



# “Navigator” HO’OKELE

PEARL HARBOR - HICKAM NEWS

September 27, 2013

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Volume 4 Issue 37

## 15th Wing pays tribute to National POW/MIA Day

Staff Sgt. Terri Paden

15th Wing Public Affairs

The 15th Wing at joint base wrapped up a week-long tribute to those held as prisoners of war and those who are still missing in action with a remembrance ceremony held Sept. 20 at the Missing Man Memorial at Hickam.

The ceremony commenced following the completion of a remembrance run held at the track. Beginning Sept. 19, hundreds of Team Hickam members paid homage to the sacrifices of the men and women who have served before them by relaying a metal baton between units continuously for 24 hours before running to the Missing Man Memorial to attend the ceremony.

The guest speaker for the ceremony was a former POW, retired Col. Henry Fowler, who spoke to the crowd of more than 300 Airmen about his time as a POW in Hoa Lo Prison, known as Hanoi Hilton.

A lieutenant at the time, Fowler was an F-4 Phantom pilot deployed to Vietnam when his plane was hit, and



U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Jerome S. Tayborn

Former prisoner of war, retired Col. Henry Fowler, (left), and Col. John Roscoe, 15th Wing commander, (right), place a remembrance wreath at Missing Man Formation, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

he was forced to eject from the aircraft. Severely injured, he landed 24 miles from the capitol city where he was subsequently captured and forced to endure an eight-hour walk to the POW camp, during which he was hung and stoned several times.

Fowler said during his 2,157 days at the prison, he and his fellow POWs were confined to concrete cells

where they were fed two “filthy” meals a day and denied even modest conveniences, including windows, beds, toilets and hot water. They were allowed outside for only 15 minutes a day.

“Our motto was ‘U.S.’,” he said when he talked about what gave him and his fellow POWs the will to keep going and the strength to deny an early release even after it was offered to him.

“That didn’t stand for ‘United States’; that stood for ‘unity over self.’ Our goal was to bring home honor to the U.S., then to bring home those that needed to come home more than we did, and then bring ourselves home,” Fowler explained.

However, a lesson can be learned in even the bleakest of situations, and Fowler said his time as a POW taught him a great one.

“Freedom is like air,” he said. “You don’t miss it ‘til it’s not there.”

He choked up as he attempted to describe the moment it finally sank in for him that he was free. “Coming home on the aircraft, about 30 minutes into the flight, the commander said we’d just crossed out of Vietnam waters—welcome to freedom,” he said.

He said there were no words in the dictionary to describe how he felt at that moment.

Fowler told those gathered that there is a difference between knowing what freedom means and understanding what freedom means.

He quoted a graduation commencement speech he had once heard, saying, “There are some things worth dying for. The freedom you have here [in America] is one of them.”

Col. Johnny Roscoe, 15th Wing commander, encouraged the men and women of Team Hickam to continue to study history and seek out the stories of men like Fowler in order to “learn the lessons of those men and women who rose up against incredible odds, incredible adversity and were victorious.”

After the speeches, Roscoe was presented with the remembrance run baton on behalf of the run participants. The ceremony concluded with a wreath presentation, a reading of the Code of Conduct, a 21-gun salute, and the playing of Taps.

## Memo prepares DOD employees for government shutdown

Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

Although Defense Department officials believe a government shutdown can be avoided when the new fiscal year begins Oct. 1, they want DOD employees to be prepared for the possibility, Deputy Defense Secretary Ash Carter said in a memo issued Sept. 23 to the workforce.

The fiscal year ends Sept. 30, and Congress has not passed a budget. If Congress does not approve a budget or pass a continuing resolution, the portions of the government funded via appropriated funds will be forced to close.

“The department remains hopeful that a government shutdown will be averted,” Carter wrote in the memo.

“The administration strongly believes that a lapse in funding should not occur and is working with Congress to find a solution,” he said.

Congress still can prevent a lapse in appropriations, but “prudent management requires that we be prepared for all contingencies, including the possibility that a lapse could occur at the end of the month,” the deputy secretary wrote.

The absence of funding would mean a

number of government activities would cease.

“While military personnel would continue in a normal duty status, a large number of our civilian employees would be temporarily furloughed,” Carter said.

“To prepare for this possibility, we are updating our contingency plans for executing an orderly shutdown of activities that would be affected by a lapse in appropriations.”

President Barack Obama and Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel understand the hardships such a shutdown could cause civilian employees, the deputy secretary wrote.

“The administration strongly believes that a lapse in funding should not occur and is working with Congress to find a solution,” Pentagon Press Secretary George Little told reporters.

“The secretary has made it clear that budget uncertainty is not helpful for us in executing our budget efficiently, and a shutdown would be the worst type of uncertainty. A shutdown would put severe hardships on an already stressed workforce and is totally unnecessary.”

Carter vowed to provide more information as it becomes available. The Office of Personnel Management’s website has more information.

## Recognizing self-destructive behavior can help save lives



Ishmael W. Stagner II, retired Army and a member of the Statewide Prevent Suicide Hawaii Taskforce (SPSHT), speaks to Logistics Specialist Seaman Joshua Williams after a suicide prevention seminar at Sharkey Theater at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Story and photo by  
MC3 Diana Quinlan

Navy Public Affairs Support Element  
West, Detachment Hawaii

Sailors joined Department of Defense civilians at a suicide prevention session held Sept. 24 at Sharkey Theater at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

The session was designed to promote awareness about the significance of suicide across all military services and to teach about the recognition of symptoms and prevention of suicidal behavior.

Lt. Cmdr. Kaarin Coe, suicide prevention coordinator for Navy Region Hawaii, organized the event and introduced the topic to the attendees.

“As you are all aware, this month is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month,” said Coe. “The theme for the Navy this year is ‘Thrive in Your Community,’ encouraging everyone to get involved either through their command or local volunteer opportunities.”

The focus of the session was to show that

an ability to ask for help is not a sign of weakness, but rather as a sign of courage and to admit that one has a problem and is willing to work on it with assistance and encouragement from others.

“Research has shown that when someone has a strong sense of community and belonging, they are more likely to reach out for help during times of stress,” Coe continued. “Those who are willing to help others are usually more willing to receive help.”

Rear Adm. Rick Williams, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, spoke to the audience about the importance of recognizing the issue and the intervention that is needed for suicide prevention.

“One of the reasons why I wanted to come here today is so I can learn, better understand, and so I can better lead,” said Williams.

“We are not going to be able to control the environment, but there are ways we can manage it. And the ways we might be

See Suicide, A-7

## USS Chung-Hoon to return to Hawaii soon



The Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93) will return to its homeport in Hawaii soon after a deployment to the western Pacific. Commanded by Cmdr. Justin Orlich, the ship and its crew of nearly 280 Sailors conducted integrated operations with allies and partners during the ship’s six-month deployment. (Watch next week’s *Ho’okele* for complete coverage of Chung-Hoon’s return.)

**Save  
Energy**

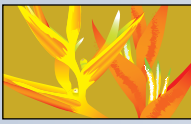
Make sure food is cool and covered before it goes into the refrigerator.



Naval Health Clinic Hawaii and 15th Medical Group host influenza campaign, See page A-2



POW and MIA service members honored at Punchbowl ceremony See page A-2, 3, 4 and B-6



Aloha Festivals Floral Parade See page A-4



Fire Prevention Week is Oct. 6-12 See page A-7



Sailors build housing for families in need See page B-1



Navy Ball celebrations set for Oct. 12 See page B-7



## Former POW speaks at POW/MIA observance

**David D. Underwood Jr.**

*Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public Affairs*

Air Force Capt. Guy Gruters, a former Vietnam prisoner of war, spoke to service members and civilians at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam during a POW/MIA observance Sept.

19 at Hickam Memorial Theater.

Gruters flew more than 400 combat missions, striking enemy convoys over North Vietnam, first with the 173rd Airborne Brigade in the O-1 Bird Dog light observation aircraft and then with the Misty FAST FACS in the F-100 Super Sabre.

He began his presentation talking about his missions over North Vietnam and how they disrupted the enemy supply trucks by air strikes.

He was shot down twice while serving in Vietnam, and it was the second time on Dec. 20, 1967 that he, and fellow pilot, Col. Robert R. Craner, were captured and imprisoned in the Hanoi Hilton.

Gruters spoke of the harsh conditions and treatment he and fellow POWs experienced while in captivity.

One fellow POW was 1st Lt. Lance P. Sijan, who was tortured and eventually died as a result of the harsh treatment.

He also emphasized the importance of teamwork and leadership and how it helped him get through his ordeal. Gruters said that they were confined to concrete cells with no windows, except the one window that the guards could look inside.

He asked the audience to imagine staying inside their bathroom from 9 on a Saturday morning to 3 on a Saturday afternoon, with no air conditioning or no heat.

## Flu immunizations begin at JBPHH



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Sean Furey

Rear Adm. Rick Williams, commander, Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, receives a flu shot from Sr. Airman Christopher Mendoza, assigned to the 624th Aero Medical Staging Squad, at the Makai Recreation Center at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

He also talked about the tremendous team that played a part in defending America's freedom, the U.S. military team comprised of all services and civilian support. That team also included the American people who supported the troops.

He recalled telling a fellow POW about how lucky they were. "We really cared for each other,"

said Gruters.

"The military is really a fellowship of brothers and sisters," said Gruters. "We returned with honor because of our leadership, code of conduct, and because we did what we were told."

The reward was coming home to freedom. He was one of 591 surviving POWs released in 1973 and returned home during

Operation Homecoming. Gruters' decorations include more than 30 combat awards, with two Silver Stars, two Distinguished Flying Crosses, two Purple Hearts, a Bronze Star for Valor, the POW Medal, a Presidential Unit Citation and 20 Air Medals.

(Read the complete story at <http://www.cnic.navy.mil/hawaii> and click on "Ho'okele.")



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Nathan Allen

Air Force Capt. Guy Gruters, a former POW from the Vietnam War, discusses his time as a POW at a presentation Sept. 18.

## Naval Health Clinic Hawaii and 15th Medical Group host influenza campaign

**Staff Sgt. Aimee Braxton**

*15th Medical Operations Squadron*

Naval Health Clinic Hawaii (NHCH) and the 15th Medical Group (15 MDG) partnered to host this year's influenza prevention campaign, which was held Sept. 24-26 at the Makai Recreation Center at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Personnel from the NHCH, 15 MDG, 624th Aeromedical Staging Squadron and the Hawaii Air National Guard offered

their services to ensure the campaign's success. The collective efforts allowed an estimated 8,000 members to process the line in only three minutes per person with minimal effect to the mission. All active duty members are required to receive the flu vaccine by December.

JBPHH Influenza Campaign will get the prevention off to a good start before flu season.

An annual seasonal flu vaccine (either the flu shot or the nasal-spray flu vaccine) is the best way to reduce the chances that you will get seasonal flu and

lessens the chance that you will spread it to others.

The flu vaccine will be made available to all beneficiaries starting Oct. 1 at the NHCH and Oct. 7 at the 15 MDG. The Joint Vaccine Working Group will administer flu vaccines from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oct. 19 at the Hickam Base Exchange and from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oct. 4 and 5 at the Navy Exchange.

In addition, TriCare has partnered with local Walgreens, Long's Drugs and Target stores to provide the flu vaccine at no cost to all eligible beneficiaries, 18 years of age and older.

### Flu vaccinations are available for beneficiaries at the following locations:

**Makalapa Clinic:**

Mon.-Fri.: 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Closed first Thursday of every month 11:45 a.m.-2 p.m.

**Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard**

**Clinic (building 1750):**

Mon.-Fri.: 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

**15th Medical Group, Hickam:**

Mon. and Fri.: 8-11:45 a.m. and 1-4 p.m.

Tues. and Thurs.: 7:30-11:45 a.m. and 1-4 p.m.

Wed.: 7:30-11:45 a.m. and 1-2 p.m.

Closed the third Thurs-day of every month

*Active duty personnel should contact their UDMs for unit vaccination times*

## 'Navigate' to Ho'okele website

[www.hookele.com](http://www.hookele.com) or [www.cnic.navy.mil/hawaii](http://www.cnic.navy.mil/hawaii)





Commentary

## How, why residents can ‘live within the buffer’ and conserve electricity

**Rear Adm.  
Rick Williams**

*Commander, Navy Region  
Hawaii and Naval Surface  
Group Middle Pacific*

**Capt. Mike Williamson**

*Commanding Officer,  
Naval Facilities  
Command Hawaii*

If you are a Forest City resident, you know about the Resident Energy Conservation Program [RECP]. You know that RECP encourages and incentivizes energy conservation. By now, you should also be aware of how you will be affected by the 123 percent increase in electricity rates starting next week on Oct. 1. That means if you get a bill for exceeding the buffer for the average usage



Rear Adm. Rick Williams of your like-type group, the amount of money you owe could more than double. This is not just another “energy awareness” campaign—managing your energy usage affects your checkbook.

We have heard from residents—during the Forest City Open House, via social media, or even through casual conversations around



Capt. Mike Williamson

base—and we appreciate your concerns and questions. Actively conserving energy in our homes is a change in culture for many military families. Our goal is to help residents be more aware of how they use electricity—and learn how to save energy and dollars.

For those who are above the buffer and receive a bill for electricity use, I encour-

age learning more about the process and how to save on your energy use.

Getting an energy assessment is a good idea and can be arranged directly by contacting Forest City, who can also show you how to conduct a do-it-yourself energy assessment.

One new initiative we are implementing now is providing electricity usage monitors that can be checked out from the Navy Region Hawaii housing liaison office (474-1804) to conduct your own in-home energy assessment. These devices show what items and appliances use the most electricity in your homes and identify “vampire loads” that drain power while not in use. These helpful tools are also available in stores and online for purchase if you would like to own one.

We will continue to offer information through articles, tips and conversations about conservation.

Everyone is invited to learn more about energy awareness, security and conservation at <http://www.cnic.navy.mil/regions/cnrh.html> where you can find the latest by clicking on the electricity rates “green button” at the bottom of the page.

After conducting a phone study with approximately 600 residents who owed a balance by being over the buffer for their like-type group, Forest City reports that 85 percent of residents were aware of the impending increase in the electricity rate. Many residents took the opportunity during this call to schedule an energy behavior assessment to assist them in

identifying additional conservation methods.

Forest City said they will continue to offer energy use assessments for residents, reaching out to people to help them “live within the buffer.” Forest City also implemented a “Live Within the Buffer” web page specifically to help people learn more and to schedule assessments. Go to <http://livewithin-the-buffer.com/> for the latest information.

Energy awareness is something we should be used to hearing about by now, but not only because of the personal financial impact it now has for some of us. Energy security and energy conservation are tied to readiness and closely tied to the Chief of Naval Operations tenet to “Be Ready.”

Commentary

## Remembering and honoring our nation’s POWs/MIAs

**Col. Johnny Roscoe**

*15th Wing Commander*

As a history buff, I can’t think of a better place in the DOD to be stationed. To be standing right here on the spot where the start of American involvement in WWII took place is truly a humbling thought. To see the bullet holes in the PACAF HQ building, or see the airfield from the crow’s nest, or to go out to the Arizona Memorial and see that ship in its shallow grave, brings me to a time when men and women stood up against great odds and were victorious.

And while the history between these two places is what most people think about and are most familiar with, they really aren’t as familiar with the rich history that has continued over the years and the continued



Col. Johnny Roscoe

significance this location played time and time again.

In 1953, POWs from the Korean War returned to Hickam during Operation Freedom Airlift. During the ‘60s, after astronauts from both Mercury and Apollo missions returned from their harrowing journey in space, they transited

this very field. In 1973, POWs, from the Vietnam War, including Col. Fowler, first touched American soil at Hickam Field during Operation Homecoming. And after the fall of Saigon, crews from this installation flew in “Operation Baby Lift and New Life,” evacuating Vietnamese orphans from harm’s way.

And even today, crews carry team members from Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, or JPAC, as they continually search for the more than 83,000 individuals still listed as MIAs.

The reason our history is so important is because it links us not only to our past, but also to our future. I challenge every one of us here today to seek out those stories and look to great men like Col. Fowler and Capt. Coffee. We must listen to them and search out all the text and history we

can find, so we can hear their stories and the stories of all the others who came before us.

We must learn their lessons and learn from their examples and know that we can overcome any challenge, hardship or adversity we face. I am confident that, just as with the symbolic passing of the baton I received here today, we are worthy to run the next leg on the lessons you have taught us as we can continue to “cherish, love, and defend” our nation no matter what may lay ahead.

*(Editor’s note: This is an excerpt from remarks made by Col. Roscoe at the National POW/MIA Recognition Day observance, held Sept. 20 at the Missing Man Formation on the Hickam side of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.)*

## Diverse Views



**This is the first week of Autumn.  
What’s your favorite season?**



**Mass Communication Specialist  
3rd Class Diana Quinlan**

*Navy Public Affairs Support Element  
(NPASE), Pearl Harbor-Hickam*

“My favorite season would be autumn just because it’s like an entire year in three months. I love the color changes, going from green to shades of yellow, orange and reds and depending on the states you’re in – it’s very beautiful. Upstate New York is absolutely amazing and it reminds me of home (Riga, Latvia).”

**Master Sgt. Donald Gruver**

*713th Combat Operations  
Squadron, Det. 1*

“It would have to be winter, because I love to snow ski in northern California, Lake Tahoe. The mountain views are the best in the world.”



**Mass Communication Specialist  
2nd Class Sean Furey**

*Navy Public Affairs Support Element  
(NPASE), Pearl Harbor-Hickam*

“My favorite season is winter because that’s when the waves are good.”

**Master Sgt. Famicia Trotter**

*735th Air Mobility Squadron*

“Summer is my favorite season because I enjoy backyard barbecues and lounging at the beach.”



**Mass Communication Specialist  
Seaman Rose Forest**

*Navy Public Affairs Support Element  
(NPASE), Pearl Harbor-Hickam*

“My favorite season is spring because I’m from Michigan, and everything gets really cold and really gray all winter long. So spring finally comes after what seems like an eternity, and it’s not cold and gray anymore. So it’s pretty awesome.”

**Tech. Sgt. James Blakeman**

*15th Maintenance Squadron*

“It would really have to depend on where I’m at. Here in Hawaii it’s all year long. In Europe, it would have to be winter for all the Christmas markets. When I’m back home in Texas, it would have to be the fall. That is when it begins to cool down, and you can feel the crisp clean air coming in with the cool fronts.”



**Mass Communication Specialist  
2nd Class Tiarra Fulgham**

*Navy Public Affairs Support Element  
(NPASE), Pearl Harbor-Hickam*

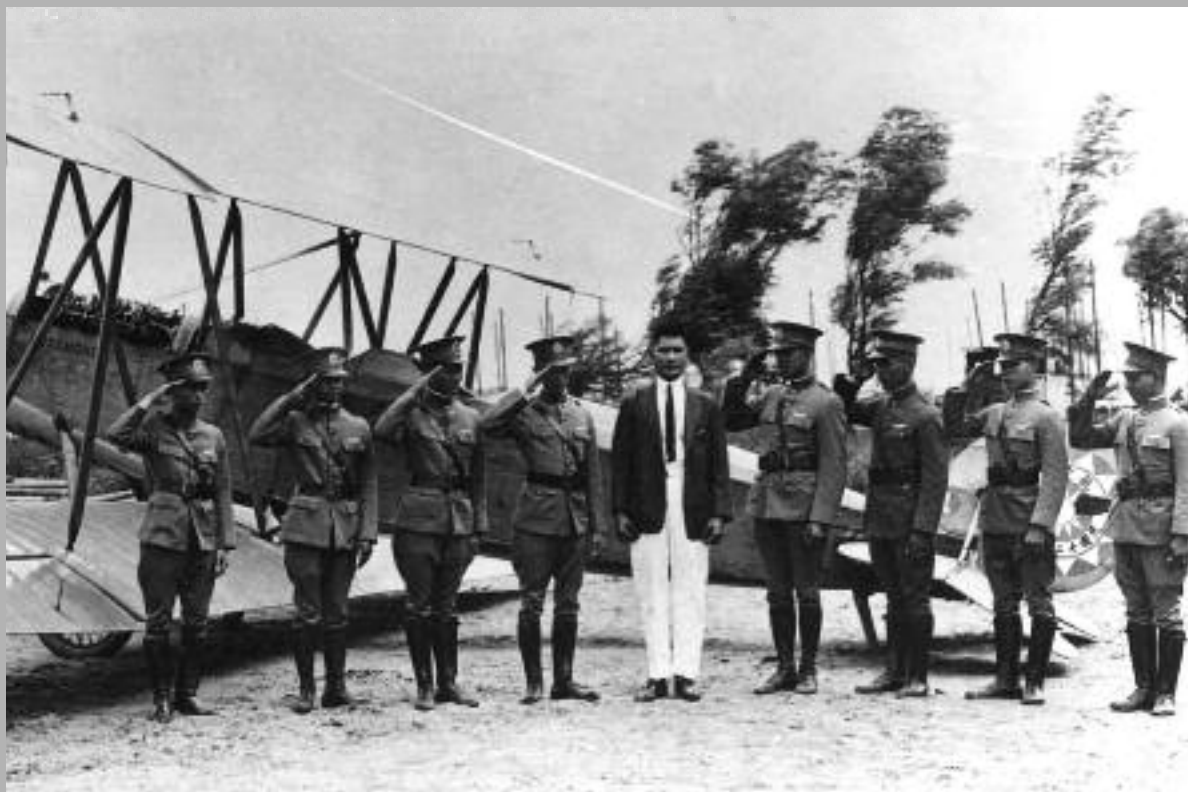
“My favorite season is fall because of the different colors that comes from the leaves and clothing you can wear. It gives you more variety.”

*(Provided by David D. Underwood  
and MC2 Nardel Gervacio)*

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

**Drop us a line at [editor@hookelenews.com](mailto:editor@hookelenews.com) or [karen.spangler@navy.mil](mailto:karen.spangler@navy.mil)**

## Honolulu-born pilot soloed at flight school



Sun Yet Young was the first Hawaii resident to earn a pilot’s license. Here he stands in 1923 with Chinese flyers and an airplane manufactured in China. The Honolulu-born pilot soloed at the Curtiss Flying School in Buffalo, N.Y. on Oct. 2, 1916. Next week will mark 97 years since the solo took place.

*Photo courtesy of the state of Hawaii Department of Transportation*



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Navy Region Hawaii  
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# POW and MIA service members honored at Punchbowl ceremony

Story and photos by  
MCSN Johans Chavarro

Navy Public Affairs  
Support Element West,  
Detachment Hawaii

Service members and civilians gathered at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl) on Sept. 20 in observance of National Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Recognition Day.

The ceremony was held at the crater, which stands as a memorial to honor members of the armed services and

the men and women who gave their lives. National POW/MIA Recognition Day commemorates the sacrifices of Americans who have been prisoners of war and to remember those who are still missing in action.

Air Force Maj. Gen. Kelly K. McKeague, commander of Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, spoke of the significance and symbolism of Punchbowl Cemetery and the importance of paying tribute to each of our nation's service members who were held prisoner or

are still missing.

"We at the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command fully understand that freedoms Americans enjoy today are never free. Our prisoners of war and missing in action are particularly representative of the enormous and supreme sacrifices made to secure and sustain those freedoms. Their family's lives have been indelibly altered by the absence or the loss of their loved ones," McKeague said.

"National POW/MIA



Service members gathered at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific to commemorate National Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Recognition Day.

## Aloha Festivals Floral Parade set

Rear Adm. Rick Williams, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, will be the senior representative for the military services in Hawaii for the 2013 Aloha Festivals Floral Parade which will begin at 9 a.m. Saturday in Waikiki. Other military units participating will include the 25th ID marching unit, PACFLT marching band, PACAF

marching unit and the MARFORPAC marching band. The parade forms at Ala Moana Park and moves down Ala Moana Boulevard to Kalakaua Avenue, ending at Kapiolani Park. The theme of the 2013 Aloha Festivals is "Moana Nui kea: Celebrating Traditional Hawaiian Ocean Voyaging," in honor of the Polynesian Voyaging Society's 40th anniversary.



Service members participate in a wreath-laying during a National Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Recognition Day ceremony at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl.)

Recognition Day provides a poignant means by which to honor the heroes who returned home from agonizing captivity. This day is also a sobering reminder that tens of thousands of fallen heroes still remain missing, and the noble mission to bring them home must continue to be fulfilled," he said.

The keynote speaker for the event, retired pilot and Air Force Capt. Guy Gruters, shared his experiences as a Vietnam prisoner of war. On Dec. 20, 1967 his plane was shot down and he was captured. It wasn't until 1973 that he was released as part of Operation Homecoming.

"I'm just a visitor here, and I'm overwhelmed by the number of graves that are out there," said Gruters. "To think that under each marker are the remains of a man or woman who died for me so I can live and be free is very, very, important for me."

Gruters said that about

500 other prisoners of war made it back from North Vietnam, but more than 2,500 others did not.

"I often wonder, why me, why us? How did we make it and not the others who died in the enemy camps," said Gruters.

"Perhaps it was so I can live and be here today and stand up and tell everyone present we should be very thankful for all those who suffered the trial of being a POW in the Vietnam War and in all other wars," he said.

A wreath laying was conducted by several military and civilian organizations. A rendition of Taps was performed by the U.S. Pacific Fleet Band at the end of the ceremony.

One of the Sailors in attendance, Yeoman 2nd Class Sammell Humphries, assigned to Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC), commented on the speech by Gruters.

"His story is just amazing," said Humphries. "All

the stuff that he went through, the sacrifices that he made, all while maintaining the code of conduct. It's just amazing to hear what he did over 40 years ago."

JPAC and assisting agencies work to conduct global search, recovery and laboratory operations in support of the Department of Defense's accounting efforts.

Since World War II, there have been more than 83,343 unaccounted for service members, according to the Defense Prisoner of War and Missing Personnel Office.

Service members are still being identified decades after the conflicts they participated in have ended. One of the most recent service members to be accounted for is 2nd Lt. Vernal J. Bird, U.S. Army Air Forces, who went missing in March 1944. His remains were eventually identified Aug. 28 of this year.



# Pearl Harbor-Hickam*Highlights*



Rear Adm. Rick Williams, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, looks at a shell casing fired by Ray Emory (left), a Pearl Harbor survivor, from the Brooklyn-class light cruiser USS Honolulu (CL 48) during the Dec. 7, 1941 attack. The Pearl Harbor survivor luncheon, held Sept. 12 at the Silver Dolphin Bistro at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, honored the surviving and fallen service members from the infamous attack on Pearl Harbor.

U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Diana Quinlan



Navy Region Hawaii Chief of Staff Capt. Mark Manfredi shakes hands with Pearl Harbor survivor Everett Hyland, during a luncheon held Sept. 12 for Pearl Harbor survivors at the Silver Dolphin Bistro at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Diana Quinlan



A joint service color guard parades the colors Sept. 20 during a National POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremony at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl.)

U.S. Navy photo by MCSN Johans Chavarro



A C-17 Globemaster III flies past the prisoners of war/missing in action flag pole during a POW/MIA remembrance ceremony at Missing Man Formation, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, on Sept. 20. The C-17 Globemaster III is the newest, most flexible cargo aircraft to enter the airlift force.

U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Jerome S. Tayborn

15th Wing personnel, 25th Air Support Operations Squadron, and guests bow their heads in respect and listen to the invocation during a POW/MIA remembrance ceremony at Missing Man Formation, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Jerome S. Tayborn





# Hickam Elementary School ‘Strives HI’

Dave Tom

Navy Region Hawaii School  
Liaison Officer

Located at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam with historic Pearl Harbor as its “back yard,” Hickam Elementary School was one of 14 public schools in Hawaii recognized for its outstanding performance in education. The school is comprised of more than 99 percent military dependent students. It achieved a “Strive HI” performance system score of 384 out of a possible 400 points, the second highest out of 295 public schools statewide.

“Strive HI” is the state’s redesigned school accountability and performance system, measuring key success indicators and providing rewards to demonstrating the highest progress in raising student achievement, graduation rates, and closing the achievement gap for school year 2012-13.

At the “Strive HI” recognition ceremony held Sept. 10, Hawaii Gov. Neil Abercrombie, State Board of Education Chairman Don Horner, and Hawaii Department of Education School Superintendent Kathryn

Matayoshi presented a check for \$75,000 to Hickam Elementary as an award-winning school. “These exemplary educators, staff, students and their families share a belief and commitment to always ‘Strive HI,’” said Abercrombie. “I applaud their resilience and dedication to provide the very best opportunities to all children.”

Rich Shimabukuro, acting school principal, has been an administrator at this top tier school for four years. “While we always knew how well we were functioning as a total school community, it is truly gratifying to see the recognition now bestowed upon our outstanding families, professional and dedicated faculty and staff, and amazing students. If any school can, Hickam Elementary will,” Shimabukuro said.

Jessica Jones, student council president, shared her thoughts about the school.

“This is my second year at Hickam Elementary after previously attending school in Tennessee. I have learned a lot at this school. The gifted and talented program is awesome, and I love the after school activities offered,”

Jones said.

Sierra Williams, student council vice president, has also been at Hickam Elementary for two years and said she was elated to learn of this high level recognition.

“This is a very good school, and I am very proud of everything it does – especially the recent 9-11 commemoration parade. The students are nice, and the teachers do a great job teaching us what we need to learn,” Williams said.

Tamsen Velazquez, the mother of two students attending Hickam Elementary, weighed in.

“We arrived in Hawaii in 2012, and my children previously attended a DoDDS school. I was concerned about the quality of the schools before coming here. However, it’s great to know that our kids go to one of the finest schools in the state,” she said.

“This award will help the school improve on its solid programs and support new endeavors and is something every military parent will appreciate,” Velazquez added.

John Erickson, current acting complex area superintendent and the school’s principal until a month ago, noted that the award validates the high quality education the school is providing.



Photo courtesy of Hickam Elementary School

Rich Shimabukuro, acting principal at Hickam Elementary School, gives “high fives” to Jessica Jones (right foreground), student body president, and Sierra Williams (right back), student body vice president, in observance of the school’s outstanding accomplishments and achieving a “Strive HI” performance.

“I have always believed that our school was a top-tier school in the state, and for our school to recently be honored and recognized under the new ‘Strive HI’ system helps to confirm and validate that belief,” he said.

“To receive the top tier designation and be recognized as one of only a handful of schools to receive this high ‘recognition’ status is certainly something for all of us at

Hickam to be proud of. The award is truly a testament to the hard work that is put in each day on the Hickam campus by our outstanding students and a staff/faculty that is second to none.

“Our goal and mission from this day forward is to always maintain this high ranking and designation. By continuing to strive for excellence each day, we will make this happen,” Erickson said.

## Ceremony recognizes three new destroyers

MC2 Tim D. Godbee

Navy Public Affairs  
Support Element West

A naming ceremony was held Sept. 20 at Naval Base San Diego for the Arleigh-Burke class, guided-missile destroyers USS John Finn (DDG 113), USS Ralph Johnson (DDG 114) and USS Rafael Peralta (DDG 115).

Friends and families attended the ceremony, and Lt. Gen. John A Toolan Jr., Marine Expeditionary Force commanding general, gave the keynote address.

Toolan noted that the three men for which the ships are named were like

anchors within their units and set a high standard for heroism within the services.

“These three men are examples of the service, sacrifice, dedication and the heroism it took to be that anchor from World War II to Vietnam to Iraq,” said Toolan.

“We’re here today to name these destroyers in their honor. These destroyers will be able to conduct a variety of operations, from peace time presence and crisis management, to sea control and power projection,” Toolan said.

Lt. John Finn was the first Medal of Honor recipient of World War II. He

was honored for defending his ship from Japanese aircraft for over two hours during the attack on Pearl Harbor despite being shot twice and having numerous shrapnel wounds. He died at the age of 100 in 2010.

Georgeann McRaven, sponsor of the USS Ralph Johnson, said she is looking forward to working with and supporting the ship and it’s crew as it transforms from raw metal to a war-fighting vessel.

“I will become part of the ship. I’ll be kind of like a den mother to the crew,” said McRaven. “It will be wonderful when the ship has a crew and will be able

to go out to sea for the first time. I look forward to it.”

Pfc. Ralph Johnson was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor in March 1968 after jumping on a hand grenade that was thrown into his fighting hole. He took the action to save the life of a fellow Marine and to prevent the enemy from penetrating his patrol perimeter.

Sgt. Rafael Peralta was posthumously awarded the Navy Cross after taking critical gunshot wounds and later grabbing a live grenade and covering it with his body to save his fellow Marines during a firefight in Fallujah, Iraq, in November 2004.



U.S. Navy photo by MC1 James E. Foehl

The late John Finn, Medal of Honor recipient for his heroic actions at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

## USS Lake Erie commemorates 200th anniversary of Battle of Lake Erie

Ensign Natalie  
Schimelpfenig

USS Lake Erie (CG 70) commemorated the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Lake Erie during the War of 1812 at a recent ceremony.

The event concluded with a cake-cutting ceremony as the crew gathered around Capt. John S. Banigan, commanding officer, and Command Master Chief, Jack D. Johnson. Johnson, a native from the Lake Erie area, spoke about the importance of learning from our history and taking pride in our past and present successes.

“It was really interesting to hear the history behind our ship’s name,” said



The Battle of Lake Erie by Julian O. Davidson

Machinist’s Mate 2nd Class Steven Karger.

“The Navy was very different back then, but that same fighting spirit lives on today,” Karger said.

On Sept. 10, 1813, the United States battled for control over the vital region of Lake Erie, which became one of the most glorified naval battles during the War of 1812. USS Lake Erie celebrated its namesake with a ceremony presented by six USS Lake Erie chief selectees who shared their knowledge of the War of

1812 and the Battle of Lake Erie.

This battle, also known as the Battle of Put-in-Bay, was a resounding triumph for the recently formed United States Navy. The victory secured control of the bay, forcing the British to abandon Fort Malden and retreat up the Thames River. The naval captains aboard the nine American vessels fought valiantly, and their heroic actions contributed to the historic events that shaped our nation.



# USS Chosin arrives in Australia

Lt. j.g. Megan E. Miller

USS Chosin (CG 65) Public Affairs

Forward-deployed, Ticonderoga-class cruiser USS Chosin (CG 65) arrived in Newcastle, Australia for a port visit Sept. 25.

“It is an honor to be afforded the opportunity to represent the United States Navy in a contingent of over 20 international warships that will join the Royal Australian Navy in one of their most significant commemorative events in 100 years,” said Capt. Patrick Kelly, commanding officer of Chosin.

“I am especially excited for Chosin’s Sailors, as this will be, for many, a once in lifetime experience.”

While in Newcastle, Sailors will be preparing for the international fleet review to be held Oct. 3-11 in Sydney, Australia. The event will commemorate the 100th anniversary of the entry of the Royal Australian Navy’s fleet into Sydney.

As part of the event, Chosin will be participating in a number of multilateral-fleet-training exercises to be conducted along the coast of Australia. Additional festivities will include a combined navies parade, public ship tours and a pyrotechnic display and lightshow.

“I think this will be the highlight of deployment thus far, and I’m looking forward to the chance to learn about foreign navies,” said Fire Controlman 1st Class Kermit Wink. “I’m excited that we will get to interact with people from other cultures and act as ambassadors of our country.”

Chosin is currently operating in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of responsibility conducting exercises, port visits and operations to enhance maritime partnerships and promote peace and stability in the Indo-Asia-Pacific region.



Sailors from Patrol Squadron Four at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe help *keiki* at Aikahi Elementary School prepare garden beds for use in the garden-based part of the school’s curriculum.

## VP-4 Sailors help *keiki* at Aikahi Elementary

Lt. Colleen Conley

Patrol Squadron Four

Sailors from VP-4 partnered on Sept. 7 with Aikahi Elementary School and the Kokua Foundation to prepare the garden beds surrounding Aikahi for use in the school’s garden-based curriculum.

Each grade has adopted a specific theme for their garden. Projects range from the fifth graders’ scientific garden, to the kindergardeners’ butterfly garden. Other project

themes include a Hawaiian history garden, a vermiculture and bokashi composting garden, and a “little seeds, big plants” garden.

“This volunteer-run program incorporates science, health and nutrition education while teaching the children the importance of respecting the *aina*” said Robyn Nagli, the parent facilitator of Aikahi Parent Community Networking Center.

The Joint Venture Education Forum (JVEF),

founded in 1998 by the late Sen. Daniel K. Inouye with the partnership of former U.S. Pacific Commander commander, Adm. Dennis Blair, and former Hawaii superintendent of education, Paul LeMahieu, provides support for military dependent students in Hawaii’s public school system.

JVEF is responsible for fostering the partnership between VP-4 and Aikahi Elementary in their joint efforts in the pursuit of high quality education.

# Fire Prevention Week is Oct. 6-12

Federal Fire Department Hawaii

Fire Prevention Week is from Oct. 6-12. The Federal Fire Department will be at the following locations during Fire Prevention Week to promote this year’s “prevent kitchen fires” campaign.

- Oct. 7, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange.
- Oct. 8, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Schofield Barracks Base Exchange.
- Oct. 9, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Kaneohe Marine Corps Base Moku Mall.
- Oct. 10, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Hickam Base Exchange.
- Oct. 10, 4-7 p.m., National Night Out at Aliamanu Military Reservation Community Center , building 1788.

The Federal Fire Department will also host fire station tours at various military bases on Oahu. The station tours will be held daily from 9 to 11 a.m. Oct. 7-11 at the following locations:

- Fire Station 4, Ford Island.
- Fire Station 8, Marine Corps Base Hawaii Kaneohe.
- Fire Station 10, Helemano Military Reservation.
- Fire Station 14, Wheeler Army Airfield.
- Fire Station 15, Schofield Barracks.

For more information about the Federal Fire Department, contact Fire Inspector Angela Sanders at 471-3303, ext. 617 or [angela.sanders1@navy.mil](mailto:angela.sanders1@navy.mil). To learn more about “prevent kitchen fires,” visit NFPA website at [www.FPW.org](http://www.FPW.org).

## Suicide prevention

Continued from A-1

able to manage it is by recognizing the problem ... And just because this is a suicide prevention month does not mean we stop working on it and looking for symptoms. It means we should continue facing this challenge year round,” he said.

The main speaker at the event was Ishmael W. Stagner II, member of the Statewide Prevent Suicide Hawaii Taskforce (SPSHT), a state, public and private partnership which aims to reduce the incidents of suicide attempts in Hawaii.

Stagner has more than 50 years of experience in various levels of education,

holding multiple degrees and most recently was certified as a substance abuse prevention specialist in Hawaii.

He dedicates his time working with youth in correctional facilities, re-establishing their roots with the culture, and helping heal strained relationships with *ohana* as well as being a strong advocate in defending military veterans and reaching out to anyone in need of help.

Stagner’s son, who served in

the U.S. Air Force and who suffered a post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) following multiple deployments to warzones, committed suicide in 2008.

“[Suicide] numbers, especially in the military, are epidemic,” said Stagner.

“We have more military dying of suicide than in combat. My son was in combat, but he died when he returned home. Since my son died in 2008, I’ve made it my mission and my passion to go and

check on [military members].”

Stagner stated that Navy Sailors are especially vulnerable, compared to other services, due to long deployments on ships. He spoke of the importance of shipmates watching out for each other and being mindful of potential problems.

“Basically we have time bombs here. We want to be able to defuse them, or at least talk to them about what we can do to help, because this is going to be criti-

cal,” he said.

When we are dealing with human lives, there is no such thing as irrelevant human life. It does not matter if you are a seaman or a four-star admiral, the fact of the matter is that the problem is serious,” Stagner said.

He emphasized many times during the session that it only takes one person to say something nice, to extend a helping hand, to assist in solving a problem, or to simply show that they care.



# USS Lake Erie and PMRF participate in successful Aegis BMT test

## Missile Defense Agency

The Missile Defense Agency (MDA), U.S. Pacific Command and U.S. Navy Sailors aboard the USS Lake Erie (CG 70), homeported at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, successfully conducted a flight test Sept. 18 of the Aegis ballistic missile defense (BMD) system, resulting in the intercept of a complex separating short-range ballistic missile target over the Pacific Ocean by the Aegis BMD 4.0 weapon system and a Standard Missile-3 (SM-3) Block IB guided missile.

At approximately 2:30 p.m. Hawaii Standard Time (8:30 p.m. EDT), a complex separating short-range ballistic missile target was launched from the Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF) at Barking Sands, Kauai, Hawaii.

The target flew northwest toward a broad ocean area of the Pacific Ocean. Following target launch, Lake Erie detected and tracked the missile with its onboard AN/SPY-1 radar. The ship, equipped with the second-generation Aegis BMD weapon system, developed a fire control solution and launched two SM-3 Block IB guided missiles to engage the target.

The first SM-3 that was launched successfully intercepted the target warhead. This was the first salvo mission of two SM-3 Block IB guided missiles launched against a single separating target.

Program officials will

assess and evaluate system performance based upon telemetry and other data obtained during the test.

This test exercised the latest version of the second-generation Aegis BMD weapon system, capable of engaging longer range and more sophisticated ballistic missiles. This was an operationally realistic test, in which the target's launch time and bearing are not known in advance, and the target complex was the most difficult target engaged to date.

The event, designated Flight Test-Standard Missile-21 (FTM-21), was the fourth consecutive successful intercept test of the SM-3 Block IB guided missile with the Aegis BMD 4.0 weapon system.

FTM-21 is the 27th successful intercept in 33 flight test attempts for the Aegis BMD program since flight testing began in 2002. Across all ballistic missile defense system programs, this is the 63rd successful hit-to-kill intercept in 79 flight test attempts since 2001.

Aegis BMD is the naval component of the MDA's ballistic missile defense system. The Aegis BMD engagement capability defeats short-to intermediate-range, unitary and separating, midcourse-phase ballistic missile threats with the SM-3, as well as short-range ballistic missiles in the terminal phase with the Standard Missile-2 (SM-2) Block IV missile.

The MDA and the U.S. Navy cooperatively manage the Aegis BMD program.



## A Sailor's perspective – Flight Test Mission-21 ‘Stellar Ninja’

Ensign Natalie Schimelpfenig

USS Lake Erie (CG 70)  
Public Affairs

USS Lake Erie (CG 70) successfully completed Flight Test Mission-21 (FTM-21) on Sept. 18 with two space salvo, near-simultaneously fired Standard Missile-3 (SM-3) Block IB guided missiles against a highly sophisticated, multi-stage ballistic missile traveling deep in space.

FTM-21 has been credited for the highest level of technical achievement to date, one which affirms our nation's increased battle space and reach of our fleet. Working in conjunction with Commander, U.S. 3rd Fleet Operational Test and Evaluation Forces, Lake Erie tested the organic engagement performance of their Aegis ballistic missile defense (BMD) 4.0 weapon system.

This event was conducted as an operational test with Lake Erie Sailors trained to the scenario who maintained and operated the Aegis BMD combat system and SM-3 Block IB missile. As an operationally realistic test, the target's launch time and bearing were not known and the engagement was a success.

“It was amazing to be involved in such a complex mission, and I'm proud to be a part of the team that made it a success,” said Cryptologic Technician Technical 1st Class Harry Davis.

Nick Bucci, director of BMD development programs at Lockheed Martin Mission Systems & Training, noted, “This latest test is the first time we have seen Lake Erie Sailors use the Aegis BMD weapon system to schedule, analyze, launch and control multiple missiles in flight through intercept at the same time. This new Aegis BMD configuration provides the Navy with the ability to respond to ever increasing and evolving ballistic missile threats around the world with persistent and reliable capabilities.”

FTM-21 is the 27th successful intercept in 33 test missions for the Aegis BMD program since testing began in 2002. It marks the fourth consecutive successful intercept test of the SM-3 Block IB guided missile with Aegis BMD 4.0 Weapon System. FTM-21 holds the record for the furthest in space—and most accurate—SM-3 shot to date.

Lake Erie, with a crew of 351 Sailors, is commanded by Capt. John S. Banigan.





# Life & Leisure

B

## SAILORS BUILD HOUSING FOR FAMILIES IN NEED



### MCSN Rose Forest

Navy Public Affairs Support  
Element West, Det. Hawaii

U.S. Navy Sailors and civilian contractors from Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam worked with volunteers for Habitat for Humanity on Sept. 21 to help build six new homes for families in Waimanalo.

"Team Shipyard" volunteered time on their day off to

build homes for those who lack adequate housing. Sailors volunteering their time in their local communities has traditionally been a way to help connect military members and the civilian population.

Normally Habitat for Humanity projects involve building one home at a time, but enough land and materials were donated and six homes are being built at once. All six families have worked on each other's homes, strengthening the bond between them and

forming a tight-knit community.

"The Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard came together and donated \$2,000 to the Habitat for Humanity and we sponsored our own team-building day," said Electronics Technician 1st Class Allen Babcock. "Right now we have roughly 35-40 volunteers from the shipyard here volunteering their time."

Habitat for Humanity builds homes that are big enough to accommodate the size of the

family while helping them live within their means.

"We really wanted an opportunity to live within our means, raise our family, build our home and this will be the home we use for the rest of our lives and for future generations," said TJ Joseph, future homeowner.

Habitat for Humanity works to help people not only become homeowners, but home builders. Before construction starts on their home, they must first volunteer their time to build houses for other families and

then help in the construction of their own home.

"My husband and I feel like we are taking a step back to our grandparents who built the homes they lived in and embracing those values and traditions and bringing them into this day and era," Joseph said.

To date, this is the biggest project Habitat for Humanity Honolulu has undertaken, according to Genie Brown, executive director of Habitat for Humanity Honolulu.



(Above) Capt. Lawrence A. Scruggs, deputy commander, Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard & Intermediate Maintenance Facility, hammers in a nail during a volunteer event hosted by Habitat for Humanity. (Above right) Warren Dang, an engineer from the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, observes as retired Cmdr. Paul Macri hammers in a nail.



(Above) Electronics Technician 1st Class Allen Babcock, assigned to the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, cuts a piece of wood during a volunteer event hosted by Habitat for Humanity. (Right) Capt. Lawrence A. Scruggs, deputy commander, Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard & Intermediate Maintenance Facility, takes measurements.





# Bridal bazaar held at NMCRS thrift store

**Brandon Bosworth**

*Staff Writer*

The Navy Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) Pearl Harbor thrift shop held a bridal bazaar Sept. 25. The highlight of the bazaar was the 24 brand-new designer wedding gowns offered at discounted prices.

The gowns were donated to the thrift store while the store was undergoing renovations last year.

“We received a call asking if we wanted four boxes of new wedding dresses,” said Lorna Keaunui, the thrift store’s senior volunteer. “The donor was supposed to be opening a business, but it fell through and he brought them here.”

Keaunui realized that having two dozen new wedding gowns presented a unique opportunity. She contacted Rear Adm. Rick Williams, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, and Capt. Sal Aguilera, Navy Region Hawaii/ Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific chaplain, and soon the ground-



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Nardel Gervacio

Rear Adm. Rick Williams, commander, Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, along with a Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) volunteer cut a cake officially starting the bridal bazaar held at the NMCRS thrift store.

work was put down for the bridal bazaar.

“We hope this event brings more visibility to the thrift store,” Keaunui said. “It also gives patrons a chance to buy a new wedding dress for \$100 or \$150 instead of \$800 or \$1,500.”

Sales of the gowns were

available to E-6 and below.

“This is a way to help out some of our enlisted during these tough fiscal times,” Aguilera said. “One E-3 just bought a \$1,000 dress for \$100.”

Volunteers from Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific (MIDPAC) mod-

eled the dresses.

Also on hand were a variety of vendors offering goods and services including photography, jewelry and health supplements. A mobile DJ provided entertainment. Information Systems Technician 2nd Class Jennifer Miller, MIDPAC,

found all of the vendors through social media and helped with most of the logistics for the bridal bazaar.

By the time the bridal bazaar came to an end, seven of the 24 bridal gowns had been sold.

The remainder will be

boxed and put in storage. However, patrons will have a second chance to purchase one in winter of 2014.

“We’re going to repeat the bridal bazaar after the holidays,” said Paul Belanger, director of NMCRS Pearl Harbor. “We are going to do it all over again.”

## La Jolla scores 20 unanswered points to defeat Jacksonville

**Story and photo by Randy Dela Cruz**

*Sports Editor*

USS La Jolla (SSN 701) Thundercats scored three straight touchdowns to break a 6-6 tie and went on to defeat USS Jacksonville (SSN 699), 26-18, on Sept. 21 in an Afloat Division flag football game at Ward Field, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

The game was the season-opener for La Jolla, while Jacksonville has started off 2013 with back-to-back losses.

“This feels great,” said La Jolla quarterback Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Steve Reeves, who completed four passes for touchdowns. “We’ve been practicing twice a week. We go underway a lot, so when we get back, that’s all we do. We’ve jelled as a team from the first practice. We’re playing well.”

On the Thundercats’ first drive of the game, Reeves spread the ball around to four different receivers and completed five of seven passes in moving the chains 65 yards on eight plays for a touchdown.

The final toss traveled 12 yards and into the hands of Machinist’s Mate Fireman Andrew Stanger for six points and the lead.

Not to be outdone by Reeves, Jacksonville QB Machinist’s Mate 2nd Class Adam Zimmer marched his team back into the game on a seven-play drive to pay dirt that tied the score.



Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Steve Reeves goes up to intercept a pass, while Machinist’s Mate Fireman Andrew Stanger prepares to back up his teammate in an Afloat Division football game between USS La Jolla (SSN 701) Thundercats and USS Jacksonville (SSN 699).

Zimmer rushed for 10 yards to pick up a first down and then proceeded to complete four passes before hooking up with Machinist’s Mate 2nd Class (SS) Justin Cotler on a five-yard strike for six.

With the ball in his hands for the second time, Reeves was even more efficient in the team’s second drive from its own 15.

This time the Thundercats signal caller needed only four plays to move his team 65 yards to get the go-ahead touchdown.

During the drive, Reeves completed passes for 10, 35 and 12 yards before finding Machinist’s Mate 2nd Class William Famme in the end zone for the 12-6 advantage.

Although Zimmer appeared poised and set to retie the game, a big play by Stanger in the Thundercats secondary marked a huge swing in momentum.

After Zimmer quickly moved the offense into Thundercats territory on only two plays, Stanger stepped in front of Zimmer’s next pass and incepted it to give La Jolla the ball at their own 30.

Six plays later, Reeves completed a pass to Culinary Specialist Seaman Joshua McAlpine for 19 yards and a touchdown and an 18-6 lead going into halftime.

“That (interception by Stanger) was really important,” Reeves admitted. “Obviously, that was a game changer. It stopped their momentum. It knocked down their confi-

dence and gave us confidence.

After intermission, Jacksonville tried to get back into the game and staged a long drive that placed the ball at the La Jolla 19.

However, on first down and goal, Zimmer got picked off for the second time in the game when Reeves grabbed the pass and returned it to the 28.

The interception led to an eight-play-scoring drive that ended on a 10-yard completion for six from Reeves to McAlpine.

La Jolla went on to add a two-point conversion to take a commanding 26-6 advantage.

Zimmer did manage to follow up with two scoring passes to Electronics Technician 3rd Class Trevor McGilvrey, but time ran out before Jacksonville could try for a tie.

“I got away from doing the things that we talked about in the beginning,” Zimmer said about not keeping up with La Jolla. “We tried to make a comeback. We just needed another stop, but we didn’t have enough time to do it.”

Reeves, who had all day to look down field and make his throws, said that once Jacksonville went into a prevent defense he knew the game was in their hands.

“When they stopped rushing, they thought they could cover our guys with their extra guy, but that just allowed me to pick them apart,” he said. “If I chose to run, I could do that as well.”



# JEMS holds its 26th annual job fair at JBPHH

Story and photo by  
Brandon Bosworth

Staff Writer

The Joint Employment Management System (JEMS) held its 26th annual job fair Sept. 25 at Club Pearl, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Recruiters from many local businesses, mainland companies and government agencies were on hand, recruiting to fill job vacancies ranging from entry level to highly technical and professional positions.

Several hundred people showed up to see the offerings at this year's event.

"We're doing pretty well so far," said Susan Hodge, JEMS director. "We are on track to have about 900 job seekers."

While some of the com-



Job seekers attended the 26th Annual JEMS job fair held Sept. 25 at Club Pearl, Joint Base Pearl-Harbor Hickam.

panies already have connections with JEMS and post job openings on [www.jemsjobs.com](http://www.jemsjobs.com), others specifically seek them out when they have positions to fill.

"We have a good mix of companies here," Hodges said. "We have private companies as well as agencies who regularly attend, such as MWR and the NEX."

About 60 percent of those

attending the job fair are active duty military or retired. Most of those remaining are military spouses.

JEMS origins date back 26 years ago when local mil-

itary leaders realized service members and their family here in Hawaii needed assistance entering the job market. The initial goal was to help connect military spouses with local employers.

Today, JEMS is a family readiness initiative funded by Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam to help active duty, retirees and family members find employment.

JEMS acts an advocate for job seekers from the military community and serves as a central point of contact for businesses to reach these job seekers.

In addition to the annual job fair, JEMS provides services and assistance to jobseekers through their website, [www.jemsjobs.com](http://www.jemsjobs.com). Registering with the website allows individuals to search for jobs by job title, company name, geographical area, job category, work status, and add date. There is also a resume builder and skills checklist.

To learn more about JEMS, visit [www.jemsjobs.com](http://www.jemsjobs.com).

# 324th IS climbs back up to top of summer league

Story and photo by  
Randy Dela Cruz

Sports Editor

The 324th Intelligence Squadron (324 IS) scored two goals in the final five minutes to break a scoreless tie and defeat Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Futbol Club (PHNSY FC), 2-0, on Sept. 21 in a Summer Soccer League (SSL) game at Quick Field, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

The victory raised the 324 IS back into first place of the SSL after the team fell out of the top spot with a 1-0 loss at the hands of USS Cheyenne (SSN 773) two weeks ago.

Since losing their first game of the season, the 324 IS bounced back to beat then third-place 613th Air and Space Operation Center (613 AOC) and the PHNSY FC, which fell to second place after their defeat to the 324 IS.

With the playoffs scheduled for Sept. 28-29, the top-seed 324 IS will square off against the No. 8 seed USS Chafee (DDG 90) at 9 a.m., while the PHNSY FC will play USS Michael Murphy (DDG 112) at 11 a.m.

The championship game is scheduled for 1 p.m. on Sept. 29. All playoff games will be played at Quick Field.

"Right now, I don't think it matters if we're first, second or third," said Cryptologic Technician (Collection) 1st Class Matthew Kazkuskas, who booted



Staff Sgt. Todd Barney, 324th Intelligence Squadron (324 IS), tracks down the ball during his team's Summer Soccer League game against Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Futbol Club (PHNSY FC).

in the first goal of the game against PHNSY FC. "I think the big thing is the end of the tournament. You can go into the tournament in last place and take the whole thing."

After playing well against three of the top four teams in the league over the past three weeks, Kazkuskas said that the 324 IS just might be peaking at the right time.

Following a scoreless first half against the PHNSY FC, the game appeared headed for a 0-0 tie with only about five minutes remaining on the game clock.

However, just like they have done for the entire regular season, the 324 IS refused to give up and came up with a big shot when Kazkuskas tapped in a stray ball to break the tie.

"I was watching the play and

saw the header come through," Kazkuskas recalled. "I saw that I had a couple of seconds, so I composed myself, took a shot, it reflected off the keeper and went to the back of the net. It was definitely a lucky goal, but a goal is a goal and I'll take it."

Then with time running out, Fire Controlman 2nd Class Michael Farbridge-Currie put the icing on the cake by booting in a

straightaway shot for the team's second goal of the game.

"That was good because we were uncertain how much time was left," Kazkuskas said. "To have that cushion is always nice."

Defense (DoD) civilian Moussa Niang, team captain of PHNSY FC, said that although it was disappointing to fall into second place on the very last day of the regular season, he pointed out that the team was not at full strength going into the game against the 324 IS.

After stating he expects at least a 90 percent turnout for the playoffs, he guaranteed that things would turn out different if the teams meet again.

"I wasn't too impressed with their (324 IS) speed," Niang said. "I lost all my defense for this week, so I had to just deal with what we had. It was a tough loss, but I wasn't too impressed. We had a chance to win it. We'll keep our heads up and meet them again in the playoffs. This was a wake-up call."

While Niang sounded secure about his team's chances in the postseason, Kazkuskas was just as confident about his team's prospects of winning the whole thing.

"We got some new players the last couple of weeks, and we just play really well together," he said. "Everyone has played the game for a few years, we know what's going on. We're not out here just kicking the ball around, and we just mesh really well together."

# Balanced attack helps Bushmasters beat Task Force 141

Story and photo by  
Randy Dela Cruz

Sports Editor

Playing in his first game of the season, quarterback Capt. Christopher Curtis passed for three touchdowns, while teammate safety Airman 1st Class Nick Donley grabbed two interceptions to lead the 25th Air Support Operation Squadron (25 ASOS) Bushmasters to a 20-0 victory over Commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific (CNSG MIDPAC) Task Force 141. The contest was played Sept. 24 in a Red Division intramural flag football game at Ward Field, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Donley got his two picks in the first half with the second one leading to the Bushmasters first touchdown of the game with 15 seconds remaining before halftime.

The win evened the Bushmasters early-season record to 1-1, while Task Force 141 also finished up the game with a mark of 1-1.

"It's super important to get those first points in the game," said Curtis about taking a 6-0 advantage into halftime. "It built our confidence and I think after that score, we kind of relaxed and started doing our job a little bit better."

On the first couple of sets, Curtis struggled to find the

mark and was forced to give up the ball on downs inside of Task Force 141 territory.

However, after the second drive stalled on the Task Force 19-yard line, Donley recorded his second pick of the day to hand the ball back to Curtis for one final drive before intermission.

Armed with another chance, Curtis completed a long pass that put the ball on the Task Force 12.

Then, after two misfired passes, Curtis finally hit pay dirt when he found Staff Sgt. Seth Hunt all alone in the end zone for a touchdown and a 6-0 lead before halftime.

Down by six, Task Force took a chance on their opening drive in the second half and went for it on fourth and 17 to go for a first.

The gamble failed and Curtis, now warmed up, quickly took advantage of the short field.

Curtis needed only four plays before he found Senior Airman Graig Gabrielson for touchdown number two.

The Bushmasters then made good on their two-point-conversion attempt to take a 14-0 lead.

Another stop by the Bushmasters defense gave Curtis another short field at the team's own 30-yard line.

Again, the Bushmasters QB needed only four plays before hitting Hunt with the receiver's second touchdown of the game.



Staff Sgt. Seth Hunt keeps his eyes on the ball before hauling in a touchdown pass from quarterback Capt. Christopher Curtis to give the 25th Air Support Operation Squadron (25 ASOS) Bushmasters a 6-0 lead going into halftime.

"We changed our focus from medium-range to long-range throws to a short game and it seemed to work better for us," Curtis said.

"I missed the first week because I was recovering from a knee injury, so I kind of had to get into a rhythm. It just took awhile for me to adjust."

Curtis praised his defense for giving him the time to settle down and get things going on offense.

"The defense did a great job," he said. "The first week, we were blown out, so the defense went back to the drawing board and their preparation paid off."

Donley, who was a ball hawk from his safety position, said that after the team's first game, it was important for the defense to lock it down.

"We definitely need some work, but we had to step up," he acknowledged. "We were there to make plays."

After shutting out Task Force, Curtis said that he hopes this is the beginning of a long winning streak that takes the team into the playoffs.

The Bushmasters reached the semifinals last year and this season, Curtis said that the team wants more.

"I think we're going to continue to get better," he said. Last year, we just missed out on going to the championship game. Our goal is to get to the championship game and play to win."





Hickam Arts & Crafts Center strives to involve patrons in the world of art

Emily McNulty

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Morale, Welfare and Recreation

The Hickam Arts & Crafts Center offers more than 20 classes. The classes include pottery, painting, clay, cake decorating, Hawaiian quilting, after-school and home-school classes, wood shop and pick & paint. The center also hosts the spring and fall craft fairs each year with more than 100 vendors. The fairs are open to the public.

The Hickam Arts & Crafts center is now accepting entries for the Arts & Crafts Gallery Showcase. Artists in the military community are invited to submit their artwork, crafts and photography into one of two categories: artist-craftsman or photography.

Participants can enter a maximum of three entries per category. All submissions must be framed or wall ready to be displayed in the Hickam Arts &



MWR Marketing photo

An MWR patron picked this piece and painted it in the pick & paint studio at the Hickam Arts & Crafts Center.

Crafts Center Gallery.

On Oct. 16, the center will host a gallery opening reception from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. All submissions will be on display at the gallery from Oct. 16 to Jan. 16.

The fall craft fair will be held Nov. 9. Space is still available for vendors who make and sell handmade items. For more information on all the events and classes, visit [www.greatlifehawaii.com](http://www.greatlifehawaii.com) or call 448-9907.

Beginners can set sail at Rainbow Bay Marina

Helen Ko and Justin Hirai

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Morale, Welfare and Recreation

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Morale, Welfare and Recreation offers beginner sailing lessons at the base to patrons 10 years of age and older.

The classes are limited to eight students per session, which allows the instructor to have more one-on-one time with each student. The classes are taught at Rainbow Bay Marina on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

During the first part of the lesson, a certified instructor goes over terminology and sailing techniques in a classroom setting, prepping participants for their on-the-water lesson. The action begins on the dock as participants get their chance to apply what they learned in the classroom on the water.

Seamus Murphy, who has been teaching sailing



MWR Marketing photo

Seamus Murphy, sailing instructor, teaches young patrons how to sail at Rainbow Bay Marina.

for eight years, and Kevin Burns are instructors for the beginners' sailing class at Rainbow Bay Marina. The beginners' sailing class is designed as a way for kids to build camaraderie while learning the basics

and safety of sailing. The instructors take the students approximately 2.5 miles out from the marina.

"They learn personal leadership, confidence, life skills to use in other aspects in life. It's really

fun. Kids don't want the class to finish," Murphy said.

The next class is from Oct. 1 to 29 from noon to 2 p.m. or 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. For more information or to sign up, call 473-0279.

Your Weekly Fun with MWR

**Crud Tournament** will be held from 6 to 10 p.m. tonight at the Hickam Officers' Club (Koa Lounge). Crud is a team game played on a billiards table with players using their hands instead of pool cues. Patrons of all branches and skill levels are welcome. FMI: 448-4608.

**Chill & Grill and 9-Ball Tournament** will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. tonight at Brews & Cues in the Club Pearl Complex. Participants must be age 18 years and older. FMI: 473-1743.

**Chinatown Food & Historic** Tour will be held from 8:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Saturday departing from Information, Tickets and Travel (ITT)-Hickam Office. FMI: 448-2295.

**Junior Golf Clinic** will begin at 9 a.m. Saturday at Mamala Bay Golf Course. FMI:

449-2304 or 449-2305.

**Oi' Skool Night** will be held from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Saturday at JR Rockers Sports Café. DJ Doc J. and the Uptown Crew will spin the classic hits. FMI: 448-2271.

**Bowled Over by Books** is ongoing through Dec. 31 at the Hickam Library and Hickam Bowling Center. Youth in grades K-9 can sign up at the library to get their book-mark/stamp card. Every week that participants check out books, they get a stamp and a coupon for a free game of bowling at the Hickam Bowling Center. FMI: 449-8299 or 448-9959.

**Winter Bowling League Signup** is ongoing at the Hickam Bowling Center. Pau Hana League bowls on Mondays at 5:30 p.m. The

Visit [www.greatlifehawaii.com](http://www.greatlifehawaii.com) or subscribe to MWR's digital magazine Great Life Hawaii.



825 Invitational League bowls on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m., and PACAF Mixed is on Thursdays at 7 p.m. Ball and Chain League is on Fridays at 6:30 p.m., and Youth Bowling is on Saturdays at 9:30 a.m. Leagues will start in October and November. Participants can register now at the Hickam Bowling Center. FMI: 448-9959.

**Wood Shop Safety Class** will be held from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. every Saturday at the Hickam Arts & Crafts Center. The class is open to patrons ages 12 and older (ages 12-15 must be accompanied by an adult). This class emphasizes the proper and safe use of tools and equipment in the wood hobby shop. Participants should arrive 15 minutes prior to class to sign in. FMI: 448-9907.

**Water Aerobics Classes** will be held from 9

to 10 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at Scott Pool and 9 to 10 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at Hickam Pool 2. FMI: 473-0394 or 260-9736.

**P.T. Outrigger Canoe Paddling** will be held from 6:30 to 7:30 a.m. Tuesdays to Fridays, and from 11 a.m. to noon Wednesdays and Fridays at Rainbow Bay Marina. Active-duty command-sponsored groups can participate. FMI: 473-0279.

**Recreational Outrigger Canoe Paddling** will be held from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays to Fridays at Rainbow Bay Marina. The activity is open to patrons age 10 years and older. It is open to all military spouses and family members, retired military personnel and authorized Department of Defense cardholders. FMI: 473-0279.



Morale Welfare & Recreation

HICKAM HISTORICAL TOUR

Tours of the former Hickam Field will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Fridays throughout the month of October. Participants will see the original buildings, scarred with bullet holes from the Dec. 7, 1941 attack and learn about its history. FMI: 448-2295.

LIBRARY KNOW-HOW

A free educational tour will begin at 2 p.m. Oct. 5 at the Hickam Library. The staff will demonstrate how to find e-books, audio-books, music, online foreign language training, the Universal Class for online continuing education and the Dewey Decimal system. FMI: 449-8299.

LEARN TO STAND-UP PADDLEBOARD

Learn the basics of paddle boarding at 9:30 a.m. or 10:45 a.m. Oct. 5 at Outdoor Recreation-Hickam Harbor. Oct. 2 is the last day to register. FMI: 449-5215.

PRESCHOOL STORY TIME

Preschool story time will be held from 9 to 10 a.m. Oct. 9 at the Hickam Library. The theme will be “an elephant you’ll never forget.” FMI: 449-8299.

MONSTER MA’ ŌĒ

The Hickam Arts & Crafts Center will offer Halloween-themed papier mâché class for children ages 5 through 12 years old from 2:30 to 4 p.m. on Wednesdays from Oct. 9 to 30. Participants can learn to sculpt and craft spooky monsters or create cute and cuddly critters. FMI: 448-9907.

AFTER-SCHOOL SAILING CAMP

Hickam Harbor Marina will hold an after-school sailing camp from 3 to 5 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout the month of October. The camp offers introductory and intermediate sailing and is designed to help young sailors become more proficient. FMI: 449-5215.

HAWAII LANDSCAPE PAINTING

The Hickam Arts & Crafts Center is offering Hawaii landscape painting from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. on Thursdays throughout the month of October. Students can learn to create landscape and seascape scenes using traditional painting techniques with acrylics on canvas. The course includes application, composition, color mixing and techniques. Knowing how to draw or paint is not required. FMI: 448-9907.

Community Calendar

SEPTEMBER

28 —Volunteers are invited to participate in the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam National Public Lands Day Outreach event. The event will include a beach and picnic area cleanup at Nimitz Beach in Kalaeloa. Assignments will be given out at 7:30 a.m., and the cleanup will be from 8:15 to 9:30 a.m. FMI: patricia.colemon@navy.mil or call 473-0369.

28 — Smithsonian Magazine Museum Day Live will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor. The event will feature free admission to the museum, which is a Smithsonian affiliate. Free tickets are available at <http://www.smithsonianmag.com/museumday/>. FMI: [www.PacificAviationMuseum.org](http://www.PacificAviationMuseum.org).

OCTOBER

1 — The City & County of Honolulu will hold the monthly statewide outdoor warning siren test at 11:45 a.m. The Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam “Giant Voice” works in conjunction with Honolulu’s outdoor warning sirens and will sound a steady tone for 45 seconds.

2 — A Home Front Hero Celebration will be held from 3 to 4 p.m. at Military and Family Support Center Hickam lanai, 655 Vickers Ave. building 1105. Children of individual augmentee (IA) Sailors/deployed Airmen are invited to an afternoon of fun and celebration. Members who have deployed, are temporary duty 90 days or more per year, or on a remote tour can recognize the support and sacrifices of America’s young heroes. Single members can recognize the support of their nieces or nephews. FMI: 474-1999 or [www.greatlifehawaii.com](http://www.greatlifehawaii.com).

4 — The Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA) 60th anniversary event will be held from 5:30 to 10 p.m. at the Honolulu Elks Lodge 616, 2933 Kalakaua Ave., Honolulu. Attendance is free to an AFCEA member plus one guest. The cost for additional guests is \$35, the price of a one-year membership. FMI: <http://afcea-hawaii.org> or [jmuller@hp.com](mailto:jmuller@hp.com) or 356-6406.

10 — The contributions and presence of Hispanic and Latino Americans in the United States will be recognized at an event from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel. The event will include keynote speakers Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Command Master Chief Brian Ortega and retired Navy Capt. Steve Colon from Hunt Companies, Inc. FMI: Imelda Henry at 473-1810 or email [imelda.henry@navy.mil](mailto:imelda.henry@navy.mil).



PERCY JACKSON: SEA OF MONSTERS (PG)

Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters continues the young demigod’s epic journey to fulfill his destiny. To save their world, Percy and his friends must find the fabled and magical Golden Fleece. Embarking on a treacherous odyssey into the uncharted waters of the Sea of Monsters (known to humans as the Bermuda Triangle), they battle terrifying creatures, an army of zombies, and the ultimate Evil.

Movie Showtimes

SHARKEY THEATER

TODAY 9/20

7:00 PM Kick-Ass 2 (R)

SATURDAY 9/21

2:30 PM Planes (3D) (PG)

4:40 PM Mortal Instruments: City of Bones (PG 13)

7:30 PM We’re the Millers (R)

SUNDAY 9/22

2:30 PM Planes (PG)

5:00 PM Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (3D) (PG)

7:00 PM Elysium (R)

THURSDAY 9/23

7:00 PM Jobs (PG 13)

HICKAM MEMORIAL THEATER

TODAY 9/20

6:00 PM Kick-Ass 2 (R)

SATURDAY 9/21

4:00 PM Planes (PG)

7:00 PM Elysium (R)

SUNDAY 9/22

2:00 PM Planes (PG)

THURSDAY 9/23

7:00 PM Kick-Ass 2 (R)





# Some gave all, all gave some: 15th Wing Airman honors POW/MIA Day

Staff Sgt. Terri Paden

15th Wing Public Affairs

“Strong people are harder to kill, and more useful in general.” (Mark Rippetoe). While this quote may resonate with Airmen in the 96th Airlift Refueling Squadron (ARS), for one Eagle in particular it’s not only the motto by which he lives, it was also recently the inspiration behind what he calls his greatest physical challenge yet: a 100-mile remembrance run completed in 24 hours as a personal tribute to fallen service members and those held as prisoners of war or missing in action.

“The thought of that flag and what so many of our American heroes have pushed through made me want to challenge my personal limits,” said Capt. Michael Kerschbaum, 96 ARS pilot, about his decision to take on the challenge.

“When I think about how hard former POW retired Capt. Guy Gruters and others like him had to fight to survive every day for five years, I think how small of a challenge it actually is for me to try to just do my best to honor him and all the POW/MIA service members and those killed in action,” he said.

The idea, however, was not unheard of as Airmen from throughout the 15th Wing participate in a 24-hour run each year in honor of National POW/MIA Recognition Day. The twist came when Kerschbaum waved off the opportunity to do his part by running only one hour and pledged to run the entire 24.

He began his run at 6 a.m. on Sept. 19 and continued through the night until 6 a.m. Sept. 20, just before the start of the 15 Wing POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremony. Though falling a little short of his initial goal of 100 miles, he said he could not have been any prouder of the 65 he did complete



U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Jerome S. Tayborn  
Capt. Michael Kerschbaum (left), 96th Airlift Refueling Squadron KC-135 pilot, leads the pack during a 24-hour prisoners of war/missing in action run held Sept. 19 at Earhart Field, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

and the amount of effort he gave over the 24 hours.

“Looking back at the event, I am absolutely thrilled with what I accomplished,” said Kerschbaum. “Going in, I thought I would be able to run farther because I had run other long distance runs faster and easier. However, I had never run such long distances in weather that was even close to as hot and sunny as that day was, which really took a lot out of me. It felt like the hottest day of the year.”

At the end of the day, Kerschbaum said it all came down to personal sacrifice and knowing he gave it his all.

“I may not have set a world

record, but I exceeded my personal record for the farthest I have ever run and I am proud of that,” Kerschbaum explained.

In leading up to his big run, Kerschbaum said he prepared both physically and mentally for the challenge.

“I trained for this daily by using constantly varied, functional movements performed at high intensity,” he said. “I lifted heavy things, ran hard and fast, jumped, pressed, flipped, walked on my hands, and any other activities I could think of.”

Though he had previously completed six marathons, one 50K, one 100K and a number of

triathlons and CrossFit competitions, Kerschbaum said he knew this run would require extensive preparation because it was twice as long as any other competition he had completed before.

In addition to his physical preparations, he also began to mentally prepare for the task in front of him.

“My biggest act to prepare mentally was to make sure I would not be suffering alone in my challenge,” he said.

“My biggest supporters were my wife Mai and my 11-month-old son Tatsuki who were there almost the entire time. I then sought out the help of my fellow brothers and sis-

ters from the 96th to help take turns running with me, keep me going, tell me stories or just spread some positive energy. There is no way I would have gone as far as I did without each and every one of them. There are too many to name but I hope everyone I ran with knows how much I appreciate what they did,” Kerschbaum.

The members of the 96th who supported Kerschbaum and the remembrance run helped bring the total number of miles logged by the unit to 257.

As the hours wore past and his momentum continued to propel him forward, Kerschbaum said he kept his eye on the goal by continuously reminding himself of the sacrifices so many who served before him made.

“I had so many thoughts during those 24 hours,” he said. “I think my most prevalent thought was the service members who we [the wing] were honoring with the run.”

Reflecting back on the moment a few days later, Kerschbaum, who is still recovering from hip and knee pain after the run, said the experience reminds him of two important life lessons.

“The lessons to be learned from this experience are to keep pushing toward your goals, breaking down huge tasks into smaller manageable pieces if needed, and to make sure you’re the friend who doesn’t let your friends give up on their goals,” he said.

“Staff Sgt. Jerome Jefferson was never going to let me run alone and fail, not because that was the easiest thing for him, but because he knew how bad I wanted it. Your friends do not let you miss out on your goals. They challenge you when you make decisions that do not align with your goal,” he said.

(To read the complete article, visit the 15th Wing website [www.15wing.af.mil/](http://www.15wing.af.mil/).)

## myMC2 mobile app brings joint base information to your fingertips

Staff Sgt. Terri Paden

15th Wing Public Affairs Office

If you’re wondering what’s going on at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH), there’s an app for that: myMC2, a mobile application that centralizes community events, organizations and services, is now keeping track of the goings on at JBPHH and is available for free on Android or iPhone technology.

“The myMC2 app allows our joint base family, friends and co-workers to have instantaneous access to social and local events that affect our installation and its people,” said Master Sgt. Ray Tuggle, 15th Wing knowledge operations management (KOM) non-commissioned officer in charge and JBPHH myMC2 project officer. What’s better, he said, is



U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Ray Tuggle

Affairs Office with 15th Wing KOM support, it will take effort from every unit on base to make the app as useful as possible. Private organizations and units who want to get informa-

tion out to the base or advertise events need look no further than Facebook. The program is set up to link information from Facebook calendar event pages and requires no more than the usual page maintenance and updates to keep the information on the app current.

“This app should eliminate the need to have to check so many places. In reality, the app is a real time saver! It combines information that I would normally have had to visit a number of websites to access,” said 1st Lt. Jessica Colby, 15th Wing Public Affairs deputy.

For more information on how to set up a new unit Facebook page or to request your unit’s page be added to JBPHH’s myMC2 site, contact the 15 Wing Public Affairs Office at 449-1525.

(To read the complete article, visit the 15th Wing website [www.15wing.af.mil/](http://www.15wing.af.mil/).)



# MFSC announces upcoming classes to help Air Force, Navy personnel

The Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Military and Family Support Center (MFSC) offers a variety of free programs to help Air Force and Navy service members, their families and Department of Defense civilians to develop skills, improve relationships, and handle the military way of life.

The MFSC’s goal is to maintain healthy individuals, strengthen families, prevent individual and family dysfunction, and facilitate overall self-sufficiency and personal, family and community wellness.

The MFSC is a joint Air Force and Navy service center that supports the military’s operational readiness by providing a wide range of services and assistance to active duty service members, retirees and family members. This support positively impacts the quality of life for service members, retirees and their families.

Upcoming classes through MFSC include:

- Oct. 1, 10 a.m. to noon, Couples Class: Mastering the Art of Relationship Skills, at MFSC Pearl Harbor, 4827 Bougainville Drive. This relationship-enhancing class for couples will include information on communication skills, love languages, relationship stages and struggles, and understanding the differences in personality types.
- Oct. 2, 8 to 11 a.m., Pre-separation Briefing for U.S. Air Force only at MFSC Hickam, 655 Vickers Ave. building 1105. This mandatory counseling covers Veterans Administration benefits and entitlements, employment, education, medical, and community resources, among others.
- Oct. 3, 9 to 11 a.m., Acing the Interview, at MFSC Hickam. This workshop provides knowledge and skills training to help prepare you for an effective interview. It identifies various interview scenarios, different question types, how to prepare effective answers, what to bring, and how to dress for the interview.
- Oct. 3, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Single Parents Network, at MFSC Hickam. This group meets monthly for all Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam single parents. The purpose is to provide an opportunity to network, identify common concerns, share ideas, and learn new information and skills on various parenting and personal issues as a single parent. All military, Department of Defense civilians and contractors are invited to attend.
- Oct. 4, 9 a.m. to noon, Company Recruitment: FBI, at MFSC Hickam. FBI agency representatives will be available to talk about the many career choices available and to discuss qualification requirements and hiring procedures.

For more information, call 474-1999 or visit the website [www.greatlifehawaii.com](http://www.greatlifehawaii.com).

## Navy Ball celebrations are set for Oct. 12

**Lt. J.W. Rasnake**

*U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs*

The annual Navy officers and enlisted balls are set for Oct. 12 and will commemorate the Navy’s 238th birthday.

The U.S. Navy traces its origins to the Continental Navy, which the Continental Congress established on Oct. 13, 1775. In 1972, then Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Elmo Zumwalt authorized the recognition of Oct. 13 as the Navy’s birthday.

There are separate balls for officer and enlisted personnel.

The officer’s ball will be held at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom and be hosted by Adm. Cecil Haney, commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet. The guest speaker will be retired Navy Capt. Gerald Coffee, a former fighter pilot and survivor of seven years as a POW in North Vietnam. Music will be provided by the Pacific Fleet Band.

Officer’s ball ticket prices vary by type of meal ordered and method of payment. Ticket sales for the officer’s ball are available at <https://officers.ticketbud.com/hawaiinavyball>, or from the local command representative. Special package deals with the Hilton Hawaiian Village and childcare with the Child Development Center at Pearl Harbor are available.

The enlisted ball will be held at the Hickam Officers’ Club. Pacific Fleet Master Chief Marco Ramirez will be the guest speaker.

The goal of the enlisted ball is to facilitate and encourage the attendance of junior service members, their families and foster a sense of pride in the Navy community.

Ticket prices for the enlisted ball are \$45 for E1 to E4 (GS1 to 4), \$50 for E5 to E6 (GS5), and \$55 for E7 and above (GS6 and above). Tickets for the enlisted ball can be purchased until Oct. 1 or until they are sold out.

More information on the enlisted Navy ball and ticket sales are available online at <http://www.navyballhawaii.com/or> on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/PearlHarborNavyBall>.

## Making Strides Against Breast Cancer event to be held Oct. 12

**Brandon Bosworth**

*Staff Writer*

The 2013 Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk will take place from 7 to 11 a.m. Oct. 12 beginning at Richardson Field and proceeding to Ford Island, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. This event is part of the American Cancer Society’s nationwide series of walking events to raise funds and awareness to end breast cancer. Nationwide, more than 270 Making Strides walks occur each year, ranging in distance from 3 to 5 miles.

In 1984, cancer survivor Margery Gould Rath and a group of volunteers held the first Making Strides Against Cancer in Boston. The goal was to celebrate fellow cancer survivors by raising funds for the American Cancer Society. The first walk drew 200 participants and soon become a Boston tradition.

In 1993, the event officially became



U.S. Navy file photo by AG3 Vaughan Dill

Participants walk in last year’s Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk.

known as the American Cancer Society Making Strides Against Breast Cancer. Since then, more than 9 million cancer charity walkers across the country have raised more than \$528 million to help fight breast cancer through Making Strides events. In

2012 alone, walkers across the country collected \$68 million to help fight the disease.

For more information, visit the website [www.MakingStridesHonolulu.org](http://www.MakingStridesHonolulu.org) or email [honolulustrides@can-cer.org](mailto:honolulustrides@can-cer.org).