

INSIDE

Pres. Bush engages Congress for 3.5 percent troop pay raise

GERRY J. GILMORE
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Military members received a three percent pay raise effective Jan. 1, as President Bush urged Congress to revise some provisions regarding Iraq contained in the fiscal 2008 National Defense Authorization Act.

The president authorized the three percent pay raise in an executive order. The act includes authorization for a 0.5 percent additional pay raise for U.S. troops, but the president has, for now, elected not to sign the defense authorization bill in its present form while Congress is adjourned, a

RELATED STORY

• Soldiers and families can also expect to see a bump in their housing allowance this year. See related story, A-8.

practice known as a “pocket veto.”

On Dec. 28, President Bush announced his displeasure with some language pertaining to Iraq in the current version of the act, according to White House documents released that day. The president said he won't sign off on the bill until it is revised. Congress is now on its holiday recess.

In a statement, the president urged Congress “to ensure that any provisions affecting service member pay and bonuses, as well as provisions extending expiring authorities, are retroactive to Jan. 1, 2008.”

“The [Defense] Department will work closely with Congress toward the three point five percent pay raise effective January 1, as originally envisioned in the bill,” Bill Carr, deputy undersecretary of defense for military personnel policy, said in a statement released Dec. 31.

“Likewise,” Carr’s statement continued, “we will work to ensure the final bill features no interruption of bonus authorities.”

Recruiters face new challenge

DONNA MILES
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Recruiters, particularly in the Army, have a new challenge to deal with because the enlistment bonuses they count on to attract new recruits won't apply until the legislation that authorizes them passes into law.

Bill Carr, deputy undersecretary of defense for military personnel

policy, said

the fiscal 2008

National Defense

Authorization Act

includes authori-

ties for a variety of

special and incentive

pays, including en-

listment and

re-enlistment bonuses.

President Bush announced Dec. 28 that he won't sign the bill in its present form; he wants Congress to revise some of its provisions regarding Iraq.

As a result, recruiters find themselves having to tell prospective recruits they may be able to offer enlistment bonuses, but can't make any promises. So recruits end up signing contingency contracts that acknowledge they could feasibly get no bonus.

“If we signed a contract today for a bonus, we have to be clear that, while we mention the bonus and while we plan on the bonus, we can't guarantee it,” Carr said. “That can have a chilling impact on the propensity of a person to sign one of those contracts,” he continued. “That might affect their willingness to enter into a contract that conditionally promises a bonus.”

While the situation affects re-enlistments, too, Carr said the impact isn't expected to be as big, or as immediate, as with recruiting bonuses. He said that's because many people already in the military have seen similar situations — in 1993, 1996 and most recently in 2006 — and understand that it's probably just a temporary hiccup.

“It has happened before, and Congress in the past has always gone back and made whole any circumstances that occurred during the lapse in authority,” Carr said.

Carr said he's “guardedly optimistic” that Congress will do the same this year and make bonus payments in the authorization act retroactive to Jan. 1, and hopes the situation will be resolved soon.

“When we upset the plans and the momentum you have in force, that is not good,” Carr said.

Another downside of the authorization act impasse is its impact on service members' paychecks. The 2008 Defense Authorization Act had called for a 3.5 percent pay raise for military members.

Carr said he hopes Congress will approve making the 3.5 percent hike retroactive to Jan. 1, as it has in the past.



Bridge of peace

As chief provost marshal, Don Devaney has impacted individuals and cultures far beyond Tripler's gates

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Town Hall

Voice your concerns at the Oahu North Town Hall meeting Tuesday, Jan. 15, 6:30 p.m., at Schofield's Sgt. Smith Theater.

See News Briefs, A-7

Celebrating the dream

The 45th Sustainment Brigade will host a Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration, Thursday, Jan. 17, 11 a.m., at Schofield's Sgt. Smith Theater.

See Community Calendar, B-2



Bowling battles

The military's top bowlers converge at the Schofield Barracks Bowling Center this week to tackle “sharks” and “scorpions”

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OIF

First field & fire

CAMP TAJI, Iraq — Soldiers from B Battery “Banditos,” 2nd Battalion, 11th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, start their fire mission with the M777 Lightweight 155mm Howitzer here, Jan. 2. The Banditos are the first Army unit to field and fire the cannon system in Iraq.

Tech. Sgt. William Greer | 30th Space Wing Public Affairs

USARPAC bids aloha to Maj. Gen. Brandenburg

SGT. 1ST CLASS JASON SHEPHERD
U.S. Army, Pacific, Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER — U.S. Army, Pacific (USARPAC), bid farewell to its deputy commanding general in a retirement ceremony at historic Palm Circle here, Friday.

Maj. Gen. William Brandenburg will retire March 1 with almost 35 years of service, most recently as the USARPAC deputy command general and commander of the 8th Theater Sustainment Command.

Lt. Gen. John M. Brown III, commanding general, USARPAC, hosted the event and said that of all the retirement ceremonies he has been a part of, this one was the most difficult.

“Today, we honor and pay tribute to Major General William Brandenburg and his lovely wife, Sybil, as he turns the page to another chapter in his life,” Brown said. “We say farewell to [him] on the occasion of his

retirement from uniformed military service, a culmination of over 34 years of loyal, honorable, committed, and selfless service.”

During the ceremony, Brandenburg and USARPAC's Command Sgt. Maj. Joseph Zettlemoyer reviewed Soldiers on the field while the 11th Field Band played the marches of the 4th Infantry Division, 25th Infantry Division, 3rd Infantry Division, and the 15th Infantry Regiment, all units with which Brandenburg served during his Army career.

Lt. Gen. John M. Brown III (left), commanding general, U.S. Army, Pacific, congratulates Maj. Gen. William Brandenburg, deputy commanding general, USARPAC, at Brandenburg's official retirement ceremony on historic Palm Circle, Friday.

SEE BRANDENBURG A-3



Staff Sgt. Crista Yazzie | U.S. Army, Pacific, Public Affairs

Warrior Transition Office focuses on listening to Soldiers and families

ELIZABETH M. LORGE
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The deputy director of the Warrior Transition Office pledged Tuesday that his office, medical officials and Warrior Transition Unit (WTU) cadre will always listen to concerns wounded warriors and their families might have about their care.

Lt. Col. Chip Pierce told Soldiers Radio and Television in an interview Tuesday that one of the lessons the Army Medical Department has learned as a result of the Army Medical Action Plan is that it didn't have a system in place last year to listen to pa-

tients and their families.

“It wasn't that anyone was trying to rush anyone else through the system, but we weren't looking at the entire process through their eyes,” he said. “Now we have, we believe, a system in place to better understand what's going through our patients' lives and understand it through their own stories.”

“We're also looking at continued ways to better the administrative efficiency and cut out some of the additional red tape that we're running across. We want to make sure that all of our cadre members, every member of our team, are fully prepared to listen and act on behalf of those Soldiers and their

families, and we're trying to get the word out that they are an advocate of change,” he said.

The 35 WTUs Armywide currently have approximately 8,900 wounded warriors and 1,500 cadre assigned to them. Many of the WTU cadre have volunteered for their assignments, and each officer or noncommissioned officer goes through an interview process before he or she is selected.

Wounded warriors are also assigned a primary care manager, a nurse case manager and squad leader to ensure no Soldier top notch care. They follow up with Soldiers after they return to their units or transfer to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

“We're crossing the entire spectrum of care from healthcare to administrative and leadership care,” said Pierce. “The triad works as a comprehensive team together with the Soldier and the Soldier's family so that no question is left unanswered and each member of the triad fully understands the implications of the care treatment and administration for the Soldiers.”

Every WTU and medical treatment facility also has an ombudsman who is available to answer questions and address concerns, but Pierce stressed that everyone at an Army hospital is an advocate for Soldiers and will get them help if they speak up.

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 656-3155, 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 full captions and bylines.

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Commander's Corner

Gate guards balance safety and expediency at Schofield, WAAF

LT. COL. MARK BOUSSY

Commander, U.S. Army Garrison, Oahu

One of the few downsides to living in paradise is the challenge of island traffic. Despite the fact that many of us live and work on Army installations, we are certainly not immune to many of the same traffic congestion challenges of most large cities. This article discusses some of the ongoing efforts to alleviate the frustration and traffic backups at our Army installation gates.

Please keep in mind we are trying to juggle the dictated force protection requirements of the Army and personal safety of those living and working on our installations. Also, please allow yourself enough time to reach your destination and remember that safety is paramount.

Traffic concerns at Schofield Barracks and Wheeler Army Air Field

In recent months, there has been a noticeable increase in traffic and commute times traveling around Schofield Barracks and Wheeler Army Air Field. Contrary to public speculation, U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii (USAG-HI) has not imposed any additional security measures or restrictions on gate access, which might have increased traffic congestion and delays. However, a number of other contributing factors do play a role, some of which are highlighted below.

Traffic delays caused by several factors

- Increased population on our installation due to ongoing Army transformation initiatives.
- Hundreds of additional contractors working on Army installations in support of transformation and unit re-set contracts.
- An infrastructure that does not support the size of our population. For example, we don't have a road network – both on and off-post – that adequately supports the number of cars that use this area.
- Additionally, our gates are in confined spaces, have a limited number of lanes and most gates have minimal staging capabilities. We just don't have the ability to open more than two lanes at any of our gates.
- Inclement weather and traffic accidents can also have a significant impact.

Why is access at other installations sometimes less restrictive?

The Department of the Army (DA) policy requires 100 percent identification checks of all personnel entering any Army installation. There are few exceptions and they have to do with DA's criteria for designation as an "installation."

For example, Tripler Army Medical Center (TAMC) is not considered an "installation" as defined by DA, giving TAMC some flexibility in

its implementation of the 100 percent identification check requirement. On the other hand, Schofield Barracks, Wheeler Army Air Field and Fort Shafter are designated as "installations," and as such, are subject to this requirement 24/7.

Initiatives to alleviate traffic delays during peak-use hours

To mitigate installation traffic congestion during peak-use hours, all access control personnel will no longer physically handle and inspect identification cards between the hours of 5:30-9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Monday - Friday. This applies to all USAG-HI Army Installation access control points (ACPs).

During these hours, ACP guards are not required to touch or hold vehicle occupant ID cards to verify identification. Vehicle occupants may hold their identification cards within clear view of the guard to expedite access on to the installation. Additionally, USAG-HI has sent forward a request to the DA to authorize and approve less stringent inspection procedures while not lessening our ability to execute proper force protection measures.

At Schofield Barracks, we continue to see most people going to a couple of gates, creating huge lines, while at other gates there is no wait, such as McComb Gate. Drivers commuting from the North Shore should be aware that if they encounter long lines at McNair Gate, they can move on to Macomb Gate where there is typically a much shorter line.

Additionally, Soldiers and civilians are encouraged to carpool, take alternate routes or change commutes or work schedules whenever possible. Vehicles without military decals should enter Schofield through Lyman Gate (visitor's gate on Kunia Road) to avoid causing delays at other gates.

At Fort Shafter, in addition to the modified identification check requirements stated above, all traffic entering Fort Shafter will now be directed to the right lane during the hours of 6-9 a.m. and noon-1:30 p.m., to alleviate traffic delays and reduce congestion at the gates. Diverting all cars into the lower ID inspection area will increase vehicle throughput while allowing more cars to proceed through the stop light on the overpass.

For more information regarding these or other community issues or policies, contact the Oahu North Community Director's Office at 655-0497 or the Oahu South Community Director's Office at 438-6996; my staff will be happy to assist you.



Boussy

Army looking to tap troops not yet deployed

FRED W. BAKER III

Army News Service

WASHINGTON – The Army's assignments branch is reaching out to Soldiers who have not deployed to combat to take some of the strain off of those who have deployed more than once.

More than half of the current 522,000-plus active duty Army force has deployed to combat, said Army Maj. Gen. Sean J. Byrne, commander, U.S. Army Human Resources Command (HRC), in Alexandria, Va. Nearly a third are pending deployment, are in a deployable unit or still going through their initial training, he said.

Only seven percent, or about 37,000 Soldiers, have not deployed and are not scheduled to deploy, Byrne said during a teleconference with Internet journalists and "bloggers." Those Soldiers hold "institutional" slots in the Army at training posts, such as drill sergeants, or in recruiting commands, he said.

Now, the assignments branch is tracking and monitoring those Soldiers and, when it is practical, will swap them out with other Soldiers due for second or third deployments.

"We are working to identify those Soldiers who have not deployed and deploy them when it makes sense," Byrne said. "As we move these Soldiers into deploying units, those who have deployed can subse-

quently move out. They can take a break."

Byrne emphasized that managers will not slot Soldiers for combat simply because the Soldier has not deployed, but that assignments managers will match skills, experience and training with deploying positions.

"Deploying a Soldier is much more complex than simply deciding that he or she is to deploy," Byrne said. "So we're reaching out to those who have not deployed, but we're trying to do it as smartly as possible. We don't place people in jobs they're not trained for. It does the Soldier no good, and it clearly does the Army no good."

Rank plays a factor in assignments, as there is a greater need for lower-ranking officers and enlisted Soldiers. As Soldiers are promoted, fewer slots are available. Soldiers' military specialty also makes a difference. Some specialties are needed stateside more than overseas. Others are in higher demand in combat than in the U.S.

"This is a tough issue," Byrne said. "We're doing everything we can to have equity throughout the force."

Infantry, aviation, engineer, transportation and field artillery jobs are the most frequently deployed to combat, Byrne said.

(Editor's Note: Fred W. Baker III writes for the American Forces Press Service.)



LIGHTNING SPIRIT

Conceive, believe and achieve New Year's resolutions for 2008

CHAPLAIN (CAPT.) CHRISTOPHER W. DEGN

3rd Brigade Special Troops Battalion Chaplain

It's that time of year again – the New Year. The time we think of starting over, doing things better, setting goals, making resolutions. Franklin-Covey, the time management and planning experts, released the results of their third annual New Year's Resolutions Survey, which polled 15,031 of its customers. Their top 10 resolutions ranked as follows:

1. Get out of debt or save money
2. Lose weight
3. Develop a healthy habit (for example, exercise or healthy eating)
4. Get organized
5. Develop a new skill or talent
6. Spend more time with family and friends
7. Other
8. Work less, play more
9. Break an unhealthy habit (for example, smoking, alcohol or overeating)
10. Change employment.

In the survey, 35 percent of the respondents break their New Year's resolutions by the end of January. Think about that for a moment. One third of us break our New Year's resolutions by the end of January. Why is that?

We want change, but we don't change. We annually wish for improvement, but we don't achieve it.

As a chaplain, I deal daily with people who wish to change, to grow, to better themselves and their relationships. What keeps some of them from going from the conception of a goal to the achievement of the same?

With my counselees, I practice a form of counseling known as "cognitive behavioral therapy." I heard a pro-

fessor describe it in layman's terms very effectively as, "what one's mind can conceive and his heart can believe, his hands can achieve."

I have the counselee focus on setting goals, believe in them, and then work daily and consistently to achieve them. Setting resolutions is easy. As the survey points out, the conception part is no sweat for us in January. The challenge is believing we can do it from February on so that we achieve the goal by December. Belief is the key.

We find vivid imagery of the importance of belief in fulfilling our New Year's resolutions in Jesus' Parable of the Sower.

"A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop – a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown" (Matthew 13:3-8, NIV).

What kind of soil do you plant your resolutions in? Most of us would probably admit that the roots of our resolutions don't grow too deep. If you've set the resolution year after year without the desired results, then maybe it's not the resolution that is the problem, but rather your lack of belief in your capacity to achieve the goal. A positive mental attitude backed by action will push the roots

of your resolution deeper into the soil of your daily living.

St. Francis of Assisi once said, "Two men looked through self-made bars. One saw mud, the other saw stars."

We have to believe to achieve. Belief is motivated by a true desire for change. In addiction circles, addicts speak of the "rock bottom moment," when the damaging impact of their nasty habit reaches a critical turning point, thus giving them the impetus to burst out of the self-made prison the habit created for them. They've reached bottom, so now they have nowhere to look but up.

Military leaders do not lower standards. God does not lower his. We must raise the level of our performance rather than expect the bar to be lowered to our previously dismal efforts.

"Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind" (Romans 12:2, NIV).

The Apostle Paul encouraged the Romans to lift their eyes up from the ground and look toward heaven. He challenged them to renew their minds, to transform their hearts – in short, to believe in a better future. That kind of strong belief, coupled with a little inspiration obtained through meditation, prayer, and scripture study, will carry your resolutions into February, March and throughout 2008.

There is a famous Japanese work philosophy called "kaizen" that focuses on making the small daily improvements necessary to achieve the bigger long-term goal. As your belief in yourself and the possibilities of 2008 grows stronger, you can progress one day at a time until you eventually achieve your goals.

Remember: Daily belief will motivate small, daily changes, and by those small things you do, great things will happen.



Degn

8 days since last fatal accident

Number represents fatal accidents as defined by Army Regulation 385-10, which is inclusive of all active component U.S. Army units and personnel. Current as of 1/9/08.



"Finish school."

Spc. Anthony Benavidez
8th TSC



"Pay off my loans."

Spc. Tara Darby
205th MI Bn.



"Promotion for one thing is a goal, but to compete in an amateur bodybuilding competition at 50 years old."

Spc. Michael Griffin
205th MI Bn.



"Spend more quality time with my children. They're teenagers now and soon they will be leaving home. ... To give the right advice about how to face challenges in life such as school and starting a family."

Chief Warrant Officer 4
Carlos Martinez
8th TSC



"Working on an upgrade – focus on going to college, and getting my E7."

Sgt. Justin Rainey
8th TSC

Voices of Lightning: What will you do differently this year?

Former aid to Hussein will visit Schofield next week

SPC. CARLEE ROSS
25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Gen. Georges Sada, former top military aid to Saddam Hussein, will be a special guest speaker at Schofield Barracks Jan. 17. Sada, a retired general of the Iraqi air force and author of "Saddam's Secrets: How an Iraqi General Defied and Survived Saddam Hussein," was invited to Hawaii by local Christian groups. He was also



Sada

asked by Maj. Gen. Benjamin Mixon, commander, 25th Infantry Division, to speak to Soldiers and their families at a prayer breakfast and a leader professional development conference. Sada currently

serves as the senior warden of the St. Georges Anglican Church and is the president of the National Presbyterian Church, both of which are in Baghdad. He is also chairman of the Assembly of Iraqi Evangelical Presbyterian Churches. Graduating from the Iraqi Air Academy in 1959, Sada served as an air force officer and studied overseas in England, the USSR and U.S. He officially retired in 1986 as a two-

star general, but was called back to active service for the 1990 invasion of Kuwait. After the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq in 2003, Sada sided with the U.S.-led government and was a designated spokesman for the interim leader Iyad Allawi. He also held a position as a national security advisor to the U.S. During Sada's visit, he will discuss his current views on Iraq and ways he believes the country has progressed. He will

also attend several conferences with local churches during his stay on the island. The prayer breakfast will begin at 7 a.m. at the Nehelani, and the leader professional development conference will begin at 9 a.m. in the Post Conference Room. Both events are scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 17. For free tickets to attend the prayer breakfast, contact the chaplain's cell phone at 655-0739.



Hawaii Army Weekly File Photo

Upcoming leadership changes

The U.S. Army Hawaii community is invited to attend the multitude of change of command ceremonies occurring in January. Each will be preceded by an awards ceremony, 15 minutes prior to the change of command, and will be held at Sills Field, Schofield Barracks, unless noted otherwise. *(Editor's Note: All information is subject to change.)* Jan. 11, 10 a.m., 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team. Col. Patrick Stackpole will relinquish command to Col. Walt Piatt.

Jan. 15, 10 a.m., 3rd Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment. Lt. Col. Michael Fleetwood will relinquish command to Lt. Col. Gregory Baker. Jan. 16, 10 a.m., 209th Aviation Support Battalion. Lt. Col. William Fisher will relinquish command. Jan. 17, 2 p.m., 25th Combat Aviation Brigade. Col. Arthur Ball will relinquish command to Col. Michael Lundy. Jan. 30, 10 a.m., 25th Infantry Division commanding general. Maj. Gen. Benjamin Mixon's successor has not been announced.

Brandenburg: Leader commended

CONTINUED FROM A-1

All of USARPAC's major subordinate commands were represented on the field, consisting entirely of noncommissioned officers and led by sergeants major. Brandenburg received the Distinguished Service Medal, along with letters of appreciation from President George W. Bush, Army Chief of Staff Gen. George Casey and Gen. Richard Cody, Army vice chief of staff. Mrs. Brandenburg received the Public Service Award from the Army Chief of Staff for "dedication and genuine concern for quality of life and family assistance programs." The Brandenburgs also received the Honorable Order of Saint Maurice for "significant and lasting

contributions to the Infantry." During his speech, Brandenburg said that his family will spend a little time on the beach and the golf course to figure out where to go next. "You heard a lot of words today like distinguished and culminated," he said. "It makes it look like that's the end of the book, but I'd know that we're just beginning to write a new chapter." Brandenburg, a native of South Carolina, graduated from the Citadel, where he was commissioned in the infantry. He has since earned a master's degree in management. Brig. Gen. Francis J. Wiercinski replaced Brandenburg as the deputy commanding general, Dec. 17. Wiercinski's most recent assignment was the assistant division commander (support) for 25th ID and Multinational Division-North in Iraq.

Tripler's 'regular' chief provost marshal is anything but

Story and Photo by

KEVIN DOWNEY

Tripler Army Medical Center Public Affairs

TRIPLER ARMY MEDICAL CENTER — A conversation with the chief provost marshal here can be like listening to a loose jazz ensemble — with wandering, unique riffs that end up together neatly in rhythm, then unlink again. When in rhythm, Don Devaney's stories reveal he is a product of his 30-year Army provost marshal career — a career that took him from Japan during the Korean War to combat experience in Vietnam and beyond. But it's the seemingly unlinked individual solos of his service that eventually harmonize with the U.S. Army's role in monumental change in Asia's modern history.

A familiar face around the halls of this hospital since 1984, Devaney wants you to know he's a regular guy here. His heavy New England accent hints at his ties to the working-class manufacturing neighborhood in Rhode Island where he grew up. His fervent loyalty to Boston-area sports teams is a glimpse of the same loyalty he's shown his country. The storyteller-at-heart is quick to recall everyday stories of bravery in uniform, not of himself, but of those with whom he's stood beside throughout more than five decades of military and civilian service.

It's a theme evident more than once during a freewheeling, two-hour-long series of conversational riffs that range from American history to Devaney's roots to Red Sox Nation baseball fervor: an earnest, regular guy patrols these halls.

But in countries in Asia, it's different.

In Japan, he has spoken to packed auditoriums cheering his name. He's been given a Japanese name by an internationally famous high priest of Buddhism named Somon Horisawa. He's stood in rare company, waving goodbye to the reclusive emperor of Japan in a ceremony where he was the keynote speaker in the Shiga Prefecture of Japan, near Kyoto, last month.

"Picture that, regular me standing there with the Emperor of Japan!" Devaney exclaimed, as if he still doesn't quite believe it himself. "Me, of all people ..."

In Vietnam in 2005, he led a U.S. security detail for the Asia Pacific Military Medicine Conference, the annual multinational forum co-sponsored by the U.S. and a rotating host nation. The event held in Hanoi coincided with the 30th anniversary of the conflict's end, and demonstrated both nations' commitment to regional peace and humanity four decades later. The visit also coincided with Devaney's 40th anniversary of his first tour of duty during the war.

"In May 1965, I was an advisor to the army of the Republic of Vietnam as a scout dog platoon leader in the Mekong Delta at Can Tho and was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge, Bronze Star and Air Medal at the end of my tour," he related briefly, before telling a story about a fellow service member who was killed there in the line of duty, just months before his son was born. That son grew up to be a high-powered lawyer for Major League Baseball, and flew Devaney to his office in Washington, D.C. to learn more about the father he never met.

A Bridge of Peace

As the U.S. Army in Japan transitioned from occupational force to ally after World War II, local residents and Soldiers developed strong ties — often outlasting those who started them, which continue today. For example, then Sgt. Hugh O'Reilly's first trip to a dilapidated Japanese orphanage with members of the 27th Infantry Regiment "Wolfhounds" in 1949 grew into a relationship between the two nations, which celebrated its 50th anniversary this past July. Each year, orphans from Japan visit the Wolfhounds and stay with family members in Hawaii. The bond O'Reilly, a retired sergeant major who passed away last year, started with Holy Family Home in Osaka, Japan, inspired the 1955 Hollywood movie, "Three Stripes in the Sun."

Peace Bridge Inc., a nonprofit organization, was founded this year to carry on O'Reilly's legacy.

Devaney used the similar theme "a bridge of peace" in his speech, Nov. 13, to Japan's Shiga International Friendship Association (SIFA), comprised of influential Japanese business leaders, local government officials and supporters.

"One of the Army's strengths during that period was one-on-one interaction during nation building," said Devaney, who along with his Okinawan wife of 48 years, is a personal friend of the O'Reilly family. "From my experience, both sides [America and Japan] on an individual level tried to respect each other and the local

customs each side had."

Big in Japan

As a 17-year-old in 1953, Devaney enlisted in the Rhode Island National Guard during the Korean Conflict to feel like he was doing his part to serve America. A year later, he switched to active duty and was sent to locations in Japan as a military policeman. He stayed in Japan with few breaks until 1963.

It was during this time period that SIFA, whose mission is to foster improved relationships between the prefecture and other people

and organizations throughout the world, contacted Devaney. The group was looking to build friendships with American Soldiers serving in the country during the pivotal years after World War II. One of the group's influential members e-mailed Devaney and established a pen-pal relationship.

Several years later, the organization invited Devaney to deliver a keynote address, as a distant relation to Commodore Matthew C. Perry, on the ties between America and Japan for a convention in Otsu, Japan. The emperor and



Tripler Army Medical Center Chief Provost Marshal Don Devaney displays a Japanese medal symbolizing friendship, given to him by members of the Shiga International Friendship Association for his speech about the relationship between Japan and America, Nov. 13, in Otsu, Shiga Prefecture, Japan.

SEE DEVANEY A-4

Devaney: 30-year career spans multiple countries and cultures

CONTINUED FROM A-4

empress of Japan attended the event. As part of the official party, Devaney was selected to bid farewell to the royal couple. Local high-ranking government and police officials also escorted Devaney on tours of historic sights he had visited decades earlier, in addition to bestowing him with multiple friendship and career achievement medals.

“It seemed that time changes everything to some degree, yet a lot remained the same,” Devaney said about what his return to Shiga Prefecture after more than half a century. “I was not trying to go back in time, but if we can’t go back to someplace we love, then what are memories for?”

‘Universal Wind’

To understand the reverence Japanese people have shown Devaney in his visits to their country is to understand the history of the U.S. military in the Pacific.

His Japanese name “Sofu,” given to him during his vacation to Japan in April, means “universal wind,” which Devaney joked and said proved his destiny.

“It means I’m a born windbag,” he said, laughing, after a long-winded chat.

Devaney talked about himself as a regular guy who has had the honor of traveling in important circles in Asia due to his Army career, and the respect he has reciprocated as a guest by valuing local culture.

If Devaney’s military career in Asia provided the accent notes, making this impromptu jam session unique, the Army has been the root melody, tidily holding the song together.

Voter registration push gets underway

DAVE MELANCON

Army News Service

HEIDELBERG, Germany – The 2008 election year kicked off Jan. 3 with the Iowa caucuses and New Hampshire’s presidential primary, which took place Tuesday. Other states’ primaries, many with bumped-up voting dates, follow right behind the Granite State.

And Election Day, Nov. 4, is less than a year away. So there is no time like the present to register to vote, say voting assistance officers.

Throughout the Army, voting assistance officers (VAO) are helping Soldiers, family members, Department of Defense civilian employees, retirees and contractors register to vote. Voting assistance officers can also identify a voter’s county of record back home and will assist with filling out the federal postcard application. Plus, VAOs can help other U.S. citizens, who are not associated with the military register as well.

While processes vary, all 50 states and U.S. territories recognize and accept the federal postcard application (FPCA) – U.S.

Government Printing Office Standard Form 76. The form can be obtained from a VAO or downloaded from the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) Web site.

After completing an FPCA, voters need to forward it to their county election officers because the FPCA registers the individual and requests an absentee ballot.

Voters still should check with their state’s secretary of state or director of elections for state-specific laws and guidance.

Every state is different when it comes to registration procedures and deadlines for getting the federal post card registration to a county registrar. Links to state registrars can be found on the FVAP’s Web site.

To ensure Soldiers find the right person to assist them, lists of trained garrison VAOs are continuously updated and maintained by garrison directorates of human resources.

For more information, contact your unit or U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii, VAO or visit the FVAP Web site at www.fvap.gov.

(Editor’s Note: Dave Melancon writes for U.S. Army Garrison, Heidelberg, Public Affairs.)

**Election and primary dates:
The general election is Tuesday, Nov. 4, 2008. Presidential primaries will be held the following dates in various states:**

Jan. 29 – Florida, South Carolina
Feb. 5 – Alabama, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Utah

Feb. 12 – Maryland and Virginia
March 4 – Massachusetts, Ohio, Rhode Island and Texas

April 22 – Pennsylvania

May 6 – Indiana and North Carolina

May 13 – Nebraska and West Virginia

May 20 – Kentucky and Oregon

May 27 – Idaho

June 3 – Montana and South Dakota

Visit your state election Web site for updates and state primary dates. State links are available from the Department of Defense Federal Voting Assistance Program Web site at www.fvap.gov

News Briefs

Send news announcements for Soldiers and civilian employees to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

11 / Today

Best Sapper Competition – Registration is now open for the fourth annual Best Sapper Competition. The event, which is sponsored by the Army Engineer School's Sapper Leader Course, will be held May 6-8 at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

Registration is open to all Soldiers serving in the 21-series career field. The competition, organized in two-man buddy teams, is designed to test the knowledge, physical prowess and mental fortitude of engineer Soldiers throughout the regiment.

For 52 hours, teams will compete in several grueling events, which involve demolitions, mountaineering, U.S. and threat weapons and land navigation, military and nonmilitary awards, along with bragging rights, will be given to the top three teams.

For more information, contact the Fort Leonard Wood Public Affairs Office at (573) 563-6212 or to register, visit www.wood.army.mil/sapper.

Gate Closure – Schofield Barracks' Macomb Gate will be closed today, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., to remove Christmas decorations. Visitors and residents should use Foote and Lyman Gates as alternate routes. Call 656-5141, ext. 2022.

Employer Award – National Guard, Reserve members and their families are encouraged to nominate employers who have gone above and beyond in their support of military employees. The Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award is the U.S. government's highest recognition given to outstanding employers.

Nominations will be accepted at www.esgr.mil today through Jan. 21.

14 / Monday

Parking Lot Closure – The parking lot adjacent to the Fort Shafter Youth Center, Building 505, will be closed from Jan. 14-21 for repaving. Call 438-9281.

15 / Tuesday

Oahu North Community Town Hall – The next town hall meeting for the Oahu North community will be held at the Sgt. Smith Theater, Schofield Barracks, Jan. 15, at 6:30 p.m. The town hall provides information about community events, security, housing updates, deployments and much more. A sign language interpreter is available. Call Melvin Wright at 655-0497.

16 / Wednesday

Post Exchange Meeting – The next Fort Shafter Post Exchange Meeting for the Oahu South community will be held Jan. 16, 10-11 a.m., at the Aloha Center, Fort Shafter, Room 201C.

All Fort Shafter community members are invited to attend and provide input. Call Rosey Stone at 438-6147.

New year brings higher housing allowance to most families

FRED W. BAKER III
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Most service members receiving a housing allowance will see more in their 2008 paychecks.

The average increase more than doubled for 2008 at 7.3 percent over last year's 3.5 percent average increase.

The Defense Department will pump an additional \$600 million into the housing allowance program, for a total of \$17.5 billion for 2008. This is paid out to 1.2 million service members receiving the allowance.

Overall, members with dependents will see an average increase of \$83 a month, according to a Defense Department release. An E-4 with dependents will see about a \$63-per-month increase, while an E-8 will pocket about \$79 more.

Not all rates saw increases, though. Rates are based on average current rent, utilities and



For additional information, visit www.defenselink.mil/releases/release.aspx?releaseid=11549 and <http://perdiem.hqda.pentagon.mil/perdiem/bah.html>

renter insurance by market. In markets where those costs decreased, allowances went down accordingly. But a DoD rate-protection feature locks in rates for service members already living in an area to protect their current rental leases. The cost of buying a home is not included in the data.

Officials collect data on 369 military housing areas in the U.S., including Hawaii and Alaska. They then calculate 48 different rates per area based on pay grade and dependant status, to come up with more than 17,000 different rates. Of those, just under 12 percent of the allowance rates saw a decrease, according to officials.

Not surprisingly, cities in California, New

York and Hawaii took most spots on the top 10 highest allowance rates in the U.S. San Francisco saw the top rates for allowances with dependents at an average of \$2,853 monthly.

Military housing allowances have come under heavy scrutiny by Congress and senior department officials since the 1980s and have increased historically since 2000.

In 2005, housing rate increases represented a final phase of a DoD plan to eliminate service members' out-of-pocket housing expenses. Out-of-pocket expenses were estimated at nearly 20 percent in 2000, according to DoD releases.

"It's come a long way," said Susan Brumbaugh, director of the Basic Allowance for Housing, Per Diem, Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee. "It just gets better and better every year. The members are seeing increases in most locations every year, so the program is doing what it's supposed to do."



Hawaii Army Weekly File Photo

Spc. Aaron Compton, D. Co., 2-25 Avn. Bde., gets help from his sister Rachel (center) and mother, Abigail, while moving into his new home. The average housing allowance for service members more than doubled from 2007 to 2008.

Battle of the bow

Top military bowlers square off at Schofield

Story and Photos by
CHRISTINA DOUGLAS
Staff Writer

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS – Sharks and scorpions strike fear in the hearts of their prey ... in the bowling alley. They're known for being two of the most challenging Professional Bowlers Association "oil patterns." ("Sharks" refer to an oil pattern that extends 44 feet down the lane; "scorpions" are 42 feet but have a larger volume of oil. Both can impact a bowler's strategy.) Enter the complicated language of bowling.

Hosted by U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii, the 2008 Armed Forces Bowling Championship kicked off its competition at the bowling center here, Tuesday.

Two four-man teams – one male and one female – from each branch of service battled for the coveted team challenge title.

In the men's competition, the Air Force started strong in a head-to-head fight with the Marine Corps for the first four games. However, the Navy took everyone by surprise, stealing first place in the fifth game, and ultimately winning the men's team challenge title.

"I think we have a good team," said Roy Yamanuha, Navy team coach. "There's no real strategy."

Scott's the main reason we won today, added Yamanuha, referring to Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Scott McIntire, who had the highest pin count. Scott averaged more than 200 points per game, but also had the highest men's game score of 256.

"It was a really hard shot; spares were key," said McIntire. "I'm just trying to finish in the positive. (Translation: maintain more than a 200-point average.) The tryouts didn't go so well, so today was a plus."

Trailing a mere 44 pins behind the Navy was the Air Force, followed by the Marine Corps.

Team Challenge Final Standings

- Men
1. Navy, 4478
 2. Air Force, 4434
 3. Marine Corps, 4377
 4. Army, 4184

- Women
1. Air Force, 4277
 2. Navy, 3975
 3. Army, 3949
 4. Marine Corps, 1869
(only two bowlers)

"The Navy really came through today," said Air Force Coach Charles Hall. "We didn't even know about them."

One team that didn't surprise Hall was the women's Air Force team, which swept five of the six games in the challenge.

"It feels good," said five time Air Force team veteran, Lt. Col. Carol Becker. "We bowled well as a team."

"[The lanes] weren't as bad as we thought they would be," added 2nd Lt. Melody McTaggart, who finished with the highest pin count in the women's competition. "We just had to pick up our spares."

Following the Air Force in the women's competition, the Navy placed second; Army third; and the Marine Corps, fourth.

The Marine Corps was only able to fill two of the four female slots on this year's team.

"It's hard," said Rob Fleck, Marine Corps coach. "Everyone's deployed. I'm hoping we win a medal this week."

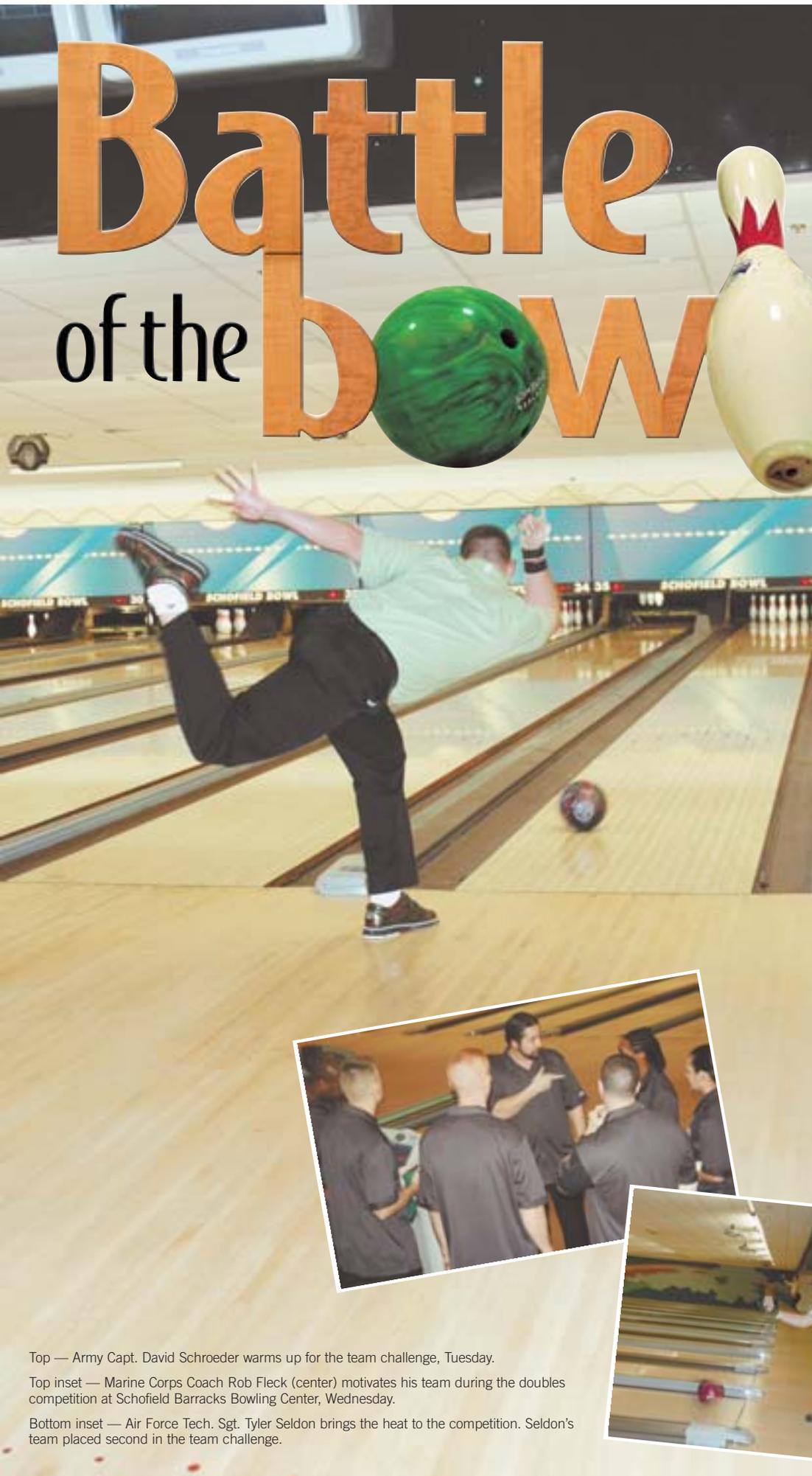
With an injured player and a fairly new team, the Army struggled its way through the day, placing third in the women's competition and last in the men's.

"We're letting it go," said Army Chief Warrant Officer Joyce Dawson. "We're going to go home, regroup and come back tomorrow. We just want a good performance, to bowl how we've been practicing, and bowl how we know we can bowl."

With only one event down and three to go, Army Team Coach Dean Ryan echoed Dawson's spirits for the remaining events.

"It will be an interesting week," Ryan said. "Tomorrow's competition has different conditions, hopefully the patterns will favor our bowlers."

(Editor's note: See next week's Hawaii Army Weekly for final standings in the competition.)



Top — Army Capt. David Schroeder warms up for the team challenge, Tuesday.

Top inset — Marine Corps Coach Rob Fleck (center) motivates his team during the doubles competition at Schofield Barracks Bowling Center, Wednesday.

Bottom inset — Air Force Tech. Sgt. Tyler Seldon brings the heat to the competition. Seldon's team placed second in the team challenge.

8-year-old 'kidcaster' gets his 1.5 minutes of fame on KGMB

MAJ. ANTHONY TAYLOR
9th Mission Support Command

HONOLULU – Like most military kids, Landon Jennings has had his share of moves throughout his 8-year lifetime. Counting preschool, Jennings has attended five schools in his academic career, including stints in Arkansas, New York, Kansas and Hawaii. The moves haven't fazed him a bit as he has learned to adapt quickly to new environments and new friends.

The youngster recently made another move – right to the top – when he entered his third grade class' best weatherman contest. As one of four finalists from Mililani Ike Elementary School, KGMB Channel 9 chose Jennings to do its "Kid-cast" weather forecast on live TV, Friday morning.

Showing up at 5:15 a.m. to the downtown station was quite an experience for Jennings, his family and third grade

teacher, Randi Shibuya. Landon performed his forecast with weatherperson Malika Dudley, who said Jennings did an outstanding job.

Though he enjoyed his one and a half minutes of fame, Jennings has mixed emotions about moving around so much as a military family member.

"I really hate leaving my old friends, but I do like making new ones," Jennings said.

The Jennings family moved to Mililani from Fort Leavenworth, Kan., a little more than one year ago. Since then, Landon has been successful inside and outside the classroom as part of his school's student council, academics and local sports teams. His success lies not only with his attitude, but in a strong support system, which includes his family and teacher, Shibuya.

Mililani Ike Elementary has a format in which teachers stay with their students for

two years. The continuity with Shibuya has helped Jennings excel.

"It's like Landon has been with our class all along," Shibuya said. "It's so easy to forget that he is the new kid. His parents were right about him blending in."

Landon's father, Maj. Kenneth Jennings of the 9th Mission Support Command, shared his son's outlook on moving.

"I hate moving my kids around so much," he said. "I always say that there will be four constants though – our religion, our family, academics and athletics. Those things stay the same from move to move."

Regardless of the moves, it's obvious Landon has learned to adapt well and is on the path to success wherever he goes.

(Editor's Note: Landon's weather forecast can be viewed at www.kgmb.com. Type "kidcaster" in the search box, and Landon's forecast is listed as "Kidcaster #9 Landon.")



Landon Jennings, 8, poses with the KGMB Channel 9 news team following his debut on "Kidcaster," Friday morning.



11 / Today

Poker Tournament of Champions – Come test your poker skills among the best of the best at the Tropics, Schofield Barracks, today, 5–9 p.m. Call 655-5697.

Kodak Photo Kiosk – The Arts and Crafts Center at Schofield Barracks, now has a Kodak Photo Kiosk. Copy, crop and retouch your photos cheaper than anywhere else. Call 655-4202.

16 / Wednesday

Big Time Urban R&B – Enjoy great music, card games and a cash bar, Wednesdays, 6:30–10 p.m. at the Schofield Barracks Nehelani. Patrons receive a free taco bar with a beverage purchase from 6:30–7:30 p.m. This is an adult event. Call 655-4466.

Letter Writing at the Library – Support our troops by writing letters of appreciation to deployed Soldiers. Children 6 years old and over, and adults are invited to Aliamanu Military Reservation (AMR) Library, Jan. 16, at 3:30 p.m. Call 833-4851.

Youth Art Contests – Keiki are invited to enter a youth art contest now through March 31, at Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks. Keiki 5 and under can pick up coloring sheets from any MWR Army Hawaii library.

Keiki 6 and older must submit their interpretation of a book in any medium. All submissions must be turned in to any MWR Army Hawaii library no later than March 31.

Call Sgt. Yano Library at 655-8002, Fort Shafter Library at 438-9521, and Aliamanu Military Reservation at 833-4851.

After School Snowy Tales – Celebrate the wonders of winter at the Fort Shafter Library, Jan. 16, at 3 p.m. Enjoy interactive stories and make your very own winter wonderland snow globe. Frosty fun for kids ages 5–12. Call 438-9521.

17 / Thursday

Autism Communications Training – Amy Wiech, a board certified behavior analyst, is offering training for parents of children with autism, Jan. 17, 24 & 31 and Feb. 7, 6–9 p.m. at Army Community Service, Schofield Barracks. Class will focus on teaching communication skills to children with autism and other developmental disabilities. Call 655-4777 for registration.

Texas Hold 'Em Tournament – Put your best poker face on and participate in a free Texas Hold 'Em tournament, Jan. 17,



University of Hawaii Army ROTC cadets demonstrate the proper technique for low-carrying their boat onto the beach at Waikiki.

Cadets 'row in' leadership training

Story and Photo by
CADET KATHARINA RIEBESEHL
University of Hawaii Army Reserve Officer Training Corps

HONOLULU – As the sun rises over the waters of Waikiki on a cool winter morning, most students are just rolling out of their beds, rubbing the sleep from their eyes and getting ready to start their day.

Cadets from the University of Hawaii (UH) Army Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) program, however, are already awake, standing in formation at Ala Moana Beach Park, and ready to participate in the latest leadership challenge event of the week.

The University of Hawaii Army ROTC cadets learned small boat operations during the final leadership lab of the semester.

"The boat operations lab was not just fun, but was also a good work out I thought," said an enthusiastic Cadet David Chavez. Cadet Billy Bridges said the event provided "great motivation, unity, and teamwork for all cadets."

The boat operations lab is conducted to prepare the cadets for the leadership development and assessment course and to test cadets' ability to work as a team while building camaraderie. The event boosts morale, promotes teamwork and friendly competition, enhances physical fitness and water confidence. "Overall it was a great lab. I really liked it," said Cadet Tron Sugai.

Learning in a classroom environment that consists of lectures and discussions is one thing, but no method can compete with hands-on training. This philosophy is the core the University of Hawaii's Army ROTC leadership labs.

6–9:30 p.m. Players must be seated by 5:45 p.m. Call 655-5697.

18 / Friday

Hot Country Nights – Join DJ Charlie Garrett, the Ghost Rider, and Kathleen, Rodeo Radio Girl, Jan. 18, 8 p.m.–midnight, for some great music, contests, giveaways and much more. Patrons must be 18 or older. Admission is free. Call 655-5697.

24 / Thursday

Chilton Library Demo – Do-it-yourselfers won't want to miss this free demo at Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks, from 2–6 p.m. A hands-on session of the Chilton Library database available on Army Knowledge Online (AKO) will be presented. The Chilton Library holds repair data for car, truck and van make and model combinations dating back to 1954. Call 655-8001.

Ongoing

Tropic Lightning – Enjoy a hot lunch buffet, Monday–Friday, 11 a.m.–2 p.m. at the KoleKole Bar & Grill, Schofield Barracks. Cost is \$8.95 per person. Call 655-4466.

Family Child Care – Individuals interested in caring for children in their home should inquire with the Child and Youth Services (CYS) Family Child Care (FCC) Program. Benefits include free training, additional income and flexible hours.

Call the AMR FCC office at 837-0236 or the Schofield Barracks FCC at 655-8373.

Auto Resale Lot – The Auto Resale Lot has been relocated right next to the Schofield Barracks Commissary. When standing in front of the commissary, the lot is on the left-hand side. The lot is now operated by the MWR, Schofield Barracks Automotive Crafts Center.

You can place your vehicle in the Resale Lot for as little as \$7 for seven days. Items required to place vehicles in the lot are a valid government ID card, state registration and license plate sticker, safety inspection papers and stickers, proof of Hawaii "No Fault" insurance, a base decal number, and a power of attorney, if you are not the registered owner.

Call 655-9368 for more details.

Pacific Teen Panel – Teens in grades 9–11 have the opportunity to learn leadership and public speaking while representing Fort Shafter, Tripler and AMR in monthly

teleconference/video teleconference calls with other teen panels in the Pacific such as Japan, Alaska and Kwajalein.

Teens are encouraged to volunteer at least eight hours to the program, prepare and conduct briefings, and maintain good grades in school.

Teens must be registered at CYS. Call 833-0920.

4H & Boys and Girls Clubs – The AMR Teen Center has a variety of social and leisure time recreation activities through local Boys & Girls Clubs and 4H (Health, Head, Hands, Heart) Clubs, including cooking, digital festivals, fine arts exhibits and photography contests.

The Teen Center also offers Torch (Middle School Teen Council) and Keystone Clubs (High School Teen Council). Call 833-0920.

Gymboree – SKIESUnlimited, in partnership with Army Hawaii Family Housing, is offering Gymboree to children 6 months–5 years old. These classes will help children build strong motor skills, social skills and self-esteem.

Classes are held the first four Wednesdays of each month. Call CYS at 655-9818.

and other vendors. Visit www.mlk-hawaii.com.

24 / Thursday

Magic Lessons – The Hawaii Magicians Society holds free beginners magic lessons at Kalihi-Palama Public Library, Community Room, 1325 Kalihi St., every fourth Thursday of the month, 6–7 p.m. Topics include card magic, rope magic, how to make our own production boxes, magic tables and more. Call 234-5262 or visit www.hawaiimagicians.com.

25 / Friday

Children's Drama Program – The Honolulu Theatre for Youth is now accepting participants for its "Imagine" drama program for grades K–6. The session runs for seven imaginative Saturday afternoons, Feb. 2–March 15, at Halawa District Park (99-795 Iwaiwa St.).

Students in the Imagine program dive deep into a drama adventure, exploring unique themes through story-building, creative movement and improvisation. Hands-on activities challenge the imagination, intellect and physical body. Participants learn to take risks, develop personal and inter-personal skills, and work together. On the final day students share what they have learned with family and friends. Imagine sessions are divided into grade levels. K-1st grade takes place 1:30–2:30 p.m.; 2nd–3rd grade, 2:40–3:40 p.m.; and 4th–6th grade, 3:45–4:45 p.m. Tuition is \$100 and scholarships are available. Call HTY at 839-9885. The deadline to enroll is Jan. 25.

26 / Saturday

MTA Swap Meet – Go second-hand shopping at the Mililani Town Association's (MTA) Swap Meet, Jan. 26, 9 a.m.–1 p.m. at Rec Center III. Vendors must sign up at the MTA office. Call 623-7300.

Community Square Dance – Hawaii Federation of Square Dance Clubs is hosting a free community dance at the Ala Wai Golf Course Multipurpose Recreation Facility, Jan. 26, 3–4:30 p.m. No dance experience is required. Call 624-9490.

<http://pineapple.free.toasthost.us/index.html>.

18 / Friday

Leilehua Blood Drive – Leilehua High School will host a blood drive at the school library Jan. 18, 8 a.m.–3 p.m. Call 622-6550.

MTA Movie Night – The Mililani Town Association (MTA) will host a family movie night at Rec Center III, Jan. 18, at 7 p.m. Admission for MTA members is \$2 or \$5 for family. Nonmembers pay \$4 or \$7 for family. Call 623-7300.

19 / Saturday

Sunset on the Beach – Enjoy live entertainment, food, crafters and more at the Queen's Surf Beach, Waikiki, Jan. 19–20. After the sun goes down, watch a movie on the big screen, right on the beach. Food booths open at 4 p.m. and the movie start at 6:30 p.m. Call 923-1094.

Music Department Fundraiser – Mililani High School's Music Department will hold a fundraiser dinner in the cafeteria, Jan. 19, 5–9 p.m. Cost is \$10 for a Hawaiian plate.

20 / Sunday

Parade of Champions – Cheer on the University of Hawaii football team and coaches at the Parade of Champions Jan. 20. The parade starts at 4 p.m. down Kalakaua Avenue, ending at Sunset on the Beach, with special program to follow.

MLK Candlelight Ceremony – Honor Martin Luther King at the Annual Candlelight Nagasaki Peace Bell Ringing Ceremony, Jan. 20, 7 p.m., at the Civic Center grounds of Honolulu Hale. Call 988-0555.

21 / Monday

MLK Parade – Check out the 20th annual Martin Luther King Day Parade, Jan. 21, at 9 a.m. The parade route begins to move down Kalakaua Avenue with a post-parade Unity Rally at Kapiolani Park with food, entertainment, community booths,

12, 9 a.m.–2 p.m. Come early for a prayer session at 8:30 a.m. Enjoy free mochi and cotton candy, live entertainment, games for kids and much more. The center is located at 95-030 Waihonu Street. Call 623-7693.

College Awareness Month – GEAR UP Hawaii will be hosting College Awareness Month at the following mall events in January for high school students. Jan. 12, 10 a.m.–noon, Windward Mall; and Jan. 19, 10 a.m.–2 p.m., Prince Kuhio Mall, Hilo. Visit gearup.hawaii.edu, or call 1-866-808-4327.

15 / Tuesday

Literature Awards Nominations – The Hawaii Literary Arts Council is accepting nominations for the 2007 Elliott Cades Awards for Literature. Cash prizes awarded to two winners. Entrants should include a letter summarizing the writer's accomplishments and samples. The deadline is Jan. 15. Call 263-5627.

Tango, Swing and Rumba – The Pearlridge Chapter of the Hawaii Ballroom Dance Association registers students Jan. 15 & 22 at Waimalu Elementary School cafeteria (98-825 Moanalua Rd.) for classes in tango, West Coast swing and rumba. Lessons will be held Tuesdays, today through March 18. Call 836-4579 or 488-3935.

Story Time in Mililani – Mililani Library will host story time Jan. 15 & 22, at 10:30 a.m. There will also be sing alongs and crafts. Call 627-7470.

17 / Thursday

MLK Celebration – The 45th Sustainment Brigade will host a Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration at Sgt. Smith Theater, Schofield Barracks, Jan. 17, 11 a.m.–noon. Call 655-4802.

Wahiawa Toastmasters – The Pineapple Wahiawa Toastmasters Club meets the first and third Thursday of each month at the Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks, 6:30–7:30 p.m. Call 622-0169, or visit



Send calendar announcements to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

11 / Today

"Encore!" Hawaiian Music Series – The Hawaii Theatre Center (HTC) continues its 85th anniversary "Encore!" series special presentation with an array of Hawaiian music concerts produced by Burton White, HTC's artistic director and general manager. The series begins today with "The Makaha Sons," a group known for the past three decades for its vibrant sound full and rich with harmonies. Tickets are \$35 at the HTC box office.

Other concerts in the upcoming series include the "New Traditionalists," Feb. 8, \$30; "The Brothers Cazimero," March 14, \$35; and "Holunape," April 25, \$30. Call 528-0506, or visit www.hawaiitheatre.com. All tickets are subject to a \$3 theatre restoration charge. Discounts available for HTC members, youth, students, military with ID and groups of 10 or more. All concerts are at 8 p.m. at the Hawaii Theatre, 1130 Bethel Street.

Parade Participants – Want to participate in the upcoming MLK Parade? Contact the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Coalition-Hawaii if you want your organization represented as a group in the Jan. 21 parade, or to be a vendor at the post-parade celebration, Kapiolani Park. The parade and vendor's application is online at www.mlk-hawaii.com. Completed applications may be faxed to Bill Rushing at 988-1777, or e-mail rushingrs@junoco.com. Call 741-4038.

12 / Saturday

Mochitsuki Festival – Honbushin International Center in Mililani will celebrate its 22nd annual Mochitsuki Festival, Jan.



Aliamanu (AMR) Chapel, 836-4599

- Catholic Sunday, 8:30 a.m. – Mass Sunday, 9:45 a.m. – Religious Education (Sept.–May only)
- Gospel Sunday, 11 a.m. – Sunday School (Sept.–June only) Sunday, 12:30 p.m. – Worship service
- Protestant Sundays, 9:45 a.m. – Worship Service Sunday, 11 a.m. – Sunday School (Sept. – June only)

Fort DeRussy Chapel, 836-4599

- Catholic Saturday, 5 p.m. – Mass in Chapel (May–Aug.) Saturday, 6 p.m. – Mass on Beach
- Protestant Sunday, 9 a.m. – Worship Service

Fort Shafter Chapel, 836-4599

- Contemporary Protestant Sunday, 9 a.m. – "The Wave" Worship

Helemano (HMR) Chapel

- Contemporary Protestant Sunday, 10 a.m. – Worship Service & Children's Church

Main Post Chapel, 655-9307

- Catholic Sunday, 9 a.m. – CCD & RCIA Collective Protestant Sunday, 10:30 a.m. – Sunday School
- Gospel Sunday, 10:30 a.m. – Sunday School

MPC Annex, Building 791

- Chalice Circle Tuesday, 7 p.m.
- Islamic Prayers and Study Friday, 1 p.m.
- Buddhist 4th Sunday, 1 p.m.

Soldiers Chapel

- Catholic Friday–Saturday, 12 p.m. – Adoration (24 hours)
- Protestant Sunday, 9:30 a.m. – Worship Service

Tripler AMC Chapel, 433-5727

- Catholic Sunday, 11 a.m. – Mass Monday – Friday, 12 p.m. – Mass Saturday, 5 p.m. – Mass
- Protestant Sunday, 9 a.m. – Worship Service

Wheeler Chapel

- Catholic Saturday, 5 p.m. – Mass Sunday, 10:30 a.m. – Mass
- Collective Protestant Sunday, 9 a.m. – Worship Service
- Gospel Sunday, 12 p.m. – Worship Service



August Rush

(PG)
Friday, 7 p.m.
Sunday, 2 p.m.

Hitman

(R)
Friday, 9:30 p.m.
Thursday, 7 p.m.



Fred Claus

(PG)
Saturday, 2 p.m.



This Christmas

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

Mystery shoppers cash in at AAFES Post Exchange

Story and Photo by
CHRISTINA DOUGLAS
Staff Writer

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS – The holiday season is finally over and let's face it, between "Black Friday" and Christmas sales galore, bank accounts nationwide have taken a beating. And not just any beating, I'm talking about a Mike Tyson vs. Evander Holyfield kind of beating, only instead of an ear, a significant chunk of money was the loss.

The last thing anyone is thinking about now is shopping, but what if you could get paid to shop? Yes, actually being rewarded for shopping. Would that change your mind?

The Army and Air Force Exchange Services (AAFES) has a program that does just that – the Mystery Shopper Program pays shoppers to shop.

Here's how it works: authorized AAFES customers apply to be a mystery shopper online at the AAFES Web site. Four shoppers are selected for each main store, and when there's a vacancy, applicants are invited to become mystery shoppers via e-mail. A mix of genders and ranks is selected for each location to achieve a wide range of opinions.

So what's the catch? Shoppers evaluate the store and submit a survey following their visit. Surveys consist of 47 questions with topics ranging from cleanliness, to selection and prices. Once completed, shoppers e-mailed responses to AAFES headquarters.

This tool was created to measure the customer experience in stores. With that in mind, the survey provides a snapshot of how a store looks at a specific point in time.

Participants have responded with positive feedback

concerning the intent and process of the program, said Michael Freidman, store manager, Schofield Main Post Exchange.

The Mystery Shopper Program benefits both sides of the spectrum, the customer and the provider.

Store managers are able to use the scores and comments they receive to focus on improvements and spot check weak areas throughout the year, ultimately improving overall customer satisfaction.

"Since the questions being answered by the shopper are specific, we are assured that they are reviewing exactly what our programs and procedures are intended to represent," said Friedman. "This eliminates a major degree of personal opinion and biases while streamlining the data."



Check out www.aafes.com
for more information

The mystery shopper is asked to submit a total of three surveys, at least 21 days apart, within a six-month period.

After completing their third survey, mystery shoppers are asked to discontinue their service, and new shoppers are selected to participate in the program.

Here's where the reward comes in. Mystery shoppers are awarded a \$30 AAFES gift certificate for each valid survey they submit. Gift certificates normally arrive within a day or two of survey confirmation and may be redeemed at any AAFES retail store.

So what are you waiting for? Check out www.aafes.com to get started cashing in your reward.

(Editor's note: Information obtained from the AAFES Web site, www.aafes.com.)



Shoppers line up at the Schofield Barracks AAFES Post Exchange after the big holiday rush.



11 / Today

U.S. Armed Forces Bowling Championships — Come watch the best of the best compete and cheer on your team at Schofield Barracks Bowling Center, today, 9 a.m.–noon. Call 655-0573.

Racquetball Ladder Challenge — The Fort Shafter Physical Fitness Center is hosting a Racquetball Ladder Challenge, now through March 31. Active duty and retired Soldiers, other military working or residing on an Army installation, National Guard, Army Reserve and their adult family members, Department of Defense (DoD) and AAFES civilians (to include DoD contractors) who work on an Army installation on Oahu are eligible. Divisions include co-ed, open (Level A) and novice (Level

B). Entries will be accepted until the end of the challenge. Call 438-1152 or stop by the front desk at Building 665.

12 / Saturday

Hawaii Championship Wrestling — Enjoy a great night of wrestling at the Tropics, Schofield Barracks, Jan. 12, 6–9 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. Cost is \$5 for ages 12 and over, \$3 for 11 and under, and free for ages 5 and under. Call 655-5697.

19 / Saturday

Paintball Grand Opening — Don't miss this first chance to check out the new paintball facility on its first day, Jan. 19, 11 a.m., at Wheeler Army Air Field, just off Lauhala Road next to the baseball fields. The facility features three lighted fields for day and evening play. It's open for regular play, league and youth play, private parties and physical training (PT) reservations. Rental equipment is available, and you can bring your own paint or buy it there. Instruction is available for those new to the sport. Call 343-3929.

Ongoing

Karate Classes — Adults 18 and older can learn Do Shudokan karate at the Aliamanu Physical Fitness Center, Mondays and Wednesdays, 7–8:30 p.m. Cost is \$40 per month. Call 488-6372 or 265-5476.

All Army Sports — Soldiers interested in applying for Department of the Army-level sports competitions must submit applications with their Army Knowledge Online (AKO) account at <https://armysports.cfsc.army.mil>.

Faxed copies are no longer accepted by the DA Sports Office. Call 655-9914 or 655-0856.

Volunteer Coaches — Interested in volunteering to be a Youth Sports coach? Contact your nearest youth sports director today. Call 836-1923 for Aliamanu Military Reservation (AMR); 438-9336 for Fort Shafter/Tripler; 655-6465 for Schofield; or 655-0883 for Helemano Military Reservation.



Pfc. Durwood Blackmon | 25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

Resolution run

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — After recently returning from a 15-month deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom 06-08, Soldiers from 14 units within the 25th ID began the new year with a division run here, Friday.



Send sports announcements to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

11 / Today

Swamp Romp — Register now for Swamp Romp, the muddiest run on Oahu, takes place at Kaneohe Marine Corps Base, Feb. 23. This run takes participants through five miles of various types of terrain. Participants must register in

teams of six and the cost is \$120 per team. Online registration closes Feb. 16 at 4 p.m. Visit www.mccshawaii.com/cgfit.htm, or call 254-7590.

12 / Sunday

Great Aloha Run Training Workshops — Runners participating in the upcoming Hawaiian Telecom Great Aloha Run are invited to train in a series of free workshops directed by Dr. Christiane W. Christ at Kapiolani Park Bandstand at 7:20 a.m. every Sunday prior to race day.

Training is progressive and spans a total of nine weeks. Train-

ing groups are divided into runners, joggers, walkers and run-walkers. Each workout is comprised of a warm-up, training run/walk, stretching, cool down and question-and-answer session. Training and health topics include: how to train injury-free, how to fuel for great workouts, how and when to train for endurance and speed, how to recover from training, what to wear for the race, and the logistics for the race.

To learn more about the training workshops, call Dr. Christ at 943-

0309. Call 528-7388 or visit www.greataloharun.com.

Bicycling League — Bike with Hawaii Bicycling League's Heavy Breathers as they bike from Paki Park to Makapuu Beach and back Saturday mornings at 9:15 a.m. This 20-40 mile ride is open to intermediate to advanced bikers who want to improve their fitness. Call 368-6980 or 479-8142.

13 / Sunday

Hike Oahu — Join the Hawaiian

Trail & Mountain Club (HTMC) on its next hiking event to Mount Olympus, Jan. 13. This is an intermediate, six-mile hike. Call 227-4572.

A \$2 donation is requested of nonmembers 18 and older. Children under 18 must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Hikers meet at Iolani Palace, mountainside, at 8 a.m. Bring lunch and water on all hikes; wear sturdy shoes as extra caution may be required on some trails.

Hikers must keep all trails and

lunch sites clear of clutter, and treat trees and plants with care and respect. Firearms, pets, radios and other audio devices are prohibited on all hikes. Visit <http://htmclub.org> for more details.

31 / Thursday

Harold Chapson 8K — Run the Harold Chapson Memorial 8K at Kapiolani Park, Feb. 3, at 7 a.m. Online registration closes Jan. 31. Cost is \$25 for nonmembers. Visit www.mprc.com, or call 295-6777.