

CNIC visits Navy installations in Hawai'i

Story and photo by
MC3 Robert Stirrup

Navy Region Hawai'i
Public Affairs

Vice Adm. Michael Vitale, commander, Naval Installations Command (CNIC), toured various locations to assess the status of the Navy's bases and assets throughout the Hawai'i region on May 7-11.

Vitale visited multiple locations onboard Naval Station (NAVSTA) Pearl Harbor and Pacific Missile Range Facility, Barking Sands, Kauai, including Fleet and Family Services Center, Personnel Support Detachment and bachelor enlisted quarters, among others.

During his time in Hawai'i, Vitale described how he felt about the current readiness of U.S. naval bases and the personnel assigned to them.

"Everywhere I go, I continue to be impressed with the quality of our Sailors, civilians and contractors that take the utmost care of our fleet," said Vitale. "I expect every base around the world to provide the best possible, whether it be overseas or here in the United States."

Vitale also stressed the importance of overcoming challenges in today's Navy.

"We belong to the greatest Navy on the face of the planet," said Vitale. "We'll always encounter challenges, but we'll meet those challenges



A Sailor assigned to Naval Station Pearl Harbor serves lunch to Vice Adm. Michael Vitale, commander, Naval Installations Command, at the Silver Dolphin Bistro Galley. Vitale was accompanied by Capt. Rick Kitchens, commanding officer, Naval Station Pearl Harbor. Vitale visited multiple locations at Naval Station Pearl Harbor and Pacific Missile Range Facility during his tour of Navy installations in Hawai'i.

head on and make sure we're doing the absolute best to dealing with them no matter what they are."

While at NAVSTA Pearl Harbor, Vitale ate lunch and conversed with Sailors at the Silver Dolphin Bistro Galley.

"I think it is great that he came here today to eat with us at the galley," said Culinary Specialist 2nd Class Sacha Hasbrouck, assigned to NAVSTA Pearl Harbor. "It shows that he genuinely cares about all of the Navy's personnel."

Personnel Specialist 1st Class Arthur Brownell, assigned to Personnel Support Detachment Pearl Harbor, said he looked forward to eating lunch with Vitale.

"This is the first time I've had the opportunity to meet

someone with that kind of stature," said Brownell. "It's not every day that you get to sit down, eat and talk with the person who is in charge of all of the Navy's installations."

Vitale is currently touring U.S. naval bases across the

Pacific Fleet and this was his first visit to Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i since taking command of CNIC in January. Vitale served as CNRH and commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific from Aug. 13, 2004 to Aug. 8, 2006.



U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Robert Stirrup

Laura Taylor, secretary of Naval Station Pearl Harbor's front office, is congratulated by Hawai'i Lt. Gov. Duke Aiona and Marine Col. Kirk Bruno, assigned to Defense Information Systems Agency, for being recognized as 'clerical/assistant of the year' during the Federal Executive Board's (FEB) 2009 Excellence in Government Awards ceremony at the Sheraton Waikiki Hotel in Honolulu.

Federal Executive Board recognizes COMPACFLT, CNRH employees

MC3 Robert Stirrup
Navy Region Hawai'i
Public Affairs

MC2 Patrick C. Murray
U.S. Pacific Fleet Public
Affairs

The Honolulu-Pacific Federal Executive Board (FEB) held the 2009 Excellence in Government Awards ceremony to recognize more than 100 government employees at the Sheraton Waikiki Hotel in Honolulu on May 6.

Federal employees assigned to Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i (CNRH) and Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet were among those honored by the

FEB during the ceremony for categories including employer of choice and supervisor of the year, among others.

The theme of the awards luncheon was "Leaders Inspiring a Shared Vision." The FEB recognized employees for their excellence in categories such as leadership, teamwork and community service.

Hawai'i Lt. Gov. Duke Aiona was on hand at the ceremony to present the awards and make opening remarks.

"These awards are to recognize all of the hard working people that have dedicated their time to the government and their depart-

ments," said Aiona. "I want to express my deepest thanks to all who have volunteered their service to their fellow citizens."

"Each year the Honolulu-Pacific Federal Executive Board carries on a tradition of honoring outstanding personnel working for the federal government," said Valerie Martinez, FEB representative. "We recognize and applaud our top federal employees, both military and civilian, in the Pacific region for their outstanding efforts, leadership, contributions and volunteerism."

Capt. Donald Hodge, chief of staff for CNRH and

See FEB, A-8

SEAL dies during training exercise

Naval Special Warfare
Command

Chief Special Warfare Operator (SEAL) Eric F. Shellenberger, 36, died following a diving-related incident during a training exercise in the waters off Bremerton, Wash. on May 7.

Shellenberger was a special warfare operator assigned to SEAL Delivery Vehicle (SDV) Team One at Pearl City, Hawai'i. He and other SDVT-1 members were in Washington conducting SDV training.

An investigation into the incident has been initiated.

During an SDV training dive in the very early morning hours Thursday, Shellenberger encountered difficulties in the water and signaled for an emergency ascent. Upon reaching the surface, he was non-responsive and rescue breathing was administered.

Shellenberger was taken to Keyport pier where regional emergency medical technicians continued rescue efforts. He was then transported to Naval Undersea Warfare Center Division Keyport where heroic advanced life saving efforts (including advanced cardiac life support and treatment in the recompression chamber) continued without success.

"This is a heart-wrenching loss for us and, most assuredly, the Shellenberger family," said Adm. Edward Winters III, commander, Naval Special Warfare Command. "The strength of our small,



Chief Special Warfare Operator (SEAL) Eric F. Shellenberger

close-knit community is in our exceptional personnel. Eric was one such individual. He bravely and willingly accepted the risks inherent in training for and carrying out special operations mission. I extend my deepest sympathy to Eric's family and friends. Please know he will not be forgotten."

Shellenberger enlisted in the Navy on Nov. 30, 1999, after completing more than eight years in the U.S. Marine Corps. He transferred from the Transient Personnel Unit, Great Lakes, Ill. in February 2000 to the Naval Air Technical Training Command, Pensacola, Fla. where he served for two months until he reported to Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL training at Naval Special Warfare Center, Coronado, Calif. in April 2000.

He graduated with BUD/S Class 232 on Jan. 26, 2001 and subsequently reported to Advanced

Training Command in Coronado. Shellenberger earned his Trident following graduation from SEAL Qualification Training on June 29, 2001.

Shellenberger was assigned to SEAL Team One in Coronado and served there from July 2001 to December 2004.

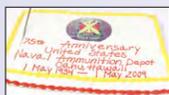
He subsequently served at Naval Special Warfare Group Advanced Training Det. in Virginia Beach, Va. from January to May 2005 and then attended SDV training in Panama City, Fla. from May to July 2005.

Shellenberger reported to SEAL Delivery Team One in Pearl City, Hawai'i in September 2005.

"God bless Eric and his family. He was a true hero, a great American, a great SEAL. Having him under my command twice as a platoon commander and task unit commander was truly a blessing," said Lt. Cmdr. Robert Byford, executive officer of SDVT-1. "Our country is diminished with Eric's passing and I have lost a true, life-long friend. He will be sorely missed by all his teammates and anyone whose life he touched."

Shellenberger completed more than seven combat deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan, including deployments as an assault team leader in Ramadi during the Sunni Awakening in 2006-2007, as well as a combat deployment as a force reconnaissance Marine to Somalia before transferring to the Navy.

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Naval Ammunition Depot celebrates
75th anniversary See page A-2



USS Columbus changes command
See page A-2



Survivors of West Loch remember tragedy
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Pearl Harbor Historic sites free to military
personnel, families on Memorial Day See page B-1

Naval Ammunition Depot celebrates 75th anniversary

Story and photo by
MC3 (AW) Eric J. Cutright

Navy Public Affairs Support
Element West Detachment
Hawai'i

Navy Munitions Command, East Asia Division, celebrated the 75th anniversary of the establishment of the U.S. Naval Ammunition Depot, Oahu, Hawai'i on May 1. The depot is located on the West Loch side of Naval Station Pearl Harbor.

Capt. Debra Bodenstedt, the commanding officer of Navy Munitions Command, East Asia Division, presided over the ceremony.

"In 1934, the Navy and Hawai'i were in the midst of great growth," stated Bodenstedt. "Approximately \$42 million were spent on the development of Pearl Harbor. That would be about \$ 1 billion of today's money. The Naval Ammunition Depot had gone from being under the control of a naval operation base in 1928 to Naval Ammunition Depot on May 1, 1934."

Records indicate that in 1934 there were 6,400 people who worked at the depot. The command was comprised of 1,400 civilians and 5,000 military personnel.

"Moving the ordnance without the modern equipment that we have today required more manual labor and many, many more people," said Bodenstedt, in reference to the amount of personnel the command had initially employed.

"Railcars were used to move the bulk of the ordnance from its assembly at Naval Magazine Lualualei to the depot at West Loch," added Bodenstedt.

Today the command only has 24 military, 10 government service and 76 contracted personnel. With that amount of personnel, the command handles in excess of 20,000 short-



The oldest and youngest members of U.S. Naval Ammunition Depot, Oahu, Hawai'i take part in a cake-cutting ceremony during the 75th anniversary of the command on May 5. The command supplies ordnance to naval forces in the Pacific.

tons of ordnance per year and contributes ordnance support to all U.S. military forces and allies in the Pacific, according to Lt. Cmdr. Jay Gulley, officer-in-charge of Navy Munitions Command, East Asia Division, Detachment Pearl Harbor.

Speaking about the safety of the command during its 75 years, Bodenstedt said, "Handling ordnance is an inherently dangerous profession, but the men and women that have

chosen this to be their profession are highly trained and very safe. That said, there has been only one incident here at Naval Magazine and it is the only one, and that's a testament to the way we do business."

The ceremony concluded with the dedication of a bell from USS Hornet (CV 8) to the command. A cake-cutting ceremony featured the oldest and youngest personnel who have worked at the ammunition depot.



Cmdr. James Doody is piped ashore after being relieved as commanding officer of fast-attack submarine USS Columbus (SSN 762) by Cmdr. David Minyard in a change of command ceremony at Naval Station Pearl Harbor on May 8.

Cmdr. Minyard relieves Cmdr. Doody as commanding officer of USS Columbus

Story and photo by
MC3 Luciano Marano

Commander Submarine Force
U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs
Office

Cmdr. David Minyard relieved Cmdr. James Doody as commanding officer of the Los Angeles-class fast attack submarine USS Columbus (SSN 762) in a change of command ceremony at Naval Station Pearl Harbor on May 8.

Rear Adm. Timothy Giardina, commander, Submarine Group Trident, was the guest speaker and praised Doody and his recent accomplishments on board Columbus.

"Jim (Doody) was chosen to command Columbus because he was the right man for the job," said Giardina. "I am happy that he truly believed his demands were achievable and that he managed to convince every Columbus Sailor that the bar was not set too high to succeed."

Following his remarks, Giardina awarded Doody the Legion of Merit for his "exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding duties during his tour as commanding officer."

Doody reflected on the many successes of his crew. "I don't spend enough time saying 'thank you' to the crew," he said. "When it comes down to it, everything is about this ship and the crew and they do have my gratitude."

Capt. Christopher Kaiser, com-

mander, Submarine Squadron Seven (CSS-7), spoke of the crew's improvement and accomplishment's during Doody's command tenure.

"I certainly can't pass up the opportunity to thank you for your service and to remind you how important that service is," he said to the crew. "Your performance over the past three years under the steady hand of Cmdr. Doody has been truly remarkable and you should be justifiably proud of what you have accomplished as a team."

As Minyard assumed command of Columbus, he also acknowledged the quality of the crew he was inheriting.

"Thank you, Jim Doody, for a tremendous ship and a crack crew," said Minyard. "To the crew, I pledge my sacred honor to serve you to the utmost of my ability. I look forward to our future challenges and successes."

Doody departs Columbus to continue to serve the submarine force as a member of the Nuclear Propulsion Examination Board. His submarine sea tours include USS Gato (SSN 615), USS Houston (SSN 713) and USS Los Angeles (SSN 688).

He began his Navy career as an enlisted machinist mate and engineering laboratory technician aboard USS Pintado (SSN 672). He later earned his commission through the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps after receiving a degree in sociology from the University of Chicago.

Hawaii Navy News Editorial

Driving safely is important for both automobile drivers and motorcyclists

Blair Martin

Contributing Writer

Automobile drivers and motorcycle enthusiasts are both encouraged to do their part in order to reduce the growing number of traffic collisions involving motorcycles. Reminding drivers and cyclists to watch out for each other is emphasized as part of the May is Motorcycle Awareness Month campaign. Most accidents between motorcyclists and automobiles happen because the driver of a car did not see the motorcyclist.

"Motorcycles are great inventions and they are a lot of fun, but they are one of the few things you can ride that still makes you invisible [on the road]," said Vance Lewis, traffic safety instructor for Cape Fox Professional Services (CFPS). "I always tell my [motorcycle] students that [car] drivers are not out to get you, they just don't see you. You have to make yourself seen."

Lewis, who has been teaching classes at Commander Navy Region Hawaii (CNRH) since 2007, said wearing brightly-colored personal protective equipment (PPE) and

making sure the motorcycle's lights and signals are properly functioning are simple things motorcyclists can do to raise their visibility and presence on the roadways.

For military motorcyclists, Lewis said appropriate PPE during daylight hours includes high-visibility outer-garment, gloves, Department of Transportation-approved helmet, over-ankle sturdy footwear and shatter-resistance glasses. During night hours, motorcyclists must wear a highly reflective vest.

Michael Cantu, a retired Navy aviation structural

mechanic and a current federal employee with Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawaii, is a recreational motorcyclist and said he hopes more drivers will start looking at motorcyclists as actual people.

"The main thing is that drivers and motorcyclists should watch the road and respect each other," he said. "A driver's awareness can make a very important difference in our lives and yours. I implore motorists everywhere to be more cognizant of the traffic around them and start see-

ing motorcycles. Please look twice, three times if necessary, to ensure the roadway is safe before you proceed," he added.

Cantu, who has been riding motorcycles for 10 years, said many times on the road he has encountered irresponsible drivers that have threatened his safety.

"I have seen drivers that just cut [you off] or turn in front of you with no regard for you or their own safety," he recounted. "Then they look at you as if [to say], 'why didn't you move?' Plus, you have the ones that want to tailgate you."

Cantu encouraged all motorcyclists, whether novices or veterans, to make sure they attend required special training courses, wear their PPE and especially important, ride within their skill levels.

"We [motorcyclists] are fairly normal people with families just like yours," he said. "We make every effort to ride for fun, safety and because we enjoy the adventures. But above all, we want to ride safely and arrive alive."

For more information on motorcycle safety courses, visit www.navymotorcyclider.com.

Images courtesy of National Highway Traffic Safety Administration



Share the road with motorcycles

Commentary

Chapel Pennant

God's will for your life

Chaplain Doug Waite

*Navy Region Hawaii
Command Chaplain*

Have you ever wondered what God's will for your life was? Does God have a will for every human being? I submit to you that God does have a will for every human life. We read about it in the Christian Scriptures, 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, "Be joyful always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you."

In this short passage, the writer Paul was trying to tell us that there are three things God wants all of us to do. First, God wants us have joy or to praise the creator all the time. God is God no matter what is going on in our lives, good or bad. We need to acknowledge God's goodness and power, regardless of our circumstances. When we praise God regardless of our circumstances, it produces joy supernaturally in our lives. We can and should have God's joy all the time when we praise.

Secondly, God wants us to pray all the time. Praise is acknowledging God for who God is. Prayer is talking to God.

God wants us to talk to our higher power all through the day and night. Just take a few minutes throughout your waking hours to tell God how things are going or not going. God wants to hear from you all the time.

Last but not least, God wants us to be thankful in everything. Thanks is acknowledging what God has done in the past, present and future. God didn't say to be thankful for everything, but in everything. God is good and doesn't cause all the evil in this world. But even though God doesn't create evil, God is still involved bringing goodness wherever evil is and wherever we are. Whether good or evil is involved in our life, God is still there bringing goodness. Because of this, we can be thankful to God regardless of the circumstances.

Why don't you take a few moments this week to praise God and be filled with God's joy, pray to God throughout your waking hours, and to thank God no matter what you are facing or dealing with in your life? In so doing, you will be fulfilling an important part of God's will for your life.

West Loch disaster aftermath



Photo courtesy of National Park Service

Photo shows aftermath of West Loch explosions on May 21, 1944 which sank or destroyed six LSTs, three LCTs, and 17 LVT tracked landing craft. One hundred and sixty-three men were killed and 396 were wounded. The fires burned for more than 24 hours, and more than 20 buildings on shore were damaged.



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Hawaii Navy News welcomes letters to the editor for the editorial page on any subject as long as they are in good taste.

All letters must be accompanied by the writer's name, E-mail address and daytime telephone number. Letters are subject to editing to meet space constraints.

Letters and articles that are submitted to Hawaii Navy News may be published and/or distributed in print and electronic form.

E-mail letters to: hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com.

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Survivors of West Loch remember tragedy

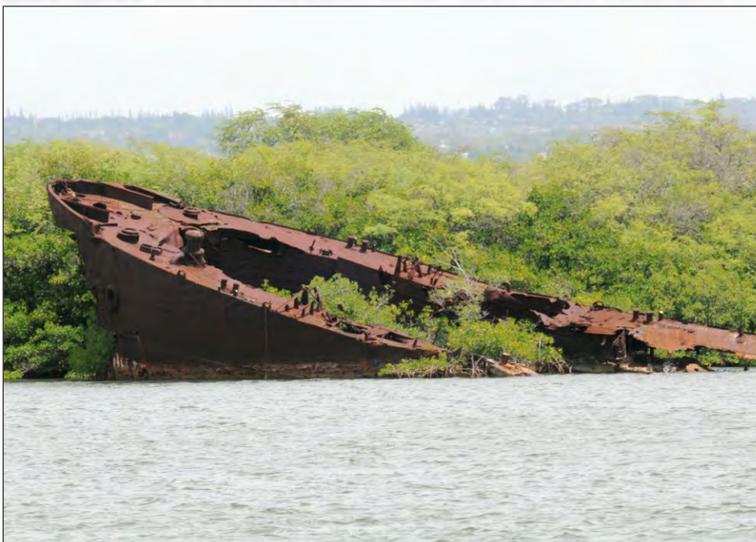
Jim Neuman

Historian, Navy Region Hawai'i

On a quiet Sunday afternoon on May 21, 1944, a vast armada of warships filled Pearl Harbor in preparation for the invasion of Saipan named Operation Forager. With the seizure of bases in the Marianas Islands, American B-29s would be able to reach Japan only 1,500 miles away.

The invasion force included 29 amphibious landing ships called LSTs. These vessels landed troops and supplies on the beaches to directly engage the enemy. On board LST 353, Army personnel of the 29th Chemical Decontamination Company busily unloaded mortars.

Suddenly from her deck, at approximately 3:08 p.m., an explosion rocked the calm waters of the harbor, scattering hot shrapnel and other debris throughout the landing fleet. A mix of panic and confusion ensued. Urgent efforts to extinguish fires and to remove other LSTs out of harm's way were initiated. Two more increasingly violent explosions erupted at 3:11 p.m. and 3:22 p.m., respectively, the last one



U.S. Navy photo

The wreck of LST 480, one of six LSTs lost following the West Loch explosions of May 21, 1944, is visible off Waipio Peninsula.

said to have been heard more than 15 miles away. Vessels all around the harbor rushed to the scene to help battle the fires and rescue crewmen from the water.

"I was on the docks playing craps with the guys...we heard the first two explosions, but they were far away and so we didn't think much of it. With the third explosion, I knew something was going on," said Roy

Sannella of Port Charlotte, Fla., a young Sailor assigned to the tugboat YT-129 in Pearl Harbor.

Sannella and his shipmates boarded YT-129 and were ordered out to West Loch to help contain the fires that were by now threatening to rage out of control. "As we approached the site, we saw bodies in the water. I told the skipper, but he said that we would have to keep going

forward to help in the fight. When we got there, we were able to cut some of the LSTs loose, but eventually we had to back away because of the inferno. When we went back in, we rescued several survivors from the burning waters," Sannella explained.

By the next day, a total of 163 men had lost their lives in the disaster and 396 men were wounded. Of the 29 LSTs in the area, six had

been lost completely and several more suffered extensive damage. Amazingly, replacements in men and material were quickly rounded up and the invasion of Saipan took place as planned on June 15, 1944.

Following the disaster, Adm. Chester Nimitz wrote that the circumstances leading up to the mishap was a "calculated risk" made necessary by the high tempo of wartime operations and that "positive corrective action" was ensured so that it would not happen again. The times have changed, and the valuable lessons learned from the incident in West Loch have been put to practical use.

"In 1944, the Navy did not have a clear definition of how munitions should best be loaded," commented Capt. Debra A. Bodenstedt, the commanding officer of the Navy Munitions Command East Asia Division.

"Work on the piers and other Navy facilities was done by the men of the ordnance battalions who had received very little training in cargo handling, let alone work with high explosives. Today's ordnance workers are all trained and certified to handle ordnance and are required to re-certify each

year," she said.

Bodenstedt added, "The open fields surrounding the naval magazine represent the explosive safety quantity distance or ESQD which safeguard personnel and the inhabitants of nearby communities from possible fires or explosions."

It is noteworthy that the Navy has not had another explosion of the magnitude of West Loch since the conclusion of World War II. All that remains of the West Loch disaster is the rusted hulk of LST 480, jutting silently off the Waipio Peninsula.

For men like Roy Sannella, memories of the West Loch disaster are a bittersweet experience. "I've been doing my best to talk to school kids and other organizations about what happened and the sacrifices made," he said, but lamented, "Not enough people know. That's a shame."

Sannella and fellow West Loch survivors, Harry Horn, Alex Bernal and Wood Beeghly, will be visiting Pearl Harbor on May 21 to commemorate the 65th anniversary of the event. There will be a brief ceremony at 8 a.m. at the Naval Munitions Command East Asia Division, directly across from the wreck of LST 480.

Pearl Harbor Highlights

Lt. Cmdr. Jay Gulley, officer-in-charge of the U.S. Naval Ammunition Depot, Oahu, rings a bell recovered from the aircraft carrier USS Hornet (CV 8) that was dedicated to the command for its 75th anniversary. The command supplies ordnance to naval forces in the Pacific region.

U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Eric J. Cutright



Capt. Aaron Cudnohufsky, left, commanding officer of the Pacific Missile Range Facility, Barking Sands, along with other volunteers remove an injured green sea turtle from the shores of Nohili at PMRF. The approximately 75-year-old, 350 pound, female turtle suffered a severe cut on its lower back, rear portion of its shell. The state of Hawai'i is leading the rescue efforts.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Jay C. Pugh



U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Robert Stirrup

Vice Adm. Michael Vitale, commander, Naval Installations Command, meets with Sailors assigned to various commands in the Pearl Harbor-area during lunch at the Silver Dolphin Bistro onboard Naval Station Pearl Harbor. Vitale visited multiple locations onboard NAVSTA Pearl Harbor and Pacific Missile Range Facility during his tour of the Hawai'i-region onn May 7-11.



Commander Submarine Force U.S. Pacific (COMSUBPAC) softball team left fielder Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class Arthur Saldana swings at a pitch during its ashore intramural game against Shipyard at Millican Field at Naval Station Pearl Harbor on May 12. Saldana hit a two-run homer as COMSUBPAC, whose nickname is the Force, defeated Shipyard, 16-9.

U.S. Navy photo by Randy Dela Cruz



Navy Diver 2nd Class Scott Norwood of SEAL Delivery Vehicle Team-One (SDVT-1) gets the ball past a defender during the SEALs' intramural soccer match against the Seabees of Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit 303 at Ward Field at Naval Station Pearl Harbor on May 9.

U.S. Navy photo by Randy Dela Cruz

Help protect yourself against the flu

Naval Health Clinic Hawai'i

Given the recent national focus on several aggressive cases of Influenza Type A (H1N1) and confirmed cases of the influenza illness in Hawai'i, there are things you can do to help keep you from getting sick and to prevent the spread of flu illnesses.

Here are steps you can take to prevent the spread of germs:

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or simply wear a surgical mask.
- If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve or elbow, not your hands.
- Put your used tissue in the waste basket.
- Clean your hands after coughing or sneezing.
- Wash with soap and water or clean with alcohol-based hand cleaner.

- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.

Germs are often spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose or mouth. Avoid close contact with people who are sick. If you develop a high fever along with moderate respiratory symptoms (cough, sore throat, runny nose, muscle aches), contact your health care provider. If you need to visit your health care provider's office, call in advance and let them know you have symptoms of the flu.

When you are sick, stay home from work, school and group activities and postpone errands. You will protect others from catching your illness. Wear a mask if you must go out in public. Do your part to keep yourself and your family, friends and coworkers from getting sick.

Keeping healthy is no accident. Practice healthy

habits by getting plenty of sleep, routine physical activity and making good food choices.

Now is the time to develop a family emergency plan as a precaution. This should include food, medicines, face masks, alcohol-based hand cleaners and other essential supplies.

Facts about flu infection

The influenza virus is spread by the tiny droplets expelled when an infected person coughs or sneezes. These respiratory droplets do not usually remain airborne as they are heavy enough to quickly fall out of the air; however, they can spread approximately three to six feet from the infected individual. Infection can result from breathing in these droplets before they fall or by touching a surface on which the droplets landed (such as a doorknob or computer keyboard) and then touching the mucous membranes of the mouth, nose or eyes. Depending

on conditions, the virus may live for one to two days on hard surfaces.

A person infected with influenza can spread the virus in their respiratory droplets for about 24 hours before they begin to feel ill and will continue to expel the virus in respiratory secretions for about seven days after they develop symptoms (children may spread the virus for up to 10 days after the start of illness).

Call the Oahu Joint Services Flu Information Hotline at 808.433.1FLU to get up-to-date facts on H1N1 influenza or to ask questions.

Guidelines for recognizing the flu (English, Japanese, Korean and Spanish versions) are available at <http://hawaii.gov/health>.

For additional information, refer to the following Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Web site: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/>.

SEAL

Continued from A-1

His awards include the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with combat distinguishing device (2), the Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Combat Action Ribbon (4), National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal (2) and Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal. He was SDVT-1 and Naval Special Warfare Group Three's Sailor of the Year in 2007.

Shellenberger is survived by his mother, stepfather, father, two brothers, grandmother, fiancé and extended family. They wrote, "Eric will be dearly missed. We always considered him to be a true hero, and he will be in our hearts forever. We love him and cherish his memory. He will never be forgotten."

STORY IDEAS?

Contact the HNN editor for guidelines and story/photo submission requirements:

Phone: (808) 473-2888

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Hawaii Navy News

Navy SEALs deliver first loss to Seabees

Story and photo by
Randy Dela Cruz

Contributing Writer

Since the beginning of the Morale, Welfare and Recreation intramural soccer season, the Sailors of Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit 303 have been busy bees in building a perfect 6-0 record.

Navy News Sports

However, in their matchup with Seal Delivery Vehicle Team One (SDVT-1), it was the Seabees who got stung as the SEALs slipped past the previously unbeaten squad, 1-0, at Ward Field at Naval Station Pearl Harbor on May 9.

The winning goal came midway through the first half as Navy Diver 2nd Class Ken Owens booted in a point-blank shot after receiving a pass from teammate Navy Diver 2nd Class Scott Norwood.

"The pass was great. It skipped right past the goalie," said Owens as SDVT-1 improved its record to 7-1. "I just lucked out on that one."

The game-winning play was set up after Norwood took a pass from midfield and blew past his defender, before spotting Owens and another teammate converging on the



A player from the Seal Delivery Vehicle Team One (SDVT-1) soccer team puts his head into the ball during the squad's game versus the Seabees at Ward Field at Naval Station Pearl Harbor on May 9, 2009. The Seals won by a score of 1-0 to hand the Seabees their first defeat of the season.

goal.

"I was going to take the shot for myself," said Norwood. "But with two guys open, I saw that we had a better chance for a goal if I passed off."

Seabee goalkeeper, Equipment Operator 1st Class Andy Osborn, noted that once he got isolated on a three-on-one break, there wasn't much he could do to prevent the SEALs from scoring.

"I played the inside guy and not the outside guy," admitted Osborn. "I went for the wrong guy."

Before the first half ended, Owens had an opportunity for another goal, but his shot from near midfield hit the top of the crossbar and bounced out of bounds.

"I was wide open and I tried not to crank it as hard as I could," recalled Owens. "I tried to float it over the goalkeeper's head, but I guess the wind took it a little too far."

In the second half, the Seabees came out with an aggressive attack and immediately got off three shots on goal in the first few minutes of play.

The team would come up empty, however, and eventually succumbed to the SEALs' relentless pressure on defense.

Osborn stated that matters were made worse due to the fact that the Seabees started off shorthanded,

which certainly didn't help in the hot weather conditions at Ward Field.

"We started off with only seven players and they (SDVT-1) had a full nine," said Osborn. "As the first half progressed, we were able to get a full nine, but that just took a toll on us."

In claiming their seventh victory, both Owens and Norwood agreed that the Seabees were one of the best teams that they have faced all season.

Owens said that he was particularly impressed by the way the Seabees attacked on defense.

"They had one of the better defenses that we've played so far," acknowledged Owens. "Their back guys were pretty good."

Osborn said that he knew the SEALs were going to be tough, and they lived up to his expectations.

Still, the Seabees goalkeeper added that, while his team may have suffered its first loss, he is certain that they will bounce back.

"We're good," he pointed out. "We got solid players up front and our defense is great too. So we're a pretty all-around team."

As for SDVT-1, Norwood offered a warning to other teams in the league. "The more we play together, the better we feel as a team. You'll see better things out of us," he said.

Malfunctioning gas grill cited as cause of fire in Navy Military housing at Hale Moku

Victor Flint

Battalion Chief, Federal Fire Department Hawai'i

Recently, Federal Fire Department (FFD) Hawai'i assisted Honolulu Fire Department at a large structure fire involving a home in Navy military housing at Hale Moku. The fire was contained

to the unit involved. There were no injuries, but there was \$100,000 in damages done to the unit because of the fire. The cause of the fire was due to a malfunction of the occupant's (gas) grill.

The incident occurred on May 4 as the occupants were operating their gas grill on the lanai of their government quarters. This is a four-unit multiplex. Fire was

observed under the grill. Shortly after that, there was a gas fire ball that migrated into their unit, chasing the occupants out of their home.

Fire inspectors revealed that the cause of the fire was accidental and was due to a malfunction of the Fiesta Blue Ember Gas Grill. The U.S. Product Safety Commission has issued a safety alert. There



have been 14 reports of fires involving these grills (15 including the Hale Moku fire).

The Fiesta Gas Blue Ember (LP & NG) Grills are being recalled for inspection and/or repair. The model numbers are FG50057 and FG50069.

For more information, contact Battalion Chief Victor M. Flint at FFD at 471-3303, ext. 633.

FEB: PACFLT, CNRH employees honored for outstanding service

Continued from A-1

commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, noted the importance of recognizing the award winners for CNRH.

"These personnel represent the excellence that we have working for us here at CNRH," said Hodge. "Although we were only able to have a few awardees, our personnel all work hard and perform at a very high level."

CNRH's award winners were very happy to have been distinguished as the top performers for the Hawai'i government.

"It feels great to have been recognized as one of the top performers for the command as well as the state's government," said Glenn DeLaura, fire chief of Navy Region Hawai'i's Federal Fire Department (FFD), who was selected as a

leader of the year. "None of this would have been possible without countless hours of hard work everyone puts in here at the FFD," he said.

Dean Vaughn was presented the award for Employee of the Year, Administrative and Technical, for his leadership as Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet's Japan affairs and ballistic missile defense policy officer.

"Getting recognized for your work only adds to the great feeling of doing something that keeps your mind and spirit focused while supporting our command and country," said Vaughn.

"I was overwhelmed when I first heard the news that I was selected as clerical/assistant of the year," said Laura Taylor, secretary of Naval Station (NAVSTA) Pearl Harbor's front office. "I am very grateful and want to thank every-

one that I work with who helped me achieve this award."

Yvette Ellis was presented an award for Employee of the Year, Clerical and Assistant, for work as office manager for Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet's warfare assessment and readiness directorate.

"Being prior military, I try to go the extra mile because it's instilled in us to make our work environment a better place for everyone," Ellis said. "This award gives me the motivation to do more and teach those behind me to achieve the same success."

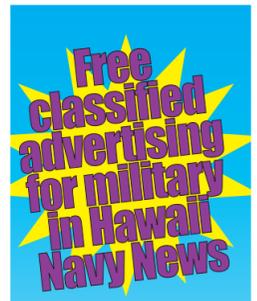
Marine Col. Kirk Bruno, assigned to Defense Information Systems Agency Pacific Command and chairman of the FEB, made the closing remarks during the ceremony and expressed his feelings to the recipients.

"It is a pleasure to recognize all of our award winners for everything they do," said Bruno. "I thank you for all that you do in making this a successful event with all of your hard work and dedication."

Additional individual awards received by Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet federal employees included: Peter Butler, assistant director for logistics current operations, received the Leader of the Year award; Robert Dunn, deputy director for warfare assessment and readiness, received the Exceptional Community Service award; Dean Kiyohara, deputy director for fleet and joint exercises, received the Supervisor, Manager of the Year award; and Ronald McClair, operations officer and division chief for C4I, received the Leader, Mentor Coach of the Year award.

Team awards included: Rear Adm. Thomas Traaen, deputy chief of staff for logistics, fleet supply and ordnance, accepted the award for Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet as the employer of choice; and William Wesley, executive director for plans and policy, accepted the award for Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet's N5 directorate for team excellence.

Other award winners from CNRH included NAVSTA Pearl Harbor for employer of choice, Human Resources Office Labor Relations Team for team excellence, Jan Kuniyoshi for supervisor/manager of the year, Colleen Sabarre for the professional of the year, Jun Villar for the trades/crafts category, and Lt. Benjamin Abney, assigned to NAVSTA Pearl Harbor, for the community service category.



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Classified items and services must represent an incidental exchange between the aforementioned personnel and not business operations. Requests for three-line free classified advertisements can be submitted via email, if from a ".mil" address (submit to lkaneshi@honolulu.gannett.com), by phone at 521-9111 or by visiting www.honoluluadvertiser.com and clicking on "classified ads." More lines of advertising can be purchased at an additional fee. Requesters should include their military ID number and a call-back phone number.