

## INSIDE



### Preparing for the worst

State and local authorities are tested on Hawaii's ability to deal with disaster.

A-5

### Change of command

The 500th Military Intelligence Brigade change of command will be held Thursday, 10 a.m., at Schofield Barracks' Sills Field. Col. Steve Grove will relinquish command to Col. Christopher Ballard.

### Ladies' night

Ladies, stop by the Tropics Aug. 8, 6-10 p.m., for fun and fashion. The evening will feature a fashion show, food & drinks, and a chance to get pampered with mini treatments. Call 655-5698.

See MWR Briefs, B-2



### Enjoying Oahu

Four Holy Family orphans from Japan enjoy 10 days of Wolfhound hospitality.

B-1

### This issue

- Lightning Spirit **A-2**
- Deployed Forces **A-3**
- News Briefs **A-7**
- MWR **B-2**
- Sports & Fitness **B-5**



Staff Sgt. J.B. Jaso III | 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment

### Hot hands

CAMP TAJI, Iraq – Sgt. Kyle Pflieger, plays "hot hands" with an Iraqi child while on patrol through a marketplace in the Taji Qada, northwest of Baghdad, July 17. Pflieger is a broadcast journalist assigned to Multinational Division-Baghdad's 128th Military Public Affairs Detachment.

## New law mirrors spirit of 1st GI Bill

STAFF SGT. MICHAEL J. CARDEN  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The latest GI Bill considerably improves the opportunity for today's service members to obtain their education, a senior Defense Department official said.

President Bush signed the Post-9/11 Veterans Education Assistance Act of 2008 on June 30. The new law mirrors the tenets of the original GI Bill, which gave returning World War II veterans the opportunity to go to any school they wanted while receiving a living stipend, Bob Clark, the Pentagon's assistant director of accessions policy, said.

"The original GI Bill was said to be one of the most significant social impacts of the 20th century," Clark said. "We believe the new bill is going to have a similar impact."

The new GI Bill applies to individuals who served on active duty on or after Sept. 11, 2001, and offers education benefits worth an average of \$80,000 — double the value of those in the previous program. It covers the full costs of tuition and books, which are paid directly to the school, and it pro-

vides a variable stipend for living expenses. It's also transferable to family members of career service members.

The bill's only restriction is that payment amounts are limited to the most expensive in-state cost to attend a college or university in the state where veterans attend school, he said.

The variable stipend is based on the Defense Department's basic allowance for housing for an E-5, which averages about \$1,200 a month, and \$1,000 a year will be paid directly to the service member for books and supplies, he added.

Enrollment into the Post-9/11 GI Bill is free. Eligibility for the Montgomery GI Bill is based on service commitment and requires active-duty service members to pay a \$1,200 fee over the initial year of their enlistment.

The new bill requires that an individual serve at least 90 days on active duty after Sept. 10, 2001, and if discharged, be separated on honorable terms. Service members discharged due to a service-connected disability are eligible if they served 30 continuous days on

SEE GI BILL, A-6

## Aviation Soldiers earn medals for valor

25th CAB also receives unit commendation

Story and Photo by  
STAFF SGT. TYRONE C. MARSHALL JR.  
25th Combat Aviation Brigade Public Affairs

WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD — Two Soldiers from the 25th Combat Aviation Brigade (CAB) were recognized with medals for valor here, after taking exemplary actions that saved the lives of their fellow Soldiers during the most recent deployment to northern Iraq.

Brig. Gen. Robert Brown, deputy commanding general for support, 25th Infantry Division, presented Staff Sgt. Christopher Elliot and Sgt. Corey Haynes, both from 2nd Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment "Diamond Head," 25th CAB, with Bronze Star Medals with a "V" device for valor, in front of their families and fellow Soldiers.

Both Soldiers served as part of an aircrew during a special mission in northern Iraq when they received direct enemy fire.

"This is an example of two Soldiers who did what I would call the harder right than the easy wrong," said Brown. "They saw fellow Soldiers in need, and despite all the dangers, they went out and recovered and provided first aid, and saved the lives of three of our fel-



(From right to left) Brig. Gen. Robert Brown, deputy commanding general for support, 25th Infantry Division, Col. Michael Lundy, commander, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, and Lt. Col. David Francis, commander, 2nd Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment, add the streamer for a Meritorious Unit Commendation to the battalion's colors as its Soldiers watch during a ceremony at Wheeler Army Airfield, July 24.

low teammates on a special mission.

"The important lesson of this is just about anyone of you out there would have done the same thing," Brown continued. "It may

be you next time. We're on a great team here. It's a real honor for me to be here and to

SEE VALOR, A-7

## Chytka becomes 66th Honolulu District commander

JOSEPH BONFIGLIO  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

FORT SHAFTIER — Lt. Col. Jon Chytka became the 66th commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Honolulu District in a ceremony at Palm Circle, July 25.

Pacific Ocean Division Commander Brig. Gen. John Peabody hosted the ceremony during which outgoing commander Lt. Col. Charles Klinge and incoming commander Chytka passed the ceremonial flag, symbolizing the official change of command. Chytka and his family received fresh flower lei, a Hawaiian symbol of welcome, and the Klinge family received lei as a tribute to their service.

Chytka assumed command from Klinge, who will become the deputy commander of the 130th Engineer Brigade (Provisional), headquartered at Schofield Barracks.

During his tenure, Klinge met the challenge

of successfully leading the district in executing all mission requirements: military construction, civil works, international and interagency services, real estate, regulatory, environmental services and emergency management support.

Throughout his tour of duty, Klinge led a highly motivated staff in support of U.S. Army military construction and transformation initiatives at Hawaii Army posts, including barracks renewal on Wheeler Army Airfield, and renovation of several historic quads on Schofield Barracks.

In early 2008, the Historic Hawaii Foundation honored the U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, the Corps of Engineers and contractors Nan Inc., Mason Architects Inc. and Architects

Hawaii with a Preservation Honor Award for their support in the rehabilitation of Schofield's historic Quads C and E, which date to 1916 and 1920, respectively.



Chytka

#### RELATED STORY

• Col. Mark Yenter takes the reins of the Corps' Pacific Ocean Division. See page A-2.

Under Klinge's leadership, the district continued military construction support for the Air Force's newly arrived C-17 aircraft, including the completion of several C-17 operations and maintenance facilities, a new hydrant fuel system, new cargo pads and the start of construction of the first new hangar at Hickam Air Force Base since the 1930s.

During Klinge's tour Honolulu District also provided significant civil works support to the

SEE CHYTKA, A-6

## CAB's top enlisted passes the NCO Sword

Story and Photo by  
STAFF SGT. TYRONE C. MARSHALL JR.  
25th Combat Aviation Brigade Public Affairs

WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD  
The 25th Combat Aviation Brigade's (CAB) top enlisted Soldier relinquished responsibility during a short ceremony here, July 25.

Command Sgt. Maj. Roger Kingston, the brigade's top enlisted leader for the past three years, passed his responsibilities to Command Sgt. Maj. Jesus Ruiz in the form of a sword, continuing a 168-year-old tradition of the Noncommissioned Officer Corps.

Speaking in front of the 25th CAB, Col. Michael Lundy, 25th CAB commander, bid farewell to his trusted senior advisor as Kingston prepares to continue his service at Fort Rucker, Ala.

"(Command) Sgt. Maj. Kingston has been an icon within this brigade, and we are truly going to miss him," said Lundy. "He is a Soldier's Soldier and a good man. He has led from the front and always set the example and has been an essential part of the success of this brigade. Thanks for all you have done. You truly love all our Soldiers and, most importantly, you truly love being a Soldier."

Lundy also welcomed a familiar face.

"We've got a great man to take his place," continued Lundy. "(Command) Sgt. Maj. Ruiz coming up from (3rd Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment). He knows this brigade and you know him. He also loves being a Soldier and he loves our Soldiers. And that's what I expect out of a sergeant major,

SEE SWORD, A-7

## 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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# Filling summer with activities never a problem

DAVID W. KUHNIS SR.  
Army News Service

It's hard to believe that figuring out how to fill a summer could ever be a problem.

Look around you. There is so much to do you could never get to it in a dozen summers. It's just a matter of prying your way outside and doing it.

To borrow a cliché, youth is wasted on the young.

That children need to be guided to activities might be the greatest failing we — the parents — have foisted upon them. Doesn't anyone just play anymore?

I look back on the summers of my memory and I can remember endless activity, most of it outdoors. I don't remember much of it having been planned by anyone but me and my buddies.

We played a lot of pick-up sports back then. Most other kids did, too. It was hard to find any sort of baseball field that didn't have a group of young players throwing a ball around. I don't mean organized leagues, with bleachers full of yelling parents, I mean a group of guys, and girls, too, riding

their bikes over to the school and picking sides. We figured out ways to play games with four or five on a side (one outfielder, the ball has to be in left field to be considered fair, and the on-deck batter plays catcher for the other team).

We played all sorts of variations (no walks, two strikes and you're out, and on and on). The important thing was that the games went on for hours.

I lived at the edge of town, with miles of fields and woods within reach. We spent endless time roaming what seemed like our own wilderness. We climbed trees to examine the eggs in birds' nests. We took target practice with slingshots firing rocks at hornets' nests, prepared to sprint to safety if we got lucky.

We built "forts" for days (usually more like foxholes, but imagination filled in the necessary battlements), then attacked those fortifications in long wars, armed with pine cones and cap guns.

We rode bikes just to feel the wind in our faces, often with a baseball card clothes-pinned to the frame so it flapped on the

spokes and made a great sound as we accelerated down the street.

Walking to the store to buy candy was always a favorite pastime, but that took money. Earning a little ready cash was a frequent obsession.

We had the classic lemonade stands, of course, but there was too little adventure in that. It was more fun to take an empty coffee can to the woods to pick blackberries. We'd return to the neighborhood eventually with a can full of ripe berries, arms scratched from the thorns and hands stained purple (and lips, too; you had to sample your crop). We would run door-to-door to offer our pickings to whomever was at home; a quart of fresh, warm, aromatic heaven for a handful of loose change.

There was one great summer when a university student told my dad he would pay me and my big brother for snakes: 25 cents a foot. That might have been the best vacation ever. We spent days poking through the underbrush looking for slithering reptiles.

I benefited from tolerant parents. In-

evitably, some of our captures escaped in the house. I learned a shoe box wasn't the most secure cage for a lively snake intent on freedom. I will never forget lying on the floor in the living room to read a book, only to spot a garter snake staring back at me from under an easy chair. Then there is the image of my dad trying to coax an angry and hissing gopher snake out from behind the oil tank in the garage ...

Did any of you ever spend a hot afternoon catching grasshoppers in a field? Remember the acrid smell and the brown stain of their "tobacco juice" on your hands?

Of course, there are a lot of wonderful, safe, well-organized and fun activities, both on post and off available for children now. They are often educational, they ease parental worries, and they fill the time until school starts again.

But I wonder what sort of memories today's children will have when they look back in 40 or 50 years. Youth is wasted on the young, and maybe it's our fault.

(Editor's Note: David W. Kuhns Sr. is the editor of Fort Lewis' Northwest Guardian.)

## 4 STEPS in FAITH

# Army life a marathon, hard but rewarding

CHAPLAIN (CAPT.) JIMMY MAJOR  
2nd Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment

Family separation and Army life go hand-in-hand. In today's Army, you may find that you spend more time away from home than you spend at home. You have just spent a long year in Iraq or Afghanistan serving your country and before you know it, you have to go downrange again.

Back-to-back deployments has been the norm for Soldiers in the Army lately. Recent deployments have put a strain on Soldiers and their families. These deployments are much like running a marathon. A marathon is a 26.2-mile run that tests the endurance of a runner. Marathons are the ultimate running event and can take a toll on your body.

First, you have to train three to four months before the actual event. During this time, you will have to train in the heat, cold, rain, snow. Many days your body is aching and you feel like doing nothing. Finally, the marathon day arrives.

You start off feeling well the first few miles. Then, when mile 20 hits you feel exhausted.

Your first thought is to quit, but you press on to the last few miles where you catch your second wind. Finally, you finish the marathon strong. You are then overcome with joy knowing you finished the 26.2-mile run.

The same is true with life in the Army. The road ahead can be very difficult at times. Your time is spent in training for another deployment that will take you away from your family.

Many of our Soldiers will spend time at Pohakuloa Training Area on the Big Island and the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif., before the actual deployment begins. The training spent away from home can be worse than the actual deployment. This time takes away us away from our families, which means more separation in addition to deployment. Or perhaps you're an Army spouse who carries the load of your family while your

spouse is deployed. Life in the Army is not always easy, but it can be rewarding knowing that you are giving back to your country.

The prophet Isaiah and the people of Israel encountered many difficulties during the days spent in captivity in Babylon. Life was hard during those times, but there was hope.

The Lord inspired Isaiah to write the words, "Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint" (Isaiah 40:31).

When you make the best of the opportunities you are given, you will find you will have the endurance to keep going in the race of life.

The Apostle Paul said, "Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:13-14).

I pray God will give you the endurance to keep on keeping on during the future deployments.



Major

## Getting it Straight:

In a photo caption from the story "Welcome: Heroes now focus on healing at WTB," on page A-9 of the July 25 edition, Staff Sgt. Erwin Saddi, 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, was misidentified as Sgt. Caleb Martin. Saddi was injured in a separate improvised explosive device attack.

# Corps of Engineers Pacific Ocean Division welcomes Yenter

BILLIE ERWIN  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

FORT SHAFTER — The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pacific Ocean Division has a new commander and division engineer.

Col. Mark Yenter became the Division's 28th commander during a ceremony presided over by Lt. Gen. Robert Van Antwerp, chief of engineers and commanding general U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Tuesday, Palm Circle.

Yenter replaces Brig. Gen. John Peabody who has been reassigned as commander and division engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Lakes and Rivers Division in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Prior to coming to Hawaii as the division commander, Yenter was chief of staff, G-3-5-7, Headquarters, U.S. Army Headquarters in Washington D.C. Secretary of Defense Robert Gates announced that President George W. Bush nominated Yenter for promotion to the grade of brigadier general.

As the Division's new commander, Yenter is responsible for the engineering design, construction and real estate management for the U.S. Army

and Air Forces in Hawaii and Alaska, and for all Department of Defense agencies and U.S. installations in Japan, the Republic of Korea and Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands.

The Division also administers the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' federal water resource development and regulatory programs, which govern work in the waters and wetlands of Alaska, Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The division's civil works mission includes construction and operation of inland waterways; construction and maintenance of ports and harbors; hydropower; flood control and environmental regulation.

The Division, through its four districts located in Japan, Korea, Alaska and Honolulu, is also charged with responding to natural and man-made disasters such as floods, hurricanes, earthquakes and tsunamis.

The Pacific Ocean Division is one of nine divisions worldwide that make up the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The Division has the largest geographic area of any of the nine divisions spanning across more than a third of the globe.



Col. Mark Yenter, the new commander and division engineer for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Pacific Ocean Division, holds the unit colors during a change of command ceremony at Fort Shafter's Palm Circle, Tuesday.

Photo Courtesy of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

# Voices of Lightning: What activities do you do to help you stay fit?



"Scuba diving, hiking, and kayaking every weekend."

Lt. Col. Stephanie Batzer  
311th Theater Signal Command  
Exercise and Plans Officer



"Snorkling and running."

Sgt. 1st Class Timothy M. Colon  
A Co., 249 Eng. Bn.  
Power Station NCO



"I do a lot of walking and I play golf."

Chief Warrant Officer James Dixon  
311th Theater Signal Command  
Maintenance Technician



"I go to the pool, walk, and workout on my elliptical machine."

Theresa Henderson  
Family Member



"I go to the gym every day."

Spc. Eden Rosal  
94th AAMDC  
Property Book Clerk

# Wolfhounds partner to rebuild schools in Iraq

OIF

Once tattered schoolhouse now a model for others thanks to 1-27th Inf. Regt.

Story and Photo by  
**STAFF SGT. J.B. JASO III**  
1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment

CAMP TAJI, Iraq – The schoolhouse is run down. Water leaks through numerous cracks in the roof and air conditioners do not operate effectively, causing temperatures inside the building to climb to unbearable heights.

The walls are covered with mold, the classrooms are missing doors and have broken windows, and the cracks in the walls are large enough to see the surrounding farmlands.

Despite all this, approximately 600 students at the Al Abbas Primary School, located in northwest Baghdad's remote New Taji Nahia, continued to pursue their education.

Capt. Shaun Wheelwright first visited the school in February and said he was saddened to see the condition of the school.

Wheelwright, the former executive officer for A Company, 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment "Wolfhounds," noticed more than half of the desks were broken, without desktops or seats, and each desk was used for six or more students.

Wheelwright said he wanted to help in any way he could.

That help began after he told his wife, Kerri, about the poor conditions. He said she was also saddened to hear about the conditions and decided to help. She contacted a Hawaii-based company, Oils of Aloha, for assistance.

The first donation of school supplies reached the students April 26. Wheel-



Capt. Brian Sweigart inspects a classroom at the Al Abbas Primary School in northwest Baghdad's remote New Taji Nahia, July 17, after final refurbishments were made to the school.

wright led the Wolfhounds and Iraqi Army soldiers to the school to hand out the much-needed supplies.

Oils of Aloha sent more than 20 large boxes of school supplies, including pencils, paper, notebooks, rulers and more.

"We are very happy and grateful," said Braheem Ahmed Hamid, the school's headmaster, after receiving the school supplies.

Wheelwright knew the supplies were a start, but it would not be enough.

Immediately following that visit, Wolfhound leadership worked with the government of Iraq and applied for funding for the rickety schoolhouse's reconstruction.

The project was approved using Iraqi Commanders Emergency Relief Program and Government of Iraq funding, resulting in the school receiving more than \$260,000 in June.

"The Al Abbas school was the least functioning school in the area," said Capt. Brian Sweigart, commander, A Co., 1-27th Inf. Regt. Sweigart's unit was responsible for the area in which the school resided. "It looked miserable," he said. "Mud was everywhere and it looked like it was falling apart. It was a very poor study environment."

The poor educational environment did not deter the children from furthering

their education.

"The kids wanted an education, and they had no other choice," Sweigart said. "Three schools in the area were destroyed by terrorists some time ago, and now the Al Abbas school is the only school in the area."

More recently, Sweigart assumed command of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1-27th Inf. Regt., and took the lead of the battalion's embedded Local Reconstruction Team. He is now responsible for acquiring funds and recommending projects such as the Al Abbas School.

One of his new duties includes inspecting the progress of the reconstruction proj-

ects. While traveling to see the finished project recently, Sweigart rode in the back of a Stryker vehicle with a smile on his face, eager to see the school.

Sheiks Yasin Muhammad Hussein al Halbasi, and Noori Athiyah Albu Regehba, the tribal sheiks for the area, gave Sweigart and fellow Wolfhounds a school tour.

The previously muddy courtyard and classrooms were now cemented. The cracks in the walls were fixed, and the school had been resurfaced and painted.

Artwork adorned the exterior of the classrooms, including a map of the region. Environmental control units were installed, desks repaired, and restrooms built. The school looked new.

"I'm impressed," Sweigart said as he walked through what was previously the worst school in the area. "They did a good job (reconstructing the school). It is above standard."

Muhammad couldn't stop thanking the Wolfhounds for their efforts.

"Children from three villages attend this school, as this is the only school in the area. It is serving all the families and children in this area," he said.

"Kids are happy that the school is rebuilt," Noori said. "Kids used to be full of mud before. Now they can go to class with clean shoes."

The Wolfhounds are no stranger to this excitement over schools. Having already completed six schools in the area, they are currently assisting in the construction of eight others.

"Education is the foundation for any country," said Capt. Mark Weber, effects coordinator with 1-27th Inf. Regt. "Providing an environment where the students are able to concentrate on their studies will develop the next set of leaders for Iraq."

## Search for weapons caches continues for 1-27 Inf. Regt.

**PFC. JOHN AHN**

1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment

CAMP TAJI, Iraq – Cache search operations in the Taji Qada is an ongoing effort. This area, northwest of Baghdad, is dotted with occasional houses, farms, growing businesses and vast amounts of barren land travelled by goat herders and the occasional terrorist.

It is those terrorists who bury caches that the Soldiers of B Company, 52nd Infantry Regiment, attached to 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment "Wolfhounds," 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, are working diligently to protect the local citizens against.

Operation Hammer Bonzai XI, conducted July 22, focused on the task of systematically clearing and either recovering or destroying weapons caches buried in the Taji Qada countryside using metal detectors and shovels.

"We have a high cache search rate in order to take weapons from (terrorist groups)," said Capt. Darell Tran, commander, B Co., 52nd Inf. Regt. "It's about patience and dedication to the people of Iraq. We are more like them than we are different."

A large cache consisting of ammunition, explosives, rockets and improvised explosive device making materials was found.

"This shows that we are still needed here. There is less of a threat now, but all the weapons we find are evidence that there is still work to be done," said Spc. Thomas Bateman, a combat medic assigned to A Co., 1-27th Inf. Regt.

Tran said his Soldiers are using a multilateral approach to bring security to the area. The cache searches are used in conjunction with rebuilding of roads, schools, businesses, and building trust with Taji Qada residents.



Spc. Brian Pierce | 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment

Soldiers from A Co., 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment "Wolfhounds," unearth a terrorist weapons cache during Operation Hammer Bonzai XI in the Taji Qada, July 22.

## Iraqi Army keeps Shi'a pilgrims safe

**SGT. MICHAEL MOODY**

1st Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment

CAMP TAJI, Iraq – Shi'a pilgrims traveled more than 620 miles round trip, from Najaf to Samarra, north of Baghdad, to attend a religious observance recently.

Iraqi Army soldiers from the 3rd Battalion, 37th Brigade of the 9th Iraqi Army Division and the 4th Battalion, 17th Brigade, 4th IA Div., closed portions of the Baghdad-Mosul highway as more than 3,000 devoted Shi'a Muslims

**SEE JOURNEY, A-4**



Daniel Skotnick, agriculture advisor, and Abdullah Al Asoum, economic bicultural advisor with embedded Provincial Reconstruction Team Baghdad-5, speak with a farmer in Abernisha Village, July 13.

# Maize seed to revitalize agricultural industry in Iraq

Story and Photos by

**PFC. LYNDESE DRANSFIELD**

2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

CAMP TAJI, Iraq – The Fertile Crescent portion of Iraq has been notorious for its strong agricultural heritage throughout history. It has long blessed residents and their livestock with a plethora of food. Unfortunately, in recent history investments and resources were diverted away from farming and food production, leaving Iraq's agricultural resources in utter despair.

Efforts to replant fertile areas in the Taji Qada, northwest of Baghdad, are now underway. The Abernisha Village recently received two tons of hybrid maize seed to help start a new history of food production in the area.

Soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 11th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, accompanied Daniel Skotnick and Abdullah Al Asoum, recently visited a farm in Abernisha Village to monitor the progress of the delivered seed. Skotnick is an agriculture advisor, and Abdullah Al Asoum, an economic bicultural advisor with embedded Provincial Reconstruction Team Baghdad-5.

The seed, donated by Inma, a company sponsored by United States Agency International Development, will be used for



A bag of hybrid maize seed lies open at a distribution point in Abernisha Village, northwest of Baghdad, July 13.

growth of high quality livestock feed. The organization is working to revitalize agriculture production in addition to rebuilding Iraq's infrastructure.

"The maize program is the first step in establishing hybrid maize production in Iraq," said Asoum. "Hybrid strains are cultivated for specific characteristics, such as drought resistance. When cross-pollinated, the resulting hybrid exhibits the desired characteristics."

This program will offer job opportunities to hundreds of farmers in Baghdad's neighboring provinces, he added.

The seed was distributed among nine local farmers in the area who have agreed contribute to the program by planting the seed as well as to provide water, fertilizer and preservation.

Though the project will take some time to fully develop, Skotnick said he expects to see a difference within the next four months.

"The corn seed supplied by Inma is an intergrated link in the sheep value chain," said Skotnick. "This is going to bring a dynamic growth in the Iraqi agriculture sector. I have real faith in this program."

# Journey: Pilgrims travel under Iraqi Army security

# OIF

CONTINUED FROM A-3

crossed four governates on their way to Samarra. The recent gains in security and stability enjoyed by Iraqi citizens were demonstrated as the convoy traveled the approximately 300 miles each way without incident.

The IA soldiers took on the responsibility to ensure the safety of all the pilgrims. Coalition forces did not participate in securing the convoy, but stood ready in case the IA soldiers needed assistance.

"We have reached a point where Iraqi security forces are in the lead," said Lt. Col. Thomas Bocard, battalion commander, 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team. "This effort was planned, resourced and executed flawlessly by their hands."

This was the second trip this year for pilgrims, and the second time this year they traveled safe-

ly under the security of the IA.

"For the second time now we have realized that reconciliation has taken root deeper than we have given it credit for," said Capt. Calvin Kline, effects officer, 1-14th Inf. Regt.

In January of this year, during the 10-day observance of Ashura, Shi'a pilgrims walked without incident down the length of the Baghdad-Mosul highway on their way to Najaf and Karbala.

This recent pilgrimage from Najaf to Samarra commemorated the martyrdom of the two al Askari imams.

Pilgrims traveled courtesy of al Najaf al Ashraf Establishment, an organization committed to providing free transportation to these events.

Upon arriving to Samarra, the pilgrims made their way to the graves of the al Askari imams where they read the Quran, prayed and worshiped. After their religious observances, the pilgrims boarded the busses and traveled back to Najaf.



Sgt. Brad Willeford | 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment

## Reviewing the day

CAMP TAJI, Iraq – Col. Todd McCaffrey, commander, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, talks with Spc. Charles Joseph about his activities while on patrol earlier in the day in the Taji Qada, northwest of Baghdad. Joseph serves as an infantryman with A Company, 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment "Wolfhounds," 2nd SBCT.

### USE YOUR HEAD



### WEAR A HELMET

# Exercise evaluates statewide emergency response

Lightning Rescue 2008 tests Hawaii's ability to cope with pandemic illness

Story and Photos by  
**SGT. 1ST CLASS JASON SHEPHERD**  
U.S. Army-Pacific Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER — It could be a nightmare situation. A 747 jumbo jet originating from a foreign country in the Pacific arrives at Honolulu International Airport.

On board are dozens of sick passengers, complaining of a runny nose, sore throat and general fatigue. The passengers disembark and join the population in Hawaii.

A few hours later, a person checks into the hospital with severe flu-like symptoms. After numerous tests, the hospital receives the results — avian influenza has reached Oahu. From there, the outbreak spreads to the neighboring islands, infecting thousands.

During Exercise Lightning Rescue '08, more than 40 organizations, units and interagency partners came together July 21-25 to prepare and practice for this situation.

Lightning Rescue '08 is a Joint Task Force-Homeland Defense (JTF-HD) exercise designed to test federal, state and local agencies' coordinated efforts in responding to pandemic influenza or other natural or man-made disasters throughout the Pacific.

The exercise is designed to enhance disaster management authorities' response throughout the Pacific region to a wide range of disasters, specifically pandemic influenza.

This exercise brought together dozens of fire, medical, military and police personnel, all with the goal of stopping the spread of a global epidemic in the U.S.

"Our operation is at a level that you won't find elsewhere," said Toby Clairmont, director of the Hawaii Disaster Medical Assistance Team. "Largely, it's because we know that we have to work together."

The scenario kicked off July 22 when an aircraft arrived at the Honolulu International Airport filled with role-playing passengers simulating flu-like symptoms. With two hours of lead time, the Hawaii Disaster Medical Assistance Team set up an isolation treatment facility at the Hon-



Chaplain (Capt.) Tim Wilson, Tripler Army Medical Center, talks to a patient at the "safe haven" at the Pacific Missile Range Facility on Kauai during Exercise Lightning Rescue, July 24.

olulu International Airport, capable of quarantining and treating those with pandemic influenza.

"An isolated treatment facility is intended to provide for moderate to severely injured or ill people under isolated conditions," Clairmont said. "Since we're working with a biological agent, it's important that we limit the chance to spread the influenza. This way, we serve as a buffer to local hospitals."

As the simulation progressed and passengers began to disembark the aircraft, medical personnel, dressed in full personal protective equipment, including masks, gloves and lab gowns, rushed on board to start the triage process. Those who were feeling sick were assessed and sent to receive medical aid. Those passengers who said they felt fine were sent to a quarantined area and monitored.

According to Clairmont, the scenario was very realistic. More than 50 role players volunteered to act as passengers

and each had a back story to aid in the scenario. Some were blind and needed seeing-eye service dogs, while others came off the plane playing drunk passengers.

"The confusion, the questions from the passengers, the service animals they bring with them, all of it is real," he said. "This is the anticipated model of what would happen."

Members of JTF-HD observed the exercise to determine how assets of the U.S. military can be mobilized to assist civilian authorities if such a disaster were to occur.

"Clearly, we are isolated out here in the middle of the Pacific, probably the most austere island; we have to be able to care for ourselves," said Lt. Col. Ed Toy, chief of JTF-HD. "As a community of responders, the military is a stakeholder in the effort. We look at this exercise as an opportunity to see where we may potentially provide capability, when requested,

to augment the initial response activities."

Toy also stressed that JTF-HD always provides support to the on-scene commander, and is never in charge.

JTF-HD has annually conducted Lightning Rescue, continuing to grow from lessons learned from previous exercises. Those lessons have been incorporated into this year's exercise, which marks the first time part of the exercise has been held at the Honolulu International Airport.

The scenario continued at the Pacific Missile Range Facility on Kauai, July 24. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) asked the Department of Defense to set up a "safe haven" after health care facilities around the island were overwhelmed with sick patients.

According to the scenario, the hospitals in Kauai filled up and sick patients were sent to Kauai Veterans Memorial Hospital where a temporary medical facility was set up outside the hospital's emer-



A registered nurse assesses "patient" Kyle Calkins, who is being treated for flu-like symptoms, during Lightning Rescue '08 at Honolulu International Airport, July 22.

gency entrance. After a screening, those who showed minor signs of avian influenza were sent to PMRF for further screening and treatment in a "safe haven" protected area.

The safe haven included medical personnel from Tripler Army Medical Center, Coast Guard, Navy, Air Force, state and local emergency services, Department of Homeland Security, FEMA and the Red Cross.

The medical staff continued to assess the "patients," played by more than 30 JROTC cadets from local high schools. Meanwhile, a C-17 "Globemaster II" evacuated two role-playing patients to Oahu to be treated for an acute illness.

"The power of this exercise is that it collectively assigns roles," Toy said. "Everyone has to do their part. We always have to know what the other organizations can do so we can better understand our part and where we fit in."

"Operation Lightning Rescue has been played out many times, but this is the first time we've been at the airport and had this volume of actors," Clairmont added. "At the end of the day, we'll sit down and figure out what we did right and what we did wrong so we can ensure that Hawaii will be as prepared as possible in the case of avian influenza."

# Ceremony honors service of retirees, family members

Story and Photo by  
**SGT. JENNIFER PREMER**  
45th Sustainment Brigade Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Fellow Soldiers, family members, and friends gathered at the Nehelani Club to honor nine retiring members of the Schofield Barracks community, July 24. Col. Bruce Crawford, commander, 516th Signal Brigade, and Command Sgt. Maj. Stephon Watson, 516th Signal Brigade, hosted the event, which celebrated the retirement of nine Soldiers whose combined service totals 197 years.

Many retirees expressed a desire to relax, go fishing or play golf, but the most common goal was to spend more time with their families.

Family members of the retirees were given lei and were also recognized throughout the event.

"There is no way we as an Army would be able to do the things we do without your support," said Crawford.

Kim Hahnenkamp, sister of Deborah Hahnenkamp, said that she is proud of all the things her sister has accomplished while in the military.

"It's amazing everything she has been able to do as a mother and a Soldier," said Kim.

While relaxing is in the mind of some, other retirees are already looking



Kayla Bishop, age 3, shakes hands with a Soldier as she stands with her mom, Sgt. 1st Class Demetris Bishop, 45th Sustainment Brigade. Bishop said she is excited about beginning a new chapter of her life in the civilian community.

toward new employment options.

Chaplain (Maj.) Samuel Murray Sr. said he hopes to find employment as a pastor. "People need the Lord everywhere," he said.

During his speech, Crawford ap-

## Recent retirees

- Sgt. 1st Class Demetris Bishop, Headquarters, 45th Special Troops Battalion (STB)
- Master Sgt. Derrick Brown, 94th Army Air Missile Defense Command
- Sgt. 1st Class Rhonda Casper, 516th Signal Brigade
- Sgt. 1st Class Pranot Chivaluk-sna, Headquarters, 45th STB
- Chief Warrant Officer Deborah Hahnenkamp, 516th Signal Brigade
- 1st Sgt. Warren Harris, 71st Chemical Company
- Sgt. Maj. Thomas McMillan Jr., 500th MI Battalion
- Chaplain (Maj.) Samuel Murray Sr., 8th Theater Sustainment Command (TSC)
- Lt. Col. Timothy Walrod, 8th TSC

plauded the Soldiers for choosing to serve their country and said they will not be forgotten.

"Your legacy marches on and will continue though the examples you have set for the Soldiers that follow in your footsteps."

# Chytka: Former commander honored

CONTINUED FROM A-1

state of Hawaii, successfully completing the reconstruction of Lanai's Kaunapau Harbor breakwater, completion of a Moanalua Valley (Oahu) rockfall mitigation project, and the expansion of the ongoing Ala Wai Canal and Watershed Project study.

In addition, Klinge and other Corps personnel joined officials from the City and County of Honolulu and the Hawaii state legislature to celebrate the 25th anniversary Hoomaluhia Botanical Garden and Kaneohe-Kailua Dam.

Through Klinge's leadership, the District's Emergency Management division was honored by Hawaii Governor Linda Lingle for providing exemplary support for emergency response and interagency dam inspections in Hawaii and support to civil authorities following the October 2006 earthquakes on the island of Hawaii.

During Klinge's tenure the Honolulu District was named the Design through Construction Agent of the Year by Pacific Air Forces for the past two years, and won this prestigious award for the entire Air Force last year.

For his outstanding work, Klinge received the Meritorious Service Medal.

Chytka commands an organization of about 280 engineers, scientists and support staff serving the Pacific Region, including Hawaii, Palau, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas and Kwajalein.

Honolulu District is responsible for major military design and construction, civil works, international and interagency support, real estate services to the Army and Air Force, regulatory work, environmental services and emergency management.

# GI Bill: Benefits for all

CONTINUED FROM A-1

active duty. Service members must serve 36 aggregated months to qualify for the full amount of benefits.

Service members are entitled to benefits of the new bill for up to 36 months and have up to 15 years from their last 30 days of continuous service to use their entitlements. But as successful as Defense Department officials anticipate the new bill to be, Clark suggested that new recruits still enroll in the Montgomery GI Bill.

The Montgomery GI Bill gives benefits for higher education as well as vocational training, apprenticeship programs and on-the-job training, he explained. The Post-9/11 GI Bill focuses solely on higher education and can only be used at institutions that offer at least an associate's degree, he said.

"We recommend that all new recruits think hard before turning down the Montgomery GI Bill, because they will limit their opportunities for additional education without it," he added.

Service members also are "highly encouraged" to use the Defense Department's tuition assistance program while on active duty, because the Post-9/11 GI Bill's full entitlements, such as the living stipend and book allowance, will not be available, Clark said.

"If you use the Post-9/11 GI Bill while on active duty, it will merely cover tuition or the difference of what tuition assistance will pay," he explained. "Another downside to that is each month you use (the new bill), you lose a month of your 36 months of eligibility."

So, if service members serve on active duty on or after Aug. 1, 2009, and meet the minimum time-in-service requirement, they will be eligible for the new GI Bill while also maintaining benefits from the Montgomery GI Bill, he said.

The Post-9/11 GI Bill also brings good news for officers and for service members who enlisted under the loan repayment program. Since eligibility for the Post-9/11 GI Bill is based on time already served, more service members will be able to take advantage of its benefits, Clark added. Officers commissioned through one of the service academies or through ROTC and enlisted service members participating in the loan repayment program don't qualify for the Montgomery GI Bill, he said.

Those service members will be able to qualify if they finish their initial obligatory service. Commissioned officers must complete their initial five-year commitment if

they attended a service academy or their four-year agreement if they were commissioned through college ROTC. Service members whose college loans were paid off by the Defense Department as a re-enlistment incentive must finish their initial commitment — whether it is three, four or five years — before they can apply, Clark said.

"Any amount of time an individual served after their obligated service counts for qualifying service under the new GI Bill," he said.



More information about the Post-9/11 GI Bill is available at local Veterans Affairs Office and at [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov).

Another facet unique to the Post-9/11 GI Bill is that it's transferable to family members. The feature gives the defense and service secretaries the authority to offer career service members the opportunity to transfer unused benefits to their family. Though Defense Department officials still are working with the services to hash out eligibility requirements, there are four prerequisites that are subject to adjustment or change, Clark said.

Currently transferability requirements are:

- Qualifying service to be eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill;
- Active duty service in the armed forces on or after Aug. 1, 2009;
- At least six years of service in the armed forces;
- Agreement to serve four more years in the armed forces.

"We're really excited about transferability," Clark said. "That was one of the things about education and the GI Bill that's come up the most often from the field and fleet."

Individuals who may not qualify to transfer unused benefits because they leave the service before the new bill's effective date most likely still will qualify for the bill. As long as the separated service members meet the minimum qualifying time served, they can contact their local Veterans Affairs office and apply for the program. While payments are not retroactive, eligibility is, Clark said.

"This new bill will allow our veterans to chase their dreams," Clark said. "It will allow them to go back and experience college like they deserve, much like their grandfathers did in World War II."

# Valor: Soldiers do right thing

CONTINUED FROM A-1

present the awards to these heroes.”

Elliot, who is actually a light-wheeled vehicle mechanic with E Company, 2-25th Avn. Regt., served as a door gunner. He explained his experiences that day.

“We were conducting an air assault and the Special Forces team we were working with came under fire, and some of the guys were pretty seriously injured. We helped load the guys up in the aircraft and provide first aid. I want to give respect to the guys that are probably injured for the rest of their lives because of (the attack).

“At the time I was just shocked at how fast things can come unraveled,” Elliot continued. “It seems like after 12 months or however long we’d been (in Iraq) complacency starts to set in, and things can hit the fan pretty quick and they sure did.

“It was just really chaotic at the time and we just tried to do the right thing. In manuals and training that you do in your Army career, some things are just hard to train for. You have to do what’s instinctive and help out your fellow Soldiers as much

as you possibly can.”

Haynes, a crew chief from B Co., 2-25th Avn. Regt., provided a more simplified perspective.

“We just helped some fellow Soldiers out and got back home,” he said. “I wasn’t in shock (when it happened). I was relieved they made it all right.” Haynes also shared advice for any young Soldiers that might find themselves in the same situation.

“Pay attention to all your training. It all comes back to you when it matters.”

The two stalwart Soldiers weren’t the only ones to receive recognition, though.

Brown also awarded Task Force “Diamond Head” the Meritorious Unit Commendation (MUC) for its service in support of Operation “Iraqi Freedom” during the 25th CAB’s 15-month deployment to Multinational Division-North. The MUC is awarded to units that have distinguished themselves with meritorious service for at least six continuous months while conducting military operations against armed enemies on or after January 1, 1944.

“This unit, and this entire brigade, set a standard in Iraq that others are trying to follow and just did an incredible job,” Brown said.

## News Briefs

Send news announcements for Soldiers and civilian employees to [community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com](mailto:community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com).

### 1/Today

**Altered Hours** – Fort Shafter’s Physical Fitness Center will be operating under modified business hours beginning today. The gym will be open weekdays from 5:30-8 a.m. and 5-9 p.m.

The modified hours are due to the demolition of the racquetball court and are expected to last five business days.

Weekend hours will remain 6 a.m.-6 p.m.

For project updates, call 655-9654.

**Workforce Town Hall** – Col. Matthew Margotta, commander, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, will hold workforce town hall meetings at Fort Shafter’s Richardson Theatre, 10:30-11:30 a.m. and 1-2 p.m.

All Garrison employees are invited to attend for an update on the latest information on working for the Garrison. Call 655-6131.

### 3/Sunday

**Power Outage** – A postwide power outage is scheduled for Tripler Army Medical Center (TAMC), Aug. 3, 6 a.m.-6 p.m. The Directorate of Public Works (DPW) will be doing work on the electrical manholes.

All buildings on TAMC will be affected except for the hospital (Buildings 160 and 140, and all Veterans Affairs buildings). Call DPW at 438-5369.

### 4/Monday

**Gate Closure** – Schofield Barracks’ Foote Gate will temporarily close, Aug. 4-22, in order to install a new gate with additional force protection measures. All other gates at Schofield Barracks will maintain their current operational times.

For more information, call the Directorate of Public Works at 656-2435.

### Schofield Advisory Council

**Meeting** – The next Schofield Barracks PX/Commissary/Nehelani

Advisory Council Meeting will be Aug. 4, 10:15-11:15 a.m., at the Small Post Conference Room.

This bimonthly forum of representatives allows the council and patrons to exchange ideas and information. Contact Melvin Wright, 655-0497, for more information.

### Spouse Information Meeting

– The next Spouse Information Meeting (SIM) is scheduled for Aug. 4, 9 a.m. in the Post Conference Room.

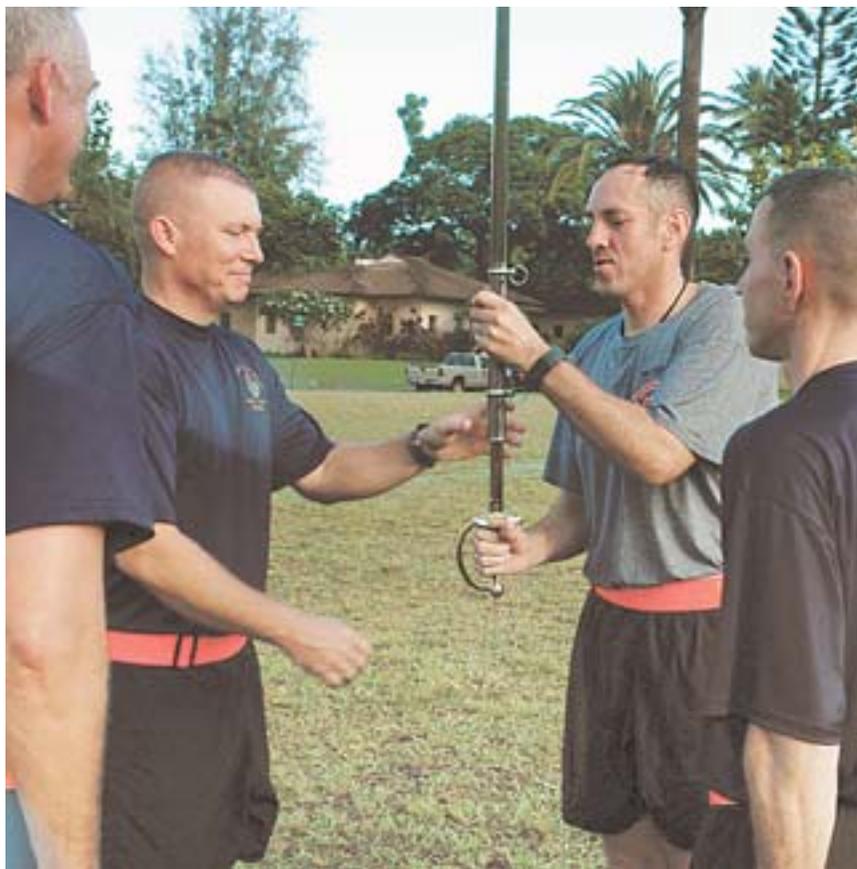
### 21/Thursday

**Women’s Equality Day Celebration** – The 500th Military Intelligence Brigade and Schofield Barracks will sponsor the 2008 Women’s Equality Day Celebration, Aug. 21, 10-11:30 a.m. at the Sgt. Smith Theater.

The keynote speaker will be Chaplain (Maj.) Lucy Der-Garabedian, 500th MI Bde. chaplain.

Sponsored information booths will include WIC, Hawaii Women’s Business Center, American Cancer Society, Red Cross, Army Public Health Nurse, and Voter Registration Assistance.

Call Sgt. 1st Class Jerrard Hughes at 655-4563.



Command Sgt. Maj. Jesus Ruiz accepts the Noncommissioned Officers Sword from Col. Michael Lundy, commander, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade (CAB), during a Change of Responsibility ceremony with Command Sgt. Maj. Roger Kingston at Wheeler Army Airfield, July 25. The NCO Sword, adopted by the War Department in 1840, is symbolic of the “cutting edge” professionalism of the NCO Corps.

## Sword: NCOs change responsibility

CONTINUED FROM A-1

and I have the utmost trust and confidence that he’s going to be the very best.”

Following applause from his Soldiers, Kingston thanked the current and former commanders of the “Wings of Lightning” Brigade and all its Soldiers for their hard work during the past three years.

“To Col. (A.T.) Ball and Col. Lundy, I appreciate the honor and privilege of your trust in me, to allow me to serve as the brigade sergeant major,” said Kingston. “There are only 11 (combat aviation brigades) in the Army right now so to get this opportunity and trust – I truly appreciate it.”

It’s been three years ago today, that right back up here at the park, I became the (command) sergeant major of this brigade,” he continued. “So I want to thank the most important people real quick. To the

people that make this the best aviation brigade in the Army – the Soldiers. Thank you for getting after the Army and this brigade’s mission every day. You are the heroes of your generation no doubt. To the NCOs – thank you for your tireless efforts to train, care, maintain and lead our Soldiers. It’s a difficult job ... I’ve truly loved this job and this brigade.”

Following the Kingston’s remarks, the 25th CAB’s new brigade command sergeant major thanked Kingston.

Ruiz also thanked 3-25th Avn. Reg. for its support and success which inspired him during his time as the battalion sergeant major. He also passed his assurances of continuing the 25th CAB’s success to the brigade commander.

“Sir, thank you very much for having the trust and confidence in me and there’s no question that we’re going to get the job done,” Ruiz said.

HAWAII **ARMY** WEEKLY

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www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil/haw.asp

“When work is finished!”

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 2008

Emiri (left) and Mika (right) enjoy some down time in D Quad, Schofield Barracks, July 25.

Staff Sgt. Terrance Bandy | 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment

# Wolfhounds make a difference in lives of Holy Family orphans

**SGT. MIKE ALBERTS**

25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

HONOLULU – “Look, look,” said Taiki emerging from the ocean, his black cropped hair dripping across his forehead. With arms outstretched, he pointed toward movement in the shallows.

“A black fish!” exclaimed his younger friend Shunpei as both boys waded slowly behind the tiny creature.

Moments later, Mika was screaming, “I’m doing it. I’m surfing.”

Looking on, Emiri – goggled and grinning – raised her hands above her head toward Mika gesturing her approval at the accomplishment.

Taiki, Shunpei, Mika and Emiri are four Japanese children from the Holy Family Home Orphanage in Osaka, Japan, being hosted to a 10-day trip of a lifetime by “Wolfhound” Soldiers of the 27th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, continuing a tradition that began half a century ago.

On Christmas Day, 1949, Honorary Sgt. Maj. Hugh O’Reilly, a “buck” sergeant at the time, and a dozen other Wolfhound Sol-



Staff Sgt. Terrance Bandy | 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment

(From left to right) Mika, Emiri and Shunpei participate in the Wolfhound “dress and sprint” event at Regimental Day at Schofield Barracks, July 24.

diers visited the Holy Family Home Orphanage in Osaka, Japan, as part of a Red Cross outreach mission. Contributions to the orphanage continued and Wolfhounds have provided funds to bring children from the orphanage to visit Soldiers and their families in Hawaii every year since 1957.

Each year, select children are nominated for the trip by their orphanage case workers. The nominations are based upon a variety of factors to include a child’s behavior, effort in school, cooperative nature, and whether a child’s particular

**SEE HOLY FAMILY, B-3**



Staff Sgt. Terrance Bandy | 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment



Staff Sgt. Terrance Bandy | 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment



Shunpei (near) and Taiki (middle) splash to earth at the Hawaiian Waters Adventure Park, Monday.

Shunpei and his Wolfhound companion hobble along in the three-legged foot race at Regimental Day, Schofield Barracks, July 24.



**1/Today**

**Play in Paradise** – Discover Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (FMWR) and all of the amazing ways to Play in Paradise, Aug. 1, 4-7 p.m., at the Nehelani, Schofield Barracks.

Find out about programs and activities FMWR offers to make your stay in Hawaii full of play and fun. Program experts will be on hand to answer all of your questions.

Learn about new programs, enjoy complimentary pupus, fun children's activities, prize giveaways and more. The grand prize is a free trip for four on the Hawaii Superferry.

Attendees will receive a complimentary FMWR PlayPlanner Calendar, which showcases six months of exciting upcoming FMWR events. Call 438-2911.

**Library Contest** – Go for the gold at the library; it's so easy. Check out any library material, pick the winning sports card (limit one per day) and then enter to win cool prizes. The program runs through Aug. 25. Winners will be contacted on Aug. 26.

Sports cards are located at all Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation libraries: Fort Shafter (438-9521), Aliamanu (833-4851), and Schofield Barracks (655-8002).

**Safety Inspections** – Let the Auto Skills Center inspect your gadgets. Beginning Aug. 1, the Auto Skills Center is the answer for safety inspections.

The center has revamped its service to make it quicker for you to drive up, get inspected and drive out. Call Schofield Barracks at 655-9368 or Fort Shafter at 438-9402.

**Army Community Service Programs**

– Check out the following programs offered by Army Community Service (ACS): Family Advocacy Program; Exceptional Family Member Program, New Parent Support Program, Domestic Violence Program, and Sexual Assault Program; Employment Readiness Program; Army Volunteer Program; Army Family Team Building; Hawaii Army Family Action Plan; Financial Readiness Program; Army Emergency Relief; Mobilization & Deployment; Family Readiness

Group; Information and Referral; Relocation and Multicultural Moves and Unit Service Coordinator. Call ACS at 655-4227 or visit [www.mwrarmyhawaii.com](http://www.mwrarmyhawaii.com).

**2/Saturday**

**Digital Camera Class** – The next session in this popular series, Aug. 2, 9:30



Sp. c. Carlee Ross | 25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

**Community caregivers**

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Seven volunteers were recognized for their service to the Army as spouses and most importantly as volunteers, July 24, at the Main Post Conference Room. From left to right are Shonna Polack, A Co., 1-21st Inf. Regt.; Shelley Harp, 2-14th Cav. Regt.; Rebecca Fries, 2-27th Inf. Regt.; Kerum Steele, HHC, 25th CAB; Tiffany McMurray, C Co., 1-27th Inf. Regt.; Wendy Barret, D Co., 2-35th Inf. Regt.; and Angela Ingold, 2-6th Cav. Regt. Brig. Gen. Robert Brown, 25th ID deputy commanding general for support, thanked the volunteers for their contributions. "We can not do what we do without our volunteers," he said, "and I wish I could go out and buy you all a new sports car, but I can't."

a.m.-noon, at Schofield Barracks' Arts and Crafts Center, will cover basics of photo composition and how to get the best shots out of that fancy new digital camera.

Cost is \$20 per person. Call 655-4202 to reserve a seat.

**5/Tuesday**

**Ping Pong Tournament** – Prove you're the best ping pong player around at the Tropics and win great prizes, Aug. 5, 6-8 p.m. The program is free, fun and open to all valid ID card holders. Call 655-0002.

**8/Friday**

**Ladies' Night Out: Fashion & Fun** – Ladies' Night, Aug. 8, 6-10 p.m., at the Tropics, Schofield Barracks, will feature a fashion show, food, wine and a chance to get pampered with mini treatments from selected service providers.

Interested in being a model? Sign-up to strut on the Tropics runway. All shapes and sizes are welcomed. Child care is provided, however spaces are limited. For event or child care reservations call 655-5698.

**Ongoing**

**New Travel Specials** – Have you been to Information Ticketing and Registration (ITR) lately? There are a ton of new travel packages available. Choose from seven different Australia travel packages, discounts on Hale Koa shows, free tickets to see the new sea lion pup at Sea Life Park and many more.

Call 655-9971 or 438-1985 or visit [www.mwrarmyhawaii.com](http://www.mwrarmyhawaii.com).

**7/Thursday**

**Ke Kani O Ke Kai Summer Concert Series** – The Waikiki Aquarium will continue its annual oceanside concert featuring some of the island's top performers, restaurant partners and fun for all. The final concert is Aug. 7 featuring Willie K.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m., and concerts begin at 7. Aquarium galleries and exhibits will remain open throughout the evening. Each concert is \$25 for adults, \$10 for juniors, ages 7-12, and free for children ages 6 and younger.

Due to space limitations, only the first 500 reservations will be accepted. Visit [www.waiaquarium.org](http://www.waiaquarium.org) or call 440-9015.

**8/Friday**

**Dress For Success Workshop** – Army Community Service (ACS) will hold a Dress for Success workshop, Aug. 8, 9-10:30 a.m., at ACS, Schofield Barracks.

This workshop is open to military personnel, Department of Defense employees and family members.

Call ACS at 655-4227 or register online at [www.acsclasses.com](http://www.acsclasses.com).

**14/Thursday**

**Welcome Back Celebration** – The Aliamanu Military Reservation's Chapel will host a welcome back celebration, Aug. 14, 9 a.m., at the chapel.

New members will be welcomed and books passed out for the fall Bible study, Military Council of Catholic Women, for married women. Refreshments will be served. Call Katie Hanna, 744-7285.

**19/Tuesday**

**Free Online Job Training Classes** – Attend job search training from your home or office. All you need is a phone and a computer. Join us, Aug. 19, 10-11 a.m. for a class on Strategies for Private Sector Resume Writing. Register at [www.acshiemployment.com](http://www.acshiemployment.com) and click on the TeleSeminar link under the Virtual Classes header. Call 655-4227.

**21/Thursday**

**Women's Equality Day Celebration** – The 500th Military Intelligence Brigade

**Pau Hana Social Hour** – Stop by the KoleKole Bar & Grill, Schofield Barracks, after work and enjoy ice-cold beverages.

Specials for drinks and food run Monday-Friday, 4:30-5:30 p.m. Call 655-4466/0660.

**Lunch Buffet** – Have lunch, Monday-Friday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., or brunch on Sunday, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., at the KoleKole Bar & Grill, Schofield Barracks.

The brunch buffet features an omelet station, French toast, Belgian waffles, eggs, assorted pastries and hot lunch entries. Call 655-4466/0660.

**Recreation Storage** – Don't have enough room for all your toys? Deploying soon and need a safe place to keep your valuables?

A brand new recreation vehicle/boat storage facility is now available for use at the Fort Shafter Auto Skills Center.

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

**FMWR Happenings** – To find out more information about FMWR activities, programs and facilities, pick up a copy of the "Discovery" magazine available at the Schofield Barracks Commissary, Fort Shafter Post Exchange, Aliamanu shopette, Tripler mauka entrance, or any FMWR facility. Visit [www.mwrarmyhawaii.com](http://www.mwrarmyhawaii.com).

**Mongolian Barbecue** – Select your favorites from a large variety of meats and vegetables, and watch them grilled to your

liking at the KoleKole Bar & Grill, Schofield Barracks, every Monday, 5-8 p.m. Cost is 65-cents an ounce. Call 655-4466/0660.

**Flat Stanley Project** – Pick up your "Flat Stanley," a flattened paper cutout of the title character from Jeff Brown's Flat Stanley books, at any Army library. Take him on an adventure and bring him back to the library by Aug. 11.

Be creative, dress him up and take a photo of his travels. Prizes will be awarded for the furthest traveled and other creative entries. Grand prize for most creative photo is a digital camera.

Visit your local Army library for more information.

**Long-term Storage** – The Schofield Barracks Auto Skills Center also offers long-term storage options for vehicles and other personal items.

Cost is \$30 per month. Call Fort Shafter at 438-9402 or Schofield Barracks at 655-9368.

**HMR Teen Lounge** – The Helemano Military Reservation (HMR) Teen Lounge, located inside the HMR Youth Center, is now open Monday-Friday, 2-6 p.m.

If you are in grades 6-12, the Teen Lounge is the place to go after school. The lounge offers daily activities, including tournaments, sports, video games, crafts, games and volunteer opportunities.

A nutritious snack is offered each day, and the program is free except for the annual Child and Youth Services (CYS) registration fee of \$18. Call 655-0451 or 653-0717.

and Schofield Barracks will sponsor the 2008 Women's Equality Day Celebration, Aug. 21, 10-11:30 a.m. at the Sgt. Smith Theater.

The keynote speaker will be Chaplain (Maj.) Lucy Der-Garabedian, 500th MI Bde. chaplain.

Sponsored information booths will include WIC, Hawaii Women's Business Center, American Cancer Society, Red Cross, Army Public Health Nurse, and Voter Registration Assistance.

Call Sgt. 1st Class Jerrard Hughes at 655-4563.

**Ongoing**

**Scholarships for Military Spouses** – You may be eligible for a Career Advancement Account (CAA). The Military Spouse Career Advancement Initiative provides assistance to military spouses seeking to gain necessary skills and credentials to begin or advance their career.

Career Advancement Accounts cover the cost of training and education, enabling participants to earn a degree or credentials in portable, in-demand job fields in almost any community across the country.

Spouses can find out more information by attending a CAA orientation or visiting [www.milspouse.org](http://www.milspouse.org).

Contact Army Community Service at 655-4227/438-9285 or the Education Center at 655-0800 for more information.

**Civil Air Patrol** – Civil Air Patrol's Wheeler Composite Squadron will meet every Tuesday, 5:30-8:30 p.m., Wheeler Army Air Field. The squadron regularly accepts new members, ages 12-18, who are interested in aerospace education, leadership training, physical fitness, and character development. Call or e-mail 386-1374 or [tony4atmos@aol.com](mailto:tony4atmos@aol.com).

**Youth Activities** – Youth can participate in a number of activities, including building model rockets and receiving power/glider flight training. The squadron is also involved with community service projects and participates in training for disaster response and search and rescue.

Call or e-mail 386-1374, or [tony4atmos@aol.com](mailto:tony4atmos@aol.com).

**Borders Reading Groups** – Borders Waikole hosts three monthly reading groups: Bestsellers, second Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Romance Readers Anonymous, second Thursday, 6:30 p.m.; and International Women's Writing Guide, first and third Wednesday, 7 p.m.

Call 676-6699 for more information.

**Transition to Teaching Session** – Bryan Miller will hold an informational session providing handouts and answering questions about the Troops to Teachers and Spouses to Teachers programs, the first Tuesday of every month, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., in the Education Center, Room 220, Schofield Barracks.

E-mail [HawaiiTTT@notes.k12.hi.us](mailto:HawaiiTTT@notes.k12.hi.us) or visit [www.proudtoserveagain.com](http://www.proudtoserveagain.com).

**Volunteers Needed** – Help bring separated foster siblings together by becoming a Project Visitation volunteer, six to eight hours a month. Volunteers must receive training and have no criminal convictions, a clean drivers' record, and be at least 18 years of age.

Contact Project Visitation at 521-9531, ext. 228, or e-mail [vabramo@ffphawaii.org](mailto:vabramo@ffphawaii.org).

**Free DVD Messages** – Family members can record a 30-second video message on DVD to send to their deployed Soldier.

The free service is offered every Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., TV2 station, Schofield Barracks. To reserve your spot, contact Larry Thomas at 295-0205 or e-mail [Larry.Thomas9@us.army.mil](mailto:Larry.Thomas9@us.army.mil).

**Beginners Line Dancing** – Wear covered shoes and join a group of happy, fun-loving, beginning level line dancers, Thursdays, 6:30-8 p.m., in Ewa Beach.

Cost is \$3 per class. Call Mona Dabis at 351-2614.

**Conducting Business on Post** – Individuals wishing to conduct a home-based business on Army installations, such as



**Aliamanu (AMR) Chapel 836-4599**

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

**Fort DeRussy Chapel 836-4599**

- Catholic Saturday, 5 p.m. – Mass in Chapel (May-Aug.) Saturday, 6 p.m. – Mass on Beach
- Protestant Sunday, 9 a.m. – Worship Service
- Buddhist 1st Sunday, 1 p.m.

**Fort Shafter Chapel 836-4599**

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

**Helemano (HMR) Chapel 653-0703**

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

**Main Post Chapel 655-9307**

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

**MPC Annex, Building 791**

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

**Soldiers Chapel**

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

**Tripler AMC Chapel 433-5727**

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

**Wheeler Chapel 656-4481**

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



**This Week at the MOVIES Sgt. Smith Theater**



**Kung Fu Panda**  
(PG)  
Friday, 7 p.m.  
Saturday, 4 p.m.

**Get Smart**  
(PG)  
Saturday, 7 p.m.  
Wednesday, 7 p.m.

**Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull**  
(PG-13)  
Sunday, 2 p.m.

**You Don't Mess with the Zohan**  
(PG-13)  
Thursday, 7 p.m.

No shows on Mondays or Tuesdays.

**community Calendar**

Send announcements to [community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com](mailto:community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com).

**1/Today**

**Creative Festival** – The 14th Annual Original Creative Festival on Oahu is scheduled for Aug. 1-3 at the Blaisdell Center, Honolulu. Home sewers, embroidery enthusiasts, quilters and crafters are invited to the festival, featuring seminars, stage demonstrations, quilt exhibits, contests, prize giveaways and a vendor mall.

Festival hours are Aug. 1, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.; Aug. 2, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; and Aug. 3, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Admission is \$6, but is free for children ages 16 and under.

Admission coupons are available at local sewing and fabric stores and online at [www.pcmexpo.com](http://www.pcmexpo.com). Call 1-800-473-9464.

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

Orientations will be held at Schofield Barracks, ACS, Aug. 1, 15 and 29, 9-10:30 a.m.

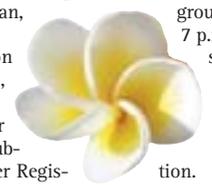
Call ACS at 655-4227 or register online at [www.acsclasses.com](http://www.acsclasses.com).

Child care vouchers are available if children are registered and space is reserved by a parent.

**3/Sunday**

**Cooking Demonstration** – Master Chef Martin Yan of the "Yan Can Cook" series of cookbooks and TV show will conduct a cooking demonstration and autograph signing, Aug. 3, 2:30-4 p.m., at the Navy Exchange, Pearl Harbor.

Call 421-1568 for more information.



# Post schools meet standards for No Child Left Behind

**SCHOOL LIAISON OFFICE**  
News Release

In 2001, the Bush administration created the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act, which requires the nation's students to be proficient in core academics by 2014. This federal law also requires elementary and secondary schools to meet accountability standards set by the state. This accountability system requires Hawaii to report Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in math and reading proficiency, graduation and retention rates, the percentage of students who have taken the test (e.g.

95 percent of the school population), as well as other educational indicators, such as having a highly qualified teachers in every classroom who are licensed by the state, fully certified, and able to demonstrate competence in the subjects they teach.

Last spring, 93,945 public school students in grades 3-8 and grade 10 took the Hawaii State Assessment Test. Scores recently released show that 62 percent of students are proficient in reading and 43 percent are proficient in math. These scores are up from the 39 percent for

reading and 19 percent for math that were reported when testing first began in 2002.

Based on the results, all five of the public schools on Oahu's Army installations have met Adequate Yearly Progress (Hale Kula Elementary, Shafter Elementary, Solomon Elementary, Wheeler Elementary, and Wheeler Middle School). This is great news as students begin the 2008-2009 school year.

Although our on-post schools are doing well and are meeting AYP, parents are reminded that they have a special job to

do and play a crucial role in their child's education.

Numerous school organizations and groups offer a means for volunteering and getting involved. Schools would love to have more active parent volunteers, but also know it's not always possible for busy parents. However, parents who find it difficult to be involved at school can take steps to improve their child's education at home by:

- Providing a quiet place to do homework,
- Ensuring children get a good night's

sleep and a good breakfast,

- Taking an interest in children's schoolwork and talking with them about it,
  - Teaching children respect for others and responsibility for their own behavior.
- Schools, parents and community members should congratulate the schools, students, teachers and parents who have worked hard to make improvements and have helped our schools meet AYP. Hawaii's schools and educators are to be commended for their hard work and dedication as they strive to make sure no child is left behind.



Sgt. Mike Alberts | 25th ID Public Affairs

The children of the Holy Family Home Orphanage in Osaka, Japan, present a traditional dance for Wolfhound Soldiers at Regimental Day, Schofield Barracks, July 24.

## Holy Family: Orphans treated to trip of lifetime

CONTINUED FROM B-1

experience in Hawaii would provide an opportunity for personal growth. Ultimately, the orphanage director, assistant director and case workers select the four participants.

Upon their arrival in Hawaii, children are placed with volunteer host families. Over a 10-day period, the children's time is divided between organizational events and local attractions, as well as quieter family moments.

This year's planned attractions included a day at the Polynesian Cultural Center, ocean fun at the Outrigger Canoe Club, the Hawaiian Waters Adventure Park and Honolulu Zoo. The children also experienced a day of picnicking and outdoor games at the Wolfhound's annual "Regimental Day" held at Schofield Barracks' Stoneman Field.

The majority of the children's time, however, is spent in quieter moments with their host families. For the children, time with their host family is a time to be the center of attention, a position that the orphans seldom experience back home.

"The orphanage is a comfortable place, but it's large and the younger children typically must cater to the desires of the older ones, kinda like it might be in a very large American family with multiple siblings," explained Sgt. 1st Class Richard Hostrop, volunteer interpreter and former Wolfhound who visited the orphanage on previous tours of duty.

"These four children are 10 and 11 years old, probably the younger ones in their (child care units) back in Japan. So, for them to go to an ice cream par-



Staff Sgt. Terrance Bandy | 2-27th Inf. Regt.

Shunpei zooms down one of many attractions at the Hawaiian Waters Adventure Park, Monday.

lor and actually choose their flavor of ice cream is a big deal," said Hostrop.

Aime Honeycutt, a volunteer host and wife of Capt. Jason Honeycutt, 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, confirmed Hostrop's observation.

"To see the girls' faces light up when we simply took them to an ice cream parlor is something I will never forget," she said. "It was the same look I see on my girls' faces on Christmas morning. We'll truly miss them."

As for the Taiki, Shunpei, Mika and Emiri, they'll never forget the ocean. Their favorite experience?

"Swimming," said the outspoken Shunpei, for the group. "We also like the palm trees."

His three young companions nodded in agreement.



Molly Hayden | Pacific Media Publishing

## Head start at welcome hour

Dezmond Saldivar (center) meets his new second grade teacher, Jodi Stein (right), as parents Angelica and Spc. Steven Saldivar, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, look on. The welcome hour at Major General William R. Shafter Elementary School, Monday, gave students a chance to drop off school supplies and get to know their classroom environments prior to the first day of school.

## Community Calendar

From B-2

Avon, Tupperware, Longaberger, Creative Memories or any other type of sales activity, must register with the Garrison, Oahu, Commercial Solicitation Control Office, which is open 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

No person may enter an Army installation and transact commercial business without a permit. Door-to-door sales are prohibited.

For more information call, Patricia Mowat at 655-8047 (Monday-Wednesday, Building 690, Schofield Barracks) or 438-4232 (Thursday-Friday, Building 344, Fort Shafter).

**Volunteer Opportunities** — Give back to the community by volunteering; it is a great way to meet new people, receive valuable job experience and support the Army Hawaii family. Opportunities are available on and off post.

Free child care at an hourly rate is provided for up to 20 hours per week for those who volunteer with ACS.

Visit [www.mwrarmyhawaii.com](http://www.mwrarmyhawaii.com).

**Cell Phones for Soldiers** — Have unused, old cell phones lying around the house? Donate them to Cell Phones for Soldiers, a non-profit organization that takes old cell phones, resells them for their parts, and takes the profits to purchase calling cards for Soldiers deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Call Sgt. Maj. Lisa Torello, 386-2088 or visit [www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com](http://www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com).

# Operation Homefront makes school fun

Story and Photos by  
**MOLLY HAYDEN**  
Staff Writer

HONOLULU — The Oahu Veterans Center was a meeting ground for excited children and parents as they gathered to pick up much-needed school supplies here, Sunday. More than 100 brightly colored backpacks filled with notebooks, pens, crayons and folders lined the sidewalk as children picked out their favorite color and excitedly rummaged through the supplies. Shy smiles from children's faces showed appreciation for the volunteers' efforts.

Family Catholic Academy students and Hawaii Society of Volunteers assisted in the distribution process.

The second annual back-to-school backpack drive kicked off July 1 at several sites around the island, including the Navy Exchange Pearl Harbor and Lex Brodie's Pearlridge and downtown branches. Members of the community donated backpacks and other school supplies, as well as cash donations, for military children in need.

Last year, Operation Homefront received donations of new items to fill 125 backpacks for children of military families. This year's efforts benefited children of financially needy deployed and wounded warriors in Hawaii.

"There is so much aloha for our military and their families here in Hawaii," said Eva Laird Smith, chapter president for Operation Homefront of Hawaii. "Our community supports these types of programs as a way of thanking our troops for their sacrifices. This is our way of lending a hand to get their children a little help this school year."

Among Operation Homefront's community partners, BAE Systems employees, spearheaded by their human resource departments, actively gathered school supplies and cash donations among staff. Lex



Jazzmine Singleton shows off her new school shoes, donated by the charitable organization Kids in Distressed Situations (K.I.D.S.) Military children picked up shoes, along with backpacks filled with school supplies, Sunday, courtesy of Operation Homefront.

Brodie's provided radio spots throughout July to drum up donations. Earlier, the VFW Post 1572 committed grant funding for purchase of backpacks and supplies. Other cash contributions came from the Women Veterans Support Network and the Halewai Business Builders. The Oahu Veterans Center collected school supply donations on behalf of Operation Homefront as well. Diamond Head



Volunteer Alan Clark helps Gracie Everham pick out new shoes to match her backpack at the Oahu Veterans Center, Sunday. Donations from the community, as well as corporate sponsorship, enabled Operation Homefront to distribute more than 100 backpacks and school supplies to military families in need.

Self Storage, which provides free space for Operation Homefront's various morale programs, also stored incoming school supplies.

The charitable organization Kids in Distressed Situations (K.I.D.S.) donated more than 50 pairs of new shoes to show support as well. Children found boots and slippers to match their backpacks and wear on their first day of school.

"Operation Homefront as always been our support network," said family member Jean Singleton. "Everywhere we go they are there to aid us, and this is a huge help getting the kids ready for

another school year."

Military family members signed up through Operation Homefront prior to the distribution date to determine eligibility for receiving school supplies.

"This is a unique volunteer opportunity and it gives us a chance to meet and work with the military," said Hawaii Society of Volunteers President Janine Wedemeyer. "The students need these supplies and we love giving them out."

"And those backpacks look great with little kids in them," added volunteer Alan Clark.



### 1 / Today

**Ladies Golf Clinic** – Ladies, are you looking to improve your golf game? Come to a free ladies golf clinic the first Saturday of every month, 2:20 p.m., at the Leilehua Golf Course driving range. Call 655-4653.

**Personal Training Summer Special** – Receive one free personal training session when you purchase a 10-pack of sessions during the month of August. Call Kristy Osborn, 381-5944, or the Health & Fitness Center, Schofield Barracks, 655-8007.

### 6 / Wednesday

**Workout Without Walls** – Trying to get in shape but the same old routine has you unmotivated? Outdoor Recreation will offer a brand new program, giving you the chance to try a different workout in a new location every week.

The next class is Aug. 6, 9-11 a.m.; classes will be held every Wednesday. Each session costs \$10. Call 655-0143 for more information.

### 9 / Saturday

**Deep Sea Fishing** – Don't miss your chance to catch the big one, Aug. 9. Outdoor Recreation will provide transportation, a cooler with ice, snacks and drinks. Space is available for groups up to six.

Cost is \$130 for a half-day session. Call 655-0143.

### 10 / Sunday

**Adventure Tour** – Want to inject a little adrenaline into your life? Visit or call Outdoor Recreation and ask them about their new Adventure Tour program.

Programs include hiking, biking, kayaking and more. Each session is designed to provide a challenging yet fun experience everyone is sure to enjoy. The first session is August 10. Call 655-0143.

**Military Long Drive Championship** – The Army Leilehua Golf Course will host the Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (FMWR) Long Drive Championship, Aug. 10, 8 a.m.

This event is an official Long Drivers of America qualifier. For official rules and registration forms, call 655-4653 or visit [www.mwrarmyhawaii.com](http://www.mwrarmyhawaii.com).

Active duty service members from any branch of service, Reserve and National Guard, and retirees and family members ages 18 years and above with valid military ID cards are eligible to compete.

Locally, prizes will include gift certificates to the pro shop. Also, the top long drive competitor at each of the five geographical zones will win an all-expense paid trip to compete in the military division at the Long Drive Championship in Mesquite, Nev.

The participant who hits the longest qualified drive during the World Long Drive Championship will win \$10,000.

**Bowling Parties** – Wheeler Bowling Center's eight lanes are available for private parties on Saturdays and Sundays for \$120 per hour. A three-hour minimum and \$1.75 shoe rental apply. Call 656-1745.



Send sports announcements to [community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com](mailto:community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com).

### 3 / Sunday

**Volksmarch** – Join the Menehune Marchers Volkspport Club on a 5 or 10K volksmarch (walk), Aug. 3, at the Koko Head District Park.

Walkers can begin anytime between 7:30-11:30 a.m. Call Marsha at 395-9724 or visit [www.ava.org/clubs/menehunemarchers](http://www.ava.org/clubs/menehunemarchers).

**Hike Oahu** – Join the Hawaiian Trail & Mountain Club on a hike through the Waianae Valley Ridge.

This hike will allow members the choice of climbing Tiki Ridge or the normal route, which run parallel to each other. Come prepared to hike with a

buddy and follow directions, as there are a number of places to get lost.

This intermediate hike is six miles. Call Steve Rohrmayr at 696-4746.

Save the date for these upcoming hikes, too:

- Aug. 9, a 3-mile intermediate hike at Kaneohe Ridge

This hike meets at the Waianae First Hawaiian Bank's parking lot at 8:30 a.m. Typically, hikes begin at 8 a.m., and a \$2 donation is requested of non-members. An adult must accompany children under 18. Hikers meet at Iolani Palace, mountainside.

Bring lunch and water on all hikes; wear sturdy shoes, as extra caution may be required on some trails.

Visit [www.htmclub.org](http://www.htmclub.org).

### 9 / Saturday

**North Shore Swim Series** – The 20th Annual Surf 'n Sea North Shore Swim Series concludes with the North Shore Challenge, a 2.3-mile swim from the Pipeline to Waimea Bay, Aug. 9, 9 a.m.

Lifeguards will patrol each event. Visit [www.hawaiiswim.com](http://www.hawaiiswim.com).

# 94th AAMDC soaks up Waikiki sun for 'Family Day'

Story and Photo by  
**PFC. ASHLEY M. ARMSTRONG**  
94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command

WAIKIKI — The 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command (AAMDC) Soldiers and their family members participated in the unit's Family Day at the Hale Koa Hotel here, July 18.

The event, organized by the unit's family readiness group (FRG), promoted and enhanced unity among the unit's family.

The event included a barbecue with food donated by the Soldiers, and beach fun and a bounce house for the children.

"Family Day was a great opportunity for families to meet each other, which builds the morale within the unit," said Spc. David Smith, air conditioner repairman.

The 94th AAMDC's family readiness

group is comprised of Soldiers in the unit and their family members. The group keeps family members involved and informed by hosting meetings and coordinating family events.

"Events that involve the families change the Army from just a job to a second family," said FRG leader and family member Martina Foote. "It makes the families feel involved."

Capt. Michelle Toyofuku, commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 94th AAMDC, echoed similar sentiments.

"Family is integral to mission success and combat readiness," Toyofuku said. "Whether the Soldier has dependents or is single, the family support network plays a key role in sustaining our Soldiers."

Foote said the unit chose the Hale Koa location so families could enjoy the beach. The majority of the funds for the Fam-

ily Day were acquired through FRG-organized bake sales comprised of baked goods made by family members and donated to FRG, said Foote. The rest of the funding came from donations from within the unit.

"I think what made the event successful was all the contributions from the Soldiers and their families," said Foote.

Foote said every aspect of the event, including the funding, organizing, preparing and implementing, involved Soldiers and their families who worked together to make it a fun, bond-building event.

"It was a good family event," Smith said. "It was fun for my daughter because she got to play in the bounce house and playground, and for my wife because she got to meet other people in the unit."



Capt. Michelle Toyofuku, HHB commander, 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command, holds out cooked hamburgers for waiting Soldiers and family members during the 94th AAMDC Family Day at the Hale Koa Hotel, July 18.

## Dehydration, heat injuries can take fun out of summertime

**DIRECTORATE OF INSTALLATION SAFETY**  
News Release

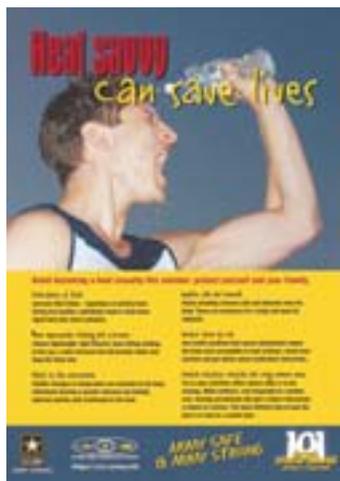
Heat illness includes a range of disorders that result when your body is exposed to more heat than it can handle. The human body is constantly engaged in a life-and-death struggle to disperse the heat that it produces. If allowed to accumulate, the heat would quickly increase your body temperature beyond its comfortable 98.6° F level.

Who is at risk? Heat-related illness can affect anyone not used to hot weather, especially when it's combined with high humidity. Those especially at risk include:

- Infants, young children, elderly and pets
- Individuals with heart or circulatory problems or other long-term illness
- Employees working in the heat
- Athletes and people who like to exercise (especially beginners)
- Individuals taking certain medications that alter sweat production
- Alcoholics and drug abusers

### Heatstroke

Heatstroke is the most serious and life-threatening heat-related illness. In certain circumstances, your body can build up



too much heat, your temperature may rise to life-threatening levels, and you can become delirious or lose consciousness. If you do not rid your body of excess heat fast enough, it "cooks" the brain and other vital organs. It is often fatal, and those who do survive may have permanent damage to their vital organs.

Several symptoms can be used to iden-

tify a heatstroke. The victim's body feels extremely hot when touched. He or she might exhibit altered mental status (behavior), ranging from slight confusion and disorientation to coma. Conscious victims usually become irrational, agitated, or even aggressive and may have seizures.

In severe heatstroke, the victim can go into a coma in less than one hour. The longer the coma lasts, the lower the chance for survival.

**What to do.** Move person to a half-sitting position in the shade.

Call for emergency medical help immediately.

If humidity is below 75 percent, spray victim with water and vigorously fan. If humidity above 75 percent, apply ice packs on neck, armpits or groin.

### Heat exhaustion

Heat exhaustion is characterized by heavy perspiration with normal or slightly above normal body temperatures. It is caused by water or salt depletion or both (severe dehydration). Heat exhaustion affects workers and athletes who do not drink enough fluids while working or exercising in hot environments.

Symptoms of heat exhaustion include: Severe thirst, fatigue, headache, nau-

sea, vomiting and sometimes diarrhea.

The affected person often mistakenly believes he or she has the flu.

Uncontrolled heat exhaustion can evolve into heatstroke.

Other factors include: profuse sweating; clammy or pale skin; dizziness; rapid pulse; and normal or slightly above normal body temperature.

**What to do.** Sit or lie down in the shade.

Drink cool, lightly salted water or sports drink.

If persistent, gently apply wet towels and call for emergency medical help.

### Heat Cramps

Heat cramps are painful muscular spasms that happen suddenly affecting legs or abdominal muscles. They usually happen after physical activity in people who sweat a lot or have not had enough fluids. Victims may be drinking water without adequate salt content.

**What to do.** Sit or lie down in the shade.

Drink cool, lightly salted water or sports drink.

Stretch affected muscles.

Heat syncope occurs when a person becomes dizzy or faints after exposure to high temperatures. To treat heat syn-

cope, lie down in a cool place, drink water if not nauseated, check for injuries (if the victim fell), and seek medical attention if there is not a full recovery.

Heat edema causes the feet or ankles to swell from heat exposure. It is more common in women not acclimated to a hot climate. It is related to salt and water retention and tends to disappear after acclimation. Victims can wear support stockings and elevate their legs.

Heat rash is an itchy rash that develops because of unevaporated moisture on skin wet from sweating. To treat heat rash, dry and cool the skin.

### Preventing Heat Illness

Heat illnesses are avoidable. With knowledge, preparation, fluid replacement, and prompt emergency care, there is no need for heat illness to affect people working in warm weather.

When in doubt, follow these guidelines:

- Keep as cool as possible
- Avoid dehydration (drink 8 ounces of water every 20 minutes)
- Wear appropriate clothing
- Rest frequently
- Avoid alcohol & caffeine
- Avoid becoming a heat casualty; protect yourself and your family.

# Travelers should pack Tricare benefits for vacations

KRISTEN WARD

TriWest Healthcare Alliance

You worked hard all year, spent time planning your vacation and are now looking forward to some time away from home, whether it be in the mountains, at the beach or overseas.

While you're counting down the days until you leave and crossing off items on your to-do list, don't forget to consider your health care benefits. Sometimes, even the most meticulous planning won't prevent you or your family members from getting the most common illnesses, such as sunburn, allergies, fever and motion sickness, or accidents that may require a trip to a doctor or hospital.

Here are some items to include on your to-do list before leaving for your destination:

1) Ensure the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) records are up-to-date. Update your family's information in DEERS by:

- Logging onto the DEERS Web site at <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/address/indexAction.do>

- Calling 1-800-538-9552

- Visiting an ID card issuing facility (locations at [www.dmdc.osd.mil](http://www.dmdc.osd.mil))

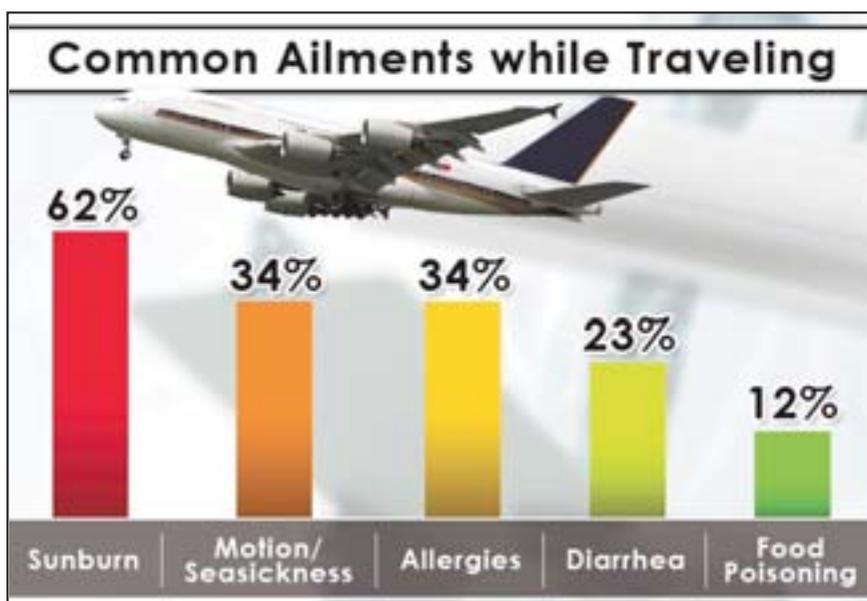
- Faxing changes to 1-831-655-8317

- Or mailing changes to:

Defense Manpower Data Center Support Office, Attn: COA

400 Gigling Road, Seaside, CA 93955-6771

2) Visit your physician for routine care before you leave, including general office visits, for treatment and



ongoing care. Care must be received at your assigned military treatment facility (MTF) or primary care manager's (PCM) office.

3) Pack the prescription medicines you take every day, making sure you have enough to last during your trip. Keep them in their original prescription bottles

and always in your carry-on luggage. If you need a refill before you leave, the most cost-effective way is to visit the on-base pharmacy.

A second option is to use the Tricare Mail Order Pharmacy (TMOP) program. Not only is there considerable cost savings (up to 66 percent), but you

can also save yourself a trip to the pharmacy. TMOP offers up to a 90-day supply of medication for the same copayment as a 30-day supply from a retail pharmacy. Your TMOP prescription will be delivered straight to your mailbox.

4) Pack Tricare Prime cards, military or uniformed services ID cards and important contact information.

5) Research locations of emergency and urgent care facilities. If you need to visit, understand the emergency and urgent care guidelines. Urgent care procedures vary by location. Contact the local military treatment facility (base/post doctor) or Tricare Service Center (TSC) before receiving care to learn how to avoid out-of-pocket costs (You cannot contact a TSC other than going in to visit the office. It might be better to suggest they call us at 1-888-TriWest (874-9378) as they can get someone 24 hours a day.)

6) If you experience an emergency while traveling, emergency care does not require prior authorization before treatment, so seek emergency care immediately at the nearest hospital.

Tricare Prime beneficiaries should notify your PCM and TriWest within 24 hours or by the next business day of any emergency room visit or admission (Patients should contact their PCM whether the ER visit was inpatient or outpatient) to avoid higher out-of-pocket costs. Contact TriWest at 1-888-TRIWEST (874-9378).

Hopefully, your vacation will be incident free. However, knowing about your benefits will give you peace of mind in case of any health care emergencies during your vacation.

## Simple daily precautions can mitigate risk of developing skin cancer

Shade during peak hours, hats keep skin protected

MARY KATHERINE MURPHY

U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine

Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer in the U.S. Melanoma is the third most common skin cancer and the most dangerous among young people. Melanoma killed 7,952 people in 2004 in the U.S., according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Skin cancer is also the most preventable of all types of cancer and, if diagnosed early, is highly curable. Melanoma is the most dangerous form of skin cancer because of its ability to metastasize (spread to other parts of the body).

Nonmelanomas (skin cancers that are

not melanoma) are dangerous as well; they are responsible for 95 percent of all skin cancer cases, according to the American Cancer Society.

Soldiers are at risk for skin cancer because of their duties. Their risk increases if deployed or training because of the time spent outdoors.

**Protecting yourself.** Soldiers can protect themselves from the sun and decrease their chances of developing skin cancer by following these rules:

- Seek shade during the hours of 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. when the sun's ultraviolet rays are strongest and do the most damage.
- Cover up, roll down the sleeves of ACUs and wear a wide-brimmed hat where authorized.
- Wear protective eyewear – the most protective wraps around the face and blocks

Visit the following Web sites for more information on skin cancer:

- CHPPM, <http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/documents/FACT/25-019-1205FSSunlightandSkinCancerRisks.pdf>
- American Academy of Dermatology, [www.aad.org/public/publications/pamphlets/sun\\_skin.html](http://www.aad.org/public/publications/pamphlets/sun_skin.html)
- American Cancer Society, [www.cancer.org/docroot/PED/content/ped\\_7\\_1\\_What\\_You\\_Need\\_To\\_Know\\_About\\_Skin\\_Cancer.asp](http://www.cancer.org/docroot/PED/content/ped_7_1_What_You_Need_To_Know_About_Skin_Cancer.asp)
- Skin Cancer Foundation, [www.skincancer.org/melanoma/index.php](http://www.skincancer.org/melanoma/index.php)

out as close to 100 percent of UVA and UVB rays as possible.

- Rub on sunscreen with a sun protective factor (SPF) of 15 or higher, and both UVA and UVB protection. Apply at least every two hours.
- Never use tanning beds.

Soldiers should be particularly vigilant in protecting themselves from the sun if

they have any of the following risk factors:

- Family, personal history of skin cancer
- Lighter natural skin color
- Getting sunburned as a child
- Blue or green eyes
- Blond or red hair
- Skin that burns or freckles in the sun
- Having a large number of moles
- Spending a lot of time in the sun.

**Checking your skin.** Soldiers should check their entire body once a year for suspicious moles. If moles, freckles, lesions or spots on the skin have any of the following signs, they should be checked by a physician:

Asymmetry. If you draw a line through a mole, and the two halves do not match. Border. If a mole or other mark has a jagged or blended border.

Color. If a mole is made up of multiple colors or changes colors.

Diameter. If a mole is greater than 5 millimeters in diameter (bigger than the end of a pencil eraser).

Evolving. If a mole changes in size, shape, color or elevation, or if it becomes cracked or infected and does not heal within a month.