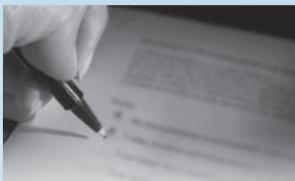




Pearl Harbor Kai Elementary celebrates May Day, Makahiki
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Federal employees invited to give feedback
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Pukin Dogs take on Jefferson City
See page B-3

“Navigator” HO'OKELE

FOR THE NAVY AND AIR FORCE TEAM IN HAWAII

May 18, 2018

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Volume 9 Issue 19

U.S. Pacific Fleet conducts change of command

MC1 Phillip Pavlovich

U.S. Pacific Fleet
Public Affairs

Adm. John C. Aquilino relieved Adm. Scott Swift as commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet (PACFLT) during a change of command ceremony on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam May 17.

During his remarks, Swift reflected on his time in the Navy and thanked the Sailors and civilians at PACFLT for their hard work at the command.

“I am grateful for the opportunities the Navy has provided,” Swift said. “Most of all I love the Navy for the relationships I have developed. But to finish my career here, in the Pacific Fleet, the only fleet I have ever sailed in, headquartered in the city I was born in, in the harbor of my father’s first command, doing what I

love is something dreams are made of.”

Adm. Harry Harris, commander, U.S. Pacific Command, said it was a great honor to publically commend Swift for a spectacular tour and commended him for his leadership over the past three years.

“Thank you to the women and men of Pacific Fleet for being where it matters, when it matters, and with what matters to decisively prevail in all contingencies from peace to war,” Harris said. “Your efforts have advanced maritime security and enhanced stability not only in the Indo Pacific, but also the world.”

With the historic USS Arizona and Battleship Missouri memorials as the backdrop, Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. John Richardson welcomed Aquilino and recognized Swift’s



Adm. John C. Aquilino, left, salutes Adm. John M. Richardson, Chief of Naval Operations, assuming command of U.S. Pacific Fleet, during a change of command ceremony.

Photo by MC3 Jessica O. Blackwell

achievements as PACFLT commander.

“This is a celebration of the Pacific Fleet,” Richardson said. “In the action of a single salute, all authority, all responsibility and all accountability

will transfer from Adm. Swift to Adm. Aquilino. And with that transfer of command, with that salute, so too goes our loyalties. So we are indeed saddened to see (Adm. Swift) and Trish go, but

they are being replaced by another superb leadership team (Adm. Aquilino) and Laura. Congratulations on your selection to this unbelievably vital position. You are the perfect team to lead the fleet

to a new level of performance.”

After assuming command, Aquilino said his mission was clear - be ready to execute prompt and sustained combat operations at sea against any adversary, and win.

“A great power competition has reemerged as the central challenge to security and prosperity against our nation. Nowhere are the stakes of that great power competition higher than here in the Indo-Pacific region,” Aquilino said. “To any potential adversary that wishes to challenge us, the Secretary of Defense said it best, ‘You can have no better friend, or you can have no worse enemy’ than the U.S. Pacific Fleet, that choice will be yours.”

For more news from U.S. Pacific Fleet, visit www.navy.mil/local/cpf/.

USS Halsey returns to Pearl Harbor after deployment



Photo by ATAN Joshua Markwith

USS Halsey Command Master Chief (SW/AW) Celina A. Miller reunites with her family.

MC3 Nicholas Burgains

USS Halsey (DDG 97)
Public Affairs

The Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Halsey (DDG 97) returned to its homeport, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, May 14, after a seven-month deployment to the U.S. 5th and 7th Fleet areas of operations.

Halsey departed Pearl Harbor, Oct. 16, to join the Theodore Roosevelt Carrier Strike Group (TRCSG).

During its deployment, Halsey supported maritime security operations, freedom of navigation operations, and theater security cooperation efforts in the South China Sea, Arabian Sea, and surrounding waters.

“The crew performed absolutely phenomenally throughout this deployment,” said Cmdr. David L. Reyes, Halsey’s commanding officer. “We’ve led from the front with every exercise and operation we’ve conducted and I’m extremely proud of every Sailor in our crew.”

Throughout the deployment, Halsey conducted numerous strait transits and several high-value asset escort missions in 5th Fleet.

Halsey participated in the trilateral exercise Intrepid Sentinel with the Royal Australian Navy and French Marine Nationale, improving interoperability in multiple warfare areas.

The crew later participated in exercise Guardian with the Royal Thai Navy, enhancing the anti-submarine capabilities

of both navies.

Halsey successfully completed port visits to Santa Rita, Guam; Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain; Muscat, Oman; Changi, Republic of Singapore; and Phuket, Thailand.

“It almost felt like a completely different world compared to being back home but I definitely enjoyed it,” said Cryptologic Technician (Technical) 2nd Class Termaine Pruitt.

“I feel I really built a lot of strong bonds this deployment and I’m already looking forward to revisiting some of the places.”

While in port, Sailors participated in community service projects, enjoyed rest and recreation, and participated in tours presented by the ship’s Morale, Welfare and Recreation program.

Sailors renovated side-

walks in Guam, painted buildings at American Mission Hospital in Manama, and prepared meals at Willing Hearts Soup Kitchen in Singapore.

“Even though you’re out at sea, it still feels good being able to give something back to the community when you get the chance,” said Culinary Specialist 2nd Fernandez Boose.

“Just talking to locals in the area helps you realize that we’re not all that different.”

As Halsey steamed home, Sailors looked forward to returning to their homes and families.

“It’s definitely going to be weird at first,” said Pruitt. “It’s going to feel great though, being able to go home after work every day or the little things like driving and just relaxing with friends.”

AWA informs

Story and photo by
Kristen Wong

Life & Leisure Editor
Ho’okele

More than 70 service members and families attended the inaugural Aloha Welcome Academy (AWA) at Club Pearl Complex, May 14.

Eligible service members (regardless of branch) and their spouses may attend this weekly class, which runs Monday through Wednesday. The three days include information about Hawaiian culture, various activities, base amenities, the history of the Navy and Air Force in Hawaii and more.

On Monday, attendees listened to a presentation, took a bus tour of Hickam and Pearl Harbor, and a boat ride past the USS Arizona Memorial.

On Tuesday, after a morning informational session, the Honolulu

Navy League provided a bus tour of Oahu. Wednesday included information on topics such as travel, pay and healthcare.

“I think this is a great way to welcome our military ohana that’s getting stationed to the island and help them acclimate to all the unique, different and wonderful opportunities that we have living here for a few years,” said Shelly Habeck, a program analyst with Navy Region Hawaii, and an AWA presenter.

“As the program continues to grow and the information gets out there I think it’ll help make everybody’s lives a little bit easier and transitioning here to the island easier.”

Habeck is also a military spouse, and having moved to six different duty stations, added her personal experiences to her presentation.

“The AWA allows attendees to be in a com-



Attendees peruse brochures and fliers from Morale, Welfare and Recreation during the inaugural Aloha Welcome Academy at the Club Pearl Complex, May 14.

fortable environment and adjust faster,” she said. “The sooner they get an introduction, the better.”

Habeck said attending the AWA can help with several aspects of transitioning. For instance, because there are multiple bases in close proximity to each other, there are more opportunities for the service member, from renting a cabin at Bellows Air Force Station to competing in a race.

Logistically, they can also find out necessities

such as registering a vehicle in the state.

In addition, service members can learn what makes Hawaii unique, from learning about historic sights to pronouncing Hawaiian words.

“Hawaii has a deeply rooted culture and history you won’t find anywhere,” she said.

The tour highlighted Nuuanu Pali Lookout, Mokoli’i (Chinaman’s Hat) at Kualoa Beach Park, and lunch at one of the shrimp trucks parked

near Kahuku.

The attendees visited beaches along the North Shore and Haleiwa Town.

“I think (the AWA) is a great thing,” said Lt. Robert Torrison, the suicide prevention program manager for Navy Region Hawaii and an AWA presenter.

“When I came to the island, I didn’t know where anything was; I didn’t now what there was to do,” he said. “There are a lot of growing pains in trying to figure out where to go and

how to do it.”

Torrison said it initially took him months of trial and error to find simple needs such as the gym or the grocery store.

“If you come in and have an opportunity to take a class where somebody can tell you or teach you all of that stuff up front than you don’t struggle as much trying to figure everything out,” he said. “(The AWA) gives the service member an opportunity to hit the ground running.”

Elementary school celebrates 75th anniversary

Story and photo by
MC3 Jessica Blackwell

Navy Public Affairs
Support Element
Detachment Hawaii

Pearl Harbor Kai Elementary School celebrated its 75th anniversary May 10.

The school honored this milestone during its May Day observance culminating in Makahiki activities.

May Day is a longstanding Hawaiian tradition that celebrates the aloha spirit and giving of the flower lei. The May Day observance happens every two years at the Pearl Harbor Kai Elementary School.

"May Day is a time to bring students and families together and promote Hawaiian culture," said Dean Casupang, principal of Pearl Harbor Kai. "The students put in countless hours with our teachers to make this event a success."

The May Day observance was full of singing and dancing performed by the students in front of family, friends and a May



Linda Valite-Anderson, a former Pearl Harbor Kai Elementary School teacher, reads the story of "The Night Marchers" to students during the school's May Day celebration, May 11.

Day Royal Court.

To honor their 75th anniversary, the school included Makahiki activities to conclude the day of festivities. Makahiki is a Hawaiian festival that reverences celebration, peace, and thanksgiving.

It usually begins in

November and extends to February, however for this special occasion the school felt the Makahiki activities should be included.

"We thought, this year it would be great to include the Makahiki activities just as we did for our 50th

anniversary," said Bonnie Scheuring, Pearl Harbor Kai's student services coordinator.

"After the performances the students will fall into their respective groups and begin the Makahiki activities at different stations like storytelling,

lei making, kapa making and Hawaiian games."

The anniversary and May Day celebration was an event that not only allowed students and teachers to work together but also recalled former staff.

Maria Mendoza, a retired music teacher of Pearl Harbor Kai, returned to the school in February to work with the students from each grade two times a week in preparation of the May Day observance ceremony.

"It was really a collaborative effort by everyone," said Mendoza. "I really wanted this to be special."

There is a lot of history in the Pearl Harbor area. Mendoza spoke on the meaning of the school's name and how it ties to the area.

"Kai, which means water, is here, all around us," said Mendoza. "In the kai lives the spirit of the shark, the aumakua, the guardian angel, which has been protecting this area for hundreds of years. This is why the school is known as Pearl Harbor Kai Sharks."

Former staff and teachers were not the only people who felt a call to assist in the May Day celebration.

Sailors from Command Navy Surface Group Middle Pacific and Command Pacific Fleet volunteered to help at the lei making, kapa making and Hawaiian game stations.

Pearl Harbor Kai Elementary School has been a school for generations of military children.

"These children are our future. I do whatever I can to give back," said Information Systems Technician 1st class Brandon Darr, a Dousman, Wisconsin native assigned to Command Navy Surface Group Middle Pacific.

Pearl Harbor Kai Elementary School has been providing education for students since World War II.

"Our saying is 'We care at the Kai,'" said Casupang. "We understand the difficult job and challenges of the community we serve. We care for everyone."

Pacific Airmen help Soldiers improve cargo, airlift operations

Story and photo by
Master Sgt. Theanne Herrmann

624th Regional Support Group

Pacific Airmen provided the Army Reserve's 3302nd Mobilization Support Battalion from Fort Shafter the opportunity to refine and streamline their pre-deployment process by conducting a joint airlift inspection training at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam May 5.

The event was a collaborative effort to build

working relationships between the Army Reserve, Air Force Reserve and Hawaii Air National Guard to improve proficiencies and teach participants how to inspect vehicles and cargo for airlift operations.

"It's our Airmen's responsibility to ensure everything they load onto an aircraft is suitable to fly from point A to point B," said Air Force Capt. Jeremy Rhode, quality assurance manager for the 48th Aerial Port Squadron. "The joint inspection is a lengthy and

tedious process to ensure all of the equipment is clean, clear of hazardous materials, chemicals and ammunition."

The training event helped refine individual skills necessary to ensure cargo is properly prepared for airlift operations, and to prevent delays in the movement of cargo and personnel during real-world contingencies.

To help make the training as realistic as possible, the Army Reserve brought their own passenger bags, two Hum-

vees and a 25K Halvorsen loader. Using their own equipment helped the participants learn how the Air Force evaluates their Army-specific equipment before it is ready to be transported via military aircraft.

"After observing this inspection process we have a better understanding and appreciation for how the Air Force operates," said Army Maj. James Marquez, 3302nd MSB. "It's a meticulous process to ensure these loads are certified and ready."



Air Force Staff Sgts. Harold Puduca and Bum Ki Kim, members of the U.S. Air Force Reserve's 48th Aerial Port Squadron, instruct Army Chief Warrant Officer 2 Eugenio Lactaoen, of the U.S. Army Reserve's 3302nd MSB.



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Diverse VIEWS



Submitted by David D. Underwood Jr. and Ensign Heather Hill

What would you do if aliens attacked during RIMPAC?



Ensign Elizabeth Gamboa
CNIC

"Ha! I would join 'em and ask them to take me with them! I love learning about new civilizations!"



Chief Petty Officer William Hoffman
MSST Honolulu
USCG

"I would not try to get the Mighty Mo' underway. Haha!"



Shawn Tateoka
Holomoku NEX

"Head for the hills! Maybe I can stop them from communicating to the mothership!"



Master Sgt. Justin Stanford
735th Air Mobility Squadron

"Find the closest battleship in the harbor."



Senior Airman Juanita Warren
15th Wing

"I would report to my command and obtain a plan of action and follow it. We cannot hide from the threat if we plan to survive such an attack."



Master Sgt. Caroline Sussman
201st Air Operations Group

"Giggle and think 'they do exist,' then pray they are nice."

Want to see your command featured in Diverse Views? Got opinions to share? Drop us a line at editor@hookelenews.com

COMMENTARY

Resilience, freedom personified: Port Royal

Rear Adm. Brian Fort

Commander, Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific



Our guided-missile cruiser USS Port Royal (CG 73) and its namesake, the Battle of Port Royal — fought in the first year of the American Civil War — are symbols of resilience and freedom.

A relatively recent example ... When Port Royal returned from a successful deployment in support of Operation New Dawn on Valentine's Day 2012, bringing a chance for freedom and democracy to Iraq, it was under a shadow. The ship's grounding near Honolulu International Airport in 2009 led to a belief that structural issues would prevent the ship from being able to remain in service. Yet, Port Royal and her Sailors proved resilient, living up to the ship's motto, "the will to win."

Over the past three years her crew has certainly validated their ship is "ready to fight tonight" — recertifying in every warfare area, standing the test, and proven ready.

The crew completed workups, tested their systems and successfully deployed to the western Pacific in 2016, where they conducted joint maritime security exercises in the 7th Fleet area of operations with Southeast Asia partners. Port Royal next protected international commerce before proceeding to the 5th Fleet area of operations to support USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69) and USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70) to protect sea lanes and conduct interdiction of illicit weapons near Yemen and Somalia.

Author's note:

I have a framed photo of Port Royal on my office wall in Pearl Harbor, signed by shipmates more than a decade ago from my time as the ship's executive officer. The notes and memories of the Sailors I served with — aboard Port Royal and, frankly, wherever I've been stationed — represent great memories from the days of our service together.

Many outstanding and respected leaders have served aboard CG-73, including former Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Gary Roughead. During my time, I had the pleasure of serving as XO for both Capt. Lee Geanuleas and Capt. Pat Allen, two amazing Navy leaders.

More recently, my former MDPAC Chief of Staff, Capt. Eric Weilenman, served as Port Royal's commanding officer from March 2011 to October 2014. Eric retires this month after completing 30 years of service to our Navy and nation. The ships, aircraft and equipment we operate are important high-value assets, but nothing is ever as important or as critical to the mission as our people.

— Rear Adm. Brian Fort

Back home just last year, Port Royal supported the USS Nimitz (CVN 70) Carrier Strike Group by conducting ballistic missile tests and performing other duties in and around Hawaii operating areas. Now, the proud warship is halfway through a significant yearlong availability period in Pearl Harbor. One ship, one crew, one person can make a difference. The same can be true for one war, one campaign, one battle.

A more historic example ...

Early in the Civil War, the Battle of Port Royal was part of a strategy to seal ports in the South and provide a vital refueling station — a key need in

the days of coal. The battle was carried out by Federal Navy steam-powered wooden warships and gunboats in a war that would introduce steel-hulled ships and showed how, partnering with the Army and Marine Corps, the Navy could forge a powerful amphibious sea power.

Historian Shelby Foote said the Battle of Port Royal was won as soon as it was conceived, based on the superior strength of naval forces, with steam changing the equation of power projection from the sea.

"Naval power was going to be a dominant power in the war," Foote writes.

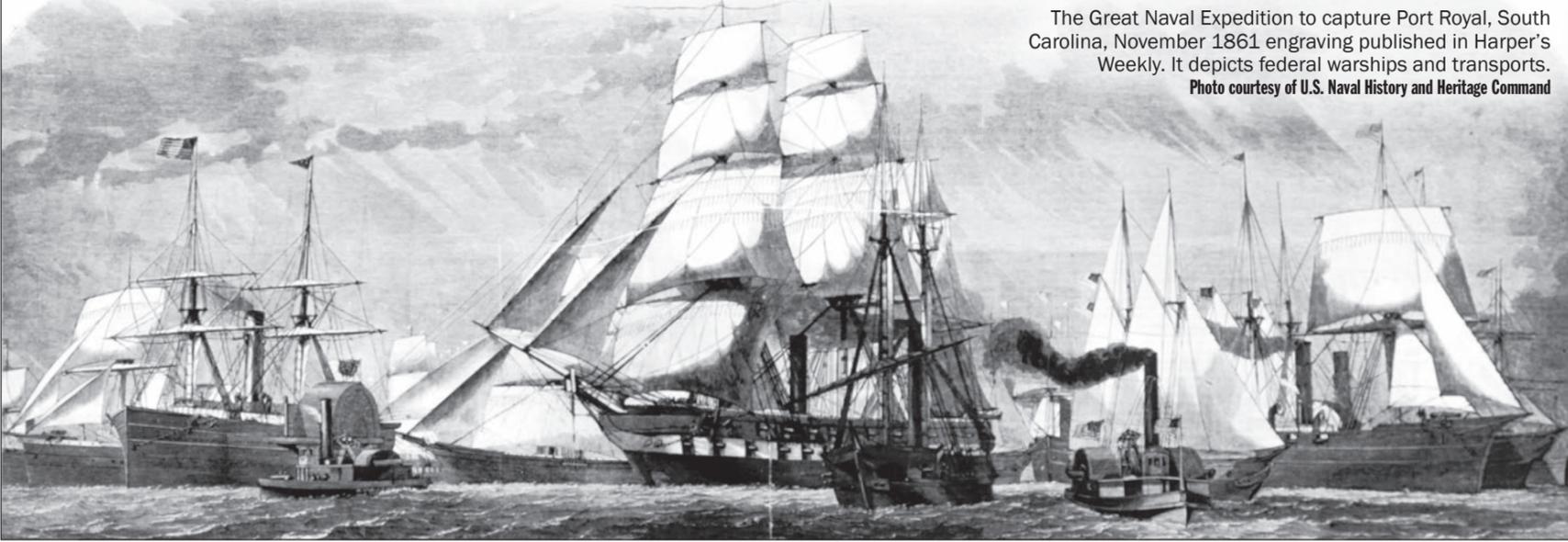
Defenses crumbled when "assailed from both directions by naval crews who worked with coolness and precision."

Victory at Port Royal showed the world the ideal of "E Pluribus Unum" was worth fighting for: "out of many, one."

The battle itself wasn't executed perfectly, largely due to severe storms off the Carolina coast, but the Navy proved its worth, and the nation demonstrated its commitment to ideals proclaimed in the Declaration of Independence and United States Constitution. Navy ships at the Battle of Port Royal certainly demonstrated the will to win. (The Civil War ended 153 years ago in the spring of 1865.) Seventy-five years ago, in the middle of the War in the Pacific, our Navy had the will to win in amphibious warfare that led directly to an era of greater peace and prosperity — including a constitutional democracy and freedom and equality in Japan.

Today, the men and women aboard Port Royal — all with diverse backgrounds but a common mission, naval heritage, culture and purpose — serve here in Pearl Harbor. They and all their shipmates on the waterfront are in view of USS Arizona, the Battleship Missouri and other memorials: symbols of our ongoing commitment to defend our shared American ideals, symbols of our resilience, symbols of our will to win.

The Great Naval Expedition to capture Port Royal, South Carolina, November 1861 engraving published in Harper's Weekly. It depicts federal warships and transports. Photo courtesy of U.S. Naval History and Heritage Command



WHO'OKELE

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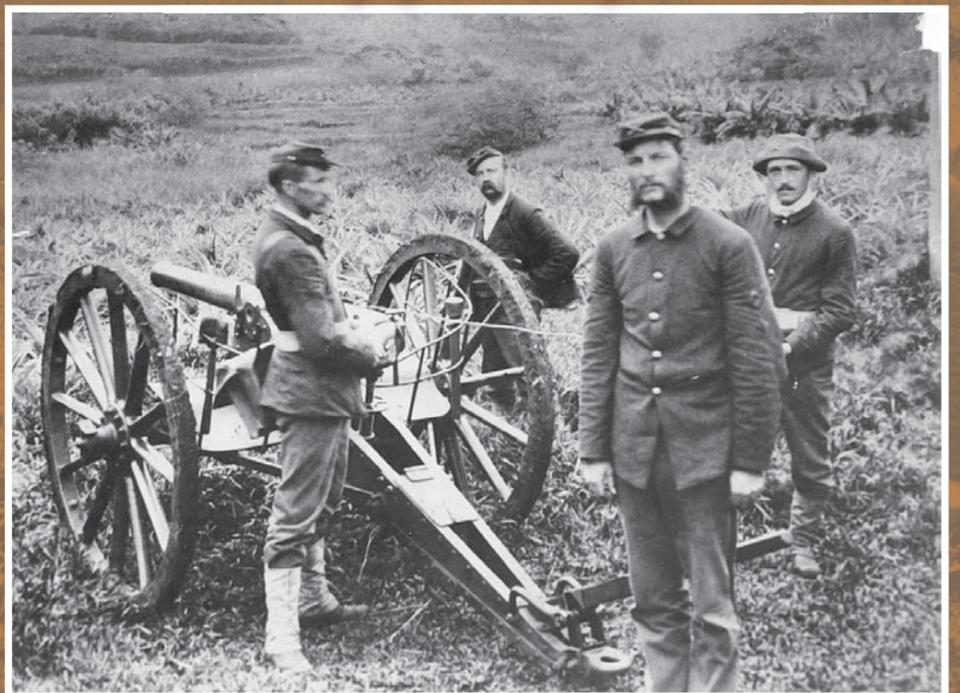
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Ready for defense



Depicted here are members of the National Guard circa late 1800s.

Courtesy of Hawaii State Archives Digital Collections

USS Jefferson City holds change of command

MC2 Shaun Griffin

COMSUBPAC
Public Affairs

Los Angeles-class fast-attack submarine USS Jefferson City (SSN 759) held a change of command ceremony at the USS Bowfin Submarine Museum and Park May 11.

Cmdr. Steven Dawley relieved Cmdr. Kevin Moller as the 14th commanding officer of Jefferson City.

The ceremony's guest speaker, Capt. Robert Roncska, commander of Submarine Squadron Seven, praised Moller for his leadership of Jefferson City through a long shipyard availability.

"The success of Kevin's tour is not measured in how effectively Jefferson City can shoot a torpedo

or launch a tomahawk missile," Roncska said. "Jefferson City's success is built upon a foundation rooted in a culture focused on people with high standards, which is essential for any organization to survive or succeed."

Moller thanked his crew for their support of his leadership and for their commitment to the success of Jefferson City.

"I have been incredibly lucky to have a great cast supporting me over the past few years," Moller said. "I am equally appreciative of each and every one of you for your toughness and perseverance."

Moller finished by quoting Thomas Jefferson from what we today call our State of the Union Address.

"Thomas Jefferson spoke of the need for a standing navy to be avail-

able for any need that arises, or in his language, for any exigence that calls," said Moller. "For the past 820 days while I have had the honor to be called your commanding officer, you have answered that call. Thank you."

During the ceremony, Roncska presented Moller with a Meritorious Service Award for outstanding meritorious service as commanding officer from Feb. 2016 until May 2018.

Following his tour aboard Jefferson City, Moller will report to the Naval Inspector General in Washington, D.C.

As Dawley assumed command of Jefferson City, he thanked Moller for turning over such a talented and motivated crew.

"Kevin, you have done a great job leading the Jefferson City team through



Photo by MC2 Michael Lee

Cmdr. Kevin Moller, left, reports his relief to Capt. Robert Roncska, commander of Submarine Squadron Seven, (center), during the Los Angeles-class fast-attack submarine USS Jefferson City (SSN 759) change of command ceremony at the USS Bowfin Submarine Museum and Park May 11.

a difficult time," said Dawley. "The tenacity of this crew is a credit to your leadership and I believe that you have done a lot of hard work that is

going to end up making me look very good."

Commissioned Feb. 29, 1992, USS Jefferson City is the 48th ship of the Los Angeles class and is the

only ship in Navy history named for the capital of the Show Me State.

For more news from the Pacific Submarine Force, visit www.csp.navy.mil.

USS Mississippi holds change of command at Joint Base



Photo by MC2 Michael Lee

Capt. Richard Seif, commander, Submarine Squadron One, presents a Legion of Merit to Cmdr. Eric J. Rozek, commanding officer of the Virginia-class fast-attack submarine USS Mississippi (SSN 782).

MC2 Shaun Griffin

COMSUBPAC Public Affairs

The Virginia-class fast attack submarine USS Mississippi (SSN 782) held a change of command ceremony at the historic submarine piers of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam May 8.

Cmdr. Heath Johnmeyer relieved Cmdr. Eric Rozek, as commanding officer of Mississippi.

The ceremony's guest speaker, Rear Adm. (Ret.) Barry Bruner praised Rozek for his successful performance while in command of Mississippi.

"Within a year of Eric taking command, Mississippi became one of the top boats on

the waterfront," Bruner said. "That was a direct reflection of Eric's leadership."

Rozek said he is proud of having had the opportunity to be in command of Mississippi and her skilled crew.

"We have accomplished some great wonders," Rozek said. "Thank you for listening and executing my vision. I will never forget you and I am proud of our accomplishments."

During the ceremony, Capt. Richard Seif, commander of Submarine Squadron One, presented Rozek with a Legion of Merit for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service as commanding officer from June 5, 2015 until May 8, 2018.

Following his tour aboard Mississippi, Rozek will report to Commander Submarine Group Seven in Yokosuka, Japan.

As Johnmeyer assumed command of Mississippi, he expressed his pride in becoming Mississippi's new commanding officer and commended Rozek for his successful tour.

"It is going to be a challenge to improve upon what you have built here on Mississippi," Johnmeyer said. "To the crew, I am extremely privileged to be given the opportunity to serve with such a great group of people, and I am very excited to serve in this great submarine force with you."

For more news from the Pacific Submarine Force, visit www.csp.navy.mil.

Pearl Harbor - Hickam *Highlights*



Above, Staff Sgt. Christopher Pacheco, a standardization instructor from Detachment 1, Charlie Company, 207th Aviation of the Hawaii Army National Guard, monitors pre-flight procedures of an HH-60 Black Hawk May 11, at Lyman Airfield, Hilo, Hawaii. In the event of an emergency evacuation, 207th aircraft is staged and ready to recover stranded victims in hard-to-reach areas. A 16th lava fissure expands during a volcano outbreak May 12 at Pahoa, Hawaii. A HIARNG aircrew surveyed the affected areas aboard an UH-60 Black Hawk to search for potential landing zones, improving Task Force Hawaii's situational awareness in response to a volcano outbreak. Task force Hawaii is comprised of more than 100 Soldiers and Airmen from Hawaii's National Guard, who are supporting government agencies in an effort to provide humanitarian relief to victims of the volcanic eruptions.

Photo by Senior Airman John Linzmeier



At left, Capt. Cari Piha, Maj. Toni Merhar, and Maj. Jamilee Gunnels, 535th Airlift Squadron C-17 Globemaster III pilots, perform an in-flight refueling mission at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam April 25. The aircrew featured mothers to celebrate mothers who serve in the military and to highlight challenges Airmen face when balancing families and career.

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Heather Redman

At right, Cmdr. Kevin Louis, commanding officer of the USS Michael Murphy, cuts a cake with a sword, at a ceremony on the mess decks May 7. The cake was prepared by Michael Murphy's culinary specialists. In celebration of the 42nd birthday of the ship's namesake, Lt. Michael P. Murphy, as well as the anniversary of the ship's commissioning, the crew conducted the "Murph" workout (a 1-mile run followed by 100 pull-ups, 200 pushups, 300 squats, and a second 1-mile run). After the workout the crew gathered in the mess decks, pausing to reflect on their ship's heritage. Murphy's Medal of Honor citation was read aloud during the ceremony.

Photo by Ensign Emma Gray

Below, Service members assigned to the U.S. Pacific Fleet Band perform at Ehambaran Sport Ground in support of Pacific Partnership 2018 (PP18) at Trincomalee, Sri Lanka May 6. PP18's mission is to work collectively with host and partner nations to enhance regional interoperability and disaster response capabilities, increase stability and security in the region, and foster new and enduring friendships across the Indo-Pacific Region. Pacific Partnership, now in its 13th iteration, is the largest annual multinational humanitarian assistance and disaster relief preparedness mission conducted in the Indo-Pacific.

Photo by MCC Jackey Smith



Federal survey open until June 11

Commander, Navy Installations Command

The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) launched the 2018 Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey (FEVS) April 30. OPM has administered the survey since 2002. The FEVS is available to all eligible employees rather than to a randomly selected representative sample.

All Direct Appropriated Funded (APF) employees will receive an email invitation with detailed login information from OPM to participate with follow-up emails sent until they complete the survey.

The objective is to significantly increase participation rate from last year at 22 percent. Results will be rolled up at the command level and survey responses are anonymous. Efforts do not apply to military or foreign nationals. The survey closes June 11. Maximum participation is encouraged.



HSM-37 changes command

Lt. j.g. Peter Wojcik

HSM-37 Public Affairs

On May 3, the Easyriders of Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron Three Seven (HSM-37) held a change of command in Hangar 103 on Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

Navy Cmdr. Gabriel M. Kelly, relieved Cmdr. Teague J. Suarez, as the 35th commanding officer of HSM-37 since its establishment in 1975.

Navy Cmdr. Daniel M. Martins, assumed the duties of executive officer. Navy Capt. David P. Walt, commodore, Helicopter Maritime Strike Wing Pacific was the event's guest speaker.

During his tenure, Suarez lead the Easyriders in deploying combat-ready detachments in support of operations throughout the Third, Seventh, Fourth, and Fifth Fleet areas of responsibility.

Suarez, a 1998 graduate of the United States Naval Academy, will serve his next assignment as the navigator for the USS Nimitz.

He will be moving with his wife and two children to Burlington, Washington for his next tour. He looks back proudly on his time in Hawaii as the Easyrider's skipper.

"I am extremely proud of this squadron. It was my privilege to serve as its skipper."

Kelly, a native of Monterey, California and 1999 graduate of the United States Naval Academy, is looking forward to leading the Easyriders, and is extremely honored to be the next commanding officer. Kelly commented on his vision for the squadron moving forward.

"I am looking forward to more outstanding things in the near future," he said.

As the incoming executive officer, Martins is

looking forward to serving with the Easyriders and enjoying time on the island of Oahu.

From 2014 to 2017 he served as the Joint Force Headquarters, National Capital Region as the Contingency Coordination Center operations officer and the J-36 air domain operations officer from Boston University in 2001.

As the only Maritime Strike Helicopter Squadron in the Middle Pacific (MIDPAC) Region, HSM-37 provides a variety of services to MIDPAC-based ships, including the detachments that embark them for deployment.

These detachments support all Pearl Harbor-based Arleigh Burke-class destroyers and Ticonderoga-class cruisers.

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PLA Air Force Command College visits PACAF

Brig. Gen. Michael Winkler, Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) Strategy, Plans and Programs director, talks with Chinese Maj. Gen. Lan, deputy political commissary/secretary of discipline inspection, People's Liberation Army Air Force (PLAAF) Command College, during an office call at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam April 26.

**Story and photo by
Tech. Sgt. Eric Donner**

PACAF Public Affairs

Headquarters Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) hosted 12 People's Liberation Army Air Force (PLAAF) Command College officers at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, to share perspectives and develop lines of communication April 26.

The PLAAF Command College officers visited from China as part of a planned annual visit. The program allows members of both militaries to tour and meet with representatives and leadership.

While at PACAF Headquarters, the participants received a mission brief, history tour of Pearl Harbor and conducted an office call with PACAF leadership. During the office call, they discussed the importance of open and trans-

parent communication and following established safety guidelines.

"As the global operations of both our militaries increase, we share more common areas of interest," said Brig. Gen. Michael Winkler, Pacific Air Forces Strategy, Plans and Program director. "Maintaining open lines of communication and abiding by established international rules of behavior are vital to mitigating the risk of a misunderstanding."

In addition to visiting PACAF, the PLAAF Command College officers had the opportunity to tour the Pentagon in Washington D.C. and Air University at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama. The tours gave the officers a chance to see how the U.S. Air Force trains its officers and the opportunity to see the Pentagon and speak with Air Force leadership.

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MC2 Somers Steelman

*Navy Public Affairs
Support Element
Detachment Hawaii*

The Navy Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) is a civilian federal law enforcement agency that serves to protect the people, equipment, technology and infrastructure of the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps. They deploy a unique, highly-trained, and effective team of Special Agents, investigators, forensic experts, security specialists, analysts, and support personnel.

The NCIS mission is to protect and preserve the superiority of the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps warfighter. This is accomplished through preventing terrorism, protecting secrets, and reducing crime.

Their mission is executed ashore, afloat, and in cyberspace, conducting worldwide operations and investigations in counterterrorism, counterintelligence, and felony crimes.

"Our agency's highest priority is to protect and preserve the functional advantage of the naval warfighter to fight and win wars," said Special Agent Christopher Ahr, NCIS Resident Agency Pearl Harbor Criminal Investigations Squad.

"In each of our mission areas, NCIS must effectively identify trends, forecast warnings, and aggressively combat threats from foreign intelligence, terrorists, and criminals."

NCIS provides support to the Navy and Marine Corps by protecting and preserving the integrity of the naval warfighter.

NCIS' mission aligns with building a ready, agile, and stronger fleet while preserving the warfighter's readiness and lethality.

NCIS goes where the Navy and Marine Corps go.

"NCIS has provided me with a fascinating career and unique opportunities while supporting the warfighter," said Kara Scammell Special Agent on the FBI Honolulu Joint Terrorism Task Force.

"NCIS' broad mission is like no other federal law enforcement organization, which makes NCIS unique to what the Navy and Marine Corps need."

Through the accomplishment of its diverse criminal, counterintelligence, and security mission, NCIS continues to provide critical worldwide service to the Department of the Navy, its military and civilian personnel, their dependents and the communities in which they reside.



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HO'OKOLE

Life & Leisure

Stroller Warriors show their strength during the fire truck pull.

Fitness & Wellness Fair promotes fun and readiness

Story and photos by
Randy Dela Cruz
Sports Editor, Ho'okele

Tapping into a culture of fitness, the 2018 Fitness & Wellness Fair provided information, vendors, exhibitions and events that promoted a healthy lifestyle for military members and their families.

Held at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Fitness Center May 11, attendees experienced hands-on participation in selected programs offered at Joint Base.

Participants also got to join in head-to-head competition that featured a six-person truck pull, where teams hooked up to a 50,000-pound fire truck and dragged it for 200 feet.

A friendly and knowledgeable staff not only kept the four-hour program moving at an organized and brisk pace, but also ensured that the event was fun and enjoyable for everyone who attended.

"First of all, I make sure that the staff understands the impact of the event," said Fitness Center Manager Benny Miguel. "Any staff (member), whatever they are doing, are supporting the facility and event, so they are really pumped up. They take ownership. And we also tell the vendors that their presence at our fitness center allows our military community to see what's out there, so they are really motivated. That's what it's all about."

Entering the fair at the fitness center was like stepping into a whirlwind of activity, with vendors introducing their products to attendees, people testing out some of the equipment and the facility demonstrating a few of the classes that are offered throughout the year.

First up on the floor was Hot Hula, an



Melissa Cruz puts her back into the fire truck pull.

island-style fitness workout that uses movements which are inspired by the traditional Hawaiian dance to burn calories.

Then it was off to the fitness center's parking lot, where teams of men and women put their strength and skill to the test by pulling a full-sized fire truck.

The record stood at 43 seconds, but that didn't last very long as just about every team obliterated the time.

In the very first pull of the event, the 21st Dental took care of the mark by covering the 200-foot course in only 41 seconds.

The ladies, under the team of Stroller Warriors and 808 Heroics, made not one, but two, attempts at the course.

After traversing the women's course at 100 feet in only 21 seconds, the ladies conquered the men's course of 200 feet in a time of 52.9 seconds.

"A group of us mamas said, hey let's pull a fire truck," said women's teammate Melissa Cruz, a military family member, who trains at the Hickam Fitness Center. "So we got together and did it."

Seems like after the teams got warm,

things really started to heat up.

After traveling the course in 41 seconds in its first time up, 21st Dental shattered the course record by bettering its time by a full 10 seconds to take over first place with a mark of 31.2.

STB Pullers, a group of pullers from the 747th Communication Squadron, got up next and edged out the 21st Dental with a time of 30.5 seconds.

However, the best pull of the day came at the very end, when 55 Pull, representing the 735th Air Mobility Squadron (735 AMS) set the new record with a time of 29.6 seconds.

"We changed it up, so we had the tall guys on one side and the short guys on the other," said Master Sgt. Kaipo Cowan of 55 Pull. "We wanted to go that route and we just put the pedal to the metal."

With back-to-back successful promotions in the recent powerlifting tournament and the fitness fair, Miguel said that he is already thinking of new events to highlight the military's culture of fitness at the center.

If everything goes as planned, he expects a couple of things to be in place later this year.

"I have two things in my books right now," Miguel admitted. "One is a fitness competition, which will be like a strongman competition and the other is geared more towards being an incentive program."

It will be like if you run so many miles per month, you get a reward or recognition. It will happen. It's just a matter of time. My target time is December, when all of this will be in place."

Attendees of the Fitness & Wellness Fair join in a class of Hot Hula.



Punahou JROTC cadets receive awards



Photo courtesy of Island Hawaii

Retired Maj. Gen. Mark Dillion, former deputy Pacific Air Forces, addresses military academy appointees, ROTC scholarship recipients and their families associated with Punahou School and its JROTC program recently before the start of their annual JROTC Awards Ceremony on campus. Two students from Punahou have accepted their appointments to attend the U.S. Air Force and U.S. Naval Academies, and one student will attend the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. Several other students received college ROTC scholarships. The Punahou School JROTC program is the oldest JROTC program in the state of Hawaii celebrating its 100th anniversary.

Celebrating the Gannenmono

Kristen Wong

*Life & Leisure Editor
Ho'okele*

Just in time for Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month, multiple organizations are kicking off a yearlong commemoration of the first Japanese immigrants in Hawaii.

The Kizuna Group, made up of 20 local organizations, is coordinating various events this year.

The first group, which came to Hawaii in 1868, was known as "Gannenmono," which means "first-year men." The immigrants, who came from Yokohama, had various backgrounds from displaced samurai to cooks.

Japanese Americans have had a long history in Hawaii, from the first immigrants to plantation workers and eventually service members in World War II.

This year marks the 150th anniversary of the first Japanese immigrants to arrive in Hawaii.

To join in celebration, the crew of the Kaiwo Maru, a four-masted barque tall training ship visited Kahului, Maui from May 2 to 5, and Honolulu from May 6 to 10.

While visiting, the cadets met local dignitaries and members of the U.S. Coast Guard.

The cadets, who are learning seafaring skills

aboard the Kaiwo Maru through the Japan agency of Maritime Education and Training for Seafarers, may venture into various professions, from the Japanese Self-Defense Force to working as a merchant marine.

Summer C. Escajeda, a ship agent with Transmarine Navigation Corporation, helped provide port support for the Kaiwo Maru during its stay.

She said the Kaiwo Maru added another port to its itinerary this year specifically for the 150th anniversary of the gannenmono.

"The Kaiwo Maru ship has sailed all the way from Yokohama to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the arrival of the first Japanese immigrants, or the Gannenmono," said Consul Masamori Kobayashi, from the Consulate General of Japan in Honolulu.

"Her visit to Hawaii provides invaluable opportunities for the young cadets of the ship, not only to train in navigation, but to interact with the locals through various activities on and off the ship, and to learn about the history of the Japanese immigrants to Hawaii.

These types of exchanges only serve to further strengthen the bonds of friendship between Japan and Hawaii."

For more information about coming events, visit <https://kizunahawaii.com>.



Photo courtesy of Asa Ellison

Hula dancers perform as the members of the Kaiwo Maru prepare to leave Kahului, Maui May 5.

Gannenmono events coming up

- **May 20:** Honolulu Ekiden & Music Festival Waikiki Shell, 2805 Monsarrat Ave. Visit hnekiden.org.
- **May 26:** Carolyn Okinaga, Dennis Irie and Dr. Milton Oshiro will be guest speakers at the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii, May 26 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. The trio will share their experiences as children living on the Ewa Plantation.
- **June 1:** There will be a Gannenmono exhibition from June 1 through Dec. 15 at Bishop Museum, 1525 Bernice St. For more information, visit <https://bishopmuseum.org> or call 847-3511.
- **June 2:** Obon Service and Obon Dance is scheduled at Hawaii's Plantation Village, located at 94-695 Waipahu St. For more information, visit <http://www.hawaiiplantationvillage.org> or call 677-0110.
- **June 5:** NHK Documentary "Rescuing the Lost Battalion: The story behind the heroes" at the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Free admission. The JCCH is located at 2454 S. Beretania St. Suite 201.
- **June 6:** 2018 Summer Judo Camp and Celebration Pearl City High School gymnasium. 99-119 Holo Pl. For more information, visit www.50statejudo.com.
- **June 8:** Pan-Pacific Festival is scheduled from June 8 to 10. This free event includes a parade, hula festival, and various performances. The venues vary, from Ala Moana Center to Kuhio Beach Hula Mound. For more information, visit www.pan-pacific-festival.com, or call 926-8177.
- **Through Sept. 30:** Japanese kimono exhibition at the Honolulu Museum of Art, located on 900 S. Beretania St.

Gunner's Mate
1st Class Danny
Meadows scores
on a slide at
home plate.

HO'OKOLE
SPORTS



Pukin Dogs take care of Jefferson City in blowout

Story and photo by
Randy Dela Cruz

Sports Editor, Ho'okele

USS William P. Lawrence (DDG 110) Pukin Dogs picked up six runs in their first turn at-bat and then cruised to an 11-1 mercy-run win over USS Jefferson City (SSN 759) May 12 in an Afloat Division intramural softball game at Hickam Softball Complex, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

The win preserved the Pukin Dogs' perfect record at 4-0, while Jefferson City dropped its third game in four tries.

While the Pukin Dogs were carving up the field with their bats, pitcher Damage Controlman 1st Class Josh Hooper was equally impressive from the rubber, as he used a variety of pitches, including a

knuckleball, to keep Jefferson City off-balance in the batter's box.

Hooper gave up a one-out single in the first and then set Jefferson City down in order for two consecutive innings, before allowing one run in the top of the fourth inning.

"When it comes to softball, all you got to do is put the ball where you would swing at it," Hooper said. "Overall our defense is ridiculous. All I do is make them swing and our defense makes the play."

With Hooper keeping the Jefferson City bats at bay, the Pukin Dogs went to work immediately to give their pitcher a cushion.

Leadoff hitter Cryptologic Technician (Technical) Seaman Trevor Carey started off the bottom of the frame by hitting a double and then proceeded

to circle the bases for the first run on a throwing error by Jefferson City.

Then with the bases loaded and no outs, Hooper helped his own cause by delivering a hit that drove in two runs to make it 3-0.

After both runners advanced to second and third on another throwing error, Lt. Josh Allen smashed a triple to drive in both runners and increase the lead to 5-0.

Two batters later, Allen got chased home on a single by Gas Turbine Systems Technician (Electrical) 3rd Class Emmanuel Duncan for a 6-0 advantage after one inning.

"We practice twice a week and get a lot of hitting in," Hooper said about the team's ability to string hits together. "We just really focus on driving the ball. We have some people that can leave the yard, but it's not the home

runs that win games. It's the hard hit drives that get through the infield quickly."

After a one, two, three inning by Hooper in the top of the second inning, the Pukin Dogs' bats were at it again in the bottom of the frame.

This time the rally started after two outs were already recorded.

Hooper picked up his third RBI of the game on a single and then, after a double by Allen, Chief Gunner's Mate Julio Felizmedina banged a double that drove in two runs to put the Pukin Dogs up by a score of 10-0.

Hooper finally gave up a run in the top of fourth, but in the bottom of the frame, he got it right back.

With Hooper batting from the left side, Jefferson City used a shift to try and cool down his hot hitting.

Instead of smashing the

ball into the teeth of the shift, Hooper went to the opposite field to drive in Gunner's Mate 1st Class Danny Meadows with an RBI double.

"They put a hard shift on to my right and I was able to spray it over to left field," Hooper explained. "When they put that hard shift on, I was able to shift my feet, open up and send it down the left-field line."

With the team off to another good start, Hooper expressed that he would like nothing more than to get another shot in the playoffs.

After falling to the eventual champs Hawaii Air National Guard (HIANG) in the postseason last year, Hooper said he'd like to get the opportunity to face them again.

"We want to see them (HIANG) again," he stated. "Those guys left a bad taste in our mouth."

Hot hitting keeps SUBPAC out in front of NCTAMS PAC

Story and photo by
Randy Dela Cruz

Sports Editor, Ho'okele

After starting off with seven runs in the top of the first inning, Submarine Force U.S. Pacific Fleet (SUBPAC) kept the pressure on Naval Computer Telecommunications Area Master Station Pacific (NCTAMS PAC) and rolled to a 19-9 mercy-rule-shortened win on May 15 in a Red Division intramural softball game at Hickam Softball Complex, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

SUBPAC ran into some hard luck earlier in the season, but the win on Tuesday night squared off the team's record at 3-3, while NCTAMS PAC dropped its third game of the season against three victories.

SUBPAC pitcher Senior Chief Sonar Technician (Submarine) Chris Purdum went the distance to pick up the five-inning complete-game win, but said that it was the team's fast start with the bats that set the team on its way to victory.

"We've been the home team the last three or four games," Purdum pointed out. "Being the visiting team, getting to bat first and getting some runs on the board, made us excited and wanted to win."

SUBPAC's fast start in the first inning was aided in part by a couple of fielding errors from NCTAMS PAC, which placed the first two runners in scoring position at second and third with no outs.

With the table set, Yeoman (Submarine) 2nd Class Zach Sainato stepped up to the plate and promptly stroked a single



HO'OKOLE
SPORTS



Lt. Mitch Hennessy smashes a long fly to right field that drove in two runs.

to drive in two runs.

Two batters later, Sainato was ushered home for the team's third run of the game on a base hit by Purdum.

Following the RBI by Purdum, SUBPAC kept its hot streak at the plate going by picking up runs number four and five on a sacrifice flies by Capt. Nito Blas and Chief Ma-

chinist's Mate Kishuan Forbes, before adding two straight run-scoring singles by Electronics Technician (Submarine, Communications) 2nd Class John Rodriguez and Senior Chief Fire Control Technician Tim Kearns that made it 7-0.

"I think our practices have gotten us to the point of where we're comfortable hitting," Pur-

dum said. "We trust each other and that cohesion brings us together."

In the bottom of the first inning though, NCTAMS PAC made it clear that the team wasn't going down without a fight.

Information Systems Technician 3rd Class Jimenez Gonzales led off the frame with a

triple and scored the team's first run, when Justin Shoemaker, a military family member, lined a single to left.

Then a couple of retired Navy Chiefs, Jim Maddox and Lloyd Shoemaker, Justin's father, blasted back-to-back doubles that scored three runs to pull the team to within three runs at 7-4.

Later, NCTAMS PAC added another run on a fielder's choice to make it a 7-5 ball game.

Instead of folding under pressure, SUBPAC stepped up and continued to string hits together to always keep a step ahead of NCTAMS PAC.

SUBPAC picked up a single run in the top of the second inning on a triple by Electronics Technician 1st Class Robert Panko, before exploding for six more runs in the top of the third to put the game away for good.

In the third, SUBPAC got run-scoring singles from Rodriguez, Kearns and Sainato, but the big hit of the inning was a triple that was hit off the base of the right-field fence by Lt. Mitch Hennessy that drove in two runs.

The win by SUBPAC was huge for the team, as it seems to have pulled itself out of an earlier-season hole.

Purdum believes that if everyone shows up at game time, SUBPAC could be one of the frontrunners in the Red Division.

"We have the opportunity to do that," he said. "Today, we had everybody here expect for one person. I think if we have that full team and we're all here, I think we can perform at this caliber every game."



● **Registration for Summer Craft Camp** is open now at the Arts & Crafts Center. These four-day sessions give the child a chance to express their artistic freedom. First session begins May 29 and runs Tuesday through Friday, with additional sessions starting almost every Tuesday until July 31. Cost of the camps is \$60, includes all supplies and is open to ages 6 to 14. For more information, call 448-9907.

● The **Teen Workforce Workshop** happens from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. May 19 at the Teen Center. Teens get free tips on how to prepare for their first job. Workshop includes how to write a resume, dressing for success, money management and more. This is a free activity and is open to teens registered with the program. For more information, call 448-1068.

● **America's Kids Day Run** takes off from 5 to 8 p.m. May 19 at Earhart Track. Kids from ages 5 and up are encouraged to join and run for the fun challenge of it. Parents are encouraged to run with their kids too. Cost of this event is free. For more information, call 473-0789.

● **Swim Lessons Registration** opens at noon May 21. Classes are available from 6 months (parent swims with tot) to adult. Registration is done online and lessons are held at Hickam Family Pool. Classes begin on June 4. For more information, call 448-2384.

● **Ohana Paint Night** happens from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. May 25 at the Hickam Arts & Crafts Center. Parent and child work together in creating a masterpiece from the featured painting of the night. All under the guidance of an experienced instructor. Cost of this event is \$35, includes all art supplies, and is open to ages 8 and up. For more information, call 448-9907.

● **Chill & Grill Friday** returns at 5:30 p.m. May 25 to the original Brews & Cues at Club Pearl. Enjoy the last Friday of the month with free pupus and a pool challenge. This event is free and is open to ages 18 and older. For more information, call 473-1743.

● **"Best Laid Plans," a Murder Mystery Dinner** event is a night of fun intrigue beginning at 6 p.m. May 25 at the Historic Hickam Officers' Club. Dress in your best for a refined party where you'll dine on a delicious dinner buffet while you try to figure out who committed the murder in this whodunit. You may even be part of the story. This show is open to all hands, all Department of Defense cardholders and their sponsored guests 13 and older. Cost is \$30 and includes the dinner and show. Reservations and advance payment are required. For more information, call 448-4608.

● **Eat the Street Shuttle** departs at 6:30 p.m. May 25 from the Hickam ITT office. Avoid the traffic and parking woes and experience the largest food truck rally on the island. Cost is \$7 for roundtrip transportation returning at approximately 8:30 p.m. Bring money for food purchases. For more information, call 448-2295.

● **Chinatown Food & Historic Walking Tour** departs at 8:30 a.m. May 26 from the Hickam ITT office. Discover the fascinating history of Honolulu's Chinatown as you sample treats along the way. Cost is \$35 for adults, \$30 for children 3 to 11 and includes lunch. For more information, call 448-2295.

● **Hail and Farewell End of School Year BBQ** happens from 5:30 to 7 p.m. May 26 at the Teen Center. Come help us welcome new teens to our family and say "see yah later" to those moving on to new adventures. This is a free event open to teens registered with the center. For more information, call 448-1068.

● **Cookies and Canvas art class** picks up the brush from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. May 30 at the Arts & Crafts Center. Youth create their own masterpiece on canvas while enjoying a sweet treat. Cost of this class is \$30, includes all art supplies and the child can take the painting home with them. Open to ages 7 to 14. For more information, call 448-9907.

Hickersons earn award

Story and photo by Brister Thomas

Navy Hale Keiki School

Students of the Young Patriot's Club at Navy Hale Keiki School (NHKS) presented the seventh annual "Heart of a Hero Award" to Carole and Jim Hickerson.

Though they are the first couple to receive the award, Jim and Carole did not start their story as a couple. Each have a personal story of their contributions to the U.S., its military and families.

Jim Hickerson, a former U.S. Navy captain, was vice commander at Pacific Missile Test Center during the Vietnam War.

A test pilot for the first A-7 Corsair II to be shot down over North Vietnam, Jim became a prisoner of war, spending five years in the notorious Hoa Lo Prison, or "Hanoi Hilton."

Now retired from the Navy, Jim is active with the Pacific Aviation Museum on Pearl Harbor's Ford Island.

Carole Hickerson married her high school sweetheart, Steve Hansen, who enlisted in the Marines and went on to fly CH-46 helicopters in Vietnam. He was shot down three times.

Carole was not permitted to discuss her husband being missing in action as it might endanger him if he were alive.

During the Vietnam War, the U.S. policy regarding MIA service members was silence. There were no family support groups. There was rare and minimal communication.

Eventually, Carole took matters into her own hands. She was instrumental in developing the POW/MIA bracelet

program to build awareness and public support for the return of service members.

And, while her husband was missing, she designed the image, which later became the well-known graphic on the black POW/MIA flag. The silhouette is of her late husband.

However, she is quick to note she is not responsible for creating the flag itself.

Carole married Hickerson in 1974, and the two have been living in Hawaii since 2000. Hansen's remains have been identified and are currently buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

The Heart of a Hero award was developed by the students in grades second through fifth of the NHKS Young Patriot's Club to honor local military heroes.

Approximately 99 percent of the students at Navy Hale Keiki School come from military families. Young Patriot's club is for students with deployed parents.

This local hero continues to inspire those around him through his continued dedication to service.

"With the passing of Retired Rear Admiral Joe Vassey, we are reminded of what 'hero' means," said NHKS Principal Monique Raduziner.

Admiral Vassey was the very first Heart of a Hero awardee seven years ago and one of the reasons the students initiated this award.

"Vassey began a legacy of giving kids an opportunity to interact with real-life heroes, like today with the Hickersons. It is in real time with real people that the children gain a true personal connection and relationship."



Jim and Carole Hickerson (right), along with Pearl Harbor survivor Mickey Ganitch (second from left), recite the Pledge of Allegiance during the ceremony.

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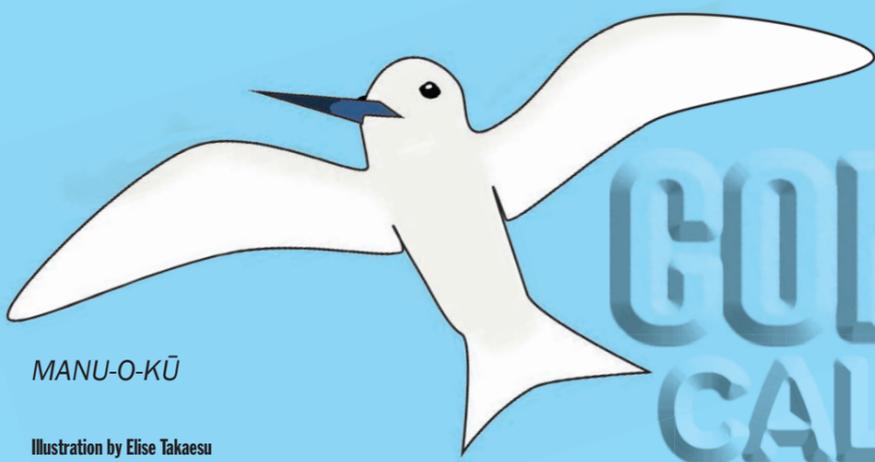
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Illustration by Elise Takaesu



PEARL HARBOR - HICKAM

COMMUNITY CALENDAR



MWR Youth Sports and Fitness is looking for fall sports volunteers. Youth Co-ed Soccer, Youth Female Softball and Youth Co-ed Tennis are the current sports being offered. Volunteers will prepare for the season in August. The actual season with practices and games will run Sept. 5 to Nov. 17. There are two practices a week with games on Saturdays. Saturday games will not start until the end of September and beginning of October. Sign-ups are open now. Interested parties can contact Youth Sports and Fitness at 473-0789.

The next Ahua Reef Wetland Restoration Volunteer event will be held Friday, May 25 from 8 to 11 a.m. Help restore a coastal wetland by creating habitat for native plants and birds. Activities include pulling invasive weeds and trash pickup. Ahu Reef Wetland is located on the Hickam side of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Closed-toe shoes are required. Volunteers should also bring sunblock, water, a hat and snacks. Boots, long sleeves and pants are recommended. Navy Natural Resources will provide tools and gloves. Interested parties can contact Corrina Carnes at 291-9053 or Corrina.carnes.ctr@navy.mil.

The tour is scheduled from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and is \$45 for adults and \$40 for children, ages 3 to 11 years old. Visit any ITT location for more details.

Naval Health Clinic Hawaii (NHCH) will conduct normal operations May 18 from 7:30 to 11 a.m. Starting at 11 a.m. all NHCH operations will be closed, to include all medical/dental facilities at Makalapa, Camp H.M. Smith, Wahiawa, Marine Corps Base Hawaii and shipyard clinics. The pharmacy, laboratory and radiology will not be available. Providers are attending required training to ensure delivery of the best and most current patient care. All clinics will be open for regular business hours Monday, May 21. For NHCH hours of operation, visit <http://www.med.navy.mil/sites/nhch>. Beneficiaries can speak to a nurse any



Special Olympics Hawaii is seeking volunteers from May 24 through 27. Positions are filled first come, first served, and positions will go fast, so sign up now. All volunteers will receive a Special Olympics Hawaii volunteer shirt, LOA, and are welcome to visit our volunteer hospitality area (for drinks, snacks and lunch) at the Murakami Baseball Stadium. As the 2018 State Summer Games quickly approaches, more than 1,100 athletes and coaches across the State of Hawaii are busy training and will compete at the University of Hawaii at Manoa campus on May 25-27. Events for the Summer Games include softball, swimming, track & field and powerlifting. Special Olympics Hawaii heavily relies on volunteers to staff their events and needs your help. Interested personnel can email YN1(AW) Dena M. Sinclair at dena.sinclair@navy.mil.

time 24/7 by calling the toll-free TRICARE "Nurse Advice Line" at 1-800-874-2273, option 1. To book an appointment, visit www.tricareonline.com or call 473-0247. The Schofield Barracks Acute Care Clinic (ACC) is open from 7 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. for walk-ins only. The ACC can be reached at 433-8850. Tripler Army Medical Center (TAMC) has "Quick Care" located in the TAMC Emergency Room that is open 24/7. For emergencies, dial 911 or go to TAMC. For active-duty dental emergencies, dial 864-4705.

Receive up to two free games of bowling Monday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. during lunchtime at Hickam Bowling Center. Shoe rental is extra. Military ID card required. Offer not valid on holidays.

This workshop is scheduled from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at MFSC Pearl Harbor. The application process for federal jobs can feel confusing and overwhelming. Learn to navigate the USAJobs website and understand the application

process from start to finish. You can learn how to build a competitive application. Other topics include hiring preferences, programs for veterans and military spouses.

Army and Air Force Exchange shoppers at JBPHH can compete to show off their furry, feathered or fuzzy friends during the worldwide Patriot Pet Just Say "Treat" Photo Contest. Photo entries can be submitted from May 4 to June 1 at ShopMyExchange.com/sweepstakes, where shoppers can also find the complete rules of the contest. Winners will be selected at the end of June. For more information, visit <http://www.shopmyexchange.com>.

The golf tournament is scheduled at Mamala Bay Golf Course from May 18 through 20. For more information, call 449-2304 or visit greatlifehawaii.com.

The Honolulu Navy League, in cooperation with the U.S. Air Force Band of the Pacific, is proud to present the 33rd annual Joint Military Concert at the historic Hawaii Theatre on Saturday, May 19 at 4 p.m. Admission is free and will feature a joint performance by members of the Army 25th Infantry Division Band, the Hawaii Army National Guard Band, the Marine Corps Forces Pacific Band, the Navy U.S. Pacific Fleet Band and the Air Force Band of the Pacific. The concert is open to the public. Free tickets can be printed from www.hawaii theatre.com. For additional ticket information, visit the Hawaii Theatre Box Office, located downtown at 1130 Bethel Street, or call 528-0506.

This workshop is scheduled from 8:30 to 11 a.m. at MFSC Pearl Harbor. Want to apply for your American citizenship? The Military and Family Support Center in partnership with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services presents an immigration information workshop to assist you. This class will provide step-by-step instructions and help you understand and navigate the U.S. citizen immigration application process. For more information, call 474-1999.

This class is scheduled from 9 a.m. to noon at MFSC Pearl Harbor. We all know what anger is, and we have all felt it: whether as a fleeting annoyance or as a full-fledged rage. Feeling anger is not unusual; it is a completely normal and healthy human emotion. It's how we channel that anger and emotion that's important. Join us for this class that is designed to help you better understand, channel, and control your anger. For more information, call 474-1999.

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7 P.M. • I Feel Pretty (PG-13)

7 P.M. • Super Troopers 2 (R)

2:30 P.M. • Free Admission to Paddington 2

3 P.M. • Rampage (PG-13)

2:30 P.M. • Paddington 2 (NDVD - Free Admission) (PG)

6 P.M. • I Feel Pretty (PG-13)

5 P.M. • Truth or Dare (PG-13)

7:10 P.M. • Super Troopers 2 (R)

1:30 P.M. • Isle of Dogs (PG-13)

4 P.M. • Rampage (PG-13)

1:30 P.M. • Rampage (3-D) (PG-13)

3:50 P.M. • I Feel Pretty (PG-13)

6:30 P.M. • Super Troopers 2 (R)

6:10 P.M. • Blockers (R)

7 P.M. • Ready Player One (3-D) (PG-13)

Super Troopers 2

Fired for their previous shenanigans, former Vermont Highway Patrol officers Thorny, Farva, Rabbit, Foster and Mac get a shot at redemption from Capt. O'Hagan and Gov. Jessan. The wacky quintet must provide law enforcement for a French Canadian town that's transitioning to U.S. sovereignty. Their unconventional methods soon get put to the test when they encounter a smarmy mayor, mischievous Mounties, a smuggling ring and a 1,300-pound bear.

**Movie schedules are subject to change without notice.*