

INSIDE

Chief of Staff solicits input in Hawaii

JEREMY S. BUDDEMEIER
Editor

In his first three weeks as Army Chief of Staff, Gen. George W. Casey hasn't been in his Pentagon office long enough to answer the phone.

That's because Casey, along with his wife and staff, has been traveling to installations around the country gathering input from Soldiers and spouses. Casey intends to integrate the opinions and information he receives into his seven initiatives for balancing the Army's strategic requirements and resources.

Casey developed the initiatives out of concern for the stresses placed on the all-volunteer force and the Army's ability to sustain it, he said.

RELATED STORIES

• For additional coverage of the chief of staff's visit, see pages A-3 and A-4.



Jeremy S. Buddemeier | U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii, Public Affairs

Left to right — Col. Howard J. Killian, commander, U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii, discusses kitchen features with Army Chief of Staff Gen. George W. Casey Jr., and his wife Sheila Casey, during a model home tour in the Schofield Barracks' Kalakaua community, Saturday.



Soft-serve delight

Several new amenities and the new design of the Eagle's Nest DFAC give Soldiers at Contingency Operating Base Speicher their fill

A-6

PX hiring fair

AAFES will hire more than 100 new employees for the Schofield Barracks Main Post Exchange at a hiring fair May 8-9, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Contact Lori Maggard at 624-0702.

Mano a mano

Military Police Soldiers take to the mats and train using hand-to-hand combatives at the Martinez Gym

A-9

Casey's entourage made several stops at installations on Oahu April 26-28, including visiting wounded Soldiers at Tripler Army Medical Center, and interacting with Soldiers, spouses and support program leaders at Fort Shafter and Schofield Barracks.

At Schofield Barracks Saturday morning, Casey toured an Army Hawaii Family Housing (AHFH) model home and visited the Kalakaua Community Center; strolled through the recently remodeled C Quad barracks and dining facility, and addressed concerns of young leaders at the Non-commissioned Officer Academy at East Range.

AHFH Director of Property Management Janine Lind and Col. Howard J. Killian, commander, U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii, escorted Casey through a two-story model home for officers in the Kalakaua community. Killian mentioned that as an officer achieves greater rank, fixtures such as countertops and cabinets are likewise upgraded.



Jeremy S. Buddemeier | U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii, Public Affairs

At center right, Chief of Staff of the Army, Gen. George W. Casey Jr., absorbs details at a briefing hosted by Army Hawaii Family Housing, Saturday. The CSA was joined by his wife, Sheila, to his left; Lt. Gen. John M. Brown III (second from left), commander, U.S. Army, Pacific; and Col. Howard J. Killian (third from left), commander, U.S. Army Garrison, and USARPAC Command Sgt. Maj. Joseph Zettlemoyer.

Then, less than a mile across post, Casey's cavalcade of officer and sergeants major tour guides filed into single- and double-occupancy rooms at the newly remodeled C Quad barracks.

At both locations, Casey noted the differences between current living quarters and

those available when he was a junior officer.

"They get bathtubs?" Casey asked.

Later at East Range, 161 noncommissioned officer candidates welcomed Casey with a booming, synchronized rendition of the Soldier's Creed, which echoed throughout the

courtyard.

"Let me take a moment to look you in the eye," Casey said, as he came closer and stared into the audience. "Old Soldiers like myself need to look you in the eye ... to see your fire."

SEE CASEY, A-8



Jeremy S. Buddemeier | U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii, Public Affairs

Noncommissioned officer candidates stand in line to clear their weapons before lunch at the NCO Academy, Hawaii, during Gen. Casey's visit, Saturday.

Schofield's Best Rangers return

Captains from 25th's 2nd Brigade endure 60 grueling hours to nab second place

AIKO BRUM
Chief, Command Information

"It's hard to come in second, but at the same time, it's nothing to be ashamed of either," aptly put Capt. David Uthlaut, 2nd Brigade personnel officer, who returned to Schofield Barracks this week from the Fort Benning, Georgia-based Best Ranger Competition, held April 20-23.

Teamed with Capt. Andrew Farina, 2nd Brigade assistant operations officer, the dynamic duo pushed themselves throughout 60 hours of grueling obstacles in their first-ever entry in the contest to place second — a feat "practically unheard of" for first-timers, said Elsie Jackson of Fort Benning Public Affairs.

Many of the '07 competitors, like the winning team from Fort Bragg, N.C., had competed multiple times in previous years, so "the 25th has a great coach," Jackson noted, with admiration. (Sgt. 1st Class Greg Baker, pre-Ranger program non-commissioned officer in charge, coached Hawaii's Best Ranger teams.)

The Best Ranger, a three-day ath-



Capt. Kamil Sztalkoper

(Left to right) Capts. Andrew Farina and David Uthlaut and Sgts. Thomas West and Jeremy Heinlein, all of 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, cross the finish line of the final event, the buddy run, at the 2007 Lt. Gen. David E. Grange Best Ranger Competition.

letic contest, pits pairs of the Army's top Rangers in competition. The objective is to "place extreme demands on the teams' physical, mental and technical abilities as Rangers ...vastly [exceeding] those required by the average Soldier," according to the Best Ranger Web site.

Myriad events with diverse point values challenge rivaling teams

from dawn to dusk — with little opportunity for food and rest in between — such as stress shoots, weapons assemblies, litter carries, tri-tower rappelling challenges, "helocasts" with rucksack rafts, foot marches, distance runs, lifesaving tasks, and more.

The challenges closely mirror

SEE RANGERS, A-10

Chamber, businesses laud May's Military Appreciation Month

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF HAWAII
News Release

HONOLULU — The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, led by its Military Affairs Council, has planned a monthlong celebration to express mahalo and appreciation to Hawaii's military heroes.

May 2007 marks the twenty-second consecutive year that the Chamber, the business community and Hawaii's citizens have joined together in honoring military ohana.

"The burdens of our deployed troops are felt most by their spouses and families that remain in Hawaii," said Charlie Ota, vice president of Military Affairs. "Many of the spouses are away from their hometowns for the first time, having to care for their children, and handling all of the work that is required in managing a household. It is indeed a stressful and lonely time despite all of the support services provided by the military."

Ota continued, "The Chamber also recognizes that the military contributes greatly towards making Hawaii a better place. Military members freely volunteer their time and resources to better our communities, environment and charitable organizations."

"As the second largest contributor to our economy," he stressed, "it is important we continue to show our support."

Hawaii Military Appreciation Month is held to pay tribute to service members and express deep appreciation for all that they do for us. The Chamber calls upon Hawaii's business community to get involved and reach out to military members and their families by attending and sponsoring numerous activi-

SEE HMAM, A-10



Trailblazing Oahu

Oahu's trails offer fresh air for even the most sedentary. Take your morning commute to a new level this weekend.

B-1

This issue

Lightning Spirit	A-2
News Briefs	A-7
MWR	B-2
Community	B-3
Sports & Fitness	B-5

Soldiers want to accomplish mission in Iraq

SGT. TODD SELGE
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — When you hear about the war in Iraq, you hear it from a high-level Army spokesperson or you hear tragedy and “another deadly day” from the media. The view on the ground, from the Soldier’s perspective, is often overlooked.

We are the ones who live the conflict every day, who see the progress day to day. We are the ones who experience the sorrows, deal face to face with the people and see the enemy’s effort to undo every good thing the Iraqi people and coalition forces have done. What all Soldiers want is to succeed in the mission and go home to our families. The things we do each day allow us to do just that.

The Soldiers make the many successes of the coalition possible. My unit, A Company, 5th Battalion, 20th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division (Stryker Brigade Combat Team), is no exception.

The most important success is getting the Iraqi security forces organized and capable of handling every problem that may arise in the future. Accomplishing this happens on all levels, from the commanders down to the average private.

Our Soldiers develop friendships with the Iraqi troops and police. We joke, eat, talk about family and conduct missions together. We provide a model for the Iraqi Security Force during the time we spend together.

We have a training program where Iraqi Army soldiers come and learn the same basic tasks every U.S. Army Soldier knows. Every day Soldiers work hand-in-hand to teach the IA to succeed in securing their country.

The ISF has been the main effort. Our joint successes include finding countless caches, killing or capturing anti-Iraqi force personnel and thwarting attacks targeting coalition forces. The ISF continues to gain the confidence of their fellow countrymen.

We are also building important and long-lasting relationships with the surrounding communities. We continuously visit schools and neighborhoods to give the kids backpacks full of supplies, hand out candy and listen to the concerns of the people.

We ask about their basic services, such as food, water, electricity and fuel. We hand out cards with hotline numbers to address any problems, and we share handshakes. We see the smiles of a hopeful generation firsthand and see the efforts of anti-Iraqi forces to shatter those dreams. Recent tactics by the insurgents are trying to break these bonds.

There has been a major effort by insurgents to sell and hand out a wide variety of realistic-looking toy guns. Their hope is for the ISF and coalition forces to engage children. But with constant training and help from the communities, we will yet again foil the enemy’s plans to promote chaos and hatred.

Every day we interact and help Iraq grow, we are one day closer to success and one day closer to seeing our families.

What does the average Soldier think on a daily basis? He wants to accomplish the mission. He wants to see the smiles of the Iraqi people endure. He is grateful for everything he has back home, and he wishes the very same freedom he is fighting for, upon the country of Iraq.

(Editor’s Note: Sgt. Todd Selge is a member of A Company, 5th Battalion, 20th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division.)

AER update

As of April 30, the Army Emergency Relief program has collected \$106,741 en route to its \$200,000 goal. The donation campaign ends today.

Call Capt. Billy Engle at 655-4783, or Jacqueline Torres at 655-7132, to donate.



JROTC honors

Molly Hayden | Pacific Media Publishing

Major General William H. Brandenburg, Deputy Commanding General U.S. Army, Pacific, and Major General Robert G.F. Lee, Adjutant General State of Hawaii, Department of Defense, gathered with young cadets for the 25th annual Governor’s Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC) Review and Awards Ceremony, April 26, at Fort Shafter’s Palm Circle. Currently, there are nearly 3,500 members of the JROTC in the state of Hawaii, one of the highest concentrations in the United States. Army, Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps JROTC members of 24 public Schools and two private Schools were represented.

Modern missions rely on languages, cultural awareness, official says

GERRY J. GILMORE
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The Defense Department needs more service members who understand other languages and cultures to meet current and envisioned 21st-century challenges, a senior official said at a Capitol Hill hearing.

“Foreign language and regional expertise, which includes cultural awareness, are emerging as key competencies for our 21st-century Total Force,” Gail H. McGinn, deputy undersecretary of defense for plans and the department’s senior language authority, said in her prepared statement submitted to members of the Senate Armed Services Committee’s emerging threats and capabilities subcommittee, April 25.

Military operations conducted in Afghanistan and Iraq following the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks on the United States highlighted “the reality that the Defense Department needs an improved capability in languages and dialects of strategic interest,” McGinn said.

To address this need, the department in 2005 began assembling a cadre of high-proficiency-level language specialists who

could be employed in multinational military operations, as well as peacekeeping and civil-military affairs missions, McGinn said.

For example, the department’s foreign area officer program develops a corps of commissioned officers who are trained to understand and recognize the nuances of foreign cultures and are skilled in one or more languages spoken in their regional area of expertise, McGinn said. Today, about 1,600 FAOs have been designated, qualified or are in training, she added.

The Army’s 09L interpreter/translator program is another success story, McGinn said. The Army launched a pilot program in 2003 to recruit people living in communities in America who understand Arabic, Dari and Pashto to join the Individual Ready Reserve and support operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, she said.

“The program was so successful that in 2006, the Army formally established the 09L Translator Aide as a permanent military occupational specialty with a career path from recruit through sergeant major,” McGinn said.

To date, the program has trained and deployed more than 317 such linguists, she said, with another 175 people in

various stages of training.

Senior leaders also recognized that the department “had to assume a more proactive role in promoting and encouraging language education in the American population,” McGinn said.

To that end, President Bush announced the National Security Language Initiative in January 2006. This initiative is designed “to dramatically increase the number of Americans learning critical-need foreign languages such as Arabic, Chinese, Russian, Hindi and Farsi,” McGinn explained, noting the Defense Department’s contribution to the president’s initiative is made through the National Security Education Program.

The NSEP “provides scholarships and fellowships to enable U.S. students to study critical languages and cultures in return for federal national security service,” McGinn explained.

Other NSLI initiatives such as the Flagship program reach out to kindergarten- to college-age young people who are interested in learning a foreign language that’s deemed critical to national security, McGinn noted. One such Chinese-language partnership enlists the University of Oregon and Portland (Oregon) Public Schools.

LIGHTNING SPIRIT

‘Broken promises’ require perspective

CHAPLAIN (CAPT.) ANDREW RIGGS
Schofield Barracks Deputy Community Chaplain



Riggs

Near the end of their journey in the wilderness, the Lord God came to Moses and said, “Not one of you from this ... generation will enter the fertile land that I promised to your ancestors.” Then the Lord said to all of us, “Your children, who are still too young to know right from wrong, will enter the land ... I will give the land to them, and they will occupy it. But as for you people, turn around and go back into the desert on the road to the Gulf of Aqaba” (Deuteronomy 1:35, 39).

How could God do such a thing? He came to the people of Israel while they were enslaved in Egypt, promised to free them from their bondage through the person of Moses, and led them back home to the land first promised to their ancestor, Abraham.

How could God now change his mind? The people of Israel were upset and saddened to hear God’s news of punishment against them. Even though they had disobeyed God during the exodus journey,

they did not like the fact that they could not see the promise fulfilled. They felt betrayed by God.

In recent months, many people have been saddened, disappointed and angry at the news the Pentagon released concerning active duty Army units. We were promised that our Soldiers would only have to serve one year in Iraq and then once home, they could have a long break and time with their families before another deployment.

Now, things have changed, the Army is being extended past the one-year time frame, giving less time with their families at home. It feels as if we have been betrayed and the promise will not be fulfilled as originally told to us.

As a result, many people have begun to ask, “Why must we suffer and our Soldiers suffer? Why is the Army being singled out? Why must we endure longer hardships?”

There are no easy answers to these or other questions we have. Some have tried to provide adequate answers, but those answers don’t calm our fears and anxieties. We want the promise originally made to us. And so did the people of Israel — they wanted to return to the home of their ancestors.

Yet through it all, even though some generations of Israel would not see the promise fulfilled, God remained with them and watched over them. God promised to take care of them, and that promise was never broken.

God promises to be with each of us every day no matter where we are or for how long we have to be separated from our loved ones. God promises to also comfort us through difficult times. And we as an Army family, as the ohana of the 25th Infantry Division, can be assured God is with us and will bring us to better times.

Don’t give up hope. Don’t lose faith in what God can and does do for us. God’s promise to love and care for us always remains constant — that is most certainly true.

Commander, U.S. Army Garrison
Col. Howard J. Killian

Acting Director, Public Affairs
Stefanie Gardin

Chief, Command Information
Aiko Rose Brum
editor@hawaiiarmyweekly.com

Editor
Jeremy S. Buddemeier
news@hawaiiarmyweekly.com

Layout
Jay Parco

Staff Writer
Molly Hayden

Advertising: 525-7654
Classifieds: 521-9111
Editorial Office: 655-4816/8728
Fax: 655-9290

Address:
Public Affairs Office
Bldg. 580, Stop 215
Schofield Barracks, HI 96857

Web site:
http://www.25idl.army.mil/haw.asp

170 days since last fatal accident

Soldiers, as your daily reminder to be safe, place a “red dot” on your wristwatch.

Remember, two division training holidays will be awarded for 200 consecutive days with no accidental fatalities. Current as of 5/2/07.

Voices of Lightning: What can be done to show appreciation for service members?

“I wish everyone could appreciate [that we don’t enlist for the money].”

Spc. Jay Cash
305th MI Bn.
Intelligence System Maintainer

“People often walk up to me off post and say thank you. That’s always nice.”

Spc. Sara Finn
USARPAC
G-2 Intel Analyst

“More functions for both Soldiers and family members.”

Staff Sgt. Nathan Hunsaker
TAMC, Veterinary Services Food Inspection Specialist

“I think the community does enough. I always feel the support.”

Pvt.2 Ashlee Ingle
205th MI Bn.
Signal Analyst

“More public recognition... regardless of whether or not we are at war.”

Sgt. 1st Class George Ka'apana
Recruiting Retention Division — HIANG Recruiting and Retention NCO

General responds to questions from NCO Academy students

AIKO BRUM

Chief, Command Information

WHEELER ARMY AIR FIELD — “It’s going to be two more years before we can increase the number of Soldiers in the Army to the point where it will make a difference on deployment schedules,” said the 36th Chief of Staff of the Army (CSA) before an assembly of 161 noncommissioned officers attending the NCO Academy here, Saturday.

The demand for Soldiers around the world exceeds supply, especially since the U.S. has pursued the war on terror, Gen. George W. Casey Jr. went on to explain. Therefore, supply and demand will continue to impact the Army for a couple years, and “it’s going to be more of the same” for some time, he said.

Since assuming his new position April 10, after serving almost three years as commander, Multi-National Force, Iraq, Casey said he’s been traveling around the Army to get a sense of what’s going on.

He told the mixed group of Pacific-based NCOs that he had just talked to their Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Thomas, and other key leaders, discussing what kind of warrior leaders the academy needs to build. They agreed, NCOs must exhibit competence as first-line supervisors, so NCOs can lead their Soldiers not only in their daily tasks, but also, if necessary, in combat.

“How many of you all have been to Iraq or Afghanistan,” Casey asked. In response to an overwhelming show of raised arms, he simply said, “Wow!”

“We really are going to be that expeditionary force that we’ve been talking about for the last four years. We will be in a cycle of deploy, reset, train and redeploy for engagement, sometimes, for operations, other times,” he explained. “To sustain that pace, we need competent and confident non-



Aiko Brum | U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii, Public Affairs

Spc. William Hill, 21, of A Troop, 2nd Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment, asks Gen. George W. Casey Jr., about changes to the promotion system, during the general's visit to the academy, Saturday.



Aiko Brum | USAG-Hawaii, Public Affairs

commissioned officers.”

For all U.S. military branches, noncommissioned officers serve as the backbone of the fighting force. The status is enviable. Casey acknowledged that other armies around the world often ask him,



Jeremy Buddemeier | U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii, Public Affairs

Above — Casey enjoys lunch with noncommissioned officer candidates at the academy, Saturday.

Left — Sgt. Youreen Primo of 505th Quartermaster Battalion, Okinawa, executes 14 pull-ups with assistance from Sgt. Markus Dawson of 10th Area Support Group, Okinawa, before having lunch in the company of the Chief of Staff of the Army with the rest of her classmates.

“How do you get that?”

“You may not appreciate this now,” he told the NCOs, “but as you increase in rank, you will have a greater impact not only on your Soldiers, but upon your officers.”

Emphasizing his point, Casey explained that he met up with his first sergeant from 30 years prior,

earlier in the day, at the Tropic Lightning Memorial, just outside the 25th Infantry Division headquarters at Fernandez Hall, Schofield Barracks.

His very first platoon sergeant

and battalion command sergeant major both came to his swearing-in ceremony for chief of staff, held at Fort Meyer, Va., which was quite a humbling and honorable milestone, Casey noted.

“I would tell you that I would not be the Soldier that I am today were it not for them.”

He again stressed, “You will have a great impact on shaping the officers you come in contact with — even though they may seem a little above you right now, but it’s a key part of your responsibilities.”

Casey explained that he believes the U.S. Army is the best at soldiering in the world because it’s a values-based organization, because Soldiers live by the Warrior Ethos and because they are strongly supported by their families.

Before departing the academy, Casey extended to NCOs the opportunity to ask him direct questions, then joined them for lunch — a meal especially prepared for the occasion of grilled salmon, swiss steak, shrimp scampi, savory baked chicken and sweet and sour pork.

Several welcomed the Q&A chance, among them, Sgt. Justin Pave of 1st Battalion, 1st Special Forces Group-Airborne.

Pave asked, “How long will it be before we go back to 12-month deployments?”

Casey answered, “Good question. I don’t know,” and everyone laughed at the quickness of the CSA’s candor.

Casey elaborated that competing choices were all unacceptable — between extending brigades already in Iraq or sending brigades back to war with less than a year’s time at home and not as ready as the Army wanted them to be. Demand, that is, numbers of troops available to deploy, was also an unknown factor.

Cpl. Jason Leinweber of A Com-

pany, 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, wanted to know what major changes will occur in the Army in the next few years. Casey responded, the Army will continue with transformation and modernization, and then he noted that he’s sent guidance to the field that outlines his seven initiatives — changes needed in today’s Army.

Among still other questions, Spc. Danielle Plante of 706th EOD asked about funding in Army garrison and downrange, Spc. William Hill of 2-14th Cavalry asked why the promotion system changed and would cut-off scores change as well, and Spc. Michael Smiley, also of 1-21st, wanted to know the future of weapons systems in the Army.

“They took away some of the points for education, Sir. You get points for combat experience, some of the schools ... you also get more points for your PT and weapons [qualifications],” Hill said.

Casey commented, “Well, that’s not a bad thing.”

He asked his staff to take note of the promotions question, which had been mentioned previously during his travels.

“We do everything with a view towards we’re a nation at war,” Casey said.

Spc. Jacob Osgood of 66th Engineer Company asked, “What has been done to improve housing, to bring the Army’s housing up to standards with the rest of the armed services?”

Having toured Army Family Housing earlier in the day, Casey noted with delight that privatization is improving Army housing areas and correcting improvements needed during the last 20 years. He said that many Soldiers and their families, particularly in Hawaii, are living in homes that they probably couldn’t afford if they were civilians outside the installation.

Gen. Casey addresses spouses' concerns at town hall meeting

Story and Photo by
JEREMY S. BUDDEMEIER
Editor

Deployment extension, resources in community top list of issues at forum with family members

During his whirlwind visit to Schofield Barracks April 26-28, Army Chief of Staff Gen. George W. Casey accompanied by his wife, Sheila, met with more than 100 spouses of deployed Soldiers in a town hall forum at in the Post Conference Room.

"We, as leaders, owe candor in everything we do," Casey said Saturday, after giving a brief presentation on his seven initiatives announced earlier last week. The 36th Army Chief of Staff's initiatives seek to balance strategic requirements and resources throughout the organization, and to sustain an expeditionary Army at war.

Many spouses who attended were equally as forthright as they brought their concerns to Casey's attention.

"Do you honestly see the spiraling effect [of deployments] stopping?" Ann Medlin asked, regarding the progressive increase in duration of deployments from six months in 1994, to the current 15-month standard.

"I can't guarantee that won't happen," Casey said. "The pace will only slow down if the demand [for forces] goes down."

Rick Irvin, whose wife is serving on her second deployment, asked: "Are [Reductions in Force and Base Realignment and Closures of the 1990s] why we're here now?" also referring to the recent deployment extension.

"Absolutely," Casey responded. "People looked at the future and said, 'It's looks pretty good,'" citing reductions in military spending following the Cold



Army Chief of Staff Gen. George W. Casey Jr. talks with more than 100 spouses of deployed Soldiers at the Schofield Barracks' Post Conference Room, Saturday.

War.

Casey stressed the need for ideas from "bureaucracy busters" for inducing relevant changes in Army policy and encouraged everyone at the town hall to become active participants in change.

"We're currently using a system that was designed for another era, not for an Army that has been at war for five years," he said.

Casey's wife, Sheila, recalled one such bureaucracy-busting idea regarding the Montgomery GI Bill. A

spouse at another installation recommended altering the bill so that the educational benefits could be transferred to a spouse or child, she said.

The audience paused and exhaled a collective "ooh," indicating its interest in the suggestion.

In addition to benefits and compensation issues, spouses such as Laura Kildoo and Marci Palmer posed questions about the possibility of awarding higher housing priorities to spouses of deployed Soldiers, and increasing off-post educators' awareness of

the unique needs of military children.

Senior spouses such as Holly Bednarek offered advice and suggested local solutions to concerns raised by several spouses.

Carina Menjivar wondered why many Soldiers were completing their second or third deployments, yet others had not deployed at all. "Is anything being done to ensure equity and sharing of the burden?" she asked.

"We need to do a better job of getting everybody into the fight," Casey said.

Overall, the war's long-term impact on Soldiers and their families dominated the discussion.

"What exactly is a 'win'?" asked Jessica Miller, whose husband is deployed with the 45th Sustainment Brigade.

Casey called "winning" a long-term proposition, one that requires providing a secure enough environment so the Iraqi government can move forward and run itself. Casey estimated that day is five to 10 years away.

Near the end of the hour-long meeting, Casey relayed related a story about a unit on the day of its deployment. As families interacted with their Soldiers, the first sergeant abruptly formed up the company and marched it onto the bus without giving the Soldiers a chance to say their final goodbyes.

The brightly clad audience at the town hall gasped in unison.

"Exactly," Casey said. "You get [the importance of the last goodbye], but that first sergeant didn't. We need to change the way we look at families ... [and view them] as a readiness issue."

Casey will continue to tour installations, gathering comments and addressing concerns throughout the next month. He intends to begin implementing changes outlined in his seven initiatives in July.

Soldiers and family members can e-mail suggestions to Gen. Casey at: csa.feedback@us.army.mil.

Eagle's Nest dining facility in Kirkuk gets new design

Story and Photos by
SPC. BRYANNA POULIN
25th Combat Aviation Brigade Public Affairs

TIKRIT, Iraq — Soldiers dressed in Army Combat Uniforms (ACU) all bear a similar resemblance to one another, sometimes the only item that differentiates them are the name tags and rank insignia on the uniform.

Even though Soldiers share the same likeness, one thing sets them apart — their choice in killing their hunger pains.

For 25th Combat Aviation Brigade Soldiers, deployed to Contingency Operating Base Speicher, quenching their thirst or satisfying taste buds is one step easier with the new Eagle's Nest South Dining Facility (DFAC). The DFAC officially opened April 15.

"Soldiers have a variety of food options for them now," said Martin Carey, area food service personnel, Kellogg Brown and Root, and native of Houston. "There is something here for everyone...even the most finicky eaters are happy."

Although the name has remained the same, the Eagle's Nest offers more food choices, seating

room, and new equipment to ensure Soldiers have a relaxed dining experience.

"This DFAC is bigger, better and offers Soldiers a more comfortable environment," said DFAC Manager, Master Sgt. Danny Vantassell, 25th CAB. "In addition to the new ice cream machine and hands-free sink, it also features a hot grill to toast sandwiches."

The DFAC is more spacious and provides a better atmosphere for Soldiers, said Sgt. Adrianna Cooper, a food service sergeant with E Company, 2nd Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment. The previous DFAC was smaller and more congested.

The Eagle's Nest South sets itself apart from other dining facilities because it's the only hard covered building in northwestern Iraq.

"Other dining facilities are in tents," Carey noted. "This is the first and only hard structure dining facility on COB Speicher and in northwestern Iraq that has been built."

Another added feature is the VIP room that offers privacy for commanders who desire to hold meetings while enjoying a meal.



Above — 25th Combat Aviation Brigade Soldiers enjoy the spacious room and abundance of meal choices at the new Eagle's Nest South Dining Facility at Contingency Operating Base Speicher.

Right — The sandwich bar at dining facility offers Soldiers their choice of hot or cold sandwiches. The new facility opened April 15.

"In the previous dining hall, we didn't have a private room available," Vantassell said. "Now if there are guest visitors, the VIP room can be used and they have the privacy that is needed."

Along with the new DFAC, there is a new crew of civilian workers who serve more than 10,000 meals daily and everything in the DFAC has to run smooth and efficient.

"When we opened the new

DFAC, we had new contracted third country nationals (TCN)," Carey said. "We had to train them on the daily operations of the DFAC."

"We are adding different food choices daily," Carey continued. "We are trying to have a well-rounded DFAC for everyone. For example, the facility will be adding a health food bar that offers high protein and low fat foods, for the health-conscious Soldier."



Wounded Soldier and Family Hotline resolves medical-related concerns

HEIKE HASENAUER
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — In 34 days since the launch of the Wounded Soldier and Family Hotline last month, 1,357 callers have dialed in to the U.S. Army Human Resources Command's call center in Alexandria, Va., where 120 operators man the phones in shifts to support a 24-7 operation, said Col. Edward Mason, hotline director.

Of those calls, 590 were identified as "issues," Mason said. The remaining calls were for such information as a point of contact at a military medical facility.

Of the issues, 308 were medical-related, Mason added. They ranged from requests for medical-board re-evaluations to "I need an appointment with someone at the Veterans Administration." Other calls pertained to finance, personnel, law and an "other" category.

"None of the phone calls have gone without an initial response to the caller beyond our three-business-

day standard," Mason said.

The hotline was established primarily to provide operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom veterans and their family members a way to resolve medical concerns by channeling those concerns directly to Army leaders, said Maj. Gen. Sean Byrne, HRC commander.

Veterans of Desert Storm, the Vietnam War and the Korean War have also used the hotline. Overall, 31 percent of the calls deemed to be issues concerned veterans, Mason said.

"We haven't turned away a single request for support," he added.

Family members and friends call, too, said Col. Bob Clark, deputy director for hotline operations at the HRC. "One concerned friend called in about a homeless veteran. Predominantly, it's Soldiers and spouses who call the hotline, followed by parents, relatives and friends."

The HRC hotline staff provides daily reports to the director of the Army staff, Mason said. Upon

learning that 31 percent of issues dealt with veterans, "we drafted a letter that the secretary of the Army sent to the director of the Veterans Administration, requesting the VA's assistance in addressing and resolving veterans' concerns."

"Our primary purpose is to gather information to determine who can best assist the caller. Then commanders' staffs and representatives get involved," Mason said.

The success of the hotline can be measured by good-news stories, one of which involves a Soldier who was initially told that his inflammation of the

lungs was not related to combat in Iraq. The Soldier called the hotline to request further review of his condition and status. Doctors have since determined that the Soldier's condition was, in fact, aggravated by inhalation of sulfur fumes, to which he was exposed in Iraq.

The findings will affect the Soldier for the rest of his life, as he can expect to receive financial compensation and continued medical care, Mason said.

To access the hotline, call (800) 984-8523. (Editor's Note: Heike Hasenauer is the senior editor of Soldiers magazine.)

News Briefs

Send calendar announcements to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

4 / Today

MP Ball — The 8th Military Police Brigade will host the 66th Military Police Regimental Ball today, from 5:30 p.m.–midnight, at the Turtle Bay Resort, North Shore. Dress is military formal / black tie and tickets are \$50 per person.

For information contact Capt. Sharon Lgyht at 655-5390.

Free Getaway Vacation —

The National Military Family Association (NMFA) is now accepting applications for a free getaway vacation for wounded service members and their families. Working in partnership with The Blewitt Foundation, NMFA will select participants to embark on Destination R&R.

This retreat is offered to service members of all branches of service, as well as members of the Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, who were wounded or experienced emotional trauma or illness related to their service in the global war on terror. Members of the National Guard and Reserve in either activated or drilling status are eligible, provided their injury was sustained while on active duty or training.

Applications are only accepted online at http://www.nmfa.org/site/PageServer?pagename=destination_rr, and must be submitted by midnight today.

TDS Move — Trial Defense Services has moved to Schofield Barracks Building 2027 on Aleshire Avenue near the 2nd Brigade “Warrior Inn” Dining Facility. The hours remain the same: Article 15 and Chapter briefings begin at 2:45 p.m., Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Call 655-6000 for more information.

5 / Saturday

PWOC Spring Session — Take the opportunity to spend time together discovering your spiritual gifts while enjoying some food, fun and fellowship with the Protestant Women of the Chapel (PWOC) Saturday, May 5 from 5:30–9 p.m. at the Schofield Barracks Kalakaua Center. Call 206-8504.

In addition, the PWOC will host their Spring Session every Tuesday through May 15.

8 / Tuesday

PX Hires — The Army Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) will hire more than 100 new employees for the Schofield Barracks Main Post Exchange from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., May 8–9. Call Lori Maggard at 624-0702 for more details.

12 / Saturday

Power outage — The Directorate of Public Works is scheduling an isolated four-hour electrical outage at Schofield Barracks Saturday, May 12 from 7:30–11:30 a.m. The outage will affect buildings on Duck Road, Lyman Road (from Lyman Gate up to Humphreys Road) and buildings bounded by Aleshire and Matthews avenues between Flagler Road and Humphreys Road. The purpose of the outage is to provide power to two new guard shacks being installed at Lyman gate.

Contact Frank Ono at 655-1305.

Ongoing

Army Ball — Registration for the Army Birthday Ball, which will celebrate the United States Army’s 232nd Birthday, opens April 12.

The celebration will be held Saturday, June 16, at the Hilton Washington Hotel, Washington D.C. Join us for an elegant evening of dining, dancing and entertainment. All Army Soldiers, family, DA civilians, retirees and veterans are welcome! Formal attire is required.

Visit the United States Army Homepage at <http://www.army.mil/birthday/232/ball/default.htm> for additional information and links to online registration.

Car-buying Classes — Learn how to get the most vehicle for your money. Car buying classes are held on the third Wednesday of every month at the Schofield Barracks’ Army Community Service. Call Georgianna McAnany at 655-4227.

Casey: Chief of staff makes families a readiness issue

CONTINUED FROM A-1

After sharing an overview of his seven initiatives, responding to Soldiers' questions and joining them for lunch, Casey attended a town hall meeting with more than 100 spouses of deployed Soldiers in the Post Conference Room.

Many of the Soldiers' and spouses' questions centered on the recent three-month deployment extension and changes in policy they could expect to see from the new chief of staff.

"I don't intend to make any hard left or right turns, ... but [I will] adopt policies to mitigate the impact on you," Casey told the spouses.

Casey is no stranger to deployment. Before accepting his current position, he spent almost three years as commander, Multi-National Force-Iraq.

"The goal is to get back to twelve/twelve [12 months of deployment, 12 months of dwell time], and move to a 12/24, but I don't know when that will be," he said. "I don't have any control over the demand for the force."

Casey will visit a total of nine to 10 installations during his first two months as chief of staff, and plans to implement actions to achieve objectives set forth in his initiatives by July.

Soldiers and family members can submit suggestions to the chief of staff via e-mail at: csa.feedback@us.army.mil.

Casey's seven initiatives:

1. Accelerate growth and readiness improvements.
2. Enhance the quality of support to Soldiers, civilians and families.
3. Sustain the momentum of modernization.
4. Complete reserve component transition to an operational force.
5. Improve leader development to grow leaders for tomorrow's strategic environment.
6. Adapt Army institutions to support and expeditionary Army at war.
7. Build strategic communication capabilities to effectively communicate with internal and external audiences.



Jeremy S. Buddemeier | U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii, Public Affairs

Above — Army Chief of Staff Gen. George W. Casey Jr. addresses 161 noncommissioned officer candidates at the NCO Academy, Saturday. After his remarks, Casey responded to questions from the candidates.

Right — Noncommissioned candidates file into the assembly area of the NCO Academy just prior to their briefing from the Chief of Staff.



Aiko Brum | U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii, Public Affairs

HMAM: Ceremony kicks off May events

CONTINUED FROM A-1

ties throughout the month.

This year's appreciation month kicked off with an opening ceremony, April 26, at the newly opened Pacific Aviation Museum on Ford Island. About 800 military, government, business and community leaders attended the event.

Keynote speakers included Adm. Timothy Keating, commander, U.S. Pacific Command, in his first public appearance in Hawaii, and Governor Linda Lingle.

The special evening was sponsored by Al Landon of the Bank of Hawaii, Mike Fisch of The Honolulu Advertiser, Steve Colon of Hunt Development Group, Chatter Wright of Hawaii Pacific University, and Chamber President & CEO Jim Tollefson.

Food was provided by five of Hawaii's top chefs, making the kickoff that much more memorable.

Schofield K-9 unit hones new skills using combatives

Story and Photo by
SPC. TYECHIA BOUNTHONG
8th Military Police Brigade

Soldiers from 13th Military Police Detachment's K-9 unit took time to train on man-to-man combative skills April 26 at Schofield Barracks' Martinez Gym, to maintain proficiency in their core competencies.

The K-9 section learned current techniques, taught by instructor Sgt. 1st Class Lonnie Norris of S-3, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 8th MP Brigade, before practicing their new skill levels with one another.

"We learn a lot of self-defense techniques and how to protect yourself until you can call for backup [while on patrol]," said Sgt. Michael Bates of K-9, 13th MP Det. "It builds more self confidence in yourself; we stay proficient and it becomes second nature."

MPs can use the new training while out on patrol.

Contact
Sgt. 1st Class Lonnie Norris,
655-5382, for more on
combatives training in your unit.

"We need more [of this training] because as MPs we get in situations [where we need to use this]," said Sgt. Amber Marie Kirby, K-9, 13th MP Det.

The combatives training requires devoting four hours per week to maintain a level of working proficiency, starting with man-to-man techniques.

"We do this to familiarize and certify them with man-to-man combative skills," Norris explained.

At the end of the training day, Soldiers agree, their time has been well spent.

"We don't get to do these often. It's something different, and it gets us out of the office," aid Kirby. "And it's fun to do. It's not something I was taught when I came into the Army."



Staff Sgt. Alan Bryant, kennel master, 13th Military Police Detachment, gets pinned by one of his Soldiers during hand-to-hand combatives training at the Schofield Barracks' Martinez Gym.

The ACAP aids with transition

CARON FERGUSON

Schofield Barracks Army Career Alumni Program

The Army Career Alumni Program (ACAP) assists Soldiers and their family members with their transition into the civilian world. Soldiers are eligible to receive services from ACAP one year prior to their ETS date and two years prior to retirement.

The Schofield Barracks ACAP Center conducts mandatory pre-separation briefings for all Soldiers who are leaving active duty. Soldiers may walk in to the ACAP Center Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.- 4 p.m. to register and complete the briefing.

Also, they may call the ACAP Center at 655-1028, to schedule an appointment. Soldiers will need an active AKO username and password to complete the automated pre-separation briefing.

In addition to pre-separation briefings, the ACAP Center hosts a number of workshops, seminars and briefings every month. Department of Labor Transition Assistance Program (TAP) Workshops are held 2-3 times each month. The workshops cover job search skills including networking, resume writing, cover letter writing, interviewing, salary negotiation and career planning.

Veterans Affairs (VA), Tricare, Disabled Americans Veterans (DAV) and the Disabled Transition Assistance Program (DTAP) representatives hold twice monthly briefings for transitioning Soldiers and their family members. Briefings this month will be held on today, and Friday, May 18.

ACAP is hosting two seminars in May. A seminar on writing winning accomplishments for your resume will be held on Thursday, May 10 from 12:30-2:30 p.m. in the ACAP Center Classroom. A federal resume writing seminar is scheduled for Thursday, May 24 from 1- 4 p.m. in the ACAP Center classroom and computer lab.

In addition, ACAP Counselors coach transitioning Soldiers and family members through their job search, resume writing, applying for federal jobs, interviewing, networking and negotiating salaries.

The ACAP Center is located on the third floor in Building 690, Room 3H. Call 655-1028 to schedule an appointment for the briefings and seminars, or to meet with an ACAP counselor.

Ranger: All from 2nd SBCT finish

CONTINUED FROM A-1

what Rangers must accomplish on the battlefield, said Farina.

Distance, speed, loads strapped atop the back, and sequence of events, as well as a few surprises thrown in here and there, makes just finishing the contest an accomplishment.

For Uthlaut and Farina, West Point classmates, day two's physically demanding land navigation, a 20-plus mile challenge over rough, rocky and sandy terrain, was especially taxing.

"If you just do one event by itself, it's a lot of fun, but when you stack them one against each other, and your body is exhausted and tired, it takes a little bit of the fun out of it," explained Uthlaut. He added, the high excitement and adventure is still quite a refreshing contrast to routine tasks performed

by a staff officer.

Most fun at the Best Ranger Competition was "everything else," Farina said, jokingly, with some measure of truth, as Uthlaut chuckled.

"I thought the helocast was fun," said Uthlaut, and then Farina countered, "I liked suspension traverse."

Their initial drive to compete derived from sheer curiosity.

"A lot of different reasons ... wondering how would we do, how we would match up physically. You never know until you step into the ring and try competing against other guys doing the same thing," said Uthlaut.

"But in everything we do," Uthlaut stressed, a couple times, "we just want to give glory to God. He's our strength and source of power."

Of the two other teams competing from Hawaii's 2nd Brigade, one placed 10th, the other 22nd.



Capt. Kamil Sztalkoper

Sgt. Thomas West, 25th Infantry Division, climbs down the second half of the weaver obstacle at Camp Darby during the 2007 Best Ranger Competition.



David K. Dismukes

Capt. Andrew Farina exits Victory Pond pulling he and his partner's backpacks after being dropped in the water by a UH-60 Black Hawk during the "helocast."



Oahu's great outdoors beckons

Story and Photos by
MOLLY HAYDEN
Staff Writer

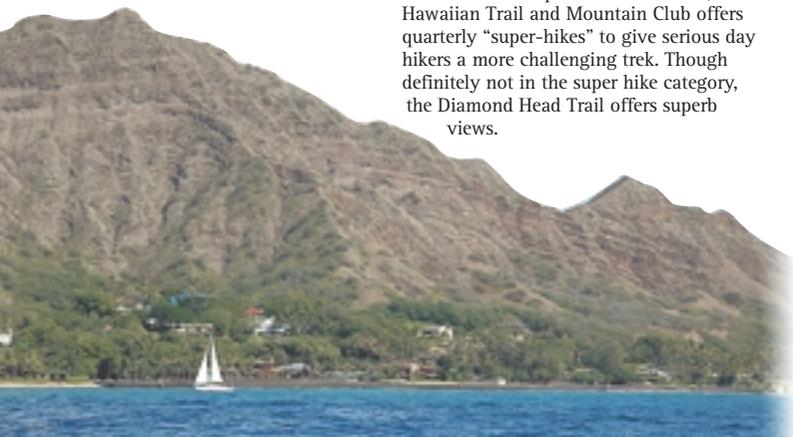
HONOLULU — With over 80 hiking trails on the Capital Isle, exploring the terrain is easy. Oahu offers everything from casual 30-minute strolls to strenuous all day hikes that will quell the adventurous side in anyone.

Gathering information regarding hiking trails is the key to finding a hike suited for each individual. Oahu provides trails de-

signed for any experience level, and the island is equally diverse in scenery.

Though independent expeditions can provide much-needed solitude, hiking clubs are another way to explore the island and meet new people. For very little money, an experienced hiker or group can join the quest with the help of clubs, such as the Sierra Club, which is suited for the whole family.

Weekly hikes cater to various ability levels, and Sierra Club hikes are educational in nature as discussion of cultural, botanical and wildlife is expressed. In addition, the Hawaiian Trail and Mountain Club offers quarterly "super-hikes" to give serious day hikers a more challenging trek. Though definitely not in the super hike category, the Diamond Head Trail offers superb views.



The famous Diamond Head crater is located on the southeast coast of Oahu. A hiking trail to the top of the dormant volcano was built by the U.S. Army Coastal Artillery Defense System in 1908 and is the most popular hiking excursion on the island.

Diamond Head

Hawaii's most famous landmark, Diamond Head's 1 3/4-mile trail climbs the dormant volcano reaching a 762-foot summit. Known to Hawaiians as Leahi, meaning "brow of the yellow fin tuna," the trail consists of dusty brush, command posts and unpaved track and tunnels. Many scenic overlooks provide a brief view of the city, as well as World War I and II pillboxes and gun emplacements from this former defense fort, inside the crater.

Built by the U.S. Army Coastal Artillery Defense System in 1908, the trail has been well maintained by the state through constant renovations over the years. Most recently, the state added more viewing platforms and taller guardrails.

Handrails support the trail's roundtrip journey. The climb up the steep, narrow staircase to the tip of the summit provides a grand reward with a 365-degree view of the Pacific and a large portion of the southern coast. The often-crowded monument opens at 6:30 a.m. and closes at 6 p.m. year round. The trail costs \$1 for walk ins, or \$5 per car, and ample parking is available.

Hiking safety tips:

Inform a friend of your route and your expected time of return.

Never hike alone or go beyond your capability. Always bring water, basic first aid kit and rain gear, just in case.

Do not drink stream water, which contains biological impurities. Stay on the trail.

Hike Oahu — Come join the Hawaiian Trail & Mountain Club on its next hike

-Saturday, 8 a.m., a 4-miler in Ulupaina for intermediate hikers.

-May 13, 8 a.m., a 5-miler in Kuolani-Waianu for intermediate hikers.

Visit <http://htmlclub.org> or call coordinator Steve Brown, 247-8845, for more details.

Kaena Point

For a strenuous hike or mountain biking excursion with breathtaking scenery, Kaena Point delivers. Only an hour outside Honolulu, Kaena Point boasts some of the oldest rocks and is one of the most remote places on Oahu.

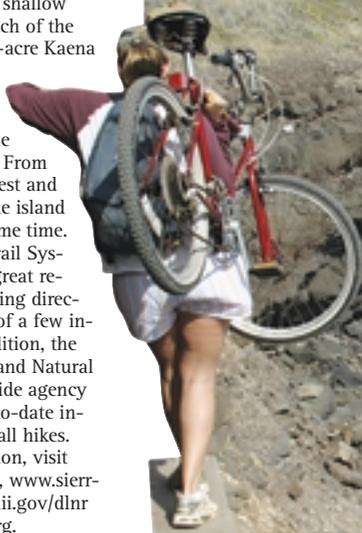
The Kaena Point Trail passes a colorful and dramatic confluence of land and sea. A white lighthouse in the distance marks Kaena Point, although the main focus is the ocean. The island's westernmost point is home to a popular fishing area, plant and animal life, and offers beautiful views of Kauai and Niihau.

The trail can be accessed from the north, which features sand and dunes, or from the south (Waianae side), which shuttles hikers amongst black lava rock. This combined hike reaches less than 10 miles with almost no ele-

vation gain or loss. The hike is rocky for much of the trail, and a thin wood plank roughly six feet long dangles over a shallow drop on the path. Much of the area is part of the 12-acre Kaena Point Natural Area Reserve and one of the last habitats for rare shrub, such as the indigenous Naupaka. From the point, both the west and the north coasts of the island can be seen at the same time.

The Na Ala Hele Trail System and Access is a great resource for maps, driving directions and overviews of a few individual hikes. In addition, the Department of Land and Natural Resources is a statewide agency that can provide up-to-date information regarding all hikes.

For more information, visit www.hawaiiitrails.org, www.sierraclub.org, www.hawaii.gov/dlnr and <http://htmlclub.org>.



Hikers carry their bikes across a narrow path on the Kaena Point Trail. Numerous hikes abound on Oahu for everyone from the audacious thrill seeker to the laid-back saunterer.



The Manoa Falls Trail rewards hikers with an abundance of vegetation throughout the trail and the cascading waters of the Manoa Falls at the end. The muddy hike through a tropical rainforest is an easy to moderate 1 1/2-mile stroll.

Manoa Falls

To view the wonders of Oahu's waterfalls, the Manoa Falls Trail offers a relatively simple 1-hour hike within a tropical rainforest, which is only 15-minutes from the epicenter of Waikiki. The falls provide an assonance delight with singing birds, gurgling streams and the echo of the waterfall splashing off the jagged rocks below.

The muddy trail leads hikers through bamboo, guava, wild ginger and giant ferns. A banyan tree curves the trail around a steep climb to the first glimpse of the falls. Moments later a clear view of a thin cascade can be seen.

Manoa Falls receives roughly 200 inches of rain per year, and is especially revered by those who are sun-challenged, as the trail is mostly shaded by large trees.

For an extended trip, visit Lyons Arboretum, next to the Manoa Falls Trail. This hidden gem features approximately 2,000 tree species as well as wild and exotic birds fluttering the grounds. Two main trails combined with sporadic side trails enable viewers to get a close view of vegetation without destroying the grounds. The gift shop offers an array of gifts, including jam and jellies made from the garden's exotic fruits and herbs.

MWR Briefs

Serving America's Army in Hawaii

4/Today

Books R Fun — Bring your family and friends and come enjoy Books R Fun, today from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Tropics on Schofield Barracks. There will be many new books and fun kids' products for sale. Call 655-0002.

5/Saturday

Keiki Crafts — Make mom a framed photo at the Schofield Barracks Arts & Crafts Center, May 5, 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Call 655-4202 to register.

8/Tuesday

Mongolian Barbecue — Every Monday from 5-8 p.m. enjoy Mongolian Barbecue at the Kolekole Bar & Grill. Select your favorites from a large variety of meats and vegetables, and chefs will grill it to your liking. Cost is 65 cents per ounce. Call 655-4466 or 655-0660.

9/Wednesday

Oogles n Googles — Preschoolers, come join the fun when Oogles n Googles present "Traffic Safety" at Schofield's Sgt. Yano Library, May 9, 10 a.m. This program will provide preschoolers ages 3-5 an exciting adventure full of jumping, dancing, singing, laughing and learning. Call 655-8002.

10/Thursday

Grease — Get your tickets today for the Army Community Theater musical "Grease." Performances will be held at Richardson Theatre, Fort Shafter, May 10, 11, 12, 18, 19, 25 and 26.

Tickets are available at the box office, Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., or online at www.squareone.org/ACT/tickets.html. Call 438-4480.

12/Saturday

Parents Night Out — Leave your kids with Child and Youth Services (CYS) at Aliamanu Military Reservation.

Children enrolled in Parents Night Out must be registered with CYS no later than noon, May 10. Reservations are first-come, first-served. Call 655-8313.

13/Sunday

Mother's Day Brunch — Tell Mom that you love her by making reservations at the Nehelani Mother's Day Sunday Brunch, May 13, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Cost is \$23 per person; children's pricing is available. For reser-



Courtesy of USS Missouri Memorial Association

Mighty Mo'

PEARL HARBOR — Throughout May's Hawaii Military Appreciation Month, the Battleship Missouri Memorial will offer 50-percent off all tours to active duty, reserve and retired U.S. military personnel with purchase of admission. To qualify, present a valid ID card when purchasing tours in advance through Morale, Welfare and Recreation outlets. Also, military dressed in uniform receive complimentary admission year-round at the memorial's gate.

The Battleship Missouri Memorial is open 9 a.m.-5 p.m., seven days a week. General admission is \$16, adults, and \$8, kids 4-12. Military and kamaaina (locals) rates are \$10, adults, and \$5, kids. Call toll-free at 1-877-MIGHTYMO or 1-877-644-4896. Visit www.usmissouri.org for more on the USS Missouri.

ervations or more information call 655-4466 or 655-0660.

Deadline to register is May 15. Call 438-2911 or 655-0112.

15/Tuesday

Pau Hana — Stop by after work at the Kolekole Bar & Grill and enjoy the Pau Hana "Social Hour" every week, Monday-Friday from 4:30-5:30 p.m. Enjoy a domestic draft beer special and the "Managers Choice" of appetizers at 50 percent off. Call 655-4466 or 655-0660.

Blue Star Living History — Blue Star cardholders can enjoy free transportation to Living History Day at Fort DeRussey Museum, May 19. Cardholders will get a special tour of the museum, along with an opportunity to enjoy the rest of Living History Day festivities, including exhibits of contemporary military equipment, restored military vehicles, re-enactors in period uniforms, and displays of military artifacts.

Soldiers dressed in combat gear will be on hand to explain equipment and to answer visitors' questions. Bring your own lunch for a picnic in Fort DeRussey. Afterwards, "Walk Off the Wait" about Waikiki.

16/Wednesday

After-School at the Library — Celebrate Asian Pacific Heritage Month with stories and a craft activity on May 16, 3 p.m. at Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks. Call 655-8002.

Ongoing

Kolekole Bar & Grill — Come check out the newest addition to the Nehelani, the Kolekole Bar & Grill, which features a fresh new menu of pupu and entrée selections. Meet up with co-workers, friends and family for the Pau Hana "Social Hour" and Mongolian Barbecue.

Enjoy darts, pool, games, karaoke and more. Call 655-0664

SKIES Payment Plan — SKIES Unlimited is offering a new payment program for families enrolling their children in the Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration, and

Skills classes. Families can now enroll their children for a full semester and pay month by month. Call 655-8380 or 833-5393.

Paperback Book Kits —The Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks, will issue paperback book kits to deploying units. Call 655-9143.

Family Child Care — FCC provides in-home child care by an adult family member living in government quarters or housing, complete with flexible hours and a comfortable family-like setting.

In Hawaii, certified FCC homes are available on Schofield Barracks, Wheeler Army Air Field (WAAF), Helemano Military Reservation (HMR), Aliamanu Military Reservation (AMR) and Fort Shafter.

If you are interested in placing your child in FCC, or want information on becoming a provider, call 655-8373 (Schofield Barracks) or 837-0236 (AMR).

SKIES Unlimited — Your one-stop program for child and youth instructional classes is SKIES Unlimited. Current offerings include music, martial arts, gymnastics and driver education classes, as well as babysitting certification, which include CPR and first aid courses.

Hula, "Introduction to Dance" for 3- to 9-year-olds (tap, ballet, movement and tumbling) and street dancing are also available. Plus, coming soon are modeling and tiny tot opportunities to round out SKIES offerings. Call 655-9818.

Auto Crafts Car Care — Fort Shafter and Schofield Barracks Auto Craft Shops offer oil change, tire repair patch, tire demount/mount, tire rotations, transmission service and wheel balance services by appointment on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

The staff will provide services while the customer supplies the parts and fluids (oils) for the vehicle. Prices vary by service needed. Call 655-9368 (Schofield Barracks) or 438-9402 (Fort Shafter).

Youth Sponsorship — If you are new to Hawaii and between the ages of 5 and 18, CYS has a welcome gift for you, and a youth sponsor who wants to be your friend. Call 655-2263.

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers — Want to get involved in the community and don't know how? Join BOSS on one of its many volunteer outings.

BOSS works with many groups within the community such as Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Honolulu, Bowl Games of Hawaii and the PGA, as well as organizations exclusive to the Army family. Volunteers are needed; call 655-8169.

Tropic Lightning Museum — Come visit the Tropic Lightning Museum, Schofield Barracks, to learn about the rich history of the 25th Infantry Division. Public and private tours, and sergeant's time training programs are available. Call 655-8301.

23/Wednesday

Kids in the Kitchen — Preschoolers and their parents are invited to join the Armed Services YMCA and make "Octo-Dogs & Shells," May 23 at 10:30 a.m. to make "Happy Ice Cream Mice." Cost is \$3 per child. Preregister at 624-5645.

Ongoing

Food For Families — The Armed Services YMCA accepts donations of nonperishable items to replenish its food pantry. Its emergency food locker is available to families experiencing financial difficulty who could use extra assistance. Supplies of canned goods, frozen food, dry goods and personal care items are accepted. Call 624-5645.

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.mwrmhawaii.com or call 655-4227.

Playmorning — This family interactive playgroup, hosted by the Armed Services YMCA, is designed for children up to age 5 and their parents or caregivers. Playmorning features a variety of age-appropriate activities, crafts, stories, songs and more from 9-10:30 a.m. No preregistration is required.

- Mondays at Wheeler ASYMCA
- Tuesdays at Helemano Community Center & Iroquois Elementary School
- Wednesdays at Wheeler & Iroquois
- Thursdays at Helemano & Iroquois
- Fridays at Wheeler & Iroquois

There will be no Playmorning May 28 (Memorial Day).

Waiting Children — The Children's Waiting Room, sponsored by the Armed Services YMCA, provides on-site child care for healthy children while their parents or siblings have medical appointments in any of the Schofield Clinics or at the Tripler Medical Center. The operating hours of the

SEE COMMUNITY CALENDAR, B-3

Worship Services

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 DeRussey Chapel, 836-4599

- Catholic Saturday, 5 p.m.—Mass in Chapel (May-Aug.) Sunday, 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

** (Note: During renovation, services normally held in the sanctuary will take place at the Wheeler Chapel.)*

- 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

Community Calendar

Send calendar announcements to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

May

4/Today

HPU Online Terms — Registration is underway now for the June 4-July 6 online spring/summer term at Hawaii Pacific University. This special five-week online summer term complements regular summer inter-term term offerings in justice administration, political science and business fields. The HPU spouse scholarship program can be used to subsidize the cost of tuition. Call HPU at the base education center, 422-0079, or visit www.hpu.edu/military.

5/Saturday

Cinco de Mayo — Celebrate Cinco de Mayo at Honolulu's biggest waterfront party in town with live entertainment on multiple stages. Aloha Tower Marketplace presents its 4th annual Cinco de Mayo, tomorrow beginning at 4 p.m. Admission is free. Festivities will include live local and Mexican music, tons of free party beads while supplies last, three amigos, free salsa lessons, mariachis, and much more at center stage.

Many Marketplace concessions will offer discount foods and beverages, and many offer validated self and valet parking. Call 566-2337 or visit www.alohatower.com.

Plantation Days — Hawaii Plantation Village (HPV) will relive its plantation days when it celebrates "Festival of Flowers," tomorrow from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. The festival will pay tribute to Hawaii's multicultural society.

The entire family will love this event, chockfull of games, activities, make & take crafts and "party food" tastings, courtesy of volunteers and students from Waipahu High School's Culinary Arts Class. Admission is \$4, kamaaina and military; \$7 general admission; and free for children under 12, as well as HPV members. Ample

and free parking will be available. HPV is located near the old sugar mill in historic Waipahu town, at 94-695 Waipahu Street, Waipahu Call 677-0110 or visit www.hawaiiplantationvillage.org.

7/Monday

Hui Scholarship Dinner — The Hui O' Na Wahine will celebrate excellence in scholarship and community commitment during its annual Scholarship and Welfare Grants Banquet, being held Monday, May 7, 6-9 p.m., at the Nehelani, Schofield Barracks. The Hui encourages everyone to come and participate in the act of community spirit by giving back to deserving individuals and groups.

City and County of Honolulu Mayor Mufi Hanneman will be the special keynote speaker, and 25th Infantry Division Commanding General Maj. Gen. Benjamin R. Mixon will speak via video.

Live music and three fabulous dinner choices will be offered, as well as "stack-site" for those who need it; however, reservations are required. RSVP immediately to 624-4989 or 624-0015. Cost is \$25.

9/Wednesday

Food Distribution — The Armed Services YMCA will be distributing free bags of canned and packaged food to income-qualified families Wednesday at the Wheeler ASYMCA from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Call 624-5645 for more details.

Craft Fair — The Hawaii United Okinawa Association presents its Evening Spring Craft Fair, Wednesday, 5:30-9 p.m. at the Hawaii Okinawa Center, 94-587 Ukee St., Waipio

Gentry Business Park. You're invited to shop for handmade crafts, jewelry, clothing and special treats in air-conditioned comfort.

Don't miss out on the silent auction, door prizes, food and free entertainment at this free event with plenty of free parking, too. Call 676-5400 or visit www.huoa.org.

15/Tuesday

Small Business Seminar — Have you ever thought about starting your own small business? Aren't sure what will be required or about financing? You're in

luck, as you can attend the "Starting a Small Business Workshop," May 15, 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Army Community Service (ACS), Schofield Barracks. You will learn about loan programs and financing, resource materials, building structure and location of business information centers.

This workshop is sponsored by the ACS Employment Readiness Program, in partnership with the Hawaii Business Action Center. Register online at www.mwrmhawaii.com or call 655-4227. This seminar is free.

17/Thursday

Interview Workshop — A key component to any job search is the ability to sell one's self to a potential employer. The interview is also the aspect of job searching that creates the most anxiety for jobseekers.

To prepare for your next interview, attend the "Tips for a Successful Interview Workshop," May 17, 9:30-11:30 a.m., at the Fort Shafter Outreach Center. You will learn the steps for interview preparation, different types of interview formats, responses to at least three common interview questions, and much more.

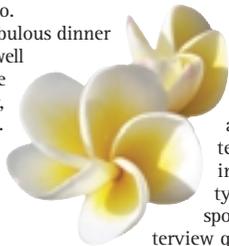
Register online at www.mwrmhawaii.com or call 655-4227. This workshop is free

19/Saturday

Oh Baby! — The 10th annual "New Baby Expo," Hawaii's largest prenatal to preschool exposition will return to the Neal S. Blaisdell Center exhibition hall, May 19-20, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

The weekend event will feature more than 150 exhibitors who will be offering guests the latest news, product information and services. Also, catch several special events and activities, including "Hawaii's Largest Baby Shower," a baby crawling contest, a children's activity area, and a demonstration area where speakers and experts will share advice on prenatal through preschool topics.

Tickets are \$4.50 for general admission and may be purchased at the box office.



This Week at the MOVIES Sgt. Smith Theater



300 (R)

Friday, 7 p.m. Thursday, 7 p.m.



Zodiac (R)

Saturday, 7 p.m.



Ghost Rider (PG-13)

Sunday, 2 p.m.



Black Snake Moan (R)

Wednesday, 7 p.m.

Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, local businesses salute military

CHARLIE OTA

Vice President, Military Affairs,
Chamber of Commerce Hawaii

For the 22nd consecutive year, the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii and the business community has joined together in honoring the state's military ohana.

The chamber hosts Hawaii Military Appreciation Month annually in May to pay tribute to the military and express deep appreciation for all that service members and their families do for Hawaii.

Hawaii's businesses reach out and sponsor special offerings for its military ohana. By enabling military families to enjoy visiting Hawaii's world-class visitor attractions, hotels, restaurants, entertainment centers and shopping malls, the business community hopes to help relieve some of the burdens placed on military families.

Combined Military Band Concert

May 19, 7-8:30 p.m., the chamber and AT&T Hawaii will once again host the Combined Military Band Concert at the historic Hawaii Theatre in downtown Honolulu.

Hawaii's multi-talented musicians from the bands for the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Hawaii National Guard combine their talents in a specially produced concert for the public to enjoy.

This concert will feature a variety of music, ranging from popular military marches to traditional American favorites. The concert is open to the public and free tickets may be picked up at the Hawaii Theatre office or the chamber.

Living History Day

May 19, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., the Hawaii Army Museum Society will conduct its annual Living History Day on the grounds of Kuroda Field on Fort DeRussy in Waikiki. The public is invited to visit the museum and meet with members of the society as they display military memorabilia, historic military uniforms and vehicles, and re-enact a famous military event.

The U.S. Army's famed Fife and Drum Corps from Washington,



Molly Hayden | Pacific Media Publishing

D.C., will be in Hawaii and is scheduled to present a special performance that day. This event is also free and open to the public.

Military Recognition Luncheon

May 24, noon-1:30 p.m., businesses are encouraged to invite their employees and military friends to attend the annual Military Recognition Luncheon, which is being held at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Hotel.

Sponsors will present community service awards to members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Hawaii National Guard.

The Hawaii Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will honor one of its members for outstanding community service, and the chamber will present its Aloa Spirit Award to a deserving business or individual selected for demonstrating sustained superior support for the military.

Business-sponsored tables and tickets may be reserved online at www.cochawaii.org, or by calling Kyle Okumura at 545-4300, extension 317.

Master of Ceremonies and entertainer Danny Kaleikini sings "Hawai'i Pono'i," along with the Hawaii Pacific University International Vocal Ensemble, at the opening ceremony for the 22nd Annual Hawaii Military Appreciation Month, April 26, at Pacific Aviation Museum, Ford Island.

Guests included Mayor Mufi Hannemann, Lt. Gov. Duke Aiona and Adm. Timothy Keating, commander, U.S. Pacific Command.

Military Day at the zoo.

This event promises to be a fun-filled day for service members and their families at one of Honolulu's finest attractions. The military will enjoy free admission with food, beverages and entertainment.

Generous corporate contributions led by Outrigger Enterprises provide the funds to sponsor other activities in extending the business community's appreciation for all that the military does for Hawaii, the nation, and the world. The chamber expresses bountiful appreciation to these Hawaii businesses.

Military families are encouraged to check out Hawaii's world-class visitor attractions this month. Many businesses traditionally offer special discounts and benefits to service members and their families throughout May.



CONTINUED FROM B-2

Schofield Children's Waiting Room are Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-noon. The service is located inside the Pediatrics Clinic in Building 680, Schofield Barracks. Call 624-5645 for appointments.

The Tripler Children's Waiting Room is open Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8 a.m.-noon, and is located next to Pediatrics in the Well Baby Waiting Room on the fourth floor. Call 833-1185 for appointments.

MDA Volunteers Needed – The Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) has begun its search for summer camp volunteers. Volunteer counselors are needed to help young people with neuromuscular diseases enjoy a fun-filled MDA summer camp June 8-15 at YMCA Camp H.R. Erdman on the North Shore.

Volunteer counselors must be at least age 16 and able to lift and care for a young person between ages 6 and 21. For an application, call the Honolulu MDA office at 593-4454 or 1-800-572-1717. Visit www.mda.org/clinics/camp or www.groups.yahoo.com/group/mdahawaii.

Making a Difference – You can stand up against sexual assault and make a difference. If you or anyone that you know has been sexually assaulted, contact the 24/7 victim advocate hotline at 624-SAFE (624-7233). Call

655-1718.

Making the Grade – Students can cash in on the Army and Air Force Exchange Service's (AAFES) "You Made the Grade" program. This reward program is designed to recognize above-average academic achievement.

Qualifying students will receive a coupon booklet that includes free admission to an AAFES Reel Time Theater, a complimentary slice of Anthony's Pizza with drink and a free magazine, as well as other coupons.

To be eligible for a booklet, students must present a valid military ID card and proof of an overall "B" or better average to their local post or base exchange.

House Hunting Help – Representatives from the Honolulu Board of REALTORS will be available from 8 a.m.-noon and 1-5 p.m. weekdays at the Fort Shafter Housing Services Office (HSO), Building 344, located on Montgomery Drive.

At the Volunteer Realtor Program, realtors review the purchasing process and how to access listings. They explain different financing options and loan types to you.

This service is free, and no follow-up requirements or obligation to realtors from program attendees is required. Call Pam Hirota, Directorate of Public Works, Housing Services Office, at 438-1518.

Community Calendar Briefs – Do you have announcements of upcoming events, sports or activities you'd like to post in the Hawaii Army Weekly? If so, e-mail information to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com two weeks in advance of your event.

PTA hosts 100-plus students for overnight adventure

COMMAND SGT. MAJ. JAMES MURRAY

Pohakuloa Training Area

POHAKULOA TRAINING AREA, Hawaii — Most people have heard stories of islands being invaded by UFO's or creatures from outer space, and they envision the unknown — something like the movie, "The Invasion of the Body Snatchers."

Alien visions of a whole new planet filled the minds of 4th and 5th grade students from Hilo Union and Keaau Elementary schools as they prepared for a two-day visit April 24–26 to Pohakuloa Training Area (PTA) for an Earth Week adventure.

Imagine more than 100 elementary students excited to explore exactly what the military does at the PTA, while visions of Darth Vader in action danced in their dreams the night before. For most of the Big Island students, their idea of the military was Soldiers blasting big guns, bombs bursting in air, tank engines ripping their little ears drums, and tankers tearing up the environment; as one student put it, "I was expecting a big 'POW.'"

However, to the students' surprise this overnight excursion to PTA was action-packed, fun-filled, and, as one teacher stated, "better than a Disneyland adventure."

No one would have guessed these youths would return home knowing things like, how to put out a fire; how many bones are in the human body; how heavy body armor actually is; or just what the term solanum incompletum means.

As it turned out, the students learned quite a number of things as a result of PTA's School Partnership Program and some extra help from PTA's military and civilian staff and training units from Oahu.

Upon the arrival of students April 24 from Hilo Union and mirrored with students from Keaau Ele-

mentary the following day, the children, parents and teachers were greeted by PTA Assistant Operations Sergeant Staff Sgt. Gostavus Morantes and additional staff.

The first course of action was a safety briefing by Gunnery Sgt. Matthew Yaninis, U.S. Marine Corps liaison for PTA. Yaninis dazzled the audience and shared the Marine Corp's "bark," as he explained how to identify unexploded ordnance (UXO) and what to do after finding UXOs — recognize, retreat and report.

Following the safety briefing, students were divided into groups and rotated through different educational stations across PTA, ranging from the fire station, to a medical facility, to Bradshaw Army Airfield.

For one station, students hiked through the field for an anthropology briefing and mini field trip. Army cultural resource experts showed and explained different artifacts, piquing the students' interest in archeology. Later, cultural resource experts tested the students' newly acquired archaeological knowledge with hands-on activities.

At another station, students toured PTA's Rare Plant Facility and Interpretive Garden, which are home to several threatened and endangered plant species, as well as common native and invasive plants.

Staff biologists and geographers engaged each group in tasks designed to teach the students about PTA's natural resources. One task involved collecting seeds from native plant species such as mamane, naio and lovegrass. In another task, students learned to identify the differences between endangered plants and weeds. The youths supported PTA's plant protection efforts by collecting seedlings, washing and replanting them in PTA's greenhouse.

After visiting all of the stations, students were al-



After collecting seedlings, children wash and replant them in the Pohakuloa Training Area's greenhouse so that the new plants can be replenished throughout various areas on the Big Island.

lowed a quick pit stop at the Post Exchange. Ice cream, candy and soda were the order of the day, but the snacks didn't stop students from chowing down on dinner and breakfast with Soldiers in the dining facility.

To wind down day one, students put on a talent show, followed by movies in the PTA theater. After the late night, students got an early morning wake up

Soldier-style, honoring the flag, doing physical fitness training, and pulling weeds and other clean-up details.

As their adventure came to an end, most students regretted seeing the big yellow bus arrive to take them home. When asked about their visit to PTA, all replied that this was the best field trip ever, and that they would like to stay for the next couple of weeks.

Awareness month raises 'commissary consciousness' in May

CARRIE WILLIAMS

Defense Commissary Agency

FORT LEE, Va. — If you think you have to be married to shop the commissary, think again. You don't have to make a lifetime commitment to begin a lifetime of savings at the commissary. That's good news for young single service members who aren't ready to take the proverbial plunge.

"Commissaries are an essential part of the whole military community, and that's just one of the messages we want to deliver to all service members during Commissary Awareness Month in May," said Patrick Nixon, director and chief executive

officer of the Defense Commissary Agency. "With extensive health and wellness sections, lean meats, fresh produce, organics and more, we offer 'healthy food at healthy savings' to all our customers — whether they are married or single."

Single service members can find all their toiletries, snacks, beverages, vitamins and personal care items at cost in their commissary. "The problem is too many service members wait until they get married or have children to start using the commissary regularly. They don't discover it as soon as they get into the service," said Nixon.

Once the savings of 30 percent or more over commercial grocery stores are "dis-

covered" — why shop anywhere else? "The commissary benefit can save single military members more than \$1,000 a year if they shop regularly at the commissary," said Nixon. "A family of four can save nearly \$3,000 a year."

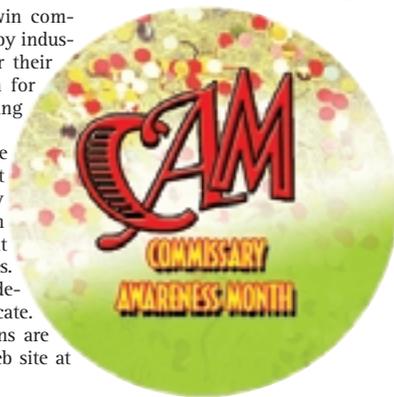
You're ready to serve your country. Your commissary is ready to serve you.

"That's our most important mission," said Nixon. And 2007 Commissary Awareness Month activities include single service member tours to showcase commissary readiness to serve.

Programs such as Better Opportunity for Single Soldiers, Single Marine Program and Navy Liberty as well as the Air Force First Term Airmen centers, get per-

sonal tours of commissaries, win commissary gift certificates funded by industry, and earn Bonus Bucks for their programs through competition for the best tours and events during the monthlong event.

Another customer favorite, the annual May worldwide case lot sale, also takes place at nearly all commissaries. Customers can find savings of up to 50 percent over regular prices at case lot sales. It's an experience difficult to describe — and impossible to duplicate. Case lot sale dates and locations are available on DeCA's official Web site at <http://www.commissaries.com>.





5 / Saturday

Pepsi MLB Pitch, Hit & Run — Show off your baseball skills in this free program for youngsters ages 7-14. Youngsters will get the opportunity to showcase their pitching, hitting and running abilities. Sign up is at the Aliamanu baseball fields, May 5, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Call 836-1923 or 655-6465.

Ladies Golf Clinic — Ladies, sharpen those golfing skills at a free golf clinic. This clinic will be held May 5 at the Leilehua Golf Course located outside the Wheeler Army Air Field front gate.

It will last for one hour and will begin promptly at 2:20 p.m.

All required equipment will be provided to participants and advance reservations are recommended. For more details or to reserve a space, call 655-4653.

6 / Sunday

Bowling Tournament — A "5 Game, No Tap" tournament will be held at the Schofield Bowling Center, May 6. Check-in will be at 1 p.m., and cost is \$20 per bowler. Call 655-0573.

9 / Wednesday

Teen Fit — Teens will be taught the basics of proper strength training, cardio and stretching, all in a fun and productive setting by Kristy Osborn, a certified personal trainer and strength and conditioning specialist. This four-week class program will be held May 9, 16, 23 & 30, 3 p.m., at the Schofield Barracks Health & Fitness Center.

Cost is \$35 per teen or \$60 per sibling. For more information or to sign up, call 381-5944.

11 / Friday

Exercise Bike — Enter the Lifetime Sports & Recreation Pursuit to win a brand new Life Fitness Lifecycle Exercise Bike, valued at \$999. This scavenger hunt contest is open to all active duty Soldiers and their family members age 16 and older. Only one entry is available per person.

Enter at the Fort Shafter Physical Fitness Center or the Schofield Barracks Health and Fitness Center. Deadline for entries is May 15. The drawing will be held during National Fitness Month in May.

The winner must be on island. Call 655-0111/0112.

12 / Saturday

The Smackdown — Come watch Hawaii

Championship Wrestling at the Schofield Tropics, May 12. Doors will open at 6 p.m. and matches will start at 7 p.m.

Cost is \$5 for guests age 12 and up, \$3 for ages 11 and under, and free for children age 5 and under.

Call 655-5697.

Ongoing

Fabulous Football Weekends — Come to the Tropics, every Sunday and Monday to watch all of your favorite football games. Enjoy all-you-can-eat food, several specials, and lucky number prizes. Call 655-5697.

Cardio Kickboxing — Cardio kickboxing can help develop cardio-vascular fitness, improve balance, and enhance self-confidence.

Classes are offered at the Fort Shafter Physical Fitness Center, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:30-5:30 p.m. Call instructor DarylLynn Gandaoli at 779-4495.

SKIES Martial Arts — Come and learn Hawaii Okinawa Kenpo Karate-Do Shudokan (HOKK), a martial arts program taught by master instructors, at the Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration & Skills (SKIES).

HOKK teaches self-discipline and dedication to overcoming obstacles. Classes are \$35 per month or \$105 per semester; family discounts are available.

Classes are offered for students in grades first through tenth, and parents are welcome to take classes also. New students start at the beginning of each month. Call 655-5525.

Chess Club — Come and play chess every Monday from 5-8:30 p.m. at the Tropics on Schofield. Competitors should bring their own equipment. A few sets will be available for participants without equipment. Call the Tropics at 655-0002.

Youth Sports Coaches — Youth Sports is looking for volunteer coaches to help make this program a success. If you are interested in volunteering, see or call your Youth Sports director. Call Aliamanu Military Reservation at 836-1923, Fort Shafter at 438-9336, or Schofield Barracks at 655-6465.

Step Classes — A variety of step classes are offered at the Schofield Barracks Health and Fitness Center, including a Multistep class held Mondays at 8:30 a.m.; a Step and Ab class held Mondays at 5 p.m. and Saturdays at 9 a.m.; and a Step and Pump class held Tuesdays at 11:45 a.m., Thursdays at 5 p.m., and Fridays at 8:30 a.m.

Classes are available Monday through Saturday. Call 655-8007.



Jeremy S. Buddemeier | U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii, Public Affairs

Boarding school

George Banks launches into a boneless — one of skateboarding's oldest tricks — off the large quarterpipe at Aliamanu Military Reservation skatepark, Tuesday.



Send community announcements to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

May

4 / Today

Hunter Education Courses — The Hawaii Department of Land & Natural Resources offers monthly Hunter Education classes. Subjects covered include wildlife identification and conservation, firearms and archery safety, survival and first aid, game care, and more.

The free, two-day classes are held Fridays and Saturdays: May 4 & 5, 11 & 12, and 18 & 19. Class runs from 5:45-10 p.m., Friday, then from 7:45 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday. They are family-friendly and open to anyone age 10 years and older.

Classes are held at the Nimitz Center, second floor, Room A-212A, 1130 N. Nimitz Hwy. (Drive up the ramp, the classroom is the first on the right.) All students are required to provide a picture ID.

5 / Saturday

Hike Oahu — Come join the Hawaiian Trail & Mountain Club on its next hike: an intermediate hike in Ulupaina, named after the ironwood (casuarinas) trees on the ridge, beginning at 8 a.m.. This combination contour and ridge hike will offer good mountain and ocean views; however, watch out for bees' nests! Call coordinators Dayle & Jacque Turner, 384-4821, for more details.

Stay tuned for these upcoming adventures:

-May 13, 8 a.m., a 5-miler in Kuolani-Waianu for intermediate hikers.

-May 19, 8 a.m., a 5-miler Tantalus ramble for intermediate hikers.

-May 27, 8 a.m., a 12-miler on Aiea Ridge for advanced hikers.

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

Hikers meet at the Iolani Palace,

unless otherwise noted. Bring lunch and water on all hikes; wear sturdy shoes and clothing 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.

6 / Sunday

Polo Season — The 2007 Hawaii Polo Season will get underway Sunday at Mokuleia Polo fields, located at 68-540 Farrington Highway, on Oahu's North Shore. Gates will open at 11 a.m. for families who want to come early to socialize, enjoy a picnic lunch, tailgate or dine at the Polo Beach Bar & Grill.

Activities will start at 2 p.m., including Sky Dive Hawaii's precision skydiving exhibition at half time, followed by the feature match of the day: Team Equus playing Dillingham Ranch.

General admission is \$8 per adult; military with ID, \$5; and children and students under 16 years, free. Parking is also free. Call 637-8401 for more details.