

Tower Lighting Celebration features Tops in Blue

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public Affairs

Air Force Entertainment and Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam welcomed Tops in Blue at the Freedom Tower on Nov. 30 as part of the free 43rd annual Tower Lighting Celebration.

Festivities at the celebration also included crafts and activities for the children, photos with Santa, and the Freedom Tower lit up with twinkling multicolored bulbs in the twilight.

Senior Airman Briana Hofreiter, an Airman previously assigned to the 15th Comptroller Squadron at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, returned to sing as a member of the Tops in Blue performance team for the event.

Tops in Blue is an all-active duty, U.S. Air Force special unit made up of amateur performers selected for their entertainment abilities.



formers selected for their entertainment abilities.

Celebrating more than 50 years in existence, Tops in Blue is one of the oldest and most widely traveled entertainment groups of its kind.

Composed of 35 to 40 musicians, dancers, and technicians, their primary purpose is to perform for military personnel and their families throughout the world.

However, the group's popularity has also made them one of America's goodwill ambassadors around the globe.

Maj. Al Reilly (later a retired colonel)

created the Air Force Worldwide Talent Contest in 1953 to recognize talented Airmen in various categories, ranging from comedy, drama, and vocal and instrumental groups. Reilly then selected the top talent from the competition and produced a show with a troupe of the best Air Force entertainers, which ultimately became known as Tops in Blue.

Editor's note: See page B-4 for additional photos of Senior Airman Briana Hofreiter a 15th Wing Airman who is currently performing with Tops in Blue.



Volunteer coaches are needed to help youth sports

Story and photo by Randy Dela Cruz

Sports Editor

For years, Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) youth sports has served military members with a diverse program that has helped countless children learn the time-honored lessons and values offered from athletic participation.

While MWR has done a fantastic job of providing the perfect framework to service military families and their children, Youth Sports and Fitness Director Jim Cosper said that it couldn't be done without the dedicated assistance of Sailors, Airmen and government workers who lend a hand as volunteer coaches.

"It helps out a great deal and not only for the children, but for them as well," said Cosper, who oversees a vast youth program that includes baseball, basketball, soccer, volleyball and flag football among many other activities. "I know a lot of the Sailors on base are away from their families, and this gives them an outlet to participate in a larger family, and that's Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH)," he said.

Each year the call goes out to the service community for volunteer coaches to oversee the many youth sports teams that start from age five and continue through early teens.

Like so many volunteers before him, Fire Controlman 2nd Class Richard McKee, a star receiver on USS Russell (DDG 59) intramural flag football team, has stepped forward to offer assistance on a U12 basketball squad.

He said that while volunteering also helps out his career, coaching provides the perfect opportunity to help guide and mentor children on

sports and life principles.

Plus, he added, it's a great way to be of service to the many military families on and off base.

"It's definitely a way to give back to the community and kids," he said. "I really believe that coaches are a big influence in kids' lives. Youth sports are one way for kids to stay active and keep healthy."

In addition to helping children stay fit, Cosper pointed out that MWR Youth Sports has prided itself in setting up programs that are very child friendly.

Unlike organizations that pressure kids to win championships, Cosper said that while there is room for the competitive spirit, MWR instructs all of its volunteer coaches to stress fun and participation above everything else.

"We're trying to develop all the characteristics and guiding principles to help them develop into better people," he said. "We really appreciate the coaches getting involved and helping to develop that and create that spirit within an individual."

Army Maj. Tim Rustard, 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command, has volunteered as a coach in youth baseball and basketball over the past two years.

He said that he has loved the opportunity to teach kids the fundamentals of sports and thinks that the focus on fun is the right way to go with children.

"Being able to pass on the good techniques and fundamentals is all I want to teach," he said. "This (having fun) is perfect for this age group. They are going to be under so much pressure in junior high and senior high, so at this age, you just need an opportunity to play."

Cosper, who took over the position after Joe Stanczyk left the



While often appearing blurred in the background, volunteer coaches for MWR Youth Sports have provided a great service in the guidance and mentoring of military children. There is a constant need for volunteer coaches at MWR Youth Sports. Call 473-0789 or visit the MWR website at www.greatlifeohawaii.com.

islands a few months ago, said that he has really enjoyed watching the kids grow within each sport.

He also expressed how much he appreciates the help of parents

and volunteer coaches, who make it all happen.

"It's all volunteer, so the parents get involved as well as the Sailors and Airman," he said. "It's a great community here on base."

For more information about youth sports or on becoming a volunteer coach, call MWR Youth Sports at 473-0789.

Also, visit the MWR website at www.greatlifeohawaii.com.



Bengals sink their teeth into championship title

Members of the Bengals kids flag football team at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam won the ages 10 and under Termite League championship Dec. 1 for the fall 2012 season. The Bengals' coach is David Beck and the team beat the Titans in the championship game. Both teams had already played and won three games to reach the final.

Photos courtesy of Rachel Carter



Battle of SNAFU ball clubs won by White

Story and photo by
Randy Dela Cruz

Sports Editor

It's not unusual when the top teams from each division square off for the league crown, but it is something special when the combatants come from the same club.

In the grand finale of the Winter Baseball League playoffs held on Dec. 1, the SNAFU Gold, winners of the National Division pennant, faced sister squad SNAFU White, champs of the American Division title at Hickam Softball Complex, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Both teams finished off the regular season undefeated with 9-0 records and had won two playoffs matchups before clashing head-to-head in the championship game.

In the showdown, retired Coast Guard veteran Rick Hayes, pitcher for the White, held off the hard-hitting Gold for six innings before hanging on to secure a complete-game victory for the White.

"I knew they (Gold) had the potential to hit home runs," Hayes acknowledged. "But I think they were swinging for the fences and that saved us."

Relying on his knuckleball and curve, Hayes admitted that an expansion of the strike zone by the umpire and familiarity with Gold hitters also aided his effort.

"The umpire was letting us have the high pitches, and that helped us out a lot," he noted.

While the Gold came into the showdown with the reputation of having a more prolific batting order, it was the White that built up a small 5-2 lead heading into the fifth inning.

The advantage went up to four in the bottom of the fifth when Senior Chief Master-at-Arms Chris Ray singled, and then moved to



Chief Sonar Technician (Submarine) (SS) Chris Herman of the SNAFU White softball team ducks out of the way of a throw during the Winter Softball League championship final against the SNAFU Gold. The White beat the Gold, 6-4, to win the league crown.



The SNAFU softball club joins forces for a group photo at Hickam Softball Complex after the club's White and Gold teams squared off for the Winter Softball League championship.

third on two throwing errors before coming home on a sacrifice fly with one out by Cryptologic Technician (Collection) 2nd Class Mario Lopez.

Up by a score of 6-2 heading into the top of the sev-

enth and final inning, Hayes needed only three outs to get the win and appeared headed for an easy inning, when he retired the first two batters on a fly out and ground out.

However, after lying dor-

mant for nearly seven innings, the Gold bats suddenly awoke to add some drama to the game.

Outfielder Cryptologic Technician (Interpreter) 3rd Class Zac Metz got on with a triple and was

brought home on a towering moon shot over the leftfield fence by Aviation Ordnanceman Airman Douglas Minute for a two-run blast to make the score 6-4.

After putting another

runner in scoring position, Hayes got the final out on a long fly ball to end the threat and game.

The win ended a long day for the White, which nearly dropped their semifinal game against No Skillz only minutes before the title face-off.

Down by a score of 11-1 and 11-6 in the last inning, the White rallied to tie the score against No Skillz before crossing home six times in their last at-bat for the win.

Chief Sonar Technician (Submarine) (SS) Chris Herman said he believes that the quick turnaround helped his team, but added that it wasn't easy.

"It's nice to win," he said. "I enjoyed it, especially after coming back because we were down against No Skillz. We beat two good teams to win it."

Meanwhile, Gold pitcher retired Chief Information Systems Technician Lloyd Shoemaker said that you just can't win if you can't hit.

Normally a power-hitting club, Shoemaker said that the ball just didn't carry and that spelled trouble for his team.

"You got to come out and hit," he stated. "I don't think the ball was carrying as well. I don't know what it was. We're more of a home-run-hitting team. I'd take a base-hitting team over a home-run-hitting team any day."

Still, even in defeat, Shoemaker said overall it was a great day for the SNAFU softball club.

"It's a win-win for SNAFU," he said. "Both teams finish first and second in the league. It's definitely a good statement for our team to be able to split it apart and still do well."

But of course, for the champs, coming out on top is much sweeter than second.

"Yes, it does (feel good)," said Hayes. "Especially to beat them (Gold). That's even better."

Special Olympics Hawaii athletes compete in Holiday Classic at JBPHH

Story and photo by
MC2 Sean Furey

Navy Public Affairs
Support Element West,
Detachment Hawaii

More than 800 athletes with intellectual disabilities, along with the guidance of 250 coaches and more than 1,000 volunteers, competed in basketball, bowling and bocce during the 2012 Special Olympics Hawaii Holiday Classic at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) and Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

During the Holiday Classic, the athletes had an opportunity to enjoy many special events, including the opening and closing ceremonies, Olympic town and the victory dance.

"Our annual Holiday Classic is not just a competition to mark the end of the fall season," said Dan Epstein, Special Olympics Hawaii vice president of sports.

"It's also a celebration



Athletes compete at basketball during the Special Olympics Hawaii Holiday Classic at Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam. Approximately 800 athletes with intellectual disabilities, along with the guidance of 250 coaches and more than 1,000 volunteers competed in events such as basketball, bowling and bocce.

for the athletes who have spent months preparing for this sporting event and are able to compete with other athletes from across the state."

JBPHH support included ceremonial assistance for the opening such as a performance by the Pacific Fleet Band Quintet and participation by the Navy color guard and chaplain.

"Many people don't know that these 880 athletes train vigorously every year starting in September to compete in area and regional competitions in October and November to qualify for the Holiday Classic," said Epstein. "Their dedication and hard work are really inspiring."

Special Olympics Inc. was established in December 1968 as a non-profit organization to provide year-round training and athletic competition. The contests are held in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities in the general community.

Steps can be taken when planning holiday parties to maximize safety

Navy Personnel Command
Public Affairs

Navy families need to ensure they're planning for the after-party when considering plans for their holiday get-togethers, according to Navy officials.

With the holiday season here, Navy leaders want holiday party hosts to make plans for guests to get home safely afterward.

From Dec. 24, 2011 to Jan. 2, 2012, there were 33 driving while intoxicated incidents involving Sailors.

"Depending on the laws of your state, if you host a party and serve alcohol, you could potentially be legally liable if an intoxicated party guest drives away and gets in an

accident," said Dorice Favorite, director, Navy Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Office (NADAP). "There are some steps you can take before, during, and after your party to keep everyone safe."

They include:

- Prepare an overnight guest, or two-guest room, with air mattresses and sleeping bags.

- Always have taxi phone numbers handy.

- Make sure you know who the designated drivers are ahead of time, make sure the designated drivers have the keys, and ensure the designated drivers are parked where they are not blocked by other cars.

"If you plan activities like

party games, door prize drawings or a gift exchange, you'll engage your guests," said Favorite. "They'll be less likely to drink too much and they'll remember the great time they had. You should also provide plenty of food to keep your guests from drinking on an empty stomach. Offer non-alcoholic beverages or mocktails for designated drivers and others who prefer not to drink alcohol."

During the party make sure the designated drivers don't drink and be aware of who gets too drunk to drive. If someone has had too much to drink, make sure they have a safe ride home. Don't let anyone leave without your knowledge.

As the host, have fun, but

not too much fun. To be a responsible host, you should stay within your limits in order to make sure your guests stay within theirs. Close the bar 90 minutes before the party ends and serve a great dessert treat with coffee. Remember, only time sobers someone who has been drinking.

"If, despite your efforts, some of your guests have had too much to drink — take control," said Favorite. "Drive them home, arrange for a ride with another guest who is sober, call a taxi, or insist they stay over. A party should be a good time and not something you regret hosting."

For more tips on being responsible hosts, visit NADAP at www.nadap.navy.mil.

Road reconstruction work to take place on Ford Island Boulevard

Reconstruction work will take place from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 10 to 26 along Ford Island Boulevard between Saratoga Boulevard and the Ford Island Bridge.

This is a partial lane closure, and at least one lane will be open for traffic access.

Advance warning signs will be posted showing "road work ahead" and personnel with traffic flags will be on site. Motorists are advised to observe the warning signs and reduce their speed. Sidewalks in the work area will be closed.

Undefeated Port Royal wins big before playoffs

Story and photo by
Randy Dela Cruz

Sports Editor

USS Port Royal (CG 73) fell behind early in the game, but stormed back to score 24 unanswered points and beat USS Texas (SSN 775) Lower Level Mafia, 31-13, Dec. 1, in an Afloat Division intramural flag football game at Ward Field, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickman.

Down by a score of 7-0, Port Royal battled back behind quarterback Seaman Michael Elzen's three touchdown tosses and a pick-six by defensive back Electronics Technician 1st Class Adam Rodriguez to take a 24-7 lead en route to the victory.

The win completed a perfect regular season for Port Royal, which ended with a record of 9-0, while the LLM finished off their year just outside of the bubble with a 6-4 mark.

Against Texas, Port Royal gave onlookers a positive postseason preview by combining an efficient offense with an aggressive defense to gain the runaway victory.

Still, Elzen cautioned that while Port Royal played well against Texas, the team must continue to get better in order to bring home the base championship.

Port Royal will begin their quest for the title in a first-round playoff contest on Dec. 8, starting at 11 a.m., against the American Division's 647th Force Support Squadron (647 FSS) and their double-threat quarterback Staff Sgt. Jason Price.

"We're never satisfied," Elzen said. "We want to develop on each single play of the game and we got to keep on going. There is always room for improvement."

Although the final score was a blowout, the start of the game had all the elements of a shootout, when Texas took the opening snap and marched 65 yards on only four plays to steal a quick 7-0 lead.

Facing third and nine to go for a first down at his own 31, Texas quarterback Logistics Specialist 3rd Class Jesse Olstad looked



Seaman Casei Garrison of USS Port Royal (C 73) steps in front of USS Texas (SSN 775) Machinist's Mate 3rd Class Nick Canino to make a catch during an Afloat Division intramural flag football game at Ward Field, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

downfield and hit Torpedoman's Mate 3rd Class Mark Williams, who turned it upfield to score on a 47-yard pass-and-catch for a touchdown.

However, things didn't turn out as well on the LLM's next series, as Operations Specialist Seaman Alonso Yopez picked off an Olstad pass to give Port Royal a fresh set of downs at their own 24.

On the second play of the drive, Elzen connected with Aviation Machinist's Mate 2nd Class Joseph Gilmore on a 43-yard play that placed the ball on the Texas eight-yard line.

Later, Elzen tossed a pass to Seaman Casei Garrison for a touchdown to draw to within a

point at 7-6.

Next on first down from their own 25, Texas saw their one-point lead erased when Rodriguez intercepted a pass from Olstad and returned it to the house for a 12-7 lead.

Then just before halftime, Elzen upped the team's advantage to 11 by engineering a five-play, 52-yard march to pay dirt with the final 21 yards coming on a pass play from the QB to Gas Turbine System (Mechanical) 2nd Class Robert Jenkins.

In the second half, it was more of Port Royal as the team immediately posted its fourth touchdown in a row by taking the opening drive 65 yards on nine plays.

Gilmore, who was playing in his final game for Port Royal, made a one-yard catch for six and a 24-7 lead.

While Texas came back to score on a 39-yard pass from Olstad to Machinist's Mate 3rd Class Ruben Chechik, Port Royal wrapped it up on one final touchdown pass.

In the last scoring play, Elzen went over the top and connected with Fire Controlman 3rd Class David Mickevich for 55 yards and a TD.

Olstad congratulated Port Royal for their win, but added that, with nothing to play for, the LLM found it difficult to rally their forces.

"It was really kind of hard for us getting up for this game," Olstad

admitted. "We kind of knew going into this game that we really had nothing to play for. The playoffs were out of the question at that point. But they're (Port Royal) a good team. We just didn't play well today."

Yopez, who headed a tough Port Royal defense with two interceptions, said that although the team finished undefeated in the regular season, no one is taking anything for granted as it heads for the playoffs.

"We've got to step it up in practice, play harder and make no mental mistakes," he stated. "We'll play like its zero-zero, keep our minds clear and do our job. I think we can win it all."

15th Wing Airman returns with Tops in Blue

Senior Airman Briana Hofreiter (she is shown at right in both photos.), an Airman previously assigned to the 15th Comptroller Squadron at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, sings as a member of the 'Tops in Blue' performance team Nov. 30. The Tops in Blue have been among the first entertainment groups to travel into Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Pakistan, Qatar and Kyrgyzstan to raise military morale.

U.S. Air Force photos by Sr A Lauren Main



PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM Manawa Nanea LEISURE

Morale Welfare & Recreation

☞ BREAKFAST, BOWLING WITH SANTA

The Naval Station Bowling Center is holding a children's Breakfast and Bowl with Santa event from 9 to 11 a.m. Sunday. The cost is \$8 per child from ages 2-12 years and includes one game of bowling and shoe rental, plus pancakes or rice, scrambled eggs and drink. Space is limited to a maximum of 30 children. Today is the last day to register. FMI: 473-2651.

☞ YOGA BY THE SEA

There will be a free yoga session from 6 to 7 p.m. tonight at Hickam Harbor lawn adjacent to Sam Choy's. FMI: 448-2214.

☞ SANTA'S 'DIVE-IN' MOVIE

Hickam Pool 2 will host a free screening of "Frosty the Snowman" and "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" from 5:50 to 7:30 p.m. tonight. Children under the age of 10 must be accompanied by an adult. FMI: 448-2223.

☞ FREE GOLF CLINIC

The Navy-Marine Golf Course is hosting a free golf clinic at 1 p.m. Saturday. FMI: 471-0142.

☞ PRESCHOOL STORY TIME

Preschool story time is held from 9 to 10 a.m. Wednesday at the Hickam Library. The theme for the day is holiday stories with special guest reader Santa. FMI: 449-8299.

☞ HONOLULU CITY LIGHTS TROLLEY TOURS

The annual Honolulu City Lights Trolley Tours includes a trolley ride through Honolulu's city streets to see the buildings dressed up for the holiday season. A stop at Honolulu Hale (City Hall) provides a chance to stroll among the exhibits and decorations. Daily departures from Information, Travel and Tickets-Hickam are at 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m., Dec. 9 - 23 (no tour Dec. 22). Departures from Bloch Arena are at 6 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., Dec. 14, 16 - 18, 20 - 23. The cost is \$15 per person for ages 4 and older, free for children 3 and under. Seating is limited. Children 3 years and under must sit on an adult's lap (one child per adult). No large strollers (umbrella-type okay). FMI: 473-0792 or 448-2295.

☞ OAHU HIGHLIGHTS TOUR

There will be a tour of Oahu from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Thursdays, Dec. 6-27. The tour features major sights Oahu, including Hanauma Bay, Pali Lookout, and National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl). The cost is \$45 for adults, \$40 for children and free for children 2 and under who sit on an adult's lap. Lunch is included. Departures are from ITT-Hickam office. FMI: 448-2295.

☞ HICKAM HISTORICAL TOUR

A historical tour of the Hickam side of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Fridays, Dec. 7-29. The cost is \$55 for adults, \$45 for children ages 3-11 years old, and free for children 2 years and younger. Departures are from ITT-Hickam and Royal Alaka'i Lodge. FMI: 448-2295.

Community Calendar

☞ December

☞ 12 - A basewide cleanup of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam will be held from 8 a.m. to noon. FMI: 471-3521.

☞ 14, 15, 16 - Free, 30-minute Pearl Harbor holiday lights tours will be held at 6:15 p.m. starting at Pearl Harbor Visitor Center. For reservations, email holidayharborlightstour@gmail.com. Donations of nonperishable and canned goods will be accepted for local charities. FMI: 422-3399

☞ 15 - The annual Breakfast with Santa event will be held starting at 8 a.m. at the Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange food court lanai. The event for authorized patrons will also include young magicians, balloon art, and holiday arts and crafts. The cost of a child's ticket is \$12, and an adult ticket is \$5. FMI: 423-3287.

☞ 15 - Santa will be arriving on jet ski from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. to the shores at Bellows Air Force Station. Participants can bring their camera for a photo with Santa. The event will take place behind pavilion A on the beach. FMI: 259-4112.

☞ 16-19 - All of the games of the upcoming Hawaii Pacific University (HPU) Basketball Classic will be played at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam's Bloch Arena. Admission to the games is free. The games are: Dec. 16, 2 p.m., HPU versus Menlo College; Dec. 17, 7 p.m., Menlo College versus Upper Iowa; Dec. 19, 2 p.m., HPU versus Upper Iowa. FMI: www.goseawarriors.com.

☞ At a glance

☞ Reconstruction work will take place from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 10 to 26 along Ford Island Boulevard between Saratoga Boulevard and the Ford Island Bridge. This is a partial lane closure and at least one lane will be open for traffic access. Advance warning signs will be posted showing "road work ahead" and personnel with traffic flags will be on site. Motorists are advised to observe the warning signs and reduce their speed. Sidewalks in the work area will be closed.

For more information on events, visit www.greatlifeohawaii.com.

Movie Showtimes



The Man with the Iron Fists (R)

This is an epic story of warriors, assassins and a lone outsider hero in 19th-century China who must unite to destroy the clan traitor who would destroy them all. Since his arrival in China's Jungle Village, the town's blacksmith has been forced by radical tribal factions to create elaborate tools of destruction. When the clans' brewing war boils over, the stranger channels an ancient energy to transform himself into a human weapon. As he fights alongside iconic heroes and against soulless villains, one man must harness this power to become savior of his adopted people.

SHARKEY MOVIE THEATER

TODAY
7:00 PM Looper (R)

SATURDAY
2:30 PM Hotel Transylvania* (3-D) (PG)
4:45 PM Sinister (R)
7:00 PM Argo (R)

SUNDAY
2:30 PM Here Comes the Boom (PG)
4:45 PM Taken 2 (PG-13)
7:00 PM Argo (R)

**\$1 for 3-D Glasses Rental

HICKAM MEMORIAL THEATER

TODAY
6:00 PM The Man with the Iron Fists (R)

SATURDAY
4:00 PM Cars 2 (G)
7:00 PM Cloud Atlas (R)

SUNDAY
2:00 PM Cloud Atlas (R)



15th Medical Group team teaches Radford students about patient care

Story and photo by Don Robbins

Assistant Editor

Five Airmen from the 15th Medical Group at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam traveled to Radford High School on Nov. 29 to teach the students how to provide medical care to a patient.

The activity provided students with real-life experience and training in the medical skills needed to effectively care for a patient.

A total of 35 students, who are studying health care as a potential career, participated in the training. During the session, they rotated through six stations including checking a patient's vital signs and providing adult CPR. The team also demonstrated obstetrics, wound care, emergency response and infant choking/CPR.

"I would just like to say how much we appreciate the 15th Medical Group at Hickam who has helped us over the past three years with training sessions here on campus and job shadow experiences at the clinic on base," said Cindy Mochida



Radford High School 10th grade student Matthew Fiala learns how to perform infant CPR from Master Sgt. Tikama Drummond during a lesson at Radford High School on Nov. 29.

Schrock, career and technical education coordinator at Radford High School.

Senior Master Sgt. Michelle Rootes organized the events to provide

instruction to the students. "The team that she brought to Radford on

Thursday provided hands-on experience for our students and their expertise and interaction with our students was amazing," Schrock said.

"We're here to give the students an idea of what it means to be involved in health care," Rootes said.

She was joined by Master Sgt. Tikama Drummond, Staff Sgts. Samantha Thomas and Tiffany Salcedo and Airman 1st Class Christopher Bowlds, who all instructed the students in medical techniques.

"I spent most of my life being taught, but I also like to teach because it helps you understand your craft better," Bowlds said.

"I think it's broadening their horizons, so they can see if they want to go in the medical field or if it's not for them," Thomas said.

During one of the lessons, Radford 10th grade student Matthew Fiala learned from Drummond how to perform CPR on an infant with the use of a life-like plastic doll.

"It's nice that they're willing to show everybody this," said Fiala. "I eventually plan to work for the government in the CDC [Centers

for Disease Control.] I read a book about viruses and became very interested," Fiala said. He added that his grandfather also worked in the medical field.

Drummond said she loved showing the students something new. "This instruction in the medical field gives them a quick-peek," she explained.

The students expressed gratitude to the Airmen for taking the time to visit with them personally.

"I like how they are so open with everything and explain it so we know what to do," said 11th grader Jhanella Capacia. She said she wants to join the Navy and work in the dental field.

The students' teacher, Tiffany Petersen of the health services pathway core program, agreed that the interaction with the Air Force medical team benefited the students immensely.

"They are able to take what they learn in the textbook and see it in a real-life situation. You can see the excitement on their faces," she said.

(Editor's note: Lt. Kathleen Eisenbrey contributed information for this article.)

Festival of lights to include ship/submarine holiday lighting contest

The annual Pearl Harbor Holiday Festival of Lights featuring unique ship and submarine lighting schemes will run from Dec. 14 to 25.

There will be both harbor boat tours as well as a contest between competing ships and submarines.

Holiday festival of lights 30-minute-long evening boat tours will also be offered free to the public. They will be given from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Dec. 14, 15 and 16, departing every 15 minutes from the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center.

These tours are offered as a community service in partnership with the National Park Service and the Pearl City Lions Club. Although the harbor tours are free, canned good donations for

Hawaii's food charities will be accepted.

Seats are limited, and tickets will be distributed on a first come, first-served basis beginning at 5:30 p.m. on the day of the tour at the visitor center.

Due to enhanced security measures in effect at the visitor center, no backpacks, fanny packs, luggage, diaper bags, camera bags, purses, large camera/tripods or other items which provide concealment are allowed in the visitor center or aboard the boats.

Visitors are advised not to leave their valuables in their car. Cameras and video are allowed aboard for photos of the decorated ships. However, photographing security activities such as the



U.S. Navy photo

patrol boats and shore or water security personnel is prohibited. A light jacket or sweater is recommended.

The annual ship/submarine holiday lighting contest will be judged on the evening of Dec. 17 with a barge tour of the harbor. Categories include best decorations, best hospitality, best Christmas skit, best glee/choir and a "Scrooge" award.

One ship and one submarine will be selected for each category.

For the sake of energy efficiency, holiday lights aboard ships and submarines should be turned off at 9 p.m. each night.

For more information, email michelle.l.downs@navy.mil or call 473-2920.

Holiday events at JBPHH chapels scheduled

Chapel events at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam to celebrate Christmas and the New Year will include:

Catholic services

- Dec. 11 - Advent penance service at 7 p.m. (Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel, building 1600).

- Dec. 12 - Communal penance service at 7 p.m. (Hickam Chapel Center, building 1750).

- Dec. 24 - Catholic choir Christmas concert at 4:15 p.m., (Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel).

- Dec. 24 - Family Mass at 5 p.m. (choirs – Christmas hymn at 4:15 p.m. (Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel).

- Dec. 24 - Children's Christmas Mass/program at 5 p.m. (Hickam Chapel Center).

- Dec. 25 - Midnight Mass (Hickam Chapel Center).

- Dec. 25 - Christmas Day Mass at 9 a.m. (Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel).

- Dec. 25 - Christmas Day Mass at 10:30 a.m. (Hickam Chapel Center).

- Dec. 31 - New Years Eve Mass at 5 p.m. (Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel).

- Jan. 1 - New Year's Day Mass at 9 a.m. (Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel).

- Jan. 1 - New Year's Day mass at 10:30 a.m. (Hickam Chapel Center).

Protestant Services

- Dec. 23 - General Protestant children's Christmas program at 6 p.m. (Hickam Chapel Center).

- Dec. 24 - General Protestant Christmas eve candlelight service at 7 p.m. (Hickam Chapel Center).

- Dec. 24 - Christmas eve worship service at 7 p.m. (Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel).

- Dec. 31 - Watch night service at 9 a.m. (Trinity Missionary Baptist Church - 3950 Pain Circle, Honolulu).

Pearl Harbor Memorial regular schedule of services is daily Mass

Monday through Friday at 11:30 a.m., Saturday Mass at 5 p.m., Sunday Mass at 9 a.m., and Sunday Protestant worship service at 11 a.m.

Forest City announces holiday activities for military communities

December will feature a variety of holiday activities at local military communities.

Forest City has registered with Toys for Tots to participate in a toy drive. Unwrapped toys can be dropped off at the Pearl City Peninsula and Camp Stover community centers Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. through Dec. 14, or at the Moanalua Community Center during business hours through Dec. 21.

Moanalua Terrace is holding its first annual creative ornament contest through Dec. 21. There are two age divisions: 4-9 and 10-15. Ornaments can be dropped off during business hours at Moanalua Community Center. Two winners will receive a prize, one in each age group.

There will be a photo session with Surfin' Santa from 2 to 4 p.m. Dec. 7 at the Pearl City Peninsula Community and from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m., Dec. 12 at the Halsey Terrace

Community Center. There will be free snacks available. Those attending the Halsey Terrace event are asked to bring their own cameras.

Halsey Terrace is holding an ornament contest. Residents are invited to visit Halsey Terrace Community Center from 2:30p.m. to 4:30 p.m. and decorate a holiday tree with their ornament. Please be sure to include your contact information on the back or attached to the "hanging device" so we know who contributed the ornament. The two winning categories will be for the "most creative" and for "originality." Winners will be notified Dec. 13 and there will be a first and second prizes awarded. Ornaments will be returned after the contest.

Moanalua Community is looking for volunteers for a Christmas cleanup of the neighborhood to be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 14. Volunteers should meet at the Moanalua Community Center.

My Favorite Photo...

AGCS (IDW/AW) Enrique Acosta, Wounded Warrior Pacific Trials lead coordinator, took this photo recently of sunset over the Battleship Missouri Memorial and USS Arizona Memorial. He took the photo during a white boat guided tour given to wounded warriors.

Photo by AGCS (IDW/AW) Enrique Acosta

Send your (non-posed and non-family photos) to editor@hookelenews.com.



Cookie Caper brings holiday cheer to Airmen

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public Affairs

The holidays will be a little cheerier for single Airmen living in unaccompanied housing at joint base and deployed Airmen and their families, thanks to the efforts of the 15th Wing and their annual Cookie Caper project.

Spouses and personnel from the 15th Operations Group also joined together with the Friends of Hickam to support operation Cookie Caper.

Donations of homemade cookies were provided by members of the local community, including 15th Wing spouses, elementary schools, Girl Scouts, banks and businesses. Elementary school children decorated each paper bag holding the homemade cookies.

"For most new Airmen,

this is their first holiday season away from home," said Tonya Baldessari, 15th Wing Cookie Caper coordinator. "We want to give them a taste of home from their Air Force *ohana*."

From snickerdoodles to sugar cookies, chocolate crinkles to macaroons, and bon-bons to lemon cookies, Airmen receiving the heartfelt gifts will experience homemade kindness that warms the heart.

"This holiday season, I will be almost 6,000 miles away from my family," said A1C Tiffanie Gaines, Clay Hall resident. "I am looking forward to the Cookie Caper program because it provides an opportunity to celebrate the holidays with my friends and neighbors in the dorms."

"My grandmother and I always make sugar cookies during the holidays," said A1C Alexandria Wensink, Maysey Hall resident.



U.S. Air Force photo by David D. Underwood Jr.

Col. Johnny Roscoe, commander of 15th Wing, delivers cookies to Angela Bennett, military spouse, for the 15th Wing Cookie Caper near the Wright Brother's Cafe at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on Dec. 4. Cookie donations are being collected for single Airmen and to send to deployed Airmen this holiday season.

"Receiving homemade sugar cookies from the kind folks who took the time to bake them reminds me of home."

In addition to providing cookies to single Airmen who reside in the dorms, 15th Wing first sergeants will send homemade cookies to deployed Airmen. Families of deployed Airmen will also be receiving gifts of homemade cookies.

The cookies have also been given to organizations such as Fisher House, Security Forces Squadron, Command Post, Tripler Army Medical Center, Hickam Chapel, Navy salvage divers, 15 Medical Group Pharmacy, fire department, golf course and USO at the Hickam Passenger Terminal.

"In total, we had a team of 59 volunteers and hundreds of bakers," said Baldessari. "We were able to collect 1,878 dozen cookies, that is 21,858 total cookies."

Joint Base Airmen support Toys for Tots campaign

15th Wing Public Affairs Office

Leaders at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam demonstrated support for the Marine Corps Reserve "Toys for Tots" campaign Dec. 3 by collecting toys for less fortunate children in the local community.

"Team Hickam's participation in the Toys for Tots campaign reaffirms our strong commitment to serving the needs of our Hawaii *ohana*," said Col. Dann Carlson, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam deputy commander and 647th Air Base Group (ABG) commander.

The Toys for Tots campaign is a charitable tradition supported and executed by service members since 1947. Toys for Tots Hawaii has established a close working



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Nathan Allen

(From left) Col. Dann Carlson, 647th Air Base Group commander; Capt. Jeffery James, commander of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii; and Col. Johnny Roscoe, 15th Wing commander, donate toys Dec. 3 as a show of support for the annual Toys for Tots campaign.

relationship with local social welfare agencies, church groups and other local community agencies to

distribute the toys. The campaign, which began Nov. 18, requests that patrons

drop off new, unwrapped toys at collection sites located around joint base.

"Donation boxes can be found at a number of public facilities, including the base exchange, 24-hour shoppette, Airmen Family Readiness Center, the Kai Makani Community Center and squadrons," said 1st Lt. Kathleen Eisenbrey, Team Hickam Toys for Tots project officer.

After collection, Team Hickam toys are picked up and sorted at a warehouse managed by the Joint Base Office of Emergency Management.

"Donations halfway through the campaign have been large enough to fill six large collection boxes," said Staff Sgt. Rob Cook, 647th ABG Toys for Tots project officer. "I am amazed at the generous

gifts given by Airmen as we've collected enough toys to fill a moving van."

The new toys are then transported to the Marines Corps Reserves at Marine Corps Base Hawaii before they are distributed to children in need by the local Toys for Tots coordinators.

"It is important to remember that all monetary and toy donations that come from the islands stay on the islands," said U.S. Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Ed Hans, Oahu Toys for Tots action officer for the Marines Corps Reserve.

Hans said that more than 45,000 toys were collected from 200 donation locations on Oahu last year. The campaign runs through Dec. 14. A complete list of donation sites can be accessed at <http://bit.ly/VxU0Pd>.

Earth Tip: Buy a local live tree

If holiday plans include bringing a tree indoors to decorate, a locally grown tree avoids the issue of importing bugs and has a far smaller carbon footprint than one shipped from the mainland.

Another option is to cut your own. A website for "pick your own" information is: <http://bit.ly/QIuPGT>. If still left with its root, a potted tree will of course last longer than one that's been cut, and the risk of fire is greatly reduced. What are usually called Norfolk pines are probably Cook pines.

While the two species start out looking about the same, as they mature Norfolk pines look more like pyramids while Cooks take on a rocket or carrot shape. Either makes a suitable inside tree decorated with bows or wispy ornaments and light-weight lights.

No matter which you purchase, it's interesting to note

that Norfolk pines are not named after that Navy homeport on the eastern side of the continental United States.

The botanist on Captain Cook's second voyage in 1774 named the island on which the trees were found in honor of the Duchess of Norfolk. It's a 5-mile long island east of Brisbane, Australia and north, northwest of New Zealand.

The Cook pine is considered a native to New Caledonia, a much larger and more northerly island half way between Brisbane, Australia and Fiji. Both trees make fine inside locally grown trees for the holidays and should enjoy being planted outside after the holidays pass.

*Submitted by
Rebecca Hommon
Navy Region Hawaii
Environmental Counsel*

NMCRS offers scholarships, interest-free loans

Applications for Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) educational scholarships and interest-free loans for the 2013-2014 academic year are now available and can be downloaded at www.nmcrs.org/education.

Students eligible to apply include spouses or children (under the age of 23) of Sailors and Marines who:

- Are on active duty.
- Are retired.
- Died on active duty or in a retired status.

Consideration for selection is based

on scholastic ability and financial need. Applicants must be graduating high school seniors or full-time (minimum 12 credit hours) college students working toward their first undergraduate degree.

Applications must be received at NMCRS by May 1, 2013 unless the due date on the application states otherwise.

"During these tough economic times, our educational assistance continues to help Navy and Marine Corps families reach their goal of attending college," said Beverly Langdon, NMCRS educa-

tion program manager.

The NMCRS Education Program has provided scholarships and interest-free loans totaling more than \$60 million to more than 50,000 students over the last 30 years. It is based on the society's mission "to provide financial, educational and other assistance." The program is supported entirely by donations and bequests to NMCRS.

(For more information on the NMCRS Education Program, visit www.nmcrs.org/education or email education@nmcrs.org.)

HPU Basketball Classic to be played at JBPHH

All of the games of the upcoming Hawaii Pacific University (HPU) Basketball Classic will be played at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam's Bloch Arena.

Admission to the games is free. The games are:

- Dec. 16, 2 p.m., HPU versus Menlo College.
- Dec. 17, 7 p.m., Menlo College

versus Upper Iowa.

- Dec. 19, 2 p.m., HPU versus Upper Iowa.

For more information, visit the website www.goseawarriors.com.

Blood drive schedule announced

Tripler Army Medical Center Blood Donor Center has updated its schedule of upcoming blood drives as part of the Armed Services Blood Donor Program (ASBP).

Dec. 7, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, building 2.

Dec. 17 and 19, 7 a.m. to noon., 3rd Radio Battalion, Marine Corps Base Hawaii.

For more information, call 433-6699 or 433-6148 or email michelle.lele@amedd.army.mil.

Parking lot to be repaved

From 7 a.m. Dec. 10 through 4 p.m. April 5, building 1557, Jagger's Café parking lot, will be repaved and restriped.

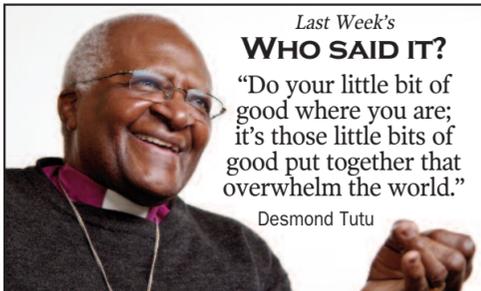
Motorists and pedestrians are advised to heed caution and warning signs and avoid parking in the work area throughout the duration of construction.

Vehicles obstructing the worksite will be towed at the owner's expense.

Traffic from the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Fitness Center through the parking lot will be closed throughout the duration of the project.

WHO SAID IT?

"The best road to progress is freedom's road."



Last Week's

WHO SAID IT?

"Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world."

Desmond Tutu

This Week's Trivia

When was the 15th Pursuit Group (Fighter), forerunner to the 15th Airlift Wing, activated and where?

Last Issue's Question:

What are the origins of oak leaves as U.S. Navy insignia

Answer: Oak leaves have been used as insignia by various corps and ranks of the U.S. Navy since the earliest days. This decorative device was probably adopted originally as a symbol of the oaken ships of the United States. In the days of wooden ships, the government preserved its oak for shipbuilding by placing oak timbers under water for decades.