

INSIDE

Gates likely to approve Army 'plus-up'

DONNA MILES

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates said Sept. 27 that he is "inclined to approve" an Army request to expand its end strength faster than initially planned to reduce stress on the force.

Recognizing the "cumulative effect of years of deployments in terms of their impact on the force," Gates began early in his term as defense secretary to promote plans to increase the active Army to 547,000 Soldiers by 2012, he said.

The Army announced in January that it would add the additional end strength within five years, but service leaders now hope to reduce that to four years.

Gates told Pentagon reporters that he



Gates

recognizes why Army Secretary Pete Geren wants to speed up the timetable for increasing active and reserve forces by 74,000 troops.

But Gates said he wonders if the Army can achieve this goal without lowering standards.

The secretary said he has been "very explicit that, at least as long as I am here, I will not allow them to lower the standards."

Gates noted that the percentage of new Army recruits with high school diplomas is about 76 percent.

"And we'd like to see that get back up,"

he said.

He said he "doesn't like" waivers for recruits, particularly those with criminal records, and would like to see fewer granted. But he told reporters there's a misconception that the military is "going out and getting people out of prison or felons who have committed crimes of violence."

Marine Gen. Peter Pace, outgoing chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, emphasized that the department has not changed its policies regarding minimum academic, moral and other standards it will accept for new recruits.

All services remain within a prescribed "band" of acceptable standards, Pace said, but he noted that the Army has dropped from very high in that band to about 77 or

78 percent.

"You always want to be going for the highest quality that you can get, even though within that band, you are still within the parameters that the Defense Department has set for us," he said.

Gates said another consideration in approving the Army's plan is whether the service will have enough junior leaders in place at the unit level to lead the additional Soldiers.

"They are confident that they can do that" and have put together programs to support it, he said.

"And I am probably going to recommend that they go ahead and give it a try, but I am also asking for periodic reports in how they are doing against some of these concerns that I have," the secretary said.



Restoring hope

Soldiers from 325th Brigade Support Battalion give children in Kirkuk, Iraq, a safe place to be themselves

A-3

Fire prevention

Celebrate Fire Prevention Week with Sparky the Fire Dog Tuesday, Oct. 9, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Schofield's Main Post Exchange, and Thursday, Oct. 11, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Tripler Army Medical Center.

Call 471-3303, ext. 633, for details.

Aerial assault

The Army's Golden Knights parachute team and the Navy's Blue Angels aerial flight demonstration squadron will perform at "Blues on the Bay," Oct. 13 & 14 — guaranteed to thrill the whole family. Visit www.mcbh.usmc.mil/Airshow, for details.

See Community Calendar, B-2.



Sgt. Mike Alberts | 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

Mahalo message

KIRKUK, Iraq — Maj. Gen. Benjamin R. Mixon, commanding general, Multinational Division-North, thanks his "Tropic Lightning" Soldiers for their 15 months of service in Iraq during a ceremony at Forward Operating Base Warrior here, Sept. 27.

Web site highlights benefits

ARMY NEWS SERVICE
News Release

WASHINGTON — The Soldiers' Benefit Services (SBS) Web site is now the Army's official one-stop resource for all benefits information.

Located at <http://myarmybenefits.us.army.mil>, the Web site contains the most current benefit information for active duty and reserve component Soldiers, retirees and family members. Active duty Soldiers, to include Reservists and National Guard members serving on active duty, also have access to calculators that figure survivor, disability and retirement benefits.

Users must have their Army Knowledge Online password to access current Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System data.

"We've realized that Soldiers do not really understand the benefits available to them," said Frank Emery, SBS program manager, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1. "Previously, Soldiers had to

SEE BENEFITS, A-5



Sunday driver

Hop aboard trains that take visitors to an era when sugar was king and locomotives chugged between plantations.

B-3



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

Payday lenders like the one pictured above offer the alluring prospect of quick, easy money. However, for many service members there's nothing easy about digging themselves out of debt.

New rule limits 'predatory' loans

SGT. SARA WOOD
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The Department of Defense (DoD) instituted new protections Friday to help defend service members against high-interest emergency loans that can lead to a dangerous cycle of debt.

A new regulation included in the 2007 National Defense Authorization Act limits the annual percentage rate on payday loans, vehicle title loans and tax-refund anticipation loans to 36 percent for active duty service members and their families.

This is a big change, as the interest rates on these "predatory" loans can run as high as several hundred percent, said David S. C. Chu, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness. Troops and

Contact the Army Community Service Financial Readiness Program at 655-4227 (Schofield Barracks) for assistance with financial management.

their families have often fallen victim to these loans when they come up short between paychecks, and they can lead to serious problems, he said.

"It's a big problem for commanders, because what happens is often these households get themselves in over their heads," Chu said. "They're \$200 short between now and next payday, but they're no better off when payday comes, so they need a

SEE LOANS, A-5

'Festival Hispano' will celebrate Hispanic culture

MAJ. LAURIE MEDINA
9th Regional Readiness Command Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER FLATS — The Army Reserve's 9th Regional Readiness Command and Fort Shafter's Equal Opportunity/Equal Employment Office invites all to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, Wednesday, Oct. 10, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Fort Shafter Flats' Building 1554, in the assembly hall.

"Festival Hispano" will be a great opportunity to experience cultural diversity through food samples, music, a short play and remarks from a special guest speaker, Dr. Carlos Juarez.

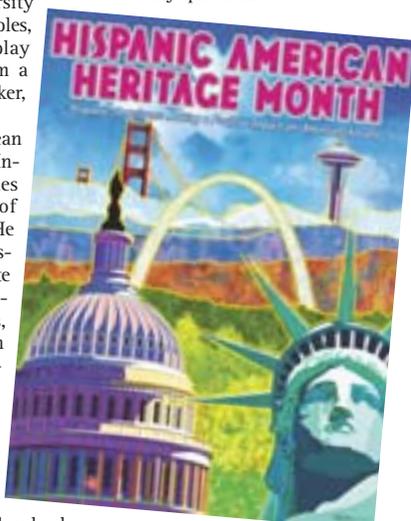
Juarez is the dean of the College of International Studies and a professor of political science. He completed his master's degree graduate studies in International Relations, University of San Diego, an in political science, where he also obtained his doctorate at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Juarez also holds a bach-

elor's in foreign service from Baylor University.

This ethnic observance promises to be memorable and exciting. The 9th RRC hopes to see everyone from the community come out and recognize Hispanic Heritage Month in appreciation for those of Hispanic descent serving in the U.S. Army and other military branches.

Contact Master Sgt. Sophia Mendoza at 438-1600, extension 3218, if you are interested in participating in this event or have any questions.



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Leadership a priority for NCOs

Part two of a three-part interview with USARPAC's command sergeant major

MASTER SGT. JAMES GUZIOR
U.S. Army, Pacific, Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER — Recently, Command Sgt. Maj. Joseph P. Zettlemoyer, U.S. Army, Pacific (USARPAC), spoke candidly about several important issues affecting Soldiers and civilians in USARPAC. Part two of the series focuses on the role of noncommissioned officers (NCOs).

Q: The common thread with all of your awards is leadership and the noncommissioned officer. Under transformation in USARPAC and Army wide, in general, what qualities do NCOs possess today that will be different in the future?

CSM: Not many different qualities than they possess right now, in my opinion. Our Soldiers and non-commissioned officers exhibit leadership skills that were relevant in the past, are relevant now, and will be relevant in the future. It's important that our non-commissioned officers remain focused

SEE LEADERSHIP, A-6

CID shares fraud-defeating tips

U.S. ARMY CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION COMMAND
News Release

FORT BELVOIR, Va. — Special Agents of the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command, commonly known as CID, are helping Soldiers, family members and Army civilians learn to recognize the warning signs to deter, detect and defend themselves from becoming targets of identity (ID) theft and consumer fraud.

With billions of dollars lost and millions of Americans as victims, consumer fraud and ID theft is the number one complaint for consumers in the United States.

CID defines ID theft and ID fraud as any type of crime involving the fraudulent use of someone's personal identifying information, such as a social security number, date of birth or bank account number to commit a crime.

According to a 2007 Federal Trade Commission (FTC) annual report on consumer crime, ID theft is a vicious crime that can continue well beyond someone losing their money or personal property. It's a crime that can rob innocent men and women of their good credit, reputation and financial well being, without them even knowing it has occurred.

Commonly, the identity thief will use this information for financial gain, often taking control of someone's personal finances, obtaining credit cards, making purchases online, and taking out loans, all within one's name, but can also obtain and incur services charges such as cell phone bills and rental car fees.

Even worse is when the imposter commits crimes using the identity of someone else and gives that person a criminal record.

On average the ID theft victim doesn't realize he or she is a victim for approximately 12 months and often spends the next couple of years trying to repair the damage the imposter

has done to his or her credit, reputation and financial well being.

Military members and their families can be targets for ID theft. Much of their personal information is contained in documents needed to conduct daily business. From ID cards, vehicle registrations, temporary duty (TDY) and permanent change of station (PCS) orders to DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty), all contain personal information that needs to and should be safeguarded.

Some of the common ways ID theft can occur involves skilled identity thieves using a variety of methods to steal personal information. According to CID special agents and the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), some of the methods include the following.

Scam: Dumpster Diving

Dumpster diving involves rummaging through trash looking for bills or other personal information. Thieves will collect the information, piece torn documents together and use it to steal your identity.

What do you do? Shredding or burning bills or documents with your personal data will help prevent ID theft. Also, destroy any preapproved credit card applications received in the mail.

Scam: Pretext Calling

Pretext calling is the fraudulent means of obtaining a person's personal information needed to impersonate someone. The pretext caller, through deception, poses as a bank employee, law enforcement official or other authority figures, and through innocent-sounding questions and queries collects personal identifying information needed to further a crime.

A pretext caller may contact financial center employees, posing as clients, accessing the clients' personal account information and changing addresses so as not to alert the person being victimized until it is too late. The callers can then withdraw, divert or create fraudulent accounts without the victim's knowledge.



Not only are banks being contacted but also employers and even the victims themselves.

What do you do? Avoid the pretext caller, be cautious to whom you provide your personal information and for what purpose. Never give out personal information over the phone or Internet unless you initiated the contact or know the person to whom the information is being provided.

When at work and someone calls trying to get personal information about an employee, ask for a name and number then verify prior to providing any information. Most of this seems like common sense; however, these pretext callers are experts in the execution of their scam and sound very convincing.

Scam: Card Skimming

This method involves the unauthorized copying of electronic data from your credit or debit cards through the use of hidden equipment like cameras, false PIN (personal ID number) pads on automatic teller

SEE FRAUD, A-6

State courts spouses for teacher gap

New state law provides better access for teacher licensure

JEWEL CSISZAR
Army School Liaison Office

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — The Department of Education in Hawaii needs to hire 1,600 teachers each year, and the state is looking for help from the military community.

Hawaii is now focusing on recruiting military spouses who have teacher licenses in other states. A state law passed this year by the Hawaii Legislature and signed by Governor Linda Lingle now provides for a new, streamlined process for teacher licensure.

"We realize that military spouses who have teaching licenses from other states can help us alleviate the teacher shortage here in Hawaii," State Representative K. Mark Takai said.

On The **WEB** Visit the HTSB Web site at www.htsb.org

The new law allows the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board (HTSB) to certify teachers with out-of-state licenses who have "passed similar, though not identical, tests in basic skills, pedagogy [education], and subject matter to those required for licensure in the state."

To address the teacher shortage and to help those teachers licensed in other states become teachers in Hawaii, the legislature recognized that obstacles need to be removed to allow teachers with valid teaching licenses to join the Hawaii Department of Education, State Senator Norman Sakamoto said.

Prospective applicants should visit the HTSB Web site, www.htsb.org, for additional information and the application.

Military personnel or spouses who have received teaching credentials from another state should also contact the School Liaison Office at 655-9818, or stop by 241 Hewitt St., Building 1283, Schofield Barracks.

The School Liaison Office is collecting letters and testimonials to share with the legislature to provide feedback on the new licensure process.

God's love should be the foundation for marriage

CHAPLAIN (CAPT.) ED WILLIS
Schofield Barracks Community Deputy Chaplain

Throughout my years in the chaplaincy, I have been amazed at how many couples struggle to find happiness in their marriages. The pain, the bickering and the loneliness that are increasingly more common among married people are directly related to what I have defined as the American definition of love: Love is the happy feeling I experience when someone else is meeting my needs.

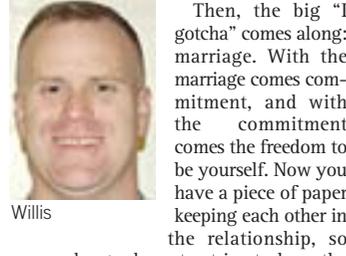
Otherwise known as romantic idealism, this fleeting emotional state is the foundation upon which most couples establish the most important relationship of their lives, and it is tearing marriages apart. Furthermore, our weak marital ethic is even tearing apart the very fabric of our society.

It begins with dating. As Americans, we date for entertainment. We date for fun. We date to find someone, anyone, who will meet our needs for the moment.

It's not that dating shouldn't be entertaining or fun, but we go into the dating relationship as consumers to see what we can get out of the other person. If that person gives us what we think we need out of the relationship, we begin to fixate on getting our needs met and "fall in love" with the other, based on his or her willingness to meet our needs.

Dating then becomes a precarious dance of needs meeting to keep the other person committed to the relationship. There is no real commitment, no marriage. Either can walk away from the relationship at any time. So, we do whatever we think we need to do to keep the other person happy in the relationship.

This relationship may feel like love, but it is not love at all. In reality, we are fraudulently investing in the other just so we don't lose that person who is making us happy.



Willis

Then, the big "I gotcha" comes along: marriage. With the marriage comes commitment, and with the commitment comes the freedom to be yourself. Now you have a piece of paper keeping each other in the relationship, so you no longer have to strive to keep the other happy. But, you still expect your spouse to keep meeting your needs, even more so now that he or she has promised to love you for the rest of your life.

The result is two people selfishly consuming one another. Each devours the other until every shred of happiness is purged from the relationship. The resulting unhappiness leads the couple to come to the conclusion that they must not be "in love" anymore.

They terminate the relationship, get divorced and move on to the next dysfunctional relationship, looking for that one-and-only human being who will make them happy for the rest of their lives.

Perhaps there is a better foundation upon which to build our marriages.

The Bible teaches that love is a decision to care more about someone else's needs than you care about your own. The Bible teaches that love is selfless, unconditional and is the ultimate expression of human nobility.

Now, imagine how redefining love to

agree with God's definition of love can affect a marriage. Instead of two people selfishly devouring one another, you would have two people selflessly serving the other. Instead of tearing each other down, leading to feelings of bitterness and isolation, you would build each other up by attending to the other's needs.

As each builds up the other, the bonds of marriage truly strengthen as you appreciate the other and trust one another to meet each other's needs. The result is a true, unshakable happiness and satisfaction in your marriage that is the result of your love demonstrated toward your spouse. You grow together, not apart.

Furthermore, as that ethic in marriage spills outward to our other relationships, the fabric of our culture becomes strengthened by our ability to establish and maintain healthy relationships.

What relationship would not thrive founded upon God's definition of love? This kind of love would truly transform our families, places of work, social networks, schools, communities and truly our nation. So important is this concept of love that even our Army has established it as one of its core values: selfless service.

So make that decision today to care more about your spouse's needs than you care about your own. Start loving your spouse in the manner God intended. It might be hard at first, and it might even take time before your spouse begins to reciprocate. The first spouses to take this first important step will truly take themselves and their spouses on the journey toward profound and ever-increasing happiness in their marriage.

Peace.

HAWAII ARMY WEEKLY

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325 days since last fatal accident

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

A division training holiday will be awarded for the next 100 consecutive days with no accidental fatalities. Current as of 10/3/07.

Courts-Martial

Private pays for off-post offenses

During the past month, one Soldier was tried, found guilty and sentenced for various offenses occurring on and off Schofield Barracks.

A private first class from Rear Detachment, 2-27th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, was sentenced at a special courts-martial to be reprimanded, to be reduced to the grade of private (E-1) and to be confined for 80 days for

absence without leave.

In addition to forfeiture of pay (either adjudged or by operation of law), confinement and a punitive discharge, the Soldier will also have a federal conviction that the Soldier must report when filling out a job application. This federal conviction may strip the Soldier of some civil rights, such as the right to purchase and maintain firearms and the right to vote.

Voices of Lightning: What has changed since you entered the Army?



"I can't say from when I enlisted because I'm new to the Army."

Pvt.2 David Kitchens
2-6th Cav.
Kiowa Mechanic



"Discipline ... and it's easier to get rank."

Sgt. Kelly Maxwell
HSC, 25th STB
Generator Mechanic



"I haven't noticed a difference."

Spc. Hayley Stephens
2-6th Cav.
Vehicle Mechanic



"It's gotten smaller and the rules have changed."

Sgt. 1st Class Angelo Stewart
325th BSB
Supply



"The NCOs have almost all been to war, which helps them lead Soldiers."

Spc. Griffith Walker
57th MP Brigade
Military Policeman

Broncos make big investment for Iraq's tiniest citizens



Story and Photos by

SGT. MIKE ALBERTS

3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

KIRKUK, Iraq — The children here show no shortage of energy or imagination. On any given day, some play soccer in dirt alleys; others noisily run among parked cars in an Iraqi equivalent of the game "tag."

What the children in this northwest neighborhood lack is ready-made fun — something nearby where they can enjoy being kids without dodging traffic. That "something" is a playground and that nearby is the Tisin neighborhood, here.

Local government officials and military leaders with the 25th Infantry Division's 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team (3IBCT) and the Iraqi army's (IA) 4th Division commemorated the grand opening of the Tisin playground with a ceremonial ribbon-cutting, Sept. 24.

Four large swings, four slides and two large play towers mark the playground, located in the ethnically mixed neighborhood of Kirkuk. The project is part of a larger approximately \$30,000 park plan that will include gardens, lighted walkways and 24-hour city security, according to Capt. Jonathan Howe, personnel officer, 325th Brigade Support Battalion (BSB), 3IBCT.

The playground idea originated from an off-hand remark during a joint Iraqi security and coalition force leadership meeting. The result is a project that addresses an immediate public need and serves as a symbol of progress and hope for the citizens of Kirkuk.

"During a meeting after a combat operation someone remarked, 'Now the children of Kirkuk can play in the streets,' refer-

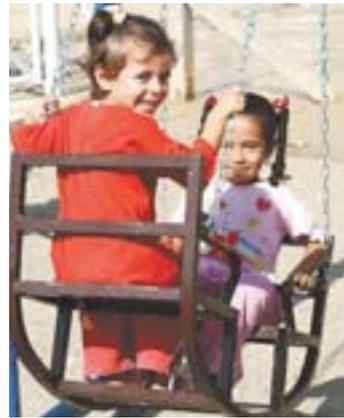


encing the improved security situation," said Lt. Col. James D. Hess, battalion commander, 325th BSB, 3IBCT. "In response, an Iraqi army commander said, 'Yes, but children shouldn't have to play in the streets,' referencing the shortage of [amenities] for children in the city," Hess continued.

Hess explained that he was sitting in the back of the meeting room during the

exchange, but made a point to remember the remark. For Hess, this was exactly the kind of project for his unit.

"I thought, 'OK, here's something that my battalion, the brigade's support battalion and the one without much of a combat role, can become involved in to offer hope for Iraq's future generations,'" said Hess. "It's the children who will lead this country out of despair. It's the chil-



Above — Two small girls are among the first children to enjoy one of several swings at the Tisin Playground, Kirkuk, Iraq.

Left — Lt. Col. James D. Hess (back left), battalion commander, and Command Sgt. Maj. Randy Varner (back right), both 325th Brigade Support Battalion, 3IBCT, pose for a photo with neighborhood children during the grand opening of the Tisin Playground, Sept. 24.

dren who will carry this country beyond sectarian strife."

Four months later, Hess contacted the brigade's civil affairs officer and, eventually Capt. Justin Gorkowski and the Iraqi army's 4th Division got involved.

Gorkowski is the "fires and effects" officer for the brigade's Military Transition Team. Gorkowski works from "K1," an Iraqi army compound located on the outskirts of Kirkuk. He devotes his time training and mentoring the 2nd Brigade,

4th Iraqi Army's civil affairs staff. According to Gorkowski, he and his Iraqi army counterpart focus on winning the support of the local population by providing the community with core essential services, among other things.

"The playground project didn't really fall under our traditional model, but it was still something that we thought would be very effective," Gorkowski said. "These types of projects are critical to defeating an insurgency. A family will look at this as much more valuable than [security forces] coming to their home in the middle of the night and asking them if they have seen any bad guys."

Gorkowski's Iraqi Army counterpart agreed.

"The playground is very important," said Maj. Ziyad Junade, civil affairs officer, 2-4 Iraqi army, through an interpreter.

Junade and his staff drafted the project proposal and introduced it to local government officials for approval. Also, he, along with Kirkuk's director of municipalities, spearheaded the search for an appropriate location for the project.

"Ultimately, it was placed in a neighborhood where the people need to see their government and the Iraqi Security Forces providing something for them long term, something essential," said Junade.

"It will have an obvious and immediate impact. It's surrounded by houses and [is near] the largest orphanage in Kirkuk. Our goal is to provide long-term incentives. [This playground] gives the young people in this troubled neighborhood hope for a better future."



Sgt. Mike Alberts | 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

Darkhorse dedication

KIRKUK, Iraq — Soldiers of 2nd Squadron, 6th U.S. Cavalry Regiment, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, gather during a building dedication ceremony at Forward Operating Base Warrior here, Sept. 27.

The Darkhorse Lounge was dedicated to two pilots and two crew members of the 4th Squadron, 6th U.S. Cavalry Regiment who lost their lives in a helicopter accident, Aug. 22. The Soldiers killed were Capt. Corry P. Tyler, Chief Warrant Officer Paul J. Flynn, Sgt. Matthew L. Tallman and Spc. Rickey L. Bell. All were stationed at Fort Lewis, Wash.

Stryker Brigade one step closer to mission in Iraq

“Warriors” of 2nd Stryker Brigade tackle dust, debris at NTC in preparation for their deployment to Iraq

Story and Photos by
CAPT. MERITT PHILLIPS
U.S. Pacific Command Public Affairs

FORT IRWIN, Calif. - The “Warriors” of the 25th Infantry Division’s 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team (SBCT) are one step closer to their deployment to Iraq, where they will assist Iraqi security forces with security, support and stability operations against insurgent activity.

The Warriors’ deployment is unique because of the distance the 4,000-member brigade must cover to reach Iraq from Oahu, approximately 16,000 miles.

The brigade’s trek to the Middle East began in early August when its equipment was loaded on a ship in Hawaii for the 2,200-mile trip across the Pacific Ocean to southern California.

Now the brigade has completed its first month of intensive training at the former George Air Force Base in Victorville, Calif. The airbase’s streets and buildings provided an ideal environment for Soldiers to conduct urban warfare training. It was the first opportunity for the brigade to work together, said Lt. Col. David Davidson, the brigade’s executive officer.

In September, the brigade traveled to the U.S. Army National Training Center (NTC) in Fort Irwin, Calif.

NTC provides 100,000 acres for the Soldiers and their 300-plus Stryker vehicles to conduct training and live-fire exercises. The training center provides multiple, realistic training scenarios to ready Soldiers for situations they could experience in Iraq.

The heat and miles of sandy, gusting winds of California’s Mojave Desert are a stark contrast to the temperate climate, lush vegetation and cooling trade winds of Hawaii, and the extremes play a key part in the Warriors’ training.

The center’s training area is unique in its ability to rapidly adapt its training facilities and staff to match the modern-day battlefield. Facilities include mock cities and villages that are now the standard landscape for U.S. military operations



abroad. The villages are more than just structures; they are communities, complete with residences, mosques, shops

and the debris of vehicles and buildings replicating those destroyed by ongoing conflict.

Convoys are dangerous operations due to the widespread use of improvised explosive devices (IEDs) by Iraqi insurgents.

Medical trauma training simulates a vehicle striking a roadside bomb. Role players in this scenario have realistic injuries created with special-effects materials. Soldiers scramble to provide security for themselves and the injured. Medical teams triage the wounded, which include U.S. military and civilians.

In all scenarios, realistic training allows Soldiers to confidently react to similar situations during their deployment in Iraq.

“The training here at NTC introduces Soldiers to the confusion and mental

Soldiers get a taste of Iraq during intense training in the California desert

overload of combat operations. NTC allows Soldiers to assess what they would do differently in a situation and then do it again,” said an NTC evaluation officer. “It is practice, but there is no practice when they get in country.”

Approximately 30 percent of the brigade’s Soldiers are heading to Iraq for the first time. For them, the training is especially important.

The training at NTC also tests support services and its ability to successfully provide food, ammunition, laundry and basic services to sustain the brigade.

The 8th Theater Sustainment Command (TSC) is supporting the 2nd SBCT during its training. The 8th TSC is a new command in the Army’s force structure. Its mission is to oversee operational logistics in the Pacific area of responsibility and provide sustainment planning and support to assigned units.

“For the 2nd SBCT to get to Fort Irwin, it took cooperation and hard work,” said Maj. Stephen B. Kirby, chief of exercises, 8th TSC. “The 8th TSC was key to planning and executing the logistics for the deployment and redeployment.”

Above — Soldiers train in a realistic environment at the U.S. Army National Training Center, complete with mosques, business fronts and streets littered with the debris of conflict.

Left — The infamous rock pile outside the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif., displays artwork from units that have completed training prior to deployment.

About 250 Iraqi role players occupy these communities during the training exercise and play an important part in training Soldiers to interact with civilians and the cultural customs and language barriers they will face abroad.

In the open desert, Soldiers experience realistic convoy training, complete with the intense heat and choking clouds of sand created by vehicle movement. The convoy training provides realistic practice on the tactical movements necessary for moving Soldiers and supplies from one location to another.

Loans: Regulation protects troops

CONTINUED FROM A-1

bigger loan, and it just goes downhill from there.”

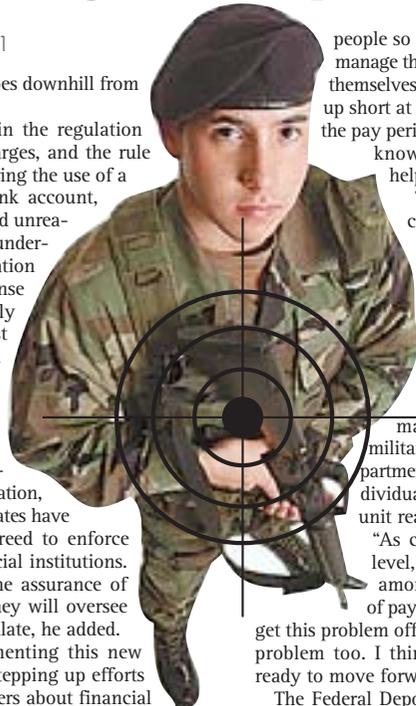
The 36-percent limit in the regulation includes all fees and charges, and the rule prohibits contracts requiring the use of a check or access to a bank account, mandatory arbitration and unreasonable legal notice, the undersecretary said. The regulation makes it a criminal offense for lenders to knowingly charge a higher interest rate to service members, so it is essential military members be honest about their status when applying for loans, Chu said.

It is the states' responsibility to enforce the regulation, he said, and already 27 states have stepped forward and agreed to enforce restrictions on the financial institutions. The DoD has received the assurance of federal regulators that they will oversee the institutions they regulate, he added.

In addition to implementing this new regulation, DoD is also stepping up efforts to educate service members about financial planning and where to go for help in an emergency, Chu said. Many times, service members can go to their bank or credit union directly and ask what loan products they have available, he said, or they can go to their military aid societies or community support centers. Also, most institutions troops would owe money to, including the Internal Revenue Service, often are willing to work with clients to defer payments.

Service members can also go to the online resources Military OneSource and Military Homefront for information on financial planning.

“The first defense here ... is good education for our



people so they can understand better how to manage their finances wisely so they don't get themselves in trouble, and so they don't come up short at the end of the month or the end of the pay period,” Chu said. “But if they do, they know where to turn and how to get help.”

This regulation is important because financial readiness directly affects mission readiness for military members, Chu said. If a Soldier is worried about an unpaid credit-card bill, a car repair, or any other financial crisis, he or she won't be able to focus on the mission.

The undersecretary said commanding officers from around the military have applauded the Defense Department's efforts in this arena because individual financial problems often cause unit readiness problems.

“As commanders, even at the division level, they are dealing with the fallout among their people from these kinds of payday loans,” Chu said. “They want to get this problem off the screen; they want to solve the problem too. I think we have a whole community ready to move forward.”

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), which guarantees deposits by commercial banks, has agreed to work with DoD on this regulation because it is a chance to promote emergency small loans for service members, as well as other citizens in the United States, Chu said.

“We are perhaps at the leading edge of a national movement, trying to put better financial management on everyone's screen, military and civilian, and of course ultimately, that is the goal — that our people are better equipped to deal with financial issues.”

(Editor's Note: Sgt. Sara Wood writes for the American Forces Press Service.)

News Briefs

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

5 / Today

GSA Hours — Effective this month, Schofield's Government Services Account (GSA) store will only make deliveries Tuesdays and Thursdays. For more information, contact Mike Martin at 655-0280.

6 / Saturday

Retiree Appreciation Day — Annual Retiree Appreciation Day will be held Saturday, Oct. 6, at Fort Shafter's Hale Ikena. The program begins at 9 a.m., but guests may arrive as early as 8 a.m. to speak with representatives of military associations, federal and state agencies, and to obtain medical screenings.

An advance payment of \$15 per person is requested for guests ordering lunch. For more information, call the Schofield Barracks Retirement Services Office at 655-1514/1585.

9 / Tuesday

Domestic Violence Awareness — As part of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Army Community Service is sponsoring the following activities around the island:

- Oct. 9 — “Empty Place at the Table,” at Tripler, from 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
- Oct. 10 — “Empty Place at

the Table,” at the Schofield PX, from 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

- Oct. 11 — Hawaii Coalition Men's March, at the State Capitol, from 11 a.m.–noon

- Oct. 15 — Food Drive, at the Fort Shafter PX, from 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Contact Catherine Ignacio at 655-6215 for more information.

10 / Wednesday

CFC Kickoff — The Combined Federal Campaign will kickoff its fundraising season with a luncheon and shotgun-start golf tournament, Wednesday, Oct. 10, at the Leilehua Golf Course at 11 a.m.

For more information, contact Capt. Lindsey Dane at Lindsey.Dane@us.army.mil.

11 / Thursday

Hispanic Heritage Month — Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month at the “Festival Hispano,” Thursday, Oct. 11, from 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m., at Leilehua Golf Course. Call Master Sgt. Damian Miller, 655-1603, for details.

13 / Saturday

SSA Closure — The Supply Support Activity will be closed, Oct. 13–21 for physical inventory. Normal operations will resume Oct. 22.

For emergency services during this period, call Alfred Chugen, 656-0744, or Sam Sapatu, 656-2277.

14 / Sunday

Change of Command — U.S. Forces Command, Korea, Support Unit will host a change

of command ceremony in front of Building 1554, at Fort Shafter Flats' Parade Field, Sunday, Oct. 14, at 2 p.m.

18 / Thursday

Change of Command — The 8th Theater Sustainment Command will host a change of command ceremony at Fort Shafter's Palm Circle, Thursday, Oct. 18, at 10 a.m.

Ongoing

2007 Tax Returns — Dedicated civilian volunteers are needed to help Soldiers complete their tax returns. Volunteer tax preparers can call 655-1040 and leave a message, or stop by the Tax Center, Building 648, across from Schofield's Sgt. Smith Theater.

Extensive training for volunteers begins Nov. 5 and ends Jan. 18. Call Sgt. 1st Class Brenda Jones, 655-1040, for more information.

Recovered Property

The Provost Marshal Office has recovered several lost or stolen bicycles. Owners cannot be identified because these bicycles were not previously registered on post or with any other agency.

Other recovered items include cellular phones, keys, jewelry, sporting goods and more. To make arrangements to identify bicycles or any other items that may have been recovered, call 655-8255.

Benefits: Web site provides tools for making career, retirement decisions

CONTINUED FROM A-1

go to separate Web sites to gather information on their benefits. We've consolidated it all in one place, so now Soldiers and families can get the best information, easier and faster.”

The site features more than 150 fact sheets, in both English and Spanish, grouped by Army component, life event, index and state/territory. Subjects include pay, education, family services,

health care, life insurance, transitioning and retirement, Soldier services and social security.



Grouping information by state and territory helps users quickly find local information and sources, Emery explained.

A reserve-component Soldier in Alabama, for example, can click on that state to learn local tax information and get links to the closest installations.

The retirement calculator is so “simple,” Emery said, that every Soldier considering their retirement options should use it to plan ahead. Numbers are already figured for Soldiers eligible for retirement.

Soldiers planning before becoming eligible need only to key in what date

they'd like to retire and the rank they expect to hold at the time.

Emery shared the calculator with an NCO considering retirement.

“This NCO was ready to retire, and his wife was ready, even though he was on the promotion list. But when I showed him how to use this tool and he entered a future retirement date with the higher rank, there was such a significant difference that he and his wife changed their minds,” he said.

The site will also help casualty assistance officers provide surviving family members a clear, accurate report of benefits, Emery added.

In 2004, Congress mandated that the Army evaluate the benefits process and improve benefits understanding and awareness. After studying Soldiers' and families' overall awareness regarding benefits, the Army created the SBS Web site prototype, approved last year by the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1.

Fraud: Simple precautions prevent financial headaches

CONTINUED FROM A-2

machines (ATMs) or card readers.

What do you do? To protect yourself, use your hand or body to prevent people from looking over your shoulder while at an ATM or a debit card Point of Sale terminal. Look for any physical alterations at the ATM or debit card locations.

Scam: Phishing

Identity thieves known as “phishers” send e-mail or “pop-up” messages claiming to be a legitimate business or organization like a bank, Internet service provider, online payment service or government agency. The urgent message directs the victim to a familiar-looking Web site to “update” or “validate” his or her account information, which will then be used to run up bills or commit crimes in their name.

What do you do? To avoid phishing scams, don’t use e-mail, instant message or chat room links to get to any Web page if you suspect the message might not be authentic or you don’t know the sender or user. Avoid filling out forms in e-mail messages that ask for personal financial information and ensure you’re using a secure Web site when submitting credit card or other sensitive information via your Web browser.

Scam: Vishing

Vishing is a relatively new scam that uses Voice over Internet Protocol or “VoIP” phones to steal financial information. “VoIP” is a technology that allows you to make voice calls using a broadband Internet connection instead of a regular (or analog) phone line.

Vishing is a combination of “voice” and “phishing,” which is short for “voice phishing.” Con artists send blast e-mail or recorded phone messages that appear to be from a financial institution, payment service or other well-known business. The message reports a “security” problem and urges the victim to call a telephone number to “fix” his or her account. The victim thinks it’s safer calling a telephone number than to click on an unknown imbedded hyperlink.

What do you do? Do not automatically trust a phone number based on its area code. Con artists can hack into caller ID systems, and VoIP users can assign any area code to a phone number.

To avoid becoming a victim of this scam, do not give out your PIN numbers or passwords, especially if you receive a recording that refers to you as a “valued customer,” instead of your name. These are warning signs since legitimate institutions would never ask you to verbalize your PIN or passwords.

If you have to check your card legiti-

mately, don’t call a number provided you; call the number on the back of your card or recent bank statement.

Scam: ‘Old-Fashioned’ Theft

Wallets and purses; mail, including bank and credit card statements; preapproved credit offers; and new checks or tax information are likely targets of theft that can lead to identity theft.

What do you do? Consumers can place fraud alerts with their credit card companies and are mainly effective against new credit accounts being opened in your name. But, fraud alerts have their limitations and will likely not stop thieves from using your existing accounts or from opening new accounts such as new telephone or wireless accounts, where credit is often not checked.

If you suspect you’re a victim of ID theft, report it immediately to your local law enforcement, financial institution or agency where the discrepancy was discovered.

Scam: Changing Your Address

Billing statements and other personal information can be diverted to another location by a thief completing a “change of address” form.

What do you do? The Postal Service has safety devices in place to inform the consumer that a change of address has

Credit Bureaus

- Equifax — www.equifax.com 800-685-1111.
- Experian — www.experian.com 888-397-3742.
- Trans Union — www.tuc.com 800-916-8800.

taken place by sending a confirmation notification to both the old and new addresses. Consumers then have the ability to correct the action if they did not initiate the address change.

Additional Tips

If you get an e-mail or pop-up message that asks for personal or financial information, do not reply or click on the link in the message. Legitimate companies don’t ask for this information via e-mail.

If you are concerned about your account, contact the organization in the e-mail using a telephone number you know to be genuine, or open a new Internet browser session and type in the company’s correct Web address. Do not cut and paste the link in the message.

Don’t e-mail personal or financial information. E-mail is not a secure method of transmitting personal information. If you initiate a transaction and want to provide your personal or financial infor-

mation through an organization’s Web site, look for indicators that the site is secure — like a lock icon on the browser’s status bar or a URL for a Web site that begins “https:” (the “s” stands for “secure”).

Unfortunately, no indicator is foolproof. Some phishers have forged security icons.

Review credit card and bank account statements as soon as you receive them to determine whether there are any unauthorized charges. If your statement is late by more than a couple of days, call your credit card company or bank to confirm your billing address and account balances.

Use anti-virus software and keep it up to date. Some phishing e-mails contain software that can harm your computer or track your activities on the Internet without your knowledge. Anti-virus software and a firewall can protect you from inadvertently accepting such unwanted files.

Anti-virus software scans incoming communications for troublesome files. Look for anti-virus software that recognizes current viruses as well as older ones, which can effectively reverse the damage and that updates automatically.

A firewall helps make you invisible on the Internet and blocks all communications from unauthorized sources. It’s especially important to run a firewall if you have a broadband connection.

Finally, your operating system (like Windows or Linux) may offer free software “patches” to close holes in the system.

Leadership: Training, team building top list for NCOs, Zettlemyer says

CONTINUED FROM A-2

on the basics.

It’s easy to get caught up in technology and constantly try to look into the future.

The noncommissioned officer’s role is primarily the training of individual Soldiers and building of teams we need to fight and win the nation’s wars. I would caution all the noncommissioned officers out there to stay focused on the basics.

Q: I wonder what part, if any, do you see technology playing in the development of our future NCOs?

CSM: As I said before, we can’t get caught up in technology. There’s always someone out there trying to build a better screwdriver. Technology is a tool, but it’s not the essence of what we do as noncommis-

sioned officers. E-mail is a great example. There are those that say e-mail is their job. That’s not the essence of their job; it’s just a tool to get their job done.

Our challenge here with e-mail is that half the day is gone in the Pentagon when we arrive to work, and they have sent dozens of e-mails already when you turn your computer on. Then you start getting your e-mail from within the command in the Pacific ... it never stops. It’s just a tool though; it’s not our job.

Q: Recently you got to spend some time with the sergeant major of the Army from Australia. What differences did you see between our NCO Corps and theirs during your discussions with him?

CSM: We face some of the same challenges as them. Recruiting and retention is

a perfect example. We are competing against a civilian market that wants the skills our Soldiers possess. Australia is no different. We are different in the fact that Soldiers in Australia are regionalized — meaning, they serve where they live in the country, similar to our National Guard, but different than our active duty Soldiers. We have Soldiers around the world that may never be stationed close to home, but that is the differences in our armies.

Another way that we are similar ... their Soldiers are every bit as professional and proud of what they do as are ours.

Q: Speaking of the NCO Corps, recently two NCO academies in the Pacific were recognized for excellence by the Sergeant’s Major Academy. What can you tell me about that award?

CSM: We’re extremely proud of the Non-commissioned Officer Academy here in Hawaii and the one at Fort Richardson, Alaska. Every academy has to go through an accreditation by [Training and Doctrine Command] and the Sergeant’s Major Academy, every three years, to make sure we are maintaining standards and professional excellence. There was a lot of hard work from every one assigned to the academy to be named an “Institution of Excellence.”

It’s a great credit to the commandant and every staff sergeant who works in those academies because they all go above and beyond what is normally expected of a small group leader. This excellence didn’t just happen though. The award is a result of routine systems and procedures used for years. We’ve known for a long time

that USARPAC has some of the best non-commissioned officer academies, and now the Army has recognized that fact as well.

Q: I know you’ve seen many promotion lists for NCOs published [by Human Resources Command] in your time. In your opinion, what are some important things NCOs should consider in the promotion packet?

CSM: Leadership, leadership, leadership. Consistent solid ratings as a leader of Soldiers over several rating periods will make a record stand out. Of course, the photo and [enlisted record brief] are important, but the noncommissioned officer evaluation report is by far the most important document in the record.

Attention to detail while preparing your records for promotion will show.



PAU HANA



www.25idl.army.mil/haw.asp

"When work is finished."

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2007



Below, engineer Willy Ligsay readies the Hawaiian Railway Society's diesel-powered locomotive for a run at the Ewa railyard, Wednesday.

All aboard!

Hawaiian Railway Society keeps trains rollin'

Story and Photos by
AIKO BRUM
Chief, Command Information

EWA BEACH — A leisurely ride aboard a vintage locomotive is just the ticket to while away a Hawaiian Sunday afternoon.

The Hawaiian Railway Society offers two 90-minute excursions from the former sugar plantation fields in Ewa to Kahe Point in Nanakuli. The 6.5-mile jaunt pokes along at 15 miles per hour, passing historic Fort Barrette, the "ghost town" of Gilbert and the lush resort at Ko Olina, before heading back to the depot across from Kahe Power Plant, the midway point.

"This is my third time on it," said Maj. David Carlile, a planner with the 94th Army and Air Missile Defense Command at Fort Shafter.

"Family and friends are here, and this is a good little ride. You get to see a lot of the coast, and you get to see this view. It's worth the trip," he said, as his 8-year-old daughter, Samantha, nodded in agreement.

"I got to see the ocean and the mountains. I'm having a blast," said Andrew Maseugarb, a former Soldier and friend of the major, visiting Hawaii from the Chicago area for the first time.

"Everything is lovely ... just to look at," added Dawn Taylor, Maseugarb's girlfriend. "I've been to the ocean before, but I've never seen it that blue like it is in Hawaii."

Charlotte Rose, a recent widow visiting the islands from Huntsville, Ala., home to the Army's Redstone Arsenal, was intrigued by the history of the region.

"I thought it was most interesting. You arrive and think, 'that still runs?'" she said, chuckling. "And then in that six-and-a-half miles they covered lots of territory."

The Hawaiian Railway Society, formed in 1970, hopes to restore what remains of Hawaii's railroads and locomotives. The Ewa train rides help support the educational non-profit organization, which has not only built the track to Kahe during



Above — Cub Scouts with Tiger Den, Pack 121, assemble for last-minute do's and don'ts before their train excursion titled "Cub Scout Express." Trains were the theme in September for the scouts, said Cubmaster Albert Rivera.

Right — Charlotte Rose, at forefront, an Army widow visiting Hawaii from Huntsville, Ala., composes a shot of kayakers racing the waters off Kahe, as the brakeman on the ground in the distance, Chris Rothbauer, shoots photos for passengers during the stop at the midway point.

its tenure, but also a new bridge, a maintenance shed and, most importantly, purchased the land from Campbell Estate, so far.

Tracks in Time

Steam-powered cars owned by the Oahu Railway & Land Company chugged about Oahu from 1889 to 1947. They carried plantation workers to sugar cane and pineapple fields, wealthy kamaaina to resorts, servicemen into jungle training and jumping Honolulu nightlife, and freight to and from docks, canneries and other sites, according to Next Stop Honolulu, an award-winning book by railway buff Jim Chiddix and historian MacKinnon Simpson.

The heyday of rail travel ended with World War II, gasoline rationing, martial law, and eventually, the private automobile.



Today the Hawaiian Railway Society maintains Oahu's only active railroad. In addition to its regularly scheduled Sunday rides, the society

hosts parlor car rides and weekday charters for school and daycare programs. "We are currently working on

Sunday Train Rides

Departures at 1 & 3 p.m.
Arrive one-half hour early.
First come, first served.
Capacity 180 passengers.
Cost \$10 adults, \$7 kids & seniors

Charter Rides

Monday-Friday
Between 9 a.m. & 2 p.m.
Give two weeks' advance notice and reservations.

Gift Shop

Sundays, 11:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Halloween Spookapalooza

Oct. 26 & 27, a nighttime train ride at 7, 7:45, 8:30 & 9:15 p.m.
Reservations required.
Call 681-5461.

steam locomotive," said Theresa Chordas, administrator for the Society, explaining that trains run on diesel electric locomotives, donated by the Navy. "Either grants or donations have been made in order for these projects to happen."

"We get things done because volunteers come in and help paint the cars and restore some of the equipment ... work on the track," she continued. "That's what keeps us going because we're not funded by anyone. We're totally dependent on people coming to ride, chartering the train and donations."

"We're usually pretty full up on our Sunday rides," explained Lea Hurley, volunteer narrator, who intersperses modern trends within her historic narratives. "I think it's just very unique. A lot of people don't ever have the opportunity to ride a train like this."

Visitors can browse the depot's train yard, filled with rows of track and old locomotives on display. They can also enjoy a late lunch in the picnic area or browse the society's gift shop, replete with books, novelties, clothing and more.



October

6 / Saturday

13th Annual Joint Spouses' Conference – The deadline to register for this conference, which provides a forum for spouses of active duty, reserve and retired military members to uplift, motivate, educate and strengthen spouses in their challenging roles as parents, professionals and community leaders through a variety of workshops, Saturday, Oct. 6.

The conference is scheduled for Oct. 19 & 20 at the Officers' Club, Hickam Air Force Base. It will offer more than 50 workshops, featuring diverse topics such as resumes, paddling, hula, entertaining, home decor and much more.

The cost of this two-day conference is \$30, which includes breakfast and lunch, a conference tote bag of goodies, and more. Participants may also register for one day of their choice, at a cost of \$20.

Registration is limited to 300 attendees. Register online at www.jschawaii.com or pick up registration forms at all military exchanges, commissaries, family support centers, thrift shops, fitness centers and chapels. Call 843-0674.

9 / Tuesday

Preschool Story Times – Parents may bring their keiki to enjoy adventures at 10 a.m., Tuesdays, at the Fort Shafter Library, and Wednesdays, 10 a.m., at Schofield Barracks' Sgt. Yano Library. Call 655-8002.

10 / Wednesday

"Harvest Hoedown" – Head to Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks, where Oogles and Googles will present a "Harvest Hoedown," an interactive program open to preschool children, 3-5 years old. Call 655-8002.

11 / Thursday

Chinese Cooking – Immerse yourself in Chinese culture Oct. 11 at 5:30 p.m. at Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield. This activity has been planned to stimulate interest in the book "The Joy Luck Club" by Amy Tan, part of Hawaii's "Big Read" initiative. Call 655-8002.

Rising Star – The Tropics at Schofield



Courtesy Photo

Hair today, gone tomorrow

Girl Scouts Madison Woodruff and Juliet Turner, both 10, are all smiles after getting their hair cut for Locks of Love. Locks of Love is a public nonprofit organization that provides hairpieces to financially disadvantaged children under age 18 suffering from long-term medical hair loss from any diagnosis. For more information on donating hair, visit www.locksoflove.org.

Barracks is hosting the annual singing contest "Operation Rising Star." Auditions are scheduled Oct. 11 from 6-10 p.m.

The first place winner will receive \$500; second place, \$250; and third place, \$100. Plus, the contest winner's unit will receive \$500 in unit funds.

The audience will have an opportunity to win cool prizes, too. Applications are available at the Tropics. Call 655-5698.

12 / Friday

Jack 'O Lantern – The Schofield Barracks Arts & Crafts Center is hosting a workshop where participants can make a 9-inch ceramic pumpkin, Oct. 12, 9 a.m.-noon.

Cost is \$15, which includes a pumpkin, supplies and instruction; however, with a Blue Star Card, patrons receive \$3 off.

Preregistration is required. Call 655-4202 or 655-6327.

Ongoing

Gymboree – SKIESUnlimited, in partnership with Army Hawaii Family Housing, is offering Gymboree to children 6

months-5 years old. These classes will help children build strong motor skills, social skills and self-esteem – all the ingredients they need to grow into confident, happy, successful people.

Classes are held the first four Wednesdays of each month. Call CYS at 655-9818.

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

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 Barracks Nehelani. Cost is \$9.95 per person.

Call the Hale Ikena (438-1974) or the Nehelani (655-4466) for lunch buffet reservations or more information.

New MWR Calendar Feature – Visit the Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Web site, www.mwrarmy.hawaii.com, and check out the new cal-

endar 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.

SKIES Driver Education – Learn to drive with SKIES at Valentine's Driving School, Schofield Barracks. This 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 bisquitware to paint and take home.

Call 655-6330 at Schofield Barracks or 438-1315 at Fort Shafter.

Ongoing

Coffee Social – Spouses, a piping hot, rich brew of java is waiting for you at the Fort Shafter Army Community Service (ACS) Outreach Center, located in Building S330, Room 111. If you are tired of sitting at home with nothing to do, new to the community, or just need a break, join your neighbors for free coffee and fun conversation.

This coffee social takes place every first and third Wednesday; child care is provided at the Child Development Center, if your child is registered with Child and Youth Services.

Call 438-9285 for more details.

Community Spotlight – Community Spotlight programming is airing on the post TV-2 channel every evening at 7 p.m. Residents are encouraged to tune in to learn about community issues and get informed from spotlight briefers.

This month, speakers include a representative from the School Liaison Office, information on the new Parent to Parent School Program, Army Community Service's Family Advocacy Program, hurricane awareness preparations, the pit bull policy, and micro-chipping procedures for pets.

Soon, the Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) will add details of MWR programs happening in the community.

2007 Tax Returns – Dedicated civilian volunteers are needed to help Soldiers complete their tax returns. Volunteer tax preparers can call 655-1040 and leave a message, or stop by the Tax Center, Building 648, across from Schofield's Sgt. Smith Theater.

Extended training for volunteers begins Nov. 5 and ends Jan. 18. Call Sgt. 1st Class Brenda Jones, 655-1040, for more details.

HI-5 Recycling – Residents may redeem their recyclable aluminum/metal cans, plastic, and glass containers any Saturday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (or any Tuesday from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.) at the parking lot of the Schofield Barracks commissary. Containers must be empty and clean, and state law prohibits milk or dairy product containers.

SEE COMMUNITY CALENDAR, B-4

Participants will enjoy fantastic finds for kids, teens and adults. Log onto www.Army-HawaiiFamilyHousing.com and click the Community Calendar for more details.

Blues on the Bay – The Army's Golden Knights parachute team and the Navy's Blue Angels aerial flight demonstration squadron will be performing at "Blues on the Bay," Oct. 13 & 14 – guaranteed to thrill the whole family.

Visit www.mcbh.usmc.mil/Airshow/ for more information.

Battleship Missouri – In celebration of the Navy's 232nd birthday, Oct. 13, the Battleship Missouri Memorial is pleased to announce that it will offer free admission and 10-percent off retail purchases to all active duty, reserve and retired Navy personnel from Oct. 13-21. In addition, immediate family members will receive a 50-percent discount on admission and 10-percent off retail purchases.

Qualified visitors must present their Navy ID. The battleship is open daily from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. General admission is \$16/adult and \$8/child 4-12. Military and kamaaina (local residents) rates are \$10/adult and \$5/child.

All military in uniform receive free admission at the gate. Call toll-free 1-877-644-4896 or visit www.ussmis-souri.org.

16 / Tuesday

North Town Hall – The next quarterly Oahu North Town Hall meeting is scheduled Oct. 16, 6:30 p.m., at the Sgt. Smith Theater, Schofield Barracks. Call 655-0497.

17 / Wednesday

Family Deployment Night – Enjoy fellowship and fun at Family Deployment Night, Oct. 17, 5:30 p.m., Building 791, Main Post Chapel Annex, Room 212, Schofield. Call 655-9307 or 655-6643.

Fort Shafter PX – The next Fort Shafter PX Market Meeting for the Oahu South Community is scheduled Oct. 17, 10-11 a.m., at the Aloha Center, Fort Shafter, Bldg S-330, in Conference Room #201.

The quarterly meeting allows all tenants on Fort Shafter to address their informational and military input/concerns about the post exchange. Contact Rosey Stone, deputy community director, Oahu South Office, at 438-6147 for more details.

10 / Wednesday

Waikiki Aquarium – This fall the aquarium invites residents and visitors of all ages to make a splash and dive into its schedule of education programs and events:

• Oct. 10-24, 3:30-4:15 p.m., catch "Sea Stars," for preschoolers 3-5 years old & their parents, offers singing, dancing, playing and creating. Keiki learn about camouflage, locomotion, predators and prey in this three-session class. Preregistration required; cost is \$48/adult & child.

• Oct. 17-Nov. 14, Small Fry orients 1-3 year olds & their parents to the amazing undersea world of the aquarium. Sessions include crafts, movement, song, play and tours focusing on different types of sea life in this five-week session. Preregistration is required; cost is \$80/adult & child. Session A goes 8:30-10 a.m.; Session B from 10:30 a.m.-noon.

12 / Friday

Haunted House – Tripler's NCO Activity Fund is hosting a Haunted House from 7-10 p.m. at 205-101 Koa Place on Aliamanu Military Reservation, across from Burger King. Cost is \$2 per person; call Sgt. 1st Class Jennifer Nelson at 433-4457 for more details.

PWOC Aloha 2007 – Registration deadline is Oct. 12 for the Pacific Region of Protestant Women of the Chapel (PWOC) is hosting "Aloha 2007," taking place Oct. 26 & 27 at the Sheraton Waikiki Hotel.

This conference is for women who have been married for a long time, newlyweds and everyone in between. PWOC membership is not a required to attend.

Discover what the Bible says about intimacy and how to cultivate an intimate relationship with your husband and God. Two registration options are available: An overnight stay is available at \$100 and includes three meals and conference materials. A day attendee rate is available at \$35/day.

Limited child care will be offered; ask for details when registering. Call Katie Payne to register, 206-8504.

13 / Saturday

Yard Sale Mania – Great bargains and treasures galore will be found at the Army Hawaii Family Housing (AHFH) community-wide yard sale, Oct. 13, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., at Schofield Barracks & Wheeler Army Air Field.

Community Calendar

Send community calendar announcements to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

October

6 / Saturday

Retiree Appreciation Day – U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii's annual Retiree Appreciation Day is scheduled tomorrow at the Hale Ikena, Building 711, Morton Drive, Fort Shafter (next to the Nagorski Golf Course). The program begins at 9 a.m., but guests may arrive at 8 a.m. to speak with representatives of military associations, federal and state agencies, and obtain medical screenings. The formal program ends at 11:45 a.m., lunch at 1 p.m.

All retired Soldiers and spouses or widow(er)s of retirees should make plans to attend, as the event, conducted by the U.S. Army Retiree Council, Hawaii, keeps retirees informed about their benefits and privileges, and provides them an update about new programs.

A buffet luncheon will follow the program; cost is \$15. Registration is required. Call 655-1514 or 655-1585.

Living History Day – The Tropic Lighting Museum will host a "Living History Day" to commemorate the 25th Infantry Division's Organization Day, tomorrow on the lawn area and in the parking lot (vicinity of the Tropic Lighting Museum, Schofield Barracks).

This event includes static exhibits of modern military equipment, military memorabilia, restored military vehicles, re-enactors in period uniforms and hands-on displays of military artifacts.

7 / Sunday

Ala Moana Centerstage – Entertainment abounds at the mall in October, including Keiki Hula, Oct. 7, 14, 21 & 28 at 10 a.m., and "Trick or Treat," Oct. 31, 5-7 p.m. Visit www.alamoanacenter.com/centerentertainment.htm.



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 DeRussy Chapel, 836-4599

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

Fort Shafter Chapel, 836-4599

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

Helemano (HMR) Chapel

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

Main Post Chapel, 655-9307

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

MPC Annex, Building 791

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

Soldiers Chapel

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

Tripler AMC Chapel, 433-5727

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

Wheeler Chapel

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

This Week at the MOVIES Sgt. Smith Theater



War

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



Transformers

(PG-13)
Saturday, 2 p.m.



The Invasion

(PG-13)
Saturday, 7 p.m.
Thursday, 7 p.m.



Illegal Tender

(PG-13)
Sunday, 7 p.m.

No shows on Mondays or Tuesdays.

Post libraries offer patrons more than just books

Story and Photos by
AIKO BRUM
Chief, Command Information

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS – Eight-year-old Chris and 3-year-old Ryan Burns, brothers who live at Wheeler Army Air Field, look forward to



Wednesday mornings. Their mom, Melissa, wife of a sailor stationed at Ford Island, brings them to the weekly Storytime at Sgt. Yano Library. Judging by bursting attendance, Storytime is the place to be for the preschool and homeschool set.

“This program is in demand now; we have more and more children participating,” said Bonnie Dong, supervisory librarian. “A lot of it is due to our adding of – not just reading a story – crafts and games for the kids, and celebrating birthdays, too.”

Dong and her staff want children to feel they belong to the library and to know that the library is “here” for them.

Post libraries are embracing children, teens and adults with diverse activi-

ties. These days, routine stuff such as checking out materials and helping puzzled youth with schoolwork searches are rounded out with other attendance-generating services.

Cooking demonstrations at the library complement ethnic observances like Asia-Pacific or Hispanic-American Heritage Month. Additionally, games like Chinese mah-jongg support cultural awareness. Traditional holidays get more than cosmetic decorations with activities like haunted houses at Halloween.

October is going to be a particularly busy month, Dong said, with the “Big Read” for adults, “Teen Week” for teenagers, and Halloween costume contests for all ages.

Storytime, too, is providing abundant programs through the end of the

year.

“During seasonal periods I pick a theme,” said Terry Simmons, library technician and Storytime host.

Storytime runs through June 2008 and lasts about 45 minutes.

Julia Samuelson, who returned to Schofield three weeks ago (to reunite with her husband returning from Operation Iraqi Freedom with 45th Sustainment Brigade), said Storytime is “a good socialization time. They learn to sit quietly [with other children] and then we check out books.”

Her 2-year-old son, Peter, stood and listened with keen interest as Simmons read *Five Little Monkeys Play Hide and Seek*.

Laurie Hill, who homeschools Andrew, 8, visits the library and attends Storytime with her daughter, Allison, 3, for many reasons, among them “to meet people.”

“We come to the library about once a week; we go through books pretty fast,” Hill explained. “I really enjoy reading, so I want them to also. You can learn anything if you just learn how to read.”

Who knew? Not only is the post library the one-stop shop for book lovers, but the mecca for community.



Four-year-old Cruz Bautista, above center, listens with apt attention as storyteller Terry Simmons, left, gives an expressive reading of *Five Little Monkeys Play Hide and Seek* during Storytime at Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks, Sept. 26. Stacie Bautista, wife of a 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment Soldier, regularly brings her son to the Wednesday morning story hour for preschoolers.

Sgt. Yano Library, Building 560, Schofield

•For preschoolers, up to 5 years, every Wednesday at 10 a.m.

- Storytime interactive activities
- Oct. 17, Storytime & Crafts
 - Oct. 24, Storytime & Nursery Rhymes
 - Oct. 31, Storytime & Animal Bingo

•For preschoolers, up to 5 years, second Wednesdays at 10 a.m.

- Through May 2008, “Oogles & Googles” interactive adventures
- Oct. 10, Harvest Hoedown
 - Nov. 14, Thanksgiving
 - Dec. 12, Winter Wonderland

•For elementary age at 3 p.m., Wednesdays

- Oct. 17, Spooky Stories
- Nov. 21, Stories of Native America
- Dec. 12, Holidays around the World

•For ages 5 & under and 6 & over

- Oct. 24, 3 p.m., Costume Contest
- Oct. 24, 3 p.m., Haunted House

•For teenagers at all libraries

- Oct. 14–20, Teen Read Week. Laugh out loud (LOL) at the library. Receive a cool wristband or other prizes when you tell a joke to a staff member. Call 655-8002 for more details.

Fort Shafter Library, Building 650

•For preschoolers, up to 5 years, Tuesdays, Oct. 9 & 16 at 10 a.m.

- Storytime interactive activities
- For ages 5 & under and 6 & over
 - Oct. 16, 3:30 p.m., Costume Contest. Call 438-9521.

Aliamanu Military Reservation (AMR) Library, 1782 Bougainvillea Loop

•Look for weekly Storytime coming in November. Call 833-4851.

Actus Lend Lease contributes more than \$150,000 to community

ANN WHARTON

Army Hawaii Family Housing

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Actus Lend Lease, the Army's local partner to develop, construct and manage homes, donated more than \$150,000 in material and volunteer labor to five Oahu community organizations at the company's annual Community Day held Friday.

Community Day is a program that encourages employees to get involved with and give back to the communities where they work and live. More than 150 employees from Actus, its project companies (Army Hawaii Family Housing, or AHFH, and Hickam Community Housing), and Actus subcontractors volunteered to clean, repair, paint, install equipment and conduct general maintenance at Camp Mokuleia, Kunia Village, U.S. Vets, and Kahuku and Waipahu High Schools.

"It was truly amazing to see more than 100 volunteers — the majority coming from AHFH — build decks, install an ADA [Americans with Disabilities] ramp, replace doors and windows, and paint and clear brush at Camp Mokuleia," said AHFH Asset Manager Jerry Schmitz.



Mark Brown | Army Hawaii Family Housing LLC

The Army Hawaii Family Housing team was out in force at Camp Mokuleia, where they volunteered to clean, paint and repair cabins as part of Actus Lend Lease's Community Day, Sept. 28. AHFH's maintenance team also conducted work at the site prior to and following Community Day.

At Kunia Village, dozens of volunteers, along with village residents, power-washed and painted the interior and exterior of the community's gymnasium, replaced bathroom light and plumbing fixtures, repaired railings and conducted general common-area maintenance.

Kahuku and Waipahu High Schools also benefitted. Dozens of volunteers armed with paint brushes tackled buildings, parking lots, curbs and benches at Kahuku. The concession stand adjacent to the Marauder's football field received significant improvements, including seven cubic yards of cement, new sink fixtures and roof repairs.

Since 2005, Hawaii's Actus team, along with several of its subcontractors, have volunteered Community Day efforts to Halau Ku Mana, a Native Hawaiian charter school, the U.S. Vets, and Waimea Valley Audubon Center.

Community Day is a global initiative of Lend Lease, Actus' parent company, which began in 1995. Each year approximately 4,000 employees from 18 countries give their time to more than 200 Community Day projects across the U.S.

Community Calendar

From B-2

Sunshine Generation Hawaii

— Keiki ages 3-16 are invited to participate in this children's performing group that does it all. Children will learn to sing, dance and act, plus participate in fun performances throughout the island. No auditions are required.

Classes offered at two locations:
1) Catlin Community Center in West Honolulu, Tuesdays, 6-7 p.m., or Saturdays, 9-10 a.m., and 2) Mililani Waena Elementary Cafetorium, Mondays, 6-7 p.m., or Saturdays, 11-noon.

Cost is just \$35 per month. For more details, visit www.Sunshine-Hawaii.net or call 489-1998.

Toastmasters — The Pineapple Toastmasters Club meets the first and third Thursday of every month at Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Join the club and work on your public speaking skills.

Prospective members are welcomed. Call Don or Elaine Glover, 622-0169, for more details, or visit <http://pineapple.freetoasthost.us/index.html>.

Marriage Enrichment Seminar — Bring your significant other to a Marriage Enrichment Seminar and learn the keys to building a strong, satisfying and lasting marriage.

This seminar runs every third Wednesday of the month, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., at the Wheeler Army Air Field Chapel. It's designed for engaged couples, but all couples are invited to enhance their communication, manage conflict and learn secrets

to a more satisfying relationship.

A free lunch will be provided, and child care is available.

Call Staff Sgt. Parker at 656-4481, or e-mail latonia.parker@us.army.mil, for more details.

Alcoholics Anonymous — All interested personnel are welcome to attend Alcoholics Anonymous, a free program of recovery for dealing with alcoholism. Meetings are held every Thursday morning, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., at the Petersen Child Development Center, Schofield Barracks, Room 223.

For more details, contact J. Paul Campbell at 537-3406, or e-mail jpaulcampbell1218@yahoo.com.

English as a Second Language — The Armed Services YMCA offers this adult education course addressing the fundamentals of the English language. The

course is appropriate for beginners and those who desire to improve their written and verbal communications skills. Classes run through November and are held Tuesday and Thursday mornings, 8:30-11 a.m. Registration is required; a \$15.00 fee is charged.

Commissary Nursery — The Schofield Barracks Commissary has a nursery room for nursing mothers and parents with small children to use while they shop for groceries. The nursery is located behind Register 1. Call 655-

6886, for more information.

New Resident Orientation — Service members who have moved into an Army Hawaii Family Housing (AHFH) community must attend an orientation within 30 days of accepting their home in order to obtain self-help privileges or use community center amenities.

Residents will receive safety information from AHFH and the Federal Fire Department, and be briefed on community center usage and key points from the resident guide.

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 Schofield Barracks Army Community Service, Building 2091, 9-10:30 a.m. Call 655-4227.

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.

Call 655-4227 for details.



5/Today

Basketball & Cheerleading Registration – Registration is open today–Oct. 30 for youth born between 1991–2002 in the Youth Sports and Fitness basketball & cheerleading programs. If parents fail to register their children within the deadline, they run the risk of not receiving a requested uniform size because uniforms will be ordered right when the deadline ends.

Cost is \$60 per person for basketball, \$60 for cheerleading, and \$20 if children already have a cheerleading uniform. Practice will begin Jan. 8, 2008, and the season will run from Feb. 2–March 22, 2008.

A photo ID and copy of a birth certificate are required for first-time participants. A physical examination is also required but lasts throughout the entire basketball and cheerleading season.

Register at the Child and Youth Services (CYS) registration offices at Schofield Barracks (655-5314)

or Alimanu Military Reservation (AMR, 833-5393).

Ongoing

Age Policy – Effective Oct. 1, the Schofield Barracks Health & Fitness Center will adhere to the age policy cited in Army Regulation (AR) 215-1, like all other Army physical fitness centers. Unless otherwise authorized, youth under the age of 16 will not be permitted in any part of the fitness center, to include in the waiting area.

In an effort to assist Soldiers and family members with their physical fitness program, CYS has established a STACC site at Kaala Community Activities Center, Building 556. The STACC site will be available Monday–Friday, 8–11 a.m., for children who are able to walk and between the ages of 13 months–10 years old.

The CYS service is free for Blue Star Card holders or only \$3.75 per hour, per child, for all others.

Space is limited and CYS registration is required, so reserve your slot by calling 655-5314 or 655-8628 today.

Volunteer Coaches – Interested in volunteering to be a Youth



Spc. Nathan Porter | U.S. Army, Pacific, Public Affairs

Sports coach? Contact your nearest Youth Sports director today. Call 836-1923 for AMR; 438-9336 for Fort Shafter/Tripler; 655-6465 for Schofield, or 655-0883 for Helemano Military Reservation.

Health & Fitness Center – A membership fee is no longer incurred to use the Schofield Barracks Health & Fitness Center, Building 582, which offers cardio and weight machines, speed bags,

stability balls, a tread wall and stretch stations.

Bring your own earphones and enjoy more than 75 channels of cable TV while you work out on the cardio theater. Aerobic classes, dance classes, massage therapy and personal trainers are also available Monday–Saturday for a nominal fee.

Bring in your Blue Star Card and receive a discount on an unlimited monthly class

pass. Call 655-8007 for details.

Cosmic Bowling – The Schofield Bowling Center offers Cosmic Bowling, Fridays and Saturdays, 10 p.m.–1 a.m., and Sundays, 6–10 p.m. Plan a birthday party or enjoy bowling specials.

Birthday packages cost \$5 per child for two hours of unlimited bowling; add a food package for \$8 per child.

Mondays–Fridays enjoy lunch

560-foot oath

Sgt. Celeste Lawson, right, 94th Army Air Missile Defense Command, raises her hand during her re-enlistment ceremony atop Diamond Head State Monument, Tuesday. The re-enlistment occurred after the command ran to the top of Diamond Head.

specials and discounted bowling rates. Call 655-0573.

Water Aerobics – Come join this exciting workout at Richardson Pool. Classes are held Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5 p.m.–6 p.m.

Classes are \$2 each, or a punch card is available for \$15.

Water aerobics provides a safe and effective exercise alternative that improves fitness levels with little stress on the joints. Call 655-1128.

What's Up Gymnastics – Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills (SKIES) Unlimited is partnering with What's Up Gymnastics to offer a military discount program for all upcoming classes.

What's Up Gymnastics provides several classes to choose from, including recreational and competitive classes. It also offers the only indoor climbing wall on Oahu. Classes are available for all ages. Call 655-9818.

Leilehua Golf Course – The golf driving range at the Leilehua Golf Course is open weekdays until 9:30 p.m. Call 655-4653.



Send sports announcements to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

October

6/Saturday

Volksmarch – Join the 5K and 10K volksmarches (or walks) to be held Oct. 6 in Moiliili. Starting point will be at the Ala Wai Community Park, 2015 Kapiolani Blvd. Participants can start anytime between 8 a.m. & noon. Call Marsha at 395-9724 for more details.

7/Sunday

Paws Charity Walk – The Hawaiian Humane Society expects more than 3,000 people and their pets, from dogs to rabbits to turtles, to gather at Ala Moana Beach Park's Magic Island for its annual charity event, PetWalk.

Participation in this 2-mile walk, which is free and open to the public, celebrates the efforts of thousands of supporters who aim to raise funds for the non-profit's programs and services.

Registration begins at 7 a.m.,

and the walk starts at 8 a.m.

In addition to the walk, the event will feature live entertainment, pet costumes and stupid pet tricks contests with prizes, an agility course, exhibits and information booths, complimentary goody bags with tasty treats, and more.

Call 356-2225 or e-mail hhs@hawaiianhumane.org to get involved.

12/Friday

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, and classes run from 5:45–10 p.m., Friday, and from 7:45 a.m.–4 p.m., Saturday.

Classes are family-friendly and open to anyone age 10 years and older. All students are required to provide a picture ID.

Upcoming classes are Oct. 12 & 13 and 19 & 20, Nov. 2 & 3, Nov. 16 & 17, Dec. 7 & 8, and Dec. 14 & 15 at the Nimitz Center, 1130 N. Nimitz Highway, Room A-212.

Call 587-0200 or visit www.state.hi.us/dlnr/IdxHunting.htm for more information.