

MCPON visits USS Chafee, joint base Sailors

Story and photo
by MC2 Tiarra Fulgham

Navy Public Affairs
Support Element West,
Detachment Hawaii

Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Mike Stevens visited Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on April 14 during a two-week fleet enhancement trip to the Pacific region.

While at Pearl Harbor, Stevens visited the guided missile destroyer USS Chafee (DDG 90) where he was given a guided tour that included the ships combat information center and the central control station as well as a briefing at the chiefs' mess.

"It was a real pleasure to host the MCPON onboard the Chafee. I had a great sit-down with him and discussed manning, port support. He also gave me a good perspective on what they are talking about in Washington that affects the Sailors," said Cmdr. Anthony Littman, USS Chafee's commanding officer.

"It was just an honor because our Sailors work really

hard, and it's good to know that they are getting the attention they deserve from the Navy leadership."

While aboard the Chafee, Stevens took the time to speak with junior enlisted Sailors.

"The visit from the MCPON was a really great experience. I know my ship-mates and I appreciated it a lot," said Gas Turbine System (Mechanical) 3rd Class Brandi Brader.

"I think it makes the junior Sailors feel really good when someone from the higher chain asks them about their personal lives, not in depth but enough to try and get to know them a little bit."

When asked about the importance of his visit to Pearl Harbor and any advice he had for Sailors looking to advance their career objectives, Stevens said Sailors are the main priority.

"Just like any place that I go in the Navy, it's important for me to get out and about to hear what is on the minds of Sailors and their families," said Stevens. "When I get back to Washington, D.C. and I offer my advice and



Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Mike Stevens (left) meets with Sailors aboard USS Chafee (DDG 90) at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on April 15 during a two-week fleet engagement visit to the Pacific region.

recommendations to those things that are going to better help our Navy, I am doing so with what Sailors have told me and what families have told me."

MCPON reflected on his role of being a link between the Sailors and fleet, policy

makers and lawmakers.

"My message has been consistent with regards to this, and I call it, 'The Foundation to Success.' No matter who you are, what rank you are, what job you hold in the Navy, I say, 'work hard, stay out of trouble, and be a good

and decent person.' That's what I call the 'Foundation of Success.'"

During an all-hands call with Sailors at joint base, Stevens discussed budget changes, Navy-wide morale and received feedback from Sailors through a question

and answer session.

The MCPON serves as the senior enlisted leader of the Navy and as the advisor to the chief of naval operations and to the chief of naval personnel in matters dealing with enlisted personnel and their families.

USS Chung-Hoon honors Sigsbee Sailors aboard 'Mighty Mo'



Story and photos by
Brandon Bosworth

Assistant Editor, Ho'okele

Sailors from USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93) gathered at the Battleship Missouri Memorial on April 14 for a ceremony honoring the memory of those who served aboard the USS Sigsbee.

The ceremony was held to pay respects to the 23 Sailors

who lost their lives when a kamikaze suicide plane struck the ship on April 14, 1945 during the Battle of Okinawa.

This annual ceremony is usually held aboard USS Chung-Hoon, but the ship is currently undergoing repairs. However, the location of this year's event is fitting as the USS Missouri suffered its own kamikaze attack on April 11, 1945 in waters

northeast of Okinawa.

At the time of the kamikaze attack on Sigsbee, the commanding officer was Cmdr. (later rear admiral) Gordon Pa'ea Chung-Hoon, namesake of the USS Chung-Hoon.

The attack knocked the ship's port engine and steering control out of commission and caused the starboard engine to be capable of running at only five knots. Despite



(From left to right): USS Chung-Hoon's ceremonial guard conducts a three-volley salute to pay tribute to Sigsbee Sailors at a ceremony held April 14 at the Battleship Missouri Memorial. Sailors from USS Chung-Hoon pay tribute by dropping flower petals into Pearl Harbor. Cmdr. Ryan Collins, commanding officer of USS Chung-Hoon, speaks at the Battleship Missouri Memorial.

the damage, Chung-Hoon continued to direct the ship's anti-aircraft fire, while at the same time directing damage control parties that saved Sigsbee. The ship managed to make it to port under its own power.

"The Sigsbee wasn't as well-armored as other ships but was well-prepared, thanks to her commanding officer," said Cmdr. Ryan Collins, commanding officer

of Chung-Hoon.

"In the minutes, hours and days following the attack, the performance of the Sigsbee's crew was something to marvel at," he said. "We strive to live up to their heroism."

Chung-Hoon received the Navy Cross and Silver Star for conspicuous gallantry and extraordinary heroism as commanding officer of Sigsbee from May 1944 to

October 1945. Chung-Hoon was also a Pearl Harbor survivor, assigned to the battleship USS Arizona during the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor.

USS Chung-Hoon's ceremonial guard conducted a three-volley salute and Sailors dropped flower petals off the side of Missouri into the waters of Pearl Harbor to pay tribute to the Sigsbee Sailors who lost their lives.

Royal Australian Air Force commodore visits JBPHH



Commodore Peter Yates, Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) general logistics director, asks questions about corrosion control and maintenance procedures during a briefing held April 7 with 15th Maintenance Group leadership in hangar 21 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH). Yates was visiting JBPHH to conduct tactical-level discussions on how the RAAF and U.S. Air Force can expand their interoperability in order to deliver seamless integration of forces.

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

Satellite vehicle registration office to open April 22

Grace Hewlen

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public Affairs

The City and County of Honolulu is opening a new satellite vehicle registration office at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam at 10 a.m. April 22 with a grand opening and blessing ceremony.

The new vehicle registration office is located at 915 North Road, building 1314, in the Club Pearl Complex.

It is open from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays only. The office will be closed on all state and federal holidays.

The service is open to all military personnel,

their family members and civilian personnel who have base access from all military bases.

In an arrangement between the City and County of Honolulu and Navy Region Hawaii, the new service at JBPHH is a one-year pilot program to provide limited motor vehicle registration services to all military personnel on Oahu. If successful, the program could be extended. Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam was selected due to its central location on Oahu.

For more information, call 473-1487. For a list of services, visit www.cnic.navy.mil/pearlharbor-hickam under "popular links."



JBPHH, CSAAD 'Stay Alive' offers rides to prevent drinking and driving See page A-2



HI-5 Redemption Center to reopen at Hickam See page A-3



Aloha to Pearl Harbor survivor George Bennett See page A-4



USS Lake Erie visits Osaka See page A-6



Hickam Thrift Shop assists military families, seeks volunteers See page B-1



Easter sunrise service set for Sunday See page B-2

JBPHH, CSAAD ‘Stay Alive’ offers rides to prevent drinking and driving

Story and photos by
Don Robbins

Editor, Ho'okele

April is Alcohol Awareness Month, and two associations at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam have joined forces to help their fellow military service members avoid the dangers of drinking and driving.

“The Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Junior Enlisted Association (JEA) and the JBPHH Coalition of Sailors Against Destructive Decisions (CSADD) have combined for a “Stay Alive: Don’t Drink and Drive Campaign,” said Master-at-Arms 3rd Abrel Smith, president of JBPHH CSADD.

Members of the associations are distributing credit card-sized plastic cards, de-

signed to be attached to a person’s keychain. The front of the card features messages such as “Count on Us, We’ll Get You Home Safe!” and “Don’t Be That Guy/Girl.” The back of the card features the phone number 808-473-1222 in large red letters.

Military service members who need a ride home because they have been drinking can call the phone number and a fellow service member will pick them up at their location and take them home to their residence, Smith explained.

“If they put it on their keychain, the Sailor might see it and think twice about doing something crazy,” Smith said.

“I’m really excited about our Stay Alive program because I know that this program will, and has, saved

careers here at JBPHH and other commands around the island as well. This program plays a vital role in keeping our service members from getting behind the wheel intoxicated,” Smith said.

“The great thing about it all is you don’t have to pay a dime. Just pick up the phone and call 808-473-1222, and I promise you will get home safe, no question asked. Remember, your JEA and CSADD cares,” Smith added.

The volunteer service members running the program have scheduled certain people to have rotating duty days so someone will be available to offer rides to intoxicated service members. Volunteers will also be using their own personal vehicles and gas to provide the service.



The Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Junior Enlisted Association (JEA) and the JBPHH Coalition of Sailors Against Destructive Decisions (CSADD) are distributing these credit card-sized plastic cards for fellow service members to place on their keychains. The cards have a number on the back to call for a ride to prevent drinking and driving.

Ashes of Hickam Field survivor scattered at USS Utah Memorial

Story and photos by
Brandon Bosworth

Assistant Editor, Ho'okele

The ashes of Army Private 1st Class William “Bill” P. Mueller, a survivor of the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Oahu, were scattered in the waters near the USS Utah Memorial on Ford Island during a ceremony held April 9. Mueller was at Hickam Field during the attack.

Lt. Col. Sonny Young (Army ret.), served as the officer in charge during the ceremony, and Chaplain Capt. Ray Kitagawa, senior Army chaplain, Hawaii Army National Guard, presided over the services. The Hawaii Army National Guard provided full military honors.

“It was Bill’s wish to make a final voyage to Hawaii after he died to have his remains scattered here in the waters of Pearl Harbor,” said Jim Taylor, Pearl Harbor sur-

vivor liaison. “Thanks to the efforts of his son, Mike, and these wonderful people, his wish will come true today.”

Mueller was born in Germany on June 9, 1921. His family immigrated to the United States in 1924 because of the growing strife in Germany. Mueller joined the U.S. Army on Oct. 6, 1939 in Pittsfield, Mass. at the age of 18. He arrived at Schofield Barracks in December 1939 and was assigned to ‘D’ Company, 19th infantry, 24th Division.

On the morning of Dec. 7 1941, Mueller was waiting to begin a flying lesson at Hickam Field.

“His instructor was a little late landing to pick him up and, unfortunately, Bill witnessed him getting killed by a Japanese fighter,” said Taylor. “He was an eyewitness to major destruction to aircraft and hangars at Hickam and the terrifying scene of Navy ships blowing up, bombs falling everywhere, and fighter planes strafing



Photo collage by Rico Onaha Hutter

A Hawaii Army National Guard bugler plays “Taps” at the ash-scattering ceremony held April 9 honoring Hickam Field survivor, Private 1st Class William “Bill” P. Mueller, at the USS Utah Memorial as Lt. Col. Sonny Young (U.S. Army ret.) presents the U.S. flag to his son, Mike Mueller.



The ashes of Army Private 1st Class William “Bill” P. Mueller, a survivor of the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Hickam Field, were scattered in the waters near the USS Utah Memorial.

with their machine guns — one of those guns killing his instructor.”

Following the attack, Mueller was sent to Canton Island where he underwent six months of intensive combat training, which was followed by jungle warfare training in Australia. He first entered into combat in the jungles of Papua, New Guinea, where he lost many fellow Soldiers. In over a year of fighting, he received many combat wounds, malaria, amebic dysentery, dengue fever and jungle rot. Despite his desire to stay and fight, Mueller was ordered back to the U.S. for medical care in June 1944.

Mueller went on to serve a year of cadre duty at Camp Croft, S.C. and received an honorable discharge on June 15, 1945. Over the course of his military career, Mueller received the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman Badge, Good Conduct Medal and many other citations.

“He was a proud U.S. Army veteran of the 24th Infantry Division, which was the first to see combat in World War II,” said Taylor. “The 24th Infantry Division is fiercely proud of their heritage as the ‘first to fight’ in defense of freedom.”

Just prior to his discharge, Mueller met Jean Marler, the woman he would marry. He and Jean were together until her death in 1975. After leaving the Army, Mueller worked for the post office and retired 30 years later as a letter carrier.

“Bill was my kind of guy,” said Taylor. “He loved country music,

very cold beer, flirting with the ladies, traveling, photography, prospecting, riding motorcycles, and spending time in his ‘ham shack.’ He rode his custom-made Gold Wing trike until he suffered a stroke in 2011.”

Mueller died on Dec. 23, 2012. At the April 9 ceremony, he received full military honors, including three rifle volleys, the sounding of “Taps” and folding and presentation of the U.S. flag.

Mueller’s son, Mike, flew in from Kingman, Ariz. for the event. “It was very touching and very impressive,” he said. “It was better than what Hollywood could have done.”

Mike Mueller always knew that his father’s wish was to return to Pearl Harbor upon his passing.

“He was very patriotic, and very proud of being a Pearl Harbor survivor,” he said. “Since I was a child I knew he wanted to come back to Pearl Harbor.”

Ford Island Bridge to close temporarily April 30

From 9 to 10:30 a.m. April 30, all lanes of the Ford Island Bridge will be closed for operations and periodic

maintenance.

All motorists and pedestrians are advised to plan accordingly. Boat traffic under the cause-

way will not be allowed because the small craft gate will be closed during bridge opening to minimize collision hazards.

Beckett relieves O’Harrah as USS Tucson CO

Story and photos by
MC1 Steven Khor

Submarine Force Pacific
Fleet Public Affairs

Cmdr. Michael Beckett relieved Cmdr. James “Ted” O’Harrah as the commanding officer of the Los Angeles-class, fast attack submarine USS Tucson (SSN 770) during a change of command ceremony April 10 at the submarine piers at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

O’Harrah said he is proud that he had the opportunity to be in command of Tucson and work with a fantastic team of Sailors.

“Leading you all has been the most rewarding and humbling honor of my career,” O’Harrah said. “You are all heroes in my book. You are the best there is. You kept us at sea for missions of unprecedented length and I cannot thank you enough. I want you to know that what you do every day matters and has been of tremendous value to aiding in our national security. Thank you for what you do.”

During his 37 months in



Cmdr. James O’Harrah (left), outgoing commanding officer of USS Tucson, is congratulated by Capt. Rick Stoner, the commander of Submarine Squadron Seven, during a change of command ceremony for USS Tucson (SSN 770) held April 10.

command, O’Harrah took his submarine and crew on two western Pacific tours, one eastern Pacific tour and numerous shorter underway periods, totaling nearly 600 days at sea and steaming more than 150,000 miles.

The ceremony’s guest speaker, retired Navy Capt. Kevin Peppe, praised O’Harrah for a job well done.

“I know you had a great deal of trust and confidence in my shipmate,” said Peppe to the families and supporters on the pier. “On behalf of all of you sitting here and on behalf of the crew, I am just going to say for you, ‘Thank you, Ted.’”

O’Harrah was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal for his command of



Cmdr. James O’Harrah is piped ashore after being relieved by Cmdr. Michael Beckett as commanding officer of the Los Angeles-class, fast attack submarine USS Tucson (SSN 770) at a change of command ceremony April 10.

Tucson from January 2011 to April 2014.

As Beckett assumed command of Tucson, he thanked O’Harrah for turning over a great ship and an even greater crew.

“I could not be more honored to lead such a fine crew of submarine warriors whose professionalism and expertise have truly hon-

ored the legacy of our WWII Pacific submarine crews,” said Beckett. “I am humbled to take over as your commanding officer and continue Tucson’s history of excellence.”

Tucson is the second ship of the U.S. Navy to bear the name of the Arizona city. It is the 59th Los Angeles-class attack submarine and

the 20th of the improved Los Angeles-class attack submarine to be built. Twelve vertical-launch missile tubes for Tomahawk cruise missiles provide Tucson with great offensive capability. Retractable bow planes give the ship increased maneuverability and under ice surfacing potential.

Commentary

Doolittle Raid – lesson in joint innovation, courage, resilience

Rear Adm.
Rick Williams

Commander, Navy Region
Hawaii and Naval Surface
Group Middle Pacific

Less than 19 weeks after the U.S. Navy was attacked at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, the American military struck back. On April 18, 1942 — 72 years ago today — 16 Army Air Force bombers launched from a Navy aircraft carrier to attack the enemy's homeland.

Led by Lt. Col. James H. Doolittle, the raid was launched from USS Hornet,



Rear Adm. Rick Williams

commanded by Capt. Marc Mitscher, and escorted by ships under the command of Vice Adm. "Bull" Halsey aboard his flagship, USS Enterprise.

The extraordinary joint Doolittle Raid showed Imperial Japan's military leaders their vulnerability and America's resolve.

The raid also demonstrated innovation, courage and resilience.

The five-man B25 crews trained relentlessly prior to their mission, with specialized training led by Navy flight instructor Lt. Henry F. Miller. The Army Air

Force made ingenious modifications so the bombers could have extra fuel but less weight.

Pilots, all volunteers, needed to be extremely fearless, taking off in their huge planes from a short flight deck. On rough seas they launched in bitter cold, 75-knot winds and foam-flecked spray, as Sailors aboard recalled.

Doolittle, as his team's leader, took off first. His success inspired the other pilots just as their entire mission would inspire the nation — putting action to the nationwide words of resolve heard

throughout the world: "Remember Pearl Harbor!"

The innovation, courage and resilience demonstrated by Halsey and Doolittle and countless others carried over into the weeks and months that followed — first in the Battle of the Coral Sea and then, in the big turning point of the War in the Pacific — the Battle of Midway.

Historians tell us that the Doolittle Raid contributed strategically to our victory at Midway, as the enemy felt humiliated and overextended to try to prevent another attack on their homeland.

The Doolittle Raid is also an early example of the evolution of "air sea battle," integrating air and naval capabilities across domains, where collaboration and cooperation helped win the day — and eventually win the war. We remember the heroes of the Doolittle Raid.

This strategically important event is particularly meaningful to our joint Navy-Air Force team. This uniquely shared accomplishment is a reminder of what we have the potential to accomplish when we mutually support each other.

Diverse Views



What is your favorite Easter candy?



1CCSN Kayla Viager
TPU

"Those little chocolate eggs with the caramel inside. Everyone's addicted to them. You see them in the little baskets."

OCSC Douglas Anderson
CSCS Det. Pearl Harbor



"SweeTarts."



Senior Master Sgt. Mark Morgan
HQ PACAF

"Peanut butter filled chocolate bunny because I love Reese's Peanut Butter Cups. Easter is the only time I can have them because they are so bad for me."

Nathan Tibbetts
Military family member



"Definitely Peeps. When I was younger I would try and see how many of the marshmallow birds I could fit in my mouth."



STG2 Shanell Mendoza
RLSO

"Chocolate bunny, I guess."

Airman 1st Class Christopher Heard
747th Communications Squadron



"Reese's Peanut Butter Cups, because they're peanut butter and chocolate...and who doesn't like peanut butter and chocolate?"



Master Sgt. Chandra Lewis
747th Communications Squadron

"Cadbury Creme Eggs because they are delicious."

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

HI-5 Redemption Center to reopen at Hickam

Naval Facilities
Engineering
Command Hawaii

The Navy Region Hawaii Recycling Program plans to reopen its HI-5 Redemption Center, building 1715, near Kuntz Gate at Joint Base Pearl Har-

bor-Hickam on May 6.

"The center had to be closed in October 2013 due to financial adjustments of the program, requiring moving redemption from Morale, Welfare and Recreation to the Navy Exchange," said Fran Pena, recycling program manager

for Navy Region Hawaii.

"We are very pleased to reopen and provide easy drop off HI-5 cans and bottles to all military, family members and Department of Defense civilians who wish to use our facility."

Vouchers will be issued at building 1715 that can be

redeemed for cash at the Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange customer service desk in the main atrium.

For those who wish to recycle more than cans and bottles, personnel at the other end of the building will accept cardboard and paper items such as newspaper, soft cover books, catalogs and magazines.

The redemption center is open from noon to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday. Please remember that all bottles or cans turned in for redemption should be free of liquids and debris.

For commands and activities who are interested in establishing regular pickup service for recyclables, or who need assistance in transporting large quantities of goods, call Richard Vila at the Navy Region Hawaii recycling program coordinator at 474-9207.

U.S. Navy photo by Denise Emsley

Aluminum cans are collected at the Navy Region Hawaii Recycling Program's Hickam Redemption Center (building 1715).



Doolittle Raid on Japan launched April 18, 1942



U.S. Navy photograph

Lt. Col. James H. Doolittle, United States Army Air Forces, leader of the raiding force, wires a Japanese medal to a 500-pound bomb for "return" to its originators during ceremonies on the flight deck of USS Hornet (CV-8), shortly before his force of 16 B-25B bombers took off for Japan. The planes were launched on April 18, 1942, which was 72 years ago today.

HO'OKELE

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Aloha to Pearl Harbor survivor George Bennett

Karen S. Spangler

Managing Editor, Ho'okele

Wearing a big smile and proudly dressed in his immaculate white chief's uniform—that's how people will remember Pearl Harbor survivor George Bennett.

For many years, George was a frequent visitor to Hawaii and the Pearl Harbor Day ceremony which commemorates the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Oahu.

"He always wore his Navy chief's uniform whenever he came for Pearl Harbor ceremonies. He was very meticulous about his uniform. He didn't want a thread out of place," said Jim Taylor, Pearl Harbor survivors' liaison for Navy Region Hawaii.

At the age of 90, George passed away peacefully in his sleep on April 7 in Battleground, Ore.

Rear Adm. Rick Williams, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, issued a statement to be read at George's memorial service.

"As a young Sailor, George Bennett faced danger with bravery and determination. He dodged enemy bullets to head to his battle station to defend his shipmates. He then fought across the Pacific to defend our nation, preserve our way of life, and advance our ideals of liberty and democracy," he said.

"We will remember George and those with whom he served—the 'Greatest Generation': Americans with uncommon values, strength and resolve. We will never forget the burdens and sacrifices George made as a young Sailor in Pearl Harbor. His honor, courage, commitment and service—throughout his life—are an important reminder of how we should approach today's



U.S. Navy file photo

Rear Adm. Dixon Smith, (former commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific), speaks with Pearl Harbor survivor George Bennett Sept. 2, 2010.

challenges and why we can never take readiness for granted," said Williams.

George joined the Navy in February 1941 and was a 17-year-old Navy radio operator when death rained from the skies over Oahu on Dec. 7, 1941.

When the Japanese fighters swarmed through the skies and attacked Pearl Harbor, George was in his barracks near hangar six on Ford Island. He recalled that a Japanese airplane flew past his window and was so close he could see the pilot in the cockpit.

"He was running from his barracks down the road to his battle station, all the time being strafed by Japanese aircraft. He kept ducking for cover while running," Taylor explained.

"Upon arrival at his battle station, he climbed up on the roof to fight the fire in the hangar, still being strafed. As he continued to fight the fire, he witnessed the USS Nevada run aground. "When

asked later if he was afraid of dying, he said, no, the only thing he was afraid of was getting in trouble because he didn't have his cover on," Taylor said.

Taylor said that George was also rather mischievous and shared a story about the young Sailor and his shipmates. "One night, George and his shipmates had a few too many to drink and thought it would be fun to have a lemon meringue pie fight in the officers' swimming pool. They were 'volunteered' to clean up the pool the next morning."

After the war, George continued his job as a radio operator on PB4Y-1 bombers, going on bombing runs out of Guadalcanal. He spent six years in the Navy and served 34 years in the Navy Reserve, retiring as a Navy chief petty officer.

He later worked for 35 years as a communications manager for Union Pacific Railroad. He is the father of three children: Jane, Eileen

and Mike.

Even as he moved into his golden years, George led an active and interesting life. He served as the national secretary for the Pearl Harbor Survivors' Association before it disbanded in December 2011 and was also the president of the Clark County, Ore. chapter of the group. A part of living history and dressed in his whites and Pearl Harbor survivors' hat, George frequently shared his story with students in Oregon schools.

He spoke about the dwindling numbers of Pearl Harbor survivors during an interview with "The Oregonian" last December.

"We Pearl vets are passing on quickly. As national secretary, I get notified when a member dies, and there are many more these days," George told "The Oregonian."

Although George broke his hip last October, it didn't keep him from doing what he wanted to do—getting ready

to marry the love of his life.

In February of this year, he again found wedded bliss when he married his sweetheart. His romance with Donna Higgins began during a dance at the assisted living facility where both of them lived. Even though he was still mending from his broken hip, George was ready for his "walk" down the aisle.

"I can get along pretty well with my walker. She'll be pushing me in the wheelchair to the dining hall, I guess," George joked with "The Oregonian" writer.

Taylor, who conducts the ash-scattering ceremonies and interments for Pearl Harbor survivors, was a longtime friend of George.

"George always maintained his youthful spirit and loved to wear his Pearl Harbor survivor's hat. He said that laughter was one of the keys to his longevity," Taylor said.

"In the past 25 years, I have had the honor and privilege to meet hundreds of Pearl Harbor survivors. They each had their own sto-

ries and personalities. Chief Bennett was special—he was the epitome of a Navy chief petty officer.

"During the attack, he put his life on the line by running about 300 yards to his battle station while being strafed by enemy planes. I remember asking him if he was afraid. His response was, 'No, I was just doing what I was trained to do,'" Taylor recounted.

"Chief Bennett came to Hawaii numerous times and I always hosted him. I once called him a hero. His response was, 'I'm not a hero. I was just doing my job'—the same words I've heard from other survivors. He then added, 'The heroes are those who didn't make it home, those who sacrificed their lives protecting the freedom our citizens enjoy today.' Well—in my opinion, Chief Petty Officer George Bennett was a hero!" Taylor said.

Burial for George will be at Willamette National Cemetery, Willamette, Ore. at a date to be determined.

SAAM events to be held this month

Navy Region Hawaii

Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office

The theme for this year's Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) is "Live Our Values: Step Up to Stop Sexual Assault."

A series of SAAM events have been announced.

- Today, 6 to 9 p.m., movie night at the liberty center at the Wahiawa Annex.

- Saturday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., "Ryde Against Sexual Assault."

- April 23, Denim Day/Ask Me Why?

Denim Day has been internationally celebrated since 1999, after an Italian high court ruling that overturned a rape conviction because the victim was wearing tight jeans.

- April 25, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., "Shootout Sexual Assault" bystander-intervention training at Hawaii All Star.

The Sexual Assault Prevention and Response emergency line is 722-6192.

For more information on SAAM, call 474-0154.

Teams respond to simulated oil spill to protect environment

MC3 Diana Quinlan

Navy Public Affairs
Support Element West,
Detachment Hawaii

The Navy supervisor of salvage, Naval Sea Systems Command (SUPSALV), along with Clean Island Council and Metson Marine (Port Operations), recently conducted an equipment deployment exercise off the shores of Ford Island, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) to enhance and facilitate joint operations during an environmental response.

The designed objective of the exercise was to test the equipment and communications as well as to conduct a simulated oil spill recovery effort near shore.

"The environment is a big concern for the military and the state of Hawaii," said Chief Warrant Officer 3 Timothy Greene, Port Operations, JBPHH. "It is great to be able to work with civilian partnership and to help protect and



Various teams mobilize April 8 in the waters of Pearl Harbor following a simulated oil spill.

maintain the environment."

Representatives from the Clean Island Council, the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Coast Guard oversaw and participated in the exercise.

"For the training today, we did a joint oil spill recovery exercise to better the relationship with the state and the base, to tie in to future joint operations if ever needed," said Greene.

"The training involved different methods of recovering the spill and moving it to the main vessel for treatment."

The oil spill recovery vessel (OSRV) Clean Islands participated in the exercise as the main vessel. Training was monitored from aboard Clean Islands as well as conducting operations, utilizing a skimmer

system with a three-vessel configuration and several SUPSALV towboats guiding and containing the simulated spills with floating barriers.

The simulated oil spills were visually created by using yellow blocks of wood that were distributed in the water.

"We had two different types of skimmers," said

Cynthia Pang, on-scene coordinator for Navy Region Hawaii. "One was a SUPSALV Mark Five skimmer. They took the oil and brought it to the skimmer, and the other boats captured the oil near the shore as the skimmers are unable to go near because of the depth, relying on the boats to bring it to them."

U.S. Coast Guard Capt.

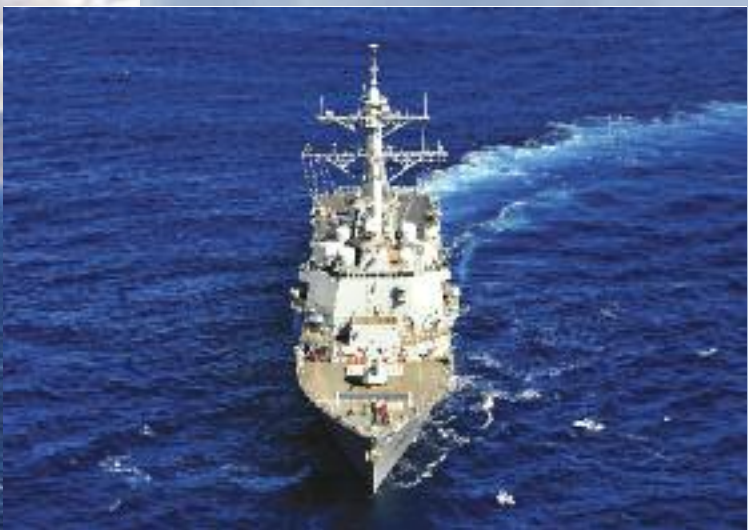
Shannon N. Gilreath, commander of Sector Honolulu, oversaw the training in addition to touring the SUPSALV mobile facilities and learning more about the wide range of equipment used.

"One of the challenges when you are dealing with oil spills is to get different groups together to do a cleanup," said Gilreath. "Communication is usually the biggest challenge, figuring out how to work together. So this was an opportunity to practice and demonstrate that it can be done, and it is a great team-building exercise for us for the future."

"It is very important that we are environmentally conscious," said Pang. "We have a lot of environmentally sensitive areas here in Pearl Harbor, and we want to make sure that we keep those areas clean and pristine and to avoid damage to wildlife refuge."

For more information, visit www.cleanislands.com and www.supsalv.org.

Pearl Harbor-Hickam*Highlights*



The Arleigh Burke-class, guided-missile destroyer USS Chafee (DDG 90) flies the U.S. Navy battle ensign while performing maneuvers recently off the coast of Hawaii.

U.S. Navy photos by MC1 Daniel Barker



The late Army Private 1st Class William “Bill” P. Mueller, Hickam Field survivor of Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Oahu, Poses with his custom Gold Wing trike featuring a mural of the USS Arizona. Mueller’s ashes were scattered during a ceremony held April 9 at the USS Utah Memorial on Ford Island.

Photo courtesy of Mike Mueller

(Clockwise from right): Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Mike Stevens takes time to meet with Sailors aboard USS Chafee (DDG 90) at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on April 15 during a two-week fleet enhancement trip to the Pacific region.

Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Mike Stevens talks with Sailors at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on April 15 during a two-week fleet engagement visit to the Pacific region.

Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Mike Stevens talks with Sailors aboard USS Chafee.

U.S. Navy photos by MC2 Tiarra Fulgham



Navy supervisor of salvage, Naval Sea Systems Command, in partnership with the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Facilities Response Team and Hawaii Clean Islands Council, participate in an equipment deployment exercise April 8 in the waters of Pearl Harbor following a simulated oil spillage.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Tiarra Fulgham



USS O’Kane completes visit, hosts ship tour in Goa, India



U.S. Navy photo by FC1 Shod Williams
Rear Adm. Balvinder Parhar (left), Goa naval area commander, and Cmdr. James Juster, USS O’Kane commanding officer, cut the ceremonial cake at a reception on O’Kane during a port visit in Goa.

Naval Submarine League Aloha Chapter announces 2013 warfighting awards

MC1 Steven Khor

*Submarine Force Pacific
Public Affairs*

Recipients of the 2013 Naval Submarine League Aloha Chapter Annual Warfighting Awards were recently announced by Commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet (COM-SUBPAC).

“We are proud to recognize outstanding leadership and performance within the current Pacific Fleet Submarine Force,” said Jerry Hofwolt, president of the Aloha Chapter of the Naval Submarine League. “We are encouraged to see the leadership at the deckplate level and want to recognize both junior and senior enlisted

and officer leadership.”

Hofwolt said that these Sailors are at the upper echelon of the submarine force.

The Naval Submarine League awards program is a highlight of the support the league provides to the submarine force. The awards are offered by the Naval Submarine League to recognize excellence, instill pride in the individual, reinforce the important role of the submarine force, and showcase the excellence that marks the performance of every submariner.

All four of the recipients performed at a level which the Naval Submarine League Aloha Chapter deemed highly deserving of

the award.

Cmdr. Marty Muckian, commanding officer of the Los Angeles-class, fast attack submarine USS Greenville (SSN 772), received the Adm. Bernard Clarey Award for outstanding service of a senior officer.

Lt. Max Reitblatt received the Capt. Charles Rush Award for outstanding service as a junior officer.

Chief Electronics Technician Matthew Tuckett earned the EMC (SS) John Rendernick Award for outstanding service of a senior enlisted Sailor.

Machinist’s Mate 1st Class Timothy Andrews received the TM2 (SS) Henry Breault Award for outstanding service as a junior enlisted Sailor.

Ensign Calvin Sessions

*USS O’Kane (DDG 77)
Public Affairs*

GOA, India – The Arleigh Burke-class, guided-missile destroyer USS O’Kane (DDG 77) visited Goa, India from April 4-6 en route to the U.S. 5th Fleet area of operation.

After being greeted by Rear Adm. Balvinder Parhar, Goa naval area commander, O’Kane crew members interacted with Indian navy counterparts during ship tours, a reception and a cricket and soccer match. O’Kane Sailors also participated in a community relations project at

the Don Bosco All Boys School.

“The community relations project was a great opportunity to connect with the students of Don Bosco and the Indian navy through basketball and board game activities,” said Fire Controlman 1st Class Dallas Vance. “After a good game, it was neat to socialize and enjoy snacks with the students.”

Additionally, members of the Indian navy provided Cmdr. James Juster, O’Kane’s commanding officer, and his crew members with a tour of the Indian Naval Air Base, while O’Kane hosted a ship tour for 25 Indian naval officers.

“I enjoyed the enthusiasm and interest the Indian navy expressed in the role I serve as a vertical launching system technician,” said Gunner’s Mate 2nd Class Stephen Lyons, O’Kane’s tour guide.

During the port visit, O’Kane hosted a reception for 55 Indian naval officers and guests. “This port visit has been an amazing experience and opportunity to meet and enjoy the culture of the Indian navy,” said Ensign Samuel Ross.

O’Kane departed Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam for a scheduled deployment to the western Pacific Ocean and Arabian Gulf on March 7.

USS Lake Erie visits Osaka

Ensign Austin Kim

*USS Lake Erie (CG 70)
Public Affairs*

The Ticonderoga-class, guided-missile cruiser USS Lake Erie (CG 70) arrived in Osaka, Japan for a scheduled port visit April 10.

The visit is designed to strengthen maritime partnerships with Japan and to enhance community rela-

tions with the city of Osaka.

“This isn’t just a port visit for Lake Erie. It’s a reflection of our commitment to a bilateral union between the U.S. and Japan,” said Capt. John Banigan, Lake Erie’s commanding officer.

While in Osaka, Sailors had an opportunity to participate in a variety of community service projects and tours.

“I’ve always wanted to travel to Osaka,” said Sonar Technician (Surface) 1st Class Ronald Winfrey. “I love Japan, and I’ve heard that Osaka is a unique city with exceptional local dishes.”

Lake Erie is deployed to the U.S. 7th Fleet area of responsibility, supporting security and stability in the Indo-Asia-Pacific region.



U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Mackenzie P. Adams
Capt. John Banigan (center), commanding officer of USS Lake Erie (CG 70), speaks to local Japanese media about Lake Erie’s port visit to Osaka on April 10.

Life & Leisure

B

Hickam Thrift Shop assists military families, seeks volunteers

Story and photos by David D. Underwood Jr.

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public Affairs

The Hickam Thrift Shop at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam offers bargains for the thrifty shopper and a home for your unwanted items.

Military families making a PCS move to the island and looking for something inexpensive for the home, or those leaving the island and looking for a home to their unwanted items, can stop by the thrift shop to purchase or donate.

The thrift shop is sponsored

by the Hickam Officer's Spouses Club and is run totally on donations.

The proceeds go back into the military and local community, supporting charities and programs such as military family member scholarships, the American Red Cross, Tripler Fisher House, Boy and Girl Scouts, Hawaii Food Bank and Special Olympics, to name a few.

Last year they gave back more than \$87,000 and hope to give more than \$100,000 this year said Becky Adams, the thrift shop manager.

Their mission is dedicated to saving the environment, repurposing old items, giving value for the dollar

and helping people find that special treasure.

They accept furniture, toys, clothing, books, electronics, eating utensils, sporting goods, etc. They don't take food or perishable items or child car seats because of safety reasons.

Donations can be dropped off during hours of operation or any time at the donation sheds that are monitored 24 hours by security cameras.

Volunteers are welcome and needed and can work in an area they feel comfortable. Anyone 16 years old or older can work. They will find a place for anyone who wants to volunteer.

Anyone with base access is authorized to shop. The only

restriction is military personnel are the only ones who can write a check, but all others may use cash. They will also soon be accepting credit cards.

Katy Launert, military spouse, said she comes to the thrift shop often.

"Pretty lucky to have this one," she said. "Prices are good, quality is good. It's good when trying to dress kids for cheap."

"I love it and come at least twice a week," said Mark Koopmans, military spouse. "We can always find a bargain, a toy. We donate, too, try and give back," he said.

Laura Canup, military spouse, just started working as the cashier.

"I love it. I was a little ner-

vous, but everyone is so friendly and welcoming. I plan on sticking around," she said.

The thrift shop is open on Monday, Wednesday and Friday as well as the second Saturday of every month from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. They are closed on all federal and state holidays. During inclement weather watches and warnings, call ahead.

For more information on volunteering, contact Adams at 449-6603, go to the Facebook page, the website <http://hickamosc.com>, email hickamthriftshop@aol.com, or just walk in.

"Come anytime you want," Adams said. "It's a great way to meet people when you first get here."



Elisa Hershey, military spouse, and her children Evie and Andrew look at items in the shop.



Military spouse Katy Launert and daughter Sarah browse through clothing.



Family member Lucy Riddlehoover looks at a lamp at the Hickam Thrift Shop.



Customers browse through clothing at the Hickam Thrift Shop, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Buffalo comes back to force deadlock with NHCH

Story and photo by
Randy Dela Cruz

Sports Editor

Logistics Specialist 1st Class Nicholas Levai scored on a free kick with approximately three minutes to go in the game to give USS Buffalo (SSN 715) a 1-1 tie with Naval Health Clinic Hawaii (NHCH) on April 12 in a White Division intramural soccer season-opening game at Ward Field, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Levai's clutch boot came after NHCH was tagged for an illegal-use-of-hands infraction that placed the ball on the right wing and just below the midfield stripe.

With the wind blowing into his face, Levai calmly stepped into the ball and placed a high kick that sailed over the reach of NHCH goalkeeper Capt. James Perry and under the goal's upright to produce the 1-1 stalemate.

"I think it was a lot of luck and a lot of practice at shooting long," Levai said. "I didn't feel pressure. It was more adrenalin going because I know we needed to score at least one."

Perry, who made a valiant try to knock the ball away, said that it was just one of those plays that caught him a bit off guard.

"It was a really good kick on top of the fact that I was a little too far off my line," he said. "I was, what I call, in dead man's land. I was too far up, so when the ball came up in the air, I thought it was going to sail. But the wind started blow-



Naval Health Clinic Hawaii (NHCH) goalkeeper (pink shirt) Capt. James Perry steps up to block a breakaway shot during an intramural soccer game between NHCH and USS Buffalo (SSN 715).

ing, I saw the ball sink a little and I knew I was in trouble."

The late goal by Levai was a blessing to Buffalo, which struggled to get the

ball past the midfield line throughout the game.

Fortunately for Buffalo, NHCH had no trouble getting to their opponent's net, but couldn't find the right

combination to score as both teams entered half-time all tied up at 0-0.

Finally, midway through the second half NHCH broke the ice on a long

inbound play that started with the ball at their own goal.

Perry threw a two-handed, overhead pass that ricocheted off a crowd at mid-

field before Marine Lance Cpl. Khue Lane got the ball, pushed ahead of the defense and scored on a one-on-one play between him and the goalkeeper to put NHCH up at 1-0.

"When in doubt, I just try to beat them in a foot race," Lane said. "I almost messed it up, but it was just me and the goalkeeper. I was just trying to tuck one away."

Perry said that as long as he took care of business on his end, he felt that his strikers would finish the job.

"When the ball hits me as the keeper, my first thing is to see what it looks like up front," Perry explained. "A little bit of luck and practice on my part as a keeper, but it's really on the strikers because all I do is put the ball up and the strikers got to kick it in."

The play looked like it would be enough for NHCH to win as the team continued to control the game.

However, Levai's clutch free kick put an end to any thoughts of a post-game celebration by NHCH.

"It's the first game and we got a couple of new players," Lane said. "Maybe we just got to work out the kinks and bumps now so that later in the season we'll be fine."

After escaping from their first loss, Levai said that he was encouraged that Buffalo will regroup and come out more prepared in the future.

"We need to practice," Levai admitted. "This is actually our first time together all season, so we're pretty impressed with what we have."

HIANG turns on heat against officers to get first win

Story and photo by
Randy Dela Cruz

Sports Editor

After dropping their season opener to rival 647th Security Forces Squadron (647 SFS) Pound Town, the defending base champions Hawaii Air National Guard (HIANG) came back with a vengeance to defeat Commander U.S. Pacific Fleet (COMPACFLT) Officers (CPF Os), 12-0, on April 14 in an intramural softball Red Division game at Millican Field, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

In gaining the lopsided victory, HIANG scored three runs in the first, one in the second and two in the third before exploding for six runs in the bottom of the fourth to secure the mercy-rule win.

"We're just out here to have fun," said HIANG cleanup hitter Staff Sgt. Eugene Winchester, who almost went yard with the bases loaded in the fourth. "We can hit, so that's good for us."

Chief Master Sgt. Vince Ramos, pitcher for HIANG, got the team started off on the right foot by holding the Officers to a walk in tossing a goose egg to open up the game.

The HIANG hitters rewarded Ramos immediately in the bottom of the first inning by tallying three runs on two hits and two fielding errors.

Winchester led off the inning by getting on via an error and scored the first run when Staff Sgt. Aaron Oda smashed a triple.

Another error put Staff Sgt.



Chief Master Sgt. Vince Ramos, pitcher for Hawaii Air National Guard (HIANG), sets his swing in motion before connecting for his second hit of the game.

Mike Victorino on base and allowed Oda to score before Staff Sgt. Karl Lopes lined a single to drive in Victorino for the third run of the inning.

After another shutout inning thrown by Ramos, HIANG picked up a run in the bottom of the second inning before adding two more runs

on an RBI single by Lopes and Master Sgt. Lance Takesawa in the third for a 6-0 lead.

Ramos banged out his second single of the game to lead off the bottom of the fourth and later with the bases full, Winchester blasted a shot deep to left field. But with the wind pushing back, the ball fell just

short of the fence for a long sacrifice fly that drove Ramos home from third.

Oda doubled to drive in another run and put men in scoring position at second and third before Victorino drove in both runners with a single.

With two RBIs already in his pocket, Lopes stepped in the box

and launched a deep fly that carried over the left-center fence for a two-run shot and a 12-0 advantage.

"I just got lucky," Lopes said. "The wind died down when I went up. It felt good. I finally got to plant my leg. It felt like I was swinging before I was planting my legs the first two times I went up."

Although the Officers put their first two runners on base in the top of the fifth, the team failed to drive in any runs, prompting umpires to call the game over due to the 10-run mercy rule.

Lopes, who finished off his big night with four RBIs, said that although this is his first year with the team, he is having a great time playing for the defending base champions.

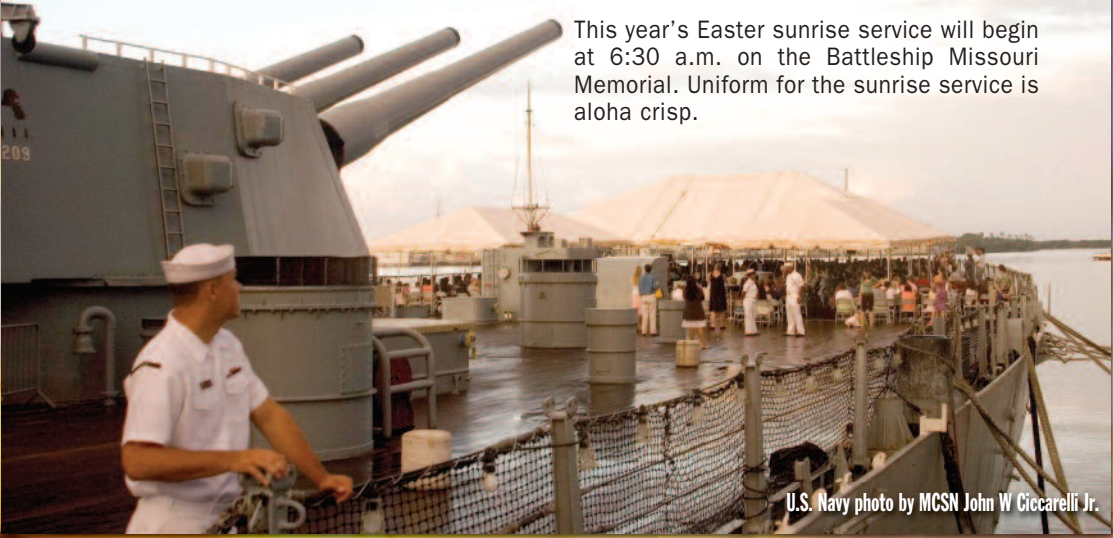
"These guys are a bunch of clowns," he said. "They always keep us laughing in the dugout. There's never a dull moment, but it's like a family."

Winchester, who has been a key player on HIANG for a few years, pointed out that Lopes is one of many new faces that are members of this year's squad.

While he admits that it may take a couple more games to get the new players on the same page as the veterans, Winchester believes that the team will blend together before this year's playoffs come around.

"We know what they (new players) can do and what they're capable of doing," he said. "Anybody can play any position, so that's what's good about our whole team. We start off slow, but as long as we get into the playoffs, we'll take it from there."

Easter sunrise service set for Sunday



This year's Easter sunrise service will begin at 6:30 a.m. on the Battleship Missouri Memorial. Uniform for the sunrise service is aloha crisp.

U.S. Navy photo by MCSN John W. Ciccarelli Jr.

Holy Week services set for this weekend

Brandon Bosworth

Assistant Editor

Holy Week events include:

Catholic services

• Good Friday, 6 p.m., today.

• Easter Vigil, 7:30 p.m., Saturday.

• Easter Sunday, 9 a.m.

Protestant services

• Easter sunrise service, 6:30 a.m., Sunday at Battleship Missouri Memorial.

The chapel is looking for volunteers to serve before and after the Easter sunrise service. Uniform for the sun-

rise service is aloha crisp. For more information, email Fruji.mills@navy.mil.

• Easter service, 11 a.m., Sunday.

Unless otherwise noted, all services will be held at Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel.

For more information, call 473-3971.

In addition, the Kaneohe Bay Marine Corps Chapel will hold an Easter sunrise service at 5:45 a.m. Sunday at Ft. Hase Beach, Landing Zone Eagle.

For more information, call 257-3552.

Kraken bats come alive to beat Team Law & Order

Story and photo by
Randy Dela Cruz

Sports Editor

In their first game, the Naval Sea Systems Command (NSSC) Kraken mustered only two runs, as the team dropped its season opener.

A week later on April 15, Kraken bats sung a different tune in beating down Team Law & Order (TLO), 14-4, in a White Division intramural softball played at Ward Field, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

After going down in order to lead off the game, the Kraken got three runs in the top of the second before erupting for six runs in the very next inning to put the game away.

Kraken pitcher Command Master Chief Electronics Technician Marcus Hensley gave up only four runs in five inning, while Chief Electronics Technician Mike Heffner blasted an inside-the-park home run to drive in two runs, then later added an RBI single to lead the Kraken to their first win of the season.

“We got a little confidence when they came up in the first inning and didn’t do anything,” Heffner said. “We came up behind them and started stringing hits together.”

A fielding error by TLO allowed the first run to score for the Kraken and then with the bases full of runners, Lt. j.g. Patrick Pick singled to drive in two runs for a 3-0 advantage.

Hensley set the TLO down in order in the bottom of the second inning and then led off the top of the third with a single to set the stage for Heffner’s big knock.

Stepping into the box, Heffner drove a line drive that split the TLO’s left and center fielder and rolled to-



Chief Cryptologic Technician (Maintenance) K.C. Knopik hits a double in the top of the third inning to drive in a run for Naval Sea Systems Command (NSSC) Kraken.

ward the left-field fence.

Heffner took off and with the aid of spacious Ward Field, easily rounded the bases and scored to give his team an 8-0 lead.

“I just wanted to hit the ball in the air,” Heffner said. “As soon as it split the outfielders and I don’t know if you’ve stood out there and looked in, but I have. You’re not going to get anybody. It’s way out there.”

Later in the inning, Chief

Damage Controlman John Leskoske drove in the sixth and final run of the inning to put the Kraken up by nine runs.

In the bottom of the third, TLO bats began to show some life as Department of Defense civilian Brandon Zimmerman walked up to the plate and sliced a shot that sailed over third and bounced toward the corner.

As the ball skipped to the fence, Zimmerman rounded

the bases for an inside-the-park homer for the TLO’s first run of the game.

“Once I was getting to second base, I saw the left fielder chasing the ball down,” Zimmerman said. “Once it got by him, that’s when I kind of knew that (I was going to score).”

Zimmerman also drove in another run with an RBI single to cut the Kraken’s lead down to seven in the bottom of the fourth, but

that’s as close as the TLO would get.

“I just think it’s an early-season thing,” explained Zimmerman about the team’s slow start at the plate. “We’re still getting in the groove. We’re just having fun. That’s all it is.”

After playing his first game at Ward Field, Heffner said that he was pleasantly surprised at the overall condition of the playing field.

This season, games that would have been normally played at Hickam Softball Complex have been transferred to Ward Field due to ongoing renovations to the fields at Hickam.

“They’ve done a lot of work on it, but the quality of this field (Ward) is definitely safer than Hickam,” Heffner. “It’s because of the lighting. You can actually see the ball, so it works good.”

Bellows Air Force Station to hold Earth Day, Easter events this weekend

Bellows Air Force Station will hold Earth Day and Easter events this weekend. All guests, eligible friends and families of Bellows are welcome to attend.

The Band of the Pacific’s Papana group will perform live from 6 to 7 p.m. tonight at the outdoor deck, Turtle Cove, building 220. Papana features seven of the Air Force’s musicians performing jazz. The event will include food available for purchase.

An Earth Day-themed Waimanalo Beach cleanup will be held from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Saturday. Sign-in tents and designated parking will be along Tinker Road on base.

The event is a free community service project. Water, gloves, trash bags and necessary cleanup items will be provided.

The event is hosted by the Hawaii Army National Guard and Bellows Air Force Station.

Volunteers should bring a reusable water bottle, a reusable bag to pick up trash, sunscreen, a hat and a swimsuit to refresh after the cleanup.

For more information on the cleanup, call Craig Gorsuch at 927-1867.

An Easter Eggstravaganza will be held at Turtle Cove, building 220 on Sunday.

The day will begin with a sunrise service conducted from 6 to 7 a.m. by Pastor Pio Su’a-Godinet of Hope Chapel Olomana and a hula halau performance.

A Keneke’s Easter buffet special will be featured from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday. The cost of the buffet is \$9.98 for those age 11 and older, \$6 for ages 6 to 10, and \$1 for ages 5 and younger.

An Easter egg hunt will begin at 8:30 a.m. The activity will include free bubble wands for children while supplies last and chances to win a kendama and mini-golf tickets.

The egg hunt is open to four age groups, beginning with ages 5 and younger. One golden egg for the grand prize winner will be provided per group. Participants can bring a basket and camera for a photo with the Bellows bunny.



Photo courtesy of NAVSUP FLCPH

Participants visit booths at last year’s Naval Supply Systems Command Fleet Logistics Center Pearl Harbor Earth Day Fair. This year’s event is from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. April 22.

Events planned this weekend for Earth Day

Don Robbins

Editor Ho’okele

A series of events will be held at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) to celebrate Earth Day.

They include:
• Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange (NEX) Earth Day Expo: Partnering for a Greener Future from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. today at the NEX mall-side tent. NEX and JBPHH will welcome all authorized patrons to “think green” at the expo.

The event will include eco-friendly demonstrations, information booths explaining how to create a greener future, Earth Day children’s games,

awards presented to the coloring contest winner and new earth-friendly products. For more information, call 423-3274.

• Earth Day festival from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at Hickam Harbor. The event will include boat rides, a touch tide pool and informational booths.

• Fifth annual Naval Supply Systems Command Fleet Logistics Center Pearl Harbor (NAVSUP FLCPH) Earth Day Fair from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. April 22 at building 473 at Kilo 7/8 Piers.

The event will include environmental displays, a clean islands oil spill response vessel and alternative fuel vehicle displays. For more information, contact Lt. j.g. Chris Herbert at 473-7818 or email Christopher.l.heber1@navy.mil.

Holocaust remembrance event to be held April 28

A Holocaust Days of Remembrance commemoration will be held from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. April 28 at Aloha Jewish Chapel, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

The guest speaker will be Seymour Kazirmirski, sharing his mother’s story of surviving the Holocaust.

Commander, Navy Region Hawaii invites all members of the base community to attend the event. Transportation from building 150 to the chapel will be provided.

The Holocaust was the systematic,

state-sponsored persecution and murder of approximately six million Jews by the Nazi regime and its collaborators.

“Holocaust” is a word of Greek origin meaning “sacrifice by fire.” The Nazis, who came to power in Germany in January 1933, believed that Germans were “racially superior” and that the Jews, deemed “inferior,” were an alien threat to the so-called “Aryan master race.”

For more information, email megan.steffy@navy.mil or call 474-0302.

Spring special meal planned at Silver Dolphin April 21

The Silver Dolphin Bistro will host a spring special meal from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. April 21. The price is \$4.65.

The menu will include a salad bar, crab salad, potato salad and fruit salad.

Other items on the menu are prime rib with au jus, roasted Cornish hens, baked lobster tails, bacon wrapped scallops, jasmine rice, au gratin potatoes, steamed broccoli, calico corn and French onion soup. Assorted breads will include

French bread and dinner rolls.

Desserts will feature carrot cake with cream cheese frosting, chocolate chip cookies and an ice cream bar.

This special meal will be open to active duty military, Department of Defense employees, retirees and family members of active duty with valid identification cards.

For more information, call 473-2948.



Live the Great Life

Earth Day celebration to be held Saturday at Hickam Harbor

Reid Tokeshi

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Morale, Welfare and Recreation

A day of recreational activities and environmental awareness will be held at an Earth Day celebration from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at Hickam Harbor at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Members of the military community are welcome to attend.

Patrons can participate in activities on the water and land while learning about the importance of everyone's role in taking care of the planet.

Brandon Lavin, outdoor recreation director, said he believes his department is the natural choice to stage the event.

"I feel it's important that we be the spokesperson and steward of preservation and environmental awareness," Lavin said.

He added that the harbor's location, wildlife and ocean conditions illustrate the unique opportunities to experience and play in nature.

ODR and its partners will hold a variety of free activities throughout the day. Sail rides and boat tours will take riders around the harbor. Bounce houses will provide exercise for the kids, while touch pools



MWR Marketing photo

Free boat rides are among the activities scheduled for Earth Day on Saturday at Hickam Harbor.

will give them an up close encounter with creatures from the harbor's waters.

Various local environmental agencies and conservation groups will staff information booths to educate patrons about the environment and the impact they can have. Sam Choy's Island Seafood and Grille will have food available for purchase.

"We feel it is important that our community learns and understands how significant our environment is," said Lavin's assistant, Gavin Doi, who co-ordinated the event.

He pointed out that the various water activities they conduct always stress safety and smart environmental usage. Doi added that patrons who attend can discover the

various recreational programs ODR offers, and also learn to appreciate the beautiful setting that nature provides.

This is the second consecutive year Morale, Welfare & Recreation's Outdoor Recreation program (ODR) will present the free event.

For more information, stop by the Hickam Harbor Marina office or call 449-5215.



Image courtesy of MWR Marketing

Operation Megaphone worldwide lock-in connects teens across the globe

Justin Hirai

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Morale, Welfare and Recreation

The Hickam Teen Center at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam will participate in 2014 Operation Megaphone, an annual joint service event designed to connect military teens from around the world.

The lock-in will start at 7:30 p.m. April 25 and end at 7:30 a.m. April 26. The cost is \$25 per teen or \$20 with a Food Bank donation.

Activities will include bowling, food, a photo booth and games. Prizes will be given to new friends and their sponsors. Teens bringing a new friend will need to pick up a sponsorship form from the teen center.

Teens are encouraged to communicate with others worldwide and discuss issues affecting military teens through virtual connection and social media.

Operation Megaphone 2014's slogan is "Get the Word Out." More than 4,000 participants are expected to participate worldwide. The center is encouraging members to bring a new friend to the lock-in. They have set their own goal of having at least 100 teens participate.

For more information, call 448-0418.

Your Weekly Fun with MWR

Visit www.greatlifehawaii.com or subscribe to MWR's digital magazine Great Life Hawaii.



Free Golf Clinic will begin at 9:15 a.m. Saturday at the Barbers Point Golf Course. There is no cost but participants must register. FMI: 682-1911.

Annual Creative Writing Contest Awards Party will begin at 1 p.m. Saturday at Hickam Library. Patrons who submitted entries are invited to enjoy refreshments and find out who the winners are in each division. FMI: 449-8299.

Par 3 Junior Golf will begin at 1 p.m. on Saturdays at Ke'alahi Par 3 Golf Course. Competitive junior golfers will receive an afternoon of golfing with an experienced instructor for the cost of green fees. The activity is open to participants ages 7 to 17 years. FMI 448-2318.

Library Know-How will begin at 2 p.m. on Saturdays at Hickam Library. Participants can learn how to search the online catalog and the Dewey Decimal system. New information will be presented at each session. FMI: 449-8299.

Dollar Fifty Mondays will be held from 5 to 9 p.m. April 21 and 28 at Naval Station Bowling Center. Shoe rental, bowling games and a hot dog are \$1.50 each. FMI: 473-2574.

Pearl Harbor Valor Tour will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Tuesdays through Fridays, through April 30, starting from Information, Tickets & Travel (ITT-Hickam). The tour includes the USS Arizona Memorial, the USS Utah Memorial, the USS Oklahoma Memorial and the Navy Club Memorial. The cost is \$25 per person and free for children age 2 years and younger sitting on an adult's lap. FMI: 448-2295.

Patriot Tour will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. April 24, starting from the ITT-Hickam office. The tour will include the USS Arizona Memorial, USS Utah Memorial, USS Oklahoma Memorial and the Navy Club Memorial on Ford Island. The cost is \$55 for adults and \$45 for children ages 3 to 11. FMI: 448-2295.

Hickam Historical Tour will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. April 25 starting at ITT-Hickam office. The tour is not recommended for children under 6 years old. The cost is \$45 for adults and \$40 for children ages 3 to 11 and includes lunch. FMI: 448-2295.

Chinatown Food, Historic Tour will be held 8:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. April 26, departing from ITT-Hickam office. Participants can discover the secrets and history of Honolulu's Chinatown, as they sample Chinese treats along the way and end with a traditional dim sum lunch. The cost is \$30 for adults and \$25 for children ages 3-11 years old. FMI: 448-2295

Learn to Spearfish classes will begin at 9 a.m. April 26 and April 27 at Outdoor Recreation at Hickam Harbor. Day one class is held at the pool. Day two, depending on skill level, is two ocean dives from the boat. Participants need to bring their own mask, fins and snorkel. Other equipment and transportation will be provided. The cost is \$60 per person, and participants need to sign up by April 23. FMI: 449-5215.

Kalau'ao Trail Hike will begin at 9 a.m. April 27 beginning at the Outdoor Adventure Center at the Fleet Store. The activity is a moderate four-mile round-trip hike to a two-tiered waterfall. Participants should bring lunch, water and sunscreen. The cost is \$15 per person and participants need to sign up by April 24. FMI: 473-1198.

Military Bowl Free on Mondays and Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Hickam Bowling Center and on Tuesdays and Thursdays at Naval Station Bowling Center. Patrons can receive up to two free games of bowling, although shoe rental is not included. Military ID is required. FMI: 448-9959 or 473-2574.

Youth Summer Soccer Registration is available through May 9. The cost is \$70 per youth, ages 5 to 15 years. The summer season runs June through August. FMI: 473-0789 or www.greatlifehawaii.com.

Youth Summer 5-on-5 Basketball Registration is available through May 9. The cost is \$50 per youth, ages 9 to 15 years. The summer season runs June through August. FMI: 473-0789 or www.greatlifehawaii.com.

Pick-n-Paint is ongoing from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays in the Hickam Arts & Crafts Center. Participants can pick it and paint it and the center will fire it. No experience or appointment is needed. Participants of all ages and all experience levels are welcome. Fees vary depending on the piece. FMI: 448-9907.

Play Until Dusk at Mamala Bay Golf Course, Monday through Friday beginning at 2:30 p.m. Participants can pay their green fee for nine holes, then play as many holes as they can until dusk. There is an \$8 cart fee. All rental equipment needs to be turned in at dusk. FMI: 449-2304.

Movie at Sharkey Theater with free bowling will be accepted when patrons turn in their 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.

Community Calendar

APRIL

NEX EARTH DAY EXPO

TODAY — The Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange (NEX) Earth Day Expo: Partnering for a Greener Future will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the NEX mall-side tent. The event will include eco-friendly demonstrations, information booths, children's games, earth-friendly products and awards to an environmental coloring contest winner. FMI: 423-3274.

EARTH DAY FESTIVAL AT HICKAM HARBOR

SATURDAY — An Earth Day festival will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Hickam Harbor. The event will include boat rides, a touch tide pool and information booths. FMI: www.greatlifehawaii.com.

BUNNY HOP 5K RUN/WALK

SATURDAY —A Bunny Hop 5K Run/Walk will begin at 8 a.m. at the Hickam Fitness Center. The free event is open to all authorized patrons. FMI: 448-2214.

BREAKFAST WITH THE EASTER BUNNY

SATURDAY — 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 are on sale at the NEX main mall rotunda. FMI: 423-3287.

EASTER BRUNCH BUFFET

SUNDAY — An Easter brunch buffet will be held at the Historic Hickam Officers' Club. Seating times are 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. for the lanai and 11 a.m. for the dining room. Patrons of all ranks are welcome to attend. The cost is \$29.95 for adults, \$15.50 for children ages 7 to 12 and \$8.25 for children ages 4 to 6. Reservations are required and will be accepted until noon today. FMI: 448-4608.

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

SUNDAY — This year's Easter sunrise service will begin at 6:30 a.m. on the Battleship Missouri Memorial. The chapel is looking for volunteers to serve before and after the Easter sunrise service. Uniform for the sunrise service is aloha crisp. FMI: email Fruji.mills@navy.mil or call 473-3971.

NAVSUP FLCPH EARTH DAY FAIR

22 —The fifth annual Naval Supply Systems Command Fleet Logistics Center Earth Day Fair (NAVSUP FLCPH) will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at building 473 at Kilo 7/8 Piers. The event will include environmental displays, a clean islands oil spill response vessel and alternative fuel vehicle displays. FMI: 473-7818 or email Christopher.l.heber1@navy.mil.

NCOA CAREER EXPO

24 — The Noncommissioned Officers Association of the United States of America (NCOA) will hold a career expo job fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Tradewinds Enlisted Club, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. The event is open to anyone with base access, but is geared to military leaving the service, military spouses and retirees/veterans. There is no fee to attend. FMI: execdir@ncoausa.org.

FOREST CITY SPRING CULTURAL FESTIVAL

26 — The Forest City Spring Cultural Festival will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Richardson Field. The event will include bounce houses for children, prizes, food trucks, snacks, drinks and free entertainment. FMI: www.fcnavyhawaii.com or www.facebook.com/fcnavyhawaii.

FORD ISLAND BRIDGE CLOSURE

30 — From 9 to 10:30 a.m., all lanes of the Ford Island Bridge will be closed for operations and periodic maintenance. All motorists and pedestrians are advised to plan accordingly. Boat traffic under the causeway will not be allowed, because the small-craft gate will be closed during bridge opening to minimize collision hazards.

MAY

HANGAR TALK

3 — A hangar talk with retired Marine Lt. Col. Terry Tonkin will begin at 2 p.m. followed by a meet-and-greet at 3 p.m. at Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor. Tonkin will share his first-hand account of the heroic actions of the Air Force HH-53 aircrews and Marines whose mission was to free the crew of the merchant marine vessel SS Mayaquez following the end of the Vietnam War. The event is free with museum admission and to museum members. FMI: 441-1007 or www.pacificaviationmuseum.org.

CAREER FAIR

16 — The Joint Employment Management System (JEMS) and Army Career Alumni Program career fair will be held from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Makai Recreation Center, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. The fair is to support active duty service members who are leaving the military due to downsizing. FMI: www.jemsjobs.com.

MEMORIAL DAY WEEK HARBOR TOURS

23-26 — The National Park Service will hold Memorial Day commemoration white boat harbor tours at 2:45 p.m. May 23-25, and a sunset tour at 3:45 p.m. May 26. Boat launches to the Arizona Memorial after 2:45 p.m. will be suspended on those dates. Funds from the harbor tours will benefit the Arizona Memorial restoration projects at Pacific Historic Parks.

COMEDIAN JEFF DUNHAM

24 — Comedian Jeff Dunham will perform at 7 p.m. at Ward Field, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Doors open at 5 p.m. Admission is free for all military-affiliated personnel and their guests. The show is recommended for mature audiences. FMI: www.greatlifehawaii.com.



300: RISE OF AN EMPIRE (3D) (R)

This new chapter of the epic saga takes the action to a fresh battlefield—on the sea—as Greek general Themistokles attempts to unite all of Greece by leading the charge that will change the course of the war. "300: Rise of an Empire" pits Themistokles against the massive invading Persian forces led by mortal-turned-god Xerxes and Artemisia, vengeful commander of the Persian navy.

Movie Showtimes

SHARKEY THEATER

TODAY 4/18
7:00 PM 300: Rise of an Empire (3D) (R)

SATURDAY 4/19
2:30 PM Mr. Peabody and Sherman (3D) (PG)
4:30 PM Muppets Most Wanted (PG)
6:50 PM Divergent (PG-13)

SUNDAY 4/20
2:30 PM Mr. Peabody and Sherman (PG)
4:30 pm Need for Speed (3D) (PG-13)
7:00 pm Tyler Perry's: Single Mom's Club (PG-13)

HICKAM MEMORIAL THEATER

TODAY 4/18
6:00 PM Mr. Peabody and Sherman (3D) (PG)

SATURDAY 4/19
4:00 PM Mr. Peabody and Sherman (PG)
7:00 PM Need for Speed (PG-13)

SUNDAY 4/20
2:00 PM Mr. Peabody & Sherman (PG)

THURSDAY 4/24
7:00 PM Need for Speed (PG-13)



PACAF chief breaks national, American powerlifting records

Capt. Justin Billot

Pacific Air Forces Public Affairs

Months of training and years of experience were put to the test recently as judges meticulously observed more than 40 power lifting contenders during the 2014 Military National Championships.

One Airman, who has been powerlifting for nearly 30 years, approached the stage, chalked up his hands, and made his second attempt at breaking the national and American powerlifting record.

Within a matter of seconds, Chief Master Sgt. Troy Saunders, Pacific Air Forces vehicle management functional manager, broke the five-year record with a colossal 633-pound deadlift.

"The lift was good," Saunders said. "I feel extremely fortunate to be able to keep doing what I do as I close in on 30 years of competing." Pacific Air Forces is based at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.



Photo courtesy of Chief Master Sgt. Troy Saunders

Chief Master Sgt. Troy Saunders, Pacific Air Forces vehicle management functional manager, deadlifts 633 pounds while competing in the 2014 Military National Powerlifting Championships.

Saunders broke nine new powerlifting records while competing last month in Killeen, Texas. His lifts for the squat, bench press and deadlift totaled 1,526 pounds, earning him 11 gold medals, five Military National

and four American records. These consecutive wins allowed him to wrest the overall best raw lifter title from lifters two decades younger.

"I'm a lot older and there are others stronger than me who

compete in the sport," he said. "I'm ecstatic simply to continue to lift and give it my personal best."

Saunders credits his achievements not only to hard work and dedication, but to those who have helped him along in his career.

"I owe a lot of my success to inspirational people and mentors throughout my time in sports," he said. "I think these people are invaluable to one's success in sports and life."

Saunders has been powerlifting for most of his life and said the lessons and skills learned through the sport have helped him to excel in his personal and professional goals. At the same time, Saunders has been coaching nine Air Force lifters who made multiple first place finishes and a military national second place team award.

Airmen have a duty to maintain their Air Force physical training standards, but can supplement their fitness with other

activities such as hiking, swimming, surfing or running, according to Saunders. The key to improving physical fitness, he said, is to find and engage in activities that are enjoyable and to have more than a desire for medals.

Saunders also recommends that Airmen explore ways to incorporate their families into fitness and health endeavors.

"Encourage your family and friends to get involved and get active," he said. "Physical activity allows people to spend time as a family unit and improve family resiliency through support and motivation."

Airmen interested in learning more about fitness and sports programs on base should contact their health and wellness centers or base fitness centers. Off-base resources can also serve as conduits for physical well-being.

For Saunders, he plans to continue competing.

Pacific Submarine Force hosts 114th Navy Submarine Birthday balls

MC1 Steven Khor

Submarine Force Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

Submariners past and present, spouses and guests came together at the Hilton Hawaiian Village in Waikiki on April 11-12 to celebrate being a part of the U.S. Navy Submarine Force at the 114th Navy Submarine Birthday balls.

Speakers during the two-day event included Adm. Harry Harris, commander of U.S. Pacific Fleet, and Rear Adm. Phillip G. Sawyer, commander of Submarine Force, Pacific Fleet.

Harris praised the submariners for their achievements and thanked them for their service.

"Happy 114th birthday to the submarine force," said Harris. "Well done. Our Pacific Submarine Force has a lot to be proud of since its humble beginnings in 1900."

"In World War II, more than half of all enemy ships sunk were last seen through a periscope," he continued.

"Our nation draws its strength from those who serve before them

and will draw its strength from those who serve after them—an unbroken chain, linking American fighting men and women from generation to generation. I truly thank you for all you do on a daily basis to ensure our nation and our military remains strong," Harris said.

During the balls on each evening, ceremonies honoring boats and crews lost at sea reminded all attendees of the sacrifices and courage of underwater sea warriors throughout the years.

Sawyer talked briefly about the Chief of Naval Operations' key tenets of warfighting first, operating forward and being ready to fight.

He also stressed the importance of being a submariner and its role to the nation before concluding with a thank you.

"Let's celebrate our 114th year of undersea dominance," said Sawyer. "Let's celebrate being a member of the world's foremost and most formidable submarine force. Let's celebrate family, friends and shipmates and enjoy tonight because you have earned it."

Master Chief Cash Caldwell, the



U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Jason Swink

Retired Rear Adm. Lloyd "Joe" Vasey (right), a World War II submarine veteran, receives applause from submariners and their family and friends at the 114th Annual Navy Officer's Submarine Birthday Ball held April 12 at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Hotel.

force master chief at Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, said the night was bittersweet because this was his last birthday ball in his 30 years of submarine service.

"I would like to give my sincere thanks to all of you in the Pacific

Submarine Force for all the work you have done to make us what we are," said Caldwell.

He said he is proud to be a part of this opportunity for all of his peers to get together and celebrate being submariners.

Retired Rear Adm. Lloyd "Joe" Vasey was honored as the most senior submarine-qualified Sailor of the night, having earned his dolphins in 1942.

"Dolphins" are a submarine warfare insignia worn by enlisted and officers, signifying proficiency in using all the systems aboard the submarine.

Vasey was honored by Sailors and spouses throughout the evening. A pioneer in the submarine force, Vasey served as a submarine officer throughout World War II, including the invasion of North Africa and later in the Pacific theater.

Submarine ball events commemorate the anniversary of the U.S. Navy's submarine force. Since April 11, 1900, when the U.S. Navy first purchased John Philip Holland's revolutionary submarine and renamed it America's first commissioned submarine, USS Holland (SS-1), submariners have been patrolling the depths of the oceans, taking the fight to enemies and providing maritime security around the world.

Blood drive schedule updated

Tripler Army Medical Center Blood Donor Center has updated its schedule of upcoming blood drives.

Dates and locations are updated regularly online as new drives are scheduled.

Donors are encouraged to schedule an appointment online, call to make an appointment, and check www.militaryblood.dod.mil for the latest information.

Currently scheduled drives include:

- April 22 and May 6, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., NEX, Tripler Army Medical Center.

- April 23, 9 a.m. to noon, SPAWAR Hawaii, 2293 Victor Wharf Access Road, building 992, Pearl City.

For more information, call 433-6699 or 433-6148 or email michelle.lele@amedd.army.mil

TRICARE offers resources for military, families

TRICARE

Month of the Military Child

Each April, the military community pauses to focus on its youngest members, those who don't deploy or travel to war but are affected by those events just the same—the military child.

Military children are unique in that they face frequent moves and parental deployments, in addition to the typical childhood stressors of learning, maturing and building relationships. Even children without a deployed parent can be affected by the stress of a classmate or friend who is experiencing that loss.

The National Institutes of Health reports that parental com-



bat deployment increases anxiety in children that remains even after the deployed parent returns home. By collecting this type of data, screening, prevention and intervention strategies can be developed to assist military children.

TRICARE covers medically or psychologically necessary mental/behavioral health care, including counseling for children. TRICARE covers well-child care from

birth to age six. Each well-child visit is a chance for the doctor to look for developmental delays or problems and for patients to talk about any concerns they have.

For more information about TRICARE's behavioral health benefit, visit www.tricare.mil/MentalHealth. For information about TRICARE's well-child care, visit www.tricare.mil/Well-Child.

Alcohol awareness

A glass of wine after work or a cold beer during the game can be nice in moderation, but excessive drinking can lead to more destructive behaviors. April is National Alcohol Awareness month, a great time to take a sobering look at the excessive alcohol consumption within the military community.

The Dietary Guidelines for Americans define moderate alcohol consumption as having up to one drink a day for women and up to two drinks a day for men. Binge drinking is generally considered having an excess of drinks at one occasion or event; that is five or more drinks at a time for men and four or more drinks for women.

Excessive drinking is a form of alcohol abuse and can create a number of short- and long-term health and safety risks, such as increased risk of injuries, violence, drowning, liver disease and some types of cancer.

If alcohol is a “go-to” source of comfort when dealing with stress, boredom or loneliness, then there may be cause for concern. To help

beneficiaries deal with alcohol abuse, TRICARE has an alcohol awareness program that aims to prevent alcohol misuse and/or abuse.

TRICARE's “That Guy” campaign is a multi-media initiative, created specifically for the military community. That Guy encourages young enlisted personnel not to binge drink, by highlighting what's at stake when they do.

To learn more about That Guy, visit www.thatguy.com.

By taking early prevention steps and drinking responsibly, alcohol doesn't have to become a destructive force. For more information on TRICARE's alcohol awareness initiatives, visit www.tricare.mil/alcoholawareness.

Gimme 5 campaign to launch Hickam Communities resident survey

Hickam Communities

Hickam Communities staff will be knocking on residents' doors at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on April 26, delivering the annual resident satisfaction survey that gets kicked-off with the Gimme 5 campaign.

“We can't emphasize enough how important it is for our families to provide us with candid feedback about their experiences being part of our community, from move-in through residency,” said Stephen Quinn, Hickam Communities property management director.

“We're asking them to share with us what we are doing right and where we need to improve. The survey rates us on a scale of one to five, five being the highest. It is our goal to earn a score of five from our residents.”

Survey results, comments and

suggestions help Hickam Communities and Air Force housing leadership plan programs and services to enhance the living experience and quality of life at Hickam Communities.

The survey takes approximately five minutes to complete. Residents completing the survey on the day of delivery can place and seal it in the envelope provided and leave it at their front door. Hickam Communities staff will collect them and leave behind a coupon for five ice cream treats as a “thank you” to families for participating in the survey.

Residents can redeem their ice cream coupon from noon to 5 p.m. April 26 at either the Ka Makani Community Center or Earhart Community Center. They may also drop the survey envelope in the mail anytime during the survey period so long as it is postmarked by May 30.

If residents immediately complete the survey and have it ready for staff to pick up on the same day (April 26), their family will also be eligible for a random drawing to win one of five opening day contest prizes.

A comment card has been included with the survey and will be used as an entry form for a chance to win one of five \$250 prizes. Residents should return the comment card along with the survey postmarked by May 16 to be eligible for this early bird prize drawing.

The survey is conducted by the nationally recognized real estate consulting firm CEL & Associates, Inc. Residents' names will be kept confidential. Bar codes on the return envelope provided only identify neighborhoods.

For more information, call the Hickam Communities' resident services team at 423-2300.

Chiefs Action Group events planned

A chief petty officer (CPO) board eligibility brief will be held from 7:30 to 10:30 a.m. April 30 at Hickam Memorial Theater.

This brief is for all CPO board-eligible E-6s. The brief will consist of best practices in record review and submissions to the board.

In addition, a CPO board eligibility records review will be held from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. May 7 at the Naval Operational Support Center (NOSC) Pearl Harbor, building 279.

This records review is for all CPO board-eligible first class petty officers. Each Sailor will be given a 30-minute appointment with a senior chief petty officer or master chief petty officer with board experience. This event is on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration will be taken at the end of the April 30 CPO boards brief.

For more information, contact AGCS Enrique Acosta at chiefsactiongroup@hotmail.com or 471-4588.

TANG workshop scheduled

From May 5 to 8, Commander, Destroyer Squadron 15 and Commander, Destroyer Squadron 31 will sponsor the first Surface Tactical Advancements for the Next Generation (TANG) workshop at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

The Surface TANG Workshop will consist of 27 officers and operators. The attendees have been hand selected for their contributions and innovative leadership.

The TANG event will kick off

with a technology expo. It will begin May 5 specifically for the attendees and be open to the base from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 6-7, and 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 8.

The process provides the means to rapidly transition the best ideas for use on surface ships. The results of the Surface TANG workshop and follow-on iterative prototype design thinking events will allow for more intuitive technology delivery as early as 2016.