

Officials unveil USS Arizona stamp



U.S. Navy photos by MC2 Tiarra Fulgham

(Above): (from left to right), Greg Wolny, United States Postal Service Honolulu district manager; Rear Adm. Rick Williams, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, John Edgar, USPS vice president; Paul DePrey, National Park Service superintendent; Ret. U.S. Sen. Daniel Akaka and Hawaii State Rep. K. Mark Takai unveil the USS Arizona Memorial Priority Mail express stamp.



(Left): Rear Adm. Rick Williams, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, along with Ret. U.S. Sen. Daniel K. Akaka and Paul DePrey, National Park Service superintendent sign a framed image of the new priority mail express stamp on March 13. The stamp features an illustration of the USS Arizona Memorial created by artist Dan Cosgrove.

DMV on JBPHH to be determined by city council vote

SrAirman
Christopher Stoltz

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-
Hickam Public Affairs

Waiting in line at the DMV is the worst. Not only is a fair chunk of your day wasted while you wait for your number to be called, but then you have to play catch up on work you may have missed while you were out.

For military members and their families in the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) area, this may soon be an issue of the past.

On March 13, Capt. Jeffrey James, commander of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam; Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell and council members, Breene Harimoto, Ron Menor and Kymberly

Pine, announced a pilot program and proposal that would bring a city motor vehicle registration to JBPHH.

The city council, however, must first approve the program. As Ho'okele went to press, the proposal was scheduled to be on the March 20 agenda of the City Council Intergovernmental Affairs and Human Services Committee.

If approved by the city council, the new registration office would be located in Club Pearl. The service would be open to all military personnel, their family members and civilian employees from all military bases.

According to the Pearlridge DMV, some of the lengthiest transactions at the DMV are military out-

of-state car registrations. Opening a satellite location at joint base would alleviate congestion at the other DMV locations throughout Oahu. The new office, however, would not be open five days a week.

“What we’re looking to do is have the location open two times a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays,” said Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell. “We are going to have people from other satellite city halls, Pearlridge in particular, who will staff this office behind me.” [at Club Pearl]

If the plan is approved, the selected location at Club Pearl will be transformed from empty space to relief for service members and their families who wish to spend less of their time waiting in a queue.



U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Nardel Gervacio

Capt. Jeffrey James, commander of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, looks on as Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell holds a press conference on a proposal to open a motor vehicle registration office at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Sentry Aloha emphasizes aircraft integration

Story and photos by
Staff Sgt. Christopher
Hubenthal

Defense Media
Activity - Hawaii

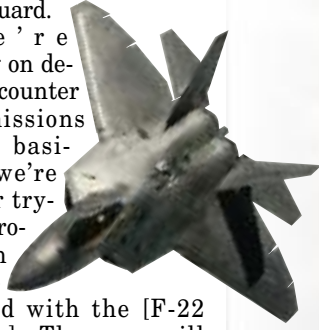
More than 350 participants and five units participated in the largest Sentry Aloha exercise to date from March 6 to March 19.

Sentry Aloha is an air-to-air exercise focused on offensive and defensive counter measures and fighting integration, providing pilots with the opportunity to integrate different generations of aircraft into one air-to-air exercise.

“What we’re working on here is fifth generation advanced air-to-air tactics,” said Lt. Col. Mike Didio, 112th Fighter Squadron commander, Ohio Air Na-

tional Guard. “We’re working on defensive counter air missions where basically we’re blue air trying to protect an asset integrated with the [F-22 Raptors]. Then we will move on to an offensive counter air mindset where we’re actually taking the fight to the simulated enemy working with F-22s and F-15 [Eagle].”

For Maj. Brian Moran, 112th Fighter Squadron weapons officer, Ohio Air National Guard, working alongside and supplementing other airframes like the F-22 has been a useful training experience.



(Above): An F-16 Fighting Falcon, assigned to the 112th Fighter Squadron, Ohio Air National Guard, participates in a Sentry Aloha exercise March 7 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. (Left): An F-22 Raptor from the 199th Fighter Squadron, Hawaii Air National Guard.

“It’s been awesome being able to come out here and support our fifth generation brethren, the F-22,” said

Moran, 112th Fighter Squadron. “Working with them on the blue side and seeing how we can all inte-

grate together has been great.”

Although Moran has trained beside the F-22 be-

fore, Sentry Aloha offers something new for him.

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Elmendorf fighters take up winter refuge at JBPHH
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Emergency management training keeps JBPHH prepared
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Hickam Airmen participate in Read Across America
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PHNSY plans new methods to repair sealing surfaces to upgrade vertical launch system
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‘Stamp of approval’
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Joint base to hold ‘Walk to Safety’ April 1
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Elmendorf fighters take up winter refuge at JBPHH



Senior Airman Trey MacLaughlin, a 525th Aircraft Maintenance Unit crew chief, marshals an F-22 Raptor into place on the flightline at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on March 11.

**Story and photo by
Tech. Sgt. Terri Paden**

15th Wing Public Affairs

Having 365 days of tropical weather makes Hawaii not only an ideal place for a beach vacation, it provides optimal working conditions for flying units needing to escape wintry weather. One such unit taking advantage of the warmer temperatures is the 525th Fighter Squadron (FS) from Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska, on temporary duty to JBPHH for Operation Cope Thaw.

According to Maj. Ryan Wick, an F-22 Raptor pilot with the 525th FS, prior to arriving at JBPHH for Cope Thaw on March 1, not a single pilot in their unit at home was combat-mission ready for various reasons — one of them being weather-related cancellation of sorties.

“Alaska is a great place to fly. The airspace is unmatched, and the local community is extremely supportive,” said Wick. “However, there are unique challenges when it comes to the weather. On average, our pilots fly eight sorties a month. That’s what it takes to be considered combat mission ready. But due to weather attrition this season, we were averaging four or five sorties a month, so when we arrived here March 1 the entire squadron was non-combat mission ready.”

Wick said the unit typically supports two flying periods a day, but due to weather conditions beyond their control, there are times when flying just isn’t safe.

“We’ll fly in negative 30 degrees, but snow, fog, low clouds and freezing rain force us to ground the jets, and it is difficult to get lost sorties back,” he said.

But temporarily relocat-

ing operations to Hawaii has made all the difference. After only one week on island, the unit has already seen one pilot attain the required amount of flying time, an achievement Wick said is virtually unprecedented.

“We brought 12 pilots here and if things go as planned, we should leave here with 12 pilots fully combat mission ready,” he said. “In only two weeks, we’ll accomplish what usually takes a month.”

Wick attributed the unit’s success during Cope Thaw to more than just blue skies.

“We haven’t lost a single sortie due to maintenance,” he said. “Our goal is to fly 100 percent of our maintenance contracted sorties and since we’ve been here, we’ve flown 100 percent. We’ve seen absolutely phenomenal maintenance work.”

Though maintenance on the jets isn’t directly impacted by the weather, Mas-

ter Sgt. Jason Schmidt, 525th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron lead production superintendent, said being on temporary duty to Hawaii has boosted the team’s productivity.

“The maintenance is all the same regardless of where we are, but I’m sure the warm weather makes us more productive,” he said. “The guys’ spirits are up, everybody’s in a good mood ... you can’t beat it. It’s a morale booster. The winter in Alaska is long, so it’s nice to get to work in sunny weather in the middle of the winter.”

In fact, being TDY to Hawaii has even brought the team closer together. “There’s been extraordinary teamwork to get the mission accomplished here,” he said.

“We’re all here working together toward the same goal, so some folks have had to step outside of their comfort zones to help out in



Senior Airman Trey MacLaughlin, a 525th Aircraft Maintenance Unit crew chief, services the oil on an F-22 Raptor engine during a through flight inspection on the flightline at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on March 11.

other specialties. You’ve got folks from different career fields working together to learn what other people on the team do. It’s been a good learning experience for everyone because the dynamic here is different than back home.”

The coincidental timing of Cope Thaw also created another training opportunity for the unit to take full advantage of—participating in Sentry Aloha 2014. The ongoing aerial combat exercise provides an opportunity for the F-22 unit to maximize the weather here and to train with many of the dissimilar aircraft on the island in support of the exercise.

Capt. Patrick Kellerman,

525th Aircraft Maintenance Unit officer in charge, said Cope Thaw’s success has truly been an all-around team effort.

“The host unit has been really supportive,” he said. “We could not have done this without them. It’s because of them we are even able to be at 100 percent of our sorties. They’ve helped us out by sharing their infrastructure and providing us equipment we weren’t able to bring down here.”

After seeing just how beneficial using the airspace in Hawaii can be, Wick said he hopes the unit is able to continue pursuing opportunities like this for many years to come.

Emergency management training keeps JBPHH prepared

**Story and photo by
Staff Sgt. Alexander Martinez**

15th Wing Public Affairs

Keeping in line with Ready Navy and Air Force Be Ready disaster preparedness programs, the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam emergency management office conducted ombudsmen and key spouse community preparedness training March 12 at Hickam Memorial Theater.

“It’s very important to stay prepared and know what to do in the event of an emergency,” said Col. David Kirkendall, 647th Air Base Group commander, who gave the opening statements during the brief. “With this training, you’ll have the information you need to weather a storm, figuratively and literally.”

The training was open to community ombudsmen, key spouses and members of the family readiness group at JBPHH.

The training covered response strategies and scenarios regarding possible disasters, including

hurricanes, earthquakes, tsunamis, tornados, floods and active shooters.

Daniel DuBois, the JBPHH emergency management officer, conducted the training and highlighted three main emergency preparation actions: Be informed, have a plan and make a kit.

“You are the ‘tip of the spear’ in the community,” DuBois said. “I need you to take this information on staying prepared back to your people and commands.”

DuBois said there is an even greater importance for JBPHH and the state of Hawaii to stay prepared because of our geographic isolation in the Pacific.

“If there’s a big storm or a hurricane, we can’t just simply evacuate inland,” he said. “We’re limited in space and there’s really no place to go.”

DuBois also highlighted active shooter risks and measures to take in the event of an active shooter scenario.

“Lately there’s been an increased awareness of active shooter risks,” he said. “It can



Col. David Kirkendall, 647th Air Base Group commander, (right) and Daniel DuBois, JBPHH emergency management officer, speak with attendees at the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Ombudsman Key Spouse Community Preparedness Training at the Hickam Memorial Theater at JBPHH on March 12.

happen at the commissary or the [Navy Exchange], but the key is staying alert and prepar-

ing for the worst.”

Other upcoming emergency management training will be

quarterly emergency management working group on March 26.

Commentary

Hopper, 'Hopper Nation' show character, courage, commitment

Rear Adm. Rick Williams

Commander, Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific

Seventy years ago this year – 1944 – the first warship in our Navy to be named for a woman was launched: USS Higbee (DD 806), named for Lenah S. Higbee, one of the Navy's first 20 nurses and superintendent of the U.S. Navy Nurse Corps during World War I.

That same year, Midship-



Rear Adm. Rick Williams

man Grace Hopper became a lieutenant (junior grade) and began an assignment at Harvard University through the end of World War II.

Hopper had seen what happened here at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941 and was inspired to join our Navy.

Grace Hopper, as we know, would go on to have a distinguished career, developing COBOL (common-business-oriented language) and bringing the Navy into the computer age.

During her lifetime, Hop-

per witnessed milestone achievements for women, including the right to vote, the establishment of WAVES (Women Accepted for Emergency Service), and the passing of the Women's Armed Forces Integration Act.

In 1973 Hopper was promoted to captain by Adm. Elmo Zumwalt, Chief of Naval Operations, and in 1985 she achieved the rank of rear admiral.

USS Hopper (DDG 70) was launched in 1996, following USS Higbee as the

Navy's second warship to be named for a woman.

At this moment, the men and women known as "Hopper Nation" are deployed forward from their homeport here at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. They are representing our Navy and our nation – building partnerships and providing maritime security. They are doing their part, often just with their presence, to make our world safer.

Their tactical achievements are having strategic impacts with our partners.

We are extremely thankful, not only for their service but also for the sacrifice and support of their loved ones. The families of USS Hopper are strong and resilient in supporting their Sailors.

During this Women's History Month, let's reflect on the skill, determination and tenacity of women like "Amazing Grace" Hopper as well as her namesake – our mighty guided-missile destroyer USS Hopper. We are grateful for the character, courage and commitment they both personify.

Commentary

Actions of Sen. Margaret Chase Smith demonstrate character

Rebecca Hommon

Navy Region Hawaii Environmental Counsel

This year's Women's History Month encourages taking a moment to reflect upon women of character, courage and commitment. The following provides a brief introduction to the life of a notable woman: United States Sen. Margaret Chase Smith. She serves to inspire us to emulate her actions, to speak up, to take a stand, to serve beyond ourselves no matter what our gender.

The actions of Chase Smith demonstrate what it means to have great character. The wife of Maine Rep. Clyde Smith, she accompanied her husband to Washington to work as his secretary, leaving their home in Skowhegan, Maine in 1937. Falling seriously ill in



U.S. Congress, Congressional portrait Margaret Chase Smith

1940, Clyde Smith asked the voters of his Maine district to consider his wife as his best successor.

The voters did so, electing her repeatedly for positions in the House and then the Senate from 1940 to 1972. It is her speech on the Senate floor in 1950 which best

demonstrates her character.

Known as the "Declaration of Conscience," she called into question in the strongest of terms the actions of the Senate in tolerating the notorious behavior of Sen. Joseph McCarthy of Wisconsin. McCarthy's actions ruined numerous people's lives, characterizing individuals as unpatriotic members of the then highly feared Communist party, thereby ending their careers.

His accusations were questionable and often baseless, but highly effective.

Many in the entertainment industry as well as the State Department were damaged by his actions and few seemed to be willing to speak against him. While both Republicans, Smith, through her powerful statement to the Senate, bravely challenged McCarthy's tactics.

Six male moderate Repub-

licans signed onto Senator Chase's Declaration. Yet, it was she who, while noting the Senate's willingness to tolerate questionable character assassinations, defended every American's rights to criticize; to hold unpopular beliefs; to protest; and to hold independent thoughts.

All knew she was challenging, without mentioning his name, the feared and powerful McCarthy and risked becoming his next target. In spite of McCarthy's best efforts, she was re-elected and served for an additional 20 years in the Senate. Her "Declaration of Conscience" speech is considered to be one of the 100 most influential speeches in U.S. history.

(This article is the second in a Women's History Month series featuring women of character, courage and commitment.)

Diverse Views



What was your favorite subject in school?

IT2 Jason Wood
VPU2

"I guess I liked English. My teacher was really cool. She reminded me of Robin Williams in 'Dead Poets' Society.' One time she got up on her chair and did the whole 'seize the day' speech."



RP1 Peter Green
USS Chosin (CG 65)

"My favorite subject in school was history because it made me realize why I was doing what I was doing, why I was in school, why the country was the way it was."

Master Sgt. Wendy Mosby
HQ PACAF

"Sociology, because I think it is interesting to learn how society can impact individual's behaviors and motivations in life."



EN1 Gregory Quinn
First Lieutenant JBPHH

"History, I guess. I just found it interesting. No real reason."

Tamara Sims
766th Specialized Contracting Squadron

"Math, because there was a formula to solve the problem."



Lt. j.g. Paul Manglona
NAVFAC Hawaii

"My favorite subject was math. Problem solving, that's my job now as an engineer. I like the challenge behind it and figuring out what you know and using it to solve a problem."

Provided by Lt. j.g. Eric Galassi and David Underwood Jr.

Want to see your command featured in Diverse Views?
Got opinions to share?

Drop us a line at editor@hookelenews.com or karen.spangler@navy.mil

Grace Hopper pioneered computer language



Official U.S. Navy photograph

Capt. Grace M. Hopper, head of the Navy Programming Language Section of the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, discusses a phase of her work with a staff member in August 1976. "Decpack" computer equipment can be seen at the right. Among her numerous accomplishments, Hopper helped develop a common business computer language, known as COBOL. Hopper reached the rank of rear admiral during her career. The USS Hopper, homeported at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, is named in her honor. March is Women's History Month.

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Oahu's natural wonders makes it ideal for a 'staycation'



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Hickam Airmen participate in Read Across America

Story and photo by
Tech. Sgt. Terri Paden

15th Wing Public Affairs

Airmen from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) put their storytelling skills to work March 10 in celebration of Read Across Nimitz.

A nod to the 17th Annual Read Across America Day, which was held March 3, Read Across Nimitz is a localized program hosted by Nimitz Elementary School to help build awareness of the importance of reading. In addition to celebrating the birthday of Dr. Seuss, both programs focus on motivating children and teens to read more through innovative events and storytelling.

In honor of the occasion, more than 70 volunteers from the local community and JBPHH picked up their favorite story books and headed over to the school for story time.

For Read Across Nimitz, the students were treated to snacks and a full hour of storytelling by the volunteer readers. Some were dressed in



U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Terri Paden

Staff Sgt. Joe Hinojosa, Pacific Command NCO, reads "Why Do Dragons Love Tacos" to second-grade students at Nimitz Elementary School in Honolulu on March 10, as part of Read Across Nimitz. Hinojosa joined other Airmen and members of the local community to take part in the program aimed at motivating children to read more through innovative events and storytelling.

Airman battle uniforms, others as Dr. Seuss characters.

"The response from the community far exceeded our

expectations," said Bernice Saavedra, Nimitz Elementary School parent community network coordinator.

"We had an overwhelmingly positive response from the parents and kids. We're trying to make reading a

bigger part of the school experience."

Sheri Honnaka, school librarian, said in the weeks leading up to the big event the teachers built excitement for the day by reading Dr. Seuss books to their classes, an act that soon drove students to the library in search of similar reads.

Honnaka said the event also encouraged parent involvement.

"The kids who had parents volunteering were excited to help them select books to read to their classmates," she said. "A lot of the students found more books they really enjoyed and wanted to take home to share with their family. I think it's really exciting to see the children fall in love with reading and be excited to learn."

Allison Pachasa, a parent volunteer, said she loves any opportunity to get involved with her son's classroom experience and saw Read Across Nimitz as a great way to encourage reading. "Anything I can do to help promote reading is

awesome," she said. "They are so focused on video games these days that it's hard to instill in them a love for reading, but I think it's fun to hear stories from different people. I think variety makes them understand reading can be fun."

Master Sgt. John Marquez, Binnicker Professional Military Education Center director of education and parent volunteer, said not only is it important to get children interested in reading, it's especially important to get them excited about it at an early age.

"I think it's important for adults to read to children both on and off campus," he said.

However, for Marquez the highlight of the event was simply witnessing the excitement.

"It was fun making the kids laugh and smile. That's what makes my day," he said.

After such a positive response from the parents and students, Saavedra said she hopes to see Read Across Nimitz become an annual event.

‘Celebrating Women of Character, Courage, and Commitment’ in U.S. Navy

Chief of Naval
Personnel Public Affairs

The Navy joins the nation in celebrating Women's History Month during March, as announced in NAVADMIN 043/14.

Currently more than 59,000 active duty women and more than 9,000 Reserve women serve in the Navy. Making up 18 percent of the total force, women make numerous contributions to our Navy's mission and readiness.

Additionally, more than 54,000 women serve in a wide range of specialties as Navy civilians. Women leading in the Navy total force include: 32 active and Reserve flag officers, 69 senior executive service (SES) members, 48 command master chiefs and three command senior chiefs.

In 1908, Congress established the U.S. Navy Nurse Corps. The first 20 Navy nurses were women who became known as the "Sacred Twenty."

As one of the "Sacred Twenty," Lenah S. Higbee was one of the first women to serve formally as a member of the Navy. In 1909, Higbee was promoted to chief nurse at Norfolk Naval Hospital, and in 1911 she became the superintendent of the Navy Nurse Corps, serving throughout the duration of World War I.

The Navy recognized Higbee's distinguished service as superintendent of the Navy Nurse Corps, awarding her the Navy Cross for service in the line of her profession and unusual and conspicuous devotion to duty. In 1944, the Navy commemorated Higbee's naval service, naming a ship in her honor. USS Hig-



U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Collin Turner

Capt. Synthia Jones, (right), addresses the Women's History Month Symposium at Naval Support Activity Naples on March 26, 2013. The theme of this year's symposium is "Women Inspiring Innovation through Imagination: Celebrating Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics."

bee (DD 806) was the first combatant ship to be named after a woman.

The Navy's first enlisted women, more commonly known as yeomen (F) or yeomanettes, provided clerical support during World War I. Capt. Joy Bright Hancock initially enlisted as a yeoman (F), serving until the end of World War I, by which time she had risen to the rank of chief petty officer.

In 1942, during World War II, she was commissioned as a lieutenant in the Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service (WAVES) program. Hancock rose to the rank of cap-

tain and led the WAVES through the 1940s and 1950s, facilitating the addition of women as a permanent part of the Navy.

Master Chief Yeoman Anna Der-Vartanian entered the Navy through the WAVES. She was not only the first woman to hold the rank of master chief in the Navy, but also across all armed services.

Reflecting on her service, Der-Vartanian noted that most of the personnel she led treated her with respect and professionalism. In the few exceptions where her authority was challenged, she maintained her professionalism with the saying,

"Fall in and pipe down!" Upon her retirement after 21 years of naval service, Der-Vartanian continued serving her country by joining the Central Intelligence Agency.

Darlene Iskra was one of the first female line officers to graduate from the Naval School of Diving and Salvage in Washington, D.C.

Looking back, Iskra said, "Dive school was the most physically challenging thing I had ever done to that point in my life. Had it not been for the support of my fellow classmates, especially my roommate and diving partner [present day] Rear Adm. Martha Herb, I

would have probably quit."

As a lieutenant commander, Iskra became the first Navy woman to command a ship when she assumed command of USS Opportune (ARS 41) in 1990. Iskra took her ship, a Bolster-class rescue and salvage ship, to patrol the Suez Canal during Operation Desert Storm, ensuring the canal remained clear for commerce.

Reflecting upon her time as the first female commanding officer of a naval ship, she now understands that being a trailblazer means opening new ground for others to follow and that sometimes there are haz-

ards along the way. Iskra retired in 2000 as a commander with 21 years of service.

Most recently, Vice Adm. Michelle Howard was nominated for appointment to the rank of admiral and assignment as vice chief of naval operations. Upon confirmation, she will make history as the Navy's first female four-star admiral and first African-American and first woman to serve as the vice chief.

The character, courage, and commitment shown by Higbee, Hancock, Der-Vartanian, Iskra and Howard paved the way for women serving in the contemporary Navy. Today, women in the Navy, both officer and enlisted, hold leadership positions aboard warships, of carrier air wings and squadrons, recruiting districts, training stations and shipyards.

As we continue to progress forward, previously closed billets will open to women and the Navy will continue to witness women making history and new "firsts."

Commands are strongly encouraged to increase their knowledge and awareness of the contributions of women to our Navy and nation by celebrating the National Women's History Month theme, "Celebrating Women of Character, Courage, and Commitment," through programs, exhibits, publications, and participation in military and community events.

For more information about the history of women and their numerous contributions to the Navy, visit <http://www.history.navy.mil/special%20highlights/women/women-index.htm>.

Pearl Harbor-Hickam Highlights



U.S. Air Force photo by Maj. Christopher Ross
Chief Master Sgt. Sarah Sparks, interim 15th Wing command chief, greets the new 15th Wing command chief, Chief Master Sgt. Jim Smith Jr., with a lei at the Honolulu International Airport on March 13. The chief and his wife flew in from Dover Air Force Base, where he previously served as the command chief for the 436th Airlift Wing. Smith has served in the Air Force for 29 years and has held numerous leadership positions within the maintenance career field.

U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Steven Khor
Adm. John Richardson, director of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program, talks with Sailors from the Pearl Harbor waterfront March 13, during a visit to the Pacific Fleet area of responsibility.



U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Amanda Dunford
Pacific Fleet Master Chief Marco Ramirez speaks with Sailors during an all hands call aboard the guided-missile cruiser USS Chosin (CG 65) on March 17. During his visit, Ramirez spoke about several issues of concern including sexual assault prevention, warfighting readiness and the importance of missions executed in the Indo-Asia-Pacific.

U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Christopher Hubenthal
A U.S. Air Force F-22 Raptor pilot, 199th Fighter Squadron, Hawaii Air National Guard, prepares to taxi during a Sentry Aloha exercise March 13 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Sentry Aloha is an aerial combat exercise focused on offensive and defensive counter measures and fighter integration. Air National Guard, Air Reserves and active-duty airmen worked together during the training exercise.



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Alexander Martinez
Col. Johnny Roscoe, 15th Wing commander, speaks with Hickam Elementary School fifth graders after reading a book at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on March 13. Roscoe read to the students as part of Read Across America, a National Educational Association program that celebrates reading in schools. Roscoe read "Tree Lady: The True Story of How One Tree-Loving Woman Changed a City Forever" by H. Joseph Hopkins.

Sentry Aloha

Continued from A-1

“At weapons school out at Nellis AFB, I was able to work with the F-22 mostly in air-to-ground missions where [Raptors] provided the escort for us as we were going in to drop the bombs,” Moran said. “This is my first time getting to strictly fly air-to-air with them.”

The location of the exercise also makes Sentry Aloha an uncommon and effective training experience

“[Sentry Aloha] is great and a very rare training opportunity,” said Lt. Col. Mike Didio, 112th Fighter Squadron commander, Ohio Air National Guard. “We get opportunities to

train with the F-15 a little more than the F-22. Being out here in the good weather and the great air space over the water is a very good and very unique training opportunity for our guys to make that happen.”

According to Didio, the execution of this year’s Sentry Aloha exercise is how he believes air-to air training will be designed down the road.

“Total force integration is pretty much here to stay and it’s the way of the future,” Didio said. “It seems like this is the trend both in the Guard and the active components to maximize our training with our limited resources we now have available for exercises.”



An F-15 Eagle from 131st Fighter Squadron, Massachusetts National Guard, takes off during a Sentry Aloha exercise March 7 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.



An F-15 Eagle from 112th Fighter Squadron, Ohio Air National Guard, takes off from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

PHNSY plans new methods to repair sealing surfaces to upgrade vertical launch system

Danielle Jones and Sarah Fry

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Public Affairs

Shipyard production and engineering representatives met recently with their off-yard partners to determine a better way to repair sealing surfaces in vertical launching system (VLS) missile tubes.

The method selected is an automatic laser welding and robotic grinding process, which will replace brush plating as a better way to perform VLS missile tube repairs. Automatic gas tungsten arc welding (GTAW) is also being developed as an alternate/back-up process.

The shipyard’s laser welding and robotic grinding equipment had not been used since 2011 when challenges with the process resulted in unscheduled downtime for an availability.

Since that time, the shipyard has revitalized the collaborative partnership with Pennsylvania State Univer-

sity Applied Research Laboratory (ARL Penn State), Naval Undersea Warfare Center (NUWC) Division Keyport at Keyport, Wash., and Advanced Manufacturing Engineering Technologies Inc. in Rexburg, Idaho. Representatives from NUWC Keyport and ARL Penn State came to the shipyard to discuss improvements and conduct one of several tests of the system.

Eric Petran, an electrical engineer and code 220’s naval new technology program manager, said the modification of existing and introduction of new equipment allows more reliability. “The new process is more rugged and capable than the old one,” Petran explained. “It’s a big job to clean and repair missile tubes aboard a nuclear submarine. The work will be executed ‘one tube at a time’ and, if we encounter any problems, we have an independent back-up for the welding portion of the repairs.”

Charlene Mashiba, a



Capt. Jeffrey Heydon, code 300 operations officer, looks on as Charlene Mashiba, code 138 welding engineer, works with Miles Kotoshirodo, USS Asheville (SSN 758) project superintendent.

code 138 welding engineer, explained the back-up development.

“The back-up we’re working on consists of an automatic GTAW welding process,” Mashiba said. “It uses a tool originally de-

signed to effect repairs inside main sea water (MSW) valves. The GTAW process is well-known to shipyard workers as ‘tungsten inert gas’ (or TIG) welding.”

Mashiba explained that the automatic MSW TIG

tool has been upgraded and adapted to assist in work on VLS missile tubes, in case the laser is not functioning. A handful of shipyard employees from shop 26 will be selected and trained on the new back-up device.

The VLS solution project was a three-way cost-share between the shipyard, NUWC Division Keyport and ARL Penn State. Capt. David Kohnke (the shipyard’s former engineering and planning officer), NUWC Keyport commanding officer, and Jim VanAntwerp, division technical director, led the NUWC Keyport effort to secure funding for the project.

The Navy’s manufacturing technology (ManTech) program — itself funded by the Office of Naval Research (ONR) and managed by ONR program manager Greg Woods — also provided significant financial assistance.

“We are fortunate to have such a dedicated and capable team,” said Petran. “Everybody in this effort realized that we’re one team and that by coming up with a VLS solution, all four Naval Sea Systems Command shipyards will share and hopefully benefit from our work.”



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Tiarra Fulgham

‘Stamp of approval’

U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Diana Quinlan

MC2 Tiarra Fulgham

*Navy Public Affairs
Support Element West,
Detachment Hawaii*

The United States Postal Service revealed a new priority mail express stamp featuring the USS Arizona Memorial during a first day of issue ceremony March 13 at the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center at the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument.

Some of those in attendance at the event included Pearl Harbor survivors. Several key community leaders participating as guest speakers included Rear Adm. Rick Williams, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, former U.S. Sen. Daniel K. Akaka, and John Edgar, U.S. Postal Service information technology vice president.

Williams spoke about the importance and historical significance of the stamp unveiling.

“This week’s ceremony is another example of the Navy’s, Hawaii’s and our commitment to remember Pearl Harbor and preserve the enduring legacy of peace that the USS Arizona Memorial represents,” said Williams.



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Tiarra Fulgham



U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Johans Chavarro



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Tiarra Fulgham



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Tiarra Fulgham

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Tiarra Fulgham

“Let’s admire this stamp, appreciate what it stands for as it is our connection to today’s challenges.”

“Today, nearly a hundred years to the day that the Navy laid the keel to begin construction of the Arizona, we gather to pay tribute to its final resting spot,” said Edgar. “Not everyone will have an opportunity to visit Hawaii and see the memorial, but with this stamp, they will be able to see what it looks like and be reminded of what it stands for.”

Those in attendance were able to purchase the official USS Arizona Memorial Priority Mail Express stamps and have them hand canceled with a special commemorative first day of issue postmark by postal personnel at the site.

The stamp, designed by art director Phil Jordan and featuring an illustration of the Arizona Memorial created by artist Dan Cosgrove, pays tribute to the more than 2,400 people who lost their lives in the 1941 attack of Dec. 7, 1941 by the Imperial Japanese Navy.

The new priority stamp is available for purchase online at USPS.com, by phone at 900-782-6724 or at post offices nationwide.

Wardawgs end Wahine Koa’s four-year winning streak

Story and photo by
Randy Dela Cruz

Sports Editor

What looked to be just another Sunday in the park for the Wahine Koa women’s flag football team turned into an adventure of the unknown for many of the team’s players.

After going undefeated for four years, the Wahine Koa got beaten by the Wardawgs, 14-12, on March 16 in an Extreme Flag Football league matchup at Keehi Lagoon Park in Honolulu.

Both teams entered the showdown with league records of 4-0, but for Wahine Koa, which played as the Navy Sharks in their first two seasons, the loss was tough to swallow after years of perfection came to a crashing halt.

Many of the players from Wahine Koa are active-duty military or

stocked with personnel affiliated with Marine Corps Base Hawaii Kaneohe Bay.

“It happens to the best. You can’t win them all,” said Wahine Koa head coach August Young whose wife, Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Adriana Tirado-Young, is a starting defensive back on the team. “We actually beat ourselves. We didn’t read what they were giving us on defense, which was a man-to-man coverage. I kind of picked up on it just a little bit too late. As a team, we know we lost together. We just couldn’t crack what they were doing.”

An omen for things to come may have been established early in the contest when

A m i l e a
Kulas, a
N a v y

spouse, recorded a safety within the opening minutes to give the Wardawgs a 2-0 lead.

However, coming from behind for the first time this season didn’t appear to hamper the Wahine Koa attack as the team responded midway through the first half by moving 40 yards on three plays to take the lead at 6-2.

Quarterback Dana Hester came up with the big play on the short drive by picking up 38 yards on a keeper before retired Army veteran Simone Davis broke the goal line on a two-yard plunge for the score.

An interception by Wahine Koa defensive back Shardae Ingano ended the Wardawgs final drive in the first half to preserve the

the way to the Wahine Koa 20-yard line.

Working with a short field, Wardawgs quarterback Loretta Palmer, a Navy spouse, finally broke through the Wahine Koa defense by capping off a five-play drive on a one-yard keeper up the middle to put her team up by a score of 8-6.

“Talking at halftime, the first thing I said was our defense was playing great, but now we have to get our offense into the end zone,” said Wardawgs head coach Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Arthur Manning, 3rd Marine Regiment. “We stuck to our guns.

out on top, the Wardawgs defense got the biggest play of the game when defensive back Amanda Pendarvis stepped in front of intended receiver Sandy Robinson in the flat and recorded a pick-six for a 14-6 lead.

“I was watching the quarterback’s eyes,” Pendarvis said. “I had to get it done. We needed a cushion. It was follow that first block and get into the end zone.”

The defense then followed up with a gutsy four-and-out stoppage after Ingano returned the kickoff to the Wardawgs 15-yard line.

Later, after Davis ran in for her second touchdown of the game to pull the Wahine Koa back to within two points

on the final play of regulation, the Wardawgs sealed the win by stopping a two-point conversion attempt.

“From here, we just forget about it and moved on,” said Young about the loss. “The ride of being undefeated was good, but now it’s like the regular season is thrown out. We could lose next week and it don’t matter. But come playoffs, championship time, that’s when we know we really got to step it up and take no prisoners.”

Although the win was extremely exciting for Manning and his players, the head coach said that there’s still some unfinished business to take care of.

He said that in order to stay locked in and focused, he would make sure to keep the gals busy in practice.

“First I’m going to work them hard in practice tomorrow because it keeps them humble,” he pointed out. “You can’t let attitudes inflate, but always remember to put work on the field. That’s what gets us wins. It’s not your attitude, not your personality or that you’re a great athlete. It’s because you put work in.”

family members of the armed forces based at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, while the Wardawgs are equally

Koa’s four-point advantage going into halftime.

After both teams exchanged the football on downs to start off the second half, the Wardawgs got a huge boost from Aviation Electronics Technician 2nd Class Lachandra Owhochokwo, Patrol Squadron 47, who returned a punt all

We knew what would work. We didn’t make any adjustments. We just changed mentality. Let’s get aggressive and run our plays.”

Immediately after Palmer put the team back

Wahine Koa receiver Sandy Robinson keeps her eyes on the ball as she tries to track down a pass and complete a game-tying, two-point conversion. Unfortunately for Robinson, the pass fell beyond her reach.

Radford High School students benefit from NMSI grant

David A. Tom

Navy Region Hawaii School Liaison Officer

In 2011, the United States ranked 52nd in the quality of mathematics and science education, and fifth (and declining) in overall global competitiveness, according to the World Economic Forum’s 2011 The Global Competitiveness Report.

Radford High School is trying hard to reverse this trend through an Initiative for Military Families grant from the National Math and Science Initiative (NMSI) organization. This is intended to provide consistent, high-level science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education in high schools serving high populations of students from military families.

This is the third and final year of the NMSI grant, and for Malia Kau, college and career counselor, it has been a godsend. Before the NMSI grant, only 78 students took math, science or English advanced placement (AP) exams.

This school year, there are 184 students who will be taking the AP final exam in math, English



Photo courtesy of Radford High School

Radford High School students, Megan Joaquin, Corey Snider and Nicole Fernandez, discuss an AP calculus problem recently at Radford High School.

and science AP exams. Moreover, many are taking more than one AP course.

“The culture at Radford is changing with more students wanting to take more rigorous classes and talking about college as compared to the years before the grant,” Kau said. Three Radford 12th grade students are very appreciative for the benefits and

learning opportunities as a result of this grant.

Corey Snider, an Air Force family member, took three AP courses during the 11th grade: language, world history and calculus A/B and is taking four AP courses this year: calculus B/C, physics, statistics and English literature. He has already been accepted and offered a \$90,000

scholarship to Illinois Institute of Technology. For Snider, the AP classes he was able to take confirmed his desire of majoring in architectural engineering in college.

Megan Joaquin, a Navy family member, took AP language and AP statistics during the 11th grade and is now taking AP calculus A/B this year. She wants to major in pre-pharmacy and eventually become a pharmacist.

Nicole Fernandez is a non-military student who said she has benefited greatly from this NMSI Radford grant and is thankful that Radford was a recipient of the NMSI grant. She started in the 10th grade with AP U.S. history, then AP biology and AP language in the 11th grade and now AP calculus, AP statistics, AP environmental science and AP literature in her senior year.

The expanded AP opportunities made possible by this grant enabled her to push and challenge herself for harder classes. She has already been accepted into Colorado State University. Fernandez wants to major in animal science and zoology with the goal of becoming a veterinarian.

For Fernandez, a major benefit

was the Saturday study session from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. every other month with four different parts taught by different AP teachers from Radford and other schools.

“It definitely gave me different perspectives on the subject matter,” she said.

“NMSI spurred my interest in studying more challenging subjects, and I feel more prepared to enter college. The grant even paid for our school bus to the Saturday classes and our lunch,” Snider said.

“The teachers made the subject matter interesting and reinforced my interest in the medical field and becoming a pharmacist,” Joaquin said. “My older brother attended and graduated from Radford before this NMSI grant, and I’m really lucky that I was born the ‘right time.’”

“Before the grant, only the top students took AP classes. Now students are taking the challenging courses who weren’t in honors classes before. If there are any people who can fund to keep it going, this is a program that definitely benefits everyone: our teachers, students and families,” Kau said.

Chosin beats hard-luck Chafee to keep in hunt

Story and photo by
Randy Dela Cruz

Sports Editor

Down by as much as 11 points in the second half, USS Chosin (CG 65) kept their playoff hopes alive by coming back to beat USS Chafee (DDG 90) Bulldogs 39-34, in overtime on March 15 in an Afloat Division intramural basketball game at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Fitness Center.

With the game tied at 34-34 in overtime, Logistics Specialist Seaman Terron Outlaw put the game away by sinking a free throw before putting back a missed shot for a basket to give Chosin a 37-34 with only seconds remaining on the clock.

The win raised Chosin's record to 3-2 and kept them in a tie for fifth place in the Afloat Division — only one position out of the coveted fourth and final playoff spot.

"We definitely needed this one after that last loss," acknowledged interim co-head coach Logistics Specialist 2nd Class John Dumas. "We had a letdown after that loss."

Early on, it seemed as if Chosin wouldn't need any last-minute heroics to overcome Chafee which, despite putting together a competitive team, entered the matchup with only one win against three losses.

Although Chosin stormed out of the gates to build an 11-2 advantage, Chafee fought back and caught their opponent at 12-12 on two free throws by Culinary Specialist 2nd Class Nil Edward Tamo with 7:05 remaining on the clock before halftime.

Then up by two points with time running down before intermission, Chafee got back-to-back, fast-break baskets to take a 20-14 lead at the break.

"When substitutions went in, we had mismatches. That is what got them



USS Chosin (CG 65) guard Boatswain's Mate Seaman Fred Pippins goes airborne to the hoop during an Afloat Division intramural basketball game against USS Chafee (DDG 90) Bulldogs.

(Chafee) into the game," Dumas admitted. "We were doing four or five (substitutions) at a time because we got a lot of bodies. I had to

make the decision to put the right people back in there."

With Dumas trying to find the right combination

to put on the floor, Chafee continued to exploit the mismatches well into the second half.

A putback by Tamo with

13:03 left in the game raised Chafee to their biggest lead at 27-16.

However, Chosin started to turn things around and with 1:37 remaining on the clock, a basket-and-one by post-player Sonar Technician (Surface) 3rd Class Daniel Russell closed the gap to two points at 32-30.

Yeoman Seaman Brandyn Nichols missed a golden opportunity to tie the score by missing two free throws, but after Tamo got called for pushing off, Nichols got a second chance and tied the game at 32-32 with a putback to send the teams into overtime.

"I started going with a big lineup," said Dumas about the second-half comeback. "We had three bigs in there all the time and that made a whole lot of difference. We got better on the boards and was able to get second-chance points."

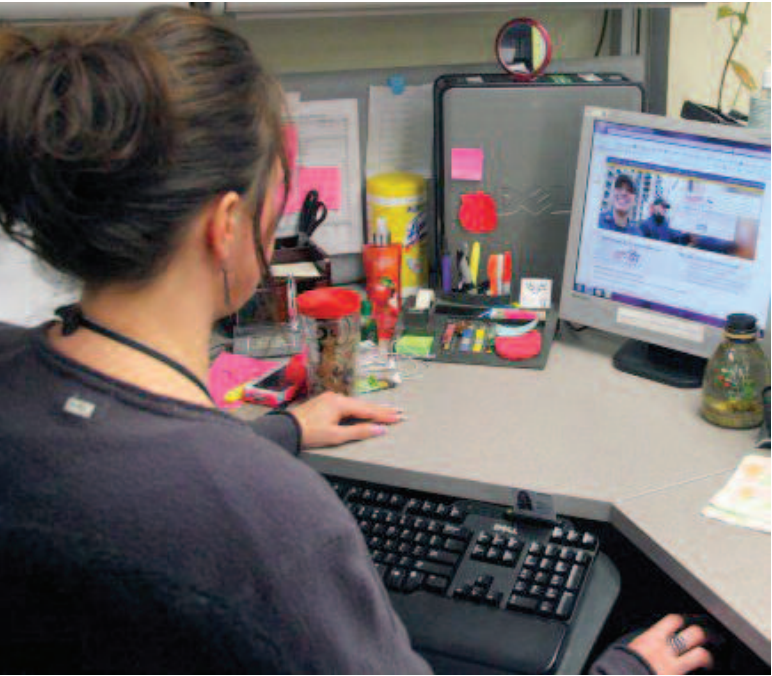
In overtime, the teams traded baskets at the start, but Chosin closed out the game by scoring the last five points to earn the win.

"Toward the end of the game, our guys just weren't taking care of the ball," said Chafee head coach Logistics Specialist 2nd Class Chris Mountain. "I was hoping this was going to be a win, but we got the Chung-Hoon next. That's the guys I want to play. I've got a game plan for them and we just got to get there."

Chafee will get the opportunity to square off against the 5-1 USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93) on March 22, starting at 10 a.m., at the fitness center.

Operations Specialist 1st Class Arthur Richardson, interim co-head coach of Chosin, said that while it feels good to remain in the hunt, he understands that the team has a long way to go before the playoffs.

"I'm not going to lie; we got a lot of work to do," Richardson said. "But we're going to make some noise."



Christie Thies, military family member, uses TRICAREonline.com.

TRICARE Service Centers to close April 1

Story and photo by Spc. Paxton Busch

Pacific Regional Medical Command

The TRICARE Service Center at Tripler Army Medical Center along with offices across the U.S. will close April 1.

TRICARE beneficiaries will still be able to manage benefits through TRICARE online self-service options at www.TRICARE.mil.

Under the "I want to..." section of the website, users can enroll or purchase a plan, file or check a claim, view referrals and prior authorizations, find a doctor, schedule appointments and more.

Christie Thies, military family member, said enrolling in www.TRICAREonline.com works with her family's busy schedule.

"Having four children, time management is a must in our family and we have many appointments that take priority. Tricare online is simple, convenient and quick. I can make an appointment for all my children and self within a few minutes," she said.

In addition to scheduling appointments through TRICARE online, qualified beneficiaries can also refill prescriptions.

"My favorite feature is the prescription refill. This, too, saves me time from calling the doctor and waiting for the refilled to be placed," Thies said.

Prior to enrolling in the free services, Thies felt there would be too many loops to maneuver around the website, but since signing up she has changed her mind.

"This program will benefit other families by cutting out the middle man on the phone, talking through dates and when you can see it for yourself online and make several appointments at once. The discreetness of the website is perfect," she said.

For more information on booking appointments online and other services, visit www.TRICAREonline.com.

For a full list of TRICARE self-service options, visit www.TRICARE.mil.

For assistance over the phone, call TRICARE's toll-free number at 1-877-698-7422 for the TRICARE west region.

New web-based records system to begin April 14 at JBPHH veterinary facility

Public Health Command District-Central Pacific

Beginning April 14, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam will become one of the last Army veterinary clinics to use a new web-based records system.

The Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Veterinary Treatment Facility is located at building 1864 on Kuntz Avenue. Remote online veterinary record (ROVR) is a secure web-based application that will allow veterinary facilities worldwide to access patient records, as well as an effective way to provide quality veterinary care to service members' pets.

One of the most important features the ROVR application will provide will be the continuity of patient care. For example, when a service member will have a permanent change of station from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam to Lackland Air Force Base, and then to Rota Naval Base years later, the level of patient care provided to their pets will not change.

Furthermore, the service member won't have to collect their patient's records when out-

processing a veterinary treatment facility. In order to achieve this equalized level of care, patrons can expect prices to be modified to accommodate the goal of standardized care in all veterinary facilities, no matter the location.

During the second week of April, key staff members will undergo training for ROVR in preparation for the application launch. The Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam veterinary treatment facility will be closed from April 10-11 and from April 14-16 to ensure the transition in systems is successful.

During this time, the rest of the veterinary treatment facility staff will be trained on the new ROVR application and to make necessary adjustments to our computer systems. Once the clinic opens on April 17, it will be operating at a very slow pace with a reduced number of patients being seen, then gradually become fully operational by the first week of May.

Patrons are asked to be patient and understanding during this transition period.

For appointments and more information, call 449-6481.

SAAM event to be held April 1

In recognition of Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) Navy Region Hawaii and the 15th Wing will hold a presentation by Anne Munch titled "Sexual Assault: Naming the Unnamed Conspirator" on April 1 at Hickam Memorial Theater.

The event will also include a Navy Region Hawaii and 15th Wing proclamation signing with Capt. Mark S. Manfredi, chief of staff for Navy Region Hawaii and Col. John Roscoe, commander, 15th Wing.

The first presentation from 9 to 11 a.m. will be an all hands and commander's call.

The second presentation from 1 to 3 p.m. will be for senior Navy and Air Force leaders.

Munch works full time providing speaking, training and consulting in the area of sexual assault, domestic violence and stalking. She is a recognized subject matter expert in her field.

For more information, call 474-0154.

Joint base to hold 'Walk to Safety' April 1

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Department of Emergency Management will hold a one-mile "Walk to Safety" beginning at 11:30 a.m. April 1.

The purpose of the event is to promote tsunami awareness and demonstrate that people can walk to safety in less than 30 minutes. April is Tsunami Awareness Month.

The walk will start in conjunction with the monthly tsunami siren tests. The event will be held on the waterfront at Aloha Aina Park, next to Wright Brothers Café.

Participants will walk from the park, down Signer Street, to the softball fields near the Hickam Fitness Center.

Participants will receive handouts and other information on tsunami readiness.

The event is planned in conjunction with National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Hawaii Civil Defense, the City and County of Honolulu Department of Emergency Management and the American Red Cross.

For more information, call Larry Sabatine, JBPHH Department of Emergency Management, at 448-2742.

Bike path cleanup to be held April 5

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam and other military volunteers can participate in the Pearl Harbor Bike Path cleanup led by the City and County of Honolulu from 8 to 11 a.m. April 5.

Volunteers, including family members ages 12 and above, can help in the area along the bike path between McGrew Point (also known as Aiea Bay State Recreational Area) and Neil S. Blaisdell Park and beyond.

Volunteers should meet at Blaisdell Park by 8 a.m.

Work will include trash removal, weeding and beautification. Volunteers should dress to get dirty, wear covered shoes, and bring sunscreen.

To volunteer, contact MAC William Matteson, william.n.matteson@navy.mil, work number 473-0151. For more information, call Lt. j.g. Eric Galassi at 473-0660 or e-mail eric.galassi@navy.mil or call Tom Clements, Navy Region Hawaii outreach, at work 473-0662 or cell 445-4981.

STORY IDEAS?

Contact the Ho'okele editor for guidelines and story/photo submission requirements

Phone:
(808) 473-2890

or email:
editor@hookelenews.com





Live the Great Life

Airman’s aim is true in 3-Point Shootout Contest

Reid Tokeshi

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Morale, Welfare and Recreation

Senior Airman AJ Abdul-Rahim from 324 Intelligence Squadron and Tech. Sgt. LaWanda Blount proved to be the best in the 3-point shootout contest held March 7 at Hickam Fitness Center. More than 35 participants entered this year’s contest, a marked increase over last year, according to B.J. Bentley, Hickam fitness manager.

Abdul-Rahim beat out Senior Airman Travis Phelps from 647 Force Support Squadron (FSS) and Staff Sgt. Jason Huestis from 735 Air Mobility Squadron to take top honors in the men’s division. Blount took the top spot in the women’s division over Master Sgt. Brandi Thomas from Pacific Air Forces and Staff Sgt. Chasity Hercher from 482 FSS.



MWR Marketing photo

The 3-Point Shootout Contest took place March 7 at Hickam Fitness Center.

“I think the turnout was really well across the board,” said Staff Sgt. Meaghan DiNovo and that many of the contestants enjoyed the contest. “Even after getting eliminated many stayed behind to see the outcome,” she added.

Abdul-Rahim and Blount

won prizes for their first place finish, and the top three in each division received a certificate.

DiNovo said contenders for their next contest can look forward to June when the center will be holding competitions in push-ups and bench press.

Thompson Square to hold free concert this Sunday

Reid Tokeshi

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Morale, Welfare and Recreation

Two-time Academy of Country Music “Vocal Duo of the Year” Thompson Square will bring their brand of country western music beginning at 5 p.m. Sunday to Ward Field, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. The free concert will be brought to the base courtesy of Navy Entertainment and joint base Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR).

Since their debut in 2010, the husband and wife duo of Keifer and Shawna Thompson has been one of the hottest country music acts. Their string of chart toppers include “Are You Gonna Kiss Me or Not,” “I Got You,” “Glass” and their most recent No. 1 hit “Everything I Shouldn’t Be Thinking About.”



Photo courtesy of Thompson Square

Vocal duo Thompson Square will perform Sunday at Ward Field.

The concert is part of a musical tour of military bases in Asia and the Pacific. Previous stops in-

cluded Okinawa, Japan and Guam.

Gates open at 3 p.m. and DJ Bryan Gray from Outlaw Country 97.5 will be on hand for a pre-party with games and prizes. Patrons are encouraged to arrive early.

A variety of food and beverages will be available for purchase from vendors and food trucks. Plate lunches, barbecue, Mexican, pizza and sweets are among the offerings.

Patrons are welcome to bring small clutches, blankets, small diaper bags, baby formula/bottles and low, beach-style chairs. Outside food and beverages, pets, backpacks, bags/totes, purses larger than a small clutch, large or tall chairs, umbrellas, tents and video/audio recorders are not authorized. Personal phones are allowed. All items are subject to search. Parking is free in the surrounding areas to Ward Field.

Your Weekly Fun with MWR

Play Until Dusk Golf will be held Monday through Friday beginning at 2:30 p.m. at Māmala Bay Golf Course. Patrons can pay a green fee for nine holes, then play as many holes as they can until dusk. The cost for the cart fee is \$8. Rental equipment needs to be turned in at dusk. FMI: 449-2304.

March Service Special is ongoing throughout this month at Hickam Auto Skills Center. Patrons can bring in their vehicle and get it scanned for free. Diagnosis is not included. FMI: 449-2554.

Free bowling is available throughout March. Patrons can turn in their Sharkey Theater movie ticket receipt at the Naval Station Bowling Center within 30 days of receipt date for one free game of bowling. Shoe rental is not included. The offer is limited to one movie ticket purchase for one free game of bowling per person. FMI: 473-0726.

Library Know-How will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Hickam Library. The event will include how to search the online catalog, information about the Dewey Decimal System and demonstrations. FMI: 449-8299.

Command Fitness Leader Training Course will be held from March 24 to 28 at the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Fitness Center. The free course is open only to active-duty Navy and Marines. All registration needs to be done through CNIC. Participants need to have current CPR certification, command designation letter, application (signed by commanding officer) and current physical fitness assessment scores of excellent or better. All documents should be sent to vicki.teran@navy.mil and cfltraining@navy.mil, or call 202-433-4367. FMI: Mark McFarland at 471-2021 or mark.mcfarland@navy.mil.

Intramural Soccer League Coaches Meeting will be held at 1 p.m. March 26 at the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Fitness Center classroom. The season runs from April 12 through June. The league is limited to commands from joint base. Any additional active-duty members not belonging to a command team will come from a players’ pool. FMI: 473-2494 or 473-2437.

“Mom & Me” Jewelry: Bracelet Class will be held from 3 to 4:30 p.m. March 27 at Hickam Arts & Crafts Center. The cost is \$12 per couple (adult and child 7-12 years old) and supplies are included. Each child must be accompanied by their mother or another responsible adult, up to two children per adult. FMI: 448-9907.

March Madness Family Night will be held from 5:30 to 8 p.m. March 27 at the Hickam Teen Center. The free event for teens and their families will include basketball activities and meatball dishes inspired by the March

Madness college tournaments. FMI: 448-0418.

The Annual Creative Writing Contest at Hickam Library will accept submissions through April 5. Aspiring authors and poets, can share their talents and submit their best work. There are two divisions, poetry and short story, and three age groups: child (6–10 years), young adult (11–18 years), and adult (19 years and up). Prizes for both divisions will be awarded in all age categories. Winners will be announced April 19 and refreshments will be served. The contest is free to enter. FMI: 449-8299.

Ko Olina Whale Watching Cruises will be held from noon to 3:45 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays through April 6. The cost is \$45 for adults and \$40 for children up to 11 years. The fee includes round-trip transportation from Information, Tickets and Travel-Hickam. Bottled water will be provided. Participants should bring their own sunscreen. FMI: 448-2295.



MARCH

NMCRS FUND DRIVE

NOW TO APRIL 4 — The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) Pearl Harbor chapter has begun its annual fund drive. This year's theme is "Be the Safety Net." Contributions are used exclusively to help Sailors and Marines in time of need in providing a safety net which can be drawn upon when unforeseen emergencies arise. FMI: www.nmcrs.org/adfd/pearlharbor.

AFAF CAMPAIGN

NOW — The 15th Wing's 2014 Air Force Assistance Fund (AFAF) has begun. This year's theme is "Commitment to Caring." Donors can find out more about the charities the AFAF supports at <https://www.afassistancefund.org>. FMI: 448-6068 or valorie.whitehill@us.af.mil.

NCIS CRIME REDUCTION PROGRAM

NOW — From the start of the fiscal year 2014 second quarter, the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) Crime Reduction Program (CRP) has been focusing its efforts on the prevention of sexual assaults. The CRP is an awareness and education program, which unites law enforcement and community service organizations with a shared goal of educating Sailors, Marines and Department of the Navy civilians about common threats to their safety. With the increasing focus on sexual assault prevention, second quarter CRP has been extended through April to align with Sexual Assault Prevention Month. For more information, contact your local NCIS representative.

BATTLESHIP MISSOURI MEMORIAL SPECIAL

NOW TO 31 — The USS Missouri Memorial Association will celebrate the 20th anniversary of its founding in March with a special savings on admission to the Battleship Missouri Memorial. Through March 31, Hawaii residents and members of the military can purchase two general admission tickets for \$20 total and child admission tickets (ages 4 to 12) for \$5. Showing a Hawaii or military ID upon purchase is required. FMI: 1-877-644-4896 or visit USSMissouri.org.

EARLY ENTRY DEADLINE FOR BRIDGE RUN

TODAY — The early entry deadline for the 17th annual Ford Island Bridge Run is today. The run will begin at 7 a.m. April 5. The cost is \$20 for military and family members and \$25 for non-military. After today the cost is \$30. T-shirts for late entries are based on availability. FMI: 473-0784 or www.greatlifehawaii.com.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY GLOW RUN

SATURDAY — A St. Patrick's Day Glow Run will be held from 5:30 to 9 p.m. at Bellows Air Force Station. The free event is open to active duty military, military retirees, Reservists, National Guard, current and retired Department of Defense civilian employees with an authorized ID card and their families. Participants can dress up wearing green or any festive costume. Bring glow sticks and LEDs. The band Kealahalani Blend will perform beginning at 6:30 p.m. FMI: 259-4112.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH FAIR

25 — A Women's History Month fair will be held from 2 to 3:30 p.m. at the Makai Recreation Center on the Hickam side of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. FMI: email guss.alexander@us.af.mil or Tanya.wyatt@us.af.mil.

DISCOVER YOUR FUTURE IN AVIATION

29 — Young people interested in aviation as a career or hobby can attend a special aviation day with hands-on workshops, a career fair, flight lab and interactive science exhibits. In addition, Capt. Sharyn Emminger Dey, the first female pilot for Hawaiian Airlines, will be honored. The event is free with museum admission and to museum members. FMI: 441-1007 or email education@pacificaviationmuseum.org.

BLOOD DRIVE

31 — Tripler Army Medical Center Blood Donor Center has updated its schedule of upcoming blood drives as part of the Armed Services Blood Donor Program. Currently scheduled drives include March 31, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Naval Submarine Support Command, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. FMI: 433-6699 or 433-6148 or email michelle.lele@amedd.army.mil or visit www.militaryblood.dod.mil.

APRIL

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY DEADLINE

2 — The deadline for Hickam Communities residents to submit an application to WinnCompanies' Winning Edge Scholarship Program is April 2. Residents are eligible if they are pursuing some form of higher education in a community college, college, university or trade/professional school. Scholarship grants start at \$1,000. Application packets can be picked up at Hickam Communities housing office at 211 Mercury Road or its leasing office at 211 Kokomalei St. Applications are also available on the website. FMI: www.hickamcommunities.com/go/WinningEdge.

KEEP CALM AND EAT A CUPCAKE

17 — Hui 'O Na Wahine will hold a luncheon event called "Keep Calm and Eat A Cupcake" at the Nehelani Club, Schofield Barracks. The cost is \$20 at the door or by Paypal for \$21. Doors open at 10:30 a.m. and lunch begins at 11 a.m. Participants need to RSVP by noon April 11. FMI: huischofield@gmail.com or www.schofieldspouses.com.

BREAKFAST WITH THE EASTER BUNNY

19 — Breakfast with the Easter bunny will be held from 8 to 9 a.m. at the Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange food court lanai, All military families (authorized patrons) and their children can participate in the breakfast. The event will also include games, prizes, balloon art, glitter tattoos, crafts and a goody bag. Tickets will go sale starting today at the NEX main mall rotunda. FMI: 423-3287.



ROBOCOP (PG-13)

In RoboCop, the year is 2028 and multinational conglomerate OmniCorp is at the center of robot technology. Overseas, their drones have been used by the military for years, but have been forbidden for law enforcement in America. Now OmniCorp wants to bring their controversial technology to the home front, and they see a golden opportunity to do it.

SHARKEY THEATER

TODAY 3/21

7:00 PM The LEGO Movie (PG)

SATURDAY 3/22

2:30 PM The LEGO Movie (PG)
4:50 PM Pompeii (3D) (PG-13)
7:10 PM Non-Stop (PG-13)

SUNDAY 3/23

2:30 PM Robocop (PG-13)
5:00 pm The Monuments Men (PG-13)
7:20 pm Pompeii (PG-13)

THURSDAY 3/27

7:00 PM About Last Night (R)

HICKAM MEMORIAL THEATER

TODAY 3/21

6:00 PM Robocop (PG-13)

SATURDAY 3/22

4:00 PM The LEGO Movie (PG)
7:00 PM Robocop (PG-13)

SUNDAY 3/23

2:00 PM The LEGO Movie (PG)

THURSDAY 3/27

7:00 PM Pompeii (PG-13)



NIOC Hawaii one win away from perfect season

Story and photo by
Randy Dela Cruz

Sports Editor

Back-to-back defending intramural basketball champions Navy Information Operations Command (NIOC) Hawaii withstood a stiff challenge from 15th Medical Group (15 MDG), but held on to secure their seventh straight victory of the season in a matchup of Red Division teams on March 18 at Hickam Fitness Center, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

The champs will try to lock up the number-one seed when they square off against Commander United States Pacific Fleet (COMPACFLT) in the regular-season finale March 25 at Hickam Fitness Center, with the tipoff scheduled for 6 p.m.

While ending the regular season with an unblemished record would be quite an achievement, NIOC assistant coach Chief Yeoman Chris William said that the team is on the lookout for bigger fish to fry.

“Having a perfect record isn’t really a goal,” said William after the team’s 51-42 win over the 15 MDG. “The main goal for us is to make it to the championship round. That’s been our goal since day one and myself and coach Webb [NIOC head coach Senior Chief Cryptologic Technician (Collection) Christopher Webb] just try to make sure that these guys stay focused to keep that championship in sight.”

If NIOC is going to stay on track to win it all, the team will have to do it without the services of six-



foot-five-inch behemoth Cryptologic Technician (Collection) 2nd Class Quentin Leathers, who recently transferred out of the command.

Playing without Leathers for the first time proved to be quite a challenge as the team struggled to put away the 15 MDG.

Although NIOC got out to a quick 8-0 start and prevented the 15 MDG from scoring until Airman 1st Class Christopher McCloud threw down a slam-dunk eight minutes into the contest, the defending champs entered halftime clinging to a two-point lead at 21-19.

McCloud tied the game with a basket at the 16:55 mark, but NIOC responded with five straight points before Cryptologic Technician (Networks) 2nd Class Michael Lyles dropped a bomb from beyond the arc to stretch the team’s lead to eight at 29-21.

“It was one of those things that shifted momentum,” William said. “It helped our confidence because for a little bit, we weren’t getting the stops that we needed. But when he (Lyles) knocked down that three-point shot, that raised our energy level to finish the game strong.”

McCloud managed to stage a small comeback by following a basket with a three ball to make it 29-26 at the 11:52 mark.

However, that would prove to be as close as the

15 MDG would get, as NIOC used the rest of the time to pull away and secure the win.

“We just missed shots,” McCloud said about the team’s third loss in a row after winning the first three. “As soon as we started hitting shots, we were back in the game. In the second half, we got four straight turnovers and they started inching away. We have to control the ball. The turnovers are just killing us right now.”

In the absence of Leathers, NIOC forward Cryptologic Technician (Collection) 2nd Class Dykendric Butler picked up the slack under the boards and played a big part in the team’s win over the 15 MDG.

Butler was a force on the boards and came up with nine big points on three baskets and a trey.

“With us not having Leathers, someone had to step up and Butler was the one,” William pointed out. “He scored some points, played great defense and he got the game ball from us today.”

Staying on the road to perfection hasn’t been an easy task for NIOC, which will have to close out the regular season by playing two of the top four teams in the division.

Williams said that while he would have preferred an easier route to the playoffs, NIOC comes ready to play no matter whom they face.

“We don’t take anybody for granted,” he said. “We go into every game knowing that at anytime, any team can beat us. We go into every game with the same intensity and same respect.”

Cryptologic Technician (Networks) 2nd Class Michael Lyles goes up for a baseline jumper in a Red Division intramural basketball game.

STORY IDEAS?

Contact the Ho’okele editor for guidelines and story/photo submission requirements

Phone: (808) 473-2890/2895

Email: editor@hookelenews.com

HO’OKELE

March 29 hula performance to honor Prince Kuhio

A Hula Halau O' Kehaulani performance will begin at 10 a.m. March 29 at the Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange mall rotunda waterfall.

NEX will celebrate the birthday of Prince Jonah Kūhiō Kalaniana'ole with a cultural dance by Kumu Kehaulani and her hula students. There will be *kahiko* (traditional) and *auana* (modern) performances for authorized patrons.

The prince was heir to the throne of the Kingdom of Hawaii, and later territorial delegate to the United States Congress. He wrote the first Hawaii Statehood bill in 1919, and won passage of the Hawaiian Homes Act. This provided 20,000 acres of land to Hawaiian Homesteaders.

The actual date of his birthday is March 26.

For more information, call 423-3287.

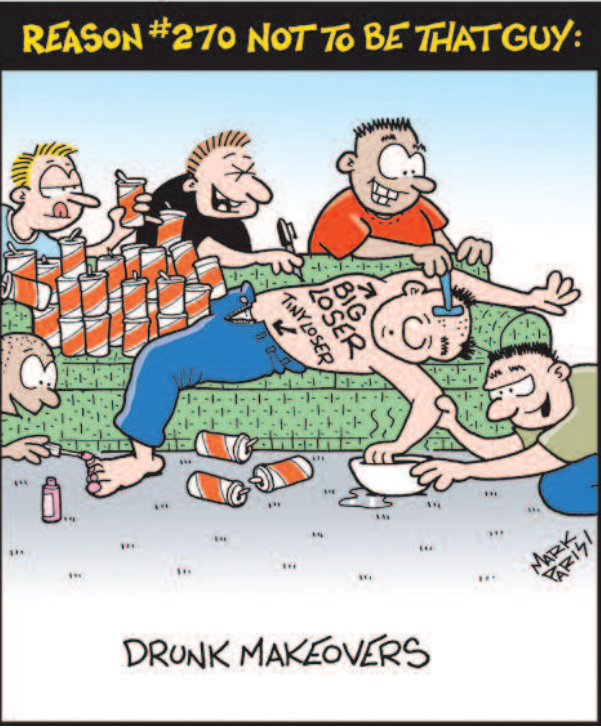


Sailor from Waianae gets *checkup*

Hospitalman Whitney Smith from Brighton, Mo. conducts a health examination on Machinist's Mate 2nd Class Thomas Phousong from Waianae on March 15 aboard the forward-deployed amphibious assault ship USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6) in the East China Sea.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Michael Achterling

That Guy.com



My Favorite Photo...

Brandon Bosworth took this recent photo of Diamond Head as seen from Shangri La, the mansion built for the late heiress Doris Duke in the 1930s.



Email editor@hookelenews.com to submit (non-posed) photos.