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INSIDE 25th ID units begin to redeploy

Spouses eligible for quick hiring



In the 'clinch'

Advanced combatives technique classes continue in deployed environment.

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9-11

Remembrance

The community is invited to attend two services, today. A prayer service is scheduled for 11:30 a.m.-noon and a remembrance ceremony is scheduled to begin at 3 p.m. Both events take place at the Main Post Chapel, Schofield Barracks.

See Community Calendar, B-2

Flu shots

Getting influenza vaccinations keep military, family and community members healthy during season.

B-4



'Greatest Show on Earth'

Army Community Theater opens its 67th season with its performance of the Broadway musical "Barnum."

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Story and Photos by
SGT. MAJ. TERRY ANDERSON
8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs

WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD — As 3-year-old Kage Spears held a sign that said "Welcome Home Daddy," his mom, Jessica, and sister, Lola, 1, waited patiently for a husband and father to march into the Wheeler Army Airfield Multiple Deployment Facility, Tuesday morning.

"I can't wait to see him," gushed Jessica. "It's been way too long, and I'm happy he's home!"

Staff Sgt. Michael Spears and the first group of more than 180 Soldiers from the 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT) and the 25th Infantry Division Special Troops Battalion returned home from a 12-month deployment to Iraq to hugs and tears from families, loved ones and friends.

The Soldiers of the "Bronco" Brigade served in the Salah ad Din Province in northern Iraq, an area of land about the size of the state of Hawaii. The brigade was instrumental in helping the Iraqi government during a pivotal period of security and governmental transition and infrastructure reconstruction.

The Soldiers completed 230 projects, including 67 new and renovated educational facilities, transportation projects to improve road and rail systems, and the revitalization of market areas to stimulate economic growth.

The 3rd IBCT implemented the 2008 security agreement, which mandated the transfer of leadership and control of security operations to the Iraqi government, validating 33 Iraqi police stations to enable Iraqi security forces to operate independent

SEE REDEPLOY, A-7



Cpl. Lucero Hernandez, 3rd Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment, carries her duffel bag and gets some assistance from a friend as she returns from a 12-month deployment to Iraq. Hernandez and more than 180 Soldiers were welcomed home by family and loved ones during a redeployment ceremony for the 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team and the 25th Infantry Division's Special Troops Battalion, Tuesday, at Wheeler Army Airfield.

New contracting brigade activated at Fort Shafter

413th Contracting Support Brigade stands up at Shafter

BETSY WEINER
U.S. Army-Pacific Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER — With the uncasing of the unit colors, the 413th Contracting Support Brigade (CSB) became an integral part of U.S. Army-Pacific's (USARPAC) mission at a ceremony on Palm Circle, here, Sept. 2.

Brig. Gen. Camille Nichols, commanding general, Expeditionary Contracting Command (ECC), presented the unit's colors to Col. Mike Hoskin, who now has the responsibility of leading the organization as it supports warfighters on the battlefield by providing contingency contracting.

The 413th now has two subordinate offices in Hawaii and Alaska, which perform installation-level contracting support. The new brigade will provide contracting services for contingency operations, exercises or real-world situations.

The ECC has activated six out of seven brigades, according to Nichols. The brigades



Photos by Staff Sgt. Crista Yazzie | U.S. Army-Pacific Public Affairs

Command Sgt. Maj. John Murray (center, left), command sergeant major, U.S. Expeditionary Contracting Command, and Master Sgt. Darryl Bryant (right), 413th Contracting Support Brigade, uncased the unit colors during the 413th CSB activation ceremony on historic Palm Circle, Sept. 2.

are part of the ECC, formally an all-civilian organization, which is transitioning into a military command, responsible for overseeing contracting operations throughout the world, according to Lt. Gen. Benjamin Mixon, commander, USARPAC.

The contracting brigade supports the USARPAC mission, but is not part of the command.

"This is another phase in the transformation of the U.S. Army-Pacific," said Mixon, "and this capability we are inheriting today is vital. Imple-

mentation and oversight of these contracts combines the expertise of a professional military and civilian workforce."

Mixon emphasized that as the command looks forward and plans for contingencies in the Pacific theater of operations, "we will always need contracting capability. I view it as a combat enabler and critical to our mission success."

In 2006, the Army was beginning the transformation into a modular force, said Nichols. It also decided it needed a mod-

ular contingency contracting capability to support that force. This decision put into motion the contracting teams, aligned with contracting brigades and battalions, dedicated to the Army Service Component Command.

"We have left the back office doing the administrative functions of the Army," she said, "and are now front and center, engaged early in operational planning and contributing

SEE CONTRACTING, A-8

Schofield's Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers nets DA praise

Story and Photo by
BILL MOSSMAN
Staff Writer

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — The U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii's Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS) program recently proved that, when it comes to taking care of unmarried service men and women, its work is second to only one among extra-large installations around the world.

At the 2009 Department of Army BOSS Forum, Aug. 10-14 in Lansdowne, Va., the USAG-HI team took home second-place honors in two categories, Best Event and Best Installation, among garrisons with more than 10,000 single Soldiers.

Only the team from Fort Campbell, Ky., proved to be better than Hawaii when it came to exemplifying the three pillars of BOSS: quality of life, recreation and leisure,

and community service.

The results caught the local triad's representatives by surprise. The Army Hawaii triad is comprised of Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Williamson, senior enlisted adviser; Sgt. Erica Silvestre, BOSS president; and Matt Enoch, adviser for the Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Directorate (FMWR).

"I was shocked that we were the runner-up to Fort Campbell," said Williamson, whose triad also received monetary awards of \$500 for each of its second-place finishes. "They're like the Michael Phelps of swimming when it comes to extra-large installations. And to finish second to them is a blessing in and of itself."

"But also," he continued, "our team has only been working together for the past 10 months. And for us to basically rebuild our

SEE BOSS, A-8



The award-winning team of (from left to right) Sgt. Erica Silvestre, Matt Enoch and Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Williamson proudly display the glass trophies they earned on behalf of U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii's Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers program at last month's 2009 Department of Army BOSS Forum in Lansdowne, Va.

GERRY J. GILMORE
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Under a personnel rule that takes effect in September, some military spouses could be quickly hired for federal jobs without going through the usual competitive process.

The new hiring authority takes effect, today. The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) issued the authority's final regulatory guidelines, Aug. 12.

While the new authority is effective today, OPM has indicated that they will issue supplemental guidance. At this time there is no specific release date on OPM's supplemental guidance or subsequent Department of Defense or Department of Army implementing guidance.

The guidelines are posted in the Federal Register under the title "Noncompetitive Appointment of Certain Military Spouses."

The intended effect of the rule, according to documents listed in the Federal Register, "is to facilitate the entry of military spouses into the federal civil service as part of an effort to recruit and retain skilled and experienced members of the armed forces and to recognize and honor the service of members injured, disabled, or killed in connection with their service."

"Military spouse employment is a key to the quality of life of our military families," Kathleen Ott, director of Talent Acquisition, Development and Management in the Office of the Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Civilian Personnel Policy, said Aug. 13, during an interview with the Pentagon Channel and American Forces Press Service reporters.

The availability of jobs for military spouses contributes to the sustainment of the all-volunteer force, Ott said, citing a recent survey in which employed military spouses reported that their work income constitutes about 48 percent of total family income.

"But, it's really hard to keep a job if you have to move from station to station," Ott said. Federal employment, she said, offers military spouses a portable career with transferable benefits and worldwide presence.

"We thought, in order to help our military spouses continue their employment, it would be a good thing for us to facilitate their entry into the federal government," she said.

Eligible individuals, Ott said,

SEE SPOUSES, A-8

We want to hear from you...

The Hawaii Army Weekly welcomes articles from Army organizations, announcements from the general public about community events of interest to the military community, and letters and commentaries.

If you have newsworthy ideas or stories you'd like to write, coordinate with the managing editor at 656-3155, or e-mail editor@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

The editorial deadline for articles and announcements is the Friday prior to Friday publications. Prior coordination is mandatory.

Articles must be text or Word files with complete information, no abbreviations; accompanying photographs must be digital, high resolution, jpeg files with full captions and bylines.

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Preparedness is key to lessen uncertainty

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

FORT RUCKER, Ala. — Many members of the Army family have often remarked that the only thing certain in their lives is uncertainty.

With this thought in mind, Soldiers, civilians and their family members must be ready for anything at a moment's notice.

This month, the U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center (USACRSC) joins forces with the Ready Army team to observe National Preparedness Month and encourage every member of the Army family to commit themselves to a constant state of readiness.

"Things like permanent changes of station, deployments and natural disasters force every Soldier, civilian and family member to be ready for anything at any-

time," said Col. Scott Thompson, deputy commander, USACRSC. "I encourage every member of our Army family to take time during this national observance to ask yourself if you are truly ready for anything."

National Preparedness Month is a six-year-old observance held each September to encourage citizens to make preparedness a top priority in their lives.

"The time to take responsibility for our military families and communities is before a disaster strikes," said Sylvia Scully, assistant emergency plans officer, Directorate of Emergency Services, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii. "We can avoid the risks associated with disaster by making a kit, developing a family emergency plan and being informed of the possible disasters in our area."

This year, campaign organizers are ask-

ing Americans to look beyond a working fire alarm or extra food in the pantry to better understand what it truly means to be ready for anything.

"An Army family that is properly prepared for anything enhances the readiness of our force," Thompson said. "The right plan, the right kit and the right information all combine to increase the resilience of our 'band of brothers and sisters' in the face of whatever challenges we might encounter."

Organizers have assembled a wealth of tools and tips to help people assemble emergency kits and be informed of threats unique to their areas. These tools and tips, which feature lists of what to include in emergency kits and how to assemble a family emergency plan, can be found at www.ready.gov or www.ready.army.mil.

Ready Army Campaign posters and

brochures will be available and handed out at the annual celebration of the Boys & Girls Club Day for Kids at the Helemano School Age center, Saturday.

"Take time to prepare now," Thompson said. "There are so many uncertainties in our lives today; don't let your safety or your preparedness be counted among them."

In Hawaii, June through November is hurricane season, but the threat of the H1N1 flu coming back with a serious second wave in October is also a concern, said Scully.

For more information about preparing for and mitigating the risk of a variety of on- and off-duty activities, visit <https://safety.army.mil>.

(Editor's Note: Kyle Ford, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs, contributed local information to this release.)

Reckless driving tarnishes Army values

DENNIS C. DRAKE
Director, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs

Yesterday, I drove home on Kunia Road, following a line of cars down the narrow, two-lane road. Suddenly, a motorcyclist came speeding past me from behind, flying around four cars in a "No Passing" zone and barely making it back into his lane to avoid a head-on collision with oncoming traffic.



Drake

It happened too fast for me to see his license plate number, but what I did see were his ACUs (Army Combat Uniform) and desert boots. He was wearing his safety equipment (helmet and reflective vest), he was clearly a Soldier, and his antics put a least six lives at risk, including his own.

He gave the Army a very bad name. Last week, while driving down Fort Weaver Road, a wide six-lane, divided highway, I was approaching an intersection in the middle lane as the traffic light turned to yellow. I slowed to stop, but the car next to me, in the outside lane, sped-up and drove through the yellow light.

A motorcyclist behind that car — again a Soldier in ACUs — barreled across the intersection, running the red light, just missing two pedestrians stepping off the curb to cross the street. A split second later, he could have hit and killed both of them.

Two weeks ago, four motorcyclists head-

ing up Kunia Road dodged and weaved in and around a column of cars on the narrow road. They weren't in uniform, but all four turned into Schofield's Lyman Gate.

Motorcycles are the number one killer of our Soldiers in Hawaii. In the past two years, we've sadly sustained seven motorcycle deaths and had 29 other motorcycle accidents with serious injuries.

Our Army leadership continues to stress the importance of motorcycle safety, and the garrison has recently introduced the Army's first-ever "Train as you Ride" motorcycle safety course. But all the safety equipment and training can't compensate for careless and reckless motorcycle driving by our Soldiers.

What kind of message does this driving send to the civilian community?

To all Soldiers who ride motorcycles, please remember that you are visible symbols of our Army. Your presence in public represents the values that our Army stands for: leadership, duty, respect, selflessness, honesty, integrity, courage.

Please remember that careless and reckless motorcycle riding tarnish those values. Remember that disregard for personal and public safety is not a value taught anywhere in the Army.

Please remember that you belong to the finest Army in the world, that you protect and defend this great nation, and that you are the face of the Army to your community. Please remember as you ride.



Spc. Ashley M. Armstrong | 94th Army Air & Missile Defense Command Public Affairs

Equipping riders with needed skills. Service members prepare to maneuver a curve on a road course designed to build their confidence in turning techniques during the first U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii sponsored advanced motorcycle safety course at Wheeler Army Airfield, Aug. 18.

Q: Why does the Hawaii Army Weekly publish court-martial findings?

A: The Office of the Staff Judge Advocate releases the results of recent courts-martial for publication to inform the community of military justice trends and to deter future misconduct by Soldiers.

2 convicted of various offenses

The Office of the Staff Judge Advocate of the 8th Theater Sustainment Command publishes the results of the following recent courts-martial.

A specialist from 65th Engineer Battalion (Rear), 130th Eng. Brigade (Rear), was found guilty of one charge of Article 85, desertion with the intent to avoid hazardous duty, and one charge of Article 87, missed movement, and was confined for six months, reduced to the grade of E-1, and forfeited \$933 pay per month for six months.

A staff sergeant from 58th Military Police (MP) Company, 728th MP Bn., 8th Sustainment Bde. (Provisional), pled guilty to two specifications of Article 86, being absent without leave, and was confined for 119 days, reduced to the grade of E-1, and discharged from the service with a bad conduct discharge.

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.

A federal conviction strips the Soldier of many rights, such as the right to purchase and maintain firearms and the right to vote.

Getting it Straight:

An article in the Sept. 4 edition of the Hawaii Army Weekly, on B-5, headlined "500th MI Bde. event supports, highlights women's equality," incorrectly identified a quote made by a member of a spouses' club. The quote was made by Kim Rankin, who is a member of the Hui O' Na Wahine at Schofield Barracks.

A time of change is inevitable, but be satisfied

CHAPLAIN (MAJ.) DAMON P. ONELLION
North Community Family Life Chaplain

When I was a child on the mainland, Labor Day marked the end of summer. At first, the date fell just after the start of school (usually the same week). With time, school started earlier and earlier.

By the time I graduated high school there were almost three weeks between the start of school and Labor Day, but that was still often the last fling before we got serious about out studies. Now, here in Hawaii, school starts closer to the Fourth of July than Labor Day. Seems things change.

As I drove around on Wheeler Army Airfield, last week, I noticed the buses staging to take the members of the 25th Combat Aviation Brigade to the planes waiting to take them to Iraq. It seems like at least once every other month units leave or return from downrange. Seems like I hardly get to know some folks before it is time for us to part company again.

Things change. When I was growing up, we had a saying: "The only constants in life are death and taxes." Of course, we all know how false that statement is.

The only thing constant about taxes is

that they will go up, unless of course it is just before an election. But there does seem to be another constant in our daily lives: things change.

If we focus on this change, life can become daunting and even unmanageable. Change is never comfortable and the more discomfort we encounter, the more we can be tempted to give into despair. But there is another option.

King Solomon wrote almost 3,000 years ago, "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain, a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace" (Ecclesiastes 3:1-8).

Solomon continued, "What does the worker gain from his toil? I have seen the burden God has laid on men. He has made

everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the hearts of men; yet they cannot fathom what God has done from beginning to end" (Ecclesiastes 3:9-11).

Many of us have heard these words before, but we give lip service to the idea that God has a plan. We often get frustrated and discouraged because things do not go the way we would have them to. (Yes, as I write, I am forced to realize that as I point one finger out, I have three pointing back at me).

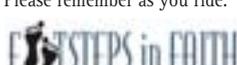
As we reflect on Labor Day, the rest of the quote is very applicable: "I know that there is nothing better for men than to be happy and do good while they live. That everyone may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all his toil — this is the gift of God. I know that everything God does will endure forever; nothing can be added to it and nothing taken from it. God does it so that men will revere him" (Ecclesiastes 3:12-14).

Looking back at the theme of last weekend, let us enjoy God's gift and "eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all (our) toil" (Ecclesiastes 3:13).

Soldiers and their families certainly do more than their share of toil.



Onellion



Nondelivery or distribution problems in Army Hawaii Family Housing areas? If so, call 656-3155 or 656-3156.

105 days since last fatal accident

Number represents fatal accidents as defined by Army Regulation 385-10, which is inclusive of all active component U.S. Army units and personnel. Current as of 9/9/2009.

Voices of Ohana

What do you reflect upon on the anniversary of the 9/11 attacks?



"I just think about how much things have changed since."
Trisha Kougioulis
2nd Bde., Asst. Property Manager, Army Hawaii Soldier Housing



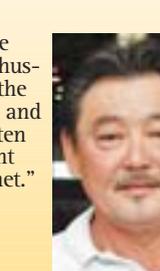
"I actually lost a relative at the World Trade Center. It definitely changed my life."
Kareem Lamb
3rd Bde., Asst. Property Manager, Army Hawaii Soldier Housing



"I hope they catch that one no good guy who planned it."
Ann O'Leary
RCI Project Manager/Housing Chief, DPW



"I think of the fact that my husband was in the city that day, and if he had gotten hurt, we might never have met."
Kristy Osborn
Personal Trainer, Schofield Barracks Health and Fitness Center



"As a retired firefighter, I think of all the people who lost their lives."
Randy Otani
Recreation Asst., Schofield Barracks Health and Fitness Center

Deployed 3rd IBCT gets combatives certification

“Horsemen” take steps toward advanced realistic fighting techniques

Story and Photos by
SPC. JAZZ BURNEY

3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE SPEICHER, TIKRIT, Iraq – The U.S. Army Modern Combatives Program combines correct grappling techniques, proper positioning and the use of body energy in a disciplined manner to strive toward one thing – ending a fight quickly.

Soldiers of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, “Horsemen,” 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, completed 40 hours of level one combatives training to become certified assistant instructors during a weeklong train-the-trainer session, recently.

The combatives program is founded upon understanding the value of realistic combatives training. It emphasizes realistic training, for realistic results.

During the weeklong training, 16 Horsemen experienced this philosophy as they learned different defensive holds, take downs and submission techniques to gain an advantage over an opponent.

Once the Soldiers grasped the techniques, they moved into the three main requirements of becoming certified assistant instructors: a written exam, a hands-on technique demonstration, and “the clinch.”

The Soldiers completed a five-question written exam that tested the amount of combatives knowledge learned during the training.

A technique demonstration allowed Soldiers to show and explain, step-by-step, how to safely perform the holds and take down techniques they learned.



Pfc. Nestor Batiz-Velazquez (right), brigade logistics clerk, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT), successfully performs a submission technique on Sgt. Francis Wilson-Esler, paralegal noncommissioned officer, 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 3rd IBCT, as they practice U.S. Army level one combatives.



The most grueling of tasks, called “the clinch,” challenged Soldiers to successfully perform one of three defensive holds to stop an attacking opponent. The only stipulation for the Soldiers was they could not punch their opponents’ back, but could only use the defensive holds to end the barrage of pounding fists.

During the training, a curious on-

looker commented that it is a nerve-racking experience knowing you’re about to be hit.

“(Despite) the bumps, cuts and bruises sustained in the clinch, every Soldier was able to realize their self confidence and get someone to the ground and effectively take them out of the fight,” said Sgt. 1st Class Willie Coleman, level four combatives instructor, 8th Theater

Left — Sgt. 1st Class Willie Coleman (left), level four combatives instructor, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, demonstrates a ground take down technique to the Soldiers of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team.

Sustainment Command.

The brigade command sergeant major requested a combatives training team come to Iraq and train Soldiers of the brigade before returning to Hawaii. By completing the training in Iraq, the Soldiers will have additional time to spend with their loved ones upon redeployment to Hawaii.

“The training we do here will save these Soldiers one week or two weeks of being away from their families ... and going all the way to Fort Benning to receive this combatives training,” said Sgt. 1st

Class Don Earl Quiambao, a combatives instructor, and a brigade operations noncommissioned officer (NCO) on rear detachment back in Hawaii.

The Soldiers selected for the training hold many different military occupational specialties in the brigade and represent the wide spectrum of Soldiers who make up the headquarters.

“The importance of all job specialties in the Army knowing these combatives techniques can show itself at anytime,” said Staff Sgt. Joe Stanfield, brigade chaplain NCO in charge.

“You never know, your primary weapon might malfunction and you might have to engage your enemy in hand-to-hand combat; with these techniques, you have a chance to still win the fight,” he continued.

“These are basic needed skills ... as an aviator, you would think that I don’t need to know combatives because I fly helicopters, but that is not true. ... Once I’m on the ground, I will be in the same boat as everyone else,” said Capt. Keira Zimmerman, assistant brigade aviation officer. “Having the confidence of knowing that in any given situation I will be able to defend myself and others is also rewarding.”

With completion of the training course, Soldiers are now able to assist level three combatives instructors pass on the valuable techniques to their fellow comrades.

Coleman described the outlook that those who are teaching and participating in combatives should have.

“Teach these combatives techniques safely, and make it enjoyable and have fun with it. ... Combatives should ... be fun, to the standard and safe,” Coleman said, giving his charge to the Soldiers.

Tropic Lightning, 130th Eng. Bde. participate in Ramadan celebration

STAFF SGT. MELANIE TROLLINGER

130th Engineer Brigade, Multinational Division-North

CONTINGENCY OPERATING STATION MAREZ, MOSUL, Iraq – Promoting an understanding of Islamic faith and Muslim culture, the Mosul Reconstruction Cell (MRC) hosted a dinner for MRC staff and Mosul city reconstruction leaders to celebrate Ramadan, Sept. 1.

For Muslims across the world, Ramadan is the holiest of all months in the Islamic calendar. According to Muslim belief, Ramadan is the month the Prophet Muhammad received his revelations. During this month, Muslims fast from sunrise to sunset.

Each evening of Ramadan, after sunset, Muslim’s break their fast. Then came the opportunity for U.S. forces to celebrate the breaking of the fast with their Iraqi counterparts, who gave the American attendees a unique cultural experience.

Yaseen Aziz, MRC special advisor, a native of Sulaymaniyah in Iraq’s Kurdish region who immigrated to Greenville, S.C., in 1997, said fasting during Ramadan is similar to fasting in Christian and Jewish religions.

Aziz said the celebration dinner was a chance to trade information and help the Iraqis and Americans learn from each other.

“It is essential to understand each other’s cultures, how they pray, how they fast. It shows a type of care and love for each other, a key point in building relationships,” he said.

Attendees included Iraqi municipality, public works and engineer reconstruction leaders, as well as Brig Gen. Robert Brown, deputy commanding general (support), Multinational Division-North, 25th Infantry Division, and Lt. Col. Fabian Mendoza Jr., 130th Eng. Bde. commander.

MRC officer in charge, Lt. Col. Chad R. Walker, 130th Engineer Brigade, said his team wanted to honor the Iraqi culture and heritage and pay their respects to their Iraqi counterparts.

“Being part of this celebration is very significant,” Walker said. “We are bridging the gap between religions, cultures and nations.”

The MRC hopes the Ramadan dinner helped facilitate greater awareness and respect between two very different cultures as their partnership in reconstruction continues to improve the quality of life for residents of Mosul and Ninawa province.

Dual military spouses share deployment successes



1ST LT. GREG FREISINGER

Forward Support Company, 84th Engineer Battalion

MOSUL, Iraq – Most Soldiers agree that the hardest part of deployments is not the heat or long hours, but rather being away from home and separated from family and loved ones.

Dual military spouses (a husband and wife pair who are both serving in the military) sometimes face unique challenges when deployments come around, and some find it advantageous to be married and deployed together.



The Army has dedicated 2009 as the Year of the Noncommissioned Officer (NCO) in order to recognize the achievements of the NCO Corps

In the Forward Support Company (FSC), 84th Engineer Battalion, about 15 percent are dual military. While not all dual military spouses are able to be deployed at the same time, some couples do have the opportunity to serve together and even out of the same base.

Sgt. Kuuipo Duffey and her husband Sgt. Michael Duffey are both assigned to FSC. The two share a containerized housing unit (CHU) on Contingency Operating Station (COS) Diamondback and – while they have jobs that take them to different places during the day – they are able to spend most evenings and time off together.

Spc. Kristina Reese, the company supply representative, and her husband Spc. Cordell Reese, part of the 65th Engineer Battalion, are both deployed to Iraq, but stationed a few hundred miles apart. They are able to see each other, though only for about a day at a time, during visits that happen in conjunction with logistical convoys.



1st Lt. Benjamin Downing | 643rd Engineer Company, 84th Engineer Battalion

Dual military couple, Sgt. Frank Lopez (right), Forward Support Company, and Spc. Tofi Lopez, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 84th Engineer Battalion (Construction Effects), stand together in the battalion area on Contingency Operating Station Marex, Mosul, Iraq.

“We use webcam and chat online almost every day, but actually being able to spend a little time together is great,” Spc. Reese said. They have been fortunate enough to spend about 10 days together since the beginning of the deployment.

A more typical example of a dual military situation is Chief Warrant Officer 3 Wayne Stewart, FSC’s maintenance technician, and his wife, Sgt. 1st Class Bashira Stewart, who works back home at Tripler Army Medical Center. Stewart says that with the availability of real-time communicating services like instant messaging and webcam, he is able to talk to his wife and see his newborn daughter nearly every day.

Maintaining good communication with family helps keep strong ties and the stress of deployment manageable.

1st Sgt. Calvin Nance says that he can remember when phones were not available for Soldiers to call home.

“When I was deployed to Bosnia in 1996, I had to wait for three hours in sub zero temperatures to make a 10-minute phone call,” he explained. “The Army has greatly improved since then; now I can talk to my family daily with little restriction on length of calls.”

He and his wife, Master Sgt. Tamera Nance, were stationed in Hawaii for only a few months before they were separated by deployment.

Many Soldiers say the most difficult situation a dual military couple faces is when they have children and both parents deploy at the same time. Most often, dually-deployed parents choose to have close relatives



1st Lt. Greg Freisinger | Forward Support Company, 84th Engineer Battalion (Construction Effects)

Dual military couple, Sgt. Michael Duffey (left), food service specialist, and Sgt. Kuuipo Duffey, chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear specialist, are both currently serving at Contingency Operating Site Diamondback with the Forward Support Company, 84th Engineer Battalion (Construction Effects).

take care of their children while they are away.

Sgt. Frank Lopez and Spc. Tofi Lopez’s children are living in California with Sgt. Lopez’s mother.

“The one good thing about it is that our children get to spend a lot of quality time with their grandmother in California, as opposed to only seeing her once or twice a year,” Sgt. Lopez says. “My wife and I make sure to talk to them on the phone every other day, just to keep things as normal as possible throughout the deployment.”

Being dual military and having one or both spouses deploy is a unique experience that may vary from one

person to the next.

Many dual military spouses say a great part of serving simultaneously in the military is that it is easy to relate to each other because the work they do is similar. Even for the couples who are thousands of miles apart, it is often easier to communicate the complexities of the day to someone who is familiar with the lifestyle, strenuous expectations, and even Army acronyms.

Whether it is through instant messaging, webcam, phone calls or even good, old-fashioned snail mail, communication is a fundamental part of maintaining a strong and enduring military marriage.

Soldier Show dazzles Hawaii Army community with variety

Performance showcases family entertainment

Story and Photos by
SGT. RICARDO BRANCH

8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs

ALIAMANU MILITARY RESERVATION – The U.S. Army Soldier Show brought smiles and entertainment to Soldiers and family members living in Hawaii during a stopover, here, Sept. 3, at the fitness center.

The theme of this year's show is "Lights, Camera, Action!," showcasing some of the brightest talent assembled by the Army Entertainment Division.

"This is the show for Soldiers and by Soldiers," said Sgt. Allah Johnson, a petroleum fueler, 58th Quartermaster Company, Fort Lee, Va. "We all are Soldiers here serving our country and bringing a little to entertain to the Soldiers and family members in the Army."

Johnson is one of many Soldiers who traveled to Hawaii with the tour, which features more than 100 performances on 46 installations across the Army.

"I'm loving my time here in Hawaii," Johnson said. "The crowds here were just as motivated, just as hyped, with a lot of energy and excitement, which made us able to perform a great show out here."

The Soldier Show may be a short performance for the people coming to see the event, but for the performers, the show servers as something more. Johnson calls the show a break from re-



From left to right, Sgt. Dawn Florence, Sgt. Jennifer Noel and Staff Sgt. Nafrettifi Griffin sing their rendition of the Beyonce hit "Single Ladies" during the 2009 U.S. Army Soldier Show, Sept. 3, at the Aliamanu Military Reservation gymnasium.

ality for families with deployed ones scattered around the globe.

"You know, there are many families with brothers, sisters, mothers and fathers all deployed somewhere, and they are not able to see them," he said. "You can come here and get away from that worried feeling, and come here and connect with them another way. That's what we're here to do – bring love and joy to those kinds of situations."

Sgt. David Allen, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, brought his family out for the show.

"The performers were very good," he said. "I've heard about the Soldier Show throughout the years in the Army, but never saw them perform until tonight.



Cast members with the 2009 U.S. Army Soldier Show assemble onstage during a reciting of the Noncommissioned Officer Creed.

"You have to appreciate the time and the effort that comes into these shows," Allen added. "These Soldiers

are here supporting us, so I wanted to come out, as well, and support them." Although not a singer himself, Allen



Spc. Cyril Powell, with the 101st Chemical Company, takes to the mic during the 2009 Army Soldier Show.

remarked about the variety in music, which catered to everyone, making the evening great for him and his family.

"They came out here and gave us all a break from the daily routine; they did really great and made it a really, really good show for everyone," he said. "Towards the end of the show, they even started playing some James Brown and Etta James."

The Soldier Show is scheduled to run until the first week of November at installations throughout the world.

Three 311th warrant officers train, serve, promote together

Story and Photos by
LIANA MAYO

311th Signal Command Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER – Three warrant officers from the 311th Signal Command were promoted in front of a crowd of about 100 Soldiers, civilians and family members at the pavilion on Fort Shafter's Palm Circle, recently.

The crowd drew close as one by one, each warrant officer was called forward to be recognized, receive his promotion orders and have a chance to speak.

"One of the best parts for me was that I had my son there to pin my rank on me," said Chief Warrant Officer Robert Wolfe, Human Resources technician for the 311th G-1 section. "I could not have asked for better weather and scenery for my fellow chiefs and I to be promoted in, and I would have to say it's nice to be an official chief now."

In 2007, the three chiefs attended Warrant Officer Basic Course at Fort Rucker, Ala. From there, Wolfe and Alike attended the Adjutant General Officer Basic Course at Fort Jackson, S.C., while Pemberton attended the Signal Officer Basic Course at Fort Gordon, Ga. Since then, all three have served the 311th Signal Command.

Wolfe was not the only one to have his family partake in the ceremony. Chief Warrant Officer Toloai Alike, Military Human Resource supervisor for the 516th Signal Brigade S-1 team, was reverently assisted by his grandfather and son.

"Having my wife, family, Soldiers and civilians all there to see my grandfather and my son pin on my CW2 rank ... was truly a special day for me," Alike said. "With this rank comes greater responsibility,



From left, Chief Warrant Officer William Pemberton, Chief Warrant Officer Robert Wolfe and Chief Warrant Officer Toloai Alike celebrate their promotion at Fort Shafter. All three have served with the 311th Signal Command since attending Warrant Officer Basic Course together at Fort Rucker, Ala., in 2007.

and I am honored to serve every set of boots assigned to the 516th Signal Brigade, and our Army."

When Alike travelled to Hawaii from his home in Samoa to attend college, he was already part of a military family. His grandfather, Edwin Soliai, was a radio operator for the Navy. After college, Alike joined the Army and continued the tradition. He now has a nephew who is serving in Iraq with the Army, and a niece in the Navy.

"My niece, who is a Sailor on the Nimitz, said 'Uncle, I want to go Blue to Green,'" Alike said. "She was truly impressed with our promotion ceremony, and being around the professional Soldiers was a great experience for her."

The final honors fell to Chief Warrant Officer

William Pemberton, Network Management technician and Kunia Satellite Communications Facility officer in charge for the 396th Signal Company.

"Ceremonies are not just about traditions; they also signify a moment when a Soldier has a moment to mark time, and reflect," Pemberton said. "The Army is not just a job; it is a way of life. Always look two steps ahead, and tell yourself you can never be too prepared. Early is on time, and late just doesn't happen."

Afterward, well-wishers lined up to congratulate the chiefs and pile on lei of all shapes and sizes.

"We had a lot of people come out to congratulate us, which I thought really made it a nice ceremony," Wolfe said. "I believe everyone ate well



Chief Warrant Officer Toloai Alike (right), Military Human Resource supervisor for the 516th Signal Brigade S-1 team, is pinned a Chief Warrant Officer by his grandfather, Navy retiree Edwin Soliai. Chief Alike was promoted at the pavilion on Fort Shafter's Palm Circle.

and went away full."

"I gave a lot of sweat over the years, but I didn't do it alone. There are so many Soldiers and civilians that I owe a great deal of thanks to," said Pemberton. "Now it's 'Chief's' job to return the favor and pass the knowledge."

News Brief

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

11 / Today

Garrison Employee Town Halls – All U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii (USAG-HI) employees are invited to join Col. Matthew Margotta, commander, USAG-HI, for an update on the garrison team, at an employee town hall, today, 10-11 a.m., at the Fort Shafter Chapel, Building 334, behind the Aloha Center.

CIF Closure – The Central Issue Facility (CIF) is closed now through Sept.

19 for annual inventory. Only emergency requests will be processed. Call Angel Hernandez, 655-8120/284-7022.

14 / Monday

Suicide Awareness Month – The U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Army Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) is hosting events in support of Suicide Awareness Month.

- Soldiers are invited to help "Strike Out Suicide" during free bowling events, Sept. 14 and 17, at the Schofield Barracks Bowling Center. Unit representatives must R.S.V.P. for this event.

- Soldiers are invited to a live comedy show with Bernie McGrenahan, Sept. 24, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., at Sgt. Smith Theater, Schofield Barracks.

The show counts towards a Soldier's annual alcohol abuse/suicide prevention/drug abuse training requirement. Call Melissa Parnell, risk reduction coordinator, at 655-0996.

Civilian Talent Management Brief

– Civilian career advisors are presenting a briefing about the Army Civilian Talent Management Program for senior leaders (GS-15 equivalents), Sept. 14-15, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., at Fort Shafter, Building 525, Room 353.

The briefings are open forums, and anyone may attend. Contact DUSA.CTMO@conus.army.mil.

15 / Tuesday

PTSD Caregiver Training – E-

mail your R.S.V.P. by Sept. 15 to Rubi.Innanen1@us.army.mil for the seminar "Behavioral Health and Pastoral Care Training for the Care and Healing of Service Members and Families Suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)." The seminar is Sept. 24, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., hosted by the Tripler Army Medical Center (TAMC) Department of Ministry and Pastoral Care, at the TAMC Chapel, D Wing, 3rd Floor. All Oahu pastors and behavioral health care workers are invited to attend.

22 / Tuesday

Oahu North Community Town Hall – The next town hall meeting for the Oahu North community is

scheduled, Sept. 22, 6:30 p.m., at the Main Post Conference Room, Schofield Barracks. Town halls provide information about community events, security, housing updates, deployments and much more. Call 655-0497 for more details.

Ongoing

Red Cross Relocated – The American Red Cross Schofield Barracks Service Center has relocated to the Soldier Support Center, Building 750. Office hours are Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Contact Becky LaPolice-Murphy, station coordinator, at 655-4927 for more information.



Brig. Gen. Michael Terry, commanding general, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, welcomes Sgt. Eduardo Rivera as he steps off the plane at Hickam Air Force Base, Tuesday morning, home from a 12-month deployment in Iraq.

Redeploy: Units returning home

CONTINUED FROM A-1

of coalition forces, expanding the capacity of local judicial systems, and training Iraqi personnel in forensic testing.

In addition, 3rd IBCT made major improvements to the health care system by improving hospitals and clinics across the province, holding more than 100 training events for Iraqi medical personnel, certifying 97 Iraqi emergency management technicians before transferring the program to qualified Iraqi instructors, coordinating medical conferences, and presenting case studies for doctors at the Tikrit Teaching Hospital.

More than 4,500 Soldiers from the 3rd IBCT and the 25th ID headquarters are scheduled to return to Schofield Barracks during the next two months.

Spc. John Canal, an infantryman with 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, and a single Soldier, said his family couldn't make the long trip from Louisiana to welcome him home, but that it still felt great to be back in Hawaii.

"It's not a big letdown, but you know it would be nice to have some family there, but regardless, I still have friends here and you have each other," he said.

Redeployment ceremonies continue here through early November, when the commanding general of the 25th Infantry Division, Maj. Gen. Robert Caslen,



Staff Sgt. Michael Spears, 3rd Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment, reunites with his wife, Jessica, and children — Kage, 3, left, and Lola, 1 — following the 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team redeployment ceremony Tuesday morning at Wheeler Army Airfield.

is scheduled to turn the mission in northern Iraq over to the 3rd Infantry Division headquarters from Fort Stewart, Ga.

Garrison's recycling program donates proceeds to DFMWR

Program nets \$99,500 for events throughout community

SOLID WASTE, RECYCLING AND POLLUTION PREVENTION PROGRAM

News Release

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — The Qualified Recycling Program (QRP) recently donated \$99,500 for Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (DFMWR) programs.

The donation reimburses DFMWR for the monies spent on the annual Fourth of July celebration hosted by the garrison, as well as events scheduled later this year.

"I am especially proud of this accomplishment because it represents the first of what I hope to be many donations that will benefit the morale and welfare of our warfighters," said Rufus Guillory, program manager, Solid Waste/Recycling/Pollution Prevention (P2) program.

The QRP earns money from the sale of recyclable materials, monies that are credited to the installation. The program incorporates concerted efforts to divert or recover recyclable materials from the installation's waste streams, and to identify, segregate and maintain or enhance the marketability of the diverted materials.

Guillory invites everyone to participate in U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii's (USAG-HI) recycling program and emphasizes the program doesn't just benefit garrison-sponsored activities, but also citizens who reside in privately run post housing areas.

The recyclable materials collected in the housing areas are processed at the Army Recycling Center, and the proceeds are returned to the garrison, via the QRP.

This fiscal year, the recycling program at USAG-HI has handled more than 805,000 pounds of recyclable material at its Army Recycling Center, located on Schofield Barracks.

The material packaged or baled, so it can be shipped to markets all over the globe, where it will be recycled and reused. The process not only keeps the material out of our lone landfill, here, on Oahu, but it also generates revenue that is returned to the garrison for use in P2 projects, alternative fuel projects and DFMWR sponsored events.

For information on the post housing recycling program, contact the Army Hawaii Family Housing office at 275-3701. Garrison tenants, can visit the program's Web link at <https://dpwhawaii.army.mil/pickup/>.



Kyle Ford | U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs

Victor Mercado, supervisor, Army Recycling Center, drops shredded white paper in a transportation container for shipment to a processing plant. Money from the recycling program goes back into the Army community.



Bales of cardboard await transportation to the processing center at the Recycling Center on Schofield Barracks. Most of the cardboard comes from Army and Air Force Exchange Services.

"Your continued support of the program is needed, both for the preservation of our environment and for the success of the program," Guillory said.

Spouses: Mere hiring doesn't establish preference

CONTINUED FROM A-1

include spouses of active duty service members who have been called on to relocate, which includes spouses of Guardsmen or reservists who've been called up for more than 180 days of active service other than training. Eligible spouses must be moving to another duty station accompanied by their service member husband or wife.

Spouses of former service members listed as 100-percent disabled and separated or retired, as well as widows or widowers of service members who died on active duty and who have not remarried, also are eligible.

The new hiring authority does not constitute a hiring preference for eligible military spouses, according to OPM.

"This authority is a noncompetitive hiring mechanism; it does not establish or constitute a hiring preference for eligible spouses, nor does it create an entitlement to a federal job for an eligible spouse," according to regulatory documents listed in the Federal Register.

Applicants still must meet specific job-qualification criteria listed for individual positions, according to OPM documents.

"This is not a preference. We firmly believe that our spouses can compete on their own merits," Ott said, noting that the new hiring rules provide military spouses with "a streamlined, facilitated means of obtaining federal employment."

Use of the new hiring authority "is completely at the discretion of hiring

agencies," according to OPM documents, and "it is one of many hiring tools agencies may use to recruit needed individuals."

Spouses who complete three years of continuous satisfactory service will be converted from a career-conditional appointment to career appointment, Ott said.

Personnel officials do not anticipate that the new military spouse hiring authority will adversely affect the hiring of military veterans into the federal government, Ott said.

Military spouses can find out about federal job opportunities through OPM's USAJobs Web site, Ott added.

The new hiring authority "sends a very important message to our military families that their sacrifice is recognized

by the federal government, and that they recognize that having a career opportunity is really critical for their family's well being," said Barbara Thompson, director of the Pentagon's Office of Family Policy/Children and Youth.

More than 77 percent of military

The local Civilian Personnel Administration Center has information on the hiring of spouses, call 438-8446.

spouses have indicated in surveys that they are interested in establishing careers, Thompson said. Other data, she added, indicates that military spouses are, overall, more highly educated than their civilian counterparts.

"I think it's a win-win situation that the federal government is accessing a pool of spouses who have the same levels of commitment and caring and service to the nation," Thompson said.

The department's Military Spouse Career Advancement Account, also known as MyCAA, provides employment, career, education/training, counseling and financial assistance for spouses of active duty military and activated Guard and reserve members worldwide, she said.

President George W. Bush issued an executive order establishing guidelines for the hiring authority in September 2008, but implementation of the order was delayed while it was reviewed by the Obama administration.

BOSS: Team ensures services are readily available for single Soldiers

CONTINUED FROM A-1

BOSS program from scratch in that amount of time, and then finish second, is amazing."

The local triad leaders commended the efforts of Army Hawaii BOSS representatives, who act on behalf of their companies, brigades and battalions, and through whom the program has prospered.

But Williamson and Enoch reserved their highest praise for Silvestre, whose job it was to put together a video for submission that best demonstrated the local installation's commitment to the BOSS program. In addition, Silvestre was required to enter a static display board and community book, the latter of which is a guide to ensure continuity whenever a changeover of BOSS presidents occurs.

"I was extremely pleased and excited about the awards," Enoch said. "At the same time, it's hard to say I was surprised because I know what

effort Sgt. Silvestre put into preparing everything. She organized those award packages in such a way that gave us the best chance to compete. It was high-quality stuff."

"Sgt. Silvestre," Williamson added, "puts her heart and soul into this program."

Silvestre said the awards will afford Soldiers something tangible "to touch and see" — and that knowledge should give them confidence in the ever-expanding program. And although she's happy with the awards, she admits to not being completely satisfied.

"Getting second was good, but it was still kind of disappointing because, when I was up there getting the awards, I knew we weren't first," Silvestre said. "But it gives us a goal to come in first next year. That makes me want to try that much harder and get our Soldiers motivated."

In its 20th year, the BOSS forum brought together teams of Soldiers and Army civilians from around the

world for training opportunities. Team members participated in some 50 educational seminars on marketing, budgeting and leadership before wrapping up the five-day conference with an awards banquet.

The program, officials say, is a necessary component of the Army that assists single Soldiers in coping with the everyday rigors of military life.

"When a single Soldier gets off a plane following deployment and turns in his weapons, who's there to greet him?" Enoch asked. "Who's there for him or her when they're in their barracks on a weekend, and there's no one to hang out with?"

"That's why the BOSS program is important to our Soldiers," he continued. "And it's important for our Soldiers to know that this program is here for them."

BOSS is an award-winning program in which, according to Williamson, local Soldiers can now say with complete confidence, "Rocks!"

Lt. Gen. Benjamin Mixon, commanding general, U.S. Army-Pacific, speaks to the crowd during the activation ceremony of the 413th Contracting Support Brigade, Sept. 2.



Contracting: 413th ensures Pacific gets materiel support

CONTINUED FROM A-1

daily to the operational success."

Hoskin said he was honored to be in command of the 413th to lead the contracting charge for USARPAC and the various commands across the theater of operations.

"Warfare has changed much in the last decade," he said. "We currently have more contractors than combat Soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan. The 413th's increase to

military and civilian personnel will enhance the effectiveness and support for Soldiers and their families, as well as quality of life."

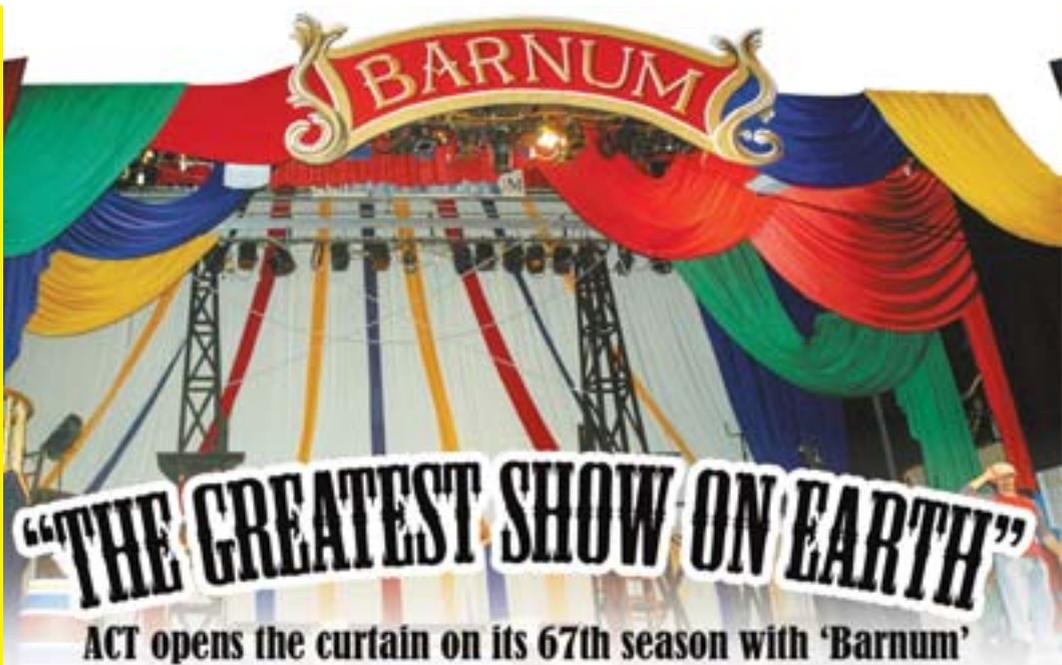
Hoskins told USARPAC that its contracting support would continue, and that the 413th contracting mission will provide the battlefield commander with organic, battlefield-focused contract planning and battlefield teams to provide a Pacific-wide contracting capability.

PAU HANA

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

"When work is finished!"

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2009



ACT's 2009/10 season delivers entertainment

The 2009-2010 season of Army Community Theatre (ACT) opened this week with the debut of "Barnum," the first of four major productions scheduled at historic Richardson Theatre, now through May.

The following are synopses of this season's major shows, along with their performance and audition dates:

"Barnum"

Performances on Sept. 12, 18, 19, 25 and 26. All shows start at 7:30 p.m.

An award-winning show that follows the career of America's greatest showman, P.T. Barnum, during the time in which he joined up with James A. Bailey to form Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus.

Directed by Grace Bell with music by Cy Coleman, the show is sure to leave audiences captivated from the stirring opening number to "The Grand Finale."

"High School Musical 2"

Performances on Nov. 19, 20, 21, 27 and 28; and Dec. 4, 5, 11 and 12. Auditions are scheduled Sept. 14, 15 and 16, 7:30 p.m.

Based on Disney Channel's most successful original movie and directed by Coco Wiel, "High School Musical 2" picks up with lovebirds Troy and Gabriella looking forward to a summer in which Troy needs cash for college. East High's primo girl, Sharpay, wants to help out, and gets Troy and his friends jobs at the country club her parents own.

Troy's relationship with Gabriella and others are put to the test. So what time is it? Time to see the smash-hit musical for audiences of all ages!

"A Chorus Line"

Performances on Feb. 25, 26 and 27, 2010; and March 5, 6, 12, 13, 19 and 20. Auditions are scheduled Nov. 30; and Dec. 1 and 2.

Based on the fourth longest-running Broadway show ever, this musical traces the ambitious personalities of 17 professional Broadway gypsies vying for a spot on a chorus line as they describe events that shaped their lives as dancers.

This classic fuses dance, song and drama into one hit musical that's sure to have audiences cheering. Directed by Vanita Rae Smith, with music by Marvin Hamlisch and lyrics by Edward Kleban.

"The Three Penny Opera"

Performances on May 13, 14, 15, 21, 22, 28 and 29, 2010. Auditions are scheduled March 8, 9 and 10, 2010.

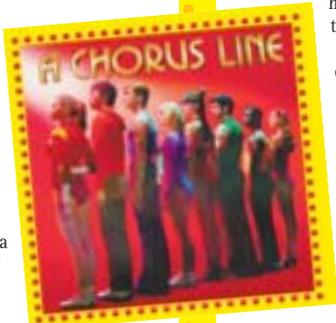
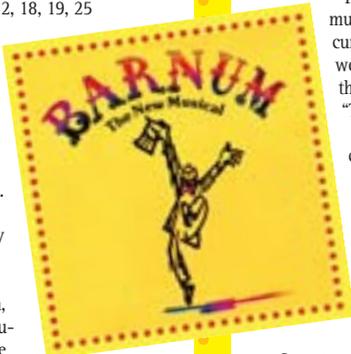
Set in Victorian London, this timeless classic follows the antihero Macheath, who prowls the backstreets with a cast of motley characters made up of criminals, beggars and tarts.

In a nutshell, the show asks the all-important question: "Who is the greater criminal: he who robs a bank or he who founds one?"

Directed by Brett Harwood and based on the book by German dramatist Bertolt Brecht.

Individual show tickets are \$15 and \$20 for adults, and \$12 and \$15 for children.

To order tickets or to become a season subscriber, call the ACT Box Office at 438-4480/5230, or visit www.armytheatre.com.



Story and Photos by
BILL MOSSMAN
Staff Writer

FORT SHAFTER — Army Community Theatre (ACT) opened the curtains on its 67th season this week by casting the spotlight on the man who brought audiences "The Greatest Show On Earth."

"Barnum," a Broadway musical based on the life of American showman and circus mogul Phineas Taylor Barnum, more commonly known as P.T. Barnum, made its debut in the islands at historic Richardson Theatre, here, Thursday evening.

The show continues tonight, Sept. 11, and Saturday, Sept. 12, starting at 7:30 p.m. (See related story for ACT's full lineup of shows, as well as performance dates and times.)

In choosing "Barnum" to usher in the season, longtime ACT producer-director Vanita Rae Smith is banking on the production's relative novelty to capture the interest of community theater-lovers throughout the islands.

With a decline in recent attendance — from a high of 21,000 seats filled in 2005, to last year's low of 13,000 — ACT could stand an injection of new life this season.

"This is a crucial year for us," admitted Smith, who's been involved in Army entertainment since 1967. "Money is tight everywhere. Our attendance has been down, and we're really trying hard to reach out and do more things."

"With Barnum, we have the circus man coming to town," added Smith about the musical, which ran for two years on Broadway back in the early 1980s. "This show has never been done in Hawaii, and that's one of the reasons why I wanted to do it."

In many ways, ACT's lineup for the 2009-10 season figures to appeal to a wide range of audiences. Aside from the newness of "Barnum," Smith has chosen the teenybopper-sensation, "High School Musical 2," for the fall; the tried-and-true hit that just closed on Broadway last year, "A Chorus Line," for the winter; and the timeless classic, "The Three Penny Opera," for next spring.

For Smith, staging such a production as "High School Musical 2" was a no-brainer



Cast members check on a fallen Lynn Nakamoto, who plays "The Oldest Woman," in Army Community Theatre's season-opening production of "Barnum" at Richardson Theatre, Fort Shafter.



Flanked by men on stilts, Gen. Tom Thumb (Jeff Tabisola) basks in the spotlight of P.T. Barnum's "freak show."

due to its enormous popularity around the globe.

"Last year, we had 'High School Musical 1' and it was a success," she said. "This year, we think it will be a hit among the teenagers again."

As for "A Chorus Line," Smith said it made sense to stage the musical for the second time in 12 years, in light of budgetary cutbacks — and the simple fact that she still has the original set that she helped create back in 1997.

"All I'm going to do is pull it out of storage, dust it off, touch it up a bit, and do it all over again," she explained. "Yes, it's going to save us a lot of money, but audiences won't have to worry about being cheated at all because it'll still be fantastic."

Finally, for those who appreciate great

art, there is "The Three Penny Opera," which first hit Broadway way back in 1933.

"Not that it's going to be a great crowd-pleaser," admitted Smith, "but I felt we needed to do something artistic to keep our steady people coming."

And that remains Smith's greatest challenge these days: maintaining interest in community theater productions as the venues that house such theatrical performances continue to fall by the wayside.

In Germany, for example, she noted that only 10 community theaters remain open from the 25 the European country once boasted.

Meanwhile, Richardson Theatre — home of the ACT since 1987 — is one of only three remaining ACTs in America.

"I think Soldiers need to realize that the whole family can come to our shows and not go bankrupt," said Smith, who last year was honored for her decades of service to community theater with the American Association of Community Theatre's Outstanding Service Award on Broadway. "I also think that they need to realize that they're not going to have this everywhere they go."

Could she ever envision a world devoid of community theater?

"To live in such a place would be dreadful," Smith stated.

Forty-two years into her storied career, there's no sign of burnout on Smith. In fact, she claims the excitement never wanes in community theater.

"The passion doesn't change and the patriotism doesn't falter," she said. "This is a service, and when God gives you a talent, you want to give it away. And how better to give it than to the military."



P.T. Barnum (at center, Rob Duval) plans on building his cultural exhibits one brick at a time.



One of P.T. Barnum's finds, Jenny Lind (Jaime Blu Craycroft), wows audience members with her operatic voice.



12 / Saturday

A Touch of Hawaii – Experience authentic Hawaii in traditional Hoolaulea fashion during a unique culture and customs of Hawaii event, Sept. 12, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., at the Nehelani, Schofield Barracks.

Come “talk story” with local experts about all things Hawaiian; watch hula (dance) performances and lua (warrior) demonstrations; or try your hand at lei-making, coconut weaving and other traditional crafts. Also, play some Hawaiian games, try local-style fishing or sample and learn how to make Hawaiian treats. Call 655-9653.

13 / Sunday

“High School Musical 2” Audition Workshop – Curious about theatre and want to audition for “High School Musical 2”? Get over stage fright ahead of time at a brand-new auditions workshop, Sept. 13, 3:30 p.m., at Richardson Theatre, Fort Shafter. Call 438-4480.

14 / Monday

Musical Auditions – Army Community Theatre will hold open auditions for “High School Musical 2,” Sept. 14, 15 and 16, 7:30 p.m., at Richardson Theatre, Fort Shafter. Call 438-4480.

15 / Tuesday

EFMP Support Group – The SHARE support group, part of the Army Community Service (ACS) Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP), will meet Sept. 15, 6-8 p.m., at Aliamanu Military Reservation (AMR) chapel, and Sept. 23, 6-8 p.m., at the Main Post Chapel, Schofield Barracks.

The SHARE group (Share Hints, Accomplishment, Resources and Encouragement) is open to all families with an EFMP member and provides an opportunity to share experiences, information and resources. On-site child care is available; reservations are required. Call ACS EFMP at 655-4791 or 655-1551.

Stroller Strong – Soldiers and family members are invited to participate in a healthy and informative group activity, “Stroller Strong.” Participants can meet new friends, learn new parenting tips, and keep abreast



Courtesy Photo

“Raising” funds

HAWAII KAI — Antonio Williams (left), Deputy Chief of Police, Directorate of Emergency Services U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii (USAG-HI) and Patricia Doronila, police officer, Honolulu Police Department send a “shaka” down to contributors after raising another bucket of money up to their camp perched above the Safeway store, here, during the annual “Cop On Top” event, Sept. 3-5. Local law enforcement officials came together to raise more than \$12,568 for Special Olympics-Hawaii athletes. To help meet their goal of \$15,000, donate now through Dec. 5 at www.firstgiving.com/teamhawaii.kai.

of community events and services all while engaging in a healthy activity.

The group features “guest walkers” from the community (such as doctors) and garrison program representatives.

- The Tripler Army Medical Center group meets each Tuesday, 8:30-9:30 a.m., at the track. The next dates scheduled are Sept. 15, 22 and 29.

- The Helemano Military Reservation group meets each Wednesday at the community center, 9-10:30 a.m. The next dates scheduled are Sept. 16, 23 and 30. Call 655-4227.

16 / Wednesday

Operation Rising Star Entry Deadline – Are you a singer? Let your inner idol shine and enter the Operation Rising Star talent contest for a chance to win \$500 and a chance to win the opportunity to record your very own demo CD.

All entries must be received by Sept. 16 and can be submitted at the Tropics, Schofield Barracks. Call 655-5698.

17 / Thursday

Poker Tournament – The next Texas Hold ‘Em tournament takes place, Sept.

17, 6:30-9:30 p.m., at the Tropics, Schofield Barracks. Card players can test their skills against the best-of-the-best poker players on post. All ID cardholders 18 and older are welcome. Call 655-5698.

Anger Management – Learn how to better control your anger at the next Family Advocacy Program (FAP) anger management class, Sept. 17, 3-4:30 p.m., at Army Community Service, Schofield Barracks, and 1-2:30 p.m. at Aliamanu Military Reservation community center. Call 655-0596.

19 / Saturday

Daddy Boot Camp – New dads are welcome to basic training to understand newborn basics and how to be effective, confident fathers, Sept. 19, 9 a.m.-noon, Army Community Service, Schofield Barracks. Call 655-0596.

21 / Monday

Operation Rising Star Competition – Watch and vote for your favorite performers in the Operation Rising Star competition, Sept. 21, 6 p.m., at the Tropics, Schofield Barracks.

18. Call Ophelia Isreal, Customer Management Services, 655-9026.

PWOC Regional Conference – The Protestant Women of the Chapel (PWOC) “Aloha 2009 Regional Conference” is scheduled Oct. 23-25 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel Waikiki. Interested attendees should register by Sept. 18.

The PWOC meets each Tuesday at 9 a.m. for fall studies, food, fun and fellowship at the Main Post Chapel Annex Room 212, Schofield Barracks. Free limited child care is available with reservations. Contact Valerie at valeriepwoc@me.com or 753-3584.

Volunteers Needed – The Hawaii Museum of Military Vehicles and the Naval Air Museum at Barbers Point (Kalaeloa) are looking for volunteers to man Vietnam and Desert Storm-era displays, Sept. 18-20, during the Hickam Air Force Base airshow featuring the Thunderbird aerobatic team.

Volunteers need to fit into a medium military uniform and be from the following professions: infantry, former armor crew, former UH-1H Huey crewman or pilots. Contact Brad Hayes at 682-3982 or brad@nambp.org.

POW/MIA Recognition Day

– The Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command will commemorate the National POW/MIA Recognition Day with a ceremony, Sept. 18, 10 a.m. at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl), to honor prisoners of war and fallen U.S. personnel whose identities remain unknown.

The ceremony is free and open to the public. Following the ceremony, attendees are invited to tour the cemetery or lay wreaths at the monument. Appropriate attire for the event is military Class B or service equivalent or civilian casual attire.

Organizations wanting to participate in the ceremony must R.S.V.P with Air Force Staff Sgt. Elizabeth Feeney by noon today. Contact 448-1934 or e-mail PAO_Mail@jpac.pacom.mil.

Jewish High Holiday Services – The Aloha Jewish Chapel at Naval Station Pearl Harbor (Makalapa Gate) serves service members and their families, government civilians and contractors, and re-

Semifinals are Sept. 23 and the finals Sept. 24; both shows start at 6 p.m. The group who makes the most noise for their favorite performers will win \$300 in unit/family readiness group funds. Call 655-5698.

22 / Tuesday

Sign Language Lessons – Learn to speak with your hands through games, stories and a craft using American Sign Language, Sept. 22, at Fort Shafter Library; Sept. 23, at Sgt. Yano Library; and Sept. 24 at the Aliamanu Military Reservation Library. All programs are scheduled 3-3:45 p.m. and are suitable for children 5-12 years old. Call 655-8001.

24 / Thursday

Big R: Countdown to Redeployment – Celebrate another month of deployment complete, Sept. 24, 6-8 p.m., at the Tropics, Schofield Barracks with your Blue Star Card friends during the final round of Operation Rising Star. The performances will be followed by “Don’t Forget the Lyrics!” Light pupus and child care will be provided. Call 656-3326 or e-mail Katy.kluck@us.army.mil by Sept. 18.

tires and their families (with valid government ID or arranged escort). All are invited to participate during Jewish High Holiday Services:

- Rosh Hashanah, Sept. 18, 7:30 p.m., and Sept. 19, 9 a.m.-noon.
 - Sabbath Service, Sept. 25, 7:30 p.m.
 - Shabbat Shuva, Sept. 26, 8:15 a.m.
 - Kol Nidrei, Sept. 27, 6 p.m.
 - Yom Kippur, Sept. 28, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. (This service will include Yizkor, after the Torah Reading.)
 - Mincha/Nehila, Sept. 28, 5 p.m. (to include the “Reading for Jonah”) A “Break the Fast” potluck will follow.
- For details of other holiday services e-mail michael.caplan@us.army.mil.

19 / Saturday

Aloha Festivals Waikiki Hoolaulea – The 57th Annual Aloha Festivals Waikiki Hoolaulea will kick off the largest annual block party with the arrival of the Royal Court, Sept. 19, 7 p.m. Three stages of entertainment will be open with hula halau, food, lei vendors and hula crafters spread along 12 city blocks of the world-famous Kalakaua Avenue (between Lewers and Kapahulu avenues.) Visit www.alohafestivals.com.

20 / Sunday

Joint Spouses Conference – Registration is open now through Sept. 20 for the 2009 Joint Spouses Conference (JSC), taking place Oct. 16, 7:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m., at the Nehelani, Schofield Barracks. The conference will feature guest speaker Patricia K. Shinseki, wife of Gen. Eric Shinseki, former Army Chief of Staff and current Secretary of Veteran Affairs, as well as more than 70 JSC workshops.

Registration costs \$35 per person and includes three meals and six workshops. To register for the conference and for child care, visit www.jschawaii.com.

26 / Saturday

Aloha Festivals Floral Parade – The 62nd Annual Aloha Festival Floral Parade will take place along Kalakaua Avenue from Ala Moana Park to Kapiolani Park, Sept. 26, 9 a.m. Don’t miss the colorful equestrian procession with extravagant floats cascading with Hawaiian flowers, marching bands and hula halau. This “must-see” event will pay homage to the art of hula. Call 391-8714.



Additional religious services, children’s programs, educational services and contact information can be found at www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil. (Click on “Religious Support Office” under the “Directorates and Support Staff” menu).

- AMR: Aliamanu Chapel
- FD: Fort DeRussy Chapel
- FS: Fort Shafter Chapel
- HMR: Helemano Chapel
- MPC: Main Post Chapel, Schofield Barracks
- PH: Aloha Jewish Chapel, Pearl Harbor
- TAMC: Tripler Army Medical Center Chapel
- WAAF: Wheeler Army Airfield Chapel

Buddhist Services

- First Sunday, 1 p.m. at FD
- Fourth Sunday, 1 p.m. at MPC Annex

Catholic Masses

- Friday, 9 a.m. at AMR
- Saturday, 5 p.m. at FD, TAMC and WAAF chapels
- Saturday, 6 p.m. a Hawaiian-style Mass (May-Aug. only) near the Army Museum (FD)
- Sunday services:
 - 7:30 a.m. at WAAF
 - 8 a.m. at AMR
 - 10:30 a.m. at MPC Annex
 - 11 a.m. at TAMC
- Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 11:45 a.m. at MPC
- Monday-Friday noon at TAMC

Gospel Worship

- Sunday, noon at MPC
- Sunday, 12:30 p.m. at AMR

Islamic Prayers and Study

- Friday, 1 p.m.
- Saturday and Sunday, 5:30 a.m., 6, 7 and 8 p.m. at MPC Annex

Jewish Shabbat (Sabbath)

- Monday, 6 p.m. at PH (Bible Study)
- Friday, 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, 8:15 a.m. at PH

Orthodox Divine Liturgy

- Sunday, 9 a.m. at TAMC

Pagan (Wicca)

- Friday, 7 p.m. at MPC Annex

Protestant Worship

- Sunday Services
 - 9 a.m. at FD, FS, MPC, TAMC and WAAF chapels
 - 10 a.m. at AMR and HMR



Send announcements to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

11 / Today

9/11 Remembrance Service – The community is invited to two services today to honor the heroes of Sept. 11, 2001. A prayer service will take place, 11:30 a.m.-noon and a 9/11 remembrance ceremony, sponsored by the 8th Sustainment Brigade, is scheduled at 3 p.m. and includes a special performance by guest choir “God’s Glory.” Both services will be conducted at the Main Post Chapel, Schofield Barracks.

Contact Chaplain (Capt.) April Bright, 655-0696, or april.bright@us.army.mil.

New TAMC Pharmacy Hours – The Tripler Army Medical Center outpatient pharmacy hours are changing, effective today. The new hours are Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-7:30 p.m., and Saturday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. The pharmacy is closed Sundays and federal holidays.

12 / Saturday

Donations for Homeless – “C” Company, 307th Integrated Theater Signal Battalion, and the Affordable Housing and Homeless Alliance, are collecting donations for the homeless in the North Shore and Wahiawa area, now through Sept. 24.

Please donate unused toiletries, nonperishable food items, camping surplus and clothing items at C Co., 307th ITS, 200 Duck Rd., Building X2814, Schofield Barracks – located past Army housing offices before the veterinary clinic and junk yard.

E-mail Catherine@hawaiihomeless.org.

Rummage Sale – Trinity Lutheran School invites the community to the 2nd Annual “Trash 4 Technology” rummage sale, Sept. 12, 8 a.m.-2 p.m., on the school campus at 1611 California Ave. Trinity families will be putting out their “trash” in an effort to raise money for their school’s technology program. Visit www.trinity-hawaii.org.

15 / Tuesday

Red Cross Scholarships – The Hawaii State Chapter of the American Red Cross is offering scholarships for unemployed individuals for Red Cross Nurse Aide Training.

Red Cross nurse aides learn the knowledge and skills necessary to provide quality health care as a certified nurse aide (CNA). Classes are available on Oahu and the Big Island. Unemployed individuals can get application information by visiting www.hawaiiiredcross.org. Proof of unemployment is required.

Applications must be received by Sept. 15. The scholarships are made possible by a \$25,000 grant from the Wal-Mart Foundation.

16 / Wednesday

Tell Me a Story – The community is invited to attend the Military Child Education Coalition’s “Tell Me a Story” event, Sept. 16, 6-7:30 p.m., at Aliamanu Military Reservation community center.

Guest reader Brig. Gen. Michael J. Terry, commanding general, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, will read the story “How to Bake an American Pie.”

Admission is free, but space is limited. Each family in attendance will receive a copy of “Our 50 States.” To reserve your space, call 258-5961 or e-mail schofieldp2p@yahoo.com.

17 / Thursday

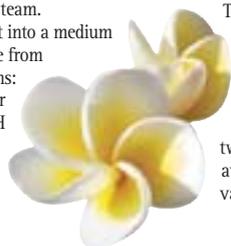
North Spouses’ Club Luncheon – The Schofield Barracks Hui O’ Na Wahine spouses club invites all enlisted, officer and civilian spouses to a luncheon, Sept. 17, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., at the Nehelani, Schofield Barracks.

Come enjoy a lunch buffet and find out how you can contribute to your community. Attendees can shop unique local and home-based vendors starting at 10:30 a.m. Contact Criztina Jean at 888-0907 or armyjeans@msn.com.

18 / Friday

IMCOM Survey – Installation Management Command (IMCOM) invites community members to take an anonymous Web-based Customer Service Assessment (CSA). The survey asks community members to rate garrison services based on importance and performance.

To take the survey, visit www.myarmyvoice.org. The CSA is open through Sept.



Call 624-2585 for movie listings or go to cafes.com under reeltime movie listing.



Funny People

(R)
Fri., Sept. 11, 7 p.m.
Wed., Sept. 16, 7 p.m.

Aliens in the Attic

(PG)
Sat., Sept. 12, 4 p.m.

The Hurt Locker

(R)
Sat., Sept. 12, 7 p.m.



G-Force

(PG)
Sun., Sept. 13, 2 p.m.

Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince

(PG)
Thurs., Sept. 17, 7 p.m.

ACS financial readiness assistance 'adds up' at home or away

Story and Photo by
BILL MOSSMAN
Staff Writer

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Whether the questions involve investing in stocks or bonds, managing a budget or buying a new home, the Financial Readiness team at Army Community Service (ACS), here, stands ready and willing to assist all Soldiers — even those currently downrange — in their money matters.

One such Soldier currently maintaining communication with the Financial Readiness team via e-mail, Skype and telephone while deployed, is Staff Sgt. "Carson," whose name has been changed to protect his privacy.

"Carson" says that while ACS has always offered a wide range of services to those in rear detachment, he's been particularly impressed that it would go just about as far as it could — to another part of the world, in fact — to offer him the same type of assistance.

That commitment, he added, has been instrumental in convincing other deployed Soldiers to get their financial house in order through appointments with ACS counselors.

"One of the biggest problems we have with incoming Soldiers out here is finance issues. A lot of them buy new cars, or they're recently married, or they're getting into their first mortgage, and they haven't really budgeted before," the staff sergeant said. "So I tend to refer them over to ACS."

For "Carson," a newlywed and soon-to-be adoptive father, questions regarding his growing family and their financial future once weighed heavily on his mind. Just prior to his deployment in May, the staff sergeant made an appointment with Steve Harris, personal financial readiness specialist and one of four counselors with the Financial Readiness team at ACS, Schofield Barracks.

With Harris' help, the staff sergeant



The Army Community Service Financial Readiness program team stands ready to serve Soldiers and family members. From top left to right — Steve Harris, personal financial readiness specialist; Jackie Torres, Army Emergency Relief officer; Rich Smylie, volunteer financial literacy instructor; Jody VanWyhe, personal financial readiness specialist; Pam Utley, social service representative; Creva Rooney, personal financial readiness specialist; Elaine Kona, Soldier and Family Assistance Center, financial advisor; Fran Avery, Financial Readiness volunteer; Robin Sherrod, Financial Readiness program manager; Michael Gloss, Military Family Life Consultant, personal financial counselor.

had a new family budget plan to work with within days, as well as a new adjustment strategy to his wife's 401K plan, which had lost money during the stock market crash of 2008.

"I had budgeted before," the Soldier admitted, "but I never had an opportunity to speak to someone who had a finance background like Steve, who was there to answer my questions and provide me with information so that I could learn on my own. What Steve did was empower both my wife and I with confidence in planning for our future."

As for his wife's 401K plan, the Soldier confesses that everything has been going swimmingly well with it since his wife made the necessary changes to

her investments.

"Very fortunately, we've been able to recoup the money my wife lost in her 401K plan late last year," he said.

Since procuring the services of ACS, "Carson" admits his knowledge of money matters has increased "from a 3 on a scale of 1 through 10, to about an 8 or 9."

"I now understand how to work a household budget and how to project into the future," he said proudly. "I also have a very good understanding of the Army's Thrift Savings Plan (TSP), and know how to pull my credit checks and analyze them. And I also have an understanding of the short-term and long-term investments that are out there, and

whether or not they are a fit for my wife and I."

Now better equipped to handle his family's finances, the staff sergeant is encouraging other Soldiers to follow suit.

"The most important thing is to set up an appointment with ACS," he said. "The ACS people are very professional, and Soldiers will soon realize that the advice they receive will benefit them and their families."

No matter what concerns a Soldier may have, whether it is poor credit ratings or soaring debts, ACS counselors are always available to lend a hand.

"Most people are afraid to let others see their financials," said Harris, whose

background includes 18 years as a financial adviser and banker. "They're worried about some past mistake they've made with their money. What we tell them is it's not about the past; it's what you plan to do from here forward."

The Financial Readiness team offers several "Money Matters" courses throughout the year for Soldiers and their spouses at ACS, Schofield Barracks.

For more information on these and other courses, or to schedule an appointment with a counselor, call ACS at 655-4227 or visit the Web site, www.acsclasses.com.

This month, interested parties can take advantage of a variety of opportunities to learn about basic financial skills.

•**First Term Financial Training** — Learn basic financial skills, develop self-reliance and personal responsibility, encourage financial planning, improve money management skills and enhance personal financial literacy, Sept. 14 and 28, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

•**Money Management** — Learn basic tools for financial success, develop a spending plan, reduce expenses and make your paycheck work for you, Sept. 16, 23 and 30, 10:30 a.m.-noon.

•**Money Talk** — This course is a one-of-a-kind financial brief that addresses couples communication before reintegration. Spouses are given valuable tools to conduct the "money talk" conversation so expectations of financial issues are addressed prior to a Soldier's return. Couples can address budgets, the household money manager role, the basics of "I" language, the psychology behind spending behaviors, and practical exercises to guide them through reintegration. The next workshop is scheduled Sept. 16, 9-10:30 a.m.

Oahu military services primed to combat seasonal flu

TRIPLER ARMY MEDICAL CENTER PUBLIC AFFAIRS

TRIPLER ARMY MEDICAL CENTER — While media attention continues to focus on the H1N1 flu outbreak, doctors and nurses in Hawaii have already started vaccinating people with a seasonal influenza vaccine, as part of the annual vaccination campaign against the seasonal flu virus.

Like the rest of Hawaii, military medical treatment facilities on Oahu have received the bulk of their seasonal flu vaccine shipments and are now scheduling vaccinations at various clinic and public sites on Oahu.

For more information, call the Oahu Joint Services Flu Hotline at 433-1FLU (433-1358), see your primary care provider, or visit www.tamc.amedd.army.mil/.

"The military services are starting early this year," said Col. (Dr.) Michael Sigmon, chief of preventive medicine at Tripler Army Medical Center (TAMC) and chair of the Joint Public Health Emergency Working Group, which is coordinating the vaccination efforts of all the military services on Oahu.

"Getting vaccinated early for seasonal flu is very important," he added. "People won't have to call in sick or miss school. Vaccinations will also pre-



Sgt. Suliassi Lautana, a medic with Tripler Army Medical Center's (TAMC) anesthesiology department, receives the seasonal flu vaccine through a nasal spray from Spec. Bethaney Van Tellingen, a TAMC emergency department medic. Walk-in flu vaccination clinics are being scheduled at Oahu military medical clinics this month.

vent you from catching the flu, or having to stay home to take care of someone else who is sick."

Sigmon said that the Department of Defense, like other federal and state agencies, is carefully monitoring the H1N1 outbreak situation and is working on plans in case the virus becomes more dangerous than it has been so far.

While recent studies show that seasonal flu vaccinations don't protect people

from getting sick from the H1N1 virus, they do protect against other types of flu that may return, as the traditional flu season begins in the next few weeks.

Through the "Stop Flu at School" campaign, Hawaii's health department is working with public and private schools and civilian and military health care providers to administer seasonal flu vaccinations from October through November. Specific dates have been set by par-

Seasonal Flu Vaccinations Schedule

At military shopping centers

- Hickam Base Exchange – Oct. 24, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange – Nov. 7 and 13, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Kaneohe Bay Marine Corps Exchange – Nov. 15, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Schofield Barracks Post Exchange – Nov. 21, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

At military clinic facilities

- Kaneohe Bay – Weekdays, except Thursdays, 7:30-11:30 a.m. and 1-3:30 p.m. Thursdays, 7:30-11:30 a.m. and 1-2 p.m.
- Makalapa Clinic – Weekdays, 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m. 1st Saturday of the month, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Tripler Army Medical Center Immunization Clinic – Tuesdays, 1-3 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays, 9-11:30 a.m.
- Schofield Barracks Health Clinic – Mondays-Thursdays, 7:30-11:30 a.m. Fridays, 9-11:30 a.m.; Mon., Wed., Fri., 1-3 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1-2 p.m.
- Fort Shafter, 1st Floor, Faveau Hall – Weekdays, except Thursdays, 1-4 p.m.
- Hickam Clinic – Weekdays, except Wednesdays, 8-11:30 a.m.

At retiree seminars

- Retiree Appreciation Day, Hale Ikena, Fort Shafter (by golf course) – Oct. 17, 7-8 a.m. and 10-10:30 a.m.
- Fleet Reserve Association event, 891 Valkenburgh Dr., Pearl Harbor – Nov. 7, 7 a.m.-noon.

ticipating schools, for kindergarten through eighth grade students.

These schools distributed parental consent forms at the start of the school year. Completed forms must be returned to the school by today so your child can participate in this important program.

In addition to vaccinations at military medical clinics, Oahu military exchange

malls will have walk-up vaccination tables set up during October-November.

Vaccinations will also be offered at the Retiree Appreciation Day, Oct. 17, at Hale Ikena, Fort Shafter and at the Fleet Reserve Association event at 891 Valkenburgh Dr., Pearl Harbor, Nov. 7. If possible, bring your immunization record to this event.



Send sports announcements to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

12 / Saturday

Hike Oahu — Join the Hawaiian Trail & Mountain Club (HTMC) for a 2-mile novice hike in the Kahaluu Valley, Sept. 12. Hikers will wander in the woods near Temple Valley. Seek and find signs of ancient Hawaii as you pass over old rock walls. Call Joyce Oka, 674-1459.

Upcoming hikes include these:

- Sept. 20, 12-mile advanced ridge hike along the Aiea loop trail.
- Sept. 26, 2-mile intermediate Manoa Valley hike.

A \$2 donation is requested of nonmembers. An adult must accompany children under 18.

For more information and a calendar of future hikes, visit www.htmclub.org.

Alzheimer's Memory Walk — The Alzheimer's Association, Aloha Chapter, is inviting all Oahu residents to become "Champions" in the fight against Alzheimer's by participating in the annual Honolulu Memory Walk and 5K Run.

This event will begin at Fisherman's Wharf (across from Ward Warehouse Center), Sept. 12, 7 a.m., with on-site registration starting at 6:30 a.m. For more details, visit www.alz.org/hawaii or call 591-2771.

14 / Monday

ASYMCA Camps — The Sierra Club and the Sierra Club Foundation are funding free weekend camping opportunities for military families through the Honolulu Armed Services YMCA (ASYMCA).

The overnight camps at Camp Erdman begin Sept. 25 and end early afternoon Sept. 27. All meals and activities are included and provided at no charge. Preferences are provided to junior-enlisted families with deployed sponsors, those

about to deploy, and those just returning from deployment. To request an application, e-mail ASYMCAWHLR@aol.com or call 624-5645 by Sept. 14.

19 / Saturday

Kuuu Rockin' Surf Competition — The Marine Corps Base Hawaii and Marine Corps Community Services invite the public to enter the Kuuu Rockin' Surf Competition, Sept. 19 and 20, 7 a.m.-4 p.m., at Pyramid Rock Beach. Participants can enter in the men's or women's shortboard divisions and/or the longboard division.

Cost to enter one division for civilians is \$25, active duty military \$15. Add \$10 if entering a second division. Entry fee also includes a commemorative T-shirt.

A late fee will be added for entries after Sept. 14. Register online at www.mccshawaii.com or call 254-7655.

20 / Sunday

Nike 5K for Kids — Join the 10th anniversary of the Nike 5K for Kids, Sept. 20, 7 a.m., at Fort DeRussy Park, Waikiki. All entrants may choose between a 5K (3.1 miles) or 1-mile distance.

The \$15 entry fee will be donated to an Oahu school's Physical Education program of your choice.

To register in person, visit Sports Authority locations in Kapolei Commons, at Waieke Shopping Center or at Ward Avenue, or register at www.active.com. (A \$3 service fee applies.)

26 / Saturday

Marathon Readiness Series — Getting ready to run a marathon? Runners are invited take advantage of a series of races designed to prepare athletes for the Honolulu Marathon, Dec. 13.

- Sept. 26, Starn O'Toole Marcus and Fisher 25K, starting in Kailua.
- Oct. 25, P.F. Chang's 30K, starting at Kapiolani Park.
- Nov. 8, Saucony Val Nolasco Half Marathon, starting at Kapiolani Park. Register for the races

SEE COMMUNITY SPORTS, B-5



Sgt. 1st Class Rodney Jackson | 18th MEDCOM Public Affairs

Sending home a big win

FORT SHAFTER — Staff Sgt. Ryan Willaughby, Tripler Army Medical Center Physical Therapy noncommissioned officer, knocks the ball out of the bottom of the third inning during the 2009 Army Hawaii Softball Tournament championship game, here, Sept. 3. Willaughby is a member of the 18th Medical Command team that won the game, 20-2.

'Run for life' provides stigma-free event to discuss suicide

Story and Photos by
BILL MOSSMAN
Staff Writer

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS – U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii (USAG-HI) kicked off National Suicide Prevention Awareness month, Sept. 1, with the "Run for Life," the first of several events aimed at improving the overall health of those who serve.

More than 3,000 Soldiers showed up at Sills Field, here, dressed for the early morning run – a unified front between senior leadership and service members hoping to put a stop to the growing number of suicides among active duty Soldiers around the world.

Also showing up for the event was an uninvited guest: rain. But the showers were brief, and shortly after the last of the brigade units left the starting point for the 2.1-mile run, the sun finally emerged from behind the gray clouds.

Chaplain (Col.) Youn Kim, USAG-HI garrison chaplain, was one of several behavioral health experts on hand to educate Soldiers on the benefits of spiritual, physical and behavioral health. He noted the sudden change in the weather and suggested that today's Soldiers might learn a valuable lesson from it.

"Life has its ups and downs. Sometimes there's rain; sometimes there's sunshine," Kim said. "But it's always important to remember how valuable life is."

The Army has long been concerned with the suicide rate among active duty Soldiers. Recently, the military branch reported 96 suicides between



The first of the brigade units roll down Trimble Road at Schofield Barracks, nearing the end of the 2.1 mile "Run for Life" event that kicked off National Suicide Prevention Awareness month, Sept. 1.

Jan. 1 and July 31, 2009. During the same period last year, there were 79 suicides.

Health experts at the "Run for Life" pointed to a number of reasons why people might consider ending their lives, including depression, shame, guilt, emotional trauma and financial difficulties. For those in the Army, they added, the warrior-type culture that shuns physical and mental weakness sometimes makes it more difficult for Soldiers to admit to having such destructive thoughts.

"Our goal with 'Run for Life' was to put the Soldiers in an environment where they could feel comfortable gathering information about suicide," explained USAG-HI Better Opportunities for Single

Soldiers (BOSS) program president Sgt. Erica Silvestre, who came up with the idea for the morning run. "Some (Soldiers) may not want to get help on their own, but an environment like this might make them more willing to seek out that help."

Following the run, the Soldiers filed their way past a refreshments booth, as well as booths that housed the health experts. One by one, Soldiers spoke to these health experts or simply picked up brochures from such garrison-provided services as Suicide Prevention, Behavioral Health and Survivor Outreach Services.

First Sgt. Shiloh Butterworth, Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 2nd Stryker Brigade Com-

bat Team, said the early morning run was a stigma-free opportunity for Soldiers to openly discuss such a touchy subject.

"Normally, the Soldiers would probably be doing something else at this time," explained Butterworth. "But this is a good event because it frees the Soldiers up to go to these different groups and establishments and talk to them about suicide."

Prior to the run, Col. Matthew Margotta, commander, USAG-HI, reminded the Soldiers of the promises made in the Soldier's creed, "... I will never leave a fallen comrade," and encouraged them to seek help if they, or anyone they know, ever began to wander down the path to such a high-risk behavior.

"No matter how strong we think we are, we're all susceptible to the many challenges that come from being a member of the armed forces," Margotta said. "The key point I want to make to you all today, is that no matter what challenges life throws at you or someone you know, the Army, the installation, the medical community and the garrison team that supports you, has the means to help."

The run, which was made possible by BOSS and the USAG-HI Army Substance Abuse Program (ASAP), was the first of several events planned for the month of September. Other events include "Strike Out Suicide," a free bowling activity slated for Sept. 14 and 17 at the Schofield Barracks Bowling Center, and a comedy show with Bernie McGrenahan, scheduled Sept. 24, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., at Sgt. Smith Theatre, Schofield Barracks.

Community Calendar

From B-4

at www.active.com.
Visit www.808racehawaii.com.

27 / Sunday

Honolulu Century Ride – Registration is open for the Honolulu Century Ride, Sept. 27, 6:15 a.m., at Kapiolani Park. This event is the Hawaii Bicycling League's (HBL) largest fundraiser, drawing up to 4,000 participants from eight nations.

A family-oriented bike ride, participants can choose their own distance – between 20, 25, 50, 75, or 100 miles – and pace. No matter which distance riders choose, start and finish is at Kapiolani Park, Waikiki.

Aid stations with light refreshments and mechanical support along the course will be provided. Registration costs \$60 per adult, \$30 per child. On-line and fax entries close Sept. 22 at 11:59 p.m. Register at www.hbl.org or call the HBL at 735-5756.

October

17 / Saturday

North Shore Yoga Festival – Come explore the ancient practices of yoga under the guidance of some of Hawaii's most trusted and experienced teachers at the North Shore Yoga Festival, Oct. 17, at Turtle Bay Resort. This festival offers a diverse array of workshops and classes for any level. Workshops take place 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m. with music and entertainment until 9 p.m. Registration for a full-day pass or single workshops is available at www.trueunion.org.



12 / Saturday

Night Snorkeling – Discover what happens in Hanauma Bay at night with the first night snorkeling expedition, Sept. 12, 2-11 p.m. Cost is \$20 and includes round-trip transportation from Schofield Barracks.

Call 655-0143.

13 / Sunday

Hawaiian Canoe Paddling – Learn an ancient sport that Hawaiians still go crazy for – Hawaiian canoe paddling, Sept. 13, 7 a.m.-noon. Cost is \$45 and includes round-trip trans-

portation from Schofield Barracks. Call 655-0143.

19 / Saturday

Adventure Ulua Fishing – Spend the afternoon to late evening bait dunking at a favorite shore fishing area with Outdoor Recreation (ODR), Schofield Barracks, Sept. 19, noon-11 p.m. ODR guarantees a good time fishing Hawaiian style.

Cost is \$50 and includes round-trip transportation from Schofield Barracks. Call 655-0143.

20 / Sunday

Mountain Biking – Take a challenging bike trip through the Waianae mountain range, Sept. 20, 7 a.m.-noon.

This program is a level-one beginner-level program suitable for all ages. Cost is \$15 plus an additional \$5 for bike rental, if needed. This activity

includes round-trip transportation from Schofield Barracks. Call 655-0143.

26 / Saturday

Stand up Paddleboard – Check out the latest craze to hit the surf crazy islands: paddleboarding. Lessons are scheduled Sept. 26, 7 a.m.-noon with Outdoor Recreation.

Cost is \$45 per person and includes all equipment and round-trip transportation from Schofield Barracks. Call 655-0143.

Ongoing

NFL Sunday Ticket – Watch your favorite home football team live every weekend with the Tropics, Schofield Barracks NFL Sunday ticket. Don't miss the gridiron action. For more information call 655-5698.