

INSIDE

Army defends body armor quality

25th Trans latest unit to deploy

SGT. SARA WOOD
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — U.S. troops operating in Iraq and Afghanistan have the best body armor in the world, and the Army is constantly looking for ways to improve force protection, the general in charge of the program told reporters here, Monday.

"Force protection is the number one priority of the U.S. Army. We value our Soldiers very highly, and we do everything we can do to ensure that they have the finest in force protection as they go into the battle," Army Brig. Gen. R. Mark Brown, program executive officer, said at a Pentagon news conference.

In response to a May 17 NBC News report challenging the Army's use of Interceptor body armor versus the newer "Dragon Skin" armor developed by Pinnacle Armor Inc., Brown released information about the testing that ruled out Dragon Skin a year ago.

The tests were conducted May 16-19, 2006, at H.P. White labs near Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. The Pinnacle armor was subjected to the same tests Interceptor body armor goes through, first being X-rayed and analyzed and then undergoing a series of live-fire tests, Brown said. The live-fire tests included room-temperature tests, harsh environment tests, and durability and drop tests.

Of the eight Pinnacle vests tested, four of

them failed the tests, with 13 rounds penetrating completely on the first or second shot, Brown said. After the first complete penetration, the vests technically failed the test, but the Army continued the testing to be fair, he said.

The Pinnacle vests also were subjected to extreme temperature variations, from minus 25 degrees Fahrenheit to 120 degrees Fahrenheit, which would be a realistic cycle if the equipment was loaded onto a plane and flown to the Middle East, Brown said.

These temperature tests caused the adhesive holding the Dragon Skin's protective discs to

SEE ARMOR, A-9

HAWAII ARMY WEEKLY STAFF
News Release

Approximately 150 Soldiers called Road Masters of the 25th Transportation Company — many of whom are seasoned veterans of the unit's last rotation to Iraq — departed for duty in Iraq.

The unit is well trained and equipped for its mission, to provide truck transportation, said Col. Stanley Tunstall, commander, 8th Theater Sustainment Command (TSC). When in the rear, the unit provides transportation services for Schofield Barracks and supported units. The 25th Transportation Company is the only Army unit of its type on-island.

Tunstall noted that the company boasts numerous distinguished Soldiers within its ranks, including Spc. Anthony Parrow, the 8th TSC Soldier of the Quarter; Spc. Ryan Forgey, the 45th Sustainment Brigade Soldier of the Year; and Pfc. Jason Lee Hagenbucher, the 8th TSC Cook of the Quarter.

"Soldiers like the Road Masters keep our nation free and make it a symbol of hope in a dangerous and troubled world," Tunstall said at the unit's deployment ceremony, held at Stoneman Field, Schofield Barracks, May 18. "I have full confidence that the 25th Trans. will move forward and accomplish their mission in a way that will make us all proud."

(Editor's Note: Compiled from deployment speeches.)

Standing Guard

Hawaii Army National Guard Soldiers return to Arizona to prevent illegal border crossings

A-4

Memorial Day Observances

• Sunday, 10 a.m., at World War I Memorial Natatorium, Waikiki

• Sunday, 1 p.m., Boy Scout Good Turn Ceremony, Punchbowl

• Monday, 8:30 a.m., Mayor's Ceremony, Punchbowl

• Monday, 11:30 a.m., Remembrance Ceremony at Schofield Barracks Post Cemetery.

• Monday, 1 p.m., Governor's Ceremony, Hawaiian Memorial State Cemetery, Kaneohe

• Monday, 5:30 p.m., Vietnam Veterans Memorial Ceremony, Punchbowl



Molly Hayden | Pacific Media Publishing

Mud-soaked spurs

Master Sgt. Ira Burns, followed by Breanne Ball, demonstrates the low crawl under the rope challenge during the 2-6th Cav's children's spur ride, Saturday. See story page B-3.

\$20K bonus, other incentives available for some O-3s

ARMY NEWS SERVICE
News Release

WASHINGTON — A new Critical Skills Retention Bonus (CSRB) of \$20,000 is available to more than 7,000 regular-Army captains who agree to remain on active duty beyond their initial active-duty service obligation.

The bonus is part of a "menu of incentives" targeting officers nearing completion of their initial active-duty service obligation who are willing to remain on active duty an additional three years. Other incentives include graduate school, military school, transfer of branch or functional area, or post of choice.

The incentives will help the Army retain company-grade officers with valuable ex-

perience, said Col. Paul Aswell, chief, Officer Division, Directorate of Military Personnel Management, Army G1. The Army is currently growing to increase capabilities and reduce stress over the long term. This has led to an increased need of nearly 6,000 captains and majors since 2004, according to Aswell.

The branches considered critical for the purposes of the CSRB include: air defense, adjutant general, armor, chemical, engineer, field artillery, finance, infantry, military intelligence, military police, ordnance, quartermaster, signal corps and transportation corps. Officers originally commissioned in these branches are eligible for all incentives on the menu. Officers commissioned into the Army nurse corps or medical sci-

ence corps are also eligible for the CSRB.

Aviation officers are not eligible at this time due to their longer initial active duty service obligations, but the Army is working to draft an incentive program to offer them by year's end.

Eligible captains must have a date of rank between March 1, 2005, and January 1, 2007. Similar incentives will be offered to captains in other year groups, Aswell said.

The CSRB and other incentives are just part of the Army's efforts at eliminating the officer shortage, Aswell said. The Army has moved up the promotion to major from 11 years to 10, and is considering moving it to the 9th year of service. Aswell noted that earlier promotion points and higher rates reflect the Army's recognition of the

higher experience level among today's company grade officers, and the value of their service.

"It takes the Army ten years to grow a major," Aswell said, "To grow the active officer force, we must keep officers who in the past have left active service." He said he is confident the new incentives will improve retention of company-grade officers on active duty to well-above historic rates.

"We've done a number of studies, including a very specific study last year on the value of a bonus to active-duty officers," said Aswell, "We're confident that the incentives we're offering will make a difference to those junior officers we really want to keep on active duty."

66th Engineers captain among 28 leadership awardees

J.D. LEIPOLD
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Twenty-eight Army officers were presented the General Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award for exceptional leadership skills by Army Chief of Staff Gen. George W. Casey and Jake Tobin, MacArthur Foundation representative, at the Pentagon May 16.

In its 20th year, the award is given annually to active duty and reserve component company-grade officers who exhibit outstanding military performance, leadership and achievement, and who also reflect the ideals for which Gen. MacArthur stood — duty, honor and country.

Gen. Casey lauded the junior officers, adding that the MacArthur bust each receives will serve as a reminder of each winner's continued commitment to effective leadership in the Army.

"You have been forged in fire and blood and come out steel, and that steel will endure," the chief of staff said. "It will continue to endure so long as leaders possess, in MacArthur's words, the will to win and the sure knowledge that — in war — there is no substitute for victory." Schofield Barracks' Capt. Anthony Barbina, a company commander of the 66th Engineer Company, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, credited the deserving of his



J.D. Leipold | Army News Service

award to his Soldiers. Twenty-eight officers received the General Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award in a ceremony at the Pentagon yesterday. Schofield Barracks' Capt. Anthony Barbina, company commander, 66th Engineer Company, is standing third from the left. The ceremony was the 20th anniversary of the award, which recognizes exceptional junior officers who embrace Gen. MacArthur's credo of "duty, honor, country."

award to his Soldiers.

"I have a group of guys who are just amazing," he said. "I've got stellar lieutenants, an amazing first sergeant, one of the best engineering NCOs in the entire regiment and a bunch of Soldiers who every single day bust their butts."

"I think these guys are 100 percent de-

serving of the credit for everything that I've been recognized for and everything everyone else in our chain of command has been recognized for."

Another selectee, Capt. Timothy Gittins, a company commander with the 101st Airborne Division's Company C, 1st Squadron, 61st Cavalry, at Fort Campbell, Ky., was

also chosen as one of "Time" magazine's top 100 influential people in the heroes and pioneers category.

While he said he feels the MacArthur and "Time" awards are great honors, he considers himself just an ordinary guy who wants to keep focus on the job at hand.

"I'm just a Soldier trying to do my job and happened to get some accolades along the way, but really this award really goes to the senior leadership who brought me up, the subordinate NCOs... and the Soldiers who do all the hard work," he said. "Hopefully, I was a good representative."

Capt. Kate Conkey, a company commander with Fort Campbell's 716th Military Police Battalion, couldn't agree more with Capt. Gittins that it's the Soldiers she leads who have made her a successful leader.

"I learn a great deal by watching the interaction of my Soldiers with our NCOs and junior officers; it's give and take, and you hope you learn as much as you teach," she said. "Soldiers are the ones who do the work and make leaders successful. This is an award for all my Soldiers as much as it is for me."

National Guard Capt. Josephine Jerome, a company commander with the 724th En-

SEE BARBINA, A-9

Aloha Art-day

Kick off your weekend and month with a trip to Chinatown for First Friday

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LIGHTNING SPIRIT

Families deserve a pat on the back, too

CHAPLAIN (CAPT.) JAY K. CLARK
728th Military Police Battalion

To take a note from one of my favorite teachers, "There is nothing new under the sun ... so quit worrying about plagiarism and just give the writer a little credit."

Under the guidance of his wisdom, I introduce the topic of understanding success through the use of some bits of guidance that I recently gleaned from one of my favorite writers: Pastor Dan Reiland.

Reiland wrote in a recent Internet note:

"Leadership success isn't as bold and brash as it once was. Red neckties have been replaced with colored wrist bands about things we care about, but we are still sending messages. We still want success.

"In thousands of conversations with pastors, I can't remember a time when even one said to me: 'Dan, my dream is to be a failure. Yup, that's me. I just want to fail.' Kingdoms crumble, empires fall, and churches close. Revivals and movements have their time, and they are done.

"Don't get me wrong, there are amazing results from these things, but what we ultimately aim for makes a huge difference. Who we are on the inside shapes the success we target on the outside."

I have been bothered as of late by my inner struggle to see the results of my ministry. I want to see Soldiers and family members come into stronger relationships with Christ.

It has taken a concerted effort on my part to not stop every once in a while just so I can watch how one of my counseling sessions works out over time.

Each one of us grows up with that same need to have a pat on the back, and to receive an accolade or two after we struggle through a difficult time in our lives. We want someone to tell us that all of the effort and strain that we have put ourselves through has not culminated in a complete lack of accomplishment.

No matter how small, we all want to be noted for a success in our lives.

During the next few months, there will be some Soldiers who will come home to families that have survived and even excelled in some aspect of their lives. I encourage each family to use the time prior to their Soldiers' return to take stock of their successes.

Every day that your lives have gone on, in some semblance of normalcy, can be counted as a success – even as a Soldier in combat will count any return from a mission outside the wire as a success. I would suggest to you that a year of survival at home as a family is just as significant.

We, as those who have been "left behind," the rear-attachment Soldiers and family members, are the ones who can count success in this way.

King Solomon himself said in the book of Ecclesiastes, "I have seen something else under the sun: The race is not to the swift, or the battle to the strong, nor does food come to the wise, or wealth to the brilliant, or favor to the learned; but time and chance happen to them all."

Sometimes, we all need to be reminded that survival under difficult circumstances is a success in and of itself. Our circumstances may not get us a new ribbon or a coin, but God honors those who persevere.



Clark

Safety, summer go hand-in-hand

CG hopes "operations triad" and "oak tree counseling" make an impact on troops

LT. GEN. JOHN BROWN III
Commander, U.S. Army, Pacific

As we observe Memorial Day, every Soldier, civilian and family member is encouraged to think about the true meaning of the event. Be sure to reflect on those who served before us to protect the freedoms and liberties we enjoy today.

Those brave service members gave their lives so we could make the most of ours. Let us honor and recognize their gift of freedom by focusing on safety.

Memorial Day weekend marks the beginning of summer plans for family vacations

and increased outdoor activities. The Army historically experiences an increase in serious accidents and fatalities during the summer period.

Increased motorcycle riding, passenger vehicle travel and water-related sports put our Soldiers at greater risk for serious accidents.

The U.S. Army Pacific Safety Plan established a "Line of Operations" triad for our success: leader involvement, effective training, and personal accountability. This triad invokes a shared partnership for the safety of our troops.

Before the start of this Memorial Day weekend, I charge leaders at all levels to



Brown

spend time and conduct "oak tree counseling" with your Soldiers.

Ask them questions about their plans for the holiday break and then follow-up with sound advice to keep them and their family members safe. Emphasize these points: responsible drinking, safe driving practices and seat belt usage.

Personal accountability is critical to our combat readiness. Every Soldier must adopt the philosophy "I can save my own life," and plan every event from mowing the lawn to driving cross country with personal safety in mind.

We are a nation at war and can ill afford to relax our efforts in ensuring 100 percent readiness of our forces. The goal is zero accidents.

Leaders, I count on you to make this happen. One team!

Medal of Honor Society salutes services

GARY LITTRELL

You are writing history on menacing sand swept roads, along perilous mountain ridges and in towns and villages fraught with danger at every door.

You wear the uniform of the United States. You live its values. You are its honor.

On behalf of my fellow Congressional Medal of Honor recipients, we salute you – we are proud of you and we are standing at your side.

As Americans quietly mark Military Appreciation Month this May by carrying out our daily routines, going to our jobs, shopping, making dinner reservations and keeping up with American Idol, it's you we can thank for the privilege of freely leading our lives.

We admire your determination to stop cold one of the most dangerous, brutal and immoral enemies that our country, and all

nations, have ever faced. This new enemy is determined to murder indiscriminately and intimidate viciously to halt progress and erase freedom.

We understand your will to battle on, even in the face of criticism, weakness and lack of vision of countrymen who will benefit from your sense of duty and sacrifices.

We know what you are trying to accomplish and how difficult it will be. And we are with you all the way.

By the path you have chosen, you are giving great meaning to your lives, which now are the only instruments standing between civilization and barbarity.

The dangerous, demanding work you do is your precious gift to our nation, bought



Littrell

and paid for by the tremendous personal, physical and emotional hardships you endure daily, and by the lives of your fallen brethren.

Your gift is delivered by the many sacrifices of the families standing steadfastly behind you a half a world away and suffering, as they do, the anxiety of separation. That is their hard-earned contribution to the future of mankind.

You are standing in the shadows cast by the legacies of great Americans who fought before you for what was right, no matter the odds.

Those who follow you will have your legacy of skill, determination, and boundless courage to guide them. Take heart: You are the hope of the world.

(Editor's Note: Gary Littrell, retired command sergeant major, U.S. Army, is president of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society.)



Upcoming changes in command

The 25th Infantry Division and U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii, community is invited to attend several changes of command ceremonies taking place in May and June.

The change of command ceremony is a time-honored tradition that formally symbolizes the continuity of authority when a command is passed from one commander to another.

Local ceremonies will be preceded by an awards ceremony, 15 minutes prior to the change of command ceremony. Point of contact for more details is Sgt. Maj. Robert Pittman, 655-0283 (unless otherwise noted).

The following ceremonies will be held at Sills Field, Schofield Barracks, unless otherwise noted:

- May 30, 10 a.m., 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment. Lt. Col. Matthew Kelley passes command to Lt. Col. Mario Diaz.
- May 30, 1 p.m., 225th Brigade Support Battalion. Lt. Col. Charles Gibson passes command to Lt. Col. Mark Collins.
- May 31, 10 a.m., 2nd Battalion 11th Field Artillery Regiment. Lt. Col. Stephen Myers passes command to Lt. Col. Joseph Gleichenhaus.
- May 31, 2 p.m., 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment. Lt. Col. Robert Mundell passes command to Lt. Col. Thomas Bocard.
- June 4, 11 a.m., 2nd Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment. Lt. Col. David Davidson will pass command to Lt. Col. Timothy Gauthier.
- June 8, 2 p.m., 30th Signal Battalion.

Lt. Col. Darryl Shaw will pass command to Lt. Col. Joseph Dworaczuk.

(RSVP by June 1 at 655-9321/8057.)

- June 13, 10 a.m., 728th Military Police Battalion. Lt. Col. Douglas Ingros will pass command to Lt. Col. Brian Bisacre.
- June 15, 2 p.m., Special Troops Battalion. Lt. Gen. John M. Brown III will host the activation ceremony at Palm Circle, Fort Shafter.
- June 20, 11 a.m., 84th Engineer Company. Lt. Col. R. Mark Toy passes command to Lt. Col. Nicholas W. Katers. (POC is Master Sgt. Daniel Harr, 655-9537.)
- June 27, 10 a.m., U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii. Col. Howard J. Killian passes command to Col. Matthew Margotta. (POC is Ms. Bev Shintaku, 655-4356.)



Quotable



Capt. Duane Kees listens to a Soldier's question during his class on combat rules of engagement at FOB Warrior, Kirkuk, Iraq, May 15.

"We're trying to help Iraqi citizens have faith again in their laws by improving a legal system that can be trusted.

Out here, there's no book on how to help bestow dignity to a people's legal system, a system that's foreign to me ... at times it's like I'm playing chess in the dark."

—Capt. Duane Kees
brigade judge advocate,
3rd Brigade Combat
Team, 25th Infantry
Division.

Voices of Lightning:

In one word, what does Memorial Day mean to you and how do you plan to spend it?

"Remembrance - probably working."



Spc. William Bounthong
13th MP Det.
Military Policeman

"Remembrance. I'll be lying on the beach all day to celebrate."



Sgt. Rosealy Jones
205th MI Bn
Elint NCO

"Honor — No plans yet."



2nd Lt. Rachel Nix
TAMC
Registered Nurse

"Respect - I'll be at the remembrance ceremony at Pearl Harbor."



Staff Sgt. Daniel Post
USARPAC STB
Communications
Chief

"Reflection - Sit back and relax with family."



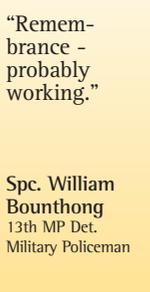
Air Force Tech. Sgt. Dennie Sutton
Civil Engineer Co.
Engineer Systems Operator

191 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 5/23/07.



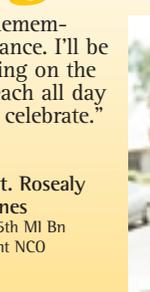
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Civil Engineer Co.
Engineer Systems Operator

25th CAB latecomer looks forward to Hawaii duty



Specialist deploys right after arriving

Story and Photo by
STAFF SGT. TYRONE C. MARSHALL JR.
Task Force Lightning Public Affairs

AL ASAD, Iraq – Any Soldier who has visited Hawaii is well aware of the state’s beauty. Those troops speak of the calm beaches, the intriguing Polynesian culture, the Pro Bowl and the friendly Aloha spirit.

However, since he arrived so close to the 25th Infantry Division’s summer deployment, Spc. Alejandro Robles was only to spend about 30 days in the Aloha state.

That did not dampen his spirits, though.

“I’ve been stationed in Hawaii prior to this deployment for a month,” said Robles. “I was coming from Fort Bragg, North Carolina.”

Robles is currently attached to A Company, 209th Aviation Support Battalion, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, at Contingency Operating Base Speicher, Iraq, just outside Tikrit. He serves with the Region 2 Border Transition Team (BTT), a small unit consisting of Marines, Soldiers, Iraqi interpreters and one sailor.

“I did get to see downtown

Waikiki [before deployment],” Robles said. “I will have time once I get back to take my time and explore a little bit of Hawaii. But as far as I’ve seen, it is a beautiful island.”

He discussed his military occupational specialty (MOS) with an interesting twist.

“My MOS is 92F (petroleum supply specialist) and 18X (special forces candidate).”

Special Forces candidates are guaranteed the opportunity to attend the qualification course. Those candidates are given the opportunity to become a member of one of the most highly skilled, storied combat-ready forces in the world.

Robles had previous experience from working with SOAR, or Special Operations Aviation Regiment, at Fort Campbell, Ky., prior to leaving the Army for a short period.

“In Special Operations Aviation Regiment, you have to be able to do your part,” said Robles. “My part was chopper maintenance.”

Robles was quick to point out the differences and similarities between his previous job and current occupation.

“It’s got its ups and downs,” said Robles. “It’s growing pains like they say.”

“[SOAR] has a different way of doing things, but not too far off from the Army,” he said.

“It was a little bit different because of their way of working with people and getting the message across. I think the real challenge was just getting used to their customs and ways of doing things.”

Overall, he has enjoyed his time with the small, tight-knit Border Transition Team. He revealed what he liked most about the experience.

“Meeting new people and getting to know them on a personal level,” he said.

Even though he’s had a positive experience on his current deployment, Robles is looking forward to redeployment and achieving new goals.

“Some of my goals are to go back to my unit and finish my school which is about two years long,” he said. “I will deploy again to this country but not until after those two years of school. I leave in about October. It’s the ‘Q’ course. Then I’ll be tabbed out for Special Forces.”

Robles said he’s looking forward to the challenge. He’s already experienced high operational tempo since joining the Army. In his four and a half years in the Army, he has deployed four times.

“I love doing this,” he said smiling. “This is what I came in for. I’m doing well and the Army is keep-



As two Iraqi border patrolmen watch from a distance, Spc. Alejandro Robles, gunner, Region 2 Border Transition Team, in A Co., 209th Aviation Support Battalion, 25th CAB, observes the border in Ar’Ar, Iraq.

ing me fit as far as training.

“My goal in life is to retire from the Army – if not, to die trying,” he said.

Until the time comes for him to head to school, he will enjoy his time in the Aloha state.

Originally from Orland Park, a

suburb southwest of Chicago, Robles noticed the difference in culture when he came to Hawaii.

“The Hawaiian people are awesome. Their culture is great. The little bit of time I was there, I was able to enjoy it and see a little of how it is,” he said. “Where I’m from, it’s a big city and it’s clustered and (sometimes) it seems like nobody cares about anybody (else).”

“The people in Hawaii, being an island, they treat you with a lot of respect and the culture is great. I like that and I’m glad I’m going to go back and see some more of that.”

With an interesting career in the Army unfolding, a person may wonder if he would do the same all over again.

“Of course I would,” he said. “Everything I do for the military is from the bottom of my heart and I give my last to it. I’d do it over and over again,” he said.

Hawaii Guard takes on southwest border

“Operation Jump Start” tests 29th Brigade STB’s engineering & surveillance

Story and Photos by
SGT. 1ST CLASS STEPHEN M. LUM
117th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

TUCSON, Ariz. — More than 180 Soldiers from the Hawaii Army National Guard’s 29th Brigade Special Troops Battalion are spending annual training on the southwest border of Arizona, this month, in support of Operation Jump Start. The battalion is conducting surveillance and counter-mobility operations to disrupt and prevent illegal border crossings.

Special Troops Soldiers, members of Task Force Tucson’s entry identification teams (EITs) are performing surveillance missions, while Task Force Diamondback engineers are constructing roads and fences.

The National Guard presence is freeing up U.S. Border Patrol personnel to concentrate on their law enforcement mission.

The new battalion, commanded by Lt. Col. Moses Kaoiwi Jr., is comprised of formerly separate elements of the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team: Headquarters and Headquarters Company (military police, medical, administrative and logistic personnel), Company A (227th Engineers), Company B (229th Military Intelligence), and Company C, the new signal unit.

More than 60 engineers from A Com-

pany are cutting new roads, rebuilding fences and improving the drainage in the Tucson sector’s border towns of Nogales and Sierra Vista.

“The roads being cut through the rolling small mountain range will improve access for the border personnel,” said Capt. Auredith T. Tumpap, A Co. commander, “while the twenty-foot pipe walls being erected will replace some of the older aircraft landing ramp walls. Our Hawaii Air Guard engineers were part of a team erecting the Yuma fence line last fall.”

“The mission has given the veterans an opportunity to share their expertise, especially in heavy equipment operation, and welding to our newer Soldiers,” said Sgt. 1st Class Ian S. Ross, a member of the unit when it was an engineering battalion more than 30 years ago.

“We’re not new to this mission either; we’ve done a similar work twice on the Mexican border, south of San Diego, Calif., the last time in 2000.”

“The balance of battalion Soldiers are making up the ten EITs,” said Kaoiwi. “Our observation posts are on clearly visible locations on hilltops facing the border.”

The 24-hour mission uses binoculars and infrared sensors to detect undocumented aliens [UDA] during the day or at night.

“This mission has provided an opportunity for our new battalion to test all our mobilization operation in a real-world mission,” Kaoiwi said.



Calming condition — Spc. Omar H. Reynolds, from HHC, 29th Brigade Special Troops Battalion, tries to keep an “American tourist” calm during the paintball exercise which tests the entry identification teams (EIT) reaction to different border crossings scenarios during Operation Jump Start in Arizona during May.



Wall improvements

— Staff Sgt. Stacy L. Hanson, from Co. A (Combat Engineers), 29th Brigade Special Troops Battalion, welds bars to a 20-foot high pipe wall being built in the Nogales, Ariz. border town during Operation Jump Start in May.

DoD looks at reserve needs

FRED W. BAKER III
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — A top defense logistics official has asked the services to report on their reserve-component needs by the end of the month.

The request was in response to Defense Department concerns about the schedule and funding requirements for the National Guard and reserves. P. Jackson Bell, deputy undersecretary of defense for logistics and materiel readiness, told the Commission on the National Guard and Reserves, May 16.

Bell said he shared the commission’s concerns that the operations tempo of the reserve components has increased at a far greater pace than resourcing. He added that the department is taking “proactive steps to mitigate those concerns.”

The reports will include a schedule by year with requirements for individual types of items, actual equipment on hand, and “fill rate.” They also will reflect planned changes.

“The new reporting requirements will provide much-needed visibility into the plan for meeting resource requirements and materiel readiness of the National Guard and reserve components, and it will enable increased oversight to ensure the materiel readiness improvements are realized,” he said.

Bell said the department owes it to reserve troops and the nation to ensure they are properly equipped and funded.

Bell’s testimony came the same day as Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates’ call for policy changes to how the Defense Department it determines funding and resourcing for the reserves, including civil support requirements.

2-11th Field Artillery, Wolfhounds join to practice tactics

CAPT. KALEAPH T. CARTER
2-11th Field Artillery Regiment

Transformation is not only a matter of replacing equipment, weapon systems and tactics, but also about role change. From the M119 to the M777A1 howitzer and now to an infantry-capable battalion, the 2-11th Field Artillery Regiment has become more lethal than ever before.

Recently, with the help of its sister battalion, the 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment Wolfhounds, firing batteries trained on specific tasks that tested their skill in intelligence collection, town assessments and more.

During Operation Gunners Fury II, the 2-11th FAR's "On Time" Battalion learned and committed to memory the good habits of an infantry battalion. First Lt. Sean Hollars, 1st Platoon leader, A Co., 1-27th, was recruited to be an observer controller (OC).

"From day one to day two there were improvements," Hollars said. "Common tasks

that infantrymen do instinctively, guys began to pay attention to the second day. ... After they had trouble with crowd control the first day, [they had] a plan for unruly crowds the second day."

Each Soldier, to include those who supported the training exercise, had an opportunity to internalize lessons learned.

"Something else that paid off was our hot wash [a meeting to discuss mistakes and ways to improve] with the firing battery, which was subsequently followed by another hot wash with our [opposition force]," Hollars said. "I can see that setting us up for success in future training exercises."

Intelligence collection and effective use of information has become a large part of the infantry mission. The 2-11th FAR's firing batteries are discovering the complexity of the Iraqi fight. It isn't just fire missions anymore, but a far more intricate fight involving community relations and savvy ways to

Right — 1st Lt. Brian Napier (right), fire direction officer, and Sgt. Nick Thomas, Alpha team leader/gunner 5th section, both of A Battery, 2-11th FAR, exit a building in the mock town of Porter Village.

exploit information. "Utilizing the [opposition forces] helped to hone information skills that otherwise you wouldn't think of using in combat," said 1st Lt. Joshua Haffer, A Battery platoon leader, 2-11th FAR. "The [opposition forces] did an outstanding job in their portrayal of the Iraqi circumstance which caused us to think and react accordingly."

"We should do more cooperative training ... particularly when we'll be working with multi-national force," said Sgt. 1st Class Ernest Oberst, 1st Platoon sergeant, A Co., 1-27th Infantry Regiment.



Sgt. 1st Class Anthony Ezzell | 2nd Battalion, 11th Field Artillery Regiment

Hurricane exercise hits island

U.S. ARMY, PACIFIC, PUBLIC AFFAIRS
News Release

FORT SHAFTER – Military and civil authorities tested their skills for emergency response to a category four hurricane during Exercise Makani Pahili '07, through last week.

The exercise, which ended May 18, focused on coordination between local, state and federal organizations and all branches of the armed forces in the event of a direct hit by a category three or greater hurricane.

Joint Task Force-Homeland Defense, or JTF-HD, U.S. Pacific Command organization with headquarters on Fort Shafter, was the executive agent. The JTF-HD matched resources from active duty component forces with specific requests from civilian authorities for aid during disasters. It validated hurricane plans and ensured service components were prepared to execute "Defense Support of Civilian Authorities," according to Lt. Col. Ed Toy, JTF-HD deputy commander.

JTF-HD provides situational awareness between civilian and military support units.

"This unique and critical function must be refined continually, and Makani Pahili 07 provides one of the best training opportunities of the year to do this unique training," Toy said.

More than 300 people from the U.S. military were dedicated to the State of Hawaii exercise, and JTF-HD was right in the center of the action as exercise scenario events flew from headquarters to field units and back, Toy said.

The annual exercise provides JTF-HD the opportunity to fine-tune coordination mechanisms that allow the military to support civilian authorities (state and local government emergency managers) in times of crisis. Coordination efforts are part of the National Response Plan and the National Incident Management System.



Photos by Pfc. Amber Karambellas | 311th Signal Command (Theater) Public Affairs



Above — Master Sgt. Jennifer Taylor, 516th Signal Brigade Theater Network Operations and Security Center, mans the radio for the tunnel evacuation shelter during the Makani Pahili hurricane exercise May 16. Makani Pahili is Hawaiian for "big wind."

Left — Sgt. Anthony Cruz of the 516th Signal Brigade practices intravenous (IV) procedures on Master Sgt. Chancey Rhodes, also of the 516th Signal Brigade, at the Makani Pahili Exercise in a hurricane evacuation tunnel at Fort Shafter.

Signal unit prepares for hurricane evacuees

SGT. 1ST CLASS NEAL SNYDER
311th Signal Command (Theater) Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER – A tunnel dug during World War II as a communications hub and bomb shelter is again ready to protect military families if a hurricane strikes Oahu.

Soldiers of Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC), 516th Signal Brigade, opened the shelter, located in a hillside of northern Fort Shafter, May 16–17, during the statewide Makani Pahili hurricane readiness exercise.

Designated for residents of Aliamanu Military Reservation, the shelter can hold up to 1,173 people for the duration of a storm, according to 1st Sgt. Thomas Valdespino of the HHC, 516th Signal Bde.

"This is just to wait out the storm," said Valdespino, indicating a 2-by-4 foot rectangle of tape on the concrete floor, the space allotted for each evacuee.

The shelter likely wouldn't be occupied

for more than 12 hours, he explained.

The tunnel shelter, and two others on Fort Shafter, is part of a network of more than 100 spread across every inhabited island in Hawaii. They open every year as dozens of local, state and federal entities rehearse the roles they will play during a hurricane strike.

Though most shelters are designated for specific communities, "none of the shelters can turn anyone away," said Master Sgt. Sheila Sango, shelter worker and brigade career counselor.

The tunnel itself dates to the early days of World War II. Then, it housed air defense radar and served as an air raid shelter for Fort Shafter families. It continues to house communications equipment.

In case a hurricane strikes, the shelter is ready to offer essential support to short-term residents. A first-aid station and a chaplain stand ready to help deal with different kinds of trauma.

First aid is administered by five combat medics and 15 Red Cross-trained workers from HHC, 516th.

Chaplain (Maj.) Jon Hollenbeck expects people will be dealing with loss – if not of life, at least of property. Hollenbeck's plans include identifying and calling upon leaders from other religious groups among the evacuees.

For this year's exercise, the 516th installed a ground station for the Pacific Mobile Emergency Radio System (PACMERS). Unique to Hawaii, PACMERS lets all federal and state emergency responders communicate with each other. The 516th is in charge of the Army's connection to the system, Valdespino said.

The shelter managers used the radio to send hourly updates to the U.S. Army Garrison, Oahu (formerly Oahu Base Support Battalion) and receive information about the status of the storm.

The tunnel is the third Makani Pahili

shelter to be hosted by the 516th. In 2003, the unit ran the shelter in the Tripler Army Medical Center gymnasium. In 2006, the 516th opened a shelter in the Fort Shafter gymnasium for Shafter residents and workers. That year's shelter hosted more than 200 visitors.

A few more than 40 visitors signed in to this year's shelter. Even so, the unit considers its exercise successful.

"We just wanted to have the shelter up and running, and give families an idea of what they will be coming to," Sango said.

The tunnel saw enough visitors for the 516th to test its in- and out-processing processes. In return, visitors received a tour and a briefing.

Setting up in the tunnel makes an evacuation shelter easier to run, according to Valdespino. For one thing, no windows have to be boarded up.

"Here, you close two doors and you're done," Valdespino said.



Cherie A. Thurlby | Department of Defense

President George W. Bush addresses the audience during the first joint Reserve Officer Training Corps commissioning ceremony in the East Room of the White House, May 17.

UH-Manoa ROTC cadet gets commissioned by President

LESLIE OZAWA

U.S. Army, Pacific, Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER — President Bush hosted the first-ever presidential joint commissioning ceremony for 55 Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) cadets and midshipmen in the East Room of the White House, May 17. Secretary of Defense Robert Gates administered the commissioning oath to the cadets and midshipmen.

David Song, from the University of Hawai'i Army ROTC program, was one of 55 cadets and midshipmen commissioned.

A Pennsylvania native, Song is a former enlisted Soldier who has completed a combat tour in Afghanistan on a civil affairs team before the ROTC program. He is currently enrolled at the Hawaii Pacific University where he is finishing his master's de-



Song

gree in diplomacy and military studies.

"This is truly an honor to be part of today's ceremony and to represent my family and the Army ROTC program on Hawai'i," Song said. "I wanted to further my education and develop myself as a leader. The ROTC program at the University of Hawaii at Manoa offered me

an excellent opportunity to seek both," Song said, also comparing ROTC and Officer Candidate School paths to commissioning.

Song's parents, Bin So and Jung Hee Song, originally from Korea, also attended the ceremony. The Songs currently reside in Doylestown, Penn.

"My parents ... came here seeking a better life. I owe this country my freedom and I want to pay debt to those who went before me," Song said.

Song attributed much of his work ethic to working with his parents in the inner-city streets of Philadelphia. The Songs used to run a small produce store where David occasionally worked weekends.

"It was hard work," Song said. "My father would get up early in the morning to purchase the produce at the market, while my mother would prep the store before opening hours.

"When we finally closed the store, we ended a fourteen-hour day and most of the time, took work home with us. My parents did this for twenty-five years, all for their children's sake."

Of the 55 men and women commissioned in the ceremony, 23 were Army ROTC cadets, according to

an Army News Service release. The cadets represented more than 28,000 young people who have decided to make Army ROTC a part of their total college experience.

Since its inception in 1916, more than a half-million men and women have become officers through the Army ROTC program. The majority of officers serving in today's Army started their military career through the ROTC program, as a means to becoming an officer and to lead Soldiers in a time of war.

Army ROTC is an elective curriculum, taken along with required college classes by students at nearly 1,500 colleges and universities around the nation. The University of Hawai'i Army ROTC program supports all universities and colleges on Oahu and has been producing commissioned officers for the Army for more 85 years.

News Briefs

Send calendar announcements to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

26 / Saturday

Picnic, Pool & Penguins — Bring your beach blankets, swimsuits and a change of clothes and join the Army community for an evening of fun for the entire family, May 26, from 5-9 p.m. at Richardson Pool and Sills Field.

Sponsored by MWR, AAFES and the Great Aloha Run, the event will feature an open swim, where inflatables and floatation devices will be permitted, along with a nickel dive at 6:30 p.m., and door prize give-a-ways. Afterwards, enjoy "Happy Feet" the movie on a 20-foot screen on Sills Field with free hot dogs, chips and drinks, while supplies last. Call 655-0112.

June

4 / Monday

Advisory Meeting — The Schofield Barracks Post Exchange/Commissary/Nehelani Advisory Council will meet June 4 in the Koa 1 Room of the Nehelani, Schofield Barracks, from 10:15-11:15 a.m. The bimonthly forum provides an opportunity for patrons to share their ideas with representatives from these facilities. Call Melvin Wright, 655-0497 for more details.

556th PSB notice — The 556th Personnel Support Battalion will be minimally staffed from June 4-22, due to Personnel Service Delivery Redesign (PSDR) at Schofield Barracks. Customers of 556th PSB can expect longer waiting periods and limited services during this time. Contact CWO2 McDonald at 655-4829 for more information.

5 / Tuesday

Garrison Organizational

Days — Come enjoy a week of fun-filled events during Garrison Organizational Days. Activities, which run Tuesday-Friday, June 5-8 include:

- 5K Fun Run/Walk — Tuesday, 7 a.m. Call 655-8789.
 - Golf— Wednesday, 11:30 a.m., at the Leilehua Golf Course
 - Bowling — Thursday, 12:30 p.m. at Fort Shafter, 2 p.m. at Schofield Barracks
 - Picnic — Friday, from 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. at Schofield Barracks' Bowen Park
- Call 655-0112, for more information.

9 / Saturday

Army Ball — Celebrate the Army's 232nd birthday, Saturday, June 9, at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Hotel from 6 p.m. to midnight. Attire is formal and tickets cost \$55 per person. Contact your command sergeant major or call 438-9761 for details.

19 / Tuesday

Oahu North Town Hall — Let your voice be heard at the bimonthly Oahu North Town Hall meeting Tuesday, June 19, at 6:30 p.m. at the Schofield Barracks' Sgt. Smith Theater.

22 / Friday

USARPAC Centennial Dedication Ceremony — The premier event commemorating Fort Shafter's centennial will be held June 22 from 5 a.m.-5 p.m. The day's events will begin with the Perry and Price Morning Radio show broadcasting from the Hale Ikena that morning.

Food booths, static displays, re-enactors, keiki activities, and other activities will begin at 9 a.m. on the Palm Circle Parade Field. A dedication ceremony designating Fort Shafter as a National Historic site will be conducted from 11-11:45 a.m.

For more information, contact Marjorie Barrell at 438-9761.

24 / Sunday

Dental Program Brief — Mr. Rick Melrose of United Concordia, a contractor for the Tricare Dental Program, will be on island

SEE NEWS BRIEFS, A-9



Chief Mass Communication Specialist David Rush | Hawaii Navy News

Amphibious convoy

PEARL HARBOR — Thirteen Stryker vehicles from 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team returned to the West Loch, here from Pohakuloa Training Area (PTA) on the Big Island. The Strykers, along with other various support vehicles, were transported onboard the U.S. Army Low Speed Vessel (LSV-2) Clinger, a supply ship that ferries Army cargo between the islands. The Strykers belong to the latest rotation of Soldiers training at PTA in preparation for the brigade's deployment to Iraq in December.

Armor: Quality meets needed standards

CONTINUED FROM A-1

gether to fail, and the discs gathered at the bottom of the vest, leaving gaps in protection, he said.

Brown also noted that the Dragon Skin vests are significantly heavier and thicker than the Interceptor vests. Dragon Skin vests in size extra large are 47.5 pounds and 1.7 to 1.9 inches thick; the Interceptor vests in size large, which offer an equivalent coverage area to the extra large Dragon Skin vests, weigh 28 pounds and are 1.3 inches thick.

“Bottom line is it does not meet Army standards,” Brown said of the Pinnacle body armor.

Brown showed reporters videos of the tests, which were supervised by the chief executive officer of Pinnacle. He also displayed the actual vests that were tested, with markers showing the penetration sites.

The Army did not initially release the information about the tests because of possible security concerns, Brown said.

“We are facing a very media-savvy enemy,” he said. “They’re not only media-savvy, they are Internet savvy. ... Everything that we put out into the public domain, we pretty much assume that they get. We don’t like to discuss our vulnerabilities and our counters to the vulnerabilities in the open public.”

However, after the NBC report, Army leaders felt they needed to counter any doubts in the minds of service members and their families, Brown said.

“Our Soldiers and, more importantly, the families – the wives, the children, the parents – have to have confidence that our Soldiers have the best equipment in the world,” he said.

Right now, the Army’s safety-of-use message mandates that all Soldiers use Interceptor body armor, which has passed the same tests the Pinnacle armor failed, Brown said. The Army is interested in a more flexible armor, like the Pinnacle design, and if the company improves its product, it could be reconsidered, he said.

Brown stressed that the Army has more than one set of body armor for every Soldier in the combat theater, and that he has all the money and support he needs to make improvements to force protection. Also, the Army is constantly working to develop new technologies that will deliver better protection.

“This is not just a matter of debate for us; this is personal,” he said, noting that many of his staff members have relatives or friends who have served or are serving in Iraq or Afghanistan.

Barbina: 66th Eng. Company continues to shine

CONTINUED FROM A-1

gineer Battalion from Spooner, Wis., said she thinks commitment is the best trait a leader can have because if you’re committed to the unit’s tasks, you’ll do an excellent job, you’ll take care of your Soldiers and they, in turn, will take care of you.

“What I want to pass on to my Soldiers is that they’re part of an incredible team, part of something that is much stronger than they alone could ever be,” she said. “I ask them to look for opportunities to serve in greater capacities because whenever you do that you’re taking care of the guy



MacArthur Award



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

Capt. Anthony Barbina discusses training plans with Staff Sgt. Scott Casey, 196th Infantry Brigade during an exercise on Schofield Barracks. Barbina was one of 28 officers who received the MacArthur Leadership award.

to the right and to the left of you, and if you’re taking care of those guys, they’re going to do the same.”

The awardees also visited President Bush and took a tour of the White House, May 18.

After giving the president a firm handshake, Barbina mentioned the president said, “Whoa, you’ve got a firm grip there.”

Each of the 28 awardees also received a framed picture with the president.

“I was smiling from ear to ear,” Barbina said during a telephone interview the same day.

For more information on the General Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award, visit www.macarthurmemorial.org. (Editor’s Note: Jeremy S. Buddemeier, U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii, contributed reporting.)

News Briefs

From A-8

June 24–30, and will be available to brief the

program. To schedule a brief, please contact him at Rick.Melrose@ucci.com.

Ongoing

Family Deployment Night — Enjoy fellowship and fun at Family Deployment Night the third Wednesday of every month at 5:30 p.m., Schofield Barracks’ Main Post Chapel. Point of contact is Chaplain (Maj.) Scott Kennedy at 656-1384. Mark your calendar for these upcoming dates: June 19, July 18 and Aug. 15.

Pacific Aviation Museum Volunteers — Pacific Aviation Museum-Pearl Harbor needs volunteers to share Hawaii’s aviation and military history with visitors to historic Ford Island.

Call 808-441-1012 or email kt@pacificaviationmuseum.org for more details.



PAU HANA



Corps plays vital role in protecting Pacific reefs

SARAH H. COX

Honolulu District Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER — Honolulu District held the seminar "Sediment Impacts to Coral Reefs," May 11, to help educate the district's employees, customers, contractors and sponsors about the plight of Pacific coral reefs.

Subject matter experts from the University of Hawaii-Manoa and Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) discussed research findings of the potential impacts that upland and in-stream actions have on coral reefs, as well as adaptive management techniques to minimize those impacts.

Protecting Pacific coral reefs is one of Honolulu District's main missions.

Honolulu Engineer District biologist Cindy Barger said the government has instituted several programs to protect reefs.

"The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has three main roles in protecting the living coral reefs: its regulatory program, its proper planning and project management, and its collaboration with partners such as local academia and private organizations, as well as local, state and federal agencies," Barger said.

Coral reefs are the "rainforests of the sea," and just like their land-based counterparts, coral reefs are in danger, according to DLNR's Dr. Katherine Chaston, who heads the State of Hawaii's Local Action Strategy for Land Based Pollution Threats to Coral Reefs.



Coral reef heads occupy an area in the Northwest Hawaiian Islands.

Coral reefs are fragile, living ecosystems, second only to the tropical rainforest in plant and animal diversity. Chaston said that reefs are home to more than 4,000 species of marine life and "many of these are only available in Hawaii." "Nearly 22-percent of the world's coral reefs are threatened," she said.

Seminar guest speaker, Dr. Bob Richmond, UH-Manoa, says mitigation is not enough.

"Mitigation is like going to Mariposa, California, and chopping down the redwoods and then saying we can just plant more trees. Sure we can re-seed a reef, but a 400-year old reef just can't be replaced," Richmond said.

Reefs provide food and livelihood for millions of people around the world, protect coastlines from dangerous waves and storms, plus contain an array of potential pharmaceuticals showing promise in the treatment of cancer, asthma and AIDS.

The Nature Conservancy reports, if reef destruction increases at the current rate, 70-percent of the world's coral reefs will disappear within 50 years. Natural and man-made conditions such as pollution, overfishing, construction, human activity, storms and global warming are harming the reefs' structure, made from thousands of living animals called coral polyps.

The Corps' regulatory program protects coral reefs through the Clean Water Act, Section 404, under the Department of the Army permit process. The Act mandates

SEE REEF, B-7

First Fridays

A Celebration of Art And Culture



Canvases line the sidewalks to promote interactive art during First Fridays. Thousands converge each month to embrace art in Chinatown.

Story and Photos by
MOLLY HAYDEN
Staff Writer

HONOLULU — The air was cool, the spirit festive, and residents and tourists alike flocked to the historic Chinatown district, where, once a month the streets transform into an art extravaganza during the First Friday Gallery Walk.

Thousands of artists and art enthusiasts converge every month to rejoice in the preservation and innovation of an historical neighborhood. Street entertainment lines the sidewalk and patrons can witness a kaleidoscope of local art while navigating this self-guided tour.

Military family member Jenny Graul was one of many in attendance, May 4.

"I enjoy the diversity that accompanies First Fridays," Graul said. "Everyone from military, students, artists and families all gather for a common purpose — to support the arts. We not only learn about the artists, but we get to become one."

Last month featured the second annual Maoli Arts Month — a broad, community-based effort to celebrate the breadth and diversity of Native Hawaiian visual arts. In celebration, many participating galleries featured Hawaiian artists who shared their culture and traditions through their work.

Featured artist Mahi La Pierre was excited

about the exposure of Native Hawaiian artists in conjunction with the First Friday event.

"It's great to be a part of this," La Pierre said. "Getting art exposed is wonderful and Hawaiian art even better. It gives people an inside to the culture, and will hopefully inspire them."

The month of June brings new exhibits; including "Your Art Show," featuring paintings, photographs, watercolors, jewelry, stained glass, tapestry, recycled and mixed media work by artists who work by day and make art at night, on display at The Exhibit Space, and "The Small Kine Show," presented by the Hawaii Watercolor Association. The Small Kine Show will feature 600 little paintings by participating artists and will be displayed at The Art at Mark's Garage.

Erik Takeshita, business director of The Art at Mark's Garage, believes First Friday is a way to revitalize the Chinatown area.

"First Friday helps introduce and reintroduce the exciting things that are happening in this neighborhood," Takeshita said. "We really believe that Chinatown is a unique experience; not only in Hawaii, but on the entire planet."

The Bethel Street Gallery has been participating in First Fridays since its inception more than three years ago. The gallery displays monthly rotating work of both local and mainland artists, including paintings by

gallery owner Scottie Flamm.

"[First Friday] represents power in numbers. People can come into a gallery, look at their leisure and they don't feel threatened," said Flamm. "It gives everyone a chance to look at art and feel a part of a community."

More than 40 participating galleries, art venues, restaurants and shops in the Chinatown and downtown areas open their doors at 5 p.m. Next First Friday, with late-night exhibits and free entertainment featuring Hawaiian and local artists, art, culture, events and activities.

"A lot of people get exposed to art this way. They get an inside in the culture of Hawaii," stated Flamm. "We get a lot of youth who now have a chance to look at art. These kids are the future collectors, the future artists."

First Friday is a great way to explore the artistic and cultural resources of Honolulu. In this land of suburbs and strip malls, visitors come from near and far to people watch, gaze at local art, sample new restaurants and revel at area bars.

"Art is for everybody," Flamm said. "This is a chance for us all to be a part of something great."



Get more on First Friday at
www.firstfridayhawaii.com or
call 521-2903.

Musicians entertain people strolling sidewalks.

Artwork fills a room at the Bethel Gallery.

A mobile gallery displays Maoli artists' work.



Soldiers, families should 'never give safety a day off'

LORI YERDON

U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center

FORT RUCKER, Ala. — The U.S. Army commences its 101 Critical Days of Summer Safety campaign with a simple yet meaningful slogan: "Never Give Safety a Day Off."

Memorial Day through Labor Day marks the critical days when accidents and

mishaps pose a greater risk to Soldiers and their families, so this year's theme holds great value in sustaining the force and maintaining an Army Strong, said Brig. Gen. William H. Forrester, director of Army Safety.

"As we enter the 101 days of summer, think back to effective messages some of your previous leaders delivered," said Forrester. "One in particular I vividly recall was

given by then Maj. Gen. Dick Cody, our commanding general. His message, delivered to the entire 101st Airborne Division was founded on the statistical analysis that predicted the division would lose two Soldiers to fatalities over the Memorial Day weekend.

"As we gathered shoulder to shoulder, with some twenty thousand of our comrades, our division commander asked us all,

"Who in this crowd will we let die?"

"My charge to you and our Army is a simple but an effective goal that proclaims 'I can save my life and that of my comrade,'" said Forrester.

The U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center publishes and disseminates articles containing information to help Soldiers use composite risk management in making sound judgments while on and off duty.



25 / Today

Fashion & Fondue — Blue Star cardholders are invited to "An Evening of Fashion and Fondue" at the Nehelani, May 25, 7-9:30 p.m. Spouses will enjoy cheese and chocolate fondue, no-host cocktails, and upcoming summer fashions provided by Arden B. Ann Taylor, American Eagle, Cinnamon Girl, Hilo Hattie and Bridal Emporium.

Free child care will be provided, courtesy of Army Hawaii Family Housing. Cost is \$15 for Blue Star cardholders and \$18 for guests. The Blue Star card program is available to spouses of deployed Soldiers. Call 438-2911 or 655-0112.

Hawaiian Luau Lunch Buffet — Enjoy the "ono" taste of a traditional Hawaiian-style feast, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Hale Ikena, Fort Shafter, or 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Schofield Nehelani.

Cost is \$9.95 per person. Call the Hale Ikena at 438-1974 or the Nehelani at 655-4466 for lunch buffet reservations or more information.

26 / Saturday

Picnic, Pool & Penguins — Blue Star cardholders are invited to a mini Sunset in the Park, May 26 at 11 a.m., titled "Picnic, Pool and Penguins" at Richardson Pool and Sills Field, Schofield Barracks.

Admission will be free for Blue Star cardholders after 5 p.m. Enjoy giveaways, games and a chance to watch penguins on the big screen with an outdoor showing of "Happy Feet" on Sills Field at dusk.

Free hot dogs and chips will be provided for Blue Star cardholders, while supplies last. Call 655-0112 or 655-0110.

June

1 / Friday

July 4th Picnic Sites — Picnic sites for the "Fourth of July Spectacular" can be reserved for \$60 beginning June 1, 9 a.m., at the Leisure Activities office, Kaala Community Activities Center. The 20-by-25 foot sites will be located on the perimeter of Sills Field. These areas are the only areas authorized for cooking on grills. Call 655-0111 or 655-0112.

4 / Monday

Laugh it Up at your library — This year's summer reading program will begin on June 12. Read at least one book per week and receive a prize.



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

'Hands on hips, smiles on lips'

Tampa Bay Buccaneer cheerleader Tiffany Jimenez leads girls from Aliamanu and Helemano Military Reservation communities in striking cheering poses at The Tropics, Schofield Barracks, May 18. The Buccaneer cheerleaders taught cheerleading clinics at AMR and HMR; mingled with 25th Combat Aviation Brigade and 8th Military Police Brigade Soldiers; and completed a photoshoot for a swimsuit calendar during squad's two-week visit to Oahu.

Registration and packet pick up begins June 4 at all libraries. For more information and event schedules, call 655-8002 (Sgt Yano Library), 438-9521 (Fort Shafter Library) or 833-4851 (Aliamanu Library).

Cooking with Titus Chan — Learn top-of-the-line Chinese cooking techniques with Master Chef Titus Chan, well-known for his cooking shows on PBS and Warner Brothers. Three sessions will be held June 9, 16 & 23. Participants will get a first-rate cooking demonstration, a full-course gourmet meal and recipes to take home.

Chan is offering the military community a 50-percent discount. Total cost for all materials is \$216 (\$72 each session). Register by June 4 with the Leisure Activities Office, 655-0112/0110.

7 / Thursday

Auto Detailing — The Schofield Barracks Auto Skills Center is offering a new auto detailing service for a limited time. To make an appointment or to find out more information, call 655-9368.

Ongoing

New MWR Calendar Feature — Visit the Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Web site, www.mwrarmyhawaii.com and check out the new calendar feature,

which allows users to view the calendar by day, week, or month, in a list or tabular format.

Other features allow users to search for events, receive event reminders or notifications of event changes by e-mail or text message, as well as download event info, e-mail event information to friends, and import events to a calendar.

Leilehua High School Students — Looking for an air-conditioned ride from high school? The Schofield Barracks Teen Center will offer students rides from high school straight to the teen center at no cost for all registered teens.

Limited seats are available, and a waiver form is required. Call 655-0451.

SKIES Driver Education — Learn to drive with Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills (SKIES) at Valentine's Driving School, Schofield Barracks. The session is taught by qualified instructors and includes 32 hours of classroom instruction and six hours of behind-the-wheel instruction.

The fee is \$295 and must be paid at the time of registration. Call 655-9818.

"Paint It & Take It" — Ceramic parties offer a unique way to celebrate get-togethers, coffees, children's birthday parties, showers or any occasion. Your Arts and Crafts Center provides a varied selection of

ceramic bisqueware to paint and take home. Call 655-6330 at Schofield Barracks or 438-1315 at Fort Shafter.

Salvage Yard Auto Sales — Fort Shafter and Schofield Barracks salvage yards will be sponsoring sealed bid auto sales twice a month. Bidding will end on the first and third Saturdays of each month, and the highest bidder will be notified the following day.

A minimum bid will be marked on each auto that is for sale. Call 655-9368 at Schofield Barracks or 438-9402 at Fort Shafter.

Tropic Lightning — Enjoy a fast and hot lunch buffet, Monday-Friday, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at Kolekole Bar & Grill. Cost is \$8.95 per person. Call 655-4466.

Family Child Care — Individuals interested in caring for children in their home should inquire with the CYS Family Child Care Program. Benefits include free training, additional income and flexible hours. Call the Aliamanu Military Reservation (AMR) Family Child Care office at 837-0236, or the Schofield Barracks Family Child Care office at 655-8373.

Morale Welfare and Recreation Happenings — Visit Army Hawaii's Morale, Welfare and Recreation Web site at www.mwrarmyhawaii.com.

Community Calendar

Send calendar announcements to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com

25 / Today

Freedom Rally — KHVH Radio is sponsoring a "Freedom Rally" with Sean Hananiny, Newt Gingrich and Oliver North, Friday, May 25 at 7 p.m. at the Hawaii Convention Center. Tickets can be purchased through www.premieremarketing.us. Service members and their families can enjoy a 40-percent discount.

Sunset on the Beach — Get a special sneak-peek of season three of the hit series "Beyond the Break," which is filmed in its entirety on the Waianae Coast, during Sunset on the Beach, tomorrow. The popular 30-minute series returns to "The N," the nighttime network for teens, in early 2008, and the first three, third season episodes will be screened at sunset, Queen's Beach in Waikiki.

Cast members will be making an appearance. The N is available locally on channel 447 (Oceanic Time Warner), channel 298 (DirectTV) and channel 169 (DISH). Sunday, see the blockbuster James Bond hit of 2006, "Casino Royale."

Food booths will open at 4 p.m.; live entertainment will start at 5 p.m., both days.

31 / Thursday

Miss Rodeo Hawaii — Deadline for applications to participate in the Miss Rodeo America pageant is May 31. Female Hawaii residents, 19-26 years old, who have never been married or pregnant and meet other pageant criteria, are eligible to compete. The pageant and selection will take place June 30 at Kawailoa Ranch in Haleiwa. For contest rules, contact Lu Faborito, president of the Hawaii Women's Rodeo Association, at 696-5055. Download an application form at www.rodeoohawaii.com.

June

1 / Friday

Waikiki by Moonlight — After a very successful inaugural event last year, Waikiki by Moonlight is back and will move to the Royal Hawaiian Shopping Center and Waikiki Beach Walk areas. To showcase the very best Waikiki has to offer, Kalakaua Avenue (between Lewers and Seaside streets) will be closed from 3:30 p.m. on event day.

The public is invited to this very special street festival under the romantic Waikiki moon from 6-10 p.m. Attractions will include stellar entertainment, a variety of wonderful cuisine, unique art, crafts and fashions. For more details, call Mona Wood at 218-5546.

Sunshine Generation Hawaii — Give your child the summer of a lifetime when you register him or her for two weeks of accelerated courses in singing, dancing, showmanship and confidence offered by Sunshine Generation Hawaii, by June 1. Bonus workshops are also available for hula, acting, music theory and more.

Two locations provide activities: the Catlin Community Center at 3144 Nimitz Rd. and Mililani Waena Elementary School at 95-502 Kipapa Dr. Sunshine Generation is open to all boys and girls, ages 3-16. The program costs \$125, \$100 for each additional child. Call 489-1998 or visit www.Sunshine-Hawaii.net for more details.

Also, register for performances at Hawaiian Waters Adventure Park, with free all-day park admission. Session 1 (June 11-23) and Session 2 (July 9-21) will meet from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

2 / Saturday

Honolulu Zoo Military Appreciation Day — The United Service Organization Hawaii, in partnership with City and County of Honolulu Mayor Mufi Hannemann, and the Honolulu Zoo, will once again host a Military Day at the zoo, June 2 from 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. This event promises to be a fun-filled day for service members and their families at one of Honolulu's finest at-

tractions. All military will enjoy free admission with food, beverages and entertainment.

Relive the Plantation Days — Join Hawaii Plantation Village for this daylong activity, which will begin at 10 a.m. and showcase the lifestyles and experiences of Hawaii's plantation workers, as well as fun, interactive plantation-style activities for keiki. Admission is free and ample free parking will be available.

For more details, visit www.hawaii-plantationvillage.org, or call 677-0110.

5 / Tuesday

Careers on the Go — Learn how to have a career on the go that enables you to relocate yet continue to earn a living. A Portable Career Workshop will be held from 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Army Community Service (ACS), Schofield Barracks.

Register online at www.mwrarmyhawaii.com, or call 655-4227.

6 / Wednesday

Pacific Aviation Museum — Join the museum Wednesday, June 6, 6-7 p.m., to discover the miracle of the Battle of Midway and the myths and mysteries that surround it. The museum is hosting a special after-hours tour of the exhibit hangar followed by a lecture by Hawaii's own hometown historian and Midway expert, Alan Lloyd, from 7-8. The Blue Heaven Café, located in the museum, will be open for dinner before and after the lecture. Make reservations at 441-1000 or rsvp@pacificaviationmuseum.org. Costs are \$10 & \$5 for military/kamaaina and kids; \$14 & \$7, general admission. Limited seating is available. The museum is located at 319 Lexington Blvd. on Ford Island.

11 / Monday

Employment Orientation — Looking for a job in Hawaii? Attend an ACS employment orientation and get employment information on federal, state, private sector and staffing agencies.

Reference materials, job listings, computers and more will be available for use. Two workshops will be held: June 11 and 25 from 1-2:30 p.m. at the Fort Shafter Outreach Center. Register on line at

www.mwrarmyhawaii.com, or call 438-9285.

29 / Friday

BayFest — Now in its 18th year, BayFest returns to Marine Corps Base Hawaii (MCBH), Kaneohe Bay, June 29-July 1 with headline Canadian rockers Three Days Grace, country starlet Gretchen Wilson, and legendary soloist Alan Jackson. Mega family activities are scheduled, including Fernandez carnival rides, games, military displays, contests, a nightly fireworks show, and much more. Also, if you're interested in competition and contests, sign up for the BodySearch and/or Bathub Regatta.

Anyone with a DoD ID card can purchase tickets through the Information, Tickets & Tours offices at MCBH K-Bay, Camp Smith, MWR Navy Region Hawaii, or MWR Army Hawaii. Two types of presale tickets will be sold at these locations: the \$20 concert/carnival ticket and a \$5 ticket, which does not include concert admission.

Tickets purchased are good for any day's admission, but for one-time admission. Re-entry is not permitted, and concert admission tickets are \$25 at the gate.

Get the full lineup of weekend events and other contests online at www.bayfesthawaii.com.

Ongoing

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

Opportunities are available on and off post. Free child care at an hourly rate is provided for up to 20 hours per week for those who volunteer with ACS. Visit www.mwrarmyhawaii.com or call 655-4227.

Hawaii Theater — Docent-led tours of the renovated historic Hawaii Theatre are provided Tuesdays at 11 a.m. Cost is \$5. Call 791-1305.

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)
- Protestant Sunday, 12:30 p.m. — Worship service
- Protestant Sundays, 9:45 a.m. — Worship Service Sunday, 11 a.m. — Sunday School (Sept. — June only)

Fort DeRussy Chapel, 836-4599

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

Fort Shafter Chapel, 836-4599

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

Helemano (HMR) Chapel

- Contemporary Protestant Sunday, 9 a.m.—"The Wave" 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. — MWC Sunday

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

This Week at the MOVIES Sgt. Smith Theater



Are We Done Yet

(PG) Friday, 7 p.m. Wednesday, 7 p.m.



Firehouse Dog

(PG) Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, 2 p.m.



The Reaping

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

Keiki Spur Ride gives youth taste of Army life

Story and Photos by
MOLLY HAYDEN
Staff Writer

WHEELER ARMY AIR FIELD – Thirty-five children marched alongside Master Sgt. Ira D. Burns, noncommissioned officer in charge, 2nd Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment, (2-6th Cav.) singing cadences, Saturday. The group participated in the first spur ride specifically for children of Soldiers serving in Iraq.

The spur ride was open to all children, ages 5–18, of deployed 2-6th Cav. Soldiers, and all units attached. Burns facilitated the children's event.

The Order of the Spur is a cavalry tradition in the United States Army. For cavalry Soldiers to join the Order of the Spur, they must pass a series of tests set by their command, known as the spur ride. Once accomplished, the soldiers are awarded spurs to be worn with their military uniforms.

The spur ride is normally a two-to-five-day event where a Soldier must pass a series of tests that evaluate their navigation, shooting, first responder, physical fitness and other military skills. The tests may also include a written portion covering cavalry history and tactics.

The 2-6th Cav. recently set up a lighter version of the spur ride for spouses and children, featuring actual combat tactics, exercises, and experiences that cavalry Soldiers face.

After a brief warm-up and one-mile march, the children arrived at the bmx track, which simulated a battlefield. There, Soldiers briefed children on combat tactics and the training began. Burns lined up the children and spoke candidly.

"By the end of this run, you will be tired and you will be muddy," he said.

Burns hoped the spur run would connect children with their parents currently serving in Iraq.

"Our main goal is to make sure the children have fun, but we want to give them an idea of some of the things their parents experience on a regular basis," Burns said.

Avah Helton, Family Readiness Group (FRG) advisor and family member, earned her spurs in September during the spouses' spur run.

"Ever since I earned mine the children really wanted to participate. We were all excited when this event came up," Helton said.

Helton's three daughters participated in the event.

"I hope they have a good time... and appreciate what their dad does for his country a little bit more."

Daughter, Amber, understands the hard work her father faces.

"My dad always bragged about doing things like this. I was sure I could do it too," Amber said. "But it's a lot harder than I thought."

Throughout the course of the day, children ran over piles of dirt and mud, climbed and crawled up and down hills and stealthily maneuvered their way under the rope fence.

They dodged water balloon attacks from mothers waiting on the sidelines, and attempted to sneak across the grounds undetected, armed with water guns. The children used actual military tactics, including the low-crawl, and practices to complete the run.

All participants successfully made it through the obstacle course, each team leader providing assistance to teammates behind.

Karen Barker, FRG advisor and family member, helped organize Saturday's event.

"The kids did an awesome job," said Barker. "We brought them out here to get them muddy and have a little fun – to ease the pressure of the deployment."

To end the event, a fire truck pulled up and hosed off the muddy children. Children screamed, laughed and danced under the cascade of water. Brown shirts turned white again and camouflage face paint washed across the concrete.

After a full day of fun, sun and mud, sleepy-eyed children piled in cars, their minds filled with information and memories.

"Children [of deployed Soldiers] often feel detached from their parent," Barker said. "Our goal with this event is to serve a bridge to allow the children to feel closer to their moms or dads by showing them what they do."



Keiki spur ride participants and volunteers cheer for a job well done. Thirty-five children of the 2-6th Cav. got a taste of the Soldier's life during a day filled with mud and fun.



Cody Harris stealthily maneuvers his way under the rope course, armed with water guns as weapons. The obstacle was set up for children to get a taste of military life.



Kyle Ingold reloads his water gun during the ambush attack portion of the spur ride. The spur ride was designed for children to have a day of fun, and learn a little more about the struggles their parents experience.



Kaitlyn Murray gets a ride from family member Tandy Ropp through the rope course. All children completed the run to get a feel of what their parents participate in on a regular basis.



Lead by Master Sgt. Burns, children run the obstacle course armed with water guns. Throughout the day, they learned how to ward off attackers and maneuver their way across the muddy track.

Community Sports

Send community announcements to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

25 / Today

Island Adventure Golf – Hawaiian Waters Adventure Park will open Island Adventure Golf, a high-end miniature golf course that features 18 holes of fun in the sun, nine 100-percent ADA-accessible holes, and a putting green, all for the entire family to enjoy, May 25 at 11 a.m.

To celebrate the newest addition to the park, the public is also invited to the grand opening, 5-7 p.m., complete with live entertainment, games, food, special guests and fun.

Military with valid ID will receive special discounted admission to the golf course. A full round of 18 holes costs \$6.50 for military, youth 12 and under, and senior citizens. General admission is \$7.50. Special group rates are available at \$5.50 per person for groups of 12 or more.

For more details, call 674-9283 or visit www.hawaiianwaters.com.

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 25 & 26 (Waialua Elem. School Cafeteria, 67-020 Waialua Beach Rd.).

Class runs from 5:45-10 p.m., Friday, and from 7:45 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday. They are family-friendly and open to anyone age 10 years and older. All students are required to provide a picture ID.

26 / Saturday

Jackpot Rodeo – The Hawaii Women's Rodeo Association will host a Jackpot Rodeo tomorrow at the Barbers Point Arena in Barbers Point. Action will begin at 10 a.m. with open, 3D and keiki barrel racing followed by pole-bending.

Admission and parking are free. Call John Teixeira at 389-9884 or visit the Hawaii Women's Rodeo Association online at

www.rodeoohu.com for more details.

27 / Sunday

Hike Oahu – Come join the Hawaiian Trail & Mountain Club on its next adventure: a short jaunt along the loop trail, heading up a rugged ridge to the Koolau Summit, for advanced hikers, Sunday. Call coordinator Mike Mottl, 254-6360, for more details.

Stay tuned for these upcoming adventures, which all begin at 8 a.m.:

-June 2, 9-miles, Pupukea Summit, intermediate.

-June 2, 6-miles, Kaunala, intermediate.

-June 10, 6-miles, Mt. Olympus, intermediate.

A \$2 donation is requested of nonmembers 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.

June

3 / Sunday

Canoe Club – The Honolulu Pearl Canoe Club, a military-oriented outrigger paddling canoe club, is currently recruiting new paddlers of all ages, skill and experience levels for the upcoming outrigger canoe regatta season.

Regatta races are sprints ranging from one-fourth mile to one-and-a-half miles, held every Sunday from June 3 to July 22 at Kailua Beach, Keehi Lagoon, Nanakuli Beach and Waimanalo Beach. This private organization operates on Naval Station Pearl Harbor and is open to all military and civilians.

Learn six-man, outrigger canoe paddling skills and techniques for fun or competition in a positive social environment. If you're interested in paddling, visit the Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Canoe Hale located at Rainbow Bay Marina, near the Arizona Memorial Visitor's Center, any Monday, Wednesday or Friday between 5 p.m. and sunset.

E-mail megtoad@mac.com or visit www.honolulupearl.com for more details.

8 / Friday

Patriot Walk Run – The theme

for this year's Patriot Walk Run is "No Veteran Left Behind," and you are invited to participate, June 16, 8 a.m.; however, entry deadline is June 8.

The 5K-course (3.1 mile) is a flat, fast run around Iroquois Point Island Club, which finishes at the beach. Cost is \$17 for military and \$20 for general admission. Late entries up to race morning are \$25.

Prizes will be awarded in many age and gender categories. For more details, call the Island Club, located at 5105 Iroquois Ave., Ewa Beach, at 441-9999, or visit www.islandclubhawaii.com.

All proceeds go toward helping veterans get off the streets or having an affordable place to stay.

10 / Sunday

Volksmarch – Menehune Marchers are sponsoring a 10K Mililani Mauka volksmarch, or walk, June 10. This walk will start at the Mililani Mauka Community Park (corner of Kuaoa Street and Meheula Parkway) at 8 a.m. It should finish by noon. Cost is \$3; call Carol at 626-3575.

Ongoing

Take Off Pounds Sensibly – The T.O.P.S support group meets every Thursday evening at the Armed Services YMCA. Join others to share weight loss tips, discuss concerns and provide encouragement to each other. Call Cheryl at 696-4423.

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

Fleet Feet – Faerber's Flyers women's running club invites women of all ages and skill levels to join them at the University of Hawaii track at Cooke Field. The club meets Wednesdays from 5:15-7 p.m. Cost is \$50 per year. Call 277-3609.

Masters Swim Program – Team Move hosts a master's swimming program Wednesdays from 7:30-8:30 a.m., and Saturdays from 7-8:15 a.m. in the Pearl City district park swimming pool.

These innovative group workouts are designed for beginning and advanced swimmers. Expert coaching is provided to improve upon form and technique. All ages are welcome. Cost is \$15 per month for Team Move members and \$25 per month for nonmembers. The pool is located at 785 Hoomaemae St., Pearl City.



Jay Parco | Pacific Media Publishing

Polynesian pride

Dancers from the Polynesian Cultural Center entertain a crowd of more than 200 Soldiers during the Asian-Pacific Heritage Month observance at Schofield Barracks' Sills Field, Wednesday.



June

1 / Friday

Swimming Pools – Effective June 1, the operational hours for three of the four U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii, swimming pools will be changed in order to conduct staff in-service training. Call Aliamanu (833-0255), Tripler (433-5257) or Richardson Pool (655-9698) for new hours of operation information.

2 / Saturday

Ladies Golf Clinic – Ladies, sharpen those golfing skills at a free golf clinic. This clinic will be held June 2 at the Leilehua Golf Course located outside the Wheeler Army Air Field front gate.

The clinic will last for one hour and 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 / Wednesday

Teen Fit – Teens will be taught the basics of proper strength training, cardio, and stretching in a fun and productive setting by Kristy Osborn, a certified personal trainer & strength and conditioning specialist.

This four-week class will be held June 6, 13, 20 & 27, 3 p.m., at the Schofield Barracks Health & Fitness Center. Cost is \$35 per teen or \$60 per sibling.

To sign up, call 381-5944.

Ongoing

Brazilian Capoeira – Develop the mind, body and spirit to include physical fitness, self-defense and self-discipline through Brazilian Capoeira. Classes are held Tuesdays from 5:30-7 p.m. at the Fort Shafter Physical Fitness Center.

Call Mestre Kinha at 247-7890.

Reef: Corps protects 'underwater rainforests'

CONTINUED FROM B-1

the protection of coral reefs as "special aquatic sites."

Also, Executive Order 13089 ("Coral Reef Protection") states all federal agencies need to use their programs to protect coral reef ecosystems and ensure that their actions don't degrade coral reef ecosystems.

"With everything we do, whether it's a civil works or a military construction project, we use a planning process to study and protect the coral reefs, where practical," Barger explained.

Construction, operational or design impacts can be greatly reduced through sustainable and low-impact design techniques. In accordance with the Act, unavoidable impacts must be mitigated.

Regulatory policies and the Corps' and EPA's draft "Mitigation Rule" allow the Corps and permittees to implement mitigation that makes sense for the system – focusing on causes of coral decline rather than symptoms.

Specialists in Honolulu District's Environmental Technical and Regulatory branches are working to improve mitigation strategies.

"There are examples in wetland mitigation to take a watershed approach and "pool" mit-

igation requirements for several projects to make one large mitigation area to get more "bang for your buck," Barger said. "We want to work towards this goal with coral reefs."

"There are plenty of actions that we can do to turn things around, but it takes commitment from all levels," he added.

The Corps works closely with DLNR, as well as local and federal agencies, to identify sediment sources and help manage the amount of sediment that finds its way to the ocean.

"Sedimentation and land-based pollution are impacting our reefs during all their life stages, from spawning to larvae attaching onto the sea floor," Barger said.

Sediment, which can come from a variety of sources, including storm runoff or construction sites, smothers coral, prevents vital photosynthesis, and upsets the delicate balance coral needs to survive.

Every construction project has potential to create sediment – which creates more asphalt pavement and less green space.

"The challenge is how to build the infrastructure Hawaii needs in a manner that minimizes impact to our reefs," Barger said.



James Watt | National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration

Military Appreciation Month draws to a close

COMPILED BY AIKO BRUM
Chief, Command Information

The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii and the business community have joined together to honor the state's military ohana (family) with the following events.

- Throughout May; Battleship Missouri

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, service members and families must present a valid ID card when purchasing tours in advance through Morale, Welfare and Recreation outlets.

Military members 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-MIGHTY-MO or 1-877-644-4896. Visit www.uss-missouri.org for more on the USS Missouri.

- Throughout May; Castle Resorts & Hotels

Castle salutes the armed forces with a special promotion from May 1–June 30. As its way of saying thanks, Castle is offering an additional 10-percent off its already discounted military rates on new bookings for travel at all of its resorts and hotels in Hawaii and Saipan. Rates start-

ing from \$81 on the Big Island, \$125 on Kauai, \$98 on Maui, \$80 on Molokai, \$62 on Oahu and \$89 on Saipan apply.

Visit www.CastleResorts.com for more details, or call toll-free 1-800-367-5004 and ask for the "Military Appreciation" promotion. Guests must provide a valid military ID card upon check-in to qualify for this special promotion, and rates are not combinable with any other special offers. They are based upon availability; and some restrictions may apply.

- Throughout May; Goodwill Industries

Service members can receive 20 percent off all merchandise at Goodwill locations around the island during the month of May. The 20 percent discount supersedes all other discounts and cannot be combined with any other sale prices.

- June 2, 9:30 a.m.–3 p.m., Honolulu Zoo Military Day

The United Service Organization Hawaii, in partnership with Mayor Mufi Hannemann, the City and County of Honolulu, and the Honolulu Zoo, will once again host a 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.

(Editor's Note: Information provided courtesy of the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii and individual sponsors.)