, 5-6:30 p.m., at the Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks.

This seminar will be presented by Shirley Black Gerum, an ethnobotany instructor at Chaminade University. She will begin with a walking tour outside the library to help attendees learn to recognize harmful plants. Call 655-8002.

# May

## 1 / Friday

**ITR Expo** – See everything Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (FMWR) and the wonderful state of Hawaii have to offer at an Information, Ticketing and Registration (ITR) Expo, May 1, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., at Schofield Barracks Main Exchange.

Dozens of representatives from island attractions and FMWR programs will be on hand to answer questions and provide recreation and leisure information. Call 655-9971.

**Family Fun Fridays** – Family Fun Friday is back at the Tropics Recreation Center, May 1, 6 p.m. with free Papa John's pizza, games and contests the whole family can enjoy. Check out Nintendo Wii, PS3 and Xbox 360 games, or play a game of pool, darts, air hockey, table tennis, beach volleyball and much more. Call 655-5698.

**Waikiki Party Bus** – The Army bus rides again, May 1, 9 p.m.-4 a.m. The bus will pick up riders on Schofield Barracks and Fort Shafter and take them down to party in Waikiki, worry-free.

Free tickets are available at Information, Ticketing and Registration offices,

and riders must have a ticket to board the party bus.

The bus is also scheduled to run, May 15 and 29, June 12 and 26, and July 17 and 31. Call 655-9971/438-1985.

## 4 / Monday

**Newborn Care I and II** – Taking care of a newborn for the first time can be scary. From holding, to diapering and bathing, come learn the basics of newborn care to make the early months special for you and your baby. This class is a two-part series that provides tips about newborn care.

•Newborn Care I is May 4, 9-11 a.m., Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks, and May 5, 9-11 a.m., Aliamanu Military Reservation (AMR) community center.

•Newborn Care II is May 11, 9-11 a.m., Sgt. Yano Library, and May 12, 9-11 a.m., at AMR community center. Call 655-4227.

**Parenting Class** – Be a successful parent with the help of the Family Advocacy Prevention team. Participate in the 1-2-3 Magic Parenting class, May 4, 9-11 a.m., at Army Community Service, Schofield Barracks, and May 11, 9-11a.m., at Aliamanu Military Reservation community center.

Learn new ways to effectively deal with a child's behavior, improve communication, and build self esteem. To register, call 655-0596.

## 5 / Tuesday

**Make Your Own Ukulele** – Learn the fine Hawaiian art of ukulele making beginning May 5, 6-8 p.m., at the Schofield Barracks Arts and Crafts woodshop. This

class will meet each Tuesday for eight sessions. Cost is \$225 and includes all supplies and tools needed. Call 655-4202.

**Cinco de Mayo** – Celebrate Cinco de Mayo at the Tropics, Schofield Barracks, May 5. Enjoy "Fiesta Hour" with specials starting at 4 p.m. Great food, hilarious contests, entertainment and more. Reserve a spot for this great party today. Call 655-5698.

## 6 / Wednesday

**Pottery Wheel Throwing** – Schofield Barracks' Arts and Crafts Center is offering pottery wheel classes starting May 6. The class will meet each Wednesday from 6-8 p.m. for four sessions. Cost is \$60 and includes supplies. Call 655-4202.

# Ongoing

**Auto Storage Rental Special** – For a limited time only, rent a metal storage shed at the Schofield Barracks or Fort Shafter Auto Skills Centers for only \$40 for the entire length of your rental. Call 655-9368 or 438-9402.

**Island Tour** – Want to discover Oahu? A free island tour, designed to familiarize all newly arrived Soldiers and family members, is held every Tuesday, and the second and fourth Wednesday of the month, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. The tour will orient you to the Hawaiian culture and customs, language, installation and various points of interests.

Tuesday tours depart from Schofield Barracks, and Wednesday tours depart from Fort Shafter. Call 655-4227.

clinging efforts, go to [www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil](http://www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil), and click on "sustainability."

**New Recycling Bin** – Fort Shafter Elementary School invites the community to use its new recycling bin in front of the school. Recycling benefits the environment, and all monetary proceeds will benefit the school.

The following items will be accepted loosely, not in plastic bags: aluminum cans (rinsed), glass bottles and jars (rinsed, lids removed), and plastic containers (rinsed, lids removed.)

Please bag/box the following items before depositing: newspapers (magazines and glossy inserts removed), corrugated cardboard (flattened), and white bond and colored bond paper.

**HPU Registration** – Hawaii Pacific University offers associate's, bachelor's and master's degree programs on military posts for service and family members.

Contact HPU at the Schofield Barracks Education Center at 687-7093 or Tripler Education Center at 687-7036. Visit [www.hpu.edu/military](http://www.hpu.edu/military).

**Making the Grade** – Students can cash in on the Army and Air Force Exchange Service's (AAFES) "You Made the Grade" program. This reward program is designed to recognize above-average academic achievement.

Qualifying students will receive a coupon booklet that includes free admission to an AAFES Reel Time Theater, a complimentary slice of Anthony's Pizza with drink and a free magazine, as well as other coupons.

To be eligible for a booklet, students must present a valid military ID and proof of an overall "B" or better average to their local post exchange.

**Twitter** – Do you Twitter? Follow the garrison at [www.twitter.com/usaghi](http://www.twitter.com/usaghi). For more information, call 656-3153.



Send announcements to [community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com](mailto:community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com).

# May

## 1 / Friday

**Case Lot Sales** – Commissary Case Lot sales are scheduled to take place islandwide in May. Stock up and save at these locations: Schofield Barracks, May 15-16; Hickam Air Force Base, May 15-17; Pearl Harbor, May 22-23; Barber's Point (Kalaheo), May 29-30; and Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, May 1-2.

Check local store information for hours of operation at [www.commissaries.com](http://www.commissaries.com).

## 15 / Friday

**MICA Scholarships** – The Military Intelligence Corps Association (MICA) Scholarship Program provides scholarships for individuals pursuing undergraduate degrees or technical certifications. Scholarships may be used for attendance at regionally accredited colleges, universities or state-approved vocational schools/technical institutions. Applicants must be a current individual member of MICA or a family member of such and pursuing a first undergraduate (associate's or bachelor's) degree or a technical certification.

Applicants already possessing an undergraduate degree or seeking a graduate degree are not eligible. Previous MICA scholarship recipients may com-

pete for subsequent scholarships.

Instructions and application forms are located at [www.micorps.org](http://www.micorps.org). Applications must be postmarked no later than May 15. Late or incomplete applications will be returned to the applicant without consideration. For details, call Sgt. Maj. Steven Kroll at 520-533-1174.

# Ongoing

**Celebrate Centennial** – Audio podcasts highlighting the significance of 25 historical sites located on Schofield Barracks are now available to download at the U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Web site.

Explore the history of Schofield Barracks and celebrate its centennial. A variety of different formats are available to augment a walking or driving tour, such as WMV, MP3, M4V and AIFF. A tour brochure can be found at the Tropic Lightning Museum.

Visit the podcast page at [www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil/sites/podcasts/](http://www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil/sites/podcasts/)

[TropicLightningCentennial.asp](http://TropicLightningCentennial.asp).

**Share Your Experiences** – April is the Month of the Military Child. Children ages 8-18 are encouraged to upload stories, pictures, videos or podcasts that describe what it's like to be a military child.

To upload content and find more events that celebrate the Month of the Military Child, visit [www.armymomc.org](http://www.armymomc.org).

**New Recycling Initiatives** – Keep unwanted metals and plastics out of landfills by recycling old cellular phones. Proceeds generated from this initiative will help fund environmental projects and Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation events for the community.

Call 656-5411 or 864-1048 for a pick up or drop off at the Environmental Division offices, Building 105, 3rd floor, Wheeler Army Airfield.

The Army Recycling Center now accepts magazines, brochures, catalogues, and other glossy paper products for recycling. Items will be collected when customers request a regular pick up.

To learn more about on-post recy-



**Aliamanu (AMR) Chapel**  
**836-4599**

- Catholic Sunday, 8:30 a.m. – Mass Sunday, 9:45 a.m. – Religious Edu.
- Gospel Sunday, 11 a.m. – Sunday School (Sept.-June only) Sunday, 12:30 p.m. – Worship service
- Protestant Sundays, 9:45 a.m. – Worship Service Sunday, 11 a.m. – Sunday School (Sept. – June only)

**Fort DeRussy Chapel**  
**836-4599**

- Catholic Saturday, 5 p.m. – Mass in Chapel (May-Aug.) Saturday, 6 p.m. – Mass on Beach
- Protestant Sunday, 9 a.m. – Worship Service
- Buddhist 1st Sunday, 1 p.m.

**Fort Shafter Chapel**  
**836-4599**

- Contemporary Protestant Sunday, 9 a.m. – "The Wave" Worship

**Helemano (HMR) Chapel**  
**653-0703**

- Contemporary Protestant Sunday, 9 a.m. – Bible Study Sunday, 10 a.m. – Worship Service 8 Children's Church

**Main Post Chapel 655-9307**

- Catholic Sunday, 9 a.m. – CCD & RCIA Sunday, 10:30 a.m. – Mass
- Collective Protestant Sunday, 9 a.m. – Worship Sunday, 10:30 a.m. – Sunday School
- Gospel Sunday, 10:30 a.m. – Sunday School Sunday, noon – Worship Service

**MPC Annex, Building 791**

- Chalice Circle Tuesday, 7 p.m.
- Islamic Prayers and Study Friday, 1 p.m.
- Buddhist 4th Sunday, 1 p.m.

**Soldiers Chapel**

- Catholic Friday-Saturday, noon – Adoration
- Liturgical Sunday, 9:30 a.m.– Worship

**Tripler AMC Chapel**  
**433-5727**

- Catholic Sunday, 11 a.m. – Mass Monday-Friday, 12 p.m. – Mass Saturday, 5 p.m. – Mass
- Protestant Sunday, 9 a.m. – Worship Service

**Wheeler Chapel 656-4481**

- Catholic Saturday, 5 p.m. – Mass
- Collective Protestant Sunday, 9 a.m. – Worship Sunday, 9 a.m. – Sunday School



Call 624-2585 for movie listings or go to [aafes.com](http://aafes.com) under reeltime movie listing.



## Duplicity

(PG-13)  
Friday, 7 p.m.  
Wednesday, 7 p.m.



## Coraline

(PG)  
Saturday, 4 p.m.  
Thursday, 7 p.m.

## Madea Goes to Jail

(PG-13)  
Saturday, 7 p.m.

No shows on Mondays or Tuesdays.



# Blue Star Card holders learn to paddle like professionals

Story and Photo by  
**MOLLY HAYDEN**  
Staff Writer

WAIANA E – Blue Star Card members grabbed paddles and stood next to large stand-up paddleboards at Pokai Bay Beach, April 16, for a lesson from the Schofield Barracks Outdoor Recreation Center (ODR).

The eight family members listened as Gerald Vidal, recreation assistant, Martinez Physical Fitness Center, Schofield Barracks, explained various procedures and techniques for successful paddling.

With the sand balancing the boards beneath them, each family member practiced knee positions, foot placement and stance, standing up and paddle strokes. Launching the board, dismounting and safety were also discussed.

“Don’t think about balancing; just do it,” said Rich Robinson, assistant manager for ODR, offering advice. “Use fluid motions.”

Family members then launched their boards into a steady sea and practiced the techniques. Within minutes, nearly all the participants were standing and paddling like the pros.



Family members practice techniques on Pokai Beach before attempting to paddle on the stand-up board in the water.

“Look at everyone,” said Pete Bautista, program specialist, ODR, pointing from the shore. “They are all up and on their way.

“That took no time at all,” added Bautista, smiling.

Participants took several laps around the bay, stopping to watch a pod of spinner dolphins flipping through the air approximately 10 feet in

front of them. A sea turtle poked his head out of the water and began to swim alongside family member Erica Wetzel.

“Hawaii has so much to offer,” said Wetzel, “so many new things to try and experience. It’s great to have this chance.”

Stand-up paddling was new for Wetzel, and her experience was a good one.

“Some things you are never sure you can do until you try,” she said.

“I’m really glad (Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation) offered this opportunity,” said family member Kyle Meisner. “It gives us a chance to learn new things.”

“When my husband redeploy s, I’ll be taking him stand-up paddling,” said Meisner.

For family member Jacqueline Lai, the art of stand-up paddling was harder than it looked.

“It’s difficult, but a lot of fun,” said Lai. “I’m glad I tried it and will definitely be coming out more.”

Stand-up paddling is taking the world by storm and is practiced in Hawaii, overseas and all across the continental United States.

Enthusiasts are using rivers, lakes and oceans across the world for stand-up paddling, whether to ride the waves or enjoy a casual paddle session across a steady stream.

Stand-up paddling offers great exercise and an exhilarating experience on the water, according to Robinson.

“And it’s fun,” added Robinson.



## April

### 25 / Saturday

**Sand Volleyball Tournament** – Beach volleyball players are invited to participate in an open 2-on-2 sand volleyball tournament, April 25, 8:30 a.m., at the Tropics, Schofield Barracks.

All military and civilian personnel are eligible. Cost is \$10 entry per player. For more information or to register, call Michael Smyrchnyski at 438-1152. Additional tournament dates are scheduled for May 30, June 27, July 25, Aug. 29 and Sept. 26.

## May

### 2 / Saturday

**Surfing Lessons** – Learn to surf like the pros, or at least look the part, May 2, 7-10 a.m. Cost is \$35 and all equipment and round-trip transportation from Schofield Barracks is included. Call 655-0143.

### 3 / Sunday

**Virtual Bike Tour** – Bicyclists can virtually cycle around Oahu during this competitive physical challenge beginning May 3, at the Helemano Military Reservation (HMR) Physical Fitness Center. Cycle at least 40 minutes a week for 8 weeks to complete the full-circuit island bike tour. Call 653-0719 for more information.

**Adventure Biking** – Enjoy an easy, family-friendly bike tour of the North Shore area, May 3, 7 a.m.-noon. Discover local “secrets,” including great beach locations along the North Shore bike path.

This novice biking activity is suitable for all ages. Cost is \$15 plus an additional \$5 for bike rental, if needed. Call 655-0143.



Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation is accepting entries for the 2009 10-Mile Race Around Wheeler, scheduled for June 13 at 6:45 a.m.

The race is the qualifying event for Soldiers wishing to represent Team Army Hawaii.

It is open to active duty Soldiers, retired Soldiers, other military working or residing on an Army installation, National Guardsmen,

Army Reservists, their adult family members, Department of Defense, Department of the Army, and Army & Air Force Exchange Service civilians working on an Army installation.

The fastest times for the first four male and first two female active duty Soldiers will represent Team Army Hawaii.

Soldiers are required to submit their commander’s authorization

to be considered for the team, and entries must be received by June 5, 4 p.m., at the Health and Fitness Center, Schofield Barracks, or the Physical Fitness Center, Fort Shafter.

Soldiers can purchase a T-shirt for \$10 or enter without a T-shirt for free.

All other eligible runners can purchase a T-shirt for \$18 or enter without a T-shirt for \$8.



Send sports announcements to  
community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

### 25 / Saturday

**Hike Oahu** – Join the Hawaiian Trail & Mountain Club on a 3-mile novice hike to the Hamama Falls, April 25. Call coordinators Dayle and Jacque Turner, 384-4821, or turner@hawaii.edu.

Save the date for this hike, too:

•April 26, an 8-mile intermediate valley hike in Haauula.

A \$2 donation is requested of

nonmembers. An adult must accompany children under 18. Hikers typically meet at Iolani Palace, mountainside. Visit [www.htmlclub.org](http://www.htmlclub.org).

**Get Golf Ready** – The Ko Olina Golf Club is hosting a free “Get Golf Ready” family fun day, April 25, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Participate in clinics with PGA professionals, contests, keiki activities, PGA hitting cage, equipment demonstrations and testing, free food and more. Visit [www.koolinagolf.com](http://www.koolinagolf.com).

### 26 / Sunday

**Tackle Football Registration** – The Wahiawa Youth Sports League will conduct Youth Tackle Football registration for children ages 9-13 at the Wahiawa District

Park, April 26, 4-6 p.m.

Bring your child’s birth certificate and current medical card. Children will be fitted for game jerseys on registration day. Registration costs \$275.

Download forms at [www.leaguelineup.com/wahiawa](http://www.leaguelineup.com/wahiawa). E-mail [wysl\\_football@yahoo.com](mailto:wysl_football@yahoo.com).

## May

### 9 / Saturday

**Wahiawa Pineapple 10K** – Register to take part in the 34th Annual 10K Pineapple Run, May 9, 7 a.m., starting at Kaala Elementary School, Mahele Street, Wahiawa.

The 10K (6.2 mile) scenic loop takes runners through Wahiawa and

the surrounding pineapple fields. The top three male and female finishers in each age group receive medals, and all participants receive a T-shirt and a pineapple.

Register online through May 7 at [www.active.com](http://www.active.com), (search “pineapple run”) Costs \$20. Call 477-6434.

## Ongoing

**ARC Swimming Classes** – Registration is now open for free American Red Cross summer learn to swim classes. Sessions are available for all ages and take place at Ala Moana Beach Park, June and July. Register online at [www.hawaiiiredcross.org](http://www.hawaiiiredcross.org).

Contact the Hawaii Red Cross at 739-8179.