

Happy landings Amelia... first lady of the air



Rebecca Hommon

*Counsel, Navy Region
Hawaii*

In the center of Pearl Harbor, on the island of Oahu in Hawaii, is an island known as Ford Island. In the center of that island is a broad runway, which at one time was part of Luke Field, a military airfield shared in the 1930s by the Army Air Corps and the Navy Fleet Air Base.

Sixty-nine years ago, near dawn on March 20, Amelia Earhart - a pilot, adventurer and American idol of the time - and her navigator attempted to take off from that runway. They intended to start the second leg of a planned flight around the world as close to the equator as possible. But it was not to be.

Walking today on Ford Island, if the pavement could talk, perhaps it would tell of the pre-war morning in 1937 when sparks flew from Amelia Earhart's Lockheed Electra.

Long before equal employment opportunity for women was accepted, and a mere 15 years after women were granted the right to vote, Amelia Earhart claimed the title of being the first person - not the first woman, but the first person - to fly solo from Hawaii to California. She accomplished that goal in January 1935 - in a cold, dark and lonely 18 hours and 17 minutes - from Wheeler Field in central Oahu to Oakland, Calif.

A plaque commemorating that historic and courageous event remains at a lookout over the ocean at Diamond Head near the lighthouse. The location allows one to contemplate the experience of being alone over the ocean for that length of time-long before today's navigational tools, such as global positioning systems, were even realistically contemplated.

After accomplishing that goal, a mere two years later in 1937, Earhart began her attempt to fly around the world as close to the equator as possible - making the route as long as an around the world flight could be. With her technical advisor Paul Mantz, Navy Reserve Lt. Cmdr. Harry Manning and Pan American Airways navi-



U.S. Navy photo by PH2 (AC) David Difuntorum

A plaque commemorating Amelia Earhart's achievement as the first woman and the first person to fly solo from Hawaii to California is located at the lookout at Diamond Head near the lighthouse. Earhart accomplished that feat in January 1935 during a flight that took 18 hours and 17 minutes - from Wheeler Field in central Oahu to Oakland, Calif.

gator Fred Noonan, Earhart left California in the late afternoon on March 17, 1937.

The following morning, they spotted Diamond Head and touched down at Wheeler Field in central Oahu at 5:55 a.m. on March 18, 1937, setting a new speed record of 15 hours, 47.5 minutes. From Oahu, the plan was to fly southwest to Howland Island at the equator and then proceed around the globe in a westerly direction.

By the following morning, March 19, Wheeler's grassy field had become too wet and soft to be used by the heavily loaded plane. The team moved the plane down Oahu's central plain to Pearl Harbor and out onto Ford Island's Luke Field. On March 20, Earhart arrived at Pearl Harbor and made her way across the water to Ford Island.

Writers tell us that as it proceeded down the Luke Field runway, the plane tilted, the right landing gear collapsed, a tire blew out and the aircraft slid to a stop - 1,200 feet from where it had started. No one was injured in spite of a shower of sparks. However, the plane was sufficiently damaged that it was shipped back to California for repairs.

Not giving up, less than two months later, Earhart and her team started the around the world flight again. On May 20, 1937, she left Oakland, this time heading east across the mainland United States, rather than west across the Pacific to Oahu. Over the next few weeks, she circled most of the globe

along the equator, stopping at airfields in Florida, Puerto Rico, Venezuela, Brazil, Senegal, Sudan, Eritrea, Pakistan, India, Thailand, Singapore, Sumatra, Java, Australia and New Guinea.

By the end of June, only three legs of this arduous flight remained. The flight from New Guinea northeast to Howland Island would be across a 2,556-mile expanse of the Pacific. From Howland, they would proceed again northeast to Honolulu and then from Honolulu to Oakland.

Two Navy ships, the sea-plane tender Swan and the coal-burning tug Ontario were at their respective stations to provide assistance to Earhart and the team as they flew north and east across the Pacific.

Swan left Pearl Harbor on June 21, 1937 to serve as a guard station halfway between Honolulu and Howland. Ontario took a position halfway between Howland and New Guinea. The U.S. Coast Guard cutter Itasca joined them near Howland.

On July 2, 1937, Earhart and navigator Fred Noonan left New Guinea for Howland. Some 18 hours into the flight, a radioman aboard Itasca reportedly heard Earhart broadcast that she and Noonan should be above

Itasca, but could not see it and that fuel was running low. Their last communication was heard at 8:43 a.m. In spite of an extensive search by the Navy and the Coast Guard, no trace was found of Amelia Earhart, Fred Noonan or their plane.

While her goal of being the first person to fly around the globe was not completed, Amelia Earhart's reputation as the First Lady of the Air remains well deserved. Her records included setting, at age 23, an altitude record for women - ascending more than 14,000 feet; in 1928 being the first woman to fly across the Atlantic and the first to fly solo across the continental United States; in 1932 being the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic; and the 1935 solo flight honored by the plaque at Diamond Head.

Pearl Harbor, Ford Island and the runway at Luke Field remain as tangible places that form but a small part of her inspirational, albeit brief, life story. Amelia Earhart was just 39 years old when she was lost. The refrain from an old tune provides a still appropriate epitaph: "There's a beautiful, beautiful field far away in a land that is fair. Happy landings to you, Amelia Earhart. Farewell, First Lady of the Air."



AMELIA EARHART
FIRST PERSON TO FLY ALONE
FROM HAWAII TO NORTH AMERICA
JANUARY 11, 1935

*"Please know I am quite aware of the hazards...
I want to do it because I want to do it.
Women must try to do things as men have tried. When they fail
their failure must be but a challenge to others."*



Photo by Amiee Huepenbecker

Members of the All-Navy Bowling Team display trophies earned during tryouts for the All-Navy team at the Naval Station Bowling Alley. The Navy's team will compete against other services at the All-Military Bowling Tournament April 4-7. The tournaments will be held at Hickam Air Force Base, Marine Corps Base Hawai'i - Kaneohe, Schofield Barracks and conclude at Naval Station Pearl Harbor.

All-Navy Bowling Team selected

Amiee Huepenbecker

*Community Support
Program Marketing*

The top Navy bowlers have been selected to represent the All-Navy team in this year's All-Military Tournament scheduled for April 4-7. Try-outs for the All-Navy Bowling Team were held Feb. 14-17 at the Naval Station Bowling Center.

The men's team includes: Jeffrey Logue, Shannon Wicks, Richard Racette, Robert Rose, Derrick Pelekai and Gennarro Hawkins.

The women's team consists of Elizabeth Raby, Kumi Martin and Jennifer Parks.

During tryouts, Wicks took home the trophy for Men's Division High Series (743) at this year's tryouts and Raby earned the trophy for the Women's Division High Series (614). Logue won the trophy for Men's Division High Game (278) and Martin took the trophy for Women's Division High Game (212). Logue will serve as this year's team captain.

The tournament will be held at a different location each day. Hickam Bowling

Center will host the first day of competition on April 4. Marine Corps Base Hawai'i (MCBH) - Kaneohe will host the second day at K-Bay Lanes on April 5. The next stop is Schofield Barracks Lanes on April 6. The bowlers will wrap up at Naval Station on the final day of the tournament, April 7.

The tournament will begin at 10 a.m. each day and run until approximately 3 p.m. For more information on the All-Navy Bowling Team or All-Military Bowling Tournament, call 473-2651.

Hope for couples hoping for kids

TRICARE covers select infertility treatments

Mark Jecker

TriWest Healthcare Alliance

Approximately 2.1 million married couples in the U. S. experience infertility, according to the National Center for Health Statistics. What many members of the military may

not realize is that the cost of selected infertility treatments is covered by TRICARE.

The inability to conceive is a significant source of stress among married couples who want to start families. Add the rising costs of infertility treatment and it's no wonder that many couples give up.

Because infertility is often the result of a physical condition, TRICARE coverage extends to the medically necessary services used to diagnose, monitor or treat those physical problems. These

include diagnostic testing, surgical intervention and hormone therapy.

Note that many fertility drug prescriptions require the health care provider to obtain prior authorization through Express Scripts.

Coverage exceptions

TRICARE does not cover treatments, procedures and technologies related to artificial methods of reproduction, including artificial insemination, in vitro fertilization (IVF), gamete intrafallopian transfer (GIFT) or the reversal of a prior surgical sterilization.

However, once a TRICARE beneficiary becomes pregnant, whether by natural or artificial means, the pre- and post-natal services connected with that pregnancy are covered by TRICARE.

Prime beneficiaries and Standard beneficiaries who use network providers (the TRICARE Extra option) will not be responsible for non-covered services furnished by a network provider unless they agree, in advance and in writing, to pay for each specific non-covered service or drug.

Standard beneficiaries will be responsible for the total cost of services not covered by TRICARE. A complete list of infertility treatment services that are not covered by TRICARE is available at www.triwest.com as well as in the TRICARE Beneficiary Handbook and Prime Member Handbook.

Questions concerning TRICARE infertility benefits may be directed to TriWest Healthcare Alliance at 1-888-TRIWEST (1-888-874-9378).

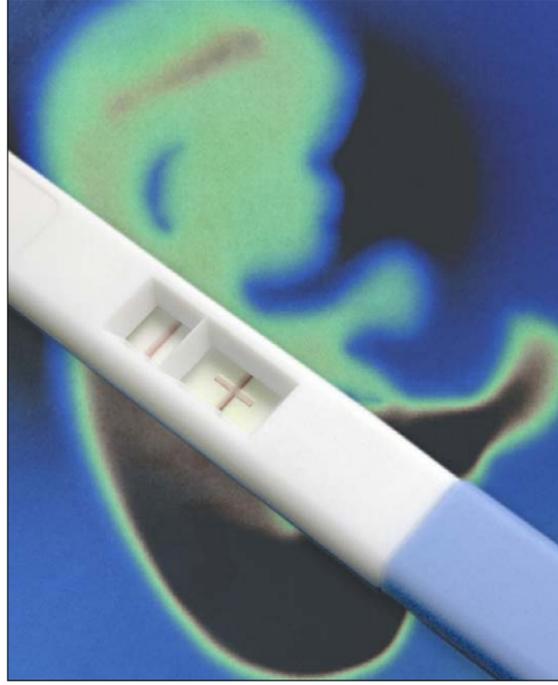


Photo Illustration

www.hnn.navy.mil

Hawaii Navy News Online

Rape prevention: woman issue or man issue?

Louella Cazimero-Bactad

Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, Fleet and Family Support Center

Dr. Joseph Weinberg of Joseph Weinberg and Associates, a rape prevention speaker, trainer, and author/educator, addressed the question, "Rape Prevention: Is this a woman issue or a man issue?" in his September 2004 newsletter, "Teaching Sexual Ethics."

He placed much emphasis on

teaching men and boys sexual ethics, myths about sex, sexuality and sensuality, and the difference between consensual and non-consensual sex. This article summarizes some of the key points that Weinberg addressed.

When you read the above words, "Rape Prevention: Is this a woman issue or a man issue?" many of you may think, what's so hard about that? It seems pretty clear. Unfortunately, that is not the case.

Weinberg noted, "Many men today still hear echoes of their fathers' cryptic admonitions. Many walked away

feeling as though their fathers were unwilling to listen to them and talk about themselves, their lives or sex."

"Most families have not talked about sexuality, pleasure and responsibility. Most forbade sex or used some slang terms to refer to male and female private parts. Adult innuendo, winks, smirks (and well-meaning, but hopelessly inept, "advice") shape and rule most boys' understanding of sex," said Weinberg.

According to Weinberg, "Most boys are not taught how to define sex,

rape, sexual harassment and sexual assault and are not able to readily distinguish between them. Sadly enough, when the topic of rape is not discussed, many boys are not taught how to be sexual without hurting their partner."

"A crucial part of stopping rape is teaching sex that is entirely different from sexual assault. Ethical rape prevention education for females and males is teaching that females (1) deserve not to be hurt and (2) deserve respect, safety, pleasure and orgasms as much as do males," he said.

"The old saying, "Treat others as you would like to be treated," does that saying really change because it pertains to sex? No still means no! Learning to respect oneself and then the other is still important ingredients to consensual sex," emphasized Weinberg.

General military training (GMT) briefings on sexual assault awareness and prevention are available to commands. For more information or to schedule a briefing, call Louella Cazimero-Bactad at the Fleet and Family Support Center at 473-4222, ext. 245.

Shop NEX bumper stickers pay off for patrons

Laarni Gedo

Navy Exchange Marketing

A vintage image of a hula girl adorns the new 2006 Shop Navy Exchange (NEX) bumper stickers to reflect the aloha and the uniqueness of the NEX at Pearl Harbor from other stores in the system worldwide.

Patrons who place a sticker, which are now available at the NEX at Pearl Harbor, on their vehicles have a chance to win one of two \$25 gift cards each week until the end of the year when they park and shop at the NEX.

Weekly winners will then be entered in a grand prize drawing for a \$2,000 shopping spree at the NEX at the end of the year.

Josie Bennett of Ewa Beach, wife of retired GySgt. John Bennett, is the winner of last year's Shop NEX bumper sticker program.

"I've never won anything besides the \$25 giftcards," she said. "I didn't think I had a chance - I was amazed. This is a big one!"

Bennett explained that winning the \$25 gift card late last year came as a



Photo by Laarni Gedo

Michael Cottrell, NEX Hawai'i district manager/general manager (left), awards Josie Bennett and her family a \$2,000 check for a NEX shopping spree.

pleasant surprise because her father placed the sticker on her old mini van without her knowing. "You know how you don't really go in the back of the car and notice," she said.

Bennett said that she did tell her father about winning. "I kept the \$25 card so I'm going to give him half of the big one," she said.

Bennett said that she shops at the NEX because of

its size and wide selection of merchandise. "This bumper sticker program is great, because anybody who's an authorized patron can win... you just never know!" she said.

**Free
classified
advertising
for military
in Hawaii
Navy News**

Active duty and retired military, civil service and family members can advertise the sale of their personal property (including real estate) and services in HNN at no charge. The details are as follows:

Classified items and services must represent an incidental exchange between the aforementioned personnel and not business operations. Requests for three-line free classified advertisements can be submitted via email, if from a ".mil" address (submit to ikaneshi@honolulu.gannett.com), by phone at 521-9111 or by visiting www.honoluluadvertiser.com and clicking on "classified ads." More lines of advertising can be purchased at an additional fee. Requesters should include their military ID number and a call-back phone number.

Skylark Central

What famous woman said:

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CRYPTOGRAM
 The cryptogram is a puzzle where each number stands for a letter. For example, the letter "A" is represented by the number "13." Unscramble the phrase to reveal the famous quote.



What submarine am I?

- Commissioned on 1 October 1958
- While home ported in Pearl Harbor, on 1 October 1959, scientific instruments were installed to assist in navigating under the polar ice.
- Returned to Hawai'i on March 3, 1960 from arctic cruise of 11,000 miles, including 6,003 miles under the polar ice.
- First nuclear vessel to be refueled at Pearl Harbor shipyard
- Hull number is SSN-583



Know your Navy

What minimum amount of blood loss usually causes a person to go into shock?

Last week's question...

What is the only nuclear submarine whose entire career was spent as a member of the Pacific Fleet?

Answer -
 USS Sargo (SSN 583)

MWR

Movie Call

Sharkey Theater
Naval Station Pearl Harbor
(473-0726)

TODAY

7:00 p.m. Big Momma's House 2 (PG 13)

SATURDAY

2:30 p.m. Hoodwinked (PG)
4:30 p.m. Glory Road (PG)
6:45 p.m. Munich (R)

SUNDAY

2:30 p.m. Nanny McPhee (PG)
4:30 p.m. Big Momma's House 2 (PG 13)

6:30 p.m. The Last Holiday (PG-13)

THURSDAY

7:00 p.m. Big Momma's House 2 (PG 13)

Memorial Theater
Hickam Air Force Base
(449-2239)

TODAY AND SATURDAY

7:00 p.m. Big Momma's House 2 (PG 13)

SUNDAY

7:00 p.m. Underworld: Evolution (R)

Sgt. Smith Theater
Schofield Barracks
(624-2585)

TODAY

7:00 p.m. Glory Road (PG)

SATURDAY

7:00 p.m. Tristan & Isolde (PG-13)

SUNDAY

2:00 p.m. Glory Road (PG)

WEDNESDAY

7:00 p.m. Tristan & Isolde (PG-13)

THURSDAY

7:00 p.m. Glory Road (PG)

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.

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE EVENTS

• **March 11:** Mountain bike ride, 8:30 a.m.,

• **March 12:** Alpine Tower, 9 a.m., \$20.

PEE WEE BASKETBALL

Registration for Pee Wee basketball is being held **Now through March 24** at the youth sports office. The cost is \$35 and includes a T-shirt, medal and certificate. The Pee Wee sports program is designed for children ages three to five and is described by the staff at Morale, Welfare and Recreation as a unique, fun interactive parent/child experience. To register, bring a current (dated no more than a year ago) physical, payment and birth certificate. Programs are open to family members of active duty, retirees, reservists and DoD civilians. For more information, call 474-3501.

FAMILY FUN AND MOVIE NIGHTS

Navy Region Hawai'i's Morale, Welfare and Recreation will host free family fun and movie nights on a regular schedule on Fridays and Saturdays at various Navy installations. The events will feature a full schedule of family activities, including games, bounce houses and free cotton candy and popcorn. Children

under 10 years of age must be supervised by someone 16 years or older. "Home on the Range," rated PG, will be shown at 7 p.m. **March 11** at Pearl City Community Center, preceded by games and family activities beginning at 4 p.m. "The Chronicles of Narnia," rated PG, will be presented **March 17** at NCTAMS Bowling Field near Wahiawa. There will be activities for families from 4 to 7 p.m. and the movie will begin at 7 p.m. For more information, call 471-8658.

SPRING BREAK CAMP ADVENTURE

Camp Adventure is back with activities and trips especially for kids (ages 5 - 12). Camp fees are based on total household income. Registration is open to military and DoD family members. It will continue until all slots are filled. Camp dates are **March 20-31**. For more information, call 421-1556 or 499-2572.

FREE CONCERTS AT DUSK

A series of free concerts at dusk will be presented the fourth Friday of each month on the lawn behind The Banyans at Naval Station Pearl Harbor. The concert series will feature the Pacific Fleet Band and guest bands, presenting a variety of musical selections. Hosted by Navy Region Hawai'i's Morale, Welfare and Recreation, the first concert is scheduled for 6 p.m. **March 24** and will offer a variety of styles in traditional music, presented by the 35-piece Pacific Fleet Band Wind Ensemble. The next concert has been scheduled for 6:30 p.m. **April 28**. Those who plan to attend the concerts should bring lawn chairs or

blankets and snacks in preparation for an enjoyable evening of music under the stars. For more information, call 473-0606.

ALL-NAVY BOWLING TEAM

The Hawai'i All-Navy Bowling Team will represent the Navy at the All-Military Tournament to be held **April 4-7**. For more information, call 473-2651.

FAMILY FITNESS FRIDAY

Family Fitness Friday Happy Hour will be offered from 5-6 p.m. on **Fridays** at Bloch Arena.

The activity is free and provides an opportunity for families to work together on fitness goals, courtesy of MWR. Participants can learn how to incorporate fitness together with their children, under the guidance of a certified fitness specialist. Workouts include a variety of equipment, appropriate skill level and partner exercises. The family fitness hour is open to parents and their children ages 10 and up (limited to no more than two children per adult). Reservations are recommended. For more information, call 473-0793.

WHALE WATCHING SPECIALS

Enjoy whale watching on a Pacific Splash Whale Watching cruise. Navy ITT offices have an assortment of cruise options to fit patrons schedules and budgets. For more information, call 473-1190.

MARCH MADNESS

Throughout March, catch the NCAA Final Four at Club Pearl's Pool & Pizza. Enjoy the games on any one of 11 big screen televisions or a 52-inch plasma. Game times will be

announced. For more information, call 473-1743.

DEEP-SEA FISHING

Go deep-sea fishing and catch the big one aboard the "Coreene C," a 47-foot sport fishing boat that holds the I.G.F.A. World Record for Unlimited Class: 1805-pound blue marlin. Full and half charters are offered. The cost includes bait, tackle and equipment. For more information on fees and departure times, call the Rainbow Bay Marina at 473-0279 or Capt. Joe Irvin at 386-9024.



Today: Dole Plantation tour, more information coming.

March 11: Extreme jet skiing, time to be announced, \$65.

March 12: Surfing lessons and lunch, 9:30 a.m., \$7.

March 13: WWE wrestling and free food, 5 p.m. at LIP.

March 15: "There's Something Going on at Beeman," activities and games, 6:30 p.m., free.

March 16: Whose birthday is it? Sign up for free cake and ice cream, 6:30 p.m., free.

Weekly events:

Sunday: Chess tournament, 6:30 p.m.

Monday: WWE wrestling, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday: 8-Ball tournament - 7 p.m.

Wednesday: Game show - 6:30 p.m.

Thursday: 9-Ball Pool tournament - 7 p.m.



Big Momma's House 2: The continuing adventures of master-of-disguise FBI special agent Malcolm Turner. This time he must go undercover as Big Momma to nail his ex-partner's murderer.

Glory Road: The inspiring true story of the underdog Texas Western basketball team, with history's first all African-American starting lineup of players, who took the country by storm, surprisingly winning the 1966 NCAA tournament title.

Hoodwinked: Furry and feathered cops from the animal world, Chief Grizzly and Detective Bill Stork, investigate a domestic disturbance at Granny's cottage, involving a girl, a wolf and an axe.

The Last Holiday: After being diagnosed with a fatal disease, a shy sales clerk goes on a European vacation to live out the rest of her life. With nothing to lose—or so she thinks—her behavior becomes more irreverent and outrageous each day, only to find out later she was misdiagnosed.

Munich: Set in the aftermath of the massacre of 11 Israeli athletes at the 1972

Munich Olympics, story follows a secret Israeli squad assigned to track down and kill the 11 Palestinians suspected to have planned the Munich attack—and the personal toll this mission of revenge takes on the team and the man who led it.

Nanny McPhee: A new nanny enters the household of the recently widowed Mr. Brown and attempts to tame his seven exceedingly ill-behaved children.

Tristan & Isolde: In the medieval legend of Tristan and Isolde, young lovers become doomed against the forces of royal politics. English knight Tristan wins the hand of the daughter of the Irish king, but the love threatens the truce between their two countries.

Underworld: Evolution: A war emerges between the aristocratic Death Dealers (vampires) and the barbaric Lycans (werewolves), stemming from an ancient feud between the two tribes. Selene, the beautiful vampire heroine, and Michael, the lycan hybrid, try to unlock the secrets of their bloodlines. Their forbidden love takes them into the battle to end all wars as the immortals must finally face their retribution.

Community Calendar

To have your activity or event featured in the Community Calendar, e-mail your requests to hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com or fax 473-2876. Deadline is Thursday for the following week's issue. Items will run on a space available basis.

Hawai'i's seabirds and shore birds – Learn about Hawai'i's seabirds and shore birds at a presentation from 6-9 p.m. **March 11** at the Hanauma Bay Nature Preserve. This event is co-sponsored by the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary and the

Hanauma Bay Education Program. The event will offer activities for the entire family. Guest speakers will share stories and information related to Hawai'i's feathered friends. Posters and information tables will be provided by a variety of organizations. Crafts and activities will be available for the keiki. For more information on this and other special events, visit: <http://hawaiihumpbackwhale.noaa.gov> or call the sanctuary office at 397-2651, ext. 252 or the Hanauma Bay Education Program at 397-5840.

Pouhala Marsh Clean-up - Pouhala Marsh work days have been scheduled for **March 18, April 29** and **May 20** for cleanup and removal of pickle weeds at the north end of Pearl Harbor's West Loch. The project will cover a Hawaiian fish pond and coastal marsh of about 70 acres. Volunteers are needed to help with the project from 8 to 11:30 a.m. Anyone who is interested in participating should call 473-1203 or email adeline.lopes@navy.mil or Pauline Kawamata at 955-0100, ext. 18.

Gyotaku by Naoki - Meet artist Naoki Hayashi from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. **March 18** at the rotunda of the Navy Exchange (NEX) at Pearl Harbor. His art, gyotaku, is a decade-long tradition practiced by Japanese fishermen to record their big catch by pressing rice paper onto the ink-covered fish. An avid diver and fisherman, Naoki's art provides a window to the underwater.

Sean Na'auao - Sean Na'auao, the local boy jack-of-all-trades, will share his love for Hawaiian culture through his music from noon-1 p.m. **March 18** in the CD/DVD department of the Navy Exchange (NEX) at Pearl Harbor. The singer, musician, composer and producer will showcase his new album, "Ka 'Eha Ke Aloha."

Navy singer at Sam Snead's – Navy Musician 3rd Class Kenny Ray Horton, a vocalist with the Pacific Fleet Band and a country music recording artist, will perform from 8-10 p.m. **March 18** at Sam Snead's at the Navy Marine Golf Course.

NAVSTA Golf Tournament – The Naval Station (NAVSTA) Pearl Harbor Golf Tournament will be held **March 24** at the Klipper Golf Course at Marine Corps Base Hawai'i – Kaneohe. The deadline for signups is **March 20**. There are 18 team spots and the tournament format will be four-person scramble. Prizes will be awarded to first and second place, longest drive and closest to the tee. The entry fee is \$10 per player. Players are

responsible for their own green fees and golf carts; walking is okay. Proceeds from the tournament will be used for the NAVSTA Pearl Harbor's Holiday Celebration. For more information, call CS2 Alfredo Medina at 472-9510, ext. 324 or MMC Gaetano Critelli at 473-1574.

Sea Services Women's Leadership Symposium – The Sea Services Women's Leadership Symposium (SSWLS) will be held from 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. **March 21** at the base theater at Marine Corps Base Hawai'i (MCBH) – Kaneohe. The theme of the symposium is "Making a Difference," offering a professional development and training symposium that is designed to enhance the professional knowledge of attendees while increasing overall awareness of issues affecting the sea services. SSWLS participants will include female active duty flag officers and senior enlisted leaders from the Navy, Coast Guard and Marine Corps. Symposium uniform will be uniform of the day. The cost to attend the symposium is \$5 and can be paid on the symposium Web site at www.sswls.org. There is also a small fee for two optional events: a luncheon and the all-hands after-hours event, both held at the MCBH Officer's Club. To register or for more information, visit the SSWLS Web site: www.sswls.org or contact Lt. Cmdr. Desarae Janszen, symposium director, at 541-2125, Capt. Gail Hathaway at gail.Hathaway@nepmu6.med.navy.mil, or Master Gunnery Sgt. Bettie Green at bettie.j.green@usmc.mil.

Whale watching - Help the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary count whales **March 25**. Volunteers are needed to assist with the whale counting from 8 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. The count will be conducted at 65 different shore sites around Oahu, Kauai and the Big Island. The "gentle giants" return to Hawaiian waters during the winter months to reproduce and nurse their young.

Those who wish to register to help with the whale watching count should call the following numbers: Oahu, 397-2651, ext. 253; Big Island, 1-888-55-WHALE, ext. 253; Kauai, 246-2860. For more information about the whale sanctuary, visit <http://hawaiihumpbackwhale.noaa.gov>.

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

Tax Center - The Pearl Harbor Tax Center, located in building 679, room 11, is open for walk-ins from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Mondays and Fridays and from 9 a.m.-noon on Saturdays. Appointments can be made from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays and from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. on Wednesdays. For more information, call 473-4112.

Red Cross Volunteers - The American Red Cross needs volunteer instructors for cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and first aid classes. Free training is provided. Volunteers must make a commitment to teach eight classes a year and have at least one year left in the area. For more information, call 449-0166.

Free classified advertising for military in Hawaii Navy News

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