

FOR THE NAVY AND AIR FORCE TEAM IN HAWAII

HO'OKELE

JULY 2020

INSIDE:

**FROM
STORE
TO DOOR**

**4TH OF
JULY
SAFETY**

C-17 Globemaster III
Supporting the Mission in the Pacific



Lulumahu Falls

John Burns, administrative support assistant for Navy Region Hawaii, recently took this photo while hiking to Lulumahu Falls in Honolulu. (Submit your favorite Hawaii scenery photo to newspaperjbphh@gmail.com for a chance to be featured in the Ho'okele magazine.)



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Your Navy Team in Hawaii

Commander, Navy Region Hawaii oversees two installations: Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on Oahu and Pacific Missile Range Facility, Barking Sands, on Kauai. As Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, we provide oversight for the ten surface ships homeported at JBPHH. Navy aircraft squadrons are also co-located at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe, Oahu, and training is sometimes also conducted on other islands, but most Navy assets are located at JBPHH and PMRF. These two installations serve fleet, fighter and family under the direction of Commander, Navy Installations Command.

A guided-missile cruiser and destroyers of Commander, Naval Surface Force Pacific deploy independently or as part of a group for Commander, U.S. Third Fleet and in the Seventh Fleet and Fifth Fleet areas of responsibility. The Navy, including your Navy team in Hawaii, builds partnerships and strengthens interoperability in the Pacific. Each year, Navy ships, submarines and aircraft from Hawaii participate in various training exercises with allies and friends in the Pacific and Indian Oceans to strengthen interoperability. Navy service members and civilians conduct humanitarian assistance and disaster response missions in the South Pacific and in Asia. Working with the U.S. Coast Guard, the Navy in Hawaii provides drug interdiction and fisheries enforcement operations for Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet. In even-numbered years Hawaii hosts the biennial summer Rim of the Pacific Exercise, the world's largest military maritime exercise, featuring more than two dozen nations and 25,000 personnel.

The Navy family in Hawaii comprises around 50,000 people, most of whom are active duty service members and their families, and includes nearly 15,000 civilians and contractors as part of our workforce.

JBPHH includes the Pearl Harbor waterfront, Hickam flight line, Wahiawa annex and several other areas in West Oahu and provides a major logistics and other support hub for the military and military families. Supporting the nation's ballistic missile defense initiative, the Pacific Missile Range Facility on the western coast of "The Garden Island," is the world's largest instrumented multidimensional testing and training missile range.

We provide services to the U.S. Pacific Command, one of DOD's six geographic combatant commands, with an area of responsibility covering half the globe. We directly support two component commands whose headquarters are on JBPHH: Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet and Commander, U.S. Pacific Air Force. Close to our own Region/MIDPAC headquarters command is Commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet. With 18 forward-deployable combat-ready U.S. Navy submarines, Pearl Harbor is home to the largest submarine presence in the Pacific. The Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, on JBPHH, is the largest ship repair facility between the West Coast and the Far East. Within our region we support more than 100 tenant commands.

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On the cover:
A C-17 Globemaster III from the 535th Airlift Squadron flies over Honolulu.

(U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Anthony Nelson, Jr.)

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Diverse VIEWS

"What do dignity and respect mean to you, and what positive thing can you do to make a change in our country/military?"

By MC1 Erickson Magno, MC2 Charles Oki and David D. Underwood, Jr.



MA1 Jerry Brooks-Alarcon
Pacific Missile Range Facility

"Having the ability to embrace and understand people from all walks of life and view those differences as an opportunity for growth instead of a hindrance. I try to be the best example of a leader I can be, in and out of uniform."



Tech. Sgt. Amanda Le
37th Intelligence Squadron

"Having pride in myself and the way I treat others. I can make positive change by taking the time to listen to others and learn from their perspectives and experiences."



HM2 Kemberley Benavitz
Operational Health Support Unit San Diego

"You should treat everyone with the same dignity and respect that you give yourself each and every day."



CNO's message to Sailors

Adm. Mike Gilday
Chief of Naval Operations

(Editor's Note: The Chief of Naval Operations message was first published on Navy.mil on June 3. Watch the video here at <https://www.navy.mil/media/flashvideo/cno/CNOMsg20200603.mp4>)

I wanted to take a few moments to talk to our Navy family – our officers, our enlisted Sailors, our Navy civilians, and our families – about the murder of Mr. George Floyd and the events that we have all watched on TV for the last several nights.

It's been a very sad time for our country - a confusing time. And most of us are trying to figure it out and trying to ask ourselves, "What can we do?" "How can we contribute in a positive way to change things so that these things never happen again?"

I've been in the Navy for a long time and I've had a lot of experiences. Something I have never experienced and something I will never experience is that I will never walk in the shoes of a black American or any other minority. I will never know what it feels like when you watch that video of Mr. Floyd's murder. And I can't imagine the pain and the disappointment and the anger that many of you felt when you saw that. Because it's not the first time, it's happened time and time again in our country.

I don't have all the answers, and as CNO I can't write an order and change a policy

that's going to fix things. So, I thought I'd make a couple of points.

First right now, I think we need to listen. We have black Americans in our Navy and in our communities that are in deep pain right now. They are hurting. I've received emails, and I know it's not a good situation. I know that for many of them, they may not have somebody to talk to. I ask you to consider reaching out, have a cup of coffee, have lunch and just listen.

The second thing I would ask you to consider in the Navy we talk a lot about treating people with dignity and respect – in fact, we demand it. It's one of the things that makes us a great Navy and one of the things that makes me so proud of all of you every single day. But over the past week, after we've watched what is going on, we can't be under any illusions about the fact that racism is alive and well in our country. And I can't be under any illusions that we don't have it in our Navy.

Racism happens a lot and it happens with people that we don't normally expect. It happens with people who are friendly, generous and kind as well. It could be a friend, a coworker, it could be a family

member or a close acquaintance. And they say something, and it's not right. And you know it's not right. But because they're a friend, and you know them well, and they're a good person. You say to yourself "they didn't mean that... they didn't mean for it to come out that way." But it did. And they had that thought. And they verbalized it. There was a consequence and somebody was probably hurt by it.

So, when that happens, I want you to think about is approaching that person. Think about dignity and respect. Think about having a private conversation – an honest conversation in educating them. Make them more self-aware of what they did and what they said. If we don't do that, racism, injustice, indignity, and disrespect – it's going to grow and it's going to continue. And we'll have more weeks like we've had in the past week. And we'll be disappointed. We'll be more disappointed in ourselves because we let it happen. We let it happen.

I'm really proud of the Navy. I'm such an optimist about not only where we've been but where we are going. Let's make it the best Navy possible. Let's make it the best Navy for everybody.

individual and systemic racism within our force. We are beginning that work now – examining our policies, ranging from recruiting and assignments, advancements and promotions, to our military justice system, and other policies.

That is why we are standing up a task force designed to identify and remove racial barriers and improve inclusion within our Navy.

We must demand of each other that we treat everyone with dignity and respect. If you won't do that, then our Navy is not the best place for you.

View the video at <https://www.dvidshub.net/video/757420/starts-with-us>

"We are one team, one Navy" - Adm. Mike Gilday

Three weeks ago, I asked you to listen. Now, I am strongly encouraging every Navy leader – uniform and civilian, active and reserve - to start a dialogue at each of your commands.

As a Navy, we must seize this opportunity to engage in conversations about race relations and inclusion within our force. Now is the time to have open and honest conversations across our Navy. Each of us should be thinking about how we can contribute in a positive way, and what we can do to better our Navy. It starts with each of us...

To start that conversation, I'd like to share some personal experiences from a few of our shipmates. To be clear...as Sailors, and as a Navy, we cannot tolerate discrimination or racism of any kind. We must work to identify and eliminate



Unrest in America

Gen. David L. Goldfein
Chief of Staff of the U.S. Air Force

The death of George Floyd is a national tragedy. Every American should be outraged that the conduct exhibited by police in Minneapolis can still happen in 2020. We all wish it were not possible for racism to occur in America, a country founded on the sacred ideal that "all men (and women) are created equal" and have the "unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." But it does, and we are at a moment where we must confront what is.

To the Airmen who are mourning, angry, or weary of the battle against racial prejudice, discrimination, bias, and systemic discrimination, Chief Wright and I recognize your pain. As the Air Force's military leadership, we reflect on and acknowledge that what happens on America's streets is also resident in our Air Force. Sometimes its explicit, sometimes it's subtle, but we are not immune to the spectrum of racial prejudice, systemic discrimination, and unconscious bias. We see this in the apparent inequity in our application of

military justice. We will not shy away from this; as leaders and as Airmen, we will own our part and confront it head on.

Chief Wright and I have had vastly different experiences growing up and during our time in the Air Force. His powerful op-ed, Who Am I, is a must read. Please disseminate it across your wing.

So what to do? Discussing our different life experiences and viewpoints can be tough, uncomfortable, and therefore often avoided. But we have been presented a crisis. We can no longer walk by this problem.

We must look inward at our Air Force, and at every echelon of command, so we emerge stronger as a profession of arms. It was our very own General Benjamin O. Davis, Tuskegee Airman, who said, "The privileges of being an American belong to those brave enough to fight for them."

It is time for every one of us to strive for understanding and a culture of inclusiveness and

belonging across our Air Force.

I don't have the answers, but I do know there is no room for bigotry, hatred or small mindedness in our force. Period. Every member of our team needs to know we have their back.

So let's start the conversation acknowledging we have many valued Airmen who live and work for One Nation under God, indivisible ... but for them ... without liberty and justice for all.

Chief Wright and I will attack this together in the weeks and months ahead. Together with Secretary Barrett, we have directed the Air Force Inspector General to do an independent review of our legal system, racial injustice, and opportunities for advancement. On Wednesday evening at 1700 Eastern Time, we will host a Facebook town hall on this issue for 2 hours. We look forward to engaging with you'. You can link in via <https://www.facebook.com/csafficial/>.

Let's get better together.

DIALOGUE ON **RACE**

JBP HH STORE TO DOOR:

A community coming together



**By Staff Sgt. Jasmonet Jackson
JBP HH Public Affairs**

Since the advent of COVID-19, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBP HH) has been working tirelessly to prepare its Airmen, Sailors, Department of Defense (DoD) employees and their families for what some would call, “the new normal.”

The global pandemic has halted service members and their families in various locations due to the DoD travel ban, but they will soon be able to transition to their permanent duty stations.

In preparation for the upcoming permanent change of station (PCS) season, Capt. Jeff Bernard, JBP HH commander, wanted to ensure that all DoD personnel and families assigned to JBP HH have essential items as they complete their requirement of 14-day restriction of movement (ROM) upon arriving to Oahu.

U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Samantha King, 15th Medical Group technician, and Staff Sgt. Arlinda Haliti, took the lead and brought JBP HH “Store to Door” to fruition.

“The initial idea behind JBP HH ‘Store to Door’ was to prepare for the upcoming PCS season and to make sure families have everything they need prior to arrival and the duration of their ROM,” said Staff Sgt. Arlinda Haliti, First Term Airmen Center NCOIC and Hawaii 5/6 president. “We also decided that we not only wanted to service incoming families, but families’ that currently reside on JBP HH as well.”

Once King and Haliti received notice of the Joint Base commander’s intent, they immediately began making plans and phone calls to various agencies to include the Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA) located on JBP HH to Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea.

“It was a lot of planning, phone calls, and collaborating with different agencies, but we acted fast,” said Staff Sgt. Samantha King, 15th Medical Group technician. “Osan gave us an idea of what we could expect since they were running a similar program.”

In a matter of days, King and Haliti, along with DeCA, were able to come up with a solid plan to deliver groceries to DoD personnel and their families in the following destinations: Navy Gateway Inns and Suites, Navy Lodge, Hickam Communities, Ohana Military Communities, Hospital Point and Makalapa.

Delivery days run on Fridays from 4 to 7 p.m. and Saturdays from 1 to 4 p.m. but is subject to change to meet the demands of families. For information on how to volunteer for this initiative or to place an order, visit their Facebook page “JBP HH Store to Door.”



BEING SAFE IN THE “NEW NORMAL”

Tips and Best Practices for Getting Back Out There

As states, counties and local businesses open back up, it’s important to keep in mind some basic principles to staying safe, even while enjoying everyday things we’ve gone without since Stay at Home Orders began.

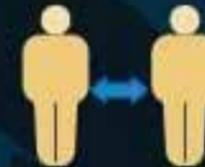
GOING OUT Protect Yourself and Others



Wash Hands Frequently



Wear Face Coverings



Maintain 6 feet (2m) Physical Distance



Use Hand Sanitizer



Avoid Crowded Public Transportation



Use electronic payment instead of cash

VISITING PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES Do’s and Don’ts



- Check with the park or recreation area in advance to prepare safely and find out what services are available (ex. bathroom facilities).
- Carefully consider use of playgrounds and help children follow safety guidelines.
- Visit parks that are close to your home.
- Play it safe in and around swimming pools, hot tubs and water parks by keeping a safe distance between yourself and others.
- Don’t visit parks if you are sick, tested positive or were recently exposed to COVID-19.

DINING OUT Safety Precautions at Restaurants



- Check the restaurant’s website and social media to see if they have updated their information to address any COVID-19 safety guidelines.
- Before you go to the restaurant, call and ask if all staff are wearing cloth face coverings while at work.
- When possible, sit outside at tables spaced at least 6 feet apart from other people.

SOCIAL GATHERINGS Hosting Cookouts and Events



- Host your gathering outdoors, when possible. If this is not feasible, make sure the room or space is well-ventilated (ex. open a window).
- When guests arrive, minimize gestures that promote close contact.
- Limit the number of people handling or serving food.

4TH OF JULY

SAFETY TIPS

AMID COVID-19

By Anna General
Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

As the restrictions of COVID-19 begin to relax, an increase of people will be out enjoying Hawaii's tropical weather. From swimming at the beach, grilling in the backyard and enjoying the company of family and friends, maintaining a safe distance and practicing safety measures is still something to keep in mind.

With Fourth of July just around the corner, many events and fireworks displays have been canceled across Oahu but that does not stop anyone from celebrating Independence Day. With all those fun summer activities and reopening of business facilities, the following safety tips are offered to make your celebration a happy and safe one.

SWIMMING SAFETY

Swimming is one of life's greatest pleasures. It offers health and fitness benefits, cools you off in the summer, and provides a great opportunity to socialize with family and friends. Although water can be a lot of fun, make sure you and yours stay safe by being water-aware. The Naval Safety Center offers these important swimming safety tips while you're in the water:

- Do not swim alone. Always swim with a partner.
- Never allow young children to swim without adult supervision.
- Never swim when you are tired, under the influence of alcohol, drugs or medication.
- Know and observe your swimming limitations and capabilities.
- Avoid swift-moving water. If caught in a current, swim with it and angle towards shore or the edge of the current.
- Observe warning signs.
- Stay out of the water during thunderstorms and severe weather.

While many American families celebrate Fourth of July weekend to recognize our country's rich history and freedom, keeping the community safe and healthy is important amid COVID-19.



FIREWORK SAFETY

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam residents should be aware that base regulations prohibit fireworks and pyrotechnics on and around the installation. According to the City and County of Honolulu, it is unlawful for any person to possess, use, explode, or cause to explode any aerial device, articles pyrotechnic, display fireworks or similar items in the city.

For those planning their Fourth of July celebrations off base, there are rules and safety issues that should be taken into consideration. As of June 2020, the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) website released an online permit system to apply for a firecracker permit. A \$25 firecracker permit shall be obtained at the HFD's headquarters at 636 South Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813. For frequently asked questions about firecracker permits, visit the HFD website at <https://go.usa.gov/xwVSP> or call 723-7174. The Naval Safety Center suggests these tips to prevent firecracker injuries:

- Never allow children to play with or ignite fireworks.
- Read and follow all warnings and instructions.
- Be sure people are out of range before lighting fireworks.
- Never try to relight fireworks that have not fully functioned.
- Only light fireworks on a smooth, flat surface away from the house, dry leaves and flammable materials.
- In case of a malfunction or fire, keep a bucket of water (or a garden hose) and fire extinguisher at the ready.

GRILL SAFETY

July is the peak month for grill fires, according to the National Fire Protection Association. There's nothing better than the smell of food on the grill but placing a grill too close to anything is a fire hazard. Redcross.org suggests the following steps to ensure a safe backyard barbecue:

- Always supervise a barbecue grill when in use. Do not add charcoal starter fluid when coals have already been grilled.
- Never grill indoors—not in your house, tent or any enclosed area.
- Keep the grill out in the open, away from the house, deck, tree branches or anything that could catch fire.
- Use long-handled tools especially made for cooking on the grill.

See page 19 for JBPHH MWR's week of activities.



Illustrated by GSE2 Lexie PerezGreenhalgh



C-17 • KEEPING THE MISSION MOVING IN THE PACIFIC

By Tech. Sgt. Anthony Nelson
15th Wing Public Affairs

Which U.S. Air Force aircraft comes to mind when you think of the word flexible? The men and women of the 15th Wing work daily to provide the Indo-Pacific region sustained flexibility, being home to the only active-duty C-17 squadron on Hawaii.

The Department of Defense and partners identify the C-17 Globemaster III as the most flexible cargo aircraft to enter the airlift force.

Being a flexible cargo aircraft allows the 15th Wing to further exemplify the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command priorities and continue to achieve U.S. national security objectives while protecting national interests.

“The C-17 gives INDOPACOM the reach to execute the mission across the expansive area of responsibility,” said Maj. Jamie Leenman, 535th Airlift Squadron C-17 Globemaster III pilot.

“Whether it’s building partner capacity and training alongside our allied air forces, delivering equipment and personnel for exercises with partners, or returning our fallen heroes with Defense Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency,

the C-17 is the platform to get the job accomplished.”

Providing rapid strategic delivery of troops and cargo to main operating bases or directly to forward bases across the world is an essential role of the C-17 aircraft.

“The C-17 is so enjoyable to fly because we have so many mission sets,” said Capt. Jared Barkemeyer, 535th Airlift Squadron C-17 Globemaster III pilot. “We can fly an aerial refueling mission with a tanker aircraft, transport personnel and cargo onto a drop zone, and then land on a dirt strip all in one flight—it’s never a dull moment.”

The inherent flexibility and performance of the C-17 force improve the ability of the total airlift system to fulfill the worldwide air mobility requirements of the United States.

Airmen from across Team Hickam support the C-17 mission in various ways.

“The mission couldn’t get done without support from the 15th Wing and the mission partners on the base,” said Barkemeyer. “Primarily the 15th Maintenance Group and the 735th Air Mobility Squadron. The 15th MXG

Airmen spend countless hours preparing the aircraft to be mission ready. The 735th AMS port dawgs prepares the plane to receive cargo and ensures it’s safe for use to fly.”

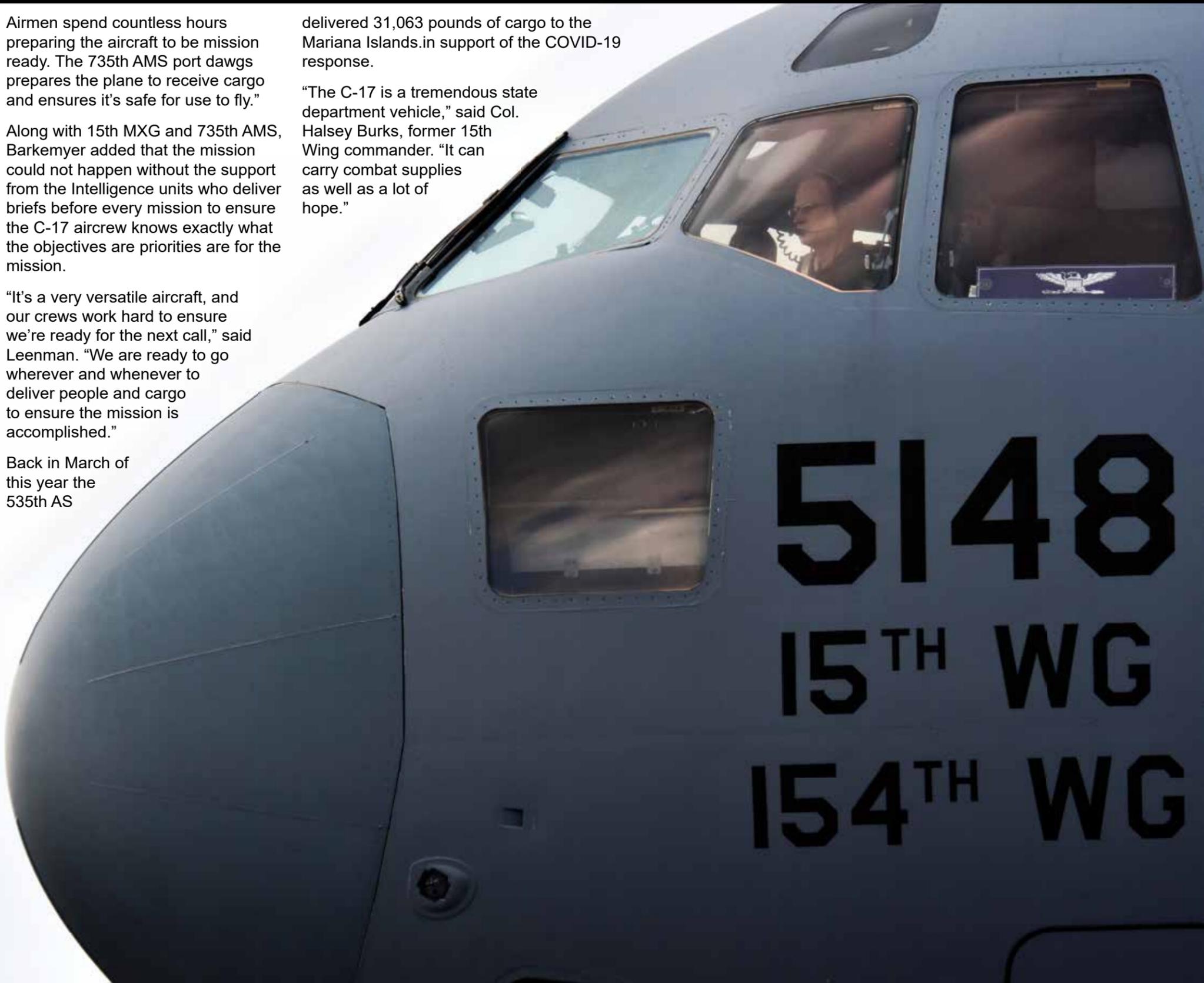
Along with 15th MXG and 735th AMS, Barkemeyer added that the mission could not happen without the support from the Intelligence units who deliver briefs before every mission to ensure the C-17 aircrew knows exactly what the objectives are priorities are for the mission.

“It’s a very versatile aircraft, and our crews work hard to ensure we’re ready for the next call,” said Leenman. “We are ready to go wherever and whenever to deliver people and cargo to ensure the mission is accomplished.”

Back in March of this year the 535th AS

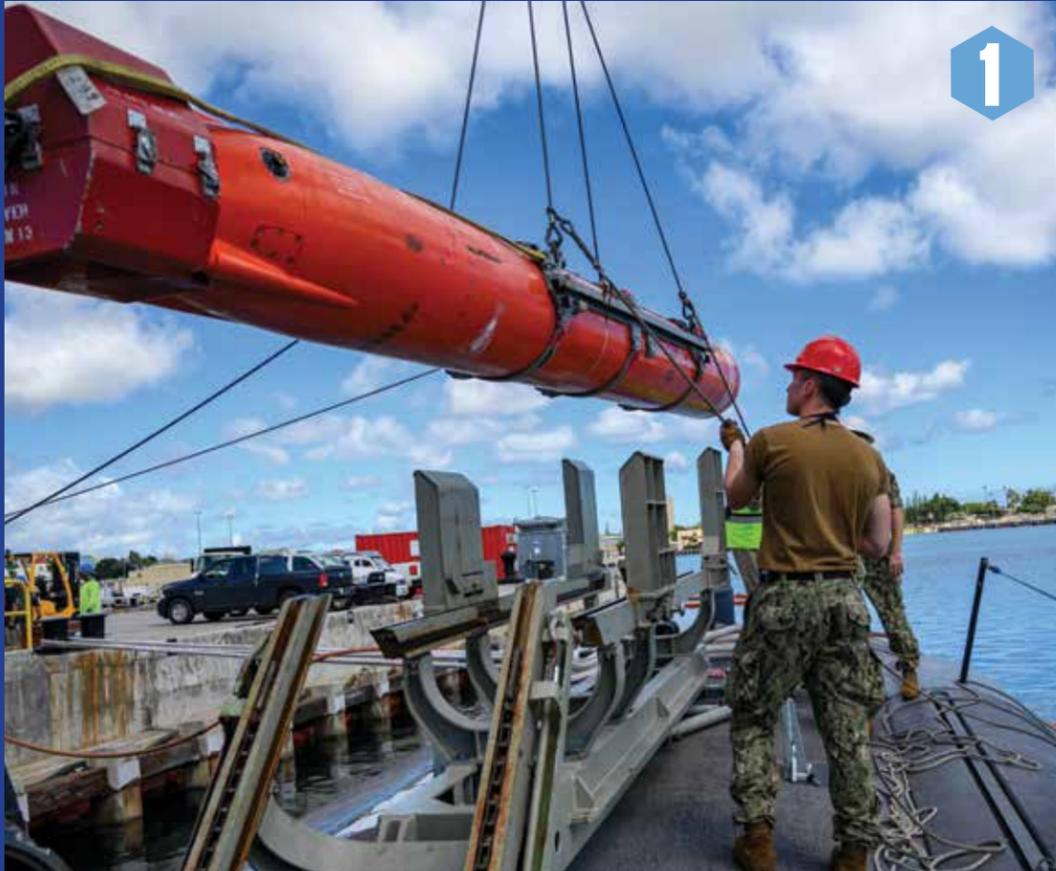
delivered 31,063 pounds of cargo to the Mariana Islands in support of the COVID-19 response.

“The C-17 is a tremendous state department vehicle,” said Col. Halsey Burks, former 15th Wing commander. “It can carry combat supplies as well as a lot of hope.”



PHOTO

HIGHLIGHTS



1



2



3



4



5



6

1

Sailors assigned to the Los Angeles-class fast-attack submarine USS Chicago (SSN 721) prepare to load Encapsulated Harpoon Certification Training Vehicles (EHCTV) onto the submarine. EHCTV testing is required in order for the submarine to carry and employ tactical Harpoon missiles. The Harpoon system provides commanders with lethal all-weather anti-ship capability to rapidly engage targets at long range. (Photo by MC2 Justin R. Pacheco)

2

Rear Adm. Robb Chadwick, commander, Navy Region Hawaii, salutes the ceremonial wreath during the 78th anniversary of the Battle of Midway virtual ceremony at the Pearl Harbor National Memorial. The ceremony was presented through social media in accordance with social distancing practices. The Battle of Midway took place on June 4, 1942 and is considered the turning point of the War in the Pacific. (Photo by Melvin J. Gonzalvo)

3

Naval Special Warfare (NSW) operators onboard a SEAL delivery vehicle Mark 11 conduct routine navigation training at Pearl Harbor. NSW organizes, mans, trains, equips, deploys, sustains, and provides command and control of NSW forces to conduct full spectrum undersea special operations and activities worldwide in support of geographic combatant commanders and national interests. (Photo by MCC Christopher Perez)

4

U.S. Marines assigned to Lima Company, 3rd Battalion, 3d Marine Regiment, scope out their terrain during an amphibious assault exercise at Marine Corps Base Hawaii. 3d Marine Regiment, conducted an amphibious assault exercise and military operations in urban terrain to increase littoral mobility proficiency in 3d Marine Regiment and advance the goals of the Commandant of the Marine Corps 2030 Force Design. (Photo by Cpl. Matthew Kirk)

5

The Arleigh-Burke guided-missile destroyer USS Halsey (DDG 97) conducts a vertical replenishment with an MH-60R Sea Hawk, from the "Easyriders" of Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron 37 in the Pacific Ocean. Halsey is supporting Joint Interagency Task Force South's mission, which includes counter illicit drug trafficking in the Caribbean Sea and eastern Pacific Ocean. (Photo by Thomas L. Epps)

6

Hawaii Air National Guard Airmen and Soldiers board a C-17 Globemaster III, at Hilo on the Big Island. Soldiers and Airmen were airlifted from neighboring islands and back to Oahu, after serving in various task forces which assisted state authorities in fighting the spread of COVID-19. (Photo by Senior Airman John Linzmeier)

(Layout by MC2 Charles Oki)

Navy, Air Force supports SpaceX demonstration

By Shannon Haney
NAVSUP FLC Pearl Harbor Public Affairs

When the first launch of astronauts from American soil to the International Space Station in nine years occurred, Naval Supply Systems Command Fleet Logistics Center (NAVSUP FLC) Pearl Harbor personnel were on duty to support NASA's SpaceX Demonstration Mission 2 onboard Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

To deliver contingency support, personnel with NAVSUP FLC Pearl Harbor's Air Force component, 647th Logistics Readiness Squadron, and NAVSUP FLC Pearl Harbor's fuel department were staged to provide logistics support efforts in case a mishap forced the astronauts aboard the spacecraft to abort the mission during launch and splashdown in the Pacific region.

Personnel with NAVSUP FLC Pearl Harbor's Air Force component, 647th Logistics Readiness Squadron, and NAVSUP FLC Pearl Harbor's fuel department were staged to provide logistics support for contingency search and rescue efforts in case a mishap forced the astronauts aboard the spacecraft to abort the mission during launch and splashdown in the Pacific region.

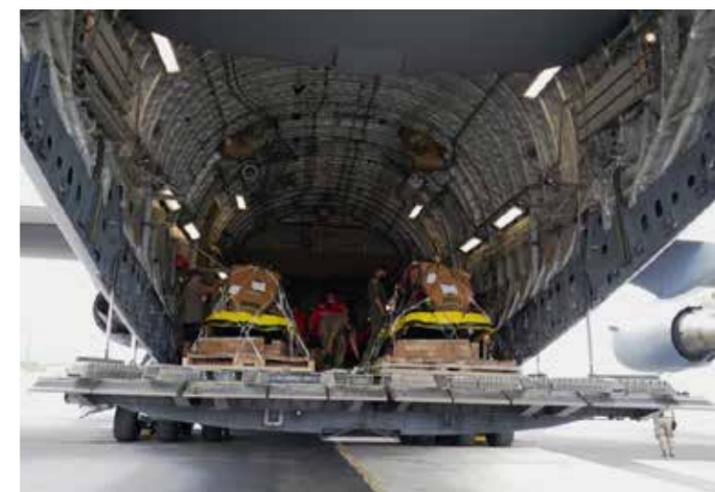
"It was a true honor to be a small part of the SpaceX mission," said Capt. Trent C. Kalp, commanding officer, NAVSUP FLC Pearl Harbor. "Our Sailors and Airmen were the epitome of the joint force working together to provide logistic solutions to a new era of spaceflight."

NAVSUP FLC Pearl Harbor's fuel department provided fuel to aircraft on standby. Simultaneously, the 647th Logistics Readiness Squadron's combat mobility flight provided logistics solutions with transportation, storage and the upload of a jump package consisting of boats and support equipment.

"This mission embodied the wingman concept and showed our younger Airmen what teamwork looks like in action," said Staff Sgt. Waite Rowland, 647th Logistics Readiness Squadron combat mobility flight supervisor. "I'm honored to be selected to be part of this historic mission. Being part of this mission showed me that I'm part of something bigger than myself, something that's going to help a lot of people."



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Micah Lowe and Staff Sgt. Waite Rowland assigned to the 647th Logistics Readiness Squadron, move cargo onto loading trucks on the flightline on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. (Photo by Airman 1st Class Erin Baxter)



Equipment sits on a C-17 Globemaster III in support of NASA's SpaceX Demonstration Mission 2 on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. (Photo by Airman 1st Class Erin Baxter)



U.S. Air Force 647th Logistics Readiness Squadron and Pararescue Airmen prepare a C-17 Globemaster III for NASA's SpaceX Demonstration Mission 2 on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam May 26. (Photo by Airman 1st Class Erin Baxter)



(Layout by MC2 Charles Ok)

A LITTLE BIT COUNTRY, A LITTLE BIT TACTICAL

Story and photos by A1C Erin Baxter
15th Wing Public Affairs

A group of Airmen leaps out of a C-17 Globemaster and plummet toward the earth. They deploy their parachutes to land safely and prepare to execute the perfect airstrike.

Tactical Air Control Party Airmen (TACP) often perform feats like this in order to accomplish their mission on the ground, while aircraft above them deploy the strikes they call.

As a 25th Air Support Operations Squadron TACP Airman, Staff Sgt. Derek Skelton's responsibility on the frontlines is to ensure an airstrike is called on the target at the correct time. This career field involves around seven months of physical, mental and technical training to ensure the Airmen are battle-ready and highly skilled.

On a normal day, Skelton travels to participate in close air support training or uses a simulator to maintain his skills.

"The real fun happens when I'm out on a range and can talk to live aircraft and use live ordinance on targets," said Skelton.

When Skelton is off duty, he dedicates his spare time to working toward a special dream of his.

"My goal is to make great music that people will love and connect with, perform in front of thousands of fans, and fulfill a lifelong dream of mine which is to be a well-known recording artist," said Skelton.

Staff Sgt. Hailey Haux, Pacific Air Forces Public Affairs photojournalist, is a good friend of Skelton and a fan of his music.

"I know Derek through my church's small group," said Haux. "He is an incredibly talented person and I know he will get far in the music industry. He's already had two singles released which are really good!"

Skelton said following his dreams has not always been easy. At 16, he traveled to Nashville to try out for American Idol and did not make it. He also tried out for The Voice to no avail and spoken to recording artists who have not reached back.

"Country music is a passion of mine," said Skelton. "I spend a lot of time working on new material like melodies on the guitar and lyrics when I'm not at work. I also do as much marketing as I can for myself to get my music heard by as many listeners as possible."

Although Skelton faces adversity in following his dreams, he still reaches after them.

"Don't let the fear of failure keep you from trying," said Skelton. "There will be plenty of people that will tell you that you can't do something or that the odds aren't in your favor but don't let that stop you from putting yourself out there."

"Everybody should have a dream and chase that dream," he continued. "It may not end up the way you want, but it's worth the journey it will take you on."



(Layout by GSEZ Lexie Perez)



PLEASE BE AWARE!

Endangered & federally protected



TURTLE NESTING AREA

- **Hawaiian green turtle nests are present.**
- **Avoid marked areas where nests are contained.**
- **Comply with signage in these areas.**
- **No off-roading or vehicles on the beach.**
- **No dogs allowed at Bellows Field Beach Park in the campground or on the beach.**
- **No dogs allowed at Bellows Field Beach Park in the campground or on the beach.**
- **Avoid passing between the nest area and ocean to prevent depressions in the sand that may trap sea turtle hatchlings. Please walk behind nests if you need to go around.**
- **Nests are monitored daily by biologists and Federal Conservation Law Enforcement Officers.**

Report violations to:

Conservation Law Enforcement Officer (CLEO).....(808) 285-9529

Military Police.....(808) 257-2123

For more information, contact MCBH Natural Resources Managers at:
(808)781-7636 or (808) 285-6464

A WEEK OF STARS AND STRIPES



No official endorsement intended.

A WHOLE WEEK OF MWR ACTIVITIES FOR YOU!

Appropriate social distancing and other guidelines will be in place to meet installation policies.

★ Photo with an American Flag Contest

Now - July 2

Submit your favorite photo with an American flag to Instagram & Facebook and hashtag **#GLHAmericanFlag** and tell your friends and family to "like" it. The photo with the most "likes" wins! Your photo with the American flag **must** be taken in Hawaii. The photo can be from a hike, a trip to the beach, kayaking, walk around the neighborhood, etc. Post your photo now until 2 July. Winner will be announced on 4 July. Anyone can vote on Instagram or Facebook by looking for **#GLHAmericanFlag**.



★ Patriotic Light Display

Now - July 15

In celebration of America's birthday USAA is helping to light up **Bldg. 150** in our country's colors. "A beautiful sight to see" after the sun goes down.

★ Weekend Pearl Harbor Sailboat Cruise

July 3 (11am-3pm)* & July 5 (10am-2pm)*

July 3 - Rainbow Bay Marina to Hickam Harbor on Friday.
July 5 - Hickam Harbor to Rainbow Bay Marina on Sunday.

*Times are approximate. \$200 per boat, Maximum 5 per boat. Must have a current sailboat checkout card (within past 365 days). Call **808-449-5215** for more details.

★ Virtual Independence Day Book Reading

June 29 - July 4

Visit **@greatlifehawaii** on Facebook to view virtual story time feat. a 3-part series on Independence Day.

★ FOREth of July Golf Tournament

July 3 | 8am | Mamala Bay Golf Course

\$50/2-person team. Register by July 1. Call **808-449-2304** for more info.

★ Dog Show

July 3 | 10am-12pm

Hickam Arts and Crafts Center | 335 Kuntz Ave.

Free to participate, register on **greatlifehawaii.com** ("click" Community Recreation, arts and crafts class calendar, more) or sign up the morning of. Prizes for 1st-3rd place in each category! Call **808-448-2393** for more info.

- 10AM - BEST COSTUME
- 10:30AM - MOST OBEDIENT
- 11AM - OWNER/DOG LOOK ALIKE
- 11:30AM - BEST TRICK

★ Outdoor Equipment Rental Special

June 29 - July 4

- Rent one snorkel set get one set FREE*
- Rent any size CAMPING TENT get one sleeping bag FREE*
- Rent one CAMPING CHAIR get one FREE*

*Subject to availability, based on a first come first serve basis. No reservations.

★ Three Point Shoot Out / Home Run Derby

July 6 | FREE! Open to Active Duty of JBPHH

9-11am - Three Point Shootout at JBPHH Fitness Center.

11am-1pm - Home Run Derby at Ward Field.



Winners of the 4th of July Yard Decorating Contest Announced on July 4!

STAY CONNECTED AND FOLLOW US ONLINE!



@GreatLifeHawaii | GreatLifeHawaii.com



MISSION CRITICAL



BLOOD NEEDED

Tripler Blood Donor Center
needs all blood types.

Schedule your appointment at
www.militarydonor.com

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ASBP
Armed Services Blood Program