

Hiking O'ahu... *one step at a time*

Story and photos by JOSN Ryan C. McGinley

"There is a severe and settled majesty in woodland scenery that enters into the soul, and dilates and elevates it, and fills it with noble inclinations," said Washington Irving.

O'ahu and MWR enables Sailors and family members to experience nature with glistening waterfalls, beautiful scenery and exotic plant life on the island.

"I like to show people their backyards," said AJ Jaeger, outdoor recreation programmer for MWR. This is our heaven on earth. This is paradise. What more could you ask for? I like to share that."

The Outdoor Adventure Center offers a wide variety of hiking tours through numerous trails, mountains and craters. The center provides a guide for all hiking tours throughout O'ahu.

Some points of interest and popularity include the beautiful Liliuokalani Gardens, Nuana Valley, Kapena Falls, Jackass Ginger Pools and the Pali Lookout.

The Liliuokalani Gardens offer a wide range of plant life including ginger flowers and the photographic Nuana Stream, which forms the Waikahalulu Falls. Queen Liliuokalani, who donated the seven and one half acre land to the public, once owned portions of the gardens. The gardens offer a shaded area for picnicking right in the middle of Honolulu.

Kapena Falls Trail is hidden in the residential area of Honolulu. The trail leads to a sacred bathing area for royalty in ancient Hawaiian times. Hikers can still see petroglyphs on rocks in the area and also jump from rocks almost 25 feet high into the falls.

O'ahu also offers a crater hike to Diamond Head. Diamond Head was formed about 100,000 years ago and has an almost two-mile trail that leads to a



panoramic view of the south shore of O'ahu and the crater itself. Also at the rim are bunkers left from World War II.

The Outdoor Adventure Center offers many trails that lead through Mt. Tantalus and the Nuuanu Valley. The Tantalus trails lead through rainforests and bamboo giving hikers easy access to advanced paths with rewarding scenery.

"MWR's good because they can show you new routes and hikes," said Ensign Laura Dutkiewicz, USS Russell (DDG 59).

Another point of interest is the Jackass Ginger Pools. The pools are surrounded by banyan trees, which were introduced to O'ahu almost 70 years ago.

The Pali Lookout offers a breezy view of Kaneohe Bay and the southeast coast of O'ahu. This is also the site of King Kamehameha's epic battle and seizure of the island. The overlook provides plaques on the history as

well as a view of a mountaintop carved by the king for his cannons. Also near the Pali Lookout is the 200 foot Upside Down Waterfall flowing from Mt. Konahuanui.

The MWR Outdoor Adventure Center offers numerous activities that help Sailors experience the island of O'ahu and get in touch with nature.

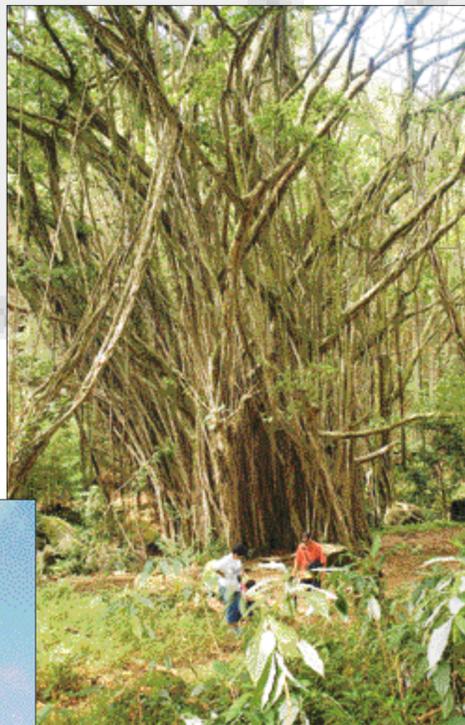
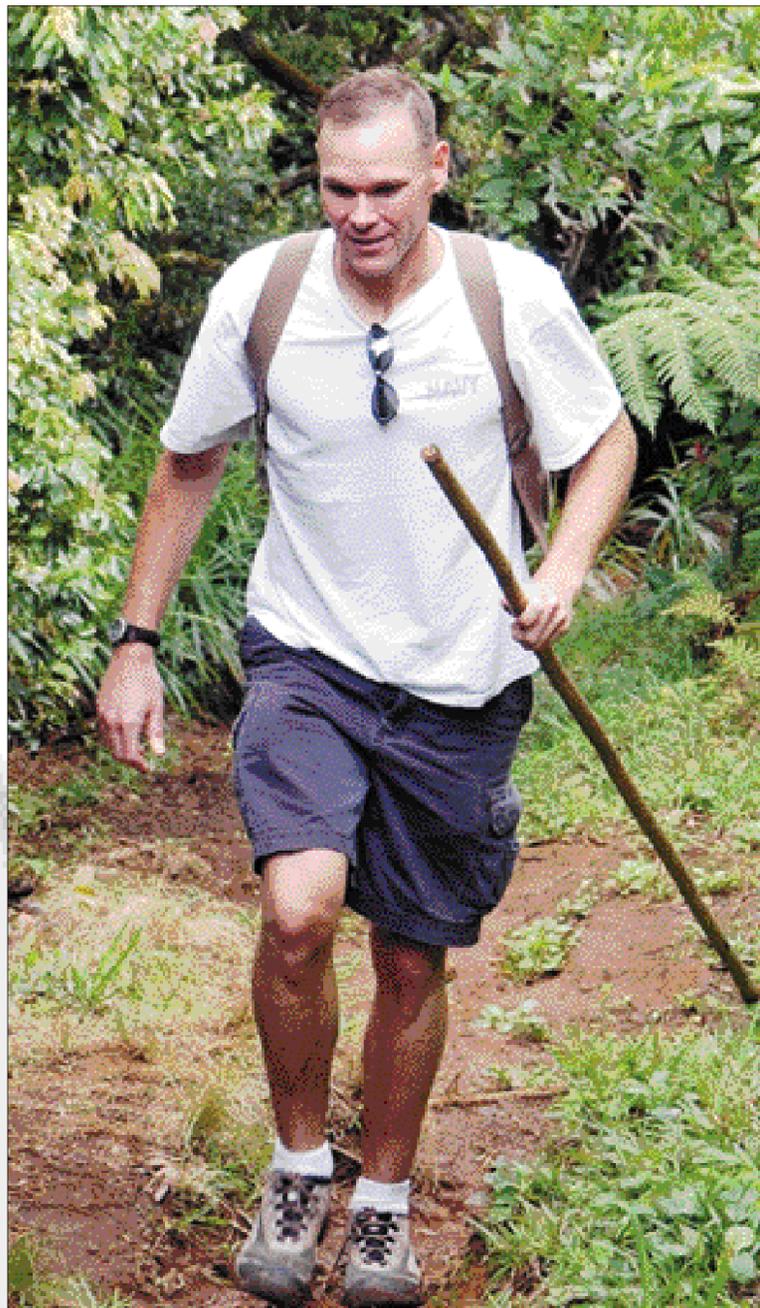
"MWR is inexpensive, and especially with the transportation that they provide, easily accessible," said Dutkiewicz.

Dutkiewicz said the best part was the views and the odd plant life, especially coming from the mainland, that you just won't see elsewhere.

"Most of the time people come out because they want to explore and they want to see something different," said Jaeger.

MWR and O'ahu offer outdoor lovers a chance to connect with nature in many ways.

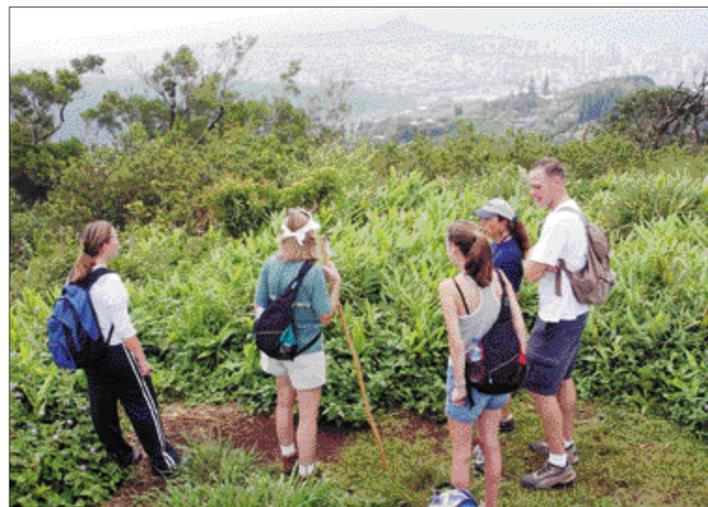
"My soul is renewed," said Jaeger. "It gets me back in touch with the earth,"



Above: A Sailor aboard the USS Chafee (DDG 90) hikes through one of the many trails on O'ahu. The Outdoor Adventure Center offers a wide variety of hiking tours through numerous trails, mountains and craters. The center provides a guide for all hiking tours throughout O'ahu.

Left: The Jackass Ginger Pools host large banyan trees that are more than 70 years old. O'ahu and MWR allow Sailors and family members to experience Hawai'i's nature settings by offering a number of hikes to different locations on Oahu.

Below: AJ Jaeger explains to a hiking group about the history of O'ahu from the top of Mt. Tantalus. The Outdoor Adventure Center offers many trails that lead through Mt. Tantalus and the Nuuanu Valley. The Tantalus trails lead through rainforests and bamboo, giving hikers easy access to advanced paths with a wide range of scenery.



Upcoming MWR Hikes

MARCH 21

Mokuleia to Ka'ena Point Hike at 8:30 a.m. Register by Mar. 17. (Beginner-Advanced)

APRIL 10

Makiki Valley Hike at 8:30 a.m. Register by April 7. (Beginner-Advanced)

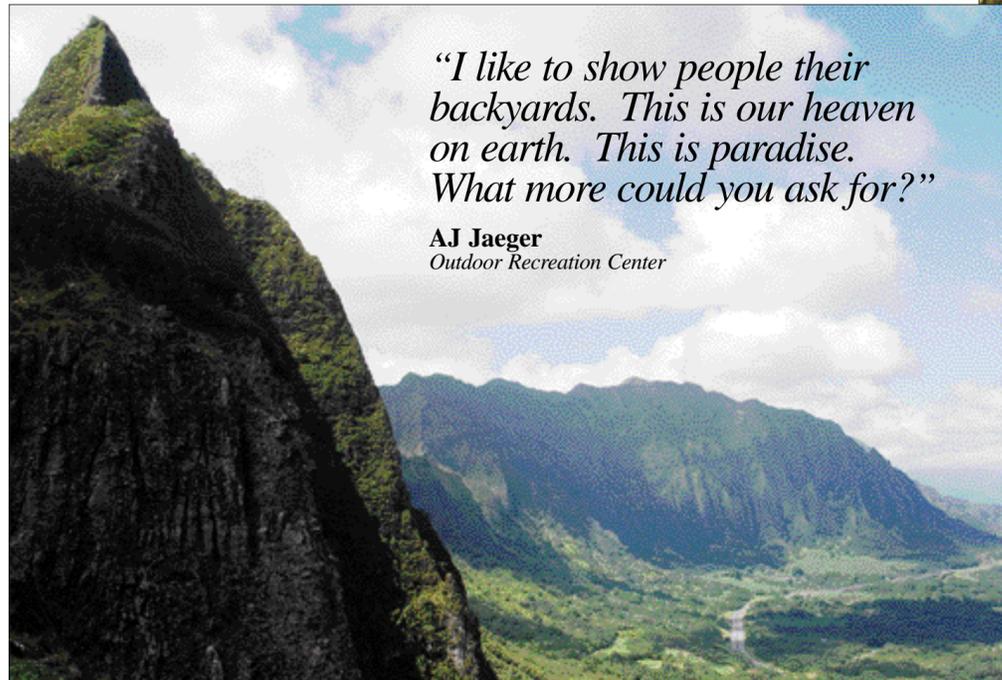
APRIL 11

Mount Olomana Easter Hike at 4:30 a.m. Register by April 7. (Beginner-Advanced)

APRIL 24

Koko Crater Hike, 8:30 a.m. Register by April 21. (Intermediate-Advanced)

Please note: Events are subject to change. Fee required unless otherwise stated. For more information or to register, contact the Outdoor Adventure Center at 473-1198.



"I like to show people their backyards. This is our heaven on earth. This is paradise. What more could you ask for?"

AJ Jaeger
Outdoor Recreation Center

The view from the Pali Lookout gives onlookers a panoramic view of Kaneohe Bay and the southeast coast of O'ahu. The overlook provides plaques on the history as well as a view of a mountaintop carved by King Kamehameha for his cannons.

Commentary

Focus on Fun

JO1 Daniel J. Calderón, News Editor

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The lord of the pigs...

Let's take a moment to recognize the fact that we are at the top of the food chain. It's a unique position because it's precarious. When we go diving, we may not always enjoy such a lofty position. It may be challenged. Similarly, when we go on safari, the beasts we encounter in the wild may not always recognize the superiority of humanity. That being said, I have to say it's good to be on top right here and right now.

I went out and hunted me a pig – island style – and it was a great time. I met Dalyn and Deo, two brothers who belong to the Oahu Pig Hunters Association and their friend Mike at 4:30 a.m. at the entrance to the Waimano Home public hiking area. On my right hip, I had a borrowed 'Ka-Bar' knife in a leather sheath. On my left hip, I had a flashlight. On my back, I had a backpack with two 32-ounce bottles of sports drink and some snacks. I wore camouflage pants and a safety-orange T-shirt. We walked in along the upper Waimano trail. Oh, did I mention we had dogs? Yeah. We had 10 hunting dogs with names like Lilo, Sassy and Tiger. It was interesting hiking the trail with these dogs in the pitch black. Each of us trained our flashlights on the path in front of us.

Our little company trooped into the woods and left the hiking trails. We finally came to a spot Dalyn and Deo liked. It was by a stream at the base of one of the mountains in the Ewa Forest Reserve. Dalyn and I remained at the stream while Deo and Mike roamed into the woods up the mountain. They took the dogs with them since this was a place the brothers said would usually yield some kind of pig. I waited patiently and began to daydream.

My reverie was interrupted by Dalyn yelling at me to rush up the mountain. I pulled the Ka-Bar free and raced off. I quickly re-thought the wisdom of running with such a blade. I mean, I still have issues about running with scissors. So, I re-sheathed the knife and began my rapid ascent. I followed the squealing by cutting to my right. Not long after, there was no mountain for me to run on. The foliage concealed a break in the rock and I began tumbling back down on my tummy toboggan.

As I slid, I managed to turn over and continued my slide on my back. I had tried to stop it before, but the other little branches didn't hold. I finally stopped my uncontrolled descent by grabbing hold of a root. After moving back into a crawling position, I noticed the 10-15 foot drop not far from me.



Undaunted, I continued chasing the sound of the pig. So, I rushed up the stream bed and up dried-out waterfalls. I could still hear the wailing pig for most of my ascent. Finally, I made it to where the pig had been brought to bear. I had made it too late. The boar was dead. Deo had killed it by plunging his machete behind its third rib and into its heart.

Still, at 116 pounds the boar was an awesome sight. With the death, the work truly began. We first had to get the pig off the waterfalls without destroying it in the process. Then, we had to tie its two right feet together and its two left feet together. This made the boar into a sort of backpack. Dalyn prepared an offering.

He said it was to thank the aina – the land. He took a ti leaf from a nearby tree and wrapped one of his candy bars in it. He and his brother then took it and placed it under a large rock. It wasn't fancy. There was not a great amount of pomp and circumstance. Dalyn said it was a way for them to thank the land for the pig it had provided to us all.

After resting for a few minutes and letting the pig wash out in the shallow river, each of us took a turn carrying the beast. Deo had the lion's share. He carried it almost as far as each of the other three of us combined. I managed to carry it a little over half a mile before I relinquished the load.

Once it was out of the woods, we took it to get weighed and then back to the brothers' ranch. There, we de-boned the boar and divvied up the meat. Because they had freezers full of meat, Dalyn, Deo and Mike all agreed I should take the largest portion of the meat. So, I took home about 40 or 50 pounds of mountain-grown wild boar. My wife made a stew out of some of it a couple of days later and I have to say that mountain-grown freshness is the way to go.

For any of you who are interested, contact the Outdoor Adventure Center here to find out when Dalyn and Deo are coming back to talk about pig hunting. You'll learn a lot at the workshop. If any of you are interested in hunting, contact Dalyn at kailipipi@verizon.net. I'm sure he and his brother would be glad to help you out. Don't go with a big group, though. The hunt is better with less than half a dozen. Oh, and if you've got kids under 12, find a babysitter.

Have fun with it. Get out and get yourself a pig. Next time, I'll tell you about the Komodo dragon I caught with fishing line and a knitting needle, but that's another story...

Navy teams run in Oahu perimeter race

ENS Geoff Morrison

USS Hopper Public Affairs

The 2004 Oahu Perimeter Relay had all the fixings of an irresistible road race: sleep deprivation, golf ball-sized blisters, aching muscles and a lot of mud. With a determined spirit, the 126 teams who participated in the 33rd annual running of the race braved all the elements to help their teams finish one of the world's most unique relay races.

This was the second consecutive year USS Hopper participated in the race and the first time two teams entered.

Each team entered in the competition completed the 131-mile relay in legs of 2.5 to 10 miles, handing off a baton in pre-arranged zones. The race began at Kapiolani Park on Feb. 28 and continued through the night, finishing in the same place Sunday afternoon.

Every year more than 75 percent of teams are military. This year was no exception. "The mud was everywhere this year," said ENS Becca Statton of Hopper's women's team. For her second leg, Statton ran five miles around Kaena Point, a hilly stretch of soft earth on Oahu's northwest-most point. Even though the weather was inclement throughout the race weekend, race directors, volunteers and local police officers ensured roadways stayed open and safety was always at the forefront.

The race has lured many runners over the years. First run in 1968, it began when Sailors on a port visit from New Zealand challenged the running community of Oahu to a race around the island "for blood and money" – a fundraiser for charity. Teams from the Army, Navy and Marines boldly answered the

challenge. Since then, the race has been run almost every year by teams, like those from Hopper, who were looking for a slightly different way to spend their weekend.

"The best part of this race is the team building that takes place," said CWO2 John Walls, a Hopper team co-captain. In addition to seven runners, each team needs support vehicles to ferry upcoming runners around the island. "Those guys are the one who do the real work," claimed ENS Meg Burns. "They stay up all night making sure the next runner is ready to go in the handoff zone." Vehicles also served as a place to sleep, eat and cheer on teammates.

After an upcoming deployment with the Belleau Wood Expeditionary Strike Group this summer, Team Hopper will return for the 34th running of the perimeter relay next February.

Great Life Hawai'i photo of the week



Photo of baby on Waikiki Beach by Diane Kenney, taken on her family's first day in Hawai'i

The Morale, Welfare and Recreation "Great Life Hawai'i Photo Contest" begins next week, so dust off the photo albums and pick the photo that best represents what makes being stationed in Hawai'i so memorable. Submit unpublished photographs (no smaller than five by seven inches at 200 DPI) to "hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com." All photographs submitted will become the property of the paper and MWR, which reserves the right to edit, copyright, and publish submissions. There is no entry fee, but there is a limit of one entry per family. Weekly photo winners will be showcased both in Hawai'i Navy News and on the MWR website "www.greatlifehawaii.com." Every quarter, a winner will be selected from the weekly winners to receive a special gift package from MWR. This contest is open to amateur photographers only, who must be at least 18 years of age.

MWR

Movie Call

Sharkey Theater, Pearl Harbor
(473-0726)

FRIDAY
7:00 p.m. House of Sand and Fog (R)
SATURDAY
2:30 p.m. Catch that Kid (PG)
4:30 p.m. Torque (PG 13)
6:30 p.m. You Got Served (PG 13)
SUNDAY
2:30 p.m. Chasing Liberty (PG 13)
4:45 p.m. The Perfect Score (PG 13)
6:45 p.m. The Butterfly Effect (R)
THURSDAY
7:00 p.m. Win a Date With Tad Hamilton (PG 13)

\$3 adults; \$1.50 children (6-11)
*Special: \$2 adults; \$1 children (6-11)

Memorial Theater, Hickam AFB
(449-2239)

FRIDAY
7:00 p.m. The Big Bounce (PG 13)
SATURDAY
7:00 p.m. The Big Bounce (PG 13)
SUNDAY
7:00 p.m. The Perfect Score (PG 13)
WEDNESDAY
7:00 p.m. The Perfect Score (PG 13)
THURSDAY
7:00 p.m. Calendar Girls (PG 13)

\$3 adults; \$1.50 children (6-11)
*Special: \$2 adults; \$1 children (6-11)

Sgt. Smith Theater, Schofield Barracks
(624-2585)

FRIDAY
7:00 p.m. The Butterfly Effect (R)
SATURDAY
7:00 p.m. Cold Mountain (R)
SUNDAY
2:00 p.m. Cold Mountain (R)
WEDNESDAY
7:00 p.m. The Butterfly Effect (R)
THURSDAY
7:00 p.m. My Baby's Daddy (PG 13)

\$3 adults; \$1.50 children (6-11)
*Special: \$2 adults; \$1 children (6-11)

Editor's note: Every effort has been made to provide the most up-to-date information at the time of publication. However, scheduling of these events is subject to change. It is recommended that you call the contact numbers for the individual events to determine whether or not the activity will be held.

GO-CARTING AT HAWAII GO KARTS
Youth ages 13 - 17 can join Boys & Girls Clubs of Navy Hawai'i teens from 3 - 8 p.m. March 13 for a field trip to Hawai'i Go Karts. The cost is \$8 per race/person. For more information call 471-8914.

SCHOOL TRANSITION WORKSHOP
The Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC) will offer a parent workshop, "School Transitions: The Essential Ingredients" from 10 a.m. - noon March 17 at the Fleet and Family Support Center, Pearl Harbor. The workshop is designed to assist military parents to deal with the challenges of changing schools. This course will be offered from 9 - 11 a.m. March 18 at Marine Corps Base Hawai'i - Kaneohe Bay. The workshops are free and open to all eligible patrons. For more information or to register, call 473-4222, ext. 277.

CELEBRATE ST. PATRICK'S DAY
• On March 17, St. Patrick's Day, Rainbow Bay Marina blue cardholders can rent a sailboat, kayak, paddleboat or canoe for one hour and get a second hour free.
• Patrons at Scott, Kona Breeze or NCTAMS pools can enjoy free punch and cookies. Those who wear green can qualify for a special prize.

LLOYD DOBLER EFFECT - FREE CONCERT
See Lloyd Dobler Effect rock the

house from 6 - 9 p.m. March 19 at Arizona Hall. There will be free bar-becue and prize giveaways. For more information call 473-4279.

PEE WEE BASKETBALL
Registration for pee wee basketball (ages 3 - 5) will be held from 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. now until March 19 at the youth sports office, bldg. 3456 on Main Street, just off Valkenburgh Boulevard. At the time of registration, please bring player's birth certificate, current sports physical (dated no more than one year ago) and a \$35 fee, which includes T-shirt, medal and certificate. The league is open to family members of active duty, retirees, reservists and DoD civilians. For more information call 474-3501.

FAMILY FUN DAY AND SPRING BREAK SPECIAL
Family fun day and spring break special will be held March 20 at Rainbow Bay Marina. The whole family can enjoy a day with boat racing, door prize give-aways, and free refreshments. For more information call the marina at 473-0279.

ROUND ROBIN DOUBLES CHALLENGE
A free round robin doubles tennis challenge will be offered at 4 p.m. March 22 at Wentworth Tennis Courts. All authorized MWR patrons age 18 and older are invited to participate. In order to support this effort, a minimum of eight players is required. Register by March 19. For more information call 473-0610.

SPRING SKATEBOARD CLINIC
A free spring skateboard clinic will be held from 1 - 4 p.m. March 20 at Boards & Blades Skate Park. All skill levels and ages are welcome.

Participants should bring their own gear. Rentals are available at skate shop. Register by March 17. For more information call 473-3295.

TEN PIN BLUE CARD
Earn free games of bowling. Interested bowlers can pick up their bowler's card at any Navy Bowling Center. When you bowl 10 games at a regular price within one month, you receive one game free. For more information call 473-2651.

HAWAIIAN ISLANDERS ARENA FOOTBALL
Hawaiian Islanders arena football opens its season soon. The season includes eight home games (subject to change) at the Neal Blaisdell Arena. Season tickets (upper bowl sideline and upper bowl end zone seats) are now available through the Navy Region ITT offices. For more information call 473-1190.

BECOME CDH CHILDCARE PROVIDER
Become a Child Development Homes (CDH) childcare provider for military and DoD families. The deadline to apply for the next class is today. Participants must be 18 years or older, read and write English, and live in Navy family housing. Potential providers must attend an initial training class for a license to operate a childcare business. Those interested should apply at the CDH office in building 4 at the corner of Nimitz Highway and Camp Catlin Road between 8 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. Or visit the MWR Website at www.greatlifehawaii.com for an application. For more information call 471-8444.



March 12: Polynesian Cultural Center, \$62.50. Leave from LIP at 4 p.m.
March 13: Hiking at Makapu'u, bring money. Leave from LIP at 10 a.m.

March 14: Eating contest, free, 1 p.m. at LIP.

March 15: Hawaiian Waters Adventure Park, \$21. Leave from LIP at 11 a.m.

March 16: Dave and Buster's/Cold Stone Creamery, bring money. Leave from LIP at 5 p.m.

March 17: Kualoa Ranch adventure, \$65. Leave from LIP at 10 a.m.

March 20: Waimea Falls, cost to be announced. Leave from LIP at 10 a.m.

March 21: Hawaii beach party/activities, \$80. Depart from LIP at 9 a.m.

March 27: Haleiwa for the day, \$2 and bring money. Depart from LIP at 10 a.m.

March 30: Valley of the Temples, \$4. Depart from LIP at 10 a.m.

Weekly events:

Sunday and Thursday: Movie and popcorn night, 6 p.m., free.

Monday: NFL football and pupus, 6:30 p.m., free.

Tuesday: 8 - Tournament, 7 p.m., free.

Wednesday: Ping Pong Tournament, 6 p.m., free.



The Big Bounce: Jack is a drifter whose talents lie just outside the law. Hoping for a change of scenery, Jack heads for Hawai'i where he discovers that whether he is looking for a new con or romance, temptation is everywhere.

The Butterfly Effect: Evan is an emotionally conflicted man dealing with suppressed childhood memories. Clearly enough, he discovers a way to travel back in time, but his different actions in the past have enormous ramifications for his future/present.

Calendar Girls: Two friends living in a village in the Yorkshire Dales enlist the support of women's club members in a fundraising initiative for the local hospital. The traditional idea to produce a calendar has a radical twist...the women will be nude.

Catch that Kid: Maddy and her father's mountain climbing hobby has a disastrous effect when an accident paralyzes him forever unless he gets a expensive operation. Determined to raise the money, Maddy decides to recruit friends to help her break into the super-high-tech bank.

Chasing Liberty: The daughter of the president, anxious for some breathing room, ditches her secret security detail and sets out across Europe with her boyfriend.

House of Sand and Fog: See Movie Takes review

Cold Mountain: A wounded Civil War soldier, Inman, gets up from his deathbed and begins the difficult walk home to Cold Mountain, N.C., so he can be with Ada. Ada, although heartbroken, is struggling to care for her deceased dad's farm.

My Baby's Daddy: Bachelors from the hood, after a lifetime of hard partying, are in for a rude awakening when their respective girlfriends all get pregnant.

The Perfect Score: High school students desperate to get into top-notch colleges develop a plan to break into the Princeton Testing Center to steal the answers for the S.A.T.

Torque: A motorcycle racer is framed for murder by his long-time nemesis, bringing the most notorious biker gang and its leader after him for revenge.

Win a Date with Tad Hamilton: When a hot young actor, Tad Hamilton agrees to participate in a "win a date" contest to promote his new movie, his world is turned upside-down when he finds himself falling in love with the winner.

You Got Served: This hip-hop comedy explores the social subculture of street dancing, focusing on a pair of friends, David and Elgin, who want to open their own hip-hop dance and recording studio.

by JOSN Ryan McGinley

House of Sand and Fog

Stanley Kubrick once said, "A film is, or should be, more like music than like fiction. It should be a progression of moods and feelings. The theme, what's behind the emotion, the meaning, all that comes later."
"The House of Sand and Fog" is a straightforward story compounded by its character's emotional significance.

The story goes like this. The county has presumptuously evicted Kathy Nicolo (Jennifer Connelly), a lonely recovering alcoholic whose husband left her, from her humble home. The county puts the house up for auction, where Massoud Amir Behrani (Ben Kingsley) steps in to acquire ownership. Behrani is an Iranian immigrant and former colonel in the Shah's Air Force who now works two jobs to support his family. With little money left to support his wife's lifestyle, he buys the house in an attempt to mend and restore his family to the stature they are accustomed to. The rest of the film is devoted to the conflict between Kathy and Behrani and who should maintain ownership of the house.

What makes this film great are outstanding performances from Ben Kingsley, Shohreh Aghdashloo and Jennifer Connelly. The story is simply an underlying foundation for emotional interaction and conflict between two people of different backgrounds. What's remarkable about this story is its uncanny objectivity towards the situation. Director Vadim Perelman creates a world in which both parties have a valid stake in the house, and neither is completely wrong. We don't know who to root for. Each character illustrates strengths and flaws creating neither a protagonist nor antagonist, but simply people who are reacting to an event in their lives.

Perelman's Shakespearean summation leaves little doubt that performances and a strong script can drive a film from the depths of commonplace fiction to compelling music.

OVERALL RATING: ★★★★★

Community Calendar

Here's a look at off-duty events happening on Oahu's military bases for service members and their families.

To get your activity or event featured in the Community Calendar, e-mail your requests to the editor at hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com or fax submissions to Hawai'i Navy News at 473-2876.

Deadline for submissions is Thursday for the following week's issue. Items will run for four consecutive weeks on a space available basis (see footnote numbers after each event). After four weeks, they should be updated and resubmitted to HNN.

MISCELLANEOUS

BLOOD DRIVES

• March 15: 9 a.m.-noon, U.S. Army Reserves, Kaala Recreation Center, Schofield Barracks.

• March 17: 9 a.m.-noon, U.S. Army, AMR (Aliamanu Military Reservation) Chapel.

• March 22: 9 a.m.-noon, U.S. Army Reserves, Kaala Recreation Center, Schofield Barracks.

• March 25: 9 a.m.-noon, U.S. Air Force, Hickam Community Center, Hickam Air Force Base.
For more information, call 433-6148.

MARDI GRAS FOLLIES

The 49th annual Mardi Gras Follies is now showing at The Banyans at Naval Station Pearl Harbor. Performances will be held every weekend through March 27. The Las Vegas-style song and dance revue is a presentation of the Pearl Harbor Performing Arts Association (PHPAA). Directed by veteran showman Jack Cione, this year's revue will pay tribute to America's military forces with a salute to the red, white and blue performed by a cast of more than 50 performers. More than half of the cast is military affiliated, either active duty, veterans or retired. The Mardi Gras Follies is the main fundraiser for the Pearl Harbor Performing Arts Association (PHPAA), a nonprofit organization that contributes thousands of dollars each year to local military and civilian charities. Tickets are available at a cost of \$35, \$45 or \$50 per person and offer an evening of entertainment - including a

buffet dinner, the Mardi Gras Follies show, tax, tip and free parking. For tickets, call 473-1703. If you would like more information about how to become a member of the Pearl Harbor Performing Arts Association, call 487-2546. You can also visit the Mardi Gras Follies website at www.mardigrasfollies.com for more information.(3)

SAILING COURSE

The Wet Hens Women's Basic Sailing Course will begin March 18 at Hickam Harbor. Registration will be from 8 - 8:30 a.m. The 10 - week course is held on Thursdays from 9 a.m.-noon. The cost is \$80. The program is open to women affiliated with the military - active duty, family member or retired. For more information, call Katie at 499-3403 or Amy at 421-1008. (3)

SEA SCOUTS

Teens age 14 - 18 who are interested in learning to sail, operating a powerboat, steering a boat, scuba diving, and outdoor adventure can do all that and more as members of sea scouting. Interested boys and girls are invited to visit Sea Scout Ship 63, sponsored by the U.S.S. Missouri Memorial Association at Ford Island. The group meets aboard the battleship Missouri (BB 63) at Pearl Harbor and at Ke'ehi Marina where it owns two 20-foot sailboats. Sea Scouting is a national program that has been in existence for over 90 years. Sea Scouts elect their own leaders and plan and run their own program under the guidance of experienced adults. Activities aren't just nautical; social events are part of the schedule. For more information and an invitation to a meeting, call Win Davis at 261-3967. (2)

SHIP/SUBMARINE OHANA

USS CHOSIN FSN
The USS Chosin Family Support Network will meet at 7 p.m. March 16 at the Pearl Harbor Base Chapel. Babysitting will be provided at a cost of \$2 per child. For more information, contact the FSN board at FSNCHOSIN@yahoo.com or Amy Major at 349-7224. (1)
USS HOPPER OHANA

• The USS Hopper Ohana will host its monthly breakfast club beginning at 9 a.m. March 20 at the Dixie Grill in Aiea. The event will be dutch treat. For more information, email hopperohana7@yahoo.com or call Sabrina at 499-0555.(1)

• The USS Hopper Ohana will hold its monthly meeting beginning at 6:30 p.m. April 6 at the fellowship hall of the Pearl Harbor Base Chapel. A guest speaker will discuss financial planning for deployments. The group will also discuss the cookbook, Easter egg hunt and the Mother's Day breakfast. For more information, email hopperohana7@yahoo.com or call Sabrina at 499-0555.

• The USS Hopper Ohana will host its annual Easter egg hunt and picnic from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. April 10 at Patriot Park. The event will be from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. The Easter egg hunt will begin promptly at noon with lunch following. Patriot Park is located in the Radford Terrace housing community on Murray Street. Those attending should bring a dish to share. For more information, call Audrey at 422-9552 or Tamara at 839-6585. (1)

NEX

MEET THE AUTHOR

• Steve Jackson, author of "Lucky Lady," will sign copies of his book at the Navy Exchange from noon - 1 p.m. March 13. "Lucky Lady" tells the story of the World War II heroics of USS Santa Fe and Franklin. (2)
• Toni Polancy, author of "The Hawaii Pet Book: Keeping Your Cat and Dog Healthy, Happy and Housed in the Tropics," will hold a book signing from 11 a.m. - noon March 20 at the NEX. (1)

SUPPORT NMCRS 2004

Help support the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society by purchasing a \$5 benefit ticket at the Navy Exchange. Patrons will receive 10 percent off purchases at the NEX and 15 percent off furniture (some restrictions apply) on March 22 and 23. All proceeds will be contributed to the NMCRS 2004 fund drive. Tickets are sold at most NEX locations. (1)
COURTESY INSPECTION

SERVICE AVAILABLE

The Navy Exchange Autoport provides a free safety inspection to families of deployed Sailors. This service is available one week prior, after and during deployment periods. The NEX Autoport is located on base, sub side. For more information, call 423-3226.(1)

PRICE MATCHING POLICY

The Navy Exchange will match the price of any identical item sold in any local store. Simply provide proof of the lower price and the NEX will match it. If the price difference is under \$5, they will match it on the spot. Some restrictions apply to the policy. Please see a sales associate for more information. (2)

AMERICAN RED CROSS

RED CROSS NURSING ASSISTANT TRAINING

The American Red Cross at Hickam AFB is currently accepting applications for a free nursing assistant training program. Applicants should be military dependents, over 18 years of age and have a high school diploma. For more information, contact the Red Cross office at 808-449-0166 e-mail at arc@hickam.af.mil.(1)

ARMED SERVICES YMCA

ALIAMANU LOCATION:
The Aliamanu (AMR) branch of the Armed Services YMCA is located at 1875 Aliamanu Drive, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96818. The phone number is 833-1185, fax 834-3631, email is ASYMCAAMR@aol.com. Hours are 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

T.O.P.S.

T.O.P.S. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly), a nonprofit, noncommercial weight-loss support group, meets every Wednesday at the Armed Services YMCA, Aliamanu location. Weigh-ins begin at 5:30 p.m. and the meeting starts at 6:15 p.m. Membership fees are low and includes the T.O.P.S. magazine. There are also incentive programs offered. The first meeting is free. For more information, call Delcie at 623-1403. (3)

Sailors soon to enjoy locally grown coffee at sea

JO1 Jim Williams
Features Editor

"I have measured my life with coffee spoons," T.S. Eliot, wrote in his poem "The love song of J. Alfred Prufrock."

Sailors standing watch may also sometimes feel this way, but those stationed at Pearl Harbor will soon be dipping their spoons in a new brew of locally grown coffee, both on ships and in their dining facilities.

The island's largest coffee seller, Hawai'i Coffee Company, won an approximately \$60,000 deal to supply local grown coffees to Pearl Harbor's ships, as well as all five military branch's Hawai'i dining facilities and mess halls.

Last January, Defense Supply Center Philadelphia working with Hawai'i's primary local vendor for the military, Y. Hata & Co., conducted a coffee taste test for local military personnel.

"We held a blind taste test at the Banyans on Pearl Harbor," recalled John Tissue, Defense Supply Center Philadelphia's western regional purchasing manager, "in which five different coffee companies entered."

"They all came in and brewed their coffee using the same equipment and the same type water," he continued. "And service members came by and got to taste the different pots of coffee and rank them one through 10."

He added that the test shows one way the military is trying to listen closer to its personnel when it comes to some decisions that will affect them - right down to small things like what kind of coffee they like best.

"The final decision was completely patron driven, which I feel is important, especially for something like what kind of coffee will be served," said Tissue. "When you're on watch, you're out on watch and it's cold ... what's better than a good cup of coffee?"

The first place winner at the taste was LION's 100 percent Molokai coffee, unblended, with Royal Kona's 100 percent, unblended Kona coming in second.

"It was interesting that the more economical Molokai coffee actually beat out the more popular Kona," added Tissue.

Jim Wayman, president of Hawai'i Coffee Company and an ex-Sailor



who claims to know the importance of a cup of good coffee to the Sailors, said he was honored that his coffee company was chosen to "serve coffee to the finest defenders sailing the seas." "We dedicate ourselves to quality

every day and join the military's effort to support American-made products with our locally grown and roasted coffee," he said.

While local grown coffees have already been sold in military exchanges and commissaries, this deal marks the first time Hawai'i-grown coffee will be served either on the Navy ships or in military dining facilities.

Under the new arrangement, Y. Hata & Co. will purchase the coffee from the coffee company and distribute it to the military through out Hawai'i.

"I feel the partnership we have with the military is outstanding," said John Smiley, Y. Hata & Co. director of sales. "We feel it's just an honor to give something back to the men and women in the services for all they are doing."

He added how the new coffee deal will not only provide the military with high-quality coffee, but also supports Hawai'i's local coffee farmers and economy.

"This marks the first time that a 100 percent American-produced, American-made coffee has been offered in Hawai'i," said Tissue. "This is also the beginning of an effort by our organization to focus on buying American-made products."

The efforts to offer local coffee to the

military, which was supported by Senator Daniel Inouye, Senator Daniel Akaka and Hawai'i's congressional delegation, is hoped to bring more national support to Hawai'i coffee growers, especially in lesser known Molokai.

"When you think of Hawai'i, two things usually come to mind - chocolate covered macadamia nuts and Kona coffee," said Sharon Zambo-Fan, the Hawai'i chapter president of the American Logistics Association, a Washington D.C. based organization which serves as liaison between the local companies and military organizations. "So this program is very exciting for Molokai itself. Maybe it now will offer the opportunity for more people to start to learn about Molokai and its coffee."

"We are thrilled," said Coby Barbata, director of sales for Molokai Coffee Company. "These are the kinds of volume contracts that will allow us to expand coffee on Molokai and to provide new and meaningful jobs on the island." "This is a great move for the state of Hawai'i," added Smiley.

He concluded by saying Y. Hata & Co. plans to continue to search for other items similar to the coffee to help bring the military and Hawaiian business communities together.

NEX offers 'Gifts from the Home Front'

JOSN Ryan C. McGinley
Staff Writer

The Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange and exchanges all over the world now offer a way for everyone to support service members.

"'Gifts from the Home Front,' allows anyone to purchase a gift certificate for a loved one, family member or dear friend associated with the military," said Janeane Robinson, an associate at the customer service center NEX.

The NEX, Army and Air Force Exchange Services, Marine Corps Exchange and the Coast Guard Exchange systems have combined efforts to allow anyone to support the morale and well being of families and friends in the military.

"Originally, only AAFES were able to accept the gift certificates," said Robinson. "As of February of this year, all of the military exchanges will be honoring the 'Gifts From The Home Front.'"

Individuals can purchase the certificates for anyone associated with the military through the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society or wounded military members through the Fisher House.

"An important way for an individual to contribute to the morale and well being of service members ..."

Jeneane Robinson
Customer Service Center NEX

"Donations to the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society or to the Fisher House help ease the anxiety for military personnel and their families at a stressful time in their lives," said Robinson.

Exchanges offer the gift certificates only through the Internet at "www.navy-nex.com." Denominations include \$10, \$20 and \$25 increments.

"As long as you have Internet access and a credit card, you are able to purchase or donate to a service member or organization," said Robinson.

Anyone who purchases a certificate

can send it anywhere in the world and the service member can use it at any local military exchange.

"The certificates are redeemable at all locations around the world including deployed areas," said Robinson. "These military exchanges are the sole retail support for our service members in such areas as the Middle East and Southwest Asia."

The certificates are redeemable by authorized patrons of the AAFES, the NEX and the Coast Guard Exchange.

The program will allow service members to purchase items without the burden from loved ones of paying outrageous postal or shipping charges.

"This is just another way any individual or organization can support our military and their families while serving our country," said Robinson. "For some, a program like this gives the person a choice of who will receive their gift, and the reassurance they are giving the service members what they really need."

"This program is an important way for any individual to contribute to the morale and well being of service members and their families," said Robinson.

Topside by ITC(SW) Mike Purcell



