"Navigator"

HO'OKELE

PEARL HARBOR - HICKAM NEWS

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JBPHH holds grand opening for Peltier Child Development Center

Story and photo by MC3 Dustin W. Sisco

Navy Public Affairs Support Element West Det Hawaii

Capt. Jeffrey James, commander of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH), speaks at the grand opening ceremony of the Peltier Child Development Center at JBPHH on March 8.

Sailors, Airmen and civilians attended the Peltier Child Development Center's grand opening ceremony at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) on March 8.

After opening remarks from Col. Dann Carlson, deputy commander of JBPHH, Capt. Jeffrey James, commander of JBPHH, talked about the development center.

"There is a saying in higher education circles that no nation is so wealthy that it can squander its youth and the promise of its youth," James said.

"The seeds of learning must be sown and encouraged to blossom. One-on-one engagement is the spark that lights the lifelong fire of inquisitiveness and a search for knowledge – and that's what the dedicated professionals who were carefully selected to do the work to care for our children here and facilities like this do," he said.

Once James was finished with his remarks, Kahu Kekua offered a traditional Hawaiian blessing for the center.

"What you see here today is a sign of the future," Kekua said. "We need to take care of our Sailors, our Airmen and their ohana – their family – and that's what we're doing today."

The Peltier Child Development Center, with an enrollment of 134 children, is the first of three others to open in Hawaii. The center provides child care for children from ages six weeks to 12 years who are family members of service members and Department of Defense personnel.

Service members volunteer in community at River of Life mission

Story and photo by MC3 Sean Furey

Navy Public Affairs Support Element West, Detachment Hawaii

HONOLULU – Service members volunteered at the River of Life Mission in the historic Chinatown district of Honolulu on March 6.

Sailors, Marines and civilians prepared an assortment of food and drink in addition to holding a church service for the guests.

"A lot of the Navy is philanthropy and helping reach out to the community," said Ensign Jennifer George, the anti-submarine warfare officer of the guided-missile frigate USS Reuben James (FFG 57). "We do that in our day-to-day job, but you never really get the gratifying experience of seeing what your result is and actually being able to see firsthand how you can help people."

The purpose of River of Life Mission is to restore broken lives through rescue, rehabilitation and reintegration services.

"This is a great foundation. I'm amazed that they feed these people three meals a day and it's purely by donation and volunteers. It's outstanding." George said.

The River of Life Mission has had close ties with local military installations for years.

"This group has been coming in for about 18 years in different forms," said Tracy Clay, the night operation manager of the River of Life Mission. "We have new faces now, but we have some core guys. They know what's going on. The guests start to recognize people because they come on a regular basis, so there's a relationship there."

The mission is a member of the Association of Gospel Rescue Missions, a national network of more than 400 missions throughout the United States dedicated toward providing for the most immediate needs of the homeless and needy.

Service members prepare food to serve at the River of Life Mission. The River of Life Mission is a not-for-profit organization that provides their guests with a variety of goods and social services free of charge.

Hickam Elementary participates in Read Across America

Col. Joe Dague, 15th Wing vice commander, reads a book to a kindergarten class March 1 at Hickam Elementary at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Dague read to the children as part of the Read Across America program honoring Dr. Seuss' birthday March 2.

U.S. Air Force photo by SrAirman Lauren Main

Chairman of Joint Chiefs, Secretary of Defense at JBPHH next week

Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, will host a town hall meeting today for Sailors and Airmen at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam while he is here for the U.S. Pacific Command change of command. Secretary of Defense Leon E. Panetta will speak at the change of command when Adm. Robert Willard, who will retire after 39 years of active service, relinquishes command to Adm. Samuel J. Locklear. Panetta will also visit the USS Arizona Memorial to lay a wreath in honor of our fallen heroes and re-enlist four service members. *(See next week's Ho`okele for complete coverage of these events and more.)*

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Early comeback leads Crommelin to huge win **See page B-1**

Support sought for March 23-24 Relay for Life **See page B-3**

USS Chafee arrives in Philippines

USS Chafee (DDG 90) Public Affairs

ILOILO, Republic of the Philippines – Guided-missile destroyer USS Chafee (DDG 90) arrived in Iloilo, Republic of the Philippines on March 2 for a port visit and to participate in the U.S. State Department program, America in 3D.

The program highlights American culture, values and services in the Philippines. The three-day event kicked off with an opening ceremony. Throughout the weekend, people were able to attend classes on applying for an American visa, studying in America and more.

The visit allowed Chafee Sailors to engage and interact with the local community. Sailors said they are excited to be in Iloilo during America in 3D because it gives them a chance to not only learn about the Philippine culture, but it encourages them to teach others about the United States.

U.S. Navy photo by Ensign Caitlin Smith

Ship's Serviceman Seaman Jametric Sumeral (center) and Interior Communications Electrician Fireman Raquel Lopez, (right) assigned to USS Chafee (DDG 90), participate in the color guard presentation at the opening ceremony for America in 3D program. The program highlights American culture, values and services in the Philippines.

"It's an honor and pleasure to be in Iloilo supporting America in 3D," said Cmdr. Justin Kubu, Chafee's commanding officer. "This weekend is a great opportunity to highlight the friendship and shared values between the Philippines and the United States while also enhancing understanding of the Navy's mission."

"The men and women from the Philippines and of Filipino descent contribute significantly to the professional culture of the U.S. Navy, and their service exemplifies the strong bond between our two countries," he said.

While in port, Chafee Sailors will take part in multiple community relation events with local organizations, including helping to refurbish an elementary school, planting mangroves as part of a city-wide initiative to clean up the Iloilo River, and providing soccer and basketball clinics in partnership with the National Sports Federation for soccer in the Philippines.

The ship's culinary specialists will also present an exhibit called "Presentation of Cooking Aboard a U.S. Navy Ship."

Chafee is on an independent deployment from its homeport of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.

Indonesian tall ship visits Hawaii

MC2 Daniel Barker

Navy Public Affairs Support Element West, Detachment Hawaii

The Indonesian Navy tall ship, KRI Dewaruci, arrived at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on Feb. 29 for a brief port visit while en route to the U.S. mainland.

Dewaruci began her cruise from Surabaya, East Java, Indonesia on Jan. 14.

KRI Dewaruci was invited by the Chief of Naval Operations to participate in the International Operation Sail (OpSail) 2012 to commemorate the bicentennial of the War of 1812. Dewaruci will join other tall ships, naval vessels and the Navy's Blue Angels holding demonstrations this spring and summer in New Orleans, Baltimore, Boston and Norfolk, Va.

"This is the bicentennial year of the War of 1812 and an opportunity to reflect on how far our Navy has come since then. Just as they are today, the ships of America's Navy in 1812 were a global force for good, combating piracy, protecting national commerce and supporting freedom of the seas," said Rear Adm. Frank Ponds, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific. "It is a real honor to welcome the Indonesian ship KRI Dewaruci to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam this week."

Capt. Jeffrey James, commander of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, greeted Indonesian Cmdr. Bima Haris and the Dewaruci crew upon their arrival.

"It's great to have our allies and our friends participate in our celebrations," James said.

Members of the Indonesian community were also on the pier to greet the Dewaruci and to participate in tours of the ship.

"We are very happy that they can come back here to Hawaii to visit us and that we can see the Indonesian culture," said Franky Pudja, an Indonesian resident of Hawaii.

While in port, the crew of more than 80 Indonesian Navy sailors visited Hawaii and replenished supplies for their ship. They provided tours of the 60-year-old ship for DoD ID cardholders, their families and sponsored guests.

Dewaruci is the only tall mast ship of the Barquentine class owned and operated by the Indonesian Navy. She is used as a sail training vessel for naval cadets and is the largest tall ship in the Indonesian fleet. The Dewaruci also serves as a goodwill ambassador for the country of Indonesia to the rest of the world.

An Indonesian sailor aboard the Indonesian navy tall ship, KRI Dewaruci hoists up a flag as it arrives at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, Feb. 29, for a brief port visit while en route the U.S. mainland. Dewaruci began her cruise from Surabaya, East Java, Indonesia, Jan. 14, as part of International Operation Sail (OpSail) 2012 to commemorate the bicentennial of the War of 1812.

U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Michael Holzworth

JBPHH instruction explains rules for bicyclists

647th Air Base Group

Current Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam bicycle rules and regulations in accordance with JBPHH Instruction 5560.1, JBPHH Traffic and Parking Regulation, dated Jan. 12, 2012, have been announced.

The definition of a bicycle is any device, having two tandem wheels, propelled solely by human power upon which a person may ride or any device generally recognized as a bicycle.

All persons, including minors, riding bicycles on JBPHH will observe the same traffic rules as are required of a motor vehicle operator. All persons operating a bicycle on JBPHH are also subject to all bicycle requirements set forth in the Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS). The following applies to bicycles being operated on JBPHH.

All persons operating bicycles through any JBPHH installation gate should avoid the normal flow of vehicle traffic whenever possible and utilize available bike paths and side streets.

Sidewalks may be used by bicyclists when bicycle riders do not pose a hazard to pedestrians. All bicyclists under the age of 18 will dismount their bicycles at intersections and walk the bicycles across the street, whether or not a crosswalk is present.

All riders will wear approved ANSI or SNELL Memorial Foundation certified bicycle helmets. Workers riding bicycles in areas requiring the use of ANSI approved helmets (hard hats) for protection from falling and flying objects are required to wear the ANSI approved helmets instead of SNELL approved bicycle helmets. This exception does not include commuting to and from work, or any other trips requiring passage through installation gates (e.g., Nimitz, Makalapa, O'Malley, etc.).

Every bicycle when in use at night (from 30 minutes before sunset to 30 minutes after sunrise) shall be equipped with a white light on the front which shall be visible for at least 500 feet ahead, and a red reflector or red light on the rear which shall be visible for a distance of at least 600 feet.

Bicyclists are highly encouraged to equip their bicycle with a bell or other device capable of being heard for a distance of at least 100 feet. Sirens and whistles are prohibited.

All bicyclists shall wear light colored clothing. During restricted visibility conditions, reflective clothing or vest will be worn by all bicyclists.

Bicycles will be properly parked and secured by use of a chain and padlock or bicycle cable lock to an approved bike rack.

No bicycle will be ridden on any sidewalk within business areas (i.e., Hickam Base Exchange, Navy Exchange, commissary, bank, credit union, etc.) or on the Mokulele pedestrian overpass.

Bicycle operators are prohibited from using any crosswalk, sidewalk, driveway or any other area not designated as a traffic lane for the purpose of bypassing a traffic control device, to circumvent the flow of traffic, or to cross over lanes of traffic unless already legally operating on a sidewalk. All bicyclists under the age of 18 will dismount their bicycles at intersections and walk the bicycles across the street, whether or not a crosswalk is present.

Bicycles are prohibited on any portion of the Kuntz Avenue overpass or on O'Malley Boulevard from the Air Mobility Command (AMC) Terminal Road to the Kuntz Avenue exit.

Licensing and display of tags

All privately owned bicycles must be licensed with the Division of Licenses, City and County of Honolulu, in accordance with HRS 249-14.5. Bicycle registration license tags are the same type as the auto renewal tag and must be affixed to the upright post of the bicycle frame, facing the forward direction. Persons residing on JBPHH are not subject to the bicycle licensing requirement of the City and County of Honolulu as long as the bicycle is owned and operated on the installation only.

Naval Legal Service Office Pacific offers expanded walk-in hours

Sarah Courageous

Naval Legal Service Office Pacific

Naval Legal Service Office Pacific (NLSO) has announced the expansion of its legal assistance hours to include walk-in attorney services Monday through Thursday from 8:30 to 11 a.m.

Walk-ins have proved popular for many individuals because they may see an attorney quickly without the wait time involved for scheduled appointments.

In keeping with its mission to provide quality legal assistance, NLSO believes the expanded walk-in hours will better serve the client's needs and enhance the experience of visiting NLSO.

Defense and power of attorney/notary services remain as before (defense on Tuesday and Thursday from 9 to 11 a.m.; power of attorney and notary on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., and Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.) For more information, call NLSO at 473-4717.

Navy's CPO-365 efforts take root in Hawaii

Bill Doughty

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

HONOLULU (NNS) -- Twenty-five Navy chiefs teamed with 25 first class petty officers Feb. 28 to clear 3.5 tons of brush from a culturally significant bike path in Hawaii.

The area, near the International Hula Institute Halau Hula Olana, had become overgrown after many years, attracting unlawful and unsafe activities, according to Olana Ai, of the hula school.

"It was also a constant eyesore to us and to those who walked or jogged or rode their bikes on the Pearl Harbor Historic Trail," Ai said. "To those who took the bus to work and had to use the trail late at night, it felt unsafe."

Now the area has been transformed.

"We are looking forward to having our hula students come to study hula and look out into the whole of Hau'ula, 'Ewa and Pu'uloa," Ai said. "We are hoping to revitalize the area sacred in ancient as well as in modern times and to bringing to the little community of houses a sense of homage and pride."

The Sailors conducted the project as part of MCPON's "CPO-365" - a program instituted by Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (SS/SW) Rick D. West - to ensure prospective chief petty officers receive good training with their chiefs.

"Residents were overwhelmed with gratitude at the work we were accomplishing," said Region Hawaii CPO-365 coordinator, Chief Utilitiesman Shane Ouimette. "An older man who was walking his dog stopped to say how grateful he and his neighbors were for our efforts in making the area a better and more useful space."

The 50 Sailors filled 55-gallon trash bags, loaded a five-ton truck and discarded brush and trimmings in green waste bins for proper recycling and disposal.

"Our chiefs believe in service to the community, teamwork and giving back," said Navy Region Hawaii Command Master Chief Marc Sibal. "There is no match for good teamwork and the power of leadership by example."

In a letter to Sibal, Howard and Olana Ai wrote, "Your efforts in taking the bush away on the water's edge will really be the start to shoring up a community effort to improve our neighborhood. We will forever be grateful and look forward to a healthy relationship with you as time goes by.

"It was very touching to get such sincere thanks from Halau Hula Olana and to know that our chiefs and first class petty officers made a difference," Sibal said.

"I volunteered for this project because I hold near and dear the fact that we as Navy are visitors temporarily assigned, and I like to show my appreciation for being afforded the opportunity to serve here," Ouimette said.

The girls of Halau Hula Olana (School of Living Hula) perform a traditional hula dance for the arrival of the Virginia-class attack submarine USS Hawaii (SSN 776).

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

Copying your CAC is a crime - use alternative options

Staff Sgt. Jacob Barreiro

19th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

LITTLE ROCK AIR FORCE BASE, Ark. -- According to Title 18, US Code, Part I, Chapter 33, Section 701, Official Badges, Identification Cards, Other Insignia, the photocopying of military identification is illegal and violations of this law are punishable by fine or imprisonment.

The pertinent part of section 701 says that any reproduction, replication, manufacturing or imitation of any government identification or insignia will be punished by a monetary fine, imprisonment up to six months, or both.

As noted in the security bulletin recently distributed throughout the Air Force, many military members, family members and Department of Defense employees are unaware of this law. Many commercial establishments ask for photocopies of military identification as proof that an individual is entitled to a discount or other benefit. However, this request is a violation of 18 USC 33 § 701. Commercial establishments may request to see a military ID, but cannot photocopy it for their records.

"This is important for anyone with a military ID to know," said Greg Call, base operational security manager. "Commercial companies will ask for it, but under no circumstances should you give them a photocopy."

Call said businesses like cell phone companies, hotels or car companies may ask to photocopy a service member's ID for their records when issuing a discount. However, this is explicitly against a code that takes precedence over any place of businesses practice.

"If a place insists on photocopying your ID, you should contact their corporate offices," Call said. "Never let anyone copy your card because you don't know what they'll do with the information on it."

Furthermore, Call said all service members should protect their ID at all times and inventory their wallet to ensure they are not carrying anything that, if lost, could cause them undue consternation or difficulty.

There are several alternative options for providing a commercial entity proof of service:

- State driver's license or other photo ID.
- Written statement of verification of military service from member's chain of command (no form letter provided, just a signed letter confirming member's current military status.)
- Proof of service letter-found in vMPF under self-service actions/personal data- confirms service dates.
- Statement of service from local personnel office- signed letter confirming military status.

(Note: If using a letter of service verification, ensure member's social security number is not included.)

Diverse Views

Do you have any pets? What kind and why did you choose them?

SrA Nicole Osmundson
15th WG/JA

"Two cats, both domestic shorthair, easier to take care of for a dual military couple with not a big yard."

Lewis Moore
Ship's Engineering Maintenance Assistance Team (SEMAT)

"I have a rough collie and a Belgium tervuren. The rough collie was my son's choice. We are lucky to have them. They have become a part of the family."

Maj. Jacob Lukens
65th Airlift Squadron

"One standard poodle. My wife grew up with poodles and needs a pet that does not shed. I wanted a big dog. A standard poodle was available."

Alfredo Sucaldito
Ship's Engineering Maintenance Assistance Team (SEMAT)

"We have a lhasa apso. We bought it at Kunia Park. We were just going to take a look, and this dog came up to us. We played with it, and it was very friendly. When we'd leave, it would follow us. We came back later to buy it."

Master Sgt. Abraham Garcia
647th Civil Engineers Squadron

"One dog, an American bulldog. My wife was 'hounding' me about a baby so I bought myself some time with a dog."

Ramon Enriquez
Ship's Engineering Maintenance Assistance Team (SEMAT)

"Japanese chin-pug mix. My daughter gave it to us. My wife was depressed because we have to put one of our dogs to sleep. So last Christmas, my daughter surprised us with this new dog."

(Provided by MC2 (SW) Mark Logico and David Underwood Jr.)

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

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

Civilian instructor pilot stands by her plane

U.S. Air Force photo

Cornelia Fort (shown here with a PT-19A) was a civilian instructor pilot at an airfield near Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, when the Japanese attacked on Dec. 7, 1941.

HO'OKELE
Pearl Harbor - Hickam News

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Air Force women trace history to World War II

Martha Lockwood

Defense Media Activity

U.S. Air Force graphic by Ylvia Saab

FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, Md. (AFNS) -- The Air Force's acceptance of women into the force dates back to long before the first "Women's History Week" celebration in 1978.

In 1942, the U.S. Army Air Corps (USAAC) took the unheard-of step of forming and employing two women's aviation units. That same year, a unit of flight nurses who had not yet quite finished their training, were sent into North Africa on Christmas Day following the Allied invasion in November of that year.

And the history of women—civilian and military—was forever changed.

WASPS, WAFS and a willingness to serve

Originally, the idea of using women pilots was first suggested in 1930, but was considered "unfeasible," according to information maintained at the National Museum of the Air Force in Dayton, Ohio.

Then, in mid-1942, an increased need for World War II combat pilots favored the use of experienced women pilots to fly aircraft on non-combat missions.

Two women's aviation units, the Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron (WAFS) and the Women's Airforce Service Pilots (WASPs), were formed to ease this need. More than 1,000 women participated in these programs as civilians attached to the USAAC, flying 60 million miles of non-combat military missions.

These two units were merged into a single group, the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) program in August 1943, and broke ground for U.S. Air Force female pilots who would follow in their footsteps decades later.

Of the more than 25,000 women who applied for pilot training under the WASP program, 1,830 were accepted, 1,074 were graduated and 916 (including 16 former WAFS) remained when the program was disbanded in December 1944. WASP assignments were diverse, as flight training instructors, glider tow pilots, towing targets for air-to-air and anti-aircraft gunnery practice, engineering test flying, ferrying aircraft, and other duties.

Although WASPs had the privileges of officers, they were never formally adopted into the USAAC. In November 1977, 33 years after the WASPs program was disbanded, President Carter signed a bill granting World War II veterans' status to former WASPs.

"Winged Angels"

It was a slightly different story for flight nurses who were members of the military from the beginning. As it was with so many advances and innovations resulting from World War II, the USAAC radically changed military medical care, and the development of air evacuation and the training of flight nurses were advanced to meet this need.

After the invasion of North Africa in November 1942, the need for flight nurses exceeded the supply, and women who had not yet finished their training were called into action and sent to North Africa on Christmas Day. Finally, in February 1943, the first class of Army Nurse Corps flight nurses graduated.

Unlike their stateside-stationed counterparts in the WASPs, flight nurses (nicknamed "Winged Angels") in the Army Nurse Corps served in combat. They were especially vulnerable to enemy attacks because aircraft used for evacuation could not display their non-combat status.

These same aircraft were also used to transport military supplies. In anticipation and preparation for almost any emergency, flight nurses were required to learn crash procedures, receive survival training, and know the effects of high altitude on a vast array of pathologies.

Of the nearly 1.2 million patients air evacuated throughout the war, only 46 died en route. About 500 USAAC nurses (only 17 died in combat) served as members of 31 medical air evacuation transport squadrons throughout the world.

When President Harry Truman signed the National Security Act of 1947, creating the Department of Defense, the U.S. Air Force became a separate military service. At the time, a number of Women's Army Corps (WACs) members continued serving in the Army but performed Air Force duties.

The following year, some WACs chose to transfer to the Women's Air Force (WAFs) when it finally became possible to do so.

Originally, the WAFs were limited to 4,000 enlisted women and 300 female officers, all of whom were encouraged to fill a variety of ground duty roles—mostly clerical and medical—but were not to be trained as pilots, even though the USAAC had graduated the first class of female pilots in April 1943 during wartime.

In 1976, when women were accepted into the Air Force on an equal basis with men, the WAF program ended, but not before many milestones were achieved and marked along the way in preparation for today's Air Force woman.

(to be continued in next week's issue of Ho'okele.)

SPAWAR brings IT training and configuration teams to COMDESRON 31

Space and Warfare Systems Command

U.S. Navy photo by Jazzmin Williams

From left (clockwise): Electronics Technician 2nd Class Jay Donlin, Information Systems Technician 2nd Class John Jamora, Chief Information Systems Technician Reginald Alisasis, Electronics Technician 1st Class Patrick Bonner and Information Systems Technician 1st Class Jose Medellin work on updating functional interface diagrams.

The Space and Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR) reserve component recently provided information technology training and configuration validation (CONVAL) support to Destroyer Squadron 31 and other units during a visit to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

A group of reservists from NETOps (NST) fly away team provided classroom training in security+ and networking while another team of reservists with the (CONVAL) team went aboard USS Chung-Hoon, USS O'Kane, USS Paul Hamilton, USS Crommelin and USS Chosin to map out systems to ensure functional interface diagrams were updated to current configuration.

The SPAWAR NST and CONVAL teams are made up of reservists who are attached to the SPAWAR Reserve Program at multiple sites across the country. "The SPAWAR Reserve Program provides unique military and technical capabilities in support of team SPAWAR's mission, contingency response and resolution of C4ISR issues that impact current and future fleet readiness" explained Cmdr. Eric Stoeckel, detachment officer in charge."

"There are networks aboard ships. So if you have a computer at home, like if you have a wireless network, the ships have their own networks. So those people in there getting trained are responsible for those networks, keeping them secure. They're teaching security+. All the tools that they're learning in there they're going to go back and apply to the ship and say, 'You know, we need to make the ship more secure,'" Stoeckel said.

By the conclusion of the detachment, the team had provided more than 800 student hours of classroom instruction to 24 students while the CONVAL team provided updated FIDS to five COMDESRON ships.

"Anytime we can provide free training to the fleet they love it. Hopefully based on this knowledge the objective is that these guys would go out, register for the exams, take it and pass it so that the fleet would be that much more ready in their IT departments," he continued.

For future training requests, contact Cmdr. Marty Riley for NST at martin.riley@navy.mil or Cmdr. Stephanie Nordoff, stephanie.nordoff@navy.mil for CONVAL support.

Supply Corps celebrates 217th birthday on USS Lake Erie

Story and photo by Ensign Kelly Ruane

USS Lake Erie (CG 70)

Capt. John Polowczyk, commanding officer of NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center Pearl Harbor, visited USS Lake Erie (CG 70) on Feb. 23 to celebrate the Supply Corps' 217th birthday.

To commemorate the day, Polowczyk thanked the Lake Erie Supply Department for their service and congratulated them on being a part of a grand Navy tradition. A blue and gold cake, baked and decorated by Culinary Specialist 1st Class (SW) Alfredo Medina, was brought to the mess decks. Polowczyk invited the oldest and youngest member of the department to cut the first slice with him.

The Supply Corps was originally established in 1795 to support the original six Navy frigates. Today, the Sailors of the Supply Corps support both shore and afloat commands by managing logistical transport and delivery of repair parts, food, clothing, ammunition and more to ships and bases worldwide.

(Left to right) Operations Specialist Seaman Desmone Garrett, the youngest member of Lake Erie's supply department; Capt. John Polowczyk, commanding officer of NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center Pearl Harbor; and Chief Logistics Specialist Kevin Ball, the oldest member of the Lake Erie supply department, cut the birthday cake in celebration of the Supply Corps 217th birthday.

New service enables visitors to book all four of the Pearl Harbor historic sites

Planning a trip to the Pearl Harbor historic sites is now easier through the National Park Service and Recreation.gov. Visitors for the first time can now make reservations for the USS Arizona Memorial tour for a $1.50 non-refundable, convenience fee per ticket.

Recreation.gov, in conjunction with the Pearl Harbor historic sites and the National Park Service, now offers three Pearl Harbor ticket options: the USS Arizona Memorial tour, the USS Arizona Memorial audio tour and the new Passport to Pearl Harbor.

"For almost 32 years, tours to the USS Arizona Memorial have been offered on a first come, first served basis. This new service will enhance the visitor experience by giving individuals and groups the option to make advance reservations for their visit to Pearl Harbor historic sites, saving them time and hassle," said Paul DePrey, superintendent for World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument.

"For anyone without access to online booking, visitors can call Recreation.gov toll free at 1-877-444-6777 and a limited number of walk-in tickets will still be available daily," DePrey said.

The Passport to Pearl Harbor is for those looking to get the entire Pearl Harbor experience for one price. The passport provides access to all primary Pearl Harbor historic sites for $55 per adult and $30 per child. For $10 more, the passport holders can upgrade to a two-day pass that allows them to return to Pearl Harbor within a seven-day period.

"From remembering the attacks of Dec. 7, 1941 at USS Arizona Memorial, learning about the nation's first aviation battlefield at the Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor, boarding the USS Bowfin submarine, affectionately nicknamed the Pearl Harbor Avenger, and seeing the spot of Imperial Japan's unconditional surrender aboard the Battleship Missouri Memorial the Passport to Pearl Harbor is the best way to get the whole story of WWII in the Pacific," said Michael A. Carr, president and chief operating officer of the Battleship Missouri Memorial.

The Passport to Pearl Harbor includes:

- The USS Arizona Memorial audio tour.
- USS Bowfin Submarine Museum and Park museum admission and audio tour.
- Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor admission.
- Battleship Missouri Memorial admission and the choice between four tours.

Upgraded tour options at the Battleship Missouri Memorial and Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor are available for an additional fee.

Pearl Harbor-Hickam *Highlights*

(Right) Cmdr. Kevin Long, commanding officer of the "Skinny Dragons" of Patrol Squadron (VP) 4, speaks to students during a career day at Aikahi Elementary School. VP-4 sponsors Aikahi through the Partnership in Education (PIE) program, a community-outreach initiative that partners a Navy command with a local public school.

U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Nathan Laird

(Below) Rear Adm. Frank Ponds, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, and Capt. Jeffrey James (right), commander of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, meet with Col. Sam Barrett, commander of 15th Wing, for an Air Force Partners Mission Orientation at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on March 7.

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

A sea-going crane lifts a Navy A3 Skywarrior from pier K-10 to a waiting barge. Afterward, the barge transported the Skywarrior to Ford Island where it will eventually be housed in the Pacific Aviation Museum. The museum is a fitting location for the Skywarrior as Ford Island was the refueling point for many an A-3 during their 39 years of naval service (1952-1991). Due to their size and weight, Skywarriors earned the nickname "whales." They were the largest and heaviest aircraft ever designed for use on aircraft carriers. The Skywarrior was transported from San Diego to Pearl Harbor on the deck of the amphibious assault ship USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6). The crane move took place on March 13.

U.S. Navy photo by Jim Murray

(Left) Sailors aboard the Los Angeles-class attack submarine USS Columbus (SSN 762) shift colors after pulling into the Republic of Korea naval base Jinhae. Columbus, homeported at Pearl Harbor, is on a scheduled six-month deployment to the western Pacific region and currently supporting Foal Eagle exercise 2012.

U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Travis Simmons

AF, other military services expand drug testing to include abused prescription drugs

Jon Stock

Air Force Surgeon General Public Affairs

U.S. Air Force graphic by Sylvia Saab

WASHINGTON (AFNS) – The Air Force and other military services will expand their drug testing to include testing for commonly abused prescription drugs beginning May 1.

On Jan. 31, the Secretary of Defense gave a 90-day advance notice of the drug testing expansion which aims to counter the nation's growing epidemic and encourage those abusing prescription medications to seek treatment before official testing begins.

"Abuse of prescription drugs is the fastest growing drug problem in the United States and, unfortunately, this trend is reflected in the military services," said Maj. Gen. Thomas W. Travis, deputy Air Force Surgeon General. "While pain medications are highly effective in alleviating suffering from injuries, they are dangerous and potentially addictive when used outside medical supervision."

Taking controlled medications in a manner other than how they were prescribed poses a risk to the person's health and safety and can put others at risk as well.

Prescription medications should be taken only for the purposes for which they were prescribed and at the dose and frequency prescribed. Additionally, Airmen are reminded never to take a medication prescribed for someone else.

"Members who need help discontinuing use of these drugs are encouraged to seek care at a military treatment facility immediately," Travis said.

The policy being addressed is not new to Air Force personnel. In accordance with Air Force guidance and existing law, the knowing use of any prescription or over-the-counter medications in a manner contrary to their intended medical purpose or in excess of the prescribed dosage may have negative health consequences and may also violate the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

AFI 44-121, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment (ADAPT) Program provides limited protections under certain circumstances for voluntary disclosure of prior drug use or possession to unit commanders, first sergeants, a substance abuse evaluator or a military medical professional. Once an Airman has been ordered to provide a urine sample as part of the drug testing program, any disclosure is not considered to be voluntary.

"There are no changes to procedures that will directly affect drug testing collection sites and military members who are selected for testing," said Lt. Col. Mark Oordt, chief, alcohol and drug abuse prevention and treatment and drug demand reduction. "The changes will occur at the drug testing labs where the standard panel of substances each specimen is tested for will be expanded."

Scope of the problem

- The Centers for Disease Control report 52 million Americans ages 12 plus years old had used prescription meds non-medically in 2009, with seven million Americans having done so routinely.

- Prescription medications appear to be replacing marijuana as the top "gateway drug." Six of the top 10 abused substances among high school seniors are prescription drugs; 20 percent of high school students have taken prescription medications without a prescription.

- Military data also suggests increases in prescription drug misuse. The DoD Health Behaviors Survey shows self reported misuse of pain meds for non-medical purposes by service members (all services) increased from 2 percent in 2002 to 7 percent in 2005 to 17 percent in 2008.

How to dispose of prescription drugs

"Patients are encouraged to dispose of prescribed medications once they are no longer needed for their prescribed purpose," Oordt said. "The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) prohibits pharmacies from taking back controlled substances. However, the services collaborate with law enforcement agencies in the DEA drug take back days which occur several times each year in most communities."

For more information on drug take back days, visit http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/.

The Food and Drug Administration also offers guidance on disposal of prescription drugs before consumers throw them in the garbage.

Take the medication out of their original containers and mix them with an undesirable substance, such as coffee grounds or kitty litter. The medication will be less appealing to children and pets and unrecognizable to people who may intentionally go through your trash.

Put medications in a sealable bag, empty can, or other container to prevent the medication from leaking or breaking out of a garbage bag.

For more information on how to properly dispose of medications: Prescription Drug Disposal: http://1.usa.gov/xOgLe6.

Traumatic brain injury program to hold open house March 14

Pacific Regional Medical Command

In an effort to help educate beneficiaries on what brain injury services and support are available, a Brain Injury Awareness Open House will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. March 14 in room 9B114 at Tripler Army Medical Center.

The Pacific Regional Medical Command's (PRMC) traumatic brain injury program, a comprehensive program which provides a continuum of integrated care and services for active duty service members and other beneficiaries with traumatic brain injuries, or TBI, will sponsor the open house.

Traumatic brain injuries are a disruption of function in the brain resulting from a blow or jolt to the head or penetrating head injury. Not all blows or jolts to the head result in TBI. The severity of TBI can range from mild, more commonly known as a concussion, to severe, involving an extended period of unconsciousness or amnesia. TBIs are a major health issue for the military. Unlike other injuries that change appearance, you cannot see a brain injury.

According to the U.S. Army's TBI Program, the majority of people with TBI recover with little or no specific medical intervention because most TBIs are mild, which are also known as mTBIs.

"The Defense Department maintains a traumatic brain injury database, which shows that 202,281 service members sustained a TBI between 2000-2010," said Dr. Sarah Miyahira, director, traumatic injury program, Pacific Regional MedicalCommand."Approximately 85 to 90 percent of combat exposed troops who sustain a mild TBI experience a complete resolution of symptoms within the first several days to weeks after the incident."

However, some people with TBI require specialty evaluation and intervention if they had a more severe injury or are not recovering quickly from a mild injury. Beneficiaries requiring extra care will work with a diverse team of healthcare professionals.

The medical team may vary, depending on the type and severity of injury and the needs of the patient. The team may include a wide range of physicians, nurses, behavioral health specialists and rehabilitations specialists.

"We utilize a family-centered approach, to include educational and group treatment programs for both Wounded Warriors and their spouses," said George Husky, liaison officer, traumatic injury program, PRMC. "Our program provides state-of-the-art continuously improving care for Wounded Warriors with TBI and mTBI in order to optimize functional outcomes and facilitate a return to duty."

The Department of Defense's (DoD) TBI research portfolio has grown, reflecting the department's understanding of these injuries, which will translate into improved clinical care and outcomes. TBI research continues to be fast tracked to assist our service members in improved care in collaboration with the line, medical and research communities. DOD will continue to provide a continuum of TBI screening and care from in-theater to post-deployment, including transitions to Veterans Affairs, ensuring the military health system properly screens and cares for service members with TBI.

Prevention of TBI is the safest and most cost-efficient course of action. DOD and each of the branches of service are working diligently to improve today's helmet designs, reduce the risks of blunt impact, provide greater ballistic protection and guard against blast injury.

"Most TBIs occur in non-deployed settings," Husky said. "So the Defense Department has launched an aggressive TBI prevention campaign emphasizing the use of seatbelts and protective eyewear and gear when service members are engaged in daily and recreational activities."

For information about signing up for either a support group and/or an educational group, call Galsomenia (Gale) Nathan at 433-6405.

Sailors react to SECNAV announcement of 21st century Sailor and Marine initiative

MC2 (SW/AW)
William Jamieson

Navy Public Affairs
Support Element, East

U.S. Navy photo by MCC Sam Shavers

Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Ray Mabus answers questions during all-hands call aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Bataan (LHD 5) at Naval Station Norfolk. Mabus was in Norfolk to unveil a new initiative designed to maximize Sailor and Marine personal readiness, build resiliency and hone the most combat effective force in the history of the Department of Navy.

NORFOLK, Va. (NNS) -- The secretary of the Navy held an all hands call aboard USS Bataan (LHD 5) which was televised and streamed live on the web to the fleet March 5, announcing the establishment of the 21st Century Sailor and Marine initiative.

Secretary Ray Mabus explained that the initiative consolidates a set of objectives and policies, new and existing, to maximize Sailor and Marine personal readiness. The programs are divided into five categories or areas: readiness, safety, physical fitness, inclusion and continuum of service.

"The new defense strategy will put increased responsibilities on the Navy and Marine Corps in the years to come," the secretary said. "You are the department's most essential asset, and it is the duty of the department's leadership to do all we can to provide each individual Sailor and Marine with the resources to maintain that resiliency."

For Sailors in attendance, the message was clear. Logistics Specialist 2nd Class Jessica Vestal from Bataan said she left the all hands call feeling excited for the future of the Navy.

"I thought the new initiatives really show how far the Navy has come," Vestal said. "We, as Sailors, need all the support we can get, and I feel like I heard a lot today that will have a real deckplate impact."

Various programs fall under the readiness area, all of which help ensure we have the most mentally prepared service members and family in department history. Continued emphasis on the responsible use of alcohol, zero tolerance for drug use, suicide reduction, family and personal preparedness, and financial and family stability all work together to prepare Sailors, Marines and their families for the challenges that they may face and reinforce healthy alternatives on liberty or off-duty.

A new initiative will include breathalyzer tests when Sailors are stationed onboard ships, submarines and at squadrons report for duty and randomly elsewhere to reduce the occurrence of alcohol-related incidents that can end careers and sometimes end lives.

Gas Turbine Systems Technician 2nd Class Eric Smith from Assault Craft Unit 4 said the new initiatives were a welcome continuation of policies already in place.

"We have been moving towards a cleaner, smarter Navy, and I would tell my guys that this is just one more step towards that goal," Smith said. "If you aren't right, now is definitely the time to get right."

In addition to ensuring the readiness of our Sailors and Marines, the initiative will aim to make the Navy and Marine Corps the safest and most secure force in the department's history. All personnel in the fleet should expect to work in a safe environment, free from harassment or hazards, and when confronted with these, have the resources available to immediately correct the problem.

The Department of the Navy (DoN) continues to work aggressively to prevent sexual assaults, to support sexual assault victims, and to hold offenders accountable. Part of this effort is implementing new training at multiple levels in both the Navy and Marine Corps.

"I was very encouraged to see the Navy and Marine Corps taking the lead on sexual assault prevention" Vestal said. "I've long been an advocate for the program, and I think it's very encouraging that the Sailors coming into the Navy will find it to be a great working environment."

While each of the five areas provide important support for department personnel, physical fitness can be viewed as having some of the farthest reaching beneficial effects. Sailors and Marines must be ready to meet the demands of performing in a tactical environment, and physical readiness is a crucial link to ensuring Sailors and Marines are ready to take on the challenges the Navy and Marine Corps faces today and will face in the future.

Ensuring all personnel, regardless of race or gender, are given every opportunity to excel and succeed is the hallmark of the program's fourth area, inclusion. In order to operate globally, the Department of the Navy will need diversity of ideas, experiences, areas of expertise, and backgrounds to fulfill a variety of missions, while remaining relevant to the American people.

A new DoN Diversity Office will be established, with the assistant secretary of the Navy (manpower and reserve affairs) serving as the DoN's diversity officer. The diversity office will leverage, coordinate and formalize ongoing efforts within the Navy and Marine Corps and will include the heads of the Navy Office of Diversity and Marine Corps Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity Management and the DoN Office of Civilian Diversity as team members.

The final area, continuum of service, aims at ensuring Sailors and Marines are provided the most robust transition support in department history. Whether retraining wounded warriors, providing voluntary education, or helping achieve civilian credentialing, the department will aim to provide personnel every opportunity for personal and professional growth.

Aviation Ordnanceman 1st Class Thomas Monfett from Bataan said he hoped to see his junior Sailors take advantage of the new programs.

"I always tell my guys [to] get what they can out of their time in the Navy," Monfett said. "From stopping smoking to getting in shape, these new programs are going to offer ways for Sailors to better themselves and their families. I think it's great."

My Favorite Photo...

Photo by John Burns

This is a photo that John Burns took of a monk seal at the end of Kaena Point on the North Shore about a month ago. There were two other seals within a hundred yards, also sleeping on the rocks.

How to submit

Do you enjoy taking pictures and have a favorite photo? Would you like to see it featured in Ho`okele? Here is your opportunity. Submissions must be from people affiliated with the military services, including active duty, family members, Reserve, retired and Department of Defense civilians, etc.

Your favorite photo can be just about anything, but keep in mind that it should be in good taste. We aren't looking for posed family shots or group shots. But if you have a photo that you think is interesting and creative, here is your chance to see it published.

Photo submissions will be reviewed by Ho`okele editors who will determine if/when they will run in the newspaper. Along with your photo, please send a little bit of information about the photo, such as where it was taken or any interesting details. Also include the name of the photographer and contact information.

Please send your photos to editor@hookelenews.com and "cc" Karen Spangler, managing editor, at karen.spangler@navy.mil and Don Robbins, assistant editor, at drobbins@hookelenews.com.

Brush up on your photography skills. Ready, set, shoot!

Diamond Tips

What would you do?

Master Sgt. Eric L. Mixon

First Sergeant, 747th Communications Squadron

Have you ever seen the television show, "What would you do?" It's a pretty interesting show. It creates dynamic situations/atmospheres using actors and records how passers-by (unaware it's a show) react to it.

In one of the episodes, there is a couple getting into a physical altercation in a park, with the male pushing and grabbing his apparent "girlfriend." You watch as folks, who obviously witness the altercation, simply keep walking and do nothing. Fortunately, there are also some individuals who step in and act, either by removing the "girlfriend" from the situation, or trying to talk to the couple.

Another great setting for the show was in a bar where a male and female couple were enjoying a nice date. Then the female actress goes to the bathroom. The male actor reaches into his pocket and pulls out a couple of pills and empties them into his female companion's drink. This is done in front of many people who witness this blatant act. The female returns, and you watch as individuals who witnessed the event just sit and do nothing. They simply watch as she drinks her apparently drugged beverage. Luckily, you also have those folks who step in and stop her from partaking of the beverage.

As Airmen, we face situations every day where we have to decide what we will do. This ranges from the trivial, such as spotting a piece of trash on the ground and deciding whether we will just "keep walking" or "act" and pick it up, to the big situation, such as watching a fellow Airman attempt to get behind the wheel after drinking and either "doing nothing" or "stepping in."

So the question I pose to you is, "What will you do?" when confronted with these types of situations? Will you be the one who simply keeps walking and does nothing, or will you be the individual others would be proud to "watch" and step in and do the right thing?

KHON (FOX) TV 2 Hawaii Navy News upcoming segments

March 15: Marine Corps Base Hawaii – Ospreys and H-1s
March 22: Historic preservation/adaptive reuse
March 29: Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard – Career Fair
April 5: Citadel Pacific Exercise
April 12: War of 1812
April 19: COMSUBPAC: Undersea Warfare
April 26: "Battleship"

(The segments currently air between 6:20 and 6:30 a.m. each Thursday. Previous segments can be viewed at http://www.bit.ly/KHONNavy)

Got a story for KHON Hawaii Navy News?
Email editor@hookelenews.com or call Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs at 473-2875. Stories must have a Navy tie and be of interest to the general public.

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Fraud, Waste or Abuse
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