

INSIDE

Gimlet receives Purple Heart

STEPHANIE RUSH

U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — A member of the the 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment received a Purple Heart at a ceremony here, Friday.

Sgt. Mark Yarbrough received the award for wounds he sustained when an improvised explosive device (IED) exploded near his vehicle while on patrol in Abu Ghraib, Iraq, June 17.

"I got thrown from the vehicle, about 30 feet and ended up in a canal," Yarbrough

explained. "My Soldiers pulled me out and I realized I had (damage) to my hand."

The Purple Heart is awarded to service members wounded or killed in action against an enemy of the United States or as a result of an act of any such enemy or opposing armed forces.

"We all give some sweat, some tears, a whole bunch of energy, and we sacrifice



Yarbrough

our families during this global war on terrorism," said Maj. Adelaido Godinez, rear detachment commander, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, at ceremony. "Sgt. Yarbrough gave his blood, a couple of fingers and half of another (hand)."

Godinez remembers when he first talked to Yarbrough's wife, Spc. Stephanie Yarbrough, that she was very composed about the situation. At the time she was stationed in Alaska but on leave in North Carolina.

"When I told her (about her husband's injuries), she was like, 'OK. Is he OK?' Just

as calm as you can imagine," Godinez said. "How soon can I get to his side? Just calm, like it was natural. It is not natural to get blown up."

Stephanie, who is eight months pregnant, was primarily concerned with the logistics of traveling to see her husband.

"I've been over there, I've seen people hurt. I didn't freak out, it was just a matter of how fast can I get there," Stephanie said.

SEE GIMLET, A-7



Ready to fight

"Bandits" from 1st Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery Regiment, hone basic soldiering skills during an external evaluation in Japan.

A-6

Blabbers beware

Think using your cell phone without a hands-free device while driving on post is no big deal? Consider losing your on-post driving privileges for two weeks for the first offense. No exceptions.

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Town Hall

The next Oahu South Town Hall meeting will be at the Aliamanu Military Reservation Chapel, Nov. 5, at 6:30 p.m. Call 438-6147 for more information.

See Community Calendar, B-2



Country music star Michael Scott sings to an embarrassed family member during a performance at the Tropics, Saturday.

Country star entertains at Tropics

Story and Photo by
KYLE FORD
News Editor

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Many entertainers used to playing festivals of thousands and opening for country legends such as Tracy Lawrence, George Jones and Tim McGraw, might balk at performing for an intimate crowd of Soldiers.

Not so with rising country music star Michael Scott, who played for a handful of Soldiers and

family members at the Tropics, Saturday.

With couches and overstuffed chairs huddled close to the stage, it was more like a living room concert with friends than a scheduled performance.

"I loved sharing stories with the Soldiers and learning more about them," Scott said.

Always a supporter of the military, Scott's opinion and outlook strengthened when he toured Iraq in 2007.

After playing several concerts at Fort Stewart, Ga., then Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch asked Scott

if he would play for his troops when they rotated to Iraq.

"He said it's amazing how many things 'come up' when it comes to performers actually coming to Iraq," related Scott. "I said just tell me when the plane leaves and I'll be there. So when the general called, I said, 'When does the plane leave?'"

After eating lunch, Scott entertained Soldiers with his current single "Ray Ray's Juke Joint,"

SEE SINGER, A-7

Engineer brigade continues legacy in Hawaii

Story and Photos by
SPC. KYNDAL GRIFFIN
8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Soldiers from the 130th Engineer Brigade uncased its colors at Sills Field, Friday, after relocating to Hawaii from Germany.

The ceremony marked the formalization of another transformational change in the U.S. Army as the brigade becomes part of the U.S. Army-Pacific's 8th Theater Sustainment Command.

"It's historic to me," said Command Sgt. Maj. Micheal Buxbaum, Corps of Engineers' command sergeant major, who served in the same capacity for the 130th Eng. Bde. from 2003 to 2007 and lead the unit during two

SEE RELOCATION, A-7



From left to right — Maj. Gen. Raymond Mason, commanding general, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, Col. Fabian Mendoza, commander, 130th Engineer Brigade, and Honolulu Corps of Engineers Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Buxbaum salute during the playing of the national anthem at the 130th Eng. Bde.'s colors uncasing ceremony on Sills Field, Oct. 23. The ceremony was held to formally complete the brigade's move from Germany to Hawaii.

Archaeologists visit PTA

Story and Photo by
CHICPAUL BECERRA
U.S. Army Garrison-Pohakuloa Public Affairs

POHAKULOLOA TRAINING AREA, Hawaii — The Pohakuloa Training Area (PTA) here provides an exceptional opportunity to view geologic, archaeological and natural resources, which is why archaeologists want to see it firsthand.

Members of the Society for Hawaiian Archaeology (SHA), who were on the Big Island for the 2008 SHA Conference, visited PTA's Puu

Koli and its adjacent landscape, Oct. 17. The trip was one of three available outings; the other two field trips were conducted at Hawaii Volcanoes National Park and north Hilo.

"This gives archaeologists an opportunity to see archaeological features within a tremendous cultural landscape," said Bill Godby, PTA's archaeologist and tour lead. He said it was the first time that the Society for Hawaiian Archae-

SEE PTA, A-7



Members of the Society of Hawaiian Archaeology hike down a man-made trail from Puu Koli.

Sec. Gates committed to warrior care

DONNA MILES
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Robert Gates assured participants in the first Wounded Warriors Family Summit here, Oct. 20, he will "continue to press forward with a sense of urgency" to provide top-level care and support for wounded warriors in a way that lays groundwork for the next administration's leaders to build on.

"I take the issue of wounded warriors personally," Gates told the audience of wounded warriors, families of wounded and fallen troops, and representatives of family support programs and veteran service organizations.

"I will repeat here the pledge I made to myself, to Congress and to countless moms and dads, husbands and wives," Gates told the group. "Other than winning the wars we are in, my highest priority is providing the best possible care for those who are wounded in combat."

As it presses forward, Gates said, his team will "do everything we can to set up the next leadership team for success" to ensure the work continues without interruption.

"As long as there are wounded warriors in our care, we must — and we will — continue to fulfill our obligation to them," he said.

Gates praised the "grit and resilience" of wounded warriors and acknowledged the families of the severely wounded and fallen who "have sacrificed and suffered for our country in the most challenging ways."

He also extended thanks to volunteer groups and individuals who have worked on behalf of the troops and their families.

Gates cited broad strides in treating wounded warriors, including warrior transition units created to help wounded service members navigate the system as they get treatment and return to their units or transition to veteran status. During the last 19 months, the Army has dedicated more than 3,200 permanent cadre and staff to this effort to help nearly 8,500 Soldiers.

In addition, Gates described efforts to merge the Defense Department's and Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) disability evaluation systems so one process will result in one legally binding determination. He noted that a pilot program is under way, and that early indications show the effort will cut by half the time required for veterans to receive full VA compensation.

Gates noted that the Wounded Warriors Family Summit served as a prelude to November's Warrior Care Month observance.

"It will provide an opportunity to highlight the sacrifices of wounded troops and their families, take stock of how much has been achieved in this area, and reflect on how much more needs to be done," he said.

Giving back

The 500th Military Intelligence Brigade is invested in student success at Waialua High and Intermediate School.

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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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Nondelivery or distribution
problems in Army Hawaii
Family Housing areas? If so, call
656-3155 or 656-3156.

145 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 10/29/08.

Straight Talk

DES takes new approach to safety, security

LT. COL. THOMAS DENZLER
Director, Directorate of Emergency Services

I'd like to begin my first column of the fiscal year by highlighting some new policies and systems the Directorate of Emergency Services (DES) is implementing to enhance the safety and security of our communities. With numerous forthcoming deployments, it is incumbent upon all of us to work toward achieving this goal.

Revised Cell Phone Policy

As you are aware, we continue to experience "challenges" with regard to the continued use of cell phones by drivers on our installations.

In an effort to keep our communities safe and dissuade drivers from violating the cell phone use policy, a revised policy will be implemented effective Dec. 1. Motor vehicle operators cited by our law enforcement officers for cell phone use (without a hands-free device) will be subject to a 14-day suspension of on-post driving privileges. Subsequent offenses will result in longer suspensions. This policy pertains to all driv-

ers on our installations and housing areas.

Reporting Crime Tips — Anonymously

Community members can now submit anonymous crime tips to the military police (MP) station via cell phone text messaging or by using their computers. Some residents have already taken advantage of this system and it has proven to be a great tool. This anonymous system can be exceptionally helpful in reducing the larcenies, damage to property, and malicious conduct that currently impact our communities.



Denzler

Thank you in advance for stepping up and making a difference.

To submit a text message tip through your personal cell phone:

1. Type TIP730 and provide your tip information (e.g. John Doe stole a plasma TV from 123 Main St.).
2. Type Crimes (or the #s 274637) in the "to" line and hit "Send."

- To submit a tip via your computer:
 1. Go to www.militarycrimetips.com.
 2. Select "U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii (All Locations)."
 3. Provide as much info as you have and select "submit tip."

Please continue to report emergencies by dialing 911 or contacting the Schofield and Shafter MP Stations at 655-7114 and 438-7114, respectively.

Community Relations (COMREL) Officers

As mentioned at recent community meetings, the DES has established a COMREL program led by dedicated law enforcement officers. The program's goal is to bring community members together with law enforcement officers to deter crime and make our neighborhoods safer. If you'd like further information, contact Cpl. Mindy Dye (Schofield Barracks area) at 655-5170, or Staff Sgt. Nathan Sartorius (Fort Shafter area) at 438-6484.

Issues that Continue to Impact Our Communities

Larcenies and damage to private property continue as the most frequently committed crimes on our installations. Many of these crimes are attributed to juvenile family member conduct. We can better safeguard against this problem by ensuring our family members conduct themselves as responsible members of the community and by ensuring property is properly secured. Please negate crime-conducive conditions by taking the time to lock up your property.

Additionally, driving-under-the-influence (DUI) apprehensions have increased in the last two months. A recent DUI campaign by the Honolulu Police Department and DES netted a troubling number of our Soldiers and family members. U.S. Army-Hawaii has done great over the last five months with no fatalities; let's all work together in preventing DUIs and making this fiscal year an exceptionally safe one for our community members.

Thank you.

Army gains insight from field

BRIAN ESPENSHADE

25th Infantry Division Operational Lessons Learned Integrator Analyst

The Center for Army Lessons Learned has provided a Lessons Learned Integrator (L2I) Analyst to assist 25 Infantry Division (ID) units in leveraging current observations, insights and lessons.

Senior leaders within Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) have been asking key questions since the Army initiated combat actions in the Middle East in 1991: How is the Army integrating lessons learned by our operational forces on the front lines into what we are teaching in the schoolhouse? How are these lessons learned changing the training environment we are presenting? What are the units themselves doing to integrate lessons learned by their own MSOs or from other units into their individual (Soldier/leader), battle staff and small unit training strategies?

In March 2006, Lt. Gen. David Petraeus, commanding general, Combined Arms Center (CAC), approved an initiative known as L2I, or lessons learned integration. L2I is intended to provide an underlying capability across the Army by capturing emerging, relevant tactics, techniques and procedures (TTP) and best practices from the operating force — both forward deployed forces and those at home station — conducting operational missions and major Army/joint training events; and then converting these into knowledge that can be rapidly shared/disseminated and integrated throughout the institutional and the operational Army.

Implementation of the L2I cells is intended to be an enduring capability, not a short-term project. The success that the Center of Army Lessons Learned (CALL) has had placing L2I analysts with-

in the operating force headquarters structure in Iraq and Afghanistan leads us to believe this is truly a "best practice" and provides the highest probability for the success of the L2I initiative.

CALL intends to continue putting "green suiter" L2I liaison officers (LNO) forward with units deployed throughout the world. The L2I initiative rounds out the footprint by providing a home-station representative capability; for example, one individual for each of our corps and divisions.

During periods of nondeployment, the L2I analyst assigned to the base installation provides the normal L2I functions and capabilities within the corps and division headquarters structure. During deployment, the home-station L2I analyst remains in CONUS at the base installation and becomes part of the corps or division home station operations center (HSOC) configuration.

The home-station L2I analyst provides continuity during transition to war and predeployment, deployment and redeployment activities. He or she maintains direct connectivity with the "CALL forward" L2I LNO within the corps or division headquarters "forward" once that element is deployed, and provides essential connectivity with the rest of the global L2I network, including with CALL, TRADOC schools and centers, other Army and joint lessons learned agencies through the Web-based L2I network infrastructure.

Although the L2I LNO belongs to CALL, he or she is intended to be a significant resource for you, your staff and all the units within your command. He or she is your representative in the L2I process and has complete access to all CALL resources and capabilities and the larger pool of resources and capabilities available within the L2I network.



2nd Louie By Bob Rosenburgh

8 STEPS in FAITH

Parables point to praying persistently, boldly and expectantly

CHAPLAIN (MAJ.) LINDA NORLIEN
25th Combat Aviation Brigade Chaplain

You have a personal invitation from the creator of the universe to talk to him and to appeal to him for the good of any cause or any person you desire. In Luke 18:1-8 we have Jesus' parable about a persistent widow who kept coming to a judge asking for justice. Luke begins the passage by telling us the reason Jesus told the parable: "Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up."

Jesus said the unjust judge did not fear God and did not care what other people thought, which tells us that he had no reason to grant her request. Except for her persistence, he would probably have refused her. The judge knew she was going to wear him out by her persistence, so he granted her request.

Jesus appeals to us in his parable to consider our loving Heavenly Father in contrast to this judge. God will not keep putting us off when we persistently come to him, instead he will see that we get justice and quickly. God does not send the proverbial "light-

ning bolt" to earth in answer to each of our prayers on a moment's notice. Instead, he works through people and circumstances slowly and steadily. Persistence in prayer is absolutely vital.

Not only should we pray persistently, but we should also pray boldly. Another of Jesus' parables about prayer can be found in Luke 11:5-13. This is the story of the friend who receives a knock at his door after he and his whole family have laid down for the night.

During that time period there was no equivalent to the Motel 6 of our day, where they "always keep the light on for you." Travelers stayed in homes when they traveled, so there was a strong value of hospitality. A good citizen stood ready to welcome someone in out of the elements to rest during his or her journey and a respectable host would be able to feed the guest.

In Jesus' parable the host had nothing to

set before his guest so he went to his friend's home to ask if he could borrow three loaves of bread to feed the traveler. The neighbor started to refuse him because it was so late. But, he finally responded, not because of their friendship, but because of the boldness of his knocking neighbor.

George Muller is an example of this kind of boldness. George Muller was a man who built an orphanage complex in the 1800s and raised over 10,000 orphans in Bristol, England. Muller was famous then and now for accomplishing all of that without publicly asking for financial support from the government or the church.

He spent hours of every day praying that God would grant him the resources to buy food, clothing, domestic help, buildings and supplies to care for and educate these thousands of children.

Stories are told of provisions literally coming with a knock at the door as the children were sitting at the table waiting for their breakfast. George Muller was bold enough to attempt such a thing and to let Christians know that he was doing it that way. He could not let those children go hungry and

everything he did was on display for the entire city of Bristol and eventually, the world, as people heard of his orphanage.

So we see that we should pray persistently and boldly, but we should also pray expectantly. Jesus said in Matthew 7:7-12, "ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you."

We must pray with expectation; God will answer our request. During this particularly challenging time in our nation's history we can and should pray. Set aside time of complete dedication to pray, but also pray informally, casually as you go about your day.

Be persistent in your prayers; do not become discouraged so that you give up. God hears and cares and will act at the best possible time. Be bold in your prayers; ask for "big" things. Be expectant in your prayers. God is answering and will answer every prayer you utter. Billy Graham once said, "Heaven is filled with answers to prayers that were never asked."

Ask, my friend, you can trust God with your request.



Norlien



"Safety is such a habit I don't think about it too much."

Pfc. Cedric Bookhart
CENTPAC
Department of Veterinary Services
Food Inspector



"I always check in with someone and have someone waiting to hear from me."

Emily Farina
Family Member



"By looking out for other people and encouraging other people to be safe, too."

Toasavili Feleti
Family Member



"First thing I do when I jump in my car is put on my seat belt."

Spc. Lucas Miller
25th Trans. Co.
Motor Transportation Operator



"Practice safety every day."

Sgt. Phasadavong Chanpila
D Troop, 3-4th Cav.
Fueler

Voices of Ohana

What do you do to incorporate safety into your routine?



Capt. Travis Shain (right), commander of C Troop, 2nd Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment, "Strykehorse," talks with soldiers of the Iraqi army's (IA) 53rd Brigade in front of one of their new living trailers near Falahat, Oct. 12. The 2-14th Cav. Regt. Soldiers helped upgrade the facilities by providing trailers to IA soldiers.

Strykehorse Soldiers upgrade IA soldiers' living conditions

IA soldiers lived with no roof, no power, high heat, mosquitoes

Story and Photo By
CPL. CERONE WADDY
2nd Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment Public Affairs

CAMP TAJI, Iraq — Iraqi Army soldiers in the Taji Qada can sleep a little easier now, thanks to the 2nd Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment.

The IA soldiers from 53rd Brigade train and work alongside 2-14th Cav. Regt., "Strykehorse" Soldiers at Combat Outpost Falahat, northwest of Baghdad, ensuring the safety of Iraqi checkpoints and people in the area.

Until now, their living conditions were certainly not up to par with what the U.S. Army considers standard, said Capt. Travis Shain, commander, C Troop, 2-14th Cav. Regt.

Due to the brutal summer heat and aggressive mosquitoes, rest was hard to come by and some-

thing had to be done. Iraqi soldiers lived without a roof over their heads, air conditioning and or power.

When Shain learned of their living conditions, he, his platoon leaders and platoon sergeants decided to act.

After days of coordinating flatbed trailers, cranes and locations, new living trailers arrived Oct. 12. The IA soldiers' nights of sleeping on mats in hopes of escaping the heat were over.

"One of the first things that I recall was the excitement they had over the prospect of having power within the trailer," said Sgt. Thomas LaRose, intelligence security sergeant assigned to C Troop, 2-14th Cav. Regt.

It only took the IA soldiers a day to properly hook power up in their living trailers, said LaRose.

"The end state of all this was to get these guys a more suitable place to live," said Shain. "You couldn't have imagined the immediate impact it had on their morale. It was immeasurable."

Couple trains for marathon

OIF

Spouses support each other training for Dec. 14 Honolulu Marathon, pass time in Iraq

Story and Photos by
SGT. WHITNEY HOUSTON
2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

CAMP TAJI, Iraq — Training for a marathon takes grit, spirit and, most importantly, support. There is no better support than a spouse.

Every Sunday morning, Maj. John Turner and his wife, Capt. Soraya Turner, rise early and join a group of habitual runners to train for the Honolulu Marathon at Camp Taji, scheduled for Dec. 14.

Together, they train for the marathon, which helps them pass the time in Iraq, and draws them closer through a common goal despite differences in ability.

"He's been a runner almost his whole life," said Soraya, medical planning officer for Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team. "He ran for West Point, and is far better at it than I will ever be. But I love it more, so it makes for a pretty good balance ... having your better half there with you early in the morning brings you closer to them."

Her better half agreed. "I'm probably the more natural runner," said John, logistics officer with HHC, 225th Brigade Support Battalion. "I ran in college, but I haven't been motivated to run. Soraya has been very motivated, and I'm the one dragging in the morning. She pushes me though, and it's nice to do stuff with her."

The Turners have been married for three years, and met while working together during a military training exercise.

"I worked with her for two weeks at a warfighter exercise at Fort Lewis, Washington," John said. "I hounded her until she gave me her phone number and told me that I could call. So I kept stalking her until she finally decided to go out with me, and the rest is history."

Training for a marathon has its challenges on a small military base in the middle of a desert war zone, but it does have benefits too.

"I really enjoy it, it's a stress outlet for me," Soraya said. "But it's kind of a challenge because, number one, you're not well rested here; number two, you have to force yourself to get up at 5:30 a.m. because of the 120-degree days, whereas back home you could run at whatever time of the day. You also



Above — Maj. John Turner, logistics officer with Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC), 225th Brigade Support Battalion, and wife, Capt. Soraya Turner, medical officer for HHC, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, wait to start their Sunday morning run with a group training for the Honolulu Marathon on Camp Taji, recently.

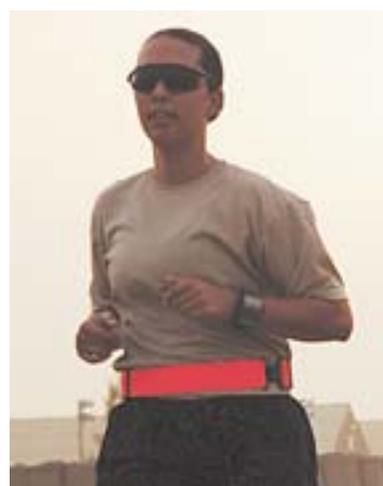
have to figure out the roads here on Camp Taji, which can be confusing."

Because of time difference, the marathon at Camp Taji can't be ran simultaneously with the race in Honolulu, however, an awards ceremony is scheduled at the same time to recognize those who participate, said event organizer 1st Lt. Clayton Cole, 2nd Battalion, 11th Field Artillery Regiment.

Cole explained the goal of organizing a marathon at Camp Taji is to bring a little bit of Hawaii to the Soldiers, and to give them a meaningful goal.

"Clubs back home know that we're doing it," John said, "and it's motivating in many ways. But more so, it gives us a sense of accomplishment, because of the difficulty for us to run it here."

Right — Soraya Turner, medical officer for HHC, 2nd SBCT, trains for the Hawaii Marathon in the early hours of the morning on Camp Taji.



Freedom Team Salute honors families, veterans, employers

U.S. ARMY FREEDOM TEAM SALUTE

News Release

Recognizing that a simple expression of gratitude can mean so much, the U.S. Army created a program to highlight the essential bond between Soldiers, parents, spouses, employers and Army veterans.

Freedom Team Salute (FTS) celebrates the sacrifices made by all those who have served, as well as those who support today's Soldiers.

The program offers Soldiers a sincere, heartfelt way to say "Thank you" to their parents and spouses.

It strives to honor the millions of U.S. Army veterans who served with distinction, and who remain steadfast champions

of the Army. It further recognizes the support shown, and sacrifices made, by employers during these trying times. In addition, the program connects and strengthens numerous communities bound by the same values of loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal courage.

FTS is an official U.S. Army-funded program under the direction of the secretary of the Army and Army chief of staff that began May 2005.

The program produces and distributes commendations to three categories of people:

- **Parents and spouses** – active duty, National Guard and Army Reserve Soldiers can honor their parents and spouse.

- **Army veterans** – anyone discharged from the U.S. Army is eligible.

- **Employers** – National Guard and Army Reserve Soldiers can honor their employer.

Commendations may be mailed directly to the recipient or to the person submitting the commendation (for presentation in person).

The program has nearly 500 volunteer ambassadors across the country and overseas who help FTS recognize and honor deserving individuals.

As of May 2008, more than 1.3 million people have received commendations.

Honoring someone is easy. One only needs to log onto www.freedomteam-salute.com to complete an online com-



For more information, visit www.freedomteam-salute.com.

mendation form. Commendation cards are also available by calling (703) 325-3941.

Anyone wishing to honor larger groups of individuals may forward their lists to FTS either electronically or by mail. All that is required is the full name, mailing address and category (parent, spouse, employer or veteran) of the person or persons deserving commendation.

Every honoree receives an official commendation package that includes:

- A certificate of appreciation and a

personalized letter of thanks signed by the secretary of the Army and the Army chief of staff;

- A parent, spouse, employer, or Army veteran lapel pin; and

- Two Army decals (Parents also receive a "Proud Parent of a Soldier" decal).

The entire package is prepared and mailed at no cost to either the commender or the recipient.

Freedom Team Salute also sponsors a formal network of ambassadors who help thank our nation's U.S. Army veterans and who assist in promoting FTS on and around Army installations.

Anyone interested in the ambassador program should contact ftsambassador@hqda.army.mil.

News Briefs

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

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Deployment Ceremony – The public is invited to the 8th Military Police Brigade's deployment ceremony, today, 11 a.m., at Hamilton Field (corner of Ayers & Grimes streets), Schofield Barracks. Call the 8th MP Brigade Public Affairs Office at 655-1594.

Customer Assessment Survey – Customers who live, work, train or play on U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii (USAG-HI) will have an opportunity to provide detailed feedback about garrison services in IMCOM's Customer Assessment Survey.

The survey, available now through Nov. 7, will be used to evaluate and improve the delivery of garrison services and programs to our Soldiers and families. To complete the survey, visit www.myarmyvoice.org/Community2008.

For more information about the survey, contact the Customer Management Services office at usaghi.cms@us.army.mil or call 655-9033.

Recovered Personal Property – The Provost Marshal Office has recovered several personal property items recently lost at Schofield Barracks and Fort Shafter. For more information or to claim lost items, call 655-8255.

Athletic Field Closure – The following athletic fields will be closed due to an irrigation system being installed:

- Gimlet softball field, Oct. 27-Nov. 7;

- Patriot Park, Nov. 10-23;
 - Watts Field, Nov. 24-Dec. 14;
 - Wheeler Army Airfield's baseball fields, Dec. 15-31.
- Call 655-9915/9654.

Sexual Assault Prevention – The Army has launched a new and improved Sexual Assault Prevention program Web site as part of its new I.A.M. Strong sexual assault prevention campaign. Visit www.preventsexualassault.army.mil.

November

7 / Friday

Office Closure – The Vehicle Registration Offices at Fort Shafter Flats and Schofield Barracks will be closed, Nov. 7, to facilitate vehicle registration training and software upgrades. Call 655-0894.

12 / Wednesday

Gate and Road Closure – Macomb Gate and Macomb Road, Schofield Barracks, will be closed, Nov. 12-13 for the installation of holiday decorations and roadway repairs. Drivers are urged to use McNair or Foote gates instead.

At the Flagler Road and Waianae Avenue intersection, two-lane traffic on both streets will be merged into one lane.

Call 655-0592.

Government Vehicle Dispatching – All General Services Administration (GSA) leased nontactical vehicles permanently located at Fort Shafter, Tripler Army Medical Center or surrounding areas will be

SEE NEWS BRIEFS, A-6



Sgt. Aaron LeBlanc | 165th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion

This won't hurt a bit

CAMP TAJI, Iraq — Spc. Travis Kinsey, left, and Spc. Tim Fure, finalize the replacement of a support beam on the rear end of an M-1088, or medium tactical vehicle tractor truck, at the 536th Automotive Base. Maintenance is just one of the many pieces of the 165th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion's diverse mission.

Dept. of Army Photo Lab ensures Soldiers look good

Story and Photos by
MOLLY HAYDEN
Staff Writer

FORT SHAFTER — A veteran of the photography business, Marc Parrone has been making people smile for more than 25 years.

At the Department of the Army (DA) Photo Lab here, however, Parrone is the only one smiling — behind the camera.

“I can still make my clients smile,” said Parrone. “After I take the photograph.”

The current manager of the two DA photo labs, the second which operates out of Schofield Barracks, Parrone handles all the installations’ photo needs.

With two years under his belt as a contracted employee, Parrone oversees the daily operations of both photo labs, including studio and location photography.

Parrone, along with his three-person team of employees handle the labs’ busy schedules with ease and professionalism. The crew juggles constant phone calls, scheduled appointments and walk-ins on a daily basis.

“Marc and his crew are always helpful,” said Sgt. Tracy Little, U.S. Army-Pacific (USARPAC) Special Troops Battalion (STB). “They make the process easy and comfortable for us.”

The DA Photo Lab is instrumental in providing Soldiers with official photographs, including command photos, official DA photos, and passport and visa photos. Memos from a commanding officer or a copy of the official orders are needed to execute passport and visa photos.

Many packets, including warrant officer packets, military school applications and officer candidate school applications, require a paper copy of an official DA photo. A memo from a commanding officer



Manager of the Department of the Army Photo Lab, Marc Parrone, right, directs Lt. Col. Michael Hammerstrom, Special Operations Component, U.S. Pacific Command, during a photo session. Parrone, along with his employees at two operating photo labs on the installations, offers an array of photographic services for Soldiers, including command headshots and official DA photos.

stating the purpose of the photograph is required for all printed photographs.

When applying for a board, Soldiers are required to update their DA photo on their Army Knowledge Online (AKO) account.

Currently, all photographs are required to be taken in the Army green service uniform.

Beginning the fourth quarter fiscal year of 2009, Soldiers have the option, but are not required, to take their official DA photo in the Army Service Uniform (ASU). Soldiers may continue to take their DA

photo in the Army green service uniform until the mandatory possession date of the fourth quarter fiscal year of 2014. During this transition period, official DA photos can be in either the Army green service uniform or the ASU, as stated in All Army Activities 202/2008.

The photograph is an important representation of the Soldier. It is of particular interest during DA selection boards and career management activities.

“The DA photo is very important,” said Command Sgt. Maj. Alveno Hodge, USARPAC STB. “It is the only physical proof

we have of the appearance the Soldier makes in their uniform and how they represent the Army.”

Hodge explained when a board reviews a Soldier’s packet for promotion, they look to make sure the awards and decorations are in the right order and reflect what is on the Soldier’s officer or enlisted records brief.

He also stated the importance for Soldiers to present a “Soldierly like appearance” with a properly fitting uniform.

“The DA photo speaks on the Soldiers’ behalf,” said Hodge.

To schedule an appointment or for more information on DA photo labs, contact:

- Fort Shafter Photo Lab, 248 Yokota St., Building 220, 438-7532
- Schofield Barracks Photo Lab, 2038 Humphreys Rd., Building 2038, 655-1905.



Parrone

A certified Master of Photography from Professional Photographers of America, Parrone goes above and beyond the call of duty to ensure Soldiers who pass through the DA Photo Lab get the best representation possible.

Parrone and his employees set up each photograph carefully, making last-minute adjustments on uniforms, including straightening the sleeves to remove the smallest of wrinkles, tightening ties and adjusting collars.

With meticulous detail, they then direct Soldiers to stand properly and hold their head and arms a certain way until the perfect shot is composed.

After snapping a few photographs, the photographers pull each one up on the computer, side-by-side and, along with the Soldier, choose the best one.

“It is their duty to come prepared,” said Parrone. “But we will help them any way we can.”

Gratitude can be seen on Soldiers’ faces as they exit the lab, providing words of thanks and shaking each contractor’s hand.

“This is important to the Soldiers,” said Parrone. “So it’s important to us.”

'Bandits' hone warfighting skills during evaluation

Story and Photo by
2ND LT. GEORGE KIM

1st Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery Regiment

KADENA AIR BASE, Japan — Another suffocating, humid October evening on Camp Hansen, Okinawa, and Soldiers from Bravo Battery, 1st Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery Regiment, stationed here gazed attentively into the dense Japanese brush.

Suddenly, the sound of an explosion echoed by the familiar shrill alarm bursts pierced the Tactical Assembly Area as Bravo "Bandit" Soldiers traded their high-tech, multimillion dollar missile systems for M16 rifles as part of an external evaluation (EXEVAL).

"The intent of this training was to provide an operational assessment of the battery and identify tasks the battery is trained, proficient and untrained in," said Capt. Angeline Fimbres, Bravo Battery commander.

The 1-1 ADA Battalion, which relocated from Fort Bliss, Texas, in 2006, has the primary mission to conduct air and missile defense operations to protect critical operational assets on Okinawa.

Bravo Battery decided to take a break from the standard air missile defense evaluation for the first time since the battalion has been relocated to Okinawa. The focus was entirely on survivability operations and other assigned collective and individual tasks that many have not visited since basic training.

The training began after an early morning recall resulting in a tactical convoy to Camp Hansen. At the Marine Base, approximately 20 miles north of Kadena Air Base, Bravo Battery was presented with a realistic scenario to guard the Kanna Dam from an insurgent force operating in the area. Missions and guidance came from the battalion headquarters while evaluators observed and evaluated the battery's execution of assigned missions that took place over a 35-hour period.

"I think the most difficult aspect of this training was maintaining the motivation, discipline and focus of sleep-deprived Soldiers while completing missions simultaneously," said Staff Sgt. William Stonebarger, the force protection platoon sergeant. "We were able to overcome this by engaged and motivated leaders. (Noncommissioned officers) led by example and maintained the highest levels of motivation and discipline from recall to the end of the exercise."

An opposing force (OPFOR) challenged the Bandit Soldiers throughout the evaluation by conducting multiple attacks at designated positions and testing their reactions to contact.

"Our OPFOR's mission was to simulate combat situations that many of our Soldiers see in our current day operations," said Capt. Sebastian Rodriguez, the officer in charge for the evaluation team. "They performed quick ambushes and attacks throughout the exercise and pro-



Soldiers from Bravo Battery, 1st Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery Regiment, conduct a foot patrol to search for "insurgents" around Kanna Dam during the unit's EXEVAL.

vided Bravo Battery's Soldiers the opportunity to react under stressful situations. They were motivated, professional and performed their tasks to standard."

Many observers found it odd that air defense Soldiers were conducting ambushes, search and destroy missions, responding to nuclear, biological and chemical (NBC) attacks, and conducting convoy escort missions. The intent was to hone warrior tasks that will enable the unit to conduct missions successfully in any combat environment.

"Our training focus throughout this quarter has been on those individual and collective tasks that fall under combat service support, survivability operations, and command and control in a joint and combined environment," said Fimbres.

Soldiers demonstrated proficiency in how to rapidly respond and attend to casualties on the battlefield, how to destroy or fix equipment based on mission requirements, and proper techniques to handle enemy prisoners of war. The singularity of focusing on these tasks, so

often overlooked in the air defense world, was not lost on the Bandits.

"It was a good refresher for Soldiers who have done an EXEVAL before, and for those who were new to the experience, a great training event to operations not involving PAC-3 missiles and air targets," said Sgt. Luis Flore, a Patriot missile operator.

For others, the tactical aspects were not as memorable as was the variety in training.

"The EXEVAL was a refreshing change from air and missile defense operations and it brought us back to the roots of basic soldiering. There is reason why ADA is combat arms," said Pvt. Tabitha Mink.

The lessons the Bravo Bandits took away from this exercise will prove vital in planning for future training. In addition, those lessons highlighted how the needs of the Army have changed from singular units with specific missions to organic units that must be proficient in all manners of tasks in order to survive in the current war paradigm.

"The best part of the training was the NBC decontamination training because it brought the battery decon team together and gave us confidence in our equipment and the decontamination process," said Cpl. Shawnee Hobbs, a petroleum supply specialist.

This EXEVAL was the preliminary training event to prepare the battery for its Table VIII qualification scheduled for December.



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

Don't move

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Sgt. Henry Hein, 130th Engineer Brigade, maintains a position during the field training portion of the Warrior Leader Course (WLC) at the Noncommissioned Officers Academy, Hawaii. WLC is a squad leader-level course and the first professional training for noncommissioned officers.

News Briefs

From A-4

dispatched monthly at Building 1507, Fort Shafter Flats, beginning Nov. 12.

Dispatching will be done during the second week of each month, on Wednesdays and Thursdays, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

Call 656-8720/0290.

13 / Thursday

Office Closures — Wheeler Ammunition Supply Point, Naval Magazine Lualualei and Pohakuloa Training Area Ammunition Supply Point will be closed Nov. 12-26 to conduct a close-out of all issue/turn-in transactions and initiate a 100-percent, wall-to-wall inventory of munitions.

Normal operations will resume Nov. 28. The last

day to receive munitions issues or for live turn-in of munitions prior to the inventory is Nov. 12.

No transactions will be conducted other than (real time) world/deployment emergencies for support or a U.S. Army-Pacific Directive stating support requirements. Call John Madarang, 656-1649, for more information.

Housing Service Office Closure — The Schofield Barracks Housing Service Office will be closed Nov. 13-14 while moving to its new location, Building 950, 215 Duck Road, Schofield Barracks. The office will reopen Nov. 17. Call 438-1518.

19 / Wednesday

Office Closure — The Fort Shafter Housing Service Office will be closed Nov. 19-21 while moving to its new location, Building 1004, 117 7th Street, Fort Shafter. The office will reopen Nov. 24.

Call 438-1518.

Gimlet: Recipient returns to regiment

CONTINUED FROM A-1

Communication between Yarbrough and his wife helped ease concerns as the recovery process began.

"He let me know exactly what the injuries were. He informed me of what was going on," said Stephanie. "(The) Casualty Affairs Office kept me updated on every surgery, every move he had. I was quite impressed with how easy it was to get me there."

After a brief stop in San Diego, where he was joined by Stephanie, Mark returned to Hawaii to complete his recovery at Tripler Army Medical Center.

Though initially assigned to a Warrior Transition Battalion (WTB), Yarbrough is now serving as the noncommissioned officer in charge, 1-21st Inf. Regt. Rear Detachment.

"I was in the WTB for a time during my recovery," Yarbrough said. "Once I got pretty steady, I requested to come back to my unit."

Choosing to rejoin his unit despite still undergoing occupational therapy says a lot about Yarbrough's character, according to his co-workers.

"He's dedicated," said Sgt. Pedro Olvera, personnel noncommissioned officer-in-charge, 1-21st Inf. Regt. "He could be in a WTB, but wanted to come back here and help other Soldiers out."



Relocation: Unit faces new set of challenges

CONTINUED FROM A-1

tours in Iraq.

"Forty years of history in Deutschland (Germany) and then we move to the tropical environment of Hawaii. I was just glad to see those colors flown back on the field. It's a good day for me," he said.

The 130th Engineer Brigade bears its roots from the 1303rd Engineer General Service Regiment, which was activated July 15, 1943, at Camp Ellis, Ill, and inactivated in July 1955. It was then redesignated as the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 130th Engineer Aviation Bde., and subsequently inactivated June 25, 1956.

Almost 13 years later, HHC, 130th Engineer Aviation Bde. was redesignated as HHC, 130th Engineer Bde. and was activated in Pioneer Kaserne, Hanau, Germany, where it remained for the next 40 years.

After many deployments to Bosnia, Kuwait and Iraq, the 130th said goodbye to Hanau, May 4, 2007, and was relocated to Hawaii where it stood up provisionally June 27, 2008. The ceremony on Sills Field



Lt. Col. James Horton takes his post as the Commander of Troops during a ceremony on Sills Field, Oct. 23. The ceremony was held to formally complete the 130th Engineer Brigade's move from Germany to Hawaii.

officially uncased the unit's colors.

"(The ceremony) has a tremendous significance for the engineer regiment," said Col. Fabian Mendoza, commander, 130th Eng. Bde. "The big picture is the history of

this brigade and what it brought to Europe and now its role in the Pacific."

Mendoza said the brigade headquarters was a much-needed resource for the engineer battalions here in Hawaii who, be-

fore the uncasing of the colors, fell under a military police brigade.

"Now our engineer battalions here in the Pacific actually have a headquarters that they can come to for assistance to help us make the preparations for the commander's requirements," said Mendoza.

The 130th Eng. Bde. is currently preparing for deployment to Operation Iraqi Freedom next summer where it will be tasked with a variety of missions such as route clearance, construction and training Iraqi engineers.

"The construction platoon in the 84th (Eng. Bn.) is going to be doing a lot of on- and off-camp construction, both for the Iraqi people and for the coalition Soldiers," said Buxbaum. "The brigade is actually going to own part of the battle space, which is a new role for an engineer brigade."

"It's going to be a new set of challenges, but as the modular engineer brigade format came online, it brought them (130th Eng. Bde.) the right skills and the right people, and I think they are going to do extremely well," he added.

Singer: Entertainer hails Soldiers' sacrifice, service

CONTINUED FROM A-1

and several songs from his upcoming album "Bring It On," due out in 2009. His single is currently being played at country music stations across the nation.

Some resourceful Soldiers unfamiliar with Scott's face downloaded "Ray Ray's Juke Joint" prior to the performance.

"Is that really you?" one of them asked.

After Scott sang the song he said, "Yes, it really is me."

Between songs, Scott talked about football, his experiences playing with other performers, and answered questions.

"It's good the support he's giving us," said Pvt.2 Kameron Frisbee, a Black Hawk crew chief with D Company, 2nd Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment. "It gives us something to

think about other than the Army."

For his part, Scott was happy to be there.

"These guys work hard and sacrifice a lot for their jobs and I wanted to give them something to smile about," Scott said. "I am intrigued and interested in the Soldiers and their stories. I love listening about who they are and what they are interested in."

Scott is committed to using his talents to keep Soldiers' spirits up in whatever capacity he can.

"Going to Iraq, and meeting Soldiers and their families changed my point of view," Scott said. "It's changed the way I look at families, the way I look at Soldiers, and the way I look at my freedom."

Everyone enjoyed the performance and said they would be on the lookout for the new CD.

"I thought he was really good and I think he'll do well too," said Frisbee.

PTA: Tour impresses local experts

CONTINUED FROM A-1

ology has included PTA as a tour location.

Sites at PTA are unique to the higher elevations of the Saddle Road area, according to Godby. PTA's cultural and natural resources programs are well supported by the U.S. Army and a great effort is made in identifying and protecting resources by its more than 50 cultural and natural resources program employees.

"The archaeologists were able to see archaeological features that included rock shrines, a lithic quarry, petroglyphs, cave habitation sites and lava excavation areas — possibly used for capturing nesting birds," said Godby.

"At the 7,000-foot altitude summit of Puu Koli, a pyroclastic cinder cone, archaeologists experienced breathtaking views of Mauna Kea, Mauna Loa and Hualalai, in addition to the many different lava that have originated from Mauna Loa as recently as 73 years ago," he added. "There is also a large lava tube system that begins at Puu Koli and can be followed from its summit down its slopes."

SHA members, from private contracting firms, universities, federal and state agencies,

and people with an interest in Hawaiian archaeology, were impressed with what they learned at PTA.

"The tour was a great way to interpret what is going on at PTA," said Rob Pacheco, owner, Hawaii Forests and Trails Tour Company. "The cultural and natural resources management here is really impressive. If we could be doing what you do here at a statewide level, it would solve a lot our problems."

"I learned a lot about the landscape and was able to recognize sites that I would have just walked by and never seen before," Pacheco added. "I was really impressed how much the Army has done for the cultural and natural resources here."

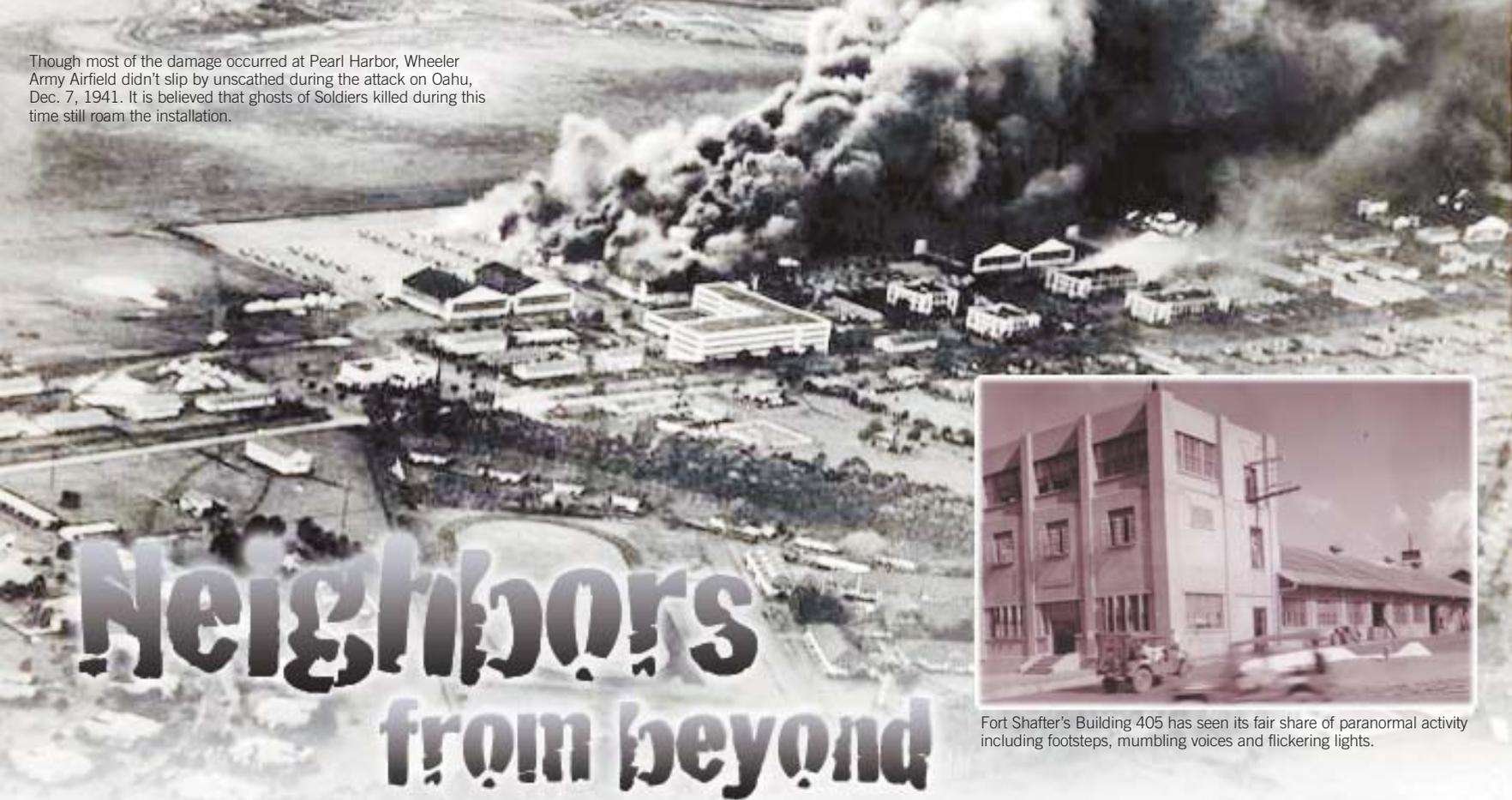
Other SHA members agreed.

"I take note that the Army is doing what is right with all this resource management work," said Randy Groza, archaeologist, Cultural Surveys Hawaii. "This work is pretty well received by us, and I'm glad that it is working here PTA."

"I've developed a better appreciation of the land from this tour and getting answers to a lot of questions about land management," said John Holson, archaeologist, Pacific Legacy, Inc.

PAU HANA

Though most of the damage occurred at Pearl Harbor, Wheeler Army Airfield didn't slip by unscathed during the attack on Oahu, Dec. 7, 1941. It is believed that ghosts of Soldiers killed during this time still roam the installation.



Fort Shafter's Building 405 has seen its fair share of paranormal activity including footsteps, mumbling voices and flickering lights.

Neighbors from beyond

Military personnel share ghostly encounters from Hawaii's installations

MOLLY HAYDEN
Staff Writer

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Do you ever get that feeling that someone is following you? Or you see something from the corner of your eye, turn, and it is gone?

Many equate this to an overactive imagination, but can imagination make those tiny hairs on the back of your neck stand up?

"I know I wasn't imagining it," said Beverly Shintaku, operations officer, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii (USAG-HI) Headquarters, of a recent interaction with the paranormal. "Some people don't believe it and they won't until happens to them."

Established in 1908, Army installations around Hawaii are saturated in history. The installation played a huge part in World War II with its military base acting as a defensive back up for the Army's naval site on Pearl Harbor. Schofield Barracks and Wheeler Army Airfield (WAAF) caught their share of the damage brought about by the attack on Oahu.

It is said that many Soldiers killed during this time still roam the installation and some Soldiers and civilians feel their presence today.

Hearing mumbling voices, footsteps and laughter when no one is present has been reported by numerous military members, according to Kenneth Hays, an architectural historian with the Directorate of Public Works (DPW).

Hays also spoke of reports on the new houses built at Schofield Barracks adjacent to the cemetery.

"The reports said that the appliances were going off and on and the doors would open and close (involuntarily)," said Hays.

Additionally, numerous buildings on WAAF have been proclaimed "haunted" sites due to un-



Photos Courtesy of the U.S. Army

It is believed that a young Soldier named Andrew, killed in Building 108 (above) on Wheeler Army Airfield during World War II, still haunts the site today. Many employees working in the building have reported hearing footsteps and doors opening and closing at night.

explained voices and encounters.

When the USAG-HI Headquarters moved into Building 106 on WAAF more than a year ago, everything seemed normal. Although the staff had been warned by the building's predecessors of unexplained occurrences, many were skeptical. Everything was fine until employees were forced to confront an episode of ghostly proportions.

It was 6:30 p.m. and the sun had begun to set. Only Shintaku and one other employee remained in the building.

As Shintaku walked down the dark hallway to the copy machine, she got chills.

"I heard a man's voice and I knew it wasn't anyone in the building," explained Shintaku. "It

was a deep voice, but I couldn't make out what it was saying."

Footsteps followed.

"I grabbed my stuff and ran back to my desk," Shintaku said. "It was frightening."

Shintaku explained the history of the building, stating it had functioned as the health clinic, dispensary and morgue during World War II.

It was no surprise to Shintaku to hear deaths may have occurred in the building.

"Odd things kept happening, mostly during the evening hours," she said.

Shintaku spoke of lights turning on and off, computer systems secured with locks becoming unplugged, and coins dropping, seemingly out of nowhere.

"Some things you just can't explain," said Shintaku. "But you know it's happening."

The hair-raising finale of this story comes as a ghostly presence is felt more and more, from the unexplained chill that passes through the office to voices ringing in the night.

DPW blueprints show unexcavated land beneath the building, confirming Shintaku's suspicion of bodies buried under the building as well.

"We don't want to upset anyone here still not at peace," said Shintaku. "And I feel it's mutual." At various installations around Hawaii, others shared their stories.

Hays spoke of a young Soldier named Andrew killed in Building 108 on WAAF during the attack on Oahu, Dec. 7, 1941. Many employees working in the building have reported hearing footsteps and doors opening and closing at night. Similar experiences also have occurred in Building 105.

Schofield Barracks E and J quads have reported mumbling voices and laughter along with the presence of a sinister force. Others had similar experiences at Fort Shafter's Building 405.

The Big Island's Kilauea Military Camp has received many reports of "night marchers" crossing the campus at night. These ghostly marchers appear to be ancient Hawaiian warriors, according to Hays.

Remarkable coincidences have been taking place on the installations and there seems to be a mysterious connection between the living and the dead here.

Strange things happen every day and stories of these occurrences never fail to evoke chicken skin and the echoing of "oohs and ahs."

This Halloween, there is nothing like sharing a good ghost story — all the better when it's true.

Last-minute options for Halloween fun tonight around the island

On-Post Trick or Treating Hours — Authorized Halloween trick or treat hours for the Fort Shafter and Schofield Barracks areas are today, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Children under the age of 10 require an adult escort. The Directorate of Emergency Services will partner with the 45th Sustainment Brigade to provide increased presence in the community during trick or treat hours.

Military and Department of the Army civilian police enhance safety by handing out light-emitting-diode (LED) tags and ensuring all activities are conducted in a safe manner.

Parents are strongly encouraged to have children carry a flashlight and to dress in light-colored clothing or sew reflectors on dark clothing. Children should take precautions when crossing streets and use crosswalks.

Schofield Health Clinic's Radiology Department will X-ray candies for eligible ID cardholders, 7-10 p.m. Patients have priority.

Call 655-0497 or 438-6996 for more information.

Hallowbaloo Street Fair — Celebrate all Hallows Eve in downtown's Honolulu Culture

and Arts District (Nuuanu Avenue from South King Street to Vineyard Boulevard) with free concerts by Brett Dennen, Papa Mali and Mardi Gras legend Big Chief Monk Boudreaux; a Trick or Treat Gallery Walk; a jack-o'-lantern contest; and a costume contest, today, 5:30-10:30 p.m.

Call Mark Tarone at 271-9140 or visit www.hallowbaloo.com.

Trick or Trek — Have a geocaching adventure with Outdoor Recreation and the opportunity to win great prizes, today, 6 p.m., at Wheeler Gulch.

Geocaching is a high-tech treasure hunting game played by adventure seekers equipped with GPS devices. Cost is \$5. Call 655-0143.

Halloween Spooktacular — Jungle River Mini Golf will host a Halloween Spooktacular, today, 6-9 p.m., at the Pearlridge Shopping Center.

The free family event will include a costume contest, door prizes, games, crafts and trick or treating. Call 488-8808.

Halloween in Waikiki — Wear your cos-

tume and ride the Waikiki Party Bus, Oct. 31. Round-trip tickets are \$25.

Pick-up time at Schofield Barracks' Information, Ticketing and Registration (ITR) parking lot is 9 p.m., and 9:30 p.m. for Fort Shafter's Richardson Theatre. Drop-off approximately at 9:45 p.m. at the Waikiki Royal Hawaiian Shopping Center. Return pick-up time is 3 a.m. at the Royal Hawaiian Shopping Center. Drop-off at Fort Shafter is at 3:30 a.m. and 4 a.m. at Schofield Barracks.

Call ITR for reservations at 655-9971 or 438-1985.

Walk with the Dead Ghost Tour — Historian Steve Fredrick will take guests on a journey to the dark side of Honolulu, today, 10 p.m., on this special Halloween tour.

Paranormal activities are known to occur at several of the sites visited on the half-mile walk to haunted death sites in downtown Honolulu and Chinatown.

Guests will meet in the Capitol District, near downtown.

Due to the intensity of the ghost stories, this



Important safety tips to remember:

- Wait for the proper traffic signals,
- Look both ways before crossing the street,
- Watch out for cars turning at intersections and leaving or entering driveways,
- Stay on the sidewalk whenever possible,
- If there is no sidewalk, walk on the left side of the roadway facing traffic, and
- Never enter vehicles or homes when invited by a stranger.

tour is recommended only for adults. Cost is \$30 and participants are encouraged to wear comfortable walking shoes.

Reservations are required. Visit stevestoursandfilms.vp-web.com, e-mail filmguy54@hotmail.com or call 395-0674.



31 / Friday

Children's Fall Festival – Blue Star Card holders are invited to bring their kids and fall into fun at the Nehelani, Oct. 31. Drop in anytime between 3-5 p.m. There will be fall-themed games and contests full of tricks and treats for all ages. Complimentary pupus will be provided. For reservations, call 438-0376 or e-mail Darlene.J.Marshall@us.army.mil.

Big R: Fashion Fall Out – Enjoy a great night of contests, dancing, karaoke and fun, Oct. 31, 7-9 p.m., at the Tropics Recreation Center, Schofield Barracks.

Come dressed in your favorite fashion that has fallen out of style. The Blue Star Card fashionista in the best (or worst) fashion will win a prize.

Don't have a favorite fashion? Come dressed in costume and still join in on the fun. Reserve your seat and child care by calling 438-0376 or e-mailing Darlene.J.Marshall@us.army.mil.

November

1 / Saturday

Financial Readiness Program – Online applications for Army Emergency Relief (AER) Scholarships for the 2009-2010 academic year will be available Nov. 1, at www.aerhq.org. The application deadline is March 1 for the Dependent Children Scholarship Program and Maj. Gen. James Ursano Scholarship Program.

Applicants must be dependent children of active, retired or deceased Soldiers. Applicants must be enrolled in Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS), and must be full-time or planning to be a full-time undergraduate student at a college, community college or vocational school. Call 655-4ACS (4227).

Junior Enlisted Holiday Food Voucher Program – Applications will be accepted Nov. 1-Dec. 1 and are available from brigade command sergeants major. Vouchers will be awarded based on financial need. Nominations will come from unit commanders or first sergeants. Active duty junior enlisted Soldiers with units on Oahu are eligible.

2 / Sunday

Beach Bus – Outdoor Recreation will offer a beach bus shuttle service to area beaches around Oahu, Sundays. The bus will depart the Outdoor Recreation Center, Schofield Barracks, at 10 a.m. The bus will also pick up patrons at Fort



Kole Miller | 25th Infantry Division Protocol Office

Mahalo nui loa

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — The 25th Infantry Division held its quarterly volunteer ceremony in the Post Conference Room, Oct. 23. Pictured, from left to right, are Command Sgt. Maj. James Wafe Jr., 25th Infantry Division (ID); Shelly Caslen, Roberta Sandoval, Kris Keith, Suzanne Tuten, Regina Peirce, Danielle Casto, Theresa Simmons, Kristin Ives, Allison Mueller, Diane Hatton (who accepted the award for Charlotte Hatton), Bonnie Williams, Fiorella Brauch, Elizabeth Woodruff (who accepted the award for Constance Loftis) and Maj. Gen. Robert Caslen Jr., commanding general, 25th ID.

Shafter's Richardson Theatre at 11 a.m.

Cost is \$3 per person, and all ages are welcome. Children under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian, and parents must provide their own car seat for children as required. Seats are limited to 15 per shuttle trip. Preregistration is available with Information, Ticketing & Registration (ITR), Outdoor Recreation and the Tropics Recreation Center, Schofield Barracks, and with ITR, Fort Shafter. Call 655-0143.

3 / Monday

Active Parenting Class – Army Community Service, New Parent Support Program will offer a one day parenting class for parents of children ages 1-4 years old, Nov. 3 and 17, 9-11 a.m., at ACS, Schofield Barracks; and Nov. 24, 9-11 a.m., at Aliamanu Military Reservation's Community Chapel. Class will teach parenting skills to enrich the parenting experience; teaching parents how to recognize developmental milestones, and responding to difficult behavior in children. Call 655-4227 to register.

5 / Wednesday

Breast Feeding Basics – Though it's one of the most natural things in the world, for many moms, breastfeeding can be confusing. Learn about getting started, overcoming challenges and the importance of breastfeeding for your baby. Class meets Nov. 5, 9-11 a.m., at Army Community Service (ACS), Schofield Barracks; and Nov. 26, 9-11 a.m., at Aliamanu Military Reservation's Community Chapel. Call 655-4227.

Schofield Advisory Council Meeting – The next Schofield Barracks PX/Commissary/Nehelani Advisory Council Meeting will be Nov. 3, 10:15-11:15 a.m., at the Small Post Conference Room. This bi-monthly forum of representatives allows the council and patrons to exchange ideas and information. Contact Melvin Wright, 655-0497.

5 / Wednesday

Oahu South Town Hall – The next Oahu South town hall meeting for the Oahu South community will be held at the Aliamanu Military Reservation Chapel, Nov. 5, at 6:30 p.m. Call 438-6147 for more information.

Breakfast of Champions

– Wheeler Middle School will hold a breakfast ceremony, Nov. 5, 8:15 a.m., in the cafeteria, for students with A's and B's on their report cards. Families are invited to enjoy breakfast and celebrate the students' successes. Call 622-6525.

Parent Workshop – Wheeler Middle School will host "Staying Connected During Deployment," Nov. 5, 9:15 a.m., in the cafeteria. The workshop will provide tools to stay connected with your child's education, even during a deployment. Call 622-6525.

6 / Thursday

Operation Pay It Forward – Deploying Soldiers can now donate items they would normally throw away to Operation Pay It Forward (OPIF), Building 2109, Schofield Barracks, open Thursdays, 3:30-7 p.m.

Soldiers new to Hawaii can purchase items (E-3 and below get 5 items free every visit, E-4 and above pay a small fee). Proceeds will be used to purchase necessities for the quads like shower curtains, snacks and hygiene items.

Volunteers are needed to work at the storefront. Call Sgt. Andre Espinosa at 227-4965.

8 / Saturday

Veterans' Appreciation Day – The Oahu Veterans Council will hold a Veterans'

New Parents 101 – How come they don't come with instruction manuals? Intended for Soldiers who parented a child during or shortly before a deployment, this class covers common symptoms experienced post-deployment and how having a new baby in the home might magnify these symptoms. ACS will hold New Parents 101, Nov. 5, 2:15-4:15 p.m., at Aliamanu Military Reservation's Community Center.

Law Idea 2004 – Learn about the Individuals and Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 and Hawaii's Administrative Rules and how they are designed to meet the unique needs of students with disabilities, Nov. 5, 6-8 p.m., at Moanaloa High School. Call 655-1551.

6 / Thursday

Child Abuse and Neglect Brief – This class, intended for personnel who work with children, will cover causes and effects of child abuse, how to identify child abuse and the reporting responsibilities when child abuse is suspected. The class will be held Nov. 6, 8:30-10 a.m., at Aliamanu Military Reservation's School Age Services.

Military Spouse 101 – Army Community Service (ACS) will hold a class designed to introduce new spouses to the military lifestyle, Nov. 6 and 7, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m., at ACS, Schofield Barracks. Call 655-4227.

13 / Thursday

Sushi, Musubi – Learn the Japanese art of sushi making, Nov. 13, 5-7 p.m., at

Appreciation Day, Nov. 8, noon-4 p.m., at the Oahu Veterans Center, 1298 Kukila St., near Radford High School.

This event recognizes and honors all veterans for their service to our country and in particular those on active duty and those who have recently returned from the combat areas.

Tickets for the event are \$20 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. Admission includes lunch and an afternoon full of entertainment. Tickets are available online at www.oahuveteranscenter.com or call 422-4000.

11 / Tuesday

Veterans Day Sunset Ceremony – The Battleship Missouri Memorial will hold its annual Veterans Day Sunset Ceremony, Nov. 11, 4:45-5:45 p.m. Free and open to both visitors and residents, the ceremony will feature guest speakers, James Hornfisher, author of two works of World War II naval history books and Commander Michael Lewis of the USS Houston. Call 539-3482.

12 / Wednesday

"Home of the Brave" Quilt Project – The public is invited to the Pacific Aviation Museum, Pearl Harbor, Nov. 12, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., to sign names and write messages of hope on "Home of the Brave" quilts, sewn by volunteers and provided to families of fallen service members.

No reservations are needed. Admission is \$14 for adults and \$7 for children. Kamaaina and military discounts are available. Call the museum at 441-1000 or visit www.PacificAviationMuseum.org.

14 / Friday

Employment Workshop – Army Community Service (ACS) will host "Ten Steps to Federal Employment," a workshop open to military family members, military personnel and Department of Defense employees, Nov. 14, 9-11 a.m., at ACS, Schofield Barracks. Call 655-4227 or register online at www.acsclasses.com.

15 / Saturday

Car Wash – Wheeler Middle School's Student Activities office will hold a car wash Nov. 15, 9 a.m.-noon, in the school's

Schofield's Sgt. Yano Library. Watch demonstrations and try out new techniques. Call 655-8002.

Information Session – The Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) will host an information forum to discuss the EFMP Respite Care program, Nov. 13, 10 a.m.-noon and 6-8 p.m., at Army Community Service, Schofield Barracks. All families currently receiving or interested in receiving respite are encouraged to participate. Call 655-1551.

Anger Awareness – Are you angry? Do you feel like you are out of control? This workshop provides information about the basic mechanisms of anger and provides the tools to resolve anger in a healthy way, Nov. 13, 3-4:30 p.m., at Army Community Service, Schofield Barracks. Call 655-4227.

14 / Friday

Baby Massage – Babies are intuitive, and their sense of touch highly developed. Therefore, in addition to many health benefits, time spent massaging your baby greatly increases your communication and helps you understand your baby's moods, needs, desires and expressions. Call 655-4227 to register. (This is a four-part consecutive series limited to 10 parents with their babies. Babies should be between 4 and 8 months old.)

The class meets Nov. 14, at Aliamanu Military Reservation's Community Chapel; and Nov. 19, 9-11 a.m., at Army Community Service, Schofield Barracks. Call 655-4227.

parking lot. All proceeds from the community service project will be donated to local veterans' groups. Call 622-6525.

Friends & Film On the Fantail – The Battleship Missouri Memorial will host a "Friends and Film on the Fantail" event, Nov. 15, 5-9 p.m., on the historic battleship's fantail. The event, which is open to visitors and kamaaina, will screen "The World's Fastest Indian." Call 539-3482.

18 / Tuesday

Free Online Job Training Classes – Attend job search training from your home or office. All you need is a phone and a computer. Join Army Community Service, Nov. 18, 10-11 a.m. for a class on Strategies for Private Sector Resume Writing. Register at www.acshiemployment.com and click on the TeleSeminar link under the Virtual Classes header. Call 655-4227.

19 / Wednesday

Math & Science Fun Night – Wheeler Middle School will host a Math & Science Fun Night, Nov. 19, 5-7:30 p.m. This educational and entertaining night will allow parents and students to participate in activities that relate to the standards being taught. Call 622-6525.

21 / Friday

Employment Orientation – Prepare for the job you want. Attend an Army Community Service (ACS) Employment Orientation and get employment information on federal, state, private sector and staffing agencies. Reference materials, job listings, computers, Web tour and more will be available for use.

Orientations will be held at Schofield Barracks, ACS, Nov. 21 and 28, 9-11 a.m. Call 655-4227 or register online at www.acsclasses.com.

Ongoing

Preschool Story Time – Parents and children ages 3-5 are invited to sing songs and read stories at Wahiawa Public Library, Wednesdays, at 10 a.m. Call 622-6345.



Aliamanu (AMR) Chapel 836-4599

- Catholic Sunday, 8:30 a.m. – Mass Sunday, 9:45 a.m. – Religious Edu.
- 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
- Buddhist 1st Sunday, 1 p.m.

Fort Shafter Chapel 836-4599

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

Helemano (HMR) Chapel 653-0703

- Contemporary Protestant Sunday, 9 a.m. – Bible Study Sunday, 10 a.m. – Worship Service & Children's Church

Main Post Chapel 655-9307

- Catholic Sunday, 8 a.m. – CCD & RCIA Sunday, 10:30 a.m. – Mass
- Collective Protestant Sunday, 9 a.m. – Worship Sunday, 10:30 a.m. – Sunday School
- Gospel Sunday, 10:30 a.m. – Sunday School Sunday, noon – Worship Service

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, noon – Adoration
- Liturgical Sunday, 9:30 a.m. – Worship

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 656-4481

- Catholic Saturday, 5 p.m. – Mass
- Collective Protestant Sunday, 9 a.m. – Worship Sunday, 9 a.m. – Sunday School



Send announcements to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

31 / Today

Deployment Ceremony – The public is invited to the 8th Military Police Brigade's deployment ceremony, today, 11 a.m., at Hamilton Field (corner of Ayers & Grimes streets), Schofield Barracks. Call the 8th MP Brigade Public Affairs Office at 655-1594.

Resume Writing Workshop – Army Community Service (ACS) will hold a resume-writing workshop, today, 9-11 a.m., at ACS, Schofield Barracks.

This workshop is open to military personnel, military family members and Department of Defense employees. Call 655-4227 or register online at www.acsclasses.com.

Sexual Assault Prevention – The Army has launched a new and improved Sexual Assault Prevention program Web site as part of its new I.A.M. Strong sexual assault prevention campaign. Visit www.preventsexualassault.army.mil.

November

2 / Sunday

Father-Daughter Ball – The Armed Services YMCA will hold a Father-Daughter Ball, Nov. 1, 5:30 p.m., at the Nehelani, Schofield Barracks. A ticket cost \$40 per Father-Daughter pair and includes dinner. Tickets must be purchased in advance and are available only through the ASYMCA. Call 624-5645.

3 / Monday

Spouse Information Meeting – The next Spouse Information Meeting (SIM) is scheduled for Nov. 3, 9 a.m., in the Post Conference Room.



Call 624-2585 for movie listings or go to adfes.com under reeltime movie listing.



Mirrors

(R) Friday, 7 p.m.

Tyler Perry's The Family That Preys

(PG-13) Saturday, 4 p.m.

Righteous Kills

(R) Saturday, 7 p.m. Thursday, 7 p.m.



Space Chimps

(G) Sunday, 2 p.m.

The Women

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

No shows on Mondays or Tuesdays.

8th TSC makes wishes come true at Walktoberfest

Money raised funds trips for sick children and their families for airfare, hotel accommodations in Hawaii

Story and Photo by
SPC. KYNDAL GRIFFIN
8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs

HONOLULU — Soldiers and Oahu community members came together Saturday to volunteer for the first ever "Walktoberfest" at Kakaako Waterfront Park to raise money and awareness for the Make-A-Wish Foundation Hawaii.

More than 40 Soldiers from the 8th Theater Sustainment Command volunteered their time by providing logistical support to help the Make-A-Wish Foundation, a nonprofit agency that fulfills the dreams and wishes of children with life threatening diseases



and illnesses.

"This is the first race put together by the Hawaii chapter, and it's a fundraiser

for the organization to support its mission here in Hawaii," said Kula Abiva, director of operations for event organizer

Sgt. Helen Oh, an operations noncommissioned officer with the 8th Special Troops Battalion, paints a little boy's face at the Make-A-Wish Foundation's Walktoberfest at Kakaako Waterfront Park, Saturday.

Events. "We are very pleased with the outcome. We actually exceeded our expectations."

More than 150 people attended the event.

According to Lynn Brown, executive director of Make-A-Wish Hawaii, a trip to Hawaii is the second most requested wish by the program's participants. (The top wish is a trip to Disney Land.)

This year's Walktoberfest helped raise money for plane tickets and hotel accommodations to fulfill childrens' wishes of coming to Hawaii.

"We had a great deal of support making this event happen, especially from the military," said Abiva. "They just took care of so much of the logistics that we

couldn't have possibly done without their help."

Soldiers arrived early in the morning on race day and assisted with putting up tents, hanging banners, blowing up balloons, painting faces, and handing out water to race participants.

"They (Soldiers) are indispensable, and we really appreciate their support," Abiva said. "Without them, it would be impossible for us to put on these kinds of events."

"Being able to volunteer for things like this is important because we have already proven to everybody that we can support our country," said Sgt. 1st Class Donny Bonneau, operations noncommissioned officer-in-charge, 8th Special Troops Battalion. "But it is important for us to show our community that we are here to support them, as well. It's important for us to get out and show them (with) our deeds."



Making a difference

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Pfc. John Butkus, infantryman with A Company, 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment Rear Detachment, cleans mold from the 1944 M-4A3E8 U.S. Medium Tank outside the Tropic Lightning Museum as part of National Make A Difference Day, Saturday. More than 10 volunteers of the 2-35th Inf. Regt. cleaned harmful organic material and mold from the artifacts outside and also painted the interior of the museum.

"It's an important show of respect for the Soldiers in the field and the Soldiers who have gone before us to serve in the community and to keep their history alive and looking good," said Pvt. Cameron Hawkin, 2-35th Inf. Regt.

Kyle Ford | U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs

Shafter Elementary students awash with weather knowledge

STAFF SGT. CRISTA YAZZIE
U.S. Army-Pacific Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER — The first, second and third grade students raised their hands as high as they could stretch them. They knew the answer to the question. Air Force 1st Lt. Bill Danyluk pointed at one little boy and all hands went down.

"There is snow somewhere in Hawaii because we are close to the equator, but it snows on the very tall mountain tops," the boy explained.

"That's right," said Danyluk. "Does anyone know why it only snows on the mountains?"

Danyluk was teaching climatology to the Fort Shafter Elementary Junior First Lego League (FLL), an educational group that uses theme-based challenges to engage children in research, problem solving and introductory engineering concepts.

The class not only introduced climatology to the students, but pre-



To learn more about Hawaii's First Lego League or the Junior FLL visit www.hawaiiifll.org or www.firstlegoleague.org.

pared them for Climate Connections, the Junior FLL's annual national competition in January 2009, in which the students will be building their own tool to study climate.

"I was glad to give back to the community and to see that young children are interested in the physical world and the sciences," said Danyluk, who also commands the 1st Weather Squadron Detachment at Fort Shafter, a unit permanently attached to U.S. Army-Pacific (USARPAC).

Danyluk's squadron, officially activated Oct. 1, is the Army command's meteorological subject matter expert, and relates all weather news of the entire Pacific to USARPAC. The acti-

vation is part of a worldwide transformation of U.S. Air Force Battle-field Weather Teams, Tactical Air Control Teams, and Air Support Operations Centers to more effectively support U.S. Army commanders and missions.

"It was a challenge to talk to these kids," said Danyluk. "I'm not accustomed to speaking in front of kids, I'm used to speaking in front of generals, so I've found a new respect. The competition sounds like an interesting challenge too."

The FLL is an international hands-on program that has expanded from 2,000 children in 1998 to more than 25,000 in the U.S. and over 5,000 from countries around the world. Funding for the program is provided by a variety of sources, ranging from the Joint Venture Education Forum, Hawaii Department of Education, University of Hawaii College of Engineering, City and County of Honolulu, among others.



Kainoa Andrade | Waialua High School

Sgt. Nathan Barry, 205th Military Intelligence Battalion, 500th MI Bde., assists a Waialua High student with her algebra homework. Barry is one of many 500th MI Soldiers who tutors students in support of the brigade's partnership with the school.

500th MI Bde., Waialua schools united

SGT. 1ST CLASS SHERYL L. LAWRY

500th Military Intelligence Brigade Public Affairs

WAIALUA — The 500th Military Intelligence (MI) Brigade and Waialua High and Intermediate School formally declared themselves united, Oct. 14. The announcement came after a U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii (USAG-HI) School Partnership Program Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed in the school's library by Col. Christopher S. Ballard, commander, 500th MI Bde., and Principal Randi Porres-Tang.

According to the agreement, the USAG-HI School Partnership Program encourages voluntary partnerships between local schools and Army units or organizations to improve students' quality of education through the Army's resources and expertise.

For the students at Waialua High and Intermediate, that means 500th MI Bde. Soldiers are now invested in their individual successes.

The partnership between the 500th MI Bde. and the school was developed this summer. After several meetings between brigade and school liaisons, a plan was created and then implemented once the school year kicked off.

At the heart of the partnership is the week-

ly communication between the school and unit.

"With the ongoing communication, we have built a solid relationship between the 500th and our school," said Porres-Tang. "There is now evidence that all the time and work put into the partnership is working."

Since the school year began, July 29, 500th MI Bde. Soldiers have volunteered more than 240 hours of academic tutoring, which averages out to a little more than 120 hours per month.

"The overall feedback (about the partnership) is very positive," said Lorri Sonan, the school's liaison to the unit. "Both teachers and students who have worked with the Soldiers have gained a lot. The teachers appreciate having the Soldiers to help students individually and in small groups, and the Soldiers who have come to the school on a regular basis have built relationships that are invaluable."

Following the MOU signing, a tour was given to Ballard and his battalion commanders to showcase how well the partnership was progressing. The tour visited classrooms where Soldiers were actively engaged in helping students.

"I saw firsthand how awesome our partnership is," said Lt. Col. Parker Pritchard, battal-

ion commander, 732nd MI Battalion. Pritchard's Soldiers are a significant portion of the volunteer force.

"The program left me feeling proud and even more supportive of the work we are doing," he said. "The administration and faculty of Waialua have brought us all in as part of their school, allowing our Soldiers to truly make a difference in students' lives — whether that is helping them with algebra, track practice or as positive role models. I have never seen a better relationship. It is a win for both of us."

Always working to find ways to keep the ties between the unit and school strong, 500th MI Bde. Soldiers do what they can to be part of the overall Waialua community, as well.

During the Waialua Community Homecoming Parade, Oct. 17, the brigade's color guard and a formation of 25 Soldiers led the parade through the town of Waialua. The following night at the homecoming football game, the color guard was posted for the playing of the national anthem.

"Many of the parents and community members have expressed that it was wonderful to have them part of such festivities," said Sonan. "They are visible and accepted by all in the community."

8th TSC thanks retirees for their dedicated service

Story and Photo by
SGT. COREY BALTOS

45th Sustainment Brigade Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — The 8th Theater Sustainment Command said mahalo and aloha to nine Soldiers at a quarterly retirement ceremony, Oct. 23.

Col. Clay Hatcher and Command Sgt. Maj. Benjamin Ramos, both of the 45th Sustainment Brigade, hosted the ceremony.

As retirees stepped up to the podium to say goodbye, they thanked their families for the sacrifices and support over their 20-plus year careers.

"I have been away from home for seven of the last 23 years. My family finally said, 'Daddy can you come home?' I am retiring for them," said Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Crawford, a military police officer with the 8th Military Police Brigade.

Hatcher reminded Soldiers of

Recent retirees included:

- Chief Warrant Officer Scott Bartling, 2-6th Cav. Regt.
- Master Sgt. Shane Bush, 13th MP Det.
- Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Crawford, 8th MP Bde.
- Sgt. 1st Class David Denard, Explosive Ordnance Disposal Control Team
- Sgt. 1st Class William Gonzalez Jr., 8th STB
- Staff Sgt. John Ruiz, 2-6th Cav. Regt.
- Staff Sgt. Alex Sannicolas, 65th Engineer Bn.
- Staff Sgt. Anthony Webster, 325th BSB
- Master Sgt. Thomas Wellman, 130th Engineer Bde.

one caveat when they retired.

"When you retire, you switch bosses," he said. "From the one who hired you, to the one who married you."



Col. Clay Hatcher, commander, 45th Sustainment Brigade (left), congratulates Staff Sgt. Alex Sannicolas, 65th Engineer Battalion, on his retirement after 20 years of service to the U.S. Army.

Soldiers, Indian army build friendships through sports



Soldiers from the Army Reserve's 9th Mission Support Command, the California National Guard's 40th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, and the Indian army's 49th Brigade battle it out in an action-packed basketball game during sports day, an event held during Exercise Yuhd Abhyas, Sunday.

Story and Photo by
PFC. NEVADA J. SMITH
40th Infantry Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

HONOLULU — Soldiers from the Army Reserve's 9th Mission Support Command, the California Army National Guard's 40th Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT), and the Indian army's 49th Brigade participated in a sports day event here, Sunday.

The Soldiers of both U.S. and Indian forces have come together in a combined brigade as part of Exercise Yuhd Abhyas 2008.

Exercise Yuhd Abhyas is a United Nations joint forces peace-keeping training exercise. The sports day event sought to help strengthen bonds between U.S. and Indian forces.

"Sports day is an opportunity for us to build teamwork," said Col. David Baldwin, brigade commander, 40th IBCT.

"Since we are forming a combined brigade, the classwork training we have done in the first couple days of this training event has been good in increasing our understanding of how the U.N. forces and Indian Army work and operate. This is the first opportunity we have had to form together as teams and to get to know each other and build bonds.

"This exercise has been an outstanding tool in bringing our cultures together and furthering our understanding of the similarities between our two armies," said Baldwin. "It is a great vehicle in preparing us in the event that we do have an opportunity to deploy and work together as a combined organization."

Soldiers from both the U.S. and Indian armies weren't concerned with winning at basketball or volleyball; each

team was a mix of both country's Soldiers and the main goal was to just have fun.

"One of the most important components of this event is to build friendship, and to get to know each other at the Soldier-to-Soldier and person-to-person level," said Brigadier Neeraj Bali, exercise officer-in-charge of the Indian Army contingent participating in the exercise.

"What we are doing here is a prime example of how far and how deep that friendship has grown in the past few days," said Bali.

"This was my first time playing basketball," said Civil Affairs Sgt. Maj. Lisa Marie Torello. "The sports were a lot of fun and really helped build an esprit de corps."

"Sports are a great way to strengthen bonds," said Baldwin.



1 / Saturday

Turkey Trot — Trot on a treadmill, Nov. 1-20, at the Helemano Military Reservation Physical Fitness Center to win great prizes. Reach a distance of 5K and you could be eligible to win prizes to be awarded Nov. 21. Call 653-0719.

5 / Wednesday

Workout Without Walls — Trying to get in shape but the same old routine has you unmotivated?

Outdoor Recreation gives you the chance to try a different workout in a new location every week.

The next class is Nov. 12, 8:30-11 a.m. Classes will be held every Wednesday. Each session costs \$10. Call 655-0143.

Ongoing

Twilight Golf — Pay half the green fee and enjoy the afternoon at Nagorski Golf Course, Fort Shafter. Twilight golf begins

at 11:05 a.m., Monday-Friday. Not available during holidays. Call 438-9587.

Ladies' Fitness Classes — Cardio Step & Circuit and Vinyasa Power Yoga classes are offered at the Fort Shafter Physical Fitness Center during female-only hours.

Beginner through advanced level yoga classes are Tuesdays, 9-10 a.m., and cardio classes are Thursdays, 9-10 a.m. Call 438-1152.

Student Bowling Special — The Bowling Center, Schofield Barracks, invites all students ages 18 and younger to take part in their After-School Special. Games are \$1.75 with free shoe rental, Mondays-Fridays, 2-5 p.m.

Students earn a free game for every "A" on their original report card. Call 655-0573.

Little Ninja — Classes are now being offered at Aliamanu Military Reservation's (AMR) Youth Gym, Saturdays, 9-9:45 a.m., for children ages 3-5. The cost is \$35 per month. Call the AMR Child and Youth Service's Registration Office at 833-5393.

100-Mile Run/Walk & 50-Mile Swim Clubs — Record each mile you run, walk or swim and win incentive prizes. Stop by any Army Physical Fitness Center or swimming pool to pick up a log sheet. Call 655-9914.



Send sports announcements to
community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

31 / Today

Youth Boys' Soccer — Crush Soccer Academy (West) is looking for boys born between Aug. 1, 2001-July 31, 2002 to form an 8-years-and-under competitive soccer team that will compete in the Hawaii Youth Soccer Association Winter League (January-March 2009). Practice begins in November. Some playing experience is required.

Contact Coach Katie Knight at 778-1266.

November

8 / Saturday

Hike Oahu — Join the Hawaiian Trail & Mountain Club on a hike through the Waialae Ridge.

This short but steep hike takes you to the Koolau Summit, overlooking Waimanalo and portions of the windward coast. Sections of the trail are eroded and may be slippery.

This intermediate hike is 4 miles. Call Wil Kawano at 373-1492.

Save the date for these upcoming hikes, too:

- Nov. 16, an 11-mile advanced hike through Moanalua Ridge.

- Nov. 22, a 6-mile advanced hike through Nanakuli Ridge.

Hikes begin at 8 a.m., and a \$2 donation is requested of non-members. An adult must accompany children under 18. Hikers meet at Iolani Palace, mountainside.

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, as well as treat trees and plants with care and respect. Visit www.htmclub.org.

9 / Sunday

Volksmarch — Join the Menehune Marchers Volkspport Club on a 5 or 10K volksmarch (walk), Nov. 9, at the Foster Botanical Garden at 180 North Vineyard Blvd., in Nuuanu.

Walkers can begin anytime between 8-11 a.m. Call Maria at 261-3583 or visit www.ava.org/clubs/menehunemarch ers.

Call Bob at 941-0218 or visit www.ava.org/clubs/menehunemarchers.

15 / Friday

Skimboarding Contest — The Hawaii Amateur Skimboard League will host a

skimboarding contest, Nov. 15, 7 a.m., at Sandy Beach.

Entry fees start at \$35 and include a T-shirt.

Visit hawaiiskimboardleague.com.

Ongoing

Jazzercise — Combine elements of dance, resistance training, Pilates, yoga, kickboxing and more in exciting programs for all fitness levels at Jazzercise Waikale.

Classes are held Mondays and Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m., at the Waikale Elementary School cafeteria. Call 674-1083.

Hawaii Youth Triathlon Club — Children, ages 7-19, are invited to join the Hawaii Youth Triathlon Club, an organized sports club run by athletes.

Membership is \$50 and includes an annual membership with USA Triathlon, insurance during training, a swim cap and club certificate, review clinics and newsletter.

Visit www.hawaiiouthtri.com.

Golfers Wanted — Are you looking for a golf group? Military or civilian golfers interested in playing golf on Sunday mornings at Leilehua Golf Course can call 347-8038 or 375-3322. Tee time is usually before 8 a.m.



ARMY FAMILY COVENANT

ARMY STRONG. SOLDIERS ★ FAMILIES ★ ARMY CIVILIANS



Celebrating

the one-year anniversary

of the Army's commitment to putting Soldiers and their families first

• **Smashing success**

The Covenant delivers on its promise | C - 4

• **ACS overhaul**

ACS ramps up to meet families' needs | C - 6

• **Blue Star Card**

Discounts abound for members | C - 7

AFC a strong commitment to Soldiers and families

MAJ. GEN. RAYMOND V. MASON

Senior Commander, Army Units Hawaii
Commander, 8th Theater Sustainment Command

FORT SHAFTER – One year ago, Gen. Richard Cody, the Army Vice Chief of Staff, signed the Army Family Covenant (AFC) here in Hawaii, pledging a stronger commitment to Army families.

The AFC is a pact signed by Army leaders, pledging to provide a quality of life that is equal to the quality of service given by Soldiers and their families. Our Army ohana here has and continues to accomplish a great deal, particularly in the past 12 months, providing that support to Army families with enhanced quality of life initiatives.

Since that historic day last November, Soldiers and families have enjoyed such improvements as 12 free days of pet care for families of de-

ployed Soldiers at the FMWR Pet Kennel, new equipment and free classes at fitness centers, and extended library hours at the Aliamanu Military Reservation (AMR) library. Many of the AFC improvements are visible, including the beautiful new Fort Shafter Community Center and the hundreds of new homes being built on Schofield Barracks, AMR and Fort Shafter.

Other improvements aren't as visible, but just as important. In the past, the services offered at every duty station across the Army had different ways of doing business. Now, with the implementation of the AFC, those existing family programs and services are standardized and funded. For example, our Child, Youth and School Services here in Hawaii offers free registration for all families, along with expanded services for families of deployed Soldiers and wounded warriors.

The AFC improves Soldier and family readi-

ness in a number of ways. Since Sept. 11, 2001, our units have completed several deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan, and family readiness groups (FRG) have played a vital role in keeping the Army family strong.

The AFC provided \$1.3 million to support the hiring of 33 family readiness support assistants here in Hawaii, providing much needed continuity to our unit FRG programs.

As the senior commander here, I understand the impact and the importance that a strong Army family has on our readiness. I am fully committed to providing our Soldiers and their families with a strong, supportive environment where they can make a difference in their service to the nation, and enjoy the beauty of the great state of Hawaii.

Mahalo for all that you do on a daily basis in keeping Army Hawaii a standard above the rest.



Mason

Family-friendly numbers

An index of useful numbers for Soldiers and families on Oahu.

Army Community Service

Schofield Barracks
655-4ACS(4227)

Military and Family Life
Consultants
222-7088

Child Development Centers

Aliamanu Military Reservation
833-5102
Fort Shafter
438-1151

Helemano Military Reservation
653-0724

Schofield Barracks
655-1819

Youth Centers

Aliamanu Military Reservation
Community Center
833-0920
Fort Shafter
438-1487

Helemano Military Reservation
653-0717

Schofield Barracks
(Bennett Youth Center)
655-0451

Outdoor Recreation
655-0143

FMWR focused on improving quality of life

SARAH HERRIGAN

Family and Morale,
Welfare and Recreation

Even before the words "Army Family Covenant" (AFC) were a part of everyday conversations in Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (FMWR) offices, the idea of bringing an increased quality of life to Soldiers and family members was a part of our everyday culture.

Since the Army Family Covenant has arrived and put a formal emphasis on quality of life, FMWR-Hawaii continues to look for new ways to take the idea of the AFC and bring it to life here in Hawaii.

One of the many FMWR facilities embracing the essence of the AFC is Outdoor Recreation, particularly with its new programs and the partnership with the Wounded Warrior program.

Through the hard work of the Outdoor Recreation team, the facility has undergone major changes in 2008. What used to be a facility primarily used for equipment checkout is now the destination for outdoor programs.

Through Outdoor Recreation, Soldiers and families have a variety of opportunities to explore Oahu and create lifelong memories. Some of these expanded programs include: workout without walls, a morning of physical activity done in a scenic area of the island; whale watching tours; deep-sea fishing; Kualoa Ranch tours that include ATV, movie set and Jeep tours, along with kayak excursions; aquaculture tours, which teach Hawaiian fishing skills; Tour de North Shore, a bike adventure



Outdoor Recreation (ODR) is just one of the many Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation departments getting a facelift courtesy of the Army Family Covenant. One of the newer programs ODR offers is deep-sea fishing. Call 655-0143 for more information.

across Oahu's North Shore; hiking, biking and kayaking trips; and scuba, which includes Discover Scuba and various certifications and dives.

One program targeted to deploying Soldiers gives certified divers and a guest a free dive before they deploy, when they return, and during their rest and recuperation (R&R) leave.

In addition to the activity, whichever they may choose, part of the experience includes free transportation involving a tour of Oahu,

with the Outdoor Recreation staff teaching patrons about the island while they ride. Outdoor Recreation will also arrange for special group trips at discounted rates.

In addition to its expanded programming, the Outdoor Recreation team also takes care of wounded warriors and their families. Outdoor Recreation works with the Warrior Transition Battalion (WTB) and gives wounded warriors open seats for a discounted price. Outdoor Recreation was able to open additional seats on a variety of pro-

grams, especially deep-sea fishing during the spring and summer, for the WTB.

As you can see, Outdoor Recreation is one of the ways the Army in Hawaii is taking care of Soldiers and families and continuing to bring the ideas of the AFC to life. Keep looking to FMWR in the coming year to see new programs and activities, improvements to facilities, and new ways to get involved through FMWR and allow us to thank you for your service and sacrifice.

On the Cover



Family drawing by Angelica Rodriguez, 9, daughter of Marie Rodriguez and Sgt. Jimmy Rodriguez, 2nd Battalion, 11th Field Artillery Regiment, who is currently deployed to Iraq.



ARMY FAMILY COVENANT

ARMY STRONG. SOLDIERS ★ FAMILIES ★ ARMY CIVILIANS

The Army Family Covenant

We recognize the commitment and increasing sacrifices that our families are making every day. We recognize the strength of our Soldiers comes from the strength of their families.

We are committed to providing Soldiers and families a quality of life that is commensurate with their service. We are committed to providing our families a strong, supportive environment where they can thrive.

We are committed to building a partnership with Army families that enhances their strength and resilience.

We are committed to improving family readiness by:

- Standardizing and funding existing family programs and services.
- Increasing accessibility and quality of health care.
- Improving Soldier and family housing.
- Ensuring excellence in schools, youth services, and child care.
- Expanding education and employment opportunities for family members.



Right — Uluani Duncan (right) entertains family members with the SKIES hula class. Entertainment showcasing new programs for various installation organizations engaged the crowd during the FMWR expo, Aug. 1.

Left — Gen. Richard Cody, Army Vice Chief of Staff, gives a coin to Jessie Lebreck and the rest of the Army families on hand to witness the signing of the Army Family Covenant, Nov. 1, 2007.

Sgt. 1st Class Jason Shepherd | U.S. Army-Pacific Public Affairs

Right — Soshana Monroe, Paul Mitchell hairstylist, sculpts family member Renee Gramatikas' hair at Ladies' Night Out, Aug. 8, at the Tropics. The event, sponsored by the Army Family Covenant and Blue Star Card program, gave ladies the opportunity to get pampered with mini treatments and enjoy food, drinks and a fashion show featuring other family members.

Kyle Ford | U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs

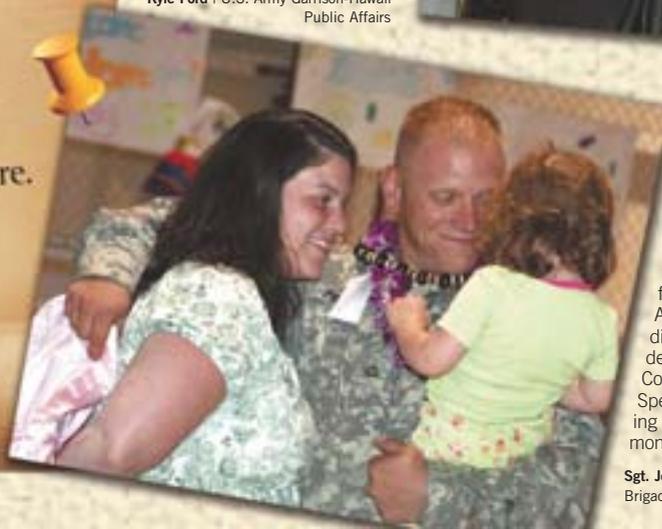


Molly Hayden | Pacific Media Publishing



Kyle Ford | U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs

Left — (From left) Lyca, Ilana, Rosslynn and Ashei Enriquez work on a family drawing at Schofield Barracks' Child Development Center (CDC). CDCs provide child care for families of Soldiers and are especially important for families of deployed Soldiers.



Left — Pfc. William Pfeifer, 82nd Engineer Company, 65th Engineer Battalion, and his wife Mary watch as their daughter Veronica plays with her father's lei at Wheeler Army Airfield, May 17. The Soldiers of the 82nd Eng. Co. deployed to Camp Ramadi, Contingency Operating Base Speicher and Forward Operating Base Warrior, Iraq, for nine months.

Sgt. Jessika Malott | 8th Military Police Brigade Public Affairs



Cecilia Vargas | Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation

Family members pack Sills Field, Schofield Barracks, for the Kulekole Jam II, Feb. 23.

FMWR brings Army Family Covenant to families

Soldiers, families gain benefits from expanded programs and funding

FAMILY AND MORALE, WELFARE AND RECREATION

News Release

The Army Family Covenant has provided all Army installations the opportunity to increase the quality of life of Soldiers and families through increased funding and programming.

The new or expanded Army Family Covenant programs help Soldiers and families recently returned from a deployment, gearing up for a deployment and support spouses of currently deployed Soldiers.

Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (FMWR) is committed to taking specific Army Family Covenant initiatives and customizing them to meet the unique needs of the Soldiers and families in Hawaii.

Over the next several months you will be seeing better programs and services, increased child care opportunities, and expanded hours of operation at many facilities. The Army Hawaii FMWR is committed to providing the best services and programs available anywhere in the world. Through FMWR programming the Army Family Covenant has fully come alive.

FMWR is eager to implement and expand the Army Family Covenant programs. People with ideas on programs they would like to see implemented, or input on the current programs should contact FMWR.



Molly Hayden | Pacific Media Publishing

Bowling centers are just one of the departments receiving additional support courtesy of the Army Family Covenant. Families of deployed and recently redeployed Soldiers can download coupons for bowling and golf discounts at www.mwrmilitaryhawaii.com, redeemable at any Army Hawaii bowling center or golf course.

What FMWR has done:

Kolekole Jam II – The Army Family Covenant made the Kolekole Jam II concert, featuring Montgomery Gentry, Bowling for Soup, and Katie Rae Davis a reality. Covenant funding provided this free event, which was attended by more than 15,000 of the Hawaii military community. The evening of food, music, and fun was the Army Family Covenant's way to say thank you to our Soldiers and families for all of their sacrifice and service.

Enhanced Child, Youth and School Services – The Army Family Covenant funds expanded CYS Service. First, CYS2 registration is now free for all families. For families of deployed Soldiers and

wounded warriors, benefits include 16 free hours respite care, four free School of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills (SKIES), classes, two free youth sports, reduced full/part time care fees and discounted hourly care. Wounded warriors also received unlimited no cost hourly care for medical appointments. The rear detachment command is now given five free hours of child care per month. Further, CYS2 has enhanced homework support and tutoring opportunities and has upgraded youth technology labs in facilities to assist in communication with deployed parents.

Discounted golf – Families of deployed Soldiers and recently redeployed Soldiers and families can

enjoy up to \$10 off green fees at Army golf courses. Participants just need to download the discount coupon off the FMWR Web site, www.mwrmilitaryhawaii.com and present the coupon at time of purchase.

Discounted bowling – Families of deployed Soldiers and recently redeployed Soldiers and Families can enjoy \$1 off at Army bowling centers, up to three games. Participants just need to download the discount coupon off the FMWR Web site, www.mwrmilitaryhawaii.com and present the coupon at time of purchase.

Extended gym hours – Weekend and holiday hours at Martinez and Fort Shafter gyms and weekend hours at the Schofield

Barracks Health and Fitness Center have been extended.

Gym towels provided – The Army Family Covenant provides towels at each FMWR gym and fitness center for patrons to use while working out.

Free fitness classes – Many classes at the Schofield Barracks Health and Fitness Center are free for all Soldiers and family members courtesy of the Army Family Covenant.

Free pet care – Families of deployed Soldiers are given 12 free days of pet care at the FMWR Kennel with a valid Blue Star Card. These free days are funded by the Army Family Covenant.

New outdoor recreation programming – New programs in outdoor recreation have launched, including whale watching, deep sea fishing, scuba and island tours.

Extended library hours – The Aliamanu Library is open extended hours Wednesday – Friday, and new hours of operation are Wednesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Fridays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Extended Information, Ticketing and Reservations (ITR) hours – The Fort Shafter and Schofield Barracks ITR Offices are now open Monday – Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Extended outdoor recreation hours – Outdoor Recreation is now open Sundays, noon-4 p.m. and Tuesdays, 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

New fitness equipment – New fitness equipment has been placed in physical fitness centers courtesy of the Army Family Covenant.

ACS continues efforts to aid family members with new hires

MOLLY HAYDEN
Staff Writer

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS – With the signing of the Army Family Covenant (AFC) last November, Soldiers and family members have seen increased benefits and programs over the last year.

Recently, the Army Family Covenant provided funding to Army Community Service (ACS) to increase and instate new positions to better serve Soldiers and families. ACS has been working hard, expediting new hires to find qualified people to serve the Army community.

"The funding ACS received from the covenant allowed us to maintain

a high standard by providing the manpower to support our programs," said Nancy Piper, chief, ACS. "It has raised the number of clients we serve ... the additional staffing has made a huge difference."

The funding received from the Army Family Covenant allowed ACS to hire four full-time contractors to fill the gap in existing programs, as well as four additional contractors for the New Parent Support Program.

"With the high number of deployments, we see a large number of single parents," said Piper. "We are now able to reach out to the community and aid more family mem-

bers than before." 

The Department of Defense has contracted subject matter experts from leading universities across the country to research the impact of deployment and separation on Soldiers and families. ACS is prepared to deliver the results of that research through training in a variety of forums to best meet the needs of Soldiers and family members, including the Ready 4 Deployment classes and briefings that prepare Soldiers and families for deployment.

The Family Advocacy Program

(FAP) recently hired five victim program specialists. The specialists are assigned to a variety of program areas and address all levels of mobilization and deployment.

Other programs including Army emergency relief, exceptional family member program, employment readiness program and relocation readiness program, all focus on mission readiness through a variety of educational and support services.

"We provide a lot of opportunities to strengthen service and deliver

more outreach with unit commanders, family readiness groups and family members," said Cole Weeks, Family Advocacy Program manager, ACS.

New programs, including baby massage, Blue Star baby and the Keiki Wellness In Communities (KWIC) partnership also aid family members by creating support within the community.

ACS is committed to assisting commanders in maintaining readiness of individuals, families and communities within the Army by developing, coordinating and delivering services that promote self-reliance, resiliency and stability during war and peace.

Blue Star Card helps make deployment bearable

SARAH HERRIGAN

Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation

It is the last week of the month, and for many Army spouses, it is time to celebrate. Another month of deployment is completed, and Darlene Marshall, Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (FMWR), Blue Star Card Program coordinator, warmly greets spouses as they arrive at the Nehelani Club for the "Big R: Countdown to Redeployment Party."

She hands each a sign reading "We Made It 7 Months!" and encourages them to smile big for the camera, reminding each spouse to e-mail this picture to their Soldier downrange. Attendees then go inside to enjoy a child-free evening out, with free pupus and a competitive game of Pictionary.

The monthly Big R Party is just one of the many benefits and activities associated with the FMWR Blue Star Card program. Implemented in 2004, the Blue Star Card program aids spouses and families of deployed Soldiers. The card provides discounts at FMWR facilities, free and discounted child care, and various opportunities to spend time with other spouses.

Blue Star Card Events:

What we've done in 2008

- Big R: Casino Night, Mai Tais and Makeovers, Pick, Play and Party Bingo Night, Blue Star Card Idol Night, Drawing Due Night, Game Extravaganza Night, Wheel of Fortune, Operation Rising Star and Family Feud, Fashion Fall Out
- Hale Koa and PARC beach trips
- Hawaiian Waters Adventure Park trip
- Spouses and the City, Ala Moana Mall and Living History Day bus trips
- Self Defense seminar
- Letter writing and Create-a-Card at the library
- Arts and Crafts Scrap and Social and Tile Mosaic class
- Walk off the Wait at Makapuu Lighthouse
- VIP Seating Area at the Montgomery Gentry concert
- Free Tickets at Family Fun Fest
- 4th of July Spectacular VIP package
- Preview Nights for "Aida," "Bye Bye Birdie" and "Oliver"
- Free Carnival Rides at Central Oahu Carnival
- Discounted Oktoberfest tickets

The program is a joint effort of all FMWR facilities with the primary goal of supporting families and thanking them for the sacrifices that they go through as a spouse, son or daughter of a deployed service member. FMWR realizes the difficulty of deployment and is committed to doing its best to make deployment in Hawaii as pleasant of an experience as possible.

In an effort to do so, the Blue Star Card program offers many events and activities for families. In addition to the monthly "Big R" countdown party, activities include preview nights at Army Community Theater and bus trips to Hale Koa, Ala Moana Mall and Pihilaau Army Recreation Center. Cardholders are also given specials at large FMWR events, such as reserved



seating areas or discounted or free ride and game tickets. All Blue Star Card activities not only offer a free and fun experience, but, more importantly, allow for the unique camaraderie and support that is only found with others who truly understand what it means to have a loved one deployed. Veteran Blue Star Card holders will notice many new expansions to the program. Child care options have increased abundantly, and cardholders now receive 16 free hours of care and additional care is only \$2 per hour. Children enrolled in full or part time Child, Youth and School Services receive a 20-percent discount and registration fees are waived for two youth team or individual sports and four free School of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills (SKIES), classes for all cardholder children.



For more information on the Blue Star Card program visit www.blustarcardhawaii.com.

Additionally, the Army Family Covenant provides \$1 off bowling coupons and \$10 off golf coupons, which can be downloaded from the Blue Star Card Web site.

"It is a privilege to be able to give back to our families of deployed Soldiers," said Marshall, who is also the spouse of a deployed Soldier.