

# Life Leisure

**B**

## NAVY, MARINE CORPS FAMILIES

# 'ROMP IN THE SWAMP'

Story and photos by MC2 (SW) Mark Logico

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

More than 2,500 people, including approximately 180 U.S. Navy Sailors, participated in the 16th Annual Swamp Romp at Marine Corps Base Hawaii (MCBH), Kaneohe Bay on Feb. 20.

The Swamp Romp, a six-person team event, is a five-mile foot race that circles around MCBH. Participants negotiated several obstacles which required them to swing, crawl and jump through knee-high mud.

Among those who participated were Sailors from Commander, Pacific Fleet (COMPACFLT) who joined the race with their own families. COM-PACFLT's 'A Princess and Five Frogs,' which consisted of

Capt. Dennis Hansen, 14-year-old Sean Hansen, Lt. Santiago Martinez, 14-year-old Anthony Martinez, Operations Specialist 1st Class Tyrus Peterson and 11-year-old Umeko Peterson, was a father/son/daughter Navy team who joined the race purely for fun.

"It's fun, if you want to get down and dirty," said Hansen. Hansen participated in several other races like the 2010 Swamp Romp, but it wasn't until his son, Sean, asked to join that he was able to race with his family as a team.

"The rivalry aspect is a lot of fun, but for us, it's bringing in the family aspect," said Hansen. "Even though we are serving the country in the military, the families are very important. So getting the children involved has been very awesome. I think it shows our core values."

Hansen and Martinez, who recently deployed overseas, were both hap-

py to be with their own families during the event.

"You can officially call us mud divers," said Peterson referring to his daughter, Umeko, who after the race was caked in mud. "For her, being her first time, she really did well."

Umeko said it was important for her to never give up, no matter how hard it was.

Hansen, whose team placed 370th, said what's important was to have fun and family readiness.

"It is kind of the benefit of being in Hawaii," said Hansen. "Physical fitness is something that's near and dear to my heart obviously. We've been trying to get away from the idea that physical fitness is something we punish ourselves twice a year with PFA (physical fitness assessment). We should be fit all the time. [The Swamp Romp] is just an example of one of the fun ways to be prepared and be fit at the same time."



# PSD announces new service provider

Story and photo by  
Randy Dela Cruz

Contributing Writer

Starting March 1, Serco will be the new service provider for Pearl Harbor Personnel Support Department (PSD).

The company takes over the duties that were provided by Alutiiq, which assisted active duty, retirees, civilians, family members, contractors and Department of Defense employees in obtaining their identification cards and common access cards (CAC).

While there may be a feeling out process between the U.S. Navy and the new provider, Lt. James Carroll, officer in charge at Pearl Harbor PSD, said that the transition should have no effect on customer service.

"The user shouldn't see a shift because we really have the same people in place," said Carroll. "The only difference is, they (Serco) run the contract so they have full control over it (ID/CAC). They set the appointments and will handle any concerns that the customer might have. They will have a service manager on site who will take care of customer concerns."

If there is one change, Carroll pointed out that with Serco completely running ID/CAC operations, the military will be limited in its ca-



A civilian worker goes through the paces to get an identification card at Pearl Harbor Personnel Support Detachment (PSD). Starting March 1, all identification cards and common access cards will be issued through a new service provider, Serco, at Pearl Harbor PSD.

capacity to assist customers.

"Under the old contract, we had the ability to put in a military person

if somebody was absent," explained

Carroll. "Under the new contract, we don't have that flexibility."

In addition, all military personnel will now have to work exclusively with Serco to get an ID or CAC card.

"We don't have the flexibility that we used to have to do the things that we did in the past to provide for military whereas we could go down and say that we need to get his person an ID card right now," noted Carroll. "Now they have to go through the site manager in order to get that accomplished and not through the military. In fact, we won't have any ability to do any overrides. No military personnel will have any access in the Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC) systems as far as ID cards. That's the biggest change."

Carroll also reminds that if a CAC or ID card is lost or damaged beyond recognition, there are still set procedures to follow in order to secure a replacement.

"A lost or stolen CAC or ID card is pretty much an emergency situation so they can come in on a walk-in basis," informed Carroll. "If you lose or have it stolen, report it to your human resource and HR will give them a form. Bring in the completed form and two forms of ID and we will issue a new card."

Still, even with the few challenges ahead, Carroll said that he is very upbeat about the new service provider and is confident that customers will be pleased with Serco.

"Service will not change. In fact, it will be better," assures Carroll. "The customer will see a seamless transition to this company."

# Education tax credit helps pay college expenses

## Internal Revenue Service

With the tax filing season now underway, a new educational tax credit can help parents and students offset part of the cost of the first four years of college. The American Opportunity Credit modifies the existing Hope credit for tax years 2009 and 2010, making it available to a broader range of taxpayers. Income guidelines are expanded and required course materials are added to the list of qualified expenses. Many of those eligible will qualify for the maxi-

mum annual credit of \$2,500 per student.

"The American Opportunity Credit has increased helping taxpayers paying college expenses while also expanding to include costs for 'course materials,'" said David Tucker, IRS spokesman. "This means that books, supplies and equipment needed for coursework are now allowable."

The American Opportunity Credit, in many cases, offers greater tax savings than existing education tax breaks. Here are some key features of the important credit:

- Tuition, related fees, books and other required course materials generally qualify. In the past, books usually were not eligible for education-related credits and deductions.

- The credit is equal to 100 percent of the first \$2,000 spent and 25 percent of the next \$2,000. That means the full \$2,500 credit may be available to a taxpayer who pays \$4,000 or more in qualified expenses for an eligible student.

- The full credit is available for taxpayers whose modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) is \$80,000 or less (for married

couples filing a joint return, the limit is \$160,000 or less). The credit is phased out for taxpayers with incomes above these levels. These income limits are higher than under the existing Hope and lifetime learning credits.

- Forty percent of the American opportunity credit is refundable. This means that even people who owe no tax can get an annual payment of the credit of up to \$1,000 for each eligible student. Existing education-related credits and deductions do not provide a benefit to people who owe no

tax. The refundable portion of the credit is not available to any student whose investment income is taxed at the parent's rate, commonly referred to as the kiddie tax. See Publication 929, Tax Rules for Children and Dependents, for details.

Eligible parents and students can get the benefit of this credit during the year by having less tax taken out of their paychecks. They can do this by filling out a new Form W-4, claiming additional withholding allowances, and giving it to their employer. For details, use the withholding

calculator on [IRS.gov](http://IRS.gov) or see Publication 919, How Do I Adjust My Tax Withholding?

Though most taxpayers who pay for post-secondary education will qualify for the American opportunity credit, some will not. The limitations include a married person filing a separate return, regardless of income, joint filers whose MAGI is \$180,000 or more and, finally, single taxpayers, heads of household and some widows and widowers whose MAGI is \$90,000 or more. For more information, go to [IRS.gov](http://IRS.gov).

## Forest City makes successful transition with 'hi email, bye tree-mail'



Randy Brown (left), Forest City resident services manager, presents an iPod Touch to the Michael Subee family, residents of Radford Terrace. The Subee family won the grand prize for updating Forest City with their current email address.

Story and photo by Ryan Wilson

Communications Coordinator, Navy Housing Forest City Residential Management, Inc.

After a month long campaign, Forest City has made a successful transition to email-based communication with its housing residents. Already, Forest City has sent out several emails regarding issues that had an impact on residents, including radon detector removal from homes, speed bump improvements and on-base recycling. From now on, residents can expect to receive emergency notifications, notices, newsletters and event schedules from Forest City via email.

More than 100 Navy Family Housing residents received prizes for taking part in Forest City's "Hi email. Bye tree-mail!" campaign which ran through January.

The Subee family and the Whitehead family won the grand prizes of the iPod Touch and the Sony Reader, respectively. Resident services managers distributed the grand prizes to the happy residents. Another 100 residents won gift cards and thumb drives.

"These gifts are our way

of thanking residents because they helped us to say, 'Hi email. Bye tree-mail,'" said Pat McGlamery, resident services manager.

There is still a portion of the resident population that has not yet updated their email addresses with Forest City. They are being asked to contact their resident services office as soon as possible.

"It's critically important that we have the most current email address for all of our residents," said Kari Diaz, general manager. "Our emails will contain information about events that directly affect our residents, their homes and their neighborhoods."

Forest City reports that the majority of residents have responded positively to the email program.

"I can't express how great it is to be switching from 'tree-mail' to email," said Jessica Lehue, a Radford Terrace resident.

Forest City hopes the enthusiasm that residents like Lehue have for this program will spread to all the residents who have not yet updated their email addresses. They also think the resident support they are already getting for "Hi email. Bye tree-mail!" will contribute to the ongoing success of the program.

## PACFLT Band to perform at Hale Koa



U.S. Navy photo

The Pacific Fleet Band will perform at 3 p.m. March 5 at the Hale Koa. This is a free concert. No tickets are necessary. For more information, contact Pacific Fleet Band operations at 474-3693.

# Got Questions?

Write to us at [hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com](mailto:hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com)

**Free  
classified  
advertising  
for military  
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Navy News**

Active duty and retired military, civil service and family members can advertise the sale of their personal property (including real estate) and services in HNN at no charge. The details are as follows:

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](mailto:lkaneshi@honolulu.gannett.com)), by phone at 521-9111 or by visiting [www.honoluluadvertiser.com](http://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.

# Skylark CENTRAL

**WORD SEARCH**  
Find these 39 different kinds of **CANDIES**

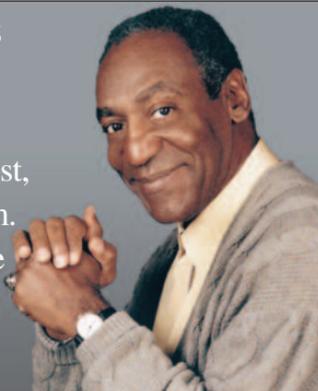
BARK	KISS
GUMDROP	SOUR BALL
NOUGAT	CARAMEL
BONBON	LICORICE
GUMMI	SPICE DROP
PATTY	CHOCOLATE
BRITTLE	LIFE SAVER
HARD CANDY	SPRINKLE
POPCORN BALL	COMFIT
BUTTERSCOTCH	LOLLIPOP
JAWBREAKER	TAFFY
PRALINE	COTTON CANDY
CANDY BAR	LOZENGE
JELLY BEAN	TOFFEE
RED HOT	FONDANT
CANDY CANE	MARSHMALLOW
JUJUBE	TRUFFLE
ROCK CANDY	FUDGE MINT
CANDY CORN	TURKISH DELIGHT

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## WHO SAID IT?

“SUCCESS IS TO BE MEASURED NOT SO MUCH BY THE POSITION THAT ONE HAS REACHED IN LIFE AS BY THE OBSTACLES WHICH HE HAS OVERCOME WHILE TRYING TO SUCCEED.”

LAST ISSUE'S **WHO SAID IT?**



“The past is a ghost, the future a dream. All we ever have is now.”

- Bill Cosby

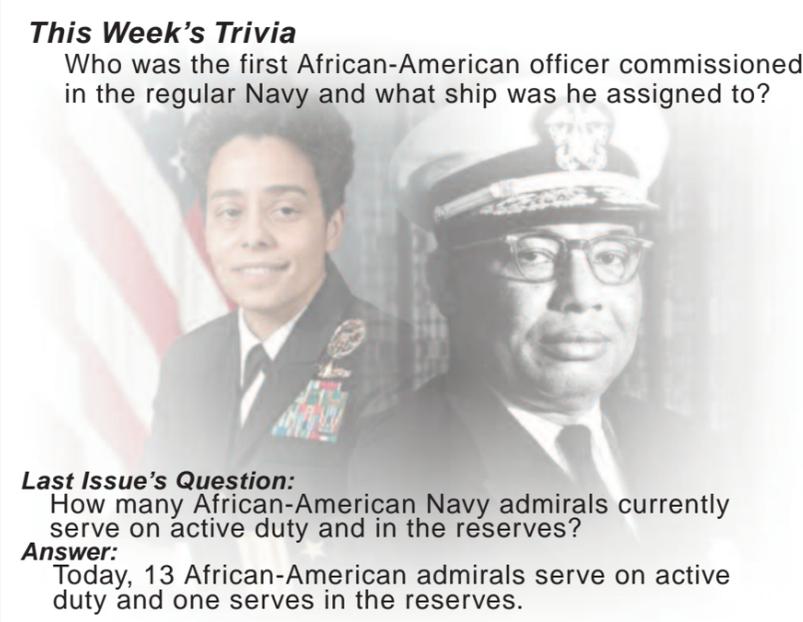
**WORD SEARCH SOLUTION**  
Find these 50 different types of **ROCKS**

AMPHIBOLITE	KIMBERLITE
GRANITE	RHYOLITE
MUDSTONE	DOLERITE
ANORTHOSITE	LAMPROPHYRE
GRANODIORITE	SANDSTONE
OBSIDIAN	DOLOMITE
BASALT	LARVIKITE
GRANOPHYRE	SCHIST
PEGMATITE	DUNITE
BRECCIA	LIGNITE
GREYWACKE	SERPENTINITE
PERIDOTITE	ECLOGITE
CHALK	LIMESTONE
GRITSTONE	SHALE
PHYLLITE	EVAPORITE
CHERT	MARBLE
HORNFELS	SYENITE
PUMICE	FLINT
COAL	MARL
ICELANDITE	TRACHYTE
PYROXENITE	GABBRO
CONGLOMERATE	MIGMATITE
IRONSTONE	TUFF
QUARTZITE	GNEISS
DIORITE	MONZONITE

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### This Week's Trivia

Who was the first African-American officer commissioned in the regular Navy and what ship was he assigned to?



**Last Issue's Question:**  
How many African-American Navy admirals currently serve on active duty and in the reserves?

**Answer:**  
Today, 13 African-American admirals serve on active duty and one serves in the reserves.

# Navy Region Hawai'i Manawa Nanea

## Morale Welfare & Recreation

### FREE GOLF CLINIC AT BARBERS POINT GOLF COURSE

A free golf clinic will be held from 9 to 10 a.m. March 2 at Barbers Point Golf Course. FMI: 221-9275.

### JUNIOR GOLF AT BARBERS POINT GOLF COURSE

Junior golf lessons are offered from 3 to 4:30 p.m. every Wednesday and Saturday in March at Barbers Point Golf Course. Youngsters can learn the basics of the swing, golf etiquette and rules. The class is open to children ages eight to 14 years old. FMI: 221-9275.

### TRIATHLON TRAINING AT RICHARDSON POOL

A seven-week triathlon training regimen will be available from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays at Richardson Pool. The seven-week training includes stroke improvements, biking and running techniques, as well as smooth transitions. Session one runs from March 1 to April 14. Session two runs from April 19 to May 26. The cost is \$175 (session one), \$150 (session two), or \$15 daily drop-in fee. FMI: 473-0793.

### WEIGHT MANAGEMENT AT BLOCH ARENA

A six-week weight management program will run from March 2 to April 8 at Bloch Arena. It includes a full physical assessment, nutritional education and a motivational fitness specialist to teach and guide cardiovascular and weight training exercises, flexibility and strength conditioning. The sessions from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at Bloch Arena. The cost is \$75 and space is limited. FMI: 473-0793.

### FAMILY FUN DAY AT SCOTT POOL

Scott Pool will host a family fun day from 1 to 5 p.m. on March 3. Bring the kids for fun-filled activities and an all-around good time. FMI: 473-0394.

### MWR ATHLETICS INTRAMURAL SOCCER LEAGUE

Navy Region Hawaii Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Athletics' Intramural Soccer League season will run from March 6 through June. The league is open to active duty service members only. Games will be played at Ward Field. Registration is free. FMI: 473-2494.

For more information on Navy Region Hawaii MWR events, visit [www.greatlifehawaii.com](http://www.greatlifehawaii.com)

## Community Calendar

### February

**27** - The Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange (NEX) will host an Morale Welfare and Recreation travel show from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the NEX. This year's theme will be "Discover, Explore, Embrace the Hawaiian Islands." Talk with travel and activity experts provided by MWR's Travel Connections in a casual, no-pressure environment. Experts will be on hand to provide advice and tips regarding patrons' future travel plans. FMI: 423-3274 or visit the NEX Aloha Center.

### March

**5** - The Pacific Fleet Band will perform at 3 p.m. at the Hale Koa. This is a free concert. No tickets are necessary. FMI: 474-3693.

**5** - Naval Health Clinic (NHC) Hawaii will sponsor a mini job fair focusing on recruitment of nursing staff and medical support positions. The job fair will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Fleet and Family Services Center (FFSC), second floor, next to Moanalua Shopping Center. This job fair welcomes the military community and their families. FMI: 471-1865.

**12** - In partnership with the Joint Employment Management System (JEMS), Marine Corps Base Hawaii (MCBH) Marine & Family Services' Readiness & Community Support will host a job fair from noon to 4 p.m. at Kahuna's Enlisted Club. The job fair will be open exclusively to the military community, including service members (active duty, retired, guard and reservists), military family members with ID cards and current federal employees from noon to 2 p.m. After 2 p.m., the job fair will open to the public, ages 18 and over, in addition to the military community. About 40 companies/agencies are expected to participate in the job fair. This is an opportunity to talk to recruiters, drop off resumes, pick up applications and research the job market. No children will be admitted. Please plan accordingly. FMI: 257-7787 or 257-7790 or [www.JEMJobs.com](http://www.JEMJobs.com).

## Sharkey Showtimes



### The Spy Next Door (PG)

Bob Ho, an undercover operative for the CIA, decides to give up his career and marry his girlfriend, Gillian. However, before Bob can do that, he has one more mission to complete: gain the approval of Gillian's children. Bob volunteers to babysit when Gillian is called away, but the operation hits a snag when one of the kids mistakenly downloads a top-secret formula, and a Russian terrorist takes aim at Bob's prospective family.

#### SHARKEY MOVIE THEATER

TODAY  
7:00 PM Precious (R)

SATURDAY  
2:30 PM The Spy Next Door (PG)  
4:45 PM Leap Year (PG)  
7:15 PM Nine (PG 13)

SUNDAY  
2:30 PM The Spy Next Door (PG)  
4:45 PM Sherlock Holmes (PG 13)  
7:15 PM Daybreakers (R)

#### HICKAM MEMORIAL THEATER

TODAY  
6:00 PM The Spy Next Door (PG)

SATURDAY  
4:00 PM The Spy Next Door (PG)  
7:00 PM The Book of Eli (PG 13)

SUNDAY  
2:00 PM Avatar (PG 13)

