

**NAVY**

**REGION**

**HAWAI'I**

**CELEBRATES**



QM2 (SW) Yanira Molina | USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60)

## Hispanic Heritage Month

Story and photos by  
**Blair Martin**

Contributing Writer

In today's U.S. Navy, more than 63,000 Hispanic Sailors, civilians and reservists bravely serve and support ports and ships all over the world. Hispanic Heritage Month, observed Sept. 15-Oct. 15, serves as a time for many to recognize the numerous contributions made by Hispanic American Sailors.

Electronics Technician 2nd Class (SW) Zeser Gonzales from USS Lake Erie (CG 70) said the U.S. Navy has provided him not only a secure life, but also advancement opportunities to one day become an officer.

"In the past five years [as a Sailor], I've realized how much the Navy has to offer someone when they come in," he said. "Not only have I been able to see the world, but I have many educational opportunities and programs available, including training programs that will [allow] me to go from a blue shirt to an officer."

Gonzales, who moved with his family from Peru to the U.S. when he was only nine years old, doubts he would have had the same opportunities in his home country than as a Sailor for the U.S. Navy.

"Because Peru is a poor country, I probably would not have as many opportunities as I do now if [my family] would've stayed," said the 22-year-old. "I would not be able to get an education, or have a career like the one I now have with the Navy so I realize what a great gift this is," he noted.

Ship's Serviceman 3rd Class (SW) Jose Rivera from the Lake Erie said like



ET2 (SW) Zeser Gonzales | USS Lake Erie (CG 70)

many who have immigrated to America from a foreign country, he experienced "culture shock" when moving with his family from Puerto Rico at 10 years old.

However, he credits the adversity he experienced as a Hispanic child fitting in with American youth for preparing him for life in the military.

"As a child, my family moved around a lot which I think that [prepared] me for military life," said the 22-year-old. "So as a barber on the ship, I see everyone from seamen to captains. So I think my background has actually helped me whenever I have to [interact] with people for my job," he noted.

Quartermaster 2nd Class (SW) Yanira Molina, assigned to USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60), said her Hispanic heritage has helped her with her job as well as communicating with other ships from Peru, Chile and Argentina during her deployments.

"My parents are from El Salvador so I grew up bilingual," said the Los Angeles native. "It helps when we

have to communicate with other ships and has certainly helped with my rank since I work on the grid with all the officers."

Molina, who was the first enlisted female Sailor aboard Paul Hamilton, said her nine-year military career has taught her to value her Hispanic family roots.

"Sometimes we take our families for granted," she said. "But I have found that just by being away from home makes me appreciate and love my family even more."

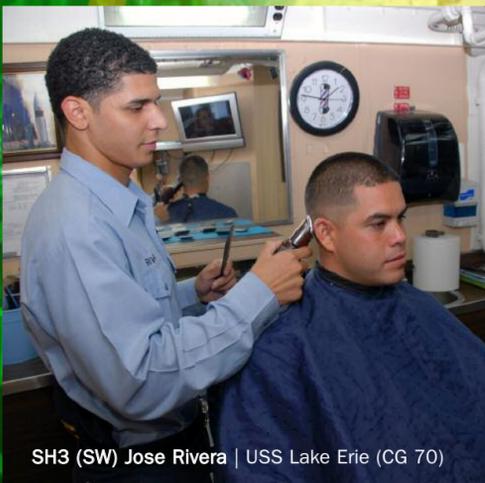
Born in the Republic of Panama, Navy Counselor Senior Chief (SW) Johannes Gonzalez from Lake Erie said he has struggled with English off and on since moving to the U.S. when he

was 16 years old.

"It was tough [adapting] to American culture and the language [barrier]," he said. "Even when I came into the Navy, I was still having a lot of problems with English and even had to retake my ASVAB three different times," he added.

Through hard work and determination, Gonzalez not only mastered the English language, but also earned an associates degree in addition to being promoted to senior Navy leadership.

"When I came to this country, I had nothing," he explained. "So to have this career has been unbelievable. Every day I wake up, I feel so blessed. None of that would exist if it was not for the Navy," he added.



SH3 (SW) Jose Rivera | USS Lake Erie (CG 70)



NCCS (SW) Johannes Gonzales | USS Lake Erie (CG 70)

# NMCRS thrift shop needs volunteers

Story and photo by  
Blair Martin

Contributing Writer

Despite record-setting business over the past couple months, the Navy Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) Thrift Shop has had to cut back operating hours due to a shortage of volunteers.

Since relocating to building 1492 near the Navy Uniform Shop, the thrift shop had been open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon, but has since had to close on Tuesdays in an attempt to keep up with tagging and sorting the donations the shop receives each week.

The NMCRS thrift shop provides Sailors, Marines and their families discounted household items and clothing, which is provided by generous donations of active duty and retired service members.

Business for the thrift shop has increased nearly 67 percent since its grand opening on Aug. 4, said Paul Belanger, director of NMCRS Peal Harbor.

"In the old shop, we were taking in an average of \$1,200 a week," he said. "As of today, we are taking in over \$2,000 a week. We've always wanted to have the thrift shop near the Sailors so now that we [have that], that is why I think we are attracting more shoppers," he added.

Belanger explained that although the shop had been successful in increasing profits, the extra business has proved taxing on the few volunteers who currently run the 15-room store.

"Our [big] issue now is that we do not have enough volunteers to keep up with not only an influx of customers, but also with all of the donations we receive daily," he said. "The donation box is con-



stantly full and has to be emptied every day - sometimes twice or three times a day. We need people who are willing and able to help us [deal] with that," he added.

Lorna Keaunui, volunteer and NMCRS co-chairman, said the thrift shop currently has four full-time employees that perform an array of activities, such as sorting, tagging and collecting donated items in a donation box outside the thrift shop entrance.

She said that unlike other non-profit organizations, NMCRS volunteers are allowed flexible hours that fit into their hectic schedules.

"Basically we need the help so as a volunteer, you can come when you can," she

said. "Much of our stuff starts around 7 a.m., which is [normally] when the donation box is emptied and the sorting begins," she added.

One Navy spouse said she manages to find time each week to volunteer at the thrift shop and believes many of her peers in the military community would be surprised to realize how easy it is to work a few volunteer hours into their busy lives.

"I think some people think [thrift shop] volunteers have to stay long hours, but I come maybe one to two hours [a day] around my school schedule," she said. "They don't mind that I [drop] in and out real quick. The beauty of [NMCRS] is that you get to

contact with other spouses,

meet new people, and help a great cause," she continued.

Despite numerous incentives for volunteers, she maintains there is no substitute for military families to contribute what they can to an organization that supports the military community.

"There is a lot of good camaraderie here," she said of her thrift shop co-workers. "People need to understand that by giving back, really they are giving back to themselves. When our husbands deploy and we get depressed, [it is great] to be around other military family members and people who understand," she continued.

According to another Navy spouse and volunteer, other side benefits of volunteering include gaining employable experience, especially valuable for military spouses looking to re-enter the job market.

"When I first moved here, I was [alone] so working here was a way for me to meet new people," she said. "Now I see [this job] as a resource. When I got my job at the commissary, [NMCRS thrift shop] served as a great reference," she noted.

She added that her college-bound daughter, who volunteers occasionally at the thrift shop, receives community service credits needed for graduation at her high school.

"Teens in and out of high school are welcome to come and work [here]," she said. "Through volunteering, they can learn a lot of life skills."

Proceeds from sales at the thrift shop are used to provide financial assistance to active duty and retired Navy and Marine Corps personnel and their families.

For interested volunteers, contact NMCRS chairman Jo Hickok at 422-4691 or 422-2521.



Photo courtesy of Ironman World Triathlon Championship

Dr. Andy Baldwin, tri-athlete, health/fitness advocate, humanitarian and tv personality will be back in Hawai'i for the 2nd Annual Andy Baldwin Youth Fitness Day.

## Lt. Baldwin to visit Hawai'i for 2nd Annual Andy Baldwin Youth Fitness Day

Heather Wong

Keiki O Ka Aina Family Learning Centers

Dr. Andy Baldwin, tri-athlete, health/fitness advocate, humanitarian and tv personality, will be back in Hawai'i for the 2nd Annual Andy Baldwin Youth Fitness Day from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Oct. 12 at Keiki O Ka Aina Community Center, 3097 Kalihi St. in Honolulu. The event will be held in partnership with Keiki O Ka Aina Family Learning Centers.

Baldwin is dedicated to educate and inspire children on the importance of healthy living. Keiki O Ka Aina

Family Learning Centers is a non-profit organization dedicated to building strong communities through education and family strengthening activities.

The event will host Hawai'i's keiki for a day of fun and education on health and fitness. Mixed martial artists will be on hand for demonstrations. Baldwin will host fitness sessions and there will be nutrition experts to assist keiki with creating healthy snacks.

The event will highlight the need to empower Hawai'i's keiki on the importance of keeping fit and making healthy choices.

For more information, call 223-0906.

# Resident satisfaction surveys due today

## Forest City Military Communities

Each year Forest City Military Communities issues the CEL Residential Satisfaction Survey to residents of Navy family housing.

Information gleaned from the survey will assist Forest City in evaluating successes in property management, leading to more and more improvements in Navy family housing.

Surveys grade the level of resident satisfaction on a scale of one to five, with five being best. To keep individual survey responses confidential and anonymous, residents mail the survey to CEL & Associates in a postage-paid return envelope provided in the survey packet. CEL & Associates compile and analyze the data and then provide Forest City with a report card on customer satisfaction.

From these annual evaluations, Forest City learns how to improve the quality of life of military families by learning trends and patterns, both on a neighborhood basis and island wide.

Also enclosed in the survey packet is a comment card for residents to freely address any concerns, issues, or praise with more detail.

Residents are encouraged to report why they enjoy Navy family housing and what can be done to make housing even better.



Courtesy of Forest City Military Communities

Navy families line up for free ice cream treats as part of Forest City's 'Keeping It Cool' program.

Resident services managers will personally contact each resident who completes and returns a comment card to CEL & Associates.

Residents may also visit their resident

services office to enter a fun prize drawing. Surveys and prize drawing entries are due today so don't delay. For more information, call 839-8600 or visit [www.fcnavyhawaii.com](http://www.fcnavyhawaii.com).

# Spouses to Teachers Program

Judy Aranaydo

*Fleet and Family Support Center*

The Spouses to Teachers Program provides support to spouses of active duty military and selected Reserves in their pursuit of K-12 teaching positions. Limited funding will be provided to eligible spouses to reimburse the cost of examinations required for state teacher licensure/certification. The maximum available financial assistance is \$600 per person.

### Eligible participants:

- Spouses of active duty personnel
- Spouses of members of Selected Reserve and National Guard
- Spouses of members of Individual Ready Reserve recalled to active duty

### Primary audience:

- Spouses with less than a baccalaureate degree
- Spouses with baccalaureate degrees or higher with a teacher certification in one state applying for certification in another state

Come hear the representative speak on this valuable program and other opportunities such as teachers' assistants and substitute teacher positions from 9-11:30 a.m. Oct. 23 at the Fleet and Family Support Center. For more information and to register, call 474-1999, extension. 1.

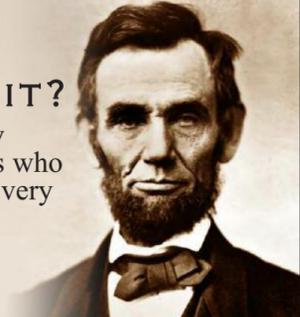
# Skylark CENTRAL

**WORD SEARCH**  
Find these 38 Oldest Continuously-Inhabited Cities

ADANA	ISTANBUL	M L T L S L T T I I O A E L M
DELHI	SUSA	A C H A S Y U T C H D T I O E
LARNACA	BEIRUT	K A K U K R I K C A L Z H L D
ALEPPO	JAFFA	E D L G I C X I N Z H E N G I
GAZA	TICUL	B I A E U B R A A H N T D U N
LUXOR	BYBLOS	L Z B L P E P S I J L Y N U A
ARBIL	JERICHO	A R A G J P I L O P I R T C T
GAZIANTEP	TRIPOLI	A O U J A P O D O L P E S I A
MEDINAT AL-FAYOUM	CADIZ	B V R R E Z A A L V B I A M L
ASYUT	JERUSALEM	A M A H A R I M U J D Y I D F
HAMA	TYRE	F H L R O P U A B O L I B R A
MOHENJO-DARO	CHOLULA	F E U P A S U S N A P Y V O Y
ATHENS	KIRKUK	A B L A R N A C A T H E N S O
HARAPPA	VARANASI	J R O X U L A U T L E U E P U
PLOVDIV	DAMASCUS	B O H L R O J S S L E P Z A M
BAALBEK	KUTAI	A N C H K U T A I S I M B T N
HEBRON SIDON	XINZHENG	
BALKH		

**WHO SAID IT?**  
 "WHEN THE POLITICIANS COMPLAIN THAT TV TURNS THE PROCEEDINGS INTO A CIRCUS, IT SHOULD BE MADE CLEAR THAT THE CIRCUS WAS ALREADY THERE, AND THAT TV HAS MERELY DEMONSTRATED THAT NOT ALL THE PERFORMERS ARE WELL TRAINED."

LAST WEEK'S  
**WHO SAID IT?**  
 "It has been my experience that folks who have no vices have very few virtues."  
 -Abraham Lincoln

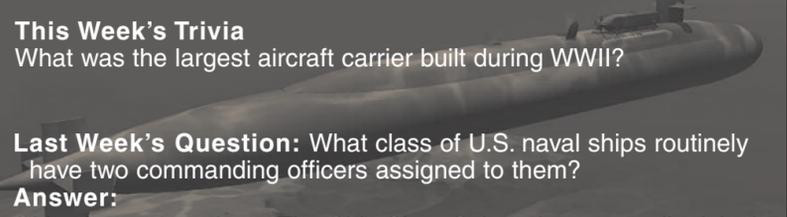


**WORD SEARCH SOLUTION**  
 Find 27 words that contain BEE in it

BEECH	HARTEBEEST	B B B E E S W A X B R B E K
BEELINE	BEEFSTEAK	E B E M P L I R E Z E E B E
BEEZER	BEESWAX	B B U B E Z L E E B P E H E
BEECHNUT	HAS-BEEN	E E H R E R D E S E E N F B
BEEZEBUB	BEEFY	B E E A B E E F S T E A K Y
BUMBLEBEE	BEET	E B M E S E B B S E B B S E
BEEF	HONEYBEE	E V E C I B E E T H O V E N
BEEHIVE	BEEHIVE	C C I E R E E K L B E B A Z
BEETHOVEN	BEETHOVEN	H I E H F B S E E B Y B B O
SEABEE	SEABEE	N P E C E A T E N E M T E B
BEEKEEPER	BEEKEEPER	U R A T N E L L N E P U E T
BEETLE	BEETLE	T K R E K I B O B T S E B B
WILDEBEEST	WILDEBEEST	E A N B N R H E N L F E R T
BEER		H O E E B M A L F E W E E E

**This Week's Trivia**  
 What was the largest aircraft carrier built during WWII?

**Last Week's Question:** What class of U.S. naval ships routinely have two commanding officers assigned to them?  
**Answer:** Ohio-class submarines : The Ohio Class Submarines were all originally designed to carry ballistic missiles, and to serve as part of the nation's strategic nuclear deterrent force. As such they are required to spend much of their time at sea. To ease the human burden, two separate captains and crews are assigned to each submarine. These crews, "Blue" and "Gold" relieve each other at approximately 90-day intervals, taking 10 days to two weeks for the "turn over." Four of the older Ohio's have been converted from SSBN to SSGN and now carry cruise missiles in place of ballistic missiles. These SSGN still operate with the Blue and Gold crew system.



# Navy Region Hawai'i Manawa Nanea

Morale Welfare & Recreation



## CELEBRATE NAVY'S BIRTHDAY

Celebrate the 233rd birthday of the U.S. Navy on Oct. 13 at the Oceans CPO Club and Club Pearl's Brews & Cues. Free pupus and fun is available from 4-6 p.m. Oceans CPO Club is for authorized patrons E7 to E9 and their guests. Brews & Cues is open to all military-affiliated patrons and their guests. FMI: 473-1743.

**SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN SUPPORT GROUP**  
Beginning Oct. 14, the Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) will host a support group on the second Tuesday of every month for the parents of children with special needs. The Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) Support Group connects parents of children with special needs and provides information on how to best accommodate their children. Guest speakers from local agencies, including the Department of Education and the Learning Disabilities Association of Hawai'i, will be available to discuss various topics with parents. The meetings are held at the Hale Moku/Hokulani Community Center from 6-7:30 pm. FMI: 474-1999 or visit [www.greatlifehawaii.com](http://www.greatlifehawaii.com).

**FULL MOON HIKE TO MAKAPU'U**  
Gather the family for a full moon hike to Makapu'u and meet at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 15 at the outdoor adventure center (OAC) at Pearl Harbor. The cost is \$5 per person and the activity is open to all military-affiliated patrons. The deadline to register is Oct. 13. FMI: 473-1198.

**FORD ISLAND 'TRUNK OR TREAT'**  
Navy Region Hawai'i Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) and the Naval Health Clinic First Class Petty Officer Association will host the Ford Island "trunk or treat" and Halloween party from 4-7 p.m. Oct. 25 at building 88 (located behind Firehouse Grill) on Ford Island. The event will include a costume parade, music, crafts, games, popcorn, cotton candy and a special Halloween movie sponsored by Forest City Residential Management. The event is open to all military-affiliated patrons. FMI: [www.greatlifehawaii.com](http://www.greatlifehawaii.com).

For more information on Navy Region Hawai'i MWR events, visit [www.greatlifehawaii.com](http://www.greatlifehawaii.com)

Community Calendar

## October

**13** - The "Home of the Brave Quilt Project" (HOTB) returns to Pacific Aviation Museum on Ford Island from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. to offer museum visitors a way of expressing gratitude to the families of Hawai'i Soldiers who have died in the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Visitors are invited to view the quilts, watch the assembly, and sign the quilts for Hawai'i's military families. HOTB Quilt project will return to Pacific Aviation Museum during the same hours on Nov. 12. FMI: 441-1000 or [www.PacificAviationMuseum.org](http://www.PacificAviationMuseum.org).

**16** - During the month of October, there will be a Single Sailors Photographer Appreciation Month Contest held at the Navy Exchange (NEX) at Pearl Harbor. Submit your best photo of a patriotic, cute or nature theme and win a NEX gift card. The first, second and third place winners will be selected from each category on Oct. 16.. Winners must be stationed in Hawai'i. FMI: 473-4279 or visit [www.greatlifehawaii.com](http://www.greatlifehawaii.com).

**10** - The Leadership Continuum for spouses of commanding officers (CO) and executive officers (XO) will hosting its first of four workshops for this upcoming season at the Ford Island Conference Center. Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. The topic will be "Reaching Out to Family Members - IA/GSA, FRG, Wardroom and Spouses Clubs." The workshop is open to all past, current and prospective Navy and Coast Guard CO/XO spouses. FMI: [Leadership4U@hotmail.com](mailto:Leadership4U@hotmail.com) or 474-1999, ext. 6100.

Sharkey Showtimes



## Star Wars: The Clone Wars (PG)

On the front lines of an intergalactic struggle between good and evil, fans young and old will join such favorite characters as Anakin Skywalker, Obi-Wan Kenobi and Padmae Amidala, along with brand-new heroes like Anakin's padawan learner, Ahsoka. Sinister villains--led by Palpatine, Count Dooku and General Grievous--are poised to rule the galaxy. Stakes are high, and the fate of the Star Wars universe rests in the hands of the daring Jedi Knights. Their exploits lead to the action-packed battles and astonishing new revelations.

**TODAY**  
7:00 PM Tropic Thunder (R)

**SATURDAY**  
2:30 PM Star Wars: The Clone Wars (PG)  
4:45 PM The Longshots (PG)  
7:15 PM Tropic Thunder (R)

**SUNDAY**  
2:30 PM Star Wars: The Clone Wars (PG)  
4:45 PM The House Bunny (PG 13)  
7:15 PM Mirrors (R)

