

INSIDE

Survey impacts COLA amount

Soldiers, families can affect future cost of living allowances

HONOLULU — All military members and their families stationed in the state of Hawaii are encouraged to complete the military Living Pattern Survey, which helps determine their cost of living allowance (COLA). For the sake of convenience and maximum response, the survey will post on the Internet in February.

U.S. Pacific Command (USPACOM) will host a kickoff for awareness and understanding, Tuesday and Wednesday, 9 a.m., at Ford Island. The goal is for all uniformed military members (active, Guard and Reserve of the Army, Air Force, Navy and Marines) and employees of the U.S. Public Health Services who have been assigned to Hawaii for at least three months to participate in the online survey.

The overseas COLA is a supplement provided to regular pay for uniformed service personnel; it is provided to help equalize costs paid for items overseas, which may be significantly different from purchases within the continental United States.

Of note, the quality of life for more than 45,000 service members and their families will be affected by this survey. Therefore, USPACOM and U.S. Army, Pacific, are emphasizing the importance of military personnel taking the time to complete the survey, when it becomes available.

The Office of the Secretary of Defense requires USPACOM to conduct a Living Pattern Survey every three years to adjust overseas COLA rates for Hawaii military personnel. Quantity of responders and accuracy in completing the survey are critical in determining Hawaii's appropriate COLA level.

A link will be placed on the USPACOM Web site in February, and military command information outlets will alert service members and their families of the Web address.

(Editor's Note: Compiled from news releases. See next week's Hawaii Army Weekly for more information about the COLA kickoff and training.)



Staff Sgt. Christian Foster | 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team

Can you hear me now?

CAMP TAJI, Iraq — Spc. Peter Chase, Stryker driver, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, monitors radio traffic here, Dec. 27. Two battalions of the Warrior Brigade arrived at Camp Taji in late December and are scheduled for a transfer of authority in mid-January. The Warriors will take the reins from the 1st "Ironhorse" Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, stationed in Fort Hood, Texas.

Sailor Soldiers

605th Transportation Detachment Soldiers perform a variety of maritime missions

A-4

Flying V

Command Sgt. Maj. Frank Leota will be honored with a Flying V ceremony, Wednesday, 3 p.m., at Schofield's Sills Field.

Prayer Breakfast

The National Prayer breakfast will be held Wednesday, 7 a.m., at Schofield's Nehelani.

MLK service

A Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration Service will be held Jan. 25, 7-8:30 a.m., at Fort Shafter's Hale Ikena.

See News Briefs, A-4

Paper delivery

Not getting the Hawaii Army Weekly? Residents in Army Family housing can get the HAW on their doorsteps by calling 656-3155 or 656-3156.



Culture walk

A walking tour of Chinatown immerses travellers in a diverse environment of sights, smells

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Col. Walter E. Piatt (facing), incoming commander, 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, receives the brigade colors from Maj. Gen. Benjamin R. Mixon, commanding general, 25th ID, during a change of command ceremony at Sills Field, Friday.

Piatt takes reins of 3rd Brigade's Broncos

Story and Photo by PFC. JAZZ BURNEY
3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — More than 1,000 Soldiers from six battalions of the 25th Infantry Division (25th ID) assembled Friday as Col. Walter Piatt assumed command of the 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team "Broncos" from Col. Patrick Stackpole at Sills Field, here.

"Soldiers everywhere admire your courage, this Soldier most of all," said Piatt of Stackpole. "I am honored to be standing in your ranks."

Piatt recently served as the 25th ID interim chief of staff and G-3 operations officer.

Third Brigade is comprised of two infantry battalions, a field artillery battalion, a cavalry squadron, a

brigade special troops battalion and a brigade support battalion. It received new leadership after returning from a 15-month deployment in northern Iraq.

Throughout the deployment, Stackpole served as the Broncos' commander, overseeing operations and leaving the Kirkuk Province a safer and more secure place.

"We went to Iraq with a few simple goals," Stackpole said to the Soldiers and family members in attendance. "First, we were not going to allow insurgents to move freely in our area of operations — no sanctuary ever. Second, we were not going to fight alone. We would bring the Iraqi forces with us on every

SEE PIATT, A-7

Bednarek, Nixon honored at Flying 'V'

SPC. CARLEE ROSS
25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — The 25th Infantry Division (ID) honored two senior leaders in a Flying "V" ceremony at Sills Field, Friday.

Maj. Gen. Benjamin Mixon, commander, 25th ID, presided over the day's event, which bid farewell Brig. Gen. John (Mick) Bednarek, deputy commanding general, operations, and welcomed Brig. Gen. James Nixon, his successor.

The Flying "V" ceremony, which is unique to the division, consists of brigade commanders and colors down to the battalion level, posted in a V-shaped formation. The ceremony is a tribute to the incoming and outgoing general officer leadership, and is similar to the more familiar change of command.

At Friday's Flying V, an empty space to the left of the formation represented the division's 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, which is currently deployed to Iraq.

"To simply be a small part of this incredible team over the past thirty-four months, and witness it transform, reorganize, train, deploy and fight in one of the most critical wars of our country's history, has been awe inspiring," Bednarek said.

Although Bednarek relinquished his title as deputy commanding general, operations, he will not be moving far; he will soon command the division during an interim period while it awaits Mixon's successor.

"To all the Soldiers, be proud of what you have accomplished and what is yet to come," Bednarek said. "You remain members of a time-honored tradition. It is your sacrifice that promotes freedom, democracy and preserves our way of life."

Bednarek said he holds the leaders of the division and Soldiers in highest regard.

"I can say without hesitation that this Tropic Lightning team holds some of the finest leaders to ever wear our uniform, courageously leading by example and truly making a difference."



Bednarek

Gate guards, security among residents' concerns at town hall meeting

HMR, other residents voice concerns to garrison leaders

Story and Photo by MOLLY HAYDEN
Staff Writer

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Soldiers and family members trickled into Sgt. Smith Theater, here, Tuesday, for the North Oahu town hall meeting.

Lt. Col. Mark Boussy, commander, U.S. Army Garrison, Oahu, facilitated the meeting by starting with the ground rules or "rules of engagement." Subject-matter experts lined the rows of the theater and accounted for more than half of the 60 people in attendance.

Each speaker presented information on the status of ongoing and finished projects, what families can expect in the future, activities for families of deployed Soldiers and more.

Representatives from Morale, Welfare, and Recreation unveiled upcoming



Chief Warrant Officer 2 Mike Lopez and other residents of HMR listen attentively as Col. Matthew Margotta, commander, USAG-HI, addresses their questions at the Oahu North town hall meeting, Tuesday.

incentives for families of deployed Soldiers, stating the organization desires to improve the quality of life for

military families. They also provided updates on Blue Star Card benefits.

Col. Matthew Margotta, commander,

U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii, discussed the Dec. 5 power outage, how the command reacted and steps it is taking to prevent and control future blackouts, including the use of emergency generators to restore power in a timely manner.

Experts provided an update on the Schofield Barracks Health Clinic, including an explanation of expanded services and Tripler Army Medical Center's high score in a recent unannounced survey of its quality of care.

Officials addressed recent traffic congestion at Schofield Barracks' gates, including suggestions for using alternate routes and gates to enter post. All gates are now open during peak hours to accommodate the surge of recently redeployed Soldiers. In addition, Macomb, Foote, Lyman and Kunia gates are operational 24 hours a day.

SEE TOWN HALL, 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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President offers message of hope to troops

STAFF SGT. JACOB A. McDONALD
Army News Service

CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait — President George W. Bush made a stop in Kuwait Saturday during his Middle East tour to meet with key U.S. leaders and speak to deployed service members.

Bush met with U.S. ambassador to Iraq Ryan Crocker and Gen. David Petraeus, commander of Multinational Forces Iraq, to discuss the situation in Iraq, as well as the progress made and the challenges ahead.

"We discussed the fact that whatever happens in Iraq impacts everything else in the entire region," Bush said. He then discussed the changes and improvements that came from the troop surge as well as the strategy change in Iraq over the last year.

"Iraq is now a different place from one year ago," Bush said. "Much hard work remains, but levels of violence are significantly reduced. Hope is returning to Baghdad and hope is returning to towns and villages throughout the country."

Bush also spoke about how the Iraqis are taking control of their own government and coming together despite religious differences to build a common future and diminish violence.

In his statement, Bush spoke about U.S. forces returning home due to the changes in Iraq. He said that any additional troop reduction will be based on Petraeus' recommendations, based on the conditions on the ground in Iraq.

"I have believed all along that, if people are given a chance to live in a free society, they will do the hard work necessary to live in a free society," Bush said.

He also spoke about the importance of the



Sgt. Sara A. Carter | Marine Corps

President George W. Bush waves at troops as he walks to the stage to speak to Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines during his visit to Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, Saturday.

concerned citizen groups who are stepping up to help provide local security in addition to the Iraqi surge of 100,000 local police and Iraqi troops.

"We must do all we can to ensure 2008 brings even greater progress for Iraq's young democracy. Long-term success in Iraq is vital to our friends here in the region and to America's national security," Bush said. "In a place where Saddam Hussein once menaced the world, the new U.S.-Iraqi relationship will strengthen a democracy that serves its people, fights terrorists and serves as a beacon of freedom for millions across the Middle East."

Bush then spoke with several thousand service members gathered at the Zone 6

stage here. He encouraged service members to continue their work in support of both Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. During his speech, he thanked Lt. Gen. James J. Lovelace, commander, Third Army/U.S. Army Central, and the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and civilians for their hard work in completing the support and logistical mission in Kuwait.

"In the long term, the best way to defeat the ideology of hate is ... with an ideology of hope ... that is one with liberty at its fundamental core," Bush said.

The assembled troops responded with a loud, "hoorah."

"It's hard work, but it is necessary work," Bush continued. "I thank you for what you

are doing. There is no doubt in my mind that when the history is written, the final page will say, 'Victory was achieved by the United States of America for the good of the world.'"

Following the speech to the troops, Petraeus and Crocker spoke to media about their meeting with the president. They highlighted the importance of political reconciliation in Iraq.

"The best way to defeat the ideology of hate is ... with an ideology of hope."

President George W. Bush

"Reconciliation is more than national legislation," Crocker said. "It's also what we are seeing in provinces around the country. There is more cross-sectarian political activity. As security improves and some of the tensions reduce, we are seeing more political activity and more steps toward reconciliation. There is still a long way to go. We are seeing some encouraging steps now at both the national and local levels."

Petraeus said troop withdrawals would depend on whether things get better, stay the same or decline as U.S. troops pull out and Iraqi security forces take over. He said Iraqi citizens and security forces are preparing to take on the security of their own country, and that recommendations for continued withdrawal will be based on the situation in the country.

(Editor's Note: Staff Sgt. Jacob A. McDonald serves with the 50th Public Affairs Detachment.)

What's with the MLK holiday?

CORETTA SCOTT KING

Human Rights Activist & Leader (1927-2006)

The Martin Luther King Jr. holiday celebrates the life and legacy of a man who brought hope and healing to America. We commemorate, as well, the timeless values he taught us through his example — the values of courage, truth, justice, compassion, dignity, humility and service that so radiantly defined Dr. King's character and empowered his leadership.

On this holiday, we commemorate the universal, unconditional love, forgiveness and nonviolence that empowered his revolutionary spirit. We commemorate Dr. King's inspiring words, because his voice and his vision filled a great void in our nation and answered our collective longing to become a country that truly lived by its noblest principles.

Yet, Dr. King knew that it wasn't enough just to talk the talk, that he had to walk the walk for his words to be credible. And so we commemorate on this holiday the man of action who put his life on the line for freedom and justice every day, the man who braved threats and jail and beatings and who ultimately paid the highest price to make democracy a reality for all Americans.

The King holiday honors the life and contributions of America's greatest champion of racial justice and equality, the leader who not only dreamed of a color-blind society, but who also led a movement that achieved historic reforms to help make it a reality.

"This is not a black holiday; it is a peoples' holiday. And it is the young people of all races and religions who hold the keys to the fulfillment of his dream."

On this day, we commemorate Dr. King's great dream, of a vibrant, multiracial nation united in justice, peace and reconciliation, a nation that has a place at the table for children of every race and room at the inn for every needy child.

We are called on this holiday, not merely to honor, but to celebrate the values of equality, tolerance and interracial sister and brotherhood he so compellingly expressed in his great dream for America. It is a day of interracial and intercultural cooperation and sharing. No other day of the year brings so many peoples from different cultural backgrounds together in such a vibrant spirit of brother and sisterhood.

Whether you are African-American, Hispanic or Native American, whether you are Caucasian or Asian-American, you are part of the great



Martin Luther King Jr.

dream Martin Luther King Jr. had for America. This is not a black holiday; it is a peoples' holiday. And it is the young people of all races and religions who hold the keys to the fulfillment of his dream.

Martin Luther King Jr. day is ... a day of volunteering to feed the hungry, rehabilitat[ing] housing, tutoring those who can't read, mentoring at-risk youngsters, consoling the brokenhearted and a thousand other projects for building the beloved community of his dream.

Dr. King once said that we all have to decide whether we "will walk in the light of creative altruism or the darkness of destructive selfishness." Life's most persistent and nagging question, he said, is "what are you doing for others?"

He would quote Mark 9:35, the Scripture in which Jesus of Nazareth tells James and John "...whosoever will be great among you shall be your servant; and whosoever among you will be the first shall be the servant of all."

And when Martin talked about the end of his mortal life in one of his last sermons, on Feb. 4, 1968, in the pulpit of Ebenezer Baptist Church, even then he lifted up the value of service as the hallmark of a full life.

"I'd like somebody to mention on that day Martin Luther King Jr. tried to give his life serving others," he said. "I want you to say on that day, that I did try in my life ... to love and serve humanity."

We call you to commemorate this holiday by making your personal commitment to serve humanity with the vibrant spirit of unconditional love that was his greatest strength, and which empowered all of the great victories of his leadership. And with our hearts open to this spirit of unconditional love, we can indeed achieve the Beloved Community of Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream.

LIGHTNING SPIRIT

Perspective makes stumbling blocks into stepping stones

CHAPLAIN (CAPT.) JOHN HILL

307th Integrated Theater Signal Battalion Chaplain

The dawning of a new year brings with it new opportunities for changing present realities. However, in some form or another, most of us are dealing with various life challenges.

Many are dealing with loved ones deployed in harm's way. Most are dealing with family separations because our loved ones are back home on the mainland though we live on the beautiful island of Oahu. And for everyone, these last few months have been wrought with changes, personally and professionally.

How you deal with these challenges largely determines the end result. What do I mean by this? You can either choose to be positive or negative about your challenge.

One thing I have learned about Army life is to expect and learn to adapt to change. Learning to adapt to change is seeing an opportunity instead of an obstacle.

"How am I supposed to see (insert your challenge) as an opportunity?" By trying your best not to dwell on the circumstances, but rather discovering new places, new things, new ways of long-distance communication, broadening yourself, and living each day to its fullest potential.

The glass might be half full instead of half empty; it depends on our perspective. Yet, this reality is easier to write and say, than to actually embrace. Let me give you an example.

In the old family movie "Pollyanna," a little 10-year-old orphan girl goes to live with an aunt. The aunt is very practical, but not very people-oriented. The townsfolk have a similar disposition. They are stuck in their ways and so resist to change that they complain, argue, gossip and cannot even see the good in life.

Pollyanna seeks to change these realities through her positive attitude

toward life — in spite of losing her parents. Her positive attitude even changed her preacher and made him more encouraging instead of "hellfire and brimstone."

Pollyanna's father had taught her early in life that a person's attitude is infectious, and a good attitude is better to spread around than the poi-

son caused by being negative all the time.

An old Hebrew proverb says "a joyful heart is good medicine, but a broken spirit dries up the bones." I used to hear the

phrase, "You can just get glad in the same pants you got sad in; it's up to you."

The truth is, a joyful heart is one of contentment in any and all circumstances, and it is only an attitude adjustment away.

At the end of the movie, Pollyanna is paralyzed from a nasty fall and not very positive about life without walking. Do you know what happened? The previously pessimistic townsfolk came to her house in the hopes of cheering Pollyanna up, and it worked. Her attitude began to change by being around those she once helped.

Our attitude spreads to those around us in the same way Pollyanna's attitude changed the whole outlook of an entire town. I urge you to lean on each other, encourage one another, share meals together, enjoy life together, and do your best to make the most of your current situation.

Unwrap each day as if it really were a present and live your day. Do not allow a broken spirit to dry up your bones.

Remember, Ezekiel was asked by God, "Can these bones live again?" (Ezekiel 37:3) The answer was a resounding yes. The choice is yours.



Hill

15 days since last fatal accident

Number represents fatal accidents as defined by Army Regulation 385-10, which is inclusive of all active component U.S. Army units and personnel. Current as of 1/16/08.

Voices of Lightning: How have you benefited from Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream?



"It has brought diversity to every industry I've worked in."

Leah McElhanon
Vendor
Main Post Exchange



"Being able to be friends with people of other races without being judged."

Spc. Brandon Newsome
E Co., 3-25 CAB
Petroleum Specialist



"We have more to aspire to and we know that our dreams can come true too."

Yaury Romero
Sales Associate
Main Post Exchange



"I can have this business, that's how it affected me."

Denise Stevens
Shop Owner
Rosewood Furniture



"To me, if it can motivate me, it can motivate others to do the right thing and to search for equality."

Sgt. 1st Class Tony Watson
45th Sus. Bde.
Ops NCO

2nd Brigade's 'Banditos' roll into Iraq with a bang

(Editor's Note: OIF articles are published after operational security review.)

SGT. 1ST CLASS CHRISTINA BHATTI
2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

CAMP TAJI, Iraq — Soldiers from the B Battery "Banditos," 2nd Battalion, 11th Field Artillery Regiment (FA), 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, made history Jan. 2, when they became the first Army unit to fire the 155mm M777A2 lightweight howitzer into the night sky over Baghdad.

"I'm proud to be part of this," said 1st Sgt. Ramon Malave. "My Soldiers are good, and they want to fire this system out here."

The Banditos were the first Army unit to receive this cannon system, and they have trained for 15 months to perfect their skills. Soldiers participated in rigorous hands-on training, crew battle drills and a live-fire exercise at the Pohakuloa Training Area on the Big Island, Malave said. The main mission of the battalion here is the Base Defense Operations Center (BDOC).

"We are responsible for defending and securing Camp Taji for all Soldiers who live here," said Lt. Col. Joe Gleichenhaus, commander, 2-11th FA.

In addition to the BDOC mission, 2-11th FA Soldiers are prepared to accomplish much more during deployment.

"One of the highlights of this unit is that it not only has trained as a field artillery battalion, but has been focusing



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

The M777A2 lightweight 155mm howitzer makes its debut at Camp Taji, Iraq, Jan. 2. Soldiers from B Battery "Banditos," 2nd Battalion, 11th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, became the first Army unit to field and fire the cannon system in Iraq.

on being a battlespace owner, a maneuver unit," Gleichenhaus said. "The versatility of these Soldiers is demonstrated here.

They are fired up and are definitely disciplined to switch between their artillery and maneuver missions."

For Spc. Michael Cunningham, number one man for the cannon crew, the system's first firing was extremely important.

"The calibration of this system ensures that other units can count on us to be on time and on target," Cunningham said.

Being on time and on target is easily achieved with this cannon system. The cannon uses an "Excalibur" Global Positioning System-guided round. The Excalibur round allows users to directly input coordinates. Once fired, coordinates ensure the round will reach the target where the grid was inputted, Malave explained.

"The system ensures other units can count on us to be on time and on target."

*Spc. Michael Cunningham
Cannon Crew*

After Soldiers cleared the area, Jan. 2, the first round was fired. The shockwave shook the earth; however, it was barely felt amid the excitement of cheering Soldiers.

The cheering grew even louder when confirmation came that the round hit the target.

"We train a lot, so when we go live, it's exciting," said Pfc. Tyler Hughes, who assists in ramming the round and checking the bore. He said he felt "pretty good and excited" to be a part of the historical event.

"To be a part of the first rounds shot downrange is great," he said. "It is something I can definitely tell my children and grandchildren."



Spc. Jeremy Spiekhout, a seaman with the 605th Transportation Detachment, sets up an anchor for free fall.

Army 'sailors' a versatile asset

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

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE — While most people associate maritime missions as strictly Navy business, few are aware that the Army has its own vessels as well.

The 31 Soldiers of the 8th Theater Sustainment Command's 605th Transportation Detachment, based here, perform a variety of maritime missions. The unit is often tasked to transport Special Forces troops, dive teams, or even cargo. Its Soldiers also assist in salvage operations, hurricane relief and other humanitarian missions.

"We are here in Hawaii as a theater asset to provide USARPAC [U.S. Army, Pacific] with the capability of moving equipment from the Big Island to Oahu or vice versa," said Chief Warrant Officer 3 Christopher Montroy, commander, 605th Trans. Det., "or anywhere around the USARPAC area of operations."

The 605th supports other U.S. military services and agencies in addition to Army units. The unit's mission is vital to the military as a

whole because, in addition to being versatile in the missions it can perform, the unit saves the military money.

During the course of a seven-day mission to the Pohakuloa Training Area (PTA) in support of Marine Corps training, the detachment made three trips back and forth to the Big Island. By using Army vessels to transport equipment instead of contracting commercial businesses, the Marine Corps saved more than \$100,000 of taxpayers' money, Montroy said.

"This trip cost, in total, a little over \$60,000," said Chief Warrant Officer 3 Jed Gonzales. "The cost in fuel alone was about \$30,000, and everything else was spent on basic supplies, such as cleaning supplies and things of that nature."

As the detachment looks ahead to the next year, Montroy said preparation is the key to success because January through March will be the most demanding time period.

"Those are our busiest times of the year because of all the training at PTA during that time," Montroy said. "It is our job to get all of the equipment there."

The busy, three-month period also ensures

the unit is capable of performing its wartime mission, especially with battle drills and force protection of the vessel, he added.

The unit is not just flexible in the types of missions it performs, but also in the way its Soldiers are trained.

"Most of our guys are pretty versatile because we have all the training for our specific MOS [military occupational specialty] on this boat," Sgt. 1st Class Francis Silva explained. "Most of our guys are also licensed to drive humvees. They are trained to be ammo handlers, or armorers. Basically, everything that you would need in a land-based unit, we have right here on this boat."

Silva said it would be much easier for the unit's Soldiers to walk off the boat and go to a land-based unit and do their job, than it would be for a Soldier to start working on the ship.

"A lot of people think of ships as just being in the Navy, but they don't realize that the Navy is mainly battle focused," Montroy said. "Well, we were here before the Navy was, and we are going to be here long after."

News Briefs

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

18 / Today

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

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

Street Closure — Hewitt Street, between Menoher and McCormack roads, will be closed through March 1 for road improvements. A map of the closure is available at ww.25idl.army.mil/communityimpactupdates/index.asp. Call 275-3118.

22 / Tuesday

160th Recruiting Team — The 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne) recruiting team is looking for the Army's best Soldiers to join its elite forces.

The recruiting team is conducting briefings at Wheeler Army Air Field at the following location, dates and times: 3-25th Aviation Battalion Headquarters, Jan. 22, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.; 2-6th Cavalry Regiment Headquarters, Jan. 23, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.; 209th Aviation Support Battalion, Jan. 24, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.; and the 2-25th Aviation Battalion Headquarters, Jan. 25, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Briefings will include information on the 160th's mission, equipment, training, personnel assessment and selection. Family members are welcome to attend.

Call (270) 798-9819 or e-mail recruiters@soar.army.mil for more information.

WLC Graduation — There will be a Warrior Leaders Course graduation ceremony at Schofield's Stoneman Field, Jan. 22, 11-11:30 a.m.

23 / Wednesday

Parking Lot Closure — The parking lot adjacent to the Fort Shafter Youth Center, Building 505, will be closed Jan. 23-31 for repaving. Call 438-9281.

Flying V — There will be a Flying V ceremony in honor of 25th Infantry Division Command Sgt. Maj. Frank Leota at Schofield's Sills Field, Jan. 23, 3 p.m. A reception will follow the ceremony at Schofield's Kalakaua Community Center.

25 / Friday

Volunteer Ceremony — The next 25th Infantry Division Quarterly Volunteer Ceremony will be held at Schofield's Battle Command Training Center (BCTC), Jan. 25, at 10 a.m.

30 / Wednesday

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

25th ID Relinquish of Command — Lt. Gen. John M. Brown III will host a relinquish of command ceremony honoring the departing 25th Infantry Division (ID) Commander Maj. Gen. Benjamin R. Mixon and the interim 25th ID Commander Brig. Gen. Mick Bednarek at Schofield's Sills Field, Jan. 30, at 10 a.m.

February

1 / Friday

USARPAC Change of Command — Lt. Gen. John Brown III, commander, U.S. Army, Pacific, will relinquish command to Maj. Gen. Benjamin Mixon at Fort Shafter's Palm Circle, Feb. 1, at 10 a.m.

A promotion ceremony for Maj. Gen. Mixon will be held prior to the ceremony at 9:15 a.m.

Tools identify Soldiers' high-risk behaviors

U.S. ARMY COMBAT
READINESS/SAFETY CENTER
News Release

FORT RUCKER, Ala. — Army officials recently released two innovative tools designed to determine a Soldier's accident potential.

The Accident Risk Assessment for Individuals allows Soldiers to determine their level of risk, while the Leader's Accident Risk Assessment of Subordinates allows supervisors to assess their subordinates' level of risk. The tools promote interaction between Soldiers and their first-line leaders, the most effective risk assessment and risk mitigation tool our Army employs.

"As leaders, identifying and knowing those Soldiers who are high risk is essential in preventing accidents," said Sgt. Maj. of the Army Kenneth O. Preston. "Disciplined leaders engaged at all echelons immediately promote a safer operational environment."

Based on extensive research, the U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center (USACRC) reports that human error is the largest single component of Army ground, aviation and off-duty accidents, accounting for 80 percent of mishaps. The majority of findings in accidents investigated and reviewed by the USACRC include indiscipline, complacency, overconfidence and lack of training.

"We know, through all the accident data processed by the USACRC, that the engagement of leaders provides a direct, positive impact in the reduction of accidents caused by human error,"

said Brig. Gen. Bill Forrester, director of Army safety and commanding general of the USACRC. "Our goal is to use these assessment tools to raise awareness within our formations of who is our next accident victim."

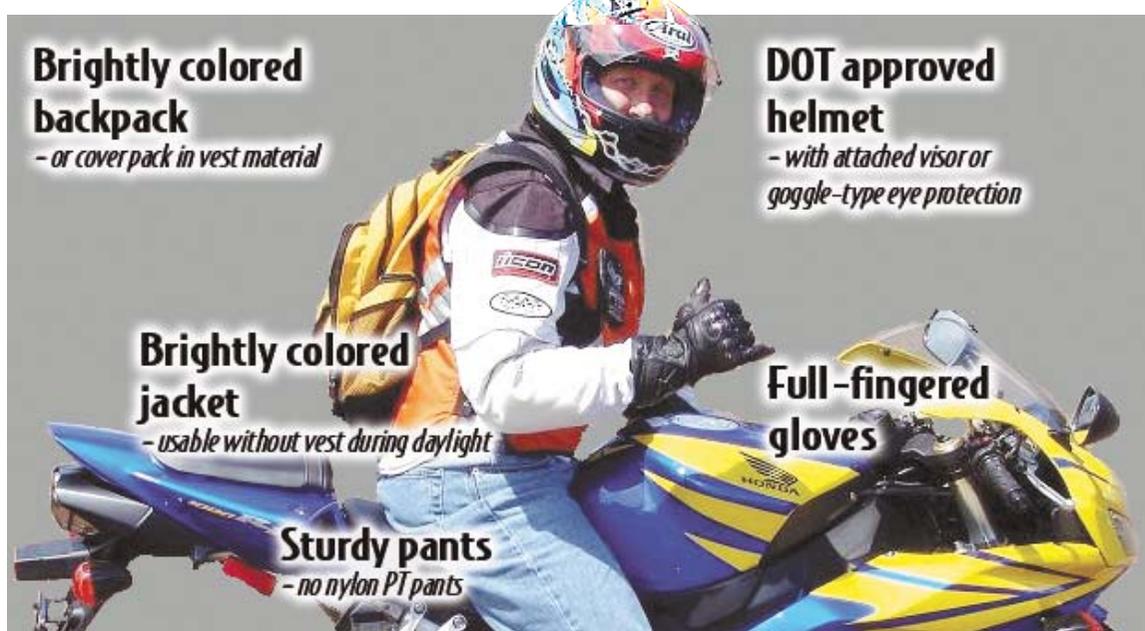
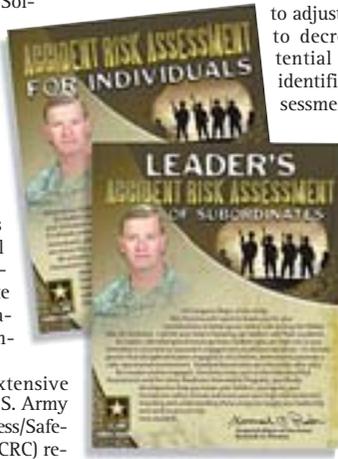
The Accident Risk Assessment for Individuals is a self-awareness tool for use by every Soldier at every level within the Army. Upon completion of the assessment, safety officials are confident that Soldiers gain an enhanced comprehension of factors responsible for accidents.

"This tool will give Soldiers better awareness of previously identified high-risk events, empower them to assess their own activities and offer suggestions to adjust their actions to decrease the potential for disaster identified by the assessment," said Forrester.

"As always, the chain of command remains integral in the process and can mentor Soldiers with more difficult factors."

Using the Leader's Accident Risk Assessment of Subordinates, leaders have the knowledge to assess the risk level of their Soldiers, said Preston.

"First-line leaders know of the day-to-day events and stressors that affect the way their Soldiers perform," Preston added. "The Leader's Accident Risk Assessment of Subordinates serves as a catalyst for honest, frank discussion with individuals who you have identified at risk for an accident."



A motorcyclist demonstrates the proper protective gear for safe motorcycle riding.

Motorcycle training hits high gear

DIRECTORATE OF INSTALLATION SAFETY,
U.S. ARMY GARRISON, HAWAII
News Release

WHEELER ARMY AIR FIELD — Redeploying Soldiers are signing up for motorcycle training in record numbers. Compared to this time last year, training has more than doubled and the waitlist is nearly nine weeks long.

"We're training every workday and every other weekend, and will be busy into March at the current rate," said Bruce Marshall, safety specialist and rider coach, Directorate of Installation Safety (DIS). "I guess 'surge' is the operative word. We're training Soldiers and their family members to ride before they get out on the road."

Motorcycle safety courses are mandatory before Soldiers or family members can swing their legs over the saddle of any motorcycle, scooter or moped.

"We teach classes tailored to complete be-

ginnings, new riders with motorcycles, and experienced riders," said Bill Maxwell, program manager, DIS "We're one of the few Army gar-

Are you a motorcycle safety NCO? Would you like to be?

If you have been appointed as a company, battalion, or brigade motorcycle safety NCO or rider coach, contact the Motorcycle Safety Office for training and informative materials.

In addition, if you are interested in the above duties or wish to be trained as a Motorcycle Safety Foundation rider coach, the next seven-day certification class will be held in March.

Call 655-6455 or e-mail william.n.maxwell@us.army.mil.

risons that offer beginner courses using training motorcycles."

Riders who already own and operate a motorcycle must receive training to continue riding.

"This is a critical group, one where we get the majority of Army fatalities," Maxwell said. "Riding a motorcycle is not an activity that is best self-taught. You tend to learn many bad habits that are uncovered during high-stress roadway situations," he continued. "The key is to get training right away, as soon as you buy the bike, and before you ride it for any distance."

Sammy Houseberg, director, DIS, agreed and mentioned a growing concern.

"Our biggest worry as safety professionals is the 'secret rider' — someone regularly rides a friend's bike, or has one stored off-post, and has not attended a class," Houseberg explained. "In the last two years, we have lost several Soldiers that fit this category."

Soldier-comedian brings big-time laughs

Story and Photos by
BILL MCPHERSON
516th Signal Brigade Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER — By day, he's Sgt. Justin W. Lewis, the S-2 intelligence noncommissioned officer at the 516th Signal Brigade. Three or more nights a week, he's "Big Lou," performing comedy on stage at various venues in Honolulu.

Lewis, who has processed security clearances and handled physical security and key control for the brigade S-2 section since January 2005, has been performing at comedy clubs and fundraising benefits for the past year.

He also spearheaded, emceed, and received a standing ovation for his comedy routine at the brigade's first-ever Comedy Show for Soldiers for the Pacific's 2007 Signal Corps Regimental Week in September.

A native of Oklahoma, Lewis joined the Army in February 2000, serving stints with the 1/16th Infantry Battalion and the 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, at Fort Riley, Kan., prior to his assignment at Fort Shafter.

He had never performed on stage until last year. "I'd been to several comedy clubs and convinced myself that I could do every bit as good as those up on stage," Lewis said. "So I attended an open mic night here in Hawaii and went for it. It started as a hobby, and has evolved to what it is now."

Lewis admitted to being nervous the first few times, but said now it's all about the show.

"There is feedback energy between the audience and the performer," Lewis explained. "When I go on stage, I get a read on the audience and just want to make them laugh."

"Routines are never set in stone," he continued. "Some jokes work for certain crowds that won't work for other crowds, so I usually get a read on the audience during my performance and change it on the fly, or from watching others and trying to see what the audience wants that night. Improvisation skills come in handy for extending my jokes or for dealing with the occasional heckler."

Lewis, who said George Carlin is his all-time favorite comedian, normally performs three nights a week.



Sgt. Justin "Big Lou" Lewis emceeds the Comedy Show for Signal Soldiers at Sgt. Smith Theater, Sept. 12.

"Thursday night is open mic, where I try out the new stuff," he explained. "Friday nights I perform improv, similar to Drew Carey's 'Whose Line is it Anyway?' and Saturday nights are the professional night at Sharkey's Comedy Club, where I usually emceed the show and do some material."

Lewis has also performed at shows to help raise money for juvenile diabetes, the Ronald McDonald house, and for a few schools, to include the University of Hawaii.

He said his club performances have improved his poise



Soldiers of the 516th Signal Brigade's Headquarters Company give Sgt. Justin Lewis a standing ovation after his routine at the Comedy Show for Signal Soldiers, Sept. 12.

and public speaking ability in his Army job.

"Comedy has assisted my comfort level so much that I can now give military briefings to one or hundreds without getting nervous," he said.

He said doing the show for Signal Soldiers was fun for him and the other two performers — Kento and Arthur Wayne, from Sharkey's Comedy Club.

"Morale is the best thing provided to Soldiers," Lewis said. "With no morale, it's harder to accomplish the mission. I like to use jokes to brighten up [people's] days and to keep away all the seriousness. It makes exercises and real-world missions work much easier that way. My dream job would be to tour around the world entertaining Soldiers."

Lewis has several more months of active duty with the Army. When his tour is up, he is considering a move to Chicago.

"I would love to end up at Second City and train/perform there," he says. "Second City is a huge stepping stone to bigger and better things in show business. I would love nothing more than to just perform, because there's nothing better in the world than your first and last laugh on stage."

Town hall: Security a hot topic

CONTINUED FROM A-1

The issue of community safety was raised among Helemano Military Reservation (HMR) residents. Many spoke candidly about what they called lack of security in the community, which does not have gate guards.

Security guards at HMR's gates were relocated to Schofield Barracks mid-November to accommodate the traffic flow and ease congestion on post.

Margotta explained that HMR wasn't an installation, but a military housing area in a civilian community, and didn't warrant the same level of security as an installation. He acknowledged the Army's pledge of safety to the military ohana and addressed residents' concerns.

"We will do whatever we can to make residents feel comfortable," said Margotta. "It is our promise and our commitment," he stressed.

The meeting adjourned as subject-matter experts and concerned residents discussed issues in smaller circles.

Piatt: Commander already feels at home at Third Brigade's quads

CONTINUED FROM A-1

operation. Third, most of the Iraqi people are good folks, who just want peace and some services from their government. We would serve them."

Third Brigade achieved these goals under extreme living environments, according to Stackpole. The brigade relentlessly pursued the enemy and provided aid that helped change the character of the war in its area of operation.

Another achievement under Stackpole's leadership included the reorganization of more than 80 percent of the brigade's manning.

"We had to grow the brigade threefold, incorporating hundreds of new specialties and collective tasks, establishing new battalions and companies from scratch, and integrating thousands of new pieces of gear, while getting rid of all the old," Stackpole said.

"If you would have asked me if a unit

could do all that five years ago, I would have told you flatly that it was impossible," he said. "But this infantry brigade combat team, these superb Soldiers you see in front of you, made it happen."

For his final duty as commander, Stackpole joined Piatt in an inspection of the troops, verifying their readiness to continue service under Piatt's leadership.

For Piatt, it is his second time with the brigade, having commanded the "Wolfhounds" of 2nd Battalion, 27th In-

fantry Regiment, through a prior deployment in Iraq.

"I do not know of any more qualified Soldier in this Army to command this brigade than Colonel Walt Piatt," said Maj. Gen. Benjamin Mixon, commander, 25th ID. "He is a combat veteran of this division in Afghanistan, G-3 of this division, during our transformation and during the twelve months of our deployment to Iraq. But more importantly, he is a Soldier who understands the complexities of this war

and the training it takes to win."

Piatt was equally grateful to return to brigade and to command its Bronco Soldiers.

"It is a great honor for the Piatt family to rejoin the ranks of the Broncos," said Piatt. "Returning to the quads of Third Brigade feels like coming home."

The melody of "Aloha Oe" closed the ceremony and Piatt's Soldiers stood ready to begin the next chapter in the brigade's history.

Becoming a tourist in your own city

Chinatown

An authentic, enriching experience awaits around every corner in Honolulu's Chinatown District



The streets of Chinatown are often filled with shoppers and explorers. Touring Chinatown will aid in understanding the history of one of Hawaii's most unique neighborhoods.

Story and Photos by
MOLLY HAYDEN
Staff Writer

HONOLULU — It was still early on Saturday morning, but the hustle and bustle on the streets of Chinatown started before the sun had a chance to rise.

Market owners set up shop and delivery trucks fought their way through narrow streets. Buyers and sellers bartered for the best price or the freshest seafood.

Dozens of sensory distractions pulled market goers in different directions. Languages from around the world filled the air as a small group met on the corner of Smith and King streets to begin a tour of the famous district here.

Led by independent tour guide Walter Rhee, the group began at Lee's Bakery with a mouthful of fresh pastry and traveled to many hot spots within the area. Rhee explained the differences between each market, where to get what items and then immersed the group in the area's deep-rooted history and culture.

"My father was a diplomat," said Rhee. "I've been traveling since I was seven years old, all over southeast Asia, and I got to know both the culture and native foods."

Rhee's extensive knowledge in the field is also due to his bachelor's degree from Cornell University in marine biology, graduate work in fisheries, and a food science degree from the University of Hawaii.

"I know quite a bit about food, particularly seafood," Rhee assured his tour group, "and I can tell you where to get it — and often what it is."

Rhee's manner is much warmer than many tour guides. He conducts his tour with guests as if casually walking with a friend and sharing secrets of the marketplace.

Rhee offered suggestions on where to buy vegetables and gave friendly warnings about recogniz-



Locals and tourists rummage through boxes of corn to pick out the best produce. An array of fruits and vegetables line the streets of Chinatown daily.

Right — The fish market brings hundreds of shoppers in for fresh seafood. Chinatown's market houses many kinds of shrimp and fresh salt water fish to quell the taste buds of any seafood lover.



ing fresh fish. He discussed where he shops for his food and bought seasonal fruits — including rambutan and lychee — for participants to taste. For most, the taste testing was their first experience with the fruits.

Rhee introduced the group to Asian culture by putting them in the center of it.

"I've been to Oahu many times, and Walter has taken me to places I have never been before," said Michigan resident Lyn Zakrzewski. "This has been a wonderful and informative day."

As the tour continued, Rhee entered the kitchen of one of the bakeries to give the group a behind-the-scenes look. Workers passed between the tour group and continued baking pastries as everyone watched with curiosity.

Rhee's personality, background and candidness about the traditions of the community make his tour unique.

"People know, if they have any questions about certain foods that they are afraid to ask or don't know who to ask [about], they can come to me," said Rhee. "I'll

be brutally honest."

He has guided tourists and locals alike through Chinatowns for more than 10 years; his first tours began in Boston's Chinatown.

"Every location differs and needs to be learned," said Rhee, "but the traditions are all the same."

Rhee credits his knowledge of Honolulu's Chinatown district to simply "roaming" through the district for many hours each week.

"It is always fascinating to me," said Rhee. "There is always some-

Join Walter Rhee on three exciting tours of Honolulu's famous Chinatown District:

1. A Cook's Tour of Chinatown — Explore different Asian ethnic stores and markets in Chinatown. Learn the best place to get fresh seafood, meat, vegetables, fruits, herbs and spices for Asian cooking while sampling fresh fruits and pastries.

2. Taste of Chinatown Eateries — Explore and indulge on different Asian dishes available in Honolulu Chinatown. While tasting various dishes, learn the culture and history of the Asian delicacies.

3. Eating Tour of Honolulu's Koreatown — Explore the hidden Korean food culture in Honolulu by sampling an array of food in Korean restaurants and grocery stores.

Reservations are required for each tour.

For more information, contact Walter Rhee, 391-1550 or eat_hawaii@yahoo.com.

thing new to learn in each area, and I enjoy passing this information to others."

The tour ended at the Chinatown Cultural Plaza shopping center, where Rhee treated the group to a durian fruit smoothie. "You'll either love it or hate it," he said.

Zakrzewski curled her face at the pungent taste of the southeast Asian delicacy.

"I see what you mean," laughed Zakrzewski. "Regardless, this walk has been the highlight of my trip."



18 / Today

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

24 / Thursday

Chilton Library Demo – Do-it-yourselfers won't want to miss this free demo at Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks, Jan. 24, from 2–6 p.m. A hands-on session of the Chilton Library database, which is available on Army Knowledge Online (AKO), will be presented. The Chilton Library holds repair information for car, truck and van make and model combinations dating back to 1954. Call 655-8001.

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

29 / Tuesday

Hearts and Cards – Make your Valentine's Day cards Jan. 29, 6:30–8:30 p.m., at the Arts and Crafts Center, Schofield Barracks. The \$10 fee includes instruction and supplies for six cards. Registration is required. Call 655-4202.

30 / Wednesday

Blue Star Card Casino Night – Enjoy games, activities and prizes at Blue Star Card Casino Night, Jan. 30, 6–9 p.m., at the Nehelani, Schofield Barracks. Take home a free, Blue Star Card casino cup while supplies last. Call the Recreation Activities Office for reservations by Jan. 23, or e-mail Elizabeth.thunstedt@us.army.mil.

31 / Thursday

Dogs, Dogs, Dogs – Meet working, service, therapy and reading education assistance dogs, Jan. 31, 4 p.m., at Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks. This is a kickoff for the library's Read to the Dogs program, which will run from February through May. Children who are able to



Christina Douglas | U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii, Public Affairs

Ready, aim, paint!

WHEELER ARMY AIR FIELD — Roland Manahan (left), owner of Paintball Hawaii, and his son, Chris, inflate barriers here, Wednesday, in preparation for Saturday's Paintball Hawaii grand opening. The opening ceremony is slated for 11 a.m. at the paintball field, which is located behind the baseball fields at Wheeler. Following the ceremony, the field will be open for play. For more information, visit www.paintballhawaii.com, or call 343-3929. See next week's *Hawaii Army Weekly* coverage of the opening ceremony and more paintball action.

read on their own are invited to register for a 15-minute session to read to a dog. Research shows this type of program helps children improve their reading skills. Call 655-8002.

February

23 / Saturday

Kolekole Jam 2 – Be on the lookout for information coming soon on the best, free concert of the year, Feb. 23, at Sills Field, Schofield Barracks. "Montgomery Gentry" and "Bowling for Soup" are already confirmed, with more names on the way. Stay tuned to MWR publications for further details on special offers and chances to win reserved seating for this great event. Call 655-0112.

Ongoing

Youth Art Contests – Keiki are invited to enter a youth art contest now through March 31, at Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks. Keiki 5 and under can pick up col-

oring sheets from any MWR Army Hawaii library.

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

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

Big Time Urban R & B – Enjoy great music, card games and a cash bar at the Nehelani, Schofield Barracks every Wednesday, 6:30–10 p.m. Enjoy a free taco bar with a beverage purchase, 6:30–7:30 p.m. Call 655-4466.

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

Tropic Lightning – Enjoy a fast and hot lunch buffet, Monday–Friday, 11 a.m.–2 p.m., at the Kolekole Bar & Grill, Schofield Barracks. Cost is

\$8.95 per person. Call 655-4466.

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

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

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

Sellers can place vehicles in the Resale Lot for as little as \$7 for seven days. To place vehicles in the lot sellers need a valid government ID card, state registration and license plate sticker, safety inspection papers and stickers, proof of Hawaii "No Fault" insurance, a base decal number, and a power of attorney, if the person placing the vehicle is not the registered owner. Call 655-9368 for more details.

parade Unity Rally at Kapiolani Park. Enjoy food, entertainment, community booths and other vendors. Visit www.mlk-hawaii.com.

22 / Tuesday

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

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

23 / Wednesday

Prayer Breakfast – There will be a National Prayer Breakfast at the Nehelani, Schofield Barracks, Jan. 23, at 7 a.m. Everyone is invited to attend. Donations are requested.

24 / Thursday

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

25 / Friday

MLK Commemoration Service – Celebrate in honor of Martin Luther King in a commemoration service at the Hale Ikena, Fort Shafter, Jan. 25, 7–8:30 a.m. Breakfast will be available.

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

Students in the Imagine program dive deep into a drama adventure, exploring unique themes through story building, creative movement and improvisation. Participants learn to take risks, develop personal and interpersonal skills, and work together. Imagine sessions are divided into grade levels: kindergarten–1st grade,

1:30–2:30 p.m.; 2nd–3rd grade, 2:40–3:40 p.m.; and 4th–6th grade, 3:45–4:45 p.m.

Tuition is \$100 and scholarships are available. Call HTY at 839-9885. Deadline to enroll is Jan. 25.

26 / Saturday

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

Cub Scouts Meeting – Cub Scout Pack 442, of Fort Shafter, is holding a membership meeting at Scout Hut, Building T-445, Jan. 26, at 4:30 p.m. Boys ages 6–11 and their parents are welcome. A pack meeting and movie about the Pinewood Derby will follow at 5:30 p.m.

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

February

1 / Friday

Leeward Moms Club – Meet with the Leeward Moms Club at the Asing Recreation Center every first Friday of the month at 10 a.m. The Leeward Moms Club is a support group for stay at home moms from Kapolei, Makakilo, Ewa Beach and Leeward Coast areas. Call 674-0187.

7 / Thursday

Wahiawa Toastmasters – The Pineapple Wahiawa Toastmasters Club meets the first and third Thursday of each month at the Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks, 6:30–7:30 p.m. Call 622-0169, or visit <http://pineapple.free.toasthost.us/index.html>.

8 / Friday

"Encore!" Hawaiian Music Series – The Hawaii Theatre Center (HTC) continues its 85th anniversary "Encore!" series special presentation with an array of Hawaiian music concerts produced by Burton White, HTC's artistic director and general manager.

Upcoming concerts in the series include the "New Traditionalists," Feb. 8, \$30; "The Brothers Cazimero," March 14, \$35; and "Holunape," April 25, \$30.

All tickets are subject to a \$3 theatre restoration charge after Jan. 1 (\$2 until

then). Discounts available for HTC members, youth, students, military with ID and groups of 10 or more.

All concerts are at 8 p.m. at the Hawaii Theatre, 1130 Bethel St. Call 528-0506, or visit www.hawaiitheatre.com.

Ongoing

Homeless Resource Center – Do you know anyone in your area who is homeless? Direct them to the Affordable Housing and Homeless Alliance's resource center in Wahiawa. The center is open Wednesdays, 9 a.m.–3 p.m. Call 845-4565.

Career and College Fair – Leilehua High School is looking for speakers and exhibitors for their upcoming 2008 Career and College Fair, which will be held April 23.

The purpose of the fair is to help students explore different careers, colleges, and other post-secondary options. Interested participants must submit a response form no later than March 1.

Call Janet Hyrne at 622-6554, or e-mail janet_hyrne@notes.k12.hi.us.

Borders Reading Groups – Borders Waikaele hosts three monthly reading groups: Bestsellers, second Wednesday of the month, 7 p.m.; Romance Readers Anonymous, second Thursday of the month, at 6:30 p.m.; and International Women's Writing Guide, first and third Wednesday of the month, 7 p.m.. Call 676-6699.

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

Baby Boot Camp – Pre- and post-natal women can maintain a healthy weight during and after pregnancy at Baby Boot Camp. Classes are available island-wide. Call 689-6668, or visit www.babybootcamp.com.

Ballet for Beginners – Learn the art of ballet at W Performing Arts Center, 823 Olive Ave., Wahiawa, Wednesdays, 4:30–6 p.m. Cost is \$60 per month. Call 779-8709.

Waipahu Market – The Waipahu Festival Marketplace is open 7 a.m.–6 p.m. daily at Waipahu Depot Road, offering fresh fish, produce, crafts, refreshments and island-made products. Call 677-6939.



Aliamanu (AMR) Chapel, 836-4599

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

Fort DeRussy Chapel, 836-4599

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

Fort Shafter Chapel, 836-4599

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

Helemano (HMR) Chapel

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

Main Post Chapel, 655-9307

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

MPC Annex, Building 791

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

Soldiers Chapel

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

Tripler AMC Chapel, 433-5727

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

Wheeler Chapel

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



Send calendar announcements to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

18 / Friday

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

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

19 / Saturday

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

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

20 / Sunday

Parade of Champions – Cheer on the University of Hawaii (UH) football team and coaches at the Parade of Champions, Jan. 20. Intermediate and high school football, UH women's volleyball and women's soccer will also be honored. The parade starts at 4 p.m. down Kalakaua Avenue, ending at Sunset on the Beach, with a special program to follow.

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

21 / Monday

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



Enchanted

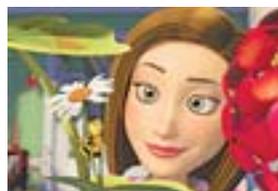
(PG)
Friday, 7 p.m.
Saturday, 2 p.m.
Thursday, 7 p.m.

Beowulf

(PG-13)
Friday, 9:30 p.m.

The Mist

(R)
Saturday, 7 p.m.



Bee Movie

(PG)
Sunday, 2 p.m.

August Rush

(PG)
Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.

This Christmas

(PG-13)
Thursday, 7:00 p.m.

Deadline nears for \$1,500 military children's scholarship

CAROLINE WILLIAMS
Defense Commissary Agency

FORT LEE, Va. — Are you digging under the sofa cushions for misplaced change and rolling coins from your money jar to help pay for college tuition? Given the soaring costs of higher education, you certainly aren't alone.

Perhaps a \$1,500 scholarship could help.

Applications for the 2008 Scholarships for Military Children Program must be turned in to a commissary by close of business Feb. 20. Applications are available in commissaries worldwide or online through a link at www.commissaries.com and directly at www.militaryscholar.org, where they can be filled out on the computer and printed, or printed and filled out by hand. At least one scholarship will be awarded at every commissary location with qualified applicants.

The scholarship program kicked off in

2001 and, according to agency officials, has awarded more than \$5.5 million in scholarships to 3,532 of the best and brightest children of military families.

Retired Marine Lt. Col. Fred Thomas' son Mark earned a scholarship in 2001. He said he's still paying for his son's undergraduate tuition, but every scholarship helps.

"[This scholarship] was one more piece that allowed my son to attend a top university and excel by not having to work his way through," Thomas explained.

Mark posted a 3.96 grade point average upon graduating from the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Ind., with a Bachelor of Arts in theology, music and philosophy. He is presently a Senator Jacob K. Javits Fellow at Boston College, Mass., working on a doctorate of philosophy in religion.

The scholarship program is open to unmarried children under the age of 21

(23 if enrolled in school) of active duty, Reserve, Guard and retired military personnel. Eligibility will be determined using the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System database (DEERS). Applicants should ensure that they, as well as their sponsor, are currently enrolled in the DEERS database and that they have a current ID card. All applicants must be U.S. citizens.

Applicants must be planning to attend, or already attending, an accredited college or university full-time in the fall term of 2008. Students at community or junior colleges must be enrolled in a program of studies designed to transfer directly into a four-year program.

"Applications must be in the store by close of business, Feb. 20, either by hand or mail," said Edna Hoogewind, DeCA's scholarship program liaison. For applicants who are not hand delivering their application, Hoogewind recommends using a delivery method that supplies a re-

turn receipt. From April 15 through July 1, applicants can go online and verify receipt of their application in the "Verification of Receipt" section.

On The WEB www.commissaries.com and www.militaryscholar.org

Hoogewind also advises students to check all their materials carefully for simple things, like making sure the application is signed or that they are using the 2008 application, not one from previous years. In addition, everything applicants need to know about the program can be found in the Frequently Asked Questions section of the military scholar Web page.

The Scholarships for Military Children program is funded through donations by

the general public and by product manufacturers and brokers that sell groceries in commissaries. Fisher House Foundation, a nonprofit organization best known for building comfort homes near military medical facilities, administers the Scholarships for Military Children program. Fisher House Foundation uses the services of Scholarship Managers, a professional firm that has handled more than 400 programs, to screen applicants and award scholarships. Neither Fisher House nor DeCA are involved in the decision process.



NMFA-Fisher House Foundation partnership gives spouses gift of education

SAMANTHA L. QUIGLEY
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Military spouses now have a larger scholarship pool to draw from, thanks to a new partnership between the National Military Family Association (NMFA) and the Fisher House Foundation.

The collaboration will enable the NMFA to expand its Joanne Holbrook Patton Military Spouse Scholarship Program to many more deserving spouses, association officials said.

"With fifty-five years of combined experience serving military families, both NMFA and Fisher House Foundation are acutely aware of the challenges and hardships facing today's military families," Tanna Schmidli, chairman of the NMFA's board of governors, said. "We are thrilled to be working together on this very important project supporting military spouses."

Joanne Holbrook Patton Military Spouse Scholarships are awarded to military spouses to obtain professional certification or to attend post-secondary or

graduate school. Scholarships normally range from \$500 to \$1,000 and may be used for tuition, fees, and school room and board.

Spouses of uniformed service members, including active duty, National Guardsmen, reservists, retirees and survivors of any branch or rank, are eligible to apply. Applications will be accepted online at www.nmfa.org/ scholarship through Feb. 29.

"Through our partnership with the Defense Commissary Agency, in seven years we have been able to provide more than \$5.5 million in scholarship

grants to more than 3,500 military children," said David A. Coker, president of the Fisher House Foundation. "We are partnering with the NMFA to be able to expand our grants to military spouses."

The National Military Family Association and the Fisher House Foundation are supporters of America Supports You, a Defense Department program connecting citizens and corporations with military personnel and their families serving at home and abroad.

(Editor's Note: Information obtained from a National Military Family Association news release.)



19 / Saturday

Paintball Grand Opening – Don't miss this first chance to check out the new paintball facility at the grand opening, Jan. 19, 11 a.m., at Wheeler Army Air Field, just off Lauhala Road, next to the baseball fields. The facility features three lighted fields for day and evening play. It's open for regular play, league and youth play, private parties and physical training (PT) reservations.

Rental equipment is available, and you can bring your own paint or buy it there. Instruction is available for those new to the sport. Call 343-3929.

23 / Wednesday

Football Bash Clinic – Current and former NFL, university, high school players and coaches will be conducting the 3rd Annual Football Bash Clinic, Jan. 26, at Aliamanu Military Reservation (AMR) Field. Meet players from the Pittsburgh Steelers, Denver Broncos, Philadelphia Eagles, Miami Dolphins and Jacksonville Jaguars, to name a few.

The \$40 cost includes a T-shirt, snack, drinks and gift bag. Registration is today through Jan. 23, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., at the following locations: Bennett Youth Center (Schofield Barracks, 655-6465), AMR Youth Center (836-1923) and Fort Shafter Youth Center.

Late and walk in registration will be accepted on a space-available basis.

For more information, visit the youth sports Web site at www.armyhawaiiouthsports.com.

26 / Saturday

Hike – Enjoy stunning views of the shore and glimpses of whales as you hike the path to the historical Makapuu Lighthouse, Jan. 26. Call the Recreation Activities Office to register at 655-0112.

28 / Monday

USAG-HI Racquetball – The U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii (USAG-HI) Sports Office is hosting a racquetball contest, Feb. 11-15, at Schofield's Martinez Gym. The entry deadline is 4 p.m., Jan. 28. Call 655-9914.

Ongoing

Karate Classes – Children ages 5 and over can learn Do Shudokan karate at these physical fitness centers: Aliamanu, Fort Shafter, Helemano or Schofield's Bennett

Youth Center.

All youth students must be Child and Youth Service (CYS) members, and the cost is \$35 per month. A discount is offered for two or more family members. Call instructor Joseph Bunch at 488-6372 or 265-5476.

Racquetball Ladder Challenge

– The Fort Shafter Physical Fitness Center is hosting a Racquetball Ladder Challenge, now through March 31. Military and their family members, civilians and contractors who work on an Army installation on Oahu are eligible.

Divisions include co-ed, open (Level A) and novice (Level B). Entries will be accepted until the end of the challenge. Call 438-1152 or stop by the front desk at Building 665.

Ladies Golf Clinic – Ladies, 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.

100-Mile Run/Walk & 50-Mile Swim Clubs

– Record each mile you run, walk or swim and win incentive prizes. Stop by any Army physical fitness center or swimming pool to pick up a log sheet. Call 655-9914.

Karate Classes

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

All Army Sports

– Soldiers interested in applying for Department of the Army-level sports competitions must submit applications with their Army Knowledge Online (AKO) account

at <https://armysports.cfsc.army.mil>. Call 655-9914 or 655-0856.

Little Ninja Classes

– Parents or guardians, bring your 3-5-year-olds to CYS so they can learn basic Tae Kwon Do skills. At these classes, children will improve their motor and communication skills, learn to focus, and build confidence and socialization skills.

Children must be enrolled in Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills (SKIES) or be a current member of CYS. Call SKIES at 655-9818 for more information.

Volunteer Coaches

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



Send sports announcements to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

19 / Saturday

Hike Oahu – Join the Hawaiian Trail & Mountain Club (HTMC) on its next hiking event to the lookout above Makapuu Beach, Jan. 19. This hike is an advanced novice, two-mile trek. Call 674-1459.

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

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

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

20 / Sunday

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

Training is progressive and spans a total of nine weeks. Training groups are divided into runners, joggers, walkers and run-walkers. Each workout is comprised of a warm-up, training run/walk, stretching, cool down and question & answer session.

Training and health topics include how to train injury-free, how to fuel for great workouts, how and when to train for endurance and speed, how to recover from training, what to wear for the race, and the logistics for the race.

To learn more about the training workshops, call Dr. Christ at 943-0309. For all Great Aloha Run inquiries, call 528-7388 or visit www.greataloharun.com.

27 / Sunday

Sharon's Ride, Run, Walk – Participate in the fight for epilepsy awareness at Kapiolani Community College, Jan. 27, at 7 a.m.

Sharon's Ride, Run, Walk for Epilepsy is a family-oriented, fund-and awareness-raising event that offers a challenge for experienced athletes as well as a fun day for amateurs. Participants are encouraged to bring their families, pets, bikes, or wheelchairs.

Cost and distance varies. Visit www.sharonforepilepsy.org, or www.active.com.

31 / Thursday

Harold Chapson 8K – Run the Harold Chapson Memorial 8K at Kapiolani Park, Feb. 3, 7 a.m. Online registration ends Jan. 31.

Cost is \$25 for nonmembers.

Visit www.mprrc.com, or call 295-6777.

February

16 / Saturday

Swamp Romp – Register now for Swamp Romp, the muddiest run on the island, which takes place Feb. 23. This event is approximately five-miles through various types of terrain. Participants must register in teams of six.

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

Ongoing

Bicycling League – Join Hawaii Bicycling League's Heavy Breathers as they bike from Paki Park to Makapuu Beach and back, Saturday mornings at 9:15 a.m.

Call 368-6980 or 479-8142.

Sounds of Freedom set to roar at Great Aloha Run

CHRISTINA DOUGLAS
Staff Writer

HONOLULU — Once a year the shouts of cadence echo through the heart of the city here, epitomizing the aloha spirit of the military in Hawaii. No other run has such a military presence. This event is the Great Aloha Run (GAR), and these shouts of cadence embody the Sounds of Freedom.

During the past 23 years, the GAR — one of Hawaii's largest participatory races — has raised more than \$7.8 million to support local charities. This 8.15-mile foot race, which is set for Feb. 18, begins at Aloha Tower and finishes in the Aloha Stadium.

With divisions for elites, various age groups, wheelchair competitors, the Sounds of Freedom (service members running in formation) and those who just want to walk and socialize, this event has something for everyone.

Each year thousands of service members sign up to run in the Sounds of Freedom. Boasting 1,796 Soldiers last year, the Army received the award for the branch of service with the most participation, and its turn out was considered low.

"We're expecting higher numbers this year," said Sgt. 1st Class Louis R. Jackson, Army Sounds of Freedom coordinator for the GAR. "More units are back from deployment."

However, deployments haven't stopped



Hawaii Army Weekly File Photo

Col. Stefan J. Banach (center, right), commander, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, leads his Headquarters and Headquarters Company Soldiers to the finish line of last year's Great Aloha Run, Feb. 19, 2007.

Soldiers from participating elsewhere. On the contrary, deployments have enabled the GAR to traverse across oceans, becoming a worldwide tradition for deployed troops. Last year, Soldiers from the 556th Personnel Support Battalion (PSB) held their own GAR in Kuwait for an experience of a lifetime.

"Soldiers came from all over that day," said 1st Lt. Greg Yazzie, who ran with the 556th PSB. "Even our coalition partners ran with us. You felt a huge sense of accomplishment and esprit de corps."

While still an 8.15 mile race, Yazzie mentioned one big difference.

"There was a lot more sand and not enough ocean," he said.

Now that Yazzie, along with thousands of other Soldiers, have returned from deployment, the Army is looking forward to another tremendous turn out.

This year marks Jackson's second year coordinating the Army's participation in the Sounds of Freedom.

"We belong to them [the community]," said Jackson. "We're their military. [In the

GAR] they get to see their military running strong, calling cadences ... we want to give them a sense of pride."

Sgt. 1st Class Leona Mansapit, special agent, 102nd Military Police Detachment, has been running in every run she could sink her feet into for the past few years, one of which was the GAR.

When Mansapit signed up, she knew it would be a good way to get involved and show community support, but what she didn't know is that it would become one of the best runs she'd experience.

Ready to get started? This year's GAR is set for Feb. 18.

Soldiers can sign up to run in formation for the Sounds of Freedom through their respective chain of command. Cost is \$13 per Soldier, which includes bus transportation to and from starting and ending points, and a finisher's T-shirt. Command points of contact must submit all entries to Sgt. 1st Class Louis R. Jackson, no later than Jan. 28, at 438-1555.

For individual sign ups, catch the \$30 early military entry rate. Visit the Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange (NEX) rotunda, Monday, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., or call Michelle McQueary at 655-8789. Online entry is available for \$35 until Jan. 19, and \$40 until Feb. 2. Visit www.greataloharun.com.

"There's no other run like it where the military gets so involved," said Mansapit. "The Sounds of Freedom builds your adrenaline to get you through the run — that was the best part of it. You hear everyone cheering for them [service members] as they're going by. It's a completely unique running experience."

Bowlers battle pin by pin for top honors

Story and Photo by
CHRISTINA DOUGLAS
Staff Writer

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — The 2008 Armed Forces Bowling Championship, hosted by U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii, concluded its weeklong competition with an awards ceremony at the Nehelani here, Friday.

Two four-person teams, one male and one female, from each branch of service, battled through four grueling days for coveted titles in the team challenge, doubles, mixed doubles and singles events.

In the men's category, the Navy took top honors, winning three of the four events: the team challenge, doubles and mixed doubles competitions.

"This is unheard of for the Navy," said Roy Yamanuha, Navy team coach. "We have a lot of gold this year."

Making the Navy sweat, the Air Force stayed right in its wake, placing second in the men's doubles, men's team challenge and mixed doubles competitions.

While the Air Force, which has won the competition for the past six years, didn't live up to its esteemed reputation in the men's events, the women were another story.

The Air Force women dominated their events, taking first place in the team challenge, doubles and singles competitions.

Air Force Coach Charles Hall was pleased, but not surprised, by the outcome.

"The women are always strong at these competitions," he said.

Despite a rough start, Team Army picked up its game, placing second in the men and women's singles, women's doubles, and third in the mixed doubles.

While the awards ceremony marked the end of the 2008 championship, it also marked the beginning of another journey for eight elite bowlers. The top four men and women with the highest pin counts during the competition flew to Las Vegas, Tuesday, for the 2008 U.S. Bowling Congress (USBC) Team USA trials, where they competed with top bowlers from across the country.

Check out the USBC Team USA results at www.bowl.com.



Top 2008 Armed Forces Championship bowlers pose following an award ceremony at Schofield's Nehelani, Friday. All are headed to Las Vegas to compete for spots on Team USA. From left to right, (back row) Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Richard Racette, Coast Guard Petty Officer 1st Class Scott McIntire, Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael Hartter and Marine Corps Gunnery Sgt. Donnie Thompson, (Front row) Air Force Lt. Col. Carol Becker, Air Force Master Sgt. Patricia Rodger, Army Pfc. Joann Highfill and Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Pamela Matthews.