

Airmen at Yokota deliver water in support of Japan relief efforts



Airmen load a pallet of water onto a C-17 Globemaster III on March 21. Crews unloaded the water and other relief items at Sendai Airport as American forces work closely with their Japanese counterparts to aid the people of Japan in the aftermath of an 8.9 earthquake, which hit Japan March 11.



(Far right) As part of Operation Tomodachi, Staff Sgt. Chris Baker from the 535th Airlift Squadron, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, guides a K-loader with humanitarian supplies behind a C-17 Globemaster III on March 21. Crews unloaded the water and other relief items at Sendai Airport. Tomodachi is a Japanese word meaning friends.



School boundary study decision considers parent concerns, will allow ‘grandfathering’

Karen S. Spangler
Managing Editor

Concerns of military families were taken into consideration and weighed into the final decision on school boundary changes that was released by the Hawaii Department of Education (DOE) on March 21.

The changes will go into effect for military families moving into the area and registering for the 2011-2012 school year. But, under the new guidelines, children who are now enrolled in schools in the affected areas will be able to remain at their current school if their parents choose.

The decision also allows “grandfathering” of younger siblings. Students enrolling

in kindergarten and DOE pre-K special programs who register by April 1, will have the choice of being grandfathered in for their years at that school or may opt to enroll at their new “home” school.

During town hall meetings convened Feb. 10 at Moanalua High School and Feb. 16 at Radford High School, military parents expressed their concerns for the DOE’s proposal to adjust school boundaries. They were given the opportunity to provide feedback to DOE.

“Feedback from community stakeholders (school principals, parents/students and military commands) was a valuable and viable part of the process,” according to DOE.

Dr. Teri Ushijima, area superintendent, South Central Complex, Hawaii DOE, expressed her appreciation to military parents who provided their inputs.

“The community meetings were helpful, and I want to thank those who were able to attend. Based on the input from families, the adjustment now includes grandfathering in younger siblings in their older sibling’s current feeder pattern (elementary to middle to high school) for five years, so family members can attend the same schools. Input from our military partners and principals were also considered, and a couple adjustments of boundaries was made based on this feedback,” she explained.

“We value our military families, and take great efforts to ease transition for our students when they enroll in our schools. The initial proposal for the boundary adjustments included grandfathering in students at their current school so students would not have to change schools,” Ushijima said.

The school redistricting will support the complex’s objectives in becoming part of a kindergarten through 12th grade seamless high performing complex (foundation learning, stretch learning, learner engagement and personal skills development) as well as the state’s focus on the “Vision of the High School Graduate.”

According to the rezoning

announcement that was sent out to parents on Monday, “The study examined current school attendance boundaries as related to school enrollment numbers, school capacity numbers, complex feeder patterns (moving from elementary to middle to high school levels in the same complex), proximity, transportation time and predictability of school enrollment year-to-year.”

“We are grateful to Dr. Ushijima for listening to community input and adapting the rezoning plan in response to some of the issues presented at the community meetings,” said Darren Dean, school liaison officer at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

“It is important that stu-

dents stay within the same complex throughout their education. This allows for consistency with curriculum and program delivery,” he said.

In order to ease the transition to the adjusted boundaries, parents in the affected schools will have various options:

- Students who are currently enrolled have the option to be grandfathered in for their years at that school or to attend the new “home” school.

- Students currently registered at their next higher level school will have the choice to be grandfathered for their years at that school (i.e., sixth graders registered

See BOUNDARIES, A-4

Joint base cleans up

Operations Specialist Seaman (SW) Marc Arde and Operations Specialist 3rd Class (SW) Brian Hostetter, both assigned to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) 1st Lt. Division, carry a fallen tree branch for disposal. JBPHH and all its tenant commands took part in a base-wide installation cleanup and maintenance of their respective areas.

Religious Program Specialist 2nd Class Lonnie McDade and Gas Turbine System Technician (Electrical) 3rd Class Marina Weems collect dead leaves around the Pearl Harbor (JBPHH) Memorial Chapel.

U.S. Navy photos MC2 (SW) Mark Logico



Port Royal celebrates change of command
See page A-2



Cultural exchange strengthens U.S., Thailand, Singapore relations
See page A-6



Women’s history month
See page B-1



CNRH and Navy League honor individual augmentees
See page A-2



Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard plans to hire 150 apprentices, engineering personnel
See page A-10



Playoff-bound Chung-Hoon rolls past Port Royal
See page B-2

CNRH and Navy League honor individual augmentees

Story and photo by
MC2 Paul Honnick

Navy Public Affairs
Support Element West Det.
Hawaii

Navy Region Hawaii and the Honolulu Navy League honored Sailors and Marines who served as individual augmentees (IA) over the past year during a luncheon at Ala Moana Hotel on Saint Patrick's Day on March 17.

The event was held to recognize service members who volunteered to serve overseas as IAs in usually hostile environments and perform specialized jobs, leaving their commands, their families and their friends behind.

"We're here for a very simple purpose: to recognize shipmates who have served as individual augmentees and to thank them for answering the call that was above and beyond their nor-



Cryptologic Technician 2nd Class Upton and her mother pose for a photo with Rear Adm. Dixon R. Smith, the commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, and Mel Ing, the president of the Honolulu Council Navy League, during the annual individual augmentee (IA) recognition luncheon held at the Ala Moana Hotel.

mal line of duty," said Rear Adm. Dixon R. Smith, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific and guest speaker for the event.

The Sailors and Marines who were being honored served in a wide variety of specialized fields in numerous locations.

Cmdr. Maria Moreno-Chow, a reserve family nurse practitioner for the Navy Operation Support Center Pearl Harbor, recently returned from an IA deployment to Afghanistan where she provided care to service members and Afghan families.

"This deployment is a milestone for me and for my military career, but also it's a humbling experience to be able to go to a country where the culture extends to 5,000 years, step into their country, and try to provide them with the ulti-

mate level of care that they deserve," she said.

The honorees were treated to an Irish meal in celebration of Saint Patrick's Day and were called upon one by one to be personally thanked by Smith and by Mel Ing, president of the Honolulu Council of the Navy League.

Smith presented a "boots on the ground" coin to each service member as their name was announced.

"This is the day we all claim to be a little bit Irish. The Irish, by their very nature, are a proud people and never hesitate to show their appreciation for a job well done," Smith said. "I can't think of a better way to celebrate Saint Patrick's Day than to be in the presence of such dedicated Sailors and Marines, supportive organizations, community members and family."

Forest City residents receive their first RECP live bill

Forest City Residential Management

The Resident Energy Conservation Program (RECP) is well underway in Forest City Navy Family Housing communities. Forest City residents have already received their first bills.

Forest City Residential Management (FCRM) was chosen by the office of Secretary of Defense (OSD) to be the first Navy family housing public private venture (PPV) to implement the program. FCRM developed a number of support resources and programs to both educate and prepare residents for the RECP.

Mercedes Welch, a Makalapa resident, said that her family was in the zone of average energy usage. Welch lives in one of the largest homes in Forest City. Still, Welch was not concerned about the size of her home. She said she is confident with the like-type grouping method that Forest City uses to determine the average energy usage of the homes. The like-type groupings are determined by the home's neighbor-



Courtesy of Forest City Residential Management
Members of the Welch family residents of Navy housing, explore the Resident Energy Conservation Program (RECP).

hood, approximate size, number of bedrooms and year built.

Yardi Utilities then determines the average energy usage for the homes monthly, based on these

like-type groupings.

Welch did express, however, she was slightly concerned about her family size. She has a large family, four children, all of which

are home schooled. With just a few adjustments to her family's lifestyle, she said she was happy to still be in the zone. Welch said, "We all should remain mindful. If you're not watching the TV, turn it off. Still no one should live uncomfortably; we're still pretty cool in our house."

For added support, FCRM offers residents energy conservation tips, home energy assessments and a utility monitoring website, www.yardiutilitiesph.com. This website allows residents to monitor their energy usage daily. It's free, convenient and accessible from the comfort of their homes.

Residents were given a period of mock billings prior to live billing in January. The information from the mock bills along with the Yardi Utilities website were used to make any needed adjustments. FCRM has also been on hand to address any concerns that residents may have about the RECP.

Christopher Spann, a resident of the Halsey Terrace community, said he really did not have any

concerns about the RECP. Due to his family's diligence to conserve energy he was confident they would be within the acceptable zone. He said he is even looking forward to a rebate if his family gets, "really good." When asked what advice he has for those new to the RECP, he said, "Just be mindful of your power usage and get the entire family involved. It is a family affair. Use your timer for the hot water system and thermostat to set temps for each time of day."

In addition, residents without programmable water heaters are advised to set their thermostats to the highest comfortable setting.

More energy conservation tips are available at Forest City's website www.fcnavyhawaii.com under the RECP tab. The goal is for all residents to be in the zone and to stay in the zone to see positive results for the entire RECP in Forest City neighborhoods. FCRM encourages residents who have questions regarding the RECP to contact their resident services office.

Port Royal bids farewell to Lauer

Story and photos by
MC2 (SW) Mark Logico

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

The guided-missile cruiser USS Port Royal (CG 73) held a change of command ceremony at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on March 17.

Port Royal bade farewell to Capt. John T. Lauer and welcomed Capt. Eric F. Weilenman as the ship's new commanding officer, in a ceremony on the ship's flight deck.

Rear Adm. Dixon Smith, commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific and commander, Navy Region Hawaii, was the honored guest and key speaker during the ceremony.

In his speech, Smith commended Lauer for a job well done as the commanding officer of Port Royal since February 2009.

"I gave many speeches over the years to include lots of change of commands, but this is a special one," Smith said. "I suspect that I act on the sentiment of everyone present today when I tell you the pride I feel standing on the flight deck of the capital ship of the fleet, ready in all regard to answer our nation's call. So, let's just say it up front: 'Port Royal is back!'"

Since February 2009, Port Royal and its crew completed all certification and assessments, including navigation certification, cruise missile tactical qualification and unit level training assessment (ULTRA) certification.

Port Royal was also awarded the 2009 and 2010 Golden Anchor for Retention excellence. The ship achieved an 82.8 percent retention rate, more than 75 re-enlistments and a 39 percent advancement



Sailors aboard the guided missile cruiser USS Port Royal (CG 73) stand at parade rest as the ship holds a change of command ceremony on March 17. Capt. Eric F. Weilenman relieved Capt. John T. Lauer during a ceremony on the flight deck aboard Port Royal.

rate. Port Royal was rated number two among all cruisers for promotion potential, according to Navy Times.

In August 2010, Port Royal participated in the Seattle Sea Fair 2010, hosting 7,000 visitors in three days. While in Seattle, the ship hosted a naturalization ceremony for 14 service members.

"I want to honor the accomplishments to those who breathed new life into this ship. I do so because that was the focus of Capt. John Lauer for the past two years," Smith said.

Lauer, in his speech to the crew and attendees, welcomed his relief and thanked his crew, the ship's ombudsman and the family readiness group. Lauer said that today was a special day for the crew because the energy of a new commanding officer is about to be injected



Capt. Eric F. Weilenman (left) prepares to relieve Capt. John T. Lauer during a change of command ceremony on March 17 on the flight deck aboard USS Port Royal (CG 73).

into the ship.

Weilenman, a native New Yorker, participated in seven overseas deployments including Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm, Enduring Freedom and sev-

eral counter-drug operations. He served as executive officer aboard USS Leyte Gulf (CG 55) and as commanding officer aboard USS Oscar Austin (DDG 79).

CNRH establishes support programs for families arriving from Japan

MC2 Robert Stirrup

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

Commander, Navy Region Hawaii (CNRH) recently set up support programs for family members of active duty service members arriving from Japan at the Honolulu International Airport.

CNRH is teaming with the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam's (JBPHH) Warfighter and Family Services office and Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) to help families who have been displaced by the recent events in Japan.

Margaret Scurfield, director of Warfighter and Family Services (WFS), said that WFS personnel are on-site at Honolulu International Airport to support families arriving in Hawaii.

"We currently have staff members at a reception desk at the airport to accommodate any families arriving from Japan and Guam. We are here to reach out to them and provide any services they may need," Scurfield said. "It is important for us to greet these families upon arrival and facilitate their needs after they've had to leave their home and take a long flight back to the U.S."

Scurfield also said while there has not been a large number of families arrive in Hawaii, WFS staff members will remain at the airport to support any arriving families.

"So far we've only had a handful of people arrive here in Hawaii, but we expect that number to increase," Scurfield said. "It

is important for these families to know that we are here to support them in whatever they may need."

WFS provides counseling services, assistance with lodging, relocation, child care, new parent support and phone contact information.

Paul Belanger, director of NMCRS Pearl Harbor, spoke about what NMCRS is doing to support the families.

"Currently, we are offering short-term immediate assistance to all of the families arriving from Japan, including loans and access to our thrift shop at minimal cost," Belanger said. "NMCRS is here to support our active duty service members and their families in this time of need."

Service members and their families can contact the Warfighter and Family Services Office at 808-474-1999 or call 808-473-1222 on weekends.

For more information on the voluntary authorized departure for eligible Department of Defense (DoD) family members from designated areas in Japan, read NAVADMIN 093/11 at www.npc.navy.mil.

All Sailors or family members who are in need of assistance should use the Navy Family Accountability and Assessment System (NFAAS) support site at www.navyfamily.navy.mil to ensure the Navy can track and assess support requirements for all parties affected. Navy Fleet and Family Support Center has a 24-hour hotline available to provide family support information at 866-854-0638.

ENCS Shawn Etheridge talks about IA deployment

Story and photos by MC2 (SW) Mark Logico

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

Senior Chief Engineman (SW) Shawn Etheridge, assigned to waterfront operations based at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe, is one of hundreds of Hawaii-based Sailors who has been sent on an individual augmentee (IA) deployment. Etheridge received overseas contingency operation orders to Afghanistan from November 2009 to November 2010.

"It was a form of retirement plan," said Etheridge, who has served the Navy for more than 17 years. Etheridge explained that after serving back-to-back sea duty for nine years, it left him with one extra year to use before he can retire on shore duty.

"It was also something I want to do," Etheridge said. "It was something I had never done before. It seemed enticing, I guess I would say."

In Afghanistan, Etheridge

was initially assigned to work alongside an Army National Guard unit for four months as part of the maintenance shop, but after talking to his superiors, he requested an assignment "outside the wire."

"We are trying to build them up just like we did in Iraq. We're doing the same thing. We're working with the Afghan National Army (ANA)," Etheridge said.

Etheridge was able to get out of the maintenance shop and worked outside the wire every day. He worked there the rest of the time, for eight to nine months, issuing vehicles to the Afghan National Army at depot two, the primary vehicle receiving, storage and staging location.

Etheridge said that their mission was to help build the ANA as the Afghans prepare to stand on their own.

"We issue them vehicles," said Etheridge. "It was a good time. It wasn't too bad."

Etheridge said that some of the challenges he faced while deployed to

Afghanistan were experiencing the mortal dangers the assignment brought.

"We had a 300-pound VIED (vehicle-borne improvised explosive device) blowing up outside the base in front of the gate," Etheridge said. "We also had an RPG (rocket-propelled grenade) going over the base. One of the petty officers I went through training with was KIA (killed in action)."

But despite that, Etheridge said he was glad he was able to experience an IA deployment.

"It's a good opportunity for career advancement, something different, out of the norm," Etheridge said. "It's not shipboard life. You got out of your element. You get to see the other services and how they work and operate. You'll be able to reflect more and appreciate the Navy, our morals and principles."

Overall, Etheridge said that his Navy career was quite an experience. He has served aboard ship including USS Princeton CG 59, USS Devastator (MCM 6) and USS Harpers Ferry (LSD 49).



SENIOR CHIEF ENGINEMAN (SW) SHAWN ETHERIDGE

Diverse Views



What do you read or enjoy the most in Ho'okele?



Culinary Specialist 1st Class (SW) Raymund Lee

It's very informative. I like the way they have articles about ships pulling in from deployment. They have the Warrior of the Week feature. It has all the MWR activities in there, too. It's a good community paper.

Construction Electrician 2nd Class (SCW) Jeff Tarabocia



There was an article I was reading in there about the outrigger races. It was pretty cool. I didn't know about it. It was kind of a big thing. People from California were coming here. They had teams, and some of the teams are actually military teams on their off time. I just didn't know about it.



Linda Heffernan
Chief of Air Force Audit Agency

"The front page for up-to-date information of what's happening on base."

2nd Lt. Brett Amerine
647th Contracting



"The MWR section for what's going on around the island."

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

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

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

Rear Adm. Hopper has Hawaii connection



Photograph by Pete Souza, official U.S. Navy Photograph, Naval History and Heritage Command

Then-Capt. Grace M. Hopper, U.S. Navy Reserve, takes the oath of office from Secretary of the Navy John Lehman, during White House ceremonies promoting her from the rank of captain to commodore on Dec. 15, 1983. President Ronald Reagan is looking on, at left. In the forefront of computer technology and programming, she was promoted to rear admiral in 1985 and passed away in 1992. USS Hopper (DDG-70), homeported at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, was named in her honor.

HO'OKELE

PEARL HARBOR - HICKAM NEWS

Commander,
Navy Region Hawaii
Rear Adm. Dixon R. Smith

Chief of Staff
Capt. Melvin Lee

Director,
Public Affairs
Agnes Tauyan

Deputy Director,
Public Affairs
Bill Doughty

Leading Chief Petty Officer
MCC Bart Bauer

Leading Petty Officer
MC2 Mark Logico

Staff Writer
MC2 Robert Stirrup

Commander,
Joint Base
Pearl Harbor-Hickam
Capt. Richard Kitchens

Acting Deputy Commander
Lt Col. Rex Vanderwood

Director, Public Affairs
Dr. Philip Breeze

Managing Editor
Karen Spangler

Assistant Editor
Don Robbins

Sports Editor
Randy Dela Cruz

Layout/Design
Antonio Verceluz

Layout/Design
Michael Villafuerte

Ho'okele is a free unofficial paper published every Thursday by The Honolulu Star Advertiser 500 Ala Moana Boulevard Suite 7-500 Honolulu Hawaii 96813, a private firm in no way connected with DoD, the U. S. Navy or Marine Corps, under exclusive contract with Commander, Navy Region Hawaii. All editorial content is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the staff of the Commander, Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs Office: 850 Ticonderoga, Suite 110, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, 96860-4884. Telephone: (808) 473-2888; fax (808) 473-2876; e-mail address: editor@hookelenews.com World Wide Web address: <https://www.cnic.navy.mil/Hawaii/> or www.hookelenews.com.

This civilian enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication primarily for members of the Navy and Marine Corps military services and their families in Hawaii. Its contents do not necessarily reflect the official views of the U. S. Government, the Department of Defense, the U.S. Navy or Marine Corps and do not imply endorsement thereof.

The civilian publisher, The Honolulu Star Advertiser, is responsible for commercial advertising, which may be purchased by calling (808) 521-9111. The appearance of advertising in this newspaper, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement of the products and services advertised by the Department of Defense, the U.S. Navy or Marine Corps, Commander, Navy Region Hawaii or The Honolulu Star Advertiser. Everything advertised in this paper shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. A confirmed violation of this policy of equal opportunity by an advertiser will result in the refusal to print advertising from that source. Ho'okele is delivered weekly to Navy & Air Force housing units and Navy installations throughout Oahu. Housing residents may contact the publisher directly at (808) 690-8864 if they wish to discontinue home delivery.

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard completes maintenance, modernization on USS Columbus

Liane Nakahara

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Public Affairs

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard workers completed a regularly scheduled, larger-than-normal docking selected restricted availability (DSRA) on the fast attack submarine USS Columbus (SSN 762) on March 5.

"During the planning stage of this availability, the shipyard team recognized that the large size and quick tempo of this project was going to be a challenge," said Capt. Michael Temme, shipyard operations officer. "The team rose to the challenge and overcame many obstacles along the way. There was a significant amount of maintenance and modernization accomplished on this submarine and the fleet is getting back a mission-capable warship that is ready to go to sea and defend our country."

The Columbus DSRA began on Aug. 21, 2010, and the submarine entered dry dock three days later. The project team dove right into the project and was able to complete rip-out of major ship components one week ahead of schedule. The work



U.S. Navy photo by Marshall Fukuki

USS Columbus (SSN 762) enters dry dock two at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard for maintenance and modernization work on Aug. 24, 2010.

accomplished during this availability included repairs to the boat's steering and diving components, weapon systems, valves, pumps, hydrophones, and internal and external tanks.

The next major milestone was achieved in December when shipyard workers undocked Columbus before the shipyard's holiday curtailment period. Miles Kotoshirodo, Columbus project

superintendent, said meeting this milestone was important because it allowed sufficient time for the project team to complete waterborne testing and other system certifications.

"This project required the support of the entire shipyard and the dedication of the captain of Columbus and his crew to overcome the challenges of this project," Kotoshirodo said. "It was the

largest modernization work package to be accomplished during this type of availability."

The amount of new work added was more than three times greater than what was originally budgeted for this availability. "Despite the significant growth in new work, the project team responded well and minimized the additional time required to accomplish the availability," Kotoshirodo said. "Teamwork was essential in completing this project."

Kotoshirodo noted a considerable number of modernization upgrades performed by contractors and other shipyards was integrated into the work package. This presented a major execution challenge because of shipboard space constraints and different processes. The work included structural modifications and upgrades to the main storage battery compartment, external tanks and electronics systems.

"The shipyard, ship's force and all contractors worked very well as a team throughout the entire project," Kotoshirodo said. "I thank them for their dedication and hard work in overcoming all of the challenges."

Morale Welfare and Recreation supports Japanese sailors visiting Pearl Harbor

MC2 Ronald Gutridge

Commander Submarine Force U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs Office

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam's (JBPHH) Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) team offered services to sailors from the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) submarine, JS Uzushio (SS 592), at the Beeman Activity Center.

The center set up an information area for the sailors to use after the submarine returned to Pearl Harbor on March 18. Uzushio has been conducting operations in the Hawaiian operating area and for many of the crew, this was the first opportunity to contact family members and loved ones at home.



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Robert Stirrup

Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) Oyashio class submarine, JS Uzushio (SS 592) returns to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on March 18 following an underway around the Hawaiian Islands.

"It is important that these sailors are informed with current and precise information during this time of crisis," said Greg Brown,

JBPHH MWR liberty program manager. "This was the only means of communication some of these sailors have."

The services included a lounge area with five televisions showing separate Japanese news feeds, five computer stations with

video chat capability, and five iPads to accommodate more personnel. The computer and iPad homepages are set to Google Japan and

the language settings have been switched to Japanese to make it easier for the sailors.

MWR is also providing seven cell phones for the crew to call home for free. Three pier phones have been upgraded with international long distance capability with calling cards provided for the crew's use on these phones.

"It is very much appreciated what MWR is doing for us," said Cmdr. Mitsutake Chihara, Uzushio commanding officer. "It is a great reassurance for the crew."

Beeman Activity Center will provide these services throughout the remainder of Uzushio's time at Pearl Harbor and is installing a digital cable box capable of receiving NGN2 (Japanese TV Satellite Network) directly to Uzushio to support duty section personnel.

Children now enrolled can remain in same school if parents choose

Continued from A-1

for middle school, eighth graders registered for high school) or to attend their new "home" school.

- Students enrolling in kindergarten and DOE pre-K special programs who register by April 1, 2011 will have the choice to be grandfathered in for their years at that school or to enroll at their new "home" school.

- Bus transportation services will overlap for two to three years during the transition.

- Students and younger siblings who are not yet enrolled in kindergarten have the choice to be: (1) grandfathered into their current feeder pattern (moving from elementary to middle to high) for five years, or (2) to attend their new "home" school when they move from elementary to middle or from middle to high.

There will be some additional documentation required from parents who elect to continue the current feeder pattern after SY 2010-2011. That includes a military housing lease agreement showing that the family has resided at the same address and military housing area since school year 2010-2011.

Parents who elect to register a younger sibling whose older brother/sister is grandfathered into the current feeder pattern will also have to provide documentation, including a military housing lease agreement showing that the family has resided at the same address and military housing area since school year 2010-2011, and a report card of an older brother/sister, showing that they attended the school in the feeder pattern during school

year 2010-2011.

Nikki Burwell, whose son attends sixth grade at Aliamanu Elementary School, said she sees the adjustment of school boundaries as a good thing. With the "grandfathering" guidance presented in the DOE's decision this week, Burwell's children won't be affected. Burwell's two other children, ages 13 and 17, also formerly attended Aliamanu Elementary School.

However, she explained that she could see the benefits of the plan that would transfer students from Aliamanu Elementary School to Fort Shafter Elementary School.

"I think it's a great idea because some classes are over-populated and children aren't getting as much one-on-one time. Classes will be smaller and allow children from Aliamanu to get more attention. I do think zoning and making classes smaller is good, and

teachers can provide more attention to individual students," she explained.

Chantel Burden's daughter is a third grader at Pearl Harbor Kai Elementary School. An older daughter attends Aliamanu Middle School. "The only concern I had was that my youngest daughter might have to switch schools. I was happy to find out she would be grandfathered in," Burden said.

"It wasn't that big of a concern for me, but I'm glad that she can stay [at Pearl Harbor Kai] because she has friends there," she added.

At the same time, she understood the concerns that other parents may have.

"People are concerned if they are going to receive good education at another school and want continuity for their kids," she said.

"New people moving into a neighborhood that is rezoned may be concerned

that half of the neighborhood is going to one school and half of the neighborhood is going to another school," Burden added.

Carmen Sanguinet's two sons are first and sixth graders at Pearl Harbor Kai Elementary. Their younger sister will be starting kindergarten in the fall at the same school. Sanguinet was happy to learn that her

kindergartner would be able to attend the same school as her older siblings. "I'm so glad because I love that school. My children have been so successful," she said.

New families moving into the impacted areas will be required to attend the home school that is zoned for the new address. The boundary adjustments are effective

for families moving into the area and registering for school year 2011-2012.

"Looking at the big picture, all aspects of schooling, including school boundaries, impact learning for students. The intent is that these adjustments will happen over time, and result in benefits to our students and their families," Ushijima said.

Military families urged to participate in study on Hawaii education

The U.S. Pacific Command is encouraging military service members and their spouses to participate in the Military Child in Hawaii survey. The goal is to gain at least 3,000 survey participants by this summer.

The three-year longitudinal study will collect information that will give military families an opportunity to make a difference in Hawaii's educational system that could benefit military children.

The study consists of two-parts: an on-line survey and focus groups. Focus

groups will convene April 18 to 22 in Hawaii.

The elements of the online survey include an arrival survey, an annual survey and a PCS survey.

A more comprehensive story about the study was published in the March 11, 2011 edition of Ho'okele, page A-1.

For more information or to participate in the survey, visit <http://bit.ly/hESpwx> or <http://www.hawaiikids.org>.

For general questions about the study, contact Dr. Robert Blum at www.hkids.org.

Neighborhood Area	Present	Proposed
Skyview	Makalapa (approx 90 students) Aliamanu Middle Radford High	Makalapa (approx 90 students) Aliamanu Middle Radford High
Bougainville	Nimitz (approx 162 students) Aliamanu Middle Radford High	Makalapa (approx 162 students) Aliamanu Middle Radford High
Rim Loop	Mokulele (approx 73 students) Aliamanu Middle (approx 20 students) Radford High (approx 40 students)	Red Hill (approx 73 students) Moanalua Middle (approx 20 students) Moanalua High (approx 40 students)
Caitlin	Pearl Harbor Kai (approx 142 students) Aliamanu Middle Radford High	Nimitz (approx 142 students) Aliamanu Middle Radford High
Ama	Pearl Harbor Kai (approx 95 students) Aliamanu Middle Radford High	Pearl Harbor (approx 95 students) Aliamanu Middle Radford High
Ford Island	Pearl Harbor (approx 214 students) Aliamanu Middle Radford High	Pearl Harbor Kai (approx 214 students) Aliamanu Middle Radford High
Radford Terrace	Aliamanu Elem (approx 263 students) Moanalua Middle Moanalua High	Shafter Elem (approx 263 students) Moanalua Middle Moanalua High
Halsey Terrace	Aliamanu Elem Moanalua Middle (approx 58 students) Moanalua High (approx 82 students)	Aliamanu Elem Aliamanu Middle (approx 58 students) Radford High (approx 82 students)
Hibiscus Lane /Lp (students who currently attend Webling)	Webling Elem (approx 100 students) Moanalua Middle Moanalua High	Red Hill Elem (approx 100 students) Moanalua Middle Moanalua High

Pearl Harbor-Hickam *Highlights*

Dog handlers from the U.S. Agency for International Development brought their working dogs to the collocated club at Misawa Air Base, Japan, to entertain the children as their parents wait in the voluntary departure processing lines March 19.

U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Phillip Butterfield



U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Brendon Smith
 Cmdr. David Adams, commanding officer of the Los Angeles-class fast-attack submarine USS Santa Fe (SSN 763), which is homeported at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, presents a Korean girl with a Santa Fe command ball cap upon arrival for a port visit at Chinhae, Korea on March 15.



U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Chris Mason
 (Above) Senior Chief Machinist Mate (SS) Christopher Farrell of the Los Angeles-class fast-attack submarine USS Santa Fe (SSN 763), which is homeported at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, and a Korean sailor plant sod during a volunteer day at the Chinhae Hope Home orphanage at Chinhae, Korea on March 16.



(Left) Joshua Immanuel, a firefighter and emergency medical technician with Federal Fire Department Hawaii at station one, Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, teaches CPR to a student at Kamehameha Middle School during career day on March 17.

Photo courtesy of Federal Fire Department

Annabel Chotzen, motivational speaker, addresses the audience at the annual Women's History Luncheon on March 21. Chotzen spoke about achieving her dreams and starting a family. The lunch was held to commemorate the achievements of women throughout history and the military.

U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Lauren Main



Cultural exchange strengthens U.S., Thailand, Singapore relations

Story and photos by
Capt. Kirsten Udd

13th Air Force Public
Affairs

KORAT, Thailand – U.S., Thailand and Singapore Airmen participated in a cultural exchange at Ang Huai Yang School in Korat, Thailand on March 14 as part of Cope Tiger 2011, a multi-lateral joint and combined field training exercise.

Each year, Cope Tiger's community outreach programs enable Airmen from the three countries to strengthen ties with the local community.

"These community outreach visits are a great way for our Airmen to experience local culture, see the positive effect we can have during these exercises, and the kids get to practice their English while we get to learn Thai," said Maj. Greg Richert, chief of aerospace medicine at 13th Air Force, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii and medical lead for Exercise Cope Tiger 2011.

Students at the school taught the Airmen words and numbers in Thai and also performed impromptu performances of Thailand's national anthem. For Master Sgt. Chris Lim, Cope Tiger communication and information supervisor, the interaction with the young students will always be remembered.

"The girls were so eager to teach us new words. They made sure we pronounced the words properly and it was a lot of



Capt. Clifton Nowell, flight doctor from the 96th Air Refueling Squadron from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, learns to make soup with Sgt. Sommai Phala of the Royal Thai Air Force during a community outreach visit to Ang Huai Yang School in Korat, Thailand, on March 14. Airmen visited the school with members of the Royal Thai and Republic of Singapore Air Forces during Cope Tiger 2011, an annual, multilateral, joint field training exercise currently being conducted in Thailand from March 14 through 25.

fun," Lim said. "Interactions like this one today is just one of the many ways in which we try to build stronger friendships with the local community and our exercise partners."

Capt. Adam Gaudinski and Capt. Tyler March, F-15 pilots with the 44th Fighter Squadron at Kadena Air Base, Japan, learned to write numbers in Thai and were able to

successfully play hangman, tic-tac-toe and rock-paper-scissors with some of the students. The captains and their counterparts recognize the uniqueness of this opportunity to be ambassadors for their nations.

"This was the first time the military has visited the school students and the students were happy to meet with foreigners. The girls told me it was

wonderful to spend time together and enjoyed teaching their numbers and letters," said Royal Thai Air Force Flight Lt. Khanthaman Devakul, correspondent for the joint and combined exercise division, directorate of operations, stationed at Don Mueng Air Base in Bangkok, Thailand.

The exchange closed with Airmen from the three militaries joining



Maj. Greg Richert, chief of aerospace medicine at 13th Air Force, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii and medical lead for Exercise Cope Tiger 2011, is served noodles by a student from Ang Huai Yang School in Korat, Thailand.



Lt. Col. Mike Akiowa, a pilot stationed at the 203rd Air Refueling Squadron at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, and Senior Airman Antonio Savage, stationed at the 44th Fighter Squadron at Kadena Air Base, Japan, honed their Thai pronunciation skills with Panwad Aumsuan Pan and Mintra Min Bung, students from the Ang Huai Yang School in Korat, Thailand on March 14.

with the students and teachers in making green papaya salad and cooking a traditional tom yum goong soup.

Cope Tiger aims to improve U.S.-Thailand-Singapore combined readiness and interoper-

ability, including humanitarian and disaster response capabilities, reinforcing U.S. Pacific Command's theater security cooperation goals in the Southeast Asia region.

U.S.-Thai Airmen have a heart for handicapped children

Story and photo by
Capt. Kirsten Udd

13th Air Force Public
Affairs

KORAT, Thailand – Service members presented more than \$1,300 in supplies to help Panyahukul Handicapped School students at a community outreach event on March 18 during Cope Tiger, a multi-lateral joint and combined field training exercise in Korat, Thailand.

The school staff welcomed U.S. and Royal Thai Air Force Airmen with a donation ceremony to express their gratitude and invited Maj. Greg Richert to give a speech.

"This is our second year donating to this school. Last year it was one of the schools that our people enjoyed visiting the most," said Maj. Richert, chief of aerospace medicine at 13th Air Force, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, and medical lead for the exercise.

Donations from exercise participants allowed the outreach team to purchase shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrushes, two water dispensers and eight fans for the children. They also stocked the school with sports equipment, such as badminton kits, soccer balls, volleyballs and legballs.

After the speeches, the Airmen and teachers posed



Maj. Greg Richert, chief of aerospace medicine at 13th Air Force, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, accepts a thank you gift on behalf of Cope Tiger Airmen who donated toys and school supplies to the Panyahukul Handicapped School during a community outreach event in Korat, Thailand, on March 18. Richert is the lead for Exercise Cope Tiger 2011, an annual, multi-lateral, joint field training exercise currently being conducted at Korat and Udorn Thani Royal Thai Air Bases March 14 through 25.

for a photo shoot with Worachai Buaban, nicknamed "Coke," a 10-year old mute student with mental illnesses. He mouthed the Thai words for "thank you" and became the star of the event as he posed for photos with

a new soccer ball.

Following the photos, the Airmen toured the school, which has a staff of 75 teachers and accommodates 442 students with either mental illnesses or hearing impairments.

During the visit to the

dorm rooms, one of the teachers explained that the barracks-style accommodations, with beds crammed edge to edge, housed 60 girls for four months at a time.

"It's a great school to give to because they have good

infrastructure, but they have no stuff for the kids," said Royal Thai Air Force Wing Commander Apichart Nathinitiatat, chief of civic action.

As they toured the school, Airmen were able to see some of last year's

donations that were being used around the school. As they discussed the school's needs, teachers offered suggestions for next year's donation list, including a scrolling marquee so that the hearing-impaired children could understand announcements and sewing machines so that the students can learn a skill.

Capt Glen Whelan, an F-15 pilot with the 44th fighter Squadron at Kadena Air Base, Japan, said he enjoyed the event and the opportunity to be a part of Cope Tiger's community outreach.

"It's a great way when we're here not only to interact with the partner militaries, but also get out in the town, do stuff with the local folks, and show them that we're not just here as a fighting force, or just to work with their military. We care about the region and the Thai people as a whole and we're not just here to fly, that's not our only job," Whelan said.

As they departed, the Airmen compiled a new shopping list and discussed new ways to raise money for next year's event.

Cope Tiger is an opportunity for the U.S., Thailand and Singapore armed forces to strengthen relationships and demonstrates the U.S. commitment to regional peace, security and the humanitarian interests of partners in the region.

To report...
Fraud, Waste or Abuse
Contact Commander, Navy Region Hawaii's Inspector General

✓ We are here to help
✓ You can remain anonymous
✓ Remember to use your chain of command first

HOTLINE:
808-473-1782

EMAIL:
prlh-cnrhig@navy.mil

STORY IDEAS?
Contact the Ho'okele editor for guidelines and story/photo submission requirements
Phone: (808) 473-2888
Email: editor@hookelenews.com

HO'OKELE
PEARL HARBOR - HICKAM NEWS

GOT SPORTS **Phone: (808)473-2888**
editor@hookelenews.com Contact the Ho'okele editor for guidelines and story/photo submission requirements

U.S.-Thai-Singaporean Airmen reinforce relationships in Korat

Capt. David Herndon

Headquarters Pacific Air Forces

KORAT, Thailand – Hundreds of Thai children and school teachers joined more than 75 Airmen from the U.S., Royal Thai and Republic of Singapore Air Forces to celebrate during a combined civic action engagement here on March 16.

The Airmen, all participants in this year's Cope Tiger large force, multinational air exercise, spent the day serving as ambassadors for their nations at Ang Huai Yang School in the Mueang District of the Nakorn Ratchasima Province.

The Cope Tiger service members were greeted with local foods, performances from the Royal Thai Air Force Band and a pavilion full of children waiting to interact and learn more about the people flying and supporting exercise operations at the neighboring Royal Thai Air Base, Korat Field.

"I am so happy that we could come together as a team to support our neighbors," said Royal Thai Air Force Flight Lt. Khanthaman Devakul, "The kids are really happy to meet [U.S., Thai and Singaporean] Airmen ... it is very important to build partnerships between our three nations."

According to Maj. Jon Duncan, Joint U.S. Military Advisory Group air operations officer and regional area strategist for Thailand, multi-lateral civic action engagements like this underscore U.S. partnerships in the Southeast Asia region and equally important to those are community relationships that are reinforced through regular engagement.

"This was about reinforcing our relationship



(Left) Maj. Greg Richert, Chief of aerospace medicine at 13th Air Force, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, confirms event details with Flight Lt. Khanthaman Devakul, correspondent for the Royal Thai Air Force, before a community outreach event at Ang Huai Yang School in Korat, Thailand on March 16. Major Richert is the medical lead for Exercise Cope Tiger 2011, an annual, multilateral, joint field training exercise currently being conducted at Korat and Udon Thani Royal Thai Air Bases from March 14 through 25.

(Below left) Airman 1st Class Stephanie Rogge spends time with children from the Ang Huai Yang School during a community outreach event in Korat, Thailand on March 16.

(Below right) A student shows his enthusiasm as members of the Royal Thai Air Force Band entertain students at Ang Huai Yang School during a community outreach event in Korat, Thailand on March 16.



U.S. Air Force photo by Capt. David Herndon



parts," he said. "I'm taking lessons learned from last year's exercise and using them to better what we're doing this time around."

U.S. Airmen were able to donate nearly \$2,500 dollars of school equipment deemed needed for the children by school administrations and have several more community engagement aligned in Korat and Udon Thani, Thailand through March 23.

Cope Tiger aims to develop common operating pictures for participant aircrews and provides a venue to develop multilateral and coalition procedures in air missions.

The exercise concludes March 25.

with our neighbors," Duncan said. "We do a lot of flying out here during Cope Tiger, and it's important that we show our neigh-

bors that we care." Caring for local neighbors in Korat is nothing new to Tech Sgt. Chad Perry, who is on his second mobilization to Cope

Tiger as a communication and information specialist. The sergeant coordinated a majority of the U.S. contingent's donation drive and school

equipment purchasing. "I'm getting to learn a lot about the community and also a lot from our Royal Thai and Republic of Singapore counter-

NIOC Hawaii participates in Military Saves Week

Story and photo by
Lt. j.g. Hillary Lamb and
CT12 Theresa Buitron

Navy Information
Operations Command
Hawaii

"Do you want to be a millionaire before you retire?" Information Technician 1st Class (SW) Donald Nelson yelled into the throng of approaching people.

"Are you interested in investing in your financial future?" Cryptologic Technician (Interpretive) 1st Class (AW/NAC) Christina DeBartolo shouted.

Is it possible to become a millionaire before you retire? For those who were interested in finding out how, Navy Information Operations Command (NIOC) Hawaii's command financial specialist (CFS) team was there to help.

The CFS team conducted a week-long informational drive in conjunction with Military Saves Week, a financial education campaign from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH).



Cryptologic Technician (Interpretive) 1st (CT11) Class (SG) Jason Winters (center left), CT11 Yangyijun Fairman (center right), and Information Systems Technician 1st Class Donald Nelson (right) educate Sailors on financial planning and management as part of Military Saves Week.

Military Saves encourages the military community to come together to focus on financial readiness.

The NIOC CFS team set up display tables that offered a variety of information about financial management and investing in an effort to make Sailors aware of the hazards of finances as well as their potential for

growth. In addition, the team held seminars covering more specific topics, such as retirement and smart saving, that were open to all personnel who wanted to broaden their knowledge of financial stability.

NIOC Hawaii's CFS team is associated with the local Warfighter and Family

Services and is made up completely of volunteer Sailors who are seeking to put their knowledge of finances and money management to good use. In all, NIOC Hawaii has about 30 CFS team members. Their goal is to have one CFS team member per 75 Sailors assigned to the command. All team members attend

special training in order to be able to counsel Sailors on their finances and offer advice on how to better manage their personal finances. Their main areas of concentration are retirement, investment and savings opportunities. Team members are also given privacy act training and are not permitted to divulge any information offered to them by Sailors who are seeking financial counseling.

Each CFS team member has his or her own reasons for deciding to volunteer. Cryptologic Technician (Interpretive) 1st Class (SG) Jason Winters wanted to see what more he could learn about finance and investment. He also wanted to provide assistance for Sailors in need of solid advice. Finances can affect Sailors very severely if they get out of hand. Clearances, and therefore jobs, are at risk if personal finances get out of control. Winters recalled one Sailor who had put in 14 years of naval service only to have his clearance pulled due to rising personal debt.

Cryptologic Technician (Interpretive) 1st Class Yangyijun Fairman said that she had always loved spending money, and then decided she wanted to learn how to spend it smartly and pass that knowledge on to fellow Sailors. Fairman was formerly a day trader and had prior experience buying and selling property and stocks, valuable knowledge she willingly shared with interested Sailors.

Chief Cryptologic Technician (Interpretive) (NAC) Joel Simmons headed up the CFS team that handed out financial information to Sailors. He said that many Sailors were reluctant to seek out financial assistance through the CFS because of a misconception that it meant the Navy was telling them how to spend their money.

Simmons stressed that the CFS team was there only to provide assistance, counseling and sound financial advice for members of the command. Ultimately, Sailors themselves have to decide how to manage their finances.

U.S. Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command team searches for MIA Americans

Joint POW/MIA
Accounting Office
Public Affairs office

An investigation team from the U.S. Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) recently deployed to Europe searching for MIAs from World War II.

The seven-member team will investigate 10 cases in the Federal Republic of Germany and Netherlands, searching for information associated with 17 servicemen

unaccounted-for from World War II.

The team will authenticate leads from witness testimonies, conduct field research, and gather information to determine whether or not there will be a return visit for excavation at a later date.

Falling directly under the U.S. Pacific Command, JPAC is a jointly-manned organization of more than 400 military and civilian specialists that has

investigated and recovered missing Americans since the 1970s. To date, more than 74,000 individuals are listed as missing in action from World War II.

The ultimate goal of the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command and of the agencies involved in returning America's heroes home is to achieve the fullest possible accounting of Americans lost during the nation's past conflicts.

Naval Health Clinic Hawaii limits patient care on April 8

Naval Health Clinic
Hawaii

Due to all Naval Health Clinic Hawaii staff participating in mandatory semi-annual training, limited health care services will be available on April 8. Beneficiaries are asked to take this into consideration when scheduling health care. All routine care should be planned prior to or after April 8. For Makalapa Clinic

there will be limited health care operations. Services available are laboratory, pharmacy and radiology; all other services are secured. For Kaneohe Bay, Camp Smith and Wahiawa clinics, all health care operations are secured. Makalapa Clinic will be open on April 9 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for acute care needs. Kaneohe Bay, Camp Smith and Wahiawa Clinics will open April 11 at their

regular hours of operation. For NHCH hours of operation, visit the website at <http://www.med.navy.mil/sites/nhch>.

To speak to a medical care provider anytime the clinics are closed, call the "provider after-hours advice line" at 473-0247, ext. 3. For emergencies, go to Tripler Army Medical Center, dial 911, or go to the nearest emergency department.

Operation Warfighter offers internships to wounded warriors

Story and photo by
Kristen Wong

Hawaii Marine

An improvised explosive device robbed 1st Lt. Rick Rush of his voice, but not his work ethic. Achieving a silver medal in company archery and a bronze medal in the pistol category of the 2011 Marine Corps Trials at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., Rush was also chosen for the All-Marine Warrior Games team for the competition in May.

Back on base fresh from the trials, Rush is back to work at an internship provided through Operation Warfighter.

The former logistics officer from 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, sustained multiple injuries, including a collapsed lung, a broken left ankle and permanently damaged vocal cords.

Today, the 30-year-old from Coos Bay, Ore. is a patient at Wounded Warrior Battalion West - Detachment Hawaii.

"You just get more time for yourself," said Rush about the change from regular active duty to being a recovering wounded warrior.

But since last year, Rush has rejoined the work force, as an intern through Operation Warfighter. Through the program, Rush found an internship at the Defense Logistics Agency Troop Support Pacific at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Operation Warfighter, operated by the Office of Wounded Warrior Care and Transition Policy, assists wounded warriors in finding a temporary assignment or



First Lt. Rick Rush, patient, Wounded Warrior Battalion West Detachment - Hawaii, competed in the 2011 Marine Corps Trials and brought back silver in archery. He has also found success through Operation Warfighter.

an internship while they average wounded warrior recover. According to the department's website, the assignments typically last

as long as three months.

"Operation Warfighter is working double duty for our service members," said John R. Campbell, the deputy assistant secretary of defense of Wounded Warrior Care and Transition Policy, who oversees the program. "It was designed as a wellness program, a chance to get our wounded warriors out of a hospital setting and doing something productive with their free time."

Rush is the first Operation Warfighter intern for DLA Troop Support Pacific, which works to supply military customers such as Marine Corps Base Hawaii with food, clothing, construction and medical materials.

"We were very excited to have him onboard," said Angel Colon, deputy commander of operations, DLA Troop Support Pacific. "He's actually become our Marine Corps logistics link to the Marine Corps Base Hawaii in Kaneohe."

Since October of last year, Rush has been working one full day a week at the DLA.

"His primary duties include making site visits to customers and researching material order and shipment status to identify problems and facilitate prompt deliveries," said Navy Lt. David Ozeck, chief of the Hawaii area of the DLA Troop Support Pacific.

Because he was a logistics officer with 1/3, Rush was already familiar with some of the programs the DLA uses.

Ozeck said Rush is "extremely personable, professional, and provides a great example that really

motivates others in our organization."

"[1st Lt.] Rush has the most positive, 'can-do' attitude," said Stephen DiRico, deputy chief of the Hawaii area of the DLA Troop Support Pacific. "He's mission-oriented and team-focused. He brings an operational perspective that enhances our DLA Troop Support logistical capabilities."

DiRico called the internship a "win-win situation," because both Rush and the rest of the Hawaii area team at the DLA are able to share knowledge and new perspectives.

Operation Warfighter enables some Marines to network with civilians, such as retired Staff Sgt. Shawn Garrett. The native of Amarillo, Texas is now a course director and subject matter expert at the enlisted professional military education branch of Marine Corps University at Marine Corps Base Quantico in Quantico, Va.

The former staff noncommissioned officer in charge at Wounded Warrior Battalion West - Hawaii Detachment was diagnosed with stage two nonsalmonella cancer in 2009 and today still divides his time between work and medical appointments.

Last year for nine months, Garrett worked eight hours a day, five days a week at the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency at JBPHH.

Garrett called the program "productive" and a "unique opportunity," and encourages service members to find a trade they are interested in pursuing and learning new skills.

"[The internship] helped my transition to the civilian sector," Garrett said.

Fellow patient Jason Hanna, now an imagery analyst for the Washington branch in NGA, also participated in an internship while he was a Marine.

From November 2009 to February 2010, Hanna learned about the many different facets of the NGA through his internship. As he got to know the organization, Hanna became interested in working for the NGA.

"It [was] an opportunity to get a feel for what the NGA is," Hanna said. "It's a chance to see a different side of the war effort."

Hanna said by giving wounded warriors an internship opportunity, they can explore new career paths. He said it can be especially helpful for those who are leaving the corps.

"The [program's] experience also enhances their confidence, skills and relationships in civilian life," Campbell said. "Many go on to work at the same agency, while others use their new confidence and skills to land other employment opportunities — it has been an unmitigated success."

Rush encourages other wounded warriors to consider finding work through Operation Warfighter. He believes there is always going to be someone who could use assistance in something.

"Just do it," Rush said. "Get out there and try it."

For more information about Operation Warfighter, visit <http://www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil>.

HO'OKELE Online
PEARL HARBOR - HICKAM NEWS

<http://www.hookelenews.com/> or visit

<https://www.cnic.navy.mil/Hawaii/index.htm>



Base gym helps Airmen stay fit to fight

(Right) Staff Sgt. Ray Nealon, 735th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief, performs pull-ups at the Hickam gym March 3 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam. (Below) Two Air Force recruits perform sit-ups at the Hickam gym March 3 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam in preparation for their upcoming experience at basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. Patrons of the gym can use the weight room as well as other facilities, including a basketball court, cardiovascular exercise machines and a smoothie store.

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

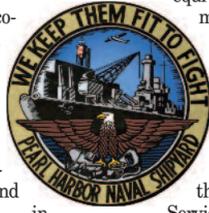


Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard plans to hire 150 apprentices, engineering personnel

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Public Affairs

15, 2012, U.S. citizens, and have a high school diploma or equivalent. Applicants

In tough economic times, Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard is providing career opportunities to thousands of men and women here in Hawaii. By the end of the year, the shipyard plans to add about 150 more employees to its nearly 5,000-member workforce.



must pass a physical exam, academic skills test and be able to obtain a security clearance. Males must be registered with the Selective Service System.

The shipyard needs to fill openings for at least 100 apprentices and roughly 50 engineer, engineering support and various other positions to help carry out its vital mission of repairing and maintaining U.S. Navy ships and submarines.

Engineering positions available include naval architects, and mechanical, structural, welding, electrical and nuclear engineers.

As part of the hiring effort, the shipyard will hold a career fair from 8 a.m. to noon March 26 at Honolulu Community College (HCC), 874 Dillingham Blvd. in Honolulu.

Engineering support positions include physical science technicians, engineering technicians and equipment specialists. The starting pay for engineers ranges from \$45,000 to \$68,000 a year, depending on their qualifications.

Representatives from 18 trades and the engineering department will set up displays at the career fair and be on hand to answer questions about their occupations. Human resources personnel will also be present.

Engineer development opportunities include full-time positions as well as two-year paid internships. These internships could result in the intern being hired on a full-time basis.

Individuals hired as apprentices will begin their employment in January 2012. Apprenticeships are four-year, work-study programs that pay trainees while they earn an associate's degree in applied science from HCC and learn a trade on the job. The average starting pay is \$19 an hour. At the end of four years, apprentice program graduates will earn \$28 or more an hour.

Applications will only be accepted online. Apply for apprenticeships from March 28 to April 9 (Eastern Daylight Savings Time) at <https://www.chart.donhr.navy.mil>. Apply for engineering positions at www.usajobs.gov.

Eligible applicants must be at least 18 years old by Jan.

For those without computer access, computers are available at HCC and Work Links Centers on Oahu and One-Stop Job Centers on the neighbor islands.

For more information about the shipyard, visit www.navsea.navy.mil/shipyards/pearl. For more information about shipyard career opportunities, visit www.navsea.navy.mil/shipyards/pearl/phnsy/Careers.

Nimitz Gate road work extended

Completion of road work at Nimitz Gate has been extended.

From now through May 19, lane closures at Nimitz Gate will occur in support of underground wiring across the first two lanes to provide new lighting at Nimitz Gate.

Concurrently, renovations to the Nimitz gate houses 1692 and 1693 will take place.

Two incoming lanes will be open at all times. Outgoing lanes will not be affected.

Drivers and pedestrians should approach the work area with caution and obey all warning signs and traffic guides.

KHON (FOX) TV 2 Hawaii Navy News upcoming segments

March 31 – Child Abuse Prevention Month (tent)

April 7 – Substance abuse prevention

April 14 – MSC – USNS Shasta (T-AE 33)

April 21 – Earth Day

April 29 – Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard – surface ships

May 12 – Pacific Missile Range Facility and the Centennial of Naval Aviation

(The segments currently air between 6:15 and 6:45 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.