HAWAI'I ARMY WEEKLY

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Shafter gets cutting-edge complex

JOSEPH BONFIGLIO
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Honolulu District Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER – Officials from the U.S. Army-Pacific, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, the Corps of Engineers, and Nan Inc., gathered for a maile lei untying ceremony to open the newest Soldiers' barracks, here, April 22.

The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Silver-certifiable barracks sits on the site formerly known as Favreau Field. The six-story facility will house 156 Soldiers and, as an environmentally friendly structure, is expected to consume 30-percent less energy than older barracks currently in use.

"This project has been an achievement in teamwork from initial planning to construction, and now to maile lei untying – and it was all possible because of the flexible and determined folks of the Garrison, the end-user commands, the Honolulu District, and the design-build team of Nan Inc.," said Lt. Col. Jon Chytka, commander, Honolulu District.

"Our Fort Shafter Barracks project team has delivered on their promise to strive for excellence. Together, we've partnered to create this $27 million state-of-the-art, six-story barracks complex," he continued.

"Our task was to design and construct

SEE BARRACKS, A-7

Courtesy Photo

Leaders cut the maile lei that officially opens a new six-story barracks at Fort Shafter. Pictured are (from left to right) Lt. Col Jon Chytka, commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Honolulu District; Jim Duttweiler, deputy commander, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii; Lt. Gen. Benjamin R. Mixon, commander, U.S. Army-Pacific; and Fooney Freestone, president, Nan, Inc.

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Fast & furious

Personnel can get their adrenaline rush on a local speedway, instead of Oahu's freeways.

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Bygone era

Veterans of the Vietnam War recall their history and service to the Tropic Lightning Division.

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Monthlong appreciation

The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, local businesses and the state salute all service members and their families during May's Military Appreciation Month with lots of events, activities and promotions.

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Earth Day

Army Hawaii Family Housing hosts its biggest and best-ever Earth Day Festival.

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'Archangels' unite for lifesaving ops

Story and Photos by
STAFF SGT. MIKE ALBERTS
25th Combat Aviation Brigade Public Affairs, 25th Infantry Division

CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE SPEICHER, Iraq – The Soldier's Creed is Army dogma, with every Soldier striving to adhere to such core beliefs as to "never leave a fallen comrade."

In northern Iraq, Task Force Wings' "Archangel" is the personnel recovery force hand selected to ensure that no Soldier is left behind.

According to Capt. Zachary Seidel, commander, TF Wings' Personnel Recovery Force, 2nd Assault Helicopter Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade (CAB), "Team Archangel" is designed to recover personnel on the battlefield, regardless of circumstance or environmental conditions.

"We are a team of Soldiers designed to recover isolated personnel," Seidel said. "It doesn't matter whether that isolation is the result of a downed aircraft, a mechanical issue with a vehicle or helicopter, or even enemy contact. In that sense, the cause or circumstance doesn't really matter. Our mission is to recover that individual or individuals."

Team Archangel is an air mobile force that travels by helicopter virtually any-

SEE ARCHANGEL, A-3

Task Force Wings' Personnel Recovery Force Soldiers are transported in northern Iraq by a Hawaii-based UH-60L Black Hawk helicopter operated and maintained by air crews of 2nd Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment, Task Force Diamond Head.

25th Infantry selects 'Best Warriors'

Story and Photos by
SPC. MAHLET TESFAYE
25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS – Six Soldiers from the 25th Infantry Division tested their physical and mental capabilities in events that a Soldier must be able to do within garrison and combat environments, during the division's Best Warrior Competition, held here, April 19-22.

"The best thing about this competition is the professional development you get as a Soldier and as a noncommissioned officer. It makes you a better Soldier and a better leader in the Army, and hopefully, you share your knowledge and experience with your Soldiers and leaders within your command," said Command Sgt. Maj. Anthony Marrero, command sergeant major, 3rd Brigade Combat Team.

Five men and one woman took part in the competition – three for best NCO, and three for best Soldier.

"I decided to participate in this competition for the challenge," said Spc. Chelsea Schievenin, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 25th Special Troops Battalion, and a native of La Grange, Ky.

According to Schievenin, Soldiers become better by challenging themselves and pushing their limits, and ultimately, gain self-satisfaction by overcoming those limits.

On the first day of competition, Soldiers appeared in dress uniform before a board of command sergeants major and answered questions on topics including Army regulations, Army history, weapons, battle-

SEE WARRIOR, A-4

Spc. Andy James, Company B, 27th Infantry Battalion, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, decontaminates his protective gear and face after a chemical attack during the division's Best Warrior Competition at Area X, April 21.

USAG-HI receives restoration honors

Quad F gets recognized with state's highest award for preservation

CHRISTINA DOUGLAS
U.S. Army Garrison–Hawaii Public Affairs

HONOLULU – U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii received Hawaii's highest honor for preservation projects, April 22, at the Bishop Museum Atherton Halau, here.

The Historic Hawaii Foundation 2010 Preservation Award was presented to USAG-HI for the restoration of the only remaining quad theater at Quad F, Schofield Barracks.

As part of the centennial celebration in 2009, USAG-HI commissioned the restoration of the theater, which was originally constructed in the 1930s. Leading the nine-month effort was Kenneth Hays, architectural historian, Directorate of Public Works.

"We wanted to take on a project that would really give back to the community," Hays said. "We were able to remove decades of old paint that was hiding the ornate, brightly painted patterns adorning the ceiling and walls, and return them to their original condition. You can now literally step back 80 years in time and see the theater in all its splendor."

The intricately designed theater was originally constructed from 1931-1933, during the period in which the Works Progress Administration was constructing housing facilities at Wheeler Army Airfield and Schofield Barracks.

The presence of the WPA, a program that employed skilled architects, artisans and craftsmen, allowed for decorative theaters to be built inside the quad.

"Back in the day, automobiles were still new on the scene and Soldiers were not able to simply drive down to Honolulu on a Friday or Saturday for something to do," Hays said. "The quad theaters allowed the entertainment to come to them."

Weekend entertainment involving live performances and movies dazzled Soldiers in the theaters until the latter part of the 20th century when the quads

SEE RESTORATION, A-7

Four leaders, spouses lauded with awards

Story and Photo by
SGT. 1ST CLASS DAVID WHEELER
8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER – In a cozy conference room filled with senior noncommissioned officers at the Hale Ikena, April 20, the U.S. Army-Hawaii Sergeant Audie Murphy Club recognized four Soldiers and four spouses for their outstanding service to the Army and its community members.

The ceremony began with the overhead lights turned off, leaving the room illuminated only by a projection screen in a corner.

As a video explained what it takes to be a leader, Soldiers dressed in past era uniforms emerged from behind the screen to welcome a new generation of leaders.

Maj. Gen. Michael J. Terry, commanding general, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, acknowledged in his opening remarks that a true leader is not dependant on size, gender or race.

"When you think of Audie Murphy, 5-foot-5, 110 pounds –wasn't accepted by the Marines or paratroopers – and look what he became," Terry said. "I find it very important that we honor these Soldiers that embody his spirit and leadership."

The Sgt. Audie Murphy Award went to Staff Sgt. Tamari Adderton, while the Honorary Sgt. Audie Murphy Award went to three Soldiers: Sgt. Maj. Thao Kamakahi-Watson, Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Fairley and Command Sgt. Maj.

SEE AUDIE, A-8

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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15 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 4/29/10.

Race track built for the safe, not speedy

Story and Photos by
MAJ. JEFF PARKER
8th Military Police Brigade Public Affairs

Michael Bux, seated inside a '99 Porsche 911 breaks out of the gate and is well on his way around the track before the "flagger" completes his wave. Bux, a U.S. Army captain with the 8th Military Police "Watchdogs" Brigade, said, "More than the overall thrill of putting my car through the rigors of this course, I leave each event with a better understanding of my driving and my car's abilities and limitations, which in turn benefits my everyday driving, immeasurably."

HALAWA – With his palms saturated in sweat, the driver briefly let go of the steering wheel, reached downward to give a confirming tug on his helmet strap and checked the functionality of his seat belt clasp.

His heart was undoubtedly racing at the moment, and the knuckles on his hands, placed securely back on their respective spots on the steering wheel, were turning white in anticipation of the drop of the green flag.

For this driver and others, their presence on the racing track wasn't about satisfying a need for speed.

Sure, they all wanted to arrive first, but more importantly, they were hell-bent on doing so safely.

On one Sunday each month, driving enthusiasts from all over the island converge on the Aloha Stadium's east parking area, here, to test and build their driving skills, one at a time.

Called Hawaii Solo, this nonprofit, Sports Car Club of America-sponsored event, is open to the general public, welcoming spectators, at no-charge, and licensed drivers with their road-worthy "rides" – all of which span the spectrum in vehicle classification by type, age, horsepower, speed, weight and more.

"Ninety-nine percent of the cars here are the cars you drive to work on Monday," said Curtis Lee, solo chairman, SCCA-Oahu.

In recent months, spectators and drivers have witnessed a slew of automobiles on the track – from the mundane family car, to the more exotic, eye-catching Lotus Elise and Ariel Atom II, the latter of which reaches eyelid-peeling speeds of 0-60 mph in 2.8 seconds.

Unlike the majority of SCCA courses around the world, the Oahu course encourages efficient, safe driving rather than reaching breakneck speeds.

"Everybody thinks they're a pretty good driver," Lee said. "This is such a good place for you to learn how to drive your car well. It's also a chance to get some adrenaline out, here, and not out on the street."

The adage "put the pedal to the metal" is seldom heard at this race track.

With its radical turns and minimal straightaways, speeds in excess of 60 mph are rare. The drivers' reflexes, thought processes and adrenaline rushes, however, are about all that run wild.

The developers of the course also intentionally tried to replicate the uncertainties found in everyday driving, according to Lee.

"The track changes every single (month)," he explained. "I don't have any advantage over you because I've never seen this course layout until today. That's the beauty of our course; it's more like accident avoidance, because you never know what's coming up."

Demographically, Lee added, "30 percent of our participants are military."

"I believe that getting reacquainted with driving and your car in a safe and controlled environment is what every (redeploying) Soldier should do," said Capt. Michael Bux, 8th Military Police Brigade, who recently returned home to Schofield Barracks following 12 months downrange.

Bux, a Porsche 911 owner, also emphasized the course's importance for all high-performance automobiles owners.

Drivers desiring to press their vehicle through the rigors of the demanding course must be approved by the on-site safety and technical inspection team for proper licensing and vehicular structural integrity. The drivers are then grouped into competing heats, according to their competency and like-vehicle category.

First-time solo event drivers are required to receive training by an on-site SCCA certified instructor prior to novice category placement and first solo lap.

The Halawa track hosted its first race more than 20 years ago.

Since then, however, Oahu's racing events have relocated several times, to Barber's Point and portions of the H-3 freeway during the early construction phase, before returning permanently to the stadium just over three years ago.

On The WEB

For more information on the Hawaii Solo (Sports Car Club of America-sanctioned event), visit www.sccahawaii.org, and the national SCCA homepage at www.scca.com.

Driving enthusiast Earl Ford sits on his Ariel Atom II prior to the start of "Hawaii Solo," a Sports Car Club of America event held once a month at the Aloha Stadium. The Ariel Atom is known for its face-flattening speed and covers 0-60 mph in 2.8 seconds.

FOOTSTEPS in FAITH

Only God's grace changes us, not self-help

CHAPLAIN (CAPT.) SHANE SMITH
3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment,
3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division

Almost 13 years ago, author Phillip Yancey wrote a book titled "What's So Amazing About Grace?" His goal was to show the true meaning and impact of such a powerful word.

Like other words that have a strong theological background, Yancey argued that grace often winds up being used in catch phrase after catch phrase.

He pointed out that there is probably no greater word in the English language that is more significant to our lives. Furthermore, once we really understand everything about this word, he added, it would change everything about us forever.

In my case, grace has been a powerful enabler, allowing me to have a relationship with God.

Ephesians 2:8-9 says, "It is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast."

There is nothing that you and I can do to earn God's love. You may not believe it, but you don't have to clean up your act first and then come to God when you're done. He wants to do the changing for you. He's the only one who can.

Many of us have tried so many times, and in so many ways, to change ourselves, but we soon find that we're not getting any better and just repeating the same old patterns.

In the book "The Purpose Driven Life," pastor and author Rick Warren says, "Self-help is no help at all." There is probably not a truer statement in the entire world. If we could fix ourselves, we would have done it a long time ago.

Jeremiah 17:9 lets us know vividly that we can't trust our own methods of self-change. "The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure," it says. "Who can understand it?"

In Isaiah 64:6, we read, "All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags."

And finally in Romans 3:10, Scripture reveals, "There is no one righteous, not even one."

Smith

So what is the solution? How does grace to change come into my life if I can't do it? 1 John 4:9 gives us the answer to that question: "This is how God showed his love among us. He sent his one and only son into the world that we might live through him."

The people of Jesus' day were no different than us in the sense that they were looking for peace in their lives, couldn't find it at all and were desperate for answers.

Jesus himself says in Matthew 11:28-29, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

If you never have before, I invite you to consider these words from the master healer himself, Jesus Christ, and experience the true meaning of grace.

May the Lord Jesus be with you.

Medical meeting promotes Asia-Pacific cooperation

NANCY RASMUSSEN
U.S. Army-Pacific Public Affairs

The U.S. Army-Pacific and the Indonesian National Armed Forces will be the proud sponsors of the 20th Asia-Pacific Military Medicine Conference in Jakarta, Indonesia, May 3-7.

Mixon

This year's conference, "Understanding Asia-Pacific Military Medical Issues Through Regional Cooperation and Collaboration," is the 2010 installment of an annual series for military medical professionals in the Asia-Pacific region, and promotes cooperation and advancement of health care for the military.

Conference leaders hope the exchange of information increases knowledge and understanding of medical professionals and focuses on relevant military medical issues, concerns and topics in comprehensive health services, clinical research, education and prevention.

"The annual Asia-Pacific Military Medicine Conference is the U.S. Army-Pacific's premier medical engagement program in support of the command's strategic Theater Security Cooperation Program," said Lt. Gen. Benjamin Mixon, commander, USARPAC.

By bringing together more than 350 military medical professionals from up to 30 countries to network, discuss, engage and interact with each other, the Army has reinforced alliances in the Pacific community and enhanced regional security and cooperation.

U.S. Army medical humanitarian civic actions are often conceived and developed through bilateral discussions between the USARPAC command surgeon and the senior delegate for each attending nation.

Mixon added, "Participation allows our medical professionals opportunities to discuss pertinent military medical topics with Asia-Pacific allies and friends, and provides forums for military health care providers to foster military-to-military friendships."

The U.S. Army will continue co-hosting APMMC annually, with a different Pacific Rim partner as the counterpart co-host.

Voices of Ohana

April is "Celebrate Diversity" Month. What does that mean to you?

"Embracing all cultures."

Maj. Diana Adinoolah
Public Health Nurse
TAMC

"Living in Hawaii on a daily basis and enjoying what you experience."

Patti Ellen Myers
Family Member

"Diversity means within the Coast Guard females are able to do everything that anybody else can do."

Heidi Marie Ronnfeldt
Health Services Tech
U.S. Coast Guard

"Being in the military because it is an equal opportunity employer."

Gunnery Sgt. Gregory Teague
Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 24, Kaneohe

"Embracing and accepting your fellow Soldiers and co-workers' culture."

Spc. Dustin Webster
Driver to CSM
Headquarters, TAMC

Archangel: No one ever left behind

Deployed Forces

CONTINUED FROM A-1

where on the battlefield in U.S. Division-North. Its value is in its mobility, speed and wealth of expertise.

The unit integrates aviation Soldiers from 2nd Assault Bn., 25th Avn. Regt., TF Diamond Head, 25th CAB, with an infantry "Blues" Platoon from 1st Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division. According to Seidel, it's a complementary mix perfectly suited for their unique mission set.

"The aviation brigade provides Soldiers with aviation experience on a variety of helicopters, as well as communications, medical, fire support and vehicle maintenance expertise," he explained. "(The Blues Platoon) adds the necessary assault and fire support experience.

"As an infantry officer, I can tell you that certain battle tasks come very naturally to an infantryman, like pulling security or reacting to enemy contact. Other tasks don't," Seidel said. "However, those that don't come naturally to infantrymen tend to be very natural to our aviation rescue team – namely, certain mechanical and technical issues like the details of using a plasma cutter for instance. So, together as one team, there does not seem to be a problem or challenge that we cannot handle."

Two of Seidel's senior leaders are 1st Lt. Stephen Bennie, platoon leader, Blues Platoon Assault Force, and Staff Sgt. Andrew Cornwallis, operations noncommissioned officer, Team Archangel. Both agreed that the diversity of Team Archangel and its tireless commitment to training are its greatest strengths.

"The most challenging aspect of the mission from an infantry assault force perspective was simply understanding how aviation operates," Bennie said. "We anticipated the challenge, trained for aviation operations before we arrived, and we continue to train to close the gap between aviation and infantry culture."

"The combination works really well," he continued. "In that sense, our greatest advantage is that we have a ton of varied experience within the unit and a great maturity in our Soldiers."

"Our mission is definitely uniquely dynamic," added Cornwallis. "We must have expertise in all areas of aviation operations. That need for expertise demands that our Soldiers are diverse and that our training is continual and comprehensive.

1st Lt. Stephen Bennie (center, with notebook), platoon leader, Task Force Wings' Personnel Recovery Force, 1st Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, collects information from a ground force unit working in conjunction with an Iraqi Emergency Response Unit near Kirkuk, Iraq.

"Before we deployed, (Team Archangel) knew that we would need to integrate a security element into the mission set and we trained for it. It was challenging, but we have (bonded) very well. Our training was exceptional, our leadership is exceptional and our young Soldiers are exceptional," he said.

Sgt. Timothy Robison and Spc. David Harrington are examples of the team's diversity. Robison is a fire support specialist from the Blues Platoon, while Harrington is a medic with the aviation rescue team element.

Both Soldiers have previous combat tours in Iraq, and each appreciates the unique opportunity presented by the Archangel mission.

"I have previous experience working with infantry units during my last deployment, and honestly thought it would be really tough integrating aviation with infantry," said Harrington. "But it has worked really well, and to get to be a part of such a (high profile) mission is really exceptional."

"I jumped at the opportunity to be part of the (Archangel) mission," Robison said. "I wanted to come back to Iraq to make a difference. Our team has that opportunity to make a difference in the lives of our own – to save lives. All of our Soldiers are proud of that."

Brigade recalls Holocaust crimes, vows to help eradicate intolerance

At Contingency Operating Site Marez, the 130th Engineer Brigade holds a Days of Remembrance Luncheon in commemoration of the Holocaust.

Story and Photo by
1ST. LT. EVELYN LEE
130th Engineer Brigade Public Affairs

CONTINGENCY OPERATING SITE, Marez, Iraq – The 130th Engineer Brigade held a luncheon, here, to remember the atrocities of the Holocaust and to celebrate those heroes who worked to save lives in Nazi-controlled areas during World War II.

Members of the unit ensured that the April 21 luncheon, titled "Holocaust Days of Remembrance," would never be forgotten by sharing seven stories of people who did what mattered to save others' lives:

•Miep Gies, a Dutch citizen who provided a hiding place for renowned diary-keeper Anne Frank;

•Oscar Schindler, an ethnic German businessman who saved 1,200 Jews by employing them in his factories;

•Raoul Wallenberg, a Swedish humanitarian who issued protective passes and provided safe houses to save 10,000 Jews;

•Irena Sendler, a Polish Catholic social worker who helped smuggle 2,500 children out of the warzone;

•Nicholas Winton, a Briton who organized the adoption of 669 Jewish children;

•Chiune Suginara, a diplomat at the Japanese consulate in Lithuania, who stamped the visas for 40,000 people to leave the country; and

•André Trocmé, a French pastor who spoke out against the discrimination as the Nazi's gained power.

Col. Fabian Mendoza Jr., 130th Engineer Brigade commander, offered closing remarks at the event.

He encouraged everyone to visit the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C., and charged the audience to personally commemorate the Holocaust.

"It is incomprehensible to imagine losing two-thirds of your family in such a short time. We remember the lives lost in the Holocaust by eradicating intolerance from our lives," Mendoza said.

He added that success is measured by the ability to work together, as displayed by the people serving in Mosul, Iraq.

Warrior: Sgt. Whyte, Spc. James prevail as 25th ID's best

CONTINUED FROM A-1

focused training, leadership and chain of command. They also presented a lay-out of all their gear for inspection.

"The hardest part for me was the board," said Sgt. Matthew Girard, Co. C, 3rd BCT, and a native of Cambridge, Minn. "The physical challenge has not been difficult, and the lanes were relatively easy."

The following day, Soldiers took a standard Army Physical Fitness Test and a written exam. They also qualified with their M-4 rifle.

Over the next two days, Soldiers demonstrated their warrior task knowledge by performing in a stressful environment that simulated a combat zone.

Three teams, each comprised of one sergeant and one specialist, represented 3rd Bde., 2nd Bde., and the Division STB. At the start of each day at division headquarters, each team received an order to proceed to a location on base. They ruck-marched from one area to another in "full battle-rattle," carrying 40 to 50 pounds of gear and their weapon.

When teams arrived at their destination, they performed a variety of tasks, including leading a patrol through an area that was reported to have enemy activity.

During the patrol, Soldiers engaged an assailant with a bayonet. They also faced a chemical attack, during which they donned their protective masks and clothing, and then ruck-marched while wearing gear.

Sgt. Colin Whyte (top), a health care noncommissioned officer with 2nd Battalion, 11th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, observes and reports enemy activity during the Best Warrior contest, April 22.

"The hardest part of the competition for me was putting on the NBC gear. I was not expecting how hot it was going to be and how hard it was going to be, going through my tasks with the gear on," Schievenin said.

The competition also included a surprise mystery event. While helping wounded Soldiers, participants were attacked by a hostile enemy and were challenged to use their hand-to-hand combative skills to withstand the assault.

"Before I started the competition, I was anxious to see what I was going to be doing. But now that I have done it, I love it," said Sgt. Colin Whyte, a combat medic with Headquarters Service Battery, 2nd Bn., 11th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd BCT, and a native of Barkhamsted, Conn.

Participants also completed day and nighttime land navigation, qualified with the M4 rifle, and gave a media interview.

"I knew I would be going up against top competitors from different fields and backgrounds, but I did my best and feel good about the competition," said Spc. Rocky Vires, a sniper with 1st Bn., 14th Inf. Regt., 2nd BCT, and a native of Scottsburg, Ind.

At the awards ceremony, April 26, Whyte was selected as Best NCO, and Spc. Andy James, a grenadier with Co. B, 2nd Bn., 27th Inf. Regt., 3rd BCT, and a native of Leopold, Ind., was selected Best Soldier.

They will represent the 25th Infantry Division at the U.S. Army-Pacific's Best Warrior Competition in June.

"I learned what kind of noncommissioned officer I am, and what kind of Soldier I am in terms of being able to identify myself under combat-stressful environments; my decision making process; being able to come to terms with fatigue, injury and pain; and just being able to push on through and get through it all," said Whyte.

"I feel very proud and accomplished that I was able to win, and I get to go on and represent my division at USARPAC," James said.

Vietnam veterans reminisce, talk story during Tropic Lightning reunion

Story and Photo by
STAFF SGT. TIM MEYER
25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS – A group of Vietnam veterans who served in the 50th Infantry Long Range Patrol, Company F, 75th Infantry (Ranger) Regiment, gathered on Oahu for a "cathartic" reunion, recently, reminiscing about their days in hostile territory and the lessons learned that could be beneficial to both today's and yesterday's Soldiers.

Collin Hall was among the nine veterans who, as part of their reunion, visited the installation, here, as well as Wheeler Army Airfield and other bases during a driving tour, April 21. Several active duty Soldiers accompanied the veterans on the tour.

A platoon sergeant in Vietnam, Hall was in charge of lower-enlisted Soldiers who, as he recalled, "were gung-ho, and rah-rah, and wanted to run through the woods and kill people."

"My greatest challenge was holding them back," said Hall, a Soldier in the 25th Infantry Division during his second tour in Vietnam. "I had young, highly motivated individuals. The hardest thing was getting them to understand that, 'hey, accomplish your mission, but don't take any chances you don't have to.'"

Hall, who was based in Cu Chi during his tour, noted that the main thing about the Vietnamese village was its tunnels.

Veteran Thomas Gurrobat, affectionately known to his buddies as "Pineapple," was very familiar with these passageways, and served as a "tunnel rat," or the first Soldier to enter these openings found on patrols, with nothing but "a .45 and a flashlight."

"A Soldier's greatest attitude to have when he's in a combat situation is, 'This is what you do, and this is what you've always done, and this is what you always will do," said Hall, in summing up his wartime experiences. "There's no yesterdays; there's no tomorrows. This is today."

The veterans recognized the issues that former and current Soldiers face today. They confirmed that the struggle many veterans face is learning to come home (mentally) from combat.

Tim Walsh (right) gives a brief oral history of some of his experiences in Vietnam to Master Sgt. Michael Wetzel, 25th Infantry Division Public Affairs, at the Tropic Lightning Museum, Schofield Barracks, April 21. Walsh served with Company F, 50th Inf. Long Range Patrol, 75th Inf. (Ranger) Regiment, which was attached to the 25th ID in Vietnam.

"One of the reasons I started coming to reunions is because it's cathartic; it really is healing to talk about that kind of stuff," said Tim Walsh, a team leader during his Vietnam tour, which extended from January 1970 to March 1971.

As for those returning from Iraq and Afghanistan, his advice is simple: "Get involved in a veteran's organization as quickly as you can," said Walsh, who went through the Special Forces Recondo School in the jungle of Nha Trang.

"There have been national studies done, and on average, it takes 18 years for a veteran to get back into some kind of veteran's organization, to start talking about his or her feelings," Walsh said. "I would recommend doing it a lot sooner. It's really been helpful to me."

Following the driving tour, the veterans and their wives visited the 25th ID Memorial at division headquarters, observed Soldiers participating in the division's Best Warrior Competition, and toured the Tropic Lightning Museum.

Kathleen Ramsden, the museum's curator, spoke about the history of Schofield Barracks, while Adam Elia, the division historian, explained the division's campaigns and history to present day.

Elia didn't go into much detail on Vietnam because, as he told the veterans, "you lived it."

At the end of the tour, Walsh expressed his appreciation for today's Soldiers.

"I'd like to thank all current Soldiers for their service. That's a true sacrifice," he said. "You don't really know what it is until you've done that, and I really appreciate everything everybody's done."

JAG Corps ensures good order, discipline of service members

CAPT. AMY CORDOVA
25th Special Troops Battalion, 25th Infantry Division

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS – Good order and discipline are essential to the operation of the Army.

The Judge Advocate General's Corps performs an important function in supporting commanders in their efforts to maintain good order and discipline.

The six core disciplines of the JAG Corps provide the military with a self-contained system to provide the legal support necessary for Army units to function in accordance with law and regulation.

The six core disciplines are administrative law, civil law, claims, international law, legal assistance/client services and military justice.

The 25th Infantry Division and the 8th Theater Sustainment Command JAG offices, as well as their subordinate brigade-level units, routinely provide this support throughout Oahu's Army community and while deployed.

The administrative law team advises commanders on how best to adhere to the Army's standards when taking official actions. These attorneys answer questions regarding ethics, the conduct of investigations, the proper expenditure of funds, and many other organizational matters essential for the orderly administration of a unit.

In our efforts to ensure good order and discipline, it is the administrative law team that helps the command "do the right thing."

The military justice team serves as the commanders' prosecutors in criminal cases and aids commanders in processing nonjudicial punishments. The military justice team's purpose is to ensure discipline within the ranks.

When one thinks of "good order and discipline," these judge advocates and paralegal specialists come to mind, especially when cases are tried at a court-martial.

Of course, other judge advocates, who are members of the Trial Defense Service, are available to represent Soldiers needing counsel, whether for a court-martial or nonjudicial punishment.

The international law team provides legal support to the division command and staff during operations. Rules of engagement, escalation of force procedures and detention guidelines are examples of their tasks.

The international law team also advises and trains Soldiers on the law of war, international law, intelligence law, targeting decisions, and electronic warfare measures.

Legal assistance is an added protection for Soldiers – ensuring their personal interests are protected so that they may be more productive Soldiers, family members and citizens. Attorneys in this discipline are like general practitioners; they work in many civil law issues including family law, financial problems, powers of attorney and claims assistance.

All disciplines work directly with the command to promote good order and discipline, a broad goal. JAG Corps contributions ensure trials are just, command actions are proper, operations are conducted appropriately, and Soldiers' personal affairs are in order.

What is Law Day?

May 1, every year, Americans celebrate Law Day, an opportunity for all Americans to reflect on the rule of law and the foundations of our legal system. It's a time to celebrate the rich history of our judicial system and a time to consider its future in this rapidly changing world.

When he established Law Day on May 1, 1958, as "a day of national dedication to the principle of government under law," President Dwight Eisenhower sought to highlight and honor, for all Americans, our enduring legal culture.

We must recognize that our legal institutions and system of justice depend on popular participation and support to maintain legitimate authority.

"Law in the 21st Century: Enduring Traditions, Emerging Challenges" is the theme for Law Day 2010 and provides us with an opportunity to understand and appreciate the emerging challenges that confront our world – and the law – in the 21st century, while reaffirming enduring legal traditions.

On May 1, the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, 25th Infantry Division, urges everyone to attend a Law Day event in his or her community, or simply to discuss the importance of this educational observance with family, peers or colleagues. *(Editor's Note: Courtesy of the American Bar Association.)*

Barracks: Project completed ahead of schedule

CONTINUED FROM A-1

a barracks; a lighted, paved parking lot; concrete walks; covered bike racks; and motorcycle shed smack-dab in the center of most of the senior Army Commands in Hawaii," Chytka added. "As a team, we focused on communications, quality, sustainability and safety with great success ... and we finished the work two-and-a-half months early."

In the meantime, Nan Inc. may pursue LEED Gold certification for the new complex, Chytka noted.

"Currently, they have sufficient points to have the new facility certifiable for LEED Silver, as required by contract," he said. "But we highly encourage them to go for the Gold and make this outstanding project the LEED flagship for U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, which emphasizes all of our desires to be good stewards of tax dollars and the environment."

The barracks will house single Soldiers in 78 room units.

Two Soldiers will occupy each unit with two separate bedrooms, a shared bath and kitchen.

The barracks will have central air conditioning with individual controls in each room. The complex also has a special, Duroplex wall paint interior finish that is more resilient to wear-and-tear, and is moisture resistant and mold proof.

Additional improvements include solid interior doors, 9-foot ceilings, solid surface kitchen countertops and 30-inch range ovens.

Army senior leaders noted the importance of the barracks, particularly to those who are returning from downrange.

"We have had on average anywhere from 10,000 to 25,000 Soldiers deployed to Afghanistan, Iraq and the Philippines. What better way to take care of our Soldiers than to have great living facilities when they return back to their home station," said Lt. Gen. Benjamin Mixon, commander, USARPAC. "This is a home to our Soldiers when they're not deployed. This is a shining example of how important our Soldiers are to each and every one of us and to the nation."

"Our Soldiers are worth it," Mixon added. "They certainly deserve a great place to live, and I thank all of you that were involved – from the planning, to the building, to now the housing and the furnishing and the opening of this great facility."

"The significance of these kinds of projects is that they are keeping the Army's commitment and the Army's promise to Soldiers to improve their living conditions and provide them a quality of life that is commensurate with the service and sacrifices that they make for our country," said Jim Duttweiler, deputy commander, USAG-HI.

Restoration: Quad F theater is only one of its kind still around

CONTINUED FROM A-1

were converted into gyms, as it was no longer necessary to bring the entertainment to the troops.

Today, Quad F's theater is the only surviving example of its kind.

The theater's original wood ceiling, stone-finished walls and proscenium (the arch that separates the stage from the auditorium) were all among the restorations of the theater, but the true gem of the project remained a complete surprise until work had already begun.

During the restoration process, while removing paint chips from the walls, a mural portraying U.S. Army Soldiers from the American Revolution through World War II was discovered.

"This unexpected find added a human element to the décor and paid tribute to the American Soldier for whom the theater was constructed," said Hays. "This is one of those rare, precious artifacts that illustrate the Army's history, so we decided to take the time and give it the attention it deserved."

The mural, along with high-quality renovations, was among the many reasons why HHF honored USAG-HI for its historical quad's renovation.

"We are pleased to recognize the outstanding efforts of the Army Garrison and its contractors in completing this restoration project," said Kiersten Faulkner, HHF's executive director. "It harkens back to a time when barracks life included regular entertainment in theaters, especially since it would have been difficult for Soldiers to make it to town.

"The elegant painting reminds us of the importance of paying attention to all the details that create a whole experience," Faulkner added.

Courtesy Photos

Above and Left — Murals from the early 1930s, discovered during the Quad F theater renovation, are displayed.

HHF recognized USAG-HI for its renovations of Quads C and E with a Preservation Award in 2008. The recognition of the theater restoration in Quad F adds to the Garrison's commendations in demonstrating proper stewardship of its historic resources.

Preservation Awards are presented in recognition of preservation projects that perpetuate, rehabilitate, restore or interpret the state's architectural, archaeological and/or cultural heritage.

The HHF was established in 1974 to encourage the preservation of historic buildings, sites, objects and communities in Hawaii.

Audie: Soldiers, spouses commended for leadership

CONTINUED FROM A-1

Robert Williamson.

As the new inductees were introduced and audience members told why the Soldiers deserved the award, common themes began to emerge.

"She is my mentor. She has given me the tools to be a successful Soldier and future leader," said Spc. Kendra Bell about Staff Sgt. Tamari Adderton, 45th Sustainment Brigade, 8th TSC. "As a leader, she has demonstrated competence, and she always places my needs above her own."

For Adderton, being inducted is icing on the cake. The true reward, she explained, is the impact her life has on Soldiers.

"I love knowing that Specialist Bell wants to do better in the military because of the example I am setting." Adderton said. "That's what it's all about."

Soldiers weren't the only ones honored for their outstanding contributions. Four spouses received the Dr. Mary E. Walker Award.

The recipients were Iris Lalonde, spouse of Sgt. 1st Class Matthew Lalonde; Mary Redd, spouse of Sgt. 1st Class Lenwood Redd; Celeste Crews, spouse of Maj. John Crews; and Jessica Davis, spouse of Sgt. 1st Class Derek Davis.

The Dr. Mary E. Walker Award recognizes Army spouses who have contributed significantly to the quality of life for Soldiers. Awardees exemplify personal concern for the needs, training, development and welfare of Soldiers, and care for their families, in the same way the award's namesake did more than 100 years ago.

From attending countless meetings, doing volunteer work and raising children with her Soldier-husband, Mrs. Redd carries on the legacy of Dr. Walker through her selfless service.

"I support the family readiness group, Army Community Service, Army Family Team Building, (and) I volunteer for our church," she said, smiling. "We go to the local homeless shelter, (and) every other Christmas, we go to the shelter to feed the hungry. I am starting 'Meals on Wheels.'"

Redd explained that she has always prided herself in reaching out to others.

"I was born and raised in Hawaii, and one thing I learned at an early age is how to give aloha," she said. "If you don't know how to give aloha, you cannot get aloha. If I can give and have the means to give, I will."

Members of the U.S. Army-Hawaii Sgt. Audie Murphy Club gather with their newest member, Staff Sgt. Tamari Adderton (wearing lei), at the Hale Ikena, Fort Shafter, for a keepsake photo.

Sgt. Audie Murphy Award inductee
Staff Sgt. Tamari Adderton

Honorary inductees
Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Fairley
Sgt. Maj. Thao Kamakahi-Watson
Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Williamson

Dr. Mary E. Walker Award inductees
Celeste Crews
Jessica Davis
Iris Lalonde
Mary Red

News Briefs

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

Today

Tax Center – The Schofield Barracks Tax Center has closed for the season.

DODEA Schools – In response to the Hawaii Department of Education 17-day furloughs (this year and next), the Department of Defense is conducting a study on the feasibility of establishing DoD Education Activity schools in Hawaii.

Soldiers with school-aged children attending public, private, charter or home-schools may complete the survey on Hawaii's education quality.

Visit https://surv.dodea.edu/dhss/.

Ethics Competition – The U.S. Army's professional ethic is strong, and you can make it Army Strong.

The U.S. Army Center of Excellence for the Professional Military Ethic is sponsoring an Army-wide ethics competition. Soldiers, civilians and family members may choose up to seven ways to share powerful personal stories about how we maintain the U.S. Army's high ethical standards in this era of persistent conflict.

The competition runs through Aug. 15. Visit http://acpme.army.mil.

May

1 / Saturday

Military Decals – All drivers who live on, work on or frequently use Army installations need to register their vehicles at an Army Vehicle Registration Office for an official military decal on the vehicle.

Starting May 1, vehicles without a decal will be routed to a Visitor Control Center for a temporary pass. Call 656-5398, 655-9496 or 438-2230.

9 / Sunday

Flagler Closure – Flagler Road between Matthews Avenue and Lyman Road, on Schofield Barracks, is closed through May 9.

12 / Wednesday

UVA Courses – Unit Victim Advocate Refresher trainings are May 12, June 9 and July 21, 8 a.m., at the Sgt. Yano Library Education Center, Schofield Barracks.

Lane Closures – Starting May 12, lanes on Flagler Road, between Foote and Waianae, on Schofield Barracks, will be closed. Call 234-9102.

14 / Friday

Diverse Leadership – The 500th Military Intelligence Brigade presents the Asian-Pacific American Heritage May Day Celebration, "Diverse Leadership for a Diverse Workforce," May 14, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Sills Field, Schofield Barracks.

Experience cultural diversity through music, song and dance. Families are welcome to attend the hula, martial arts, chinese dance and dragon show, and cowboy parade. Call 655-1125.

18 / Tuesday

Education and Career Fair – The Employment Readiness Program and 516th Signal Brigade are hosting an Employment & Education Career Fair, May 18, at Fort Shafter. Call 655-4227.

HAWAI'I ARMY WEEKLY

PAU HANA

www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil/haw.asp "When work is finished." FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 2010

Chamber celebrates 25th anniversary of Military Appreciation Month

CHARLES OTA
Military Affairs, The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii

HONOLULU – While Hawaii remains the U.S. military headquarters for national security in the Pacific, the military's role has been expanded to include humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, and enabling global commerce and trade for Pacific nations.

This year's military appreciation month celebration will be highlighted by a parade through Waikiki to honor Hawaii's military warriors, past and present.

This parade provides Hawaii's appreciative ohana with the chance to say mahalo to our heroes of past wars, and to those serving on the front lines of today's wars in the Middle East and on patrol everyday in the Pacific.

It is also a time to give thanks to Hawaii's military spouses who face the awesome task of keeping their families together as their husbands and wives are sent into harm's way.

Ota

This is a time to share the spirit of aloha by welcoming our troops and their families into our homes and communities, and for them to enjoy being in Hawaii as part of our ohana. This isn't asking too much for all that they have sacrificed for us.

This year marks the 25th anniversary for Hawaii's military appreciation celebration. The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii started this tradition in 1985, with its Military Affairs Council and the Armed Services Committee, as a one-day event on Armed Forces Day.

The celebration was later extended to a weeklong event, and Hawaii became the first state to honor the military throughout the month of May.

On the evening of Armed Forces Day, U.S. military bands from the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and Coast Guard will pool their talented musicians for what promises to be a wonderful evening of music.

The annual Combined Military Band Concert is May 15, at the historic Hawaii Theater in downtown Honolulu from 7-8:30 p.m. The Air Force Band of the Pacific is the host for this year's concert.

Free tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis at the Hawaii Theater box office and the Chamber.

Our business leaders will host the annual Military Recognition Luncheon at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Hotel's Coral Ballroom, from 12-1:30 p.m., May 18.

RELATED STORY
- See the Military Appreciation Month schedule of events listed on B-4.

The luncheon will feature recognition awards for Hawaii's outstanding enlisted military leaders from the U.S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, Hawaii National Guard and the U.S. Pacific Command. Each awardee will receive a free trip for two to the Big Island, and a two-night stay at Kilauea Military Camp.

Luncheon tickets may be purchased online at www.cochawaii.org.

The grand finale will be a Military Appreciation Day in Waikiki, May 22, sponsored by USO Hawaii and the City and County of Honolulu.

The day will begin with a parade of Hawaii's military troops, past and present, down Kalakaua Avenue from Fort DeRussy to Kapiolani Park, starting at 9:30 a.m., which includes our veterans from World War II and the Korean and Vietnam wars joining with today's warfighters and wounded warriors.

The parade will be followed by daylong entertainment at the band stand in Kapiolani Park, and free admission for military families to the Honolulu Zoo.

The Chamber thanks sponsors for their generous support of the military and their families.

Hawaii's visitor attractions, hotels, restaurants, shopping malls, retailers, auto dealers and other businesses also will be treating the military to a variety of specials throughout May.

The Chamber extends a big mahalo to its military ohana for all that you do to make Hawaii a safer and better place.

Alani Johnson participates in several make 'n take activities, including planting a seedling that she can take home to nurture and grow. Performance Landscaping donated the seedlings and staff, like Army Hawaii Family Housing's Steve Kirby, left, helped manage the booth.

Mark Brown | Army Hawaii Family Housing

Hundreds celebrate Earth Day at festival

ARMY HAWAII FAMILY HOUSING
News Release

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS – Live hula dancers and tales of adventurous sea turtles captured the hearts and minds of hundreds of children, here, during the 3rd Annual Earth Day Festival at the Kalakaua Community Center, Friday.

Nearly two dozen exhibitors engaged a record number of approximately 450 children (with parents in tow) in activities that informed and taught them about all types of environmental sustainability ranging from energy, water, land, coral reefs, oceans and more.

On The WEB

For additional Earth Day Festival photos, visit www.flickr.com/photos/usag-hi.

Upon arriving at the event, attendees received an Earth Day passport that was stamped after taking part in educational activities at select exhibits.

The first hundred kids who turned in their completed passports received a 2010 Earth Day T-shirt and were entered into a drawing for fabulous prizes at booths throughout the festival.

Other event highlights included live theatrical performances on the main stage of "The Adventures of Gary & Harry, A Tale of Two Turtles."

The turtles creatively engaged kids in the story with their impersonations of lobsters, squid and other ocean creatures.

The performance was presented by actors from Ohia Productions, an organization that educates children about the environment and island culture through theatrical performances.

Many organizations came out to support the Earth Day Festival, sharing exciting activities and information with military families, including the following:

- Army and Air Force Exchange Services-Hawaii Exchange
- Aqua Engineering
- Directorate of Emergency Services' Military Police
- Directorate of Public Works' Clean Water Branch, Energy Conservation Branch, and Environmental Services
- Hawaii Coral Reef Initiative
- Hawaii Nature Center
- Hawaiian Electric Company
- Mark Gervacio, Hawaii Story Time
- Ohia Productions
- Performance Landscaping
- Schofield Barracks Commissary
- Sea Life Park Hawaii
- Sgt. Yano Library
- Tetra Tech

In the main activity room, the Hawaii Nature Center and the Hawaii Coral Reef Initiative taught kids about conservation on land and in the ocean through fun, hands-on activities.

Outdoors in the courtyard and throughout the lawn area surrounding the Kalakaua Community Center, dozens more exhibitors spent the afternoon getting kids excited about learning.

"It's amazing to see so many people come out to our event," said Claire Ridding-Johnston, Army Hawaii Family Housing project director, as she took in the crowd. "The event has grown tremendously in just a few years, and we can credit much of this year's success to the members of our Earth Day Festival Committee who spent several months planning it."

Stefanie Gardin | U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs

The Adventures of Gary & Harry, A Tale of Two Turtles, a live performance by Ohia Productions that took place on the main stage, gets kids engaged in the story with impersonations of lobsters, squid and other ocean creatures.

The annual event is coordinated by a committee staffed with representatives from U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii's Directorate of Public Works, AHFH, and Actus Lend Lease.

This year the committee was provided with important financial support from the Actus Community Fund, a nonprofit organization committed to supporting military men and women who live in homes and communities where Actus Lend Lease employees live and work.

Col. Matthew Margotta, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii commander, who has supported the event alongside Ridding-Johnston during the past few years, expressed his excitement over how much the event has grown during a brief address to families at the event.

Both Margotta and Ridding-Johnston look forward to the event's continued success, giving more families an opportunity to learn about sustainability, and how they can be part of important Army and AHFH partnership initiatives surrounding conservation.

MWR Briefs

Serving America's Army in Hawaii

Today

Furlough Fridays – The next Furlough Friday is April 30, and Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation has families covered with a variety of options for students and teens in all grades available at Child, Youth and School Services and Army Community Service.

Download your FMWR Furlough Friday activity program guide at www.mwrarmyhawaii.com. Click on "CYSS."

Upcoming Furlough Friday days are May 7 and 14.

ACS Courses – Registration is open for Army Community Service courses and services in May. Visit www.acsclasses.com for all available courses.

For information on courses including Anger Management, Daddy Boot Camp and Potty Training Your Toddler, call 655-0596.

To learn about Summer Break Home Alone or Positive Psychology classes, call 655-1670.

For Newborn Care, Managing Your Checking Account, TSP & Retirement, Money Harmony, Simple Tips for Saving and Investing, Financial Planning for Deployment, Money Management, First-Term Financial Training, Employment Orientation, Building Your Home Business and Civilian Resume Writing, call 655-4227.

For Exceptional Family Member programs and support groups for Autism and Down Syndrome, call 655-1551 or 655-4761.

PARC Cabins Closed – All Pililaau Army Recreation Center cabins on the Surf Side will be closed for renovation through July 3. All cabins on the Swim Side will be closed for renovation July 5–Sept. 30.

May

1 / Saturday

Auto Skills Center – The Auto Skills Center's hours have changed to Wednesdays-Fridays, 11:30 a.m.–7 p.m., and Saturdays and Sundays, 9 a.m.–4 p.m. The center is closed Mondays and Tuesdays.

Prices have changed for flat bay fees, lift bay fees, computer scans, tire disposals and long-term storage of autos, recreational vehicles, boats and jet skis. Call 655-9654.

Spc. Jazz Burney | 3rd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs; 25th Infantry Division

A day at the beach

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Soldiers of Company B, 325th Brigade Support Battalion, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, collect trash and other harmful materials from Haleiwa Beach, April 21. The company partnered with the Adopt-a-Beach program to provide a large sweep across the beach to show community support, build community relations and prevent further damage to the local wildlife in the area.

3 / Monday

AFTB Level II – This Army Family Team Building class will assist with communication style, creative problem solving, personal time and stress management, and explore personality traits.

Join the course May 3-6, 5-9 p.m., Schofield Army Community Service, or May 25-28, 5-9 p.m., Fort Shafter Flats, Building 1599. Call 655-1703.

Mediation Classes – Mindfulness mediation is the "calm awareness of one's body functions, feelings, content of consciousness or consciousness itself."

Classes are Mondays and Wednesdays, 5:30-6:30 p.m., starting May 3, at Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks.

4 / Tuesday

Quilting & Sewing Class – Join the Schofield Barracks Arts & Craft Center, May 4, to make a personalized quilt.

Quilting classes meet Mondays and Thursdays, 5:30-8:30 p.m., at Fort Shafter, and Tuesdays, 6-9 p.m., at Schofield.

Cost is $18 for the first session, and $4 for each additional session. Call 655-4202.

Preschool Storytime – Storytime for children 3-5 years old is 10-10:30 a.m., at the Fort Shafter Library, May 4, 11 and 18; storytime at the Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks, is May 5, 19 and 26; and storytime at Aliamanu Military Reservation Library is May 6, 13, 20 and 27.

5 / Wednesday

Cinco de Mayo Specials – Celebrate a day of Mexican heritage at the Nehelani this Cinco de Mayo with an all-you-can-eat nachos and drink specials, 4-9 p.m., May 5. Call 655-0660.

7 / Friday

Home Alone Classes – Home Alone Classes are for children 9-11 years old, May 7, 9 a.m-2 p.m., at the Aliamanu Military Reservation Chapel, or attend class June 3, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., at Kalakaua Community Center on Schofield Barracks.

Children will learn important safety information, first aid, fire safety and stress awareness. Call 655-1670.

Family Fun Friday – Come party at 6 p.m., at the Martinez Fitness Center on Schofield Barracks for an evening filled with food, fun and physical activities. Call 655-5698.

Right Arm Night – Right Arm Night is an opportunity to experience camaraderie with Soldiers who help you get through daily missions. Attend May 7, 4:30 p.m., at the Hale Ikena.

This event is an opportunity to mix and mingle with leaders who have brought their battle buddies with them. Enjoy live music, a Mexican-themed buffet, games, prizes and a little friendly competition. Tickets cost $7 in advance, $8 at the door.

Call 438-1974.

Create a Card – What's better than a Hallmark card? A personalized card from you. Put a smile on mom's face for Mother's Day by creating a card at Sgt. Yano Library, May 7, at 2 p.m. Call 655-8002.

Waikiki Party Bus – Your free party bus to Waikiki runs again May 7, 9 p.m.-4 a.m. Reservations are required and pick-ups are available from Schofield Barracks and Fort Shafter.

Call 655-9971 or 438-1985.

Makeovers – Ladies come join a Mothers and Daughters beauty event, May 7, 4:30-5:30 p.m., at Aliamanu Military Reservation Library.

Learn ideas for a new look and share some beauty tips. Call 833-4851.

8 / Saturday

Lantern Floating Hawaii – Learn the history of the lantern floating, 1:30-3 p.m., May 8, at Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield; or May 16, at Fort Shafter Library.

Participants will complete their own dedications and remembrances of loved ones and place remembrances on community lanterns floated during the official ceremony, May 31. Call 655-8002 or 438-9521.

Outdoor Recreation will provide transportation to the ceremony at Ala Moana Beach Park and a lunch, May 31, for a fee. Call 655-0143.

9 / Sunday

Hale Ikena Mother's Day Brunch – Say thanks to mom by treating her to brunch featuring prime rib, an omelet station, breakfast favorites and a decadent dessert buffet, May 9.

Price is $33.50 per person, $21.50 for children 6-10, and $14.50 for children 3-5. Gratuity included. Call 438-1974.

Nehelani Mother's Day Brunch – Make memories with mom at the Nehelani for Mother's Day Brunch, May 9, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. This buffet will offer seafood, salads, breakfast favorites and a dessert buffet. The cost is $27 per person, $18 for children 6-10, $12 for children 3-5. Gratuity isn't included. Call 655-0660.

Worship Services

Additional religious services, children's programs, educational services and contact information can be found at www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil. (Click on "Religious Support Office" under the "Directorates and Support Staff" menu).

AMR:	Aliamanu Chapel
FD:	Fort DeRussy Chapel
FS:	Fort Shafter Chapel
HMR:	Helemano Chapel
MPC:	Main Post Chapel, Schofield Barracks
PH:	Aloha Jewish Chapel, Pearl Harbor
TAMC:	Tripler Army Medical Center Chapel
WAAF:	Wheeler Army Airfield Chapel

Buddhist Services
- First Sunday, 1 p.m. at FD
- Fourth Sunday, 1 p.m. at MPC Annex

Catholic Mass
- Friday, 9 a.m. at AMR
- Saturday, 5 p.m. at FD, TAMC and WAAF chapels
- Saturday, 6 p.m. a Hawaiian-style Mass (May-Aug. only) near the Army Museum (FD)
- Sunday services:
  - -7:30 a.m. at WAAF
  - -8 a.m. at AMR
  - -10:30 a.m. at MPC Annex
  - -11 a.m. at TAMC
- Monday-Friday, noon at MPC and TAMC

Gospel Worship
- Sunday, noon at MPC
- Sunday, 12:30 p.m. at AMR

Islamic Prayers and Study
- Friday, 1 p.m. at MPC Annex
- Saturday and Sunday, 5:30 a.m., 6, 7 and 8 p.m. at MPC Annex

Jewish Shabbat (Sabbath)
- Monday, 6 p.m. at PH (Bible Study)
- Friday, 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, 8:15 a.m. at PH

Orthodox Divine Liturgy
- Sunday, 9 a.m. at TAMC

Pagan (Wicca)
- Friday, 7 p.m. at MPC Annex

Protestant Worship
- Sunday Services
  - -9 a.m. at FD, FS, MPC, TAMC and WAAF chapels
  - -10 a.m. at AMR and HMR

community Calendar

Send announcements to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

Today

Surf Gear Recycling – The Hawaii Military Surfing Organization is collecting all types of surfing-related items to donate to Hawaii's underprivileged keiki.

The organization will collect used surfboards in any condition, stretched and broken leashes, fins, boogie boards or anything that will allow a child to enjoy the ocean.

All gear collected will be donated to Na Kama Kai, a local charity that works to empower local children by creating, conducting and supporting ocean-based programs at their ocean clinic in Ewa Beach, May 9. E-mail danno808@gmail.com or call 347-6333.

Dole Luau – Tickets are on sale for the Dole Plantation Benefit Luau for the Waialua High School Robotics Team until April 30.

The event will feature Hawaiian food, a silent auction and live musical entertainment, May 13, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Visit www.dole-plantation.com.

AAFES Photo – They say that a picture is worth 1,000 words but a mere 50 describing a picture could fetch a digital camera and a $500 shopping spree in the Army & Air Force Exchange Service's contest through April 30.

Visit www.aafes.com/Patriot_Family/.

May

1 / Saturday

Lei Day Celebration – This cultural event features the Lei Court, hula, crafts and food booths, and live entertainment, May 1, 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m., at Kapiolani Park in Honolulu. Visit www.honolulu.gov/parks/programs/leiday/.

Seasons and the Sea – The Waikiki Aquarium invites you to a cultural ceremony marking the official changing of the seasons, May 2, 6-7 p.m.

Traditional chants, hula and storytelling will take place at the sunset observance, 6-7 p.m., May 2, from a site just ewa of the Aquarium grounds.

Seasons and the Sea will officially mark the change from Hoolilo (wet season) to Kauwela (hot or warm-dry season) as the sun sets into the crown of Pu`u o Kapolei, an occurrence that happens nce a year.

E-mail maryloufoley@waquarium.org or call 440-9027.

This week on TV2

"Comprehensive Soldier Fitness"

Daily at 1:30 p.m.

Learn the science behind the new complete-Soldier training, an Army initiative, from a briefing by Professor Martin Seligman of the University of Pennsylvania, at Schofield Barracks.

3 / Monday

Basic Skills – Free Basic Skills courses are open to anyone wanting to enter the military, raise their General Technical score, prepare for military schooling (BNCOC or ANCOC, etc.) or prepare for a college placement test in reading and mathematics.

Join this 60-hour course that lasts seven and a half weeks, starting May 3.

Courses are 5:30-9:30 p.m., either Mondays and Wednesdays, or Tuesdays and Thursdays, at Building 1550, Fort Shafter Flats. Additional courses are held throughout the year.

Call 438-1600, extension 3132/3128 or e-mail education@9rsc.army.mil.

Scholastic Book Fair – Shop the Hale Kula Elementary School book fair May 3-6, 7 a.m.-3 p.m. Call 622-6380, ext. 232.

5 / Wednesday

PACT Special Edition Newspaper – The Wolfhounds from 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, will sell a special edition of the Honolulu Advertiser for the Parents and Children Together's annual Children's Day, May 5, outside the Wheeler Army Airfield gates along Kamehameha Highway.

8 / Saturday

Pineapple Festival – The Wahiawa Pineapple Festival and Parade is May 8, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., at Wahiawa District Park, and will showcase the history of different ethnic groups and food and craft booths from different cultures.

The parade kicks off at 9 a.m., along California Avenue. Call 621-0043.

Musical Adventure – The Sounds of Aloha Chorus presents "An American Musical Adventure (on a a Dark and Stormy Night)," May 8, 2 p.m. or 7:30 p.m., at the Hawaii Theater. Military discounts are available. Visit www.hawaiitheater.com or call 528-0506.

Safety Fair – The Honolulu Police Department's Drug Abuse Resistance Education and Gang Resistance Education and Training programs are organizing a Safety Fair, May 8, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., at Uptown Center Court, Pearlridge Mall.

Learn about youth sports, drug and gang resistance programs and traffic safety; enjoy visits with the Specialized Services Division and keiki IDs. Call 488-0981.

9 / Sunday

Mother's Day Lunch and Cruise – Treat mom special aboard the Star of Honolulu, May 9, 12-2:30 p.m., Aloha Tower Marketplace, Pier 8.

The champagne cruise will feature a buffet, door prizes, whale watching and cultural activities. Special military rates are available. Call 983-7827 or visit www.starofhonolulu.com.

Voices of Resistance – Hawaii Pacific University literary, performing and visual arts students present "Voices of Resistance," 4 p.m., May 9, at Hawaii Theatre.

Visit www.hawaiitheatre.com or call 528-0506.

12 / Wednesday

Fireknife Festival –The Fireknife festival and championships share and educate others about the Samoan culture and the challenging art of fireknife at the Polynesian Cultural Center, May 12-15.

Visit www.polynesia.com or call 293-3333.

Akasha Contemporary Dance – Iona Theatre's new show, Akasha, will present five new works celebrating the elements at the Hawaii Theatre, May 14, at 8 p.m. Military discounts are available at www.hawaiitheatre.com or 528-0506.

15 / Saturday

Friends and Film on the Fantail – Visit the Battleship Missouri Memorial, May 15, to see "The Blind Side," 6-9 p.m., and tour the battleship's Surrender Deck, the site of imperial Japan's unconditional surrender in 1945.

Space is limited so RSVP at www.MightyMoMembers.org/rsvp, rsvp@ussmissouri.org or 456-7960.

Ongoing

Food for Families – The Armed Services YMCA has an emergency food locker that assists military families who are experiencing financial difficulty with a supply of canned goods, frozen food, dry goods and personal care items.

Call 624-5645.

Children's Waiting Rooms – The Armed Services YMCA offers on-site child care for healthy children while their parents or siblings have medical appointments in any of the Schofield Clinics or at Tripler Army Medical Center, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-12 p.m.

Call 624-5645 for Schofield Barracks or 833-1185 for Tripler.

Vet Clinic – The Schofield Veterinary Treatment Facility phone number has changed to 655-5889/5893.

Summer Drama – Register kids for Honolulu Theatre's Youth "Fables from Afar and Anear," for children ages 7 to 12, June 7 – 25. Scholarships are available.

Call 839-9885 ext. 704

This Week at the MOVIES Sgt. Smith Theater

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

Shutter Island

(R)

Fri., April 30, 7 p.m.

Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief

(PG)

Sat., May 1, 4 p.m.

She's Out of My League

(R)

Sat., May 1, 7 p.m.

Tooth Fairy

(PG)

Sun., May 2, 2 p.m.

Repo Men

(R)

Wed., May 5, 7 p.m.

Our Family Wedding

(PG-13)

Thurs., May 6, 7 p.m.

No shows on Mondays or Tuesdays.

Volunteers honored for $2.3 million worth of services, time

Story and Photo by
BILL MOSSMAN
News Editor

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS – A week's worth of activities celebrating U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Volunteer Recognition Week culminated with the annual awards ceremony, here, where family members, coworkers and friends gathered to cheer on this year's 44 nominees and eventual category winners, including the brightest of volunteer stars.

About 200 people poured into the Nehelani for the 2010 Installation Volunteer Ceremony, April 22, feasting on the finest foods and beverages, and enjoying stirring renditions of the national anthem and such pop classics as "Hero" and "Wind Beneath My Wings." Most of all, they came to honor the people who devote so much of their time to serving Soldiers and their families.

Among those singing the volunteers' praises were USAG-HI's senior leaders.

"Yes, we have a history of recognizing our volunteers," said Lt. Gen. Benjamin Mixon, commanding general, U.S. Army-Pacific, noting that volunteers have been officially recognized since the establishment of the Army Community Service program in 1965. "But regardless of how long we have been doing it, we cannot say it enough, and we cannot do it loud enough – to say thank you to our volunteers."

"Our honorees have reached out, opened up and given up themselves to all of us, without reservations," added Col. Matthew Margotta, commander, USAG-HI. "By doing so, they have become part of something greater than themselves – the greater good," he said. "It is the very spirit of service that our volunteers here contribute every day that literally speaks to how simple acts, individual kindness and selfless service leads to an overall improvement in our local community and each of our lives.

To illustrate just how effective volunteer work has been over the past year, Tracey Clark, Army Volunteer Corps coordinator, Army Community Service, presented Maj. Gen. Michael J. Terry, senior commander, USAG-HI, and Margotta with a "check" for $2.3 million, which represented more than 110,000 volunteer hours served both on post and off.

Layne Fitzpatrick, second from right, and wife Emilia "Mil" Fitzpatrick happily accept the Volunteer of the Year award from, at left, Col. Matthew Margotta, commander, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, and Maj. Gen. Michael J. Terry, commanding general, U.S. Army-Hawaii, during the 2010 Installation Volunteer Ceremony, April 22, at the Nehelani Banquet & Conference Center, Schofield Barracks.

"There is no price tag I can put on what (volunteers) do for their service," she explained, "but it's always nice when we can present the command with how much of (the volunteers') time has saved the United States' government, especially U.S. Garrison-Hawaii."

As in years past, each brigade, volunteer organization and agency was able to submit the name of one volunteer nominee – among the 1,000 registered volunteers – for award consideration in each of seven categories.

After much debate regarding the merits of each candidate in the days leading up to the ceremony, the winners were chosen. Among them, Layne Fitzpatrick, the Volunteer Ambassador of the Year (for those who serve off post), was named overall Volunteer of the Year, with his selection staunchly supported by a visibly and audibly appreciative audience.

"I didn't even know this was coming," admitted Fitzpatrick, who serves as executive director for Ohana Matters Educational Foundation, which helps youth from underprivileged areas gear up for careers in science and engineering, and also as volunteer coordinator for a surf club, which encourages those with disabilities to take part in the ancient Hawaiian sport.

"I was content with (the Volunteer Ambassador award)," said Fitzpatrick, who attended the event with a throng of friends and family members, including his wife, Emilia. "But when they called my name, again, I was thinking, 'did I do something wrong?'"

Awardees

- Baker family, Family Volunteer of the Year.
- Layne Fitzpatrick, Volunteer Ambassador of the Year (those who serve off post) and overall Volunteer of the Year.
- Antonio Heyward, Youth Volunteer of the Year (under age 18).
- Theresa Johnson, Spouse Volunteer of the Year.
- Staff Sgt. John Martinez, Soldier Volunteer of the Year.
- Sherell Pippen, Civilian Volunteer of the Year.
- Maritza Serrano, Silver Volunteer of the Year (age 50 and over).

A retired chief warrant officer who served in the U.S. Army for 25 years, Fitzpatrick encouraged those who may be thinking of doing volunteer work, to "jump in" and immerse themselves in a noble cause.

"Don't think twice about it; don't even second-guess yourselves," he said. "If you're already thinking about it, then it's coming from the heart."

The ceremony marked the end of a week's worth of activities, including an opening rally at the Army and Air Force Exchange Service Main Exchange; a Volunteer Breakfast at the Hale Ikena, Fort Shafter; and Volunteer Movie Night at the Sgt. Smith Theater.

Clark was present at each of the activities, and is in her last go-around as Volunteer Corps coordinator. She praised those who have served alongside her, and implored those in attendance to continue being "shining examples of what we should all aspire to be."

"The power of one volunteer can create a wave of change that leaves an everlasting footprint for the next generation to follow," Clark said.

8th TSC recognizes Volunteer of the Year

SGT. MAJ. TERRY ANDERSON
8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER – Former heavyweight boxing champion Muhammad Ali once said, "Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth."

The commanding general of the 8th Theater Sustainment Command acknowledged four outstanding volunteers for giving of their time and talents during a ceremony on the back lanai of his quarters, here, April 14, recognizing one as the 8th TSC Volunteer of the Year.

"It's special to welcome you all into our home, to celebrate the good things that our volunteers do, day in and day out, out of the goodness of their heart," said Maj. Gen. Michael J. Terry.

Terry, and his wife, Cathy, spoke about some of the accomplishments from each volunteer of the quarter.

Katherine Ebersole worked tirelessly as the 130th Engineer Brigade family readiness group leader, holding several fundraising events and tripling the FRG budget.

Andrea Logan, 130th Eng. Bde., volunteered more than 100 hours and kept meticulous records as the FRG treasurer.

Christine Cox, 130th Eng. Bde., helped set up video teleconferences between families and their deployed Soldiers.

Melinda Yeary took the lead in planning the 8th Special Troops Battalion's organizational day and holiday parties, and ran the children's activities for both events.

Due to her exceptional volunteerism, Terry named Yeary the 8th TSC Volunteer of the Year.

"I was surprised," Yeary said. "It is a huge honor for me to receive this award. I volunteer so the Soldiers can focus on their missions and not worry about their families."

Pfc. Darnell Collins | 8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs

Maj. Gen. Michael J. Terry, commanding general, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, and his wife, Cathy Terry (left), present Melinda Yeary, 8th Special Troops Battalion, with the Volunteer of the Year award, April 14, at Fort Shafter.

The 8th TSC held the Volunteer of the Year ceremony halfway through the fiscal year to allow Yeary to compete for the honor at the Garrison level and beyond.

Yeary's husband, Staff Sgt. Gregory Yeary, said he wasn't surprised that his wife was recognized for her hard work.

"(Melinda's) got a proven track record of volunteerism," he said. "She was a Soldier for 10 years, and then left the Army, and now she loves taking care of Soldiers and their families."

Yeary says her experience as a Soldier gives her a different perspective from most spouses.

"It gives me both sides of the story," she said. "I know what the Soldiers have to go through and what it's like to be the spouse of a Soldier, so I can relate to both sides."

Yeary says her favorite volunteer activity is working with children in Hale Kula Elementary School on Schofield Barracks, and she will continue working with kids when her family moves to Fort Sill, Okla., in June.

"When I volunteer in the classroom, it means the kids are getting a quality education because of an extra set of hands in the classroom," Yeary said.

"My degree in early childhood education will be complete, soon, so I hope to keep working in the classroom at Fort Sill and volunteering my time where I can," she said.

Yeary was also named Volunteer of the Year in 2005 at Fort Lewis, Wash.

FRG donates gift certificates to Fisher House families

SGT. RICARDO BRANCH
8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs

TRIPLER ARMY MEDICAL CENTER – The 8th Theater Sustainment Command's family readiness group raises money for a variety of events, often for helping the unit, but now and then, for a special cause, such as the Fisher House, here, recently.

Capt. Aaron Fegley, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 8th TSC, and Melinda Yeary, 8th TSC FRG leader, recently met with personnel at the Fisher House to donate $300 worth of gift certificates for residents living at the house.

"We raised the money for the gift certificates during a lot of events we held at the unit," said Yeary. "We did it because the Fisher House does so much to care for the Army Soldiers and families here in Hawaii."

The family members and loved ones staying at the Fisher House can use the gift certificates to purchase sundry items such as toothpaste, soap and shampoo, or to enjoy a nice meal at select restaurants around Honolulu.

The Fisher House is a nonprofit organization on the island of Oahu that supports military and their families in their time of need. It relies heavily upon private donations to pay for the maintenance and upkeep of the facility.

> "The Fisher House does so much to care for the Army Soldiers and families here in Hawaii."
>
> **– Melinda Yeary**
> *8th Theater Sustainment Command Family Readiness Group leader*

The nonprofit facilitates humanitarian needs beyond those normally provided by the Department of Defense or Veterans Affairs.

"We try to provide a home-away-from-home atmosphere for the service members and families going through hard times," said Anita Clingerman, assistant manager at the Fisher House. "It's nice when we receive donations to help them out and make them more comfortable during their stay here."

Since the Fisher House was created, approximately 45 houses have appeared across America in 18 military installations and 15 Veterans Affairs medical centers.

Since 1990, the Fisher House has offered more than three million days of lodging to more than 120,000 families at Fisher Houses around the United States.

The Fisher Houses are the product of Zachary Fisher, a Jewish-American philanthropist, who was noted for his constant charity work for the U.S. armed forces and their families.

"You never know what can happen in life," Yeary said. "You never know when you or someone you know will need the services of the Fisher House. I donated to them because it's a great program that's free to service members and their families. Everyone should give back to them."

She added, "Organizations out there like the Fisher House that help people should receive all our support because it goes a long way to make sure we're taking care of our own. You'll feel real good, too, when you make a difference for someone in need."

Volunteer's willpower helps during spouse's first deployment

Family readiness groups offer support lifelines for spouses

SPC. JAZZ BURNEY
3rd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs, 25th Infantry Division

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS – When thinking about marriage, usually the loved one is physically present.

For Michelle Kent, learning to cope with the absence of her husband, Staff Sgt. Glen Kent, an infantryman with Company A, 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, taught her the necessity of staying focused with constructive activities and being actively involved in a strong support group like the unit's family readiness group.

Kent

During a ceremony, earlier this month, more than a dozen FRG members were recognized by leaders of the brigade for their involvement in helping the community while their spouses were deployed. Kent represents just one of the selfless spouses who were recognized for their volunteering.

Upon marrying her husband, Kent became the first in her family to leave her hometown of Chicago and start her own family in Hawaii. When it came time for Glen to deploy, Kent decided to stay on island with the intention of embracing the challenge of continuing the family she left her hometown to begin.

The Kent's experienced their first deployment with a four-year marriage under their belt, knowing that their time apart could be both individually challenging and rewarding.

"I chose not to go home because I realized that when you don't have close ones to lean on, it forces you to grow emotionally into a stronger person. This has been the case for me," she explained.

Kent said that her personal victory started in how she viewed her situation. Instead of being paralyzed by the fact she would be separated from her husband for a year, she decided to keep herself busy by working part-time as a circuit fitness trainer and enrolling at Hawaii Pacific University as a full-time student.

Plus, her husband's unit FRG program served as a lifeline to other spouses going through the same challenges she faced.

"The loneliest nights are when you don't have anything to do ... so you have to keep yourself busy," she said. "Having friends who understand what you are experiencing is very important."

The main challenge of being the spouse of a deployed Soldier is staying positive, she said.

"Staying actively involved with the other women of the FRG helped me to stay encouraged for my marriage," Kent said.

84th Engineers, Mililani Uka students spring into reading

Story and Photo by
CAPT. SUSAN KNAPIK
84th Engineer Battalion Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS – Some people say a child's brain is like a sponge: absorbing what they see in the environment surrounding them, emulating the adults they literally look up to, and producing similar responses.

This saying is part of the idea behind the "Raise A Reader" program that began at Mililani Uka Elementary, March 8, and concludes, May 31.

As military partners to Mililani Uka, the 84th Engineer Battalion wanted to not only be a part of the encouragement, but also a part of the process.

The school hosted a "Spring Into Reading" night, April 22, and invited the group of engineers to read to each grade level.

The event began with a crowd of several hundred parents and students gathered in the school cafeteria.

There, they were challenged by Miss Hawaii Raeceen Woolford to answer trivia questions relating to the books suggested for students.

Sgt. Michael Carbajal, 643rd Engineer Company, 84th Engineer Battalion, reads to a group of Mililani Uka School students during "Spring into Reading" night as part of the nationwide program "Raise a Reader."

The Soldiers were then assigned a grade level, given a library bag full of age-appropriate books and sent off to classrooms where they read some of their own favorite books from childhood and engaged students in discussions about the stories and characters.

For most of the children, the connection to the story was immediate. Keiki were mesmerized by "the Army," as they called the engineers, who told them whimsical tales of Amelia Bedelia, "the literal-minded housekeeper."

Many students could recite pages of the Dr. Seuss books that were read to them, but they were still fascinated by the Soldiers' abilities to "become" the main characters.

The occasion was the third Raise a Reader event the 84th Eng. Bn. has participated in at Mililani Uka.

Virtually every Soldier requested a chance to participate for a second and third time.

The national program, which offers a $5,000 grant to the school that logs the most minutes of reading, encourages parents to read with their students outside of the school environment, so children will become hooked on education and apply solid reading and learning habits throughout their school years.

Courtesy Photo

A team of teens studies their packet of clues before the first-ever Army Community Service "Dude – Find the Food" scavenger hunt for food and health donations on Schofield Barracks and Wheeler Army Airfield, April 24.

Army youth scavenge donations in 'Dude – Find the Food' hunt

JACK WIERS
U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS – Team Gaga-ha was ready and decked out in custom team T-shirts when they chanted their trendy team name for all to hear outside the Army Community Service building, here, Saturday, at 9 a.m.

Schofield teens developed the first-ever ACS "Dude – Find the Food" scavenger hunt, which carried all the swagger and fun of the young adult set.

Meanwhile, event organizer and Leilehua High School student Sara McCaffrey stated clearly and matter of factly that although "trash talking is acceptable ... we are not responsible for speeding tickets. That's on you."

Armed with a packet of clues, 10 teams of youngsters, teens and supervisors, drove off chaotically in all directions, including the wrong way out of the ACS parking lot, to the hoots of laughter of bystanders left behind.

The search was on to scour Schofield Barracks and Wheeler Army Airfield for food and health donations during the next two-and-a-half hours.

"We got seven kids together, and they did all the work," said Tracy Clark, ACS volunteer coordinator. "They contacted the USO for sponsorships, got with agencies on post to get food items, and then contacted three different organizations to deliver."

Four months of planning and organizing made the event planning a learning experience for the group.

A dozen agencies, organizations and clubs, including the Hui Na Wahine Thrift Shop; Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation's Outdoor Recreation; Army Hawaii Family Housing; Military Police; and the Armed Services YMCA contributed by staging food drive donations in the weeks prior to the event.

Saturday's event was merely a competition in gathering the goods. The first team to have completed all 12 stops and retrieved a single item from each donation station was declared the winner.

"We wanted it to be fun," said McCaffrey. "It grew to be bigger than expected, (but) we thought it would be effective."

The teams of four to seven members not only needed to find the donation spots, but also usually needed to perform for the sponsors before having their scavenger packet stamped.

The Hui Na Wahine stop employed a combination of hula hoops and footballs for the combatants to master. Another stop required singing a song – with a mouthful of marshmallows, of course.

In a hotly contested finish, the boys from team Alpha Team Ninja Force Go were nudged out by less than a minute.

Team Dude, comprised of Jordan Nixon, Joshua Nixon, Elizabeth Brown, Debbie Nixon, Linda Evans and Nick Evans took the top prize – in this case, free movie tickets and, of course, bragging rights as champions.

Team Dude made all 12 stops in just one hour and fifteen minutes. Team Sleeping Pigs finished third.

The two palates of food and health items raised in the event will be distributed to benefit the Tripler House, two Armed Forces YMCAs and the Hawaii Food Bank.

Teams were treated to a cookout hosted by the USO and Sgt. Audie Murphy Club, capping the morning's adventure. Both ACS supervisors and the teens themselves agreed this event will be repeated in the future.

"Not only are our teens taking care of our military community, but also reaching beyond our gates," said Clark. "This is a great success."

The event recognized both the Month of the Military Child and National Volunteer Week.

Wolfhounds cement relationship with 'Mighty Mules' children

Story and Photo by
SPC. JAZZ BURNEY
3rd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs, 25th Infantry Division

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS – With the occasional ringing of a school bell echoing throughout the campus of Leilehua High School, 15 Soldiers of the 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, "Wolfhounds," 25th Infantry Division, along with three civilian engineers, laid and paved a cement walkway to provide a dry path to the school's media room, April 16.

During their recent yearlong deployment in Iraq, the Wolfhounds were no strangers to the local Iraqi schools in their area of operation.

Leaders provided financial aid and the manpower of Soldiers to help build and enhance many school facilities there.

Here in Hawaii, the unit continues that same spirit of giving and building by continuing its local partnership with the "Mighty Mules" at Leilehua, a school in Wahiawa, outside Schofield Barracks.

The process began with Wolfhounds and Leilehua school officials sitting down and discussing potential projects that could be started on the campus. The initial project presented was having a concrete lane built for the school's media room.

The previous pathway to the media room, which was made of dirt and grass, created difficulties in transporting heavy objects, which could only be carried on dollies and trucks.

The path, when saturated by rain, caused visitors and students alike to track muddy footprints into the classroom.

These problems, according to Sara Scoville and Johanna Macedon both seniors at the school, revealed the need for a new pathway to be built.

"We have a lot of things we have to move on wheels in our media production class, but having all the grass there prevented us from getting our equipment into our classroom," said Scoville. "Having the Soldiers here to create this walkway helps us and really means a lot to our class."

The Soldiers, along with the engineers, relentlessly carried wheelbarrows full of wet cement to the final destination site of the walkway.

As light rain fell, the Soldiers followed the lead of the veteran engineers, who showed them how to even out the cement with wooden planks, and step on and slosh the material into place with their boots.

Macedon explained that seeing the Soldiers on campus gave students the opportunity to really see what the U.S. Army contributes to local communities outside of their bases.

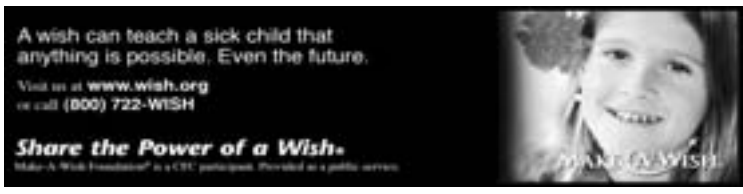
Sgt. Darius King, a forward observer with F Company, 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, guides a fresh batch of wet cement into a wheelbarrow during a school partnership project at Leilehua High School, April 16.

"Having the Soldiers doing this job rather than just regular construction workers means more, because it shows that they are thinking of us and are concerned about helping the community," said Scoville. "It also gave us a better understanding on who the Soldiers are and what they are about."

Branching out into the local community is important, said 1st Lt. Anthony Arellano, officer in charge of the construction from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Bn., 27th Inf. Regt.

"We are here to build relationships," he said. "With Schofield Barracks having everything Soldiers need right on the base, we really don't ever have to leave post, but we are a part of this community.

"This has been an excellent way to show that we are connected to our neighbors," Arellano added.



Hawaii Military Appreciation Month Event Schedule

5 / Wednesday

Community Aloha Ceremony – Wahiawa/Whitmore Village Neighborhood Board #26 is spearheading a community recognition event, 7 p.m., May 5, at the Hale Okipa Building, Wahiawa Recreation Center, 1139 Kilani Ave.

15 / Saturday

Enchanted Breakfast – Information, Tickets and Registration is putting on an Enchanted Character Breakfast, May 15, at 8 a.m.

Tickets are available at ITR, and cost $10 for adults, $8 for children. Call 655-9971.

Family Fun Festival – Come to Sills Field on Schofield Barracks, May 15, from 9–2 p.m., for a variety of games, inflatable, rides, food booths and entertainment. Call 655-0113 for more details.

Spouse Appreciation Day – Each military spouse will receive a goody bag and a raffle ticket for spa giveaway packages and other great prizes, May 15, 9 a.m.– 2 p.m., at Sills Field on Schofield Barracks.

For more information, call 655-0112.

Combined Military Band Concert – Come to the combined services concert, May 15, at the Hawaii Theatre, Honolulu, from 7-8:30 p.m. Free tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

18 / Tuesday

Military Recognition Luncheon – Celebrate the return of our warriors from Iraq and Afghanistan at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Beach Resort & Spa, May 18, 12-1:30 p.m.

Reservations are required by May 7 for this event. Admission prices range, based on individual reservations or table bookings (group of eight).

Call 545-4300, ext. 317, or e-mail kokamura@cochawaii.org.

22 / Saturday

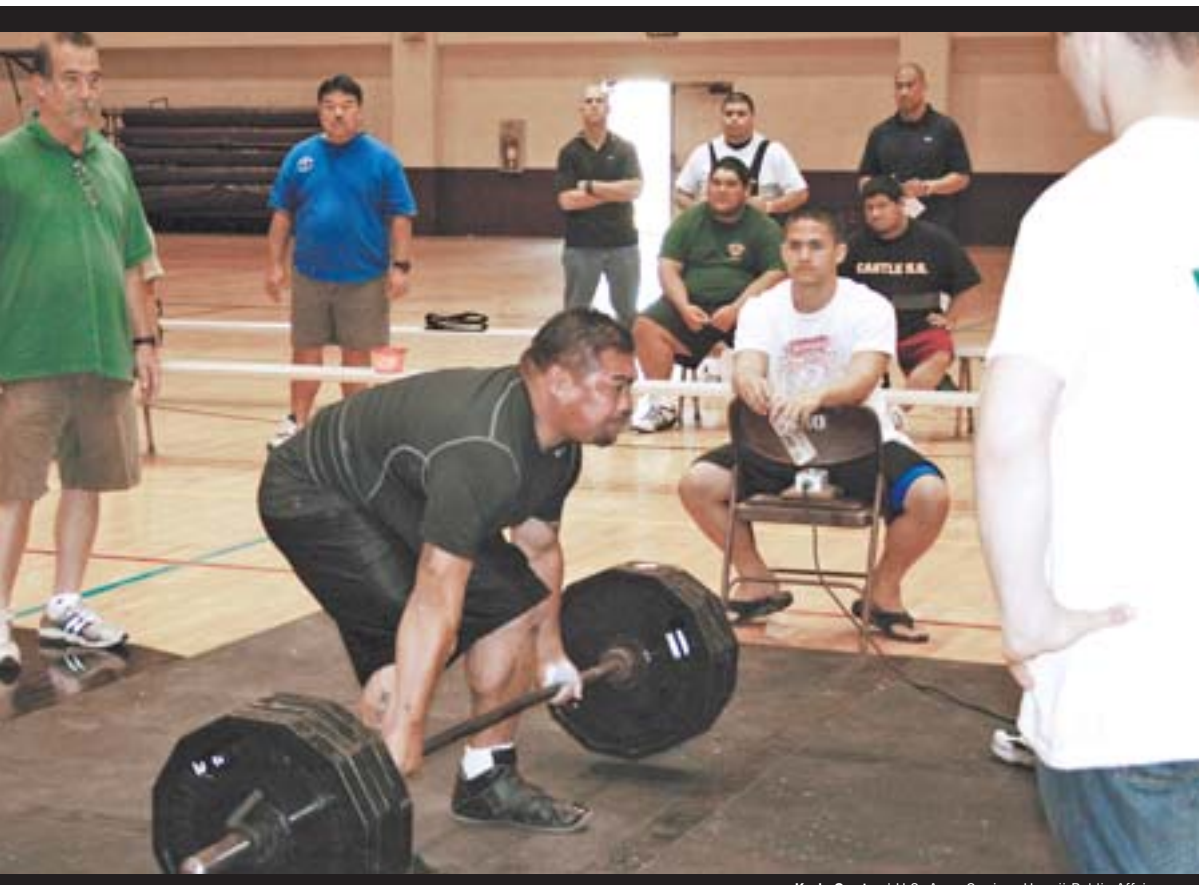
Welcome Home Heroes – This parade takes place along Kalakaua Avenue with a celebration at the Waikiki Shell, May 22, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Family Day at the Zoo – Join the USO for Military Appreciation Day, May 22, at the Honolulu Zoo, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Admission is free for all military personnel with valid ID.

Buses will depart from the Schofield Barracks Bowling Center parking lot at 7:30-7:45 a.m. Wristbands and meal tickets will be issued by Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation as everyone loads onto the bus. Buses will depart from the Honolulu Zoo at 2 p.m.

29 / Saturday

Hawaii Military Bands Mele – Listen to great music, May 29, at Fort DeRussy's Kuroda Field, 7-10 p.m.



Kayla Overton | U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs

Olympic muscles

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS- Timmy Orlando from the Molokai Delegation deadlifts 405 pounds during the Special Olympics Powerlifting competition, at Martinez Gym, April 25. The event also included a squat competition.

The Special Olympics philosophy and program shows that people with intellectual disabilities benefit from sports competition with those of equal abilities, encouraging social, mental, physical and spiritual growth and development. The Special Olympics-Hawaii softball competition is May 1, 6 a.m., at Wheeler Army Airfield softball fields. Call 943-8808, ext. 114 for more information.

Schofield Sharks swim to healthy mind, body

MOMI SMITH
Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS – The Schofield Sharks Swim Team is the only Army swim team in Hawaii, and it is currently hosting tryouts at Richardson Pool, here, weekdays at 4 p.m.

The Sharks have provided swim team experience for military youth for more than 50 years.

The team promotes healthy bodies and healthy minds through the sport of competitive swimming, and is recognized throughout Oahu for its sportsmanship.

Although competing locally, the team is a member of USA Swimming and has many opportunities for interisland travel.

For more information, call Army Pools at 655-9653.

In 2009, nine swimmers advanced to the Hawaii State Championships, and the team traveled to Kauai and the Big Island.

At this time, the swim team is comprised of more than 50 children from 6-18 years old.

Blake Marr, head coach, is a triathlete and a Sharks alumnus, and has been coaching the Sharks since 2001.

He said the Sharks team is a great opportunity for military children to broaden their horizons.

MWR Sports

Today

Family Fun Fitness Festival – Join games, prizes and fun, April 30, 12 p.m., in the commissary parking lot.

Learn how to protect and nurture your skin and get free ongoing health assessments, dental info and and much more. The festival continues through May 2. Call 656-3324.

EFMP Swimming – Families with special needs individuals are invited to enjoy an afternoon of joint forces swimming with the Exceptional Family Member Program, April 30, 2:30-5 p.m., at Tripler Army Medical Center pool. Sign up is required.

Call 655-4227.

Soccer Registration – The final day for youth soccer registration is April 30, for youth born between 1994-2005. Cost is $45 and practices begin June 29, for the July 24-Sept. 18 season. Call 655-6465.

Youth Wrestling – Schofield Youth Sports is accepting late registration throughout the season for youth born between 1993-2005.

Meets run from March-June, and practices are at the Bennett Youth Center gym.

Cost is $40, plus an annual membership cost of $35 per child, and tournament fees. Call 927-2046.

May

1 / Saturday

Adventure Surfing Lessons – Surf like the pros, or at least look the part with Outdoor Recreation, May 1, 6:30-11:30 a.m.

Lessons are $48 and include equipment and round-trip transportation from Schofield Barracks. Call 655-0143.

7 / Friday

CG Scramble – Put on your favorite golf shirt and head to the Leilehua Golf Course for the Commanding General Scramble, May 7, at 12 p.m.

The CG Scramble is open to all U.S. Army Hawaii personnel, every first Friday of the month. Call 655-0114.

8 / Saturday

Outdoor Recreation Open House – Learn about all the exciting things going on at Outdoor Recreation every 2nd Saturday of the month.

There will be information on scuba, whale watching, surfing, water diver certification and much more.

Visit www.mwrarmyhawaii.com/recreation-and-leisure/outdoor-recreation-center.

12 / Wednesday

Drug Free Walk – The Wheeler Middle School Peer Awareness Group will sponsor its 3rd Annual Drug Free Walk in its quest to raise drug and alcohol awareness, May 12, 8 a.m.–12 p.m., at Wheeler Army Airfield.

The walk is from the WMS cafeteria to Sills Field on Schofield Barracks, with light refreshments at the teen center, before returning to the school.

Call 622-6525.

community Sports

Send sports announcements to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

May

2 / Sunday

Day on the Docks – Join the annual family fishing tournament at the Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay marina, May 2, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Registration begins at 9:30 a.m., and cost is $15 per child. This event is open to military and Department of Defense civilian families with an ID card.

Call 254-7667.

Bike Race – The Criterium Bike Race will take participants on a safe, 1.1-mile loop course consisting of two wide, 90-degree turns and one wide, sweeping 180-degree turn. For more details, visit www.mccshawaii.com/cgfit.htm.

8 / Saturday

Bathtub Regatta – Teams of four can build a boat that will last relay laps around the Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay marina, May 8.

Register at www.mccshawaii.com.

Sprint Triathlon – Bike, swim or run to Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, for the most hard-core event held on the windward side, May 8. This triathlon consists of a 500-meter swim in Kaneohe Bay, an 11-mile bike race circumnavigating the base, and a 3.5-mile run at the marina.

Visit www.mccshawaii.com/cgfit.htm.

Run With a View – Run more than eight miles in Aiea, May 8, as part of the Hawaiian Ultra Running Team trail series. E-mail expo@hawaii.rr.com.

9 / Sunday

Pearl Harbor Bikepath Run – Run a 10K with the Mid-Pacific Road Runners Club. Visit www.mprrc.com.

14 / Friday

3-Person Golf Tournament – The Waianae Military Civilian Advisory Council's Three-Person, Best-Ball golf tournament is May 14, 12 p.m., at Makaha Valley Country Club. Check-in is from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Cost is $100 per individual player and includes green fees, cart and banquet. Call 386-3951.

Charity Golf Tourney – Registration is extended until the morning of the event for the Moanalua football team's golf tournament, May 14.

The 4-person scramble tourney offers 18 holes at the Hawaii Country Club, a chance to win $10,000, Lunch at the Turn, a dinner buffet, a gift bag and trophies, awards and prizes – all for a $100 tax-deductible donation.

Call 368-2393, visit http://moanaluafootball.com/golf/golf.html, or e-mail MoanaluaFootball@gmail.com.

15 / Saturday

Charity Walk – Join a morning of fun, food, entertainment and a little exercise to help raise funds for Hawaii's local charities, May 15, 7 a.m., at McCoy Pavilion at Ala Moana Beach Park in Honolulu. Participants must raise at least $35 for the six miles walk.

Call 923-0407 or visit www.charitywalkhawaii.org.