



## Sailors visit Hilo, Hawaii for Merrie Monarch Festival

Story and photos by  
MC3 Sean Furey

Navy Public Affairs  
Support Element West  
Detachment Hawaii.

HILO, Hawaii – Sailors from the Pearl Harbor-based, guided-missile frigate USS Crommelin (FFG 37) and Rear Adm. Frank Ponds, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, and his wife Carol visited Hilo from April 12 to 15 to participate in the 49th annual Merrie Monarch Festival events.

The Merrie Monarch Festival is a week-long cultural festival that takes place to honor King David Kalakaua, who was called the “Merrie Monarch” for

his patronage of the arts.

The Merrie Monarch Royal Court greeted Crommelin during a pier-side welcome ceremony at Hilo Harbor.

“I understand what it means, the Merrie Monarch Festival,” said Ponds. “It’s all about the expression of the mind, but more so an expression of the heart, the emotions that you feel toward each other. Our being here is an extension of that emotion, that relationship.”

Crommelin Sailors and Ponds also attended the hula competitions and were accompanied by the U.S. Navy Pacific Fleet Band when they marched in the Merrie Monarch Royal Parade through downtown Hilo.

During the visit to Hilo,

Sailors from Crommelin participated in a community relations project as they visited the Yukio Okutsu State Veterans Home. The Sailors talked with the residents about their past experiences during their time in the military.

A select group of Waiakea High School Navy JROTC Cadets had the rare opportunity to embark the ship on its return trip from the Big Island to Pearl Harbor.

“The port visit was a huge success and it provided our Sailors a great opportunity to engage with the residents of Hilo,” said Cmdr. Michael Johns, commanding officer of Crommelin.



Iron warriors flex off in bodybuilding championships  
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# Iron warriors flex off in bodybuilding championships

Story and photos by Randy Dela Cruz

Sports Editor

Service personnel representing the Air Force, Navy and Army showed that sweat and hard work in the gym can do a body good, as contestants posed and flexed their carved physiques April 14 in the 29th Annual Armed Forces Hawaii Bodybuilding Championships at Sharkey Theater, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH).

Held before a packed house at Sharkey, the yearly program not only featured the typically ripped bodies of the chiseled competitors, but also included an appearance by National Physique Committee (NPC) competitor and recently retired Navy Chief Mineman Kevin Sperling.

It also included a guest-posing session by Chelsea Prince, who introduced the Figure Division, which will make its debut in the 2013 championships.

The night, though, belonged to the hardcore muscled athletes who came ready for war in the battle for bodybuilding supremacy.

Although Stephany Sanchez was the lone female competitor, the Hickam Department of Defense civilian came fully prepared with a physique that popped.

Sanchez's shape was especially appealing when she struck her front poses that highlighted her clearly defined six-pack set of abs.

The real battle, however, took place among the men, whose high-level of muscularity and definition made

it a tough night for the panel of judges, led by veteran bodybuilding appraiser Cindy Lee.

In the Lightweight Division, 131-pound, 20-year-old-service-family-member Ralph Custodio took top honors and was followed in order by DoD Eassie Soares and Army Staff Sgt. Adrian Romero, who is stationed with the 5th Battlefield Coordination Detachment at JBPHH.

"When I first saw those guys weighing in, I was not feeling good about it at all," said Custodio, who admitted that he was surprised to come in at first. "Preparation wise, I guess I got a little more sophisticated with what I eat, but overall it comes down to just winging it, within reason."

Up next in the Middleweight Division, Army Staff Sgt. William Prince of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 114 Infantry, came in at a tight 169 pounds and beat out Air Force Staff Sgt. Jarvis Polite of the 647th Security Forces Squadron.

With the lower weight classes over and done, it was time for the big boys to step out onto the stage and flex their massive bodies.

Buff Air Force Staff Sgt. Justin Sabio of the 624th Civil Engineer Squadron won the top light-heavyweight prize. He beat out fellow musclemen Navy Chief Warrant Officer 3 Michael Matthews of Pacific Command/Joint Intelligence Operation Center and Army Sgt. Rudy Perez of Bravo Company, 127 Infantry.

"It feels good. The hard

work pays off," said Sabio about his victory. "I'm growing better. I've been experimenting with my diet and supplements and am looking up to bodybuilders, both locally and pro. I watch a lot of those videos and get inspired."

Finally, in a showdown between the two biggest behemoths of the competition, 247-pound Ensign Camille Halliday of Destroyer Squadron 31 outdueled Army Spc. Joel Schafer of Charlie Company, 114 Infantry, for the top honors in the Heavyweight Division.

Following the heavy-weight matchup, all four champions returned to the stage for the final posedown to claim the event's all-around male title.

In the heated last face-off, Custodio, who was the lightest competitor on stage, was awarded the sword as this year's top male armed-forces champ.

"It feels amazing," Custodio said. "I never ever thought that I would win this. I was iffy about my place, so this feels just great."

Judge and NPC competitor Brant Arelliano said that although Custodio was lighter in comparison to the other three finalists, there was nothing small about his physique.

"It was basically his overall symmetry," Arelliano stated. "He was very well-rounded. Everything just blended in. He needs to work on his posing. Not so stiff, but be more relaxed. Otherwise, he's got it."

After claiming the top prize, Custodio thanked the other competitors for their camaraderie and sports-

manship, which he said provided the motivation he needed to be the best.

He also thanked the vocal crowd for their support.

"I thought they (crowd) were great," he said. "I did-

n't expect anybody to shout out my name. It really helped."

As for his post-victory celebration, Custodio said he was going to keep it as low-keyed as possible, and start

planning for his next competition.

"I'm just going to make myself a smoothie," he said. "That's about it, so I can go sleep early and work out tomorrow."



JBPHH Department of Defense civilian Stephany Sanchez and service-family-member Ralph Custodio pose together with their championship swords after earning top honors at the 29th Annual Armed Forces Hawaii Bodybuilding Championships.

# Poundtown hammers Force Support Squadron

Story and photo by  
Randy Dela Cruz

Sports Editor

Two weeks after suffering their first defeat in over a year, base defending champs 647th Security Forces Squadron (647 SFS) Poundtown got back on the winning track April 16 by clubbing down the 647th Force Support Squadron (647 FSS), 20-0, in a mercy-rule-shortened White Division intramural softball game at Millican Field, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

The matchup, which was nearly called off due to a shortage of players by the FSS, started a few minutes late, but ended way before regulation because of the heavy lumber swung by nearly every member of the Poundtown squad.

The SFS posted six runs in the first, before breaking the game wide open with a 10-run outburst in the second.

Power-hitting Airman 1st Class Robert Smith, an All-Air Force selection in 2011, chased home the team's final three runs by going yard with a deep jack over the towering left-field fence and into the parking lot during a four-run third inning.

The win raised Poundtown's divisional record to 3-1, while the FSS dipped below the .500 mark at 2-3.

Almost from the start, Poundtown recognized that the FSS didn't have their best team on the field and exercised sportsmanship to give their opponent a fair shot.

Despite crushing the ball all game long, Poundtown would only advance their players by a single base at



Senior Airman Bryan Perkins of the 647th Security Forces Squadron (647 SFS) Poundtown softball team takes a cut at a pitch, while donning a pink outfit during an intramural softball White Division game against the 647th Force Support Squadron (647 FSS). Perkins was tasked to wear the pink outfit after striking out in his first at-bat.

a time in an effort to keep the score manageable.

Unfortunately for the FSS, Poundtown kept hitting them where they weren't and the score quickly got out of hand.

In the first inning, Security Forces banged out six hits, before going to town with 11 knocks in the 10-run second inning.

Meanwhile, Poundtown pitcher Tech. Sgt. Robert

"Woody" Wooderson retired the first five FSS hitters and only allowed a total of three base runners in tossing three shutout innings.

While Poundtown

enjoyed a great all-around day at the park, not all of the news was good for the team.

Although the SFS is definitely among the favorites to win this year's base

championship, the team will have to do it without its biggest stick in the order.

"Coming off of a loss, we needed a game like this, but this was my last game," Smith said. "I'm heading to Alabama. I'm getting out. I'm actually leaving Thursday."

The loss of Smith's bat and all-around play will leave a huge gap in the Poundtown attack, but Smith said that even with his departure, the team will be a force in the race for the pennant.

"We got a lot of young guys out here, but we got to work together, not butt heads, and if we're down, we need to step it up," he stated. "I tried to be a leader when I was here, so I need to have someone step up in my place. But I don't see a problem in them winning back-to-back championships."

With most of the Poundtown hitters having a field day at the plate, one batter who didn't fare too well was first-year player Senior Airman Bryan Perkins.

In two at-bats, Perkins struck out and popped out, but it was his whiff that caused the biggest stir.

"When you strike out, you have to wear the pink tutu and pink shirt," said Perkins, who wore the pink outfit for the rest of the game. "It's not that big of a deal. It brings up team morale and is just a funny joke."

Still, Perkins said that he won't be looking to put on the pretty-in-pink outfit again anytime soon.

"I'm definitely not going to strike out again," he promised.

# Big fly tops off mercy-rule win for 613 AOC

Story and photo by  
Randy Dela Cruz

Sports Editor

Cleanup hitter Maj. JB Wills finished off a huge day at the plate April 17 by crushing a three-run, walk-off homer to help the 613th Air and Space Operation Center (613 AOC) complete a 19-7 mercy-rule victory over the 120th Fighter Wing Det. 1 (120 FW Det. 1) in an intramural softball Gold Division game at Hickam Softball Complex, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Wills, whose big bat has been a staple weapon in the 613's offensive attack for the past couple of years, banged out two singles and a triple, before stepping up to the plate and ripping the game-ending jack over the center-field fence.

The win kept the AOC on pace with the 735th Air Mobility Squadron, as the top teams in the Gold Division with identical 4-0 records, while the 120 dropped their third straight game after opening up the season with a win.

"I knew that we needed a couple of runs to get that 10-run rule on them, and I was just looking for a good pitch," said Wills about his homer. "I've been struggling with my swing. I just kind of concentrated, I hit the pitch and luckily it sailed out."

Although the 613 has been playing all season without the services of power-hitter Staff Sgt. Jason Gaddis, the team hasn't missed a beat in racking up runs.

Against the 120, the AOC fell behind by a score of 2-0 after the top half of the first inning, but the team responded by smacking eight hits to score seven runs in its first turn at-bat.

The early rally got started by an RBI triple from Tech. Sgt. C.J. Hodge and ended seven consecutive hits later on a single by AOC pitcher Lt. Cmdr. Grant Hartfield.



Maj. JB Wills, cleanup hitter for the 613th Air and Space Operation Center (613 AOC), gets full extension on a pitch and drives it for a triple bottom of the fifth inning during a Gold Division intramural softball game versus the 120th Fighter Wing Det. 1 (120 FW Det. 1).

"We're coming around," said Wills about the team's hitting prowess. "We put in a little more practice earlier and improved on it. But the thing is just consistency – getting guys out of work to get out here on a consistent basis."

While the team's bats were coming alive, its defense, led by the play of left-fielder Tech Sgt. Jeff Camacho, was working with Hartfield to keep the 120 from making a comeback.

Camacho was outstand-

ing in gobbling up everything that was hit his way, while the veteran Hartfield was masterful in keeping 120 hitters off-balance all game long.

Hartfield posted shutout innings in the second, fourth and fifth – setting the hitters down in order in the fourth.

"He just got back from deployment," said Wills about Camacho. "He's been firing that ball right on spot from the outfield, he's been ripping the ball off his bat,

and he's just been running around the bases. He's a top-tier player, right there."

Tech. Sgt. Brandon Garneau, who helped the 120 get on the scoreboard first with an RBI double in the first inning, said that although he and his teammates tried their best to keep up with the AOC, they just couldn't match their firepower.

"We just started this year, so we really haven't been playing that long," Garneau said. "There are a

few of us that have played leagues before, but they're probably 80 percent that have never played."

Although Garneau said that the team is basically out to have fun, he added that with a little more practice, the 120 could surprise a few teams before the season is done.

"We need to communicate and practice hitting a little more," he admitted. "I think we have potential."

Meanwhile, for the AOC, Wills said that keeping the

pressure off will be a key factor in the team's run for the pennant this season.

With Gaddis soon to return to the lineup, Wills acknowledged that the best is yet to come.

"We just want to have a good run at it and enjoy it," he said. "We don't want to get too serious, we want to keep everything light, but competitive. We don't want to burn out too soon. We're pretty close. With Gaddis coming back here, it's just going to make us stronger."

# Doolittle Raiders had courage in face of extreme danger

Charles Nicholls

PACAF historian

The 70th Doolittle Raider reunion is planned for April 17 to 20 at the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force in Ohio. Another commemoration is planned for May 5 at the USS Hornet Museum in California.

The Doolittle Raiders hold a reunion nearly every year. The group keeps a set of 80 silver goblets, each engraved with the name of one of the Raiders.

Surviving Raiders hold a roll call and toast Raiders who passed away during the previous year. They also keep a bottle of vintage 1896 cognac, chosen for the year of Jimmy Doolittle's birth, which will be used to drink a final toast.

In addition, the Battle of Midway was a major followup after the Doolittle Raid. Marking the 70th anniversary of this "turning point in the Pacific" epic battle, the Pacific Aviation museum Pearl Harbor will host two days of events on June 2 and 3.

Planning of the Doolittle Raid began following Imperial Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor. After their Dec. 7, 1941 strikes in Hawaii and the Philippines, Japan won an unbroken string of victories across the Pacific theater. U.S. leaders were desperate to disrupt Japanese operations and raise American morale.



Photo courtesy of Pacific Air Forces

Lt. Col Jimmy Doolittle (fourth from right) led the raid on Japan during World War II.

U.S. Navy officers suggested that Army Air Force bombers launched from aircraft carriers could strike the Japanese homeland. The idea for such a mission was passed to Gen. Hap Arnold, who chose Lt. Col. Jimmy Doolittle to organize and lead the operation.

Additional goals were to divert Japanese forces to homeland defense and to weaken the faith of the Japanese people in their leaders – who had claimed their home islands would never be bombed.

The Army Air Forces plan was to strike targets in Tokyo under the cover of darkness and then fly on to China.

Volunteers for an unspecified but "extremely haz-

ardous" mission were sought from the most experienced B-25 unit, the 17th Bomb Group. The B-25 crews trained at Eglin Field, Florida to take off on a very short runway in a heavily loaded B-25.

The crews also practiced aerial gunnery, night-flying, over-water navigation and low-level bombing.

The U.S. made arrangements with the Chinese for the B-24s post-raid reception and onward movement to Gen. Stilwell's command in the Far East. All the preparations were made in extreme secrecy.

On April 2, 1942, the USS Hornet and her escorts sailed from San Francisco bay carrying 16 B-25 aircraft and their five-man crews.

The results of the Doolittle Raid were significant but varied. It brought a tremendous boost to American morale but had little impact on Japanese loyalties. The Chinese suffered terribly as Japanese forces seized the airfields that the Raiders had planned to use and carried out reprisals, killing up to 250,000 Chinese.

The greatest U.S. benefit from the raid was Japan's fateful decision to expand their defensive perimeter outward to prevent Allied operations against their home islands. A huge Japanese task force sailed eastward hoping to seize Midway Island and crush the U.S. Pacific Fleet. Instead, the U.S. won a decisive naval battle as Navy

bombers sank four of the Japanese aircraft carriers that had launched the attacks on Pearl Harbor. This victory turned the tide of the Pacific war.

Doolittle was promoted to brigadier general soon after his raid on Tokyo. In his July 9, 1942 after-action report, Doolittle's focus was not on attacking Japan, but rather on defending the United States.

Indeed, after Japan's Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, the U.S. military had hurriedly established a network of radar sites, visual observers and fighter-interceptor units along U.S. west coast.

## Epilogue

The Doolittle Raid is a story of outstanding courage in the face of extreme danger. The Raiders and the Navy task force braved hostile seas for days and, unlike the Japanese that struck Pearl Harbor, they were detected by the enemy hundreds of miles from their launch point. The Raiders

scrambled into their planes with little chance of achieving surprise or reaching a landing base.

The pilots had never tried a takeoff from a carrier, but each B-25 got airborne even as the deck of the Hornet rose and fell in the rough seas. The Raiders navigated over hundreds of miles of ocean by dead reckoning and struck the heart of Japan in broad daylight with no fighter escort and without a full complement of guns. After 13 hours of flight, the Raiders were out of gas, out of daylight and out of contact with allied forces. Death or capture loomed.

Each Raider was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. The dead and wounded, including the POWs tortured in captivity, received Purple Hearts. Doolittle received the Medal of Honor.

Thirteen Raiders died later in the war, most in action against the enemy. Four became prisoners of war in German captivity.



The 80 Doolittle Raiders took off in 16 B-25 bomber aircraft.

## WHO SAID IT?

"Because a thing seems difficult for you, do not think it impossible for anyone to accomplish."

Last Week's

## WHO SAID IT?

"Freedom is the last, best hope of earth."

Abraham Lincoln



## This Week's Trivia

Edward Michael was an Army Air Force aircraft mechanic strafed at Wheeler Field on Dec. 7, 1941. In 1944, Lt. Michael was a B-17 pilot flying missions in Europe. What happened to Michael on April 11, 1944?

**Last Issue's Question:** What happened on April 8, 1812 affecting the Territory of Orleans?

**Answer:** The territory took another step toward statehood with the creation of the District of Louisiana. The territory would become the state of Louisiana in a matter of weeks.

## 'Paws and Patriots' event to honor military and their pets April 28 at Humane Society

### Hawaii Military Pets

Service members, their families and the public are invited to celebrate the human-animal bond at the inaugural "Paws and Patriots," a free military-appreciation event for pet owners from 3 to 5 p.m. April 28 at the Hawaiian Humane Society. The society is located at 2700 Waiialae Ave. in Honolulu.

The pet-friendly event will provide information to service members. Featuring informational booths and resource stations, the event is designed to inform military about ways to take better care of their furry friends.

A number of key topics will be discussed, including spay/neuter, microchipping, lost and found, preventative pet care, foster services for deployed troops and moving with a pet.

"We are so fortunate to host this gathering of our heroes in uniform. Pets are critical to their quality of life, and we are excited to sup-



Photo courtesy of Hawaii Military Pets

A Soldier spends time interacting with his dog. An event honoring military pet owners called Paws and Patriots is scheduled for April 28.

port efforts to promote this relationship," said Bonnie Osaki, education manager of Hawaiian Humane Society.

During the festivities, all military will receive half off adoptions, normally \$65. The event will also feature shelter tours and games

with the opportunity to meet Jr. Miss Hawaii and watch a performance by the Hawaii Pacific University Dance team.

The event is part of a series of events honoring service members in the spring by the Chamber of

Commerce of Hawaii. Every year, the Hawaii community holds several celebrations to give back to the troops for their sacrifices.

For more information, call the Hawaiian Humane Society at 946-2187.

PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM **Maniawa Nanea** LEISURE

**Morale Welfare & Recreation**

**PROFESSIONAL BOWLING**  
The Professional Bowler Western Regional Tournament and Pro-Am will be held today through Sunday at the Hickam Bowling Center. Admission is free for spectators. The Senior Pro-Am matches will be held at 8 a.m. today and the Pro-Am matches from 6 to 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. The awards celebration will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday. FMI: 448-9959.

**FREE GOLF CLINICS**  
There will be a free golf clinic at 9 a.m. Saturday on the Barbers Point Golf Course. FMI : 682-1911. A free golf clinic will also be held at the Mamala Bay Golf Course at 4 p.m. April 27. FMI : 449-2300.

**FATHER-DAUGHTER DINNER DANCES**  
Father-daughter dinner dances will be held from 4 to 7:30 p.m. Saturday and May 5 at the Hickam Officers' Club lanai. The cost is \$15 for each father/daughter pair and \$5 per additional daughter. FMI: www.greatlifehawaii.com or call 474-1999, ext. 0.

**EARTH DAY CELEBRATION**  
Earth Day will be celebrated in a free event from noon to 3 p.m. Sunday at Scott Pool. FMI: 473-0394.

**INTERMEDIATE GLASS FUSION II**  
A class on the art of glass fusion will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. April 24 and April 26 at the Hickam Arts and Crafts Center. Patrons have the option of choosing which date to attend. The cost of the class is \$40 per person plus the cost of supplies, with the class being open to those ages 14 and older. FMI: 448-9907.

**PRESCHOOL STORY TIME**  
Preschool story time will be held from 9 to 10 a.m. April 25 at the base library. The theme is prince and princess MI: 449-8299.

**ADVANCED SCREENING: "BATTLESHIP"**  
A free advanced screening of "Battleship," filmed on location at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, will take place April 28 at Sharkey Theater. The ticket booth opens at 5 p.m. and the show begins at 7 p.m. Tickets are first-come, first-served for the first 450 authorized patrons. FMI: 473-0726.

**INTRO TO SHORE CASTING**  
There will be an introduction to shore casting class from 9 a.m. to noon April 28 at Outdoor Recreation-Hickam Harbor. The gear, tackle, bait and instruction will be provided. The cost is \$25 per person. Sign-ups must be completed by April 25. FMI: 449-5215.

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

**Community Calendar**

**April**

**20** ~ The Naval Supply Systems Command Fleet Logistics Center Pearl Harbor (NAVSUP FLC PH) will hold an Earth Day Fair from 9 a.m. to noon at Kilo 8/9 Pier, the pier warehouse behind building 475. It will include displays on storm water pollution prevention, oil spill response, recycling and more. FMI: luke.dragovich@navy.mil or call 473-7818

**21** ~ Volunteers are encouraged to participate in a Pearl Harbor Bike Path cleanup from 8:30 to 11 a.m. at Blaisdell Park and Kapakahi Stream. Volunteers can contact MAC James Wooten at james.wooten2@navy.mil or 472-7149.

**27** ~ The U.S. Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command will host an arrival ceremony at 9 a.m. hangar 35 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam to honor fallen U.S. personnel whose identities remain unknown. This event is open to the public. FMI: contact 448-1937 or visit the webpage at www.jpac.pacom.mil

**28** ~ Turn in your unused or expired medications for safe, anonymous disposal from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. during the National Take Back Initiative at Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange (NEX) main lobby, 4725 Bougainville Drive. FMI: www.dea.gov or 541-1930.

**30** ~ Tripler Army Medical Center Blood Donor Center has scheduled an upcoming blood drive from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Makalapa Naval Health Clinic. FMI: 433-6699 or email michelle.lele@amedd.army.mil.

**At a glance**

The Junior Officer (JO) Spouse Workshop Committee will host an event titled "Let's Talk" from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. May 1 at Lockwood Hall at Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam. All spouses of Navy and Coast Guard officers pay grade O-1 to O-4 and chief warrant officer (CWO-1 to 5) are welcome to attend. RSVP by April 28 by calling Fleet and Family Support center at 474-1999 or email hawaii-josspouse@gmail.com. Interested attendees can also obtain information by visiting the JO Spouse Ohana Hawaii Facebook page.

An Asian Pacific-American Month event will be held from 9 to 10 a.m. May 9 at the Military and Family Support Center, Hickam lanai at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. The theme is "Striving for Excellence in Leadership, Diversity and Inclusion." Guest speaker for the event will be CWO3 Andrew Nguyen. Attendees must be seated 10 minutes prior to the start of the program. FMI: 449-0306.

**Movie Showtimes**



**Battleship (PG-13)**

A fleet of ships is forced to do battle with an armada of unknown origins in order to discover and thwart their destructive goals.

**SHARKEY MOVIE THEATER**

**TODAY**  
7:00 PM Dr. Suess' The Lorax (PG)

**SATURDAY**  
7:00 PM Advance Screening of "BattleShip"  
Free to the first 450 authorized patrons. Tickets with assigned seating will be issued at 4 p.m from the ticket booth.

**SUNDAY**  
2:30 PM Dr. Suess' The Lorax (PG)  
4:30 PM The Vow (PG-13)  
7:15 PM Gone (PG-13)

**HICKAM MEMORIAL THEATER**

**TODAY**  
6:00 PM Dr. Seuss The Lorax (PG)  
8:30 PM Silent House (R)

**SATURDAY**  
4:00 PM John Carter (PG13)  
7:00 PM Gone (PG13)

**SUNDAY**  
2:00 PM John Carter (PG13)



## Yellow Ribbon brings family closer

**Senior Airman Crystal Charriere**

*Contributor, 624th Regional Support Group Public Affairs Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam*

Saying farewell to a husband, wife, father or mother who is leaving on a deployment can be difficult, and when they return it can be equally challenging to get back to the way things were before. The Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program helps families cope with saying "good-bye" and "welcome back."

The Yellow Ribbon program provides information, support and outreach services to reservists and their families. Services include chaplain, family readiness, finance, health, and legal and military personnel flight support. They place emphasis on staying connected to families.

"It's very informational;

you're always learning because there are so many different topics," said Napua Warnet, wife of Tech. Sgt. Sean Warnet, 48th Aerial Port Squadron. "Yellow Ribbon offers a bunch of classes that help you prep for the deployment, and when your family member gets back from deployment, the classes help you get back to how it was before they left. After the classes each day, you get to spend the rest of the afternoon as a family."

The Warnets have been married for seven years and have three young children. In the last six years, Sean has deployed multiple times. Napua said Yellow Ribbon has helped her family handle her husband's absences.

"Before his deployment to Qatar early last year, we went to a pre-deployment retreat with the Yellow Ribbon," she said. "I thought it would be really

interesting, and after we went I asked him why he didn't tell me about this before."

Since their first retreat, the Warnet family has been to several Yellow Ribbon events, and Napua said she continues to learn something new from the classes.

She said it's refreshing to participate in the Yellow Ribbon retreats because it's stressful when her husband leaves, and said she enjoys being able to reconnect as a family.

"On one of his deployments, we had issues come up while he was gone, and it was hard because we were arguing and he was in a different country," Napua said. "But the classes at the retreat helped us talk about everything more and work things out. It's made us much closer. I strongly encourage everyone to go on the retreats."

## Federal Executive Board awards



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 David Kolmel

Morris Tamanaha, manager of the regional dispatch center for Navy Region Hawaii, receives an award for team excellence from Army Brig. Gen. Keith W. Gallagher, commanding general of Pacific Regional Medical Command & Tripler Army Medical Center, during a ceremony to honor federal government employees. This was the 56th annual Excellence in Federal Government Award presentation, honoring employees from all the agencies in the federal government throughout the Pacific Region. The following Navy Region Hawaii and Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam employees were among those who also received awards: Employer of choice: Navy Region Hawaii; Supervisor/manager: (N3) Dennis Siler, regional emergency manager; Professional/admin/tech: (N3) Dan Dubois, emergency management officer, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam; Mentor of the Year: (N9) Chief Ship's Serviceman (SW) Jose Martinez, complex LCPO; Clerical/assistant: (N8) Christine Kelly, financial technician; Leader of the Year: (N1/PSD) Chief Personnel Specialist (SW/AW) Jacqueline Stover, senior enlisted advisor; Community service: (JBPHH) Chief Culinary Specialist (SW) Ronan R. Basat, UPH complex manager; Trades/crafts: (N9) Oscar Calma, warehouse worker.

## NEX pharmacy begins taking handwritten prescriptions

**Pacific Regional Medical Command**

Tripler Army Medical Center has announced a new service at the satellite pharmacy located at the Navy Exchange Pearl Harbor at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

The NEX pharmacy began accepting handwritten prescriptions for formulary medications from civilian physicians March 15. As the pharmacy expands its services and hires additional employees, any prescription dropped off regardless of the day will be ready to pick up in 48 hours.

As the service is streamlined, prescriptions can be dropped off

Monday through Friday by 6 p.m., and they will be available for pickup within 48 business hours. In addition, the NEX pharmacy provides a new secure video teleconference service for those patients who desire to speak with a pharmacist if they have any questions on their medications, or should a pharmacist need to speak with them about their medication history. Patients can talk one-on-one with a licensed pharmacist at Tripler from the

convenience of the NEX location. For patient convenience, the NEX refill pharmacy is open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. (closed for lunch 2 to 2:30 p.m.) Call the Tripler pharmacy at 433-7880 or the NEX pharmacy at 422-2394 for more information.

Short on time? Use the online pharmacy system at <http://go.usa.gov/mOi> to check the status of a prescription or to order refill medications.

# This Week in USAF and PACAF history

**Charles Nicholls**  
*PACAF historian*

On April 16, 1916, the Lafayette Escadrille was established as a squadron of mostly American volunteer pilots flying and fighting for the French Air Service during World War I. The planes, mechanics, and the pilot uniforms

were French, as was the commander, Capt. Georges Thenault.

The squadron was originally named the Escadrille Américaine. For reasons of international diplomacy, the unit was re-named to honor the French military hero who aided the American Army during the American Revolution.

On April 18, 1943, the

Yamamoto Shootdown took place. Flying P-38 aircraft over Bougainville Island, 1st Lt. Rex T. Barber and Capt. Thomas G. Lanphier, Jr., intercepted and shot down a Japanese bomber carrying Adm. Isoroku Yamamoto.

The interception, meticulously planned and executed on the first anniversary of the Doolittle Raid, deprived the Japanese of one of their most brilliant naval officers. Maj. John W. Mitchell led the flight of 16 P-38s in which Barber and Lanphier flew.

On April 19, 1967, Maj. Leo K. Thorsness earned a Medal of Honor by protecting a mission to rescue downed airmen in North Vietnam. While flying an F-105 with low fuel, Thorsness shot down one MiG-17, damaged another, and drove off three more. Despite his urgent need for fuel, Thorsness elected to recover at a forward oper-



Flying P-38 aircraft over Bougainville Island 1st Lt. Rex T. Barber and Capt. Thomas G. Lanphier Jr. intercepted and shot down a Japanese bomber carrying Adm. Isoroku Yamamoto.



Maj. Leo K. Thorsness and his regular backseater, Capt. Harold Johnson are shown. Johnson flew 93 Wild Weasel missions over North Vietnam and received the Air Force Cross.

ating base, allowing another aircraft in emergency condition to refuel from an aerial tanker. Shortly after this incident, Thorsness was shot down, captured and held prisoner until his release on March 4, 1973.

On April 16, 2004, near

Kharbut, Iraq, two USAF HH-60G helicopters were dispatched to rescue the crew of a U.S. Army CH-47 Chinook helicopter that had crashed in a sandstorm. The brown-out conditions left the rescue crews' infrared and night vision goggles ineffective.

Flying through multiple surface-to-air missile attacks, the HH-60s flew visual approaches to locate, rescue and evacuate all five Army crash survivors. For their outstanding actions, the HH-60G aircrews earned the Mackay Trophy.

## C-47 'Cheeky Charley' now on Ford Island

**Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor**

Pacific Aviation Museum welcomes the famous Douglas DC-3 / C-47 - nicknamed "Cheeky Charley."

After flying missions in the Pacific for the US Army Air Force, it was turned over to the Australian government for service.

The aircraft's last night flight was on April 14, as it was towed to Pacific Aviation Museum. It is now parked in front of hangar 79 ready for restoration.

Photo courtesy of Pacific Aviation Museum Cheeky Charley has been relocated to Pacific Aviation Museum



## Naval Health Clinic Hawaii will have limited patient care on April 27

**Susan Schultz**

*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 April 27.

Beneficiaries are asked to take this into consideration when scheduling health care. All routine care should be planned prior to or after April 27.

For Makalapa Clinic, there will be limited health care operations. Services available are laboratory, pharmacy and radiology. All other services are closed.

For Kaneohe Bay, Camp Smith and Wahiawa clin-

ics, all health care operations are closed. Makalapa Clinic will be open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 28 and from 8 a.m. to noon April 29 for acute care needs. Kaneohe Bay, Camp Smith and Wahiawa clinics will open April 30 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.

## SAAM flag football tournament to be held April 28

The Commander, United States Pacific Fleet (COM-PACFLT) Junior Enlisted Association and Navy Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Team will hold "Tackle Sexual Assault," an intramural, single-elimination flag football tournament at 11 a.m. April

28 at Makalapa pavilion and football field on the COM-PACFLT compound. April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM).

The rules of the tournament are:

. There must be eight players per team.

. At least two female mem-

bers must be on each team.

. Each team must have a name and a captain.

. The tournament is open to active duty military, Department of Defense personnel and their families.

. Captains must register by April 20.

. The tournament is only

open to 12 teams.

For registration and information, team captains may contact OS2 Alvin Balthazar, email [alvin.balthazar@navy.mil](mailto:alvin.balthazar@navy.mil) or call 474-4373, or YN2 Rashard Leysath, email [rashard.leysath@navy.mil](mailto:rashard.leysath@navy.mil), or call 471-9727.