

FOR THE NAVY AND AIR FORCE TEAM IN HAWAII

HO'OKELE

FEBRUARY 2020



**Air Force
Wounded
Warriors**

**Black History
Month**

MAKAHIKI

A CELEBRATION OF THANKSGIVING, COMMUNITY



A Heartfelt Reunion

Fire Control Technician 1st Class Quincy Miller, assigned to the Virginia-class fast-attack submarine USS Texas (SSN 775), embraces his family during Texas' homecoming at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Feb. 24. Texas performed a full spectrum of operations, including anti-submarine and anti-surface warfare, during the seven-month Indo-Pacific deployment. (U.S. Navy photo by MCC Amanda Gray)



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A Hui Hou!

Diverse VIEWS

If you could have dinner with any person, who would it be and why?

By MCCS Jackey Smith, MC1 Erickson Magno, David D. Underwood, Jr.



Ensign Cara Edwards
USS William P. Lawrence

"My grandfather. He was a Boatswain's Mate in the 1960s. It would be great to share sea stories."



Master Sgt. Celsa Salazar
624th Civil Engineer Squadron

"Rosa Parks. Her vision of equality, respect, and fairness changed the movement to act."



AWF2 Tialei Waikiki
Pacific Missile Range Facility

"My great-grandfather. He was the right hand of the "King Ali'i" of Samoa, the "Warrior Ali'i" of his time."

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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@JBPHH

(Layout by Elaine Phillips)

Although the current African American population is about 2.2% according to the U.S. Census Bureau, African American history in Hawaii is abundant. Many notable African Americans in Hawaii have played a significant part in both Hawaiian and American history as a whole.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH



A Journey through Black

By MC2 Allen Amani, NPASE Det. Hawaii

The following are individuals who lived in Hawaii and made a major impact:

President Barack Obama

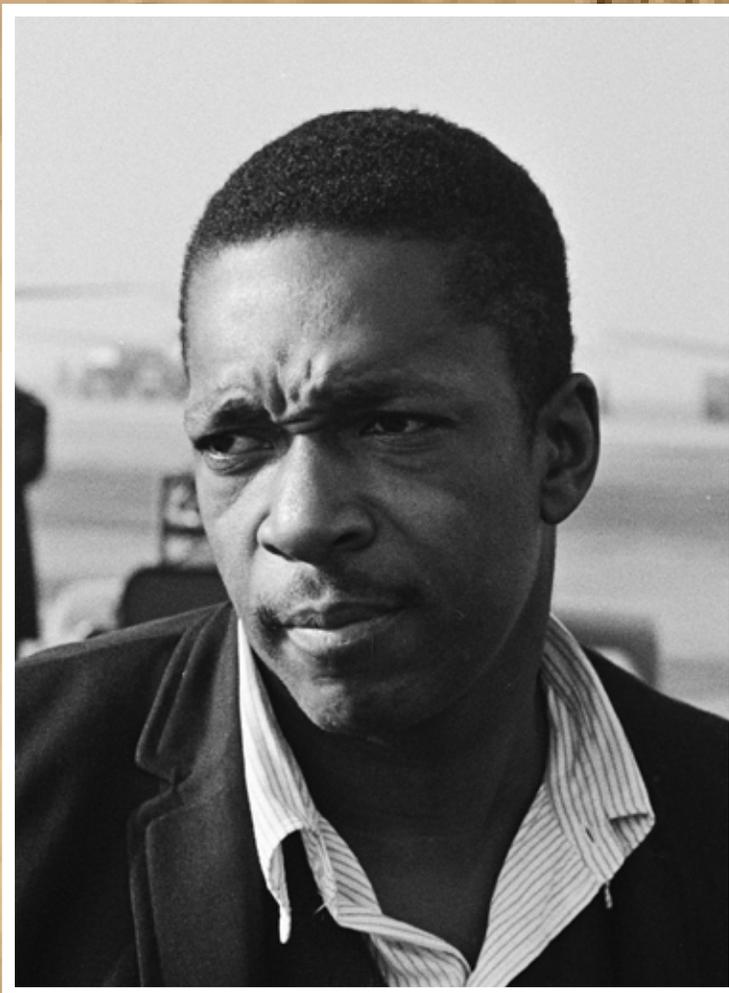
Possibly the most well-known individual in the United States who was born in Hawaii is the 44th president of the United States Barack Obama. Obama was born in Honolulu in 1961 at Kapiolani Maternity and Gynecological Hospital. After spending some of his early childhood in Jakarta, Indonesia, he went back to Hawaii to live with his grandparents in 1970. He attended Punahou School from fifth to 12th grade.

Reflecting later on his formative years in Honolulu, Obama wrote: The opportunity that Hawaii offered—to experience a variety of cultures in a climate of mutual respect—became an integral part of my world view, and a basis for the values that I hold most dear.

Mess Attendant 2nd Class Doris Miller

Another individual who was recently in the news is Mess Attendant 2nd Class Doris Miller. Miller was a crew member aboard the USS West Virginia in Pearl Harbor when the ship was attacked Dec. 7, 1941. Once battle stations was announced, Miller rushed to aide in defending the ship. He was ordered by Lt. Frederic White to help load a Browning .50 caliber machine gun. When White was not looking, Miller instead operated the weapon and began firing at Japanese fighter planes. At the time, black Sailors were not allowed to handle weapons. Miller ignored protocol in order to defend his ship and the base. His actions saved countless lives that day.

On May 27, 1942, Miller was the first African American to be awarded the Navy Cross and was person-



Black History in Hawaii

ally pinned by Fleet Adm. Chester Nimitz.

“This marks the first time in this conflict that such high tribute has been made in the Pacific Fleet to a member of his race and I’m sure that the future will see others similarly honored for brave acts,” said Nimitz.

On Jan. 20, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day, the Navy officially announced the future Navy ship, Ford-class aircraft carrier USS Doris Miller (CVN 81). This will be the second ship named in honor of Miller, and the first aircraft carrier ever named for an African American and an enlisted Sailor.

John Coltrane

Shortly after the end of World War II, jazz legend John Coltrane was an enlisted Sailor at Pearl Harbor. Coltrane was an American jazz saxophonist and

composer who helped pioneer the use of modes and was at the forefront of free jazz. He joined the Navy in 1945 and was shipped to Pearl Harbor, where he was stationed at Manana Barracks, the largest posting of African American service men in the world.

Coltrane’s musical talent was recognized, and he became one of the few Navy men to serve as a musician without having been granted musician’s rating when he joined the Melody Masters, the base swing band. He continued to perform other duties when not playing with the band, including kitchen and security details. By the end of his service, he had assumed a leadership role in the band. His first recordings, an informal session in Hawaii with Navy musicians, occurred on July 13, 1946.

(Photos courtesy of Naval History and Heritage Command, White House archives and Wikipedia.org. Background graphic by emmanuel v. from Freemages.)

**BLACK
HISTORY
MONTH**

“I wouldn’t say that I didn’t have a good childhood. I’ve been in many situations that most people haven’t been in, and I’m proud of what those experiences have made me become as a person.”

Story and photos by MC1 Erickson Magno
PMRF Public Affairs

ALWAYS IN CONTROL

(Layout by Anna General)

Senior Chief Air Traffic Controller Ahamed Sheriff, senior enlisted leader of Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF), has devoted his time caring for Sailors since he enlisted in 1998 but his younger years proved challenging.

“Honestly, I had what I think is unfortunately a typically traumatic start to life,” said Sheriff. “I was born and raised in Los Angeles, back and forth between South Central and Midtown. Both neighborhoods were highly volatile and heavily influenced by drugs and gangs throughout my childhood. I have four sisters and was primarily raised by a single mother. My mother divorced my abusive father when I was around 6 years old.”

Childhood hardened Sheriff and impacted him as a brother and son. Soon enough, it would contribute to him as a Sailor.

“After high school, I attended Alabama State University in hopes of being a basketball star,” said Sheriff. “When that didn’t work out, I found myself back in Los Angeles at a community college. I just felt like I was at a crossroads in life and I didn’t want to become a statistic. So, I joined the Navy on Sept. 27, 1998.”

Just two years into the Navy, he was faced with adversity during an unimaginable situation.

“On May 4, 2001, one of my best friends killed another one of my best friends after a verbal and physical dispute over money while I was stationed at Pearl Harbor,” said Sheriff. “It was a tragic loss of two lives in one night, one dead and the other sentenced to a life in prison. It destroyed me emotionally.”

His second challenge came a decade later.

“In 2010 I deployed to Iraq for 10 months,” said Sheriff. “It was hard leaving my wife and kids, knowing it was a possibility I wouldn’t be coming back.”

Although loss of life, threats of death, and adversity surrounded Sheriff throughout his life, these experiences helped him become better prepared to face the future.

“I really believe that seeing and going through some of the things I went through while growing up in Los Angeles, prepared me for these challenging times in a twisted way,” said Sheriff. “I’m almost ashamed to say it, but it’s true. Experiencing death wasn’t something foreign to me. It was a harsh reality of life that I learned at a very early age. These circumstances didn’t break me because I really try to find learning and growing opportunities in every experience, no matter how devastating it is. I think having a strong mindset is one thing that we truly have control over in life.”

This attitude and mindset eventually led to success. He said one of his proudest accomplishments in the Navy was when his mother saw him graduate with a master’s degree, a tremendous accomplishment as the first in his family to graduate from college.

Another proud accomplishment was being pinned to the rank of chief petty officer in 2013.

“Making chief for me was the culmination of all the blood, sweat and tears that my family and I put into the Navy,” said Sheriff.

Sheriff mentors Sailors and strives to be a leader and role model for others in the African American community so that diversity can keep moving forward.

“To me, honoring the past, securing the future means that we can’t afford to go backwards,” said Sheriff. “We have to build on the things that our brave men and women fought and died for. We have to vote! We have to continue to fight for racial equality. We must continue to knock down walls and press forward. I apply this to both the way I lead and how I live my own life. I try to be the example that I talk about and be the one out there trying to make a difference for our future. Whether it’s through volunteering, financially supporting different businesses or just doing more than just simply talking.”

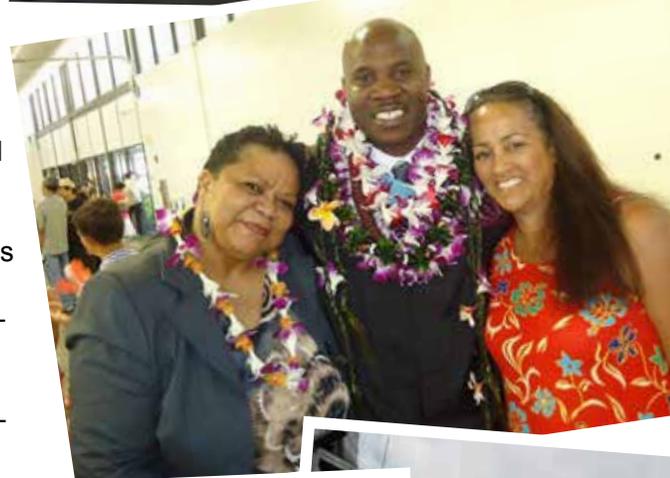


PHOTO H



1



2



3

1

*Navy wounded warriors take aim during an introductory adaptive sports camp at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Navy Wounded Warrior is the Navy's sole organization for coordinating the non-medical care of seriously wounded, ill and injured Sailors and Coast Guardsmen, providing resources and support to the service members and their families. Through proactive leadership, the program provides individually tailored assistance designed to optimize the success of the wounded warriors' recovery, rehabilitation and reintegration activities.
(U.S. Navy photo by GSE2 Lexie Perez)*

2

*An F-16 Fighting Falcon from the 18th Aggressor Squadron taxis down the Honolulu Airport Runway Jan. 29. The aircraft practiced combat tactics alongside the world's most advanced fifth-generation airframes, the F-22 Raptor and F-35A Lightning II. The F-16 is assigned to the 18th Aggressor Squadron in Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska, and its mission is to prepare pilots for victory by simulating combat tactics which are likely to be faced in the event of an air-to-air battle.
(U.S. Air Force photo by SrA John Linzmeier)*

3

*The Fort Shafter Veterinarian Clinic teamed up with Navy Medical Readiness and Training Command Pearl Harbor Dental Clinic to perform a teeth cleaning and root canal on a canine Feb. 6. The team was able to save the tooth by providing a root canal in lieu of an extraction.
(U.S. Navy photo by Macy Hinds)*

HIGHLIGHTS



4



5



6

4

*U.S. Navy Sailors salute Honor Flight Nevada veterans entering the Hale Aina Dining Facility on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Feb. 6. Honor Flight Nevada is a non-profit organization dedicated to honoring veterans for their military service.
(U.S. Air Force photo by A1C Erin Baxter)*

5

*A family member of World War II veteran, Richard Laubert's scatters his ashes from the USS Utah Memorial Feb. 7. Laubert enlisted into the United States Navy as an Apprentice Seaman, trained at the U.S. Naval Hospital Corpsman School in San Diego, and relocated to U.S. Naval Hospital Pearl Harbor that same year. Laubert served at the Pearl Harbor Hospital from June 1941 to December 1944.
(U.S. Navy photo by Macy Hinds)*

6

*Adm. John Aquilino, commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, salutes the ensign upon boarding the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Chafee (DDG 90) at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.
(U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Charles Oki)*

Story and photos by MCSA Molly Crawford
NPASE Det. Hawaii

Makahiki:

A CELEBRATION OF THANKSGIVING, COMMUNITY



(Layout by MCSA Charles Oki)

Makahiki, an annual Thanksgiving celebration brings together native Hawaiian and military communities at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH), celebrating its 17th year at Rainbow Bay Marina Feb. 1.

Historically, Makahiki parallels the western tradition of Thanksgiving and was held during the constellation Pleiades or Makali'i. During this time, warfare was forbidden and thanks were given to Lono, the god of agriculture, rain, health and peace, and games were played.

The joint celebration first began 18 years ago at Ford Island with the support of the United States Navy and Air Force as JBPHH invites the Oahu Council of Hawaiian Civic Clubs and native Hawaiian societies as guests. The intention was to teach military personnel and their families about native Hawaiian traditions, culture and history.

“What this event is particularly highlighting is the relationship between our military community and our native Hawaiian community,” said Rear Adm. Robert Chadwick, commander, Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific. “It’s a long standing relationship and this is just one great example of how we work together.”

Shad Kane, a Navy Vietnam veteran, started the modern Makahiki in 2002 as a result of his work representing the Native Hawaiian Community consultations for the Ford Island Master Development Agreement.

“This Makahiki was the result of an effort to find a historic cultural event that represented establishing relationships,” Kane said.

The event began with Lono being brought to shore by canoes paddled by up to four Navy officers and other volunteer paddlers, all in kihei, a Hawaiian cloth. The canoes and Lono were welcomed by one Navy officer in uniform and native Hawaiian societies.

Opening and welcoming chants were then sung as Lono was taken into the ceremonial event area.



Lono, the deified guardian of agriculture, rain, health and peace, is brought to shore by Naval officers and paddlers during a Makahiki festival at Rainbow Bay Marina. Canoes are an important part of the Makahiki and adds to the festive atmosphere by providing a traditional means for the image of Lono arriving at the ceremony.



Volunteers take part in Ho'okupu, the offering of gifts, during a Makahiki festival at Rainbow Bay Marina. The Makahiki festival is a yearly celebration similar to Thanksgiving that brings communities together to thank Lono, the deified guardian of agriculture, rain, health and peace.



Volunteers demonstrate how to begin a match of Haka Moe, one leg wrestling, during a Makahiki festival at Rainbow Bay Marina. The Makahiki festival is a yearly celebration similar to Thanksgiving that brings communities together to thank Lono, the deified guardian of agriculture, rain, health and peace.

Ho'okupu, the offering of gifts to Lono, takes place. Lei and other ceremonial gifts, such as harvested fruits, vegetables and flowers, are presented to Lono as thanks for agriculture bounties.

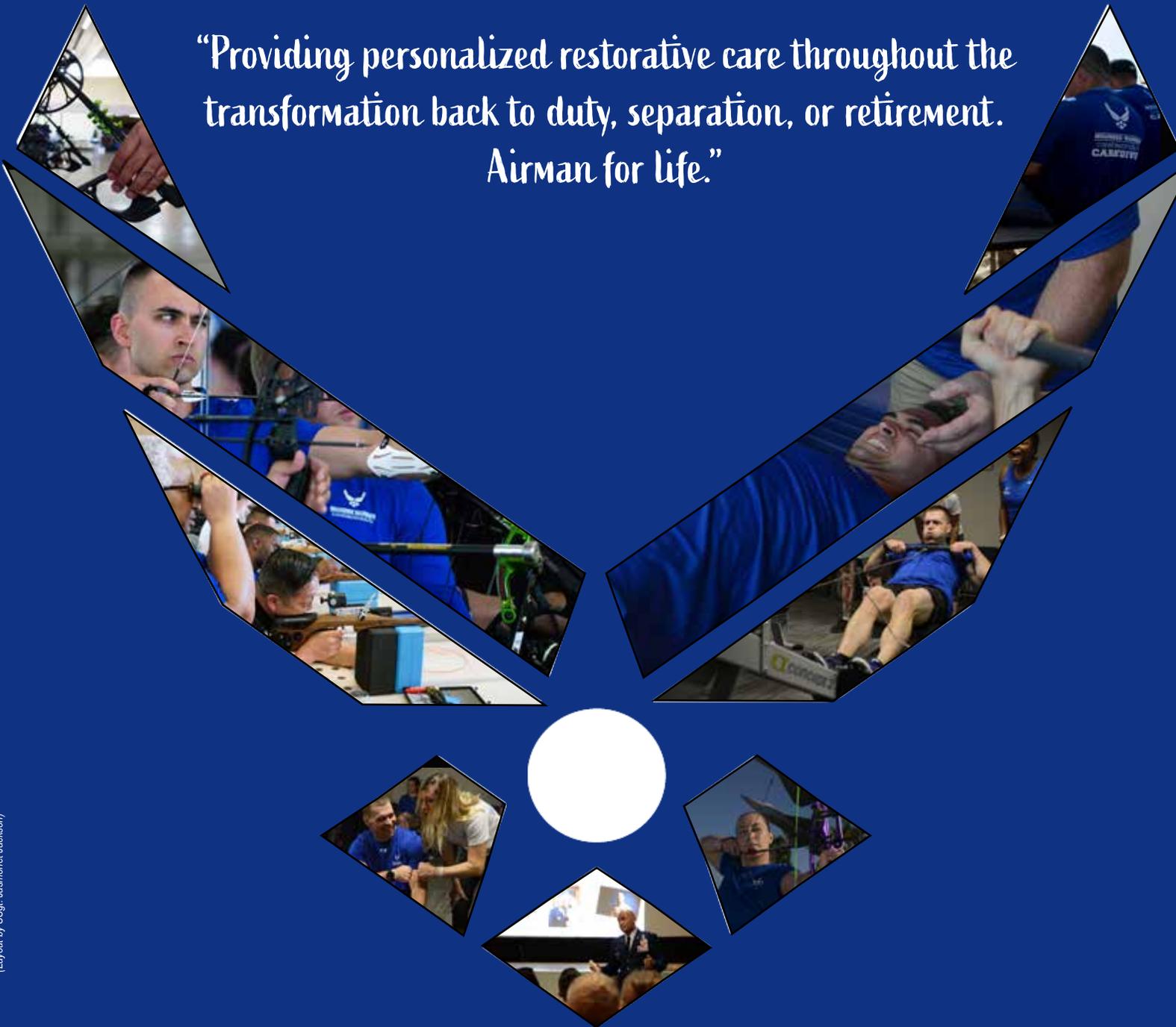
After Ho'okupu, games of strength and skill are commenced. Such games include Ulu Maika (stone rolling), Moe Pahe'e (dart tossing), Haka Moe (one leg wrestling) and Make Ihe (spear tossing). These games further help bring the communities together and create bonds between the people.

It's important that Makahiki and similar events continue to be celebrated because of their cultural significance and the goodwill they bring between communities.

"I think Makahiki is a good celebration of culture and remembering the traditions of the past," said Xavier Conrad, a civilian participant at the event. "It's important to remember where we came from and the cultures of the island and the history of the place that we're at. I think it's important to know the past and keep those traditions alive."

WOUNDED WARRIOR CARE BEYOND DUTY

*“Providing personalized restorative care throughout the transformation back to duty, separation, or retirement.
Airman for life.”*



(Layout by SSgt. Jasmonet Jackson)

(Photos by Staff Sgt. Jasmonet Jackson and A1C Erin Baxter)

A TRUE WARRIOR SPIRIT



Tucker Hall, a 4-year-old with Spina Bifida, gets ready to race retired Chief Master Sgt. Garrett Kuwada, Air Force Wounded Warrior Program athlete and Team U.S. Invictus Games competitor at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. (Courtesy photo)



Story by Chip Pons

Air Force Wounded Warrior program

For many Airmen across the Air Force, volunteering often leads to enhanced professional development and a stronger performance report, but for Airman 1st Class Nathan Hall, a cyber transport technician from the 747th Communications Squadron, volunteering at the Air Force Wounded Warrior (AFW2) Program's 2020 U.S. Pacific Air Forces Warrior CARE event meant so much more.

It was during this immersion that Hall approached program coordinators and asked whether or not it would be acceptable to bring his son, Tucker, along for the event. Without knowing the Hall's family story, AFW2 leadership quickly extended an invitation.

"I wanted to bring my son when I volunteered during the track and field events to expose him to the higher-levels of adaptive sports, and give

him a chance to see something to look forward to and learn from," said Hall.

Tucker, who is 4 years old, was born with spina bifida in his lower back, and does not have mobility below the waist. And while his struggles are mainly physical, he does not let them define him.

"He has the most incredible outlook on life," Hall said. "We know that everything will be a challenge for him, but we do not let him feel sorry for something he cannot control. As his parents, we just have to learn to adapt and overcome; it is what he has done his entire life. The happiness I saw on his face when he met these amazing warriors who do not let their physical challenges define who they are was so special."

Tucker immediately took to athletes who were using wheelchairs just like him, and was given a warm welcome

by the coaching staff and adaptive sports participants. At one point, Tucker found himself going head-to-head on the track against internationally-decorated Team U.S. member for the 2020 Invictus Games, retired Chief Master Sgt. Garrett Kuwada; Tucker won.

At the end of the training day, Tucker was presented an AFW2 coin by Col. Michael Flatten, the program's director.

"These events are for more than just the athletes and their caregivers," said Flatten. "They give us the opportunity to instill hope in those who attend our events, and show them what it really means to be part of our AFW2 family. We could not be more proud of the competitive spirit Tucker is already exhibiting, and all he has overcome at such a young age. This young man is truly a warrior."

Spring Safety

In Hawaii

Illustrated by GSE2 Lexie Perez

Surfing & Swimming

Safety Tips:

- Know your physical limits
- Stay in the designated areas
- Never swim alone
- Know and avoid rip currents
- Check the weather
- Take proper surf lessons
- Verify your equipment
- Stay aware of surroundings

North shore swells can reach dangerous heights of 30ft or more during the months of Oct. - Apr.

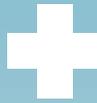
30 Ft.



Skydiving

Safety Tips:

- Know your physical limits
- Research the company
- Acquire the proper permission from your command
- Wear proper attire
- Be properly hydrated
- Be mentally prepared



In 2018, USPA members in the US reported 2,147 skydiving injuries requiring a medical care facility

Hiking

Safety Tips:

- Know the trail and stay on it
- Always stay hydrated
- Never go hiking alone
- Check the weather before hiking
- Be aware of your physical limits
- Wear the proper attire
- Stay aware of the time and sunset
- Inform others you are hiking
- Bring proper equipment

Senate Bill 248 would impose fines of \$500-\$1000 for trespassing in addition to search and rescue costs which approximate to \$1500 per hour for helicopter rescues



Team Sports

Safety Tips:

- Follow the rules of the game
- Take breaks to hydrate
- Know your physical limits
- Remember the goal is to have fun
- Don't antagonize other players
- Engage in healthy competition

During the past three years (FY17-19) the most injuries occurred while playing basketball and the most common injury was fractures among sailors



Boating

Safety Tips:

- Know the rules of the road/water
- Take an operator course
- Wear a life jacket
- NEVER drink and drive
- Avoid dangerous/rough waters
- Avoid reckless driving
- Be aware of your surroundings
- Ensure you have proper equipment

Boating while intoxicated fines can cost you between \$50-\$1000 and/or imprisonment for up to 30 days



Diving & Snorkeling

Safety Tips:

- Stay hydrated
- Always dive with a buddy
- Know your comfort zone
- Take a proper diving course
- Know how to manage your gear
- Apply and re-apply sunscreen
- Check the weather before diving
- Don't stray too far from shore
- Be aware of dangerous corals
- Practice safe ascents to avoid "bends"



More visitors drown while snorkeling than during any other activity in Hawaii