

INSIDE

First-ever live town hall to air

JACK WIERS

U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — U.S. Army-Hawaii (USARHAW) Soldiers and family members will have the opportunity to ask questions on the air during the first-ever, live, televised town hall forum, here, Dec. 17.

The broadcast will air real-time on Hawaii Army Cable Network (HACN) TV2, the installation access channel. The broadcast will be hosted by Maj. Gen. Michael J. Terry, senior commander, US-ARHAW, and Col. Matthew Margotta,

commander, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, from 7-8 p.m.

The TV town hall forum will broadcast from the Visual Information (VI) studio and is designed to encourage open communication and discussion between USARHAW leadership and the local Army community.

“Our goal is to offer a new forum where our community members have an opportunity to offer questions and receive immediate feedback, both from command and subject matter experts,” said Margotta. “In the process, (we hope to) expand our ability to communicate

with each other in new but relevant ways.”

Callers will be able speak to featured panel members on the show. Panelists currently scheduled for the broadcast include Lt. Col. Richard Gledhill, commander, U.S. Army Garrison-Oahu (USAG-Oahu), who coordinates and integrates base operations support for all organizations on Oahu Army installations, and USAG-Oahu Command Sgt. Maj. Darryl Jannone.

Subject matter experts from the Army

SEE TOWN HALL, A-7

State provides DoD needed H1N1 vaccine

**TRIPLER ARMY MEDICAL CENTER
PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

News Release

HONOLULU — The State of Hawaii issued the Department of Defense 17,000 doses of the H1N1 vaccine the past two weeks.

As stated in the Joint Public Health Emergency Working Group trifold on H1N1, which was published in November, the following locations will be vaccinating DoD beneficiaries the next two weeks:

- Dec. 5, Marine Corps Exchange (MCX) at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

- Dec. 6, Hickam Base Exchange (BX), Hickam Air Force Base.

- Dec. 12, Main Post Exchange (PX), Schofield Barracks.

- Dec. 13, Navy Exchange (NEX), Pearl Harbor.

The vaccinations are for high-risk individuals, including the following people: pregnant women — especially in their second and third trimester; family members of children under 6 months of age; health care workers; children 6 months to 18 years; and adults 19 to 64 years with heart disease, kidney disease, asthma, diabetes or immuno-suppression.

Call Tripler Army Medical Center's flu hotline at 433-1FLU (433-1358).

City leaders help 2SBCT with mission

MAJ. AL RAMIREZ

2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Soldiers from the 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team (SBCT) teamed up with the City and County of Honolulu, here, Tuesday, to learn about urban infrastructure, in preparation for the brigade's scheduled 2010 deployment.

City and county municipal representatives discussed utility programs and strategies with 2nd SBCT civil military representatives and shared their knowledge of essential services.

In turn, brigade leaders are learning what many take for granted, such as clean water, sewage and solid waste maintenance strategies, in an effort to support Iraqi municipal leaders and Iraqi efforts to improve the quality of life and, as a result, further separate them from insurgent influence.

Ed Kubo, former U.S. attorney for Hawaii, and Timothy Houghton, executive assistant deputy of Environmental Services for the City and County of Honolulu, developed the program of instruction, along with members of the 2nd SBCT.

Houghton was excited to support the brigade in its upcoming mission.

“This is very different from what we normally do” he said. “Utilities provide a healthy and safe environment to improve people's lives.”

Tuesday's block of instruction was the first part of a series that includes on-site visits to municipal sites of Honolulu.

As a primer, the provided information will prepare the Soldiers for what they will see during their on-site visits.

To see photos from the visit, or other 2nd SBCT activities, visit www.flickr.com/photos/warriorbrigade2-25sbct.

Showing appreciation

Tripler recognizes wounded warriors and their families during Warrior Care Month.

A-5

Remembering Pearl Harbor

The public is invited to attend a Pearl Harbor Day commemoration ceremony, Dec. 7; seating is limited.

A-6

Holiday happenings

Community events and worship services around this holiday season.

See Community Calendar, B-2 and B-3.



Sgt. Ricardo Branch | 8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs

Outta control!

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Sgt. 1st Class Yanick Howard, platoon sergeant, 25th Transportation Company, loses control of her go kart on the “drunk goggles” course, here, and crashes into an orange cone during the 45th Sustainment Brigade safety stand down, Nov. 25. The brigade hopes its Soldiers take heed during the holidays when drunk driving incidences typically increase. See page A-4 for full story.

11-year-old to light up Palm Circle, Thursday

Radford and Farrington high schools to participate in community tradition

MIKE EGAMI

U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER — Brig. Gen. John E. Seward, deputy commanding general, U.S. Army-Pacific, will be the guest speaker at the annual “Community Holiday Concert and Tree Lighting Ceremony,” Dec. 10, 6 p.m., at Palm Circle, here.

The event promotes “neighbors help-



Brig. Gen. John Seward, deputy commanding general, U.S. Army-Pacific, and Makaliah Billings, Fort Shafter Elementary School student council president, light the Christmas tree during last year's holiday ceremony at the Hale Ikena, Fort Shafter.

ing neighbors” to foster the relationship between Soldiers, families and the local community. It will officially begin the

holiday season for the south community.

The Radford High School color guard

RELATED STORY

- See related story on Tripler's tree lighting ceremony, B-3.

SEE SHAFTER, A-7

ROBIN HIBLER

Directorate of Public Works

WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD — While lighting our homes during the holidays is a tradition no one wants to end, the cost of electricity to run these lights on U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii (USAG-HI) installations must be managed.

Col. Matthew Margotta, commander, USAG-HI, has issued guidance on holiday lighting that applies to anyone who consumes electricity on Army-Hawaii installations, which includes housing residents.

The garrison's 2009 fiscal year cost for

electricity was \$55 million, and the months with the highest energy bills were October-December.

This expensive end-of-year trend extends back several years. Regardless of other variables, the trend is a strong indicator that our increased kitchen activities and those lights that make our homes look good during the holidays are contributing to the overall electric bill.

The USAG-HI policy for holiday

RELATED STORY

- See related story on conserving resources in housing, B-4.

lighting states that decorative lights should not be turned on until the day after Thanksgiving and must be completely turned off by Jan. 15, 2010.

The policy limits the hours lights can be on from 6-10 p.m., except for Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day, when lights



Sesame Street

Round up the keiki for six shows with the Cookie Monster, left, Elmo, and the whole Sesame Street crew, beginning Dec. 9.

B-4

This issue

Commentary	A-2
Deployed Forces	A-3
News Briefs	A-5
FMWR	B-2
Sports & Fitness	B-5

Garrison policy sets standards, limits for holiday lighting on Army posts



To view the policy in its entirety, visit www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil and click on “USAG-HI Policies” on the left.

may remain on until 1 a.m.

Using a timer to ensure your lights comply with requirements is strongly encouraged, and another way to reduce your impact on energy consumption is to use LED lights, which use less energy per bulb and last longer.

Number represents fatal accidents as defined by Army Regulation 385-10, which is inclusive of all active component U.S. Army units and personnel. Current as of 6/10/00

Spc. Luis Ruiz
Transportation
Specialist
25th Transportation
Detachment,
25th Infantry
Division

Iraqi helo pilots get inside look at U.S. Army Aviation

Story and Photo by
PFC. JUSTIN A. NAYLOR
1st Cavalry Division Public Affairs

FORWARD OPERATING BASE WARRIOR, KIRKUK, Iraq – Months of training, hard work and dedication is what it took to get a group of Iraqi air force (IAF) students some training to become helicopter pilots.

In support of Iraqi helo pilots, Soldiers from the 2nd Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, invited IAF students to an open house, here, Nov. 25, to give them the opportunity to speak with U.S. Army aviators and get a close look at the helicopters U.S. Soldiers use.

The Iraqis have already completed the first part of their training and are ready and eager to continue to learn and improve upon their skills.

According to 2nd Lt. Karam Ebrahim, one of the IAF students present at the event, he has often flown over the area from which 2-6th Cav. Regt. operates during his training flights.

“We have seen the aircraft and have asked a lot of questions,” Karam said. “Now we get to see it. This answers a lot of the questions.”

During the open house, U.S. helicopter pilots provided Iraqi students a tour and showed them the inner workings of the daily operations of a U.S. Army aviation squadron.

“We are just trying to familiarize them with the helicopter operations in an actual Army unit,” said Chief Warrant Officer Steve Bridges, a Hilo native and the squadron standardization instructor pilot. “We wanted to show them the equipment we use and the aircraft we fly.”

“As an instructor, this is very good,” said Bill Harper, a Westar helicopter instructor who trains IAF students. “All the things we teach these guys are kind of abstract. This kind of makes it real.”

IAF students learned that what they are being



At forefront, Chief Warrant Officer Steve Bridges, 2nd Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, shows 2nd Lt. Karam Ebrahim, an Iraqi air force student pilot, the inner workings of a U.S. helicopter during an open house on Forward Operating Base Warrior, Kirkuk, Nov. 25.

taught in school – the language, training and techniques – are actually used by military aviation units.

During the visit, the helicopter pilots looked at two different helicopters, the Kiowa Warrior and the Black Hawk. The Iraqis saw how the aircraft are maintained and how they are refueled and rearmed.

This visit takes it from theory and shows an actual organization that is doing the same things that the IAF helicopter pilots are learning, Harper ex-

plained. The students received the opportunity to see what is in store for them, he added.

“I think it is a good chance to see what we are going to be doing later,” Karam agreed.

Once the students complete their approximately eight-month-long flight school, they will move to Taji, Iraq, to attend a more in-depth school that will focus on the particular helicopter the Iraqi pilots will eventually fly on a day-to-day basis once they are in a regular aviation unit.

Karam said the tour was a good place to meet pilots who have actual combat experience and who can share their knowledge. The visit also exposed them to new types of aircraft they wouldn't normally see.

“I like to see things that I don't know about,” Karam said. “Part of being a pilot is trying to learn more and more about different aircraft.”

“This is definitely something I would like to come back and see again,” he added.

401st Civil Affairs sees steady security progress by Iraqi police in Mosul

Story and Photo By
STAFF SGT. MELANIE TROLLINGER
130th Engineer Brigade

CONTINGENCY OPERATING SITE-MAREZ, Iraq – When members of Company D, 401st Civil Affairs (CA) Battalion, first began assessing the Zanjili neighborhood in Mosul, a longtime insurgent stronghold, the area wasn't safe to drive around in.

Months later, the Civil Affairs team, escorted by Iraqi federal police (IFP), walked the neighborhood marketplace, interacting with residents and shopkeepers, during a joint project oversight patrol.

Zanjili, one of the largest neighborhoods in western Mosul with about 30,000 residents, is steadily improving under the watchful eye of the IFP battalion responsible for security in that area.

According to 1st Lt. Glen Taylor, a team leader with Co. D, 401st CA Bn., security improvements have provided economic growth and beautification of the neighborhood, and residents are increasingly confident in the IFP's ability to take care of them.

“The federal police here understand you can win people over more with a kind word than by kicking in doors. (Zanjili) is also one of the few places in the city where the police act like the po-

lice as we know them in the U.S., instead of like Soldiers,” Taylor said.

Many of the IFP are former Iraqi army members with little or no police experience. Taylor believes the Zanjili IFP commander's understanding of the police role has contributed significantly to the increased stability of Zanjili.

Gaining the trust of local residents has been a long process. The IFP commander ensures direct access for residents to call him if they believe one of his police officers has mistreated them or done something wrong.

The IFPs have also taken an active role in cleaning up the neighborhood. Their presence is reassuring to locals who now know the police are concerned for the neighborhood's safety and prosperity.

“The IFPs in Zanjili don't just do police work,” Taylor said. “They take part in small-scale reconstruction, painting curbs, planting flowers, clearing rubble. The area looks a lot better than it did several months ago.”

Taylor, whose team is assigned to the Mosul Reconstruction Cell (MRC), 130th Engineer Brigade, said other improvements in Zanjili, aided by the MRC, have increased relations with the local community due to improved quality of life and economic growth. A recent MRC sewer project alleviated a



1st Lt. Glen Taylor, right, Company D, 401st Civil Affairs Battalion, Mosul Reconstruction Cell, 130th Engineer Brigade, talks to a shopkeeper during a project oversight patrol in the Zanjili neighborhood, Mosul, Iraq, in November.

problem of standing gray water in the busy streets. Aesthetically improving the area, the new sewer also provided a cleaner, healthier environment for residents, who said they appreciated what the Iraqi government and U.S. forces have done for them.

A sense of normalcy is returning to Zanjili's market streets, with essential items like meat, grains, fruits and vegetables for sale along with what Taylor terms “luxury items,” such as toys, shoes and colorful handbags.

At a small pharmacy, Taylor visited with the pharmacist, who said his business is doing very well. The team leader sees this as one more positive sign of economic growth in the area.

Most locals greet the U.S. forces and IFPs with friendly smiles, interacting with residents and shopkeepers in the busy marketplace. Taylor said it's difficult to gauge their sincerity, at times, but he believes residents are more comfortable with the U.S. forces and the IFP than when he first visited the neighbor-

hood in September.

“A question I don't like asking, because you never know if you're getting an honest answer, is how residents feel about seeing U.S. forces rolling through their neighborhood with federal police escorts,” Taylor said.

One shop owner, a 13-year-old boy who runs a restaurant, enthusiastically talked to Taylor. When asked how he felt about seeing U.S. forces in his neighborhood, he replied he wasn't scared or surprised to see them, and he was, in fact, happy to see them working with the IFP. He said his business is doing well because of security improvements, and he can now support his family.

“It's amazing. He runs a restaurant by himself,” Taylor said. “Even though he's so young, he's probably the man of the house. This is the kind of stuff I like to see when I go out. People doing well, their lives improving.”

With the strong IFP presence in Zanjili, and police officers providing more than security to the area, residents, weary and mistrustful at first, are showing confidence in the IFP.

The Civil Affairs team and the MRC will continue monitoring the area, recommending and aiding projects to improve the quality of life for Zanjili residents.



45th Sust. delivers timely messages to holiday-bound troops

Story and Photo by
SGT. RICARDO BRANCH
8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — In the next few weeks, thousands of Soldiers in Hawaii will begin traveling across the country to visit loved ones, open presents and spend time with friends and family during the holiday season.

This time of the year, however, routinely sees an increase in safety-related accidents and domestic incidents across the military, prompting many services to educate their troops before extended time away from the workplace.

The 45th Sustainment Brigade prepared Soldiers to be safe before the start of the holidays during the unit’s Safety Stand Down Day, Nov. 25, here. The training covered a multitude of topics, including drunk driving, domestic violence, safer sex and safety-related accidents.

The theme for the event was “tighten your shot group,” and it was the message Lt. Col. Teresa Rae, battalion commander, Special Troops Battalion, 45th Sust. Bde., expressed to all Soldiers in attendance.

“We have Soldiers in our formation who are violating many of these areas (domestic violence, drunk driving, unsafe sex) and basically (hurting) their careers in the United States Army,” she said. “If we reach just a couple of those Soldiers today,



Soldiers from the 25th Transportation Company watch on as one of their own prepares to enter the drunk goggles course during the safety stand down day, Nov. 25, at Schofield Barracks.

then we’ve gone above and beyond how we train our Soldiers to be safe.”

During the safety day, Soldiers navigated a small obstacle course to experience the effects of drunk driving, listened to tales of local Hawaiians who lost their lives from domestic violence, and learned the risks of various sexually transmitted diseases.

“We’ve noticed a trend recently of incidents, so

we want to inform the Soldiers, let them know we know what’s going on,” said Sgt. 1st Class Nathan Croteau, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 45th Sust. Bde. “They need to prepare and educate themselves before they embark on any long holiday plans.”

“Taking this time to educate ourselves is going to help a lot of Soldiers be safe over the holidays.”

— **Pvt. Javier Ruiz**
25th Transportation Company

Approximately 1,400 Soldiers learned to minimize risks and avoid common mistakes. They will embark in the next few weeks armed with the knowledge to be safe and enjoy the holiday season.

“The training has been going really well, actually,” said Pvt. Javier Ruiz, 25th Transportation Co., Special Troops Battalion, 45th Sust. Bde. “Everyone is motivated, and we’re learning a lot. Taking this time to educate ourselves is going to help a lot of Soldiers be safe over the holidays.”

HR conference benefits local warriors, equips them with ‘need-to-know’ info

SGT. MAJ. TERRY ANDERSON
8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — The operational tempo of today’s Army has affected every facet of a Soldier’s life — from awards, to pay, to educational benefits.

Human resources leaders from the 8th Theater Sustainment Command (TSC) and other units took some time out of their busy schedules to meet at the Post Conference Room, here, Nov. 23-24, to iron out standard operating procedures in order to take care of their ultimate customer, the Soldier.

“That is why we exist as human resources specialists, to take care of the men and women in our Army,” said Sgt. Maj. Tony Cespedes, 8th TSC G-1.

More than 60 human resources specialists attended the two-day conference, hosted by the 8th TSC. The attendees were briefed by the 8th TSC career counselor, Sgt. Maj. Brad McDonnell, on the specifics of the new Post 9/11 GI Bill.

Leaders from the Warrior Transition Unit also briefed Soldiers on the process for wounded warriors, and the Judge Advocate General’s office spoke at length about “line of duty” investigations.

One major change discussed at the conference was the Deployment Extension Incentive Program, or DEIP. According to a Pentagon military personnel message, DEIP is an Active Army incentive program designed to encourage enlisted Soldiers who do not intend to re-

enlist to extend their service voluntarily in order to complete a deployment with the unit to which they are currently assigned.

“(DEIP) is a great program for Soldiers who are coming up on their ETS (expiration, term of service) to extend their en-

listment so that they can voluntarily stay with their unit during a deployment,” Cespedes said. “The Soldier can make some extra money, and the unit benefits by keeping an experienced Soldier on the team.”

The U.S. Army-Pacific G-1 briefed



Sgt. Ricardo Branch | 8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs

Left — Sgt. Maj. Tony Cespedes, 8th Theater Sustainment Command G-1, briefs attendees at the two-day Human Resources Conference, Nov. 23-24, at the Schofield Barracks Post Conference Room.

conference attendees on the approval process for personnel actions. Cespedes said that his goal for the conference was to speed up the personnel actions process and set one standard across all 8th TSC units.

“Some Soldiers were leaving our command without awards because of simple things like misspellings on award recommendation forms,” he said. “This conference literally got all of us on the same page.”

Warriors in transition gather for some recognition, appreciation

Story and Photo By
LES OZAWA

Tripler Army Medical Center Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — It wasn't the usual place of duty but Porter Community Center was the place to be on the morning of Nov. 25.

About 250 Soldiers with Tripler's Warrior Transition Battalion (WTB) lined up for accountability formation in T-shirts and tennis shoes.

The day was set aside for the battalion's quarterly Warrior Appreciation Day, allowing WTB Soldiers the chance to share a day of fun and friendship with their battalion buddies and their spouses and children.

Unlike other Army units, WTB Soldiers have few opportunities to be together, because of their individualized medical treatment and therapy schedules.

"We always include families in these events," said Lt. Col. David Weisberg, commander, WTB, about the quarterly appreciation day. "They are a critical piece to our warriors' transition, whether they return to regular Army units or transition to civilian life."

Warrior Appreciation Day had a special flavor this time.

"When the guys heard that Hooters restaurant was catering the event for the USO, a lot more were interested," said Staff Sgt. Peter Go, platoon sergeant, WTB.



Recent awardees of the Purple Heart, Sgt. Justin Minisal, left, and Spc. Peter Bland, both of the Warrior Transition Battalion (WTB), are recognized at the WTB's Warrior Appreciation Day, Nov. 25.

The dozens of children attending were more anxious, however, to climb into the bouncy houses and ride the waterslide, as well as enjoy organized family games.

Highlights for the day included a WTB Idol karaoke singing contest and a pie-in-the face contest, for the more popular Soldiers.

Others may be assigned to a WTU located on the installation of the parent unit. Reserve Component Soldiers will normally be assigned to a community-based WTU (CBWTU) or to a WTU nearest their hometown, if the local health facility can accommodate the Soldier's needs.

What is the Warrior Transition Command?

The Warrior Transition Command (WTC) is a new 1-star command under U.S. Army Medical Command that serves as the organizational focal point for the Army's Warrior Care and Transition Program.

The WTC provides policy oversight to the Army's WTUs and coordinates the many programs and initiatives that benefit wounded, ill and injured Soldiers and their families.

The WTC consolidated three offices/agencies previously involved in Army warrior care: the Warrior Transition Office (WTO), previously under MEDCOM; the Army Wounded Warrior Program (AW2), previously under Human Resources Command; and the Warrior Care and Transition Office (WCTO) previously under the Office of the Chief of Staff, Army.



Jan Clark | Tripler Army Medical Center Public Affairs

Handing out thanks

HONOLULU — Brig. Gen. Steve Jones, commander, Tripler Army Medical Center, stops by for a visit and to deliver a Thanksgiving basket to Rufus Escobedo, son of Tammy Kovach and Sgt. Jonathon Kovach, 728th Military Police Battalion.

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, Jones and his three deputies — Col. Michael Kiefer, chief of staff; Col. Theresa Sullivan, deputy commander, nursing; and Capt. David Lane, deputy commander, clinical services — along with Command Sgt. Maj. Tuileama Nua and Nutrition Care Division staff, handed out goodie baskets to patients, Nov. 26.

News Briefs

Send news announcements for Soldiers and civilian employees to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

4 / Today

HECO Gate Closure — The HECO Gate, which is located near Wheeler Middle School and exits onto Kunia Road, is closed until further notice. Open during peak traffic hours to assist with traffic flow, the gate's use is not needed during the 25th Combat Aviation Brigade's deployment. Call 656-6751.

8 / Tuesday

Civilian Orientation — The next Orientation for New Employees (ONE) is Dec. 8, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Priority seating is provided to new employees. Current employees may attend ONE on a space-available basis. Call 655-5600 for more information.

11 / Friday

ASAP Brief — The Army Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) will hold a presentation on drinking and driving, Dec. 11, 10-11:30 a.m., at the Sgt. Smith Theater, Schofield Barracks.

This workshop satisfies two of the four hours of a unit's annual alcohol and drug awareness training and the Department of the Army civilian two-hour requirement. Soldiers can call Tracy Powell at 655-8322, and civilians can call Catherine Heflin at 656-8322 for more details.

14 / Monday

Fort Shafter Construction — Construction on Funston Road, Fort Shafter, Dec. 14-Jan. 1, 2010, will cause changes in traffic flow affecting military personnel and visitors.

All inbound and outbound lanes at Buckner Gate will be redirected through the Military Police (MP) Station parking lot. All visitors and trucks will be redirected through Patton Gate, lo-

SEE NEWS BRIEFS, A-6

Public invited to Pearl Harbor Day remembrance ceremony

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE News Release

PEARL HARBOR — The National Park Service and the U. S. Navy will host a joint memorial ceremony commemorating the 68th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, on board Naval Station Pearl Harbor's Kilo Pier from 7:40- 9:30 a.m.

The theme of the program is "But Not in Shame: The Aftermath of Pearl Harbor." The Kilo Pier venue looks directly out to the USS Arizona Memorial, situated in Pearl Harbor approximately half a mile away.

More than 2,000 distinguished guests and the general public will join military personnel, both active duty and retired, and Pearl Harbor survivors, for the annual observance of the 1941 attack.

The theme of this year's historic commemoration remembers the brave efforts of those who continued the battle that expanded throughout the Pacific after the devastation at Pearl Harbor.

The Pacific War, itself, was fought on a gigantic stage that covered nearly half of the Earth and would last for 44 months. Battles were fought on sea and land, and the loss of ships, aircraft and men was unparalleled in the history of the Pacific.

For military who serve today, and the public, this ceremony provides a study of lessons learned and an opportunity to express gratitude to Pearl Harbor and Pacific War veterans for their sacrifices and perseverance towards victory.

Dr. Allan Millett, director, Eisenhower Center at the University of New Orleans, will serve as the



Kayla Overton | U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs

The National Park Service will host a joint memorial ceremony commemorating the 68th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, on board Naval Station Pearl Harbor's Kilo Pier. The ceremony is free and open to the public.

keynote speaker for the commemoration. A retired colonel of the Marine Corps Reserve, Millett is a specialist in the history of American military policy and 20th century wars and military institutions. He is also one of the founders of the internationally renowned military history program at Ohio State University.

Highlights of the ceremony will include music by the U.S. Pacific Fleet Band, morning colors, a Hawaiian blessing, a rifle salute by members of the

U.S. Marine Corps, wreath presentations, echo taps and recognition of the men and women who survived the attacks Dec. 7, 1941, and those who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

At 7:55 a.m., the exact moment the Japanese attack began 68 years ago, a moment of silence will be observed. The USS Lake Erie (CG 70) will render honors to the USS Arizona. Military aircraft will fly over the memorial in a "missing man" formation.

The commemoration is free of charge, and the



For more information about the Pearl Harbor Day 68th Anniversary Commemoration Ceremony, call the National Park Service at 422-2771, ext. 119 or visit their Web site at www.nps.gov/valr.

Contact the Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs Office at 473-2920.

public is invited to attend. Active duty personnel, civilians with valid military ID, and invited guests with invitations are allowed access on base in their vehicles.

Due to strict security measures on Naval Station Pearl Harbor, general public wishing to attend the commemoration will be required to board Navy boats departing from the USS Arizona Memorial Visitor Center, which will transport guests to the commemoration site at Kilo Pier.

Seats for the general public are limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. The first boat will depart from the visitor center at 6:20 a.m., and the last boat will depart at 7 a.m. The visitor center will open at 5:30 a.m.

Personal cameras may be used at the ceremony, but no camera bags, purses, handbags and/or other items that provide concealment are allowed.

News Briefs

From A-5

ated 100 feet from Buckner Gate, which will be open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Hours for other gates remain unchanged and can be viewed online at www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil/sites/traffic/gatehours.asp.

traffic/gatehours.asp.

Motorists are asked to set aside additional travel time in light of expect traffic congestion during construction. Call 656-6751/6750 for more details.

15 / Tuesday

CFC 2009 Extended — The 2009 Hawaii-Pacific Area Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) has been extended through Dec. 15. The CFC is the world's largest and most successful annual workplace charity campaign, which raises millions of dollars to support nonprof-

it organizations throughout the world.

Visit www.cfc-hawaii.org, or contact your unit representative to learn more.

17 / Thursday

Motorcycle Training — U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii and the California Superbike School will host four sessions of the advanced motorcycle course, "Train as you Ride," for military personal only, Dec. 17-20, at Wheeler Army Airfield. Classes are limited to 30 riders per

session. Priority will be provided to Soldiers who have just returned from deployment.

Classes are scheduled 7:30-11:30 a.m. and noon-4 p.m. Students must sign up using an online tool at <https://airs.lmi.org>. Select "Pacific," "Hawaii," then "Advanced Motorcycle Course."

Contact the Installation Safety Office for more information at 655-6746/6655. Future sessions are planned for February, May and August 2010.

Ongoing

Dental Appointments — Due to redeployment activities, routine dental appointments at all U.S. Army Dental Activity clinics at Tripler Army Medical Center and Schofield Barracks are limited through Dec. 18.

For more information contact Sue Mendez-Johnson, 433-9200.

Shafter: The tradition began back in mid-‘90s

CONTINUED FROM A-1

will present colors, and the Farrington High School Concert Band will provide holiday cheer and lead the singing of Christmas carols.

A significant part of this holiday event is the award presentation for the top three winners of the Holiday Card Lane contest. The annual competition between organizations residing on the installation promotes unity and challenges the design creativity of each organization.

The 4' x 8' plywood cards are displayed along Chapel Field across from Richardson Theatre. Each entry is judged on craftsmanship, artistic qualities, expressiveness of the message and overall appearance.

"The annual 'Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony and Concert and Holiday Card Lane' are annual events that began in the mid-1990s," said Mark Young, director, U.S. Army Garrison-Oahu South community. "This tradition provides our community with a wonderful opportunity to usher in the holiday season to our installations."

Each year, a distinguished guest is chosen to be the holiday tree lighter. This year, 11 year-old Kyle Michael Bender, son of retired Lt. Col. Michael Bender and retired Lt. Col. Christina Voisiniet Bender, is the tree lighter. Kyle is a sixth-grade student at Shafter Elementary School, and he is the current student body president.

With a push of a giant candy cane lever, Kyle will light up the tree and officially begin the holiday season.

The arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus follows the tree lighting and caroling. After parading Palm Circle, Santa will then settle in under its gazebo lights to greet children and take photos.

Event parking will be available; however, no pets, except service animals, are authorized.

In the event of a rain out, the event will relocate to the Hale Ikena Conference Center.

COE: Hawaiian Dept. engineer units served

CONTINUED FROM A-2

though none were operational Dec. 7, 1941.

The transfer of Army Air Corps construction from the Quartermaster's Department to the Corps in early 1941 also increased Wyman's responsibilities. His district took over enlarging eight airfields and building two new ones and began work on a gasoline and bomb storage site at Hickam Field.

In October 1941, Wyman began his most important project — building an air ferry route across the South Pacific to Australia. By December, airfields were being built on Christmas and Canton islands, in Fiji, and on New Caledonia.

In addition to defense work, Wyman remained responsible for civil works projects such as dredging Honolulu Harbor.

No district team members or engineers were killed when the Japanese struck without warning, but there were close calls.

Paul Lynch, the area engineer in charge of construction at Bellows Field, watched with horror as Japanese planes strafed the field, destroying most of the P-40 Warhawk fighter planes. Lynch directed dispersal of his equipment, and because of his efforts, none were lost.

1st Lt. Harvey Fraser was at Schofield Barracks that morning preparing to leave the next day, Dec. 8. Reassigned to the mainland, he had recently turned over Company A, 3rd Engineers, to his successor.

One of the first bomb blasts blew out



Lyman



Courtesy Photo

Wheeler Army Airfield experiences destruction and lives are lost during the attack on Dec. 7, 1941. Some believe that ghosts of Soldiers killed during the attack still roam the Army installation.



Photo Courtesy of the U.S. Army Military History Institute

The above photo shows a scene shortly after the bombing of Hawaii by Japanese forces on Dec. 7, 1941. The impromptu machine gun nest was built in a bomb crater and reinforced with salvaged aircraft motors.

a window of Fraser's house, and he ran to get his pistol to shoot at the low-flying planes. He forgot he had already turned in his weapon.

Fraser hurried to Schofield Barracks where the battalion commander gave him back Company A. He found his

men in the street shooting at attacking planes.

Fraser told the supply sergeant to give weapons to anyone who asked and to tell them to shoot at the Japanese planes. Later, Fraser almost had to pay for the weapons, because in the haste to

go to war, no one had asked for, or given out, receipts.

That afternoon, the 804th Engineers began salvage preparations at Wheeler Field. The 3rd Engineers moved with the 24th Division to the North Shore to defend against the expected Japanese invasion, which never came.

As eventful as Dec. 7, 1941, was, it was but the first of many days of war for the engineers in Hawaii.

Honolulu District completed the ferry route in January 1942, and it built more airfields, port and base facilities for the war.

All Hawaiian Department engineer units served in the war. The 34th Engineers served in the Central Pacific and landed on Kwajalein. The 804th Engineers, also in the Central Pacific, saw action at Saipan.

The 3rd and 64th Engineers went to the Southwest Pacific and fought and built their way through the Solomons, New Guinea and the Philippines.

Town Hall: First live call-in broadcast airs, Dec. 17

CONTINUED FROM A-1

medical and housing communities will also be available for questions.

The inaugural live program will offer two half-hour feature segments devoted to health care and housing-related

issues. Though highlighted by a primary topic, the open forum will allow introduction of a wider range of issues.

Community members can participate immediately by posting their questions via the "Ask the Commander" program.

All questions will be gathered and

answered by a subject matter expert, even if the inquiries are not featured during the scheduled live forum.

"We want to seize this chance to tap the tremendous potential social media has in this process and utilize both our Web site and Twitter to gather questions

and comments," Margotta added.

The live town hall will be rebroadcast throughout December and January on TV2. Submit questions now at www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil (click on the "Ask The Commander" link on the left) or at www.twitter.com/usaghi.

Veterans make smooth transition, provide wealth of experience

Former service members relish their roles as civil servants at U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii

BILL MOSSMAN
Staff Writer

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Like the old adage, “You can take the boy out of the country, but you can’t take the country out of the boy,” many veterans have found it near impossible to truly leave military service following retirement.

Man or woman, these members of the armed forces, many of them former active duty Soldiers now working, here, at the Soldier Support Center, have continued fighting the good fight as civilians, determined to give back to the Army in one way or another.

At the heart of the matter is one simple and undeniable fact: They love to serve those who serve their country.

The Hawaii Army Weekly recently caught up with four such veterans, who continue to make a difference in the lives of Soldiers and their families here in Hawaii.

Geismar: “We still care”

Six years after retiring as an infantryman, Matthew Geismar still finds himself completely dedicated to the service he so dearly loves.

Working for the Transition Office of the U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii’s (USAG-HI) Directorate of Human Resources (DHR), Geismar is a key member of a team that assists Soldiers and their families through the process of post-deployment life or completion of their enlistments.

“Some Soldiers have been involuntarily extended by the Army and haven’t seen their loved ones in over a year,” he said. “I work with them to transition back as quickly as possible, and to know that although they are leaving the Army, we still care.”

While serving on active duty, Geismar also did a tour as a recruiter, convincing many potential recruits of the reasons they ought to join the Army. In contrast, working in the Transition Office affords him the chance to prepare Soldiers to return to civilian life. He takes the time to help them administratively, as well as provides them with a listening ear when the challenges of non-active duty life begin.

“Someone took the time to assist me when I transitioned out of the Army, and I know exactly how these Soldiers feel,” Geismar explained.

He is proud of the fact that he works with a team whose goal is to expeditiously and reliably complete all transition transactions so that the Soldier experiences no unnecessary delays.



Geismar



Haglung



Love



Young

“Someone is counting on us every day,” said Geismar, who works with a team that offers its customers over 140 years of combined experience. “So even when the workload is heavy, we take care of our Soldiers, with no excuses.”

Love: “Love-ing every minute of it”

If there’s anyone who simply adores her job, it’s the woman with the appropriate surname.

As a personnel specialist in the U.S. Army for four years, Kimberly Rose Love once handled every personnel action pertinent to the active duty Soldier.

Today, she serves as a human resource technician for USAG-HI, bringing necessary insight to a job that helps her in relating to Soldiers, their families and their unique set of needs.

“My experience in the Army helps me every day because I am familiar with the regulations and the systems that relate to my job in DA (Department of the Army) boards,” said Love, whose duties include holding a position with the Military Occupational Specialty (MOS)/Medical Retention Board.

Because she is a veteran as well as a military spouse, Love is also sensitive to the needs of spouses, who sometimes have questions about the medical retention board process. Therefore, handling those type of questions with great care is of utmost importance to her.

“I try to educate spouses on the process and procedures of the medical retention board because they may have incorrect expectations or simply may be nervous about what their spouse is going through,” explained Love, a native of Abbeville, La.

She says that her greatest reward is receiving a thank you from a customer.

“I realize that I have been a part of that Soldier’s life during the medical boarding process. Helping them to get through the process smoothly and comfortably is very rewarding,” she said.

Young: “I’ve been where they’ve been”

It was less than a year after retiring from the Army that Andrew Young, a human resources noncommissioned officer, found himself working in a similar capacity, here, with DHR at Schofield Barracks.

“I couldn’t just stay at home after serving in the Army for all those years,” Young explained. “I like the fact that I can relate to the men and women I serve because I was once in their shoes. That helps me in my job, because Soldiers know that I’ve been where they’ve been.”

Young took his 20 years of experience working in various S-1, or personnel, offices throughout the Army and easily transitioned into his current position as human resource technician in the DA Boards section. Now, he helps Soldiers desiring to go from the enlisted corps to the officer corps.

He also works with Soldiers to ensure that their records are current for promotions and helps conduct briefings and processing of those who have gone AWOL.

In all that he does, Young constantly encourages service members to improve their individual situations.

“I let Soldiers know what programs are available to them to better their careers. For example, some Soldiers don’t realize that if they are fluent in certain foreign languages that they can receive extra pay for maintaining fluency,” explained Young, who hails from Columbus, Miss. “I want them to plan for their futures and take advantage of the opportunities that the Army has for them.”

As for the most rewarding aspect of Young’s job, it comes in knowing that he plays a part in a Soldier’s success.

“I like to see a Soldier accomplish their goal. I walk them through the process and, when they finish, the smile on their face and a ‘thank you’ mean a lot to me,” he said.

Haglung: Former Marine soldiers on

From Richard Haglund’s point of view, 30 years of service in the U.S. Marine Corps helped prepare him for a life dedicated to the assistance of today’s Soldiers.

“Serving Soldiers is much like serving Marines because many of the administrative procedures are the same. I’ve always believed in treating all people with respect and just doing the right thing no matter who I’m serving,” said Haglund, a retired master gunnery sergeant.

In his current position as Mobilization Plans and Operations technician for USAG-HI, Haglund coordinates with different agencies in order to prepare and serve those Soldiers who are either heading out or returning from deployment.

Questions regarding administrative, legal, medical and transition matters are all dealt with promptly by Haglund and other members of his team, who operate out of Conroy Bowl.

“We have a great team who works together. Even when faced with taking on additional responsibilities, we assembled a group and worked overtime to serve the Soldiers. My experience as a Marine prepared me to take on responsibilities and do whatever it took to complete the mission,” he said.

Haglund feels privileged to have the opportunity to continue to serve his country, even though he is no longer in uniform.

“I wake up every day and look forward to helping Soldiers. I know we have an important mission. I enjoy customer service, and I am thankful that I can give back to our great country.

“I hope people walk away feeling that we provided the best possible service expeditiously, but also with most care and concern for their unique situation,” he added.

(Editor’s Note: Shahnaaz Mason contributed to this article. See next week’s Hawaii Army Weekly for more veterans profiles.)





Eight youth perform show-stopping numbers during the Army Community Theatre's production of "High School Musical 2" at Richardson Theatre, Fort Shafter. The young actors participated in the production as a part of a Furlough Fridays activity offered through U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii's "Excel, Develop, Grow and Experience" (EDGE) program.



Army youths act out on Furlough Fridays

LORAN DOANE

U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER — Eight Army children are performing onstage, here, at Richardson Theatre, Dec. 4, 5, 11 and 12, in the Broadway musical "High School Musical 2."

"We are so pleased that these kids have chosen to participate in one of the Army's few remaining community theaters," said Vanita Smith, manager, Richardson Theatre. "For some, it is their first time stepping on a stage, but most of our young performers have quite a bit of stage experience in a variety of forms."

The aspiring stars found their opportunity to shine in the Army's "Excel, Develop, Grow and Experience" (EDGE) program, which offers out-of-school opportunities for children and youths to participate in cutting-edge art, fitness, life skills and adventure activities.

"The program offers positive educational alternatives to children and their parents who find themselves adversely affected by the Furlough Fridays dilemma," said Kristine Yasuda, partnership specialist for Child, Youth and School Services (CYSS); Family

and Morale, Welfare and Recreation. "We are able to expose the kids to new opportunities and ideas that may otherwise not be a part of their current school curriculum."

Mililani High School freshman Jalen Thomas makes his Fort Shafter acting debut as Chad Danforth, a main character played by actor Corbin Bleu in the movie version. For the past nine years, Jalen has performed in various choirs and talent shows, and most recently, he won the Randolph Air Force Base "Family and Teen Talent Show" in 2007.

"He has a God-given talent, and we have just watched it grow," Smith said. "Jalen's performance is a real pleasure to watch."

Bryanna Salaz, a Moanalua Middle School student, believes her acting is becoming a family event and serves as an opportunity to do something constructive with time that would otherwise be idle.

"I really enjoy singing and dancing, and I was thrilled for the opportunity to perform for the first time onstage in a theater production," Bryanna said. "My mom, dad, sister and brother are very supportive, and my mom always makes sure (my makeup is ap-

On The WEB

To find out more about future Richardson Theatre productions and show-times, log onto www.armytheatre.com.

Parents of youth interested in the Army's EDGE program should call CYSS at 656-0095 or visit www.mwrarmyhawaii.com.

plied correctly). My sister does a great job with my hair, and my brother even role plays characters to help me learn my parts."

The show's youngest performer is Wheeler Middle School seventh grader Leilani Gutierrez, who has been participating in talent shows and dance competitions since second grade.

For the eight performing artists, the EDGE program has provided an avenue in which they can explore and build their love of theater. As a result, some of the students have now expanded their interests, taking guitar and piano lessons.

"These kids have put a lot of hard work

and effort into preparing for this musical," Smith said. "They have taken something negative, such as Furlough Fridays, and turned it into something positive that the rest of the community can share. That's what makes these kids stand out."

Smith urges patrons to come not only for the show, but also to relive a part of Hawaii's rich and colorful history.

Richardson Theatre, built in 1948, is on the National Historic Registry and is considered a celebrated treasure. It still maintains the original pink, art-deco-style facade, and its elegant interior was recently renovated, restoring the building to its former splendor.

During the peak of the Vietnam War, Schofield Barracks and Fort Shafter were regularly treated to high-profile performances by Hollywood greats such as Bob Hope, Sammy Davis Jr., and Ike and Tina Turner.

The "High School Musical 2" performances are open to the public. The doors to Richardson Theatre open at 7 p.m. and performances begin at 7:30 p.m. Theatergoers may obtain tickets by contacting the box office at 438-4480. Ticket prices start at \$15 for adults, and \$12 for children.

SKIES Unlimited offers babysitting certification course for teens

SCHOOL SUPPORT SERVICES

News Release

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Family members between the ages of 11 years 9 months and 18 looking for part-time work, should check out the free babysitting course offered by SKIES Unlimited (the School of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration & Skills) and Child, Youth and School Services (CYSS).

Officially known as "CYSitters," the two-day course is designed to familiarize teens with the responsibilities of babysitting and also teach skills and techniques needed for sitters to be-



come competent and caring.

Students will learn safety, discipline skills, nutrition and entertainment ideas, in addition to the business of babysitting and how to manage their new part-time job.

The first day of the course, held Fri-

day evenings, is a five-hour classroom session where students learn babysitting basics from a curriculum developed by National 4-H and Army CYSS.

During the second day of class, held Saturdays, students spend a full day learning CPR and first aid from certified Red Cross instructors. Students receive training materials, a certificate of completion, a wallet-sized babysitting course card, and they are placed on the garrisonwide babysitting referral list.

Parents choosing a babysitter from the referral list can feel comfortable

knowing that their babysitters are adequately trained.

Garrison policy requires that all youths 12 years old and older must pass a certified babysitting course to watch their siblings. It also requires all youths 13 years old and older to pass a CPR/first aid class to babysit non-family members. The two-day SKIES babysitting course meets all of the garrison's requirements.

Parents can register their children for the class at either the Schofield Barracks or the Aliamanu Military Reservation (AMR) CYSS registration office. Call 655-5314 for Schofield or 833-

On The WEB

Schedule and registration information can be found at www.mwrarmyhawaii.com.

A copy of all Garrison policies are available at www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil.

5393 for AMR. Classes are held throughout the year at both Schofield Barracks and AMR classrooms.



4 / Today

High School Musical 2 – Army Community Theatre presents the smash musical hit “High School Musical 2” at Richardson Theatre, Fort Shafter, tonight and Dec. 5, at 7:30 p.m.
Additional performances are scheduled Dec. 11 and 12, at 7:30 p.m., each evening. Tickets cost \$12-\$20, and they are available at www.armytheatre.com. Call 438-4480. *(See related story on page B-1.)*

7 / Monday

Positive Psychology – Army Community Service will offer a new course throughout December. Learn the art of optimism and positive psychology to build resiliency and reduce stress. Upcoming class dates include the following:
•Dec. 7, 16, 23, 29; noon-1 p.m., Kalakaua Community Center, Schofield Barracks.
•Dec. 8, 15; noon-1 p.m., Aliamanu Military Reservation Community Center.
•Dec. 10, 17, 21, 30; 1:30-2:30 p.m., ACS Classroom (Building 2091), Schofield Barracks. To register, call 655-1670.

Newborn Care I – How come babies don’t come with instruction manuals? Taking care of a newborn for the first time can be scary. From holding, to diapering, to bathing, come learn the basics of newborn care to make the early month special for parents and baby, Dec. 7, 9-11 a.m., at Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks. Call 655-4227.

8 / Tuesday

Christmas Card Making & Rubber Stamping – Learn new techniques with stamps, inks and more, and make your very own holiday cards, Dec. 8, 6-8 p.m., at the Schofield Barracks Arts and Crafts Center. Just \$10 covers the class and all supplies. Call 655-4202.

Special Edition Walk off the Wait: Spouses and the City – Blue Star Card (BSC) holders are invited to a special edition of “Walk off the Wait” at the “Spouses in the City” event, Dec. 8, at Ala Moana Shopping Center.
During the event, BSC members can shop without the hassle of parking. Transportation is available and will leave from the Schofield Barracks Bowling Center at 8:30 a.m. The group will leave Ala Moana Shopping Center at 2 p.m.
For more information or to reserve a space, call 655-0002 or e-mail sarah.chadwick@us.army.mil.

community calendar

Send announcements to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

4 / Today

Overseas Mailing Deadlines – U.S. Postal Service officials recommend first-class and priority mail for service members stationed in Afghanistan should be sent by today to arrive for Christmas.
For general guidelines on sending mail to service members overseas, visit www.usps.com/supportingourtroops/.
Express mail cannot be used to mail packages to Afghanistan; however, priority mail is available. Priority mail packaging products can be obtained free at any post office, or online at <http://shop.usps.com>.
To order free military care kits by phone, call 1-800-610-8734. Each kit includes two “America Supports You” large priority mail flat-rate boxes, four medium-sized priority mail flat-rate boxes, six priority mail labels, a roll of priority mail tape and six customs forms with envelopes.

World War II Film/Tour – Historian Steve Fredrick will host a two-part historical program on World War II with vintage movies and a historic tour, today and Dec. 6.
The film “Hawaii During World War II: The Movies and Music of the 1940s” will be shown, today, 7 p.m., at the VIP Screening Room in Hawaii Kai. The cost is \$10.
A walking tour will be held Dec. 5, 1 p.m., starting from the Fort Street Mall. Cost is \$20. Reservations are required for both events and can be made online at www.stevestoursandfilms.vpweb.com or by e-mailing filmguy54@hotmail.com.

7 / Monday

Pearl Harbor Commemoration Ceremony – The National Park Service and the U. S. Navy will host a joint memori-



Photo Courtesy of the 205th Military Intelligence Battalion

River clean-up

KALIHI — Lt. Col. Timothy Parker, left, commander, 205th Military Intelligence (MI) Battalion, and Staff Sgt. Daniel Williams, 205th MI Bn., work together to move debris from Kamanai stream, a tributary to Kalihi stream, here, in late November. Twenty Soldiers from the 205th MI Bn. partnered with the community group Kalihi Ahupuaa Ulu Pono Ahahui (KAUPA) to clean up debris from the area. Soldiers removed several hundred pounds of illegally dumped trash in just a few hours.

9 / Wednesday

Holiday Food Vouchers – The Army Community Service Financial Readiness Program has begun receiving nominations for families in need of holiday food vouchers. Eligibility and forms are available on the ACS Financial Management Web site, www.mwrarmyhawaii.com.
The deadline to nominate a family is Dec. 9. For information regarding the program, call 655-4227.

Homemade Holidays – Make and take your own mini gift boxes Dec. 9, 2-4:30 p.m., at Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks. The library will provide all supplies. Call the library for mandatory preregistration. Call 655-8002.

Autism Support Group – The next Autism Support Group meeting is scheduled Dec. 9, 5:30-8 p.m., at the Main Post Chapel, Schofield Barracks.
The support group provides families with an opportunity to share experiences, gather new information and become knowledgeable about community resources.
Dinner begins at 5:30 p.m. On-site child care will be available. Children must be registered to use this service, and sign up is required. Call 655-1551/4791.

11 / Friday

Hawaiian Luau at PARC – Experience old Hawaii at the Piliiau Army Recreation Center (PARC) luau, Dec. 11, 6 p.m., on the Sunset Café lanai.
Blue Star Card holders receive a 10-percent discount. Parties of four or more should call to reserve seating at 696-4778.

12 / Saturday

USO Presents: Sesame Street Live – Military families are invited to enjoy furry, fuzzy fun with the muppets during two performances of “Sesame Street Live,” Dec. 12, at Martinez Physical Fitness Center, Schofield Barracks.
Shows begin at 3 and 5:30 p.m. Games, crafts and children’s activities will be available between shows. Call 655-0112/6. *(For more information, see related story on page B-4.)*

Newcomers ACS Island Tour – Are you new to the island? Check out the free newcomers island tour. The next tours are scheduled to depart, Dec. 12 and 26, at 8 a.m., from Schofield Barracks Army Community Service (ACS), or from Fort Shafter Flats ACS, Dec. 17, 8 a.m.
Call 655-4227 or 438-4499 to get on board the next trip.

Graham Cracker Candy House Workshop – Bring the kids to make your own edible candy Christmas house, Dec. 12, 10 a.m.-noon, at the Schofield Barracks Arts and Crafts Center.
Cost is \$10 and participants will walk away with a fun treat and holiday memories. Call 655-4202.

17 / Thursday

Texas Hold Em Poker Tournament – The next Texas Hold ‘Em tournament takes place, Dec. 17, 6-9:30 p.m., at the Tropics, Schofield Barracks.
Card players can test their skills against the best-of-the-best poker players on post. All ID cardholders 18 and older are welcome. Call 655-5698 for more information.

18 / Friday

Big R: Countdown to Redeployment – Blue Star Card (BSC) holders can satisfy their sweet tooth this holiday season, with a BSC cookie exchange, Dec. 18, 6-8 p.m., at the Nehelani.
Participants should bring 2-3 dozen of their favorite cookies or treats to share with everyone. Participants will also enjoy a special BSC edition of the game “Pictionary” with a festive twist. Light pupus and child care will be provided.
To register for this event, call 655-0002 or e-mail sarah.chadwick@us.army.mil by Dec. 15. Submit your cookie recipe when you R.S.V.P.

Waikiki Party Bus – Let Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation be your own personal chauffeur to Waikiki on payday Fridays. The free party bus runs again, Dec. 18, 9 p.m.-4 a.m., and Dec. 31, for New Year’s Eve.
The bus is free, but tickets are required to reserve your seat. Pick-ups are available at both Schofield Barracks and Fort Shafter. Call 655-9971 or 438-1985.

Ongoing

Fort Shafter Library Closure – The Fort Shafter Library will be temporarily closed for remodeling now through Feb. 26, 2010. When reopened, the new energy-efficient library will have new windows, central air conditioning, energy-efficient lights and remodeled bathrooms.
Library activities previously advertised during this time period have been cancelled. Call 655-8000.



The Religious Support Office will offer the following holiday services:

Aliamanu Military Reservation (AMR) Chapel Dec. 8	6:30 p.m., Holy Day Of Obligation (Catholic)	Dec. 9	5:30 p.m., Family Night (Last scheduled for 2009.)
		Dec. 15	9 a.m., PWOC (Last scheduled for 2009.)
Dec. 10	6:30-8 p.m., Advent Parish Reconciliation (Catholic)	Dec. 16	6:30 p.m., Christmas Caroling
		Dec. 24	4:30 p.m., Children’s Christmas Mass
Dec. 21	11:15 p.m., Christmas Luncheon	Dec. 24	6:30 p.m., Candlelight Service and Cantata
Dec. 21	12:15 p.m., Christmas Program	Dec. 25	10:30 a.m., Christmas Mass
Dec. 24	4:30 p.m., Keiki Christmas Mass	Dec. 31	10 p.m., Watch Night Service
Dec. 25	10:30 a.m., Christmas Day Mass (Catholic)	Jan. 1	10:30 a.m., Mary, Mother of God Mass (Catholic)
Jan. 1	10:30 a.m., Mary, Mother of God Mass (Catholic)		

Fort DeRussy Chapel <i>(near the Hale Koa Hotel, Waikiki)</i>	
Dec. 24	5:30 p.m., Christmas Eve Service
Dec. 24	9 p.m., Christmas Eve Mass (Catholic)
Fort Shafter Religious Activity Center <i>(Building 344)</i>	
Dec. 24	6 p.m., Christmas Eve Service

Helemano Military Reservation (HMR) Chapel	
Dec. 21	6:30 p.m., Christmas Cantata
Main Post Chapel (Schofield Barracks)	
Dec. 8	11:45-12:30 p.m., Holy Day Of Obligation (Catholic)

Tripler Army Medical Center (TAMC) Chapel	
Dec. 8	7 a.m. and noon, Holy Day Of Obligation (Catholic)
Dec. 24	5 p.m., Christmas Eve Mass (Catholic)
Dec. 24	7 p.m., Candlelight Service
Dec. 25	11 a.m., Christmas Day Mass (Catholic)
Jan. 1	11 a.m., Mary, Mother of God Mass (Catholic)
Wheeler Chapel (Wheeler Army Airfield)	
Dec. 8	6 p.m., Holy Day Of Obligation (Catholic)
Dec. 14	6:30-8 p.m., Advent Parish Reconciliation (Catholic)
Dec. 24	9 p.m., Christmas Vigil Mass

Call the Religious Support Office (655-9355), AMR Chapel (836-4599) or TAMC Chapel (433-5727) for more information.



al ceremony commemorating the 68th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, on board Naval Station Pearl Harbor’s Kilo Pier from 7:40-9:30 a.m. The commemoration is free of charge, and the public is invited to attend.

For more information, call the National Park Service at 422-2771, ext. 119, or visit its Web site at www.nps.gov/valr; or contact the Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs Office at 473-2920. *(See details on page A-6.)*

8 / Tuesday

Money Harmony – When money problems get out of control so can the re-

lationship. A financial course for couples will be conducted Dec. 8, 10 a.m., at Kalakaua Community Center.

This “Money Harmony” course is designed to help resolve money conflict in life and relationships. To reserve a seat or for more information, contact family readiness support assistant M. Aloha Valverde at 655-1823 or e-mail her at marie.valverde@us.army.mil.

18 / Friday

Live Televised Town Hall – U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii community members will have the opportunity to ask questions live and on the air during the first-ever tele-

vised town hall forum hosted by Maj. Gen. Michael J. Terry, senior commander, U.S. Army-Hawaii, and Col. Matthew Margotta, commander, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, Dec. 17, 7-8 p.m.

Panel members currently scheduled for the broadcast include; Lt. Col. Richard Gledhill, commander, U.S. Army Garrison-Oahu (USAG-Oahu), and USAG-Oahu Command Sgt. Maj. Darryl Jannone, along with subject matter experts from the Army’s medical and housing communities. Submit questions now at www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil (click on the “Ask The Commander” link on the left) or at www.twitter.com/usaghi.



Additional religious services, children’s programs, educational services and contact information can be found at www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil. (Click on “Religious Support Office” under the “Directorates and Support Staff” menu).

AMR:	Aliamanu Chapel
FD:	Fort DeRussy Chapel
FS:	Fort Shafter Chapel
HMR:	Helemano Chapel
MPC:	Main Post Chapel, Schofield Barracks
PH:	Aloha Jewish Chapel, Pearl Harbor
TAMC:	Tripler Army Medical Center Chapel
WAAF:	Wheeler Army Airfield Chapel

Buddhist Services

•First Sunday, 1 p.m. at FD
•Fourth Sunday, 1 p.m. at MPC Annex

Catholic Masses

•Friday, 9 a.m. at AMR
•Saturday, 5 p.m. at FD, TAMC and WAAF chapels
•Saturday, 6 p.m. a Hawaiian-style Mass (May-Aug. only) near the Army Museum (FD)
•Sunday services:
–7:30 a.m. at WAAF
–8 a.m. at AMR
–10:30 a.m. at MPC Annex
–11 a.m. at TAMC
•Monday-Friday, noon at MPC and TAMC

Gospel Worship

•Sunday, noon at MPC
•Sunday, 12:30 p.m. at AMR

Islamic Prayers and Study

•Friday, 1 p.m. at MPC Annex
•Saturday and Sunday, 5:30 a.m., 6, 7 and 8 p.m. at MPC Annex

Jewish Shabbat (Sabbath)

•Monday, 6 p.m. at PH (Bible Study)
•Friday, 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, 8:15 a.m. at PH

Orthodox Divine Liturgy

•Sunday, 9 a.m. at TAMC

Pagan (Wicca)

•Friday, 7 p.m. at MPC Annex

Protestant Worship

•Sunday Services
–9 a.m. at FD, FS, MPC, TAMC and WAAF chapels
–10 a.m. at AMR and HMR

This Week at the MOVIES

Call 624-2585 for movie listings or go to aaes.com under reeltime movie listing.



Law Abiding Citizen

(R)
Fri., Dec. 4, 7 p.m.
Thur., Dec. 10, 7 p.m.

Astro Boy

(PG)
Sat., Dec. 5, 2 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 6, 2 p.m.



Couples Retreat

(PG-13)
Sat., Dec. 5, 7 p.m.

Saw VI

(R)
Wed., Dec. 9, 7 p.m.

No shows on Mondays or Tuesdays.

4-year-old helps general usher in the holidays at Tripler

Jones encourages staff, beneficiaries to remember deployed service members

JAN CLARK
Tripler Army Medical Center Public Affairs

HONOLULU – Despite the raindrops and a chill in the air, 4-year-old Lily Mallory was ready to help Brig. Gen. Steve Jones, commander, Tripler Army Medical Center (TAMC), carry out the 60-year-old tradition of lighting the holiday tree at TAMC, here, Monday.

Lily, daughter of Air Force Maj. Phillip and Jennifer Mallory, appeared quite composed prior to the lighting, but mom, Jennifer, explained it was quite the opposite.

“She has been talking about this for weeks. She kept asking when is she going to light the tree.”

Prior to the lighting, Jones welcomed attendees following an invocation by Chaplain (Capt.) Timothy Stansberry.

“Holding this ceremony, just after the Thanksgiving weekend, reminds us that we have so much to be thankful for this year,” Jones said. “We live in



Daniel Kawasaki | Tripler Army Medical Center

Brig. Gen. Steve Jones, commander, Tripler Army Medical Center, and 4-year-old Lily Mallory pose for a photo moments after pulling the giant candy cane switch to light the holiday tree at Tripler, Monday evening.

the greatest nation on Earth, and we are thankful for the service of our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen, all of (whom) help keep it great.

“Let us remember those who are not here with us tonight and those who are not able to spend Christmas at home because they are deployed. Not a

day will go by when they and their families are not in our thoughts and prayers,” Jones said.

The U.S. National Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony was held Thursday, on the Ellipse in Washington, D.C. The national ceremony opened the annual pageant of peace, which is meant as a “voluntary expression of American citizens of every creed and color to dramatize the message of ‘peace on earth, goodwill toward men,’” according to the National Park Service Web site.

“I ask that every evening as you look up Moanalua Ridge and see these wonderful lights, you remember that message, and give thanks that we live in such a compassionate and generous nation,” Jones said.

A local children’s choir sang Christmas carols and the Navy’s Pacific Fleet Band provided further entertainment. A sing-along and the arrival of Santa Claus provided his rendition of “The Night Before Christmas.”

Children struggled at Santa’s feet bringing to all an enjoyable night and a wonderful continuation of the long-held tradition at TAMC.

Holiday season events planned islandwide

The holiday season is here. Families can get in the spirit of the season at a variety of magical events taking place around the island of Oahu during the month of December.

Saturday, Dec. 5
Honolulu City Lights Trip – Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation is offering a shuttle to Hawaii’s premiere holiday event, the Honolulu City Lights, Dec. 5, 4-9 p.m.

Kick off the holidays and see the popular electric light parade down King Street, the holiday concert, the tree and wreath displays, and the tree lighting ceremony at Honolulu Hale. Cost is \$5, but Blue Star Card holders ride for free. To reserve a spot, call 655-0112/3.

Honolulu City Lights Ceremony – The opening night of the 2009 “Honolulu City Lights” celebration will take place Dec. 5, 6 p.m., at Honolulu Hale (city hall).

Indoor Christmas trees and beautiful wreath exhibits are on display in the lobby of Honolulu Hale from 8 a.m.-11 p.m. daily. Admission is free.

Throughout the month of December, visitors can enjoy the beautiful city employee’s Christmas tree exhibit, wreath displays, strolling musicians and entertainment, and nightly visits with Santa.

Holiday Funfest – Join the 13th Annual Holiday Funfest at Aliamanu Military Reservation (AMR), Dec. 5, at the AMR gymnasium and community center.

A holiday parade will begin at 9 a.m., and festivities take place 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Call 833-0920/4932.

Sunday, Dec. 6
Waimea Valley Craft Fair – Waimea Valley is proud to present its first Holiday Craft Fair, Dec. 6, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., at the Pikake Pavilion. Organizers invite you to browse the unique arts and crafts exhibits of more than 40 vendors from the community showcasing products made in Hawaii.

Thursday, Dec. 10
Oahu South Tree Lighting – The Oahu South community will host its annual holiday concert and tree lighting ceremony, Dec. 10, 6 p.m., at Palm Circle, Fort Shafter. Santa and his helpers will be on hand to take photos with children. Call 655-0453. (See related story on page A-1)

Holiday Parades

- Dec. 5, Kaneohe Holiday Parade, 9 a.m. – Spend a day on the windward side of Oahu for a holiday celebration to help welcome in the Christmas season. Local school bands, marching units, floats and, of course, Santa will make an appearance. The parade begins at the corner of Kamehameha Highway and Haiku Road (Windward Mall) and ends at Castle High School on Kaneohe Bay Road. Call 348-2749.
- Dec. 6, Pearl City Holiday Parade, 4 p.m. – Pearl City Shopping Center will host a parade starting from Momilani Elementary School towards Pearl City Shopping Center. Call 593-1553.
- Dec. 7, Wahiawa Santa Parade, 6:30 p.m. – The Wahiawa Community and Business Association will hold its annual Santa Parade beginning at Kaala Elementary School and proceeding down California Avenue, with a brief stop at Wahiawa Town Center for Santa’s arrival. Call 621-7097.
- Dec. 10, Moiliili Holiday Parade, 6:30 p.m. – The Kapahulu-Moiliili Lions Club will host a parade starting at Kuhio Elementary School to King Street ending at Old Stadium Park. Call 479-7139.
- Dec. 12, Aiea Holiday Parade, 9 a.m. – The Annual Christmas parade sponsored by the Aiea Community Association will start at Pearlridge Park and proceed on Moanalua Road, ending at Aiea Sugar Mill Park. Call 429-1282.
- Dec. 12, Ewa Beach/Lions Club Holiday Parade, 10 a.m. – The Ewa Beach Christmas Parade with marchers and floats starts near Ocean Pointe Elementary School and proceeds to Hanakahi Street ending at Ewa Beach Shopping Center. Call 864-4634.
- Dec. 12, Waimanalo Holiday Parade, 10 a.m. – Welcome in the Christmas season with a parade in Waimanalo featuring school bands, marching units, lots of smiles and, of course, Santa. Call 527-5759.

Saturday, Dec. 12
Santa’s Arrival – Welcome the world’s most famous elf as he arrives via outrigger canoe at Waikiki Beach, Dec. 12, 9 a.m., in front of the Outrigger Waikiki hotel. Santa’s arrival will be followed by keiki hula dancing, music and complimentary photos with Santa. This event is free.

Sunday, Dec. 13.
Scandinavian Christmas – Join the Scandinavian Club of Hawaii for a Christmas celebration, Dec. 13, 6:30 p.m., at the Hale Koa Hotel. The evening begins with dinner and the Santa Lucia procession.

Members fee is \$35; nonmembers, \$40. Call Terrilea Burnett at 946-5538. R.S.V.P. by Dec. 9. Visit www.scandinavianclubohawaii.org.

Christmas Concert – The Oahu Choral

Society presents Christmas with the Honolulu Symphony Chorus and Honolulu Chamber Choir, Dec. 13, 5:30 p.m., at Andrew’s Cathedral (at Beretania and Queen Emma streets). The program will include works by Bach, Handel and other classical composers, as well as popular carols.

Tickets cost \$20 for adults, and \$10 for students, military and seniors. Children under 16 are free. Tickets are available by e-mailing oahuchoral@gmail.com or at the door. Visit www.oahuchoral.com

Friday, Dec. 25
USO Christmas – The Airport USO will host a Christmas dinner Dec. 25, 11:30 a.m. During that time, free phone and video calls will be provided by Skype to USOs around the world to keep traveling troops and family members connected with loved ones. Contact Nicole at ndarity@uso.org or 836-3351 for more information.

Volunteers deck the halls of Tripler’s Fisher Houses

Story and Photo by LES OZAWA
Tripler Army Medical Center Public Affairs

HONOLULU – Volunteers from all branches of military service came together to deck the halls of the two Fisher Houses located at Tripler Army Medical Center, here, Monday.

The annual event brought together Soldiers and civilians from 13 organizations to fill the many nooks, crannies, rooms and outdoor areas, giving the “home away from home” a little holiday cheer.

“It’s a chance for people from all walks of life to come together to share their Christmas themes and decorations with our families here,” said Theresa Johnson, manager, Fisher House.

Johnson said the event also helps volunteers learn the importance of the Fisher House, which provides families across the Pacific a place to stay, so they can be near a family member hospitalized at Tripler.

Participating in the festivities were individuals from the Air National Guard Hickam Air Force Base; the Coast Guard; Defense Information Systems Agency-Pacific; the Fort Shafter Hui O Wahine and the Schofield Barracks Hui O Na Wahine spouses’ clubs; Marine Corps Family Team Building; Schofield Barracks’ Warrior Transition Battalion; the Marine Corps’ 1st Bn., 12th Marine Regiment; 205th Military Intelligence Bn.; 249th Engineer Bn.; and 311th Theater Signal Command’s family readiness group, along with Fisher House residents and volunteers.

People and organizations wishing to volunteer at the Fisher House can call Theresa Johnson at 433-1291 for more information.



Under the watchful eye of Sgt. 1st Class Wayne Hatcher, Sgt. 1st Class Gabriel Camacho and Spc. Palebale Skilling, all members of the Warrior Transition Battalion, string lights for a lawn Christmas tree outside the Tripler Army Medical Center Fisher House, Monday.

State, mayor, Navy League honor Army spouse for service

SGT. RICARDO BRANCH

8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs

HONOLULU — The roar of thousands of excited fans couldn't compare to the feeling Katherine Ebersole felt at the 2009 Hawaii's Outstanding Army Spouse Award ceremony during the Navy versus University of Hawaii football game at Aloha Stadium, here, Saturday.

"I am still in shock to be standing out here," Ebersole said while standing on the field in the stadium. "When I volunteer, I don't expect to ever be recognized because I don't do it for that. I do it because I want to help out in good causes."

Ebersole, 36, from Longview, Texas, was one of eight military spouses present on the field during the weekend game, which recognized service members from all military branches and paid special tribute to the spouses of the U.S. armed forces members.

The Outstanding Spouse Award, which is presented annually to spouses of deployed troops, recognizes the recipients as the volunteer communicator and organizational focal point for deployed units in hostile operations for 2009.

"I never imagined in 16 years with the Army that I'd one day be standing in front of 36,000 people receiving a check for \$1,000 because of what I do



Daisy Bueno | 8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs

Katherine Ebersole poses for a picture at Honolulu Hale, city hall, after being presented with certificates from the Navy League and Hawaii's state legislature, which named her the 2009 Outstanding Military Spouse for Army Hawaii, Nov. 27. Pictured from left to right are Don Morrison, Hawaii Navy League president; City and County of Honolulu Mayor Mufi Hannemann; Ebersole; Maj. Gen. Robert G. F. Lee, adjutant general, Hawaii National Guard; and Rep. K. Mark Takai.

for my community," Ebersole said. "It's really going to help out for our Christmas shopping and donations for the Toys for Tots program."

Ebersole didn't begin her volunteer service just the other day. She has been active in her community since her husband, Staff Sgt. Greg Ebersole, entered

the Army in 1993.

"I have been a family readiness group (FRG) leader, a coach for Special Olympics, and volunteered in my local community and my kids' school," she said. "That was just the beginning."

"I started volunteering as a key caller, during my husband's unit deployment

cycle in the 90s," she added.

When her husband's unit, the 84th Engineer Battalion, deploys, Ebersole often serves as a key caller through the FRG to pass on information to spouses and family members of deployed loved ones. She credits a multitude of reasons for being so involved in volunteering,

but said the main reasons are to serve others. She also volunteers to make a difference, stating, "There's always someone out there you can help."

In addition to recognition at the pregame show, City and County of Honolulu Mayor Mufi Hannemann presented Ebersole with a certificate of appreciation at Honolulu Hale, city hall.

"I enjoy volunteering; I really do," Ebersole said. "Volunteering is a good way to meet a lot of people who are all in the same situation. Rank doesn't matter either, because we all are going through the same thing of dealing with a loved one who is deployed and serving his country."

Following the football game's opening ceremony, Ebersole joined her family in the stands to watch the athletic contest. Her son, Gregory, who sat next to her, summed up the feelings the entire Ebersole family felt for the matriarch in five simple words: "I'm proud of you, mom."

Recipients of the spouse award from other military branches of service include, Randi Fox, U.S. Coast Guard; Leilani Kerr, Hawaii Army National Guard; Tiffany Milisavljevich, U.S. Pacific Command; Rita Miller, Hawaii Air National Guard; Sharon Ortiz, U.S. Air Force; Jillian Sentell, U.S. Marine Corps; and Jessica Jane Swanson, U.S. Navy.

'Sesame Street Live' brings furry friends to Schofield

U.S. ARMY GARRISON-HAWAII
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

News Release

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — One of the most adorable children's characters and his furry monster friends will be making a stopover in the islands this holiday season, hoping to add a little magic to the lives of military families.

Elmo and friends have scheduled six, 30-minute shows at three locations Oahu as part of the free traveling tour, "The Sesame Street/USO Experience for Military Families." One of the shows, which will take place, here, at Martinez Physical Fitness Center, Dec. 12, is expected to draw "hundreds, if not a thousand people," according to Kelly Andrews, recreation specialist, Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (FMWR).

"Sesame Street has always been very supportive of military families, and there's this preset expectation among military families that they'll like whatever Sesame Street has to say," Andrews explained. "I do think it's going to be a fantastic opportunity for kids, particularly those whose moms or dads might be deployed and away for the holidays, to have a chance to get out of the house and enjoy some fun time with the family."

Games will be held prior to and during the shows, she added, including several Christmas-themed activities. In addition, Eddie the Eagle, the official FMWR mascot, will be making an appearance as Santa and taking photos with keiki.

The stars of the show, however, will undoubtedly be many of the same characters that have graced the popular children's television program during its 40-year history, including Elmo, Big Bird, Bert and Ernie, Cookie Monster, Count von Count and Oscar the Grouch.

"For some, it'll be their first time to meet their favorite characters in person," Andrews said, adding that the show at Schofield Barracks is being made possible through a generous donation from the Army Recycling Center. "We hope that puts a smile on the children's faces."

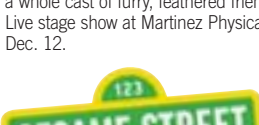
The tour is part of Sesame Workshop's "Talk, Listen, Connect" initiative, which was launched in 2006 as a military outreach program. This multimedia initiative is tailor-made for young children ages 2 through 5, who are experiencing the effects of deployment and/or combat-related injuries to their parents.

"Sesame Workshop is proud of its ongoing commitment to serving the needs of military families, and we are thrilled to partner with our good friends at the USO to bring Elmo



Photo Courtesy of Sesame Street Live

From left to right: Grover, Zoe, Rosita, Cookie Monster and Elmo along with a whole cast of furry, feathered friends will perform in the Sesame Street Live stage show at Martinez Physical Fitness Center, Schofield Barracks Dec. 12.



and all of his friends to military families overseas," said Gary Knell, CEO and president of Sesame Workshop, in a press release. "The U.S. tour last fall was a huge success and further underscored the need for resources to help military families cope with the challenges of de-

ployment. "This is our humble way of saying thank you to all the moms and dads in our armed forces for their commitment to all of us," Knell added. In 2008, the tour made stops at 40

See the "Sesame Street/USO Experience for Military Families," Dec. 12, at the Martinez Physical Fitness Center, Schofield Barracks.

Show times are scheduled for 3 and 5:30 p.m. Seating will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Additional shows are also scheduled at the following dates, times and locations:

- Dec. 9, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, 1:30 and 6:30 p.m.
- Dec. 13, Hickam Air Force Base, 3 and 6 p.m.

military installations in 23 states and wound up performing 106 shows for 76,000 service members and their families.

This year's tour has already traveled to 19 of 20 U.S. military installations, including those in the United Kingdom and Europe. The tour is expected to wrap up in Hawaii.

Shinseki discusses Sesame Street TLC initiative

U.S. ARMY GARRISON-HAWAII PUBLIC AFFAIRS

News Release

In 2006, Sesame Workshop launched a groundbreaking, bilingual (English/Spanish), multiphase, multimedia initiative for young children and their military families called "Talk, Listen, Connect (TLC)." The initiative was born from a strong and singular hope — to recognize the thousands of American children and families who know all too well what it's like to see a loved one go off to war.

Kauai native and 38-year military spouse Patricia Shinseki returned to Hawaii as keynote speaker for the Army-hosted Joint Spouses Conference in October, and she spoke about the innovative initiative and collaboration with the Sesame Street Workshop to create the TLC series.

Q: How did the collaboration begin?

A: "Sesame Street conceived of the idea of doing something for young children who were being affected by deployments, and about family service members returning with injuries. What Sesame Street produces is a wonderful public service, because I think young children can connect with Sesame ... who can't love Elmo?"

Q: What has your involvement been with the Sesame Street series?

A: "I've been involved in all three productions of the 'Talk, Listen and Connect' series.

The first of which is on helping families with deployment; the second is on helping families through changes, when a parent returns injured or ill; and the third, which is not yet complete, is on if a parent dies."

Q: Is there any message you would like to



Shinseki

convey as families prepare to watch these episodes?

A: "Yes, I believe what's important is that parents spend time with children before viewing these programs, so they are able to discuss the subject matter.

I think it's very important for families to talk with children about the topic to help children express their feelings or concerns."

Q: Is this a collaboration that you anticipate to continue?

A: "I certainly believe so; the Sesame Street Workshop continues to come up with wonderful new ways to connect with children, one of the newest, of course, being a safe way for children to keep connected with a deployed parent.

They have a wonderful Web site called 'Sesame Street Family Connections' (www.sesamestreetfamilyconnections.org), which is available for children to use and express their feelings with the parent that is deployed. The site is offered in Spanish and English."

The Sesame Street Workshop series "Stop, Listen, Connect" can be seen daily on Army installation channel TV2.

(Editors Note: Patricia Shinseki is the wife of current director of Veterans Affairs and former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, retired Gen. Eric Shinseki. Information from the Sesame Workshop's Web site, www.sesameworkshop.org, was used in this article.)

Water conservation reduces DoD's costs, preserving natural resoures, energy

AHFH residents asked do their part to save resources, money

GRANT YASUNAGA

Army Hawaii Family Housing

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — It may not seem obvious, but excessive water usage in our communities adds to the Department of Defense's (DoD) mounting financial burden associated with energy and water infrastructure maintenance.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, energy costs for water and wastewater can be 33 percent of a municipality's energy bill.

Lessons Learned

- Water lawns in the early mornings, around 5 a.m., to maximize absorption. Watering during daylight hours is not nearly as effective and can actually be harmful to the grass.
- Use a nozzle on the hose when watering plants or washing a car.
- Keep showers as short as possible.
- Wash only full loads of laundry and dishes. If washing these items by hand, run the water only when necessary (instead of having the water running through the whole job).

The military installation in which you live is a de facto municipality — a community where people live, work and play.

Pumping water into your home and the subsequent collection, treatment and disposal of wastewater from your home are wholly dependent on energy. By reducing water usage in your home, you are not only preserving a limited resource, but also doing your part to alleviate the DoD's financial concerns on energy usage.

According to the American Society of Civil Engineers' "2009 Report Card for America's Infrastructure," the increasing demand for water is putting a strain on aging infrastructure and will cost our nation billions of dollars to repair and maintain throughout the next 20 years.

Our military installations are not exempt from the strain. The issue of infrastructure repair and maintenance is relevant enough that the Secretary of the Army and the Army Chief of Staff signed the U.S. Army Energy and Water Campaign Plan in 2005.

Before taking an extra five minutes in the shower, running the water while brushing your teeth, or washing half-full loads of dishes or laundry, think about the costs associated with wasting water and how those funds could be better used by the DoD for more important causes in this time of war.

(Editor's Note: Grant Yasunaga is the regional utilities manager for Army Hawaii Family Housing.)



FOR A STRONG AMERICA

USE ENERGY WISELY

CHOOSE CLEAN, EFFICIENT AND RELIABLE ENERGY

Bringing you a prosperous future where energy is clean, abundant, reliable and affordable.

Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

EERE Information Center
1-877-EERE-6067
(1-877-337-3483)
www.eere.energy.gov

U.S. Department of Energy



4 / Today

Mulisha Madness MMA Meet and Greet

— Don't miss a chance to meet Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) Fighters, Erik Apple and Renato "Babalu" Sobral, today, 4-6 p.m., at Martinez Physical Fitness Center, Schofield Barracks. Get autographs, take pictures and enter to win door prizes. For more information call 655-0112.

Great Aloha Run Registration Discount

— In honor of the Great Aloha Run's 26th year of running with Aloha, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, in support of the Army Family Covenant, will sponsor a portion of the early entry military rate (individual category) for Blue Star Card (BSC) holders. BSC holders can register for the run for only \$5 now through Dec. 17, (limited to the first 100 registrants).

The regular individual military entry fee is \$30. The Great Aloha Run will take place on Feb. 15, 2010 starting from the Aloha Tower to the Aloha Stadium.

To register, bring a completed application, the \$5 entry fee, along with your valid Blue Star Card to either the Martinez Physical Fitness Center, Schofield Barracks or Fort Shafter Fitness Center. For more information call Jim Perry at 655-8006 or e-mail adrosor.perry@us.army.mil.

5 / Saturday

Shoreline Fishing

— Spend the day bait dunking at a favorite shore fishing area with Outdoor Recreation, Dec. 5, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Participants are guaranteed a good time fishing Hawaiian style. Cost is \$42 per person; round-trip transportation from Schofield Barracks is included. Call 655-0143.

6 / Sunday

Adventure Hike

— Join Outdoor Recreation, Dec. 6, 8 a.m., for the latest adventure hike. This hike is a level-two, moderate-difficulty trip through

one of several picturesque locations around the island of Oahu. Cost is \$10, and round-trip transportation from Schofield Barracks is included. Call 655-0143.

12 / Saturday

Shoreline Fishing Sites Tour

— Tour favorite local fishing spots with Outdoor Recreation, Dec. 12, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Learn where the locals go to fish and what to catch.

Cost is \$8 and round-trip transportation from Schofield Barracks is included. Call 655-0143.

13 / Sunday

Honolulu Marathon Picnic

— Join Outdoor Recreation for a day of fun with a picnic at the Honolulu Marathon, Dec. 13, 4 a.m.-3 p.m. Come out to support a runner or spend time with the family.

Cost is \$49 for adults and \$14 for children. Round-trip transportation from Schofield Barracks is included. Call 655-0143.

19 / Saturday

Hawaiian Canoe and Stand-Up Paddling

— Learn two sports that drive Hawaiians wild; outrigger canoeing and stand-up paddling, Dec. 19, 7 a.m.-noon. Cost is \$64 and includes round-trip transportation from Schofield Barracks. Call 655-0143.

Ongoing

Schofield Barracks Bowling

— Looking to update your bowling equipment? Stop by the newly renovated JAKS Pro Shop inside the Schofield Barracks Bowling Center for all your bowling supplies and services.

JAKS offers custom-grip fitting, as well as an array of shoes and bags to choose from. For more information, call 655-5301.

Tai Chi Classes

— Find your center with the ancient and revered art of Tai Chi, Thursdays, 7-8 p.m. at the Martinez Physical Fitness Center, Schofield Barracks.

Tai Chi uses gentle flowing movements to reduce the stress of today's busy lifestyles and improve general wellbeing. The class explores the art-



Kayla Overton | U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs

Cycling fun

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — The Martinez Physical Fitness Center, here, hosts group cycling classes five times a week. A calendar of fitness classes held across the island on Army installations can be found online at www.mwrrarmyhawaii.com.

form and incorporates psychology and philosophy through psychical movement.

Learn and benefit from the influence of this ancient practice on physical health, mental well being, consciousness, and martial arts. Tai Chi classes are free for active duty Soldiers and family members. Call 655-4804.

Chi Gong Classes

— Learn how to relieve stress on all levels with new Chi Gong classes, Thursdays, 6-7 p.m. at the Martinez Physical Fitness Center, Schofield Barracks.

Chi Gong is a unique collection of exercise from China,designed to help

relieve stress on mental, emotional and physical levels.

Even though we may not feel stressed, our bodies — even on an unconscious level — can be under tremendous stress.

Learn techniques to relieve stress, improve your health and add quality years to your life.Chi Gong classes are free for active duty Soldiers and Family Members. Call 655-4804.

Schofield Health and Fitness Center Closure

— The Schofield Barracks Health and Fitness Center (HFC), Building 582, is closed now through Jan. 2010 to replace the roof.

All classes and services have been re-located to the Martinez Physical Fitness Center (MPFC), Building 488. Call Linda Williams at 655-4804.

Fitness Center Towels

— The U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii physical fitness centers no longer provide towels. Guests are required to bring a towel (no smaller than 16 by 24 inches) in order to use the strength training and/or cardio equipment.

Bowling Parties

— Having a party or celebrating a special occasion? Wheeler Bowling Center's eight lanes are available for private parties on Saturdays and Sundays for \$120 per hour. A three-hour minimum and \$2 shoe rental apply. Call 656-1745.

Golf 'Til You Drop

— Catch this all-you-can-golf special every Thursday at Nagorski Golf Course, Fort Shafter.

Pay one fee and play as many holes as you want. For more information, call 438-9587.

Free Ladies Golf Clinic

— Learn the basics of golfing at a free ladies golf clinic. The clinic is offered the first Saturday of each month at Leilehua Golf Course Driving Range from 2:30-3:30 p.m. For more information call 655-4653 to sign up.

NFL Sunday Ticket

— Watch your favorite home football team live every weekend at the Tropics, Schofield Barracks with the NFL Sunday ticket. Don't miss the gridiron action. For more information, call 655-5698.

Karate Classes

— Children ages 5 and older can learn Do Shudokan karate at three U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii physical fitness centers: Aliamanu Military Reservation (AMR), Fort Shafter, Helemano or Schofield's Bennett Youth Center. Classes cost \$35 per month. A family discount is available.

Also, adults 18 and older can learn Do Shudokan karate at the AMR Physical Fitness Center, Mondays and Wednesdays, 7-8:30 p.m.

Cost is \$40 per month. Call Joseph Bunch at 488-6372 or 265-5476.



Send sports announcements to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

4 / Today

Great Aloha Run

— Entries are being accepted for the 26th Annual Great Aloha Run, scheduled for Presidents Day, Feb. 15, 2010, 7 a.m. Regular entries postmarked by Dec. 4 cost \$35 and receive an "In Training" T-shirt and a daily planner.

The 8.15-mile flat course starts at Aloha Tower in downtown Honolulu, winds its way along the historic Honolulu Harbor, down Nimitz Highway, Kamehameha Highway and into the Aloha Stadium.

The finish line is the back goal line of the north end zone on the stadium floor. Running divisions available include elites, age groups, wheelchair and handcycle competitors, as well as military personnel running individually or in "Sounds of Freedom" formations.

Applications are available online at www.greataloharun.com. Only finishers receive a "finishers" T-shirt.

5 / Saturday

Hike Oahu

— Join the Hawaiian Trail & Mountaintain Club for a 4-mile novice shoreline hike, Dec. 5. Kaena, the western-most point of Oahu, is a designated Natural Area Reserve with rugged coastlines, endangered flora, sleeping Hawaiian seals (sometimes) and occasional booby birds and albatrosses. This shoreline trail is level, but hot. Bring lots of water. Call Phil Booth, 382-4709.

Upcoming hikes include the following:

- Dec. 6, 7-mile intermediate ridge hike to the Koolau summit. Call Steve Davis, 371-1492.
- Dec. 13, 11-mile advanced, valley-ridge hike. Call Kevin English, 217-5125.

A \$3 donation is requested of nonmembers age 18 and older. An adult must accompany children under 18. For more information and a calendar of future hikes, visit www.htmclub.org.

6 / Sunday

Aloha Readiness Series

— The Mid-Pacific Road Runners Club is hosting a series of races designed to prepare runners for the 2010 Great Aloha Run in February. Register for the entire series for \$60 at www.active.com.

The entry fee includes a T-shirt and timing chip. Visit www.mprrc.com for detailed race descriptions. Enter online at www.active.com.

- Sam's 5K, Dec. 6. Race starts at 7 a.m. at the Waikiki Shell.
- Harold Chapson 8K, Jan. 9. Race starts at 7 a.m. on Monsarrat Avenue, between Kapiolani Park and the Honolulu Zoo. Register by Jan. 4.
- Johnny Faerber 10K, Jan. 31. Race starts on Kalakaua Avenue beyond Kapiolani Park tennis courts, facing Diamond Head. Register by Jan. 25.

8 / Tuesday

Golf Tournament

— Applications will be accepted through Dec. 8 for the Waianae Military

Civilian Advisory Council's (WMCAC) Three-Person, Best-Ball golf tournament, Dec. 11, noon, at Leilehua Golf Course. Check-in is scheduled from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Costs range from \$70-95 depending on rank and include green fees, cart and banquet.

To register, call Les Akeo at 655-0115.

January

17 / Sunday

Biathlon Series

— Challenge the biathlete in you during the Waikiki Swim Club 2009/2010 biathlon series at Magic Island/Ala Moana Beach Park. Each race starts at 7:30 a.m. and consists of a 5K run and a 1K swim.

Registration costs \$25 per individual, \$50 per team, per race. Entry fees include a T-shirt.

- Magic Island Biathlon, Jan.17. Registration forms are due by Jan. 4.
- Valentine's Day Biathlon, Feb. 14. Registration forms are due by Feb. 1.

For more information or to download registration forms, visit www.waikikiswimclub.org or e-mail meisuilan@yahoo.com.

Ongoing

Vans Triple Crown

— Check out the Super Bowl of surfing at the Vans Triple Crown of Surfing taking place now through Dec. 20.

The series of three men's and three women's Association of Surfing Professionals (ASP) sanctioned events pits the world's top-ranked surfers against the world's biggest and most famous waves at Haleiwa, Sunset Beach and the Banzai Pipeline.

- O'Neill World Cup of Surfing (men) and Gidget Pro Sunset Beach (women) compete, Nov. 24-Dec. 6, at Sunset Beach.
- Billabong Pipeline Masters (men) and Billabong Pro Maui (women) compete, Dec. 8-20, at Banzai Pipeline (men) and Honolua Bay, Maui (women).

Competition is held on the biggest and best days of surf available within the designated event timeframe.

For daily updates or for more information, call 596-7873 or visit www.triplecrownofsurfing.com.

Golfers Wanted

— Are you looking for a golf group?

Military or civilian golfers interested in playing golf on Sunday mornings at Leilehua Golf Course can call 347-8038 or 375-3322. Tee time is usually before 8 a.m.

Wahine Sailors

— The Wahine Sailors is seeking new members. Cost is \$35 per year or \$5 per sail. All levels are welcome.

For more information, including meeting place and times, call 235-8392.

Hawaii Youth Triathlon Club

— Children ages 7-19 are invited to join the Hawaii Youth Triathlon Club. Membership is \$50 and includes an annual membership with USA Triathlon (USAT), insurance during training, a club certificate, swim cap, review clinics and the newsletter.

Visit www.hawaiiyouthtri.com for more information.