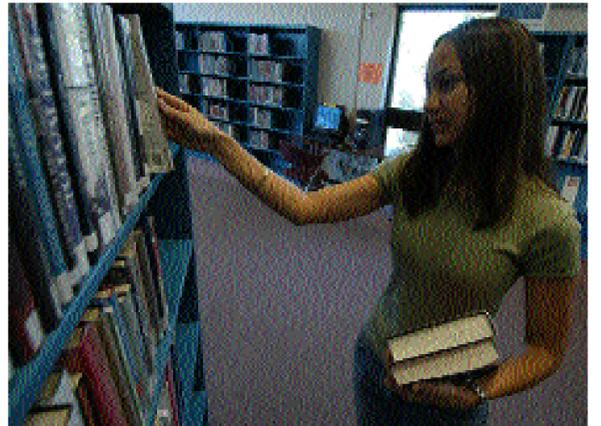




Melissa Brittain, a library assistant at the Salt Lake-Moanalua branch library, sorts books for shelving.

The Hawai'i State Library ...

A ready source of information for Sailors, civilians, families



Kristine Walden, a supervisory library assistant, shelves books at the Salt Lake-Moanalua library. Ordinarily, student assistants shelf the books for the library assistants.

Story and photos by JO1
Daniel J. Calderón
Editor

For some, the library is a place only seen as they drive by on their way to somewhere else. Others have discovered the numerous advantages to having a Hawai'i State Library card and using it on a regular basis.

The library here in Hawai'i is different from libraries back on the mainland in a number of ways. One main difference is the borrow and return policy.

"If you check out materials from one library in the system, you can return it to any other library," said Duane E. Wenzel, branch manager for the Salt Lake-Moanalua branch. "For example, if you're vacationing on the Big Island and you check out a book and bring it back home with you to Oahu, you can just return it to any library here."

Wenzel said this provides library patrons with more convenience. In addition, customers can either go to a library or go online and reserve materials from other libraries. Once the material is reserved, the library system will deliver it to the branch of the patron's choice. Once the material is received, the library will send the patron a notice so the patron can go

Oahu Library hours

The listed libraries are closest to Navy facilities on the island.

Hawai'i State Library
• T, F, Sat: 9-5; W: 10-5;
Th: 9-8; Sun: M.
Closed

Aiea branch
• M, T, W, Sat: 10-5;
Th: 12-8; F, Sun:
Closed

Kaneohe branch
• M, T, Th, Sun: 10-5;
W: 12-8; F, Sat:
Closed

Milliani branch
• M, W: 2-8; T, Th,
Sat: 11-5; F, Sun:
Closed

Pearl City branch
• M, T: 12-8; W, Th: 9-5;
Sun: 10-5; F, Sat:
Closed

Salt Lake-Moanalua branch
• M, F: 9-5; T, W, Th:
12-7; Sat, Sun:
Closed

Wahiawa branch
• M, W: 9-5; T, Th: 12-8;
F: 9-3; Sat, Sun:
Closed

For more information on offerings from Hawai'i State Public Libraries, visit the Hawai'i State Library at www.librarieshawaii.org or call 586-3621.

and pick up his or her material.

Another beneficial feature for patron's is the ability to renew books over the phone. Patrons don't have to actually go to any branch if their materials are coming due. Wenzel said they can call in to the branch from which they borrowed their materials, give the librarian their card number and renew their materials.

"You just have to make sure you have your library card handy," Wenzel said.

There are also programs in place for families. The Salt Lake branch hosts a storytime from 10:30 to 11 a.m. on Fridays. There, kids listen to nursery rhymes and songs.

Not all the advantageous features are at the branches. Wenzel pointed out several features on the library system's Web site, which is at www.librarieshawaii.org.

"A lot of people aren't aware of the



Nicholas Agao, a library assistant, checks a DVD out to a library patron at the Salt Lake-Moanalua Library.

online databases we have," Wenzel said.

The databases vary in range from biographies to auto repair to test taking books.

"In our online testing and education reference center, we have tests like the post office test, the ASVAB and police exams," Wenzel began. "We have materials so individuals can practice and study for their tests. We also have material on the SATs, CLEPs, and PRAXIS for teachers."

The library saves the latest editions of the testing books online because sometimes the physical books at the branches may not be the latest or patrons might not be able to get to a branch.

Patrons can also search the library's available books database to see if the library has a particular book, DVD or music CD. There is no charge for borrowing books for the standard 21-day loan period. Hot picks best-sellers can only be borrowed for up to a week at a time.

DVDs and CDs cost \$1 per week to borrow for library cardholders.

For military stationed in Hawai'i, there is no charge to receive a library card. However, anyone 18 and older who loses a card will have to pay \$10 for a replacement. Once individuals have a card, they can go online and access their library card account. Wenzel feels military members and their families are an important part of the library community.

"For us, the military is one of our primary audiences," Wenzel said. "When we order books, we have to keep the military in mind."

Although there are specific rules established for library services, like Internet usage, Wenzel feels sometimes the rules can be bent.

"We sometimes get younger military members coming in here wanting to access their e-mail account, but they don't have a card," said Wenzel. "We try to accommodate them. I understand the situation they're in. They're far from home, some for the first time, and they're here serving our country, it's not like they're staying on for a long time or anything. They just want to have some connection to home."

Once they finish, Wenzel encourages the members to get a library card so the Sailors can return to use the library's other facilities.

"The military members I've seen are really good patrons," Wenzel said. "They follow the rules, pay their fines when they have to. Every one I've seen has been very cordial."

Go online and visit www.librarieshawaii.org for more information on the Hawai'i State Library system.

Photo Composite by P102



Commentary

Focus on Fun

JO1 Daniel J. Calderón, Editor



daniel.j.calderon@navy.mil

Atlantis is in Hawai'i

Some of you may be surprised by that headline, but I swear it's true. Atlantis is right here in Honolulu. Now, before you go all to pieces, it's not the legendary lost city that was supposed to have sunk beneath the waves thousands of years ago. I'm talking about Atlantis Submarines.

Atlantis makes several runs a day from a pier on the beach outside the Hilton Hawaiian Village. You can contact Information Tickets and Tours to get your tickets in advance. Go to www.greatlife-hawaii.com to get the number of the office closest to you. When you head out for your adventure, you can either park at the Hilton's lot and get up to three hours of validated parking or you can park at the Hale Koa parking garage. With your DoD identification, parking there is only \$1 an hour.

Okay, I chose to park at the Hale Koa because I figured I would be taking a little longer than the three hours. They advise you to get to the ticket booth at the Hilton about half an hour before boarding time. Being a bit overzealous, I got there almost an hour before boarding time.

When I went out to the pier, I and my fellow aquanauts met the ship which would take us to meet our submarines. The only Navy person in uniform this particular morning, I attracted some stares. However, once I assured people I had nothing to do with the operation of the vessel, I think they were more at ease.

We spent a short boat ride watching a safety video and were all excited to watch the small submersible rise out of the ocean on our starboard side. With no real fanfare, we descended into the 48-person submarine.

Our captain, Kekua Keli'i, was very helpful. I have to say he seemed very confident as he piloted the craft down to depths of about 120 feet and around various submerged obstacles.

Desmond, our narrator for the journey, was more informed than I could ever hope

to be. I'm no real wildlife person. I couldn't tell the difference between a grouper and a cod unless someone told me. He was able to visually sift through schools of fish and point out the names of each one.

The journey itself was incredible.

There really are no bad seats aboard the Atlantis submarine. The tour guides passed around and showed us a sample piece of glass as an example of what we were looking through. The glass was thicker than my arm and Desmond informed us it had the effect of magnifying our view. I imagine it had the same effect on any fish who were looking in-so our faces must have been monstrous.

During the trip, we cruised by four artificial reefs put in place by Atlantis to attract marine life that had been dispersed by natural disasters over the years. We passed pyramid style reefs, reefs designed by the Asahi company in Japan, two sunken airliners and the YO-257 — a former Navy oiler— and the St. Pedro. We also passed the Pali O Pono, an ancient reef formed by lava flowing beneath the sea.

All the while, Desmond talked to us about the wonders of the deep outside our 3.25-inch windows. I can't speak for everyone else, but I was in awe as I watched spotted eagle rays gliding past the windows and Hawaiian sea turtles, or honu, moving gracefully through the water. I marveled at the explosion of color when we reached the hulking oiler with all the assorted fishes living out their lives among the sunken ship.

I was a bit jealous that everyone was able to go through their dive log and mark off the fishes as they saw them while I was making notes for my column, but I enjoyed every second I spent under the sea. When the ride was over, I was again envious — this time for the people who were going down.

Next time, I'll tell you about how I discovered the Mokele Mbembe in the heart of the Congo, but that's another story ...

USS Frank Cable donates to USS Missouri Memorial Association

JO2 Devin Wright

Staff Writer

Chief petty officers aboard USS Frank Cable donated more than a thousand dollars to the Chief Petty Officer Legacy Center.

USS Frank Cable (AS 40) chief petty officers donated a check to the USS Missouri Memorial Association April 15 at the memorial.

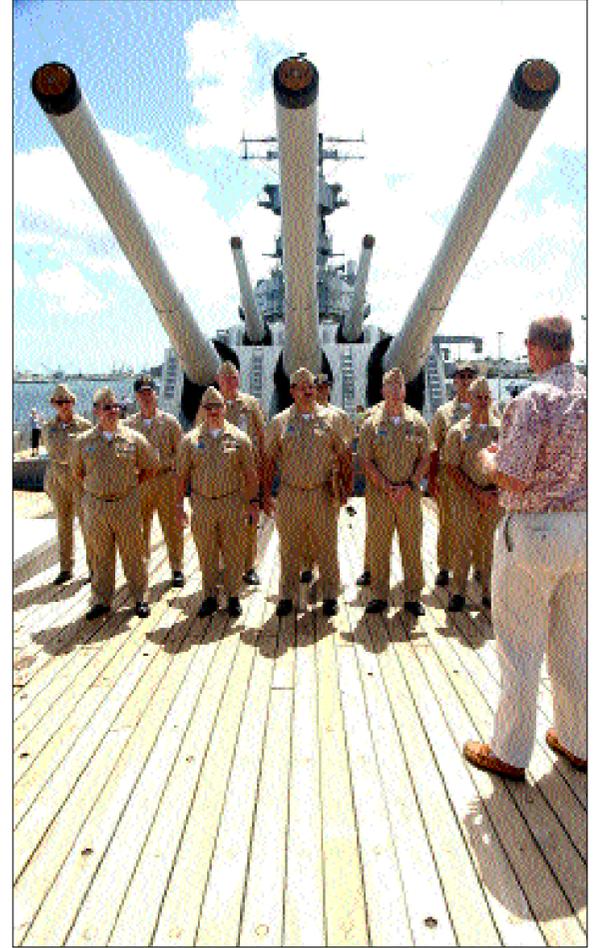
The purpose of the donation is to help fund the Chief Petty Officers Legacy Center, is currently being designed and developed at the memorial.

The center will give visitors an opportunity to walk through the history of chief petty officers.

"The focus of the new center is to show visitors that the chief petty officer is the backbone of the Navy," said Navy Capt. (ret.) Donald Hess, chief operating officer and president of the USS Missouri Memorial Association. "In many ways they make our ships go and we want to make sure that people understand that and can see that this new center visitors will be able to do just that. This center is our accolade to the chief petty officer and a way of saying 'you're the ones that make it happen,'" he said.

The chiefs aboard USS Frank Cable raised the money by holding raffles and selling t-shirts.

"This center is a great opportunity for the public to learn about the chief community," said Chief Interior Communications Electrician(SW) Barry Muller assigned to USS Frank Cable. "To my knowledge this is the first time the Frank Cable has visited Hawai'i and we thought it would be a nice gesture to make a donation to a



U.S. Navy photo by JO2 Devin Wright

Navy Capt. (ret.) Donald Hess addresses chiefs assigned to USS Frank Cable (AS 40) aboard the Battleship Missouri Memorial. The chiefs donated more than \$1,000 to the Chief Legacy Center. The center is scheduled to be complete in September or October.

project we believe in," he said.

In addition to the \$1000 donation the chiefs also donated a memorial plaque to be displayed in the new center.

The Chief Petty Officers

Legacy Center is scheduled to be complete in September or October at a cost of a quarter of a million dollars. Donations can be made at www.ussmis-souri.org.

STORY IDEAS? Email: hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com **Hawaii Navy News**

Navy family opens its home to international exchange students

Karen S. Spangler

Assistant Editor

Learning about another country and another culture through the eyes of a foreign exchange student has been an ongoing experience for Lt. Cmdr. Bill May, assigned to the Naval Station Pearl Harbor Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility, and his family.

Lt. Cmdr. May is currently in Hawai'i, but his family won't be moving here until July.

The May family is currently hosting 17-year-old Mariya "Masha" Lesiva, a student from Uzbekistan. But this is the eighth time that the family has extended its hospitality to a visitor from another country through the International Hospitality Center's (IHC) cultural student exchange program.

Lesiva has lived with the family since late August and will continue her stay through June. During the time she has been with the family, she has learned about the American way of life, including an introduction to fast food restaurants. According to the Lt. Cmdr.'s wife, Rachel, Masha has become involved in acting, drama and musical theater at her high school.

As an integral part of the May family unit, Masha has also had the opportunity to change roles – from the youngest child in her family back home to the "older sister" to the two girls in the May family, 14-year-old Katarina and 11-year-old Kira. There have been other new experiences for the visitor from Uzbekistan, such as making pizza together as a family.

At the same time, the experience has provided the May family with an opportunity to learn about other countries and cultures.

"It's a neat way to learn about the rest of the world. It has helped my children in exposing them to other countries, not just where it is on the map," Rachel May explained. "It has broadened their horizons."

"We enjoy teenagers and seeing how they think in other countries," she added. May also noted another advantage to hosting exchange students. "It's a way to travel without leaving your home," she said.

The May family has been hosting exchange students since 1994 during a previous tour in Hawai'i, when they opened their home to a girl from Brazil and a girl from Spain. Over the past 10 years, they have hosted students from Kyrgyzstan, Azerbaijan and Germany.

"We have had great girls and have been extremely blessed," she said, reflecting on the exchange students that the family has hosted over the years. She offered a piece of advice. "You lay out what the rules are and expectations right from the very beginning – you can't change the rules."

She explained one of the hardest things about being a host family is the goodbye when the student must return home.

"Separation at the end of the year is a killer. It's a hard time," she offered.

The May family, like many of the host families, keeps in touch with the students long after they have returned home.

"Thank goodness for email. And some have been back for visits," she said.

Their daughter, Katarina, hopes to be an exchange student in Germany during her junior year in high school. Rachel said the family also looks forward to hosting more exchange students in the future after they get settled into their new home in



Photo by Rachel May

Under an International Hospitality Center program, exchange students from foreign countries live with host families in America. An exchange student from Uzbekistan and her host sisters model island-style dresses at the home of the host parents, Lt. Cmdr. Bill May and his wife.

Hawai'i.

Barbara Bancel, executive director of the International Hospitality Center in Honolulu, explained the role of the students involved in the academic exchange program. She stressed that the students are "not guests, but members of the family."

"They are involved in the family as a real family member and do chores, take part in family activities, etc.," she explained.

Bancel talked about the benefits of the exchange program for both the students and their host families.

"For the family, it's an opportunity to take part in an educational and cultural exchange within their own home," Bancel said. "It offers exposure of adults and kids in the family to foreign languages, customs, history and geography. It's really living and learning," she noted.

"It's firsthand learning

that has a positive effect on all family members," she added.

According to Bancel, there are other lessons learned by the host family and its exchange student. "They also learn flexibility, adaptability, increased maturity and person to person diplomacy," she said.

But one of the most important and far-reaching aspects of the exchange student program is its impact on not just the present time, but on the future.

"It really changes the perspective of a whole future generation and influences a positive rapport with other countries and the United States," remarked Bancel.

"The host family is gaining a new family member and a friendship that goes on for a lifetime," she said, noting that "it involves the whole family – both the host family and the student's family."

Bancel explained the stu-

dent's role in the exchange program are very carefully selected and that there is an exchange student code of conduct. "IHC provides ongoing counseling and support – the host family is not alone," she emphasized.

"Hosting is an opportunity to share human values and teach by example. The students set very good examples for American families," she said.

Bancel has worked with numerous military families and sees hosting an exchange student as a wonderful opportunity.

"This is an incredible opportunity for military families. Hosting a foreign student is an extremely positive way of filling the void when a military member is deployed," said Bancel. She explained serving as a host family is not a huge expense and doesn't require a family to be wealthy or live in a mansion.

"Just have warmth and

caring and add an extra potato or a cup of rice to the pot," she remarked.

She said military families, such as the May family, are a wonderful example of a military family that began serving as a host family while here in Hawai'i and continued to be involved with the program after moving to the mainland. She offered thanks to the military families who serve as host families for the academic and cultural exchange program.

"As a member of the Hawai'i, community, we are deeply grateful for the ongoing help and support of the military families for providing the opportunity for such outstanding students to spend a year in Hawai'i," she said.

The International Hospitality Center has existed in Hawai'i since 1976. Host families are currently being sought to provide homes for exchange students for the 2005-2006 academic year.

Students in 2005-2006 will include participants from Spain, Germany, Hungary, Poland, Vietnam, Brazil, Japan, several South American countries and other European nations. In addition, 20 Freedom Support Act/Future Leaders Exchange students from Russia and the independent states will be placed in Hawai'i.

Host families are also needed for short-term hospitality and homestays from two days to four weeks in duration. The IHC is Hawai'i's community-based, volunteer organization which provides programming and hospitality services to government and foundation grantees and sponsored international students.

For more information, call Barbara Bancel at IHC at 521-3554.

MWR holds Springfest 2005



Photo by Amiee Huepenbecker

Molding, scooping, pouring – a family member demonstrates there is no right or wrong way to play with colored sand. The table was so inviting, even the adults couldn't resist sifting their fingers through the colorful sand.



Photo by Amiee Huepenbecker

A family member bounces down a 40-foot inflatable slide. Hundreds of Sailors and family members attended the event, which is held annually.



Photo by Amiee Huepenbecker

A family member and her daughter play a giant version of Connect Four at Springfest 2005 sponsored by Morale, Welfare and Recreation. The event was held at Ward Field and featured games, bounce houses, live entertainment, including jugglers, a puppet show and dancers.

MWR

Movie Call

Sharkey Theater
Naval Station Pearl Harbor
(473-0726)

FRIDAY

7:00 p.m. Million Dollar Baby (PG 13)

SATURDAY

No movies scheduled due to Body Building Contest

SUNDAY

2:30 p.m. Because of Winn Dixie (PG)

4:45 p.m. The Pacifier (PG)

6:45 p.m. Cursed (PG 13)

THURSDAY

7:00 p.m. Man of the House (PG 13)

\$3 adults; \$1.50 children (6-11)

Memorial Theater

Hickam Air Force Base
(449-2239)

FRIDAY

7:00 p.m. The Ring 2 (PG 13)

SATURDAY

2:00 p.m. Ice Princess (G)

7:00 p.m. The Ring 2 (PG 13)

SUNDAY

2:00 p.m. Ice Princess (G)

7:00 p.m. Hostage (R)

WEDNESDAY

7:00 p.m. Hostage (R)

THURSDAY

7:00 p.m. The Ring 2 (PG 13)

\$3 adults; \$1.50 children (6-11)

Sgt. Smith Theater

Schofield Barracks
(624-2585)

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

7:00 p.m. Diary of a Mad Black Woman (PG 13)

SUNDAY AND WEDNESDAY

7:00 p.m. Million Dollar Baby (PG 13)

THURSDAY

7:00 p.m. Be Cool (PG 13)

\$3 adults; \$1.50 children (6-11)

Editor's note: Every effort has been made to provide the most up-to-date information at the time of publication. However, scheduling of these events is subject to change. It is recommended that you call the contact numbers for the individual events to determine whether or not the activity will be held.

FAST LUNCH LEAGUE

Naval Station Pearl Harbor bowling center will offer a lunchtime bowling extravaganza every Tuesday. The Fast Lunch League will be held **through May 24**. No team is required, just come join the games. The cost is \$9 per day and includes two games, shoe rental, lunch and drink. For more information, call 473-2651.

ROCK-PAPER-SCISSORS COMPETITION

A rock-paper-scissors competition, or Jan Ken Po, will be held every Saturday in April at the Country Bar at Club Pearl. The first ever Jan Ken Po champion will be crowned **April 30**. Doors will open at 8:30 p.m. For more information, call 473-1743.

21ST ANNUAL ARMED FORCES BODY BUILDING CHAMPIONSHIP

Navy Region Hawai'i MWR will host the 21st Annual Armed Forces Body Building Championship on **April 23** at Sharkey Theater. The event will feature active duty and military affiliated personnel and their family members from all branches of service. The event will take place in two segments. Pre-judging is at 9 a.m. (spectator fee is \$5). The evening show is at 7 p.m. (spectator fee is \$10). The cost to compete is \$20. Entry forms are available at all military fitness centers and at www.greatlifehawaii.com. For more

information, call 473-0784 or stop by the MWR athletics office.

WEIGHT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

A Weight Management Program will be offered **May 3-June 9** at Bloch Arena. Classes will be held from 6-7:30 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. The cost is \$75 per person and space is limited; those who would like to attend are encouraged to register now. The registration deadline is **May 1**. The program includes a physical assessment, nutritional education and a fitness specialist to guide you through cardiovascular and weight training exercises, flexibility and strength conditioning. Participants will learn to incorporate heart rate monitor training for effective results and learn behavior modification skills to keep the weight off for a longer, healthier lifestyle. For more information, call 473-0793.

CATERED EXPERIENCE

Catered Experience is currently offering a summer special for a 10 percent discount off certain party menus. The special is good through August. The team of professionals at Catered Experience can lend their expertise in planning a special occasion with menus, locations and ideas for weddings, conferences, picnics, retirement celebrations and more. Customers can also receive a 50 percent discount when ordering a decorated sheet cake. The offer is good for all authorized patrons. Visit www.greatlifehawaii.com for menu details or call 473-1706.

DEEP-SEA FISHING

Do some deep-sea fishing aboard the "Coreene C," a 47-foot sport fishing boat that launches from Rainbow Bay Marina. A full day

exclusive charter is only \$520 (nine hours, six passenger max). A shared charter is \$105 per person (four-passenger minimum). A half day charter is \$360. Fees include all equipment. Bring snacks and beverages. For more information, call 473-0279.

KIDS CLUB

Want to work out but don't have childcare? Kids Club drop-in childcare is available by professional trained childcare providers at the fitness center at Bloch Arena. Hours of care are: 8:15-10:15 a.m., Monday-Friday; 4:15-7:15 p.m., Monday-Thursday; and 8:45-11:45 a.m. Slots are available on a first come, first served basis. For more information, call 473-0793.

ADULT SAILING CLASSES

Free adult sailing classes are available to all active duty, retirees, DoD employees and family members at Rainbow Bay Marina. Classes are offered every week. The schedule is as follows: 8 a.m.-noon Monday through Thursday, 4:30-6:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 1-5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. For more information, call 473-0279.

YOUTH STRENGTH PROGRAM

A youth strength program for ages 10-13 is held from 3-4 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at Bloch Arena. The cost of the program is \$25 per month. The workout includes a cardiovascular warm-up, strength exercises, stretching techniques and nutritional tips. Registration requires a healthy history and PARFQ form. For more information, call 473-0793.

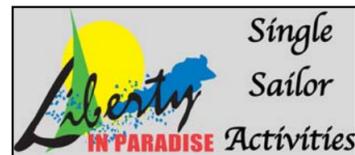
LUNCHTIME YOGA

Take a lunchtime yoga session at Bloch Arena on Tuesdays and

Thursdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Improve your flexibility, strength and stamina while increasing your feelings of calm and well-being. The cost is one aerobic ticket. For more information, call 473-0793 or visit www.greatlifehawaii.com.

MASSAGES BY "THE LOTUS TOUCH"

Want to improve circulation, increase flexibility, release muscle tension and receive a greater sense of well-being? Try "The Lotus Touch." Patrons can enjoy a hot and cold stone massage which includes face, neck and shoulders. A 75-minute treatment costs \$90. Other treatments are available for as low as \$15. Appointments are available at Bloch Arena and Power Point Fitness Centers. For more information, call Ruby at 386-4812.



- **April 22:** Paradise Cove luau, \$38, 4 p.m.
- **April 23:** Surfing lesson, \$3, 10 a.m.
- **April 24:** X-Treme jet skiing, \$45, 10 a.m.
- **April 27:** Ping-pong tournament, free, 6:30 p.m., Beeman Center.

Weekly events:

- Sunday:** Chess tournament, 6:30 p.m.
- Monday:** WWE wrestling, 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday:** 8-Ball tournament - 7 p.m.
- Wednesday:** Game show - 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday:** 9-Ball Pool tournament - 7 p.m.

Community Calendar

To have your activity or event featured in the Community Calendar, e-mail your requests to hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com or fax 473-2876. Deadline is Thursday for the following week's issue. Items will run on a space available basis.

Navy Region Hawai'i will host its second annual **Earth Day Fair** from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. **April 23** in the main rotunda of the NEX at the Mall at Pearl Harbor. Learn about Hawai'i's environmental treasures and how everyone can help protect and preserve them through various interactive exhibits. There will be games, activities and prizes for the children. For more information, call Terri Kojima at the CNRH Public Affairs Office at 473-2926 or 473-2888.

The **2005 Aloha Jewish Chapel Passover Seder** will be held **April 23** at the Hale Koa Hotel. Doors will open at 6 p.m. and the Seder will begin shortly after 6:30 p.m. This year's Seder is sponsored by the Aloha Jewish Chapel Trust Fund. Donations are greatly appreciated for future good works related to the Hawaiian military community. Applications for the 2005 Jewish Passover Seder can be obtained from the Naval Station Pearl Harbor chaplains' office. Reservations are accepted on a first-come basis. Space is limited to 140 people. Priority will be given to active duty and retired military service members and their immediate family members. However, civilians will not be "bumped" to accommodate late requests by service members. Please send your registration form and payment (checks only, no cash) to Robert Landis, 98-857D Iho Place, Aiea, HI 96701. The cost for this event is as follows: Active duty military and their dependents E5 and below are guests. All other active duty military and their dependents will be charged \$29 per person. Any other participants will be charged \$45 per person. For more information, call 473-3971.

Navy Hale Keiki School will host a silent and verbal auction from 5-9 p.m. **April 23** at the Hickam Officer's Club. This year's theme is "All That Jazz." Entertainment and heavy hors d'oeuvres will be provided. For tickets or for more information, call 423-1727.

A special invitation has been extended to military service members and their guests to an exclusive presentation of an award-winning **ballroom dance showcase** presented by the Brigham Young University (BYU) Ballroom Dance Company on **April 26** at the BYU-Hawai'i Cannon Activities Center in Laie. Showtime is at 7:30 p.m. The event will feature a variety of dances, including foxtrots and waltzes reminiscent of a royal ball, playful 1950s sock hop-style swing dances, and dances of Latin persuasion. In August 2004, the dancers competed in the Embassy Ball, an annual ballroom dance competition in Irvine, Calif., winning the title of United States National Formation Champions - a title they have held consecutively since 1982. The Ballroom Dance Company has traveled to England to compete in the British Open Ballroom Competition in Blackpool, England and has captured 18 first place trophies. Debuting at this competition in 1971, the BYU team became the first United States team to win a first place trophy. The group has performed in 22 cities throughout the United States as well as throughout Europe, Asia, Australia, the South Pacific, Canada, the Far East, Russia, China, Mongolia, South Korea and South Africa. Tickets are \$5. For more information or to obtain tickets, call 293-3545.

A **Health Promotions Basic Course** has been scheduled for 8 a.m.-4 p.m. **April 26-27** at The Banyans. The course is intended to prepare Sailors (E-5 to O-3) at individual fleet surface, submarine and shore commands to coordinate, deliver and evaluate a comprehensive health

promotion program. The HP basics course fulfills the training requirement for the "green h" award force commander annual health promotion unit award. Individuals who are assigned as health promotion program coordinators or collateral duty officers should attend. For more information or to register, call 471-WELL.

The **USS Lake Erie Ohana Support Group** will meet at 6:30 p.m. **April 28** at the Tea House at Naval Station Pearl Harbor (located across from the Boutiki). For more information, contact Liz at plumeria04@verizon.net or call 454-2440.

Celebrate the **May Day weekend** with performances by local group Na Leo Pilimehana at 4 p.m. **April 30**. There will be additional artist appearances by: Kim Taylor Reece, noon-2 p.m.; Gary Oda, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.; and a ukelele clinic with Paul Lindley, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Host families are currently being sought in the state of Hawai'i to provide homestays during the academic year 2005-2006 for high school aged students (male and female) under the auspices of the **International Hospitality Center**. Hosts may be located on Oahu or any neighbor island. Students will, in general, attend the local public school in the district in which the hosts reside. Several private independent schools also offer scholarships for IHC exchange students. Hosts may choose sex, nationality, and age (15-17) and work closely with the International Hospitality Center in the selection process. Students in 2005-2006 include participants from Spain, Germany, Hungary, Poland, Vietnam, Brazil, Japan, several South American countries and other European nations. In addition, 20 Freedom Support Act/Future Leaders Exchange students from Russia and the Independent States will be placed in Hawai'i.

On full scholarships funded by the U.S. Congress, these FLEX students are rigorously tested and are the most highly qualified exchange students. The International Hospitality Center is Hawai'i's community-based, volunteer organization providing programming and hospitality services to government and foundation grantees and sponsored international exchange students. Host families are also sought for short-term hospitality and homestays from two days to four weeks in duration. Summer 2005 will bring short-term participants from Japan, Korea, Tahiti and other nations. For more information, Barbara Bancel, executive director of the International Hospitality Center, at (808) 521-3554.

The **American Red Cross**, Hickam Service Center is seeking volunteers to fill the following positions: chairman of volunteers, records chairman and publicity chairman. For more information, call the Red Cross office at 449-0166. The office is located at 655 Vickers Ave., building 1105 and is open from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Sea World San Diego is offering free admission throughout 2005 for all active duty military and up to three dependents. For more information, visit their Web site at <http://www.herosalute.com/cavatz/index.html>.

The **USS Chafee Ohana** meets at 7 p.m. the first Tuesday of each month at the community center in Pearl City housing. Child care is provided at a cost of \$2 for the first child and \$1 for each additional child. For more information, call 780-4132 or contact chafeeohana90@yahoo.com

Welcome Baby support group: All expectant and new moms are invited to attend. The group meets twice a month. Children are welcome to attend. For more information or to reserve a spot, call Terri or Susan at 363-1897.



Be Cool: Chili Palmer sees a friend killed, and when he visits the wife of the deceased, he pitches himself as her new business partner, hoping to enter the music industry.

Because of Winn-Dixie: A 10-year-old girl moves to a small town in Florida and adopts a stray dog whom she names after the local supermarket where she finds him.

Cursed: Ellie and her brother Jimmy are on their way home when they get into a car accident. While trying to help the other driver, he is attacked by what Jimmy swears was a "huge man-like wolf."

Diary of a Mad Black Woman: Devoted housewife Helen and Charles have a perfect marriage. Just as Helen begins preparations to celebrate their 20th anniversary, Charles wants to divorce Helen for her best friend.

Hostage: Jeff Talley, a former LAPD hostage negotiator, has moved himself away from his failed career. When a robbery goes wrong in his turf, the three perpetrators move in on an unsuspecting family.

Ice Princess: Casey has never quite fit in. Caught between her fantasy of becoming a figure skater and her strong-willed mother, she can only hope to be like three elite skating prodigies who are ruthlessly competing on the U.S. National circuit.

Man of the House: Texas Ranger Sharp is assigned to protect the only witnesses in the prosecution of a drug kingpin -- a group of cheerleaders.

Million Dollar Baby: See Review

The Pacifier: An undercover agent fails to protect an important government scientist and then agrees to look after the man's five kids when they are suddenly in danger.

The Ring 2: Rachel Keller moves to Astoria, Ore., with her son to escape their memories of what happened in the first film. When a few locals start dying, however, and a strange videotape reappears, Rachel becomes aware that the creepy Samara is back and after Aidan.

JO3 Ryan C. McGinley

Million Dollar Baby

Clint Eastwood's previous effort "Mystic River" was a Shakespearian masterpiece built upon human emotion and character. It went mostly unnoticed though because of a bunch of hobbits and some guy called Gandalf. "Million Dollar Baby" is equally Shakespearian, yet diminishes toward the end of the film, where "Mystic River" shines. "Million Dollar Baby" is the story of Frankie Dunn, an aging boxing trainer who holds fighters back from their title shot, for fears relatively unknown. Maggie Fitzgerald, who wants Frankie to train her, approaches him quite early in the film and the bonds and struggles ensue. "Mystic River" was in its generalist sense, a story about a murder. But that was only the beginning as it developed into a character study of three boys who turned into men the hard way. "Million Dollar Baby" follows the same path as it is a story about boxing, but becomes much more about the bond between Frankie and Maggie.

Both films are a testament to solid, simple filmmaking, using shadows and light to create a mood, rather than complex camera work. The dialogue is simple yet poignant, and the actors in both films are absolutely fabulous.

There is one difference between the two films though, and that is the ending. The ending of "Mystic River" is brilliant. "Million Dollar Baby's" ending is not. Baby's ending is not exactly what the film is about. Without spoiling it, the ending of the film gets off track from its original purpose and takes a 180-degree turn toward the surreal and unbelievable.

The first two-thirds of "Million Dollar Baby" are a fantastic look at Clint Eastwood's thrilling and brilliant film style. What it lacks is a conclusion that lives up to the suspense and character development it built up. "Baby" is good, maybe even better than good, but it's no "Mystic River."

OVERALL RATING: ★★★★★