

INSIDE

## NCOs get direct commission

Four enlisted take new roles as officers

**SPC. DANIEL M. BEARL**  
Staff Writer

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Four noncommissioned officers stationed in Hawaii will soon be pinning on second lieutenant bars

as their military careers take a new turn.

The Soldiers were selected last month by a Medical Service Corps board for direct commissioning as health administration specialists. They were among 20 selected out of 235 applicants Army-wide, said Sgt. 1st Class Shaunnette D. Staten, a recruiter

for the program.

"Schofield fares well because of its deployments and its fast pace," Staten said of the selections.

Selected from Hawaii were Sgt. Randy S. Freeman, a Korean linguist with 409th Military Company, 732nd Military Intelligence Battalion; Sgt. Joyce M. Miller, noncommissioned officer in

charge of the Soldier and Family Member Assistance Center; Staff Sgt. Barbara L. Pennicooke, protocol NCOIC with the division protocol office; and Sgt. 1st Class Debbie A. Stevenson, NCOIC of Schofield Barracks Family Practice.

**SEE COMMISSION, A-7**

## Housing security a hot issue at Town Hall

Soldiers and families find their voice at quarterly meeting

Story and Photos by  
**JOY BOISSELLE**  
Staff Writer

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Town Hall meetings provide the latest community and unit deployment information to Soldiers and their families. While that is the primary goal of the gatherings, perhaps even more importantly, they provide an immediate feedback mechanism that attendees can use to get issues and concerns heard by the division leadership.

Issues do not fall on "deaf ears" at these meetings. The reasons are clear: Key leaders attend the Town Hall meetings, including the commanding general, the garrison commander and a host of subject matter experts from community agencies.

Leaders addressed resident questions about security concerns, procedures regarding deployment and housing, standards of conduct in family housing areas, and recycling services at the Town Hall meeting, Jan. 17, here at Sgt. Smith Theater.

"Information straight from the source bypassing rumors," Lt. Col. Steve Moniz, Oahu Base Support commander, said, "and, an opportunity for any resident or any member of the community to come and ask questions or to voice concerns directly to the command, those are the reasons to attend the Town Hall."

### Community Activities

Jack Wiers, marketing director for Morale, Welfare, and Recreation, highlighted upcoming February community events including upcoming Pro Bowl ticket opportunities and Army Community Theatre's debut of "Cats." A complete listing of ac-

**SEE TOWN HALL, A-5**



## New home construction keeps up pace

Solar panels, functional designs and every amenity — Schofield community has it all

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## Bad apples get the boot at courts-martial

Troublemakers still learn the hard way — if they do the crime, they will pay with time

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## NCOs take oath

556th PSB, in keeping with tradition, induct 19 Soldiers who pledge to lead with honor

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Spc. Juan Jimenez | 25th ID PAO

## The road to deployment

Tropic Lightning Soldiers of the 25th Infantry Division conduct an eight-mile road march winding through Training Area X and a majority of Schofield Barracks while steadily preparing for this summer's deployment to Iraq. Approaching are live-fire training and other exercises critical to success of the Division once it deploys. Soldiers must complete each task according to specific standards set forth by the Division.

## Web e-mail hotline connects to the CG

**25TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE**  
News Release

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — As part of commanding general's Open Door Policy, the 25th Infantry Division and U.S. Army, Hawaii, have established the "Contact CG Internet Web E-mail Access Program."

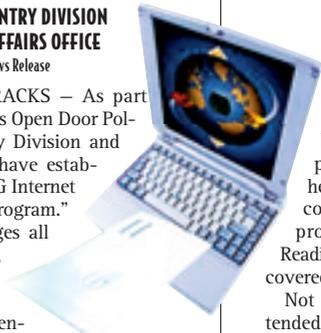
This link encourages all military personnel, their family members and civilian employees to make recommendations and suggestions, ask questions or register legitimate complaints.

The e-mail access provides a method of addressing issues to the commanding general, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Responsible commanders and designated staff will take appropriate action on each e-mail submitted; however, the commanding general will review all completed inquiries.

To provide input, log onto www.25idl.army.mil and then click on the e-mail link "CG's Open Door Policy Via E-Mail."

According to the policy, individuals are encouraged to refer matters to their chain of command, but the commanding general has extended to them the right to seek redress otherwise.

Commanders or activity chiefs will not take derogatory action against personnel using the e-mail hotline.



## Medical evaluations improve

Story and Photo by  
**SGT. CRISTA YAZZIE**  
U.S. Pacific Command Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Soldiers returning home from deployment will not have to worry about an end to medical benefits or care; the newly implemented post-deployment health reassessment (PDHRA) and comprehensive re-screening processes of the Reverse-Soldier Readiness Program (R-SRP) have them covered.

Not only are Soldiers medically attended upon arrival, now the Army offers the post-deployment health reassessment, a program that allows Reserve and National Guard Soldiers the same TRICARE benefits their active duty counterparts receive.

"After the first Gulf War experience, we had a five question checklist," said Col. David Ellis, commander of Medical Corps at the Health Clinic here. "Back then, you'd check the box and go home, but today the program is huge, so much more comprehensive. We've put the resources behind it, and we're actually producing a healthier force."

The program is offered to all service members who have returned from operational deployment, including all active duty, National Guard and Reserve members, as well as those who have separated or retired since their return from deployment. Although the initial



Capt. Carly Skarphol, public health nurse from Tripler Army Medical Center, reviews PPD (purified protein derivative) tests for Soldiers returning from deployment.

focus of the program is on those who fall within the three-to six-month time period, the program will be made available to all service members who have returned from deployment since Sept. 11, 2001.

"What the Army learned is that after Soldiers redeploy, some still have problems adjusting to home life," said Master Sgt. Okechuku Okike, the noncommissioned officer in charge of the Schofield Barracks SRP team. "That way, if Soldiers have mental or physical problems, we can identify and take care of these Soldiers."

Schofield Barracks was one of two pi-

lot sites for the PDHRA, the other Fort Hood, Texas. Schofield's team initiated the process Oct. 17, 2005, and serves as an example for the Office of the Surgeon General. Now, as of January 2006, PDHRA has been implemented throughout the Army.

The process begins with the initial reassessment or R-SRP, upon arrival on U.S. soil.

"We're not just targeting one area; the process is a comprehensive assessment of each Soldier's health after deployment," Ellis said. "You hear so much

**SEE MEDICAL, A-5**

## We want to hear from you...

The Hawaii Army Weekly welcomes articles from Army organizations, announcements from the general public about community events of interest to the military community, and letters and commentaries.

If you have newsworthy ideas or stories you'd like to write, coordinate with the managing editor at 655-4816, or e-mail editor@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

The editorial deadline for articles and announcements is the Friday prior to Friday publications. Prior coordination is mandatory.

Articles must be text or Word files with complete information, no abbreviations; accompanying photographs must be digital, high resolution, jpeg files with captions and bylines.

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# Schoomaker predicts bigger, busier Army

JENNIFER DOWNING  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The chief of staff of the Army said he expects to see developments with base realignment and closures, an increase in modular brigades and operational force strength, and 20,000 jobs converted from the military to civilian workforce this year.

Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker gave an overview of the direction the Army is headed for the next year at the annual Institute for Land Warfare Forum Breakfast in



Schoomaker

Arlington, Va., Jan. 12.

"This year is going to be the busiest year we've ever had," Schoomaker said about the Army as a whole, and elaborated that NATO is expected to take on more responsibility in Afghanistan in the coming year.

Schoomaker is confident that forming a more fully resourced

Army across the board will improve the Army's mission achievement. One piece of that puzzle is converting jobs at Army installations in the United States to the civilian workforce. Converting those jobs, he said, would enable Soldiers to fill operational spaces overseas.

"The war on terror is about ideas and changing things that are fundamental," Schoomaker said.

BRAC will also prove to make headlines this year, he said, as officials work with the installations set for realignment or

closure and determine the best way to execute the congressional mandate.

While hard issues drive how the Army will evolve in 2006, Schoomaker said the Soldiers he met have made an impact on the evolution of the war on terrorism.

His recent trip to Landstuhl, Germany, confirmed the notion that troops want to continue the fight. Schoomaker spoke with Soldiers who have been wounded in battle but are anxious to get back in theater.

He also discussed humanitarian efforts in Pakistan and how the Army is shaping the world and changing perceptions. He pointed to a toy that has become a favorite of the Pakistani children — a little, plastic Army Chinook — which was "of course made in China," he said.

Schoomaker said he is confident the Army will be able to step up and deliver in the coming year.

"We are moving up the mountain and over the hump," he said.



CNP | Getty Images

American civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. (1929-1968) addresses a crowd at the "March On Washington D.C." rally August 28, 1963.

## A look to the left or right shows King's vast legacy

SGT. TYRONE C. MARSHALL JR.  
Assistant Editor

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. His name speaks volumes. His legacy transcends cultures.

His life brought strength and passion to the Civil Rights Movement. His death brought about an even deeper legacy, forever immortalizing him in African-American culture.

King became a legendary figure by applying peaceful methods of resolution to the segregation and oppression of his people. From the "I Have a Dream" speech to the Biblical echoing of turning the other cheek, he grew to American hero status.

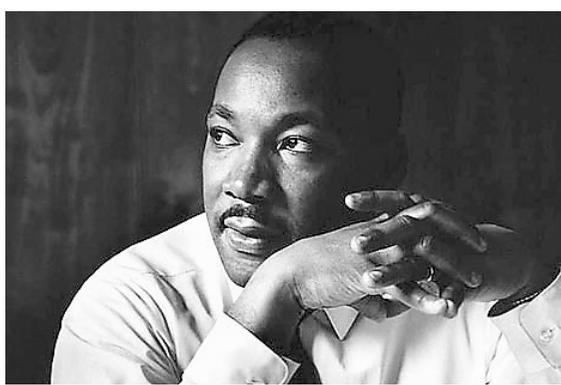
King has rightfully taken his place amongst our most significant and influential leaders. We proudly acknowledge him as the linchpin in the civil rights movement.

From his humble beginnings in Atlanta to his spreading of the gospel in Montgomery to his death in Memphis, King stood for the highest principles of freedom and equality every man, woman and child should have been afforded.

When his name is mentioned, thoughts immediately shift to a man with steadfast principles and the heart and courage to peacefully battle a barbaric and archaic way of life.

He braved a corrupt system that violently, and often publicly, crushed its opposition. Defying this "system" sometimes led to beatings, humiliations, imprisonment and even death.

King's determination should impassion us all to seek equality



Courtesy Photo

Nobel Prize winner and civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. reflects on the journey that has brought a close to the unethical and diminutive treatment of African-American people while using peaceful methods to bring a resolution to this mistreatment.

in all aspects of life and displace discrimination. He ultimately taught us that racial, gender-based, and even social-based discrimination, is born from the same evil depravity — ignorance.

In King's famous and powerful "I Have a Dream" speech, he managed to capture the essence of African-Americans — spirituality, an eternal hope that burns as long and bright as the Olympic torch, and a keen sense of righteousness.

His speech begins with a melancholy observation of the lack of progress for the rights of "citizens of color." Delivered that Aug. 28, 1963, in Washington, D.C., this moving speech is often minimized to the "I Have a Dream" excerpt, but if anyone takes the time to read or listen to the entire piece, it is very possible to legitimately feel King's drive ...

pushing America to unite. Even as he defied the collective evil of racism and hate, he urged all to avoid physical violence.

To view Dr. King's legacy, Soldiers and civilians need look no further than to their left or right. Today, the military service is a melting pot of races and ethnicities that surely would bring tears of joy to King's 77-year-old eyes, if he were here today.

Not only has America literally carried forward King's dream, but we also seek to bring his dream to others living in endless despair, trapped in the shadows of hatred and oppression.

Our civil progress has improved by leaps and bounds, but as with everything human, our efforts will always be a work in progress.

To Dr. King's credit, his legacy lives on because we are all still dreaming.

## LIGHTNING SPIRIT

### Fires of peace are aflame

CHAPLAIN (MAJ.) GLENN SCHEIB  
510th Signal Brigade Chaplain

"These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." John 16:33

It is said that during the dark winter of 1864 at Petersburg, Va., something awesome happened. The Civil War was now three and a half years old and the initial glory of the cause had evolved into the drudgery of trench warfare.

Late one evening, news spread on the Confederate side that Maj. Gen. George Pickett's wife had given birth to a baby boy. To celebrate that birth, Confederate Soldiers built huge bonfires along their line. Gen. Grant became nervous and sent out a patrol to find out what the fires meant.

His scouts soon returned with the message that Gen. Pickett had a new son and these were celebratory fires. Because Grant and Pickett had studied together at West Point and knew each other well, Grant ordered bonfires to be built on the Union side, too.

On that cold, dark night, bonfires burned on both sides of the trenches for miles. No shots were fired, and there was no yelling across enemy lines — only celebration over the birth of a child. When the fires burned down, the war continued.

As military members and families, we are living in strange times. We focus on two wars and stand watch around the

world protecting our nation.

While we fight and prepare to fight, so many of our citizens focus on partying and personal wealth. Some publicly accuse us of misconduct toward local populations. Others say our efforts are hopeless and that we should pull out immediately. This protest encourages the insurgents; they fight harder and more Americans and Iraqis die. Yet, we service members salute the flag and drive on.

Some Americans call us blind robots, but we are not. We have met and served with our Iraqi and Afghan brothers and sisters in arms. In terms of lives lost in the cause, we know that they are paying a much higher price than we are ... yet they fight on. We stand with them to promote their freedom and our own.

My heart goes out to those American and Coalition families who have lost loved ones and to those who are recovering from life-changing injuries. Their pain and grief is horrific. We honor them by continuing the just cause for which they served.

The fires of celebration that once burned at Petersburg signified brotherhood. Today those fires would symbolize our brotherhood with the Iraqi and Afghan Armies and with their people who hunger for freedom. We focus not on the darkness and danger, but on the light of brotherhood and hope for a better world — for ourselves and our children. Ultimately, we put our faith in the one who has overcome the world.



As of 1/25/06

## 67 DAYS since last fatal accident

As your daily reminder to be safe, place a "red dot" on your wristwatch. Remember, a division training holiday will be awarded for the first 100 consecutive days with no accidental fatalities. A four day holiday/long weekend will be awarded for 200 consecutive days with no accidental fatalities.

**Remember, Be Safe Tropic Lightning!**

**You Drink. You Drive. You Lose.**

Alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes kill someone every 31 minutes and nonfatally injure someone every two minutes.

— National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

## Voices of Lightning: What do you like most about your job?



"It's fulfilling when you do something not all that glamorous."

Cpl. Carlos Alvarado  
Co.C, 2-229th BCT  
Infantryman



"...The people I work with."

Pfc. Karl Schell  
Co. C, 127th 2nd BCT  
Armor Crewman



"I like relating with people."

Sgt. Lezthair Estrada  
HHC Aviation  
Supply NCO



"It keeps me in shape."

Pvt. Stephen Butts  
Replacement Co.  
Infantryman



"...The fact that I get to help people."

Staff Sgt. Teresa Dennington  
OSBS Medical Unit  
Platoon Sergeant

# Wolfhounds begin Yudh Abhyas in the Himalayas

Story and Photo by  
**SPC. MIKE ALBERTS**  
3rd Brigade Public Affairs

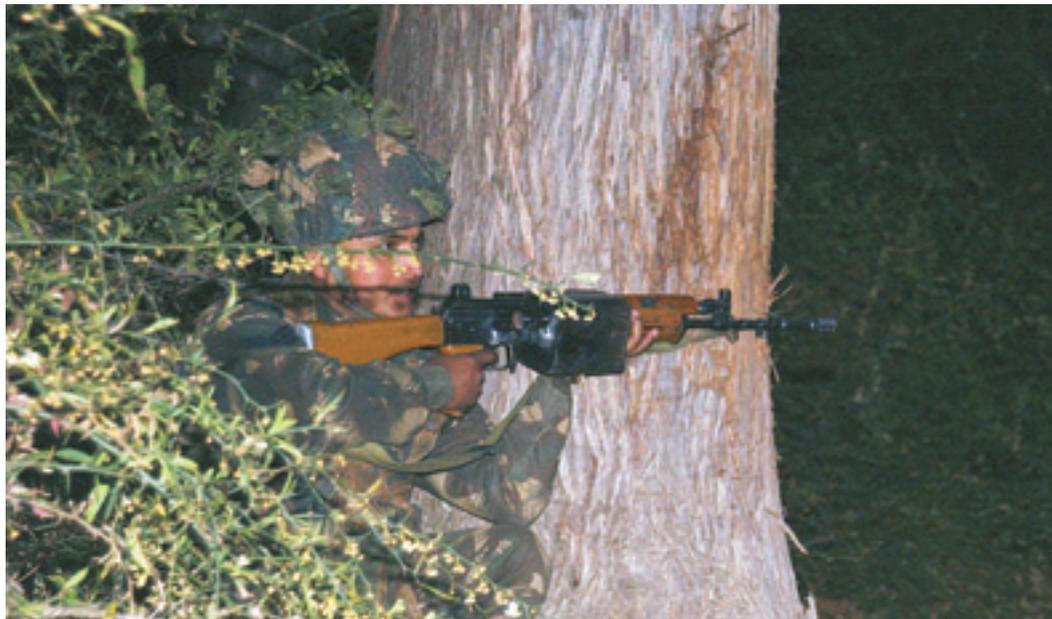
CHAUBATTIA, India – The town here, at the base of the Himalayas and 7,000 feet above sea level, is nestled within a nationally protected forest. As well, Chaubattia is home to more than 300 species of birds.

Leopards, wild boar, monkeys and deer abound. For 13 days, Chaubattia will also be home to Charlie Company and attached elements of 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division.

January 15, 2-27th Soldiers arrived here for Yudh Abhyas 06-01: two weeks of joint, cooperative training exercises with the Indian Army's Bravo Company, 9th Battalion, Kumaon Regiment. Upon arrival, Soldiers participated in a series of welcome and training briefings and took advantage of refreshments after almost eight hours of mountainous bus travel from Bareilly City.

"It is a great privilege to address fellow infantryman belonging to a friendly foreign country," said Brig. Gen. Ilangoran, commanding general, Kumaon Regiment. "We are bonded together by the fight against terrorism. Terrorism is an evil. We must defeat it," he continued. "I can promise you that wherever you are deployed, you will fight that fight better [because of this training] and will come out victorious."

Yudh Abhyas consists of 10 training days divided into two phases. Phase One



An Indian Soldier provides simulated cover fire during Phase One range training.

includes physical conditioning, an exchange of weapons systems and equipment information, and basic live-fire shooting exercises, explained Col R.K. Mahna, training officer and battalion commander, 9th Battalion, Kumaon Regiment. Phase two will emphasize jungle lane and road shooting training, and will

culminate with a "company operating base," Mahna added.

During the culminating event, Soldiers will occupy and protect a forward operating base, conduct night patrols and set up security checkpoints.

"I want to make one thing perfectly clear," said Mahna. "We are training with

you. As far as I am concerned infantry soldiers do not have a language, only moments of infantry activities and infantry action. The goal is to learn from each other," he emphasized.

Throughout the exercises, U.S. and Indian Soldiers will be integrated, said Capt. Robert Atienza, commander, 2-27th. "Sol-

## RELATED STORY

• 3rd Brigade Soldiers mix with Indians in the sports of their choice. B-4

diers from both armies will train together in three groups, each group organized by platoon. For instance, our Charlie Company, 1st Platoon, is aligned with their Bravo Company, 4th Platoon; our 2nd with their 5th; and our 3rd with their 6th."

"Phase One is termed interoperability training," said Atienza. "By understanding each others' capabilities, we can then move onto larger things like how we fight and tactics. Without understanding our capabilities first, however, we cannot do the rest."

Although exchanging information is important, Atienza further explained that the primary benefit of training is operational and cultural interaction.

"Everyone can shoot, and everyone can conduct squad live fires," said Atienza, "but, the ability to interact with foreign forces is truly valuable, particularly as we prepare for deployment to Iraq."

"The interaction with the Indian soldiers is really good for our younger Soldiers," said Staff Sgt. G.W. Fries of 2-27th. "Once we deploy to Iraq, the missions will probably involve interacting with local forces. This training will teach those young Soldiers [that have not deployed] the importance of having patience with different cultures."

# Commission: Many different paths carry NCOs to Officer Basic Course

CONTINUED FROM A 1

These Soldiers will pin on their new rank shortly before going to Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas, to attend an Officer Basic Course (OBC) in March. Once training is complete, they will report to their first duty stations as commissioned officers.

"I pin on three days prior to OBC," Freeman said. "If I was to take it any sooner than that, I would be cut from active duty and I'd be in reserve status."

The direct commissioning selection process formally began in October 2005 when the Medical Service Corps board started looking at the Soldiers' application packets, Staten said. For the Soldiers, however, that was not the beginning of the journey. Pennicooke first submitted her packet in 2003, but it was dropped because at the time there was no mission for health administration specialists, she said. She re-



Stevenson



Miller



Pennicooke

submitted her packet in 2004 and was accepted by the board in 2005.

Others had less time to prepare. Freeman contacted her recruiter in August. Recalling the conversation, she said, "...[The recruiter] said, 'By the way, the deadline is in a month, so if this is something you want to do, let's jump through hoops.' ...That's what we did."

The Medical Service Corps board looks at many factors when considering prospective officers' packets. The applicants must have a

bachelor's or master's degree, five letters of recommendation and outstanding work experience, Staten said. Applicants must also fill out numerous forms and submit to a medical physical examination, she added.

For some, even the decision to apply wasn't easy.

"I truly do love the NCO corps," Stevenson said. "I love what I do. It was a difficult decision."

For others, the opportunity was a dream come true.

"I always wanted to go officer, but as far as I was concerned, I was over the age limit," Pennicooke explained. "I was the only transporter who made it out of Schofield Barracks. The rest of them were

somehow medical corps related. That's what surprised me – I was the only truck driver picked up," said Pennicooke whose military occupational specialty is 88M.

One uncertainty that the selected Soldiers face is where they will be stationed after they complete Officer Basic Course. None have received their assignments yet, but some have hopes for where they will wind up.

"My first choice is to stay with Tropic Lightning and deploy with one of their units," Freeman said, noting that his wife had recently found a job on the island.

The Soldiers also look forward to where their commissioning will take them and their careers.

"I am hoping to continue to influence Soldiers," Stevenson said, "because that's what leadership is about. People forget that."

"I'm looking forward to a long career with the Army," Freeman said. "I definitely plan on retiring from this field. My goal is to

at least make lieutenant colonel before I retire."

Pennicooke piped in, "I'm super excited about having a different career ... I got selected for something I can excel in, something that I've always wanted to do."

"I would encourage Soldiers to take advantage of the opportunities that the Army has," Miller said. "Like for me, they're talking about sending me back into my master's degree, so I can become a social work officer. So, there's many work opportunities out there."

In just a few months, these four NCOs will embark on a new leg of their Army careers, aspiring to new heights of influence and authority. However, they won't be turning their backs on their time as enlisted Soldiers.

"I will always be a noncommissioned officer at heart," Stevenson said. "I'm just adopting another corps."

# New home construction booms on Schofield

**ANN WHARTON**

Army Hawaii Family Housing

**SCHOFIELD BARRACKS** — Construction of new communities at Schofield is underway. Hundreds of homes have been demolished and old golf cart paths have been cleared.

Demolition has generated more than 55,000 tons of concrete and asphalt and 14 tons of metal, which was all recycled back into the project for back fill, new roads and more.

Foundations for new homes have been laid and the infrastructure for plumbing, electrical and other utilities is being put into place.

Roofs are going up and walls are soon to follow.

Actus Lend Lease, Army Hawaii Family Housing, and local Army officials



Mark Brown | Army Housing Family Hawaii

Above — The most common of several junior non-commissioned officer duplex home designs. All new homes will have a minimum of three bedrooms.

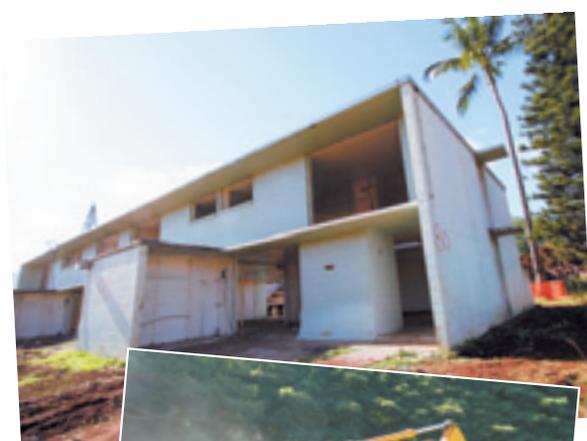
worked closely with military families to determine what home-design features and amenities were most important to families.

Several models have been designed. One big selling point, all new homes will have a minimum of three bedrooms.

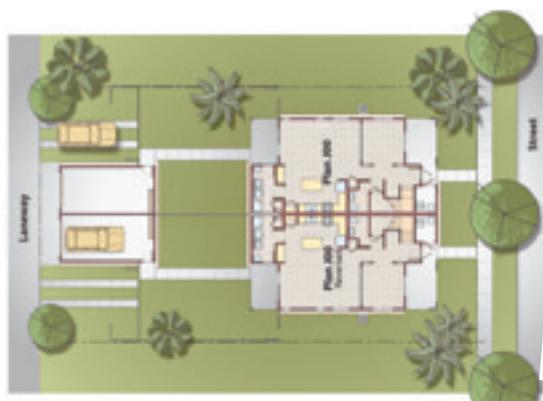
The new homes will feature large, private fenced yards and a detached one-car garage, along with welcoming front lanais that offer a place for families and neighbors to gather.

Homes will also have a spacious, modern kitchen with new appliances, including dishwashers, microwave ovens and garbage disposals. In addition, they will have a modern, open plan living area with integrated kitchen, family and dining areas.

These new homes will feature a master bedroom, with a walk-in closet and a private bathroom with dual vanity sinks.



Above — The old Porter community being demolished. When completed, Phase I of the project will add 144 new units. The first new units of the Porter community will become available in the fall of this year and be completed by 2007. Phase I of the Kalakaua community will provide 40 new units that will be available in May of 2006. Over 92 percent of all materials will be recycled back into the new communities.



Duplex units for the Kalakaua and Porter communities will combine numerous functional components to improve the quality of life for its residents. Homes will feature "rear-loading" carports, where garbage and recyclables will also be collected. This will minimize the visibility of cars in the front of the home and provide a more open space for pedestrian traffic along the tree-lined street. In addition, both communities will have jogging and bike paths, centralized community centers as hubs, schools parks and shopping — all within walking distance.



Above — The walls and supporting structures of homes in the Kalakaua community being constructed.

Right — A worker adds a sheet of plywood to the roof of a duplex unit.

Below — A series of homes in the latter stages of construction.



Each new unit will have solar technology called photovoltaic (PV) panels on the carport roof. When the project is completed in 10 years, it will be the largest solar-powered residential community in the world.

## News Briefs

**Recruiting** — A Recruiting Team from Headquarters, U.S. Army Recruiting Command, Ft Knox, Kentucky, will hold the following briefings:

- Qualifications and procedures for becoming U.S. Army Warrant Officers: Jan. 30, 31, and Feb. 3 at 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Interested Soldiers will need to attend only one briefing.

- Opportunities and Benefits of becoming a Recruiter: Feb. 14 at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Attendance by all E-4's through E-7 is high-

ly encouraged. This briefing does not obligate you for recruiting duty; a personal interview following the briefing will determine qualifications.

All briefings will be held at the Schofield Barracks Post Conference Room, Small Conference Room on Trimble Road. For information regarding the briefings contact MSG Drummond at Division Retention (808) 2655-8780/8781. Additional information can be found at web site [www.usarec.army.mil/hq/recruiter](http://www.usarec.army.mil/hq/recruiter) or by contacting MSG Mills at (502) 626-0465 DSN: 536-0465.

**Black History** — Wednesday, Feb. 15, from 10:30-11:30 a.m. There will be an African-American Black History Month Observance at the SGT Smith Theater on Schofield Barracks. The guest speaker will be Chaplain (Col.) Boney and the Hawaii Army band will be on hand. Contact Sgt. 1st Class Young at 655-0092 or Sgt. 1st Class Williams at 655-5349 for more information.

**OCS Selection Board** — The next Officer Candidate School Selection Board is scheduled to convene the week of Feb. 13. Soldiers who wish to be considered

must submit their applications no later than Jan. 30. For more information, call Quenita Samuel at 655-4511.

**Memorial Bricks** — The 25th Infantry Division Association is offering supporters the opportunity to become a permanent part of the Schofield Memorial Monument. Engraved brick pavers are available in 4x8 inches containing up to three lines of type for \$100 or 8x8 inches containing up to six lines of type for \$250.

Orders received prior to Jan. 31 will be sold at a reduced price of \$75 for the 4x8 brick and \$225

for the 8x8 brick. Orders received after Jan. 31 but before May 31 will be sold at regular prices and will be installed in time for rededication in September 2006. For more information, visit [www.25thida.com](http://www.25thida.com) to download an order form.

**Tax Center** — The Schofield Barracks (655-5144) location will be open Mondays through Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Thursdays, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Fridays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Fort Shafter (438-2829) will be open Mondays through Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Individuals should bring wage and tax statements (W-2s), documents for deductions, 2005 federal and state returns, bank routing and account numbers for direct deposit (from voided checks) and Social Security cards.

**Beach Worship Service** — In order to kick off a change in worship time from 11 a.m. to 10 a.m., Helemano Community Chapel's will hold a "Chapel at the Beach" service. The service will occur at Haleiwa Ali'i Beach Park, on Feb. 5 at 10 a.m. Following the wor-

**SEE NEWS BRIEFS, A-8**



Residents voiced concerns about adequate housing security, specifically at the unmanned gate at Mendonca Park (pictured) during the Jan. 17 Town Hall meeting at Sgt. Smith Theater.

# Town Hall: Leaders address security issues

CONTINUED FROM A1

activities is available in the monthly Discovery magazine or online at [www.mwrarmyhawaii.com](http://www.mwrarmyhawaii.com).

## AHFH Construction Update

Construction of new housing continues in the Kalakaua and Porter neighborhoods. Soldiers and their families should occupy the first new homes beginning in July.

## TRICARE

Karl Kiyokawa, a TRICARE representative, provided an overview of TRICARE services and facilities. Detailed information is available at 1-888-TRIWEST or online at [www.triwest.com](http://www.triwest.com).

## Army Community Service

Pre-deployment training for rear detachment, family readiness



This is one of many unmanned guard posts concerning residents.

groups, and Soldiers and families were the focus of ACS briefer Robin Sherrod. She highlighted upcoming pre-deployment expos, which are one-stop shops

## The next Schofield Barracks Town Hall meetings April 6 at the Sgt. Smith Theater.

for deployment information; Military OneSource, a 24/7 information resource for Soldiers and families; and the Hawaii Army Family Action Plan (HAFAP).

HAFAP, a two-day quality of life conference on March 8 and 9, is an individual's opportunity to make a difference in his or her community. Military sponsors and families should submit issues to [HAFAP@schofield.army.mil](mailto:HAFAP@schofield.army.mil) by Feb. 28. For more information, call 655-4ACS (655-4227).

## Schools and Deployment

Patricia Park, complex superintendent for schools in the Schofield Barracks area, pledged support of military children

during the upcoming deployment. She explained parent involvement opportunities in schools, including parent teacher organizations and school councils.

Additionally, Park discussed the military's efforts to educate teachers and staff on deployment issues facing children.

## Installation Access Pass Program

Brenda Vandergrift, MWR representative, explained procedures for obtaining an installation access pass for visiting family members and caregivers, particularly with regard to upcoming deployments. Additionally, she explained the "Blue Star" card, a special benefits card provided to spouses and caregivers, of all deployed Soldiers.

Free child care and discounts at installation facilities are offered to card holders.

# Medical: programs extended for Soldiers

CONTINUED FROM A1

about post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), that's important, but some other examples of issues that are important are exposure to smoke, fuels and sleeping habits."

"Not all mental or physical potential issues will show up within the first week of returning," said Dr. Richard Barr, who has divided his time as the SRP coordinator, supervisor and family practitioner at Schofield Barracks since March 2004. "We do our best to catch everything we can and then tell them [Soldiers] they'll have an additional 180 days. It takes some of the pressure away."

Three months later, the Soldiers return for a follow up.

"If you look at the statistics, on the Reserve side, more issues came up," Barr explained. "Often it's because they're worried about leaving and their medical care stopping. You can't catch everything at the return."

But no longer is the need to recognize issues as urgent, Barr emphasized. When reservists separate, they still have several months of TRICARE insurance, along with many other services.

One major benefit Barr mentioned is that PTSD symptoms that might be smoldering surface.

"The attitude is, the sooner diffused, the better," he continued. "We get the service member to discuss potential PTSD issues earlier. The longer it builds up, the

## On The Web

Get more details about PDHRA and medical redeployment at [www.pdhealth.mil/dcs/pdhra.asp](http://www.pdhealth.mil/dcs/pdhra.asp).

more issues can be brought up."

At Schofield Barracks, the teams working to provide this service include personnel from the Schofield Clinic, Tripler Army Medical Center and civilian contractors. Some of those assisting include combat medics trained in behavioral health, who conduct an initial interface.

According to Ellis, a Soldier tends to be more comfortable with the medic trained in behavioral health versus a health care provider. During the interface, individuals are asked whether other things have developed, such as a cough, a new skin rash, any medical problem ... and during this interview, it is determined who might need to see someone."

"That's day one," Ellis explained. "Two days later, day two, they meet with a primary care provider. There are so many people involved, on every level," Ellis said. "Enlisted NCOs [noncommissioned officers] do a great job leading the group; they really keep the process going."

"The redeployment process is here so that Soldiers will return mentally and physically fit to reintegrate into normal and family life," Okike added.

A wish can teach a sick child that anything is possible. Even the future.

Visit us at [www.wish.org](http://www.wish.org) or call (800) 722-WISH

**Share the Power of a Wish®**

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# Crime and punishment

## A monthly recap of judicial proceedings

### Illegal drug use

1st Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment – A pregnant private from 1-25th Aviation was tried at a Special Court-Martial on two counts of wrongful use of methamphetamines. The private had previously received a field grade Article 15 for methamphetamine use.

The 1-25th went to great efforts during a four-month period to help the young private beat her drug addiction. When none of their efforts succeeded, the command initiated court-martial proceedings against the pregnant private.

She pled guilty and requested that a court-martial panel, composed of officers, hear her sentencing case. An officer panel sentenced the private to forfeiture of \$822 pay per month for six months, six months' confinement and a Bad Conduct Discharge.

### Adultery, carnal knowledge and false official statement

71st Chemical Company – A specialist in 71st Chemical Company pled guilty to having sex with a girl under 16 years old, while he was married to another, and then lying to investigators. A military judge sentenced the Soldier to reduction to E-1, a Bad Conduct Discharge and eight months of confinement.

### Illegal drug use and distribution, going AWOL

1st Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment – A male private from 1-25th Aviation was tried at a general court-martial on four counts of failure to repair, one count of absence without leave (AWOL) terminated by apprehension, two counts of use of methamphetamines, two counts of using marijuana, one count of distribution of methamphetamines, and two counts of breaking restriction.

The private had previously received three field grade Article 15s for breaking restriction, using marijuana and methamphetamines. The private was command referred into the Army Substance Abuse Program and subsequently failed the program.

Upon learning the private was distributing methamphetamines to other Soldiers in the Aviation Brigade, and after the battalion commander apprehended the private while the private was AWOL, the command initiated court-martial proceedings.

The private pled guilty to all counts and requested that a military judge hear his sentencing case. The officer panel sentenced the private to forfeiture of all pay and allowances, 42 months of confinement and a Dishonorable Discharge.

### Conspiracy to steal from the Chaplain's Fund

A noncommissioned officer from 2-11th Field Artillery and a specialist from Installation Troop Command pled guilty to conspiring to steal/forged a \$1,000 check from the Consolidated Chaplain's fund.

The specialist made out the check payable to the NCO, and the NCO cashed the check at the bank. The Soldiers then went AWOL to South Carolina, where they were apprehended by law enforcement.

The NCO pled guilty to going AWOL and missing movement to Iraq. At separate trials before a military judge, the NCO was sentenced to reduction to E-1, forfeiture of all pay and allowances, 20 months of confinement, and a Bad Conduct Discharge.

The specialist was sentenced to reduction to E-1, 13 months' confinement and a Bad Conduct Discharge.

### Illegal drug distribution, use, introduction of drugs onto post, and conspiracy to introduce drugs onto post

HHC, 2nd Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment – A male specialist from 2-25th Aviation was tried at a General Court-Martial for five specifications of drug use, two specifications of drug distribution, two specifications of wrongful introduction of drugs with intent to distribute, and two specifications of violation of a lawful order.

The specialist pled guilty to distributing LSD ("acid") to another Soldier and a

civilian for profit, and to using marijuana, cocaine, LSD and "ecstasy." Further, the specialist admitted to bringing a vial of liquid LSD and a bag of marijuana onto Wheeler Army Air Field to sell to others for profit.

The specialist was caught bringing the LSD onto the installation with two civilian drug dealers he had conspired with. Contrary to his plea of not guilty, an officer and enlisted panel found the specialist guilty of distributing ecstasy on multiple occasions.

The panel found the specialist not guilty of using ecstasy during a certain time frame, but he was guilty, consistent with his plea, to using ecstasy during a different time frame.

The specifications alleging a violation of a lawful order were dismissed. The panel sentenced the specialist to 18 months' confinement, reduction to E-1, and a Bad Conduct Discharge.

### Military Justice Notes

In addition to forfeitures of pay (either adjudged or automatic by operation of law), confinement and the punitive discharge, each Soldier will have a federal conviction that he or she must report when filling out a job application.

Each Soldier will also likely lose some civil rights, such as the right to purchase and maintain firearms and the right to vote.

Many of the above Soldiers entered into pretrial agreements with the con-

**Q:** Question – Why does the Hawaii Army Weekly publish courts-martial findings?

**A:** Answer – To inform the community of military justice trends and to deter future misconduct by Soldiers, the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate releases for publication the results of recent courts-martial.

vening authority that set a maximum term of confinement.

The above represent several of the many recent courts-martial tried in the Wheeler Army Courthouse. The Office of the Staff Judge Advocate will continue to report the results of trial in future issues of the Hawaii Army Weekly.

Court-martial proceedings are open to the public. If any Soldier or civilian would like to observe a court martial, or has an interest in any particular court-martial and would like to observe it, contact the Military Justice Office at 656-1368.



# 556th PSB honors NCOs at induction rite of passage

Story and Photos by  
**SGT. TYRONE C. MARSHALL JR.**  
Assistant Editor

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — 556th Personnel Services Battalion hosted a non-commissioned officer induction ceremony Jan. 20 to commemorate 19 Soldiers joining the ranks of the NCO Corps at the Tropics.

The induction ceremony is a traditional celebration held to honor Soldiers joining the ranks of the professional non-commissioned officer. The ceremony is a rite of passage used to inspire pride in newly appointed leaders.

The induction also builds a cohesive bond between NCOs in a unit and individuals transitioning from junior Soldiers to the backbone of the Army. Thus, the senior NCO in the battalion hosts the ceremony.

Command Sgt. Maj. Nathaniel Shephard, 556th PSB's battalion command sergeant major, hosted the afternoon festivities while guests such as division command sergeant major, Command Sgt. Maj. Jerry L. Taylor, looked on.

The key ceremonial highlights began with a reading of the history of the NCO. Sgt. Angeletta Christian of Alpha Detachment, 556th PSB, read the narration during the induction.

"The tradition of commemorating the passing of a Soldier to a non-commissioned officer can be traced to the Army of Frederick the Great," she read.

Once the history was complete, three preselected Soldiers recited the NCO Creed while lighting candles. Lighting of the red, white and blue candles emphasizes each portion of the NCO Creed and reaffirms the Soldier's commitment to the NCO Corps, said Shephard.

"No one is more professional than I," began Staff Sgt. Anthony D. McKeone, reciting the "N" portion of the creed. He lit the red candle for hardiness and valor.

"Competence is my watchword," said Sgt. Valerie N. Baldwin, when she lit the white candle representing purity and innocence.

"Officers of my unit will have maximum time to accomplish their duties," said Sgt. Reginald Gore, reciting the "O" and lighting the final candle: blue, signifying vigilance, perseverance and justice.



Above — Sgt. Angeletta Christian narrates the 556th PSB's NCO Induction ceremony held to honor 19 inductees Jan. 20 at the Tropics.



Right — Sgt. Valerie Baldwin lights the white candle, representing purity and innocence, during the induction ceremony.

Afterwards, the guest speaker roused the audience.

An induction not only honors the newest NCOs, but also provides senior NCOs an opportunity to provide mentorship.

"Your role as a noncommissioned officer is a powerful role," said Command Sgt. Maj. Gregory Seals, 45th Sustainment Brigade's top enlisted Soldier.

Seals emphasized many aspects described in the NCO Creed such as leading by example and maintaining discipline.

"Make sure you train your Soldiers to be what you are," he said. "You have to make sure your Soldiers are disciplined at all times."

Seals spoke briefly using a euphemism to stress his point. "Have you ever been bit by an elephant?" he asked. "No?"

He continued with his analogy, "Everyone has been bit by an ant before ... The little things will bite you in the butt."

After Seals' motivational speech, the "meat and potatoes" of the ceremony began.

Command sergeants major — Seals,

Shephard and 1st Sgt. Dexter K. Ferguson of Headquarters and Headquarters, Detachment 556th PSB, the official party, — initiated a cadence-like interaction as other NCOs sponsored each inductee.

"Who sponsors this inductee for today's NCO Corps?" asked Shephard during the ceremonial ritual.

The sponsors replied to each calling and provided a brief introduction for each NCO.

Staff Sgt. Lynn Hollins, Staff Sgt. Chad Rhodes, Sgt. Julian Nicasio and Sgt. Jorge Anaya served as the sponsors for the 19 inductees who filed forward as they were introduced, shaking the official party's hands and receiving a copy of the NCO Creed, the NCO Charge and the Army NCO Guide.

Once the inductees crossed the threshold into the NCO Corps, they were addressed by their new contingency.

Spc. Christina Anthony, Spc. Porsche Beale, Spc. Ashley Moore, Spc. Michael Hoffer, Spc. Joshua Weisbecker and Pfc. Terrell Washington, all from the 556th PSB, addressed the inductees with a dra-

matic recital of the Soldier's Request.

The Soldier's Request is a proclamation from junior enlisted Soldiers asking and, at times, demanding to be properly trained and led.

"Sergeant, train me, that I too can earn the title "sergeant," said Weisbecker, completing the passage.

Sgt. 1st Class Anthony Lockett, Bravo Detachment first sergeant, then led the inductees in the Charge of the NCO, which informs NCOs of their obligations as leaders and confirms their status as an NCO.

Inducting 19 Soldiers in a ceremony of this magnitude can sometimes be a difficult task, said Shephard, who is his battalion's senior NCO, charged with executing the induction.

Shephard oversaw planning and execution of the ceremony. He received positive feedback from Soldiers assuring him the tradition should be continued.

"We schedule these ceremonies to ensure that we do the right thing for these noncommissioned officers," said Shephard.

Even with busy schedules, the 556th

## Inductees

- Sgt. Jonathan Avenido
- Sgt. Valerie Baldwin
- Sgt. Jerrold Bali
- Sgt. Wenda Burden
- Sgt. Reginald Gore
- Sgt. Jason Hill
- Sgt. Alexander Hoffman
- Sgt. Bernadine Holloway
- Sgt. Ashley Ikegwuonu
- Sgt. Nathaly Infante
- Sgt. Skyler Klagenburg
- Staff Sgt. Anthony McKeone
- Sgt. Henry Moran
- Sgt. George Ridings
- Sgt. Amethia Stevenson
- Sgt. Demeka Tollette
- Sgt. Skye Trujillo
- Sgt. Miriam Ubiles
- Sgt. Lunie Young

PSB makes time to honor its NCOs, and they let their unit know they appreciate the leadership's commitment.

"The Soldiers definitely were excited and couldn't wait for the ceremony to kick off," said Shephard.

"I felt proud to be a part of the Corps," added Baldwin, after the induction.

# Finding a tax return preparer need not be difficult

## INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE News Release

Taxpayers who pay someone to do their taxes should choose a preparer wisely. If you choose to use a paid tax preparer, it is important that you find a qualified tax professional, as taxpayers are ultimately responsible for everything on their return even when it's prepared by someone else.

While most tax return preparers are professional and honest, taxpayers can use the following tips to choose a preparer who will offer the best service for their tax preparation needs.

### Ask about service fees.

Avoid preparers who claim they can obtain larger refunds than other preparers, or those who guarantee results or base fees on a percentage of the amount of the refund.

### Plan Ahead.

Choose a preparer you will be able to contact after the return is filed and one that will be responsive to your needs.



### Get References.

Ask questions and get references from clients who have used the tax professional before. Were they satisfied with the service received?

### Research.

Check to see if the preparer has any questionable history with the Better Business Bureau, the state's board of accountancy for CPAs or the state's bar association for attorneys.

Find out if the preparer belongs to a professional organization that requires its members to pursue continuing education and also holds them accountable to a code of ethics.

### Determine if the preparer's credentials meet your needs.

Are they an enrolled agent, a certified pub-

lic accountant or a tax attorney? Only attorneys, CPAs and enrolled agents can represent taxpayers before the IRS in all matters including audits, collection actions and appeals.

Other return preparers may represent taxpayers only in audits regarding a return they signed as a preparer.

Report suspected tax fraud and abusive tax preparers to the Internal Revenue Service by calling 1-800-829-0433.



## Free File opens with enhanced services

### INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE News Release



SEATTLE – The Internal Revenue Service and its private-sector partners open Free File, the free tax preparation and electronic filing initiative that marks its fourth year.

Over 70 percent of the nation's taxpayers, more than 92 million people, qualify for Free File this year.

A new agreement between the IRS and the Free File Alliance, the consortium of tax preparation software companies, means enhanced services and more information for taxpayers who use the free services. However, taxpayers must access Free File through IRS.gov.

"This unique private-public partnership provides free tax software and free electronic filing. It's targeted to middle- and low-income taxpayers who can most benefit from this program," said IRS Commissioner Mark W. Everson. "Free File is another example of the IRS' effort to bring new and innovative services to taxpayers.

"Taxpayers should review the

numerous Free File offerings and see which one works best for them," he added.

Among the services and improvements this year are the following:

Seventy percent of the nation's taxpayers, those with an adjusted gross income of \$50,000 or less, will be eligible, but each company sets its own criteria.

- Alliance members who offer refund anticipation loans (RALs) must disclose fees and interest rates upfront and must make clear that RALs are loans, not tax refunds. Taxpayers also must consent to receive additional information about ancillary financial products.
- Alliance members will provide additional tax forms such as Form 4868 that allows for automatic extensions of time to file.
- Alliance members' web sites

will display whether state online tax preparation and filing services are available and the associated fees, if any.

- Telephone filing (Telefile) is no longer available. Many taxpayers who used this telephone service in the past may qualify to use Free File. For 2006, taxpayers with access to a computer and the Internet may check on IRS.gov to determine if they will qualify for Free File. The Free File Alliance selects its own membership, but all members must meet the IRS' strict standards for security and privacy.

The IRS will manage the content of the Free File pages accessible on IRS.gov, but does not endorse any Free File Alliance company or product.

Taxpayers do not have to purchase any product in order to qualify for the free services.

More than 5.14 million taxpayers used Free File last year, an increase of almost 47 percent over the 3.5 million users in 2004. Free File debuted in 2003 with nearly 2.8 million users.

## News Briefs

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ship service they will be baptizing some of the new converts in the ocean and having a potluck lunch on the beach. For more information contact Scott Kennedy at 653-0703.

**Pre-Retirement Orientation** – A semiannual pre-retirement orientation is scheduled on Feb. 28 from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Schofield Barracks Post Conference Room (Bldg 584) on Trimble Road, across the street from the Sergeant Smith Theater. This orientation is for Soldiers with 18 or more years of active service and their spouses.

Information concerning the benefits and privileges of a military retirement will be provided and representatives from federal and state agencies and military staff offices will be available to answer individual questions. For more information, call the Schofield Barracks Retirement Services Office at 655-1585/1514.

### Ongoing

**Troops To Teachers** – Gain valuable information about the Troops to Teachers program and the teaching profession. Participate in sessions with a local representative any first Tuesday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Education Center, Room 223. All military and spouses are welcome. Call 587-5580, x 409, or e-mail hawaiiitt@notes.k12.hi.us for more information.

**Road Closure** – At Schofield Barracks, Waianae Avenue, between Devol Street and Road "A," will be closed through Jan. 31 during the hours of 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. to install new water and sewer lines. For more details, contact Hunjin Kye at 655-0441.

**PX Parking Lot Closure** – The front portion of the Schofield Barracks Post Exchange will be closed through early March 2006 to construct a parking lot for the new AAFES shopping center.

The PX, PXtra and Home Center will remain open from 9 a.m. to

9 p.m., and assistance with large purchases will be available. For more details, contact Susan Nonamaker at 622-1773.

**Kolekole Road** – The Kolekole Pass Road is open from 5:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., seven days a week, to all active duty and retired military, their families, DoD civilians and contract employees possessing a valid common access card. Personal vehicles and motorcycles will be allowed admittance in a non-official capacity and must be under the two-ton limit. No bicycles, mopeds, scooters, joggers or pedestrians will be allowed. Violators will be cited. For more information, call 474-4339.

**Strong Marriages** – Do you want to strengthen your marriage? Take a day off work? Spend some time alone without the kids? Stay overnight at a hotel at no cost to you? If your answers are yes, see your unit chaplain about the "Building Strong and Ready Families" program or contact the division chaplain's office at 655-9303.

# Soldiers may earn \$1,000 recruiting referral bonus

The Army shows members the money for firm new enlistments and some mega dollars as bonuses

### ARMY NEWS SERVICE News Release

ARLINGTON, Va. — Soldiers can now earn \$1,000 for referring their acquaintances to Army recruiters should those referrals result in enlistment.

The referral bonus was authorized by the recently signed National Defense Authorization Act. The NDAA also provides authorization to increase enlistment bonuses for new regular-Army recruits from \$20,000 to \$40,000 and increases reserve component enlistment bonuses from \$10,000 to \$20,000.

“We thank Congress for their recent legislation to provide bonuses such as these, said Lt. Gen. Franklin L. Hagenbeck, deputy chief of staff, Army G-1 (Personnel). “We’re pleased with recent trends and believe these incentives will be instrumental in helping us achieve our goals.”

### Recruiting goal met last seven months

“I believe the new authorities provided by Congress, such as the \$1,000 per referral bonus, will help continue the positive

trend of meeting our recruiting objectives [as we have] for the last seven months in a row,” said Secretary of the Army Dr. Francis J. Harvey following a Pentagon press briefing, Jan. 18.

Under the referral pilot program, eligible members of both the Army’s regular and reserve components may receive the \$1,000 bonus per recruit. Referrals under the program will be made via the Sergeant Major of the Army Recruiting Team, or SMART referral process.

Soldiers may receive the bonus for referring anyone, except a member of their immediate family. An immediate family member is defined as spouse, parent, child (natural, adopted or step-child), brother or sister.

### No conflicts of interest

Those not eligible to receive a referral bonus include Soldiers assigned to the U.S. Army Accessions Command, U.S. Army Recruiting Command, Cadet Command, U.S. Army Reserve Command – Retention and Transition Division, National Guard State Recruiting Commands and any other member of the Army serving in a recruiting or retention assignment.

Anyone is also ineligible for the bonus if his or her duties could be perceived as creating a conflict of interest, as determined by the secretary of the Army.



Soldiers identified above will be ineligible to receive a referral bonus for three months following a reassignment outside their recruiting and retention duties, officials said, adding this includes Soldiers who have participated in the Hometown Recruiter Assistance Program, Special Recruiter Assistance Program and Additional Duty Special Work in recruiting or retention duties.

### Bonus paid after AIT completed

The bonus will be paid in a lump sum to the referring Soldier once the qualified

applicant completes Basic and Advanced Individual Training, known as AIT. There are no retroactive provisions to this pilot program, officials said. They said payments will be made directly to the referring Soldier’s military pay account within 45 days after the person that was referred completes AIT.

The referring Soldier must either submit the referral through the SMART link or through the U.S. Army Recruiting Command 1-800 line dedicated to this program (see below for both). To receive a bonus, the sponsor (person making the referral) must provide the name of the applicant as a referral using this process, pri-

or to the applicant conducting an appointment with an Army recruiter.

“Soldiers have always provided a vital role in the recruiting process,” said Jeff Spara of Army headquarters personnel office. “This program is an excellent way to recognize their contributions.”

The NDAA 2006 also increases the maximum enlistment contract from six to eight years and raises the age limit for enlistment from 35 years to 40 years.

For more information on the referral bonus, go to <https://www.usarec.army.mil/smart/> or call 1-800-223-3735, ext. 6-0473.

*(Editor’s Note: Alphonso Green and John Reese contributed to this article.)*

# Harvey says ‘basket of ideas’ improving recruiting efforts

### JOHN REESE Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The successful turnabout of last year’s slumping Army recruiting numbers was partly due to brainstorming sessions between the secretary of the Army and the Army Accessions Command.

In a Pentagon press briefing Jan. 18, Secretary of the Army Dr. Francis J. Harvey detailed his reaction last spring to the lower number of initial-entry Soldiers. The first quarter of any year is normally lower than the remainder



Harvey

of the year, he said, with many new Soldiers waiting to enlist until after graduation from college or high school, but 2005

was particularly challenging. The Army fell short of its overall goal of 80,000 and reaching only 73,400.

In his opening remarks, Harvey said more than 69,500 Soldiers

re-enlisted in Fiscal Year 2005, helping the Army make up for the recruiting shortage. In addition, Harvey became personally involved and held meetings to bring recruiting numbers back up.

“We came up with a whole basket-full of initiatives, from number of recruiters, to incentives, to advertising, to actions such as forming a referral center where we screen potential recruits,” said Harvey.

Changes were made with the advertising approach and incen-

tives were added such as the \$1,000 bonus for Soldiers referring new recruits. Previously, the Army had no cash-referral incentive.

“We took a very proactive approach to it,” said Harvey, noting that recruiting is a month-to-month business.

The rest of the year looks promising, said Harvey, but there is more work to be done.

“We’re certainly not going to sit on our laurels,” said Harvey. The Army has a “whole bunch of other initiatives” and will continue to

come up with fresh ideas.

In addition to meeting and exceeding the Army’s recruiting goals, Harvey responded to questions about re-enlistment bonuses ranging from \$10,000 to \$40,000.

“The \$40k bonus will be used selectively for skills that are hard to recruit and certainly won’t be used across the board,” said Harvey.

Re-enlistment bonuses are based on criteria such as rank, time in service, and specialized skills. Qualified Soldiers who re-up

in combat areas such as Iraq may receive a tax-free bonus of \$15,000.

Special Forces “Green Berets” on the verge of retirement are at the top of the re-enlistment cash incentives at \$150,000.

Also, a wide array of other one-time or monthly cash bonuses are available, such as joining particular units, extending combat tours with a specialized field, or postponing retirement.

For more information on re-enlistment bonuses, contact your company career counselor.

# TSGLI now covers traumatic injury

Most service members receive up to \$100K of tax-free insurance

**CAPT. JENNIFER D. GERALD**  
Patient Administration Division,  
Tripler Army Medical Center

HONOLULU — Service members have one less thing to worry about if they are seriously injured, thanks to the new Traumatic Service Member's Group Life Insurance Program (TSGLI). Implemented Nov. 30 by the Department of Defense, the traumatic injury protection insurance is designed to provide financial assistance to service members during their recovery period from a traumatic injury.

Administered by the Army Wounded Warrior Program, or AW2, the TSGLI mission is to ensure eligible Soldiers receive their monetary entitlements while providing them with the necessary information and assistance to complete and submit their TSGLI claims.

"Our nation's commitment to our Soldiers is evidenced by this program," said Col. Mary Carstensen, director of the AW2 program and TSGLI. "TSGLI is another benefit which assists our fallen warriors and their families, so they can focus on recovery, further exemplifying the Warrior Ethos, 'Never leave a fallen comrade.'"

Every member eligible for SGLI became insured for traumatic injury protection of up to \$100,000 tax free on Dec. 1, 2005, unless the Soldier declined SGLI coverage. In addition, a \$1 premium was added to the monthly SGLI deduction, regardless of the amount of SGLI coverage that the member carried.

Benefiting Soldiers even more is the program's retroactive provisions. Any service member who suffered a qualifying loss between Oct. 7, 2001, and Dec. 1, 2005, will receive a benefit under the TSGLI program if the loss was a direct result of injuries incurred in Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom.

TSGLI is not disability compensation and has no effect on entitlement for compensation and pension benefits provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs or disability benefits provided by the Department of Defense. It is an insurance product similar to commercial dismemberment policies.

The program provides money for a loss due to a specific traumatic event while disability compensation is intended to provide ongoing financial support to make up for the loss in income-earning potential due to service-connected injuries.

If a Soldier is unable to complete a TSGLI claim due to incapacitation or death, family members with a power of attorney or letter of guardianship may apply for benefits on the Soldier's behalf. Also, family members of a

deceased Soldier who survived for seven days after incurring a traumatic injury and qualifying loss may also apply for TSGLI benefits.

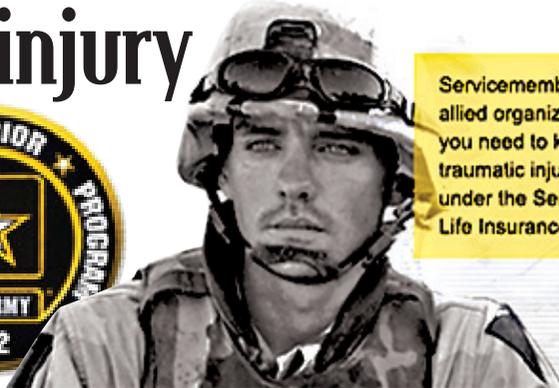
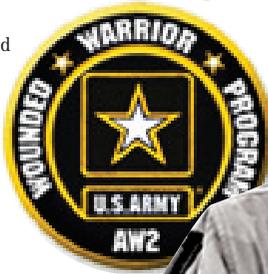
TSGLI covers a range of traumatic injuries. In general, those injuries include, but are not limited to, loss of sight; hand, foot or hearing; loss of thumb and index finger; quadriplegia, paraplegia, or hemiplegia; third-degree burns covering 30 percent of the body or face; and traumatic brain injury and coma.

For more information on the traumatic injury protection benefit, as well as a listing of qualifying injuries, call 1-800-237-1336 or go to [www.aw2.army.mil/TSGLI](http://www.aw2.army.mil/TSGLI).

Claims can be faxed to (866) 275-0684, e-mailed to [TSGLI@hoffman.army.mil](mailto:TSGLI@hoffman.army.mil) or mailed to Department of the U.S. Army, Traumatic SGLI (TSGLI), 200 Stovall Street, Alexandria,

VA 22332-0470.

U.S. Pacific Command Soldiers can contact Simona Foster, Soldier family management specialist, at (703) 325-9980 or [simona.foster@hoffman.army.mil](mailto:simona.foster@hoffman.army.mil) for specific questions regarding AW2 or TSGLI.



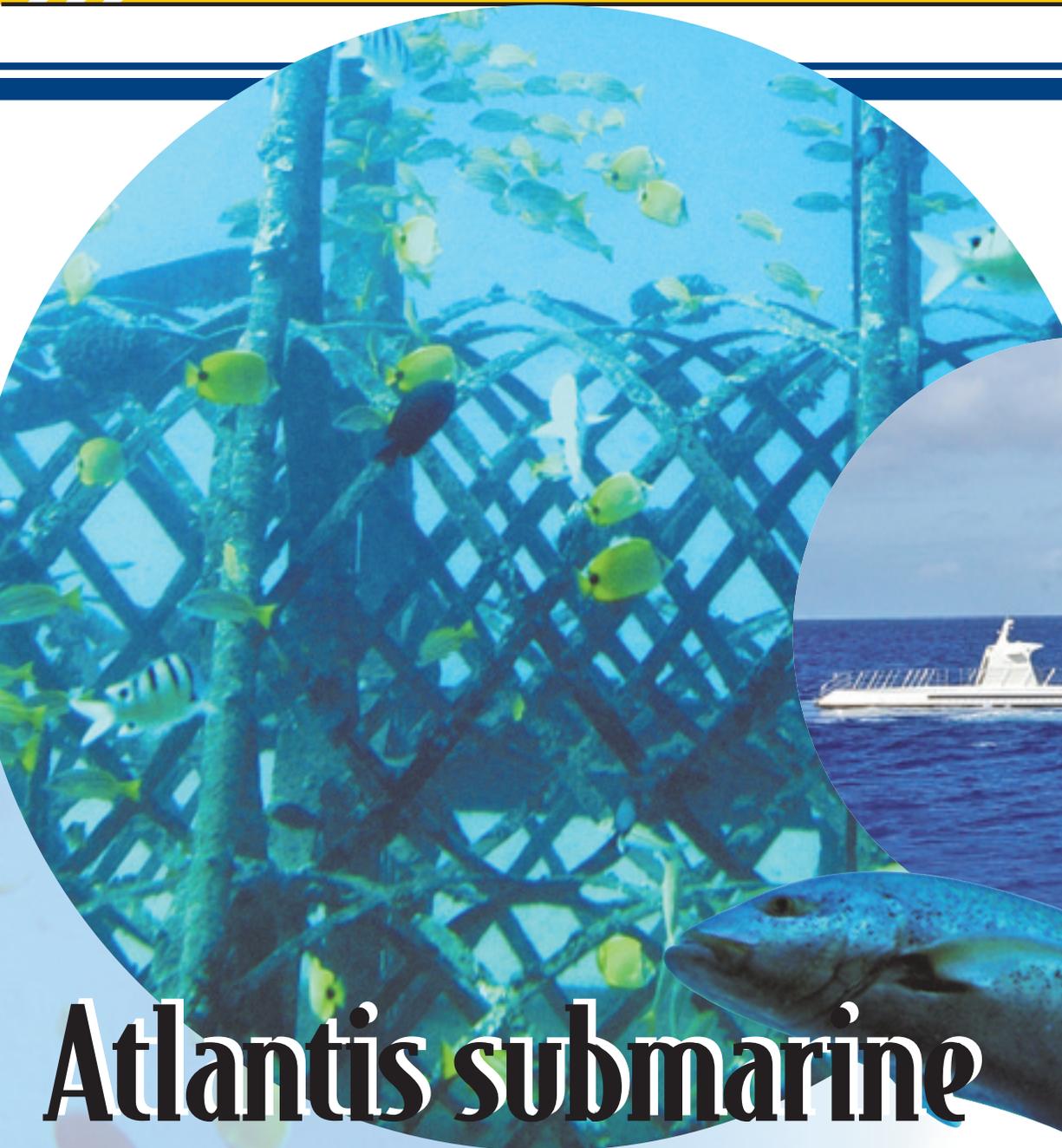
Service members, caregivers, and allied organizations, find everything you need to know about the new traumatic injury protection benefit under the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (TSGLI).



The Hawaii Army Weekly

welcomes letters and commentaries. To submit, call 655-4816 or e-mail [editor@hawaiiarmy-weekly.com](mailto:editor@hawaiiarmy-weekly.com). The editorial deadline for news articles is the Friday prior to the week of publication. Please send all articles in Microsoft Word or text format.

# PAU HANA



Left — Man-made reef courtesy of Atlantis Submarines helps make the under water voyage more enjoyable.



Below — A submarine, shown here, is used in the excursion.

## Atlantis submarine

offering an  
unforgettable  
ocean  
encounter

If you're waiting for underwater adventure, you won't have to hold your breath

Story and Photos by  
**SPC. AMANDA FLEMETT**  
Staff Writer

WAIKIKI — To really see anything you have to scratch beneath the surface; this is especially true with waters around Oahu. Taking the Atlantis Submarine tour allows you to see some of the wonders the Pacific Ocean has to offer.

As guests board the "Discovery" submarine, they enter a different world. Each seat has its own view port, enabling each person to observe the underwater environment.

Once the submarine's hatch is shut, the underwater discovery begins as the vessel slowly dissolves into the crystal blue waters of the Pacific Ocean. The 45-minute encounter starts as attention is directed to the digital depth gauge on the cabin wall that marks the submarine's depth in the water.

Passengers observe fleets of exotic fish and other marine life such as sea

turtles, moray eels and rays. Each passenger is given a dive log to help identify fish. The log also provides useful information about the submarine, safety instructions and a history of submersible vessels.

Watching sea life swim among a man-made structure is surreal. As fish tag along beside the submarine, a U.S. Coast Guard certified co-pilot educates the passengers on the underwater ecosystem Atlantis implemented to support Oahu's marine life.

"Make sure you turn off your flash if you want to take pictures," said Anna Coffeen, Atlantis Public Relations Coordinator, "the flash won't let your pictures come out."

This turned out to be sage advice. The first "stop" is the Atlantis Reef. Six concrete pyramid formations tower the surrounding coral heads. The formations were designed by the University of Hawaii's Sea Grant Program in combination with Atlantis. The intent is to make new "homes" for the fish and the structures also provide a rare opportunity to examine some of Hawaii's marine life.

Passing the coral reefs and formations, the submarine comes to rest on the ocean floor at a depth of

roughly 120 feet.

Moving on, the submarine continues its cruise towards two sunken airliners and shipwrecks. Right in front of you, steely-eyed moray eels hiss as they poke out of holes and groups of colorful blue stripe snapper munch down on plant-life. A sea turtle gracefully floats by and rests on the coral-covered wing of the airplane. And no trip in a passenger submarine would be complete without seeing the state fish, the humuhumunukunuaopua'a or more easily pronounced— the Painted Trigger Fish.

Structures such as the airplanes and ships were "recycled" by Atlantis to provide homes for marine life and give guests a fantastic window into this underwater world. The structures help marine life regenerate the natural reefs of Hawaii that have been disappearing for the last 50 years.

"Atlantis (submarines) is very devoted to helping the reefs in Hawaii," said Coffeen. In addition to helping to bolster the reefs, they will transport you to a watery world you won't soon forget.

Atlantis began operation in Waikiki in 1989 with a 48-passenger sub. In

1991, a second 48-passenger submarine was added to their fleet. Three years later in 1994, Atlantis was home to the world's largest passenger submarine, allowing 64-guests to explore the world below.

Atlantis has submarine locations on Maui and the Big Island, as well as in Guam, Cozumel, Grand Caymen, St. Thomas, Aruba and Barbados.

If you go:

- Don't forget to ask for your military discount when making reservations
- Check-in at the ticket booth at Haaiian Village's Ali'i tower
- Make sure to wear comfortable shoes for climbing up and down stairs
- If you tend to get seasick, don't forget motion sickness medicine. If you forget, you can buy it and a myriad of souvenirs aboard the shuttle boat.
- Passengers must be at least 36 inches tall to take the tour. Because of safety regulations, infants and children smaller than 36 inches are not allowed on the tour. If this situation occurs, then parents can "trade off" taking turns on tours.

## Hawaii Opera brings art of music to Schofield

Story and Photos by  
**PFC. KYNDAL BREWER**  
Staff Writer

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS— A symphony of voices filled the air during the opening act of the "Great American Voices" military bases tour, held here at the Nehalani Saturday night. The Hawaii Opera Theatre hosted "Unforgettable Melodies," a production of opera and Broadway tunes.

"Opera companies across the nation are hosting evenings such as this to create a better understanding between the military and artistic communities," said Sarah Horrigan with Morale, Welfare and Recreation's marketing department.

The National Endowment for the Arts, or NEA, presented "Great American Voices." The national initiative provides admission-free professional performances to military and their families.

With high hopes of fostering long-term partnerships with military installations, the NEA typically provides cultural programming and regional opera companies with community outreach programs.

The military tours began in July 2005 and will continue through August of this year. About 23 opera companies will serve 39 military installations across the nation.

"Unforgettable Melodies" is just one of many venues the NEA has performed before military personnel. Projects such as "Operation Homecoming" and "Shakespeare in American Communities" have also been

staged at bases, both springing from the existing partnership between the NEA and the Department of Defense.

In April 2004, "Operation Homecoming" was launched to bring writing workshops to military installations nationwide. Prominent actors and writers provided lectures and seminars to Oahu service members during stopovers at Pearl Harbor and Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, last year.

In fall of 2004, "Shakespeare in American Communities" brought the Alabama Shakespeare troupe and its production of "Macbeth" to other military bases.

"We think that art, music and entertainment [are] good for everybody," said Henry G. Akina, the general and artistic director of Hawaii Opera Theatre. "Particularly in the case of Hawaii, we think this is a way

the military can become more involved with the larger community, and feel more at home here," he added. "We do plan to continue this ... to continue the growth of this partnership."



Jacqueline Quirk, with Hawaii Opera Theatre sings soprano during the Broadway half of the show in a performance in the Great American Voices Military Base Tour.



# JANUARY

## 27 / Today

**Hawaiian Luau Lunch Buffet** – Taste a traditional Hawaiian style feast today from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Hale Ikena on Fort Shafter, or 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Nehelani on Schofield Barracks. Cost is \$9.95 per person.

Call the Hale Ikena at 438-1974 or the Nehelani at 655-4466 for lunch buffet reservations or information.

**Mongolian Barbecue** – Come today from 5 to 8 p.m. for Mongolian barbecue, cooked outside in front of Nehelani with seating in air-conditioned Reggie's. Select your barbecue favorites from a large variety of meats and vegetables, and the Reggie's staff will grill them to your liking. Cost is 65 cents per ounce, and reservations are recommended. For more information, call 655-4466.

## 28 / Saturday

**Teen Social** – Join friends for an evening of fun at the Schofield Barracks Teen Center from 7 to 9:30 p.m., Jan. 28 and Feb. 3. Listen to music and dance, play games or participate in contests. Admission is \$3 for members and \$4 for non-members.

**Parents Night Out** – Leave your kids in the competent hands of Child and Youth Services on Parents Night Out, Jan. 28, and enjoy a night out on the town. Children enrolled in Parents Night Out must be registered with the Resource and Referral Office.

Reservations are first-come, first-served at the Resource and Referral Office. Call 655-8313 for more information.

**Hawaii Championship Wrestling** – Come watch Hawaii Championship



Cpl. Megan L. Stiner | U.S. Marine Corps

# Reliving plantation days

Hawaii Plantation Village celebrates Korean heritage and the Year of the Dog, Saturday, Feb. 4, from 9:45 a.m. to 2 p.m. A Chinese Lion Dance kicks off festivities that include kimchee demonstrations and samplings, presentations, Korean costume dressings, tours of the museum and more, all for the entire family. Military entry with ID is \$4, kids 12 and younger are free, general admission is \$7, and parking is free. Call 677-0110 or surf [www.hawaiiplantationvillage.org](http://www.hawaiiplantationvillage.org) for more details.

Wrestling at the Tropics today. Doors open at 6 p.m. and matches start at 7 p.m.

The cost is \$5 for ages 12 and up, \$3 for ages 11 and under and free for children ages 5 and under. Call 655-8522 for more information.

# FEBRUARY

## 3 / Friday

**Youth Welcome Party** – Students, ages 5 to 18, who are new to Hawaii are invited to the youth sponsorship welcome party at the Tropics, Feb. 10, from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Come meet new friends, learn about Hawaii, enjoy refreshments, play games and win prizes. To register, contact the School Liaison Office, 655-8326, by Feb. 3.

## 4 / Saturday

**Ladies Golf Clinic** – Ladies, want to brush up on your golfing skills? A free golf clinic will be held Feb. 4 at the Leilehua Golf Course located right outside the Wheeler Army Air Field front gate. The clinic will last for one hour and will begin promptly at 2:30 p.m.

All equipment is provided to participants and advance reservations are recommended. For more details or to reserve your space, call 655-4653.

**Latin Night** – Come to the Tropics for an evening of music and dancing with DJ Ever playing salsa, meringue, bachata and reggaeton. Latin night is the first Saturday of every month, 8 p.m. to midnight and is open to ages 18 and over.

A \$2 cover charge applies at the door. For more information, call 655-5697.

## 5 / Sunday

**"5 Game, No Tap"** – Individuals are invited to participate in the "5 Game, No Tap" Tournament at the Schofield Bowling Center. Check-in is at 1 p.m. and the cost is \$20. Call 655-0573 for more information.

**Super Bowl Bash** – Come to the Tropics, Feb. 5, to watch the Super Bowl on one of Tropics' state-of-the-art TV systems. Enjoy all you can eat pupus, meet the Coors Girls and enter to win Pro Bowl tickets.

Cost is \$6 per person, and activities will kick off at noon. For more information, call 655-5697.

## 8 / Wednesday

**Band of Brothers** – Meet the cast and veterans of Band of Brothers, Feb. 8 from 9 to 11 a.m., at Sgt. Smith Theater. The cast will be at Schofield Barracks for an autograph and question and answer session. Call 655-0111 for additional details.

**Library After School** – Elementary-age children are invited to celebrate Valentine's Day at the Sgt. Yano Library, with a story and craft activity. The activity is free and begins at 3 p.m.

**Pro Bowl** – Come to the Aliamanu Military Reservation (AMR) gym from 4 to 6 p.m. on Feb. 8 or the Tropics, Schofield Barracks, on Feb. 9 to meet NFL mascots, cheerleaders and a special guest.

The grand door prize will be a video IPOD. Active duty military will have the opportunity to win Pro Bowl tickets. For more information, call 438-2911.

## 10 / Friday

**High School Teen Social** – Join friends for an evening of fun at the Schofield Barracks Teen Center from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Listen to music and dance, play games or participate in contests. Admission is \$3 for members and \$4 for nonmembers. This social is for high school students only.

**Youth Wrestling Team** – Register now at Schofield Barracks through Feb. 10 for the USA Wrestling Team. Youth born from 1986 through 2001 are eligible to participate. Cost is \$20 per person, plus a \$30 USA Wrestling Team fee.

Registration is at the Bennett Youth Center, Monday through Friday, from 11 a.m. to

SEE MWR BRIEFS, B-4

## 16 / Thursday

**EFMP** – The Exceptional Family Member Program will begin a monthly support group for adults who have been diagnosed with Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), or for parents of children who have been diagnosed with these disorders or Oppositional Defiant Disorder (ODD).

The group will meet on Thursday, Feb. 16, at 9 a.m. at ACS, Building 2091, Schofield Barracks. For further information, call 655-1442, or ACS at 655-4227. No child care will be available.

**Signing Language** – EFMP is offering sign language basics to EFMP-enrolled families on Thursday, Feb. 16, at 10:30 a.m. at ACS, Building 2091. An independent certified instructor will share knowledge and strategies and explain the value of signing. There is no charge for this program; however, EFMP enrollment is mandatory. To register for the workshop, call 655-1442.

**FBI Recruitment** – Are you interested in a career with the FBI as a special agent? Join FBI Special Agent Kal Wong and get the facts at the monthly FBI career presentation on Feb. 16 from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Schofield Barracks Aloha Center.

The Aloha Center is located in Building 690, and the presentation will be held in the third floor conference room. For registration, call 655-1028.

For information on upcoming presentations, contact Special Agent Wong at 566-4488.

# ONGOING

**Community Calendar Briefs** – Do you have announcements of upcoming events, sports or activities you'd like to post in the Hawaii Army Weekly? If so, e-mail your information to [editor@hawaiiarmyweekly.com](mailto:editor@hawaiiarmyweekly.com) at least two weeks in advance of your event or activity.

## Golfers Wanted

– Are you looking for a golf group or are you interested in playing golf with your fellow Soldiers? Golfers (active

## 8 / Wednesday

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## 31 / Tuesday

**English as a Second Language** – Come check out this adult education course addressing the fundamentals of the English language. The course is appropriate for beginners and those who desire to improve their written and verbal communications skills.

Classes will be held every Tuesday and Thursday morning from 8:30 to 11 a.m.

Three Phantoms in Concert" continues performances tonight at 7:30 p.m. and Jan. 29 at 2 p.m. Tickets are priced from \$25 to \$60 at the Hawaii Theater Box Office, 1130 Bethel Street.

Discounts are available for students, seniors, military and members of the Hawaii Theatre. Tickets also may be ordered by phone at 528-0506 or online at [www.hawaiiitheatre.com](http://www.hawaiiitheatre.com).

## 29 / Sunday

**Nichiren Daishonin's Buddhism** – The community is invited to an introductory class on Nichiren Daishonin's Buddhism, Jan. 29 at 1 p.m. at the Community Chapel, Schofield Barracks, Building 791, Room 231. For more information, call 306-6530 or 423-1830.

## 30 / Monday

**Military Spouse 101** – Army Family Team Building (AFTB) presents Military Spouse 101, Monday and Tuesday, Jan. 30 and 31, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 pm at the Fort Shafter Army Community Service. The course is designed to introduce spouses to the military lifestyle and serve as a refresher for spouses who have been around for a while. Attendees will receive a certificate of completion and a special gift from AFTB.

Free child care is provided with advance notice to the Child Development Center; however, children must be registered with Child and Youth Services. To register, call 438-9286. Or, contact Robin Sherrod, AFTB program manager, at 655-4368.

**Great Aloha Run** – The Great Aloha Run, an 8.15-mile race run from the Aloha Tower to Aloha Stadium, is Feb. 20. Don't miss a great "last chance" opportunity to enter the Great Aloha Run for \$20.

Active duty Soldiers, family members and DoD civilians have a final chance to enter at the reduced rate from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Jan. 30, in front of the Schofield Barracks Post Exchange. Late entries are \$30 and will be accepted from Jan. 21 to Feb. 3. Remember, Carole Kai Charities return \$1 from every entry to military MWRs. For more information, call Vera Ross at 655-8789.

## 27 / Today

**Annual Volunteer Award** – Annual volunteer award nominations are being accepted now, in conjunction with National Volunteer Week in April. Instructions and criteria for submitting nominations have been provided to all brigade and battalion commanders and volunteer user agencies.

The deadline for submission of nominations to the Army volunteer coordinator (AVC) is Feb. 24, and the Annual Volunteer Recognition will be held Friday, April 28, from 4 to 6 p.m. at Bowen Park. For more information, contact AVC Cathie Henderson at 655-1703 or e-mail at [hendersona@schofield.army.mil](mailto:hendersona@schofield.army.mil).

**Hui O Na Wahine Scholarships** – The Hui O Na Wahine all-ranks spouses club is accepting applications for merit scholarships from now until March 24. Applicants must be members of the Hui O Na Wahine or their family members and possess a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or better.

Scholarships may be used for college entry-level, continuing education (undergraduate), or graduate school, and applications are available at Sgt. Yano Library, the Hui Thrift Shop, the Schofield Barracks Army Community Service (ACS) Building, the Leilehua High School counselor's office, Hui O Na Wahine luncheons and spouse information meetings.

For more information, contact Robertta Cole, scholarship chair, at [bertnstoner@yahoo.com](mailto:bertnstoner@yahoo.com)

## 28 / Saturday

**Tropic Lighting Museum** – Every Saturday, the Tropic Lightning Museum, Schofield Barracks, will feature a movie matinee beginning at 1 p.m. at the museum. Come with your family and enjoy "The Thin Red Line," Saturday, and "War Head," Feb. 4. All movies are free.

Parents take note; some movies may be too graphic for younger viewers. For more information, call Scott Daubert, museum technician, at 655-0438.

**Hawaii Theatre** – Hawaii Theatre's "The



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**Hawaii Theatre** – Hawaii Theatre's "The

# HACN TV 2 Schedule

5:00	CG Mixon Safety
5:03	Bulletin Board
5:33	Gen. Shoemaker on OPSEC
5:35	Community Focus
6:00	CG Mixon Safety
6:03	Gen. Shoemaker on OPSEC
6:05	Pentagon Channel
7:00	CG Mixon Safety
7:03	Bulletin Board
7:33	Gen. Shoemaker on OPSEC
7:35	CG Mixon Safety
7:40	Pentagon Channel
8:00	CG Mixon Safety
8:03	Hawaii Army Report
8:27	Gen. Shoemaker on OPSEC
8:30	Pentagon Channel
9:00	CG Mixon Safety
9:03	Bulletin Board
9:33	Gen. Shoemaker on OPSEC
9:35	Pentagon Channel
10:00	CG Mixon Safety
10:03	Gen. Shoemaker on OPSEC
10:05	Pentagon Channel
11:00	CG Mixon Safety
11:03	Gen. Shoemaker on OPSEC
11:05	Bulletin Board
11:36	Pentagon Channel
12:00	Hawaii Army Report
12:24	CG Mixon Safety
12:27	Bulletin Board
12:57	Gen. Shoemaker on OPSEC
1:00	Pentagon Channel
2:00	CG Mixon Safety
2:03	Gen. Shoemaker on OPSEC
2:05	Pentagon Channel
3:00	Gen. Shoemaker on OPSEC
3:02	CG Mixon Safety
3:05	Pentagon Channel
4:00	CG Mixon Safety
4:03	Gen. Shoemaker on OPSEC
4:05	Pentagon Channel
5:00	CG Mixon Safety
5:03	GEN Shoemaker on OPSEC
5:05	Pentagon Channel
6:00	Hawaii Army Report
6:24	CG Mixon Safety
6:27	GEN Shoemaker on OPSEC
6:30	Community Focus
6:45	Bulletin Board
7:15	CG Mixon Safety
7:18	Gen. Shoemaker on OPSEC
8:00	Gen. Shoemaker on OPSEC
8:02	CG Mixon Safety
8:05	Pentagon Channel
9:00	Gen. Shoemaker on OPSEC
9:02	CG Mixon Safety
9:05	Pentagon Channel
10:00	Gen. Shoemaker
10:02	CG Mixon Safety
10:05	Pentagon Channel
11:00	CG Mixon Safety
11:03	Bulletin Board
11:33	Gen. Shoemaker on OPSEC
11:35	Pentagon Channel
12:00	Gen. Shoemaker on OPSEC
12:02	Bulletin Board
12:32	CG Mixon Safety
12:35	Gen. Shoemaker on OPSEC

**Overnight**  
Pentagon Channel

# This Week at the MOVIES Sgt. Smith Theater



## Syriana

(R)  
Today, 7 p.m.  
Wednesday, 7 p.m.



## Ice Harvest

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



## In The Mix

(PG-13)  
Sunday, 7 p.m.  
Thursday, 7 p.m.

The theater is closed Monday and Tuesday.

SEE COMMUNITY CALENDAR, B-3

## Community Calendar

From B-2

duty, retirees, family members or DoD civilians) interested in playing golf on Sunday mornings at Leilehua Golf Course should call Sgt. 1st Class Jerry Hodge at 347-8038 or 375-3322. Tee time is usually before 8 a.m.

**New Work and Careers Web Site** — Need help in your job search process? Explore the Web site <http://www.myarmylifetoo.com> to learn about the Army Spouse Employment Partnership. The site includes job search techniques and resume writing tips. For additional help, contact your Army Community Service Employment Readiness Program Manager at 655-2390.

**Schofield Barracks Newcomers Orientation Tour** — ACS will conduct a newcomer's orientation tour every Friday for all incoming Soldiers and family members. The tour will include Schofield Barracks, Tripler Army Medical Center, surrounding civilian communities, the Hale Koa Hotel, the Bishop Museum and other points of interest on the island.

The tour will depart at 7:30 a.m. and return at 4:30 p.m., and registration is required. Lunch is not provided, but participants may bring a cooler with drinks, snacks and lunch.

For more information or to register, call ACS at 655-2400.

# Volunteer system sees some widescale changes

Story and Photo by  
**JOY BOISSELLE**  
Staff Writer

25th Infantry Division units are not the only ones transforming...the Army's volunteer management system is undergoing significant change as well.

Cathie Henderson, US Army Hawaii's, Army Volunteer Coordinator, said, "The Volunteer Management Information System (VMIS) is a great improvement from the old system, particularly within family readiness groups which are the largest group of Army volunteers."

Under the "old system," units designated a FRG volunteer coordinator to manage volunteer hours within their units. That coordinator would then devise a system to track unit volunteer hours. This system could take the form of simply jotting volunteer hours in a notebook to the more complex spreadsheet (depending on the skills of the manager) to in some cases, no system at all.

Whether a volunteer received credit for their hours was generally determined by the emphasis placed upon volunteers by the unit commander and FRG leader.

The VMIS debuted in December 2005 and it will be fully implemented by April 1. Essentially, it is an on-line decentralized data entry system available at the 'myarmylifetoo' website. The biggest change to the system other than a few name changes is that the volunteer is now in the driver's seat.

VMIS places responsibility for



Volunteers Bobbie Hanlon (standing) and Robertta Cole spend many hours at Army Community Service where the Army's new Volunteer Management Information System (VMIS) helps them keep track of volunteer hours more efficiently.

tracking and inputting hours back in the hands of the person they matter to the most — the volunteer. Volunteers can also input their training certificates, and their volunteer record will be easily accessible during military moves.

Additionally, recognizing volunteers for service will also be easier as all data transfers from place to place, and volunteer awards requiring specific standards be met will be easier to verify and attain.

The first step in implementing the new system at unit level is to identify an organizational point of contact (OPOC). The OPOC ac-

ording to Henderson is the cornerstone of the program. OPOC registration started on Dec. 1 and was to be completed by Dec. 30, 2005. Henderson urged units that have not received an invitation email from her or have not registered already to contact her directly.

"The OPOC is designated by the unit commander at company level and is normally going to be the FRG leader or another key person within the FRG," she explained. "So far, I have 20 OPOCs registered out of 70 that I have email information on."

OPOCs perform a myriad of

tasks. Beginning Jan. 1, registered OPOCs entered job descriptions for their various FRG volunteer positions. Most units will only need to enter between six and 10 key volunteer positions, a process that should take approximately an hour said Henderson.

Positions can include the FRG leader, co-leader, welcome coordinator, treasurer, special event coordinator or any other identified by the unit as essen-

tial to the FRG operation. Standard job descriptions are available to assist the OPOC and they can be modified to fit a unit's specific needs.

Once the OPOC completes the VMIS administrative tasks, "invitations" to register will be sent to the key volunteers. Registration of volunteers is slated to begin March 1 with a test of the system to occur on April 1.

Long-time volunteer, Bobbie Hanlon, said, "This is wonderful. You can input your hours on-line as they happen, and you don't have to involve anybody. It should really help make the FRG leader's life easier."

"I also think we will see a huge increase in volunteerism because implementing the hours and maintaining your volunteer record is so much simpler."

Henderson stated that the 2006 volunteer recognition awards would be compiled under the new system.

"If you are not in the system, you are not eligible," she said.

The current award system recognizes volunteers at installation and division level both quarterly and annually. Recognizing volunteers is important, but also, documented volunteer service helps in establishing a resume and opening future employment prospects.

For more information on the new program, contact Cathie Henderson at 655-1703.



# 'Sports Day' builds camaraderie with Indians

Story and Photos by  
**SPC. MIKE ALBERTS**  
3rd Brigade Public Affairs

CHAUBATTIA, India — For a moment, words like war and terrorism had little meaning. For a moment, Soldiers were not practicing tactical battle drills or maintaining weapons.

January 20, Soldiers from 3rd Brigade's Charlie Company and attached elements of 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, participated in an afternoon of friendly sports competition, termed "Sports Day," with Soldiers from India's Kumaon Regiment, Bravo Company, 9th Battalion, at the regiment's sporting fields here.

U.S. Soldiers are in India participating with the Indian Army in joint, cooperative training exercises called Yudh Abhyas.

"Today is a day for these American and Indian Soldiers to take a break from training and to do something that they will remember for the rest of their lives," said Maj. Tanuj Pandey, adjutant officer, 9th Kumaon Regiment. "We also wanted to do something fun to boost morale and camaraderie among the troops before they really begin the demanding training ahead," said Pandey.

Soldiers played the sport of their choice on mixed American and Indian teams. The games included soccer,



Physical conditioning during phase one training included handball at the regiment's athletic fields

basketball, volleyball and handball. U.S. Soldiers were also introduced to Soldiers of the Indian Army's 10th Battalion, Assam Regiment.

The "Thundering Tenth," the regimental motto, was on hand to help officiate the

games, spectate and display its soccer prowess at the conclusion of the competition. The 10th fielded a soccer team that competed against the best of the mixed Indian/American soccer team.

"This gave all of us a

chance to relax and get out of our military mindset for awhile," said Sgt. Michael McKnight, medic, 2-27th. "The Indian Soldiers are very nice people. It was good to get to know them in a way that didn't involve training," he added.

Pvt. Jared Ward, signal support systems specialist, 2-27th, agreed.

"It was fun to interact with their soldiers. Even though we come from different countries, we have similar interests in sports," said Ward. "This is my first time out of our country, so it has been a new experience," Ward continued. "[This trip in general] has been good for me to see that the Indian Soldier is doing the same thing that the American Soldier is doing in fighting terrorism."

At the end of the day, the Kumaon Regiment hosted a reception on the sports fields. Soldiers mingled with each other, enjoying coffee, tea and snacks on the chilly, winter afternoon.

So which teams won? Nobody cared.

## MWR Briefs

From B-2

5 p.m. For more information, call 655-6465.

## MARCH

10 / Friday

**Creative Writing Contest** — Put your most life-changing experience into words in the "Army Libraries and Leisure Activities Creative Writing Contest." Entry forms are available at all Army libraries and Leisure Activities.

Deadline to enter is March 10, and winners will be selected on April 5.

Three prizes will be awarded: first place, \$150; second place, \$100 and third place, \$50. For more information, call 655-0111.

## ONGOING

**Youth Baseball/Softball** — Registration for Hawaii Youth Sports baseball and softball will be held now through Feb. 21 at AMR, Fort Shafter, Schofield Barracks, Helemano Military Reservation and Wheeler Army Air Field Youth Centers.

First-time participants must sign up with the CYS Registration Office before they can register for activities. For baseball and softball, the Hawaii Youth Sports League is open to youth born in 1987 to 2000.

Cost is \$55 for baseball or softball and \$45 for T-Ball and

Coach-Pitch. For more information, contact your area sports director.

friend. Call 655-2263 for more information.

**SKIES Unlimited** — Your one-stop program for child and youth instructional classes is SKIES Unlimited. Current offerings include music, martial arts, gymnastics and driver education classes, as well as babysitting certification, which include CPR and first aid courses.

Hula, "Introduction to Dance" for 3- to 9-year-olds (tap, ballet, movement and tumbling) and street dancing are also available. Plus, coming soon are modeling and tiny tot opportunities. For more information, call 655-5525.

**Arts and Crafts Center** — The Fort Shafter and Schofield Barracks Arts and Crafts Centers offer a wide variety of services including free estimates, laser engraving, recognition awards, custom framing and ready-made farewell gifts.

For more information, call 655-6330 (Schofield Barracks) or 438-1315 (Fort Shafter).

**Karaoke at Reggie's** — Join the fun and sing on Thursdays and Fridays at Reggie's Karaoke from 8 to 10 p.m. The cost to sing is \$1 per song.

Enjoy a special pupu menu and ice-cold beverages, too. For more information, call 655-4466.

**Youth Sponsorship** — If you are new to Hawaii and between the ages of 5 and 18, CYS has a welcome gift for you and a youth sponsor who wants to be your

**Brazilian Capoeira** — Develop the mind, body and spirit to include physical fitness, self-defense and self-discipline through Brazilian Capoeira. Classes are offered Tuesdays from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. at the Fort Shafter Physical Fitness Center. For more information, call instructor Mestre Kinha at 247-7890.

**Leilehua Golf Course Driving Range** — The golf driving range is open until 9:30 p.m. on weekdays, Monday through Friday, at the Leilehua Golf Course. Call 655-4653 for more information.

**Chess Club** — Come and play chess every Monday from 5 to 8:30 p.m. at the Tropics. Competitors must have their own equipment; a few sets will be available for those without. For more information, call the Tropics at 655-0002.

**MWR Happenings** — Find out more information about MWR activities, programs and facilities, pick-up a copy of the Discovery magazine available at the Schofield Barracks Commissary, Fort Shafter Post Exchange, Aliamanu Shoppette, Tripler mauka entrance, any MWR facility, or visit the MWR Web site at [www.mwrarmyhawaii.com](http://www.mwrarmyhawaii.com).

**Job Search** — Visit, browse and apply for federal jobs that are available in Hawaii at [www.nafjobs.com](http://www.nafjobs.com).

Spc. Mike Alberts | 3rd Brigade Public Affairs

## Dawn on the Asian continent

As the sun rises over the Almora Mountains in Chaubattia, India, two Soldiers, one Indian and the other American, run side-by-side during the wee early morning hours of physical training. U.S. troops are in India as part of joint training exercises.