

VETERANS DAY

Remember & honor those who served & sacrificed

WHO'OKELE

PEARL HARBOR - HICKAM NEWS

November 11, 2011

www.cnic.navy.mil/hawaii www2.hickam.af.mil

Volume 2 Issue 44

Key spouses, Wounded Warriors honored at Military Appreciation Night

Story and photos by
MC2 Daniel Barker

Navy Public Affairs
Support Element West,
Hawaii Detachment

U.S. Navy League Key Spouses and Wounded Warriors were honored by the Honolulu community Nov. 5 during a University of Hawaii (UH) football game at Aloha Stadium.

Events included both pre-game and halftime ceremonies during a football game between the University of Hawaii "Warriors" and University of Utah "Aggies," as well as a flyover by a U.S. Coast Guard HH-65 Dolphin helicopter.

The pre-game ceremony honored the recipients of the 2011 Hawaii's Outstanding Military Spouse Award, including Emilia Sanchez-Polite (U.S. Air Force), Malia Clemons (U.S. Navy), Alishia Perez (U.S. Marine Corps), Nancy Cutlip (U.S. Pacific Command), Kimberly Seech (U.S. Army), Chanelle Cadiz (Hawaii Army National Guard), Kymberly Kim (Hawaii Air National Guard) and Margaret "Maggie" Graves (U.S. Coast



Photo illustration

Guard). Once the key spouses gathered at the stadium, Hawaii Navy League President Melvin Ing and Oceanic Time Warner Cable President Bob Barlow presented each recipient with a

large \$500 presentation check. Honolulu Mayor Peter Carlisle, Representative K. Mark Takai and Maj. Gen. Darryll Wong were also present and congratulated each of the key spouses. Following the presenta-

tions, the 111th Army Band assisted in performing the National Anthem and the Hawaii State Anthem. While performing "God Bless the U.S.A.," Staff Sgt. Samuel Hesch, 111th Army Band vocalist, said

to the audience, "Come on everybody, get up. It's time to stand and say I'm proud to be an American." In recognition of their contributions and service to the state of Hawaii, Wounded Warriors were honored at halftime dur-

ing a presentation at the 50-yard line.

The Wounded Warriors receiving recognition this year were Army Spec. Josh Johnson, Army Sgt. Ryan R. Soto, Marine Corps Cpl. Jorge Cruz, Army Private 1st Class Aaron Cool, Marine Corps Sgt. Andrew Ustaszewski, Navy Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Daniel Mayberry, Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Mason Hoy, Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Joshua Kelly and Air Force Staff Sgt. Darryl J. Dutton.

Navy Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Daniel Mayberry commented on the event and the service members in the Wounded Warrior group. "I feel very honored to be with such a great group of guys," Mayberry said.

November is designated as Warrior Care Month to recognize the sacrifices and achievements of wounded, ill and injured service members, their families and those who care for them. This year's theme is "Unleashing the Potential, Healing a Wounded Warrior's Mind, Body and Spirit."

(See additional story and photos on page B-1)

JS Kurama joins in Navy's Koa Kai exercise for first time

Naval Surface Group Middle
Pacific Public Affairs

The Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) helicopter destroyer JS Kurama (DDH 144) will join U.S. Navy ships in exercise Koa Kai 12-1 beginning Nov. 10, marking the first time a JMSDF surface ship will participate in the semi-annual exercise in and around Hawaiian waters.

Koa Kai 12-1 is an integrated maritime exercise to prepare independent deployers in multiple warfare areas, while also providing training in a multi-ship environment. Units participating in Koa Kai will conduct integrated flight operations, anti-surface and anti-submarine training, and dynamic ship maneuvers.

"We exercise across multiple



U.S. Navy photo by MC2(SW) Mark Logico

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (Nov. 10, 2011) - The Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) helicopter destroyer JS Kurama (DDH 144) departs Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam to be part of exercise Koa Kai 12-1 for the first time. Koa Kai 12-1, being conducted in and around Hawaiian waters, is an integrated maritime exercise with U.S. Navy ships, submarines and aircraft and with the JMSDF and the Royal Canadian Air Force 407 Long Range Patrol Squadron. The exercise provides training in a multi-ship environment to ensure readiness, preserve peace and security in the Pacific and further maritime partnerships with friends and allies.

warfare disciplines to ensure our ships are ready to meet operational requirements when they deploy," said Capt. Dave Welch, commander of Destroyer Squadron 31 (CDS 31). "Koa Kai is our primary integrated training event in the Middle Pacific to achieve deployment readiness and to complete integrated training objectives."

"We're extremely pleased that our partners in the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force have joined us for this version of Koa Kai. Their participation will add great value and depth to the exercise," he added.

Kurama joins the guided-missile destroyers USS O'Kane (DDG 77) and USS Chafee (DDG 90); frigate USS Crommelin (FFG 37);

See KOA KAI, A-2

Airman returns home with Purple Heart

Story and photo by
Staff Sgt. Carolyn Herrick

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public Affairs

A joint terminal attack controller (JTAC) from 25th Air Support Operations Squadron (25th ASOS) returned to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on Oct. 31 following a six-month deployment to Afghanistan where he was shot by enemy forces.

Senior Airman Jorge Henry Jr. was shot in the right hand by a Taliban sniper during a nine-hour fire fight in northern Kunar Province, Afghanistan on Aug. 12. The fact that he subsequently received a Purple Heart was secondary, however, to what his 25th ASOS superintendent called the real interest of the story: the fact that Henry continued to call in close air support (CAS) and drop bombs on target, some in very close proximity to his own position, after sustaining the injury.

"That's the heart of the mission," said Senior Master Sgt. Matt Nugent, an 18-year veteran of the career field, who has deployed seven times

See PURPLE HEART, A-7



U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Jorge Henry and his wife, Holly, embrace at the Honolulu International Airport upon his return from a six-month deployment to Afghanistan on Oct. 31.

to Afghanistan and three times to Iraq since 9/11. "The fact that we have people get injured is unfortunate, but it's the nature of the busi-

DoD ID card holders invited to see First Lady at JBPHH

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-
Hickam Public Affairs

First Lady Michelle Obama is scheduled to meet military members and their families and speak at the Hiring Our Heroes job fair sponsored by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce on Nov. 14. The event will take place at the Hickam Officers Club at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH).

Bus transportation will be available for Department of Defense ID cardholders and their family members who would like to attend the First Lady's speaking event; parking will be limited. Those coming from within JBPHH should take buses departing from the Burger King parking lot from noon to 1:45 p.m. Those coming from off base should take buses departing at 12:30 p.m. from the Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange (NEX) parking lot near the white tent between sections A5 and A6.

Shuttle buses will depart the Hickam Officers Club and return to the Burger King and NEX parking lots beginning at 3:30 p.m.

All attendees will go through airport-like security and should limit their personal items as much as possible. Cameras are permitted. Not allowed are: folding chairs, umbrellas, large backpacks, sharp objects, weapons, chemicals of any kind, projectiles, sprays or air horns, signs or banners.

The hiring fair is for service men and women, veterans and military families. Job-seekers must register online to participate in the hiring fair by logging on to <https://hoh.greatjob.net>.

Registration is free and deadline is Nov. 12 for those with base access.

For assistance with the fair, contact HiringOurHeroes@uschamber.com.



Hopper observes a moment of silence for the Battle for Leyte Gulf See page A-2



Veterans Day See page A-3



Energetic energy initiatives See page A-4



Fallen pilot laid to rest after 43 years, JPAC at Hickam plays major role See page A-6



Armed Forces honored at UH game See page B-1



Lady Falcons fall short to Army Her-icanes See page B-2

Hopper observes a moment of silence for the Battle of Leyte Gulf

Ensign Matthew D. Lai

USS Hopper (DDG 70)
Public Affairs

SURIGAO STRAIT – Sailors from the Hawaii-based guided-missile destroyer USS Hopper (DDG 70) took a moment of silence Oct. 25 to remember the sacrifice of WWII Sailors who fought and died in the Battle of Leyte Gulf in 1944. Hopper transited the same waters exactly 67 years later to the day of the decisive sea battle.

On Oct. 25, 1944 the Japanese Southern Force consisting of three battleships, one cruiser and four destroyers began transiting through the Surigao Strait, Republic of the Philippines, on the same course the Hopper traveled in late October of this year.

The U.S. Seventh Fleet-supporting forces in the battle consisted of six bat-



U.S. Navy file photo by MC2 Jon Dasbach

tleships, four heavy cruisers, four light cruisers, 28 destroyers and 39 torpedo boats. Five of the six battleships had been damaged in Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

“It held a significant historical value for future generations to remember, and it was a privilege to travel on the same water [where] our Sailors fought and died,” said Fire Controlman 1st Class Sean Royce as he experienced Hopper’s transit through the

battle site.

To the east of Leyte in 1944 were two smaller groups of U.S. Navy ships (Taffy 2 and Taffy 3) guarding the U.S. 7th Fleet’s flank. Upon first sighting of the Japanese Imperial Navy, the commander of Taffy 2 ordered the launch of all of his aircraft and for the destroyers to make a smoke screen to hide the carriers’ retreat to safety.

During the battle, the destroyer USS Johnston (DD-557) altered course

toward the Japanese at flank speed to draw enemy fire away from the carriers. This heroic action prompted the commander of Taffy 3 to send three other destroyers, USS Hoel (DD-533), USS Heermann (DD-532) and USS Samuel B. Roberts (DE-413); to follow USS Johnston’s actions. This disrupted the Japanese formation as they frantically turned their attention towards the destroyers and away from the carriers. The American

destroyers suffered great losses but were successful in turning the Japanese attack away from the carriers and saving the U.S. 7th Fleet.

According to historian and author James D. Hornfischer, “The three-day series of melees around the Philippines in October 1944 was by multiple measures the most sprawling, spectacular and horrible naval battle in history. If it was not as decisive, in the word’s purest sense, as the victo-

ry at Midway, it was the greatest naval battle ever fought for the distances it spanned, for the tonnage of ships sunk, for the duration of the duels between surface ships, and for the terrible losses of human life.”

The Hopper Sailors watched the sun go down as their ship transited through the same waters on the same day of the Battle for Leyte Gulf, and observed a moment of silence for the brave men, both Japanese and American, who paid the ultimate price.

Hopper helps provide deterrence, promote peace and security, preserve freedom of the seas and support humanitarian/disaster response within U.S. 3rd Fleet’s 50-million square mile area of responsibility in the eastern Pacific, as well as supporting the Navy’s maritime strategy when forward deployed.

VP-9 Sailors take Kaneohe students ‘under their wing’

Lt. j.g. Jacob Clark

Patrol Squadron Nine
Public Affairs

The Golden Eagles of Patrol Squadron Nine (VP-9) assist Kaneohe Elementary School stu-

dents each Wednesday by providing positive role models through the U.S. Navy’s Partners in Education program.

VP-9’s Partners in Education program helps to improve the education, health, fitness and citi-

zenship of the Kaneohe Elementary School youth. As an added benefit, VP-9 personnel also assist students, faculty, staff and families in improving the physical appearance of the Kaneohe Elementary School campus.

Naval Aircrewman Operator 2nd Class Ryan White, VP-9 lead sponsor, spearheads Kaneohe Elementary School’s physical fitness program. He works with a different elementary school class each week. “The kids

really seem to look forward to us coming every week, and we feel the exact same way,” White said.

In addition to physical fitness, the Golden Eagles have also volunteered for a variety of school special

events including reading and math programs. “Being examples to today’s youth is something we take very seriously, and this is a great way to really get out there and be involved,” White said.

Access to Hale Koa will be restricted during APEC

Special from Hawaii Army
Weekly

WAIKIKI — The Hale Koa Hotel will host meetings and social events during the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, or APEC, forum, and additional security measures needed to support those events will restrict access to the hotel and its parking and beach areas from Nov. 10 through 13.

All vehicles will be removed from the main parking structure, which is located across the street from the hotel, prior to the parking facility being closed to the public at midnight Nov. 10.

All Hale Koa Hotel parking

For updated information, visit the following websites:

- <http://1.usa.gov/4nhSNI>
- www.thebus.org
- www.apec2011hawaii.com

facilities will be closed and access restricted from midnight Nov. 10 through 6 a.m. Nov. 13. Only registered hotel guests and staff will be permitted to park in the Saratoga parking area, which is adjacent to the U.S. Army Museum.

Starting at 10 p.m. Nov. 11 and continuing until 6 a.m. Nov. 13, security check points will be set up around the hotel. One central point of entry and

exit to the Hale Koa Hotel will be established. Only registered guests, hotel staff and other authorized personnel will be granted access to the hotel area during this time.

The Hale Koa Hotel swimming pools and beach front areas will be closed all day Nov. 12.

Street access to and from the Hale Koa will also be impacted. The streets near the hotel most affected will be Ala Moana Boulevard, Kalakaua Avenue, Saratoga Road, Kalia Road, Lewers Street and Beach Walk Road. Portions of these streets may be closed or have restricted access at varying times during APEC sessions.

Koa Kai prepares deployers

Continued from A-1

and underway replenishment ship USNS Washington Chambers (T-AKE 11).

The surface ships of CDS 31 are joined by assets from Commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, Helicopter Squadron Light 37, Commander Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing 2 and the Royal Canadian Air Force 407 Long Range Patrol Squadron.

Hawaii-based surface combatants regularly deploy to the Asia Pacific region and often train with international partners while on deployment. Koa Kai demonstrates the Pacific Fleet commitment to forward readiness, and prepares middle Pacific ships to meet current and future challenges.

For photos taken during previous Koa Kai exercises, please visit our Koa Kai album on Face Book: <http://on.fb.me/vxLlro>

Seven mariners found safe on Pacific island

U.S. Coast Guard District 14
Public Affairs

HONOLULU – Seven missing mariners are safe after a Coast Guard aircrew spotted the men on a deserted Pacific island Sunday.

Seven males between the ages of 19 and 30 were last seen leaving the southwestern part of Maloelap Atoll en route north to Kaven Island. The Royal Australian Navy liaison to the Republic of Marshall Islands contacted Coast Guard Joint Rescue Coordination Center Honolulu watchstanders at 10 p.m. Nov. 3 and reported the vessel as 24 hours overdue.

An HC-130 Hercules airplane and crew was launched from Air Station Barbers Point to assist with the search. The U.S. Coast Guard aircrew and a U.S. Navy team conducted the search and rescue.

JRCC (Joint Rescue Coordination Center) person-

nel worked closely with Royal Australian Navy liaison in developing joint search patterns that would be used by assets of both governments. An Air Marshall Islands aircraft was also launched for the search.

On the second day, the HC-130 Hercules airplane crew spotted the missing men on the beach of a small island, waving palm fronds near a blue vessel matching the description of the overdue 20-foot skiff. The Republic of the Marshall Islands 107-foot patrol boat Lomor was diverted and picked up the survivors.

The survivors were taken back to their home atolls via the Royal Australian Navy motor vessel Miss Telitha.

There were no injuries reported.

Video of the stranded mariners and interviews with the Coast Guard aircrew will be available pending the return of the Hercules crew.

PMRF Sailors participate in Kauai Veterans Day Parade



(Above) Sailors from the Pacific Missile Range Facility wave to spectators during the annual Kauai Veterans Day Parade. The parade's theme this year was "Honoring our Vietnam Veterans." More than 20 Sailors participated in the parade. (Left) Sailors from the Pacific Missile Range Facility march in formation during the parade.

U.S. Navy photos by MCI Jay C. Pugh

SECNAV Veterans Day message to the fleet

Ray Mabus,
Secretary of the Navy

WASHINGTON, DC — Once again this Nov. 11, America will celebrate Veterans Day by pausing to honor and thank its more than 20 million veterans and their families for their service, sacrifice and support.

First observed in 1919, commemorating Armistice Day and permanently established in 1938 by Congress as a federal holiday, the purpose of Veterans Day was twofold: to commemorate the end of World War I and to allow our nation an occasion to thank



SECNAV Ray Mabus

those who served as Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen.

Throughout history, the brave men and women who have worn the cloth of our nation have defended America's interests

and ideals while establishing the legacy of the United States military as the finest military force in the world. While the conflicts, operations and battles have varied, our veterans share the same patriot spirit, love of country and willingness to sacrifice for the larger good that sparked our war for independence in 1775.

This Veterans Day, in addition to thanking those military members who have previously served and the families who have supported them, I want to extend my heartfelt appreciation to all who currently serve for what you have done and continue to do for the United States.

Your contributions preserve our freedoms and increase security around the globe.

On behalf of a grateful nation on Veterans Day and always, thank you.

COMPACAF sends Veterans Day message

Gen. Gary North

Pacific Air Forces Public Affairs

Each year we take a moment to remember the sacrifices of those who have worn the uniform in defense of our great nation. This year, Veterans Day falls just weeks before we commemorate the 70th anniversary of the attack on Oahu - that fateful day which led our country into World War II in the Pacific.

The battle scars that still mark our PACAF Headquarters building remind us of the sacrifices and the courage with which our service members responded to this unprecedented bombing of our homeland. Our nation pulled together in a united effort, and our youth rushed to enter into the service of their country. They left the safety and comfort of their homes and families



Gen. Gary North

to protect America and our values.

This same intrepid spirit burns within our service members today. Our Airmen and their families, alongside Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and their family members, know what it means to experience hardship, to be separated from their loved ones, and to continue to answer the higher call. They have volunteered to stand in harm's way so those left behind may continue to live safe and free.

I recently attended the

Air Force Association conference where we recognized several Air Force members who epitomized this spirit of selfless service in the performance of their duties. Among them were four of our own PACAF Airmen. Some of them were recognized for their combat action in Iraq and Afghanistan and others for their tireless efforts assisting with humanitarian relief efforts in Japan and Pakistan.

It is a privilege and honor to serve alongside our Airmen and their families here in PACAF, and throughout our Air Force, who continue the legacy of our honored veterans and the long tradition of service to our nation. All veterans understand that the freedoms we cherish are never free. Please join me this Veterans Day in honoring our fellow veterans, past and present, as we 'Aim High' to the future.

Diverse Views



"Nov. 11 is Veterans Day. What do you feel is the best way that Americans can show their appreciation to our veterans?"



MMC George Prado
USS Santa Fe

"Americans can show appreciation for veterans by increasing overall awareness of our veterans and the sacrifices that they have made."

MMFA Aaron Tolstyka
USS Santa Fe



"Americans can show appreciation by volunteering at a veterans hospital and helping veterans in their daily life."



IT2 Billy Eaton
NIOC Hawaii

"I think the best way for Americans to show their appreciation for veterans is to just say 'thank you.' I mean discounts and complimentary items are cool too, but just saying thanks is fine."

Tech. Sgt. Adela Valiente Trejo
154th Wing



"To visit the elderly veterans in nursing homes and support events for veterans."



Master Sgt. Barry Surell
109th Air Operations Group
Aerospace Systems

"Educate our youth of the sacrifices and contributions our veterans and future veterans have selflessly performed for our freedom. Aloha!"

Staff Sgt. Paul Salazar
647th Security Forces Squadron



"Take a moment and honor those who gave their life in order to secure our freedoms. Then spend time with others and enjoy those freedoms."

(Provided by IT2 Cicely D. Wiggins and David D. Underwood Jr.)

Want to see your command featured in Diverse Views? Got opinions to share?

Drop us a line at editor@hookelenews.com or karen.spangler@navy.mil



Services held on 9th anniversary of Pearl Harbor attack

Adm. Arthur W. Radford, U.S. Navy, commander in chief, Pacific, and CinC, Pacific Fleet leads the procession during memorial services on board the wreck of USS Arizona (BB-39), Dec. 7, 1950, on the ninth anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

Official U.S. Navy photograph, National Archives Collection

HO'OKELE

Commander,
Navy Region Hawaii
Rear Adm. Dixon R. Smith

Chief of Staff
Capt. Melvin Lee

Director,
Public Affairs
Agnes Tauyan

Deputy Director,
Public Affairs
Bill Doughty

Leading Petty Officer
MC2 Mark Logico

Staff Writer
MC2 Robert Stirrup

Commander,
Joint Base
Pearl Harbor-Hickam
Capt. Jeffrey James

Deputy Commander
Col. Dann S. Carlson

Director, Public Affairs
Grace Hew Len

Managing Editor
Karen Spangler

Assistant Editor
Don Robbins

Sports Editor
Randy Dela Cruz

Contributing Writer
Jazzmin Williams

Layout/Design
Antonio Verceluz

Layout/Design
Michael Villafuerte

Ho'okele is a free unofficial paper published every Thursday by The Honolulu Star Advertiser 500 Ala Moana Boulevard Suite 7-500 Honolulu Hawaii 96813, a private firm in no way connected with DoD, the U. S. Navy or Marine Corps, under exclusive contract with Commander, Navy Region Hawaii. All editorial content is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the staff of the Commander, Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs Office: 850 Ticonderoga, Suite 110, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, 96860-4884. Telephone: (808) 473-2888; fax (808) 473-2876; e-mail address: editor@hookelenews.com World Wide Web address: https://www.cnic.navy.mil/Hawaii/ or www.hookelenews.com.

This civilian enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication primarily for members of the Navy and Marine Corps military services and their families in Hawaii. Its contents do not necessarily reflect the official views of the U. S. Government, the Department of Defense, the U.S. Navy or Marine Corps and do not imply endorsement thereof.

The civilian publisher, The Honolulu Star Advertiser, is responsible for commercial advertising, which may be purchased by calling (808) 521-9111. The appearance of advertising in this newspaper, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement of the products and services advertised by the Department of Defense, the U.S. Navy or Marine Corps, Commander, Navy Region Hawaii or The Honolulu Star Advertiser. Everything advertised in this paper shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. A confirmed violation of this policy of equal opportunity by an advertiser will result in the refusal to print advertising from that source. Ho'okele is delivered weekly to Navy & Air Force housing units and Navy installations throughout Oahu. Housing residents may contact the publisher directly at (808) 690-8864 if they wish to discontinue home delivery.

Energetic energy initiatives

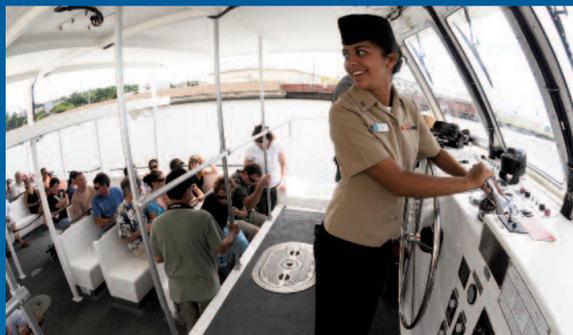
(Right) Col. Karl Bosworth, director, Installations and Mission Support, PACAF/A7, assists with the installation of a photovoltaic panel at an event launching Hickam Communities solar project. With support from Air Force and Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, leadership and civic and community leaders, Hickam Communities launched a renewable energy project in July that includes the installation of photovoltaic systems capable of generating four megawatts of power. The amount is enough to offset more than 260 million pounds of carbon dioxide over the system's lifetime, which is the equivalent of taking close to 23,000 cars off the road for a year.

Photo courtesy of Lend Lease



U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Johnny I. Michael

A solar-powered light designed to operate on airport runways is turned on during a small groundbreaking ceremony held on March 31, 2008 at the Pacific Missile Range Facility, a U.S. Navy range located at Barking Sands, Hawaii. One of 245, these runway lights run entirely on solar energy to facilitate air operations and mark the second major lighting project at the facility designed to run on renewable energy and reduce the Navy's dependence on fossil fuels.



Seaman Andrea Gonzales maneuvers the biodiesel ferryboat #39-5 Jackson C. Pharris as she transports visitors to the USS Arizona Memorial. Sailors assigned to USS Arizona Memorial Detachment transport as many as 4,500 people to the historic site every day on biodiesel-powered boats.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Mark Logico



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Eric J. Cutright

Krista Stehn, the energy conservation school outreach program coordinator at Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Hawaii, speaks with students at Pearl Harbor Kai Elementary School about energy conservation. The educational session was given to the students as part of NAVFAC Hawaii's energy conservation outreach program.



U.S. Navy photo by Denise Emsley

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawaii is upgrading the wastewater treatment plant at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam by removing the floating steel roofs and replacing them with fixed aluminum dome covers. The new covers will help capture methane gas for future energy projects and use it as an alternative fuel source.

The right light – only where you need it

Krista Stehn

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawaii Energy Program

It's convenient when the first person in the office turns on all the lights, and nobody else has to think about light switches until the end of the day, but it isn't necessarily energy efficient. Take a look around your work area and see if there are areas that are switched on, but really don't need to be.

Are there areas that look like they should have their own switch, but don't? Tell

your facility manager or building energy monitor. Depending on how many fixtures are involved, it might make sense to have another switch wired in.

Is the switch on the other side of the room, increasing chances it will be left on when people leave? Report it. Sometimes it will make sense to install occupancy controls that shut lights off

automatically when a room is unoccupied.

Many offices, shops, warehouses and other facilities can easily reduce lighting without affecting productivity. Turn off as many unnecessary lights as possible. Use task lighting instead of overhead lighting, and light only those areas that are needed at the time.

It is estimated that pro-

viding the right lighting can save up to 15 percent on your lighting bill. Across the Navy Region Hawaii, that could be a savings of up to \$200,000 annually.

Closures for Nov. 14 announced

Due to a special event on Nov. 14, the Wright Brothers Café & Grille will be closed for breakfast and lunch, and the Hickam Officers Club will be closed for lunch.

Other dining facilities around the base will operate at their normal hours.

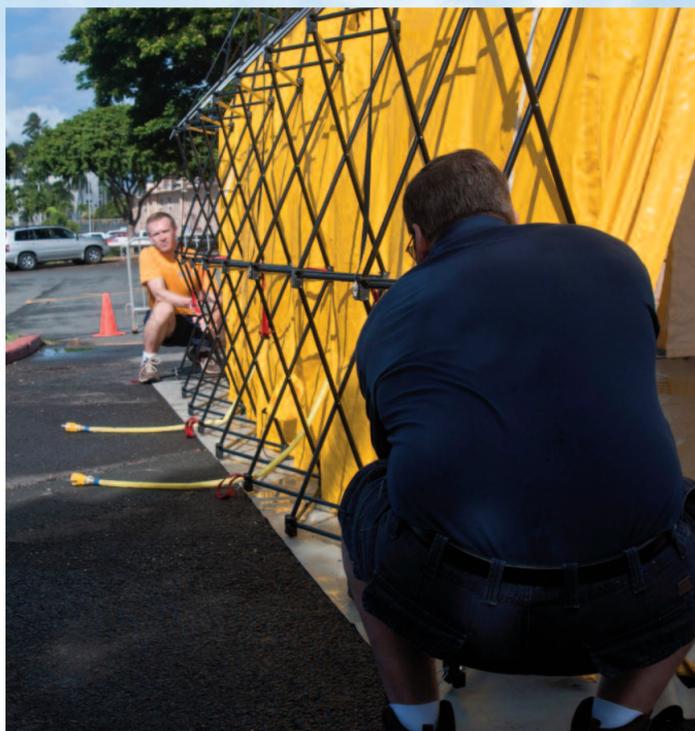
For more information, visit www.greatlifehawaii.com or call 448-4608.

Pearl Harbor-Hickam *Highlights*



Civilian contractors assemble bleachers while building a basketball arena on the flight deck of the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70) in San Diego Nov. 3. Carl Vinson is preparing to host the Michigan State University Spartans and the University of North Carolina Tar Heels during the inaugural Quicken Loans Carrier Classic basketball game on Veterans Day, Nov. 11.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 James R. Evans



U.S. Navy photo by MCSN Dustin W. Sisco
Brent C. Fenton instructs a decontamination class to service members at Makalapa Clinic on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH). The class teaches the service members proper procedures and techniques to use in case of nuclear, biological or chemical contamination.



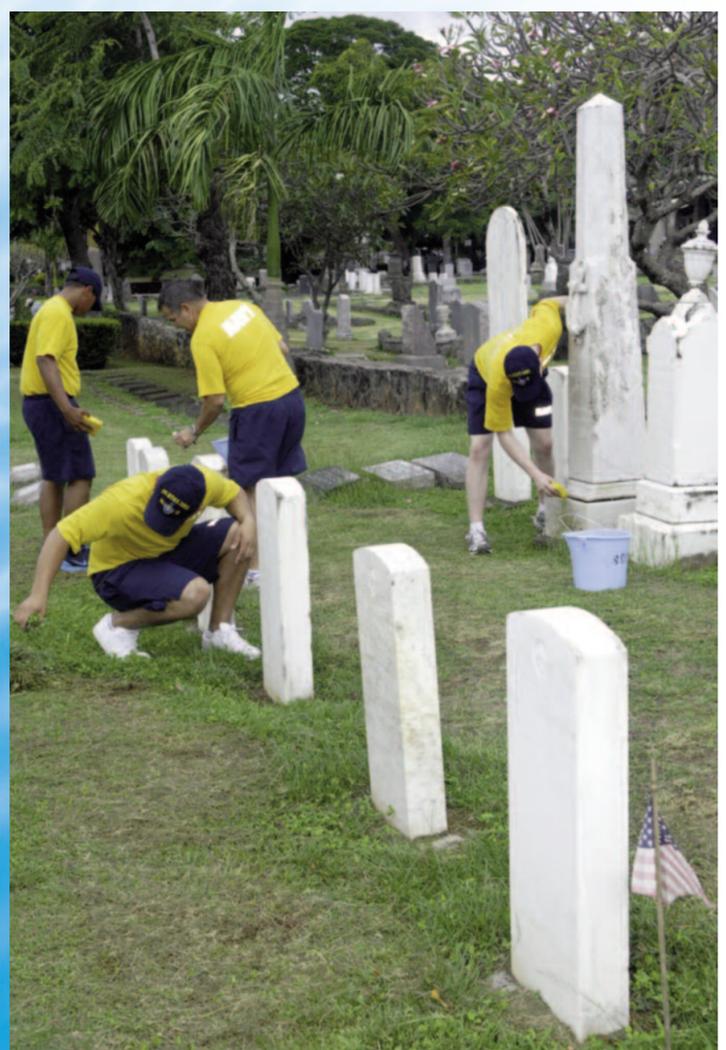
U.S. Navy photo by MC1 David R. Krigbaum

The Virginia-class attack submarine USS Texas (SSN 775) from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam enters Subic Bay on Nov. 10 to conduct a port visit and coordinated tended mooring alongside the submarine tender USS Emory S. Land (AS 39). Texas is conducting her first deployment to the western Pacific region.



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Carolyn Herrick

U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Jorge Henry greets his 6-year-old son, Braedin, at the Honolulu International Airport upon his return from a six-month deployment to Afghanistan on Oct. 31.



U.S. Navy photo by David D. Underwood Jr.

Volunteers from the USS Reuben James (FFG 57), Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, clean headstones at the Oahu Cemetery on Nov. 10.

Fallen pilot laid to rest after 43 years, JPAC at Hickam plays major role

Christin Michaud

Air Force Mortuary Affairs Operations Public Affairs

DOVER AIR FORCE BASE, Del. (AFNS) – Since 1977 a marker in memory of Air Force Col. Gilbert S. Palmer Jr. sat upon a hill for the pilot who went missing in action Feb. 27, 1968. Now, more than 43 years later, Palmer's remains have been returned to his family for proper burial in Arlington with full military honors.

More than 30 friends and family members filled the post chapel at Arlington National Cemetery to pay their respects to the Vietnam War pilot Nov. 1.

Palmer and one other crew member, both assigned to the 14th Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron in Thailand, were carrying out photo-reconnaissance of enemy targets in Quang Binh, North Vietnam, in their RF-4C aircraft. After losing radio communication, Palmer's plane crashed in an unknown location.

Meanwhile, the family left behind waited and wondered until in 1999, when a U.S./Lao People's



U.S. Air Force photo by Steve Kotecki

A U.S. Air Force Honor Guard team from Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling, Wash. D.C. removes the remains of Col. Gilbert S. Palmer Jr. from a caisson Nov. 1, at Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, D.C. Palmer's aircraft crashed on Feb. 27, 1968 in an unknown location. His remains were identified earlier this year.

Democratic Republic recovery team, led by the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) (headquartered at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam) was taken by a local villager to a crash site in Savannakhet Province, near the Vietnamese border. Aircraft wreckage from an RF-4 reconnaissance aircraft was

found. Additional investigations of the crash site, between 2001 and 2010, recovered human remains and military equipment specific to Palmer's aircraft. "The Air Force went back and found him and never gave up looking," said Stephen Palmer, his oldest son. In addition to forensic

identification tools and circumstantial evidence, scientists from the JPAC and the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory used mitochondrial DNA, which matched that of Palmer's brother Jim, in the identification of the remains. His remains were identified on May 19, 2011. In addition to locating

Palmer's remains, a lighter was recovered in the crash site.

"Although it showed signs of corrosion from being exposed to the outdoor elements, the family was able to distinctly recognize it as Colonel Palmer's lighter," said Ruben Garza of the Air Force Mortuary Affairs Operations Past Conflicts Branch.

Stephen Palmer said he remembers when his father would open and close that very lighter when talking with him and his brother as children.

"It definitely helps bring closure," said Stephen, who was not quite a teenager when his father's plane went missing in 1968. "This has been an amazing experience."

Col. Patrick Malackowski, the vice commander of the 13th Air Force at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, said escorting Palmer's remains from Hawaii has been a great privilege.

"It's been an extreme honor to bring a service member home after 43 years of waiting," Malackowski said. "And then to see the family's response has just been a marvelous thing."

Garza also said he was humbled and honored to assist the Palmer family with the funeral.

"It makes me proud to know that our nation is committed to locate, identify and bring home our missing in action service members after all these years," he said.

It was inspiring to hear the military escort's experience as he shared with the family the dignity, honor and respect shown from strangers on his way, Garza added.

More than 1,600 Americans remain missing from the Vietnam War. More than 900 servicemen have been accounted for from that conflict and returned to their families for burial with military honors since 1973. Palmer is now one of them. His family now knows underneath a marker in Arlington lies the remains of their father, brother and uncle.

The U.S. government continues to work closely with the governments of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia to recover all Americans lost in the conflict.

(Information courtesy of JPAC)

Access to Hale Koa will be restricted during APEC

Special from Hawaii Army Weekly

WAIKIKI — The Hale Koa Hotel will host meetings and social events during the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, or APEC, forum, and additional security measures needed to support those events will restrict access

to the hotel and its parking and beach areas from Nov. 10 through 13.

All vehicles will be removed from the main parking structure, which is located across the street from the hotel, prior to the parking facility being closed to the public at midnight Nov. 10.

All Hale Koa Hotel park-

ing facilities will be closed and access restricted from midnight Nov. 10 through 6 a.m. Nov. 13. Only regis-

tered hotel guests and staff will be permitted to park in the Saratoga parking area, which is adjacent to the U.S. Army Museum.

Starting at 10 p.m. Nov. 11 and continuing until 6 a.m. Nov. 13, security check points will be set up around the hotel. One central point of entry and exit to the Hale Koa Hotel will

be established. Only registered guests, hotel staff and other authorized personnel will be granted access to the hotel area during this time.

The Hale Koa Hotel swimming pools and beach front areas will be closed all day Nov 12.

Street access to and from the Hale Koa will also

be impacted. The streets near the hotel most affected will be Ala Moana Boulevard, Kalakaua Avenue, Saratoga Road, Kalia Road, Lewers Street and Beach Walk Road. Portions of these streets may be closed or have restricted access at varying times during APEC sessions.

Town hall speaker on Dec. 5 will meet Air Force and Navy civilians

Paige Hinkle-Bowles, the principal director, assistant secretary of defense for civilian personnel policy and a member of the senior executive service, will conduct a town hall meeting at 2:30 p.m. Dec. 5 at the Hickam Officer's Club for all Air Force and Navy civilians.

In her role, she directly supports the deputy assistant secretary for civilian personnel policy.

The purpose of the town hall discussion is to meet with Air Force and Navy civilians and share current civilian personnel policy issues and challenges.

This will be an opportu-

nity for the civilian personnel workforce to hear firsthand what is happening at the senior level regarding the complex challenges facing civilian personnel and to voice any concerns. Attendance by civilian personnel from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam is highly encouraged.

KHON (FOX) TV 2 Hawaii Navy News upcoming segments

- Nov. 17 – Pearl Harbor Day 70th Anniversary
- Nov. 24 – Thanksgiving (no show)
- Dec. 1 – Tower lighting at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam
- Dec. 8 – Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard
- Dec. 15 – Toys for Tots
- Dec. 22 – Boot Camp for New Dads

(The segments currently air between 6:20 and 6:30 a.m. each Thursday. Previous segments can be viewed at <http://www.bit.ly/KHONNavy>)
 Got a story for KHON Hawaii Navy News?
 Email editor@hookelenews.com or call Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs at 473-2875.
 Stories must have a Navy tie and be of interest to the general public.

Key Spouse: the glue that holds deployed families together

Lt. Byron T. Walls

All Key Spouses were publicly recognized at Honolulu City Hall and at the University of Hawaii vs. Utah State game by Honolulu Mayor Peter Carlisle, Brig. Gen. Joseph Kim, and Honolulu Navy League President Mel Ing and Rep. K. Mark Takai with a plaque and a check totaling \$500 donated from Oceanic Time Warner.

This year's recipients of Hawaii's Outstanding Military Spouse Awards Program at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam are Malia Clemons and Emilia Sanchez-Polite. They functioned as the volunteer communication and organizational focal points for units that



were, or still are, deployed in the theater of hostile operations during the calendar year 2011.

This initiative has honors outstanding spouses of service members from all branches of the military. The program has been sponsored by the Hawaii Navy League for the past eight years.

Polite, a 647th Security Forces Squadron Key Spouse, assisted family members with quality-of-life issues and promoted programs and services designed to benefit the families. She was the conduit between the unit and the family members, which allowed for seamless communications and support. Doing so gave service members

peace of mind while they carrying out their duties on deployment.

Clemons, Navy Operational Support Center's Key Spouse, personally contacted each deployed Sailor's family monthly by phone and provided monthly updates via email regarding Tri-care program updates, Individual Augmentee Connection Newsletters, scholarship opportunities and other information beneficial to Navy families. Clemons, a Navy spouse of 19 years, volunteered for the ombudsman program.

"I have a deep love for our military and I thrive in taking care of others, so when I was approached four years ago to consider becoming an ombudsman, it was a per-

fect way for me to serve our great country."

Clemons attributed her success as an ombudsman to "having a command support team that works together."

"Having worked for four different commanding officers, it was equally important that the Sailor's families are a priority," she said.

Others honored were: U.S. Army - Kimberly Seech; U.S. Coast Guard - Margaret "Maggie" Graves; United States Marine Corps - Alisha Perez; Hawaii Air National Guard - Kymberly Kim; Hawaii Army National Guard - Chanelle Cadiz; United States Pacific Command - Nancy Cutlip

JBPHH Airman earns Purple Heart in line of duty

Continued from A-1

ness." Henry had just joined the 2-27th Infantry Battalion, Charlie Company, in Kunar Province, following three months working with an Army brigade further south. While deployed, Henry and his fellow tactical air control party Airmen were direct liaisons to the Army and all their battle staff on airpower – the experts on close air support.

Any time the base or troops on the ground are in direct contact with enemy fire, TACPs get aircraft on station, find the target, and execute the ground commander's guidance to drop bombs, he explained. He knew when he got there that this was a "kinetic" area – an area of operations close to the now-famous Observation Post Restrepo.

The team of 33 – Henry, 31 Soldiers and an interpreter – hiked 4,000 meters up a mountain throughout the night Aug. 11 and created defensive fighting positions (DFPs), anticipating some contact with the enemy. By morning, the 24-

year-old Airman and his comrades began exploring the area by daylight. Some roving Apaches let Henry know there were Taliban about 100 meters to the north, in terrain that was impossible for them to approach.

"We started getting tactical reporting that some people in the village had noticed we were up there," he said. "About 45 minutes later, we started getting contact."

Soon they were being attacked from 360 degrees – from the valleys to the east and west, from the ridgeline to the north, and from the village below.

"We got some information on where we were getting shot from, and I put down a couple GBU-38s to take out those targets," Henry recalled. "At first, I was controlling all the aircraft – we had Apaches, Kiowas and F-15s on station and I was completely task-saturated."

By then, the forward-operating base they had come from was aware of the fact that they were taking fire and were also shooting

120-millimeter mortars at the enemy positions. They were in the thick of it, with heavy enemy contact coming from only 100 meters away.

"The bullets were coming everywhere; there was nowhere we could go," said the New York native.

They decided to move 50 meters south, back to the DFPs. Simultaneously, tactical reporting came down that the enemy had realized Henry was the one calling in the air strikes.

"Shoot the big guy," was what they said – and Henry, at six-foot-three and 240 pounds, knew he had to get somewhere safe. He sprinted for cover, with bullets whizzing past his head and pinged the earth next to his feet. But ducking behind a bush wasn't quite sufficient – the Taliban sniper found him and fired, hitting him in his dominant hand.

This was only an hour and a half after the fighting began. Running for a DFP, Henry dropped his pack and ducked inside – happy to discover the Soldier in there happened to be a

medic. Enduring the searing pain of quick clot powder – used to cauterize the open wound – and using his left hand to operate, Henry continued calling in air strikes for seven and a half hours.

He and the Soldiers with him had run out of water earlier in the morning. The fighters above him were running out of fuel and had to return to the FOB. For about 20 minutes, they had no close air support and relied entirely on their own ammunition and bullets from a couple helicopters to suppress the enemy. They were getting hit heavily, and he and the medic were a lone target for the sniper.

Meanwhile, Senior Airman Chris Tamblin and Staff Sgt. Salim Charania, two 25th ASOS JTACs from JBPHH, were back at the FOB, keeping the battle staff informed of the situation. Henry had confirmed he was shot early on, and everyone was waiting with baited breath, hoping they would all make it out OK.

Darkness fell. The Taliban had quit firing for a while because they had so

many casualties, and under the cover of the night, Henry and those with him "beat feet" back down the mountain. A hike that had taken four hours going up took only an hour and a half coming down.

"I only got shot in the hand – my legs were fine," Henry said with a laugh, acknowledging that running down the side of a mountain, while injured, after a nine-hour firefight without food or water was quite a feat. "When you want to stay alive, your body will do some amazing things," he said.

He was medically evacuated to Bagram Air Base for surgery and then to a base in Southwest Asia, where he received a Purple Heart and two and a half weeks of physical therapy. He then returned to Kunar Province to finish his tour of duty.

"I wanted to go back," he said. "I wouldn't have returned [to the United States] even if they had told me I could go back. I wanted to go back to the fight."

He credited his home

unit for giving him good training with the fact that he was able to continue to do his job, essentially saving the men on his team, in spite of an injury and in an environment that was so chaotic.

"If you train enough, and you take your training seriously, it becomes second nature," he said. "Once the bullets started flying, I immediately fell back to my training, and I knew exactly what I had to do."

Doing that job, as they're trained to do it, is the essence of being a TACP.

"But when you get down to where the rubber meets the road, we're right there on the seam between blue and green with the Army. That seam, often times, is the front line," Nugent said.

"We're right there, watching it happen. When we talk about the significance of every Airman that is supported in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation New Dawn, it's important to remember the level of sacrifice that Airmen contribute," Nugent said.